



Council for
Court Excellence
Improving Justice for the Community

**Synthesis and Analysis of Community Feedback
on a New Correctional Annex in D.C.**

October 2022

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Introduction

In its Fiscal Year 2023 budget, the District of Columbia dedicated funds to begin the planning and design phase for a new annex to the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF). In response, the [Council for Court Excellence](#), [Neighbors for Justice](#), and [DC Justice Lab](#), with the support of the [District Task Force on Jails and Justice](#) (Task Force) hosted and facilitated a series of five community conversations during summer 2022 with the goals of 1) amplifying and building on the prior recommendations from the Task Force, and 2) collecting residents' feedback on the features of a new facility that would re-envision the purpose, approach, space, facilities, services, staffing, and use of a jail facility. This effort heard from roughly 200 D.C. residents, including those most directly impacted.

The following summarizes and synthesizes the feedback we collected from residents who attended those conversations. It also provides links to relevant research and resources, where available, that support the reasoning for the recommendations received.

This report was provided to D.C. government leader, including Mayor Muriel Bowser, the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety & Justice, the Director of the D.C. Department of Corrections, and all members of the D.C. Council on October 20, 2022, along with [an advocacy letter](#) signed by residents and organizations based in the District of Columbia.

Special thanks to CCE Policy & Communications Manager, Casey Anderson, who organized and facilitated the community conversations and wrote and developed this report, with the support of CCE law clerk Johanna Seale.

Facility Design

This section will detail specific recommendations as they relate to the structure, space, and design of the facility. These recommendations serve as the foundation for the implementation of the recommendations made in subsequent sections.

Structural Characteristics

1. Ensure the facility is accessible to people with physical disabilities, mobility issues, or who, due to aging, have difficulty walking around.

Reason: [In 2016](#) (the most recently available data), 12% of people incarcerated in state and federal prisons reported having an ambulatory disability. In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, public entities are prohibited from discriminating against people with disabilities. [Despite this, discrimination against people with disabilities persists in prisons and jails nationwide.](#) A facility should provide ramps, elevators, railings, and other ambulatory adjustments made to protect the mobility of those incarcerated.

2. Better ventilation to improve air quality:

- a. Equipping the facility with the latest HVAC technology that is placed in the facility so technicians can easily and routinely replace filters;
- b. Incorporate air purification technology in all blocks; and
- c. Utilize doors for cells, units, and other spaces that allow for continuous airflow in and out of rooms.

Reason: [Research](#) finds that poor air quality can have a negative impact on behavior. Specifically, bad odors and polluted air can increase aggression, decrease helping behavior, interfere with social interaction, and chronic air pollution leads to feelings of hopelessness. Pollutants in the air can have negative short-term and long-term health implications. Utilizing the most recent ventilation and air purifying technologies to improve the air quality in the new facility will help both the physical and mental health of its residents, while also adding additional protections against airborne illnesses such as COVID-19.

3. Soundproofing of all spaces:

- a. Special focus on individual rooms, day rooms, and classrooms.

Reason: Having quiet spaces improves communication among residents and between residents and staff, allows restful sleep and relaxation, and fosters calmness. For more

information, see [How the Prison Environment Can Support Recovery](#); and [Video Links from Prison: Permeability and the Carceral World](#).

4. Ample natural light with windows that equal 15% of the floor area of any given room:

- a. This includes allowing light from exterior rooms to flow into interior rooms; exterior windows more than 3 feet away from any outdoor obstruction; interior windows more than 3 feet away from any obstruction that blocks secondary natural light from entering; and
- b. At least one window in each room should open for ventilation.

Reason: Access to natural daylight is correlated with better physical health and overall sense of wellbeing. Having regular access to natural daylight benefits both residents and staff. For more information, see [International Property Maintenance Code](#); [Safetyline Jalousie Windows](#); [Greenbuilt Alliance Guide to Window Area and Orientation](#); and [The Environmental Psychology of Prisons](#).

5. LED lighting in attractive, glazed fixtures with dimmer switch functionality.

Reason: LED lighting eliminates the buzzing and flickering associated with fluorescent tube lighting that can exacerbate stress. It is also more efficient, less costly, and contributes to a normalized aesthetic.

Natural Setting

6. Outdoor spaces with grass, trees, gardening space, picnic tables, and awnings; natural light unobstructed by tall buildings.

Reason: Regular contact with nature reduces stress for staff and residents. Having gardening space allows the introduction of therapeutic gardening programs like [The Insight Garden Program](#) that are transformative for residents and lead to lower recidivism rates. For more information, see [Horticultural Therapy as Rehabilitative Reform](#); and [Growing Connection Beyond Prison Walls](#).

7. Indoor, non-toxic plants in common areas and individual units.

Reason: Plants create a warmer environment and increase general wellbeing in both residents and staff. The presence of plants in correctional facilities has also been shown to decrease the incidence of violence. For additional information, please see [Plants Liked](#)

[to Lower Levels of Violence and Self-Harm in Prisons; Sustainability in Prisons Project](#) (lists prisons that have nature programs); and [21 Non-Toxic Houseplants](#).

Dedicated Spaces

8. Dedicating classroom space for residents of the jail:

- a. At least one dedicated classroom space for every twenty 18-22 year-old resident;
- b. At least one dedicated classroom space for every 50 residents 23 years old and older;
- c. Classrooms fully-equipped with the latest educational technology including smart boards and capabilities for both remote and in-person instruction; and
- d. There should be no more than 25 students per one teacher in each classroom.

Reason: D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) are required to provide a free and appropriate education to all D.C. students with disabilities, including those in detention, from ages 18-22. Proper facilities are required for DCPS to meaningfully fulfill this obligation. This obligation requires either in-person instruction or some combination of small-group and one-on-one virtual instruction, and classroom facilities must be equipped to handle all models of learning. The need for education does not end where DCPS's duty ends. All residents should have access to meaningful educational opportunities, including earning college credits and completing job and reentry training. The educational facilities at the Central Detention Facility could be used as a model. For more information, see [Doing Time Wisely: The Social and Personal Benefits of Higher Education in Prison](#).

9. Private, comfortable, and normalized visitation space:

- a. Space for residents to have private, comfortable visitation, with dedicated space for families and children;
- b. Comfortable furniture, toys, and art supplies that facilitate interaction between parents and children;
- c. Space for visitation both indoors and outdoors, a playground available in the outdoor space; and
- d. Space for visitors and residents to share meals.

Reason: Incarceration takes a toll not just on the person who is incarcerated, but their whole family. It benefits the whole community to recognize this and have facilities and programs in place that not only facilitate the maintenance of strong connections between incarcerated people and their families and communities that they will return to, but alleviate the toll that incarceration has on those families, and especially children. Data shows that the quality of visitation time with an incarcerated parent is increased by child-friendly environments, resulting in better outcomes for those children. For more

information, see [Girl Scouts Beyond Bars](#); and [Children's Contact with their Incarcerated Parents](#).

10. A multi-faith chapel:

- a. Equipped with books, hymnals, prayer rugs, musical instruments, and other tools necessary for the practice of all faiths, including but not limited to Buddhism, Catholicism, Hinduism, Humanism, Jehovah Witness, Judaism, Latter Day Saints, Islam, Indigenous religions, Protestantism, and Sikhism.

Reason: Residents of a correctional facility have the right to practice their religion, and well-equipped facilities are required for them to do this in a meaningful way. For more information, see [The Value of Religion in Prison: An Inmate Perspective](#).

11. Dedicated space for barber and/or salon facilities to provide haircuts and other grooming services to all residents.

Reason: Human dignity demands the ability to control and take pride in one's appearance. The process of getting a haircut also provides the experience of someone listening to you and physically caring for you. For more information, see [What I've Learned Cutting Hair in Jail](#).

12. A gallery to display artistic creations made by residents including paintings, sculptures, drawings, and more.

Reason: Encouraging incarcerated residents to be creative and create is important. Seeing your artwork displayed can increase your self-confidence, encourages your continued growth in and love for art, keeps you engaged in the artistic process, and makes you feel supported. For more information, see: [How Art Can Heal](#).

Kitchen & Dining

13. Kitchen facilities where residents can prepare their own food:

- a. Kitchen designed by an individual or organization that designs institutional kitchens—NOT by a person or organization who designs prisons or jails OR who designs kitchens for prisons and jails. For more information, see: [Maine DOC Pilot Program](#) with [Brigaid](#) and [Impact Justice](#);
- b. Providing access to refrigeration and cooking appliances (including but not limited to microwaves, and stainless steel utensils);
- c. Walk-in fridges designed to hold large quantities of fresh fruits and vegetables;

- d. Dining room modeled after a university cafeteria encouraging communal eating spaces; and
- e. Designed with both personal use and educational use of the facilities in mind.

Reason: [Impact Justice's 2020 report](#) on food in prison found that “addressing nutritional deficiencies, satiating hunger, nourishing the senses, and restoring human agency by giving incarcerated people some choice in what they eat can profoundly improve physical and mental health.” The vast majority of incarcerated individuals do not receive access to quality meals while in prison, and could not afford the commissary price to cook a meal themselves. Expanding access to the kitchen will not only improve the health of those incarcerated, but can also help them adjust to cooking for themselves upon release. Additionally, one can gain necessary vocational experience in a kitchen, and this opportunity should not be limited to just kitchen staff.

14. Round tables and moveable chairs.

Reason: Round tables promote collaboration and inclusion. Moveable chairs allow multiple seating configurations, facilitation collaboration and communication. For more information, see [Las Colinas Detention & Re-Entry Facility by Balfour Beatty](#).

Focus on Rehabilitation and Programming

This section details recommendations related to promoting educational success, providing unique programming opportunities, and ensuring equitable access to programming.

General Education

- 1. Classroom spaces should be designed to accommodate different learning styles and environments** including traditional classroom spaces and open concept rooms

Reason: Everyone has different educational needs, and will learn best in different environments. Learning styles can include visual learners, auditory learners, those who learn best through reading or writing, and kinesthetic learners. Classrooms should be set up to accommodate each learning style, allowing each resident the opportunity to meaningfully engage in the subject matter being discussed. Accommodating different learning styles will provide all residents with the opportunity to learn, build skills, and hopefully aid in their successful reentry.

- 2. D.C. Public Library branch:**

- Provide an extensive collection of law books;
- Access to digital subscriptions including, but not limited to, Westlaw or LexisNexis;
- Staffed by professional librarians, including at least one credentialed law librarian;
- Quiet spaces furnished with desks and comfortable chairs for reading and study.

Reason: The D.C. Public Library branch currently at the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF) has been a valuable resource to CTF residents. Access to books has both educational and recreational value. Additionally, many residents at this facility will be in pretrial detainment, and evidence suggests that people who are detained pretrial have worse trial outcomes compared to those who are free pretrial and able to substantially participate in their defense. Access to legal materials and staff with legal research expertise will not eliminate this disparity, but will give residents a greater ability to participate in their defense. For more information, see [Justice Denied: The Harmful and Lasting Effects of Pretrial Detention](#).

Specialized Programming

- 3. Dedicated, in-unit and out-of-unit space for programming, that can be used for programs such as:**

- a. Peer Teaching Space where residents can learn skills from one another, such as sign language, poetry, or drawing;
- b. Peer Mentorship programs and meetings, similar to mentorship provided in the Youth Men Emerging Unit, but available to all interested residents;
- c. The arts, including yoga, dance, painting, sculpting, and drawing, among other artistic mediums (this space should also include lockers for residents to store their art supplies);
- d. Job training and readiness programs that specifically teach hireable, in-demand skills such as HVAC. The skills taught in these programs should be regularly assessed against the market on a regular basis to make sure that residents are learning the most in-demand, relevant skills needed to thrive in the community; and
- e. Reentry readiness classes, including:
 - i. Department of Motor Vehicles classes to prepare residents to take their driving exams;
 - ii. Support services in filling out housing, Social Security, and other vital document or assistance services applications;
 - iii. Financial literacy and management classes, including teaching residents how to manage a checkbook;
 - iv. Holistic job-seeking support services, including resume and cover letter writing, how to prepare for an interview, and support in completing job applications; and
 - v. Technological literacy classes that will teach residents how to use smart phones, computers, tablets, and gain proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, among other software and programs.

Reason: Dedicating space within units for classrooms and programming allows residents to spend more time in programs, as they are not having to be transported from their units to another location in the facility. It also allows residents to more meaningfully study and engage with materials outside of the class or program. Principles of normalcy would suggest that making education accessible, similar to in the community setting, increases feelings of human dignity. Ensuring access to a variety of vocational, educational, and technological classes will [aid](#) in the successful reentry of residents back into the community, and better equip them to find employment upon release. Additionally, prison arts programs have been found to positively impact incarcerated individual's mood and behavior, as one study reveals that discipline reports decreased by [29%](#) in individuals who participated in the arts program.

4. Dedicated space for programming for special populations including women, LGBTQ+, Elderly, etc.

Reason: Special populations have different programming needs from male residents, and need their own dedicated spaces to engage in these programs. The rate of women in detention is increasing rapidly, requiring parity in services and programming provided to incarcerated women and greater attention to special services for female residents, the majority of whom are mothers. Additionally, community members expressed a desire for more programming for residents 50 and over, suggesting an older adult equivalent to the Young Men Emerging Unit. For more information, see [Views and Experiences of LGBTQ+ People in Prison](#); [Implementing Successful Jail-Based Programming for Women](#); and [Programs Help Incarcerated Moms Bond With Their Babies in Prison](#).

5. Ample outdoor space for farming, gardening, and horticulture programs.

Reason: [Research](#) shows that spending time in a garden, and in green spaces, is beneficial to a person's physical and mental health. One study found that viewing plants altered [electroencephalogram](#) (EEG) recordings, a test used to measure electrical activity in the brain. This study found that seeing plants altered EEG recordings – reducing stress, fear, anger, and sadness. The recordings also noted reductions in blood pressure, pulse rate, and muscle tension.

6. A state-of-the art space dedicated to parenting classes and parent-child relationship cultivation:

- a. Computers and tablets so parents can:
 - i. Participate in virtual parent-teacher conferences with D.C. Public Schools and charter school teachers; and
 - ii. Virtually read books to their children.
- b. Materials and space for family reunification programs, allowing residents to build parenting skills and relationships with their children;
- c. Materials and space for parenting communication classes;
- d. Soft chairs, pillows on the floor for young children to sit on;
- e. Toys, books, games, and other activities for parents and children to engage with together;
- f. A door leading to an outdoor playground space that includes swings, slides, and other playground structures.

Reason: Parent-focused events and programs help connect incarcerated parents to their communities and families, while providing positive social interactions with their children to help improve their mental health and aid in family reunification upon returning to the community. Incarcerated parents are not the only ones who suffer from the separation from their family, and having a space for children within the facility will cultivate the

needed parent-child relationship so that the parent can maintain a level of involvement in their child's life. Creating a space that fosters these parent-child relationships also creates a space for children to process their parent's incarceration, and can help them feel supported by their parent's involvement and interest in their life. See more: <https://parenting.kars4kids.org/parenting-prison/>.

Space Design for Safety and Security of All Parties

This section details recommendations aimed at improving the safety and security of the facility for both staff and residents, including an acute focus on the mental health of both corrections officers and incarcerated persons.

Security Operations

1. Utilize a Podular Direct Supervision Design.

Reason: Podular Direct Supervision Design improves safety and security for both staff and residents over traditional linear design. This design also reduces vandalism and maintenance need, allowing for the use of commercial-grade furniture and appliances (rather than heavy-duty steel), which creates a less institutional aesthetic and lowers costs. Podular Direct Supervision Design also lowers staffing requirements and allows greater access to rehabilitative and supportive programs. For more information, see [Inmate Behavior Management: Northampton County Jail Study](#); [Effectiveness of the Direct Supervision System of Correctional Design and Management: A Review of the Literature](#); and [National Institute of Corrections Video about Podular Design](#).

2. Dedicated space for Department of Corrections staff to relax and unwind before and after shifts:

- a. Space for staff to meet with a mental health specialist;
- b. Comfortable seating;
- c. A television and/or video games; and
- d. Books and board games.

Reason: Community members understand the Department of Corrections staff, specifically Corrections Officers, are people too and may have their job performance impacted by outside stressors, such as financial stress, relationship strain, or the health issues of a loved one. It [has been shown](#) that correctional officer stress can compromise the safety of a jail or prison, create turnover that may negatively impact the quality of new hires, and require taxpayer dollars to pay overtime to officers who are covering for sick coworkers. Having a space where staff can decompress before and after shifts, to allow them to put the outside stressors aside, will help them better perform their jobs and increase workplace satisfaction and job retention.

Medical & Mental Health Care

3. State-of-the-art medical block that will include but is not limited to space for:

- a. Physical Therapy;
- b. Substance use disorder treatment;
- c. Treatment of chronic illnesses;
- d. High-quality medical equipment to provide comprehensive care; and more.

Reason: Incarcerated individuals [have been found](#) to disproportionately have chronic health problems that require medical care, including diabetes, high blood pressure, and substance use disorders. Additionally, it has been found that each year of incarceration takes [two years off an individual's life expectancy](#). Yet correctional healthcare is expensive as [most prisons charge incarcerated individuals a copay](#), which disincentivizes seeking proper treatment. The new facility must have a state-of-the-art medical block in order to curtail the negative health impacts that imprisonment has on individuals by providing comprehensive, quality care.

4. **The creation of a dedicated mental health block, that includes but is not limited to:**
 - a. Space for both group and individual therapy;
 - b. Art therapy, music therapy, and other types of therapy;
 - c. Capacity for each resident, regardless of mental health diagnosis status, to participate in therapy or therapeutic activities.

Reason: [Research](#) reveals that 37% of individuals in state and federal prison have a history of mental illness, and 63% of incarcerated individuals do not receive mental health treatment while incarcerated. Offering various types of therapy would help treat the various forms of trauma the incarcerated individuals have experienced, including (but not limited to) [Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, music and art therapy, and supportive group therapy](#).

5. **Reproductive justice resources for pregnant residents:**
 - a. Offering information on important issues related to pregnancy and childcare;
 - b. Access to Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN) care;
 - c. Providing free menstrual products; and
 - d. Providing access to pregnancy supplements and diets.

Reason: Incarcerated women often face a lack of proper menstrual products, as the products are often scarce, withheld from the residents intentionally by correctional officers, are of a poor quality, and limited to only those who can afford them. Additionally, the logistics of women receiving proper health care with access to both abortion services and OBGYN care is limited as the proper facilities are almost always located off-site. Ensuring the access to reproductive justice resources will protect the right to medical care for incarcerated women. See more:

<https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2020/12/reproductive-justice-united-states-prison-system/>.

6. **Ample color:** Variations of wall-color, including at least one mural per unit.
 - a. This can be done through an art program like [Create: New Beginnings](#);
 - b. This may also include bright colors and motivational or positive quotes painted on the walls. There should be opportunities for residents to paint walls and/or murals.

Reason: Having color and art creates a more comfortable, homelike environment. Additionally, colors can impact a person's mood and mental health. Utilizing colors that help lift a person's mood and improve mental health should be incorporated throughout the facility. Mural programs offer residents an opportunity to feel ownership of their environment, fostering pride in their surroundings and a collective desire to treat their space with care. For additional information please see, [An Exploration of Community Mural Making in the Context of Art Therapy and Social Action: A Literary and Social Action: A Literature Review](#) and [How Color Affects Your Mood and Mental Health](#).

7. **Building spaces that promote autonomy and personal care:**
 - c. Allowance for residents to have bedding and clothing brought in from the outside;
 - d. Access to laundry facilities for residents to do their own laundry;
 - e. Include toilets in each cell;
 - f. The ability for incarcerated residents to shut their own doors;
 - g. In-unit space for computers and tablets; and
 - h. Better mattresses with pillows in all cells.

Reason: [Research](#) shows that the extremely structured life within an incarceration facility creates a large adjustment problem as formerly incarcerated individuals attempt to return to normal life. Incarcerated individuals with long sentences become accustomed to the way of life inside the facility and are not readily equipped for a drastic life change, which can exacerbate pre-existing mental health conditions. Expanding access to privacy and self-autonomy would aid in this readjustment. Learning to do one's own laundry, having the ability to use the restroom in privacy, and the ability to voluntarily exist in a room alone are important ways to mentally adjust to the way of life outside incarceration, while also fostering a sense of pride in being self-sufficient and improving one's feeling of self. Adjusting to the world's newfound reliance on technology would include greater access to computers and tablets, which should include in-unit space for internet access. Learning to use technology prior to release would aid in the eventual use of a tablet/computer in searching for a job and contacting loved ones. Additionally, [research](#) emphasizes the impact of unsanitary and uncomfortable clothes/bedding has on an individual's physical and mental health. To ensure that bedding, clothing, and pillows are in good quality,

residents should be able to do their own laundry, have bedding and clothing brought in from the outside, and to maintain a hygienic and comfortable quality of mattresses and pillows.

Policy Solutions

Having a thoughtfully designed, well-equipped facility is one important step towards creating a humane and dignified environment for residents at the jail. Establishing and implementing policies that foster a safe, healthy environment that prioritizes rehabilitation and reentry preparation is equally important. Changing practices is only as great as the sustainability created by way of policy changes. Residents expressed a desire to see policy changes and culture shifts at the Department of Corrections. These policy changes would ensure innovative programming, accessible spaces, and more were being adequately used by residents and supported by staff.

1. Ongoing training for all staff on the following topics:

- a. Trauma-informed corrections (for more information see [Trauma-Informed Corrections](#));
- b. Fostering a welcoming visitation environment and interacting with the families of residents during visitation;
- c. How to effectively communicate with residents and/or individuals in crisis;
- d. The history of mass incarceration, D.C.'s jails and prisons; and
- e. Cultural competency.
 - i. Community members expressed a strong desire for ongoing cultural competency trainings and certificates for corrections officers.

2. Visitation policies that maximize relationship-building opportunities between residents and their families and community:

- a. Private visitation with family members;
- b. Extended visits, especially for parents with their children; and
- c. Sharing meals with visitors.

3. Entering a MOU and/or other agreement with D.C. Public Schools and charter schools that allow incarcerated parents to participate virtually in parent-teacher conferences.

4. Prioritize recruiting corrections officers who live in and/or grew up in the District of Columbia.

5. Create opportunities for residents and corrections officers to have more positive interactions, including but not limited to:

- a. Enacting policies and programs for corrections officers to train and educate incarcerated residents on skills they have or hobbies they participate in;
- b. Creating space for corrections officers and residents to participate in programs together;

- c. Allow residents to plan and facilitate a “Welcome to D.C.” training for new corrections officers; and
 - d. Enact policies and/or modify duties of corrections officers that allow them more creativity and to run programs or trainings for residents.
- 6. Allow all residents, regardless of custody level, equal opportunity and access to programming, including investigating if there is a way to safely mingle custody levels during programming time**
- 7. Creating a robust oversight and accountability policy for the Department of Corrections and its staff:**
- a. Ensuring there are audio recording capabilities where there are cameras;
 - b. An independent Committee to review grievances filed by residents;
 - c. Including a clause that protects residents from retaliation after filing a grievance;
 - d. Providing residents with a copy of their submitted grievance and a letter acknowledging that it was submitted; and
 - e. Timely, transparent communication with the community.
- 8. Develop meaningful, longstanding opportunities for returning citizen collaboration and feedback on Department of Corrections policies and programs.**
- 9. Encourage District leaders to prioritize and safely expedite the construction of the Benning Street men’s halfway house that will be run and operated by CORE DC.**
- 10. At least one plant-based (vegan) option at every meal.**
- a. Offering food options that cater to many different diets respects the dignity and autonomy of residents.
 - b. Plant-based meals are also more sustainable and environmentally friendly than meat-based meals, and lower the risk of chronic disease.
 - c. For more information, see [CA SB-1130](#), which requires public institutions such as health care facilities and state prisons to make plant-based meals available.
- 11. Meal options that account for the different nutrition needs of different populations:**
- a. Pregnant residents:
 - i. Additional food at meals and/or snacks to supplement regular meals with up to 500 extra calories per day;
 - ii. Whole food sources providing 400 micrograms of folic acid per day.
 - iii. For more information, see [William & Mary Healthy Beginnings Project](#); [Johns Hopkins: Nutrition During Pregnancy](#); and [Macronutrient and](#)

[Micronutrient Intake During Pregnancy: An Overview of Recent Evidence.](#)

12. Food Service Program designed and overseen by a chef, nutritionist, dietician, and health department.

- a. End the contract with Aramark;
- b. Culinary programs beyond safe serve training to expand employment opportunities upon release; and
- c. Expand food options for each meal.

13. Increase the health and safety standards in the kitchen.

- a. Regular health department inspections with transparent reporting; and
- b. Industrial dishwashers.

14. Healthy Food Options in Commissary.

15. Provide Nutrition Education for people incarcerated in DOC facilities.

16. Serve meals at regular times

- a. Breakfast begins no earlier than at 6:30 am;
- b. Lunch begins no earlier than 11:00 am; and
- c. Dinner begins at no earlier than 5:00 pm.
- d. Make available free healthy/nutritious snacks in between meals.

17. Establish and utilize a housing schedule that allows for ample out-of-cell time for programming, meals, and recreation

Supplemental Resources

This section details additional examples, resources, and information to support the District in actualizing the District community's vision for the new correctional annex.

1. [Vera Institute of Justice](#): Vera pilots and scales projects designed to disrupt and end racist systems. They work alongside community members and local organizations and government to develop ideas for how to disrupt the incarceration system and its devastating impacts. And, then support the creation of pilot programs to test the success of these solutions.
2. [Mass Design Group](#): Model of Architecture Serving Society (Mass) uses architecture in different communities in the United States as a way to confront history, change narratives, and collectively heal.
3. [Designing Justice + Designing Spaces](#): An Oakland-based architecture firm with specific expertise in community engagement, evidence-based design research, and designing for peacemaking and reparation.
4. [Design as Protest](#): A collective of designers mobilizing strategy to dismantle the privilege and power structures that use architecture and design as tools of oppression.
5. [buildingcommunityWORKSHOP](#): Texas based nonprofit community design center seeking to improve the livability and viability of communities through the practice of thoughtful design and making.
6. [The Detroit Collaborative Design Center \(DCDC\)](#): DCDC works with community partners citywide on a range of design projects that vary in scale. Services they provide are architectural design, landscape design, urban design and neighborhood planning, infrastructure strategy, community engagement, and capacity building. Focus on integrating community engagement and participation into design and planning processes.
7. [Tulane Small Center](#): The New Orleans firm operates at the intersection of design and civic engagement. Work focuses on equitable processes, meaningful outcomes, design excellence and inclusion as critical components of thoughtful design.
8. [Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility \(ADPSR\)](#): Creates opportunities for people who care about the built environment to participate in working for social progress.
9. [HMC Architects](#): California architecture firm, responsible for designing the [Las Colinas Women Detention Center](#) in Santee, California.
10. [Dak Kopec, University of Nevada](#): Author and Architecture teacher—teaches and writes about the intersections of architecture, psychology, and environment. Examines the assortment of psychological factors that affect human perception and subsequent use of the space. He examines human development in terms of various environmental elements.

11. [Richard Wener, NYU](#): Professor of Environmental Psychology. For more than thirty years Professor Wener has studied the way correctional architecture affects facility operations and the behavior of staff and incarcerated people.
12. [American Institute of Architects](#): Commitment to no longer design spaces where execution or torture could happen (including the DOC's use of solitary confinement).
13. [Brigaid](#): Working with Impact Justice on the Chefs in Prison Pilots Program with the Maine Department of Corrections. Brigaid places professional chefs in schools and redesigns the food service programs to be more nutritious, fiscally, and environmentally responsible.

Jurisdictional Examples:

14. [Halden Prison, Norway](#): Halden Prison cost Norway 240 million USD to build; known as the most humane prison in the world (DC allocated 261 million USD for the new annex). People live in private rooms and cook for themselves in communal kitchens. "Dynamic" Security, which posits warm relationships between incarcerated people and staff reduces the potential for violence.
15. [Bastøy Prison, Norway](#): Incarcerated people live in cabins with furnishings and televisions, which look more like a hostel. Most guards are unarmed. Includes a library, church, skiing, trade programs, and soccer field. Focus on rehabilitation rather than punishment.
16. [Sweden](#): Swedish prisons center therapeutic treatment and rehabilitation. Cells mirror college dorm rooms. Incarcerated people and staff eat together in communal spaces. People wear their own clothes.
17. [Germany](#): Prisons in Germany are built to mirror normal life in communities. Incarcerated people have their own cells, for which they have keys to the doors. Wear their own clothes, and have access to sports teams, and can have weekend passes to visit home.
18. [Neustrelitz Prison \(Youth\), Germany](#): Facility for people referred to as juveniles in Germany, but who are almost exclusively 19-25 years old. A facility that centers therapy. Half of the people held there are there for violent crimes.
19. [Storstrøm Prison, Denmark](#): Designed by Mads Mandrup Hansen.
20. [New Zealand](#): First "humane" prison in New Zealand, East Auckland. Includes television in the cells, yoga, sensory garden, murals, and has a strong emphasis on rehabilitation.
21. [North Dakota](#): In the Missouri River Correctional Center, individuals have private rooms, which they have a key to their doors. They can earn day passes, and can wear their own clothes. Increased and enhanced work-release programming. For additional information, please see: [North Dakota finds success in rethinking prison culture](#).
22. [Las Colinas Women Detention Center, California](#): The goal of the design was to create a soothing environment to help reduce recidivism over time. Design innovations include clusters of smaller-scale housing units that are grouped according to detention levels that

support the varying security classifications and programmatic needs of the inmate population. The layout combines open space and landscaping amenities to create a campus-like environment.

23. [SCI Chester, Pennsylvania](#): Remodeled a unit to be closer to Halden Prison. “Little Scandinavia” unit was remodeled to include a communal kitchen, landscaped green space, radically redesigned cells, furniture, and common areas. Unit includes 64 single cells. People in the unit receive special programming preparing them for reentry.
24. [Maine Department of Corrections](#): MDOC is leading the nation in limiting solitary confinement, using restorative justice programs to defuse conflict between incarcerated people and staff. Also, working with Brigaid on a pilot program of chefs in prisons, and have agriculture program, baking program, and specialty culinary programming.