



NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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"Be Pro, Be Proud" tour coming to NMCD facilities

NMCD is the first state prison system to host the immersive mobile workshop for inmates

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) is excited to announce that the innovative and immersive ["Be Pro, Be Proud"](#) mobile workshop is scheduled to make stops at state prison facilities.

Inside the state-of-the-art semi-truck trailer, inmates will embark on an immersive technical careers and skilled trades journey through more than a dozen hands-on simulators and virtual reality experiences. During this time, they will have the unique opportunity to explore a variety of trade career industries including welding, carpentry, robotics, transportation, and more.

“By experiencing simulated work environments, it is our hope the inmates will walk away with a heightened sense of curiosity and eagerness about post-incarceration career opportunities,” said **NMCD Cabinet Secretary Alisha Tafoya Lucero**. “In bringing this workshop to our prison facilities, we are continuing to prove our commitment to reduce recidivism rates by further strengthening our communities.”

“Be Pro Be Proud” is an initiative led by the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions (DWS) and the New Mexico Center for Economic Opportunity (NMCEO).

“When thinking about what career path to take, there is no better way to connect with possibilities than with hands-on experience,” said **DWS Cabinet Secretary Sarita Nair**. “Be Pro Be Proud gives people who will soon be re-entering communities an opportunity to explore in-demand technical careers, learn where and how to obtain training, and explore opportunities like registered apprenticeships. This initiative contributes to two goals of our State Plan – increasing outreach to justice-involved individuals and building the construction workforce - by showing these participants that good-paying careers will be accessible to them when the time comes.”

“The great thing about Be Pro Be Proud, is that it helps spur an individual’s imagination about what they can become, where they can take their lives, as it provides the pathway to make that change,” said **Rob Black, President and CEO of the New Mexico Chamber of Commerce**. “We are excited to partner with the Corrections and Workforce Solutions Departments on this important effort to help returning citizens find a better future for themselves and their families.”

The state prison facility tour is scheduled to commence at the end of July. More information about “Be Pro Be Proud” is available [here](#).

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The New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) is one of the largest state departments in New Mexico. The department staff and volunteers are fully committed to integrating programs in its state-owned facilities for rehabilitation. It is through programs and services the department aims to improve outcomes for offender and enhance public safety in communities. For more information, visit cd.nm.gov or follow NMCD on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#) at @NMCDPIO.

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions (DWS) oversees the New Mexico public workforce system. The department is committed to supporting the business community and assisting New Mexicans seeking employment opportunities by bridging the link between employer needs and the skilled workforce. The department administers programs to include business services; workforce training; Unemployment Insurance; labor law enforcement; veterans’ services; and labor market information. The DWS is 85% Federally funded with (\$106,960,200), and 15% (\$18,543,600) financed by non-federal sources in state fiscal year 2024.