



Community Control for the Community



CC Legislation Co-sponsor Honored

Robert Denier, ex-State Senator and longtime La Plata County Community Corrections Board member, was honored by the La Plata County Board at the CACCB Conference in Durango. Denier co-sponsored with Senator Ralph Cole the Colorado Community Corrections enabling legislation which became law in 1976.

Summer CACCB Conference in Pueblo

The next CACCB Conference will be hosted by the 10th Judicial District Community Corrections Board on August 11-12, at the Pueblo Marriott Convention Center. Please contact your local CACCB contact person before July 24th to make reservations.

Survey Suggests CC Boards Operate as Functions of “Responsible Government”

by Joseph Thome, Manager
Boulder County Community Corrections

Colorado’s local Community Corrections Boards are as diverse as the jurisdictions they represent. They differ in size, mission, function, caseload, and many other significant ways. State statute provides guidance on board roles and allows them to: approve local programs; accept or reject offenders for community corrections programs; monitor local programs; set and enforce program standards; set conditions for offenders in programs; and act as a planning or coordinating board.

The CACCB recently conducted a short survey to learn which of those functions the local boards play in community corrections and the justice system in general. Each was asked to provide information on board composition, offender review processes, committee design, and other roles. Sixteen of the 22 participating judicial districts responded.

The number of activities in which a board involves itself varies dramatically, but can be classified into four primary responsibilities. First, there are *community corrections screening functions*. All boards review cases to accept or reject a client for community corrections funding. The process varies widely--some use committees to screen for eligibility, while others rely on the full board. In some communities, the decision of the committee is binding. In others, committee decisions can be appealed by the offender or a member of the board. A few allow attorneys to present information on behalf of clients, although this is the exception.

Boards also conduct *program oversight*, in which members help assure that the programs provide the level of service necessary to safely supervise and treat offenders. Selected activities include: onsite monitoring of programs to assure compliance with established standards; hearing client grievances; designing requests for proposals and reviewing subsequent submissions; and reviewing outside audits to recommend program improvements. Again, the degree to which boards participate in this varies widely. As an example, many rely exclusively on the reports of the Division of Criminal Justice for monitoring, a few involve board members, and some rely mainly on staff to fulfill this function.

(Please see “Survey” page 3)

Durango Meeting Report

by Ms. Jean Carlberg

18th Judicial District Citizen Board Member

The 6th Judicial District Community Corrections Board hosted the CACCB 11th annual meeting on May 5th and 6th in Durango. Representatives from sixteen Boards attended and DCJ, DOC, and vendors were represented by Ed Camp, Kathie Hendrickson and George Burke.

The CACCB last met in Durango eight years ago, and this meeting was a good opportunity to get reacquainted and catch up on what the La Plata Board has been doing. An interesting series of discussions explained the exciting new programs that have spawned in this fast growing community since our last visit.

The 6th Judicial District Sex Offenders Treatment Program was reviewed by Candace Alburn and Stephanie Scott, La Plata CCB. This presentation highlighted the areas that impact the victim and family, the offender and their family and the need for community involvement in providing awareness and a safe environment.

Restorative Justice - "Durango Style" was presented by Cody Favilla, Probation Department, and Candace Alburn. The informative video prepared by the Colorado Forum of Community and Restorative Justice (CFCRJ) is available through Colorado Forum, 1301 Pennsylvania, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80203. The Forum also publishes a newsletter entitled "Restorative Justice in Action."

Hal Nees spoke Friday afternoon about Community Restorative Justice in Colorado. His credits include: former Police Chief of Durango, former Boulder County Community Corrections Division Director, Regional VP for the ICCA, Honorary membership in the CACCB, and is currently on the faculty at Metro State College. His presentation explained community restorative justice, the Colorado Forum of Community and Restorative Justice and how restorative justice applies to community corrections.

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www.courts.state.co.us/comcor/caccb.htm

Useful Internet Sites

By Tom Vockrodt

Colorado Law: <http://www.leg.state.co.us/inetcrs.nsf?OpenDatabase> will give you the Colorado Revised Statutes, with some annotations, i.e. cases that have cited the statute. If you know the statutory citation, you can enter it. There is also a word search function, which is incredibly cumbersome and real trial and error, but it's free as are all other sites noted. From this site, you can link to Colorado cases that have been decided and published by the Court of Appeals, and the Colorado Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has its website, www.courts.state.co.us/supct/supct.htm, which is a knowledge base on recently decided cases, upcoming arguments, and the structure and history of that court. Federal law may be accessed at <http://www.legal.gsa.gov/>.

Cybersleuthing: The Internet lends itself to classification, and thus there are a number of investigative sites, which provide links to informational sites. My favorite is Webgator, <http://www.inil.com/users/dguss/wgator.htm>. It provides links to sites as diverse as high school alumni organizations, terrorist sites, motor vehicle records, cults, sex offender registrations, U.S. County Government sites and State licensing agencies, among many others. You will be reminded how little privacy there really is. Jeff Flax is with the Federal Public Defenders' office in Denver. He has a links site, <http://www.jflax.com>, that provides numerous investigative, legal and medical sites. Craig Ball is a Houston attorney, who has another good investigative links site, <http://www.craigball.com/links.html>. He considers himself a cybersleuth.

Demographics: A great site for demographic maps, graphs and data for all localities in the United States is at: http://factfinder.census.gov/java_prod/dads.ui.home

Page.HomePage. This can be useful for presenting data to support building prisons, halfway houses and "beefing up" grant proposals.

Criminal Justice Statistics: Department of Justice links site for crime, victim, offender, FBI, courts, sentencing, and correction statistics, federal and local. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>.

Durango

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Friday night's guest speaker was Tekla Dennison Miller. She has been a warden at both men's and women's prisons in Michigan. Her engrossing book *The Warden Wore Pink* is currently available. She is consulting on a television pilot and series based on her book to be released this fall. Ms. Miller resides in Durango where she is active in community projects. Anyone looking for a riveting speaker should get in touch with her.

La Plata County Board coordinator Tom Berry presented a very special award to former State Senator Robert Denier from Durango and longtime active La Plata County board member. As a senator in the 70's he cosponsored with Senator Ralph Cole the Colorado Community Corrections enabling legislation which became law in 1976.

A sincere thank you to the Durango Community Corrections Board and its Chair, Marianne Griffin, for hosting a splendid meeting and to all of you who took the time and effort to travel to this beautiful part of our state.

Michael Brand

Jan Zuber, 19th JD CC Board Coordinator

Michael Brand died April 25 in Greeley, where he had lived for the last 15 years. He was a business partner operating The Villa at Greeley for 13 years.

Before coming to Greeley, Michael was a parole officer in both Iowa and Kansas, and a supervisor for pre-sentence investigation and probation services. He also served as the Director of Security at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women. Michael initiated and was the Director of the Sedgwick County Community Corrections Department in Wichita. He spent much of his professional time with the legislature and professional organizations in developing standards and programs in community corrections. He served on numerous local and state boards including Colorado Community Corrections Coalition, Weld County Jail Task Force, American Correctional Association, the Colorado Corrections Association and the International Community Corrections Association.

He will be missed by many.

Survey

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A few of the local boards also have been assigned *added screening responsibilities*. This activity focuses primarily on assisting in decisions related to juvenile diversion. Some boards also screen for placements out of Federal correctional programs.

Finally, some boards also reach outside of their primary community corrections responsibilities to participate in local *correctional and justice planning or policy recommendations*. These boards act primarily in two ways: as a planning body for the county, bringing together several justice and correctional system partners to make recommendations for county commissioners; or have representation on existing planning boards which are managed by other parts of the system.

Board composition also varies across judicial districts. They range in size from four members to as many as nineteen. Some require geographic representation from participating communities or counties in multi-county judicial districts. The number of citizen members ranges from one to eight, although most have two or fewer. Board members are typically approved by County Commissioners, unless the position is a standing member (e.g., district attorney). Nominations are gathered via open application, at the recommendation of the Chief Judge, or by participating local governments.

What do these findings mean? Mostly, that community corrections in Colorado is a fine example of responsible government. The General Assembly sets the vision through Colorado statute. State agencies, in turn, provide technical assistance, monitor the programs, and distribute the funding. Finally, citizens and representatives of local government declare how the program will run and who is most appropriate for community-based sanctions.

The final version of the report is being edited and proofed, and will be distributed at the next regional meeting of the CACCB. It should be a valuable tool for boards which want to learn more about their potential role in community corrections.

CACCB Officers

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2nd JD, Citizen Board Member, Denver City and County

Toni Mench Administrative Coordinator
20th JD, Boulder County

Upcoming Events *Quarterly Meeting Schedule*

Summer 2000

August 11-12 **Pueblo** **10th JD**

Fall 2000

November 10-11 **Denver** **2nd JD**
Legislative Meeting

Winter 2001

February 9-10 **Golden** **1st JD**

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