

# **Hancock County Community Corrections Act Programs Annual Report**



**Fiscal Year 2020**

**Judge Reginald J. Routson  
Administrative Judge**

**Judge Jonathan P. Starn**

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# Program Goals and Objectives

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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 20 proved another active year emphasizing offender accountability, implementing Evidence Based Practices and specifically offering in-house cognitive behavioral interventions and a variety of other services, within the Adult Probation Department in spite of Covid-19 impacting the world in early 2020. 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.

Historically, Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013 were significant years in the field of community corrections as House Bill 86 was enacted in September of 2011 and most mandates were to be implemented in 2013. Subsequently, the last few Fiscal Years have proven busy legislative years thru the creation of State Issue One, which attempted to decriminalize drugs and focus on treatment. Fiscal Year 2018 reflects the continued adaptations the Adult Probation Department made due to these and other subsequent reforms in addition to what we know are effective in working with the criminal justice population.

The Common Pleas Court continues to augment its processes and practices to mirror BEST PRACTICES in the field of community correction and Addiction. The State of Ohio began awarding the Bond and Intensive Supervision grants on a biennium in FY 18 (FY18 and FY19 will be combined). However, to ensure that the Board and community at-large can compare previous years equitably, we will continue to report the outcomes annually. These practices include assessing risk of re-offending and criminogenic needs, assessing treatment readiness and the continued monitoring and improvement of in-house services. Utilizing various Hancock County organizations, these services were broadened to include the following in FY 20:

- EPICS Probation Appointments;
- Diagnostic Evaluations;
- Individual Substance Abuse Therapy;
- Individual Mental Health Therapy;
- Case Management;
- Cognitive Behavioral Groups;
  - UC: Comprehensive Behavioral Interventions: Substance Abuse
  - Thinking for a Change Curriculum;
  - UC: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions: Comprehensive Curriculum; \*
  - Aftercare: UC: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Advanced Practices (skill building); and \*
  - Collection Group (for defendants pending entry into other groups) \*
- Medically Assisted Treatment;
- Peer Support;
- Occupational Therapy;

- Drug Court Intensive Interventions; and
- Transportation to and from probation and treatment

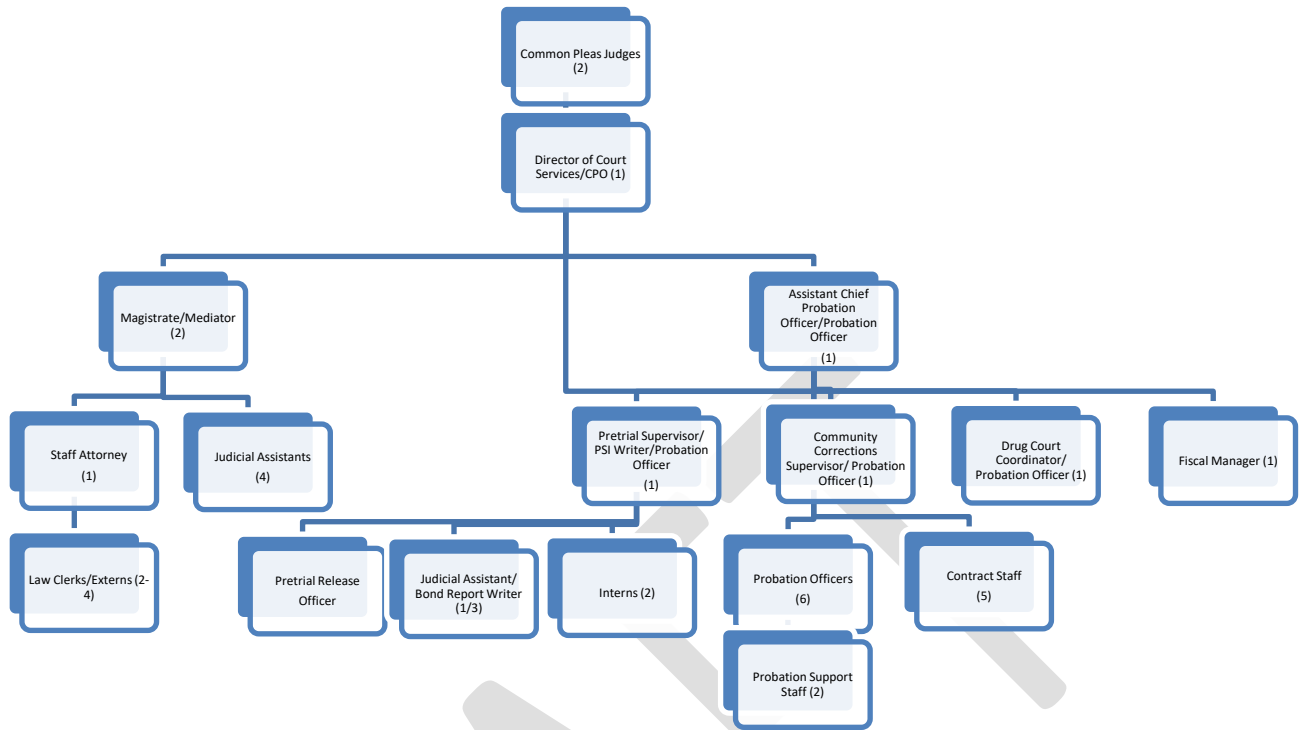
The Hancock County Common Pleas Court/ Adult Probation Department has received several Cliff Skeen Community Corrections Awards, an award given for excellence in the field of community corrections, with the last award date being in Fiscal Year 2018, reflecting the FY2017 time period.

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 (Appendix I and II).

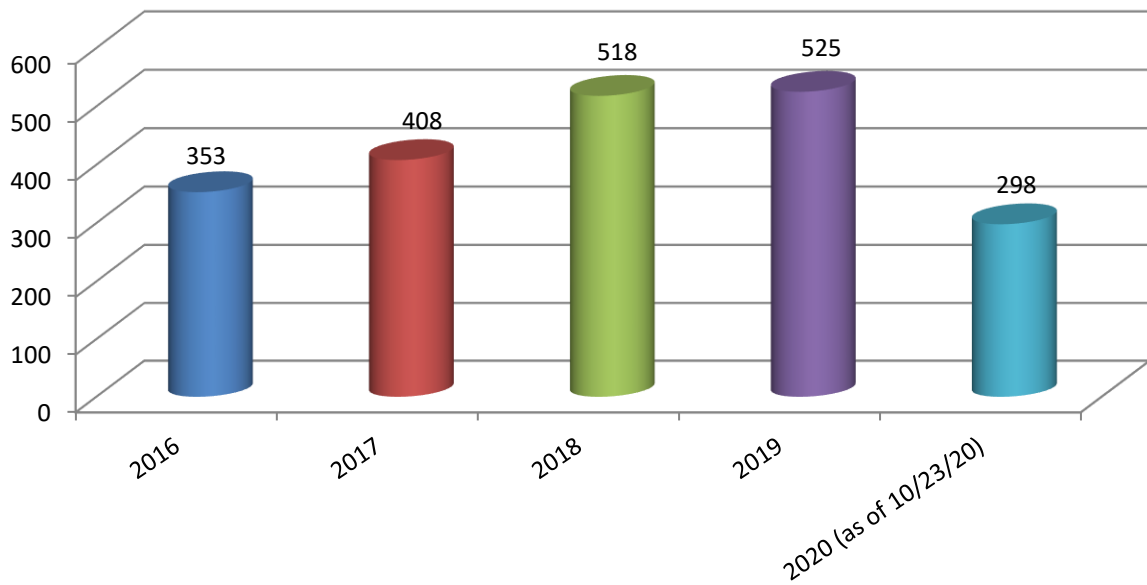
The following report articulates the activity of Hancock County Community Corrections Act Programs for Fiscal Year 2020(July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020).

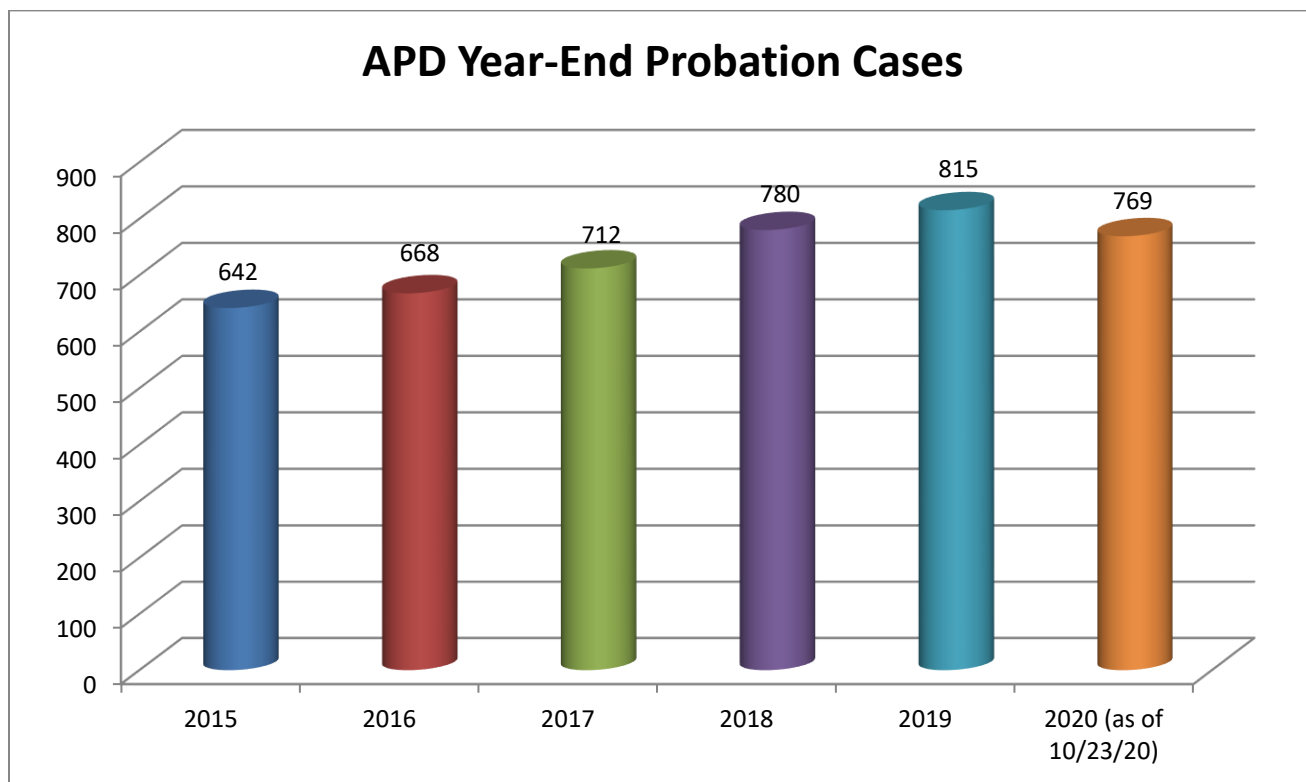
## **ADMINISTRATION**

The Hancock County Common Pleas Court CCA Program has obtained a high level of success in the current field/expectations of Community Corrections. The program is operated solely out of the Common Pleas Court at this time and is under the direction of Judge Routson, Judge Starn, the Director of Court Services/Chief Probation Officer Kimberly Switzer and Adult Probation Department staff. Please see the organizational chart listed below. The staff is now recruited and the organization is run based on providing services adhering to offender accountability and Evidence Based Practices. We are complimented frequently as a community with a very evolved program design.



### Criminal Filings by Calendar Year





Prior to reviewing the statistical data below, it is important to remember that the Court processes cases that come to our jurisdiction via a Grand Jury Indictment and/ or Bills of Information. As you can see, the criminal filings have increased exponentially over the last five years and the Court has obtained new GRANT dollars to absorb the extra cases and programs. In Calendar year 2019, the County Commissioners contributed dollars for one to two new probation officers to absorb the rising caseloads and to maintain on-call programs that aid in reducing the overcrowded jail population. An increase such as this reflects an increase in report-writing, court hearings, cases to supervise and other miscellaneous functions the Adult Probation Department provides the Court. Unfortunately, due to the onset of Covid-19 in early Calendar Year 2020, these additional resources were not secured. The following report only reflects the Hancock County Common Pleas Court Adult Probation Department and Community Corrections Act Programs. As will be detailed later in the report, the CCA funding continues to fund approximately 60% of the following services, while the Hancock County General Fund maintains 40%.

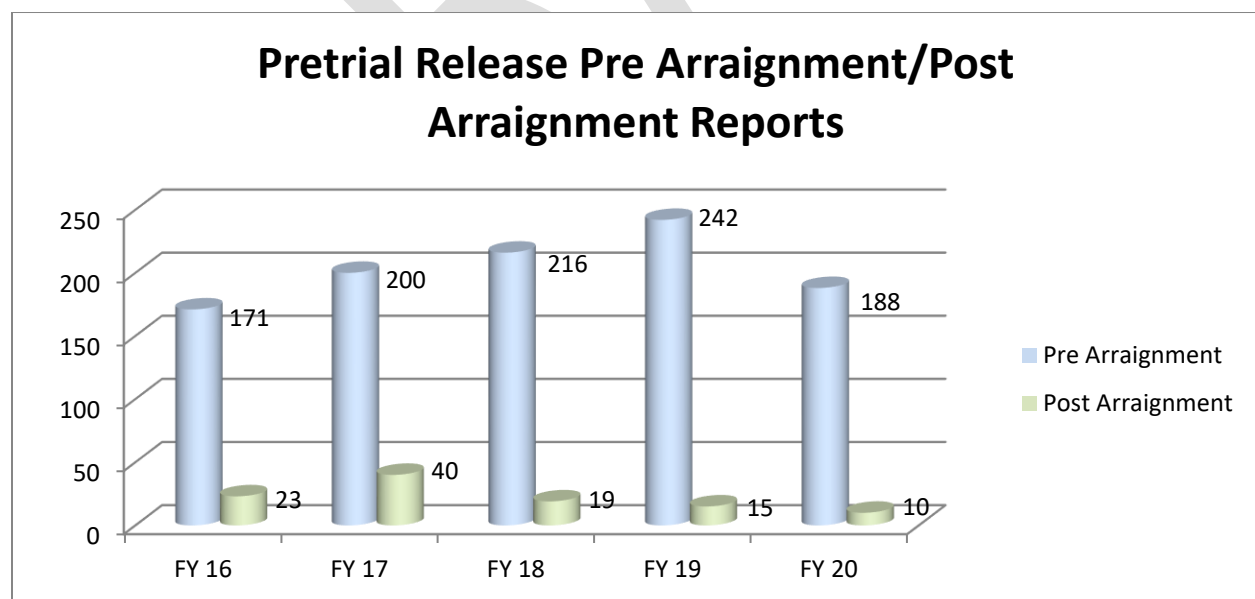
# **PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM AND 408 JAIL DIVERSION GRANT**

## **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 (i.e. probability or reporting for Court events) As required, all Adult Probation Department staff has been certified in the use of this tool.

Once again, due to the demand and insufficient staff, the Director of Court Services continues to lead an effort and internal committee to review/ revise the Bond Reports and processes to increase efficiencies.



### **Pretrial Release/Bond Supervision:**

Hancock County's 408/Jail Diversion Program continues to provide safe, cost-effective supervision through Pretrial Release (Bond). It should be noted that in the last Fiscal Year, the Findlay Municipal Court began referring to the Court's Bond Program earlier for felons that will eventually be indicted before the Hancock County Common Pleas Court. The Bond 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. 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. Due to officer supervision/intervention, we are able to introduce so many more defendants to treatment options earlier in their case.

In late FY 17, once again due to the increase in criminal filings and no additional staff, along with the research around Pretrial Release/ Bond, the department fashioned and implemented reporting requirements based on Risk (below). This has allowed each defendant to be personally seen by a probation officer (in lieu of checking in once per week but only reporting changes to support staff), allowing them to build a rapport with the probation officer, be drug tested if applicable and to refer to/follow up on treatment if necessary. Based on several factors, statistics reflected record-breaking numbers in this program for FY19. To that purpose, the Court reorganized staff job descriptions to allow for the previous Bond Office to move to a Court position which handle arraignments. This position also is absorbing all Bond Reports to allow for the new Bond Officer to focus on the case management and re-arrest of Bond participants.

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

**Referral:** The Court engages/orders defendants into the Bond program at the time of arraignment, subsequent to a hearing (i.e. Plea or revocation) or after reviewing a Motion for Bond and the preparation of a Pretrial Release/Bond report.

Findlay Municipal Court has been referring the defendant to the Bond Program after a Probably Cause hearing, pending indictment or Bill of Information.

**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. The primary purpose of Bond is to ensure the defendant's appearance at future Court events and to ensure community safety.

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

Offenders can be unsuccessfully terminated for various violations of their Bond conditions of supervision, but primarily, this program is experiencing higher unsuccessful rates due to the Opiate Epidemic. Defendants are using the drug, spiraling out of control and/or fearful to report to the Adult Probation Department.

**BOND/PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM GOALS:** It should be noted that the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction created new reporting periods for *program performance*. That timeframe is a total of 21 months, commencing on July 1, 2019 and ending on March 31, 2021. To better able the Court and the Community Corrections Board to evaluate like-numbers, we will continue to report out on the Fiscal Year.

#### **Bond**

- Goal: 378 for total performance period (216 for FY 20 period)
- Intakes: 301 (for FY 20)
- Percentage of Goal: 139.4%
- FY 20 Successful Completion Percentage: 79.2%

### **Minimum Contact Standards to Align With Principles of Evidence Based Practices, the ORAS and CCA Standards of Individualized Supervision Strategies for Pretrial Release**

#### **High Risk**

- Weekly in person reporting
- Electronic Monitoring as needed
- Drug/Alcohol testing as needed
- Surveillance as needed
- Collateral contacts as needed
- Increased conditions of release as needed which may include travel restrictions; curfew; no association; drug/ alcohol testing and residency

#### **Moderate Risk**

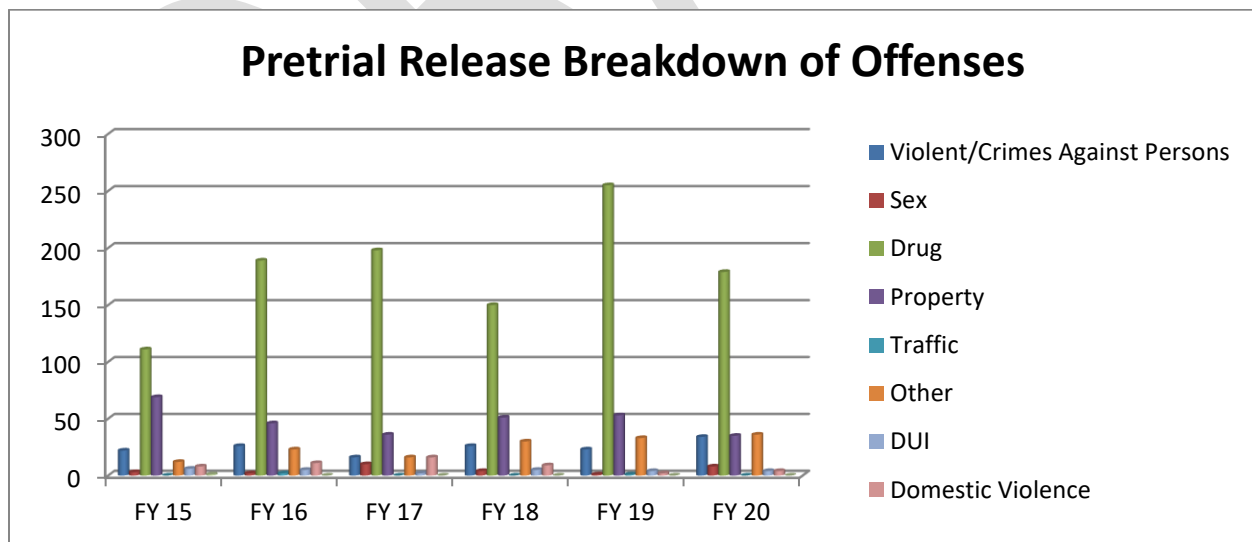
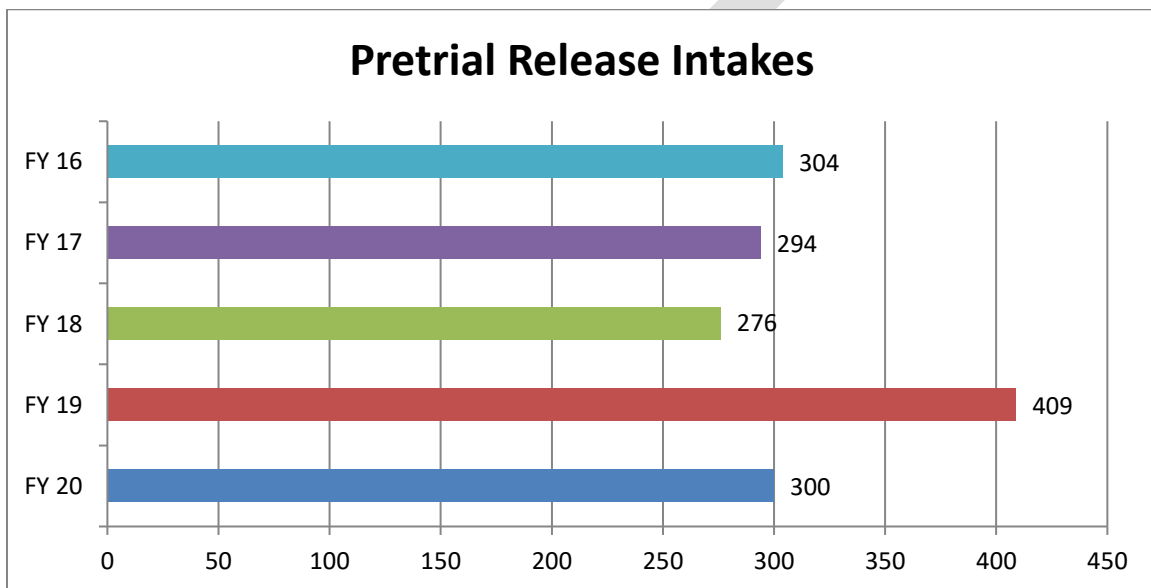
- Every two week in person reporting
- Electronic Monitoring as needed
- Drug/Alcohol testing as needed



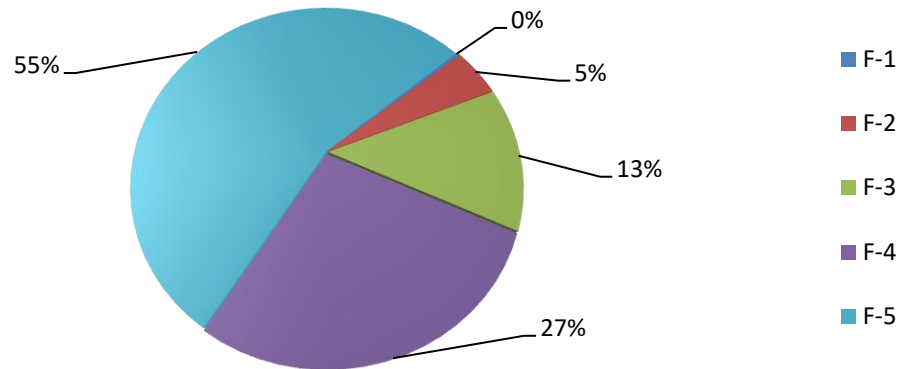
- Surveillance as needed
- Collateral contacts as needed

## Low Risk

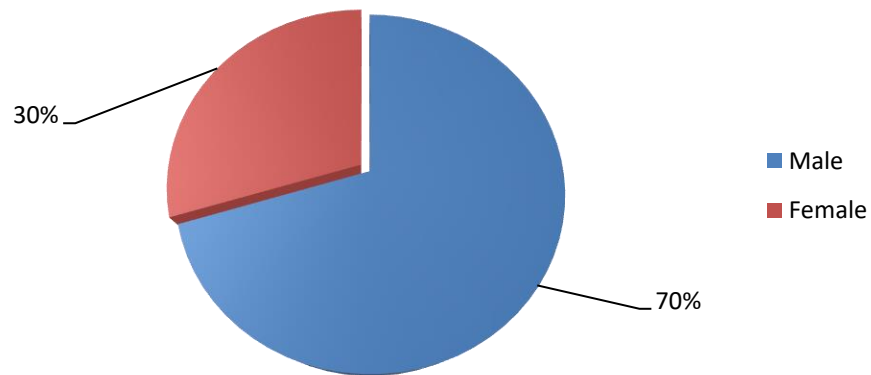
- One time monthly reporting as directed by officer which may include in person or by phone
- Drug/Alcohol testing as needed
- Surveillance as needed
- Collateral contacts as needed
- Least restrictive conditions of release as determined appropriate through the Court

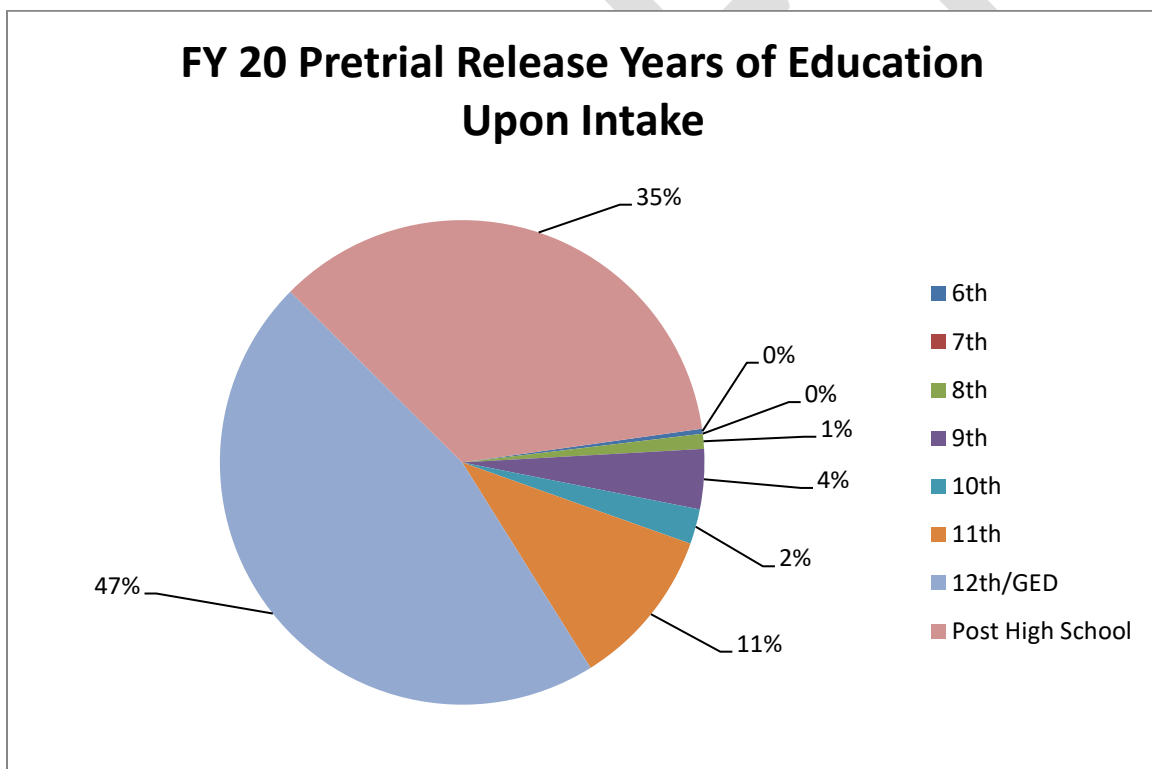
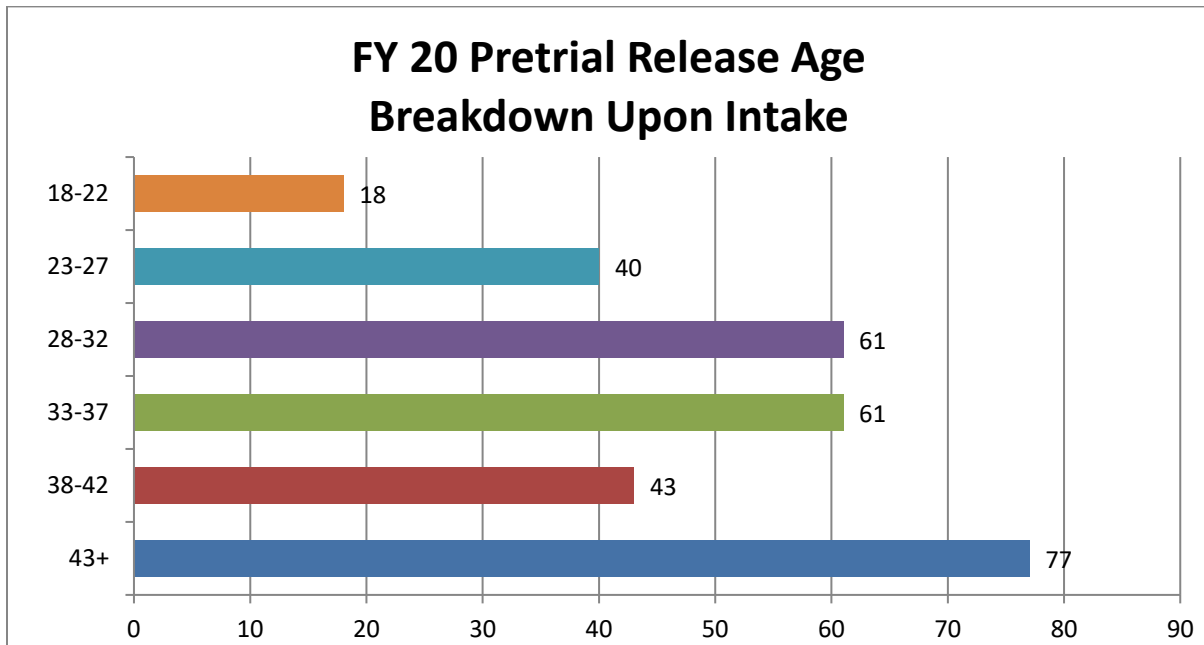


### FY 20 Pretrial Release Degree of Offenses

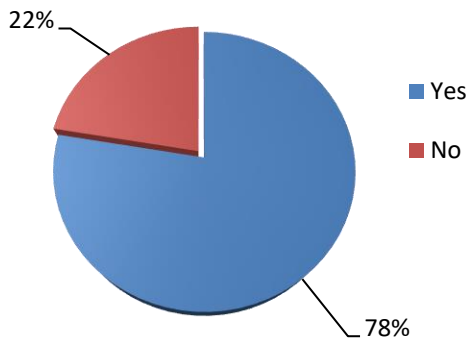


### FY 20 Pretrial Release Intakes By Gender

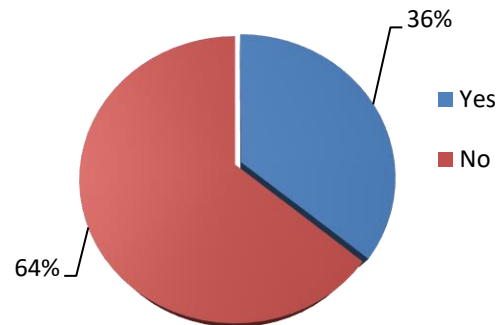




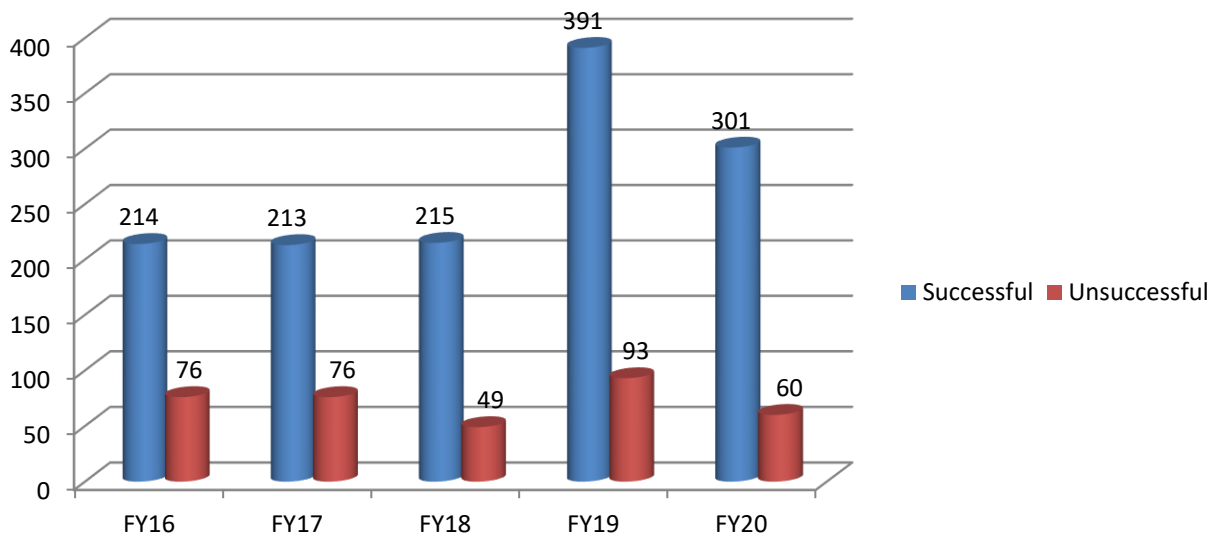
**FY 20 Pretrial Release Drug History Upon Intake (Self Report)**



**FY 20 Pretrial Release Alcohol History Upon Intake (Self Report)**

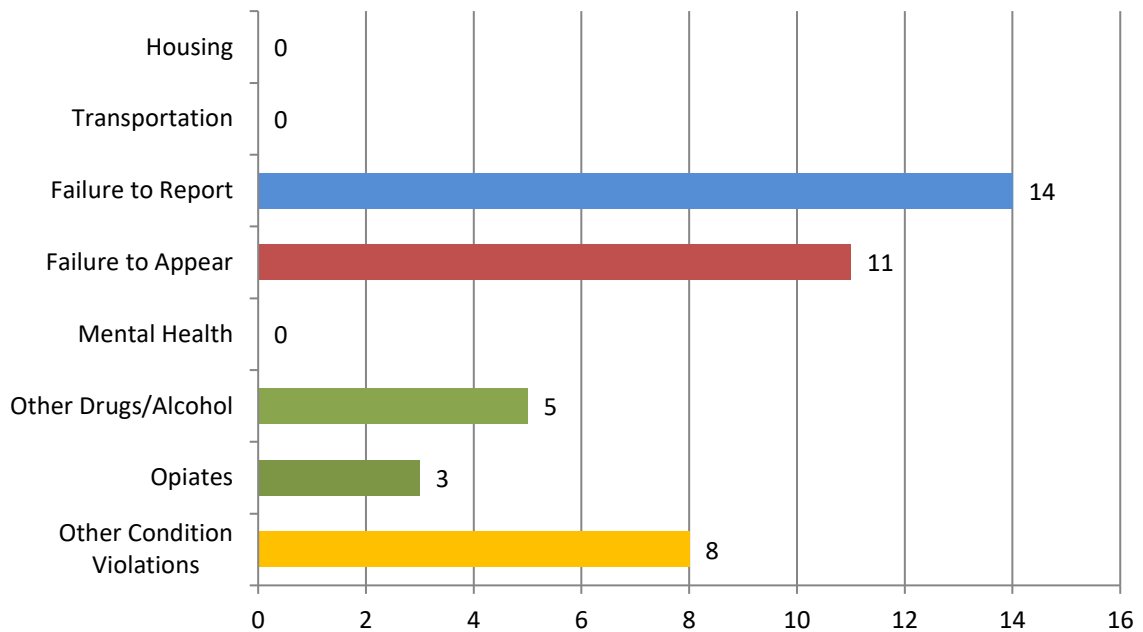


**Pretrial Release Terminations**



## FY 20 Pretrial Release Unsuccessful Terminations- Defendant Issues/Criminogenic Needs/Risk Factors

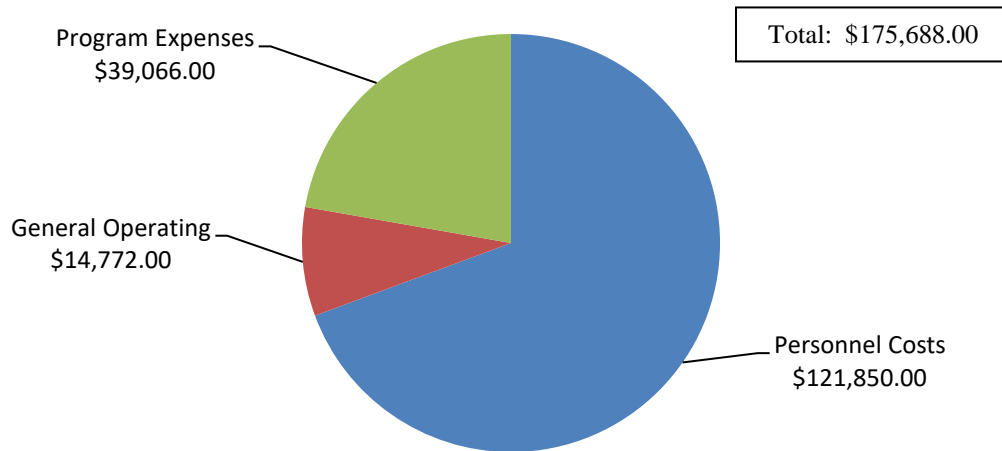
\*Please note that multiple areas applied to most defendants



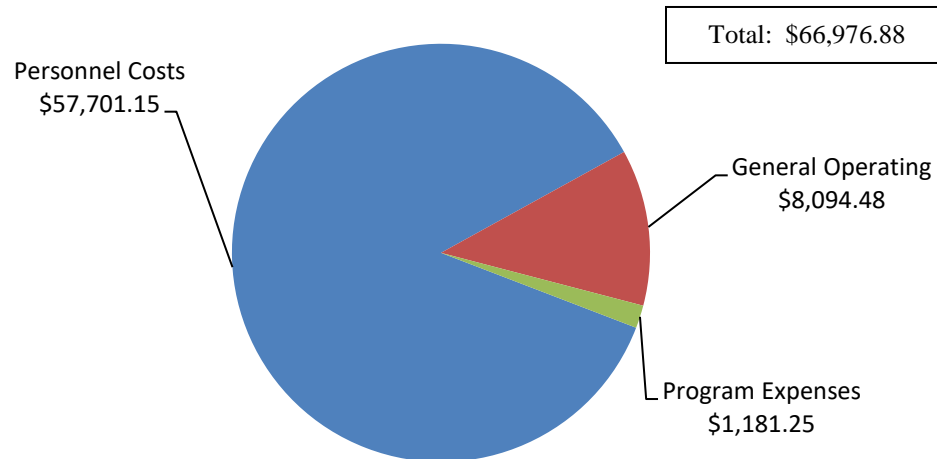
## FY 20/21 Jail Diversion Grant (408)

*\*2 Year Grant Cycle*

### Jail Diversion Grant (FY 20/21 Awarded Amount)



### Jail Diversion Grant (FY 20 Expenditures)



# **Court Reports**

In addition to Bond Reports, there are many other reports provided to the Court. When a defendant is either denied or granted Pretrial Release/Bond as referenced above, the next step is to move to the sentencing phase of the case. To that end, the Court has two important reports prepared by the Adult Probation Department to aid in this stage. They are as follows:

## **Presentence Investigations:**

Hancock County 407 CCA Program/Adult Probation Department 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, legal finding recommendations and conditions of supervisions recommended 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 two hundred thirty eight (238) reports with twenty-nine (29) updates, were prepared for the Common Pleas Court in Fiscal Year 2020. As reflected in the chart below, this number has increased after a brief decrease due to the increase in defendants applying for ***Intervention in Lieu of Conviction*** relief.

## **Intervention in Lieu of Conviction Reports:**

The Court collaborated thru a Memorandum of Understanding with a local treatment provider, Century Health, Inc., n.k.a. Family Resource Center, just after House Bill 86 passed that allowed for additional mental and physical conditions to be considered for this relief (Alcohol, Drugs, Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities). This M.O.U. created a way for the Court to schedule and acquire quick access to Diagnostic Evaluations. These evaluations are necessary for the defendant to be considered eligible for this relief and ultimate relief from felony conviction. Information is provided to the Court along with a specific and tailored Treatment Plan, which the law requires and then is fashioned into a formal report for the Court along with a recommendation for conditions of supervision. If the defendant successfully completes their treatment plan and abstains from mood altering substances for at least one year, their felony case can be dismissed.

## **Assessing Risk and Need:**

The Presentence and/or Intervention in Lieu Investigation are 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 were 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. Those defendants found NOT ready for change according to the tool are placed into the department’s collection groups, with the intent to build motivation and begin to build skills based on their criminogenic needs.

Both reports provide the foundation of Evidence Based Practices by assessing the defendant’s Risk to re-offend utilizing the ORAS-CST and readiness for treatment with the TCU.

Additional reports provided by the Adult Probation Department to the Court are as follows:

**Judicial Release Reports:**

For defendants that are sent to prison, certain cases are eligible at various times for what is called Judicial Release. The Adult Probation Department created a report, which includes the Institutional Summary Report from the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction which highlights programming and any rule infractions during their incarceration. This investigation may also include contacting victims, scheduling an updated interview via videoconference with the defendant and any other information that the department feels may assist the Court in fashioning their reentry to the community.

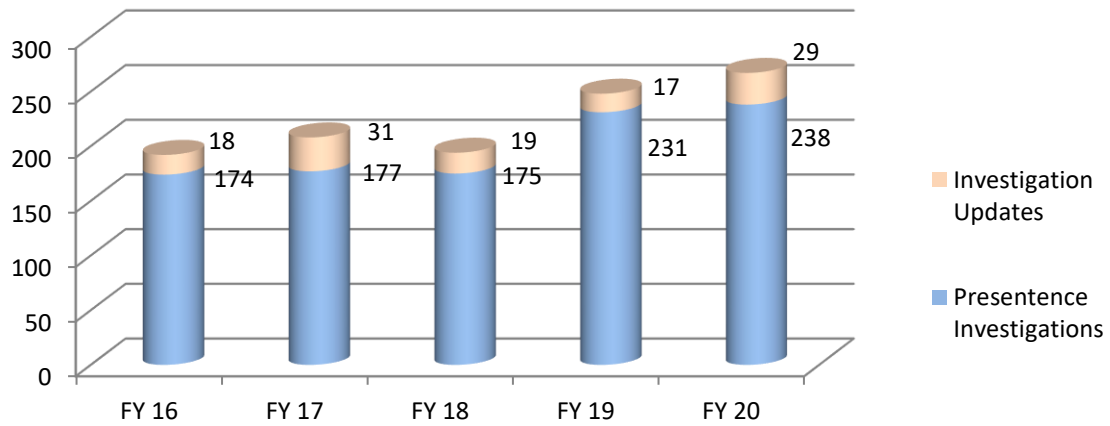
**Miscellaneous Reports:**

The department is also responsible for various investigations the Court may need to make sound decisions; they include but are not limited to Bond Investigations, Sealing of Record Investigations and Relief from Disability Investigations (firearms).

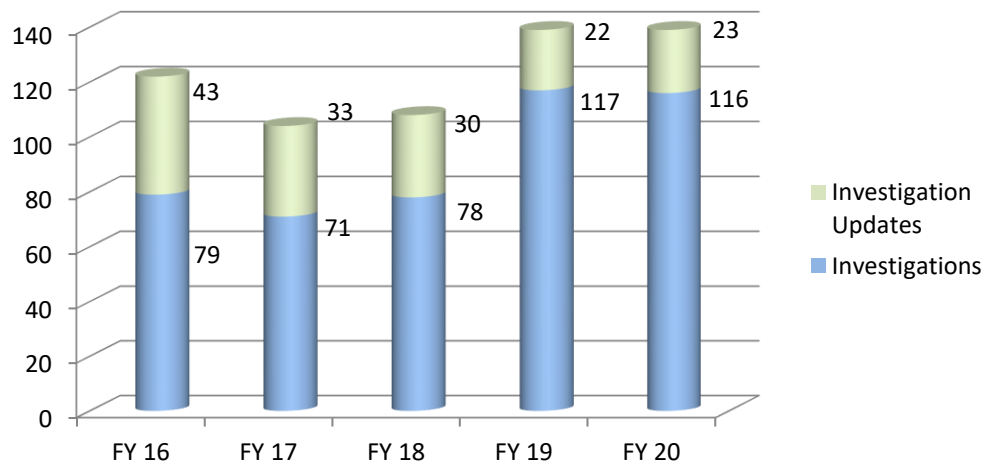
The following graphs and charts reflect the Adult Probation Department’s productivity on those reports compared to previous years.

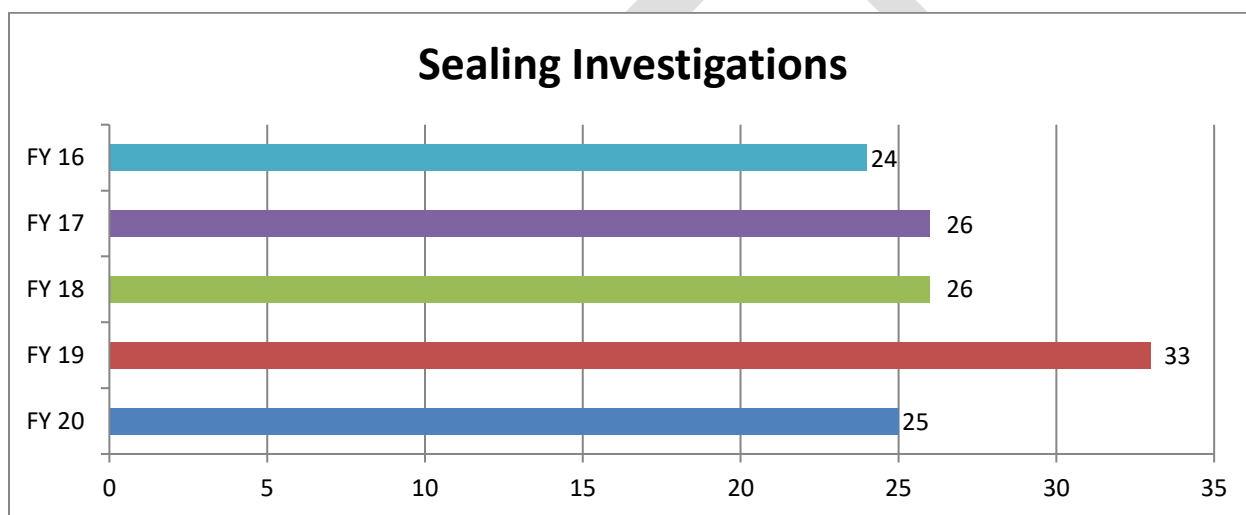
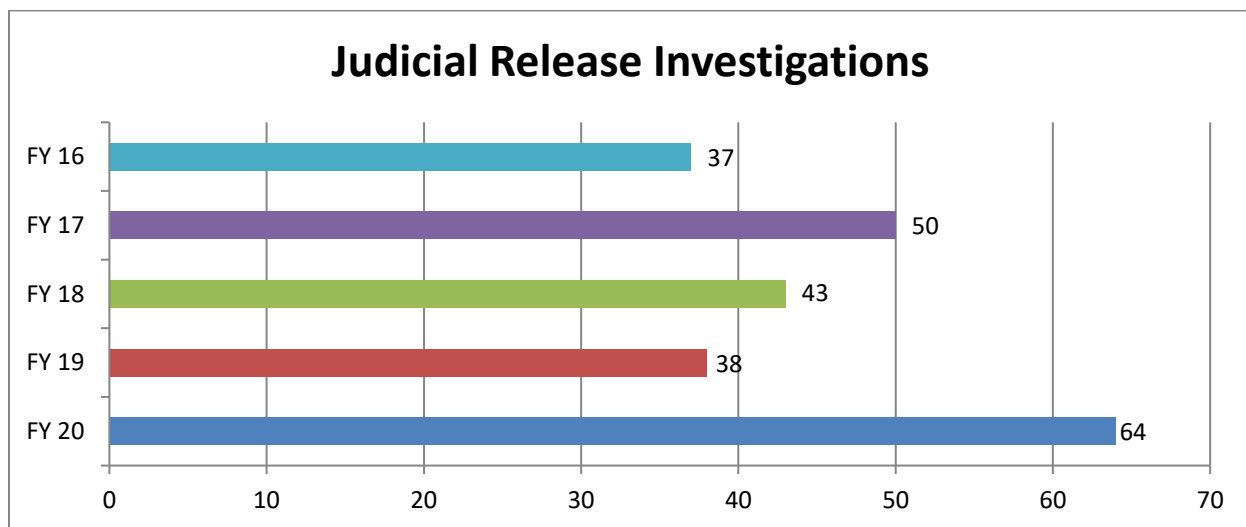


## Presentence Investigations



## Intervention in Lieu of Conviction Investigations





# **PROBATION SUPERVISION AND PRISON DIVERSION GRANT**

## **I. Probation Supervision:**

The Court has several programs supervising felony criminal defendants. All programs focus on offender accountability while adhering to the Risk Principle and utilize the EPICS format and Carey Guide interventions in their appointments/case planning. Both County General Revenue Funds and various State Grants fund the various programs available for the Court (based on risk and need). Current and possible additional funding is needed to continue to provide the level of support to the Court and safe supervision in the community. The programs offenders can be sentenced to are as follows:

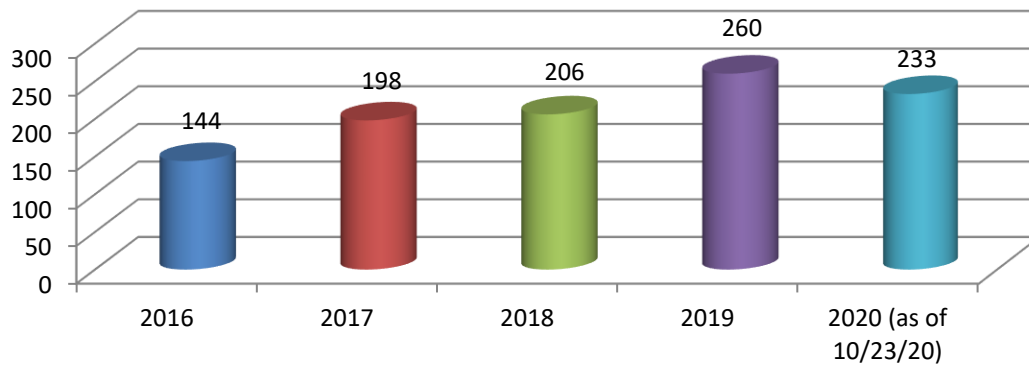
- Monitored Time;
- Basic Supervision;
- Electronic Monitoring;
- In-house instant drug testing;
- Intensive Supervision;
- Intensive Supervision with Drug Court;
- Courtesy Supervision (for other Ohio counties as of FY18);
- Courtesy Supervision External (To other counties/states).

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

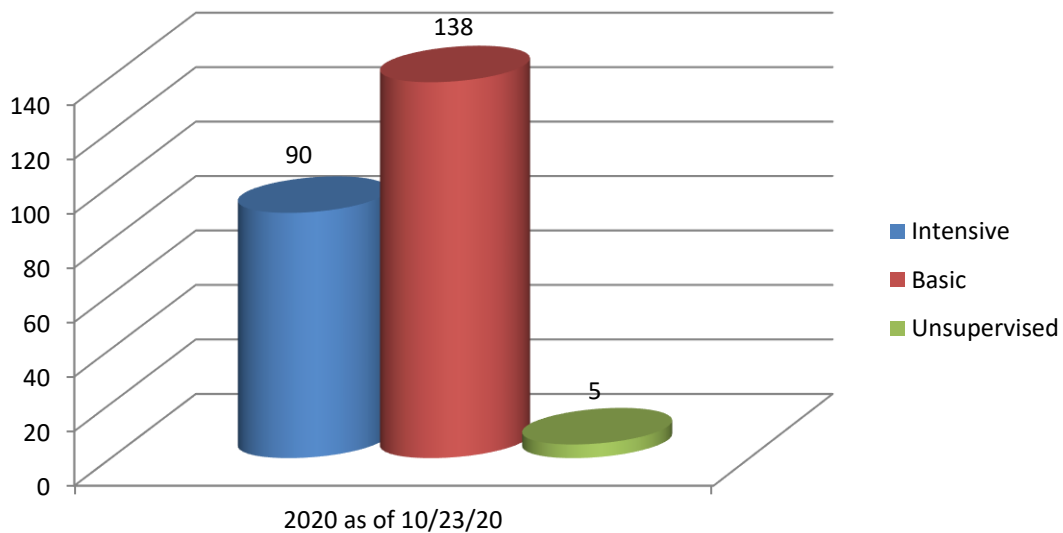
- Assessing the risk and need of the offender;
- Enhancing the motivation of the offender;
- Targeting interventions to the offender's needs;
- Providing a skilled, trained staff;
- Increasing positive reinforcement;
- Engaging ongoing support in natural communities;
- Measuring relevant processes and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

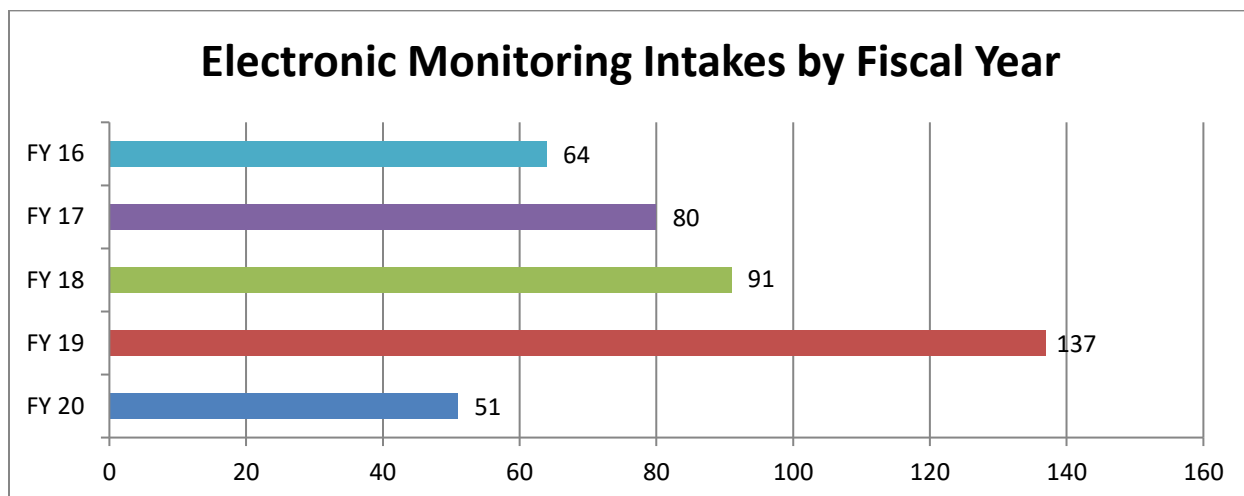
## **OVERALL PROBATION DEPARTMENT INFORMATION**

### **Overall Probation Intakes for Calendar Year**



### **Probation Intake Breakdown**





It should be noted that due to Covid-19 and extremely low staffing patterns in the winter and spring of 2020, Electronic Monitoring was essentially not utilized for several months.

## **II. Intensive Supervision (ISP): 407 Grant Program:**

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; all of which focus on offender accountability. This program consists of Evidence Based supervision, each appointment generating true “dosage” hours by utilizing the EPICS (Effective Practices in Community Supervision) 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.

In February of 2015, the Court certified two (2) Specialized Docket/ Drug Courts. Most of the drug-related offenders, who are NOT drug traffickers, are screened and some are granted voluntary participation into the program. The Drug Court program offers a far more intensive treatment curriculum based on their individual needs and more importantly more community support positions such as peer support, to link offenders to the Recovery Communities. Drug Court Materials are later in this report.

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

**Referral:** The Court, through the preparation of a presentence/intervention 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 in order to receive a successful completion status:

- 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.

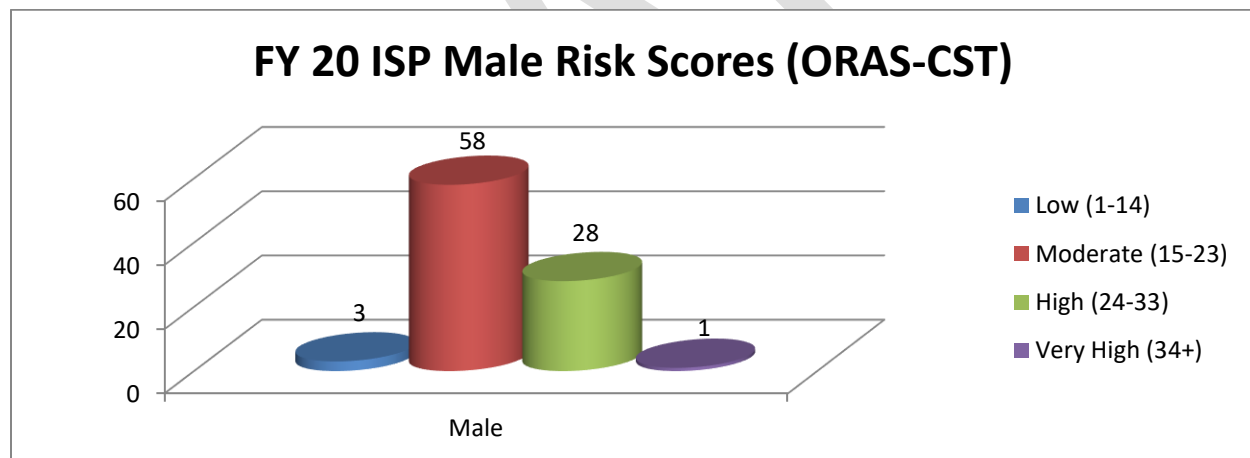
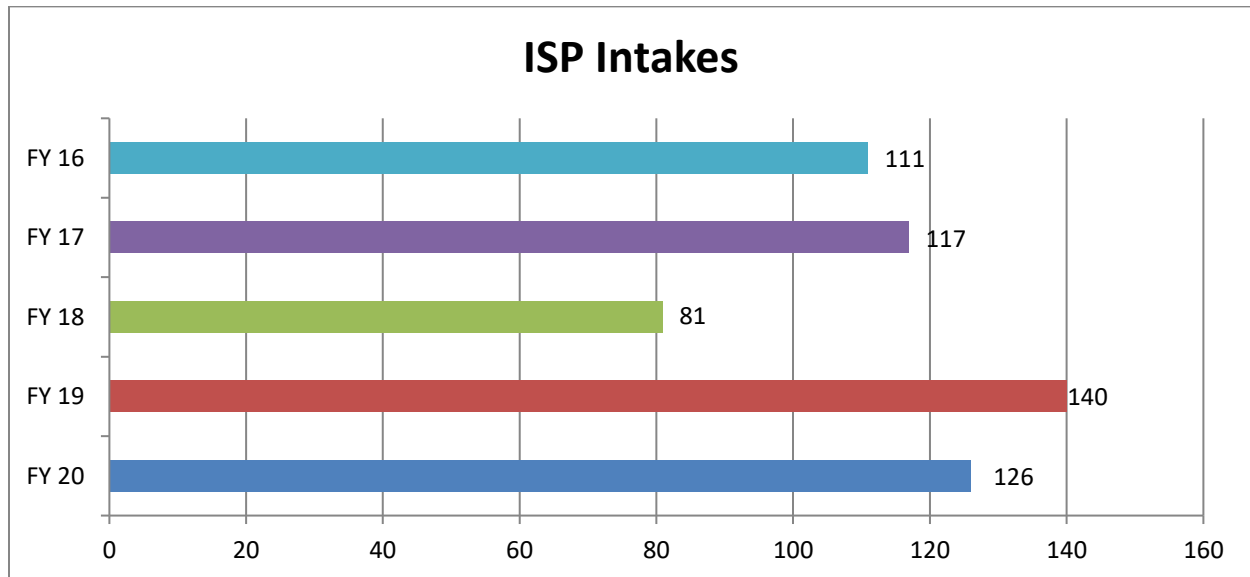
**Supervision:** As indicated above, officers are assessing for risk and need, assessing their readiness for treatment, case planning to their criminogenic targets and plugging them into revamped, in-house group interventions (see below) that are separated by risk and gender.

**ISP/407 GRANT PROGRAM GOALS:** Again, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction created new reporting periods for program performance. That timeframe is a total of 21 months, commencing on July 1, 2019 and ending on March 31, 2021. To better able the Court and Community Corrections to evaluate like-numbers, we will continue to report out on the Fiscal Year.

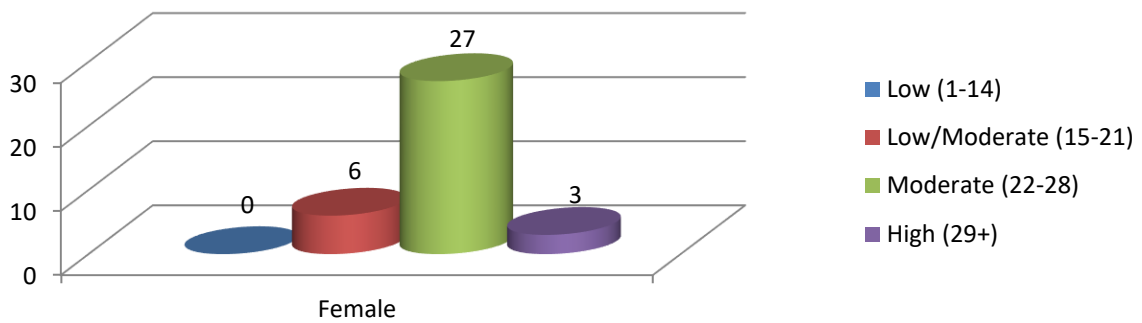
### **ISP**

- Goal: 147 for total performance period (84 for FY 20 period)
- Intakes: 126 (for FY 20)
- Percentage of Goal: 150%
- FY 19 Successful Completion Percentage: 68.2%

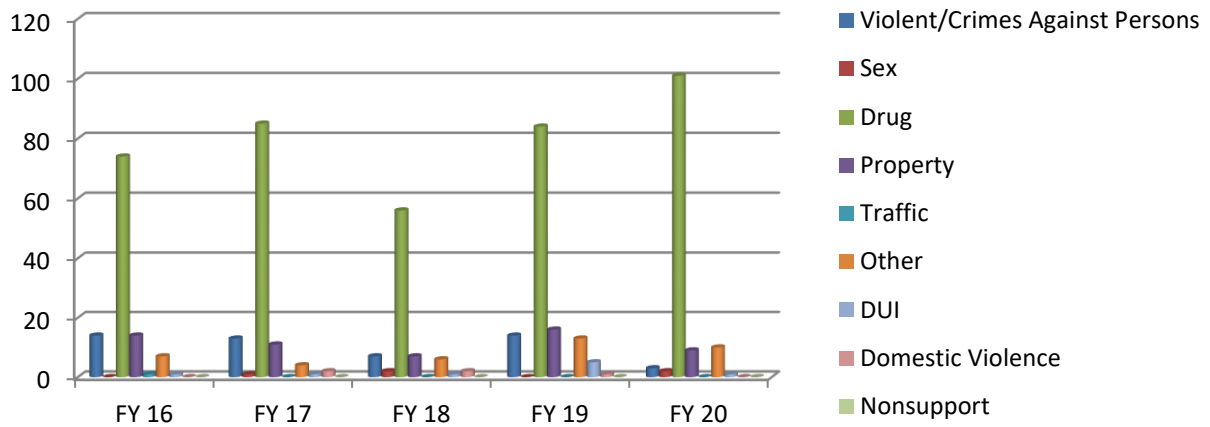
It should be noted that this is the program that has received the Cliff Skeen Community Corrections Award from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction on numerous occasions and was recognized as the winner again in Fiscal Year 2018 for service that occurred during this FY17 report.



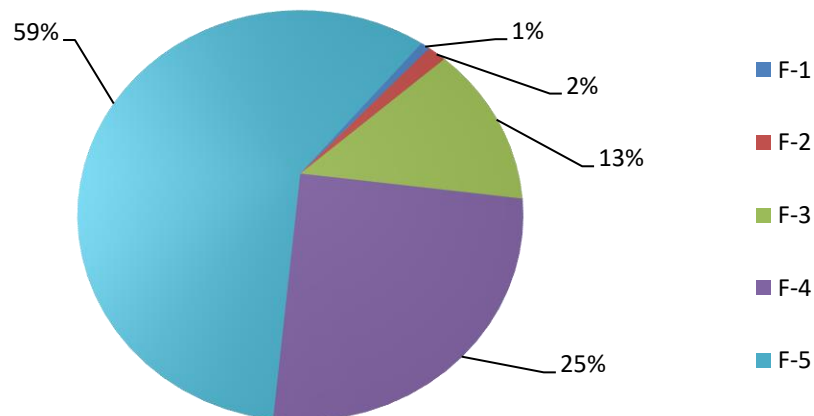
### FY 20 ISP Female Risk Scores (ORAS-CST)



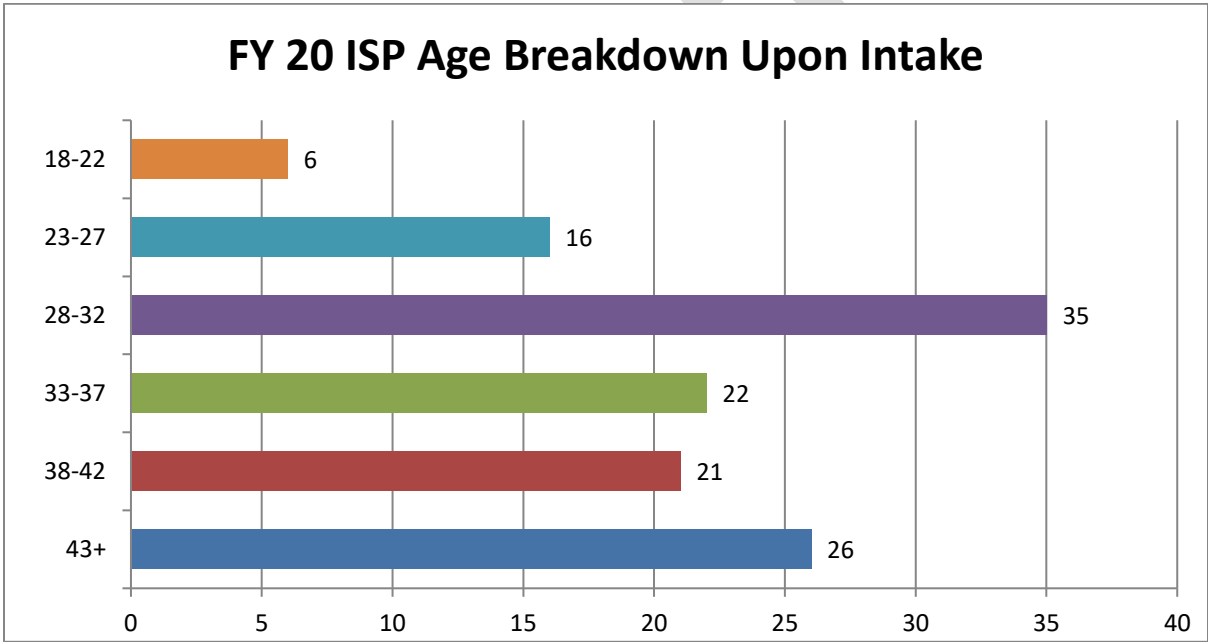
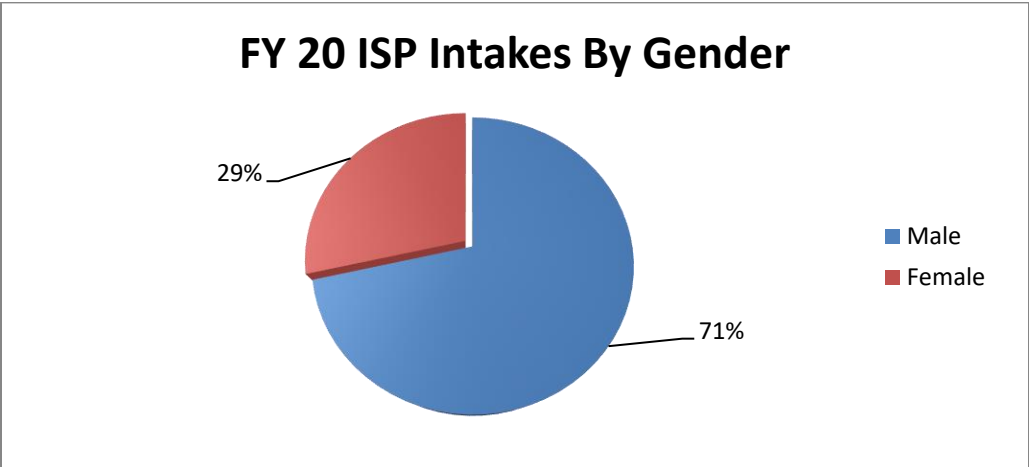
### ISP Breakdown of Offenses



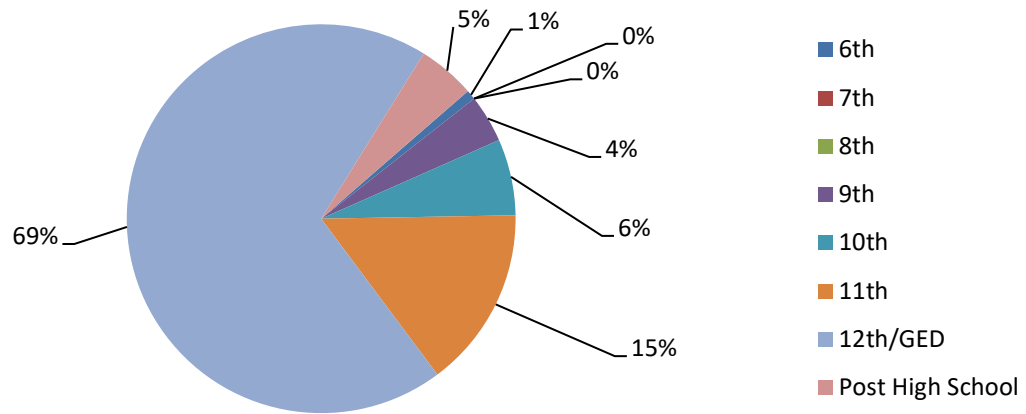
### FY 20 ISP Degree of Offenses



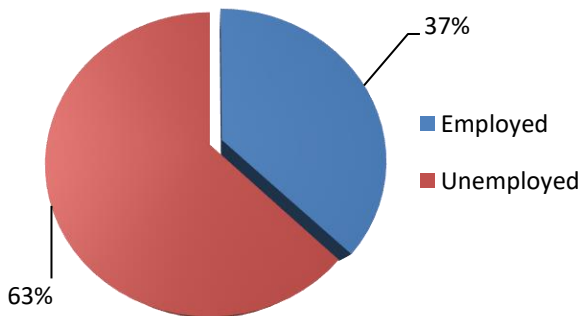




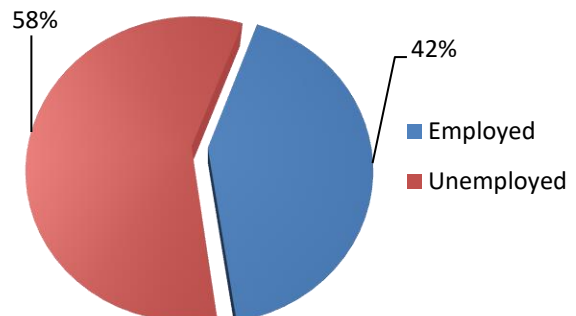
## FY 20 ISP Years of Education Upon Intake



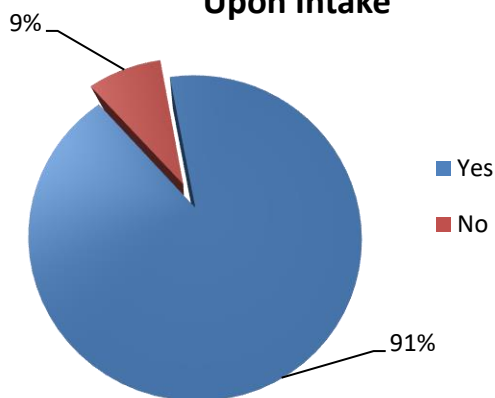
## FY 20 ISP Employment Status Upon Intake



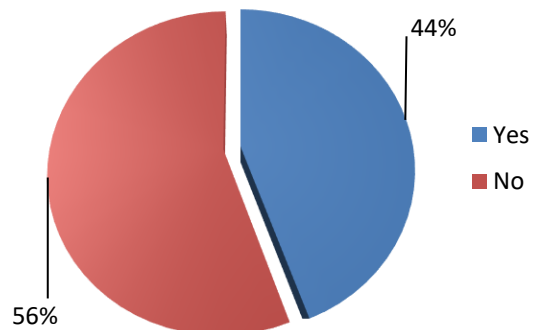
## FY 20 ISP Employment Status Upon Termination

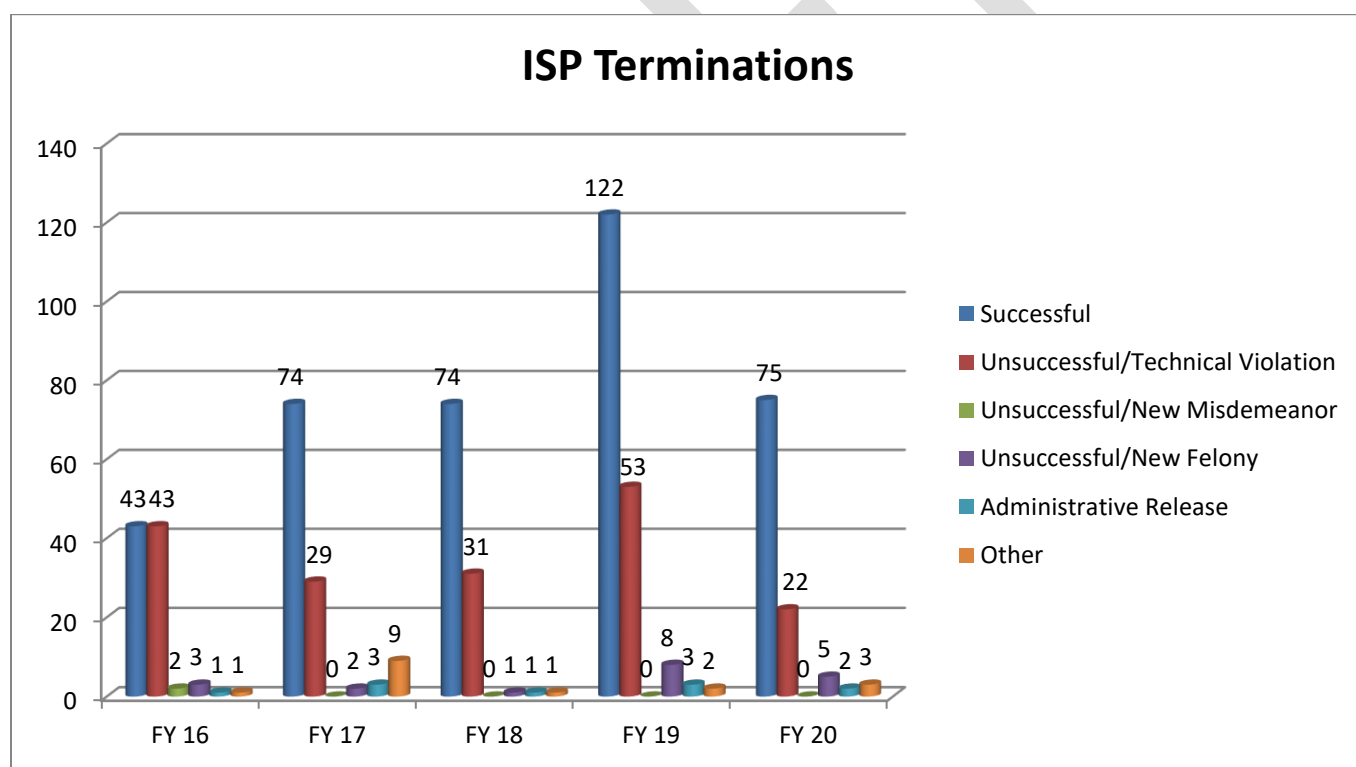
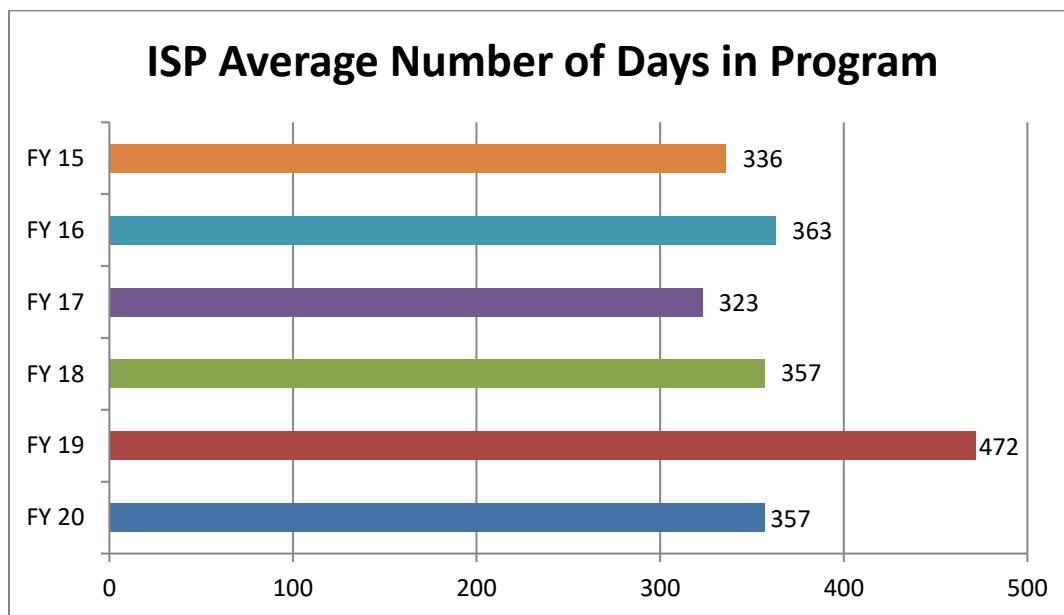


## FY 20 ISP Drug History Upon Intake



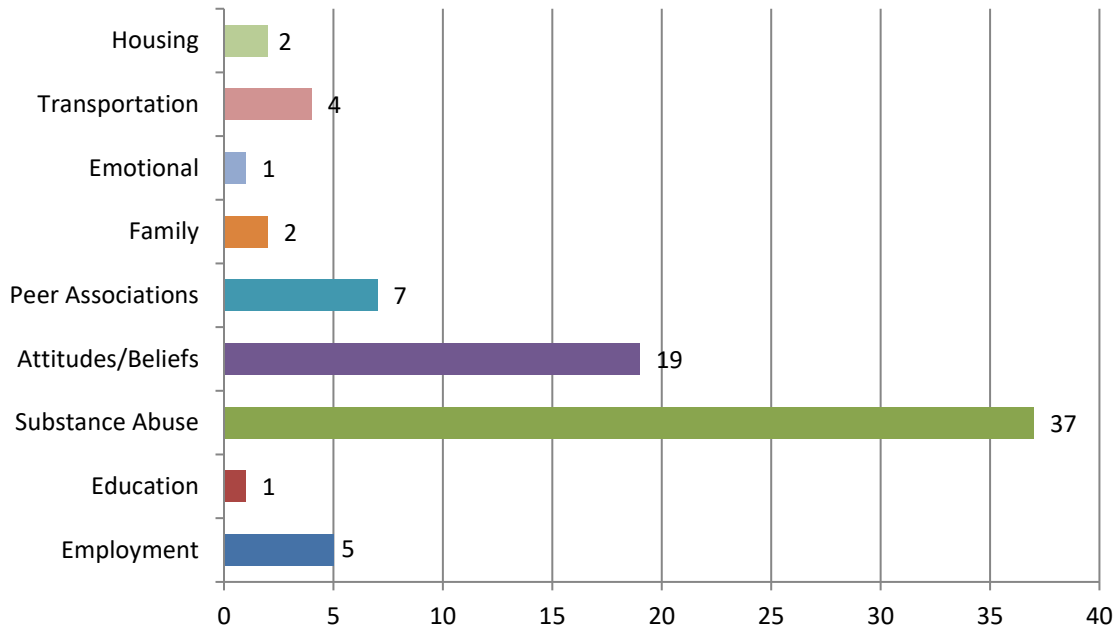
## FY 20 ISP Alcohol History Upon Intake



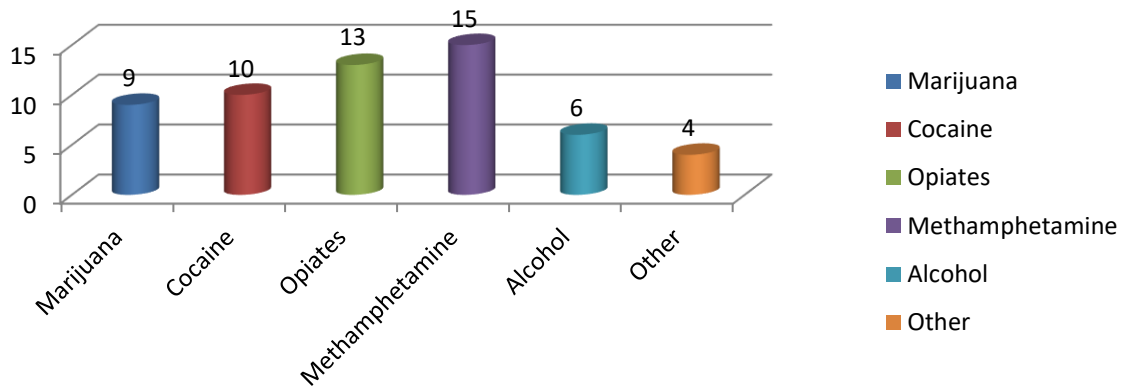


## FY 20 ISP Unsuccessful Terminations-Defendant Issues/Criminogenic Needs/Risk Factors

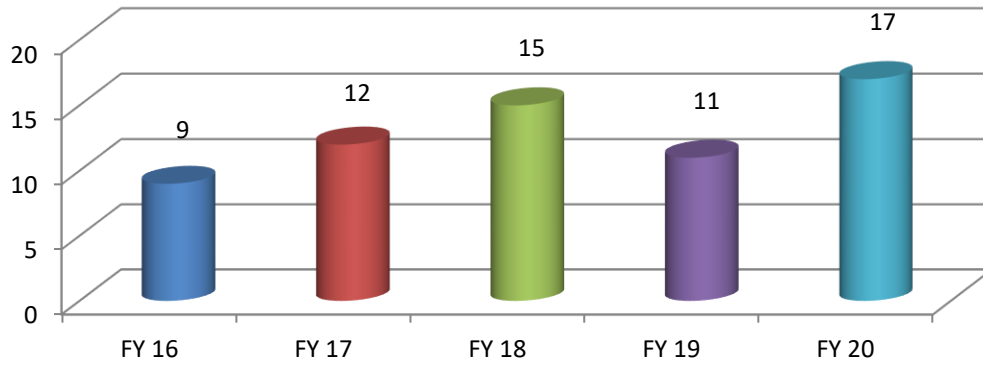
\*Please note that multiple areas applied to most defendants



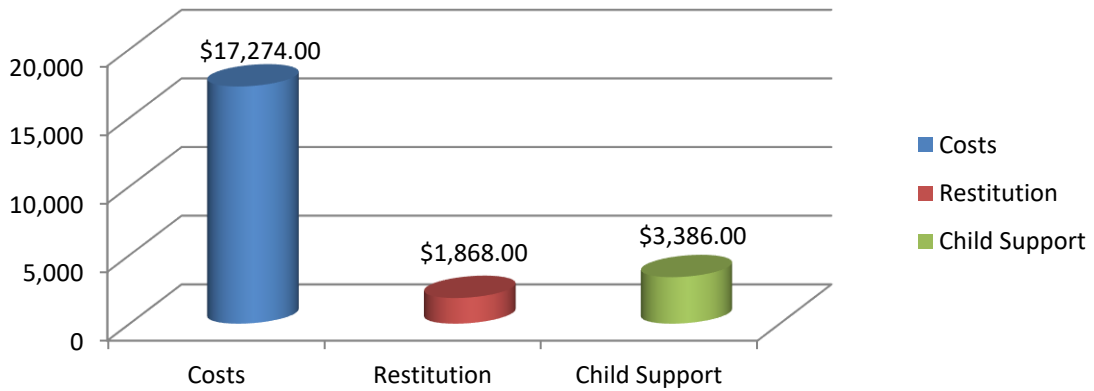
## FY 20 ISP Terminations Substance Abuse Issue Breakdown



## Total Community Control Violators Sent to Prison

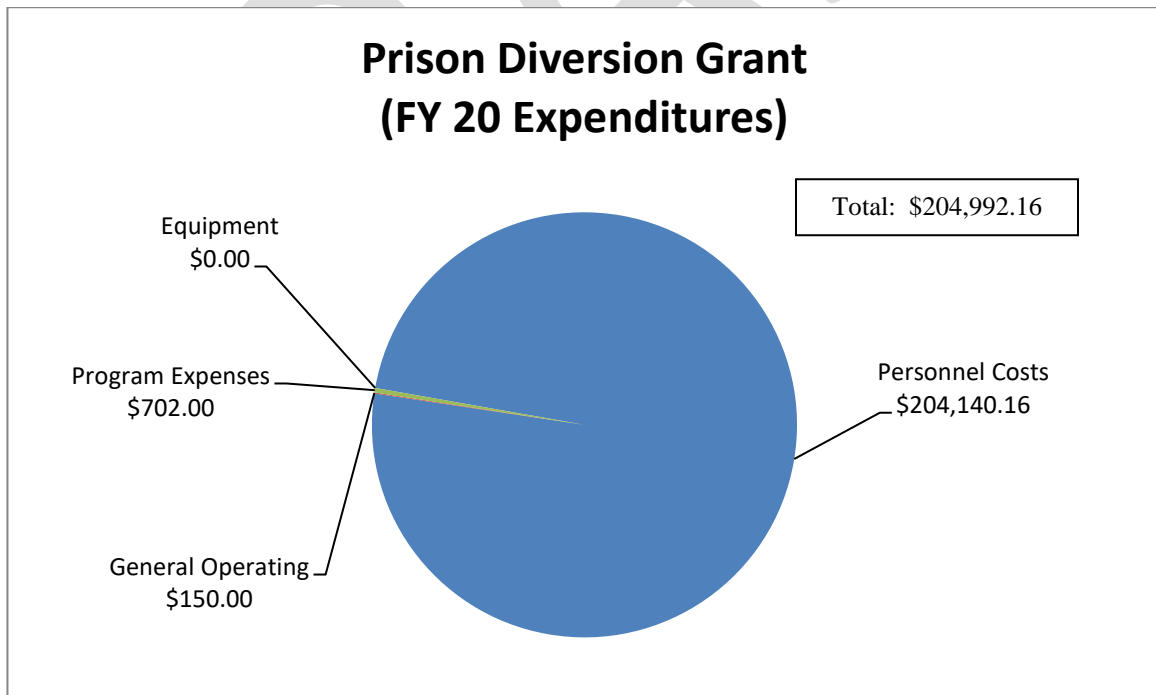
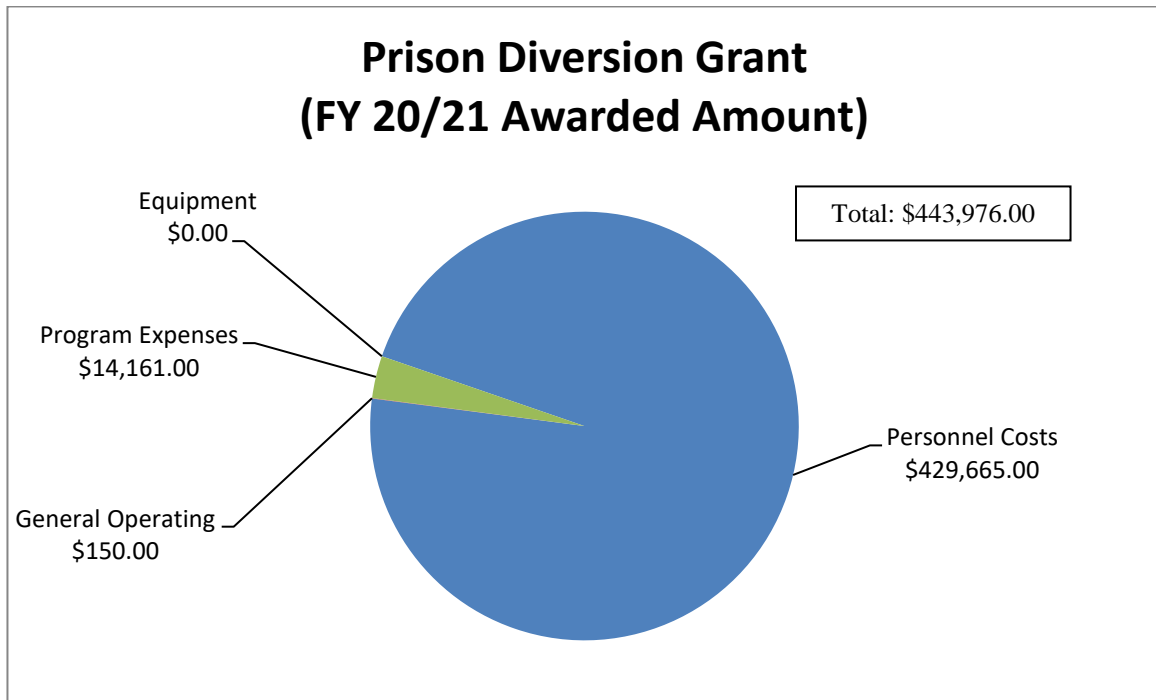


## FY 20 ISP Funds Collected



## FY 20/21 Prison Diversion Grant (407)

*\*2 Year Grant Cycle*



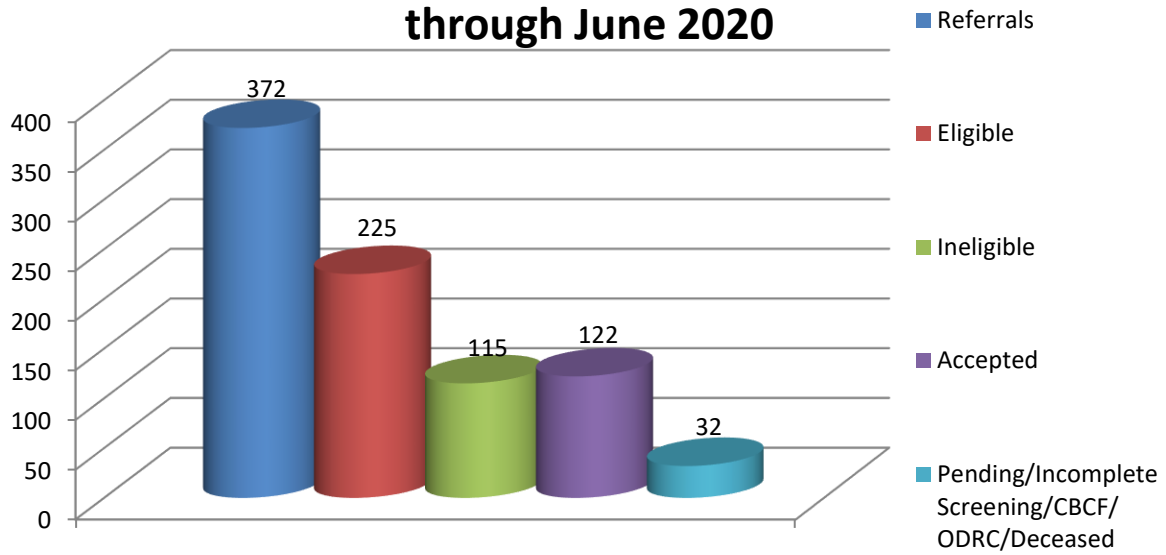
### **III. Hancock County Specialized Docket/ Drug Courts:**

The Hancock County Common Pleas Court certified two Specialized Dockets, specifically, Drug Courts. Commencing February of 2015, the Drug Court began screening for and treating defendants who qualify for these much-needed intensive treatment services. Both Specialized Dockets for Judge Niemeyer and Judge Routson were originally certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio in December of 2015. Judge Routson was recertified in 2017, was valid thru 2020 and is pending recertification on this date. Judge Starn received his Original Certification in 2017, is valid thru 2020 and is also pending recertification as of this date. Certifications with the Supreme Court of Ohio Specialized Docket Division means that the courts are following Evidence Based Practices as it relates to treatment and makes them eligible for Drug Court funding in Ohio.

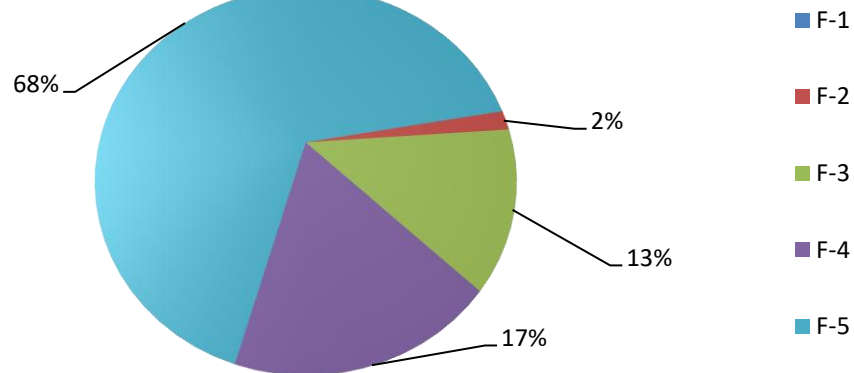
To qualify for Drug Court, the defendant must have a Diagnosis of Addiction and a Moderate to High ORAS Score, placing them in the above-referenced Intensive Supervision Program. The programs continues to change as the drugs of choice change each year and the Court learns many lessons about addiction. (i.e. peer support/ drug testing accountability/ individualized treatment/ MAT/Housing/Employment Readiness). Of course these lessons and programs are being utilized throughout the Court's probation supervision; not just in Drug Court, which has been of great benefit.

In addition to CCA funds, The Ohio State Legislature has dedicated monies to specialized dockets thru OHMAS or the Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services. These funds are necessary if the Court is going to provide these extremely labor and resource intensive programs. We began FY 17 with approximately \$80,000; however received a decrease to \$60,000 for FY 18 and FY19. In the middle of FY17, we were notified that the Court would no longer apply directly to OHMAS for these funds; rather they would be awarded to the local ADAMHS Boards, who the Court would then contract with for these monies. As referenced above, to remain qualified for this funding, the Courts must remain certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The Court has contracted with ADAMHS for 2020 for \$30,000 per Drug Court.

### Drug Court Referrals from February 2015 through June 2020

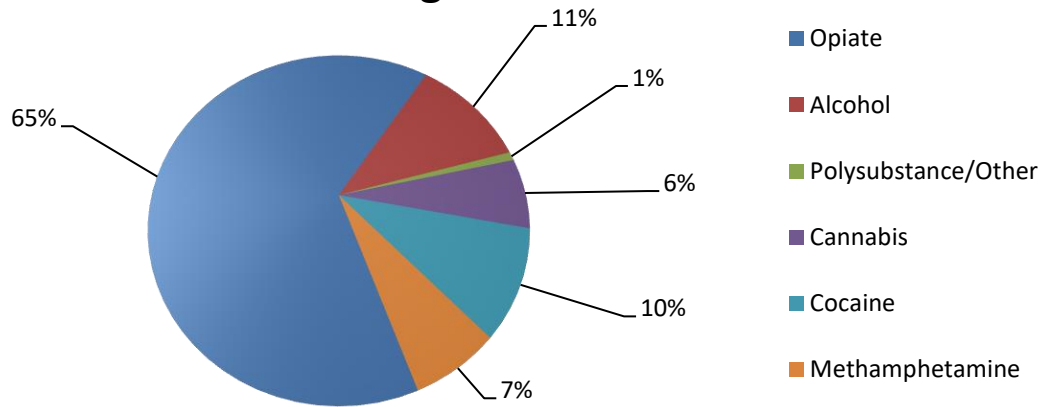


### Drug Court Degree of Offenses from February 2015 through June 2020

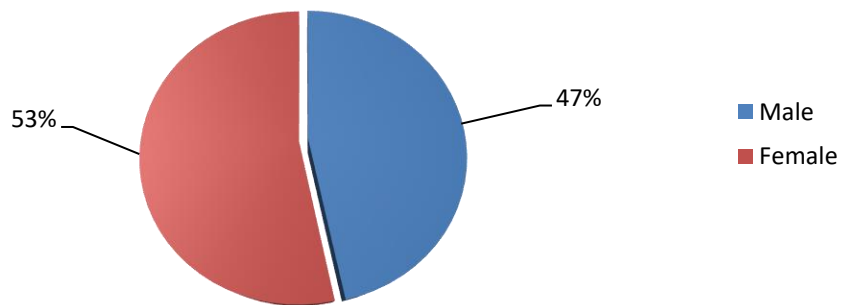




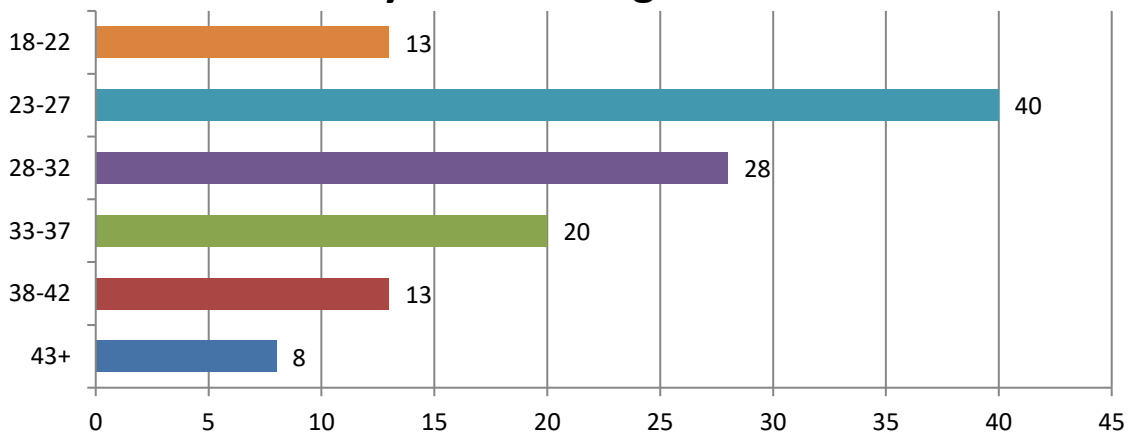
### Drug Court Diagnoses from February 2015 through June 2020



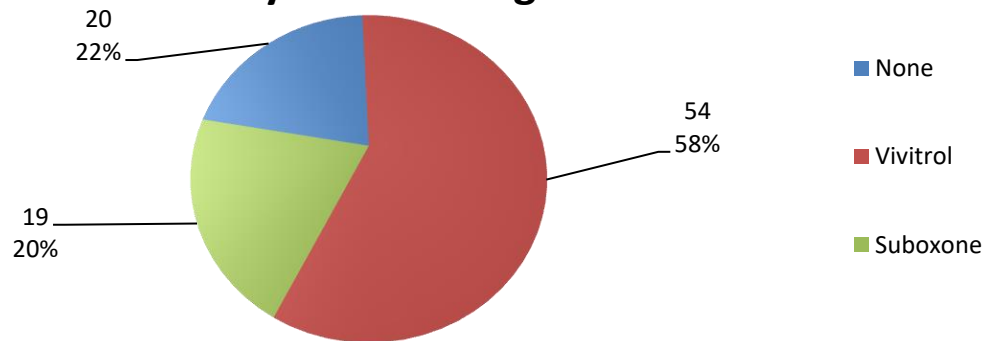
### Drug Court Participants By Gender from February 2015 through June 2020



### Drug Court Participant Age Breakdown from February 2015 through June 2020

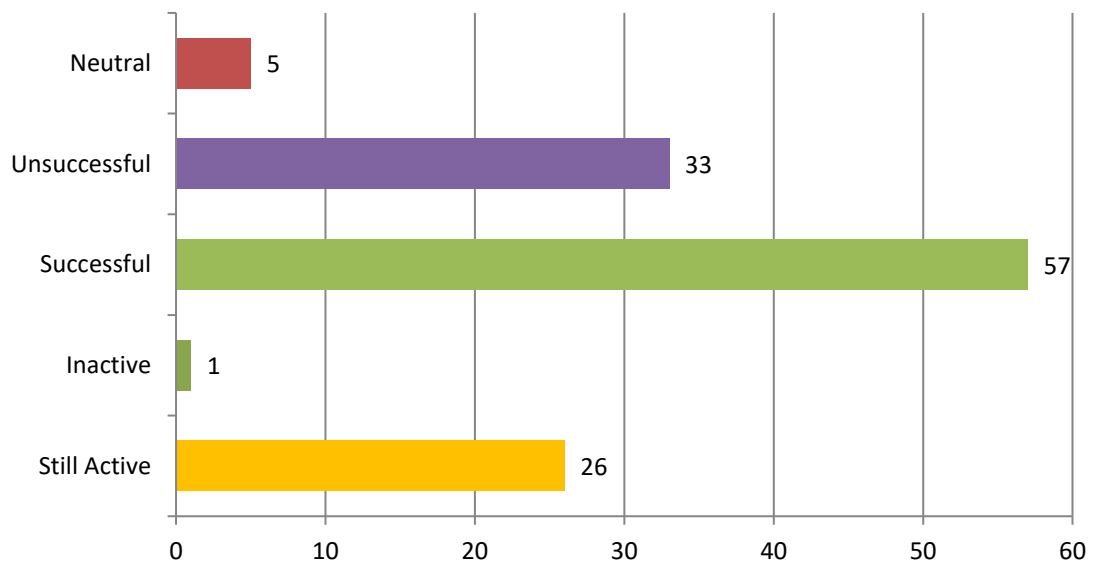


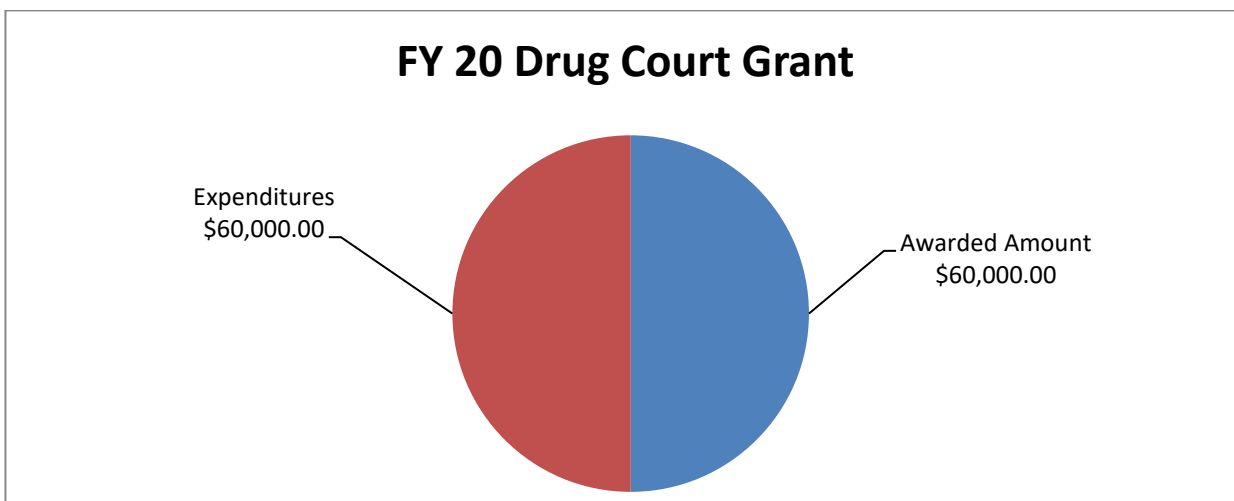
## Drug Court Medically Assisted Treatment from February 2015 through June 2020



\*Only individuals with a diagnosis of Opioid Dependence or Alcohol Dependence are appropriate for medically assisted treatment.

## Drug Court Terminations from February 2015 through June 2020





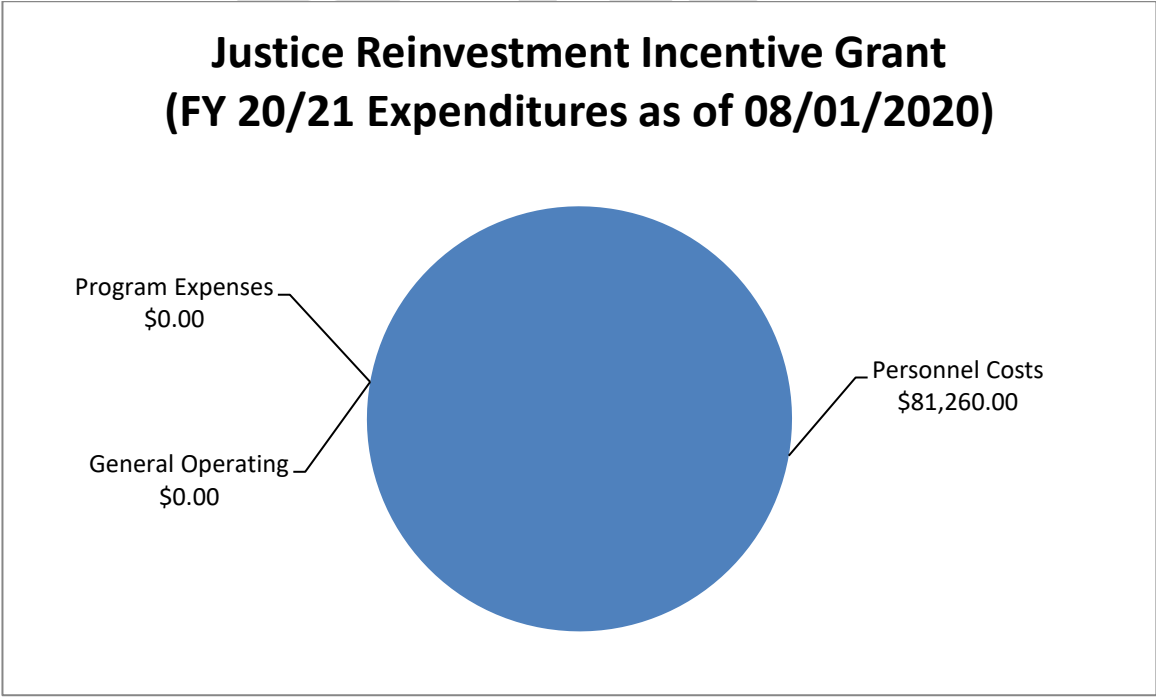
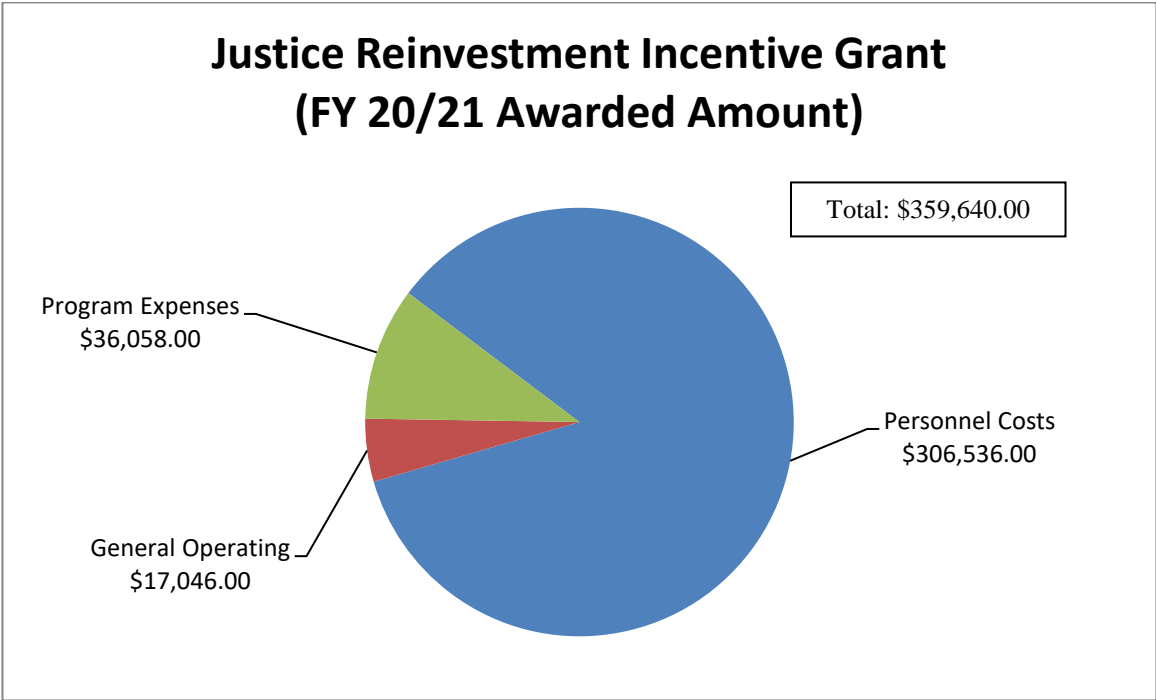
#### **IV. Program Improvement Grant/ Justice Reinvestment Grant:**

The Common Pleas Court applied for and was awarded the Probation Improvement Grant (PIG) originally in 2011. These monies were awarded to the Court to begin the implementation of our in-house treatment model. Over \$500,000.00 over the next few years were spent on staff, training and physical infrastructure (i.e. offices, dual software licenses, computers, desks, etc.) so that we could go “live” with billing for available Affordable Care Act funds as of July 1, 2015.

These services are now all billable and these continued dollars are being spent to assist with support staff and much-needed probation officer and support staff positions to keep up with a more complex caseload and House Bill 86 requirements. Currently, the goals remain prison-diversion orientated.

In late 2017, the State of Ohio, Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, Bureau of Community Sanctions terminated Probation Improvement Funding and now call them Justice Reinvestment Incentive Grants (JRIG). As these grant funds were aimed at treating the Opioid Epidemic, all goals are related to defendant going thru and successfully participating in the treatment programs.

**FY 20/21 Justice Reinvestment Incentive Grant (JRIG)**  
*\*2 Year Grant Cycle*



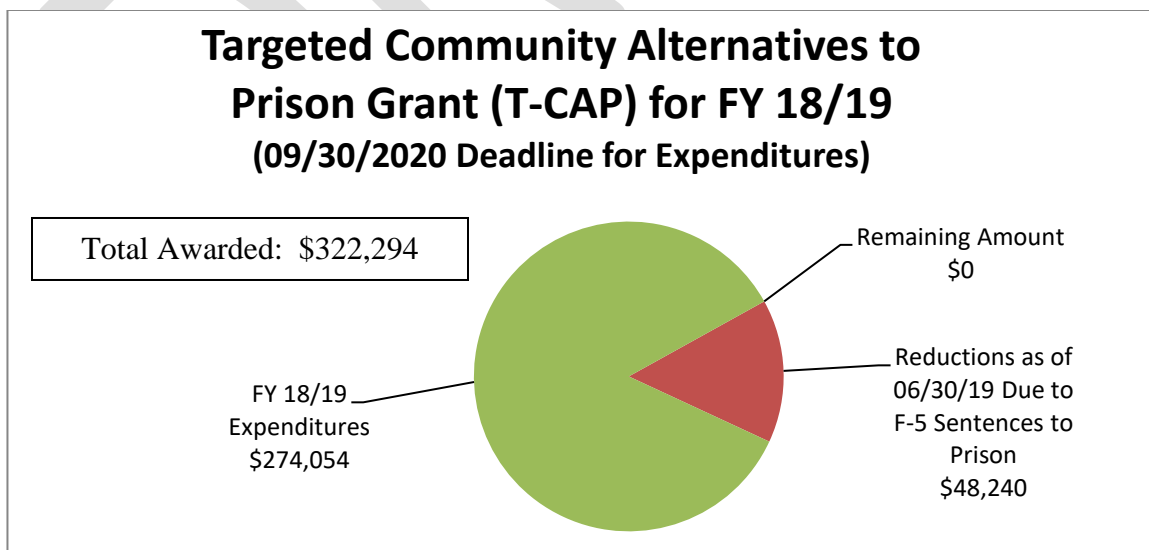
## **V. Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison Grant (TCAP) Grant/ House Bill 49:**

In preparation for the new laws effective July 1, 2018, preventing felonies of the fifth degree with various attributes from being sent to prison, the State of Ohio offered a Memorandum of Understanding to all counties who wanted to participate, voluntarily. Hancock County Judges, along with the County Commissioners and Sheriff Heldman agreed to participate. In return for the monies listed below, the County agreed to be charged \$72.00 per day for all qualifying defendants in the prison system. The \$72.00 per day penalty no longer was accessed as of July 1, 2018.

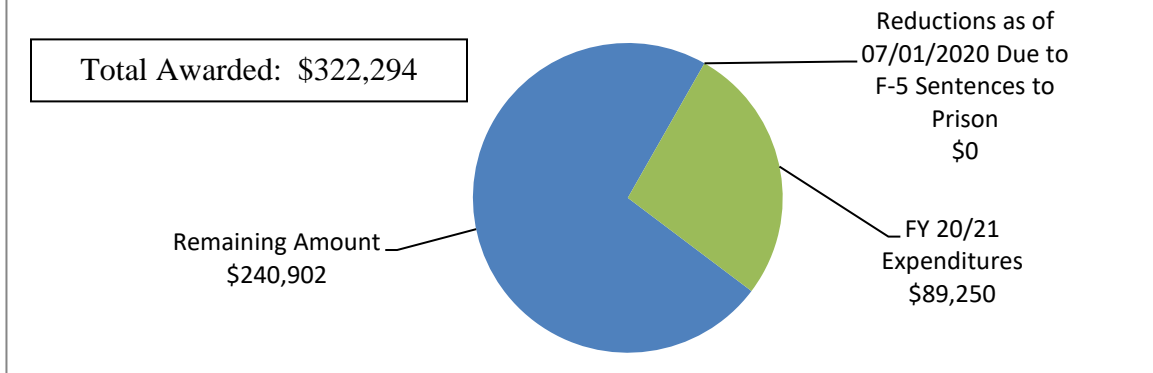
As part of the Memorandum of Understanding effective on July 1, 2018, the local Court can no longer sentence felonies the fifth degree to prison unless:

- The felony of the fifth degree is an offense of violence as defined in section 2901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- The felony of the fifth degree is a sex offense under Chapter 2907 of the Ohio Revised Code, a violation of section 2925.03 of the Revised Code, or any offense for which a mandatory prison term is required
- The person previously has been convicted to any offense of violence as defined in section 2909.01
- The person previously has been convicted to any felony sex offense under Chapter 2907
- The person's sentence is required to be served concurrently to any other sentence imposed.

The County also agreed to contribute the maximum (one-half of the REMAINING dollars) to the Sheriff's Office to assist in running the overcrowded jail. As of the writing of this of this report, the Court contributed \$64,553.50 to the County General Fund to help offset these costs. The remaining funds have been used by this department to staff a full-time Drug Court Coordinator/Probation Officer.

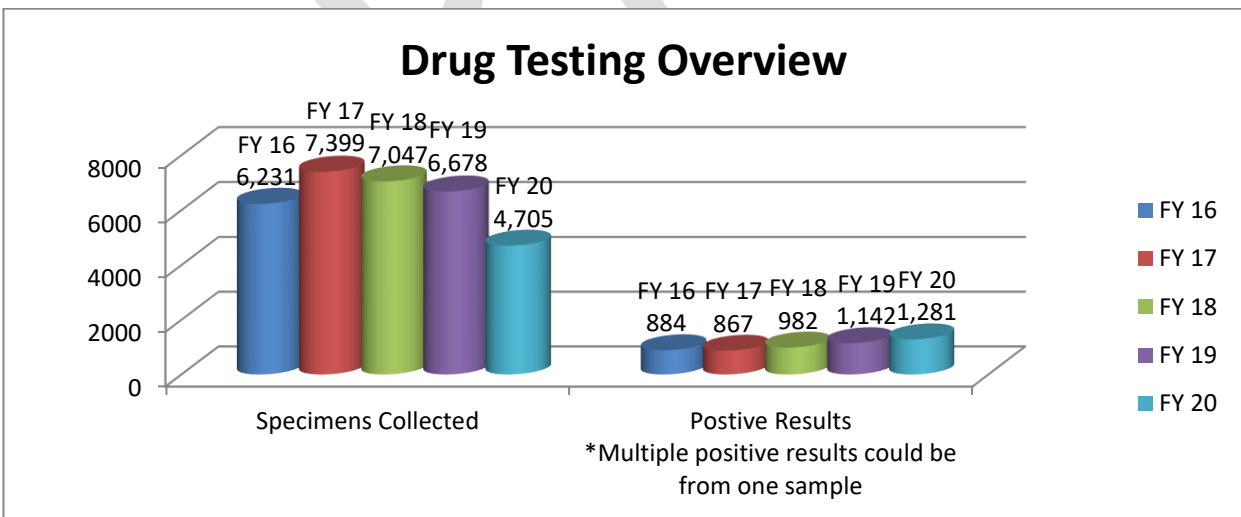


## Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison Grant (T-CAP) for FY 20/21 (06/30/2022 Deadline for Expenditures)



## VI. Drug Testing

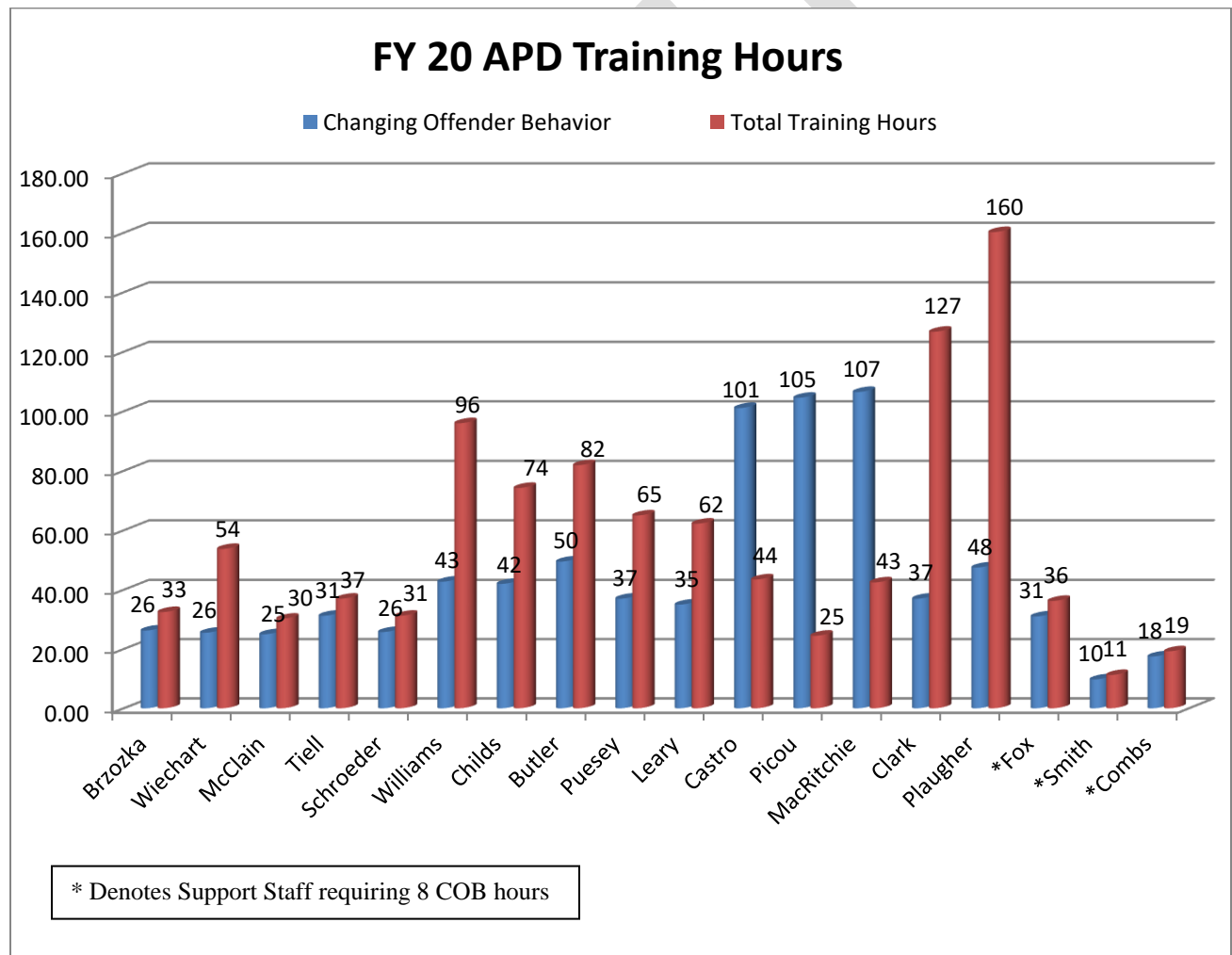
Hancock County CCA Programs continue to provide random urinalysis of high-risk offenders in an attempt to monitor and prevent drug usage. The program currently has the ability to test for Marijuana, Cocaine, Opiates, Methamphetamine, Oxycontin, Ecstasy, PCP, Amphetamines, Oxycodone, Methadone, Suboxone and Benzodiazepines and even K-2 or Spice. At the end of FY19, the Adult Probation Department went to a more expensive test cup/vendor, however we believe that we will get more accurate, requiring less frequent testing. 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 Evidence Based findings, we will continue to focus on their recommendations for in-house training for FY21.

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.



# Community Collaboration to Achieve Evidence Based Practices in Hancock County

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As referenced above, Fiscal Year 2020 revealed the results of many years of *evaluation, reengineering and community collaborations* for the accountability and treatment and criminal justice/community corrections programs. The cultures are finally integrated and share a mission of *reducing recidivism and have been a conduit for treatment innovations for other criminal justice stakeholders.*

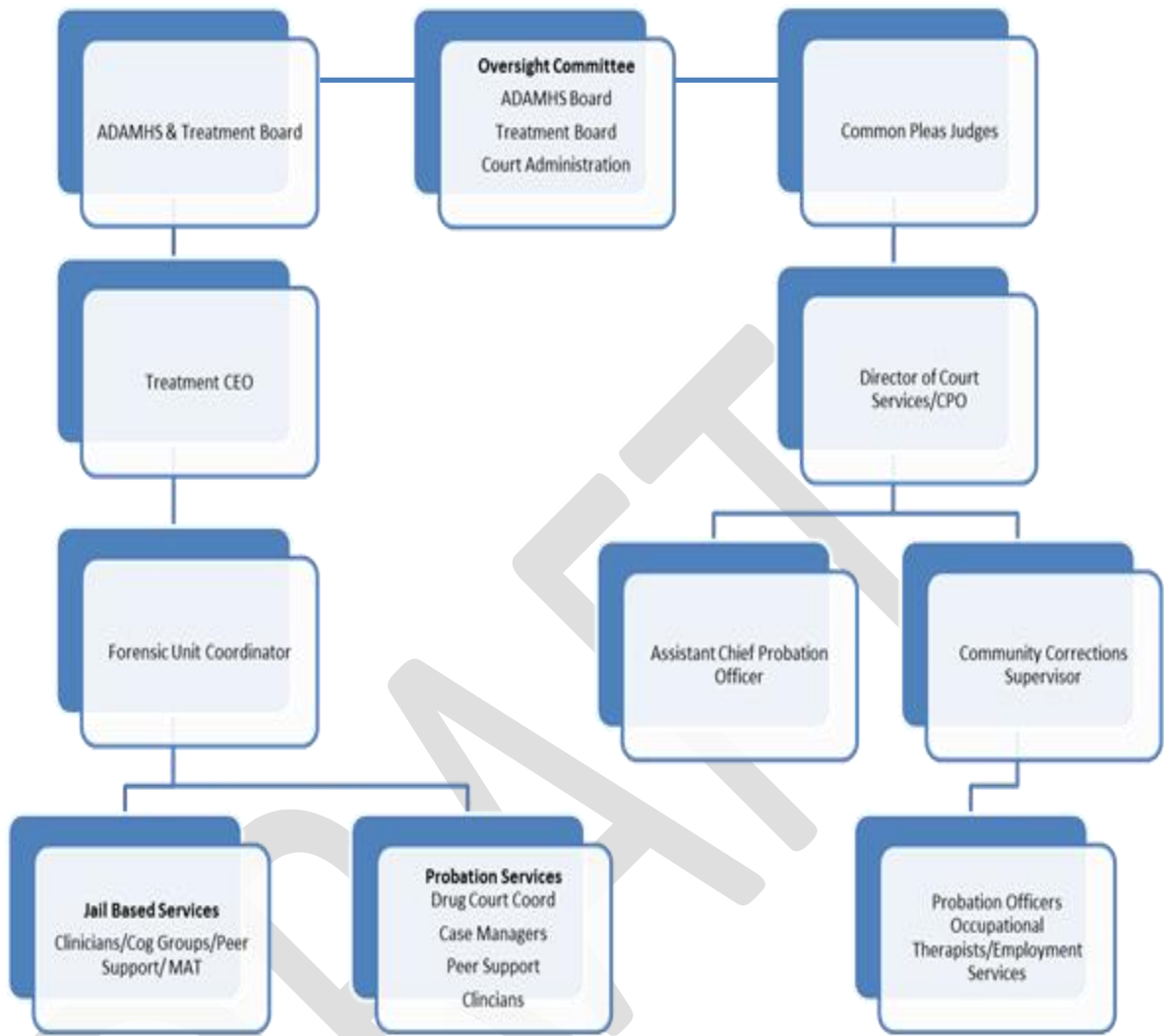
The hopes are that with Ohio's Behavioral Redesign, this evolved program design can be sustained. During FY 21, Century Health, Inc. was finally merged with Family Resource Center (F.R.C.). The management at F.R.C. have continued to problem solve with the Court and hopes are high that there will be continued successful collaborations.

## **Evaluation and Building an Infrastructure:**

Due to successful outcomes from several CPC Evaluations, Court responses to Legislative changes and numerous successful collaboration with community stakeholders, the following services were provided to felony offenders sentenced thru the Hancock County Common Pleas Court:

- EPICS Probation Appointments;
- Diagnostic Evaluations;
- Individual Substance Abuse Therapy;
- Individual Mental Health Therapy;
- Case Management;
- Cognitive Behavioral Groups;
  - UC: Comprehensive Behavioral Interventions: Substance Abuse
  - Thinking for a Change Curriculum;
  - UC: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions: Comprehensive Curriculum; \*
  - Aftercare: UC: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Advanced Practices (skill building); and \*
  - Collection Group (for defendants pending entry into other groups)
    - Collection Group is connected to the Intensive Outpatient Treatment outline \*
- Medically Assisted Treatment;
- Peer Support;
- Occupational Therapy;
- Drug Court Intensive Interventions; and
- Transportation to and from probation and treatment \*



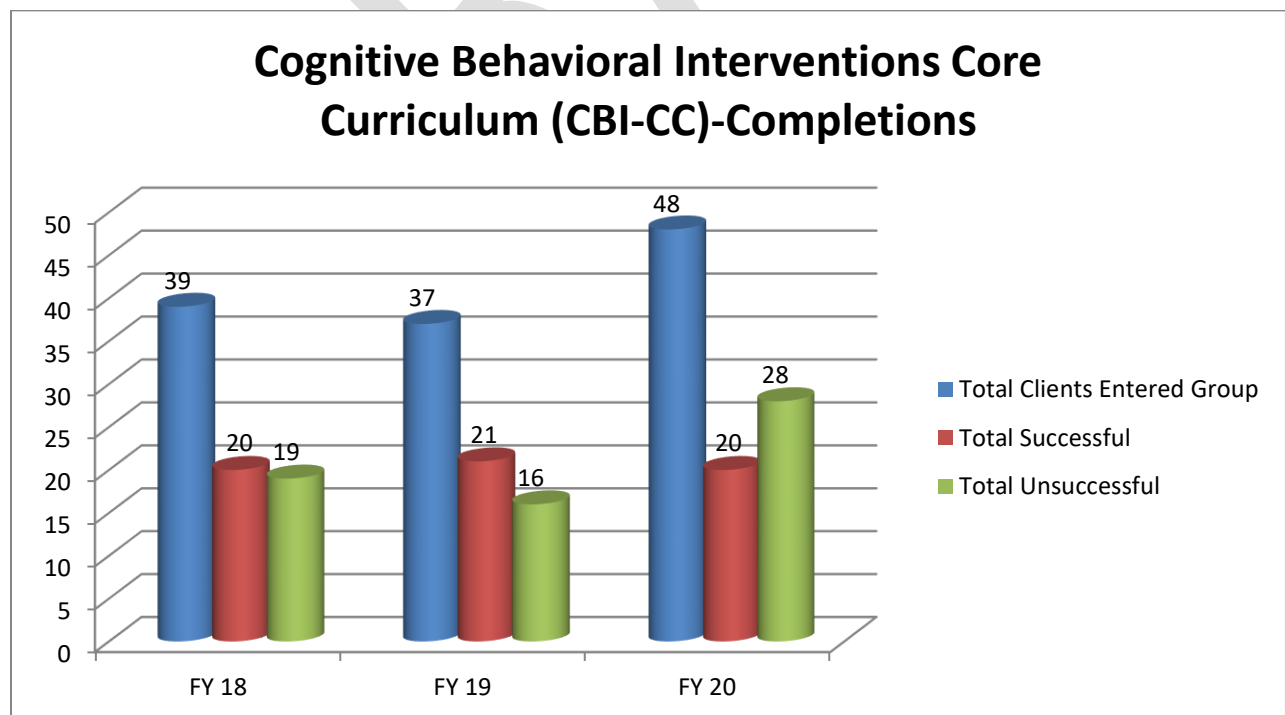
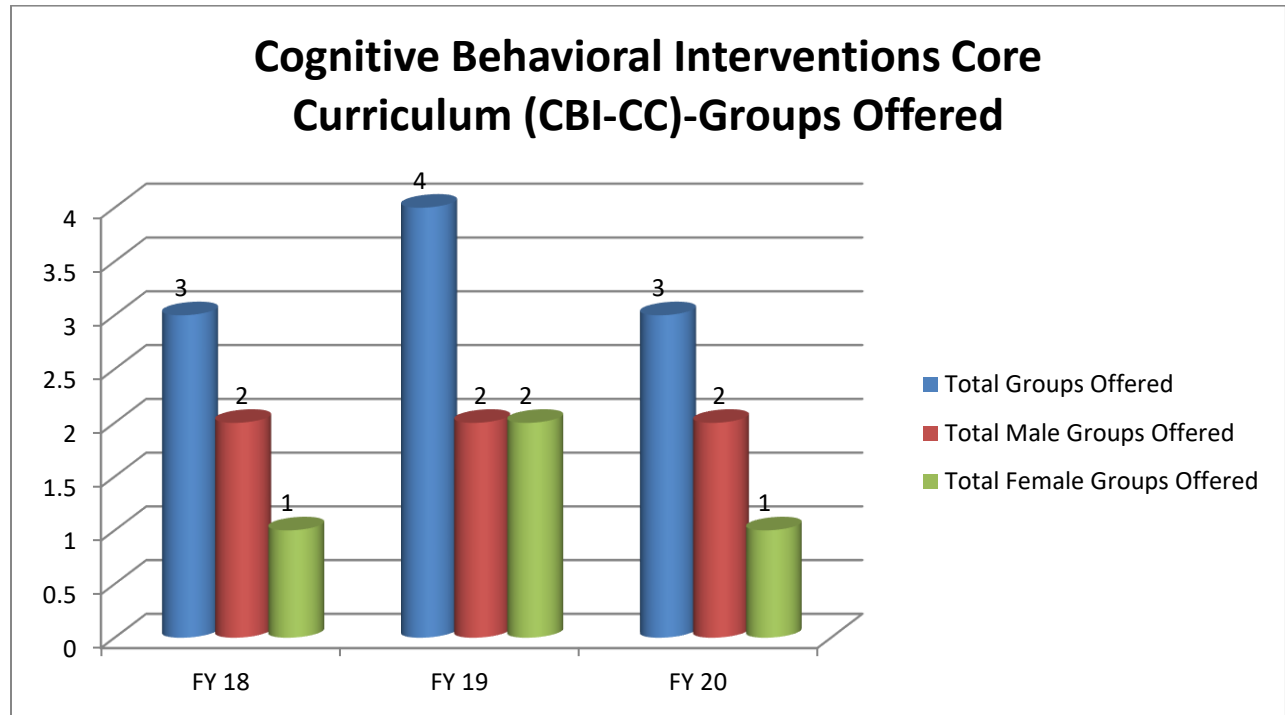


### **Intensive Outpatient Level of Care at Adult Probation**

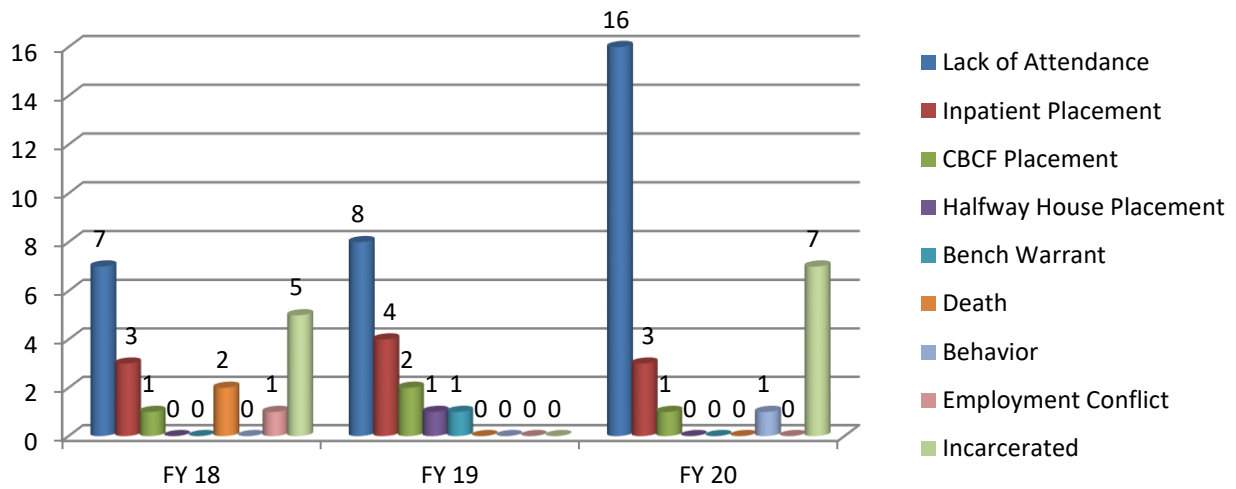
We have been working with the local community and treatment provider to begin an Intensive Outpatient (I.O.P.) Level of Care Program. To that purpose, we obtained a \$20,000 grant from the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in FY17 to train our local treatment providers in a curriculum that would have a few entry points. Kelly Pitocco, of the University of Cincinnati, has been a consultant on our programs since 2011, assisted in the creation of the I.O.P. schedule which comprises of a total of 9 hours weekly in treatment. The Court has been asking this of our partner treatment provider for several years. Intensive Outpatient Level of Care services started within the

Adult Probation Department in 2017 and continued until the impact of COVID 19. COVID 19 also impacted staffing levels with the treatment provider causing a shortage of group facilitators.

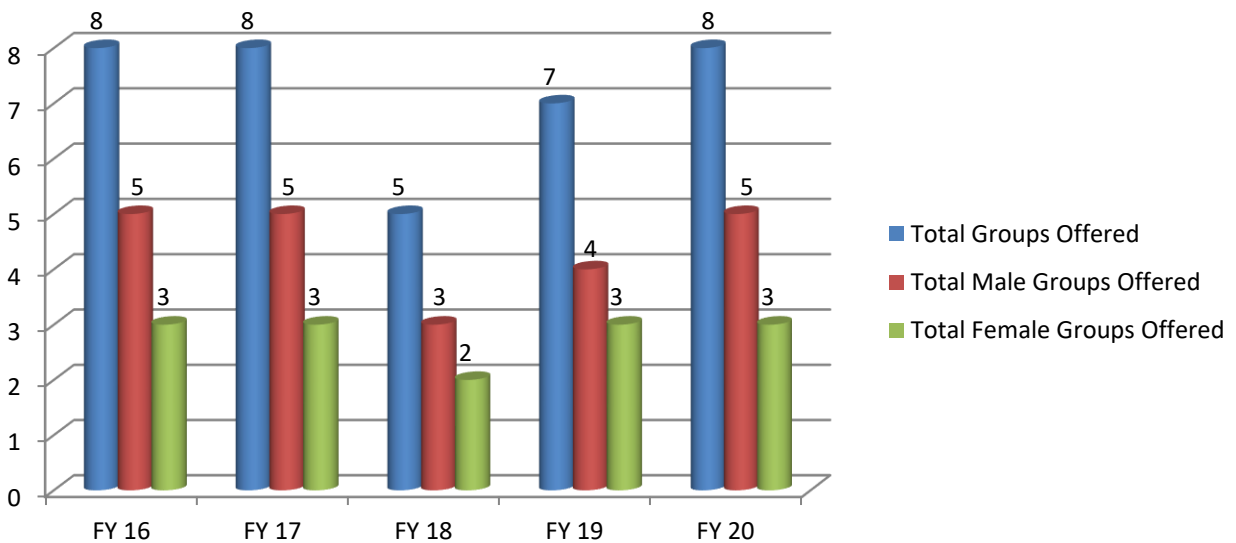
We are hoping that staffing levels will be returned to pre COVID 19 levels and with this continued implementation, we will see a marked reduction in those technical violations related to substance abuse/addiction issues.



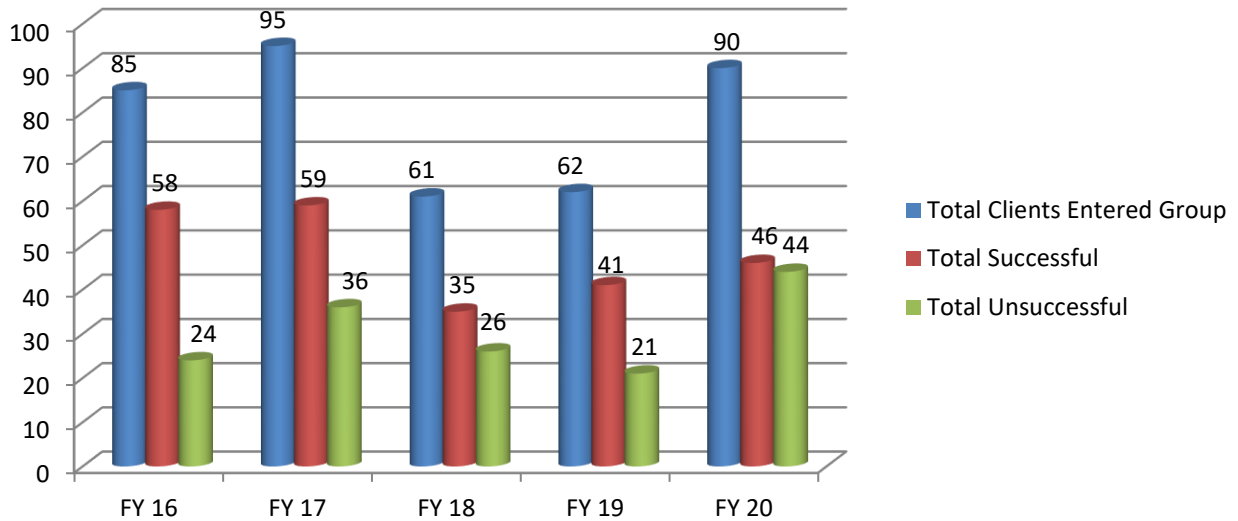
## Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Core Curriculum (CBI-CC)-Reason for Unsuccessful Completion



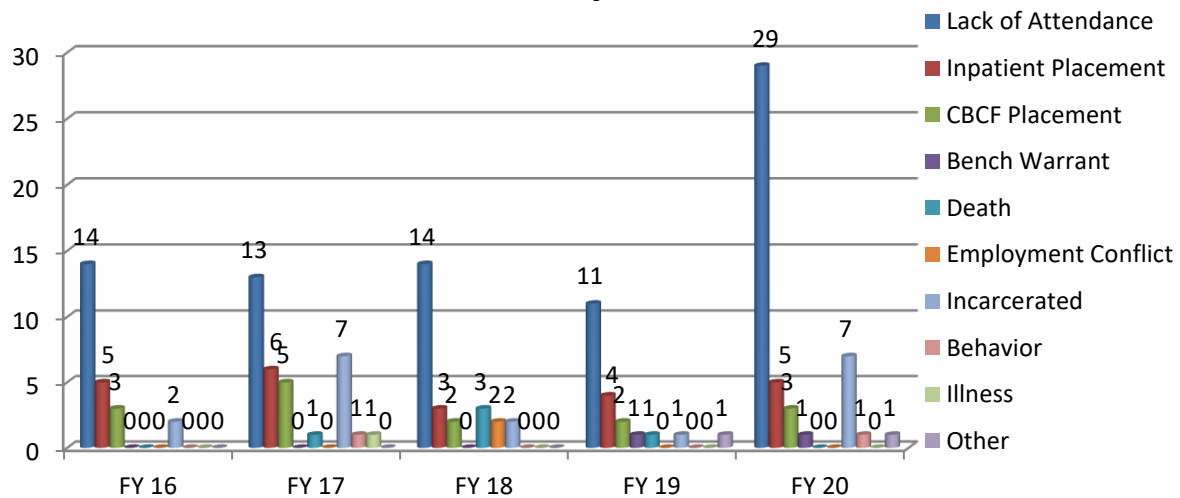
## Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse (CBI-SA)- Groups Offered



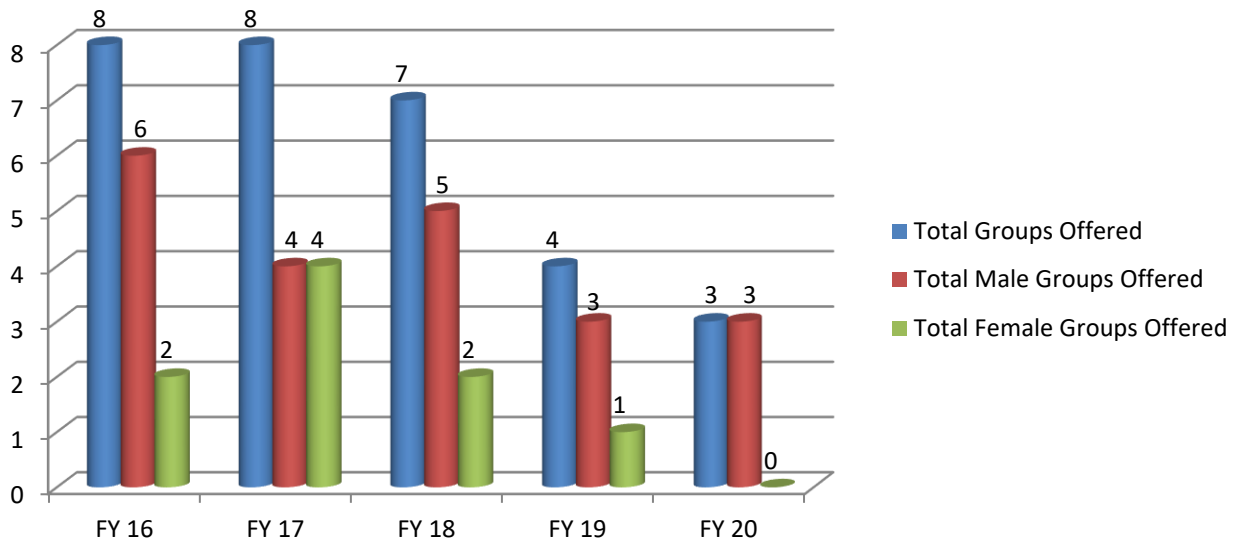
## Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse (CBI-SA)- Completions



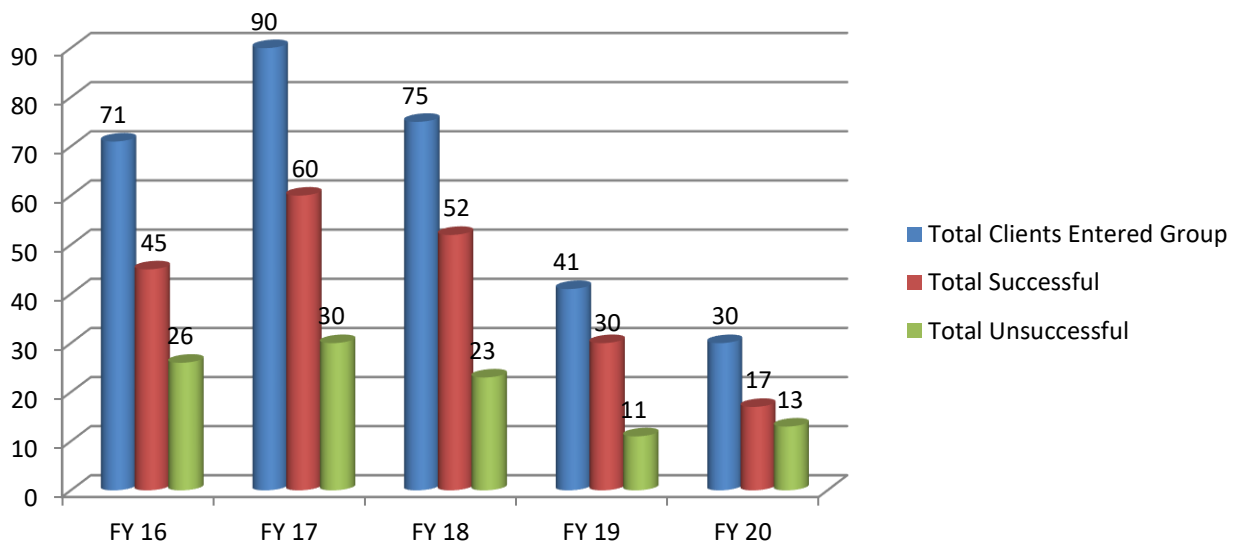
## Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse (CBI-SA)- Reason for Unsuccessful Completion



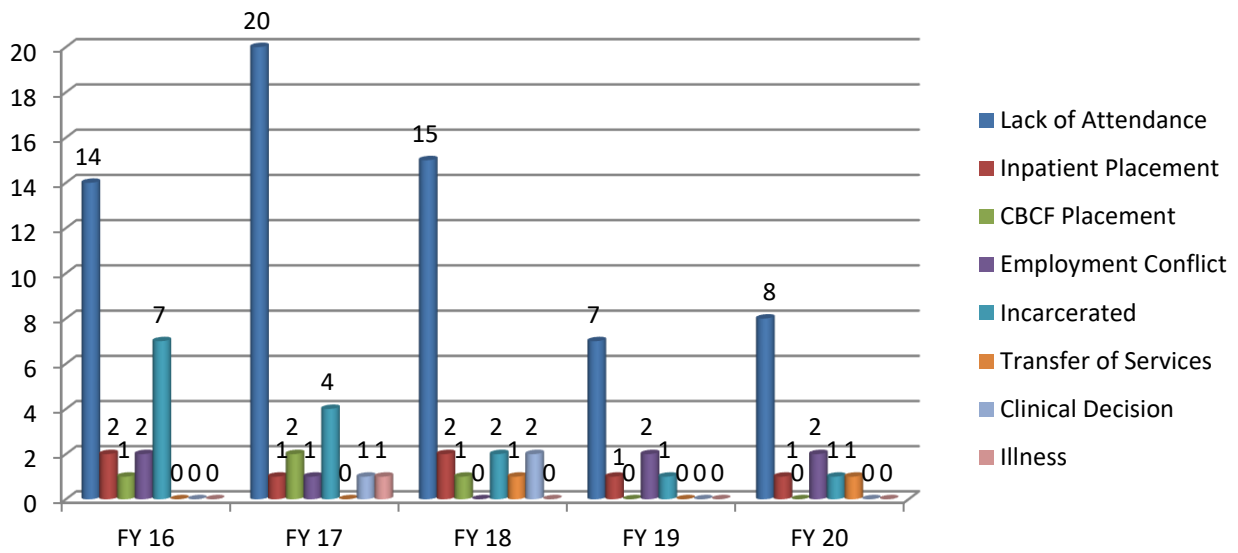
### Thinking for a Change (T4C)- Groups Offered



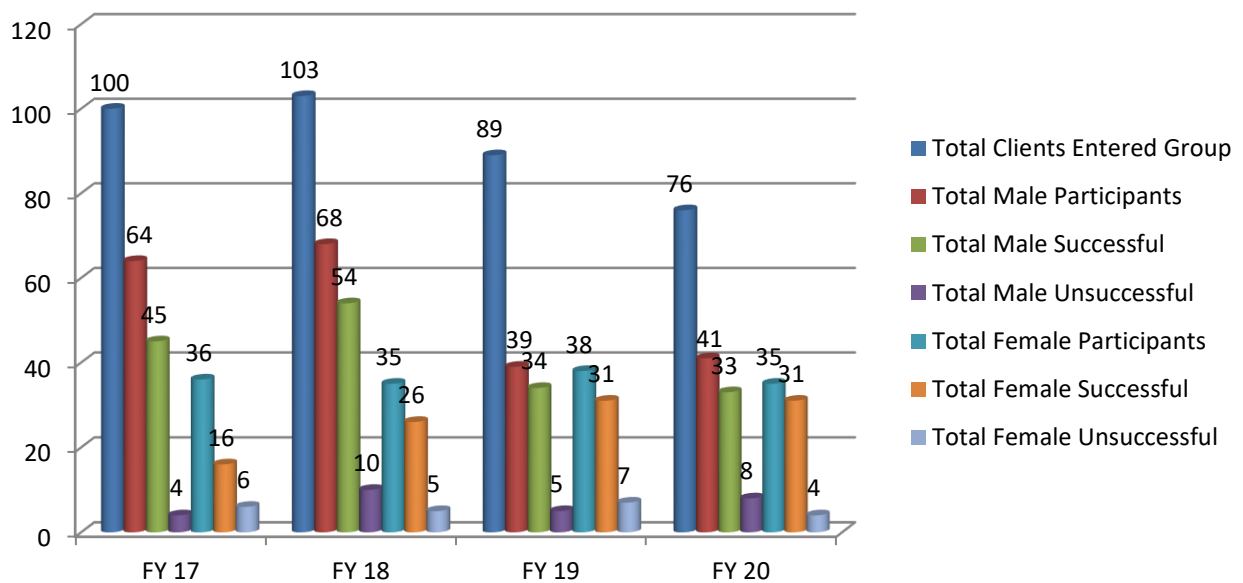
### Thinking for a Change (T4C)- Completions

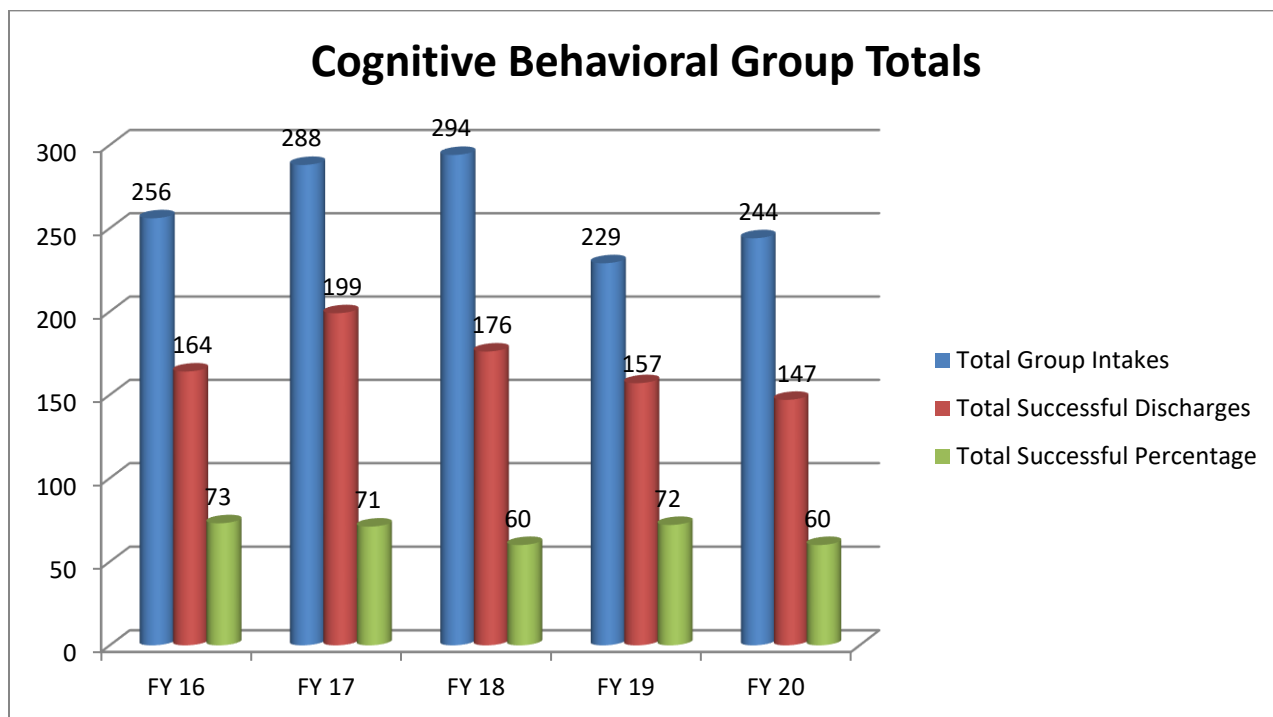


## Thinking for a Change (T4C)- Reason for Unsuccessful Completion



## Afercare Group



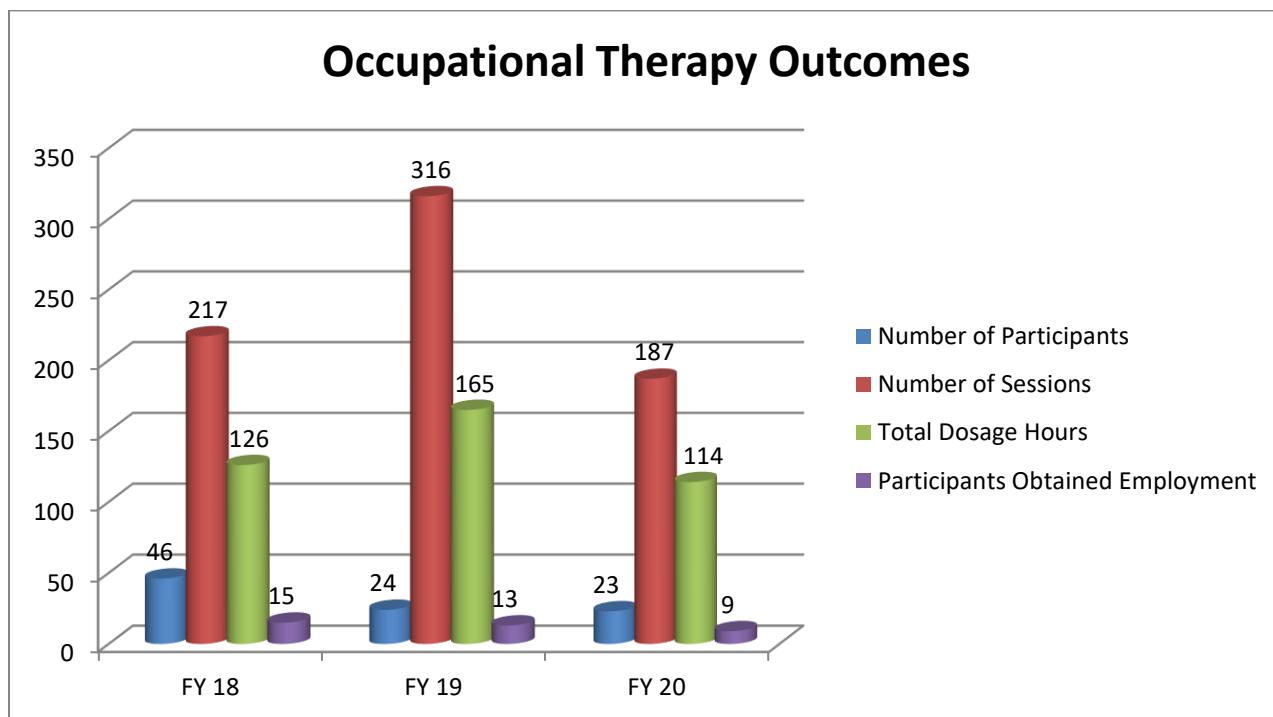


As the charts above reflect, the Thinking for a Change curriculum was not offered to felony adult probationers as often/much as it had been in the past few years. Upon further examination, we determined that one of the case managers providing the group was finishing up her graduate work and worked fewer hours and then had a baby upon her return to work. Also the newest member of the treatment team, was not trained in this curriculum to offer it. We will be working with the team to ensure that all levels of care and needed groups are being offered.

#### **In-house Occupational Therapy:**

In addition to the formal treatment referenced above, the Court is collaborating with the University of Findlay for Occupational Therapy services. They are also provided an in-house location to meet with defendants (removing the transportation barrier) as they work on budgeting, basic life skills, organizational techniques, and many other issues as they arise. Currently, the University has graduate level students perform their required field hours with probation defendants and the Court gets the services free of charge.

In addition, the Court created a pre and posttest to be utilized by defendants referred to this program. It is similar the Drug Court test, which the Court hopes to be able to measure what is completed during their time in this program. Occupational Therapy prepares someone to then begin workplace readiness.



#### **Miscellaneous Services:**

In addition to these regular services utilized by the Court, the Court has been fortunate to collaborate with A Full Circle and A Renewed Mind for Housing to assist with Medically Assisted Treatment. A Renewed Mind has also become a local treatment provider who is participating in with Drug Court defendants and has participated in our last few University of Cincinnati trainings. In addition, the Court has continued to work alongside the Open Arms Domestic Violence Program and Veterans Services Commission when warranted and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the transportation company (H.A.T.S.) to provide payment for transportation to and from required probation and treatment appointments.

## **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 2020, the Hancock County Community Corrections Planning Board held the statutorily required meetings as follows:

- September 10, 2019
- November 12, 2019
- March 10, 2020

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:**

The Hancock County Justice Center is experiencing record overcrowding requiring the Sheriff the criminal justice stakeholders to reconvene the Systems Process Analysis Committee that met approximately 15 years ago to examine local practices and processes that are contributing to the jail overcrowding. This committee began to meet in early 2020 but went on recess due to Covid-19. Judge Miller indicated that he will begin committee meetings again soon.

In addition, the Hancock County Commissioners agreed to hire a third party vendor to assist with the Jail Study and to make recommendations for saving costly jail beds. This preliminary DRAFT of their findings was released in the Fall of 2020.

**Reentry Initiatives:**

With the assistance of ADAMHS Executive Director Stuby, the CCA Board passed comprehensive Reentry Plan and filed it with the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for future funding opportunities. 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 in the jail 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.

**Opiate Task Force:**

The Reentry Coalition also remains incredibly active to building an infrastructure that can assist with the Opiate Epidemic. They have made great strides and now continue to focus their efforts on Detox, Medically Assisted Treatment and Recovery Housing.

**Housing:**

The Reentry Coalition continues to focus on Temporary and Permanent Supportive Housing for all citizens but especially the forensic population in Hancock County. The Housing Consortium continues to meet monthly, track housing inventory in the community and triage continue housing issues for Hancock County. Previous issues addressed were the implementation of Recovery Homes and then adjusting eligibility criteria to meet the current populations' needs

**Peer/Family/ Pro Social Support:**

Century Health currently manages PAID Peer Support positions supporting those coming out of jail and/or on probation supervision. In addition, the ADAMHS Board continues to support the Focus on Friends location provides

a safe location for those suffering from Addiction looking for Pro Social Support. ADAMHS continues to manage our community forward in this arena, now ensuring that all hires are *Certified* Peer Support

**Principles of Effective Intervention:**

The CCA Program continues to find grant dollars and to host local and regional trainings on Evidence Based Practices. ers.

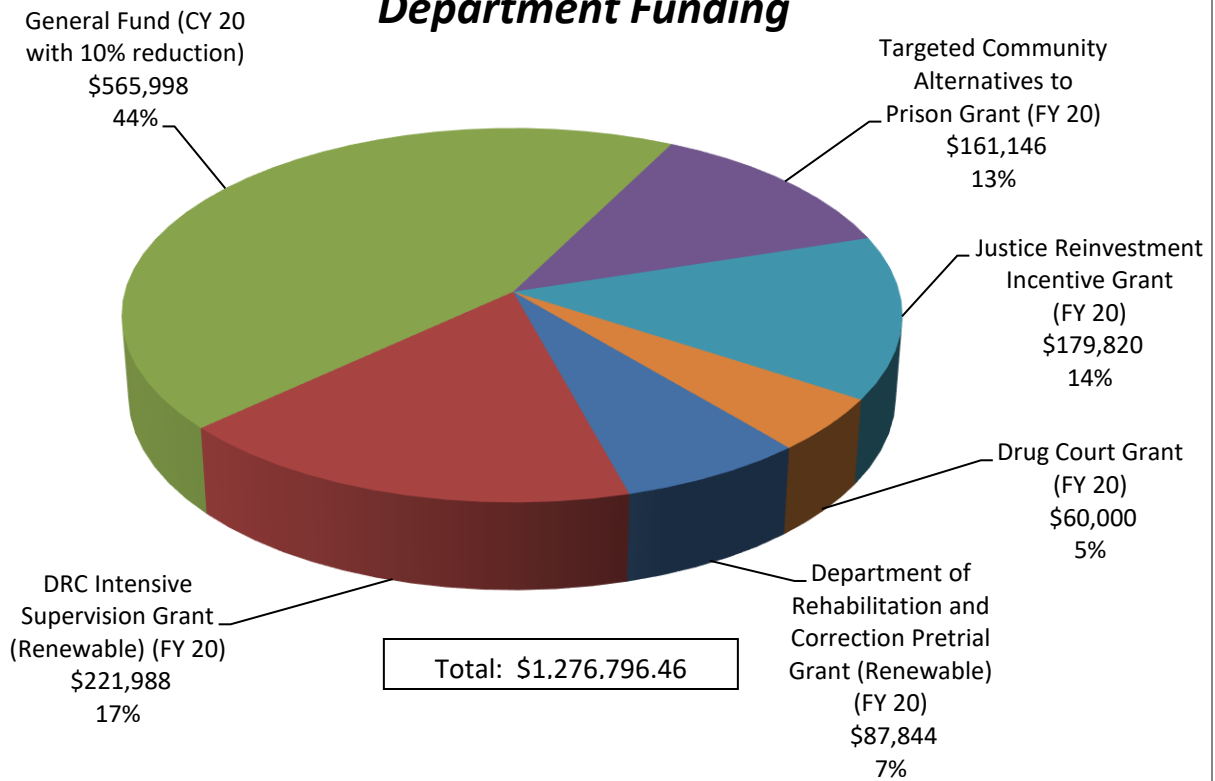
An issue of concern in the November 2018 ballot was a constitutional amendment, State Issue One. The CCA Board voted anonymously thru survey monkey on this matter. The vote was against State Issue One. The legislation would have reduced many low-level drug offenders to misdemeanor crimes along with several other changes to the criminal justice system.

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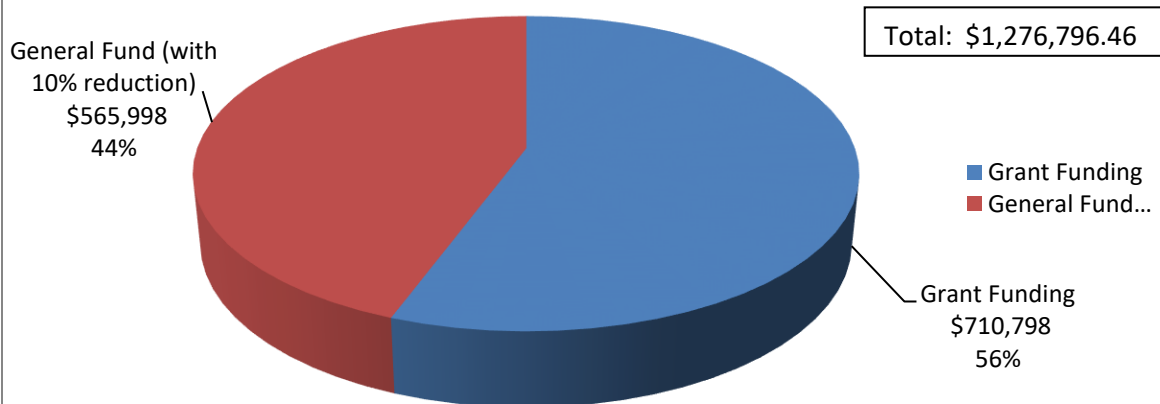
**Financial Overview**

The Adult Probation Department has been extremely aggressive in seeking and securing additional revenue sources to ensure the ability to provide this quality/high level of service to the Court , accountability to offenders and comply with evidence based interventions. We have also had to respond to unfunded mandates such as House Bill 86 and recently imposed House Bill 49 (T-CAP) and are very proud that the Adult Probation Department have planned and kept the county ahead of these issues.

## Hancock County Adult Probation Department Funding



## Hancock County Adult Probation Department Funding



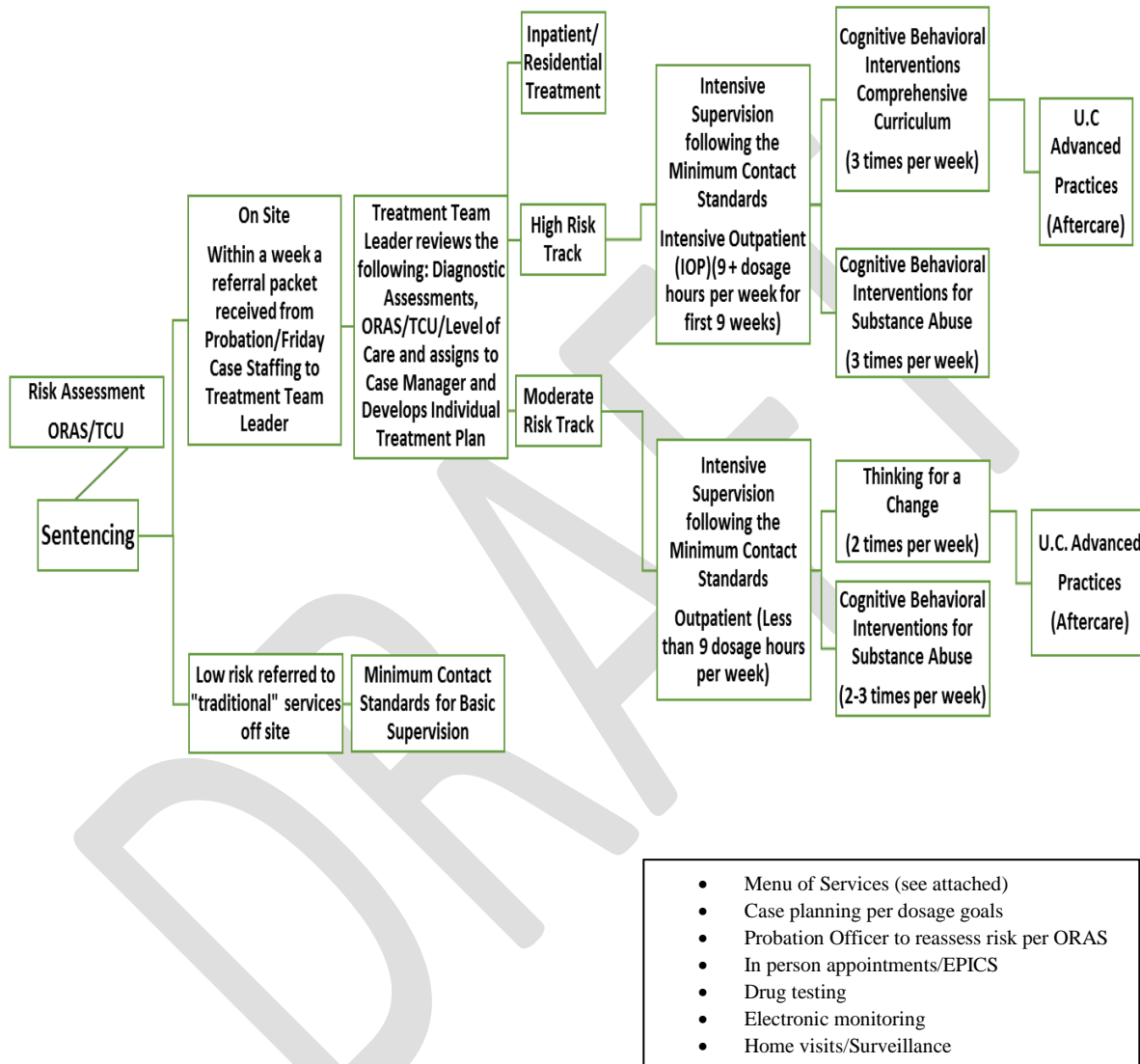
## ***Mission Statement***

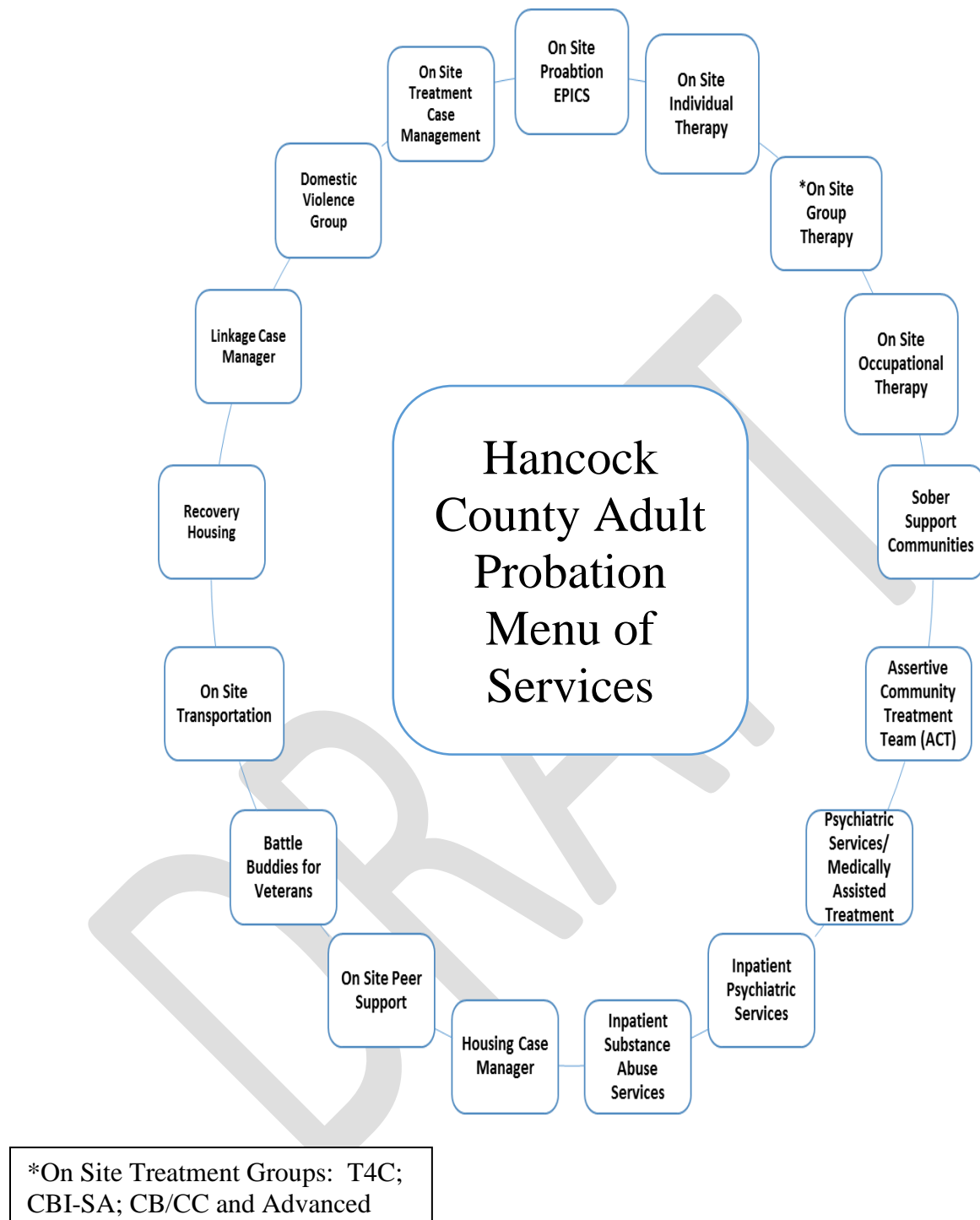
*The Hancock County Adult Probation Department is dedicated promoting citizen safety; striving to provide interventions that mirror evidence-based practices to assist offenders in changing behavior; providing monitoring of court orders and serving as liaison to crime victims.*

## **Appendix I**

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### **HANCOCK COUNTY ADULT PROBATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**





# Appendix II

## Low Risk Offender Schedule

January 2018						
Low Risk						
<div> <div>January 2018</div> <div> <div>Su</div><div>Mo</div><div>Tu</div><div>We</div><div>Th</div><div>Fr</div><div>Sa</div> </div> <div> <div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div><div>13</div> </div> <div> <div>14</div><div>15</div><div>16</div><div>17</div><div>18</div><div>19</div><div>20</div> </div> <div> <div>21</div><div>22</div><div>23</div><div>24</div><div>25</div><div>26</div><div>27</div> </div> <div> <div>28</div><div>29</div><div>30</div><div>31</div> </div> </div> <div> <div>February 2018</div> <div> <div>Su</div><div>Mo</div><div>Tu</div><div>We</div><div>Th</div><div>Fr</div><div>Sa</div> </div> <div> <div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div> </div> <div> <div>11</div><div>12</div><div>13</div><div>14</div><div>15</div><div>16</div><div>17</div> </div> <div> <div>18</div><div>19</div><div>20</div><div>21</div><div>22</div><div>23</div><div>24</div> </div> <div> <div>25</div><div>26</div><div>27</div><div>28</div> </div> </div>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 31	Jan 1, 18	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
	10:45pm Home Contact		10:00pm Office Contact 1:30pm Drug Test	6:45pm Continued Success Group		

Kimberly S. Fitch

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8/23/2018 9:58 AM

# February 2018

## Low Risk

February 2018							March 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
				6:45pm Continued Success Group		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				6:45pm Continued Success Group		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
				6:45pm Continued Success Group	11:00am Individual Therapy	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			1:00pm Office Contact	6:45pm Continued Success Group		
25	26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3

Kimberly S. Fitch

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8/23/2018 9:58 AM





8/23/2018 9:54 AM

# Appendix III

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## Hancock County Adult Probation Bond Program Flow Chart

