The Winner Is...

Two programs within the Los Angeles County Probation Department were named winners of an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) in May. The NACo award honors innovative, effective County government programs designed to strengthen services for residents. Among the county’s 34 honorees, NACo recognized the L.A. Model Juvenile Rehabilitative Program at Probation’s Campus Kilpatrick for its ground-breaking, holistic approach to juvenile justice. NACo also recognized L.A. County Probation’s Passive Alert Canine Detection Program which has led to the removal of drugs, ammunition and weapons from the streets of Los Angeles County.

Wellness Watch

Taking the health and wellness of its employees seriously, the Los Angeles County Probation Department has created a Probation Wellness Plan and Team with a focus on the physical, mental, spiritual and financial wellness of staff.

At one recent event, employees took part in both Departmental and Countywide initiatives including the Countywide Fitness Challenges encouraging healthy bodies and healthy minds. L.A. County Probation staff are continually encouraged to take care of themselves and each other in recognition of the complexity of their work.
Reform Team Moves Forward

As the new Probation Reform and Implementation Team (PRIT) begins their work, Probation is and will continue to offer its full support. Chief of Staff Tiana Murillo serves as Probation’s representative on the PRIT, working with Chair Saul Sarabia and the committee members to coordinate and prioritize the various recommendations aimed at transforming the Probation Department and coordinate various recommendations into a plan of action. The feedback anticipated from these thought leaders will help engage the community, challenge current thinking and guide the Department into the future.

Probation Prepares for SB 10, Bail Reform

The passage of Senate Bill 10 will likely have a profound impact on the Los Angeles County Probation Department with a dramatic increase in the number of defendants requiring a pre-trial risk assessment and pretrial supervision services.

The bill states, in part, that courts will be required to create pre-trial services units to conduct assessments or develop contracts with local public entities regarding the provision of pretrial assessment and supervision services. Probation plans to work closely with the Courts and our County Partners in fulfilling the obligations required by this legislation.

Our Pre-Trial Services Division is ready and capable to implement the law if and when called upon to assist with this sweeping reform.

Peer Support Established

In efforts to address the needs of Probation’s dedicated staff, a peer support team, in collaboration with labor partners and the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department is underway. Peer Support is a system of giving and receiving help from experienced peers founded on key principles of respect, shared responsibility, and mutual agreement of what is helpful. The Department has recruited volunteers who demonstrate excellent work histories to help their peers during times of personal and occupational stress. Peer Support Advocates will be effective listeners who understand stressors associated with the job and will assess and refer staff to appropriate resources, as necessary. The Peer Support program will be available for both sworn and non-sworn employees and is voluntary and confidential.

Employee Recognitions

The Department increased the frequency and number of staff recognized as part of a revamped Employee of the Month process. Recognized employees sit down with Chief McDonald, the executive team and their supervisors to both discuss their accomplishments as well as suggestions on how to improve operations and morale in the Department.
International Relations

The Los Angeles County Probation Department sent 11 staff members to Germany as part of an exchange with the Probation Department in Berlin. Probation staff observed probation operations in Germany and stayed in the homes of German Probation officers. This fall, our German hosts will be visiting L.A. County Probation, learning best practices while staying with our Probation employees.

Fiscal Responsibility

Probation concluded fiscal year 2017-18 with a surplus fund balance in excess of $3 million. This surplus was achieved despite substantial fiscal challenges. In collaboration with Chief Executive Office partners, we implemented changes such as right-sizing youth facilities and commensurate staff deployments to generate savings. We also implemented financial innovations that took advantage of new revenue opportunities and cost claiming enhancements that resulted in higher yields from existing revenue sources. Probation has turned our attention to addressing potential significant revenue loss in FY 2019-20.

A Helping Hand

Los Angeles Probation Department employees have helped community organizations and have increased the Department’s fundraising efforts for both the Charitable Giving Campaign and March of Dimes.

The Department increased its Charitable Giving Annual Campaign cash contributions over 600% from $1,117 in 2016 to $7,884 in 2017. In June 2018, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recognized the Department for being the most improved County Department for cash contributions for the 2017 Charitable Giving Campaign.

On April 28, 2018, the March of Dimes Probation Team participated in the 2017 March for Babies at Exposition Park. Through teamwork, the Department raised over $6,000 for the March for Babies.
Blue Ribbon Commission

Probation continued to serve on the Blue Ribbon Commission which includes representation on all 5 sub-committees. Probation’s participation on the sub-committees often takes the form of serving as subject matter experts, providing data, assisting in the interpretation of data and providing any support needed by the Executive Director of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC).

Volunteer Recognition

The Los Angeles County Probation Department celebrated “National Volunteer Appreciation Week” in April by thanking the 1,800 active volunteers who serve in various probation facilities and work sites throughout Los Angeles County. Volunteers are a vital part of Probation’s operation. Visiting artists teaching juveniles how to use art to work through their trauma, clergy and laypeople offering pastoral services and support to youth in juvenile halls and camps, and volunteers running addiction support meetings for Probation clients are examples of the critical services provided by Probation volunteers.

Three of Probation’s outstanding volunteers were recognized during the 36th annual County of Los Angeles Volunteer of the Year awards luncheon that took place April 23rd at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Chief Probation Officer McDonald joined the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and other department heads at the luncheon to recognize L.A. County Probation volunteers Ron Atkinson, Julie Napoleon and Leonor Lozano-Ramirez as Volunteers of the Year, as well as other invaluable volunteers from across Los Angeles County.

The Nation’s Largest Restitution Process

In the spirit of its mission to enhance public safety, ensure victims’ rights and effect positive probationer behavioral change, the Probation Department recognized National Crime Victims’ Rights Week from April 8-14 as an advocate of justice and restitution for victims of crime. L.A. County Probation supervises one of the nation’s largest restitution processes for victims of crime.

In FY 2017, Probation assisted with the collection of over $3.8 million in financial restitution to crime victims paid by individuals on probation.
Metro Initiative

Probation Education Services has been working with District Two, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the Chief Executive Office, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Workforce Development and Aging Community Services (WDACS) on a proposal to create a college-preparatory charter school in South Los Angeles.

This proposed educational and vocational training program will prepare youth for career exploration in the transportation sector.

Implementing and Expanding the L.A. Model

✦ In June 2018, the Camp Scott Girls Program Committee was developed to adapt the LA model to serve area female youth and create gender specific training and programming at the facility.

✦ Camp Afflerbaugh will be the next facility to implement aspects of the LA Model. Project planning for implementation began May 2018 and work has begun on developing the plans to assess and prepare the facility, educate camp management, train and coach staff, and communicate with the youth and their families.

✦ A series of workgroups are being finalized in partnership with Georgetown University to implement the Youth in Custody Practice Model strategic planning process. The first workgroup is anticipated to begin immediately to review assessment, case planning, and care coordination across all juvenile bureaus.

Operation Graduation

In June, 54 students from our juvenile camps participated in their high school graduation and received high school diplomas. This special event occurred at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. During this memorable event, the Paul Higa Memorial Scholarship fund awarded college Scholarships to 17 students including 14 students who received a $500 scholarship and three who received a $1,000 scholarship that the students can use at the college, university or trade school of their choice.
## Kilpatrick Cottage Expansion

A second cottage at Campus Kilpatrick was successfully opened in May 2018. We have begun the recruitment process and planning for the opening of two additional cottages expected to open by the end of 2018.

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## Youth Voter Initiative

Throughout the second quarter, Probation Education Services/Operation READ, continued to partner with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk as part of a Countywide initiative to engage youth regarding civic responsibility. This effort placed an emphasis on voter education as it relates to incarcerated youth. A target population of youth was established prioritizing those 16 and 17 years old to pre-register/register to vote. Staff worked with those 18 and older to cast ballots. Operation READ staff trained in voter education are located at all juvenile facilities to provide on-going educational support. Operation READ staff have assisted approximately 830 youth in the voter registration process and has seen 80 ballots (via vote-by-mail) cast in elections by youth in our centers.

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## College Courses Added

In collaboration with our college partners, Probation will be expanding the college program in our residential facilities in 2018. This fall, 11 courses will be offered, the largest number of courses ever offered to students in our juvenile facilities. Courses include classes on African American Studies, Transportation, and Kinesiology. This expansion will include the addition of instructor led classes at Camp Scott, Camp Afflerbaugh and Camp Paige in addition to the continuation of the current courses and the availability of online courses in all our residential camps and halls. Currently, over 170 youth have enrolled in the fall courses.

*The Probation Department’s college program is one of the largest juvenile justice college programs in the nation.*
Implementation of the Family Committee at Central Juvenile Hall

The Family Resource Center at Central Juvenile Hall began facilitating a Family Committee twice a month with the on-duty Director representing the facility. All parents and guardians of the youth at the facility are invited to participate and become involved in the process of their child’s rehabilitation.

Parents are encouraged to express their thoughts, concerns and questions they may have about staff, programs and their child’s well-being.

One of the benefits of this program is that parents provide valuable feedback and share many great ideas about “family friendly” programs that would enhance the environment for their kids and help bring them together. The plan is to implement similar Family Committees at both Los Padrinos and Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Halls in the coming months.

Camp Gonzales Transformation Continues

The project to turn the recently decommissioned Camp Gonzales into a groundbreaking residential career and educational training center for young men aged 18-25 experienced significant progression with the Board of Supervisors support of the concept in May. If approved, the facility will feature a live-in career training program where the participants, most who have been formerly supervised by Probation, involved in foster care, and/or are homeless, will be connected to employment upon successful completion of the program. The planning for the project is a collaborative endeavor led by the Los Angeles County Probation Department involving numerous County agencies and community-based organizations.

Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance

All outlying camps are in compliance with PREA requirements regarding restroom accommodations such as shower heads, shower curtains or doors, toilet partitions, and toilet curtains or doors.

A PREA-Audit Orientation was conducted with JDI in April 2018. All Juvenile Institution managers were provided with a review of the PREA history, purpose and audit tool.

Self-Assessment/PREA Audit Training was conducted for Juvenile Institution managers in May and June 2018. This training reviewed audit questions specific to PREA standards and provided mock interviews. Training, auditing and compliance planning are ongoing.
Teaching Employment Skills

In partnership with the WDACS, 176 youth in the juvenile camps and halls had the opportunity to participate in the Youth at Work program during the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Youth in this program were able to work a minimum of 120 hours while in our camps and halls. This included 20 hours of paid Personal Enrichment Training provided by trained Probation Education Services Staff and 100 hours of paid work experience. Participating youth were selected from all juvenile halls and camps in Los Angeles County on a merit basis. The youth were expected to achieve and maintain good conduct to participate, and received an employment transition plan to use when they exit their hall or camp. Following their release, youth were placed in dozens of businesses including Walgreens, Kohl's, Old Navy, Petco and Goodwill. Youth that completed at least 120 hours at the camps or halls are also eligible to apply for the Countywide Youth Bridges Program which includes a 12-month paid internship with a County department.

A Writer’s Story

One of our graduates of Los Angeles County Office of Education’s (LACOE) Road to Success Academy at Camp Scott was recognized in May for winning third place in the California Armenian Legislative Caucus essay contest. The contest asked participants to nominate a notable Armenian American to the California Hall of Fame.

In the essay, she nominated her former probation officer, Azat Stepanyan, who motivated her to go to college. Azat is an Armenian immigrant who, despite facing great adversity, entered a life of public service. "He deserves to be recognized for being the angel that help me change my life," wrote Odelea in her essay. "In studying the Armenian Genocide, I realize that even though I am from another culture, the pain and passion in this transformation of our cultures are very relevant in both ... My life has been enriched by this fine role model, and it will never be the same." The student, who won a $500 scholarship in the essay contest, earned her high school equivalency at LACOE’s Road to Success Academy and now attends Los Angeles Mission College. Her career goal is to become a nurse practitioner.
Central Juvenile Hall Renovation Project

On June 11, 2018, Central Juvenile Hall held the Grand Opening for the newly renovated Boys’ Collaborative, Assessment, Rehabilitative & Educational Unit (CARE). The unit provides a therapeutic living unit designed to treat emotionally-fragile youth. During the Grand Opening, Probation staff and management welcomed collaborative partners and members of the Probation Commission, offering tours of the care unit, rooms, open spaces, library, and recreation space. The brightly colored rooms are specifically designed to improve the youths’ mental state and their well-being.

The Probation Department and our partner agencies focus our efforts on offering evidence-based programs to probation youth. The creation of the Boys’ CARE Unit is one of the major steps taken in achieving that operational goal. The unit is designed to provide youth with mental health strategies that will improve their adaptive behaviors. The CARE Unit includes brightly colored housing rooms, a small library, and an outdoors space with brightly colored benches, and a small floral garden. The bright orange, green and yellow color scheme was selected by the youth at Central Juvenile Hall who also played a major role in its design and construction. The environment is designed to support the rehabilitative mission of the unit.

Juvenile Field Services

Education Advocacy and Support

The Probation Department is partnering with DCFS on the Education Advocacy, Liaison, and Intervention Services Program to provide comprehensive educational advocacy and support to Probation youth residing in the community who are at risk of entering out of home placement or camp. These services are also available for youth transitioning from camp in need of assistance navigating the educational system.

Whole Person Care (WPC)

In partnership with DHS, a pilot program to improve the transition for youth released from Probation’s juvenile facilities is underway. The program addresses youths’ needs upon re-entry to the community and focuses on their social and behavioral health. The Probation and DHS program staff will work to assess youth needs, develop a post-release care plan with the youth/family, assist with reinstating Medi-Cal and provide aftercare. The pilot began in August 2018.
Commercially Sexually Exploited Children

CSEC Graduations
17 CSEC youth graduated from high school in 2018, due to the collaborative efforts of Probation, DCFS, LACOE, LAUSD, and the STAR court.

CSEC Lobbying
In May 2018 – Child Trafficking Unit (CTU) Deputies advocated for two of Probation’s CSEC youth to travel to Washington, D.C. to be a part of a week-long Congressional Foster Care Shadow day program.

Support for Victims
CTU DPO’s have provided support to eight CSEC youth who have testified against their exploiter in Adult Court.

Parent Workshops
CTU in collaboration with DCFS implemented a 10-week Parent CSEC Intervention Workshop series for parents of children who have been commercially sexually exploited, the first of its kind in Los Angeles.

Juvenile Record Sealing
Probation implemented a Juvenile record sealing program after a transition of the workload from Superior Court. Probation also implemented additional aspects of the Juvenile Record Sealing process with the passing of Senate Bill 312 (Process for a Person to Petition to have Records Related to WIC 707 (b) Offenses Sealed Once Certain Requirements are Met) and Assembly Bill 529 (Sealing Record When Petition Dismissed) effective that same date (January 1, 2018). Juvenile record sealing allows youth to “seal” or “make inaccessible to the public (excluding some government agencies)” their juvenile record, thereby promoting various prosocial life opportunities (such as applying for employment or citizenship).

Implementation of Family First Prevention Services Act
Probation continues to participate in the Title IV-E Waiver project and has used the flexible funding afforded by the project to increase the array of youth services for those at risk of entering out-of-home care. This flexible funding has permitted us to be more youth-focused, rather than system-focused. Many of the recent innovations within the department are a direct outgrowth of the capacity built through the Waiver. However, changes in federal legislation may decrease Probation’s funding by approximately $29 million a year beginning in September 2019 when Title IV-E Waiver ends.

Extension of the Waiver will require federal legislative action, and Probation continues to work with DCFS and CEO Legislative Affairs to advocate for a five-year extension of the Waiver.

The County is also focusing on the implementation of the regulations of Family First Prevention Services Act, and continue to collaborate with our partners to ensure we have a voice in the pending federal regulations. This legislation adds prevention dollars to Title IV-E, but it’s far more restrictive than the flexibility enjoyed under the Waiver. The revenue loss and implementation of this legislation remains a focus of the organization.
**CSEC Employee Awareness Trainings**

Probation played a pivotal role in developing a two-hour online CSEC awareness training program mandated by the Board for all County employees. One County employee who reviewed the training said: “I thought it was wonderfully done, extremely depressing, but fascinating. It was engaging and very real, so it made me sad. But I’m totally glad I watched it, I learned a lot from it, and I think everyone should see it. Very nicely done.”

“Definitely one of the best trainings I’ve ever taken!”

**Support for Exploited Children**

To date, the Child Trafficking Unit (CTU) has provided services and support to over 149 Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) recovered by law enforcement throughout the County. This has been successful due to continued partnership with public safety and social service providers through the Law Enforcement First Responder Protocols for CSEC victims.

**Collection of Juvenile Detention Fees**

Probation is working closely with County Counsel and the Treasurer and Tax Collector to discontinue the collection of juvenile detention fees. The Board of Supervisors will make the final determination on the policy to discontinue the collection of these fees. Probation has not actively sought collection of the fees since 2009, but through passive collection, a small group of families continue to pay pre-2009 fees. If directed by the Board of Supervisors, Probation plans to implement a process to eliminate the collection of these fees in the coming months and notify families of the cancellation of these debts.

**Implementation of Continuum of Care Reform**

Probation has successfully begun the implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR). Probation, in close partnership with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), has implemented a joint assessment and screening process for all youth ordered to suitable placement to ensure that the first placement is the best placement. Probation continues to identify resource families and has undertaken a large recruitment effort to identify safe and stable homes for our youth. Probation has also implemented Child and Family Teams for all youth in congregate care that are comprised of the youth, family, DPO, therapist and any other stakeholder who can assist with formulating a case plan for the youth.
A Job Opportunity

A Fair Chance Hiring Event and Resource Expo took place in June, providing the opportunity for formerly justice-involved individuals to meet with hiring managers from employers throughout L.A. County. Companies represented fields including construction, manufacturing, and logistics. It also provided information regarding child support, record expungement, housing, substance abuse treatment, and mental health.

This event is part of the on-going effort to increase access to and opportunities for employment, education, training, and support services for individuals re-entering the County. The Expo was a joint effort between the Probation Department and its partner organizations including Rio Hondo America’s Job Center of California, WDACS, and other County and community-based organizations.

Enhanced Grievance Process

In June 2018, the Residential Treatment Services Bureau (RTSB) began a working group committee to examine the current grievance procedures and policies with the intention of significantly revamping the system.

Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System

Residential Treatment Services Bureau continues to work with Field Services and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) to implement a Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS).

Increasing Safety and Reducing Violence

The recently assembled safety committee is focused on policy, programming, and training needs to increase staff safety and reduce violence in facilities. In partnership with Juvenile Institutions, Labor, LACOE, DMH, and JCHS, the Probation Department is charing on-going problem-solving meetings led by the Juvenile Institutions Deputy Directors.

29.7% drop of assaults on staff from 4th quarter 2017 to 2nd quarter 2018.

Video Pilot Facilitates Successful Re-entry

On March 14, the Probation Department began a Pre-Release Video Conferencing (PRVC) Pilot Program in partnership with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to bridge the communication gap between L.A. County Probation and inmates being released from prison.

Using Skype, Probation staff conduct interviews with inmates prior to being released on AB 109 supervision. The objective is to facilitate successful reentry for inmates who are identified as medically fragile, those who suffer from mental illness, those who may be transient upon release, and inmates whom CDCR have identified as higher risk. The communication enhances pertinent supportive services that may not be revealed in the CDCR release packet and creates a re-entry connection between probation staff and those being released back to the community to ease anxiety and confusion upon release.

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Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI)

As of May 1, 2018, AB 109 Deputy Probation Officers (DPOs) have all been trained and now use The Carey Guides to support the application of evidence-based approaches. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy/ Cognitive Behavioral Interventions are proven effective to address clients’ anti-social cognition and anti-social personalities. With the use of the Carey Guide curriculum, supervision DPOs and clients discuss criminogenic needs and risk assessment. This allows the assigned DPO to increase engagement and develop case plans in partnership with their clients. The implementation of CBI has proven effective for case management and is instrumental to reduce recidivism.

Compton Violence Reduction Network (VRN)

Violent crimes in Compton have been reduced through the collaboration of a special Task Force formed with the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshall Service, Federal Prosecutors, Probation Department and other Special Enforcement Teams. The sharing of resources between these agencies has been effective in identifying high risk offenders and performing compliance checks within Compton.

Restitution For Victims

The Probation Department, District Attorney’s Office, and County Jails have begun efforts to collect restitution for victims from a supervised person in custody on mandatory supervision with a restitution order. When money is deposited into an inmate’s financial account, 50 percent of the deposited money is collected for restitution. Upon release, the remaining balance will be updated in Adult Probation System (APS). The capability to collect monies while in custody allows the increase of collection towards restitution for victims.

Resource Fairs Ease Transitions

Provider Fairs are being conducted at various state prisons, affording inmates the opportunity to discuss his/her transition into the community while engaging with Probation. During the fair, face-to-face interactions occur with Probation staff answering questions concerning probation services, restitution collection, housing, drug treatment programs, and mental health services, and medical health services. The Provider Fairs have proven to be productive and mitigate transition anxiety for inmates when they re-enter the community.
**CORE Model Implementation Begins**

The CORE model is the SB 6788 evidence-based supervision and services strategy that targets medium-to-high-risk adult felony probationers with the highest needs. In May and June 2018, 50 additional DPOs began participating in the CORE training model and will start CORE supervision for 2,500 clients who will eventually be placed on CORE caseloads over the next Fiscal Year. When fully implemented, an additional 7,900 clients will receive evidence-based CORE services (9,200 clients total), with full implementation anticipated in the next 18-24 months as staff are hired and trained.

The Office of Diversion and Re-entry (ODR) and WDACs continued to develop a comprehensive adult services model for felony probationers. It ensures a dedicated funding stream for the ODR that will greatly enhance community-based referral services.

To support the CORE supervision plan, Deputy Probation Officers will utilize earned discharge incentives. This will involve enhanced case reviews and an increase in the submission of early termination court reports. Probation is coordinating efforts with the Court to establish expedited disposition hearings and procedures. Specialized training focusing on the earned discharge process will commence over the next 90 days.

**Earned Discharge (Early Termination) of Felony Probation Supervision**

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 1203.2(b)(1), “Upon its own motion or upon the petition of the supervised person, the probation or parole officer, or the district attorney, the court may modify, revoke, or terminate supervision of the person pursuant to this subdivision…”

Current probation policy allows the Deputy Probation Office (DPO) to refer a probationer to the court for early termination of their probation case if the probationer has: completed at least half of the court ordered period of felony probation supervision; complied with all conditions of probation supervision; completed all conditions of supervision, including court ordered treatment and community service/labor; all victim restitution is paid along with all court ordered fines and fees and is current with other outstanding financial obligations.

Probationers convicted of Driving Under the Influence are not eligible for early termination. A probationer convicted of a domestic violence offense is not eligible for termination of supervision; however, they may be eligible for a modification of probation to non-reporting supervision.

The Department conducts mid-term reviews of all adult probation cases to determine if the probationer is following the terms and conditions of supervision, and if a probationer might be eligible for early termination from supervision based on compliance with their supervision and case plan. Cases where the probationer is eligible for early termination are referred to the court for a determination of the probationer’s eligibility and suitability. If the court determines the probationer is eligible for termination of supervision, the Department is notified and all interest in the matter is closed. A total of 322 probationers terminated for earned discharge from July 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.
Second Quarter  
September 27, 2018

**Efforts Support SB 678 Five-Year Plan**

Probation continues to move the SB 678 Five-Year Plan forward. Below are efforts continued during the 2nd Quarter 2018:

**The multi-disciplinary SB 678 Operational Steering Committee** continued to meet and plan for both short-term funding utilization and adjustments to the five-year forecast.

**Community Stakeholder Engagement:** Probation continued to hold CAC meetings in partnership with ODR, WDACS, and other County, community and faith-based partners, addressing issues including:

1. Implementation of Internal/External Service Referral Processes
2. Defined Services for Clients
3. Linked Services to Clients
4. Comprehensive Client Information on Referrals
5. Discussing the Structuring of the Evaluation Processes
6. Reviewed the ongoing construction of the Vermont Community Re-Entry Center
7. Operations Updates from Probation, ODR and WDACS

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**Progress Implementing CORE**

Key initiatives that were accomplished this quarter to implement the CORE plan included:

- **Referrals Began:** Referrals for the intensive re-entry case management services began in April 2018 through ODR for vulnerable probationers. SB 678 funds were used with the goal of providing care coordination and services navigation to mental health, substance use treatment, physical health, and other supportive services based on client needs.

- **Training:** Probation representatives from adult field area offices and the 12 ODR contracted re-entry service providers completed an intensive training.

- **Staff Support:** The Probation Department has been aggressively working to hire the positions required to fully support the implementation of the SB 678 Five-Year Plan. Currently, 22 items of the 41 approved positions have been filled, 17 items are pending hiring from promulgated exam lists, and two items are pending the examination process.

- **Community Re-Entry Service Center Implementation**

The Vermont Re-Entry Center is anticipated to open by the end of February 2019. The site-specific County/Community planning committee (referred to as the Vermont Project Workgroup), in collaboration with community stakeholders, is actively planning potential services and the layout of the center. This workgroup, has been addressing the following issues:

- Developed a grand opening timeline for early 2019;
- Finalized the Re-Entry Center Design and Aesthetics;
- Collaborated with other jurisdictions with re-entry programs for insights into identifying effective anchor services and partners;
- Utilized Interns from of USC and other Colleges/Universities;
- Developing a list of proposed services;
- Developing plans for community outreach and communication;
- Approved hiring of a manager.
Adult Services-Prop 63 Implementation

Effective January 2018, per Penal Code Section 29810, defendants convicted of a felony and certain misdemeanor offenses pursuant to Penal Code Section 29800 and 29805, and on outstanding warrants are subject to the following law. Upon conviction, the court refers the matter to the Probation Department to investigate if the defendant owns firearms and if those weapons have been relinquished. The Probation Department assigns the case to a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) to prepare an investigation report and evaluate information from various automated systems and other documents to determine the defendant’s adherence with the law. The DPO also collects the Prohibited Persons Relinquishment Form (PPRF) and receipts that show the relinquishment of firearms and reports the investigation findings to the court.

**Prop 63 Stats:**

- **3,000:** Average number of Prop 63 Referrals per month.
- **20,027:** Prohibited Persons Relinquishment Reports Completed (Jan. - June 2018)
  - Misdemeanor – 12%
  - Felonies – 88%

**Court and Probation Collaboration**

Probation continues to refine policies and procedures to comply with Proposition 63. The Proposition 63 pilot program is committed to working with the Courts to mitigate any unnecessary delays in sentencing and/or State Prison transport of sentenced offenders. Probation staff have been working closely with the Court to improve Prop 63 court report delivery amid staffing deficits; as late reports, will affect the court process.

Working with the CEO’s office, an interim staffing plan was developed that used Adult Operation DPOs on overtime to complete court reports. This resulted in quicker implementation of the program and mitigated court delays. Court Administration stated they are pleased with Probation’s efforts and the level of professionalism and commitment by the Department to provide excellent customer service.

**MLK Behavioral Health Center**

Probation continued supporting development of the Martin Luther King Behavioral Health Center. Consistent with our vision to “Rebuild Lives and Provide for Healthier and Safer Communities”, the center brings together multiple partners to provide comprehensive and coordinated services designed to address the whole person and provide a continuum of care to vulnerable populations. In addition, Probation will provide a variety of supervision/reentry services in this facility that will include a Community Reentry Center, multi-agency assessments, comprehensive case plans, delivery of cognitive behavioral interventions and community based support services. Probation committed approximately $33 million to support this project.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Server Upgrades</th>
<th>Skype For Business</th>
<th>New Laptop Security</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Department migrated 11 servers and decommissioned two servers to ISD eCloud system, providing higher performance and reliability. ISB also retired 132 applications and migrated 29 applications to the latest platforms.</td>
<td>The department completed the deployment of Skype Department-wide allowing users to connect with their colleagues within the Department and/or collaborate with business partners outside of the Department seamlessly thereby reducing teleconferencing costs.</td>
<td>New cloud-based technology has been added to the infrastructure to enable the tracking of laptop and mobile equipment and automate the delivery of virus protection updates, distribution of software and operating systems patches, and manage user access rights. The solution also allows the technical team the ability to locate laptops, disable, reenable, securely erase information when needed, and discover laptops that are unused or underutilized so that the Department can reduce unnecessary inventory.</td>
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<td><strong>eHR Reporting System Upgrade</strong></td>
<td><strong>Email Encryption</strong></td>
<td><strong>The technical team can now locate, disable, reenable, and securely erase information from laptops if needed.</strong></td>
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<td>This upgrade enhanced the user experience and simplified and consolidated 130 reports in .NET Framework 1.1 into just 37 reports on the County-wide reporting tool, Cognos.</td>
<td>The deployment of O365 Message Encryption (OME) was completed that allows users to send sensitive email and data via a secure messaging conduit to protect the data file from hackers. It also helps to stem the tide of spam and malware being distributed in user’s name by certificate to digitally sign messages prior to send.</td>
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Communications and Community Involvement

Probation in the Community

Probation staff connected with the community by participating in many community events across Los Angeles County. Whether it is job fairs for formerly justice-involved individuals, neighborhood festivals, or teaming up with L.A. County Parks and Recreation to support Parks After Dark, L.A. County Probation is there to inform the public about the good work that they do and how they can get involved to promote positive outcomes and change. Chief McDonald and probation staff also joined with public safety and marched in the LA Pride parade.

Probation Officer of the Year

On May 4, SBPO Debby Westcott and Krista Newble were recognized as Antelope Valley’s Probation Officers of the Year by the Antelope Valley Bar Association. Each year, the Association hosts an Annual Law Appreciation Day Luncheon where members of the local law enforcement and legal communities are honored for their outstanding service.

Heroes of the Week

Penny, Lola and Chloe, the dogs that make up Probation’s Canine Detection Unit, and their handlers were named “Heroes of the Week” in April by NBC4 News as part of their “4 Our Heroes Segment”. During the filming of the piece, the dogs detected a large cache of ammunition and weapons as part of a compliance check at a probationer’s residence.