

CCA Directors' Meeting May 9, 2008

Kim Switzer, President of OCPOA, encouraged CCA Directors who are probation administrators to join OCPOA and announced that the Ninth Annual Line Officer Training Institute will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on June 12-13, 2008 for probation and community corrections line staff. The registration fee is \$150.00.

CCA Co-Chair Gayle Dittmer welcomed everyone and introduced presenter Jessica May from the Ohio Benefit Bank.

Presentation from Ohio Benefit Bank

Jessica May from the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks gave a presentation on the Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB) program. The OBB is a public-private partnership that provides community outreach and access for low to moderate income Ohioans to free tax preparation and public benefits. In partnership with the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks and the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, the OBB allows eligible Ohioans to claim tax credits such as the Earned Income Credit, and public benefits such as food stamps, child care subsidies, home energy assistance and children's health care insurance. The program is web-based. To join the network, contact the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks at 1-800-648-1176. More information is available at www.oashf.org and www.obb.ohio.gov.

Update on Grant Application Changes for FY2010

Chris Nuhfer provided an update on the grant application committee's progress with possible changes to the FY10 grant application. There may be two different applications based on whether programs are intended to change offender behavior or just divert from jail. The two updated applications will be submitted for approval.

Update on Possible combination of 407/408 grants

Combining 407 and 408 line items has been identified as a goal. Work will continue to be completed toward this goal

Impact of DRC Budget Cuts

Chris Galli reported that layoff notices for ODRC staff went out May 8, 2008. Staff will be notified June 3rd or 4th of possible bumps from positions. June 21st is the effective date for bumps/layoffs.

Chris Galli advised that there could be possible cuts to FY09 budget, however at this point there is no decision on if this will defiantly occur and if so, what percentage amount it would be. The Community Corrections Collaborative and BCS met to discuss the impact of potential levels of budget cuts. There was also discussion of possible reallocation of existing funds for the most effective and efficient use of those funds. The discussion focused on what criteria should be taken into consideration when making decisions for possible cuts and/or reallocation.

BCS Staff will contact programs with a history of consistent unspent funds at the end of the fiscal year to see if the amount of unspent funds reported by ODRC coincides with the amount reported by agencies. There will also be discussion about why the funds have been consistently unspent to determine if funding levels should be reduced.

BCS CCA Coordinators will also be looking at program performance and program integrity to include audit scores, use of validated assessment tools, supervision plans, cost per diversion etc,

to determine if funding is being used effectively. This will also be a part of the consideration for possible cuts and/or reallocation.

Monthly status reports on Emergency Funding

Chris Galli reported that programs may not be required to fill out the same reports on emergency funding for FY09. BCS is working on a better way to collect information from programs.

Audit Questions/Clarification

Stacey Lomax gave an update on possible changes to the audit process. Possible changes include: more flexibility in determining audit dates with programs, criteria for determining if a program could receive a partial audit or self audit instead of a full audit some years, skipped years for audits if a program does really well on previous audits, possibility of peer auditing by CCA Directors, and combining CCA/ACA audits for those programs that are ACA accredited.

Training Requirements for Changing Offender Behavior

CCA Standards include a requirement for staff to obtain 24 hours of training related to changing offender behavior. If you have questions about whether a particular training or particular session can be counted toward this requirement, check with BCS staff. BCS staff will tell you ahead of time and record whether it counts in a centralized location so everyone is on the same page. President Switzer reported that Chris Galli will look at the current OCPOA line staff training sessions and send out an email indicating which sessions will count toward changing offender behavior. Chris also asked that if CCA Directors know of an available training that would count toward changing offender behavior, please inform BCS staff so they can get it out to other programs.

The University of Cincinnati offers 8-10 online sessions related to cognitive behavioral change for a reasonable price in their eLearning program. More information is available through their website.

Clarification of Ethics Requirements

Programs that receive state funding, such as CCA programs are required to acknowledge the State's Ethical Requirements regarding restricting gifts, etc. to state employees.

Ohio Tool Update

The Ohio Assessment Tool has not been released yet. Alicia Handwerk will have an update at the next meeting. For the time being, programs can continue to use the risk/needs assessment tools they have been using.

The next meeting will be August 22, 2008 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Columbus, OH.

Respectfully Submitted,
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