# Hancock County Community Corrections Act Programs Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2021 July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021

> Judge Reginald J. Routson Administrative Judge

Judge Jonathan P. Starn

Kimberly M. Switzer, MBA, CCE Director of Court Services/Chief Probation Officer

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# Program Goals and Objectives

The Hancock County Common Pleas Court Community Correction Act (CCA) Programs have been through numerous issues that will be examined below and have managed to maintain their primary goals of safely and effectively supervising felony offenders in the Hancock County Community.

The CCA Programs also continue to achieve statewide program goals and objectives of reducing commitments to state prison and/or local jails while providing safe and cost effective sentencing alternatives. These programs utilized by the Court's Judiciary, allow a Pretrial and several Sentencing options that provide safe and thorough supervision in the community, offender accountability, access to cognitive restructuring activities and individualized referred to treatment that is all aimed at criminal thinking patterns and reducing recidivism.

The following are issues that the Court and its programs have struggled to manage throughout this Fiscal Year and beyond.

- COVID-19 Pandemic (Beginning March of 2020 to current) and the social ills and fall-out;
- Local Jail Bed Shortage (Beginning March of 2020, Wing of Jail shut down in January of 2021 (to current);
- Record increase in criminal case filings;
- In-house treatment program withdrawal;
- Increase in Fentanyl and Crystal Methamphetamine;
- Increase in Suicide and Overdose deaths:
- APA withdrawal of Hancock County Courtesy Supervision;
- Medical Marijuana; and
- Staff turnover

#### **In-House Treatment Withdraw/ Covid-19 Social Ills:**

When many other Courts and their felony Probation Departments CLOSED during the Pandemic, the Hancock County Court remained opened and continued sentencing and supervising felony offenders. The Department had to get creative and assign remote work schedules, drug test with saliva products, meet the offender in the field more often and many other tactics to keep the fragile population engaged in their own probation supervision and treatment. The horrible social fall-out of Covid-19, resulting in explosions of substance abuse and mental health disorders, overdoses, suicides and the like, are now being handled at the Court's felony Probation Department while the in-house Forensic Team services that had been offered since 2011 withdrew and are offered now from their organization's location.

Collaborating with the local ADAMHS Board and numerous local treatment providers and other community programs, the Court's programs survived the above-referenced issues and continues to attempt to rebuild the previous in-house treatment team and curriculum in the existing environment. You will find an amazing list of services the ADAMHS Board has worked hard to build for our community listed in the Community Corrections Board Section of this report.

#### Local Jail:

Due to Covid-19 and later staffing issues, the Hancock County Sheriff Michael Heldman had to close certain beds within the Hancock County Justice Center. This of course resulted in the CCA programs to be even more available to supervise felons that normally would be serving their sanction in jail.

An amazing list of jail studies, institution planning for the stakeholders in this community and the exploration of other sentencing alternatives can be found in the Community Corrections Planning Board section of this report.

#### **Increased Case Filings/APA Courtesy Supervision:**

In addition to the increased workload from the jail closures, the local Hancock County Prosecutor's case filings have gone from an average of 300 per year to over 500 per year. In addition, the Adult Parole Authority (A.P.A.) ceased supervising courtesy supervision cases around the State, requiring more work for the local probation department.

In spite of the difficult issues referenced above, the Common Pleas Court Probation Department strives to enforce Court orders, focus on offender accountability and mirror BEST PRACTICES in the fields of community correction and addiction. The programs have been able to coordinate/collaborate and train in-house for the following services for offenders:

- EPICS (Effective Practices in Community Supervision) Probation Appointments;
- Diagnostic Evaluations;
- Individual Substance Abuse Therapy;
- Individual Mental Health Therapy;
- Case Management;
- Cognitive Behavioral Groups through various treatment vendors:
- Medically Assisted Treatment;
- Peer Support;
- Occupational Therapy;
- Drug Court Intensive Interventions;
- Transportation to and from probation and treatment and
- Offender Mentoring.

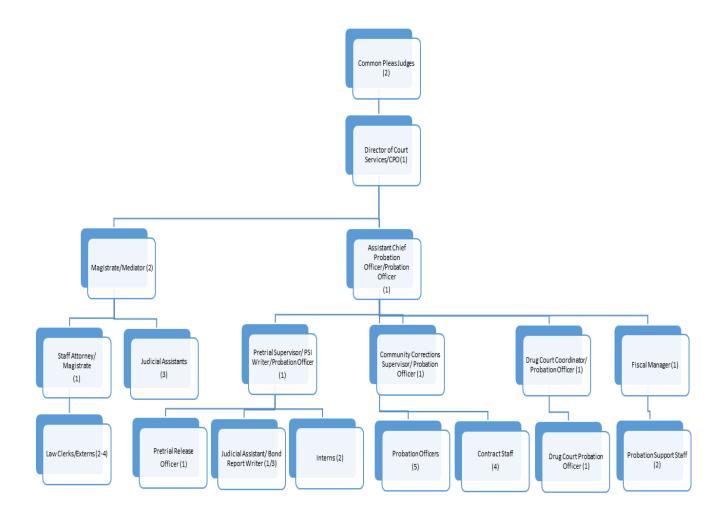
The Hancock County Common Pleas Court/ Adult Probation Department has received several Cliff Skeen Community Corrections Awards, an award given for excellence in the field of community corrections, with the last award date being in Fiscal Year 2018.

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 2021(July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021).

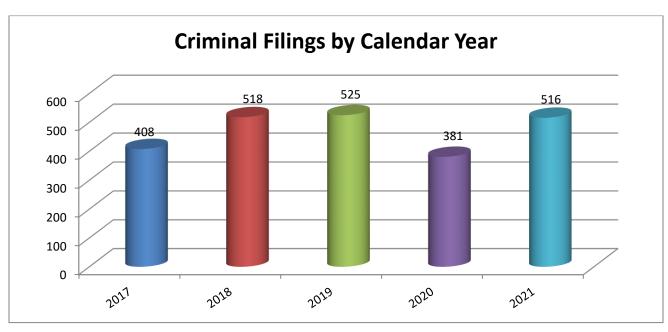
# **ADMINISTRATION**

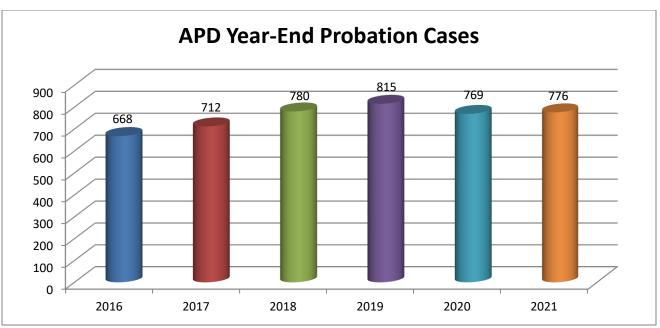
The Hancock County Common Pleas Court CCA Program has obtained a high level of success in the current field/expectations of Community Corrections. The program is operated solely out of the Common Pleas Court at this time and is under the direction of Administrative Judge Routson, Judge Starn, and the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



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/ then Covid-closed and staff-related reduction in jail beds. An increase such as this, also reflects an increase in report-writing, court hearings, cases to supervise and other miscellaneous functions the Adult Probation Department provides the Court.





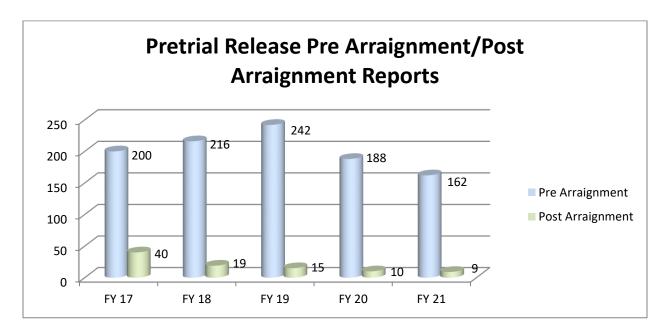
# PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM AND 408 JAIL DIVERSION GRANT

#### **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). 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

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 office (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 Officer to move to a Court position which handles 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 Probable Cause hearing, pending indictment or Bill of Information.

<u>Acceptance:</u> 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.

<u>Termination:</u> 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:** In July of 2019, It should be noted that the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction created new reporting periods for *program performance that are now* a total of 21 months, To better able the Court and the Community Corrections Board to evaluate like-numbers, we will continue to report out on the Fiscal Year.

#### **FY 21 PRETRIAL/BOND GOALS:**

• Goal: 378 for total performance period (FY20 and 21)

• Intakes: 280 (for FY 21)

Percentage of Goal: 148%
FY 21 Successful Completion Percentage: 79.92%

# 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**

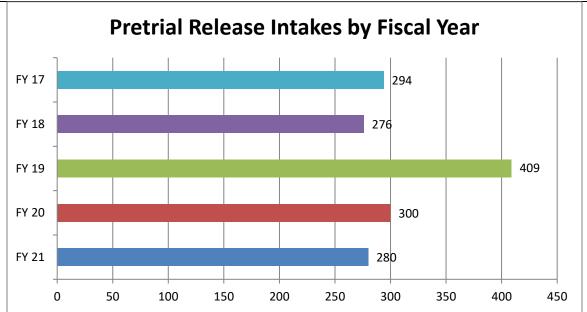
- Weekly in person reporting
- Electronic Monitoring as needed
- Drug/Alcohol testing as needed
- Surveillance as needed
- Collateral contacts as needed
- Increased conditions of release as needed which may include travel restrictions; curfew; no association; drug/ alcohol testing and residency

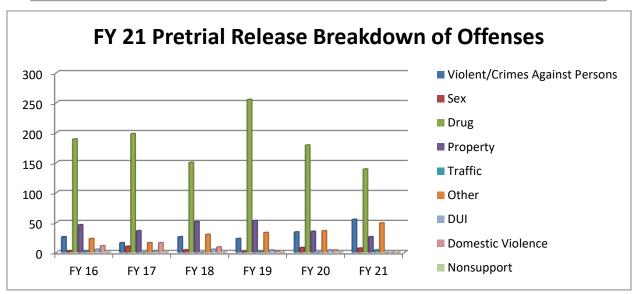
#### **Moderate Risk**

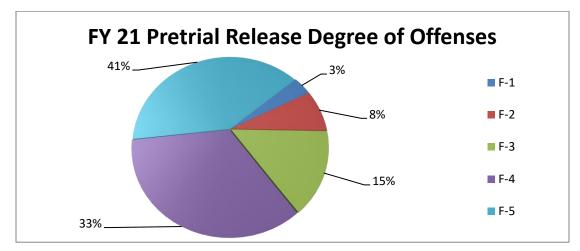
- Every two week in person reporting
- Electronic Monitoring as needed
- Drug/Alcohol testing as needed
- Surveillance as needed
- Collateral contacts as needed

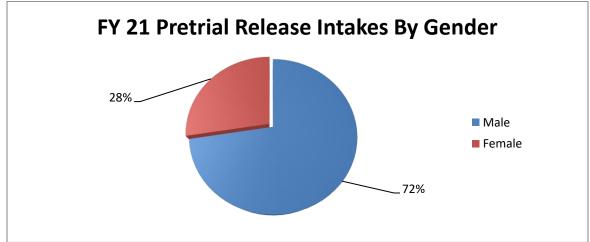
#### Low Risk

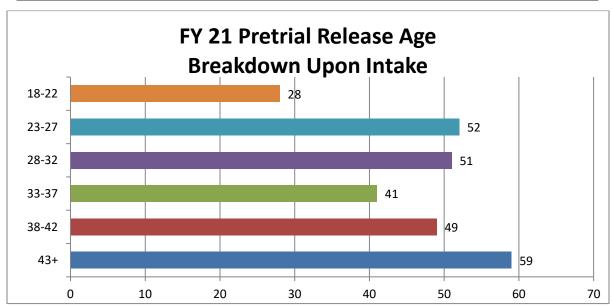
- One time monthly reporting as directed by officer which may include in person or by phone
- Drug/Alcohol testing as needed
- Surveillance as needed
- Collateral contacts as needed
- Least restrictive conditions of release as determined appropriate through the Court

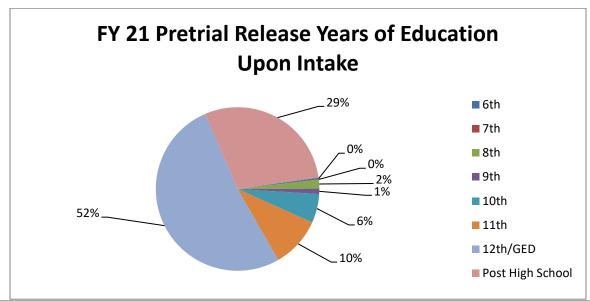


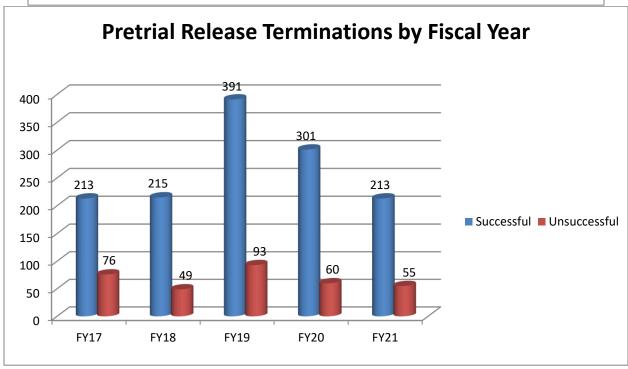


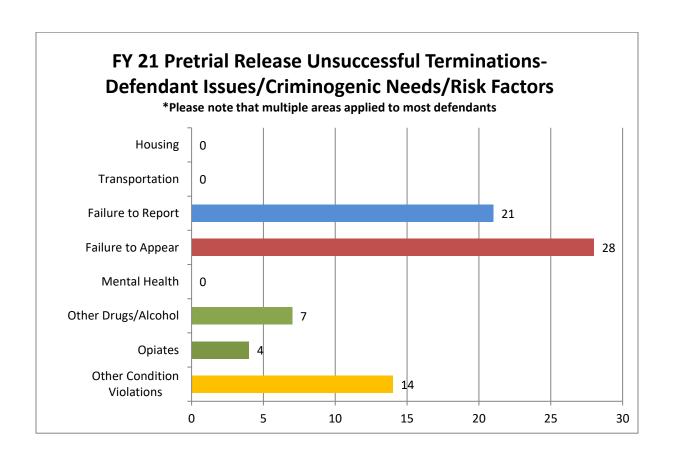






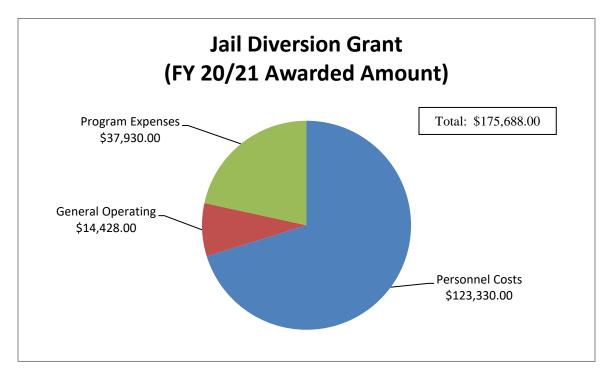


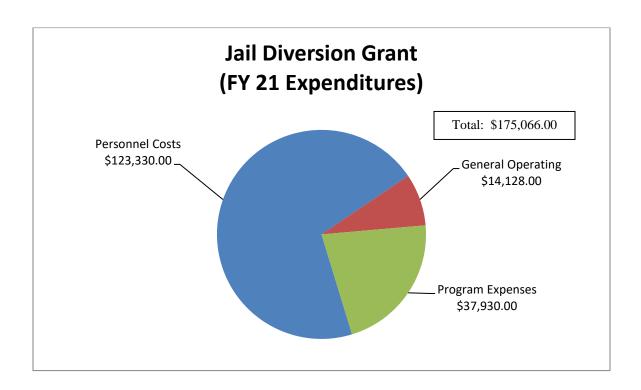




FY 20/21 Jail Diversion Grant (408)

\*2 Year Grant Cycle





## **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:**

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 the County General Fund supplements approximately 20% of the Presentence Writer's salary and benefits. A total of two hundred nineteen (219) reports with fifty six (56) updates, were prepared for the Common Pleas Court in Fiscal Year 2021. 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 through 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 include but are not limited to the following:

#### **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.

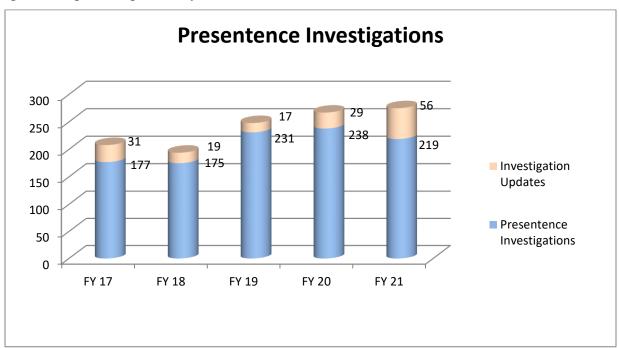
#### **Sealing of Record Investigations**

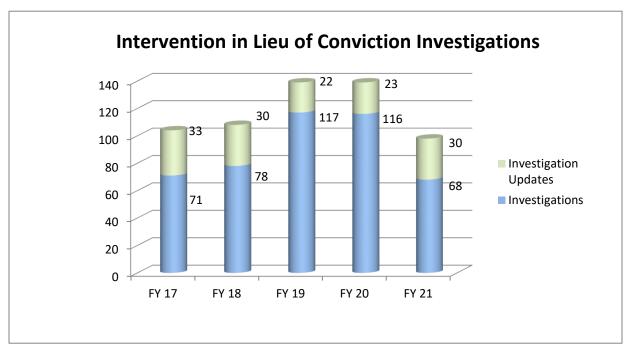
#### **Relief from Disability Investigations**

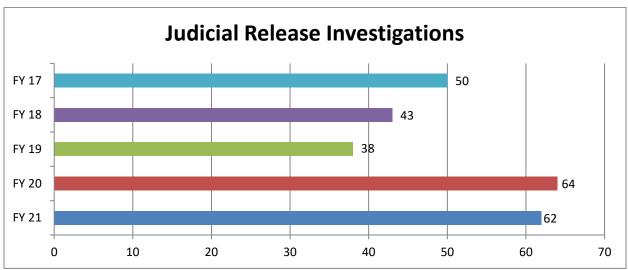
#### **Miscellaneous Reports:**

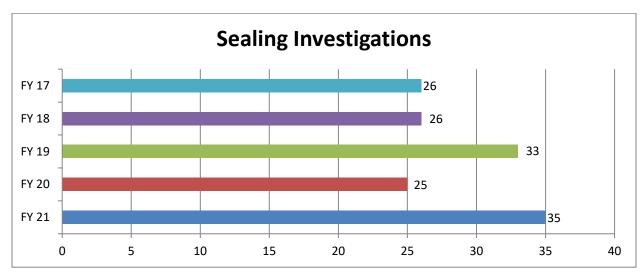
Other reports such as Financial Review Hearing Reports and Medical Marijuana Investigations to name a few are several additional reports needed by the Court.

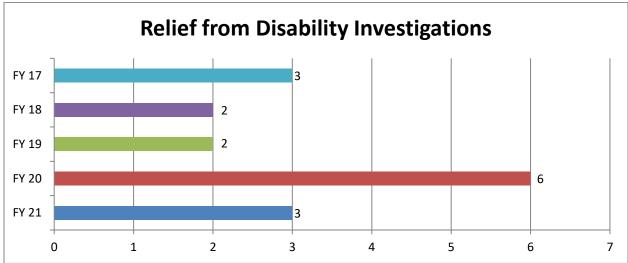
The following graphs and charts reflect the Adult Probation Department's productivity on those reports compared to previous years.











# PROBATION SUPERVISION AND PRISON DIVERSION GRANT

### I. <u>Probation Supervision:</u>

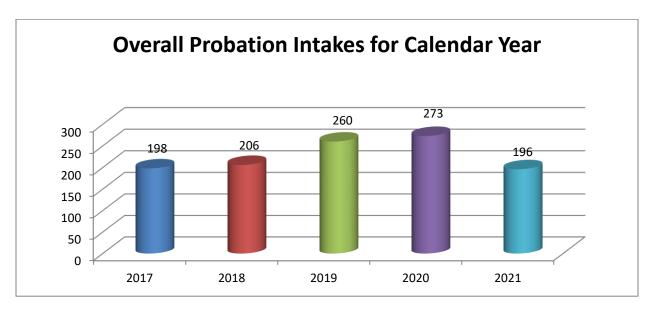
The Court has several programs supervising felony criminal defendants. All programs focus on offender accountability while adhering to the Risk Principle and utilize the EPICS format and Carey Guide interventions in their appointments/case planning. Both County General Revenue Funds and various State 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:

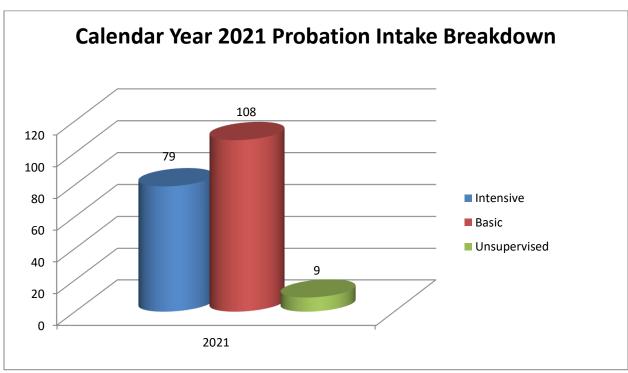
- Monitored Time/ Unsupervised Probation;
- Basic Supervision;
- Intensive Supervision;
- Intensive Supervision with Drug Court;
- Courtesy Supervision Internal: (We now provide for other Ohio counties as of FY18 when APA no longer provided our County's courtesy supervision. In addition, during Covid, other counties refused to accept courtesy supervision cases FROM other counties, requiring Court staff to spend more time on those cases);
- Courtesy Supervision External (To other counties/states)
- Electronic Monitoring;
- In-house instant drug testing (urine and saliva).

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 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.

#### OVERALL PROBATION DEPARTMENT INFORMATION





## II. <u>Intensive Supervision (ISP): 407 Grant Program:</u>

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 successfully and now requires evidence based criteria.

In February of 2015, the Court certified two (2) Specialized Docket/ Drug Courts. Drug-related offenders who are NOT drug traffickers, are screened for to determine if they will be granted voluntary participation into the program. The Drug Court program offers a an intensive treatment curriculum based on individual needs along with a regular check in with the sentencing Judge. It also offers community and peer support to link offenders to the recovery communities. Drug Court Materials are included 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.

<u>Acceptance:</u> 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

**<u>Rejection:</u>** 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.

<u>Termination:</u> 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.

<u>Supervision:</u> 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, inhouse group interventions (see below) that are separated by risk and gender.

<u>ISP/407 GRANT PROGRAM GOALS</u>: 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 2019. To better able the Court and Community Corrections to evaluate like-numbers, we will continue to report out annually on the Fiscal Year.

#### <u>ISP</u>

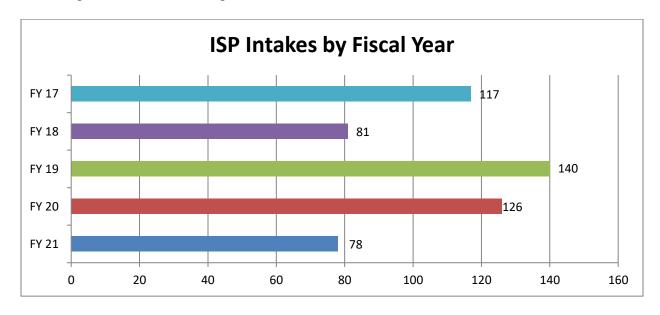
• Goal: 147 for total performance period (FY21-73.5)

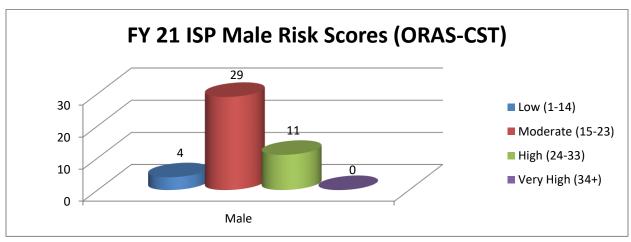
• Intakes: 78 (for FY 21)

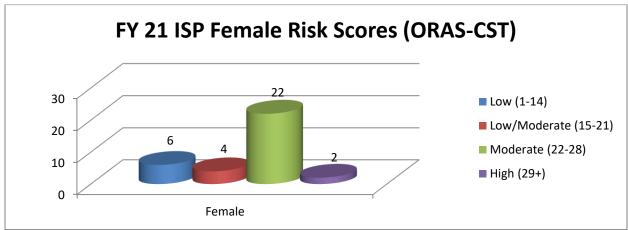
• Percentage of Goal: 106.12%

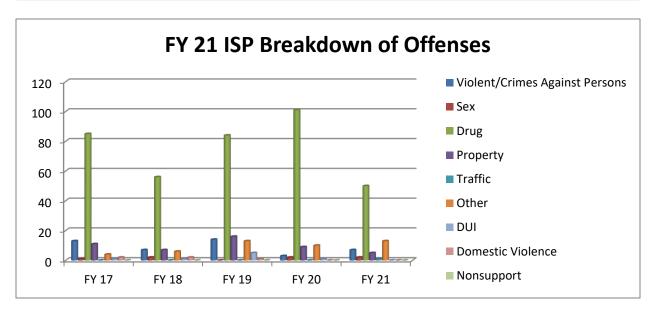
• FY 21 Successful Completion Percentage: 72.22%

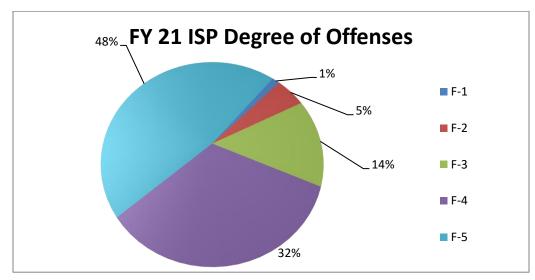
It should be noted that this is the program that has received the Cliff Skeen Community Corrections Award from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction on numerous occasions and was recognized as the winner again in Fiscal Year 2018.

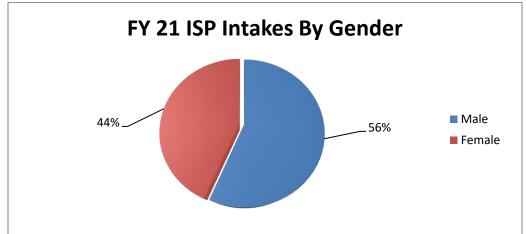


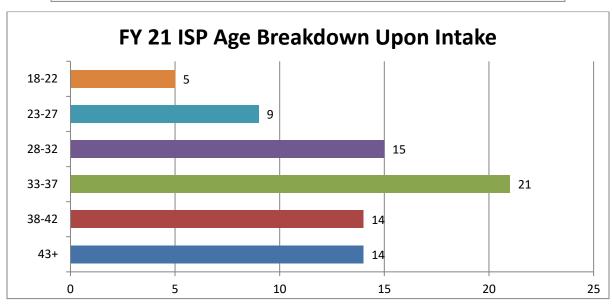


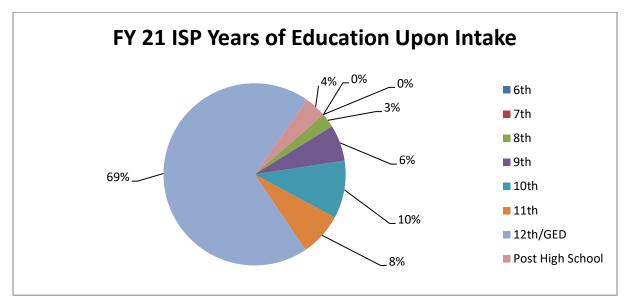


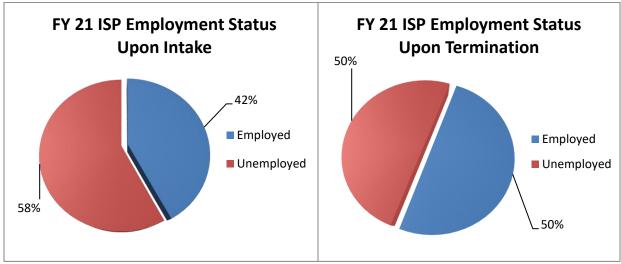


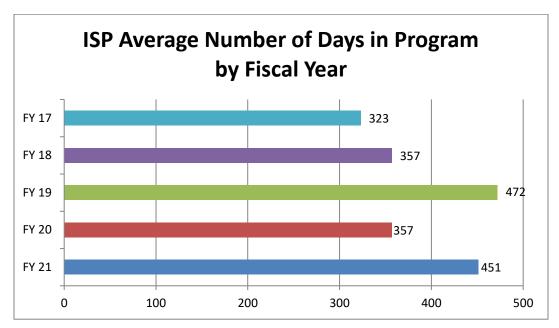


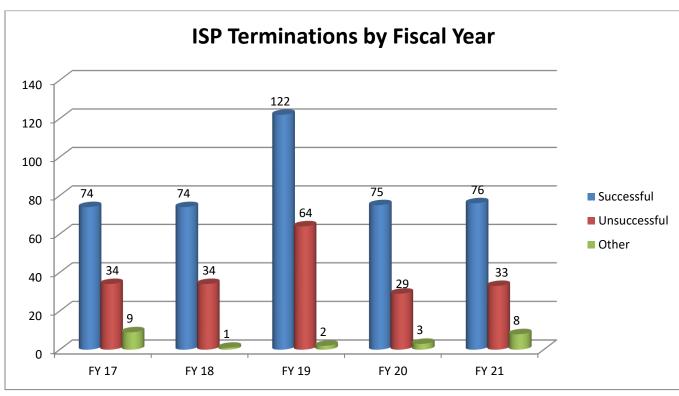


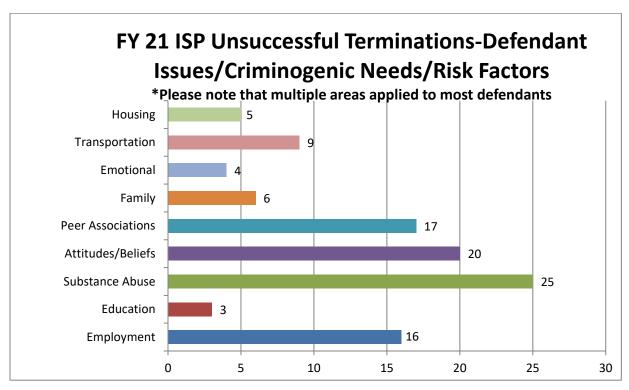


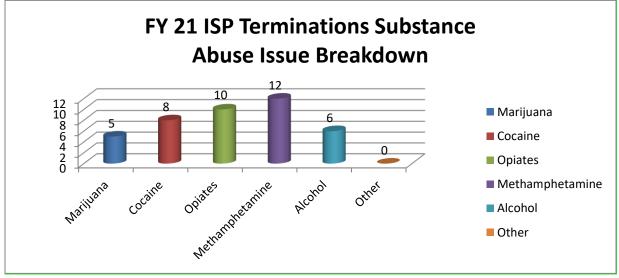


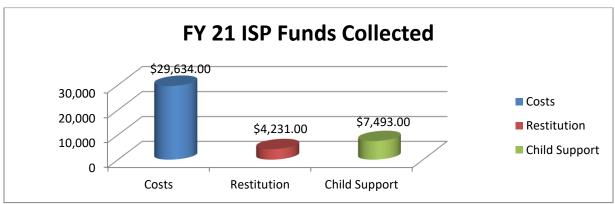






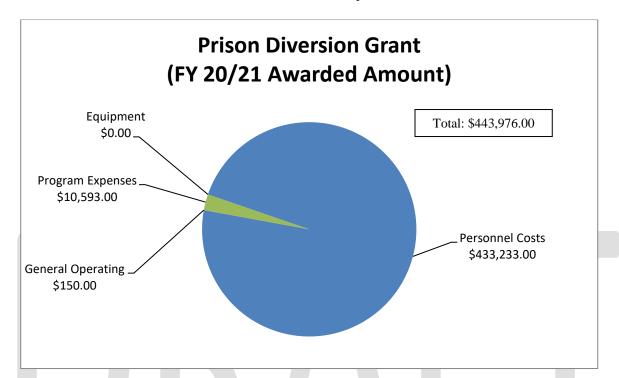


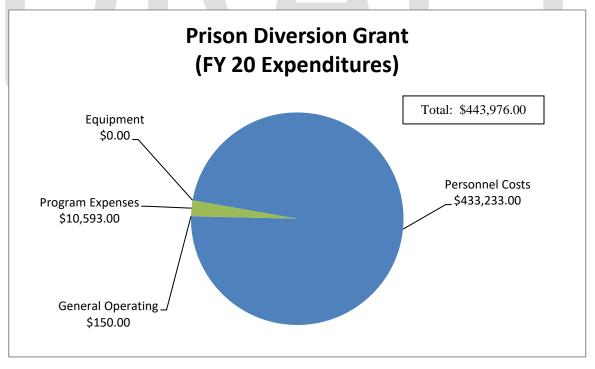




## FY 20/21 Prison Diversion Grant (407)

\*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 begin screening for and treating defendants who qualify for these much-needed intensive treatment program .Judge Routson received his original Supreme Court of Ohio Certification in 2015 and his most recent Recertification January 2021. Judge Starn received his Original Certification in 2017, and his most recent Recertification in January of 2021. Both Courts are required to Recertify every three (3) years.

A Certification 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.

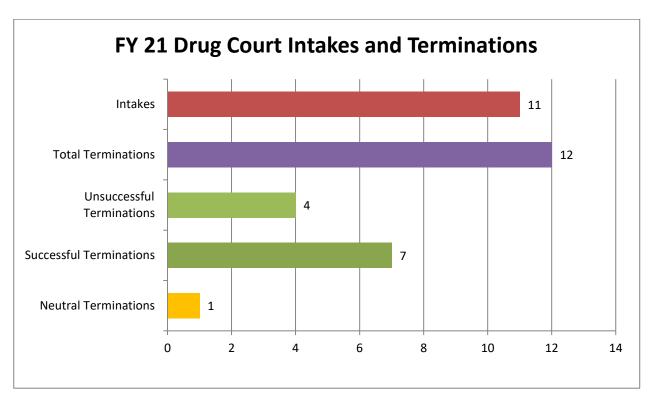
For an offender to qualify for Drug Court, the defendant must have a Diagnosis of Addiction and a Moderate to High ORAS Score, placing them in the above-referenced Intensive Supervision Program. The programs continues to change as the drugs of choice change each year and the Court learns many lessons about addiction. Many of the probation department supervision tools utilized for the Specialized Docket include but are not limited to EPICs, Carey Guides, Interactive Journals, Cognitive Restructuring, peer support, random drug testing, individualized treatment, MAT, Recovery Housing, Inpatient Treatment Access and Employment Readiness.

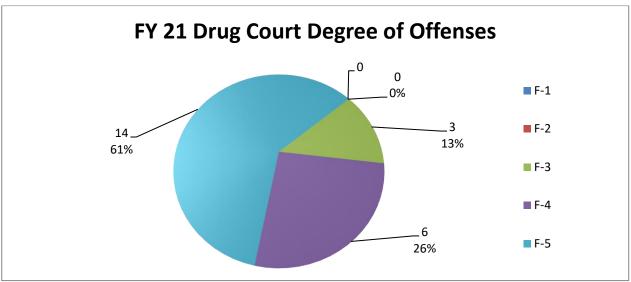
In addition to these regular tools, the Drug Court has access to Addiction Treatment Program (ATP) funds to assist the offender with much-needed assistance with items that create barrier to moving forward. Examples of these have been assistance funds to help with rent, utility bills, food, and tuition for GED, college and certification courses, driver's license reinstatement fees and registration blocks as well as vehicle insurance. Anything that might hinder an offender's progress or trigger a relapse with addiction.

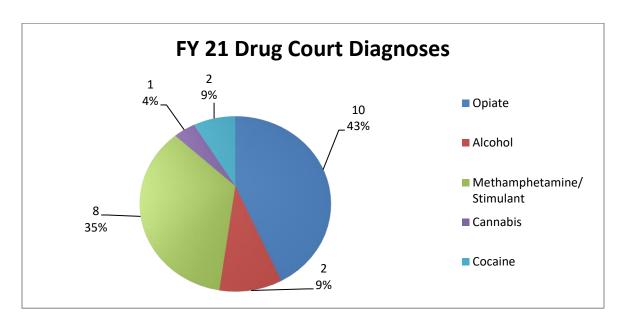
#### **Funding/Staffing:**

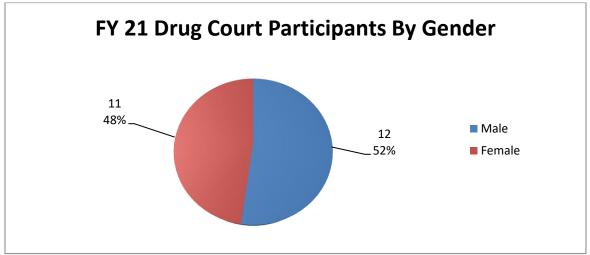
In addition to CCA funds, The Ohio State Legislature dedicated monies to Specialized Dockets through Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. These funds are necessary if the Court is going to provide these extremely labor and resource intensive programs.

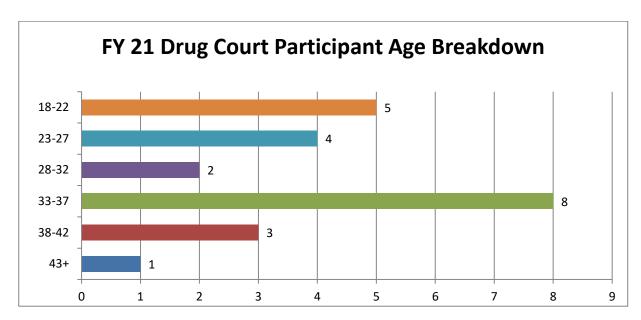
The Court's Drug Court staffing requires a Drug Court Coordinator, who also supervises other cases for the Adult Probation Department. This funding is provided by the County's TCAP grant, which is coordinated in collaboration with the Hancock County Sheriff, Hancock County Commissioners and Hancock County Common Pleas Judges (see below). An additional probation officer is required to supervise these intensive cases and most of her salary and benefits is provided by the Drug Court. The Drug Court Coordinator has begun a review of Drug Court Participants and their recidivism in the criminal justice system. Those results should be available by the next Fiscal Year Report.

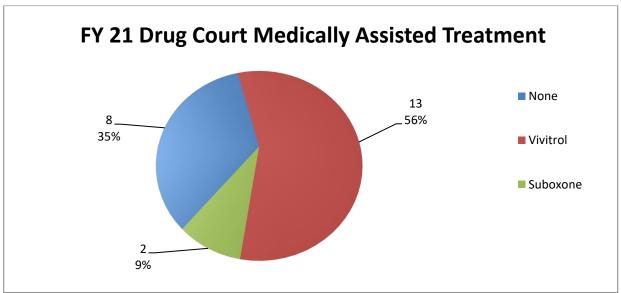


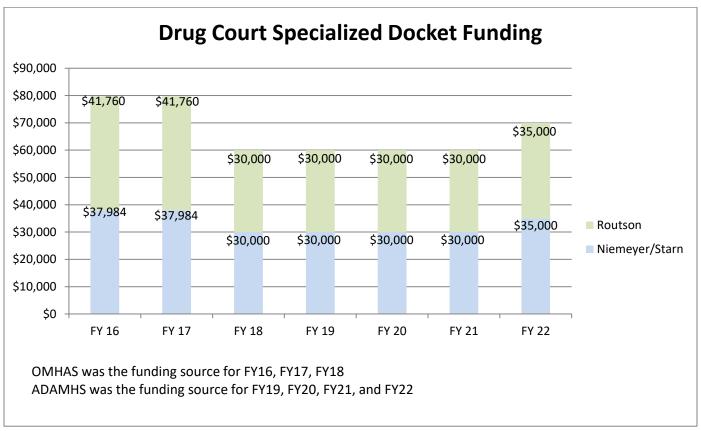


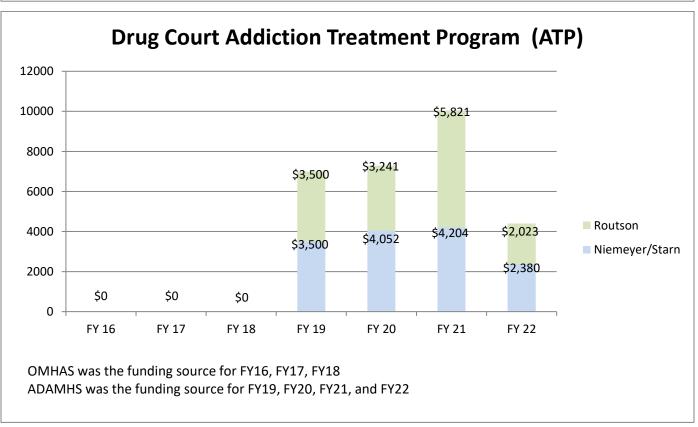


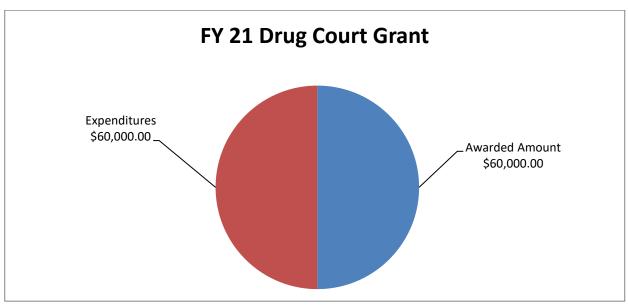


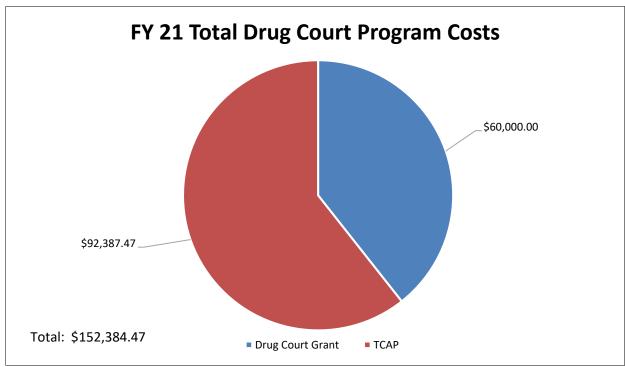












# IV. <u>Probation Improvement Grant/ Justice Reinvestment and</u> Incentive (JRIG) Grant:

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 inhouse 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 the collaboration could go "live" with billing for available Affordable Care Act funds as of July 1, 2015. The grant continued to be "treatment oriented" in nature until FY17. Once the treatment staff could be billed, the grant was switched to much-needed probation officers to manage the increasing caseloads and DEMANDS of each case.

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). The two mandatory goals for this grant are related diverting felons from prison while they are encouraging local courts to utilize more treatment options for low level/ drug addicted felons. The Common Pleas Court is currently dedicating these valuable funds to two (2) full time probation officers and a full time support staff position. Due to the Court's performance in these dimensions, the D.R.C. has DECREASED our JRIG funds, removing all extra funding except for personnel costs for FY22/23.

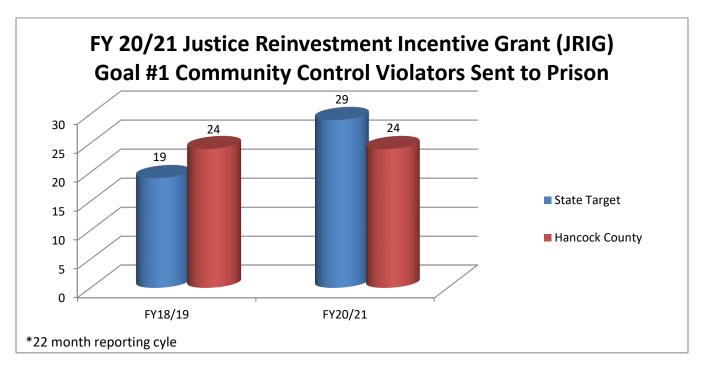
Goal 1: To reduce the number of offenders incarcerated in jail/prison as a result of violating

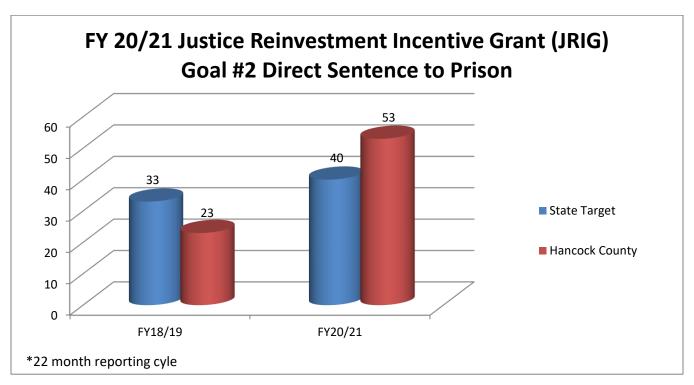
the condition of their supervision.

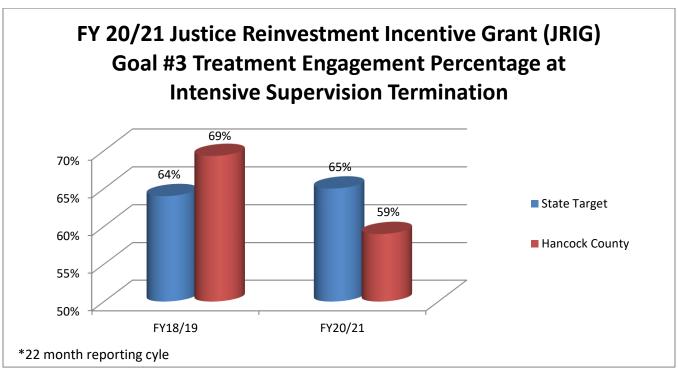
Goal 2: Common Pleas Courts: Felony level 4 and 5 prison commitment reduction.

Goal 3: Increasing the programming or service availability for opiate/other illegal

substances.

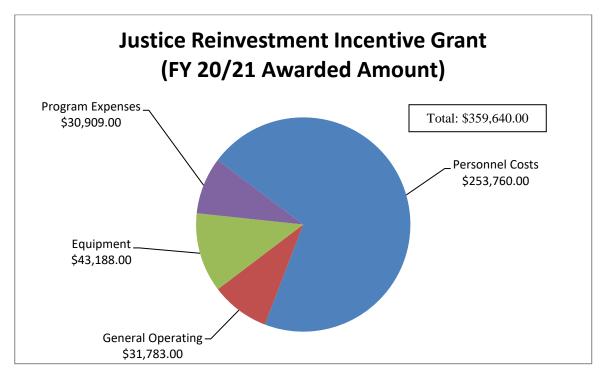


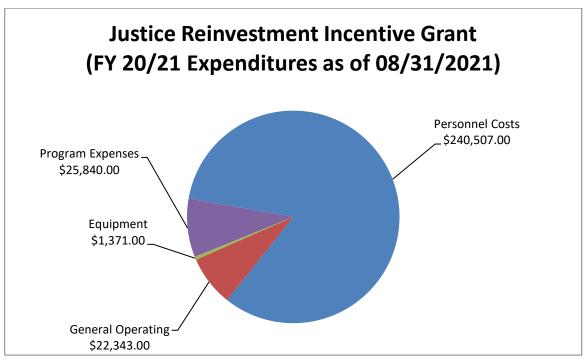




## FY 20/21 Justice Reinvestment Incentive Grant (JRIG)

\*2 Year Grant Cycle





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

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 Administrative Judge Routson 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.

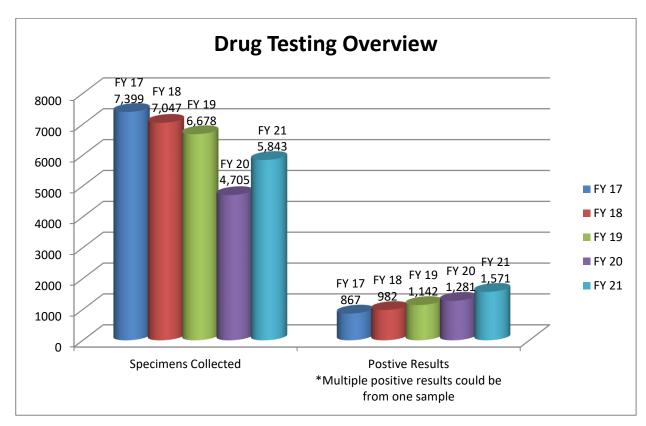
These valuable funds coming to Hancock County are dedicated to paying for the Court's full time Drug Court Coordinator position and the other half of the grant allotment went to the County Commissioners/ Sheriff to assist in paying of jail overcrowding/ paying other jurisdiction costs.

TCAP: Annual Agreement:	\$322,294.00					
TCAP Total Revenue received to date						
(Total of FY18/19, 20/21 & to date FY22):	\$757,495.00					
Total to Courts:	\$396,087.63					
Total to Commissioners/Sheriff:	\$361,407.37					

#### 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, Alcohol, Fentanyl, Tramadol, 6-Acetylmorphine, Oxycodone, Methadone, Suboxone and Benzodiazepines and even K-2 or Spice. At the end of FY21, the Adult Probation Department went to a more expensive, 20 panel test cup/vendor, however we believe that we will receive more pertinent drug testing and accurate results, requiring less frequent testing. Additional drug and alcohol screening is completed in the field utilizing instant saliva tests and breathalyzer technology.

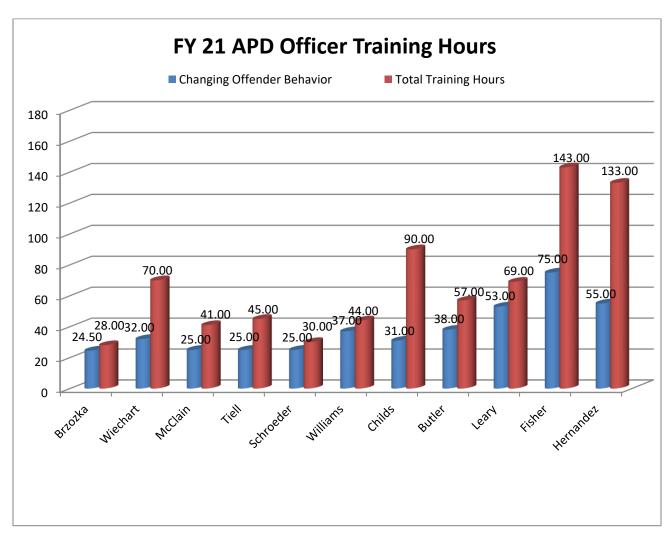
Hancock County Programs are also utilizing a very effective tool of *truly Random Drug Testing* of felony offenders. The offenders are assigned this status and check the Court's web site daily to see if their assigned "color" is to come in for a random test. Exit interview both verbally and in writing state that the offenders find this one of the most effective ways to keep them accountable when in treatment and on supervision until they can ultimately do it on their own.

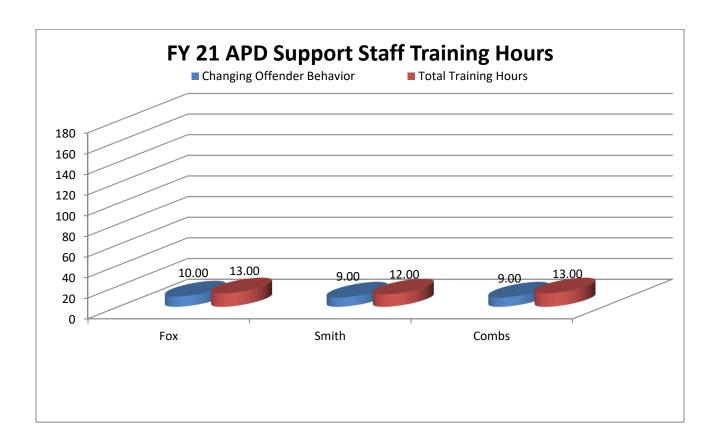


### **Staff Training**

Despite the significant issues referenced at the beginning of this Annual Report, the 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 FY22.

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

As referenced above, each Fiscal Year reveals 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 as integrated as possible and share a mission of reducing recidivism and have been a conduit for treatment innovations for other criminal justice

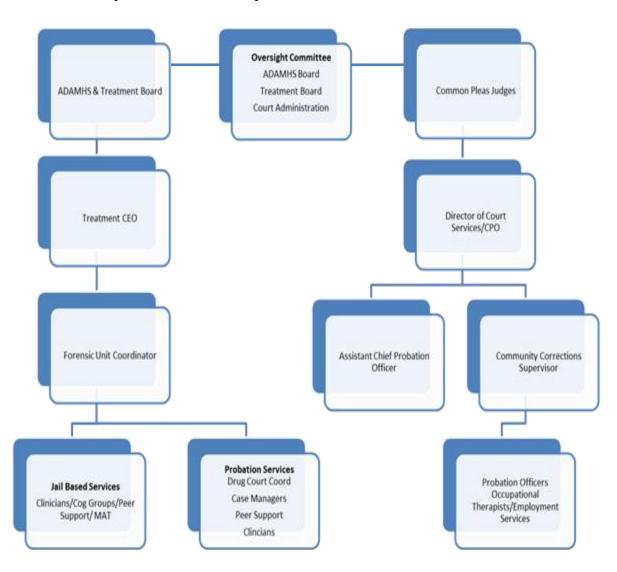
stakeholders.

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

Due to successful outcomes from several University of Cincinnati CPC Evaluations, Court responses to Legislative changes and numerous successful collaborations 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;
  - o Family Resource Center Still Provides:
  - o UC: Comprehensive Behavioral Interventions: Substance Abuse
  - o Thinking for a Change Curriculum;
  - o UC: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions: Comprehensive Curriculum; \*
  - Aftercare: UC: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Advanced Practices (skill building); and \*
- Medically Assisted Treatment;
- Peer Support;
- Occupational Therapy;
- Drug Court Intensive Interventions; and
- Transportation to and from probation and treatment \*

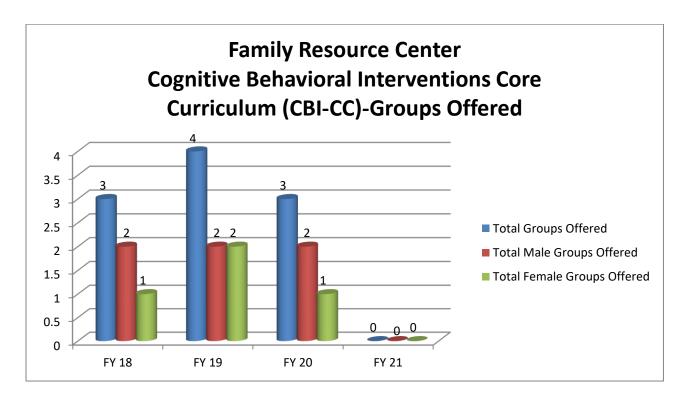


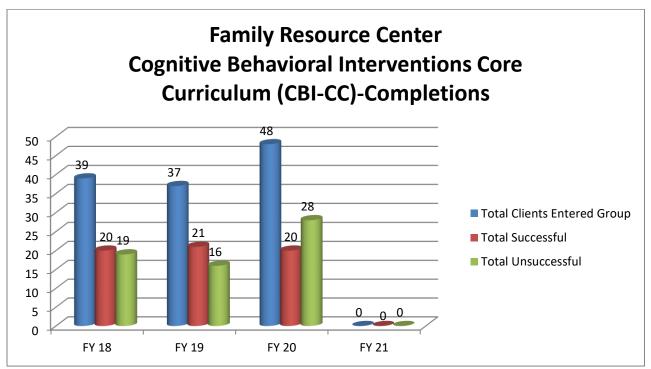
#### **Cognitive Programming for Hancock County Offenders**

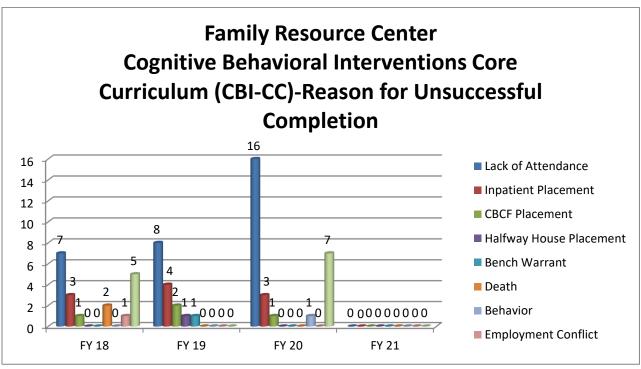
Since 2011, the Court has been working and training with the local community and treatment providers to offer a very thorough program of Cognitive Behavioral Interventions to the felony offending population. In FY21, between Ohio's Behavioral Redesign and our local community staffing issues of case managers and social workers, The Family Resource Center could no longer support the various group and individual interventions being offered solely at the Common Pleas Probation Department. The University of Cincinnati groups are now provided at their own facilities and to other local forensic clients being ordered there by other local Courts! This team also remains very active in the Court's Drug Court curriculum/requirements as well. The Family Resource Center groups provided to the Court's offenders are articulated below.

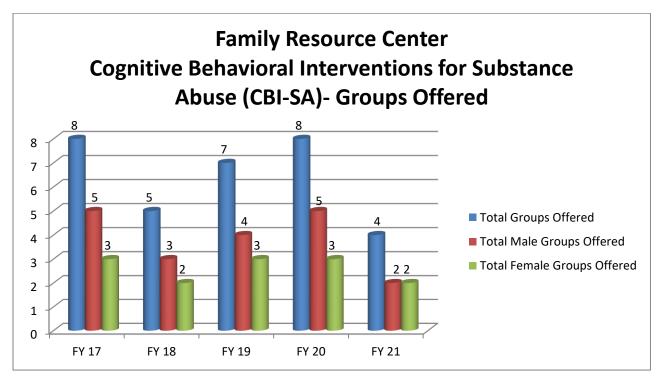
With the explosions of mental illness, suicide attempts, overdoses and the like related to Covid-19, at the close of this Fiscal Year, Director Switzer requested Family Resource Center restore at least case management services on-site for the felony offenders. They granted the Court one half day two times per week. The Court will continue to collaborate for more case management services as the social ills related to Covid-19.

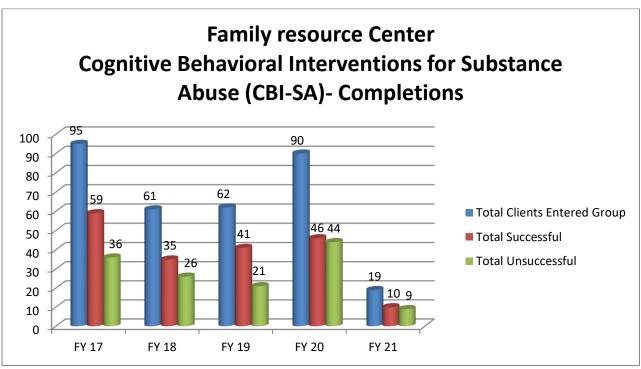
Now that there are several other treatment vendors in Findlay, Ohio offering outpatient services, we will continue to QA (Quality Assurance) those services/groups per the state audit contracts standards and in FY22, we will have a report out on the services provided to our population by those vendors.

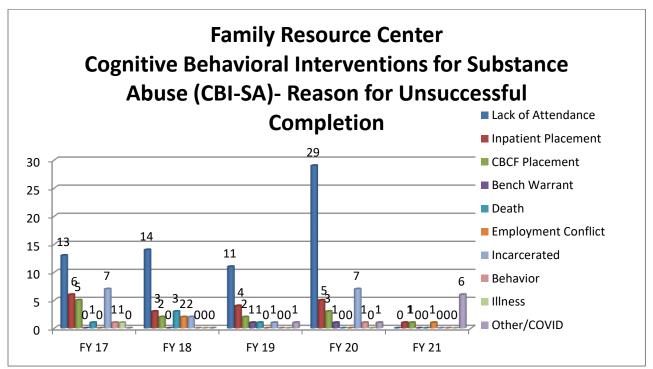


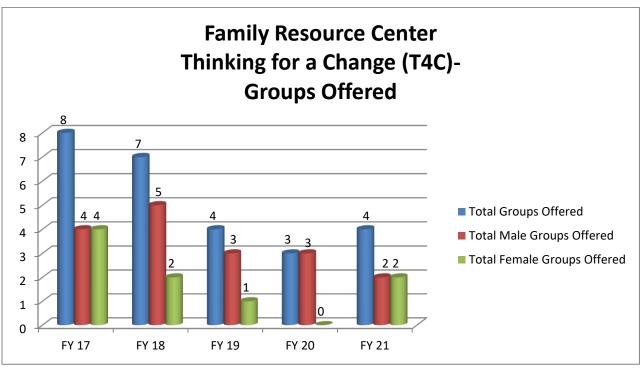


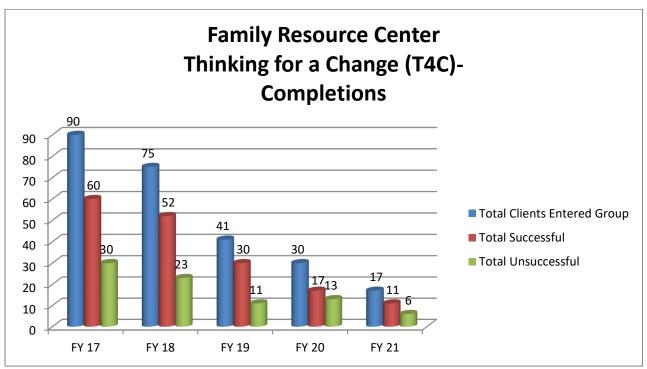


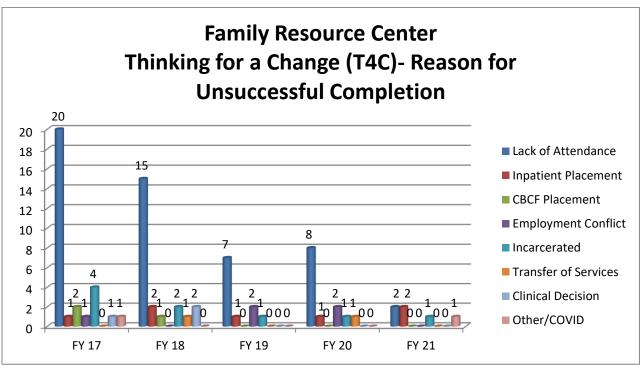


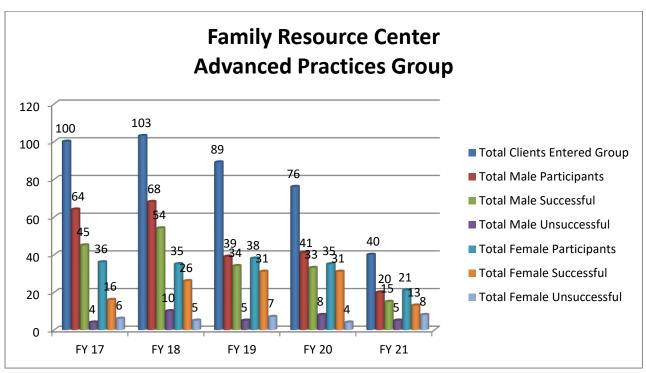


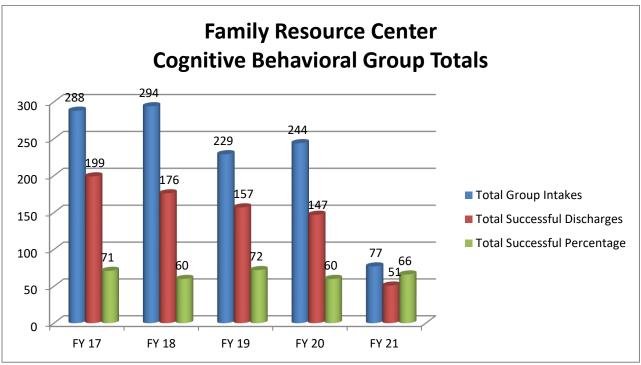








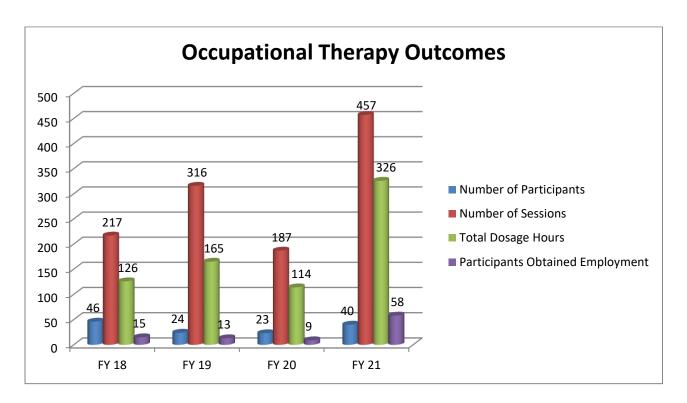




Family Resource Center Groups: As the charts above reflect, the Thinking for a Change curriculum was not offered to felony adult probationers as often/much as it had been in the past few years. Upon further examination, we determined that one of the case managers providing the group was finishing up 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.

#### **Occupational Therapy:**

In addition to the formal treatment referenced above, the Court is collaborating with The Family Resource Center and University of Findlay for Occupational Therapy services. They are also now provided at the Family Resource Center location, rather than at the Adult Probation Department. The great services offers budgeting, basic life skills, organizational techniques, and many other issues as they arise.



#### **Other Valued Services:**

As briefly referenced above, in addition to these regular services thru Family Resource Center the Court has been fortunate to collaborate additionally treatment vendors in town such as A Renewed Mind, Spero Health, and Firelands (Fostoria, Ohio) for Outpatient services. In addition, the Court has utilized Surest Path, Great Lakes, Midwest and Devlac for various mental health and substance abuse inpatient services. The Court has continues to work alongside the Open Arms Domestic Violence Program and Veterans Services Commission when warranted. For the much-needed need of transportation in a rural county, the Court and entered into 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; offers gas cards from grant funding and explores other options for this need. In late FY22, the Court began a collaboration with T and H Lift taxi service.

## **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! Though Covid-19 kept the Board from the usual formal meetings, there were many OTHER meetings related to our committees below that all CCA Board stakeholders attended together to keep these important projects moving forward. Most of the important work has been related to the Covid-19 social fall-out resulting in more drug use, overdoses, overdose deaths and suicides. You will see an amazing array of services the local ADAMHS Board created with the assistance of many CCA Board member-attended committee meetings/feedback. In addition the CCA Board members met regarding to work on expanding our

community's local jail diversion options In Fiscal Year 2022, the Hancock County Community Corrections Planning Board met and followed up regularly on subcommittees as follows:

- September 28, 2021: Scheduled then Cancelled due to Covid-10
- August 23, 24, 25, 2021: Creation of the Community Advisory Committee for Building a New Jail/ Utilized CCA Board mailing list (See attached)
- November 30, 2021: Scheduled then Cancelled due to Covid-19
- June 21, 2022: Scheduled for Jury Assembly Room.

With or without formal meetings, the Board members remain active in assisting the community in planning for and reporting out on issues related to criminal justice in the Findlay/Hancock County community. Currently the Board is tracking and/or overseeing the following:

#### **Jail Expansion:**

In addition to the jail alternatives listed above and the larger capacity of all jail diversion programs, the Hancock County Justice Center remains overcrowded. The following efforts are being implemented or examined to address the community's wants/ needs in this arena:

- Findlay Municipal Court continues a Pretrial/Bond Program;
- August 2021; as referenced above, the Sheriff and Jail Administrator, for the County Commissioners organized and hosted a three-day Community Advisory Committee with many CCA Board members to begin examining the process of building a new jail institution. This was facilitated by the National Institute of Corrections.
- May 2022: Judge Starn of Common Pleas Court called together a committee to examine the arraignment process;
- Throughout this Fiscal Year, the Findlay Municipal Court continued to explore, visited similar facilities, and other activities in hopes of building a Community Alternative Sentencing Center (CASC) in our local community and possibly combined/attached to the new local Jail project. The City of Findlay Judiciary have met several times in this Fiscal Year with the Hancock County Board of Commissioners to explore options for this project.
  - o Note: As of the closing of Fiscal Year FY 22, the laws remain unmodified to include felony offenders into this facility.

#### **Juvenile/Probation Building:**

This project continues to be examined and considered by the Hancock County Board of Commissioners along with many members of the CCA Planning Board. By the end of FY22, there was still no plan. During FY22, plans continue to be explored.

#### **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. There are several items continuing to operate from these long-time endeavors that have lasting value as of FY22:

#### **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. These practices continue today.

#### **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. This Task Force continues its good work and the Court is invited to and attends this important team.

#### **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:

Family Resource Center 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 utilized CCA grant dollars (which are no longer available within the biannual grant agreements) to coordinate and host local and regional trainings on Evidence Based Practices where the entire criminal justice and treatment providers working with the criminal justice population are invited. Due to Covid-19, this did not occur for several years, but the Court has plans for our joint trainings to begin again in FY22 if it can find funding to do so.

**TREATMENT AND RECOVERY INITIATIVES:** In addition to these ongoing committees, thanks to the ADAMHS Board, local treatment providers and recovery organizations, there are always exciting new services in response to our community's needs.

Some major highlights impacting the criminal justice system for FY21 and FY22 are listed below:

- a. **Quick Response Team (QRT)**: team continues to be in place and respond when they are notified of an overdose
- b. <u>LEAD</u> team referrals expanded to include community referrals. Federal grant ending in Sept. A new grant will be submitted in June for expansion. Expansion of this grant will include the ability to work with youth who have been impacted by addiction in the home
- c. <u>Forensic Team</u> services maintained from The Family Resource Center locations.
- d. <u>FOCUS</u> federal grant award New grant awarded to the Board that will go to FOCUS to develop an outreach team with a specific focus on criminal justice. Team members will be able to go to courts; police departments; probation, etc. to explain what is available at the recovery center and try to engage them in the recovery community
- e. <u>The Steady Path</u> residential stabilization services opened in January of 2022. 12 beds for adults in need of stabilization
- f. <u>Continued Jail-based services</u> services continue (clinical; case management and peer support)
- g. <u>Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)</u> The board is now serving as the fiscal agent
- h. <u>Harm Reduction</u> we work with the health department of their harm reduction efforts. Program continues to expand. Have now served approximately 70 individuals and have multiple secondary distributers of Narcan. In FY22, the Board and Health Department asked the Courts to become Secondary Distributors of Narcan. This decision is pending.
- i. <u>Mobile Health Clinic</u> Health department in process of hiring a coordinator. Efforts were delayed as the clinic has primarily been used to get the vaccine out. Now will be expanded to include more screening (mental health and addiction
- j. <u>Medically Assistant Treatment (MAT</u>) All forms of MAT now available in the community, including methadone

#### k. Welcome to a New Life – Carla Benjamin, Puck Rowe, Stan Kujawa

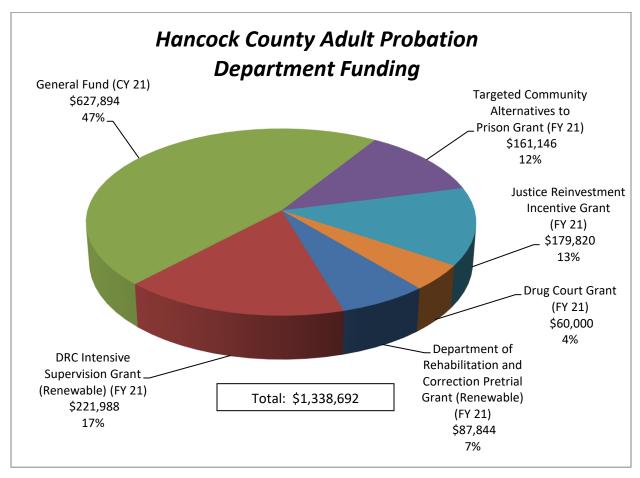
An exciting new MENTORING program for offenders in the Hancock County criminal justice system. The individuals can be misdemeanor or felony offenders identified in the jail, by probation officers, judges and referred for their services. Once accepted into the program, the mentors are there to assist them with any and all basic life needs/lessons.

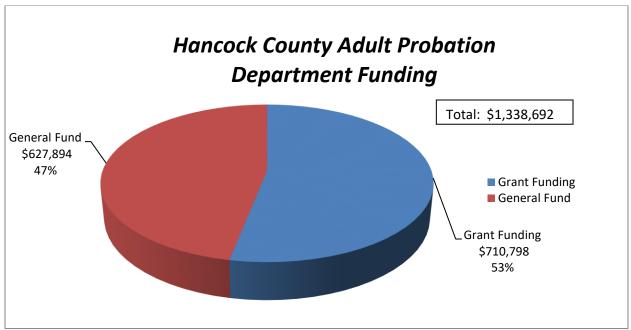
#### **Financial Overview/ Conclusion:**

The Adult Probation Department has been extremely aggressive in seeking, securing and maintaining a variety of 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. As referenced in the introduction and throughout this report, it is imperative that the Adult Probation Department continue to maintain their current revenue sources and find additional funds to address the growing case filings and demands of each very complicated and demanding case.

In addition to the Pandemic and its social fall-out, the Court's Adult Probation Department continues to respond to unfunded mandates or new Ohio practices such as the Adult Parole Authority (APA) shifting Courtesy Supervision responsibility to local probation departments, House Bill 86 and recently imposed House Bill 49 (T-CAP).

With our amazing community partners in Hancock County, the Court has been able to continue to provide a high level and dynamic menu of treatment and recovery services. We are thankful to be invited to the collaboration throughout this community in hopes of keeping the Findlay/Hancock County community safe.

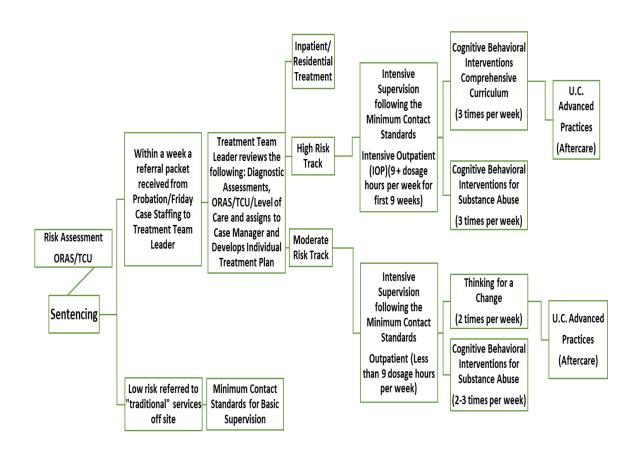




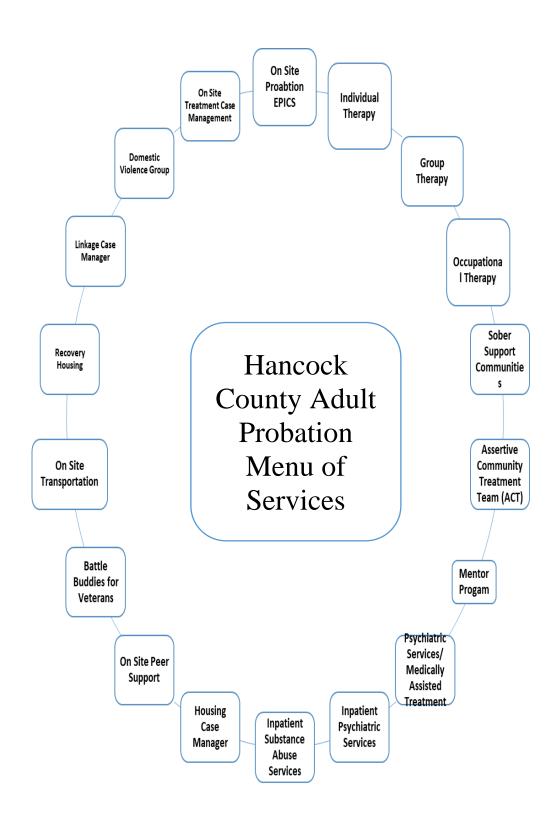
## Mission Statement

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.							

# HANCOCK COUNTY ADULT PROBATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION



- Menu of Services (see attached)
- Case planning per dosage goals
- Probation Officer to reassess risk per ORAS
- In person appointments/EPICS
- Drug testing
- Electronic monitoring
- Home visits/Surveillance



#### Hancock County Adult Probation Bond Program Flow Chart

## After an individual is arrested or served a summons they are arraigned. • At arraignment the defendant is formally informed of the pending criminal charges. • The arraigning Judge may grant an O.R. Bond with conditions or may establish conditions on a cash or property bond that was posted. Arraignment • Bond is a program that the Court can place the defendant on while the criminal case is pending • While on bond the defendant must report to all court dates and follow the conditions that the Court has placed upon them. (This is not probation) Bond • A pretrial is where the defendant's attorney and the prosecutor meet in attempt to resolve the case without a trial. There could be a series of pretrials. Pretrial • A dismissal may occur if it is determined that there is not enough evidence to take the case to trial. (The bond process ends if the case is dismissed) • Intervention In Lieu is an opportunity for the defendant to complete a treatment program in lieu of a conviction. If the defendant completes the treatment program the case can be dismissed by the Court. (The bond process ends if Intervention in Lieu is granted) • Diversion is an opportunity for the defendant to complete a probation like program without a conviction. If the defendant completes the Diversion program the case can be dismissed by the Court. (The bond process ends if Diversion is granted) Intervention In • A plea may occur if the the defendant decides not to take the case to trial. After the Plea the Court may sentence the defendant or order a Presentence Investigation. (The bond process continues until sentencing) Diversion • If the defendant's decides to take the case to trial the bond process will continue until discharged by the Court Plea Trial

- Sentencing occurrs after a plea of guilt or a finding of guilt . The Court will make a final determination of what sanction is appropriate for the defendant. Defendant's may be sentenced to prison, jail, work release, electronic monitoring, and/or probation. This is where the bond process ends.
- Bond is not probation.

Sentencing