

## **SPECIAL PROBATION SERVICES**

The Special Probation Service Department provides resources for Juvenile Bureau clients to enhance their ability to complete condition of release from detention, Deferred File, Court Ordered Probation Plan and Sanctions Victim Restitution, and Community Service Work.

### **Drug and Alcohol Services**

- a. SIDE-TRACK. This program responds to juveniles who have a proven substance abuse problem, with increased accountability and increased administrative oversight, without increased burden on the Court. Clients are referred generally from the Probation Department. This year almost 92% of cases received were formerly on probation caseload. Twenty-four (24%) percent of their clients were involved in the court system due to a possession of marijuana charge.
  - During this fiscal year seventy-one (71) clients were referred. This represents sixty-three (63) males and eight (8) females.
  - Of the seventy-one (71) referrals, African American represented twenty-five (25%) percent, Caucasian fifty-five (55%) percent, Hispanic and Native Americans twenty (20%) percent.
  
- b. LINK Services provides drug and alcohol testing and diversion program for clients referred with suspected substance abuse issues.
  - This fiscal year continued with testing high volume of clients. This year, 1, 264 people were tested.
  - Weekly caseload for LINK Services was 179 clients.
  - Drug of Choice for clients tested continues to be marijuana.
  - Monies collected and deposited for the year were over \$84, 000. Fees are collected from all clients and the Department of Human Services.

### **Tracking/Homebound Service**

- a. Homebound is a short-term intensive supervision community-based program provided to juveniles as a conditional release from secure detention. Juveniles are monitored generally from seven (7) to ten (10)

days duration. Completion with no violation is considered successful. This program assists in reducing the average daily population of the Detention Center.

- During the year, this program provided one thousand two hundred and eight-five (1, 285) service days supervising one hundred ninety-five (195) clients.
- Nine (9) clients broke their contracts and went back to detention. At the end of the year, ten (10) clients were being served.

b. Tracking provides intensive monitoring of probation clients, which enhances the safety of the community and insures a greater compliance of court ordered probation.

- During the year four hundred eighty six (486) referrals were received.
- Two hundred eighty nine (289) clients were in compliance and completed their plan successfully.
- One hundred ninety seven (197) clients were terminated before serving their required plan.

It should be noted that we experienced an increase of referrals of clients placed on the program more than one time. In fact, many three and four referrals for clients were experienced.

- Of the one hundred ninety seven (197) unsuccessful, fifty five (55) were first time referrals and one hundred and thirty seven (137) were referred two or more times.

c. Survival Skills for Young Women program was designed to provide educational courses in a group setting with the community for young women fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years of age. The goal is to give young women the opportunity to leave to be strong, intelligent, and independent. Referrals are received from Probation, Intake, Parents, and Municipal Court.

- One hundred forty eight (148) referrals were received during the year.

- Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau accounted for 70% of all referrals received. The success rate among participants referred through the Bureau is 53% (“success” meaning completing the program). Of Bureau employees, 76% utilized this program for their clients.
- Oklahoma City Municipal Court accounted for 27% of all referrals received. The success rate among participants referred through City Probation is 35%. The lower success rate among City Probation participants is probably due to the fact that there are no real consequences for not following the probation plan at this level.
- Other referral sources, which includes Midwest City Probation, parents, and DHS accounted for only 3% of total referrals received, with three of the five participants successfully completing the program. Neither of the parent referrals completed the program.
- A total of 71 participants completed the program. This accounts for 48% of total referrals. However, this accounts for 72% of all girls who started the program (“start” meaning attending at least one class). Of these 71, 44% completed at the north location, and 56% completed at the south location. The higher success rate on the south side location is due to more participants. A larger class size creates a more interesting and interactive dynamic among the participants, and they are more likely to enjoy the class and therefore feel compelled to attend.
- A total of 27 participants were dropped from the program after they attended at least one class. This accounts for a 28% drop level for all girls that started the program. Of these 27 participants who were dropped, 20 quit attending for unknown reasons, 2 had their case dismissed, 2 went into OJA custody, and 3 ran away from home.
- Program fees were collected from ninety (90) clients in cash and from seven (7) clients with Juvenile aid.

This program was made possible by grant funds through the office of Juvenile Affairs received by the Bureau and has proven to be of significant value.

- d. Assessment/Counseling is a contracted service that provides client assessment, individual, and group counseling for juveniles referred for services through Special Court Services Drug/Alcohol Intervention Unit.

- Assessment of clients includes both SIDE-Track and Probation referrals. The four hundred sixty six and one half (466.5) hours includes actual face-to-face time with the client as well as time spent in evaluating the data collected and forming either verbal or written responses.
  - Three hundred eighty nine (389) hours group contact hours were conducted. These hours reflect actual contact of clients doing groups.
  - Individual Client Counseling hours totaled one hundred eighty and one quarter (180.25) hours. These are actual client contact hours and do not reflect documentation time which included, would increase the figure by approximately 35-50%.
  - Family Counseling/Intervention this forty-eight and one quarter (48.25) hours includes time spent with the client and one or more family members as well as time spent in settings like phone consultations with a parent. This figure includes no documentation time.
  - The one hundred and twenty nine and one quarter (129.25) hours of Court and Administrative Hearings reflects time spent primarily in Administrative Hearings but also in Courtroom proceedings as well.
  - Broken down into contacts the data reflects almost one thousand two hundred and fourteen (1214) hours that were invested in the following contexts: seven hundred forty four (744) contacts in the office; seventy five (75) contacts at the client's home; thirty six (36) contacts at the client's school; and nine (9) contacts with a client in a treatment center setting. These contacts represent services provided to one hundred twenty nine (129) different clients.
- e. Service, Education, Accountability (SEA) Program is a community service work program under the Special Probation Service Department implemented August 15, 2002 with the hiring of two (2) part-time staff to work with a crew of 8-10 clients. Funds for the program come from the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant received by the Juvenile Bureau. Staffing changed later in the year to one full-time and one part-time employee. Current staffing consists of four (4) full-time staff persons. This allows us to work two teams each with a crew of ten (10) for a total of twenty (20) clients on projects worked per service day.

The program provides opportunity to level a consequence for violation for non-compliance of a court ordered probation plan, for clients to perform community service work as part of a deferred file or probation plan, for clients owing restitution to work and pay victims, and the opportunity for clients to receive pre-employment skill training.

The program receives referrals from Intake, Probation, and SIDE-Track Officers for clients needing to complete required community service, serve an imposed sanction, or pay restitution.

- First service work day was scheduled September 15, 2002 from 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Three Clients were served.
- On June 30, 2003; Friday was added as a third service day.
- From September 2002 to June 2003, twenty (20) different Non-Profit Community Agencies have served as community work sites.
- Since July 1, 2003 seven (7) new sites have been added. SEA is currently working with the City of Oklahoma City and Volunteer Service to implement additional project sites.
- The annual statistics (July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003) report reveals the following:
  - Total referrals received 212.
  - Clients completing is 107.
  - Total clients term/or no show 73.
  - Total community service hours ordered 8, 535.
  - Total community service hours worked was approximately 3,174.
  - Total restitution paid to victims \$10, 423.29.
  - The number of community sites utilized was 20.
- Challenges experienced included: clients not showing for required work and a need for greater access to educational programs for clients that may impact the implementation of a fourth service day.
- Future expansions include: adding a fourth service day when referrals increase for clients not in school; increasing the opportunity to serve specialized probation clients (ASO); developing a special programming during school breaks; continuing to develop additional sites, specifically indoor sites; and continuing to work with representatives from the City of

Oklahoma City and The Volunteer Center on the Youth Initiative Project.

- f. Probation Orientation is a program designed for first time adjudicated offenders being placed on Probation. This program was developed to provide information to juveniles and parents regarding what probation is and what the court expects while serving on probation. This program also allows for our agency to connect with the community through community volunteers.
- Forty-three (43) sessions were scheduled during this fiscal year. A decrease was experienced over the 52 scheduled last year.
  - One thousand two hundred and eighty one (1,281) juveniles and parents were referred or scheduled. Of those scheduled, six hundred forty six (646) were in attendance. This represents three hundred twenty-seven (327) adults and three hundred nineteen (319) juveniles. When compared to last year's attendance, of six hundred and five (605) juveniles and adults, an increase was experienced.
  - Pre- and Post-Tests revealed greater understanding of probation gained by participants. Four hundred forty-seven (447) participants level of understanding increased compared to one hundred ninety-nine (199) responses revealed understanding not gained.
  - Ten (10) community volunteers and practicum students provided instruction to clients.

Overall Special Probation Services demonstrated that its resources are available to the Bureau staff and assists clients in meeting court ordered plans. In addition, this Department was responsible to bring in trainers and provide staff training. During the year five (5) trainers were recruited and provided thirty-two (32) hours of training. Staff were able to select from these hours along with outside training to meet their required training hours.