

**REPORT ON THE
INSPECTION OF**

CHILlicothe CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

INSPECTION DATE: APRIL 22, 2026



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



Chillicothe Correctional Institution

Inspection Date: April 22, 2026

Acronym: CCI
Address: 15802 OH-104 Chillicothe, OH 45601
Warden/Superintendent: Garry Galloway
CFIS Team Members Present: J. Wesson / D. Drummond / B. Forrest / D. Thompson

FACILITY INFORMATION

Date Institution Opened: 1966
Population Type: Male Female
Security Level Type: Minimum
 Medium
 Special Management
 Restrictive Housing
 Death Row
 Juvenile
Total Acres: 72
Total Buildings On-Site: 67
Total Custody Staff: 339
Total Service Area Staff: 143
Total Staff: 476
Total Volunteers: 592

INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION

Current Count: 2,540
Total Available Capacity: 2,950
Incarcerated Person Age Range: 18 - 84
Incarcerated Person Average Age: 44.2

RECENT INTERNAL MANAGEMENT AUDIT

Chillicothe Correctional Institution’s (CCI) most recent Internal Management Audit (IMA) was conducted on January 6-7, 2026. The IMA is an annual audit conducted by an independent auditor who reviews a facility’s compliance with the American Correctional Association’s (ACA) 5th Edition Standards and the 2026 Ohio Standards and Observations, in preparation for the next ACA audit. All institutional work, industries, vocational, and educational programs are also audited. The table below illustrates CCI’s rates of compliance for the previous three years:

IMA Audit Scores	2024	2025	2026
ACA Mandatory	100%	100%	100%
ACA Non-Mandatory	98.1%	98.39%	98.2%
Ohio Standards	96.9%	97.2%	97.4%

External Inspection Results	Date of Inspection	Violations	Violations Corrected
State Fire Marshall	11/3/25	6	6
Health Department	8/22/25	0	0
Annual Safety & Sanitation Inspection	2/27/25	0	0

OVERVIEW OF CFIS INSPECTION

On April 22, 2026, CFIS completed an initial inspection of CCI. Warden Garry Galloway was notified the day prior and CFIS inspectors were on-site at CCI for approximately four hours. The CFIS team consisted of Dr. James Wesson, Chief of Inspections; Deborah Drummond, Chief Inspector; Bryan Forrest, Inspector; and Derek Thompson, Inspector. Per Ohio Revised Code Section 109.39, mandatory areas of inspection are food services, the grievance process, and an educational or rehabilitative program. In addition to these mandatory areas of inspection, R.C. 109.39 empowers CFIS to inspect any other areas that it deems appropriate. While at CCI, CFIS also inspected the following:

- Recovery services
- Medical
- Library/law library
- Transitional programming unit (TPU)
- Mental health
- Visitation area
- General population housing units
- Specialized housing units
- Ohio penal industries (OPI)
- Recreation

In advance of arrival, CFIS requested copies of the previous seven days of CCI's Administrative Duty Officer (ADO) (50-PAM-02) reports and the most recent 30 days of grievances. In addition, CFIS requested the following:

- Current vacancy rates (total staff/custody/non-custody overtime report)
- Current facility Incarcerated population count (racial breakdown, average age)
- Current facility fact book
- Current facility security threat group numbers
- Facility drug testing (previous quarter)
- Facility educational program numbers (program enrollment/completion)
- Approved volunteers (total)
- Facility Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) reports (past year/current, total of completed investigations)

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (Ohio Administrative Rule 5120-9-31)

The DRC inmate grievance procedure is a three-step process which is governed by Ohio Administrative Code Section 5120-9-31. The goal of the process is to address inmate complaints related to institutional life which directly and personally affect the incarcerated person (IP), including those related to DRC policies and procedures, conditions of confinement, or the actions of institutional staff. Whenever possible, complaints should be resolved at the lowest step. Informal complaints must contain enough specificity to allow institutional staff to investigate and take corrective action, where necessary (e.g., the date, time, and place of the event; the name or names of personnel involved; and witnesses). An IP may file a "John/Jane Doe" complaint if he or she does not know the identity of the personnel involved. Such complaints must still provide specific dates, times, places, and physical descriptions of personnel, as well as the actions giving rise to the complaint. The steps to the process are set forth below:

Step One: The filing of an informal complaint: An IP must file an informal complaint within 14 calendar days of the event about which the complaint is being filed. The complaint shall be filed with the direct supervisor of the staff member or department most directly responsible for the subject matter of the complaint. Staff shall respond in writing within seven calendar days of receipt of the informal complaint, though the inspector may grant an additional four calendar days for response. The inspector of institutional services (IIS) is required to ensure that the IP's informal complaint is responded to within seven calendar days. If it is not, the informal complaint step is waived, and the IP may proceed to step two. Informal complaint responses must reflect an understanding of the inmate's complaint, be responsive to the issue, cite any relevant departmental or institutional rules or policies and specify the action taken, if any. The IIS is responsible for monitoring compliance with the informal complaint process and reports any pattern of non-compliance to the warden for appropriate action. The IIS may also waive the informal complaint process (step one) if, among other reasons, he or she determines that there is a substantial risk of physical injury to the grievant. Further, if an inmate does not meet policy requirements — such as failing to submit an Informal Complaint Resolution (ICR) within 14 calendar days of the event or failing to include specific details, such as dates, times, locations, descriptions of staff involved, and details of the actions that led to the complaint — the inspector will notify the IP that the grievance is denied.

Step Two: Filing a notification of grievance: If the inmate is dissatisfied with the informal complaint response, or the informal complaint process has been waived, the inmate may file a notification of grievance with the IIS no later than 14 calendar days from the date of the informal complaint response or waiver of the informal complaint step. The IIS may waive this timeframe for good cause. Within 14 calendar days of receiving the grievance the IIS shall provide a written response that summarizes the complaint, describes the steps taken to investigate it, and sets forth the IIS's findings and decision. The IIS may extend the response time up to 14 days with notice to the inmate. If there is no disposition within 28 days of receipt of the grievance, it will be deemed unresolved, and the IP may proceed to step three of the process. Expedited responses shall be made to grievances that, as determined by the IIS, present a substantial risk of physical injury to the grievant or for other good cause.

Step Three: Filing an appeal of the disposition of grievance: If an IP disagrees with the grievance resolution, he or she may appeal it to the office of the chief inspector. An appeal must be filed within 14 calendar days of the disposition, unless that time is waived by the chief inspector for good cause. The chief inspector, or his or her designee(s), shall provide a written response to the appeal within 30 days of receipt, unless that time is extended for good cause and with notice to the inmate. The chief inspector/designee's decision on the appeal is final.

Are the incarcerated issued tablets with access to the grievance procedure: Yes No N/A

Are facility staff answering ICR's within policy: Yes No N/A

If issued tablets are not available, are there other measures in place to provide access to the grievance procedure (e.g. open office hours) Yes No N/A

Upon reviewing responses, are there any issues with timelines or lack of substance within the responses to the ICR's: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: While inspecting CCI, CFIS focused on ensuring that the institution systematically logs and tracks grievances in DRC's electronic system, ViaPath, and that staff are responding to grievances within policy guidelines.

Between March 22 and April 21, 2026, staff reviewed 10 out of 83 filed grievances. The review emphasized issues concerning medical services and staff accountability, with grievances primarily related to staff conduct and medical care. Staff responses referenced DRC policies, and all complaints were tracked electronically in the ViaPath system, ensuring compliance with Ohio Administrative Code Rule 5120-9-31. CFIS observed no evidence of retaliation against IPs for filing complaints, and the IIS attributed the increased number of grievances to facility-wide searches during this period.

FOOD SERVICE AREA INSPECTION (60-FSM-02)

The Food Service Department was inspected to ensure compliance with DRC policy 60-FSM-02, Food Service Operations and DRC policy 60-FSM-06, Safety and Health Protection for Staff and Incarcerated Individuals Assigned to Food Service.

Executive staff/supervisors conducting unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

A. SANITATION

Dining room(s) meet DRC policy for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Serving line(s) meet DRC policy: Yes No N/A

Dish room area meets DRC policy for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Dish washer water temperature meets DRC policy: Yes No N/A

Handwashing stations in working order: Yes No N/A

Handwashing stations operate at a proper temperature: Yes No N/A

Eye washing stations operate appropriately: Yes No N/A

B. FOOD SERVING & STORAGE COMPLIANCE

Appropriate food menus posted: Yes No N/A

Food temperatures in compliance with DRC policy: Yes No N/A

Food service workers wearing hairnets, gloves, etc.: Yes No N/A

Serving utensils appear to be in good working order: Yes No N/A

Freezer temperatures in compliance with DRC policy: Yes No N/A

C. CHEMICAL & TOOL CONTROL

Tools properly stored/ signed out/ accounted for: Yes No N/A

Tools properly etched with an identifier: Yes No N/A

Chemicals properly stored and inventoried: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: During the inspection, CFIS sampled a lunch meal that included chili, baked potato with cheese sauce, vegetable medley, pineapples, bread and butter. The meal was appropriate in portion size, and met policy standards for taste, appearance, and temperature.

Aramark food service staff and IP workers were appropriately dressed in protective clothing (hair and beard nets, rubber gloves) within the food service department. Uniforms were neat and clean. The food service area was orderly. Transportation warming stations were neat and clean. The spring menu was posted.

Food was properly labeled and dated. The dish room was clean and dish cleaning water temperatures complied with DRC policy 60-FSM-02, Food Service Operations. CFIS verified completion of sanitation and

hygiene training for food service and incarcerated staff to ensure compliance with DRC policy 60-FSM-06. ServSafe certifications were verified. The food service area was using DRC approved cleaning chemicals and disinfectants.

The back dock area was clean and free of odor, and the vicinity of the trash compactor was free of debris. No signs of rodents or pests were observed in the food service area or on the dock. CFIS interviewed several Aramark staff members and the Food Service Manager, and none reported concerns or issues constituting a violation of DRC policy.

In2Work Program: DRC and Aramark have partnered to provide the IN2Work program, which allows incarcerated individuals to train for roles comparable to a food service manager. Participants must earn and maintain industry certifications, which remain available to them upon release. The program is designed to provide the skills necessary for a career in the culinary arts. CFIS spoke with IN2Work participants who expressed high satisfaction with the program, noting the value of the experience for their future reentry. During the inspection, participants were observed actively engaged in meal preparation.

EDUCATION & REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS (57-EDU-01- 02)

The Ohio Central School System (OCSS), offers educational programs designed to meet the needs of incarcerated people throughout DRC, including CCI. The programs include adult education courses, vocational training, and technical training, all of which incorporate technology into the programming. Collectively, the programs are designed to enhance the incarcerated population’s employability upon release.

A. EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Does the facility have an Education Department for in-person learning? Yes No N/A

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Programs offered: GED ACADEMIC CAREER-TECH APPRENTICESHIP
VOCATIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS/CERT.
OTHER: N/A

Are there currently any vacant teaching/staff positions within the education department: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the education department area comply with DRC standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: The education department within CCI was large with numerous classrooms. On the date of the inspection, CCI’s academic and rehabilitative programs included:

- Adult Basic Education (ABLE)
- Pre-GED
- GED
- Ashland University
- Sinclair Community College
- Career technology
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Plumbing

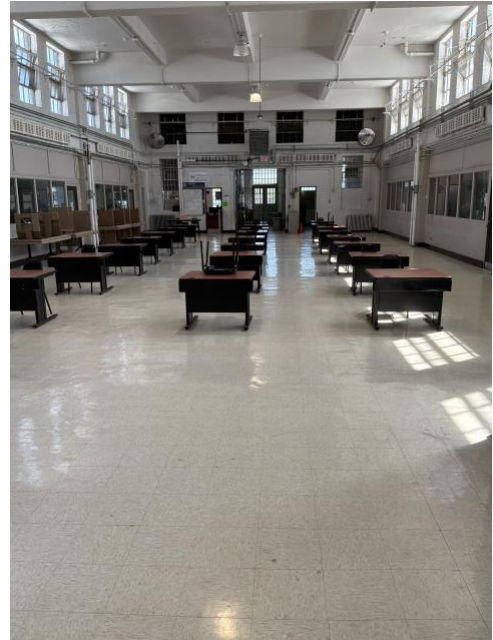
CCI delivers instruction through traditional classroom, face-to-face, hybrid, and digital formats. IPs can participate in educational programs within the facility's education department. A designated study hall area is available for enrolled participants to complete assignments on Chromebook or engage in focused study. The facility ensures accommodations are in place for individuals with learning disabilities.

CCI collaborates with Sinclair Community College and Ashland University to offer college credit courses. Literacy, GED, and post-secondary educational programs are provided and tailored to meet the needs of IPs, while vocational training aligns with current job market demands.

The education department includes an Ohio Means Jobs site, which offers specialized employment services such as job search assistance, interview preparation, and support for re-entry resume development.

CFIS verified the instructors' qualifications, confirming compliance. Educational materials and technology at CCI are current. Staff consistently log and track enrollment and attendance accurately.

No violations of DRC policy 57-EDU-08, Education Staff Credentials, observed or reported.



Education Department Study Hall area

B. REHABILITATIVE/REENTRY PROGRAMS

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds:

Yes No N/A

Rehabilitative/reentry programs offered: The facility offers a range of programs including the Comprehensive Sex Offender Program, D.A.S.H. Animal Rescue, In2Work Program, LIFE Program, Peer Supporter, Reentry Academy (accessible via tablets), Renaissance Program, Service Dog United, Stephen's Ministry Training, Therapeutic Community, Unit Management Core Programs, Dual Recovery Anonymous, and an Intensive Outpatient program.

Appropriate signage/information displayed:

Yes No N/A

Does the reentry department comply with DRC standards for cleanliness:

Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CCI has a facility dedicated to recovery and rehabilitation, which includes a housing unit (A-2), and office spaces for recovery services, mental health staff, and participants of the Day Treatment Program (DTP).

CCI staff told CFIS that over 500 individuals participate each month in Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and Dual Recovery Anonymous programs.

Recovery services also offer training for individuals to become peer supporters. At the time of inspection, CCI staff reported that 27 individuals are certified as recovery services peer supporters. Those who complete the training will be granted a state license upon their release from the facility.

MEDICAL (68-MED-01) & MENTAL HEALTH (67-MNH-15)

A. MEDICAL SERVICES

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Services offered: Telemedicine, medication distribution (three times per day), doctor sick call, dental, long-term chronic care, and in-patient and out-patient detoxification, optometry, and x-ray.

Are there any staffing vacancies within the medical dept.: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the medical department meet DRC policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Are there any maintenance issues that may hinder sufficient medical care: Yes No N/A

Are there any ongoing hunger strikes, constant watches, dry cells, or special supervision IPs in this area: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CCI's medical department contains six rooms for triage and examinations, plus 15 beds for ongoing care or observation. There is also one crisis watch cell for monitoring an IP.

A new medical building is nearing completion and scheduled to open by June 2026, providing 60 medical beds. Selected IPs will receive training as nursing aids to assist patients with daily tasks, basic life support, and CPR.

No violations of DRC policy 68-MED-01, Medical Services, were observed or reported.

B. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Services offered: Outpatient mental health, peer support, groups sessions, treatment team.

Are there any staffing vacancies within the mental health department: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the mental health department meet DRC policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Are there any maintenance issues that may hinder sufficient mental health care: Yes No N/A

Does the facility have sufficient space for staff to see patients for mental health care: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: The outpatient area of the facility comprises several rooms designated for group programs, individual therapy sessions, and peer support meetings.

The CCI mental health department administers a mandatory sex offender program, which is conducted jointly by DRC Mental Health and the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health.

RECREATION (77-REC-01)

A. RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Types of recreation programs offered: Basketball, weight cage, billiards, pickle ball, volleyball, band room, cardio room.

Types of recreation: Indoor Outdoor N/A

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the recreation department comply with DRC policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CCI's Recreation Activity Therapy Administrator (ATA) was in the area during the CFIS inspection. According to the ATA, the recreation team at CCI consists of himself and four other staff members. The indoor recreation area was sufficient for the IPs. The outdoor recreation area was also sufficient as it had a softball/baseball field, basketball courts, body weight devices, and a walking/running track available to the IPs.

CCI also has an auditorium that is utilized for plays, movie viewing, and guest speakers.

There was no violation of DRC policy 77-REC-01, Recreation and Leisure Time Activities, observed or reported during the inspection.



Auditorium

LIBRARY (58-LIB-01)

A. LIBRARY

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Does the library provide access to LexisNexis: Yes No N/A

Does the library have policies and procedures available: Yes No N/A

Does the library have operation hours and information posted: Yes No N/A

Does the library have a community partner to assist with services: Yes No N/A

Does the library meet DRC policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CCI offers renovated and organized library/law library spaces. IPs can use Ohio Means Jobs resources for employment support, including reentry résumé help. The librarian coordinates with the local library for book requests, and computers provide access to LexisNexis research.

During the visit, new bookshelves and improved seating were noted. No violations of DRC policy 58-LIB-01, Comprehensive Library Services, were found.

VISITATION (76-VIS-01)

A. VISITATION

Visitation hours: Sunday-Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Visits allowed: Contact Non-contact Semi-Contact

Does the visitation area provide adequate seating: Yes No N/A

Does visitation area provide food and drink options: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information posted: Yes No N/A

Does the visitation area meet DRC policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: On the day of inspection, CCI's visitation area was observed to be orderly and well-maintained. The facility accommodates both contact and non-contact visits. Contact visits permit physical interaction between visitors and IPs, including activities such as embracing, playing games, sharing meals, and coloring. Non-contact visits require visitors and IPs to be separated by a wall with a glass partition, preventing physical contact.

The environment is arranged to facilitate meaningful engagement among IPs and their families, particularly children. Children's books are provided for use during visitation periods. Visitors may also purchase snacks and beverages from available vending machines and utilize the food ordering service.

Video visitation is permitted through ViaPath tablets within designated approved areas of the institution.

No violations of DRC policy 76-VIS-01, Incarcerated Person Visitation, were noted or reported during the inspection.

GENERALIZED HOUSING

A. GENERAL POPULATION HOUSING #1

Name/Identifier: B1

- Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A
- Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A
- Does this housing unit offer programming: Yes No N/A
- Type of unit: Open Dorm Cells
- Housing unit max capacity: 54
- Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A
- Does the housing unit meet DRC policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS inspected B1, a general population unit that opened two weeks prior to the inspection. The unit is divided into a lower and upper range and housed 47 IPs at the time of inspection. PREA posters and unit staff photos were prominently displayed. There was a range board, which lists names and numbers to identify which IP is assigned to a particular cell. Bed assignments for IPs were posted behind the staff podium to assist staff in maintaining order within the unit. In this context, range refers to a row of individual cells that open into a common area.

Inspectors reviewed the Employee Visit Record Log (DRC 6011), confirming that rounds are conducted in accordance with DRC Policy 50-PAM-02, Incarcerated Person Communication/Weekly Rounds. The unit is furnished with tables, televisions, ventilation fans, exercise equipment, a microwave, an ice machine, and a small bookshelf. CFIS interviewed an IP who had recently transferred to the facility. The IP expressed satisfaction with being at CCI and noted that he is looking forward to participating in the various programming opportunities offered at the institution.

SPECIALIZED HOUSING

A. SPECIALIZED HOUSING #1

Name/Identifier: Transition Program Unit (TPU)

- Type of Specialized Housing: Special Management Housing (55-SPC-02) RTU (67-MNH-23)
- Reception (52-RCP-01, 02, 06) Death Row (67-MNH-31, 52-RCP-02)
- Limited Privilege Housing Level 1/Outside Worker Nursery
- Dementia Protective Custody Other:
- Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A
- Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does this specialized housing offer programming: Yes No N/A

Type of unit: Open Dorm Cells

Housing unit max capacity: 80

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the housing unit inspected comply with DRC standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS inspected the TPU, a special management housing unit. PREA posters and unit staff photos were prominently displayed. Inspectors reviewed the TPU staff sign-in log (DRC 6011), which confirmed that rounds are being conducted in accordance with DRC Policy 50-PAM-02, Incarcerated Person Communication/Weekly Rounds. The CFIS team reviewed multiple DRC 4118s, Restrictive Housing Individual Record Sheets. These documents track each IP's essential daily functions, including meal acceptance/refusal, personal hygiene, and recreation. Each DRC 4118 was appropriately completed with dates, times, and staff initials, confirming that mandated services were provided. Additionally, several DRC 4117s, Restrictive Housing Daily Activity Logs, were reviewed. These logs track service delivery, such as linen/clothing exchange and barbering. No concerns or violations noted on the DRC 4117 Logs.

The TPU is appropriately staffed, with four officers assigned to the first and second shifts and two officers on the third shift. The unit utilizes a dedicated porter who resides on-site. During an interview, the porter expressed gratitude for the position, noting that the responsibility helps him remain focused on his reentry goals. To ensure food quality, the unit utilizes a food-warming station for meals arriving from the main kitchen.

CCI reported that the unit is slated for a window replacement project. The current windows will be replaced with storefront-style windows to significantly improve natural light and ventilation within the unit.

B. SPECIALIZED HOUSING #2

Name/Identifier: B3

Type of Specialized Housing: Special Management Housing (55-SPC-02) RTU (67-MNH-23)
 Reception (52-RCP-01, 02, 06) Death Row (67-MNH-31, 52-RCP-02)
 Limited Privilege Housing Level 1/Outside Worker Nursery
 Dementia Protective Custody Other: Veteran's Unit

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does this specialized housing offer programming: Yes No N/A

Type of unit: Open Dorm Cells

Housing unit max capacity: 110

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the housing unit inspected comply with DRC standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS inspected the military/veteran's unit, a specialized housing area for veterans. PREA posters and unit staff photos were prominently displayed. Inspectors reviewed the Employee Visit Record Log (DRC 6011), which confirmed that rounds are being conducted in accordance with DRC Policy 50-PAM-02, Incarcerated Person Communication/Weekly Rounds. At the time of inspection, the unit housed 90 IPs. The unit is furnished with a pool table, TV, ventilation fans, exercise equipment, a fish tank, and upgraded furniture for older veterans. CFIS interviewed two veteran IPs who expressed satisfaction with the unit and appreciation for the staff and services provided.

C. SPECIALIZED HOUSING #3

Name /Identifier: A2

Type of Specialized Housing: Special Management Housing (55-SPC-02) RTU (67-MNH-23)
 Reception (52-RCP-01, 02, 06) Death Row (67-MNH-31, 52-RCP-02)
 Limited Privilege Housing Level 1/Outside Worker Nursery
 Dementia Protective Custody Other: Day Treatment Program (DTP)

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does this specialized housing offer programming: Yes No N/A

Type of unit: Open Dorm Cells

Housing unit max capacity: 74

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the housing unit inspected comply with DRC standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS inspected the DTP, located within the mental health and recovery services building. This placement provides participants with immediate access to staff, which supports their progress throughout the program. The DTP is designed to help individuals prepare for a successful transition back to general population housing. Notably, the program benefits from the involvement of 27 peer supporters. These peer supporters offer guidance and encouragement, helping participants navigate the challenges of recovery and reintegration. For example, peer supporters have assisted participants in forming a music band made up solely of residents from the A2 Unit, which has fostered teamwork and a sense of community within the group. Several participants have successfully moved from the DTP to general population housing, demonstrating the effectiveness of the program in promoting positive outcomes and personal growth.

During approved institutional movement periods, individuals housed in the A2 Unit are permitted and encouraged to walk throughout the facility. IPs can visit the medical area to get their medication, eat meals in the chow hall, and participate in recreation at designated times set aside for residents of this unit. These activities are coordinated to ensure participants have structured access to essential services and opportunities for social interaction. This level of access supports their progress toward completing the DTP and prepares them for greater independence.

In addition to these opportunities, the A2 Unit maintains a designated yard reserved exclusively for those housed within the unit. This dedicated space allows participants to engage in outdoor activities and recreation, further supporting their well-being and recovery. There were no violations of DRC policy noted or observed during the inspection.

ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM INSPECTION

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

PREA provides for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions. It provides information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect IPs from prison sexual assaults and rapes. PREA applies to all DRC institutions, including privately operated and juvenile correctional facilities.

As the law enforcement agency responsible for investigating criminal offenses inside correctional institutions, the Ohio State Highway Patrol tracks sexual assaults using the PREA incident system. CFIS staff interviewed the PREA coordinator who confirmed that CCI has had two substantiated PREA cases in the past 12 months. PREA signage and local rape crisis center information were appropriately posted.

In addition, CCI has PREA victim support teams made up of staff that can assist the victim with information and emotional support services.

No violations of DRC policy 79-ISA-01, Prison Rape Elimination Act, were observed.

Staff Recruiting and Retention

On the date of the inspection, CCI had a vacancy rate of 5.1%, which is well below the agency average of 10.04%. Information about hiring events and job openings was posted.

Naloxone (Narcan) Kits

CCI offered Narcan kits to IPs on the day of their release. Each kit contained two doses of naloxone and 10 fentanyl test strips. The kits are stored within a "Harm Reduction Vending Machine" in a discrete area. CCI complied with DRC policy 10-SAF-20, Naloxone Safety and Health Procedure.

Administrative Duty Officer Reports (ADO)

CFIS reviewed the ADO (50-PAM-02) reports from April 13-20, 2026, which were provided upon request. An ADO report is completed daily by the designated executive staff tasked with completing inspection rounds. The designated rounds cover food service, visitation, housing units, the recreation area, and any other area designated by the warden. Upon completion of the ADO rounds, a report documenting the rounds is provided to the warden's office for review. The report includes the date and time of the rounds, areas visited, observations, concerns and recommendations. A review of DRC 6011 (DRC sign-in logbook) indicated that staff are conducting rounds according to policy, and the ADO reports reviewed were completed in a timely manner (50-PAM-02).

Security and Safety

CCI housing units were appropriately staffed. Restrooms were clean with all showers, sinks, and toilets in good working condition. Units had essential items such as ice machines and water fountains. All were in working order. No maintenance issues were reported or observed. Fire evacuation plans were posted in conspicuous areas. Cleaning products and supplies were secured appropriately. There were no security issues or DRC policy violations noted or observed during the inspection.

Drug Prevention and Testing

DRC has increased efforts toward contraband interdiction throughout all facilities statewide to assist in the reduction of contraband conveyance and unauthorized items brought into facilities. Additionally, DRC canine teams are being formed to assist in contraband interdiction.

In addition, DRC's centralized Mail Processing Center (OMPC) located within Youngstown receives, inspects, and scans all mail. Mail is then sent to the IPs electronically via their tablets, per DRC policy 75-MAL-01, Incarcerated Population Mail.

Test Category	Number of Tests	Results
Program testing	0	0 positive
Random testing	124	0 positive
For cause	21	6 Suboxones, 1 K2

During the reporting period of March 2026 to the date of the inspection, the following drug-related contraband was seized: one suboxone powder pouch, 25 samples of suboxone, 13 THC wax, and six K2.

Security Threat Groups (STG)

Security Threat Groups (STG) are organized groups within correctional facilities that are often linked to gang activity/organized crime and pose significant risks to the safety and security of the facility. Classifying an individual as an STG member to assist the facility and DRC in proper tracking, housing, and monitoring of trends.

CCI has 248 STG members. These members belong to 12 different STG groups. The top seven groups are: Folks/Gangster Disciples (26 members), Bloods (56 members), Crips (56 members), Heartless Felons (12 members), White Supremacists (33 members), Cincinnati White Boys (22 members) and Konvicted Family (15 members).

Institutional Overtime

Corrections officers worked a total of 4,979.31 overtime hours in March 2026. No violations of DRC policy 35-PAY-01, Employee Pay, Timekeeping and Overtime Issues, were noted.

Annual Evacuation Drills

CFIS verified that CCI's health and safety coordinator conducts quarterly fire drills on all shifts in compliance with DRC policy 10-SAF-05, Fire Prevention and Safety Practices.

Special Events/Family Engagement Events

Over the past 12 months, CCI has hosted at least three special events, including but not limited to a choir performance, talent show, February engagement event, In2Work graduation, rescue family dog handler event, writers club event, and Kairos event. All events were conducted in accordance with DRC policy 77-REC-01, Recreation and Leisure Time Activities.

Ohio Penal Industries (OPI)

CCI's OPI operates a dedicated facility specializing in the construction of snow removal trucks for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The fabrication process is supported by a workforce of 165 to 180 IPs. Trucks arrive from the factory in an unfinished state, after which IPs custom-build frames, beds, hydraulics, and other specialized components according to specific requirements.

The program completes over 140 trucks annually, with more than 2,400 units delivered over the past 25 years. Each truck requires 60 to 90 days to complete and undergoes comprehensive quality assurance inspections prior to delivery to ODOT.

Prospective IP workers participate in an extensive screening process, followed by a six-week training program. After successful completion, individuals are evaluated and assigned roles that align with their skills to promote operational efficiency. Participants may earn industry-recognized credentials through Sinclair College, including certifications in welding, forklift operation, and customer service.



CCI Ohio Penal Industries Trucks

CONCLUSION

The grievance process plays a vital role in ensuring effective correctional operations. At CCI, this process was observed to address concerns efficiently, offering solutions grounded in established policies. During the inspection, the CCI leadership team exhibited both expertise and accessibility in their engagement with CFIS, while the housing units were maintained in a clean and orderly manner.

Staff demonstrated extensive knowledge of correctional procedures and actively promoted positive conduct among IPs. The facility's programs are strategically designed to facilitate successful reentry. There were no violations of DRC policy observed or reported throughout the inspection.

Overall, CCI exemplifies a commitment to both operational excellence and the rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals. Its programs, such as OPI, provide meaningful work opportunities and career credentialing while supporting successful reintegration into society.

The facility maintains high standards in correctional practices, grievance resolution, and staff professionalism to ensure a safe, organized, and supportive environment. These efforts collectively contribute to CCI's reputation as a model institution within the corrections system, where policy adherence, positive conduct, and constructive programming are consistently prioritized.



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OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

**REPORT ON THE
INSPECTION OF
CHILlicothe
CORRECTIONAL
INSTITUTION**

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