

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency

FY 2022-2023 Annual Report



PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION
CRIME & DELINQUENCY



Letter from the Chair



It's hard to believe that it's been one year since Governor Josh Shapiro and I have taken office in this great state. In our first year, the Shapiro-Davis Administration has gotten an incredible amount of work done and delivered real results for Pennsylvanians— but our work is far from over.

In fiscal year 2022-23, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), of which I am proud to serve as Chair, administered 47 state and federal grant programs, and awarded approximately \$583 million to support 1,857 grant projects across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Every day PCCD is working to make Pennsylvania communities safer – whether it's addressing gun and group violence, supporting services for victims of crime, awarding grants to support County Adult Probation and Parole, preventing substance misuse or providing funds to secure facilities and organizations that could be targets for hate crimes, the Commission makes an impact in all 67 counties. I encourage you to read through this annual report, which delivers on the goals laid out in our Strategic Framework and provides a snapshot of the invaluable work being done at PCCD.

We look forward to continuing to work with our partners at the state and local level to deliver these critical services. Together, we can build a safer and more just Commonwealth for all Pennsylvanians.

Austin A. Davis
Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania
Chair of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency

CREATED BY STATUTE

The General Assembly finds and declares that:

- (a) crime and delinquency are essentially State and local problems;*
- (b) crime and delinquency are complex social phenomena requiring the attention and efforts of the criminal justice system, State and local governments, and private citizens alike;*
- (c) the establishment of appropriate goals, objectives and standards for the reduction of crime and delinquency and for the administration of justice must be a priority concern;*
- (d) the functions of the criminal justice system must be coordinated more efficiently and effectively;*
- (e) the full and effective use of resources affecting State and local criminal justice systems requires the complete cooperation of State and local government agencies; and*
- (f) training, research, evaluation, technical assistance and public education activities must be encouraged and focused on the improvement of the criminal justice system and the generation of new methods for the prevention and reduction of crime and delinquency.*

(Act of Nov. 22, 1978, P.L. 1166, No. 274)

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Boston, with a semi-transparent blue overlay. The text is centered over the image.

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.



ABOUT PCCD

PCCD's mission is 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.

Established by law in 1978, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) serves as the justice planning and policymaking agency for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

By bringing together a wide range of experts in the fields of criminal and juvenile justice, victim services, and related professions, PCCD coordinates the collective examination of problems, proposes solutions, and evaluates the impact of those solutions.

Among its primary functions, PCCD:

- Facilitates partnerships among federal, state, and local policymakers;

- Fosters interagency coordination and cooperation;
- Develops and coordinates policy issues;
- Provides statewide criminal statistical and analytical services;
- Fosters community-based initiatives in the areas of delinquency prevention and offender reintegration;
- Promotes the use of information technology and information sharing to enhance operational effectiveness in criminal justice agencies; and
- Grants federal and state funds to provide monies to support best practices and innovation.

You can learn more about PCCD by visiting its website at www.pccd.pa.gov.

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; and
- Administering the school safety and security program established by Act 44 of 2018.

2021-2025 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Goal 1: We support programs and practices that promote justice for all citizens and communities in Pennsylvania.

Goal 2: We invest in ideas and strategies that improve systems and help make Pennsylvanians and communities safer.

Goal 3: We work with partners to reduce the impact of crime on victims and survivors.

Goal 4: We support training and skill-building to ensure the preparedness of our practitioners.

Goal 5: We develop and share relevant expertise, data, and resources to inform state and local efforts.

Goal 6: We will ensure impact, fairness, transparency, quality, and equity in how PCCD conducts business and allocates resources.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Summary of Activities from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

AGENCY PROGRAMS & GRANT MAKING

During FY 2022-23, PCCD awarded approximately \$583 million to support 1,857 grant projects across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PCCD initiates, validates, and makes financial investments in justice-related programs aligned with promising practices identified by practitioners and experts. The agency focuses on research, policy, planning, training, evidence-based programming, technology, outreach, and support services. PCCD fosters interagency coordination and cooperation by:

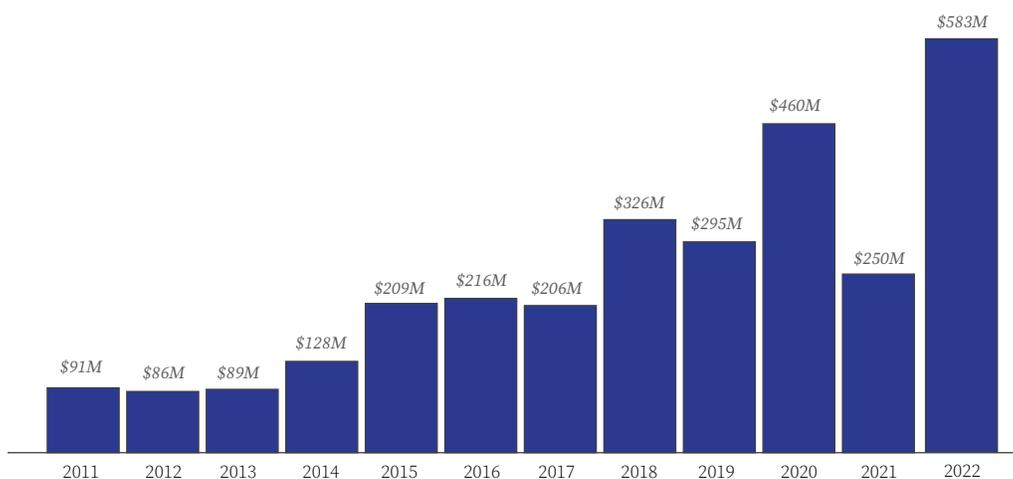
- Developing and coordinating policy issues;
- Providing statewide criminal statistical and analytical services; and
- Granting federal and state funds to provide investments in new or existing efforts.

The administration of federal and state funding programs remains a central responsibility of the agency. In FY 2022-23, PCCD administered 47 state and federal grant programs, and awarded approximately \$583 million to support 1,857 grant projects across the Commonwealth. The number of grant projects supported more than doubled in FY 2022-23, from the 650 grant projects supported in FY 2021-22.

Among these various grant programs, in FY 2022-23, PCCD provided funding to support a wide range of initiatives and activities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Grants to support community-led efforts to prevent and address gun and group violence through the Gun Violence Reduction Grants Program and the new Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Grants program;
- Victim services supports, including grants to victim service providers and children’s advocacy centers;
- Grants to support County Adult Probation and Parole;
- Violence and delinquency prevention program grants;
- Grants to support victims of juvenile offenders;
- Grants to prevent and address issues of substance misuse and substance use disorder; and
- Administering the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which supports security enhancements for churches, synagogues, mosques, and other organizations representing populations at greater risk of experiencing hate crimes.

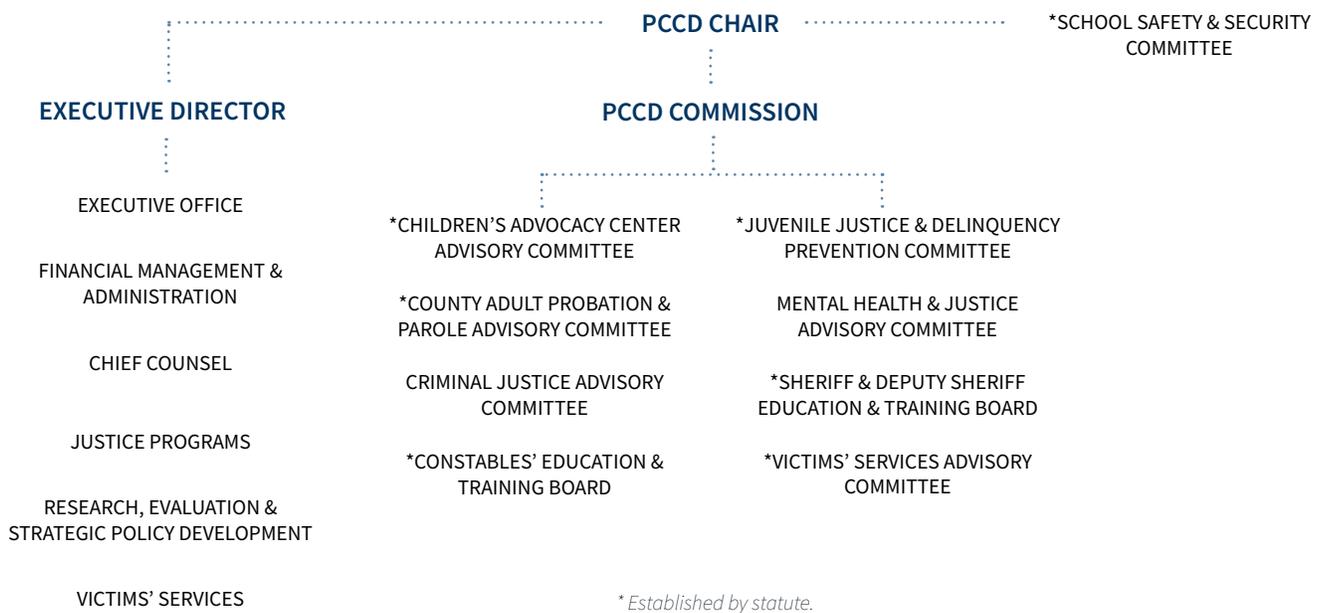
TOTAL FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY PCCD PER YEAR, 2011-2022 (IN MILLIONS)



PCCD

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

As the Commonwealth's justice planning and policy-making agency, PCCD relies upon a collaborative structure that brings together diverse and talented stakeholders, including judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, probation officers, corrections officers, treatment providers, educators, victim service providers, legislators, youth, and community members.



ADVISORY COMMITTEES & BOARDS

To better inform the Commission in its work, PCCD is comprised of six Advisory Committees, the School Safety and Security Committee, and two Training Boards:

Children’s Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC)

CACAC was established by Act 28 of 2014 to advise the Commission on the development and promotion of programs and projects related to Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs) and Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams (MDITs). CACAC was also directed by the Act to advise the Commission in the distribution of grants to support both existing and developing CACs and MDITs.

County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC)

Established by Act 114 of 2019, the CAPPAC advises the Commission on all matters pertaining to the administration of the county adult probation and parole system and assists in the implementation of Act 115 of 2019, specifically related to sentences of probation with restrictive conditions of supervision. By statute, CAPPAC is responsible for directing technical assistance; reviewing grant applications for county intermediate punishment treatment programs and discretionary grants; developing a funding plan for county adult probation and parole departments; analyzing data to identify trends and determine effectiveness of programs and practices; as well as making recommendations and adopting standards for probation and parole personnel, including standards for services, caseload standards, risk assessment, responses to violations, collection of restitution, and other evidence-based programs and practices.

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)

CJAC is a collaborative forum for state, county, and other criminal justice partners throughout the Commonwealth to share and discuss their collective issues and solutions. CJAC focuses on the development of long-range strategies and plans and sets priorities for justice projects supported by PCCD’s various funding streams.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC)

JJJPC was established by Act 30 of 2001, and is the official juvenile justice planning, coordinating, and policy-setting body for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. JJJPC develops a comprehensive, long-range plan and related policies for the Commonwealth’s juvenile justice system. Additionally, the group sets priorities for juvenile justice projects supported by PCCD’s various funding streams. JJJPC also ensures compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee (MHJAC)

PCCD partnered with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DHS/OMHSAS) to establish MHJAC in 2009. MHJAC provides guidance and structure to ensure statewide coordination and effectiveness of Pennsylvania’s criminal justice and mental health systems, enabling PCCD to continue supporting statewide strategies that direct technical assistance to evidence-based practices; guide the operation and sustainability of jail diversion and reentry programs; and provide a clearinghouse for resources related to criminal justice, mental health, and substance use disorder.

Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC)

Established by Act 111 of 1998, VSAC serves in an advisory capacity to PCCD and to assure that the voices, needs, and perspectives of all crime victims/survivors will be considered in the development of services, service standards, policies, funding priorities, legislation, and victim compensation assistance.

School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC)

Established by Act 44 of 2018, the SSSC is tasked with developing criteria school entities can use in performing school safety and security assessments, issuing a survey to school entities to measure school safety and security preparedness, and administering grants to improve school safety. The SSSC also administers the Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Grant program.

Constables’ Education and Training Board (CETB)

Established by Act 102 of 1992, the CETB advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training, continuing education, and firearms qualification that serve as the basis for certification of constables and deputy constables within the Commonwealth.

Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB)

Established by Act 2 of 1984, the SDSETB advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training and continuing education that serve as the basis for certification of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs within the Commonwealth’s 67 counties.

INTERNAL OFFICES

In addition to the Advisory Committees and Boards, PCCD is staffed by four Offices and underlying units that facilitate Advisory Committee work and implement the actions taken by the Commission. The Offices are as follows:

Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

The Office of Justice Programs was established in 2020 to oversee four areas of PCCD's work:

- ***Criminal Justice System Improvements:*** OJP's unit of Criminal Justice System Improvements advances the criminal justice system by coordinating with all levels of criminal justice agencies in identifying their issues, developing policies and programs, and implementing innovative justice improvement solutions that enhance public safety.
- ***Juvenile Justice:*** OJP's unit of Juvenile Justice develops policy recommendations and administers federal and state funds to support programs designed to improve the Commonwealth's juvenile justice system.
- ***Violence Prevention:*** OJP's unit of Violence Prevention works collaboratively with private and public sector partners to prevent children and youth violence, delinquency, substance misuse, school dropout, and related problem behaviors.
- ***Bureau of Training Services:*** OJP's Bureau of Training Services oversees training and continuing education programs for constables and deputy constables, as well as sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Staff also support activities related to PCCD's relevant Training Boards.

Office of Victims' Services (OVS)

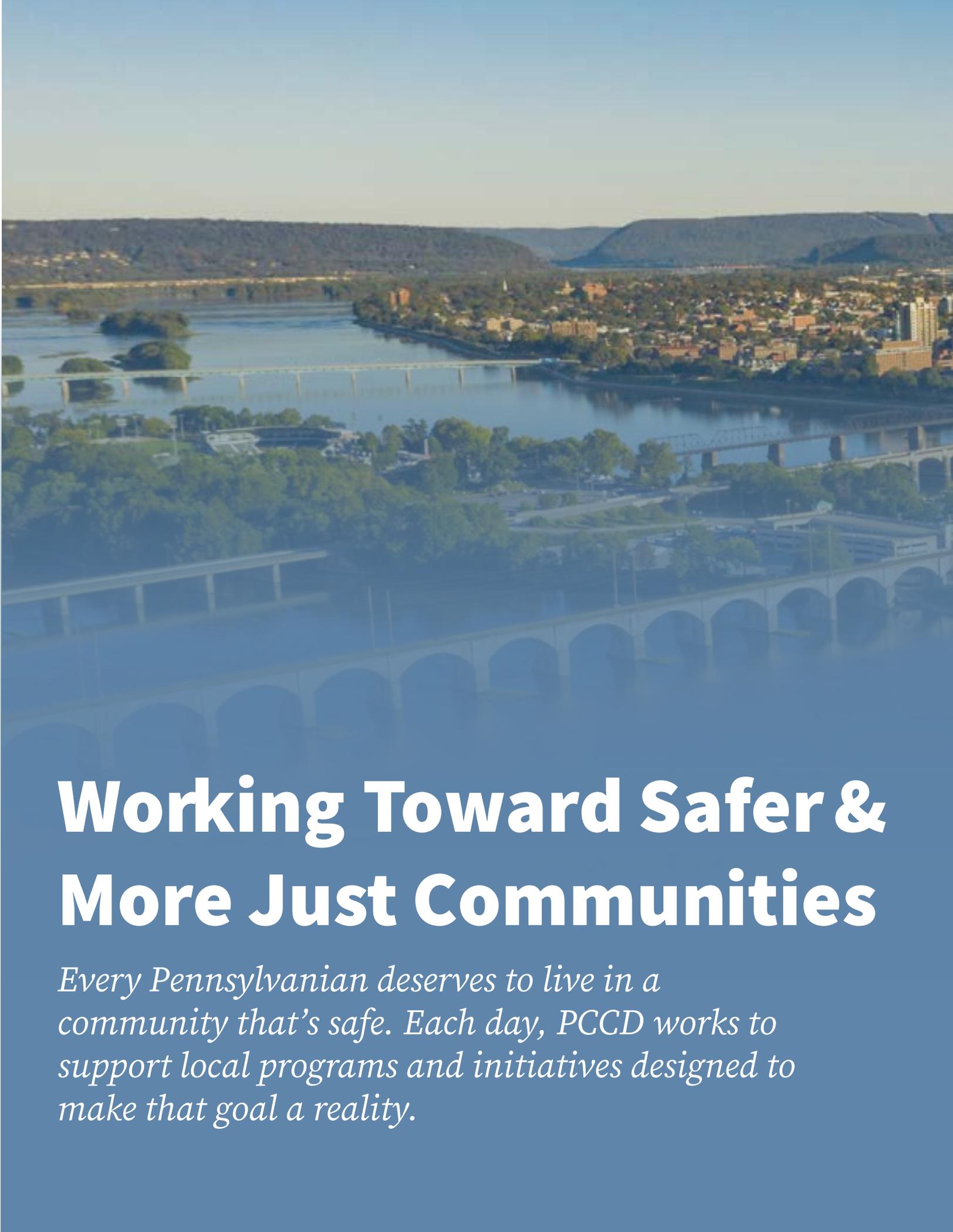
The Office of Victims' Services works to help crime victims transcend their trauma by funding victim service agencies that work directly with victims, offering financial help to victims through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program, and collaborating with criminal justice and allied professionals that advocate and respond to the needs of victims.

Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development (ORESPD)

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development provides research support and data analysis to the other Offices and analyzes policies and legislation that impact the juvenile and criminal justice systems and victims. ORESPD also supports the implementation of safety-related initiatives, such as the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund; supports the CACAC's efforts; and assists in the administration of school safety grants and related initiatives under the SSSC. ORESPD also provides oversight of the Office of the Safe Schools Advocate (OSSA), which provides support and advocacy for students and staff who are victims of school-based violence and/or crimes committed within the School District of Philadelphia.

Office of Financial Management and Administration (OFMA)

The Office of Financial Management and Administration administers and monitors the distribution of grant funding, performs budgeting and procurement services, and oversees administrative support services. OFMA is responsible for ensuring accountability of financial resources and works with the aforementioned program offices to ensure funds are utilized consistent with statute, interagency agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, and/or federal regulation.

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, featuring a wide river with several bridges. The city buildings are visible on the right side, and the background shows rolling hills under a clear sky. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue gradient.

Working Toward Safer & More Just Communities

Every Pennsylvanian deserves to live in a community that's safe. Each day, PCCD works to support local programs and initiatives designed to make that goal a reality.

Preventing & Reducing Gun Violence

Providing support for effective, community-led gun violence prevention is one of PCCD's top strategic priorities.

Over the past few years, PCCD has been tasked with designing and implementing several strategies to address the public safety crisis of gun violence. PCCD's work is guided by [Executive Order 2019-06](#) and by the [Report of Findings, Recommendations & Action Steps](#) developed by the [Special Council on Gun Violence](#). PCCD's gun violence prevention and reduction initiatives include:

- [Grants & Funding](#): Supporting adoption and implementation of innovative, evidence-based violence reduction strategies through grants, with a focus on supporting community-driven approaches.
- [Technical Assistance & Stakeholder Engagement](#): Establishing a "Community of Practice" and information sharing network to spread promising practices and directly engage communities.
- [Data & Research](#): Collect, collate, and analyze available data and research to evaluate outcomes and make adjustments to strategy as needed.

EXPANDING INVESTMENTS IN COMMUNITY-LED EFFORTS TO GUN VIOLENCE

In FY 2022-23, PCCD approved and onboarded 127 VIP and Coordinated Community Violence Intervention Pilot grant projects totaling approximately \$100 million focused on addressing community gun violence through a wide range of strategies.

The resources allocated to PCCD to tackle the complex issue of gun violence have grown significantly in the past five years, from just \$1.5 million in state funds in FY 2018 to more than \$150 million in FY 2022-23. The FY 2022-23 state budget included \$105 million in new state and federal funding to support the Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Grants program, administered by PCCD's School Safety and Security Committee. PCCD also received \$50 million in Gun Violence Investigation & Prosecution funds to support law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies to address this issue in FY 22-23.

VIP funding is intended to support effective local intervening and preventative measures to stop gun and group violence in areas experiencing high rates of violent crime within Pennsylvania. Community-based organizations, institutions of higher education, local municipalities, district attorneys, and counties were eligible to apply for VIP funding.

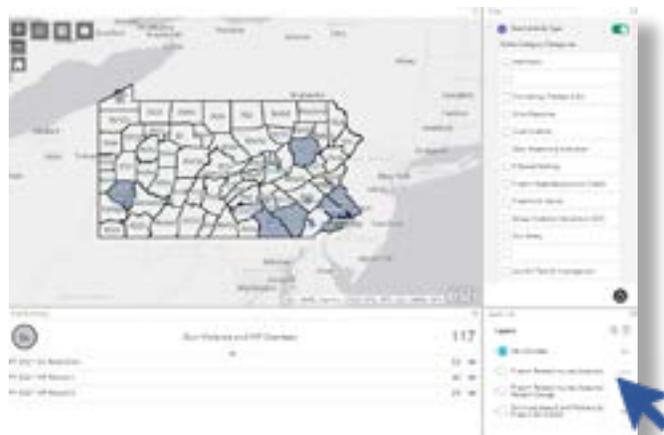
Building on 'lessons learned' from the first cohort of VIP grantees in FY 2021-22, PCCD's \$105 million FY 2022-23 VIP funding framework dedicated resources for statewide technical assistance and training supports, new priorities and adjusted approaches for funding programs to account for capacity challenges, and piloting new Coordinated Community Violence Intervention Strategies.

The School Safety and Security Committee approved 127 VIP Grants and Coordinated CVI Pilot Grants in January 2023. Since 2021, PCCD has supported more than 190 local projects and initiatives through its VIP Grants Program, ranging from smaller grassroots programs to large-scale, community-wide and regional partnerships.

Additional information about projects supported through the FY 2021 Gun Violence Reduction and VIP Grants is available on PCCD's Gun Violence Grants & Funding website and an interactive Gun Violence and VIP Grantees data dashboard.

TYPES OF PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY VIP GRANTS

- Arts/Music/Recreation Programs
- Counseling, Therapy & Behavioral Health
- Crisis Response
- Law Enforcement Tech & Investigations
- Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs
- Youth-focused & School-based Programs
- Pre-release & Reentry Programs
- Safe Passages / Safe Corridors
- Street Outreach & Violence Interruption (e.g., Cure Violence, Group Violence Intervention, etc.)
- Trauma-informed Approaches & Care
- Victim Services
- Wraparound Supports & Services



VIOLENCE INTERVENTION & PREVENTION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE

Launched in 2021-22, the VIP Technical Assistance initiative provides no-cost resources to groups and individuals working to address violence in their communities.

In May 2022, PCCD launched a new statewide VIP Technical Assistance initiative in partnership with WestEd's Justice and Prevention Research Center and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).

In March 2023, PCCD and WestEd launched the PA Peace Alliance, a first-of-its-kind online resource for community groups working to address gun violence in the Commonwealth. The PA Peace Alliance is a one-stop-shop for free technical assistance, training, and other resources. More information is available at papeacealliance.org.

The program offers a wide range of technical assistance, training, and capacity building supports, shaped by grantee feedback and available at no cost for participating members. The initiative also provides opportunities for engaging with peers and content experts on issues ranging from community violence intervention strategies to nonprofit fundraising and governance and program management to best practices for supporting frontline workers, participants, and staff.

In FY 2022-23, the Committee approved an augmentation and extension of this initiative through 2025.



GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH & EVALUATION

In 2022-23, PCCD announced a new VIP Grants Evaluation Initiative to understand the impacts of grant-funded programs and published new research on non-fatal firearm injuries in Pennsylvania.

On May 31, 2023, the School Safety and Security Committee approved a \$2.7 million award to the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center (NORC), in partnership with Temple University, to examine the effectiveness of projects funded through VIP and the Coordinated Community Violence Intervention Strategies Pilot sites. The goal of this two-year initiative is to support comprehensive research and evaluation to determine early outcomes and short-term impacts of PCCD's investments in community violence prevention and intervention efforts.

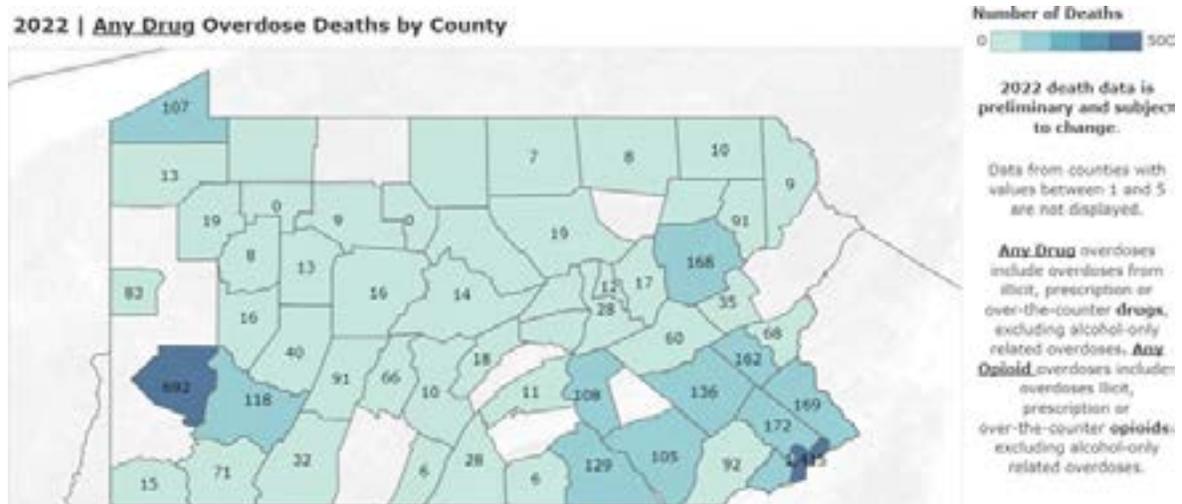
Additionally, in August 2022, researchers from the Indiana University of PA (affiliated with PCCD's Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development) published a new report on Cost of Non-fatal Firearm Injuries in Pennsylvania, 2016-2021. Using data from the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4), researchers analyzed the prevalence and costs of firearm-related injuries over a five-year period.

Addressing Pennsylvania's Overdose Epidemic

PCCD works with public health and public safety partners at the federal, state, and local levels to invest in a wide range of programs and strategies aimed at preventing, addressing, and mitigating impacts of the substance use crisis.

Every two hours one Pennsylvanian dies from a drug overdose, and in 2022, 5,153 people died from an overdose death in communities across the state. According to data from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, 84% of drug overdose deaths involved an opioid and, increasingly, involved synthetic opioids like fentanyl as well as stimulants.

PCCD oversees and administers several grants and initiatives to address Pennsylvania's substance use and overdose epidemics - from upstream prevention programs focused on youth and families to distributing lifesaving opioid overdose reversal medication (naloxone) to first responders across the Commonwealth.



More than 5,100 Pennsylvanians died from a drug overdose in 2022. Drug overdose deaths impacted families, friends, and communities in every Pennsylvania county.

RELEVANT FUNDING STREAMS & GRANTS

- Act 80 Vivitrol
- Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant & Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) Grant Program
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)
- State Opioid Response (SOR) Funding - *County Jail-based Medication Assisted Treatment; Drug Courts & Pre-trial Diversion; Naloxone for First Responders Program; Opioid Misuse Prevention Pilot (OMPP); PA Start and PA Stop Campaigns; SBIRT Higher Education*
- Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR)

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

67

Number of Pennsylvania counties where PA Start and PA Stop materials are available.

4,000

Estimated number of parents/family members and youth served every year through the OMPP initiative.

1.3 M

Total doses of naloxone distributed through the Naloxone for First Responders Program since 2017.



COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION INITIATIVES

Utilizing a combination of state and federal funds, PCCD administers and supports several evidence-based primary prevention initiatives, including:

- Opioid Misuse Prevention Pilot (OMPP):** PCCD and the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) have partnered to support a multi-year prevention initiative focused on early education and awareness in five sites located in areas hardest hit by Pennsylvania's opioid crisis. The OMPP initiative focuses on stopping initial misuse of all substances and developing protections for youth and families that lead to better, more prosocial behaviors. An estimated 4,000 parents/family members and children were served through the program during federal FY 2022-23.
- Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR):** Under the Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction Act (Act 198 of 2002), PCCD must annually administer grants to support interventions, planning, public media awareness, and education campaigns that seek to prevent substance misuse. Given their focus on both youth- and adult-centered strategies, SAEDR funds are administered jointly by OJP's units of Criminal Justice System Improvements and Violence Prevention. In FY 2022-23, PCCD awarded \$1,556,295 to seven applicants for adult-focused Category 1 projects, and five youth focused SAEDR grants totaling \$1,143,705.
- PA Start and PA Stop:** A primary prevention initiative focused on building healthy, capable children and supporting positive actions, the campaigns feature downloadable materials that can be used for promoting proven, evidence-based programs addressing substance use initiation. PA Start and PA Stop materials are available to all 67 counties in Pennsylvania, and features partnerships with Single County Authorities (SCAs) and local coalitions to increase reach and dissemination of materials.

NALOXONE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS PROGRAM (NFRP)

Research shows that increasing access to naloxone - a lifesaving medication that can reverse an overdose caused by opioids - can significantly reduce overdose deaths.

Since 2017, PCCD has supported statewide distribution of lifesaving naloxone to communities across the Commonwealth. The [Naloxone for First Responders Program](#) provides intranasal naloxone kits to a wide range of first responders statewide at no cost using a network of local distribution hubs, or Centralized Coordinating Entities (CCEs).

As of June 2023, PCCD has purchased and distributed more than 1.3 million doses of naloxone since 2017. These efforts have resulted in at least 24,000 overdose reversals made using naloxone provided by CCEs since the program's launch.

Since creating a statewide allocation in the wake of COVID-19 and the subsequent launch of the NFRP Portal in March 2022, harm reduction groups, treatment providers, and other community-based organizations have represented a growing share of the program's reach.

During FY 2022-23, PCCD also continued to partner with Prevention Point Pittsburgh to expand its technical assistance program for grassroots organizations seeking to start or expand community-based naloxone programs. PCCD also continued to provide Narcan® to support a statewide mail-to-home naloxone program for individuals to request medication for personal use. The program was developed through a partnership with Prevention Point Pittsburgh and NEXT Distro.



In April 2023, PCCD [announced](#) that more than one million doses of naloxone had been purchased and distributed through the Naloxone for First Responders Program.

These efforts were made possible through federal State Opioid Response (SOR) funds sub-awarded to PCCD from DDAP in FY 2022-23. Learn more about the impact of the Naloxone for First Responders Program in a [report highlighting the initiative's first five years](#).

NALOXONE KITS ORDERED AND DISTRIBUTED THROUGH NFRP BY ZIP CODE (2017-2022)



COUNTY JAIL-BASED MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)

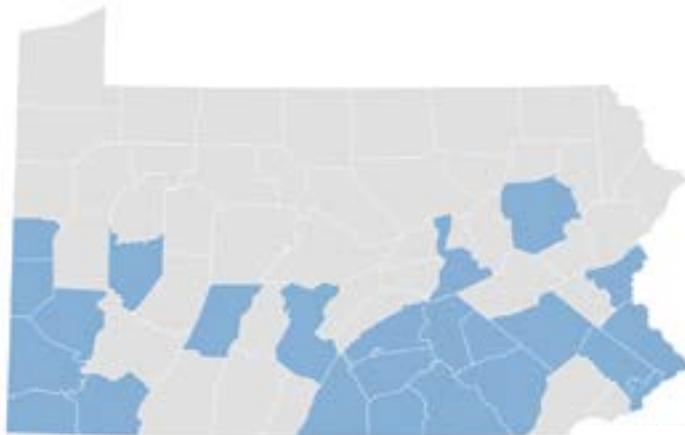
The number of individuals served through PCCD's County Jail-based Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program has increased by 1,454% since FY 2018-19.

On any given day in Pennsylvania, an average of 24,229 people are incarcerated in county jails. In 2021, Pennsylvania's county jails reported 122,938 admissions and 121,240 discharges. Many people incarcerated in prisons and jails have an active substance use disorder (SUD), and studies have found that people who were recently incarcerated are between 40 and 129 times more likely to die from an overdose in the first two weeks following their release compared to the general public.

In FY 2022-23, PCCD continued to support several projects providing for medication assisted treatment (MAT) within county jails and upon release to the community that had been awarded in the previous fiscal year. In FY 2019-20, PCCD awarded approximately \$5.6 million in state Act 80 funds to 16 counties seeking to provide Vivitrol injections and comprehensive SUD treatment to eligible individuals in county jails and upon release to the community through the 2019 County Jail-based Vivitrol Program. These funds were initially administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, but through a collaborative effort, PCCD's Criminal Justice System Improvements unit now administers these funds.

In FY 2021-22, 2019 County Jail-based Vivitrol Program grantees provided Vivitrol injections and programming to 494 participants. In September 2019, PCCD received \$2 million in federal State Opioid Response (SOR) funds from DDAP to support additional forms of MAT in combination with cognitive behavior treatment (CBT) in county jails across the Commonwealth. In late December 2019, PCCD awarded nine applications totaling approximately \$1.2 million through the 2019 County Jail-based MAT Program. These grants concluded in September 2021 and 2019 County Jail-based MAT Program grantees provided MAT and CBT to 508 participants in FY 2021-22.

In September 2021, PCCD once again received \$2 million in federal SOR funds from DDAP to support MAT in combination with CBT in county jails across the Commonwealth. In late December 2021, PCCD awarded 10 applications totaling nearly \$1.4 million through the 2021 County Jail-based MAT Program. Through FY 2021-22, 2021 County Jail-based MAT Program grantees provided MAT and CBT to 785 participants.



Map of the 28 Pennsylvania counties with jail-based medication assisted treatment (MAT) programs supported by PCCD grants.



FY 2022-23 AT A GLANCE: COUNTY JAIL-BASED MAT PROGRAMS

- 2,239 individuals were served in county jail-based MAT programming in FY 2022-23 – a 1,454% increase from FY 2018-19 levels (154 individuals served).
- Funding supports the purchase and administration of Buprenorphine, Methadone, and Vivitrol.



RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (RSAT)

The goal of the RSAT program is to further the U.S. Department of Justice's mission by assisting state, local, and tribal efforts to break the cycle of drug addiction and violence by reducing the demand for, use, and trafficking of illegal drugs. PCCD administered \$1,203,246 in federal RSAT funding in FY 2022-23 for projects to support evidence-based programs that develop an inmate's cognitive, behavioral, social, vocational, and other skills to address SUD and related issues through in-house county jail and/or work release center. During FY 2022-23, county jails provided MAT and CBT to 403 participants through RSAT funding.



PARTNERSHIP WITH VITAL STRATEGIES/BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES

In FY 2020-21, PCCD received \$500,000 in funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies through Vital Strategies to support the reduction of overdoses among probation and/or reentry populations at the county level. The County Overdose Reduction Program aimed to fulfill that goal through three focus areas: 1) training and/or education for justice practitioners on substance use disorder, overdose prevention, and harm reduction; 2) non-incarcerative and non-coercive alternatives for substance-related technical violations and connections to supports; and 3) peer recovery support.

In March 2021, the Commission approved applications for eight Pennsylvania counties under this funding announcement (Allegheny, Berks, Chester, Delaware, Franklin, Lackawanna, Lebanon, York). In total, county grantees served 2,642 probationers and 2,062 reentrants. Based on the success of this project, PCCD submitted and was awarded an application for federal FY 2022 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program funds to continue similar work.



COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID, STIMULANT & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION (COSSAP)

In 2020, PCCD submitted a competitive application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance seeking \$5,363,824 in federal COSSAP funds to support six counties in implementing law enforcement diversion programs, jail-based screening protocols, and comprehensive reentry services. PCCD, in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh's Program Evaluation Research Unit (PERU) and the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, will provide training and technical assistance to counties. Each of the eight participating counties will hire a Local Case Manager to ensure linkage to treatment and support services for individuals referred through the LETI Program and other initiatives. Local Program Coordinators also support implementation of key activities across diversion, screening, and reentry initiatives. Program implementation activities in FY 2022-23 resulted in 522 total diversions across the six participating counties.

In 2022, PCCD submitted a competitive application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance seeking \$4,907,329 in federal COSSAP funds to support six counties in reducing overdose deaths among two highly vulnerable groups: individuals under probation supervision and individuals recently released from incarceration. The 2022 COSSAP project will advance racial equity as well as deploy a range of evidence-based strategies designed to increase access to MAT and other SUD/ODU treatment services, as well as expand harm reduction efforts and access to recovery support services for probation and reentry populations. County sites will implement evidence-based models to support people who use drugs and/or are in recovery who are justice-involved and will develop tailored local action plans utilizing a menu of program areas: 1) peer recovery support oriented toward harm reduction; 2) reducing incarceration for substance-related technical violations (e.g., positive drug test, missed appointment) and utilizing non-incarcerative and non-coercive alternatives; and 3) promoting access to voluntary medications for OUD (MOUD) and other evidence-based services and supports. All project sites will be advised to develop and implement action plans that center racial equity principles in substance use services, building on recent progress and reform. Project sites will also be strongly encouraged to establish Community Advisory Boards (CABs) to incorporate lived experience into project development and decision-making. Each county site will receive intensive, tailored supports from the project's training and technical assistance partner, Justice System Partners (JSP). Groundwork will be laid by a baseline needs assessment and work throughout the project will be informed by multi-method research

and evaluation strategies executed by City University of New York's Institute for State & Local Governance (CUNY ISLG). In FY2022-23, grants were awarded to JSP and CUNY ISLG. To date, JSP and ISLG have completed the baseline needs assessment for participating counties. Findings were presented to counties along with recommendations for the utilization of COSSAP funding. PCCD is in the process of awarding grants to the identified county sites and implementation will take place across FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.



COUNTY INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT (CIP)

Established by 42 Pa.C.S. Chapter 98, County Intermediate Punishment (CIP) provides funding support to participating counties for programs offering restrictive intermediate punishments for certain

non-violent offenders. Act 115 of 2019 replaced County Intermediate Punishment as a sentencing option with an Order of Probation, for which restrictive conditions may be imposed. County Intermediate Punishment programs are restrictive conditions of probation imposed under section 9763 (c) or (d) (relating to adoption of guidelines for restrictive conditions).

Under CIP criteria, eligible individuals must undergo a diagnostic drug and alcohol dependency assessment to be eligible for the program. Beginning in FY 2016-17, PCCD expanded the use of CIP funds to include individuals who would otherwise be sentenced to a period of incarceration under Level 2 of the Pennsylvania Sentencing Guidelines. In FY 2017-18, the use of CIP funds was also expanded to include

individuals in need of mental health treatment services who are eligible for IP and would otherwise have been sentenced to incarceration under Levels 2, 3, or 4 of the Pennsylvania Sentencing Guidelines.

In June 2022, the Commission approved 59 applications for Intermediate Punishment Treatment Funds totaling approximately \$16.4 million. Funds can be used to support drug and alcohol assessment, evaluation, treatment, case management, and supervision services for individuals sentenced to probation with restrictive conditions. In FY 2022-23, 723 individuals were served through PCCD's CIP funding. Funds supported drug and alcohol treatment, assessment, evaluation, case management, and supervision services related to CIP activities. Ultimately, the program resulted in participants averting 239,743 jail days (calculation is based on the minimum sentence range of the sentencing guidelines). 81% of all participants successfully completed program requirements.



FY 2022-23 DATA SNAPSHOT: INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT

- 62 counties with IP programs supported with PCCD funding.
- 22,723 individuals actively participating in an IP sentence during the fiscal year.
- 2,923 offenders successfully completed IP in FY 2021-22.
- 239,743 - total number of jail days averted for all offenders who completed their IP sentence during FY 2022-23.



PROBLEM-SOLVING COURT INITIATIVES (INCLUDING DRUG COURTS)

Problem-solving courts, including specialty drug courts, and other diversionary programs provide alternatives to incarceration for Pennsylvanians in need of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services.

According to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), Pennsylvania's first problem-solving court was an adult drug court program opened in Philadelphia in 1997. The success of that initial problem-solving court and those that followed prompted significant expansion across the Commonwealth over the past two decades. Pennsylvania now has more than 100 problem-solving courts, including those focused on specific types of behaviors or conditions, such as SUD, DUI, mental health/illness, as well as juvenile drug and veteran's courts. As an alternative to incarceration, defendants in these courts are given counseling, treatment, emotional assistance, and healthcare support. More information about problem-solving courts and their locations can be found on AOPC's website.

In September 2021, PCCD received \$2 million in federal SOR funds from DDAP to support county-based drug courts and innovative pre-trial diversion initiatives. Through the 2021 Drug Court and Pretrial Diversion Initiative, PCCD awarded grants to 17 counties (Armstrong, Blair, Carbon, Clearfield, Fayette, Forest, Franklin, Greene, Indiana, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Mifflin, Northampton, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne, and Westmoreland) totaling \$2,115,991. The funds supported the expansion of existing drug courts, implementation of juvenile drug courts, implementation of pretrial initiatives, and opioid-related treatment services to problem-solving court participants.

Counties/sites continued program implementation throughout FY 2022-23. In total, 2021 Drug Court and Pretrial Diversion Initiative grantees served 3,634 justice-involved individuals through specialized drug and alcohol recovery supports with 423 participants successfully completing drug court and 331 participants successfully completing pretrial diversion programming. Additionally, grantees trained 401 criminal justice/behavioral health professionals.



REENTRY PROGRAMS

Since 2011, PCCD has supported a Reentry Coordinator role housed within the unit of Criminal Justice System Improvements. PCCD's Reentry Coordinator works to ensure linkages and collaboration around reentry efforts among community and faith-based service providers and county planners. PCCD has supported reentry efforts through numerous grant opportunities focused on the development of reentry strategic plans and implementation of reentry programming.

Coalitions of local stakeholders meet regularly to assess reentry practices and programming, identify gaps in service, and develop resources, programming, and practices to fill those gaps. These coalitions are comprised of local stakeholders working to positively impact the lives of returning citizens.

Following adoption of CJAC's strategic plan in 2019, PCCD started the process to develop County Reentry Coalition Minimum Operating Standards similar to those established for CJABs. In March 2020, the Commission adopted Minimum Operating Standards for County Reentry Coalitions. These Standards outline requirements for membership, bylaws, reentry strategic planning, recidivism data collection, as well as coalition compliance and recognition.

There were 35 county-based reentry coalitions active in FY 2022-23. Through FY 2022-23, 11 counties are compliant with the Minimum Operating Standards for County Reentry Coalitions. The 11 counties are: Bucks, Carbon, Cumberland, Franklin, Lancaster, Montgomery, Pike, Philadelphia, Snyder, Westmoreland, and York Counties.

PCCD also remained a key participant in the Pennsylvania Reentry Council (PARC), which was convened in 2017 by Governor Tom Wolf and Attorney General Josh Shapiro with the sole purpose of exploring issues related to the successful reintegration of returning citizens.

Nonprofit Security Grant Program

Established in 2019 by Act 83, the Nonprofit Security Grant Program provides funding to enhance safety and security efforts for faith-based institutions and non-profit organizations.

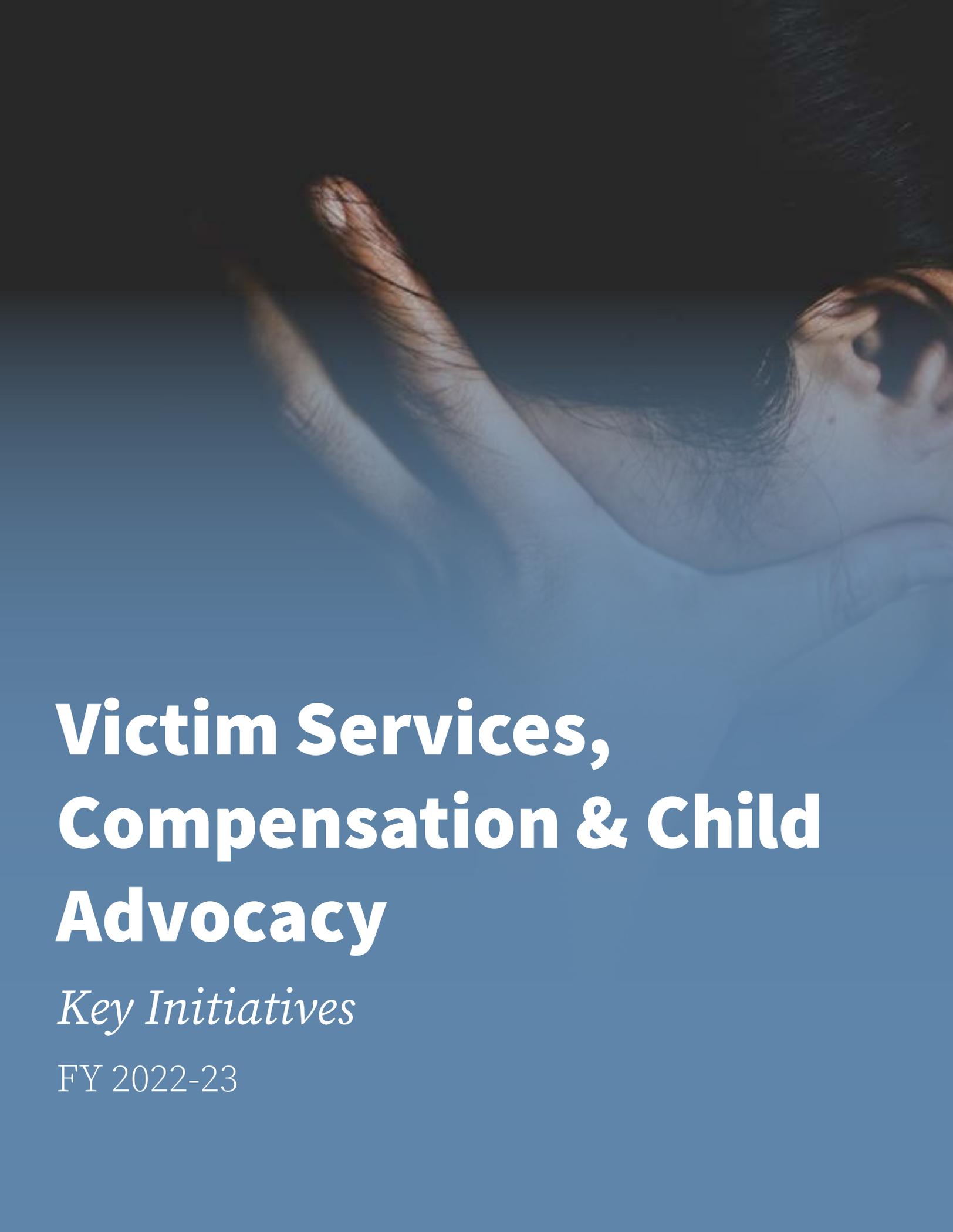
Administered by PCCD, the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund was established as part of Act 83 of 2019, which directed PCCD to administer grants to nonprofit organizations that principally serve individuals, groups, or institutions that are included within a bias motivation category for single bias hate crime incidents as identified by the FBI's 2017 Hate Crime Statistics publication.

For FY 2022-23, \$5 million in Nonprofit Security Grant Program funding to enhance security and protect against hate crimes was released by PCCD. Applicants were eligible to apply for grant awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000 for security enhancements designed to protect the safety and security of their membership, including:

- Safety and security planning;
- Purchase of safety and security equipment;
- Purchase of security-related technology (including, but not limited to, metal detectors, protective lighting, surveillance equipment, special emergency communications equipment, electronic locksets, deadbolts, trauma kits, theft control devices, etc.);
- Safety and security training;
- Threat awareness and response training;
- Upgrades to existing structures that enhance safety and security;
- Vulnerability and threat assessments;
- Specialty-trained canines; and
- Any other safety or security-related project enhancing the safety or security of the nonprofit organization

In FY 2022-23, 125 applicants were awarded funding including churches, synagogues, mosques, and other nonprofit organizations throughout the Commonwealth. Collectively, the funds awarded through the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund program have impacted well over a million Pennsylvanians that attend or use these entities annually.





Victim Services, Compensation & Child Advocacy

Key Initiatives

FY 2022-23

Responding to Victims' Needs

PCCD works with partners to reduce the impact of crime on victims and survivors, including enhancing the quality and availability of services, addressing the economic needs of victims through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP), and supporting victims/survivors of child sexual abuse and child abuse.

PCCD's *Victims' Services Advisory Committee (VSAC)* and the *Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC)* are each responsible for addressing the needs of crime victims and survivors throughout the Commonwealth.

VSAC was established through Act 27 of 1995 Special Session #1 and reauthorized in the Crime Victims Act (Act 111 of 1998) with the purpose of developing services, setting standards for those services, creating policies, and setting funding priorities to support the state's network of victim services providers - which include providers that address sexual assault, domestic violence, or comprehensive centers that address all crime. VSAC members include Cabinet secretaries from related agencies, including Corrections, Human Services, State Police, JCJC, and Aging; the Victim Advocate; a district attorney; representation

from statewide victim coalitions; mental health advocate; disabilities advocate; victim-witness programs; victim services providers; the courts; and direct victims/survivors of crime.

Established by Act 28 of 2014, CACAC was created to advise the Commission in the development and promotion of programs and projects related to children's advocacy centers (CACs) and multidisciplinary investigative teams (MDITs). CACs are used by MDITs to provide state-of-the-art treatment for victims/survivors of child sexual abuse, child abuse, and neglect. The CACAC is comprised of a variety of experts representing children and youth services; prosecution; CACs; state and municipal police; victim services; physicians; nurses; mental health professionals; and hospital administrators.



VICTIM SERVICES INITIATIVES

In FY 2022-23, PCCD's Office of Victims' Services (OVS) administered state and federal funding supporting 254 victim services programs, providing vital services for approximately 342,000 victims of crime across Pennsylvania.

PCCD's **Office of Victims' Services (OVS)** administers and provides oversight to multiple funding streams, including federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant funds, as well as state Rights and Services Act (RASA) and Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO). VOCA monies are utilized to provide direct services to victims of crime to help them cope with the physical, emotional, and criminal justice issues associated with crime. STOP Violence Against Women federal grants help improve the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, and enhance services available to victims of these crimes. Counties use state RASA monies to provide services that fulfill mandated victims' rights, as established by the Crime Victim's Act, and state VOJO dollars to assist crime victims whose offenders were under the age of 18. Collectively, these funding streams supported 254 victim services programs for FY 2022-23, providing vital services for approximately 342,035 victims across Pennsylvania.

VAWA REAUTHORIZATION (2022)

First passed in 1994, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) established comprehensive, community-coordinated responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

On March 15, 2022, President Joe Biden signed the bipartisan VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2022 into law as part of the Omnibus appropriations package. The latest edition of this landmark law reauthorized all current VAWA grant programs until 2027 and included increased funding levels for many initiatives. The law also included new provisions:

- Recognizing expanded jurisdiction for American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes for VAWA crimes;
- Intending to close gaps in federal sex crimes statutes and increase accountability for law enforcement officers;
- Enhancing homicide reduction efforts through enforcement of federal and state gun laws; and
- Improving access to justice for survivors of VAWA crimes by increasing available legal services and legal assistance.
- Creating an additional certification that requires STOP funded prosecutors to adopt evidence-based prosecution strategies.

STOP Protocol Development Guides for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence were developed and released to the field in June 2023 and are to be used by county STOP Collaborative Teams to develop holistic, trauma-informed multi-system response protocols to domestic violence and sexual assault crimes that keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable.

PA CRIME VICTIMS' MOBILE APP (PCV)

In March 2017, PCCD created and launched the free PCV Mobile App to serve Pennsylvania's crime victims and supporters who rely on their smart phones for information and assistance. The app, which received a 2017 PA Excellence in Technology Award at the PA Digital Government Summit and has been recognized as a Governor's Office of Transformation, Innovation, Management and Efficiency (GO-TIME) initiative, provides basic information on available services, including nearby victim services providers, the option to text or call victims' organizations, and the ability to check the status of a victims' compensation claim. In October 2017, the app was expanded further to allow victims and their families to file compensation claims directly.

In FY 2022-23, approximately 115 VCAP claims were filed utilizing the PCV app.



FY 2022-23 AT A GLANCE: VICTIM SERVICES & CHILD ADVOCACY

- 342,035 victims served in Pennsylvania in FY 2022-23 8,648 claims processed for VCAP in FY 2022-23.
- \$13,782,170 paid to or on behalf of crime victims through VCAP 3,512 attendees provided training on victim service subjects 13,767 children were served by CACs in FY 2022-23.
- 99% of Pennsylvania's population has a CAC available within 60 minutes of travel time.



2022 GOVERNOR'S VICTIM SERVICE PATHFINDER AWARDS

The Pathfinder Awards are administered by PCCD's Office of Victims' Services annually, recognizing individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond to support victims of crime. A Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Award is Pennsylvania's most prestigious award for a victim service professional or program.

On November 17, 2022, PCCD honored recipients of the 2022 Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards through a virtual awards ceremony. To view a recording of the ceremony and learn more about each awardee's accomplishments, view the [2022 Pathfinder Awards Ceremony](#) on our YouTube channel.

Survivor Activist Award was presented to **LaQuisha Anthony**, of WOAR, whose sexual assault victimization and subsequent advocacy has resulted in legislation that directly and positively affects all victims of similar crimes in PA. LaQuisha was the inspiration for changing Statute of Limitations laws in certain sexual assault cases in PA.

Outstanding Student Activist Award was presented to **Amaya Rodriguez**, a survivor of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in school. Amaya recognized students, like her, felt either unsupported or ignored when reporting these incidents. Amaya reached out to the sexual assault agency, SARCC of Lebanon, to plan several public events to address the frustrations of student survivors. These events included a school walkout and a Speak Out Event at a local park.

Individual Direct Service Award was presented to **Jenn Grubb** of Roads to Peace in Lock Haven, PA. Jenn has focused on working to address barriers in service access for traditionally underrepresented survivors. Jenn is responsible for their medical advocacy work with underserved victims in culturally appropriate ways. Jenn educates and coaches staff and outside agencies on diversity, equity, and inclusion. They were instrumental in working with the LGBTQ+, Amish and Plain communities.

Individual Prevention, Education, Outreach Award was presented to **Lydia Lynes** of Laurel House in Montgomery County. In her role as Community Education Coordinator, she develops programs to educate students on dating and domestic violence. She has developed student led Domestic Violence Prevention clubs at local colleges and coordinates events to promote prevention. During the pandemic, she developed virtual and asynchronous programming for schools throughout the county. During this time of school shutdown and virtual learning, Lydia identified creative and innovative ways to support students.

Allied Service Professional Award was presented to **Katie Adam**, Senior Deputy District Attorney for Dauphin County and works in the child abuse unit. Katie offered a sexual abuse awareness program to Amish bishops, which resulted in numerous tips to police. Katie's passion, advocacy, and pain staking work for child victims have set the example for child victim advocacy in PA.

Individual Organization Capacity Building Award was posthumously presented to **Cheryl Gahring**, Chief Impact Officer of the YWCA of Lancaster. Cheryl was instrumental in securing funding for numerous initiatives to support women victimized by sexual assault. This funding resulted in the increase in therapy services and the availability of additional housing rooms for victims. Cheryl's advocacy extended to her involvement in such programs as TechGyrls, Race Against Racism, and Walk a Mile in Their Shoes.

Community Service Award was presented to the team at **YMCA of Centre County**. This recognition is for their work with children and for providing sustenance to the Centre County community through their Anti-Hunger program. The YMCA provided numerous trainings through their Darkness to Light Stewards program, which teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react to child sexual abuse.



CHILD ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

In FY 2022-23, PCCD's Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee continued its efforts to increase funding and supports for Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) across the state. CACs served 13,767 children in FY 2022-23 and 99% of Pennsylvania's population now has a CAC available an hour or less away.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS

PCCD's **Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development (ORESPD)** has been working with law enforcement, prosecutors, children and youth providers, medical professionals, and victim service providers to establish a network of accredited CACs throughout the Commonwealth. CACs are utilized by Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams (MDITs) to provide state-of-the-art treatment for the victims of child sexual abuse, child abuse, and neglect. They coordinate medical care, treatment, and other social services for victims while gathering evidence, through age-appropriate forensic interviewing and other methods employed by MDITs, to build effective cases against alleged perpetrators. Research demonstrates that child abuse investigations handled through a CAC have a shorter length of time to disposition, better prosecution outcomes, higher rates of caregiver and child satisfaction, more referrals to mental health services, and better access to medical care.

During FY 2022-23, PCCD continued support for 41 accredited, accredited satellite, associate, and affiliate National Children's Alliance (NCA, the national association and accrediting body for CACs and MDITs) member CACs, as well as the PA State Chapter of CACs and MDITs, through \$2.3 million in state Act 28 funds. In FY 2016-17, only 31 NCA members were supported; thus FY 2022-23 levels represent a 29% increase in NCA-member CAC services throughout Pennsylvania. PCCD also supports developing MDITs and CACs throughout the Commonwealth. A [map of CAC locations](#) is available on PCCD's website, and information on the individual grants awarded can be found on the [Grants map](#).

ENDOWMENT ACT FUNDS

The Endowment Act (Act 1 of 2013) directs PCCD to expend the \$48 million in monetary penalties imposed on the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to aid the victims of child sexual abuse in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The CACAC assists in advising the Commission in dispersing these funds.

Per the statute, funds must be distributed for the following purposes and for the benefit of the residents of the Commonwealth:

1. Programs or projects preventing child sexual abuse and/or assisting the victims of child sexual abuse;
2. Multidisciplinary Investigative Teams established under 23 Pa.C.S.;
3. Children's Advocacy Centers;
4. Victim Service Organizations providing services to children subjected to sexual abuse; and
5. Training of persons mandated by law to report child sexual abuse or to treat victims of child sexual abuse.

In FY 2022-23, PCCD awarded a total of 41 grants amounting to \$5,982,995. Grants were released to support projects included under category 1A (Prevention), category 3 (Child Advocacy Centers) and category 4 (Direct Victim Service Organizations.) Collectively since 2015, a total of 286 grants amounting to \$24.6 million in Endowment Act funds have been awarded throughout the Commonwealth to support over 97,000 child victims and adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

For further detailed information on the grants distributed under the Act, Annual Reports, and outcomes, please see PCCD's website on the [Endowment Act](#).



Criminal Justice System Improvements

Key Initiatives

FY 2022-23

Improving PA's Criminal Justice System

PCCD is tasked by statute with coordinating the functions of the criminal justice system so it runs more efficiently and effectively, and makes full use of the resources available to state and local criminal justice systems.

PCCD provides planning assistance, promotes digital technology, funds innovative projects, supports the development and implementation of best practices, coordinates information sharing, and facilitates collaboration between and among key criminal justice stakeholders throughout the Commonwealth.

There are multiple advisory committees responsible for addressing criminal justice initiatives within PCCD. The **Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)** focuses on the development of long-range strategies and plans for the system as a whole. CJAC sets priorities for justice projects supported by PCCD's various federal and state funding streams. The **Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee (MHJAC)** coordinates statewide strategies that direct technical assistance to evidence-based practices; guides the operation and sustainability of jail diversion and reentry programs; and provides a clearinghouse for resources related to criminal justice, mental health, and substance use disorder. Finally, the **County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC)**, established by Act 114 of 2019, advises the Commission on all matters pertaining to the administration of the county adult probation and parole system and assists in the implementation of Act 115 of 2019, specifically related to sentences of probation with restrictive conditions of supervision. CAPPAC is also responsible for directing technical assistance; reviewing grant applications for county intermediate punishment treatment programs and discretionary grants; developing a funding plan for county adult probation and parole departments; analyzing data to identify trends and evaluate programs and practices; as well as making recommendations and adopting standards for probation and parole personnel.

In addition to these advisory committees, PCCD also includes two training boards. The **Constables' Education and Training Board**, established by Act 102 of 1992, advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training, continuing education, and firearms qualification that serve as the basis for certification of constables and deputy constables within the Commonwealth. The **Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board**, established by Act 2 of 1984, advises PCCD in the development, implementation, and operation of legislatively mandated basic training and continuing education required for certification of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs within the Commonwealth's 67 counties.



FY 2022-23 AT A GLANCE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

- All 67 Pennsylvania counties have a Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) in place.
- 35 active reentry coalitions in Pennsylvania.
- 25 counties actively participating in Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center and Stepping Up policies adopted in 35 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.
- 83 courses offered on PA Virtual Training Network (VTN).
- 914 constables participated in initial training and continuing education provided by PCCD in FY 2022-23.
- 2,123 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs participating in initial training and continuing education.

Collaboration & Planning Assistance

PCCD aims to increase the efficacy of state and local efforts to prevent crime and increase safety through interagency planning and collaboration.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARDS (CJAB)

CJABs serve as the primary vehicle for PCCD's efforts to improve county justice systems. As boards comprised of criminal justice stakeholders from various disciplines within a county, CJABs use a collaborative approach to justice planning and innovative problem solving. PCCD assists CJABs in every stage of development, from start-up grants to strategic planning assistance to project implementation support. Currently, all 67 counties in Pennsylvania have an active CJAB that meets PCCD's minimum operating standards.

On March 21-22, 2023, PCCD hosted the 2023 Criminal Justice Advisory Board Conference in State College. The 2023 CJAB Conference was attended by approximately 460 criminal justice and behavioral health practitioners from across Pennsylvania. Session topics focused on a wide range of issues related to the theme of "Strengthening Collaborations and Partnerships."



PCCD Executive Director Mike Pennington with April Billet, recipient of the 2023 Judge Linda K.M. Ludgate CJAB Excellence in Leadership Award at the CJAB Conference.



PCCD Executive Director Mike Pennington with William F. Ward, recipient of the 2023 Judge John Zottola Mental Health and Justice Award at the CJAB Conference.

Law Enforcement Technology & Training

One of PCCD's strategic priorities is to provide law enforcement with the appropriate tools, training, and technology to assist them in building trust and improving the safety of communities they serve.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM (LLES)

Act 54 of 2022 established the Local Law Enforcement Support (LLES) Grant Program within PCCD, which included \$135 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for grants to local law enforcement agencies to implement information technology improvements, purchase or upgrade equipment, cover nontraditional law enforcement personnel costs, support retention and recruitment efforts, and provide necessary training and cover related expenses. Local law enforcement agencies (i.e., public agencies of a political subdivision with general police powers and charged with making arrests in connection with enforcement of criminal or traffic laws), campus or university police, railroad or street railway police, airport authority police, and county park police were eligible applicants. Maximum award amount availability ranged from \$500,000 to \$25 million, dependent upon the municipal population size of the applicant agency and/or agency type.

Over the course of FY 2022-23, a total of 293 grant awards were made to support law enforcement through this grant program. More information about these individual grants can be found on [PCCD's Grants App](#).

GUN VIOLENCE INVESTIGATION & PROSECUTION (GVIP) GRANT PROGRAM

Act 54 of 2022 established the CVIP within PCCD to administer \$50 million in federal COVID Relief - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding as grants to support the investigation and prosecution of violations of 18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to firearms and other dangerous articles) and crimes of violence as defined in 42 Pa.C.S. § 9714(g) (relating to sentences for second and subsequent offenses) where a firearm or a replica of a firearm, as defined in 42 Pa.C.S. § 9712(e) (relating to sentences for offenses committed with firearms), was used in the commission of the crime. District Attorneys, local law enforcement agencies, campus or university police, railroad or street railway police, airport authority police, and county park police were eligible applicants. Maximum award amounts ranged from \$500,000 to \$25 million, dependent upon the municipal population size of the applicant agency and/or agency type.

In December 2022, 29 grant awards were made to several counties and cities throughout the Commonwealth to address gun violence investigation and prosecution efforts under this program. More information about this grant program can be found on the [PCCD Enhancing Law Enforcement](#) webpage.

NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NCHIP)

The FY 2022-23 NCHIP funding is designed to assist states with finding ways to make more records available to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), including records in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), criminal history record information available through the Interstate Identification Index (III), records in the NICS Indices, and data quality in PSP's Computerized Criminal History Records Information System (CCHRI). Therefore, through the funded activities, it is expected that more records (including improved quality, completeness, and timeliness) will become available in these systems.

PCCD submitted a competitive application for federal NCHIP funds and was awarded \$2,428,810. The PCCD FY 2022 federal application identified the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and the Pennsylvania Office of Administration (OA) as the funding recipients to update systems issues. These updates include providing disposition file submissions in real-time, eliminating OTN duplications for PSP files, updating JNET's messaging modernization, and implementing Vulnerability Management Software as required by the FBI.

ADAM WALSH ACT FUNDS (AWA)

PCCD submitted a competitive application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for federal Adam Walsh Act (AWA) funds and received an award in the amount of \$400,000. This initiative supported the Pennsylvania State Police's (PSP) efforts in the digitization of paper files into digital format, overtime funds for sex offender compliance checks, and for the mandated PSP case reviews. Funds also supported the Office of the Victim Advocate's (OVA) Victim Assistance Coordinator. This project will ensure that Megan's Law Registration and Verification efforts remain on track and resources are provided for victim outreach.

NICS ACT RECORD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NARIP)

The primary objective of the NARIP is to enhance the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records to state and federal systems used by the NICS. These include records of criminal history, felony convictions, warrants, protective orders, convictions for misdemeanors involving domestic violence and stalking, drug arrests and convictions, mental health adjudications, and other information that may disqualify an individual from possessing or receiving a firearm under federal law. In FY 2022-23, PCCD submitted a competitive application for federal NARIP funds. PCCD was awarded \$530,578, which was passed through to the PSP to enhance the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records to state and federal systems used by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

PAUL COVERDELL NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT ACT (NFSIA)

This program provides funding for programs designed to improve the quality, timeliness and credibility of forensic science services for criminal justice purposes. The program permits funding for expenses related to facilities, personnel, computerization, equipment, supplies, accreditation, certification, education and training. FY 2022-23 was the tenth year of NFSIA funding. In June 2023, PCCD awarded six applications requesting \$997,734 in federal Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement funds to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic services throughout Pennsylvania; support the development of strategies/protocols for the accreditation of forensic laboratories in Pennsylvania; and/or the certification of forensic science specialists in an acceptable forensic science discipline. Funding supports the costs for training, travel, materials, consultant services, equipment, and/or software needed to obtain or maintain accreditation and/or certification in a forensic science discipline.

BODY-WORN CAMERA POLICY & RELATED PROGRAMS

In July 2017, Act 22 was signed into law, which required PCCD to develop policy recommendations regarding the use of body-worn cameras (BWC). According to the Act, any recipient of PCCD grant funds for the purchase of BWCs must have a written, publicly- available policy in place that meets or exceeds the standards set by the Commission. In March 2018, the Commission formally adopted BWC standards, which outline the use, maintenance and storage of BWCs.

In FY 2021-22, PCCD was awarded a competitive grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for federal FY 2021 Body Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program funds totaling \$980,000. PCCD's application included \$90,000 to support the implementation of a BWC program in the Bureau of Investigations and Intelligence Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections over a two-year period. The remainder of funds (\$890,000) was announced competitively by PCCD in May 2022.

DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING ACT (DCRA)

The Death in Custody Reporting Act (DCRA; Pub. L. No. 113-242) requires states to report information to the U.S. Attorney General regarding the death of any person who is detained, under arrest, in the process of being arrested, in transport to incarceration, or is incarcerated at a municipal or county jail, state prison, state-run boot camp prison, boot camp prison that is contracted out by the state, any state or local contract facility, or other local or state correctional facility (including any juvenile facility).

As Pennsylvania's State Administering Agency (SAA), PCCD is responsible for collecting death-in-custody data from state and local entities including law enforcement agencies, local jails, correctional institutions, medical examiners, and other state agencies on a quarterly basis. A requirement for PCCD's application submission for 2023 federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds was the development and submission of a Statewide DCRA Implementation Plan for review and approval by the Department of Justice/Bureau of Justice Assistance.

BIPARTISAN SAFER COMMUNITIES ACT (BSCA)

The federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was enacted in June 2022. The law included several provisions designed to address gun violence and improve responses to behavioral health crises. The law also authorized new funding streams, including \$750 million in funding for the Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP). Housed within the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), SCIP provides formula-based funds to SAAs to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs/initiatives.

PCCD is responsible for oversight and administration of Byrne SCIP funds. Pennsylvania's allocation for FY 2022-23 (two years combined) is \$8,548,557. PCCD submitted an initial application and SCIP Funding Plan for federal SCIP funds in December 2022; Pennsylvania's SCIP application was approved by BJA in February 2023.

Mental Health Initiatives

MHJAC's mission is to reduce the number of individuals with behavioral health, co-occurring substance use disorders, and intellectual disabilities involved in the justice system through diversion, treatment, and reentry services.

PCCD staff engaged with partners and stakeholders over the course of FY 20221-232 to support state, county, and local level efforts to provide services and supports related programs for people with mental illness/co-occurring disorders, intellectual disabilities, and/or autism spectrum disorders and reduce avoidable justice system contact.

Under the auspices of MHJAC, PCCD staff supported training for law enforcement, behavioral and mental health specialists, and their partners.

In addition, PCCD staff partnered with specialists in the fields of mental health/co- occurring disorders and criminal justice diversion to provide guidance on criminal justice system changes, targeted action planning, and promoting promising programs and initiatives across the state. In FY 2022-23, PCCD continued to support crisis intervention and pretrial diversion initiatives for individuals with mental health, intellectual disability, or autism disorders who come into contact with the criminal justice system.



STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

Stepping Up was launched in May 2015 as a partnership of the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, National Association of Counties, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation. In January 2019, PCCD established the Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center – the first in the nation to provide free technical assistance to counties to reduce the overrepresentation of people with serious mental illness (SMI) in their jails.



As of FY 2022-23, 36 Pennsylvania counties had passed Stepping Up resolutions, 30 counties received broad-based technical assistance, and 20 counties were actively engaged in the TA Center. Through the Stepping Up technical assistance supports provided by CSG, counties were able to make changes to better identify the number of people with SMI in county jails. This included:

- Two new counties (Bucks and York) were selected and nationally recognized as Stepping Up Innovator counties, making Pennsylvania a national leader as the state with the most Innovator counties (eight, including Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Montgomery, and Philadelphia).
- 17 counties implemented or explored use of validated mental health screening tools.
- 13 counties conduct a full mental health assessment within 72 hours of booking.
- 13 counties established system-wide definition of mental illness across behavioral health and criminal justice systems.
- 14 counties have made a financial investment in evidence-based practices or high-impact strategies.
- 17 counties have made an investment in training staff.
- 14 counties have fully or partially implemented electronic data systems, and several counties have made important progress in improving their data collection processes and systems.
- Several counties have achieved or are working toward long-term structured mental health residential treatment facilities.
- Numerous counties have seen the importance of improving cross system collaboration and added staff such as boundary spanners, mental health diversion specialists, and cross-systems reentry coordinators or forensic caseworkers to support their Stepping Up work.

Several counties showed significant improvements in reducing prevalence.

- Berks County reduced their average daily population of people with SMI from 141 people in 2020 to 120 in 2022, demonstrating a 15.4 percent improvement. Berks County also reported a 12.8 percent improvement in the average length of stay for people with SMI, dropping from 86 to 75 days.
- Blair County opened a mobile crisis center that includes mobile teams and a walk-in facility open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., with the plan to be open 24/7 once fully staffed.
- Lancaster County implemented a pre-arrest diversion program using certified peer specialists embedded in crisis response.
- Cumberland and Dauphin counties received a joint grant to partner in opening a regional crisis walk-in center.
- Armstrong County hired an assistant district attorney to specialize in pretrial diversion at the magistrate level for people with behavioral health conditions charged with lower-level offenses. This position is funded for the next three years.
- Centre County partnered with Vital HealthCare Solutions to provide a psychiatrist via telehealth for people in need of psychiatric care identified by the social worker embedded in the police department; these services are provided within two weeks.
- Northampton County opened an Outpatient Restoration Long Term Structured Residence (ORLTSR): 8-bed 24-hour supervised therapeutic residential treatment facility that provides justice system-involved individuals with evidence-based treatment and services.
- Philadelphia County's integrated data program, Forensic 360, is now in use and jail behavioral health staff have been trained. After years of working to develop this technology, staff can now see the behavioral health treatment history of individuals admitted in the jail. The county continues to add additional data sources where possible; having access to this information has allowed jail staff to more accurately identify people with mental illness and SMI and increase connections to appropriate care for these individuals.
- Washington County's research analyst developed a Stepping Up dashboard, which they are using to help them regularly and efficiently analyze their data. The dashboard currently includes bookings, average length of stay, and recidivism for people with and without SMI. The team is exploring adding more components to the dashboard such as connections to care information. They are also considering exploring additional information internally, such as residential information for those in jail as well as looking into those with less serious behavioral health needs in addition to those with SMI to help inform next steps.

In 2023, MHJAC approved an expansion of the Stepping Up Technical Assistance initiative to further enhance the program's reach and services through 2025.

Making Improvements to County Adult Probation & Parole

Act 114 of 2019 tasks PCCD with reviewing and approving county adult probation and parole grant funding, analyzing data to identify trends and determine effectiveness of programs and practices, as well as making recommendations and adopting standards for probation and parole personnel.



IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT 114 OF 2019

Act 114 of 2019 provides for PCCD to review and approve county adult probation and parole grant funding, which includes Continuing County Adult Probation and Parole Grant (CCAPPG) funds, County Intermediate Punishment (IP) Programs, and Justice Reinvestment Initiative II (JRI-2) savings funds.

The County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC) Funding Subcommittee was established and tasked with establishing a new Funding Plan for County Adult Probation and Parole and examining required and additional data elements that could be considered as part of the formulation of three funding formulas, pursuant to Act 114.



IMPROVEMENT OF ADULT PROBATION SERVICES (GRANT-IN-AID) FUNDS

Act 114 of 2019 provided for PCCD to review and approve county adult probation and parole grant funding, which includes Continuing County Adult Probation and Parole Grant funds.

In early 2022, the CAPPAC Funding Subcommittee developed and recommended a new funding formula for the distribution of CCAPPG funds. This formula takes into consideration the following individual county data elements: total active caseload, probation sentences, and risk and needs index scores. The funding formula will be implemented in FY 2024-25. In June 2022, the Commission approved 65 grant awards totaling \$16,150,000 in state funds.



EVALUATING TRENDS IN COUNTY ADULT PROBATION & PAROLE OPERATIONS

During FY 2022-23, PCCD and CAPPAC examined data from 65 counties to understand the effectiveness of adult probation and parole operations supported with grant funding; the resulting 2021 County Adult Probation and Parole Caseload Statistics Report was published with key findings in 2022, including:

- Counties had an average caseload of 97 actively supervised offenders per staff in 2022; and
- The average county caseload in 2022 was 2,517 a decrease of 10% since 2010.

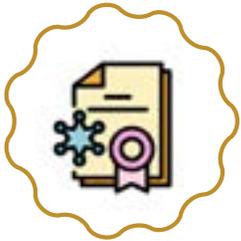


OPERATING STANDARDS

The Standards Subcommittee undertook work to review operating standards recommended by the County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of PA. The group made some further refinements and additions to address priority areas, including diversity, equity and inclusion, among other training topics. In June 2021, the Commission approved 81 initial County Adult Probation and Parole Operating Standards, which took effect on July 1, 2021. A second edition of final [Operating Standards for Adult Probation and Parole Departments in Pennsylvania](#) was adopted on December 8, 2021.

Training, Certification & Accreditation

One of PCCD's core values and statutory responsibilities is supporting training and education programs to increase the preparedness of practitioners, including constables, sheriffs/deputy sheriffs, law enforcement, and other justice-related stakeholders.



CONSTABLES' TRAINING

In Pennsylvania, constables are elected for a six-year term and are required to undergo training every year to perform their services. Although historically considered peace officers, today constables are mainly relied upon to aid the judicial process (e.g., serving writs and notices). Act 44 of 1994 established the Constables' Education and Training Board (CETB) within PCCD, which is responsible for the training and certification of the Commonwealth's approximately 1,200 elected and appointed constables and deputy constables. The CETB fulfills this charge by providing state-of-the-art curriculum development and delivery, ensuring timely and accurate constable certification and recertification, and coordinating the services of three regional training delivery contractors and one curriculum development contractor. Certifications and individual trainings are tracked through the Constables' Certification Education and Training System (CCETS).

There were 900 constables and deputy constables currently listed as active and certified in 2022. Of these, 612 or 68% were also certified to carry a firearm in the performance of their constable duties. A total of 118 newly elected or appointed constables and deputy constables successfully completed the 80-Hour Basic Training and were certified in 2022. A total of 704 constables completed the 20 hours of classroom and online training required for Continuing Education and were certified in 2022. An additional 66 constables successfully completed the 40-hour Basic Firearms Training and attained firearms certification in 2022. Finally, 546 constables successfully completed the 5-hour Annual Firearms Qualification to carry a firearm while performing judicial duties in 2022. For more information and the [Constables' Annual Reports](#), please visit the [CETB webpage](#).



COUNTY ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE BASIC TRAINING ACADEMY

In FY 2020-21, PCCD staff and CAPPAC undertook efforts to revise the training curriculum for the County Adult Probation and Parole Basic Training Academy (CBTA). Revision of the existing basic training curriculum was identified as a crucial need to enhance officer safety and the effectiveness of county offender supervision. The inaugural Adult Probation Basic Training Academy took place in 2021.

In FY 2022-23, a total of 149 individuals participated in five BTA classes offered by PCCD between July 2022 and June 2023.



COUNTY ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE FIREARMS EDUCATION & TRAINING

During FY 2022-23, the County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee's (CAPPAC) Firearms Education and Training (FET) Advisory Subcommittee held firearms basic training courses as well as train-the-trainer sessions for the Simulations course. The FET conducted four basic firearms courses and trained 104 adult and juvenile probation and parole officers. A laser shot train-the-trainer course was conducted with 20 individuals certified as trainers.



PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT VIRTUAL TRAINING NETWORK (PA VTN)

PCCD and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association (PCPA) developed a Virtual Training Network (PAVTN) in 2012. When PAVTN was launched, there were five courses and 2,000 registered users. For FY 2022-23, PAVTN offered 83 training courses and has a total of 28,468 registered users. This web-based training has saved thousands of dollars for law enforcement departments and municipalities by reducing trainer costs, travel expenses, and overtime costs. It has also reduced the amount of time officers are off duty while attending training. In 2022, officers completed 12,251 courses through the PAVTN platform.



PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

PCCD supports the PA Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, which provides a blueprint for the professionalization of law enforcement agencies within the Commonwealth. The cornerstone of this strategy consists of the promulgation of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives. During FY 2022-23, 68% of police officers in the Commonwealth worked in an accredited agency. In 2016, PCCD partnered with PCPA to develop a map identifying accredited police departments throughout the state. The current map can be found on the [PA Accreditation page](#) on PCCD's website.



SHERIFFS' AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS' TRAINING

Act 2 of 1984 created the Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Board to train and certify deputies employed by the Commonwealth's 67 county sheriffs' offices. Twenty years later, Act 114 of 2014 renamed it as the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB). The new law enhanced the original Act by including requirements for the training of sheriffs and provisions for certification revocation.

Under the oversight and staff support of PCCD, SDSETB continues to implement and improve training and certification processes as delineated by the Act. The current program consists of 760 hours of basic training provided by Pennsylvania State University followed by biennial continuing education through 20 hours of instruction provided by Temple University. The SDSETB also offers additional training in Basic and Advanced Supervision, Firearms Instruction, and Patrol Riflery as well as optional subjects on-line.

Since its inception, the Board has trained and certified 7,357 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs through basic and waiving training and has renewed the certification of all sheriffs and deputies through its biennial continuing education program.

During 2023, the Board took steps to enhance the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training and Certification Programs, as well as to address continued financial challenges. With the passage of Act 134 of 2020, increased surcharge collections are expected to allow the Board to begin reimbursements to counties and implement long-awaited training enhancements. In 2023, 568 invoices totaling \$1,208,044 in reimbursements have been paid as of 11-29-2023. Approximately \$800,000 additional reimbursements have been approved for payment by the Board.

The Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Information System (SDSIS) is used to track both individual training and certification history and current training needs and requirements. The 2023 continuing education program included topics on Legal Updates, Domestic Violence, and Courthouse Security. During the 2023 calendar year, 2,001 sheriffs/deputy sheriffs were trained. Currently, 1928 active sheriffs and deputy sheriffs out of 2,123 in the Commonwealth were certified/re-certified by the Board. For more information and the Sheriffs' Annual Reports, please see the [SDSETB webpage](#).



Juvenile Justice & Violence Prevention

Key Initiatives

FY 2022-23

Juvenile Justice System Improvements

Since 1978, PCCD has served as the Commonwealth's designated state planning agency for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, pursuant to the requirements of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

The **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC)** is comprised of representatives from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC); juvenile court judges; law enforcement; chief juvenile probation officers; non-profit prevention and treatment service providers; special education specialists; youth; and other related stakeholders. JJJPC is tasked by law to:

- Develop a comprehensive plan relating to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention for the Commonwealth;
- Serve in an advisory capacity to the Commission on awards, standards, and programs;
- Collaborate with all state agencies on planning and programming related to juvenile delinquency prevention and reduction and prevention of violence by and against children; and
- Advise and assist the Commission in designing and promoting comprehensive research-based initiatives to assist communities and community-based organizations in reducing risk to and promoting the positive development of children and in preventing juvenile delinquency and youth violence.

RELEVANT FUNDING STREAMS & GRANTS

- Community Violence Prevention/Reduction Grants
- Federal Title II Formula Grants Program (authorized under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended)
- Gun Violence Reduction Grants
- Violence and Delinquency Prevention Programs (VDPP)
- Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Grants
- Youth-focused programs supported through federal State Opioid Response (SOR) funds and Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR) funds

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

-30%

Reduction in the number of juvenile delinquency-related dispositions from 2018.

11.7%

In 2019, the state's two-year recidivism rate for juveniles was 11.7% - the lowest in recorded history.

86%

Percentage of youth involved with the juvenile justice system for the first time diverted from adjudication.

FY 2022-23 Juvenile Justice Initiatives

Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system's mission is centered on balanced and restorative justice.

Over the past two decades, investments and reforms have resulted in improved community safety and accountability. Importantly, these efforts have also focused on preventing young people from getting involved in the system in the first place. But as recommendations from Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice Task Force - and voices from youth, families, and communities - clearly show, this work is far from finished. In FY 2022-23, PCCD worked with partners from a broad range of systems and communities to build on the progress achieved to date and fulfill the charge of 'balanced and restorative justice.

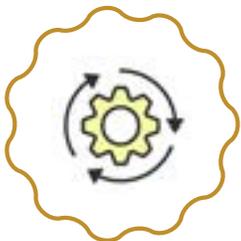


JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY (JJSES)

The goal of the JJSES is to build the capacity of practitioners within the juvenile justice system to better achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission through quality implementation of evidence-based practices and programs and data-driven decision-making. PCCD provides funding to support the ongoing efforts of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (Chiefs' Council) and the JCJC to implement the JJSES. Representatives from each of these entities, and from PCCD, serve on the JJSES Leadership Team to provide immediate oversight and guidance to this project.

The Chiefs' Council receives funding from PCCD to support the work related to the JJSES. Decisions on future planning to move this initiative forward are made annually through a strategic planning process conducted by the Chiefs' Council with the participation of PCCD and the JCJC. Recent trends documenting reductions in juvenile violent crime arrest rates, juvenile delinquency dispositions, placements, detention center admissions, and placement costs all serve to confirm the efficacy of the evidence-based practices that now form the foundation of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

More information on JJSES can be found in the JJSES Monograph on PCCD's website or at www.jcjc.pa.gov.



STANDARDIZED PROGRAM EVALUATION PROTOCOL (SPEP™)

Used for more than two decades to promote quality improvement in juvenile justice services, SPEP™ is a tool developed based on research findings on aspects of service provision for juvenile offenders associated with reduced likelihood of re-arrest. Counties are engaged through a partnership with the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Leadership Team and the EPISCenter. To learn more about SPEP™, including activities supported throughout the year, please visit PCCD's website [here](#).



FY 2022-23 AT A GLANCE: JUVENILE JUSTICE

- 15,418 juveniles received a juvenile justice disposition in FY 2022-23, up from 12,290 in FY 2021-22.
- 39 counties participated in Standard Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) evaluation in FY 2022-23.
- More than 2,350 juvenile probation officers supported and trained to advance the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy, which is focused on data-driven decision-making and implementing evidence-based practices
- 570 compliance monitoring visits conducted by PCCD to ensure juvenile are held consistent with law.



REDUCING RACIAL & ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

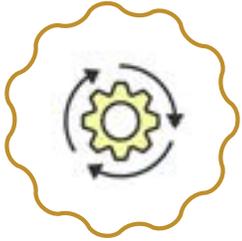
In October 2019, the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) transitioned terminology from “Disproportionate Minority Contact” (DMC) to “Racial/Ethnic Disparities” (R/ED).

In FY 2019-20, PCCD approved \$250,000 in federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) funds for Georgetown’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform to bring their Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) Certificate Program to Pennsylvania. Seven County teams and one State team were chosen to participate in the Certificate Program and each team was comprised of stakeholders from all areas of the juvenile justice system, including youth and family members. In September 2021, the Pennsylvania Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program was conducted by Georgetown University’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. The Certificate Program is an intensive week-long training designed to support selected local counties within Pennsylvania in their efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in their juvenile justice systems. The three primary goals of the Certificate Program are to help jurisdictions reduce: disproportionate representation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system; disparate treatment of youth of color as compared to white youth within the juvenile justice system; and unnecessary entry and movement deeper into the juvenile

justice system for youth of color. The County teams continue to work on project implementation, data collection, and evaluation efforts for their Capstone projects. Most of these projects focus on diversion.

Federal JJDP funds are also utilized to support the Pennsylvania DMC Youth/Law Enforcement Corporation. The Pennsylvania DMC Youth/Law Enforcement Corporation identifies and develops concrete, viable, measurable strategies to improve relationships between members of law enforcement and youth, with an emphasis on youth of color, in communities across the state. This is accomplished through the implementation of the Pennsylvania Youth/Law Enforcement Curriculum, which provides guidance for local initiatives to plan and deliver forums that bring together youth and police for day-long discussions about the stereotypes and assumptions each group makes about the other. Through this medium, the Corporation provides education, training, and technical assistance to local jurisdictions/county-based initiatives focused on addressing the racial and ethnic disparities youth of color experience in Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System.

In addition, local R/ED Coordinators were funded in Allegheny and Philadelphia Counties. These coordinators work with their local juvenile justice systems with the goal of analyzing available data, researching culturally responsive solutions to address any identified issues, and working with local leaders on a plan with recommendations to address and prevent local/jurisdiction level R/ED in Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system.



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMIC AND CAREER TECHNICAL TRAINING (PACTT)

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services' Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services completed the PACTT Affiliate public report in 2021, which was designed to support the initiative's goal of enhancing county probation departments' and juvenile courts' services for youth. Each report provides information on a PACTT Affiliate's programming and outcomes. Research for Action (RFA) and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) developed a companion 'PACTT Public Report Handbook' providing guidance from each part of Affiliates' public-facing reports and describing the how data metrics were calculated. More information is available on the [PACTT website](#).



2021 PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PLAN

PCCD is required under state law (71 P.S. §1190.23) to “prepare and, at least every two years, update a comprehensive juvenile justice plan on behalf of the Commonwealth based on an analysis of the Commonwealth’s needs and problems, including juvenile delinquency prevention.”

In 2023, PCCD conducted research, information gathering, and collection of feedback from experts and key stakeholders in the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system to update the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Plan for the Governor. The report will be released in early 2024, focusing on key areas, which include:

- Elevating and centering the voices and experiences of people most impacted by the juvenile justice system, including youth, families, and victims.
- Addressing the root causes and 'social determinants' of juvenile justice involvement.
- Ensuring fairness and reducing racial and ethnic disparities.
- Strengthening Pennsylvania's youth-serving workforce.
- Increasing access to a full continuum of care for youth at risk of or already involved in the juvenile justice system.
- Preventing and reducing youth gun involvement and gun violence.
- Reducing the number of youth with low-level cases driven further into the juvenile justice system.

Violence & Delinquency Prevention

PCCD has been a long-time investor in programs designed to address root causes of violence and delinquency among youth and help young people meet their full potential.

Evidence-based prevention programs help address risk and protective factors identified through sources like the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) and the Safe2Say Program (administered by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General). Programs supported through the Violence & Delinquency Prevention Program and other funding streams administered by PCCD have proven impactful and cost-effective. These efforts lay an important foundation for addressing root causes and supporting healthy youth, families, and communities.

PCCD's unit of Violence Prevention is tasked with advancing policies and programs to prevent youth from engaging in problem behaviors (such as delinquency, violence, substance abuse, and school dropout) and to improve the quality of life for youth, their families, and their communities across Pennsylvania.

FIRST CHANCE TRUST FUND

Act 44 of 2017 created the First Chance Trust Fund within PCCD for the purposes of establishing and operating a scholarship program for students, or providing grants to programs that benefit children, in those regions of this Commonwealth which have statistically higher high school dropout rates, incarceration rates or high crime rates as determined by PCCD. Funding is intended to provide at-risk youth with constructive opportunities and options.



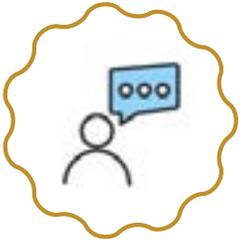
In FY 2022-23, PCCD's Executive Offices announced the availability of approximately \$1.3 million in state funds in May 2023 to support the first iteration of the First Chance Trust Fund initiative. The Fund is supported by contributions from contractors that provide services to the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) if the contract dollar threshold is expected to exceed \$5 million annually. As part of the bidding process, contractors are expected to contribute the equivalent value of 1% of the annual contract amount to the Fund. Other state agencies are eligible under the law to apply this contribution to their procurement process as well to support the Fund. Individuals are also eligible to make donations.

Awards for the First Chance Trust Fund were announced in July 2023; see [Lt. Gov. Austin Davis Announces \\$1.34 Million in PCCD First Chance Trust Fund Scholarship Awards](#) for more information.



FY 2022-23 AT A GLANCE: VIOLENCE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 246,000 youth participating in PAYS in 2021 (latest available data).
- 79% of school districts participating in PAYS in 2021 (down from 80% in 2019).
- 72 active Communities that Care (CTC) sites in FY 2022-23.
- 64% of youth had improved behavioral outcomes after participating in evidence-based programs funded by PCCD.



PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SURVEY (PAYS)

Since 1989, the Commonwealth has conducted a survey of students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 to learn about their behavior, attitudes, and knowledge concerning alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and violence. The Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) is administered through a partnership between PCCD and the Pennsylvania Departments of Education (PDE) and Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). The survey provides a wealth of information about youth's attitudes, knowledge, and behaviors towards the use of substances and other problem behaviors, such as violence, delinquency, school dropout, and mental health concerns, including depression, self-harm, and suicide ideation.

In 2021 – the latest administration of the survey – 396 of Pennsylvania's 500 school districts and 46 other school entities collected data from 246,000 participating students.

All the State PAYS Reports are available on PCCD's website, as well as County Reports for every county in Pennsylvania that had at least two participating school districts.



VIOLENCE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAM (VDPP)

Since 1998, PCCD has administered the Violence and Delinquency Prevention Programs (VDPP) funding line item, which provides resources and technical assistance to communities implementing evidence-based violence and delinquency prevention programs to address risk and protective factors (RPFs) that can lead to problem behaviors among youth. These RPFs are identified through sources such as the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS). These "evidence-based" programs (EBP) have undergone rigorous, scientific evaluation to demonstrate their efficacy in producing lasting, positive outcomes for youth.

Programs supported by VDPP span pre-K through high school, reaching a broad range of ages, and have demonstrated the ability to prevent violence, substance use, delinquency, school dropout, teen pregnancy, and address trauma/mental health concerns. PCCD also uses these funds to support local community coalition capacity building to help non-profits develop and strengthen efforts to use data to help youth and families.

In FY 2022-23, PCCD continued to help seven local coalitions build on their prevention efforts by incorporating best practices for success. These sites received dedicated technical assistance from the Penn State Evidence-Based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPIS), establishing community boards made up of key stakeholders necessary for coordination of the prevention efforts. Beginning in mid-2023, these sites were awarded funding to utilize data collected under their initial grant to select and implement an EBP. PCCD and EPIS continue to support these efforts.

PCCD also continued their "Supporting Student Mental Health (MH) Needs" project. Through this project, 18 agencies are implementing locally driven approaches to provide supports for students through the availability of pro-social programming (in schools and in the community), as well as offering connections for additional MH supports where identified as needed by the students, their families, or the partners in the program.

Finally, PCCD released funding for the establishment of Youth Justice Advisory Boards or "YJABs". Eight sites across the Commonwealth were selected as the initial cohort of participants in this initiative. These sites engage youth to help better inform the work of the Juvenile Justice System, bringing youth voice and viewpoints into the discussion about how outcomes for system-involved kids can be improved.



EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION & INTERVENTION SUPPORT CENTER (EPIS)

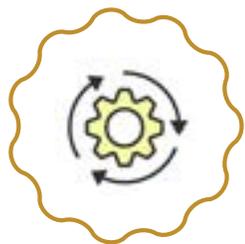
PCCD partners with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to support Penn State's EPISCenter which provides technical assistance to Pennsylvania's schools and communities as they plan and implement evidence-based prevention and intervention programs for at-risk youth. The EPISCenter:

- Directs outreach and advocacy efforts to foster recognition, at the federal, state, and community levels, of the value and impact of proven prevention and intervention programs;
- Provides technical assistance to communities to improve implementation quality and fidelity, promote the collection and use of program impact data, and foster proactive planning for long-term program sustainability;
- Develops and provides educational opportunities and resources to disseminate current prevention science research and facilitate peer networking; and
- Conducts original research to inform more effective prevention practice and the successful dissemination of evidence-based programs.

During FY 2022-23, EPIS provided technical assistance across multiple areas, including:

- Supported 72 CTC sites across the Commonwealth, including the seven new Community Coalition Capacity Building projects;
- Assisted over 50 evidence-based program implementations, most of which are PCCD-funded through multiple funding streams;
- Conducted over 20 PAYS presentations, in partnership with PCCD staff;
- Hosted multiple, program-specific learning communities where sites implementing a specific program (or those interested in learning more about the program to see if they would want to implement it) are able to meet quarterly to troubleshoot barriers, celebrate successes, and share ideas on how to improve their projects;
- Continued the "1st Wednesday at 1" webinar series, an ongoing, monthly event highlighting various aspects of PAYS to help the field better understand and utilize their PAYS data;
- Engaged with DHS' Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) on both Families First as well as their Kinship Navigator projects, helping them to incorporate evidence-based principles into the design of each initiative; and
- Began the rollout of the Prevention Learning Portal (PLP), a dedicated resource for the field on why prevention is important to all stakeholders and how incorporating the best practices of prevention can improve the results for all youth and families served.

This fiscal year, EPIS supported over 7,600 individual youth and over 140 parents with evidence-based programs. In addition, the dissemination of information about PAYS and prevention in general educated the field about the importance and benefit of targeting problem behaviors before their occur, rather than waiting until afterwards to address them.



CROSS-SYSTEMS PREVENTION NETWORK (FORMERLY 'WORKGROUP')

PCCD continues to build on its collaboration with the Department of Human Services/Office of Children, Youth, and Families; the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission; the Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers; the Department of Education; the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs; and other youth-serving agencies to improve inter-agency planning and use of evidence-based programs. To this end, PCCD's Unit of Violence Prevention has continued to advance partnerships through the Cross-Systems Prevention Network (CSPN). This group is comprised of state agency representatives, county leadership, and local prevention providers and aims to develop recommendations on how early, upstream prevention efforts can be coordinated across all funding agencies that support prevention. Through this work, the Network anticipates increasing awareness about the importance in investing in prevention and how that investment can benefit the Commonwealth at large and the youth and families receiving the services by avoiding much more expensive interventions down the road.



School Safety & Security

Key Initiatives

FY 2022-23

Making PA's Schools Safer for Everyone

Article XIII-B (School Safety and Security) of the Public School Code of 1949 created the School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) within PCCD.

PCCD's **School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC)** was tasked with developing the criteria school entities are to use in performing school safety and security assessments, issuing a survey to school entities to measure school safety and security preparedness, and administering grants. Recent amendments by Act 18 of 2019, Act 67 of 2019, and Act 30 of 2020 included the development of a model trauma-informed approach plan; model trainings for threat assessment teams; set training requirements for school resource officers (SROs), school police officers (SPOs) and school security guards; and created a grant program for school entities to address COVID-19.

Since its inception, the SSSC has championed efforts to improve the safety and well-being of Pennsylvania's students. Analysis of survey data supplied by school entities through biannual surveys conducted by PCCD indicates that many of the investments and efforts made by the Committee have helped 'move the needle' for safer schools. More information about the SSSC and its work can be found on the School Safety and Security Overview webpage.



ACT 55 TRAINING FOR SCHOOL SAFETY COORDINATORS AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

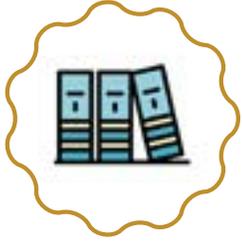
Act 55 of 2022 amended Section 1310-B of the PA Public School Code of 1949 to establish new requirements for school safety and security training for all school employees in Pennsylvania. Prior to the passage of Act 55, school safety and security training for school employees was limited to three hours of instruction every five years. Act 55 amended this requirement to three hours of instruction annually and requires that the training provided meet certain standards as adopted by the SSSC. Amendments to the Act also established requirements for mandatory training for School Safety and Security Coordinators.

On September 28, 2022, the SSSC approved training standards for School Safety and Security Training for all school employees and the training criteria for School Safety and Security Coordinators. On March 29, 2023, the SSSC approved a new School Safety and Security Training Program vendor to design and launch training programs aligned with these adopted standards for school employees and School Safety and Security Coordinators. Trainings will be made available at no charge to school entities. The Act 55 [School Safety and Security Training webpage](#) has more detailed information about these training opportunities.



FY 2022-23 AT A GLANCE: SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY

- 1,790 school professionals trained through the Pennsylvania K-12 Threat Assessment Training & Technical Assistance Network in FY 2022-23.



REVISED TRAINING STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL SECURITY PERSONNEL ADOPTED

Article XIII-C of the Public School Code of 1949 requires that all school resource officers, school police officers, and school security guards successfully complete the Basic School Resource Officer Course offered by the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) or an equivalent School Security Personnel course of instruction approved by the Commission. All school security personnel intending to work in a school setting are required to receive this instruction prior to employment.

On March 9, 2022, a revised set of curriculum standards was adopted by the Commission. Those standards can be found in the link below. All currently approved training vendors were required to update their curriculum to meet these standards no later than December 9, 2022.

More information about these training standards and school security personnel trainings is available on [PCCD's website](#).



FY 2022-23 STATE BUDGET

For FY 2022-23, \$190 million was allocated to the SSSC and PCCD to support the 2022-23 School Mental Health & Safety and Security Grant Program. School districts, intermediate units, area career and technical centers, and charter schools were eligible to apply for formula-based funding to support both mental health initiatives and physical school security enhancements.

Per the requirements of Act 55 of 2022, the objective of the FY 2022-23 School Safety and Security Grant Program was to ensure that eligible school entities first met 'Tier 1' of the Baseline Criteria Guidance for Physical Security and Behavioral Health and School Climate, which was a guidance document developed by the SSSC initially in February 2021. The Baseline Criteria were developed to organize safety and security-related equipment, trainings, policies, programs and activities into a tiered structure (i.e., from Tier 1, which includes the most basic physical and behavioral health safety elements, to Tier 3, which includes the most comprehensive elements). The tiered guides serve as a resource a school entity should reference to determine their level of need and identify areas for further improvement.

Over 700 awards were administered to school entities in the Commonwealth to address their physical security needs and provide behavioral health supports. More information about individual grants that were awarded can be found on the [Grants App](#).



K-12 THREAT ASSESSMENT TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK

[Act 18 of 2019](#) amended the Public School Code of 1949 by adding Article XIII-E, Threat Assessment, which requires each school entity in Pennsylvania to establish a threat assessment team. The Act also tasked the SSSC within PCCD to research, develop, and provide free threat assessment guidelines, training and informational materials, as well as model procedures and guidelines for school entities.

Thanks to a federal FY 2019 STOP School Violence Technology and Threat Assessment Solutions for Safer Schools Grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), PCCD was able to develop the PA K-12 Threat Assessment Technical Assistance and Training Network. PCCD has partnered with Risk and Strategic Management (RSM) Corporation since 2020 on this initiative, along with state agency partners at the PA Department of Education, PA Emergency Management Agency, PA State Police, and more.

The Network officially launched in 2021 and provides free, comprehensive training and technical assistance to help schools work through the questions and challenges of implementing threat assessment. Since its inception, the Network has engaged more than 3,900 individuals through online and in-person training and technical assistance offerings. Approximately 91% of training participants were members of school-based Threat Assessment Teams, and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive:

- 95% felt more knowledgeable [having attended the training] about behavioral threat assessment and management.
- 95% felt more confident and / or well-prepared to carry out threat assessments now [having attended the training].
- 93% agreed or strongly agreed that the training's content was at an appropriate level of detail.
- 97% agreed or strongly agreed the facilitators were knowledgeable.
- 90% stated they would definitely or probably recommend the training to a colleague.
- 79% agreed or strongly agreed the training was engaging.
- 92% agreed or strongly agreed the venue set up (audio/visual technology, comfort of environment, positioning of participants, etc.) supported learning and interaction.



PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME & DELINQUENCY

3101 N. Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

T: (717) 705-0888
F: (717) 705-0891

www.pccd.pa.gov