



Cumberland County Jail Board of Visitors Annual Report 2022



Respectfully submitted by:

Colleen Hilton, Chair

Cushman Anthony

Garrett Stewart

Victor Dumais

Humza Kahn

Overview

The Cumberland County Jail is the largest county jail in the State of Maine. The area of the county is 835 square miles. The population as of 2021 is 297,663 residents. The county is comprised of three larger cities, Portland, South Portland, Westbrook and 25 surrounding towns.

The jail processes through intake approximately 7000 inmates (hereafter referred to as residents) each year. Built in 1994, daily population ranges from approximately 385-425 residents in a typical year. Since the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic, our numbers are significantly reduced to an average daily population of 237 in the past two years. The Cumberland County Jail is proud to be successfully re-accredited five times. As well as ACA (American Correctional Association) our facility's medical team was awarded compliance with NCCHC (National Commission on Correctional Health Care) in 2017. Our facility went through the strenuous process of becoming PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) compliant in April of 2018 we successfully passed our first PREA Audit.

All aspects of the jail functions are analyzed and evaluated ensuring a safe and healthy environment for residents and staff alike. A positive outcome of our accreditation processes has been the pride experienced by our staff in realizing improved working conditions and improved living conditions for those remanded into our care and custody.

Medical Care

Armor Health is a leading provider of correctional healthcare services providing care to state and local correctional facilities across the country for nearly 20 years. Armor Health provides evidence-based medical and behavioral health services utilizing their proprietary insights analytics, expert clinicians and professionals and a laser focus on best-in-class interventions to deliver the right care, at the right time, in the right place to every resident.

At the Cumberland County Jail, Armor Health provides comprehensive medical, dental, psychiatric and mental health services to patients. In addition, Armor Health manages the medication assisted treatment program (MAT). The leadership team includes Dr. Vohr, Medical Director; Kyle Manahan, Health

Services Administrator; Previous Health Administrator, Matt Steinbeck; Stephanie Flash, Director of Nursing and Rose Marie Nelson, Behavioral Health Director.

Cumberland County Jail Board of Visitors

Title 30-A: Municipalities and Counties

Chapter 13: County Jails and Jailers

Per the statute, the county commissioner shall examine the jail in their county and take necessary precautions for the security of prisoners, for the prevention of infection and sickness and for the accommodations of the prisoners.

This is accomplished via the Cumberland County Jail Board of Visitors.

Additionally, the Board of Visitors (BOV) per (Title 30-A 1651) also have the following obligation: “Each BOV shall inspect the correction facility to which it is assigned, subject to reasonable restrictions required by the sheriff to ensure the security of the jail and make recommendations to the sheriff with respect to residents who are mentally ill.”

Cumberland County Jail Board of Visitors

Colleen Hilton, Chair

Colleen is the Senior Vice President of Continuing Care for Northern Light Health. She has also served as the Mayor of Westbrook for seven years or three terms. She has extensive background in public health and is a member of the Cumberland District Public Health Council.

Cushman Anthony

Cushman is a retired attorney and former member of the legislature, where he served six years including two years as House Chair for the Corrections Committee. Cush is also a member of the Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition.

Humza Khan

Humza is the Director of Human Resources for the Maine Rural Water Association. He is also the founder of Inclusion Maine, whose mission is to attract diversity and improve equity and inclusion for all Maine people. Humza will be terming off the CCJBOV. He will be replaced with **Amanda Place** in 2023.

Garrett Stewart

Garrett is a Maintenance worker for the South Portland School System. He has a history of being a union organizer. Garret has been on the Executive Committee of the AFL CIO and is a South Maine Labor Council board member. He resides in Portland.

Victor Dumais, LCPC, LADC, CCS

Victor is the Executive Director of Recovery Connections of Maine, a community substance use and mental health treatment agency in Lewiston. Victor serves as the Board Treasurer for the REST Center, a non-profit substance use recovery center in Lewiston. Previously, Victor has served as a Treatment and Recovery manager for the Office of Behavioral Health.

In keeping with our obligation to “inspect” the facility, all members have toured the jail on one or more occasions this past year. We have been provided free access to all areas of the jail and had the opportunity to interview various residents during our tours. In our tours we found the jail clean, in good order, observed respectful dialogue between residents and correction officers and busy activity in key areas such as the kitchen and medical. Due to public health challenges, we do rely upon interviews with the behavioral health and medical professionals who provide service to the residents.

It is significant to also point out that the past three years our jail has been dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic as well as other communicable disease outbreaks that have occurred. When we toured, we all used appropriate public health measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our risk as well as any risk we could pose to the residents.

As noted in our overview the CCJ typically serves 400 residents, however during the past years we have been reduced for a number of reasons, and as of January 2022 we had an average daily population of 264. Also, because of the pandemic and the general state of workforce availability in our state, our correction officer hiring has been severely impacted and where we would usually have 128 correction officers, we now have 71, up slightly from last report. At the end of 2022 we had 77 Correction Officer vacancies. Much collaboration has been occurring between our other law enforcement agencies and jails to accommodate the many challenges that exist with outbreaks, workforce challenges and social determinants of health.

Federal Grants supporting mental health and substance abuse services at CCJ

COSSAP: Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program:

The purpose of the project is to build on existing partnerships so that Cumberland County Jail residents with substance use or opioid use disorder may successfully reenter the community.

This grant was awarded in October 2020 by the Department of Justice in the amount of \$899,324 to Cumberland County for three years, with a focus on streamlined reentry services. The project staff will initiate services in the jail and connect project participants with one of five community providers: Maine Behavioral Health, Catholic Charities Maine, Spurwink Adult Behavioral Health Services, Northern Light Portland Internal Medicine, and Discovery House. The project will screen and assess 1200 people in the jail per year for substance use disorders; initiate treatment and support connections for 200 people per year who remain in the Jail for more than 7 days; and facilitate reentry services for 150 people leaving the jail per year, including Peer navigator services through Amistad. The target population is adults with substance use disorder, who are incarcerated pretrial, serving a sentence, or probation violators. The budget includes housing for those reentering the community from the jail for the first month, case management services from Maine Pretrial Services, recovery treatment, medication management, and salary for a full-time Jail Reentry Coordinator at CCJ. The Public Consulting Group are conducting evaluation. Contact: Catherine Chichester, Project Director; Jennifer Galletta, CCJ; Alexandra Bernier; Lt. Jason Wilmot, CCJ.

Other County grants providing services at the Cumberland County Jail:

MAT Coordinator:

The County has a grant of funding from the State of Maine to support the position of MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) Coordinator at the Cumberland County Jail for a two-year period starting in 2020. This service is now built into the Cumberland County Sheriff's office budget for 2023-2024.

Contact: Chelsea Valentine, CCJ MAT Coordinator; Lt. Jason Wilmot.

Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Grant Program:

Cumberland County received a three-year \$447,624 grant from the Office of Violence Against Women in 2017. This grant, along with support from the County, funds an advocate from Through These Doors (our Domestic Violence Resource Center) to provide outreach, advocacy, and re-entry planning for incarcerated victims at CCJ and the Maine Correctional Center in partnership with community agencies. It also funds a Maine Pretrial Services case manager who supervises domestic violence offenders in the community, connecting them with services and monitoring compliance with conditions of release. This domestic violence case manager reports over 10,000 "bed days out" annually, meaning that he has supervised offenders in the community who might otherwise have spent these days in CCJ.

Contact: Faye Luppi, Violence Intervention Partnership; Shawn LaGrega, Deputy Director, Maine Pretrial Services

Board of Visitors Recommendations from previous report with updates:

- The current Electronic Medical Record system used by our medical providers is quite out of date and causes inefficiencies. Recommend explore updating to a new Electronic Medical Record
 - Armor Health will transition from CorrecTek to Core Solutions during the upcoming fiscal year. Core Solutions is a progressive leader in transforming the health and human services experience for medical,

dental and behavioral health providers, consumers and agencies. The goal is to implement the new system in the fall.

- Recruit and/or employ via partnership additional staff to increase frequency of warm hand-off referrals for individuals leaving incarceration for needed services, especially housing, substance use, and mental health services. These services may best be carried out by Intensive Care Managers funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, or case managers funded by other means.
 - We currently have two reentry positions and three ICM's (Intensive Case Managers) funded by DHHS. The Case Managers also report to DHHS.
- Advocate for the Maine Department of Corrections to move their sentenced individuals to other premises to alleviate effects of acute staffing shortages.
 - We do encourage and advocate for offenders to be returned to the place where they originated. If they are originating from the Maine Correctional Center, they should be returned to MCC or other facilities. Offenders with new charge should go to CCJ.
- Create programs when able such that individuals who are suffering from substance use disorder may engage in medication assisted treatment if they have not received a previous diagnosis or were not already receiving MAT. Clients engaged in such supports shall receive a direct referral for continued services upon release.
 - We currently induct clients who have not previously been on MAT. We average anywhere from 78-87 participants in the treatment program. We can manage this at this time, if our participants were to exceed 200 on the program, we may need additional support staff. MAT Coordinator and MAT nurse also do outside referrals upon release.
- Consider a review of the Residents grievance policy and procedure and consider a step which includes an independent review. Although the policy does have DOC oversight, we may benefit from designating one contact person to streamline where able.

- With the current resident population, we are handling the grievance process expeditiously and with positive resolutions. John Costello, Captain of Operations and Security does an excellent job with handling resident grievances. We will continue to consider a quarterly review of the process if needed.
- We appreciate the many programs which were in place pre Covid that supported residents in their preparation to return to their communities. Once staffing can be stabilized, we encourage a resumption of all programs which will support successful reentry.
 - All programming has returned to in person since the pandemic has waned.
 - Religious services
 - Alcoholics Anonymous
 - All Recovery
 - Recovery Coach Group Class
 - One on one Recovery Coaching
 - HiSet – GED classes
 - Smart Recovery
 - Reentry Group

Recommendations for 2023:

- Add an additional mental health counselor to the behavioral health staff. The CCJ experienced three inmate suicides this past year. All three were investigated by Portland Police Department and the Maine Department of Corrections. All three were cleared. We all recognized that many of our jail inmates are suffering with mental illness and co occurring disorders.
- Consider flexibility with revisiting the time of day that medications are passed, and meals are held (these are some things that came up during Board member visits with the mental health staff)

Respectfully submitted by our Board of Visitors: July 2023

FACILITY DIAGRAM

