

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

Department of Correctional Services



Pete Ricketts, Governor

December 21, 2016

For Immediate Release

MEDIA CONTACT:

Dawn-Renee Smith, Communications Director

dawnrenee.smith@nebraska.gov

Director Frakes Releases Report Highlighting Great Strides for Corrections

LINCOLN – Today, the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) released a report on reforms and initiatives completed during the 2015-2016 fiscal year. The report titled “Progress Summary” identifies improvements achieved over the last year since Director Scott R. Frakes launched the department’s strategic plan.

“I am proud of the efforts of the NDCS team, which has over 40,000 daily contacts with the inmate population. In addition to our main responsibilities, we have worked to change the way we think, the way we conduct day-to-day responsibilities and to transform the culture of the agency,” said Director Frakes.

In addition to providing for the basic needs of more than 5,200 inmates, NDCS successfully completed the following initiatives in the past year:

- Launched new automated sentence calculation software
- Implemented the agency’s first-ever risks/needs/responsivity assessment tool
- Made significant reforms to reduce the use of restrictive housing
- Completed a comprehensive staffing analysis
- Provided resiliency training to more than 500 staff members
- Expanded mental health programming
- Increased cognitive behavioral programming
- Created new mission-specific housing units
- Developed an inmate health plan
- Began using data to guide the agency’s strategy and day-to-day decisions
- Completed restoration of the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution

Director Frakes added, “Our team continues to confront the challenges of the past as we work together to move the agency forward. This is an impressive set of accomplishments, and we are focused on continued process improvement to keep people safe.”

###