

# 2016 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 <http://www.pacounties.org/ProgramsServices/Pages/CriminalJusticeSystemBestPractices.aspx>

County Name Bucks County County Class 2A  
 Address 600 Louis Dr. Suite 101 City Warminster Zip 18974  
 Contact Name Wendy Flanigan Title Coordinator of Service Dev. + Qual. Management  
 Department Mental Health/Developmental Prog. Phone 215-444-2882  
 Fax 267-885-1364 Email wflanigan@buckscounty.org

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Start Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

[Signature] \_\_\_\_\_ [Signature] c.o.o. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chair of the Board of County Commissioners County Chief Executive Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chair of the County Prison Board

### 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 12, 2016. Winners will be announced during the CCAP Spring Conference, March 13-16, 2016. More information: Brinda Carroll Penyak, [brpenyak@pacounties.org](mailto:brpenyak@pacounties.org) or (717) 526-1010.



**COUNTY OF BUCKS**  
DIVISION OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS

600 Louis Drive, Suite 101, Warminster, PA 18974  
(215) 444-2800  
FAX (215) 444-2890

*County Commissioners*

ROBERT G. LOUGHERY, *Chairman*  
CHARLES H. MARTIN, *Vice Chairman*  
DIANE M. ELLIS-MARSEGLIA, LCSW

Donna Duffy-Bell, MS  
*Administrator*

February 11, 2016

**Nominee-** Bucks County Severe and Persistent Mental Illness Workgroup

**Name of Organization and Stakeholders:** Bucks County (BC) Department of Mental Health/Developmental Programs, BC Correctional Facility, BC Drug and Alcohol Commission, Community Mental Health Providers, BC Public Defender's Office, BC Probation and Parole

Connecting individuals that are incarcerated to appropriate community treatment can be challenging. Bucks County has developed a process that has enhanced collaboration and coordination of treatment. Trust has been built among the criminal justice system and the behavioral health system that has fostered relationships allowing alternative options to be explored. Processes have been streamlined that has reduced the amount of time individuals are incarcerated. The workgroup meets monthly and discusses individual cases. All stakeholders provide valuable input to help individuals get connected with appropriate mental health and/or substance abuse treatment.

Community mental health agencies have worked to bridge the gap between mental health support and criminal justice services through collaboration with criminal justice agencies in order to prevent recidivism. The increased collaboration, coordination, and communication among stakeholders has led to the development of a three day training program for correction officers on crisis intervention. The training will be held bi-weekly and initial feedback has been positive.

**Submitting referral:**

Wendy Flanigan  
Bucks County Department of MH/DP  
215-444-2882  
[wflanigan@buckscounty.org](mailto:wflanigan@buckscounty.org)

**Name of County Corrections:**

Bucks County Correctional Facility