

Forecast/Research Workgroup Meeting

CVH - Page Hall. Rm. 217 Middletown

September 10, 2008

10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Chair: Linda DeConti, Research Unit Manager (CJPPD/OPM)

Present: John Forbes, Assistant Division Director (OPM), Ivan Kuzyk, Research Unit Assistant Manager (OPM), Anne Bordieri, Intern (OPM); Susan Glass, Program Manager (CSSD); Judy Lee, Caseflow Management Specialist (Court Operations); Fred Levesque, Director (DOC), Mary Lansing, Associate Research Analyst (DOC), Michelle Altomare, Associate Research Analyst (DOC), Jody Barry, Associate Research Analyst (DOC); Al Bidorini, Director of Planning (DMHAS); Jerry Stowell, Consultant (BOPP), Rich Sparaco, Parole/Community Services Manager (BOPP); Lois Desmarais, Planning Specialist (DPS), Gary Lopez, Planning Specialist (DPS).

Excused: Brian Hill, Manager (CSSD); John Lahda, Executive Director (BOPP); Alan Calandro, Section Chief (OFA); Chris Reinhart, Esq., Senior Attorney (OLR)

Absent: Steve Cox, CT SAC Director (CCSU); Cheryl Cepelak, Director (DOC)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS and DELIVERABLES	DATE
Acceptance of Minutes:	The Minutes from the August meeting were accepted as written.		
Monthly Indicators Report:	<p>Linda presented the new format for the monthly. She handed out a DRAFT of the new monthly for August which consists of four pages. She hopes to use this new format starting within the next two months.</p> <p>The new format is expected to enhance efficiency and improve readability as it will provide the basic information and other reports can focus on more specialized requests as needed.</p>	Data will still be required from each agency and will be presented online for those who need to see the data.	
Prison Forecasting Model:	The input/output model was further discussed. Linda handed out a DRAFT copy to each agency. Fred explained that the DOC has a different flow chart than what Linda handed out and explained that it is more simplified and easier to understand. Fred and Rich suggested changes that will be incorporated into the DRAFT for further review within each agency.	Linda and Anne sent out the Revised DRAFT PowerPoint of the Input/Output flowchart and asked all agencies to make changes as needed so that this can be finalized at the next meeting and incorporated into the New DRAFT Monthly Indicators for its final review.	DRAFT sent for review on 9/10/2008
Annual Recidivism Study:	<p>Ivan made a presentation of the work that he has done using the 1997 cohort. Instead of putting the data in SPSS format he used access because he was just using descriptive statistics. He explained how this was best for quality checks. Discussion of the Right Decision and if it will effect the years after 1997.</p> <p>Ivan explained that this data will be able to be reproducible for future years. Gary was concerned about the codes of the study and if they will change over time.</p>	<p>Overall, everyone was pleased with the direction Ivan is going with the 1997 study.</p> <p>Ivan asked for feedback and any questions or concerns that agencies have on his presentation.</p>	

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<p>Agency Updates:</p>	<p>BOPP: Rich announced the numbers for Discretionary Parole. Parole including re-paroles was 224. There were 57 denials, 10 paroles were revoked and 3 rescinded. For transfer parole, there were 82 cases reviewed, 21 granted, 28 denied and 33 continued. BOPP is still tackling three main areas of concerns: appointments for part time Board Members, staffing, and time. There are still three (3) vacant part time board members positions (1 just appointed). BOPP averaged 28 hearing dates in August with an average of ten (10) cases per hearing and a Grant Rate of 76%. The Grant rate only reflects paroles being granted not released in any given month. Grant rates always applies to future releases not those cases actually released to parole for the corresponding month. The Backlog as of 9/10/08 is as follows, 1108 cases were Past Parole Eligibility Date and 1881 were Past Parole Eligibility and Past 6 months scheduling window. The Grant money from OPM was used to hire five (5) - 120s and four (4) clerical staff to address 100 backlog cases each. BOPP has just finished training them, a 30 day training session, and all have been assigned 100 cases each from backlog.</p>		
	<p>CSSD: Susan reported that The Judicial Branch will be participating in the Results-based Accountability process led by the Appropriations Committee of the General Assembly. CSSD will be receiving technical assistance from the Office of Fiscal Analysis in developing and reporting program performance measures. In prepping for this type of results based analysis, an internal push to ready programs for analysis has been undertaken (review of various systems capabilities to produce outcome based results).</p> <p>Research TA with CCSU is ongoing. Recent work has focused on adult probation recidivism analysis and methods for developing research comparison groups.</p> <p>The one-year process evaluation report for the Youth Pilot in New Haven is under review by CSSD staff.</p> <p>The Women's Supervision program is prepping for its first analysis. Data from program inception to Oct 1, 2008 will be analyzed by Orbis Partners out of Ottawa Canada. We hope to have a report on this project by late autumn. This is a project undertaken with the technical expertise of NIC.</p>		

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Agency Updates Continued:	<p>DPS: The 2005 Crime in Connecticut (CIC) report has been run and final adjustments are being made. The report should be ready for release by the end of October. There are still thousands of CT State Police (CSP) arrests missing for 2006 and 2007. New Haven submitted their NIBRS data through December of 2006. So the 2006 CIC report should be finished by the end of the year if approximately 3000 missing CSP arrests from 2006 are entered into the database within the next two months. It is not clear at this point in time whether the missing 2006 and 2007 arrests will be manually entered into the system, or if an automated solution will be available for at least some of those missing 2006 and 2007 arrests.</p> <p>There is some backlog with the family violence data entry. DPS hired a consultant to write a schema to accept electronic submission of FV data as outlined in a federal grant issued to the Crimes Analysis unit (CAU). There is only around \$16,000 left to be spent from the grant, so other sources of grant money will be needed to complete the project.</p> <p>It was also noted that the CAU has been given additional responsibilities associated with assisting the CSP with their data reporting and analysis needs.</p>		
	<p>DOC: The DOC experienced a slight increase in the overall population by a couple hundred offenders. The increase appears to be fueled by the male Pre-trial population most notably in Hartford, new Haven and Bridgeport.</p> <p>The Osborn Correctional Institution opened an additional overflow unit to manage 75 Pre-trial offenders. Historically, the months of September and October have always been high months for the unsentenced population.</p>		
	<p>Judicial Court Operations: Judges have begun their new assignments beginning last week. Those assigned to criminal will attend a seminar at the end of this month.</p> <p>The 1st phase of data entry training for the Criminal/Motor Vehicle System was provided to approximately 40 new employees last month.</p> <p>Court Operations is continuing to work with the BOPP to provide transcripts for their hearings.</p> <p>Court Operations is busy implementing policy and procedure for the courts regarding new legislation that will be effective as of October 1, 2008. Among the new public acts is a new supervised diversionary program. This program is created for those with psychiatric disabilities. If the defendant participates in a treatment plan supervised by CSSD, the case will be dismissed.</p>		
Other Information:			
Meeting Schedule:	<p>October 8, 2008 – CSSD, 4th Floor Conference Room, Wethersfield November 12, 2008 – CSSD, 4th Floor Conference Room, Wethersfield December 10, 2008 – CSSD, 4th Floor Conference Room, Wethersfield</p>		