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**Programs/Services**

**2015JailAwardForm: Annual Award Competition**

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<b>Title</b>	Annual Award Competition
<b>CCAPCountyName</b>	Columbia
<b>CCAPCountyClass</b>	Sixth Class
<b>Address</b>	721 Iron Street
<b>City</b>	Bloomsburg
<b>ZIP/Postal Code</b>	17815
<b>Contact Name</b>	Warden William Campbell
<b>Position_Title</b>	Warden
<b>Department</b>	Prison
<b>E-Mail</b>	<a href="mailto:wcampbell@columbiapa.org">wcampbell@columbiapa.org</a>
<b>Fax Number</b>	570-784-8837
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<b>Project_Title</b>	Best Practice Award
<b>Start Date</b>	2/13/2015
<b>ChairofBoard</b>	David Kovach
<b>Chairof County</b>	David Kovach
<b>CountyChief</b>	Warden William Campbell

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We are recommending Columbia County Prison for the 2015 County Jail Best Practice Awards Program for Counties. This recommendation is based upon several programs in reducing the prison population through the Inmate Re-entry Program and the partnership in Department of Correction's partnership efforts for re-entry at both the state and federal levels.

Columbia County's Re-entry Program has improved public safety and the well-being through enhanced communication, coordination and collaboration across county departments and agency initiatives that make Columbia County safer by reducing recidivism and victimization. These programs prepare participants for successful transition, saves tax payer dollars by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration.

- During sentencing, the Judge will make the defendant reentry eligible. Upon incarceration, a risk/needs assessment is completed by the institutional case manager. An individual plan is created based upon the risk/needs assessment. A Home Plan will also be evaluated upon admission so as to give the institution suitable amount of time to secure housing. During the incarceration period, the inmate shall enroll in programs. These programs shall consist of some of all of the following:
  - Alcohol/Drug Education
  - Self-Help Meetings
  - GED Education
  - CCJ State certified classes
  - Life Skills/Parenting Skills
  - Job Training
  - Mentoring Program
  - Social Service Support

Upon completion of the recommended Programs, a recommendation for early release is circulated. Upon recommendation by the warden, the recommendation is forwarded to the District Attorney, Chief Probation Officer for review. A Home Plan is investigated. Upon completion, the recommendation is forwarded to the sentencing Judge for release to early parole. Early parole includes a period of electronic monitoring (EM) bracelet instead of continued incarceration. This is where a huge savings occurs. An inmate on EM cost less than nine-dollars per day compared to an average daily cost of seventy-dollars for incarceration.

The Re-entry Program has reduced the Columbia County Prison inmate population. This has created an opportunity to contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections and the Federal Bureau of Prisons for Technical Parole Violators participation in certified classes. This has generated over two-million dollars in revenue for the county.

Another program capitalize on the expertise of local agencies using established programs to provide services needed to meet housing for inmates being released back into society. Thus, the Columbia County Housing Authority Transitional Justice Housing Program was established. The programs provide housing initiatives:

- To provide permanent supportive housing for individuals who have a diagnosis of serious mental illness and substance abuse disorders.
- To develop a coordinated, collaborative program using existing service agency programs to support CJAB and PCCD initiatives by providing an increased number of housing opportunities for those justice involved at the county and state level
- Provide housing opportunities that will serve to divert justice involved individuals from incarceration and assist justice involved individuals to re-enter our community.

Depending on the needs of the program participants, the terms of probation and other factors- a determination will be made about the type of housing assistance that will be provided. Where possible, the housing will be provided through standard or modified agreement and procedures used in existing programs. The program participant will pay 30% of income as their share of the rental cost. The money will be paid directly by the tenant to the landlord. Additional monies come from a housing initiative grant program which can last for two years. Coordination between the drug courts, work release and DUI court programs with the CMSU, CAA, and JCHA for a comprehensive approach to diverting participants from jail time and to allow re-entry into the community.

The Columbia County Re-entry Program Advisory Board consists of the Common Pleas Judges, District Attorney, Warden, Chief Adult Probation Officer, Program Administrator, Electronic Monitoring (EM) Coordinator, and Program Case Manager. This board meets weekly to review each inmate participates progress and program needs. In an effort to gain county-wide involvement and support, the Advisory Board belongs to the Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB). The CJAB meets quarterly with members consisting of county elected officials, Judges, Chiefs of Police, Victim Witness Coordinator, Superintendents from school Districts, Women in Transition, Women's Center, Agency on Aging, YMCA, Red Cross, United Way, and Ministerium.

**EVALUATION:** The Case Manager is responsible to collect data on the inmates completing the program and the recidivists. This program was implemented in May 2013 and continues to expand.

**STAKEHOLDERS:** The CJAB members assist in the development of resources. Agape is located near Columbia County Prison and assists with home plan development, obtainment of furniture, provides food, and release and employment clothing. Work Release inmates are able to complete volunteer hours at AGAPE while developing work skills. CMSU provides drug/alcohol treatment and mental health counseling. The Probation Office investigates the home plans and supervision of Paroles. The Columbia County Housing Authority monitors rental agreements for inmates released from the prison.

**PROCESSES:** The Re-entry Advisory Board meets every week to review the progress of each participant in the program. The CM provides progress and compliance reports on each participant. The Board discusses any potential treatment or programmatic interventions. Quarterly, the Advisory Board meets with the Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB). CJAB assists with the obtainment of services/resources. Columbia County has received a grant of \$150,000 to assist with housing costs for released inmates.

**Costs:** Since May 2013, CCP has had over two-hundred inmates complete the re-entry program. These inmates would not have been able to be paroled as they were unable to develop home plans. Currently, CCP has 36 inmates in the community on electronic monitoring as part of this re-entry program. This is over a \$2,500 direct daily savings to CCP. The offender pays for \$9.00 a day charge for the EM. Additionally, CCP has a contract with Pennsylvania DOC to provide these services to their TPVs. To date, approximately 250 DOC TPV have completed the program. This is a revenue generator in excess of two-million dollars. These funds have been used to fund a Licensed D & A Counselor; Case Manager; Instructors; GED Classes and self help mentoring.