

**DUTCHESS  
COUNTY  
CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE  
COUNCIL**



**2012 ANNUAL REPORT**



**Marcus J. Molinaro  
County Executive**

Chairperson  
Mary Ellen Still

Administrative Coordinator  
Tami Deyo

### *Vision Statement*

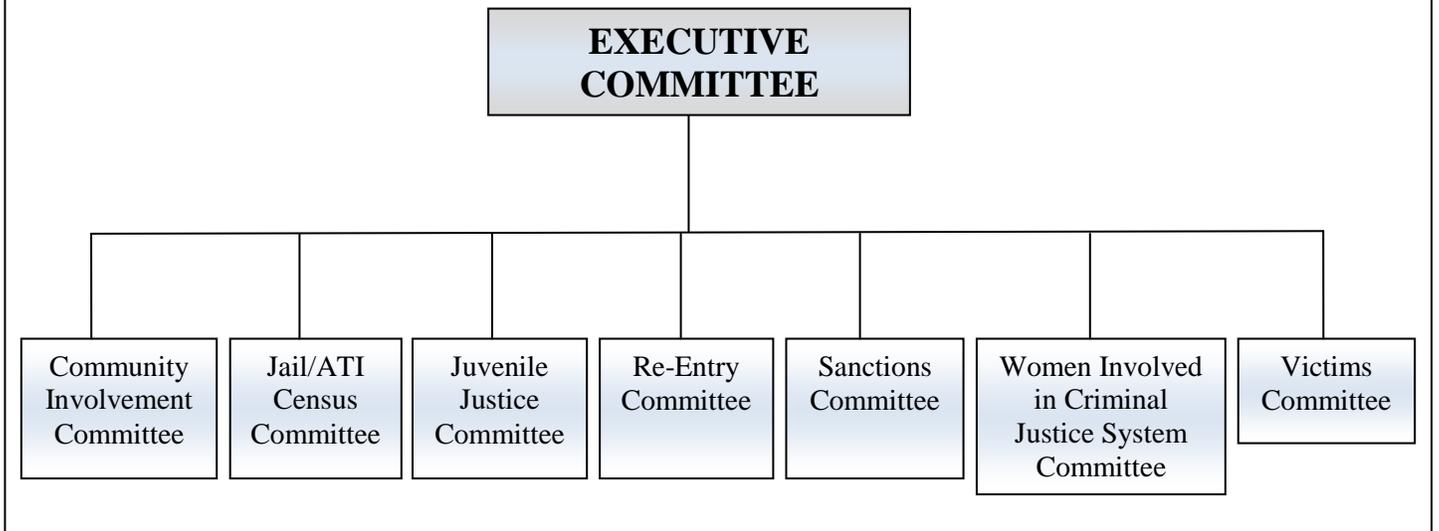
The vision of the Criminal Justice Council is a fair and effective Criminal Justice System.

### *Mission Statement*

The Criminal Justice Council engages in a collaborative process of information sharing to maximize resources resulting in an enhanced criminal justice process. This work is done through utilizing research-based practices to ensure community safety, through the promotion and support of intervention for at risk youth and adults; addressing victims' needs; and reduction of recidivism.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL**



## **BACKGROUND**

The Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council (DCCJC) was created in 1992 to serve in an advisory capacity to the Legislature and the County Executive. In 1993, the Dutchess County Legislature passed Resolution Number 61, which formally created and recognized the Criminal Justice Council as “necessary to support an efficient and effective criminal justice system.” In 1998 and 2010 the Legislature adopted amendments regarding membership and other operating guidelines. The 2011 resolution outlined the duties and functions of the Executive Committee.

Through a strategic planning process facilitated by the National Institute of Corrections, the DCCJC developed a committee structure and committed to the use of evidence-based practices.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee oversees and guides the work of the DCCJC and its committees, establishes strategic direction and analyzes available data to ensure decision making is informed by research. The Executive Committee meets monthly and serves as the steering committee for the full DCCJC.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL**

The Criminal Justice Council meets six times annually at the Office of Probation and Community Corrections at 8:00 a.m. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday (unless there is a conflict with a holiday) of the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November. Meetings are open to the public. Agendas and approved minutes are available on the county’s website.

### 2012 Activities and Achievements

In January 2012, County Executive Marcus J. Molinaro requested the DCCJC to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the county’s criminal justice system. Citing the increasing costs of housing-out jail inmates as well as attendant issues arising from this practice, County Executive Molinaro asked for a systemic examination of the issues contributing to the housing out as well as potential options to resolve those issues.

The County Executive noted that the jail’s official capacity is 292 inmates, yet the daily average population averaged 386 inmates with spikes exceeding 400. When the daily population exceeded the maximum capacity of 292, the additional inmates had to be “housed out” at other county jails at considerable cost to the county.

The DCCJC's report would serve as the basis for a scope of services for an RFP (Request for Proposals) to hire an industry consultant to review and validate the findings and make appropriate recommendations.

In response to the County Executive's request, the Criminal Justice Council created three workgroups to study various aspects of the criminal justice system. The three workgroups were: Jail Models, chaired by Major Todd Gdula; Special Populations and ATIs (Alternatives to Incarceration), chaired by Public Defender Thomas Angell and System Analysis, chaired by District Attorney William Grady.

Following submission of the reports from each of the workgroups, the findings and recommendations were consolidated into the *Dutchess County Criminal Justice System Needs Assessment* released in draft form in September 2012. The report was divided into two areas: an analysis and recommendations of ATI (Alternative to Incarceration) programs from a systems' perspective and an analysis and recommendations for jail options which includes a recommendation that a more efficient and modern jail is needed. The entire report is available on the county's website.

The public were given an opportunity to comment on the report at a community forum held on October 15, 2012 at Dutchess Community College. Public comments were included and attached as an addendum to the final report, which was released on November 1, 2012.

The next step in the process was the preparation and release of an RFP to select an industry consultant to review the *Dutchess County Criminal Justice System Needs Assessment*. The RFP was released on December 27, 2012. It is anticipated that a consultant will be selected to begin work in early 2013.

In addition to the above, the Council:

- 1) Hired a consultant to assist the Council in accessing and analyzing data for planning and research purposes and to assist in refining performance and outcome measures. The consultant, Gary Christensen, has extensive knowledge and expertise in criminal justice and has assisted jurisdictions throughout the country
- 2) Under the auspices of the Council, the county successfully applied for a fifth year of funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the re-entry project. The Exodus Transitional Community was selected to provide re-entry services.
- 3) Approved the annual ATI Update Plan that must be submitted to the state. Completion of the plan is a requirement in order to receive state funding that helps to support criminal justice programming
- 4) Reviewed statistics submitted by the Dutchess County Jail and the Office of Probation and Community Corrections (attached) regarding admissions, average daily population and other criminal justice data.

## **COMMITTEES**

Due to the extensive amount of work needed to complete the criminal justice system needs assessment, the Executive Committee of the Council decided to suspend the work of the committees, with the exception of Juvenile Justice and Re-Entry, until completion of the needs assessment project. The Community Involvement Committee hosted one public information meeting in August regarding preliminary findings of the three workgroups studying the criminal justice system.

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Shirley Adams**

**Executive Director, Catharine Street Center**

*Chairperson*

The Committee concluded that overcrowding in the jail and its negative impact on community resources merits its attention and close consideration. Of significant concern to the committee, among others, are the potential barriers to communication that exist among large segments of the community, possibly due to limited access to accurate information and/or the lack of opportunity to participate in discussions surrounding the issue of overcrowding in the jail.

In 2012, the committee chose to actively engage in the activities that will build community capacity, promote the dissemination of information and facilitate the community's access to timely information about overcrowding in our jail.

#### Completed Activities:

- Committee discussions and committee members participation in Community Round Table discussions conducted during the year indicate concerns about special populations in the jails, i.e., offenders with mental health, and/or substance abuse issues, who might best be secured and cared for in a more appropriate facility. Several participants expressed concern about the possibility that a large number of low-risk offenders are incurring lengthy jail days, because they lack timely assessments necessary to determine their eligibility for Alternatives to Incarceration (ATIs). Concerns were also expressed for those offenders who are unable to make bail set at or under \$2,500 and who are thought to be needlessly adding to the congestion in the jail. Representatives from the criminal justice system, participating in the committee's discussion, shared jail data and presented information about the typical offender, indicating that many are repeat offenders. Information was also provided about typical length of stays in

jail, and the negative impact that “housing-out” has on jail days as well as contributing to lack of access to jail programs and local resources.

- The Committee hosted, with the support of the DCCJC, an “Open Meeting” on August 2, 2012. The DCCJC Chair summarized the findings and shared the conclusions from the soon to be released, final draft of the ***Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council’s Needs Assessment Report*** along with a projected timeline that includes a Public Hearing on the Report and other follow up activities. The Open Meeting was well attended with diverse participation offering participants personal access to key criminal justice officials, personnel and the DCCJC consultant. Participants were provided extensive detail and responses to their questions and comments about jail statistics, trends, ATIs, challenges associated with renovations of the present jail, housing-out issues, special populations and the proposed site for the new jail.
- On October 15, 2012, an opportunity to participate in a Public Hearing was provided in response to the release of the final draft of the ***Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council’s Needs Assessment Report***. Members of the DCCJC and the consultant, Gary Christensen, presented a synopsis of the Report, along with a visual display comparing historical and current jail data. Participants’ comments at the Hearing were documented and forwarded to Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro, Legislative Chairman Robert Rolison, and Sheriff Adrian Anderson. The Hearing, facilitated by the Mediation Center, Inc., attracted a large audience from a cross-section of the county.

The Community Involvement Committee plans to continue its efforts to ensure that the community has access to timely information and an opportunity for discussions about actions taken, planned and/or under consideration as it relates to resolving the issues surrounding jail overcrowding or other pertinent criminal justice matters.

## **RE-ENTRY TASK FORCE**

**Jill Lenard –Horne**  
**Bureau Chief Poughkeepsie Area Office (DOCCS)**  
***Co-Chair***

**Thomas N. N. Angell**  
**Public Defender**  
***Co-Chair***

The Re-Entry Task Force in conjunction with the Osborne Association provided reentry services to the formerly incarcerated until September 30, 2012. As of that date, the Executive Committee of the DCCJC and the Osborne Association mutually agreed to discontinue their relationship. Subsequently, the Executive Committee chose Exodus Transitional Community (Exodus) to provide reentry services in Dutchess County. Exodus began providing services on January 1, 2013.

In addition to the change in agencies, there was staff turnover at the Osborne Association during 2012, which caused some instability. Therefore, the number of individuals assisted by the Task Force was reduced considerably in 2012. There are only reliable statistics for the first half of 2012. Through July 2012, there were between 25 and 30 individuals a month receiving case management services; 28 individuals successfully completing the program; and 11 individuals were placed in jobs. Monthly group participation ran from a high of 86 to a low of 10, and walk-in services were provided on 422 occasions. The Task Force also sponsored a successful community breakfast for employers, highlighting the untapped labor force among those who were formerly incarcerated.

The work of the Task Force is completely funded by a grant that Dutchess County receives from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). During 2012 DCJS transformed the programmatic requirements of its grant to a performance based reimbursement system. Each participating county was given a target number of high risk or special needs formerly incarcerated persons that it was required to have contact with every month. Payment on the grant is conditional upon meeting the intake numbers and the retention targets for both the forty-five day and ninety-day period after intake. The focus of the intervention is to connect the participant with programs which will reduce criminogenic factors and thus the risk to reoffend. The COMPAS risk and need assessment instrument was introduced this year to determine the domains (areas of need) that needed to be addressed for each client.

In addition, the Task Force structure was modified in 2012. The steering committee which had been meeting on a monthly basis was eliminated, Task Force meetings were increased to bi-monthly, and co-chairpersons were appointed to the Task Force. These co-chairs included a county representative, and the Bureau Chief of the local area office of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (Parole).

Despite the many challenges and changes of this past year, the Task Force remains committed to using evidence-based practices in an effort to assist those who have been incarcerated to successfully reintegrate into their home communities, and equally important, lower the recidivism rate among parolees. We look forward to continuing and expanding upon this work in 2013.

## **JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**Karen DeSimone**

**Unit Administrator, Office of Probation and Community Corrections**

*Chairperson*

In 2010, the Juvenile Justice Committee was added to the Criminal Justice Council. This committee evolved from the already existing Juvenile Justice Task Force, which

was a long-standing group hosted by the Office of Probation and comprised of members from various public agencies and organizations serving the at-risk youth population of Dutchess County. The Juvenile Justice Committee meets six times per year to discuss issues relating to the Juvenile Justice System. These include identifying needs and trends, sharing information from related committees, and monitoring statistics/outcome measures of the various programs in place for the at-risk youth.

In 2011, the Juvenile Justice Committee gathered for bi-monthly meetings. Topics of discussion included:

- Review of current Family Court Probation programs and statistics
- Review of the Youth Services Unit statistics and programs
- Status reports from: The Functional Family Therapy program, the MAYSI (Mental Health Screening Instrument) probation utilization, the Probation Family Court Pre-trial Services, the J-RISC program, and updates from related committees

This committee continues to monitor the Juvenile Justice Reform issues as they relate to the needs of the at-risk youth in Dutchess County. The committee had ongoing discussions regarding the possible future transition in New York State to move 16 and 17 year old offenders out of the Criminal Justice System and under Family Court jurisdiction.

In June 2011, the first New York State Juvenile Justice Reform initiatives introduced the Supervision and Treatment Services for Juvenile Program (STSJP) requiring each county to propose a plan to decrease the use of juvenile detention while utilizing funds for alternative programming. A 2012 multi-systemic plan submitted and approved for Dutchess County included the funding of the Probation Curfew Monitoring Program, which is utilized as an alternative to detention.

During 2011 and 2012, Dutchess County participated in a Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) implementation pilot study that was conducted by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and the VERA Institute. Dutchess County is currently in the process of submitting a DRAI implementation plan to OCFS.

In late 2012, the Juvenile Justice committee added a Family Court Judge, the Honorable Denise Watson, among others, as participating members. The committee will continue discussions regarding membership with a refocused agenda in 2013.

**AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION**

2012	JAIL	Parole	ITAP		THP		CTC	EM JD		EM		ROR to Probation	RUS	TOTAL ATI
			PRE	SENT	PRE	SENT		PRE	SENT	PRE	SENT			
			January	416	13	43	22	24	7	57	15			
February	414	26	47	24	27	5	54	14	15	103	22	219	18	548
March	409	29	43	22	24	10	58	19	17	88	23	235	20	559
April	404	21	42	18	29	2	57	18	22	96	20	247	20	529
May	416	20	42	19	33	5	64	17	21	96	18	268	19	602
June	440	20	42	20	29	2	66	21	18	100	16	271	18	603
July	468	20	44	22	33	2	74	19	22	94	15	248	19	592
August	486	27	43	23	28	6	74	16	20	100	14	276	21	621
September	495	20	41	26	24	9	78	19	20	89	14	243	19	582
October	501	16	41	26	21	9	72	22	23	90	14	241	21	580
November	490	21	37	23	21	4	70	20	21	100	14	239	19	568
December	480	28	36	22	19	2	70	17	17	101	14	217	19	534
														0

**ADMISSIONS**

	JAIL	Parole Admiss	ITAP		THP		CTC	EM JD		EM		ROR to Probation	RUS	TOTAL ATI
			PRE	SENT	PRE	SENT		PRE	SENT	PRE	SENT			
January	263	22	3	3	11	2	16	6	4	26	8	37	3	119
February	286	27	6	2	11	2	12	6	5	29	6	51	2	132
March	302	17	3	1	13	1	11	8	4	19	2	46	2	110
April	294	17	5	1	19	0	15	4	6	31	3	61	5	150
May	299	17	7	0	12	2	15	9	1	24	1	55	2	128
June	319	17	4	0	13	1	16	6	3	34	1	63	1	142
July	335	23	9	1	17	0	25	7	6	26	4	45	2	142
August	360	28	2	4	14	1	15	6	2	25	4	63	4	140
September	302	29	4	3	10	1	13	7	3	22	2	47	0	112
October	295	17	7	1	14	0	12	7	4	25	3	57	6	136
November	260	18	1	2	7	1	12	6	1	32	8	46	3	119
December	267	24	4	1	16	0	12	3	1	25	2	26	4	94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3582</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1524</b>

**WAITING LISTS**

	JAN	FEB	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	OCT	NOV	DEC		
ITAP												
THP												
CTC												

**Legend**

CTC: Community Transitions Center  
 EM: Electronic Monitoring Program  
 EM JD: Juvenile Electronic Monitoring Program  
 ITAP: Intensive Treatment Alternative Program  
 RUS: Released Under Supervision  
 PRE: Pretrial Cases  
 SENT: Sentenced Cases  
 THP: Transitional Housing Program  
 ROR: Released on Own Recognizance to Probation