
Hancock County Community Corrections Act Programs Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2014

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Program Goals and Objectives

The Hancock County Community Corrections Act (CCA) Programs continue to achieve statewide program goals and objectives of reducing commitments to state prison and/or local jails while providing cost effective sentencing alternatives that allow for safely supervising offenders in the community. In addition to these basic goals, FY 12 proved an instrumental year in finally implementing Evidence Based Practices further in Hancock County. The following report will illustrate how Hancock County CCA Programs have met those primary goals and objectives, while improving the overall quality and efficiency of the local criminal justice system.

As predicted, Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013 were significant years in the field of community corrections. House Bill 86 was enacted in September of 2011 and most mandates were to be implemented in 2013 and Fiscal Year 2014 reflects the adaptations the Adult Probation Department made due to these reforms.

The Common Pleas Court completely overhauled its processes and practices to mirror evidence based practices from assessing risk and need to assessing treatment readiness to revamping and contracting for the in-house cognitive behavioral therapy offered to Hancock County offenders.

This program has received several Cliff Skeen Community Corrections Awards and was the recipient again in Fiscal Year 2013 out of almost three hundred (300) programs.

The following report will illustrate how these dynamic Hancock County CCA Programs have met those primary goals and objectives, while continuing to improve the overall quality and efficiency of the local criminal justice system.



The following report articulates the activity of Hancock County Community Corrections Act Programs for fiscal year 2014(July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014).

Presentence Investigations

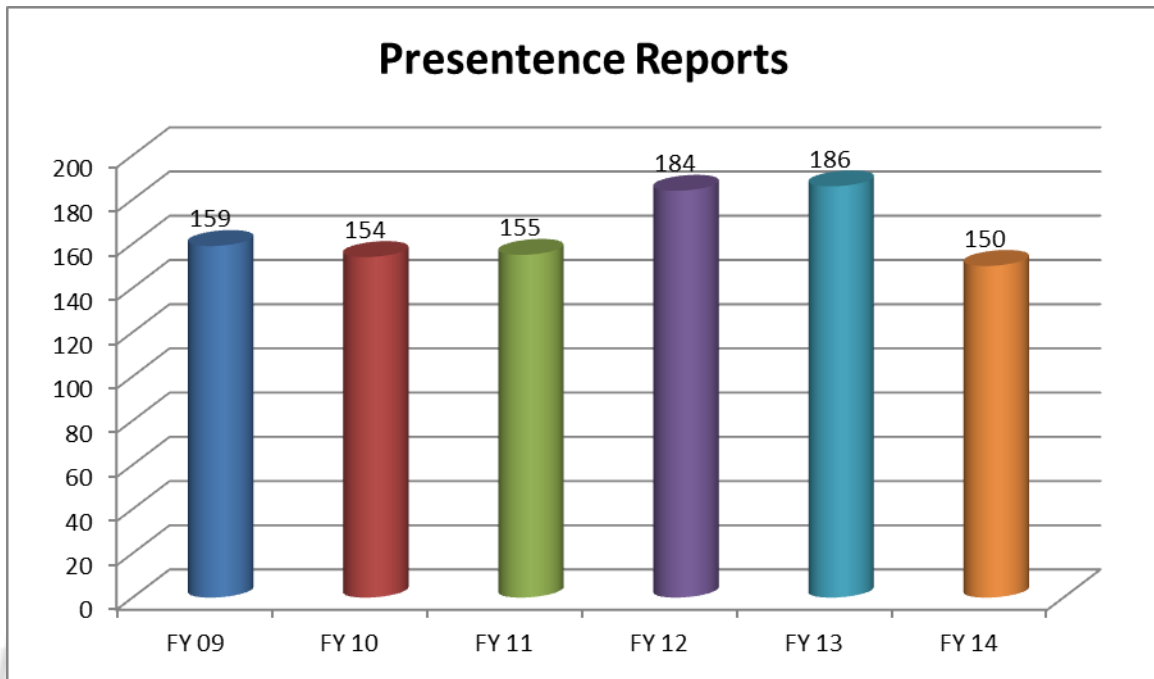
Hancock County 407 CCA Program continues to provide Presentence Investigations as requested to the Hancock County Common Pleas Court. The investigations are conducted in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 2951.03 and Criminal Rule 32.2 and offers the Court a thorough account of the offense; a criminal and social history of the offender; a risk/need assessment, and victim input, if applicable, to assist the Court in sentencing decisions. It should be noted that due to previous state budget cuts, the County General Fund supplements approximately one-half of the Presentence Writer's salary and benefits. A total of one hundred fifty (150) reports were prepared for the Common Pleas Court in Fiscal Year 2014. As reflected in the chart below, this number has decreased due to the increase in defendants applying for Intervention in Lieu of Conviction relief. This is one of the reforms referenced above resulting from House Bill 86; specifically, the eligibility was broadened, resulting in higher diversions into that program.

Assessing Risk and Need:

The Presentence Investigation is the beginning of applying the Risk/Need Principle. The risk/needs score, from the now required Ohio Risk Assessment tool (ORAS), is attached to the report for the Court's consideration while considering sentencing alternatives. The Court began strictly using the tool in Fiscal Year 2011 and has aided in training the entire community in the tool, including certification of local treatment providers and re-entry professionals. House Bill 86 codified the tool in the Ohio Revised Code and the department recognizes that a recertification of all staff will be required in FY 14 and FY 15..

Responsivity:

Adhering to the "Risk/Need Responsivity Principle," the program was proactive and began assessing treatment readiness and motivation for change. Subsequent to piloting several tools, the internal Changing Offender Behavior committee recommended the Presentence Writer utilize the Texas Christian University Tool (TCU) as of June of 2012. The First Presentence Investigation to reflect these findings was submitted to the Court in August of 2012. At various intervals of supervision, the TCU is readministered to discern if there have been changes in their readiness for change.

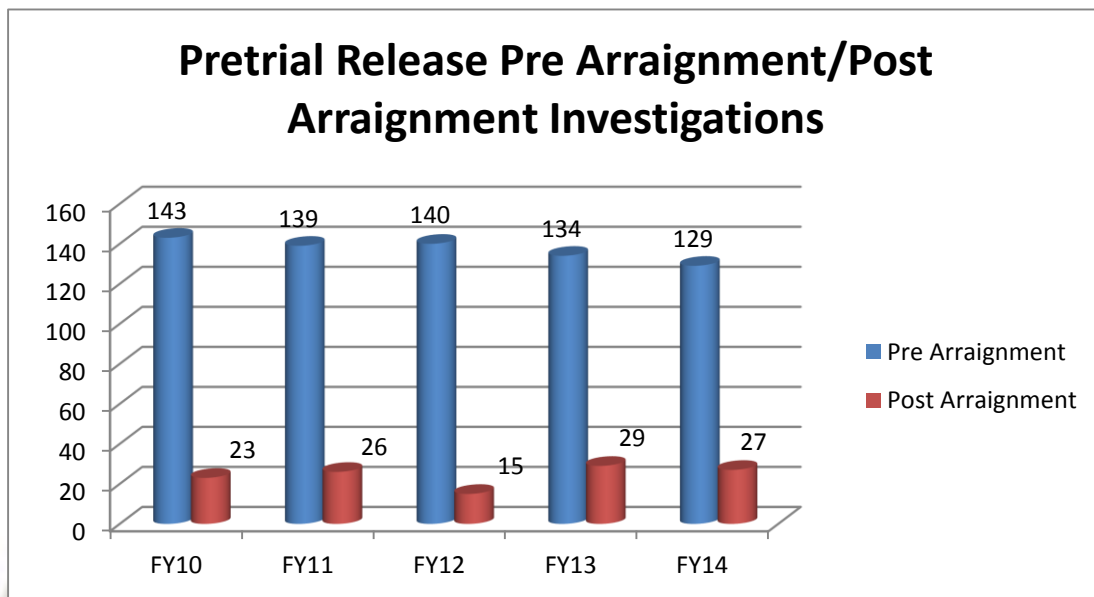


JAIL DIVERSION GRANT

Pretrial Release (Bond) Program:

Bond Reports:

This program provides the Court valuable pre and post arraignment investigations. These reports provide the Court information early (and at various stages) in the case to assist them in determining which offenders are safe to release into the community pending trial. Commencing Fiscal Year 2011 (July 1, 2010) the department began solely utilizing the Ohio Risk Assessment System Assessment Tool - Pretrial Assessment Tool (ORAS-PAT). Again, this tool was developed by the University of Cincinnati in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to assess offenders for pretrial specific issues. As required, all Adult Probation Department staff has been certified in the use of this tool.



Pretrial Release/Bond Supervision:

Hancock County's 408/Jail Diversion Program continues to provide safe, cost-effective supervision through Pretrial Release (Bond). This program was designed to divert pretrial status offenders safely from the overcrowded Hancock County Justice Center. Offenders who are placed in this program must comply with Court restrictions placed on them, including no contact orders and reporting on a regular basis to the Adult Probation Department. At the end of Fiscal Year 2014 (June 30, 2014), the Pretrial Release (Bond) Program had met its goal of one hundred ninety six (196) diversions as established by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, diverting a total of two hundred and twenty nine (229) offenders! The extraordinary increase in bond diversions is contributed to an increase in the overall criminal indictments and another high year of Ohio State Patrol drug interdiction cases.

By performing as articulated above, the program far exceeded its goals of reducing commitments to the local jail, improving the quality and efficiency of the local criminal justice system and providing a cost effective option for safely supervising offenders in the community.

The following are the processes by which the Pretrial Release/Bond/Jail Diversion/Incarceration Reduction Program operates:

Referral: The Court, at the time of arraignment or subsequent to reviewing the preparation of a Pretrial Release/Bond report refers (orders) offenders into the Pretrial Release/Bond Program.

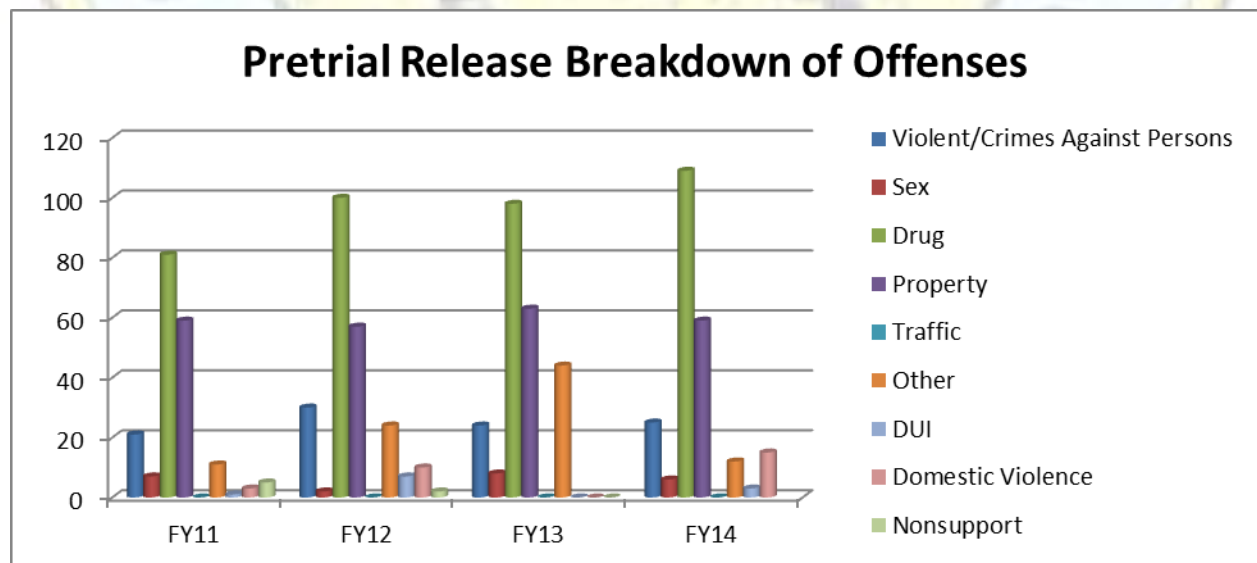
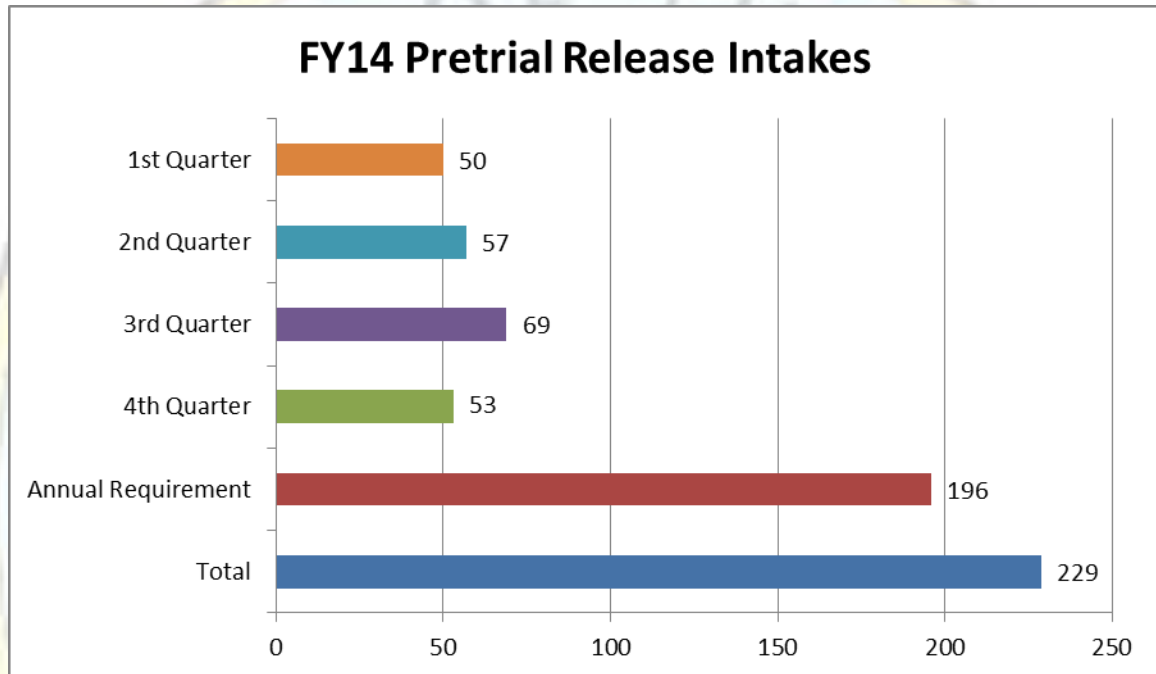
Acceptance: Acceptable offenders for the Bond (Pretrial Release) Program shall be identified with the following criteria:

- a. Nonviolent Offender
- b. Released on Property, Cash or Recognizance Bond
- c. Amenable to Community Sanctions

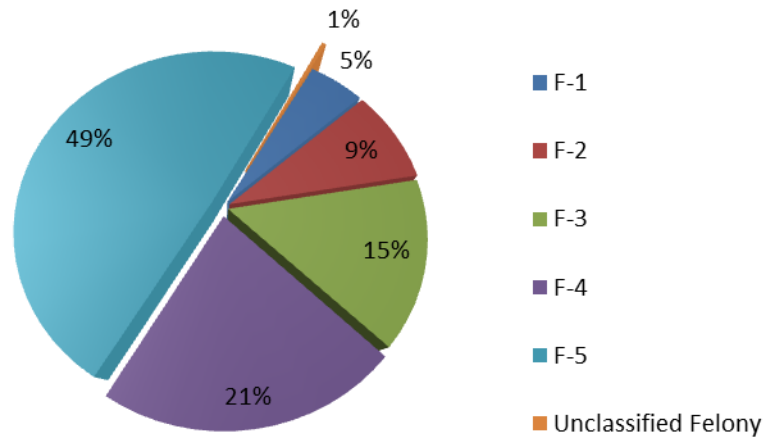
d. Incarcerated Individuals: Risk Score and Bond Report produces appropriate findings

Rejection: Rejection from the program would relate to a determination by the Court. Specifically, finding that the defendant is not amenable to Pretrial Release supervision based on a high risk score, prior record or the nature of the instant offense, or other reasons as determined by the Court.

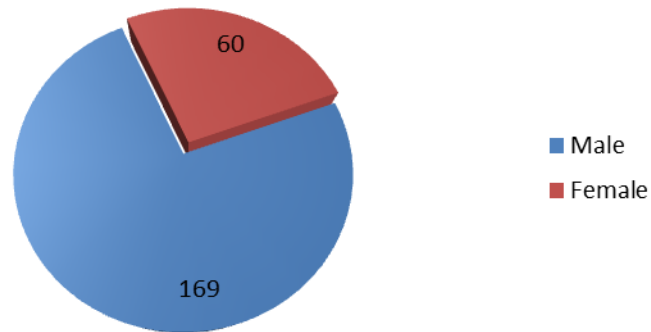
Termination: Offenders shall be terminated from Bond (Pretrial Release) upon the Court discharging their property, cash or recognizance bond.



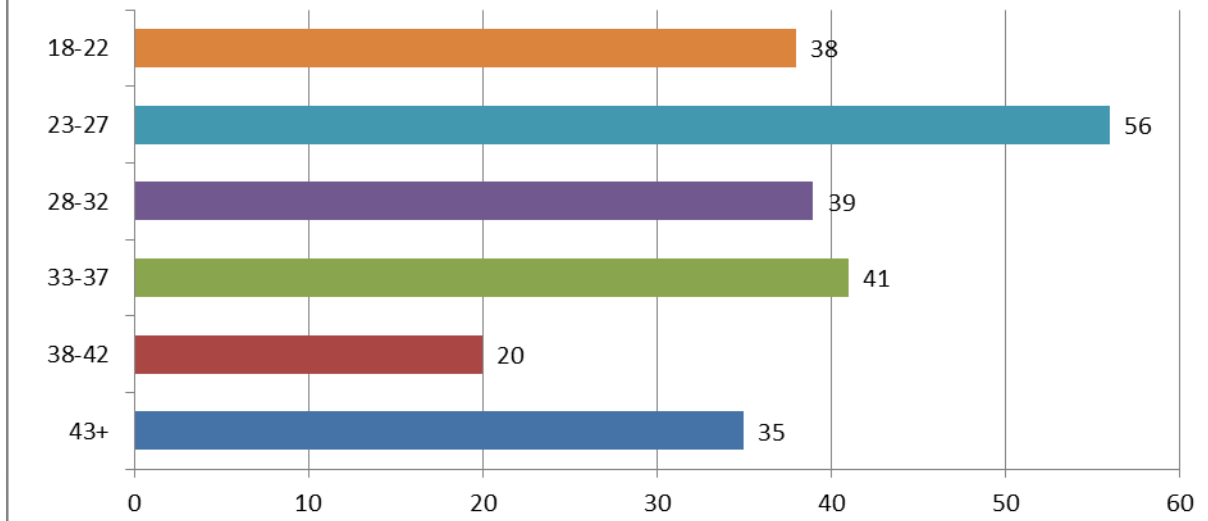
FY14 Pretrial Release Degree of Offenses



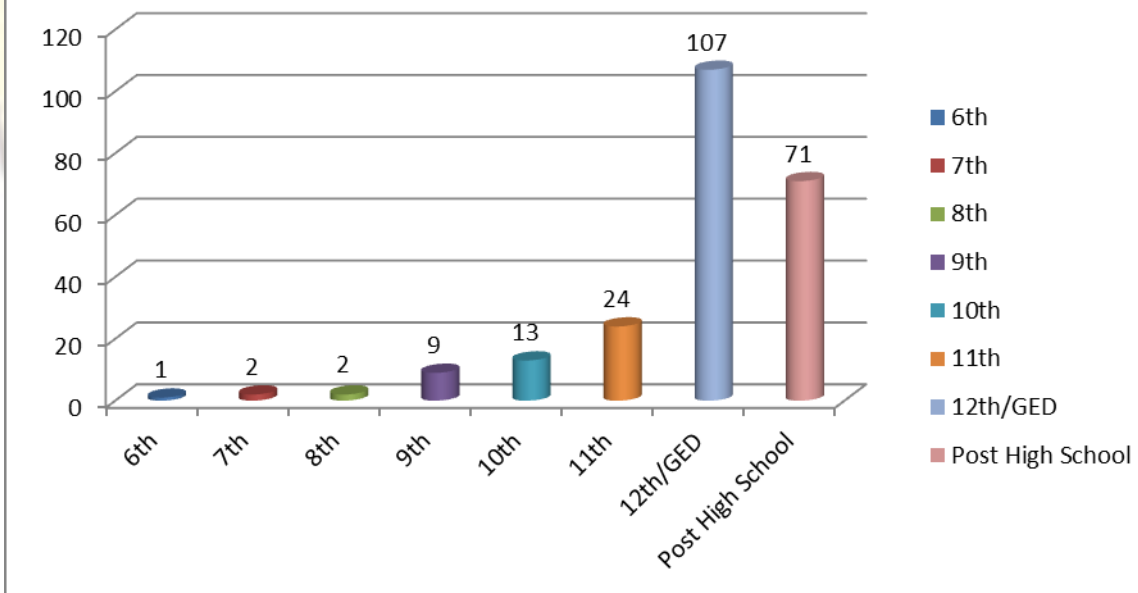
FY14 Pretrial Release Intakes By Gender

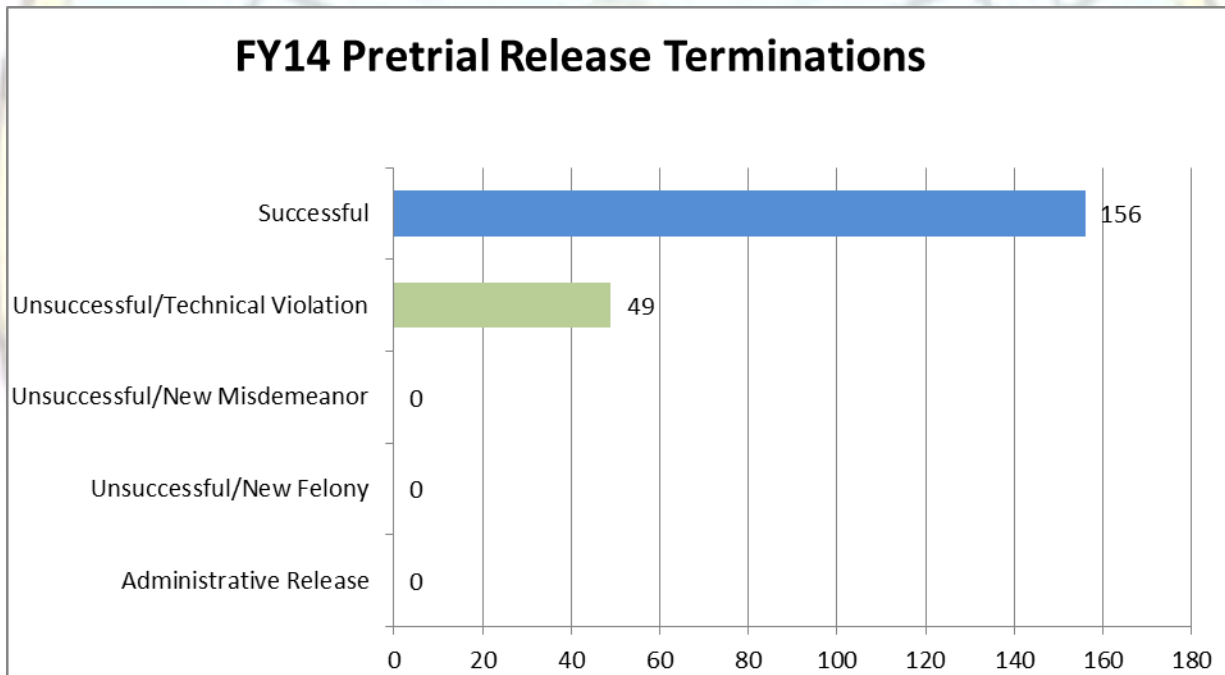
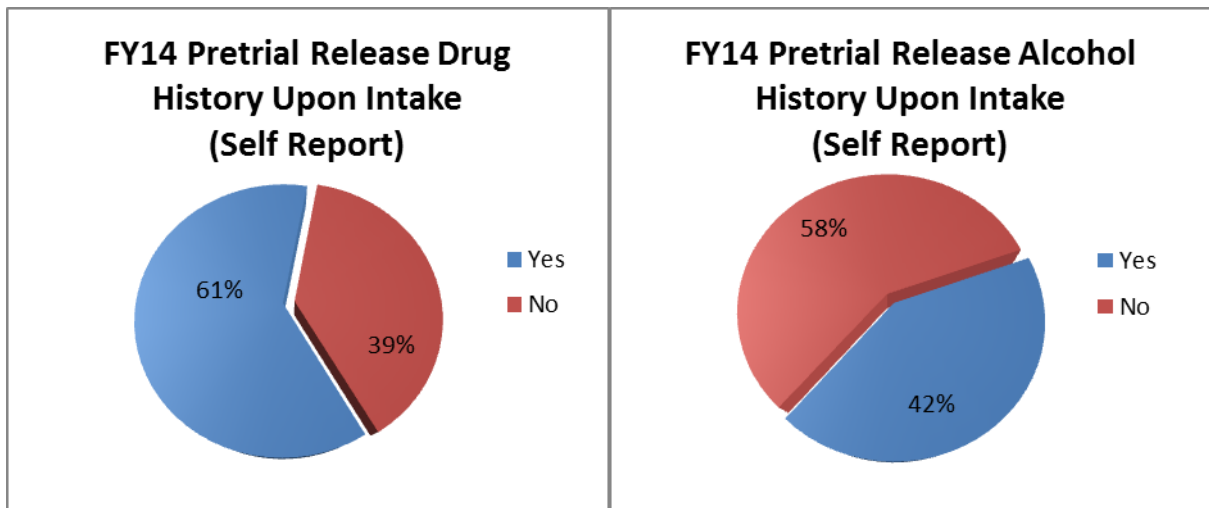


FY14 Pretrial Release Age Breakdown Upon Intake



FY14 Pretrial Release Years of Education Upon Intake





PRISON DIVERSION GRANT

Intensive Supervision (ISP):

Hancock County's Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) or 407 Program is designed to supervise and monitor offenders at a higher risk, or those with higher needs, for recidivism in the community by providing more restrictive, *intensive* supervision, utilizing programming focusing on the

offender's criminogenic needs. This program consists of Evidence Based supervision, each appointment generating true "dosage" hours by utilizing the EPICS model, various case management interventions (i.e .Carey Guides) with gradually less restrictive sanctions based on the offender's compliance with conditions and reduced risk/need levels. The program is twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months in duration and to be terminated from the program now requires evidence based criteria.

Utilizing Evidence-Based Practices, principles that research has shown are effective in reducing the likelihood that an offender will commit a new crime, the Intensive Supervision Program has endeavored to create a program that mirrors what research indicates works with Ohio offenders. The following eight basic principles involved establishing evidence-based practices are as follows:

- Assessing the risk and need of the offender;
- Enhancing the motivation of the offender;
- Targeting interventions to the offender's needs;
- Providing a skilled, trained staff;
- Increasing positive reinforcement;
- Engaging ongoing support in natural communities;
- Measuring relevant processes and practices;
- Providing measurement feedback.

The following are the processes by which the Intensive Supervision/Prison Diversion Program operates:

Referral: The Court, through the preparation of a presentence investigation, ORAS scoring, Treatment Readiness Scoring and Probation Department recommendation, refers (orders) offenders to the Intensive Supervision Program. They may also be referred by the Court subsequent to a violation of probation hearing or release from prison on a Judicial Release motion.

Acceptance: Acceptable offenders for the CCA/Intensive Supervision Program shall be identified with the following criteria:

- a) Amenable to Community Sanctions;
- b) Moderate to High Risk of Violating Community Control (ORAS Scores);
- c) Moderate to High Need for Services (ORAS scores) (Criminogenic Needs Identified during PSI);
- d) Not a threat to the community;
- e) Applicable Override to the ORAS tool

Rejection: Rejection from the program would relate to low ORAS scores, not finding the offender a safe risk for community supervision, or other reasons as determined by the Court.

Termination: Offenders shall complete a twelve (12) to eighteen (18) month term of supervision addressing their specific criminogenic needs in their individualized case plans. The officer will determine one or more of the following are present:

- Completing Court Orders;
- Adhering to /Completing Certain Conditions of Supervision;

- Exhibiting Pro-Social Behavior, Attitudes and Beliefs during Role-Playing and Skill Building Exercises;
- Successfully Participating in or Complete the CBT Program (when applicable);
- Homework;
- Dosage;
- Refraining from Illegal Activity;

Once the officer determines they are eligible, the termination is submitted to a supervisor and rolled to Basic Supervision within the Adult Probation Department.

As indicated above, officers are assessing for risk and need, assessing their readiness for treatment, case planning to their criminogenic targets and plugging them into revamped, in-house group interventions (see below) that are separated by risk and gender.

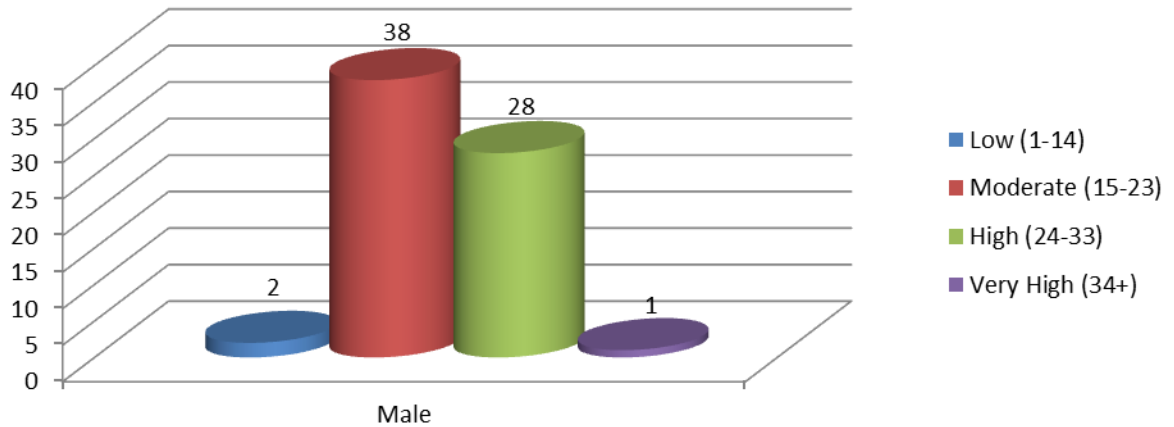
At the end of Fiscal Year 2014 (June 30, 2014), the Intensive Supervision Program diverted ninety four (94) offenders, meeting our goal of (73) for Fiscal Year 2014. As evidenced above, the program continues to meet its goals of reducing commitments to state prisons; improving the quality and efficiency of the local criminal justice system and providing a cost effective option for safely supervising offenders in the community.

It should be noted that this is the program that has received the Cliff Skeen Community Corrections Award from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction on numerous occasions and was recognized as the winner again in Fiscal Year 2013.

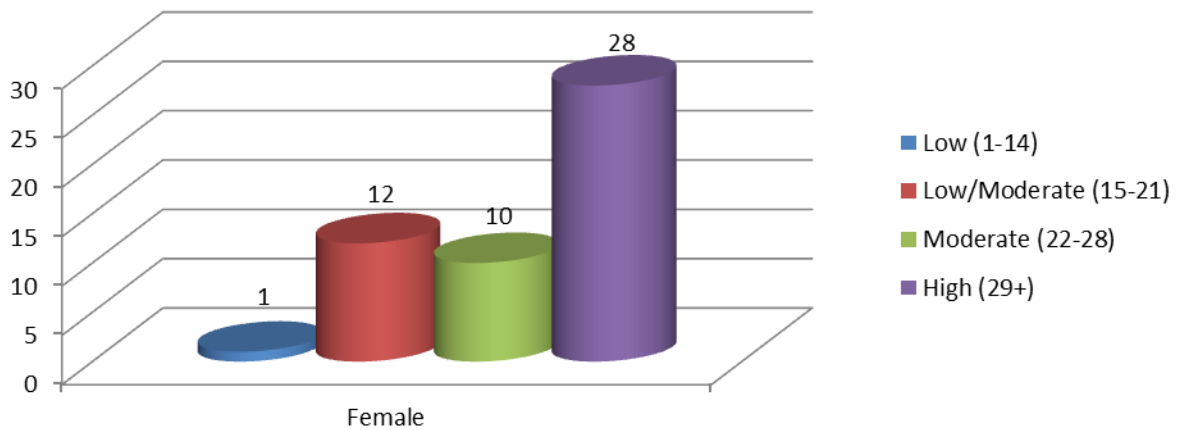


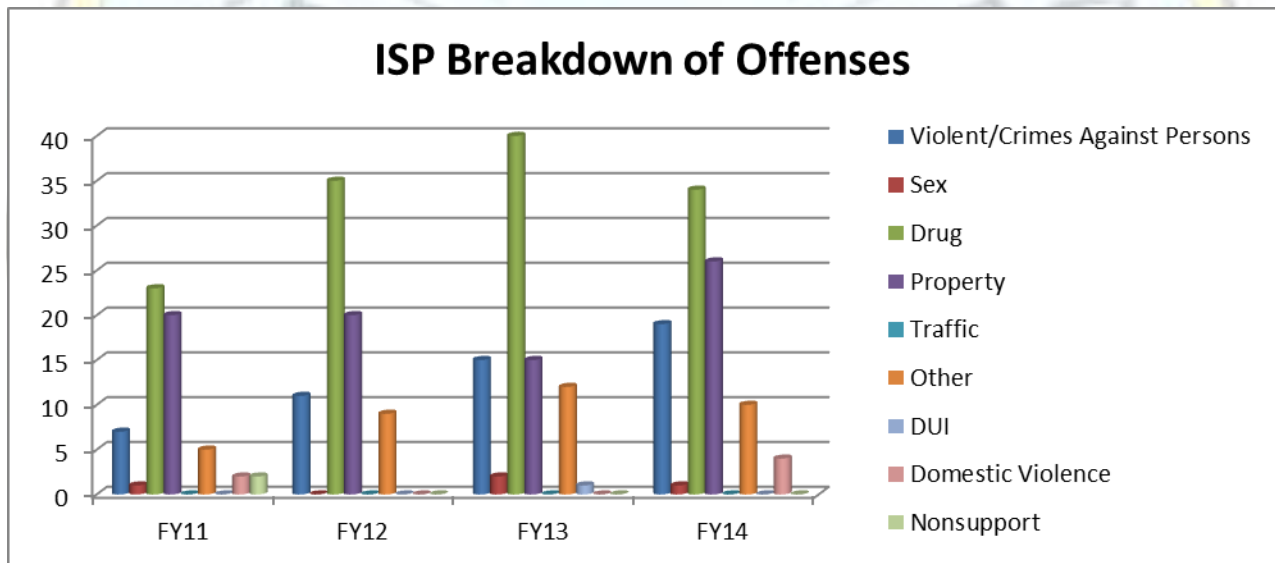
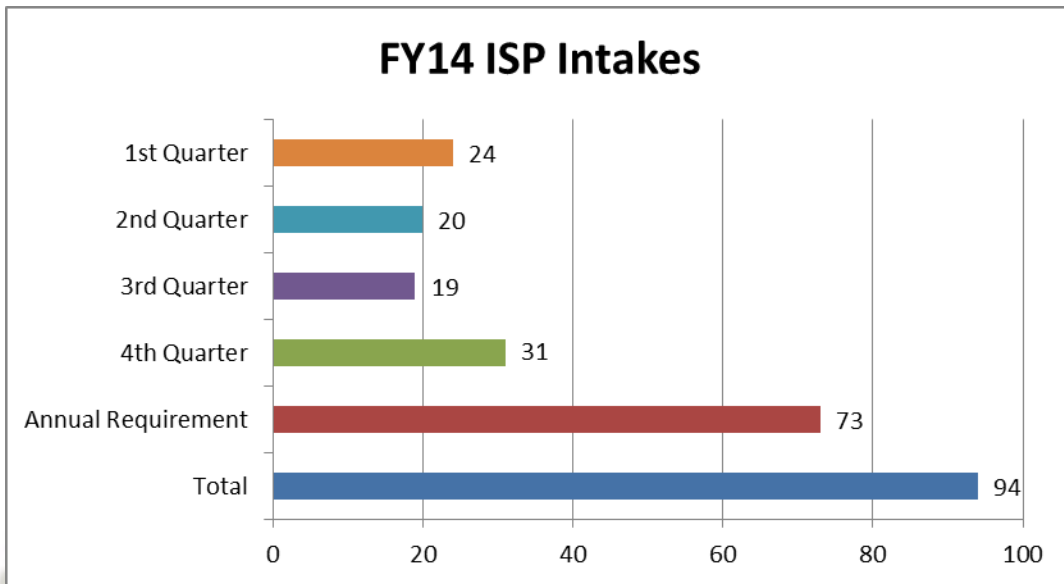
(See below statistical report.)

FY14 ISP Risk Scores (ORAS-CST)

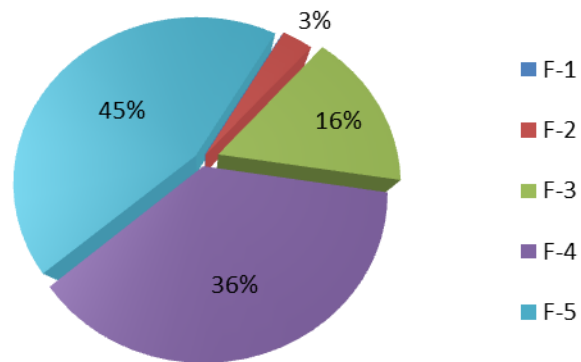


FY14 ISP Risk Scores (ORAS-CST)

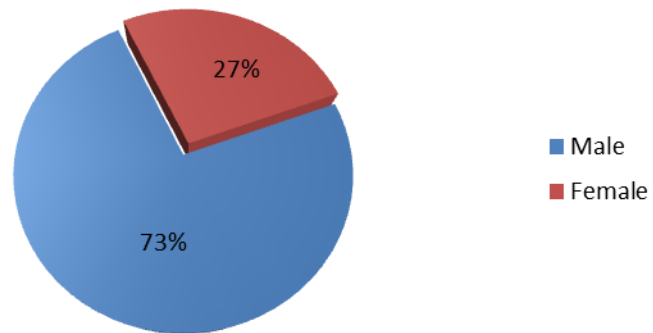




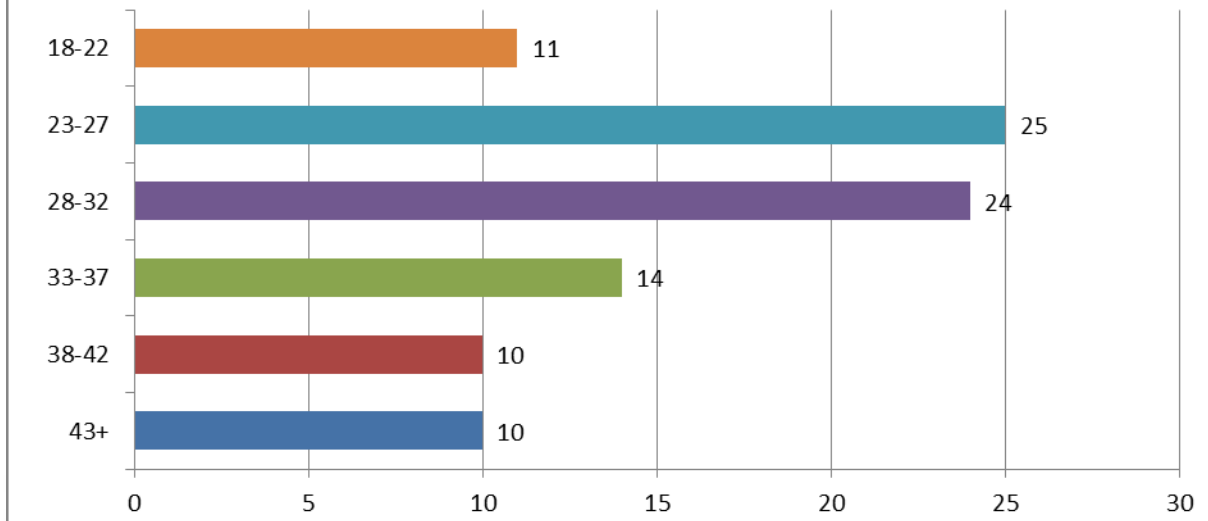
FY14 ISP Degree of Offenses



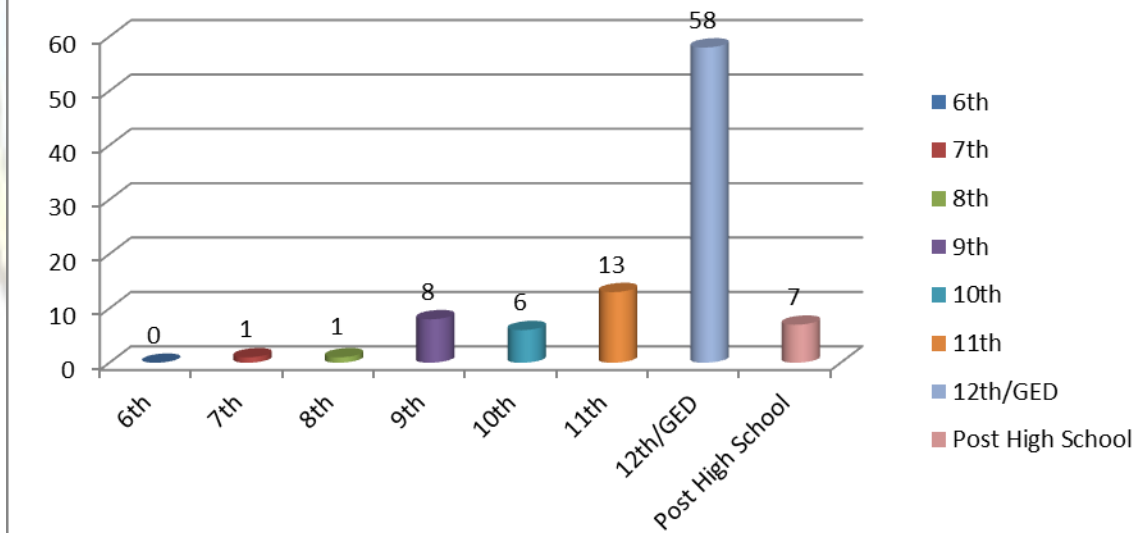
FY14 ISP Intakes By Gender

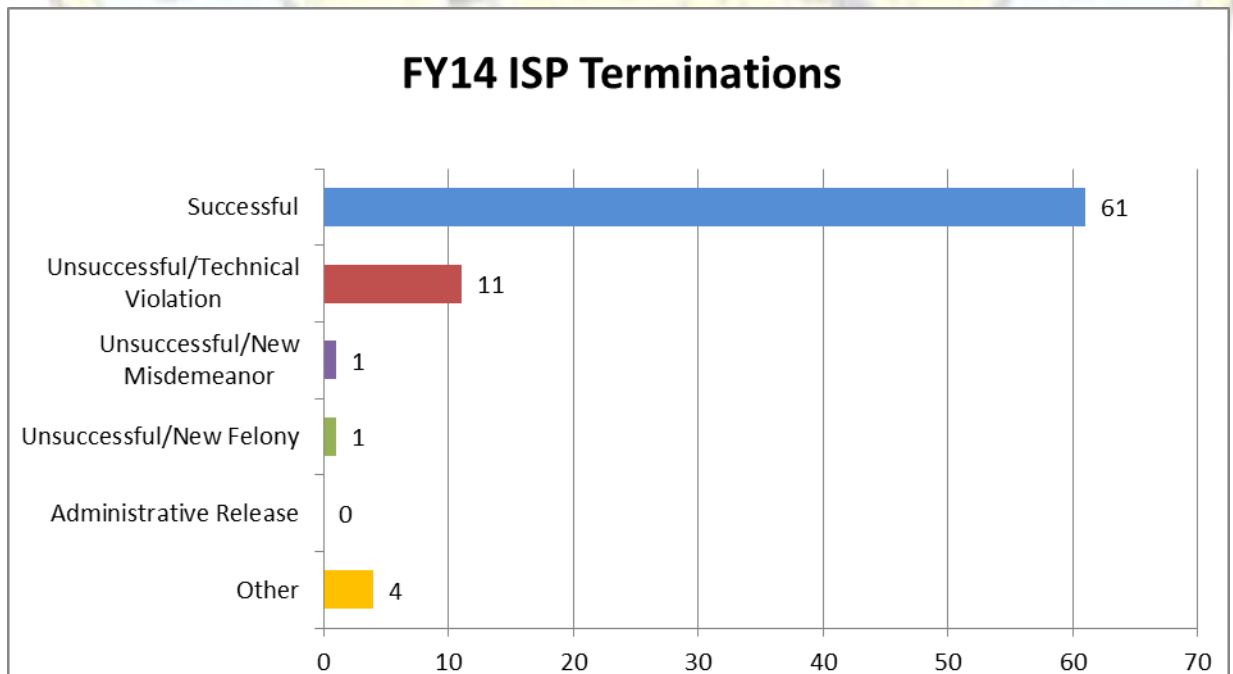
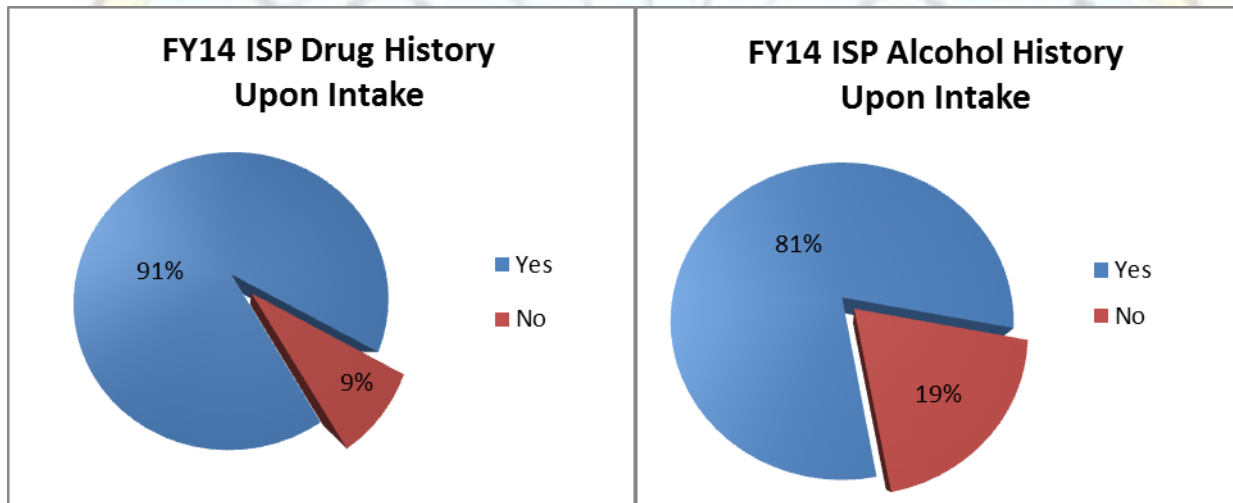
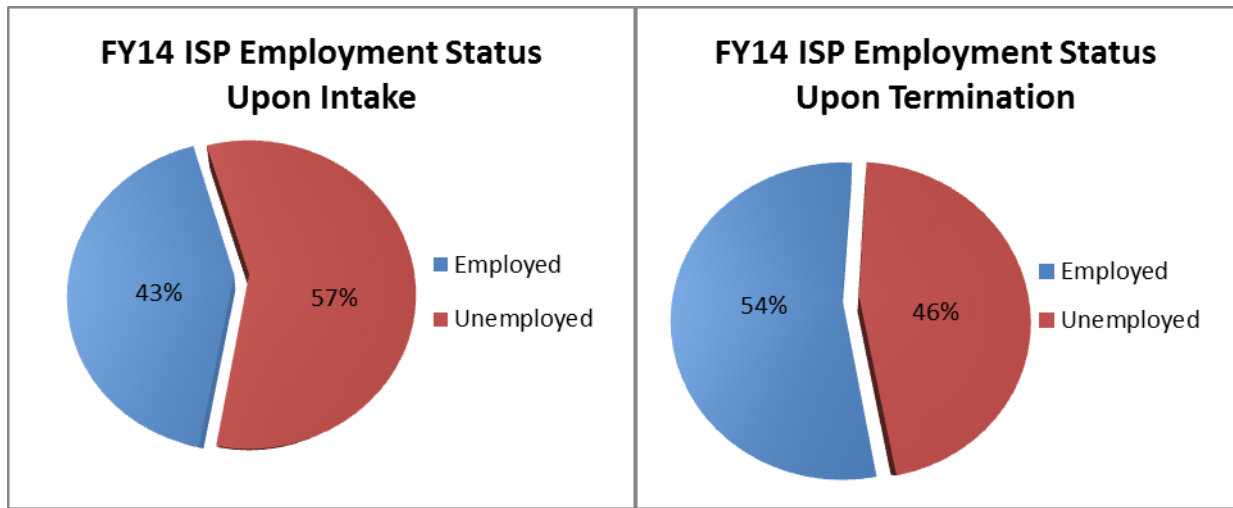


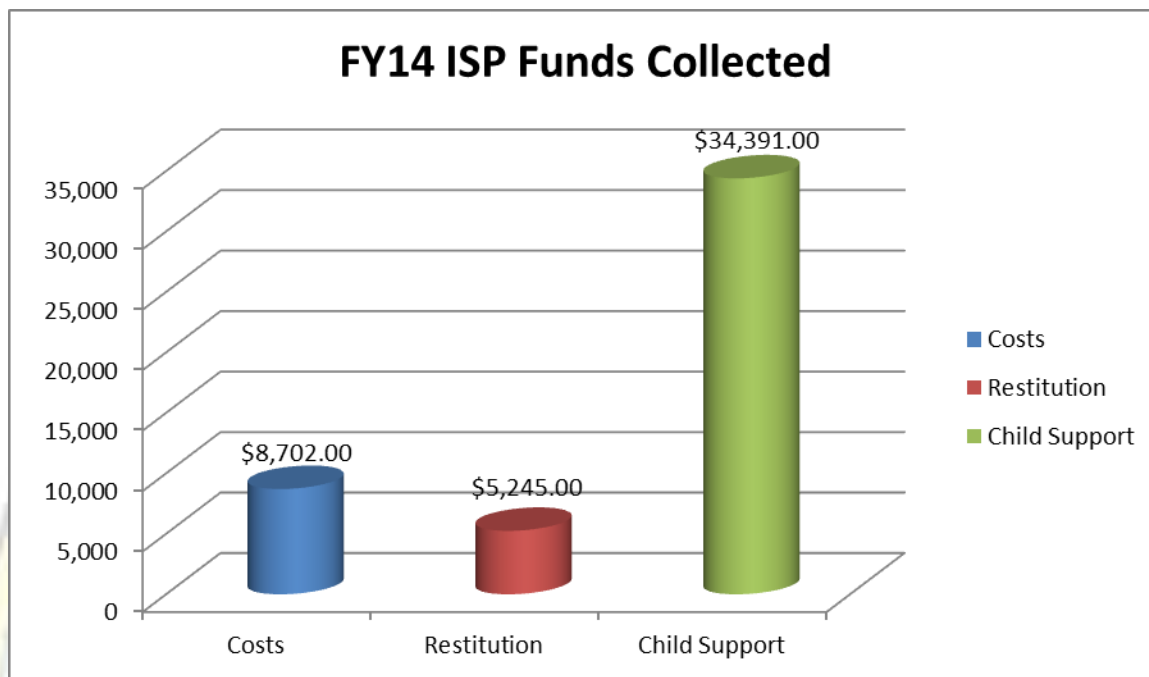
FY14 ISP Age Breakdown Upon Intake



FY14 ISP Years of Education Upon Intake







Drug Testing

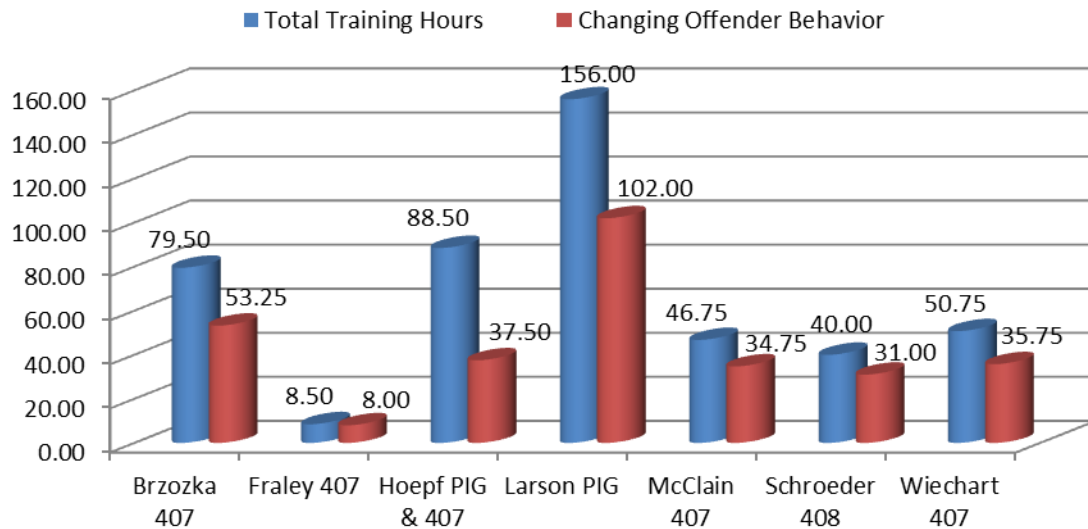
Hancock County CCA Programs continue to provide random urinalysis of high-risk offenders in an attempt to monitor and prevent drug usage. The program currently has the ability to test for Marijuana, Cocaine, Opiates, Methamphetamine, Oxycontin, Ecstasy, PCP, Amphetamines, Oxycodone, Methadone, Suboxone and Benzodiazepines. In Fiscal Year 2014, over 10,000 tests were performed, with 7.3% resulting positive. Additional drug and alcohol screening is completed in the field utilizing instant saliva tests and breathalyzer technology.

Staff Training

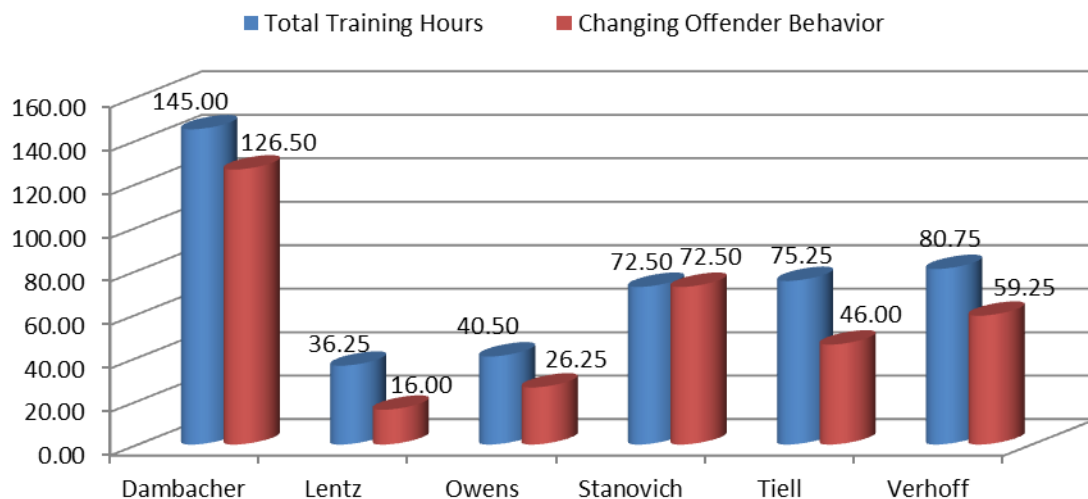
Despite significant budget cuts, Hancock County CCA Programs continues to emphasize the importance of employee training. Administration strives to utilize many free-of-charge resources, ensuring that training hours are focused on COB or “changing offender behavior.” As highlighted in the University of Cincinnati findings, we will continue to focus on their recommendations for in-house training for FY15.

The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction has a training requirement that every staff person providing direct services must receive twenty-four (24) hours of training relevant to evidence-based practices and service delivery. Employees not delivering direct services must receive a total of eight (8) hours annually.

FY14 Grant Employee Training Hours



FY14 Forensic Team Training Hours



A Community Coming Together Evidence Based Practices in Hancock County

In an effort to address many of the recommendations from a CPC program assessment and to address House Bill 86 implications, the Common Pleas Court collaborated with Century Health, Inc., ADAMHS Board and Findlay Municipal Court to apply for and were awarded two Probation Improvement Grants in December of 2011. The training grant in the amount of \$41,500.00 allowed for local as well as regional training in relevant, state-approved interventions. The \$250,000.00 was obtained to subsequently create an in-house Forensic Team/Unit that is now providing the approved treatment services and much-needed case management of offenders while on probation. The following changes to our in-house programming were orchestrated in Fiscal Year 2014:

- Training all probation and contracted Century Health staff in Thinking for a Change and SBI-Substance Abuse Curriculum;
- Utilizing a “readiness” assessment prior to entering group;
- Creating objective program completion criteria;
- Creating formal referral and discharge summaries;
- Increasing Quality Assurance Activities;
- Increasing staff training/utilization of punishers and reinforcements;
- Acquiring monies to be utilized for incentives;
- Increasing staff training/utilization of skill building/rehearsal in individual appointments (EPICS Interventions);
- Increasing staff training in the following areas:
 - Effective interventions,
 - Behavioral strategies (role-playing),
 - Application of reinforcers and punishers,
 - Risk/need factors related to criminal conduct.

Based on the CPC Assessment results in September of 2011 and finding the monies to do so through the Probation Improvement Grants, our Prison Diversion Program discontinued the use Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) in June of 2012 and began to phase offenders into the new Thinking for a Change and CBI-Substance abuse groups separated by risk and by gender.

In addition to the trainings offered in FY 13, Specifically, an Overview on Evidence Based Practices, EPICS, Cognitive Behavioral Substance Abuse Curriculum, the CCA Programs continued to pay for and host trainings in the following areas:

ORAS: Ohio Risk Assessment Tool: Probation Officers attended the various regional certifications offered around the State of Ohio, but the CCA Program brought in an ORAS certification locally

so that treatment providers and re-entry personnel could also be trained to read and utilize the tool when programming.

Thinking for a Change: On July 23, 2012, the CCA Program hosted a local certification of this curriculum by the creator of the course. This program was offered in lieu of the Moral Reconciliation Therapy.

Motivational Interviewing: On October 17, 2012, Michael Clark was brought in locally to provide a regional training on this program of study. These techniques are utilized to increase an offender's motivation to change.

In Fiscal Year 13, Probation Improvement Grant funding was used to establish and equip several treatment rooms inside the Hancock County Adult Probation Department.

In Fiscal Year 15, the PIG Grant will be utilized to train the entire local Treatment Community once again in the University of Cincinnati Cognitive Behavioral Substance Abuse Intervention curriculum. The hope is that there will be continuity of care when various agencies serve our population, whether it be in residential centers, the jail or individual and group therapies.

Community Corrections Planning Board

The Community Corrections Planning Board remains active not only in the CCA Grant Programs, but comprehensively in the local criminal justice system. In Fiscal Year 2014, the Hancock County Community Corrections Planning Board held the statutorily required meetings as follows:

- July 9, 2013
- April 15, 2014

The Board remains active in assisting the community in planning for and reporting out on issues related to criminal justice. Currently the Board is tracking and/or overseeing the following

- **Jail Expansion:**
Municipal Judges Fry and Starn have been working since the implementation of House Bill 86 to research the need for additional jail space. They sanctioned an updated study to ascertain our community's needs in this arena. Subsequent to review, they continue to explore the possibility of building a misdemeanor facility, and utilization of Community Alternative Sentencing Center (CASC).
- **Reentry Initiatives:**
A comprehensive Reentry Coalition remains incredibly active in this community addressing the various criminogenic needs. Some major highlights impacting the criminal justice system are listed below:

Hancock County Justice Center Linkage Grant:

A major highlight for the Reentry Coalition has been a Linkage Grant whereby the Hancock County Justice Center embarked on implementing Evidence

Based Practices. From Assessment to Effective Disapproval to Linking defendants with peer support and services related to their criminogenic needs, the Hancock County Justice Center will be implementing findings in a University of Cincinnati Assessment. In Fiscal Year 2015, they plan to implement treatment groups focused on Skill Building.

Opiate Task Force:

The Reentry Coalition also remains incredibly active to building a infrastructure that can assist with the Opiate Epidemic. They have made great strides with the Medical

Housing:

The Reentry Coalition continues to focus on Permanent Supportive Housing for all citizens but especially the forensic population in Hancock County. In Fiscal Year 14, the ADAMHS Board and Housing Consortium obtained monies and are working toward the community's first Recovery Home. It is expected to open in Fiscal Year 2015.

Peer/Family/ Pro Social Support:

Chair and ADAMHS Director Precia Stuby continues to manage our community forward in the following additional areas:

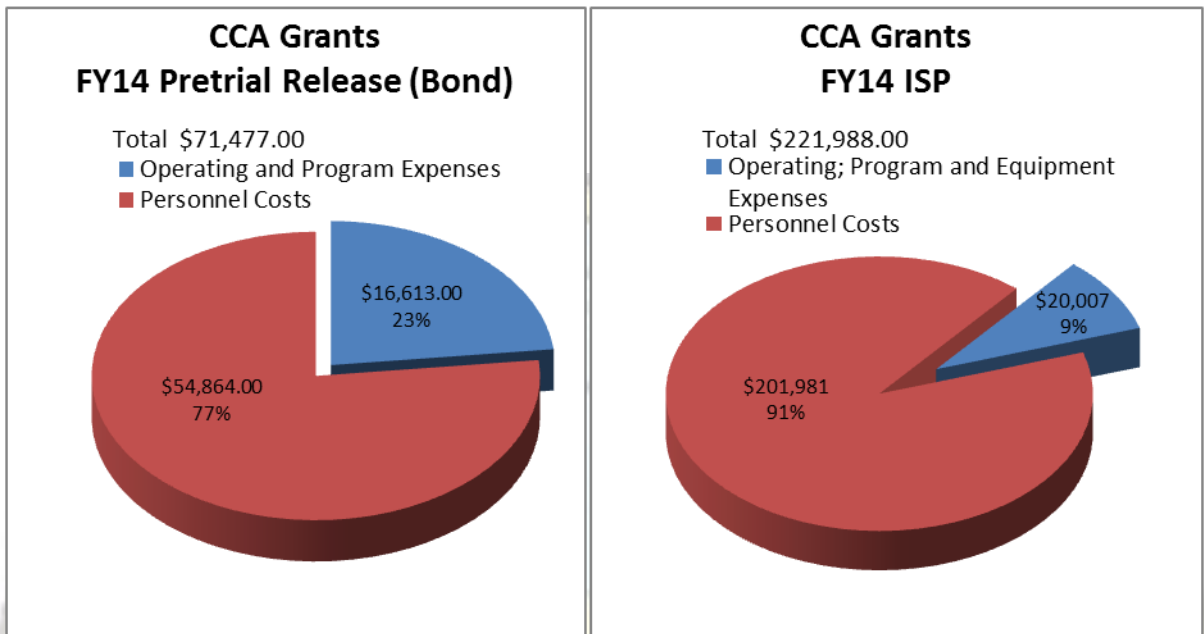
- **Principles of Effective Intervention:**

Director Switzer continues to find grant dollars and to host regional trainings on Evidence Based Practices.

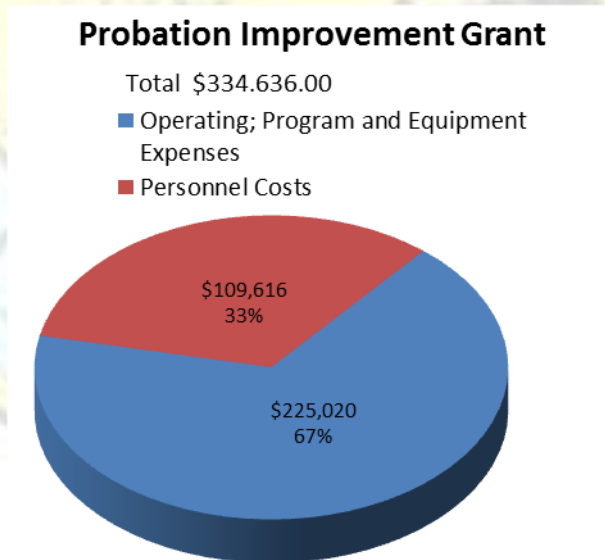
Financial Overview

In an effort to address these many recommendations, the Court applied for and received additional Probation Improvement Grant Dollars in May of 2013 to aid in the following:

- New Basic Probation Officer; reducing officer caseloads so that the workload can apply Evidence Based Practices; that officer would also provide ORAS services to Findlay Municipal Court;
- Added a Fourth Forensic Team/Unit Case Manager
- In May of 2013, we received notice from ODRC after reviewing our performance goals; they determined that we will be awarded an incentive award in the sum of \$8,596.



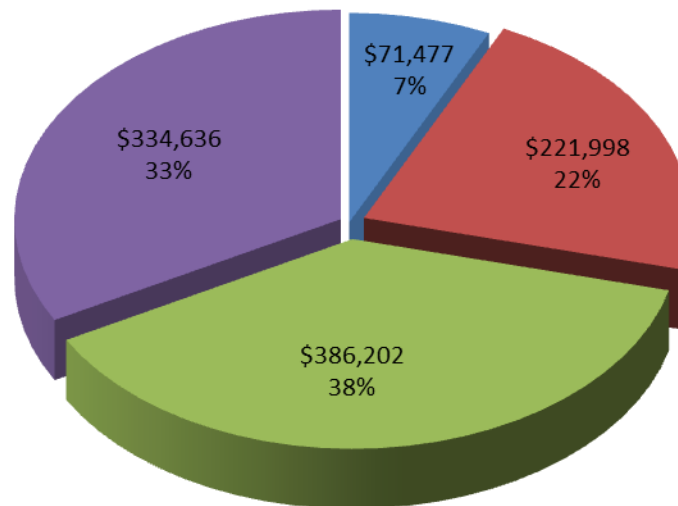
**Additional/New Funding in FY 2013
Probation Improvement Grants
(May 2013) thru June 2015**



Hancock County Adult Probation Department Funding

Total \$1,014,313

- Department of Rehabilitation and Correction Pretrial Grant (Renewable)
- DRC Intensive Supervision Grant (Renewable)
- General Fund
- Probation Improvement Grant (PIG)



Mission Statement

The Hancock County Adult Probation Department is dedicated promoting citizen safety; striving to provide interventions that mirror evidence-based practices to assist offenders in changing behavior; providing monitoring of court orders and serving as liaison to crime victims.