

MOVE FORWARD: FULFILLING OUR PURPOSE IN CORRECTIONS

It's no secret that criminal justice reform is sweeping the nation. From state legislatures to the halls of Congress, legislation is being introduced everyday with an eye on decreasing the U.S. prison population and exploring new and different ways of preparing incarcerated individuals for life on the outside.

But in all of this reform, where are corrections officers? Just like "tough on crime" legislation during the 1980s and 90s set a tone for a generation of Americans, alternatives to incarceration and prison downsizing will define yet another.

One thing we know is true: as front line-staff, we must meet these changes head on and develop answers to key questions surrounding criminal justice reform. We must ask ourselves, what purpose do officers serve in this new environment? Are we currently filling a needed function? Do we have the tools necessary to achieve these proposed reforms? What dangers or concerns must be addressed? Is there room for corrections staff in the conversation?

To answer these questions, MCO has created and is leading a nationwide campaign to bring the voices of corrections officers into the debate so we can be a vocal partner as these changes transform corrections. We're calling this effort "One Voice."

One Voice is made up of leading

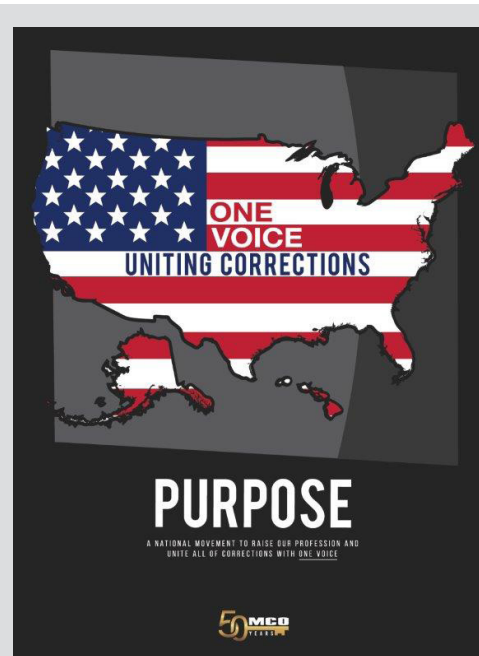
labor unions, corrections staff, criminal justice reform leaders, academics, and policy makers with the goal of building bridges and advancing a unified approach to better inform the policies, programs, and narratives that define criminal justice reform.

By collectively bringing all of these groups together, One Voice hopes to shift the conversation from debating the tensions between incarcerated individuals and corrections staff, to one that is centered on protecting the safety and interests of all who are impacted by the corrections system.

From issues like understaffing to overcrowding, corrections officers must have a meaningful influence on the policies that shape our nation's criminal justice system. By injecting our expertise and point of view, we can ensure the safety, health, and security of all staff, inmates, and others impacted by criminal justice reform.

As stakeholders in these changes, we have a vested interest in seeing the best possible outcome and must fight to include our position, regardless of political agendas or party affiliation.

To aid in this campaign and make sure Michigan is heard loud and clear, **we are asking members to [fill out the One Voice survey](#), designed to guide MCO and One Voice on topics and issues**



This month's value in the Move Forward campaign is Purpose. [View the poster now on Instagram.](#)

important to corrections officers. All responses are anonymous and information will not be shared or used for anything outside the intended purposes of One Voice.

We understand that this survey will take some of your time; however, this is our chance to influence the conversation and inject our experience and knowledge into the state and national debate.

If we don't [act now](#), reform will end up happening to us, instead of with us.

MCO 2018 BARGAINING SURVEY OPEN NOW

Members, please take the 2018 MCO Bargaining Survey now. The survey will close at 11:59 p.m. July 12.

The survey link was emailed Tuesday to all dues-paying members who have

provided MCO with a personal, home email address. The survey will not be emailed to work email addresses. If you did not receive an email with the survey link, please email mail@mco-seiu.org.

MCO continues to work tirelessly to spread awareness of corrections PTSD.

We recently worked with Michigan Radio, a public radio station that broadcasts around the state, on a [story about the dangers and stress](#) corrections officers face. This story will be heard by thousands of people around Michigan.

Listen to the story now at michiganradio.org.



IN MEMORIAM: CO DOMBROSKI

Lakeland CO Dylan Dombroski passed away June 13.

Dombroski started with the MDOC in February 2017. Before that, he served six years in the U.S. Army.

LCF staff have started a [Go Fund Me page](#) to support Dombroski's two children. The MCO Crisis Fund will also give the family support.

Rest in peace, Officer Dombroski.