

CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION INSPECTION COMMITTEE

INSPECTION REPORT

INSTITUTION: Franklin Pre-Release Center

DATE OF INSPECTION: October 29, 2003

TYPE OF INSPECTION: Announced

CIIC MEMBER PRESENT: Senator Steve Austria

INSTITUTION STAFF PRESENT: Warden Patricia Andrews accompanied Senator Austria during a walk-through of the institution. In addition, the Senator spoke with the Deputy Warden, Rebecca Hoffman, and several additional staff.

AREAS/ACTIVITIES INCLUDED IN INSPECTION:

Pregnancy Care Facility	Computer Program
Examining Room	Dog Program
Visiting Room	Housing Unit
Yard	Segregation Unit

ATTENDANCE AT GENERAL MEAL PERIOD:

The cafeteria was observed during the lunch meal.

ATTENDANCE AT EDUCATIONAL OR REHABILITATIVE PROGRAM:

Computer Program
Dog Training Program for the Franklin County Humane Society

INSTITUTION OVERVIEW:

The Franklin Pre-Release Center is a correctional institution for adult, female offenders. According to the ODRC website, the institution was opened in 1988, is located on 10 acres of land and is classified as a Level One and Level Two (Minimum and Medium) security facility. The facility is accredited by the American Correctional Association and has a population of 479, including 269 White inmates, 205 Black inmates, and five other inmates. In FY 2004, the facility has an operation budget of \$12,684,869, with an annual cost per inmate of \$25,339 and daily cost per inmate of \$69.42. The facility has a total of 139 staff, including 78 security staff.

Although the facility has no industry or vocational programs, academic programs include Adult Basic Education, GED, Prenatal Program, Parenting, Self-Improvement, College Program, Domestic Violence, Re-Entry and Apprenticeship. In addition, Community

Service Projects include the following: State Fairgrounds maintenance crew, Newspaper clipping service, Dog Training for the Pilot Dog Program and Capital Area Humane Society, Recycling, Card-making for Children's Hospital and Heinzerling Foundation, Bracelets for Parents for Teens Against Drugs, Lap Quilts for Heinzerling Foundation, Saving pop tabs for Walnut Elementary, Girl Scout Program, Reading Room activities, Educational materials for Crayons to Computers, Making premie baby clothes for "Touching Little Lives," Detour Program, Visual Aides for Solid Waste Authority, Assemble bags for Shaken Baby Syndrome, Maintenance work for Rachel's House, Maintenance work for Greater Life Evangelistic Temple Church.

The Franklin Pre-Release Center offers a wide range of programs in a classroom setting and through small group instruction. Inmates who are not assigned to a job are assigned to a meaningful program that includes a Residential Substance Abuse Program. Inmates housed in the same unit receive lectures, small group instruction and therapy, individual counseling, and other programs to assist them with substance abuse and related addiction problems. Other recovery services which complement the Residential Substance Abuse Program include outpatient services, after care, prenatal substance abuse services, educational substance abuse services, and the traditional AA and NA.

FINDINGS AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Franklin Pre-Release Center is tobacco free to prevent harm to expecting mothers housed in the pregnancy center. Some inmates relayed that staff are allowed to smoke, but inmates are not allowed to smoke. It is recommended that the issue be examined closely to determine if staff should also be prohibited from smoking.

Overall, the facility and the atmosphere of the Franklin Pre-Release Center were very impressive. The facility appeared to be operating in accord with standards.

During the lunch meal period, inmates were very well behaved, eating quietly and socializing. The cafeteria was clean and appeared to be in order.

The inmates were very pleased with the Dog Training Program, and seemed to have a strong interest in being involved.

The examining room of the pregnancy care facility was clean and organized. A volunteer physician was present during the inspection. In addition, it was relayed that every Tuesday, a volunteer doctor is available to examine the expectant mothers. The housing resembles a college dorm.

The visiting area was clearly designed for the inmates to visit with their families and children. Local churches have donated toys for the children.

One inmate who was interviewed had just begun a sentence of 15-days in Disciplinary Control for fighting with other inmates. She relayed that problems between inmates occur because of the differences between inmates who are serving short sentences and

those serving long sentences. The Warden discussed with the inmate why she was placed in Disciplinary Control and encouraged her to improve her behavior.

Another inmate who was interviewed expressed concerns regarding the sentencing and judicial process in her case, but she had no complaints regarding the facility. One inmate relayed the need for a coat which staff indicated would be provided.

While the Warden relayed that they are managing with current resources, there are many other programs that staff would like to initiate. However, funding prohibits them from doing so.