Partnerships in the 20th Judicial District and Beyond

The Justice System Volunteer Program (JSVP) provides long-term volunteers for CJS and the District Attorney’s Office. Each year more than 100 volunteers donate their time and talents 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.

121
Volunteers within the JSVP dedicated 10,295 hours to criminal justice programs

$275,700
Estimated value of volunteer time donated to the JSVP (this number was derived from the Independent Sector calculation of the estimated Colorado value for volunteer time at $26.78 per hour)

Progress of the Offender Management Work

In 2016 the Justice System Partners Report had 27 recommendations to help reduce jail overcrowding and impact recidivism and outcomes for those touching the criminal justice system in the county. CJS conducted system wide planning efforts on several recommendations including:

- Reforming our Pretrial Bond practices to drive decision making based on mitigating risk, not on economics and poverty
- Expanding CJS role in jail programming to ensure it can reduce recidivism for those at highest risk to return to crime once released
- Reallocating resources to provide for free, specialized behavioral health assistance to help off ramp individuals in the justice system when a lack of treatment support has landed them in the system
- Launching the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) project, a multi-agency effort to provide seamless, evidence-based therapy from jail to the community

Looking Ahead for 2019

CJS was awarded two grants from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance totaling over $1.2 million to support an expansion of behavioral health services for those involved in the criminal justice system.

- The Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program will assess needs around the opioid epidemic and implement responsive programs and policies. The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program will implement use of both a universal criminogenic and violence risk assessment, and behavioral health screens to prioritize treatment and case management services.
- The Mental Health Pre-File Diversion Pilot Program is designed to divert individuals who are arrested and brought to the Boulder County Jail and are assessed as being both low risk for criminal risk, and high need for stabilizing services in the community.
- The “Bridges” Court Liaison Project uses dollars from the State Court Administrators’ Office to implement behavioral health processes for the justice involved population. The Behavioral Health Committee overseeing the project will have representation from CJS, the Sheriff’s Office, District Attorney, Mental Health Partners and State Public Defenders Office. A Court Liaison will provide services to clients who struggle with mental health issues.
- Other efforts include implementing assessment and case management for medium and high-risk offenders in the Boulder County Jail; development of an integrated database accessible to all county partners in the criminal justice system to aid planning, operations, and program evaluation; and building fidelity measures into all evidence-based programs to ensure they are being delivered as prescribed.

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. Staff, the majority of whom are bilingual, also manage ordering office supplies, finance and facility matters.

CJS Revenues and Expenses

CJS collected $194,225 in Community Service Client Fees and $24,002 in ROC Client Fees. This revenue goes into the County General Fund.

2018 Revenues and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expense</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Funds</td>
<td>$3,295,945</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB IV (Comm. Corrections)</td>
<td>$1,211,961</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 94</td>
<td>$632,465</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bond Comm. PTS Comm. Service</td>
<td>$1,143,675</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admin. Services</td>
<td>$662,581</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total $5,140,371</td>
<td>Total $5,140,371</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

The mission of Boulder County Community Justice Services (CJS) is to address core stability, provide hope, support and safety, inspire continual growth, collaborate and empower community.
Community and Jail-Based Services
The Bond Commissioners Unit provides initial assessment of individuals after arrest in order to recommend or set bond, as well as non-monetary conditions such as pretrial supervision. CJS continues to spearhead the Bond Reform Project which engages system stakeholders to shift from a money-based to a risk-based system. Research shows that posting a monetary bond does not increase the likelihood of community safety or court appearance, and disproportionately affects individuals with low income. Accurate risk assessment is key, and CJS is participating in a reanalysis of the Colorado Pretrial Assessment Tool (CPAT) to ensure it is effective. CJS is also conducting an analysis of local data to determine what conditions, if not money, are most likely to promote pretrial success.

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

Restoring our Communities (ROC) is a voluntary substance abuse treatment program designed for men who have three or more drinking/dragging and driving offenses. The program served 54 clients with DUI offenses. ROC implemented felony programming to comply with House Bill 15-1045, which has resulted in the program seeing higher risk clients for a longer duration of treatment.

Community Corrections is a state funded alternative to divert individuals from prison or transition them to the community after release from prison. It provides residential community-based services for clients with the goal of supporting their productive reintegration back into society. The Community Corrections Board reviews the cases and determines acceptance, with community safety as the primary consideration.

Alternative Sentencing Facility: CJS in partnership with the Sheriff’s Office, Commissioners’ Office, and Administrative Services, developed a business plan to address jail infrastructure needs and support evidence-based programming for low-risk offenders. This resulted in the successful passage of County Ballot Initiative 1A. This funding supports a new facility providing alternative sentencing options, and mental health and substance abuse services. This success reflects the community’s support for CJS’s collaborative work in county criminal justice efforts, and confidence in the Sheriff’s Office.

Supportive Juvenile Justice Programs
The Juvenile Justice Assessment Center 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 secure lodging and ensure safety. The center offers positive programming during incarceration to further reduce harm by using volunteers and interns to assist staff with daily activities as well as special programming including yoga, therapy dogs, art education, and gardening.

The Mentoring Program served a record 54 youth. Volunteers provide one-on-one mentoring and guidance for a minimum of one year to build positive ongoing relationships, serving as role models, encouraging community connections, and offering support.

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 to increase their self-efficacy as they navigate the system (Track 2).

The Juvenile Services Clinician provides assessment, consultation, coordinating medication evaluations and makes ongoing treatment referrals for youth and their families.