

**DUTCHESS
COUNTY
CRIMINAL
JUSTICE
COUNCIL**



2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Marcus J. Molinaro
County Executive

Mary Ellen Still
Chairperson

Dawn Hawley
CJC Coordinator

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 accomplished 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

**EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

Community
Involvement
Committee

Diversion
Committee

Juvenile
Justice
Committee

Re-Entry
Committee

Special
Populations
Committee

Victims
Committee

Women
involved
in Criminal
Justice System

BACKGROUND

The Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council (CJC) 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 that 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 operational guidelines. A 2011 resolution outlined the duties and functions of the Executive Committee.

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

Over the years, the Council has evolved to its present structure that consists of seven committees as well as an Executive Committee.

The two newest committees, Diversion and Special Populations, were formed at the recommendation of County Executive Marcus J. Molinaro. The Diversion Committee was created to explore opportunities to train law enforcement in crisis intervention and to create a stabilization center for individuals experiencing severe behavioral health issues that might result in hospitalization or incarceration.

The Special Populations Committee addresses the needs of special populations within the criminal justice system. Kevin Warwick, Alternative Solutions Associates, Inc., serves as a consultant to the county. Under the direction and guidance of Mr. Warwick, the RESTART (Re-Entry Stabilization, Transition and Reintegration Track) program was created. RESTART is a jail-based re-entry program designed to reduce recidivism of the high-risk offender. In addition to intensive jail programming, RESTART has a strong community component to ensure a seamless and successful transition from the jail with no interruption of services.

The CJC expresses its appreciation to Chief Ronald Knapp (Ret.), a long-standing member of the Council and chair of the Special Populations Committee, who retired from the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department and the CJC. Chief Knapp (Ret.) has been a dedicated member of the CJC for many years and has helped to advance its mission and goals.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee oversees and guides the work of the Council 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 Council.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

The Criminal Justice Council (CJC) meets six times annually at 8:00 a.m. 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 held at Catharine Street Community Center located at 69 Catharine Street (entrance on Mansion Street) in the City of Poughkeepsie and are open to the public. General information, annual and other reports, agendas and approved minutes are available on the county's website: www.dutchessny.gov

2016 Activities and Achievements

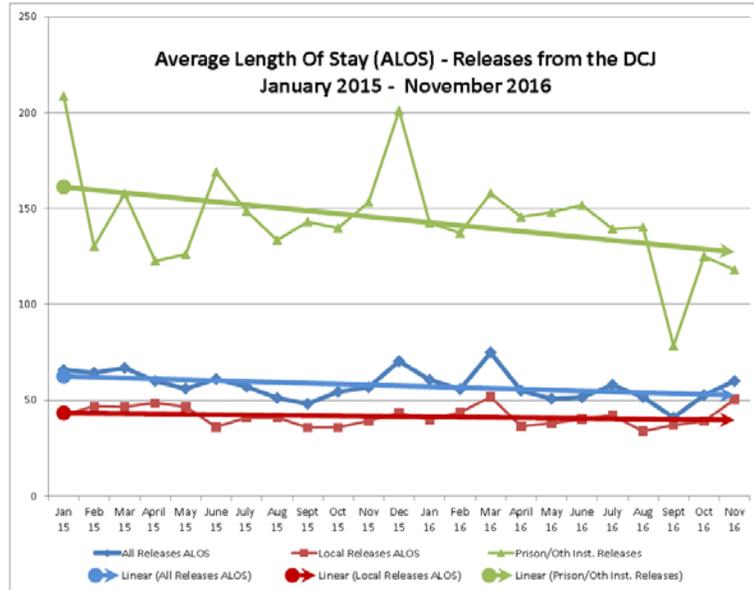
- Under the auspices of the Council and the oversight of the Re-Entry Committee, a tenth year of funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for re-entry programming was approved by the state. Exodus Transitional Community is the provider for this contract.
- The Council had several presentations from its consultant, Dr. Gary Christensen, on pertinent data involving jail length of stay, evidence-based practices and decision-making and criminal justice processing. Reports may be viewed on the Criminal Justice Council's section on the county's website.
- Dr. Christensen and Chairperson Mary Ellen Still attended a Magistrates Association meeting on November 21 to discuss progress on criminal justice processing and the RESTART (Re-Entry Stabilization Transition and Reintegration Track) program.
- RESTART, created in 2015, continued to evolve with the addition of more evidence-based programming for participants. It has the capacity to serve up to 50 male and 20 female high-risk inmates. Over 250 inmates have been accepted into the program since its creation. Transition and re-entry services are an essential component of the program.
- With guidance from the county's consultant, Kevin Warwick, the Special Populations Committee reviewed the design of the programming units of the new Justice and Transition Center to ensure physical layout and programming needs are properly aligned.

- Presentations were made by:
 1. William Eckert, Department of Behavioral and Community Health on Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT);
 2. Jonathan Heller, Office of Probation and Community Corrections, William Eckert, DBCH, Mark Sasvary, Hudson Valley Mental Health and Martin Lynch, Project M.O.R.E. on the RESTART program;
 3. Kevin Warwick, ASAI, on special populations;
 4. Colleen Feroe, DBCH, on the Intensive Treatment Alternative Program (ITAP).
- Under the guidance of the Diversion Committee, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) classes continued to be offered to local law enforcement agencies. This training enhances the ability of law enforcement officers to deal effectively and with sensitivity to people experiencing a mental health crisis. An eight-hour version of the training has also been created.
- In an effort to divert people with behavioral health issues from hospitalization and/or jail, the Diversion Committee worked to develop a Stabilization Center based on the successful model in San Antonio, Texas and other similar models. It is anticipated that the center will open in early 2017.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING

Dr. Gary Christensen, Consultant

Over the past several years, Dr. Christensen has conducted analyses of our county's jail population to advance local understanding of policy-level decision making related to local criminal justice practice. Much of this work has been designed to assist the Criminal Justice Council (CJC) in its advisory capacity to the Executive and Legislative branches of Dutchess County Government. Over the past two years, policy-level decision makers have advanced local criminal justice decision-making by gaining a more thorough understanding of the criminal justice population. The ongoing efforts of our major criminal justice stakeholders in the Office of Probation, the Public Defender's Office and the District Attorney's Office have resulted in a significant decrease in the average length of stay (ALOS - depicted in the chart below) and the overall jail population. However, the average length of stay for inmates committed to the Dutchess County Jail (DCJ) remains at a level higher than desired. Therefore, in order to gain a better understanding of our county jail population, multiple analyses were conducted during 2016 to evaluate the effects of specific populations on county jail bed days.



Despite aggressive local pretrial release and alternative to incarceration efforts, it became clear that the vast majority of DCJ bed days are used by longer term inmates who are not eligible for pretrial release due to their higher risk levels. This is not to diminish in any way the importance of evidence-based pretrial release practices; in fact, Dutchess County’s evidence-based pretrial release practice has proven cost effective for lower-risk defendants and results in the best possible long-term public safety outcomes. As noted in the final chart attached to this report, about 1,000 defendants were released in 2016 without cash bail through the efforts of Pretrial Services.

To evaluate the effect on jail bed days used by longer-term, higher-risk inmates, a study was conducted of all admittances to the DCJ from December 15, 2011 through May 2, 2016 (N=13,236). The table below depicts the results of that study revealing that 2,338 inmates who spent 100 days or more within the DCJ represented 17.7% of all admittances, yet they accounted for 68.7% of the 659,132 jail bed days used during the study period.

ALL Admittances 12/15/11 – 05/02/16 (Total N = 13,236)

BY ALOS	Inmates	% Inmates	ALOS	# Jail Days	% of all Jail Days
ALL	13236	100%	49.8	659132	100%
100+ Jail Days	2338	17.7%	193.6	452706	68.7%
All Others	10898	82.3%	18.9	206426	31.3%

Further study of this population, conducted early in 2016 with the assistance of the Dutchess County Office of Computer and Information Services and the District

Attorney’s Office, revealed that nearly all inmates who spend 100+ days within the DCJ are eventually convicted of a crime and serve either a local sentence or a state prison term. Of the 285 inmates who spent at least 100 days in the DCJ and were incarcerated January 2015 and released or transferred by February 2016, 261 were convicted, eight were parole violators, 14 had pending court cases, one was released on a Final Order of Observation (CPL 730) and one was released in the interests of justice after the victim in the case died. This study proved instructive because over 94% of 100 + day defendants were convicted of a crime, and potentially, when the pending cases were complete, it was estimated that the percentage convicted would likely increase to over 99%.

When evaluating all offenders released from the DCJ for any reason (n=7,866), the analysis below revealed that sentenced offenders (either to the DCJ or to State Prison) use well over half of all DCJ jail days.

Release Reason	ALOS	# Inmates	Jail Days	% of Jail Days used
Sentence EXP	97.8	1238	121096	35.1%
Transfer to DOCS	154.6	510	78825	22.9%
Court Order	26.3	2517	66191	19.2%
Probation (Transition House)	53.6	353	18930	5.5%
Parole (Return to DOCS)	53.3	313	16681	4.8%
Release to Feds	72.1	141	10168	2.9%
Bail	4.2	1942	8082	2.3%
Parole (Release from Detainer)	74.3	86	6391	1.9%
Probation (Electronic Monitoring)	18.8	328	6177	1.8%
Other	80.9	47	3801	1.1%
Transfer to State Hospital	88.8	38	3335	1.0%
Bond	7.3	248	1819	0.5%
Fugitive Return	25.5	71	1810	0.5%
Writ	61.1	22	1345	0.4%
Probation (Release on own Recognition)	50.8	4	203	0.1%
Conditional Release	14.4	5	72	0.0%
Misc.	9.7	3	29	0.0%

Further analysis revealed that criminal defendants originating in the City and Town of Poughkeepsie Courts represent over 50% of all 100+ day DCJ inmates. This information became part of a formal September report to the CJC in which Dr. Christensen summarized the current ALOS for all offenders originating in either the City of Poughkeepsie Court or the Town of Poughkeepsie Court, categorized by their risk to reoffend and crime type, who were booked on or after 6/1/15 and released by 4/1/16.

Other studies and presentations were conducted throughout 2016 to affirm the positive correlation between the average length of time spent in jail, the number of jail admissions (ADM), and the need for jail capacity (ADP). Late in 2016, because of the work outlined herein and the efforts of major criminal justice stakeholders within Dutchess County, it was agreed that quality assurance efforts would be enacted in 2017 to understand and streamline criminal case processing that could decrease length of stay for longer-term DCJ inmates and lessen the need for jail beds. Accordingly, a Quality Assurance (QA) committee was established as a sub-committee of the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council. The QA Committee

has begun work to realize decreased ALOS and has set a goal to reduce overall ALOS by five days in 2017.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Shirley Adams

The Community Involvement Committee (CIC) reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen community capacity by promoting and facilitating the community's timely access to factual information as it relates to the Dutchess County Criminal Justice System and its potential impact on the overall quality of life in our county. The committee implemented techniques to improve and strengthen its outreach to the community through various means. Utilizing social media, CIC expanded its outreach to more individuals and households with announcements and important information about upcoming meetings and programs countywide. CIC members also presented at community gatherings and distributed flyers about upcoming events. Additionally, CIC members were tasked with informing and/or bringing at least one new person to community meetings—a friend, colleague or neighbor.

Through its efforts, CIC saw an increased number of new people at community meetings relating to issues surrounding the proposed plans for the new Justice and Transition Center and the heroin/opioid epidemic. While more work is needed to increase the community's overall participation, CIC is pleased to report that its enhanced outreach efforts made it possible for more than 500 new individuals to obtain important information about upcoming events and issues. CIC is equally pleased that its outreach activities had a positive impact on the participation of CIC members at community meetings and forums. CIC members achieved a 40% increase in attendance at Chemical and Substance Abuse/Opioid Public Hearings and Community Forums, presentations on the RESTART program, Re-Entry Task Force meetings, refugee placement meetings and a series of meetings on the proposed plans for the new Justice and Transition Center.

CIC will work to enhance its community outreach strategy and continue to identify and implement effective methods to ensure access to factual information and opportunities to participate in discussions relating to criminal justice issues and decisions impacting individuals and families in Dutchess County.

DIVERSION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Steve Miccio

The Diversion Committee met six times throughout 2016 and the following topics were discussed and acted upon: the Stabilization Center, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and the Imagine Dutchess Portal.

Updates on the development of the Stabilization Center were provided at each meeting. The committee members asked questions and shared thoughts on their views regarding the operation of the center. Ideas, concerns and questions were shared with the CJC Steering Committee.

A draft of a community provider *Memorandum of Understanding* was developed in partnership with the committee. The draft is designed for participating agencies and the Stabilization Center to ensure a shared understanding regarding referrals and expectations. It also outlines how the community will benefit from the operation of the center. A final draft for county review will be completed in early 2017.

Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) updates were provided at each meeting and members of the CIT steering team attended committee meetings to provide updates and progress reports. Throughout 2016, CIT classes were offered to law enforcement agencies throughout the county as outlined in the following chart.

Updates on the *Imagine Dutchess* portal were shared and discussed at each stage of development with committee members providing input. The portal will provide valuable information to residents of the county.

Updates on Criminal Justice Council activities were provided at each meeting including progress on the Justice and Transition Center. In 2017, it is anticipated that the focus of the committee will remain on CIT and the Stabilization Center.

Crisis Intervention Training:



In 2016, there were four 40-hour CIT courses given. There were three 8-hour trainings given as well. The breakdown of officers trained and participating departments is provided in the following charts:

Departments	2/22 - 26	4/4 – 4/8	6/13 – 6/17	9/19 – 9/23
Hyde Park	0	0	0	2
Town/Pok	6	5	3	3
City/Pok	6	3	16	5
East Fishkill	0	2	0	2
City/Beacon	2	2	2	2
DC Sheriff	3	4	1	0
NYS Police	0	0	3	3
Total	17	16	25	17
			Total CIT	75

8-Hour Intervention trainings

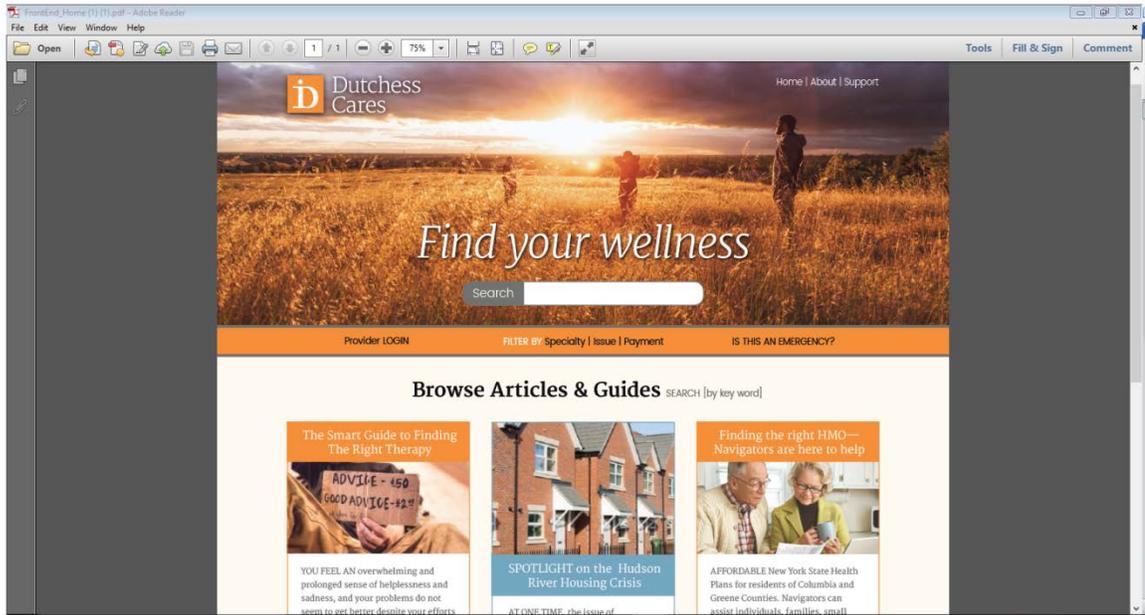
	2/10	9/1	11/28	Total4	
Town/Pok	4	3	12	19	
City/Pok	0	0	14	14	
Rhinebeck	0	0	2	2	
Town/Fishkill	0	0	2	2	
City/Beacon	2	0	2	4	
DC Sheriff	6	0	8	14	
DC/Jail	13	0	5	18	
Probation	0	0	1	1	
Total	25	3	46	74	

The total number of officers trained in 2016 was 149. In combination with the CIT trainings from 2015, we have now trained 241 officers in Dutchess County.

Several challenges arose during the year. Accommodating part-time departments, meeting staffing requirements in departments sending officers for training and conflicts in dates were among the issues that had to be addressed and resolved.

In 2017, CIT is being planned for an additional 200 officers, bringing the total up to 65% of all road patrol law enforcement.

Imagine Dutchess Portal



Work on the Imagine Dutchess portal, which will be used as a community resource, has been an ongoing topic of discussion at the committee. Many providers have been interviewed over the past year and the web developer is now building the portal with an anticipated introduction of mid-2017.

The portal is being called *Dutchess Cares* and all residents in Dutchess County will have access to the site. It is designed to educate community residents, providers and interested parties. The example above shows what the site's home page may look like. It will be designed to promote quick and easy access to a host of services.

As there is no similar site in existence at this time, it has required time and research to design. It will benefit county residents and help with the ongoing work of the Criminal Justice Council, especially in the area of diversion.

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Karen DeSimone

The Juvenile Justice Committee (hosted by the Office of Probation) is 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 annually to discuss issues relating to the Juvenile Justice System, identify needs and trends, share information from related committees and monitor statistics/outcome measures of the various programs in place for at-risk youth.

In 2016, the Juvenile Justice Committee gathered for bi-monthly meetings. Topics of discussion included:

- New York State Juvenile Justice Reform initiatives;
- Review of current programs available to at-risk youth;
- Participation in the Mid-Hudson Regional Youth Justice Team;
- Utilization of the NYS Detention Risk Assessment Instrument;
- Disproportionate Minority Representation;
- Updates from related committees and notification of training and events;
- Mentally ill youth in the Juvenile Justice System.

In 2013, New York State formed eight Regional Youth Justice Teams throughout the state and several members of the Dutchess County Juvenile Justice Committee continue to participate on the Mid-Hudson Regional Youth Justice Team. Each regional team has a diverse roster of participants representing various stakeholders. The regional teams are currently meeting on a quarterly basis to discuss identified issues and needs of at-risk youth in the region. Information and feedback is then related to the New York State Strategic Planning Action Committee (SPAC) for further review and consideration.

The committee continues to monitor Juvenile Justice reform issues as they relate to the needs of at-risk youth and potentially impact the Juvenile Justice System in Dutchess County. The Juvenile Justice Committee continued discussions regarding the possible transition in New York State to move 16 and 17 year olds out of the Criminal Justice System and into the Family Court's jurisdiction ('Raise the Age' reform). While there were no changes in New York State law in 2016, a future transition remains possible and therefore the committee continues to monitor the proposals and discuss the implications for change in Dutchess County.

The Juvenile Justice Committee monitors and discusses the utilization of the DRAI (Detention Risk Assessment Instrument) and regularly provides feedback to the Mid-Hudson Regional Youth Justice Team. In 2016, a statewide DRAI review was conducted and tool revisions are in progress.

In 2016, the Juvenile Justice Committee elected to dedicate two meetings entirely to the topic of mentally ill youth in the Juvenile Justice System. Several additional agencies and individuals participated in the discussions that focused on identifying both the challenges and needs of this population. With the goal of improving the systemic response to mentally ill youth, this discussion will continue in 2017.

RE-ENTRY COMMITTEE

Chairpersons: Thomas Angell and Jill Lenard-Horne

Re-entry services multiplied in Dutchess County this year. Traditional services funded by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) has been augmented with funding from a Dutchess County Community Investment Program, Workforce Investment Board (One Stop) and the Department of Community and Family Services. The Re-Entry Task Force continues to partner with Exodus Transitional Community, Inc. to provide re-entry services to Dutchess County residents. Our re-entry coordinator is Carlos Valencia.

The Task Force targets its limited resources on assisting individuals released from State Prison with the highest actuarial risk of recidivism. In 2016, services were provided to 354 individuals. During 2016, 135 participants completed the anger management program, 135 participants completed the Ready, Set, Work vocation program, 63 participants found employment and 28 graduated from the Moral Reconciliation Therapy program. In addition, Exodus provided a multitude of other services on a daily basis—individual advocacy, counseling, case management services, and community building exercises. The Re-Entry Center, located at 85 Cannon Street in the City of Poughkeepsie, is extensively used for a variety of needs.

The primary source of referrals is the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. In addition, referrals have come from the Office of Probation, Public Defender and other partnering community agencies. The focus of intervention is to connect the participant with programs that will reduce criminogenic factors and thus the risk to reoffend. In most cases, the COMPAS risk and needs assessment instrument is used to determine the domains that need to be addressed for each client. In turn, Exodus Transitional Program coordinates monthly case management meetings with Parole and various community and local governmental agencies to design specific programming for each identified need that the client has. Exodus continues to meet the performance goals of its various contracts.

The Task Force met on a bi-monthly basis to address systemic barriers that individuals returning to the community from correctional facilities face. Meetings have been well attended, with often 30 or more people present. Representatives from parole, social service agencies, jail, mental hygiene, probation, substance abuse agencies, domestic violence agencies, concerned citizens and many others have attended on a regular basis. We have had presentations from Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, United Way, Hudson River Housing, Community Wealth Building Coalition, Community Housing Innovations, PEOPLE Inc. and Nubian Directions. The committee continues to assist Fordham University's *Coming Home* program in an effort to establish a mentoring program for parolees in Dutchess County.

The Task Force greatly benefitted from the assistance of our volunteer Frank Pepe. Based upon the extensive research and investigations conducted by Mr. Pepe, the Task Force determined that housing for homeless parolees was a priority. The Task Force has reported periodically to the Criminal Justice Council regarding its findings and with specific requests for advocacy for change regarding the housing problem. Solving the housing problem is our 2017 goal.

The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services recently completed a statewide study on the recidivism rates of parolees participating in Re-Entry Task Forces statewide. The overall one-year re-arrest rate among 2014 participants statewide was 36%. The re-arrest rate in Dutchess County was 27%.

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. We plan to continue these important and necessary efforts in 2017.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Chief Ronald Knapp

The committee was created to assist the Special Populations consultant (Kevin Warwick-ASAI) to determine the most effective ways to address the needs of Dutchess County's special inmate populations. Working with the consultant, the committee will contribute to the design of the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center (DCJTC). The committee is comprised of a diverse group of agencies and individuals; the membership list may be found on the county's website.

Much of the Special Populations Committee's work in 2016 centered on the further development of the RESTART (Re-Entry Stabilization Transition and Reintegration Track) program. RESTART is a multi-agency cooperative effort involving the Dutchess County Jail, Office of Probation, Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Project M.O.R.E. and Hudson Valley Mental Health. Participants typically spend 60—90 days in the jail-based program followed by a continuation of the same evidence-based services in the community.

RESTART is designed for the higher criminogenic risk/needs individual. By the end of 2016, 288 individuals had been enrolled in the program, an auspicious beginning to this intensive program designed to reduce recidivism through the use of evidence-based programming. RESTART was enhanced over the course of 2016 as space and logistical issues were resolved with the assistance of corrections staff. RESTART staff received training in motivational interviewing, MRT

(Moral Reconciliation Therapy) and DBT (Dialectical Behavior Therapy). Additionally, a case management system was created, process measures were established and the groundwork was laid for development of outcome measures.

Informational presentations were made to the Criminal Justice Council, the Office of the Public Defender, the District Attorney's Office and the Magistrates Association.

The Special Populations Committee had significant discussions on the heroin/opiate addiction issue with a focus on medication-assisted treatment (MAT). Specific attention was given to the introduction of Vivitrol by the Department of Behavioral and Community Health.

The committee was kept apprised of the progress of the Stabilization Center described in detail in another section of this report.

It is the overall goal of this committee to create, evaluate and implement programming for special populations and examine how these programs will work within the framework of the new Justice and Transition Center and the community. In 2017, the focus will be on the successful transition of RESTART participants back into the community.

With the resignation of Chief Ronald Knapp, who retired from the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department at the end of 2016, a new chair has been appointed. Jonathan Heller, who has been a member of the Special Populations Committee since its creation, was appointed as the new chair.

VICTIMS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Kelly Bunt

In 2016, the Victims Committee underwent a change in leadership. In April of 2016, Kelly Bunt, LCSW, Clinical Supervisor of the Relapse Intervention for Sex Crimes (RISC) program, a program of Family Services Inc., was appointed as chair. The first priority under the new leadership was to solidify the committee and its membership. The goal in forming the committee was to form a multidisciplinary team, ensuring representation from the many disciplines with whom victims interface.

In June 2016, the committee, comprised of representation from the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office, local law enforcement, Dutchess County Jail, Dutchess County Public Defender's Office, Center for Victim Safety and Support, Universal Response to Domestic Violence, Office of Probation and Community Corrections and Dutchess County Sexual Assault Response Team, met for the first time. The focus was to establish the committee's goal: *to enhance the services*

provided to victims by assuring a victim-centered approach at all points of the criminal justice system with which victims interface, and identify objectives, locate the gaps in the criminal justice system where victims are not served or a victim-centered approach is not being utilized. From June through September, the committee met monthly to brainstorm where gaps are and what the committee can do about them. At the conclusion of the brainstorming phase, the committee unanimously decided to focus on the development of a countywide tracking system. This would enable the committee to gain a better understanding of the criminal justice process from arrest through disposition and help identify what services are still needed for victims of sexual assault. Furthermore, the information gathered could provide data on ways to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the system's response to sexual assault cases.

Taking into consideration the variety of agencies a victim may interact with once a sexual assault has occurred (i.e., law enforcement, hospital, victim services, etc.) the committee decided to focus its initial efforts on obtaining the data from one agency versus multiple, and chose law enforcement as a beginning point. The committee believes that creating a sexual assault report form will be an effective way to track these cases. From October through the end of 2016, the committee worked diligently on the creation of such a form.

The goal for the upcoming year is to complete the form and begin implementation.

WOMEN INVOLVED IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mary Haight

The committee's focus is on the specific needs of women and supporting the gender-responsive strategies that are most effective in reducing recidivism. Throughout the year, information was provided about positive outcomes associated with education, employment, and treatment for justice-involved women.

The committee monitors program utilization and incarceration trends on a monthly basis. The information gathered includes a breakdown by gender in the Dutchess County Jail, those attending the in-jail programming of RESTART, those under community supervision, and the number of females enrolled in alternative to incarceration programs. Information presented by our consultant, Dr. Christensen, was disseminated to the committee, with a specific focus on those females incarcerated in the Dutchess County Jail.

Employment was a key focus of the group during 2016. The committee continued to seek potential employment opportunities for women. The Indoor Organic Gardens provided a tour and overview of their process and discussed their ability to accept employees; Vassar College food service hired an ATI program participant. Information regarding local grants that fund employment services was presented. The American Bar Association implemented a site with an interactive

map of the collateral consequences a conviction may have on an individual's ability to seek employment, with the link provided to members.

Information about utilization of Medication Assisted Treatment, such as Vivitrol, was presented. Law enforcement representatives expressed concern about seeing a rise in heroin overdoses. The committee also received the hyperlink to "Opioid Poisoning, Overdose and Prevention: 2015 Report to the Governor and NYS Legislature."

The committee reviewed the August 2016 Vera Institute Report "Overlooked: Women and Jails in an Era of Reform" and had local expert led discussions about the factors that contribute to incarceration at four points – arrest, charge, bail/pre-trial, and sentencing in the Dutchess County system. This included an analysis of the Dutchess County Jail female inmates by crime and type (snapshot 2/9/16), with a comparison to the overall population, as well as the average length of stay by release type from 2012-2016.

Dutchess County, in collaboration with Project M.O.R.E. Inc.'s Women's Center, was featured in the National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women's article "Building Gender Informed Practices at the Pretrial Stage: Lessons Learned about Implementing the Inventory of Needs (ION) in Dutchess County, New York." Dutchess County was commended for "putting more focus on the needs of women." The county was also featured in the May/June Offender Programs Report in an article entitled "Probation-Based Pretrial Practice in Dutchess County, New York." The article addresses the importance of meeting the unique needs of female defendants.

Being mindful of the impact of trauma and victimization on women, members attended and assisted with the non-DWI Victim Impact Panel, hosted by the Office of Probation, on October 27, 2016. Committee members were able to meet with presenters for continuing conversations about the impact of victimization.

Looking ahead to 2017, the Committee will continue to explore the barriers and challenges faced by justice-involved women, advocate for gender-responsive design elements in the proposed Justice and Transition Center, seek further information about issues confronted by transgender people in the justice system and build upon the network of community resources for justice-involved women.

CJC OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED

In 2012, the Criminal Justice Council issued a Needs Assessment that contained both short and long-term recommendations. Many of the recommendations have been achieved while others are underway or being studied. Among the objectives recommended by the Council that have been implemented are the following:

- Stabilization Center will open in 2017 to assist people with mental health issues in crisis;
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement agencies is ongoing;
- A jail re-entry and transition program, RESTART, has been established;
- Gender-specific programming has been created for women through the creation of the Women's Center with links to housing assistance, the creation of an Inventory of Needs (ION) and specialized programming in RESTART;
- An additional respite bed has been created at River Haven. Although "Raise the Age" legislation has not yet been enacted, strategies are being developed to address whatever form this change may take;
- Working with CJC consultant Dr. Gary Christensen, the District Attorney's Office, Office of the Public Defender and the Office of Probation and Community Corrections have been working in collaboration to address and speed up, where appropriate, case processing;
- The Department of Behavioral and Community Health expanded the Mobile Crisis Team;
- Centralized arraignment is currently under discussion with the Magistrates Association, District Attorney's Office, Office of the Public Defender, Sheriff's Office, New York State Police and the Office of Probation and Community Corrections;
- The use of Interim supervision and pre-plea reports has been greatly expanded;
- Although videoconferencing was recommended, it is no longer necessary due to the installation of the jail PODS;
- Curfew monitoring is available year round for youth;
- The Proxy risk assessment has been firmly established;
- Evidence-based practices and programs have been widely established and maintained; jail-based and community-based programs are consistent;
- Community supervision decisions are based on risk level and criminogenic needs;
- Physical layout of the new Justice and Transition Center is being evaluated in light of programmatic and special population needs.

It should be noted that further study and evaluation needs to be done regarding housing needs, especially for youth, women and those with mental health issues. This will take the combined knowledge and efforts of many agencies working collaboratively.

SUMMARY AND GOALS FOR 2017

The CJC and its committees have accomplished a great deal in 2016. The CJC is fortunate to have active and involved committee members who address a variety of topics and issues as well as knowledgeable consultants to guide planning and programming.

A Quality Assurance Committee will be created in 2017. Comprised of representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Office of the Public Defender, Office of Probation and Community Corrections as well as the CJC consultant, it will receive assistance and support from the Office of Computer Information Services (OCIS). The committee will focus on case processing to ensure that cases move through the system expeditiously without compromising due process or public safety. Of particular interest will be the inmates with 100 or more days in the jail. The goal is to reduce the average length of stay by five days in 2017.

Further analysis of how length of stay (ALOS) is affected by various populations will be undertaken. Defendants sentenced to state prison often spend substantial amounts of time in jail. On the other hand, many defendants spend a short period in jail before release on bail or through the intervention of Pretrial Services. Some populations, such as parolees, are not subject to local management or control. Separating out these various populations will increase our understanding of the factors driving length of stay as well as potential strategies to lower it.

Similar to the "mapping" of the adult system several years ago, the juvenile system will undergo a similar process. The Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) has been successful in identifying decision-making points in both the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.

As inmates complete RESTART and transition back into the community, outcome studies will be conducted to evaluate the impact of the program. The opening of the Stabilization Center is expected to provide an alternative to hospitalization or jail with improved outcomes for the people receiving services.

Project M.O.R.E. will begin work to implement an employment-focused program for probationers. The DCJS funded grant will focus on job readiness, coaching, skill building and placement, some of it subsidized, at various employment sites.

Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) will continue during 2017. The opening of the Stabilization Center will be a major achievement in improving services to those with mental health or chemical dependency needs. A Veterans Track is being developed using a team approach.

Finally, the CJC will remain proactive in the identification of needs and responding to those needs through evidence-based practices.