

2014 Jail Best Practices Award Official Entry Form

This form must be attached to all entries. Entrants must complete all sections for the entry to be considered complete. A copy of this official entry is available electronically at www.pacounties.org

County Name Bradford County County Class 6
 Address 15927 Rt 6, Troy PA City Troy Zip 16747
 Contact Name Don Stewart Title Warden
 Department Jail Phone (570) 297-5047
 Fax (570) 297-4350 E-mail stewart.d@bradford.co.org

Project Information

Title Supervised Bail Start Date 9/27/13

Each application must be submitted with two signatures. Place appropriate signatures on two of the lines below:

Chair of the Board of County Commissioners
[Signature]
 Chair of the County Prison Board

County Chief Executive Officer
[Signature]

Program Narrative

A separate program narrative document must be attached to this form that answers the following questions in the order presented. This must be typed in a Word document, Times New Roman, 10-point type.

- **Need:** a description of the identified need and the background including what programs were in place before the current project, if any, and how it led to this effort
- **Program/policies:** a description of how the project enhanced general operations programs/policies, treatment, and custody
- **Approach:** a description of the project, including any evidenced-based approaches to jail diversion, community involvement strategies, formation of stakeholder groups, county-wide planning strategies, etc.
- **Evaluation:** a brief description of how the project was evaluated and any lessons learned
- **Stakeholders:** a brief description of the community, including a description of key stakeholders, organizations, and county departments that were involved in the project
- **Processes:** a description of how the activities or processes utilized in this project were altered or will be continued based on experience, including plans for leveraging additional resources
- **Costs:** a description of any costs associated with the project and how it was funded, cost savings, if any and any change in community acceptance, reductions in insurance costs, or inspection improvements that resulted from the program

Scoring will be based on the elements as described above.

Please attach supporting documents, forms or other information that support the award entry. Entries must be received by close of business on February 14, 2014. Winners will be announced during the CCAP Spring Conference, March 23 - 25 2014. More information: Brinda Carroll-Penyak, bpenyak@pacounties.org or (717) 526-1010.

Program Narrative

Need:

The population of the Bradford County Correctional Facility has fluctuated significantly in recent years. B.C.C.F. was designed to hold 207 inmates; 173 males and 34 females. A major renovation and expansion was completed in 2007 and additional beds were added in 2012 to reach the 207 bed capacity. Due to continued periods of overcrowding B.C.C.F. has been required to house inmates in other county facilities at a significant cost to the county. Since 2012 Bradford County has spent \$395,000 to house inmates out of county [2012: \$220,000 / 2013: \$175,000].

Additional costs not factored included transportation and staffing costs incurred by the Bradford County Sheriff's Office for transports to and from other facilities and the transportation and staffing costs incurred by the Bradford County Probation Department to facilitate the parole process of said inmates.

Prior to the implementation of the Supervised Bail Program there were no other programs in place to address the overcrowding problem.

Program/Policies:

The Supervised Bail Program has provided the court system with alternatives to incarceration at every level of contact. Defendants can be made eligible during the arraignment and preliminary hearings at the Magistrate level and at any level of contact by the Common Pleas Courts. They can be placed in the program in lieu of continued incarceration after a sentence of Probation has been revoked and a re-sentence date is pending. The defendants' participation in the Supervised Bail Program provides the entire Court system with valuable information about the defendant's needs (ie drug and alcohol treatment, mental health services, ect.) and the likelihood that they will comply with future orders of the Court.

Approach:

The Supervised Bail program is designed to seek and use all viable alternatives to incarceration for pre-trial detainees who are charged with bailable offenses. Supervised bail is an alternative method of bail, usually for first-time or low risk offenders, indigents, or as a supportive measure for defendant's who can post bail, but the Court deems additional supervision is necessary. Only a Magistrate Judge or Common Pleas Court Judge can place a defendant in the program. The program employs two full-time Supervised Bail Officers who are under the general supervision of the Warden. Each day the officers screen all the newly committed inmates to determine who would be an appropriate candidate for supervised bail. The Supervised Bail Officers can then make recommendations to the Courts for placement into the program. Defense attorney's can also petition the court to have their clients placed in the Supervised Bail program.

While under supervision with Supervised Bail the defendant's are expected to comply with a basic set of rules and conditions that are similar to that of the Probation and Parole department. Defendants are assessed to determine their needs and the appropriate referrals are made to assist the defendant's in addressing their mental health and/or drug and alcohol issues. Defendants are also assisted with educational deficits and seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment. Sentencing reports are provided to the Courts at the time of sentencing outlining their conduct and adjustment while in the program. In addition to reducing the jail population the objectives of the Supervised Bail program include providing the Court with information to determine a defendant's amenability to rehabilitation and to aid the defendant in a seamless transition onto Probation or Parole supervision when applicable.

Evaluation:

An evaluation of the Supervised Bail program has not yet been conducted.

Stakeholders:

Stakeholders involved in implementing the Supervised Bail program include the administration of the Bradford County Correctional Facility, the Bradford County Commissioners, the Bradford County Sheriff, and the President Judge Maureen Beirne.

Processes:

The Bradford County Family Courts and Domestic Relations Department began working with Supervised Bail in December 2013. Defendants found to be in contempt by the Family Courts are having their jail sentences suspended and are given the opportunity to come into compliance in lieu of incarceration by participating in the Supervised Bail program.

Costs:**Implementation Costs:**

\$20,000: Implementation costs that included office space construction, office furniture/equipment, Act 235 lethal weapons training and certification, officer uniforms, and security equipment.

\$120,000: Program operational costs including the salary and benefits to maintain two full-time Supervised Bail officers.

Cost Savings:

The first defendants were placed on Supervised Bail on 09/27/13. Since that date a total have 742 bed days have been saved thru the end of January 2014; a total cost savings of \$48,555.00. No monies have been spent to house inmates in outside facilities since the start of the Supervised Bail Program.