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#### Renville County Jail

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May 1, 2020

Sheriff Scott Hable Renville County Sheriff's Office 105 5<sup>th</sup> St. South Ste. 210 Olivia, MN 56277

**RE: Annual Report Submission** 

Dear Sheriff Hable,

It is my privilege to submit to you the Renville County Jail 2019 Annual Report. The report highlights the general operation of the Renville County Jail.

I consider it an honor to lead the jail team on your behalf and I am personally proud of the work our corrections officers perform every single day. I believe the programming we offer, the one on one time our officers spend with inmates and inmate release planning are the best chances someone being released from jail has in order to succeed in life. It is our responsibility to do our very best to release people in a better place than when they arrived at RCJ. My staff and I take this responsibility very seriously. Implementing trauma informed discipline and ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) based interaction with inmates has afforded staff the opportunity to better understand the inmate's circumstances which in turn allows staff to better prepare inmates for release.

With the loss of the ERC (Enhanced Rehabilitation Court), RCJ is reassessing the position of program director. Because the position is currently open, we have the opportunity to focus even more on a position which would bring release planning to a new level. I believe implementation will be in cooperation with probation and the Court. I am confident that we will offer a solid re-entry program which will reduce recidivism which in turn enhances public safety.

I am so honored to serve on your team. I am also thankful for your support for what we do every day for those in whose care we have been entrusted. May we never forget that *they matter*!

Respectfully submitted,

Ned G. Wohlman, Jail Administrator Renville County Sheriff's Office

# The Mission:

The Renville County Jail provides for the safe, secure and humane detention of offenders brought to this facility. To fulfill this responsibility, the Renville County Jail shall follow the standards established by the Minnesota Department of Corrections, Minnesota State Statutes, and the United States Constitution.

#### <u>PRACTICING PHILOSOPHY</u> <u>STATEMENT</u>

Knowing that many of those incarcerated are released into our communities, we have an obligation to the public and to those incarcerated to try to release these people in better condition, physically and mentally, than when they were admitted to Renville County Jail. We could treat them like numbers and only be concerned about housing them. But they usually are released discouraged and without hope. They might well be your neighbor. Or, we could encourage, educate and make sure they get the help they need. When they are released, they have hope and a sense of a future. They might well be your neighbor. Which would you prefer?

### ...because they matter!

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

In 2019, 64% of the inmates booked into the Renville County Jail were arrests for Renville County. The remaining 36% was made up of inmates boarded for other agencies.

#### **FACILITY OVERVIEW**

Renville County Jail Corrections Officers are responsible for the health, safety, security and welfare of the inmates incarcerated. Our administration and corrections officers operate the Renville County Jail with much emphasis placed on programming and true efforts to rehabilitate inmates. We understand that "today's inmates are likely tomorrow's neighbors". The jail staff consists of 14 full time corrections officers, a program director, and assistant jail administrator, a jail administrator and an administrative assistant. The RCJ contracts medical and food services. RCJ is also the home to a licensed chemical dependency treatment program which is located inside the facility and hosts an out-patient component of the same program.

Renville County Jail is licensed to hold up to 78 inmates, including sentenced and pretrial adult male and female offenders. The facility has eight housing units consisting of 72 beds and an additional 6 beds in three holding cells. We also have a pre-booking area, booking area, administrative offices, library, computer lab, small and large classrooms, laundry room, kitchen, and gymnasium. Our approved operative capacity is 65.

Cell and housing unit doors throughout the facility are controlled by officers on a touch screen system within the jail. Perimeter doors are controlled by dispatch in the Sheriff's office. Cameras within the jail allow officers to look back at events that have occurred and also watch events at the workstations in real time.

REPORT 5

### CORRECTION OFFICERS





#### **Full Time Correction Officers**

Officer Veronica Esquivel

Officer Becky Wulf

Officer Marion Harmon

Officer Steve Daak

Officer Matthew Meyer

Sergeant Sarah Schlee

Officer Penny Kandt

Officer Sarah Schroth

Officer Natasha Weikle

Officer Joel Henneger

Officer Brenda Garcia

Sergeant Curt Standfuss

Officer Brian Lardner

Officer Brandon Standfuss

#### **PT Correction Officers**

Officer Jacob Samdal Officer Ashley Geurtz



# PROGRAMMING OPEN POSITION

Elliot Johnson served as the jail's Program Director from 2017 until December 2019. This position description is currently being reviewed and updated to better meet the needs of our county partnerships and the community we serve. We are grateful for Elliot's service to inmates, and we wish him the very best!

### **ADMINISTRATION**



Ned Wohlman, Jail Administrator



Melissa Swyter, Assistant Jail Administrator



Jessica Plumley, Administrative Assistant

### TRANSPORTATION STAFF









Dale Kennedy

Ron Thomton

Russ Blue

Don Bendinelli

## INTAKE/ BOOKING



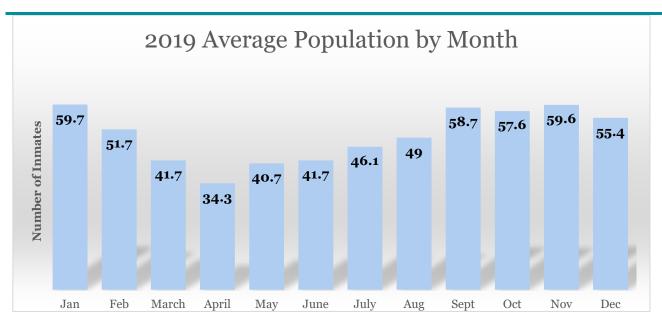
In 2019, a total of 817 inmates were booked into the Renville County Jail and 765 were

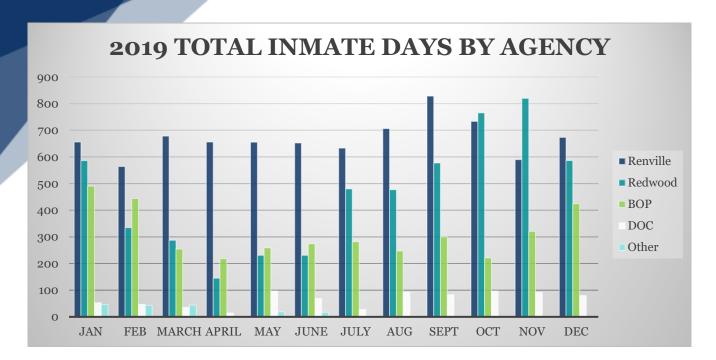
incarcerated at our facility. The average daily population was 49.7 inmates. The graph below breaks down the monthly average population. Following that are several graphs which show the number of inmates by agency, age, gender and race.

The intake process is the foundation for a prisoner's incarceration. The process begins when a subject is brought into the pre-booking area of the jail. After the arresting officer has finished, the intake officers change out the inmate, conduct a strip search for weapons and contraband, and collect and inventory the inmate's personal property. The officers then generate a computer record on the individual by entering personal information, pertinent charges, medical history, identifying scars, marks, tattoos, and an inventory of all personal property.

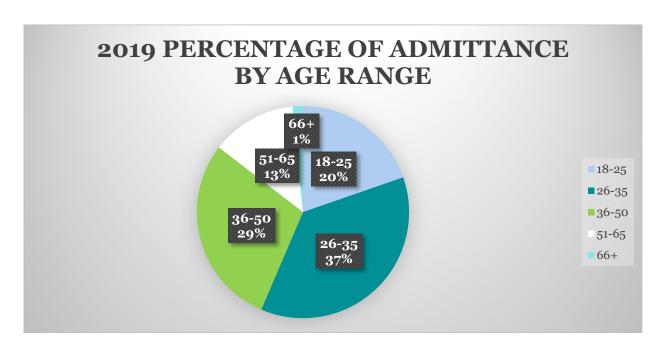
The intake officers are then responsible for fingerprinting Renville County law enforcement arrests. Fingerprints are transferred electronically via the live scan capture station to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the FBI.

When the inmate is finished with the booking process, they are normally housed in general population in a 4, 8, or 16 inmate "pod" where they will share a cell with another inmate.

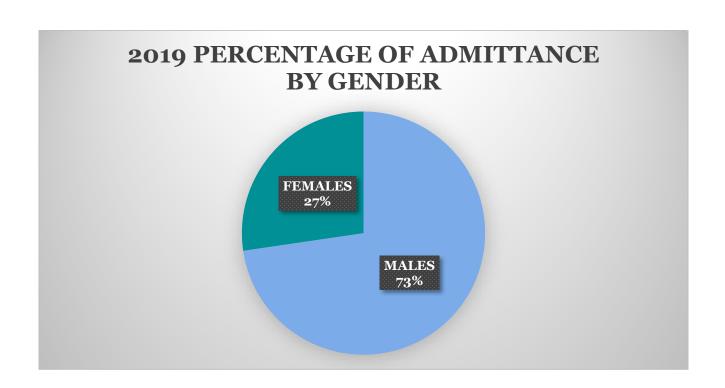


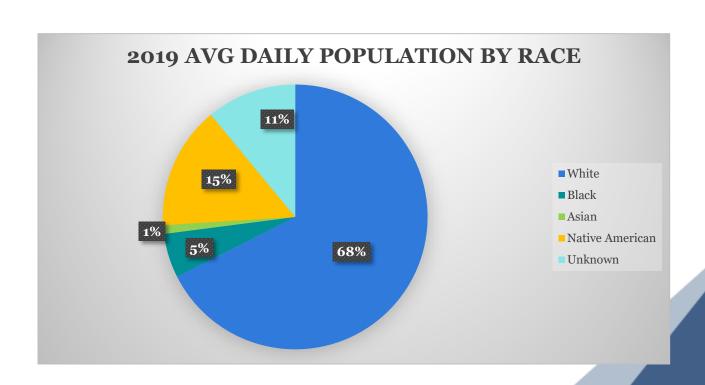


<sup>\*</sup>The Renville County jail brings in revenue by housing for other agencies.



<sup>\*</sup>The oldest Renville County Inmate in 2019 was 81 years old.





#### VISITATION, PHONE SYSTEM, and iPODS

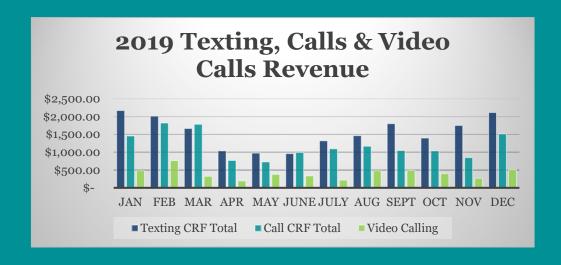
Reliance Telephone currently supplies visitation services, the phone system, and iPods to the jail. Each housing unit contains video visitation monitors and inmate visitation is encouraged by the jail. This web service allows for longer visitation hours with minimal staff, and greater security; inmates do not need to be moved to a separate visitation room and staff does not need to monitor the room like they would with an in person visit.

There are also phones in each pod for inmate use. Only outgoing calls may be made on these phones. Family members can buy phone cards that are sent directly to the jail for that inmate, or the inmate can purchase a phone card from their canteen funds. Attorney calls are free (and private) and collect calls are also allowed.

iPods provide a familiar link that keeps friends and family in contact with the inmates from 9am to 10pm via texting while generating revenue to put back into programming and security advancements for the jail. The iPods are a privilege only and are taken away if behavior is unacceptable. Inmates are charged an activation fee and per text both incoming and outgoing. Texts, like phone calls, are recorded by Reliance Telephone's software, and monitored by jail staff.

Beginning in November of 2018, RCJ added Video Calling to our inmate communication options through Reliance Telephone, creating additional revenue to the jail.

In 2019, there were 628,204 texts sent and received from RCJ and 50,245 outgoing calls from the inmate pods. The un-audited revenue total for 2019 is \$37,759.06 from telephone calls, video calls and texting.



# FEATURED PROGRAMS

Renville County Jail offers a wide variety of programs to both male and female inmates. These programs are funded and offered primarily by volunteers and are designed to address the needs of the inmates. It is our goal during incarceration to rehabilitate each inmate and assist them in recognizing the gifts and talents that they have been given. The following is a current list and summary of the programs offered:

**Chemical Dependency Treatment** - staffed by New Beginnings Treatment Center. Understanding and solving addiction issues is the main focus of this class. This is a first rate treatment program, giving inmates their best chance at a drug and alcohol-free life.

**Anger Management** – anger issues are prevalent with many inmates. Helping inmates overcome anger issues is important in preparing them for life after jail.

**Bible study** is offered on multiple evenings and daily as well. Individual study is also encouraged.

**Worship Service** – on a weekly basis, there is a praise and worship service with live music, a short sermon, singing and communion, followed by a prayer time individually and in small groups.

**Parenting class** – this program offers advice and encouragement to the parents who are in custody, as many have trouble coping with the inability to be with their children. This class offers inmates the skills needed to be good parents and raise their children in a positive, nourishing environment.

**Library** – the library is available each day for checking out books and reading newspapers.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** – volunteers assist with this ongoing chemical dependency programming to encourage sobriety. This program is mandatory for the chemical dependency program inmates, but is also open to any inmate to attend if they wish.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – volunteers also assist with narcotics anonymous meetings, oftentimes conducted by former inmates who are drug and alcohol free.

**General Education Development (GED)** – Adult Basic Education (southwest Minnesota) provides an instructor to assist inmates in acquiring their GED certificate. The Renville County Jail is one of only a few correctional facilities that is licensed to provide GED testing to students in a jail setting.

**Safe Avenues** – when inmates have the need to speak with someone on a one-to-one basis or in a group session about very personal matters, we have a qualified person that truly cares about each and every inmate. This individual is available as a victim advocate and can offer emotional support.

**Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Skills** – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy skills group is about teaching inmates the relationship between thoughts, feelings and behaviors and how they affect each other. One piece of the group is to teach inmates to recognize unhelpful or problematic thoughts and challenge or replace those thoughts. Another piece of the group is teaching inmates new coping skills, the differences between healthy and unhealthy coping skills, and helping them practice these new coping skills. The final piece is teaching the inmates to recognize consequences of actions and use decision-making skills to make positive choices. The group is open to anyone interested in learning new ways to cope with thoughts or feelings or change behaviors. Sixteen inmates participated in CBT sessions in 2019.

**Native Circle & Smudging** - The jail continues to implement programs that are important to the inmates that reside with us. Native Circle and Smudging are Native-lead programs that are spiritually focused. Religious videos, symbols and ceremonial items have been brought into the jail with support from the Lower Sioux Indian Community.

### **Renville County Jail Programs Schedule**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
8AM	Big Book	Big Book	Big Book	Big Book				
9AM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Anger			
	GED	GED	GED	GED	Management			
10AM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Anger			
	GED	GED	GED	GED	Management			
11AM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Mike's Bible		Gideons	
TIAIVI	GED	GED	GED	GED	Study		Giucons	
12PM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment			Gideons	
	GED	GED	GED	GED			Giucons	
1PM	Cognitive Skills (Alternates)	Safe Ave	Cognitive Skills (Alternates)	Parenting				
	GED	GED	GED	GED				
2PM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment					
ZPIVI	GED	GED	GED	GED				
3PM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Parenting	Smudging			
SFIVI	GED	GED	GED	GED	Silluugilig			
4PM	Treatment	Treatment	Treatment	Parenting				
4FIVI	GED	GED	GED	GED				
5PM								
6PM								
7PM	Dr. Bob's Bible Study	Native Circle	Church Service GCC	JW Bible Study	AA			
8PM	Dr. Bob's Bible Study	Native Circle	Church Service GCC	JW Bible Study	AA			
9PM			Church Service GCC					

# The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. - Mahatma Ghandi

We couldn't do it without them! Renville County Jail had 37 active volunteers in 2019. Many of our volunteers come from church groups or outside programs, such as The Fortress or Safe Avenues. Our volunteers offer an invaluable opportunity for our inmates to have access to programs offered outside of the facility.

#### Programs Offered by Jails of a Similar Size by Average Daily Population

County	AA/NA/GA/CD etc.	GED/ Education	Re-Entry, Life Cognitive Skills Personal Growth Religious Planning	Job/Work Release/STS	Religious/ Gideons	Parenting	Anger Mgmt/ Coping Skills/ Domestic Violence	Health Education (Physical and Mental) & Recreation	Culture Specific
Renville	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Aitkin	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Benton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Isanti	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Morrison	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Mower	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X

<sup>\*</sup>Information collected by MN DOC in 2017

\*There are 70 class III facilities in Minnesota, and, 27 of these jails have a higher average daily population than Renville County. Of these 27 jails, we "out program" 18 of them – or 67%. We have the same amount of programing as the other 9 larger jails according to the information provided by the DOC, but, this does not account for our extra programs such as treatment. The 9 jails that we match in programming have per diem rates that exceed ours by as much as \$127.16 per person per day.

# Huber Work Release

Renville County Jail inmates who have a sentence allowing work release are given the opportunity to leave the jail to go to work if approved by jail administration. The purpose of the Huber Work Release program is to allow offenders to keep their current employment in the community. We hope to prevent anyone from losing their job because they have to serve a sentence.



To qualify for work release, the offender must already be employed and have held that job for at least 35 days before reporting to jail. If a person meets the criteria, they are required to pay a fee of \$25 per day for their pay to stay and work release fees, beginning with two weeks' payment in advance. The fee must be paid weekly thereafter.

Inmates must agree to a list of terms and abide by all rules of the jail while in custody and while participating in work release. They are also subject to random UA's and strip searched upon return to the jail. They are usually housed in a small pod with other work release inmates to keep possible contraband contained.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

In 2019, eight individuals participated in Huber/Work Release program.

### **Electric Home Monitoring & Alcohol Monitoring:**

In 2019 Renville County Jail began working with Continuous Alternative Monitoring (CAM). These units for monitoring continue to be only GPS and Cellular. There are two main reasons for the transition. The first is to make monitoring more affordable, making the monitoring more affordable allows more people to take advantage of the program, potentially getting back to their families or employment. The second reason for the switch to CAM units is the ability for jail admin or programmer to access monitor results, locations of monitories and make necessary changes quickly and easily when needed.

With online access through TRAC monitoring (for our Alcohol monitors) and Buddi for our GPS monitors, we have updated information throughout every day. CAM also allows us to update notifications to be sent directly to dispatch for high risk parties on GPS, this allows the quickest possible response by Law Enforcement if necessary. Reports for all parties on monitors are sent daily and summarized weekly for supervising agencies to be able to act quickly when appropriate.



**Buddi GPS Monitor** 



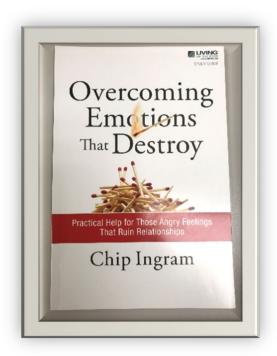
**TRAC Alcohol Monitor** 

# Anger Management

New in 2017, The Renville County Jail now offers anger management classes. Many inmates coming to jail have unresolved anger problems. With some inmates you can see these unresolved issues reflected in the criminal charges they have: Domestic assault, assault, obstruction, disorderly conduct or damage to property. However, many inmates struggle with nonviolent charges also struggle with anger management.

Anger Management classes are presented by jail volunteer Cecil Meyer and others from The Fortress. Cecil Meyer is the executive director of The Fortress, a men's sober living home in Willmar, MN. The house has 30 beds for men who are struggling with various addictions and life problems. Cecil has a great understanding of anger problems the inmate experience. This understanding comes from both working at The Fortress and from his own life experience.





### **Parenting Classes**

Also new in 2017, The Renville County Jail offers parenting classes. This program is presented by The Hope Pregnancy Center out of Willmar, MN. It is instructed primarily by Debbie Neu. Many inmates are already parents or are expecting to be parents. This class gives them information and tools to help them understand their children and themselves in regards to parenting.

The Hope Pregnancy Center is a resource for any parent to go for help with parenting. They offer the same classes to the general public and also one-on -one counseling. Debbie, who is employed by The Hope Pregnancy Center, has a great deal of knowledge with incarceration and parenting. She can relate to the inmates very well because of her own life experiences, making the information presented invaluable.

Hope Pregnancy Center - Willmar, MN



### **ABE/GED**

The Adult Basic Education (ABE) and GED program at the Renville County Jail continues to be a high achieving program. Renville County currently has one certified Pearson Vue Test Administrator and one computer set up for testing. GED testing is conducted Mon-Fri 8AM-4:30PM. The GED teacher is available to inmates 3-4 days per week.

In 2019, Renville County Jail's GED program had 10 inmates earn their GED and 7 inmates earn their high school diploma.

Students have been able to recover the credits they need for a high school diploma through the Montevideo ALC. Students must meet current graduation requirements. Each credit is equal to two semesters of work in a class. One student this year earned 12.5 credits in five months to receive his diploma. It takes a great deal of time and work ethic to achieve passing scores on any of the four GED tests. Even if they don't pass the tests, they are still educating themselves and working toward a goal. A GED is not the only productive thing that will come from inmates educating themselves. Working towards a goal and actually EARNING it, is something that many of these individuals lack in their lives.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Since 2014, when the Renville County Jail started offering GED testing, there have been 93 GEDs earned and 7 high school diplomas. As of December 2019, we have passed the 100 graduates benchmark!

# ABE/GED CONT.



Linda Howard

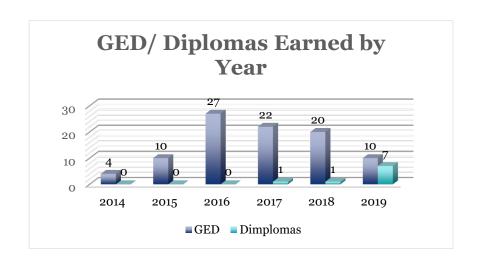
Kim Lippert



The education department just started using the MCIS, a state program that helps people use their interests and strengths to explore types of jobs that suit them, explain the training needed and places in Minnesota they can get that training. IT also helps them with budgeting and finding the cost of living in several areas of Minnesota. It is specific to jails so there are no outside links to open.

In addition, we help students with any educational needs they have. We help them build resumes, job search, study for the Accuplacer and ACT, explore college/technical training options, and a host of other things.

All of this success would not have been possible without dedicated teachers. Linda Howard and Kim Lippert are the heart of the GED and Adult Basic Education Program at the jail. Their classroom provides an outlet where inmates can gain confidence and a new skill set to take with them to their future career. They are vet another support system for the inmates - they celebrate with students in their success, and help them continue to better themselves if they fail. This support does not stop when an inmate is released; they are avid in providing information to students on how and where to finish their GED when they leave Renville County as well. It takes a special person to teach inside of a jail and it takes even more to be a successful teacher inside of a jail.



### **Chemical Dependency Treatment**

Drug and Alcohol addiction is an ongoing problem for not only Renville County, but the entire nation. This is why the Renville County Jail continues to offer treatment right inside of the jail. This is brought to us from New Beginnings of Waverly, a Meridian Company. Inmates can do the inside program and when their sentence is finished they can transfer to our outpatient section that is held in the conference room outside the jail's secure perimeter or they can transfer to another treatment that is approved by their funding provider. In 2019, there were a total of 24 treatment participants that successfully completed the Jail treatment program. To overpower addiction a person needs to change their life, their perspective, their philosophy and nearly everything they have known to be normal. This treatment excels at giving the inmate/client all of those things.

### **Church Services**

Grace Community Church continues to offer volunteer services from 7-8PM on Wednesday nights. The service offers music, sermon, and communion with the invitation for prayer or questions after the service. Roughly 25 inmates attend each week, and the Grace Community church has a dedicated group of presenters - with sometimes up to 9 people. During this time the church volunteers often bring donations to the jail in the form of books and clothing as well.



### **Additional Programming**

In addition to everything listed, Renville County Jail programs offer several bible studies, a gym for recreation with exercise equipment, monitored phone calls/visitation/texting, commissary, reasonable religious accommodations, a library with roughly 1500 books and a computer lab.

#### **TRAINING**

At the Renville County Jail, training is considered a high priority. New Corrections Officers complete at least 40 hours of on the job shadowing along with formal instruction during their initial training. These formals trainings are conducted at the jail by certified in-house instructors: Taser training, Response to Resistance, ARMER radio, and First Responder CPR/AED, to name a few. Staff utilizes online platforms to train and complete certifications on Portal, Pharmchek sweat patch testing, and PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act). MEnD, our contracted medical service, supplies medical training which certifies corrections staff on Medication distribution, as well as providing training on inmate mental health. Many of the "how to" objectives are learned by shadowing and on the job training utilizing our veteran staff. Some of these areas include, our software systems, the booking and intake process, proper ways to conduct searches, inmate relations, facility upkeep, and checking in volunteers/contracted agents into the facility. A checklist of key components and a quiz complete our initial training process.

Staff also complete at least 16 hours of continuing education each year as required by the Department of Corrections. These 16 hours include our annual certifications on Response to Resistance, Taser and Sweat patch application, as well as our bi-annual medication distribution training. Staff attend one of the Minnesota Sheriff Association's jail conferences each year throughout the state of MN. Staff also complete quarterly trainings on site, including PREA, Lock up USA video trainings and quizzes, and other trainings on areas we see a need for in our facility. Our facility also conducts fire drills and evacuation trainings.

Employees also use county facilitated trainings that become available. OSHA/Awair training is presented each fall, as well as annual software trainings, web development trainings, webinars, leadership trainings, and self-development trainings and speakers.

Some staff also utilized additional optional training opportunities such as the Minnesota Leadership & Educational Development online training, specialty conferences such as the jail programmer's conference, and instructor training such as Taser instructor school.

Administrative personnel may attend supervisory focused conferences and management trainings, as well as those specially requested by the Bureau of Prisons.

### Lexipol

Lexipol is an online provider of state-specific policies for law enforcement agencies. Each department within an agency can create, edit and individualize a manual specific to their needs. The Renville County Jail has a manual within the Lexipol system titled, "Renville County Custody Manual". All employees of the jail have been assigned a username and password to Lexipol and have access to this policy on any computer. It is their responsibility to access the policy manual and be familiar with its contents. Upon the release of a new updated version of this manual it is required that all staff sign a document acknowledging the receipt of the new version.

This manual is used for policies in 11 categories specific to the jail functions, these policies compliment and support the Minnesota 2911 policies and are tailored to reflect the needs of this specific facility.

### **Enhanced Rehabilitation Court**

Enhanced Rehabilitation Court (ERC) is the Renville County version of drug court. We are so proud of the work that the jail staff, the Sheriff, the County Attorney's office, the public defender's office, the local and regional probation office, Restorative Justice, New Beginnings of Waverly (Meridian) treatment counselor staff, Renville County Human Services administration and Rule-25 assessors and the Honorable Laurence Stratton have played in the continuation of the ERC. The ERC is an undertaking without the benefit of additional state or federal money. The aforementioned groups are all sharing the workload out of a deep commitment we all believe the ERC will have in restoring people's lives and families.



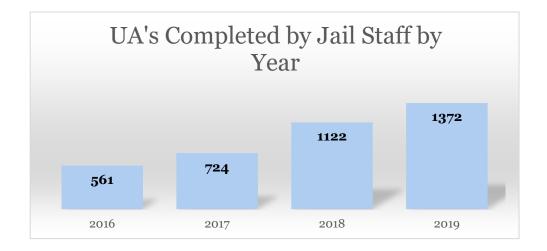
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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# Colorwheel



The jail staff has the primary role in the functioning of the Colorwheel program. The Colorwheel program is utilized by several state and county entities. The program is used by the courts for release order conditions, the probation office for probation testing requirements and Human Services for parties involved in CPS and other family matters. The jail staff conducts the Urine Analysis (UA) drug screenings and documents quick results, and prepares samples and sends them out for lab testing. The jail staff changes color wheel recordings on weekends and serves as a back up to probation for changing the color wheel messages during the week. Jail Administration receives the results from the lab and distributes them to the appropriate entity.



# Food Service

In 2019, Renville County Jail served a total of 55,579 meals to our inmates. Below is a graph breaking down meals served per month. On a daily basis, all inmate meals are prepared by Summit Food Service. The Renville County Jail has a contract with Summit who is responsible for preparing all meals according to guidelines set forth by the Minnesota Department of Health. The Minnesota Department of Health inspects the kitchen, all equipment, and storage areas annually to ensure the facility meets or exceeds their standards.

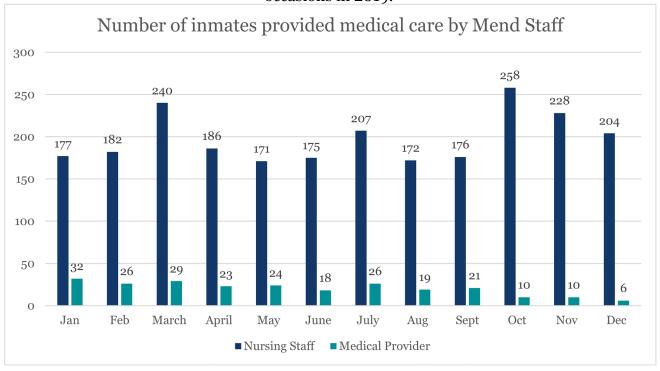


### **DID YOU KNOW?**

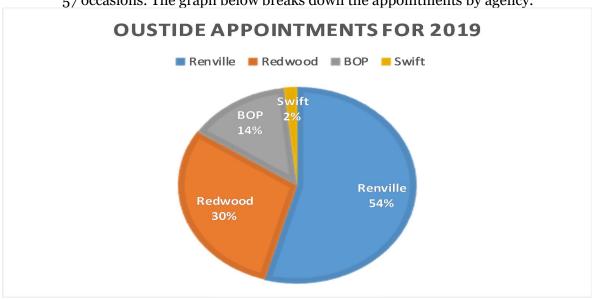
*In 2019, the cost of inmate meals totaled \$159,800.* 

#### **MEDICAL UNIT**

The Renville County Jail continues to contract with MEnD Correctional Health Care for medical services. MEnD provides the jail with 24/7 on call coverage as well as a Registered Nurse that operates under a Medical Director (N.P., P.A., or M.D.). MEnD nursing staff provided care to inmates on 2,376 occasions while the Medical Director reviewed or provided care to inmates on 244 occasions in 2019.



In addition to MEnD's mental health services, Renville County also contracts with an outside mental health professional, Dr. Nadolny, who holds a PhD in forensic psychology. He visits the jail once a month and also teleconferences with inmates to provide recommendations to jail and MEnD staff on their care. On occasion, inmates need to leave the jail for outside appointments. These include dental, eye and other specialty services that cannot be handled within the facility. For a fee, boarded inmates are brought to outside appointments as well. In 2019, Renville County Jail transported inmates to outside appointments on 57 occasions. The graph below breaks down the appointments by agency.



### PREA (PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT)

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act was to "provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape." Prison Rape Elimination Act, 2003). In addition to creating a mandate for significant research from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and through the National Institute of Justice, funding through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Corrections supported major efforts in many state correctional, juvenile detention, community corrections, and jail systems.

The act also created the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission and charged it with developing draft standards for the elimination of prison rape. Those standards were published in June 2009, and were turned over to the Department of Justice for review and passage as a final rule. That final rule became effective August 20, 2012.

In 2012, the Bureau of Justice Assistance funded the National PREA Resource Center to continue to provide federally funded training and technical assistance to states and localities, as well as to serve as a single-stop resource for leading research and tools for all those in the field working to come into compliance with the federal standards.

The Renville County Jail has a **zero tolerance policy** toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in our facility under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) 2003. We will enforce all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to inmate sexual misconduct. All reports will be fully investigated, which includes both allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, by the Renville County Jail and the Renville County Sheriff's Office Investigative Division.

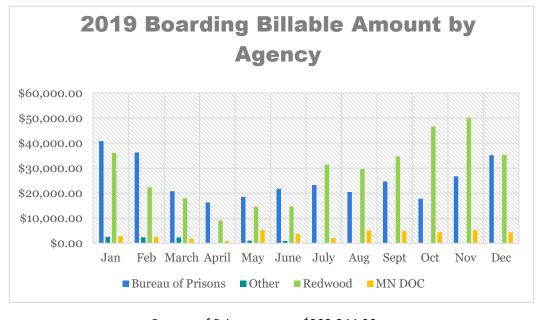
The Renville County Jail's continued commitment to maintain an organizational culture of zero-tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and harassment through annual staff training, contractor and volunteer training, notification to all professional visitors, and inmate education is supported by the following graph. The supporting graph shows there have been zero substantiated allegations of staff on inmate sexual abuse.

#### 2019 PREA Complaints

Inmate on Inmate Complaints	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	
Unfounded Allegations	0	1	
Unsubstantiated Allegations	0	0	
Substantiated Allegations	0	0	
Staff on Inmate Complaints	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	
	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	
Complaints	Sexual Abuse  0 0	Sexual Harassment  0 0	

### **Jail Revenues**

Renville County Jail receives revenue from a number of sources, but the largest source is inmate boarders. Along with Renville County inmates, the jail also houses for the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Minnesota Department of Corrections, Redwood County, Swift County and other counties as requested. Other sources of revenue are telephone and texting services, inmate commissary, booking fees, work release fees, home monitoring fees, and Renville County pay to stay fees.



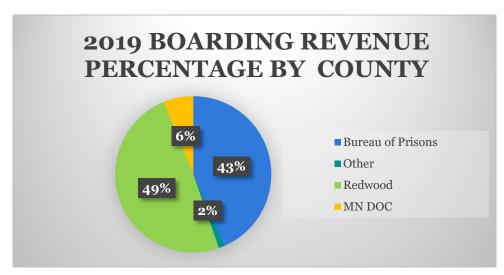
 Bureau of Prisons
 \$302,344.00

 Other
 \$9,460.00

 Redwood County
 \$342,804.00

 MN DOC
 \$43,185.00

 Total Invoiced
 \$697,793.00



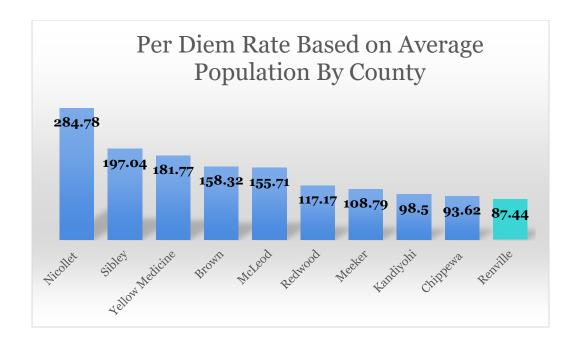
#### **COST OF OPERATION COMPARISON**

According to the most current information provided to date, calendar year 2018, Renville County has the second lowest per diem rate out of all of the Class III facilities in Minnesota. We are very proud of this low operating cost and believe it directly correlates to our jail philosophy and staff. We have been able to see real savings through centralized purchasing within the jail division. Savings can add up quickly with the quantities needed to maintain the operation of a facility our size. We also strive to care for equipment we have to use in the operation of the jail. We are very conscious that the money required to operate the jail, above the revenue we receive primarily from boarding inmates from other agencies, is taxpayer dollars. We are constantly looking for ways to maximize what each dollar spent brings to us. Please take note of the area jail's cost of operation based on average daily population.

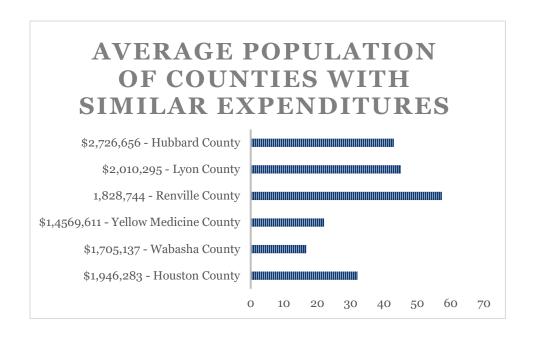
#### **Figures for Surrounding Counties**

County	2018 Total Expenditures	ADP	PER DIEM RATE based on ADP
Renville	\$1,828,744	57.3	\$ 87.44
Kandiyohi	\$5,285,188	147	\$ 98.50
Redwood	\$ 839,955	19.64	\$117.17
Meeker	\$1,588,354	40	\$108.79
Yellow Medicine	\$1,459,611	22	\$181.77
Sibley	\$ 748,675	10.41	\$197.04
Brown	\$1,639,985	28.38	\$158.32
McLeod	\$1,842,079	32	\$155.71
Nicollet	\$1,881,394	18.1	\$284.78
Chippewa	\$ 468,157	13.7	\$ 93.62

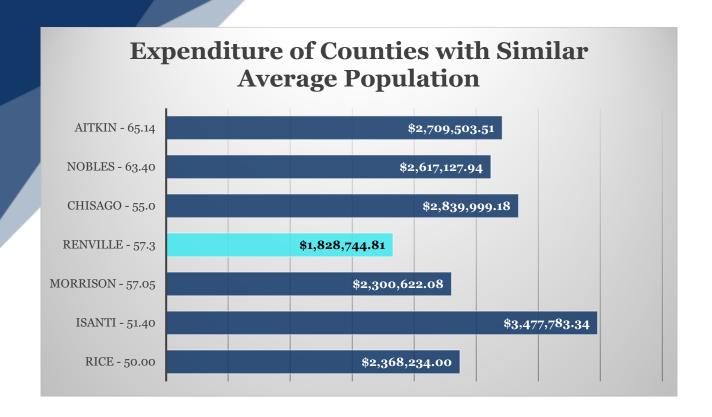
<sup>\*</sup>Our expenditures rival those of significantly smaller surrounding counties.



\*Renville Co has the lowest per diem rate of any of the surrounding counties, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest per diem rate of any class III facility in MN.



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\*When compared to counties of a similar size (ADP) Renville county has a significantly lower budget. Morrison County has only a .25 smaller average population, but they have a much larger budget than Renville County - \$471,877.27 larger. Renville County also offers more programming than Morrison County according to the DOC.

### LOOKING INTO 2020

- ➤ In 2020, we will prepare and present a 5 year plan for building maintenance needs and replacement of equipment so that we can level the cost for better planning.
- ➤ Reliance Telephone, at their expense, will be replacing iPods with iPads. This will allow each inmate to video call at inmate expense. Canteen will be ordered through the iPad as well as kites (inmate communication to RCJ), PREA notifications, law library and texting. RCJ receives a portion of all revenue.
- > Updating kitchen walls and floor as required.
- ➤ Painting projects in cells and other surfaces.
- > Begin floor restoration in stages as we are two years past average floor coating lifespan.
- ➤ We will be replacing our security system in the jail which monitors and opens all doors, logs activity and controls the cameras for the entire jail building. The proprietary system is no longer supported and the parts no longer available.

#### LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

Although it doesn't seem possible, RCJ has been open coming up on 12 years! We keep referring to it as the "new" jail. A close look and an honest assessment confirms that it is a facility that is open 24 hours a day every day of the year and over the next 3-5 years, we will need to refinish areas that are original and recondition items that simply show the age of the building. I would note that staff has pride in the cleanliness of the jail and work daily to maintain a high standard we have set for ourselves. I believe we owe it to the owners of the building, the taxpayers of Renville County, to maintain the building to the best of our ability to preserve it for many more years of service.

Re-Entry programming to make sure released inmate has as many tools as possible for success. Statistics show how crucial the first 30 days of release are to that success. Returning to jail is expensive in terms of tax dollars and incalculable in damage to families and children of incarcerated parents. This simply is the best way to reduce recidivism.

We will continue to work to find innovative ways to break the cycle of Adverse Childhood Experiences and other trauma factors so children of incarcerated parents become good citizens and good parents. We will strive to partner in the education of these factors with parent groups and county schools wherever possible.