



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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'Scoop It' snow removal program assists elderly, disabled homeowners

(Pierre, S.D.)- The Department of Corrections 'Scoop It' snow removal program assisted nearly 70 homeowners across the state following last weekend's snowstorm.

Inmates from the minimum-security units in Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Yankton are dispatched to clear away snow for elderly and disabled homeowners that either can't physically remove the snow themselves or can't afford to pay someone else to do so.

The snow removal is coordinated through community resource agencies in those cities. The agencies do a screening of those asking for the assistance and call the prison units with the information and addresses. A uniformed correctional officer accompanies the inmate crew, which is made up of non-violent inmates who are nearing the end of their sentences.

Community resource agencies for the 'Scoop It' program include:

<u>City</u>	<u>Community Resource</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>
Sioux Falls	Help!Line Center	211 in Sioux Falls
Pierre/Ft. Pierre	United Way of Pierre/Ft. Pierre	224-9229
Rapid City	Rapid City United Way	343-5872
Yankton	Yankton Area Senior Citizens Center	665-4685