CJS Administrative Services

The Operational Services Team managed an estimated 20,000 client contacts (in person or by phone) referred by the courts for pretrial supervision and community service. The bilingual staff also manages payroll, finance and facility matters.

CJS Revenues and Expenses

CJS collected $269,907 in Community Service Client Fees and $14,228 in ROC Client Fees. This revenue goes into the County General Fund.

Partnerships in the 20th Judicial District and Beyond

The Justice System Volunteer Program (JSVP) provides volunteer opportunities for CJS, the District Attorney’s Office, JAC, and the Boulder County Jail. Each year more than 100 volunteers donate their time providing valuable services in victim witness advocacy, case management, staff assistance, youth mentoring, jail education and more. JSVP is also responsible for managing volunteers and donations in the event of a county emergency or disaster.

122 Volunteers within the JSVP dedicated 11,130 hours to criminal justice programs

$262,222 Estimated value of volunteer time donated to the JSVP (this number was derived from the Independent Sector which calculates the estimated national value for volunteer time at $25.36 per hour)

The Mentoring Program served 41 youth. Volunteers provide one-on-one mentoring and guidance for a minimum of one year, building positive ongoing relationships, serving as role models, encouraging community connections, and offering support.

PACE Cost Benefit Analysis

The Research and Planning Unit at CJS tracks outcomes for internal programming as well as efforts in the broader criminal justice system. An example of this work is the cost benefit analysis conducted for PACE, an integrated treatment and diversion program for mentally ill offenders. The cost of a client in PACE is lower than the cost of jail, and additional jail bed savings are realized after graduation. In combining savings during and post program, the total estimated saving of PACE is $347,000 annually.

Jail Crowding Study

In 2016, CJS managed a large consultant project funded by the Board of County Commissioners to conduct a thorough study to determine how the offender population could be optimally managed to ensure maximum long-term community safety through the use of evidence-based best practices. An extensive list of recommendations was presented for system-wide consideration to address the best use of county criminal justice resources.

Data Driven Justice Initiative

Boulder County recently joined the Data Driven Justice Initiative (DDJ). The DDJ is a bipartisan coalition of local and state governments who are committed to using data-driven strategies to divert low-level offenders out of the criminal justice system, and to change approaches to pre-trial incarceration. These innovative strategies, which have measurably reduced jail populations in several communities, help stabilize individuals and families, better serve communities and often, save money in the process.

Our special thanks to the Boulder County Commissioners for their continued funding and support of the Community Justice Services Division.
Community and Jail-Based Services

The mission of Boulder County Community Justice Services (CJS) is to provide humane and constructive community-based interventions, education, alternatives to incarceration, and reparation to the community for criminal behavior. Our commitment is to assist individuals in functioning lawfully and constructively while ensuring community safety.

Community Service is a sentencing alternative that serves the courts and the community by placing clients into unpaid positions, giving them the opportunity to give back to the community in which they have done harm.

Alternatives to Incarceration

CJS programs provide alternative sentencing options to keep clients in the community and reduce jail bed usage, while providing treatment, improving safety outcomes and reducing criminal justice costs.

Community Service philosophy is to keep individuals out of jail while providing an opportunity to assist their communities through productive reintegration back into society.

Supportive Juvenile Justice Programs

The Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) is the only county-funded intake, assessment and short-term detention facility for juveniles in the state. Its main purpose is to assess youth for release into the community, provide safe lodging and ensure safety. The Center offers positive programming during incarceration to further reduce harm using volunteers and interns who assist staff with daily activities and provide special programming including yoga, therapy dogs, art education, and gardening.

Richard Lake was a Community Service client in a tough spot due to his charges and the loss of his job and housing. His case manager gave him the option of creating a piece of art to fulfill his community service hours. The painting was donated to Bridge House as he was a former client and wanted to give back to the agency.

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The Family Navigator helps families with questions about their child's involvement in the juvenile justice system. It can serve as a one-time resource liaison between community agencies and families (Track 1), or a more long-term support as they navigate the system (Track 2). There were 434 contacts made in Track 1 and 24 families served in Track 2.

The Juvenile Services Detention Therapist helps families with questions about their child's involvement in the juvenile justice system. It can serve as a one-time resource liaison between community agencies and families (Track 1), or a more long-term support as they navigate the system (Track 2). There were 434 contacts made in Track 1 and 24 families served in Track 2.

The Bond Commissioners Unit provides initial assessment of individuals after arrest in order to recommend or set bond. This unit conducted 4,200 interviews.

The Preticial Supervision Intake program prepares supervision when court-ordered as a condition of a defendant's bond. Tailored case management is provided with community safety as the primary goal.

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