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United for Quality Care

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Steve Swan, LPN
Department of Corrections
Before the Appropriations Committee

Good Afternoon Senator Osten, Representative Walker, and members of the Committee. My name is Steve Swan I am an LPN, HIV screener and educator, and the PPT Case Manager at CRCC.

Thank you for appropriating funds for inmate healthcare in last year's budget. Instead of a single part-time APRN as the sole medical prescriber for roughly 1500 inmates we now have a part-time MD and a temporary APRN. The waiting time to be seen by a prescriber has decreased significantly.

That being said, we are not out of the woods yet. In the nearly 18 years I have worked here I have seen the need for required services increase without additional resources. As an example, Corrigan needs a minimum of 5 nurses to fill the essential posts on 2nd shift. That shift currently has 3 staff members, 2 of which are retiring in the next few months. It is plausible that in the near future 80-100% of staff working a 2nd shift will be doing so on mandatory overtime. Just to be clear, Corrigan is not the worst facility as far as staffing levels. It is the one I am most familiar with.

I am asking that for your continued consideration of what is needed to provide the required level of care.

Thank you.