
**Survey Comment
Report**



**Big Muddy River 2023
MQPL Survey
Comments**

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Introduction

Big Muddy River Correctional Center (Big Muddy) is a medium-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) that housed 1,175 people on January 3, 2023. Big Muddy housed approximately 144 people who are civilly committed as [Sexually Dangerous Persons](#) (SDPs) and offers a voluntary sex offender treatment program (VSOTP), which had 44 participants as of October 2023, when JHA visited Big Muddy. Approximately 50% of the Big Muddy population were serving sentences for sex offenses, compared to 17% of the total IDOC population. The John Howard Association of Illinois (JHA) conducted a modified short [Measuring the Quality of Prison Life](#) (MQPL) survey by providing enough survey packets (consisting of the [MQPL survey](#), an informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and a privileged mail prepaid business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person incarcerated at Big Muddy had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. JHA received 493 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Big Muddy through July 19, 2023, representing approximately 42% of the static population.

Below are the comments from the MQPL surveys for the open-ended survey questions followed by marginalia comments. Please note:

- All blank answers have been omitted
- Names and other personally identifying details have been redacted
- Spelling and grammar have been lightly edited for understanding and to account for possible transcriber typos

OPEN-ENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q12. What are the most positive things about life in this prison?

1. There is nothing positive about life in this or another prison
2. Nothing.
3. We get to go to commissary once a week, although they are usually out of most items. So, it takes several weeks to get the items we want. Like coffee, chips, candy bars, rice.

4. There is plenty of grass area to walk on when we actually do get to go to the yard. Which is ONLY 7 to 9 times a month.
5. Commissary sad but true
6. go to work that what I need & still waiting to go to school & church, the yard & gym to walk.
7. There is nothing positive about Big Muddy River from the warden to the officers they treat incarcerated people like trash or less than human cause they can and they get away with it
8. Visits, jobs when you can get one, and school when it is available
9. The Business Office, Mail Room, Personal Property and Commissary (Despite Covid/Supply chain issues) are positives. The facility also issues bar soap and shampoo weekly as well as toothpaste & shower shoes bi-annually. Many guys complain about these things or take them for granted, but I have more experiences than anyone here and a unbiased point of view for comparison.
10. The sign out in front says "Correctional", and I believe it.
11. My transgender care and treatment by healthcare and nursing staff
12. Warden [REDACTED]. Vocational School & academic remedial teachers care. LTS. Changes have been made but more needs to happen.
13. The food supervisors are great!!!
14. Some of the support staff that run programs will help out if when they can. Not a lot of positive things unless one of there favorites. A lot of favoritism here at B.M.R.C.C for certain staff
15. None—food, shelter, clothing—and that's all
16. Eating three times a day
17. I'm able to contact family & friends, I'm able to take showers, & when we're not locked down for nothing I can exercise
18. I have been here for 20 years now the most positive thing was back when we was able to go to school a chance to go to collage or work off the wing as a SDP we are not allowed to go to school or work off the wing currently the negative out dose the positive
19. Drug program
20. One of the counseling staff has really helped me
21. We started getting vegetables from the prison garden this year.
22. Substance abuse Program & They about to loss that tho
23. The most positive is what I am doing for myself through reading. A correctional prison should actually seek to remedy problems. People are here just for a paycheck—it's human nature.
24. That my family can video visit me off of their phones.
25. There are none
26. We are not locked down 24/7. Officers leave you alone if you don't mess w/ them.
27. The opportunity to speak to other individuals in custody about things, do to staff and facility not opening groups and school to help better ourselves before release.
28. It's only one thing and that this prison is not a violent prison.

29. I got 4 yr 85%. I can't work or get credit to get out! 85% is bias and bad for me! I can't get a job contract it desparted bad...
30. I have found none yet. I've been promised good things, like good time, drug and alcohol tx, schooling, but have received only excuses of why I'm not getting them. This place need's to be closed down.
31. Staff aren't too strict they're respectful, it's clean
32. NON - AM - civilly committed
33. There could be no positives, if those with shorter time have better opportunities, then those with more time. Because I have a lot of time, I have to wait 2 years to get in school or in a program.
34. You get to take time to reflect on your pass and to make better decision when your release
35. The guards are to lazy
36. There really is not anything positive about anything in this prison. Life here is not positive. The C/Os don't care about inmates, the healthcare is messed up. There is a lot of homophobia here and there are gangbangs everywhere in this prison!
37. Guards are nice for the most part & fair. Everyone says hi on the walk staff & us.
38. Nothing.
39. Nothing, because people are being taken away from their loved ones. (At least the truly innocent people).
40. NOTHING AT ALL
41. I have a good group of friends. Ift is clean and pest free in the cells. I feel safe from harm from others in custody.
42. No gang violence! No stabbings!
43. That you have a get outdate.
44. Nothing positive at BMR C.C.
45. I have changed my thinking so I don't come back.
46. Phone calls. That's it.
47. It makes you not want to come back. Other than that (nothing).
48. Nothing
49. Talking to your love ones on the phone or visit. Getting some fresh air on yard and going to commissary.
50. The food
51. None you can read
52. I am new and do not know.
53. You have a few counselors that will help you if possible.
54. Nothing
55. The N.P. treats you like a person, not a piece of dirt. If you don't treat the C/Os like crap, in general they don't treat you like crap. If you ask a good actual question, most of the time you get an answer to it.
56. Ability to go to school
57. I give those in placement-cell assignment office a lot of credit. It is obvious they put some actual effort into assigning men together who are likely to get along; they often put men as cellmates upon request; and they seem to respond to requests to move

- out of a cell if needed. Guitar lessons, art class, and various treatments are all positives.
58. No respect from guards
 59. The programs it offers you.
 60. Not many acts of violence or major nonmedical lockdowns.
 61. 1. Free personal hygiene item given each week, 2. They are good at cellmate change when needed
 62. They offer more programs than other prison Ive been in but I have 20 something years left so my chances of getting in are at least 10 to 15 years down the path this includes education and vocational
 63. The water in the shower is hot.
 64. Don't know
 65. None
 66. To be honest I no positive thing to say about this place other then, one staff member down here helped me become a minimum through some classes. And his name is **[REDACTED]**. That's the only positive thing I got out of this prison.
 67. I can worship God + do Bible Studys
 68. The wing I am on is single man showers only.
 69. I'm not using drugs anymore.
 70. You can count on being in your cell and not go outside and not getting the supplies needed to clean your cell and being ignored and not helped.
 71. There's not much conflict in this prison & folks seem to get along pretty well. Very little illegal drug/alcohol activity I know of. Officers do seem to care, but I think they are understaffed & unable always to respond adequately.
 72. Nothing
 73. The programs, school and jobs.
 74. You can learn to look at your time and learn to follow rules so you dont come back.
 75. Time to study, time to heal spiritually
 76. Nothing they do not support the idea of rehabilitation
 77. The few people that truely want to change.
 78. Trying to become a better person
 79. Have time to focus and work on me away from the
 80. None. Everything here is run on a bare minimum.
 81. The surprise gifts, Need an easter and halloween gift, more candy, junk food, Orange & black taffy candy corn, some staff r nice, remodeling of shelving system
 82. This place is full of child molesters and they are to scared to stab inmates like we did in Menard
 83. I have a work assignment so I am able to do something useful and productive in that regard.
 84. They are going to commissary once a week, they do have frequent yard when not on quarantine. Not all the staff are assholes. The food is edible in the chow hall.
 85. NOTHING
 86. Being held no medical proof of rape She was still virgin, I've suffered E.D. since 82: I see nothing

87. Still being alive
88. The chance to reflect for decades upon what I did to be civilly committed as a sexually dangerous person and receive life of treatment for it. Church services
89. It is not as violent
90. The sun still shines time keeps on ticking even in prison.
91. My outdate gets closer regardless is only thing I can think of
92. This place made me dont ever want to get in trouble ever again!!
93. There is not a lot of violence in this prison. A lot of individuals in custody try to make do, to get along, because the staff do not care about us, C/Os, mental health, drug, alcohol, & sex offender treatment counselors, healthcare, and dietary supervisors treat us terribly, very inhumane.
94. It affords an individual the opportunity to take an honest, introspective inventory of the characteristics of their personality and assess what changes need to occur to ensure a future that is better than their past, of course that is, if the individual makes the conscious decision to do so, in spite of his environment which does not operate in a manner in which is conducive to this course of action.
95. In my personal experience—nothing here is in the least bit positive
96. Able to build friendship with other inmates.
97. You can go to school, work, and leisure activities. The commissary isnt to bad, and just overall you feel safe most times. Lately they have brought others in the joint that are dangerous people and it feels unsafe.
98. I can go to the yard. I can go to the library. I can have a dayroom time.
99. The most positive thing I can say ... well they are not discriminatory about the offense of the individual when it comes to jobs.
100. Nothing really
101. Better than Menard. A lot more movement, better food, more opportunities for phone calls, more commissary shops. Better facility.
102. When you work a job you're out of your cell.
103. Nothing
104. There isn't anything I can think of which would be positive about this prison.
105. Nothing they need to improve everything in this prison.
106. Nothing
107. There is some order
108. Nothing besides me being in cell living with 1 person!
109. is to open my eyes and dont do the same mistake again and having the support of my family.
110. Nothing in this prison
111. release
112. The most positive thing about this prison is that it is by a highway and you can see life moving or hear it. This prison is the worst one Ive ever been in.
113. They ain't ANY
114. None
115. getting out
116. You won't get stabbed & the library

117. You don't need to constantly look over your shoulder for safety concerns, (like at Menard). Cleaner condition, a little better maintained.
118. There are none unless your a sex offender, or sentenced to life or 85%.
119. I don't have to worry about someone shooting me.
120. That I have a outdate. There only one person that trys to help and is far and thats **[NAME REDACTED]** asst. Warden of program.
121. Very little fear of assault.
122. Staying active, MSR Date, Haircuts and hygiene, and getting along with other adopting
123. nothing
124. Some of the friends you make
125. Nothing at all prison just a waste of time for a person that want to change and do better.
126. Outdate
127. If you are not a trouble maker, you are treated good. We always have a way to talk to our family.
128. Hard question—showers are always a good temperature, the heaters work
129. Stay focus on positive things that are productive and beneficial
130. Less threats of violence by staff and inmates
131. Never come back
132. This place isn't violent, most inmates get along
133. I have an outdate and this treatment and way of life is not forever.
134. Good book selection in the library
135. One day I get to go home soon
136. Dietary food is enough to get full hot and tasteful
137. Individual in custody (all) are allowed to practice religious freedom
138. You are able to recieve good time if you work for it.
139. Close to home get too visit my family. The sex offenders volunteer program.
140. That I will go home with a 2nd chance
141. It allows sex offender to get jobs here, a lot of other prisons won't.
142. Their is always opportunity to grow when they teach or instruct the class or when we are not on covid lockdown
143. One thing I think that is positive is that they started a college course to work towards a bachelor's degree.
144. None
145. Nothing
146. Job training
147. It's designed to be a community—like the free world it's designed to mimic it.
148. I have not expienced any positives in this prison
149. Absolutely nothing! This is a racially profiled and biased system!
150. Food quality and amount are adequate yard equipment is good quality
151. I'm learning from past mistakes
152. I can't think of any

153. The most positive thing about life in this prison is knowing that I'm not the only one going through hard times. Even the C/Os have there bad days we all are human.
154. Not anything.
155. Truly there are none! Seriously! I do not ever have art class!
156. My victims are receiving the justice they deserve, I have contact with my sister and daughter by phone, I have good support people here, I make enough—when working—to provide my needs
157. You can figure out where you are, and what you want out of life.
158. Some C/Os do try to help you, It also give you time to think of the future
159. Nothing
160. Nothing
161. There is nothing positive about this place
162. I truly see none, at this prison (big muddy river)
163. I have a good celly
164. 3 meals a day, need of school assignment, I have a roof over my head.
165. Nothing
166. Nothing, only thing is that it's not violent.
167. Nothing!!
168. They offer many classes but don't hold them open
169. That I'm in school nothing else
170. Being sober in your Right State of mind. The opportunity to reflect on self and make changes for the better. If your are seek change whole heartedly.
171. None.
172. honestly cant think of anything we get the least of everything
173. They have cable
174. N/A
175. Hope they start Transferring people out soon.
176. making/meeting people in here that i can call Friends
177. The only positive thing is the few positive people that show kindness to me and don't treat me like an animal
178. f time
179. The most positive Things are you Learn from your Mistakes. And They have great programs.
180. work, visits, time out of cell, commissary laughing and banter with others
181. you get plenty of sleep because youre in your cell most of the time
182. Commissary (But it could be way better). my job.
183. Nothing seems positive when you wrote a request Dont get a answer trying to get a job in dietary Im Being told its Full But Then I see Inmates on my unit get Hired and They Ignore my request for a job
184. Nothing That i know of Nor Saw, So Far
185. It's so messed up Here, And It Should stop People From Coming back
186. I'm Still In Receiving, So I Haven't Had A Chance To See What This Prison Has To Offer. That Why So Few Boxes Are Checked
187. The prison is laid back & not as violent as other prisons I have been in.

188. That it give you time to think about what changes you want to make in your life.
189. Nothing
190. That theres no drugs or gangs
191. The Substance Abuse Program
192. Using the phone and visits with family
193. Nothing
194. There isn't any good or? If you score high in TABE Test you can take schooling.
195. I can worship God. I can get bible studies in the mail
196. None
197. Some of the people, I've met, at one time I had a great psychiatrist
198. Sex
199. I can't think of anything positive about life in this prison
200. Hope—keeping the faith with god
201. Some of the staff are good people. Positive there is not really anything positive here. But your outdate and some with parole rules and some 3 to life might never go home. Prison is not a positive place. Live it you'll see. If you have never lived it you'll never know
202. The organized sports throughout the year
203. Hope, once you lose hope & faith nothing is positive anymore
204. Things can run pretty smoothly if you dont create problems for yourself on most decks.
205. Theres nothing really positive here.
206. I have a good cellie, other than that, Nothing. life here is Hard.
207. Have good chapel services, chaplain + volunteers. Had a good music program. Good leisure times activity director weekends aren't tied by administration.
208. Nothing really from a recieving perspective
209. Not very much positive things to say when incarcerated!
210. In this prison you can't work or go to school to make a better life or be a better person
211. The Christian Service. Where we can be **[ILLEGIBLE]** brothers and to have other person from outside come in and share with us.
212. None
213. Due to the officers being lazy/not doing their jobs, they generally leave you alone to not make frustrating situation worse. There is no urgency to help anyone unless it is a situation where the facility is expected to a lawsuit.
214. We try knowing that youre getting out one day
215. Big Muddy C.C. sucks. It is ran by nobody.
216. Layed back, food is
217. The things I suffered and endured make me never want to relive this again and move out of Illinois never to return. Field Services is good with helping them close to their MSR
218. There are none
219. To change your life for the better
220. Voc school and sex offender programs

221. Close to home for me. Easy for visits from family. Sex offender program. Not as violent # of inmates.
222. You will have to learn paciontions
223. If you follow the rules and are compliant, then everything works like a well oiled machine
224. Nothing
225. I thank God I wake up everyday
226. Food is ok
227. The weights. Nothing else. The school waitlist or program waitlist is 15 years long.
228. Sex offender therapy program. Dietary
229. it appear to be clean, haven't been at this facility that long. Food they serve it okay, they give laundry detergent weekly, med staff (nurses) seem to be nice here at BMRCC, but very incompetent (and deraliction) at IRCC and WICC!
230. Lack of responsibilities and time allows one to think more about who and what I want to be and improve about everything
231. No gangs, rare fights
232. Nothing
233. Getting out eventually
234. I get to work when they let me
235. There are none but vocational school
236. Nothing
237. Most of the staff I think truly care about inmates here as long as you respect them
238. It has opened my eyes to why I don't never want to come back. An the educational program is good.
239. Having job and having a tablet to listen to
240. The incentives and programs
241. Sadly nothing! Good staff don't last long
242. School + programs
243. The opportunities to work and get schooling contracts for good time
244. Dayroom
245. One day I'll get out
246. The most positive things in this prison are you learn patience, fairness, more motivated to explore more opportunities with in the facility, you learn how to communicate more in a positive way, and you learn that gang life is not a priority in this prison because everybody's together.
247. Keeping in touch with family and the outside world.
248. I've been here now for 4 yr and in my opinion this joint sucks. There too many chifs and not enough Ind. C/O.
249. Nothing positive one has to look within himself for some positivity
250. Nothing
251. Still breathing and waking up facing another day. Looking at the changes I continue to make in my life
252. Chapel services. Yard/gym (when we get it)
253. Sex offenders have more opportunities to work, we have sex offender program.

254. Nothing
255. Church services, any time I can get out of my cell to socialize, exercise, or walk around and get a shower or make a phone call
256. 1) one day you may get to go home 2) everyone is not all bad 3) if you have the money or help you could buy books to help reform your life
257. Availability of programs, better food than some joints, having a band
258. I've seriously tried to find positive things but none I can think of other than the inmates are halfway decent
259. The windows—it's comfortable here, foods not good but not bad, "Phones not to bad to get." when staff do do there jobs.
260. I safe. in my cell
261. Time goes by fast, things are not all that positive in Big Muddy River C.C. some officers are hateful or just mean. Nasty,
262. There is grass on the yard and adequate weights, the visiting room has a warm decor
263. That they do have programs to help you better yourself
264. VSOPT-sex offender program is very helpful in making real decision on how to truly act as a person and to make inform decision on not committing sexual acts in the future if the person uses the tools given to them
265. You probably won't get stabbed or raped. If you are the intellectual type who seeks self-improvement, you can pursue your interests to an extent (if you have help from the outside)
266. None! The prisoners run this prison
267. Church services, yard, gym
268. Honestly nothing
269. Commissary, gym, yard
270. None
271. It teach you not to come back
272. Not a thing is positive about this prison...
273. I know you didn't want any names but PLEASE contact me DIRECTLY!! **[NAME REDACTED]** I could really be of service if you allow me!! Illinois is very corrupt.
274. nothed
275. NONE
276. TV
277. While the staff doesn't particularly seem to care about our wellbeing or safety, I do feel relatively safe. That is staff wouldn't care if something did happen, but I highly doubt I'll be stabbed anytime soon. That is quite literally the only positive thing about this place.
278. nothing good or bad happens in this prison
279. layed back
280. nothing at all
281. They have programs like VSOP and drug treatment and school but right now were on a lockdown /quarantine for don't know how long
282. nothing that I can see
283. I get to chant Nam-Myoho-Renge-Kyo as much as I want

284. work
285. nothing
286. nothing
287. Here. None!
288. Nothing really just do your time and try to transfer
289. There is nothing positive about this prison
290. I cant think of anything except that it keeps some of the worst people from hurting others outside of these fences!
291. They finally learned about the truth that I should have never been here on a false police report made to cover the tracks of the guilty person who needed the treatment I've not needed and therefore I have refused for this righteous reason my whole unjustified stay here since **[DATE REDACTED]** yet the Ast. attorney general, instead of "discharge exonerated" has me fighting for "no at all conditions of my release"
292. Nothing
293. none
294. we get fed, phone calls, visits-video
295. the incarcerated people show even when being treated constantly by the cell/institution of slavery some show humane. People try to help each other as best they can. They provide more mental health than even the staff for it.
296. chapel services when they have it
297. good time only
298. I get to work. I'm not denied work because of my case
299. free school and yard and gym
300. I have a close outdate **[DATE REDACTED]**
301. NOTHING! Cannot go to school or work outside of my housing unit.
302. **[30+]** years in IDOC, I'm just breathing these days.
303. Aim Higher most staff are respectful gym yard schooling
304. Nothing other than the support the other inmates show and very few staff.
305. Im not dead yet
306. There's no real violence or physical harm done to, or by, inmates. Some officers treat us fairly and humanely.
307. I am safe in my cell
308. We can get jobs, good time and for 100% and 85% in our files to be put on to take off our time when the laws are changed. We have a lot of chapel services and a lot of good porters
309. I get to work out and using the phone
310. que teniendo un trabajo o yendo a la escuela el tiempo pasa mas rapido. mucho menos stress **[TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH: that having a job or going to school time passes faster. much less stress]**
311. Getting out
312. The absolute most positive thing about this particular prison is there is not much violence.
313. NONE!
314. There is nothing positive about being in prison.

315. Only positive thing about prison is being able to have your own TV and Tablet
316. Lots of time in my cell Im an introvert
317. I apologize positive, an prison, "do not" belong in same sentence.
318. I get to call home at least once a day
319. I do work help maintain the institution utilizing my skills through maintenance when we are not on lock down.
320. Meeting new positive people
321. I have been able to join a vocational program fairly easy.
322. Life in Big Muddy C.C. most positive thing is (very few officers) officers help LGBTQ+ community, but we still get some help.
323. Been here for **[10+]** yrs and have yet to find or see anything positive about this place.
324. NOTHING!
325. There is not anything in my opinion that may come close to positive about the living condition and social environmental status about this place!
326. I have a good job where I receive good time, and I'm usually left alone to pursue my own academic and progressive pursuits.
327. You get a lot of time to think and plan out what your going to do when released.
328. That im in my cell so much I do not have too much contact with the beligerent, and disrespectful correctional officers.
329. The most positive thing about this prison by far is the variety of weights they have, It could be better but the weight selection exceeds some other prisons such as Robison CC, Lawrence CC, Pinckneyville CC and most other mediums and some minimums and maximums.
330. There is never a positive moment about life inside this facility.
331. There is no life in prison. Your just here.
332. I've gained a good support system from some of the others in custody Big Muddy River CC
333. Nothing
334. Teaching yourself a new way of thinking. Changing the way you speak, I've been gone 25 plus years, I can see the direction prison system is heading. Im impress! Last but not least, earning good conduct credit!
335. My take on this question is that it could always be worse, which its headed in that direction, unfortunately...
336. Going to group therapy even does help me a little, but they do not have group maybe once or twice a month.
337. There are a lot of programs
338. Is when you go home and away from this prison far away.
339. Respect
340. I get the medication that I need
341. Being close to my family
342. The yard and gym, seems the guards like to hang out with the other guards at the desk instead of walking around

343. I can talk about my issues in group therapy. I can help others in with therapy from my exper. I can tell my therapist how much she has helped me and I feel empathy for them at times. I can also tell some of them how I really feel about her.
344. The ability to meet with others in spiritual fellowship. Work assignments, school recreation time (yard & gym) helps. But nothing changes the outlook on life in a man's heart and mind than having a strong relationship with God.
345. Time to reflect and pray
346. Understanding why you are here
347. Nothing! Vocational has had 2 programs. Currently 3. No programming! No VSOTP! **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** (VSTOP) keeps indiv. with 5-10 years in program. I can't get in.
348. None in here. Unless you are black.
349. Im not drinking or using drugs anymore
350. gym/yard
351. The good time programs
352. absolutely nothing
353. As a whole—better than I expected
354. you are still alive good health
355. nothing
356. I'm able to stay alive
357. That I have a release date. They don't constantly shake me down.
358. Nothing, they don't have nothing at all
359. None
360. Knowing that I won't be here for all my life. If I was, I'd kill myself
361. You learn a lot about everything
362. 1) The opportunity to improve one's self through, (education, therapy programs, religious services,) (when their available)
363. The library and exercise yard and gym
364. The overall quality of the food being served in the dietary, as well as that of the water we are being provided, through the plumbing system, for drinking and bathing far surpasses that of other prisons that I have been incarcerated in.
365. Being able to call home
366. Sadly, their isn't anything positive you cant even get anything
367. academic opportunities library privileges the windows open up an abundance of spare time minimal amounts of air pollutants
368. This is my first time being in any prison. I was incarcerated at age **[50+]** after working my entire life. The only thing positive I have learned from this experience is that I never want to be in this situation again.
369. Nothing positive about prison life
370. Time to focus on myself and learn how to improve myself even during times of tribulations.
371. That one day I will go home
372. You can get a haircut
373. I have an outdate.

374. Nothing
375. The substance abuse program. Most inmates want to change and follow rule, the counselors are great. **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** the construction teacher is great. **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** with programs is a huge help.
376. health and god
377. None
378. None its better then menard
379. I currently have an assignment/job
380. Commissary food is good quality hygiene laundry twice a week
381. The most positive things here are the fact that this has made many changes in a positive direction but it is still so far from rehabilitation for returning citizens.
382. The programs that we take where we can discuss our problems. The counselor gives good advice and helped me look at things different.
383. Alot of programs offered. Dietary actually decent "more adequate." When allowed yard there's a view of things in general, like the nature, various creatures. We are fed, clothed, and can exercise. Where staff do their jobs, the atmosphere feels better in general.
384. When let out being able to use the phones are achievable.
385. there is nothing positive about this facility period. The employee's staff and personnel. Violate multiple rules and regulations and gets away with it all the time. Prime example chewing tobacco, stealing inmates property racial conduct towards color individuals in custody. An more!
386. I have the ability of devoting lots of my time in my studies. trying to better myself for my release. All my school work is correspondence work through outside affiliates.
387. There is nothing positive here
388. None lockdown all day no access to programs poor mental health services rude staff bogus tickets in fear all the time from start to take our few privileges.
389. For me having a job is important it gets me out of the cell more than I normally would and gives me some sort of meaning for my day.
390. School activities ie art, yard, gym
391. 1. going to school. 2. working a job.
392. No cost to live here. My time is my time. Don't have to worry about being evicted
393. None
394. Its a nice clean positive atmosphere and there is enough security to feel safe in population and on our units.
395. A individual taken the time to change theyselves
396. My 2 phone calls a day to Family, Religious services
397. Inmates can work – go to school and get good time only if they are Eligible
398. Nothing

Q13. What are the most negative things about life in this prison?

1. The attitude of certain C/Os towards inmates.
2. Everything.
3. They make it very hard to leave here. My situation for example, I can't get the regular good time and recidivism is to low for me to earn good time. Most inmates I talk to are forced to do all of their/our time with no guidance or programs.
4. C/Os do NOT sign their log books like they are suppose to. When they do go sign them they back-log them to catch up the 2 plus hours since the last time. Plus, when they let dayrooms out there are never any C/Os on the dayroom. Gang banging & bullying then happens.
5. You are stuck locked down way to much so many people here overweight high blood pressure diabetes due to no exercise poor commissary
6. Community with staff that I need to use the TTY to call my sister & could not get through on landline.
7. the officers and staff here
8. Access to the sex offender program is almost non existant it is taken up by prisoners that have a lot of time left and have been in it for years. The food it is prepared better for the C/Os and bearily at all for prisoners
9. The Healthcare Unit, Education Department and the Grievance System from A-Z. I have had bad healthcare treatment everywhere, however, here at Big Muddy it is by far the chaotic, incompetent, disorganized and neglectful HCU that I have experienced. The educational staff and opportunities here are inadequate and biased. The grievance system is a complete joke and only available because it's required.
10. None, you have to remember ware you are and why you got here. Oh yes, the mattress could stand improvement
11. too many to list
12. Staff attitude. Not enough programs. No academic undergrad college @ Associate level. If not a problem no access to anger management & other classes, especially if not considered High Risk.
13. Isolation from family. Hostile environment. Being confined. Not being in control of my actions. Being compelled to follow rules that often make no sense or reason. Isolation from everyone in the world. Boredom to the extreme.
14. The wardens lie about EVERYTHING!!! Spin-masters
15. How staff here at B.M.R.C.C. treat people, staff counselors don't want to do there job they only want to sit around do nothing if they don't have to, the medical treatment is horrible, they let your meds run out they don't order your meds, the administrator never puts there foot down
16. Not given proper treatment no psychology or psychiatry available to give proper evaluations on a weekly or monthly basis
17. Don't do their job most of the time (wardens)

18. How aggressive some of the staff talk to us. How often they change rules around here for reasons we're never told. I can't get in any programs or get a job & I've been here for a year. They don't have a G.E.D teacher & I cant do any voc classes without my G.E.D I cant get in school either so I'm just here doing time when I could be somewhere else earning good time
19. Is never knowing when or if you can ever go home again doing a life bite for a crime without a conviction: been under IDOC where nothing ever gets done. When we should be under IHS, where we can get the help you need not the head games of IDOC!
20. The most negative thing is when you ask the staff to do the smallest things they don't even try to help and the LT never come when you ask for them
21. Not having enough staff to do school, drug program, COVID lockdowns. Wardens are a spin artist
22. Being locked in a cell approximately 20 hours per day. Having an inadequate library and law library. Having healthcare constantly run out of my pain medication—and delay 6 mos getting me a wheelchair. (so far...)
23. Broke a tooth, **[MONTH REDACTED]** 2021. Dentist looked at it 1 week later, nothing since.
24. 30 mins out a day see more gym then yards
25. Dehumanization: the only way to treat people in this manner is to first look at them as less than human. Most house pets are treated better than prisoners.
26. The food and the mixture of men who think they are females forced into the cell with a straight guy.
27. I have been denied basic medical and dental care due to staff indifference. I have 10 teeth which need extraction. Grievances are ineffective.
28. The commissary, cant even buy coffee. Hardly any yard. Hardly any dayroom time
29. Can't join school if you want to. Difficult joining any educational classes. No programming to better yourself. Warden lies to inmates.
30. No schooling, groups or opportunities to help me come home a positive person.
31. It's so many but ima keep it simple. I've been in prison for a year and a half and so far people that got life, 85% cases, sex cases are getting more jobs, schooling, programs. Us 50 percenters or short timers don't get nothing. It's wrong what they do down here.
32. I need more tech skills, more options, need retrained...
33. Generally all aspects of life in here are not up to par with the other 6 prisons I've been in—whatever these people tell you is a lie
34. We don't get much time out and too many sex offenders and not a lot on commissary
35. Everything no education locked in cell treated like prisoner when I don't have a conviction
36. See above. Also they refuse to help inmates resolve their issues, with the IRS, in order to get their stimulus money. Letters not working and they refuse to call the IRS, even though they have authority too.
37. You around men all day and your away from your family and kids
38. Some of the porters run things and bully people
39. The C/Os, healthcare is messed up, the food is terrible, gangbangers run this prison, the LGBTQ community get treated poorly, the mental health service here is terribal.

40. Gossip, gay bashing on both sides. No one minds their business and have an opinion about everything, which has rubbed off on me and I catch myself doing some of these things.
41. Everything.
42. Not having resources to prepare people for life once released from prison.
43. They don't give out any good time and they don't let anyone transfer it's like we stuck here
44. The rules and expectations change from shift to shift and day to day. The staff does not communicate well with those in custody. The head warden is very arrogant and rude when speaking to those in custody.
45. You earn good time and sign contracts but you never see the calculation sheets or the time reflected on your outdate. I am currently owed for 4 contracts and it been almost 4 months waiting on the good time. Commissary is horrible. They run out of everything for long periods of time.
46. The C/Os play or lie too much. Too short yard and gym under 2 hours, law library less than 2 hours
47. Healthcare sucks and the officer spin you like a top.
48. The staff are negative ... no training. They break their own rules. They make up rules as they go along their day. The facility doesn't give inmates the things they're supposed to receive.
49. I'm unable to get any kind of rehabilitation or parole.
50. They do not take the grievances trufully. They think they are a joke. Thing are not fair for everyone.
51. My being on top bunk when I have bottom bunk permit.
52. Everything, the people, staff, cells, food, yard, gym, treatment, healthcare
53. How black guys with a little bit of muscle intimidate these guards & basically get to do whatever they want. Homosexuals and sex offenders get special treatment & catered to.
54. How we living and the way we get treated like shit. If you not white or the (police/gay) than it's all bad for you.
55. Gang life and actions
56. Staff rules yard movement
57. At this time I cannot say.
58. No accountability for the personnel. No consistency by the C/Os. Housing inmates with natural life violent offenders with short time non-violent offender both as cellmates and in GP.
59. The way officers and counselor treat us.
60. You have to know someone to get a job—You have to be on dayroom in order to be able to go to church, or you won't go. The C/Os will not let you out. The P.A. still engage you as a person, you are only a file on his desk. I've been here for 6 years and have only seen the Dr. three (3) times, the last was **[DATE REDACTED]**. I only get to see the P.A. or N.P.
61. COVID protocols I.E. lack of consistency: lockdowns started to late, shots took to long to set up, short eating times

62. This has historically been one of the few, or only, prisons where a man who has committed a sexual offense could get a decent job—or a job at all. However, recent staff changes—IA Lieutenant, namely—has changed that arbitrarily. We do not know what is available and what is not. I got to work as a **[REDACTED]** for a year—I loved it and was very good at it. Now that is not allowed, nor is working in the library or chapel...
63. No free time
64. Being locked in the cell for too long and the food at commissary keeps changing.
65. That SDPs are not given the same opportunities for positive lifestyle changes as general population.
66. The night classes for a degree has been cancelled for years. There needs to be night classes to acquire an associate degree. Sex offenders are discriminated against. Workers pay is too low. Quality of food is bad. No cleaning supplies for cells. Windows are not sealed. The warden does not have a clue. Commissary is expensive and limited staff in positions of authority (Lt's, majors, IA, adj. comm) are bias. No 50+ yard or wings GTL services are too high and equipment and log on is terrible.
67. 1. Food, 2. Commissary, 3. The use of the phones, 4. Getting a job assignment, 5. Getting enrolled in school, 6. Bullying
68. Having to be around so many people who have mental issues who I believe should be separate from general population and being place in cells with a person you are not compatible with.
69. No communication from staff i.e from one shift to the next. No one is holding staff accountable, no programs and the one's they do have are impossible for someone with time to get into because of wait lists.
70. Don't know
71. Healthcare and dental been here for over 2 year and haven't gotten any dental work done, but getting one broken tooth removed after 8 months of pain and infection.
72. Poor jobs and how they want let you change work assignments. Not enough reck and poor commissary, how they don't have any underwear and socks. But can be saleing all this food with these high prices.
73. Medicine, overall healthcare
74. The favoritism In job placeing. People who have had the same job for years. Not allowing any other inmate to get a job as a cook or a librarian.
75. The covid protocal. How they allow sex between inmates run riot. How its easier to get a sex change than to get treated for HEP C or get my teeth fixed. Was actually told by the dentist here I'd have better odds getting a vagina than getting my teeth fixed.
76. 6 yards a month and no way to parole out if you don't have a home site.
77. Housing young loud bucks with old quiet folks ... I did not get locked up until I was **[60+]** years old & now **[70+]** years old. I've never experienced so much noise in all my life...All the chatter & laughter annoys me...
78. Everything, food, treatment, education, all in need now
79. Staying in your cell 22 hours a day.
80. If you are housed in HCU you dont get gym or yard at any time and never leave your ward.
81. No privacy, no family, nothing

82. They do not make programs available
83. People who can't wait to get out and pick up where they left off. Refuse to change and better themselves.
84. No one cares about any of us
85. No way to advance my education and finish my B.A.
86. The pay restriction if I failed my TABE Test, the quality of food & portions, amount of yard/gym, no classes or school
87. Not being believed by counselors, 30 yrs plus for an accusation & hearsay, Its getting or seeming to get worse
88. The way the staff treat their stool pigeons and snitches
89. Its hard to get a job, the adjustment committee lies and is not impartial. The staff does anything they want but, want you to follow the rules. They chew tobacco openly but dont want you to have illegal products. Its more do as I tell you & not as I do. We are locked up for long times. No programs for eligible people to get good time.
90. EVERYTHING
91. Lost family, not know God **[ILLEGIBLE]** kids do to false **[ILLEGIBLE]**
92. Lock down too much!!! Staff not knowing how to talk right with inmates
93. Wrongful civil commitment
94. No college courses or vocational courses for civilly committed sdps 1-hr of overall sdp treatment provided nothing more. SDPs spend decades in custody receiving subpar mental health treatment while living like convicts
95. Staff do not care. More time in cell than out compared to other same level prisons.
96. A) not enough jobs available B) too many staff using springfield excuses when an individual is seeking to receive good time credit for participation in programs
97. Cant get into programs, school, work, unless your within a year of release, 85% or 100% & cant recieve good time
98. They dont give a crap about no one besides there self and thats everyone cause they hate themself.
99. Dietary supervisors print false menus about what we are to be fed in dietary, give us some garbage, but then feed all of our food to the staff. The staff constantly get fried chicken when ours is baked, french fries when we get dehydrated sliced potatoes that taste like dirty water, apple sauce when the staff gets apple crisp or cake, quesadillas or enchilladas when we get fake tacos, burritos, meat loaf, sloppy joe's which is all the same meal with a different name.
100. For me, being incarcerated here strictly for the purpose of treatment as a "civilly committed person" without any criminal conviction, yet I am treated worse than those who were criminally convicted. We are completely denied access to school to further out education & reduce our likelihood to re-offend, nor are we allowed jobs outside of our housing unit.
101. Being restricted for movement. Trying to get in a cell situation that is better. The loss of ability to order art supplies. This quarantine for no real reason when there are no real severe illnesses in individuals.
102. Crime of sex offense makes it nearly impossible to get a job. Food-nutrition. Healthcare. Commissary. Having life maximum security w/minimum.

103. They are admitting high level people to the prison, that fight and argue that jeopardizes the security level.
104. Been lock up on Covid 19
105. Mostly it deals with the management of the hierarchy. The warden does not explain why we are on lockdown. Everyone is stressed, and when asked he will tell us, "Deal with it, you shouldn't of gotten locked up." Literal words he spoke.
106. favoritism
107. Poor execution of commissary. "Shopping in the dark". You have no idea what they have and expected to write what you want. We can do far better with the tech we have.
108. There's little to no programs, teachers aren't here half the time. Drug program keeps getting shut down. The food is terrible and 90% of the time is undercooked. 90% of the meals are all breads/noodles/carbs. Staff don't want to help you. Especially Sgt **[REDACTED]**. He harasses inmates. They also don't supply cleaning products to anyone but porters. What am I supposed to clean my cell with?
109. Were treated bad, commissary is horrible due to us being sex offenders. Other offenders run who gets x amount of trays.
110. The overall way in which staff interact w/ the individuals in custody. There are those who are SMI (ex. **[INDIVIDUAL IN CUSTODY NAMES REDACTED]**) who are continuously mentally abused by security personnal here. The medical treatment, namely dental care, is almost non-existent.
111. The food, the store, they need to treat people like people. We don't get enough time out of the cell.
112. No help to better myself
113. Not being able to make enough money to buy electronics with 3 to 6 months of having a work assignment. And not having the norm and god given order to interact with women causing a lot of homosexuality and contraction of STDs
114. No schooling nor programs to help us grow & better self. And if your not within 1-2 years of release date you get nothing at all.
115. Is that I am in here with all kinds of criminals and is very easy to follow them but if I want to change I have to stay by my self.
116. Staff, ADA, And people who run things
117. No yard—ever!!!
118. You have to be black to receive all benefits
119. Child molesters are allowed to work jobs that 50% should get first. They recieve no good time so why do they take up jobs where people eligible dont get a chance. Child molesters are 85% so they should be confined to a cell more. Female warden is a spin master and changes rules. This prison doesn't follow rules like other prison.
120. This prison is run by chomo's they at 85% and got all jobs
121. Dirty, filthy, how staff view you as a person
122. the way were treated and can't get what were suppost to get
123. The staff and C/Os make me hate law enforcement even more. And there is no rehabilitation programs that help people better prepare for life on the outside.

124. Lack of jobs + especially available programs for more individuals with extensive time. I've struggled for yrs to get into a classroom to advance my education but lengthy sentence prevents me
125. All the jobs and programs are given to the 85% sentenced and lifers, they are not giving anybody 6 months good time and they really don't have any school going on or programs. They are ignoring people food allergies and medical conditions.
126. If you are eligible for good time they will not let you do programs. The food is horrible. The healthcare is useless. In the cell 22 hours a day. There is a law to give out EDSC (Good time) they rarely ever give it to anyone. Inmates must take disrespect & racism from officers (Black people)
127. There is no programs to help a person better themselves ... it takes them months to put a contract in after its completed after working in the dietary.
128. 1. Very little chance of school or job on merit alone. 2. commissary always empty and inconsistent. 3. meals poorly prepped, served cold and not enough. 4. medical care is poor.
129. Not having a chance to go home on outdate, medical treatment far away from hometown, or not being heard.
130. need to have more options for people to get a job or classes
131. everything
132. The staff moving you and your friends apart from each other.
133. We dont get any dayroom time at all, we are only getting 30 mins every 48 hours, its overcrowded and not helping better relations with family members.
134. How staff look (or) view you how dirty the prison is
135. Poor food, bad healthcare, slow response to healthcare codes, each C/O makes up their own rules. The disciplinary system is unfair when it comes to race and don't allow a person to explain themselves. If you're white you're done for, locked up for too long, the food supervisor is more worried about the fat check he gets at the end of the year for staying on the food budget than giving us food that is worth something.
136. The grievance process is broken—counselors write irrelevant, nonsensical responses, they are always denied no matter how wrong the prison is, it's obvious the C/O does not read the grievances he denies. The mailroom person right now is denying things for no reason, no rule, but grievance always side with staff. Few TV channels, no A/C, rarely get yard, can't get "core hygiene & common necessity items," poor communication—we are not told why things happen, rules are arbitrary and make no sense, PA **[NAME REDACTED]** is rude, apathetic, and unprofessional & would have been fired years ago were he not in prison—I've never met such a disgraceful excuse for a healthcare profession—fire him!!! Rules are inconsistent, one officer says one thing, another something else. They have different rules but then get rude when you don't follow their different rules
137. Negative people and staff that's negative and not wear their mask because covid
138. Disorganization from the top down. poor commissary. not enough REC
139. Needs more dayroom time, yard time, more time out of cell

140. Very little communication between staff and inmates, announcements/bulletins aren't followed through on—including rules, very difficult to get into programs/education, kites are often ignored or you get vague answers if you actually get a response
141. The fact that you have people who want to better themselves or do something positive with their time but can't!
142. The commissary is always out of things for months at a time.
143. We have to wait 3 weeks after kite to mental health to get a response or none at all. I have severe PTSD and tried to talk to them about it and they said I was fine and go back to the cell and do breathing exercises.
144. The food, time out the cell short some days
145. Officers is disrespectful and too long locked up in cell
146. No programs available immediately for any and all inmates
147. The food is terrible and the commissary need to be better.
148. Staff, no movement, counselors
149. Not seeing my loved ones.
150. Restrictions on what job sex offenders can get. Non sex offenders looking people up to see what they are in prison for. Staff not [doing] anything about it even if you tell them it is happening.
151. Everybody assumes you have a sex case, or you're gay or that you'll have a sex offense in your background
152. This is suppose to be a sex offender prison which is great in that it's a place to be less judged at. Big problem is that you have non S.O.s here that want to look up others just to have somebody to talk about
153. Healthcare do not do their job at all
154. One is locked in the cell too much, not enough rec. time, can't take shower after rec, can't get a job they don't help in getting a halfway house
155. Everything
156. harassment
157. Please pay attention to this John Howard Association -> Please help us get more dayroom. Too long in the cells I believe we deserve 4-6 hours a day of dayroom and not in our cells even for medium and max prisons, and that 4 to 6 hours a day should not include yards, gyms, or walking to chow lines. 2 hours a day is not enough 4 to 6 is. All prison should be at least 4 hours
158. Lack of yard/gym, general treatment, commissary, lack of TV channels, no mental health, I.E. psychologists/psychiatrists on staff
159. Lack of respect, sanitation, outside contact, dietary, and overall human rights. In prison you are considered a NOBODY!
160. No classes. Medical staff is not competent. Commissary is out of most (>1/2) items. Staff is unclear on rules—different rules depending on staff, there is a constant battle between medical and security departments that endangers our health
161. Not being with family
162. In the summer of 2022 my old celly = **[NAME REDACTED]** tried to rape me when I was sleep and this prison don't care. They try to hide it.

163. The most negative things about life in this prison is not being able to be great and at your best around negative people all day.
164. the way it's being ran.
165. It's ran by trans/gay/rules! I can't buy a decent pair of boots but we sell bras and panties and makeup!
166. A lot of time spent in cell/living with cellmates that do not know "box compliance" directives
167. Staff allows certain individuals to have their cell doors and come out on other dayroom times causing fights between white and black inmates. It's as though staff is afraid of black inmates because being called racist.
168. They overuse they authority, they call you out yo names C/O
169. Everything
170. They make excuses and try to stall rather than provide core hygiene items or other services. Some people can end up going several weeks without receiving their weekly or monthly medications on time.
171. Nothing
172. the staff
173. Poor healthcare, poor dietary, inadequate law library, recieve mail only 5-days a week. The rules are changed everyday by the highest ranking officers will every day.
174. Staff
175. People bouth me about commissary—and not have a chance to get school assignment because I'm a SDP
176. Were treated bad because this is a sex offender camp, commissary sucks
177. You barely get movement, there not giving us no contracts, for school, drug program, etc.
178. Everything!!
179. Classes are closed most of the time. We barely get 1 hour out of our cells daily and that includes feeding times. We are constantly on some sort of lockdown. Commissary is always out of everything; guards don't treat inmates equally or fairly.
180. Not being treated equal, lack of appropriate material—pens that seldom write or skip
181. Were on Quarantine and none of the staff are wearing mask or Gloves. Because they get time off with pay if they catch covid no respect for our life or Health
182. your right of responsibility being stripped from you. Being surround by so much ignorance and not being around your loved one family
183. Being house in a cell with someone who is a bully, expects things to be done his way only.
184. Commissary. Jobs
185. Medical is a Joke and so is dietary
186. N/A
187. Informants have more power than officers. Cannot ever get a straight answer. officers play and act like homosexuals to much. Not enough school or jobs. Informants never go without a job. Informants are always out of their cells.
188. So Far is Being locked in the cell too long. Not enough Time out of the cell. Commissary is not good either.

189. No videogame systems!! People Hogging phones for there gang Buddys. All the negative energy from People around me.
190. There are no drug or SDP programs. Poor dental
191. f time
192. The staff members do not have to wear masks and it makes it hard for us to survive.
193. mats and many disruptions make good sleep impossible—bad for health/healthcare ignores needs—2 years to get dentures! Staff are smartasses—complaints, problems get ignored/glasses only replaced every 2 yrs.—no option if destroyed earlier—workers glasses get damaged quickly/no hope—I have outdate but will likely never leave
194. Not honoring court orders
195. Here at big muddy river cc there are people approved for transfer to get to places with better education and more Freedom I'm classified as a minimum and am still waiting to be transferred. this prison is not transferring anyone out at all. this is a medium, I am a minimum why am I still here?
196. Trying to get a Job I sent request to chow hall and Dont ever get a answer Back from Them and staff Just spin you when you ask why I did not get hired at other prisons I was at I always get a Job Big Muddy Is the worse prison I Been to
197. How we Are Treated By Staff As if We Are Not human Being
198. Everything, From staff to inmate, and People that have only 60 Days are under Cant Buy no Food off Commissary Like Myself Im starving Here
199. I Feel This Institution Has Implemented Their Own COVID Policy, I'm On A Wing Where There Are Zero COVID Cases & Still Medical Quarantined. I Feel Like It's Just Another Way To Keep Prisoners Isolated (Locked Down)
200. They allow homosexuals to use things to their advantage, you have to practically beg to get what you got coming. The staff are totally disrespectful because they have nothing to worry about.
201. Is that it keeps you away from your kids and your losing time out of your life you can't get back
202. Everything
203. Staff, food, lockdown 23 1/2 hrs a day I don't get any mail
204. they way staff talks to us and the way feed And the way they can beat us and get away with
205. Covid Lockdown
206. Sitting in the cell dwelling on the things going on outside these fences, which Im powerless over.
207. not being free and lock in a cell 24 a day
208. You have to be on guard and watch you.
209. They promote homosexuality. It's hard to get proper medical care, medicine, treatment.
210. They don't give you classes or school to people with a lot of years. They don't give proper healthcare to nobody. They don't give you good time even when you have a job. They denied transfers to other prisons knowing that other prisons provide good time for thing that they don't want to give
211. Boring. Bad behaviour is rewarded, most of my therapy
212. having a boyfriend

213. Being treated like an animal.
214. Committes by the officers of why I'm in custody of being civilly committed SDP. waiting for medication after out after putting in sticker to get meds.
215. The gang's run the staff. Inmates can make threats to staff and back staff down. Medical will give someone wrong meds, it takes staff 5 to 10 min to get to a person coding & commissary is sad and we get charged 50% more than they pay 90\$ TVs are 275\$ 24 noodles are 9-10\$ you get so very little food on a tray. Porters don't clean, we don't get cleaning supplies to clean our cells. Adjustment committee is best to the white guys because its a colored community. IA has no law enforcement exp of any kind, staff has no idea of what they are to be doing. They sit at the desk all day. The warden would lie to you before being truthful. Officers come in drunk and high. Porters steal bleach to sell not use to clean.
216. The lack of technology, it leaves unprepared upon release for a that is continuously changing
217. Ignorant people!!! Uneducated people are the problem b/c their not focused & find time to get in B.S. this prison is a joke, their is limited school & work so the younger guys get into B.S.
218. Theres no reason that commissary should run out of stuff for months at a time ie coffee, chips, cookies, cakes, etc.
219. If your a sex offender they wont help you.
220. Commissary is always missing food like 70% of items about. It's hard to get a job, It's a favoritism and who you know thing. The few programs that they do have go by your outdate. You don't do programs until your like 12 months short. You don't get the chance to knock your sentences down, I got **[2+ years]** left and for 1 1/2 years I haven't been able to do nothing. You can't get transfers to be signed off on. I've been trying to go to Sheridan's Drug Program.
221. Some staff, C/Os + administration very negative towards SDP. Very poor medical care—physical, mental, dental, pharmacy. Very poor Amer. Disabilities Act Services—Receiving + Repair of Equipment. I'm going deaf. Very poor Grievance. Bias towards SDPs. C/Os say they have **[ILLEGIBLE]** for us—many times out of money vouchers. Meal times—7-10 minutes. Slow eaters permit ignored. Mail Room—slow 1 1/2-2 weeks delivery. Must send out Income tax + Social Security unsealed—not considered legal. No follow ups after getting out of Hospital. Been waiting since Sept. **[MEDICAL INFORMATION REDACTED]**. Nothing done by IDOC. Maintenance plumbing, electrical, in cells. Been waiting for Hot water in cell for 3 Weeks.
222. Full access by everyone concerning programs does not exist
223. Inmates always want to judge others instead of looking at themselves first. C/Os look at incarcerated inmates based on their offenses instead of inmates as human beings!
224. You can not get no help with work or being a better Father or a Son or help from healthcare
225. I can't think of any at this time
226. No real treatment, bad dietary, food and small servings, warden who lie to your face.
227. Staff being extremely disrespectful. Inmates that tell on others who have no outside support buying and selling (trading and trafficking) to make ends meet so that they—the

- confidential sources, get rewarded with special privileges (i.e. all the best jobs, pick and choose cellmates, officers look the other way when they break out of their cells during others dayroom time, etc.)
228. Them not giving out the EDSC down here
 229. The officers have not been trained properly & they play everything by ear.
 230. No programs, no opportunity
 231. Failure to provide medical treatment through nurse sick call, failure to refill medication blister packs when stickers are turned in, failure to be put in to have a prescription refilled/recorded by doctor. Failure to provide food alternative for food allergies, throwing people in seg for nothing just because they want to fill seg out. Healthcare grievances are turned in, documented, and never seen again. Even nine months later. Then cover all they can up and only act right when important people are on grounds like you, Springfield, etc. Its an act to fool you all and to hide the truth that live within Big Muddy River.
 232. That no matter who you write requests to the staff wont answer you or do their job or even return the request nobody does their job here not even the wardens
 233. The constant gossip among inmates about people being gay and a sex offender
 234. Locked down right now 23 1/2 hours. Otherwise 21 hours. Food is hit and miss. Commissary is always running out of items.
 235. Not much time out of cell. A general apathy among staff. Not much thought into placement of inmates that are placed together in a cell. Sex offenders often harassed by other inmates.
 236. The whey you are treated and the cells such as when your cell floods from toilet on friday you are left like that till at least monday if not longer If you are hearing impaired you are most of the time put all the way in the back of the wing and can not hear when the C/O calls for anything and when you say sumthing to them they say not my problem.
 237. Not enough supervision for those that are habitual rule breakers.
 238. If you are convicted of major offenses you are stored like canned food. Unable to earn early release.
 239. The people and the officers
 240. Can't keep our minds occupied, no movies, no games, store is over-priced, it sucks as well.
 241. Lack of care. Dietary meals and the quality of food. Lack of staff and teachers for programming and school.
 242. Commissary. No new underwear in a year! no good coffee for 2 years. No legitimate earbuds/headphones for GTL tablet in a year. No consistency in stocking. Some wings (where the workers live) get items that no one else does. Lockdowns: they reinvent the wheel each time. No leadership, no planning, no taking notes on each instance + using them the next time.
 243. The TV channels are bad, cold air during cold months comes through the windows in BMRCC, IRCCC, WICC, and Hill CC. Medical (nurses) staff at Illinois river CC are guilty of incompetence and dereliction and they are very rude. The staff in general at WICC are very oppressive and racist views are displayed.
 244. Lack of meaningful programs

245. Recreation time/dayroom time
246. The way the officers talk to individuals in custody, the way officers write tickets/hear them, too much time in cell
247. The lies the staff tells, the way they run things outside the rules
248. healthcare & staff conduct
249. grievance dont be answered in timely matter
250. The healthcare is god awful!!! they don't care. They truly have no idea what they're doing. They don't listen to patient complaints and people are getting terminal diseases and dieing because of it.
251. There's no structure
252. Locked down
253. There could be improvement in healthcare and discipline here.
254. Everything. The staff, the food, rec time, discipline, the way I am treated like I am not human!
255. Lack of programming and staff to keep programs running
256. Being here pursuant to 725 ILCS 205 puts me at great risk by staff and inmates
257. Not much yard, not good or enough food on trays
258. The time you spend in your cell.
259. People take advantage of the system and ruin it for those who seek to be obedient individuals in custody.
260. Being here. Lack of commissary stock.
261. One negative thing people talks about you behind your back not the staff the other inmates. That's the only negative in this prison.
262. Not being able too be in completeness.
263. As I've said in above Q&A too many chiefs you told to do something by one CO another one tells you different.
264. Inhumane treatment, food, attitudes, time in cells, yard, warden lie
265. Staff treatment
266. Being made fun of not fitting in and staff (treatment) not giving a damn and talking down to you like ur a piece of shit and lieing to your face etc.
267. No straight answers. Help from counselors is pretty much nonexistent. Mass punishment. Head warden who only cares about retiring. C/Os blindly do what majors tell them even if it violates D.O.C. rules. Rogue C/Os who go above and beyond to make life hard for individuals in custody.
268. For education short timers are first and those who have more than 5 yrs are last. Even if we want to recieve education it is denied.
269. If you are Black, Mexican, or any color other than white you get what you want.
270. Being locked in my cell most of the time, no educational opportunities for mentally ill civilly committed SDPs, 1-hr of SDP group therapy, a week nothing more. 2 1/2-3 hrs of time out of my cell a day. Little to no medical health assistance, the chow hall food, horrible clothing, high cost of commissary items.
271. Its just a job for most so they do whatever that makes the day go by easy
272. Loss of liberty and contact w/ family across country; no access to internet

273. We only are getting 30 minutes out a day, and no yard or gym. Not to mention I been here 2 years and have been trying to get in school, programs and get a job with no luck.
274. Staff not doing their jobs, not enough cleaning supplies always watered down, selling us these little fans—went from 10in to 5in no air movement
275. Time out of cell
276. Officers, food, out of cell time, yard, visits. I cant get a visit, none of my family or friends took covid treatment not had a visit since feb. 2020
277. Not enough recreation time, very difficult to use the phone during wing dayroom, food is disgusting and serving sizes inadequate. The inmate movies are rarely new releases. No emails are processed during the weekends. Food in visiting room too expensive. Staff are mostly discourteous and disrespectful. TV cable is very poor, food in chow hall is usually overly and unnecessarily spicy, commissary selections are poor and prices too high. School very difficult to get into.
278. Even though they have the programs to better yourself, their picking and choosing who and when u can attend them. That leaves long termers having to stay in prison longer because their giving short timers first priority for the programs that give u good time.
279. Overall hazing that staff and IIC put people of color and sex offending down and threatens them or bullies them out of jobs and control who can get jobs on and off the wing and staff does nothing to stop this kind of abuses of power and influence
280. Human warehousing. Many of the programs and classes appear to be more of a public relations campaign designed to project an illusion of rehabilitation over the underlying reality of human warehousing.
281. There is no structure to the rules. One C/O does it his way and another C/O does it his way, both saying that his way is the right way!!!!
282. The long hours spent locked away in the cells, slow medical or mental health treatment, 1-hr once a week of Sdp treatment nothing more. No college or vocational courses for Sdps. Decades spent in treatment and confinement treated as a convict not a patient with no resources to assist in a Sdps recovery.
283. Safety, disorganization among administration, lack of adequate mental health treatment
284. People that Kon the state of Ill. treat there animals or pet at home, better than inmates. Meaning they dont keep them locked in cages 23 hours a day especially during the summer months where temps reach 105-115 degrees. No A.C.
285. Food—mental health therapist—repairs on wheelchairs
286. You have to count on some one else and you don't get what you have coming all the time
287. The amount of times locked in cells, the quality + quantity of therapy provided to SDPs in preparing for release + the lack of meaningful assistance once released I.E. finding suitable housing assistance, transportation etc.
288. You dont get out you (die) here...
289. Staff lies to you then expect you to respect them after they lie to you. Medical staff just wants to come to work and not work just like every other staff members. Food is terrible. I wouldn't feed any animal the way they feed us. The staff and state of Illinois as a whole refuses to allow family to send food and clothes to us.

290. Well for starters. Staff are very abusefull. When there treat being made there no action made. I have to fail a Grievance on a problem I was having. I had to get my lawyer involve it was so bad, because I.D.O.C. didn't want to take action. Did there was another guy that was sexual harassed me, and nothing was done till my law got the Head General State Attor. Involve. Instead of helping the person. They justify what is going on. We eat the same food everyday. The food is old, and cold. There mole on the bread. When there a good [meal] the SDP always get shorted, and the food [manager] Don't say anything when you ask if you could get a little more. The food manager tell you no. set down and eat. SDP food is spit in by General Pop. my food got spit in, and when I brought it to the food manager laughed and told me to sit down and eat. She never said anything to the GP Guys. They say they give. They only give us three to five minutes to eat. Get mad when we don't get up when they call us out. They don't give us an full hour of Gym/Yard. They say they do, but they don't. The most they give us is thirty minutes. The clothing room only give point boxer/underwear and blue shirt/point once a year. Staff count you getting your clothes for that year when you only put in for a new clothes, so Im not able to get all my other stuff. Then the staff member will snap on you when you ask them about it. When whether come they never turn on the heat, and it be hot on the wing, and freezing cold in the cells. It has been no dayroom, and when it is there only giving us 30 min. we use to out the cell from the time we get up in the 8:00 AM morning to 9:30 PM, and now we lucky to even get 30 minutes. Everytime somebody get sick or there a fight they don't lockdown the prison that sick, and or been in a fight they lockdown the whole camp that not right. When you ask or put in a request to talk to the warden they never call you over to talk to them.
291. staff don't care about any of us, were just a paycheck to them
292. no programs
293. Rules are applied arbitrarily, and decisions are made in equally capricious manner. There are double standards and hypocrisy upon hypocrisy when it comes to applying or enforcing rules. Healthcare takes way too long to give you results for potentially dangerous problems.
294. dental does not have a full time dentist haven't had one in over a year
295. being on lockdown because of staff that's vaccinated don't get tested at all, but the ones that not vaccinated every 14 days and when covid
296. not enough phones to ensure everybody gets a turn
297. drugs, gangs, bullies, C/Os, food, yard, gym, phone
298. the waiting for healthcare to see you for problems. The wait for me on a tooth pulling has been over a year
299. being here pursuant to 725 ILCS 205 means that security staff will treat me differently and treatment staff will do what they can to keep me here as long as they can
300. cant really better myself
301. C/Os
302. they treat those that are civilly committed they're SDP program has been inadequate for yrs. They cant hold staff. This SDP law has to be found unconstitutional.
303. everything
304. The staff not understanding we need some real help here on every subject!

305. the warden and the bullshit that come along with being there
306. Treatment by staff, food, counselors are not counselors they are officers and most of them are related. You are warehoused here and they do everything they can to keep you here closed to 70% of people here who are released here still held months past their outdate before they actually released because the person will not help them find a place to go don't have one.
307. Being closed off from family and friends, especially SDP's like me cant go to another prison less secure or closer to our families.
308. I had purpose in the "band concert program" as I was told often by staff that I was the best [type of instrument player] that ever been here. I am civilly committed and was performing with population musicians until something changed here in 2016 and completely separate us from population, my last time on [the instrument], January 2016! Take away my purpose! time here since 2016 has slowed to what seems like forever now while this always innocent Christians fights for no conditions of my release!
309. being committed pursuant to 725 ILCS 205
310. there is no hope for recovery. Very little help
311. staff—do as I say not as I do. food. more tv channels needed as promised. staff chew tobacco inside. staff go through our mail—take out grievances. wings, cells hot in the summer. need big box fans on upper and lower decks. keep blowers working. this place picks and chooses what SDPs, can or can not do. Do what is right!
312. it exist as the 13th amendment allowed chattel of a human being. Archaic and barbaric practice of demonstrated slavery. All done under the lie it needed for safety and security. It is one man (staff) being allowed to be inhumane to another for lies.
313. most things, SDPs we treated the worst and we don't have felonies. Commissary is awful. We cant order whats on the price list and prices have more than doubled. Wages are the same. Dietary food is freezer burned, spoiled or overcooked to remove defects. We used to get all day dayroom and now we get dayroom 3 times a week for 1/2 hours . We cant keep mental or medical health staff. I have waited over 2 years for the glasses, dentures and cochlear implants. This place hates working with deaf and hard of hearing, as well as mentally disabled people. this place does not adhere to (ADA) Americans with disabilities act requirements. They get ADA tools but don't use them or it is so cheap it cant be used. On the streets I used an amplified (with volume control) phone and was able to hear conversation. this place refuses to get a \$40.00 piece of equipment and will spends thousands and millions fighting to keep me from having a device from helping me. This place has gone from bad to worse. we are P.O.W.s basically and we basically exist. The only good days are when someone important comes in, then they paint, repair, and cook something great at dietary to make everyone who comes think they all up to code with everything. the staff at BMRCC is bigger liars year by year. no one does anything!!
314. staff racist behavior
315. Inmates do what they want. Officers are too lazy to do there job. There holding you instead of transferring people who are approved. Its been a year since I've been approved
316. everything other than school yard and gym

317. sex offenders and snitches run this prison. Normal people don't get nothing coming
318. Being at BMRCC pursuant to 725 ILCS 205/8 has put my life at great risk.
319. The lies the staff are trained to tell us, and live by
320. too long of a wait to start school wait time on getting a job the response time on Job requests
321. To many to name but mainly the time spent in the cell, food and the way some staff will treat you. Size of Cell
322. staff abuse of power when it come to offender's
323. Any assistance we need moves very slowly and likely doesn't get done. We are treated based on our offense, and not generally considered individuals. Some officers become power hungry and take it out on inmates.
324. Food, time out of cell
325. when some one does something, they punish us too. Cell windows are bad, they don't give us time or cleaning supplies to clean our cells. C/O are lazy people, just sitting at desk.
326. they dont give us a job to get a good time they dont put us in school unless you have 6 month left
327. falta de asistencia profesional de parte del dep. medico especialmente del P.A. **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]**. Y en la comisaria se vende bastante "dulce", que a la larga causa diabetes—mas trabaja para las enfermas. **[TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH: lack of professional assistance on the part of the medical department especially P.A. [STAFF NAME REDACTED]. And the commissary sells too much "sweet", which in the long run causes diabetes—but more work for the nurses.]**
328. being here
329. I could go on and but to name a few and keep it simple there 0 programs, people who are 50% don't get jobs, nothing for transitioning back to society, staff are racist and disrespectful, medical is terrible this prison is like being in prison in Peru.
330. Guards are lazy and pieces of shit! Showers stink and covered in Black mold! Snitches are every-where! The food is the worst!
331. Losing the ability to come and go as you please. Officers thinking you did what you are accused of. So you are treated differently than others.
332. Lock in my cell to much every day it is not like when we first got here the treatment of provided for SDPs is totally substandard + results in decades of confinement
333. Treated poorly by staff and don't get enough time out of cells.
334. medical attention
335. You say Department of Corrections, where is the correction.
336. The C/Os let the fags out to fuck in the shower while they jack off as they watch!!!
337. It appears that when we are on lockdown, that the people allowed to work encourages behavior that would get them sick so they can go to work. You never know what is expected from day to day because it is always changing and dependent on who is working—nothing is ever done the same twice.
338. The food from dietary is not worth feeding a dog. But yet they have the things they need to make good meals.
339. The homosexual activity and the staffs complete disregard for sex between inmates

340. Food, staff
341. The most constant bullying, belittling, and blatant disrespect from other (certain inmates) inmates toward the LGBTQ+ community and other inmates who support the LGBTQ+ community.
342. Lockdown so much not enough cameras so there are too many blind spots
343. The lack of accountability by administration and security staff, as well as the non-existence of proper healthcare on the part of both Wexford and IDOC
344. Staff are disrespectful, racist, & it's not a good place to be if you're black
345. Staff abuse against incarcerated individuals.
346. There is little to no consistency in how things are run and how individuals are treated. Dietary portions are cruelly small. Racism, sexism, & homophobia are rampant.
347. You're locked down behind a door for more than 22 hours a day and this is not a max.
348. How we're treated, how the prisons are run, there are no program opportunities for an inmate with a lot of time. I have 26 years at 50% but can't get good time because they say I've got too much time.
349. The most negative thing about this prison would be two things: 1st, the fact that in order to get anything done or get any respect an inmate would have to be either a known homosexual or a "transgender." Gays and trans people have the most power among any group or subgroup of individuals in prison. 2nd, all if not most of the workers in this jail are individuals that cannot receive good time which makes an incentive based prison system pointless. Most workers here are either 85% or "lifers" which makes a person with 50% (like me) with no reason to stay out of trouble.
350. Not enough time out of cells. Not enough therapy staff for SDPs
351. The staff here physically hurt inmates and get away with physically abusing us. I wonder why an inmate killed himself in segregation last year. This is a family oriented facility where they cover up the dirt they do down here in Big Muddy River.
352. No explanation of any decisions. No attempts to help keep us cool in the hot summers. Not being treated like a human.
353. Food, treatment, state pay, really bad beds, no air conditioning, heat some times but not when it is below zero
354. I'll never be released
355. Staff looking down on Gay people
356. Other inmates, bullying, discrimination against others.
357. Everything it's hard to get good time
358. Now they still allow "gang members" to still make gang moves! Like put someone in their cell of the same gang, or get them on the wing, or keep those SGT, in jobs that they run! Kills me.
359. Not near enough recreation (yards and gyms) No established worker rec's. either. Locked in cells too long every day, it wears on people's minds
360. People having sex on the wing well SDP that is, and talking about sex all the time, and SDP getting their sex change in prison, and that's wrong for a man getting their sex change to be a woman.
361. Getting the healthcare that you need. Dietary food. Commissary kind of sucks here

362. They don't sell typewriter on commissary we need cheap ones that inmate can pay for them.
363. Officers and the way they treat inmates
364. I have a infection that is getting ignored
365. The grievance procedure, the visits in person when you hear any tickets. Being spoke to or dismissed as a child
366. Treatment of staff towards inmates.
367. People making others feel sorry for them, and at times giving them the attn. they want. The therapy for sex offenders is not treatment, because at times staffs uses it for punishment against me and others. People getting so deep into depression that they lose hope, like I do at times.
368. They only cater to snitches blacks and latinos who are allowed to work in the same job for yrs on end + have multiple jobs. While people who need jobs cant get them.
369. The lack of programs that would encourage individuals to sign up and engage in activities that will improve their chances to better their lives long term. Programs and activities that not only will give a sense of identity to whoever joins but also A PURPOSE! Not to forget that prison is a place of broken things. So we need to be fixed first in order to be ready for the worlds second chance, or last. That is up to you.
370. Being treated like an animal Constant quarantine pending no positive test but staff will never wear masks. visiting room covid glass
371. The food, being in a cell with someone you don't know or being in a cell you don't want to. Staff arent all go treat you right there really no help in here to better you for when you get out.
372. VSTOP. Warden **[NAME REDACTED]** refuses to manage the program. I've been on waiting list for 3 yrs! Instead of rotating individuals into & out of program they use program as a protective custody restricting new inmates like myself!
373. If white you have nothing going to you. If black you can do whatever you want. This prison is racist.
374. Living with n*****s, they have no manners, no respect for others, and dealing with the staff, they make it hard on our minds by playing mind games with inmates
375. everything except gym/yard
376. If you don't suck the officers dicks you don't get shit done period. Youre a nobody. Plus the cops seem to be scared of the blacks because they get to do whatever they want.
377. staff conduct should always remain professional
378. name it!
379. Fails completely for various things/actions I had expected to be mental procedure help the safety health and well being for both employee and offender like. Cell like minded people
380. fight C/O things we have
381. healthcare being cursed at by staff
382. There is no policy and new rules are made all the time and we are not informed properly. Staff play favoritism with jobs! Staff use personal feelings against you!!
383. This prison is not ADA compatible, I am in a wheel chair. Doorways are too narrow and my chair barely gets through. 2) commissary sucks, 3) the food here is terrible. 4) the

staff likes to treat everybody like an asshole, and they sit on there ass all day. 5) the healthcare is horrible, they don't renew our medications for weeks at a time, dire meds. 6) the food served here doesnt get cooked or heated enough 7) they gave me a nasty mattress & used sheets when I got here, they don't offer sheets or sham on the commissary nor a decent pillow to buy.

- 384. N/A
- 385. Being away from family, shortened visits, appointments needed to far in advance. Phones being tied up by certain people over & over again. People keep popping out & using other people phone time & dayroom.
- 386. Start not answering grievance + healthcare is horrible
- 387. No Drug Treatment, very Few programs, Horrible medical Treatment
- 388. They healthcare such big time.
- 389. Everything, the officers mistreat us all the time.

Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

- 1. Better food in the dietary and a whole lot better commissary items available to the population.
- 2. Accountability for staff.
- 3. Order more commissary so they don't run out of items so fast, also order better items. There isn't a very good choice of cooking items as far as noodles, beans and rice. And there hasn't been any rice.
- 4. There are 50 men who go to the dayroom at one time, but we NEED to be supervised. Where the C/O's desk is in the foyer they can-NOT observe these 50 men. There should be a desk on the wing & the sign in log book should be electronic so the C/O has to make his rounds ON TIME
- 5. More jobs more classes for release to get ready for society like get forklift certified get osha safety 10 class
- 6. I would like to use VRS (Video Relay Service) is the best to talk than TTY or TTD. Plus like to see staff use sign language to talk with deaf like me.
- 7. Springfield need to send some people down here undercover to report back how the incarcerated people are being treated and how they officers make up rules as they see fit
- 8. Prepare food better less starches that cause obesity and diabetes. Counselors that actually care instead of people that see the job as less work than being a C/O more dayroom. Phones on are tablets
- 9. First and foremost one entire building (or split with the worker building) needs to house over 50 as a base. The only exceptions will be their select cellies, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and those chosen on a case by case basis who have not had a

- IDR in at least 1 calendar year. There needs to be a safe haven for those who cause no trouble and are not part of the mass gang/childish chaos.
10. See above
 11. Greater access to programs, more programs that help reduce recidivism.
 12. Allow filtered internet access for education and entertainment more opportunities for further education and self improvement (example: to once again allow us to purchase art supplies from an outside vendor (Dick Blick]) OR provide such items for purchase at the commissary)
 13. Fire the wardens
 14. To treat everybody equal/fairly if you are LGBTQ you get laughed at mistreated by a lot of staff there is no DEI plan here at B.M.R.C.C. like the director says if the IDOC Director knew what goes on in this facility it goes completely against all his beliefs
 15. Move all SDP to a facility where we can be given proper treatment—and not being isolated as we are here
 16. Assign everyone a job after 60 days of being here, allow anyone to do voc classes as long as they have the test score or qualification for it. Have more than one teacher for each class, teach staff proper communication skills, counselor staff to actually do there job.
 17. Better rules. Better stores. Better staff that know the job and understand the problem. Better food. Better clothes. Better listen on staff and inmates. More things to do.
 18. More yards, out of Cell more for dayroom, dietary conditions
 19. I was in this prison before. Then, we had about twelve hours of dayroom per day. Now, we have four. Nothing else has changed, so why did dayroom? I would like to see this changed back.
 20. Better healthcare.
 21. More yards instead of gym & its Big Muddy should be out for at least 4 hours a day
 22. To improve the criminal mind you must focus on the heart. Prisons seek to education, but intellectual knowledge, will only help so much. There has to be more focus on values, morals, and ethics. This gets into the spiritual realm and secular government is not equipped for this area.
 23. I believe it should be more programs to help rehabilitate the mind and prepare for the future. More jobs for the inmates also to help make money.
 24. New administration that helps inmates improve their situation. Sentencing consideration for good behavior/personal improvement. (As an inmate sentenced at 85%, my behavior is irrelevant to my sentence as is any programming)
 25. Do something about the gym and yard—we need more yard to keep our heads clear.
 26. More education possibilities. More classes for motivation. Officers stop fraternizing with inmates. More healthy food items on commissary.
 27. Lawsuits
 28. Give people whose locked up the opportunity to get there time reduce so we can get home to our families. Give us more air time out the cells. Give us more yards and gym time, etc. It's a lot more that needs improvement.

29. More African American workers, case workers, more NAACP workers! Caucasian cultures, traditions force it on African Americans take hats off, tuck the shirt in pants that's white ways!
30. Fire the warden and 3rd warden and get people who do not lie to you.
31. More dayroom time and more commissary items and food
32. Get help for civilly committed persons
33. Respond to KYTES, take all medical issues serious, including mental health, especially. Respond to any crisis concerns the inmate may believe to him is a crisis. Resolve important matters such as legal and IRS issues that may be beyond the inmates limits do to incarceration. Give better portions of food.
34. Give people good time more time, out there cell, feed them better, treat them better, let the wife/girlfriend, whoever come give them some pussy!!
35. C/O do there job make proper checks instead of half assed
36. I don't know. I think Springfield should get involved and investigate. This prison is messed up forreal.
37. More sensitivity training on both sides. We need to remind the guards our punishment was our sentence. We're not here to be punished, and that we're not black, white, straight, or gay, but human.
38. More time out the cells, more yard + gym. Better staff conduct, equal opportunities.
39. More positive resource such as better preparation for your return to the world beyond prison, hire appropriate staff at the administration level to implement positive helpful changes for inmates.
40. Longer dayroom, give out good time
41. The C/O's need better training when dealing with people with mental health issues. The institution should utilize the technology on the tablet to communicate. The C/O's could have a set of rules and expectations that are standard for everyone on each shift.
42. Be better in records office with all paperwork. People stay here days after release date. Due to lack of urgency on getting anything done. Hire more people to calculate good time. We shouldn't have to wait months for our good time if we hold up our end of the contractual agreement. They need to do better on paperwork. Our releases and good time are important to us. These are supposed to be positives in our lives but they make it stressful and a fight to get.
43. Separation! According to their charges and aggression
44. More meds better food lower commissary
45. Sensitivity training. Stop focusing so much of the security aspect. It's all about lock-up, nothing else.
46. Assist inmates with getting ready to be released.
47. Make things fair for everyone.
48. Better food. Better people. Better celling. Better time out. Better manners.
49. Shut it down please!!!!
50. That the guards grow some balls & stop letting black inmates scare & intimidate them. Stop selling bras & panties & make-up to men encouraging sexual relationships.
51. Nothing, I believe they need to burn Big Muddy down. Get rid of racist staff members.
52. Get staff that are impartial

53. Better staff Springfield
54. As compared to what I cannot say.
55. You need a warden who cares first.
56. More training for C/O.
57. Get the fish farm working and create more jobs for us inmates. Expand the garden so we have more fresh vegetables for the kitchen and also creates more jobs. Make it easier to get a job without knowing someone.
58. First, change the qualifications for jobs back to what they have been for decades and do not restrict men based on their offense type. Second, split the yard as other facilities have done and for install a small ADA yard and whatever else is needed to give us more yard. We got yard 3 out of 4 days @ Western; currently it is 1 or 2 per week here. I transferred to BMRCC expressly for the voluntary sex offender program. I was told I'd have to wait a year for observation, then would begin. That is not the case. There appears to be an emphasis on men who are near the end of their sentence—2 years remaining or less. I hear there are staffing issues, etc. It is discouraging to be emotionally and psychologically ready to go through this treatment, to make a move hours further away from loved ones and then effectively be put on a shelf for 10+ years.
59. More dayroom time. Being stocked up at commissary for all houses. Better cable where we have all the channels unlike here where some channels are out.
60. Get SDPS around to there own facility.
61. Have night classes, better quality of food and commissary, fair treatment for all inmates. Provide cleaning supplies regularly. Get a new warden. Better inmate pay. Have 50+ yards and gyms. Remove prejudice staff from positions of power. Replace GTL with securus and offer better prices and services.
62. Better food, better commissary, rotation and better getting job assignments, faster to enroll in school, stop bullying
63. To get real help
64. Single man cells, equal opportunity access to program regardless of your outdate because they have it where short timers get first preference. When sometimes guys are only in for good time and most time get out before completing class which could have been given to a guy with enough time to complete the entire class.
65. For staff to adhere to administrative directives, governors orders, laws, etc. ... and to speak with those of us who live here to better understand how to improve conditions.
66. Don't know
67. For us to get outside help to make sure our rights arent violated.
68. First of all you have to start with the wardens, because they are not taking care of important business like they should. To me I just think the staff runs this prison.
69. Get people who care and better healthcare.
70. Update the systems on the tablet, better games, books, news. More yard or gym. Better dental care, more responsive PA's and doctors newer books in the library.
71. Allow minimums to transfer. Stop lying to people about transfers. Stop letting all the gay sex take place.
72. To follow through to help people get home and help people to be with family.

73. Dedicated wings based on age/health issues, type of conviction & sentence, etc.—especially age & demeanor.
74. to be treated with dignity and respect. And improve all of the above.
75. More time out of cell, more interaction between inmate's social communication.
76. Give us time out of our cells and give us dayrooms and yard (H.C.U. people)
77. Industrial employment
78. new warden, new officers, new system of operation
79. To train staff that we are people who makes mistakes. As with anyone we all make choices. Some good, some bad. But no matter what this doesn't make one any less as a person. We all make mistakes.
80. More training for staff to understand were not animals were people also
81. Educational programs and job/employment skills training. This way people can feel as if they have accomplished something.
82. Take away day restrictions, more gym/yard, better and bigger food portions, and more classes.
83. sewing kits, more options to clothing, actual night yards and early morning gym, currently ½ hr to a hour, more dayroom time
84. Get rid of the child molesters and sent them to Rushville where they belong
85. For the staff to understand that they should be role models of what a model citizen should be. They should be trained properly & they should learn people skills.
86. EVERYTHING
87. Close SDP. wings—do away with civilly held law. illegal
88. Higher up come to visit this place more than they do now. Staff here hide stuff from higher up.
89. Fix the law that only exists in this state that keeps people incarcerated for life and for nothing with some.
90. To offer more avenues to allow those incarcerated to utilize help them rehabilitate themselves whether convicts or civilly committed SDPs. To have more dayroom time, jobs and treatment staff.
91. Start treating us like we in a medium not a max.
92. A) Hire more counselors and mental health workers. B) When important decisions are made about me to receive my good time credit I am treated as a number, and not as an individual who is serving time at 50% who is eligible for good time.
93. Need to figure out staffing issues to get classes & programs up & running!
94. I think this place should be shut down because they take a lot of money from the inmates and this place just nasty has mold everywhere they try to hide this stuff.
95. Fire all the leadership bring in those who are progressive, open to change, who are humane, who care about all people, not people who are here to get whatever they want by committing fraud, embezzlement, and theft from us, dietary, warehouse inmate benefit fund, etc.
96. Train security staff to not instigate problems with inmates. Stop locking civilly committed persons in their cells for the same amount of time as criminally convicted persons. Train + hire staff that have at least some modicum of integrity as opposed to teaching them to

- lie (spin) us about our concerns. Treat us in the manner in which they demand to be treated.
97. Staff members from the warden down learning how to treat us as people not paychecks. Stop treating this medium facility as a max facility.
 98. Better healthcare. Availability of jobs + insufficient pay \$22/mo. Available commissary items and cost of items. Compared to work pay. Do not have maximum with minimum.
 99. My suggestion would be if your minimum security level and have requested and been approved for transfer that should take place ASAP, and healthcare needs a major improvement.
 100. We are still human. Yes, with negative flaws against us. but we all want to feel like we can still be helped, or in my case I would love to help. Why can't this prison have things like Kewanee, Taylorville, Graham. (opportunities for yard more than 5 times a month, newsletters, commissary, programs.)
 101. more time out of cell. More programs. more structure.
 102. Post inventory of commissary on prison t.v. and/or tablet with available inventory. Fill out commissary "slips" on tablets. The tech is here. Let's use it.
 103. More programs, better staff, better food, commissary selection sucks, we can't ever get clothes. or new whites from clothing. We need proper cleaning supplies.
 104. Fire all staff!
 105. More time outside, in yard & dayroom time. Note! They have a big yard, but they are not using right!
 106. Massive improvement in staff/individual in custody relations. Staff to do all possible to prevent the spread of COVID in the prison. That the dental department, and medical in general, obey the ruling in Lippert vs Baldwin & begin providing the care they are suppose to be providing. After all, they are currently in contempt of court.
 107. Longer yard and gym times, better food in the chow hall, more and different food and hygiene at the store, better way to get in contact with their loved ones.
 108. More programs
 109. Increase state pay for assignments held by individuals in custody in order to buy electronics within 3 months of saving state pay and stop the same sex actives
 110. Change staff & allow us convicts to show staff & new inmates the ways & rules of doing time with respect for each other!
 111. To have more jobs or classes have people go to school have more Education is the most important thing in this prison.
 112. Make staff follow IDR as well as we do. And do it in **[ILLEGIBLE]** all rules apply per staff not make their own on every shift
 113. Close it!!!
 114. Child molesters less movement. child molesters run everything here! Other prisons allow prisoners 3 contracts at one time. Why doesn't this prison. Female warden needs to stop making her own rules. Her own way.
 115. Get these chomos on 24hr lockdwon so they think the shit they did.
 116. None under current administration
 117. Fire #1 warden. Don't look down at people that are white straight & a none sex offender

118. Staff and C/O that look at and know that the people they are locking in cells are humans like them.
119. considering what this prison type is for mostly: extend/increase drug + sex programs
120. Start giving more of the jobs to people that are sentenced to 50%. Get enough teachers and programs. And start really giving people the good time thats eligible. Start sending people to work release and other prisons they qualify for. A lot of class action lawsuits need to be filed against D.O.C. regarding a lot of these issues.
121. Add diversity in staff, get rid of racist aggressive officers. Stop preventing inmates from earning good time. Allow inmates more time out of cells. Better healthcare because the doctor is useless. Stop giving other inmates privilege over others keeping jobs more than 6 months then moved to another job after
122. Put more programs, schools one of them, cant even go to school because there not enough teachers.
123. Replace warden. Retrain or replace supervisors who don't understand what their job is. Money.
124. Let me go home, not holding not guilty people, more time out or more rec hours. More resources. Programming. You ever think about turning facility into a network using this for college ground. Research foundation, or tropical weather shelters, and let everyone go!
125. organization, fairness
126. let me go
127. Licensed Doctors. A dentist. A librarian. A competent LTS supervisor. Properly cooked vegetables from dietary. Healthy food options from commissary like dehydrated vegetables, sugar free sodas. Actual pens and pencils. Open dayrooms with access to cells. Drawing Program.
128. More gym and yards. Giving everybody good-time, more dayroom time, which means more time out of the cell, cleaning supplies, more phone calls and family connection time, better food. And help trying to change lifestyle because I've been locked up since I was 15 and haven't learned nothing just wasted my life
129. Yard. school. clean the place up too much filth
130. To make changes to all that was said in Q13. The C/Os to be more trained in mental health. Relax on positive friendships between C/Os and inmates.
131. Ya Right. I used to talk to you, and John Howard betrayed me a sell out
132. Provide A/C, add more TV channels, inform prisoners what's going on in a timely manner, USE the information TV channel (things are often weeks old and there is zero information about what matter/what's going on today), have more yard—of 24 hours in a day yards are only for four hours! get functioning law library computers—the current kiosks are slow or offline, you can't do searches—the touchscreen you press one spot, it actuates at a different location so it's impossible to do any research on it! provide more education program—having only 10 slots in each vocational program is pathetic! many more inmates should be able to enroll in a program. do surveys MORE OFTEN!
133. Staff need to stop bean lazy and do there responsibilities stop let the offenders run the prison

134. More rec. more commissary options, set days of shopping (4 hours 5 days a week).more programs
135. Should utilize the GTL system more for announcements/commissary lists/dietary etc. answer requests instead of ignoring them, would help to generate less requests a bit of discipline would be helpful
136. Allow people a chance to better themselves, sooner rather than later into their incarceration.
137. Always keep paperwork like grievances, money vouchers, phone/visitor lists in stock. They always seem to be out. Keep a better stock on commissary products so that the entire prison has a chance to get things. Not just 2 or 3 of the 5 cell houses.
138. Better mental health
139. More yard, better food, more time out of cell
140. Need more dayroom and officers that actually show concern for other inmates. more programs
141. Create initiative for immediate corrections, self help, reform type programming for long term and short term prisoners with long sentences and also short ones.
142. Get better food and commissary and when someone complete a contract, process it immediately ... DON'T HOLD IT
143. More programs, better healthcare, more movement, more staff training on problem solving skills
144. To give more opportunities to everyone more education
145. Have springfield approve Playstation console that comes programmed with 20 games so there is no issue with us having CDs, discs, to be sold on commissary. If we are gonna be stuck in a cell give us something to pass the time.
146. Respect us and we will respect the (power to be) Don't hold all of us responsible for what a few do
147. If people come here have problems with S.O.s transfer them to a different prison. S.O.s have enough problems trying to find ways to stay out of prison, that it would be a big help if we didn't need to worry about being judged.
148. Better healthcare and better food and help for all inmates
149. The staff be trained in how to deal more appropriately with people
150. More programs, they don't enroll the programs they have to.
151. The commissary's office only orders less than the limits on commissary so we have to buy things other than coffee, chips, canes
152. We need better commissary, more dayroom and we need to get the prison system to mimic the society better, free us, get more better and larger programs for people with 85% and 100%
153. More time out of cell, better treatment from staff, better programs available for everyone, real mental health treatment, better food, more TV channels
154. Less racism towards minorities! More human respect and a system that actually cares about individuals.
155. Form a committee of inmates (chosen by inmates) that meets with staff (administrative) to present issues and discuss them. Issues could be those that'd not rise to the level of a

- grievance. It could avoid lawsuits, cause fewer grievances, and allows inmates to feel involved in decisions that affect their lives.
156. More programs and better trained staff
 157. National guard
 158. More dayroom time.
 159. Better staff to run it.
 160. Actually talk to inmates that truly know the system in this place such as myself!
 161. More time spent outside of cell in positive social interactions
 162. To get more time out of our cells, more yard and gym. For all staff to treat all inmates the same, staff allows certain inmates to run over them, and then staff takes it out on inmates who do as they are suppose to. Stop allowing Black inmates running all over the staff.
 163. Big Muddy River needs to serve better food. And give those who stays out of trouble opportunity for good time and stop saying they have programs when they don't. They need to start recommending those who are doing good to springfield for the EDSC.
 164. Better staffs, more programs, more job opportunities
 165. Whole new staff from top to bottom
 166. More dayroom time, more tv channels, more program opportunities, higher quality food, air conditioning, keeping commissary stocked, consistency in the mailroom
 167. The C/O's are not made counselor. And the grievance procedure be followed.
 168. the training of staff
 169. Have the departmental rules followed always as written, by both the incarcerated and the staff
 170. SDP people have a chance to go to school, no so much isolations
 171. Fire all staff!
 172. Be honest
 173. Tear it down start over!
 174. Change everything.
 175. Better writing implements
 176. that someone should be put in place to watch the staff conduct. Just like they watch us— we have to go through to much to get the truth out.
 177. Education. more activities for people in custody to better them self as people. Physically, Mentally & Emotionally
 178. Single man cells for individuals with mental health issues.
 179. Jobs for everyone who gets good time
 180. Replace the Warden and Head of Medical
 181. more time out of our cell
 182. Close it. Hire all new Administration. Actually check cameras when inmates write grievances. More education for prisoners with 10-30 years. Hire counselors not officers to fill a counselor position. Very corrupt when they do this.
 183. one is improve the cable here, more channels. more recs, and yards. more Dayroom time.

184. for me I would love a video game system so I don't get my ass beat it also helps me cope with All this stress, more positive tv shows, Anime. my two Hobbys please games and Anime will make this prison the best
185. Better mental health and better programs SDP & Drug. Also better medical treatment
186. get me GED
187. They should have Better sources for indigent prisoners to get what they Need!!
188. clean all areas in dietary top and bottom, mold under carts and tables. Food supers do not teach proper food handling. when on lockdown, C/O's handle trays wrong—trays transported on dirty property carts and not kept warm. Staff not held responsible when knowingly break rules. Improperly trained or not trained at all.
189. There needs to be at least an hour of activity "outside" in fresh air and sunlight every day
190. better classification as far as medium, minimum, max
191. To step up to the plate to us Inmates when Questions are asked to get a Job Ive Been here 8 months and This place giving me The run around on getting a Job when I never had a problem at other prisons I had Been at except for here at Big Muddy. The staff here needs to get Back with Inmates so we have an answer
192. Treat others How You Want To Be Treated Plain & Simple
193. They need to start treating us like human Beings And Not Animals
194. Change the COVID Policy. There's Too Much Time In The Cell Here
195. Treat the inmates equally.
196. I feel they should give Diabetics the proper food and we need better tv channels and the officers need to wear mask so we won't get lockdown cause of them like now
197. They shouldn't let child molesters get away with everything!!
198. the way the staff talks to people needs to change, they talk to us worse than dogs
199. get more programs and group to better areself for the outside world. Better or more channel cause half the time channel even work. Better food
200. More gym and yard time and more job opportunities
201. More programs, more school, more rec, more dayroom
202. the way the staff talk to us
203. Just be treated like a human and respect as a human.
204. To get more time out of the cell. To get more yards per week. To have a honor housing unit for over 40 or 50 years old.
205. Change the warden for a better one who cares about incarcerated people. To give school classes to everybody who is interested. To have people at the law library to help inmates litigate their cases.
206. More dayroom, officers with better attitudes, one who will trust us with respect.
207. Making a lot of men loveing me.
208. Increase our dayroom hours. Food must be improved. Add more TV channels. Improve commissary food add more healthy food and not just high in sodium & sugar
209. Enough of the bullshit lockdowns for no reasons. Medication when people put in stickers to get blister pack, get them on time not 20, 30 days after out of medication
210. Officers need to write tickets for people being out when they should not be. Porters should not be able to hold jobs over 6 mo 1 1/2 years max or wing. Officers should be randomly tested by local law enforcement for drug and alcohol use and staff not know its

- coming. Springfield should show up without telling the prison they are coming and make sure that when they get here front door staff have to stay off radios and all other staff also so they can see what really goes on here. Not the act they put on for them. We have also been told about money missing from commissary, and taken by upper staff. So books should be checked.
211. Giving the incarcerated cell phones dont have to be fancy but using the current company so that inmate have an easier time contacting family avoiding bullying and dayroom time restrictions
 212. Firstly we only get 2 hr days then it switched to 3 hr day every other day it goes from 2 hr to 3 hr and this is medium security we should have 10-14 hrs out of cell time!
 213. They need staff that arent so violently negative & staff that actually give a shit about people.
 214. They need more programs for everybody. Everyone needs to be considered equal.
 215. Stop letting outdates effect your placement into programs, stop playing favoritism with the jobs, and allow everyone a chance to work. More dayroom time. Better food. Most importantly open up transfers so people can get to better prisons.
 216. New administration + staff that follow IDOC administrative directives SDP's get proper therapy + evaluated. Not using same 2 evaluators from Wexford. When outside hospital + specialists give recommendations they be followed.
 217. Equal racial access to jobs and programs. Balanced race staff make up to prison population. More preparation for inmate release back to society, jobs and programs.
 218. Better TV channels with more shows and movies to watch and even sporting events. Better food in dietary and more quantity in stuff we can buy from commissary. Able to have visits outside during summer
 219. None, put need to be run better by the right people it bad
 220. Access commissary and available programs
 221. Get people who can treat us fairly
 222. Train officers that if they want respect, they have to show respect. DO NOT reward and/or encourage confidential sources due to they never tell the truth, only make-up lies on people that they don't like/argue with to have the correctional officers harass them (through cell shakedowns, individual targeting). Administration profusely lies about this problem going on and makes up excuses to have confidential sources that sound good, but rarely does the excuse that they use happens.
 223. More programs
 224. The IBF-inmate benefit fund needs to be audited by an outside auditor and go back at least 2 years because fraud is going on. For 11 months they ordered the cheapest items off commissary, they do not show us movies
 225. Need schooling/programs an opportunity here to do something with your time, on a positive note
 226. New healthcare staff, more organization, better grievance protocol, new medical director that does his/her job, better handling of investigation and handling of punishment including some sgt sending individuals back at chow refusing to feed them as punishment for little things like shirt not tucked in, moving up in line, etc. Then violate a

- lot of our rights and are unlawful when it comes to us. Grievances disappear once filed and all is swept under the rug. BMRCC the most crooked prison I have ever been in.
227. Need all new staff for the staff to do their jobs
 228. For people to lock in and focus on themselves toward growing up and being an adult
 229. More movement, more freedom, staff that care for us.
 230. More time outside of cells. More yard time made available. Every other week only 1 yard day. Improved meal portions. better commissary vendor. More cardio options available at the gym.
 231. Have more classes such as janatorial, barber, and even basic knowledge of grants that are for felons such as the wea grant that will pay a company to hire a felon. And schooling in the area they parole to and jobs. Place hearing impaired inmates closer to the front of the wing to make it a little easier to hear when they call for passes, yard, chow, est.
 232. A new warden that does not think of himself first. Some one to treat offenders more as a self-sustained community of incarcerated individuals.
 233. Make time out of the cell. More yard, and better cable.
 234. To listen! And respect everyone.
 235. Keep the mind focused on things other than gambling or and who is trying to run things. With better games, movies, tv, we won't be out causing problems.
 236. More staff. Better food. More time out of our cells. Better programs that help actual rehabilitation.
 237. (A) Commissary: offerings + fairness in distribution. (B) Cable TV system: all channels fuzzy, many channels go out for weeks, sometimes months. the in-house movie channel is fuzzy, dark, equipment outdated, staff does not know how to operate it. Equipment sold to inmates to use the system is cheap and does not work well. (C) The inhouse communication channel is fussy, poorly administered, not timely updated, not always relevant. (D) Video visit system poorly administered. Software rarely works completely (sometimes no audio w/ video, sometimes reverse, sometimes fails altogether), no rules communicated beforehand like "wear blue shirt" or "visitor must not show phone on video." worst problem: we are given notice (a "pass") the night before but it does not say who set the visit up. I can see why they would not put the whole name—how about the first name only or initials? (C) More communication on campus-wide decisions
 238. Provide channels at BMRCC in which people can learn from like CNBC, have more programs in which people learn certain skills, eg social development, yoga, how to treat the opposite sex and how not to put yourself in situations that can lead to an incarceration specifically if you have children.
 239. More positive programs
 240. More rec time/more dayroom time/better commissary
 241. More time out of cell ... Stop allowing officers to write tickets because they can and the way they talk
 242. Make all C/O and staff follow the rules. Like we do if we break rules we get punished they break rules and get away with it
 243. Get rid of DR replace with someone who cares. Re-design healthcare. Get proper dietary manager. Replace with someone who's attitude and favorite saying isn't "we only

- have to feed you." The food is awful no care. He's too worried about how much money to save the state, so he can get his bonus "that's right from other staff"
244. Better food and better people
 245. After **[30+]** years they could set me free, after getting 70 years or more older and getting worse health wise.
 246. Better staff and better programs to help you get ready for release
 247. Offer more programs and incentives
 248. That ALL staff be involved in helping inmates prepare for their release. I have been here now for **[40+]** years with little hope of being released.
 249. We need new wardens and better and more food and more time out of cells
 250. More time at yard and dayroom.
 251. More mental health visits.
 252. Just keep up the good work.
 253. For staff to continue to learn and acknowledge more when it comes to being humane with the interaction of incarcerated hardship.
 254. Get the staff to work together and know what the other is doing, what's expected of one also must just come to work for the pay check, and either sit or stand around all day. Am not just saying this to be spiteful.
 255. Hire people who really care about recidivism. Bring some program that help the individual and don't put them in the same category. we are not the same.
 256. counseling for staff
 257. Shutting down the SDP program due to lack of staff and not getting any better because prison and treatment don't mix
 258. People like myself, who have violent crimes and have been locked up a long time are being ignored when it comes to mental health (lots of PTSD cases) and real job training before release.
 259. My suggestion is to give to every inmate the opportunity to receive education even if they have more than 5 yrs.
 260. Stop kissing the stool pigeons asses and the other colored races other than white people
 261. More time out of my cell 6+ hrs, educational + mental health resources improved to assist convicts + civilly committed who are confined to receive such treatment + rehabilitation to be eventually released upon recovery. More reentry assistance upon release for SDPs and convicts
 262. Staff need to understand that jail is a mental health thing.
 263. Better commissary—need more items and lower prices. Also—bigger portions in chow hall
 264. Give us more opportunities as far as jobs/programs and school as far as at least people with no bad behavior. Also we need more freedom as far as dayroom and yard/gyms
 265. Staff do their jobs, better food—plus better cleaning stuff, more dayrooms, more movement, better commissary, never no commissary, always out of everything
 266. Feds take over, get wardens who are about us. Let me out, I am going on **[25+]** years in here.
 267. More accountability of staff and inmates! Better gym and yard schedule, more phones on the wings. More competent food supervisors and inmate kitchen workers

268. To treat all us as equals. There's no difference between a sex offender and a murderer. But they only allow sex offenders to have certain jobs, so there aren't enough jobs for a sex offender. But if they treat us as equals, there'll be enough jobs for everyone. Everyone deserves equal opportunity, everyone has committed a crime, so why are you discriminating against sex offenders.
269. A true prison council that is neutral to all and can make good neutral decisions to bring to the upper staff to better the living conditions of the prison and overall treatment between staff and IIC
270. Any improvement will be shallow and temporary unless a complete paradigm shift occurs. A focus on actual rehabilitation, a discontinuation of using the prisoners' crimes as justification for staff negligence, and all administration that has integrity rather than one who sees laws and directives as optional.
271. Give everyone equality
272. Fix the broken system in place. Every shift leaves notes for the next shift coming on shift, treating people as people. Having more time out of the cell. More rehabilitation avenues: college courses, vocational courses. Mental health services + reentry services upon release
273. Replace administration. Replace all mental health staff. Increase oversight
274. More out of the cell. Enough with the slavery-like tactics of 2023. Like being couped up in a stove or refrigerated cell 18-23 hours a day. Feed us society food, not food you wouldn't give your pets
275. Better food. Better mental health therapists. People to repair wheelchairs and other things
276. People that work here need to do their jobs, and give us what we suppose to get also stop letting inmates run things.
277. None! Every time you (J.H.A.) do one of these surveys + then give your recommendations for improvement, this facility does absolutely nothing to improve conditions here!
278. Letting us out so that we can be with family.
279. Allow family to send food and clothing to incarcerated people. Hold staff to a higher standard of accountability for all their wrong doings. There are no checks and balances used in the correct way to punish staff for stealing and refusing to do their jobs properly. In other states like New York, family members can send food and clothing they buy from vendors directly. More diversity in jobs. It seems that staff only employ white prisoners in certain places because they feel more comfortable with them. Fix the cable system. For five years they (staff) has lied and said they would allow more cable channels to be viewed. The funds from inmates' trust fund are used to pay for cable, weights, and other leisure time activities supposedly! But they (staff) lie when they report about spending the funds for leisure time like how they report about buying weights, balls, cable every year. They do not buy weights and balls yearly. They pay for the basic cable but block all the channels except 50 channels. So we are forced to watch only the channels they want us to view. What is the purpose of paying for basic cable channels and not allowing us to view them. Then they (staff) lie and tell us that the cable provider only has the channels that we view. This survey doesn't seem to have ANY teeth to hold the prison

- accountable for their actions! This is not the only survey I have filled out. It's the 10th survey from John Howard!!
280. well everything that I put in the letter on the front page is everything that needs to be fix and then some
 281. undercover prisoners to give feedback and info to brass in law enforcement and IDOC entities. Big Muddy needs oversite from outside sources—outside to inside contraband—state property out thru sally port etc. expenditures, use of state materials
 282. too many to list
 283. more activities, more programs to help rehabilitate into a productive member of society
 284. staff members need to be more familiar with rules and apply said rules in a fair, consistent manner. Staff members especially in important departments such as healthcare, need to be more responsive and/or get it done in a more timely manner
 285. need outside help. The Living conditions are inhumane
 286. hit us inmates, they lock us down
 287. more phones. better commissary
 288. Better everything overall. Remove these high level inmates away from all the sex offenders if put with us all in danger and have us bullied a lot
 289. have workers and healthcare who care about people and are good at those jobs and dietary workers who would know how to cook and penpal services for inmates
 290. more treatment staff
 291. give me a way to get out
 292. more time out of cells. More wreck. More opportunity.
 293. if theyre not going to give us adequate therapy then it needs to be found unconstitutional for people under SDP law and are suppose to be getting court order therapy and aren't
 294. better TV, better food, better store, more time out of the cell, more gym, yard, better healthcare
 295. find the intelligent prisoners who can show you how to make it right. But you don't care. You just want the money.
 296. None I wish they close it down and stop giving job to people that didn't take the covid shot.
 297. completely redo this prison from the ground up and monitor it by someone who is qualified and unbiased. Pay inmate workers a fair wage and don't treat them like slaves. I work 7 days a week for 23.00 a month. How is that not slavery
 298. Start releasing more SDPs instead of holding them and blaming them for not progressing when there is no real program that helps!
 299. more treatment staff
 300. give us a job that can make us feel helpful and use on the outside
 301. Better cable, more channels. Bigger fans—better cooling fan. Transfer SDPs—everybody knows were not supposed to be in a prison setting. We eat with population, sit in H/C, go to commissary, church, barbershop with population. But we cannot work, yard/gym, concerts, school, sporting activities softball /handball with population. We only get on wing jobs! This place picks and chooses.
 302. Get rid of the system that has never worked for over 65% of the people who enter it. Many leave worst than how they came in being damaged physically and psychologically.

303. Quit fighting the laws that are in place. Have more programs to help people know about the help that is out there to prevent them from coming back. More hands on training with pay, more outside involvement from employees who will hire these guys. Work on creating 1/2 way houses who will accept sex offenders willing to make changes and continue in helpful therapy.
304. change of leadership (warden **[REDACTED]**) and implement a fair system
305. get more yard & gym a month. Officers to keep inmates under control
306. they should make more opportunity for people to get in school and get a job also put more care into there food
307. nothing
308. More treatment staff that are concerned about treatment than keeping someone here for 30/40 years.
309. We shouldn't have to pay for court cost to make "supposedly" good people, not do bad things to us. I wasn't a bad person prior to prison **[30+]** years ago. I did a bad thing. These people are far from good as a whole.
310. More phones to stop fights and problems, better communication, better food more options for yard/gym, and less time in cell (longer dayrooms). Bigger cell, Better Beds.
311. more job needed for offenders
312. More time out of the cell. Yard and gym schedules are good, but we only come out for 2 hours on dayrooms. An hour in the morning and an hour at night. Also some changes to administrative services. It takes too long to accomplish certain tasks, and often time requests are out right refused with no reason given. It's made it impossible to get important tasks done for those who do not have outside support. Inmates are given too little information regarding institutional operations to know how to go through proper channels. they also have very little information regarding their rights.
313. Treat everyone the same, not just certain inmates
314. Make C/Os work more, stop punishing all of us when a few people brake the rules.
315. give us school for us to get our g.e.d. give other inmates chance to work more programs and more ways to get good time for inmates that are staying out of trouble 1-3 tickets out of 12 months shouldn't stop inmates from get work school or good time.
316. Eliminar o reducir la cantidad de mantequilla que se usa para preparar cada alimento. Introducir la venta de linaza o Metamucil; mas productos con fibra que nos ayude a limpiar el sistema digestivo ya que el medicamento aqui recetado—fiberlax y ducolax—no son efectivos para muchos. Que los oficiales hagan el recorrida por las celdas cada 15 min. como deberian de estarlo haciendo y no lo hacen esto ayudaría mucho.
[TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH: Eliminate or reduce the amount of butter that is used to prepare each food. Introduce the sale of linseed or Metamucil; more products with fiber that help us clean the digestive system since the medication prescribed here—fiberlax and ducolax—are not effective for many. That the officials do the walk through the cells every 15 min. as they should be doing and do not do, this would help a lot.]
317. get some programs available
318. Honestly just give people more opportunity to behave themselves while here. Let people get their good time, let us out these cells, this prison is literally 22 in 2 out if that. It just

- feel like we've being held against our will "captive" in a cell not going to school, work or anything to take the overwhelming stress build away.
319. Fire everyone! And start new, stop the hate! Get books in the library, that are good! Fix the healthcare unit!
 320. If you are having problems with your cellie, the Sgt. Should be able to move you to a different cell, instead of waiting to go through placement. You shouldn't be punished for removing yourself from a bad situation (seg.) for walking yourself and refusing housing.
 321. More SDP treatment staff that are qualified + committed to staying + providing effective treatment geared towards eventual release.
 322. Get more people into programs and eliminate the racism of white staff.
 323. N/A
 324. Find out more about the individual before you sentence them, get a better understanding of where they fit in. Instead of just tossing them to the wolfs.
 325. more time out of the cell and the fags moved to another prison
 326. It has become apparent that staff has the problem of keeping commissary stocked and has great difficulty in ordering tools and equipment for maintenance to safely and efficiently do their work. This process needs to be simplified and easier to accomplish these tasks.
 327. Better staff relationship with inmates, better inmate commissary, cleaner dayroom.
 328. Separate individuals who are in relationship. Stop selling make-up. It only encourages
 329. **[ILLEGIBLE]** to have art supplies, better commissary, yard, movie, **[ILLEGIBLE]**
 330. The LGBTQ+ community needs help from staff; better commissary; more out of cell time; quicker sick call response; quicker access to needed medical attention, treatment + personel; less discriminating against LGBTQ+, for job assignments
 331. Need more camera's particularly on bottom level, provide cleaning supplies, equal opportunities for phone access and over 40 gym, change shower curtains monthly.
 332. Hold administration + security staff accountable for their actions or lack of in most cases, hire a competent medical provider and nursing staff.
 333. Food! Commissary!
 334. What this institution need's, is for the Office of Executive Inspector General of the Agencies of the Illinois Governor, to seriously visit and have a conversation with **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
 335. Psychological evaluations on staff. Better oversight in day-to-day systems. Programs to promote self-worth and positive change.
 336. Give more time out the cell a day, like two-three hours a shift
 337. Equal opportunity programs even if you have a long time, better C/Os
 338. One area of improvement would be to lesson the power that homos and trannies have in terms of placement and assignments. (They determine who goes where). 2nd area of improvement is too give the people with 50% the job to induce and entice the good behavior that is wanted. Also they need to eliminate this system where only inmates with office "recommendations" get jobs because that leaves mainly the "snitch" and informants the jobs.
 339. Hire more qualified mental health providers + treatment staff for the SDP program.

340. Hire all new staff members starting with the top on down. After new staff then add programs that could help inmates on the outside of this place to give inmates a chance to do matter. New employees first because the ones in position is the ones letting all the pain and dirt continue with staff here
341. Accountability for staff and oversight.
342. Tear it down and burn it.
343. Staff who are open minded
344. More time out of cell, better work environment, better commissary, better sick procedures
345. They need to help people more.
346. That this in high position, still do walk arounds. They do that every blue moon and that we learn about programs thru their mouth. Instead then inmates! Then it's too late to join.
347. You need a change of heart and mind within all those who govern and run these institutions. We are human still, not animals. People treat their animals better than they do in here! We need god back in society and being taught to the world. That's the only way anything will change to help us!
348. If I go to group more, and people on the wing stop having sex and talking about sex too, and stop acting like a woman when there not.
349. Better healthcare. Better food in dietary. More options on the commissary
350. The way some of the officer and staff talk to inmate and so don't what to help you or make a call so someone else can help you.
351. A different warden
352. Commissary selections, medical attention, cleaning supplies, be able to order food once per week ie. Fresh Favorites. Jay-See club.
353. Redo the grievance procedures, as well as, the disciplinary procedures to where at least feel as if we have been heard instead of being found guilty simply because we have received a ticket
354. To treat the prisoners like humans until they don't deserve it
355. More trained, licensed and professionals who want the job to help sex offender, and not just for the money. The female staff dressing more appropriately, and not in tight pants or low cut tops, because that is a trigger for me.
356. Treat everyone the same not change rules everyday to cater to certain people.
357. Unfortunately, nothing that I would say can be done. Systems in place like this one are managed by people in power who are the same as you and me; imperfect. So, it doesn't matter how many suggestions one can provide. At the end, the only thing that matters is that none of any residing person in this place causes harm to the world, and its citizens.
358. Hold staff accountable for creating hostile environments. Remove glass that was placed for covid inside visiting rooms, if I can be around staff why can't I be around my family. More time out of cell to communicate w/ family
359. Allow everybody to take Ed classes and more Ed class. I have a highschool diploma and take class because of a tab test that I fail and they won't even let me retake it and there's no one to help me with so for 4 year no ED class and It's only like 2

360. What's it matter- you refuse to talk and contact people (warden [REDACTED] @ BMRCC and [NAME AND POSITION REDACTED]) and resolve.
361. Complete new staff.
362. segregate whites and blacks, train staff that they are not here to punish us
363. ?
364. Quit letting power hungry pieces of shit run things around here. They try and do hold everything over our heads. Especially dietary and commissary.
365. separate aggressive inmates from non-aggressive inmates
366. First: demolish! Next: new floor plan Finally: have prison crew to assemble!
367. I need [ILLEGIBLE]...celly assignments first—instead radical different like put people together with commonality
368. everything
369. get a warden that knows how to run a prison and his guards
370. reform in administration! need to put phone calls on tablet. Staff need to be taught integrity
371. Better and more respectful in healthcare. ADA compatability, better food and better cooked food. More choices & better prices at the commissary. \$1.65 for a soda, almost 50¢ for a ramen noodle. Staff that actually helps you doesn't just lie to you. To get answers back on my inmate request. Better TV stations, that actually come in. To recieve cleaning supplies like bleach so we can clean our cells, especially with covid & flu around.
372. Giving more classes to take and more freedom out of our cell.
373. more movement, extended visits, better commissary. Better quality of food served at chow need phone app in tablet to better use phone.
374. Either fire everyone and start over from the top or shut it down—they don't have a clue—they commit crimes against the people here
375. Don't come back
376. 1) focus on creating a "higher educated population" 2) focus on creating a "able body work force." thru industry, 3) allow for better options, on commissary entertainment, (cable)
377. more programs and jobs and a better cable system
378. While it may sound petty, this prison, at a minimum, should provide us with a much better cable system and better options as far as commissary purchases, as those are great pacifiers for those of us confined to our cells as long as we are. Being that we pay for our cable system, we should at least be provided with a basic cable package (Menard C.C. has a full-blown basic cable package that comes with a 50 channel music program). Instead, we are given a sub, sub, sub basic cable package, with the severely limited number of stations that we do get being picked by the admin. Further, as a \$600/month add on, we get 6 satellite radio stations of their choice. As all IDOC prison cable systems are paid for by the Central Inmate Benefit Fund (including ours and Menard's), one would think that we would all have the opportunity to be "pacified" by a decent cable television system like Menard's. Unfortunately, this warden does not see it that way. It seems like they made a bad deal (or it's misappropriation of funds). Along those same lines is the commissary. They provide us with an extremely limited variety of

items that we are allowed to purchase to the bare minimum. It makes no sense. The commissary is in the business of making money. They make a lot of money off of the individuals. Yet, it seems that they are a business that does not want to be a business. As I previously stated, both the cable system and the commissary are great pacifiers for those of us confined to our cells for as many hours per day as we are. They just dont care. They would rather spite us no matter what.

379. more class to help in the real world
380. open the school, keep programs going, allow equal opportunities for everyone and not just snitches. Dental, medical + eye needs to be able to answered promptly. Why not put everything on the tablet. Health request slips, dietary, phones
381. fire every prison worker not doing their job including properly answering offender requests. hold remaining facilitators accountable for not moving required inmates through VSOTP as stipulated. push other counselors into open positions in VSOTP until open positions can be filled. rewrite/update prison manual to reflect actual policies, procedures, and conduct as applied here. move mentally ill and addicts to their respective facilities
382. Get a new warden
383. This is my first time being incarcerated. I try very hard to follow and obey rules. In many situations if one individual disobeys the rules then everyone is punished. I think this is unfair—whats the incentive???
384. Getting better foods and better medical care for everybody. And medics. Real food supervisor not officers acting like food sup. teaching guys how to cook food right. P.A. that know what they are doing Doc that and N.P.R that know what they is getting pay for treating people and saving lifes
385. I believe we should definately have more classes that are more realistic. We need forklift certification. OSHA safety 10 class. We definety need more substance abuse inner circle/winner circle through task.
386. open it up. Incarcerated people are a resources under utilized.
387. Let the SDP program move to mental health so we can gut the real treatment. Instead of the staff that hates us.
388. Proper training
389. New warden and administration
390. Open more opportunity for programing + learning. Maybe online classes. Cycle out 100% + 85% inmates and lifers from jobs. more human interaction for people who will be released soon, get them used to doing things right.
391. The race card is used so much the C/Os afraid of doing anything they pop out nothing gets done, but a white inmates pops out he goes to seg and gets a ticket. This prison needs to be fair for all races.
392. More out of cell time, put phone on tablets, better food, real trades for employment, get real programs
393. More yard, better for counseling, food and programs
394. get a/c, more TV channels, fix grievances, procedures to be fair, more yard time, cheaper commissary, more state pay, fire PA [REDACTED] —rudd, smart ass mouth dont care about you

395. More positive, vocational programs—the yard remains empty too many hours a day—it is utilized 2 hours per day (7am - 3pm)
396. One person or group people train all new officers so all rules are the same
397. Talk to us. Not all of us are uneducated or looking for constant handouts some of us want to get the chance to go home and be successful and we can give you ideas on how to help the others who aren't mentally prepared get prepared.
398. There needs to be more program counselors to teach behavior classes. They should look for ones that are motivated to help others want to change even if it means giving them a benefit to teach well.
399. Increase staff that actually care. Inform security personnel to leave all their issues at home and not judge. "Do your job people." Ive been here 2 yr and have not seen dentist or had some medical issues taken care of we are told we are on the list, be patient. "Two damn years??" and counting.
400. Staff should be held to the same standard as individuals in custody to follow rules.
401. For all staff member be exam for mental evals. Cameras added to their security core, control bubble, an all blind spots to show their conducts while on duty. better programs for inmates, more job titles cus there is not enough for everyone to be assigned to a job here with different pay range not just certain assignments.
402. More accountability. Police need to be policed.
403. Staff getting the porter's to clean walls rails tables doors phones with bleach and not just sit around. Staff not showing favourites and stop letting people out that should not be out. Staff can be asked questions an insted of saying they dont know they lie. that That could stop. They give better food with more on tray insted of the 1/2 cup of things. they could give us cleaning supplies to clean our cells.
404. dayroom, yard, better commissary, mental health, programs, dentist, healthcare, classes for learning skills to stay out
405. Staff seems to intend to try and keep people here for as long as possible, give people the good time they deserve. Focus more on helping people be successful in the future rather than trying too keep them locked up.
406. more effective therapy for civilly committed persons.
407. 1. Better food. 2. Better treatment 3. and more caring about others.
408. More dayroom time
409. Need outdate [20+] years is a long time for a 2nd to a year [ILLEGIBLE]. Can't get legal assistance that the state [ILLEGIBLE]. I don't know my rights or how to use them
410. Big Muddy need to have a Dints. that will get his or her job done
411. Put inmate in the process of ideas of whats wrong with this prison
412. Don't change too much its a good prison SAFE place. Allow smoking tobacco again or a designated place to smoke tobacco.
413. Replace officers with better officers + healthcare as well
414. Better Healthcare, More jobs for Inmates who are Eligible for good time
415. Should be an entire Prison for Transgender inmates.

Q15. Please write any other comments or feedback on this survey below.

1. Besides commissary maybe give some opportunities to earn good time. And we should get more than only one hour per shift.
2. I do desire to use the phone more, but there are soo much gang politics & bullying that I often choose to stay in this cell, because the C/O's allow the inmates & assigned porters to run the wings. Could you please help at least turn on the phone app in our tablets? Then I could have meaningful contact with my family inside the cell where it is safer! PLEASE apply some pressure in Springfield to get the phones turned on our tablets.
3. I got job here after trying for almost a yr. Got job in maintenance was walking down sidewalk with coworker only had job for week. We was talking about how this is going to be a good yr. **[STAFF NAME AND POSITION REDACTED]** called me off to the side and said to me mother fucker you got a problem with your job contract? Way out of line even my co workers were blown away. I said no we were not even talking about job contracts. She said you are a fucking liar and fired me. Now I am blackballed from working here. I havent been in any trouble at all here treat people with respect I have been screwed out of **[90+ days]** good time I earned in Drug Program and screwed out of work now also I have talked with **[STAFF NAME AND POSITION REDACTED]** **[STAFF NAME AND POSITION REDACTED]** wich nothing has been done Ive also filed grievances I have the good time contracts with me Ive earned **[100+]** day total but only have had 50 days applied rite. Ive been screwed out of EPSC earned program sentence credit **[90+]** days and just got screwed out of job with maintenance. Because staff is very unprofessional here
4. Overall I will be ok here this prison.
5. Most fights are over phones. Counselors do not help you they just tell you to go to someone else. It would be nice to have real help with legal issues like help getting a divorce. Staff should eat the same food prepaired the same way.
6. In March I will reach my **[30+]**th consecutive year of incarceration. Over the years my family and I have been in close contact with the JHA, and I've had many meetings with **[NAME REDACTED]** and others. While I appreciate and praise what you do, this new generation is ignorant and there is no getting through to the vast majority of short timers who only care to complain verbally. I'm sure that along with the extremely low morale and lack of faith that people want to help us, will result in a low response turnout. I get it because if I didn't know any better I'd believe the same thing. Over the weekend I will send you a longer letter with a proposal that I submitted to Director Jeffreys last year. There are some small and easy changes like above that can change the prisons for the better while addressing accountability and offering incentives.
7. I have been in B.M. prison for **[10+]** years. My prayer is that I stay here. The rest of my 4 years right here :) Thank you!
8. The physician's assistant is not helpful, often condescending & doesn't treat us like we are human.

9. This is a safe prison, staff in dietary are amazing guys they help us out ... The wardens are spinmasters who it seems they love to lie to us!!!
10. A lot of people in this facility can pick choose who there celly is but people who are in the LGBTQ community get nothing but as we said to staff how do you know there are not gay or on no homosexual stuff you don't you only know what a person displays and then you still dont know. No way to communicate issues to IDOC Springfield Authority it usually ends up in the trash can by mail room personal
11. Note: I am civilly committed, all answers are for the treatment staff—not the prison staff. Civil commitment is unconstitutional—violates the rights of individuals—should be done away with—as done in other humane states
12. There are people here who have been approved for transfer & have been waiting for up to 10 months. How am I supposed to low my security level if I'm just sitting in my cell all day.
13. I am a civilly committed sex offender incarcerated per Illinois' "Sexually Dangerous Persons" program. To my knowledge, Sexually Dangerous Persons (SDPs) (there are approximately 170 of us), represent the ONLY civilly committed sex offender population incarcerated in a PRISON. Rather than a TREATMENT CENTER, in the US (I may be wrong). We currently have ONE counselor, ONE hour of treatment a week & NO textbooks or workbooks. WE NEED HELP. It does no good to say that funds "should" go to prisoners serving regular prison sentences who are in sex offender treatment "because they are due to be released sooner." That is exactly a\$\$-backward of the point: WITHOUT AN ADEQUATE PROGRAM, MOST SDPs WILL NEVER GET OUT AT ALL!!! We are losing hope.
14. No ones supervising this prison. Sex, drugs, cigarettes, fights on a monthly basis, no staff sees a thing. Unless you have a family on the outside, your not getting medical treatment. Spent a month, no meds, reissued, have heart, lung problems.
15. Let's be honest—there really will be no change—prisoners live with this depressing hope. We know the system will fail because it too is run by people who live in their own prison, it might not have bars and gates, but it functions as a type of slavery in its own right. Unless you can make people love each other then the abuse will continue. The only way you could make people love each other is if you were God. You are not. God is love, He is our only hope for change.
16. This jail is focused on the wrong thing and should focus more on helping rather than punishment.
17. IDOC does not foster an environment which rewards positive behavior or encourages personal growth. It uses language changes ("individual in custody" instead of "inmate") in place of actual changes in staff behavior.
18. Fix the commissary, they don't even have coffee they buy the cheapest of everything. I can't get desent boxers or anything. Also important yard and gym mostly yard.
19. If someone writes me personally, I will disclose many concerns about this place, both on a security level, an inmate in custody.
20. Mentally ill inmates are being locked in cell for 23 1/2 hours a day.
21. I don't know if every other prison is like this one but I know it's probably not. This prison system down here is terrible. They don't have the right tools to give anybody so when we

- come home we don't end up back. It's like they don't want anybody to leave this place to sum it all up. It's bad down here!
22. We, People of Color hate the White Supremacy Criminal System. We thousand will get military thinking and action against white supremacist in Black Districts. We will boycott house n*****s from Black Districts forever. We don't trust the White Supremacist Criminal System and teach our new generation and children. They should have Critical, Military thinking for Next Generation and every state in Amerikkka. Black people shouldn't talk or trust Whiten Enforcement Agency's and update Military Arm's. (Malcolm X teach about House negro's A.K.A. Arnold Benndic, traitor against George Washington) By: All People of Color & New African American 100s & 100,000
 23. The healthcare here is substandard! I've been in the medical field for years before coming to prison and this place is full of lawsuits.
 24. N/A
 25. Please help civilly committed persons
 26. Stop allowing inmates to pass out call passes. That is a security issue. Stop allowing inmates to pick up medication refill stickers. That is a nurses job and invades the privacy of inmates medical issues. Allow inmates to change therapist when they don't trust, or is in issue, with they current therapist!
 27. We need pussy in are life prison will be way better and ciguarettes to smoke it releases stress
 28. Certen inmates are out all the time and they are not workers or porters, they fix the door and when the C/O leaves the wing they come out. They will bully and gang up on you or start untrue storeys
 29. I don't have any other comments
 30. There are a lot of good people working and living here. We need to tell the prison population that how we treat each other and staff is how we will ultimately be treated in the end. Kind words go a long way. Even when we don't really mean them or feel that way at that particular moment. But it does pay in the end.
 31. N/A
 32. I want to thank you for your help and time in making my time incarcerated more positive.
 33. They need to treat all persons the same. Officers here seem to be afraid of black inmates and are pushed around by them. They get more time out of their cells by jamming doors and refusing to lock up. If white guys do the same they are taken to SEG. They allow homosexuals to engage in sexual activities. I feel it is even encouraged allowing them to purchase bras, panties, and make-up. Most of the time the straight inmates cannot even purchase tank tops, boxer briefs, and socks, and t-shirts. Because they never have them. This prison is so off balanced and it's a continuing trend. People who are not allowed good time hold all the jobs for people who can earn good time. I think spots for good time should be given to guys who are close to home in sentence length. This way crowding in prison can be reduced. Multiple guys here are minimum security inmates. They have been approved for transfers and have been waiting months to leave. This is a high medium prison these guys shouldn't be here. Over all this place is like human warehousing. We get here and held until our outdate with nothing positive. Stuck in cells and forgotten. Some kept past our outdate. Only thing to look forward to is

- good time we earn. But they take forever to give it to us if we get it at all. Sorry, I am just highly disturbed and stressed over the good time I am owed and not receiving. I hope you can help. I hope this survey helps you. Thank you and bless you all at JHA.
34. More time out the cell. Yard, gym, library 2 hours each first and second shift. Quality videos. Need far better mental service. Actual doctors. Vitamin C to fight COVID-19 or other virus. More early releases!
 35. More teachers, less **[ILLEGIBLE]** with officers, and more food on trays
 36. What good is this survey? Nothing is changing. IDOC prisons are becoming worse than they ever before.
 37. I was supposed to be released in **[MONTH REDACTED]** on parole but this facility won't lift a finger to help.
 38. The amount of food we get is not the same and getting smaller, like the cake we get started a square peaces, then that went to cupcakes, now we get half a cupcake. Staff does like PREA they think it's a joke they don't care and you tell staff something sexual and don't do anything about it. One is **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]**. She has been told a lot of sexual thing going on the wing she does not report it. Staff need to take things we tell them like sexual, or problems as it's the truth 100% when they do not even at 5% or 10%.
 39. I will be suing this facility for torture, lack of effort from healthcare, racial profile
 40. Can't keep the most basic items in commissary. No rice for months, no coffee for months, no noodles for months. Don't want to transfer anyone, counselors lie about criteria. Can't process contracts in an appropriate amount of time.
 41. Please think about this. This might not come to whoever it suppose to go to. They don't want the truth to get out!
 42. To much gay activitys and guards using inmates to snitch and blowing there cover
 43. It is a good survey as far as I can tell. Ask me again in a year.
 44. If this survey is treated like some of the key staff at Big Muddy prison, all these surveys will end up in the trash. Thank you.
 45. The cell too small, bad bed, bad chair that make back pains, dietary do cook not right that make me vomit. Also that water from sink that leak not clear. Me TV channels is not very good program much killing, raping, fighting and also too poor to watch and not much channels. The cell is not real fresh air. In summer (very hot) no elec. air condition only fan, ceiling fan are too low and dirty.
 46. I believe COVID testing is discriminatory and biased. Everybody should be tested or nobody should be tested. Testing is useless and ineffective for the fact vaccinated people can still get and pass COVID. You could have a vaccinated person walking dietary, around everybody, passing COVID, and would not know because they don't get tested. Only the cell testing positive for COVID should be locked down and isolated because with everybody testing every week the spread could be contained.
 47. Staff needs to be retrained concerning their conduct. Improve system (kiosk) in library. Have longer dayrooms or more time out of cells. We are forced at Big Muddy to lock doors during night and dayroom and cannot reenter. If we do, we must miss dayroom. Only toilet is upstairs. People have low gallery permits and are in wheelchairs. No access to toilets.

48. I feel that this prison Big Muddy River, supports instead of not supporting bullying rather mentally or physically by inmates and by staff!!! I feel this is wrong and this issue should be address.
49. 1. Increase of payment for work assignments. 2. A unit for 50 and older as well as gym and yards.
50. The mask mandate is still in effect for congregate living places, e.g. prisons, homeless shelters, old folks homes, etc. but staff-officers, nurses, counselors, etc. are not wearing masks while around us which puts us on the inside at risk for illness/lockdowns. We desperately need someone to intervene.
51. Don't know
52. We are catching covid-19 left and right because staff don't ware mask you can still catch covid-19 and give it to other people even if your vaccinated.
53. The staff here do not care about incarcerated people, because if they did, they will wear their mask at all time no matter what the reason is. But they are not wearing their mask at all. Only some staffs are. But what im trying to get at here is this prison needs a lot of improvements. It just need some work, a lot of work.
54. Was told I was getting a transfer to Sheridan a year ago—signed the paperwork. Found out later that they never submitted it. Commissary here is a joke. Went 5-6 months w/no coffee.
55. What is this for when you ignore the helpless, people scream for help and what are you going to do? How do people get help when the doors and peoples ears are closed.
56. Q6—currently locked-down for COVID. Q9—All prisons are stressful—this is the only prison I've spent significant time in. I've always preferred solitude & prefer being locked up by myself most of the time anyways. A lot of the younger folks like the dayroom activity as much as they can get. I like being able to go for a shower & thats it; maybe a little conversation, but I really can't think of much to talk about. I don't find prison a fun place to be.
57. Thank you, I'm surprised that I got it.
58. There needs to be more programs, more jobs, more time out of the cell to get people close to going home the chance to transcend from prison life to living normal life.
59. I can't get into school living in the H.C.U so I can't get any good time at all. For any reason we cant get it if you live in the H.C.U. no matter what no good time.
60. better cooperation in employment and employee
61. N/A
62. More dayroom time. Food. Art supplies. Treated as a human.
63. Military veterans need to have access to a Veteran's rep. So they can address issues that can be resolved with proper help. I am recieveing my military disability and wish to open a savings account. However, being in prison though civally committed is not a possibility.
64. I don't think its fair to put me on pay restriction for failing my TABE Test. I have a job that makes \$32 a month but I can only get \$17 because of my restriction. And due to my time I have left I can't get into school to bring my score up because they go by outdates. So now I'm being punished for being stupid?! Any time this prison has an audit or people come in to inspect this place, they get a week or so heads notice, they cook the best

- lunch. Big portions and put on this show that everything is good here, then when the people from Springfield walk around the LT.'s, Sgts., wardens all walk around with them so we can't voice our complaints, without further retaliation.
65. The courts have been ignoring my reply, A.D.A. cells give less room, more questions
 66. Whatever you think you can change nothing is going to be done about it
 67. They need to start giving out good time to non-violent offenders and those who have good conduct.
 68. Do away civilly held SDP law. Illegally held to no medical proof is only a communist way hold innocent person for life on **[ILLEGIBLE]**/copycat case, on my part
 69. There still letting other inmates come here from other jail's even when we are back down for Covid-19 lockdown, covid-19 is a joke here to staff
 70. This state and nation is cursed including you if nothing is done about those last two boxed answers, Q13 & Q14. You'll see it first with friend and family and then you will go
 71. The big muddy river correctional center is utilized as a prison to punish those convicts from other prisons throughout illinois. Its a outdated prison that requires lots of maintenance. The cells are way too small for two people to inhabit. It takes years to get any medical attention or anything done. Which is reflected in the high mortality rate at BMRCC and the health issues dealt with be the inmate population!
 72. Please help us with GTL/ViaPath. They say it up to IDOC for us to get new games, IDOC says it is up to GTL. We have had the same games for the past 4 years. All we want as the paying customers is some in games. Can you help?
 73. My outdate is **[DATE REDACTED]**, however I signed a contract for career tech on **[DATE REDACTED]**. The contract in writing had an end date for **[DATE REDACTED]**. At that time I participated in career tech for **[10+]** days, I ask to be credited for those days because of the quarantine lockdown for two weeks the staff in particularly is mean spirited her body language is aggressive and unprofessional.
 74. Big Muddy River C.C. needs administration reviewed & someone needs to become aware of whats REALLY going on down here with dietary, healthcare, commissary, Leisure time etc.
 75. I really think this place needs to be shut down for good its not up to code and its nasty in here for real.
 76. The mental health only help you here if you fall into a certain group. The staff are completely disorganized, 1st shift follows one set of roles, 2nd shift another. On 2nd shift we are locked out of our cells at dayroom time and forced to use the dayroom toilet upstairs which was supposed to be removed per PREA. I don't feel safe using this toilet and am not even supposed to go upstairs because I have a history of having seizures. Also the staff allow the gang chiefs to dictate who comes out of the cell to work. They allow **[INDIVIDUAL IN CUSTODY (IIC) NAME REDACTED]** and **[IIC NAME REDACTED]** to dictate who comes out and also allow **[IIC NAME REDACTED]** to dilute our weekly allowance of laundry soap so he can sell bottles of it for \$8.00 each. He has his cell mate **[IIC NAME REDACTED]** steal more laundry soap, bleach, and other supplies from the institutional laundry so he can sell this stuff and we suffer for it. We're never given proper cleaning supplies and even now when we're on quarantine the C/Os don't enforce the porters to clean the phones and common use areas/objects, facilities

- between dayrooms. The porters are also not given adequate amounts of cleaning supplies to do a proper job of cleaning.
77. Thus far, the several surveys I have filled out for John Howard have led to one or two scathing reports being written. However, they have led to zero positive changes. I still hold onto hope. For me, hope is something that can only exist when all empirical evidence shows no reason for hope to exist. I hope that his survey leads to something positive and I thank you for your time and consideration.
 78. A lot of people are approved for transfer to minimum camps and have been held here like hostages. I have been approved since **[MONTH REDACTED]** of 2022 for transfer yet here I am still here. I have not had an in person visit in almost 4 full years and my mother is not so healthy and I still have **[5+]** years to do unless laws change that affect my case.
 79. I have only been incarcerated at Big Muddy River CC, so have no comparable experience.
 80. Healthcare, seem to neglect individuals or ignore request flat out with no response, when an individual writes a grievance about the issue, they are treated completely different, not in a helping way. Some individuals including myself now have lifelong issues and problems because of the neglect that the PA just specifically ignores. Dr. is great, and half the healthcare staff act as if their duties are difficult. If I was getting paid what they are I'd have a different attitude towards individuals that at least try.
 81. Please look into our current covid lockdowns, lack of yard, recreation, dayroom, no programming for anyone. The programming issue, they call us to go through all interview process, tell us what we are available for, ask us why we are interested in, we get excited, 2 1/2 years later, still not in the program. What can we do? Please help with these things, Thank you so much.
 82. This comes from big muddy river c.c.
 83. Thank you!
 84. There's no getting out of B.M.R.C.C., there's several people who have been trying for 5+ years and are stuck here. It's impossible to get good time unless you work a job. You're just stuck in this prison.
 85. I am currently in litigation in the US District Court, Southern District of Illinois regarding the lack of treatment in the SDPP. I would like a copy of the survey results. My name and ID # are as follows: **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**. Thank you.
 86. Big Muddy isn't doing anything for US
 87. Thank you all for this chance to do a screening of this and other correctional institutions and hope these places will become a true place of correction in order to succeed outside of prison.
 88. I just appreciate you for always reaching out & trying to help improve prison life for people incarcerated. But in Illinois change will only come & life will only improve when we're allowed to have some say on/in what goes on within these walls once again since we live & gotta live/be here! Thanks for your help, time & consideration! Blessings!
 89. They should have more job open and classes to keep people busy and to learn something in life because there is a lot of prisoner that want to change but they dont know how

90. I am a ADA and got to argue with staff ever class about my showers and Im supposed to get physical daily and dont everyday is a different issue pertaining to staff they all do different instead of following guidelines rules of the department total chaos here
91. Need a new warden! This prison does everything different compared to other prisons. This prison takes weeks to process good time contracts. A person should be immediate release and they could be sitting here an extra two weeks due to this. Child molesters need to be in cells with more lockdown. Do you think they are learning a lesson when they are out working all day? Hell no!
92. Chomos need there own prison they get to work and walk around like they're kings and think they didn't do nothing wrong I got kids and nephews under 10 and me seeing these chomos get good treatment but one day I'll take out one they gonna see!!!
93. Put all unvaccinated people on the same wing and the prison will not be on lockdown!
94. Transfer when approved not made to stay in a level med prison when your a min. prisoner. Better work for the one's whom work or try to be treated well for good behavior instead of bad behavior. In Big Muddy River, if your a white mail straight and a non sex offender you get nothing hard to get jobs, Drug programs, I've been approved for over 365 day for a transfer to a min prison but Im still forced to stay here.
95. We are currently on lockdown and only recieveing 30 min out are cells. Some days it takes 34-35 hours to get the 30 min. depending on how they run dayroom for you that day. We are not giving cleaning supplies to clean cells no hand sanitizer. We are issued a mask once a week. We get no yard/gym. They are not allowing in person visit or video visits. We are denied all visitation rights.
96. I have still **[30+]** years left, served already 10. I can't get into programs I've tried and people with shorter time always come first. I understand priority but leave us something! My case and sentencing limits nearly every possible option to accomplish anything at all. I feel forgotten.
97. I hope it brings about some changes to these conditions and wrong doings of this prison and all others.
98. Games like Magic the Gathering are on the approval list of games allowed in IDOC but facilities are not letting them in. Other games too. Also, officers threaten inmates with bogus tickets & bogus tickets are being filed & officers are allowed to lie and the Director Rob Jeffries allows it. He's the face of injustice. He allows officers to do whatever. Also they need Black (African American) Hair products. We do make up majority of the prison population.
99. I just feel this place rather keep a person locked up so they could get paid. Then help a person so that they will never come back here.
100. I hope this does some good comes from this
101. More like being considerate that you have this place builded if you use it for an ark like the bible say it will be better. Life isn't about winning or losing its about being better. Plus jesus died in prison and came back to life from the tome, so if you have this facility builded you still can use it if you a prison but for now let me go home let my people go!
102. For tablet, writing program for tablet with ability to email saved images and text files. Not to have a religious nazi regulating incoming mail. To have an incentive for 85%ers like

- myself to behave because with no access to good time or any other benefits the only reason to is because I chose to.
103. I am at big muddy river facility and we are locked down all day, everyday, we are only getting 30 mins out of cell every 48 hours we not getting gym and yards, we not connecting with our family for some odd reason and they are using covid as a cover to keep us lockdown we need big time help. Also the incarcerated voice is not being heard and warden is doing a poor job when giving us answers its always something slick and disrespectful
104. COVID BS has got to STOP ... put all unvaccinated people on the same wing and we would not be locked down
105. If the C/Os had more training they would know how to help us. We turn to the C/Os for help but get met with rejection cause of lack of training. If we are allowed to form a positive relationship with the C/O's we would be more open and feel like we matter. How can we have change if we are not allowed to have a positive friendship with someone who is a positive role model within these walls? The healthcare system is messed up, they treat us like we are a burden and they talk to us like we don't have a brain in our head. There theory is, if it is not important enough they don't have time for it. That "important enough" is so out there that it is never met.
106. A quality survey shows the participants survey results. please show us the results. (all previous JHA surveys weve never seen the results). Tell us what administration plans to change as a result of the survey. "counselors" are supposed to help prisoners but they don't, they don't know IDOC rules. telling inmates false things, they write incorrect things in grievance response. as in deny grievances based on FALSE claims about IDOCs own policies and procedures. the ARB (administrative review board)—for grievance appeals gives NO explanation for denying grievances, DOES NOT answer questions asked in grievances, obviously director Jeffreys does not read grievance denials that he signs—why have a grievance process when the ONLY objective of them is to deny everything rather than consider the inmates perspective and try to help fix things. Grievances are always denied to make the facility look like it's doing everything right. even though the pandemic is over, IDOC continued to use "supply chain issues" and "the COVID-19 pandemic" as excuses for every violation—ie commissary frequently out of items for months, it took me six months to see an eye doctor because of the pandemic "backlog" absurd! healthcare is slow and poor! there hasn't been a full time dentist for years! of 350 million people in the USA, IDOC can't find one dentist in the whole country?!! offer a higher salary. I guarentee they'll find dentists! If they have to pay a lot for a dentist and full time eye doctor then that's what they have to do to provide the mandated healthcare—"no dentist" "no eye doctor" are UNACCEPTABLE excuses. Fire PA **[REDACTED]**! Commissary prices continue to increase but state pay DOES NOT keep up. Increase state pay to keep up with inflation. "Core hygiene and common nessecity items" are almost impossible to get! You write to the business office for items, it takes a month to get a response, then you get ONE of the TEN items you requested. We ARE NOT getting most of the items on a timeline the policy says we should (we get toilet paper, soap, shampoo that's all we get) I've never got a pen, never got conditioner, shave cream. the business office is deliberately stalling to save money and provide the

- fewest items possible! and there's no accountability! I grieve not getting items but the grievance denied for excuses like "we can't provide items we don't have". If the business office intentionally does not order items, obviously it can't be provided! Business office must be forced to order these items and provide them quickly—it does not take a month to give me a replacement razor! But that's what happens if I get a razor at all. I've written to the JHA with feedback and have asked for help but you NEVER answer—if anything I get a worthless genetic letter! I give feedback but nothing ever changes or improves ie I've written JHA multiple times about the grievance process but (1) you never answer (2) the grievance process has not change, it's just as useless as it was years ago! Why write to you when not any changes? END CIVIL COMMITMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS!
107. JHA need to get more involved with the convicts, medical dental, people health is important
108. Prison is a captive audience. Regardless for their reasons of being there, society, the courts and all parties involved have a golden opportunity to sow positive habits, correct distorted thoughts and provide healing for childhood wounds. Though some will not receive these actions, others will and be grateful for them (I should know). My point is this, look to the recidivism rate in the EU (european union) and the programs they offer, and then ask, do we want people to CHANGE or SOMETHING ELSE?
109. I personally feel that I have been no tools in here to help me on the outside, all I have gotten was the run-around when trying to sign up for the SO program and totally ignored when trying to enroll in vocational education. I also tell that there are no consequences for people's actions in here unless it's bad enough that someone gets hurt
110. In many cases the guards are loath to do their job duties.
111. Keep up the good work have a nice day
112. I am a long term sentence prisoner I have a **[YEAR REDACTED]** outdate. Because of the long outdate I am not eligible for immediate schooling, e.g. pre college courses, GED, vocationals, self help etc. How can I reform? How can I be corrected by being chained to a cell and dayroom? I need more than a job assignment.
113. THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN
114. more programs, better healthcare, more time out the cell, healthier ways to eat
115. To truly be better people we mostly have to have faith our darkest day mat be bright if we have faith. Love without end!
116. To have better items on commissary. The person ordering the supplies does whatever they want, instead of listening to the commissary supervisors. We use to be able to buy a bottle of laundry detergent for \$2, now we have to buy single packs at \$0.73 each. Can only buy 10 at a time, and all 10 don't fill the bottle of what they use to sell. But we have to buy them because the detergent they give out is watered down by the warehouse supervisor!
117. We need jobs and consistant teachers and instructors and allow more christian instructors (mix) things up a bit thank you and god bless.
118. To get mail in a timely manner. Channel guides are sent to be here before the first but we get them late a lot. The mailroom look thru books we get, for "publication review." We aren't their kids, why are we being censored? Can't have bondage? Doesn't make any sense if this isn't a sexual situation. We have a tablet, with games. The company offers

- certain games but the prison blocks them. Blocked games; Chess and boxing, that we know of
119. We are being lock down for 23 and a half hour we only come out for 30 minutes a day we can't get no help from staff or ward here they hold your grievance and violation your due process right and constitution right they give people the wrong medications and deny them to go about it the right wat so they own get thing done. **[NAME REDACTED]** This is what going on with me right now at this time
120. Great.
121. Dietary: The quality and quantity of food is subpar if we are to get 1 1/2 cups spaghetti or 3/4 cups less for example, 85% of inmates don't get good time
122. Please help 85% and 100% classes get good time, don't give it for free but please help us to let us earn it by working or school programs WE DESERVE TO BE TRATED FAIRLY LIKE EVERYONE ELSE (like the 50%ers get) PLEASE HELP. Also bring back the industry jobs and we need better pay we don't have enough money, jobs to mimic or feel the real experience from are jobs please help illinois prisoners please.
123. I feel as though the black population gets treated with “kid gloves” while everyone else is expected to hold ourselves to a higher standard. This is due to the BLM and other such movements, we should all be treated as equal not different due to pigmentation.
124. As a black man I'm in a prison that is dominated with white officers and staff. A lot of racial profiling goes on in here against black and brown people. All staff isn't racist but the majority of them are. I'm not seeking any sympathy because I know that my voice and opinions won't change anything. I just wanted someone outside of here to know what's going on inside of here. God Bless America?
125. Some prison systems, mostly european, don't hire “policemen” to run prisons, they hire social workers, psychologists, and the like. As a result, recidivism, violence, and such behavior are practically non existant. Good behavior does not get rewarded—but bad behavior is always punished. I hope your survey makes a difference!
126. There are a lot of prisoners in this prison (including myself) that have been waiting for transfers to lower level prisons. I've been waiting for over a year to be in a minimum security prison. This is a medium I'm minimum security and they won't ship anyone out that follows the rules but they treat the ones that break the rules better. Can you please help us that need to be transferred
127. I'm serious my old celly = **[NAME REDACTED]** really tried to rape me while I was asleep in **[DATE REDACTED]**. I woke up with his hands actually on me and my boxer and underwear down. I told mental health (**[NAME REDACTED]**) and Internal Affairs (**[NAME REDACTED]**), but they don't believe me and won't do anything. Please help me, because this will effect me the rest of my life. I'm educated and I know this isn't right. I'm looking for an attorney to fight for me, because this is messing with me mentally. Please help me John Howard Association my information **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
128. Overall I can actually say this prison has been fair as far as the staff and the way things are being handled, other than that I don't know about inmates I can only speak on my behalf
129. Please help us now Don't just read this help us! Don't show up and don't do nothing.

130. I want to know why you even take these? I been locked up over 25 years and have never once spoke or seen any of you! hell my wife has emailed you to no avail! So why even!?
131. Thank you for your time and commitment to working towards better conditions
132. I do my best to follow the rules and yet I see other inmates do what they want and get by with it. Like when staff says lock up time I lock up and all the black inmates stay out and keep using the phone without getting into trouble.
133. This survey I hope it help for people that incarcerated
134. We have a couple of counselors who I have heard stating they don't believe sex offenders should be released at all.
135. There is just nothing good to say about this prison, to much dishonesty in administrative making officer out of counselor with no training to help the administration.
136. At this prison, homosexual and transgender individuals are catered to, while straight men are disregarded and treated as second class to the homosexual, and transgender men/people; not equal.
137. Have the opportunities to go to school because I'm an SDP or more job appointment. And help to get a hold of my family. And better options of getting released because I've been in for **[30+]** years hear and at menard. And a options of staff a porula to help me for release stid of lie to me year after year. Some SDP the let go I do believe I've letter my losening.
138. Where does a person start!
139. My name is **[NAME REDACTED]** I know you said we Dont have to disclose our Name. But I believe this survey is Bogus if you Dont know the person that these problems are happening to.
140. Positive change for those are seeking to be better!
141. I Don't think there is any point. You won't apply any of it.
142. Better commissary at reasonable prices. Better communication between staff & incarcerated people, especially between healthcare & individuals.
143. Need to stop favoritism on getting Jobs. better Access to Art Supplies
144. N/A
145. Look into the "suicide" in Seg. about two months ago due to officers not signing the books every 30 minutes. Around **[DATE REDACTED]** seg officers left an inmate (seg inmate) handcuffed by himself on the receiving wing for a video visit with inmates left out of their cells. This inmate was given food to take back to Seg. Major security breach. They swept it under the rug because over 20 Officers was involved. We have not had a yard this year. Covid Quarantine should not stop us from receiving fresh air and exercise. Why are Sex Offenders the only people required to complete or be signed up for the Sex Offender Program to be eligible for Good-time credit? Sex offenders have the lowest recidivism rate, yet drug cases (which are the highest recidivism rate) receive all the perks on earning good time. Nothing about this is Equal Treatment!
146. I Dont think these surveys help. This place hasn't changed for the Better since ive been here.
147. 50% of staff is good the other is not. 90% of the inmates are good what little i know is kind to me and my disabilitys. Healthcare and mental Health suck they do the Bare

- minnam to Help you out. Please video games help me coop with things. I even asked to bring in a program on my laptop to make an RPG Role Playing Game. of my own. It will help me bring life storys and other can help me bring life make a program in Heare to do that. All I can Think is videogames then visit from family would make this place Better
148. We need better medical and dental treatment
149. f time
150. not enough focus on healthcare. This is ADA camp and therefore many older inmates. Many left to suffer needlessly because they cannot get the attention of people in power. Too often meds are weeks late and kites go unanswered. Meds for diabetics and heart meds are often weeks late. I get that Wexford Medical is a sub-contractor, but they must be held to a higher standard. They haven't had a full time dentist in 2 yrs. Call passes for minor things take 2 hrs. I recently spent 2 hrs. waiting to answer 3 questions on a file update questionnaire. I took only minutes with the PA. I watched as he served only 4 people before me, each taking only minutes. No-one is held accountable for the terrible job they do. Staff are routinely lax in their duties even seen sleeping. I have seen C/O's visiting others on posted assignments talking for hours. I have seen inmates that are confidential informants, snitches, help themselves to coffee kept in the area behind the bubble while the bubble door is left ajar. These same snitches are allowed to be out of cell longer than anyone and be on phones during dayrooms other than their own. This behavior is easy to spot and is hard to ignore. It erodes our mental state over time. I feel myself becomeing more bitter each year. I worry that one day I will snap and I will be held accountable while others will be allowed to carry on as always. I am not violent, but each year I get more bitter and angry.
151. Ive Never Been to a prison like this when It Became hard to get a Job Yes I did have a major ticket and I had to wait 6 mounths which I did wait I was Told I could put in for a Job after the 6 mounths which I have. one Inmate told me that the food supervisor told him that they would Not hire me In the chow hall Because of what Took place on my last ticket I had But I feel this place Is got Something Against me on getting hired in the kitchen. Ive worked at other prisons with out any problems Ive spoke to I.A. and the counselor on why I did not get hired I asked them Is there anything Being held against me on my Inmate record to prevent me from getting a Job They told me NO I was good to get a Job But here Its a New Year and They still not gave me a Job Ive sent out 100 request to Chow hall and never got a response from None of the kitchen supervisors + let me know an answer and Ive seen others get hired and Im still waiting for a Job. I Dont understand why I keep getting Ignored and **[ILLEGIBLE]** on getting Hired to me they pick and choose on whom they want to hire which is not right at all
152. I Wanna Thank You Guy's For Caring Enough to Be concerned About Issues As Such As well As The Safety And well being of us Individuals in Custody
153. Thank you For This survey And I go home In 7 weeks And I truly hope That you Can make This A Better Prison People and Not An Animal Cage Cause Thats how They Treat Us Here At Big Muddy
154. Change The COVID Policy. Only Memorandum I've Seen Is From A Year Ago. It's Hindering Prisoners From Utilizing Resources Vital for Re-Entry Into Society

155. They need better treatment of the commissary, better commissary. We need better cleaning supplies more yards better equipment in Gym more gyms better treatment as human beings more programs please and can we get in school faster rather than waiting till we almost done with our time to get In and more frequently walk through to see if they are doing the right things with their money and treat the sick the right way
156. Thanks for your concern shut this shit hole down
157. the way the C/O treat us is uncalled for the way beat people and they get away with it is wrong. I watched People get Beat and they would say If you say something you will pay.
158. I have been trying to get a job since I got here I dont know why but I havent been successful at it for whatever reason and I have been trying to get reviewed for my EDSC time I haven't gotten any tickets I have stayed out of trouble during my whole incarceration and previous incarcerations I dont see what the hold up on EDSC or a job is. I have or am about to graduate from the drug program I am constantly trying to better myself.
159. Seriously, this joint is based on basically doing down time this is not rehabilitating inmates. Sitting in a cell can help people learn their lesson, but most time it will turn a human hateful, cold hearted, heartless.
160. thank you for wanting to know so please fix this
161. I believe that none of this is going matter or be taking really serious. Its going to be over looked and forgotten, waist of time.
162. This place needs looked at closely. (Specially at medical)
163. I do want to thank John Howard Association for a few things like the good intentions that the Association has towards incarcerated people, I know that is not easier when someone is trying to help another human being especially incarcerated people plus I know how corrupted the system is, so there is no other associations or attorneys willing to confront big organizations like this prisons in Illinois so thank you very much for the courage that you people put into this sending us this type of letters God bless all of you.
164. I'm an SDP. The treatment is for us to be able to be released with the tools to help us not reoffend, but the previous counselor didn't given us any instruction on that, they put me down instead of build up, made this harder than its was before and now. How can they be doing their job if they tell us they will never back us for release, (to get out), why would they try to get us to the point that we wont reoffend. they prove to me that they don't want
165. I feel like having sex all the time and I do it every day smile
166. Cook county jail had more dayroom hours (5-6 hours/day). Please help us improve our mental health and not drive us crazy by not having enough dayroom to let all inmates to take their daily shower, phone call, exercise + other activities. Please help us to be productive and not to be feeling useless and life is meaningless. Help us, not destroy us.
167. This prison is dirty, staff don't do their jobs. Staff talk shit to and about inmates. Staff needs to be trained better and care more about there job like they say its all about the money they don't care about what we do. Or they say they can't be fired. Lt's say they can write up staff and nothing get's done. Staff can take off whenever they choose and not have to worrie about getting fired. Some of this staff would never be able to control a person if they had to. Commissary should be based on what we will eat and drink not

what the officers want us to have and we should not be charged over 20% more than cost. Staff should take more pride in their jobs. There should be more out of cell time to keep people's mental health stay intact. 80% of inmates come to prison not on meds to get put on meds to be able to deal with prison life. The doctors will do anything to please people and have nothing to do with their health. I think all staff here need retrained to do their jobs and staff should not be able to take off when they choose just because. The gangs run the people in prison. The whites are the minority and black the majority but yet they scream race discrimination and staff let them do as they want because they dont want to get in trouble. Whites get a ticket we get max where people of color get minimum or nothing. The adjustment committee here is really biased this prison needs a complete reform and the books on where money is spent looked at closely I bet you'll find there is money being embezzled. They were to of redid cell door locks never done but we all got moved from house to house so it could be done still no new locks. This place puts on a show for Springfield when they come. The staff retaliate on inmates. Our grievances get read and even if staff are wrong even when they get sent to springfield they say staff is not done anything wrong so nothing gets done.

168. Medium prisons need to be ran like mediums, all them restrictions is crazy. There always talking about security in order to evolve and stunt our growth as a prison community. And the food sucks, the C/O get special food made w/ our budget yet we eat trash tax payer \$ shouldn't feed a C/O who works & makes over 50k per year, there's also needs to be able to have sexual relations w/a woman, this should be the #1 things by no contact w/ a woman you have so many men being gay men becoming transgender & gay people have all the rights, and here it is i can't be w/ a woman this cruel & unusual punishment, i been in **[15+]** yrs I wish to be w/ a woman.
169. I got around 8 months left an I cant seem to get into any small programs like anger management etc...They only pick who they want. Its like they try an keep you here for as long as they can. I need structure when I leave. Not to be just set free.
170. Investigate the transfer situation. Also I just was denied 180 days good time that Springfield tried giving me when I asked the DOC Counselor about it, he told me he was the person who denied me. I asked him why he said I was a high risk and have to do programs. Well I've been trying to do programs. I'm on every waiting list there is. With **[2.5+ yrs]** I could of gotten it down to **[2+ yrs]** and possibly been moved up on those waiting lists. Maybe investigate the fact the DOC Counselor, who was just previously a Lieutenant/CO gets the final say in if I can get the 6 months good time.
171. See above, Thank you for caring. Pray good results come as a result of this inquiry.
172. In my over 50 years in this system, I view this system as a business for those who work here and those that incarcerate those that are here. This system creates a lot of hate within the people that are incarcerated here and the results are all the crazyness in created in society for those that are released after doing time, the madness. This system has been in play for a long time and hasn't produced any good over-all for those incarcerated and released. It's a system of hate and revenge on both sides. Most crimes are controlled by parole people, this system has become self-sustained. Reality reflects that no one really cares weather or not crimes continue to increase in this state. Because nothing is really done to decrease it, the fact speaks for itself. I see it as the

- wrong people are in charge of preventing crime. The system is madness all around. it will continue to be so until those in charge really do all the things needed to profoundly reduce it.
173. Just that all jobs were available to all inmates without discretion on their offense! Being treated fairly and not looked over just cause my offense! Just want to hear and see that all people can change and others want to help people change instead of use our past against us!
174. I been wait for a transfers about 4 months now, and it crazy have this place work, you be in the cell for a long time no staff come around and see is you ok in here or need some
175. None
176. Find long term incarcerated and speak to them on the issues of this and the prisons that they have experienced. I have personally suffered multiple beat downs by security staff during my **[20+]** year (out of **[25+]** year) incarceration without so much as a single sheet of evidence from healthcare to prove the severe beatings. The coverups in the prison are incredulous. I have had not incentive to rehabilitate. Long-term incarcerated are made to ticking-time bombs to add to the recidivism such as to make sure that have an investment/stock ... I have been trying to have an interview with John Howard for **[20+]** years just to explain some of the things that I have been through to no avail, so excuse me if I feel that this survey shall make a difference. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
177. On the institutional channell, the LTS has not ordered any new equipment, and the cable sucks. Also, they have not allowed anyone to transfer from down here because they don't want the next facility to figure out about the fraud. Please, if you do anything, make them stop stealing our money so the prison can go back to running efficiently
178. Ive been at Big Muddy **[12+]** months, have been unable to get a job and not from lack of trying, I was moved into a cell with a handicapped inmate So I could be his wheelchair pusher by a Sgt. But have been denied the job placement. Also there is no advanced ABE or mandatory ABE here at the time, as well as no inside out jobs, anger mngt., no drug program etc. No opportunity just sitting stagnant. I also feel that we get punished by 23 1/2 lock up to 1/2 hour dayroom once a day due to covid that is brought in by staff. I feel staff should be subject to rapid test before work everyday for our safety and there's I feel we are put in danger by this protocol not being done.
179. I hope you all read these. Staff at Big Muddy lie to us all the time. I'm in seg for investigation because I wrote them about a possible riot happening in the wing, trying to help them out yet I get thrown in seg. I signed a paper for **[ILLEGIBLE]** bedspace and should have been gone by now but with this they are holding me. I am part of the Stone v Jeffreys Lawsuit where on injunction and filed to release us past our MSR date. Mine was in **[MONTH REDACTED]**, IA is refusing to let me know what is going on as to why I'm in investigated status for trying to help them out. Instead of the people who were going to do it. BMRCC is by far the worse prison I've been to out of **[3 PRISONS, NAMES REDACTED]**, and here. The prison needs feds to come in and go through everything to uncover an them try to hide. I know a lot will be found.
180. The medical dept has the worst doctor and staff I've ever seen in any person and the CO guards depend on the prisoners to do their jobs specially in healthcare. I've been beat up by the porters in (HCU) because the COs let the porters be in charge I was beat in my

- wheelchair and threatened by 4 porters I was afraid for my life and I was put in isolation and because the porters are friends with COs nothing happened to the porter he walked around laughing at me and I done nothing to provoke any of this
181. Just would like to add that I've been in and out of the IDOC at the age of (<18] years) now ([40+] years) old, second time sex offender, and ([REDACTED]th) time here in (BMR) Now I'm truly trying to seek help and get in the sex offender treatment program here but I can't. So my advice to people is don't waste time because these prisons are designed for people to fail and come back
182. This has been my only prison, so I have no way to compare. Some staff are good hearted. Some sleep all day and show up drunk.
183. Inmate warehousing is and has been the theme of my incarceration. Programs/school etc, seem available and served to those who are short timers (under 2 years). State pay and job pay isnt enough by any means. Outrageous amounts of time given to 1st time sex offenders and only 2 sex offender programs in the state.
184. Medical staff could be a little better staffed
185. The system needs help!!
186. Re: "this is a humane prison." No prison in America is humane. Treating each person as an individual and providing what they need. It would cost too much. Re: "to improve situation... impossible expectations." The prison cannot improve my sentencing situation—life in prison civil commitment. Same with "the environment...plan for my release" "I can't improve..."
187. I've been to multiple medium security facilities during this stint and during the winter months the air comes through the windows—window seals are poor and in need of replacement. This is a major problem. It be so cold I've seen people have to wear their thermos, sweat suit, coat and hat in the cell. I've witness this at Hill CC and at WICC. I've had to put plastic over windows at every med facility I've been too—[5 PRISONS, NAMES REDACTED], et al! Also they abuse the disciplinary process, I've been victim to and witnessed others be victim to officers write people up for sexual misconduct for allegedly verbalizing something. E.G. one guy told a officer she was beautiful, she write him up for sexual misconduct and they found him guilty of it at the hearing. Some people are diffident and so they don't write grievances other may not know how! All guilty findings of sexual misconduct IDOC rule infractions should be reviewed by the "ARB" or an appointed person from springfield (IL)— IDOC headquarters. Via the said definition of IDOC rule infraction anything verbally or written down does not count as sexual misconduct.
188. Officers/sgt/lt need to stop looking @ us because we locked up, or being able to threaten us or search our stuff because they got mad
189. This prison is ran by backwards ass people do everything wrong even the easy stuff like jobs and teaching everything is a fuck up nothing or no one follows the law or rules set before than they run it the way they want every shift different on one follows orders here
190. They turn off the heat when it is below freezing outside
191. Get rid of #1 warden [REDACTED]. Get better programs. Give our good time for all programs like for class, it's learning a positive skill. Get better cable channels. They took away a good package—and left me the crappy channels, people get board and start

- trouble, gangbang and other negative behaviors because there is nothing else to do with your time. They need more positive reinforcement. A wing for 45 and older people with no tickets, a wing with just the workers
192. The staff here is no good, food no good, no yard, no gym, needs better overall staff and food products to buy
193. The feel that IDOC needs to work on civily committed peoples Issues and get them ready for release. Instead of holding them for year after year without treatment to get them released. If you ask those in charge they'll say they are giving all that they have which is why guys have been here 35-40 years or until they die here. Die of old age and complications in health, which seem to be the only way civily committed get set free here. It also seems or feels like we are just talking to the wall because year after year we stay here and slowly die
194. Meaning court dessions state that we are here for care and treatment not punishment we must follow IDOC rules, which means that we go to segregation for not following the rules.
195. None
196. I was raped years ago in IDOC, I reported it through PREA. Big Muddy has done one and only one thing right, keep us single celled. Thanks, **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
197. This is my first time in prison I thought it was going to be terrifying but the people in this prison showed me a new look on life and how people should come together to help out the next person this is nothing but positivity around here but I do not plan on coming back EVER just saying.
198. My feedback is for John Howard too continue to be (involve)! Thank you John Howard!
199. I've been in jail all my life so far
200. I think this survey is useless and a waste of time. I've been locked up **[15+]** yrs and nothing has changed. We spend 22 hrs in a cell each day now we spend 23 1/2 hrs due to covid. This organization has sent many of these but no action has taken place. If yall not going to really change things which can't happen with limited resources quit wasting our time with these papers please. These make me so Angry. The staff is the same in every prison. They look down on us with bad attitudes. Yall know whats going on the same thing thats been going on for years. Quit acting like yall dont know. Food is worse every day kitchen dirty, healthcare is a waste of time. Why are we spend all day in a cell how is that conducive to progress.
201. Need help to get grievance procedure relief. Please help us!
202. You all do these surveys like you really give a shit about our well being when really you are only looking out for ur own self and tell people u really want a help when you dont all this going to go in the trash?
203. The first time I've seen a counselor in months is when this survey was slid under my door.
204. Thank you very much for doing this survey, where we can express our concerns. One more thing. Here in Big Muddy River C.C. when we have gym or chapel is we want to use the restroom, it is denied. The thing is that we do not know when we get to go. We can try to use the toilet before gym or chapel but some times it do not work.
205. It ain't going to make a difference what comment I give, nothing is going to change

206. That civilly committed SDPs are treated as convicted prisoners and serve decades in confinement due to the inadequate treatment and treatment staff employed at BMRCC to provide such treatment to SDPs to effect their recovery from mental illness. They just go through the motions, while the SDPs linger in confinement.
207. We get a lot of new C/O's in training who often over-react to minor or common infractions—some SGTs and LTs are like that, too.
208. Please note I have never not 1 time in this 2 year period recieved a ticket. I also want to note you have to risk your life by telling on your peers in order to get a job.
209. I've been in prison since 2004, 3 different prison, I know write now time are bad but we need the commissary to start ordering from were ever becuz this prison is about to get ruff/crazy—we go for week/months w/out coffee and noodles, you must know this is what keep us (calm) also you need to get rid of the doctor and P.A. they are no good for anyone. The N.P. and nurses are good we need more of the N.P. like the one here, for the most part the nurses do a ok/good job. The food is always cold when were on covid and sent to house, we are on covid todates is [DATE REDACTED] and been on it for about 3 weeks but no rules about the covid like C/Os going in are cell no mask some look sick, we are on covid lockdown. But we get 30 min of dayroom, no other movement. But as for precking no rules.
210. I am sick all the time, I need a new liver, spine surgery, new knees, diabetes, thyroid, high blood pressure, eye issues, stomach, bowels trouble, aches and pains 24/7, 24/7 headaches, I'm a SDP. [ILLEGIBLE]—staff is unfair and very bias and is not truthful, she lies and is not fair at all, I did get a wheelchair in [MONTH REDACTED], waited over 2-1/2 months to get one. My knees are not better, how will we know on news about survey? I can use it in my court, thank you. Big Muddy River C.C. SDP Civil committed
211. I've been incarcerated for almost 30 yrs so I've seen and done a lot. Its a good thing that the officers have taken the prison system back, its saved lives. But once they took over, they got really lazy, abusive, and just don't care about human life at all. They completely gave up on humanity, because they became judgemental, and focused more on incarceration, than education. If you dont educate individuals on their wrong doings and show that you actually care by helping them. Then your just hoarding criminals that have no meaning for life itself.
212. Job assignment and state pay is not enough to get by on a monthly basis and overly priced commissary that is toward the IIC who recieve massive amount of money and support and the quality of low price item are garbage and fall apart very quickly. Unless you have your family sending them their money you barely make it by with what they give you especially chow line they barely feed us staff believes we don't deserve to eat and give very small portions and throws away thousand of dollars of food daily then to properly feed us.
213. The questionnaire can be difficult to fill out considering I've been at Big Muddy River for almost eight years. In that time, I've come across many people of varying dispositions and backgrounds, some more sympathetic and empathetic than others. Conditions change regularly, especially since the Covid-19 pandemic, and conditions have worsened due to seemingly never-ending periods of lock downs and quarantines. We are cut off from loved ones, locked away for over 23 hours a day, and told that it is our

- fault for coming to prison. This has only increased my profound sense of alienation from society, and, at times, my resentment toward it. I am sure that these feelings are common or even practically universal. It is my hope that, in the future, a system exists that integrates rather than deintegrates.
214. Rework the programs here @ this prison so everyone can get good time not just 85%ers
215. That Idoc and BMRCC are mismanaged, chaotic and wasteful of the resources provided to them. This transitions to the way those confined within BMRCC and Idoc are treated, rehabilitated, ready for release and successful within the community once released.
216. They attempt to hold back our progress. Slow us getting out and hinder our success as much as possible. They care nothing of our best interest. They are power hungry and treat us as if we are nothing and shouldn't ever be let out of prison. They wouldn't even let us out of the cell for the little time they do if they weren't required by law and even then they try to stop us.
217. I appreciate the chance to be honest without judgement
218. To get better staff who will try to help the people in here. I don't trust the officers here right now. So the best way to get things done is to get better officers not the ones that dont give a shit about us.
219. no.
220. NONE
221. The prison system needs to start a program to help environmental issues along with construction program to allow inmates a chance to earn a living building homes for unfortunate families. This will all give back to back to society. This will lead to a productive members of society. A new approach is needed.
222. Does this paper even make a difference? I wrote John Howard last year about living conditions and sent them paperwork about the dentist nothing happened.
223. I think they should rapid test workers and visitors every other day before entering the facility because we as inmate has to suffer
224. this prison is not right
225. thank you for your care and help. May god bless you in all you do.
226. changes to programs so I will not spend the rest of my life here
227. the reason I have more than one answer is because different C/O's are different—not everyone is consistent
228. I believe the laws must change for those who are doing life in prison under this SDP law that if we are here court ordered for therapy and BMRCC is giving inadequate therapy then either 2 things must happen find a place of competent for those who still have mental issues medical issues and those who have loves ones who can survive out in the world be given a chance to live a happy life with family and loved ones willing to help there loved ones getting out of prison until they can get off theyre feet or even halfway houses etc. get there own place
229. I am **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**. This is my second sheet am filling out my cellie gave to me his form. I wrote you guys about how mental health is treating my medical problem. They are not doing anything about my medical condition. Its been going on with me since **[MONTH REDACTED]** of 2022. My **[REDACTED]** is hurting me. Healthcare are not doing anything about it. I wrote you guys the last week **[MONTH REDACTED]**

- 2022 and its now **[DATE REDACTED, 1 MONTH LATER]**. I haven't heard from you yet. I am in serious pain and its been going on for 7-8 months now. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** 251 N. Illinois Highway 37-INA Illinois 62846 Big Muddy River C.C.
230. You do not care! Its just the money. I wish I could see the expression on your face when you read this. May be there is a justice person among you. Somebody that's fair. You know, you know all that is wrong. Especially the wrong you do!
231. Look you are not going to do anything anyway. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
232. There is no such thing as for treatment in this facility and needs changes and these prisons, not just this one, should not be allowed to "police" it self. 90% of all grievances "disappear."
233. For those that are in the volunteer program for sex offenders, its only 3-4 years till they complete a program but with civil commitment program most guys have been there 30 years. Why? I've done everything I've been asked to do and when it comes down to Wexford evaluation they only use negative things to make us look bad and dangerous or simply make things up. 3 evals and everyone points out things that are not offered at SDP s such as substance abuse! or completion of a program! There is no completion for SDPs only ongoing therapy for life!
234. it is very nice that someone could really care enough for a survey such as this. But its actions that speak so much louder than words. Poor quality in the state like these pens were forced to buy and use! Healthcare unit most concerned of their budget above the health of we inmates here.
235. charges to the SO program so men don't have to spend 30-40 years here
236. most of the people who control this place are only look out for their self, money and less work
237. Turn down hot water in showers. In summertime get in shower sweating and get out of shower sweating!?? Try to cool down with a 6 in fan—ha! Miserable! Sometimes heat on wing cranked up so high its hard to breath. Sometimes it takes 2-3 days especially on weekends to get maintenance guy at home to push a button. More than 1 bag of coffee on commissary—we went several months without any! Bigger fans for cells—not a 6 in. 2-6in fans in 90-100 does nothing!! bought fan on **[DATE REDACTED]** to **[DATE REDACTED, 4 MONTHS LATER]** fan went out. Cheap! Just recently the healthcare pharmacist went on vacation—no heads up to turn blister pack stickers in early! A lot of people ran out of meds! I had no heart meds for like 2 weeks—aspirin cholesterol. No back up on med cart! On covid lockdown since **[DATE REDACTED]**. C/Os nurses inmates, etc. most do not wear masks! And now during daily temperature checks—they give us a choice. Yes or no. If not serious, why on lock down?
238. In 2001 the US past a law condemning any manifestation (demonstrated acts) of slavery in this country and others. It lists the problems with this system of slavery statutory facts commerce being a big one, indifference and government corruption being the other and many laws like false imprisonment being broke. It ignores the fact that imprisonment run as a slave like institution is just as bad as if not worse. I'm a ward, a SDP, in BMRCC not supposed to be treated like a convict, I expect to leave soon by winning my case in court. SDP have no sentence /no outdate we are treated essentially as convicted prisoners while it is against the SDPA. your Q9 is part of the problem you assume a

- supervisor role exist between the staff and the inmate. it is a master to a slave recognized by the courts not a supervisor and courts have taken 30 years just to put some basic lowest rights for a convict (trafficking victims rights act) 22 USC 7101 et seq. chapter 78 federal law.
239. We have a lot of crooks on staff at Big Muddy. Officers have admitted to stealing fuel for their personal vehicles, items out of Christmas bags, items out of dietary for home or business, etc....and brag about how many others are doing the same. The wardens here are spinsters. Tell one lie after another to avoid having to do anything especially warden **[NAME REDACTED]** she promises the world and does nothing. she is also **[STAFF POSITION REDACTED]** who does nothing to help us.
240. I hope these surveys are taken seriously because there's things that should change in IDOC
241. make sure they hire the right people to work in this system. Not hateful assholes.
242. I believe that prison is not the appropriate place for men like me.
243. There are very good and beautiful people who work here. You only have to know how to find a needle in a haystack, to find them. I hope your survey is answered by everyone here and you can see an overall view of Big Muddy River C.C. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
244. I hope this can help in some way, everyone isnt a bad person from staff to inmate. Thanks for your concern I hope you never have to experience this though. Life is worth to much and its to short! I got locked up when I was 18 years old literally the day I graduated Highschool and was facing 30 years at 85% meaning no "good time." I was blessed to be able to work and fight a deal to where now i'll come home when im **[REDACTED]** years old. **[REDACTED]** years total i've missed on life.
245. Batter T.V. Channel = a contract to let us offenders to be able to leave the prison to go build incarcerated inmate a place to live when they get out a place that is theres for life also let us go fight fire's like a fire firer clean the steets that need improvement—hell fight wars that go if needed any thing but getting in prison. I want to put my name and number on this envelope. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** please get back.
246. We need someone to stay on top of ADA's; medicines; need better medical staff
247. Thank you for the years you have taken to help us. It takes time to change things. I have been in prison for **[20+]** years and have **[5+]** left I am **[60+]** years old, I am saved by Jesus and am blessed I am a **[PERSONAL DETAILS REDACTED]**
248. Gracias for este survey que en realidad nos ayudan bastante. No se si fuera posible que nos visitaran ustedes mas frecuente ya que cuando ustedes estan aqui nos tratan un poco mejor, (como si fueramos los mejores vecinos), por ejemplo el personal de aqui remueve—cuando ustedes estan aqui—papeles con avisos no autorezados por Springfield or ILDOC, como en comisaria ponen papeles como "shut up or will be send back to the house." Entrando a la "casa" en el cristal del "buble" hay otros que dicen "hats off" y si no obedecemos nos insultan verbalmente. En HCU Todas las sillas en el area de espera estan facing the wall, y si las movemos nos insultan y nos ordenan que las pongamos como estaban, sin contar que en temporada de invierno el heat sistem is off en el area de esperamientras que en En Galesburg C.C. tienen hasta TV en la sala de espera del HCU que diferencia de treatment a esta prison!! **[TRANSLATED FROM**

SPANISH: Thank you for this survey that actually helps us a lot. I do not know if it was possible for you to visit us more often because when you are here they treat us a little better, (as if we were the best residents), for example the staff here remove—when you are here—papers with warnings not authorized by Springfield or ILDOC, like in commissary they put papers like "shut up or will be sent back to the house." Entering to the "house" in the glass of the "bubble" there are others who say "hats off" and if we do not obey they insult us verbally. In HCU All the chairs in the waiting area are facing the wall, and if we move them they insult us and order us to put them as they were, not to mention that in winter season the heat system is off in the waiting area while in Galesburg C.C. they have even TV in the waiting room of the HCU what a difference in treatment to this prison!!]

249. There are no programs for us. There are no ways to receive any good time unless working in the kitchen
250. I have not one good thing to say about this prison not one and that's sad. Im going to be 100% honest the people who are transgender, pedophiles, rapist & people who tell everything to IA are the only people to get anything done around here. If youre considered a regular person "nothing"!! Life is miserable here literally... PLEASE HELP SAVE US...
251. Most wings are overpopulated by the blacks, and the officers are white! Fix the ratio! Fix dietary! There are NO! Diabetic Trays! Give everyone, more time, out of the cell! Let the insulin guys give there own shots, more than half the insulin guys have never given themselves a shot, let alone know how much the should give themselves Prison is supposed to correct the problem, it DOESN'T!
252. Some people jam their doors and officers remove the paper and tell them not to do it again, while other inmates do the same thing and are put into seg for two weeks and recieve C grade for how ever long. Officers are "scared" of the racist card because the same people pop out every day all day long and there is nothing done, but let a white person do the same thing and they get a ticket. In order to get a job you need to know someone.
253. All I can ask is don't take my answers lightly or without my thinking before answering. Sex offenders, murders, drug dealers who all may be locked up some of us don't belong around the other. I makes it harder to live somewhere when your back ground is completely different than another. A man whereing his pants below his but has no respect for himself or you. I say thank you hope you continue to make a difference. My words are true my answers carefully studied an thought on. good luck on best wishes. Big Muddy River C.C.
254. the fags and the N*****S get to do what ever they want and the white people rairly get out of there cell ever.
255. This survey and its choices on how to answer the questions appear to be vague that doesn't account that not all staff operates and conducts themselves as the majority. Therefore it inclines an individual to respond in the neutral category in order to account for those who do act appropriately and professionally.
256. Our inmate commissary is not any good, it use to be year's ago but now springfield has taken over the ordering of all item's and we never know what we are going to get from

- week to week sometimes nothing. We depend on inmate commissary for about everything a lot of people do not eat the dietary food. I have gotten sick from the food before
257. They are only testing unvaccinated individuals for covid. We are on medical lockdown due to a covid outbreak that spread because people who are vaccinated were sick but never tested for the virus.
 258. More phones or at least follow the rules that other prisons do via letting 3 cells out 5 minutes prior to dayroom to get to phones ie 3 diff cells at each dayroom early. There should be water fountains on wings
 259. All these problems could be easily seen by Springfield if they would just come down unannounced from time to time, instead of giving them fair warning about the visit. It's almost like they (Springfield) don't want to how things are really run at BMRCC.
 260. The place sucks! Fuck Big Muddy River Correctional Center & Staff
 261. Obstruction of Exhaustion is a major issue at this institution. Staff Counselor's don't provide the original grievance back to incarcerated individuals, thereby, one can't proceed nor seek proper exhaustion. It's basically useless, unless you file suit, and hope it would receive relief in that jurisdiction
 262. Just give more dayroom time out the cells per shift.
 263. Thanks for reaching out and asking it lets me know we aren't totally discarded
 264. They need more school programs and other programs down here that offers good time so those of us that can get our sentences reduced can do exactly that. More job positions and more school and programs.
 265. During the federal inspection, the inspectors did not see the housing unit with the broken emergency buttons in the cells. Also dietary does not have a working steam tables and faked it, with hot water, for the inspectors.
 266. People who are civilly committed do not have a outdate. More civilly committed people have died then being released. When you do get released you have impossible condition to follow to get you sent back here if you don't follow it. Not happening. This is a death sentence. To be released you have to be dieing or be dead hours after your released. This is a nazi death camp for civilly committed persons. I think I might die here too! It would be better to be shot in the head then be civilly committed. Your life's complitily over. Your a dead man walking.
 267. Need better healthcare and better trained nursing staff. It shouldn't be about saving money but treatment.
 268. God bless us all
 269. Please help me get out of here
 270. It's hard to give you one, because of covid, we just don't know in what direction we are moving in. Because covid ways of living! So how can we teach, learn, grow if (once a month) we are always changing how we do time. Because of Covid. God bless you!
 271. The FOIA officer here looses my requests regularly
 272. Also all programs here are built around a minimum security status, yet were a medium-max. Explain that one? I can't even take either of the programs? To much time they say. Plus they aren't even accredited. What?? So I can't get help I need for 20 years after my crime, wow! Makes sense...

273. If I was at a mental hospital and I would get better treatment, and I would not have to worry about the sex talk and sexual acting out, and a lot better counselors that have a license to help us, so we will not be sexual acting out or sexual talk all the time, and help us get out, and not come back either like they do now people come back for acting out with a teenage girls and boys and will not stay away from kids or women also
274. To many sex going around and nothing is being done to stop it. You pass the cell and people are having sex and using that number to call about sex is a joke if that don't get what that what from anyone or staff most the time it is lies about them and inmates. Plus the healthcare needs to change we wait to long for refill on medicine it could take up to three weeks and by than you out of your blood pressure medicine or what ever. And you wait to long to see the doctors once you go to sick-call and your put in to see the doctors and the PA doctor takes most of you med away from you that was helping you before.
275. They don't let a person transfer out of here, I been here over a year with a min. security level and has been told I'm approved for over 6 month but still has not been transferred.
276. The IDOC did cure me on HEPA C, and I wanted to say thank you.
277. The whites are treated unfairly by the white guards. They talk to us like shit. most porters are black so they get the majority of the deck
278. I would like to hear some more information, or read about what is going on with the lawsuits against the DOC orange crush, several years ago.
279. Someone really needs to look into how they allow the black have their lovers live in the cell with them while if a white guy ask for a cellie they cant have them unless they are black or latino. Again catering to blacks and latino's. How ADA cells are reserved for blacks and latinos. Whites who have medical permits for live in attendants due to health reasons cant have a live in but let a black or latino pick their cellies and give them to them immediately. Why cater to them and treat us as 3rd class citizens.
280. Thank you for taking interest. Your deeds are being noticed by the one above. He will do the rest.
281. The fight and constant struggle to maintain contact with family is stressful. Why arent the phones on the tablets instead of creating an environment of chaos with us fighting for or to get the phones.
282. Need more stuff to better us not just sit in jail I see people that go come right people that done came right back help should be here for us to try to make our self better or the skill to get a job and every inmate should have that right don't matter to reason there in here for everybody should be allowed to learn
283. This survey will be USELESS!
284. From top to bottom. Needs to be replaced.
285. do something!!
286. Get some people in here that actually give a fuck if we go without only worrying about themselves and the bonus they can get for themselves by being under budget. It's pathetic. Quality of life ... piss poor. People in here lose their minds more from boredom i think. It may sound stupid but a simple gaming system like a gameboy for example would change so many moods and give us something to be happy about. That and put the phones on our tablets so we can contact our loves ones when we need to. Other prisons get this privilege but we do not? Why not?

287. If im being bullied why do I have to be punished if I choose to remove myself from being bullied? Time in seg = tickets and tickets = no good time
288. Got milk!?
289. These surveys are great IF acted on
290. help
291. the healthcare could care less if they take care of you. The food needs improvement. There could be more dayroom yard and gym. They don't want a person that has been in minimum security and A grade = no tickets to even transfer to minimum prisons.
292. We need more contact with loved ones! Phones call's on tablets could less stress levels and chaos over phones! Need more programs school etc. Need more positivity in daily routine.
293. I was at robinson which is a minimum security and they shipped me here to Big Muddy with no disciplinary which is a medium/max prison. I still am a minimum/low with no disciplinarys in years and I am here still. Dixon or E. Moline would have been where they should of shipped me. I am in a wheel chair & I have sleep apnea, and liver disease, **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
294. N/A
295. Over 200 people are waiting for transfer, some for almost a year—why is that? The very water we drink is tainted—I melt the ice just to save myself. Given all that I've written... what are you willing to do about it?
296. Some one in springfield needs to be held accountable for the lack of oversight in this prison
297. With my incarceration of (3/4) of sentencing spent at BMRCC of a (**[10+]** yr sentence at 85%) started in **[MONTH REDACTED]** of 2013. I honestly feel if this facility has the staffing for its "educational department" and an industry of some kind to create. "work-minded" "skilled laborer's" for re-entry into society. Regardless of offense, the purpose of incarceration besides the punishment "should be" the ability and opportunity given to create, "responsible, civil minded, Healthy-productive individuals to enter the community and create more positive role models or examples positive change through "negative" situation and circumstance.
298. We need to be treated like a person with a new start on life, not someone that is going to be bad in life out there
299. Hopefully these help change BMRCC it's bad. The warden doesnt do their job either, covid protocol is bullshit. It's been too long without commissary. We all know nothing will come of this. Thet just need to open all classes and actually keep staff. Possibly look into an efficient way to use the tablet for health dietary, commissary, phones, request slips. It would be easier and staff couldn't lie about anything getting "lost" in the mail.
300. The prison is NOT keeping up with its ADA requirements to inmates professional medical staff needs to take inmates medical ailments seriously true dental floss should not be prohibited here. Air conditioning from june 15 to aug 15 is a reasonable request Fire Bob Barker and start making things in U.S. Prison's again.
301. They are short of staff, no teachers for school, no counselors for programs
302. After being incarcerated for almost 10 years I have seen very little if any change.
303. We need assistance once released job housing transportation.

304. Please, do more for real change in Illinois prison
305. The staff regularly ignore inmates when we push the emergency buttons.
306. This prison is a joke.
307. More peer led classes would help I can do teach financial basics to inmates at \$0.00 cost to the state and graduates have more chance to not only survive but thrive. More new officer mental health + interpersonal training its a new world, softer, and C/Os must learn to adapt as well. Thank you!
308. Be fair for all races
309. All IDOC's suck, Illinois is the only state within the country that makes you serve 100% of your time, the prisons here dont provide shit! They just warehouse humans
310. Grievance **[NUMBERS REDACTED]** DOC Policies
311. Stop using covid as excuse for every problem like when commissary be out of stuff for months and crapy slow healthcare u rite business office but you never get a hall pass to get free stuff so gotta by stuff suposed be free but cant get bateries razers, shave cream, conditioner mail room women makes bogus rules to say stuff be contraband so you aint get it mail room gives my newspaper and tv guide late every week they do it on purpose review bord aint never say why it denies grievance appeals put unvaccinated in 1 wing so vaccinated aint be quarantined shouldnt mix us we be locked down quarantined cuz of unvaccinated people.
312. here at Big Muddy C.C., throughout the covid-19 pandemic, have shown very little respect and almost across the board neglected to near PPE, even now while we are on a lockdown because of an increase in positive cases, they do NOT wear as little as a mask in spite of the fact that there would be no positive if they wore PPE. All of which can be verified through video evidence.
313. Its difficult to understand the atmosphere of these places with agree/strongly agree surveys you have to interview individuals with integrity that will give you FACTUAL information and UNBIASED answers that will help fix ACTUAL issues. I would gladly talk and with you all I am at Big Muddy and have been in their P.E.P program, worked and been in trouble so I can give the better ideas and suggestions just ask for me, I'm **[PERSONAL INFORMATION REDACTED]** Im not that hard to find. All jokes aside I pray you at least try to help us all so we can rehabilitate people not just keep the light on awaiting our return.
314. Glad someone cares about me to send this. Thank you.
315. Your questions are fair and make sense. However, you say our answers will not have any fruitful recourse. Sooo, what is the real purpose of the survey? I believe our nation is best at the prison system level compared to the rest of the world. There is restorative justice in general when allowed to make ammends. Butr this prison doesnt rightly care in general. Staff appear to not really care in general as it is a bother for them to assist or help and so they pass the buck and many things just dont happen positive. Period.
316. every offender isnt a predator. Some of us worked a job or even had professional careers. Some of us have a decent if not great education. We are still people.
317. All staff and personnel should be held accountable for their actions new superior staff needs to be put in position. becus to many sibilings friends are letting other get away with breaks multiple rules here. Better #1 warden; #2 warden, #3 warden thats gone actually

do some that put inmates on a better path when being released so they wont repeat these same mistakes that got them arrested. Some programs like Kewanee Horizons does with the inmates in they facility to better themselves when released. Better software on the tablets, better food in cafeteria/chow hall. Better staffing, employee's etc. everyone in position now does not care about a inmate period just a paycheck, power and authority over controlment of a inmate. (This whole institution B.M.R.C.C. is a circus a total shit show.)

318. We are on a quarantine lockdown. Here is an example of how they are letting us out of our cells. On 1-2-2023 6:00-6:30pm then 10:00-10:30am on 1-4-2023 than again at 7:00-&:30pm on 1-5-2023 and then again 8:30-9:00 on 1-6-2023 than at 5:10-5:40pm on 1-7-2023 and so on. Every other half of day we are locked down over 30 hours straight. Signed by, **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** Big Muddy River Correctional Center 251 N Illinois Highway 37 Ina Illinois. 62846 **[HOUSING LOCATION REDACTED]**
319. This prison is in need of lots of help staff not doing there jobs and just sitting at the desk. There is no reason for inmates to be able to say they are porters and just come out. Staff dont look at the worker sheet to see who the works, There is a lot of gang rep here. If someone is Ill and they hit there button it takes staff 5-20 min to get to that cell to check on that person. I have seen medical staff give or try to give people med's they dont take. I have seen staff come in high and drunk. I have seen inmates punk out staff. This place we have to live in is nasty dirty. Commissary is really bad we pay 10\$ for 24 noodles when 24 is \$2.50 at any store, TV 15 in are 275.00\$ when they are 80\$ TV's the money they make in commissary dont come back to get things like new clothes and other things. We got covid shots so we would not get locked down but we get punished by being locked down.
320. They say they have programs but they dont actually have them. havent had a dentist in two years. No real commissary in two years, small portions, poor mental health, disrespectful, cover up PREA complaints my wife died and i had to beg to make a phone call they smile at you then disrespect you and tell you to call PREA and give false tickets you will live in fear and isolation, hungry and unsupported in here. Big Muddy Correctional center I was on the school list 7 years never got in I go home next month no help at all from here
321. This prison is listed as 18/6 but its 21/3 or 22/2 I feel that given the high amount of elderly and that the S.O. Population is more like a P.C. joint that the level of security is a little high.
322. Educate staff on how to deal w/ mental illness
323. 1. More yard time. 2. More gym time 3. More time to eat.
324. If you have a long time to do it is very hard to get into any program or schooling so that you could better use your time.
325. Thank you for your concern.
326. I have been on a List for **[6+]** months, to have my teeth fix. B.M.R. took x-rays **[6+]** months ago. And all they told me was we will get to it before you leave.
327. I personal don't think anything we say go the John Howard will help there's a trust issue with!

328. I hope for others as myself to put BLAME on myself I put myself in prison nobody is to blame but me my own self got me locked up thank you John Howard association for your concern HAVE A NICE DAY
329. Follow up on what deserves change, thoroughly.
330. Help people who want to make changes or Transfer them to a place that will!

OTHER MARGINALIA COMMENTS

Q1. Age (Under 26, 26-30, 31-40, 41-50, 51 and over)

1. [Blank] Ages 22-70
2. [51 and over] [70+]
3. [51 and over] [70+]

Q2. Race or ethnicity (White, Black, Hispanic or Latino, or Other)

1. [Other] Human race
2. [Blank] All three
3. [Other] M.A./W
4. [Hispanic or Latino] Of Hispanic or Latino Decent
5. [Blank] This should not be on any form
6. [White] Gay
7. [White] Very White

Q3. Are you within two years of release? (Yes/No)

1. [Yes] Less!
2. [Blank] SDP?
3. [Blank] (Dont Know) SDP. +30
4. [No] Civilly committed as a Sexually Dangerous Person
5. [Yes] about two years (just parole time)
6. [Blank] Don't know
7. [No] 2025—[2+ years] from now
8. [Blank] Civilly committed SDP
9. [Blank] (I have no time)
10. [No] Civil committment
11. [Yes] And never should have been here in another's stead!
12. [No] civil commitment
13. [Yes] MSR—[DATE REDACTED] have 18 mo. Of EPSC altering/modify my MSR to [DATE REDACTED] w/ VSOTP.
14. [No] (35 mo.)
15. [Blank] Don't have outdate

Q4. Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25? (Yes/No)

1. [No] Years ago!
2. [Blank] Kinda, 4 times
3. [Yes] Age younger=15

Q5. What housing status are you currently on? (General Population, Restrictive Housing, or Other)

1. [Other] SDP
2. [Other] healthcare unit (long term)
3. [GP and Other] Program wing
4. [Other] COVID lockdown
5. [RH] Covid lockdown?
6. [Other] Civily held
7. [Other] healthcare on oxygen
8. [Blank] Drug Program Unit
9. [Other] Drug program
10. [RH] Civilly committed
11. [Blank] Civilly committed SDP
12. [Other] Program Wing
13. [Other] committed, never convicted!
14. [RH] covid lockdown since 1-3-23
15. [Other] Lockdown covid virus
16. [Other] Substance abuse program
17. [Other] medical lockdown we currently get 30 minutes out for every 33 hours of straight confinement.
18. [Other] HCU

Q6. Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area? (Yes or No)

1. [No] 1/2 hr a day
2. [No] 30 min/lock down/COVID
3. [No] COVID lockdown 30 min a day for a week so far
4. [No] They dont let us out of our wards for any reason
5. [No] 50
6. [No] 30 min.
7. [Yes and No] kinda
8. [No] Covid lockdown
9. [No] 1/2 hour per day
10. [No] Lockdown: covid quarantines otherwise—yes
11. [Yes] 3 hr. per day
12. [Yes] except on covid lockdown
13. [Yes] When not locked down
14. [No] 1/2 hr a day (30 min)

15. [No] only when working
16. [No] covid lockdown
17. [No] 30 minutes a day as of today. Covid
18. [No] off covid yes 8-9:30am 11-2pm, 1 hour 15 mins. 1/2 hour covid lockdown since 1-3-23. 1/2 uppers am or pm 1/2 lowers pm or am
19. [No] HELL NO
20. [No] not at the moment due to 2 complete "lockdown"
21. [Blank] Covid lockdown—no without covid—yes
22. [No] (30 min— due to quarantine.)
23. [No] we are on covid restrictions but prior to—yes
24. [No] covid outbreak

Q7. Do you have a work or school assignment? (Work, School, Both, Neither)

1. [Neither] Don't offer SDP
2. [Neither] Trying to get a job been asking for 2 months to get in dietary
3. [Work] But banned from them cuz of L.D.
4. [Neither] They wont let us since we live in healthcare
5. [Work] But can't work on lockdown
6. [Neither] Trying to get Job But They are not Responding to me at all
7. [Neither] Been trying to get a job for 1 1/2 years been ticket free and still can't get a job.
8. [Neither] Band member
9. [Neither] Not here, unless you are 85%
10. [Work] not allowed to go to school. All of civil committees
11. [Work] on wing only. no school for SDPs. SDPs have to sign good time paperwork for our jobs. We get no good time! it looks like someone is getting kickback \$\$
12. [Neither] Denied me the right ignore my request
13. [Work] I'm a barber
14. [Work] (due to quarantine, Ive been dismissed without testing.)

Q8. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.

1. [Blank] Up and down depends on the day
2. [A] Generally
3. [Blank] Depends on staff
4. [D] use to be better a few years ago

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.

1. [N] Officers yes/healthcare no
2. [Blank] Depends on staff
3. [A] For the most part

I get along well with the officers on my unit.

1. [Blank] Depends on staff

I receive support from staff when I need it.

2. [SD] Never!
3. [D] Sometimes
4. [Blank] Sometimes
5. [SD] No trust

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.

1. [SD] Only the blacks!
2. [Blank] Sometimes
3. [D] Always found guilty
4. [N] same

I trust the officers

1. [SD] Liars!
2. [Blank] Depends on what it is I asking them or need

I get along well with the officers on my unit.

1. [Blank] can't choose
2. [D] They Bully us

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels.

1. [Blank] Uncertain
2. [SD] Take care of it ourselves
3. [SD] This don't even work
4. [N] Depends

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.

1. [SD] Liars!
2. [D] Staff only help when we force them too or else it benefits them in some way
3. [SD] No I'm white and a non sex offender
4. [SD] Healthcare sucks for all of us

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.

1. [N and D] 50/50

I am treated as a person of value

2. [A] Often
3. [SA] slave
4. [D] called fagots or rapists or child molesters daily
5. [A] By some
6. [SD] 3rd class citizen

Q9. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading

1. [SA] All
2. [SA] especially from sex offender providers
3. [A] from medical dep specifically from the PA
4. [SA] most
5. [D] I think is a matter of perspective

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people

1. [SD] Other SDPs
2. [Blank] Depends on what house or wing I am on
3. [A] by my own doing

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations

1. [SA] There is no improving here
2. [A] seems like it

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.

1. [SD] Hell no!
2. [SD] Staff don't care about anything other than starting shit and collecting a paycheck
3. [D] respectfully

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.

1. [D] Everything is punishment first
2. [SD] Hell no!
3. [D] Them use the rule: "Punish now—ask later"
4. [SD] communication is weak and viewed as being a "hug a thing"

Staff are argumentative towards incarcerated people.

1. [SA] Most use intimidation to get things done
2. [N] Some are some aren't
3. [A] not all but some

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.

1. [SA] if ever
2. [SA] or threat suicide
3. [SA] And still it don't work
4. [N] some times
5. [SA] is there any other way?

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.

1. [A] VSOP so yes!
2. [SD] What plan?
3. [SA] Only because I have a strong mind and want to get out and stay out. Otherwise this is a cesspool for criminal thinking.
4. [SD] How to stay alive
5. [SD] Actually makes me more aggressive
6. [SA] Because I don't want to come back

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.

1. [SA] Black!
2. [SA] Homos tranny's and blacks and snitches
3. [SD] Child molesters
4. [SA] The blacks, baby rapers, and trannys
5. [SA] white people
6. [SA] snitches IA bitches
7. [SA] Blacks!
8. [A] snitch
9. [SA] isn't it always

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.

1. [SA] one ticket prevents everything aint no coming back
2. [SA] I've been trying but no results
3. [SA] (Personally)

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.

1. [Blank] More of a joke
2. [SA] Harrassed & lied about

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.

1. [SA] this is what civil commitment is all about

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.

2. [SA] True & no programs
3. [A] It wasn't this way before. We were allowed to go to school and have off the wing jobs, etc. now we don't!

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.

1. [SA] Blacks!
2. [A] Child molesters
3. [SA] Help
4. [SA] Inmates not officers
5. [SD] I am scared of staff

This prison is well organized.

1. [SD] Only thing organized is the gangs
2. [SD] This prison is a joke
3. [SD] Hell no!
4. [SD] NO!!

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.

1. [SD] It annoys them to hear me speak
2. [A] Usually
3. [SD] Hell no!
4. [A] (Personally)
5. [D] Racist

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms

1. [N] When they want to
2. [SD] Only fights nothing health wise
3. [SD] Takes 5 min or more
4. [SD] 15 mins for a seizure!

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.

1. [Blank] Once!
2. [SD] No i have to act a fool just to be heard.
3. [D] Not all the time
4. [N] sometimes maybe

You never know the rules

1. [A] Changes w/ each officer
2. [SA] They change
3. [SA] Each C/O has own rules
4. [D] IDOC rules yes—program rules no they change with their moods!
5. [N] no inmate is sure of them.
6. [N] real or made up
7. [D] Inmates know rules better than some COs
8. [SA] Always changing
9. [SA] racism

My experience in this prison is painful.

1. [SA] I hate authority more
2. [A] 30 years in treatment

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.

1. [SA] Blacks!
2. [Blank] ?
3. [SA] snitches are allowed to do & have illegal stuff & steal from inmates
4. [A] mind over matter
5. [Blank] Dont know
6. [D] Me absolutely!

The disciplinary system is fair.

1. [SD] Only if your black, baby raper, or tranny
2. [SD] Segregation garunteed
3. [A and N] some times

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.

1. [N] Core porters
2. [A] and the officers allow it!

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.

1. [SA] Not enough state pay
2. [SD] can't or get in trouble
3. [SA] ASS

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.

1. [Blank] Huh?
2. [SD] How the administration can pocket the decisions
3. [SD] There is no security threats by inmates. Just highly aggressive officers
4. [Blank] What? makes no sense. Whose decisions? Whose concerns?
5. [SA] unreasonably not logical
6. [SA] always

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.

1. [SD] Not here!
2. [SD] Wasted time is more like it
3. [N] If you make it that way its up to the person not staff the prison does not promote positive change
4. [SD] No opportunities!
5. [A] But the therapy doesn't show it. No matter what you do its only used against you never positive only negative.
6. [SA] only upon my own; no help from this place
7. [A] Cant get into voluntary sex off. Treatment been on waiting list 3 years! Bull-Shit
8. [SD] very depress
9. [Blank] ABSOLUTELY NOT
10. [A] I'm an exception most people dont work on themselves

Q10. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

I am not being treated as a human being in here.

1. [SA] never will be
2. [Blank] Correct
3. [SA] caged dog!!

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.

1. [SD] Financial support from family

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual, not a number.

1. [SD] still a number

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.

2. [SD] This isn't a movie drugs is not a big thing in prison.
3. [SA] K2
4. [Blank] Unknown
5. [Blank] IDK

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.

1. [A] You get in trouble for being bullied.

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.

1. [Blank] Don't know
2. [SA] to also deny me rehabilitation
3. [SA] Hell yes
4. [Blank] Nothing about me.

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.

1. [Blank] Don't know
2. [SA] If you threaten to hurt yourself, they tell you to do it & shut up
3. [Blank] You should give them help.
4. [SA] It is the reason that a guy commit suicide himself couple week ago at seg.

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.

1. [N] Hard to get on the phone
2. [Blank] No, filling this form out, I cant contact you

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.

1. [Blank] Don't know
2. [SD] They would rather prevent it
3. [A] poor but help

This is a humane prison.

1. [SD] Seriously?
2. [Blank] Define humane
3. [SD] I'm hungry & jobless & can't work to get home early.
4. [A] Better than some

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.

1. [SA] 23 1/2 hours a day
2. [SA] 2 hours or 2 hours outside of cell a day
3. [SA] 100%
4. [SA] You only get 3 hrs per day & this medium
5. [SA] Big yes
6. [Blank] Yes they do and you dont care
7. [SA] 22 or 21 hr/day
8. [SA] 30 hrs only 30 min out

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.

1. [N] Depends on who you are
2. [N] sometimes
3. [N] from every but officers
4. [SD] mental war

Mental health treatment is available.

1. [N] It is but useless they dont help or give a fuck
2. [A] not very good
3. [D] 1 therapist for this program.
4. [SD] Terrible none
5. [D] yeah right!
6. [N] Yes. Applied by staff no.

This prison is better now than it was last year.

1. [A] Only because we're not on COVID lockdown
2. [SD] Worse!
3. [Blank] Don't know
4. [Blank] Bullshit is bullshit no matter what color it is
5. [SD] Never was good in the first place
6. [SD] Warden [REDACTED] is lazy, inept, unprofessional
7. [SD] NO

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.

1. [SD] Again, this prison is a cesspool that encourages criminal thinking. Hell, they can't even keep the drugs out
2. [SD] Please, this is an opposite prison. They want us to stay and come back
3. [SD] People serve whole sentences without being allowed to rehabilitate
4. [SD] I can't get into no programs
5. [A] If one is a program member
6. [SA] HELL NO!
7. [SD] laughing out loud!
8. [Blank] No, We can not get any help
9. [SD] They don't care
10. [SD] Not giving me VSOTP

I am satisfied with food from dietary.

1. [SD] Small portions of food
2. [SD] There is not enough
3. [SD] I'm hungry right now I just ate and we are receiving a very small portion
4. [A] Mostly
5. [SA] HELL NO!
6. [Blank] You crazy food is nasty and not safe
7. [D] Not enough
8. [D] diabetic
9. [SD] still laughing!
10. [N] No offense but who cares

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week

1. [SD] 2 month
2. [SD] Maybe once if that
3. [SD] Never, if you live in healthcare
4. [N] If we're not on Covid Lockdown
5. [SD] nothin now Covid.
6. [SD] twice a month?
7. [N] maybe
8. [SD] are you kidding!?! (lol)

Q11. Overall, on a scale of 1 to 10, mark the box this prison deserves in terms of quality of life/general treatment of the people incarcerated here.

1. [1] Terrible
2. [1] Small quarters, little to no food, no healthy choice options on commissary, Vitamin Deficiency, If you get in trouble not only do you serve punishment, you are not allowed to participate in any rehabilitation or jobs and this prison actually promotes homosexuality between inmates. Heterosexuality is fought against
3. [Blank] -0. They have covid people working in the kitchen. Our health is at risk

4. [1] -10 should be a box. This prison promotes racism and homosexuality and does nothing to help the individual trying to get back home or learn life skills that will help with keeping them home. The department of corrections has no correction in it.
5. [9] 10 would be freedom from prison but I put myself here

Miscellaneous Comments

1. Thank You Very Much!
2. My name **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** Please help me
3. Note: civilly committed person—answers reflect treatment staff not prison staff. Not for civilly committed individuals
4. I will write a separate letter giving more detail.
5. Shut this place down or Rework the infrastructure!
6. Why keep wasting your time if you are not going to make changes in our lives, and make things better? I've survived prison for **[20+]** years because of what I can do and who I am now, who I have to be to get by. Want to change things? START WITH THE STAFF IN ALL DEPARTMENTS. IA is a joke, and so is INTEL.
7. My name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** if you are here to help me I would like feedback and would like to be a volunteer on you guys campaign to help aid and assist you guys with whatever information thats gone help us better this prison system as a whole. it's time for our voices to be heard and let the people know how we are being treated as humans. Thank you.
8. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** you know me from when I was in stateville
9. I am an SDP civilly committed person
10. If this dont get to you nothing will ever change sucks we wont know if it ever does
11. Questions yall already know the answer to!
12. I want my name on my sheet. I want to be heard. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
13. Im sure you have been told this by many persons in custody but here goes nothing—Ive recieved nothing but lies and disrespect by these people and have begged them for a transfer. Ive been here over 2 years and have recieved nothing. If you are a 50%ers, you get nothing. Only 85%ers get good time and programs. Check it out!
14. You are not going to help us, and this servey is about you getting money for your cause or your pocket. I think its for your pocket.
15. You dont care
16. contact me if you want the truth on civil commitment therapy! **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
17. SDP employs only 1 therapist for our 180 inmates treatment is only 1 hour per session per week if not canceled. groups are never made up and Wexford evaluations never show progress because they only focus on bad things or make excuses for IDOC therapists!
18. Eveathing you need to know is on these letter, and everthing you need to fix in these letter Also.



This report was compiled by JHA staff. Media inquiries should be directed to JHA's Executive Director Jennifer Vollen-Katz at (312) 291-9183 or jvollen@thejha.org

Incarcerated individuals can send privileged mail to report concerns and issues to the John Howard Association, P.O. Box 10042, Chicago, IL 60610-0042. JHA staff read every letter and track this information to monitor what is occurring behind prison walls and to advocate for humane policies and practices. Family and friends can contact JHA via our website www.thejha.org or by leaving us a voicemail at (312) 291-9183.

Since 1901, JHA has provided public oversight of Illinois' juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Every year, JHA staff and trained volunteers inspect prisons, jails, and detention centers throughout the state. Based on these inspections, JHA regularly issues reports that are instrumental in improving prison conditions. JHA thanks everyone who graciously shared their experiences and insights with us.

