

Partnerships in the 20th Judicial District and Beyond

The **Justice System Volunteer Program (JSVP)** normally coordinates volunteers in CJS and the District Attorney’s Office. During this unprecedented COVID-19 year, JSVP staff also coordinated 87 volunteer mask makers and organized donations during the fires of 2020 as part of Emergency Management (ESF19). **20,500 cloth masks** were made and distributed through an equity lens to those in need in the community. Total value of volunteer time was **\$294,262**.
(Value derived from Independent Sector’s calculation of 2019 Colorado volunteer time at \$29.50 per hour.)

465 volunteers and interns within the JSVP dedicated **9,975** hours to the program

\$80,437 value of in-kind donations distributed during the fires

Progress and Updates in 2020

- CJS implemented new programs and strategies parallel to nationwide reforms in criminal justice.
- The voter-approved **Alternative Sentencing Facility (ASF)** concept design is complete, and construction is estimated for completion by 2023.
 - **Sequential Intercept Model** grants CJS received three Bureau of Justice Assistance grants (\$1.7 million) to positively impact availability and quality of rehabilitative services for the justice-involved population.
 - **Co-Responder and Behavioral Health Hub (BHH)** partnered to ensure strategic alignment of diversion efforts across all justice system intercept points and early crisis intervention through jail-community reentry.
 - **Boulder County Community Services** formed a strategic implementation group to align co-response, the ASF and the BHH as a systematic approach, modeling the interventions to encompass diversion across the full Sequential Intercept Model.

Jail Behavioral Health Team

CJS continued to facilitate system-wide planning for individuals in custody and out. Grant and county-funded resources have been reallocated to provide specialized behavioral health assistance in the criminal justice system when a lack of treatment support has increased clients’ involvement in the legal system:

- › **Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP)** provides individuals struggling with opioid use access to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community upon reentry. **75** clients served **1,500** client contacts
- › **Bridges Court Liaison Program** provides individuals in the competency process, with the highest mental health needs, a connection to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community. **107** clients referred by court **83** were provided support
- › **Mental Health Diversion Program (MHDP)** diverts individuals with mental health needs and low-level charges from the justice system and provides connections to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community. **42** clients served **22** in-person clients
- › **Behavioral Health Assistance Program** provides justice-involved individuals with mental health needs a connection to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community upon jail reentry. **100** clients referred **68** were provided reentry case management

CJS Administrative Services

Operational Services managed an estimated **20,000** client contacts (in-person or by phone) referred by the courts for pretrial supervision and community service. Staff, all of whom are bilingual in Spanish, also manage office supplies, finance, and facility matters. In many cases, they are the first contact clients have with CJS.

Research and Planning works with CJS and partners in the 20th Judicial District to perform professional and technical work in the criminal justice system and the Community Services Department. Work involves systems planning and meeting facilitation, data and policy analysis, and legal and scientific research.

Business Services serves as an IT project manager and advisor to CJS. The team represents both CJS and the Community Services Department on various county-wide programs that involve technology to recommend and implement effective and efficient solutions. It also serves as CJS Technical Liaison with the Colorado Bureau of Investigations and co-manages Boulder County Data Governance.

A Note from Division Manager Monica Rotner, LCSW

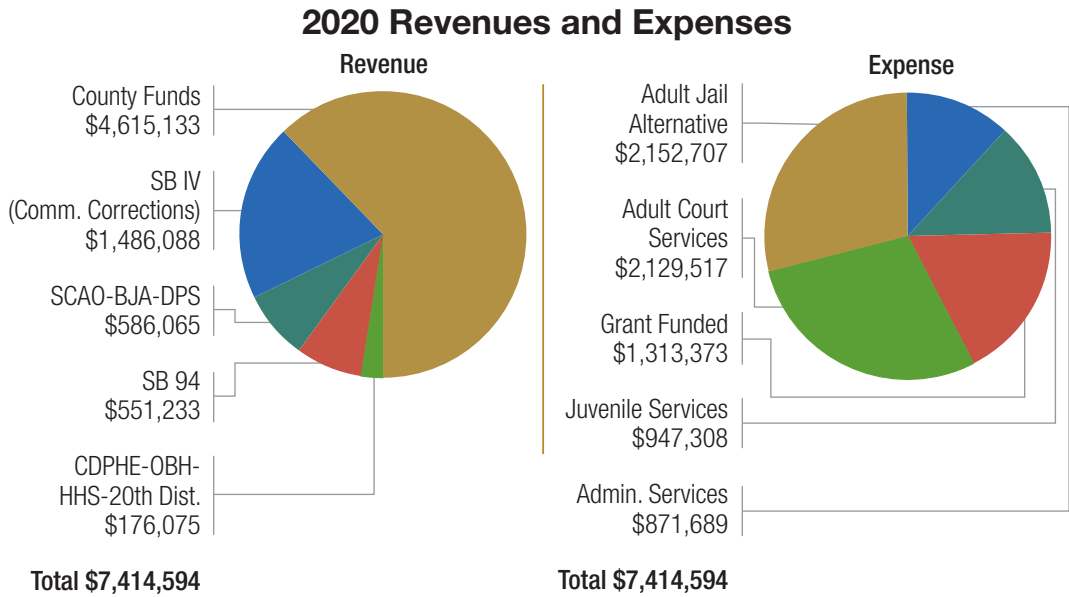
Throughout 2020, CJS manifested its best hopes for our long-term vision for the community while simultaneously managing our work through this historic pandemic. We are grateful for the high level of collaboration with justice system stakeholders that exemplify the best in public service. CJS continued to:

- Further develop systems and reports for data-informed decision making among stakeholders in the county.
- Promote the social determinates of health for those engaged in the criminal justice system and the broader community while maintaining public safety.
- Target grant sources that support programs using the Sequential Intercept Model.
- Support staff innovation and evidence-based practices to meet changing community and workforce needs.

CJS provided in-person services to approximately **1,383 individuals**. This included in-jail and community behavioral health navigations, reentry support, pretrial supervision, juvenile services, treatment medication assistance, competency evaluations, youth mentoring and critical front desk service for clients.

CJS Revenues and Expenses

CJS collected **\$125,033** in Community Service client fees and **\$10,030** in ROC and JAC client fees. This revenue goes into the County General Fund.



Our special thanks to the Boulder County Commissioners for their continued funding and support of the Community Justice Services Division.



CJS is committed to core values of courage, compassion and connection in developing our workforce to provide effective community services.



The mission of Boulder County Community Justice Services (CJS) is to address core stability, provide hope, support and safety, inspire continual growth, collaborate and empower community.

2020 COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS
COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES
HEAD START
HEALTHY YOUTH ALLIANCE
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
WORKFORCE BOULDER COUNTY

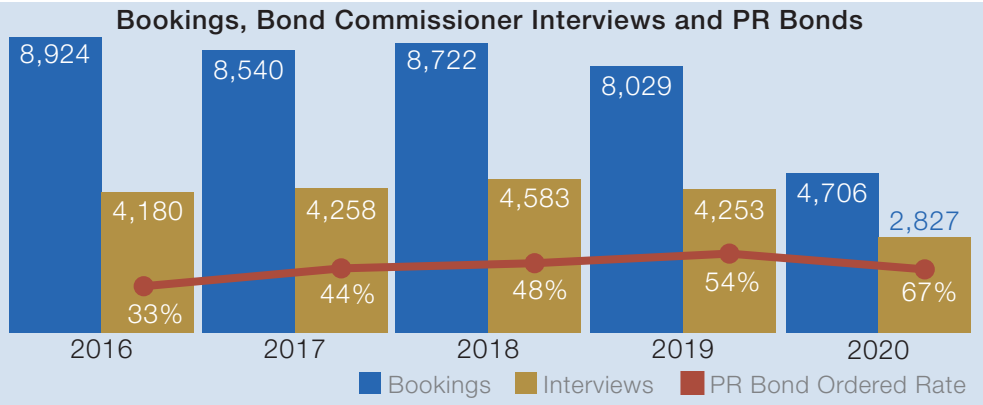
Generating a Lifetime of Opportunities

Community and Jail-Based Services

The **Bond Commissioners Unit** provides initial assessment of individuals after arrest in order to recommend or set bond, as well as non-monetary conditions such as pretrial supervision.

In 2020, CJS continued to facilitate system-wide bond reform efforts by regularly meeting with partner agencies to make data-informed decisions regarding pretrial reform. The Bond Commissioners Unit

continued to provide risk assessment information to aid release decision making by the courts, supporting an increase in non-monetary Personal Recognizance (PR) bonds for low-risk individuals.



New arrest standards implemented by law enforcement agencies resulted in a significant decrease in bookings and BC Interviews during 2020. Public safety and public health risk were taken into consideration.

During COVID-19, several practice changes by system partners led to a reduction in jail population. CJS worked with the District Attorney and Public Defender to identify low level charges that could be eligible for an automatic PR bond release.

The **Pretrial Supervision Unit** supervises clients who are court-ordered as a condition of bond. Tailored case management is provided focusing on connecting clients to resources while helping ensure community safety. The program supervised **2,791** cases in 2020. Supervision was adapted to safely continue supporting clients during COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

Pretrial staff engage clients in efforts to achieve positive changes by identifying ways to strengthen their support networks and build their protective factors. Staff also assist them in navigating the court process and developing positive behavior change to support future success.

73% of supervised clients had no new charges during the pretrial period

69% of supervised clients made all court appearances

The **Jail Education & Transition Program (JET)** prepares inmates to re-enter society safely as productive members of the community and with their families. Services focus on knowledge, awareness and skills development, and accessing needed resources. In 2020, JET experienced challenges with the impact of COVID-19 and adapted to continue providing services with a commitment to safety and health, including 61 in-person group sessions, and 202 remote individual support sessions.

95 clients served with skill development, support and re-entry services with the overarching goal of reducing recidivism

60 clients received Spanish/English classes and support

36 clients participated in HSE/GED classes

Alternatives to Incarceration

CJS programs provide alternative sentencing options to keep clients in the community and reduce jail bed usage while providing treatment, improving safety outcomes, and reducing criminal justice costs.

Community Service is a sentencing alternative that serves the courts and the community by placing clients into unpaid positions in approved non-profit agencies, providing them the opportunity to give back to communities where they have done harm.

1,435 intakes in the Community Service Program

44,076 hours of community service were completed

1,336 hours completed by participants of **Fast Track**, an option for clients to complete their obligation over the weekend, saving **\$39,412** for the county and local non-profits. Fast Track was suspended for five months in 2020 due to the pandemic.



Caring Crafts

As part of the Community Service program, clients can opt to purchase all supplies and create handmade items. These items are then donated to local non-profit agencies. Case managers match projects to a client's skills. It is an opportunity to create a meaningful restorative justice experience for our clients, our communities, and the court system. Over 2,000 face masks were made and donated during the pandemic.

Restoring our Communities (ROC) is a voluntary substance use disorder treatment program designed for men who have three or more impaired driving convictions. In 2020, ROC served 36 clients. Staff facilitated 174 hours of virtual therapeutic services, in addition to 146 contacts in person to adapt to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

Community Corrections is a state funded program that diverts individuals from prison or transitions them to the community after release from prison. It provides residential community-based services for clients with the goal of supporting their productive reintegration back into society. The Community Corrections Board reviews the cases and determines acceptance, with community safety as the primary consideration. COVID-19 has presented unique challenges to the halfway houses to include following a specific pandemic plan.

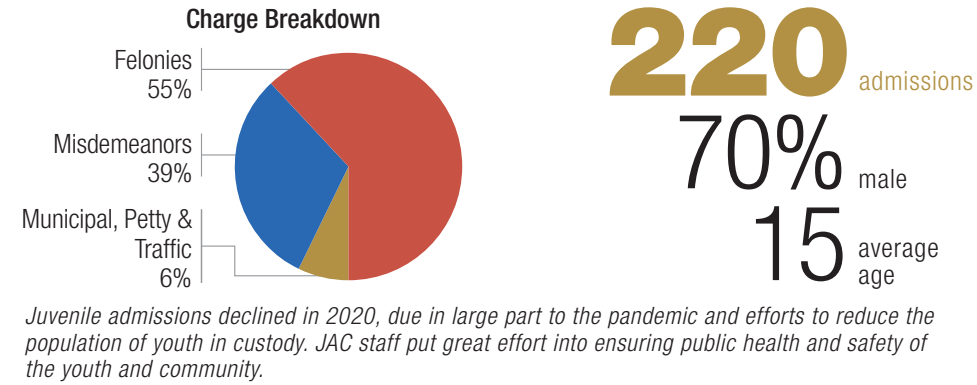
108 diversion cases with 87% acceptance rate

145 transition cases with 69% acceptance rate

Mr. Rueckert has kept a positive outlook despite his long sentence (12 years) in Community Corrections. He completed Anger Management and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy courses. He has learned to express his emotions in a healthy way, acquiring new techniques such as meditation, gratitude journaling, working out, and breathing exercises. He recognizes that treatment has changed his life and was recommended by one of his therapists to become a peer counselor due to his positive attitude about treatment and desire to help others.

Supportive Juvenile Justice Programs

The **Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)** is Colorado's only county-funded intake, assessment, and short-term detention facility for juveniles. Its main purpose is to assess youth for release into the community, provide secure lodging, and ensure public safety. The center offers positive programming during incarceration to further reduce harm by using volunteers and interns to assist staff with daily activities, as well as special programming including yoga, therapy dogs, art education, and gardening.



The **Youth Mentoring Program** served **47** clients. Volunteers provide one-on-one mentoring and guidance for a minimum of one year by building positive ongoing relationships, serving as role models, encouraging community connections, and offering support. While the pandemic affected in-person meetings, participants and mentors found ways to meet in-person while complying with social distancing requirements.

The **Boulder Enhanced Supervision Team (BEST)** provides services, supervision, and support for youth involved in the early stages of the justice system who are at high risk of being detained in a locked facility. BEST provided **66** opportunities for youth to return home with the support and structure needed to maintain safety for both the juvenile and community.

89% had no new charges

98% of participants made all court appearances

8,222 days that juveniles were kept out of detention by participating in BEST

The **Family Navigator** supports families with questions about their child's involvement in the juvenile justice system. It serves as a one-time liaison between community agencies and families (Track 1), or a long-term support that increases self-efficacy as families navigate the system (Track 2). There were **609** contacts made in Track 1 and **32** families served in Track 2.

The **Juvenile Assessment Center Clinician** provides mental health and substance use assessment, treatment, and medication management for detained youth, as well as community-based service referrals when youth return home. In response to the 2020 pandemic and recent changes in juvenile justice legislation, the JAC clinician also added a caseload of outpatient therapy clients, and helped create and facilitate a pro-social adventure program for youth in the community to try boxing, rock climbing, canoeing, horseback riding, mountain biking, and paddle boarding.



60 youth engaged in treatment and pro-social support