



News Release

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Winter coat giveaway for children of incarcerated family members

Over the past two weeks, December 6 – 16, Oregon State Correctional Institution (OSCI) passed out 120 free winter coats. All children, ages 17 and under, visiting an incarcerated loved one during this timeframe were part of OSCI's second coat giveaway.

The giveaway was made possible by a community action grant from Wal-Mart. The grant was issued to help improve the local community, and that is what OSCI's Recreation Department sought out to accomplish. Working with Wal-Mart and their corporate office, the grant for \$2,500 was used to purchase 120 winter coats. About 20 inmates were involved in passing out the coats to children visitors.



Events of this nature are part of an overall effort to increase visiting and family engagement at all 14 Oregon Department of Corrections prisons. Research shows that those who stay connected and receive visits while incarcerated are more likely to be successful when they release.

OSCI is a medium-security men's prison in Salem that houses approximately 870 male inmates. It provides a range of correctional services and programs including education, drug and alcohol treatment, mental health treatment, religious services, inmate work crews, and transition planning. OSCI participates in prison industries with Oregon Corrections Enterprises, including a print shop and a contact center. OSCI was established by action of the 1955 Legislature and became fully operational on June 1, 1959.

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