District of Columbia Corrections Information Council



Of Reynolds and Associates, Inc.

Residential Reentry Center

Washington, D.C.

Report on Key Findings and Recommendations



Fairview RRC

July 26, 2023



District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

Charles Thornton, Board Chair Katharine A. Huffman, Board Member Nkechi Taifa, Board Member

About the District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

The District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (CIC) is an independent oversight body mandated by the United States Congress and the Council of the District of Columbia to inspect, monitor, and report on the conditions of confinement in correctional facilities where residents from the District of Columbia are incarcerated. This includes facilities operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the District of Columbia Department of Corrections (DOC), and private contractors.

The CIC reports its observations and recommendations to the District of Columbia Representative in the United States Congress, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Council of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, the Director of the BOP, the Director of the DOC, and the community.

Although the CIC does not handle individual complaints or provide legal representation or advice, individuals are still encouraged to contact the CIC. Reports, concerns, and general information from incarcerated D.C. residents and the public are very important to the CIC, and they greatly inform our inspection schedule, recommendations, and reports. However, unless expressly permitted by the individuals or required by law, names and identifying information of residents, corrections staff not in leadership, and members of the general public are kept anonymous and confidential.

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Table of Contents

Facility Overview	4
Facility Profile	4
ntroduction	4
Residential Housing	5
Visitation	5
Home Confinement	5
Medical	5
Mental Health Services	6
Education and Programming	6
Recreation	6
Employment Assistance	6
Off-Site Processes	7
Staff	7
Recommendations	8
Appendix A	9

Facility Overview

Facility Profile

Dates of Inspection: March 29, 2023

Location: Washington, D.C.

Security Level: Minimum, Medium, and

Maximum

Rated Capacity: 60

Population: 18 (4 residential: 3 BOP and

1 DOC; 14 on home confinement)

D.C. Code Offenders: 18

Introduction

The Fairview Residential Reentry Center (hereinafter, Fairview) in Northeast Washington, DC is a residential reentry center (RRC), or halfway house, designated for female residents in custody who are scheduled for release within 17 to 18 months. Fairview houses both BOP and DOC female DC Code offenders. Fairview is owned and operated by Reynolds and Associates, Inc.

Fairview has a total capacity of 60 residents. In conjunction with the 60-bed facility, Fairview operates a home confinement component for residents within their last months of the residential reentry program. Currently, Fairview has a staff complement appropriate for the 60-bed allotment. Fairview's current 60-bed contract will expire February 2024; the new contract allots 30 beds. On March 29th, there were 18 residents under Fairview supervision: three BOP residents, one DOC resident, and 14 on home confinement. The inspection included a tour of the facility led by the director and assistant director, and discussions with the director, assistant director, and staff. Following the onsite tour, the CIC requested an opportunity to speak with residents who initially declined due to work conflicts; however, all women declined to speak due to continued work and programming conflicts.

Key Findings

Residential Housing

- Fairview utilizes bunk beds in bedrooms.
- New sheets and blankets are provided for residents on Tuesdays.
- Residents are responsible for hygiene and facility cleanliness. The CIC observed a community "chore chart" with assigned dates and times for cleaning.
- Communal areas utilize bulletin boards for various flyers advertising community partnership
 information, such as the National Association for the Advancement of Returning Citizens
 (NAARC), tech help classes at MLK library, and career coach availability.

Visitation

• Fairview holds visits on Sunday from 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Residents must provide a visiting list with each visitor on it.

Home Confinement

- There are 14 residents at Fairview on home confinement.
- Fairview staff members visit individuals on home confinement every three months.
- Staff review individual statuses regarding employment, education, housing, and social support.
- Home confinement residents undergo urinalysis during the visit.

Medical

- Residents housed at Fairview undergo urinalysis weekly.
- If residents test positive for drug use, they are evaluated, which may result in their return to BOP or DOC physical custody.
- If a resident tests positive for COVID-19, they are quarantined in their own room if housed alone, or an empty room.
- For medical issues, residents go into the community. Residents are encouraged to find trusted medical providers, and they are assisted with selections if needed.
- If residents refuse medication, staff must document the incident; residents must sign a note stating that they refused medication.
- Medical services for in-house residents are paid by the BOP.
- For residents on home confinement, the BOP uses a payment approval process, and the BOP is permitted to exercise discretion regarding payment assistance.

 For residents who struggle with substance abuse, the BOP provides a record of health and referrals for the resident. This may include a set period of participation in Narcotics or Alcoholics Anonymous.

Mental Health Services

- Fairview utilizes Collaborative Solutions Center (CSC) for mental health services. This is utilized by staff and residents.
- For additional mental health support, Fairview staff provides a list of potential mental health care providers. Staff are available to assist residents with finding care if needed.

Education and Programming¹

- All programming at Fairview is currently virtual.
- Fairview has a Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) comprised of the CEO of Reynolds and Associates, Inc. and other members of the community. The Board meets quarterly to discuss current and potential community partnerships.
- The Mayor's Office for Returning Citizens Affairs (MORCA) provides resources and employment for residents.
- So Others Might Eat (SOME) and Thrive DC provide housing vouchers.
- Fairview staff stated that individual program plans are developed and recommended for each resident in accordance with the resident's specific goals and needs. This is done within the first week of a resident's arrival.
- Staff connects residents with the Center of Family Life Services (CFLS). CFLS provides classes on parenting, building life skills, home buying, and interviewing for job opportunities.
- Fairview has a computer room that is available to residents from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
- The computer lab has an assistant to help residents.
- Personal tablets are provided for residents living in-house and residents on home confinement.
- Computers and tablets are used for community-based reentry programs, educational classes, or job searching.

Recreation

- Staff reported that residents walk around the facility with staff members.
- Residents stated that Calvert Baptist Church provides residents with a one-year pass to utilize the exercise facilities in the church.

Employment Assistance

• Staff assists residents with job searching, which includes resume building and mock interviews.

¹ An example of how Fairview RRC monitors resident programming is located in Appendix A. This list was provided by Fairview case managers.

- Methods for job searching include standard search engines, postings in the computer lab, and Fairview career counselors who notify residents about job opportunities.
- Martha's Table provides clothing for interviews.
- So Others Might Eat (SOME) and Thrive DC pay for documents that residents must obtain for employment (e.g. identification cards).

Off-Site Processes

- For residents to participate in activities off-site, they must submit a schedule for case manager approval. For example, a resident must state they will visit the doctor for four hours and go to the store for three hours.
- Residents undergo breathalyzers, COVID-19 testing, and searches upon entering the facility.
- Residents are informed that if they leave the facility and do not return at their scheduled time, they must notify staff. Residents utilize a facility provided cellphone or a personal cellphone.

Staff

- General staff hours are 12:30 PM to 8:00 PM.
- There are always two residential managers (RMs) at the front desk.
- There are two case managers for BOP residents, and one case manager for DOC residents.
- Staff stated that, recently, the in-house population has not exceeded 10 residents at a time.

Recommendations

CIC Recommendation: Fairview executives should develop ideas to effectively use the available bed space.

BOP Response: The Bureau of Prisons (BOP) has an allocated number of beds available to use at Fairview Residential Re-Entry Center (RRC). Fairview RRC maintains working relationships with other corrections communities in the Washington, DC, area, that also utilize bed space at the facility. The BOP does not have discretion with the manner in which Fairview RRC Executives utilize bed space that is not used by the BOP.

CIC Recommendation: Fairview executives should communicate with the BOP to maximize halfway house opportunities for returning citizens when home confinement is not available.

BOP Response: Fairview's excess bed space has allowed the BOP to maximize community placement. Fairview RRC is uniquely positioned to dedicate an immense amount of time and attention to its reentry programs to ensure the success of women returning to the community. The BOP and Fairview RRC continue to maintain an excellent partnership and constant communication for the betterment of the program.

CIC Recommendation: Fairview executives should communicate with attorneys and judges at DC Superior Court to inquire about the possibility of pre-trial detention at Fairview for women requiring a less restrictive environment than the DOC.

BOP Response: The BOP does not have any involvement or influence in the sentencing decisions dictated by any Court. Likewise, the BOP is not involved in any decisions Fairview RRC choses to discuss or embark upon with DC Superior Court. The BOP remains dedicated to Fairview RRC's reentry programs and will support the RRCs' efforts to assist offenders with a successful transition to the community.

Appendix A

This image is a list of employment, training, and programming resources that a resident participated in during their stay as of March 2023. The personal identifying information of the resident is redacted. For long term programs, completion and start dates for programs are still listed. Staff stated that this is a snapshot of the types of programming that residents can participate in.

MARCH 2023 Employment/ Training/Programming Community Family Life Services National Reentry Network Georgetown Pivot Program **Project Empowerment** Hope Foundation Collaborative Solutions Communities Mayor's Office of Returning Citizens Affairs The Bicycle Drug Program Hope Foundation **Project Empowerment** Lead Out Georgetown Pivot Program National Reentry Network **Project Empowerment** Hope Foundation Mayor's Office of Returning Citizens Affairs RAP Drug Program Collaborative Solutions Communities Hope Foundation Lead Out Prince Georges Community College Civil Engineering 01/23/2023 Completed U.S. Career Institute School In Home Health Care March 2023 MORCA-Georgetown Paralegal Program Community Family Life Services