



**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

**NorthEast Ohio Community  
Alternative Program  
Warren, OH**

Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Portage,  
Trumbull

**NorthWest Community  
Corrections Center  
Bowling Green, OH**

Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Williams,  
Wood

**River City Correctional Center  
Cincinnati, OH**

Hamilton

**STAR Community Justice Center  
Franklin Furnace, OH**

Adams, Athens, Brown, Clinton,  
Fairfield, Gallia, Highland, Hocking,  
Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs,  
Morgan, Pickaway, Perry, Pike,  
Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Washington

**Stark Regional Correction Center  
Louisville, OH**

Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, Wayne

**W.O.R.T.H. Center  
Lima, OH**

Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin,  
Mercer, Putnam, Paulding, Shelby,  
Van Wert

**West Central Community  
Correctional Facility  
Marysville, OH**

Champaign, Clark, Delaware,  
Logan, Madison, Marion, Morrow,  
Union

## Community Revitalization Committee

### House Bill 393

### 136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

Testimony of: Craig Shumaker

Executive Director

West Central Community Correctional Facility



Chair Click, Vice Chair Mullins, Ranking Member Brewer, and members of the House Community Revitalization Committee. My name is Craig Shumaker, I am the Executive Director of West Central Community Correctional Facility in Union County, and a Trustee of CorJus, Inc. CorJus is a professional association that represents eleven publicly operated Community Based Correctional Facilities (CBCFs) in Ohio. I greatly appreciate this opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 393.

CBCFs have existed in Ohio since 1978, when the first one was created by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. CBCFs have since grown to serve all eighty-eight counties in Ohio providing residential treatment to over 7,000 offenders annually, with several thousand more in a variety of outpatient programs. CBCFs were originally just an alternative sentencing option for felony level offenders. However, as the need to help these offender populations in local communities have increased, CBCFs have evolved into robust therapeutic facilities, providing treatment at high dosage levels, and developing additional services to meet all the offenders' criminogenic needs. CBCFs take a holistic approach, addressing behavioral needs like substance abuse coupled with medically assisted treatment (MAT) services, mental health, trauma, anger management, and cognitive restructuring, but additionally developing educational and social needs through educational attainment, employment, and vocational skills, as well as family reunification among many others.

CBCFs have shown they are effective at maintaining safe and secure environments while working with high-risk offenders and addressing the multifaceted needs that lead to them recidivating. With a more therapeutic culture created within, the environments are naturally suited to address many of the social determinants of health for this population. Currently, most CBCFs are GED testing centers and provide Adult Diploma certified vocational certifications. CBCFs work to link residents to employment and provide aftercare services upon release. Per Ohio Revised Code, a resident can not stay in a CBCF longer than 180 days. Every one of the over 2,000 residents within a CBCF today will be in a community sometime within the next six months. Many residents in a CBCF will be there for 100 days or less. It is of the utmost importance that we do everything possible to provide services to our residents to meet their needs while they are at our facility. It is of equal importance that we do all that we can to equally prepare them to return to the community and have access to all the resources that can support them.

I appear before you today because I believe HB 393 represents a critical step toward strengthening Ohio's approach to community safety, rehabilitation, and reintegration. Having valid identification upon release from incarceration is essential for successful reentry into the community. A state-issued ID is the foundation for accessing nearly every aspect of daily life—from securing employment and housing to enrolling in education or vocational programs, opening a bank account, and receiving medical or social services. Without proper identification, returning citizens often face significant barriers that can quickly lead to frustration, instability, and an increased risk of recidivism. Ensuring

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every person leaving a community based correctional facility has valid ID helps promote self-sufficiency, public safety, and a smoother transition toward productive community membership.

We have long dealt with barriers of clients not having valid identification, and unfortunately, having lost or no longer having access to important documentation or the money to obtain a valid identification. I think it is important to note that some residents can be lawfully incarcerated based on the information we have from the courts, yet that information is not sufficient to assist them in obtaining a state identification card. Current law prohibits Ohio from prioritizing opportunities for our residents to succeed and instead stacks on yet another challenge to those already facing so many hurdles in life. Creating a smooth application process between CBCF's, records departments and the BMV will help reduce barriers. We believe this bill can provide opportunities for success for those incarcerated at community based correctional facilities.

The 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly addressed this concern to a point, last year with HB 315, setting up a process for Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and Ohio Department of Youth Services to be able to assist those they serve in completing applications with the BMV to obtain identification. We know that multiple agencies have been working to create the processes involved to fully implement those actions in a timely manner. However, community based correctional facilities were not included in that language. We are very thankful that HB 393 was introduced to include CBCF's in that process as part of the criminal justice continuum and will allow our facilities to assist the residents we serve in obtaining their ID's.

We have had many clients over the years who were able to meet early success because they had proper identification. Unfortunately, we have had others who were not as lucky and ran into barriers due to their lack of identification. If the committee is interested, we can obtain written testimony from those individuals who have had lived experience with this subject.

Supporting HB 393 means reinforcing a system that values redemption and strengthens the fabric of our communities.

Chair Click and members of the committee, I appreciate you allowing me the opportunity to provide this testimony and I am willing to answer any questions you may have.

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