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Title:

Organization or Agency:

Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

Testimony:

This testimony is for the Correction Advisory Committee Public Hearing on January 29th, 2026 at 6pm.

After reading the 2025 Conditions of Confinement Report from the Connecticut Office of Correction Ombudsman, and hearing personal stories from other people in my life, I am disgusted that these inhumane conditions have gone on for this long. The lack of resources and support that people housed in all locations across CT are forced to deal with is ridiculous. They are dealing with molded bathrooms, rodents in kitchens, close to zero hygiene products, no access to health care, and it's literally killing them. According to the report, there were a total of 55 deaths over the past 2 years, about 10% of those being death by suicide.

I cannot get over how absolutely inhumane these conditions are, and that so many people are subjected to it. The toll this takes on their health, mental stability, community, and more is immeasurable. They do not have access to communications or support from people outside the correctional institutions, and are often in lockdown and have little human interaction at all. If any of these conditions were seen at a restaurant, motel, or medical service provider, they would be shut down so fast.

These people still deserve respect and care, and access to adequate housing, healthcare, food, hygiene products, legal services, and more. These institutions need to be staffed properly and facilities need drastic improvements to better support inmates. Imagine yourself trying to do simple things like take a shower or use the toilet in a place like this... the photos in the report say it all. No human deserves to live or even work in these types of conditions, and we need to fund these improvements and recommendations provided in the report.