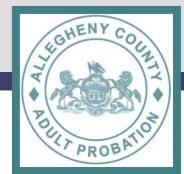
ALLEGHENY COUNTY ADULT PROBATION



2016

Feedback Evaluation Community Service Staff Development in Survey Criminogenic Factors Dosage Motivational Interviewing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Dosage Motivational Interviewing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Data-Driven Justice Needs Alternatives to Jail Research Mobile Supervision Second Chance Act Performance Education Outcomes

Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania

Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT



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 PRINCIPLES SUPPORTING ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE'S MISSION:



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 reentry, 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.

Allegheny County Adult Probation & Parole

Mission Statement	2
Administration	4
Director's Report, Frank J. Scherer	5
Message from Alan F. Pelton, Deputy Director	6
Adult Probation Department Overview	7
Highlights and Accomplishments	10
Evidence-Based Practices	13
Problem Solving Courts	15
Presentations	18
Alternatives to Jail	19
Community Resource Centers	21
Staff Development	23
Community Partners	24
Community Participation	25
New Employees	26
Promotions and Retirees	28
Adult Probation History	29
Adult Probation Organizational Chart	30



Honorable Jeffrey A. Manning President Judge



Linda L. Kelly, Esquire District Court Administrator



Honorable David R. Cashman Administrative Judge



Thomas M. McCaffrey Criminal Court Administrator



Claire C. Capristo, Esquire District Court Administrator Retired February 2016





ADULT PROBATION DIRECTOR Frank J. Scherer

A am pleased to present the 2016 Allegheny County Adult Probation Department's annual report. This past year emphasized a shift in our approach to supervision with a reduction in caseload numbers so that probation officers could better utilize core correctional practices. The average caseload size for officers supervising medium-risk offenders decreased by 18 percent and by 21 percent for officers supervising high-risk offenders. The result of lower caseload numbers equates to an increase in the quantity and quality of interactions between probation officers and those they supervise.

We continued to work on our Smart Supervision Grant, awarded from the Bureau of Justice Assistance in 2015. This project aims to strengthen supervision practices and improve outcomes through (1) expanded staff training on evidence-based practices (EBP); (2)

adoption of dosage-based supervision practices and metrics; and (3) design and use of an interactive dashboard for our mobile workforce that supports quality assurance and fidelity to EBPs in real-time.

As an integral part of the grant, we continued our work with The Carey Group, nationally recognized experts in the field of evidence-based practices, to train all staff on the four core competencies. This includes building professional alliance, skill practice, case planning, and rewards and responses to noncompliance. In addition, all staff received a refresher course on the fundamentals of EBP and motivational interviewing. The Carey team will provide further training to the agency throughout 2017.

We have already begun to work on our 2017 goals, including, but not limited to:

Opening a fourth community resource center in the northern region of Allegheny County; Providing court reminders for hearings in order to reduce the failure to appear rate; Exploring models to improve restitution compliance to better serve victims; and Implementing a COMPSTAT process to standardize operations agency wide.

I wish to thank President Judge Jeffrey A. Manning, Administrative Judge David R. Cashman, District Court Administrator Linda L. Kelly, Esq., and Criminal Court Administrator Thomas M. McCaffrey for their continued support and guidance.

In conclusion, I want to recognize all of our staff for their dedication and hard work.

It all to the

Frank J. Scherer

Deputy Director's Message



s noted in Director Scherer's message, the Allegheny County Adult Probation Department (Adult Probation) witnessed many changes in the structure of its operations in 2016, all of which were aligned to compliment the department's evidence-based practice initiatives. As the use of proven research and scientific data to drive informed decision

ADULT PROBATION DEPUTY DIRECTOR Alan F. Pelton

making has expanded into the field of community corrections, Adult Probation has dedicated itself to becoming a leader in the field. Adult Probation has long been a leader in the problem solving court arena, and we hope to build upon the successes of such courts and improve offender outcomes throughout the department.

Such comprehensive change in a criminal justice agency can be challenging and time consuming, and in October of 2015, we began a three-year process of evidence-based training and implementation of evidence-based practices. While Adult Probation administrators can amend policies and practices to reflect the new direction of the department, successful implementation cannot be a top down affair, but must rather come from within the ranks of the department. Fortunately, Adult Probation has a dedicated workforce willing to engage in the hard work necessary to effect change. Staff members from throughout the department have volunteered their time and energy to become certified as evidence-based trainers, cognitive behavior therapy facilitators, risk and needs assessment experts, firearms instructors, and self-defense trainers, and the department owes them a debt of gratitude for their efforts to educate, coach, and motivate their co-workers.

Many of the department's evidence-based training goals were met in 2016, and these efforts will continue in 2017 and beyond. Additionally, Adult Probation will continue to adopt new evidence-based strategies aimed to improve outcomes and new technologies that allow staff to conduct their work more efficiently and effectively.

Alan F. Pelton

The Allegheny County Adult Probation Department (Adult Probation), in conjunction with the Department of Pretrial Services, supervises people sentenced to county probation or parole for the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania. These agencies employ 133 probation officers for this task. Pretrial Services supervises all people under bail supervision or participating in the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition Program (ARD) and Ignition Interlock, while Adult Probation is responsible for all probation, parole, and intermediate punishment supervision in the county.

At the end of 2016, there were 26,549 people under county supervision. Seventy percent (18,521) were supervised under probation and eight percent (2,072) were supervised under parole, intermediate punishment or probation without verdict. The remaining 22 percent were supervised by Pretrial Services under the ARD program or bail. Fifty-three percent (13,952) of people supervised had a misdemeanor as their highest charge. See Table 1 on page nine for a breakdown of people by supervision type.

Adult Probation continues to supervise individuals

Adult Probation continued to operate three community resource centers (CRCs) throughout Allegheny County that support Adult Probation's model of supervision by providing a 'one-stop shop' for social services to meet the needs identified in the LSI-R (see Figure 1 for CRC locations). All three centers are located on public transportation routes allowing people to more easily access the services that they need to improve outcomes and reduce recidivism. Each of the CRCs house social services targeting medium- and high-risk people including, employment assistance, adult education and GED preparation, drug and alcohol testing and assessment, cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) groups, batterers' intervention programs (BIP), and emergency housing assistance. Probation officers refer offenders to the CRCs to address the risks and needs identified in the LSI-R and to fulfill any other court ordered stipulations. Services are paid for by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, which utilizes performance based contracting and monitoring to ensure that all providers use evidence-based practices.

based on their risk to re-offend utilizing the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) to create supervision plans that target

they supervise.

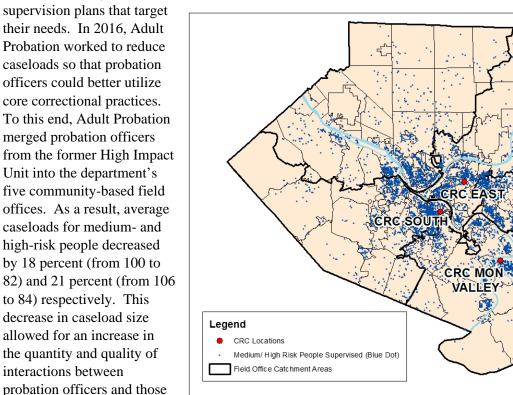


Figure 1: CRC Locations in Allegheny County, 2016

Adult Probation continued to operate its Smart Accountability project funded through a Smart Supervision grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (awarded in 2015). The project, in partnership with the Urban Institute, aims to develop performance benchmarks for supervision, implement 'dosage probation' supervision based on risk and needs, provide real-time information on performance benchmarks to probation officers and their supervisors via dashboards, and improve the quality of all interactions through a concurrent three-year evidence-based practice training regimen. In 2016, all staff received training on evidence-based practices, motivational interviewing, and core correctional practices. In addition, Adult Probation improved its case management system to better capture dosage information, created workgroups to design the initial dashboards for probation officers and supervisors, and initiated a pilot caseload reduction project. (See the Highlights & Accomplishment section for more details).

Adult Probation also provides supervision through specialized units based on specific sentence conditions or identified needs. This includes operation of the electronic monitoring program for those sentenced to intermediate punishment and supervision of people involved in one of Allegheny County's seven problem solving courts. At the end of 2016, there were 1,071 people participating in a problem solving court. Throughout the year, 465 people entered and 435 exited one of the problem solving courts, and of those exiting, 73 percent graduated successfully.

In 2016, Adult Probation created dedicated units of officers for domestic violence court and for the reentry program. By consolidating these specially trained officers into dedicated units with one supervisor, they are better able to collaborate and learn from one another. Previously, these officers were geographically assigned to one of the department's five community-based field offices.

In 2016, in addition to providing direct supervision, Adult Probation also:

- Completed 610 presentence investigative reports for the court;
- Conducted 3,679 Gagnon I hearings for alleged probation violators in the Allegheny County Jail three days per week and in the courthouse one day per week;
- Presented 2,211 Gagnon II probation violation hearings before the court through the Court Liaison Unit;
- Continued partnerships with local and national groups, including the Urban Institute, the Center for Court Innovation, the National Center for State Courts, and the Institute of Politics at the University of Pittsburgh;
- Presented at national and state conferences, including the American Probation and Parole Association, the National Association for Court Management, the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections, the Pennsylvania Drug and DUI Court conferences, and the roundtable on procedural justice in New York;
- Served more than 2,900 people at one of our three community resource centers by helping to address key risks and needs to prevent future crime;
- Conducted EBP 101 and introductory motivational interview training for all staff; and
- Conducted monthly detainer review meetings with all criminal court judges to ensure people are not detained longer than necessary.

SUCCESSFUL SUPERVISION

Adult Probation uses multiple metrics to measure supervision success, including in-program rearrests, revocations of supervision, improvements in identified areas (e.g., increases in education levels, obtaining employment, and completion of substance abuse treatment, reduction in criminal thinking and behaviors, and improvements in prosocial behavior). The measure of supervision success presented in Figure 2 looks at the percentage of people completing supervision without a new conviction or revocation based on a technical violation. In 2016, 10,171 people completed supervision – 87 percent of low-risk people were successful compared to 82 percent of mediumrisk and 77 percent of high-risk people.



Figure 2: Percentage of People Successfully Completing Supervision in 2016, by Risk Level

90%

5%	87%		Agency Wide Rate = 84%
0%		82%	
%			77%
0%			
5%			
0%			
5%			
0%	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk

Table 1: PEOPLE SUPERVISED ON 12/31/2016

Probation	18,521		
Parole	925		
Intermediate Punishment	898		
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	3,952		
Probation without Verdict	249		
Bail	2,004		
TOTAL	26,549		
OFFENDERS UNDER SUPERVISION BY OFFENSE GRADE			
Misdemeanor	13,952		
Felony	11,628		
Other	969		
OFFENDERS UNDER SUPERVISION BY RACE			
Caucasian	14,859		
African-American	11,091		
Other	599		
CASELOAD PER PROBATION OF	FICER		
Field Offices – High-Risk	84		
Field Offices – Medium-Risk	82		
Low-Risk Unit	1,111		
Electronic Monitoring	42		
DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Unit	145		
Restitution Unit	205		
	385		
Sex Offender Unit	<u>385</u> 74		
Sex Offender Unit Domestic Violence Unit			
	74		
Domestic Violence Unit	74 86		
Domestic Violence Unit Mental Health Unit	74 86 38		
Domestic Violence Unit Mental Health Unit Reentry Unit	74 86 38 87		
Domestic Violence Unit Mental Health Unit Reentry Unit Inter-State	74 86 38 87 509		

Highlights & Accomplishments

GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS

MENTAL HEALTH COURT STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVE



A B M st 2 Highlights & Accomplishments

L-R: M. DeSantis, D. Barnisin, G. Siroky, T. Duckett Seated: The Honorable Beth A. Lazzara

In 2015, Allegheny County's Mental Health Court (MHC) was awarded a two-year grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The project includes a process and outcome evaluation of the court that will be used to guide a strategic planning process with the MHC team. Allegheny County is partnering with the Center for Court Innovation on this project. This year, the Center for Court Innovation conducted initial interviews, issued a broad stakeholder survey, and conducted a site visit in June 2016 to speak with team members and observe court proceedings. In addition, they presented initial process evaluation findings to the team. The final evaluation and strategic planning process will be conducted in 2017.

SEX OFFENDER COURT BEST PRACTICES TRAINING

Allegheny County's Sex Offender Court (SOC) received a BJA funded grant for the Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM) to provide training to key SOC stakeholders. This included a court observation in April 2016 and a full day of training for more than 50 people involved in sex offender supervision. The presenters included Rebecca Thomforde Hauser from the Center for Court Innovation, Dr. Kurt Bumby of CSOM, and Greg Brown of the Boulder, Colorado Probation Department. Through court observation, these experts were able to tailor the training session to key areas for the court to improve. This included standardization of treatment services, use of multiple types of validated risk and needs assessment tools, and introduction of policies and procedures to address secondary trauma for those working with this population. As a result, the SOC team applied for and received funding to train on conducting sex offender specific assessments.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURT SUPERVISOR WORKLOAD ANALYSIS

In 2016, Adult Probation was awarded a technical assistance grant from the State Justice Institute for the National Center for State Courts to conduct a workload assessment for our supervisors. The National Center for State Courts will assist in identifying the key roles, responsibilities and tasks of supervisors in an agency that has fully implemented evidence-based practices (EBP) with fidelity. This project can help transition the roles of supervisors to become experts in EBPs so they can mentor and coach probation officers in their effective use. This coaching is crucial for implementing EBPs with fidelity and, ultimately, to reducing recidivism, improving outcomes for people under supervision, and improving public safety.

PROCEDURAL JUSTICE IN COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Adult Probation participated in a procedural justice assessment of criminal court, conducted by the Center for Court Innovation. Through this process, Adult Probation identified a need for additional training in best practices around procedural justice in community supervision. Adult Probation was awarded a technical assistance grant from the Center for Court Innovation (funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance) to create a "practical tips" planning session in early 2017 to generate promising practices and to help develop a stand-alone procedural justice curriculum for community corrections.

SMART ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT

Adult Probation was awarded a Smart Supervision grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance in 2015 to create its Smart Accountability project. This project aims to strengthen supervision practices and improve outcomes through (1) expanded staff training on evidence-based practices; (2) adoption of dosage-based supervision practices and metrics; and (3) design and use of interactive dashboards for our mobile workforce that supports quality assurance and fidelity to EBPs in realtime. Adult Probation is partnering with the Urban Institute to assess efforts to implement a data-driven, dosage-based supervision model using an action research framework that provides regular, actionable feedback.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CORRECTIONS THINKING FOR CHANGE (T4C) TRAINING

In July 2016, Adult Probation was able to send two staff members, Community Monitor Hakim Fontaine and Probation Officer Latoya Brownfield, to the National Institute for Corrections to be trained as Thinking for Change (T4C) facilitators. Thinking for Change is a series of classes that educate people under supervision on tools and techniques they can use to resolve conflicts in a prosocial manner. The T4C curriculum offers students the chance to roleplay various scenarios related to conflict resolution and receive feedback, coaching, and instruction from facilitators. Providing those under supervision with these critical thinking exercises and pro-social alternatives to conflict resolution will enable them to focus on positive behavioral change and complete their community supervision successfully.



DETAINER REVIEW PROCESS AND OUTCOMES

Beginning in September 2015, Adult Probation has worked with the court to reduce unnecessary jail detention days. This includes reducing the number of detainers issued, when appropriate, and reducing the number of days a person is detained. This is particularly true for people detained for technical violations of their supervision. Since then, the number of detainers issued has decreased by 14 percent, resulting in 427 fewer incidents of detention. In addition, between 2015 and 2016, the median days detained decreased by 13 percent (11 days). This can be attributed to the decrease in the number of days a person is detained for technical violations.

DIVERSION

In 2016, Adult Probation continued its collaborative efforts with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Allegheny County Jail (ACJ) to reduce the jail population by diverting eligible people in need of drug and alcohol treatment from the ACJ to treatment programs. The diversion program is offered to any person in the ACJ who has a case in the Fifth Judicial District and is in need of drug and alcohol treatment. Adult Probation makes referrals to the diversion program at the Gagnon I violation hearing for those detained in the ACJ. Referred people are assessed within three to four business days to determine the necessary level of treatment and subsequently transferred to an approved treatment facility. In 2016, 527 people were referred to the diversion program, an increase of 123 percent from 2015. Eightyone percent of those placed into inpatient treatment resulted in successful completion of treatment.

The overall increase in referrals can be attributed to increased awareness of the program throughout the Court of Common Pleas, the expansion of service referrals at the pretrial level of confinement, and the expansion of services for inmates detained on probation violations.

COUNTY-WIDE TASK FORCE

In 2016, key stakeholders in Allegheny County, including key criminal justice leaders, worked on reducing the jail population and identifying alternatives to jail when appropriate. A criminal justice task force was created at the behest of Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald. This task force was spearheaded by the Institute of Politics at the University of Pittsburgh and included participation from local criminal justice leaders,

including the director of Adult Probation, local researchers from the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, and the foundation community. The recommendations of this task force included reducing the length of probation terms to coincide with national standards, eliminating the use of consecutive probation terms, and the use of fair, swift, and certain sanctions for probation violations.

CHILDLINE

Per the Child Protective Services Law (Act 15 of 2015) probation officers are mandated reporters of suspected or alleged child abuse. As mandated reporters, probation officers, including supervisors, managers, and administrators must complete the required Recognizing Child Abuse and Mandated Reporter training and obtain the following clearances:

Fingerprint based Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history report.

Pennsylvania State Police criminal history report.

Pennsylvania Department of Human Services child abuse history report.

Clearances shall be resubmitted every three years and the Recognizing Child Abuse and Mandated Reporter training shall be completed every five years.



Probation Officer Roman Shablesky is pictured complying with ChildLine's fingerprinting guidelines.

IMPLEMENTING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

Adult Probation is working to improve fidelity to evidence-based practices (EBP) and the outcomes of those we supervise. To this end, Adult Probation conducted internal trainings and partnered with national leader, The Carey Group, to conduct additional EBP sessions. This included an agency-wide introduction to EBP, an introduction to motivational interviewing, and the implementation of a train-the-trainer model to instruct staff on the four core competencies of evidence-based supervision.

In addition to training, Adult Probation conducted a review of all current policies with the goal of removing some, editing others, and adding any other necessary policies to support the current direction of the agency. This included an overhaul of the early termination policy to increase the number of compliant people considered for an early end to their supervision, a concerted effort of field officers to identify people who might be moved to lower levels of supervision, and rewriting case contact policies to include dosage and quality, rather than merely counting contacts.

In 2016, Adult Probation also worked to realign its offices to more effectively supervise people in the community. As a result, probation officers assigned to the former High Impact Unit were assigned to each of the five regional field offices where they will continue to supervise high-risk people. These field offices are geographically based and, prior to the realignment, supervised medium-risk people. This restructuring allowed officers supervising medium- and high-risk people to more closely collaborate by geographic area and help create standards around casework and best practices. As part of this process, Adult Probation also combined specialized probation officers into two units with dedicated supervisors. This includes a Reentry Unit, comprised of five regionally assigned probation officers and a Domestic Violence Unit (DV). The five officer DV Unit supervises repeat domestic violence offenders.

REENTRY PROGRAM

Adult Probation continued operation of its evidencebased reentry program, now in its seventh year. In 2016, Adult Probation created a Reentry Unit with one dedicated supervisor. Prior to 2016, these officers were each based out of one of the agency's five regional field centers, with five different supervisors. By creating one specialized unit, the new supervisor can ensure that officers are implementing evidence-based practices with fidelity and consistency, which helps to improve overall outcomes for those reentering local communities.

Reentry Unit officers begin interacting with program participants while they are still serving their jail sentence. Probation officers in the Reentry Unit work closely with jail reentry specialists to assess each person and create individual service plans to address his or her needs. Program participants then engage in programming to address those needs during their confinement. Sixty days prior to release, the reentry team meets with the offender to re-assess and update the service plan, which includes creating a transition plan into the community. Reentry probation officers continue to supervise offenders as they transition back into their communities and help ensure they are adhering to their service plan and meeting courtordered stipulations.

Due to a decline in the number of people sentenced to the Allegheny County Jail, the reentry program is expanding to include high-risk people who are detained by Adult Probation. These people will receive the same services and support as sentenced reentry participants. Enrollment in this program will begin in January 2017.

PILOT CASELOAD REDUCTION PROJECT

In June 2016, Allegheny County Adult Probation began a three month pilot project of reduced caseloads for field officers supervising medium- and high-risk people. With the caseload reduction, officers are better able to administer EBP and work with people under supervision to change behavior and more quickly address violations. Ten medium-risk and five high-risk officers reduced their caseloads to 75 and 65 respectively, a decrease of 34 percent. This translates to an average of 36 fewer people supervised per officer. With these reduced caseloads, officers were expected to utilize evidence-based best practices to supervise based on risk and needs, applying motivational interviewing and skill building with those they supervise.

Preliminary analysis suggests that this process yielded positive results. Prior to the pilot, probation officers were asked to identify people on their caseload who were compliant and could be moved to lower levels of supervision to help reduce their caseloads. They identified 445 people initially. The people who were transferred to lower levels of supervision had lower rearrest rates than those who remained in the field. In addition, rearrests for those that remained supervised in the field were lower during the pilot period than pre-pilot period (see Figure 3). This may be due, in part, to probation officers having more time to implement these evidence-based best practices. During this pilot there was a 25 percent increase in the number of in-person contacts. In addition, most rearrests for those transferred to lower levels of supervision were for non-violent, low-level crimes. Only 13 percent were for felony violent crimes.

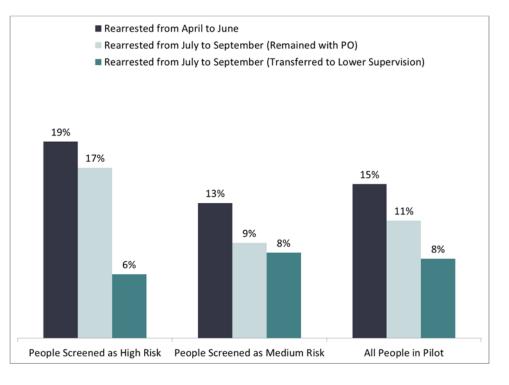


Figure 3: Rearrest Rates Pre- and Post Pilot

As a result of the success of the pilot program, all field centers were required to 'right-size' their caseloads to ensure those who are the greatest risk to public safety and those with the highest needs are supervised with the appropriate dosage. In addition, it is important to have manageable caseloads as evidence-based practices are fully implemented with fidelity. From 2015 to 2016, average caseloads for medium-risk officers decreased by 18 percent (100 to 82), and high-risk officers saw a 21 percent decrease, from 106 to 84 people supervised.

As of December 31, 2016, there were 1,071 people participating in one of the county's seven problem solving courts. There are four treatment courts (Drug Court, DUI Court, Mental Health Court, and Veterans Court), two docket driven compliance courts (Sex Offender Court and Domestic Violence Court) and Pride Court, a court aimed at assisting people convicted of prostitution charges. All courts strive to follow evidence-based best practices, and the treatment courts adhere to the 10 key components of drug courts and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) best practice standards. In 2016, there were 465 people who entered and 435 people who exited from one of the problem solving courts. For those who exited one of the treatment courts, 73 percent (273) graduated successfully. Figure 4 shows the 2016 graduation by treatment court. Overall, graduation rates improved across the treatment courts from 2015 to 2016 by five percent - Mental Health Court had the largest improvement at 17 percent. In addition, 86 percent (73) of the people who exited from Sex Offender Court or Domestic Violence Court completed supervision without a new arrest or technical violation.

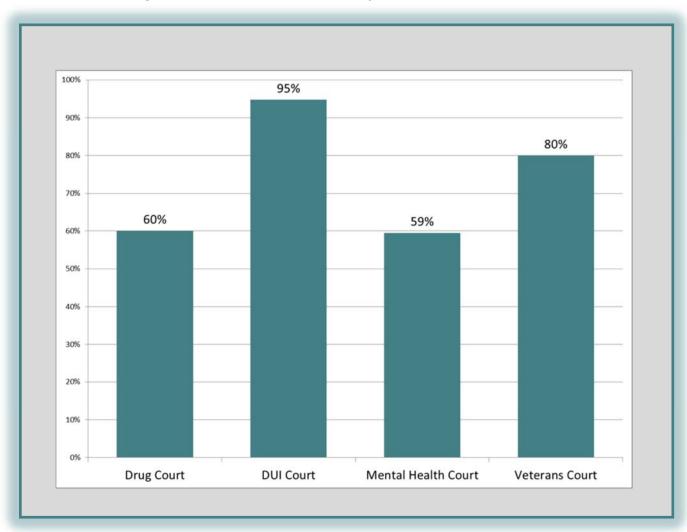


Figure 4: Graduation Rates in 2016 for Treatment Courts

¹People with a 'neutral' exit (death, transfer to other jurisdiction, withdrew) are removed from the graduation rate calculation.

NEW AND CONTINUING INITIATIVES

There were many new initiatives enacted by the court teams in 2016, including the adoption of a color coded drug testing system using the Community Resource Centers (CRCs) in Allegheny County. Initiated as a pilot project for DUI Court in 2015, new participants are assigned a color and must call the CRC daily to determine if their color has been selected for a random drug test. If so, they must report for testing within 12 hours. (The CRCs are open from 8am to 8pm.) Due to its success, this system was expanded to include Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and Veterans Court participants. In 2016, 85 percent of treatment



The DUI Court team pictured L-R: J. Kantz, R. Ando, A. Pfeifer, J. Miller, Hon. K. Sasinoski, J. Whittaker-Piatt, S. Sommers, T. Hicks, L. Mitchell, R. Kraus

participants. In 2016, 85 percent of treatment court participants were drug and alcohol free.

Several procedural changes were made across the problem solving court spectrum in 2016 to enhance and expand services to those most in need. DUI Court added an additional dedicated treatment service coordinator to serve its large population (240 participants at the end of 2016). Mental Health Court also began accepting probation violation transfers from other judges when appropriate. Veterans Court piloted new best practice initiatives including assigned seating in court by phase and assignments to encourage personal reflection that are completed prior to the court hearings and presented during reviews. Problem solving court participants also engaged in numerous community service events in 2016, including a clean-up of Schenley Park. More than 40 Drug and DUI Court participants joined this effort in June. There are two clean-ups planned for 2017.

Members of the problem solving court teams presented at various state and national conferences. This included a Sex Offender Court presentation at the American Probation and Parole Association's (APPA) national conference, a wellness workshop at the PA DUI and Drug Court conferences, a presentation at the PA Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections in May, and a presentation by the Mental Health Court team at the Allegheny County Bar Association Bench Bar Conference in June. In addition, Drug and DUI Court team members facilitated sessions on treatment and probation at the PA

Drug and DUI Court conferences.



VETERANS COURT GRADUATION NOVEMBER 10, 2016

"Jennifer is internationally acclaimed for her work not only as a model, actress, film and television star, author, spokesperson, producer, fundraiser, and proud mother of three, but also a constant champion for charitable causes."



Jennifer O'Neill

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



The Honorable John A. Zotttola and Supervisor Robert O'Brien presenting graduation certificates to Veterans.

Bart E. Womack Command Sergeant Major (Retired) "Mr. Womack has had a distinguished military career and is a highly decorated soldier recognized for valor, meritorious service, leadership and achievement. He is an exceptional noncommissioned officer who served the United States Army with distinction for more than 29 years."

O U T C O M E S



NUMBER OF NEW ENTRIES, EXITS

In July 2016, Adult Probation conducted an outcome evaluation on the four treatment courts to examine graduation rates, in-program recidivism, and post-program recidivism from 2008 through 2015. The evaluation found low rates of post-program recidivism (rearrest or re-



offense) for graduates – within a year of graduation, 93 percent of Drug Court, 95 percent of DUI Court, 89 percent of Mental Health Court and 90 percent of Veterans Court participants had no further criminal justice involvement.

Table 4: Percentage of Successful Graduates Rearrested and/or Reoffended² Post Graduation,
6 months, 1 year, and 3 years

	6 Months		1 Year		3 Years	
Court	Rearrest Rate	Reoffense Rate	Rearrest Rate	Reoffense Rate	Rearrest Rate	Reoffense Rate
Drug Court	4%	2%	7%	5%	22%	14%
DUI Court	2%	1%	5%	3%	13%	9%
Mental Health Court	5%	3%	11%	6%	24%	13%
Veterans Court	7%	0%	10%	3%	25%	19%

The analysis found differences based on the risk level of participants.³ Higher risk participants were less likely to graduate across all courts, and higher risk graduates were more likely to re-offend than other graduates. This analysis was presented to all treatment court teams and the results are being used to improve programming and operations.

At the end of 2016, an evaluation of outcomes to date for participants in Sex Offender Court (SOC) found that there has been a 37 percent reduction in the time to disposition of sex offense cases since the start of the court – from an average of 307 days in 2010 to 193 days in 2015. The time to disposition efficiencies reduce delays that may re-traumatize victims, quickly removes dangerous predators from the street, and swiftly places other offenders under supervision and enrolled in treatment. The evaluation also found that only two percent (8) of SOC participants reoffended within one year of the start of their supervision and only one percent (4) reoffended with a new sex crime. This is a 45 percent reduction in overall recidivism and an 18 percent reduction in people reoffending with a new sex crime.⁴ In addition, of the 67 people who completed supervision without a violation, only three have been rearrested for a new crime, and no one has been rearrested for a new sex crime.

²Defined as a rearrest within the time frame that results in a conviction.

³Risk is based on a validated proxy risk tool used in Allegheny County.

⁴This is compared to people sentenced to qualifying sex offenses prior to the start of SOC (2008-2010).

Presentations

As a nationally recognized leader in the field of community corrections, Adult Probation was invited to present at numerous national, state, and local conferences in 2016.

NATIONAL CONFERENCES

NA National Association for Court Management

Adult Probation, Juvenile Probation, and Court Administration staff members presented at the National Association for Court Management (NACM) conference in July 2016. The presentation focused on how to transition from traditional court management to data driven decision making. In August 2016, six Adult Probation staff members attended the annual Adult Probation and Parole Association's conference in Cleveland, OH. Allegheny County presented two sessions at the conference: 1) An overview of best practices in sex offender management; and 2) Steps to creating a mobile probation officer force. Both sessions were highly attended.

STATE AND LOCAL CONFERENCES

The Mental Health Court (MHC) Coordinator Martha DeSantis and former MHC Probation Officer Andrea Perry presented at the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole, and Corrections Training Institute in Erie, PA in May 2016. The presentation was used to educate others on the cooperation, diligence, and success of MHC. MHC team members also presented at the Bench Bar Conference in June about the benefits of this type of court. In September, staff from Adult Probation's Reentry Unit attended the Reentry Conference in State College, PA. This year's focus was EBP and the importance of cognitive behavioral therapy in conjunction with dosage supervision for effective outcomes. DUI and Drug Court team members also presented a wellness workshop and facilitated sessions on public defense, treatment and probation at the Pennsylvania DUI Association, and Pennsylvania Association of Drug Court Professional's annual conferences.

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

DATA DRIVEN JUSTICE

In the summer of 2016, representatives from Adult Probation traveled to the White House to attend their Data Driven Justice Initiative meeting. Allegheny County continues to participate in this initiative, now housed out of the National Association of Counties, with support from the Arnold Foundation. This initiative builds on data-driven strategies that have been successfully implemented across the country and allows jurisdictions to share best practices in using data to improve the criminal justice system.



PROCEDURAL JUSTICE

Director Frank Scherer was invited by the Center for Court Innovation to participate in a national roundtable discussion in New York, NY on September 15, 2016. The panel, comprised of leaders from across the criminal justice system, met to discuss the topic of

procedural justice, its effect on court users, and their perceptions of fairness in the justice system. The panel's mission was to "create a concrete set of evidence informed, recommended practices that criminal court professionals can implement to promote perceptions of fairness."

Procedural justice research has shown that when people perceive the court process to be fair, they are more likely to comply with court orders and to follow the law in the future, regardless of "winning" or "losing" their case. Procedural justice includes elements seemingly as innocuous as the ease of access to court facilities, the language on signage, interpersonal communication at all levels of the justice system, and agency policies related to the fair treatment of all court users.

Adult Probation will be working with the Center of Court Innovation in 2017 to develop a procedural justice curriculum for community corrections, a first of its kind effort, as prior procedural justice research has focused solely on court systems during the litigation and disposition processes.

Presentations



ELECTRONIC MONITORING

In 2016, the EM unit had a monthly average of 805 people under supervision and processed 1,597 new people into the program during the year, with 1,455 people successfully completing the program. Adult Probation's Electronic Monitoring Unit (EM) completed its 28th year of operation in 2016. The unit is comprised of a manager, three supervisors, 29 probation officers (including a Drug Court coordinator and a DUI Court coordinator), 10 fulltime support staff, and seven part -time monitoring staff. The office operates 24 hours a day/seven days a week and answers the emergency telephone number for Adult Probation after normal business hours. Probation officers

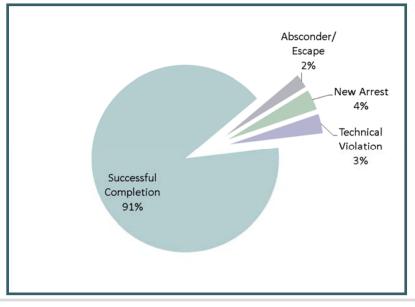
in the EM unit screen cases referred by the court for electronic monitoring, install the monitoring equipment, set the conditions of supervision, and work directly with people supervised in the community. Probation officers assist people so they have an opportunity to become contributing members of the community, while also closely monitoring them so that conditions of supervision ordered by the court are enforced. Individuals who violate the rules of electronic monitoring receive sanctions that could lead to a revocation hearing before the court and incarceration.

The Electronic Monitoring Unit plays a crucial role in keeping the jail population from exceeding capacity by providing a safe and cost-effective alternative to incarceration. Electronic monitoring supervision enables people to remain in the community where they can continue to work, support their families, attend counseling, and give back through community service opportunities.

In addition to providing the court with an alternative sentencing option for those facing a mandatory jail sentence, EM supervision may also be ordered for other reasons including the monitoring of pretrial defendants as a condition of bail, for probation and parole detainees, for people sentenced to jail who are transferred to EM, sanctioned due to probation and parole violations, and for problem solving court cases.

In 2016, the EM unit had a monthly average of 805 people under supervision and processed 1,597 new people into the program during the year, with 1,455 people successfully completing the program (see Figure 5). Throughout this period, only 43 participants were arrested on new criminal charges, putting the recidivism rate (new arrest) while on electronic monitoring at just four percent for the year. The EM unit operates without a waitlist, and those who are eligible for EM supervision in the Allegheny County Jail are banded within 48 hours; all others are scheduled for an installation within one week of the unit receiving the case from the court.

People placed on EM are responsible for paying the fees associated with electronic monitoring, which are assessed on a sliding scale per the offender's income.



Figurer 5: Percentage of People Exiting EM, by Exit Reason, 2016

DUI ALTERNATIVE TO JAIL PROGRAM

The DUI Alternative to Jail Program began operations in 2010 as a structured alternative to incarceration for people sentenced for eligible DUI offenses. Program participants would otherwise serve jail sentences of 48 hours and 72 hours of incarceration. The goals of the program are to reduce DUI recidivism and enable those sentenced to the program to fulfill their Alcohol Highway Safety Program requirements.

The program also provides substantive education pertaining to the individual and societal costs of driving under the influence and provides cognitive -based interventions that will positively influence future driving behavior. People who fail to successfully complete this program are returned to court for re-sentencing.

In 2016, 428 people were sentenced to the DUI Alternative to Jail program and just three were dismissed for violations. Funding for the program is sustained through fees that are reinvested into the program, thereby providing a fiscal benefit to the citizens of Allegheny County by greatly reducing the number of "jail days" that would have otherwise been served by this population.



VICTIM IMPACT PANELS

In partnership with Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Adult Probation continued to host Victim Impact Panels (VIP) at its Community Resource Center – South location in 2016. Attending a VIP is a requirement for those adjudicated in DUI Court, and as a court ordered stipulation, it provides a forum for victims of impaired or reckless drivers to give their perspective of how being a victim has altered their lives and families. As a component of the DUI Court treatment model, VIPs also educate participants on the consequences of impaired driving.



Adult Probation operates three Community Resource Centers (CRCs) throughout the county that provide a 'one-stop shop' for social services that are designed to address the risks and needs related to the criminogenic factors of medium- and high-risk people under supervision. In 2016, there were 2,958 people referred to these centers for services. People may be referred for multiple

services. There were 93 people referred for adult education, 191 for batterers' intervention programs, 72 for cognitive behavioral therapy, 265 for community service, 387 for employment assistance, 1,159 for drug testing, and 1,017 for drug and alcohol evaluations (see Table 5). Of the referrals, 77 percent were for services for medium or high-risk people.

 Table 5: Referrals to Community Resource Centers, by Service Type and Risk Level

REFERRALS	Number of Referrals	% Medium- or High-Risk
Adult Education (GED)	93	94%
Batterers Intervention Program	191	71%
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	72	84%
Community Service	265	64%
Drug and Alcohol Evaluation	1,017	69%
Drug Testing	1,159	81%
Employment Assistance/Job Search	387	85%
Other Services*	50	73%
Total Referrals	3,234	77%

*Includes referrals for emergency housing assistance and a cognitive behavioral life skills class.

EAST CRC



GED Class Room in the Community Resource Center East



Job Training Assistance in the Community Resource Center South

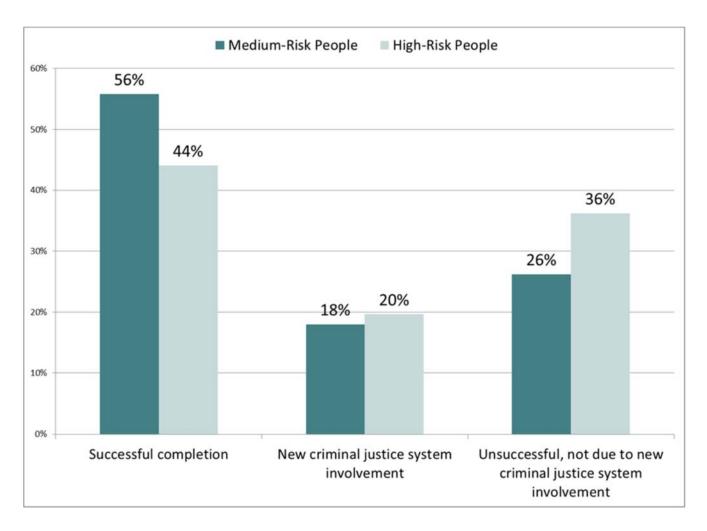


Job Training Assistance in the Mon Valley Community Resource Center



These centers continue to demonstrate effectiveness by addressing key factors that help to reduce recidivism. Of the medium- and high-risk people who participated and ended service in 2016, 52 percent completed successfully. Closure reasons differ by risk, with 56 percent of medium-risk completing successfully compared to 44 percent of high-risk people. See Figure 6 for a breakdown of referrals by closure reason and risk level.

Figure 6: Percent of Referrals by Closure Reason and Risk Level, 2016



Staff Development

In 2016, in conjunction with the Allegheny County IT department, Adult Probation rolled out an inhouse Learning Management System. The "training database," as it is commonly referred to, has revolutionized the way the trainings are scheduled and made available to staff and the way that training hours are calculated.

Available trainings are entered into the training database by the staff development supervisor, including the training title, date,

time, location, and a brief description of the training. Training sessions are divided by job title to target trainings most appropriate to each staff member's role in the agency. Staff may electronically request to attend scheduled trainings in the database, and they will receive an email verifying their approval to attend.

Staff verify their attendance following the training via an email link with the training database, and staff training hours are automatically calculated. Staff may also check their accrued training hours in the database and view their scheduled trainings.

As noted previously in this report, Adult Probation made significant strides in moving toward the implementation of evidence-based practices (EBP) in

In 2016, Adult Probation staff attended 11,965 hours of training and professional development, in accordance with the standards set by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. In addition, five new probation officers completed the initial three-week Adult Probation Officer training course in 2016. 2016. Multiple agency-wide trainings were held, beginning with an EBP 101 training for all staff in March 2016, which offered an overview of EBP concepts and the research supporting them. EBP efforts continued through the summer of 2016 with motivational interviewing training, and in September 2016 additional EBP trainings were conducted by The Carey Group.

The Carey Group, a national leader in evidence-based practices,

provided train the trainer sessions on the 4 Core Competencies of community supervision to a team of 12 adult probation employees. The 4 Core Competencies offer supervision tools staff can use in an attempt to change behavior and reduce recidivism and include, building professional alliance, skill practice, case planning, and the appropriate use of rewards and responses to noncompliance. The training team, which included supervisors, probation officers, and community monitors, completed training on two of the four competencies in the fall of 2016. They then conducted multiple trainings that the entire agency attended.

The Carey Group will return in the spring of 2017 to train staff on the remaining core competencies.



TRAININGS

* Heroin Abuse and Relapse

- * How Being Trauma Informed Improves Criminal Justice Responses
- * Problem Solving Court Referral Form Workshop
- * DUI Training
- * Motivational Interviewing
- * Officer Safety and Survival
- * Evidence-Based Practices 101
- * Mental Health First Aid
- * Tactical Communications

Community Resource Center Community Partners

Allegheny County Department of Human Services Allentown Community Development Corp. Arlington St. Clair Senior Center **Beautiful Pittsburgh Initiative** Beltzhoover Civic Association Bethlehem Haven **Brashear Association City Council District 3 Community Human Services Community Kitchen Pittsburgh** East Liberty Chamber of Commerce Safety Board **Family Resources Female Offenders** Gateway Rehabilitation Center Goodwill Industries of Western PA Greenbriar Treatment Services Habitat for Humanity Hilltop Alliance MADD Mercy Behavioral Health Mon Yough Community Services Northside Common Ministries PA Adopt A Highway Program Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force **Pittsburgh Foundation Pyramid Health Services** Renewal, Inc. Southwestern PA Reentry Coalition **Steel Valley Council of Governments Three Rivers Youth** Women's Center and Shelter (Men's Group) Zone 3 Public Safety Committee Zone 5 Public Safety Committee



Department of Human





Community Participation

Adult Probation has been operating a community service program out of its Community Resource Centers since 2010. Each of the centers have engaged with local community organizations, nonprofit organizations, and charitable institutions that are willing and able to provide community service opportunities. Imposed either as a stipulation at sentencing or as a sanction for noncompliant behavior, community service serves as a critical component of the agency's evidence-based supervision efforts and contributes to positive outcomes for both the individual and the community.

Community service also plays a vital role for those under supervision to give back to society, while uniting persons from diverse backgrounds to work toward a common goal. Participants build camaraderie and foster self-efficacy as they discover possible hidden talents through various projects to beautify surrounding communities, and help provide services to the less fortunate and our region's growing elderly population.

On April 16, 2016, the Community Resource Center -South (located in the Arlington section of Pittsburgh) commenced a season of community service events with a kickoff with *Beautiful Pittsburgh*, in conjunction with Mayor Bill Peduto's office. The center provided over 30 volunteers to service the Arlington neighborhood, where they climbed the mountainous slopes removing litter and debris to assist in providing a healthy environment for the Arlington community.

The Community Resource Center-Mon Valley (located in McKeesport) coordinated an Earth Day clean-up event in Renzie Park, McKeesport. Approximately 14 volunteers

STUFF – A – PURSE INITIATIVE

During the spring of 2016, Adult Probation staff participated in the "Stuffa-Purse" initiative to benefit women residing in local domestic violence shelters and treatment programs, such as the Delaware House and Bethlehem Haven. Adult Probation staff donated gently used handbags and purses, which were then "stuffed" with new toiletries and other basic necessities. In total, over 75 handbags and purses were delivered to women who may have otherwise been unable to purchase or obtain the most basic of necessities. In addition to delivering purses to shelters and treatment programs, adult probation officers also traveled to locations frequented by homeless individuals and distributed these items to those most in need.

participated in the Earth Day event and provided traffic direction, trash clean up, and the recycling of large electronic items such as televisions, stereos, and desktop computers. There was also a tire collection, eyeglass donation, and battery recycling area. An enormous



amount of the day's success was due to the presence of both the probationers and agency staff. At the end of the event, participants successfully filled six large dumpsters and helped to offload hundreds of recyclable tires.

Another Earth Day event was coordinated with *Keep PA Beautiful* in Jefferson Borough and involved clearing trash and

litter from the shoulders and curbside areas of Route 51 through Jefferson Hills.





L-R: M. Mazza, K. Duffola, N. Petito, Participant, A. Akitoye, J. Whittaker-Piatt

Swearing In Ceremony 2016



L-R: Director F. Scherer, T. Hicks, A. Kiral, L. Kratina, P. Yurt, T. Brennan, D. Bidwell, D. Havaran, Deputy Director A. Pelton

On November 3, 2016, Criminal Division Administrative Judge David R. Cashman administered the oath of office to seven newly appointed Adult Probation officers.















Allegheny County Adult Probation & Parole || 2016 Annual Report

New Hires 2016



DAVID E. BIDWELL Probation Officer

David joined Adult Probation on May 2, 2016. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Edinboro University. Prior to joining Adult Probation, Dave worked as a probation officer in Erie County, PA for nine years.



ANTHONY G. KIRAL Probation Officer

Anthony joined Adult Probation on October 17, 2016. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's degree in Legal Studies from the California University of Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Adult

Probation, Anthony gained experience as a probation officer in Westmoreland County, PA.



THOMAS K. BRENNAN Probation Officer

Thomas completed an internship with Adult Probation in the summer of 2016. Following graduation from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, he joined the department as a probation officer on September 9, 2016.



ROBERT J. HANCHARIK Community Monitor

Robert joined Adult Probation on October 17, 2016. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Administration of Justice from Penn State University. Robert brings work experience from the United States Air Force as a class instructor.



TRACEY L. HICKS Probation Officer

Tracey joined Adult Probation on August 8, 2016. She holds a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from Ferris University (Michigan), which she obtained in 2008. Tracey brings experience from previous employment

as a case manager, behavior management specialist, and most recently as a probation officer in New Mexico.



KAYLA JONES Support Staff

Kayla joined Adult Probation full-time on October 31, 2016. She began her career as a part-time monitor for electronic monitoring in 2015.



ROMAN M. SHABLESKY Community Monitor

Roman joined Adult Probation on May 2, 2016. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Slippery Rock University and a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from Tiffen University (Ohio). Roman brings experience from

previous work as a corrections officer at the Lawrence County Jail.



MEGAN ST. JACQUES Support Staff

Megan joined Adult Probation full-time on November 14, 2016. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Mercyhurst University and began her career as a part-time monitor at electronic monitoring. Megan

previously completed an internship at Adult Probation in the summer of 2015.



PHILLIP J. YURT Probation Officer

Phillip (PJ) joined Adult Probation on October 17, 2016. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in General Studies from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, with a concentration in Human Behavior and Personal

Development. PJ brings experience from previous work as a counselor at a residential program for juveniles and as a juvenile probation officer in Westmoreland County, PA.

PROMOTIONS 2016

DANIEL P. SOMMERS



Dan began his career at Adult Probation as a community monitor at the Community Resource Center - South (CRC-South) in 2008. He became a probation officer in 2010 and supervised the low risk caseload at the CRC-South, Drug Court, and the High Impact Unit. Dan was promoted as the Central Community Based Office supervisor on September 5, 2016

LAUREN A. KRATINA



PROBATION OFFICER

RENAWN L. HARRIS



Renawn began his career at Adult Probation in 2010 at the Northside Community Based Office where he supervised general and reentry caseloads. He then transferred to the High Impact Unit and specialized in the mental health caseload. Renawn was promoted to supervisor of the South Hills Community Based Office on March 7, 2016.

Lauren began her career at Adult Probation as an intern in January 2013. Following graduation from Duquesne University, she became a part-time monitor at electronic monitoring, transitioning to the full-time secretary position at the Community Resource Center - South (CRC-South) in 2014. Lauren was promoted to a community monitor at the CRC-South in 2015 and became a probation officer on June 13, 2016.

RETIREMENTS 2016

Claudia Babicz, Supervisor – Claudia retired on June 10, 2016. She worked at Adult Probation for 41 years and 7 months.

Kimberly Garnic, Probation Officer – Kim retired on March 1, 2016. She worked at Adult Probation for 25 years and 4 months.

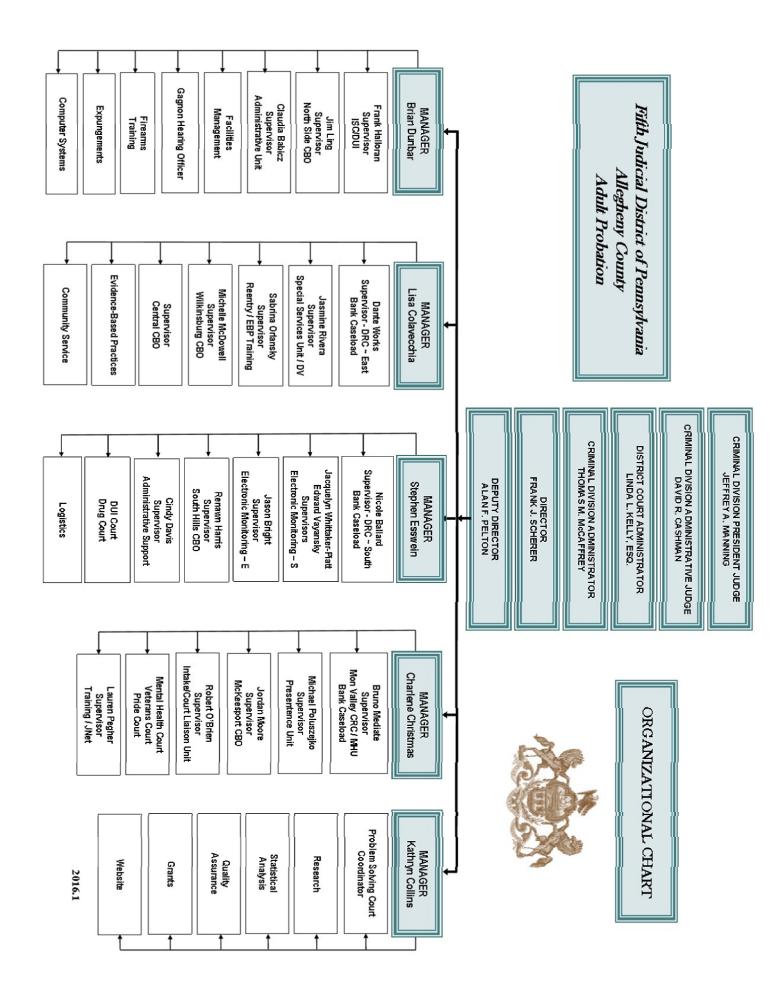
ALLEGHENY COUNTY



Allegheny County Courthouse, Pittsburgh, PA in 1857. This courthouse was ruined by fire in 1882.

The accompanying chart compares caseload sizes and demographics from 1976 and 2016. Direct comparisons cannot be made for all current case types and classifications due to statutory differences in 1976 (such as driving under the influence (DUI) cases, as DUIs were not criminalized until 1983) or case type (the Electronic Monitoring Unit and the various problem solving courts were not yet in existence). However, the comparisons do make for an interesting look at the growth in caseload sizes and the total number of people supervised over the last 40 years.

Table 1: Comparison of Supervision, 2016 to 1976				
Type of Supervision	People supervised on 12/31/2016	People supervised on 12/31/1976		
Probation	18,521	6,218		
Parole	925	955		
Intermediate Punishment	898			
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	3,952	3,143		
Probation without Verdict	249			
Bail	2,004			
TOTAL	26,549	10,316		
CASELOAD PER PROBATION OFFICER				
Type of Supervision	Caseloads on 12/31/2016	Caseloads on 12/31/1976		
Field Offices	82	102		
Other work				
	2016	1976		
Presentence Investigations	610	890		







564 FORBES AVENUE MANOR BUILDING - SUITE 1212 PITTSBURGH, PA 15219 412-350-2320

http://www.alleghenycourts.us/criminal/adult_probation/default.aspx