

# SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



## MISSION STATEMENT

“The Probation Department contributes to the safety of the community by conducting investigations for the Court, enforcing orders of the courts through community supervision, assisting victims, operating a safe and secure Juvenile Hall, and facilitating the socialization of offenders.”

# PROBATION DEPARTMENT

“Protection, Service & Accountability”



March 27, 2009

Board of Supervisors  
County Administrative Officer  
Judges of the Superior Court  
Juvenile Justice Commissioners

I am pleased to submit to you the San Luis Obispo County Probation Department's 2008 Annual Report.

This report is designed to provide a snapshot of our programs, outcomes, and fiscal status, while highlighting the great work the Probation Department staff do everyday.

As we enter into these times of budget reductions we see our revenues decreasing while our expenses are increasing. We will continue to implement additional revenue streams wherever possible while shifting resources as necessary to meet our mandates. The implementation of a risk and needs assessment tool in both the juvenile and adult divisions was a major accomplishment in 2008. This tool has assisted us in allocating our resources to those offenders who are at the highest risk to re-offend.

The Department spent a great deal of staff hours preparing for the implementation of our Case Management System (scheduled to go live in July 2009), and the implementation of Evidence Based Practices. These new initiatives build on our work to improve efficiencies, have systems for assuring quality services and program needs for the offenders we serve, with our goal of improving outcomes for the community and maintaining public safety.

Once again, I commend our employees for their tremendous effort and accomplishments this past year toward realizing our goal of providing integrated, balanced services and solutions to community corrections.

Sincerely,

Kim Barrett  
Chief Probation Officer

# Chief Probation Officer

Kim Barrett

805.781.1039

# Assistant Chief Probation Officer

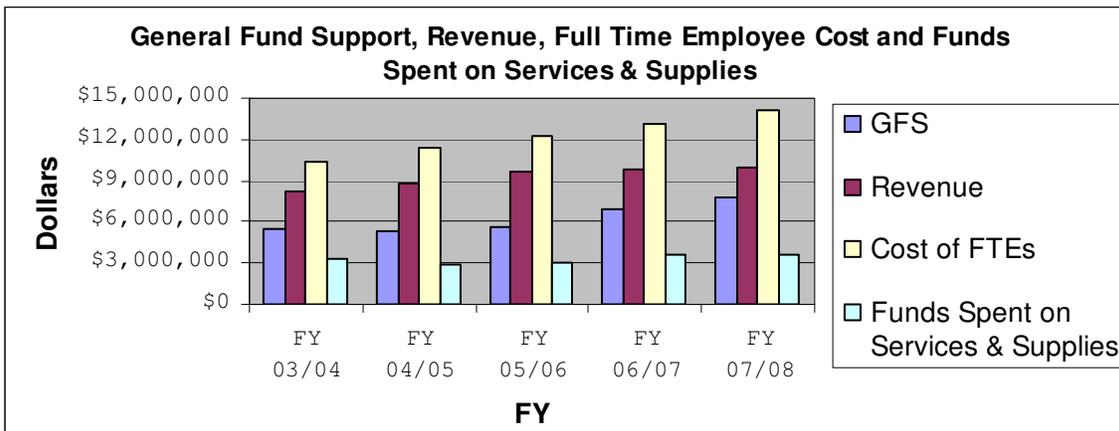
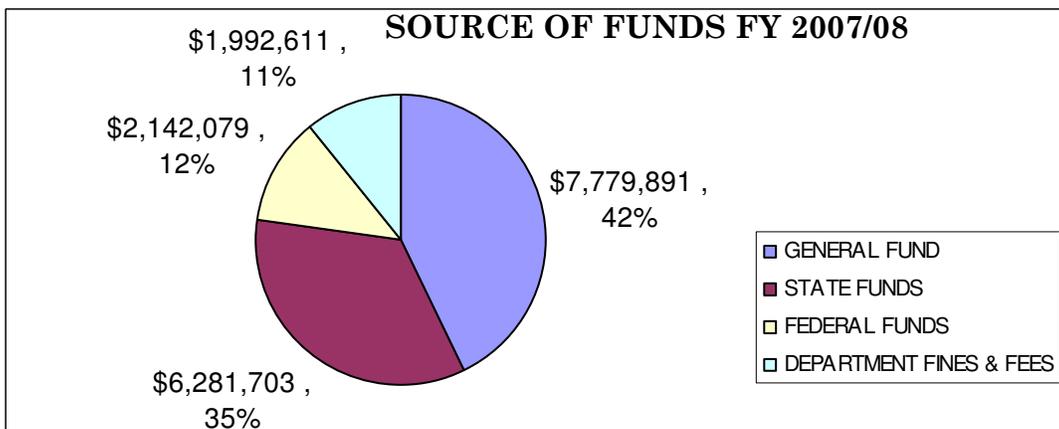
Jim Salio

805.781.5317

Administrative Services	Adult Services	Juvenile Hall	Juvenile Services
<b>Division Manager</b> Edward Liebscher 805.781.5310	<b>Division Manager</b> Gary Joralemon 805.781.5378	<b>Superintendent</b> Robert Reyes 805.781.5347	<b>Division Manager</b> Mike Dutra 805.781.1361
Accounts Receivable	Family Violence	Juvenile Hall Custody	Juvenile Drug Court
Accounts Payable	Field Supervision	Juvenile Hall Kitchen	Pre-Jurisdictional Services
Collections	Gang Caseload	Juvenile Placement	Ward Supervision
Automation	Gang Task Force		Community School
Training	Adult Investigations		Intensive Supervision
Personnel	Adult Drug Court		Youth In Action
	Prop 36		Field Supervision
	General Supervision		Juvenile Investigations
	Admin Caseloads		Minimum Supervision
	Limited Supervision		Intensive Community Diversion
	Sex Offender Caseload		Juvenile Diversion
	Mentally Ill Probationers Program		

## FUNDING SOURCES

The Probation Department receives a large amount of our funding for employees salaries, services and supplies from a variety of funding sources in addition to the County's General Fund. These sources include: Juvenile Probation and Camps Funding (JPCF); Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA); Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG); Title IVE; monthly group home visits (SB933); contract for Probation Officers working at Community School sites; contract for Probation Officers working at Atascadero Unified School District sites; Prop 36; Adult Drug Court funded by Comprehensive Drug Court Initiative and Drug Court Partnership; Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA); School Lunch Program; SB90 – Domestic Violence Program; Youthful Offender Block Grant (SB81); Standards and Training for Corrections (STC); and fines, fees and collection reimbursement.

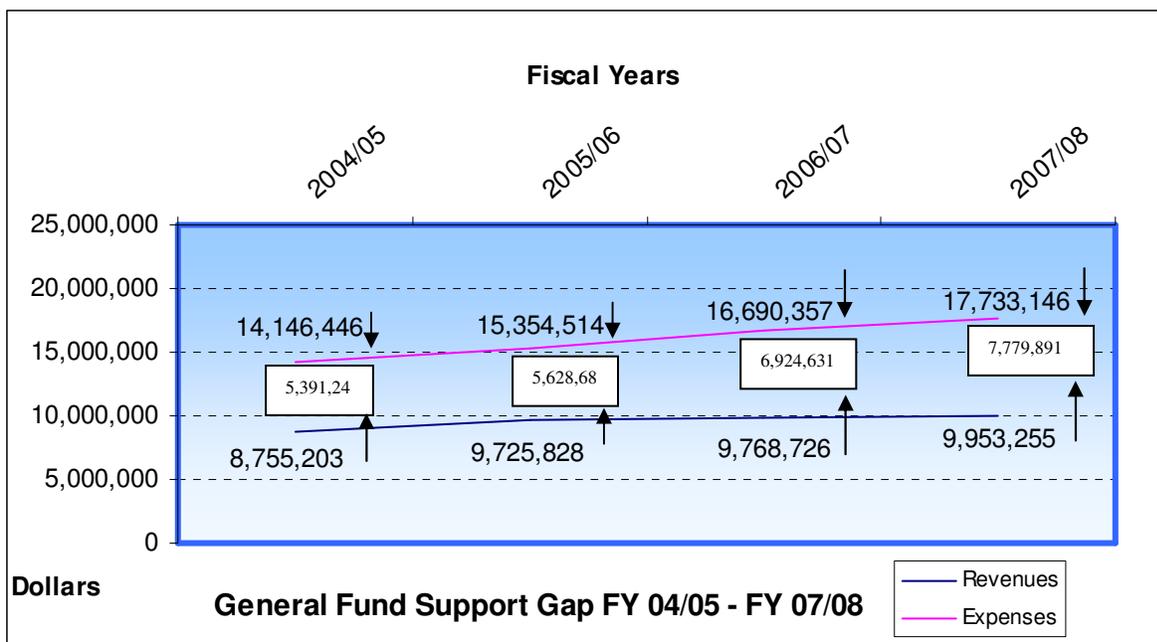
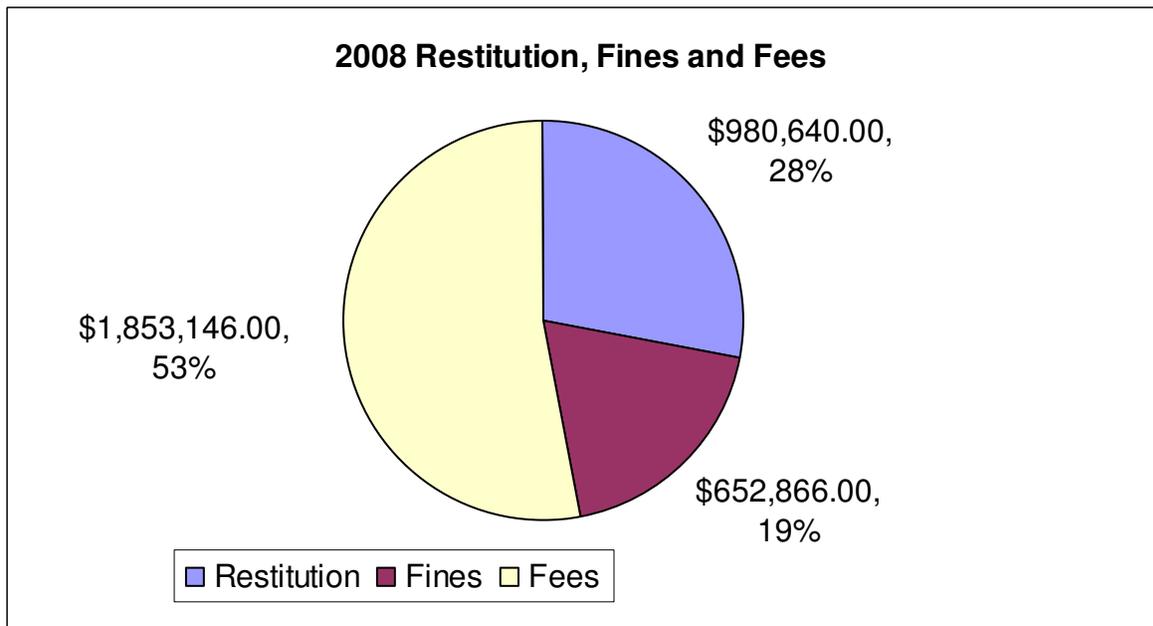


## TRAINING

The Probation Department continues to improve upon State and local training mandates. In 2008, our Officers and support staff completed nearly 11,000 hours of training. The Training Unit provided courses to sworn staff in accordance with the Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) Policy and Procedures guidelines. In addition, all staff attended County mandated training and staff can attend training provided by the County's Employee University Program.

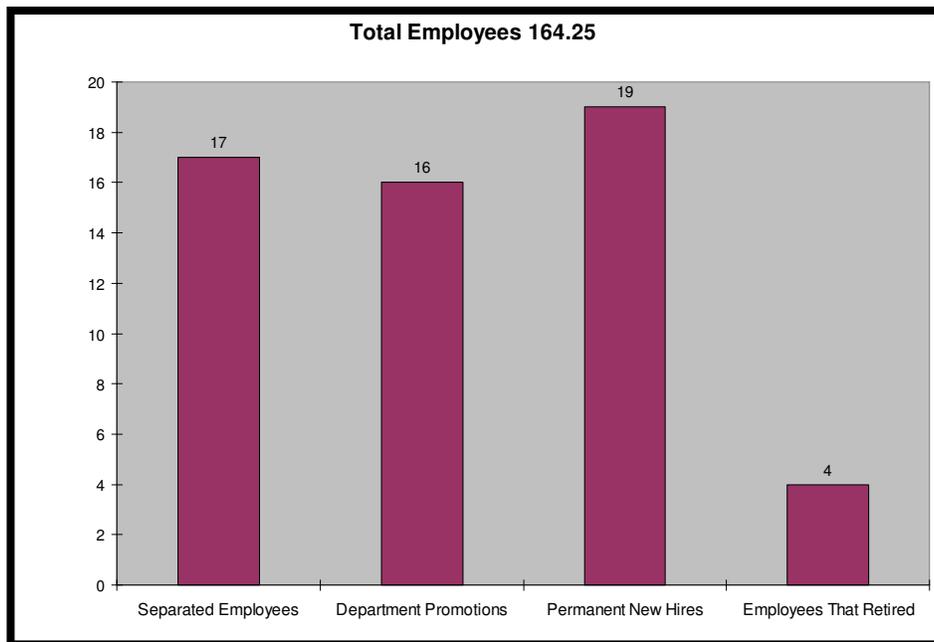
## FISCAL AND REVENUE RECOVERY

The Fiscal and Revenue Recovery unit is responsible for the development and monitoring of accounts payable; accounts receivable; creating and monitoring financial reports required by local; State and Federal agencies; handling audits from local, State and Federal agencies; victim support; collection of fines, fees and restitution; enforcing financial aspects of court orders; and grant/restricted revenue accounting and compliance. The unit billed offenders over **\$5 million per month in 2008** and **recovered an average of \$290,554.38 per month** compared to an average of \$250,000.00 per month in 2007. **This is an increase of 16.22%.**



## RECRUITMENT and RETENTION

The Department receives approximately 80% of our applicants from people who review our County internet site and job notices. The Human Resources and Background Unit conducts pre-employment and pre-volunteer background investigations for all employees and volunteers. Retaining employees in our Department is a high priority for our Administration. Most of our positions are filled with employees who have promoted within the organization. Many staff members are afforded flexible working hours and employees are placed in positions that reflect their strengths.



## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Our Information Technology Unit has taken on the time-intensive task of converting the current archaic computerized data system to a more advanced, efficient and user friendly Case Management System as well as computerizing our new risk and needs assessment tool. The new programs will allow us to generate a variety of reports, track more information, thus allowing staff to be more efficient and effective in working with their probationers.



## ADULT PROBATION OVERVIEW/STATS

31 full time and one half-time Probation Officers and eleven support personnel comprise the Adult Division. The Adult Division is responsible for the supervision and monitoring of **over 2,500 individuals** who have been granted terms of community supervision by the Court. The Adult Division provides services to the community that enhances public safety by monitoring the activities of criminal offenders, supporting rehabilitative services and programs, advocating for victims, and providing the Court with appropriate sentencing recommendations.

The Adult Division includes 21 supervision field officers and three field supervisors. These officers play a prominent role in maintaining a safe and secure community. Officers are actively involved in community supervision efforts which include making unannounced visits to probationers' homes during non-business hours.



## HOLDING OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE

The Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act of 2000, (otherwise known as **Proposition 36**) mandated probation and treatment services in lieu of incarceration for certain drug offenses. The goal of the program is to protect the community by reducing drug-related crime through treatment, preserving jails and prisons for more serious, violent offenders. Currently, two Deputy Probation Officers, a Probation Assistant, a Legal Clerk, and a Supervising Deputy Probation Officer are assigned to the Proposition 36 program. During 2008, **243** probationers were admitted to the **Proposition 36 Program**, and **99** successfully graduated.

In addition to the Proposition 36 program, San Luis Obispo County operates a **Drug Treatment Court**. The Drug Treatment Court includes 18 months of treatment and close supervision applied at pre-determined levels (phases) for up to 75 probationers. Each phase includes specific requirements which must be met before the probationer can advance to the next phase. Upon completion, a graduation is held, at which time the Drug Court Judge, treatment and Probation staff, the probationer and his/her family gather to celebrate this significant achievement. In 2008, **80** probationers participated in the Drug Court program. Over the last two years, Drug Treatment Court has had a 60% graduation rate.

The Probation Department conducted a snap-shot view of adults on Probation in the month of October 2008. The following is an overview of the results:

GENDER	TOTAL	AGE GROUP	TOTAL
Male	1928	18—25 yrs	707
Female	<u>667</u>	26—35 yrs	759
	2595	36—50 yrs	863
		51—65 yrs	252
		66 + yrs	14

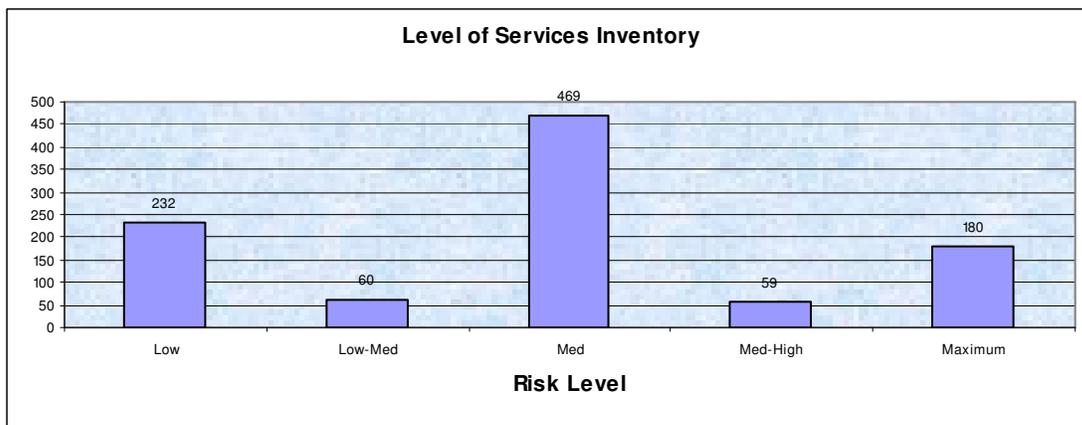
ETHNICITY	TOTAL	PRIMARY LANGUAGE	TOTAL	DEMOGRAPHICS (residing in what area of County)	
Caucasian	1813	English	2131	South County	653
Hispanic	634	Spanish	458	North County	761
African American	85	Other	6	San Luis Obispo/Coast	533
Asian	128			Other	648
Native Americans	6				
Other	45				

PRIOR CONVICTIONS	RISK FACTORS
0—3 2572	Juvenile Court History 432
4—5 20	Children Under 18 Living at Home 494
6—7 3	Single Parent 383
8 + 0	Family Violence History 712
	Stable Housing 327
	Employed 1123
	Current CWS Involvement 31

HEALTH ISSUES	
Medi-Cal Eligibility	56
Mental Illness	328
Substance Abuse Issues	1678
Drug/Alcohol Abuse During Pregnancy	50
Other Health Issues	266

## IDENTIFY RISK & NEEDS

One of the most significant developments during 2008 was the adoption of a validated risk and needs assessment instrument. The **Level of Services Inventory (LSI)** is now being used to identify those probationers who are low, low-medium, medium, high-medium, and at maximum risk to re-offend. This internationally used instrument is based upon validated research which has identified specific “criminogenic” factors as accurate indicators of future criminal behavior. These factors include: **age of first adjudication; anti-social associates; anti-social thought patterns; anti-social personality; family/marital conflict; substance abuse; and lack of educational, vocational and recreational options and interests.** This information is being used to determine resource allocation within the Department, who needs to be supervised, and at what level.



## REDUCING INCARCERATION

The **Mentally Ill Probationers Program (MIPS)** is a collaborative team approach involving the Courts, Probation Department and Behavioral Health Services. This alliance supports a Treatment Court for the mentally ill offender, which balances intensive service provision with monitoring and accountability.

The objective of the MIPS Program is to divert probationers with mental health issues away from local and state incarceration, support and encourage the participants in accepting their mental illness, and work with treatment providers in developing long-term treatment plans. The program has a capacity of 50 probationers, 25 of whom have been determined to be at high risk to re-offend.

## ASSISTING THE COURT

The Adult Division includes seven Court Investigators and a supervisor. In 2008, **1,904** criminal cases were investigated by the Court Investigations Unit. Each investigation culminated in the preparation of a detailed and thorough pre-sentence report which included: a summary of the crime; statements from victims and related restitution information; a detailed study of the offender's background; an assessment of the offender's risk and needs; and finally, a summary which includes a dispositional recommendation. These independent investigations are critical in ensuring the equitable distribution of justice, and that the Court has as much information available so that it can make decisions which are in the best interest of the community.

## MAKING OUR STREETS SAFER

Two Deputy Probation Officers are assigned exclusively to the County-wide Gang Task Force, and one Deputy Probation Officer is assigned to the County-wide Narcotics Task Force. These officers are responsible for investigating gang and narcotics-related crimes along with representatives from various other local law enforcement agencies.

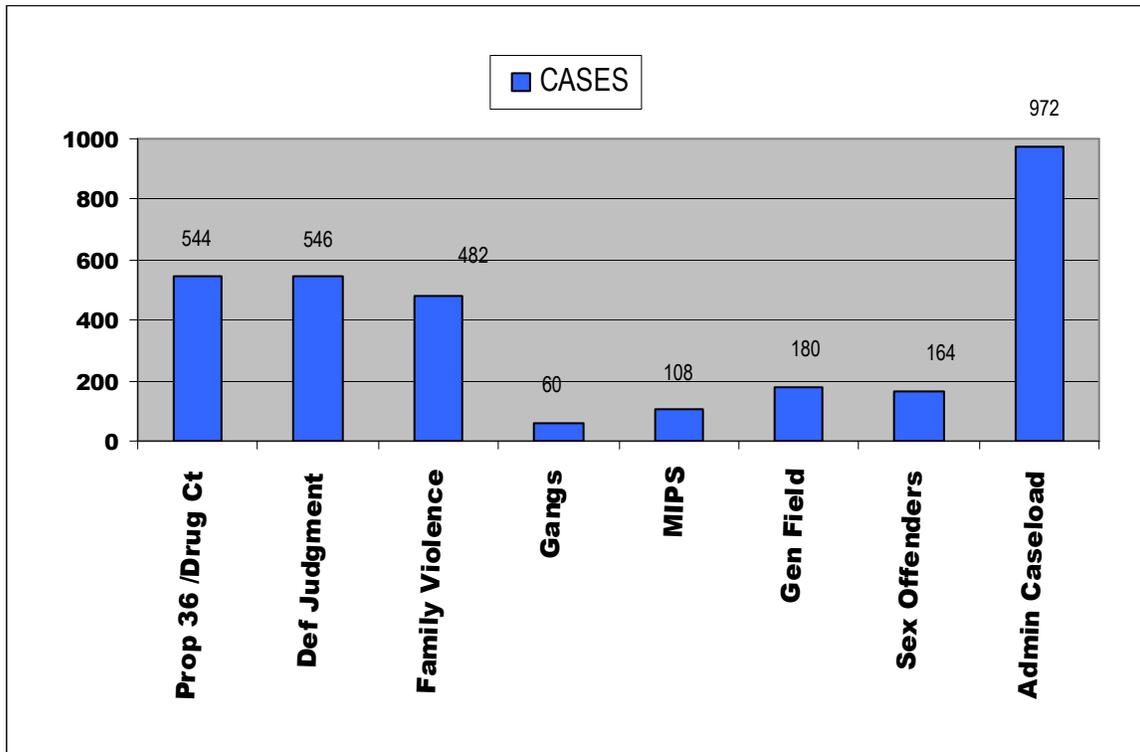
## TARGETING GANGS

The Anti-Gang Coordinating Commission (AGCC) was established in 2008 by the Sheriff, District Attorney, and Chief Probation Officer. The mission of the AGCC is to reduce the magnitude, frequency, and violence of gang activity in San Luis Obispo County. The Commission is currently in the process of developing a comprehensive strategic plan in the areas of Prevention and Intervention, Detection and Suppression, and Rehabilitation and Re-entry. The Commission’s members include law enforcement, schools, and community based organizations.

## BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

Five Deputy Probation Officers and a Supervising Deputy Probation Officer are responsible for the supervision of nearly 400 probationers involved in some form of family violence. 220 of these cases have been determined to be of high to medium risk to reoffend. The Family Violence Officers work closely with a group of local therapists who provide statutorily mandated treatment to probationers involved in offenses of this kind.

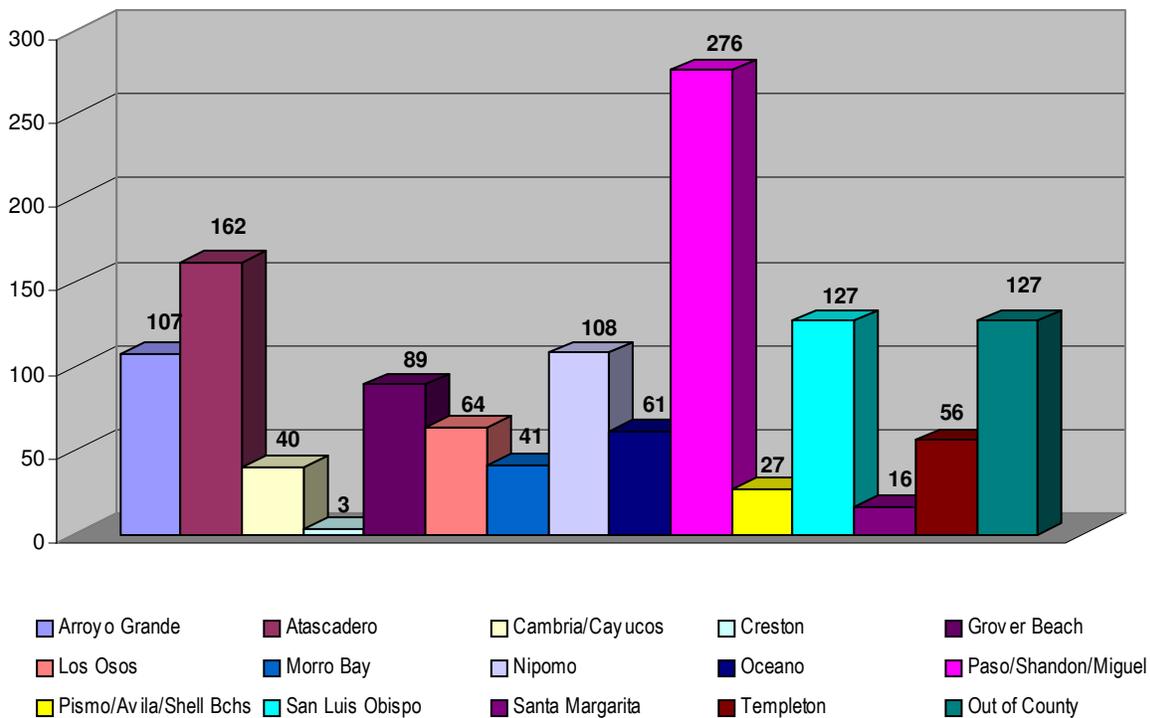
### ADULT DIVISION CASELOADS



## JUVENILE PROBATION OVERVIEW/STATS

The Juvenile Division provides services along a continuum of care that ranges from prevention to incarceration. Prevention services include school based truancy officers, regional SAFE officers and a gang prevention program. Intervention services include Intensive Community Diversion, Community Supervision that includes our field supervision officers, gang supervision, drug court, placement services and mentoring program. Incarceration includes minors being committed to our Juvenile Hall. During 2008, **545** petitions were filed which was a ***decrease of 20%*** from the previous year. The recidivism rate for juveniles on Probation in the County was **6%**.

**602 REFERRALS BY AREA OF RESIDENCE**



## TARGETING INTERVENTIONS

The Juvenile Division is in the process of implementing the Youth Level of Services Inventory (YLS/CMI), which is an internationally recognized and **validated risk and needs screening tool**. This will allow officers to assess juveniles, effectively manage their cases, and provide the proper level of supervision and services. The preliminary scoring of cases is showing **25% are high risk, 47% are moderate risk, and 28% are low risk**.



## TEACHING PRO-SOCIAL SKILLS

**BAKARI** is a Swahili word meaning  
**“One Who Will Succeed”**

The Probation Department has entered into collaboration with Cal Poly University to begin **The Bakari Project**. This program seeks to produce socially conscious, responsible, and respectable young men and women who can take advantage of all of life's opportunities with confident assurance. The project objectives include implementation of treatment interventions and prevention, assisting youth in re-socializing their behavior, exposure to pro-social activities, and helping to reduce recidivism. Each minor is assigned a Cal Poly University student intern as their mentor. The mentors guide the minors in interventions, which promote educational and psychological development and re-socialization. The Bakari project currently has **18** minors participating from all parts of the County.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Probation Department initiated a new prevention program targeting at-risk youth in the community. The **Youth In Action** program will focus on youth between the ages of 10-14 years who are at-risk for membership or association with a criminal street gang. The program will provide youth with an intensive 18-week school-based intervention and education curriculum exploring the dynamics behind gang membership and affiliation, challenge the myths behind gang culture, and teach youth viable alternatives to the gang lifestyle. The Youth in Action Program is currently serving four schools in the South County and has 48 minors in the program.

Youth In Action program participants spend the day building communication and team building skills at the Chumash Challenge at Cal Poly. Students pictured are challenged to work together and build trust 30 feet off the ground. All 50 participants in the Youth In Action Program will have the opportunity to participate in this workshop.



**The Probation Department conducted a snap-shot view of all juveniles on Probation in October of 2008. This included deferred judgments, probation without wardships, and wards of the court. The following is an overview of the results:**

GENDER	TOTAL
Male	383
Female	83
	<u>466</u>

AGE GROUP	TOTAL
19+ yrs	63
15—18 yrs	373
12—14 yrs	30
11 or less yrs	0

ETHNICITY	TOTAL
Caucasian	252
Hispanic	192
African American	14
Asian	3
Native Americans	0
Other	5

PRIMARY LANGUAGE	TOTAL
English	379
Spanish	87
Other	0

DEMOGRAPHICS (residing in what area of County)	
South County	144
North County	213
San Luis Obispo/Coast	76
Out of County/State	33

NUMBER OF HOME PLACEMENTS	
0 Times	304
1-3 Times	114
4-5 Times	29
6 + Times	19

MINORS PARENTS	
Single Parent	250
Criminally Involved	156
Peri-natal Substance Abuse	65
Probationer	109

HEALTH ISSUES	
Medi-Cal Recipient	230
Mental Illness	72
Current IEP	66

SOCIAL ISSUES	
CPS Involvement	80
Family Violence History	199
Physical/Sexual Abuse	146
Substance Abuse Issues	299

# JUVENILE HALL OVERVIEW, MENTAL HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

## Overview:

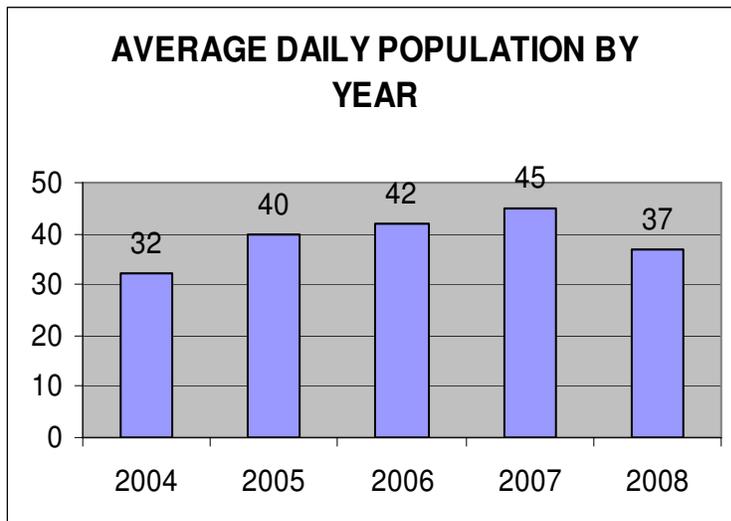
The Juvenile Hall is a 45 bed juvenile detention center for San Luis Obispo County. A Probation Division Manager (Superintendent) and two Supervising Deputy Probation Officers (Assistant Superintendents) oversee the Juvenile Hall operations. The Juvenile Hall is staffed by 50 Probation Department employees responsible for the supervision of juvenile detainees, food services and administrative functions of the facility. Additionally, there are 11.5 employees from the San Luis Obispo County Mental Health Department, Public Health Department and the Office of Education who contract with the Probation Department to provide mental health, medical and educational services. In 2008, the Juvenile Hall served **1,163** juvenile offenders. **The average daily population was 37.**

## Mental Health Services:

Mental Health coverage is provided seven days a week, 14 hours per day. Two Full time therapists and one half time therapist are assigned to the Juvenile Hall. A psychiatrist conducts medical evaluations once per week as well as being available for additional consultation as needed. An average of eight juveniles per day received psychotropic medication in 2008. During an average work week, mental health staff completed nineteen assessments, eighty individual counseling sessions, and one psycho educational group.

## Health Services:

The Juvenile Hall has a health care professional on site seven days per week to meet the physical and medical needs of juvenile detainees. Public Health staff at the Juvenile Hall include one Supervising Pediatrician who conducts monthly reviews of medical charts and is on-call for consultation; one full time Family Nurse Practitioner and two Registered Nurses. Additionally, there is one Nurse Practitioner and two Registered Nurses available as temporary help for vacation coverage. In 2008, Juvenile Hall nurses completed **1,039** initial booking physicals; **277** annual physicals; **11,824** sick calls; distributed **12,278** doses of medication; **8,121** immunizations; and **202** STD tests.



**“Our children are our legacy. How we treat them, and what we leave for them, are the proper measures of the worth of our institutions, and of us.”**

**Author Unknown**

## IMPROVING SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

The Juvenile Court School of San Luis Obispo County, located within the Juvenile Hall, is a WASC-accredited program administered by the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education. Two full-time teachers, a part-time resource teacher, two full-time instructional assistants and a full-time administrative assistant provide instructional and credit assessment services to juvenile detainees. Each juvenile is assessed academically upon entry to the Juvenile Hall and provided individualized assignments according to both current skill level and grade-level requirements for high school graduation.



## SCREENING FOR MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES

**Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument, Version 2 (MAYSI-2):** The MAYSI-2 is a 52 question, yes-no screening instrument, that assists facility staff in identifying the level of a juvenile's mental or emotional distress. The MAYSI-2 uses six clinical scales that include alcohol/drug use, angry/irritable feelings, depressed/anxious feelings, somatic complaints, suicide ideation, and thought disturbances. A seventh scale is used to measure the level of exposure to traumatizing and stressful events. The MAYSI-2 is administered to every juvenile detained at the Juvenile Hall within 24 hours of their admission.

## PROMOTING PRO-SOCIAL SKILLS

**Home Supervision:** The program allows juvenile offenders to remain in their homes under the constant supervision of their parent(s), school officials or a responsible adult approved by the Probation Department. Juveniles on Home Supervision are required to submit to chemical testing, property searches and participate in counseling as directed by the Juvenile Court. **Kitchen Vocational Program:** The Probation Department and Office of Education implemented a kitchen vocational program that allows juvenile detainees the opportunity to work in the Juvenile Hall kitchen and assist in the preparation of meals to gain practical job experience and complete community work service hours. **Cognitive Behavioral and Social Awareness Programs:** The Juvenile Hall provides weekly anger management groups and bi-weekly substance abuse counseling groups to juvenile detainees. Additionally, juveniles participate in religious programs, dating violence prevention classes, Narcotics Anonymous, "Healing Touch" a program with Animal Services that allows juveniles to provide basic dog obedience training to shelter dogs, music and drama performances and presentations by guest speakers from the community.

## WHO WERE THE MINORS IN JUVENILE HALL IN 2008?

### WHAT IS THEIR GENDER?

Females Booked into Juvenile Hall	278
Males Booked into Juvenile Hall	885

### WHY ARE THEY IN JUVENILE HALL?

Court Commit	21
Violation of Probation	579
Warrant	91
New Charges	436
WI 601's	36

### WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Paso Robles/San Miguel	228
Shandon	12
Templeton	26
Atas/Santa Margarita/Creston	198
San Luis Obispo	152
Los Osos	61
Morro Bay	44
Cuyucos/Cambria/San Simeon	39
Shell Beach/Pismo Beach	18
Grover Beach	67
Arroyo Grande	72
Oceano	75
Nipomo	92
Out of the County	79

### HOW OLD ARE THEY?

11 or younger	0
12 to 13	72
14 to 15	350
16 to 17	687
18 or older	54

### HOW LONG DID THEY STAY?

1 Day	167
2-6 Days	573
6-10 Days	125
10-14 Days	71



Religious Services  
at Juvenile Hall



Chalk Art  
Done by Minors at  
Juvenile Hall

# COLLABORATIVES

ADULT SERVICES POLICY COUNCIL

THE BAKARI PROJECT

CAL POLY AND CUESTA COLLEGE – Interns

CAL POLY PARTNERSHIP

CHILDREN'S SERVICES NETWORK

CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAM

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATORS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

DRUG COURT

FAMILY CARE NETWORK

GANG TASK FORCE

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH/CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE TASK FORCE/ MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT

NARCOTICS TASK FORCE

PASO ROBLES YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

SCHOOLS

- County Office of Education
- Local School Districts
- Community Schools
- Atascadero Unified School District

SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH, and MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

SENTENCING CONCEPTS

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

TECHNOLOGY POLICY COMMITTEE



**San Luis Obispo County Probation employees are involved with several charities in the community.**



**Torch Run for the Special Olympics Fund**



**Toys for Tots Award for Outstanding Contribution In SLO County**



**Daffodil Days Fund Raiser for the American Cancer Society**

- BOWL-A-THON - 211 SLO HOTLINE
- DAFFODIL DAYS FUND RAISER
- AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
- LYMPHOMA AWARENESS
- SLO LEAF (SAN LUIS OBISPO LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE FUND)
- TOYS FOR TOTS
- CALIFORNIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS FUND
  - Polar Bear Plunge and
  - Law Enforcement Torch Run
- AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY – RELAY FOR LIFE
- WOODS HUMANE SOCIETY
- SIERRA CLUB
- BI-ANNUAL BEACH CLEAN UP
- CHILDREN'S INTERNATIONAL
- SLO LAND CONSERVANCY
- HOMELESS SHELTER
- COPS AND KIDS DAY (FOOTPRINTERS)
- TIP-A-PO BRANCH STREET DELI AG
- GET ON THE BUS  
(A PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS CHILDREN TO VISIT THEIR FATHERS IN CALIFORNIA MENS COLONY ON FATHER'S DAY)
- SAN LUIS OBISPO RAILROAD MUSEUM
- WOMEN OF THE MOOSE #864
- AMERICAN RED CROSS



# SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Administration and Adult..... 805.781.5300  
Juvenile.....805.781.5352  
Juvenile Hall.....805.781.5389  
North County Office.....805.461.6224  
South County Office.....805.781-5352

## WEBSITE

[www.slocounty.ca.gov/pr.htm](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pr.htm)

## JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Presiding Judge - Honorable Martin J. Tangeman

Honorable Dodie A. Harman

Honorable John A. Trice

Honorable Teresa Estrada-Mullaney

Honorable Ginger E. Garrett

Honorable Charles S. Crandall

Commissioner Patrick J. Perry

Commissioner Sidney B. Findley (Ret)

Honorable Michael L. Duffy

Honorable E. Jeffrey Burke

Honorable Jac Crawford

Honorable Barry T. LaBarbera

Honorable Roger T. Picquet

Commissioner Gayle L. Peron

Commissioner Stephen B. Sefton

## SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - 2008

Harry Ovitt, District 1— Vice-Chairperson

Bruce Gibson, District 2

Jerry Lenthall, District 3

Katcho Achadjian, District 4

James R. Patterson, District 5— Chairperson

