

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Supporting the Opportunity for Change

Kennedy developed a strong interest in law enforcement after participating in the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department Explorers program. Designed for youth ages 14–21, the program offers hands-on training, career exploration, and community service opportunities. Through this experience, Kennedy gained exposure to key law enforcement practices, including building searches, traffic stops, and firearms safety.

Reflecting on her early experiences, Kennedy shared:
"While job shadowing in the jail before being hired, I was able to observe people withdrawing from various substances. Seeing the rehabilitation process with my own eyes made me appreciate the difference corrections deputies can make for so many people. These same people walk up and down the streets with our families. Everyone deserves the opportunity to recover and make the change for themselves."

Kennedy began her career in Corrections in June 2025. Shortly after, her employer referred her to GST Michigan Works!, where she enrolled in the WIOA program. Through this program, she received supportive services that helped cover the cost of her uniform and essential tools needed for success.

In January 2026, Kennedy advanced her career by enrolling at Delta College to pursue her Corrections Officer Certificate. With GST Michigan Works! covering the cost of her training, she completed the program. Kennedy's dedication and hard work earned her top honors, as she graduated first in her class.

Kennedy's journey reflects her commitment to service, personal growth, and making a meaningful impact in her community. As she continues her career in corrections, she remains driven by a desire to support rehabilitation efforts and contribute to safer communities, demonstrating the lasting value of both hands-on experience and continued education.