

Collaboration and Cooperation to Build Safer Communities



THE MISSION OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE

Allegheny County Adult Probation and Parole is charged by the Court of Common Pleas with the responsibility of providing effective community-based alternatives to incarceration, improving public safety, partnering with community and law enforcement resources and promoting positive behavioral change from offenders.

The core beliefs supporting the Mission are:

- Through individual assessment, direction and assistance, most offenders can and will become contributing members of our community.
- That offenders can and will be held accountable for the harm they cause to individuals as well as to the community at large.
- Recognizing our responsibility for public safety, a comprehensive system of community corrections, including incarceration and re-entry, will be developed and supported.
- The strengths and resources of our community are vital to the success of our offenders.
- That excellence in the quality of Court services requires sensitivity to racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity.



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ADMINISTRATION FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA COMMON PLEAS COURT CRIMINAL DIVISION





Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel President Judge



Honorable Jeffrey A. Manning Administrative Judge



Helen M. Lynch, Esquire Administrator



Raymond L. Billotte District Court Administrator



ADULT PROBATION SERVICES

Thomas M. McCaffrey Director

Collaboration and Cooperation

am very privileged and extremely proud to present the 2010 Adult Probation Department Annual Report. We have chronicled in the pages that follow our progress and successes in delivering our services to the citizens of Allegheny County. Like many other Probation Departments across the country, we are actively improving practices in an ever changing and increasingly challenging environment. For the past two decades, the Federal Bureau of Justice Statistics has documented a steady and significant growth across the country in the number of offenders placed on probation and parole supervision. Additionally, as the number of criminals placed on supervision has grown, so has the use of conditions of supervision imposed on these cases. The development of specialty dockets and treatment courts have further put more burdens on Probation Departments to effectively deal with this population. Increases in Probation staff have failed to keep pace with the increased caseloads and demands to effectively supervise this population. This is precisely the situation we are faced with .

With leadership from the President Judge, Administrative Judge, and Court Administrator, we have engaged the services of several nationally recognized agencies to help guide us in the development of these improved practices. In the face of dwindling budgets, it has been our priority to implement effective and innovative practices within the Probation Department to maximize effectiveness in reducing crime and victimization, and increase public safety. We are completely committed to economically applying the available resources to accomplish our goals.

Although we have done a considerable amount of collaborative work with outside consultants, the success of our transformation will rely squarely on the shoulders of staff and their ability to embrace and commit to a new approach in delivering services. Changing the practices of a department with long standing traditions can be a very difficult endeavor. Fundamental changes in how we operate and what we value take years to effectively implement. A common problem in effecting change is the frustration that the staff experiences because of the length of time this process takes. We are currently dealing with this now due to set backs and challenges with information technology, case volume, and many other factors. I firmly believe that, although persistent and deliberate progress in implementing changes may be somewhat frustrating, it is better than the alternative of implementing changes too quickly and without careful consideration, thus causing dysfunction with stakeholders and overwhelming the staff.

The course we are on and the progress we are making is documented in the pages that follow. More than that, the staff members responsible for all the work we have done this year are recognized in this report. These staff members have been able to embrace the science and analysis of what works in community corrections and effectively apply this to our work on a daily basis. These skills and talents of staff are what will make us successful in the long run in providing effective services to our community.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. McCaffrey

Thomas M. McCaffrey



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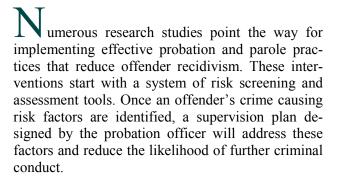


ADULT PROBATION MOVES TOWARD EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

Ronald J. Seyko Deputy Director

Collaboration and Cooperation

Assessments, Offender Supervision Plan, Mobile Probation Office, and Cognitive Behavioral Approach



In Allegheny County, all offenders are screened for risk via the "Proxy" instrument. This three-item assessment tool uses an offender's current age, age at first arrest, and total number of arrests to determine a risk level that is low, medium, or high for reoffending.

Low risk offenders, as a group, are the least likely to commit additional crimes. Research indicates that mixing this population with higher risk offenders will actually increase the likelihood that they will recidivate in the future; therefore, low risk probationers are placed on a reduced reporting status while under the jurisdiction of the court. Even though they are not required to meet regularly with a probation officer, they must still meet their financial obligations to victims and satisfy any other court requirements.

The offenders who score in the medium and high risk range are actively supervised by probation officers via contacts with them at their homes, job sites, schools, and the probation offices. In the near future, probation officers will conduct in-depth risk/

needs assessments on these medium and high-risk offenders. The assessment instrument, called the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R), consists of 54 items that represent significant crimecausing risk factors such as antisocial personality patterns, criminal attitudes, criminal associates, criminal and delinquent history, school and employment deficits, inappropriate leisure/recreational activities, substance abuse problems, and dysfunctional families. The information gathered from offender interviews regarding each of these items provides important details that inform treatment and supervision planning. These assessments allow probation officers to focus resources on those areas that will produce the best outcomes for both the offenders and the community. Plans are in place for probation officers to enter LSI-R responses on their laptop computers; the computer version then automatically scores the answers and clearly illustrates the high risks and needs categories via graphs. These assessments are then electronically stored for future reference.

Currently in development is a web-based tool that will allow probation officers to quickly and efficiently create meaningful Offender Supervision Plans (OSP) that document, via computer, all supervision and treatment efforts. The OSP will automatically incorporate the results of the LSI-R and will serve as a key "one stop" document that will assist probation officers in supervising the offender, as well as see that the goals of the plan come to fruition.

Changing criminal thinking is the first step towards changing offender behavior. To change criminal thinking, offenders have to participate in effective programs that alter cognitions, attitudes, values and expectations that contribute to their antisocial conduct. The cognitive behavioral approach places an emphasis on problem solving, decision-making, selfcontrol and behavior modification. Recently, three probation officers completed an intensive cognitive behavior facilitator training and are certified to conduct groups that will guide offenders in their intrinsic desire to change their criminal thinking. Efforts are underway to expand the number of probation officers who are trained to facilitate these groups.

Driven by research findings that indicate that the above practices are effective in reducing recidivism, our efforts continue to move forward with providing probation officers with the tools to perform comprehensive risk screenings, assessments, and supervision plans that will have a positive impact on changing the thinking and behavior of offenders under supervision.

CASELOAD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2010		
Probation	15,044	
Parole	856	
Intermediate Punishment	1,368	
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	5,376	
Probation without Verdict	463	
TOTAL	23,107	
PROBATIONERS BY OFFENSE GRADE		

PROBATIONERS BY OFFENSE GRADE AND RACE

Misdemeanor	15,163
Felony	7,648
Other	296
Caucasian	13,742
African-American	9,000
American Indian	7
Asian	67
Hispanic	44
Race Unknown	247

CASELOAD PER PROBATION OFFICER

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McKeesport Community Based Office	136
North Side Community Based Office	181
Central Community Based Office	117
South Hills Community Based Office	139
Wilkinsburg Community Based Office	119
Electronic Monitoring	61
High Impact Unit	113
Forensic Unit	143
Domestic Violence Unit	111
Sex Offender Unit	78
DUI Unit	169
Minimal Supervision Unit	1,266
Intermediate Supervision Unit	592
Intrastate/Inter-County Unit	409/612





COMMUNITY BASED OFFICES

Charlene Christmas Manager

Collaboration and Cooperation

ommunity Based Offices (CBO), in existence since 1976, are tasked with providing the maximum degree of supervision within the community to the convicted offender commensurate with available resources. The CBOs consist of six centers located throughout Allegheny County which provide probation/parole supervision for approximately 7446 convicted offenders. Supervision levels are established by utilizing the Proxy risk-screening instrument, classifying offenders into three caseload categories: low, medium and high. By separating caseloads by proxy scores, CBO probation officers are able to supervise offenders based on risk potential. Plans are currently underway to conduct the Level of Services Inventory – Revised (LSI-R) risk/need assessment to all offenders with a medium to high proxy score. These assessment tools will assist officers in developing case plans individualized to each offender enabling a more thorough and unified approach to community safety and rehabilitative services.

In cooperation with federal, state and local law enforcement authorities, the probation department also has sub-offices know as community hubs. These offices are located in the East Hills area of Pittsburgh, Clairton and Stowe Township. The hubs allow probation officers to meet with offenders in the community as well as work with local law enforcement to enhance community safety.



Dedication



(FR) A. Lynn, Supervisor I. Smith, T. Allen, D. West (BR) A. Plummer, J. Fischer, K. Walter, D. Woods, J. Cima



COMMUNITY BASED OFFICES



(FR) V. Richardson, J. Banovski, R. Zeleznik, L. Scheaffer (BR) K. McVay, J. Siemon, R. Wirth, D. Giesey, B. Fries, Supervisor, J. Moore, M. Goodnack



(FR) M. Maroni, T. Hatten, M. Ventura, G. Spencer (BR) M. Mackey, T. Rozier, K. Weber, Supervisor S. Orlansky J. Casey, B. Trombatt, E. Nicholson



(Sitting) R. Restivo, V. Cugini, (BR) T. Ban, D. Fitzgerald, L. Alamo, M. Spencer, K. Maire, B. Garstecki, R. Harris Not Pictured: Supervisor J. Ling, J. Cote

HIGH IMPACT UNIT

he High Impact Unit (HIU) community based office provides intensive supervision to offenders classified as the highest risk to cause harm in the community. Officers assigned to HIU work non traditional hours including nights and weekends, often working directly with local law enforcement. HIU officers participate in police "ride-alongs," bar compliance checks, warrant sweeps and with the Pittsburgh Initiative to Reduce Crime (PIRC) saturation details. HIU officers routinely make arrests and perform searches where often firearms, drugs and paraphernalia are confiscated leading to new arrests and probation violations.



(FR) Supervisor A. Stackhouse, D. Smith, A. Riston, O. Smith, M. Rimmel (BR) B. Cunningham, R. Donnelly, M. Bichsel, M. Wilner D. Horner, J. Yauger, M. Turzak







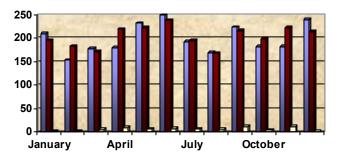
ELECTRONIC MONITORING

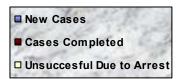
Frank Scherer Manager

Collaboration and Cooperation

n 2010 the Electronic Monitoring unit was assigned 2,402 new cases of various types and successfully discharged 2,164 cases. Of the cases supervised in 2010 only 81 individuals were discharged unsuccessful due to arrest while under electronic monitoring supervision (E.M.), boasting a recidivism rate of 3.02%. In addition the Electronic Monitoring unit collected \$1,166,049.55 in supervision fees and assisted the Allegheny County Jail by saving 398,152 jail days by housing cases eligible for incarceration, saving the jail \$25,744,510 in cost avoidance for the year.

2010 Electronic Monitoring Comparison

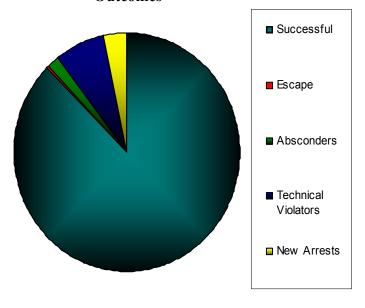




Electronic Monitoring continues to supervise offenders according to criminogenic need and risk level. The unit currently houses three supervision teams including Low, Medium & High Impact with caseloads divided into quadrants across the county. In addition, Electronic Monitoring houses the operations of Drug Court, DUI Court and Pretrial Electronic Monitoring. Electronic Monitoring probation officers supervise offenders in the community and in their homes, allowing for a more efficient approach of supervision.

The unit currently staffs 1 manager, 4 supervisors, 33 officers, 4 case managers, 6 support staff and 6 part time monitors. Electronic monitoring operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We look forward to Electronic Monitoring's continued success in the ever changing world of community corrections.

2010 Electronic Monitoring **Outcomes**



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ELECTRONIC MONITORING

(FR) A. Smith,
L. Marecic, L. Wilson,
M. Gressem,
L. Brownfield,
K. Torris
(BR) T. Martin,
W. Kreisel, R. Tekavec,
S. Chapman, L. Sullivan,
L. Jarusinski,
M. Gally



Not Pictured:

A. Bey D. Brecht

J. Hefflin

B. Smith

R. Tutko J. Whittaker-

> Piatt B. Bailey

K. Brooks

W. Dapper

B. Jackson

J. Santoro

R. Seward

The second secon

D. Works, J. Rathfon, J. Miller, B. Morgan, K. Santoro, J. Bright, R. Kraus, E. Jeffries

(FR) Supervisor S. Esswein, I. Marcus, Supervisor L. Pegher, L. Hammond, T. Drum

(BR) J. Thompson, R. Wincko, M. Blankenbicker, Supervisor Y. McKinnon, J. Aston, J. Rose, M. McDowell



DUI ALTERNATIVE TO JAIL PROGRAM

In 2010, Allegheny County has established the "Convicted DUI Offender Intervention and Alternative to Jail Program." The program is informally referred to as The DUI Hotel and is structured so that offenders serve restrictive intermediate punishment sentences at the DUI Hotel program for convictions of eligible DUI offenses. The goals of the program are to reduce DUI recidivism; provide an alternative to electronic monitoring and incarceration in the county jail; reduce the total number of short-term electronic monitoring sentences imposed by the court; enable DUI offenders who are sentenced to the program to complete alcohol education classes and mandated alcohol treatment; provide substantive education to DUI offenders pertaining to the individual and societal costs of driving under the influence: provide cognitive-based interventions to DUI offenders to positively influence their future behavior in regard to driving under the influence; and to collaborate with other stakeholders who are currently involved in

the prosecution, treatment, and punishment of convicted DUI offenders.

Convicted DUI offenders eligible for restrictive intermediate punishment sentences in lieu of minimum sentences of 48 hours and 72 hours of incarceration are the targets of this program. Program participants pay a set fee, which covers their Intermediate Punishment treatment requirements, the hotel room and food. Offenders who fail to successfully complete this program are returned to court for re-sentencing.

The program operates once a month at a local hotel with a class size of 15 – 32 participants. Each session's program runs from Thursday through Sunday evening. Thus far, the DUI Hotel sentencing alternative has been effective in reducing the wait list for Electronic Monitoring supervision in Allegheny County. In the upcoming year, there are plans to add a second hotel site and conduct two sessions per month from each DUI Hotel.



DAY REPORTING CENTER SOUTH

he Allegheny County Day Reporting Center is in its second year of full operation in the Arlington neighborhood of Pittsburgh. It provides the courts with a concentrated one-stop community facility for offenders under the supervision of Allegheny County Adult Probation. The day reporting center (DRC) is open week days 12 noon to 8 pm and several Saturdays throughout the year. The goal of the DRC is to provide services at one location, thus eliminating the need to make numerous referrals to outside agencies. The Day Center concept delivers services to offenders in a structured environment, including education and vocational programs resulting in a higher level of supervision.



Offenders are referred to the day center by their supervising officers. They are required to report frequently which not only monitors their activities and whereabouts, but also assess the offender's needs and provides onsite services. By providing treatment and educational resources, offenders are given the opportunity to become employed, drug free, and contributing members of society.

Supervision of Day Reporting Center participants is



Adult Education Instructor, Carmella Pucci



(FR) E. Splane, Supervisor N. Ballard, K. Kovacevic (BR) D. Haggerty, J. Kantz, T. Garner, D. Sommers

maintained to promote public safety and positive lifestyle changes in offenders. These goals are accomplished through referral assessments, individualized goal planning and structured supervision within the facility. Services at the Day Reporting Center include:

Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous
Anger Management
Case Management
Community Service
Drug & Alcohol Evaluations
Adult Education and General Education Degree
Employment Training
Life Skills



Day Reporting Centers are one of the few interventions that have been associated with lower recidivism rates for parolees and probationers. The Center represents change from past practices of Allegheny County Adult Probation, consisting of a detailed collaborative efforts between Adult Probation and numerous community agencies. We look forward to opening a second Day Reporting Center in the East Liberty area of Pittsburgh in 2011.



INTERMEDIATE SUPERVISON UNIT

James Trozzi Manager

Collaboration and Cooperation

All cases assigned to the Intermediate Supervision caseload (ISC), the Probation Without Verdict (PWV) caseload and the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) caseload are supervised by one unit of the Adult Probation Department. This unit consists of a supervisor and six probation officers. Located in Adult Probation's southern community based probation office at 1700 East Carson Street, this unit handles cases from all areas of Allegheny County.

ISC CASELOAD

The Intermediate Supervision Caseload (ISC) is responsible for the supervision of low risk offenders who owe victim restitution. At the end of 2010 there were approximately 1,800 cases assigned to the ISC caseload. Probation Officers assigned to this caseload primarily monitor the payment of restitution by offenders. If an offender fails to make regular payments or the case is nearing expiration and restitution or costs are still owed, the probation violation process is commenced. The ISC Unit, in cooperation with the Department of Court Records, is responsible for collecting the majority of restitution paid by offenders in Allegheny County.

DUI CASELOAD

This unit is also responsible for supervising the majority of adjudicated DUI cases in Allegheny County. At the end of 2010 there were over 1,000 cases supervised by the DUI Unit. DUI offenders are required to complete safe driving classes and treatment as a condition of the probation or parole. The level of treatment is determined by an alcohol/drug evaluation each offender must complete. DUI officers monitor whether the offender has successfully completed the safe driving classes and treatment by one of four local regional alcohol programs (RAP's) as well as monitoring their payment of court costs, fines and restitution.



INTERMEDIATE SUPERVISION UNIT

PWV CASELOAD

his unit also supervises the Probation Without Verdict (PWV) caseload. The authority for PWV cases is found in Chapter 35 of the Public Statutes, § 780-117. PWV is a mechanism that allows first time drug offenders to plead guilty to their offense and later have the case dismissed if they successfully fulfill all of the terms and conditions of their probation. At the end of 2010, the Probation Department was supervising a total of 381 PWV cases. In these cases, if an offender fails to fulfill the terms and conditions of their probation, the court



E. Franklin, A. Iman, Supervisor F. Halloran, N. Jubera, L. Raible Not Pictured: G. Deet, D. Koerner, C. Zemkowski

may re-open the case, enter a judgment and proceed to sentence the offender to jail, probation or an intermediate punishment sanction.

SPECIAL SERVICES UNIT

As specialty caseloads continue to develop, sentencing and supervision of sex offenders by the Court system has evolved. While treatment continues to be emphasized to help prevent a repetition of past deviant behaviors by offenders, community safety continues to take precedence. Through constant communication and collaboration with treatment providers, sex offenders receive a variety of treatment services. These services range from initial assessments, individual counseling, group sessions and polygraph exams. New technology such as GPS and computer monitoring have also been explored.

The Special Services Unit completed its fourth full year of operation in 2010. Caseloads remained at over 90 offenders per officer. Through proactive field work and cooperation with various police agencies, numerous weapons, drugs, alcohol, pornography and various types of paraphernalia were seized in 2010. Several offenders were charged with violation of Megan's Law resulting in new criminal charges.

After years of collaborative efforts between Mercy Behavioral Health, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape,



(FR) H. Bradford, J. Rivera (BR) Supervisor M. Poluszejko, M. Bowie, E. Vayansky

Center for Victims of Violence and Crime, numerous police agencies and the District Attorney, the ground work has been laid for the formation of a Sex Offender Court. Following visits to Buffalo New York to observe their Sex Offender Court, this latest specialty court will begin operations in Allegheny County in June of 2011. It should be the first of its kind in Pennsylvania.

TRAINING

In 2010 four new probation officers joined the Adult Probation Department. After completing three weeks of basic training, each was assigned to various positions throughout the agency. In additional to an overview of the many aspects of probation, new officers also received training in defensive tactics and the use of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray. Evidence Based Practices, Motivational Interviewing, and the LSI-R (Level of Supervision Inventory-Revised) were some of the new approaches emphasized.

In 2010, the Adult Probation Department tapped into the vast knowledge and experience of staff to conduct in-house trainings. As a result, staff logged over 1,000 in-house training hours. Probation officer and supervisor instructors facilitated trainings in firearms, Ground Avoidance and Ground Escape. (GAGE), Spontaneous Knife Defense (SKD), Life Skills Inventory-Revised (LSI-R), Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT),

Pressure Point and Control Tactics (PPCT), and office and field safety. Probation Officers met the Parole Board's requirement of 40 hours of continuing education.



Probation staff attending training at Electronic Monitoring Center

2010 TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Probation office staff completed over 1,000 in-house training hours
- Probation officers met the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole (PBPP) requirement of 40 hours training and all support staff completed the mandatory 16 hours of training
- 4 new probation officers completed the basic training program
- 10 probation officers completed the basic firearms training course
- 59 probation officers completed mandatory continuing education firearms training
- 2 probation officers were certified as firearms instructors
- 3 Probation officers were certified as facilitators in Cognitive Behavior Therapy



ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT

Brian Dunbar, Esq. Manager

Collaboration and Cooperation

The Administrative Unit consists of five probation officers and one supervisor. Three probation officers are assigned to inter-county cases, one probation officer is assigned to interstate cases, and one probation officer is assigned to the state caseload. In addition, the probation officers assigned to this unit assist with the "process" caseload which consists of all active cases where warrants are currently outstanding.

The Inter-county/Interstate Unit provides supervision for offenders who are sentenced in Allegheny County, but who reside in other Pennsylvania counties, and in other states. Adult Probation's obligation to protect the community extends to these other jurisdictions, and it is also the department's responsibility to assist offenders with completing the requirements of supervision, no matter where they reside.

Immediately after sentencing, offenders who reside in another Pennsylvania county report to an Allegheny County Probation Officer at the Inter-county/Interstate Unit. These offenders are interviewed and provide information about their current address and living arrangements. An application is then prepared by a probation officer and sent to the probation office in the county where the offender resides, requesting supervision of that individual. There is an agreement between the 67 Pennsylvania counties to accept supervision of these types of cases and supervision is usually accepted by the receiving county. By transferring cases to home counties, offenders can be

monitored for compliance and be provided with services in their own communities. Offender supervision fees are paid to the supervising county. The Inter-county/Interstate Unit monitors fines, cost and restitution payments paid through the Department of Court Records in Allegheny County.

If an offender who was sentenced in Allegheny County and transferred to another county violates the terms of their probation, the sending county returns the case to the Inter-county Unit. Violations are then addressed through the Gagnon probation violation process. The offender's violation hearing is first scheduled in front of a hearing officer. If the violation conduct cannot be resolved in front of the hearing officer, then a full violation hearing is scheduled in front of the sentencing judge.



PROBATION OFFICE STAFF (FR) L. Elliott, Supervisor C. Babicz, D. Coyle, (BR) D. Maze, L. Stedila, J. Fielder

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT

he sentencing judge has a wide range of options in dealing with probation violators, up to and including remanding the offender to jail or prison for up to the maximum term allowed by law for the underlying offense.

The interstate caseload consists of offenders who were sentenced in Allegheny County but live in other states. The interstate probation officer coordinates the transfer of probation supervision to other states through the Interstate Compact, or in certain instances, monitors supervision of offenders by phone or mail. The interstate caseload is now managed electronically using the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System. This system is known by the acronym - ICOTS.

The Interstate Compact is Federal Law, so strict adherence to the rules and guidelines of the compact is mandatory. This ensures that offenders will not travel from state to state unsupervised. The interstate probation officer, with the assistance of the staff of the Interstate Office in Harrisburg, facilitates the transfer of probation supervision. These nationwide transfers are done electronically through ICOTS. The Interstate Officer stays updated on all the changes to Interstate Law and processes through ongoing training.

As with the inter-county cases, the violation process for interstate cases is similar. Any violation conduct pertaining to interstate cases are addressed through the Gagnon process by a probation officer in Allegheny County, and violation hearings are held before the sentencing judge. In certain instances, the issuance of nationwide warrants, as well as extradition, is mandatory.

The state caseload consists of offenders that are designated by the Court to be supervised by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. If these offenders meet certain established criteria, the state officer coordinates the transfer of the offender to state probation and parole. In 2010, the Administrative Unit finished the review of every state case and is currently processing all state cases in a timely and efficient manner.

As referenced above, the Administrative Unit also handles a "process caseload," which consists of offenders who have outstanding probation violation warrants. When an offender is arrested on an outstanding probation violation warrant, the unit's probation officer schedules the matter for a Gagnon hearing or takes other appropriated action if the offender is lodged at a jail outside of Allegheny County.

VIDEO CONFERENCING

GAGNON I JAIL HEARINGS VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING TOTAL/ TOTAL/ **MONTH** MONTH MO. MO. **JANUARY** 109 JULY 108 128 **FEBRUARY** 90 AUGUST 107 108 **MARCH SEPTEMBER APRIL** 129 119 **OCTOBER** MAY 93 **NOVEMBER** 109 104 133 JUNE **DECEMBER**

2010 TOTAL HEARINGS: 1,337

In 2010, Allegheny County Adult Probation Officers participated in 1,337 video conference Gagnon I jail hearings. By participating in these hearings via video conference, probation officers are able to avoid traveling downtown to the jail for the hearings. This saves the probation department both time and money. The Adult Probation Department has six locations available where probation officers can go to participate in a video conference hearing. The Adult Probation Department also makes this service available to State Parole Agents. This video conferencing initiative is a joint project of the Adult Probation Department and the Allegheny County Jail.

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COURT LIAISON

he Adult Probation Court Liaison and Intake Units are responsible for processing incoming offenders into the Allegheny County probation system and representing agency in probation-related hearings before the Court of Common



(FR) L. Little, D. Podsiadly, Supervisor M. Schlumpf, K. Ollis, K. Garnic (BR) L. Kissling, B. Zitelli, K. Oliver, C. Jonas, J. Mannion, S. DiCicco, R. O'Brien

Pleas. Located in the Allegheny County Courthouse, the department is in close proximity to the courtrooms which allows for direct interaction with judges and their staff. In addition to the department supervisor, there are five probation officers and six support staff assigned to this unit.

Immediately after their sentencing hearings, offenders who are placed under the supervision of the Adult Probation Department are brought to the Intake Unit where they are interviewed to obtain information regarding their residency and are provided with instructions regarding their period of supervision. Court papers pertaining to each case are delivered to Intake by court staff. The paperwork is copied and the pertinent information is manually entered into the Probation Department's case management system. During 2010 nearly 26,000 cases were processed through the Intake Department.

In addition to processing incoming offenders, the Intake Unit also administers fingerprinting and DNA sampling of all offenders convicted of a felony offense in order to comply with the mandate of Act 185 of 2004. In 2010 the Intake Unit collected approximately 1,000 DNA samples. Upon requests from Judges, CLU officers administer portable breathalyzers and obtain urine samples from offenders prior to their sentencing.

The Intake Unit is also actively involved in Early Disposition Plea (EDP) Court and Phoenix Court. An Intake Clerk attends each court session and interviews each offender to obtain residency information and to instruct offenders on the regulations of supervision. Nearly 1,400 cases were processed through EDP Court and 3,748 cases were processed through Phoenix Court in 2010.

The Court Liaison Unit (CLU) conducts probation violation hearings for Criminal Division cases. The CLU officers work closely with the courts to schedule hearings, review violation reports and represent the Probation Office at detainer and review hearings.

CLU officers frequently assist other Probation Officers and attorneys who require assistance with various matters in the courtrooms. They obtain warrants from judges on those offenders who have failed to appear for court and also are responsible for the lifting of detainers when offenders are to be released from custody on a particular case. The unit arranges for the transport of those offenders being held in jails or prisons and sends hearing notices to those who are residing in the community. When the hearing is completed, staff enters the hearing results into the probation data base and the assigned probation officer is notified of the results. CLU presented over 3,650 probation violation hearings to the court during 2010.

In 2010, members of the intake unit continued their collaboration with court technical staff regarding the intake process. This project is currently ongoing. It is hopeful that it will be completed in mid-2012. In early 2011, the CLU/Intake Unit will be moving offices within the Allegheny County Courthouse from their current location in room 504 to their new location in room 523.

PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Presentence Investigation Unit of the Allegheny County Adult Probation Department prepares reports to assist the court in the sentencing of convicted offenders. In 2010 the Presentence Unit prepared 710 presentence investigation reports. The scope of the reports prepared by the department varies depending on the type of report the court has requested.

Five probation officers and a supervisor are assigned to the Presentence Investigation Unit as well as three contracted PSI writers.

Presentence reports include a detailed narrative of the offense conduct based upon official records, as well as statements from the offender. All of the reports include the

offender's adult criminal history. Juvenile criminal history is also provided if the offender was 28 years old or younger at the time of the offense. The long reports also include the offender's prior adjustment to custody and to supervision within the community. In addition they present information on the offender's mental/physical health, financial condition, work experience, education and vocational skills.

Victims are afforded an opportunity to make a statement in the PSI report. This statement provides the victim the opportunity to describe in detail how the incident has impacted their lives, physically, emotionally, and financially. It also gives them the opportunity to express their opinion on what they feel would be an appropriate sentence for the offender.

The Adult Probation Department is currently exploring various alternatives to provide the Court with timely and relevant reports that are more closely tailored to the severity of the crime of which the offender has been convicted or where the case involves a special victim. In particular, for those cases involving youthful offenders with significant criminal history or offenses involving special victims (children, elderly, Metal Retardation/Developmental Disabilities (MR/DD), sexual offenses, or physically disabled), the department will continue to provide detailed reports. In cases where the offender is very likely to receive a sentence other than a prison term, the Adult Probation Department is now



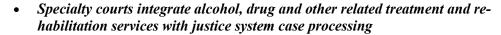
FR: Supervisor C. Brenner, D. Epler, D. Young, BR: R. Gephart, R. Thomas, R. Ward, R. Dulac

providing the court with an abbreviated report. This report format meets the need of the court for relevant information about the offender while providing the Court with meaningful information as to whether the offender is amenable to supervision within the community in a manner consistent with the need for public safety. During 2010, this unit continued the process of determining how it will integrate the assessment tool known as the Level of Service Inventory - Revised (LSI-R) into practices. A computerized LSI-R assessment tool has been developed and is scheduled to be implemented in 2011. Once the LSI-R interface is available, we anticipate completing an LSI-R evaluation for every offender for whom a report has been requested by the Court. This practice will be in compliance with evidence based practice and will give the court more detailed information regarding the criminogenic needs of each offender.

> In 2010 the Presentence Unit prepared 710 presentence investigation reports for the Court.

SPECIALTY COURTS

he first specialty court was developed and implemented in 1989 in Dade County, Miami, Florida. Since that time, specialty courts have grown exponentially across the country and throughout the world. Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas is a national leader in the specialty court field starting in 1998 with the implementation of Drug Court. In 2010 Allegheny County was home to six specialty courts: Mental Health Court, DUI Court, Drug Court, Domestic Violence Court, the Pride Program and Veterans Court. In addition, a new Sex Offender Court is scheduled to begin operations in June 2011. Specialty treatment courts generally follow the tenets of the "Ten Key Components" developed by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP).



- Prosecution and defense counsel use a non-adversarial approach to promote public safety while protecting participants' rights
- Eligible participants are identified promptly
- Specialty courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug and other related treatment and rehabilitation services
- Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and drug testing
- A coordinated strategy governs specialty court responses to a participant's compliance
- Ongoing judicial interaction with each specialty court participant is essential
- Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness
- Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective specialty court planning, implementation and operations
- Forging partnerships among specialty courts, public agencies and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances specialty court's effectiveness

The goal of all specialty treatment courts is to protect public safety by reducing recidivism rates and holding offenders accountable for their actions. Intensive supervision integrated with treatment and rehabilitation services affords the offender the opportunity to break the cycle of criminal behavior and become a productive crime free member of society.

SPECIALTY COURTS CURRENT ACTIVE CASES		
DUI COURT	287	
DRUG COURT	240	
PROSTITUTION (PRIDE)	92	
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT	533*	
VETERANS COURT	15	
MENTAL HEALTH COURT	320	

^{*533} represents number of domestic violence cases 111 offenders are currently active in domestic violence treatment



DUI TREATMENT COURT



(BR) Manager F. Scherer, J. Rathfon, J. Miller, Judge Sasinoski, R. McConnell, L. Mitchell, R. Kraus (Sitting) K. Santora, A. Pfeifer, A. Lindberg

he Mission of DUI Court is to make the multiple DUI offender often referred to as a "hard-core drunk driver," accountable for their actions by bringing about a behavioral change that ends DUI recidivism or other criminal behavior through the use of long-term judicial intervention, intensive probation supervision and drug/alcohol treatment. Protecting public safety is paramount; sanctions and incentives are used to motivate compliance.

Allegheny County DUI Court is offered to individuals with three DUI offenses in a ten-vear period. In lieu of state-length incarceration, offenders are given a term of intermediate punishment and a consecutive term of probation. During this term, offenders are required to complete drug/alcohol treatment, attend AA/NA meetings, complete 40 hours of community service and attend a Victim Impact Panel presented by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). Sentences may be reduced to statutory minimums based on compliance.

Allegheny County DUI Court continues to be a collaborative effort between the District Attorney's Office, Adult Probation and the Public Defender's Office. The Honorable Kevin G. Sasinoski has presided over the program since its inception in 2005. With the help, cooperation and diligence of the Judge and his staff, the program continues to provide a great opportunity for individuals committed to making positive changes in their lives.

All DUI Court participants will be under Court supervision for up to five years through a possible combination of incarceration, parole, intermediate punishment with electronic monitoring and intensive supervision while advancing through a series of five phases.

Phase 1 includes intense supervision with electronic monitoring, drug/alcohol treatment classes (as a priority), AA/NA meetings, se-

curing employment, monthly court reviews and weekly contact with Probation.

- Phase 2 is a mirror image of Phase 1 with the exception of electronic monitoring becoming less intensive on a periodic basis as determined by progress and compliance.
- While in Phase 3, electronic monitoring is less restrictive and offenders are placed on a curfew, have typically completed treatment, are attending aftercare and AA/NA meetings, maintaining employment, continue contact with Probation and attending court reviews every third month.
- Phase 4 offenders are removed from electronic monitoring, placed on a curfew and continuing court reviews on a three month basis. Offenders are attending AA/NA meetings and remain in contact with Probation.
- Phase 5 is approximately six months in duration and the curfew is lifted. Completion of this phase will result in graduation from the program.

Since its inception in 2005 there have been 548 participants and 200 graduates. In 2010 there were 121 new pleas and 94 graduates. Of the 200 total graduates, only five have been arrested and charged with a new DUI offense boasting a graduate recidivism rate of 2.5%. The eighth graduating class is scheduled for May 6, 2011.



DRUG COURT

Allegheny County Drug Court is a collaborative effort of the District Attorney's Office, the Adult Probation Office, the Public Defender's Office and Allegheny County Justice Related Services. The Honorable Lester G. Nauhaus has presided over the program since its inception in 1998 with compassion and a touch of wit. With the help. cooperation and diligence of the Judge and his staff, the program continues to provide a great opportunity for individuals committed to making positive changes in their lives. Drug Court targets criminal defendants who demonstrate a clear need for formal substance abuse treatment.

Upon acceptance into the program, defendants voluntarily plead guilty to at least one felony charge before Judge Nauhaus. Drug Court strives to assist program participants to remain clean and sober while engaging in positive activities such as education, community projects and employment. All participants receive an 18 month Intermediate Punishment sentence with electronic monitoring and a consecutive one year probation. The initial primary focus of participants is that they must engage in any treatment that is deemed necessary. A grant through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency provides funding for the treatment.

Participants stay in close contact with the court by attending monthly progress hearings. These hearings afford participants the opportunity to tell the Judge about the progress they are making or any problems they may be experiencing. The hearing is conducted in a non-threatening environment, something most participants have never experienced when appearing before a Judge. Participants are closely monitored by the dedicated Drug Court Treatment Team as they progress through the program. The Drug Court Treatment Team consists of Case Managers from Justice Related Services, who guide the participants through the treatment process, and Probation Officers,

who monitor the participants compliance with the terms of their supervision.

Once participants have successfully completed all aspects of treatment, the Intermediate Punishment portion of their sentence is terminated, and they begin serving their one year period of probation. In many cases, this occurs prior to the chronological expiration of the 18 month Intermediate Punishment sentence as a reward for their positive adjustment in the program. While serving the probation portion of their sentences, the participants are monitored closely and continue to have monthly progress hearings before Judge Nauhaus. At any time during their period of supervision, participants are rewarded when deserving, and, conversely, sanctioned when necessary.

Prior to graduating, Drug Court participants must have obtained and maintained employment, obtained at least the equivalent of a high school education, and remained drug free. The ultimate goal for the participants and the Drug Court Treatment Team is to reintegrate the offenders back into society as positive role models and productive citizens.

In 2010, 133 new clients entered the Drug Court program, 41 participants graduated at an official ceremony complete with diplomas. Overall, the number of active participants in the program increased by 20 percent in 2010. Since the program's inception, there have been 385 graduates, with an overall program success rate of about 72 percent. Drug Court continues to be a successful alternative to treat individuals with drug addictions. Once an offender graduates from the program, the likelihood of them recidivating is extremely low. We look forward to continued success in this unique program that has rescued many defendants from a life of crime, and, in some cases, even saved their lives.





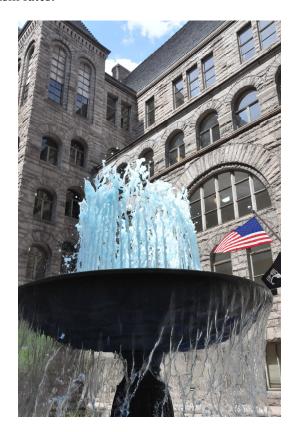
MENTAL HEALTH COURT



R. Fortunato, Manager C. Christmas, T. Ban, J. Fischer, K. McVay, J. Kasey, K. Thomas Honorable John A. Zottola

ental Health Court (MHC) was developed in 2001 by Judge Gerard Bigley, and shortly thereafter, Judge Robert Colville assumed the helm. 2006, MHC has been under the leadership of the Honorable John A. Zottola and is designed to identify individuals with qualifying criminal charges who have obvious manifestation of mental illness(es), and/ or a documented qualifying Axis I mental health diagnosis. Six probation officers within the community based offices supervise approximately 780 offenders within the mental health caseload, of this number, 320 offenders are active in the Mental Health Court. Mental Health Court is comprised of a core team including a Judge, Assistant District Attorney, Public Defender, Justice Related Services caseworkers and probation officers. All parties are present for weekly review hearings to assess an offender's compliance with special conditions and service plans (offender mental health treatment plans). Consequences for non-compliance are sure and swift by the court, as are rewards for positive behavior. It should be noted that participation in MHC is voluntary by the offender and victims must be in agreement for the offender's participation in the program. MHC accepts only Axis I diagnoses including Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, Major Depression, Depression NOS (not otherwise specified), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Psychotic Disorder. MHC is not only an appropriate manner with which to support this

segment of the community, it also provides multilevel benefits to the community including substantial monetary savings as well as projected lower recidivism rates.



VETERANS COURT



Commemorative Coin

"Veterans Court
celebrated its first
graduation ceremony
with two graduates who
received commemorative
coins symbolizing
rewards for their effort
and reminding them that
no veteran will be left
behind."

V eterans Court was formed in 2009 and is designed to identify offenders who currently serve or who have been honorably discharged from military service. Veterans Court participants must have a documented Axis I mental health diagnosis which may include but is not limited to Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome and/or traumatic brain injury. Veterans Court is comprised of a dedicated team headed by the Honorable John A. Zottola, that strives to divert qualifying veteran offenders from jail into treatment programs

such as the Veterans Administration and other community based services. This specialized court provides veterans with peer mentor support and promotes public safety with close supervision and monitoring while providing participants with drug and alcohol as well as mental health treatment if deemed necessary. Offenders who have committed violent crimes, sexual offenses and drug trafficking offenses are excluded from the program.

Veterans Court participants are supervised in the community by a team of community based and electronic monitoring probation officers. Monthly review hearings are held before Judge Zottola to review progress. Offenders deemed non-compliant at review hearings are met with swift sanctions from the court.

On November 10, 2010, Veterans Court celebrated its first graduation ceremony with two graduates who received commemorative coins symbolizing rewards for their efforts and reminding them that no veteran will be left behind. Veterans Court strives to focus on resource coordination and rehabilitation of the participant. Veterans Court participants are offered the opportunity to make amends for past criminal behavior while receiving necessary treatment and mentoring.



The Honorable John A. Zottola, Manager, Charlene Christmas, Probation Officer, Rob O'Brien

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT

n 2010, the Allegheny County Adult Probation office supervised 533 offenders within the specialized Domestic Violence (DV) unit. Of this caseload, 111 offenders participated in Domestic Violence Court. This specialty court, under the guidance of the Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel, collaborates with the District Attorney, Public Defender, local police, district courts, victim advocate organizations and numerous community groups. Offenders in the program are required to attend domestic violence, anger management, drug and alcohol and any other treatment deemed necessary. Monthly review hearings are held before Judge McDaniel to monitor the of-



(FR) B. Dalbon, T. Allen, Judge McDaniel, R. Zeleznik, H. Kelly, M. Spencer (BR) L. McGuire, T. Hatten, J. Kearney, M. Sullivan, D. Spurgeon

fender's progress. Non-compliance is met with swift sanctions ranging from short periods of incarceration to state length sentences. Offenders in compliance are eligible to receive an early termination of their probation or parole sentences. Victim safety is paramount; therefore, extensive measures are taken by the domestic violence probation officers to assure offender accountability and overall community safety.

PRIDE COURT

PRIDE (Program for the ReIntegration, Development, and Empowerment of Exploited Individuals) is a specialty court docket under the direction of the Honorable Kevin G. Sasinoski. The PRIDE program is a collaborative effort between White Deer Run/Cove Forge Behavioral Health, Pittsburgh Police Department, and Allegheny County Adult Probation Services. The PRIDE program is designed to offer individuals who are convicted of prostitution the opportunity to gain information, knowledge, and skills necessary to change their often dangerous life-

style. The program, in existence since 2005, currently supervises 95 women and averages 2 new pleas accepted into the program per week.

Participants in the program are required to attend weekly counseling sessions, undergo a drug/alcohol evaluation and/or treatment, attend monthly sessions with staff from Pittsburgh Action Again Rape (PAAR), participate in a career development program and complete any further treatment deemed necessary. PRIDE participants also have to abide by

a curfew enforced by the Pittsburgh Police Department and Adult Probation. Monthly review hearings are held before Judge Sasinoski to assess progress. Negative behavior is met by the court with swift sanctions.

To be considered for graduation, participants must be drug and alcohol free, have obtained a GED and be employed or attending school. In 2010, 19 women successfully graduated from the PRIDE program.

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

In 2010, Adult Probation collaborated with a number of agencies and community organizations throughout Allegheny County. Two such efforts include the Second Chance Act Jail Re-entry Program and the Pittsburgh Initiative To Reduce Crime. The Second Chance Act Reentry Program came to fruition through the efforts of the Allegheny County Jail Collaborative, which is an organization made up of the Allegheny County Jail, Court of Common Pleas, Allegheny County Department of Human Services, and Allegheny County Health Department.

RE-ENTRY PROGRAM

he goal of the re-entry project is to increase public safety by reducing the likelihood that offenders will commit new crimes after being released from county jail sentences of less than two years. In order to realize this goal, the re-entry program prepares inmates for the transition to life in the community by providing re-entry supervision and services to incarcerated men and women. The re-entry program in the jail offers expanded treatment and rehabilitation programs that have been shown to impact recidivism, and these resources are linked to community-based providers following release. Re-entry participants are given opportunities to attend adult education and GED prep classes, and drug and alcohol services, as well as employment development programs. Staff also makes referrals to assist with food, clothing and offender shelter once the is discharged. Further, for individuals who are parents, family support resources are integrated in the jail and

community phases of the program. Through the re-

entry project, Adult Probation has been able to assign Probation Officer Jasonn Orlansky to the iail to assist in making the offender's transition from jail to the community a produc-



Re-entry Probation Officer, Jasonn Orlansky

tive and crime—free experience for the offender and community.

PIRC PROGRAM

The Probation Office is an integral member of the Pittsburgh Initiative To Reduce Crime (PIRC). The PIRC program, modeled after similar programs in Boston and Cincinnati, is designed to reduce gun violence in the city of Pittsburgh by focusing on violent street gangs. Adult Probation and Pittsburgh Police Officers worked together to identify gang members and associates targeted for call-in sessions. At the sessions, selected group members are given a message, delivered by law enforcement and community leaders, that gun violence will no longer be tolerated. Group members are also offered alternatives by social service pro-

viders such as educational and job training opportunities. Continued violence is met with an increase in legal attention to all of the group mem-

bers. The model has proven to be successful, reducing gun related crime by up to 50% in some jurisdictions.



COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS



East Hills Initiative Officer Diven, Probation Supervisor S. Orlansky, Officer Candioto, Probation Officer B. Trombatt







Crime Gun and Drug Destruction Program DUI Alternative to Jail Program Second Chance - Re-entry East Hills Initiative Institute for Law and Policy **Planning** Criminal Justice Advisory Board



Probation Officers assist District

Justice Re-Investment at the Local Level

Urban Institute

Jail Collaborative

Case Reviews

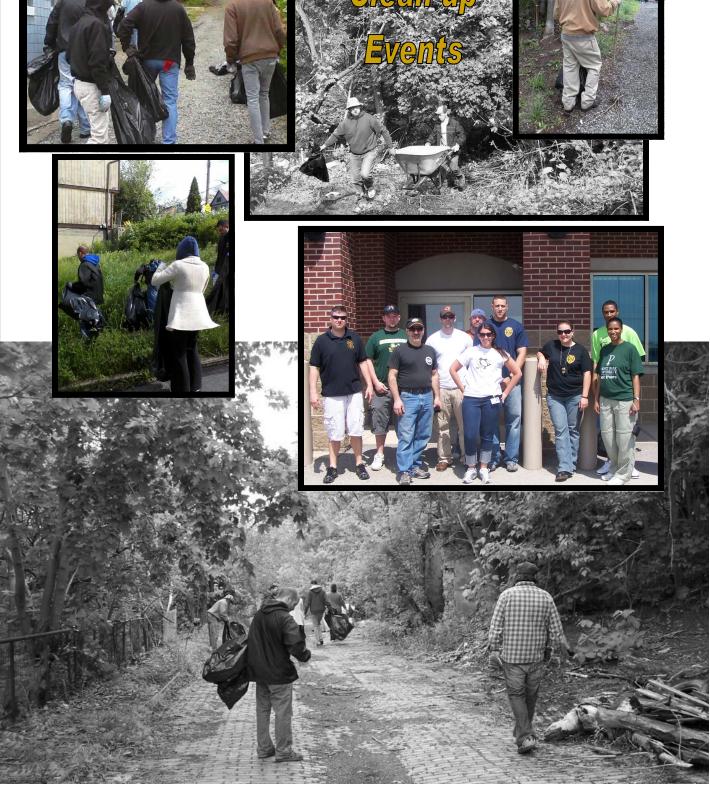
Pittsburgh Initiative to Reduce





Representatives from the US Department of Justice and the Institute for Law and Policy Planning tour the Day Reporting Center (DRC) South

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT





SPECIAL RECOGNITION





Director Awards







The administrative support staff performs a variety of tasks that enable the Adult Probation Department to successfully accomplish its mission. It would be impossible in this short space to specifically enumerate all of these tasks. Suffice it to say that without their support, our ability to accomplish our mission would be very difficult. We thank them for their dedicated service to the department.

(FR) Sarah Meredith, Sally Davis, Mary Jane Gorchock, (BR) Supervisor Cynthia Davis, Kathleen Tommasin, Rhonda Thomas, Joan Echard Not pictured: Kathleen Smarra

