



1st/2nd QUARTER 2025

A GEO Publication for Employees and their Families.



WESTERN REGION DETENTION FACILITY CELEBRATES

*25* years *Of Operational Excellence*

SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA - 2025



# Executive Chairman's Letter

**George C. Zoley**, Executive Chairman

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*During the first half of 2025, GEO achieved several important operational milestones, which continue to be underpinned by the dedication and professionalism of our 19,000 employees worldwide and by our Company's unwavering commitment to operational excellence.*

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## **To the GEO Family,**

During the first half of 2025, GEO achieved several important operational milestones. In February, our company-owned, 1,000-bed Delaney Hall Facility in Newark, New Jersey received a 15-year contract from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The new support services contract is expected to generate in excess of \$60 million in annualized revenues for GEO in the first full year of operations.

In March, we entered into a contract with ICE for the activation of our company-owned, 1,800-bed North Lake Facility in Baldwin, Michigan. We expect to provide support services for ICE at the Facility under a multi-year contract that is expected to generate approximately \$88 million in annualized revenues in the first full year of operations.

In early June, we entered into a purchase agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections for the sale of our company-owned, 2,388-bed Lawton Correctional Facility for \$312 million, with the closing of the transaction expected at the end of July 2025.

Also in early June, we announced the activation of our company-owned, 1,868-bed D. Ray James Facility in Folkston, Georgia under a contract modification of the intergovernmental service agreement (IGSA) that is already in place for our company-owned, 1,118-bed Folkston ICE Processing Center. Under the modified IGSA, we expect to generate approximately \$66 million in additional incremental annualized revenues in the first full year of operations.

In mid-June, we announced that our wholly-owned subsidiary, GEO Transport, Inc. (GTI) entered into a new five-year contract with the U.S. Marshals Service for the provision of secure transportation and contract detention officer services across three service regions covering 26 federal judicial districts and spanning 14 states. The new contract is expected to generate up to approximately \$147 million in revenues over the five-year period.

Finally, at the end of June, we entered into a purchase agreement to acquire the 770-bed Western Region Detention Facility located in San Diego, California for \$60 million. This important Facility recently celebrated its 25th Anniversary. Over the last 25 years, we have provided federal detention capacity and transportation services on behalf of the U.S. Marshals Services, under a long-standing contract that generates approximately \$57 million in annualized revenues for GEO. The Western Region Detention Facility is ideally suited to provide these essential services due to its close proximity to the U.S. District Courthouse for the Southern District of California in downtown San Diego.

These operational milestones continue to be underpinned by the dedication and professionalism of our 19,000 employees worldwide and by our Company's unwavering commitment to operational excellence.



## COVER STORY



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**Western Region Detention Facility Celebrates 25 Years of Operational Excellence**

The GEO Group's Western Region Detention Facility (WRDF) in San Diego, California commemorated its twentieth anniversary with a celebration held on July 10, 2025. Dr. George Zoley, Executive Chairman of The GEO Group attended the ceremony as the guest of honor.

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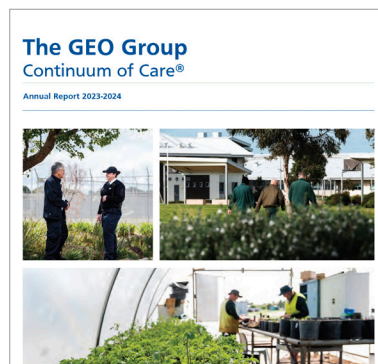
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**The Jack Brewer Foundation Celebrates Incarcerated Fathers and Awards Certificates**

In prisons across Florida, The Jack Brewer Foundation (JBF) began 2025 by celebrating the transformative journeys of incarcerated men in their Faith & Fatherhood in custody programs.

## EDITORIAL STAFF

Audra E. Birt  
Editor-in-Chief  
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**Australia Releases Continuum of Care Report**

GEO Australia has released its 2023-2024 Continuum of Care (CoC) Annual Report showcasing efforts to ensure people in custody have a solid pathway towards rehabilitation and reintegration back into the community post-release.

## CONTRIBUTORS

George C. Zoley  
Pablo E. Paez  
Chris V. Ferreira



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**Stockton Day Reporting Center Transition Celebration**

In January of 2025, the Stockton Day Reporting Center hosted its Winter Transition Celebration, highlighting its dedication and collaboration within the community.

## WESTERN REGION DETENTION FACILITY CELEBRATES

25  
years

# Of Operational Excellence

SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA - 2025



The GEO Group's Western Region Detention Facility in San Diego, California commemorated its 25th Anniversary with a celebration held on July 10, 2025. Dr. George Zoley, Executive Chairman of The GEO Group attended the ceremony as the guest of honor.

The Western Region Detention Facility became a reality twenty-five years ago based on Dr. Zoley's vision. GEO has a long-standing contract with the U.S. Marshals Service for the exclusive use of the Facility, which generates approximately \$57 million in annualized revenues. The Facility has provided federal detention capacity and transportation services on behalf of the U.S. Marshals Service over two decades and is ideally suited to provide these essential services due to its close proximity to the U.S. District Courthouse for the Southern District of California in downtown San Diego.

In January 1999, GEO and San Diego County entered into an agreement for GEO to renovate

and lease the former San Diego County Central Detention Facility, which included upgrading and reconfiguring the Facility, adding central air conditioning, and revitalizing the exterior to blend into the downtown decor.

Under a separate contract signed in July 2000, GEO began providing detention services and federal detainee housing for the U.S. Marshals Service at the renovated Facility. Intake began in July 2000. The original contract ran through November 2017, at which point the contract was renewed for 10 years, running through September 2027, inclusive of renewal options.

Everyone at the Western Region Detention Facility was honored to have Dr. Zoley attend the 25th Anniversary celebration. GEO's Senior Management was represented by Dr. George C. Zoley, Executive Chairman; Mark Suchinski, Chief Financial Officer; Paul Laid, Senior Vice President, Secure Services; and Kent Long, Senior Vice President, Project Development.



Representatives from the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), the union which represents the Facility's employees, were also in attendance, including NFFE National President, Randy Erwin; NFFE Secretary-Treasurer, Max Alonzo; International Association of Machinists Organizer, Art Jackson; and National Business Representative/Organizer, Erika Santa Cruz.

There were also several representatives from the United States Marshals Service in attendance, including Steve Stafford, United States Marshal; Ivan Esquivel, Assistant Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal; Richard Jarrell, Assistant Chief Deputy Staff U.S. Marshal; Rafael Machado Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal; DeTar Ballard, Deputy U.S. Marshal; and Kris Stephens, Deputy U.S. Marshal.

Opening remarks for the ceremony were made by Assistant Facility Administrator, Christopher Carney and were followed by a presentation of awards by NFFE National President, Randy Erwin. After the NFFE awards presentation, United States Marshal, Steve Stafford presented several remarks and introduced the keynote speaker for the celebration, Dr. George C. Zoley.

Following Dr. Zoley's remarks, Facility Administrator Timothy Johnson presented service awards to 35 Western Region Detention Facility employees who have worked at the Facility for 20 years or more.



*WRDF's employees with over twenty years of service were honored at the celebration.*



### 20+ Years:

Cynthia Escoto (20 yrs)  
Michael Smith (21 yrs)  
Rueben Contreras (22 yrs)  
Luz Cellely (23 yrs)  
Arturo Darilag (23 yrs)  
Tiffany Hartley (23 yrs)  
Juan Pulido (23 yrs)  
James Turner (23 yrs)  
Marco Duarte (23 yrs)  
Hermina Espiritu (23 yrs)  
Fidel Almazon (23 yrs)  
Saul Avila (23 yrs)  
Lenny Corbett (23 yrs)  
Ronald Desormeaux (23 yrs)  
Eliseo Moreno (23 yrs)  
Fabian Rodarte (23 yrs)  
Joyce Balanon (24 yrs)  
Kathy Pressley (24 yrs)

### 25 Years:

Edwin Albino  
Richard Brown  
Dion Gibbs  
George Wohlgemuth  
Melodee Randle  
Leslie Magalong  
Rosalie Smith  
Tonia Hill  
Lee Jones  
Nathan Gallegos  
Johnny Glover  
Daryl Sledge  
Frederick August

### 26 Years:

Angela Mims  
Debra Fuller

### 28 Years:

Christopher Carney

### 32 Years:

Linda Jenkins

# Letter from the CEO

I want to take a moment to reflect on a principle that lies at the heart of everything we do: Operational Excellence.

In our line of work—where safety, health, security, and rehabilitation intersect—operational excellence is not a one-time achievement. It is a disciplined, daily commitment to doing things right, even when no one is watching. It means holding ourselves and our teams to the highest standards because it's part of our vision to achieve Operational Excellence in all service lines.

Operational excellence is not just about procedures or policies—it is about people. It is about empowering our teams with the training, resources, and support they need to act with precision under pressure. It is about creating a culture where humility, accountability, consistency, and continuous improvement are expected and embraced.

Each of you plays a critical role in maintaining a professional relationship with our government partners and those entrusted in our care, grounded by honesty, knowledge, dependability and flexibility. As employees of the GEO Group, we are the frontline stewards of this standard. You set the tone, model the behaviors, and navigate through the challenges and changes that are part of our evolving environment. Your engagement is the bridge between vision and execution.

## I encourage you to continue:

- **Investing in preparation**—because readiness is the key to strengthening our operations.
- **Focusing on quality**—because every small detail contributes to better outcomes.



**J. David Donahue**  
Chief Executive Officer

- **Encouraging collaboration**—because silos brake systems, but teamwork builds our team's strength.
- **Leading with integrity**—because your example shapes the future of our operations.

We will continue to face complex demands—but together, grounded in a commitment to operational excellence, we will rise to meet them. Let this be a time not of reaction, but of refinement. Let us continue to sharpen our systems, elevate our standards, and ensure our facilities are not only operational, but exceptional.

Thank you for your professionalism, your resilience, and your unwavering dedication. Operational excellence is not a destination—it is the way forward. And it starts with us.



# The GEO Group Attends American Correctional Association Winter Conference

Written By **Manny Alvarez**,  
Contract Compliance and Administration



The GEO Group proudly participated in the American Correctional Association (ACA) Winter Conference held in Orlando, Florida, in January 2025. The event brought together corrections professionals from across the country to share best practices, explore innovative strategies, and strengthen the commitment to excellence in corrections. GEO team members were actively engaged in workshops, panel hearings, and networking opportunities throughout the conference, furthering our mission of quality correctional management and rehabilitation services.

A highlight of the conference was the reaccreditation of the following GEO facilities: Folkston ICE Processing Center, Joe Corley Processing Center, Lea County Correctional Facility, Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility, South Louisiana ICE Processing Center, Mid Valley House, and Reality House. These accreditations are a testament to the hard work and dedication of staff across the organization. Achieving ACA reaccreditation reflects GEO's ongoing commitment to operational excellence, safety, and continuous improvement in meeting national standards. We extend our congratulations to the teams behind these accomplishments and thank all who represented GEO with professionalism and pride during this important industry event.







## The GEO Group Foundation Supports Behavioral Health Luncheon

Written By **Christopher Ferreira, Corporate Relations**

In February, The GEO Group Foundation donated \$3,000 to sponsor the Rales Jewish and Family Services Reflections of Hope Luncheon. This inspiring event brings together over 600 guests, including community leaders, advocates, and supporters, to raise awareness and funds for Rales JFS' Behavioral Health Services. Several GEO employees attended the event including Jennifer Houston, Executive Vice President, Client Relations; Latoya Lane, Vice President, Community Care; Eugene Herrmann, Vice President, Behavioral Health Services; Matthew Abraham, Senior Director, Treatment & Program Development; Christa Siciliano, Director, Tax; Traci Wright, Senior Recruiter; Chris Ferreira, Director, Corporate Relations; Yamileth Fisher, Manager, Behavioral Health Services; and Mathieu Kamburian, Manager, Behavioral Health Services.

The Reflections of Hope Luncheon is more than just a gathering; it symbolizes a significant commitment to advancing mental health awareness and fostering community support for Rales JFS. Past keynote speakers, such as Ashley Judd, Andie MacDowell, Glenn Close and Tim



Gunn, have shared personal insights into their journeys through mental health challenges, creating a lasting impact on attendees. This annual event is dedicated to challenging the stigma surrounding mental illness and strengthening the vital mental health services provided by Rales JFS.







## GEO's Legal Department Judges Florida Atlantic University Mock Trial

Written By **Christopher Ferreira, Corporate Relations**

In January 2025, members of GEO's Legal Department participated as judges in a practice session for Florida Atlantic University's Mock Trial Club. Spencer Winepol, Vice President, Corporate Counsel, and Andrew Stepp, Corporate Counsel, General Liability, from GEO's Legal Department volunteered for the practice. Additionally, The GEO Group Foundation made a \$2,500 donation to the Mock Trial Club to assist students with travel for mock trial competitions.

## The GEO Group Foundation Supports South Florida Charity Classic Benefiting Veterans Organizations

Written By **Christopher Ferreira, Corporate Relations**

For the second year in a row, The GEO Group Foundation has sponsored the South Florida Charity Classic with a donation of \$4,500. The South Florida Charity Classic is a non-profit organization that raises funds to support Special Operation Forces veterans' charities. Since 2014, they have raised over \$910,000 in support of various veteran initiatives and were responsible for funding the efforts of Miami-Dade County to end veterans' homelessness in 2014 and 2015.

This year's Charity Classic featured Tom Satterly, a former Command Sargent Major of Delta Force, as the guest of honor, with proceeds from the event benefiting the All Secure Foundation (TSAF). TASF assists Special Operations Active Duty and Combat Veterans and their families, in recovery of Post-Traumatic Stress through education, awareness, resources for healing, marriage retreats, and PTS resiliency training.

The event was attended by Chris Ryan, Senior Vice President, Human Resources; Todd Nadrich, Director, Purchasing; Craig Spatara, Director, Post- Release; and Chris Ferreira, Director, Corporate Relations.







## The GEO Group Foundation Supports Angel Moms Brunch

Written By **Christopher Ferreira, Corporate Relations**

The GEO Group Foundation was a “Hope Sponsor” at the Place of Hope’s 11th Anniversary Angel Moms Brunch and Benefit in the first quarter. The Foundation donated \$6,000 to support the event, which was attended by Jennifer Houston, Executive Vice President of Client Relations; Amber Martin, Executive Vice President of Contract Administration; Latoya Lane, Vice President of Community Solutions; Jessica Dumars, Vice President, Client Relations; TaCara Chambers, Director, Contract Administration; Melissa Hesse, Director, Contract Administration; and Traci Wright, Senior Recruiter, Human Resources.

Place of Hope is a non-profit organization providing programs and services to children, youth, and families to end the cycles of abuse, neglect, homelessness, poverty, and human trafficking in our local communities.







## Singer and Songwriter Sean Feucht Brings Music to Correctional Facility

As Published in FOX 13 News Tampa Bay, January 2025

Singer and songwriter Sean Feucht made a stop at the South Bay Correctional Facility in South Florida to play some music with the prisoners.

The visit was made possible through the Jack Brewer Foundation, and Feucht jumped at the chance to go behind the prison walls.

What they're saying:

"I was really surprised at the response," he admitted once inside the prison, "I was surprised at how attentive they are."

His team captured the ministry time on camera as Feucht and the members of the JBF group interacted with the prisoners there in the common room.

"I just shared with them my struggles," he said, "They shared with me their struggles... There is far more in common than we realize."

And, for a moment, the prison bars were gone, the doors were no longer locked as these men all enjoyed the celebration of time together with a common goal of supporting one another.

"It's amazing how we can come into a place of unity," said Feucht, "One of the reasons I wanted to come here in Florida is there is incredible open doors. They are actually reaching out and the State is actually allowing it to happen. They have counselors that come in, they have preachers that come in, not every state has that opportunity."



# R.E.E.F.S Leadership Conference

Written By **Donna Jacobs,**  
**Moore Haven Correctional and  
Rehabilitation Facility**



The fallacy of judging a book by its cover has long been known to be true. Still, doubt and intrigue were plainly evident on the faces of the staff who boldly answered the invitation to the Realizing Educational Financial Emotional Smarts (R.E.E.F.S) Leadership Conference sponsored by the Sobriety and Program dormitory at Moore Haven Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility. Walking through the threshold of Classroom 116, where the conference was held, was like stepping through a portal. Outside of the portal resided the trappings and stereotypes of incarceration. Inside the portal revealed an academic classroom transformed by the resident-led creative and technological design team.

Waterfalls of black tapestry-like fabric were suspended behind the lectern wall, wall to wall, ceiling to floor. On the West wall, as if by sheer magic, a PowerPoint presentation caught the viewer's eye with impactful images and quotes displaying principles that would be expounded on. Music danced lightly in the air bathing the

soul in levity. Following the contour of the room towards the back, it was clear that exceptional effort was made to use dashes of vibrant colors in the shape of origami swans to contrast the gentle black ocean the room was washed in. The swans appeared to swim upon the dark waters coming to a point where they encircled a silver tray bearing water for the guests.



The graduating leadership class, under the direction of Dormitory Director, Mrs. Ford, was tasked with synthesizing key principles acquired throughout the course and making them relevant





to the audience. Through their presentations, they were to demonstrate the ability to not only elucidate the incarcerated mind, but the minds of all.

From the moment the conference began there was laughter and smiles as Phillip Mixon, self-proclaimed “Madd Maxx, The Madd Mann of Comedy” used humor to introduce each speaker. His jokes were timely, sophisticated and socially aware. By all rights, “Madd Maxx” was a show within a show delivering the best medicine in life, laughter.

Several participants from the R.E.E.F.S Program helped facilitate the conference. Chad Clark opened the conference by providing the origin story of R.E.E.F.S, and Nicholas Smith unveiled the power and importance of strong communication skills. Jefferson Masters detailed the connection between attitudes and actions. Michael Black compelled the room to discover their “why” regarding human relations and how the deficit of them erodes the functionality of a group. Jason Hartley expounded on the life benefits of setting goals of various lengths and executing them through preparation. By sharing personal tragedy, Ronald Olson III, destroyed the stigma of grief and trauma while providing positive pathways through the healing process. Finally, Donovan Allen dispelled the illusion that learning and teaching are incongruent; rather they are symbiotic.

Magically, the hour within the room passed as if it had only been a minute, the spell removed by the conclusionary comments of Mrs. Ford. There was no better ending than the photograph captured by Facility Administrator, Ms. Neal, of the graduates around the visual exhibit provided by Nicholas Gibson.



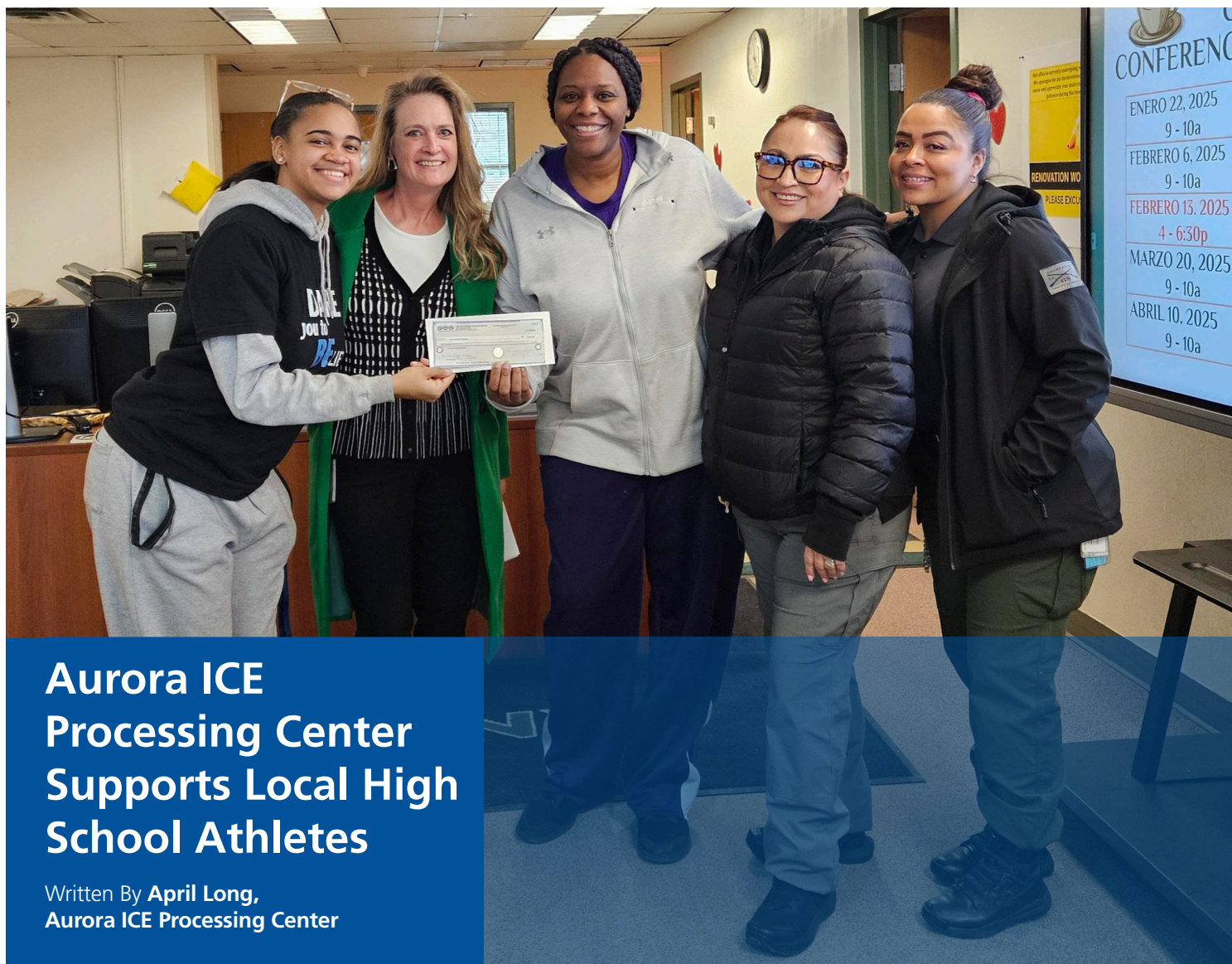
## Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center Donates to the Los Angeles Dream Center During Wildfires

Written By **Cristal Garcia and Erika Sandoval,**  
**Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center**

The Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center (IPC) staff played a key role in supporting those affected by the wildfires in Los Angeles, California. The facility organized the donation and distribution of goods to the Los Angeles Dream Center. The Los Angeles Dream Center is a resource center that provides support to the homeless through outreach programs.

During the wildfires, the Dream Center played a role in the assistance of all those who were affected directly by the wildfires by providing a space to live, food, toiletries, and more. Mesa Verde IPC officers and administrative staff teamed up to highlight the importance of transforming lives and building stronger communities. Mesa Verde IPC staff has also joined the Dream Center in Bakersfield to provide goods to individuals and communities in need.





## Aurora ICE Processing Center Supports Local High School Athletes

Written By **April Long,**  
Aurora ICE Processing Center

The Aurora ICE Processing Center (AIPC) continues to foster connections with local public schools. Recently, AIPC donated to the Cheerleading and Dance Teams at Aurora Central High School. For the first time in the school's history, both teams qualified for nationals. However, the costs of attending their competitions were significant. To help cover expenses for travel, lodging, and competition fees, both teams organized fundraisers.

When these fundraisers were brought to AIPC's attention, Facility Administrator, Dawn Ceja reached out to present a check to the coaches of both teams. Head Cheer Coach, Sarah Bennett-Allhusen, an alumna of both Aurora

Central and the cheer team, expressed that since she began in 2018, it has been her dream to reach nationals. She remarked, "I started out with a team of five girls, and building this team up was huge. It means the world to me because I didn't get this opportunity when I was in school."

Dawn Ceja presented a check for \$2,000 to support their goal of ensuring both teams could attend the competition and have an unforgettable experience. Both coaches described the donation as "a blessing in disguise."



## Eagle Pass Detention Facility Participates in 2025 Law Enforcement Torch Run and Special Olympic Ceremony

Written By **Monica Reynaga, Eagle Pass Detention Facility**

The Special Olympic Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) was recently held in Eagle Pass, Texas. Various local law enforcement agencies participated in the event, which featured a 5-mile, 3-mile, and 2-mile distance trail. The mission of LETR for Special Olympics is to increase awareness and raise funds for the Special Olympics movement. The Torch Run is more than just a race; it represents a unified effort from all law enforcement agencies to come together and support the Special Olympics games in South Texas. This year's event began with a 5-mile run and concluded with a special 3-lap run during the opening ceremony of the Eagle Pass Independent School District Special Olympic Games. As always, our facility was one of the largest agencies participating, with our team consisting of the facility's Correctional Emergency Response Team, administration, and transport staff. Following the run, the games commenced, and LETR participants had the opportunity to volunteer and cheer on the athletes as they competed. This was our third consecutive year participating in the Torch Run, and our team took pride in representing our facility. We look forward to next year's event.



## Karnes County Immigration Processing Center Recognizes its Employees

Written By **Kourtney Johnston, Karnes County Immigration Processing Center**

In February 2025, the Karnes County Immigration Processing Center (KCI PC) held an Awards Ceremony to honor the remarkable achievements of its 2024 Employee of the Year, Jessica Pena, Detention Officer of the Year, Jayce Constante, and GTI Officer of the Year, Cynthia Medellin. These esteemed award recipients were selected by the Executive Team in recognition of their extraordinary dedication and commitment to their roles, consistently demonstrating a willingness to exceed expectations and embody the principles of Operational Excellence.



(Left to Right- top to bottom) Servando Brito, Mythany Figirova-Inocencio, David Munoz, Rose Thompson, Jayce Constante, Jessica Pena, and Cynthia Medellin





## El Centro Detention Facility Reaches 5 Years!

Written By **Steve Lechuga**, El Centro Detention Facility

This year, the El Centro Detention Facility (ECDF) celebrated a major milestone - El Centro Detention Facility's 5-year anniversary. In January of 2020, ECDF opened its facility doors with about 50 employees in preparation for a March 2020 activation. ECDF started with about 245 employees ranging from executive staff, administrative staff, detention officers, medical staff, transportation, and program staff. Many employees have moved on during the years; we currently have about 50 employees who have continued to dedicate their hard work and loyalty to ECDF. We are grateful for their relentless commitment and the positive energy they bring to the company. Thank you for your 5 years of service and dedication to our team. El Centro Detention Facility is lucky to have hardworking employees like you! Happy 5-year anniversary El Centro Staff!





PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: CHARIS PROUD, MICHAEL BOLLINGER, SHAWN PAUL, JOSHUA BELCHER, DANIEL MOWREY, LEONARD ODDO, AND SCOTT LYTLE

## Moshannon Valley IPC Raises Funds for Band of Heroes Outdoors

Written By **Charis D. Proud, Moshannon Valley Processing Center**

Each year, Moshannon Valley Processing Center staff selects a charity that the staff fundraise for throughout the year. In 2024, the facility chose Band of Heroes Outdoors. The Band of Heroes Outdoors is a local non-profit organization with a mission to combat PTSD and veteran suicide through hunting, fishing and enjoying the therapeutic aspects of the outdoors. Through multiple bake sales, dress down Fridays, biggest loser competitions and some fun correctional workers week and holiday activities, staff raised \$6,773. A check was presented to Band of Heroes Outdoors in March of 2025. With these funds, the organization is able to award three additional local veterans a hunting or fishing adventure this year.



## Helping Our Neighbors

Written By **Tiffany Hartley, Western Region Detention Facility**

In early 2025, California experienced its most catastrophic fire season in history. A total of 14 fires spread across Los Angeles County, with two of them being particularly devastating: the Palisades and Eaton fires. Tragically, at least 29 people lost their lives, and over 57,000 acres of land were scorched.

As a close neighbor to Los Angeles, it's understandable that residents of San Diego communities felt deep sympathy for those affected. It wasn't long before Western Region Detention Facility Counselor, Jovon Del Rio proposed that our facility launch a donation drive to collect essential items for the fire victims. The Vice President of the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) union, Christina Cataño, quickly joined the initiative and pledged to match all donations made by staff. Thanks to their efforts and collaboration with the NFFE Union, we were able to send a substantial donation to those in need.





## The Jack Brewer Foundation Celebrates Incarcerated Fathers and Awards Certificates

Written By **Peyton Hankins, The Jack Brewer Foundation - South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility**

In prisons across Florida, The Jack Brewer Foundation (JBF) began 2025 by celebrating the transformative journeys of incarcerated men in its Faith & Fatherhood in-custody programs. Through a series of heartfelt certificate ceremonies, men in 16 facilities across the state who have dedicated themselves to achieving successful rehabilitation and becoming better fathers were recognized for their completion of the JBF Self-Governing Principle course on Morality—a key component of fatherhood. Providing these men with a deeper understanding of this principle, this course delves into essential moral values that are vital not only for rehabilitation but also for becoming responsible fathers and productive members of society. These meaningful ceremonies were held throughout the month of February, with 951 certificates awarded.

210 of these certificates were awarded to JBF program participants in GEO Group's South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility, located in South Bay, Florida. During this celebration, these fathers were recognized for their hard

work and completion of the course. Prior to the certificate distribution, a Fatherhood Fellowship event was held, fostering heartfelt conversations and meaningful engagement among participants, the JBF in-custody team, and Chairman Jack Brewer. After the event, Chairman Brewer shared, "To see our GEO fathers commit themselves to repairing their broken families is truly incredible. Our fathers have committed their lives to learning our Fatherhood Principles. Many of our fathers have lived a life of family failure and now they are celebrating much deserved family successes."

For many participants, these certificates represent more than just the completion of a course—they symbolize personal growth, commitment to change, and the first steps toward a brighter future for themselves and their children. By focusing on character development and moral values, JBF is helping incarcerated men unlock their potential to become the fathers, leaders, and role models their families and communities need.





## Celebrating Heritage: The Black History Showcase at Riverbend

Written By **Kay Brooks**,  
**Riverbend Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility**

The Black History Showcase at Riverbend Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility (RCRF) was a vibrant celebration of culture and talent, featuring inspiring speeches, artists, and performances by gifted individuals. This event not only honored the contributions of Black individuals throughout history but also fostered a sense of community and pride among attendees.

A significant operational milestone for this year's showcase was the collaboration with The Man-Up International Alliance, which enabled a

more empowering lineup of speakers, artists, and performers. This partnership not only enhanced the quality of the event but also strengthened ties with the community, emphasizing the importance of unity and purpose.

The showcase included powerful speeches that highlighted the struggles and triumphs of Black history, as well as performances that captivated the audience, ranging from spoken word and testimonies to visual arts. Each segment of the program served to engage, reflect, celebrate, and inspire, reminding everyone of the rich heritage that continues to shape the world around us.

As RCRF looks forward to future events, the success of this year's Black History Showcase serves as a testament to the power of collaboration and the significance of celebrating our diverse histories.



# A Day of Redemption and Recreation: Saints Prison Ministry and Florence West Facility Unite Through Softball

Written By **Angela Geisinger, Continuum of Care**



In a remarkable display of unity and transformation, the Saints Prison Ministry partnered with the GEO Group's Florence West Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility (FWCRF) to host a day-long softball event that transcended the confines of incarceration. This unique collaboration brought together incarcerated individuals and ministry volunteers on the diamond, fostering connections through sport, faith, and shared humanity.

The Saints Prison Ministry, renowned for its mission to share the Gospel through athletics, has a history of engaging with correctional facilities nationwide. Their teams, comprised of volunteers passionate about both sports and ministry, visit prisons to play games and, more importantly, to build relationships and offer hope to those behind bars.

At FWCRF, the event was more than just a game. It was an embodiment of the Facility's commitment to rehabilitation and reintegration. Participants at FWCRF playing in the event were those actively involved in the programs, reflecting their dedication to personal growth and change.

The day commenced with a spirited softball match between the Saints and the FWCRF Dust Devils. Laughter, cheers, and the crack of the bat echoed across the yard. Following the game, the Saints team shared testimonies of faith and redemption, resonating deeply with many FWCRF participants who are on their own journeys toward transformation.

The event concluded with a communal meal, allowing for further fellowship and conversation. Both the Saints volunteers and the FWCRF team expressed a profound sense of connection and mutual respect, highlighting the power of such initiatives in promoting healing and understanding.

This collaboration between the Saints Prison Ministry and FWCRF stands as a testament to the importance of our volunteers. By combining physical activity with spiritual outreach, they offer a holistic approach to rehabilitation, emphasizing the importance of community, purpose, and hope.

As the sun set on the Facility, the impact of the day's events lingered, leaving an indelible mark on all participants and reinforcing the belief that redemption is within reach for everyone.



# Deep Heart Ministries

Written By **Angela Geisinger, Continuum of Care**

In a powerful demonstration of hope, healing, and human connection, the GEO Continuum of Care® (CoC) recently partnered with Deep Heart Ministries to bring a one-of-a-kind Music and Magic Extravaganza inside GEO correctional and rehabilitation facilities. This dynamic event blended high-energy music, captivating illusions, and heartfelt messages into an unforgettable experience for incarcerated individuals, staff, and volunteers alike.

Deep Heart Ministries—renowned for its faith-based outreach and inspiring live performances—joined forces with GEO’s Continuum of Care Division, which is nationally recognized for its comprehensive rehabilitation approach that integrates cognitive behavioral treatment, Career and Technical Education training, and transitional support. Together, they delivered more than just entertainment; they created a safe space for emotional expression, self-reflection, and community healing.

Throughout the extravaganza, residents were not merely spectators—they were participants

in something bigger than themselves. The event featured live gospel and contemporary music, interactive illusions that carried symbolic messages of transformation, and testimony from individuals who had once stood in similar shoes but now live lives of service and purpose.

“Programs like this align perfectly with our mission,” said South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility Administrator, Shay Hatcher “We’re committed to the whole person—mind, body, and spirit.”

For many in attendance, the experience ignited something within. Laughter echoed through the pavilion, tears flowed during moments of reflection, and the walls—both physical and emotional—felt just a little lighter.

Events like the Music and Magic Extravaganza show what can happen when organizations come together. GEO and Deep Heart Ministries plan to expand this partnership to even more facilities reaffirming the belief that change is possible—one note, one illusion, and one life at a time.







## Re-Entry Simulator

Written By **Glenn Morris, South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility**

In April of 2025, Assistant Facility Administrator, Operations, Glenn Morris represented South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility at a Re-Entry Simulation held at the Police Benevolent Association building in Doral, Florida. Mr. Morris served as a lead facilitator for this important training organized by the Florida Department of Corrections, which included participants from various law enforcement agencies. Many others supported the training by managing booths from different offices within the Florida Department of Corrections.

The Re-Entry Simulator aims to raise awareness about the challenges faced by the incarcerated population upon their release and reintegration into society. These challenges include securing housing, employment, identification, medical services, education, transportation, and treatment, among others. During the simulation, participants received a “life card” and must address all their needs on a weekly basis.

The difficulties they encounter highlight the importance of preparing incarcerated individuals while they are still within the prison system, ultimately improving their chances of success upon re-entering the community.

Staff from the Florida Department of Corrections reported that the event was a great success, commending everyone involved in facilitating and managing the various booths. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many participants finding the experience eye-opening.

GEO is clearly a leader in this area with its Continuum of Care® program, which identifies individuals well in advance of their scheduled release date and helps them meet various needs, including assistance with housing, employment, obtaining identification, accessing medical services, pursuing educational opportunities, securing transportation, treatment, and much more.



# "Make a Change" Program at Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility

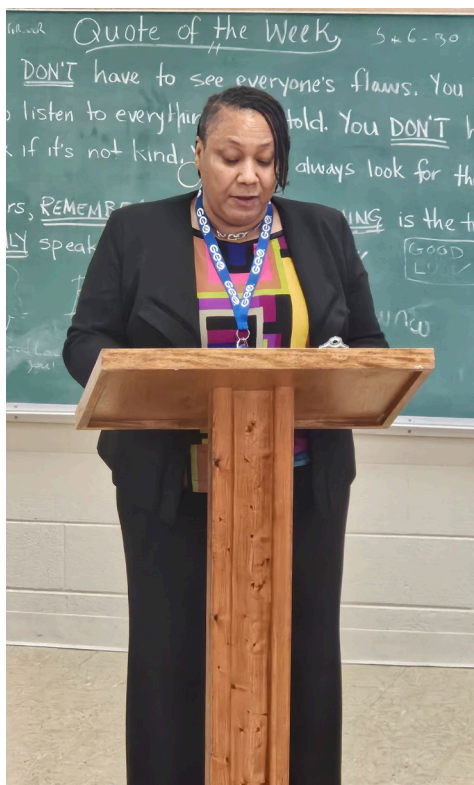
Written By **Chaplain Michael L. Martin, Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility**

Under the direction of Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility (RADDF) Facility Administrator, Brick Tripp, Chaplain, Michael L. Martin has developed a new Mental/Behavioral Health Addiction program. The "Make A Change Program," is divided into seven phases, consisting of five weeks of instructor-led class sessions and a two week self-study requirement.

The facility had 25 participants in its first graduating class from the first phase. Chaplain

Martin is partnering with Dr. K. Leonard, DNF-BC, CMAC, a local Mental Health Medical Professional and GEO Mental Health Psychologist, Dr. G. Hayes, Ph.D. to direct and facilitate this program.

The graduation ceremonies were a total success. The participants shared accolades and self-pride in their commitment to rehabilitation. The "Make a Change" program is just one of many that RADDF is planning to provide for its population.





# GEO Continuum of Care uses Pickleball as Powerful Treatment Tool

Written By **Angela Geisinger, Continuum of Care**



In a surprising blend of competition, camaraderie, and second chances, GEO's South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility recently hosted a first-of-its-kind pickleball tournament—pitting incarcerated men against GEO Continuum of Care staff. But this wasn't just any game. This was a celebration of progress, purpose, and the power of community.

Pickleball, when used intentionally, serves as a powerful tool for Cognitive Behavioral Treatment by reinforcing core CBT principles such as emotional regulation, impulse control, and social problem-solving. On the court, individuals must manage frustration, communicate effectively with partners, and respond to challenges in real-time—mirroring the decision-making and thought-restructuring skills taught in treatment groups. Each serve and volley offers a moment to practice staying present, adapting to feedback, and reframing negative self-talk. Through structured play, participants learn to replace aggressive or avoidant behavior with teamwork, accountability, and resilience, making pickleball not just a recreational outlet, but a

therapeutic intervention grounded in behavioral change.

Held on a sunny afternoon, the tournament featured teams composed of peer mentors, individuals in active recovery, academic, and Career and Technical Education students—each participant committed to self-improvement and service to others. These residents of South Bay weren't just playing to win; they were showcasing what rehabilitation can look like when dignity, structure, and opportunity meet.

The opposing teams included staff members from various departments, from administration to operations. But on the court, there were no ranks—only rackets. There were serves and smashes, high-fives and hard-fought points. And in between, laughter, strategy, and mutual respect.

"Pickleball might seem like a simple game, but today it was something much bigger," said Reggie Wade, a South Bay resident who spends his days helping others earn their diplomas while pursuing his own college credits. "Today we were just



people, teammates, even rivals, but not South Bay participants.”

The idea for the event was sparked by a group of peer mentors who had been using pickleball as a recovery-focused activity to build trust, resilience, and healthy coping skills. With staff support and careful planning, the tournament became a tangible example of how sport can bridge even the deepest divides.

For the staff, the day was just as moving. “Today reminded us why we do this work. We saw growth. We saw pride. We saw hope,” said a staff member.

The final match came down to a narrow victory for the South Bay Sugar Canes, earning not only bragging rights but a standing ovation from everyone in attendance. Even in defeat, the staff team was all smiles. “We’ll get them next time,” joked one member of CoC. “But today, we all won.”

The tournament is expected to become a recurring event, with plans to expand it into a series involving more departments and community leaders.

At South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility, the game of pickleball proved that healing can come in many forms—sometimes on a court, with a paddle in hand, and a purpose in heart.





# Boost to Personal Care Assistance Services

Written By **Kim Blinkhorn, GEO Healthcare Australia**



*GEO Healthcare Manager Disability and Aged Care Skye Schwin with Director, Prison Reconfiguration Rory Maguire.*

GEO Healthcare Australia has been subcontracted by the Victorian Government or DJCS/Corrections Victoria to provide an enhanced personal care assistance (PCA) service at Hopkins Correctional Centre (HCC) and Langi Kal Kal Prison (LKK) for the life of its Victorian men's public prison contract.

GEO Healthcare Australia has been providing PCA at both facilities since July of 2024; however, the new enhanced service model will see patients receiving a formal functional assessment and an individualised care plan by an occupational therapist at these centres, upon self-referral or referral by primary health staff.

We are pleased to welcome Skye Schwind to the new role of Manager, Disability and Aged Care at GEO Healthcare Australia. Skye is a highly experienced occupational therapist with over 25 years of experience in various healthcare settings, including acute and community environments. Skye holds a Masters of Clinical Rehabilitation in Neurological Occupational Therapy and has previously held manager positions in the primary healthcare setting.

Skye will be responsible for conducting the functional assessments for the PCA service and developing an individualized care plan with the patient for the PCA to follow. Skye will also be responsible for coordinating other aspects of GEO Healthcare Australia's tailored disability and aged care services who are part of GEO Healthcare Australia's priority groups.

GEO Healthcare Australia Director, Prison Reform Projects, Rory Maguire, said: "It is well recognised within the prison system that people with a disability and older people have additional needs. The addition of functional assessments and individualised care plans by an occupational therapist for these people will ensure that care provided by the personal care assistants will be tailored to their specific needs."

Skye is developing the functional assessment tools and related policies and procedures for the service. The enhanced service became fully functional in April of 2025.



# Waitangi Day Celebrations

Written By **Lyndell Coutts,**  
**Fulham Correctional Centre**



Recognizing the importance of keeping the men in our care connected with their culture, Fulham Correctional Centre marked New Zealand's national day, Waitangi Day, with a special event honoring the history and traditions of Maori and Pacific Islander people.

Waitangi Day is the most important marker in New Zealand's history, which commemorates the first signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, the nation's founding document. In February, more than 80 inmates, staff and guests participated in the event, which included a special meal.

Fulham Correctional Centre's Rehabilitation and Reintegration Manager, Lisa Mannion said "The Waitangi Day celebration was built on knowledge and customs that honor traditions and rituals from the Maori and Pacific Islander people. Providing opportunities for the Maori and Pacific Islander men to connect

with and celebrate their heritage while in custody is an important part of our Continuum of Care® approach to delivering correctional services."

Following a smoking ceremony, 12 of the men proudly performed a "Wero" (Maori challenge) and Haka Powhiri (Welcome haka) "Toia Mai" which they had been practicing for three months. The Wero included approaching visitors in warrior fashion to lay down a floral token made of leaves and a fern prong. The token was accepted by Fulham Correctional Centre's Aboriginal Wellbeing Officer, Aunty Jo and two members of the Centre's Aboriginal Reference Group, as a sign of peaceful intention.

"Through speeches, song, dance and food, the men showcased their culture, and the event was a great success for all involved," Ms. Manion said.





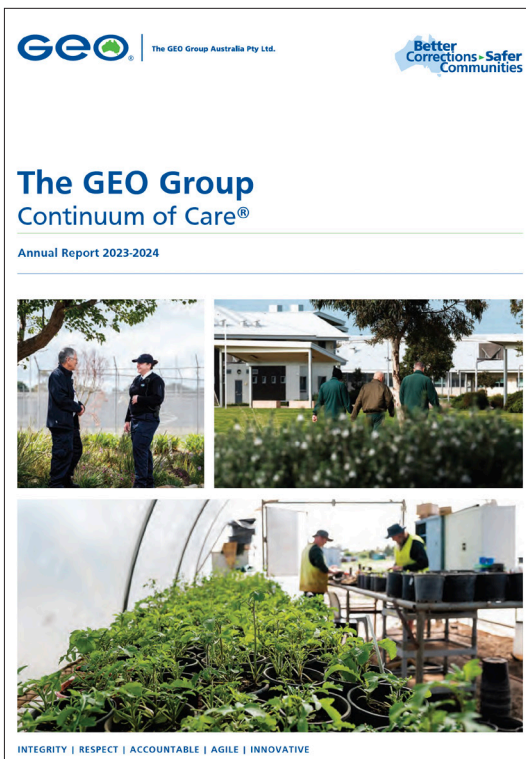
# GEO Australia Releases Continuum of Care Report

Written By **Lyndell Coutts, GEO Australia**

GEO Australia has released its 2023-2024 Continuum of Care (CoC) Annual Report showcasing efforts to ensure people in custody have a solid pathway towards rehabilitation and reintegration back into the community post-release.

The report offers an overview of the GEO CoC programs and services delivered at the Junee, Fulham and Ravenhall Correctional Centres, The Bridge Centre, and GEO Healthcare Australia sites. It features local CoC initiatives, case studies and analysis that highlights the impact of GEO's model of delivering correctional services.

National Director of Rehabilitation and Reintegration, Dr. Fiona Murphy, said: "GEO's unique CoC model incorporates evidence-based programs and services that address the risk factors and needs of people in custody and are delivered by our dedicated staff and partner organisations. We are proud of the work we undertake to promote a rehabilitative environment that supports behaviour change for the people in our care, ultimately contributing to reductions in reoffending and enhanced community safety."



## Food for Thought

Written By **Adrienne Corlew, Memphis Day Reporting Center**

Jacquelin (Jacki) Washington, Supervising Case Manager, at the Memphis Day Reporting Center (DRC) noticed that many of her students struggled to participate or engage in class due to hunger. Recognizing this as a significant barrier, she felt compelled to take action. To help her students, Jacki began preparing breakfast bags for them, as some mentioned they didn't have enough time in the morning to eat and found it difficult to focus when hungry. Driven by her desire to make a difference, Jacki approached Correctional Administrator, April Buckner.

Together, they launched an initiative aimed at addressing this need and creating a pathway for behavior change and positive outcomes in the program.

At the end of each day, Jacki and fellow Case Manager, Dorian Wright, prepare breakfast bags, which are then distributed by the Tennessee Department of Corrections staff when participants arrive in the morning. Jacki shared, "We want them to know that we are here to help in any way possible." She expressed pride in Dorian for taking initiative and ensuring the bags are ready for the participants. The participants have shown great appreciation for this effort. As Jacki put it, "Our motto is, 'Keeping West 10 Strong.'"





## Shasta County Day Reporting Center Winter Graduation

Written By **Tara Levin**,  
Shasta Day Reporting Center



The Shasta Day Reporting Center (DRC) in Redding, California celebrated nine graduates at their Winter Graduation ceremony. Along with their DRC certificate of completion, graduates received certificates from a number of community organizations, including Shasta County Probation, The Shasta County Board of Supervisors, Redding City Council, City of Shasta Lake City Council and the California State Senate. Redding's Mayor, Jack Munns, along with representatives from each of the offices, were in attendance to congratulate the graduates. Graduates were acknowledged for the work they did throughout the program and the changes they have made to put them on a path of success. The ceremony was followed by a wonderful catered dinner.





# Stockton Day Reporting Center Transition Celebration

Written By **Gloria Alcantara, Stockton Day Reporting Center**



In January of 2025, the Stockton Day Reporting Center hosted its Winter Transition Celebration, highlighting its dedication and collaboration within the community. Nineteen participants proudly received certificates from notable figures, including State Senator, Jerry McNerney, Stockton Mayor, Christina Fugazi, and Congressman, Josh Harder, in addition to their completion certificates from GEO Reentry Services. Recognizing the exemplary efforts of Parole Unit 1, Agents, Edward Jaime and Roopnarine Ramrattan were honored with an award for achieving the highest number of graduates, underscoring their commitment to the program's success.

The event featured inspiring remarks from Reginald Galindo of Collaborative Courts, who shared his journey of redemption. A poignant moment of the ceremony came when graduate R. Chan's achievements were celebrated, showcasing the significant impact of reentry programs. Her accomplishments include a job promotion, regaining custody of her children, purchasing a vehicle, and securing a lease for her apartment.

Graduate S. Chew proudly shared his significant accomplishments as well, including maintaining sobriety, securing employment, and becoming a mentor for participants in the GEO program. He was also given the opportunity to share his inspiring testimony with various community programs.

Graduate E. Pedro experienced a heartfelt surprise during the ceremony when his brother and sister-in-law arrived. Initially, he struggled to reach his family and felt disheartened about attending the event. However, his case manager successfully contacted them, emphasizing the importance of their presence. The moment was particularly moving for Mr. Pedro, who held back tears of joy as he saw his brother walk into the building, creating a sense of celebration among all attendees.





# Celebrating Excellence: April's Student of the Month and Most Improved Participant at the Memphis Day Reporting Center

Written By **Adrienne Corlew, Memphis Day Reporting Center**



At the Memphis Day Reporting Center (DRC), we believe in recognizing and celebrating the achievements of our participants through our Student of the Month program. The goal of this initiative is to promote positive behavior, foster a supportive and judgment-free environment, and encourage participants to strive toward their goals with confidence.

We are proud to announce Stanley Thomas as our Student of the Month for April. Mr. Thomas' hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed. He consistently participates in group sessions with a positive attitude and demonstrates an inspiring level of initiative. Whether it's supporting his peers or engaging with staff, he consistently shows respect—not only to others, but to himself as well. He is a shining example of what commitment and personal growth can look like. Awesome job, Mr. Thomas!

In addition to celebrating our Student of the Month, we have also chosen to recognize our Most Improved Participant—a new honor meant to acknowledge those who are making meaningful progress. By celebrating their efforts, we hope to build their confidence and motivate continued success.



Congratulations to Mr. Russell Jackson, our Most Improved Participant for April! Mr. Jackson has demonstrated a commendable transformation, showing improvement in attendance, behavior, and group participation. His growing positive attitude and determination to succeed have been truly impressive. We are incredibly proud of his progress and look forward to seeing him continue to strive for excellence. Well done, Mr. Jackson!

At the Memphis DRC, we are committed to uplifting our participants, recognizing their growth, and supporting their journey every step of the way.



## Battling Fires and Stigmas: How New Hope and STOP Region 2 Empower Former Inmates

Written By **Rena Roman, STOP Region 2 (Non-Residential Reentry)**

Recently, more than 1,100 inmate firefighters were deployed to battle the Southern California, Eaton and Palisades fires, working tirelessly to slow the spread and protect lives and property. Among them were several former participants from GEO Group's STOP Region 2, New Hope Reentry Housing, program. These are men who once fought fires behind prison walls but are now officially on the frontlines as free individuals, making a direct impact on their communities. New Hope, a STOP Region 2 provider, has played a pivotal role in helping formerly incarcerated individuals transition into meaningful careers—most notably through the Ventura Training Center (VTC). Through collaboration with parole and CDCR, New Hope has helped connect men with the only program that certifies and qualifies formerly incarcerated individuals for careers in firefighting. Their dedication and bravery are a testament to the power of second chances and the support systems that make them possible.

A special acknowledgment must be given to Ken Hartman, owner of New Hope, and his amazing team, whose dedication and unwavering belief in the potential of these individuals has been instrumental in their success. Through his work, Ken has provided countless men with not just an opportunity, but a renewed sense of hope and courage. He reminds them—and all of us—that a prison sentence does not define who they are. Instead, it is their choices moving forward that serve as their testament to the world. His commitment to guiding them toward a future filled with purpose and redemption has changed lives in ways that words can hardly capture.





## Two Idaho Connection and Intervention Stations Seek New Team Members at Job Fairs While Making New Community Connections

Written By **Kaitlin Blalock,**  
**Boise and Caldwell Connection and Intervention Stations**

During the beginning of 2025, both the Boise and Caldwell Connection and Intervention Stations (CIS) attended two different job fairs to recruit new hires for open positions. The Program Managers (PMs) and Employment/Education Coordinators (EECs) from both offices set up a table with signs and class materials that helped display the “Why” behind the programs’ daily operations. Job seekers from all backgrounds approached the table and inquired about what the program does, how it does it, and what the current openings were. The staff in attendance excitedly answered all questions and handed out fliers detailing the responsibilities of the open positions. Through these interactions, the number of applications for the open positions at both offices increased noticeably.

Fortunately, the job fairs provided opportunities for more than just filling open positions. At both job fairs, the PMs were left to man the table while the EECs ventured out to make connections with other companies in an attempt to develop a detailed list of local second chance employers. While many companies were unsure of whether they were second chance or not, some companies expressed a distinct interest in what each CIS aims to achieve with justice-involved individuals. At the end of both events, the EECs were able to create a list of employers that are either open to or advocate for second

chance employment. This list will be utilized in both offices to help participants obtain meaningful employment.

In addition to seeking new team members and finding fair-chance employers, both the EECs and PMs were able to connect with other community providers that were interested in working with the CIS to provide services to participants. These providers included services such as higher education, cosmetology, mental health, and fitness programs. Over the coming months, many of these organizations will be contacted by the EECs in an attempt to have the providers present their offered services to participants through a class called Community Connection. The purpose of this class is to provide a meaningful connection with a variety of services offered in the community, in the hopes that participants integrate those connections into their support system.

Attending both job fairs provided a valuable opportunity to connect with skilled candidates and share GEO’s mission of supporting successful transition back into the community. Equally as exciting was the opportunity to connect with second chance employers and community providers, which will only aid in our commitment to support the success of our participants.





## Participant Acknowledges Heartfelt Gratitude for Their Case Manager at Tennessee Reentry

Written By **Adrienne Corlew,**  
**Cookeville District Office**

Beverly Lisic, a Case Manager with the Tennessee Reentry program has received glowing comments from her participants. After successfully completing the Cognitive Behavior Intervention Program (CBIP) one of her students sent a statement of gratitude:

"I just want to take a minute to share what Ms. Beverly's class has done for me. I've learned how to set boundaries, how to say "no"—and know that it's okay. I've learned how to give myself the gratitude I deserve. Because of this class, I now have a much more positive attitude toward life, and I feel comfortable with the changes I've made.

This class has truly made me a better person. It changed my wrong way of thinking and gave me a whole new mindset. My advice to anyone, even if you were forced to attend—make the best of it and learn all you can.

Thank you, Ms. Bev., you're a great teacher. Good luck, and may God bless and lead you always."

These positive outcomes are a direct reflection of the incredible dedication and commitment our case managers bring to their work. Through their efforts, they help participants grow, heal, and become the best version of themselves.

Outstanding work, Ms. Beverly—well done!

## GEO Counselors Celebrate Professional Milestone

Written By **Angela Geisinger, Continuum of Care**

GEO Continuum of Care® (CoC) is proud to celebrate a major professional achievement as several of its Substance Use Disorder Treatment Counselors have earned the esteemed Certified Addiction Professional (CAP) and Masters level Certified Addiction Professional (MCAP), for Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC) credential through the Florida Certification Board (FCB). This milestone not only recognizes the individual dedication and clinical expertise of these counselors—it also underscores GEO's unwavering commitment to professional development, workforce excellence, and evidence-based care.

The CAP credential is a rigorous, state-recognized standard for addiction professionals, requiring education, supervised experience, and successful completion of a comprehensive exam. For GEO CoC counselors, the journey to CAP status reflects countless hours of hands-on clinical work, documentation, and a deep commitment to the ethical and effective treatment of individuals battling substance use disorders.

At GEO, we believe professional development is not optional—it's essential. Our counselors are on the front lines of change, and we invest in their growth because we know their impact ripples through entire communities.

Newly licensed Counselor, Beatrice Augustave believes, "becoming a licensed mental health counselor is not just a milestone—it's a promise. It's a commitment to uphold the highest standards of care, to be a voice of hope, and to walk alongside those navigating their hardest days. Through my work with GEO, I've had the honor of serving individuals who are often overlooked. Every session, every conversation, is a chance to remind someone of their worth and potential. This license is not the end of a journey—it's the beginning of a deeper, more purposeful one."

GEO provides counselors with access to training resources, ongoing clinical supervision, and financial support to pursue certifications like the CAP. This emphasis on credentialed care ensures that every client receives treatment from professionals who meet or exceed the highest industry standards.

The newly certified CAP counselors join a growing cohort of highly trained staff delivering transformative services across GEO's reentry and treatment programs.



# GEO Continuum of Care® Host Therapeutic Community Immersion Training with GEO Reentry Counselors

Written By **Angela Geisinger, Continuum of Care**

In a powerful demonstration of commitment to rehabilitation and reentry readiness, the GEO Continuum of Care® (CoC) Team recently hosted an intensive Therapeutic Community (TC) Immersion Training with staff inside Everglades Reentry Facility. The session brought together residents and staff in a unified experience designed to deepen understanding, strengthen community bonds, and reinforce the behavioral foundations essential to lasting transformation.

Their achievement is a testament to the strength of GEO's clinical leadership and its long-term investment in talent, integrity, and recovery-driven care.

As Florida and the nation continue to confront the opioid epidemic and the complex needs of justice-involved individuals, GEO's focus remains clear: build a skilled, compassionate workforce capable of delivering lasting change. Professional endorsements mark just one step on that path—and a proud one at that.

**Join us in congratulating our newly credentialed staff:**

- **CAP- Abigail Farfan, Program Manager**
- **MCAP- Richild Morgan, Lead Counselor**
- **CAP- Elisa Lastra, Counselor**
- **CAP-Michael Jimeno**
- **Beatrice Augustave, LMHC**

More than just a training, the TC Immersion was an experience—rooted in the principles of accountability, structure, peer engagement, and personal growth. Residents and staff stood side by side, actively participating in roleplay, accountability circles, group sessions, and exercises that emphasized recovery, respect, and purpose.

This type of training is about more than policies and procedures—it's about culture. When residents and staff train together, they begin to speak the same language of change. They model consistency, support one another's growth, and build a real therapeutic environment that extends far beyond the classroom.

The TC model emphasizes the collective responsibility of the community in helping each individual grow. Residents learn to confront thinking errors, embrace structure, and hold themselves and one another accountable, all hallmarks of programs that reduce recidivism and promote successful reentry. By including staff in the immersive process, the training enhances empathy and alignment between security and programming teams, creating a united front of support and stability.

"I've never been through anything like this," said one participant. "You could tell the staff were really here for us, not just here to supervise. It made me want to show up differently—not just today, but every day."

The training also incorporated curricula from core behavioral change, reinforcing a layered approach to rehabilitation. Sessions were structured to simulate real-life challenges residents may face both inside and after release, fostering decision-making, communication, and community cohesion.

As the day closed, participants stood in a circle, reciting affirmations of purpose and accountability. The unity was palpable.

"This is the blueprint for correctional culture done right," said Counselor, Desiree Reed. "We don't just teach change—we create the conditions where change can thrive."

The GEO Continuum of Care continues to innovate in the correctional rehabilitation space, proving that immersive, evidence-based, and human-centered programming can pave the way for safer communities, stronger individuals, and real second chances.



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