



# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS





Mission:

*Transform Lives for a Safer Minnesota*



**MISSION:** Transforming lives for a safer Minnesota.

**VISION:** Achieving justice through promotion of racial equity, restoration from harm, and community connectedness.

## AGENCY REORGANIZATION

- Reorganize the agency to break down silos, improve communication both vertically and horizontally, increase cross-unit efficiencies, improve agency leadership awareness, and reduce costs.
- Develop a comprehensive intake, assessment, and program planning process that focuses on the human being, not the conviction, to achieve transformation with the goal of achieving zero warehousing.
- Establish and implement agency research and performance measurement systems to inform organizational decision-making and public transparency.
- Practice servant leadership at every level within the agency to grow and develop staff, build trusting teams, and achieve results.


## TRANSFORMATIVE PROGRAMMING

- Increase public engagement in the creation and revision of agency programs and policies.
- Increase use of evidence-based practices in the rehabilitation of people who are incarcerated, or under supervision.
- Increase number of people released from prison who obtain housing, employment, enroll in education, or actively engage in community treatment by 90%.
- Increase intervention partnerships to effectively deliver community-based programs.
- Reduce disproportionate rate of American Indians and youth of color in the juvenile justice system by 20%.
- Reduce number of readmissions by 70%, through community supervision and supportive services.
- Increase enrollment in classroom college by 400% and enroll 250 people in DOC technical training leading to Minnesota State associate degrees.
- Improve the experience and outcomes for incarcerated parents and their children.

## SAFETY AND WELLBEING

- Continue to implement plans to reduce the spread of COVID-19 across the agency.
- Protect all staff, incarcerated individuals, victim survivors, and clients under supervision from additional harm and injury.
- Practice equity and inclusion to transform the workplace culture to a healthier and more successful environment.
- Improve the quality of the experiences of new employees entering the agency.
- Embed a culture of wellbeing across the agency.
- Provide sufficient resources and effective training to DOC staff and community partners to reach zero re-victimization of victim survivors.
- Provide incarcerated persons with the healthcare needed and access to healthcare upon reentry while under community supervision.

# What Do We Do?



Create and deliver individualized plans to better help the people we serve.

Prepare people in our care to have success when they return to our communities.

Provide services in the community to help people under supervision build connections and transform their lives.

**Employees:** approximately 4,300

**Total general fund budget:** \$1.2 billion (FY20 – 21 biennium)

**Prisons:** 11

**Facility capacity:** 9,522 beds (double-bunked)

**Current Population:** 7,800 adults; approx.

**Square feet for facilities:** 7.5 million sq. ft.

**DOC-provided community supervision:** 20,000

**DOC district supervision offices:** 13





**MCF-Shakopee**  
built 1986  
capacity: 656



**MCF-Faribault**  
opened 1989  
capacity: 2,026



**MCF-Lino Lakes**  
built 1963  
capacity: 1,325



**MCF-Red Wing**  
built 1889  
capacity: 42-A, 111-J



**MCF-Rush City**  
built 2000  
capacity: 1,018



**MCF-Oak Park Heights**  
built 1982  
capacity: 444



**MCF-St. Cloud**  
built 1889  
capacity: 1,058



**MCF-Stillwater**  
built 1914  
capacity: 1,561



**MCF-Togo**  
built 1955  
capacity: 90



**MCF-Moose Lake**  
built 1938  
capacity: 1,057



**MCF-Willow River**  
built 1951  
capacity: 177



# Minnesota's Incarcerated Population

## Demographics

- Average age (in years): 39.3
- Over 73% graduated HS/ have GED
- Over 18% have college degree
- Approximately 70% have minor children in the community
- **Race**
  - White: 52%
  - Black: 36%
  - American Indian: 9%
  - Asian: 2.5%
  - Unknown/Other: 0.3%

## Data Points for Public Safety Policy Makers

- **25%** of those leaving MN prisons are homeless
- **39** people died of drug overdose within a year of release in 2020
- **27%** unemployment rate for formerly incarcerated
- **1 in 6 kids** in MN have had a parent incarcerated – the most prevalent ACE
- **\$141.22** = average per diem cost to incarcerate an adult in Minnesota prison

Over **95%** of those incarcerated will return to our communities. Setting them up for success helps ensure fewer victims and greater public safety.

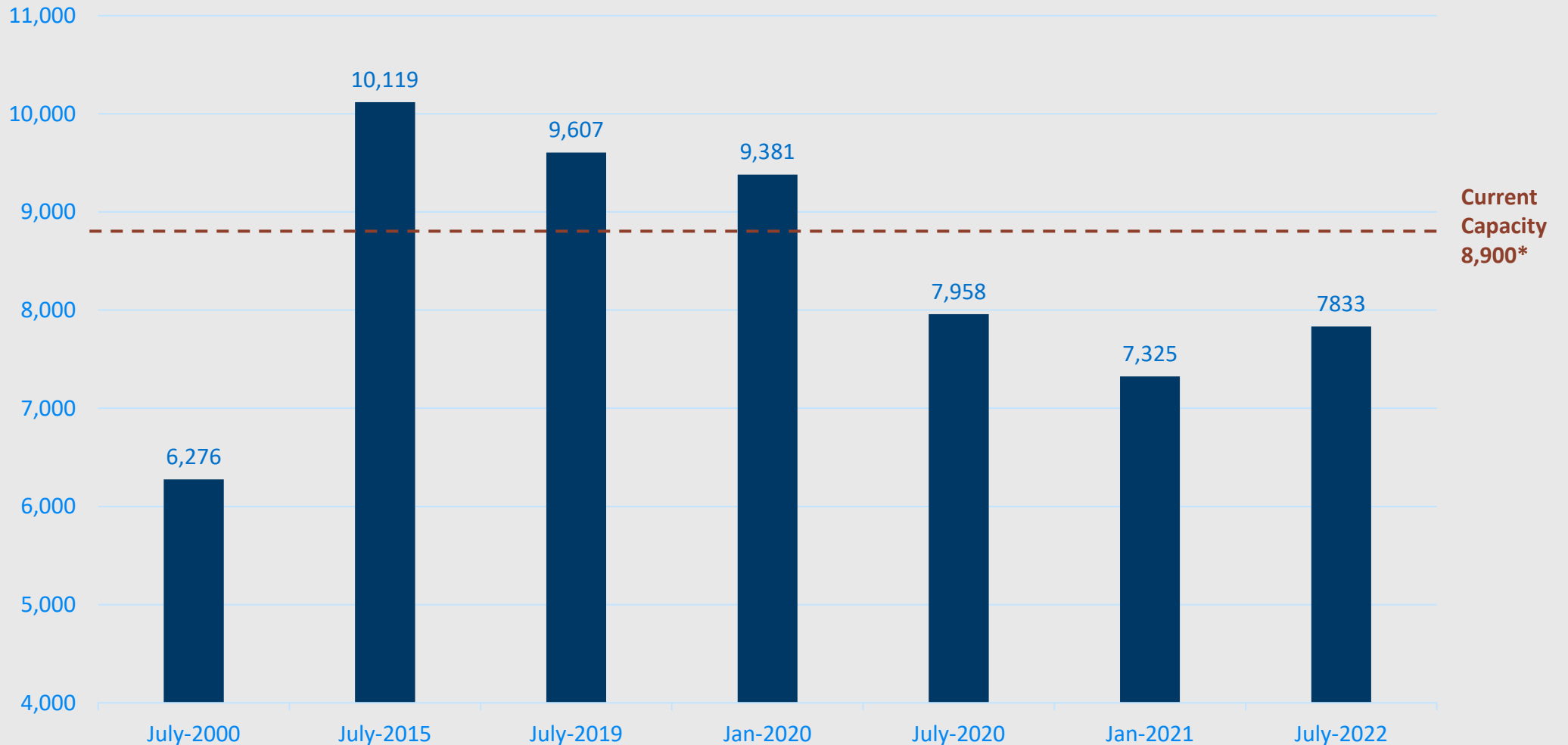


# New Direction: Person-Centered Approach

- Human dignity is the foundational, organizing principle of Minnesota's corrections system. We are putting people at the center of our decision-making.
- Reorganizing our work to See individuals, not collectives.
- Creating Multi-disciplinary teams to work with the people we serve to design and deliver transformational services.

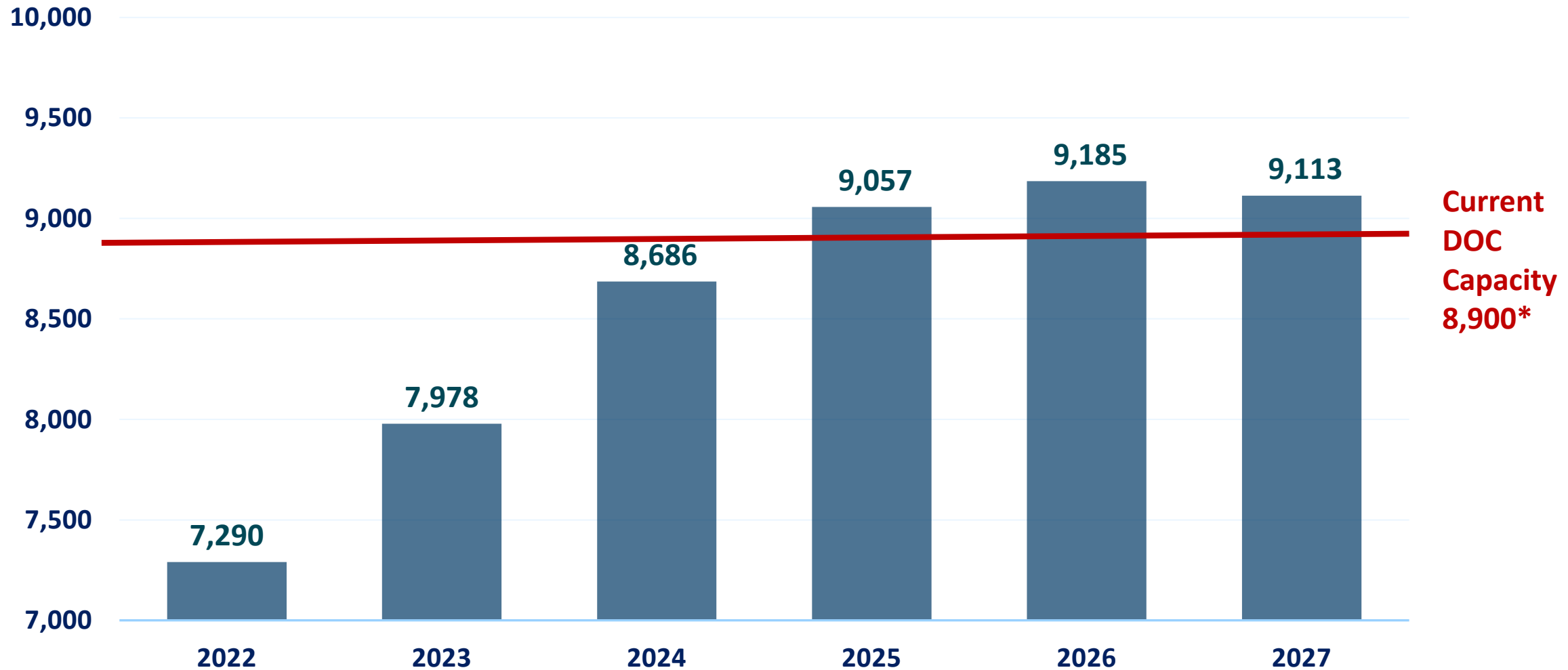


# Adult Prison Population: Then and Now



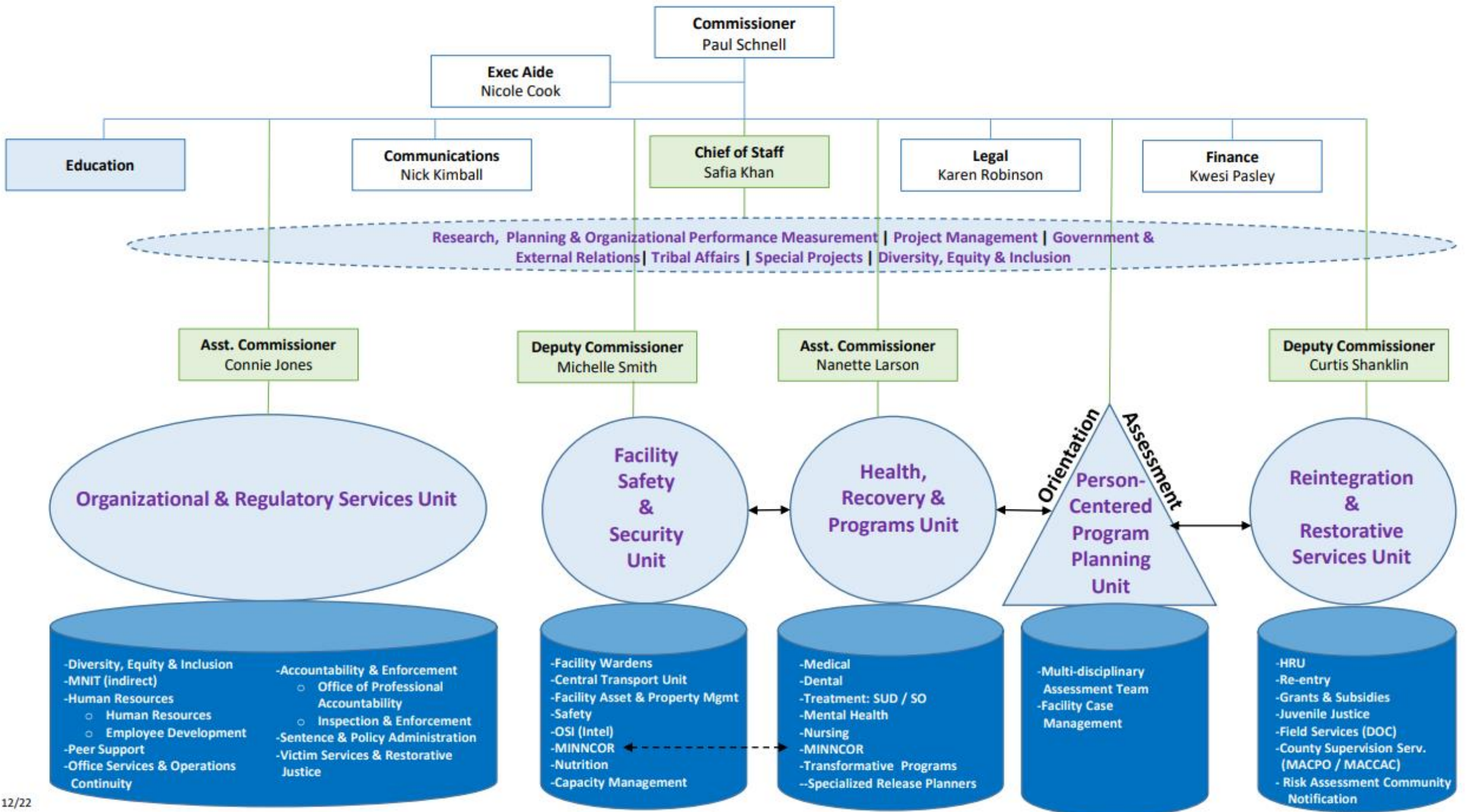
*\*Reflects current operating restrictions*

# Projected DOC Prison Population Growth

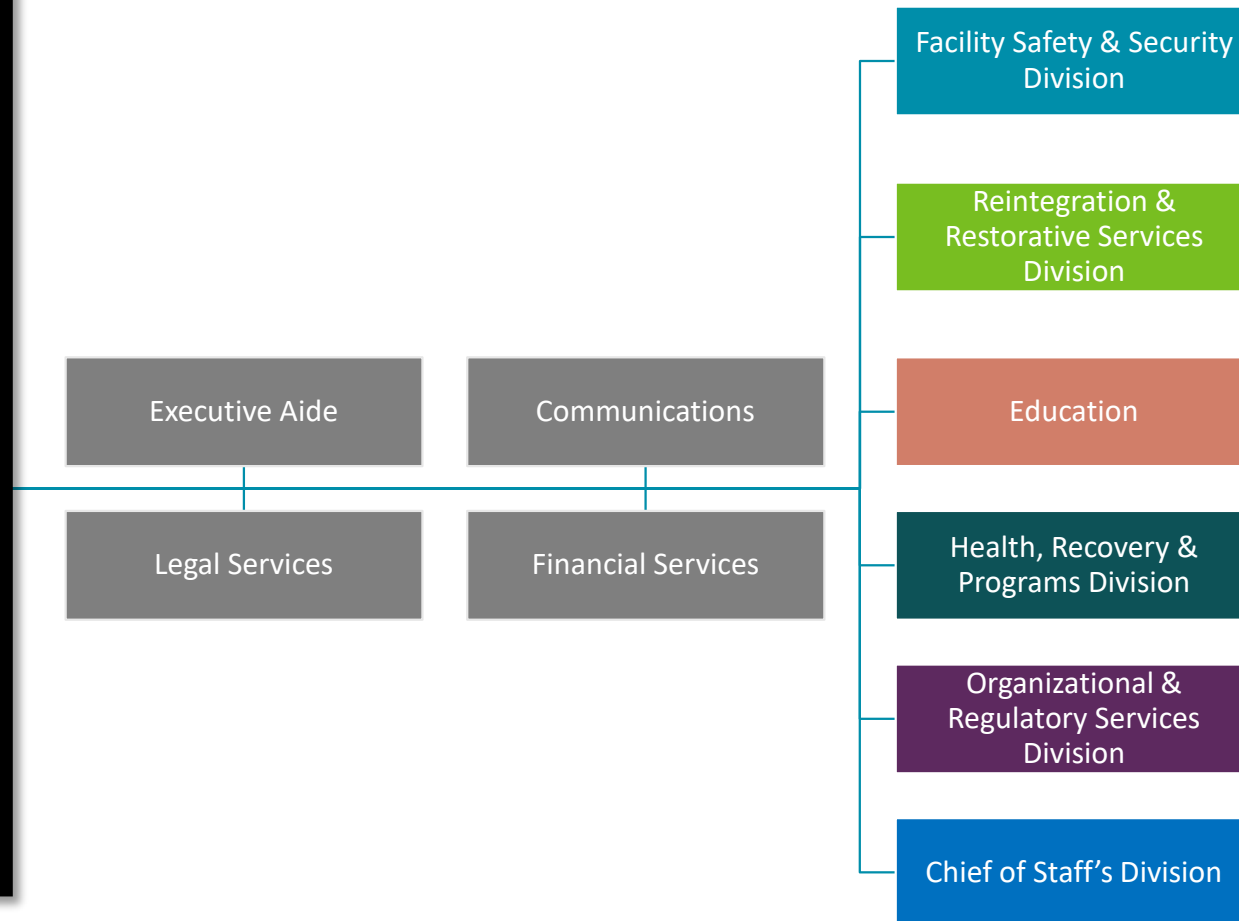


*\*Reflects current operating restrictions*





# Commissioner Paul Schnell



# Facility Safety and Security

# Reintegration and Restorative Services



***Deputy Commissioner  
Michelle Smith***

Facility Wardens

Facility Asset &  
Property Management

Nutrition

Central Transportation

Office of Special  
Investigations

Safety

MINNCOR



***Deputy Commissioner  
Curtis Shanklin***

County Supervision  
Services

Field Services

Juvenile Justice

Grants & Subsidies

Re-Entry

Hearings & Release

Risk Assessment/  
Community Notification



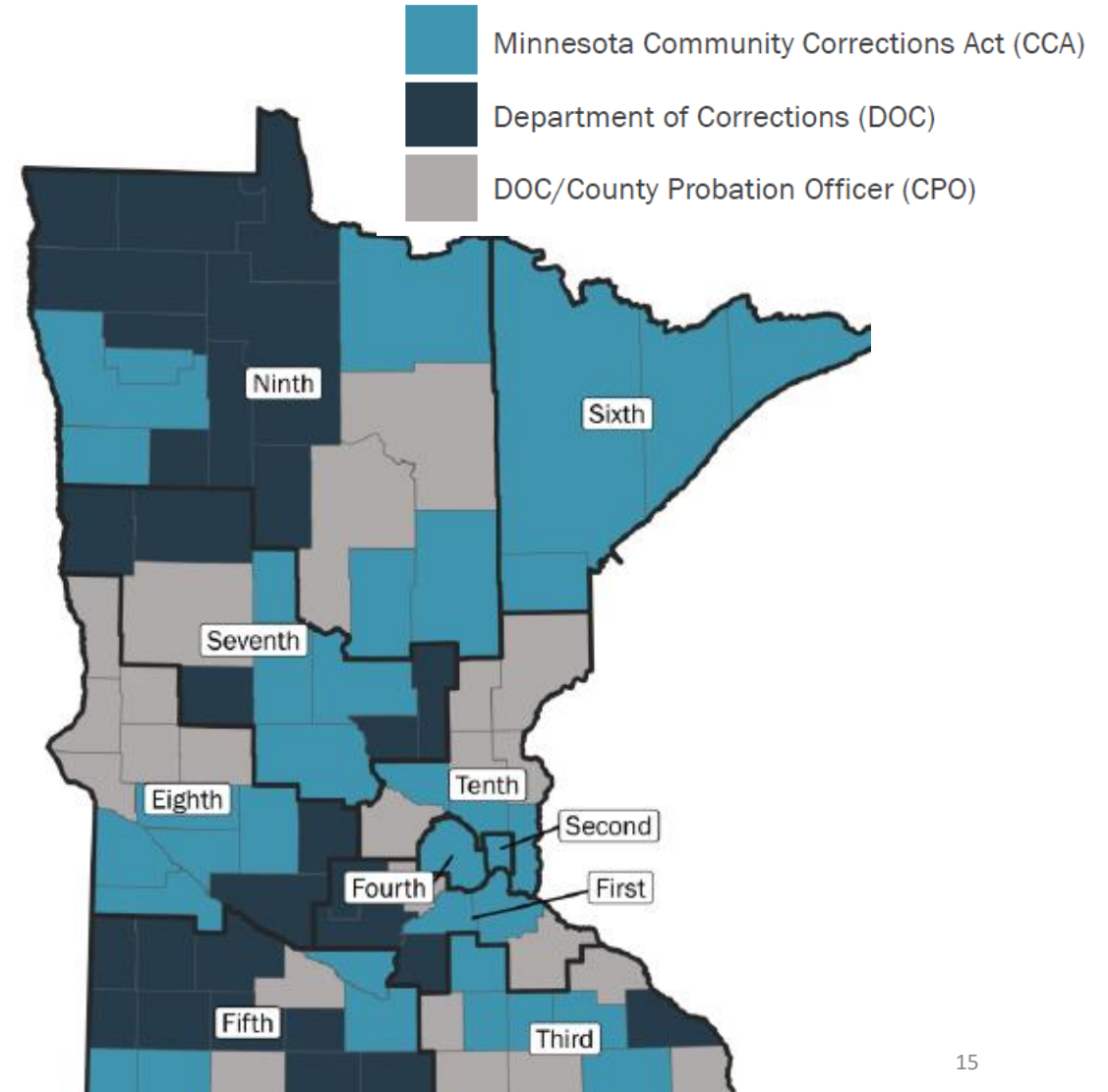
# Community Supervision/ Probation

## Minnesota relies heavily on community supervision

- Approximately 80,000 people in community on supervised release or probation statewide
- DOC is one of **3 delivery systems** for supervision →→→

## DOC Field Services – The DOC Provides:

- Adult felony probation and supervised release supervision in the 53 counties that are not part of the Minnesota Community Corrections Act (CCA).
- Juvenile and misdemeanor services to the court in 29 counties.
- Intensive supervised release (ISR) services in 75 counties and through contracts with some CCA agencies



# Health, Recovery, and Programs



***Assistant Commissioner  
Nan Larson***

Medical

Nursing

Dental

Mental Health

Treatment SUD /  
SO

Transformative  
Programs

# Organizational and Regulatory Services



***Assistant Commissioner  
Connie Jones***

Peer Support

Information Technology

Human Resources

Office Services

Accountability and  
Enforcement

Sentence Administration  
& Policy Management

Victim Assistance and  
Restorative Justice

## Chief of Staff

## Other Key Contacts



***Assistant Commissioner  
Safia Khan***

Research &  
Performance

Legislative Affairs

Tribal Relations

Agency Project  
Management

Policy and  
Rulemaking

Equity, Access,  
and Inclusion



**Emily Lefholz,  
Legislative Director**



**Kwesi Pasley, Chief  
Financial Officer**



**Karen Robinson,  
General Counsel**



# Considerations for Policy Makers

- The Department of Corrections has a **Constitutional obligation** to provide healthcare and a standard of living for those that are incarcerated under state law.
- **24/7/365 operation.** Supporting staff, keeping everyone safe, and providing transformational services are central to public safety.
- **96%** of the DOC's budget is appropriated by the General Fund
- We must have secure facilities to provide services. Our staff is the backbone to that work.
- We strive to be transparent, responsive, and accountable.

The background image shows the interior of a prison. A large, multi-paned window is at the top, looking out onto a brick building. Below the window, a hallway is filled with people, some wearing orange jumpsuits and caps, others in civilian clothes. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from the window.

1% of the  
population is  
accountable  
for 63% of all  
violent crime  
convictions.\*

\*Falk O, Wallinius M, Lundström S, Frisell T, Anckarsäter H, Kerekes N. Soc Psychiatry Psychiatric Epidemiol. 2014 April.





# See the Work Firsthand - Consider a Tour!

Visit Minnesota's Correctional Facilities

Contact [emily.lefholz@state.mn.us](mailto:emily.lefholz@state.mn.us)