2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
STRAFFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The year of 2010 was our 6th year of operating the new jail. Revenue from inmate boarders for the year was $5,957,933.99, an increase of $305,733.27 from last year. Our average daily population stayed the same with 396 (397 for 2009). This shows our population has stabilized, and may indicate a trend. Our highest population for the year was 448 on June 10th and 14th (456 on July 23, 2010), and the lowest was 354 on August 25th (371 on November 15, 2010). We booked 4,103 (about the same as the 4,115 for 2009) which included 3,075 males and 1,028 females, 688 sentenced and 3,415 unsentenced. We conducted 844 (978 for 2009) video arraignments.

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 hired three staff, who have shown to be good career officers. Nine (9) 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. Director Alex Casale who works at Community Corrections was selected as the honor graduate officer of his class. In February, Jake Collins was promoted to Assistant Superintendent and Bruce Pelkie was promoted to Captain.

Seven hundred and thirty one (731) persons toured the facility, for an increase in 30% (one tour this year included 130 visitors which accounts for most of the increase from 559 for 2009). Tours were given to students from Spaulding, Portsmouth, Farmington, Nute, Dover, Oyster River Cooperative, and St. Thomas High Schools. Other guests included Explorers, Leadership Seacoast, City Year NH, Merrimack County Program personnel, New Hampshire Attorney General Michael Delaney, Cheshire County Corrections, Dover Citizen’s Academy, and UNH Citizen’s Academy. Our Diversion Program included 5 individual visitors and 27 at-risk teens. Guests visiting exclusively for the Therapeutic Community included periodic visits by Public Defender Chief Randy Hawkes and Dover Police Community Outreach Officer Chris Myer. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Detention and Removal returned for another annual inspection, which we passed with no issues. The Federal Bureau of Prisons conducted an inspection, as well as the United States Marshal’s Service.

We had 806 disciplinary hearings this year, a decrease of 13 from last year. It appears that formal write-ups of inmate misconduct have leveled out, which might show a causative relationship between population, which has remained stable, and misconduct.

This year we started providing e-mail for inmates. Family and friends can set up an account and e-mail a one-page letter to an inmate for about the cost of an envelope and stamp, which will be delivered the next day. It is advertised on our Website and we get several e-mails every day. This is a great service for those with correspondents a long distance away, or out of the country. Inmates cannot e-mail out.

Our medical department started electronic records filing this year. Scanning in records and dispersing medicine using laptops has eliminated paperwork such that we are saving many reams of paper and the filing that goes with it - not to mention the efficiency of looking up records on computer for the staff.
We closed the minimum custody Annex temporarily in November in an effort to bring the staff that operates the 24-hour minimum custody living area back to the jail. This helps reduce any overtime that is needed in the jail, in addition to reducing electricity and upkeep resources. When our population goes back up, I expect we will have to re-open it.

I am pleased to announce that we will be having our seventh Employee Recognition Banquet on June 17, 2011 for department personnel this year. The awards for 2010 will be as follows:

Life-Saving Awards: Officers Kathy Thibeault, Cassandra Caillot, Andrew Broomfield, Captain Bruce Pelkie and Superintendent Warren Dowaliby

Humanitarian Award: Sergeant Laura Noseworthy
Community Service Award: Officer David Meehan
Innovation Awards: Officers Robert Hayden, Adam Rivera, Lieutenant Donna Roy
Food Services Employee of the Year: Peter Donnelly
Medical Department Employee of the Year: Linda Baillargeon
Administrative Support Employee of the Year: Leah Chabot
Rookie of the Year: Officer Angela Allen
Officer of the Year 1st Shift: Officer Dennis Chabot
Officer of the Year 2nd Shift: Officer Lori Spagnola
Officer of the Year 3rd Shift: Officer Chris Dame
Supervisor of the Year Award: Corporal Gary Cormier
Community Corrections Director of the Year: Director Joseph Devine
Community Corrections Employee of Year: Jayne Young
Employee of the Year Award: Officer Robert Hayden

We are proud of our ongoing efforts to help inmates transition into society. The Transitional Housing unit that was opened last year has been very successful throughout this year in helping homeless released inmates get situated in society.

I can’t say enough about how critical it was to have the Coast Bus Lines running to the County Complex for this program. The process of releasing an inmate sometimes takes months as staff work to eliminate the roadblocks which stand in the way of someone trying to get their life together after being in jail. Isabel Padial, our case manager, works with many public agencies to give inmates a head start at problems facing them upon release. As part of her mission, Marilyn Allen in Jail Industries also has the resources to assist inmates prior to discharge for such things as housing, job hunting and help in reducing bureaucratic red tape. Counselor Chris Pinierio recently received her Master’s Degree in counseling and my hope is that she continues working with our Programs Department to assess inmate potential for success.

The most important part of ensuring a successful inmate transition into society is that it substantially reduces the likelihood of them re-offending. Every time someone re-offends, they leave a trail of victims in the community. This could be you or your neighbor.

As our staff continues to manage this inmate population year after year, I marvel at their tenacity and professionalism. Working in a jail is a very stressful and at times dangerous place. Our officers have always rallied to meet the demands of whatever comes to the forefront. The number one disciplinary charge with 168 occurrences was disobeying an officer. Fighting and assault combined for a total of
122 occurrences. I commend the officers, supervisors and support staff for their outstanding job of maintaining the jail so well with such adversity. That other agencies use our services so much is a testament to their success too. The increase of $305,733 to our revenues for bed rental shows the faith others had in us this year – particularly the federal government. The inspections we pass and services we provide for them above and beyond what is required for New Hampshire inmates shows that we can adapt, adjust and comply with external guidelines as needed. Our staff does all this with an ease of being comfortable in the face of adversity. Having all contracts renewed again this year by the New Hampshire State Prison, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Rockingham County Department of Corrections and the US Marshal’s Service attests to the professional reputation our staff have earned and deserve.

Apart from the amazing work the officers and support staff do for the jail, we could not be successful without the support and diligence of County Administrator Ray Bower and the Board of County Commissioners. Administrator Bower’s knowledge of the jail and laws pertaining to liability is invaluable and gives us the confidence that we are going about our tasks in a professional manner. The Commissioners have always supported me and my staff by listening and responding to whatever our concerns are. Their vision guides us towards the future in a way that is evident by our current success. They also show support for the officers and support staff by personally congratulating each recipient at our awards banquet, which they always attend.

I know there will be many challenges in the coming year beyond running the jail as we have done. Budget issues may have to be surmounted in order to maintain the services we have provided in the past. I am anticipating that we will continue to help the taxpayers of this county by stressing reduction of criminal behavior beyond the doors of this institution in our efforts to reintegrate those that have been separated from society.

Respectively Submitted,

Warren Dowaliby
Warren Dowaliby, Superintendent
2010 PROGRAMS REPORTS
Educational Programs

Education: GED preparation and Adult Basic Education. Dover Adult Learning Center provided GED and Adult Educational classes three 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 provided services to incarcerated special education students

Volunteer Tutors: 2 volunteer tutors worked in the facility in 2010, providing a combined average of approximately 6 tutoring hours a week.

GED Exam: 68 inmates were administered the GED exam. 55 passed all sections of the exam. 13 passed portions of the exam.

Enrichment Program: Two weekly college preparation programs were offered to inmates: Topics included: Sociology, Psychology and Personal Development.

Therapeutic Community Program/Women’s Recovery Program

The table below illustrates the 2010 outcomes of these programs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount of services:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of days of residential treatment provided.</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously funded RSAT beds continued during grant cycle.</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New treatment beds added with RSAT grant funds during this grant cycle.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment beds funded through other sources, but enhanced with RSAT-funded services.</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average length of stay in the residential program in days.</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of offenders entering an RSAT-funded treatment program.</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Substance Abuse / Behavioral Programs

Drug and Alcohol Counseling: SCDOC provided 20 hours per week of drug and alcohol counseling services. Educational groups were offered weekly to each housing area in the jail.

Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous: AA groups for both male and female inmates were held weekly for each housing unit and daily for the TC units, this past year. NA groups were held bi-weekly.
Anger Management Training and Life Skills Classes: SCDOC provided 3 classes anger management classes and 3 life skills classes per week.

Ending the Violence Program: Three sessions per week in 2010.

Victim Impact Seminar: This class was offered to female inmates on a weekly basis.

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 5 inmates weekly.

Pet Therapy: Offered weekly for two hours.

Yoga: Two one hour classes weekly.

Jail Diversion Program: 20 inmates were screened and trained as jail diversion speakers in 2010.

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. 5 classes per week were held per week in 2010.

Computer Classes: Dover Adult Learning center provided computer classes at SCDOC. 4 basic and 2 advanced classes were offered weekly.

Typing Class: Dover Adult Learning center provided 3 basic typing classes per week at SCDOC.

Career Assessment: This program assisted inmates with vocational evaluation and planning. In 2010, 86 inmates completed this program.

Career Workshop: A volunteer facilitated two sessions per week of job and college preparation planning skills.

Work Release Program

Work Release Inmates: There were a total of 27 inmates on work release for 2010.

1 inmate was on day release for attendance at high school.

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.

Spiritual Services Assistant:  A volunteer was available for a total of 8 hours per week to assist with handling requests for spiritual services

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

Mediation:  Two volunteers facilitated a meditation program for two units.

Internships

SCDOC hosted interns from the University of New Hampshire in 2010. Three (3) interns were from the Justice Studies Program, and one (1) 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 7,000 books in 2010. Currently there are more than 11,000 titles in the library.

Law Library:  4 law library computer stations containing NH State, Federal and Immigration Laws were provided for inmate use.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jake Collins, Assistant Superintendent

Discharge Planning and Substance Abuse Entry Report

During 2010, 89 inmates were interviewed and assessed for reentry into the community. As determined by the assessments, the services needed by inmates ranged from transportation to securing proper forms of identification, with transportation being the highest need. Out of 89 inmates, 48 were in need of transportation, 46 were in need of employment, 40 did not have medical insurance, 35 were in need of substance abuse treatment, 32 needed public assistance, 27 needed housing, 25 needed medications, 20 needed mental health treatment and 21 needed identification. As part of the discharge planning, inmates were referred to the appropriate service agencies for assistance such as: Healthcare for the Homeless Van, Department of Health and Human Services, City Welfare, Housing Authorities, Homeless Shelters, New Hampshire Employment Security, Coast Bus Service Catholic Charities Counseling Services, Dover/Rochester Counseling Services, Southeastern NH Services and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA).
Inmate phone screens to substance abuse programs totaled 65 during 2010. Out of that total, 44 were accepted to substance abuse programs like the Farnum Center, Southeastern NH Services and Phoenix House. The majority of the referrals to substance abuse programs came from the court as an agreement, commitment, or court order. The other referrals came from United States Probation and attorneys.

Prepared by: Isabel Padial
Manager/Inmate Advocate
Programs Department

2010 JAIL INDUSTRY ANNUAL REPORT

Earnings Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airmar</td>
<td>$515.56</td>
<td>$36,372.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVHS</td>
<td>$12,677.16</td>
<td>$11,396.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diacom</td>
<td>$19,799.73</td>
<td>$26,263.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospice</td>
<td>$6,325.56</td>
<td>$3,916.32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Precision</td>
<td>$19,406.40</td>
<td>$13,768.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest Easy</td>
<td>$1,346.13</td>
<td>$1,379.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sulzer Mixpac</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$30,837.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>XMA</td>
<td>$579.17</td>
<td>$5,740.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rand Whitney</td>
<td>$971.28</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Invoiced $61,620.99 $129,674.97

Increase from last year $68,053.98

Delivery earnings after Expenses $825.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th># Inmates</th>
<th># Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jail Industries</td>
<td>66 Inmates</td>
<td>15264.15 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td>71 Inmates</td>
<td>10237.92 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 112 Inmates 25502.07 Hours
We were very pleased with our increase in business this year and will strive to increase business in 2011 thus increasing earnings as well as inmate workers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Allen, Jail Industry Director

**2011 FAMILY RECEPTION CENTER ANNUAL REPORT**

The Family Reception Center will have been in open for nine (9) years as of March of 2011. Our mission has been to provide a comfortable, trusting, and supportive environment, where inmates’ families may come before or after visits to receive validation, support, and resources that may lessen the negative impact experienced through incarceration. Based on our data collection, we are indeed lessening stress. Quarterly events and special activities for families and friends take place at the Family Reception Center. Information on how to maneuver through the Corrections system is provided, as well as local agency resources and support. Donations to the Center have grown for our special events both by neighboring agencies and from individuals in the local communities.

The Family Reception Center continues to be self-sufficient, thanks to the generosity of volunteer staffing and continued grants for snacks, drinks, and special activities. We once again received a grant in 2010 awarded by the Bishop’s Charitable Assistance Fund. Additional funds are generated from the sale of inmate photographs for their families. We continue to remain self-sufficient through these two avenues: grants and picture taking. There are no taxpayer monies used for this program.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Allen Founder & Coordinator
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.

**Pretrial Assessments**

Strafford County Community Corrections completes assessments on all defendants booked into the Strafford County House of Corrections. The interview or assessments takes place as soon as possible, and is the first step in preparing the defendants assessment for court. The intake coordinator then uses the information gathered as a foundation to assist them when completing the report for the court. Typically the assessment contains criminal history, pending charges, address history, employment history, education, dependants, and community ties.

This 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.

In 2010 Community Corrections did see a decrease of 19% in the number of assessments that were conducted, meaning we conducted 690 assessments. We attribute this to the Mental Health Supervision program identifying clients who are mentally ill, and due to a decrease in the number of bookings into the House of Corrections.

Some interesting facts about 2010 Assessments:

- 81% of the defendants interviewed were found acceptable
- 45% of the defendants interviewed are charged with misconducts.
  (Violation of Probation, Breach of Bail, or failure to appear)
- 28% of the defendants interviewed are charged with a felony.
- 31% of the defendants interviewed were arrested by Rochester PD.
- 50% of the defendants interviewed are unemployed.

**Pretrial Supervision**

All defendants on Strafford County Community Corrections Pretrial Supervision must comply with a standard set of conditions that we tailor to the needs of the individual client. The court may also order specific conditions for the defendants to follow. Some examples of standard conditions are:

- Checking in by telephone daily
- Reporting to our office at the discretion of the defendants Case Manager
- Submit to mandatory random and scheduled drug testing
- Adhere to a curfew
- Electronic monitoring to include GPS or the use of remote alcohol monitoring
- Court ordered no contacts
- Notification of all changes to telephone numbers, address, and employment
- Notify the staff of any contact with Law Enforcement
- Refrain from the use of any alcohol
- Refrain from possessing firearms
- House checks to ensure compliance and verify address and living situation
- Travel Restrictions
Just with assessments we had a decreased number of intakes for 2010 of 308 total intakes. We also attribute this to Mental Health Supervision and a decreased number of bookings at the HOC. Of the clients placed with Pretrial Supervision, 35% were ordered from Dover District and 34% from Rochester District.

Of the 294 cases that were closed in 2010, 74% of the clients successfully completed and did not have a violation that caused termination from the program. Most importantly 99% of the clients appeared at their respective court dates. These are some of the common violations of the violations that we had:

- 22% had alcohol violations
- 24% had positive drug tests
- 16% picked up new charges
- 20% absconded supervision

One area of concern is we saw an increase in the amount of time defendants were on supervision.

![Average Length on Program](image)

Trends of 2010 Pretrial Supervision:

- 88% of the defendants being supervised are male.
- 48% of the defendants are unemployed
- 33% of the defendants have no GED or High School Diploma
- 41% of the defendants have misdemeanor Domestic Violence related charges
- 22% had alcohol violations
- 24% had positive drug tests
- 16% picked up new charges
- 20% absconded supervision

Based on these averages, if Community Corrections Pretrial Clients stayed in jail it would have cost the County $2,300,760 for 2010.

**Post Trial Supervision**

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.

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 the HOC who are of good behavior and attending programs. Community Corrections then files a motion on the defendant’s behalf with the court. If granted, the inmate is released into the community under the supervision of Community Corrections.
Community Corrections will complete an assessment on the sentenced inmates in the jail to see if they are appropriate for either of these programs. In 2010, Community Corrections completed 93 assessments on inmates who were incarcerated at the HOC.

We consider 2010 another successful year for AHC and Step Down. We had a total of 96 intakes and success rate if 81%. The most common violations were drug use at 41% and alcohol use at 22%.

Trends of 2010 Post Trial Supervision:

- 88% of the defendants are male
- 26% of the defendants are charged with a domestic violence related offense
- The average defendant is on supervision for 138 days
- $77,036.57 worth of fees were collected
- 12,533 days of community service were completed
- 669 job searches were completed

Based on the averages if these defendants were required to spend their entire sentence in jail it would have cost the county $2,121,480.

**Pretrial Diversion**

The Pretrial Diversion Program, in collaboration with the Strafford County Attorney’s Office, has had another year of growth with 43 intakes and has assisted in collecting $12,924.50 in restitution. The Diversion Program was created for people who have had no prior criminal dealings with the criminal justice system and who the County Attorney’s Office does not anticipate returning to the system. We had 2 clients not complete the program this year due to new charges that were brought up against them.

**Employability Program**

The Employability Program brings together Community Corrections and the Division of Child Support Services in a partnership that will assist delinquent obligors to come into compliance with their child support order and help prevent civil incarceration to the Strafford County HOC. This program is the first in the State of New Hampshire and shows one more time how Strafford County stays on the cutting edge and has a seamless approach to corrections and the judicial process. In 2010, we had 40 new intakes which saved $99,600 if these clients had to be incarcerated. But more importantly we assisted in collecting over $40,000 worth of child support.

Strafford County Community Corrections would like to acknowledge and gratefully thank the Strafford County Superior Court, District Court and Family Court Judges, the County Attorney’s Office, local Prosecutors and Defense Attorneys, the New Hampshire Public Defenders Office, local Police Departments and the Strafford County House of Corrections for their continued support.

We would also like to thank the Strafford County Board of Commissioners and the County Administrator, Ray Bower for their continued support and innovative guidance.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joseph R. Devine, Jr.**

Joseph R. Devine, Director
In 2010, the Alternative Sentencing Programs in Strafford County experienced growth and programmatic development. By rehabilitating offenders in the community, we are saving taxpayer money while maintaining public safety and returning offenders back into the community as law-abiding citizens. The Alternative Sentencing Programs co-exist in this County as part of an overall shift in philosophy to supervise and rehabilitate non-violent offenders in the community with help 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 Attorney’s Office, the Strafford County Department of Corrections, including the Therapeutic Community, the Strafford County Sheriff’s Department, Southeastern NH Services, NH Department of Corrections Probation/Parole, and the Strafford County Superior Court, Rochester District Court and Dover District Court. Of course, County alternative sentencing programs require local government support and without this support from the Strafford County Commissioners, Chairman George Maglaras, Paul Dumont, and Robert Watson, 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. In 2011, we will continue to seek enhancement of our County Criminal Justice Programming and the infrastructure that supports these programs. Such targeted enhancements include filling our newly implemented Specialized Transitional Housing Program to capacity and seeking additional grant monies for expanded Inmate Re-Entry.

**Strafford County Adult Drug Treatment Court**

Following a year-long pilot program, the Drug Court commenced full-operations on January 19, 2006 after securing a Department of Justice grant for 3 years and was the first adult drug court in New Hampshire. The Drug Court is a specialty court program that connects non-violent, felony and misdemeanor-level, substance-abusing offenders and NH 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 in the community, combined with case management, community monitoring, 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 felony-level and a 6-month misdemeanor-level alternative sentencing program, divided into three phases, and followed by one year of probation. The Drug Court utilizes such programs as the Work Program, Therapeutic Community, and Transitional Housing to help support sanctioning and clinical interventions. Over the past year, the Drug Court held steady with an average enrollment of 60 participants and graduated 19 participants from the program. For the past two years, Strafford County has participated in a State-wide Drug Court meeting where all of the Drug Courts from New Hampshire discuss successes and challenges and review best practice models. A background check of all our graduates and terminated participants found the graduates’ recidivism rates over the past 5 years for a new criminal charge is 9%, while the recidivism of the terminated Drug Court participant was 50%. This data was collected between April-June, 2010 and included everyone that began the program from January 19, 2006 forward. For more information regarding the Drug Treatment Court please contact: Alex Casale, Director @ 516-7193 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

**Strafford County Community Corrections Mental Health Pre-Trial and Post-Trial Supervision**

Strafford County Pre-Trial Mental Health Supervision provides case management and supervision of defendants who have been diagnosed with a mental illness, while residing in the community, awaiting trial. Through case management and supervision, the defendant is assisted to obtain and maintain appropriate mental health services and access medications to ensure stability and while in the community. Defendants are released from
jail without (in most cases) having to post cash bail. Supervision consists of daily/weekly phone and/or office check-ins, case management, voluntary referrals to services, medication checks, drug screens, and mental health compliance. In 2010, The Pre-trial Mental Health Supervision program averaged 40 clients at any given time and had a total of 162 total intakes.

Strafford County Post-Trial Mental Health Supervision offers community-based supervision to inmates of the Strafford County Jail. The Administrative Home Confinement program is a court-ordered program in which inmates are found eligible for release once sentenced from court. The Step-down Program is a jail program that provides incentives for inmates who exhibit good behavior and willingness to participate in appropriate rehabilitative programs while incarcerated. All inmates released into the community are required to wear a GPS tracking device and/or a Sobrietor. Program participants with mental illnesses are required to continue medications and mental health treatment in the community as part of conditioned release. In 2010, Mental Health Post Trial-supervised on average 7 inmates in the community and had a total of 28 intakes for the year. For more information regarding the Mental Health Court, please contact Blair Rowlett, Director @ 516-5182 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

**Strafford County Rochester District Mental Health Court Pilot Program**

This alternative sentencing program commenced operations in June 2007. The Mental Health Court 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 and/or felony-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. The Strafford County Community Corrections program has made great strides in identifying and releasing clients with Mental Health issues. In coordination with Strafford County judges and the local mental health center, SCCCP has helped 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 program is used in lieu of a jail sentence. The majority of successful completions result in convictions being vacated. The Mental Health Court team consists of Judge Daniel Cappiello, Thomas Velardi, Carrie Lover, Blair Rowlett, Alexander Roth, Michael Miehle, Judi Rogers, Amanda Vachon, and Elizabeth Solof. In 2010, the Mental Health Court averaged 6 participants. The Mental Health Court was an outgrowth from the Strafford County Mental Health Council. In 2007, the Council also began a Crisis Intervention Team, which includes staff from the Rochester and Dover Police Departments, Community Partners and NAMI-NH. In 2008, this team became certified as a Crisis Intervention Team who responds to mental health-related police calls to ensure a more systematic, sensitive approach to persons with mental health issues. For more information regarding the Mental Health Court, please contact Blair Rowlett, Director @ 516-5182 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

**Strafford County Habitual Offender Academy Program**

After the New Hampshire Department of Corrections eliminated funding for the “traditional” State-wide Academy Program in 2009, the Strafford County Attorney’s Office identified a need for the continuation of such programming for an identified Habitual Offender population. The primary goal of the Habitual Offender Program is to help persons with a Habitual Offender charge, work towards getting their drivers license back. This process entails guiding participants through the Department of Motor Vehicles. Those who participate in the program are also on Administrative Home Confinement through Strafford County Community Corrections Program. There are two tracks to the Habitual Offender Program: One track for those who do not have any substance abuse issues; and one track for those that do have substance abuse issues. Those who have a history
with substance abuse are required to participate in counseling and self help meetings as determined by a drug and alcohol evaluation. All those who participate in the Habitual Offender Program regardless of the track are required to attend the Life Skills group that the program runs. All participants are required to complete 150 hours of community service, call in for nightly curfew checks, and maintain a full time job or full time schooling. In 2010, the Habitual Offender Academy Program had 24 referrals with an average daily headcount of 8 participants. The program graduated 6 individuals, with 2 out of those 6 earning back their drivers licenses. For more information regarding the Academy Program, please contact Jennifer Laferriere, Director @ 516-7191 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

**Specialized Transitional Housing Program**

The Strafford County Specialized Transitional Housing Program opened its doors on November 16, 2009. Strafford County received a Federal grant from the Department of Justice that will provide funding for the next two years. The focus of the Housing Program is to reduce the recidivism rate of the jail and prevent more County residents from being victims of crimes. Strafford County recognizes the importance of providing a smooth transition from the House of Corrections back into the community. Some of the roadblocks those individuals face exiting the House of Corrections are homelessness and lack of structure. The purpose of the Housing Program is to provide those individuals with a residence for up to 90 days which allows them ample time to find employment and a stable living environment. Individuals who will be considered eligible for the program will have completed extensive programming inside the House of Corrections and will complete the screening process for the program. While residents will not be inmates of the House of Corrections, they will have to follow strict rules in order to reside in Housing. Residents will be subject to curfews, mandated to attend in-house programming, and will be expected to complete job searches every day. The grant provided Strafford County with the ability to hire a Specialized Transitional Housing Director and a Re-Entry Case Manager with responsibilities to include monitoring the daily occurrences at Housing, helping the residents find employment and permanent housing, as well as running programming at Transitional Housing. In 2010, Transitional Housing housed 56 residents with an average length of stay of 54 days. Out of the 46 residents who were eligible for employment, 23 obtained employment while residing at Transitional Housing and 4 residents completed their GED’s. For more information regarding the Specialized Transitional Housing Program, please contact Jennifer Laferriere, Transitional Housing Program Director @ 516-7191 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.

**Re-Entry Specialists**

Strafford County has been awarded a 1 year grant in the amount of $160,730 through The Second Chance Act Federal Grant Program through September, 2011. This grant has allowed Strafford County Community Corrections to hire 2 full time Re-Entry Specialists. The Second Chance Act of 2007 provides a comprehensive response to the increasing number of people who are released from prison and jail into communities and the subsequent challenges communities face as offenders attempt to reintegrate into society. A combination of trends in sentencing, incarceration, and post-release supervision has brought prisoner re-entry to the forefront of discussion among policy makers, practitioners, and researchers. Without consistent support systems, access to resources, and positive intervention, a newly released offender is at risk to return to a life of crime, therefore creating more victims of crime in our local community. A national average suggests a Drug Court participant commits 105 crimes before entering the program. Re-entry and transitional services allows for additional resources to be dedicated to prisoner/community integration, thus decreasing the potential number of victims associated with criminal activity. Further, many offenders have substance abuse or mental health problems that require immediate and persistent attention. Through this grant award, Strafford County will continue to build upon its overall therapeutic approach towards public safety and offender-community reintegration. For more information regarding Re-Entry, please contact Aubrey Towne or Thomas Herzig, Re-Entry Specialists @ 516-7198 or Carrie Lover, Coordinator @ 516-7195.
Strafford County Community Corrections Alternative Sentencing/Supervision Programs and Specialty Courts would like to acknowledge and thank the following agencies for their continued support: Strafford County Superior Court, District Court and Family Court, New Hampshire Public Defenders Office, Strafford County Attorney’s Office, local prosecutors and defense attorneys, and the Strafford County House of Corrections.

We would also like to again thank the Strafford County Board of Commissioners and the County Administrator, Raymond Bower for their continued support and innovative guidance.

Below is a list of the Strafford County’s Alternative Sentencing/Supervision Programs and Specialty Courts team members who exhibited dedication and professionalism in 2010:

*Alex Casale, Drug Court Program Director
*Jamie Bennett, Drug Court Senior Case Manager
*Christopher Gowell, Specialty Courts Case Manager
*Blair Rowlett, Mental Health Programs Director
*Amanda Vachon, Mental Health Programs Case Manager
*Jennifer Laferriere, Habitual Offender Program Director & Specialized Transitional Housing Program Director
*Bruce Campbell, Specialized Transitional Housing Re-Entry Case Manager
*Aubrey Towne, Re-Entry Specialist
*Thomas Herzig, Re-Entry Specialist
*Carrie Lover, Criminal Justice Programming Coordinator

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Lover
Carrie Lover, MSW, LADC Candidate
Strafford County Criminal Justice Programming Coordinator