

*...because they matter!*



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



**RENVILLE  
COUNTY JAIL  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**2025**

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# Renville County Jail

Ned G. Wohlman, Jail Administrator

104 4th Street South

Olivia, MN 56277

320-523-3778 Direct

320-523-3600 Jail Main

320-523-3787 Fax

[ned.wohlman@renvillecountymn.gov](mailto:ned.wohlman@renvillecountymn.gov)



March 23, 2026

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

Dear Sheriff Hable,

I take great pride in writing to you about the state of Renville County Jail. Be assured that you have top notch corrections officers staffing the jail. Although our average age for floor staff is only 26, we have been fortunate to have recruited some very talented young men and women, led by sergeants with many more years of experience. Our sergeants, in turn, are led by assistant jail administrator Lieutenant Kali Steffel. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to led the Renville County Jail. Thank you for that opportunity.

In an ever-changing profession, we continue to provide the lowest possible cost to local taxpayers to hold Renville County Inmates, while still providing the best possible care. In order to accomplish this, we house for other agencies for a fee. In 2025, our revenue, less canteen and communications revenue, was \$1,557,991.65 as reported in the IFS county reporting system. This was substantially higher than our budget estimate of \$962,500, primarily due to housing for Kandiyohi County Jail for several months in 2025. Our expenses for 2025 were slightly higher than our budgeted amount of \$2,812,622 coming in at \$2,934,682.35. Percentage wise, our revenue was 162% of our budgeted amount and expenses were 104% of our budgeted amount. Unfortunately, at budget time for 2026, the best information available pointed to continuing to house for Kandiyohi County. With Kandiyohi downsizing their holding of ICE inmates, they are able to house their own inmates. In an effort to present an accurate budget, our 2026 estimated revenue includes some Kandiyohi County revenue that we will not realize as income. As a result, we have taken a hard look at what needs to be done to refresh floors and walls as a matter of being good stewards of the taxpayer's building. We are recommending that we hold off one year on some of the larger refreshing projects and that we limit what we spend on the building to non-tax dollar revenue. It is not that the building is in dire need of repair, but rather needs care as we go forward as the building is nearly 20 years old.

The Minnesota Department of Corrections changed the time period in which per diem costs are calculated. The calculation time is now the state's fiscal year which is July 1 through June 30. As reported in the 2024 Department of Corrections Annual Report, the latest available information, Renville County Jail's per diem cost is \$158.21. The average per diem cost for the 65 Class III facilities in Minnesota is \$324.27. Later in this report you will find a chart comparing Renville County Jail to our contiguous counties.

Our average daily population for calendar 2025 was 53. Our largest boarding agencies included the Federal Bureau of Prisons at 15.2, Redwood County at 10.6, Kandiyohi County at 8.3, private pays and other counties at .3, leaving Renville County's average daily population at 18.6. We also keep track of the percentage of inmates that are boarded from other agencies. The highest daily percentage of boarded inmates was 84% and the lowest daily percentage was 33%. The monthly average high was 73% and the monthly average low was 63%.

In 2025, Renville County Jail staff booked in 777 inmates. Of those 777, the oldest inmate was 86 years old and the youngest was 18. 2025 had a larger male percentage than in previous years as 85% of bookings were men and 15% were women. In the most recent years, the ratio was 75% men and 25% women. The average length of stay in rounded numbers for 2025 was 24 days which includes all inmates regardless of the responsible agency. The average length of stay for only Renville County inmates was 13 days, only Redwood County inmates was 30 days and only Bureau of Prisons inmates was 54 days. The longest serving inmate in 2025 served 289 days. Later in the report you will find additional length of stay statistics.

As we go forward, we will re-write our refreshing plan, continue to train well and support our dedicated hardworking staff. I consider it my honor and privilege to serve you and the people of Renville County as your jail administrator, and I thank you for that opportunity and for your support. We deeply care about those that we serve and we take very seriously our role in public safety. The better job we do, the better served are the communities in Renville County.

Sincerely,



**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.

## Practicing Philosophy Statement:

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?

# 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 an administrative assistant, 16 full time corrections officers four of which are floor sergeants, two community reentry specialists, an assistant jail administrator, a jail administrator and a jail 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.

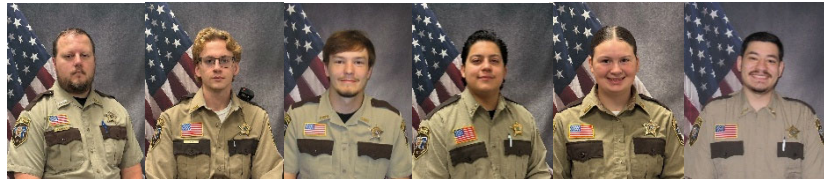
# CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

## Sergeant's Team

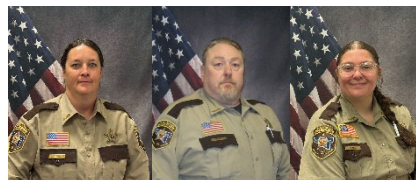


**Sergeant Steve Daak**  
**Sergeant Marion Harmon**  
**Sergeant Penny Kandt**  
**Sergeant Spencer Helmer**

## Full Time Correction Officers



**Officer Joel Hennager**  
**Officer Kole Holland**  
**Officer Stevie McMath**  
**Officer Joseph Romero**  
**Officer Eliza Agre**  
**Officer Kameron Masih**



**Officer Raelynn Reiten**  
**Officer Steven Biesterfeld**  
**Officer Nevaeh Elwood**  
**Officer Jonah Hansen, Not Pictured**  
**Officer Aaron Freitag, Not Pictured**

# Community Reentry Specialists



**Bryan Lubitz**



**Connor McColley**

Bryan Lubitz and Connor McColley both serve as community reentry specialists with Bryan focusing on work release and federal inmates, where Connor focuses on the Children of Incarcerated Parents grant program and Chemical Dependency Treatment.

## Administration



**Captain Ned G. Wohlman, Jail Administrator**



**Lieutenant Kali Steffel, Assistant Jail Administrator**

# Support Staff



**Sabrina Block, Administrative Assistant**



## **DID YOU KNOW...**

**The Renville County Jail is tasked with transporting all those arrested in other counties on Renville County warrants. The jail transports inmates to and from court appearances and to Minnesota prisons. The jail also will transport federal inmates from various half-way houses and are reimbursed by the Bureau of Prisons.**

# INTAKE/ BOOKING



In 2025, a total of 777 inmates were incarcerated at our facility; 595 males and 182 females with an average daily population was 53 inmates, up from 43 in 2024.

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, is body scanned and the inmate's personal property collected and inventoried. 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 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 a holding cell until after their first court appearance. If the inmate is staying, they are then placed in general population in a 4, 8, or 16 person "pod" where they will share a cell with another inmate.



## DID YOU KNOW that in 2025...

The average age of an inmate was 39 years old.

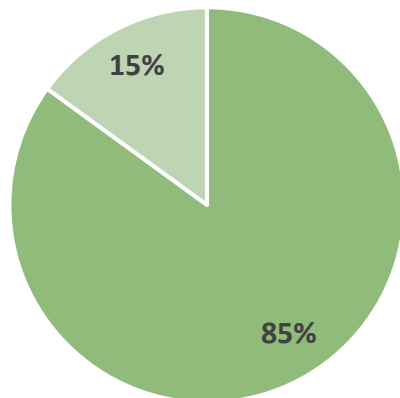
The oldest inmate was 86.

Average length of stay for all inmates was 24 days.

Average length of stay for Renville County Inmates was 13 days.

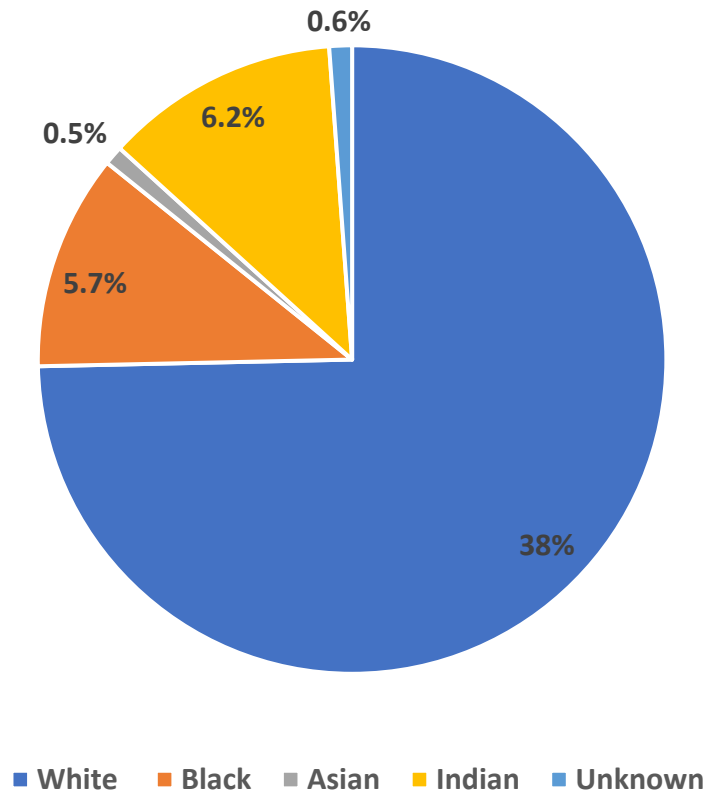
Longest number of days served in 2025 was 289 days.

## Population by Gender

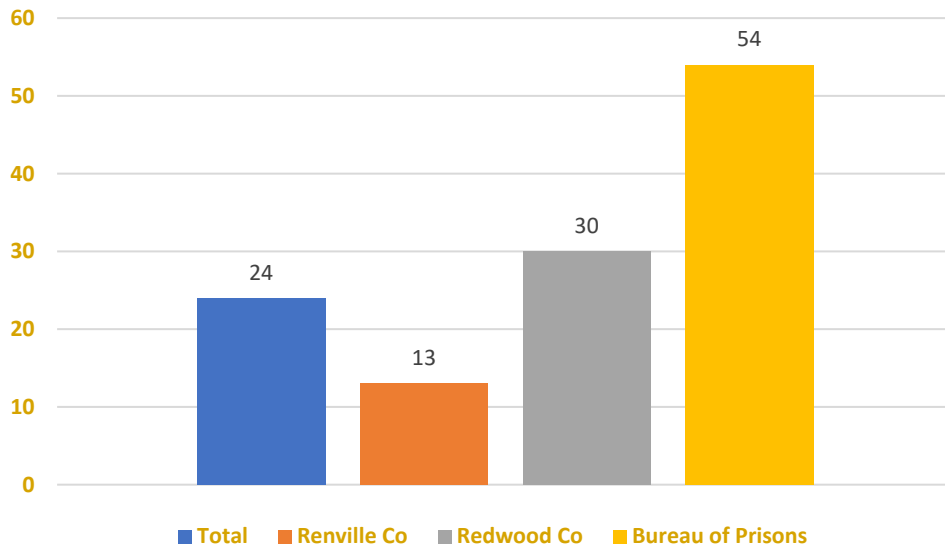


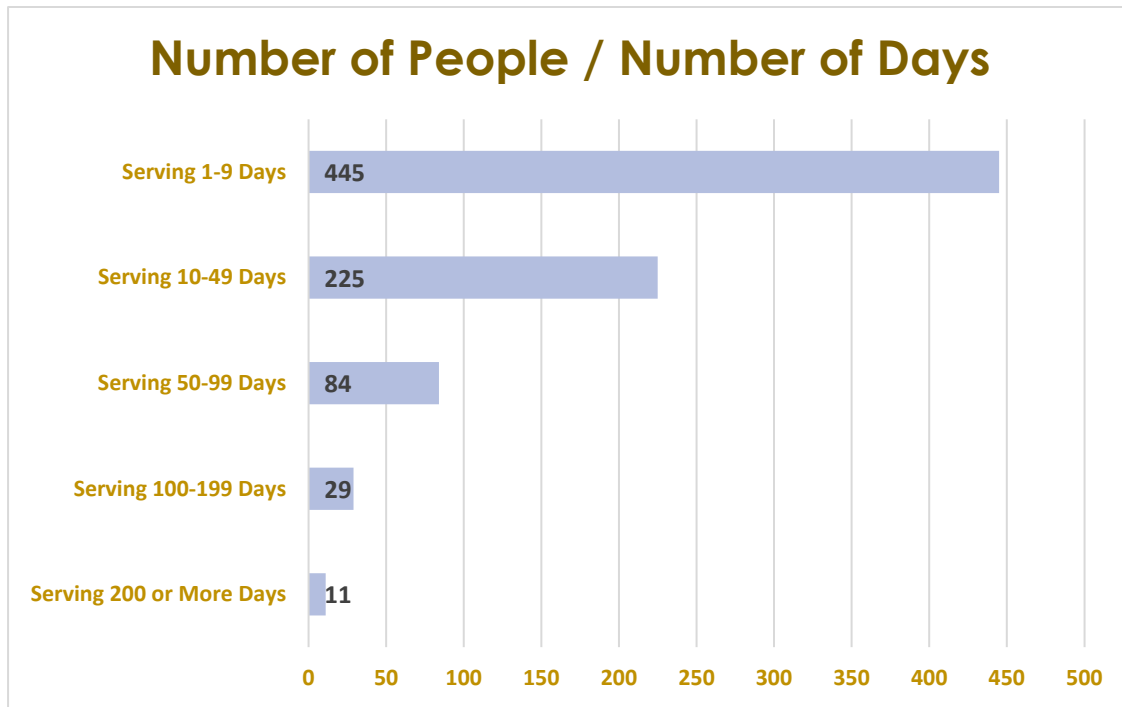
■ Male ■ Female

# Population by Race



# Average Length of Stay by Agency

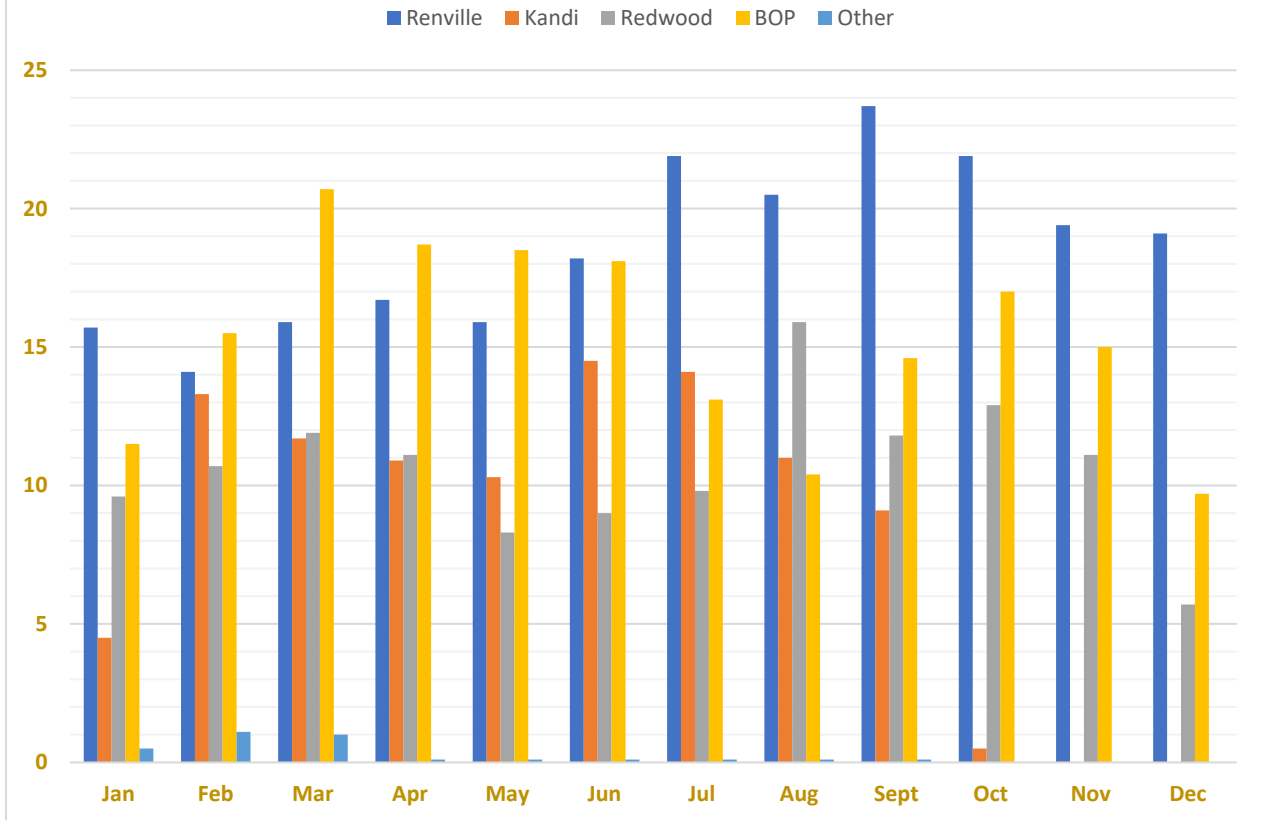




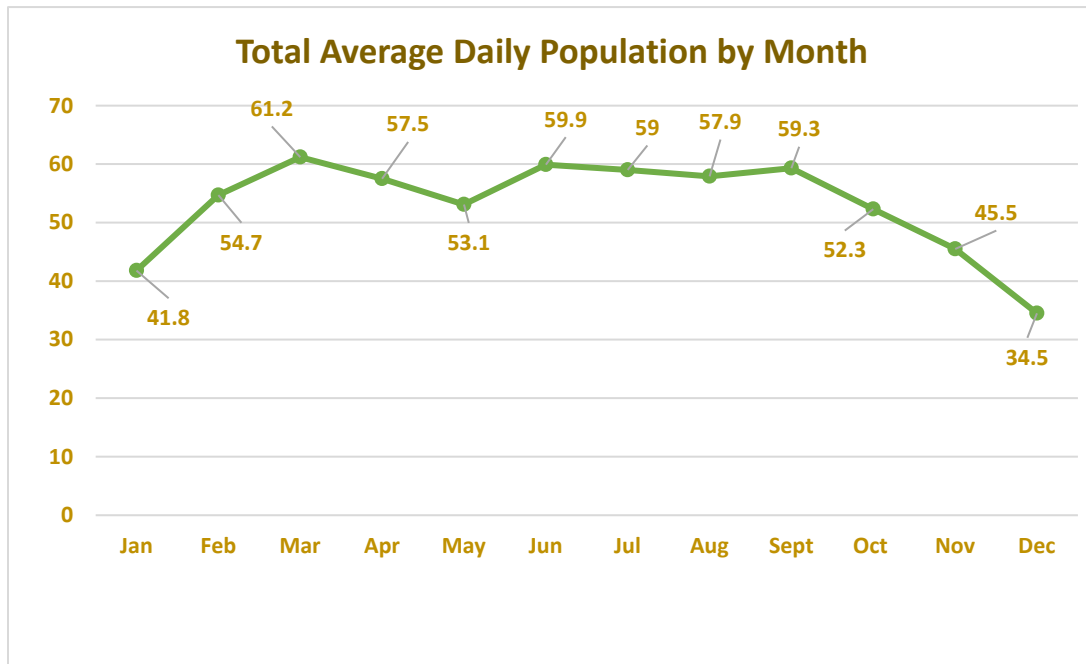
## Contiguous Counties Per Diem

County	2024 Expenditures	ADP	Per Diem Based on ADP
Kandiyohi	\$ 7,908,247.56	153.6	\$ 141.06
<b>Renville</b>	<b>\$ 2,356,053.98</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>\$ 158.21</b>
Meeker	\$ 2,022,848.30	23	\$ 240.96
McLeod	\$ 2,552,903.86	23	\$ 304.10
Sibley	\$ 1,227,744.58	6.87	\$ 489.62
Nicollet	\$ 2,217,481.00	15.95	\$ 380.90
Brown	\$ 1,203,699.00	14	\$ 235.56
Redwood	\$ 1,303,397.88	15.37	\$ 232.33
Yellow Med	\$ 1,637,696.00	15	\$ 299.12
Chippewa	\$ 1,053,971.51	8.6	\$ 335.77

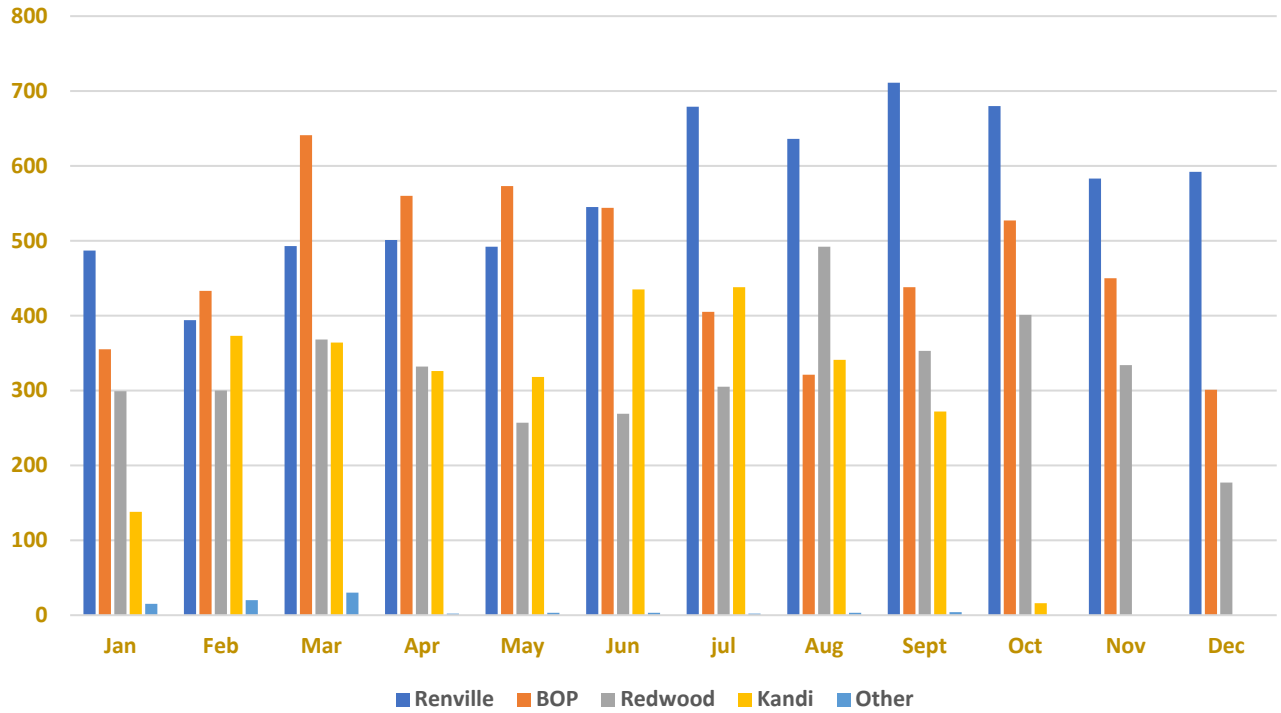
## Average Daily Population by Agency Per Month



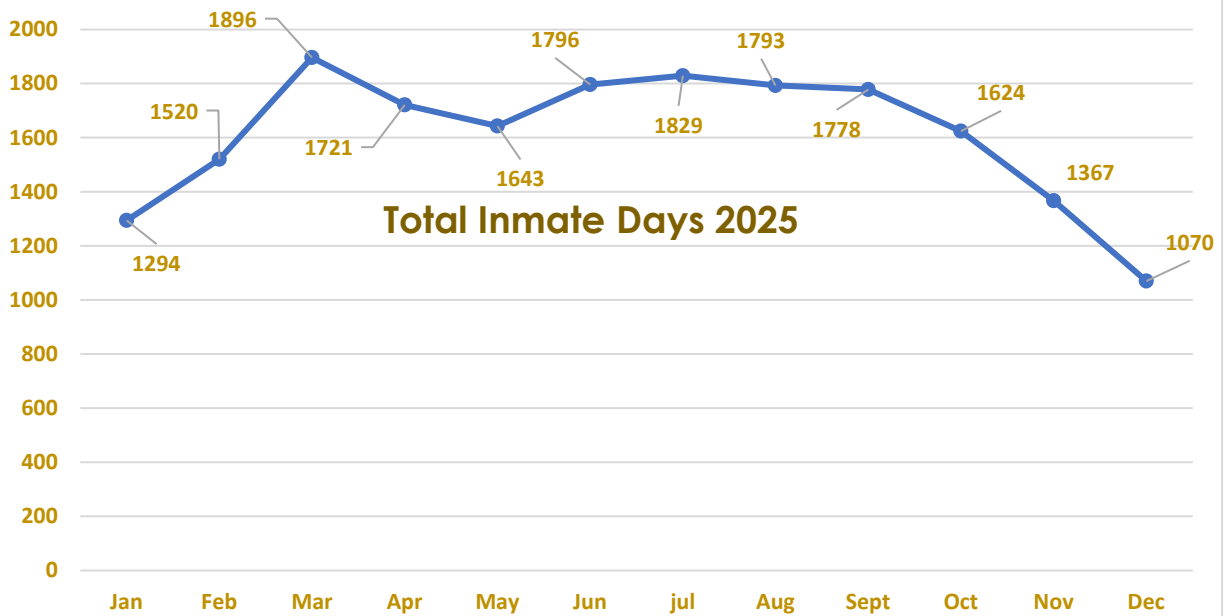
## Total Average Daily Population by Month



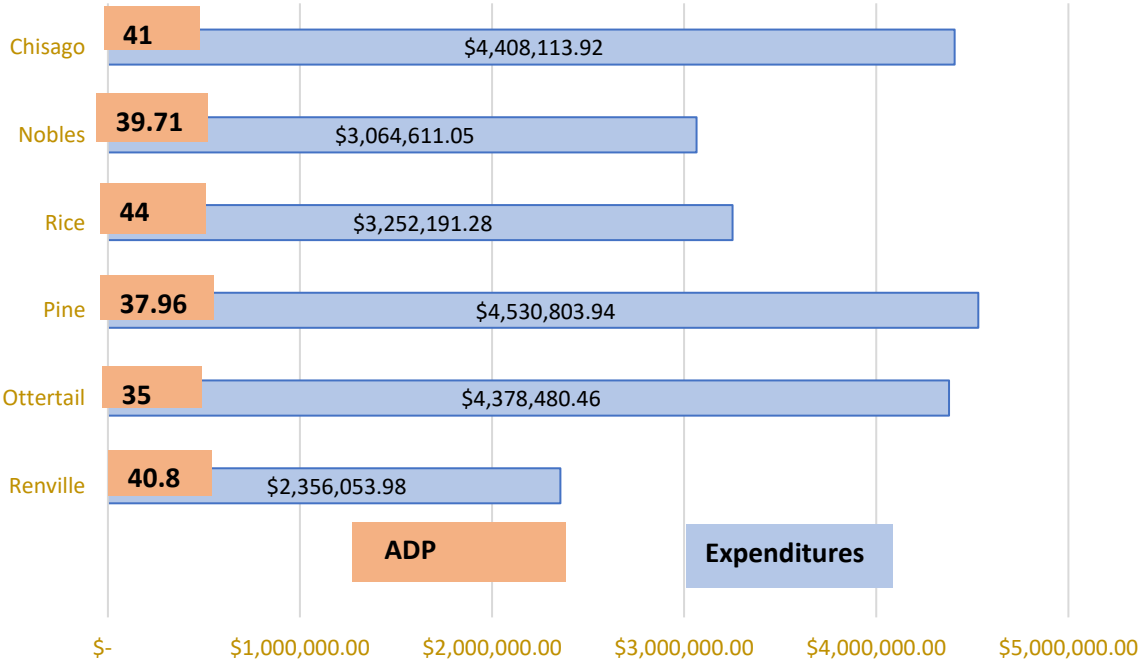
## Inmate Days Per Agency



## Total Inmate Days 2025



### Expenditures of Counties With Similar ADP



We constantly look for ways to spend tax dollars wisely. The chart above looks at jails close to our average daily balance and what their expenditures are. Some of our standard practices include reviewing and rebidding our major contracts every two years. This includes our medical provider, communication provider and our food service provider. We are very concerned over a change in the law which may well cut into our communications revenue. Our communication revenue funds the entire programs department, except for wages. Without the communication revenue, the replacement source of funding would have to be all local tax effort.



# Medical Unit

Advanced Correctional Health Care is contracted for medical services. ACH provided the jail with 24/7 on call coverage by a Nurse Practitioner as well as a full-time Registered Nurse that operates under a Medical Director on site Monday through Friday 8-4:30. In 2023, the medical department scheduled over 1655 medical calls from inmates with additional 123 mental health referrals made. Both are record numbers and there is no relief in site.

In addition to ACH's mental health services, Renville County also contracts with an outside mental health professional, Dr. Nadolny, who holds a PhD in forensic psychology. He conducts teleconference visits with inmates to provide recommendations to jail and ACH 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.

Medical cost is the second largest line item on the jail's budget. The total cost for 2025 was \$363,297.00. Both statutory law and case law are very clear as to the level of medical care the jail must provide to inmates. It is simply the level of care that one would receive if not in jail, or above. Boarded counties are responsible for all medical and medication costs for their inmates that Renville County Jail houses.

# Corrections Nurse of the Year Award

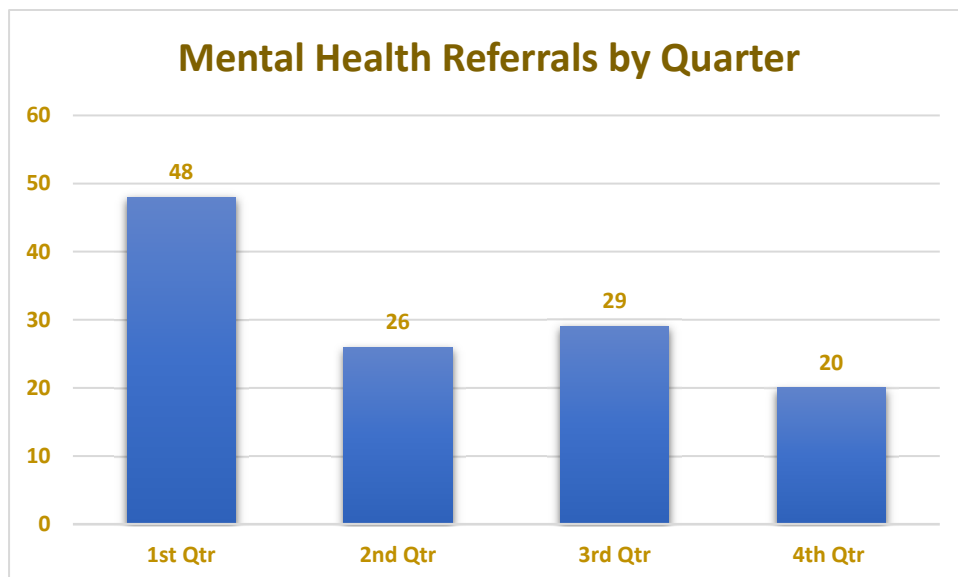


We are so proud of our daily nurse, Heidi Blokzyl, RN. She was awarded the 2025 Correctional Nurse of the Year award by the Minnesota Sheriff's Association. Congratulations Heidi, you are the best!

# Mental Health

Mental Health in the jail setting is becoming more and more of a serious problem. It seems the mental health illnesses have become more violent, problematic and there is a longer waiting period for a state mental health bed. There are two locked mental health facilities in the state. One is in Anoka, MN and the other in Saint Peter, MN. There is a waiting list that is prioritized based on each individual situation. The more violent the person is, the longer it takes to get them placed in a state facility.

Corrections officers have been forced to learn how to care for these individuals. Officers have received specialized training on how to recognize the many types of mental illnesses in order to better refer inmates to mental health professionals. There are multiple screenings throughout a jail stay for mental health issues, the first beginning immediately upon entering the jail. In 2025, medical made 123 mental health referrals.



# ABE/GED

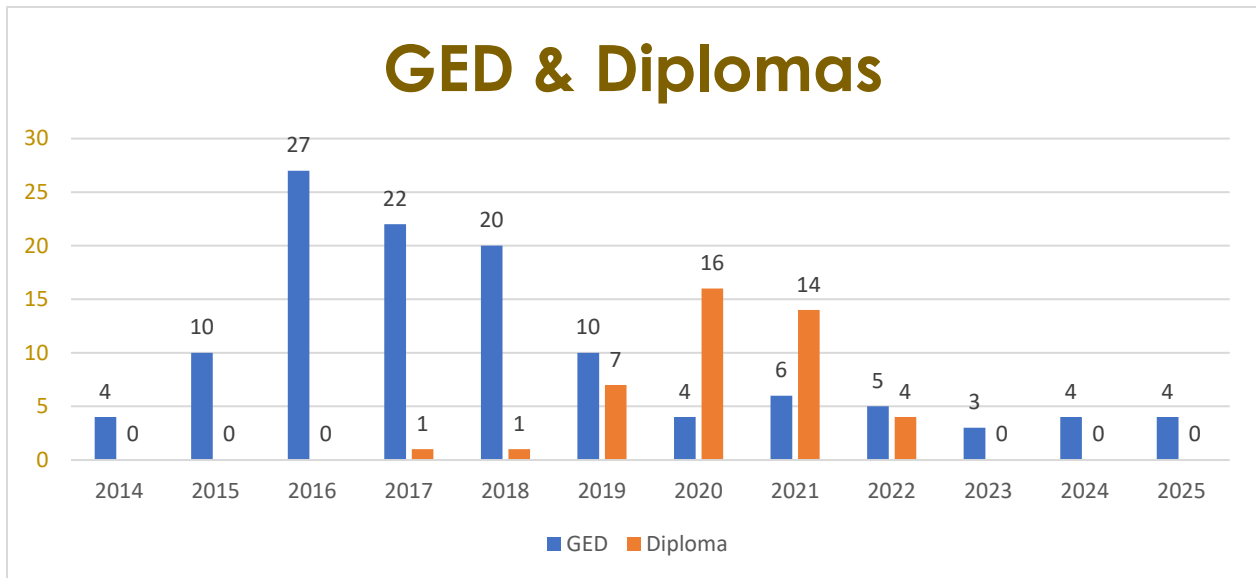
The Adult Basic Education (ABE) and GED program at the Renville County Jail continues to be a high achieving program. Renville County currently has two certified Pearson Vue Test Administrators and one computer set up for testing. GED testing is conducted Mon-Fri 8AM-4:30PM. The GED teacher is available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

## DID YOU KNOW?



#  
#

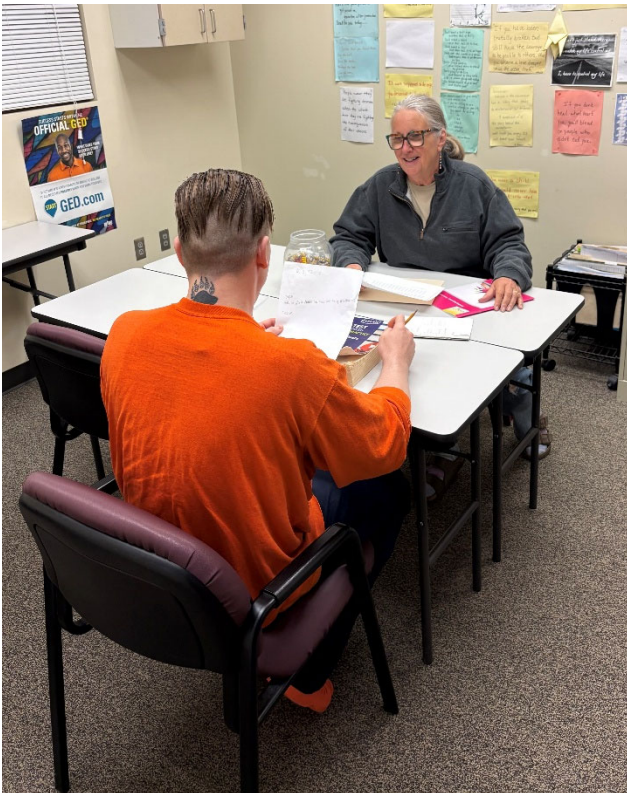
The Renville County Jail started offering GED testing in 2014. Since then, there have been 119 GEDs earned and 43 high school diplomas.



## Amazing Work!

Renville County Jail is fortunate to have three GED instructors retired teachers, plus an additional teacher over summer, who are all absolutely amazing! Kim Lippert, Linda Howard and Jenny Bloedow, along with Casey Elfering during the summer. The instructors help inmates with so many things such as resumes, job applications, college level courses, college entry paperwork, creative writing and a host of other things that make them the special people they are. Thank you for what you

do!



**Jenny  
Bloedow**



**Linda  
Howard**



**Kim  
Lippert**



***“The purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.”***

***Sidney J. Harris***



# Renville County Jail: Programs Schedule



**Programming is subjected to change based on available resources, volunteers, safety, and security.**

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8 AM	<i>Blocked Meal Time</i>						
9 AM	Project Turnabout Treatment	Project Turnabout Treatment	Project Turnabout Treatment	Project Turnabout Treatment	Parenting Inside Out (PIO)		Gideons Bible Study
10 AM							
11 AM							
12 PM	<i>Blocked Meal Time</i>						
1 PM	REAL Essentials: Life			Anger Management-Men	Parenting Inside Out (PIO)		
2 PM	Project Turnabout Treatment	Project Turnabout Treatment	Project Turnabout Treatment	Anger Management-Women			
3 PM					Smudging		
4 PM	<i>Daily Lockdown - Individual one on one meetings as needed by CRS, Treatment, Jail Admin and CIP Child Visiting.</i>						
5 PM	<i>Daily Lockdown - Individual one on one meetings as needed by CRS, Treatment, Jail Admin and CIP Child Visiting.</i>						
6 PM	<i>Blocked Meal Time</i>						
7 PM		AA Meeting	GCC Church Service				
8 PM							

**Unscheduled Available Programming:**

**Southwest Adult Basic Education:** Career Planning, GED Prep/Testing, and More  
**Children of Incarcerated Parents:** Family Support and Child Friendly Visiting for Children under the age of 18.

**Community Parenting Inside Out (PIO): Thursdays 5pm-7pm**

Designed for those who wish finish the PIO curriculum upon release, co-parents, guardians, and other referral sources probation, and social services.  
 Please have them Contact the CIP Program Director through Programs



## DID YOU KNOW?

The Renville County Jail started offering GED testing in 2014. Since then, there have been 117 GEDs earned and 43 high school diplomas. In December 2022, we hit the 150<sup>th</sup> graduate mark!



## Renville County Jail: Program Descriptions

- **Chemical Dependency Treatment:** Provided by Project Turnabout Treatment Center. To attend treatment, funding must be secured. Gaining the knowledge and understanding into addiction and recovery. Gaining the understanding and skills for sobriety and recovery. This is a first-rate treatment program, giving inmates their best chance at a drug and alcohol-free life. Assistance in applying for continuing care upon release is also provided if you are unable to attend with Project Turnabout.
- **Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP):** Participants and their family will be provided support and sponsored communication to maintain a relationship with their child(ren) under the age of 18. This program takes an individual approach to each family due to individual circumstances, barriers, and limitation to support. Collaboration with other agencies or resources will take place to support your family and child(ren). Recommendations are made to attend specific programs that are designed to foster growth as an individual, a partner, and as a parent.
- **Parenting Inside Out (PIO):** This 12-lesson curriculum is evidence and cognitive skills-based parenting course designed specifically for incarcerated parents. It focuses on decision-making and problem-solving. Evidence presents that parents develop and refine social interactional skills and citizenship behaviors they can use in all aspects of their lives and that will help them guide their children toward becoming positive, constructive adults. Priority enrolment is given to parents and CIP Participants. Participants will be asked to actively participate through discussion and role-playing scenarios for skill building.
- **REAL Essentials Life:** This evidence-based curriculum gives individuals tools for implementing healthy relationships as they build careers and establish their families. Specific topics explored include understanding self-identify through recognizing unique passions and gifts, learning communication strategies for decision making when navigating conflict and managing stress, learning the

benefits of commitment and marriage, and applying goals and visions for a long-term successful life plan.

- **REAL Essentials Motherhood:** Offered when requested one-on-one or in groups, this curriculum helps moms explore their role as daughters, partners, and mothers. It helps participants learn skills to empower healthy self- concept and care, communication and conflict strategies, stress and time management, boundary setting, and intentional co-parenting considerations.
- **Native Programming:** Native-lead and spiritually focused program offered when a native volunteer is available. This program provides the opportunity for Native Inmates to have group and individual meetings to process grief, life challenges, addiction, and cultural/religious practices. Smudging is offered 1x a week with this program.
- **Adult Basic Education:** Instructor led to assist inmates in expanding their education to promote success upon release into the community. Assists in developing digital literacy, provides GED prep and testing, career planning including resumes and exploring employment. ABE is open to design a curriculum to address other educational need.
- **Money Management:** 6- week course that is offered several times a year to assist inmates in managing their finances and pursue financial security.
- **AA Meetings:** Volunteers assist with this ongoing chemical dependency programming to encourage sobriety.
- **Church Services:** There is a praise and worship service with live music, a short sermon, and singing. Service is followed by a prayer time individually and in small groups.
- **Bible Study:** Gideons volunteers time on Sundays to facilitated bible study with inmates. Individual study is also encouraged.
- **Anger Management:** Anger issues are prevalent with many inmates. Helping inmates overcome anger issues is important in preparing them for life after jail.

# Parenting Classes

## Highlighting Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP):

"When a parent is incarcerated, barriers are presented that may inhibit them from remaining fully involved in the lives of their children and disrupt family dynamics. By being mindful of the obstacles and trauma parental incarceration presents, Renville County Jail can support and strengthen families impacted by providing support and services to overcome the boundaries. The CIP program provides on-site coordination of parenting and healthy relationship resources, community partnership, and established family focused re-entry including referrals and follow-up for children and families. Another aspect of the CIP Program is Family Friendly Visiting for inmates and their children, under the age of 18 through phone, video, and in-person visiting opportunities. Renville County Jail is a part of The Minnesota Department of Health's Initiative to Support Families Impacted by the Legal System. To continue to grow and improve the CIP program Renville County Jail attends The Minnesota Department of Health's Learning Communities that address Model Jail Practices to Support Children of Incarcerated Parents. The Minnesota Department of Health recognizes that Renville County Jail has a strong philosophy about supporting and building relationships with individuals in their jail. In addition to the CIP Program, participants will be provided the opportunity to participate in other programs at Renville County Jail. "When participating in the CIP program, participants will be suggested to attend specific programs designed to meet their individualized needs and foster their growth as an individual, a partner, and as a parent. This individualized approach to the CIP program will ensure support to strengthen families impacted by parental incarceration and assist in targeting the adverse childhood experience related to the generational incarceration cycle.

# Minnesota Model Jail Practices Learning Community

The first partner jail sites, ranged in size and geographic location, including: Carlton, Olmsted, Ramsey, Renville, Sherburne, and Stearns counties. These efforts were supported by a three-year grant from the Department of Justice, OJJDP Second Chance Act (October 2020-2023).

Now the model jail practices learning community consists of a wide range of county jails and justice-system stakeholders who support incarcerated parents and their minor children. The learning community has helped county jails in the following ways;

- Re-establish in-person contact visiting with minor children
- Improve access and expand participation in video visiting with minor children
- Implement parenting education with parents and caregivers of minor children
- Train county jail staff on the National Institute of Corrections Model Jail Practices and other trainings
- Connect county jails to state resources to support the children impacted by the criminal legal system

# Supporting Children of Incarcerated Parents

Parental incarceration in Minnesota and US

**More than 1 out of 6 youth in Minnesota have had a parent who was incarcerated, making parental incarceration one of the most frequently reported Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) for this population (MN Student Survey, 2025)**

- **Among the 1.9 million people incarcerated in the U.S., more than one-third of them are incarcerated in local county jails. In addition, over 7.6 million people are admitted to a county jail each year, including individuals who are awaiting trial.**
- **In Minnesota, almost half (47%) of those reported having an incarcerated parent lived with that parent at the time of arrest.**
- **An estimated two-thirds of adults in Minnesota jail are parents with minor children, most lived with one of their minor children before their arrest, and a majority are interested in participating in parenting education.**

**Jails can support families impacted by the legal system through policies, programs, and resources offered in the jail, and by connecting them to a range of community-based services to meet their needs.**

**Renville County Jail publishes statistics for the Children of Incarcerated Parents that just deal with that program and is available to anyone interested.**

## 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, and a library with roughly 1500 books.

## **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 formal 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 Portals, Pharmchek sweat patch testing, and PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act). Advanced Correctional Healthcare, 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. When appropriate trainings are available, the jail uses outside resources, such as train the trainer courses. Staff also complete quarterly trainings on site, including Minnesota Sheriff Association online training resources, PREA trainings, 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. Administrative

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

## **Lexipol Jail Policies**

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.

# **Chemical Dependency Treatment-New Company**

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 Project Turnabout. 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 2025, there were a total of 25 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. The success of this program depends a great deal on the individual's sentence as to whether there is sufficient time to participate.

Maria (Mia) Weber-Berg is the licensed treatment counselor for the inside jail treatment program. Mia has been for 17 years now and was instrumental in developing the jail treatment program. She is recognized state wide for her excellence and commitment to the profession. She is one of the best!



# Food Service

In September 2025, Renville County Jail switched food service providers. We had been with Summit Food Service for 17 years. We regularly re-bid our contracts to make sure we are getting the best value. As it turned out, Skillet Kitchen was able to bid a less expensive price. So far, inmates seem to be pleased with the switch. With three meals a day, a hot breakfast, a hot lunch and a cold supper meal, the number of meals is surprising. In 2025, RCJ served 53,104 meals. The price of meals that the jail pays varies according to the daily population. The chart below shows the monthly breakdown.

In 2025, the cost of feeding inmates was \$280,366.82.



# Tek84 Full Body Scanner



The Tek84 full body scanner has been a valuable investment for inmate and officer safety. Since installing the scanner in late 2023, we have not had an entire pod sharing drugs from a newer arrest. Many times, just having the scanner here and people knowing that has been a good deterrent from bringing drugs into the jail. On two occasions, staff identified something suspicious on a scan and the arrestee ended up in the hospital and could well have died without the correction officer's diligence and training.

## **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.

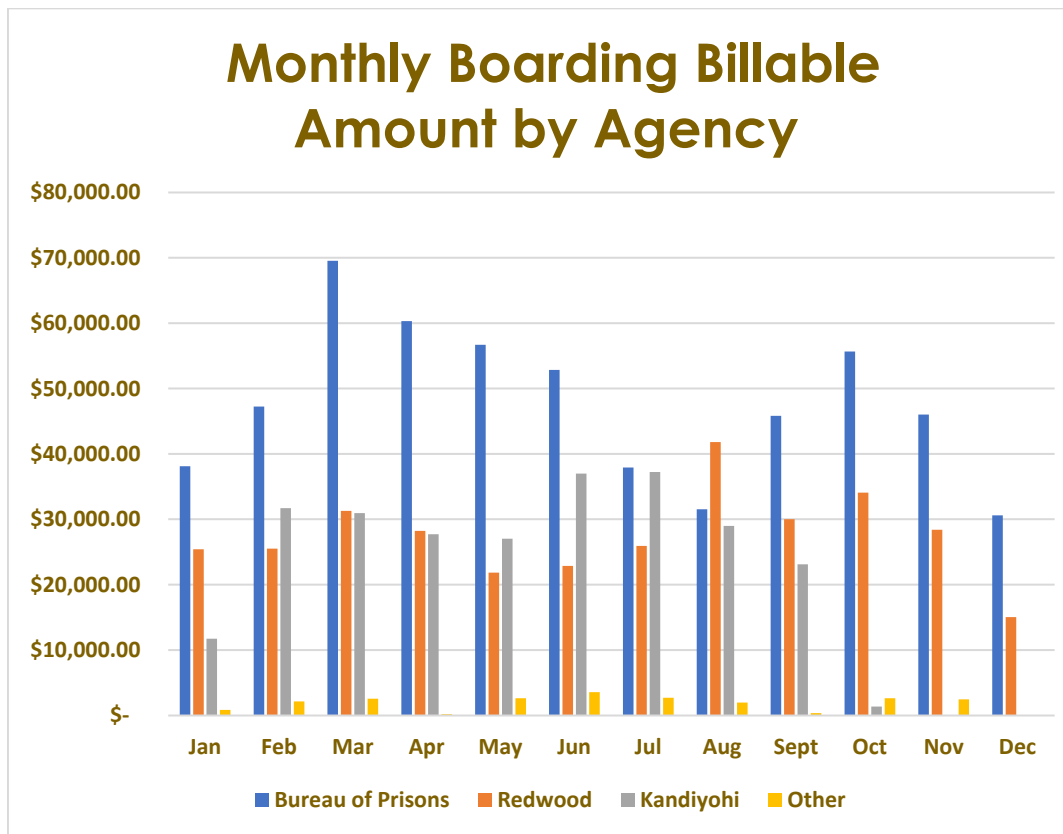
## 2025 PREA Complaints

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
Unfounded Allegations	0	0
Unsubstantiated Allegations	0	0
Substantiated Allegations	0	0


<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
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# JAIL REVENUES

In order to minimize the cost of housing Renville County inmates, we board for other counties and for the federal Bureau of Prisons. Over the years, we have boarded for 17 different agencies. Today, we primarily board for Redwood County, their jail overflow, and for the Bureau of Prisons. Other sources of revenue are telephone and texting services, inmate commissary, booking fees, work release fees and home monitoring fees. Renville County jail no longer charges pay to stay. In 2025, our revenue from all sources, with the exception of canteen sales, was \$1,557,991.65. Our cost per Renville County Inmate is less money today than it would be if we just housed our own inmates. Economies of scale more than offsets the increase cost of housing inmates for other agencies.



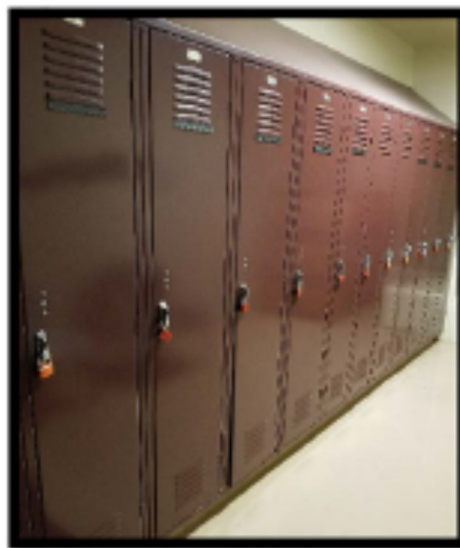
# Reliance Communication Revenue

2025					
					
<i>Renville County Jail Texting and Telephone Revenue</i>					
Month/Year	Texting	Phone	Video Calling	Monthly Total	2025 Cumulative
Jan-25	\$ 1,327.98	\$ 1,101.02	\$ 71.41	\$ 2,500.41	\$ 2,500.41
Feb-25	\$ 1,958.73	\$ 1,853.51	\$ 286.73	\$ 4,098.97	\$ 6,599.38
Mar-25	\$ 3,004.72	\$ 1,871.36	\$ 551.90	\$ 5,427.98	\$ 12,027.36
Apr-25	\$ 2,379.52	\$ 2,373.47	\$ 527.31	\$ 5,280.30	\$ 17,307.66
May-25	\$ 2,743.79	\$ 1,720.83	\$ 500.20	\$ 4,964.82	\$ 22,272.48
Jun-25	\$ 2,658.83	\$ 1,894.32	\$ 659.82	\$ 5,212.97	\$ 27,485.45
Jul-25	\$ 2,471.22	\$ 1,751.00	\$ 794.89	\$ 5,017.11	\$ 32,502.56
Aug-25	\$ 1,991.64	\$ 2,386.48	\$ 661.72	\$ 5,039.84	\$ 37,542.40
Sep-25	\$ 2,092.94	\$ 3,527.10	\$ 451.24	\$ 6,071.28	\$ 43,613.68
Oct-25	\$ 2,102.78	\$ 3,040.84	\$ 283.41	\$ 5,427.03	\$ 49,040.71
Nov-25	\$ 1,573.81	\$ 2,058.79	\$ 108.50	\$ 3,741.10	\$ 52,781.81
Dec-25	\$ 1,092.58	\$ 1,792.23	\$ 116.48	\$ 3,001.29	\$ 55,783.10
Total	\$ 25,398.54	\$ 25,370.95	\$ 5,013.61		\$ 55,783.10
Grand Total-----				<b>\$55,783.10</b>	

**Renville County Jail receives a percentage of the revenue collected by Reliance Telephone. Reliance Telephone owns all of the equipment and provides it on site at no charge to the jail. This revenue funds many projects that affects inmates in a positive way.**

**We are very concerned that the FCC and other federal and state laws will eliminate this revenue source and the only replacement source for funds would be local effort tax dollars.**

# 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 \$27.50 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. Some convictions make wearing a GPS monitor mandatory and the inmate is responsible for those costs.

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, a strip searched and body scan upon return to the jail. They are usually housed in a small pod with other work release inmates to keep possible contraband contained.

# Electronic Home Monitoring & Alcohol Monitoring

Renville County Jail has partnered with River Valley who supplies



us with the Buddi GPS monitor. It is an ankle unit that is a GPS only or a GPS and alcohol monitor. Any time the court orders EHM, the inmate is responsible for all costs associated with EHM. In order to be eligible for EHM, the candidate must test negative for all illegal medications or medications that are not prescribed to the individual. Medical cannabis is not prescribed. It is

allowed by a certificate. Any cannabis in their system will make them ineligible for EHM. The sentence then becomes one served in jail. Any violation while on EHM also converts the sentence to the remainder of the sentence in jail.

# Looking to the Future – 2027 and Beyond.

Although it might seem far away, the budget process for 2027 begins in just over two months. Building care and maintenance have been on the agenda for some time now. 2026 was going to be the year to make some major steps forward, but the jail's revenue forecast is going to fall short. To help mitigate that shortfall, we have decided to hold off one more year and to concentrate on the projects that are smaller and can be paid for with non-tax dollar revenue. I would note that none of the projects delayed in any way make the jail unsafe for staff or inmates. I consider those items to be simply good stewardship of public property. We can take up the projects in 2027.

If I were to list one item that I am most concerned about, it would be the proposed revision of 2911 rules, which govern Minnesota Jails. The rules as proposed will cost millions of dollars to counties across the state. It is no financial burden to the state as they have exempted themselves once again. A conservative amount I believe it will cost Renville County is \$578,340.23, or 20% of the jail expense budget. In preparation for some change in the 2911 rules, we are looking ahead to see what the rules would do to our operation and what we could possibly do inhouse without additional help.

With both holding off on some of the building refresh projects and the constant looming of the proposed 2911 rule changes, we can forget about what we do best. Our record in releasing people in better shape mentally and physically than when they came into jail is a record to be envied. Inmates are of a different caliber that in the past and we have to work harder to accomplish the goals and standards we have set for ourselves. I am proud of the staff that

**implements those goals and standards and works everyday to make a difference in the lives of those in whose care we have been entrusted, in their family's lives and for the sake of public safety. I can assure you that we will not let up, the stakes are just too high.**