

**2008 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE**  
**STRAFFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

The year of 2008 was our fourth full year of operating the new jail. Revenue from inmate boarders for the year was \$5,619,025.06, an increase of 13% from last year. Our average daily population increased from 353 in 2007 to 400 in 2008, primarily due to the increase in boarders. Our highest population for the year was 440, and the least was 361. Statistics for recent legislative inquiry showed a snapshot of our population for 2008 as follows: Percentage of County inmates sentenced: 26%, County pre-trial: 15%, Boarders: 59%. The average length of stay for County inmates increased from 31.4 to 33.2 days. We booked 4,362 persons, including protective custody holds. We conducted 1,842 video arraignments, for an increase of 72%.

I am again pleased to announce that all Strafford County Correctional Officers completed the required annual 30 hours of training necessary to maintain their certification. We had previously required 40 hours of training; however with budget concerns, we only required the 30 hours which is the minimum standard for certification. This reduction of 10 hours per certified officer saves the County over \$10,000. Training was accomplished to get State certifications for Officer Hebert, CPR instructor, Lt. Pelkie and Sgt. Brackett, Physical Fitness Test Examiners, and Officers Dore and Boucher, Self Defense Instructors. We hired 16 Correctional Officers, including one who transferred from civilian employee to Correctional Officer. Two staff retired: Officer Carl Elliott and Lt. Dana Cullen. We hired a new part time Chaplin, Bob Irvin. Officer Chapple became a Field Training Officer. Jake Collins was promoted to Programs Administrator. Eleven (11) Correctional Officers gained their certification by passing the 120 hour training sponsored by the New Hampshire Association of Counties during the two Correctional Academies this year.

Five hundred and seventy (570) persons toured our facility in 2008. Tours included high schools from Dover, Rochester, Durham, Portsmouth, Farmington, McIntosh College, and UNH. New Hampshire State Prison staff toured the facility, as well as Leadership Seacoast, Grafton County Representatives, Rochester District Court Clerk, Riverside Rest Home staff, and the Carroll County Attorney.

This year several innovative programs were begun: Money can be deposited into inmate accounts via the Internet and onsite with the 24 hour Reverse ATM machine, which accepts credit cards, as well as cash. We are also using digital technology to record inmate disciplinary hearings, of which there were 647 during 2008. We started renovating a portion of the Annex for the planned transitional housing that is expected to be in place in 2009.

New Hampshire State Prison personnel conducted a Prison Rape Elimination Act survey of County inmates. This was done in cooperation with their efforts to survey their own inmates. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Detention and Removal completed an extensive audit of our operations as part of the interagency contract which was signed this year; the audit lasted three days and was conducted by a team of three inspectors. We are very pleased with the results of these undertakings.

I am proud to announce that we had our Fifth Employee Recognition Banquet for department personnel this year. The awards for 2008 were as follows:

Employee of the Year Award: Officer Michael Landry  
Community Service Award: Road Crew Assistant Supervisor Paul Giampa  
Supervisor of the Year Award: Sgt. Chris Brackett  
Officer of the Year 1<sup>st</sup> Shift: Officer Jeffrey Lynn  
Officer of the Year 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift: Officer Leonard Nadeau  
Officer of the Year 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift: Officer Bill Bryant  
Administration Employees of the Year: Officer Ann Fournier and Krista Shevenell  
Medical Department Employee of the Year: Brenda Pallazzo, R.N.  
Community Corrections Employee of Year: Officer Will Britton  
Community Corrections Supervisor of the Year: Carrie Lover  
Food Services Employee of the Year: Peter Donnolly  
Rookie of the Year: Officer Gary Rogers  
Life-Saving Award: Officer James Paice and Officer Jan Williams  
Humanitarian Award: Sgt. Laura Noseworthy  
Innovation Award: Sgt. Edward McGowen

As 2009 begins, we will continue to provide excellent services at a minimal cost. With a more stable work force, at least partially due to the challenging economic climate, we will not spend resources on new officers who leave after a short period of time. Another benefit is that while staff gains experience, they become more skillful in dealing with the complications of running a jail. This helps to keep costs down because waste is eliminated by the trial and error of situational management. Our programs have also been successful in maintaining high attendance with little change in what is available. That inmates continue to attend throughout the years shows that what we offer meets the needs of many varied individuals, as also reflected by the courts ordering such programs as domestic violence, anger management and the therapeutic community drug & alcohol treatment program. The next year will bring more discharge planning options in the form of a transitional housing area for inmates released who have nowhere to go. Again, Strafford County is on the cutting edge of corrections.

Regarding innovative programs at the House of Corrections, there is no other New Hampshire County jail facility that has a therapeutic community for drug treatment, a family reception center to help encourage family visits, a certified jail industry program to learn job skills and earn money for release, and/or a four hour pass program for sentenced inmates to promote in-home involvement. These and many other behind the scenes efforts make this facility a special place to work.

It takes special people to accomplish this forward-thinking activity. I am in awe of how the staff continues to perform under the pressures and stresses of

overseeing 400 inmates who do not want to be here. It is amazing how they stay cheerful, and are consistently professional, yet compassionate as they enforce the rules and manage the inmates. Working all shifts, responding to emergencies at any time, having to work overtime, dealing with aggression, these are parts of their routine. As proud as I am of this facility's accomplishments, it is the staff that are the ones that do all those little things every day that are the real reason we are able to do what we do so well. I thank them for their consistent excellence. The visionaries in all this are the Strafford County Commissioners. I want to thank them for their support and let them know that I appreciate their attentiveness to me and the staff very much. The County Administrator, Ray Bower, has been tirelessly involved in helping us achieve our goals. I thank him for the many hours of dedication he gives to make sure that we get what we need in order to achieve our goals.

I look forward to the challenges and rewards of the coming year which are part of helping the less fortunate benefit from our many accomplishments.

Respectively Submitted,

*Warren Dowaliby*

Warren Dowaliby, Superintendent

### **2008 PROGRAM END OF YEAR REPORT**

#### **Educational Programs**

Education: GED preparation and Adult Basic Education. Dover Adult Learning Center provided GED and Adult Educational classes four days each week, for a total of 17 instructional hours per week.

Special Education: Special Education was offered at SCDOC. Coded students are referred to a tutor who contracts with the local school districts to provide services to incarcerated special education students.

Volunteer Tutors: 3 volunteer tutors worked in the facility in 2008, providing a combined average of approximately 12 tutoring hours a week.

GED Exam: 59 inmates were administered the GED exam. 45 passed the exam and 9 did not pass. 5 inmates completed a partial exam.

Therapeutic Community Program/Women's Recovery Program: The table below illustrates the 2008 outcomes of these programs:

Amount of Services	
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Number of days of residential treatment provided:	365
Previously funded RSAT beds continued during grant cycle:	32
New treatment beds added with RSAT grant funds during this grant cycle:	0
Treatment beds funded through other sources, but enhanced with RSAT-funded services:	32
Average length of stay in the residential program in days:	93
Total number of offenders entering an RSAT-funded treatment program:	156
<b>Recidivism and Drug Use</b>	
Of the offenders who completed the program, the number who have remained drug free during the residential program:	156
<b>Residential Treatment Success</b>	
Total number of offenders successfully completing the residential program:	118
Total number of offenders who dropped out of the residential program:	12
Total number of offenders who were terminated from the residential program:	26
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### Substance Abuse/Behavioral Programs

Drug and Alcohol Counseling: SCDOC contracted with Southeastern New Hampshire Services (SENHS) to provide 30 hours per week of drug and alcohol counseling services. Educational groups were offered weekly to each housing area in the jail.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA): AA groups for both male and female inmates were held weekly for each housing unit and daily for the Therapeutic Community (TC) units this past year. NA groups were held bi-weekly.

Anger Management Training and Life Skills Classes: SCDOC provided 4 classes per week of the anger management and life skills program

Ending the Violence Program: Three sessions were offered weekly in 2008.

Positive Options Program: This program offers individual modules of anger management, attitude adjustment and life skills classes. A program counselor and volunteer provided individual service to 8 inmates weekly.

Pet Therapy: Offered weekly for two hours.

Yoga: Two one hour classes weekly.

## Vocational Services

Pre-Employment Program (PEPP): This program teaches inmates job search skills, helps them to prepare resumes and job applications and teaches job interview skills. Seven (7) classes were held per week in 2008.

Labor Room Program - Employment Security Program: This program provides direct employment assistance and placement into work release jobs through SCDOC and the New Hampshire Employment Office. Inmates were transported to NH Works at least twice per month for job search assistance. In 2008, 9 inmates were placed into work release jobs as a result of this program.

Career Assessment: This program assisted inmates with vocational evaluation and planning. In 2008, 92 inmates completed this program.

## Work Release Program

Work Release Inmates: There were a total of 48 inmates on work release for 2008.

Five inmates were released for Home-Care Release.

## Spiritual Services

Sunday Service: Weekly Catholic group that meets on Sunday for the female inmates.

Sunday Book of Daniel Bible Study: Weekly group for female inmates.

Monday Night Bible Study: Bible study conducted for female inmates and special needs inmates.

Catholic Services: Weekly Catholic program offered to females and to male general population units.

Bible Study and Music Ministry: Program for male general population that includes bible study and spiritual music.

Chaplain: The Jail Chaplain was available for a total of 20 hours per week for individual spiritual counseling, services and guidance.

Catholic Counseling: Two volunteers currently offer individual Catholic counseling to inmates.

Confessional and Reconciliation: A Catholic priest is available upon request for these services.

## Internships

SCDOC hosted interns from the University of New Hampshire in 2008: Two (2) interns were from the Justice Studies Program, four (4) interns were from the Psychology Program, and one (1) intern was from the Social Work Program. During the academic year, each of these interns provided approximately 12 weekly hours of service. Duties included: Assistance with educational programs, assisting with discharge plans, observing in the TC units, and administrative support.

## Inmate Services

Library: The Programs Department solicited and managed donations of more than 5,000 books in 2008. Currently, there are more than 11,000 titles in the library.

Law Library: Three (3) law library computer stations containing New Hampshire State, Federal and Immigration Laws were provided for inmate use. Each work station was used by >12 inmates per day in 2008.

Respectfully Submitted  
Jake Collins- Program Administrator

## 2008 DISCHARGE PLANNING REPORT

The numbers are in for the 2008 Discharge Planning! However, before I list them, I would like to mention some of the many good things that have happened in the past year to assist inmates with their transition to the community.

For instance, a new Coast bus route was added, which commutes to and from downtown Dover and the Strafford County Complex. This new bus route will enable inmates to meet with their Probation Officers, Community Corrections and Southeastern NH Services.

Collaboration with community agencies such as Avis Goodwin and Community Partners has improved substantially in terms of scheduling appointments for inmates prior to their release. Also, a re-entry curriculum was started in the Therapeutic Community to educate inmates about community services they can tap into when they make their transition to the community. In this class an array of topics are covered such as: housing, employment, health care, public assistance, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, identification and community support. The response and participation from the inmates has been very positive.

The following figures indicate the services inmates needed in the respective categories:

### Discharge Planning Statistics 1/2/08 – 12/31/08

Total Number of Discharge Planning Interviews 131

#### Services Inmates Needed Upon Release

Health Care	73
Employment	70
Transportation	69
Substance Abuse Treatment	58
Housing	38
GED	35
Mental Health Treatment	34
Medication	32
Public Assistance	30
ID	30
Domestic Violence Class	14
Counseling	1
Psychiatric Evaluation	3

Anger Management Classes	1
Parenting Class	1
Sex Offender Class	1
Dental Care	1
Community Services	1
 Total Number of Services Needed	 492

As in previous years, the inmates lack basic needs such as health care, employment, transportation, and housing. The Discharge Planner connects inmates with services in the community that will help them with their needs. There is room for improvement, specifically with ex-offenders trying to integrate back into the community. It is my hope that with continued advocacy and collaboration with community agencies, services will expand. The more resources that are available in the community meeting the needs of the ex-offender, the higher the likelihood of success and reduced recidivism.

Respectfully submitted:  
Isabel Padial  
Unit Case Manager

### **2008 JAIL INDUSTRY PROGRAMS REPORT**

The Jail Industry continued to grow this year with expansion both by Precision Assembly and Air Mar Technology. At the present time, we have three certified private sector companies partnered with our Jail Industries. The Jail Industry is trying to assist in promoting our newest company, Rest Easy. The company's product is a cancer pillow used by breast cancer survivors for more comfort when sleeping. We will continue to assist this company for continued growth.

The service branch of our Jail Industry has also expanded. At present, we are contracted for laundry services for Strafford County Department of Corrections, in the areas that have no washers and dryers; Riverside Rest Home, Hyder House, our hospice neighbor, and our newest partner, Cocheco Valley Humane Society.

Jail Industry inmates who have worked for private sector partners, as well as our service industries, have logged a total of 17,567 hours of work for 2008. The total number of inmate workers employed in the Jail Industries program in 2008 was 108. The 2008 goals were:

- Add access database to improve our recording capabilities.
- Complete our ISO Certification.

- Grow all our businesses to increase the number of inmate workers and monies.
- Improve our inmate vocational training by providing nationally recognized certifications in the field of soldering, as well as other private sector work projects thus training our workers for more employable positions and higher wages upon release.

All goals were met except for a slight delay in the ISO certification. ISO certification for our private sector business is now expected to be accomplished by June 2009. Our new access database software is faster, more versatile, and cost effective. We have a vocational component for our inmate employees who hand solder. Thanks to our private sector partner Air Mar Technology, inmates may become eligible to obtain an IPC hand soldering certification. This training will better equip the workers when they are released.

We have three companies willing to employ these graduates upon release based on work availability, of course. The Jail Industries is also adding additional certificate programs for the vocational component of our industries in 2009. We also have increased our gross earnings in 2008 as well.

## **2008 FAMILY RECEPTION CENTER REPORT**

The Jail Industries continues to manage the Family Reception Center for families and loved ones of those incarcerated at the Department of Corrections with no tax dollars expended. The Family Reception Center is funded strictly by grants and pictures taken at an inmate's request for mailing to their loved ones. It is staffed completely with volunteers and also has a volunteer Advisory Board.

The families are very grateful for the warm, supportive, welcoming environment they find upon visiting. A family newsletter is published every other month, as well as an inmate newsletter. These newsletters enhance the bridge of communication efforts of the Family Reception Center. The Family newsletters can be found on our website. [www.co.trafford.nh.us/jail](http://www.co.trafford.nh.us/jail), then click on the Family Reception Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Allen  
JIP Program Director

## **2008 STRAFFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT**

The Community Corrections Program is composed of several programs, all united under the same mission. We work within the criminal justice system to create a safer community. We provide the courts with accurate information and offer viable cost-effective pretrial and sentencing options through a balance of enforcement and treatment strategies, while holding offenders accountable and affording them the opportunity to become productive law-abiding citizens.

Strafford County Community Corrections completed 2008 with a sense of accomplishment and renewed determination to continue to provide quality services to our stake holders. I am proud to say this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year of Community Corrections in Strafford County.

This was our first full year of being located at the William A. Grimes Justice and Administration Building (aka the County Courthouse). We are housed in the lower level, along with the Academy Program and Drug and Mental Health Court programs.

This was a busy year for us, with many changes that we feel will better serve the people of Strafford County. Community Corrections added Geoff Arnold as a new pretrial officer and has expanded our mental health services into its own division. This was created to promote a continuity of care from the intake assessment, through post conviction, and adds to Strafford County's seamless

approach to corrections. We have also added a new Pretrial Diversion Program in collaboration with the Strafford County Attorney's Office. This program was created for people who have had no criminal dealing within the criminal justice system before and whom the County Attorney's Office does not anticipate returning to the system.

Staff development through skills training and education continues to be emphasized within Strafford County Community Corrections. All staff has participated in job enhancement training. Members of staff have received training in substance abuse, mental health, sexual assault, domestic violence, clerical and mandatory trainings offered through the Strafford County House of Corrections. We were also honored to have a staff member receive a scholarship to attend an Orientation for Pretrial Executives held in Denver, Colorado, put on by the National Institute of Corrections and the Pretrial Justice Institute. This was a valuable training that enabled us to network and bring back many ideas to our program.

Strafford County Community Corrections would like to acknowledge the support of our Superior Court and District Court Judges, the County Attorney's Office, local Prosecutors, the Public Defenders Office and Defense Attorneys, local Police Departments, and the Strafford County House of Corrections. Without their support, our program would not be the success it is today.

In closing we want to thank the Strafford County Board of Commissioners for their continued support of this agency, and County Administrator Ray Bower for his dedicated guidance throughout the year.

#### Pretrial Assessments

Strafford County Community Corrections completes assessments on all defendants booked into the Strafford County House of Corrections. This interview takes place as soon as possible, and is the first step in preparing the defendants' assessment for court. The Pretrial Intake Officer then uses the information gathered as a foundation used to assist them when completing a report with the court.

The pretrial assessment is given to the Judge to aide in making an informed decision when determining if bail supervision is necessary. The assessment is available for use during the defendant's arraignment, probable cause hearings, and bail hearings

The Defendants Assessment contains information on:

Criminal History

Pending Charges  
Address History  
Employment History  
Education  
Dependants  
Community Ties  
Mental Health Diagnosis or Substance Abuse History

The Defendants' Assessment is available to:

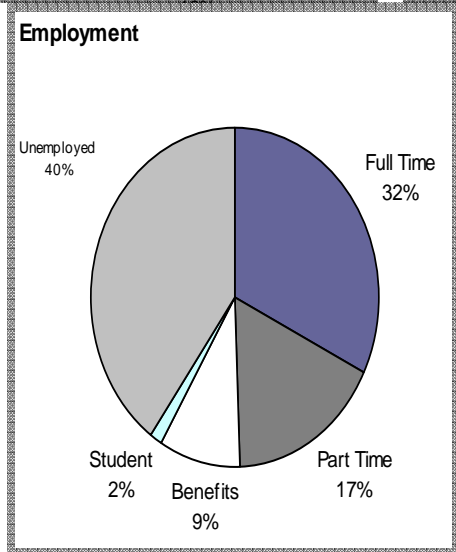
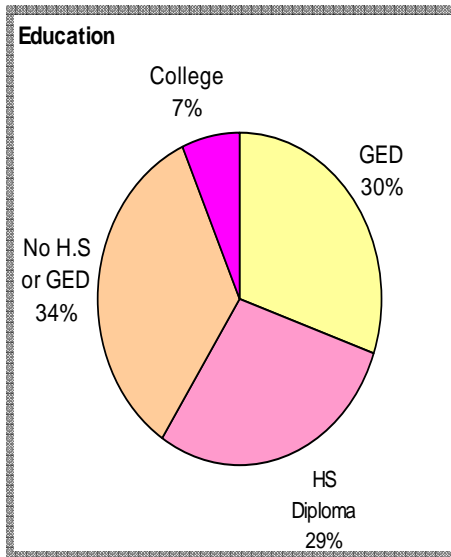
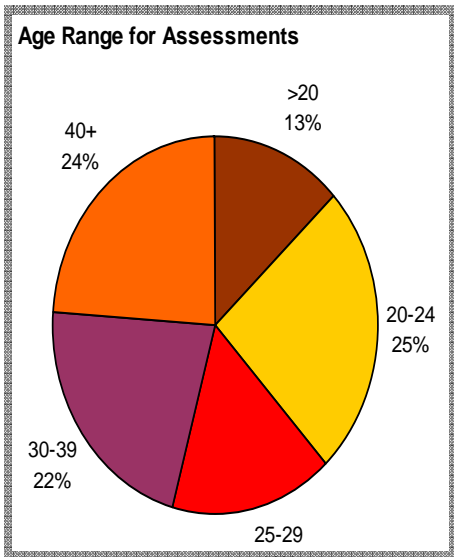
Judges in District and Superior Courts  
County Attorney's Office  
Prosecutors or Law Enforcement Personnel  
Defense Council  
Probation Officers

2008 Assessments show:

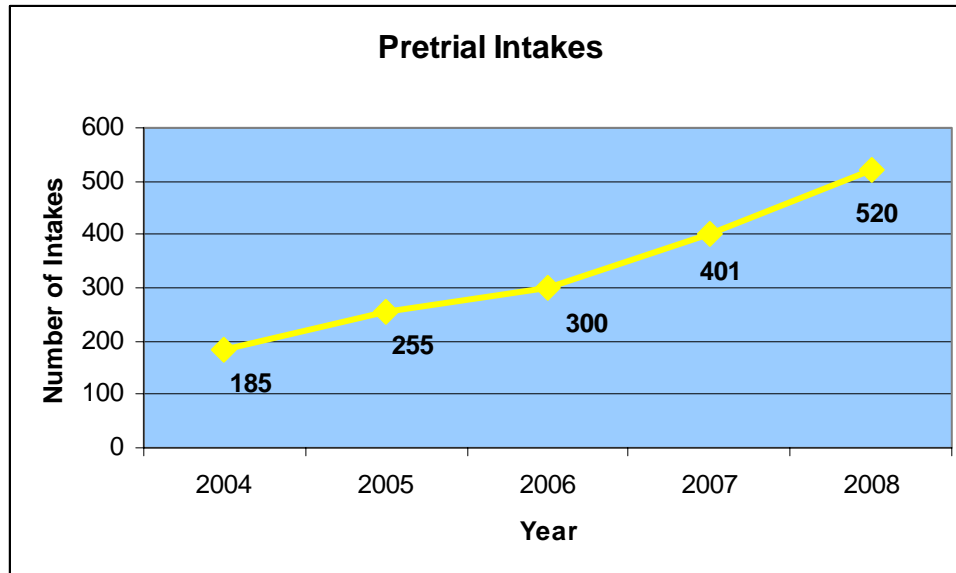
- ◆ 82% of the defendants are recommended for supervision with Community Corrections.
- ◆ 80% of the defendant's interviewed are male.
- ◆ 40% of the defendants interviewed have charges out of Rochester, New Hampshire.
- ◆ 37% of the defendants interviewed are charged with misconducts (violation of probation, breach of bail, failure to appear)

#### Pretrial Services Mission Statement

*Strafford County Pretrial Services will strive to assess, supervise and provide the necessary services for defendants. We will collaborate with the criminal justice community to assist in pretrial release decisions, promote community safety and ensure the return to court. This will be completed while honoring the constitutional presumption of innocence.*



Pretrial Bail Supervision



Pretrial Services Vision Statement

*Strafford County Community Corrections strives to be a leader in the field of Pretrial Services. We can accomplish this by exemplifying the highest level of integrity, accountability, and we will develop and deliver exceptional services devoted to excellence.*

All defendants on Strafford County Community Corrections must comply with a standard set of conditions. The court may also order specific conditions for the defendants to follow.

Of the clients placed with Pretrial Supervision, 47% came from Rochester District Court, 33% came from Dover District Court, 16% came from Strafford County Superior Court, and the remaining 4% came from Durham or out of County referrals.

On average, defendants spent 155 days on supervision for a felony, 153 days for a misdemeanor, and 82 days for a violation. Based on these averages, Community Corrections defendants would have been in jail for a combined 80,600 days, at a cost to the County of \$5,894,278.

In 2008, Community Corrections had 463 client exit supervision, 58% of the cases were found guilty and the defendant was sentenced, 25% received new bail orders removing them from supervision, and 14% had their charges either dismissed, nol-prossed, or were found not guilty.

We feel 2008 was a very successful year from Community Corrections. 80% of our clients completed supervision, while 20% had violations that caused them to

be terminated from supervision (repeated drug use, new charges, or absconding supervision). The other major part of Pretrial Supervision is to ensure the appearance in court. The national average for appearance in court is between 75% and 79%. Community Corrections clients appeared in court 99% of the time, having only 16 defendants who failed to appear in all of 2008.

Standard Conditions:

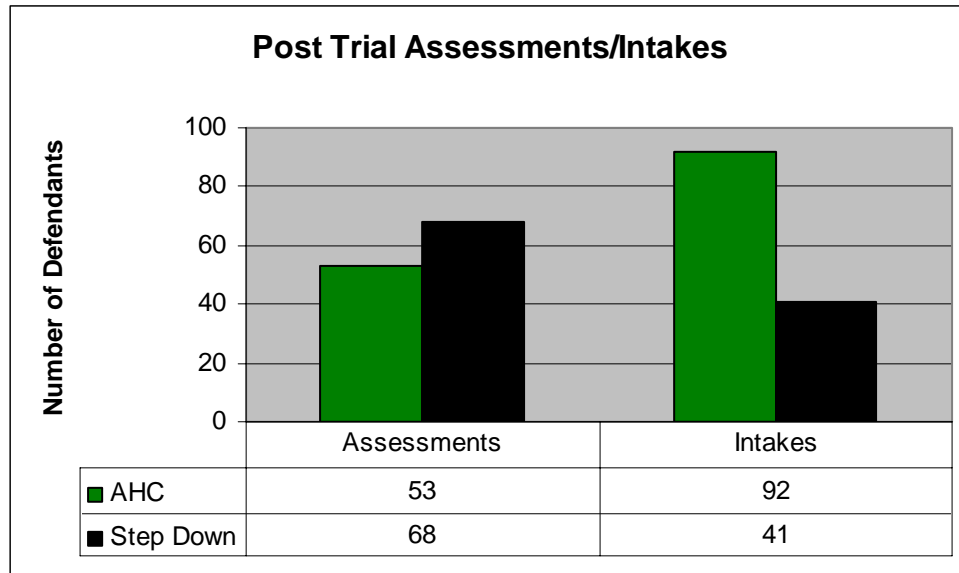
Check in by telephone daily to the appropriate Case Manager  
Reporting to the office at the discretion of the defendants Case Manager  
Notification of all changes to telephone numbers, address, and employment  
Refrain from the use of excessive alcohol  
Notify staff of any contact with Law Enforcement

Enhanced Conditions:

Submit to mandatory random and scheduled drug testing  
Adhere to a curfew  
Electronic monitoring to include GPS or the use of remote alcohol monitoring  
Refrain from the use of any alcohol  
Refrain from possessing firearms  
House checks to ensure compliance and verify address and living situations  
Travel restrictions  
Court ordered no contacts

Post Trial Programs Mission Statement

*Assess sentenced offenders housed at the Strafford County Department of Corrections and, if possible, divert them to intensive community based supervision while providing individualized treatment plans to help reduce criminal acts while promoting a safer community.*



Community Corrections has two post-trial programs. The first is Administrative Home Confinement (AHC). This is a court-ordered program where the defendant typically spends some time in jail and the remainder at home and is supervised in the community. In 2008, Community Corrections had 92 AHC intakes, 72% from Superior Court, 20% from Rochester District Court, and 8% from Dover District Court. Of the 92 AHC intakes, 80% were male and on average were on the program for 160 days, which equals 14,720 jail days at a cost savings to the County of \$1,076,032.

The second program is the Step Down program. The idea behind this program is to encourage continued life improvements for inmates as they transition from life within the jail facility back into the community. This is accomplished by taking inmates incarcerated in SCDOC who are of good behavior and attending program. Community Corrections then files a motion on the defendant's behalf with the court. Last year, 97% of the motions were granted and the inmate spent the remainder of their sentence in the community. In 2008, we had 41 Step Down intakes which counted as 30% of the total sentenced intakes. Of these 41 Step Down intakes, an average of 70 days was spent on Community Corrections, which on average equals 2,870 jail days at a cost savings to the County of \$209,797.

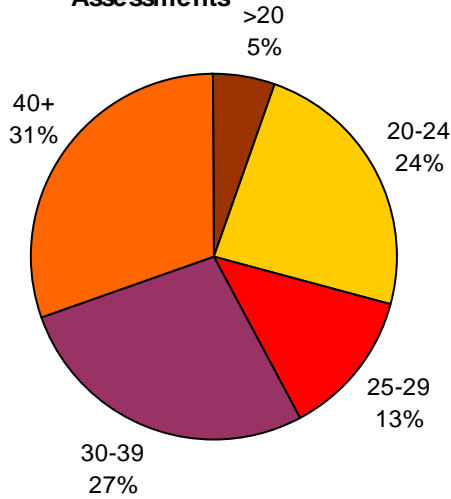
#### Step Down Process

- ◆ Jail Classifications Officers notify of SCCCPC of sentenced inmates who are attending program and have a clean disciplinary record.
- ◆ SCCCPC contacts inmates and delivers an application.
- ◆ When application is returned, SCCCPC interviews and verifies information provided by inmate.

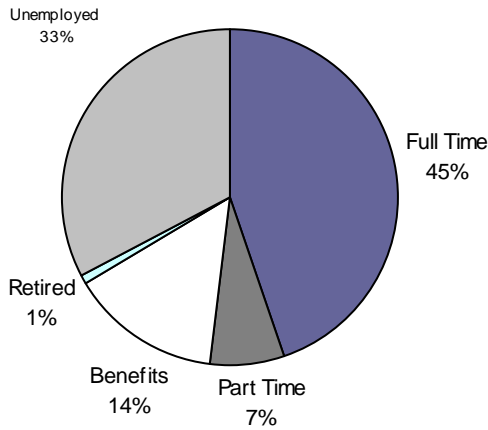
- ◆ If found acceptable, SCCCP notifies all parties and files a motion with the court requesting Step Down be granted.

If granted, the inmate is then released to the supervision of Community Corrections. Both of these programs are extremely successful, with 94% of the clients successfully completing the program.

**Age Range for Post Trial Assessments**



**Employment**

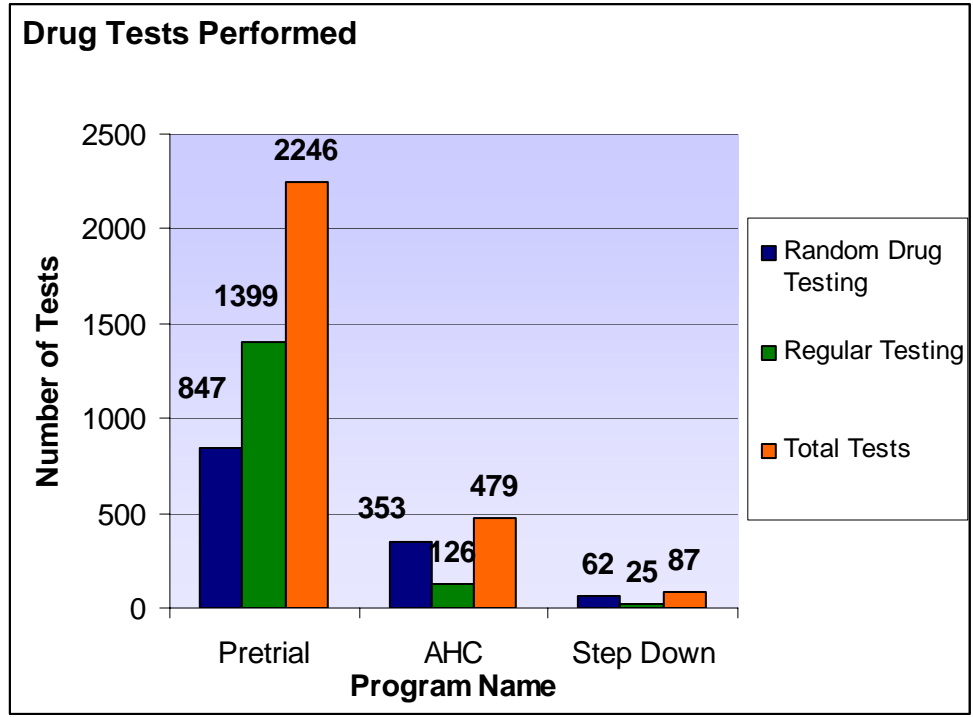


### Drug Testing

Drug testing is a condition of release that is most commonly used by the Judges and Community Corrections. Most defendants are tested using a random drug testing procedure, which can change to regular testing with the result of positive

tests. Community Corrections has the ability to collect and test the sample in our office and can receive results in 12 minutes.

As you can see, SCCCP collected 2,812 samples, 80% of those samples collected were negative for non-prescription drugs. Residual positive tests were included in the 20% that were positive.



Equipment

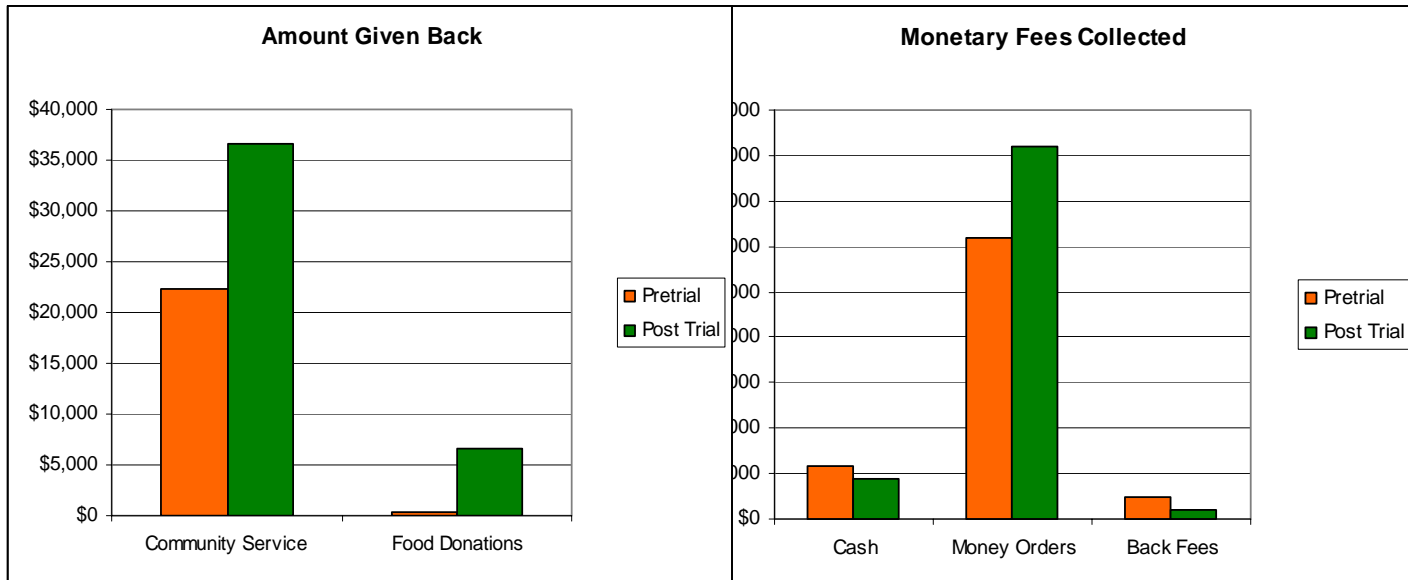
**Positive Drug Tests**

In 2008, Community Corrections had 399 clients placed on equipment which includes regular electronic monitoring, GPS supervision, and a sobriotor. The majority of these cases are defendants participating in either the AHC or Step Down programs, both of which are post-conviction programs.

Electronic monitoring is used to verify the comings and goings of our clients. It notifies us when the defendant is home and has left their approved residence. SCCCP is notified any time the defendant leaves their home at an unscheduled time and we are then notified again when they return home. SCCCP can use a sobriotor in conjunction with the electronic monitoring to send remote alcohol tests to the defendant’s home and verify they are not drinking. The final piece of equipment SCCCP can utilize is active GPS. This enables us to check a defendant’s location in real time. This is particularly beneficial in verifying that the defendant does not have contact with a victim in Domestic Violence cases.

Financial Summary

In total, Community Corrections collected **\$237,087.33** worth of fees. This was completed by many different means; monetary, community service, food donations, and back fees. This totals 1,180 community service days, or 9440 hours of community service given back to Strafford County.



Respectfully submitted,

James Dunn, Director  
 Joseph Devine, Assistant Director  
 William Britton, Senior Case Manager  
 Jayne Young, Pretrial Intake

Coordinator

Geoff Arnold, Pretrial Officer  
 Denise Morin, Office Manager  
 Krista Shevenell, Administrative

Assistant

**2008 ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING/SPECIALTY COURT/  
 MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS REPORT**

In 2008 the Alternative Sentencing, Specialty Courts and Mental Health Programming in Strafford County experienced both programmatic enhancement and growth. By continuing to rehabilitate offenders in the community, we are saving taxpayer money, providing opportunity for offender reform while maintaining public safety. The Alternative Sentencing, Specialty Courts and Mental Health Programs co-exist in this County as part of an overall shift in philosophy to supervise and rehabilitate offenders in the community with

partnerships from the entire-County infrastructure. Without any piece of this infrastructure, these programs would not be able to operate as efficiently or as successfully as they do. This infrastructure includes; Strafford County Community Corrections, including the Community Work Program, the New Hampshire Public Defenders-Dover office, the County Attorneys Office, the Strafford County Department of Corrections, including the Therapeutic Community, the Strafford County Sheriff's Department, Southeastern New Hampshire Services, New Hampshire Department of Corrections Probation/Parole, Rochester District Court and Strafford County Superior Court. Of course, County- programs require local-government support and without this support from the Strafford County Commissioners, Chairman George Maglaras, Paul Dumont, and Ron Chagnon, these programs would not exist. The leadership from County Administrator Raymond Bower has been crucial over the past year as he provides the initiative and support we have needed to grow. Public transportation to the County Complex is a new addition to the continuum of services added to Strafford County in 2008. The Strafford County Commissioners partnered with COAST Bus and the City of Dover to bring 12 bus stops at the County Complex, Monday-Friday beginning at 7:30 am and ending at 7:10 pm. Also in 2008, Rochester, Strafford County's largest city, became the first Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Certified Police Department in the State of New Hampshire. The training that these Rochester Police Officers received will help to divert persons with mental illness from our jails to the mental health centers for appropriate treatment. In 2009, we will continue to work with other local police departments and House of Corrections staff to explore and implement additional CIT programs. We will also continue to enhance County Criminal Justice Programming and the infrastructure that supports these programs in 2009, including multiple grant submissions seeking funding to operate a Transitional Housing Program beginning in mid 2009.

### Strafford County Drug Treatment Court

Following a Department of Justice grant for three (3) years that ended Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, the Drug Treatment Court has proven to be a necessary and effective sentencing tool that is now funded at the County level. In 2009, we will continue to seek additional grant funding to enhance the operations of the Drug Treatment Court. The Drug Treatment Court is a specialty court program that connects non-violent, felony and misdemeanor level, substance-abusing offenders and New Hampshire State Prison Parolees who meet the same criteria, sentenced out of Strafford County Superior Court, to an integrated system of intensive alcohol and drug treatment and testing in the community. This is combined with case management, gender-specific programming, strict court supervision and progressive incentives and sanctions. By linking participants to treatment services, the program aims to address offenders' addiction issues that

led to criminal behavior, thereby reducing recidivism, and protecting public safety. The Drug Court is designed to be a 12-month alternative sentencing program, divided into three phases, and followed by one year of probation. Over the past year, the Drug Court held steady with an average enrollment of 48 participants, pleaing 40 participants into the program and graduating 19 participants from the program. The Strafford County Drug Treatment Court was the first Adult Drug Court in New Hampshire. For more information regarding the Drug Treatment Court please contact: Alex Casale, Director @ 516-7193 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

### Strafford County Rochester District Mental Health Court Pilot Program and Mental Health Programming

The Mental Health Court commenced operations in June 2007 and provides court supervision and treatment services to mentally ill defendants to promote engagement in treatment, improve quality of life, decrease recidivism and increase community safety and awareness of mental health issues. The Mental Health Court is a 3-phase specialty court program designed for adults who have one or more misdemeanor-level offenses and who are eligible for mental health treatment. The Mental Health Court involves frequent court appearances, as well as individualized treatment planning and case management. This program also awards incentives for healthy, appropriate behavior and imposes sanctions for negative behavior. In 2008, the Mental Health Court plead 13 participants into the program and graduated 5 participants. In 2009, we will continue to seek outside funding sources to enhance the Mental Health Court.

The Strafford County Community Corrections Mental Health Program continues to make great strides in identifying and releasing clients with Mental Health issues under appropriate levels of supervision. In coordination with Strafford County Judges and the local mental health center, Mental Health Programming has helped to develop bail language that compels defendants to get mental health treatment as a condition of their bail. The continuity of supervision that is provided from Pre-trial to Post-trial is a major factor in the referral and success of the program. The Mental Health Court was an outgrowth from the Strafford County Mental Health Council. Mental Health Programming staff provides assessments to identified persons who have mental health issues and are being detained by State and local law enforcement departments prior to arraignment/bail hearing. These assessments provide the Court with information regarding current pending charges, verified criminal histories, outstanding warrants, residence, education, employment history, mental health, substance abuse issues and community ties. Strafford County's largest city, Rochester, became the first Crisis Intervention Team-Certified Police Department in the State of New Hampshire. The training that these Rochester Police Officers

received will help to divert persons with mental illness from our jails to the mental health centers for appropriate treatment. For more information regarding Mental Health Programming, please contact Frank Laratonda, Director @ 516-5172 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

## Strafford County Academy Program

Since its State-wide inception in 1993, this alternative sentencing program is a collaborative effort between the Strafford County Commissioners and the New Hampshire Department of Corrections. The Academy Program provides intensive case management to felony-level, substance abusing offenders who have a 12 month jail or a New Hampshire State Prison sentence and parolees who are being released to reside in Strafford County. Academy participants commit to monthly judicial intervention, intensive case management, drug testing, life skills group and Probation supervision. In 2007, Strafford County successfully bid and received administrative supervision of the Carroll County Academy Program as well as the Strafford County Academy Programming. This funding is due to run out in June, 2009. The Strafford County Academy Program maintains a capacity of 25 participants, while the Carroll County Academy maintains up to 15 active participants. The Academy Program saw 36 referrals in 2008 and plead 25 participants into the programs. The Academy Program has been able to "catch" those felony offenders who do not meet the more strict criteria of the Drug Court program. The benefit of a larger catchment-net adds to the seamless approach for rehabilitating offenders in the community. For more information regarding the Academy Programs, please contact Jennifer Laferriere, Director @ 516-7191 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

This is the 2008 Strafford County Community Corrections Programming Alternative Sentencing/Specialty Court/ Mental Health Programming team who have exhibited a committed, professional and ethical service for the past year:

\*Carrie Lover, Criminal Justice Programming Coordinator

\*Jennifer Laferriere, Academy Program Director

\*Frank Laratonda, Mental Health Programming Director

\*Blair Rowlett, Mental Health Programming Case Manager

\*Alex Casale, Drug Court Program Director

\*Tabatha Peters, Drug Court Senior Case Manager

\*Jamie Bennett, Drug Court Case Manager

Respectfully submitted,  
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Strafford County Criminal Justice  
Programming Coordinator

