



THE PROBATION REPORTER

Volume 7, Edition 3

June 2009



Message from the Chief

by Doug Rasines

As summer begins, department and county administration remain focused on budget wrangling that will no doubt occupy everyone's thoughts over the next several months. The county is planning on moving forward in early July with the adoption of a preliminary balanced budget which, while including a 10% budget cut to Probation, does not result in the forced layoff of existing probation staff. Now the waiting game begins in anticipation of seeing what final actions the state may take in response to its \$24 billion budget deficit. I know that many staff are anxious in knowing what might happen next. While there is reason to be concerned, rest assured that everything possible will be done to minimize the impact to staff.

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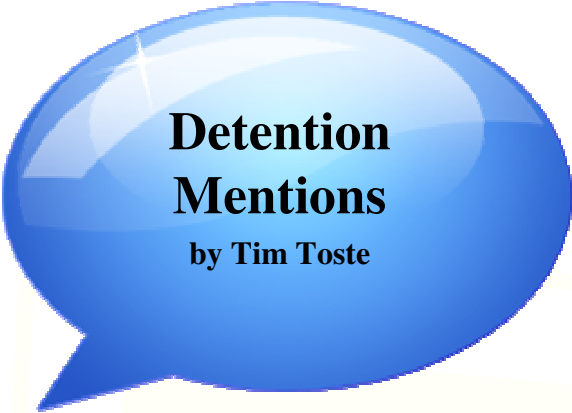
The Probation Reporter is published by the Humboldt County Probation Department. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a forum for communication and the sharing of information. *The Probation Reporter* does not publish anonymous, politically oriented, or critical articles. Opinions expressed are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Humboldt County Probation Department. Articles submitted may be edited to meet space requirements. Submit stories or story ideas to the Editor or Committee Members.

In addition, several state prison and parole reform initiatives have been proposed which, if enacted, will result in the expedited, early release of specified prison inmates as well as the provision for summary parole (no direct supervision) for identified "non-serious, non-violent, non-sex offenders." At the same time, proposals are on the table to redirect a portion of the projected prison cost savings, coupled with some identified federal stimulus funding, back into local adult probation services. Specifically, Senate Bill 678 is aimed at reducing recidivism among all adult felony offenders being supervised on probation, with the goal of reducing commitments to state prison for probation failure. The current version of the bill stipulates that the funds can be used for a variety of evidence-based community corrections practices and programs, from risk/needs instruments and provision of offender programming, to hiring more staff to create intensive supervision caseloads. The use of the money would be at the discretion of the chief probation officer of each county.

The tasks before us in the coming months are daunting ones. That said, the character of our department will be measured by the manner in which we manage these adversities. It is a time for us to focus our collective energy around common goals and objectives, to remain calm in the face of crisis, and to continue to perform our jobs with integrity and respect. Our strength as a department has been, and will continue to be, in our resiliency and ability to adapt and adjust to changing environments. While it may appear to be a long tunnel we are entering, there will be light at the end.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer.





Detention Mentions

by Tim Toste

Following a brief winter lull in Juvenile Hall population we had a typical spring bulge in March through May with an average population of 25 minors in custody. We're looking forward to an ease of population as is typical of summer months before hitting our usual annual peaks in the fall months. Hopefully, it won't be as punishing as the 31.5 average daily population we experienced during Fall 2008. We are in the infancy of implementing our new Detention Risk Assessment Instrument, or DRAI, department-wide, including our On-Call PO program. It will be interesting to see how its implementation affects our population over the next six months. The effective use of the DRAI will be critical, particularly since we were unsuccessful in our attempt to obtain a state juvenile facilities construction grant.

Juvenile Division Director Jody Green has spearheaded the DRAI project and continues to lead the group in formulating paper flow, file storage, form revisions, alternative sanctions to detention, and business rules processes, as well as negotiating with Assessments.com (ADC) to make changes to the web-based tool to make it more efficient and user friendly. The DRAI is a much smaller project, though related to, the PACT project where we also partner with ADC. Jody has been the lead for our department in our relationship with ADC for about a year. We appreciate her prolonged diligence in maintaining those projects thereby keeping the department's commitment to evidence-based practices.

The Juvenile Hall has had some staff changes since our last writing. Chris Brannon was promoted to Supervising Juvenile Corrections Officer to replace Meara Chavez who left to take a supervisor position with DHHS in Medical Records - we wish her well. Chris is an experienced staff member and has the energy and motivation to capably fill the position of supervisor in Juvenile Hall. Congratulations to Chris! Amber Smith is a new addition to the full-time ranks of Juvenile Hall. Amber was regular, part-time and transferred from the Regional Facility to a full-time

JCO I/II position in the Juvenile Hall. We welcome and congratulate her for making the move.

The Regional Facility New Horizons program is progressing very well. We continue to receive inquiries from other counties regarding our program and work on getting contracts with them for present or future use. Toni Martin, who wears many hats in the juvenile justice system and in probation, has taken on revising our New Horizons resident program orientation manual. It's a huge job to take on when you consider the number of staff who have input from corrections, probation, schools, and county Mental Health. We very much appreciate her taking on the arduous task of boiling down all that information into something kids can read, understand, and relate to when first beginning the program.

The Regional Facility has had some staff changes as well. As mentioned above, Chris Brannon and Amber Smith are now assigned to the Juvenile Hall leaving two vacancies. Manuel Martir was promoted to Senior Juvenile Corrections Officer to fill Chris Brannon's position upon his departure. Congratulations to Manuel! To round out the last full-time male position in the Regional Facility, Robert Bisgrove transferred from his regular part-time position into a full-time one in the Regional Facility.

The mental health staff will have an unfortunate departure on the horizon, no pun intended. Though Becky Buerger-Hurst only recently joined our team she will be leaving in mid-July to move out of the area. It was rather unexpected, but necessary nonetheless. Residents and the treatment team will miss her.

On June 3, 2009 we had our biennial Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) inspection. After a thorough review of our policies and procedures and tours of both facilities, our CSA field representative was quite pleased. She had lunch with the Juvenile Hall detainees and gave a few pop quizzes to the staff in each facility regarding training and policy. She was pleased with what she learned from the kids and enjoyed the food. Good job Sally and Marie! The staff apparently passed their quizzes so we're pleased with that! We appreciate our staff's dedication to their profession and their diligence in caring for the kids in our custody.

Since our last newsletter, Detention Services has added some extra help staff to the fold: Angelica Jenkins, Justin Calcote, Michelle Sanders, Jacob Estetter, Nick Farnsworth, and Ryan Lemons. We welcome them all and we're glad to have the help.



Sunshine Snippets

by Jennifer Holcombe

A big thank you goes out to those who have contributed to the Sunshine Committee. We are thankful for the monetary donations as well as all the time, hard work and energy. Since our last newsletter we have had three fun filled potlucks. We kicked off the month of February with our Chocolate Extravaganza (featured in our last newsletter), followed by a St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage feast, and finally, we added a bit of zest with our Cinco de Mayo celebration. Each event brought more participation and more amazing food and recipes. On the horizon is an Ice Cream Social on July 8th at "H" Street and an end of summer barbeque in September. In addition, Sunshine helped the Relay for Life team with their Departmental luncheon on May 27th by providing side dishes.

Our last newsletter welcomed new employees: Justin Nadigoo and Jesika Bradley. We have added a few more folks since then and would like to welcome aboard: Mark Magladry, Nakia Harris, Mary Porter, and Cathy Filby. Sunshine greeted each of our new folks with a welcome goodie bag.

Sunshine spread a bit of cheer to two of our co-workers since the last newsletter. Sunshine made a donation to a youth sports league in honor of a passed love one of one of our co-workers, and the other received a wonderful shower gift.

At the Departmental meeting folks who have been with us for a year or longer were rewarded with beautiful stainless steel coffee mugs, and the Years of Service pins were also distributed to those folks who have been here five, ten, fifteen and twenty years.

Sunshine continues to spread cheer and good wishes. Please feel free to attend any of our Sunshine Committee meetings. Our next meeting will be August 11, 2009. Also, we gladly accept any donations and volunteer time.



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Holcombe

Some of the tasty treats enjoyed at our Cinco de Mayo potluck.

*Do more than belong: participate.
Do more than care: help.
Do more than believe: practice.
Do more than be fair: be kind.
Do more than forgive: forget.
Do more than dream: work.*
~William Arthur Ward

LEMON SHERBET

Submitted by Vicki Webb

Ingredients

1 ½ cups sugar
1 envelope unflavored gelatin
1 teaspoon finely shredded lemon peel or orange peel
1 cup of milk (for richer recipe, sub with half & half or cream)
¾ cup lemon juice
Few drops of yellow food coloring

In saucepan:

Mix sugar and gelatin; add 3 cups of water. Cook and stir until sugar and gelatin dissolve. Add lemon peel, milk, lemon juice, and food coloring (**mixture will look curdled**). Transfer to a 9x9x2-inch baking pan. Cover, freeze 2 to 3 hours or till almost firm (or after mixing ingredients, freeze in a 4 or 5 quart ice cream freezer according to manufacturer's directions, and omit the following steps).

Break frozen mixture into small chunks.

Transfer to a chilled bowl.

Beat with an electric mixer till smooth, but not melted.

Return to pan.

Cover; freeze till firm.

Makes 2 quarts (serves 16 to 20).

Variations:

Orange Sherbet – Prepare as above, except substitute 3 ¾ cups of orange juice for water. Omit lemon juice. Substitute orange food coloring for yellow food coloring, if desired.

Pineapple Sherbet – Prepare as above, except substitute 3 ¾ cups unsweetened pineapple juice for water. Omit lemon juice.

Fruit Sherbets – Follow the same general instructions above using unsweetened juices as liquid substitutes, and/or pureed fruits added/blended into to the mix. Also, try combining flavors. For example, add a cup of pureed mango to the orange sherbet for "orange mango sherbet," or combine lemon and lime juice for a "lemon/lime sherbet" (add a little green & yellow food coloring).





CRIME AND JUSTICE BREWING AT HSU

by Josh Meisel, PhD

The Department of Sociology at Humboldt State University has submitted a proposal requesting permission to launch a Criminology and Justice Studies program. A university-level curriculum body will in Fall 2009 vet the proposal: this body makes decisions about the Academic Strategic Plan and curricular integrity. I was hired by HSU in 2008 to research and plan the proposal. The program as proposed will prepare students to actively engage the inequalities reflected in criminal justice systems and work with related organizations focused on social change. The proposed program will encourage students to explore the social contexts in which crime and justice, as well as system responses, are theorized and explained. To that end, the program will provide students with a solid foundation in theories of crime and justice, research methods, as well as the critical thinking skills necessary to become active and engaged citizens. All students will be required to complete an internship with a local organization/agency that is concerned with issues of crime and justice. In addition to training in criminological theory and methods, coursework will also include a variety of electives in the following four substantive areas:

- 1) Inequalities, Identities and Crime(e.g., Environmental Crime, Crime and Rural Communities, Family Violence, State and Corporate Crime)
- 2) Law (Criminal Law, Federal Indian Law, American Constitutional Law, and Race, Gender and U.S. Law)
- 3) Justice and Policy (e.g., Drugs, Justice and Harm Reduction, Punishment and Justice, Tribal Justice System, and Politics of Criminal Justice)
- 4) Social Research and Action Skills (e.g., GIS for the Social Sciences, Community Organizing, Qualitative Research Methods, Conflict Resolution)

It has been an exciting and creative process working with both university and community stakeholders in developing this program. There is a great deal of synergy between community needs, and Departmental and University interests and goals. Your ideas and feedback on the design of the proposed major can be directed to Josh Meisel at 826-4446 or meisel@humboldt.edu.

Dr. Josh Meisel is an assistant professor of Sociology at Humboldt State University, Coordinator of the Criminal Justice Minor, and a Humboldt County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commissioner.

Bowling Bonanza

by Tim Toste

On April 4, 2009 we held our eighth annual Bowling Bonanza where Bill Damiano's high game of 162 won him the right to have the bowling pin on his desk for the entire year. Bill's score was one pin better than last year's winner, Doug, who had vowed to defend his title. Bill later exclaimed, "I won with 162? What a bunch of lame bowlers!" That sounds like a challenge to all staff for next year's event! Thank you to those who brought their families and bowled with us; everyone had a great time bowling and getting to know each other outside of work. See you next year!



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Holcombe



Bill accepts the coveted bowling pin from Chief Rasines.



It's not about the high score, it's about how good you look in your bowling shirt! Pictured (left to right): Jeanette, Jackson, Nikki, and Barbara

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE REDWOODS HONORS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

by Lynn Langdon, Teen Court Coordinator

Dao Vang has been selected to compete against other Boys & Girls Club members for the Northern California Youth of the Year title. As the Youth of the Year for Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods, Dao is among hundreds of local youth across the country recognized by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) for his sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community. Dao has been selected as one of six teens in Northern California to compete for the honor of the statewide Youth of the Year title.

Being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive. The title recognizes outstanding contributions to a member's family, school, community and Boys & Girls Club, as well as personal challenges and obstacles overcome. This program was founded over 60 years ago through the generosity of the Reader's Digest Foundation.

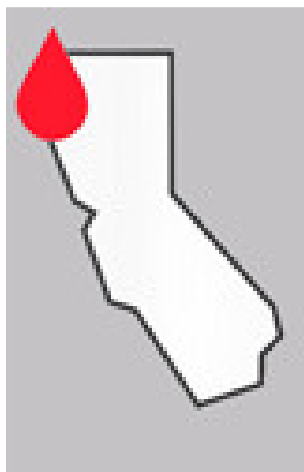
Dao is a senior at Eureka High School, and plans on attending College of the Redwoods in the fall to study Administration of Justice. He plans to become a Police Officer, and currently serves as a Sergeant in the Sheriff's Explorer's Program. Dao volunteers with the Boys & Girls Club Teen Court program and has served in every position in the courtroom, including student attorney and student judge. He has recruited several of his friends to volunteer for the program as well, and served as a representative for Humboldt County last summer at the California Statewide Youth Court Summit at the University of California, Davis. He also serves on the school site council at Eureka High School and as a mentor with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Dao states the Boys & Girls Club is, "a place I refer to as a friend for all the open hearted advice I have received over time, and always being there for me when I need it the most and a mentor, who is always pushing me to be my best."

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. The organization serves over 4,000 youth in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties with sites in Loleta, Eureka, on the Wiyot reservation, Klamath, and Crescent City. Other programs include Summer LEAP, T-Ball and the Teen Court program that Dao has been a volunteer with for over a year.



Pictured from left to right: Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods Board member Jennifer Holcombe, Youth of the Year Dao Vang and the Honorable Judge Christopher Wilson, Teen Court volunteer.

Give
the
Gift
of Life



We had a smaller turnout for the blood mobile at Probation on June 12, 2009. Of nine attempts we produced three units of product. We had a good effort, just too many deferrals! Pump up your iron for next time! You know who you are!! ☺ Thanks to everyone who showed up and gave it a shot! We hope to see you next time!

- Tim Toste

PROMOTIONS



Supervising JCO
Chris Brannon

Senior JCO
Manual Martir

Excellent

NEW HIRES

Cathy Filby – Legal Office Asst. I/II

Nakia Harris – Probation Officer I/II

Mark Magladry – Admin. Services Officer

Mary Porter – Senior Fiscal Assistant

HELLO!

YEARS OF SERVICE

The following employees had, or will have had, an anniversary for the time period of March 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009.

1 year

Patrick DelRosario
Cheryl Kaska
Stephani Mayr
Kim Sousa

2 years

Gail Adair
Tony Delgado
Morgan Douglas
Sally Jones
Don Mederios

3 years

Ric Medley
John Morgan

5 years

Beverly Ford

6 years

Nikki Kriger

7 years

Greg Horne
Andy McLaughlin
Barbara Robie

8 years

Alan Borchardt
Chris Brannon
Jeanne Kirke
Chris Petersen

9 years

John Sampson

10 years

Fel Barlow
Stacy Reyes
Coral Sanders
Arlene Woody

12 years

Shaun Brenneman

13 years

Mike Tully

14 years

Doris Echeveria
Vicki Webb

15 years

Jody Green
Brett Moranda

17 years

Steve Schaening

19 years

Debbie Damiano

27 years

Doug Rasines

Acronym Answers

by Cate Halliday and Steve D'Agati

Congratulations and sweet chocolate went out to the 11 employees who answered the challenging acronym puzzle in the last issue of *The Probation Reporter*. This was no easy feat! For those of you who may have been stumped, baffled, perplexed, puzzled, bewildered, or simply curious, the winning answers were:

FIT

Family Intervention Team

CSW

Community Service Work

ART

Aggression Replacement Training

OR

Alternative Response Team

PNL

Project New Leaf

APS

Adult Protective Services

SWAP

Sheriff's Work Alternative Program

PACT

Positive Achievement Change Tool

CWS

Child Welfare Services

CFMG

California Forensic Medical Group

RCRC

Redwood Coast Regional Center

OR

Regional Council of Rural Counties

GTF

Gang Task Force

JAWS

Juvenile Assigned Work Service

MIOCR

Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction

PEPP

Probation Environmental Preservation Program

MAB

Management of Assaultive Behavior

SNF

Skilled Nursing Facility

FAST

Fugitive Apprehension Strike Team

TDM

Team Decision Making

JCO

Juvenile Corrections Officer

MI

Motivational Interviewing

EBP

Evidenced-Based Practice

PACE

Probation Alternatives in a Community Environment

On a more humorous note, we also received the following amusing answers:

FIT

Fairly Interesting Teenagers

ART

Absolutely Reacting Terribly

PNL

People Not Listening

APS

Another Personnel Service

SWAP

Seriously Wanting Another Profession

CFMG

Chief Facility Manager Greg

RCRC

Really Crumbly Rental Cars

JCO

Just Common Officers

PACE

Past Academic Consideration of Education

MAB

Mean Angry Bees

And the knowledgeable and stellar winners are:

Ryan Blanchard (Juvenile Hall); **Chris Brannon** (Regional Facility); **Jen Butler** (Probation); **Stacey Campbell** (CFMG nurse, Juvenile Hall/Regional Facility); **Jim McCue** (Juvenile Hall); **Sherri McKenna** (Probation); **Paula Sargent** (Probation); **Paula Swihart** (Probation); **Julia Terrini** (Juvenile Hall); **Tim Toste** (Probation); **Dayna Wilcox** (Juvenile Hall)

A special note of thanks goes out to Sherri McKenna for her help in editing, and Tammy Robison for providing the Venlo/Sjaak's chocolate bars to our winners. Congratulations to all!!



SteveO's Cinnamon Rolls

Submitted by Steve Schmidt – Juvenile Corrections Officer, Regional Facility

Dough:

1 package yeast
1 cup warm milk (about 115 degrees)
1/2 cup sugar
1/3 cup softened butter
1 tsp. salt
2 eggs
4 cups flour

Filling:

1 cup dark brown sugar
1 1/2 Tblsp. cinnamon
1/3 cup softened butter

Icing:

8 Tblsp. softened butter
1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
1/4 cup cream cheese
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/8 tsp. salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Mix ingredients together for the dough in a large mixing bowl. Let rise in a warm place for 10 minutes, then knead dough for 5-10 minutes. Let rise for 1 hour in a warm area or until dough has doubled in size.

While dough is rising, mix together the ingredients for the filling.

After dough has risen, roll dough out with a rolling pin making an approximate rectangle measuring 12" x 26". Spread the filling generously over the dough. After filling is spread, roll the dough from one 12" side to the other 12" side. Now slice the dough in 1-1 3/4 slices which results in your cinnamon rolls.

Lightly grease a 13x9" pan with softened butter. Place the rolls in the pan and let rise in a warm area for 15-30 minutes, or until dough doubles in size. Bake for approximately 10 minutes or until tops are golden brown.

While rolls are baking, mix together the ingredients for the icing. Use more or less powdered sugar depending on the thickness of the frosting you prefer.

When done cooking, let rest for 5 minutes before icing. ENJOY!!!

Broccoli Salad

Submitted by Keith Wallace – Supervising Juvenile Corrections Officer, Regional Facility

This is the original, but I always make it bigger and add more of the stuff I like; like more bacon and less raisins – but it always tastes good no matter what. I usually make 1 and 1/2 this amount for big salads.

1 cup raisins
4 cups broccoli
1 bunch green onions
1 cup honey roasted peanuts
1/2 pound bacon (I always make up one pound. If you dice the bacon while it's raw/cold, it fries more evenly. When it's done, just dump the bacon and hot oil into a sieve over some sort of container you can use to throw away the grease.)

Dressing:

1/4 cup sugar
2 Tblsp. apple cider vinegar
1 cup mayonnaise





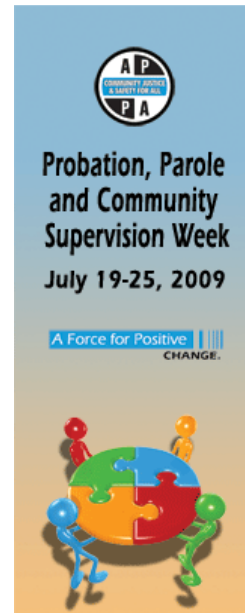
Juvenile & Adult Management System (JAMS) Update by Debbie Damiano

Jody Green, Bill Damiano, Tim Toste, Doris Echeveria, myself, and Gitesh Patel (from county Information Technology) comprise the JAMS Implementation Oversight Team - although we like to call ourselves the JAMS Masters. Over the past few months, we've been meeting on a weekly basis to evaluate JAMS and determine what adaptations we envision will need to be made for JAMS to best meet our department's needs. Progress has not been quick, but it is being made.

In mid-March we took a field trip to Riverside County Probation Department for a JAMS demonstration. Riverside staff spent several hours orienting us to JAMS and also allowed us an opportunity for a question and answer session which involved more in-depth discussion. It was time well spent - we learned valuable information not only about JAMS itself, but about the steps Riverside took when they implemented their system. Since that trip we've made a follow-up conference call to Riverside with more questions, and I'm guessing we might have to consult with them a time or two more as we move forward. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Riverside team members who have taken the time to educate us on JAMS.

Once the Oversight Team's initial evaluation is complete, team members designated for Adult Intake, Adult Field, Juvenile Intake, Juvenile Field, and Institutions will come on board for further analysis and testing of the system.

It's exciting to know that we will have a consolidated case management system in place in the not too distant future. We'll continue to provide updates when we reach significant milestones. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact the JAMS Master of your choice.



During the week of July 19th through the 25th, 2009, people across the United States and its territories will join together to recognize the work that probation, parole, and community supervision professionals do for our public safety.

Since 1841, the practice of probation and parole has played a vital role in our justice system. These professionals are a critical part of the public safety system.

Today in America, there are over 5 million adults on community supervision and most of these individuals are monitored by probation and parole officers. Monitoring may take the form of home contacts, drug testing, making sure the offender attends counseling sessions and helping offenders to find suitable housing and employment. Many officers also supervise offenders using electronic monitoring equipment which requires expert knowledge of new technologies.

These professionals act as a "Force for Positive Change" by assisting juvenile and adult offenders to become productive members of society. One day they may play the part of a counselor, the next they are enforcing the rules of an offender's supervision. They may help a single mother find daycare or a job in order to abide by the conditions of her supervision. They are problem solvers, crime prevention specialists, motivators, educators, facilitators, and often times they are the only support system an offender may have.

Members of our community are encouraged to join together during Probation, Parole, and Community Supervision Week to honor those who work to make our communities a safer place to live.

Adult Entertainment

by Bill Damiano

Grants and Programs

The Probation SACPA program (Prop 36) is on precarious ground. The Governor completely slashed funding for the program in his May Revise budget after the voter initiatives failed to pass, which left the state with a projected \$24 billion deficit. Of course, the Governor's proposal isn't the last word on the issue, and various groups are lobbying hard with the legislature to restore program funding. Anything can happen. However, one thing that we *do* know about the future of SACPA is that the sentencing reforms wrought by this voter-passed initiative in November 2000 will remain regardless of whether there is state money allocated to the program or not. We will have to find a way to meet our mandates under the law along with our judicial and treatment partners.

Before the Governor's budget proposal was known, our department had already applied for federal stimulus funds to help support our SACPA efforts through the Edward Byrne Competitive Grant Program. That proposal would have made our program whole again staffing-wise, at least until we got the recent news from the Governor's office. SACPA took what amounted to about a 10% cut last year, which required the leaving of the Legal Office Assistant position vacant in order to meet our target budget for Probation. This Byrne grant would have restored that LOA position, and proposed to fund a DPO position for two years beginning July 31, 2009. No announcement date was set for the program so we could get word any time between now and July 31st on whether we have been selected.

In the interim, the department has situated itself fairly well in that we have projected some salary savings to the department based on known retirements this year, as well as some Targeted Case Management revenue that can fund the two currently filled positions until the state and local budget situations, and their impact on Probation, become clearer. So, stay tuned for more on this.

Our Adult Drug Court program, which still relies heavily on two state grants, appears to be flying below the budget-cut radar and has not (yet) been mentioned for state cuts this year. We, of course, hope that this situation continues since those grants currently fund an LOA and a DPO, as well as all of the treatment, testing, and general operating costs for the program. It

appears that the grants may be spared due to the prison/parole reform movement that is afoot. California drug courts have been providing data under these grants for the last 10 years. The data clearly indicates that the program's successes keep a significant number of offenders from probation revocation and sentence to a very expensive term in prison (see stats below).

Currently, the Drug Court is averaging around 100 cases, keeping staff pretty busy. As a result of that busy-ness however, the program had ten graduates in February. You can see for yourself from the following stats how valuable this program is to those offenders, their families, and the community in general.

- Over **28 years of prison time avoided** with an estimated cost savings to the state of over **\$1,367,604** at an average cost per year of \$48,843 per inmate, per year (FY 08/09 CDCR data).
- The graduates served a total of **221 days in local jail** as an original sentence or for minor violations of probation with local incarceration costs of around **\$30,000**, so the **net savings to tax payers** was around **\$1,337,600**.
- **Six** of the graduates who had been unemployed at program entry **held a full-time (5) or part-time (1) job** at graduation. Two or more graduates were receiving permanent disability income, with two more in the application process.
- **Three** graduates who had been homeless at program entry **gained stable, clean and sober housing**.
- **Two** graduates either **retained or gained custody of minor children**.
- **One** graduate became a **clean and sober father** while in the program – a good one, too!



Evidence-Based Practices

The Adult Field Unit is currently working on taking their Motivational Interviewing (MI) skills to the next level – developing a “community of practice” as was suggested last year by our JSAT consultant, Brad Bogue. Officers are in the process of recording interviews with probationers where MI is being employed to engage offenders in change talk. Teams have been formed around the unit’s Senior POs and will review the recordings and score them for MI skills like the use of OARS (open-ended questions, affirmations, reflections, and summaries), among other things. The results of the team reviews will be used for feedback purposes only, to reinforce the continuing development of these skills. Kudos to the Adult Field Unit for doing the uncomfortable and moving this best practice forward!

Although we’ve been using our modified Wisconsin Risk/Needs Assessment Tool since the early 1980s to distribute workload and assist in case planning, the Adult Division has taken the beginning steps toward upgrading and implementing a 4th generation assessment tool through Assessments.com. The Northern California Probation Consortium (NCPC), which formed around implementation of the juvenile assessment tool, the PACT, had a conference call at the end of May to see how many of the participant counties would be interested in implementing the adult STRONG tool. Humboldt and several others expressed their interest and support. Using this automated tool will give us ready access to detailed data about our offender population to help make informed recommendations and decisions regarding sentencing and case management within the community. The data will also help guide us in developing partnerships to provide specific needs-driven programming for offenders and aid us to better compete for funding that is more and more frequently premised on the current use of best practices. Finally, the data will help us evaluate what we are doing that works (or doesn’t) for different types of offenders, ultimately translating to improved effectiveness and community safety. In any event, final cost breakdowns for each county still need to be calculated to see if budgets can accommodate the implementation, then contracts will need to be developed, reviewed, approved by the Board of Supervisors, and executed. That being the case, there are likely months of groundwork yet before the project moves out of the planning stages to implementation at the line level. Fortunately, the Consortium has learned a lot from the juvenile projects, so the process should be much cleaner and smoother for the roll-out of the adult tool (thanks, Juvenile Division!).

Fun (But Useless) Facts



A Boeing 747s wingspan is longer than the Wright brothers' first flight.



Walt Disney was afraid of mice.



Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise

A crocodile can't stick out it's tongue.



The average chocolate bar has 8 insect legs in it.



A lump of pure gold the size of a matchbook can be flattened into a sheet the size of a tennis court.



The lighter was invented before the match.

In Colombia, an individual can be fined up to \$90,000 for gossiping.



Turtles can breath through their rear end.



Reindeer like to eat bananas.



Fleas can jump 130 times higher than their own height. In human terms, this is equal to a 6 foot person jumping 780 feet into the air

