

Survey to Chief APOs

Issue: Day Report Centers

Question (from Erie County):

Erie County has been exploring opening a Day Report Center for a number of years and I have the support of our County Council as well as the Court Administrator but prior to proceeding any further I would appreciate input from those who currently are operating a day report center or those who have operated one but closed. If you would answer the questions below I would appreciate it.

We have identified 3 populations to be served at the center:

- a. Sentencing option for Judges in lieu of incarceration as a court ordered condition
- b. Probation/Parole violators as a sanction and alternative to being detained
- c. Early parole consideration (transitioning & reentry offenders)

- 1) Has day reporting resulted in lower recidivism?
- 2) What percentage of offenders successfully complete the program?
- 3) Describe the positive and/or negative effects of a DRC in your County?
- 4) Has the DRC been successful and worth the significant efforts and commitment?

Blair County

Blair County is interested in any and all responses as well. We are working on a similar project.

Dauphin County

Dauphin has a Day Reporting Center and it has been in operation since 2016.

- 1) Has day reporting resulted in lower recidivism? Yes, for those who complete the entire program. Note, we also use their Cognitive Behavior Program as a standalone for roughly 50-60 offenders per year.
- 2) What percentage of offenders successfully complete the program? Unfortunately, we only have a 35% successful completion rate for those that complete the entire program. We have a 80% successful completion rate for the CBP only.
- 3) Describe the positive and/or negative effects of a DRC in your County? The positives: 1) It has allowed us to reduce our prison population for technical violators (techs and minor charges). We've been able to reduce detention of our technical violators by roughly 25% (90 less detentions per year). 2). All identified high risk offenders at intake must attend the program in an effort to address their criminogenic risk factors. Therefore, being proactive with tx intervention out of the gate to reduce risk. 3). One positive aspect of this program is that they will work around the offender's work schedule and childcare needs. This is extremely

important as most offenders will use that as an excuse as to why they can not attend. 4) good job skills program. The negatives: 1) tough to get the offender motivated to change. 2) like many programs in the juvenile system, staff retention is low. Entry level positions. Gone in 6 months. Thus, lack of experience professionals to deal with these high risk offenders. 3). Although we complete the ORAS on the offender, the DRC will complete the LSI-R. Therefore, the offender is being assessed twice. The DRC completes an assessment in an effort to assess their success with risk reduction.

4) Has the DRC been successful and worth the significant efforts and commitment? Short answer, YES, it is worth the time and money. Less technical violators are going to prison. This is really the only risk reduction program we have going at this time.

Lackawanna County

Lackawanna County does not have a Day reporting Center but we sure can use one.

Westmoreland County

See Westmoreland County's responses below. Feel free to call me if you would like to discuss further. (724) 830-3708

1) Has day reporting resulted in lower recidivism? In Westmoreland County, we did not see a reduction in recidivism as a result of the DRC.

2) What percentage of offenders successfully complete the program? Although successful completions were around 50 percent at one time, the overall average of successful completions was 30 to 40 percent.

3) Describe the positive and/or negative effects of a DRC in your County? When the DRC opened in late 2009, the concept of "having everything under one roof" seemed to work well. The DRC was located on the second floor of a treatment facility. Probation staff was present, treatment was provided in the same location and other services (parenting, life skills and GED) were provided at that location as well. However, the negative effect was that the individuals did not have any option as to treatment provider.

4) Has the DRC been successful and worth the significant efforts and commitment? The DRC in Westmoreland County closed in 2017. The judges realized that the number of participants had significantly declined and they no longer wanted individuals to be forced to have just one option for treatment. Also, the judges felt that the probation officers (who, by then, were completing evidenced based risk assessments) could properly assess each individual's risk and needs and then supervise them accordingly.