

Kansas Department of Corrections
Current Operations and Programs of the
Office of Victim Services

Presented to the House Corrections and Juvenile

Justice Committee

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February 9, 2012

Victim Services Mission and Vision

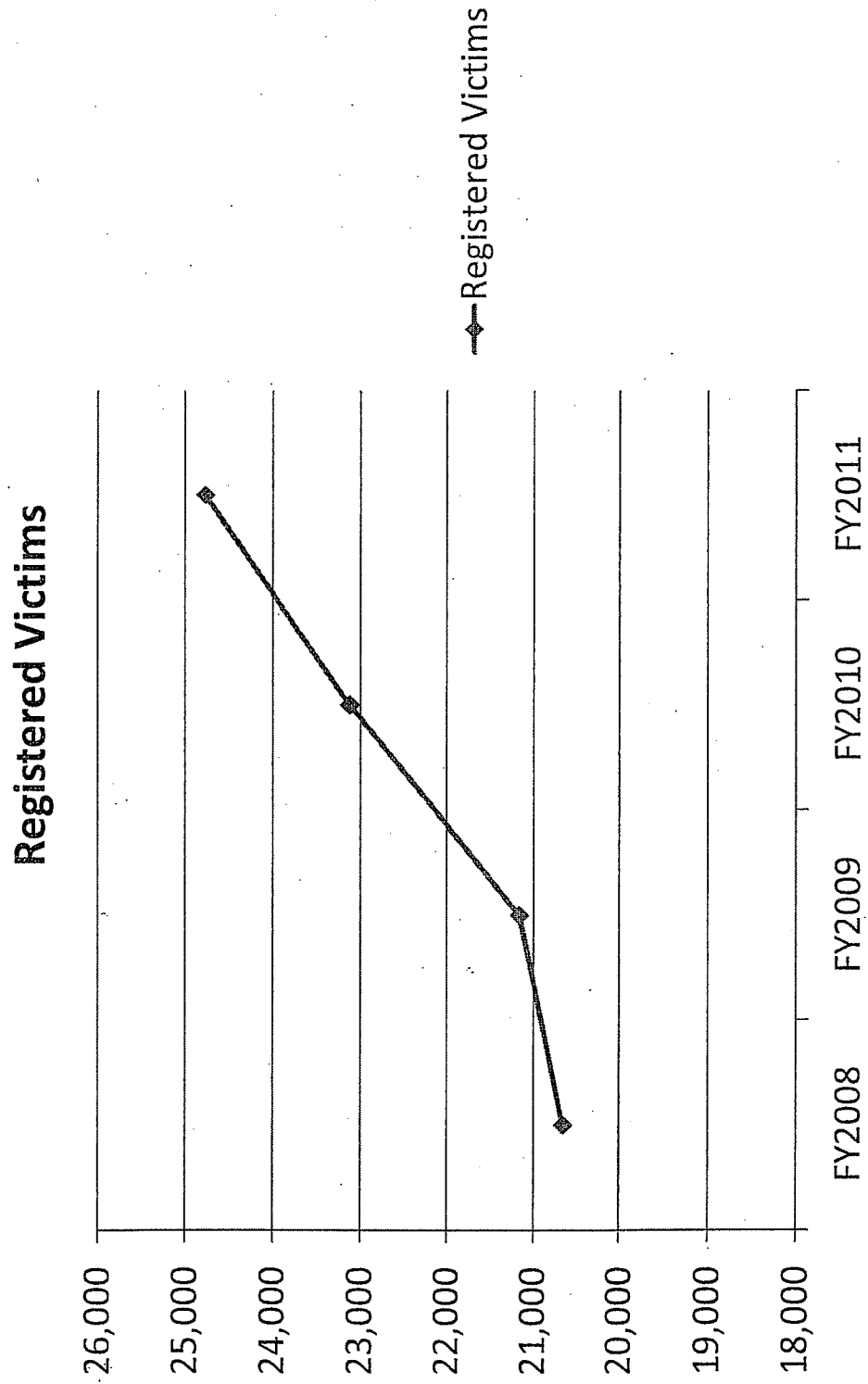
Vision: Giving Kansas crime victims a voice in corrections by providing information, services and support with compassion and respect

Mission: Kansas Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services serves as a liaison between victims and department staff, the Kansas Prisoner Review Board and victim service providers. We are committed to providing crime victims the opportunity to express their ideas and opinions. We approach our work from a victim focused perspective.

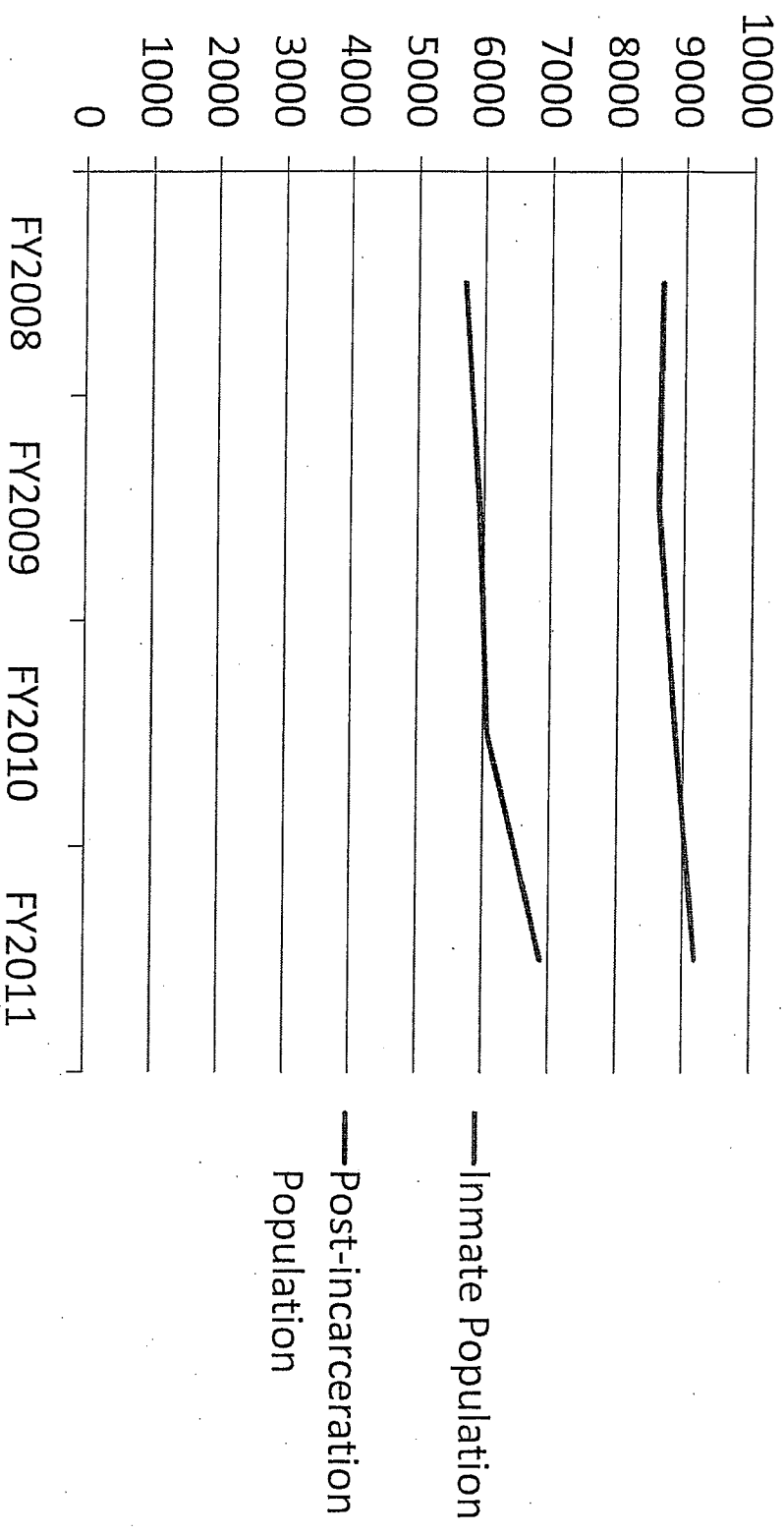
Who Do We Serve

- Victims/survivors of offenders supervised by the Kansas Department of Corrections.
 - Primary or Secondary
 - Crime of conviction or new crimes
 - Determinate or indeterminate
 - In prison or on community supervision
- All services are victim initiated.

Who Do We Serve

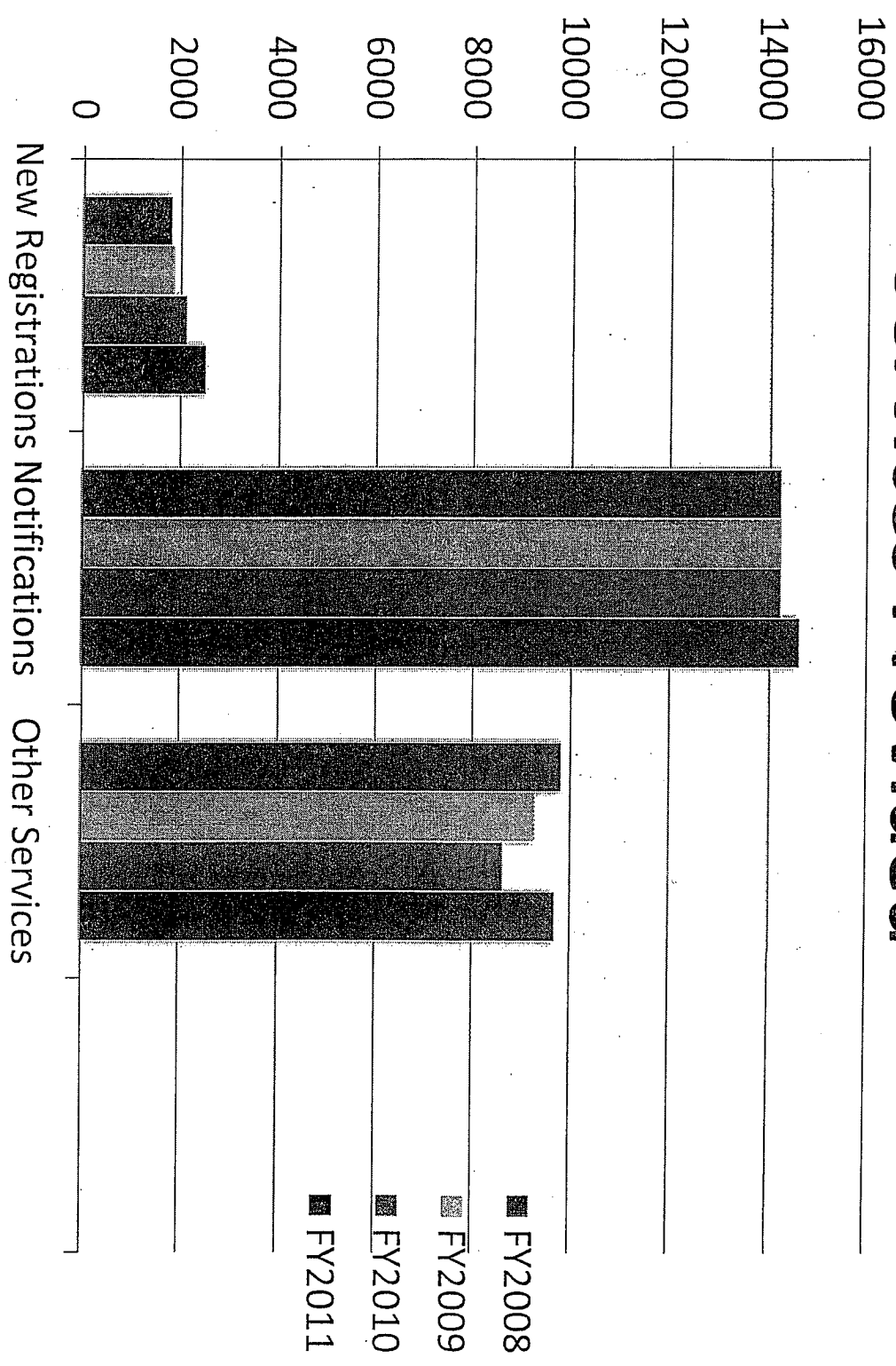


Offender Population



While the number of offenders supervised by KDOC increased 10.6% in a 4-year period, the number of victims served increased 16.6%.

Services Provided



Services Provided

Notification Services

- Public comment session
- Inmate releases
- Expiration of sentence
- Escape
- Assignment to work release
- Death
- Community service work assignment
- Clemency application
- Absconder status
- Early discharge
- Sexually Violent Predator process
- Interstate Compact
- Media contact
- SRS Mental Health

Continuum of Services Provided

Liaison Services

- Assistance Navigating the System
- Safety Planning
- Family Reintegration
- Tours
- Contact/No Contact
- Release Planning
- Stopping Unwanted Contact
- Consultant for facility and parole staff
- Referrals to Crime Victims Compensation, Community Advocacy Centers, Social Services, etc.

Restorative Justice

Guiding Principles

- Crime is an offense against human relationships
- Victims and the community are central to the justice processes.
- The first priority of justice processes is to assist victims.
- The second priority is to restore the community, to the degree possible.
- The offender has personal responsibility to victims and to the community for crimes committed.
- Stakeholders share responsibilities for restorative justice through partnerships for action.
- The offender will develop improved competency and understanding as a result of the restorative justice experience.

Services Provided

Restorative Justice

- Victim/Offender Dialogue
- Apology Repository
- Victim Impact Classes
- Public Comment Session Advocacy — includes grant-funded travel reimbursement program
- Release Planning

Feedback from Victim/Offender Dialogue

"I wasn't sure about this process at first, but you guys have changed my life. I am finally starting to heal after 13 years."

"This is exactly what I needed. Thank you for listening to me."

"I then told him that I forgive him and then I hugged him. I felt him trembling as I held him. I felt a huge weight lifted off of my heart -one that I had put there myself."

Other Services

- Newsletter
- Training
- Personalized web pages
<http://www.doc.ks.gov/victim-services>

Office of Victim Services

Staff Composition

12 FTE

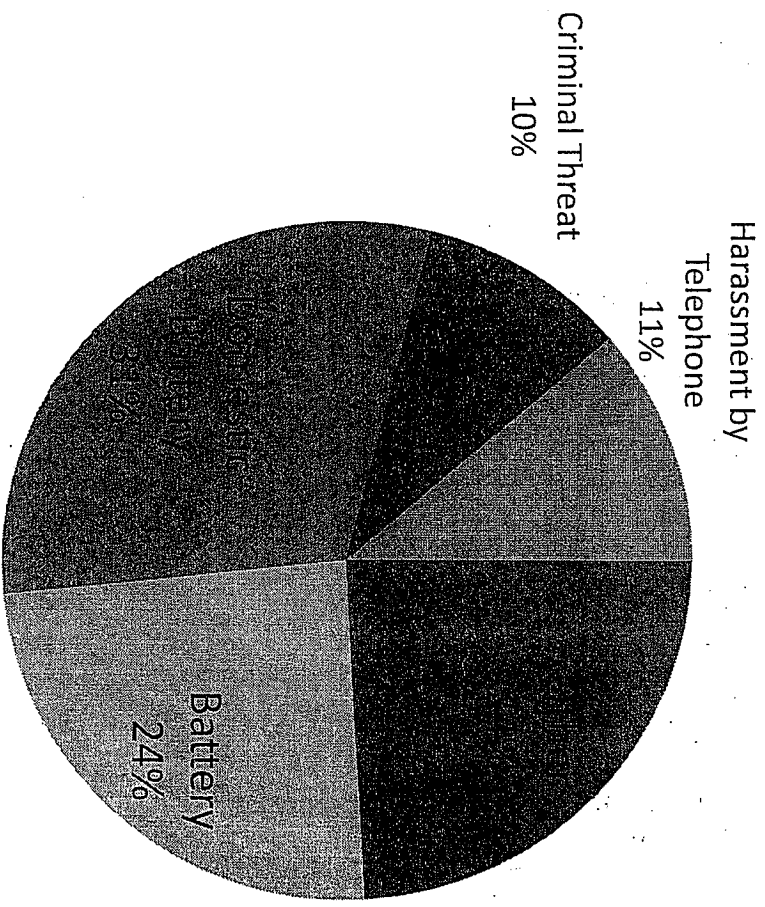
- 5 positions funded by State General Funds
 - 3 positions funded by Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
 - 2 positions funded by Inmate Benefit Funds (IBF)
 - 2 positions funded by Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant
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- 1 grant funded position: Community Corrections liaison/notification pilot program in 8th Judicial District
 - 1 grant funded position, ending June 30, 2012, coordinates the Restorative Justice Programs.

Ongoing Challenges

Domestic Violence

The Three Areas of Kansas with Highest Person Crime Rates as Reported by the KBI
January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010

1. Wichita 67214
2. Salina 67401
3. Wichita 67501



Percentages calculated using the 10 most commonly reported person crimes in each area.

Prevalence of Domestic Violence in the Offender Population

- True prevalence is unknown
- In FY 2008:
 - 22% of newly registering victims identified themselves as victims of domestic violence
 - 50% of victims who worked with Victim Service Liaisons were identified as victims of domestic violence
- 10-30% of offender files show a history of Domestic Violence
- Possibility of improved data with use of DV designation “tag”
KSA 22-4616 (Senate substitute for HB2517)

Managing Domestic Violence Offenders

- Grant to Encourage Arrest and Enforcement of Protection Orders (GTEAP)
 - Model policy developed
 - Wrap-around procedure/policy
 - Victim, Parole officer, Police Dept., Local shelter, Batterer's Intervention Program, Victims Services Division, Health care, Mental health, Anyone else the victim wants to be involved.
- Piloting specialized DV unit/exploring expansion
- Batterer's Intervention Programs
- Accountability Planning with Offenders

Ongoing Challenges/Projects

- Collection of Restitution
- Improving Victim Impact Statements in collaboration with Prisoner Review Board
- Batterer's Intervention Programming for Offenders
- Expansion of Victim Services into Community Corrections
- IT improvements
- Collaboration with local, state and national programs

10-19

“Why do we have a justice system? Not because of crime. We have a justice system because someone has been hurt by a crime. We need to take into account the harm that has been done to a victim and help that hurt. To be truly effective in our criminal justice effort, we have to include the fact that a crime has harmed someone.”

*Peter Michaud, Director of Victim Services,
New Hampshire Department of Corrections*