



# IN THE CENTER

## News from Community Corrections

### The Numbers for the week ending 6/27/15:

- 757↑: total statewide caseload.
- 50↓: total new participants.
- 40: average number of participants per community corrections center.

## ACHIEVERS: COMMENCEMENT AT CAPE COD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On June 2, four probationers were among those lauded at the **Cape Cod Community College (CCCC)** Commencement. The probationers, ages 21-27, processed with CCCC's class of 2015, achieving their High School Equivalency credential while on enhanced supervision via the **Barnstable District Court 'Drug Court'** and the **Barnstable Community Corrections Center (CCC)**.

Alan arrived at the CCC in February 2014. Alan had previously dropped out of an alternative school in the ninth grade and was initially resistant to participating in the educational program at the CCC. Working full-time, Alan attended classes in the evening. In June 2014, Alan earned his HSE credential. Alan acknowledged that the structure of the CCC supported his sobriety. He established a strong connection to

CCC staff and thrived on positive recognition. He made a transition to standard supervision in November 2014.

Fred earned his HSE credential in November 2014 after three months of enhanced supervision at the CCC. He was selected by the CCCC's **Chief HSE Examiner, Jack Murphy**, to address his classmates at the ceremony and was awarded \$4000 through the **Bridging the Gap Scholarship Fund** for the Aviation Mechanic program at CCCC this fall.

Cathy, mother of a six-year old, had only an eighth grade education when she arrived at the CCC in March. According to staff she exhibited determination and toughness, overcoming periods of inconsistency, including relapse and medical issues, to achieve her HSE credential, with the support of her parents, in May.

Elaine struggled with addiction since age 15. The CCC developed a treatment plan for Elaine that included counseling for anxiety and depression. Elaine earned her HSE credential in February and made a transition to standard supervision in May. She is interested in dental hygienist programs at CCCC and Massasoit Community College.

At the CCCC Commencement the **Honorable John Julian**, who presides over the 'Drug Court' session, posed for photos with the graduates. He was joined at the ceremony by CCC Educational Coordinator **Chantal Morrison**, Job Developer **Natalie Dexter**, Treatment Manager **Jocelyn Hemeon**, and Probation Officer In-Charge **Robert Glaser**.

*Names changed for Privacy*

*Submitted by Terence Ryan*

## COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKS: "ON THE BOARDWALK" IN NAHANT, BACK TO SCHOOL IN HAVERHILL

In June, probationers from the **Lynn District Court**, under the supervision of Community Service Program Court Services Coordinator **Mike Forcillo** and Assistant Statewide Supervisor **Lisa Hickey** worked with staff from the **De-**

**partment of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)** to install wooden boardwalks at the Nahant Beach Reservation. The project involved eleven probationers and took about four hours to install about 200 feet of boardwalk which provide access to the beach. Over the past few years probationers have undertaken this task at DCR beaches across the state. In September 2014, *In The Center* featured probationers at **Salisbury Beach State Reservation** removing boardwalks.

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As reported by the **Haverhill Gazette**, the **Tilton Elementary School** in **Haverhill** got a new playground in June with the help of \$50,000 dollars in public and private funds and the hard work of community volunteers. Probationers from the **Haverhill District Court**, and those subject to

enhanced supervision via the **Lawrence Community Corrections Center** spent two days working along side parents as the school got a playground for the first time in its 125 year history.

*Submitted by Lisa Hickey.*



*Above: Probationers from the Lynn District Court install boardwalk at Nahant Beach.*



*Above: Probationers install new playground equipment at the Tilton School in Haverhill.*

## MASSACHUSETTS PROBATION SERVICE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Pat Horne, Deputy Director  
David Skocik, Statewide Program Supervisor-Community Service Program

### IN THE CENTER

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**ABOUT:** Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 211F, the Massachusetts Probation Service, Office of Community Corrections (OCC), is charged with implementing intermediate sanctions through the development of community corrections programs. Among the programs developed by the OCC are the Trial Court Community Service Program and the state's 18 Community Corrections Centers. The Community Service Program administers community service as a sanction, or in lieu of fees, for probation departments across the state. Community Corrections Centers facilitate intensive supervision by delivering a combination of sanctions and services via Intermediate Sanction Level (ISL) III/IV. ISL III/IV combine services such as: substance abuse treatment, education, job development, life skills and vocational training with sanctions such as: drug testing, community service, electronic monitoring and day reporting. Community Corrections Centers provide an alternative to incarceration for offenders on probation, parole, or in the custody of the sheriff, Department of Correction or Department of Youth Services thereby reserving prison space for the most dangerous offenders.

## THANK YOU: MAKING AN INTENSIVE COMMITMENT

Enhanced supervision via Intermediate Sanction Level (ISL) III/IV is an intensive commitment. It requires cooperation across criminal justice professionals and treatment providers and increased attention from probation, parole and corrections officers. However, according to a brief published by the Pew Center on the States-Public Safety Performance Project in 2009, research shows that criminal justice interventions that incorporate assessment, integration of services and sanctions, and intensive supervision for high-risk offenders leads to lower recidivism. And, fewer commitments to prison means greater capacity for violent offenders. In this edition of this column (first featured in 2012), we recognize organizations that have made the commitment to enhanced/intensive supervision via community corrections centers. Here are the Top 10 referral sources in 2014:

1. Essex County Sheriff's Department
2. Lawrence District Court
3. Massachusetts Parole (statewide)
4. Plymouth District Court
5. Quincy District Court
6. Lowell District Court
7. Haverhill District Court
8. Hampshire County Sheriff's Department
9. Fitchburg District Court
10. Taunton District Court

## COLLABORATION CORNER: WORCESTER DA DONATES BASKETBALLS

On June 2nd, participants at the **Worcester Juvenile Resource Center (JRC)** were surprised to find the gym stocked with new basketballs. The basketballs were donated by **Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early** after he attended the JRC's Open House and Art Show in January. The event featured a gallery of art created by the JRC participants as a therapeutic component of their programming and was attended by more than 60 people

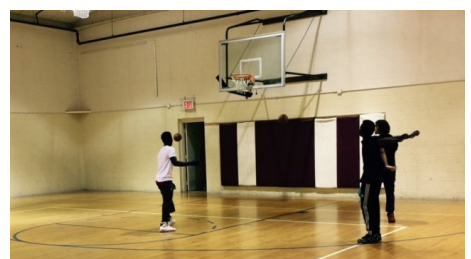


*More than 60 juvenile justice leaders attended the Worcester Juvenile Resource Center Open House and Art Show in January of 2015.*

including leaders of a variety of juvenile justice organizations. Among the attendees were: Chief Justice of the Juvenile Court **Amy Nechtem**, First Justice of the Worcester Juvenile Court **Carol Erskine**, Retired Chief Justice of the Juvenile Court **Martha Grace**, Commissioner of Probation **Edward Dolan**, Deputy Commissioner of Probation for Programs **Michael Coelho**, Regional Administrator for Juvenile Probation **John Millett**, Worcester Juvenile Court Chief Probation Officer **Francyne Lefemine**, District Attorney **Joseph Early**, Department of Youth Services Central Region Director/Statewide JDAI Statewide Coordinator **Barbara Morton**, and JDAI Detention Reform Specialist **Lynsey Heffernan**. During the event **Y.O.U. Inc.** recognized First Justice Erskine for her continuing support of the JRC. At the JRC, participants have become

protective of the new basketballs even hiding them in the classrooms. The gym, especially basketball, is a large part of the JRC summer program. In fact, staff kicked off the summer by challenging participants to a game with the brand new basketballs. Despite not being able to find any of the new basketballs to practice with, staff were victorious, in an upset, over the participants.

*Submitted by Danni Lopes and Sarah Sullivan*



*JRC participants playing H-O-R-S-E with basketballs donated by the Worcester County District Attorney's Office.*