



Ohio Chief Probation Officers Association

March 29, 2017

President

Melissa Litteral
Greene Co. Adult Probation
45 N Detroit St
Xenia, OH 45385
(937) 562-5146
mlitteral@co.greene.oh.us

Vice President

Veronica Perry
Medina Co. Adult Probation
99 Public Square
Medina, OH 44256
(330) 725-9789
vperry@medinacountyprobation.org

Secretary

Cheryl Gerwig
Wayne Co. Adult Probation Dept.
107 W. Liberty St.
Wooster, OH 44691
(330) 287-5552
cgerwig@waynecourts.org

Treasurer

Tom Stotts
Marion Municipal Court
233 W. Center St.
Marion, OH 43302
(740) 383-5515
tstotts@marionmunicipalcourt.org

Immediate Past President

Craig Berry
Lake Co. Adult Probation Dept.
104 E. Erie Street
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 350-5570
craig.berry@lakecountyohio.gov

Executive Board

Gayle Dittmer
Franklin Co. Adult Probation Dept.

Scott Fulton
Licking Co. Adult Court Services

Angela Mustard
Mason Municipal Court Probation Dept.

Melanie Richert
Muskogum Co. Adult Probation Dept.

Deanne Whalen
Clinton Co. Juvenile Court

David Williams, LSW
Holmes Co. Juvenile Court

Joel Zeugner
Dayton Municipal Court

Representatives from
State of Ohio Department of
Youth Services & Adult Parole
Authority

Eleanor Garrison
Organizational Coordinator
Garrison and Associates, Inc.

Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Ryan and Ranking Member Cera, my name is Veronica Perry and I am the Chief Probation Officer for Medina County. On behalf of both my home county of Medina and the Ohio Chief Probation Officer's Association (OCPOA), please consider this letter a strong endorsement for the Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison (TCAP) grant proposal contained in House Bill 49.

Medina County was awarded one of the five TCAP pilot grants approximately five months ago, and since that time, we have been able to use the funding to directly address our local heroin epidemic.

The funding provided us the opportunity to collaborate with our local Sheriff to re-open one of our closed jail pods. We now use this pod to house low-level, non-violent, felony 5 offenders who typically have a severe drug addiction.

During their time in the jail and because of the TCAP grant, we were able to hire an additional clinician and simultaneously implement a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program. This MAT program has been extremely helpful in stabilizing opiate addiction for the inmates. The clinician also connects them with services in the community upon their release to help them continue their road to recovery.

It is our intention to restore as many of our citizens to sobriety and give them the necessary tools to maintain recovery upon their release. The extra resources TCAP has afforded us will ultimately impact not only the opioid epidemic in Medina County but also the recidivism rate in our community.

As an organization OCPOA, and Ohio chiefs in general, work with our criminal justice partners to provide the most cost effective and impactful evidence based programming and we believe the continuation of TCAP funding is crucial to achieve these goals.

We consistently strive to improve upon outcomes of safer communities. As leaders, and with your support, we will continue making positive changes in our courts and in our communities.

We fully support the TCAP initiative and OCPOA is grateful for all that you do. With your assistance, we will continue finding successful community control alternatives to prison while reducing the costs associated with recidivism and addiction.

Respectfully,

Veronica Perry

On behalf of The Officers and Executive Board of the OCPOA and the Local Corrections Planning Board of Medina County



Affiliate Member –
American Probation and
Parole Association

614.273.1400 ~ Fax 614.273.1401
www.ocpoa.org ~ info@ocpoa.org

A FORCE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE.