

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP MEETING

January 7, 2013

Present: Mike Haddon, Geri Miller, Steve Turley, Alfred Bigelow, Nori Huntsman, Gaylene Dawes, Lacey Harris, Molly Prince, Leah Farrell, Michelle Meinhart, Norma Bench, James Evans, Debby Stone, Allison Payne, Vicky Westmoreland, Brooke Adams, Reyna Cameron, Martene Mackie, Jennifer Bartell, Tanja Schaffer, Brock, Joseph White, Wayne Parker, Roy Drodgy, Tim Hibler, Holly Zink, Brian Tease, Daniel Meinhart, Jacqueline Krum, Karl Berry, Serianna Gregg, David Gregg, and Cindy Coates recorder.

Special Guests: *Acting Director*, Mike Haddon, *Acting Assistant to the Director*, Geri Miller-Fox, Steve Turley, *Director, Institutional Operations*, Alfred Bigelow, *Warden*, Draper Site, Utah State Prison

Nori Huntsman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Acting Director Mike Haddon introduced his *Acting Assistant to the Director* Geri Miller-Fox. Acting Director Haddon stated he was happy to be in attendance at the FOCUS Meeting. He was also pleased with the number of individuals attending the meeting. Acting Director Haddon informed everyone it is his goal to visit all areas of the Utah Department of Corrections (UDC) and listen to employee's comments and become better informed with each area.

Nori Huntsman introduced *Warden* Bigelow and *DIO Director* Turley who shared information about the Division of Institutional Operations (DIO).

Warden Bigelow informed those in attendance about the expansion of the Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP) at the Draper Site. He shared that Governor Herbert is asking the Legislature to approve funding for a new housing unit at the Gunnison Site.

DIO Director Steve Turley explained details of a Prison Sustainability Project. The prison is considering a food recycling program and also an offender-participation conservation program involving replacing non-native plants with Utah native plants. UCI will also be involved with this program. Sustainability is a way to be greener and preserve what we have for future generations.

Molly Prince asked how families could find a copy of specific policies and information concerning visitation and write-ups. She also expressed concerns about the phones cutting off due to "third party" prompts by the phone system when offenders are receiving phone calls.

Warden Bigelow commented that not everything is in policy, but for specific questions, he welcomes written correspondence requests and will follow-up on them. Regarding movement in housing areas, circumstances may require an offender be moved. These decisions are looked at on a case by case basis.

DIO Director Turley explained the offenders have access to policy in reference manuals kept on the housing facilities. Offenders are explained the process of disciplinary write ups and they do know why and how the process takes place. If you have issues with the phones cutting off conversations, please let visiting staff know. The phones run on a computer system and there should be no call cancelations if caller's phone doesn't have third party calling. It is up to the recipient accepting the call to make sure they do not have a third party line.

Allison Payne expressed concerns for a relative who is incarcerated at the Draper Site.

Warden Bigelow invited her to call or email him to set up an appointment with him and he will review her concerns. Warden Bigelow expressed he cannot speak out in an open forum concerning sensitive issues.

Debbie Stone thanked Warden Bigelow for moving her relative. She also explained she is corresponding with 15 other offenders and would like the chance to visit them at the prison. She says she can make a big difference in their lives.

Warden Bigelow explained there are reasons why we have the visiting rules that we do. There have been cases when offenders have gotten out of prison; they have shown up at a volunteer's house, uninvited. DIO Director Turley stated the cautions that are taken with sponsors and volunteers at the prison are meant to protect everyone.

Debbie Stone commented that two of the offenders to whom she is writing have no one to help them when they parole. These individuals need help before they are released out into the community.

Warden Bigelow stated he would look at the situation if she provides him with specific information.

Lacey Harris expressed concerns with the UDC selection process for religious leaders and the sweat lodge and Talking Circles volunteers for the Native Americans. He suggests an ad hoc committee be formed. Acting Director Haddon asked him to share what that might look like. Nori Huntsman stated this issue will be followed up.

Roy Droddy commented how nice it is to see so many people attending the meeting. He was happy to hear that the Department of Corrections is going to review some of these issues on a case by case basis. Roy also said he wants the visiting issues evaluated.

Steve Turley reminded everyone that policies are not enforced to be mean or cruel. The specific policy is there for a reason. UDC is charged with protecting the offenders and the public. The policy is there because of past experience.

If any of the FOCUS members wish to make an appointment and meet with Turley or Bigelow, they will review each request. Keep in mind each offender's situation is different and they will make a decision based on what is in the best interest of the offender and UDC. They also consult with the director of the sex offender treatment program on a case involving a sex offender.

Warden Bigelow informed the group that the visitation issue as a whole is being reviewed.

Norma Bench complimented the Utah Defendant Offender Workforce Development Task Force (U.D.O.W.D.) for the effort they put forth in assisting parolees in finding employment. Norma also commented on a recent offender that paroled without getting an ID while incarcerated. It is very difficult for an individual that has been incarcerated to obtain an ID. Norma expressed how important getting an ID is before an offender is released.

Steve Turley commented that each offender knows they need their ID upon being released. Certain state laws restrict what we do. There are forms available to offenders to get a birth certificate. Zion's Bank in Draper has assisted paroling offenders cashing checks who have not yet received a permanent ID. DIO Director Turley briefly discussed social security requirements and changes to identification requirements.

Michelle Meinhart expressed concerns that when she visits her relative in prison it is behind the glass, as it has been for the past seven years. This is more a classification level/location issue. Steve Turley suggested that Michelle call and schedule a meeting with Warden Bigelow and review this case.

David Gregg introduced himself as a former Utah State Prison inmate. David expressed his opinion that the cost is huge when punishing everyone. David stated he felt other offenders and officers were threatening him at the prison and he still lives with that fear.

Warden Bigelow invited Mr. Gregg to call and make an appointment with him. We cannot take action without knowing who is doing the threatening.

Roy Droddy suggested scheduling the FOCUS meetings monthly. Nori Huntsman stated she will take that suggestion to Programming Director Burr and a decision will be made. She reminded the group most of their concerns focused on their relatives who are incarcerated at the prison and that the FOCUS meeting is not designed or intended for the sharing of such personal information. Individual needs are best met via the avenues offered by Steve Turley and Warden Bigelow.

Debbie Stone commented that she visits an offender who is housed in Uinta 1 who is always cuffed. Debbie asked if this was a normal situation. Warden Bigelow suggested she call for an appointment and the issue will be discussed in private.

A former offender commented on the Vision Statement and how it references "honor" and "accountability". He stated how while he was incarcerated he saw an officer allow offenders to swear, use tobacco and make phone calls from a cell phone.

Warden Bigelow stated once again that complete details of issues are needed and then he can deal with them. He said he moves staff and offenders on a regular basis, but cannot take action without knowing more of the facts.

Warden Bigelow also informed everyone that the staff has annual in-service and other training and they are evaluated yearly by their direct supervisor.

A Focus Group attendee commented on the Central Utah Correctional Facility (CUCF) in Gunnison. She stated the staff at CUCF is very professional and do an excellent job. She said family relationships are very important and she would UDC to consider allowing DIO offenders to have weekend home visits. She asked if this would happen again in the future.

Steve Turley commented there is not much of a chance for this to happen again. There were too many curfew and substance use issues that took place in the past. He reminded the group that individual cases should be discussed privately. Steve suggested to make an appointment and action could be taken.

An inmate's family member discussed how lonely a family feels when they have an incarcerated family member. Families sometimes feel like they are in prison as well. They wanted to know if Corrections can somehow elevate this problem.

Staff retaliation is a "huge" problem. Attendee wanted to know how we (UDC) can prevent this from happening in the future.

Steve Turley stated without details he cannot take action. He said he has watched officers perform CPR on offenders. This CPR has lasted well after the offender has passed away. He has watched the officer go to the corner and cry because he could not save the offender. He said not all staff members are perfect and when staff is out of line, and he knows about it, he does take action. Not all offenders are perfect either. He reiterated he cannot take action if he doesn't have details.

Martene Mackie commented on the comments toward UDC and staff. Martene expressed how bad she felt listening to the negative comments towards her coworkers. She assured the Focus Group attendees there are very good people that work at the Department and they do good things to help the offender succeed if the offender steps up and chooses to succeed. Martene wants people to know we do have good employees that work for the Department of Corrections.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

The next scheduled meeting is April 1, 2013.

FOCUS: UDC News

Guest Speakers:

- ✓ Alfred Bigelow, Warden, Utah State Prison
- ✓ Steve Turley, Director, Institutional Operations

Date:

- ✓ 7 January 2013 @ 6 PM
Utah Department of
Corrections

Thank **YOU** for Supporting Offender Education, Life Skills and Treatment Opportunities

It Takes OUR Community To Have A Successful Transition



OUR VISION –

We envision a culture where honor, accountability, and integrity are reflected in our conduct. In so doing, we foster an environment rich in professionalism, compassion, collaboration, and dedication. Together, we are a fair, focused, innovative, and energized team.

OUR MISSION –

Our dedicated team of professionals ensures public safety by effectively managing offenders while maintaining close collaboration with partner agencies and the community. Our team is devoted to providing maximum opportunities for offenders to make lasting changes through accountability, treatment, education and positive reinforcement within a safe environment.

Programming Division Goals for 2013

We have significant goals for the New Year, goals that are familiar as we continue on the path started in April 2007. Each year we have built upon the Utah Department of Corrections Vision and Mission and your input and support have brought us success. Here are our Division-level Goals:

(1)

We will implement, support and promote UDC's vision and mission by implementing objectives that align with, and enhance, the vision and mission.

(2)

We will promote evidence-based practices and procedures that maximize the safety of the community via *treatment* efficiency and offender opportunities statewide in the field (probationers, parolees) and institutions (state inmates in prison and jail).

(3)

We will promote evidence-based practices and procedures that maximize the safety of the community via *education* efficiency and offender opportunities statewide in the field (probationers, parolees) and institutions (state inmates in prison and jail).

(4)

We will promote the exploration of critical issues and shaping public policies that improve the effectiveness, efficiency and humane quality of practices that impact corrections via collaboration with allied public/private parties to assist in offender transition into the community.

Programming Division-Level Goals cont.

(5)

We will design and implement, or support existing, selected treatment, and cognitive behavioral and education program opportunities that are researched or researchable.

FOCUS Schedule 2013:

April 1	6PM
July 8	6PM
October 7	6PM

Executive Office Changes:

Mike Haddon, Acting UDC Executive Director, replaces Thomas Patterson who resigned effective Jan 4, 2013.

UDC Executive Deputy Director Robyn Williams retired effective Jan 1, 2013.



UDCProgrammingOffice@utah.gov



Craig Burr, Director

Programming Division
14717 S Minuteman Drive
Draper, UT 84020

Governor Herbert's Corrections Budget Proposal can be viewed online at http://governor.utah.gov/budget/Budget/Budget%20Recommendations/FY2014_RecBk.pdf
See Table 23

Sex Offender Task Force (SOTF) Quarterly Training for Clinicians will be held 11 January 2013 from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Horizonte School lecture hall in Room 540 at 1234 S Main St in SLC. Lewis Galway, CMHC, will present on Sex Offenders and Sexual Addiction and Sex Offenders With Mental Illness

See **^above^** for FREE training for clinicians in January 2013.

FOCUS members, THANK YOU for your support, suggestions and participation in this quarterly event. Our next three meetings will **FOCUS** on Adult Probation & Parole.

FOCUS members: How can YOU help make a difference?

FOCUS members: Save the date ~ 1 April 2013 ~ at 6 PM for the next FOCUS meeting.

Look for the following Applications & Features on the UDC Public Website
<http://www.corrections.utah.gov/index.html>

PRISON VISITATION SCHEDULE

View visitation schedules and rules. Search and download visitation forms.

OFFENDER SEARCH

Basic public information about offenders currently in UDC custody either as inmates or "on paper" through AP&P (requires a basic registration response for access).

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

Sex and kidnap Offender Notification and Registration system.

UDC STATISTICS

Population statistics detail inmate demographics at Utah's two State prison facilities and has data on probationers & parolees.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

See a list of common questions & answers ranging from prison life to what to expect on probation & parole.

MOST WANTED

View a list of offenders and absconders who are most wanted by UDC.

VICTIM NOTIFICATION

Free automated hotline provides victims with information and

notification 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Orientation book for inmates' friends and family. Details on visiting, mail, and related prison topics.

MONEY TRANSFERS

Place funds on an inmate's account, or pay AP&P fees using an online electronic payment system. Access a form at this site to make payments by check/money order.

Past **FOCUS** meeting minutes are available on the same website at: http://www.corrections.utah.gov/programs/focus_groups.html

A **Fun** Afternoon Out With Friends & Family:

Several Corrections agents and officers will team up with local law enforcement once again this year to battle firefighters in the 11th annual Guns 'N' Hoses Hockey Game. The game will be held Saturday, Jan. 19, at the Maverick Center in West Valley City.

The first game (lower skill level) will be held at 1300 (1 p.m.), the second (more skilled) at 1430 (2:30 p.m.), and the Utah Grizzlies will battle the Condors at 7 p.m., following the charity games. Ticket prices (includes entrance to the Grizzlies' hockey game) are reduced for this special 3-game event: Center Plaza \$16 (Regularly \$25), Corner Plaza \$10 (Regularly \$17), Party Plaza \$10 (no reduction).

For questions or tickets, contact The Maverick Center Box Office. Tell them you are cheering on *Agent Tyson Pepper's* team when you purchase your ticket(s) to this special event that includes the Grizzlies' game.



[Search all of Utah.gov »](#)



The Official Website for the Utah Department of Corrections

[Sitemap](#) | [Acronyms](#) | [Contact Us](#)

- HOME
- SERVICES PROGRAMS PROBATION & PAROLE
- VISITATION & FACILITIES
- MEDICAL CARE
- ADMINISTRATION

Search the Department of Corrections

CORRECTIONS MISSION

Our dedicated team of professionals ensures public safety by effectively managing offenders while maintaining close collaboration with partner agencies and the community. Our team is devoted to providing maximum opportunities for offenders to make lasting changes through accountability, treatment, education, and positive reinforcement within a safe environment.

CORRECTIONS VISION

"We envision a culture where honor, accountability, and integrity are reflected in our conduct. In so doing, we foster an environment rich in professionalism, compassion, collaboration, and dedication. Together, we are a fair, focused, innovative, and energized team."



Wild Horses

This program at the Gunnison Prison site seeks to tame horses while teaching inmates patience and problem-solving skills. This is a collaborative effort between Corrections and the Federal Bureau of Land Management

Applications & Features



VISITATION SCHEDULE

View visitation schedules and rules. Search and download visitation forms.



OFFENDER SEARCH

Basic information about offenders currently in UDC custody either as inmates or "on paper" through AP&P.



SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

Sex and kidnap Offender Notification and Registration system.



UDC STATISTICS

Population statistics detail demographics at Utah's two State prison facilities with data on probationers & parolees.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

See a list of common questions & answers ranging from prison life to probation & parole.



MOST WANTED

View a list of offenders and absconders who are most wanted by the Utah Department of Corrections.



VICTIM NOTIFICATION

A free automated hotline that provides victims with information and notification 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



FAMILY & FRIENDS

Orientation book for inmates' friends and family. Details on visiting, mail, etc.



MONEY TRANSFERS

Place funds on an inmate's account, or pay AP&P fees using an online electronic payment system. Or [click here](#) for a form to pay by check/money order.

Director's Welcome



UDC Executive Director
Thomas Patterson

The Utah Department of Corrections appreciates you stopping by for first-hand information. We hope our public Web site will answer questions you might have about our duties and those whom we serve. The Utah Department of Corrections and all of its staff are constantly looking to perform our duties with accountability, honor and integrity. Our two main goals entail keeping the public safe and helping offenders to succeed.

We welcome your feedback and look forward to serving you. Please visit our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section for more detailed information, or [click here](#) to contact us, and thank you for your interest.

Latest News

NEWS, NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [Making Strides Toward Offender Employment](#)
- [Lt. Governor Highlights Corrections](#)
- [Inmate-grown pumpkins](#)
- [Prison Physical Therapy](#)

To contact the prisons call:

Draper: 801-576-7000
Gunnison: 435-528-6000

Or [click here](#) to contact us via e-mail.



Search all of Utah.gov »



The Official Website for the Utah Department of Corrections

[Sitemap](#) | [Acronyms](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Search the Department of Corrections

- HOME
- SERVICES PROGRAMS PROBATION & PAROLE
- VISITATION & FACILITIES
- MEDICAL CARE
- ADMINISTRATION

Utah Department of Corrections Contact Form

Name

Email address

Comments

Close Submit Cancel

Inmate Programs REHABILITATION, EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

- UCI Work Program
- Educational Opportunities
- Library Services
- Reading for the Blind
- Life Skills Programs
- Spiritual Development
- Recreational Activities
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Treating Sex Offenders
- Offender Management Plan
- Ex-Cell/Con-Quest
- HOPE Program
- DNA Program
- Offender Success Initiative
- Sex Offender Unit
- FOCUS Groups
- Preparing Offenders for Success

[Utah Department of Corrections Home](#) > [Contact Us](#)

Contact the Utah Department of Corrections

Online Contact Form
[Contact Us](#)

Mailing Address:
Utah Department of Corrections Administration Building
14717 S. Minuteman Dr.
Draper, UT 84020

Telephone: 801.545.5500
Fax: 801.545.5670

[News Media Click Here](#)