



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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'Help Wanted' sign up at Durfee State Prison

Pierre, S.D. – A 'Help Wanted' sign is going up at the Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield.

The South Dakota Department of Corrections is looking to hire thirty additional correctional officers to staff a new 400-bed inmate housing unit at the Springfield facility.

"At a starting wage of \$11.75 per hour, this is an excellent position for someone who wants to join a team of people committed to making a difference," says Bob Dooley, Warden of the Mike Durfee State Prison.

"The addition of thirty jobs is a big boost to Springfield," said Gregg Schelske, President of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. "The Chamber of Commerce and city of Springfield look forward to working with the applicants to assist them with everything from housing needs to providing information on our city, schools and quality of life."

The state is beginning their recruitment efforts for these new positions. Applications are available through the South Dakota Career Centers, the Bureau of Personnel, or the Human Resources Office at the Mike Durfee State Prison.

With 153 full-time employees, the Durfee State Prison is currently the second largest employer in Springfield.

The new correctional officers will begin a comprehensive, pre-service training session on June 9, 2005 to prepare them for their new position.

The new inmate housing unit is part of a prison construction package approved by the state legislature in 2003 due to the expanding prison population. The housing unit is expected to be completed by July 1st.