

STOP THE PROPOSED CLOSURES OF CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES & REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAM SERVICES

**The Governor has proposed to close the CAMP GABRIELS,
CAMP GEORGETOWN, CAMP MT. MCGREGOR &
CAMP PHARSALIA CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES
operated by the Department of Correctional Services (DOCS)**

FACT

DOCS stated policy is to move inmates from the most restrictive to the least restrictive environment. Currently DOCS keeps many inmates in maximum security facilities for a too long a time. Most inmates are never allowed to go to a minimum security facility. DOCS should change their own rules to make better use of minimum security camp facilities to facilitate inmates' transition into our communities.



FACT

Crime rates are cyclical. The number of people sent to prison is affected by population and other trends. In times of economic recession, crime tends to increase. Closing these facilities may lead to future capacity shortages and hazardous situations such as increased double-bunking.

FACT

The Executive Budget proposes to cut 140 employees from the program service unit which provides all educational and drug treatment services to inmates.

FACT

Currently, approximately 14,000 inmates in the New York State correctional system are functionally illiterate. About 18,000 read below the eighth-grade level. Approximately 35,000 inmates have not completed high school. About 37,000 inmates admit to prior drug use, and approximately 25,000 have serious alcohol abuse problems. DOCS needs more staff not less, to perform their core mission of preparing inmates with serious educational, mental, and drug/alcohol problems for successful reentry into the community.

FACT

Study after study has shown that inmates who earn a high school degree or successfully complete a substance abuse program in prison have significantly lower recidivism rates than inmates who do not complete these programs. Despite this evidence there are thousands of inmates on waiting lists for academic, vocational, and substance abuse treatment programs that will make their transition into our communities smoother and safer.

FACT

Caseloads must be reduced to their size prior to the expansion of the prison population if educational and treatment programs are to be more effective in giving inmates the skills they need to become law-abiding citizens when released from prison. When the prison population increased DOCS increased the teacher-to-inmate student ratio from 1 teacher per 10 inmates to 1 teacher per 25 inmates. Correction Counselor caseloads have increased from between 100 and 125 inmates per counselor to between 150 and 215 inmates per counselor.

FACT

Newly enacted laws have resulted in a greater number of inmates with identified serious mental health problems. However, when these inmates are released into general population they are treated as regular inmates and staffing ratios have not been enhanced to meet the greater needs of this more difficult to serve population.

FACT

Although the State has committed to finding state jobs for the displaced employees, these closures will have a serious negative impact on workers, their families and their communities.

KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE!

REDUCE INMATE RECIDIVISM BY MAINTAINING CURRENT PROGRAM SERVICES!!

RESTORE \$11 MILLION TO THE DOCS BUDGET!!!

KEEP CAMP GABRIELS, CAMP GEORGETOWN, CAMP MT. MCGREGOR & CAMP PHARSALIA OPEN!!!



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