



County of Alameda Public Defender's Office

FY 2014 – 15 MOE Budget
April 2014

Presented by: Brendon Woods, Public Defender





Mission Statement

To zealously protect and defend the rights of our clients through compassionate and inspired legal representation of the highest quality, in pursuit of a fair and unbiased system of justice for all.

Mandated Services



The Public Defender is the primary defense attorney for indigent individuals accused of crimes or otherwise facing potential incarceration or loss of liberty

For these individuals, legal representation at public expense is mandated by the:

- > US Constitution
- > CA Constitution
- > County Charter



Mandated Services (cont)

If the Public Defender has a legal or ethical conflict of interest the case is referred to the Court Appointed Attorneys Program (CAAP), which operates pursuant to a contract administered by the County Administrator. The Indigent Defense budget also includes expenses for defendants represented by CAAP.



Major Service Areas

The Public Defender provides defense services for the following:

- ◉ Defendants whose charges expose them to a possible punishment of death
- ◉ Defendants accused of felony crimes
- ◉ Defendants accused of misdemeanor crimes
- ◉ Minors prosecuted in juvenile delinquency court and in adult court



Major Service Areas (cont)

- Persons subject to involuntary psychiatric hospitalization and conservatorship proceedings in Mental Health and Probate Courts

- Inmates in various proceedings to extend incarceration beyond the prescribed term of punishment including:
 - > "sexual violent predator" proceedings,
 - > "insanity commitment" proceedings
 - > "dangerous prisoner" proceedings
 - > "mentally disordered offender" proceedings
 - > "youthful offender" proceedings



Major Service Areas (cont)

- Appeals in the Appellate Division of the Alameda County Superior Court, California Court of Appeal, and California Supreme Court, in matters relating to pending litigation in the Alameda County Superior Court
- Post release community supervision (PRCS) violations
- State Parolees in the Parolee Reentry Court
- Parole Revocation hearings





FY 2014-15 Financial Summary

| | 2013-14 APPROVED BUDGET | 2014-15 MOE BUDGET | CHANGE FROM 2013-14 | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| | | | Amount | % |
| Appropriations | \$32,459,387 | \$34,307,332 | \$1,847,945 | 5.69% |
| Revenues | \$1,412,166 | \$1,160,664 | (\$251,502) | (17.81)% |
| Net County Cost | \$31,047,221 | \$33,146,668 | \$2,099,447 | 6.76% |
| FTE – Mgmt | 124.83 | 127.83 | 3.0 | 2.40% |
| FTE – Non-Mgmt. | 34.74 | 34.74 | 0 | 0% |
| Total FTE | 159.57 | 162.57 | 3.0 | 1.88% |
| Total Authorized | 233.00 | 233.00 | 0 | 0% |

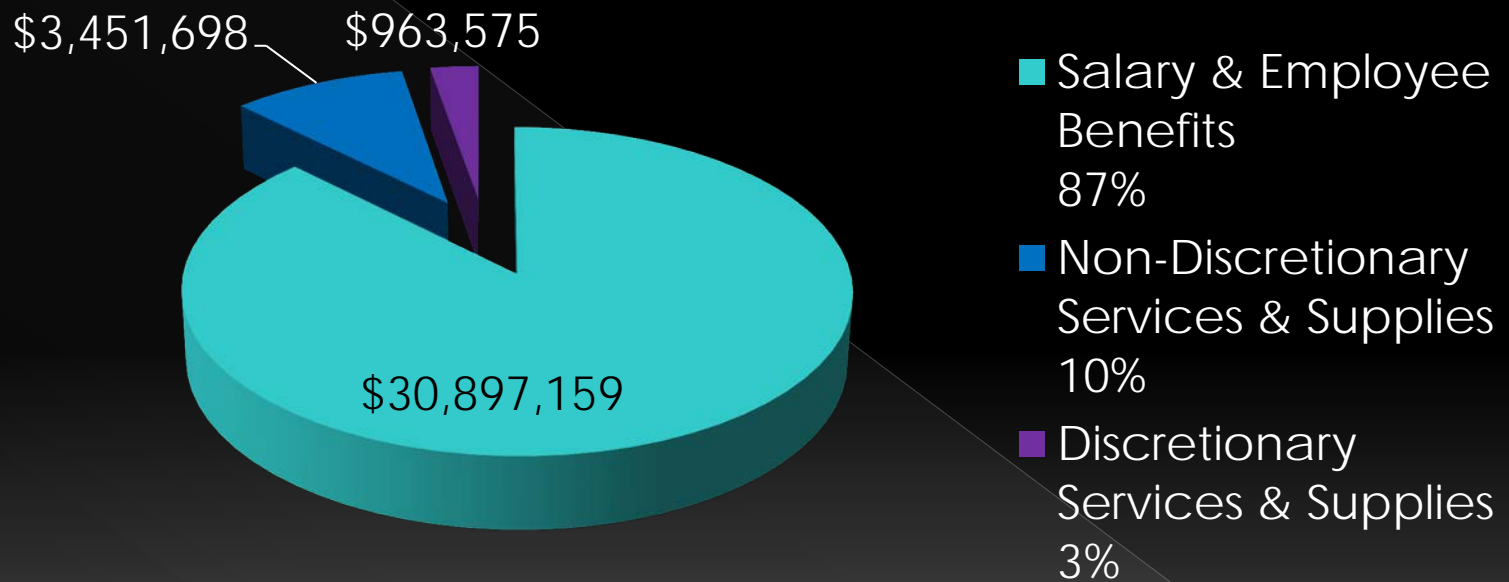


FY 2014-15 Financial Summary

| COMPONENT | NCC CHANGE |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Salary and Employee Benefits | \$1,778,711 |
| ISF Adjustments | \$69,234 |
| Increased Costs Related to DS&S | 0 |
| Increased Intra Fund Transfer | 0 |
| Decrease in estimated revenues | (\$251,502) |
| | |
| TOTAL | \$2,099,447 |



Appropriations by Major Object

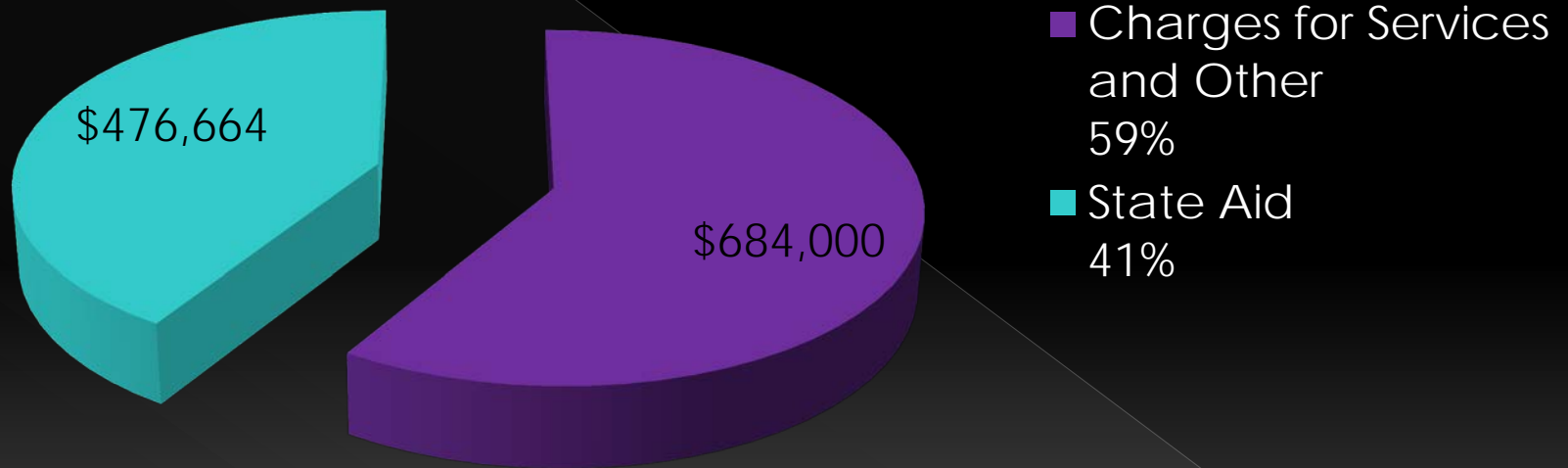


Intra Fund Transfer -\$1,005,100

Net Appropriation: \$34,307,332



Revenues by Source





Indigent Defense – Combined

Public Defender and Contracted Indigent Defense Services (CAAP)

| | 2013 -14 APPROVED BUDGET | 2013-14 NET COUNTY COST | 2014 -15 MOE BUDGET | 2014-15 REVENUE | 2014-15 NET COUNTY COST | NET COUNTY COST CHANGE FROM 2013-14 | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------|
| | | | | | | Amount | % |
| Public Defender | \$32,459,387 | \$31,047,221 | \$34,307,332 | \$1,160,664 | \$33,146,668 | \$2,099,447 | 6.76% |
| CAAP | \$6,673,315 | \$6,291,315 | \$6,673,833 | \$380,000 | \$6,293,833 | \$2,518 | .04% |
| TOTAL INDIGENT DEFENSE | \$39,132,702 | \$37,338,536 | \$40,981,165 | \$1,540,664 | \$39,440,501 | \$2,101,965 | 5.63% |



Case Load and Type

| | FY 2012-13 ACTUALS | FY 2013-14 PROJECTED | FY 2014-15 PROJECTED | FY 2014-15 PROJECTED % OF CASES |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| TOTAL FILES OPENED | 36,395 | 40,709 | 42,000 | |
| Felony | 10,494 | 11,736 | 11,800 | 28.10% |
| Misdemeanor | 21,263 | 22,026 | 22,100 | 52.62% |
| Juvenile | 2,201 | 2,079 | 2,100 | 5.00% |
| Civil/Commitment | 1,645 | 1,608 | 1,650 | 3.93% |
| Parole/PRCS | 386 | 1,331 | 1,400 | 3.33% |
| Clean Slate | 147 | 1,643 | 2,000 | 4.76% |
| | | | | |
| *Conflicts Declared | 4,720 | 4,094 | 4,100 | 9.76% |

*Conflicts are also included in the caseload and types listed above

Workload

In 2013/14:

- ◉ Projected to open 12% more files
- ◉ Filed 13% (626) less conflicts than 2012
- ◉ Reduced conflict rate from 13% to 10% of total files

Workload

- We currently represent 59 individuals charged with homicides.

In 2013:

- We accepted 24 new homicides.
- Our felony lawyers handle approximately 289 cases per attorney.
- Our Misdemeanor lawyers handle approximately 359 cases per attorney.
- We have a staff of 18 investigators that completed 3,476 investigations requests in 2013.
- We served 1,790 subpoenas.

Accomplishments

IN THE COURTROOM

VISIBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

GRANT/FUND DEVELOPMENT

IMPROVING SERVICES TO CLIENTS

IN THE COMMUNITY

Accomplishments

IN THE COURTROOM

- ◎ Represented 395 clients in Homeless and Caring court.
- ◎ Accepted 124 new clients into Parolee Reentry Court.
- ◎ Represented 91 clients in Juvenile Girls Court.
- ◎ Achieved a successful outcome in more than 55% of cases that went to trial.

Accomplishments

INCREASED OFFICE VISIBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

- ◎ Launch of new website

Public Defender

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Welcome to the

OFFICE OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

Our mission is to zealously protect and defend the rights of our clients through compassionate and inspired legal representation of the highest quality, in pursuit of a fair and unbiased system of justice for all.

We were the second public defender's office created in the nation, chartered in 1927 by Earl Warren. He would later go on to become Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. During its first year, our office employed two lawyers.

Today, there are 100 attorneys, 18 investigators and a support staff of 40, who together handle approximately 40,000 cases a year. In 2012, the office was named the "Best Law Firm" in the East Bay by the Alameda County Bar Association.

Within the pages of this website, you will find information regarding the role, functions, and services of the Public Defender, the history of the Office, answers to frequently asked questions, a directory of our law office locations, and employment information.

Resources

The Criminal Docket Finder was developed in accordance with Marsy's Law to provide victims with information on the defendant's appearance at public proceedings.

[Criminal Docket Finder](#)

The Inmate Locator provides information regarding arrested and in-custody persons in Alameda County and reflects the most recent information known to the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

[Inmate Locator](#)

Employment Opportunities

None at this time.

[More job information...](#)



News

[**Unfair Punishment: A state program that's supposed to help crime victims denies people who have had run-ins with the law or are afraid of being victimized again.**](#)

Public Defender Brendon Woods says that it is unfair that clients who are probation or parole are not entitled to the same victim compensation as someone who's not.

[**Public Defender Seeks Reform of Unfair Bail System**](#)

Public Defender Brendon Woods, along with other Bay Area Public Defenders, advocates reform of our bail system to stop unjustly imprisoning poor pre-trial detainees.

Monthly Site Visitors



Visitors per month

| MONTH | # OF VISITORS |
|----------------|---------------|
| July 2013 | 2,734 |
| August 2013 | 2,834 |
| September 2013 | 2,739 |
| October 2013 | 2,796 |
| November 2013 | 2,755 |
| December 2013 | 3,668 |
| January 2014 | 4,318 |
| February 2014 | 3,928 |

Pre-Site Redesign

Avg **635** visitors per month

Post-Site Redesign

Avg **2,947** per month

Accomplishments

INCREASED OFFICE ACCESSIBILITY AND VISIBILITY

- ◉ Launch of new website
- ◉ Increased media presence

Accomplishments



© FEATURED IN THE MEDIA - LOCAL



Accomplishments



© FEATURED IN THE MEDIA - NATIONAL



An All-Hands Approach Aids Girls Most at Risk

California Court Offers Broad-Based Support

BY PATRICIA LEON BROWN

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. — Toni J., an ex-felon, lives with 11 family members in West Oakland, on a street buffeted by gang activity and poverty. Her mother died of an overdose, her father in a revenge shooting in fourth grade, she was raped while on probation for shoplifting.

At odds with the law from a young age, Toni has appeared in court 36 times. But she is suddenly starting to change thanks to an unusual collaboration between the judicial and social service systems. Toni is now doing well at school and even mentoring other at-risk girls.

"She's stepping up to the plate," Judge Rhonda Burgess said. "Toni from the bench before recommending that she be taken off probation."

Like Toni, who was picked up along the vast international Boulevard in Oakland, a major West Coast hub for sex trafficking, the vast majority of teenage girls who appear before Judge Burgess in the Alameda County

Girls Court, a special tribunal for girls, have been recruited as child prostitutes or, like Toni, been considered at risk for involvement. (All those mentioned in this article are minors.)

Girls Court brings an all-hands-on-deck approach to the lives of vulnerable girls, linking them to social service agencies providing from body image to legal aid, and offering a team of adults in whom they can develop trust. And while still in their early years, the system is showing promise.

Founded two and a half years ago and carved out of the existing juvenile court, the Girls Court is far young women considered most at risk, especially those beyond the hall doors of its Girls Courts around the country, each with a different emphasis.

The results have been promising. The court in Hawaii, a program where both parents and girls attend counseling for a year, has led to a marked decrease in delinquency according to a 2011 evaluation. The Oregon County Girls court, which was started in 2003, intervenes in the lives of teenage girls in long-term foster care, with pre-emptive studies suggesting better grades and fewer placements.

"It's a unique alignment between agencies," Laurel Bellows, a Chicago writer and co-chairwoman of the American Bar Association's anti-trafficking task force, said of the court's collaborative approach. "These are not easy systems to deal with."

"Without it, I probably would have been in jail, dead or somewhere going back up to some dude."

In some states, including California,



Alameda County, Calif. At right, Andrea Brown, a public defender, with a client in the courtroom.

Continued on Page A14

Accomplishments

GRANT AND FUND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

- ◉ Agreed to participate in a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to work with the Center for Court Innovation and the San Francisco Public Defender's Office to receive technical assistance.
- ◉ Received assistance from The Bronx Defenders' Center for Holistic Defense to develop a more holistic approach to criminal defense.
- ◉ Joined HCSA fund development team
- ◉ Sustained internal grant seeking efforts



Grant Activity

| GRANTOR | RESULT | DATE | SUPPORT FOR |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| Public Welfare Foundation Inc | Not funded | 07/19/13 | Immigration attorney |
| Stuart Foundation | Not funded | 07/31/13 | Juvenile transition youth and crossover youth |
| Models for Change – Action Network | Not funded | 11/20/13 | Juvenile Social Worker |
| East Bay Community Foundation | Initial discussions | 3/6/14 | Future grants |
| Ford Foundation | Not funded | 01/27/14 | Juvenile social worker |
| Kettering Family Foundation | Not funded | 02/03/14 | Girls court |
| RGK Foundation | Not funded | 02/03/14 | Educational advocate |
| William G. Gilmore | Pending | 02/13/14 | Educational advocate |
| Cox Foundation | Pending | 02/28/14 | Educational advocate |
| Firedoll Foundation | Pending | 03/27/14 | Immigration work |
| Impact Fund | Not funded 11/13 & 02/14 | Due 04/28/14 | Immigration work |
| Walter S. Johnson Foundation | LOI granted; will submit full proposal | 05/31/14 | Juvenile transition youth |

Accomplishments

IMPROVED SERVICES PROVIDED TO CLIENTS

- ⦿ Hired our first full-time Immigration Lawyer.
- ⦿ Secured funding for four social workers to provide support to eligible Public Safety Realignment clients.
- ⦿ Achieved 92% success rate in newly implemented Clean Slate program.

Clean Slate Program

- ◎ 649 current open cases
- ◎ Filed 512 motions
- ◎ 473 motions have been granted
- ◎ 70 clients received advice only
- ◎ 36 were not financially eligible and referred to East Bay Community Law Center

92% success rate!

Accomplishments

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- Hired our first full-time Immigration Lawyer.
- Secured funding for four social workers to provide support to eligible Public Safety Realignment clients.
- Achieved 92% success rate in newly implemented Clean Slate program.
- Increased collaboration with non-profits in order to provide better services to our clients.

Accomplishments



- SSI referrals for our clients

- Juvenile education advocacy
- Clean slate
- Civil remedies

Accomplishments

IMPROVED SERVICES PROVIDED TO CLIENTS

- Hired our first full-time Immigration Lawyer.
- Secured funding for four social workers to provide support to eligible Public Safety Realignment clients.
- Achieved 92% success rate in newly implemented Clean Slate program.
- Increased collaboration with non-profits in order to provide better services to our clients.
- Created the County's first Veteran's Treatment Court in partnership with the District Attorney, Court, Probation, Sheriff, Behavioral Health Care, and the Veterans Legal Task Force.
- Created our first legislative platform to address legislation that will impact our clients

Accomplishments



IN THE COMMUNITY - Legal

- ◉ Provided 10 trainings to the court appointed and private bar



Accomplishments

IN THE LEGAL FIELD - GUEST LECTURERS

- ◉ Stanford Trial advocacy program
- ◉ Hastings Law School
- ◉ University of San Francisco Law School
- ◉ University of California, Davis Law School
- ◉ University of California, Berkeley Law School
- ◉ National Legal Aid and Defenders Association





Accomplishments

IN THE LEGAL FIELD - ADJUNCT PROFESSORS

- ◎ Santa Clara Law School
- ◎ University of California, Berkeley Law School





Accomplishments

IN THE COMMUNITY – BOARD SERVICE

- ◉ Women Lawyers of Alameda County
- ◉ California State Bar Judicial Nominee Evaluation Commission
- ◉ United Muslims of America
- ◉ Korean Community Center
- ◉ California Public Defenders Association

Accomplishments

IN THE COMMUNITY

- ◉ Served a holiday pizza dinner to 149 youth at Juvenile Hall in partnership with Probation and funded by the Public Defender Association.
- ◉ Collected nearly 100 coats to be distributed by St. Vincent de Paul in our Alameda County Public Defender "One Warm Coat Drive".
- ◉ Launched the Learn Your Rights in California (LYRIC) high school outreach program.

L.Y.R.I.C.

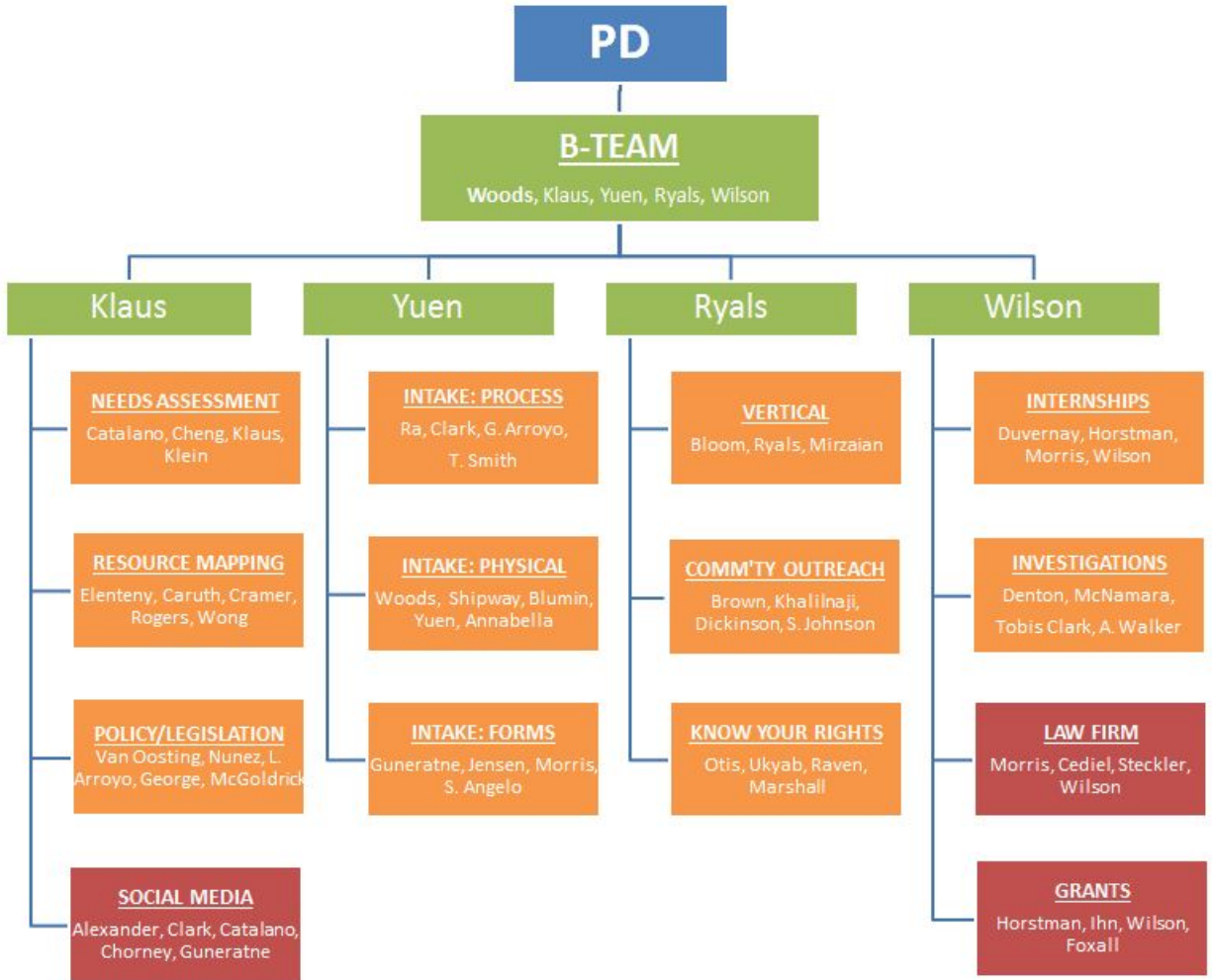
Learn Your Rights In California

A project of the Alameda County Public Defender's Office



Goals

- ◎ Improve our juvenile practice
 - > Social workers
 - > Educational advocates
- ◎ Develop and implement internal strategies to improve services we provide to our clients
- ◎ Continue to develop our model of holistic defense



Goals

- ◉ Increase community outreach efforts
- ◉ Reduce storage cost
- ◉ Successful fund development
- ◉ Collaborate with the District Attorney and Probation to expand the size and use of collaborative courts
- ◉ Vertical representation

Thank You