

External Affairs Newsletter



California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation

CDCR's Office of External Affairs welcomes you to our monthly newsletter. If you would like to SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE, simply reply to this email and let us know. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office at (916) 445-4950.

Upcoming Holidays: Monday, July 5th (Independence Day).

JUNE 2010

CDCR Breaks Ground on AB 900 Construction Projects

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) broke ground June 15 on its first AB 900 construction project, a 64-bed intermediate care mental health facility at California Medical Facility (CMF) in Vacaville.

“We are very pleased to announce the construction of this mental health facility, the first of our AB 900 funded construction projects,” said CDCR Secretary Matthew Cate. “Through this important project, CDCR will be able to provide appropriate care for inmates needing intermediate care services and help satisfy court orders to provide increased mental health care to inmates.”



The new, stand alone facility will include housing, treatment, support and administrative services that will help mitigate the state's unmet licensed mental health bed deficiencies for inmates as part of the Coleman vs. Schwarzenegger class action lawsuit.

The CMF project is the first of many AB 900 construction projects currently being developed by CDCR. It will be staffed and operated by employees of the California Department of Mental Health and CDCR.

On June 17, just days after the initial noteworthy event, the CDCR also broke ground on its second mental health facility, located at California Institution for Women in Chino (CIW).

The second stand-alone facility totaling 53,000 square feet in size will include housing, treatment, support and administrative services that will help mitigate CDCR's unmet licensed mental health bed deficiencies for inmate patients as part of the Coleman vs. Schwarzenegger class action lawsuit. The project,



expected to be completed in December 2011, will also add two new guard towers and 180 parking spaces for new staff. The facility will also be staffed by employees of the California Department of Mental Health and operated by CDCR upon completion.

"These projects will provide significant economic stimulus for California and for their respective communities at a time when the

state desperately needs new employment opportunities," said Chris Meyer, Senior Chief, Facility Planning, Construction and Management for CDCR.

Both projects are expected to obtain a Silver certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for new construction rating system pursuant to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Executive Order #S-20-04. A LEED Silver rating promotes occupant well being and lessens the building's environmental impacts.

[Link to CDCR Facilities, Planning, Construction and Management Web Page.](#)

[More photos of the groundbreaking ceremony can be found on our Flickr website.](#)

CDCR Suspends Visitation Statewide June 26-27

On June 17, the CDCR announced that it would suspend most inmate visitation the last weekend of June due to the state's fiscal crisis.

Cancellation of visiting at each of California's 33 adult prisons for a single weekend – June 26 and 27 – saved \$400,000 in overtime to help resolve

budget concerns as the fiscal year comes to an end. Legally mandated visiting, such as attorney visits, continued uninterrupted.

CDCR also is implementing other cost saving measures to address the state's fiscal crisis including: redirecting custody posts to essential positions when employees call in sick or there are other vacancies; a departmental hiring freeze; reducing costs and staffing at headquarters; delaying or cancelling purchases and contracts unless to do so would create a health or security risk; and cancelling all non-critical travel and training.

The department plans to return to a full visiting program beginning July 1, which is the beginning of the new fiscal year.

“Due to the state's fiscal crisis, we have to make difficult choices to reduce operational costs this fiscal year in a number of areas, including the last weekend of visitation statewide,” said Terri McDonald, CDCR Chief Deputy Secretary of Adult Operations. “Because visitation impacts families directly, I have directed CDCR staff at the institutional level to ensure that inmate families and staff are notified of this decision.”



Wardens statewide also have been directed to cut costs by increasing the number of vacant posted peace officer positions from an existing three percent to five percent of all positions at each institution. This will result in staffing changes, including some exercise yards being temporarily closed. Inmates at yards that are closed will be allowed access to other yards at different times to ensure access to outdoor activities.

CDCR executed several efforts to inform families about the cancelled visitation. Visitation phone lines were updated with the new information.

Posters in both English and Spanish were posted at each institution. Notices were placed on the closed circuit inmate television as well as postings throughout each institution. The institutional management team discussed the planned closure with the inmate family councils and inmate population to ensure awareness.

The visitation cancellation on June 26 and June 27 did not include Division of Juvenile Justice facilities, terminally ill inmate visits and Community Correctional

Facilities.

For more information on CDCR visiting policies go to:
<http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Visitors/index.html>

Non Revocable Parole (NRP) Update:

Information on NRP has been sent to all law enforcement partners and is available on our [website](#). The following table shows how many inmates have been placed on NRP since the law went into effect in January.

(As of June 14, 2010)

	Prior Week	To Date (Since 1/25/10)
Cases Reviewed	20,249	20,519
Cases Not Eligible	8,610	8,745
Cases Eligible	11,639	11,774
NRP Parolees	12,292	12,788

In Case You Missed It:

- **Hundreds of Children Visit Incarcerated Dads for Father's Day at Annual 'Get On the Bus' Event**
The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the Center for Restorative Justice Works (CRJW) are again bringing together hundreds of children to visit their incarcerated fathers to celebrate Father's Day during the Annual Get On The Bus event. Children and their caregivers were able to travel from major cities across California to one of three male institutions: Correctional Training Facility (CTF) and Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP) in Soledad and California State Prison, Solano. Get On The Bus reunited children with their fathers at California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo on June 5 and June 12, 2010. It also brought children to visit their mothers on May 7, 2010 for Mother's Day at three California women's institutions. To view the full press release for this event, [click here](#).
- **Work Force Analysis for Proposed Facilities in San Joaquin County**

Please see the attached link ([PDF](#)) for information on the following proposed Stockton Prison Healthcare Sites: California Health Care Facility, DeWitt Nelson Converted Juvenile Justice Facility, and Northern California Reentry Facility.

Join the CDCR STAR

CDCR's Office of Public and Employee Communications has developed an e-service that will send CDCR's top stories, daily news articles, opinion pieces, and even online blogs right to your inbox. The purpose of this service is to provide all parties interested in CDCR the most up to date news so all are informed!

