

**TREC Implementation Committee #1 – Executive Branch Action
NC Department of Public Safety – Prisons Update
Executive Summary**

The North Carolina Department of Public Safety (DPS) Prisons Section is actively working to address Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice (TREC) recommendations which can be implemented in a manner which ensures the safety and security of DPS employees, as well as offenders in the care of DPS. The following are just a few examples of how DPS Prisons is addressing TREC recommendations specific to adult corrections:

Solution 64 - Screen incarcerated individuals for victimization and provide appropriate services

- Comprehensive screening processes are in place through intake, case management and internal transfer.
- A variety of programs are offered, to include trauma informed therapy, mental health counseling, and anger management.
- A committee has been established to review ways services and programs can be strengthened.

Solution 96 - Increase NCDPS flexibility on incarcerated individuals' release dates

- Sentence credits are awarded for working Prison jobs, attending school, and good behavior.
- A work group has been established to evaluate additional types of sentence credits which could be implemented.
- Evaluating the feasibility of not using Confinement in Response to Violation (CRV) for financial-only violations.
- Dashboard created to track racial/ethnic breakdown of offender releases.

Solution 105 - Transform the use of restrictive housing

- A work group has been established to bring Prisons restrictive housing (RH) policies into compliance with American Correctional Association (ACA) standards.
- A work group has been established to review increased use and increased bed-space available in various step down programs, and to determine if an increased frequency is operationally feasible.

Solution 106 - Protect pregnant people in jails and prisons

- Adopted and following ACA standards for pregnant offenders.
- The DPS Secretary has statutory authority to grant maternity leave for up to 60 days at his discretion, per NC Gen. Stat. § 148-4(7).

Solution 107 - Enhance prison personnel

- Step pay plan for certified Prisons employees included in the current Governor's budget.
- 4,000+ Prisons employees have received Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training.
- Implicit bias training scheduled to be part of the 2022 training calendar via DPS Office of State Development and Training (OSDT).

Solution 108 - Increase funding for mental health services and programs in prisons

- A work group has been established to review the expansion of therapeutic diversion unit (TDU) and rehabilitative diversion unit (RDU) sites.
- Offenders will have increased access to programming, self-help, leisure activities, and increased family contact via the new tablet initiative.

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Solution 109 - Increase due process protections for people accused of disciplinary offenses

- A work group has been established to review and reform the offender disciplinary process, to ensure alignment with ACA standards.
- A work group has been established to review Security Risk Group (SRG) management and additional expansion of the Security Threat Group Management Unit (STGMU) program.

Solution 110 - Expand use of restorative justice and rehabilitation programming

- A work group has been established to study and make recommendations for the enhancement of restorative justice and rehabilitative programming at every unit and custody level.
- A work group has been established to study how to expand the Mothers and Their Children (MATCH) program to all female facilities and to explore a comparable program for male facilities.