



TISM SEEKS CORRECTIONS OFFICERS TO VOLUNTEER AFTER TRAUMATIC EVENTS

Corrections officers, please consider becoming a TISM volunteer. This is a great way to support your fellow officers when they're grappling with stress after a traumatic event in the prison.

TISM (Traumatic Incident Stress Management) services are a continuum of specialized interventions offered to employees and are provided by qualified, specially-trained state employees who have volunteered to be part of the TISM team.

The goal of TISM intervention is to reduce long-term stress related to critical incidents. There is considerable research

and anecdotal evidence to suggest that providing support, validation, information on positive coping strategies, and available resources to employees after an incident can be very helpful. TISM is part of the Employee Service Program.

TISM Peer Support team members have a role in encouraging employee participation in TISM services and provide some services to staff. As first responders, corrections officers are likely to be affected by violent and disturbing incidents that happen in prisons, making TISM volunteers so important.

The next TISM training is Aug. 10-11 in Dimondale. Volunteer applications and more information on TISM is at mco-seiu.org. Michigan.gov/esp also has resources. You must receive three recommendations, including one from a supervisor. All forms must be submitted to Joanne Bridgford, the MDOC TISM coordinator, at bridgfordj@michigan.gov. The application deadline for the August training is July 22.

If you would like to talk to an MCO staff member about TISM before you sign up, email Karen Mazzolini (MCO's TISM contact person) at Karen@mco-seiu.org.

AROUND THE STATE: SEXUAL ASSAULT AT MRF; MORE CONTRABAND AT KCF

A Macomb prisoner sexually assaulted a psychologist June 30 as she was wrapping up an individual interview with him in her office, officers tell MCO.

As she opened the door, he tried to hug her. She resisted him and shouted "no." The unit medical chief and psychologists in nearby offices heard her shouting and responded. Custody staff immediately responded and secured the prisoner.

The inmate was transferred to ICF.

Great job to all the staff who quickly and professionally handled this situation. Stay safe.

Someone tried to throw 2-liter bottles over the Kinross fence in the early morning hours of July 4.

An electronic monitoring officer was watching cameras and spotted someone approaching the fence. The person also tripped a zone alarm. Officers immediately responded.

The bottles landed between the fences. They were tossed over near the Baker unit. Contraband including tobacco was inside the bottles, which were taped together,

officers say.

COs and other custody staff searched the perimeter. MSP also responded, but COs say no one was apprehended.

This was at least the third attempted contraband drop at Kinross in the last two months.

No PSV was out making rounds at the time of the contraband drop. Officers firmly believe constant PSV rounds deterred crimes like this.

A four-inmate fight broke out on the Unit 3 small yard at ICF this morning.

The unit is a Level V. The inmates involved were sent to segregation. They had just been released from seg not long before the fight, officers say. No serious injuries were reported.

Officer positions have been cut in Unit 3 over the last month. One position was eliminated entirely, and another is being closed for many shifts. This isn't the unit's first altercation since the staffing changes were made, officers tell us.

Ojibway officers found a cell phone on an inmate Sunday.

A few days later, a 25-foot homemade rope was discovered during a mobilization.



IN MEMORIAM: JOHN FOLEY

Retiree John Foley passed away Tuesday. Foley had worked at Huron Valley Center and the Forensic Center. He had more than 20 years in the MCO bargaining unit when he retired earlier this year.

Foley was an avid union supporter who put others first. He supported the MCO Crisis Fund throughout the years and helped deliver water to Flint members in February. He was also a published author who wrote books about lighthouses and their preservation.

Foley leaves behind a wife, children, and grandchildren.

A memorial visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m. Sunday, July 10, at the L.J Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Rd., Canton, MI, 48187.

Rest in peace, FSA Foley.