

**NDTAC NATIONAL
CONFERENCE**

JUNE 2009



**ALLEGHENY COUNTY
JUVENILE PROBATION**

**Russell Carlino, Deputy Director
Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania**

ALLEGHENY COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

- POPULATION -1.3 MILLION
- 730 SQUARE MILES
- POPULATION AGE 10 - 18 130,710
- JUVENILE COURT JUDGES -10
- NUMBER OF YOUTH UNDER SUPERVISION
4,500

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JUVENILE COURT STAFF

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| • ADMINISTRATORS/SUPERVISORS | 39 |
| • HEARING OFFICERS | 5 |
| • CISP PROGRAM STAFF | 78 |
| • SUPPORT STAFF | 52 |
| • COMMUNITY-BASED POS | 46 |
| • SCHOOL-BASED POS | 40 |
| • INTAKE POS | 15 |
| • SPECIALTY POS | 9 |
| • WARRANT UNIT POS | 2 |
| • TOTAL POS | 112 |
| • TOTAL NUMBER OF COURT STAFF | 286 |

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AVERAGE CASELOAD SIZE

- **SCHOOL BASED PO 24**
- **COMMUNITY BASED PO 36**
- **INTAKE PO 63**

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COURT DEPARTMENTS

- **INTAKE DEPARTMENT**
- **COMMUNITY BASED PROBATION**
 - **DA UNIT**
 - **SEX OFFENDER UNIT**
 - **WARRANT UNIT**
- **SCHOOL BASED PROBATION**
 - **EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST**
- **COMMUNITY INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM (CISP)**

PA JUVENILE JUSTICE

- **STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP: JCJC, CHIEFS COUNCIL**
- **COUNTY-ADMINISTERED**
- **BROAD JUDICIAL AUTHORITY**
- **PA IS ONE OF THREE STATES WHERE LOCAL PROBATION DEPARTMENTS HAVE CM RESPONSIBILITY FROM INTAKE TO CLOSING**
- **VAST NETWORK OF PROVIDERS**

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BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- OUR MISSION BECOMES LAW
- CHANGES TO THE JUVENILE ACT'S PURPOSE CLAUSE (1995) MANDATES BALANCED ATTENTION TO 3 GOALS:
 - COMMUNITY PROTECTION
 - OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY
 - COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT

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BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- ⓐ **Community Protection:** Citizens have a right to safe and secure communities
- ⓐ **Accountability/Victim Awareness:** When a juvenile commits a crime, an obligation to the victim and community is incurred
- ⓐ **Competency Development:** Juveniles who come within the juvenile justice system should leave the system more capable of being responsible and productive members of their communities

GOOD JUVENILE PROBATION PRACTICE

- **MISSION DRIVEN**
- **PERFORMANCE-BASED**
- **OUTCOME-FOCUSED**

BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMUNITY PROTECTION

- **INTENSIVE SUPERVISION**
- **ELECTRONIC MONITORING**
- **DRUG TESTING**
- **SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION**
- **OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT**

COMMUNITY PROTECTION: THE WARRANT UNIT

- **BEGAN JANUARY 2003**
- **2 FULL-TIME POS**
- **19 ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER POS**
- **SPECIALIZED TRAINING WITH FBI,
DEA, ETC**
- **COLLABORATION WITH**
 - **PITTSBURGH POLICE, STATE POLICE, US
MARSHALS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY
SHERIFFS, MUNICIPAL POLICE**
- **MONTHLY SWEEPS SINCE JUNE 2004**

2 AK-47s AND SHOTGUN UNDER A JUVENILE'S MATTRESS.

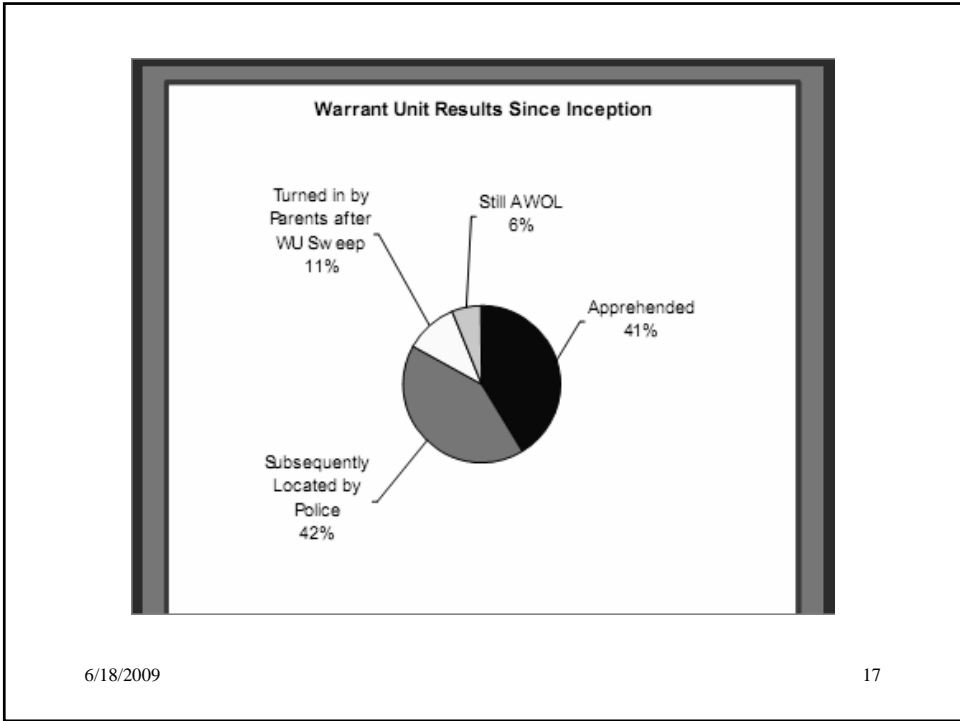


**SKS FOUND IN JUVENILE'S
BASEMENT CLOSET.**



**VARIOUS KNIVES TAKEN FROM
JUVENILES.**

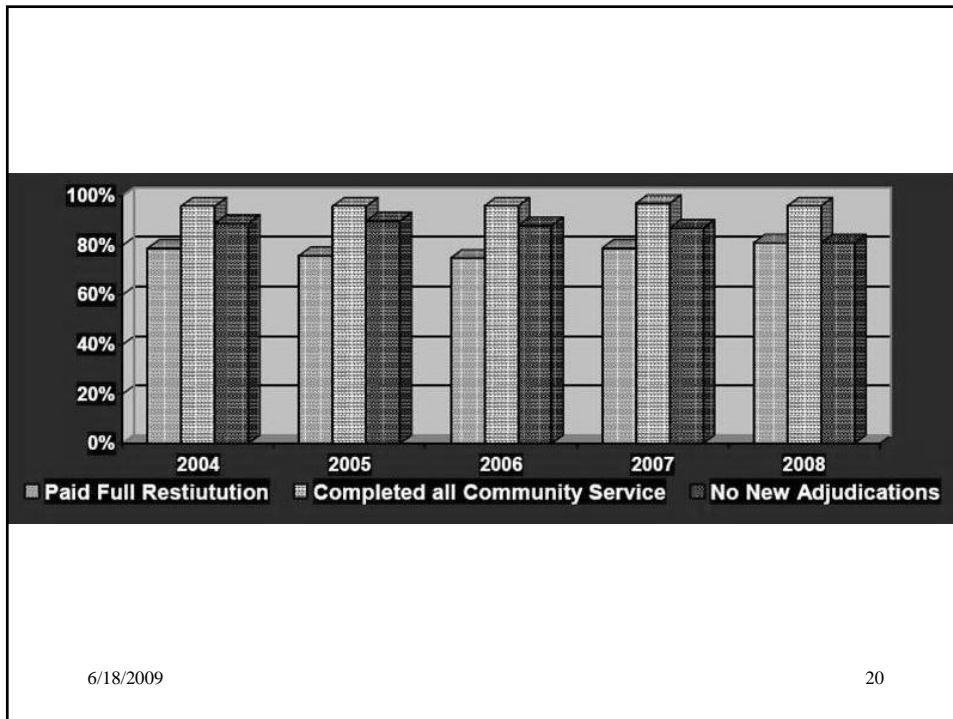




**BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
ACCOUNTABILITY**

- **VICTIM ADVOCACY**
- **VICTIM AWARENESS CURRICULUM**
- **RESTITUTION**
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
- **VICTIM FUND FINES**

ACCOUNTABILITY: \$349,665 COLLECTED/DISPERSED IN 2008



CASE CLOSING INFORMATION

During 2008 information was reported for 2,040 youth whose cases were closed.

| Case Closing Information 2008 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Number of Cases Closed | 2,040 | | | | | |
| Average Length of Supervision: Probation | 17.1 months | | | | | |
| Average Length of Supervision: Consent Decree | 8.46 months | | | | | |
| Accountability Factors | | Number of Youth Ordered | Amount Ordered | Amount Completed/ Paid | % That Completed/ Paid in Full | % That Completed/ Paid 50% or more |
| Community Service Hours | 1,533 | 90,672 Hours | 91,481 Hours* | 96% | 97% | |
| Restitution | 674 | \$336,361 | \$223,465 | 81% | 84% | |
| Completed the three hour Victim Awareness Curriculum | 1,479 | 73% | 1,464 | 99% | | |
| Public Safety | | Number of Youth | % Of Closed Cases | Skill Building | | |
| Violation of Probation | 288 | 14% | Attending School, Vocational Program, or GED Training or Employed at time of Case Closing | | 1,097 | 62.4% |
| New Adjudication | 396 | 19% | | | | |

BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT DOMAINS

- **PRO-SOCIAL**
 - SOCIAL INTERACTION, IMPULSE CONTROL, AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS; PEERS AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES
- **MORAL REASONING**
 - ANTI-SOCIAL THINKING, ATTITUDES, VALUES, BELIEFS
- **ACADEMIC**
 - SCHOOL PERFORMANCE, BEHAVIOR, ATTENDANCE
- **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (OLDER YOUTH)**
 - WORK READINESS SKILLS
- **INDEPENDENT LIVING (OLDER YOUTH)**
 - DAILY LIVING SKILLS

RAISING THE BAR ON PROBATION

- **MORE STRATEGIC, STRUCTURED, STANDARDIZED PROBATION PRACTICE**
 - **ALIGNED WITH PA'S JJ GOALS**
 - **BASED ON BEST PRACTICES RESEARCH**
 - **FOCUSED ON OUTCOMES**
- **THAT'S MISSION-DRIVEN, PERFORMANCE-BASED, OUTCOME-FOCUSED JJ**

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GOAL: IMPROVE JJ OUTCOMES

- **LAW-ABIDING**
- **PRODUCTIVE**
- **CONNECTED CITIZENS**
- **WHO HAVE MADE AMENDS**

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RISK/NEEDS

STATIC RISK FACTORS

- AGE AT FIRST OFFENSE
- EARLY PATTERN OF CONDUCT PROBLEMS
- SEVERITY OF CURRENT OFFENSE
- NUMBER/TYPE OF PRIOR OFFENSES
- PROBATION REVOCATIONS, ABSCONDING

CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS

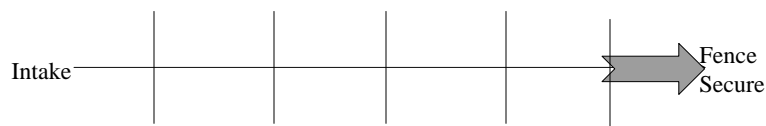
- ANTISOCIAL ATTITUDES, VALUES, BELIEFS
- NO PROSOCIAL PEERS
- IMPULSIVE / POOR SELF CONTROL
- POOR PROBLEM SOLVING
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE
- LACK OF EDUCATION SUCCESS
- POOR FAMILY FUNCTIONING

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APPLYING RISK/NEEDS RESULTS LEAST RESTRICTIVE ALTERNATIVE

Static Risk determines system penetration



Needs determine services within each level

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COMMUNITY BASED ALTERNATIVES

Least Restrictive

Static Risk



More Restrictive

- **INTAKE**
 - **DIVERSION**
 - **INFORMAL ADJUSTMENT**
- **CONSENT DECREE**
- **PROBATION**
- **COMMUNITY INTENSIVE SUPERVISION (CISP)**

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FACILITY BASED ALTERNATIVES

Least Restrictive

Static Risk



More Restrictive

- **SHORT TERM**
 - **DRUG AND ALCOHOL**
 - **IMPACT PROGRAM**
- **GROUP HOME**
- **NON-SECURE**
- **STAFF-SECURE**
- **FENCE-SECURE**

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SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION

- **BEGAN IN 1994 WITH 3 SBPOs IN PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
- **CURRENTLY: 40 SBPOs**
 - **21 SBPOs IN PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
 - **19 SBPOs IN SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS**
 - **SBPOs IN 20 OF 43 SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION GOALS

- Ⓐ **PROVIDE INTENSIVE SUPERVISION**
- Ⓐ **INCREASE ATTENDANCE**
- Ⓐ **REDUCE SUSPENSIONS**
- Ⓐ **IMPROVE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**
- Ⓐ **REDUCE NUMBER OF PROBATION REVOCATIONS FILED**
- Ⓐ **REDUCE RECIDIVISM**
- Ⓐ **PROVIDE INTAKE SERVICES AT SCHOOL/DIVERT FROM FORMAL PROCESSING**

SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION

- **PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHOOL**
- **ALL COURT YOUTH IN SCHOOL ASSIGNED TO SBPO**
- **ON SITE YEAR ROUND ENABLES DAILY COMMUNICATION, PROACTIVE APPROACH**
- **FAMILY INVOLVEMENT ENCOURAGED/FACILITATED**
- **ADVOCATE FOR JUVENILE'S EDUCATION NEEDS**
- **IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION FOR ACTIVE JUVENILES**

SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION

- **FAMILIAR WITH SERVICES IN THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY**
- **COORDINATE RE-ENTRY FOR JUVENILES RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER PLACEMENT**
 - PARTICIPATE IN RE-ENTRY MEETING**
- **PROVIDE IN-SERVICE TRAINING TO SCHOOL STAFF REGARDING PROBATION SERVICES AND JJS**
- **SAP TEAM**
- **PROMOTES POSITIVE IMAGE OF JUVENILE COURT**

SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION

- **LEGAL AUTHORITY LIMITED TO ACTIVE JUVENILES**
- **SCHOOL-BASED BUT NOT SCHOOL SUPERVISED**
- **NOT A SCHOOL DISCIPLINARIAN**
- **NOT INVOLVED IN PROPERTY/PERSON SEARCHES OF GENERAL SCHOOL POPULATION**
- **PROVIDE PRESENCE TO DETER SCHOOL CONFLICTS**
- **INTEGRATED WITH SCHOOL FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

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SCHOOL-BASED PROBATION – INTAKE FUNCTION

- **PROVIDE INPUT/ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND POLICE**
- **PROVIDE ON-SITE INTAKE SERVICES FOR ALL DELINQUENT ACTS OCCURRING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**
- **REFER JUVENILES TO APPROPRIATE SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RESOURCES**
- **GOAL: DIVERT WHENEVER POSSIBLE**

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STATEWIDE FOCUS ON AFTERCARE 2005

TOP 3 BARRIERS TO SUCCESSFUL RE- ENTRY

(IDENTIFIED BY PA COUNTIES):

- 1. FAMILY ISSUES**
- 2. SCHOOL REINTEGRATION ISSUES**
- 3. GENERAL LACK OF RESOURCES**

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ALLEGHENY COUNTY EDUCATION PLANNING/REINTEGRATION POLICY

- EDUCATION IS A CORE
COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT GOAL**
- ASSESSMENT, PLANNING,
MONITORING, ESPECIALLY CRITICAL
FOR YOUTH ENTERING/EXITING
RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT**

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PRE-DISPOSITION PHASE PO RESPONSIBILITIES

- **PLANNING BEGINS WITH DECISION TO RECOMMEND PLACEMENT**
- **OUTLINE EDUCATION GOALS, OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES**
- **ESTABLISH TIMEFRAMES FOR COMPLETION DURING BOTH PLACEMENT AND AFTERCARE PHASE**

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RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT PHASE PO RESPONSIBILITIES

- **PLAN FOR AND ATTEND ISP**
- **HELP FACILITATE HOME SCHOOL/HOST SCHOOL COMMUNICATION**
- **REGULARLY REVIEW EDUCATION PLAN WITH JUVENILE, FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL FACILITY**
- **UPDATE JUDGE AT REVIEW HEARINGS**
- **ALL EFFORTS GEARED TOWARD SUCCESSFUL REINTEGRATION**

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REINTEGRATION MEETING EDUCATION SPECIALISTS

- **30-45 DAYS BEFORE PROJECTED
RELEASE DATE**
- **PREFERRED SITE: HOME SCHOOL**
- **ES SCHEDULES/COORDINATES**
- **GOAL: ENSURE SMOOTH
AFTERCARE TRANSITION, HOME
SCHOOL RE-ENTRY**

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REINTEGRATION MEETING CONT'D

- **ATTENDEES: PO, YOUTH, FAMILY,
HOST AND HOME SCHOOL STAFF,
AFTERCARE PROVIDER, OTHERS**
- **AGENDA INCLUDES LOGISTICS,
CREDIT ALIGNMENT, ETC.**
- **MEETINGS WILL IDENTIFY BUMPS,
ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED EARLIER
IN PROCESS**

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CHALLENGES

- **JUVENILES SIGNIFICANTLY BEHIND GRADE LEVEL**
- **POOR RECORD TRANSFER PROTOCOLS**
- **ROLLING ADMISSIONS/ DISCHARGES**
- **NO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN FACILITY SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL**
- **HOME SCHOOL RESISTANCE TO RE-ADMISSION**
- **POOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN COURTS AND SCHOOLS**

CHALLENGES

PENNSYLVANIA'S DECENTRALIZED JJ STRUCTURE BOTH A STRENGTH AND A CHALLENGE

MAJORITY OF PLACEMENT FACILITIES PRIVATELY RUN, PAID THROUGH COUNTY CONTRACTS

- **OVER 150 PRIVATE FACILITIES**
- **67 COUNTIES – 501 SCHOOL DISTRICTS**
 - **HISTORICALLY INCONSISTENT EXPECTATIONS**

**ALLEGHENY AND PHILADELPHIA JOIN FORCES:
PACTT IS BORN**

**ALLEGHENY AND PHILADELPHIA PROBATION JOIN
TO LEAD STATEWIDE EFFORT TO IMPROVE
ACADEMIC AND EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR
JUVENILES IN DELINQUENT FACILITIES**

- PACTT SPONSORED BY PA COUNCIL OF CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICERS
- FUNDED BY MACARTHUR FOUNDATION, PCCD AND STONELEIGH CENTER
- PROJECTED TO LAST FIVE YEARS

**ALLEGHENY/PHILADELPHIA
EFFORT: ACADEMICS**

- IMPROVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PROVIDERS AND SCHOOLS
- ALIGN CURRICULA WITH STATE STANDARDS AND LOCAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
- IMPROVE TRANSFER OF RECORDS, CREDIT RETRIEVAL
- ASSESS ACADEMIC ALIGNMENT OF FACILITY SCHOOLS WITH STATE STANDARDS
- FOCUS ON CREDIT RECOVERY/ACCELERATION

ALLEGHENY/PHILLY EFFORT: CAREER AND TECH EDUCATION

- **ASSESS CTE PROGRAMS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES**
- **IMPROVE CTE PROGRAMMING**
 - **EMPLOYABILITY TRAINING (SOFT SKILLS)**
 - **CAREER EXPLORATION**
 - **COMMUNICATION SKILLS**
 - **WORK ETHICS**
 - **OFFER BASIC CERTIFICATIONS**

ALLEGHENY/PHILLY: CTE

- **FOCUS ON HIGH DEMAND, HIGH EMPLOYABILITY OCCUPATIONS**
- **CTE TRAINING BASED ON INDUSTRY STANDARDS, COMPETENCIES, AND CERTIFICATION**
- **STANDARD DOCUMENTATION OF COMPETENCIES TO ENSURE PORTABILITY**

PACTT PROCESS

- **WORKING WITH 9 PROVIDERS INITIALLY**
- **CROSS-SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD**
- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM SPECIALISTS**
- **PROVIDER PARTICIPATION ON COMMITTEES**

FIRST YEAR PROGRESS

- **PROBATION'S SINGLE-PLAN INCLUDES ACADEMIC/CTE GOALS**
- **IMPROVED COMMUNICATION AND RECORDS TRANSFERS**
- **INCREASED ATTENTION TO CAREER PLANNING AND TRAINING**
- **ALIGNMENT OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING**
- **SIGNIFICANT COLLABORATION WITH PHILADELPHIA AND PITTSBURGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS**
- **EXPANSION OF COMPUTER-BASED ACADEMICS**
- **PACTT WEB SITE WILL DISSEMINATE INFORMATION**

FIRST YEAR PROGRESS

- **INCREASE IN CTE OFFERINGS IN 9 PILOT FACILITIES:**
- **BEFORE - 20 PROGRAMS, NONE MEETING INDUSTRY STANDARDS**
- **CURRENTLY, 40 PROGRAMS ALIGNED WITH INDUSTRY STANDARDS**
- **ALL 9 PROVIDERS OFFERING SOME OR ALL BASIC CERTIFICATIONS:**
 - **UNIFORM EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS PROGRAM**
 - **OSHA-10**
 - **SERVSAFE**
 - **MICROSOFT CERTIFICATION**
 - **DRIVER'S PERMIT**

CONTACT

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