



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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May 6th through the 10th is National Correctional Employee Appreciation Week

May 2, 2019 – (Concord, NH) The New Hampshire Department of Corrections (NHDOC) is proud to recognize the dedicated men and women who make up the Department. The staff’s unwavering dedication to the rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals is evident in their professionalism and commitment.

“Correctional officers have the difficult and often dangerous assignment of ensuring the custody, safety and well-being of the over 600,000 inmates in our Nation's prisons and jails. Their position is essential to the day-to-day operations of these institutions; without them it would be impossible to achieve the foremost institutional goals of security and control... Historically, correctional officers have been viewed as ‘guards,’ occupying isolated and misunderstood positions in prisons and jails... The important work of correctional Officers often does not receive the recognition from the public it deserves”

- President Ronald Regan, May 5, 1984 proclaiming the first full week of May as National Correctional Officer Week.

NHDOC Commissioner Helen Hanks reiterated President Regan’s words just a couple weeks ago as she provided the keynote address at the graduation of the 110th New Hampshire Corrections Officer Academy. “We are more than security. We are the agents that motivate people to change,” she said to the group of 24 new officers.

Commissioner Hanks and Assistant Commissioner Benjamin Jean will spend time at each facility including: the NH State Prison for Men (NHSPM), the NH Correctional Facility for Women (NHCFW), the Northern New Hampshire Correctional Facility (NNHCF) and the Transitional Housing Units. They will present medals and awards to several staff members who have shown exemplary leadership and have gone above and beyond in their duties to serve.

NHDOC staff is made up of more than 800 men and women involved in diverse positions including corrections officers, case managers, counselors, teachers, maintenance and kitchen as well as many more who are essential in supporting our residents to rehabilitation. Corrections are staffed with employees who recognize the importance of getting residents ready for reintegration into society and understand that healthier residents mean a healthier community. This week provides a wonderful reminder of correctional staff dedication: something that occurs each and every day throughout the year.

For more information on the week’s event please email laura.montenegro@doc.nh.gov.