A message from the District Director

Dear Director Skinner,

I am pleased to present the Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report for the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services, and to share our accomplishments during the past year. As with every year, our number one goal of having staff return home safe, was achieved. On behalf of all of the hard working staff in this District, it is my privilege to share with you the accomplishments of the past year.

First and foremost, we achieved the goal of further stratifying client risk by implementing the Level System Matrix. This matrix has allowed us to more efficiently target resources toward higher risk cases, while also balancing officer workloads. We hope in the near future to further study the validity of our current risk instruments to achieve further improvement.

Second, we continued to adapt and seek improvements with pretrial services. With the expiration of the PSA, along with the pending expiration of our collaboration with Code for America, we built off the lessons learned through these partnerships and have continued to divert just as many defendants from jail utilizing a pretrial screening tool developed by the District years ago.

Third, we were able to begin implementing our strategic goal for the year which was focused around Dignity and Trauma Informed Care (TIC). We held a two-day conference featuring top experts in TIC that drew over 300 participants from around the state. This conference laid the foundation for staff to begin learning more about how to recognize the barriers connected to trauma and assist clients in developing resiliency toward same.

Fourth, we continue to recruit, hire, and train new staff to complement the current excellent staff we have in the District. In all, we hired 31 new staff members. The process to on-board quality staff takes time and team, and the team executed.

Lastly, we were able to address many delayed maintenance projects. We made upgrades including but not limited to our fleet of vehicles, residential facilities, administration offices, computers, phones, and various other equipment needs. Moving forward, continued maintenance will remain a priority. We want staff and clients to be able to conduct their business in the best possible environment we can provide.

In closing, I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to the Fifth DCS Board of Directors for their continued support and guidance in helping us achieve the mission of the District. In addition, I would like to recognize the support provided by DOC Central Office, the seven other Districts across the State, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, and the numerous stakeholders we collaborate with regularly that have helped make Iowa a leader in Community Based Corrections.

I want to again applaud our staff in the Fifth for the sacrifices they endured as we worked to fill vacancies. Not only did they take on more work, they achieved results! This report is submitted for filing with the Board of Supervisors of each county in the Fifth Judicial District per Iowa Code 905.4. This documents activities of the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

JERRY L. EVANS
DIRECTOR
5th Judicial District
Department of Correctional Services
# Table of Contents

**Mission**
We Protect the Public, Employees, and Clients from Victimization and we seek to help transform clients into productive Iowa citizens.

**Beliefs**
People can change; Clients can become stable, productive citizens and employees; Every person should be treated with dignity and respect; Our work efforts need to make people safer; Everyone must work as a team if we are to succeed.

**Vision**
An Iowa with No More Victims.

## Administrative Services
- Administration and Human Resources ........................................... 12
- Administration Support Staff .................................................. 13
- IT Department ........................................................................... 13
- Accomplishments ...................................................................... 14
- Training Goals and Objectives ................................................... 14
- Income Offset ............................................................................ 14
- Financial Information .................................................................. 15

## Field Services
- Overview ..................................................................................... 16
- Corrections Continuum ............................................................... 17
- Intermediate Criminal Sanctions ................................................. 17
- Completed and Attempted Home Visits ....................................... 17
- Pretrial Services Unit ................................................................. 17–18
- Centralized Intake Unit ............................................................... 18
- Reduced Supervision Unit .......................................................... 18
- Interstate Compact Unit .............................................................. 19
- Probation/Parole Unit ................................................................. 19–20
- Satellites .................................................................................... 20
- Region Offices ........................................................................... 20–21
- Presentence Investigation Unit .................................................. 22
- Warren County OWI Court ......................................................... 22

## Residential Services
- Community Treatment Unit/Federal Officers ............................. 31
- Fort Des Moines Facility .............................................................. 32
- Maintenance Unit .................................................................... 32
- District Work Crew .................................................................... 34
- Chaplains ............................................................................... 34
- Fresh Start Women’s Center ....................................................... 35

## 2019 Highlights
- Swearing in Ceremonies ............................................................. 36
- Fort Des Moines Remodel .......................................................... 38
- 2019 Crime Victims’ Rights Ceremony ....................................... 38
- US Department of HHS Learning Exchange ............................ 39
- Core Correctional Practices Training ........................................ 39

## Specialty Programs
- Domestic Abuse/ISP Unit .......................................................... 23
- Drug Court .................................................................................. 24
- Drug Court Sanctions and Approach ........................................ 24–25
- Central Command Center ......................................................... 25
- Mental Health Unit .................................................................. 26
- Support Services Center ............................................................ 26–27
- Sex Offender Treatment Program ............................................. 28
- Re-Entry Program ................................................................... 28
- Youthful Offender Program ...................................................... 29
- Warrant Team/High Risk Unit ................................................... 30

## Board of Directors
- Office Locations ........................................................................ 4–5
- History Overview ..................................................................... 6–7
- Strategic Plan ........................................................................... 7
- Spotlight — TiC Conference ....................................................... 8–9
- Organization Chart .................................................................. 11

## Accomplishments
- Training Goals and Objectives ................................................... 14

## Financial Information
- Income Offset ............................................................................ 14

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS
- Swearing in Ceremonies ............................................................. 36
- Fort Des Moines Remodel .......................................................... 38
- 2019 Crime Victims’ Rights Ceremony ....................................... 38
- US Department of HHS Learning Exchange ............................ 39
- Core Correctional Practices Training ........................................ 39
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TO VIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES, PLEASE GO TO: HTTP://FIFTHDCS.COM/BOARDMEETINGMINUTES.CFM

TOM HOCKENSMITH
Chair — Polk County*

ROBERT BELL
Decatur County

KISHA JAHNER
Marion County

DAVID DOTTs
Wayne County*

OFFICE LOCATIONS

1000 WASHINGTON DES MOINES, IA 50314
(515) 242-6604
Administration/Human Resources
Sex Offender Unit
Mental Health Unit
Reduced Supervision Unit
Parole Unit

910 WASHINGTON DES MOINES, IA 50314
(515) 242-6680
Probation Unit
Youthful Client Program
Presentence Investigation Unit
Support Services Center

POLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE
500 MULBERRY ST.
DES MOINES, IA 50309
(515) 286-3925
Centralized Intake Unit

POLK COUNTY JAIL
1985 NE 51ST PL
DES MOINES, IA 50314
(515) 875-5750
Pretrial Services

WOMEN’S RESIDENTIAL FACILITY
1917 HICKMAN RD.
DES MOINES, IA 50314
(515) 242-6325
Fresh Start Women’s Center

FORT DES MOINES CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
65 GRUBER ST.
DES MOINES, IA 50315
(515) 242-6956
Domestic Unit
Honors Program
Drug Court Program
GPS Command Center
KIM E. CHAPMAN
Vice Chair — Dallas County*

MIKE DICKSON
Guthrie County

LYLE MINNICK
Ringgold County

MICHAEL D. HUPPERT
Chief Judge — Judicial Appointment

STEVE SHELLEY
Adair County

DENNY CARPENTER
Jasper County

JERRY MURPHY
Taylor County

VALLYER GRIFFIS
Judicial Appointment

SCOTT AKIN
Adams County

DENNIS SMITH
Lucas County

RICK FRIDAY
Union County

VALLYER GRIFFIS
Judicial Appointment

CHEEKO CAMEL
Citizen Appointment*

MARVIN MCCANN
Clarke County*

DIANE FITCH
Madison County

CRYSTAL MCINTYRE
Warren County*

TERESA BOMHOFF
Citizen Appointment*

FORT DES MOINES RESIDENTIAL FACILITY
68/70 THAYER ST.
DES MOINES, IA 50315
(515) 242-6956

ADEL OFFICE
905 MAIN ST.
ADEL, IA 50003
(515) 993-4632

CHARITON OFFICE
P.O. BOX 368
48559 HY-VEE ROAD
CHARITON, IA 50049
(641) 774-8112

CRESTON OFFICE
119 N. ELM ST.
CRESTON, IA 50801
(641) 782-8556

INDIANOLA OFFICE
112 E. SALEM
INDIANOLA, IA 50125
(515) 961-3095

KNOXVILLE OFFICE
110 N. 1ST ST.
KNOXVILLE, IA 50138
(641) 842-6002

NEWTON OFFICE
JASPER COUNTY ANNEX BLDG
115 N. 2ND AVE E., SUITE J
NEWTON, IA 50208
(641) 792-1101

OWI
Work Release
Federal
Probation/Parole

*Executive Committee
HISTORY & OVERVIEW

The Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services was developed in the early 1970s, and includes sixteen counties in south central Iowa.

In beginning, the Fifth Judicial District looked a lot different than it does today. In the 1970’s, it was commonly referred to as “The Des Moines Program” and it was the first Criminal Justice Project in the United States to be designated “exemplary” by the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. While the basic idea of community corrections was not new, the way in which the four Des Moines components were pulled together under a single administrative agency, was. Originally, only pretrial, probation, and residential corrections were provided. However, on July 1, 1984, the Code of Iowa placed parole services under the Fifth Judicial District.

A little over 40 years ago, the Board of Directors was established with full representation by all sixteen counties that make up the District. Two citizen representatives, and two judicial appointments were also included in governing body. The same is still true today.

Some of the original programs such as pretrial services, probation, and residential corrections still exist, just on a much larger scale. As noted, parole was added later, as was a presentence investigation unit (PSI). The PSI Unit prepares a report, after interviewing the defendant that contains biographical information, prior criminal history, along with a sentencing recommendation. The PSI assists the Court in determining an appropriate disposition.

While residential corrections is still a key diversion and re-entry program, the way in which the programs are administered today is much different than in the early years. The District initially was able to secure space at Ft. Des Moines to house both men and women in building 65/66. As the story goes, building 65/66 at Ft. Des Moines was purchased for $1. From there, the District was able to secure funding from the legislature to remodel and begin operating out of those buildings.

Even though they had separate wings, the residents shared a common cafeteria. In addition, when parole was added in 1984, the 5th CBC took over operating the Des Moines Work Release Center, located at 2020 Center Street, Des Moines. The 40 bed facility was originally known as the Riverview Release Center, and was operated by the Iowa Department of Corrections. In 1998, the building was torn down due to the expansion of Martin Luther King Parkway, and the 5th CBC purchased additional buildings at Fort Des Moines to accommodate the work release program. Around the same time, the women were moved to a new building located at 1917 Hickman Road, on grounds leased from Broadlawns Medical Center. That became what is today called the Fresh Start Women’s Center (FSWC). Initially, the FSWC was operated by a private contractor, but later it was subsumed by the District and operated by District employees.

In the last couple of years, both the men and women’s facilities have received much needed maintenance repairs. Both continue to serve the needs of the District, and the populations that occupy the facilities as well.

If we look back to 1988, a total of 84,173 hours of community service was worked by clients. The minimum wage in 1988, was $3.65, which represents a total of $307,231 in services to the Fifth Judicial District. The charge per day at the Residential and OWI facility was $5.00, whereas $4.00 a day at the Des Moines Work Center. The $1.00 difference was because the clients were not served meals at the Work Release facility.
Interestingly, on April 27, 1988, the 5th CBC Board held their first discussion about the use of electronic monitoring to track clients. The EMS Program originated from a federal grant and the District began equipping clients with units at the Des Moines Work Release Center. The former resident lounge was converted into an office for this purpose. It is also interesting to see how thirty years ago the Intensive Supervision (ISP) caseloads were becoming too large to provide meaningful supervision. Therefore, it was decided at the board meeting that these caseloads should not exceed twenty individuals per officer at any time. However, today with the changes in technology and ways to contact the clients, caseloads in this unit have up to seventy individuals.

Today the Fifth Judicial District has both the most populous county in the State (Polk) and the least populous county (Adams). The District is funded by appropriation from the Iowa Legislature as well as funds generated through fees paid by clients along with grants. The current total operating budget is approximately $27 million, which includes approximately $6 million derived from local revenues and grant funding. At fiscal year end, the Fifth Judicial District supervised over 8,700 adult clients, and was budgeted for 264.5 FTE staff.

The Fifth District operates offices in Adel, Chariton, Creston, Des Moines, Indianola, Knoxville, Osceola, and Newton. Hiring practices, technology, and improved delivery of services, have allowed the District to embrace the mission to “protect the public, employees, and clients from victimization as we seek to help transform clients into productive Iowa citizens”. The Fifth District has also partnered with local government and law enforcement agencies and has staff co-located in the following communities; Ankeny, Perry, Guthrie Center, Winterset, Greenfield, Corning, Mount Ayr, Bedford, West Des Moines, Pleasant Hill, and Urbandale, as well as the Polk County Jail and most recently the Polk County Criminal Courts Building.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>DEFINITION</th>
<th>POTENTIAL METRICS</th>
</tr>
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| Facilitate Positive Behavioral Change | Reduce Recidivism by Providing the Services Necessary for Successful Reentry | • Trauma Informed Care  
• Youthful Offender Program  
• Drug Court  
• IDAP  
• SOTP  
• MAP  
• Ongoing |
| Hold Offenders Accountable | Increase Security Standards at the Residential Facilities | • Eradicate K–2 in the Facilities by increasing room/strip searches  
• Ongoing |
| Protect the Public | Increase Community Presence; improve officer accuracy in scoring IRR/DRAOR and provide the appropriate level of supervision based on offender risk | • Mission Driven PHVs by PPO IIs  
• Ad PPO III for Region PHVs  
• Ongoing  
• Booster Trainings for Officers on IRR & DRAOR  
• June 2017 |
| Improve Correctional Competencies | Coordinated Training via SRR and NIC on CCP and Next Generation; Implement SOTIPPS | • Booster Training for all Staff on CCP  
• June 2018  
• Train Staff on Next Generation  
• September 2016  
• Re-Train Staff STATIC 99  
• January 2017 |
| Improve Outcomes in Men’s Residential Facility | Develop a Day Program for Ft. Des Moines | • Pilot Day Program at Ft. Des Moines Work Release  
• Compare Outcomes to Residential  
• April 2019 |
In June 2019, the Fifth District hosted the first ever Trauma Informed Care Conference at the Event Center West in West Des Moines. This conference included all Fifth District staff and featured a number of key note speakers.

The first day of the conference started with the inspiring Tonier ‘Neen’ Cain-Muldrow. She presented her story of empowerment and resilience. She spoke on how the criminal justice system affected her life. How it beat her down and made her live in what most would consider to be a nightmare for close to twenty years. More importantly she spoke on how it also lifted her up and changed her life to get her where she is today with her 66 criminal convictions. Tonier gave a 90 minute overview of her R.I.C.H Approach for strengthening relationships with the center on Respect, Individuality, Connection, and Hope. She focused on heightening the awareness of trauma and how to interact with trauma victims and survivors. The goal, with the knowledge of the R.I.C.H approach, that she spoke on is to help our District clients feel safe so they can begin to heal from their traumatic experiences in their past. The aim for the District is to take a new approach with being trauma informed and to change the way we interact in the future with clients to guide them to put their best foot forward and move on to a better future.

The conference reconvened and heard from a local expert on trauma and more specifically “Looking at Behaviors through a Trauma Lens”. Gladys Alvarez, LISW began by talking about how being trauma informed is a paradigm shift. It is going from asking the question “what is wrong with you” to “what happened to you”. There is no one type of trauma, and trauma is something that we all have. There is acute trauma, chronic trauma, complex trauma, and historical/intergenerational trauma. Yet they all can be helped with the four essential elements to TIC which are to connect, protect, respect, and redirect. Alvarez spoke on how Trauma Informed Care is building resilience in our clients so they can thrive as individuals. There was something that stuck out that Gladys said during her presentation and it was that “Past trauma can alter cognitive and emotional functioning, meaning the response that we see [the response that put the clients in our offices] may be a survival response”. The clients that we work with may not know any better and may be acting out in the only way that they know of, and it is our job to take the individual as a whole, with their trauma, and help them. To help them become a safe, stable, productive citizen.

Lisa Cushatt closed out the first day of the conference with a presentation on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and to be more specific the research that has been done throughout the State of Iowa. Everyone has an ACE score and it goes from zero to ten and studies have shown that the higher the ACE score the greater the risk for chronic disease, mental illness, violence, and being a victim of violence. The most common ACE in Iowa adults was emotional abuse at 26.8% which was followed closely by adult substance abuse at 26.1%. Cushatt explained that childhood trauma is often not an isolated incident. Therefore, if our clients are coming to us and opening up about their trauma in their childhood it is very likely that their ACE score is two or above. In the study of Iowa adults it was found that 14.5% experience four or more ACE’s which indicate a significant level of childhood trauma and greatly increases the risk of poor outcomes. Lisa presented numbers from a study published in 2018 that reported 65.65% of female prisoners reported four or more ACEs and that 42.7% of low-risk, non-violent male prisoners reported four or more ACE’s. These are the individuals that we as a District are working with. The day was wrapped up by remembering the clients that we serve and how in our District’s mission we say to “transform”. Because we are taking those ACE scores of four, where things start to get more serious, and helping clients transform with their trauma and not just tossing it off to the side.

The second day of the conference started with a presentation on “Inclusivity in Tough Environments” by Breanna Ward, CRC, LMHC. Breanne began her presentation by talking about “The Great Divide”
which she describes as members of our society not being able to identify and include different ideas and perspectives of those who we share a common area with. It is the difference between equality and equity. She branched off of this to discuss microaggressions which defined are “one form of systemic everyday racism used to keep those at the [minority] margins in their place”. Ward presented that there are different types of microaggressions and they include verbal, nonverbal, and environmental and that these three different types can be further placed into three categories which include microassaults, microinsults, and microinvalidations. All of these types and categories of microaggressions can be seen on a daily basis, and we know this because during the presentation we were all asked to share among our table the different times we have seen each of them. Nobody had the same incident but everyone could think of something that they themselves have said, heard, or done or something that has been done or said to them. Which brings up the term of voluntary ignorance, which as Breanne talked about is a result from the neglect to take reasonable steps to obtain knowledge to resolve a situation. In conclusion, she offered the approach of assertive caring which can make the ‘invisible’ visible and generate safety. Assertive caring includes empathizing with the dilemma, setting limits, suggesting alternatives, and getting agreement on the alternative from the team members.

The second speaker was Keenan Crow from OneIowa, he came with a co-worker Max and together they discussed LGBTQ issues through a trauma lens. The main takeaway from their presentation was that it is important to get to know each individual on that individual basis and to show them the dignity and respect that they deserve. The biggest question for this community typically surrounds the pronoun that they go by. It can be a hard question to ask at first but it can save a lot of awkwardness and hard feelings in the future, and they say to ask it and then to take their answer seriously. If a client opens up and says they want to be called a different name or by a particular pronoun then it is our job as a District to respect what we have been asked to do and to follow through on it.

The final speaker of the first ever Trauma Informed Care Conference was Hector Mastascastillo, MSW, LICSW. He presented his story and knowledge around Trauma and Resilience and finished with EMDR therapies and the importance of self-care. Hector spoke about Big “T” and Little “t” Trauma and the differences that they have but yet never saying that one is “worse” than the other. Because they are both to be considered trauma and both cause significant changes in the perceptions of the individual. Resilience is defined as “the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness. And the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity”. Mastascastillo introduced us to EMDR, which is a type of therapy and treatment for PTSD and many other forms of trauma. EMDR is bilateral stimulation with an 8-phase integration technique for treatment that combines all the major orientations and incorporates the past, the present, and the future. EMDR is used to reprocess the networks of information that the brain has stored and allows for new relevant connections to be made. This approach is helping many victims and survivors of traumatic experiences because it is allowing individuals to rewire their thoughts and minimize the triggers that once may have been controlling their lives. Hector continued the discussion on trauma stating that we all have it in different ways, but we all have it every day with our jobs. Hearing trauma from our clients we are exposed to vicarious and secondary trauma that we may sometimes forget about. He pushed for us to not forget about self-care and to S.T.O.P (stop what you’re doing, take a break, observe yourself and your surroundings, and proceed mindfully).

Overall the two day TIC Conference was full of information for all staff and it was exciting to see a new wave of energy leave the doors on the second day. Everyone from the District was given fresh information and ideas to go and try with their clients who we all had a different understanding about with the idea of accepting their trauma.
2019 SUPERVISORS

Top Row and down the stairs:
Jerry Evans, Mike Brown, Anthony Williams, Robin Merk, Tony Tatman, Carly Millsap, Kristi Skare, Cindy Morrison, Tony Schmitz, Tiffany Krouch, Heather Bell, Jeff Schultz

Front Row, Left to Right:
Art Rabon, Lance Wignall, Cameron Gowdy, Angela Karaidos, Nikki Phillips, Corey Disterhoft, Laura Wernimont, Brandon Garvey

Not Pictured:
Scott Jones, Chad Hepperly, Christine Parmerlee, Carrie Schouten, Teri Sommerlot
Tom Hockensmith, Fifth Judicial District Board of Directors Chairperson

Jerry Evans, District Director

Art Rabon, Assistant Director

Angela Karaidos
Residential Manager — Fresh Start Women’s Center

1-Residential Supervisor 1-CTC 2-PPO I 7-PPO II 1-Chaplin

Robin Merk
Residential Supervisor — Fresh Start Women’s Center

8-Residential Officers

Anthony Williams
Residential Supervisor — FDM

11-Residential Officers

Cameron Gowdy
Residential Supervisor — FDM

1-Workcrew Leader 3-Maintenance Technicians 1-Food Service Leader 3-Food Service Coordinators

Anthony Schmitz
Residential Supervisor, FDM

10-Residential Officers

Heather Bell
Residential Supervisor — FDM

EMS Coordinator 3-PPO II, Federal 1-PPO I, Federal 1-CPM, OWI 2-CTC, OWI 1-Education Instructor

Nicole Phillips
Residential Supervisor — FDM

8-Residential Officers

Teri Sommerlot, Division Manager — Polk County Jail

1-Administrative Officer

2-PPO III 1-PPO II 2-CPM 2-PTR Interviewers 2-PT PTR Interviewers

Kristi Skare
Administrative Officer — Administration

1-Clerical Supervisor 2-Personnel Technicians

Tiffany Krouch
Clerical Supervisor — Administration

13-Secretaries

Karen Chapman, Personnel Specialist

Art Rabon, Assistant Director

Tony Tatman, Clinical Services Director — SOTP

2-Physchologist 3-PPO III 2-PPO II 1-PPO I

Mike Brown, Division Manager — Field Services

Cindy Morrison
PPO Supervisor — Region

8-PPO II 1-PPO I 2-Secretary

Scott Jones
PPO Supervisor — Region

8-PPO II 1-PPO I 2-Secretary

Jeff Schultz
PPO Supervisor — Court House and Satellites

1-PPO I 5-PPO II 1-CPM 1-Substance Abuse Liaison

Lance Wignall
PPO Supervisor — 910

8-PPO III 5-PPO III

Corey Disterhoft
PPO Supervisor — 1000

1-PPO III 11-PPO II

Carrie Schouten, Executive Officer

Laura Wernimont, Administrative Officer — Administration

2-Administrative Assistants 2-Accounting Technicians

VACANCIES:

1—Executive Officer 14—Residential Officer 2—Secretary 2—PPO II 3—CTC
1—Educational Instructor 1—Food Service Coordinator 1—Maintenance Technician 1—Administrative Assistant

5th Judicial District — Department of Correctional Services | 2019 Annual Report
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
The Human Resources Department and Administrative Unit for the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services consist of one Personnel Specialist, three Administrative Assistants, one Executive Officer, two Administration Officers, two Personnel Technicians, and two Accounting Technicians. The department is open and available to answer staff questions and provide assistance in the areas of worker’s compensation, benefits, training, policies and procedures, and hiring. The Human Resources Department is dedicated to recruiting talented and qualified applicants and interns who have beliefs that align with the Mission, Beliefs, and Vision of the Fifth Judicial District.

These beliefs are centered on the idea that the clients that we work with have the ability to change. The Fifth Judicial District offers employment in many areas with varying classifications such as administrative support, field services, residential services, and supervisor/managerial positions. The District also offers internship opportunities within all of the different areas of the District. The Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any classification protected by the Federal, State, or local law.

We have had a large number of new employees join our District. There were a few managerial promotions during the 2018 fiscal year which had a trickle-down effect for the 2019 year. There was a number of promotions which then opened up more positions that needed to be filled over the course of the 2019 fiscal year. We celebrated all of these changes within our District with our Fourth Annual Swearing-In Ceremonies.

The IT Department at the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services is located within the 1000 Washington Avenue location. There are three individuals that make up this department that includes two Systems Administrators and one Information Technology Specialist. This unit serves all staff members across each location within the Fifth Judicial District. The staff members of the IT Department are tasked with the daily operation of all computer equipment. This includes, but is not limited to: keeping the network up one hundred percent by ensuring that the District remains virus-free, keeping all equipment updated and in working order, and confirming that the District remain on the cutting edge of technology. As well as utilizing all available software and/or developing programming that allows the District to operate as efficiently as possible. The IT Department tracks all deployed equipment to gauge lifespan and replacement when necessary. System Administrators are available on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to ensure that all staff have connectivity to the network, as 98 percent of the work the District does depends on network up time.


**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**FY 2018/2019**

Training within the Fifth Judicial District is designed to meet the standards of the Department of Corrections, and the Federal Standards of a Comprehensive Sanction Center. The Fifth also sets their own mandatory standards for employees as well as offers some classes that employees had requested from their needs assessment.

As of July 1, 2018, the department had 248 employees. During this fiscal year, we had 30 new employees, two of which have since left the department. This report will be based on 218 employees.

The Iowa Corrections Learning Center produced online trainings for the entire state. This fiscal year has been different with updates occurring at the DOC Learning Center therefore these trainings have been limited. In the fourth quarter the modules completed by every employee were Work Rules and Code of Conduct and a PREA Refresher course.

Other required trainings include the following:

1. **Firearms** is required only for those that carry
   - Nine staff completed this training. The nine staff who completed this training are a part of our Warrant/Fugitive Team Officers.

2. **Mandatory Reporting Adult and Child**
   - 142 Staff completed the Mandatory Reporting Adult training and 146 staff completed the Mandatory Reporting Child training. This training is required for the re-certification every five years.

3. **Core Correctional Practices (CCP)**
   - 24 staff completed this training. This training is offered at least once a year to accommodate new hires.

4. **CPR Training**
   - 28 staff completed the CPR/AED training. This training is required for re-certification every two years.

Other trainings provided in-house this fiscal year include the following:

- New Employee Orientation
- Personal Safety Training/ Home Visits
- Personal Safety
- Use of Force/ Safety-Security
- Narcan Training
- Trauma Informed Care Conference
- Core Correctional Practices
- DRAOR
- IRR
- ACT/ACTV
- ICOTS

**TRAINING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**FY 2019/2020**

1. Continue developing more staff trainers in different topics.
   - **Objective/Format:** The Training Coordinator will continue to bring in Trainer of Trainers (TOT) classes on different subject matter so we can develop more in-house trainers.

2. Provide a formalized Personal Safety training for all staff.
   - **Objective/Format:** The department has three Personal Safety instructors and plans to have ongoing training throughout the year.
   - The Personal Safety program continues to grow and gain more support. The goal is to have all employees take part in some aspect of the Personal Safety program. This is a continuous goal.

3. Continue offering CCP Trainings and Boosters.
   - **Objective/Format:** Have current CCP instructors train staff in cognitive behavioral programming.
   - CCP training will be on-going for new staff.
   - To help staff use their Core Correctional Practices everyday, PPO III Lisa Roetman created a trifold flip chart that can sit on employees work area to remind them of the skills clients may need help with.

4. Develop leadership projects for line staff.
   - **Objective/Format:** The Training Coordinator, Director, and Leadership Committee Coaches will work with line staff on leadership committees to develop their skills.

**INCOME OFFSET**

The Offset Program is a method used by the State of Iowa to collect money owed to the State under Chapter 8A.504 of the Code of Iowa. The Iowa Code directs the Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise (DAS-SAE) to establish and maintain a procedure to collect against any claim owed to a person by a state agency, and then apply the money owed to the person against the debt owed by the person to the State of Iowa. Sources of Offset Funds include:

- Tax Returns
- Vendor Payments for Goods and Services
- Casino Winnings
- Lottery Winnings

Income Offset collected:

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<thead>
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<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>$55,577.89</td>
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FINANCIAL INFORMATION

EXPENDITURE DETAIL

PERSONAL SERVICES $ 22,531,794
TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE $ 202,354
SUPPLIES $ 499,970
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES $ 2,707,015
EQUIPMENT AND REPAIRS $ 1,056,848
CLAIMS AND REPAIRS $ 59,279

REVENUES BY SOURCE

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS $ 21,846,060
INTRA STATE TRANSFERS $ 67,518
LOCAL FUNDS $ 4,850,976
FEDERAL SUPPORT $ 56,010
INTEREST INCOME $ 22,011
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME $ 48,764
CARRY FORWARD FROM FY2018 $ 1,430,116
OVERVIEW

The Field Services Division provides community supervision to pretrial, probation, and parole cases. Cases are assigned to officers based on the client's level of risk. The highest risk cases that require more intensive supervision are given to the officers with the higher risk caseload. The clients who are considered to be high risk and/or intensive meet with their Probation Parole Officer both in the office and at their place of residence. On the opposite end, clients who are considered to be low risk do not require the officers to conduct home visits and some only need to be seen once every six months. In every Parole case, an inspection of the residence is conducted by the department prior to the client discharging from prison. Officers utilize validated risk instruments and needs assessments as a part of their supervision practices. The goals are to align available community resources and break down barriers in order to prevent future criminal behavior and to protect the community. The Field Services Division is a complex part of the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services with many unique units that all work together towards a common goal.

CORRECTIONS CONTINUUM

The Corrections Continuum is a sentencing option available to the Court under the Iowa Code 901B. The Corrections Continuum consists of five levels:

- Level 1 – Non community-based corrections sanctions
- Level 2 – Probation/Parole including monitored, supervised and intensive supervision sanctions
- Level 3 – Quasi-incarceration sanctions are those supported by residential facility placement or 24 hour electronic monitoring
- Level 4 – Short-term incarceration designed to be of short duration
- Level 5 – Incarceration

The Continuum:

- Uses a team approach to ensure fair and consistent decisions
- Uses intermediate community-based sanctions
- Provides immediate responses to client needs and accountability for behavior
- Reduces court time needed to conduct revocation hearings

The law allows the Districts the authority to make administrative decisions regarding the supervision of community-based clients within levels 2, 3, and parts one and three of level 4 (as seen in Iowa Code 901B).

INTERMEDIATE CRIMINAL SANCTIONS

The Fifth Judicial District has implemented the Statewide Supervision Contact Standards within the Corrections Continuum Levels allowed by law. These standards identify the number of contacts, supervision strategies and programming, and responses to violations that the Probation/Parole Officers must have with the client depending on the client’s supervision level. The levels are numbered 0-5. The level numbered 0 is self-supervision and the individual would not be with the Fifth Judicial District. A level one client would be considered low-risk and would be on reduced supervision. With this type of probation a client will be seen once every six months. The contacts increase by each level. The types of contacts include Probation/Parole Officer structured Contacts (office visits), Collateral Contacts, Supervision strategies and programming, and the response to violations. A level five client, for example, would have four structured contacts a month, four collateral contacts a month, as well as various supervision strategies and different response to any violations that may occur.

STATEWIDE SUPERVISION CONTACT STANDARDS COMPLETED AND ATTEMPTED HOME VISITS

PRETRIAL
TERI SOMMERLOT

The Pretrial Services unit is comprised of nine staff members and is located within the Polk County Jail and the Criminal Courts Building. Employees within this unit include two Probation Parole Officer III’s, one Probation Parole Officer II, four Probation Parole Officer Is, and two Pretrial Interviewers. This unit is under the supervision of Teri Sommerlot, Division Manager. The purpose of pretrial release is to gather information that relates to the defendant’s risk of failing to appear in
court and/or the risk of the individual committing a new offense. The information that is gathered is then used to make a recommendation to the court which is used to determine bond conditions. The second role of the pretrial unit is to provide supervision matching the identified risk level of the individual client while their case progresses through the court system.

During this fiscal year the statewide pilot project utilizing the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) ended on December 31, 2018. This evidence based tool was used for one year and assisted this unit in determining an individual’s risk of committing a new offense and/or failing to appear in court. Therefore, the second half of the fiscal year the unit used their knowledge from the extensive research from the Public Safety Assessment combined with the scoring tool that was used before the introduction of the PSA. With this combination of information, the unit was able to continue to provide a recommendation to the Court at initial appearance and continued to have successful numbers.

Over the course of the 2019 fiscal year the Pretrial Services Unit served 2,695 new clients in the Des Moines area through the use of the PSA and the traditional pretrial release program. Release conditions are given by the court after recommendation from the Pretrial unit. The conditions then allow for different levels of pretrial supervision and other related requirements such as court reminders, office visits, curfews, electronic monitoring, urinalysis, and treatment participation. The benefit that this unit brings is that it can help positively affect jail population and allow defendants to retain their employment, housing, family relationships, etc. during the course of their criminal proceedings.

CENTRALIZED INTAKE UNIT
COURTHOUSE — JEFF SCHULTZ

The Centralized Probation Intake Unit is housed within the Polk County Criminal Courts building and is staffed with two Community Program Monitors, two Probation Parole Officer I’s, and two secretaries under the supervision of Jeff Schultz. During the 2019 fiscal year, the unit served 4,266 clients. All new probationers are sent to the Centralized Probation Unit immediately following sentencing or upon their release from jail. This unit signs up the majority of clients receiving probation in Polk County. They are the staff members that conduct the risk assessment using the actuarial instrument and an interview to determine the supervision level that the client will be most successful with, and assign a Probation Parole Officer to the case.

REDUCED SUPERVISION UNIT
CAMERON GOWDY

The Reduced Supervision Unit, formally known as Low Risk Probation, is designed to supervise non-violent cases. The Intake Unit uses the Iowa Risk Assessment Revised which generates a score that will give the officers the level of risk that a client has of committing a new offense. Those with the lower numbers have lower risk and therefore are placed on probation with the Reduced Supervision Unit. This unit supervises approximately 4,400 clients and is staffed with eight Low Risk Probation Officers, throughout all the counties served. On average, it is predicted that the unit will complete 250 new intakes, 180 discharges, and 12 revocations every month.

The contact standard for these clients due to their level of risk is to have contact once every six months. This is to verify that the court ordered terms and conditions of their probation are being satisfied. Typically, around month five of a client’s supervision the Probation Officers will check in with the client. Clients, are to provide verification through certificates of completion and proof of payment of their fines and fees. This gives officers what is needed to meet the court’s requirements. Due to meeting these standards the client will be eligible for an early discharge at six months. The remainder of the cases will remain on supervision until the terms and conditions are met. If little to no progress has been met by the sixth month a court date will be set to determine additional sanctions. The sanctions can include extended and/or increased to a higher level of supervision or revocation. This probation is made for individuals who are pro-social and can address needs with little hands on supervision, as studies show that is what works best for those types of clients.
INTERSTATE COMPACT UNIT
GABE BURKHART

Left to Right: Simona Hammond, Supervisor Gabe Burkhart, Charles Lauterbach

Interstate Compact is the transfer of an individual’s supervision between states. Because of the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System (ICOTS) the supervision of clients within this unit is handled similarly across all states as well as Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. During this fiscal year, an average of 354 clients were served by the Interstate Compact Unit. This unit is comprised of a sole staff member in the position of Probation Parole Officer III that covers Polk County and assists Region Probation and Parole officers when requested. This officer also works with staff from the Department of Corrections Central Office with annual Interstate Compact trainings for all officers and supervisors with a caseload. The goal of the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System is to regulate the movement of probationers and parolees across state lines while still maintaining effective supervision with public safety, offender accountability, and victims’ rights. Every case is different but the objective of this unit is to allow clients to be around their family and support system while they are completing their court ordered obligations.

PROBATION/PAROLE UNIT

Probation is the supervised release of adult individuals in the community as a result of a deferred judgment or suspended sentence. Probation is pre-incarceration as it provides an alternative to institutionalization where convicted misdemeanants and felons remain in the community under supervision provided by a Probation Officer (PO). Parole is the supervised release of a client from a state correctional institution. Parole is post-incarceration and provides for the remainder of the individual’s sentence to be under the supervision of a Parole Officer (PO) while the client re-enters the community.

Risk assessments are used to determine the level of supervision and contact frequency for each client. An assessment of the client’s areas of need is conducted for which case planning is then developed by the Probation Parole Officer to address specific needs. Clients under supervision are monitored through urinalysis testing, breath analysis, electronic monitoring/GPS, surveillance, collateral contacts, and referrals to community agencies. The Probation/Parole Officer will attempt to engage family and pro-social support to aid the individual under supervision to have a successful re-entry into society and live a crime free lifestyle. This year 12,209 clients served on Probation and 2,461 clients served on Parole within the Fifth Judicial District.
The Probation Units are housed at the 910/1000 Washington office location and focuses on the supervised release of adjudicated adult individuals. As a result of a deferred judgement or suspended sentence probation provides a pre-incarceration alternative to institutionalization. This allows individuals convicted of misdemeanors and felons to remain in the community under supervision by an assigned Probation Officer from one of these following units. The utilization of risk assessments are used to determine their level of supervision, and the frequency of contact. An assessment of their areas of need is conducted and case planning is developed to address those needs. Clients are monitored on probation through urinalysis testing, breath analysis, electronic monitoring/GPS, surveillance, collateral contacts, and referrals to community agencies. Attempts to engage family and pro-social support is also an essential function of probation supervision. Clients are offered various opportunities and resources to assist in successfully re-entry into society and a crime free lifestyle, which is the goal of these units.

**PAROLE**

**COREY DISTERHOFT’S UNIT**

Parole is the supervised release of individuals from one of the state correctional institutions or prisons. The Parole Unit promotes public safety and strives to reduce recidivism while supervising adults released from custody onto parole. One of the primary purposes is to assist parolees in their transition back into the community while being mindful of protecting victims and survivors. Evidence based practices including risk assessments are utilized to identify the risks, needs, and level of supervision needed for each parolee. Case plans are also used to identify protective factors and assist in providing a balanced supervision approach where the appropriate services, monitoring, community referrals, and sanctions are combined to help parolees develop necessary skills for success. Parolees are offered a wide variety of resources and opportunities to maximize their chance of a successful re-entry which is the goal of this unit.

**SATELLITES**

**JEFF SCHULTZ**

Satellite offices work at the following locations, where they are provided an office:
- Ankeny Police Department
- Urbandale Police Department
- West Des Moines Police Department

**REGION OFFICES**

The Fifth Judicial District is made up of sixteen counties. All counties outside of Polk County are termed the “region” counties, which are separated into a Western and Eastern half. During fiscal year 2019, the fifteen region counties served 4,030 clients. At which point about 2,025 were under supervision in the region at any one time. Of those 2,025 under supervision, approximately 1,742 are on probation, 172 are on parole, 33 are under pretrial release supervision, and nine are on for special sentence.

The Western half of the region consists of ten counties; Adair, Adams, Clarke, Dallas, Guthrie, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Decatur, and Union. Officers meet with clients in Creston, Adel, Osceola, and satellite offices in the Madison County Law Enforcement Center, the Perry Police Department, the Guthrie Center Courthouse, and the Adair County Courthouse. This half of the region is staffed with ten Probation Parole Officers, and two secretaries under the supervision of Scott Jones.

The Eastern half of the region consists of five counties; Lucas, Jasper, Marion, Warren, and Wayne. Officers meet with clients in Newton, Knoxville, Indiana, and satellite offices in the Pella Police Department, Chariton Law Enforcement Center, and the Corydon Courthouse. This half of the region is staffed with nine Probation Parole Officers, one Presentence Investigator, and two secretaries under the supervision of Cindy Morrison.
The region offices cover a lot of rural areas within the Fifth District. These individuals are responsible for probation, parole, pretrial release, and interstate compact cases. They do not have the ability like staff members in Polk County to have specialized caseloads and therefore must be knowledgeable and have experience in all areas of community supervision.

During the 2019 fiscal year, staff completed training in Trauma Informed Care. This along with gained knowledge and use of Core Correctional Practices assist officers in the region to help clients work through their trauma issues and risk/needs. The region Probation Parole Officers also began to conduct home visits on high risk offenders and implemented the level system. The goal to improve outcomes is to help clients heal and become better citizens by reducing risk in the community.
A Presentence Investigation (PSI) is an electronically filed report that is prepared with the purpose of assisting the Court in determining an appropriate sentence for a defendant. The Presentence Investigation Unit is composed of eight staff members under the supervision of Chad Hepperly. A PSI report is required by Iowa Code on most felonies and can be ordered at the discretion of the court for misdemeanors. Presentence Investigators utilize risk assessments for their reports to assist in determining a sentencing recommendation.

A Presentence Investigation report is most commonly utilized at a sentencing hearing where the report is considered to be in long format. This type of report will include the individuals criminal, education, employment, family, address, substance abuse, and mental health history. It will also attain the defendant’s side of what happened and if applicable a victims statement. Information is gathered from a biographical data packet that the individual fills out and goes over with a PSI unit member during a one-on-one interview. Victim and collateral contacts are also used to obtain more information about the individual/case. A PSI report can be also post format, where an individual has already stated their plea and has waived the use of a long format PSI during sentencing. Therefore, the report is strictly the individual’s criminal history that the staff member gathers information from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the Iowa Court system (ICIS), and the Iowa Corrections Offender Network (ICON) databases. All of these resources are used in all format Presentence Investigation reports. A PSI can also take place pre-plea where there has not been a guilty plea entered by the individual but the Court asks for the information to be given without a sentencing recommendation. For the fiscal year of 2019, over 1,412 long format PSI reports and over 664 post format Presentence Investigation reports were completed. These reports have also been found to be helpful for correctional authorities (prison and probation/parole) as a case management tool successive to sentencing.
DOMESTIC ABUSE/ISP UNIT  
(INTENSIVE SUPERVISION UNIT)  
CARLY MILLSAP

The Domestic Abuse and Intensive Supervision Unit (ISP) consists of 12 Probation Parole Officer IIs under the supervision of Carly Millsap, who each supervise approximately 70-80 clients for domestic abuse or related charges. This unit also supervises individuals whose risk level warrants a Probation Parole Officer III. Four Probation Parole Officer IIs are included in this unit and each supervise approximately 30 clients. These Probation Parole Officer IIs make up the Intensive Supervision continuum, which consists of higher contact supervision monitoring and home visits within the community. For fiscal year 2019, the ISP officers registered 305 home visits and recorded another 166 attempted home visit/client contacts.

Clients must complete the Iowa Domestic Abuse Program (IDAP) per Iowa Code. The District continues to implement curriculum within the Iowa Domestic Abuse Program that uses the Acceptance and Commitment Theory approach which is next generation in cognitive restructuring programming. From July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, the Des Moines office had 529 clients who ended and completed the IDAP curriculum, and served 991 clients.

This unit as a whole focuses on collaboration with community agencies such as Children and Families of Iowa, Family Violence Center, local law enforcement agencies, Iowa Legal Aid, medical personnel, and the Polk County Attorney’s Office. This is in effort to create a containment model of supervision for clients convicted of domestic violence. The Domestic Abuse unit remains committed to continuing to seek out new assessments and implement updated tools designed to help with victim safety. Also this unit is committed to offering better responses to client risk, and provide stronger relationships with community stakeholders in responding to domestic violence.

DRUG COURT  
JEFF SCHULTZ

Drug Court is a special court with the responsibility of handling cases involving drug-using clients with the capability of comprehensive supervision, drug testing, treatment services, and immediate sanctions and incentives. It is a diversion program designated to divert non-violent substance abusing clients from the criminal justice system into treatment and rehabilitative programming. There are seven individuals that staff this program and they include one full-time Probation Parole Officer III, one full-time substance abuse liaison, one District Court Judge (part-time), one part-time defense attorney, one part-time prosecutor, one part-time coordinator, and one part-time clerical staff.

The Fifth Judicial District’s Drug Court has been operating since 1997. Drug Court convenes every Friday morning following a team conference reviewing each participant’s progress. The Drug Court program is a minimum of 18 months and has five phases, including an alumni phase. Phase I is Stabilization and lasts at least ninety days, during which the client will attend Drug Court sessions, establish a treatment program, find a mentor, and more. Phase II is Recovery, the client will continue their sobriety, attend Drug Court, be regularly employed, complete all community service work, and more. Phase III is Transition and is recommended to take ninety days. The client will continue to maintain regular contact with their mentor/sponsor and probation officer, they will also continue with their sobriety, attend phase III group, and more. Phase IV is Pre-Release and is also recommended to take ninety days. In this phase of the program a client will develop a plan for after graduation on how they will give back, and finalize an after care plan that is shared with the family, significant others, and Drug Court Team. Phase V is Support and the client will be held to all standards from the previous phases as they get ready to graduate from the program. Alumni is run by graduated Drug Court clients and is where all Drug Court graduates get together monthly for fellowship and recreational outings to continue to celebrate their sobriety.
Throughout each phase the contact frequency decreases. During Phase I the clients are seen weekly, each phase adds a week in between the visits until phase V they are seen every five weeks. Often times, Probation parole Officers will see them more frequently with Office Visits, UA’s, court sessions, and special sessions (unplanned) that are due to issues clients may be encountering. Sixty-five clients were served in this program during this fiscal year.

Non-violent drug clients and drug related clients are eligible for Drug Court. This includes clients manufacturing for themselves to support their addiction and probation violators. A history of violence, including domestic abuse, possession or use of weapons, may be excluding factors for admission into the program. Individuals with a history of severe mental problems may also be excluded. Drug dealers and large-scale manufacturers are excluded.

All applicants must be screened prior to being accepted. A Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI 3) and Iowa Risk Revised Assessment are utilized to assess the client. Further screening includes the Jesness and an intake client self-assessment.

Drug Court is a prison diversion program that clients have the opportunity to enter. It has been noted throughout the history of this program that if the individual does not enter with an internal motivation they tend to develop one along the way. Clients like the way that Drug Court progresses their lives and this is why we feel that the Alumni portion of this program is so strong.

**DRUG COURT SANCTIONS AND APPROACH**

Drug Court uses an escalating series of sanctions consistent with the Iowa Code and National Drug Court Model of Intermediate Sanctions. Actions are immediate and start with the least intrusive. They are not imposed in anger or for reasons other than to obtain a change in behavior. Alternatively, positive rewards are provided following pro-social behaviors. Attempts are made to have a ratio of one sanction to five rewards.

The goal is long-term change extending beyond graduation from Drug Court. Drug Court clients also keep journals, complete written exercises, attend treatment programs, and complete community service to address behavioral and attitudinal issues.

**DRUG COURT GOALS**

- Reduce recidivism among drug clients by employing the most effective use of existing resources for substance abuse treatment
- Alter lifestyle of the client to return them to productive and sober citizenship
- Present effective alternatives to prison overcrowding and early release issues
- Create a program which restores confidence in the courts and correctional services while saving dollars for the citizens of our city and county

The Central Command Center (CCC), located in Des Moines, Iowa, is the main statewide Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) center for all eight judicial Districts as well as six other state agencies. EMS is an adjunct to other community based correctional supervision and treatment tools.

Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) is the most innovative electronic surveillance technology used by criminal justice agencies. The monitoring system combines GPS technology and advanced wireless communication protocols, as well as flexible reporting and unique mapping capabilities to effectively track clients twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The District’s GPS equipment is used to monitor client’s whereabouts at all times. The CCC is immediately alerted when a client is in violation of the GPS guidelines or is experiencing equipment issues that require immediate attention. If prompt action is needed, the Central Command Center will contact designated District staff to respond accordingly.

In addition to GPS, the District also utilizes SCRAM for alcohol monitoring along with a RF (Radio Frequency) unit for monitoring home curfews. The objective of these technologies is to hold the client accountable for their actions and build a new pattern of behavior.

The goal of this program is to enhance public safety by monitoring client movements in the community to ensure compliance. The District utilizes the most recent improvements in electronic surveillance to more effectively monitor high risk clients.

Utilization of GPS, alcohol monitoring, and home curfew units by District staff enhance public safety while maintaining client accountability. There were 686 clients served by GPS, 290 clients served by RF units and 283 clients served by alcohol monitoring systems.
MENTAL HEALTH UNIT
COREY DISTERHOFT

Left to Right: Supervisor Corey Disterhoft, Liz Chapin, Paul Johnson, Jill Daye, Maggie Wood

Created in 1998, the Mental Health Unit provides supervision for probationers, parolees, and work release clients with severe and chronic mental health issues. This unit has direct community involvement and partnerships with agencies such as Jail Diversion, Everly Ball, NAMI, Polk County Integrated Health Services, etc. which are vital to ensure that all clients served by the Fifth Judicial District are receiving services and the social support needed to succeed on supervision. The Mental Health Unit consists of four Probation Parole Officers with advanced degrees and/or experience in the mental health field under the supervision of Corey Disterhoft. This fiscal year some officers presented at the Polk County’s Integrated Health Services meeting. These meetings are held quarterly and are attended by mental health case managers who organize speakers from the community to come and educate them on the services they offer. This unit presented training on Probation/Parole 101, which included basic information on what happens when an individual is sentenced. The objective was to help bridge the gap with these services in the community and open a line of communication which in return could help the clients that are shared between organizations.

Another highlight within this unit was the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training that the unit participated in. CIT was developed in Memphis, TN and is the most commonly used approach by law enforcement agencies for responding to mental illness calls. This training allows officers to take on a specialist role when a potential mental health-related crisis is identified.

In fiscal year 2019, the Mental Health Unit had 145 new admissions, and 151 closures. As of June 30th, 2019 this unit was actively supervising 222 clients. This unit comprised of trained professional was developed to provide specialized treatment and supervision to a client based on their individual needs.

SUPPORT SERVICE CENTER
CHRISTINE PARMERLEE

Left to Right: Christine Parmerlee, Terri Orrante, Mary Avaux, Rachel Schoenthal, Irma Osmancevic

The Fifth Judicial District created the Support Services Center (SSC) in 1999. This unit was made to assist the Department by incorporating “Best Practices”, “What Works”, and effective correctional interventions into operations. The SSC delivers research-based offender programming, provides staff guidance in the areas of case management, and effective correctional interventions. The Support Services Center also assists unit supervisors with quality assurance on assessment tools, case planning, and supervision according to risk, need, and responsivity. Within this unit there are eight Community Treatment Coordinators and one Probation Parole Officer II under the supervision of SSC supervisor Christine Parmerlee. In fiscal year 2019, the Support Services Center had 1,172 new intakes entering into programming. During this year the SSC provided services to a total of 3,099 clients.

A new Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) called Achieving Change Through Value Based Behavior (ACTV) has recently been developed and implemented in the state of Iowa, including the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services. Preliminary research shows ACTV may be effective, but it has not been evaluated in a randomized controlled trial. Directly comparing ACTV and Duluth with a randomized design is needed to investigate the relative value of these two treatments.

Currently in the Support Services Center there is a research study being done that initially started in June 2018. It is comparing ACTV and the Duluth Model. The Duluth Model is based on the theory that the primary cause of violence is due to patriarchal ideology; a man’s desire for power, control, and social reinforced sense of entitlement. This model addressed this by focusing on accountability,
confrontation, education, and “unlearning” attitudes. Achieving Change Through Value Based Behavior (ACTV) seeks to address violence with an evidence-based focus. This programming focuses on the emotional skill deficits that characterize domestic violence offenders, such as the inability to engage in adaptive goal-directed behavior when distressed and the lack of awareness, understanding, and/or acceptance of one’s emotions. ACTV encourages a non-confrontational, non-judgmental, and collaborative facilitator stance to identify and connect with what is important in life (values), awareness of and openness to, emotional experiences (acceptance or willingness), awareness of thoughts (diffusion), the ability to engage in valued behavior even when one may not want to (behavior change). Another key difference between the two programs is the Duluth Model utilizes lecture and advice-giving, whereas ACTV utilizes experiential learning and collaboration.

The purpose of this research project is to compare two BIPs in a randomized controlled trial. Although the goal of BIPs is to reduce domestic violence and hold offenders accountable, traditional Batters Intervention Programs, such as the Duluth Model have shown minimal impact on domestic assault re-offense. Therefore, there is the urgent need for more research to help guide BIP innovation and evaluations to bring about new approaches. Due to this lack of scientific evaluations of the mechanisms of Batters Intervention Programs success, the question of how and why these treatments work remains unanswered.

The Principle Investigator/Lead researcher, Dr. Amie Zarling, for this project has an ongoing partnership with the Department of Corrections. This individual has also successfully completed research and practice collaborations with the Fifth Judicial District. Subjects for the study will include approximately 400 men that are court-mandated to complete a Batterers Intervention Program and are randomized to either ACTV or Duluth. To be eligible for this study the subjects Domestic Violence (DV) offense must be their first DV offense and they cannot have had any Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) Based Programming or Duluth programming previously. Self-report data is collected at pre-, mid-, and post-treatment to assess offenders’ changes that occur during treatment that may impact outcomes. To measure treatment outcomes data from victims, as well as official criminal charges will be obtained. The primary outcomes of interest will be the offenders’ aggressive and controlling behaviors (as reported by victims) and domestic assault recidivism (as indicated by criminal charges) within the year after Batterers Intervention Program participation.

Analyses will be conducted to compare outcomes between ACTV and Duluth. In addition, the theory of change underlying each problem will be evaluated with mediation analyses to assess any changes in process measures. Whether these changes accounted for positive outcomes in their respective programs (a decrease in sexist beliefs in Duluth and a decrease in experimental avoidance in ACTV) will also be assessed. The data analytic plan includes procedures to account for the effects of erosion and missing data.

Expected products from this study include evaluation reports for the Department of Corrections, as well as briefs for practitioners and policymakers. Other products will include peer-reviewed journal articles and conference presentations. The data will be archived to allow for future efforts to reproduce the project’s findings or to conduct secondary analyses.

Dr. Amie Zarling, Iowa State University | Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Ph.D. Clinical Psychology
Amie does research in Forensic Psychology and Clinical Psychology. Their most recent publication is ‘Evaluation of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Domestic Violence Offenders’.

Community Treatment Coordinator Lucas Sampson facilitating the ACTV curriculum and going over the Matrix with a group of clients.
**SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM**
**TONY TATMAN**

The Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP) provides intensive and highly specialized supervision and treatment to individuals convicted of sexual offenses. The SOTP adheres to the Containment Approach Model, which is identified as one of the most effective models for working with individuals who sexually offend in the community. The SOTP consists of three Probation/Parole Officer IIIIs, three Probation/Parole Officer IIIs, and two Psychologists under the supervision of Dr. Tony Tatman, Clinical Services Director.

The Containment Model incorporates Truth Verification Testing, Supervision, and Treatment/Evaluation working collaboratively during a client’s supervision. Truth verification techniques include random and routine computer voice stress analyzer examinations to measure adherence to treatment and supervision rules, as well as to help guide appropriate interventions. Supervision can include, but is not limited to, office visits, conversations with collateral contacts, global positioning satellite (GPS) monitoring, drug and alcohol testing, and therapeutic home visits. A therapeutic home visit is a person-centered, therapeutic interaction between the probation officer and client within the client’s residence. Agents conduct home visits with the client and residents (if available) to help build the working alliance and rapport with the client in order to establish a working relationship conducive for change. Treatment/Evaluations include risk and needs assessments, and individual and group counseling using the Good Lives treatment model. Good Lives has received considerable research and professional support as an appropriate method of treatment for individuals who have sexually offended. Treatment groups offered within this unit include Good Lives A (moderate risk), Good Lives B (high risk), Youthful Offender group, Orientation, Aftercare, Women’s Group, and Support Person’s Group. Other interventions offered within the SOTP include sexual Interest testing, psychological testing, risk assessments, psychosexual evaluations, individual treatment, and outside referrals when needed. At the end of fiscal year 2019, the SOTP was supervising approximately 389 clients.

**RE-ENTRY PROGRAM**
**LANCE WIGNALL**

The Fifth Judicial District developed a re-entry initiative in February 2009. Over the ten years of this program the focus has not changed: to provide culturally sensitive case management and programming to address the disproportionate number of African Americans on supervision. Three Probation/Parole Officers oversee this specialized caseload of African American male clients. Consistent with the Responsivity Principle, these officers have increased contact with clients. The officers also co-facilitate a class called MAP (Mindful Action Planning) that is conducted weekly. This 36-week class uses a holistic approach that involves family, significant others, and employment-oriented situations in classroom sessions to help the client with decision making and emotion management. Participants are chosen through an assessment of the individual’s level of supervision and other important factors. In Fiscal Year 2019, the re-entry program had 127 new intakes and are actively supervised 215 clients. The Re-Entry Program served 327 clients in FY19. In the past there was a large disparity in the rates of recidivism between Caucasians and African Americans. In comparison to the previous reporting year, this disparity has dramatically decreased due to the efforts implemented by the Re-Entry Program.
The Intensive Youthful Offender Program (YOP) began in 1995 and was created to help juveniles and young adults who are charged with a first time felony. Clients within the YOP enter the program on an Intensive Pre-Trial status. This status is determined by an assessment of the individual’s risk and other important factors that staff take into consideration. The staff in this unit utilize evidence based practices in coordination with assessing the risk/needs of the client. They work to enhance intrinsic motivation within the individuals, target interventions, use skill training, and increase positive reinforcement. The staff in this unit also dedicate one afternoon a week to talk about each client individually with the courts to celebrate the successes, and talk about how to better help those who may be struggling. The Probation Officers are able to maintain this program within the Fifth Judicial District with ongoing support from the community. Collaboration efforts include Employee & Family Resources (EFR), DMACC, Workforce Development, Avery Comprehensive Services, Choices Therapy Services, New Beginnings, Youth Justice Initiative, Polk County Juvenile Detention Center, Primary Health, Iowa Homeless Youth Centers, and a variety of school Districts. YOP clients are given the opportunity to utilize the Evelyn K. Davis Center and other resources that allow clients to obtain their GED. Additionally, clients are referred to Youth Build which is a program offering certification in the area of construction.

At the beginning of the YOP, clients are told about the four phases that they need to work through. During the first phase, the clients are to complete certain objectives. These include obtaining a Photo ID, finishing a Job Club Class (if not already employed), and they are required to follow a strict curfew. Once every item within the first phase is completed they are able to move to the next phase of the program. Each phase of the program becomes less restrictive as the client shows increasing responsibility. At the end of the client’s time with the YOP they will have finished a YOP ACTV group, which follows an ACT based curriculum focused on teaching life skills and emotion management. Clients will have also acquired their GED/high school diploma, completed fifty community service hours, obtained employment, paid off their supervision fee, demonstrated pro-social behaviors, and more. Clients take their knowledge and experiences from this program and participate in a minimum of three speaking panels at Polk County Juvenile Detention Center as a way of taking accountability for their crimes and giving back to younger offenders. Upon completion of the Youthful Offender Program, the clients will graduate and be placed on a year of misdemeanor probation with a deferred judgment. This can be seen as after-care to the YOP because they continue to be supervised at a lower level. All of this is done in order to make permanent changes in the youthful client’s behavior and lifestyle. In Fiscal Year 2019, there were 89 clients served in the Youthful Offender Program.
The Warrant Team (Fugitive Unit) and High Risk Unit include a total of 11 staff members and is located at 910 Washington Ave. The team consists of six Probation/Parole Officer IIs and one Polk County Deputy. The unit is under the supervision of Brandon Garvey and supervisor Lance Wignall. All officers within the units are Certified Law Enforcement Officers in the State of Iowa. The Warrant Team has been a part of the 5th Judicial District since 1993 is designed to apprehend high risk absconders in the 5th Judicial District as well as check on high risk clients on supervision in the community.

Some of the services that the Warrant Team provide include:

- **Fugitive Apprehension** — The unit finds and arrests absconders of probation, parole, work release, residential facilities, and prison escapes. The unit made 1,074 arrests in FY2019.
- **Home Visits** — Officers conduct home compliance checks of high risk offenders at their residences. The unit conducted 441 home visits this year with 148 more that were attempted.
- **Pre-Warrant Checks** — Officers check on offenders that have been out of contact with their probation or parole officer to get them back into the office. This can avoid a warrant being issues for their arrest and reduces jail expenses. The unit conducted 18 pre-warrant checks in FY2019.
- **Home Placement Investigations** — Officers check and approve housing for offenders at the residential facilities as well as new parolees being released from prison. The unit conducted 78 Home Placement Investigations in FY2019.
- **Sheriff’s Work Alternative Program (SWAP)** — This program is a collaborative effort between the Fifth Judicial District and Polk County Sheriff’s Office. Low risk jail inmates are released on an ankle bracelet and monitored by officers.

### 2018/2019 Unit Highlights

- In August of 2018, DMPD requested assistance in apprehending a hit and run fatality suspect. DMPD turned the case over to our unit and the suspect was apprehended after an extensive investigation spanning a three week period.
- Members of the Fugitive Unit were part of the annual Home Visit Training at Camp Dodge. This training was a half day of classroom and a half day of scenario training over a two day period. The training provided valuable information for the region PPO IIs that are going to be doing home visit in their respective areas.
- A special warrant sweep was initialized by our team and included the US Marshals and Polk County Sheriff’s Office. The sweep lasted one week and targeted Level 5 parole and work release absconders from the Fort Des Moines as well as high level sex offender absconders. Twenty-five of the forty-five targets were apprehended in the sweep.
- The FBI requested assistance from our unit to take part in a large operational takedown of several area gang members. Our team was tasked with apprehending a subject who was on probation and one of thirteen targets in the operation. The subject was arrested by the Fugitive Unit on a Probation Violation and had additional charges of Interference with Official Acts and Felon in Possession of a Firearm as he ran from officers through the house and attempted to dispose of a handgun that was in his possession. He also had new charges from Des Moines PD for Intimidation with a Dangerous Weapon (2 cts) and Dominion/Control of a Firearm by a Felon (2 cts).
- The Unit took part in another warrant sweep initiated by Polk County Sheriff’s Office and included the US Marshals as well. This sweep was intended to clean up Polk County warrants in NCIC. The sweep lasted one week and fifty-five warrants were cleared during that time.
- Members of the unit assisted in the Polk County Sex Offender Registry compliance operation. This involved many Polk County law enforcement agencies who checked on 758 offenders on the registry in Polk County 11 new warrants were requested and four arrests were made during the operation.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICES
COMMUNITY TREATMENT UNIT

Left to Right: Supervisor Heather Bell, Ashlea Loudon, Dustin Shannon, Darcy Widmann, Julie Ramirez-Sams

The Fifth Judicial District operates two residential facilities that serve our 16 counties. We provide highly structured live-in supervision of problematic, high-risk and/or high-needs clients. A myriad of treatment, education, and related services are provided by the facilities. Clients are sentenced to the residential facility by the Court or the Board of Parole, which grants work releases from one of the nine state prison facilities. The District also provides a gradual release program for Federal Bureau of Prisons’ clients that wish to eventually reside in the area. The average stay at both the men’s and women’s facilities is four months. Clients are required to obtain employment and address treatment needs as directed by the Court or identified by evaluation during the risk assessment. Clients are required to meet financial obligations such as child support, victim restitution, court costs, and other fees associated with their offenses. For FY2019, 1,620 male clients were served at the Fort Des Moines facility, and 217 female clients were served through the Fresh Start Women’s Center. Both facilities were extremely busy during the fiscal year.

FEDERAL OFFICERS

Left to Right: Jamarus Robinson, Supervisor Heather Bell, Sara Brookhart, Juli Christensen, Jim Michels

Residential Services provides supervision of clients who demonstrate an inability or unwillingness to function under less restrictive supervision. Work Release services provide clients a transitional person to become adjusted to working and residing in the community after incarceration. Programs available to clients at the facilities include; High School Equivalency Test Educational Program, Central Iowa Returning Citizens Achieve Job Club, the Creating Excellence in Re-Entry Program, Transitional Housing, Halfway-In Program, GPS/EMS, Community Service, Cross Roads Ministries, Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP), and Operating While Intoxicated Treatment Program (OWI).

FORT DES MOINES FACILITY

KITCHEN SERVICES UNIT

Left to Right: Dennis Lutyens, Supervisor Cameron Gowdy
Not Pictured: James Darter-Martin

Food Service Leader — Sherrie Gordon

The Kitchen at the Fort Des Moines facility has four staff members. Clients at the Fort will help when needed on a volunteer basis and sometimes for credit toward their rent fee. The kitchen serves 1,200 meals a day at both the Fort Des Moines facility and the Fresh Start Women’s Center. This is not including the sack lunches they prepare for clients to take with them to work and/or job seeking. The staff will also work on prepping for upcoming meals throughout the day. The number of clients is continually changing due to intakes, discharges, and revocations and the kitchen is always busy with keeping up with these changes. The kitchen is also aware of any special diet conditions that clients may have and adapt to meet the individual’s needs. Periodic inspections of the kitchen are held, the last was May 9th, 2019. The staff members in this unit are very team oriented and it shows in how they assist one another with the daily job duties as well as covering shifts so others can go on vacations. The end goal is to ensure that all the residential clients have three meals a day that follow nutrition guidelines.
The Men’s Residential Correctional Facility (RCF) is located at the Fort Des Moines Complex at 68-70 Thayer Street in Des Moines and has the capacity to house 267 male offenders. Staffing within this facility include the Assistant Director, two Probation Parole Supervisor IIIs, four Residential Supervisors, two Community Treatment Coordinators, three Probation Parole Officer IIIs, 12 Probation Parole Officer IIIs, one Community Program Monitor, two Probation Parole Officer IIs, 45 Residential Officers, one Work Crew Leader, four Maintenance Technicians, one Food Service Leader, and four Food Service Coordinators. The original site opened in 1971 at 65—66 Gruber Street. The complex contains six buildings, three of which sleep clients, one houses kitchen operations, one houses maintenance staff that provide services for the District, and one houses a warehouse that stores all the necessities of the Fifth Judicial District. This fiscal year there were numerous updates from a fresh coat of paint to new control desks to improve client to staff interactions with a focus on Trauma Informed Care. The goal of this facility is to deliver residential services to a diverse population while maintaining the safety of the public, staff, and the residents that we serve, and to help with the transformation of clients during their stay at the Men's Residential Correctional Facility.
MAINTENANCE UNIT

The Maintenance Unit (MU) is a close knit group of four staff members that cover all areas (Region and Field). Periodically clients will assist the MU. This opportunity for the clients is called “Work Crew”. It allows for clients to learn skills that they will need when they are hired such as attention to detail, finishing a project, and other workplace etiquette. The maintenance unit built a warehouse to hold kitchen supplies, linens, mowers, and housekeeping supplies. This project has helped cut costs for the District. Overall the maintenance crew is pulled in many different directions but they work together, prioritize, and get each and every job done. For the District, this unit does all the cleaning, electrical work, fixing of washing machines and dryers, mow lawns, shovel snow, plumbing, painting, and more. These individuals help the Fifth Judicial District running like a well-oiled machine.

DISTRICT WORK CREW

The District Work Crew provides an opportunity to train and educate clients on various types of trades and types of skills. This is beneficial for the clients to help with employment placement in the future with the learning of job skills. To qualify for completion of a project, a work unit or organization must submit a request for assistance in completing a project that is non-funded. The work crew does not replace agency staff, but supplements their non-funded needs. For example, the District this year replaced a lot of furniture and the Work Crew helped move numerous staff offices. This opportunity allowed clients to gain experience putting together the furniture and moving out the things that were no longer needed. The project permitted the clients to get out of the facility and have positive pro-social interactions with other staff members within the Fifth Judicial District.

CHAPLAINS

The Fifth Judicial District is fortunate to have two volunteer chaplains that work with both of the residential facilities. These individuals provide a wealth of knowledge, service, and dedication to the populations served by the District. Chaplain Frank Wilson serves the men of the Fort Des Moines Correctional Facility and Chaplain Shonna Swain serves the women of the Fresh Start Women’s Center. They operate a clothes closet to address the clothing needs of our clients. They also conduct church services and activities on facility grounds to provide a worship experience to clients that have not found a church home. Further, they provide individual and marriage counseling services and spiritual guidance to clients at the client’s request. Their goal is to spread the gospel to all that are willing to listen and prayerfully apply learned skills to improve their daily living experience.
The Fresh Start Women’s Center (FSWC) operates as a central campus for justice involved women on probation or parole in Polk County. The staff members that make this facility run are eight Probation Parole Officer IIs, one Probation Parole Officer III, one Probation Parole Officer I, one Community Treatment Coordinator, 10 Residential Officers, one Residential Supervisor, and one Residential Manager. The FSWC maintains a 48-bed residential facility with one additional room for a mother to reside with her child. Clients in the residential program are sentenced as a condition of probation by the court, on State Work Release status, Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) offense, or as Federal Pretrial or jail transfer residents.

The FSWC continues to implement and supervise justice involved women based on an inclusive approach to supervision supported by Evidence Based Practices. That primary approach is guided by gender responsivity and Trauma Informed Care (TIC) and has been implemented this fiscal year District wide. The focus is to make the switch from “What’s wrong with you” to TIC friendly “What happened to you”. FSWC staff members Angela Karaidos and Amanda Cox spoke in Washington DC, this fiscal year, to the Office of Human Services about bridging services among human service agencies and corrections.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2019, 1,451 clients were under the Women Client Case Management (WOCMM) specialty. This philosophy is used with justice involved women and is a gender responsive case management model. All clients under supervision at the Fresh Start Women’s Center are placed under this modifier. The FSWC had 176 new field (probation/parole) admissions throughout the year, leaving 45 clients under active supervision. A total of 217 clients were served at FSWC throughout the FY2019 under a field status of probation or parole. Furthermore, the residential program reported 1,565 new admissions through FY2019, leaving a total of 1,837 clients served in the residential program. The guiding principles of FSWC include the following: acknowledging relationships and the value of being relational, trauma-informed, holistic, and culturally competent and strength based. Officers at FSWC work diligently to educate, support, and advocate for all women to transform their lives and do so through collaborative and comprehensive connections with area stakeholders based on individual needs.
2019 HIGHLIGHTS
SWEARING IN CEREMONIES

During the 2019 fiscal year, the Fifth Judicial District celebrated all new and promotional staff at the Fourth Annual Swearing-In Ceremony. With more than 49 staff who were needing to be sworn in due to new placement or joining the District, the ceremony was broken up into two separate ceremonies. These events took place in the new Criminal Courts building in downtown Des Moines with a reception at the Polk County Courthouse. Honorees were sworn in by District Court Judge Heather L. Lauber. The courtrooms were filled with family and co-workers to help celebrate the special event. Each employee was recognized in front of the group by their supervisor who spoke about the individual background and achievements within the department. Director Evans and Judge Heather L. Lauber provided the new and promotional staff with an Employee Creed Certificate that the staff members’ supervisor presented to them.

MAY 31, 2019

PROMOTIONS
- Karen Chapman, Personnel Specialist
- Nikki Phillips, Residential Supervisor
- Tony Schmitz, Residential Supervisor
- Christine Parmerlee, Probation Parole Supervisor I
- Robin Merk, Residential Supervisor
- Brittany Arkland, Probation Parole Officer I
- Ryan Gustafson, Probation Parole Officer I
- Tiffany Krouch, Clerical Supervisor
- David Hauser, Probation Parole Officer III
- Ben Carse, Probation Parole Officer III
- Shane Foster, Probation Parole Officer I
- Kelly Forrester, Probation Parole Officer II
- Ryan Nelson, Probation Parole Officer I

WELCOME
- Marissa Patterson, Administrative Assistant
- Nicholas Corbin, Probation Parole Officer III
- Mallory Madonia, Probation Parole Officer II
- Stephanie Felice, Probation Parole Officer I
- Michelle Creveling, Probation Parole Officer I
- Noel Rix, Residential Officer
- Esther Hernandez, Residential Officer
- Brandon Smith, Residential Officer
- Daniel Fritz, Residential Officer
- Hunter Moore, Residential Officer
- Staci Weuve, Residential Officer
- Brigette Rognes, Secretary
- Kariann Mikesell, Secretary

JUNE 14, 2019

PROMOTIONS
- Nicholas Martens, Probation Parole Officer I
- Rachel Decker, Probation Parole Officer III
- Christy Holmes, Personnel Technician
- Tanya Peacock, Personnel Technician
- Liz Chapin, Probation Parole Officer III
- Natalie Lyons, Probation Parole Officer I
- Alexander Lott, Probation Parole Officer I
- Samantha Kindred, Probation Parole Officer II
- Justin Hyde, Probation Parole Officer III
- Robbie Wilford, Probation Parole Officer II
- Ashley Loudon, Probation Parole Officer I
- Jamarus Robinson, Probation Parole Officer I
- Tara Richey, Probation Parole Officer I
- Gina Snuttjer, Probation Parole Officer I
- Angela Harper, Probation Parole Officer I

WELCOME
- Gavin Blair, Probation Parole Officer I
- Joshua Buol, Probation Parole Officer I
- Mallory Deeth, Probation Parole Officer I
- Dennis Lutyens, Food Service Coordinator
- Shantel Lewis, Residential Officer
- Jonathan Hernandez, Residential Officer
- Kyle Bodley, Residential Officer
- Carla Langford, Residential Officer
FORT DES MOINES REMODEL

The Fort Des Moines Residential buildings received multiple upgrades during the 2019 fiscal year. They are the buildings in which the Fifth District began and a lot of history has been lived in them. It was their time to have a little more attention this fiscal year to get some upgrades. The biggest change was the new control desks that were designed and constructed in both the 68 and 70 residential buildings. The desk now sits lower so clients and staff are looking eye-to-eye and not one hovering over the other. This was done with the thought of implementing a Trauma Informed Care approach to the facility, to avoid anyone feeling inferior when having a conversation with staff. New paint gave the walls a fresh and updated look. Probation, Parole, and treatment offices became warmer and more inviting with the addition of new carpet, as well as in the group/Board Room. The Fort Des Moines facility also received upgrades in the form of new drinking fountains, new signage, and landscaping. An enlarged vegetable garden was also a part of the addition where clients and maintenance personnel are growing food that is then being served in the kitchen, as well as at Board Meetings. All of this was done to help meet the goal of being trauma informed and making sure that resident clients are feeling safe and welcome within the facility. Changes and updates are planned to continue throughout the upcoming fiscal year and both staff and residents are pleased and excited for what is to come.

2019 CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS CEREMONY

On April 10th, 2019 staff members from the Fifth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services gathered with other community groups and organizations to honor victims of crime. Molly Jansen, Investigator at Polk County Attorney’s Office and Shelli Allen, DMACC’s Vice President of Enrollment Services emceed the Crime Victims’ Rights Ceremony. At the event a multitude of voices came to celebrate the week of National Crime Victims’ Rights. Director Jerry Evans gave a warm welcome and spoke on the history of violence and how over time things have changed. Evans talked on how best we can help everyone impacted by violence and the hope for the future in the area of the Fifth Judicial District becoming more trauma focused. Fort Des Moines Residential Officer Will Clemmons blessed the room with a song of prayer before welcoming local poets from Des Moines Public High Schools who stimulated the environment with their lyrics. Caleb Byers was then introduced as the guest speaker for the event. He shared with everyone his story of abuse and how he moved from a victim feeling powerless to a survivor feeling powerful. Caleb now is thriving and challenges everyone to remove the label of victim, to instead use the more encouraging word of survivor. For those who have lived through a traumatic event a simple change in vocabulary can change their life. The ceremony wrapped up with a short presentation and informative session with Jody White on the Dress for Success program. She explained how it started and how it works for women in the Des Moines area. Inspiring and informative, this event continues to make an impact for everyone who participates.
In May 2019 two staff members, Angela Karaidos; Residential Manager and Amanda Cox; Probation Parole Officer III were asked to speak at the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Learning Exchange. They were brought in to discuss achieving self-sufficiency among the probation/parole population. It is stated that over 50 percent of the seven million people under correctional supervision are on community supervision in either the facet of probation or parole. Recent legislation around criminal justice has also encouraged the release of low-risk individuals from incarceration into this type of community supervision. The Learning Exchange that Angela and Amanda were invited to speak at was focused on the challenges that this population faces in achieving self-sufficiency. They spoke on the strategies that the Fifth Judicial District uses to help these individuals find employment, meet client needs, and navigate the requirements of being on community supervision. These requirements can include additional checking-in with probation or parole officers, participating in ordered programming, and staying within the city/state where they reside. Angela and Amanda presented to and discussed with a number of United States Government staff and leaders about the overlapping work we do.

On May 13th and 14th staff members Lisa Roetman, Chad Roby, and Maggie Wood put on a Core Correctional Practices training. It was a great two days of interaction, activities, and knowledge being weaved throughout the new District staff. This training is crucial to making sure that we as a District are all using common practices when it comes to interactions with clients. It is truly amazing the amount of change that you can have on a person with a simple interaction. Many times staff hear that clients simply have not been taught the skills that we overlook so often. The Core Correctional Practices that are encouraged and used are Quality Interpersonal Relationships, Effective Social Reinforcement, Effective Disapproval, Effective Use of Authority, Anti-Criminal Modeling, Cognitive Restructuring, Structured Learning/Skill Building, and Problem Solving Techniques.