

# 2014 National Symposium on Corrections Worker Health

July 15, 2014, Portland, Oregon

Researchers and practitioners from the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (UMass Lowell, University of Connecticut, UConn Health Center), Oregon Healthy Workforce Center (Oregon Health & Science University, Portland State University), Washington State University, University at Buffalo, Connecticut DOC, Oregon DOC, Washington State DOC, and other stakeholders will convene a National Symposium on Corrections Worker Health to be held on July 15, 2014 in Portland, Oregon to include a webcast for national outreach.

This symposium focuses on **Total Worker Health in Corrections** with topics/issues covered:

- Health promotion and health protection of the correctional workforce
- Challenges/barriers for health and safety interventions in corrections
- Engagement and participatory action research in corrections
- Organizational culture as a challenge to change
- Mental health and suicide among COs: What programs exist and what works?
- Promising practices for health promotion/health protection in law enforcement and corrections
- Impact of shift work on stress, sleep, injury, health and disease
- Funding and collaboration for correctional workforce research

The **outcomes/objectives** of the national symposium will include:

- Identify research priorities for corrections worker health
- Identify and form a national constituency (consortium) that includes corrections labor and management, professional groups and associations
- Prepare a conference summary paper for all attendees
- Develop a research proposal for existing NIJ or NIOSH RFA

**Target audience who will attend** this national symposium:

- Researchers focusing on correctional workers health and safety
- Practitioners in corrections
- DOC Labor-and Management representatives
- Government agencies in corrections and occupational safety & health

## Resources

- **Website:** <http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/research/centers-institutes/oregon-institute-occupational-health-sciences/oregon-healthy-workforce-center/education-outreach/corrections-worker-health.cfm>
- **Live stream:** <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/psu-live-a>

**2014 National Symposium on Corrections Worker Health**  
**July 15, 2014**  
**Portland State University, Smith Memorial Student Union (Room 327-328)**

**Agenda**

- 8:00-8:30**      *Breakfast and Check-in*
- 8:30-8:45      Welcome and Introduction: Oregon Department of Corrections Deputy Director *Mitch Morrow*
- 8:45-9:15      Overview of Corrections Worker Health: *Martin Cherniack*
- 9:15-10:15**      *Keynote Speakers*
- 9:15-9:45      National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health *Margaret Kitt*
- 9:45-10:15      National Institute of Justice *Marie Garcia*
- 10:15-10:30      Break
- 10:30-1:00**      *Presentations & Lunch*
- 10:30-11:15      Suicide and Stress in Correctional Workforce *John Violanti*
- 11:15-12:00      An Integrated Safety and Health Program for Correctional Workers *Oliver Wirth and B. Jean Meade*
- 12:00-12:30      Lunch
- 12:30-1:15      PHLAME: An example of a complete TWH intervention program from conception to ROI *Kerry Kuehl and Diane Elliot*
- 1:15 – 1:30      Break
- 1:30-3:30**      *Round table presentation and discussions*      (30 minute sessions at each table; choose 3)
- Table 1: Fatigue Management: *Bryan Vila*
- Table 2: Work Family Balance: *Charlotte Fritz*
- Table 3: Juvenile Corrections: *Clint McClellan*
- Table 4: Ergonomic Solutions: *Jeff Dussetschleger*
- Table 5: Lessons from Organizational Culture Research: *Mary Stohr & Xiaohan Mei*
- Table 6: Methods: Intervention Effectiveness: *Martin Cherniack*
- Table 7: Suicide, Stress, PTSD: *John Violanti*
- Table 8: Improving CO Safety and Fitness: *Roy McGrath*
- 3:30-3:45      Break
- 3:45-5:00**      *Summary and closing remarks*
- 3:45-4:30      Five minute summaries from each discussion table
- 4:30-5:00      Closing remarks: What's next? *Martin Cherniack*