

## **Questions for Corrections Personnel During Visit of the State-Tribal Relations Committee of the Legislature**

1. Please describe your policies governing the use of isolation.

**Crossroads Correctional Center (CCC) does not utilize isolation. However, the facility is required under the contract to adhere to the Montana Department of Correction (MDOC) policy for offenders housed in segregation.**

**Pursuant to MSP Policy 3.5.1 Locked Housing Unit, offenders are placed in the segregation unit only after an offender receives a sanction for a disciplinary action, classification decision, or is placed in temporary lockup due to a threat to the order and security of the institution. If an offender is placed in the segregation unit, he receives a medical evaluation and is seen by medical provider prior to placement. The shift supervisor notifies the Warden, Assistant Warden, Chief of Security and/or Chief of Unit Management of the segregation placement. The inmate will receive written notification on why he is being placed in segregation, and receive a carbon copy on why he is there. The on-site MDOC contract monitor is notified via daily report. There is also a very stringent review process for every inmate placed in segregation. An inmate may only be placed in segregation by a Shift Supervisor and the placement must be reviewed by a member of the Administrative Duty Officer within 72 hours of placement.**

2. Please describe the purpose and use of “fish rows”

**Crossroads Correctional Center does not utilize this term and therefore, has no information on this topic.**

3. Health care policies:

- a. Who determines when an inmate needs health care or medical attention?

**Crossroads Corrections Center adheres to Policy, 13-80 Sick Call, which allows for an offender to submit a sick call request. The offender will be scheduled to be seen by a doctor within one week or as clinically necessary. Crossroads provides unimpeded access to health care for non emergent illness or injury in a clinical setting. If our onsite physician feels it is necessary for an inmate to have surgery we must first get approval from MDOC medical services.**

- b. If an inmate becomes seriously ill or hospitalized, then is the family contacted?

**Yes, Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to policy 13-62 Notification of Next of Kin/Others Policy. The next of kin may be notified of serious injury, illness, or critical medical conditions unless security reasons dictate otherwise. When possible, permission will be obtained from the inmate prior to providing information.**

- c. If a prisoner is dying, can he or she be released to the care of their family? Can family members be by their sides in when they die?

**Crossroads Correctional Center is not authorized to release offenders housed under the contract with MDOC with out their authorization. This would be determined by MDOC.**

**Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to the same policy as MDOC, which allows for one death bed visit at the Warden's approval.**

- d. Does the prison isolate inmates who are infected with HIV, Hepatitis, or any other highly contagious disease?

**Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to policy 13-6 Chronic Care and Disease Management, which places great emphasis on chronic care and disease management as a proactive approach to patient inmate/resident care. Crossroads has a Chronic Care Clinic to ensure continuity of care for medical conditions. (i.e. cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, Infectious Disease etc). Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to policy 13-47 Infection control which is a program with defined procedures that effectively monitors the incidence of infectious and communicable illnesses/diseases among inmates/residents. Any inmate with a suspected or verified communicable/infectious disease will be placed in an isolation cell or designated area appropriate to the condition. CCA will provide screening, testing, treatment and reporting of all infectious and communicable illness/diseases that fall within state and federal guidelines.**

- e. Please comment on cases in which inmates died from illnesses contracted in prison.

**There has never been an inmate at Crossroads Correctional Center that has died due to an illness that was contracted in prison.**

4. Spiritual/Religious ceremonies:

- a. How often do prisoners get to participate in pipe ceremonies, sweats, or smudging?

**Weekly, unless there is an open fire ban or during extreme weather issues (winter).**

- b. Who recruits outside spiritual leaders to perform ceremonies within the prison?

**The chaplain is responsible for recruiting volunteers who may assist with religious ceremonies.**

Does prison staff receive cultural sensitivity training? If so, please state who receives it and describe the training's content, duration, and frequency

**Yes, Crossroads Correctional Center staff receives Cultural Sensitivity Training during the Pre-Service Academy and annual training during the In-Service Training.**

5. Family deaths:

- a. Is a prisoner allowed to return home for the funeral of a family member?

**Yes, Crossroads Correctional Center's adheres to policy 9-18 Transportation and Off Site Post Operation which allows inmates, excluding certain higher custody levels, to be considered for attending a family member's funeral. Some of the factors considered for the approval requirement include reviewing the inmate's criminal history; that includes escape, unresolved felony warrants, and a documented history of physical assault to name a few. The MDOC also requires Crossroads Correctional Center to follow their policy for inmate funeral attendance, and certain higher custody levels are not always approved to attend.**

- b. If yes, can the prisoner participate in public cultural ceremonies at the funeral?

**Yes, Crossroads Correctional center adheres to Policy 3.1.30, Offender Escorted Leave; which outlines the process for determining if an inmate can participate in ceremonies at a funeral. Administrators will establish offender eligibility with consultation from appropriate Department staff, i.e. victim information officer, case manager, security threat group coordinator, and the American Indian liaison.**

6. If inmates are moved to another facility, then are their families notified?

**Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to Policy 3.3.7 Offender Access to Telephone Policy, offenders are provided access to telephones, and may notify their families and others of their new location after moves. Due to security concerns, notification prior to the move is prohibited.**

7. If inmates disagree with a charge against them regarding conduct in prison, then do they have access to an advocate?

**Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to policy 3.4.1, which ensures that inmates receive appropriate due process protections, access to a full and fair appeal process, and appropriate sanctions when a disciplinary charge is sustained.**

8. Re-entry programs:

- a. Do all inmates go to WATCH and pre-release? **No**  
b. If not, what other "re-entry" programs does the prison operate?

**We have the TAPS (Transition Assistance Program. The following are some topics that are covered.**

**Chapter 1- Identification**

**Chapter 2- Life Skills**

**Chapter 3- Housing**

**Chapter 4-Education**

**Chapter 5-Transportation**

**Chapter 6-Living Under Supervision**

**Chapter 7-Family**

**Chapter 8-Resorative Justice**

**Chapter 9-Health**

**Chapter 10-Money Management**

**Chapter 11-Employment, resumes, Interviews**

9. ~~What factors do parole boards review when considering an inmate's eligibility for parole?~~

9. There are concerns that the various prison phone and calling card systems are of variable quality and expense. Have you heard this and if so what remedies are at hand?

**Crossroads Correctional Center adheres to policy 3.3.7, regarding inmate phone service, which is similar to MDOC. Crossroads exercises great care in ensuring that inmates have appropriate access to telephone and other communication opportunities.**

10. To what do you attribute the disproportionate number of Indians within the corrections system?

**Crossroads Correctional Center has no information on this topic.**