

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MENTAL HEALTH, SPECIAL NEEDS OF INMATES TOP PRIORITY FOR
ST. CHARLES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – Managing inmates with mental health issues and other special needs is a top priority for the St. Charles County Department of Corrections (SCCDOC). The department recently hosted its third interagency training to educate area officers on how to handle such cases.

Corrections officers from three agencies – St. Louis County Department of Justice Services, Jefferson County Sheriff's Department Jail Division, and the Warren County Jail – joined officers from SCCDOC in the 5-day, 40-hour training.

With the increasing number of cases in detained populations, specialized staff training has been in higher demand for correctional agencies.



“We must equip our staff to properly manage and care for the diversity of needs in the people we oversee” says Keen. “I want to thank the other participating Correctional and Law Enforcement Departments in the Metro area for recognizing that this training is a priority.”

The training was conducted by instructors from SCCDOC staff, National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI), Compass Health, and Jennings Department of Corrections with participation from Headway Club House in St. Peters. Headway House is a program of Compass Health Network of St. Charles County.

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About St. Charles County:

St. Charles County, Missouri, founded in 1812, is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri. With a population of 405,262, is it the state's third largest county. It is home to 21 scenic county parks of which four are in reserve, encompassing 4,197 acres.

With one of the largest economies in the state, St. Charles County is home to multinational companies including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government has more than 1,170 employees in more than 30 departments and offices who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit sccmo.org.