

ADOC Mental Health Services Overview

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Faculty

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Overview

Bob Riley
Governor



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Commissioner

Richard F. Allen
Commissioner

Ruth Naglich
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Commissioner
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Director of
Treatment

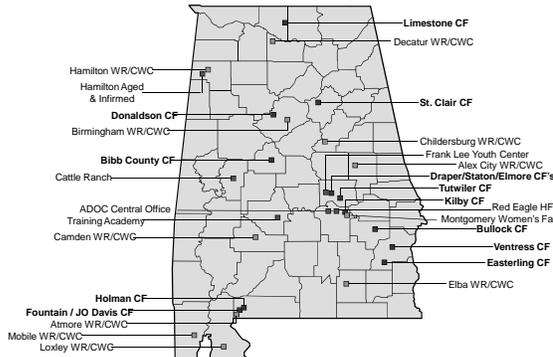
History of Alabama Department of Corrections

- Alabama's penitentiary system began in 1839
- The mission of the ADOC is to confine, manage, and provide rehabilitative programs for felons in a safe and humane environment

History of Alabama Department of Corrections

- The ADOC has more than 3,700 employees
 - 2,600+ security and 1,100+ support personnel
- ADOC accounts for 31,979 inmates of which 25,557 are assigned to in-house facilities as of November 2009

ADOC Facility Map



The map shows the following facilities across Alabama:

- Limestone CF
- Decatur WR/CWC
- Hamilton WR/CWC
- Hamilton Aged & Infirm
- Donaldson CF
- Birmingham WR/CWC
- Bibb County CF
- Cattle Ranch
- ADOC Central Office
- Training Academy
- Camden WR/CWC
- Holman CF
- Fountain / JO Davis CF
- Atmore WR/CWC
- Mobile WR/CWC
- Loxley WR/CWC
- St. Clair CF
- Childersburg WR/CWC
- Frank Lee Youth Center
- Alex City WR/CWC
- Draper/Staton/Elmore CF's
- Tutwiler CF
- Kilby CF
- Red Eagle HF
- Montgomery Women's Facility
- Bullock CF
- Ventress CF
- Easterling CF
- Elba WR/CWC

Inmates by Gender and Race November 2009

	Male		Female		Totals
White	11,358	38.5 %	1,515	61.2 %	12,873 (40.3%)
Black	18,107	61.4 %	962	38.8 %	19,069 (59.6%)
Other	37	0.1 %	0	0.0 %	37 (0.1 %)
Totals	29,502		2,477		31,979

ADOC Mental Health Issues Background

- During the last three decades Alabama prisons have become a surrogate mental health system
- Over the last 20 years ADOC has become the State's principal agent for providing substance abuse treatment

ADOC Mental Health Issues

- 1971
 - The State's two mental health facilities housed more than 8,000 mentally ill/retarded individuals
 - Alabama prisons housed approximately 3,904 inmates
 - Only about 200 of whom were thought to be mentally ill

ADOC Mental Health Issues

- 2010
 - The Department of MH/MR has about 860 beds for acute and extended mental health care, including 114 for those judged "not guilty by reason of insanity"

ADOC Mental Health Issues

- Alabama prisons house more than 25,000 inmates with 2,865 in direct receipt of MH treatment
- In ADOC, 36% of women and 20 % of men incarcerated have known mental health difficulties

ADOC Mental Health Issues What the Experts Say

"The number of mentally ill people in the community who are not receiving treatment has increased as a result of deinstitutionalization without a corresponding development of community-based mental health services."

The Sentencing Project – 2001

ADOC Mental Health Issues

What the Experts Say

“Over the past few decades, the country’s prisons and jails have become its default mental health system.”

– Human Rights Watch – 2003

ADOC Mental Health Issues

What the Experts Say

“The fact is that many CMHCs refuse to accept responsibility for seriously mentally ill individuals; that State Departments of Mental Health [have closed] state hospitals even when community care is not available...; That most mental health professionals are unwilling to work with seriously mentally ill individuals; and that changes in state laws have made it more difficult to commit such individuals to hospitals.”

– E. Tory, Criminalizing the Seriously Mentally Ill – 2002

ADOC Mental Health Program

- Current level of services
 - Mental health contractual staff
 - 144 full time employees
 - 12 Psychiatrists/CRNP
 - 4 Psychologists

ADOC Mental Health Program

- Mental health beds
 - Intensive stabilization and residential care

–Bullock	280
–Donaldson	138
–Tutwiler	52
–Limestone	8
–Other	24
Total	502

ADOC Mental Health Program

- Approximately 2900 inmates are in active treatment
- 2,400 would be considered “outpatients” in the free world
- 478 would be considered in need of intensive and residential care

ADOC Mental Health Program

- 444 group therapy sessions conducted each month on the Residential Treatment and the Intensive Stabilization Units
- 183 group therapy sessions conducted each month at other facilities on an out-patient basis

ADOC Mental Health Program

- **Current level of services**
 - Intensive stabilization and residential treatment
 - Outpatient services
 - Psychiatric hospitalization
 - Multidisciplinary treatment planning

ADOC Mental Health Program

- Multidisciplinary treatment team meetings
- Continuous quality improvement
- Discharge planning at release
- Medication practices that reflect community standard of care
- MH program = \$ 13 million
- Psychotropic meds = \$ 1.3 million

ADOC Mental Health Services - Staffing

- In 2000, the ADOC had less than 30 mental health staff to serve the needs of inmates with serious mental illness
- The Bradley Settlement Agreement required an increase to 103.5 mental health staff

ADOC Mental Health Services - Staffing

- This staffing level was achieved in 2003
- Currently, there are 144 contracted staff dedicated to the provision of mental health care

ADOC Mental Health Services - Staffing

- **Mental Health Staffing levels include**
 - 7 Psychiatrists
 - 5 Nurse Practitioners
 - 4 Psychologists
 - 14 Site Administrators
 - 3 Mental Health RNs

ADOC Mental Health Services - Staffing

- 43 Mental Health LPNs
- 37 Mental Health Professionals
- 10 Activity Technicians
- 13 Clerks
- 8 Regional Office

ADOC Mental Health Services - Staffing

- There are 22 State Psychological Services positions
 - 6 for the reception/intake process at Kilby and Tutwiler
 - 16 for general prison population inmates at major institutions and work release centers

ADOC Mental Health Services Physical Resources

- In 2000
 - The ADOC had 18 single cells for intensive mental health treatment
 - 24 single cells/200 dormitory beds for the long term residential care of male inmates

ADOC Mental Health Services Physical Resources

- The mental health units lacked adequate treatment areas and only had limited office space for outpatient services
 - Between 2001 and 2004, the ADOC engaged in major construction and renovation projects to ensure the provision of adequate facilities for the full range of mental health services

ADOC Mental Health Services Physical Resources

- Currently, there are 478 beds dedicated to residential and intensive stabilization treatment
 - There are 24 observation cells used for mental health purposes in the Health Care Units at the various major institutions

ADOC Mental Health Services Physical Resources

- The mental health unit at Bullock is a 280-bed free standing building
 - The unit's "state of the art" treatment space has been applauded by correctional systems around the nation

ADOC Mental Health Services Physical Resources

- Tutwiler Prison for Women has a newly constructed mental health unit
 - The ADOC has also completed renovations required to ensure adequate treatment and office space for outpatient services
 - All crisis cells comply with nationally accepted "safe" cell standards

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Currently, within the ADOC there are 2,865 inmates on the active mental health case load, representing approximately 11% of the general prison population
 - Of that number 2,092 are prescribed psychotropic medication

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates received by the ADOC are screened for mental health issues immediately upon arrival by trained mental health nurses
- Inmates receive an initial psychiatric evaluation within five days of admission

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates receive an immediate psychiatric evaluation if the screening nurse assesses that such is clinically indicated based on the inmate's history and/or presentation

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates are coded to reflect their potential need for mental health treatment and mental health codes are considered in institutional assignment and disciplinary decisions

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates who request mental health assistance through a written self-referral receive a response within five working days
 - The requests are triaged daily with follow-up prioritized based on the type of request

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmate requests for mental health assistance through security staff receive immediate follow-up
- Psychiatric consultation is available 24 hours a day for crisis situations

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates requiring crisis intervention are placed in “safe” cells and receive daily mental health follow-up
 - If a crisis has not resolved within 72 hours, the inmate is considered for transfer to a mental health unit for further treatment

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates with serious mental illness who are followed through outpatient services are seen by mental health professionals monthly and a Psychiatrist/Nurse Practitioner as clinically indicated, but no less than every 90

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- An inmate receiving ongoing mental health services has an individualized treatment plan developed by a multidisciplinary team
- Mental health nurses monitor medication compliance and ensure the provision of laboratory testing required by the use of some psychotropic medications

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Mental health staff provide consultation to the disciplinary process when an inmate in receipt of mental health services receives an infraction or potential mental health issues are identified
- Inmates placed in administrative segregation receive cell-to-cell rounds five times a week to ensure access to mental health services

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Intensive psychiatric stabilization treatment includes daily psychiatric follow-up and 24-hour nursing coverage
- The administrative review process for involuntary medication based on the Harper decision is used to address inmate medication non-compliance when clinically indicated

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Inmates who require long-term treatment and support for chronic mental illness receive services in adequately staffed Residential Treatment Units
 - These services include treatment planning, individual counseling, psycho-educational groups, and activities

ADOC Mental Health Services Access to Care

- Discharge planning is completed for inmates receiving mental health services upon release from ADOC
 - At a minimum, this planning includes scheduling an appointment with a community provider and an interim 30-day supply of psychotropic medication

ADOC Mental Health Services Training, CQI and Beyond

- To support mental health services, the ADOC has engaged in extensive training of correctional officers in mental health issues
 - All correctional officers receive training in mental health issues during basic training and annual training

ADOC Mental Health Services Training, CQI and Beyond

- Officers assigned to mental health units and segregation units participate in two-day specialized mental health training

ADOC Mental Health Services Training, CQI and Beyond

- The ADOC has implemented an effective Continuous Quality Improvement program that conducts periodic reviews and audits of the mental health operations at each institution

ADOC Mental Health Services Training, CQI and Beyond

- Current mental health services within the ADOC meet and/or exceed national standards and are consistent with the goals of a quality mental health delivery system
 - The ADOC continues to strive for improvements that address developing issues

ADOC Mental Health Services Training, CQI and Beyond

- Currently, the ADOC is undertaking a medical/mental health collaboration in the development of hospice units and a unit for dementia

ADOC Mental Health Issues - Conclusion

“Innovation, and, above all, a dedication to reform are necessary to address the growing problem of criminalization from both a public safety and a public health point of view. Communities that are committed to change, where mental health and criminal justice interests work collaboratively on solutions, can find cost-effective and just ways to reverse the present trend of neglected lives and wasted resources.”

– Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Alabama Department of Corrections

