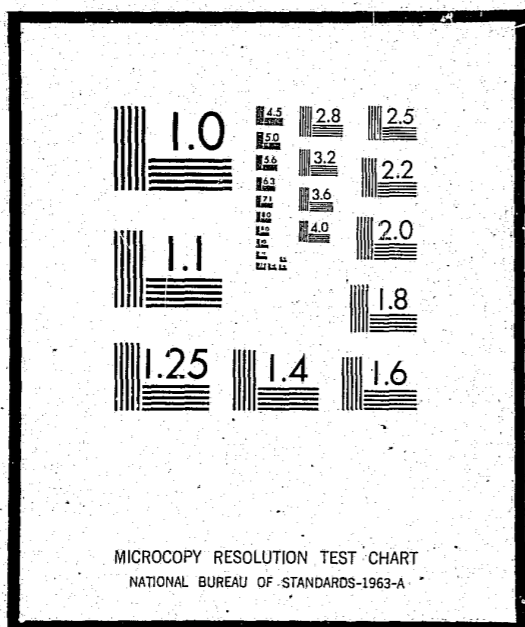


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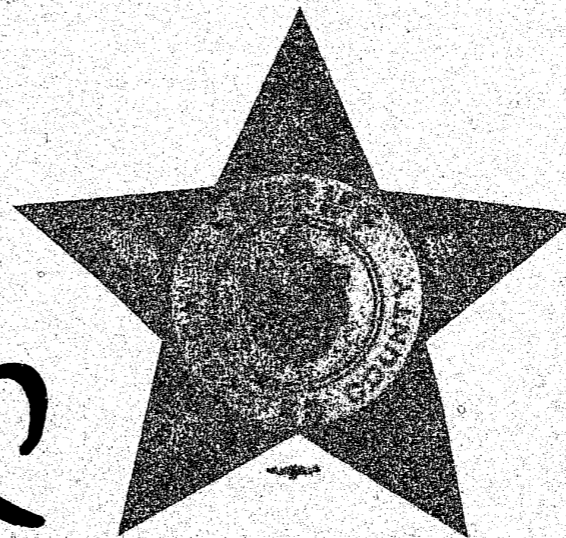
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1973



JOSEPH A. SMITH
SHERIFF

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the
Sheriff of Worcester County
West Boylston

To Whom It May Concern:

The following Annual Report describes the various activities and programs at the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction for calendar 1973.

Eleven months of 1973 was spent in the old jail facility on Summer Street in Worcester. The move to our new home in West Boylston was completed in ten hours on November 30, 1973. From that moment forward we have worked dilligently to fully implement all of the plans drawn during the preceding months and years of discussion, evaluation, and review.

The future of the Worcester County House of Correction as a recognized leader in progressive reform thinking can be assured if everyone concerned, line officer and social worker alike, pulls together in a united effort at creating a safe, secure institution in which every opportunity is present for practical, meaningful prisoner rehabilitation.

Some of our mistakes are behind us and from these we have learned. Other mistakes are yet to come and from these we shall gain greater insight and a firmer grasp on the multitude of problems facing corrections today.

Very truly yours,

Joseph A. Smith
SHERIFF

April 1974

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(MA)-
WORCESTER COUNTY JAIL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION

ANNUAL REPORT

1973

HONORABLE JOSEPH A. SMITH

HIGH SHERIFF

COUNTY OF WORCESTER

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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WORK RELEASE PROGRAM

I am very pleased to report another outstanding year for the Work Release Program, a year in which 172 men and women participated in jobs at the following 31 Greater Worcester companies:

Independent Plating	Kirkos Construction
Class Guard Industries	Interstate Builders
Norton Company	Bancroft Motors
K & K Plumbing	Robert Hass Painting
P & R General Contracting	Vendetti Construction
Perry Carpeting	Etre Auto Body
Amoco Chemicals	Fleming's Garage
McNichols Construction	General Wire Products
Produx, Inc.	Modern Manufacturing
Melville Shoe Corporation	Ivy League Furniture
Worcester Foundry	Air Space, Inc.
Russell Machine	Worcester Chrome Furniture
Wright Line, Inc.	Billing's Auto Supply
Goodwill Industries	Gallo Motors
Androck, Inc.	
Wesley Methodist Church	
Career Opportunity Training Center	

On January 1, 1973, a total of 31 individuals were involved in the program. Since then and until December 31, 1973, 141 men and women were approved for Work Release and given jobs. Twenty inmates remained with their work as of December 31, 1973.

Of the 172 participants:

- 60 Were Paroled
- 27 Were released on expiration of sentence
- 2 Were removed because of warrants
- 9 Escaped (and later re-captured)
- 10 Quit their jobs
- 12 Were fired
- 1 Was removed from work by doctor's orders
- 1 Was released by order of Probate Court
- 21 Were removed for infraction of institutional rules
- 2 Were hurt on the job
- 7 Were granted a County Commissioner's Release
- 20 Remained on the program as of December 31, 1973

With the end of 1973, the total number of individuals who have participated in the Work Release Program since its inception on February 12, 1968, reached 622. A total of 277 people were interviewed by the Work Release Board during 1973. Of that number, 106 were denied because of seriousness of crime, warrants, types of offense, etc. Thirty were postponed until 1974 due to the length of their remaining sentence. The 172 participants for the year earned a total of \$100,552.33. This amount brings the net total earned since this program's beginning to \$424,877.39.

Of the 152 inmates who participated in Work Release and were also release from prison during 1973, some 37 returned to jail on new charges or violations of Parole or Probation. Thus the recidivism for prisoners in this one program is less than 25%. Bearing in mind that the national recidivism average is well above 85%, our figures show a remarkable low incidence of re-arrests and various violations.

I wish to thank Captain Francis T. Foley, my Work Release Supervisor, and Captain Joseph Lanava, his assistant, for their very fine direction of this complex program. As in years past, the Work Release Board, especially Deputy Master John M. Flynn and Captain Robert Carelli, should be lauded for the manner in which the screening and final selection of inmates was so ably handled. A special word of appreciation is due every company involved in Work Release over the years. These companies have supported our efforts by providing quality jobs. Their continued cooperation speaks well indeed for the business community of Worcester County.

1973 Financial Report

Bank Balance, January 1, 1973	\$ 4,880.33
Total Net Earnings - 1973	<u>100,552.33</u>
	TOTAL \$105,432.66

Expenses:

Paid to County of Worcester	\$ 18,869.80
Inmate Transportation - To the Job	5,198.35
Paid by Court Order and Welfare	4,811.32
Voluntary Support Payments	4,813.12
Misc. - Clothing, Lawyer's Fees, Etc.	5,527.92
Deposited with Inmate's Canteen Account	24,788.25
Paid Out at Discharge	<u>37,236.42</u>
	TOTAL \$101,345.18

Total Monies, 1973	\$105,432.66
Less Expenses, 1973	<u>101,345.18</u>
Balance, January 1, 1973	\$ 4,087.48

Financial Report - February 12, 1968 through December 31, 1973

Total Net Earnings \$424,877.39

Expenses:

Paid to County of Worcester	\$ 90,655.25
Paid by Court Order	39,423.80
Voluntary Support Payments	16,949.79
Misc. - Clothing, Lawyer's Fees, etc.	17,040.93
Inmate Transportation - To the Job	14,531.50
Deposited with Inmate's Canteen Account	84,283.39
Paid out at Discharge	157,905.25
Balance, December 31, 1973	<u>4,087.48</u>

TOTAL \$424,877.39

In closing the Work Release section of this report, I think it appropriate to disclose the fact that during 1973 my office received over 35 requests from other penal institutions across the country for information concerning Work Release in Worcester County. My staff conducted approximately two dozen tours of the Work Release quarters at Summer Street during the year for those professionally involved in similar programs elsewhere. During the month of December after our move to West Boylston, we received about 40 requests for tours of the Work Release building alone! Because of our continuous participation in seminars, conferences, and national conventions, our work has become recognized across the nation as progressive and innovative.

Our Work Release Program is given the credit it justly deserves at American Correctional Association conventions and sessions of the National Jail Association. Our past errors have led to a very practical working knowledge of how to effectively operate Work Release. We shall continue to improve our own program and help other institutions whenever possible.

SAINT DISMAS SCHOOL PROGRAMS

If the Work Release Program can be justly praised for its total effectiveness and wide recognition, the same can be said for the programs of education at the Saint Dismas School. To our best information from long attendance at national conventions and professional seminars, there is no other penal institution that can boast of the successes of the Saint Dismas School. We are a relatively small county institution, and yet our school provides a range and calibre of learning opportunities not be found in even the biggest state and federal prisons. I am very grateful to Captain Donald R. Bird and Lt. Robert A. Nystrom, his assistant, for these various achievements over the past few years. Captain Bird is recognized as a thoroughly practical man who gets results.

The school programs were closed during the last six months of 1973 due to the preparations for our move to West Boylston, yet during the first half of the year 52 GED High School Diplomas were awarded and over 230 ABE Certificates of Achievement. This year's figures bring to 262 the total number of GED Diplomas granted at Saint Dismas School since 1967 and 2710 ABE Certificates have been given during that same period.

During the available school year, January through June, classes were held in the upstairs school area on three evenings a week. Five instructors from the Worcester School Department offered classes in Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation. I am very thankful to Gerald McGrain for his continued support and special understanding during the transition from the ancient to the very modern. Mr. McGrain informs me that in January of 1974 we may expect additional teachers, including a Spanish instructor to teach English as a second language, teachers for the Work Release, Maximum Section, Women's Quarters, and a qualified Guidance Counselor.

Plans to continue programmed study in the Learning Center are being discussed with people from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. We also expect to continue with vocational training classes in small appliance repair, basic business, and typewriter repair. Captain Bird has arranged a stimulating college program in cooperation with Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Thus far classes on a college level are planned in science and English literature.

After the West Boylston move is completed, more educational opportunities will be available to our women inmates. In addition to the GED class for women three evenings a week, Captain Bird is planning college classes three afternoons a week with the help of a teacher and female student volunteers from WPI. Art instruction will also be offered one afternoon a week and sewing classes on another afternoon under the auspices of the YWCA in Worcester.

A comprehensive ceramics course is planned for January. Limited to only women inmates, this course will offer professional instruction in all types of ceramic art from preparing greenware to the final firing process. Classes are planned for three afternoons a week with all proceeds from the sale of items to be credited to the inmate responsible for making the item sold. The YWCA has already shown an interest in the program with an offer to sell finished products as they become available.

Through the Department of Education, Captain Bird has arranged for the use of a new mobile learning lab for a 12 week course in basic business. The mobile unit called "MODEL" for Mobile Occupational Developmental Educational Laboratory is something new in using advanced theories of programmed study. It comes complete with two instructors and offers complete testing and the granting of a certificate of achievement upon completion of the course. We expect to have more of this type of learning experience available to us in future months.

In yet another program of vocational training, the Department of Labor in conjunction with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has granted the Worcester County Jail a \$55,000 program in Auto Mechanics. Specializing in front end alignment and brakes, this one year course will conduct open-ended 13 week classes using new equipment especially purchased for the project. A full-time professional instructor will teach five days a week to a class of 12 male inmates. Several bays of the garage area in West Boylston will be remodeled to house this special teaching unit. Each student will receive a stipend of \$20 a week from the Division of Employment Security while participating in the course. DES will also make job placements for these men after their release from jail.

ALCOHOL REHABILITATION

The effective rehabilitation of the inmate with an alcoholism problem has become one of the most serious responsibilities of any penal treatment program. Today alcoholism is more prevalent among young offenders than all types of other drugs combined. I say other drugs because more than ever we are aware that alcohol cannot be separated categorically from so-called straight drugs, such as heroin.

Under the very able direction of William J. Hallinan the alcohol rehab program has expanded to include a second alcohol rehab specialist, William Russell. Working as a team, these men have developed an impact affirmative attack on the problems of the occasional and habitual alcohol offender. They thoroughly screen every inmate with any type of alcohol history and encourage his participation in individual impact counseling or counseling to referral.

During 1973 some 550 inmates attended weekly AA meetings and some 195 men and women were helped by individual counseling therapy. Mr. Hallinan continues his close association with area detoxification centers and state hospitals and has been very successful in obtaining residential treatment for many serious alcoholics.

Mr. Hallinan also continues his work with the courts acting as my liaison in court decisions involving rehabilitation as a recognized part of a prison sentence. He also provides female inmates with general counseling to referral and supervises their problems and solutions to the family/marital scene.

DRUG REHABILITATION PROGRAM

After a very lengthy period of evaluation and assessment, we began a comprehensive drug rehab program in conjunction with several area drug programs. Under the direction of Duane Lindblom, the program centers on both pre and post release drug counseling. Everyone with any type of drug abuse history is screened by the drug board and if considered in need of on-going counseling is invited to join the program.

Where this program differs appreciably from other treatment models is the attempt to continue pre-release counseling, using the same counselor/counselee arrangement, after the inmate's release. Simply stated, upon entrance to the program, both parties agree to enter into a counseling situation that will continue through the last two or three months of the jail sentence and through the first few months of his return to the community. Thereby is created a path along which the counselor can build a degree of trust with his client that will not end simply because the man returns to his home and family. His home environment will probably need more counseling and help than during his stay in prison.

Another aspect of the program is the tie-in with Parole. As part of the total effort, each counselor agrees to represent his client in writing before the Parole Board making whatever suggestions he feels are in the best interests of his client. If post-release drug supervision is thought favorable, then the counselor offers this service to the Parole Board, thus expanding the Boards resources for this type of help.

When fully operational, approximately a dozen area drug centers and state hospitals will participate with at least that number of counselors working weekly with some two dozen inmates. A liberal counseling schedule has been approved including those on Work Release and special work details.

Mr. Lindblom continues to represent me at the weekly Drug Review Board at Worcester Superior Court. His efforts have created a much better understanding on drug related issues between our institution and the court probation departments.

FURLOUGH PROGRAM

Withstanding occasional pressure from community action groups to liberalize my thinking on Furlough, and enduring many irate inmates who from time to time demand a looser Furlough program, I have and will continue to stand firm in my belief that Furlough is not a vacation from jail, but is a vehicle to help under special circumstances those needing a brief release from imprisonment while providing others a reward for successful participation in their treatment programs.

Furlough continues to be available only for those inmates who are successfully participating on Work Release or for a brief release to attend a family funeral or be with a dangerously ill relative. Furlough is still in a trial period in Worcester. I believe we have much to learn yet before merely casually granting a leave to any inmate who qualifies under the vague Omnibus Crime Bill.

We have had our share of non-returns, but by a process of very careful screening, we have eliminated dangerous prisoners and reduced the possibility of new crimes and inherent dangers to the community. At some point in the future I may open Furlough to additional prisoners, but be assured that this eventuality

will only occur when I think it in the best interest of both the inmate and the community.

REFERRAL PROJECT AND LOOP, INC.

Continuing in its third year of LEAA funding, the Referral Project has altered its course by placing much of its emphasis on projects aimed at community involvement. With input coming from other work at institutions throughout the country, the Project still offers a limited range of pre-release services such as individual drug counseling, psychological evaluation and therapy, and short-term counseling to referral. During 1973 287 inmates were helped by the project in a spectrum of services that included family/marital counseling, special psychiatric therapy, educational referrals, expansion of the Norton Program, and the development of LOOP, Inc.

The Norton Program has received wide publicity from many newspapers for its innovative approach to Work Release as a control factor in job placement and post-release company assistance. The Norton Company deserves much credit for sticking with a program many felt to be too liberal. The Program has been expanded to include a dozen other companies with the main line of thinking toward long-term employment with the maximum of company benefits. The Project expects to hire the services of a full-time employment coordinator in mid-February. Apart from Work Release, the employment services will include job placement for Federal Parole and Superior Court Probation.

LOOP, Inc., Law Offender Opportunity Programs, was formed in 1973 from the collection of individuals wishing to formalize an organization through which funding and the development of services to the ex-offender community might be accomplished. Thus it was in September of this year that the old Advisory Board to the Referral Project was organized as a non-profit corporation with a Board of Directors of some 27 citizens from throughout Worcester County. LOOP will soon be receiving funds for a Legal Services Program at the jail to assist indigent inmates with existing legal problems.

The future of LOOP will probably be directed along both institutional and community work. Among some of its projects are plans for the establishment of a credit union for ex-offenders and the fostering of services to the proposed Parole Multi-Service Center in downtown Worcester.

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

After many months of planning and consultation with the Department of Mental Health, we have begun a Mental Health Program in which inmates needing this type of assistance are given psychological evaluations and on-going therapy on a weekly basis. With the cooperation of Region II, DMH, we are fortunate in having the outstanding services of Dr. Barbara Young from Worcester State Hospital. Her work in this important area is greatly appreciated.

CORRECTIONAL SOCIAL WORK

There is no area of work more important than correctional social work. This very difficult area of human endeavor is shared by three men who have given unbelievable hours to the task of day-to-day counseling of our hundreds of inmates. It is to these men that every inmate turns when he needs a simple phone call or when some family problem becomes too much to work out alone. It is these men who have their finger on the real pulse of the jail, who know what is happening and more important when its going to happen.

James Keefe, William Hallinan, and William Russell deserve much credit for their dedication to the many young men and women who come before them each day for help.

MASSACHUSETTS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

1973 was a year favored with very worthwhile assistance from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, assistance totaling over \$45,000 in salaries paid and direct services provided.

Nelson Rahaim, Supervisor in Education for the Commission, is to be commended for his guidance of the many MRC projects and Arthur Gillam, Counseling Supervisor, thanked for his dedication to the many clients who come before him each week. I am especially grateful to Russell O'Connor, Commissioner for Mass. Rehabilitation, for his interest and support of our programs in Worcester.

During 1973 the Commission provided the following services:

- 53 Eye Examinations
- 56 Dental Examinations
- 55 Dental Repairs
- 48 Eye Glasses
- 177 Psychological Evaluations
- 16 Group Therapy
- 2 Orthopedic Examinations
- 1 Hearing Evaluation
- 1 Prosthesis
- 1 Instruction at Brom's School
- 2 Instruction at Worcester Junior College
- 2 Sets of Carpenter's Tools
- 2 Sets of Mechanic's Tools
- 26 Men with instructions in Basic Business Course
- 1 Instruction at Quinsigamond Community College
- 11 Tools and Equipment for Typewriter Repair Course
- 13 Tools and Equipment for Small Appliance Repair

Future plans for the Commission include the purchase of a van for educational transportation and the inclusion of a mechanical drawing course to begin next summer. I am pleased to learn that after our move to West Boylston, the model Learning Center will once again be operational through funds from the Commission.

I doubt if there exists another penal institution in the entire Commonwealth that has the support given to Worcester by the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. Without their interest in our programs we could not accomplish as we do in education and vocational training. My sincere appreciation to everyone at the Commission for their continued funding and guidance.

DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

I am very pleased to say that after much discussion with the Worcester office of the State Employment Service, a decision has been reached whereby DES will once again provide job placement services on a pre-release basis to inmates at the Worcester County House of Correction.

We will be given the full-time services of a trained counselor and placement specialist beginning sometime after the first of 1974. His duty will be to provide as much pre-release job placement as possible and act as a referral agent to the Law Offender Team for other inmates who must wait until after their release for actual placement services. I am looking forward to a renewed association of cooperation and good will.

CLASSIFICATION

During the last few months of our stay on Summer Street and plans were being completed for life in a new institution, it became apparent to all concerned that classification at the West Boylston facility would play an increasing role in the movement and programming of inmate activities. To this end, Captain Robert Carelli developed a series of forms that statistically laid the basis for institutional job descriptions, inmate treatment allocations, and Work Release availability.

Using these forms and many others designed as classification units, Captain Carelli has greatly improved on inmate job assignment procedures, inmate transfer/job application and reviews, and numerous other areas occupied by statistical decisions. Captain Carelli has done a very fine job in executing statistical procedures at West Boylston. His system approach to the work of record maintenance is to be commended.

RECREATION

Upon our move to West Boylston, recreation was to play a very important part in the daily life of every inmate. With new facilities for indoor sports and gymnastics, the gym has provided that release of tension so necessary to every penal institution. Captain Paul Deignan and Lt. John Gabriel are to be congratulated for the manner in which they have organized and developed an outstanding gym program.

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Again this year we are fortunate in having the continued services of two outstanding clergymen, the Reverend James Kelly our Catholic Chaplain, and the Reverend Edward Mason our Protestant Chaplain. Together these men serve the inmate's need for religious counselor and friend.

Protestant and Catholic worship services are conducted each Sunday morning in the beautiful chapel of the West Boylston facility with regular visiting scheduled by both chaplains on given days during the week.

In addition to these religious opportunities, Rev. Mason has continued his Fellowship Program on Wednesday evenings, a program which brings together layleaders from the community and interested inmates who wish to talk about their problems with someone willing to listen. This type of program shows clearly the effective use of volunteer help.

FARM PRODUCTION REPORT

I am very pleased with the fine work of our Farm Supervisor, Captain Joseph P. Sullivan and his assistant, Lt. Edward Jakshtis. Their effectiveness in supervising crops and cattle do much in reducing the high costs of food purchase.

Livestock on hand as of January 1, 1973	34 Head
Livestock lost by illness	22 Head
Livestock on hand, July 1, 1973	45 Head

Vegetable Production:

Cabbage	3550 lbs.
Summer Squash	23 bu.
Peppers	24 bu.
Cucumbers	22 bu.
Onions	1000 lbs.
Beets	11 bu.
Tomatoes	88 bu.
Green Beans	15 bu.
Yellow Beans	28 bu.
Corn	12800 ears
Butternut Squash	11 bu.
Carrots	40 bu.

Hay Production:	3500 bales
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END