## DC CORRECTIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL



## **Message from the Executive Director**



Greetings from the CIC. Two executive board members Katherine Huffman and Nkechi Taifa were reappointed to new terms. The CIC would like to express its continued gratitude for their dedication and steadfast commitment to public service and advancing the CIC's mission. Additionally, as we embark upon FY2026, I would like to remind you to please review the CIC website regularly for updated information, findings, and recommendations regarding the DOC

and BOP. There are multiple resources, such as inspection reports, thematic reports, annual reports, and information sheets, which are available HERE.

The CIC convened its quarterly public meeting on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Key updates and issues were addressed, including the CIC's recent inspection of <u>FCC Hazelton</u> conducted September 16–18, 2025. The review highlighted the impact of ongoing lockdowns and extensive waitlists on the rehabilitation of DC residents, particularly in areas such as education, programming, visitation, and access to medical and mental health services.

Concerns were also raised regarding <u>Fairview</u>, the local women's reentry center, where complaints have surfaced about restroom functionality.

October 1<sup>st</sup> marked the implementation date for eligible DC Code offenders in federal custody to receive time credits for First Step Act programming, and the CIC will monitor the process as it is administered. Due to the recent government shutdown and broader economic constraints, the CIC is currently unable to update its numerical data on the Federal Bureau of Prisons. These disruptions limited our statistical reporting efforts; however, we remain committed to transparency and will resume updates as soon as standard BOP operations recommence.

The CIC's FY2025 annual report on the DC Department of Corrections (DOC) is forthcoming. The DOC recently launched new apprenticeship trainings in Painting, Barbering, Cosmetology, and Plumbing to expand vocational opportunities for residents. Additionally, on July 30, 2025, the DOC celebrated the Mayo Angelo Academy graduation, as well as the LEAD Out graduation on September 26, 2025,

where men and women completed their respective programs and received certificates of achievement. These initiatives strengthen reentry pathways and career readiness for returning community members. Congratulations to those graduates as they embark on new endeavors. For information on the future of the jail, information on the status of plans for the prospective building can be located HERE.

If you have not already, please also view our documentary titled "IRAA: Creating Hope", which presents a historical and legislative framework for understanding the journey of six men released after the passage of the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA). The six men were all incarcerated as juveniles (under 18) and served at least twenty years in prison; although more recent legislation has resulted in potential sentence modification hearings for those who are under the age of 25 and have served at least 15 years.

The documentary is accessible on <u>YouTube</u>, and our agency is in the process of developing additional educational content.

Thank you to the community for your continued communication and support.

-Donald Isaac