



# Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC)

2023 JUSTICE SYSTEM APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENTATION

DR. BETH SKINNER, DIRECTOR

FEBRUARY 2023



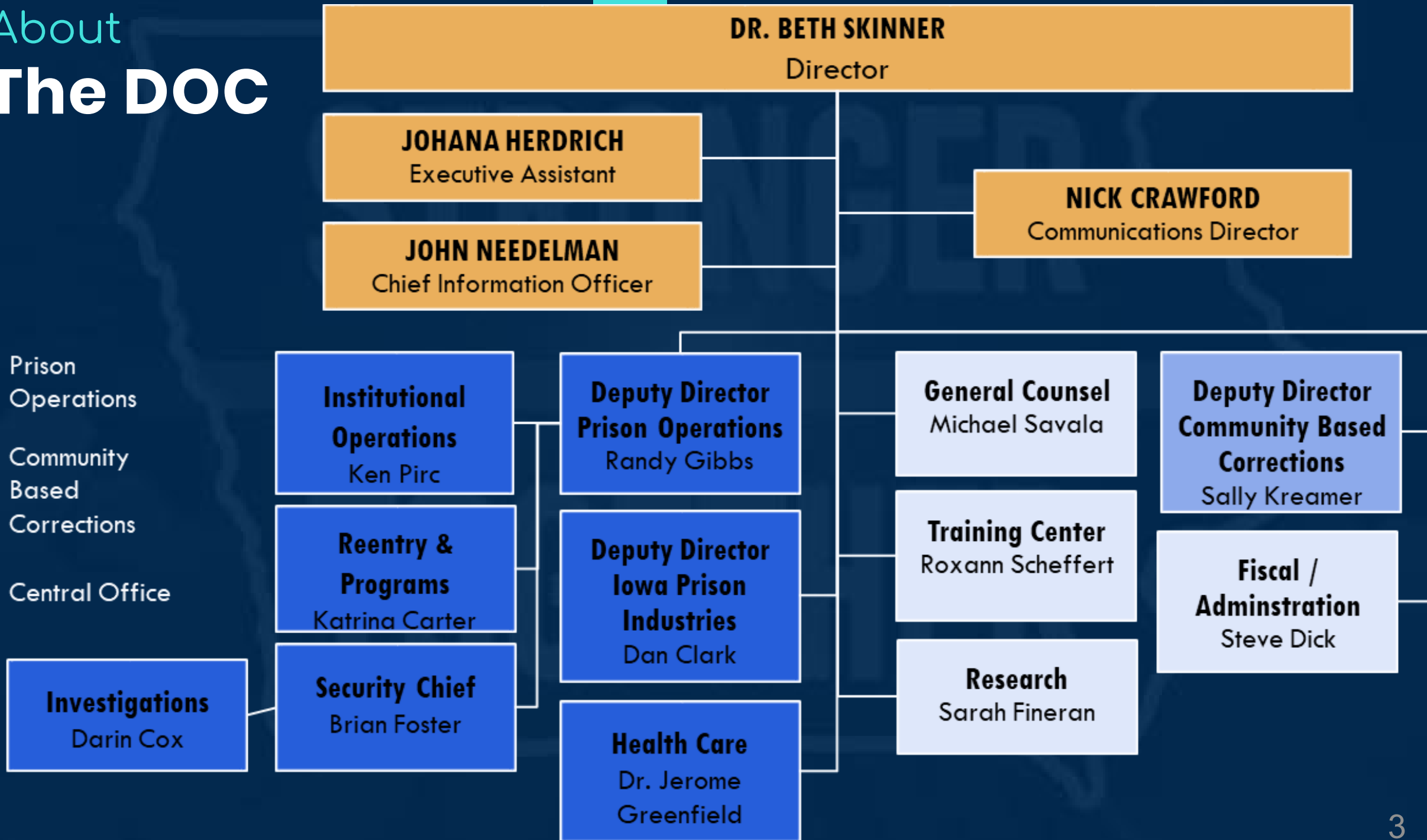
**To improve is to  
change;  
to be perfect is to  
change often."**

- Winston Churchill



# About The DOC

- Prison Operations
- Community Based Corrections
- Central Office

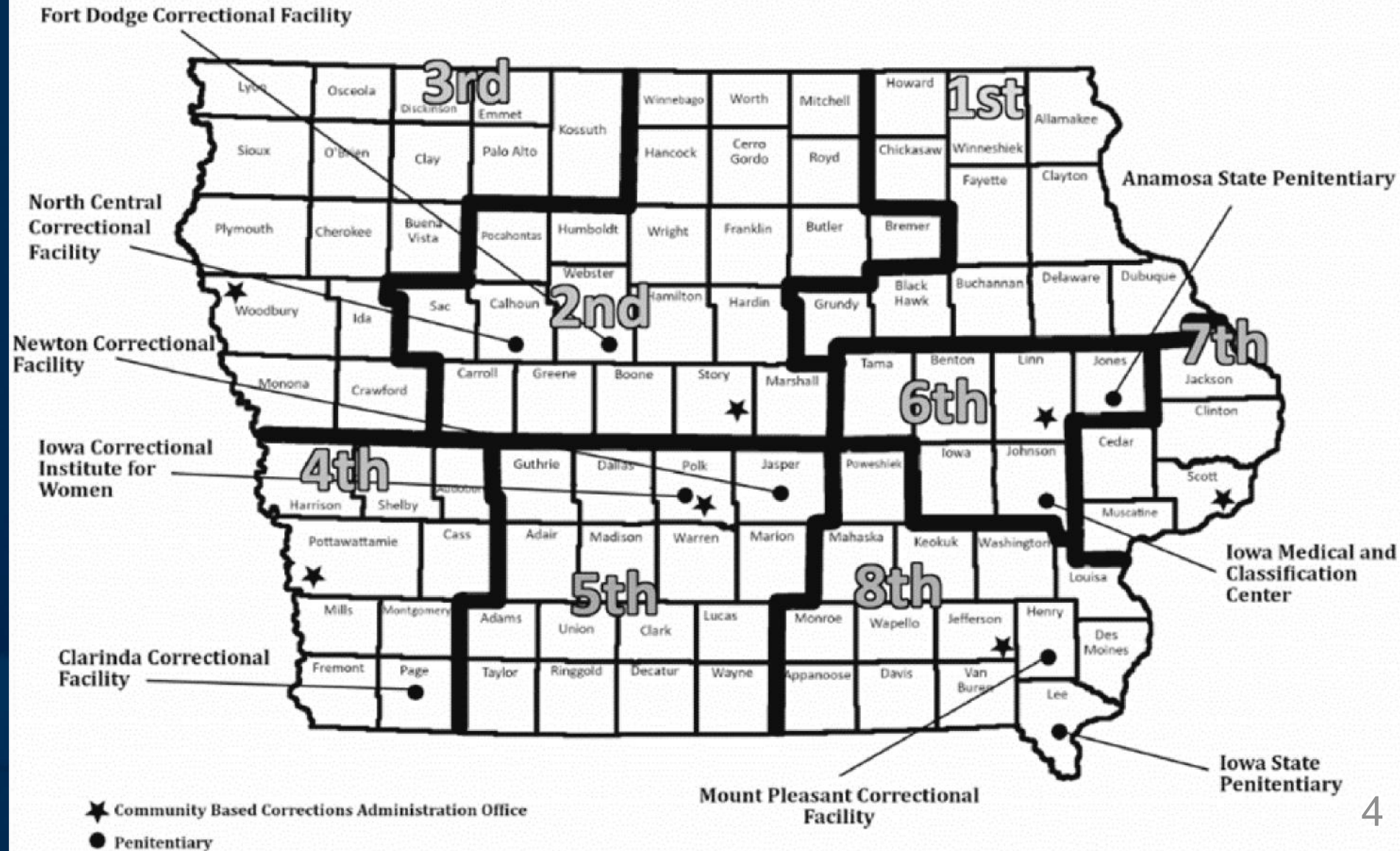


# About The DOC

Iowa Code 904.12  
Establishes the  
Department of  
Corrections.

*"The Iowa department  
of corrections is  
responsible for the  
control, treatment, and  
rehabilitation of  
offenders committed  
under law..."*

## IOWA JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND INSTITUTIONS

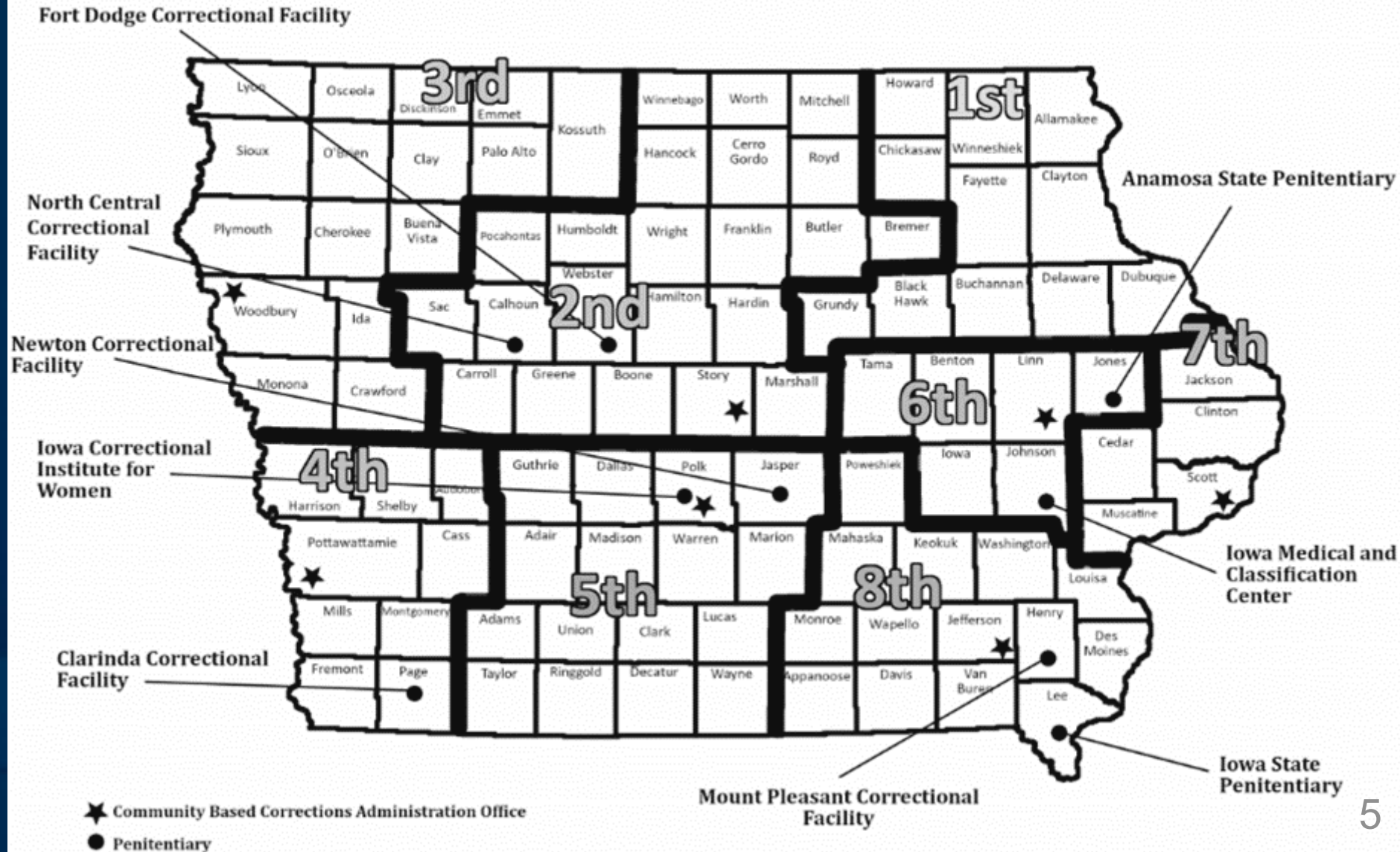


# About The DOC

905.2 District departments established.

*...Each district department shall furnish or contract for those services necessary to provide a community-based correctional program which meets the needs of that judicial district. The district department is under the direction of a board of directors, selected as provided in section 905.3, and shall be administered by a director employed by the board. A district department is a state agency for purposes of chapter 669.*

## IOWA JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND INSTITUTIONS



## About

# The DOC

### Vision:

An Iowa with No More Victims

### Mission:

Creating Opportunities for Safer  
Communities

### Values:

Creating Opportunities for Success is  
our Goal

Reentry is our process

Evidenced Based Practices are our Tools

Staff is our Most Important Asset



About

# Our Strategic Plan

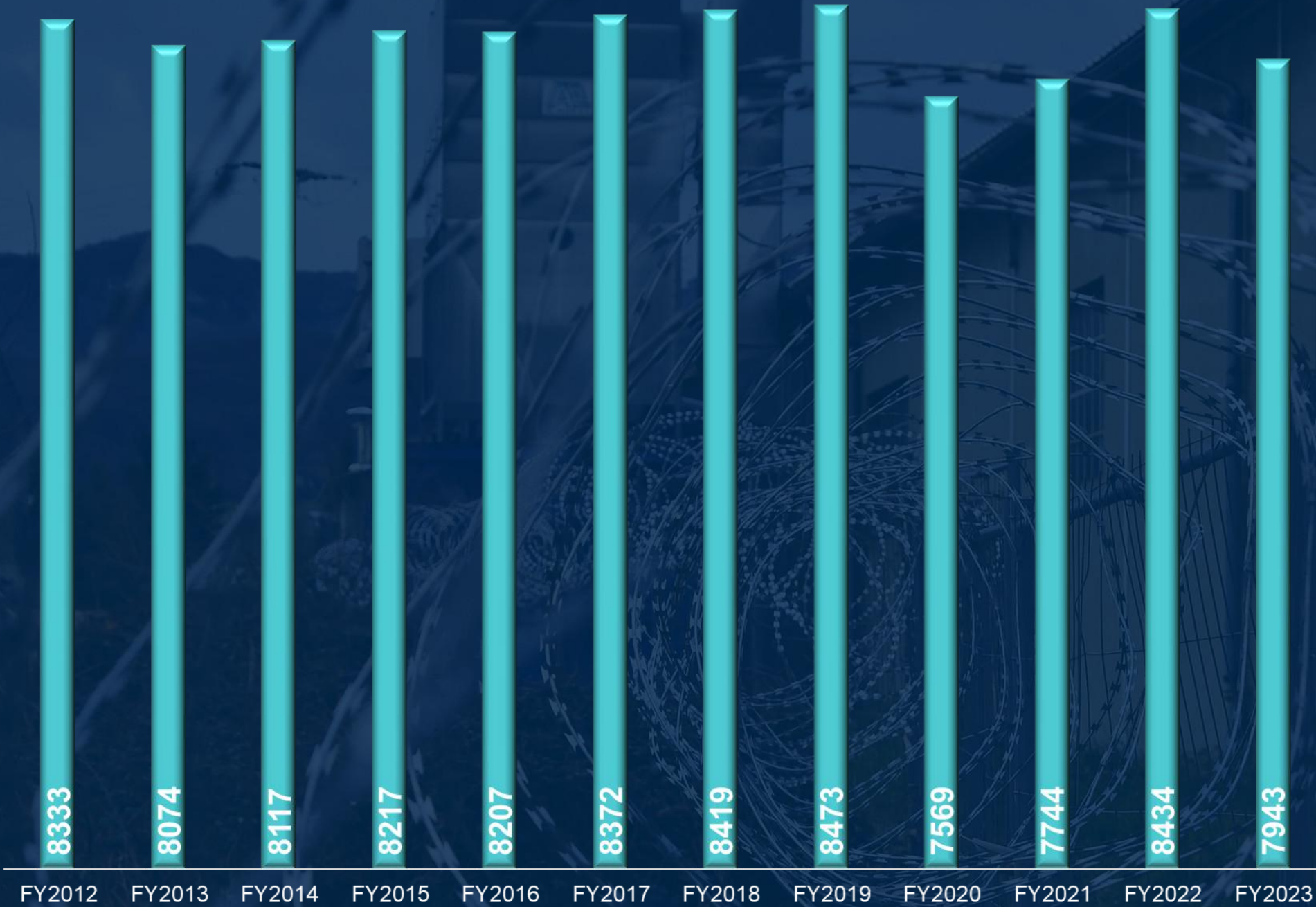
## 3 Core Priorities:

- Security & Safety
- Treatment & Programming
- Reentry

## 5 Target Areas:

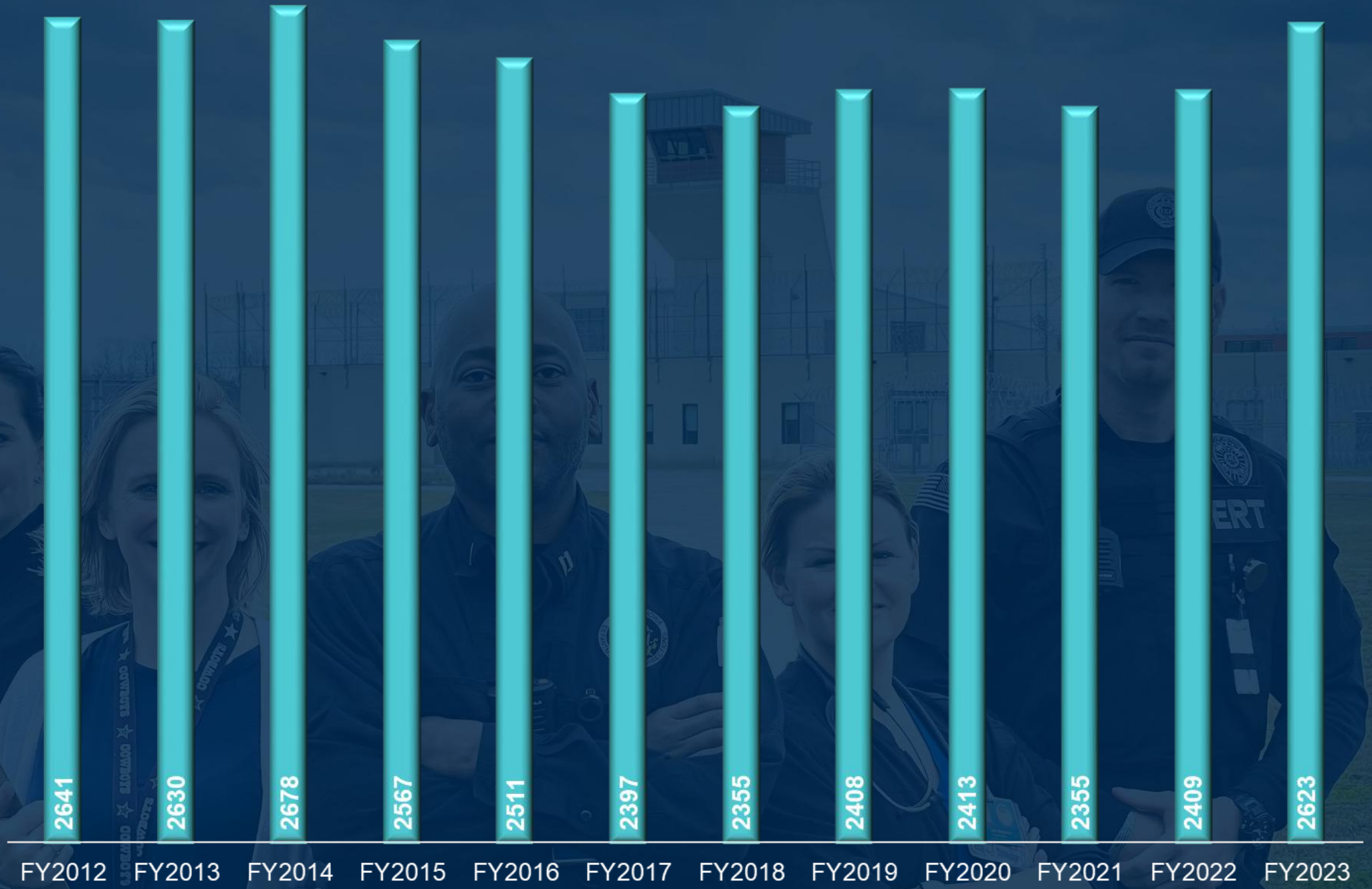
- Train & Empower
- Reduce Risk & Increase Protective Factors
- Reduce Barriers
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Reducing Racial Disparities & Increasing a Diverse Workforce

# About Prison Population





# About Prison Staff



# About CBC Population

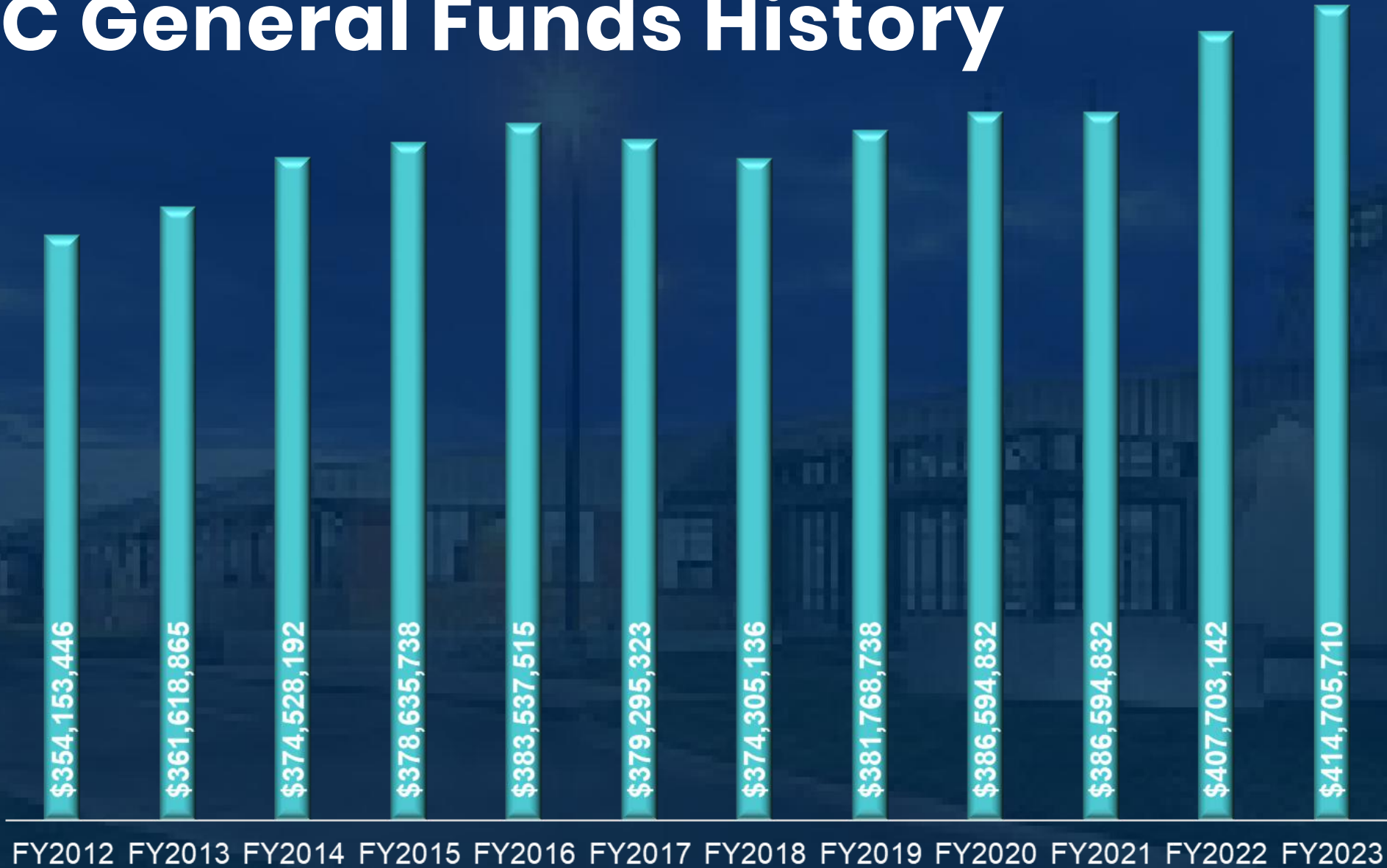


# About CBC Staff



About

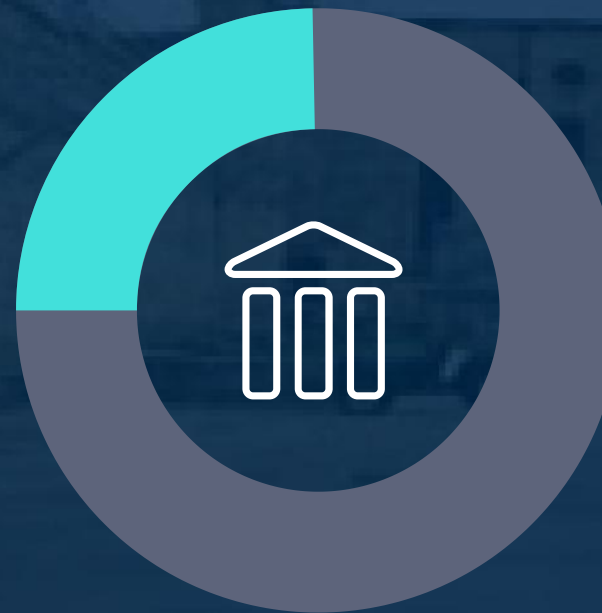
# DOC General Funds History



# FY2023 DOC General Funds



**Prisons**  
**72.35%**



**CBCs**  
**24.60%**



**Central Office**  
**3.05%**

About

# Governor's FY2024 Budget Recommendations

## Pharmacy Increases:

- Transfer \$243,797 from Department Wide Duties
- Increase \$750,000 for Hepatitis C Treatment
- Total Increase: **\$993,797**

General Increase: **\$11,897,254**

Institution Utilities Inflation Adjustment Increase: **\$1,804,744**

OCIO Fees Transfer Decrease: **-\$512,665**

# Anamosa State Penitentiary

# Security Designation Change

Current Security Designation: Medium / Maximum Security

New Security Designation: Medium Security

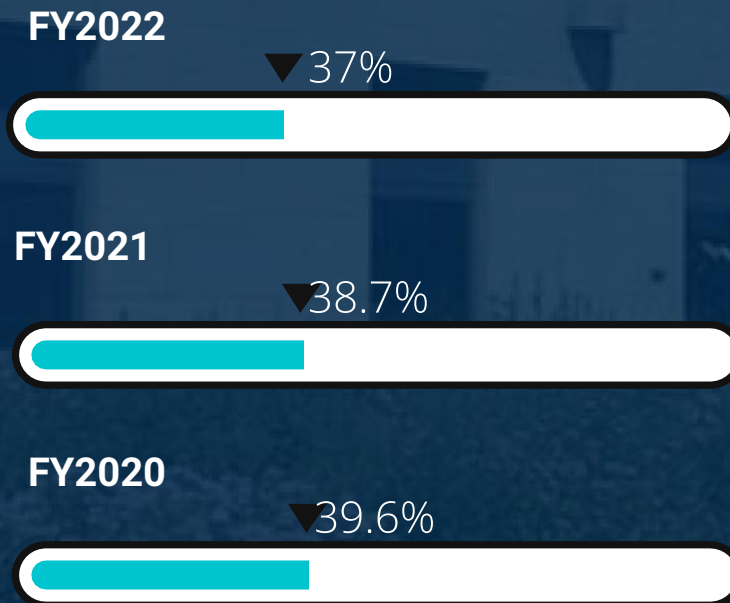
Rationale for Change:

- Population Management
- Additional Treatment Opportunities

# About Recidivism Rates

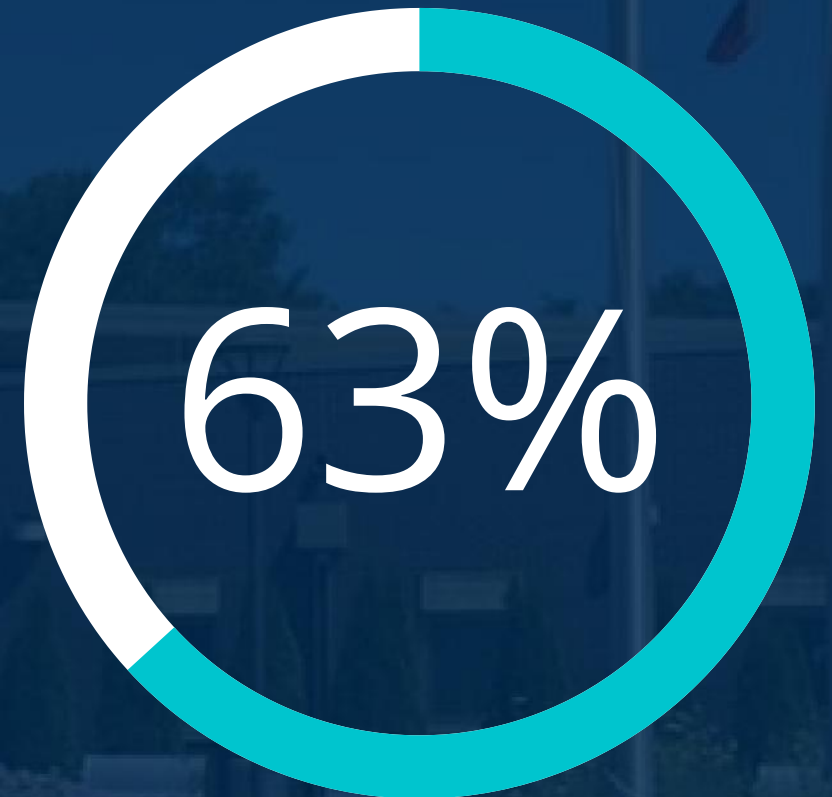
## Three-Year Recidivism Trends

Over the course of the last two years, the recidivism rate has decreased by 2.6%



## Successful Reentry Rate

In FY22, 63% of those who were released from prison three-years earlier, successfully reentered the community and did not return to prison.





# About Security Improvements

- Addition of body scanners at several facilities
- Use of body cameras
- Enhanced security audit process for all facilities.
- Conducted Security Auditor Training through National Institute of Corrections, adding 25 Certified Auditors
- Two Compliance Officers monitoring security compliance throughout the prison facilities

## Our Employees

# Recruiting / Retention Efforts

### Sign-on and Referral Bonuses:

- Correctional Officers
- Nursing Staff

### Recruiting:

- Recruiting and Retention Specialist
- Marketing Efforts

### Retention:

- Wellness Program
- Mentoring Program
- Staff Recognition Program

# Our Employees Centralized Training

Shift from non-centralized training system to a centralized system

- Increased fidelity
- Renewed focus on a professionalized workforce



## About Data Driven Decisions

# DOC Dashboards and Analytics

### Prison Alert Dashboard:

Utilizes a violence prediction model to determine an individual's assault risk while incarcerated; enhancing the safety and security of both correction's staff and individuals incarcerated

### Early Alert Dashboard:

Utilizes a risk prediction algorithm developed from years of Iowa community corrections' data, to flag individuals who have a high assaultive risk as well as those who are generally at risk for community supervision failure

\*The intent of both alert dashboards are to deploy added interventions and support services to help stabilize individuals at risk



## About Data Driven Decisions

# DOC Dashboards and Analytics

### Medical Outbreak Management Dashboard:

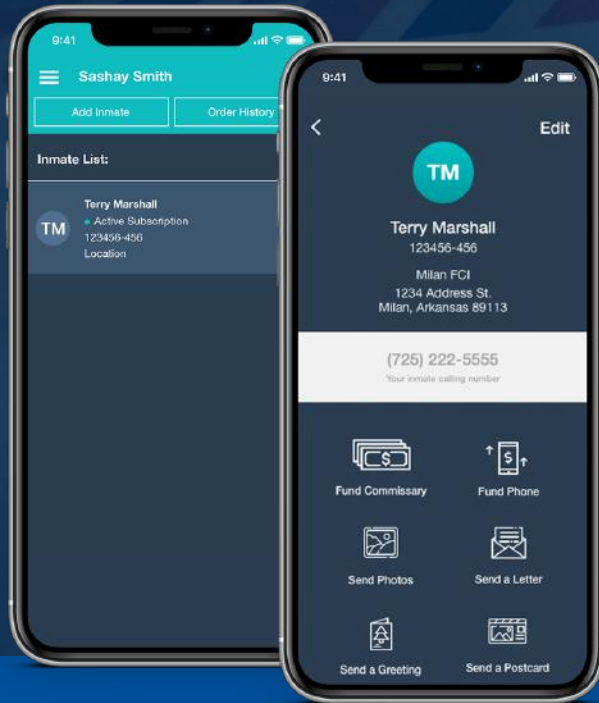
For the institutions' medical teams to help better manage, track, and analyze communicable disease trends of those incarcerated

### Release Candidates Dashboard:

Created to help correctional staff identify clients who may be appropriate candidates for BOP review and institutional release



# Non-Legal Mail Scanning Service Pigeonly



## Purpose:

- Curtail the introduction of contraband through non-legal mail

## Impacts:

- No cost to friends and family to send non-legal mail through Pigeonly
- Significant reduction in contraband introduction





## Treatment Pilot Project **Tech2Connect**

### **Purpose:**

- Increase the number of individuals who received evidence-based cognitive treatment and increase the dosage of evidence based cognitive programming received

### **Impacts:**

- 1,000 individuals have been served by the program
- CBC districts utilized tablets and technology to connect with individual incarcerated prior to release to begin the reentry process



About Our

# Apprenticeship Program Study

This study showed that those who completed an apprenticeship program:

- were less likely to return to prison
- were more likely to find work
- received higher wages





About

# The Alignment Bill

**Merges Community Based Corrections (CBCs) into the Department of Corrections**

- The Director of the DOC assumes management and oversight of the CBC Districts, creating a single corrections continuum
- The District Boards will remain in an advisory capacity
- Drives operational consistency to decrease recidivism and increase public safety
- 80% of CBC funding comes from the General Fund; the remaining 20% is from fees collected from clients



Thank you for  
investing in our  
mission:

**Creating  
Opportunities  
for Safer  
Communities**

