

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

SD Department of Corrections

Corrections Commission
September 17, 2026





SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Rehabilitation & Reentry Division Overview

Director Bridget Coppersmith

Rehabilitation & Reentry Division

The new division brings together people, programs, data and resources to strengthen rehabilitation, improve reentry outcomes and enhance public safety.

Areas of Focus

- Reentry Services
- Education & Technical Programming
- Cultural Activities
- Planning & Analytics
- Quality & Performance



Rehabilitation & Reentry Division

Our Opportunity

- **Connect** rehabilitation, education, reentry, cultural activities, planning and programming around a shared purpose.
- **Strengthen** evidence-based practices to address individual needs and **reduce barriers** to success.
- **Prepare** individuals for successful reentry well **before release**.
- **Partner** with education, workforce and community resources to **build pathways to success**.
- **Measure** outcomes and use data to understand **what works** and where we can **improve**.
- **Align** processes and expectations to create **greater consistency** across the DOC.





SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Pheasantland Industries

Associate Director Rene Stolsmark

Pheasantland Industries

Rough Rider Prison Industry Tour

- **Inmate/Worker Population:** 1 800/1 70
- **Revenue:** \$10M Annually - \$11M cash on hand
- **Business Model:** Mandated, Self-Funded, Retain Earned Revenue, Prospects - can sell to public through distributors
- **Primary Industries:** Commissary, License Plate, Sign, Print, Garment, Upholstery, Cabinets, Chemicals, Plastic Bags, Commissary, Metal/Welding
- **Core Products:** Furniture, Dumpsters, Dump Truck Bucket, Plow Blades, Military Apparel, Garbage bags
- Invested \$4M in Fiber Laser Cutter and Paint Booth
- **Opportunities:**
 - Cross sell PI boxes – ND garbage bags
 - Combine Cost Centers – Garment/Upholstery, Sign/Print
 - Use ND upholstery furniture models/samples, mattresses sold on commissary
 - New vendors
 - Share software and samples
 - Org Chart: Purchasing Agent, Sales Team



Pheasantland Industries

Iowa Prison Industries Tour

- **Inmate/Worker Population:** 8500/800
- **Revenue:** \$29M Annually
- **Business Model:** Mandated, Self-Funded, Retain Earned Revenue, Prospects limited to Government and Non-Profit
- **Primary Industries:** Commissary, License Plates, Sign, Print, Garment, Laundry, Filters, Chemicals, Plastic Bags, Metal/Welding, Balloons, Imaging
- **Core Products:** Picnic Tables, Benches, Barricades, Plastic Bags, Chemicals, HVAC Filters, Commissary
- **Opportunities:**
 - Cross sell – PI custom boxes for IA filters
 - Lean Manufacturing
 - Chemicals
 - Laser Cutter
 - New vendors
 - Design Approval Template
 - Org Chart: Sales Team





SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Rapid City Correctional Facility Updates

Warden Eric Aldridge

Rapid City Correctional Facility Updates

Inmate Reception Timeline

- September 15
 - 16 inmates arriving
- September 17
 - 16 inmates arriving
- This process will continue weekly until full.



Rapid City Correctional Facility Updates

Programs/Activities

- Therapeutic Community
- Western Dakota Tech, Hospitality
- K-9 rescue
- Moral Recognition Therapy
- GED Tutoring
- In2Work Program
- ServeSafe
- Mother Infant Program (MIP)
- Work Release
- Religious resources
- Women's Opportunity Resource Development
- Prison Re-entry Program (PreP)



Staffing and Professions

139 Full-time Employees

- Administration
- Behavioral Health
- Case management
- Maintenance
- Medical, Nursing, Dental
- Security



Therapeutic Community

Purpose & Mission

The RCCF Substance Abuse Therapeutic Community is a **highly structured, peer-driven treatment environment** aimed at **reducing recidivism, fostering pro-social values, and supporting substance-free living**. Rooted in national TC models, it emphasizes **Right Living, personal accountability, community responsibility, and continuous social learning**. The TC operates **24/7** as a self-contained community where peers **model, confront, and reinforce healthy behaviors**.

Core Philosophy & Approach

- Substance abuse is seen as a disorder of the whole person; **change requires restructuring thoughts, behaviors, values, and emotions**.
- The **peer community**—not individual therapy—is the **primary agent of change**.
- Members learn through **structure, confrontation, group participation, daily responsibilities, and role modeling**.
- Staff function as **rational authority**, guiding but not controlling members; coordinators are “**trusted servants**,” not supervisors.





Thank you!