



# **PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME & DELINQUENCY**

**FY 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT**


PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION  
ON CRIME & DELINQUENCY

## CREATED BY STATUTE

*The General Assembly finds and declares that:*

- (a) crime and delinquency are essentially State and local problems;*
- (b) crime and delinquency are complex social phenomena requiring the attention and efforts of the criminal justice system, State and local governments, and private citizens alike;*
- (c) the establishment of appropriate goals, objectives and standards for the reduction of crime and delinquency and for the administration of justice must be a priority concern;*
- (d) the functions of the criminal justice system must be coordinated more efficiently and effectively;*
- (e) the full and effective use of resources affecting State and local criminal justice systems requires the complete cooperation of State and local government agencies; and*
- (f) training, research, evaluation, technical assistance and public education activities must be encouraged and focused on the improvement of the criminal justice system and the generation of new methods for the prevention and reduction of crime and delinquency.*

**(Act of Nov. 22, 1978, P.L. 1166, No. 274)**

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Boston, featuring a mix of modern glass skyscrapers and older brick buildings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

*Since 1978, PCCD has supported justice system improvements, victim services and compensation, and other initiatives responsive to the needs of practitioners, communities, and the Commonwealth.*



## ABOUT PCCD

*PCCD's mission is to enhance the quality, coordination, and planning within the criminal and juvenile justice systems, to facilitate the delivery of services to victims of crime, and to increase the safety of our communities.*

Established by law in 1978, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) serves as the justice planning and policymaking agency for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

By bringing together a wide range of experts in the fields of criminal and juvenile justice, victim services, and related professions, PCCD coordinates the collective examination of problems, proposes solutions, and evaluates the impact of those solutions.

Among its primary functions, PCCD:

- Facilitates partnerships among federal, state, and local policymakers;

- Fosters interagency coordination and cooperation;
- Develops and coordinates policy issues;
- Provides statewide criminal statistical and analytical services;
- Fosters community-based initiatives in the areas of delinquency prevention and offender reintegration;
- Promotes the use of information technology and information sharing to enhance operational effectiveness in criminal justice agencies; and
- Grants federal and state funds to provide monies to support best practices and innovation.

You can learn more about PCCD by visiting its website at [www.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov).

### ***Statutory Responsibilities***

By law, the agency is specifically tasked with:

- Providing services to victims of crime (e.g., administration of the state's Crime Victims' Compensation Fund, Children's Advocacy Centers, etc.);
- Implementing Act 115 of 2019 specifically related to sentences of probation with restrictive conditions of supervision;
- Administering support for County Adult Probation Services pursuant to Act 114 of 2019;
- Coordinating training for sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and constables per their respective statutes; and
- Administering the school safety and security program established by Act 44 of 2018.

# 2021-2025 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

**Goal 1:** We support programs and practices that promote justice for all citizens and communities in Pennsylvania.

**Goal 2:** We invest in ideas and strategies that improve systems and help make Pennsylvanians and communities safer.

**Goal 3:** We work with partners to reduce the impact of crime on victims and survivors.

**Goal 4:** We support training and skill-building to ensure the preparedness of our practitioners.

**Goal 5:** We develop and share relevant expertise, data, and resources to inform state and local efforts.

**Goal 6:** We will ensure impact, fairness, transparency, quality, and equity in how PCCD conducts business and allocates resources.

## AGENCY OVERVIEW

Summary of Activities from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

### AGENCY PROGRAMS & GRANTMAKING

*During FY 2021-22, PCCD awarded approximately \$138 million to support 650 grant projects across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

PCCD initiates, validates, and makes financial investments in justice-related programs aligned with promising practices identified by practitioners and experts. The agency focuses on research, policy, planning, training, evidence-based programming, technology, outreach, and support services. PCCD fosters interagency coordination and cooperation by:

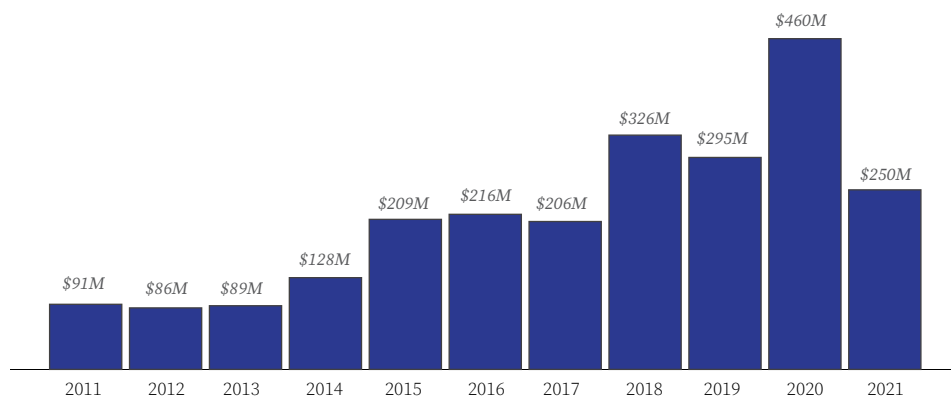
- Developing and coordinating policy issues;
- Providing statewide criminal statistical and analytical services; and
- Granting federal and state funds to provide investments in new or existing efforts.

The administration of federal and state funding programs remains a central responsibility of the agency. In FY 2021-22, PCCD administered 37 state and federal grant programs, and awarded approximately \$138 million to support 650 grant projects across the Commonwealth. Among these various grant programs, in FY 2021-22, PCCD provided funding to support a wide range of initiatives and

activities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Grants to support community-led efforts to prevent and address gun and group violence through the Gun Violence Reduction Grants Program and the new Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Grants program;
- Victim services supports, including grants to victim service providers and children’s advocacy centers;
- Grants to support County Adult Probation and Parole;
- Violence and delinquency prevention program grants;
- Grants to support victims of juvenile offenders;
- Grants to prevent and address issues of substance misuse and substance use disorder; and
- Administering the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which supports security enhancements for churches, synagogues, mosques, and other organizations representing populations at greater risk of experiencing hate crimes.

**TOTAL FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY PCCD PER YEAR, 2011-2021**

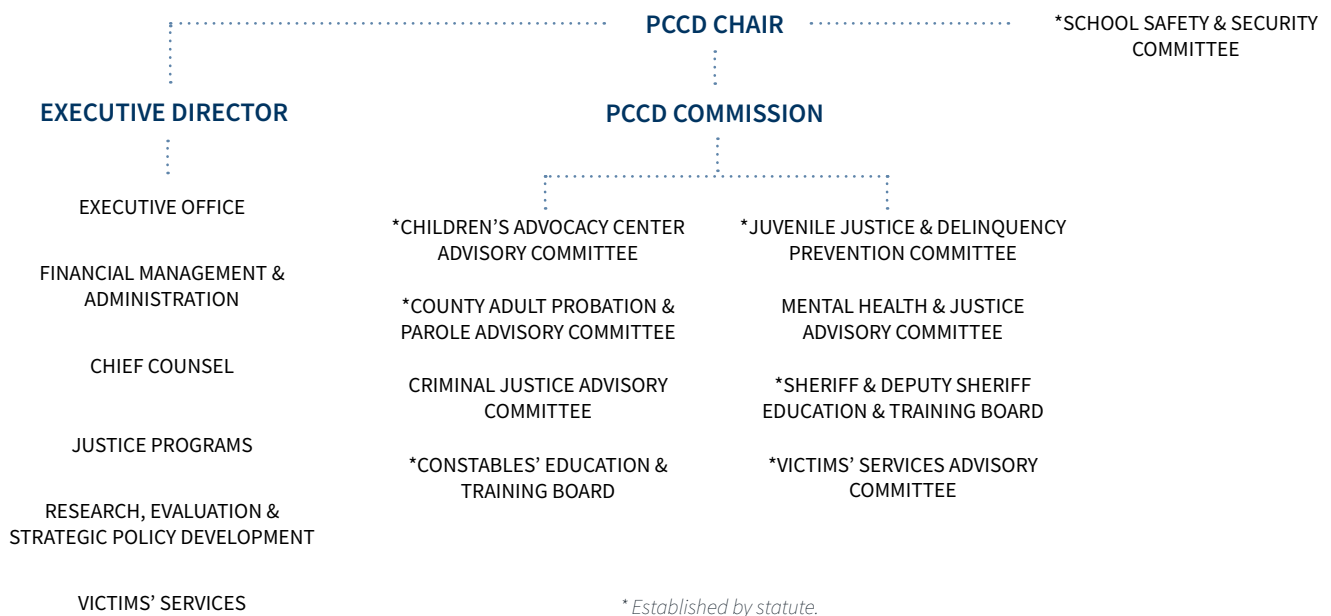


The amount of funding administered by PCCD has more than quadrupled in the past decade, increasing from \$91 million in FY 2011-12 to approximately \$460 million in FY 2020-21. \*Note: School Safety Grants and VOCA Grants not being awarded in FY21-22 are a primary driver of this annual total being significantly lower than the prior year.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

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*As the Commonwealth’s justice planning and policy-making agency, PCCD relies upon a collaborative structure that brings together diverse and talented stakeholders, including judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, probation officers, corrections officers, treatment providers, educators, victim service providers, legislators, and community members.*



## **ADVISORY COMMITTEES & BOARDS**

To better inform the Commission in its work, PCCD is comprised of six Advisory Committees, the School Safety and Security Committee, and two Training Boards:

### ***Children’s Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC)***

CACAC was established by Act 28 of 2014 to advise the Commission on the development and promotion of programs and projects related to Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs) and Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams (MDITs). CACAC was also directed by the Act to advise the Commission in the distribution of grants to support both existing and developing CACs and MDITs.

### ***County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC)***

Established by Act 114 of 2019, the CAPPAC advises the Commission on all matters pertaining to the administration of the county adult probation and parole system and assists in the implementation of Act 115 of 2019, specifically related to sentences of probation with restrictive conditions of supervision. By statute, CAPPAC is responsible for directing technical assistance; reviewing grant applications for county intermediate punishment treatment programs and discretionary grants; developing a funding plan for county adult probation and parole departments; analyzing data to identify trends and determine effectiveness of programs and practices; as well as making recommendations and adopting standards for probation and parole personnel, including standards for services, caseload standards, risk assessment, responses to violations, collection of restitution, and other evidence-based programs and practices.

### ***Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)***

CJAC is a collaborative forum for state, county, and other criminal justice partners throughout the Commonwealth to share and discuss their collective issues and solutions. CJAC focuses on the development of long-range strategies and plans and sets priorities for justice projects supported by PCCD’s various funding streams.

### ***Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC)***

JJJPC was established by Act 30 of 2001, and is the official juvenile justice planning, coordinating, and policy-setting body for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. JJJPC develops a comprehensive, long-range plan and related policies for the Commonwealth’s juvenile justice system. Additionally, the group sets priorities for juvenile justice projects supported by PCCD’s various funding streams. JJJPC also ensures compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

### ***Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee (MHJAC)***

PCCD partnered with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DHS/OMHSAS) to establish MHJAC in 2009. MHJAC provides guidance and structure to ensure statewide coordination and effectiveness of Pennsylvania’s criminal justice and mental health systems, enabling PCCD to continue supporting statewide strategies that direct technical assistance to evidence-based practices; guide the operation and sustainability of jail diversion and reentry programs; and provide a clearinghouse for resources related to criminal justice, mental health, and substance use disorder.

### ***Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC)***

Established by Act 111 of 1998, VSAC serves in an advisory capacity to PCCD and to assure that the voices, needs, and perspectives of all crime victims/survivors will be considered in the development of services, services standards, policies, funding priorities, legislation, and victim compensation assistance.

### ***School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC)***

Established by Act 44 of 2018, the SSSC is tasked with developing criteria school entities can use in performing school safety and security assessments, issuing a survey to school entities to measure school safety and security preparedness, and administering grants to improve school safety. The SSSC also administers the Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Grant program.

### ***Constables’ Education and Training Board (CETB)***

Established by Act 102 of 1992, the CETB advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training, continuing education, and firearms qualification that serve as the basis for certification of constables and deputy constables within the Commonwealth.

### ***Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB)***

Established by Act 2 of 1984, the SDSETB advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training and continuing education that serve as the basis for certification of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs within the Commonwealth’s 67 counties.



## INTERNAL OFFICES

In addition to the Advisory Committees and Boards, PCCD is staffed by four Offices and underlying units that facilitate Advisory Committee work and implement the actions taken by the Commission. The Offices are as follows:

### ***Office of Justice Programs (OJP)***

The Office of Justice Programs was established in 2020 to oversee four areas of PCCD's work:

- ***Criminal Justice System Improvements:*** OJP's unit of Criminal Justice System Improvements advances the criminal justice system by coordinating with all levels of criminal justice agencies in identifying their issues, developing policies and programs, and implementing innovative justice improvement solutions that enhance public safety.
- ***Juvenile Justice:*** OJP's unit of Juvenile Justice develops policy recommendations and administers federal and state funds to support programs designed to improve the Commonwealth's juvenile justice system.
- ***Violence Prevention:*** OJP's unit of Violence Prevention works collaboratively with private and public sector partners to prevent children and youth violence, delinquency, substance misuse, school dropout, and related problem behaviors.
- ***Bureau of Training Services:*** OJP's Bureau of Training Services oversees training and continuing education programs for constables and deputy constables, as well as sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Staff also support activities related to PCCD's relevant Training Boards.

### ***Office of Victims' Services (OVS)***

The Office of Victims' Services works to help crime victims transcend their trauma by funding victim service agencies that work directly with victims, offering financial help to victims through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program, and collaborating with criminal justice and allied professionals that advocate and respond to the needs of victims.

### ***Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development (ORESPD)***

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development provides research support and data analysis to the other Offices and analyzes policies and legislation that impact the juvenile and criminal justice systems and victims. ORESPD also supports the implementation of safety-related initiatives, such as the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund; supports the CACAC's efforts; and assists in the administration of school safety grants and related initiatives under the SSSC. ORESPD also provides oversight of the Office of the Safe Schools Advocate (OSSA), which provides support and advocacy for students and staff who are victims of school-based violence and/or crimes committed within the School District of Philadelphia.

### ***Office of Financial Management and Administration (OFMA)***

The Office of Financial Management and Administration administers and monitors the distribution of grant funding, performs budgeting and procurement services, and oversees administrative support services. OFMA is responsible for ensuring accountability of financial resources and works with the aforementioned program offices to ensure funds are utilized consistent with statute, interagency agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, and/or federal regulation.



# Working Toward Safer & More Just Communities

*Every Pennsylvanian deserves to live in a community that's safe. Each day, PCCD works to support local programs and initiatives designed to make that goal a reality.*

# Preventing & Reducing Gun Violence

*Providing support for effective, community-led gun violence prevention is one of PCCD's top strategic priorities.*

PCCD's work is guided by Executive Order 2019-06 and by the [Report of Findings, Recommendations & Action Steps](#) developed by the [Special Council on Gun Violence](#). PCCD's gun violence prevention and reduction initiatives include:

- [Grants & Funding](#): Supporting adoption and implementation of innovative, evidence-based violence reduction strategies through grants, with a focus on supporting community-driven approaches.
- [Technical Assistance & Stakeholder Engagement](#): Establishing a "Community of Practice" and information sharing network to spread promising practices and directly engage communities.
- [Data & Research](#): Collect, collate, and analyze available data and research to evaluate outcomes and make adjustments to strategy as needed.

## EXPANDING INVESTMENTS IN COMMUNITY-LED EFFORTS TO GUN VIOLENCE

*In FY 2021-22, PCCD approved and onboarded 117 grant projects totalling approximately \$50 million focused on addressing community gun violence through a wide range of strategies.*

The FY 2021-22 state budget included \$30 million in new state funding to support the **Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Grants** program, administered by PCCD's School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC).

VIP funding is intended to support effective local intervening and preventative measures to stop gun and group violence in areas experiencing high rates of violent crime within Pennsylvania.

In July 2021, the Committee approved a multi-pronged funding framework to utilize FY 2021-22 VIP grant funds. In August 2021, the School Safety and Security Committee approved utilizing up to \$10.6 million in awards through the [FY 2021 Gun Violence Reduction Grant Program](#) using VIP funds.

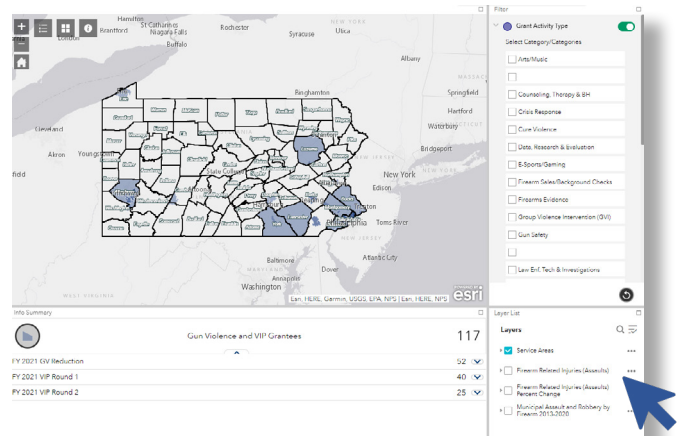
In September 2021, PCCD announced the availability of \$24 million in FY 2021 VIP funding for grants and technical assistance to address community violence throughout the Commonwealth. Community-based organizations, institutions of higher education, local municipalities, district attorneys, and counties were eligible to apply through an online request form via SurveyMonkey.

On December 1, 2021, the SSSC approved \$15.7 million for 40 ['Round 1' VIP projects](#). In January 2022, funding for a second round of VIP grant awards was increased, with an additional \$15 million in federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars being committed to the program. On January 26, 2022, the SSSC [approved](#) a second round of 25 VIP projects totaling approximately \$23 million.

Additional information about projects supported through the FY 2021 Gun Violence Reduction and VIP Grants is available on PCCD's [Gun Violence Grants & Funding website](#) and an interactive [Gun Violence and VIP Grantees data dashboard](#).

### TYPES OF PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY VIP GRANTS

- Arts/Music/Recreation Programs
- Counseling, Therapy & Behavioral Health
- Crisis Response
- Law Enforcement Tech & Investigations
- Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs
- Youth-focused & School-based Programs
- Pre-release & Reentry Programs
- Safe Passages / Safe Corridors
- Street Outreach & Violence Interruption (e.g., Cure Violence, Group Violence Intervention, etc.)
- Trauma-informed Approaches & Care
- Victim Services
- Wraparound Supports & Services





## NEW VIOLENCE INTERVENTION & PREVENTION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE LAUNCHES IN PA

*Launched in 2021-22, the VIP Technical Assistance initiative provides no-cost resources to groups and individuals working to address violence in their communities.*

In January 2022, PCCD announced the availability of \$750,000 in funds to support a new statewide Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Technical Assistance Project. The competitive funding announcement sought applications from entities with experience delivering technical assistance and training, with a focus on supporting grassroots community organizations implementing community violence intervention strategies.

In May 2022, the SSSC [approved](#) the launch of a \$750,000 request from WestEd, in partnership with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), to design, launch, and implement the initiative over a two-year period. This includes establishing and operating a Statewide Community of Practice (the “PA Peace Alliance”) consisting of Gun Violence Reduction and VIP grantees, as well as other community-based organizations and stakeholders from across Pennsylvania. The program offers a wide range of technical assistance, training, and capacity building supports for participating members, informed by a needs assessment developed by WestEd in partnership with PCCD.

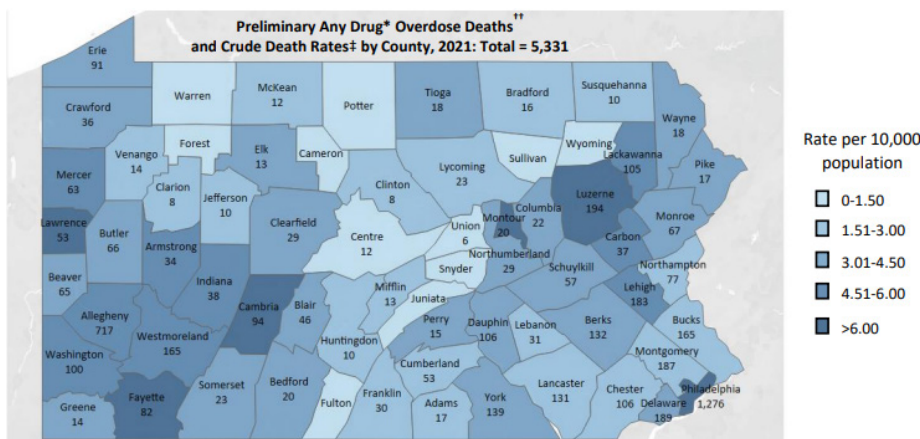
The initiative also provides opportunities for engaging with peers and content experts on issues ranging from community violence intervention strategies to nonprofit fundraising and governance and program management to best practices for supporting frontline workers, participants, and staff.

# Addressing Pennsylvania's Overdose Epidemic

*PCCD works with public health and public safety partners at the federal, state, and local levels to invest in a wide range of programs and strategies aimed at preventing, addressing, and mitigating impacts of the substance use crisis.*

An average of 15 Pennsylvanians die every day from overdose, and in 2021, 5,331 people died from overdoses in communities across the state. According to data from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), 84% of drug overdose deaths involved an opioid and, increasingly, involved synthetic opioids like fentanyl as well as stimulants.

PCCD oversees and administers a number of grants and initiatives to address Pennsylvania's substance use and overdose epidemics - from upstream prevention programs focused on youth and families to distributing lifesaving opioid overdose reversal medication (naloxone) to first responders across the state.



*More than 5,300 Pennsylvanians died from a drug overdose in 2021. Drug overdose deaths impacted families, friends, and communities in every Pennsylvania county.*

## RELEVANT FUNDING STREAMS & GRANTS

- Act 80 Vivitrol
- Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant & Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) Grant Program
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)
- State Opioid Response (SOR) Funding - *County Jail-based Medication Assisted Treatment; Drug Courts & Pre-trial Diversion; Naloxone for First Responders Program; Opioid Misuse Prevention Pilot (OMPP); PA Start and PA Stop Campaigns; SBIRT Higher Education*
- Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR)

## IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

**67**

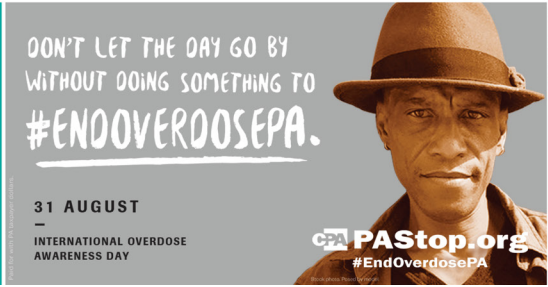
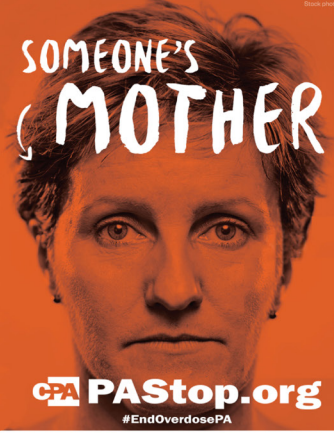
Number of Pennsylvania counties where PA Start and PA Stop materials are available.

**5,000**

Estimated number of parents/family members and youth served every year through the OMPP initiative.

**69,633**

Number of kits (two doses each) of naloxone distributed in FY 2021-22 through the Naloxone for First Responders Program.



### COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION INITIATIVES

Utilizing a combination of state and federal funds, PCCD administers and supports several evidence-based primary prevention initiatives, including:

- Opioid Misuse Prevention Pilot (OMPP):** PCCD and DDAP have partnered to support a multi-year prevention initiative focused on early education and awareness in five sites located in areas hardest hit by Pennsylvania's opioid crisis. The OMPP initiative focuses on stopping initial misuse of all substances and developing protections for youth and families that lead to better, more prosocial behaviors. An estimated 5,000 parents/family members and children are served each year through the program.
- Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR):** Under the Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction Act (Act 198 of 2002), PCCD must annually administer grants to support interventions, planning, public media awareness, and education campaigns that seek to prevent substance misuse. Given their focus on both youth- and adult-centered strategies, SAEDR funds are administered jointly by OJP's units of Criminal Justice System Improvements and Violence Prevention. In FY 2021-2022, PCCD awarded \$1,135,299 to eight applicants for adult-focused Category 1 projects, and one grant was awarded in the amount of \$275,000 under SAEDR Categories 2/3. PCCD also awarded seven youth-focused SAEDR grants totaling \$1,019,174.
- PA Start and PA Stop:** A primary prevention initiative focused on building healthy, capable children and supporting positive actions, the campaigns feature downloadable materials that can be used for promoting proven, evidence-based programs addressing substance use initiation. PA Start and PA Stop materials are available to all 67 counties in Pennsylvania, and features partnerships with Single County Authorities (SCAs) and local coalitions to increase reach and dissemination of materials.

**The best time to talk to your teens about vaping is before they start.**

The tobacco industry markets vaping products to your teens and pre-teens using teen-friendly flavors to mask the taste of nicotine and other chemicals. Know how these tactics create a culture of misinformation among your teen's social group.

Vaping has quickly risen to one of the most common substance use behaviors among teens. One in five high school students reported using in the past month. According to the Surgeon General, "vaping has now reached a population of young people across the population." Vaping is making the wrong product when using an electronic cigarette (e-cig, e-cigarette, and e-hook) popular. E-cigs in these devices can include nicotine, formaldehyde, lead, benzene (THC), and other toxic and addictive chemicals.

Due to their small size, most vape devices are easy to hide. As one design increases tanks, one concentration device fits the market all the time and can resemble USB drives, cell phones, pens, and bottles. Some can disguise and others are waterproof.

**Health effects from vaping can include coughing and wheezing, mood swings, headaches, seizures, vomiting, asthma, and lung disease.** Additionally, vaping has been associated to negatively affect teens' attention spans, learning, and impulse control in school, sports and social activities.

**Fast Facts**

- 1 in 4 high school students reported vaping in the past month.
- Vaping is linked to an increased risk of COVID-19 among teens, youth and young adults.
- Teens who use e-cigarettes are four times more likely to smoke tobacco later.
- A new study finds that vapers' risk is still elevated to smoking and may be more harmful than tobacco cigarettes.

**Marketing 101: Know Your Audience**  
Teen-targeted vape flavors on the market include Apple Juice Box, Bubblegum, Kool-Aid, Gummi Bears and Fruit Loops.

**Now That You Know, Where Do You Start?**  
Learning these facts is an important first step, but it's crucial to create a plan for ongoing open communication and to be mindful of engaging your teen with respect, positive role modeling, compassion and making the truth all in all a long way to help you take action effectively.

**Use the following steps and resources to start your own Communication Action Plan.**

**The best time to talk to your teens about mental health is before early adolescence starts.**

Mental health is important at every stage of life, and especially from childhood to adolescence.

The most common mental illnesses presenting in teens include generalized anxiety, social phobias, depression and behavioral disorders. Although symptoms vary with diagnosis, early warning signs include new onset of fear, changes in sleep, changes in concentration or task completion, changes in motivation and thoughts of social.

It is important to remember that mental illness in teens is more common than people think, and it is also very treatable. Early diagnosis and appropriate services for teens and their families can make a difference in the lives of the teens with mental illnesses. There is a range of options for treating mental illness, including identifying strengths, counseling and prescribing psychiatric medications.

When seeking mental health treatment options for your teenager, it is best to start with your adolescent or family physician first. Upon referral to an outside provider, caregivers should consider asking questions related to the provider's experience working with teens with similar presenting issues, their approach to treatment, duration of treatment, and how progress will be measured.

**Fast Facts**

- Approximately 11% of 12-17 year olds experience an episode of major depression.
- More than 1 in 10 teens between 12 and 17 years of age experience an episode of major depression.
- Approximately 7% of teens between 12 and 17 years of age experience behavioral disorders such as OCD.
- 75 to 80% of U.S. teens in need of mental health services do not receive them.

**Compounding the Problem**  
Teens who struggle with mental illness may turn to alcohol and drugs as a coping mechanism. In teens, experimentation can accelerate to addiction in rates much faster than in adults.

**Now That You Know, Where Do You Start?**  
Learning these facts is important. But it's just as crucial to create a plan for an open dialogue and to be mindful of engaging your teen with respect. Positive role modeling, compassion and the truth will go a long way to help you start communicating effectively.

**Use the following steps and resources to start your own Communication Action Plan.**

## NALOXONE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS PROGRAM (NFRP)

*Research shows that increasing access to naloxone - a lifesaving medication that can reverse an overdose caused by opioids - can significantly reduce overdose deaths.*

Since 2017, PCCD has supported statewide distribution of lifesaving naloxone to communities across the Commonwealth. The [Naloxone for First Responders Program](#) provides intranasal naloxone kits to a wide range of first responders statewide at no cost using a network of local distribution hubs, or Centralized Coordinating Entities (CCEs).

FY 2021-22 was another record year for naloxone distribution. Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, CCEs provided 69,633 kits of naloxone to first responder groups in all 67 counties. These efforts resulted in 3,225 reported overdose reversals, as well as 29,548 doses left behind during the year by EMS agencies and other first responders.

In addition to the network of County/Regional CCEs, PCCD also designated a state-level allocation of naloxone to supplement local naloxone distribution efforts and provide Narcan® to community-based organizations serving priority populations. The NFRP Statewide Naloxone Allocation Request Portal [launched](#) in March 2021, allowing eligible organizations to request additional naloxone nasal spray directly from PCCD. During FY 2021-22, PCCD received 284 requests for Narcan® through the Portal, primarily from community-based organizations like harm reduction groups.

During FY 2021-22, PCCD also continued its support for two initiatives focused on increasing naloxone access in Pennsylvania, which leveraged support and funding from Vital Strategies and Bloomberg Philanthropies:

- In March 2021, PCCD launched a new County Jail Naloxone Reentry Initiative, developed in partnership



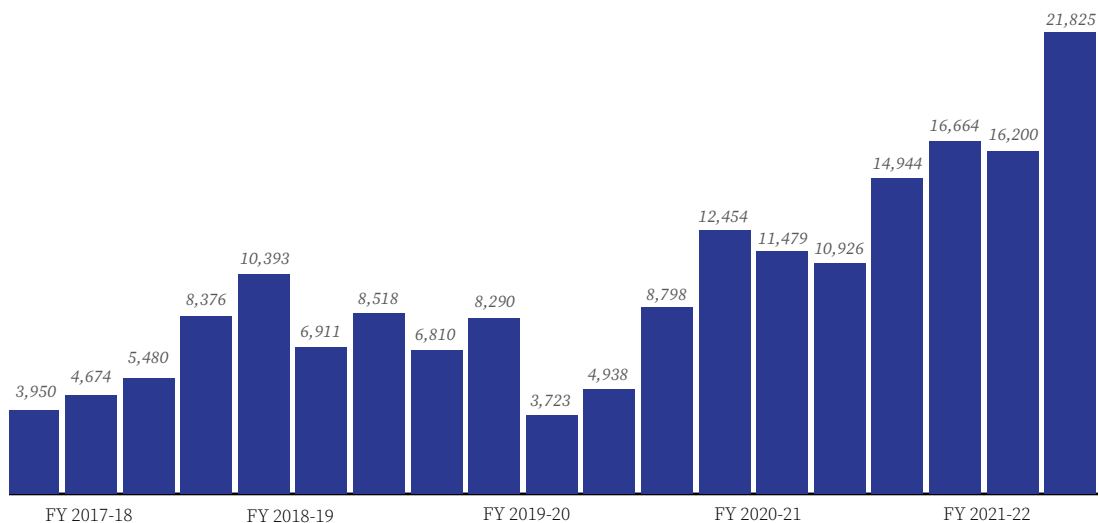
with the Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association, which aimed to increase the number of jails implementing naloxone distribution protocols for individuals leaving facilities and reentering the community.

- PCCD also partnered with Prevention Point Pittsburgh to expand its technical assistance program for grassroots organizations seeking to start or expand community-based naloxone programs.

In addition to strategies aimed at increasing naloxone access for organizations and agencies in the Commonwealth, PCCD also provided Narcan® to support a new [statewide mail-to-home naloxone program](#) for individuals to request medication for personal use. The program was developed through a partnership with Prevention Point Pittsburgh and NEXT Distro. PCCD supported the distribution of 21,622 doses of Narcan® through the mail-to-home program in FY 2021-22.

These efforts were made possible through federal State Opioid Response (SOR) funds sub-awarded to PCCD from DDAP in FY 2021-22.

**NUMBER OF KITS OF NARCAN DISTRIBUTED THROUGH NFRP BY QUARTER, 2017-2022**



## COUNTY JAIL-BASED MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)

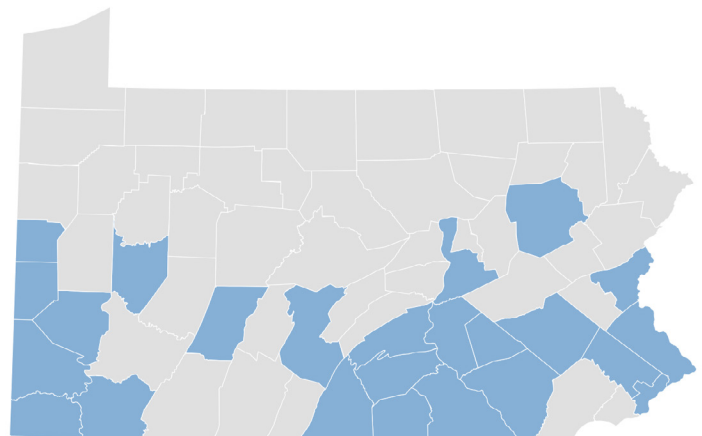
*Thanks to increased investments, the number of individuals served through PCCD's County Jail-based Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program has increased by 1,635% since FY 2018-19.*

On any given day in Pennsylvania, an average of 24,229 people are incarcerated in county jails. In 2021, Pennsylvania's county jails reported 122,938 admissions and 121,240 discharges. Many people incarcerated in prisons and jails have an active substance use disorder (SUD), and studies have found that people who were recently incarcerated are between 40 and 129 times more likely to die from an overdose in the first two weeks following their release compared to the general public.

In FY 2021-22, PCCD continued to support a number of projects providing for medication assisted treatment (MAT) within county jails and upon release to the community that had been awarded in the previous fiscal year. In FY 2019-20, PCCD awarded approximately \$5.6 million in state Act 80 funds to 16 counties seeking to provide Vivitrol injections and comprehensive substance abuse treatment to eligible individuals in county jails and upon release to the community through the 2019 County Jail-based Vivitrol Program. These funds were initially administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, but through a collaborative effort, PCCD's Criminal Justice System Improvements unit now administers these funds.

In FY 2021-22, 2019 County Jail-based Vivitrol Program grantees provided Vivitrol injections and programming to 494 participants. In September 2019, PCCD received \$2 million in federal State Opioid Response (SOR) funds from DDAP to support additional forms of medication assisted treatment (MAT) in combination with cognitive behavior treatment (CBT) in county jails across the Commonwealth. In late December 2019, PCCD awarded nine applications totaling approximately \$1.2 million through the 2019 County Jail-based MAT Program. These grants concluded in September 2021 and 2019 County Jail-based MAT Program grantees provided MAT and CBT to 508 participants in FY 2021-22.

In September 2021, PCCD once again received \$2 million in federal SOR funds from DDAP to support MAT in combination with CBT in county jails across the Commonwealth. In late December 2021, PCCD awarded 10 applications totaling nearly \$1.4 million through the 2021 County Jail-based MAT Program. Through FY 2021-22, 2021 County Jail-based MAT Program grantees provided MAT and CBT to 785 participants.



*Map of Pennsylvania counties with jail-based medication assisted treatment (MAT) programs supported by PCCD grants.*



### FY 2021-22 AT A GLANCE: COUNTY JAIL-BASED MAT PROGRAMS

- 2,519 individuals were served in county jail-based MAT programming in FY 2021-22 – a 1,635% increase from FY 2018-19 levels (154 individuals served).
- Funding supports the purchase and administration of Buprenorphine, Methadone, and Vivitrol.





### **RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (RSAT)**

The goal of the RSAT program is to further the U.S. Department of Justice’s mission by assisting state, local, and tribal efforts to break the cycle of drug addiction and violence by reducing the demand for, use, and trafficking of illegal drugs.

PCCD administered \$971,779 in federal RSAT funding in FY 2021-22 for projects to support evidence-based programs that develop an inmate’s cognitive, behavioral, social, vocational, and other skills to address substance use disorder and related issues through in-house county jail and/or work release center. During FY 2021-22, county jails provided Medication Assisted Treatment and Cognitive Behavior Therapy to 732 participants through RSAT funding.



### **PARTNERSHIP WITH VITAL STRATEGIES/BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES**

In FY 2020-21, PCCD received \$500,000 in funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies through Vital Strategies to support the reduction of overdoses among probation and/or reentry populations at the county level. The County Overdose Reduction Program aims to fulfill that goal through three focus areas: 1) training and/or education for justice practitioners on substance use disorder, overdose prevention, and harm reduction; 2) non-incarcerative and non-coercive alternatives for substance-related technical violations and connections to supports; and 3) peer recovery support. In March 2021, the Commission approved applications for eight Pennsylvania counties under this funding announcement (Allegheny, Berks, Chester, Delaware, Franklin, Lackawanna, Lebanon, York).



### **COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID, STIMULANT & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION (COSSAP)**

In 2020, PCCD submitted a competitive application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance seeking \$5,363,824 in federal COSSAP funds to support eight counties in implementing law enforcement diversion programs, jail-based screening protocols, and comprehensive reentry services. PCCD, in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh’s Program Evaluation Research Unit (PERU) and the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, used grant funds to provide training and technical assistance to counties. Each of the eight participating counties will hire a Local Case Manager to ensure linkage to treatment and support services for individuals referred through the Law Enforcement Treatment Initiative (LETI) Program and other initiatives. Local Program Coordinators also support implementation of key activities across diversion, screening, and reentry initiatives. Early program implementation activities in FY 2021-22 resulted in 51 total diversions across the six participating counties.



## COUNTY INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT (CIP)

Established by 42 Pa.C.S. Chapter 98, County Intermediate Punishment (CIP) provides funding support to participating counties for programs offering restrictive intermediate punishments for certain non-violent offenders. Act 115 of 2019 replaced County Intermediate Punishment as a sentencing option with an Order of Probation, for which restrictive conditions may be imposed. County Intermediate Punishment programs are restrictive conditions of probation imposed under section 9763 (c) or (d) (relating to adoption of guidelines for restrictive conditions).

Under CIP criteria, eligible individuals must undergo a diagnostic drug and alcohol dependency assessment to be eligible for the program. Beginning in FY 2016-17, PCCD expanded the use of CIP funds to include individuals who would otherwise be sentenced to a period of incarceration under Level 2 of the Pennsylvania Sentencing Guidelines. In FY 2017-18, the use of CIP funds was also expanded to include individuals in need of mental health treatment services who

are eligible for IP and would otherwise have been sentenced to incarceration under Levels 2, 3, or 4 of the Pennsylvania Sentencing Guidelines.

In June 2021, the Commission approved 58 applications for Intermediate Punishment Treatment Funds totaling approximately \$16.7 million. Funds can be used to support drug and alcohol assessment, evaluation, treatment, case management, and supervision services for individuals sentenced to probation with restrictive conditions.

In FY 2021-22, 182 individuals were served through PCCD's CIP funding. Funds supported drug and alcohol treatment, assessment, evaluation, case management, and supervision services related to CIP activities. Ultimately, the program resulted in participants averting 336,509 jail days (calculation is based on the minimum sentence range of the sentencing guidelines). 83% of all participants successfully completed program requirements.



### FY 2021-22 DATA SNAPSHOT: INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT

- 63 counties with IP programs supported with PCCD funding.
- 20,182 individuals actively participating in an IP sentence during the fiscal year.
- 2,723 offenders successfully completed IP in FY 2021-22.
- \$7,366 - Average savings per offender who completed an IP sentence in FY 2021-22.
- 336,509 - Total number of jail days averted for all offenders who completed their IP sentence during FY 2021-22.



## PROBLEM-SOLVING COURT INITIATIVES (INCLUDING DRUG COURTS)

Problem-solving courts, including specialty drug courts, and other diversionary programs provide alternatives to incarceration for Pennsylvanians in need of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services. According to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), Pennsylvania's first problem-solving court was an adult drug court program opened in Philadelphia in 1997. The success of that initial problem-solving court and those that followed prompted significant expansion across the Commonwealth over the past two decades. Pennsylvania now has more than 100 problem-solving courts, including those focused on specific types of behaviors or conditions, such as substance use disorder, DUI, mental health/illness, as well as juvenile drug and veteran's courts. As an alternative to incarceration, defendants in these courts are given counseling, treatment, emotional

assistance, and healthcare support. More information about problem-solving courts and their locations can be found on AOPC's website.

In September 2019, the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) awarded \$1.5 million in federal State Opioid Response (SOR) Supplemental Grant funding to support county-based drug courts and innovative pre-trial diversion initiatives in 13 counties (Allegheny, Berks, Blair, Forest, Franklin, Greene, Mifflin, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Tioga, Wayne, and Westmoreland). The funds supported the expansion of existing drug courts, enhanced support services for drug court participants, and/or opioid-related treatment services to PSC participants. Counties/sites continued program implementation throughout FY 2021-22.



## REENTRY PROGRAMS

Since 2011, PCCD has supported a Reentry Coordinator role housed within the unit of Criminal Justice System Improvements. PCCD's Reentry Coordinator works to ensure linkages and collaboration around reentry efforts among community and faith-based service providers and county planners. PCCD has supported reentry efforts through numerous grant opportunities focused on the development of reentry strategic plans and implementation of reentry programming.

Coalitions of local stakeholders meet regularly to assess reentry practices and programming, identify gaps in service, and develop resources, programming, and practices to fill those gaps. These coalitions are comprised of local stakeholders working to positively impact the lives of returning citizens.

Following adoption of CJAC's strategic plan in 2019, PCCD started the process to develop County Reentry Coalition Minimum Operating Standards similar to those established for CJABs. In March 2020, the Commission adopted Minimum Operating Standards for County Reentry Coalitions. These Standards outline requirements for membership, bylaws, reentry strategic planning, recidivism data collection, as well as coalition compliance and recognition.

There were 34 county-based reentry coalitions active in FY 2020-21, up from 31 in FY 2019-20. During the fiscal year, 11 counties submitted documentation to demonstrate that they are in compliance with the Minimum Operating Standards for County Reentry Coalitions. Those 11 counties are: Bucks, Carbon, Cumberland, Franklin, Lancaster, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Pike, Snyder, Westmoreland, and York Counties.

PCCD also remained a key participant in the Pennsylvania Reentry Council (PARC), which was convened in 2017 by Governor Tom Wolf and Attorney General Josh Shapiro with the sole purpose of exploring issues related to the successful reintegration of returning citizens.

# Nonprofit Security Grant Program

*Established in 2019 by Act 83, the Nonprofit Security Grant Program provides funding to enhance safety and security efforts for faith-based institutions and non-profit organizations.*

Administered by PCCD, the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund was established as part of Act 83 of 2019, which directed PCCD to administer grants to nonprofit organizations that principally serve individuals, groups, or institutions that are included within a bias motivation category for single bias hate crime incidents as identified by the [FBI's 2017 Hate Crime Statistics publication](#).

On February 1, 2022, Governor Wolf [announced](#) the availability of \$5 million in Nonprofit Security Grant Program funding to enhance security and protect against hate crimes. Applicants were eligible to apply for grant awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000 for security enhancements designed to protect the safety and security of their membership, including:

- Safety and security planning;
- Purchase of safety and security equipment;
- Purchase of security-related technology (including, but not limited to, metal detectors, protective lighting, surveillance equipment, special emergency communications equipment, electronic locksets, deadbolts, trauma kits, theft control devices, etc.);
- Safety and security training;
- Threat awareness and response training;
- Upgrades to existing structures that enhance safety and security;
- Vulnerability and threat assessments;
- Specialty-trained canines; and
- Any other safety or security-related project enhancing the safety or security of the nonprofit organization

On April 14, 2022, PCCD [announced](#) awards for security enhancement projects for 120 churches, synagogues, and other nonprofit organizations throughout the Commonwealth.



*Governor Wolf joins legislators and advocates to sign Act 83 of 2019, which established the Nonprofit Security Grant Program within PCCD.*

## Other FY 2021-22 PCCD Initiatives

*In FY 2021-22, PCCD was responsible for a number of special projects and initiatives focused on emerging issues related to public safety and the justice system.*



### JUDICIAL COMPUTER SYSTEM FINANCIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

Act 70 of 2021 established a new Judicial Computer System Financial Audit Committee (JCSFAC) under the Commission. The 13-member Committee was tasked with reviewing the judiciary's statewide case management system for magisterial, common pleas, the appellate court, and assessing the annual financial needs and revenue streams that support the operation of the system, and developing legislative recommendations related to the reallocation of undedicated surpluses.

The JCSFAC first met on October 27, 2021, where Representative Torren Ecker was elected by the voting members to serve as Chair. A series of

meetings was convened throughout the months of November and December 2021, with extensive written testimony provided by the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) and JCS users. Throughout the process, AOPC provided financial information at the request of the committee, which was used as the basis of this report.

PCCD provided staff support to the JCSFAC to coordinate the meetings and assist in the drafting of the [final report](#), which was adopted by the Committee on January 27, 2022 and submitted to the General Assembly on January 31, 2022.



### TASK FORCE ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Act 53 of 2021 established a new Task Force on Child Pornography supported by PCCD staff and the Joint State Government Commission to examine how the offense of child pornography is investigated and charged, and to make recommendations for improvement.

During the course of FY 2021-22, the 20-member Task Force convened to fulfill its charge to "conduct a review to ascertain any inadequacies

relating to the offense of child pornography in 18 Pa.C.S. §6312" and develop recommendations for any improvements relating to the investigation and prosecution of child pornography and suggest any necessary changes in state statutes, policies, and procedures relating to the recognition or prosecution of child pornography.

The Task Force's [final report](#) was adopted in September 2022.



# **Victim Services, Compensation & Child Advocacy**

*Key Initiatives*

FY 2021-22

# Responding to Victims' Needs

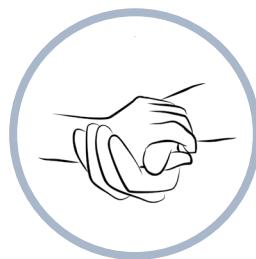
*PCCD works with partners to reduce the impact of crime on victims and survivors, including enhancing the quality and availability of services, addressing the economic needs of victims through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP), and supporting victims/survivors of child sexual abuse and child abuse.*

PCCD's *Victims' Services Advisory Committee (VSAC)* and the *Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC)* are each responsible for addressing the needs of crime victims and survivors throughout the Commonwealth.

*VSAC* was established through Act 27 of 1995 Special Session #1 and reauthorized in the Crime Victims Act (Act 111 of 1998) with the purpose of developing services, setting standards for those services, creating policies, and setting funding priorities to support the state's network of victim services providers - which include providers that address sexual assault, domestic violence, or comprehensive centers that address all crime. *VSAC* members include Cabinet secretaries from related agencies, including Corrections, Human Services, State Police, JCJC, and Aging; the Victim Advocate; a district attorney; representation

from statewide victim coalitions; mental health advocate; disabilities advocate; victim-witness programs; victim services providers; the courts; and direct victims/survivors of crime.

Established by Act 28 of 2014, *CACAC* was created to advise the Commission in the development and promotion of programs and projects related to children's advocacy centers (CACs) and multidisciplinary investigative teams (MDITs). CACs are used by MDITs to provide state-of-the-art treatment for victims/survivors of child sexual abuse, child abuse, and neglect. The *CACAC* is comprised of a variety of experts representing children and youth services; prosecution; CACs; state and municipal police; victim services; physicians; nurses; mental health professionals; and hospital administrators.



## FY 2021-22 VICTIM SERVICES INITIATIVES

*In FY 2021-22, PCCD's Office of Victims' Services (OVS) administered state and federal funding supporting 231 victim services programs, providing vital services for approximately 361,000 victims of crime across Pennsylvania.*

PCCD's **Office of Victims' Services (OVS)** administers and provides oversight to multiple funding streams, including federal **Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)** and **STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant** funds, as well as state **Rights and Services Act (RASA)** and **Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO)**. VOCA monies are utilized to provide direct services to victims of crime to help them cope with the physical, emotional, and criminal justice issues associated with crime. STOP Violence Against Women federal grants help improve the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, and enhance services available to victims of these crimes. Counties use state RASA monies to provide services that fulfill mandated victims' rights, as established by the Crime Victim's Act, and state VOJO dollars to assist crime victims whose offenders were under the age of 18. Collectively, these funding streams supported 231 victim services programs for FY 2020-21, providing vital services for approximately 361,152 victims across Pennsylvania.

## VAWA REAUTHORIZATION (2022)

First passed in 1994, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) established comprehensive, community-coordinated responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

On March 15, 2022, President Joe Biden signed the bipartisan VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2022 into law as part of the Omnibus appropriations package. The latest edition of this landmark law reauthorized all current VAWA grant programs until 2027 and included increased funding levels for many initiatives. The law also included new provisions:

- Recognizing expanded jurisdiction for American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes for VAWA crimes;
- Intending to close gaps in federal sex crimes statutes and increase accountability for law enforcement officers;
- Enhancing homicide reduction efforts through enforcement of federal and state gun laws; and
- Improving access to justice for survivors of VAWA crimes by increasing available legal services and legal assistance.

## PA CRIME VICTIMS' MOBILE APP (PCV)

In March 2017, PCCD created and launched the free PCV Mobile App to serve Pennsylvania's crime victims and supporters who rely on their smart phones for information and assistance. The app, which received a 2017 PA Excellence in Technology Award at the PA Digital Government Summit and has been recognized as a Governor's Office of Transformation, Innovation, Management and Efficiency (GO-TIME) initiative, provides basic information on available services, including nearby victim services providers, the option to text or call victims' organizations, and the ability to check the status of a victims' compensation claim. In October 2017, the app was expanded further to allow victims and their families to file compensation claims directly.

In 2021, approximately 108 VCAP claims were filed utilizing the PCV app.



## 16TH PATHWAYS FOR VICTIM SERVICES CONFERENCE (VIRTUAL)

PCCD's Office of Victims' Services hosted the 16th annual Pathways for Victim Services Conference on October 26-28, 2021 using an all virtual format. This three-day event offered victim service providers and allied professionals with an opportunity to:

- Access new information about the provision of services to underserved populations;
- Expand upon available options for crime victims;
- Learn about new trends in service provision; and
- Hear actual case studies in response to incidents of mass violence.

The conference also provided opportunities for networking for victim service professionals, probation officers, prevention education specialists, social workers, drug and alcohol counselors, and law enforcement. You can watch recordings from presentations and conference sessions on PCCD's YouTube channel [here](#).



### FY 2021-22 AT A GLANCE: VICTIM SERVICES & CHILD ADVOCACY

- 361,152 victims served in Pennsylvania in FY 2021-22 (up from 320,395 in the prior year)
- 11,994 claims processed for VCAP in 2021
- \$12,809,760 paid to or on behalf of crime victims through VCAP
- 13,717 children were served by CACs in FY 21-22
- 99% of Pennsylvania's population has a CAC available within 60 minutes of travel time
- 3,512 attendees provided training on victim service subjects





## 2021 GOVERNOR’S VICTIM SERVICE PATHFINDER AWARDS

The Pathfinder Awards are administered by PCCD’s Office of Victims’ Services annually, recognizing individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond to support victims of crime. A Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is Pennsylvania’s most prestigious award for a victim service professional or program.

On November 10, 2021, PCCD [announced](#) winners of the 2021 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards. The 2021 Pathfinder Award recipients included:

- [Karen Widdoss](#), whose victimization and advocacy resulted in passed legislation called “Karen’s Law” designed to positively impact victims of similar crimes, in the category of Survivor Activist Award;
- [Tatiana Piper](#) of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR), in the category of Individual Direct Service Award for work to create a series of eight e-learning courses to help people better serve survivors of sexual assault who are incarcerated as well as collaborate with corrections staff;
- [Kelly Sagastume](#), Program Manager at Project PROTECT, received the Individual Prevention, Education, and Outreach Award for her work in local resource development and policy advocacy for child victims of human trafficking through the Philadelphia Juvenile Anti-Trafficking Coalition;
- [Crisis Center North Mobile Advocacy Program](#), located in Pittsburgh, PA, was recognized through the Program Award category for its partnership with nine distinct locations across the city to offer confidential services to victims;
- [The Center for Inclusion Health](#), a program of the Allegheny Health Network in Pittsburgh, PA, was recognized through the category of Allied Service Professional Award for its programming to remove barriers to care for diverse and disenfranchised populations; and
- The team at [Domino’s Pizza Store #4879](#) in Lewistown, PA, received the Community Service Award for their efforts to provide weekly dinner and other supports for a family who are survivors of a domestic violence homicide that left six children in the custody of their grandmother.

You can learn more about each awardee’s story and journey by watching the Pathfinder Awards Ceremony video [here](#).

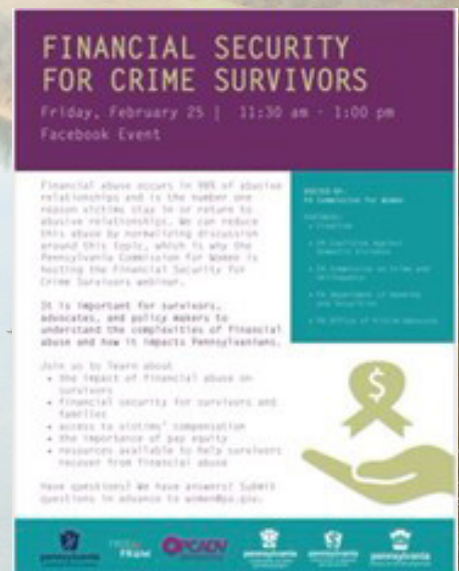


## HIGHLIGHTING THE FINANCIAL IMPACTS OF CRIME & ABUSE ON SURVIVORS

On February 25, 2022, PCCD’s Office of Victims’ Services joined representatives from the Pennsylvania Commission for Women, FreeFrom, PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), PA Department of Banking and Securities, and the PA Office of Victim Advocate for a ‘Financial Security for Crime Survivors’ Facebook event.

The online session focused on:

- The impacts of financial abuse on survivors;
- Financial security for survivors and families;
- Access to victims’ compensation through VCAP;
- Importance of pay equity; and
- Resources available to help survivors recover from financial abuse.





## FY 2021-22 CHILD ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

*In FY 2021-22, PCCD's Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee continued its efforts to increase funding and supports for Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) across the state. CACs served 13,717 children in FY 2021-22 - a 12% increase over the prior year. 99% of Pennsylvania's population now has a CAC available an hour or less away.*

### CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS

PCCD's Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development (ORESPD) has been working with law enforcement, prosecutors, children and youth providers, medical professionals, and victim service providers to establish a network of accredited CACs throughout the Commonwealth. CACs are utilized by Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams (MDITs) to provide state-of-the-art treatment for the victims of child sexual abuse, child abuse, and neglect. They coordinate medical care, treatment, and other social services for victims while gathering evidence, through age-appropriate forensic interviewing and other methods employed by MDITs, to build effective cases against alleged perpetrators. Research demonstrates that child abuse investigations handled through a CAC have a shorter length of time to disposition, better prosecution outcomes, higher rates of caregiver and child satisfaction, more referrals to mental health services, and better access to medical care.

During FY2021-22, PCCD continued support for 41 accredited, accredited satellite, associate, and affiliate National Children's Alliance (NCA, the national association and accrediting body for CACs and MDITs) member CACs, as well as the PA State Chapter of CACs and MDITs, through \$1.85 million in state Act 28 funds. In FY 2016-17, only 31 NCA members were supported; thus FY 2021-22 levels represent a 29% increase in NCA-member CAC services throughout Pennsylvania. PCCD also supports developing MDITs and CACs throughout the Commonwealth. A map of [CAC locations](#) is available on PCCD's website, and information on the individual grants awarded can be found on the [Grants](#) map.

### ENDOWMENT ACT FUNDS

The Endowment Act (Act 1 of 2013) directs PCCD to expend the \$48 million in monetary penalties imposed on the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to aid the victims of child sexual abuse in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The CACAC assists in advising the Commission in dispersing these funds.

Per the statute, funds must be distributed for the following purposes and for the benefit of the residents of the Commonwealth:

1. Programs or projects preventing child sexual abuse and/or assisting the victims of child sexual abuse;
2. Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams established under 23 Pa.C.S.;
3. Children's Advocacy Centers;
4. Victim Service Organizations providing services to children subjected to sexual abuse; and
5. Training of persons mandated by law to report child sexual abuse or to treat victims of child sexual abuse.

In FY 2021-22, PCCD awarded a total of **seven grants** amounting to **\$494,573**. Grants were released to support projects included under category 2 (MDITs) and category 5B (training of persons who treat victims of child sexual abuse). Collectively since 2015, a total of 245 grants amounting to \$18.6 million in Endowment Act funds have been awarded throughout the Commonwealth to support over 68,000 child victims and adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

For further detailed information on the grants distributed under the Act, Annual Reports, and outcomes, please see PCCD's website on the [Endowment Act](#).



## **PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO COUNTIES ON INVESTIGATING CHILD ABUSE CASES**

In December 2021, PCCD, the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI), and the Children's Advocacy Centers of Pennsylvania (PennCAC) jointly announced the updated release of the Model Set of Standards for Pennsylvania's Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams (MDITs). The Model Standards and accompanying webinar were designed to promote consistency across the Commonwealth through guidance and best practices on how to effectively investigate child abuse cases.

Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Law mandates that every county form an MDIT, which is comprised of professionals convened by a district attorney who work together to investigate these cases. By coordinating efforts, MDITs help avoid duplication of fact-finding efforts and interviews with the goal of minimizing trauma for children.

The 2021 updates represented the first time since 2013 that the Model Standards were revised.

As part of the roll-out of these revised standards, multiple MDIT symposiums were held across the Commonwealth. Both the webinar and symposiums were supported through Federal Children's Justice Act funding made available through a partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.



# Criminal Justice System Improvements

*Key Initiatives*

FY 2021-22

# Improving PA's Criminal Justice System

*PCCD is tasked by statute with coordinating the functions of the criminal justice system so it runs more efficiently and effectively, and makes full use of the resources available to state and local criminal justice systems.*

PCCD provides planning assistance, promotes digital technology, funds innovative projects, supports the development and implementation of best practices, coordinates information sharing, and facilitates collaboration between and among key criminal justice stakeholders throughout the Commonwealth.

There are multiple advisory committees responsible for addressing criminal justice initiatives within PCCD. The **Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)** focuses on the development of long-range strategies and plans for the system as a whole. CJAC sets priorities for justice projects supported by PCCD's various federal and state funding streams. The **Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee (MHJAC)** coordinates statewide strategies that direct technical assistance to evidence-based practices; guides the operation and sustainability of jail diversion and reentry programs; and provides a clearinghouse for resources related to criminal justice, mental health, and substance use disorder. Finally, the **County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC)**, established by Act 114 of 2019, advises the Commission on all matters pertaining to the administration of the county adult probation and parole system and assists in the implementation of Act 115 of 2019, specifically related to sentences of probation with restrictive conditions of supervision. CAPPAC is also responsible for directing technical assistance; reviewing grant applications for county intermediate punishment treatment programs and discretionary grants; developing a funding plan for county adult probation and parole departments; analyzing data to identify trends and evaluate programs and practices; as well as making recommendations and adopting standards for probation and parole personnel.

In addition to these advisory committees, PCCD also includes two training boards. The **Constables' Education and Training Board**, established by Act 102 of 1992, advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training, continuing education, and firearms qualification that serve as the basis for certification of constables and deputy constables within the Commonwealth. The **Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board**, established by Act 2 of 1984, advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training and continuing education required for certification of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs within the Commonwealth's 67 counties.



## FY 2021-22 AT A GLANCE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- All 67 Pennsylvania counties have a Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) in place.
- 62% of police officers worked in an accredited police force in 2021-22.
- 34 active reentry coalitions in Pennsylvania.
- 25 counties actively participating in Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center, and Stepping Up policies adopted in 35 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.
- 493 prosecutors and 434 public defenders received training through PCCD-funded initiatives in FY 2021-22.
- 81 courses offered on PA Virtual Training Network (VTN).
- 803 constables participated in initial training and continuing education provided by PCCD in FY 2021-22.
- 2,030 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs participating in initial training and continuing education.

# Collaboration & Planning Assistance

*PCCD aims to increase the efficacy of state and local efforts to prevent crime and increase safety through interagency planning and collaboration.*



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARDS (CJABS)

CJABs serve as the primary vehicle for PCCD’s efforts to improve county justice systems. As boards comprised of criminal justice stakeholders from various disciplines within a county, CJABs use a collaborative approach to justice planning and innovative problem solving. PCCD assists CJABs in every stage of development, from start-up grants to strategic planning assistance to project implementation support. Currently, all 67 counties in Pennsylvania have an active CJAB that meets PCCD’s minimum operating standards. More information about CJABs is available on PCCD’s website.

On April 12-13, 2022, PCCD hosted the 2022 Criminal Justice Advisory Board Conference in State College. A return to in-person delivery from a virtual event in 2021, the 2022 CJAB Conference was attended by approximately 400 criminal justice and behavioral health practitioners from across Pennsylvania. Session topics focused on a wide range of issues related to the theme of “Administering Justice in a Changing World.”



## PA’S APPROACH FOR ENGAGING LOCAL BOARDS HIGHLIGHTED AS NATIONAL MODEL

PCCD’s work to support the establishment and operation of effective Criminal Justice Advisory Boards (CJABs) was highlighted by the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) in a report on How and Why to Engage with Local Criminal Justice Planning Boards. The “how-to” guide for State Administering Agencies was published in June 2021, and provided “top takeaways” and background on four states’ approaches for engaging local systems and partners, including Pennsylvania.

PCCD’s Deputy Director of the Unit of Criminal Justice System Improvements, Jackie Weaknecht, was quoted in the report, emphasizing, “It is important to recognize the differences and meet counties where they are.” PCCD’s minimum operating standards, investments in CJAB initiatives, and the annual CJAB conference were all highlighted in the document as key elements of Pennsylvania’s local engagement and planning strategy.

# Law Enforcement Technology & Training

*One of PCCD's strategic priorities is to provide law enforcement with the appropriate tools, training, and technology to assist them in building trust and improving the safety of communities they serve.*



## **NICS ACT RECORD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NARIP)**

The primary objective of the NARIP is to enhance the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records to state and federal systems used by the NICS. These include records of criminal history, felony convictions, warrants, protective orders, convictions for misdemeanors involving domestic violence and stalking, drug arrests and convictions, mental health adjudications, and other information that may disqualify an individual from possessing or receiving a firearm under federal law. In FY 2021-22, PCCD submitted a competitive application for federal NARIP funds. PCCD was awarded \$986,398, which was passed through to the PA State Police (PSP) to enhance the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records to state and federal systems used by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).



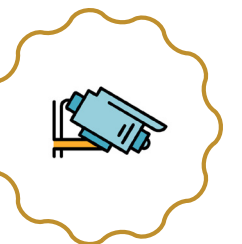
## **PAUL COVERDELL NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT ACT (NFSIA)**

This program provides funding for programs designed to improve the quality, timeliness, and credibility of forensic science services for criminal justice purposes. The program permits funding for expenses related to facilities, personnel, computerization, equipment, supplies, accreditation, certification, education and training. FY 2021-22 was the ninth year of NFSIA funding. In June 2022, PCCD awarded four applications requesting \$771,488 in federal Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement funds to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic services throughout Pennsylvania; support the development of strategies/protocols for the accreditation of forensic laboratories in Pennsylvania; and/or the certification of forensic science specialists in an acceptable forensic science discipline. Funding supports the costs for training, travel, materials, consultant services, equipment, and/or software needed to obtain or maintain accreditation and/or certification in a forensic science discipline.



## **ADAM WALSH ACT FUNDS (AWA)**

PCCD submitted a competitive application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for federal Adam Walsh Act (AWA) funds and received an award in the amount of \$400,000. This initiative supported PSP's efforts in the digitization of paper files into digital format, overtime funds for sex offender compliance checks, and for the mandated PSP case reviews. Funds also supported the Office of Victim Advocate's (OVA) Victim Assistance Coordinator. This project will ensure that Megan's Law Registration and Verification efforts remain on track and resources are provided for victim outreach.



## **BODY-WORN CAMERA POLICY & RELATED PROGRAMS**

In July 2017, Act 22 was signed into law, which required PCCD to develop policy recommendations regarding the use of body-worn cameras (BWC). According to the Act, any recipient of PCCD grant funds for the purchase of BWCs must have a written, publicly- available policy in place that meets or exceeds the standards set by the Commission. In March 2018, the Commission formally [adopted BWC standards](#), which outline the use, maintenance, and storage of BWCs.

In FY 2021-22, PCCD was awarded a competitive grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for federal FY 2021 Body Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program funds totaling \$980,000. PCCD's application included \$90,000 to support the implementation of a BWC program in the Bureau of Investigations and Intelligence Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections over a two-year period. The remainder of funds (\$890,000) was announced competitively by PCCD in May 2022.

# Mental Health Initiatives

*MHJAC's mission is to reduce the number of individuals with behavioral health, co-occurring substance use disorders, and intellectual disabilities involved in the justice system through diversion, treatment, and reentry services.*

PCCD staff engaged with partners and stakeholders over the course of FY 2021-22 to support state, county, and local level efforts to provide services and supports related programs for people with mental illness/co-occurring disorders, intellectual disabilities, and/or autism spectrum disorders and reduce avoidable justice system contact.

Under the auspices of MHJAC, PCCD staff recommended and facilitated funding for programs to provide training for law enforcement, behavioral and mental health specialists, and their partners; improve cross-systems data collection and information sharing of behavioral health and substance abuse data; and implement evidence-based practices including trauma and recovery treatment programs for veterans in the

## STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

Stepping Up was launched in May 2015 as a partnership of the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, National Association of Counties, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation. In January 2019, PCCD established the Pennsylvania Stepping UP Technical Assistance Center – the first in the nation to provide free technical assistance to counties to reduce the overrepresentation of people with serious mental illness (SMI) in their jails.

As of FY 2021-22, 35 Pennsylvania counties had passed Stepping Up resolutions and 25 counties were actively participating in the TA Center. Through the Stepping Up technical assistance supports provided by CSG, counties were able to make changes to better identify the number of people with SMI in county jails. This included:

- Three new counties (Chester, Cumberland, and Dauphin) selected and nationally recognized as Stepping Up Innovator counties, making Pennsylvania a national leader as the state with the most Innovator counties (six, including Berks, Montgomery, and Philadelphia).
- 11 counties implemented or explored use of validated mental health screening tools.
- Many counties have made improvements in key areas of crisis, diversion and housing, and other transitional needs/issues.
- 11 counties established system-wide definition of mental illness across behavioral health and criminal justice systems.
- Multiple sites have adopted cross-system reentry coordinators, boundary spanners, forensic case workers,

criminal justice system, peer supported warm handoff and co-responder programs.

In addition to MHJAC support staff, PCCD staff agency-wide partnered with specialists in the fields of mental health/co-occurring disorders and criminal justice diversion to provide guidance on criminal justice system changes, targeted action planning, and promoting promising programs and initiatives across the state. In FY 2021-22, PCCD supported approximately \$1 million in Mental Health Enhancement Funds to support crisis intervention and pretrial diversion initiatives for individuals with mental health, intellectual disability, or autism disorders who come into contact with the criminal justice system.

## THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

mental health diversion specialists, and similar positions to help bridge the gap between systems.

- 12 counties have fully or partially implemented electronic data systems, and several counties have made important progress in improving their data collection processes and systems. (As an example, two counties established data sharing agreements and created a data visualization dashboard to allow agencies to see statistics and trends in their data, with several more working to establish similar tracking/data analysis efforts.)

Several counties showed significant improvements in reducing prevalence.

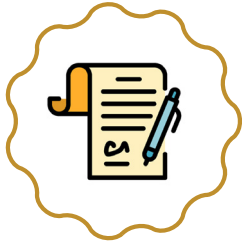
- Montgomery County saw a 57% decrease in jail bookings for people with SMI/COD from 2019 levels, and an average length of stay reduced by 25 days.
- Philadelphia reduced their SMI population in their jail by 40% since 2015.
- Dauphin County's co-responder program reported reductions in the number of referrals to co-responders that resulted in charges.

In 2021, MHJAC approved an expansion of the Stepping Up Technical Assistance initiative to further enhance the program's reach and services through 2023.



# Making Improvements to County Adult Probation & Parole

*Act 114 of 2019 tasks PCCD with reviewing and approving county adult probation and parole grant funding, analyzing data to identify trends and determine effectiveness of programs and practices, as well as making recommendations and adopting standards for probation and parole personnel.*



## IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT 114 OF 2019

Act 114 of 2019 provides for PCCD to review and approve county adult probation and parole grant funding, which includes Continuing County Adult Probation and Parole Grant (CCAPPG) funds, County Intermediate Punishment (IP) Programs, and Justice Reinvestment Initiative II (JRI-2) savings funds. CAPPAC's Funding Subcommittee was established and tasked with establishing a new Funding Plan for County Adult Probation and Parole and examining required and additional data elements that could be considered as part of the formulation of three funding formulas, pursuant to Act 114.



## IMPROVEMENT OF ADULT PROBATION SERVICES (GRANT-IN-AID) FUNDS

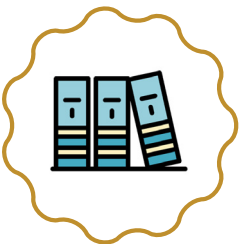
Act 114 of 2019 provided for PCCD to review and approve county adult probation and parole grant funding, which includes Continuing County Adult Probation and Parole Grant funds. In June 2021 the Commission approved 81 grant awards totaling \$16,150,000 in state funds, allowing for counties to receive level funding and be 'held harmless' until a funding formula has been recommended by the CAPPAC and approved by the Commission.



## EVALUATING TRENDS IN COUNTY ADULT PROBATION & PAROLE OPERATIONS

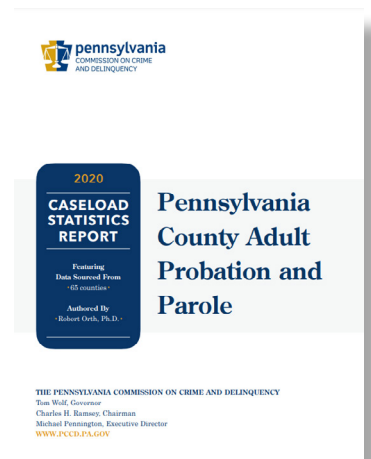
During FY 2021-22, PCCD and CAPPAC examined data from 65 counties to understand the effectiveness of adult probation and parole operations supported with grant funding; the resulting [2020 County Adult Probation and Parole Caseload Statistics Report](#) was published with key findings in 2021, including:

- Counties had an average caseload of 89 actively supervised offenders per staff in 2020; and
- The average county caseload increased nearly 14% between 2010 and 2020.



## OPERATING STANDARDS

The Standards Subcommittee undertook work to review operating standards recommended by the County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of PA. The group made some further refinements and additions to address priority areas, including diversity, equity and inclusion, among other training topics. In June 2021, the Commission approved 81 initial County Adult Probation and Parole Operating Standards, which took effect on July 1, 2021. A second edition of final [Operating Standards for Adult Probation and Parole Departments in Pennsylvania](#) was adopted on December 8, 2021.





## SMART PROBATION INITIATIVES (FEDERAL GRANT)

In December 2021, PCCD was awarded a \$715,000 competitive grant under the U.S. Department of Justice's FY 2021 Smart Probation: Innovations in Supervision Initiative. PCCD's [proposed project](#) ("Pennsylvania Partnership for Justice Improvement") focused on achieving substantial reductions in recidivism and violent crime through a partnership with the County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of Pennsylvania and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP).

Goals of this initiative include reducing recidivism, violent offenses, and incarceration/re-incarceration among moderate and high-risk offenders.

The project will also support a number of key objectives, including:

- Use of validated, actuarial risk/need instruments;
- Development of a plan to align with medium/high-risk workloads with American Probation and Parole Association/evidence-based practice guidelines;
- Development of a best practices rewards and sanctions monograph supported by technical assistance that summarizes research and provides model policy examples; and
- Development of a guide (and corresponding training) to help probation agencies conduct a gap analysis of community programming.

A total of 23 county sites (three Demonstration and 20 Learning) will participate in this project that includes a comprehensive plan for evidence-based practices expansion, training, support, and analysis of recidivism.



## BASIC TRAINING ACADEMY

In FY 2020-21, PCCD staff and CAPPAC undertook efforts to revise the training curriculum for the County Adult Probation and Parole Basic Training Academy (CBTA). Revision of the existing basic training curriculum was identified as a crucial need to enhance officer safety and the effectiveness of county offender supervision. The inaugural Adult Probation Basic Training Academy took place in 2021 and received positive feedback from participating officers.

In September 2021, the Commission approved a new CAPPAC Basic Training Curriculum and Instructor Manual. A total of 132 individuals participated in five BTA classes offered by PCCD between July 2021 and June 2022.



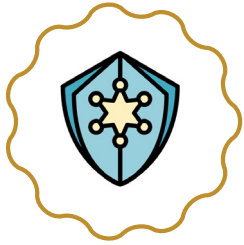
## FIREARMS EDUCATION & TRAINING

During the course of FY 2021-22, CAPPAC's Firearms Education and Training Advisory Subcommittee held firearms basic training courses as well as continuing education courses. Train-the-trainer sessions for the Simulations course also took place.

Under Acts 114 and 115 of 2019, CAPPAC serves as the "new" Firearms Education and Training Commission. As part of efforts to transition these responsibilities, in September 2021, the Commission approved ratification of the previously adopted Firearms Education and Training Student Code of Conduct recommended by CAPPAC. The Commission also approved the Basic Training Course Curricula and Firearms Qualification Course, as well as policies and procedures for the qualifications for Certified Firearms Instructors (CFIs) and Master Instructors (MIs). Finally, the Commission adopted firearms education and training policies and procedures previously developed and approved by the former Firearms Education and Training Commission, including policies and procedures on accidental discharge, basic training, firearms, in-service training, instructor(s), and reimbursements.

# Training, Certification & Accreditation

*One of PCCD's core values - and statutory responsibilities - is supporting training and education programs to increase the preparedness of practitioners, including constables, sheriffs/deputy sheriffs, law enforcement, and other justice-related stakeholders.*



## SHERIFFS' AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS' TRAINING

Act 2 of 1984 created the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Board to train and certify deputies employed by the Commonwealth's 67 county sheriffs' offices. Twenty years later, Act 114 of 2014 renamed it as the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB). The new law enhanced the original Act by including requirements for the training of sheriffs and provisions for certification revocation.

Under the oversight and staff support of PCCD, SDSETB continues to implement and improve training and certification processes as delineated by the Act. The current program consists of 760 hours of basic training provided by Pennsylvania State University followed by biennial continuing education through 20 hours of instruction provided by Temple University. The SDSETB also offers additional training in Basic and Advanced Supervision, Firearms Instruction, and Patrol Riflery as well as optional subjects on-line.

Since its inception, the Board has trained and certified 7,110 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs through basic training and has renewed the certification of all sheriffs and deputies through its biennial continuing education program.

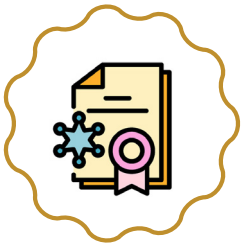
During 2021, the Board took steps to enhance the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training and Certification Programs, as well as to address continued financial challenges. With the passage of Act 134 of 2020, increased surcharge collections are expected to allow the Board to begin reimbursements to counties and implement long-awaited training enhancements.

The Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Information System (SDSIS) is used to track both individual training and certification history and current training needs and requirements. The 2021 continuing education program included topics on Legal Updates, Domestic Violence, and Courthouse Security. During the 2021 calendar year, 2,030 sheriffs/deputy sheriffs were trained. During the year, 2,140 active sheriffs and deputy sheriffs out of 2,143 in the Commonwealth were certified/re-certified by the Board. For more information and the Sheriffs' Annual Reports, please see the [SDSETB webpage](#).



## PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT VIRTUAL TRAINING NETWORK (PA VTN)

PCCD and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association (PCPA) developed a Virtual Training Network (PAVTN) in 2012. When PAVTN was launched, there were five courses and 2,000 registered users. For FY 2021-22, PAVTN served 28,767 law enforcement officers and offered 83 training courses. This web-based training has saved thousands of dollars for law enforcement departments and municipalities by reducing trainer costs, travel expenses, and overtime costs. It has also reduced the amount of time officers are off duty while attending training. Since its inception, law enforcement officers have successfully completed 76,606 trainings through the PAVTN platform.



## CONSTABLES' TRAINING

In Pennsylvania, constables are elected for a six-year term and are required to undergo training every year to perform their services. Although historically considered peace officers, today constables are mainly relied upon to aid the judicial process (e.g., serving writs and notices). Act 44 of 1994 established the Constables' Education and Training Board (CETB) within PCCD, which is responsible for the training and certification of the Commonwealth's approximately 1,200 elected and appointed constables and deputy constables. The CETB fulfills this charge by providing state-of-the-art curriculum development and delivery, ensuring timely and accurate constable certification and recertification, and coordinating the services of three regional training delivery contractors and one curriculum development contractor. Certifications and individual trainings are tracked through the Constables' Certification Education and Training System (CCETS).



There were 1,031 constables and deputy constables currently listed as active and certified in 2021. Of these, 879 or 85% were also certified to carry a firearm in the performance of their constable duties. A total of 17 newly elected or appointed constables and deputy constables successfully completed the 80- Hour Basic Training and were certified in 2021. A total of 717 constables completed the 20 hours of classroom and online training required for Continuing Education and were certified in 2021. An additional 16 constables successfully completed the 40-hour Basic Firearms Training and attained firearms certification in 2021. Finally, 626 constables successfully completed the 5-hour Annual Firearms Qualification to carry a firearm while performing judicial duties in 2021. For more information and the [Constables' Annual Reports](#), please visit the [CETB webpage](#).



## PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

PCCD supports the PA Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, which provides a blueprint for the professionalization of law enforcement agencies within the Commonwealth. The cornerstone of this strategy consists of the promulgation of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives. During FY 2021-22, 62% of police officers in the Commonwealth worked in an accredited agency. In 2016, PCCD partnered with PCPA to develop a map identifying accredited police departments throughout the state. The current map can be found on the [PA Accreditation page](#) on PCCD's website.



# Juvenile Justice & Violence Prevention

*Key Initiatives*

FY 2021-22

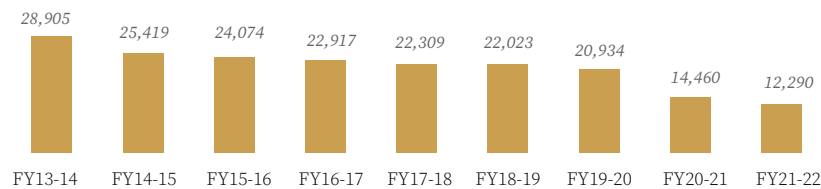
# Juvenile Justice System Improvements

*Since 1978, PCCD has served as the Commonwealth’s designated state planning agency for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, pursuant to the requirements of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.*

The *Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC)* is comprised of representatives from the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission (JCJC); juvenile court judges; law enforcement; chief juvenile probation officers; non-profit prevention and treatment service providers; special education specialists; youth; and other related stakeholders. JJJPC is tasked by law to:

- Develop a comprehensive plan relating to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention for the Commonwealth;
- Serve in an advisory capacity to the Commission on awards, standards, and programs;
- Collaborate with all state agencies on planning and programming related to juvenile delinquency prevention and reduction and prevention of violence by and against children; and
- Advise and assist the Commission in designing and promoting comprehensive research-based initiatives to assist communities and community-based organizations in reducing risk to and promoting the positive development of children and in preventing juvenile delinquency and youth violence.

**NUMBER OF PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH RECEIVING A JUVENILE JUSTICE DISPOSITION (2013-2021)**



*12,290 Pennsylvania youth received a juvenile justice disposition in FY 2021-22 - a 15% decrease from the prior year, and a 57% reduction from 2013/14 levels.*

## RELEVANT FUNDING STREAMS & GRANTS

- Community Violence Prevention/Reduction Grants
- Federal Title II Formula Grants Program (authorized under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended)
- Gun Violence Reduction Grants
- Violence and Delinquency Prevention Programs (VDPP)
- Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Grants
- Youth-focused programs supported through federal State Opioid Response (SOR) funds and Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR) funds

## IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

**-44.9%**

*Reduction in the number of juvenile delinquency-related dispositions from 2017.*

**11.7%**

*In 2019, the state’s two-year recidivism rate for juveniles was 11.7% - the lowest in recorded history.*

**86%**

*Percentage of youth involved with the juvenile justice system for the first time diverted from adjudication.*

# FY 2021-22 Juvenile Justice Initiatives

*Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system's mission is centered on balanced and restorative justice.*

Over the past two decades, investments and reforms have resulted in improved community safety and accountability. Importantly, these efforts have also focused on preventing young people from getting involved in the system in the first place. But as recommendations from Pennsylvania's Juvenile

Justice Task Force - and voices from youth, families, and communities - clearly show, this work is far from finished. In FY 2021-22, PCCD worked with partners from a broad range of systems and communities to build on the progress achieved to date and fulfill the charge of 'balanced and restorative justice.'

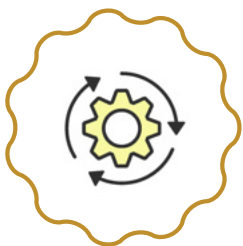


## JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY (JJSES)

The goal of the JJSES is to build the capacity of practitioners within the juvenile justice system to better achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission through quality implementation of evidence-based practices and programs and data-driven decision-making. PCCD provides funding to support the ongoing efforts of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (Chiefs' Council) and the JCJC to implement the JJSES. Representatives from each of these entities, and from PCCD, serve on the JJSES Leadership Team to provide immediate oversight and guidance to this project.

The Chiefs' Council receives funding from PCCD to support the work related to the JJSES. Decisions on future planning to move this initiative forward are made annually through a strategic planning process conducted by the Chiefs' Council with the participation of PCCD and the JCJC. Recent trends documenting reductions in juvenile violent crime arrest rates, juvenile delinquency dispositions, placements, detention center admissions, and placement costs all serve to confirm the efficacy of the evidence-based practices that now form the foundation of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

More information on JJSES can be found in the JJSES Monograph on PCCD's website or at [www.jcjc.pa.gov](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov).



## STANDARDIZED PROGRAM EVALUATION PROTOCOL (SPEP™)

Used for more than two decades to promote quality improvement in juvenile justice services, SPEP™ is a tool developed based on research findings on aspects of service provision for juvenile offenders associated with reduced likelihood of re-arrest. Counties are engaged through a partnership with the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Leadership Team and the EPISCenter. To learn more about SPEP™, including activities supported throughout the year, please visit PCCD's website [here](#).



### FY 2021-22 AT A GLANCE: JUVENILE JUSTICE

- 12,290 juveniles received a juvenile justice disposition, down from 14,460 in FY 2020-21.
- 35 counties participated in SPEP evaluation in FY 2021-22.
- More than 2,350 juvenile probation officers supported and trained to advance the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy.
- 402 compliance monitoring visits conducted by PCCD with respect to holding juveniles.



## REDUCING RACIAL & ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

In October 2019, the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) transitioned terminology from “Disproportionate Minority Contact” (DMC) to “Racial/Ethnic Disparities” (R/ED).

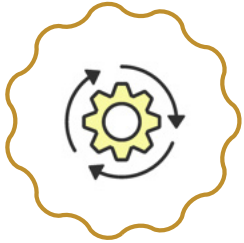
In FY 2019-20, PCCD approved \$250,000 in federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) funds for Georgetown’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform to bring their R/ED Certificate Program to Pennsylvania. The program is available to juvenile justice practitioners throughout the country to improve how jurisdictions address possible disparities among black and Hispanic youth at various points in the system.

In September 2021, the Pennsylvania Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program was conducted by Georgetown University’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. The Certificate Program is an intensive week-long training designed to support selected local counties within Pennsylvania in their efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in their juvenile justice systems. The three primary goals of the Certificate Program are to help jurisdictions reduce: disproportionate representation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system; disparate treatment of youth of color as compared to white youth within the juvenile justice system; and unnecessary entry and movement deeper into the juvenile justice system for youth of color.

Seven County teams and one State team were chosen to participate in the Certificate Program and each team was comprised of eight members. These members could include: a juvenile justice professional, a juvenile court judge, a law enforcement leader, community partner, a youth/family representative, and an individual coordinating reducing racial and ethnic disparities at the local level. All teams worked together to complete this intensive certificate program and began the development of a Capstone project to address and reduce racial and ethnic disparity in their county juvenile justice systems.

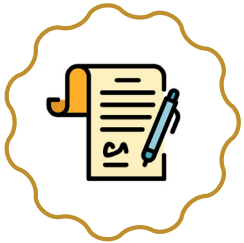
The County teams continue to work with Stoneleigh Fellow Dr. Meghan Ogle around project implementation, data collection, and evaluation efforts. Most projects focus on diversion efforts. In addition, Local R/ED Coordinators were funded in Allegheny and Philadelphia counties. These coordinators work with their local juvenile justice systems with the goal of analyzing available data, researching culturally responsive solutions to address any identified issues, and working with local leaders on a plan with recommendations to address and prevent local/jurisdiction level R/ED in Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system.





## PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMIC AND CAREER TECHNICAL TRAINING (PACTT)

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services’ Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services completed the PACTT Affiliate public report in 2021, which was designed to support the initiative’s goal of enhancing county probation departments’ and juvenile courts’ services for youth. Each report provides information on a PACTT Affiliate’s programming and outcomes. Research for Action (RFA) and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) developed a companion ‘PACTT Public Report Handbook’ providing guidance from each part of Affiliates’ public-facing reports and describing the how data metrics were calculated. More information is available on the [PACTT website](#).

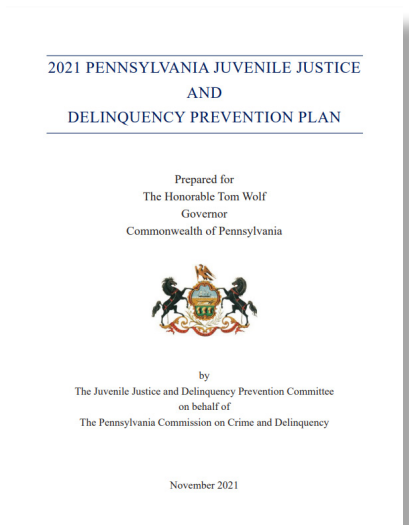


## 2021 PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PLAN

PCCD is required under state law (71 P.S. §1190.23) to “prepare and, at least every two years, update a comprehensive juvenile justice plan on behalf of the Commonwealth based on an analysis of the Commonwealth’s needs and problems, including juvenile delinquency prevention.”

In FY 2021-22, JJDPC once again fulfilled this requirement by adopting the 2021 Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Plan to the Governor. The report included recommendations focused on key areas, including:

- Juvenile delinquency prevention, including efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities (R/ED) within Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system and advancing evidence-based prevention programs;
- Expansion of Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES);
- Ensuring that LGBTQ/GNCT youth receive fair, equal, responsive, and compassionate services and support;
- Ensuring services for youth with complex, cross-system needs;
- Funding and policy recommendations, such as including juvenile justice goals in the Human Services Code, providing year-round education for youth in residential programs, and funding for indigent juvenile defense services;
- Building and sustaining a diverse, experienced, well-educated, and well-compensated workforce; and
- Ensuring access to high-quality secure juvenile detention services and alternatives, where appropriate.



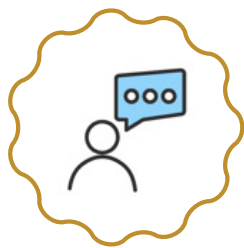
# Violence & Delinquency Prevention

*PCCD has been a long-time investor in programs designed to address root causes of violence and delinquency among youth and help young people meet their full potential.*

Evidence-based prevention programs help address risk and protective factors identified through sources like the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) and the Safe2Say Program (administered by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General). Programs supported through the Violence & Delinquency Prevention Program and other funding streams administered by PCCD have proven impactful and cost-effective. These efforts lay an important foundation for addressing root causes

and supporting healthy youth, families, and communities.

PCCD's unit of Violence Prevention is tasked with advancing policies and programs to prevent youth from engaging in problem behaviors (such as delinquency, violence, substance abuse, and school dropout) and to improve the quality of life for youth, their families, and their communities across Pennsylvania.

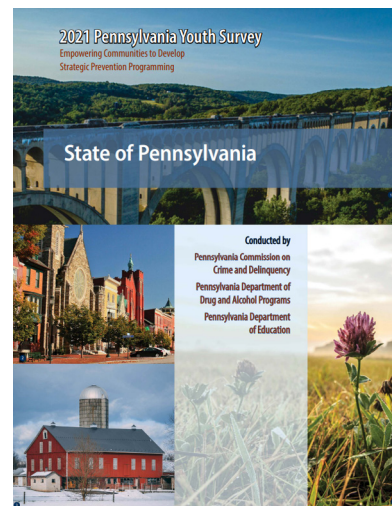


## PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SURVEY (PAYS)

Since 1989, the Commonwealth has conducted a survey of students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 to learn about their behavior, attitudes, and knowledge concerning alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and violence. The Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) is administered through a partnership between PCCD and the Pennsylvania Departments of Education (PDE) and Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). The survey provides a wealth of information about youth's attitudes, knowledge, and behaviors towards the use of substances and other problem behaviors, such as violence, delinquency, school dropout, and mental health concerns, including depression, self-harm, and suicide ideation.

PAYS has enjoyed strong participation among school districts in recent years, even through the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021 – the latest administration of the survey – 396 of Pennsylvania's 500 school districts and 46 other school entities collected data from 246,000 participating students.

All the [State PAYS Reports](#) are available on PCCD's website, as well as County Reports for every county in Pennsylvania that had at least two participating school districts.



## FY 2021-22 AT A GLANCE: VIOLENCE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 246,000 youth participating in PAYS in 2021.
- 79% of school districts participating in PAYS in 2021 (down from 80% in 2019).
- 65 active CTC sites in FY 2021-22.
- 64% of youth had improved behavioral outcomes after participating in evidence-based programs funded by PCCD.

## VIOLENCE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAM (VDPP)

Since 1998, PCCD has administered the Violence and Delinquency Prevention Programs (VDPP) funding line item, which provides resources and technical assistance to communities implementing evidence-based violence and delinquency prevention programs to address risk and protective factors (RPFs) that can lead to problem behaviors among youth. These RPFs are identified through sources such as the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS). These “evidence-based” programs have undergone rigorous, scientific evaluation to demonstrate their efficacy in producing lasting, positive outcomes for youth.

### VDPP APPROPRIATIONS (2010-2022)



*PCCD received \$4,033,000 in state VDPP funds in the FY 2021-22 budget, level with the amount appropriated in the prior fiscal year. Funds were primarily used to support projects focused on student mental health needs.*

Programs supported by VDPP span pre-K through high school, reaching a broad range of ages, and have demonstrated the ability to prevent violence, substance use, delinquency, school dropout, teen pregnancy, and address trauma/mental health concerns. PCCD also uses these funds to support **local community coalition capacity building** to help non-profits develop and strengthen efforts to use data to help youth and families.

In 2021-22, PCCD supported seven local coalitions to build on their prevention efforts by incorporating best practices for success. These sites received dedicated **technical assistance** from the Penn State Evidence-Based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPIS) and have made great progress in improving their work by involving additional stakeholders to assist in their work, collecting data to better evaluate how well they are meeting their goals, and working towards sustaining their work over the long term so that they become a go to asset in their community.

PCCD also began a project entitled **“Supporting Student Mental Health (MH) Needs”** during the past fiscal year. Based on the results of the 2021 PAYS, PCCD and our state partners recognized the MH struggles that our students were having coming out of the pandemic. Over 40% of Pennsylvania’s 10th and 12th graders reported being sad or depressed most days over the last year; correspondingly, there was a large uptick in suicidal ideation, with nearly 20% of high school students reporting that they considered suicide. As such, the JJDPC and PCCD released a funding announcement seeking applications to support students in meeting their mental health needs. PCCD received 198 applications requesting over \$30M in funding, and was able to fund 18 agencies with the \$2.5M available.



## EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION & INTERVENTION SUPPORT CENTER (EPIS)

PCCD partners with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to support Penn State's EPISCenter, which provides technical assistance to Pennsylvania's schools and communities as they plan and implement evidence-based prevention and intervention programs for at-risk youth.

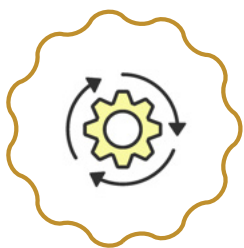
The EPISCenter:

- Directs outreach and advocacy efforts to foster recognition, at the federal, state, and community levels, of the value and impact of proven prevention and intervention programs;
- Provides technical assistance to communities to improve implementation quality and fidelity, promote the collection and use of program impact data, and foster proactive planning for long-term program sustainability;
- Develops and provides educational opportunities and resources to disseminate current prevention science research and facilitate peer networking; and
- Conducts original research to inform more effective prevention practice and the successful dissemination of evidence-based programs.

During FY 2021-22, EPIS provided technical assistance across multiple areas, including:

- Supported 60 CTC sites across the Commonwealth, including the seven new Community Coalition Capacity Building projects;
- Assisted over 50 evidence-based program implementations, most of which are PCCD-funded through multiple funding streams;
- Conducted over 20 PAYS presentations, in partnership with PCCD staff;
- Hosted multiple, program-specific learning communities where sites implementing a specific program (or those interested in learning more about the program to see if they would want to implement it) are able to meet quarterly to troubleshoot barriers, celebrate successes, and share ideas on how to improve their projects;
- Developed the "1st Wednesday at 1" webinar series, an ongoing, monthly event highlighting various aspects of PAYS to help the field better understand and utilize their PAYS data;
- Engaged with DHS' Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) on both Families First as well as their Kinship Navigator projects, helping them to incorporate evidence-based principles into the design of each initiative; and
- Began the rollout of the Prevention Learning Portal (PLP), a dedicated resource for the field on why prevention is important to all stakeholders and how incorporating the best practices of prevention can improve the results for all youth and families served.

This fiscal year, EPIS supported over 8,500 individual youth and over 250 parents with evidence-based programs. In addition, the dissemination of information about PAYS and prevention in general educated the field about the importance and benefit of targeting problem behaviors before they occur, rather than waiting until afterwards to address them.



## CROSS-SYSTEMS PREVENTION NETWORK (FORMERLY 'WORKGROUP')

PCCD continues to build on its collaboration with the Department of Human Services/Office of Children, Youth, and Families; the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission; the Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers; the Department of Education; the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs; and other youth-serving agencies to improve inter-agency planning and use of evidence-based programs. To this end, PCCD's Unit of Violence Prevention has continued to advance partnerships through the Cross-Systems Prevention Network (CSPN). This group is comprised of state agency representatives, county leadership, and local prevention providers and aims to develop recommendations on how early, upstream prevention efforts can be coordinated across all funding agencies that support prevention. Through this work, the Network anticipates increasing awareness about the importance in investing in prevention and how that investment can benefit the Commonwealth at large and the youth and families receiving the services by avoiding much more expensive interventions down the road.



# School Safety & Security

*Key Initiatives*

FY 2021-22

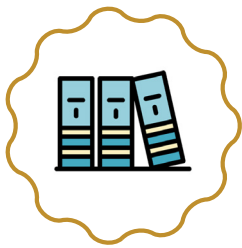
# Making PA's Schools Safer for Everyone

## *Article XIII-B (School Safety and Security) of the Public School Code of 1949 created the School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) within PCCD.*

PCCD's **School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC)** was tasked with developing the criteria school entities are to use in performing school safety and security assessments, issuing a survey to school entities to measure school safety and security preparedness, and administering grants. Recent amendments by Act 18 of 2019, Act 67 of 2019, and Act 30 of 2020 included the development of a model trauma-informed approach plan; model trainings for threat assessment teams; set training requirements for school resource officers (SROs), school police

officers (SPOs) and school security guards; and created a grant program for school entities to address COVID-19.

Since its inception, the SSSC has championed efforts to improve the safety and well-being of Pennsylvania's students. Analysis of survey data supplied by school entities through biannual surveys conducted by PCCD indicates that many of the investments and efforts made by the Committee have helped 'move the needle' for safer schools.



### REVISED TRAINING STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL SECURITY PERSONNEL ADOPTED

Article XIII-C of the Public School Code of 1949 requires that all school resource officers, school police officers, and school security guards successfully complete the Basic School Resource Officer Course offered by the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) or an equivalent School Security Personnel course of instruction approved by the Commission. All school security personnel intending to work in a school setting are required to receive this instruction prior to employment.

On December 11, 2019, the inaugural School Security Personnel training curriculum standards were adopted by the Commission. This set of standards was used by PCCD staff to evaluate and approve vendors offering an equivalent course of instruction to the NASRO Basic School Resource Officer Course.

Per the requirement of Section 1315-C of the Public School Code, PCCD staff solicited feedback from training vendors and met with representatives of the PA Department of Education and the PA State Police in 2021 to conduct a periodic reassessment of the training requirements for all school security personnel.

On March 9, 2022, a revised set of curriculum standards was adopted by the Commission. Those standards can be found in the link below. All currently approved training vendors were required to update their curriculum to meet these standards no later than December 9, 2022.

More information about these training standards and school security personnel trainings is available on [PCCD's website](#).



### FY 2021-22 AT A GLANCE: SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY

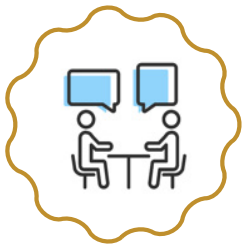
- 1,864 school professionals trained through the Pennsylvania K-12 Threat Assessment Training & Technical Assistance Network in FY 2021-22.
- 283 School Resource Officers (SROs) and School Police Officers (SPOs) and 325 school security officers completed NASRO or equivalent training, as required by Act 67 of 2019.



## FY 2021-22 STATE BUDGET

Funding for school safety and security grants was not specifically allocated in the FY 2021-22 state budget. However, the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) allocated a significant portion of funding to states for use in responding to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pennsylvania's ARPA allocation included \$4.9 billion specifically designated for schools to support education needs, including identified security and safety needs.

In addition, \$30 million in state funding was appropriated for Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) grants to support local efforts to prevent and address gun violence. Eligible activities are established in Section 1306-B(j)(22) of the PA Public School Code. For more detailed information about the VIP initiative, please see pages 10-11 of the Annual Report.



## K-12 THREAT ASSESSMENT TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK

[Act 18 of 2019](#) amended the Public School Code of 1949 by adding Article XIII-E, Threat Assessment, which requires each school entity in Pennsylvania to establish a threat assessment team. The Act also tasked the SSSC within PCCD to research, develop, and provide free threat assessment guidelines, training and informational materials, as well as model procedures and guidelines for school entities. In 2019, PCCD applied for and was awarded \$777,282 in federal [FY 2019 Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing \(STOP\) School Violence Technology and Threat Assessment Solutions for Safer Schools Grant Program](#) by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). This three-year grant supported the development of a statewide Threat Assessment Technical Assistance and Training Network, developed and implemented by PCCD in collaboration with a well-qualified provider and other partners, including the PA Department of Education, PA State Police, and PA Emergency Management Agency.

In April 2020, the SSSC approved the selection of Risk and Strategic Management (RSM) Corporation as the qualified entity to design, launch, and deliver Network activities using federal STOP School Violence funding. The Network was designed to provide free, comprehensive training (online and in-person) and technical assistance to help schools work through the questions and challenges of implementing threat assessment. The Network launched its website and online training modules beginning in April 2021. In FY 2021-22, the Network hosted 12 in-person regional threat assessment “train-the-trainer” sessions across the Commonwealth. A total of 1,864 individuals completed online and in-person trainings during the year.

PCCD and RSM Corp. also launched ‘end of school year’ surveys of Pennsylvania school entities in spring 2022 evaluate current needs as well as the impact of training offered to date. Feedback from training participants was overwhelmingly positive:

- 95% felt more knowledgeable [having attended the training] about behavioral threat assessment and management.
- 96% felt more confident and/or well-prepared to carry out threat assessments now [having attended the training].
- 93% agreed or strongly agreed that the training’s content was at an appropriate level of detail.
- 81% agreed or strongly agreed the training was engaging.
- 96% agreed or strongly agreed the facilitators were knowledgeable.
- 92% agreed or strongly agreed that the venue set up (audio-visual technology, comfort of environment, positioning of participants, etc.) supported learning and interaction.
- 91% agreed or strongly agreed that the administration and logistics were satisfactory.
- 91% stated they would definitely or probably recommend the training to a colleague.
- 91% of participants were members of Threat Assessment Teams.



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