OFFICE OF THE

OMBUDS FOR CORRECTIONS

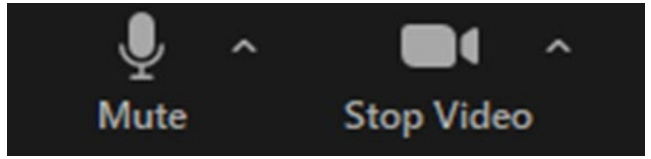
Family and Friends of Incarcerated Group – Medium Custody

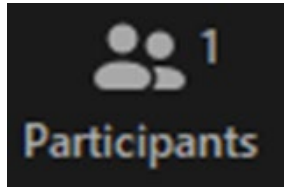
Lino Lakes, Moose Lake, Faribault

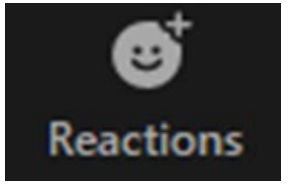
01/20/2026

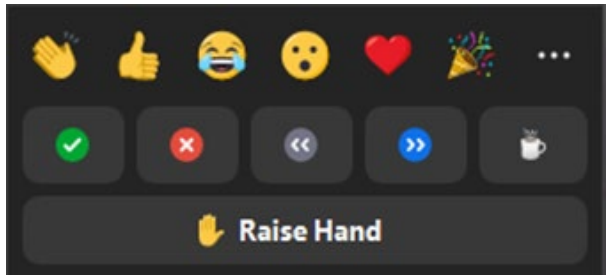
Zoom Meeting Controls

Please use this time to test your Zoom meeting controls located at the bottom of the screen









Meeting Agenda

- Group Overview and Guidelines
- Presentation and Reason
- Facility Updates
- Discussion and Questions

Group Guidelines

- Your questions matter to us.
- Your questions related to the purpose of this meeting are welcome.
- During the Q&A discussion portion, please use the raise hand function or chat box to ask your questions.
- Some questions may be answered offline
- **Respectful:** Expectation of respectful conversations from **all** participants. Can be removed for disruptive, offensive, or threatening behaviors.
- **General:** Questions should be about process, conditions, and policies.
  - No discussions about specific incarcerated individuals but can ask general questions about how to or who to follow up on certain issues.
  - No discussion about courts/convictions.
- **Data practices:** Data is classified as private/confidential under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act Sec. 13.856 MN Statutes

Our

DOC Family Supports Unit

The DOC's Family Supports Unit (FSU) is dedicated to reducing the impact of incarceration by strengthening family connections. We provide guidance, resources, and access to supportive services, and we collaborate with outside partners to bring parenting education into correctional facilities.

- The FSU can: Child Support Navigation: Our **Child Support Liaison** serves as a bridge between incarcerated people and county child support offices, helping to remove barriers during incarceration and to ensure a sustainable plan is put in place upon release.
- Community Resource Navigation: Our **Community Resources Navigator** bridges gaps between individuals and community-based providers to ensure people have the tools and connections they need for a stable and successful reentry. Examples of these services include access to spiritual and cultural resources, food and basic needs assistance, and transitional housing support.
- Facility Navigation Services: The **Facility Navigator** serves as a key point of contact for incarcerated individuals and their families, helping them understand and navigate policies, procedures, and concerns. This role ensures families stay informed and supported throughout the incarceration period.
- Parenting and Childbirth: Our Parenting Coordinator supports those who are pregnant in preparing for childbirth and helps mothers maintain their parental role while incarcerated. This includes assistance with child protection matters, connecting mothers to a variety of resources, and collaborating with community partners to provide parenting education. The coordinator is also co-facilitator of the Healthy Start Program, a conditional release program created by statute for eligible pregnant and postpartum incarcerated women.

Incarcerated individuals can contact facility navigators by using the DOC mailing.

Information about our unit can be found at Family Supports Unit / Department of Corrections

Family and Friends of Incarcerated Group

The DOC **Family Support Unit** collaborates with DOC facility staff to host the Family and Friends of Incarcerated Group. help strengthen support systems for incarcerated individuals and their loved ones.

- Purpose of the Family and Friends of Incarcerated Group: Designed to strengthen loved ones' positive support of incarcerated individuals (DOC OBFC).
- How: Through program and facility information sharing, coupled with hearing the voices during the Q&A portion of discussion for the DOC to learn about the needs and concerns of justice impacted families.

Essential Information for Family/Friends

DOC Public Website: https://mn.gov/doc/

Family & Visitors

- **Contact & General Information: Mail; Email; Money; Videogram; JPay FAQ; Phone Calls**
- **Policies:**
- **Sesame Street On Incarceration**

Facility Specific Information

- Each facility has their own page on the public website.

Community Supervision & Reentry:

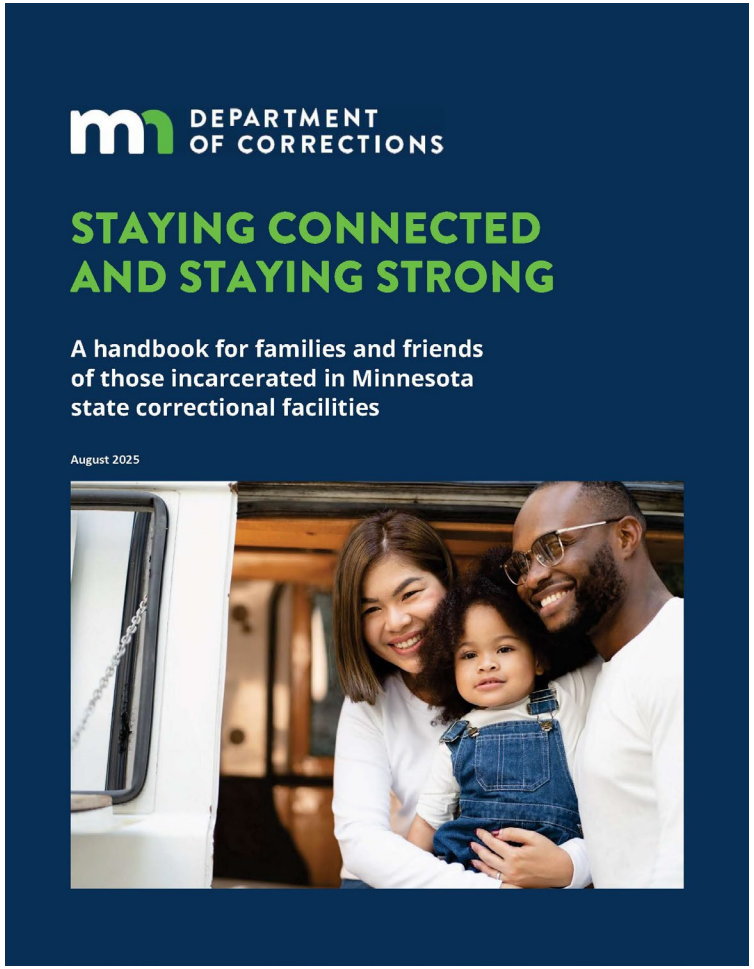
Reentry Services

- Getting Out
- Staying Out
- Family, Friends and Partners

DOC Friends and Family Handbook

Helps friends and family members know what to expect when someone in their lives is incarcerated. Includes:

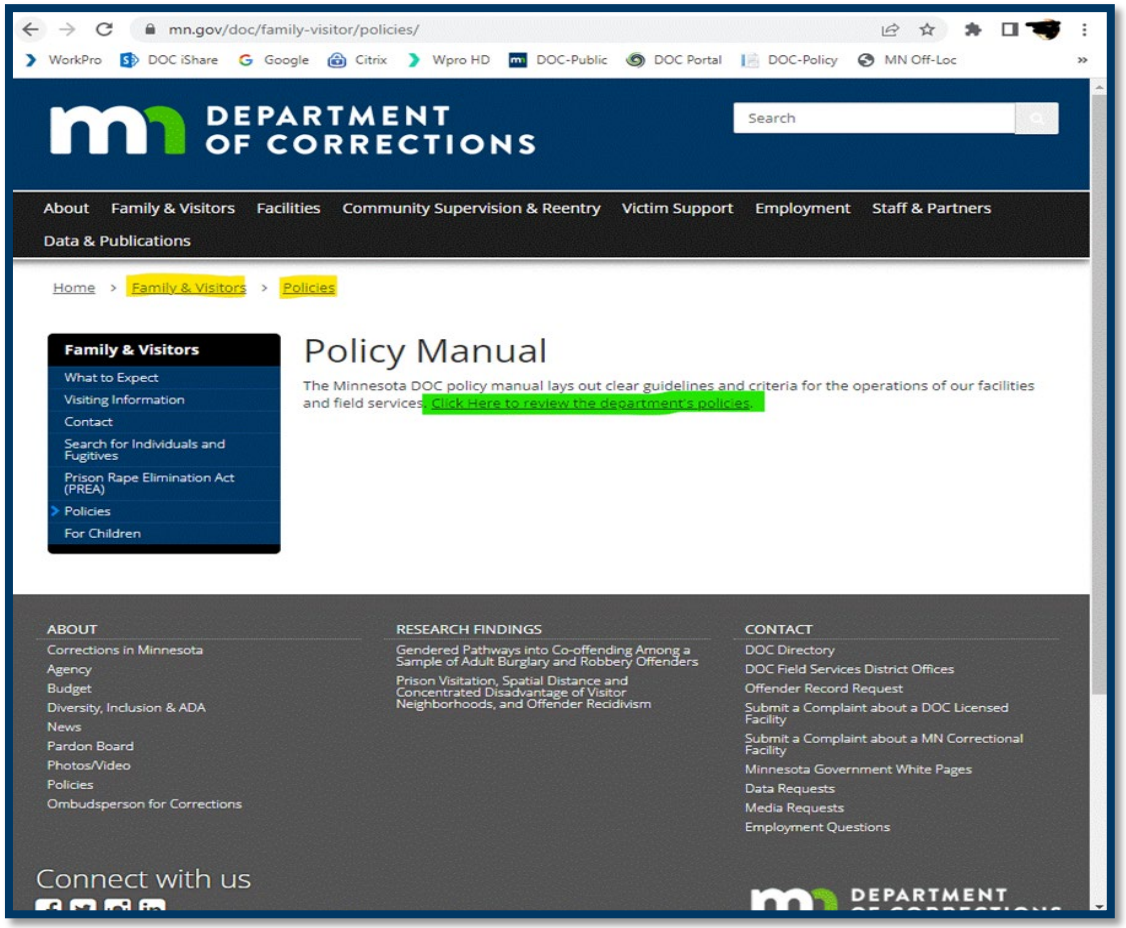
- Facility locations and information
- Classification
- Staff
- Terms and Abbreviations
- Programming
- Property
- Financing
- Visiting
- Contacting loved ones



DOC Policies and Procedures

Resource for understanding:

- Rules and requirements of those incarcerated.
- What is expected of your loved one while incarcerated.
- Specific information for loved ones regarding every aspect of incarcerated life and DOC management of those incarcerated.



Visiting for Family and Friends

Important to know the rules and what to expect prior to your visit for the incarcerated person and for you as the visitor. https://mn.gov/doc/family-visitor/visiting-information/

- **Apply:** Must be approved on someone's visiting list.
  - A criminal history check will be completed (having a history does not automatically mean you're not approved).
  - All applications are completed online and processed at MCF-Rush City, regardless of where housed.
  - Your loved one will get a notice when you are approved. The incarcerated person will need to inform you when you're approved. Staff cannot confirm that over the phone.

- Visitation Policy: 320.010 Visiting
- Important to be aware that different rules apply if someone is in restrictive housing.

Visiting Rules and Regulations

Items not allowed during visits

- Prohibited items lock in locker or your vehicle
- Cell phones/cameras/video cameras
- If staff suspect you are under the Influence of drugs/alcohol you will be asked to leave, and your visit will be denied.

Searches

- All visitors must submit to a security check such as a metal detector, hand-held wand, and/or pat search
- All clothing must pass metal detection to be admitted (includes under-wire bras)
- Clothing types, clothing length, clothing styles, etc., are limited for security purposes. Conservative dress that is not revealing is required. See Statewide Visiting Guidelines
- Failure to comply will result in denial of visit

Case Managers and Release of Information (ROI)

Case Managers - All incarcerated persons are appointed an onsite case manager who:

- Are a first line of contact for loved ones; however, cannot share private or confidential information. Find case manager at: https://coms.doc.state.mn.us/PublicViewer/
- Are the liaison between various departmental processes and the incarcerated person.

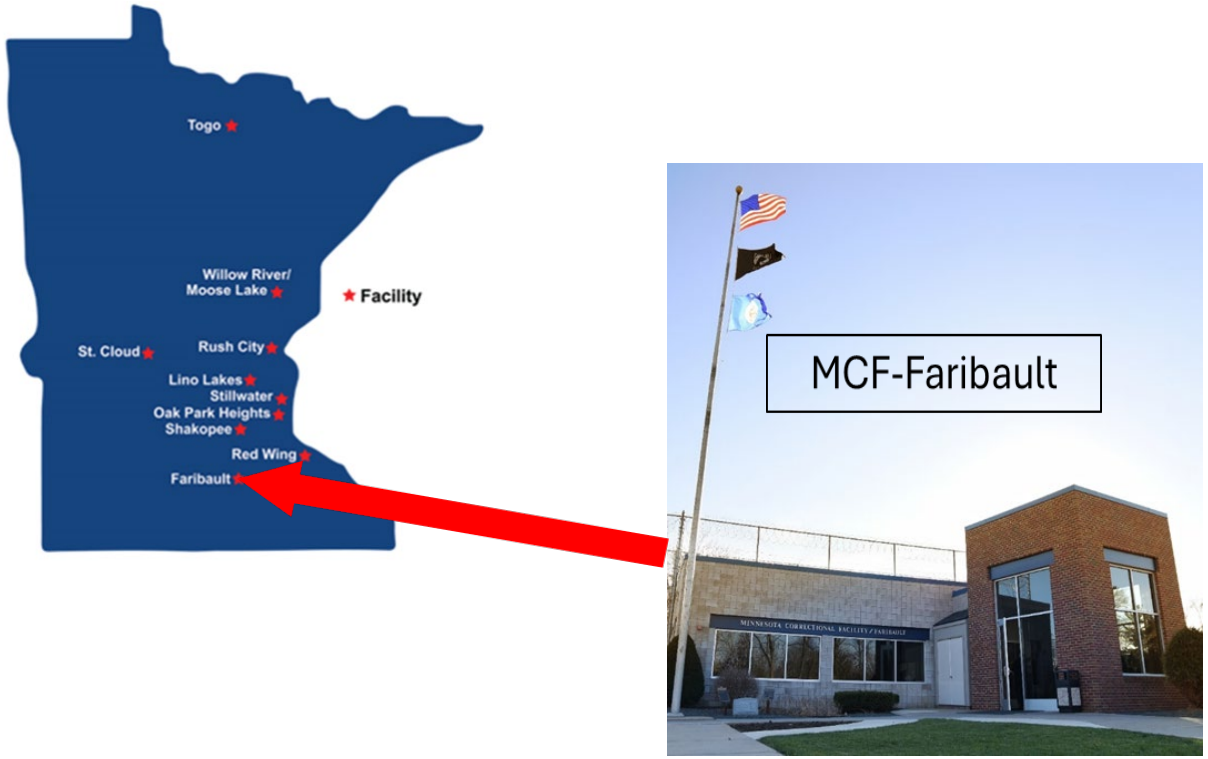
Release of Information (ROI):

- In appropriate situations, an ROI can be signed which allows the DOC to share some information with a family member regarding the incarcerated individual. This request must be initiated by the incarcerated individual.

Internal Processes

- **Chain of Command:** Every facility has a chain of command that incarcerated individuals must follow for any questions or needs that arise.
- **Grievances:** Each facility also has a grievance process whereby incarcerated individuals can file a grievance with the facility or the DOC if they do not agree with a decision that affects them (discipline, programming requirements, etc.)
- **Self-advocacy:** It is critical that incarcerated individuals be able to advocate for themselves when it comes to their needs. Encourage your loved ones to follow these internal processes, as opposed to your incarcerated loved one asking you to call the facility on their behalf. It's more effective and more efficient. Additionally, it is required if they later wish to pursue legal action.

Faribault Correctional Facility



MCF-Faribault Today

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Odds and Ends

Lino Lakes Facility Information

Lino Lakes Facility Information

- Primary treatment facility for adult males
  - TRIAD substance use disorder treatment
  - Sex Offense treatment program
  - Prison Fellowship Academy faith-based program
  - Supportive Living Services mental health program
  - Co-Occurring Disorders program
- Education – literacy skills, secondary diploma, college
- Native American Culture Education Program
- Incarcerated Youth (minors certified as adults)

Moose Lake Facility Information

Moose Lake Facility Information

- Paradigm, Substance Use Disorder Treatment
  - 86 beds, Residential, Intensive Outpatient, extended outpatient
- CIP Candidates
  - Prepare mentally, physically
- Minncor
  - Canteen, Print Shop,, Garment Shop
  - 350 jobs
- Education

  200+, ESL, ABE, GED, Advanced classes- Pine Tech, MPWW
- Vocational Training
  - General Construction (Tiny Homes), Cabling Technology, Electrical/Plumbing hours earned through DOLI, EMPLOY
- Transitions
  - Pre-release, DMV, Birth Certificates, Social security Cards

Moose Lake Facility Information

Additional Opportunities

- AA/NA
- Anger Management
- CREST Mentor Program
- Thinking for a Change/Decision Points
- Dog Program
- Father Support Program
- Gym
- Library/Law Library Services
- Music Room
- Parenting Class
- Peer Recovery Specialist
- Power of the People/Silent Cry
- Varied Religious Services
- Restorative Justice 101
- Veterans Group
- Native American Culture Program

Questions

- Questions should be about process, conditions, and policies
- No discussions about specific incarcerated individuals but can ask general questions about how to or who to follow up on certain issues.
- No discussion about courts/convictions.

Contact Information

DOC – Family Supports Unit

- familysupportsunit.doc@state.mn.us
- Or 651-361-7133 x7133

Earl Miller, Director

Next Meeting: *TBA*

MCF – Lino Lakes

- MCF-Lino-Lakes.doc@state.mn.us
- Or 651-717-6100 Main facility number

MCF – Faribault

- MCF-Faribault.doc@state.mn.us
- Or 507-334-0700 Main facility number

MCF – Moose Lake

- MCF-Willow-River-Moose-Lake.doc@state.mn.us
- Or 218-485-5000 Main facility number