

“Secure Diversionary Treatment Program (SDTP) for Offenders with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)”



Virginia Department of Corrections

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Red Onion State Prison:

Segregation Reform December, 2011

At Va.'s Toughest Prison, Tight Controls

By Craig Timberg
Washington Post Staff Writer
Sunday, April 18, 1999; Page C1

WISE COUNTY, Va. — Slug a cellmate, grab a guard at a Virginia prison, and you'll end up here, locked down for 23 hours a day in the solitary confinement wing of Red Onion State Prison, where they have taken the "corrections" out of the Virginia Corrections Department.



A guard holding an AK-47 rifle mans one of the two towers outside the double security fence surrounding Wallens Ridge State Prison.
(Robert A. Reeder — The Washington Post)

April 18th, 1999- Washington Post

- ❖ In December 2011, the number of security level "S" offenders (maximum security, administrative segregation) housed at **Red Onion totaled at approx. 520.**
- ❖ As of **August 2018**, there are **73** security level S offenders at Red Onion State Prison.
- ❖ The number of **Informal Complaints** filed has **declined by 70% from CY2011 to CY2017**
- ❖ The number of **Formal Grievances** has **declined** by more than three-quarters **(76%)** from CY2011 to 2017
- ❖ The number of **Incident Reports** has **declined** by **(70%)** from CY2011 to 2017

DOJ- “Report Concerning the Use of Restrictive Housing”

January 26th, 2016



Highlights effective operations within 5 different states:

- **Colorado**
 - **Washington State**
 - **New Mexico**
 - **Massachusetts**
 - **Virginia (Red Onion State Prison)**
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- CY2016 – CY2018, VADOC Restrictive Housing End of Month Snapshots show **RH population has decreased by 44% during the time period examined (-668)**
 - CY2011– CY2018, VADOC Allocated Segregation Bed Type Snapshots shows a **32% reduction** during the time period examined **(-685)**

“An individual diagnosed with a serious mental illness will not be placed in Extended Restrictive Housing, unless the multidisciplinary service team determines there is an immediate and present danger to others or the safety of the institution.”

“There must be an active individualized treatment plan that includes weekly monitoring by mental health staff, treatment as necessary, and steps to facilitate the transition of the offender back into general population”

National Consultants recommendation:

- **10 hours for structured therapeutic interventions**

AND

- **10 hours of non-structured recreational opportunities**

PER WEEK



American Corrections Association: ACI 5th Edition

Serious Mental Illness:

MH- S2

- Psychotic Disorder
- Bipolar Disorders
- Major Depressive Disorder
- any diagnosed mental disorder (excluding substance use disorders)

currently associated with serious impairment in psychological, cognitive, or behavioral functioning that substantially interferes with the person's ability to meet the ordinary demands of living
and requires an individualized treatment plan by a qualified mental health professional(s).

Psychological - *as relating to the mental and emotional state of an individual*

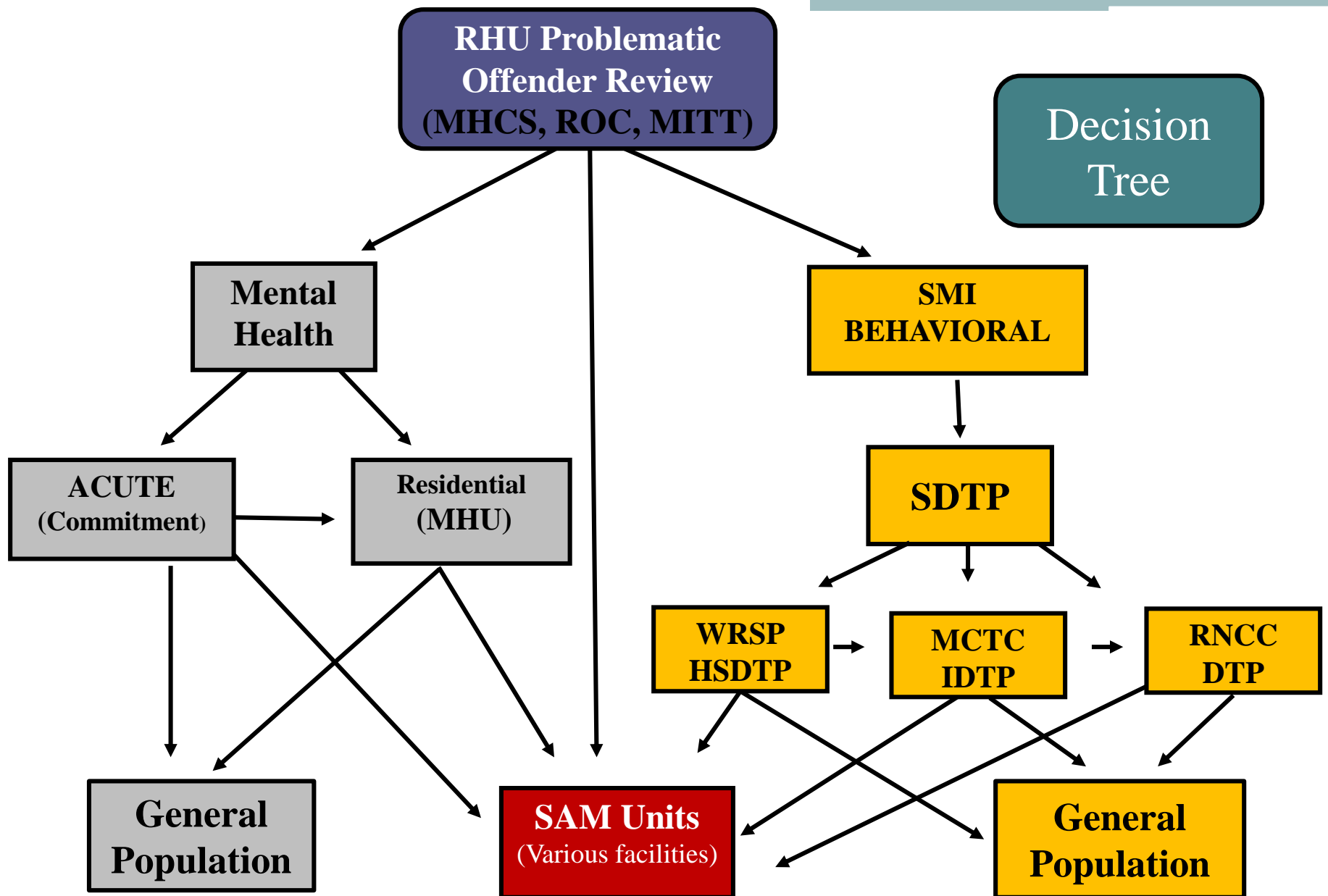
Cognitive - *as relating to cognitive or intellectual abilities*

Behavioral – *as relating to actions or reactions in response to external or internal stimuli that is observable and measurable*



Secure Diversionary Treatment Program (SDTP)





High Secure Diversionary Treatment Program: **HSDTP- Wallens Ridge State Prison**

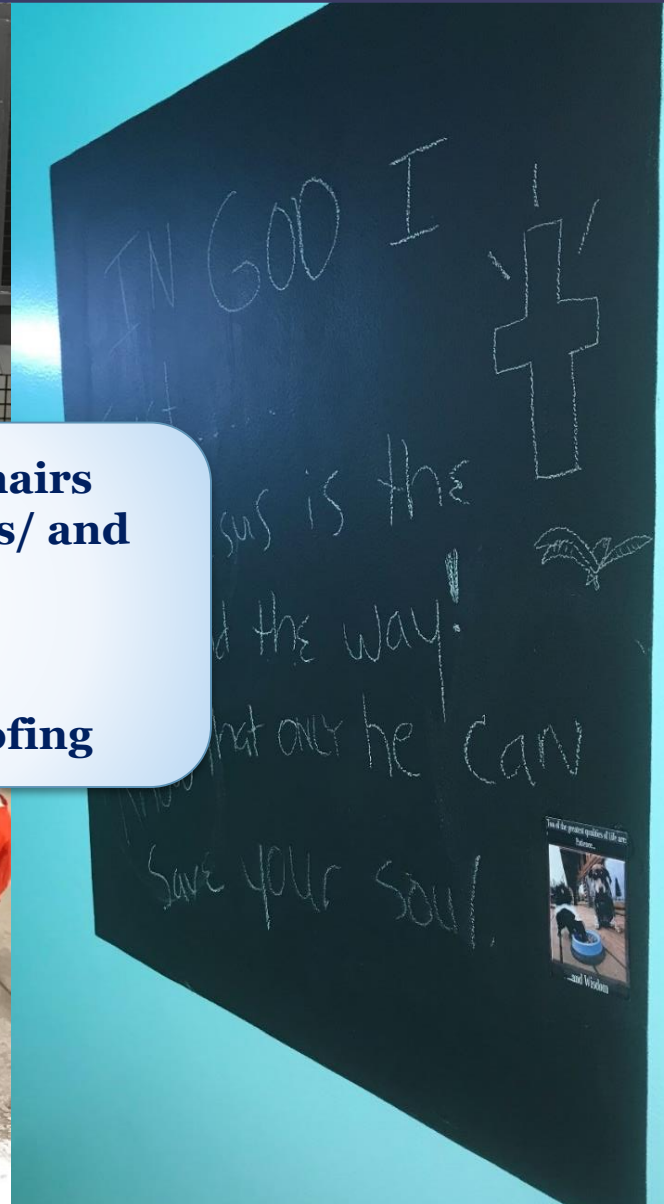
Allotted Beds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 22 Single Bed Unit
Offender Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May or may not have repeated admissions to MCTC from Red Onion and Wallens Ridge and/or any other facility, repeated involvement in critical incidents• Includes offenders who have demonstrated aggressive, predatory, or assaultive behavior• Offenders housed in HSDTP meet the definition of SMI and have a greater risk of engaging in substantial aggressive behaviors which require highly controlled security protocols.
Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 Hours Structured and Unstructured• Art Therapy, Creative Writing, Music Therapy, Goal Directed Game Play, Mindfulness Mediation, Self-Management, Distress Tolerance, Changing Course, Traumatic Stress and Resilience, Thinking for a Change, Matrix – Substance Abuse, Anger Management, PREPS, Resources for Successful Living, Ready to Work, BRAVE Journals, Challenge Series

High Secure Diversionary Treatment Program- HSDTP



6 Programming Chairs

- Chalk Desk Tops/ and Cell Wall
- Chalk Board
- Smart Board
- Pod Sound Proofing

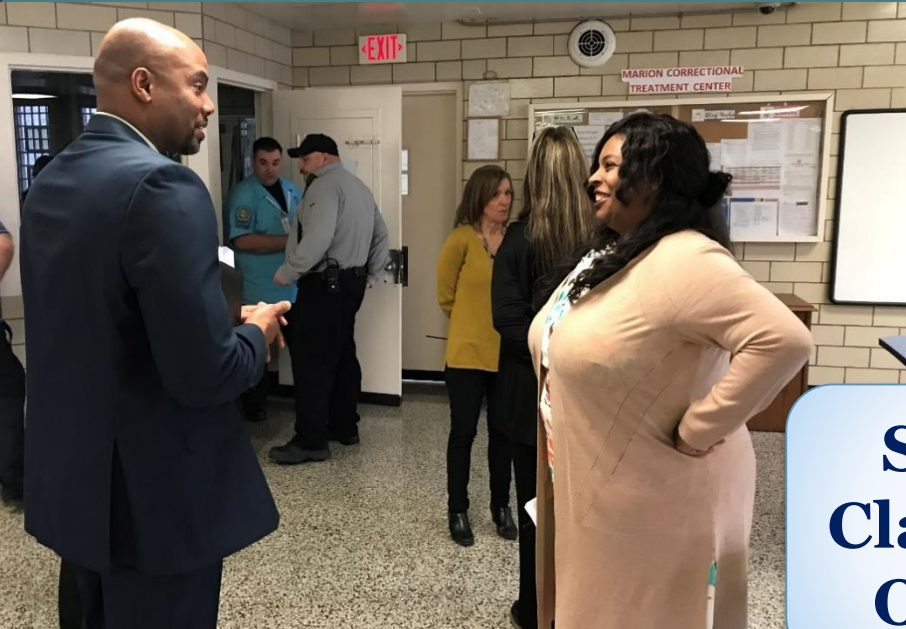


Intensive Secure Diversionary Treatment

Program: **IDTP- Marion Correctional Treatment Center**

Allotted Beds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17 Single Bed Unit
Offender Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repeated admissions to MCTC from Red Onion and Wallens Ridge and/or any other facility• Repeated involvement in critical incidents which warrants Administrative attention and consumes an inordinate amount of resources from Medical, Mental Health, and/or Security Operations.• Should not meet the criteria for involuntary commitment under Code of Virginia, Section 53.1-40
Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 Hours Structured and Unstructured• New Programming: DBT Programming by Cathy Moonshine / Marsha Linehan (Currently being applied in Colorado's ADX) and the Corrective Action Journals by The Change Company• Over 30 Programming Options

Intensive Diversionary Treatment Program- IDTP



**Several
Classroom
Options**



**Chalk wall
for activity/
expression**

SCORE Unit: Secure Communicative Orientation and Reintegration Environment

River North Correctional Center

S C O R E	Allotted Beds	• 20 Single Bed Unit
	Offender Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fewer admissions to MCTC, offenders that continue to act out; however the events are less serious in nature than IDTP.• Previously presented heavy involvement in critical incidents that now present a more stable adjustment and willingness to participate with programming and treatment plans.
	Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 Hours Structured and Unstructured• Newly Implemented: Life Skills Series Journals by The Change Companies and adjunctive mental health and cognitive groups



Enhanced security features to allow for safe programming opportunities



Conversion of Vacant Unit



SCORE POD- Secure Communicative Orientation and Reintegration Environment

EPIC Unit: Enhanced Prosocial Interactive Community

River North Correctional Center

EPIC

Allotted Beds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60 Single Bed Unit
Offender Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offenders that have acted out minimally• Exhibit stabilization and improvements• Successful participation in programming and treatment plans• Demonstrated ability for social integration and/or have shown progression in previous assignments.
Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 Hours Structured and Unstructured• Newly Implemented: Life Skills Series Journals by The Change Companies and adjunctive mental health and cognitive groups

EPIC Pod: Enhanced Prosocial Interaction Community



Each Phase of EPIC will experience lessening restrictions as set forth in the offenders' mental health treatment plans and will be identified and separated by tier



First opportunity for double cell assignments based upon stable progression



SDTP Success To-Date: January- July, 2018

Promising Practices!

Restrictive Housing Placement and Length of Stay (LOS)

- **Fewer offenders are spending time in a restrictive housing** bed after starting SDTP
- Offenders placed in an RH bed are **spending shorter amounts of time there:**
 - **30 days mark:** **41** of 72 offenders with average LOS of **16.7 days** vs. **19** offenders with average LOS of **0.5 days**
 - **60-day mark:** **46** of 72 offenders with average LOS of **25 days** vs. **25** offenders with average LOS of **1.8 days**
 - **90-day mark:** **51** of 72 offenders with average LOS of **28 days** vs. **27** offenders with average LOS of **5.4 days**

Locations	Total # of Offenders
MCTC	16
RNCC	38
WRSP	18
TOTAL	72

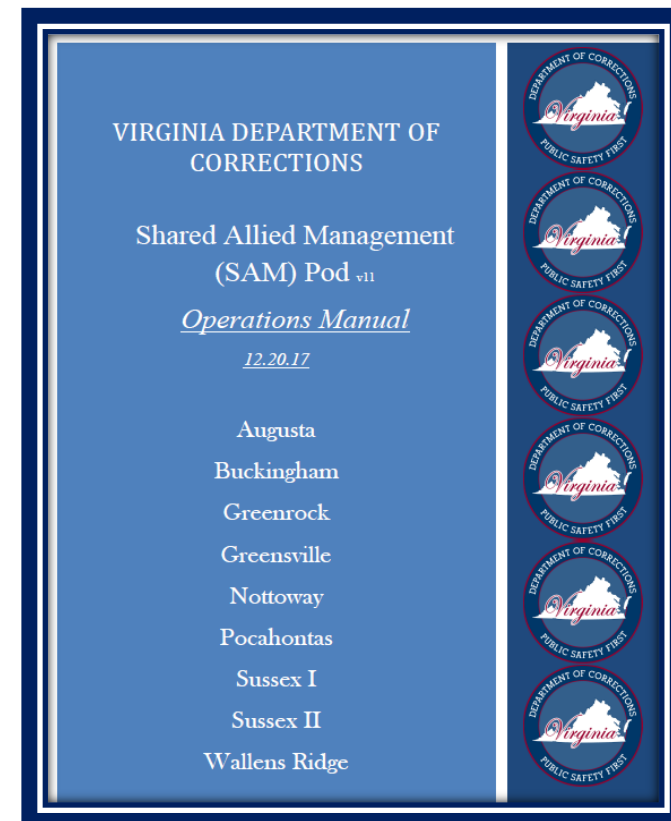
- **Fewer emergency medical transports** after offenders SDTP start date:
 - **30 days mark:** **11 vs. 7**
 - **60-day mark:** **14 vs. 7**
 - **90-day mark:** **19 vs. 9**

Medical Transportations

Shared Allied Management (SAM)Pods

Expansion of alternative **mission-driven general population units** : **692** allotted beds statewide

- **Mental health diagnosis** that result in management challenges in general population or offenders who **frequently cycle** in and out of **Special Housing** and/or licensed mental health units.
- **Medical condition** requiring frequent nursing attention, but not requiring admission to the infirmary.
- Offenders, bullying, or manipulation due to **vulnerable to predation** characteristics such as an intellectual challenge, age, or size.





SAM Expansion: Sussex I, Sussex II, Buckingham, Greenville, Augusta, Green Rock, Nottoway, Pocahontas, Wallens Ridge, and Red Onion State Prisons

- Cardio
- Therapeutic Horticulture
- Anger Management
- Distress Tolerance
- Motivational Enhancement Therapy
- Thinking for a Change
- Traumatic Stress and Resilience
- Emotional Regulation Skills

91% Programming Participation

692 Allocated SAM Beds Statewide

