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[\(Downloadable Video/Interviews Included\)](#)

The Utah Department of Corrections Successfully Launches On-Site Dialysis to Enhance Patient Care for the Incarcerated, and Increase Efficiency

Salt Lake City, Utah — The Utah Department of Corrections has successfully launched an on-site dialysis treatment program at the Utah State Correctional Facility (USCF), bringing critical, life-sustaining medical care directly to incarcerated patients while reducing transportation costs, improving public safety, and enhancing health outcomes.

The program, developed through a unique partnership between UDC, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Correctional Health Services (CHS) division, and community healthcare providers, eliminates the need for routine transports to outside medical facilities for dialysis treatments, which are often required up to six days a week, multiple times a day.

"What began as a safety concern around the volume of transports evolved into an opportunity to rethink how healthcare is delivered in a correctional setting," said Dr. Mark Wisner, Director of Correctional Health Services. "The Department of Corrections approached us looking for a better solution. Through collaboration, innovation, and strong partnerships, we were able to bring dialysis care inside the facility and create benefits for patients, staff, and taxpayers alike."

"This initiative reflects the very best of what the government can accomplish through collaboration. By bringing dialysis treatment inside the Utah State Correctional Facility, we have improved patient care, strengthened public safety, and reduced transportation demands. Most

importantly, we're seeing real improvements in the lives of the individuals receiving treatment.”
Jared Garcia, Utah Department of Corrections Commissioner.

Previously, dialysis patients required frequent transportation to community medical providers, often involving multiple officers and significant operational resources. By moving treatment on-site, the department has reduced transportation demands significantly, lowered associated staffing costs, and minimized security and public safety risks related to off-site movement.

Beyond the operational advantages, the program is making a meaningful difference in the lives of the patients receiving care.

Dialysis treatments are physically demanding and often leave patients fatigued. Receiving care inside the facility reduces travel time, eliminates transportation-related stress, and allows patients to receive treatment in a familiar and secure environment. The result is greater continuity of care and improved quality of life.

One patient shared the profound impact the program has had on his health.

"He told us, 'They saved my life,'" Wisner said. "When he first began treatment, he could barely walk. Today, he's walking the track, attending appointments independently, and transitioning from using a walker to using a cane. Hearing someone talk about having hope for the future again is an incredible outcome."

The initiative also highlights a unique model of collaboration between corrections and healthcare professionals. While some correctional systems across the country provide dialysis services, Utah's approach combines the expertise of both corrections and healthcare leadership to create a comprehensive solution tailored to the needs of incarcerated patients.

The dialysis program has also drawn interest as a model for other correctional systems seeking to improve healthcare delivery while controlling costs and maintaining safety.

For UDC, the project reflects a broader commitment to innovation and continuous improvement.

The Dialysis clinic at USCF, is led by board-certified nephrologists and dialysis specialists, partnered with the department to provide professional dialysis services using equipment already purchased by the state, helping make the transition seamless and efficient.

The program underscores UDC's mission to work together, transform lives, and protect communities, by supporting rehabilitation, and ensuring individuals in its custody receive appropriate healthcare while maximizing the value of public resources.

Available Video and Interviews can be downloaded here:

[DIALYSIS AT USCF](#)

Included: Broll, Interview with Dr. Mark Wisner, Interview with Incarcerated Patients, Interview with Commissioner Jared Garcia

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