

Eastern Ohio Correctional Center Wintersville,OH Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Noble

Franklin County CBCF Columbus, OH Franklin

Lucas County Correctional Treatment Facility Toledo,OH Lucas

MonDay Community Correctional Institution Dayton,OH Darke, Green, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Fayette

NEOCAP Warren,OH Asatabula, Geauga, Lake, Portage, Trumbull

NorthWest Community Corrections Center Bowling Green,OH Defiance, Fullton, Henry, Williams, Wood

STAR Community Justice Center Franklin Furnace, OH Adams, Brown, Clinton, Highland, Lawrence, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto

Stark Regional Community Correction Center Louisville,OH Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, Wayne

West Central Community Correctional Facility Marysville,OH Champaign, Clark, Delaware, Logan, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Union

W.O.R.T.H. Center Lima,OH Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, Paulding, Shelby, Van Wert

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House Finance Subcommittee on Transportation

HB 49-FY 18-19 Operating Budget

Proponent Testimony of: Karin Humphrey

Case Manager, West Central Community Correctional Facility

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Committed to Community Corrections Excellence

Good afternoon Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Reece, and members of the House Finance Subcommittee on Transportation. My name is Karin Humphrey, I am a Case Manager for West Central Community Correctional Facility in Union County. I appreciate this opportunity to provide supportive testimony for House Bill 49.

My name is Karin Humphrey. I am 45 years old and have spent 23 years of my life involved in the criminal justice system. I have received 19 felony convictions and spent 2 ½ years in prison. My criminal lifestyle was always a direct result of my drug addiction. In 2008, I was involved in a self-destructive cycle which consisted of doing whatever I needed to do to use drugs and stay high. The moment that I wasn't high was the moment that I had to think about what I was doing and who I was hurting. I just couldn't deal with that pain so I continued to use. Ultimately I was arrested on felony charges in June of 2008. I have to tell you that I was relieved. I didn't want to continue living the way that I was, but I didn't know how not to. At this point, the Judge decided to try something different. I had been to prison twice and countless treatment centers throughout the years and nothing had really changed for me. The decision was made for me to go to West Central Community Correctional Facility.

I couldn't be more grateful. That one decision changed my life. While at West Central I was taught the necessary skills in order to live a sober, healthy, productive, prosocial life. I had no idea what life without drugs and criminal activity looked like. West Central helped me develop the tools that I needed to face life on life's terms. I began my journey of sobriety on September 29th, 2008 and have continued to stay sober, one day at a time, by actively working a program of recovery. After my discharge from West Central I made the decision to further my education. I have attended college for the last 6 years. I currently have my Associates of Arts degree and obtained my CDCA licensure. I will be graduating from The Ohio State University, College of Social Work this year on May 7th. I must say that West Central really does believe in 2nd chances. In 2014 I gained employment as a Resident Monitor in the West Central security department. The staff believed in me. The Executive Director, Mr. Ervin, believed in me.

Since my employment at West Central I have been given the opportunity to be a part of the Probation Incentive Program Grant as a Case Manager for Delaware County Adult Court Services. It is a position which allows me to provide evidenced based interventions for offenders who may otherwise be sentenced to prison. There is truly no possible way that I can express how much gratitude I have for being allowed to participate in the West Central program. I give myself credit for changing my life but honestly, without the help and guidance of the community corrections programming I would not have been taught how to live life differently.

Thank you for allowing me to present my testimony.