

Name: Anonymous 844 Anonymous 844

Title: Rise in Drug Use in the DOC

Organization or Agency:

Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

Testimony:

Good day. I am incarcerated at MWCI.

For those incarcerated for prolonged periods of time. They have witnessed and experienced all kinds of things. Most of which you here would not believe nor will you be told by DOC officials.

That fact aside. I am writing you this letter due to the epidemic level rise of drugs in the system.

This fact is witnessed and is evident by the number overdose hospital tips over the last two years. That rise is directly linked to policies reducing activities and recreation. In short, clear terms, prisoners have nothing to do with their time, thus the turn to drug use. This is an epidemic of the DOC's own design.

Prior to reduced activities policies, we had gym/big recreation yard access 3 and on occasion 4 times a week. Now it's only twice a week subject to cancelations due employee shortage/hospital trips.

Simultaneously there is a policy of not maintaining or fixing exercise equipment. Because the goal is to deprive, by attrition, means to exercise.

Thus the rise in drug use. With more things to exercise our minds and bodies, there would be less time and interest in drug use. It's simple sound reasoning. Cause and effect. The reduction of recreation, programs, and other activities policies is the cause and direct effect of the current epidemic.