



Juvenile Court Week
October 1-7, 2006

2006

Community Report

Mission of the Juvenile Justice System

- Community Protection
- Victim Restoration
- Youth Redemption

**Westmoreland County
Juvenile Court
John J. Driscoll
Administrative Judge**

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Greensburg PA 15601

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To our Westmoreland County Community:

Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation is pleased to celebrate with you our accomplishments and successes over the past year. The purpose of this report is to provide you, the taxpayers, a description of how your juvenile justice system is performing. We hope you find this information helpful and determine that the return on your investment is reasonable. Please note that we hold ourselves accountable for our performance and will continue to strive to improve each year.

For over 40 years, we have worked with thousands of community volunteers in every municipality in Westmoreland County. These volunteers continue to help us each and every day by volunteering their time and energy toward helping juvenile offenders who are referred to our local Youth Commissions. Therefore, because of our experience with this award winning program, we truly understand the impact and value the community has on juvenile offenders. We know that in order for our system to work effectively and successfully, we need Westmoreland County Citizens to be involved in children's lives. We know that when juveniles feel they are part of a community, they are less likely to commit crimes.

For that reason, our involvement in community initiatives throughout Westmoreland County is extensive. Here are just a few examples that may be of interest to you:

The New Kensington/Arnold Truancy Project
The Jeannette Justice Project
The Monessen Communities That Care Project

If you would like to become involved and believe that you can help us in any way, please contact me by calling 724/830-4200. I also encourage you to visit our web site @ www.co.westmoreland.pa.us for further information on the services we offer in Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation.

Addie Beighley
Director Juvenile Probation



CHILDREN GROW IN COMMUNITIES, NOT PROGRAMS

The solution to crime prevention does not lie solely with the police, the courts or the probation office. It is the community stepping forward to assist those parties in carrying out their duties that can prevent crime.

For example, community organizations, faith communities and schools have intensive long-term contact with children and can have positive influences on them. We are convinced that a child develops not only through services but also through support and opportunities provided by his/her community.

The Westmoreland County Juvenile Court partners with communities to reach the goals of the Juvenile Justice System, an approach that promises to increase positive outcomes for all those involved. Our pledge is to make Balanced and Restorative Justice work for victims of juvenile crime, communities and youth offenders.



Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Outcomes

“Pennsylvania’s vision for the future of juvenile justice is one that involves every community; assists all victims supports all families and helps all juveniles to become responsible citizens.”

The Mission of our Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Department

“With teamwork & cooperation, we will strive for excellence to provide programs of supervision, care, and rehabilitation, by administering balanced attention to the needs of children, victims and the community. This mission is accomplished through a professional effort of extending respect to all those with whom we work and serve”

2006 AWARDS

Connie Barone, Intake Secretary, is the award recipient of the “2006 Support Staff of the Year” chosen by the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission. This award will be presented to her in November at the Annual Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission Conference in Harrisburg PA.

Our Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Project is this year’s recipient of the “Justice Trainers Association Award for Excellence.” This award is given on an annual basis to organizations that have made significant contributions to the field of Juvenile Justice Training.

Community Protection

The public has a right to a safe and secure community, including protection from known offenders.

- 82% of Juvenile Offenders Successfully Completed Supervision
- 79% of Juvenile Offenders Complied with their Conditions of Supervision

Accountability

When a crime is committed by a juvenile, an obligation to the victim is incurred. Offenders should make every effort to assume responsibility for their actions and to restore losses suffered by victims.

- 93% of Juveniles Completed Assigned Community Service Obligations
- 6,211 Hours of Community Service were Completed
- \$69,432 of Restitution was paid to victims
- 87% of Juveniles made full restitution to their victim(s)

Competency Development

Offenders should leave the Juvenile Justice System more capable of being responsible and productive members of their communities.

- 90% of Juveniles were employed or in an educational or vocational activity
- 71% of Juveniles successfully completed a competency development activity

2005

Total Delinquency New Referral Dispositions	863
Total Delinquency Dispositions	1,293
Total Delinquency Placements	143
Total Dependency Dispositions	639



In January 2005, Westmoreland County was chosen to host the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Project as Pennsylvania's first and only Demonstration Site. Grant monies were awarded to the Juvenile Probation Department from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Since that time the Juvenile Court has embraced the

opportunity and has accomplished the following:

- Host of two Annual State-wide Conferences with 200-300 attendees each year
- All Statewide PTSD training completed within the County provided over \$150,000 to area businesses in Westmoreland County
- Trained sixty-five new facilitators who are now conducting PTSD groups throughout Pennsylvania in Residential Placements
 - Created the PTSD POST and distribut quarterly to 1,500 recipients
 - Created a DVD on PTSD as a training tool for professionals
 - Over 1,600 professionals statewide have been trained in PTSD
- Created a 20 session psychoeducational Stress In Adolescence Curriculum
- Introduced the curriculum to our Juvenile Detention Center to be used with all residents

**Trained the following participants in Stress In Adolescence:
Detention Workers, Probation Officers, Teachers, Mental Health, Student Assistant
Teams and Social Service Agencies**

AWARDS

This project won the 2004 Juvenile Court Judges' Commission "Program of the Year" Award

The project was also the recipient of the "2006 Juvenile Justice Trainers Association Award for Excellence", a national award sponsored by the National Partnership on Juvenile Services

Currently the project has been nominated for the Specialized Topics Award and Training Systems by the International Association of Correctional Training Personnel

JUVENILE COURT WEEK

2006 marks the 25th year that the Westmoreland County Juvenile Court has celebrated Juvenile Court Week.

No other County in the Commonwealth has conducted such an in depth program and hosted so many school students for this length of time. We are very proud of our dedication to this program and have escorted approximately 20,000 school students through our Center over the years.

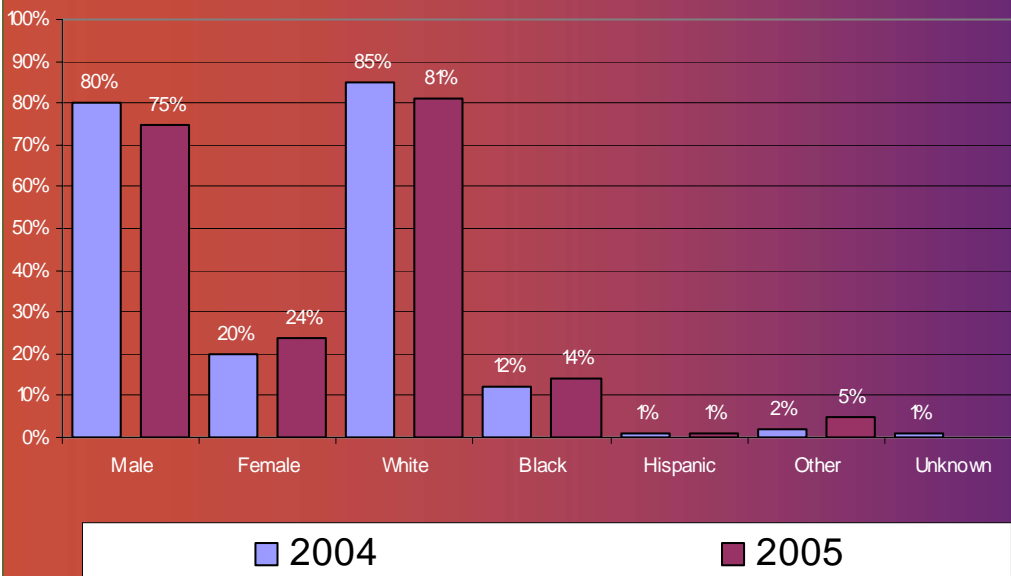
During the week:

- 800 Students will receive a tour of the Juvenile Detention Center
- A simulated juvenile hearing will be performed
- Provide the opportunity to hear from juveniles who have been removed from their homes
- An opportunity to hear about prison life by Adult Prisoners from SCI Greensburg
- A Poster Contest is held depicting a theme relevant to Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System
- An Open House will be held for the community with over 200 attendees
- A Special Recognition Luncheon for those working with us in the Juvenile Justice System
- Distribute a Community Justice Report to our Westmoreland County Communities

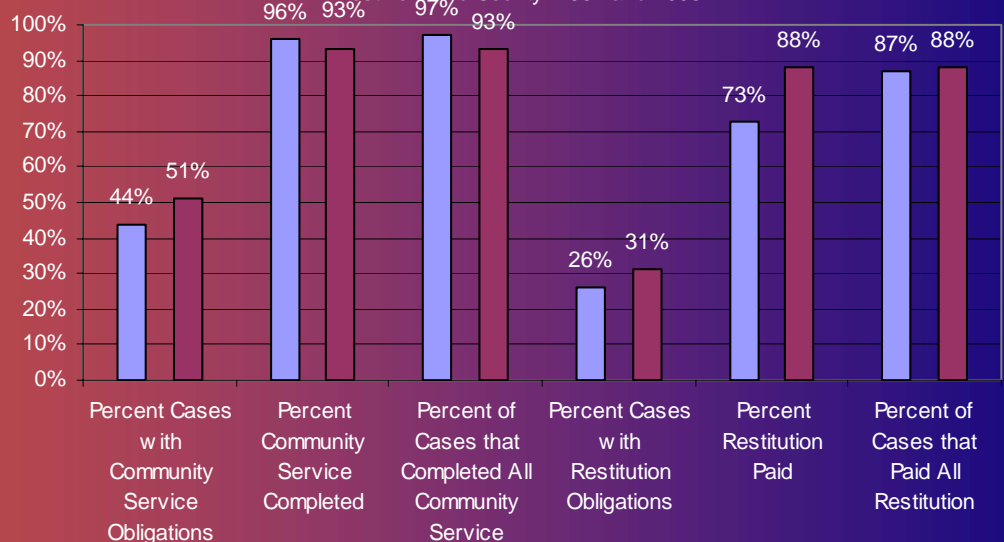
Case Closing Comparisons

Westmoreland County: 2004 and 2005

Demographic Characteristics
Westmoreland County: 2004-2005



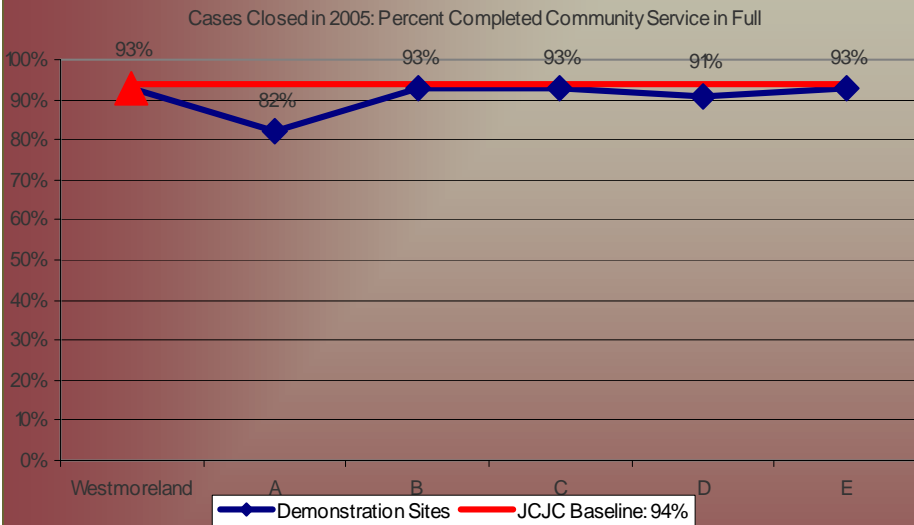
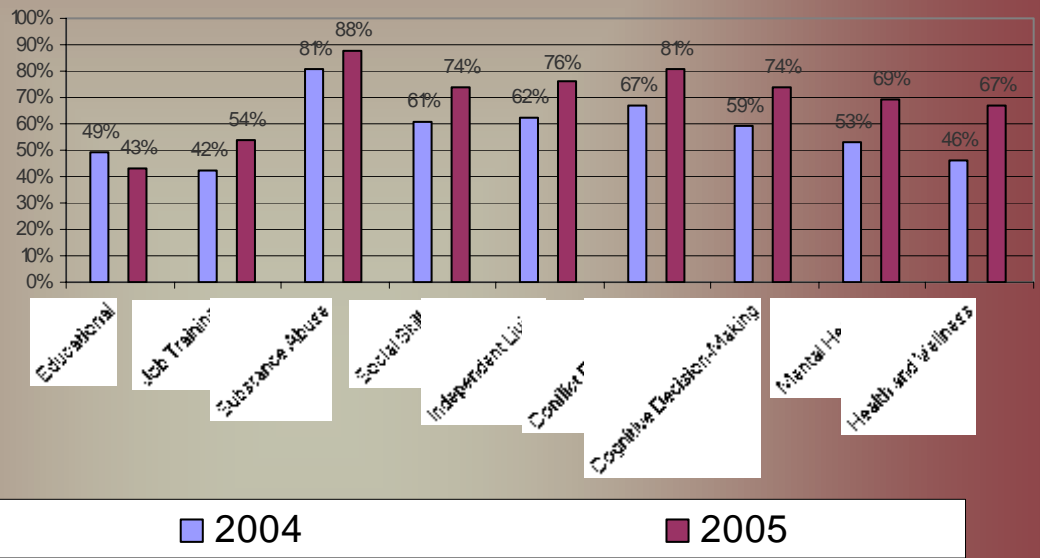
Accountability - Community Service and Restitution
Westmoreland County: 2004 and 2005



Case Closing Comparisons

Westmoreland County: 2004 and 2005

Successfully Completed Competency Development Activity
Westmoreland County: 2004 and 2005



Statistical data contained in this report is based on 2005 Juvenile Court Case Closing Data

NCJJ

