

# Coffee Talk

August 2023

Superintendent: N. Brown

Editor: J. Roy



## What's New in the News at The Creek?

### FROM CRU TO YOU

#### CRU **is NOT** visiting Services

When submitting a visiting application, **do not** send it to CRU. Please send visiting applications to:

Visiting Services Unit

3725 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Suite 200

Salem, OR 97302

**As of 7/15/2023, Yoga, AA, NA, and AAP Programs are now under the umbrella of Lifeskills.**

**If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about any of these Programs, address your Kytes to Lifeskills.**

# A BIG COFFEE CREEK WELCOME TO OUR NEW HIGHER EDUCATION STAFF!

We are so excited to announce that **Mindi Ferguson** and **Celeste Shearer** will now be organizing and coordinating all things Higher Education.

They are based in CRU and are ready to serve you!

Moving forward, please address all Kytes and communication regarding higher education, (PSU, U of O), to these folks.

## Federal Pell Grants expand college classes, federal aid for inmates in Oregon, nationwide



Mireya Carrasco, an inmate at Coffee Creek, describes her experience in higher education while in prison. "It gives us a better chance to give back to the community, if we're given the chance to raise ourselves to a higher standard," she said. Beth Nakamura

By

- [Sami Edge | The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)

Mireya Carrasco clasped her hands in her lap and beamed as a Portland State University official told her she'd been accepted as a full-fledged student.

"That's exciting. I'm a student!" Carrasco said from the computer lab at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, where she arrived four years ago.

Carrasco, 25, has been taking classes at Portland State for several semesters, paying what she can of the \$100 flat fee the university has charged inmates for bachelor's degree classes. Finding the funds can be a struggle for inmates who work prison jobs that typically pay less than \$100 a month, Carrasco said.

Portland State says it hasn't turned away a student who can't pay. But starting July 1, Carrasco and more than 750,000 other incarcerated Americans regained access to a new funding source: Pell Grants, federal need-based scholarships that prisoners have been blocked from accessing for the last three decades.

Advocates hope the grants will prompt a resurgence in higher education inside Oregon's prisons. Not only does the money ease a financial barrier for incarcerated students, most of whom will likely qualify for the grant, it also helps incentivize colleges to offer courses since they can now earn federal dollars from student aid. Prison officials are on board to offer in-person classes at every facility.

"I'm excited," said Betsy Simpkins, a member of the informal Oregon Coalition for Higher Education in Prison who used to work in prison education at Chemeketa Community College. "There's a momentum that we haven't felt in a long time."

Still, obstacles remain. Applying for the Pell funding, which does not have to be repaid, can be a burden for inmates who generally can't receive emails or fill out the financial aid forms online. Incarcerated students can only use the grant for courses from colleges approved by the federal government, and only a handful of Oregon's colleges and one university currently plan to go through that arduous process. They likely won't be approved to accept Pell Grants until fall or winter terms.

And some inmates and advocates say that truly expanding access to college behind bars will take more prison staffing and classroom space and a dedication to higher education as a priority instead of a luxury.

"I would argue that the (Department of Corrections) has always treated it as a privilege," Simpkins said. "It can be weaponized inside and used as a carrot or a stick."

Portland State is currently the only four-year university that will be using Pell Grants to offer a bachelor's degree pathway inside prisons. To get on that path, Carrasco and her classmates had to apply for full acceptance to the university. Nahlee Suvanvej, the Pell readiness counselor for Portland State's Higher Education in Prison program, spends her days helping prisoners gain admittance and financial aid, which takes around six months per student.

Carrasco had tried college before, at Treasure Valley Community College in her hometown of Ontario, but didn't finish as she struggled with bouts of depression. In 2019, Carrasco was sentenced to nearly six years in prison after stabbing her partner during a domestic violence incident, then violating the terms of her probation.

"When you're put in this environment, you come in depressed, thinking my life ends here," Carrasco said. "Then Portland State University and Portland Community College and other opportunities open up, and you're like oh wow - I can do so much more with my life."

Studying at Portland State has helped Carrasco become more of a role model for her kids, she said. As a mother in prison, she feels put down and stigmatized. People tell her that her child is likely to follow in her footsteps. Now, she feels those footsteps are leading somewhere positive.

"You don't have to come to prison to get an education," Carrasco joked. "It's just a great opportunity."



Prison education  
HISTORY OF PELL

Federal Pell Grants were established in 1972 to help low-income students pay for college. They were an “enormous boost” for higher education in prison programs, since most inmates qualified for the need-based aid, according to a report from the Institute for Higher Education Policy.

By the 1990s, critics questioned whether the government should subsidize education for inmates in an era of budget cuts for social programs. Though prisoners received less than 1% of the total Pell funding, some argued that the “money could have been better used to assist law-abiding college students,” the report says. The 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act sponsored by then-Sen. Joe Biden and signed by President Bill Clinton stripped the rights of prisoners to use Pell funding. Oregon’s senators were split on the far-reaching crime bill, which also funded new prisons and police officers and has since been criticized as a key contributor to mass incarceration. Republican U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield voted against it. Fellow Republican Bob Packwood voted in favor. The loss of Pell funding had an “immediate adverse impact” on college in prison, the Institute for Higher Education Policy found. In just a year, prisoner enrollment dropped nearly 40%.

Shaul Cohen, who runs the University of Oregon’s prison education program, said the rescission of Pell didn’t have as stark an impact in Oregon as elsewhere, because the state’s programs were lean. Still, he said, students from the time remember “classrooms that were going unused and desks that were mothballed.” Research funded by the U.S. Department of Justice found that students who take classes in prison are 43% less likely to return. The higher the level of degree they achieve, the lower those odds of returning become.

Today, just half of Oregon’s 12 correctional institutions offer in-person higher education classes, said Tracie Hightower, who oversees education for the Oregon Department of Corrections. Additional facilities offer work-based certification programs in areas like welding. Salem-based Corban University offers a donation-funded bachelor’s degree free to 25 students who will “eventually be using their knowledge to minister to incarcerated men all throughout the state.”

Each month this year, an average of about 320 of the state’s 12,000-plus adults in custody have enrolled in college classes, the Department of Corrections said. That’s about 3% of all inmates who are college-eligible because they have a high school diploma or GED. Hightower wants to expand in-person higher education offerings at each prison, not “just a few here and there,” and is hopeful that Pell Grants will help make that happen.

Central Oregon Community College intends to open an associate degree pathway for inmates at Deer Ridge Correctional Institution near Madras. While the Pell will enable colleges and universities to offer new degree pathways inside prisons, that can present new challenges. A few Coffee Creek students have not been accepted to Portland State, Suvanvej said. Also, while Pell covers the cost of most tuition and fees, students face a \$450 enrollment fee that’s not covered. Staff from the prisons’ higher education programs have been helping students pay that with outside funds, Suvanvej said, and are hoping to work with the university to lessen or waive that cost.

The University of Oregon does not plan to apply for Pell funding because of the hurdles it presents, Cohen said. The school offers a range of higher education classes to prisoners, including a model called Inside-Out, in which campus students attend classes inside prisons alongside incarcerated people. Cohen said the challenge of applying for admittance and aid can dissuade prisoners who might want to take a class before they’ve committed to pursuing a full degree. “We want to cast that wide net and for us the Pell apparatus would be a barrier,” Cohen said. “... For us it isn’t financially necessary or sensible and it’s also bureaucratically cumbersome.”

Incarcerated students pay between \$50 and \$75 for UO courses, Cohen said, and the university scholarships those who can’t afford the cost. Chemeketa Community College has already been using Pell funds for prison education after being selected as a pilot site for the grants’ return. The college had to stop its prison associate degree program for two years during the pandemic and is now trying to rebuild, Dean Holly Nelson said.

Pell doesn’t quite cover the costs of running Chemeketa’s program, Nelson said. The financial aid barely covers instructional costs, and the college picks up the tab for affiliated costs like administrators and advisers. Nelson said officials at other colleges told her they’re not going to offer higher education in prison yet, because they’re not financially equipped to do so.

But she says Chemeketa officials believe college education is worthwhile because it helps prisoners stay crime-free. A student who earns their degree inside is more prepared for the workforce upon release, she said, and can get a higher paying job and avoid the cycle of poverty that can contribute to recidivism. To take part, students must be within seven years of their release.

“For us, it’s a long-term strategic view of how to help people reengage back into their community in a positive way,” Nelson said.

One evening in early June, a dozen men convicted of serious crimes shared tables inside a blue classroom thick with heat and humidity at Oregon State Penitentiary, attending a comic books as literature class offered as part of Chemeketa’s associate degree program. The inmates laughed as instructor Brian Mosher led them through a two-minute drawing exercise, during which one student drew an amorphous blob and the next had to turn it into a monster. Then they pivoted into a discussion about themes of power and oppression in the comic book *Watchmen*, before starting to peer-review one another’s writing. Mosher reminded students of the rules for reading each other’s work. Anyone who has taken his class before knows reviews need to be thorough, he said, and what else?

“Kind,” several students reply.

Mosher has been teaching inside Oregon’s prisons for the past decade and says it’s his favorite environment. Students are engaged, he said, often reading more work than he’s assigned.

“It’s bizarre compared to a typical college environment as an instructor, but bizarre in a really good way,” Mosher said. “I have 15 of my best students every single term.”

Erica Sharp started writing letters to the U.S. Department of Education from Coffee Creek last year as soon as she learned that incarcerated students could apply for federal financial aid.

Sharp had started classes at Lane Community College before being sentenced to prison in 2013 for robbery and identity theft. She knew how much effort it took to get financial aid, even before she was sent to prison.

“I was stressed out,” Sharp said during an interview at Coffee Creek in May. “I’ve been to college; I went through this process.”

She owed outstanding loan debt to Lane but couldn’t call her debt servicers directly. Sharp had to find a person outside the prison to start a three-way call so she could initiate loan forgiveness. She had to explain to education officials that she couldn’t fill out online forms and ask counselors inside to print paperwork that she could mail instead. Still, she counts herself lucky that she had a rare prison job that paid over \$100 a month – enough to buy the envelopes she needed and pay for phone calls at nine cents a minute.

“We have to go around the system to learn about our own education,” Sharp said. “How can you expect us to be successful if we can’t be successful in here to figure things out for ourselves?”

Portland State’s Suvanvej ultimately helped Sharp complete her paperwork, secure financial aid, and admission to the school, just in time for Sharp’s release in June.

Several advocates from the university help Portland State students navigate bureaucracy. But as the Pell application process starts to run more smoothly, Suvanvej said, the university is limited in the number of students it can enroll at Coffee Creek due to space.

Inmates tell *The Oregonian/OregonLive* they’re frustrated that classes get canceled when problems arise elsewhere in prison and the facility lacks the staff to supervise education. They compete with religious services for space inside the prison and can struggle to get permission to leave mandatory jobs to attend class. “I feel like the prison doesn’t really prioritize higher education over jobs and treatment and certain things,” Sharp said. Education is “kind of like at the bottom of the totem pole.”

Hightower understands that perception. When prisons are short staffed, safety and security are the first priority, she said, it’s not just education that shuts down but other programming as well. Right now, she said, only two facilities have education staff, and she would like the state to fund more. The Department of Corrections is also talking about potentially building a mobile unit at Coffee Creek to expand education space.

“We are trying to make things more friendly. When the prisons were built, they weren’t built around education,” Hightower said. “There are a lot of space issues that we have to overcome.”

Simpkins, from the higher ed in prison coalition, said she'd like to see the corrections department commit to collecting data or publishing reports on matters such as how often classes get canceled and what the department is doing to remedy issues.

"If (the Department of Corrections) can agree to be held accountable, then they understand their side of the partnership: of making education, and especially higher education, accessible to students," Simpkins said. "Until they truly see themselves as a partner in that, I'm not sure that these issues won't keep popping up."

State lawmakers this session mandated that the corrections department formalize a partnership with the state's Higher Education Coordinating Commission to oversee prison education. Hightower said she's open to research partnerships to improve the education pathway.

"You need to know what's not working to be able to fix it," Hightower said.

Lawmakers also gave money to Portland State to sustain a program that helps formerly incarcerated students with education after their release. Sharp is continuing down that path.

Sharp sees education as a way to change the trajectory in her family. She's the oldest of nine siblings who grew up in foster care as their parents struggled with mental health problems and rotated in and out of prison. She was working toward her own degree before an abusive relationship spiraled into substance abuse and the crimes that led her to prison.

When Portland State started offering classes at Coffee Creek, Sharp signed up. A light bulb went off, she said, when she learned that higher education could help reduce recidivism.

"I'm going all the way to a master's," she said, "because I don't ever want to be in prison again."

## **While we're on the subject of Pell**

To All Adults in Custody (AICs). As you know, Pell Grants for colleges/universities are coming back soon. The most important thing to know is you will not be able to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form and apply for a Pell Grant on your own for college within the facilities. You will need to apply directly to the approved college/university programs. There are Federal guidelines the colleges/universities must go through to become a Pell Grant approved program. 1) The colleges/universities need to apply with the department to be selected as a program. 2) The colleges/universities have to get each facility accredited as one of their participating programs. 3) Finally, they have to apply with the U.S. Department of Education to become a Pell Grant program. Currently the U.S. Department of Education has not finalized these applications. We have two programs previously approved through the 2nd Chance Pell Grant process offering classes through Chemeketa Community College at Oregon State Penitentiary and Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC) at Snake River Correctional Institution. These programs will continue. Central Oregon Community College, Portland Community College, Blue Mountain Community College, TVCC, Chemeketa, Portland State University, and Adams State (a correspondence program) have begun the process of the DOC application and to get accredited. We do not have any new approved sites at this time. If you have any questions, reach out to the Education and Training Unit

A todos los adultos bajo custodia (AIC) Como saben, las Becas Pell para colegios/universidades volverán pronto. Lo más importante que debe saber es que no podrá completar el formulario de Solicitud Gratuita de Ayuda Federal para Estudiantes (FAFSA®) y solicitar una Beca Pell por su cuenta para la universidad dentro de las instalaciones. Necesitará aplicar directamente a los programas universitarios/college aprobados. Existen lineamientos federales que deben cumplir los colegios/universidades para convertirse en un programa aprobado por la Beca Pell. 1) Los colegios/universidades deben presentar una solicitud con el departamento para ser seleccionado como programa. 2) Los colegios/universidades tienen que conseguir que cada instalación sea acreditada como uno de sus programas participantes. 3) Finalmente, deben presentar una solicitud ante el Departamento de Educación de los EE. UU. para convertirse en un programa de Becas Pell. Actualmente, el Departamento de Educación de EE. UU. no ha finalizado estas solicitudes. Tenemos dos programas previamente aprobados a través del proceso de Becas Pell de 2nd Chance que ofrecen clases a través de Chemeketa Community College en la Penitenciaría del Estado de Oregón y Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC) en la Institución Correccional de Snake River. Estos programas continuarán. Central Oregon Community College, Portland Community College, Blue Mountain Community College, TVCC, Chemeketa, Portland State University y Adams State (un programa por correspondencia) han comenzado el proceso de solicitud del DOC y para obtener la acreditación. No tenemos nuevos sitios aprobados en este momento. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con la Unidad de Educación y Capacitación.

## JK02 Computer Lab Announcement 8/2023

Starting August 1, 2023 (8/1/23) the JK02 Computer Lab will be implementing a new attendance policy. All AIC's must be on a scheduled CALL OUT to enter the Lab. We are implementing the security requirement of being on a CALL OUT to make the Lab an Authorized Area. All GED and PREP students will be on an on-going Call-outs. If you are not a GED student, then we can use the PREP category for your requests – using an ADD/DROP Form (only used if you know you will need re-occurring access to the computer lab). NOTE: If you have 2 unexcused absences for the PREP category, then you would be dropped from the call-out list (which can be reinstated with the Add/Drop form). If you don't need a reoccurring Call-out, then you need to submit a kite (or speak with Dan Wells) to request a Temporary Call-out. This could be for a single day or multiple days, but it would only be short-term and Temporary. This request needs to be received within 24 hours before the requested Call-out day and time.

**IN SUMMARY:** No AIC can be allowed in the JK02 Computer Lab without being on a Call-out (after Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>). There are 3 kinds of Call-outs available for the Lab: GED, PREP and Temporary. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Dan Wells, Computer Lab Coordinator (x6768) in JK02 Computer Lab.

Thanks for your help and support!

**Dan Wells** (he/him/his)

**Computer Lab & Tutor Coordinator**

Portland Community College Contractor

## THE CRAFT PROGRAM

WE KNOW YOU ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE RETURN OF THE CRAFT PROGRAM.

THERE ARE SO MANY MOVING PIECES TO PUT TOGETHER AND MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM THAT IT IS TAKING A BIT LONGER THAN EXPECTED.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED PATIENCE WHILE WE WORK OUR WAY THROUGH THIS PROCESS. PLEASE STOP SENDING KYTES TO LIFESKILLS ASKING WHEN IT IS GOING TO BE STARTED, OR IF YOU CAN BE PUT ON THE WAIT LIST.

PLEASE...

## FROM RELIGIOUS SERVICES



Weddings are scheduled for Monday Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>!!

You must have 2 witnesses on your approved visiting list.

You are responsible to find an officiant! (Chaplains may have some ideas if you are in a pinch.)

Reach out to your Chaplain to get on the list!



## ***Did you know that Girl Scouts***

***Beyond Bars is open to mothers, grandmothers***

***AND aunts and older sisters?*** Join Girl Scouts Beyond Bars to build your leadership skills while supporting your girl (grade K-12) in becoming more confident and courageous. Experience Girl Scouts together. . Not sure Girl Scouts is for you or that you'll pass the

criteria? Apply anyway and meet with Girl Scout staff to discuss your options. Send a kyte to Life Skills for an application. New single-page applications available now!

***Girl Scouts Beyond Bars is back! Saturday Session Troop Meetings will start again in this month with one session a month and two sessions resuming in September.***

**—Kyte Lifeskills to apply today!**



AIC Newsletter Article – 2022

### **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA Information)**

The Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC) has a zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse, sexual harassment and for retaliation for reporting an incident. You may report in person to any staff, through an AIC communication, through the grievance system, by calling the PREA hotline by making a language selection, then dialing 91 from any AIC phone.

#### **Filing an Anonymous PREA Report**

If you are uneasy about filing a PREA allegation, you may file an anonymous report with an outside agency.

You may write to:

Governor's Constituent Services Office  
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Please indicate in the beginning of your letter you are filing a PREA allegation and you are requesting to remain anonymous. The Governor's Office will refer all anonymous allegations to the DOC PREA Coordinator to assure an investigation is completed based off the information that is provided.

#### **Opposite Gender Viewing/Announcements**

Opposite gender staff announcement themselves when entering a housing unit by ringing a bell. This must be done any time the status quo of the gender supervision on a housing unit changes (if there is already an opposite gender staff on the unit then there is not needed to re-announce). When you hear the doorbell, opposite gender staff will be entering the housing unit so please make sure you are covered up appropriately.

It is also important you undress in the appropriate locations. If you are located in a bunk area, there are cameras throughout the facility so the designated changing/bathroom areas are the only areas you should be without undergarments. Opposite gender viewing may happen incidentally when staff are conducting routine cell checks. You

can minimize this by keeping aware of the gender of supervision in your housing unit and ensuring you cover up when possible.

### **Community-Based PREA Advocacy (Support) Program**

ODOC has partnered with community based, confidential advocates of sexual abuse victims to provide services to AICs. AICs at ODOC who have experienced sexual abuse may reach a community-based advocate by making a language selection, entering your AIC PIN, then press 0\*711 AIC telephone systems, or may request a private call through the PREA Compliance Manager at the facility. Advocates provide victims of sexual abuse information about their options, resources, information and emotional support. There is no charge for calls to advocates.

The community-based advocacy crisis line is for individuals needing assistance coping with sexual abuse related issues and should not be used for other purposes.

Telephone calls and mail with community-based advocacy centers is considered privileged communication and will be handled similar to legal calls/official mail. All advocacy calls are not monitored or recorded.

Advocates provide confidential support and crisis intervention, inform you about the investigation and medical examination process, educate you about healing from sexual abuse and offer resources and referrals

Advocates will not tell you what to do, communicate with the institution unless you request them to do so and sign a release and will not provide legal advice.

Community-based advocacy centers provide sexual abuse support to people of all genders. Community-based advocates will not report unless you request them to do so and if you sign a release of information.

Just Detention International Headquarters is a national advocacy resource and can be reached at:

3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

If you have any other questions regarding PREA, you may ask any staff member, write the PREA Compliance Manager at your institution, or you may write:

E. Sage, PREA Coordinator  
Oregon Department of Corrections  
2575 Center St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

*February 22, 2022*



Artículo Boletín AIC – 2022

### **Ley de Eliminación de Violaciones en Prisión (Información PREA)**

El Departamento Correccional de Oregon (ODOC) tiene cero tolerancias para el abuso sexual, el acoso sexual, y las represalias por denunciar un incidente. Puede informar en persona a cualquier miembro personal a través de una comunicación de AIC (adulto bajo custodia) o a través del sistema de quejas. Puede llamar a la línea directa de PREA, seleccionar el idioma y luego marcar 91 de cualquier teléfono de AIC.

#### **Presentación de un informe PREA anónimo**

Si no está seguro de presentar una acusación ante PREA, puede presentar un informe anónimo con una agencia externa.

#### **Puede escribir a:**

Governor's Constituent Services Office  
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Por favor indique al comienzo de su carta, que está presentando una denuncia ante PREA y quiere permanecer anónimo. La Oficina del Gobernador remitirá todas las denuncias anónimas al Coordinador de PREA para garantizar que se complete una investigación basada en la información proporcionada.

### **Visualización/Anuncios de género opuesto**

El personal del género opuesto se anunciará cuando ingresa a una unidad de vivienda, tocando un timbre. Esto debe hacerse cada vez que cambie el statu quo de la supervisión de género en una unidad de vivienda (si ya hay un miembro del personal del sexo opuesto en la unidad, entonces no es necesario volver a anunciar). Cuando escuche el timbre, el personal del sexo opuesto estará ingresando a la unidad de vivienda, así que asegúrese de estar cubierto adecuadamente.

También es importante que se desnude en los lugares apropiados. Si se encuentra en un área de literas, hay cámaras en toda la instalación. Existen áreas designadas para cambiarse, el baño es la única área en la que puede estar sin ropa interior. La visualización de sexo opuesto puede ocurrir incidentalmente cuando el personal realiza controles de celda de rutina. Puede minimizar esto siendo consciente del género de la supervisión en su unidad de vivienda y asegurándose de cubrirse cuando sea posible.

### **Programa de defensa (apoyo) basado en la comunidad PREA**

ODOC se ha asociado con defensores confidenciales basados en la comunidad de víctimas de abuso sexual para brindar servicios a los AIC.

Los AIC en ODOC que han pasado por abuso sexual pueden comunicarse con un defensor comunitario seleccionando un idioma, ingresando su PIN de AIC, luego presionando 0\*711 sistemas telefónicos. También pueden solicitar una llamada privada a través del Gerente de Cumplimiento de PREA en la instalación. Los defensores brindan a las víctimas de abuso sexual información sobre sus opciones, recursos, y apoyo emocional. No hay ningún cargo por las llamadas a los defensores.

La línea de crisis de defensa basada en la comunidad es para personas que necesitan ayuda acerca de los problemas relacionados con el abuso sexual y no debe usarse para otros fines.

Las llamadas telefónicas y el correo con los centros de defensa basados en la comunidad se consideran comunicaciones privilegiadas y se manejarán de manera similar a las llamadas legales/correo oficial. Todas las llamadas de defensa no son monitoreadas ni grabadas.

Los defensores brindan apoyo confidencial e intervención en crisis, le informaran sobre la investigación y el proceso del examen médico, lo educaran sobre cómo curarse del abuso sexual y ofrecen recursos y referencias.

Los defensores no le dirán qué hacer, no se comunicarán con la institución a menos de que usted les solicite que lo hagan y firmen un comunicado. No le brindarán asesoramiento legal.

Los centros de defensa basados en la comunidad brindaran apoyo en caso de abuso sexual a personas de todos los géneros. Los defensores comunitarios no informarán a nadie a menos de que usted les solicite que lo hagan y si usted firma una divulgación de información.

La sede internacional de Just Detención (Just Detention International Headquarters) es un recurso de defensa nacional y se puede contactar en:

3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340

Los Angeles, CA 90010

Si tiene cualquier pregunta sobre PREA, puede preguntarle a un miembro del personal, escribir al Gerente de Cumplimiento de PREA en su institución, o puede escribir a:

E. Sage, PREA Coordinator

Oregon Department of Corrections

2575 Center St. NE

Salem, Oregon 97301

*Febrero 22, 2022*





# Are you interested in Head Start?

- Is your child 5 years old or younger?
- Does your child live within one hour of CCCF?
- Are you available Tuesday and Thursday mornings?
- Is your child's caregiver able to transport?
- Are you gate cleared?

You may qualify to participate in Head Start!

Head Start at Coffee Creek is a program focused on strengthening the mother/child bond during incarceration. Head Start provides comprehensive early childhood education, health, and nutrition information to families. If interested, please send a KYTE to **Head Start**.

## Canteen News!!!!



### State of Oregon Department of Corrections Commissary

Our vendor has had a price increase on the 13" TV effective July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The new price will be \$293.15.

The incentive items are available again starting July 10<sup>th</sup>, as our year-end inventory has ended. Please note that we currently have guitars in stock so if you have been thinking about purchasing a guitar know is the time. After our stock has sold out, there will be a six-week waiting period for guitars.

Please see below the list of incentive items we offer.

# 1 TV Option	
9" Clear LCD TV Item 7829	\$161.00
Note: Earbuds NOT included	
Includes: Stand, Remote w/batteries	
# 2 TV Option	
13" Skyworth SLTV 1369AP Clear LCD TV Item 7840	\$293.15
Includes: Stand, Remote w/batteries and one set of ear buds	
Guitar	Price
Prison Blues Custom Guitar	\$978.00
Upstart Electric Guitar Gig Bag	\$81.51
Acoustic Guitars and Accessories	Price
3404 Yamaha F325 Right	\$271.70
3410 Yamaha FG820SL Left	\$629.30
3415 Yamaha FG800 Right	\$407.55
Yamaha Acoustic Guitar Case	\$228.80
Dreadnaught Gig Bag	\$81.51
Dean Markley Acoustic P/U	\$67.21
D'Addario 5FT Instru. Cable	\$22.88
Ukulele & Accessories	Price
Soprano Ukulele	\$114.40
TLK Soprno Ukulele Gig Bag	\$35.75

<b>Miscellaneous Accessories</b>		<b>Price</b>
Korg TM-60 Tuner / Metronome		\$51.47
Planet Wave Tuner/Metronome		\$50.00
Yamaha clip-on tuner		\$26.81
1/4 5' Guitar Cord		\$11.44
<b>Electric Guitar Package</b>		<b>Price</b>
Package includes: Schecter Omen 6 Electric Guitar & Schecter Case		
Right-hand Package		\$576.61
Left-hand Package		\$607.17
<b>Electric Guitar Accessories</b>		<b>Price</b>
Zoom G1X FOUR Guitar		\$207.35
9V ACDC Power Adapter		\$28.60
<b>Electric Bass Guitar Package</b>		<b>Price</b>
Package includes: Schecter Omen 4 Bass Guitar & Schecter Case		
Right-hand Package		\$644.82
Left-hand Package		\$675.39
<b>Electric Bass Guitar Accessories</b>		<b>Price</b>
Zoom B1X FOUR Bass		\$193.05
9V ACDC Power Adapter		\$28.60
<b>Yamaha 61 Key Portable Keyboard &amp; Accessories</b>		<b>Price</b>
Yamaha Keyboard		\$257.40
Keyboard Foot Switch Style Sustain Pedal		\$30.75
Yamaha AC Power Adapter		\$28.60
<b>Black Compression Shorts Waist Extended (size)</b>		<b>Price</b>
Small-(23)	Medium-(25)	\$13.90
Large-(28)	Xlarge-(31)	\$13.90
2XLarge-(34)		\$15.75
3XLarge-(37)		\$16.80
<b>Misc. Items</b>		<b>Price</b>
Yamaha Hph-100 closed back headphones		\$102.96
Book Light LED w/Batteries		\$15.36

**Discontinued:**

**TIMEX WOMEN IRONMAN WATCH**

**CASIO WOMENS ALARM WATCH**

**Replacement:**

**CASIO MENS SPORT WATCH VIBRATION ALARM**

**RETAIL \$42.83**

**TIMEX WOMENS ALARM SPORTS WATCH GRAY/PINK**

**RETAIL \$28.53**



## **WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE**

Toastmasters here at CCCF is proud to announce the  
our newly elected Executive Team.

**President-** Edward Benton

**Vice President of Membership-** Jessica Barraza

**Vice President of Public Relations –** Andrea Lakey

**Vice president of Education-** Sue Alderson

**Secretary-** Niya Bennet

**Treasurer-** Kyla Duncan

**Sargent of Arms-** Michelle Largay

**Congratulations to our new team!!!!!!!**

In addition to this exciting news the number of members is growing at an exciting rate. Fun things will be coming up here soon in the Toastmasters community: We look forward to hosting a new membership drive soon and also A Walk Out Of The Darkness for Suicide Prevention. Keep your eyes open and of course, as always, we hope that anyone and everyone interested in Toastmasters will send a kyte to Lifeskills. We encourage new faces. If you are looking for a fun and encouraging environment to build your skills of speaking, your community ties and self-confidence, Toastmasters is the place for you!

We look forward to seeing you.

**Toastmaster's Audacious Orators** are planning our 3<sup>rd</sup> Out of the Darkness Walk, **Talk Saves Lives** presentation/education for suicide awareness and fundraiser. This event is organized to benefit and support the American Foundation for Suicide Awareness. The date of the walk is tentatively scheduled for September 23, 2023, and the educational presentation will be before the walk, dates to be announced when determined. Look for signup sheets if you are interested in either event or both. Please sign up only if you have full intentions of attending since space is limited. Information and details in regard to the fundraiser we will be holding to

raise money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will also be posted as soon as items and prices are confirmed.

The **Walk in the Light** education team's efforts was inspired and motivated by former AIC Tamara Upton. Ms. Upton felt there was a need to open communication norms concerning suicide education and awareness with the AIC population and with the staff. Ms. Upton was battling cancer during this time. Ms. Upton was able to attend the first Out of the Darkness Walk in 2019. A week later, Ms. Upton succumbed to cancer. Our promise to Tamara Upton was that we would do our best to continue the Out of the Darkness Walk annually. Unfortunately, Covid-19 interrupted the annual event, yet we did restart our walk in 2022.

As you walk in the medium corridor and in the minimum housing units, you will see posters with tips on how to practice self-care during this time. These posters are designed to provide simple tools for you to utilize and maintain positive mental health as we are all coping and dealing with a multitude of stressors.

We understand suicide affects everyone, it is known to be more prominent in correctional facilities, affecting both AICs and staff (current and former) more than any other groups of individuals. The American Foundation for Suicide prevention reminds us **"Talk Saves Lives."** If you are worried about someone, talk with them. Let them know you are concerned about them. A conversation is a great way to show you care. We understand a conversation about suicidal thoughts is not always easy to have and reaching out can be hard. Now, more than ever, if you are struggling with suicidal thoughts, we encourage you to speak up. If you are approached by a friend who is struggling, one of the best ways we can help one another is to be a listening ear and encourage someone in distress to seek out a mental health care professional. Remember, you are not alone and together, we can get through this.

# Art Contest!

## Women Working In Corrections and Juvenile Justice Conference

The national Women Working in Corrections and Juvenile Justice (WWICJJ) conference is coming to the West Coast in October, 2023 and is being hosted by the Oregon Department of Corrections. People from across the country will be attending this event.

Workshops will be held to address organizational transformation and speakers will provide training to help women transcend gender-related occupational barriers and become effective leaders.

In lieu of the August Art Contest, we would like to invite AICs at Coffee Creek to submit a piece of artwork that represents the conference theme "**Stronger Together**". Conference committee members will vote on the top two pieces of art and the winning selections will be printed on a glossy postcard and be sent home with conference attendees.

If you are interested in submitting artwork, please request materials and submit your art through the CRU just as you would the monthly art contest. Submissions must be received no later than Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.



STRONGER  
*Together*



...Jobs, Jobs, Jobs...

## OCE/DMV Work Opportunity

The OCE/DMV Call Center at CCCF is recruiting to fill up to six **(6) full time** open positions, and also to establish a pool of candidates for future openings with the DMV Program. The full-time positions award 12 to 17 PRAS points, with the opportunity to earn a production-based Team Goal Award as well. Hiring date is in **September 2023**.

All applicants must meet the following qualifications:

Must have a valid social security number or equivalent	Must have a GED or High School Diploma
Have NO current convictions (or in past 10 years) for ID Theft, Fraud, or Computer-related crimes	Have at least 6 months clear conduct and have completed 6-months kitchen requirement
Have NO program failures in the past 6 months	Requires the ability to sit or stand and look at a computer screen for extended periods of time and understand voices on a headset.
Be able to read and speak English well.	Be able to work efficiently and professionally at all times.
Must have a release date <b>after September 2025</b> on your current sentence with no treatment window before February 2025. Lifers welcome to apply!	Bi-lingual Spanish-English- Preference will be given to those individuals who speak and write both English and Spanish well.

*“Why DMV?” you may ask. DMV is a great place to decompress from the world/place we all currently live in behind these walls. I absolutely love working at DMV. My confidence, purpose, and voice have excelled. I feel so useful and get rewarded by my customers every day, along with my peers and boss. Yes, I’m held to a higher standard, which is okay with me because I really enjoy being challenged to be a better person. Some days challenge is hard but it makes me a stronger person. It also makes me more aware of my actions inside and outside the call center. In DMV I feel safe, comfortable, accepted, at home; like I can be myself, with no judgements.*

*I love my job more than most people would, I believe. The reason I love my job is due to the surroundings, my pleasant (and even the not so pleasant) customers, and being able to serve my community, all of which warms my heart and soul. Additionally, my coworkers are supportive, uplifting, and positive. Our boss is involved, supportive, and actually cares about us as **people**. I actually feel like I mean something to someone, and I do; to my customers, my peers, and my community. I feel DMV provides opportunity, growth, education, and support; and it is equally rewarding. You’re part of a team that supports you and lifts you up. Being a team member helps you to be a productive part of society, a society in which you can feel proud to be one of the contributing members. This career choice has been a blessing in disguise. I was scared to take the leap, but I’m so glad I did, as will you if you give it a chance.*

*- J. Neatherlin*

All applicants will need to pass a security screening, application review, and DMV interview before being considered for the position.

Submittal process: [DO NOT SEND APPLICATIONS TO DMV. THEY WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.](#)

If you are Interested in applying, please submit a completed DOC Inmate Work Application to: **L. McKenzie, OCE Production Coordinator**. Please list “**DMV call agent**” as your position of interest.

# **HIRING FOR R&D ORDERLY POSITION**

## **DAY SHIFT**

- \*Must be a level 3
- \*12 months in DOC
- \*Will remain on the medium side for 6 months
- \*Major misconduct free for 12 months
- \*Minor misconduct free for 6 months
- \*No more than 3 cell-ins in last 6 months
- \*Have a good work history and have served your 6-month commitment at your current job
- \*Must have good organizational skills, the ability to lift 50 lbs., self-motivated.
- \*Must be able to get Hazmat Certified within 6 months.

Send job applications to R&D

## **OCE Work Opportunity: Sewing**

The OCE Sewing program is recruiting to fill 2 open positions in a fast-paced, production environment: We have 2 full time sewing openings. The current schedule is Monday – Friday, 7:30am to 4:00pm. This position starts at 10 PRAS Points with the opportunity to earn a production-based Team Goal Award. Start date to be determined.

All applicants must meet the following qualifications:

Must have a valid social security number or equivalent	Have NO program failures in the past 6 months
Have at least 6 months of clear conduct <u>and</u> have completed all 6 months of kitchen requirement	Some positions require physical labor and standing for up to 8.0 hours at a time. Some may require sitting for up to 8.0 hours at a time.
Must be able to work both independently and as part of a team.	Must be able to work around sharp tools.
Preference will be given to those whose conviction does <b>not</b> allow them to work on OCE computers.	Be able to work efficiently and professionally at all times.
Sewing experience preferred but not required.	Preference may be given to those with <b>more</b>

than two years remaining on sentence.

*I started volunteering in OCE in mid-2020 when help was needed for the PPE masks. It was so rewarding to know I was a part of something so great. I knew I wanted to be a fulltime part of OCE. This was only going to get better.*

*I applied and was hired fulltime in October 2020. I love my job! I work with a great group of people. I have learned so much from my team and also in our sewing class. I feel blessed to have this great opportunity to learn and work with fantastic co-workers. It just keeps getting better. 😊*

*-Pam Hopkins*

**All applicants will need to pass a security screening and OCE interview before being considered for the position.**

If you are interested in applying, please submit a completed DOC Inmate Work Application to

Tammy O’Dea, OCE Production Coordinator. Please list “Sewing” as your position of interest.

**Applications must be received by: Friday, August 4, 2023**

## Minimum Canteen Canteen Worker



### Job Description

**Title** Minimum Canteen Worker  
**Department(s)** Minimum Canteen  
**Reports to** Ms. Matlock

### Job summary

Under the direction of Ms. Matlock, you will perform a wide variety of tasks and duties including, but not limited to: Receives and organizes Canteen shipments/deliveries, verifies contents of Canteen orders, and assists in distributing them to the AIC population. This position starts at 12 PRAS, with the opportunity to earn up to 14 points.

Minimum requirements: You must have been at Coffee Creek at least 6 months with clear conduct. No misconduct involving contraband. Verbal warnings, conduct orders, and housing history will be reviewed but is not necessarily a disqualifier from consideration. Must have high school diploma or GED

**Minimum of 6 months left on your sentence.**

**Must have successfully completed mandatory Kitchen time.**

Must be able to regularly lift at least 60lbs and perform repetitive motion tasks.

### Abilities required

Working in extreme temperatures-hot and cold. Working around loud equipment. Requires frequent bending, standing, walking. Requires lifting, up to but not limited to 60 pounds. Must be able to operate a pallet-jack.

If you are interested, please send a completed application to either Ms. Matlock or IWP indicating you are applying for the Canteen position.



**Disclaimer**

**Canteen staff will use this recruitment not only to fill current openings, but also for future consideration as needed.**

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required of personnel so classified. All personnel may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities from time to time, as needed.

# FROM THE GREEN TEAM

We are looking for a writer who is interested in Sustainability News. Do you aspire to educate people about recycling? Are you ready to follow up with current achievements or events? Our community creates a thoughtful career pathway towards sustainable topics that cover conservation, brigades, endangered species, and environmental alliances. All in efforts to reduce/remove our carbon footprint. Interested? Please write a 300-word essay on why you should be the next Sustainable News writer. Send essay to Colonel Naugle/Ms. Fitts. Thank you in advance for your participation.

The deadlines for submissions is August 25<sup>th</sup>.

## JUST FOR FUN

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE:



**What word reads the same right side up and upside down?**

*Swims!*

**How did the swimmers stay clean on the beach?**

*They washed up on shore!*

**Why are there fish at the bottom of the sea?**

*Because they dropped out of school.*

**Why do scuba divers fall backwards to enter the ocean?**

*If they fell forwards, they would just fall into the boat.*

**Why don't oysters ever share their pearls?**

*Because they're shellfish.*

**When do you go at red and stop at green?**

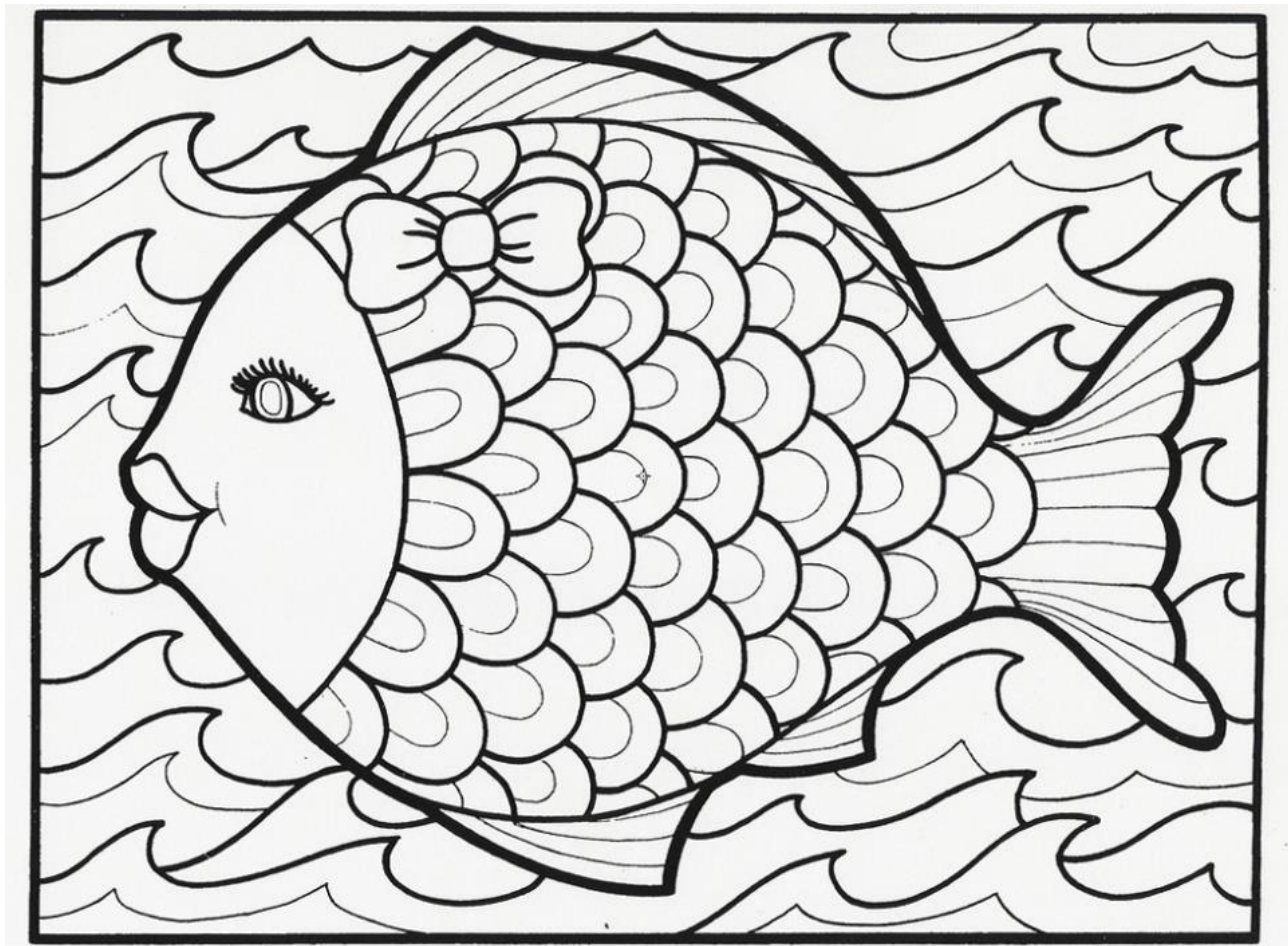
*When you're eating a watermelon.*

**What is the difference between a piano and a fish?**

*You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish.*

**What do bees say in summer?**

*It's swarm, isn't it?!*



## Notable Moments in History: August

### August 1

- 1900: "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum was copyright registered.
- 1941: The first Jeep rolled off the assembly line, and Willy's Truck Company was the first company to create a jeep.

### August 2

- 1904: A patent for a "glass shaping machine" was granted to Michael Owen. The immense production of glass bottles and jars today owes its inception to this invention.

### August 3

- 1897: The Street Car Controller was patented by Walter Knight and William Potter.

### August 4

- 1970: "Poppin Fresh" was trademark registered by the Pillsbury Company.

### August 6

- 1935: William Coolidge obtained a patent for the cathode ray tube, a critical ingredient of TV and other electronic applications.

### August 8

- 1911: Patent Number 1,000,000 was issued to Francis Holton for a vehicle tire.

### August 9

- 1898: Rudolf Diesel of France was granted patent Number 608,845 for an "internal combustion engine" known as the Diesel engine.

### August 10

- 1909: The Ford trademark was registered by the Ford Motor Corporation.

### August 11

- 1950: Steve Wozniak was born, the co-founder of Apple Computers.

### August 12

- 1930: Clarence Birdseye patented a method for packaging frozen foods.

### August 13

- 1890: A publisher copyright registered an edition of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter."

### August 14

- 1984: IBM released MS-DOS version 3.0. IBM first approached Bill Gates and Microsoft to discuss the state of home computers in 1980.

### August 18

- 1949: Plant Patent Number 1 was issued to Henry Bosenberg of New Brunswick, NJ, for a climbing rose.

### August 19

- 1919: Hostess was trademark registered by William B. Ward.
- 1888: The first world beauty contest was held in Belgium, an 18-year-old West Indian woman won.

### August 20

- 1930: Philo Farnsworth patented a television.

**August 21**

- 1888: The first practical adding & listing machine (calculator) was patented by William Burroughs.

**August 22**

- 1952: The Television Show "Adventures of Superman" was copyright registered.
- 1932: The BBS began experimental regular television broadcasts.

**August 23**

- 1977: The name Cincinnati Bengals was trademark registered.

**August 25**

- 1814: The British burnt Washington, D.C., however, the Patent Office was saved by the British Superintendent of Patents, Dr. William Thornton.

**August 26**

- 1902: Arthur McCurdy obtained a patent for a daylight developing tank for roll film.

**August 27**

- 1855: Clara Barton became the first female federal employee to achieve equal status when she was hired by the Patent Office as a clerk

**August 29**

- 1893: Whitcomb Judson received a patent for the zipper.

**August 30**

- 1968: The song "Hey Jude" by John Lennon and Paul McCartney was copyright registered.
- 1994: IBM announced it would not oppose Microsoft's attempt to trademark the name "Windows."

***HAVE A GREAT  
AUGUST!!!***