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Leading Nevada Corrections Into the Future
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June 5, 2006

Assemblyman William Horne, Chairman ACR 17 Subcommittee 401 S. Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Correctional Programming for Female Inmates

Dear Chairman Horne and Committee Members:

As of May 31, 2006, the Nevada Department of Corrections incarcerated 1,051 females in a total prison population of 11,210 offenders. That is 10.6% of our population, which exceeds the national average of a 7% female inmate population. (*Prisoners in 2004*, Bureau of Justice Statistics, October 2005). Our female inmates are housed in the Southern Nevada Women's Correctional Center (614), Jean Conservation Camp (284) and Silver Springs Conservation Camp (145).

Your inquiry is whether female offenders have the same access to programs and Merit Credit opportunities that the male inmates have. The short answer is: they have greater access and a wider array of classes and programs than the majority of our male prisons and camps. One explanation is that there are more prison industry jobs in our men's prisons so many more of them work and do correctional programming only part-time, whereas we have to provide a full schedule for the majority of women who do not work. Also, volunteers seem more willing to work with females when it comes to offering self-improvement classes. (However, religious volunteers are equally generous with their time for men and women.)

The two camps are NDF work camps and between them employ approximately 250 inmates. The local school districts in Silver Springs and Jean offer their Adult High School Diploma curricula and GED Preparation. Western Nevada Community College offers classes at SSCC and 16 inmates just completed Spring Semester. The Community College of Southern Nevada presents college classes at JCC where 21 students just completed the Spring Semester. The classes are taught from the normal college catalog and are chosen based upon what the inmates register to take.

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Document consists of 11 pages

☑ Entire document provided.

☐ Due to size limitations, pages _____ provided.

A copy of the complete document is available through the Research Library (775/684-6827 or e-mail library@lcb.state.nv.us). Meeting Date: June 8, 2006

Our 8-week Female Offender's DUI Program for those mandated by the courts is offered at JCC by an NDOC Substance Abuse Counselor. Inmates completing that receive 30 Merit Credits. The program is full-time, 5 days a week. At SSCC, our half-time psychologist is also a state-licensed substance abuse counselor (LADC) and she offers psycho-educational programs on drugs and alcohol, in addition to her mental health programs and individual therapy and treatment and crisis management. We also have one full-time Mental Health Counselor at JCC. Volunteers offer programs at both camps. Our correctional programs for mental health or life-skills must have a minimum of 24 hours of classroom time so they usually run 6 to 12 weeks long, depending upon how many hours a week the class meets. There is often homework required, too. Most classes are approved for 15 Merit Credits, although some offered by volunteer organizations do not follow a standard curriculum each time so they can be non-credit voluntary classes. Our offerings range from rehabilitative programs to inmate activities to support groups. We alternate classes every few months so more inmates get exposure to more rehabilitative programming. Some of our programs, classes or inmate activities offered over the last few months at our women' camps include:

A Change in Thinking

Addictions Prevention Education

Alcohol/Drug Treatment Aftercare

Alcoholics Anonymous

Anger Management

Commitment to Change

Computers (Various Classes at all levels)

Domestic Violence

Emotions Management

Entrepreneurship

Family and You—Creating Lasting Family Connections

Fitness and Wellness

Life Skills

Narcotics Anonymous

NDF Basic Training S130 and S 190

Nuturing Parents and Families

ParenTeen Solutions

Parenting and Advanced Parenting

Pups Up for Parole (PUPS)

Street Readiness

Stress and Anxiety Management

Substance Abuse Issues

Survivors Overcoming Abuse and Rape (SOAR)

Thinking for a Change

Victim Awareness

Women's Health.

Both women's camps and our prison offer various religious services almost every day of the week. The chaplains assigned to the nearby prisons (NNCC for Silver Springs and SNWCC for Jean) are also assigned to oversee religion at the camp and supervise the volunteers there. More than 20 different religious organizations volunteer their services at SNWCC.

Obviously more programming is offered at our women's prison because fewer inmates work and there is more programming and educations staff there. Our ARCH Program is a 6-12 month long intensive treatment program for drug or alcohol abusers. It is our female inmates' therapeutic community program like OASIS is for the males in the south. ARCH can handle 70 women at a time and it is almost always at full capacity. (This program started with 50 but the need was so high we expanded it.)

Forty-two women just completed the Spring Semester of community college at SNWCC. The classes taught this semester include: Algebra; Principles of Sociology; Business Speech Communications; English Composition II; Art Appreciation; and Personnel Administration. Overall, approximately 100 female offenders started college classes this year and 79 completed them. Computer courses are taught in both the high school and college programs.

Attached is a copy of a recent Master Schedule for the Southern Nevada Women's Correctional Center to give you an idea of the programs and activities there. It is mostly self-explanatory so I won't go into all the classes or programs in detail in this letter. Many of the same ones listed above for the camps are also offered at SNWCC. We offer sex offender treatment (S.T.O.P.) at SNWCC but not at the camps because no sex offenders can go into Minimum Custody status in Nevada. The STOP program is 48 weeks long and covers a number of mental health topics. We also have a Maternal and Child Health Program that fully explores the biological, emotional and parenting aspects of pregnancy and child-rearing. We have a special Pregnancy Class for the women who come into prison pregnant. We have a smoking cessation class at SNWCC. We have some programs that address specific mental disorders like Borderline Personality (STEPPS) and the residual effects of rape and violence victimization (Grief Therapy and Processing).

We have a "storybook project" in which inmates make tapes of themselves reading children's books and then send them home to their kids. We have a Girl Scout troop that comes to meetings at SNWCC so children of inmates can participate in that program with their own mothers. We still have the PUPS program offered in conjunction with Heaven Can Wait animal rescue program in Las Vegas. Our *Going Home Prepared* re-entry program has had some females in it over the past three years (the grant expires June 30th) and now the City of Las Vegas' EVOLVE program is offering re-entry assistance to our women at SNWCC and JCC under a 2-year contract. We will start New Beginnings, our standardized Street Readiness class, at SNWCC in a week or two.

Some of the volunteer-led programs are in summer hiatus. Yoga and Meditation and L.E.A.P., the Law Student Assistance Program, from UNLV are among those. A Horticulture and Master gardening class taught by the UNR Cooperative Extension just ended a 6-month session. We have also had a "Cordon Bleu" culinary class for the women, but that got too expensive so will be replaced by one taught by the community college this Fall.

We are in the last stages of our programs re-vamp throughout our prison system. We implemented the LSI-R Needs Assessment instrument to identify each inmate's programming and treatment needs. We've spent the last four years getting training in various aspects of correctional programming and development of programs. Our staff has researched topics looking for evidence-based curricula in use at other prisons.

In late July, our Programs staff will meet with Dr. Shelley Listwan once again and review our work in consolidating our different class offerings into comprehensive correctional programs. Then our list of Approved Merit Credit Programs will reduce in size as we focus on more intensive, longer-term programs with multiple modules, rather than individual classes of 24 hours each. Our goal is that the same standard curricula or program outline will be followed at each prison so that inmates can transfer without losing programming opportunities.

Beginning with the next school year in the Fall, we will award merit credits to inmates for the earning of certificates in vocational areas, with each certificate requiring the completion of a series of 3 or 4 classes in related study and skill topics. These certificates will be in subjects like computers, culinary training, auto mechanics, heating and air conditioning, landscaping, construction and business. Some of our prison-based training programs, like dry cleaning, for example, will continue to be approved for vocational training merit credit.

With our new computer records system, NOTIS, (which is being tested as modules are designed) we will be able to electronically match inmates to program eligibility requirements, track individual progress, transfer information from one prison's programming staff to another, and measure both individual performance and aggregate program performance. We will then be in a position to be able to comply with NRS 209.389 (3) which says we should have our prison programs assessed every three years by qualified persons, associations or trade groups. As it is now, STOP and OASIS and WINGS are the only correctional programs we've actually had operating for a full three years. We expect to do evaluations and assessments of those programs towards the end of 2006 so we will have some information for the Nevada Legislature in the 2007 session.

I hope this answers your basic questions about inmate correctional programming. I am available to answer additional questions at any time, at your members' convenience.

Yours truly,

Dorothy Nash Holmes

Deputy Director of Correctional Programs

Dorothy Nash Holmes

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cc: Governor Kenny C. Guinn Glen Whorton, Director

Day: Monday

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Time	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteria	Chapel	Visitation Children	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM	Medical	Reserved for									
8:30 AM		Card Sorting									
9:00 AM											
9:30 AM			ATU Phase II		Addicted to Hope						
10:00 AM			9:45 - 11:00								
10:30 AM											
11:00 AM											
11:30 AM											
12:00 PM											
12:30 PM											
1:00 PM			Anger Management		Catholic Prayer 12:30 - 1:00						
1:30 PM	Processing Group		Mr. Williams		Bible Study on Prayer						
2:00 PM			1:15 - 2:15		1:30 - 3:00				Anger Management	Stress	
2:30 PM									2:00 - 4:00	Management	
3:00 PM									Ms. Harper		
3:30 PM									OUTCOUNT		
4:00 PM											
4:30 PM					Praise & Worship Practice						
5:00 PM			;		4:30 - 6:00						
5:30 PM											
6:00 PM	5:30 - 7:30						Storybook Project				
6:30 PM							2nd Monday only				
7:00 PM							6:00 - 8:00				
7:30 PM											
8:00 PM			Cleanup by ATU								
8:30 PM					_						
9:00 PM			<u> </u>		·						
9:30 PM											

Color Codi	ing							
		Educational classes						
		Religious						
		mental health/programs						
		ATU related						
		gym related						
		high school						
Living Tobacco Free #1 - Voluntary Class								
Living Tob	acco Free #2 - Mar	ndated Class						

Day: Tuesday

Time											
Tillle	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteria	Chapel	isitation Childre	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM	Reserved for Medical	Reserved for									
8:30 AM		Card Sorting									
9:00 AM					COMMITMENT						
9:30 AM			ATU Phase II		TO CHANGE						
10:00 AM			9:45 - 11:00		9:00 - 11:00						
10:30 AM	STEPPS				Cinnamon Harper						
11:00 AM	Dr. Walter										
11:30 AM											
12:00 PM											
12:30 PM	ATU Counseling				Muslim Prayer 12:30 - 1:00						
1:00 PM	12:30 - 2:30		Attitudinal Healing								
1:30 PM	Ms. Drew		With Gail - ATU								
2:00 PM			1:00-2:30								Anger Management
2:30 PM	STEPPS									SOS	2:00 - 4:00
3:00 PM	Dr. Walter									Ms. Storbeck	Ms. Harper
3:30 PM	Dr. Tarasoff									2:30 - 4:00 PM	OUTCOUNT
4:00 PM	STEPPS Aftercare									OUTCOUNT	
	Dr. Walter & Dr. Tarasoff										Living Tobacco Free
5:00 PM	Medical In Service		;								Class #2 4:30 - 5:30
5:30 PM	5:00pm-6:00pm		Graduation				Street Readiness				Living Tobacco Free
6:00 PM			Decoration		Women's Aglow						Class #1 5:30 - 6:30
6:30 PM			5:30 - 8:00		1st & 3rd week						
7:00 PM					Abundant Life						
7:30 PM			Ends on 6/8/2006		2nd, 4th & 5th weeks						
8:00 PM			Cleanup by ATU								
8:30 PM											
9:00 PM											
9:30 PM											

Color Codi	ng						
		Educational classes					
		Religious					
		mental health/pro	ograms				
		ATU related					
		gym related					
		high school					
Living Toba	acco Free #1 - Voluntary	Class					
Living Toba	acco Free #2 - Mandated	Class					

Day: Wednesday

Day. V	veunesuay										
Time	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteri	Chapel	Visitation Childrens	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM	Reserved for Medical	Reserved for									
8:30 AM		Card Sorting									
9:00 AM					Commitment to Change						
9:30 AM			ATU Phase II		9:00 - 11:00						
10:00 AM			9:45 - 11:00		Cinnamon Harper						
10:30 AM											
11:00 AM											
11:30 AM											
12:00 PM											
12:30 PM					Protestant Prayer 12:30 - 1:00						
1:00 PM			Aftercare - Ms. Pell				Commitment				
1:30 PM			1:00 - 2:00				to Change				
2:00 PM			ATU - Phase II				Ms. Storbeck	Victim Awareness	EVOLVE	Stress Management	
2:30 PM			2:00 - 3:00				1:00 - 2:30 PM	Cinnamon Harper	2:00 - 4:00 PM	2:00 - 3:00	
3:00 PM								2:00-4:00 PM			
3:30 PM								OUTCOUNT	OUTCOUNT		
4:00 PM											
4:30 PM											
5:00 PM			;								
5:30 PM											
6:00 PM			Toastmasters		New Antioch		Storybook Project				
6:30 PM			Mentor		1st & 2nd weeks		1st				
7:00 PM					Flaming Sword 3rd wk		Wednesday				
7:30 PM					Inmate Discipleship		6:00 - 8:00				
8:00 PM			Cleanup by ATU		4th wk						
8:30 PM											
9:00 PM											
9:30 PM								[

Color Codi	ng							
		Educational cla	Educational classes					
		Religious	Religious					
		mental health/p	rograms					
		ATU related	ATU related					
		gym related	gym related					
		high school						
Living Tob	acco Free #1 - Volur	ntary Class						
Living Tob	acco Free #2 - Mano	dated Class						

Day: Thursday

Day. I	nursuay										
Time	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteria	Chapel	Visitation Childrens	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM	Reserved for Medical	Reserved for									
8:30 AM	6:00am-10:00am	Card Sorting									
9:00 AM											
9:30 AM			ATU Phase II		Commitment to Change						
10:00 AM			9:45 - 11:00		Ms. Storbeck 9 - 11						
10:30 AM	STEPPS				Temporary until 5/12						
11:00 AM	Dr. Walter & Dr. Tarasoff										
11:30 AM	10:30am-12:00pm										
12:00 PM											
12:30 PM	Commitment				Protestant Prayer 12:30 - 1:00						
1:00 PM	to Change		Anger Mgmt Cont.		Jewish Services						
1:30 PM	12:45 - 2:15 PM		1:00 - 2:30		1:00 - 2:30						
2:00 PM	Ms. Storbeck		Cinnamon Harper					Creating Lasting Families		Parenting	Rape Crisis
2:30 PM	STEPPS		Sisters Reach Out					Relationships (A)		Class (A)	2:00 - 4:00
	Dr. Walter & Dr. Tarasoff		2:30-3:00					2:00 - 4:00		2:00 - 4:00	
3:30 PM	2:30 - 4:00							OUTCOUNT		OUTCOUNT	OUTCOUNT
4:00 PM	STEPPS Aftercare										
4:30 PM	Dr. Walter										
5:00 PM	Pregnancy Clinic		į.								
5:30 PM	Nurse Char		SOS				Street Readiness	Creating Lasting		Parenting	
6:00 PM	5:00pm-7:00pm		Ms. Storbeck		Prison Fellowship			Family Relationships (B)		Class (B)	
6:30 PM			5:30 - 7:00		1st, 3rd & 5th wk			5:30 - 7:30		5:30 - 7:30	
7:00 PM					Victory Outreach						
7:30 PM					2nd &4th wk						
8:00 PM			Cleanup by ATU								
8:30 PM											
9:00 PM											
9:30 PM											

Color Codi	ng						
		Educational cla	sses				
		Religious					
		mental health/programs					
		ATU related					
		gym related					
		high school					
Living Tob	acco Free #1 - Volunta	ary Class					
Living Tob	acco Free #2 - Mandat	ted Class					

Day: Friday

Time	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteria	Chapel	Visitation Children	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM	Reserved for Medical	Reserved for									
8:30 AM		Card Sorting									
9:00 AM	VICTIM										
9:30 AM	AWARENESS		ATU Phase II								
10:00 AM	Cinnamon Harper		9:45 - 11:00								
10:30 AM											
11:00 AM											
11:30 AM											
12:00 PM	Reserved for Medical										
12:30 PM											
1:00 PM			Sisters Reaching Out								
1:30 PM			12:45-3:00								
2:00 PM										HOLD for	Commitment
2:30 PM										Ms. Hester	to Change
3:00 PM	SEEKING SAFETY										2:00 - 4:00
3:30 PM											Cinnamon Harper
4:00 PM											
4:30 PM											
5:00 PM			;		Islamic Services						
5:30 PM			Deele III Vincend		1st &3rd wk 5:00 - 6:00			1			
6:00 PM			Rachel's Vineyard		Spanish Services						
6:30 PM	Native American Council		Bible Study		2nd & 4th wk						
			6:00 - 8:00		New Life for Old						
7:30 PM 8:00 PM	(1st & 3rd Fridays)				3rd wk						
8:30 PM								 			
9:00 PM								 			
9:30 PM								1			
9.30 PIVI											

Color Codi	ing						
		Educational classes					
		Religious					
		mental health/programs					
		ATU related					
		gym related					
		high school					
Living Tob	acco Free #1 - Voluntary C	lass					
Living Tob	acco Free #2 - Mandated C	Class					

Day: Saturday

Day. C	ataraay										
Time	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteria	Chapel	Visitation Childrens	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM		Reserved for									i
8:30 AM		Card Sorting									i
9:00 AM			Toastmaster's		Thy Word Ministries						i
9:30 AM			Gavel Club		2nd & 4th wk						i
10:00 AM			9:00 - 10:30		New Life for Old						i
10:30 AM					3rd wk						i
11:00 AM											i
11:30 AM											i
12:00 PM			ATU XRZ								i
12:30 PM											i
1:00 PM	Southwest Prison				Southwest Prison						i
1:30 PM	Ministry Bible Study		AA/NA		Ministry Bible Study						i
2:00 PM					1:00 - 3:00						i
2:30 PM											i
3:00 PM											i
3:30 PM											i
4:00 PM											i
4:30 PM											i
5:00 PM			Choir Practice								i
5:30 PM											i
6:00 PM											i
6:30 PM											i
7:00 PM					1st Church of God						i
7:30 PM	•		Choir 7:30 - 8:00		2nd & 4th wk		•				
8:00 PM	•		Cleanup by ATU				•				
8:30 PM	•						•				
9:00 PM											
9:30 PM											

Color Codi	ng					
		Educational classes				
	Religious					
		mental health/programs				
		ATU related				
		gym related				
		high school				
Living Tobacco Free #1 - Voluntary Class						
Living Tobacco Free #2 - Mandated Class						

Day: Sunday

Day. 3											
Time	E116	E117	ATU	Cafeteria	Chapel	Visitation Childrens	Visitation	B112	B116	B106	B107
8:00 AM		Reserved for									
8:30 AM		Card Sorting									
9:00 AM					Latter Day Saints						
9:30 AM			ATU Phase II								
10:00 AM			9:45 - 11:00								
10:30 AM											
11:00 AM											
11:30 AM											
12:00 PM											
12:30 PM					Protestant Prayer 12:30 - 1:00						
1:00 PM					•						
1:30 PM			AA/NA		Chaplain's Services						
2:00 PM					1:30 - 3:00						
2:30 PM											
3:00 PM											
3:30 PM											
4:00 PM											
4:30 PM											
5:00 PM			•								
5:30 PM			Toastmasters								
6:00 PM					Mountain Top Faith						
6:30 PM					1st & 2nd wk						
7:00 PM					Headlifters 3rd wk						
7:30 PM					Revelations 3.20 4th wk						
8:00 PM			Cleanup by ATU								
8:30 PM					·						
9:00 PM											
9:30 PM											

Color Codi	ng					
		Educational classes				
		Religious				
	mental health/programs					
		ATU related				
		gym related				
	high school					
Living Tobacco Free #1 - Voluntary Class						
Living Tobacco Free #2 - Mandated Class						