

Corrections Commission of Northwest Ohio

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STRYKER – It was a special day for four inmates at the Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio. Myreiona Hoskins, Paul Williams, Sam Spencer, and Ken Doherty each received their Ohio High School Equivalency Diplomas in a small ceremony at the regional jail.

Joined by several fellow students as well as facility directors, commanders, and GED instructor, the group was honored for their achievement. "You've worked hard for this and should be proud of what you've accomplished," said Jon Davis, CCNO's Commander of Programs and Services.

Other students shared their excitement for the graduates, commenting on how inspirational it is to see others succeed. With another testing date quickly approaching, several other students expressed hope for the next graduation ceremony to be in their honor. "This is an achievement worthy of celebration," said Executive Director Dennis Sullivan. "We'll always have a special ceremony to encourage each of you to continue working towards your diploma."

Inmates at the jail take on the responsibility for obtaining their diploma. They attend classroom time a few days a week with an instructor and study on their own outside of class. To receive their diploma, they must pass four different section tests costing \$20 per section; a cost charged to the inmate.

The regional jail had ramped up education programs in recent months to boost inmates' participation. These four graduates are examples that self-improvement can happen during incarceration. Smiling from ear-to-ear, Paul Williams couldn't hide his happiness, "I just can't stop staring at it; I finally did it!"



Pictured from left to right: Jami Nathan (CCNO GED Instructor), Paul Williams, Myreiona Hoskins, Samuel Spencer, Ken Doherty, and Commander Jon Davis.

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