



FY 2023 - 2024  
ANNUAL REPORT

# Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency



# Message from the Chair

Over the past two years, the Shapiro-Davis Administration has made significant strides, achieving real results for Pennsylvanians.

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, PCCD, where I am honored to serve as Chair, awarded approximately \$352 million in state and federal grant programs to support almost 2,200 grant projects across Pennsylvania. These funds have been instrumental in advancing efforts to prevent and address gun and community violence, supporting services for crime victims, enhancing safety at schools and nonprofits and mental health services for students, providing funding for law enforcement, and much more.

I invite you to read through this annual report, which highlights our progress in alignment with our Strategic Framework and showcases the impactful work being done at PCCD.

We remain committed to working alongside our state and local partners to continue delivering these vital services. Together, we can create a safer, more just Commonwealth for all Pennsylvanians.



Austin A. Davis

*Lt Governor of Pennsylvania  
Chairman of the Pennsylvania  
Commission on Crime & Delinquency*



# Mission & Vision

*Since 1978, PCCD has supported justice system improvements, victim services and compensation, and other initiatives responsive to the needs of practitioners, communities, and the Commonwealth.*

## Mission

- To enhance the quality, coordination, and planning within the criminal and juvenile justice systems, to facilitate the delivery of services to victims of crime, and to increase the safety of our communities.

## Vision

- To be a state and national leader supporting programs and practices that promote justice for all citizens and communities of Pennsylvania.

## Programs & Initiatives



## Strategic Framework

Goals from 2021-2025  
Strategic Framework:

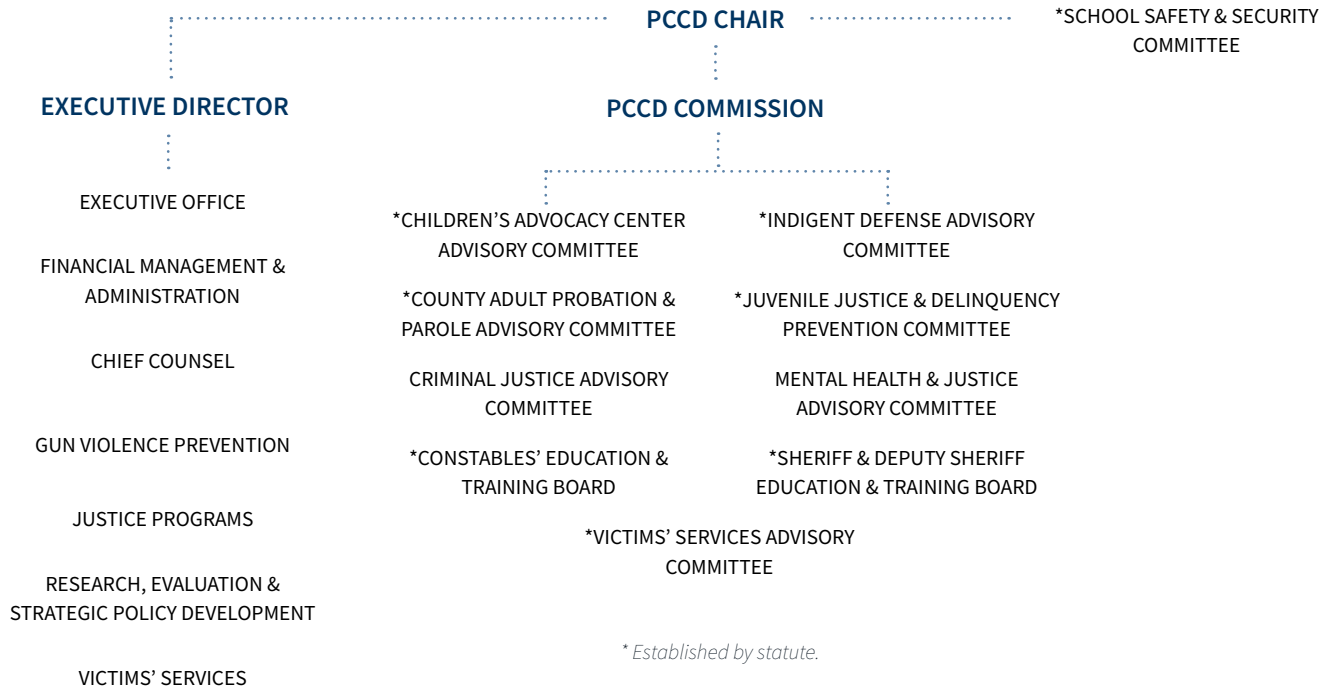
- ▶ We support programs and practices that promote justice for all citizens and communities in Pennsylvania.
- ▶ We invest in ideas and strategies that improve systems and help make Pennsylvanians and communities safer.
- ▶ We work with partners to reduce the impact of crime on victims and survivors.
- ▶ We support training and skill-building to ensure the preparedness of our practitioners.
- ▶ We develop and share relevant expertise, data, and resources to inform state and local efforts.
- ▶ We will ensure impact, fairness, transparency, quality, and equity in how PCCD conducts business and allocates resources.

## Statutory Responsibilities

By law, the agency is specifically tasked with:

- ▶ Providing services to victims of crime (e.g., administration of the state's Crime Victims' Compensation Fund, Children's Advocacy Centers, etc.);
- ▶ Implementing Act 115 of 2019 specifically related to sentences of probation with restrictive conditions of supervision;
- ▶ Administering support for County Adult Probation Services pursuant to Act 114 of 2019;
- ▶ Coordinating training for sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and constables per their respective statutes;
- ▶ Administering the school safety and security program established by Act 44 of 2018;
- ▶ Administering support for local indigent defense services pursuant to Act 34 of 2023.

# PCCD Organization Chart



# Getting Out In The Community

*Throughout 2023–2024, PCCD brought together hundreds of advocates, professionals, and partners to learn, collaborate, and strengthen systems of support across the Commonwealth.*

## Community Engagement & Events

### ► 2023 Pathways to Victim Services Conference

State College | December 2023

3 day event attended by over 300 victim services professionals featuring national speakers, 36+ hands-on workshops, & networking.

#### The Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

- |                                                                            |                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| ● <b>Allied Professional Award</b><br>Jalla Atkins                         | ● <b>Individual Direct Service Award</b><br>Erin Milbourne |
| ● <b>Individual Organizational Capacity Building Award</b><br>Beth Sturman | ● <b>Survivor Activist Award</b><br>Deborah Irby           |

### ► STOP Violence Against Women Conference

Harrisburg | September 2023

PCCD partnered with the PA Chiefs of Police Association to host this event for 100+ STOP-funded Professionals.

- **Attendees include** advocates, prosecutors, law enforcement, and service providers.
- **Focus on enhancing** coordinated community responses to violence against women.
- **Networking and training** sessions on cross-system collaboration.



### ► VOCA Listening Sessions

Statewide | October 2024

PCCD's Office of Victims Services hosted regional sessions to engage VOCA-funded agencies and discuss the impact of federal funding reductions.

Over 100 advocates participated, representing programs supporting victims of:

- **Domestic & Sexual Violence**
- **Homicide & Gun Violence**
- **Child Abuse & Trafficking**

#### Takeaway:

*Agencies reported serious concerns around staffing shortages, rising costs, and sustaining core services following a 5% VOCA funding cut.*

## ▶ RASA/VOJO Regional Meetings

Statewide | 2024

Two in-person sessions brought together 35 victim witness coordinators working on RASA and VOJO-funded projects.

Goals:

- **Share** resources for new staff.
- **Connect** with experienced advocates and PCCD staff.
- **Offer** peer insights through live Q&A and discussion panels.



## ▶ 2024 CJAB Conference

State College | April 2024

The largest CJAB Conference to date with 500+ participants focused on intersections of criminal justice and behavioral health.

Highlights:

- **Breakout** sessions on reentry, youth justice, and substance use.
- **Thoughtful** leadership from state and national experts.
- **Networking** across county, regional, and state systems.



# Media Visits & Coverage

PCCD Chair Lt. Gov. Davis held **14 media events** on PCCD topics related to victims compensation, reducing gun violence, student mental health & more.

PCCD distributed **37 press releases** & held **12 media events**, highlighting key PCCD initiatives.

## Media Event & Press Release Highlights

- ▶ PCCD Visits Indiana Area School District, Highlights Programs to Keep Youth Safe and Healthy for Back-To-School Season

September 15, 2023

- ▶ Shapiro Admin Visits York Children's Advocacy Center, Highlights Work Preventing Child Abuse and Supporting Youth Wellbeing

April 02, 2024

- ▶ U.S. Depart of Justice Awards Shapiro Admin \$825K to Improve Supports for At-Risk and System-Involved Youth

April 11, 2024

- ▶ Lt. Gov. Davis, Commonwealth Victim Advocate, and Victim Services Coalitions Highlight Importance of VCAP

April 29, 2024

- ▶ Lt. Gov. Davis and Delaware County Leaders Highlight Importance of Shapiro-Davis Admin Proposed Budget Investments to Combat Gun Violence and Make Communities Safer

June 21, 2024

- ▶ PCCD Spotlights Centre County Crisis Intervention Team as Model Program for Diversion, Recognizes 16 New Training Graduates

June 28, 2024



# Crime Trends & Research Initiatives

## Evidence-Based Insights to Inform Policy, Programs, & Practice

*As part of its mission to improve justice outcomes across the Commonwealth, PCCD, through its Statistical Analysis Center, supports data-driven decision-making through research, publications, dashboards, and trend analysis.*

## Research Highlights

### ▶ **ORAS Assessment Study**

Published: May 2024

PCCD researchers evaluated the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) tool used in four Pennsylvania counties, identifying insights into risk classification and supervision outcomes.

### ▶ **Probation & Recidivism**

New reports supporting the County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC) examine recidivism and supervision trends.

### ▶ **Gun Violence Investigation & Prosecution Dashboard**

Established under **Act 54 of 2022**, this interactive dashboard provides insights into firearm-related offenses across court systems.

#### Key Features:

- Data filters by county, court type, and year.
- View outcomes for Violations of Pennsylvania's Uniform Firearms Act (VUFA).
- Option to highlight data from GVIP grant-funded agencies.

### ▶ **About the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC)**

Created under **Act 274 of 1978**, and staffed by PCCD personnel and Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) researchers and data analysts, PCCD's SAC is an independent data and research hub that informs statewide efforts through:

- Recidivism and crime trend studies.
- Policy evaluations.
- Data dashboards and mapping.
- Legislative task force support.
- Grant performance analytics.

# Annual Crime Trends

## (2023—2024)

PCCD published a new analysis of **10-year statewide crime trends** using data from the Pennsylvania State Police’s **Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system**.

**232,184 Part I Offenses** reported in FY 2023—24

### Key Stats:

- ▶ **Total Violent Crimes**  
Includes: Murder, Manslaughter, Rape, Robbery, Assault
  - Actual: 33,879 | Cleared: 17,518 | Overall Clearance Rate: 51.7%
- ▶ **Total Property Crimes**  
Includes: Burglary, Larceny/Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson, Vandalism, Forgery, Embezzlement, Fraud, Stolen Property
  - Actual: 302,195 | Cleared: 61,820 | Overall Clearance Rate: 20.5%
- ▶ **Total Drug Offenses**  
Includes: All drug abuse violations (sale, manufacturing, possession)
  - Actual: 40,544 | Cleared: 31,618 | Overall Clearance Rate: 78.0%
- ▶ **Total Weapons Offenses**  
Includes: Possession, carrying, etc.
  - Actual: 10,714 | Cleared: 7,840 | Overall Clearance Rate: 73.2%
- ▶ **Other Offenses**  
Prostitution, Human Trafficking, Sex Offenses (non-rape), etc.
  - Actual: 8,096 | Cleared: 3,806 | Overall Clearance Rate: 47.0%

### Summary of Clearance Rates by Category



# Funding Distribution & Impact

PCCD awarded ≈ **\$352,960,000** in FY 2023–24

|                                                                                     |                               | Amount Awarded | % of Total Funding |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
|    | School Safety                 | \$151,106,725  | 43%                |
|    | Victim Services               | \$66,253,778   | 19%                |
|    | Community Violence            | \$44,762,917   | 12.7%              |
|    | Law Enforcement               | \$37,759,588   | 11%                |
|    | Criminal Justice Improvements | \$26,612,574   | 8%                 |
|   | Substance Misuse/Prevention   | \$11,047,428   | 3%                 |
|  | Juvenile Justice              | \$5,984,837    | 2%                 |
|  | Other                         | \$8,492,467    | 2%                 |

## Highlights

- ▶ School Safety received the largest share of funding, nearly 43% of the total, highlighting a strong investment in student and school staff well-being.
- ▶ Victim Services and Community Violence initiatives combined make up over 31%, reflecting the Shapiro-Davis Admin's continued focus on trauma-informed supports for victims and violence prevention.
- ▶ Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Improvements received about 18%, aimed at strengthening public safety systems.
- ▶ More than \$17M was directed to Substance Use Prevention & Juvenile Justice efforts, helping address upstream factors and support youth.

# School Safety & Youth-Focused Programs

## ► Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS)

PAYS is a voluntary, anonymous, and confidential survey offered at no cost to schools. Since 1989, it has provided valuable insights into students' experiences, behaviors, and attitudes around mental health, substance use, school climate, and violence. Survey findings help school leaders implement evidence-based prevention programs, promote student well-being, and elevate PA youth voices.

“

**The best approach to safety is to take proactive, preventative measures. By analyzing the data provided by the PAYS survey, we are able to dedicate resources to critical areas of need such as mental health support for our students.”**

*Justin Zahorchack  
Indiana Area School District Director of Education*



*PCCD Visits Indiana Area School District,  
Highlights Programs to Keep Youth Safe &  
Healthy for Back-To-School Season  
September 15, 2023 - Indiana, PA*

## 2023 Participation Highlights

- 407 school districts and 49 other educational entities participated.
- 262,535 students completed the survey in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12.
- Participation rate among eligible students was 72.7%.

## ► Revised School Safety Baseline Criteria

On May 31, 2023, PCCD's School Safety and Security Committee adopted updated Physical Security and Behavioral Health Baseline Criteria. The revisions clarify legal requirements and provide flexibility to meet local needs, reflecting input from school entities during the 2022 grants process.

**View the Revised Behavioral  
Health Baseline Criteria  
Standards (2023)**



## ▶ School Safety & Mental Health Grants

In April 2024, PCCD awarded **\$47 million** in competitive grants to help schools **strengthen physical safety, security infrastructure, and mental health services.**

[View the Awards](#) 

## ▶ Targeted Nonpublic School Safety Grants

**\$14.5 million** was awarded in FY 2023-24 through Intermediate Units and vendors to **support nonpublic schools in addressing school violence and improving safety.**

[View the Awards](#) 

In total during FY 2023-24, PCCD awarded **\$155 million** in federal & state school safety funding.

# Prevention Initiatives

## ► Prevention Learning Portal

November 2023

In partnership with Penn State EPIS, PCCD launched a new statewide online portal in November 2023 to expand access to evidence-based prevention training and tools for practitioners.



Visit the Portal 



## ► First Chance Trust Fund

May 2023

Lt. Governor Austin A. Davis announced \$1.34 million in inaugural awards supporting pilot scholarship programs for at-risk youth living in areas with high-dropout and high-incarceration rates. Six grants were awarded to four nonprofits and two school districts, providing scholarships to youth.

### Funding Source:

The Fund receives contributions from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) contracting exceeding \$5 million annually, contributing 1% of their total contract amount to the Fund. Additional contributions may come from other state agencies and voluntary donations from individuals.

Learn More & Make a Donation 

## ► Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

### Safe Touches Pilot Project

Nine grantees provided body safety training to 2nd graders and parents/guardians. Originally set to conclude in June 2024, all grantees continued the project for six additional months using remaining funds. A follow-up solicitation is planned for FY 2024-25.

### Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs)

CACs offer treatment and support services to victims of child abuse and child sexual abuse. They coordinate care, therapy, and other social services while also assisting in the collection of evidence. During FY 2023-24, PCCD provided more than \$6 million to 41 National Children's Alliance-Accredited CACs across PA.



View the Endowment Act  
Annual Report (2023)



## ► Office of the Safe School Advocate (OSSA)

The Office of the Safe School Advocate (OSSA) supports students and staff in the School District of Philadelphia who have experienced physical, emotional, sexual, or financial harm at school or while commuting.

- Provides Victim Support
- Monitors Incident Reporting Compliance
- Attends Disciplinary Hearings Upon Request
- Promotes Public Awareness of Available Services

*In accordance with Section 1320-B(b)(7) of the Pennsylvania Public School Code, OSSA prepares an annual report detailing its activities, recommendations for reforms, and legislative considerations. This report is submitted by August 15 each year to the School District of Philadelphia Superintendent, the Secretary of Education, the Executive Director of PCCD, and the chairs of the Senate and House Education Committees.*

**View the OSSA Annual Report (2023)**



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With these grants, we're providing hope and opportunity for youth and the communities that support them. By empowering these young people, we're implementing a proactive solution to stop gun violence, to help children deal with mental health and trauma, and to address the long-term effects of poverty.

**Vincent Hughes**

*State Senator (D-Philadelphia)*

*Lt. Gov. Austin Davis Announces \$1.34  
Million in PCCD First Chance Trust Fund  
Scholarship Awards  
July 10, 2023 - Harrisburg, PA*



# Making Pennsylvania Safer

*Pennsylvania continued to make significant progress in reducing gun violence and protecting communities through targeted grants, partnerships, and evaluation initiatives.*

## ► **Nonprofit Security Grant Program**

The Shapiro-Davis Administration remains committed to ensuring all Pennsylvanians feel safe and welcome. In FY 2023–24, the Nonprofit Security Grant Program awarded \$5 million to 93 nonprofits serving communities at heightened risk for hate crimes. These investments have positively impacted an estimated 4 million people across the Commonwealth.

# Preventing Gun Violence

## ► **Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) & CCVI Grants**

PCCD awarded \$40 million to 64 organizations through VIP and Collaborative Community Violence Intervention (CCVI) grants, supporting grassroots, community-driven strategies to interrupt cycles of gun violence.

### Highlights

- 77% of grantees were first-time recipients of PCCD funding.
- 91% were community-based organizations.
- Many projects focused on youth mentoring, afterschool programs, & other preventive efforts.
- A new CCVI pilot site was added in Lehigh County, expanding beyond the original sites in Allegheny, Delaware, Philadelphia, and York Counties.

## ► **VIP Grants Evaluation Initiative**

PCCD is working with the University of Chicago's NORC and Temple University to study the effectiveness of VIP-funded programs. In FY 2023–24, 40 programs from earlier funding cohorts participated in a deep-dive process evaluation to gather performance metrics, conduct site visits, and refine program models based on data.

**View the Gun Violence and  
Violence Intervention and  
Prevention (VIP) Grants Map**



**View the Gun Violence  
Investigation and  
Prosecution Dashboard**



## YEAR ONE IMPACT

### ▶ PA Peace Alliance

Launched in 2023, in partnership with WestEd's Justice & Prevention Research Center, the PA Peace Alliance has become a vital support network for organizations addressing gun violence.

In its first year, the Alliance:

- Provided 1:1 technical assistance to 50 groups.
- Welcomed 240+ members into a statewide learning community.
- Held 244 consultation sessions with grantees.
- Shared 580+ events and learning opportunities.
- Curated 370+ resources on violence prevention best practices.
- Highlighted 260+ news stories from the field.



Visit [papeacealliance.org](https://papeacealliance.org)



“

At a time when gun and community violence is devastating PA communities, organizations need our help. The training, technical assistance, and collaboration provided through the PA Peace Alliance has been instrumental in supporting community groups working to make our communities safer.

**Mike Pennington**

*PCCD Executive Director*

*Commission on Crime and Delinquency's  
Gun Violence Prevention Technical  
Assistance Initiative Making a Difference  
in Pennsylvania Communities  
March 29, 2024 - Harrisburg, PA*



# Mental & Behavioral Health Initiatives

## Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)

*In 2023, PCCD successfully secured \$8.5 million in federal funding through the 2022-23 **Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)**, a U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to **reduce gun violence and improve crisis response systems**, especially for individuals with behavioral health needs.*

PCCD distributed \$2.97 million in SCIP funding in FY 2023-24 to invest in projects addressing the intersection of mental health and public safety.

### Key Investments:

#### ► Gun Violence Victim Needs Assessment & Technical Assistance

**Goal:**

In partnership with ICF, assess unmet needs of gun violence victims, survivors, and service providers.

**Impact:**

Inform the development of a pilot resiliency center in Philadelphia, envisioned as a centralized, trauma-informed space to promote healing and support.

#### ► SCIP Crisis Landscape Assessment

**Goal:**

In partnership with CSG, conduct a statewide gap analysis of crisis response systems with an emphasis on Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) models.

**Impact:**

Supports strategic planning around law enforcement diversion, mental health partnerships, and emergency response frameworks.

#### ► Local Government SCIP Grant Solicitation

**Goal:**

Equip local governments with tools to implement crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs.

**Activities Funded:**

- Co-Responder Models
- Suicide Prevention Efforts
- CIT Training for Law Enforcement
- Behavioral Health Education for Court Personnel
- Domestic Violence & Homicide Prevention

# Administrative Office of PA Courts (AOPC) + Mental/Behavioral Courts Initiative Collaboration

*PCCD partnered with state and county leaders to explore strategies for diverting individuals with serious mental illness away from the criminal justice system and into community-based treatment. This collaboration was inspired by a nationally recognized model based in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Following a **January 2023** workshop on this model, the AOPC established a **Behavioral Health Executive Committee** to strengthen Pennsylvania's judicial response to behavioral health needs.*

## ► Judicial Summit on Behavioral Health

October 28–29, 2024

The Summit brought together more than 500 attendees from over 50 counties, fostering cross-sector collaboration and shared knowledge aimed at strengthening how Pennsylvania's courts respond to individuals with mental health and substance use disorder challenges.

## Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Initiatives

*Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) programs equip law enforcement and emergency responders with the skills needed to safely and effectively engage individuals experiencing behavioral health crises. These efforts help reduce use of force, lower arrest and incarceration rates, and connect individuals to community-based services and supports.*

PCCD supported CIT initiatives through two major funding streams in collaboration with the Department of Human Services' Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DHS/OMHSAS):

### ► Crisis Intervention and Pretrial Diversion Initiative:

PCCD awarded 10 grants totaling \$1 million to reduce unnecessary justice system involvement for individuals with mental illness, co-occurring SUDs, intellectual disabilities, and/or autism. Three of these grants supported CIT training, reaching 277 individuals.

### ► CIT Training and Certification Grants:

An additional 10 grants totaling \$183,250 in federal funds were awarded to expand CIT training and certification efforts.

CIT teams responded to 2,213 crisis incidents, successfully diverting 624 individuals from incarceration. A total of 257 individuals also received CIT training during this period.

# Enhancing Supports for Justice-Involved Individuals with Substance Use Disorders (SUDs)

*PCCD continues to invest in programs that address the treatment and rehabilitation needs of individuals involved in the justice system who have substance use disorders. Through multiple funding streams, the Commission has expanded access to services such as medication-assisted treatment (MAT), outpatient care, and recovery supports in communities and correctional settings.*

## ► County Intermediate Punishment (CIP) Program

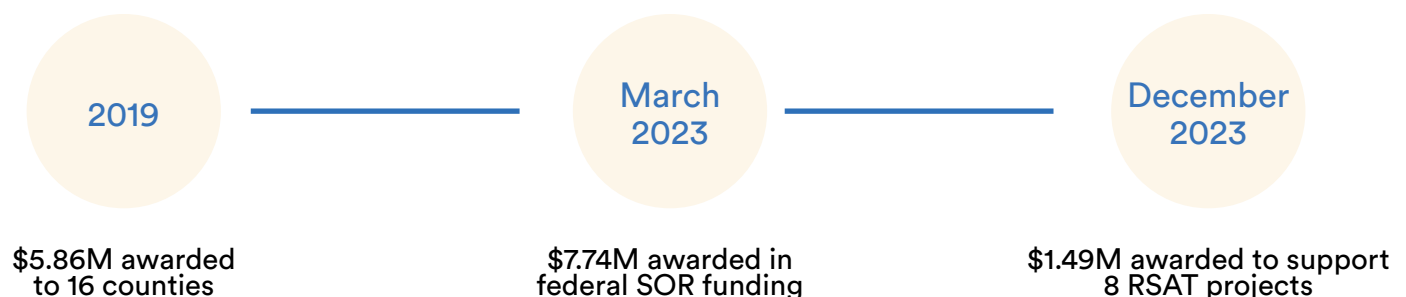
In June 2023, PCCD approved 58 applications, serving 61 counties, through the Intermediate Punishment Treatment Program, totaling approximately \$16.4 million. These funds supported restrictive probation conditions including drug and alcohol treatment, assessments, evaluations, case management, and supervision services.

- 22,963 individuals actively participated in a CIP sentence in FY 2023-24.
- 3,083 individuals successfully completed their CIP sentence.
- 281,918 jail days averted due to program completion.

## Expanding Treatment & Recovery Supports through Federal Grant Programs

Through state and federal funding streams, the State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant, Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program, and the County Jail-Based Vivitrol Program, PCCD supported counties in expanding evidence-based interventions across the criminal justice continuum.

County Jail-Based Vivitrol Program begins.



These programs collectively served more than 5,700 justice-involved individuals statewide during FY 2023-24.

## FY 2023—24 Outcomes Across Programs:

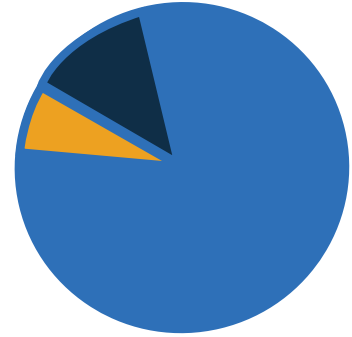
### ► Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) in County Jails

MAT services were enhanced with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) through eight new Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) projects funded in December 2023 (totaling \$1.49 million).

9% Methadone  
290 individuals

5% Vivitrol  
155 individuals

86% Buprenorphine  
2,874 individuals



### ► Diversion and Court-Based Supports

- 66 individuals participated in drug courts.
- 41 individuals received pretrial diversion services.

### ► Reentry and Recovery Supports

- 63 individuals completed MAT programming.
- 53 returned to the community after release.
- 85 individuals received aftercare services post-release.
- Additional Supports Included:
  - 958 received outpatient treatment, legal assistance, or peer support.
  - 97 received recovery support services.
  - 270 received case management.

These initiatives not only reduced recidivism risk but also improved health and recovery outcomes for individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

# Stepping Up Initiative

*The Stepping Up initiative is a national effort **launched in 2015** to reduce the number of individuals with **serious mental illness (SMI)** and **co-occurring substance use disorders** in local jails. In **2018**, PCCD partnered with the **Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center** to create the **Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance (TA) Center**, making Pennsylvania the **first state** to establish a statewide TA center dedicated to the initiative.*

*The TA Center provides counties with individualized technical assistance, peer learning opportunities, access to national experts, and policy guidance to strengthen data-driven decision-making, foster cross-system collaboration, and enhance behavioral health services for justice-involved individuals.*

## ► Statewide Impact in FY 2023-24

As of FY 2023-24, Pennsylvania counties continued to lead the way in implementing evidence-based strategies under Stepping Up:

- 36 counties passed official Stepping Up resolutions.
- 30 counties received broad-based technical assistance.
- 20 counties actively engaged with the TA Center.
- 8 counties were recognized nationally as Stepping Up Innovator Counties, placing Pennsylvania second in the nation for innovation.

## ► County-Level Progress and System Enhancements

- 18 counties implemented or explored validated mental health screening tools.
- 13 counties conducted full mental health assessments within 72 hours of booking.
- 13 counties established a shared definition of mental illness across behavioral health and criminal justice systems.
- 19 counties invested in dedicated staffing to support Stepping Up efforts.
- 17 counties invested in staff training
- 15 counties fully or partially implemented electronic data systems, with many others improving data collection infrastructure.

# Pennsylvania Overdose Prevention Program (POPP)

*In August 2023, PCCD, through a partnership with the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP), expanded the Naloxone for First Responders Program (NFRP) into the newly launched Pennsylvania Overdose Prevention Program (POPP). This enhanced initiative continues to provide free naloxone kits while also distributing drug checking strips to further support overdose prevention efforts statewide.*

## ► POPP expanded the reach of life-saving supplies to communities across the Commonwealth by:

- Adding free drug testing strips to the list of available resources.
- Streamlining the online ordering process to simplify access for community partners.
- Establishing “Recognized Entities” to enhance local-level distribution and community engagement.

“

Launching POPP is a big step forward for Pennsylvania in ensuring we effectively address our state’s overdose crisis. The program puts the focus of overdose prevention efforts where it belongs—with harm reduction groups and other grassroots service providers.

*Carla Sofronski*

*Co-Founder and Executive Director of PA Harm Reduction Network*



*Shapiro-Davis Administration Highlights  
Success of PA Overdose Prevention Program  
Distribution in First 30 Days  
October 06, 2023 - Harrisburg, PA*

“

The people who are closest to the pain should be closest to the power, and those who are closest to the problem are closest to the solution. It's important to center the voices of young people who have experience with the juvenile justice system, so we can address the root causes of this issue.

**Austin A. Davis**

*Lt Governor of Pennsylvania*

*Chairman of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency*

*Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and  
Delinquency Highlights Youth Justice Advisory*

*Boards in Honor of Juvenile Justice Week*

*October 03, 2023 - Harrisburg, PA*



# Justice System Improvements

PCCD continues to lead statewide efforts to support youth, reduce recidivism, and promote community-based, evidence-driven solutions through partnerships, funding, and innovation.

## ▶ Youth Justice Advisory Boards (YJAB-C)

In FY 2023-24, more than 95 youth across 8 county-based YJAB pilot sites received training in:

- Public speaking, storytelling, and leadership.
- Advocacy, communication, and motivational interviewing.
- Workforce development and financial literacy.

Key Highlights from FY 2023-24:

- **October 2023:** YJABs were recognized by PCCD during Juvenile Justice Week to recognize their contributions and progress.
- **June 2024:** 50+ YJAB members gathered in Benchmark Program in Lancaster to develop youth-led solutions to system challenges.



*Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Highlights Youth Justice Advisory Boards in Honor of Juvenile Justice Week  
October 03, 2023- Harrisburg, PA*

*\* Photo Source; Bench Mark Program*

## ▶ 2023 Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Plan

Pennsylvania's strategic plan outlines goals for prevention, equity, and system enhancement.

[View the Executive Summary](#)



[View the Full Prevention Plan](#)



“

**I believe this is another example of how Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system is ever-changing and committed to implementing new programs and ideas to advance our balanced and restorative justice mission and improving outcomes for youth.**

*Robert Tomassini  
JCJC Executive Director*

## ► Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES)

*Since 2009, JJSES has promoted data-driven, evidence-based reforms to achieve restorative justice outcomes.*

[View the JJSES Monograph](#)



The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission 2023 annual report takeaways:

[View the 2023 Highlights](#)



- Most youth were diverted from adjudication.
- School-based incidents remained a primary pathway into the system.

[View the 2023 Case Closing Outcome Measures](#)



[View the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission 2023 Annual Report](#)



[View the 10 Year Trend Data](#)



## ► Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™)

A performance improvement tool that supports local accountability and quality programming for juvenile services.

- 68 services across 45 counties participated in SPEP evaluation during FY 2023 - 24.

## ► Evidence-Based Prevention & Intervention (EPIS)

PCCD and DHS fund Penn State EPIS to support communities and schools in delivering high-quality, evidence-based programs.

EPIS Special Initiatives:

- **Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP):**  
Reached 6,000+ youth and families in high-need areas.
- **DDAP Needs Assessment Project:**  
All 67 counties are engaged in systematic prevention planning and other prevention supports through EPIS.

## ► Compliance Monitoring

To ensure youth are not improperly held in adult facilities and away from potential harm, PCCD conducts inspections aligned with the federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act.

- 622 juvenile site visits were monitored in FY 2023-24.

# Criminal Justice System Improvements

## ► Indigent Defense

In 2023 - 24, Governor Shapiro secured Pennsylvania's first-ever state funding for indigent defense services, ending its status as one of just two states without this support.

Highlights:

- **Indigent Defense Advisory Committee (IDAC)** convened for the first time in February 2024.
- First-ever state indigent defense grants released in **April 2024**.
- Funds available to all 67 counties by July 1, 2024.



*After Governor Shapiro Proposes Historic Indigent Defense Funding in 2024-25 Budget, PCCD Hosts Inaugural Meeting of Indigent Defense Advisory Committee  
February 12, 2024 - Harrisburg, PA*

## ► Local Law Enforcement Support Grant Program

In one of the largest tech-focused public safety investments in PA history:

- \$119.5 million awarded across 225 municipalities.
- Supported upgrades in:
  - IT & Communication Systems
  - Equipment & Training
  - Recruitment, Retention, & Personnel Support
- Per Act 54, funding prioritized areas with high violent crime or low clearance rates.

### Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentives

To help fill police officer vacancies, PCCD awarded \$2.9 million across 97 municipalities to:

- Fund Act 120 training.
- Support recruitment pipelines and officer onboarding.

This funding resulted in 569 officers supported in FY 2023-24.

# Improving Probation, Parole & Reentry

## ► Probation Reform

In December 2023, Governor Shapiro signed **Act 44 of 2023** into law, marking a significant milestone in Pennsylvania's efforts to modernize its probation system. The law took effect on June 11, 2024 and includes key provisions aimed at:

- Reducing unnecessary and prolonged supervision.
- Promoting early termination for individuals demonstrating compliance.
- Encouraging evidence-based practices that support rehabilitation and reentry.

As part of the implementation of **Act 44**, PCCD developed and adopted an Operating Standard in June 2024 to support accelerated probation review conferences, which offer eligible individuals a timely opportunity for review and potential early release from supervision.

# Strengthening County Adult Probation & Parole

## ▶ County Adult Probation Services Grant-in-Aid Support

*As part of its statutory responsibilities, PCCD provides financial support and oversight to improve adult probation services across Pennsylvania counties.*

**[View the County Caseload Statistics 2023 Report](#)**



- **County Caseload Statistics 2023:**
  - The number of individuals under supervision in PA remained steady between 2022 and 2023.
  - Over the past decade, total caseloads have decreased by 14.6%.
- **Demographics:**
  - 73% of supervised individuals were male.
  - 81% identified as white.
- **Caseload Distribution:**
  - Urban areas such as Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties had the highest overall caseloads.
  - Rural counties continued to experience staffing shortages and higher caseloads per officer, compared to urban counterparts.
- Probation remains the most common form of supervision, accounting for 42.3% of the total caseload statewide.
- **Evaluation and Research Efforts:**
  - In FY 2023-24, PCCD's research staff partnered with three county probation departments to examine recidivism rates among individuals assessed using validated risk tools.
  - These studies represent the initial phase of a larger research initiative aimed at understanding outcomes and informing future investments in supervision strategies.

# Supporting County Reentry Coalitions & Strategic Planning

*PCCD continues to strengthen reentry efforts across Pennsylvania by supporting local coalitions and facilitating collaboration among service providers, justice agencies, and community stakeholders.*

## ► FY 2023–24 Reentry Program Highlights:

- 30 counties maintained active, county-led reentry coalitions during the fiscal year.
- Two additional counties established new reentry coalitions.
- Three more counties met PCCD's Reentry Minimum Operating Standards, bringing the total number of compliant counties to 14.

## ► Strategic Planning Support:

- PCCD awarded \$132,204 to support reentry planning activities in nine counties through the 2022 County Reentry Strategic Planning Solicitation.
- These funds were used to develop or update comprehensive reentry plans focused on improving service coordination, supporting individuals returning from incarceration, and reducing recidivism.

## ► Statewide Coordination:

- PCCD continued to play an active role in the Pennsylvania Reentry Council (PARC), led by the Office of Attorney General, which brings together stakeholders from across the Commonwealth to identify and address barriers to successful reentry.

“

In the aftermath of a shooting, victims experience devastating mental, physical, emotional and financial impacts that echo throughout their lives. That's why we must not turn our backs on victims. The Shapiro-Davis budget – and our proposed investment into the Crime Victims Compensation Fund – will help heal our communities and save lives.

**Austin A. Davis**

*Lt Governor of Pennsylvania*

*Chairman of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency*

*Lt. Gov. Austin Davis, Commonwealth Victim*

*Advocate, and Victim Services Coalitions*

*Highlight Importance of Victims Compensation*

*Assistance Program*

*April 29, 2024 - Harrisburg, PA*



# Victim Services & Compensation

## ► Resources for Victims of Gun Violence Initiative

This new initiative is designed to identify existing resources and address service gaps to better support survivors, families, and caregivers impacted by gun violence in Pennsylvania.

- Stakeholder Engagement: In its first year, the Victims' Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) led community engagement efforts through listening sessions and other outreach methods.
- Federal Support: PCCD allocated \$3 million in federal Byrne SCIP funds in its FY 2022-23 Funding Plan to support this work.
- Statewide Needs Assessment: In early 2024, PCCD awarded a grant to ICF International to conduct a statewide needs assessment. This assessment will help guide the development of a Resiliency Center in a Philadelphia community significantly affected by gun violence.

## ► Kingessing Heals Resiliency Center

Supported with funding from the federal crime victims fund, the Kingessing Heals Community Resilience Center was launched in response to the July 2-3, 2023 mass shooting in the Kingessing neighborhood of Philadelphia.

- The center is grounded in the Community Resilience Model (CRM).
- It offers a safe, healing space where residents affected by mass violence can access trauma-informed services, mental health support, and community resources.



# Victims' Services Programs & Funding Challenges

## ▶ Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funding Decline

- VOCA is the largest federal funding source for victim service organizations, supporting survivors of crimes such as domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and homicide.
- The VOCA fund has declined by 92%, from \$13 billion in 2017 to \$1.019 billion in 2023.

## ▶ FY 2023 - 24 Impact

- 5% funding reduction approved for VOCA-supported agencies, effective October 1, 2024
- Matching 5% cuts were approved for state-funded RASA (Rights and Services Act) and VOJO (Victims of Juvenile Offenders) programs, effective January 1, 2025.

# Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP)

*VCAP provides financial assistance to crime victims and their families, helping them recover from the emotional and economic impact of crime.*

- Total Awards: 7,765
- Total Funds Distributed: \$14,399,086.49
- Statewide Reach: Claims were paid out in all 67 counties.



“

We were challenged mentally and physically and often taken out of our comfort zones. I am confident in my knowledge and abilities obtained through the Academy to better serve my community.

**Justin Pratt**

*Deputy Sheriff for Montgomery County  
and member of the 2024 Basic Training Academy graduating class*

*Commission on Crime and Delinquency's  
Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and  
Training Program Celebrates 40 Years and  
2024 Basic Training Academy Graduates  
May 20, 2024 - Harrisburg, PA*



# Training

## Public Safety Training & Accreditation

### ▶ **Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Virtual Training Network (PAVTN)**

Launched in 2012 by PCCD and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association (PCPA), the PAVTN provides 24/7 online law enforcement training, reducing travel, trainer, and overtime costs. It began with 5 courses and 2,000 users and has grown significantly.

- 91 training courses offered.
- 32,897 registered users.
- 91,465 courses completed.

### ▶ **Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program**

Provides a standards-based blueprint for professionalization of law enforcement in Pennsylvania.

- 71% of PA police officers work in an accredited agency.
- 184 agencies accredited.
- 38 agencies achieved “Premier Status” (15+ years and 5+ reassessments).

### ▶ **County Adult Probation & Parole Basic Training Academy**

The Academy ensures probation officers are trained to meet current job responsibilities.

- 178 probation officers graduated, making the total 530 since PCCD assumed responsibility for delivering the Basic Training Academy for County Adult Probation and Parole staff.

## ▶ **County Probation & Parole Firearms Education & Training (FET)**

Sets and administers training standards for arming Adult and Juvenile probation departments.

- 196 officers graduated from the Basic Firearms Academy.
- 1,548 officers certified.
- 61 counties now authorized for armed duties (60 adult, 44 juvenile departments).

## ▶ **Constables' Training**

PCCD provides basic and firearms training, certification, and curriculum development through regional contractors.

- 34 constables/deputies completed basic training.
- 36 completed basic firearms training.

[View the Constables' 2023 Annual Report](#)



## ▶ **Sheriffs' & Deputy Sheriffs' Training**

Celebrated 40 years in May 2024 of improving public safety through enhanced training.

- 121 graduates from Basic Training Academy.
- 3,614 total graduates since 1984.

[View the Sheriff's and Deputy Sheriff's 2023 Annual Report](#)



# School Safety Training

## ▶ Act 55 School Safety Training

Mandated annual training for school employees (3 hours) and coordinators (7 hours) on topics like situational and behavioral health awareness.

- 6 online training modules launched by end of FY.
- Online modules accessed more than 75x.
  - 85% of users found training helpful or very helpful.
  - 400 daily users on average.
- 733 safety coordinators trained by August 2024.
  - 85% reported improved knowledge.

## ▶ K-12 Threat Assessment Training & Technical Assistance Network

Supports public school Threat Assessment Teams with foundational training, technical assistance, and digital resources.

Network Impact to Date:

- 3,700 individuals completed coursework.
- 91% of in-person trainees are members of Threat Assessment Teams.
- 92% reported increased understanding.
- 88% reported greater preparedness.

Highlights

- \$374,770 in state funds approved to continue the Network through September 2026.
- Funding supports materials development, training delivery, and online resources.

# Victims' Services Training

## ▶ Statewide Victim Witness Training Project

Ensures consistent foundational and specialized training for victim advocates.

- 138 advocates attended Foundational Academy during FY 2023-
- 238 participated in advanced/specialized trainings.
  - Topics: human trafficking, homicide by vehicle, trauma-informed care, etc.

## ▶ Victim Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) Training

Provides education on eligibility and procedures for compensation to service providers.

- 699 individuals trained statewide.

## ▶ Pennsylvania Victim Services Training Network (PVST)

Online LMS providing interactive training for victim advocates and allied professionals.

- 40+ courses available.
- 2,945 registered users from 281 agencies.
- 3,294 courses completed.





Pennsylvania  
**Commission on Crime  
and Delinquency**

PA Commission on Crime  
and Delinquency

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[www.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov)

