

PRIDE Program

The People Recognizing the Inherent Dignity of Everyone (Pride) program began in February, 2008. With the intent of lessening intergenerational incarceration, the PRIDE program assists women incarcerated in the Travis County Correctional Complex (TCCC) with building stronger relationships with their children and families as well as addressing their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Approximately 10-13 women attend PRIDE classes every day for four weeks. At the end of completing the four weeks, attendees graduate and receive a certificate. Graduates may then choose to stay in the group and attend a second phase of classes. Since the program began, over 700 women have voluntarily enrolled and 270 women have graduated from PRIDE. The smaller amount of graduates is due to the fact that the average length of stay for women in custody is only three weeks and a majority of women leave jail before being able to finish the program.

Statistics for Women Incarcerated at TCCC

- Of *all* enrolled PRIDE participants (not just graduates):
 - 35% did not graduate from high school
 - 68% had no job before current arrest
 - Only 22% had ever been to ANY program or treatment anywhere at any time in the past.
- On an average day, there are 266 women housed in our Travis County Correctional Complex.
- Last year, over 12,000 women were booked into our jail.
- Women comprise 11.4% of the jail population.
- 80% have a history of domestic violence or sexual assault committed against them.
- 70% were seen by the psychiatric doctor and receiving psychiatric medication for mental health issues.
- 20% of the women went directly from our correctional complex to a treatment facility.
- Only 33% of the women went directly to the Texas Department of Corrections (15%) or the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (18%).