

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES  
FY 2018 PATUXENT INSTITUTION**

**Population Trends**

**Issue: The Patuxent Institution should discuss how changes to the flagship programs have affected remediation efforts and facility operations.**

**Response:** The Institution is committed to providing remediation services to the flagship Eligible Person and Youth Programs. In fiscal year 2016 the Institution operated 147 offenders below its combined capacity primarily due to the consolidation of available housing units to accommodate a significant increase in parole violators being transferred to the facility for their hearings. Despite the decline in numbers within, the Institution continues to focus on offering comprehensive programming that includes cognitive-behavioral groups, occupational skills training, and educational services during the six-year programmatic timeframe.

Patuxent Institution has made attempts to boost the enrollment in these two statutory programs. In 2014, the Institution piloted a nine-month intensive group therapy program with the intent to increase the census of the two statutory programs. However, after reviewing the pilot, the Institution found that the length of the program prevented effective participation in educational programming and occupational programming and that the completion rate for offenders did not result in an increase in the overall census of the programs. Based on these findings, it was decided to discontinue this pilot and re-deploy the staff to the 2 flagship programs with the goal of attaining the 6-year completion time frame.

It is important to note that – in addition to the two flagship programs – Patuxent clinical staff also provides services to offenders with mental health problems in the Patuxent Assessment Unit and to offenders in the Patuxent Parole Violators Program.

**Issue: The Patuxent Institution should explain the decrease in ADP for the ROTC program and how the provision of substance abuse treatment to fewer inmates correlates with the intention to provide increased treatment services expressed through the provisions of the Justice Reinvestment Act.**

**Response:** The Department entered into a new contract to provide services for this program in April of 2015. However, the vendor was not able to meet the necessary staffing requirements to serve the population. The contract was ended for convenience due to performance issues.

The Department fully supports the intention of increased treatment services expressed through the Justice Reinvestment Act. The Department has been working diligently to secure a contract with a new vendor, which would increase the program's capacity to 92 treatment slots. The Department anticipates that the contract will be in place by October 2017.

## **Inmate Assault Rates**

**Issue:** The Patuxent Institution should comment on efforts to reduce the assault rates on offenders and staff.

**Response:** The institution is committed to addressing all forms of assaults within the facility. The institution has developed on-going strategies associated with the goal of reducing assaults across the entire inmate population, which include the following:

- 1) Institution Violence Reduction Committee meets on a monthly basis to review incidents for the purpose of developing strategies to address areas of assaults.
- 2) The institution is committed to the reduction of contraband entering the institution which can be a significant factor associated with assaultive behavior among inmates. The institution utilizes a comprehensive search process for all visitors, staff, inmates, and packages.
- 3) The institution has modified day-to-day operations and movement on the tiers, which gives the Correctional Officers additional control. Examples of these modified activities include:
  - a. Requiring inmates to log their request to use the phones on a list maintained by the Correctional Officers. This allows more equitable use of the phones and prevents certain offenders or security threat groups from monopolizing the phones.
  - b. Minimizing the number of inmates in the recreation area at one time.
  - c. Increasing the supervisor presence on the tiers that are presenting the greatest concerns.
  - d. Providing additional training to staff on how to manage the different population.

## **Recommended Actions**

1. Concur with Governor's allowance

**Response:** The Department concurs with the recommended action.