

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Date: December 21, 2016

To: Milwaukee County Board Chairman Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.

From: Michael Hafemann, Superintendent, Milwaukee County House of Correction (HOC)

Subject: From the Superintendent, House of Correction, requesting the creation of a Correctional Manager (Captain) position and to transfer sufficient funds from the Appropriation for Contingencies to the HOC's 2017 operations budget to fund the Correctional Manager (Captain) position in 2017

ISSUE

The House of Correction (HOC) 2017 Budget Request and the County Executive's Budget included the creation of one position of Correctional Manager (Captain) with the intent of providing relief factor for the current positions as well as assuming a significant role in the oversight of inmate programming and industries at the HOC. The County Board of Supervisors approved amendment 1A045 that denied creation of new positions County-wide and transferred the funds into the County Contingent Fund. The amendment also stated that Department Directors may submit a request to the County Board of Supervisors for the new position(s) and whether funding from the Appropriation for Contingencies is required. House of Correction administration is requesting the position of Correctional Manager (Captain) be created and a fund transfer from the Contingency Fund be approved to restore sufficient funding to the HOC 2017 Budget for the Correctional Manager (Captain) position.

DISCUSSION

The position of Correctional Manager (Captain) is important to and needed at the HOC considering the significantly increase in evidence based programming for offenders within the facility. Currently the Assistant Superintendent and one assigned Correctional Lieutenant maintain oversight of programs and industries in its entirety at the HOC.

A significant responsibility of the Correctional Manager (Captain) position will include the sustainability and forward momentum of the American Job Center established and located within the HOC. In June of 2017 the grant funding the Job Center will reach a sunset phase, however the Job Center will continue seamlessly beyond grant funding provided the necessary leadership structure is in place. Since January 1st, 2016, the Job Center has successfully established full time employment for over 700 offenders during their term of incarceration. This in turn has generated Huber fees well beyond what was realized prior to the Job Center; fees that help offset the cost of incarceration for Milwaukee County tax payers. Moreover, offenders who entered custody unemployed and then obtained employment through the Job Center were able to begin to actively support their families by

With the responsibility of maintaining programming, outside work assignments, educational programs and faith based initiatives the HOC seeks to create better outcomes by tying together some of these efforts to include making every attempt at gathering post release data to ensure what is being provided has a meaningful positive impact. The task of gathering this data is currently segmented and assigned as extra duties for several different HOC staff members – an inefficient process that makes gathering and maintaining requisite data an arduous task. The additional Correctional Manager (Captain) position will have the responsibility to establish comprehensive data streams, gathering post release information and pushing forward best practices in order to continue the momentum to maintain as well as develop and implement additional evidence based inmate/offender program options.

The House of Correction offers a wide array of opportunities for our returning citizens. However, the HOC has reached a saturation point and current staff resources are stretched almost beyond what they can effectively address. Therefore, in order to continue to move forward and provide meaningful evidence based program options, an additional investment in staffing is necessary.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that one position of Correctional Manager (Captain) (title code 00077110) be created effective February 12, 2017. It is also recommended that sufficient funds be transferred to the HOC's Budget from the Contingent Fund and that the Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget be authorized to process the fund transfer in January of 2017.



Michael Hafemann
Superintendent

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Dr. Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive
Supervisor Peggy A. West, Chairperson, Committee on Finance and Audit (F&A)
Supervisor Sheldon A. Wasserman, Vice-Chairperson, Committee on F&A
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Steve Cady, Director of Research and Policy, Research Services Division, Office of the Comptroller
Janelle M. Jensen, Senior Committee Coordinator, Committee on F&A
Scott Manske, Milwaukee County Comptroller
Steve Kreklow, Director, Performance, Strategy, and Budget, Department of Administrative Services
Mike Blickhahn, Director of Compensation, Department of Human Resources