STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
This Administrative Regulation is to be made available in law libraries or other inmate resource centers.

EFFECTIVE: June 30, 2017
REVISED: June 30, 2018

Incorporated Policy Directive 017-034, other minor wording changes.

APPROVED:

Scott R. Frakes, Director
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services
PURPOSE

To provide individuals assigned to longer term restrictive housing (LTRH) status access to trained peer mentors from general population inmates as a means to aid LTRH inmates in transitioning to general population and increasing their chances of succeeding.

GENERAL

The Nebraska State Penitentiary (NSP) restrictive housing shall develop a peer to peer mentor pilot program under the provision of this policy.

PROCEDURE

I. Selection Process

A. When the institution determines the need for peer to peer mentors a posting shall be circulated among the general population advertising such and requirements listed in Procedure I.B. for the position(s). The posting will have opening / closing dates and whom to send inmate interview requests.

B. Applicants will initially be screened by designated restrictive housing unit staff for, but not limited to: work / misconduct report history, programming completed, active STG involvement and potential for Sexual Assault/Sexual Victimization.

C. Final applicants will be interviewed by the following staff: restrictive housing unit staff, restrictive housing unit Sergeant, Unit Administrator and others as designated by the Warden.

D. Recommended applicants will be submitted to the Warden for final approval.

II. Mentor Training Requirements

A. Individuals approved through the selection process must complete an approved, evidence based training program prior to working with individuals in restrictive housing.

B. Training will include instructor lead, active participation, group work and personal study training.

III. Duties

A. Individuals approved through the selection process must successfully complete an approved Intentional Peer Support training (Attachment A).

B. All visits by mentors with mentees shall be documented.

IV. Inmate Pay

A. A full time mentor/mentor coordinator will be paid $3.78 per day, five days per week. Designated restrictive housing unit staff will be assigned to complete work schedules, pay documents and work reports.
B. For the purpose of the pilot program, NSP may have the following number of authorized mentors.

- One full time mentor at $3.78 per day.
- Up to six unpaid volunteer mentors.

C. Unpaid volunteer mentors shall receive the same training as paid mentors and will typically be individuals who have expressed interest, but do not wish to serve on a full time basis due to current work assignment, etc.

V. Mentors will be stripped searched entering and exiting restrictive housing. Mentors will be escorted on and off the galleries. Mentors will meet in assigned dayroom or conference room under staff supervision. Mentees will be restrained at all times.

REFERENCE

I. AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION STANDARDS – None noted

II. ATTACHMENTS

A. Intentional Peer Support Course Overview