

# OJACC

Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections

Over 35 Years Promoting and Supporting Effective Community Corrections

**Mission:**

To bring together stakeholders to promote and support effective community corrections that enhance public safety.

[www.ojacc.org](http://www.ojacc.org)

**Officers:**

Pres: Mike Randle

1st VP: Linda Janes

2nd VP: Ro-Ellen Sinkewich

Sec.: Amy Klumpp

Treas.: Melissa Pierson

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**President's Message**

By: Mike Randle, OJACC President

I am honored to have been elected to serve as president of OJACC. As many of you know, Molly Gauntner was slated to become the next president of OJACC. However, as a result of Molly leaving her position with the Franklin County Municipal Court Department of Pretrial and Probation Services to work in the private sector, I was nominated for the position.



*Mike Randle, Executive V. P. of Operations, Oriana House, Inc.*

We know Molly would have made an outstanding president and we thank her for her steadfast service to OJACC over the years. During her years of service to OJACC, Molly served on a variety of committees including the Conference Committee, the Adult Collaborative Committee, the Executive Committee and the Advocacy/Policy Committee. Molly was always willing and available to assist OJACC as well as advocate for issues that are important to our association. We wish Molly all the best as she embarks on her new journey.

I would also like to thank our Immediate Past President, Kysten Palmore. Kysten led OJACC through the uncertainty of COVID, ensuring that we continued to provide trainings, meetings, and advocacy by developing new ways to accomplish our mission.

The Mission of OJACC has been, and continues to be, to bring together stakeholders to promote and support effective community corrections that enhance public safety. OJACC membership includes representation from all segments of the criminal justice system including: judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, law enforcement, probation, prisons, CBCFs, halfway houses, social service providers, and others.

Through the work of the Board of Trustees and various OJACC committees, meetings, conferences, trainings etc., sponsored by OJACC, these various segments of the criminal justice system are able to work together to collaborate and improve the overall criminal justice system in Ohio.

I look forward to working with you as we move into the next chapter for OJACC.

## Submissions:

The OJACC Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections. Subscription is free to all members.

The OJACC Newsletter encourages submission of articles relating to community corrections. Articles must be relatively brief, and OJACC reserves the right to edit articles for space considerations and to select which articles to publish.

Points of view expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of OJACC.

OJACC accepts paid advertising.

## Article

### Submission

### & Advertising:

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OJACC

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## Dr. Rick Billak, OJACC's First President

The passing of Rick Billak on October 19, 2021, saddened many in the field of community corrections. Rick was one of the founders of OJACC (formerly known as the Ohio Community Corrections Organization) and the first president (1986-1987). He was committed to the mission of OJACC and was instrumental in the formation of OJACC (then OCCO) along with others. In one of the first organization's newsletters, Rick wrote, "It was only three short years ago that a group of us came together and asked, how can we take control of our own destiny? Some thirty-six months later, the answer seems obvious – by collectively working together." This comment is every bit as relevant to OJACC today. We are the strongest and most effective when we collaborate. Rick was also a friend and mentor to many.



Rick graduated from St. Mark's Seminary in Erie, PA in 1965. He then received his bachelor's degree from Gannon University in 1969 and his Ph.D. from Kent State University in 1976.

Rick was the founding CEO of the Community Corrections Association formed in 1974. He retired in December 2013. He was a licensed Psychologist and taught at Youngstown State University, Kent State University, and Penn State University as an adjunct professor.

Over the years, he and the Agency received multiple awards, including International Community Corrections Association for being a "pioneer" in Community Corrections and the Community Leadership Award from Leadership Mahoning Valley. He was inducted into the Mahoning County Democratic Party Hall of Fame. Locally he also served as Chair of the Mental Health Board and the Youngstown City Scape Board.

Rick testified in front of the U.S. Congress and spoke at the London School of Economics. Professionally he served as President of several organizations, including the Ohio Community Corrections Association, the Ohio Justice Advocacy for Community Corrections, and the International Community Corrections Association. He also served as chairman of the Mental Health Board and the Boards of Youngstown City Scape and The Rich Center for Autism.



Terry Collins, Rick Billak & Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton, Retired



## ***In Beloved Memory of Dr. Edward J. Latessa***

With deepest sorrow, the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute announces the passing of our Director, Dr. Edward J. Latessa, on January 11, 2022 at 5:55pm ET after a long and fierce battle with cancer. Dr. Latessa was a devoted leader and a trusted advisor to corrections agencies worldwide, and the tremendous loss of his presence throughout the field will be felt in the hearts of many for years to come.



Dr. Latessa leaves behind a wife and four children. The UCCI team offers our most sincere and heartfelt condolences to each of them, who were by his side providing endless support to him every step of the way.



The lives of many individuals were enhanced through their work with Dr. Latessa. Should you wish to express your personal sentiments, you are invited to leave a public message [here](#). In lieu of flowers, please consider honoring Dr. Latessa's legacy through a donation to the Edward J. Latessa Fund for Doctor Student Support [www.foundation.uc.edu/latessa](http://www.foundation.uc.edu/latessa).



Ed with Candace Peters

*Ed: "I have dedicated most of my career to trying to improve programs, trying to make us a little more effective. I am happy if I can get one program, make it more effective, and change a few peoples' lives. Many times the difference between us and the people that are incarcerated is a very small, thin line. It's important that we understand that they are human beings, they are citizens, they are our neighbors that are incarcerated. It's important to work hard to see that what we know works its way into the field."*

Dr. Ed Latessa challenged us, he taught us with great patience until we understood, he was humble, he was a friend and he transformed the field of community corrections.

### **OJACC Trustees**

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Assoc. of Muni/Cty Judges of Ohio  
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Office of the Ohio Attorney General  
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Ohio Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction Services  
Ohio Dept. of Rehabilitation and Correction  
Ohio Dept. of Youth Services  
Ohio Judicial Conference  
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services



# Data Corner

To advocate for meaningful, uniform data collection and sharing, Data Corner highlights the importance of data and efforts where data has been utilized successfully.

## Ohio Sentencing Data Platform Update

The Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission (Commission)—in partnership with the University of Cincinnati School of Information Technology-- is continuing its work developing a statewide criminal sentencing database, the Ohio Sentencing Data Platform (OSDP). Started in 2020, the project has expanded much more rapidly than anticipated; currently, more than 25 courts and 60 judges are engaged with the platform.

Collecting data about sentencing in Ohio courts has long been a goal, but the obstacles of collecting standardized data in a non-unified court system often seemed insurmountable. In 2019, an ad hoc committee for the Commission developed a Uniform Sentencing Entry and companion Method of Conviction forms. These documents offered judges a template for sentencing entries and convictions (including pleas and trials). The adoption of this template ensures that a judge's entry always includes the most recent requirements, either based on statute or case law.

In addition to providing a method of minimizing appealable errors or omissions in entries, the development of a template offered a solution for collecting criminal sentencing data. The Commission contracted with the University of Cincinnati in 2020 to create a web-based application of the sentencing entry and companion forms. Participating judges can log in to the application and enter the information into an electronic template, which includes dropdown options for many categories. The entry is then exported into a Word document, where it can be printed and signed. The information that is entered into the entry is then saved as a data-point in a sentencing database, thereby collecting data without increasing reporting requirements on courts.

The OSDP is designed to tell the story of sentencing in Ohio. The story begins when judges integrate the Uniform Sentencing Entry and Method of Conviction forms into their existing court processes. The goals of the project include enhancing the fair administration of justice by using data to inform decision-making, making data accessible for the public and practitioners, and improving the transparency of felony sentencing.

This project is a truly collaborative effort and is supported by a complex governance structure including several committees and workgroups and made up of judges, advocates, academics, and practitioners charged with a variety of imperative tasks such as developing a data governance policy to keeping the templates up-to-date and consistent with changes to case law and statute.

In the coming year, the Commission anticipates that engagement will continue to rapidly increase across Ohio. Two recently awarded Justice Assistance Grants from the Office of Criminal Justice Services will support two projects related to this work: the development of a public portal for sharing and visualizing the data collected and the creation of a standardized offense code portal, which will be available for use statewide to promote greater data sharing between agencies. Future goals include greater integration and data sharing with other agencies.

If you would like more information about the OSDP, or to be kept up to date with the progress, please check out our website: <https://www.ohiosentencingdata.info/>



## Farewell- not goodbye

*OJACC Past President Kysten Palmore*

As I look back over my tenure as President, I reflect on the wonderful sense of community and support our members bring to OJACC every day. I admire the commitment each of you demonstrates in your work, and I remain inspired by the impact of your collective efforts to improve community corrections.

Thank you for a fantastic two years. I appreciate the trustees believing in me and entrusting the oversight and operation of OJACC during a time of great uncertainty and anxiety. I am grateful to the executive team and OJACC's executive director for their support and guidance during my tenure as President.

It was a privilege and a pleasure to be at the helm of an organization that stands steadfast to its commitment to creating a fair, safe, and equitable criminal justice system. OJACC strategically put forth a policy platform that emphatically speaks to and advocates for smart-on-crime policies while recognizing that the desire to increase and enhance public safety does not mean a compromise on equity.

When I took office in January of 2020, no one could have guessed we would be battling a global pandemic. The trustees, however, rallied and pivoted to a virtual environment without compromising the quality or integrity of our scheduled events, such as quarterly meetings and periodic touch-ins with subcommittees, virtual symposium, an abridged virtual retreat, and a very successful legislative reception. Moreover, after a year of delay, we conducted an in-person conference that brought over 300 masked participants together while observing COVID protocols.

Our annual conference reflected OJACC's commitment to providing leadership and education that is responsive to the rapidly changing needs of the various communities we serve. The challenge in planning any conference is providing relevant content that enhances and improves performance without being tone deaf to the changing dynamics playing out in the communities where individuals who are justice involved live, work and play. Our conference committee intentionally designed workshops to reflect the times and the issues confronting the criminal justice system.

Based on the feedback from participants, the conference committee achieved their goal, and the conference was an overwhelming success. OJACC set the standard for hosting an in-person conference during a global pandemic. Many of our members/participants who are also leaders of other organizations noted that their organizations had delayed or contemplated canceling events due to COVID but are now adopting OJACC's blueprint for hosting in-person conferences.

The ability to pivot in the face of uncertainty, move forward unwaveringly to provide quality and timely events, and stand firm in the belief that public safety can be achieved concomitantly with the principles of law and equity when consideration is given to smart-on-crime fundamentals, is what makes OJACC a great organization to lead.

This is farewell, but not goodbye. I will continue as an active member of OJACC. I believe in the principles and policies of OJACC, and I believe with the assistance of our collaborators and stakeholders, we can make a safer Ohio. Finally, my parting wish for 2022 and beyond - may OJACC always be grateful for its past, find success in its present, and remain excited for future opportunities to change community corrections for the betterment of all.



*Kysten Palmore, J.D., MSW, MA,  
Deputy Dir. Community Engagement &  
Reentry*

## OJACC Slate of Officers for 2022-2023



OJACC is pleased to present the slate of Officers elected at the December 3, 2021 Board Meeting.

**President – Mike Randle**, *Executive Vice President of Operations Oriana House, Inc.*

**First Vice President – Linda Janes**, *Chief Operating Officer, Alvis, Inc.*

**Second Vice President – Ro-Ellen Sinkewich**, *Sr. Director Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana*

**Secretary – Amy Klumpp**, *Mahoning Cty Mental Health and Recovery Board – Felony Drug Court*

**Treasurer – Melissa Pierson**, *C.O.O., Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs.*

Thanks to our officers and board members for their commitment to the continued improvement of community corrections.

## OJACC Hosts 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

The Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC) held its 34th annual conference at the Crowne Plaza Hotel North in Columbus, Ohio, September 30, and October 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 in person. After over a year of virtual events, we were very pleased to have the opportunity to come together again to network and learn about the latest in the field while we continue to improve community corrections in Ohio!

This year's theme, "*Navigating the Intersections of EBP, Implicit Bias and Trauma in Community Corrections*" gave the opportunity to address some difficult issues effecting community corrections. Conference participants commented that, while these conversations are sometimes difficult, they are necessary to make the changes needed within ourselves and the field of community corrections.

Dr. Martina Moore opened the conference Thursday morning with a session, *Implicit Bias*. We all hold bias that may be related to race and discrimination, social groups, age, gender, gender identity, physical abilities, religion, sexual orientation, weight and many other characteristics that can impact how we think about or behave towards others. Identifying implicit bias is the first and most critical step to diversity and inclusion. Dr. Moore then followed up with a workshop on Addressing Stigmas and Disparities in Minorities with Substance use Disorder. There is a strong stigma attached to substance use disorders which may prevent minorities from seeking help. This workshop introduced a promising practice community education protocol to increase awareness.

Thursday afternoon, Eva Kishimoto from the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute provided a general session on *Trauma in the CJ World*, exploring the impact of trauma on the criminal justice population and next steps toward building a more trauma-informed culture. Trauma can be a common barrier faced by many agencies when working with justice-involved individuals, and we discussed practical strategies to reduce or overcome these obstacles.

In the closing session, Dr. Kimberly Sperber presented: *Addressing Healthcare Needs Within the Risk/Needs/Responsivity Model: Implications for Public Health and Recidivism Reduction*. Community correctional programs represent an opportunity to deliver prevention and treatment services to justice-involved individuals during periods of amplified risk, personal susceptibility, and community-reintegration represented by the converging public health crisis of Opioid Use Disorder, hepatitis, and COVID-19. Dr. Sperber reviewed what we know about the health of justice-involved individuals within the larger context of both public health and successful reentry. She also discussed emerging evidence supporting public health considerations within the risk-needs-responsivity framework of recidivism reduction and offered practical suggestions for consideration moving forward.

OJACC also provided a juvenile track of workshops to address the specific needs of the juvenile justice system. We addressed issues relating to justice-involved individuals with workshops such as the well-attended workshop titled: "Why does she do that? Understanding the impact of trauma on justice-involved women."

Thank you to our conference committee, who worked diligently to provide a highly informative conference in as safe an environment as possible in these unprecedented times.

**Thanks also to our exhibitors/sponsors who help keep our conference registration rates low for participants:**

- Aramark – Special thanks to Aramark for sponsoring the conference luncheon
- CorrectTech – Special thanks to CorrectTech for sponsoring the afternoon break
- American K9 Detections Services
- Belmont Pines Hospital
- Combined Public Communications
- Intoxalock
- StepMobile
- Positive Recovery Solutions
- SecurManage
- Offender Management Solutions
- University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute



## OJACC 2021 Achievement Awards Presented at Annual Conference

OJACC is honored to recognize individuals each year at the annual conference who have shown dedication to improving community corrections. The 2021 OJACC Achievement Award recipients are identified below, along with comments from their nominators.

**Judge Sherrie Miday, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, received the *Representative C.J. McLin Award*, presented to elected officials in Ohio who have worked towards improving community corrections.**

Nomination information: Judge Sherrie Miday established and oversees the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court for the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court- one of a few such felony dockets in the United States.

During the winter of 2019, Judge Miday led a Strategic Planning and Visioning Forum of several community partners to discuss the feasibility of a dedicated docket to address dangerous and high-risk domestic violence cases. Judge Miday led stakeholder meetings to formulate a felony domestic violence court. By the fall of 2019, the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Innovations in Supervision Program awarded a three-year, \$1 million grant to support a High-Risk Domestic Violence Court docket in Cuyahoga County. Social service researchers at Case Western Reserve University are studying the Court's docket. The university's involvement is a unique opportunity since there are very few dockets of its kind in the nation, and even fewer have been evaluated.



Judge Miday uses multiple assets to combat these issues, including assistant prosecutors, assistant public defenders, behavioral intervention specialists, probation officers, a victim advocate, and a docket coordinator. She continually and closely monitors the behavior of domestic violence perpetrators and participates in their compliance hearings with her team. She insists her team provide domestic violence perpetrators with resources to change their behavior. For instance, 88% of the perpetrators on her docket have experienced severe trauma. In response to this alarming statistic, Judge Miday's team has partnered with a trauma counseling and support provider. Her goal is to continuously influence positive behavior and accountability so that participants can live successfully within their communities.

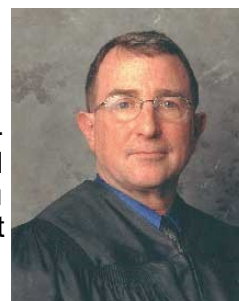
Judge Miday's leadership has made the docket a success. She had a vision and has worked hard to make that docket a reality. She actively solicits and listens to input from everyone and is always willing to reexamine assumptions and processes.

She is a dedicated professional who exhibits determination and leadership to combat the intimate partner domestic violence public health crisis in the United States. Her courage to take on this crisis provides hope for domestic violence perpetrators and their families and future relationships. Judge Miday's steadfast devotion and accomplishments bring credit to Cuyahoga County and beyond.

**Judge Ted Barrows, Franklin County Municipal Court, received the *Dr. Bennet J. Cooper Award*, presented to a correctional administrator or policy maker who has shown a lifetime commitment to improving community corrections.**

Nomination information: After serving in various public service positions with the Ohio Attorney General, Public Defender, and City Prosecutor's Office, Judge Barrows was elected to the Municipal Court Bench in 2003. He often describes himself as the "Wonk" of the Court. Judge Barrows is one of the most data-driven individuals we know, and as a leader, that is critical. His value on research has contributed to his success as a judicial leader.

Community corrections professionals understand the importance of having a champion on the bench, someone well-positioned to help advance the profession and put best practices into motion. Judge Barrows is always open to new ideas, but you have better done your homework. This is an especially important trait as we don't need fly-by-night, unfounded initiatives in this field.





In 2012, Judge Barrows was elected by his peers to preside over the Court's Military and Veterans Specialized Docket (MAVS). The MAVS docket provides a non-adversarial approach to defendants who are veterans or have military service in any branch of the United States Armed Services and who have pled guilty to misdemeanor crimes. Through his exceptional work with the MAVS court, we have had the honor to witness the growth and success of the participants and the staff who have worked with Judge Barrows. His passion for restorative justice approaches is contagious and authentic, and one can't help but want to perform at their best.

Judge Barrows is a consummate relationship and consensus builder. In 2017, he was elected Vice-Chair of the Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board. The Board is responsible for regional justice planning and directing the justice mission of the Office of Justice Policy and Programs. Judge Barrows has been an instrumental leader who has helped advance the Board's strategic goals and facilitated tough but critical conversations among passionate and well-informed stakeholders. He has left his footprint on the fabric of Franklin County.

In 2020, Judge Barrows was elected the Administrative and Presiding Judge of the FCMC. During his tenure, he was tasked with navigating the largest municipal court in Ohio through the pandemic. Through his leadership, the FCMC opened a satellite location at the Greater Columbus Convention Center where Court operations could safely continue during the pandemic. In addition to the challenges of COVID-19, this past year also heightened the eviction crises felt throughout the Country. By providing expansive work space at the Convention Center, the Court allowed tenants to access onsite free legal and financial assistance and be linked to resources like mediation services, job and family services, and self-help advocates to assist individuals represent themselves in court without an attorney. Judge Barrows did all of this and provided the staff tasked with supporting Court operations with generous leave and flexible work schedules. One of his judicial colleagues went out of his way to comment on how well Judge Barrows led the Court during this time and how he could not think of another Judge who could have performed as well as he has.

Judge Barrows exudes humility. He is not afraid to admit when he doesn't know something or apologize when maybe, because of his passion, his remarks might have come off a little strong. He will stand up for those under his tutelage and has a keen understanding of the inter-relatedness and importance of all aspects of the criminal justice system. He is a trailblazer around pretrial, probation, and behavioral health issues. He leaves a lasting legacy for those of us who had the honor to work with him.

**Cheryl Gerwig, Wayne County Adult Probation Chief Probation Officer, received the *Dr. Simon Dinitz Award*, presented to a community corrections practitioner who contributed to improving community corrections in Ohio.**

Nomination information: Like Dr. Dinitz, Cheryl Gerwig demonstrates a commitment to improving the knowledge base of corrections. Over the decades, Cheryl has represented probation on numerous state committees and other state-wide initiatives whose purpose was to improve community corrections. Most recently, Cheryl is participating in the Supreme Court of Ohio's House Bill 1 Workgroup, where she shares her vast and first-hand knowledge with fellow stakeholders.



Cheryl prioritizes ensuring that new officers and chiefs receive the highest level and type of education and support possible. Cheryl was one of the first chiefs to participate in the Ohio Chief Probation Officer's New Chiefs Orientation and Mentoring process, and she continues to spearhead this effort. Cheryl has been an active member of the Ohio Chief Probation Officers Line Officer Training Committee for decades to help ensure that new probation officers receive the targeted and specialized training necessary to help them be successful in their profession. Cheryl also played an active role in outreach to various counties throughout the state seeking information on the why and how, as they contemplated starting their own probation departments in response to supervision changes within the APA. Cheryl goes out of her way to welcome and support new probation officers and chiefs and selflessly devotes her time and energy to assisting them with whatever they need.

Cheryl is currently the Vice President of the Ohio Chief Probation Officers Association and represents Common Pleas recidivism reduction programs on the OJACC Adult Collaborative. As Chief Probation Officer of Wayne County, she and her team are often at the forefront of developing, implementing, and success of many cutting-edge programs around risk reeducation and public safety. Cheryl has worked in community corrections for 28 years, and the field is better for her unwavering passion, skill, and knowledge. She also serves on the Wayne County Community Corrections Board, Wayne County Reentry Coalition/Task Force, Stark Regional Community Corrections Center's Facility Governing Board, and the Sex Offender Program Certification Board for the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. In addition, she is an active member of the American Probation and Parole Association and the National Association of Probation Executives (NAPE).

**Ro Ellen Sinkewich, Senior Director, Volunteers of America, Ohio, and Indiana, received the *James Wichtman Award*, presented to an OJACC Board Member who has shown dedication to the mission of OJACC.**

Nomination information: Ro Ellen Sinkewich is passionate about the continuous improvement of community corrections and has given of herself tirelessly for the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC).

Beyond serving as Treasurer for OJACC, Ro Ellen is the first person to raise her hand and volunteer to benefit our association no matter what the need. In the past year, even though a pandemic, Ro Ellen was quick to volunteer in person for our legislative day and assist with OJACC testimony.



Ro Ellen gives of herself tirelessly to continue improving and expanding community corrections services for those in need. She brings vast experience to the board as Senior Director Residential Reentry Program Advocacy, Business Development, and Training for Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana. Ro Ellen has nearly 20 years in community corrections. She is also very active in several other organizations, such as the Affordable Housing Alliance, the International Community Corrections Association, and the Ohio Community Corrections Association. This knowledge and experience add tremendous value to the work of the OJACC Board of Trustees.

Ro Ellen embodies the intent of the Jim Wichtman Award.



## Save the Date

OJACC 35th Annual Conference

October 13 & 14, 2022

Crowne Plaza Hotel North in Columbus, Ohio

## Probation Workload Study Committee Report & Recommendations

In June 2021, Ohio's biennial budget – Am.Sub. HB 110 – was enacted. Included in this bill was the creation of a Probation Workload Study Committee.

This committee, housed within the Supreme Court of Ohio, was charged to study and discuss probation caseload principles, education standards for probation officers, workload capacity principles, and other relevant subjects. The committee also was tasked with submitting a list of recommendations to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2021.

Present-day probation relies on evidence-based practices (EBP) and validated research-tested principles that guide intervention. For behavior change and recidivism reduction to be possible, offenders must understand the personal and environmental factors underlying their offending behavior and learn the skills they need to make positive changes in the future. One could argue that EBP is perhaps the most important reform in state sentencing and corrections practice today.

A balanced approach is needed to promote compliance with the terms and conditions of probation. Research shows that to be most effective in changing offender behavior, the criminal justice system must sanction undesirable behaviors and reinforce positive or desirable behaviors.

Interventions within corrections are considered effective when they reduce offender risk and subsequent recidivism. When we minimize offender risk, we reduce the number of victims and enhance public safety. With this shift in philosophy in mind, the committee made the following recommendations:

### RECOMMENDATION 1:

Revise the ORC to require a validated risk assessment tool be used by every municipal, county, and common pleas court when assessing offenders for eligibility for community control. The ORC also should allow the use of a broader set of such tools, including an improved ORAS tool.

### RECOMMENDATION 2:

Probation caseloads should be differentiated by assessed risk and need, and caseload sizes should be commensurate with the intensity of supervision, interventions, programming, and structure that is appropriate for the goals of supervision at each identified supervision level.

### RECOMMENDATION 3:

Supervision term lengths should be commensurate with the supervision goals and requirements of the specific risk level. Formal compliance and progress reviews should occur at predetermined points during the supervision period to determine if the probationer is appropriate for an early release. These reviews should include an evaluation of the probationer's program dosage attainment, skill acquisition, goals completion, and assessed risk reduction.

### RECOMMENDATION 4:

Establish educational requirements to become a probation officer, set minimum salary standards comparable to state probation/ parole officer amounts, and review and modernize evidence-based probation training standards that address diversity within our state and differences within Ohio Courts.

### RECOMMENDATION 5:

Amend the Ohio Revised Code to require that municipal and county courts accept transfers in a manner like R.C. 2301.28. Additionally, to amend the Ohio Revised Code to adopt uniform guidelines for transfer between courts and jurisdictions, including when such transfer is appropriate.


### RECOMMENDATION 6:

Create a list of uniform conditions of supervision that specifically support public safety, rehabilitation, and reduces technical violations leading to increased successful completion of supervision. Special conditions of supervision shall be directly related to the assessed risk and needs of the probationer.

### RECOMMENDATION 7:

Probation departments should develop and implement behavioral-management-system responses that hold individuals accountable, consider public safety, and promote behavior change. **To see the full report, please go to <https://ojacc.org/>**

Thank you to Aramark for sponsoring the OJACC Conference Luncheon and CorrectTech for sponsoring the afternoon break.





# EARNING GRADES LEARNING TRADES

**IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR REAL LIFE TRAINING PROGRAMS THAT PREPARE OFFENDERS FOR RELEASE, RAISE YOUR HAND.**

The majority of offenders are released without the necessary training to transition successfully back into society. As a result, they find themselves returning to criminal habits, landing them back in the criminal justice system. Providing real life job skills while incarcerated is less costly than re-incarceration and enables offenders to have more positive outcomes once released. Our **IN2WORK** program does just that, with robust training in the foodservice and retail industries, culminating with accredited certification that is recognized within these industries.

We are steadfast in our commitment to doing what counts to reduce recidivism.



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FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS



For over 30 years, OJACC has brought together Ohio's criminal justice stakeholders to include judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors, pre-trial and probation officers, law enforcement officials, corrections officials from adult and juvenile systems, treatment providers, reentry practition-

ers, and victims' representatives to promote and support effective community corrections that enhance public safety. Few other states have this type of umbrella organization, and ours represents Ohio's collaborative efforts that have led to Ohio's place as a leader in Community Corrections.

**Together we:**

- Hold a biennial board retreat to focus efforts of the organization and guide our mission.
- Host a biennial legislative reception with OJACC member organizations to educate legislators on issues vital to the improvement of community corrections. OJACC also takes positions throughout the year on pending legislation effecting community corrections and provides input on the development of legislation.
- Work with state agencies on policy affecting community corrections.
- OJACC's Adult Community Corrections Collaborative, comprised of associations providing state-funded community corrections services, work with the ODRC for the overall improvement of these services and assist in preparing an annual Fact Sheet highlighting benefits and cost savings of community corrections.
- Hold an annual conference to educate and inform service providers and stakeholders on issues of importance to community corrections and provide tools to enhance services.

**Please consider membership in OJACC to help support these efforts.**

**2022 OJACC Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency/Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Membership (Please Check One)**

\_\_\_ **Individual Membership \$25** - Allows an individual in the field of criminal justice or interested citizens to join. Individuals representing private for-profit corporations are excluded from this category.

\_\_\_ **County Membership** – Allows *county commissioner, judge, prosecutor, chief probation officer and sheriff* from a county to join. These offices may designate an employee from that office to represent them, but are specific to the listed positions. **Five members from the county receive a \$25 discount for annual conference fees. For counties with a population under 150,000, membership is \$150 and counties with a population of 150,000 or greater, membership is \$250.**

\_\_\_ **Government or Private Agency** – Allows governmental or private, not-for-profit agencies to join. Membership extends to the director of the agency or the designated employees. Examples of private agency members are halfway houses, private correctional agencies and child caring agencies. Examples of Governmental Agencies include state agencies, courts, CBCFs, Probation Departments. **Three members from the agency receive a \$25 discount for annual conference fees. For agencies with a budget of less than \$500,000, membership is \$150 and agencies with a budget of \$500,000 or greater, membership is \$250.**

**Charge Membership to:** \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Master Card **email to [dittmergr@gmail.com](mailto:dittmergr@gmail.com)**

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Address on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 #s from back \_\_\_\_\_

**Or make check payable to: OJACC and mail to: PO BOX 79, New Albany, Ohio 43054**

**OJACC Federal Tax ID Number: 31-1255020 For questions contact [dittmergr@gmail.com](mailto:dittmergr@gmail.com) or 740-420-6444**