

A Message from ACA's Executive Committee

In 1776, Thomas Paine said, in the throes of the American revolution, "these are the times that try men's souls." Well, 244 years later, "these are the times that try men's and women's souls!"

Corrections' job, every minute, every hour, every day, every month, and every year is to protect the public, protect those in their charge, and protect their staff. And corrections does a darn fine job of that every single second that goes by. Almost always unheralded and unsung, but protect all of us, you do. And our country is appreciative even when, most often, it's not said.

Our nation, indeed, the world, is facing a new, and scary situation with COVID-19. And this profession must bear a heavy burden in dealing with it. Close quarters, new admissions, public contacts, and constant movement all bear directly in compounding the risk for our staff and those we supervise.

But something about Americans tells us when the going gets tough, the tough get going! Our correctional officers, our probation officers, our community corrections workers, our juvenile justice professionals, our nurses, our doctors, our parole officers, our teachers, our counselors, and EVERY OTHER CORRECTIONAL WORKER, show up every day at their own personal peril to DO THE JOB.

No one knows when this situation will end. But all of us know it will end and we will prevail.

So, if no one else ever tells you this: Thank God you are here, thank God you are doing your job, thank God you are willing to sacrifice for the greater good of our country.

Simply said -- two words: THANK YOU.

YOU are America's HEROES.

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