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Title: Safety in the DOC
Organization or Agency:
Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed
NA

Testimony:

Good afternoon. My name is Kenyon Joseph #207827 and I am incarcerated in MacDougall CI.

The health of prisoners should always be paramount to the very question of prisoners and the prison system as a whole. Not only does it extend to our communities, once they are released, the cost to the tax payers that also effects the mental well being of the prisoner and the prison population.

The way prisoners think, how society views them, marks and colors the perspective of reentry.

Does an abused animal or person want to be friendly or a part of a status quo of the fabric of society, especially after being abused or seen as less than human?

When prisoners see that society and the prison system views them as unredeemable, and that they are the architects of the plights, there is no chance of a healthy mindset or hope of change.

A healthy body and mindset is essential to a healthy soul that's ready to contribute to society, not only just the physical. We know, now as an evolved society, that healthy physicals lead to a healthy well being. This cannot be disputed.

Issue - Safety. The topic of safety is one that is a multi-level issue that cannot be addressed simply by one topic itself. And it matters that these very serious considerations are fully address these core issues on the subject. Why? Because safety is inclusive for so many levels of the CT DOC.

Safety isn't about just the level of threat against the staff or prisoners by deeming assaults by prisoners or staff. It's far more deeper and complicated than that.

Safety is proper healthcare and treatments.

Safety is proper training and professionalism by staff at all times, eg how staff talk and treat prisoners on a daily basis.

Safety is accountability of staff misconducts when they do arise.

Safety is independent review boards apart of the CT DOC.

Safety is proper clothing and sanitation.

Safety is quality food and hygiene care.

Safety is respect for prisoners' personal property and belongings.

Safety is treating prisoners families with respect and professionalism at all times.

Safety is having and maintaining a safe environment that's free from threats, intimidation, retaliation against prisoners for seeking redress of staff misconduct and denial of civil rights.

It's all these things that help create and foster a safe environment that assures that the prisoners who are released are rehabilitated, healthy, and of a sound wellbeing to reintegrate into society.

Issue - wellbeing. A dictionary defines the word wellbeing as one, a state of being happy. And two health. Three, prosperous. Need I say more there?

I believe that says all we need to know or hear on this matter. You cannot have either of these issues without each other.

Thank you for your time. I can only hope for my sake and my loved one undergoing these issues that we step up as a society and say enough is enough. We can no longer say that we want these things. We must act upon them and create good laws, policies, rules and regulations that assure we are giving prisoners a chance to be of sound mind, body, and well being once released or during their incarceration.