

## **Department of Corrections**

## Okaloosa County Department of Corrections State of Florida, Okaloosa County

Date: February 26, 2025

To: Okaloosa County Community Partners

From: April McDaniel, Major of Jail Operations

## To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to take a moment of your time to recognize a group of our local heroes - Everyone that works at the Okaloosa County Department of Corrections.

The Okaloosa County Jail is staffed with 175 dedicated professionals who face the daily custodial and oversight challenges associated with individuals facing the prospect of misdemeanor and felony charges, as well as those who suffer from mental health and co-occurring substance abuse issues. There are many County employees and vendors that work collectively and tirelessly for the overall good of protecting the citizens of Okaloosa County.

Each year our nation sets aside a week to honor Correctional Officers and Nurses. This year we would like to not only honor our personnel serving in those professions, but appropriately extend recognition to our support staff, without whom we would not function efficiently.

In his 1984 proclamation declaring **National Correctional Officers Week**, President Reagan said, "The duties of these officers have become increasingly complex and demanding. They are called upon to fill, simultaneously, custodial, supervisory, and counseling roles. The professionalism, dedication and courage exhibited by these officers throughout the performance of these demanding and often conflicting roles deserve our utmost respect".

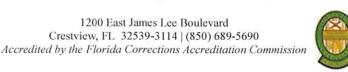
Past Presidents Reagan's statement has never been more perceptible. Simply put, it applies across the board to all who work at, with, or for the Okaloosa County Department of Corrections.

This year, May 5 - 9, we are planning our fifth annual **Food Truck Frenzy** during National Correctional Officers Week and National Nurses Week. For this event we are looking for support from our local community to bring this event to fruition. This occasion will celebrate our staff and be open to the public. We welcome the local community to join the celebration. Please see the attached form to select your method of sponsorship.

Thank you!

April McDaniel, M.E.d., CJM Major of Jail Operations

Department of Corrections (Jail), Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners





We invite you, our community partners, to join us in the planning stages of our Correctional Professionals Appreciation Week. We dedicate a week in May to honor all 175 staff members at the Okaloosa County Department of Corrections for their daily service behind the walls.

It has become an appreciated event that we all look forward to!

- Several meals will be prepared for members of all shifts throughout the week.
- Prizes, gift bags and tokens of appreciation for staff are being planned.
- On Thursday and Friday of that week, food trucks from far and wide have been invited to the jail to serve our staff and local community.

If you are able to contribute in making this celebration a success, please provide the following information:

Business Name:
Address:
Phone #:
Email:
Contact Name:
I would like to participate by sponsoring a day of staff meals in the amount of \$
I would like to participate by offering gift cards. Total gift cards:
I would like to participate by donating gifts/products for staff gift bags. Describe donation and amount: