

January 27, 2011

The Honorable xxxx  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Representative or Senator xxxx,

Ohio's Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) system has been built up over the last two decades to help solve Ohio's criminal sentencing problems well into the future. Only Ohio has such facilities. Today, Ohio's 19 CBCFs serve the common pleas courts of Ohio's 88 counties with 2429 beds. They are funded through the General Revenue Fund as part of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction Budget. However, CBCFs are local entities.

Each CBCF is governed by community leaders serving on local Facility Governing Boards. They are appointed by the county commissioners from every county in Ohio and by Judicial Advisory Boards made up of Common Pleas Judges from every county. A combined 150 citizens have accepted the responsibilities to govern these facilities in their communities. Over 160 judges serve on Advisory Boards to assure that each CBCF understands and meets their local courts' needs. Every Common Pleas Judge in Ohio has a local CBCF to which they can sentence adult male and female felony offenders.

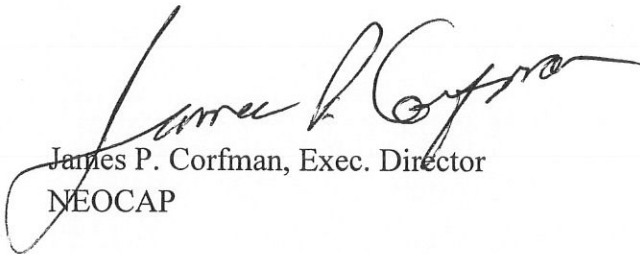
CBCF basics from our community point of view:

1. Ohio's nineteen CBCFs exist to provide a cost effective and safe alternative to prisons for the incarceration of felony offenders.
2. Research has proven that incarceration in a CBCF increases community safety through use of evidence based programming that reduces the likelihood the offender will reoffend. Throughout an offender's incarceration in a CBCF, he/she is taught skills to deal with drug and alcohol addiction, to change criminal behavior; they are given the ability to obtain their GED and to find viable employment. (Many of those incarcerated in a CBCF leave the facility either employed full or part-time.)
3. CBCFs use Ohio specific research designed risk assessments to assure proper placement of offenders to enhance community safety. With the use of these new tools, judges are increasingly placing the right offenders in the right place. CBCFs work best with higher risk offenders.

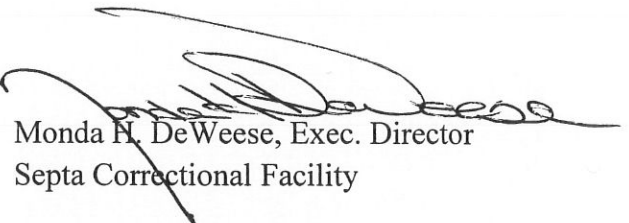
4. Judges use their CBCFs as re-entry type programs for the judicial release of special needs prisoners and/or high profile prisoners to ensure delivery of service and community safety. Some CBCFs serve offenders previously released from prison on Post Release Control who violate their conditions of release. This prevents the return of the offender to the more costly and crowded prison.
5. The Council of State Governments, which is in the process of studying corrections in Ohio and making recommendations, found that CBCFs are an "effective alternative to prison."
6. Ohio's eighteen CBCFs cost \$64.3 million and can serve up to 7400 offenders each year at an average cost per offender of \$10,239. (\*This does not include the Cuyahoga County CBCF which became operational on January 26, 2011.)

We recognize that you will have to make some very difficult decisions in the coming months and probably few, if any, state funded agencies will avoid some consequence. We are available to provide information or answer questions about CBCFs as you go about your difficult work. You can visit the following website to get additional information about each of Ohio's CBCFs [http://www.drc.ohio.gov/web/CBCF\\_ProgramProfiles.pdf](http://www.drc.ohio.gov/web/CBCF_ProgramProfiles.pdf).


Sincerely,



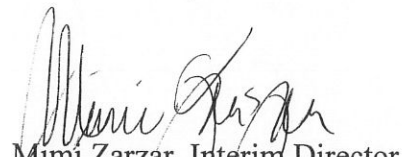
James P. Corfman, Exec. Director  
NEOCAP




Monda H. DeWeese, Exec. Director  
Septa Correctional Facility



Fransaia LoDico Dietrich, Director  
SRCCC



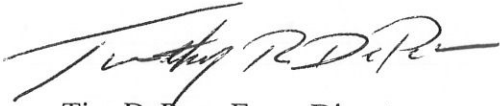
Mimi Zarzar, Interim Director  
W.O.R.T.H. Center



Eddie Philabaun, Exec. Director  
STAR



John M. Baron, Exec. Director  
River City



Tim DePew, Exec. Director  
MonDay



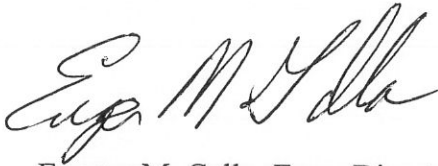
David E. Ervin, Exec. Director  
West Central



Bud Hite, Exec. Director  
Lucas CTF



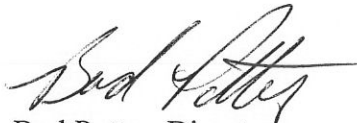
Valerie Spears, Exec. Director  
NorthWest



Eugene M. Gallo, Exec. Director  
EOCC



Marian Skeen, Exec. Director  
Licking/Muskingum



Bud Potter, Director  
Franklin



Mike Willets, Exec. Director  
Lorain-Medina

Attachments: CBCF Facilities and Facility Governing Board Chairpersons  
Map of CBCF service areas