New Mexico Corrections Department

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

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New Mexico Corrections Department
Letter from the Secretary

This year, the New Mexico Corrections Department continued to advance our mission of rehabilitation, public safety, and opportunity with measurable success and renewed purpose. Together, we have built one of the most effective reentry systems in adult corrections in the country.

We remain the leading institution in the state for high school equivalency completions among adult learners. Our college partnerships and expanding programming continue to open doors that were once closed. In our facilities, incarcerated craftsmen and entrepreneurs are learning marketable skills and building business plans. We have scaled up technical and vocational programs like never before, preparing individuals for jobs that offer dignity, purpose, and a living wage. These efforts are not just about attaining credentials, they are about rehabilitation and building futures.

In our communities, our probation and parole teams continue to strike the critical balance between public safety and second chances. They have helped remove dangerous actors from the streets while also reducing prison returns by supporting parolees in making a successful transition back to society. This dual mission of accountability and opportunity is the foundation of a safer New Mexico.

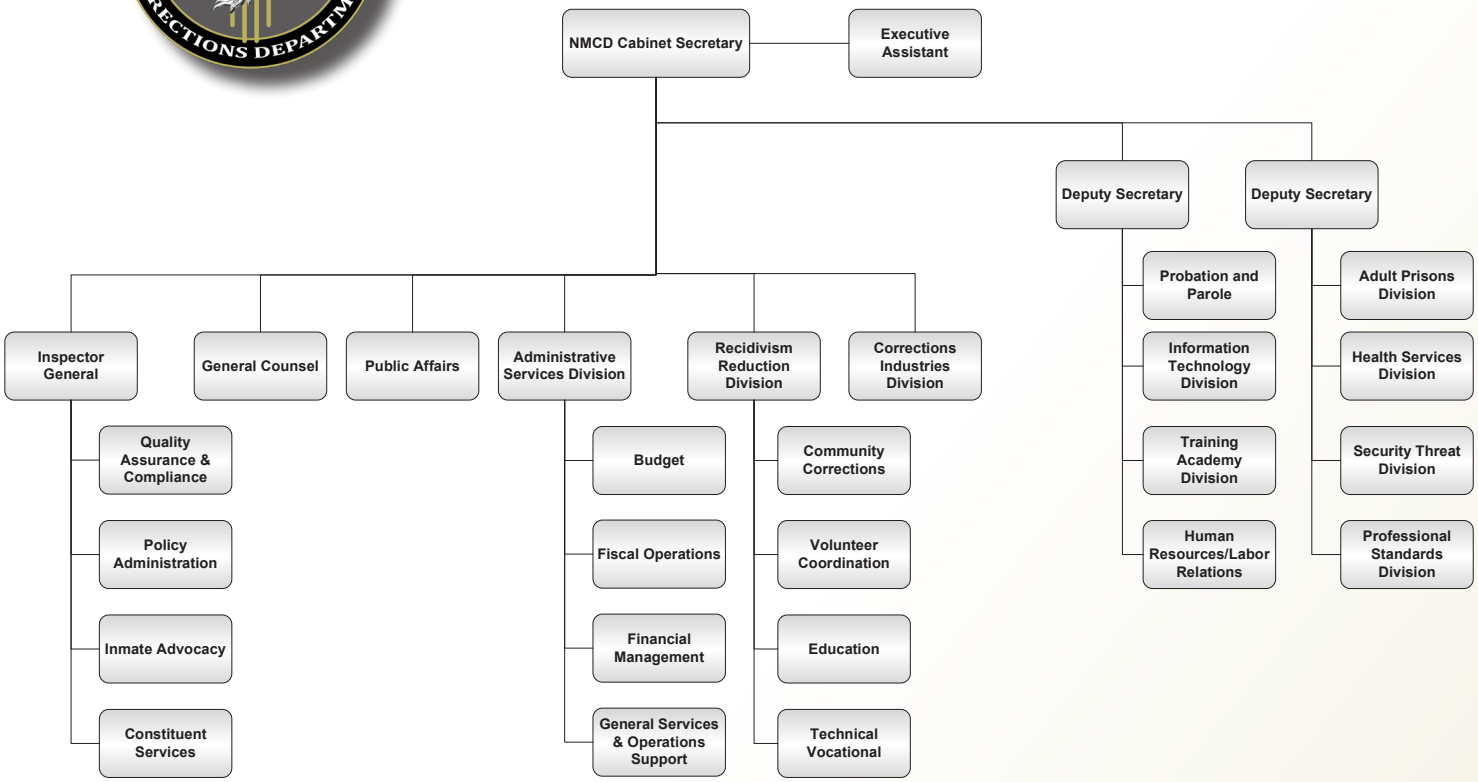
The road ahead is filled with opportunity. We are expanding career pathways for releasing inmates, creating new bridges to meaningful employment and independence. We are investing in what works, refining what doesn't, and staying focused on the outcomes that matter most: safer communities, stronger families, and lasting second chances.

Thank you to each and every one of you for making this vision real. Your service is building something remarkable, and I am honored to stand with you in this mission.

In gratitude,

Alisha Tafoya Lucero,
Cabinet Secretary

New Mexico Corrections Department Organizational Structure



Our Mission:

Strengthen New Mexico communities through effective community supervision, creating safe and professional institutional environments, and providing those entrusted to our care with opportunities for positive personal growth and self-development.

Our Vision:

A Stronger New Mexico

Our Values:

Respect, Service, Integrity

The New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) Training Academy is proud to prepare Correctional Officer Cadets to be steadfast guardians of public safety.

Adult Prisons Division

Overview

The Adult Prisons Division (APD) is responsible for ensuring public safety by operating safe, secure prisons and preparing inmates for successful re-entry into their communities. APD operates eight public correctional facilities throughout the state and contracts for a portion of one privately operated facility. Together, these facilities provide a total housing capacity of 6,364 inmates. The current inmate population exceeds 5,800 inmates statewide. The division also manages key administrative functions, including inmate classification, records management, constituent services, and health services. APD operates under the leadership of the Director of Adult Prisons.

Major Accomplishments

This fiscal year marked a period of meaningful progress for the Department. During the 2025 Legislative Session, the agency worked diligently to advance Senate Bill 375, an agency-sponsored bill that was ultimately signed into law. This legislation modernizes and simplifies New Mexico's good-time calculation process and corrects statutory gaps that had inadvertently over-awarded good time to serious violent offenders returning to custody after parole violations. These updates create a more accurate and consistent framework that strengthens public trust in the system.

This group of men at Central New Mexico Correctional Facility in Los Lunas completed the Life Recovery program, a 12-step faith-based initiative sponsored by Prison Fellowship.

The legislation strengthens fairness, promotes consistency, and improves efficiency across all Divisions of the Department. It reduces unnecessary financial burdens on individuals under supervision by eliminating monthly parole fees that often created barriers to success and allows early discharge from probation for low-risk offenders who have demonstrated stability and accountability, enabling officers to focus their time and resources on high-risk cases where intervention is most needed. These changes support better use of departmental resources while improving outcomes for the individuals we supervise.

The legislation also clarifies the application of earned meritorious deductions, ensuring they are awarded accurately and applied consistently statewide. This creates a more transparent system that both staff and individuals in custody can easily understand. By awarding all meritorious deductions upon admission rather than monthly, SB375 streamlines the calculation process, sets clear release expectations from the start of a sentence, and supports transparent corrections practices that enhance successful reentry and public safety. Together, these reforms create a more predictable, equitable, and safety-focused corrections system.

In addition to this legislative achievement, in June 2025 the Department successfully concluded the use of the Lea County Correctional Facility (LCCF), completing a long-standing strategic initiative to return all prison operations to state management. The Department took proactive steps to ensure the responsible transition of inmates from the privately-owned LCCF to our state-owned prisons. These steps included the reopening of the prison farm at the Central New Mexico Correctional Facility (CNMCF) in Los Lunas and the reactivation of a housing unit at the Guadalupe County Correctional Facility (GCCF) in Santa Rosa; both steps were designed to maximize capacity while maintaining safety and operational continuity.

Participants in the University of New Mexico Project ECHO (Extention for Community Healthcare Outcomes) Peer Mentoring Program celebrate 15 years of changing lives.

The CNMCF prison farm spans more than 1,000 acres, and was reopened after nearly five years of closure. The facility now houses hundreds of minimum-security, Level I inmates. Much of the restoration work required to bring the property back into operation was completed by the inmates themselves, instilling a sense of ownership and pride in the property. The farm provides a comprehensive array of programming, including educational courses, substance abuse prevention, daily living skills, job readiness training, vocational instruction, and additional support services. Products cultivated at the farm are sold to the public through Corrections Industries.

1,000+ acres restored and reopened after five years of closure.

The reopening of the farm expands meaningful work and training opportunities, increases the Department's capacity for low-security housing, and strengthens reentry outcomes by giving inmates practical skills that support successful reintegration. It also enhances community engagement and contributes to self-sustaining operations within the Department.

The Department further advanced its commitment to evidence-based rehabilitation with the official launch of the Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Pilot Program. This initiative ensures continuity of treatment for individuals entering state custody who are already receiving MOUD services. Between January and October 2025, more than 200 individuals participated in the pilot. Furthermore, the Department launched it's methadone maintenance program in December 2025.

As infrastructure, staffing, and operational capacity expand, the program will broaden to include a larger portion of the incarcerated population on the full range of FDA-approved medications for substance use disorder. The goal is to ensure the MOUD program expands responsibly, remains compliant with statutory requirements, and effectively addresses the treatment needs of individuals within the Department's state correctional facilities. Continuity of care following release remains a central component of the program, and to date the initiative has successfully supported seamless discharge coordination and ongoing treatment planning for individuals returning to the community. The Departmnt, in collaboration with The New Mexico Health Care Authority (NMHCA), launched the 1115 waiver program at pilot facilities in July of 2025. The Department will continue to enhance this program including initiating billing capabilities.

More than 240 individuals participated in the Medications for Opioid Use Disorder pilot.

Other Highlights

- **APD achieved the lowest correctional officer vacancy rate in five years, reducing vacancies in public facilities to 26.9 percent, thereby improving staffing and strengthening institutional operations.**
- **Maintained accreditation from the American Correctional Association (ACA) across all state correctional facilities.**
- **Led the state in adult education outcomes for the third consecutive year, achieving 266 high school equivalency (HSE) completions in FY25.**
- **Expanded use of Atlas, delivering person-centered, evidence based programming on inmate tablets.**
- **Inmates assisted statewide emergency preparedness by assembling sandbags for flood-prone areas.**
- **Inmate work crews, contracted with the New Mexico Department of Transportation, conducted regular litter cleaning activities across the state.**
- **Participated in the Breaking Bad Habits Anti-Litter Campaign, maintaining clean and safe correctional facility grounds.**
- **CNMCF partnered with the Peaceful Prisons Project, supporting weekly virtual sessions allowing dads to read to their children.**
- **Inmates donated woven scarves, blankets, baby blankets, baby items, and hats to local hospitals and senior centers.**
- **The Prisoners and Animals Working towards Success (P.A.W.S) Program at the Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility donated gifts to local families in need.**
- **The Top Dog Club at the Penitentiary of New Mexico proudly donated $230 to Española Humane.**
- **Inmates from the Western New Mexico Correctional Facility (WNMCF) helped prepare the Grants Rodeo grounds for the upcoming "Wild West Days Rodeo."**
- **GCCF staff delivered 40 handmade bunny-shaped baskets, created by inmates, to local students.**
- **Inmates in the Residential Drug and Alcohol Programs (RDAP) created holiday cards for nursing home residents during the Christmas season.**
- **The men at WNMCF cared for a garden that yielded approximately 700 pounds or produce that was donated to the Cibola County Pantry.**

NMCD's Certified Peer Support Worker training program enables participants to make meaningful contributions to their community and become qualified for a fulfilling post-incarceration career.

Maintained 22 active Career Technical Education Programs across NMCD facilities.

Maintained accreditation from the ACA across all state correctional facilities.

Probation and Parole Division

Overview

The Probation and Parole Division (PPD) enhances public safety by supervising probationers and parolees, ensuring compliance with court-ordered requirements, and connecting individuals to support services that reduce recidivism.

The Division is staffed by 339 dedicated professionals and operates across five regions, supporting District Offices statewide. Each year, PPD provides supervision to approximately 13,200 individuals. PPD also manages intensive supervision and high-risk units, which offer a higher level of oversight for individuals whose treatment and service needs place them at a greater risk of reoffending.

Major Accomplishments

- **Strengthened Officer Training and Readiness**
  In partnership with the New Mexico Corrections Training Academy, two Basic Officer Training Academies were conducted during FY25. These academies prepare new officers to safely and lawfully carry out their duties. A total of 36 officers graduated, contributing to a 95 percent graduation rate for the year.

- **Improved Staffing and Recruitment**
  PPD continues to make progress in reducing vacancies among Probation and Parole Officers. The current vacancy rate is 16 percent, nearing the Division's goal of 15 percent. Salary increases in FY22 and in FY24 helped make the Division more competitive and strengthened recruitment efforts.

- **Maintained Manageable Supervision Caseloads**
  Regular contact with individuals under supervision is vital for their success. Officers providing standard supervision manage an average of 82 individuals per officer, enabling meaningful interaction in both office settings and the community. PPD maintains a strong 93 percent monthly contact rate with high-risk offenders, helping support accountability and public safety.

- **Enhanced Sex Offender Supervision Through Grant Funding**
  PPD's Sex Offender Unit received $75,000 through the Adam Walsh Grant Program. This funding supports overtime for field visits during nontraditional hours and provides specialized monitoring tools, including rapid scanning technology that strengthens oversight of individuals convicted of sex offenses.

NMCD's Probation Parole Division (PPD) is comitted to supporting returning citizens with wrap-around services that help them avoid reincarceration.

- **Public Safety Remains a Top Priority.**
  The Security Threat Intelligence Unit (STIU) played a critical role in the Second District Attorney's initiative, Operation Route 66. A total of 368 of the total offenders apprehended were state probation violators. STIU expanded by two investigators and unified its structure under one statewide unit, contributing to a 38 percent apprehension rate.

- **Increased Employment and Support Services Through Partnerships**
  PPD partnered with Goodwill Industries to expand employment and supportive services for individuals under supervision. Goodwill offers workforce development, career coaching, and specialized programming for veterans experiencing housing or employment challenges. This partnership provides valuable resources that help individuals secure stable employment and progress toward self-sufficiency.

- **Addressed Ongoing Housing Challenges for Offenders**
  Offender housing remains a persistent challenge for PPD, particularly when securing appropriate placements for individuals convicted of sex offenses, due to strict residency restrictions. To address these barriers, PPD worked closely with the Reentry Division to identify and expand safe, stable housing options that support successful reintegration. Through this collaboration, meaningful progress has been made in addressing housing needs for high-risk/high-needs offenders. PPD, in partnership with Reentry, will continue to pursue additional housing opportunities and community partnerships to expand housing services statewide, recognizing that stable housing is a key factor in improving offenders' outcomes and long-term success.

Other Highlights

- Supported Special Olympics year-round, including assistance at softball and bowling practices and scrimmages against local law enforcement and military teams.
- Assisted in planning the 2025 Special Olympics Equestrian Invitational and participated in the Torch Run for the event.
- Coordinated donation drives supporting communities affected by fires and flooding in Grant and Lincoln Counties.
- Organized and contributed to back-to-school supply drives benefiting local students.
- Participated in the statewide beautification campaign, “Breaking Bad Habits” to support cleaner, safer communities.
- Donated essential supplies to La Casa Domestic Violence Shelter in support of local families.
- Supported children and families by participating in “Shop With a Cop” in Deming and collected toys for CYFD youth.
- Donated cat and dog food to the Torrance County Animal Shelter to assist with animal welfare needs.
- Participated in numerous job fairs throughout the state, promoting departmental hiring and community engagement.

NMCD’s PPD staff members consistently demonstrate a deep comittment to the wellfare of their local communities.

CORRECTIONS INDUSTRIES

Overview

The Corrections Industries (CI) Division exists to provide inmates with meaningful vocational training and real-world work experience that prepares them for successful employment upon release. Guided by clear strategic objectives, CI develops high-quality, affordable products and services while delivering job training, transferable skills, and structured programing that reduce inmate downtime. In FY25, 30 percent of inmates receiving vocational or educational training were also assigned to CI, demonstrating CI's integral role in the Department's rehabilitative and workforce readiness efforts.

Under the Corrections Industries Act, the Department is mandated to offer programs that strengthen rehabilitation, enhance educational and vocational skills, and engage inmates in productive enterprises and public works that benefit state, federal, tribal, and local public entities. These efforts help create a safer and more secure environment for both the inmate population and the staff who oversee them.

Strong collaboration with the Reentry Division, educational institutions, and private industry partners enables CI to provide sustainable training and employment pathways. When effectively implemented, CI programs support rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, build positive work ethics, and create opportunities that minimize the financial burden on taxpayers.

The division remains committed to expanding work training programs that cultivate marketable skills, provide meaningful employment opportunities at all custody levels, and promote accountability. CI continues to seek new partnerships and initiatives that reinforce its long-term goal: to operate inmate work programs that are fully self-supporting while maximizing their impact on public safety and successful community reentry.

The NMCD Corrections Industries Division enables inmates to cultivate work ethic, experience, and enthusiasm long before they return to their communities.

Major Accomplishments

- **Expanded Revenue and Job Opportunities Through Retail Operations**
  Continued operation of Old Gumby's Country Store, which sells inmate-made products and hobby crafts to the public. The store increased visibility of CI-produced goods, including sales to the Museum of International Folk Art, creating additional offender jobs and expanding programming opportunities.

- **Growth of Agricultural Operations in Los Lunas**
  Assumed full operations of the 1,000-acre farm in Los Lunas, with 500 acres currently dedicated to alfalfa production. This expansion provides meaningful transitional work opportunities for offenders and generates additional revenue to support CI programming.

- **Partnership With the New Mexico Livestock Board**
  Collaborated with the New Mexico Livestock Board to house abused animals at CI's Santa Fe location, supporting a public need while creating rehabilitative work experiences for offenders.

- **Major Expansion of External Work Crews and Contracts**
  Increased outside work crew contracts from $200,000 to $3.6 million in FY25. Added Department of Transportation work crews in Santa Fe, Roswell, Los Lunas, and Grants, significantly expanding offender job opportunities and increasing wages for participants.

NMCD's "Old Gumby's Country Store" provides an outlet for a variety of inmate-made handicrafts, including those made in our wood-working, metalworking, weaving, and other programs.

Other Highlights

- Launched a weaving program at the Guadalupe County Correctional Facility, providing offenders with a marketable craft skill that can supplement income upon release.
- Partnered with Healing America's Heroes to provide a fly-tying class supporting offenders with addictions. Offenders were paid by CI to learn a hands-on skill that promotes focus, discipline, and productive work habits.
- Maintained a successful partnership with the Mid-Region Council of Governments to reupholster seats for the Rail Runner transit system. Upholstery remains a high-demand trade that offers strong post-release employment potential.
- Continued partnership with the New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts to install courtroom benches and integrate furniture safety features that protect against gun violence. This contract is scheduled to remain active for the next two years.

REENTRY DIVISION

Overview

The Reentry Division was designed to support individuals as they transition from incarceration to successful community living. Inside correctional facilities, the program delivers a comprehensive continuum of evidence- and research-based services that address the educational, cognitive, and vocational needs of incarcerated individuals. Participants engage in structured life-skills training, workforce readiness instruction, and industry-relevant vocational programs that build confidence and increase employability. Educational programming—including literacy development, high school equivalency preparation, and post-secondary opportunities—helps individuals strengthen foundational skills and pursue long-term career pathways. Cognitive-behavioral interventions further support rehabilitation by helping participants develop pro-social decision-making, emotional regulation, and problem-solving skills. In addition, the program provides robust pre-release planning that connects individuals with identification documents, community resources, peer support opportunities, and individualized transition plans aligned with nationally recognized correctional best practices. These facility-based services play a critical role in strengthening public safety, reducing recidivism, and promoting successful reintegration.

Upon release, and in close collaboration with the PPD, the program extends its support into the community, ensuring continuity of care for individuals under probation or parole supervision. Community-based clients receive assistance that addresses the practical and behavioral health needs essential for long-term stability, including housing support, transportation coordination, therapeutic interventions, employment placement assistance, and access to community service providers. The program works to remove barriers to success by connecting individuals with substance use treatment, mental health services, and essential support that reinforce accountability and encourage personal growth. Staff provide ongoing guidance and case management to help clients navigate employment, education, and family responsibilities while complying with supervision requirements.

By integrating high-quality facility-based programming with strong community partnerships, Reentry programming creates a seamless transition from incarceration to community living. This comprehensive approach equips returning citizens with the resources, skills, and support networks they need to rebuild their lives, contribute positively to their communities, and achieve long-term success.

Major Accomplishments

- **Improved Education Outcomes**
  Achieved a 76 percent adult education completion rate in FY25, showing steady progress from 75 percent in FY24 and a substantial increase from 15.4 percent in FY23. NMCD completed FY25 with 266 awarded high school equivalency completions, which was highest in the State of New Mexico for all Adult Education programs, according to the Higher Education Division.

- **Distributed State-Issued Tablets Statewide**
  Provided tablets to the entire prison population at the start of FY25, granting access to the

Gutenberg Library, a law library, religious and spiritual texts, GED/HSE preparation materials, reentry programming, and Department-produced digital content.

- **Produced New Podcast and Digital Magazine**
  Released two full seasons and 15 episodes of the "Inside Voices" podcast and published four issues of the quarterly digital magazine, "Parallels," both aimed at informing and engaging the prison population on available programming. NMCD continues to aggressively market programs and services to the population using the peer model of inmates messaging their success to each other to promote participation and successful completions.

- **Sustained and Expanded Career Technical Training**
  Maintained 22 active career technical education programs across NMCD facilities and advanced plans to introduce new programs in roofing, wind energy, electrical training, carpentry/woodworking, wastewater management, and general construction.

- **Increased Participation in Career-Focused Education**
  Reached a key milestone serving over 1,000 inmates from ten correctional facilities participating in career-focused education during FY25, demonstrating significant growth and expanded access.

- **Enhanced Post-Release Support Through the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)**
  Strengthened Reentry outcomes by ensuring WIOA support continued beyond release, helping returning citizens secure employment and reintegrate successfully into their communities.

- **Launched Residential/Commercial Maintenance Technician Program**
  Successfully completed the first two cohorts of the new Residential/Commercial Maintenance Technician Program at two facilities, offering participants classroom instruction and hands-on training in residential and commercial repair.

Other Highlights

- Collaborated with the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions Eastern Board of WIOA to enable 24 inmates at the Northeast New Mexico Correctional Facility in Clayton and the Guadulupe County Correctional Facility in Santa Rosa to complete the six-week Residential Commercial Maintenance Technician Program.

- Supported approximately 122 inmates statewide in earning their Forklift Certification, a certification that is valid for three years.

- Pioneered a new HVAC certification program at the Penitentiary of New Mexico, aimed to equip inmates with industry-relevant skills for successful reentry.

- Partnered with HCA's Office of Peer Recovery & Engagement to offer the inaugural Certified Peer Support Worker training, resulting in nine incarcerated individuals earning CPSW certification – making New Mexico one of the few states to provide this opportunity inside correctional facilities.

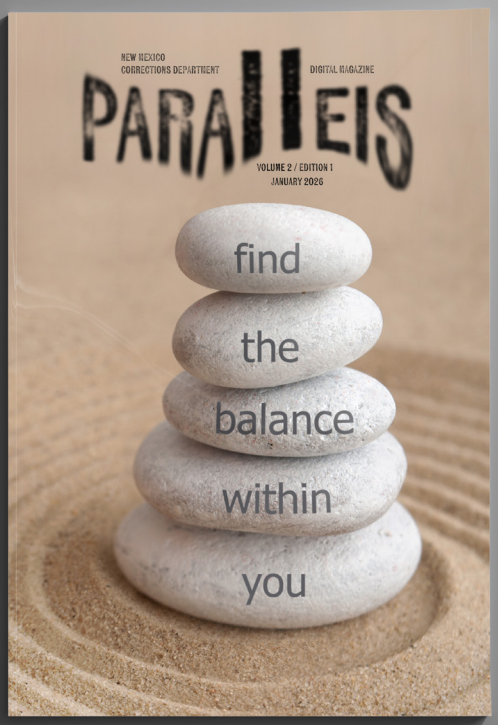
- Celebrated a long-standing partnership with Project ECHO. Since 2009, the Peer Education Project has trained 1,150 peer educators who have, in turn, instructed thousands of individuals incarcerated in New Mexico prisons

- Expanded program marketing within the Reentry Division, contributing to increased participation across behavioral health, education, cognitive programming, housing, and reentry services as reflected in the FY25 program inventory

- Maintained an 88 percent student retention rate, achieved 58 percent measurable skill gains, and recorded 266 high school equivalency (HSE) completions—marking the third consecutive year of leading the state and surpassing FY24 outcomes. Adult education participation at NMCD increased by 33 percent, and 51 students statewide earned advanced credentials, including Master's, Bachelor's, and Associate's Degrees, and vocational certifications. NMCD also recorded nearly a 15 percent increase in post-secondary student participation.

- Continued expansion of reentry programming and partnerships with Project ECHO, Women in Leadership, Youth Development Initiatives (YDI) Chances Program, and Goodwill to ensure greater access to pre-release services and support reintegration and employment success. Evidence- and research-based programming accounted for 98 percent of all program offerings in FY25.

The New Issue of "Parallels" Digital Magazine is Now Available on Your Tablet - For Free!



Go To "Information," Then Click on "Parallels."

Written specifically for The New Mexico Corrections Department Incarcerated Population.

NEW MEXICO
CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

DIGITAL MAGAZINE

Program Support

Program Support is comprised of three divisions: Administrative Services, the Training Academy, and Information Technology. Program Support plays a central role in ensuring that every division within the department can operate effectively and efficiently. By providing coordinated administrative leadership, strategic planning, and essential operational services, Program Support creates the foundation that allows frontline staff, facility operations, and community-based programs to function at their best.

The Division's work supports the Department's mission, strengthens accountability, and enhances service delivery across all areas. Program Support ensures effective budgeting and personnel management, reliable information-system services, targeted staff training, and clear communication with internal and external partners. Through these efforts, Program Support reinforces the Department's operational integrity, accountability and overall performance.

Major Accomplishments

Administrative Services

- Clean FY25 audit
- On-time FY26 budget submission
- $343.8M General Fund budget management

New Mexico Training Academy

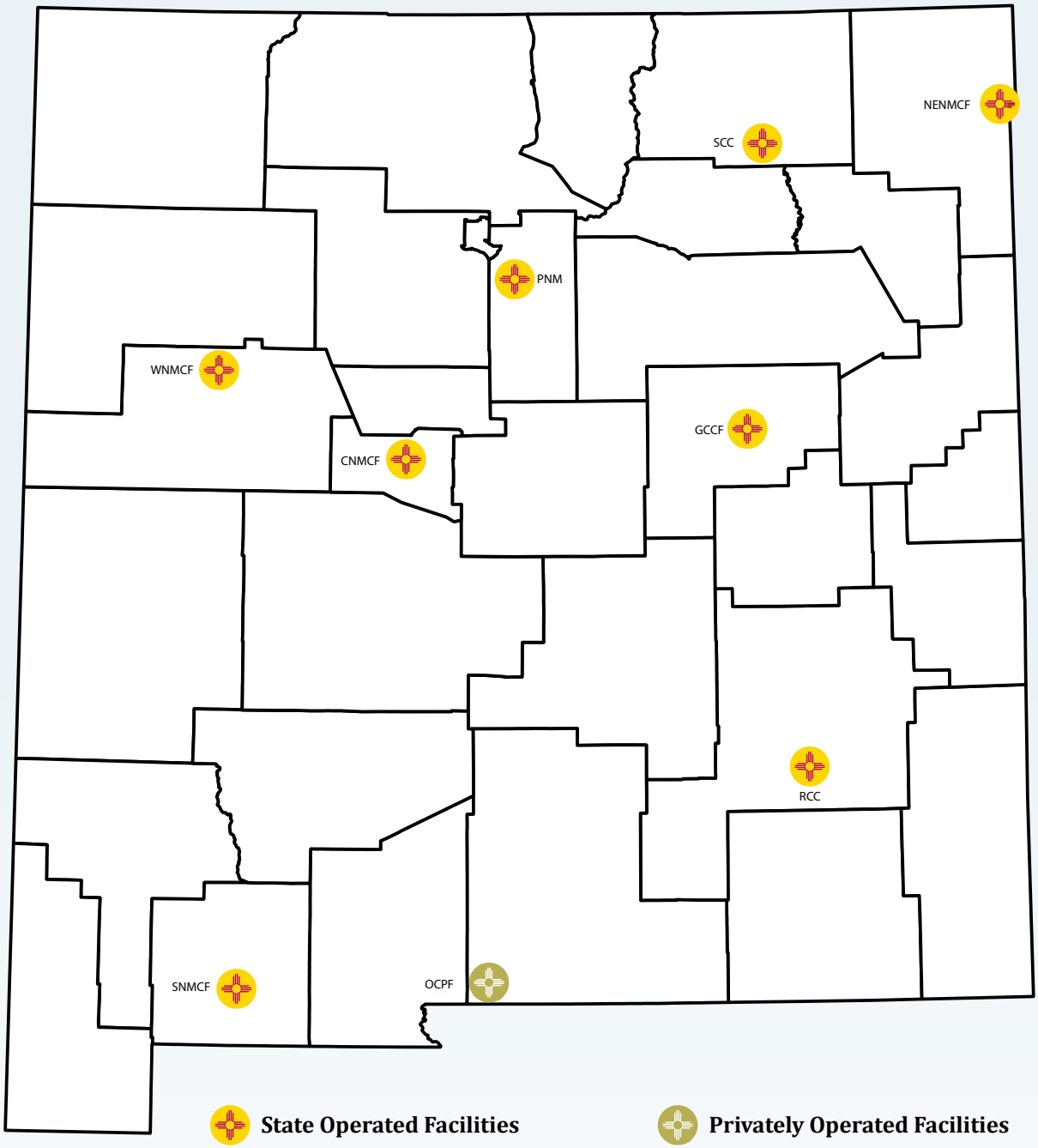
- 155 Correctional Officers trained
- 36 Probation and Parole Officers trained
- 1,481 staff trained statewide

Information Technology

- Full implementation of OMNI offender management
- Electronic Health Records integrated with inmate tablets
- Broadband infrastructure upgrades completed
- Smart Communications deployed statewide
- Facility door control system modernization underway

APPENDIX 1

Inmate Management and Control Facility Locations



State Operated Facilities

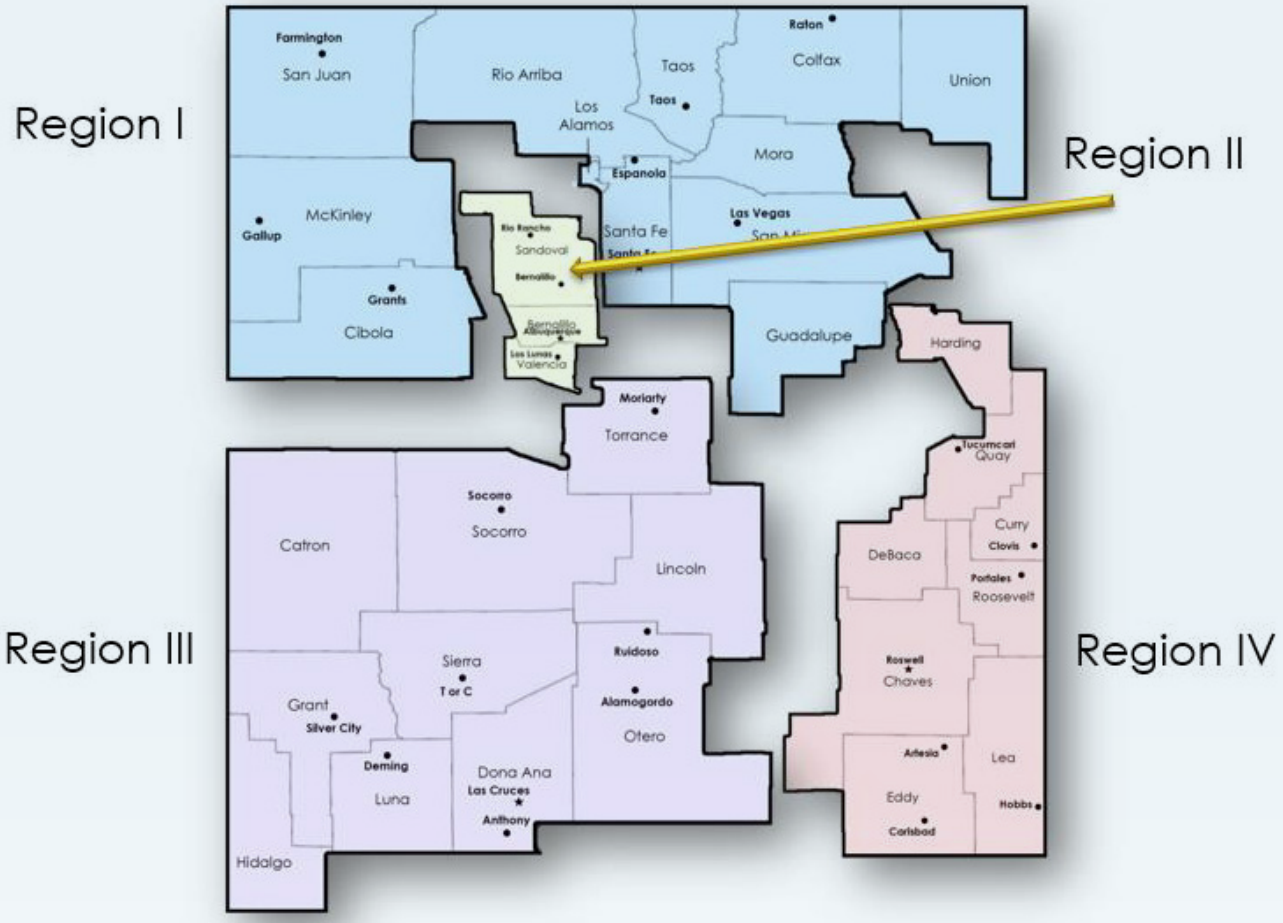
Privately Operated Facilities

- **CNMCF (Central New Mexico Correctional Facility)**
- **GCCF (Gaudalupe County Correctional Facility)**
- **NENMCF (Northeast New Mexico Correctional Facility)**
- **PNM (Penitentiary of New Mexico)**
- **RCC (Roswell Correctional Center)**
- **SCC (Springer Correctional Center)**
- **SNMCF (Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility)**
- **WNMCF (Western New Mexico Correctional Facility)**

- **OCPF (Otero County Prison Facility)**

APPENDIX 2

Probation and Parole Region Breakdown and Office Locations



Close up of Region II

www.cd.nm.gov