



Joint Justice Oversight Committee

Department of Corrections

September 1, 2026



Risk Containment:

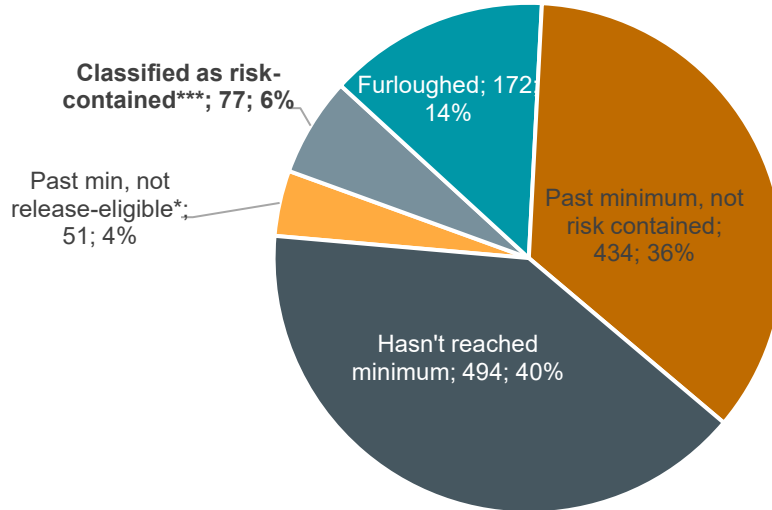
Jon Murad, DOC Commissioner

Jordan Pasha, DOC Director of Classification

Risk classified individuals are small share of incarcerated sentenced individuals



Incarcerated** Sentenced Individuals



*Not release-eligible are sentenced individuals detained for a new offense and/or held for another jurisdiction.

** Those on furlough are considered incarcerated and can be returned to facility custody by DOC

*** Includes people who had been classified as "Level C" and provisional classifications

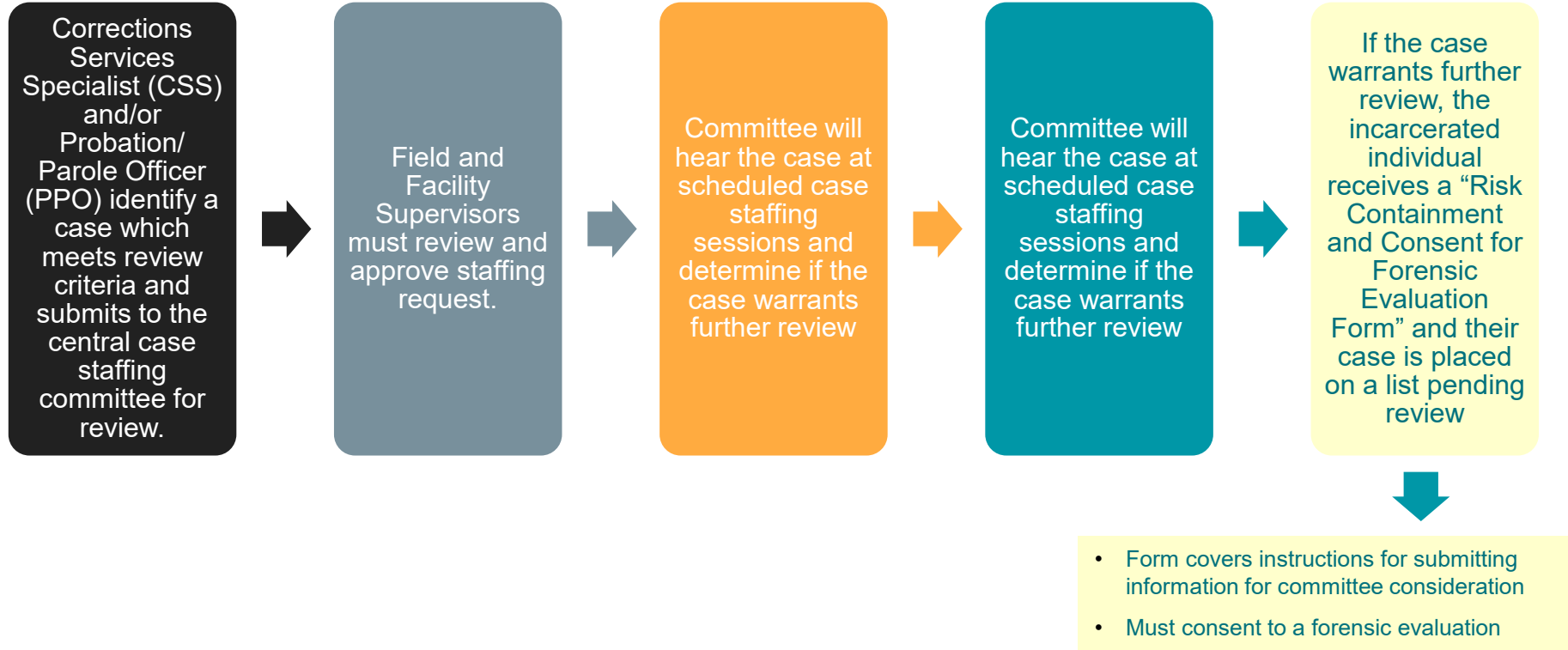


Most common current convictions, people classified as risk contained:

● Domestic Assault	31 (25 Aggravated)
● Sexual Assault of a Minor	11
● Sexual Assault of Adult	10 (5 Aggravated)
● Violation of Abuse Protective Order	9
● Other sex offense involving child	7
● Murder, attempted murder or kidnapping	5

Twelve individuals were convicted of two of the above offenses (and all may have other convictions.)

The Process





The Process (cont.)

- Current review is being prioritized by minimum release date
- When reviewed, case is assigned to member of the Committee for completion of the “Risk Containment Review” form
- They will review:
 - total criminal history
 - field supervision history
 - intervention history and responses,
 - victim information
 - prior or current PSI's, forensic evaluations, DCF investigations judge/prosecutor comments
 - completion of sources utilized
 - other available information

Criteria for Classification as Risk Contained



- Pattern of repetitive failure to control sexual and/or violent behavior indicating future likelihood of causing harm or death to others
- Substantial degree of indifference
- Behavior of a brutal nature: future conduct unlikely to be inhibited by conventional methods of restraint (egregious details)
- Continued violent and/or sexual behavior after interventions completed or attempted



The Process (cont.)

When review is completed, the form returns to the staffing committee. The committee will review all presented evidence and determine:

- Will a forensic evaluation be requested?
 - If yes, process stops and referral is made.
 - If a forensic evaluation is not requested, why not?
- Is classification applied?
- Criteria cited.
- Incarcerated individual receives written notification

Final Notification Letters



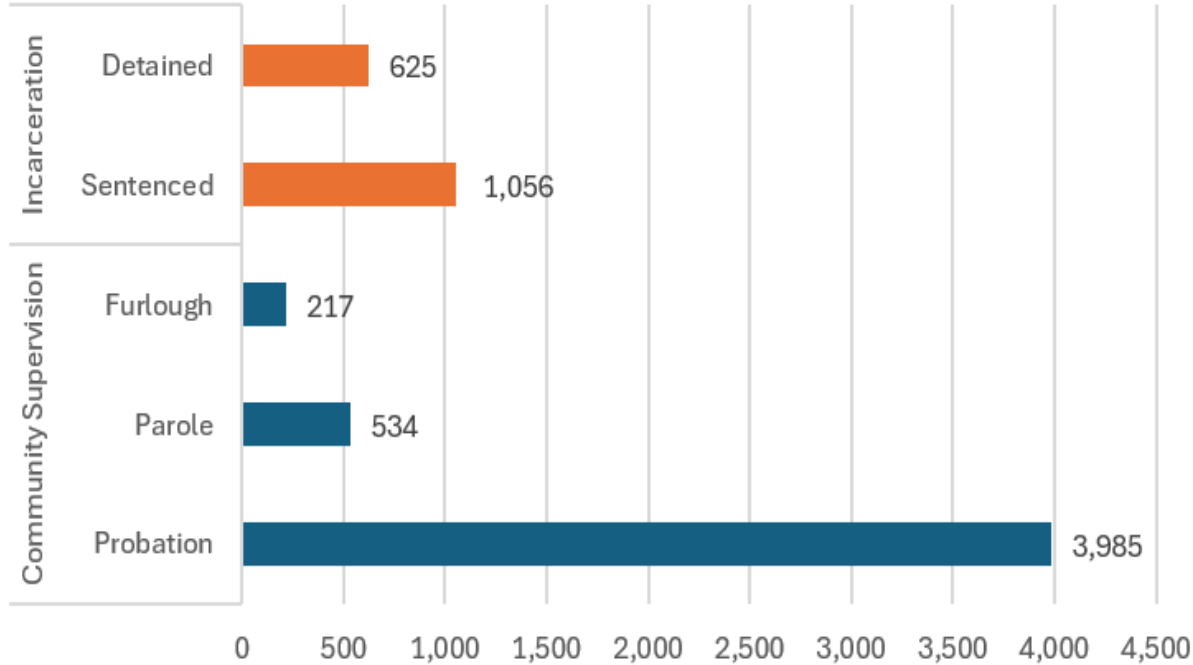
- All notifications and documents related to Risk Containment review are scanned and stored in OMS under the staffing request
- Final notification – Risk Contained
 - Informs of specific criteria found during review
 - Informs of ability to formally dispute
 - Informs of ability to access Open Ears and/or Mental Health Services
 - Informs of removal petition process
- Final Notification – Not Risk Contained
 - Informs that available evidence did not support classification
 - Informs that additional review may occur at any time



DOC Data Updates: Commissioner Murad



Department of Corrections Populations, August 27, 2026



Incarceration detail:

- 9 immigration detainers
- 79 primarily federal
- 150 males out of state
- 1,509 males and 172 females

Immigration Detainees



Immigration Detainees Booked, by Month

Year, Month	# Unique Individuals
2025, July	50
2025, August	74
2025, September	80
2025, October	55
2025, November	65
2025, December	41
2026, January	21
2026, February	32
2026, March	25
2026, April	23
2026, May	23
2026, June	30
2026, July	25
2026, August	14

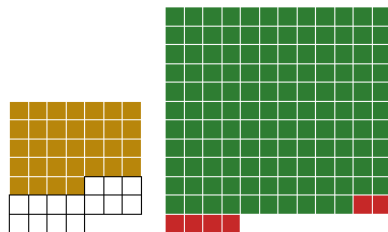
As of 8/26/26:

- Total Immigration Detainees: 8
- Median Length of Stay: 13 days
- Female detainees: 0

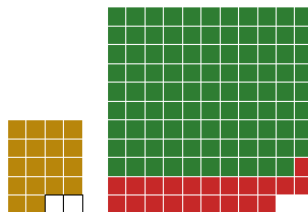
Bed Capacity by Facility | August 26, 2026 | 1 Square = 1 Bed



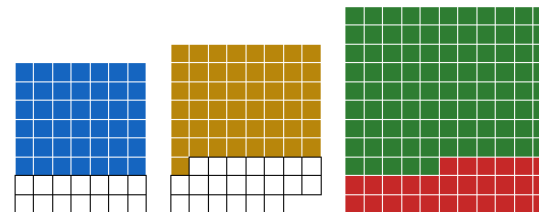
CRCF
 SH: 32/46 (14 vacant)
 GP: 136/130 (0 vacant)
 Over GP capacity by: 6



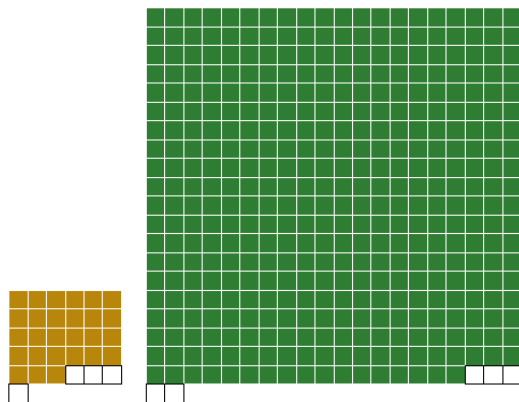
MVRCF
 SH: 18/20 (2 vacant)
 GP: 119/98 (0 vacant)
 Over GP capacity by: 21



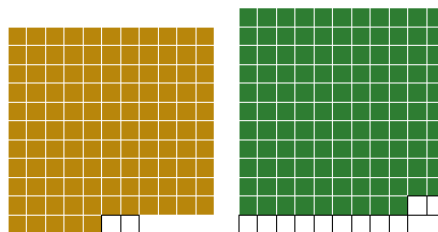
NECC
 Work Camp: 42/56 (14 vacant)
 SH: 49/70 (21 vacant)
 GP: 121/93 (0 vacant)
 Over GP capacity by: 28



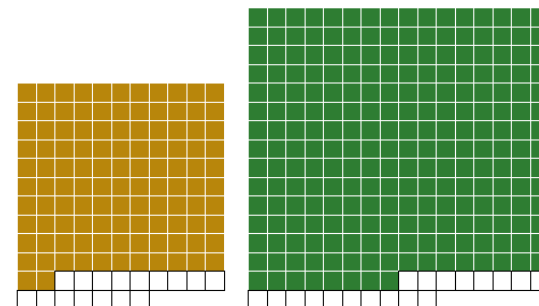
NSCF
 SH: 27/31 (4 vacant)
 GP: 397/402 (5 vacant)



NWSCF
 SH: 115/117 (2 vacant)
 GP: 119/130 (11 vacant)



SSCF
 SH: 112/128 (16 vacant)
 GP: 232/250 (18 vacant)



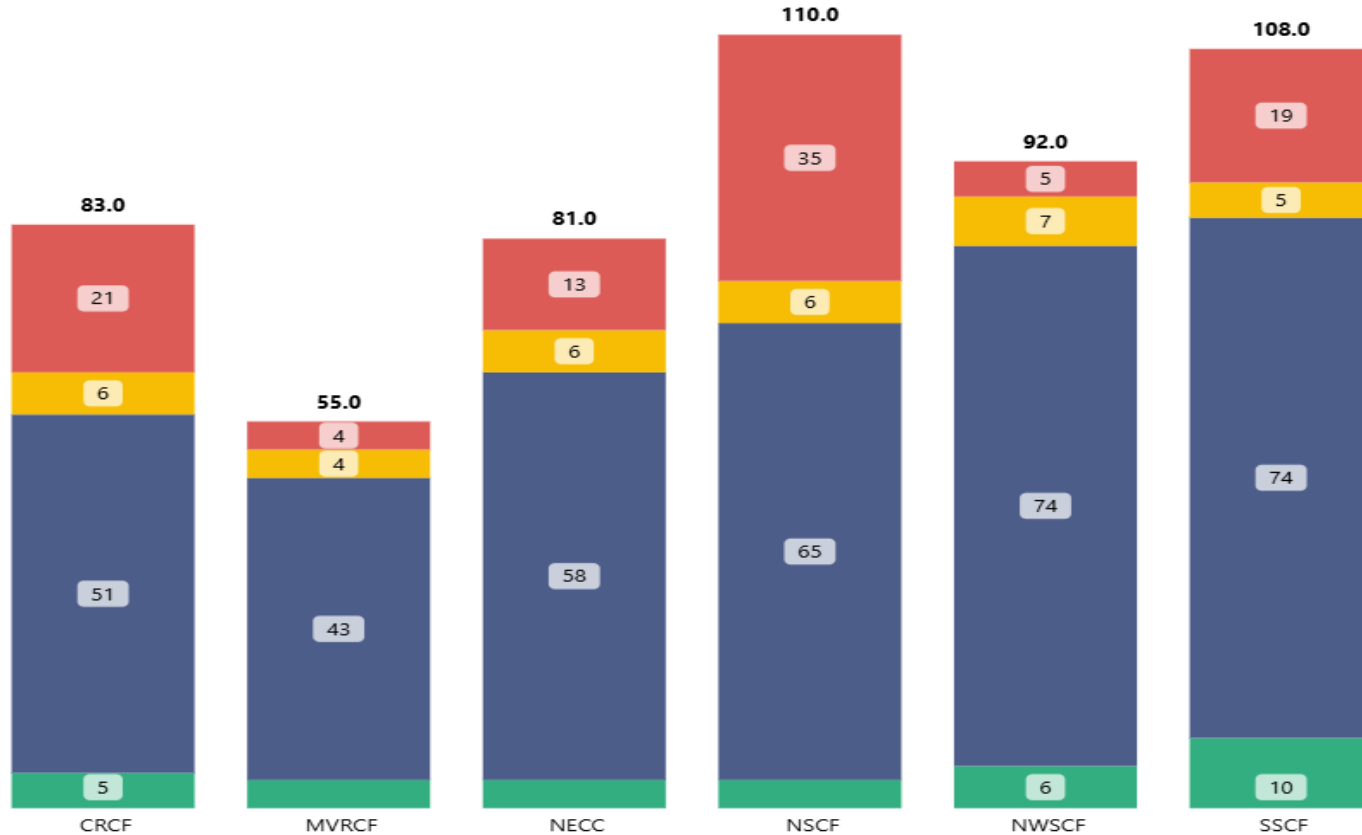
■ GP Occupied ■ Work Camp Occupied ■ Special Housing Occupied
■ Over Capacity (any unit) Vacant (any unit)



Staffing Data

Staffing Composition by Facility – Current Staffing Snapshot

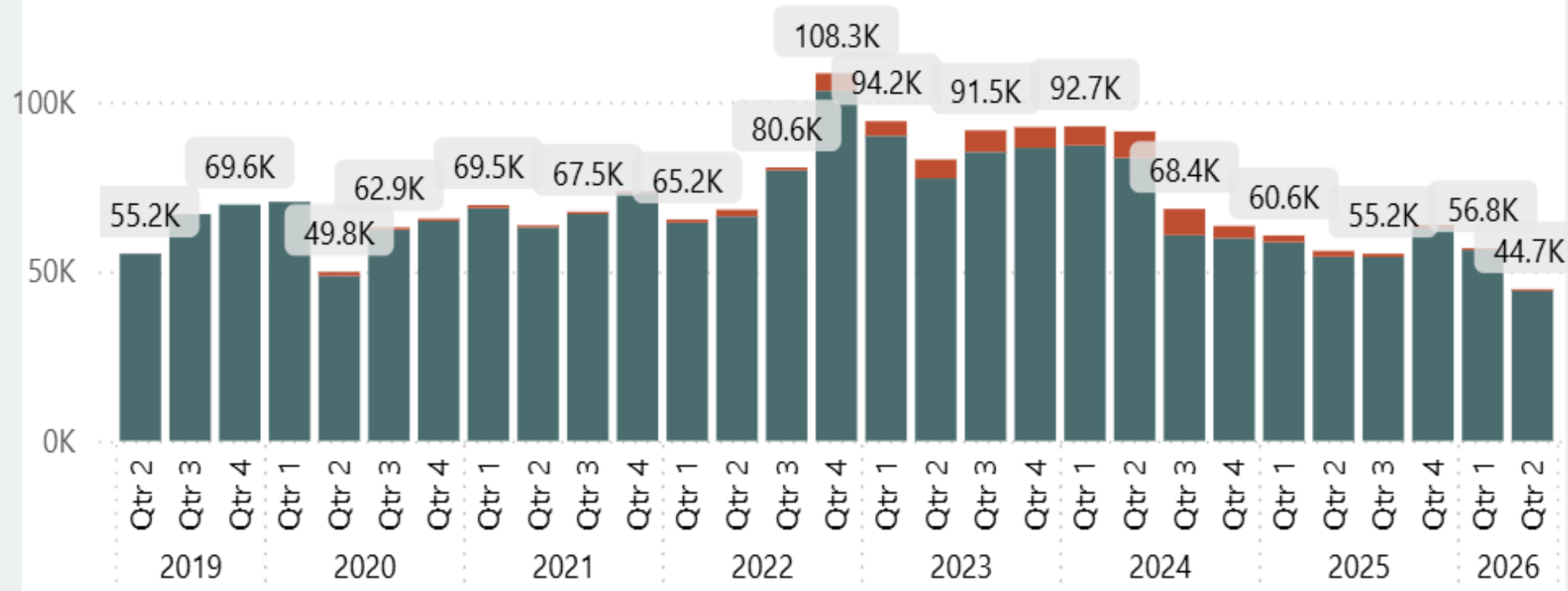
● Gap Hires & Academy COs ● Deployable COs & CFSSs ● Long Term Leave COs & CFSSs ● Vacant Positions COs & CFSSs





Total OT Hours and Standby Hours

● OT Hours ● Standby Hours





Compliant Connectivity, Wi-Fi in Vermont Correctional Facilities Update

Kristin Calver, DOC Deputy Commissioner
Andrea DeLaBruere, ADS Deputy Secretary



Current Activities:

- RFP posted August 21, Bids are due 9/4
- Team has been convened to score bids and select vendor(s) between 9/4 and 9/25
- Team is reviewing and responding to questions
- DOC continues to evaluate and identify resources

Updated Timeline Goals:

- Contract Negotiations, Drafting, Signatures: September
- Contract Award & Project Kickoff: First week in October
- Assessment Activities
Conducted: October, November, and December
- First Deliverables for Cost analysis: January 1



Women's Facility Update

Jon Murad, Commissioner, DOC

Emily Kisicki, Deputy Commissioner, BGS



Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility: Replacement

- Request for Proposal for Public Land Search was unsuccessful. One bid received and was withdrawn.
- DOC and BGS continue to collaborate on next steps.



Current Facility Deferred Maintenance Progress:

- DOC and BGS conducted several site tours and assessments to understand current work orders, conditions, and needs in greater detail and identify priority projects.
- Current funding will not address all items identified.
- Priority identified include sewer line plumbing maintenance, safety items such as floor tiles, plumbing fixture replacement, bathroom finishing replacement, ventilation.



Act 117/Gender Affirming Care Update

Dr. Richards, Wellpath

Christine Cowart, DOC Policy Development Unit Director

Joshua Rutherford, Deputy Director of Facilities Operations

Gender Affirming Care Services with Wellpath



- Gender Affirming Care Policy
- Monthly multidisciplinary Gender Affirming Care committee
- Monthly report out to DOC of detailed individualized care for all current TGD (Transgender and Gender Diverse) patients
- End of week review/report and discussion with DOC
- Members of Mental Health team attended a WPATH GEI Trauma-Informed Approach to Gender Affirming Care Workshop last year
- Dr. Brandy Brown, LCSW WPATH GEI SOC8 Certified Clinician (case consultation and trainings)
- Gender Affirming care training for Wellpath staff focused on providing gender affirming care at all levels



Gender Identification

- DOC determines a person's gender by self-report
- Searching or physically examining a gender-diverse, intersex, or transgender individual for the sole purpose of determining the individual's genital status is prohibited
- If an individual's genital status is unknown, it may be determined during conversations with the individual, by reviewing medical records, or, if necessary, by learning the information as part of a broader medical examination conducted in private by a medical practitioner.



Language Changes in Search Policies

- From “cross-gender” to “different-gender”
- From “strip” to “unclothed” search
- From “pat” to “clothed” search
- Adopted use of “gender-diverse”



DOC Search Policies

- Multiple search policies
 - Split searches of individuals from residence, area, and property searches
 - Split field and facility searches
 - Created new policy regarding dry cell status
- Policies addressing searches of individuals specifically
 - Gender considerations
 - Religious considerations
- Policies include:
 - Specific trauma-informed language
 - Body scanner and radiological health procedures



Definition: Same-Gender Search

A search that meets the following criteria:

1. **For an individual who is intersex or identifies as transgender and/or gender-diverse**, the gender of the staff conducting or observing the search matches the approved gender for searches of that individual, as recorded in the individual's accommodation and housing determination review custom form; or
2. **For other individuals**, the gender of the staff conducting or observing the search matches the gender of the individual being searched.



Definition: Different-Gender Search

A search that meets the following criteria:

- 1. For an individual who is intersex or identifies as transgender and/or gender-diverse:** the gender of the staff conducting or observing the search does not match the approved gender for searches of that individual, as recorded in the individual's accommodation and housing determination review custom form; or
- 2. For other individuals:** the gender of the staff conducting or observing the search does not match the gender of the individual being searched.



Searches at Intake

- Conducted based on staff's perception of the individual's gender
- If an individual who is transgender, intersex, or gender-diverse asks that a staff member of a different gender perform the search and the Supervisor believes it would reduce risk, the Supervisor may grant this immediate accommodation



Staffing Process for Searches

For individuals who are intersex or identify as transgender or gender-diverse:

- Asked at intake what gender staff member they want to be searched by for:
 - Clothed searches
 - Unclothed searches, body scans, drug screens, and all other searches
- Gender-Diverse Management Committee reviews request, the individual's history, and relevant information and determines if the request will be granted for searches going forward



Other Gender-Related Actions At Intake

- Document sex at birth, gender, legal name, pronouns, and preferred name
 - No disciplinary action for refusing to answer these questions
- For individuals who are intersex or identify as transgender or gender-diverse:
 - If individual asks to be housed by gender rather than sex, individual provides reason in writing
 - Facility staff may approve additional property
 - Staff meet with individual to document gender-related requests
 - Wellpath provides appropriate gender-affirming care starting at intake



Gender-Related Housing and Accommodations

- Within three days of intake, facility multidisciplinary team reviews the individual's case and history and makes recommendations regarding accommodations and housing placement
 - Document all accommodations requested by the individual and whether they were locally approved or denied
 - Makes recommendations regarding searches, facility placement determinations, and accommodation items related to physical presentation
- Gender-Diverse Management Committee meets within seven days to review facility team's recommendations and finalize plan
 - Approves or denies accommodations and housing placement



Gender-Related Housing and Accommodations (continued)

- Individual may appeal to the Commissioner if they wish to grieve the decision
- Plan reviewed every six months and whenever the individual or facility requests a change
 - If an individual submits repeated or duplicative accommodation requests, the facility team and Gender-Diverse Management Committee collaborate to address the issue
- Health Equity Director works with facility staff to connect individuals to resources and support



Risk Assessments

Prior to conducting risk assessment for an individuals who is intersex or identifies as transgender or gender-diverse, staff consult with the Gender-Diverse Management Committee and a subject matter expert on risk assessments to determine which assessments should be performed for the individual