



# News Release

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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## Warner Creek Hosts Annual TVCC GED Graduation Ceremony

Warner Creek Correctional Facility (WCCF) hosted its annual graduation ceremony for adults in custody who successfully completed their General Education Development (GED) diplomas during the 2014-15 academic year. These GED diplomas were awarded through Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC) to a total of seven WCCF students.

Trevor Stancliff, Correctional Rehabilitation Manager for WCCF, congratulated the graduates on their achievements and emphasized that, "The right direction is always only one step away."

WCCF's Education Coordinator, Teresa Durkin, explained the challenges the new GED tests (effective as of January 2014) had on education programs in the Oregon Department of Corrections and throughout the country. She further stated, "Graduation highlights a success for adults in custody who have worked hard and persevered in a task that had been an overwhelming obstacle for them earlier in life. Those who participate in correctional education programs have a 43 percent lower likelihood of recommitting felonies. Therefore, we cannot quit."



*WCCF graduates*

Jeremy Yraguen, acting Director of Corrections Education for TVCC in Ontario, traveled to WCCF to deliver the keynote address.

WCCF is a minimum-security prison in Lakeview that houses approximately 486 male inmates who are within four year of release. WCCF provides a range of correctional programs and services including education, transitional programs, religious services, and work opportunities crews. WCCF has a contact center on site through Oregon Corrections Enterprises. WCCF opened in September 2005. It received the State Energy Efficiency Design (SEED) award in May 2008 for its progress in design efficiency. The most energy-efficient element at WCCF is the use of geothermal energy, providing 100 percent of the hot water to the facility.

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