

The County of Lehigh Department of Juvenile Probation

www.lehighcounty.org

Mission Statement:

We are dedicated to working with juvenile offenders, their families, victims and the community by utilizing evidence based practices and balanced and restorative justice principles in order to build competencies, reduce risk to reoffend, restore victims, protect the community and assist in promoting long term behavior change.

Specialty Units:

Intake
Community Based
Low Risk
Aftercare
Mental Health (SPORE)
Fiscal

Lehigh County was one of the initial counties chosen by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be on the forefront of several initiatives to include:

Balanced and Restorative Justice
Evidence Based Practices
Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative
Motivational Interviewing
Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI – youth risk/need assessment)
Structured and individualized case plans
Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP)

2014 Statistics (sampling)

Total referrals	1292
Total cases closed	498
Males	71%
Females	29%
Completed without re-offending	81.5%
Community service hours completed	15,285
Restitution collected for victims	\$74,453
Completed a competency development activity	96.8%
Aggravated assaults	53
Burglaries	86
Possession of Weapon on School Property	42
Possession with Intent to Deliver	28
Robberies	63
Thefts	215

Services provided to juveniles and families include:

Aggression Replacement Training
Alcohol and drug awareness and treatment programs
Baum School of Art
College mentoring
Community justice panels
Community service work
~CAWS 1 (accountability)
~CAWS 2 (young offenders)
~CAWS 3 (restitution)
~CAWS 4 (competency development)
Electronic monitoring (GPS)
Evening Reporting Center (ERC)
Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)
GED/life skills preparation
Individual/family therapy
Parenting classes
Residential treatment programs
Retail theft program
Sex offender specific services
School justice panels
Shared case protocol for the Office of Children and Youth families
Thinking for a Change
Truancy panels
Victim awareness program
Victim/offender mediation

We utilize a valid risk/need instrument designed to target individual criminogenic needs. Acknowledging that individuals are at various stages of willingness to change, motivational interviewing is an evidence based practice that probation officers embrace to increase positive behaviors in our clients. The long term vision is to facilitate positive, internalized changes that will continue well after a juvenile is released from probation supervision.

In accordance with the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice, the Juvenile Probation Department is charged with integrating the elements of community protection, offender accountability, competency development, and victim restoration at each level of service delivery. Our system is committed to employing evidence based practices throughout the probation process.

3/2015 (2014 data)