

~ LIVES LOST ~

These are just a few of the lives tragically lost in the prison system due to the lack of basic humane treatment. We know many more people have needlessly died while in prison due to the lack of medical or mental health care.



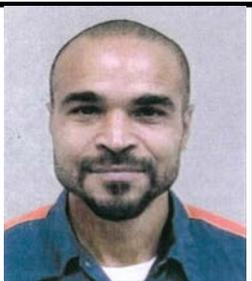
Lloyd Byron Martel died 02-07-2007 at the age of 41, from lack of Medical Treatment. He was serving 1-4 yrs for parole violations.

Timothy Souders,
08-06-2006
Jackson Prison,
died of dehydration
and starvation
while restrained for
72 hours



Anthony McManus
died of starvation.
09-08-2005
Baraga Correctional
Facility

Jeffrey Clark had a
seizure in the food line,
then died in segregation
with his water shut off.
Bellamy Creek
Correctional Facility
07-03-2002



WHY CHANGE IS NECESSARY:

Adequate mental and medical health care are large problems within this system. Lack of accountability and oversight are of great concern as well. We must hold those working with our prisoners accountable for their actions, and demand better use of our tax dollars. Change will bring a safer environment for employees as well.

The Michigan Department of Corrections continues to use hard restraints and chains to confine our mentally ill to cement slabs for days on end. As of July 2012, taser use is allowed on the brain-damaged, cognitively impaired and mentally ill in most facilities in Michigan.

At least 95% of prisoners will be returned to our communities. We must ask the tough questions.

- ◆ Is the public any safer if necessary treatment, training, programming and life skills are not taught while they are in the system?
- ◆ Is it cost effective to allow a prisoner past their earliest release date to remain incarcerated due to lack of mandated classes available?

Those who are confined to a cell without positive interaction or purpose will not come out and create a safer society. Releasing prisoners at their max-out date without preparation for becoming productive citizens within our communities create a higher safety risk. We ask you to join us as we unify to press for necessary change.

MICPR

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Citizens for Prison Reform

*Advocating for
Humane Treatment*



Our Mission:

To support, empower, and unify prisoners' loved ones and concerned citizens to bring quality humane treatment for all that are incarcerated.

To provide accurate information that will encourage education of our fellow citizens, communities, and elected officials.

Effective accountability will promote safer prisons, a safer public, and economical cost savings.

www.micpr.org





WHO WE ARE

- ◆ A grassroots group of prisoners' loved ones and concerned citizens, who are working for corrections reform and reasonable treatment of all incarcerated
- ◆ We believe that inhumane treatment of the incarcerated affects everyone



Positive programs and treatment create a safer community.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- ◆ Share our website with loved ones of prisoners. We have a Resource Guide that can be downloaded.
- ◆ Attend our monthly meetings in Lansing, join our e-mail list, blog, and Facebook.
- ◆ Write letters and talk with your legislators about the need for reform.
- ◆ Share your concerns regarding the treatment of our prisoners with your neighbors, friends, and community.

WHAT WE DO

- ◆ Educate families and citizens to the need for unified efforts for change.
- ◆ Create hope for prisoners and their loved ones.
- ◆ Bring public awareness of why a system overhaul is both necessary and cost effective.
- ◆ Educate and meet with legislators, elected officials and others to build a coalition working towards a rehabilitative system that changes lives for the better.
- ◆ Gather the facts about inhumane treatment and other issues occurring in prisons within Michigan.
- ◆ Seek positive alternatives within the corrections systems and achieve better conditions and changes for all.



Education and vocational training are crucial to rehabilitation.

- ◆ Work toward humane treatment within the corrections system
- ◆ Work to bring awareness to restorative justice practices, mediation and diversion programs that are working within communities as a way to prevent costly incarceration.

HOW WE CAME TO BE

After a horrendously long four months of watching a mentally ill son (19) decompensate after being placed in administrative segregation, a mother, family and friends rallied around and took on a letter writing campaign. What drove them was knowing how many others were in this same condition or worse. It was unacceptable.

Martin Luther King weekend was spent connecting with prisoners' families, and friends. Research and documents were created to help in

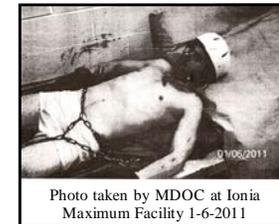


Photo taken by MDOC at Ionia Maximum Facility 1-6-2011

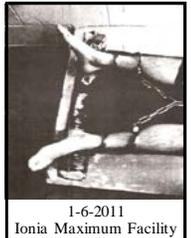
writing letters to government officials. The strength of force behind this campaign was not fully appreciated.

Strangers across Michigan began to converse and connect on behalf of prisoners. The movement had begun!

Weekly updates and articles were disbursed and more people joined in. In January, legislative education and the importance of working with our elected officials, became our focus.

Other prison families joined in, attending committee meetings and educating legislators. In May, a meeting was called by the mother who had painfully watched her son suffer in solitary confinement with horrendous treatment. She wanted to meet, face-to face, the many who had touched her life through e-mails and phone calls. Thirty-five people came and requested monthly meetings.

This grassroots group effort has continued to fuel a deep passion within it's core members to bring positive, necessary change for prisoners, their families and communities.



1-6-2011 Ionia Maximum Facility

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

Founders of Citizens for Prison Reform