2014 Year In Review

Welcome to the County of San Luis Obispo 2014 Annual Report, a great way to understand all that the County did to serve the community last year. Watch the video above for a quick year-in-review. Then, browse the Your County Government section for a quick overview of SLO County and messages from your County leaders. Next, head over to the Delivering Results section to discover how each individual department impacted the community and understand some of the most significant challenges we faced as a County in 2014. Finally, review the County's Financials to understand revenue sources, expenditures, credit ratings and debt obligations.

If at any point you'd like to provide feedback, please feel free to scroll to the bottom of each page to access our SLO County Annual Report Survey. Thank you for your interest in County government! Enjoy!
Message from 2014 Board Chair

Message from the 2014 Board Chair
San Luis Obispo County has a general law form of government, which means that certain aspects of the structure and function of the County are dictated by state law.

As a geographical and political subdivision of the State, the County serves a dual role by (1) providing municipal services including law enforcement, roads, parks and libraries to residents, and (2) administering State and Federal programs and services such as public health care, jails, foster care and elections.

A five member Board of Supervisors serves as the County’s legislative body, setting policies and priorities to best serve the needs of the community. Supervisors are elected by districts of approximately equal population to overlapping four-year terms. The five supervisor districts in the County include the following cities (in italics) and communities:

- **District 1**: Adelaide, Chiarum, Lake Nacimiento, Oak Shores, Paso Robles, San Miguel, Shandon, Templeton, Whitley Gardens.
- **District 2**: Baywood Park, California Valley Colony, Cal Poly State University (portion), Cambria, Capitos, Cuesta-by-the-Sea, Cuesta College, Harmony, Los Osos, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo (portion), San Simeon.
- **District 3**: Arroyo Grande, Black Lake Canyon, Cal Poly State University (portion), Edna Valley, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Rolling Hills Estate, San Luis Obispo (portion), Shell Beach, South Bay, Sunset Palisades.
- **District 4**: Atascadero, Cal Poly State University (portion), Creston, Garden Farms, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo (portion), Santa Margarita.
- **District 5**: Atascadero, Cal Poly State University (portion), Creston, Garden Farms, Pozo, San Luis Obispo (portion), SLO 

Other services provided by special districts governed by the Board of Supervisors include fire protection, lighting, sanitation and flood control.

In addition to the Board of Supervisors, residents elect five department heads including the Assessor, Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector for Public Administration, Clerk-Recorder, District Attorney and Sheriff-Coroner.

The County Administrative Officer is appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is responsible for managing the operations of County departments, preparing the County budget and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of County operations.

County Counsel is also appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is responsible for providing legal counsel to the Board.

### About the Region

The County of San Luis Obispo is one of the original 27 counties of California. Established on February 18, 1850, the County of San Luis Obispo is located on the Pacific Coast, conveniently halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, and has a population of more than 273,000 people, making it the 23rd largest county in the state.

Known affectionately as “SLO” (pronounced s/oW) by residents and visitors, the county region is made up of seven cities as well as more than 40 unincorporated communities. SLO County covers approximately 3,300 square miles and is bordered by Monterey County to the north, Kern County to the east, Santa Barbara County to the south, and 100 miles of Pacific coastline to the west.

Because of its distance from major metropolitan areas, SLO County has been able to retain its small-town and rural character. Despite this, the area also offers many of the same amenities that are found in urban areas. For example, the County is home to major educational institutions including California Polytechnic State University and Cuesta Community College—both of which draw students from all over the world and provide a wide array of educational and cultural opportunities.

The varied geography and rich history of the area provide numerous opportunities for recreation. The nationally known Hearst Castle in San Simeon attracts over 1 million visitors each year and the historic Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, founded in 1772, is another popular attraction.

Many locally sponsored events including the Old-Fashioned Fourth of July, Renaissance Fair, Mid-State Fair, Festival Mozaic, Salve the Central Coast Food and Paso Robles Wine Festival, and various holiday parades and events also draw visitors here each year.

Major U.S. highways, regional airports, railroad stations and the Port of San Luis all make the area accessible by land, air and water.
Message from the CAO

On behalf of the employees of the County of San Luis Obispo, I am pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report and take the opportunity to look back on some of the successes and challenges of the past year.

The County’s credit rating improved dramatically last year, thanks to careful planning and meticulous financial management. The rating is a testament to the solid financial position of the county, the result of steady leadership and sound management at all levels of the organization. We’ve emerged from the recession in a stronger financial condition than when we entered, and to come out of it with this sort of recognition is something in which we can all take pride.

A particular challenging task for our community in 2014 was deciding how to implement a longer-term water management system. The County’s water challenges impacted County staff and the Board agenda perhaps more than any other issue in 2014, and we continued to work toward solutions for our water demand and supply imbalances, which were exacerbated by the historic drought that continues into 2015.

At the same time, the County continued looking forward and began modernizing key systems and facilities.

In 2014, the County tested and installed new automated baggage screening equipment to improve safety at the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport; at the same time the District Attorney’s Office went live with a new case management system, which helps us successfully prosecute the thousands of cases filed each year in a more cost-effective and efficient manner; and we implemented new Human Resources software that will help us find and select the most qualified candidates for open positions.

As we modernized our systems and equipment, we also upgraded and expanded facilities in order to better serve the community. In June 2014, we opened the new Mascardero Library building, which also provides a new home for our North County Service Center with more offices for the Assessor’s Office, the Planning & Building Department, and the Clerk-Recorder. Additionally, we began construction on the County’s new Women’s Jail to increase the existing capacity of County jail, and we also began to expand the Juvenile Hall to increase juvenile services and treatment programs.

County staff also worked hard to improve existing services and programs. For example, last year we were recognized for our Transitional Age Youth Financial Assistance Program, which helps local youth formerly in the foster care system meet their educational needs. The program earned a Merit Award from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) for changing participants’ lives in innovative and creative ways, allowing them to overcome obstacles to completing their higher education and giving them a better shot at success after foster care. The Public Works Department was also recognized for going above and beyond nationally established management practices and received the prestigious American Public Works Association accreditation. Our Public Works Department is only the 12th government agency in California to receive the accreditation and the 96th in the nation.

There is a lot to be proud of in the County of San Luis Obispo. County employees are on the job, working hard to serve and improve our community. This report highlights just a small part of the good work we do every day.

Sincerely,
Dan Buckshi
County Administrative Officer
Your 2014 Board of Supervisors

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District 1: Adelanto, Cholame, Lake Nascentes, Oso Shores, Paso Robles, San Miguel, Shandon, Templeton, Whitley Gardens
District 2: Baywood Park, California Mines Colony, Cal Poly State University (portions), Cambria, Cayucos, Cuesta by the Sea, Cuesta College, Harmony, Los Osos, Margo Berg, San Luis Obispo (portions), San Luis Obispo (portions), Shell Beach, Squire Canyon, Sunset Palisades
District 3: Arroyo Grande, Black Lake Canyon, Calaveras Garret, Cayucos, Edna Valley (portions), Halcyon, Huasna-Lopez, Los Berros, Mipomo, Nipomo, Nipomo, Oceano, Paol Mirra
District 4: Atascadero, Cal Poly State University (portions), California Valley, Creston, Garden Farms, Pozo, San Luis Obispo (portions), Santa Margarita

2014 Staff Leadership

Not only were they the people of San Luis Obispo County represented by an elected Board of Supervisors in 2014, but they were also served by leaders among County employees. These leaders include:

**Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures**
- Marty Seltzer/Enanderine

**Airport Director**
- Kevin Barrain

**Animal Services Division Manager**
- Eric Anderson

**Assessor**
- Tom Boardman

**Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector/Public Administrator**
- James F. Erbs

**Behavioral Health Administrator**
- Anne Bobile, LMT

**Chief Probation Officer**
- Jim Salo

**Child Support Services Director**
- Phil Brown / Julie Pace

**Clerk-Recorder**
- Julie Nolden / Tommy Gowing

**County Administrative Officer**
- Dan Budworth

**County Counsel**
- Rita L. Reel

**County Fire**
- Robert Lewis

**District Attorney**
- Murray Shear / Dan Dow

**Farm Advisor**
- Mary Branca

**General Services Interim Director**
- Michelle Vieux

**Health Agency Director**
- Jeff Hannon

**Human Resources Director**
- Tami Douglas-Sorun

**Information Technology Interim Director**
- Gary Miller

**Library Director**
- Chris Bartlett

**Parks Interim Director**
- Curtis Beck

**Planning and Building Director**
- James Bergman

**Public Health Officer**
- Penny Borenstein

**Public Works Director**
- Pem O’Brien / Wade Herting

**Sheriff-Coroner**
- Ian Pilkington

**Social Services Director**
- Les Collins

**Veterans Service Officer**
- Steve Cummings

Learn more at [www.countyofslo.ca.gov](http://www.countyofslo.ca.gov)

### What Do You Think?

What do you think of the 2014 Annual Report? We want your feedback. Please take a moment to fill out a brief online survey.

[Take the Survey]
Working for Community

The County of San Luis Obispo has roughly 2,800 employees all working to serve the community. County employees and elected officials are guided by organizational values, and work to ensure that their decisions and actions demonstrate these values.

Because the economy steadily improved in 2014, SLO County saw increases in home prices, building permits, sales tax, property tax revenues, and Transient Occupancy Taxes (TOT). These numbers all affected the revenue for the County budget, which meant more money was available to restore County staffing levels, and in some cases, increase service levels above pre-Great Recession numbers to support the County's vision, mission, and community-wide results.

While the County continued to improve financially, it still faced significant challenges in 2014.

The County began implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), which was the most significant regulatory overhaul of the U.S. healthcare system since the passage of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965.

Additionally, the region and many other areas of the state faced an exceptional drought and other water challenges. In fact, 2014 was one of the driest years in recorded state history for SLO County and the lack of rain caused record creeks and reservoirs, joint efforts between the County and its residents were critical to managing the effects of the drought. Meanwhile, the County took, and continues to take, several actions to reduce water usage in County-owned facilities, at County parks and golf courses, at the airports, in new construction and lease agreements, and with County fleet vehicles.

In 2014, the County also completed its third year implementing its Public Safety Realignment Act plan, which caused a significant shift in the responsibility for the incarceration and community supervisions of certain low-level convicted felony offenders and parolees.

At the same time, the collaboration among the County and other local organizations to address homelessness reached an all-time high. The County devoted $3.4 million in new funds and created innovative programs to help homeless families and individuals obtain permanent shelter.

Browse the 2014 Annual Report to discover even more ways County staff worked for the community and served SLO County residents with pride in 2014.
Mission, Vision, Core Values

Mission
The County's elected representatives and employees are committed to serving the community with pride to enhance the economic, environmental and social quality of life in San Luis Obispo County.

Vision
The County strives to create a safe, healthy, livable, prosperous and well-governed community.

A Safe Community
The County will strive to create a community where all people – adults and children alike – have a sense of security and well being, crime is controlled, fire and rescue response is timely and roads are safe.

A Healthy Community
The County will strive to ensure all people in our community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.

A Livable Community
The county will strive to keep our community a good place to live by carefully managing growth, protecting our natural resources, promoting a clean living environment and creating an environment that encourages resident for all season.

A Prosperous Community
The County will strive to keep our economy strong and stable and ensure that all share in this prosperity.

A Well-Governed Community
The County will provide high quality, results-oriented services that are responsive to community desires.

Core Values

Integrity
We consistently demonstrate and adhere to the moral and ethical principles of impartiality, honesty, and respect. We uphold the principles of fairness, honesty, and respect.

Collaboration
We celebrate teamwork by working cooperatively to ensure the achievement of our common goals. We collaborate within and across departments for the good of the customer and community.

Professionalism
We perform our duties in a manner which bestow credibility upon ourselves and our County.

Accountability
We assume responsibility for our actions and follow-through on our commitments. We practice good stewardship of our resources and we adhere to the accepted principles of fiscal responsibility. We follow through on our commitments. We hold ourselves and others accountable for results. We use the resources entrusted to us wisely.

Responsiveness
We provide timely, accurate and complete information to each other and those we serve. We solicit feedback from customers on improving programs and services as part of a continuous improvement process.

About the 2014 Annual Report
The County of San Luis Obispo’s 2014 Annual Report features stories from various departments that highlight some significant achievements as well as the challenges the County faces in 2014. Read on, enjoy and share it with your family, friends and neighbors.

What Do You Think?
What do you think of the 2014 Annual Report? We want your feedback. Please take a moment to fill out a brief online survey.

Take the Survey

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Delivering Results

Filter:
- All
- Public Protection
- Land-based Services
- Health & Human Services
- Fiscal and Administrative Services
- County Department Support Services
- Community Services

Child Support Services
County Fire
District Attorney
Emergency Services

Health Agency – Animal Services
Probation
Sheriff-Coroner

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Follow Us
# Child Support Services at a Glance

**Total Budget:** $4.7 Million  
**Total Staff:** 39.75 Full-Time Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,718</td>
<td>Cases were assisted by our child support establishment and enforcement processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,696</td>
<td>Child support cases with active court orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>234</td>
<td>Cases with successful service of Summons &amp; Complaint during FFY 2013-14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Record high Federal Performance Measures for the department for FFY 2013-14:**

- **Court Order Establishment:** 96.9%
- **Collection of past-due child support payments:** 81.9%
- **Collection of current child support owed:** 78.9% *

**Cost-to-collection ratio of $3.35 collected for each program dollar expended (collected more support, while reducing operating costs)**

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*Support is primarily used for basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. Basic needs are essential for creating healthier and successful families and community.*

*Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo*
How do we allocate our resources?

County Fire provides services through 21 fire stations, 1 Air Attack Base and 1 Conservation Camp.

Unit Equipment Summary:
- 14 Staffed County fire engines
- 12 Staffed State fire engines
- 2 Medium engines
- 4 Squads
- 1 HAZMAT Unit
- 1 Breathing Support Unit
- 2 Fire Boats
- 3 Rescue watercraft
- 3 Fire dozers
- 5 Hand crews
- 1 Staffed air attack plane
- 2 Staffed air tankers

RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES

1,650 FIRE responses
1,273 OTHER responses
896 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

A total of 10,017 responses

6,198 MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

FIGHTING WILDFIRES

144 wildland fires
Jan–Dec 2014 (7 year avg = 161)

168 wildland acres burned
Jan–Dec 2014 (7 year avg = 1,025)

Local firefighters were engaged for over 72,000 HOURS during the August 2014 Northern CA lightning siege

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

12 current and retired personnel assisted
200+ MILITARY VETERANS at the 2014 SLO County Veterans Support Stand Down.

Firefighters hosted or participated in more than 56 COMMUNITY EVENTS for fire safety and prevention awareness.

Four firefighters honored for outstanding service at various Firefighter Recognition Dinners.

Collected 70 large bags of toys and bicycles for County Child Welfare during Operation Santa Claus.

Sponsored 18 young women interested in Fire Service to attend CAMP CINDER

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
2014 by the Numbers

Collaborated with 26 Law Enforcement Agencies

213 cases from the California Men's Colony were referred for criminal filing

Assisted 1,785 victims in "Crimes Against Persons" cases charged

2,948 civilian witness subpoenas were confirmed by victim/witness staff

The Victim/Witness Division served

4 murder cases were charged

4,489 victims of crime and their family members

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- 73%
- 18%
- 10%

**Consumer/Environmental Services**
- 10%

**Victim and Witness Assistance Services**
- 18%

**Prosecutions**
- 73%

**Staff**
- 10%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
2014 by the Numbers

- 50 standard operating procedures to incorporate new regulations
- 18 emergency drills
- Conducted two hostile action nuclear power plant exercises with approximately 1,000 participants
- 100,000 emergency preparedness calendars distributed
- 6,000 hours of emergency worker training
- Obtained over $302,000 in Homeland Security Grant funds for emergency preparedness

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- Emergency Planning: 18%
- Emergency Preparedness/Coordination: 50%
- Emergency Response, Exercises, and Drills: 19%
- Emergency Worker Training: 11%
- Public Information: 1%
- Disaster Recovery Coordination: 1%

**Staff**
- 20%
- 36%
- 22%
- 18%
- 2%
- 2%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
PROBATION DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

$86,661,327
saved by supervising felons on probation instead of sending them to state prison

2,446 adults on Probation supervision:
- 5% under post-release community supervision
- 2% under mandatory supervision
- 93% under formal probation

852 juveniles referred to the Probation Department for committing a crime, 22% fewer compared to prior year:
- 140 felonies
- 463 misdemeanors
- 16 infractions
- 233 probation violations

Only 8.7% of post-release community supervision offenders returned to prison

Juveniles on Probation supervision, 12% fewer compared to prior year:
- 239 under court ordered supervision
- 54 under informal supervision

Prevention and intervention is working!

Programs like SAFE System of Care and Youth in Action, as well as school-based truancy officers, contribute to a decreasing number of referrals to juvenile probation

83% of juveniles were diverted from the court system (294 out of 355 juveniles)

88% of juveniles under court-ordered supervision remained in their homes (115 out of 131)

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- Support Services: 9%
- Revenue Recovery Services: 8%
- Detention Services: 28%
- Juvenile Services: 25%
- Adult Services: 30%

**Staff**
- Support Services: 5%
- Revenue Recovery Services: 11%
- Detention Services: 25%
- Juvenile Services: 25%
- Adult Services: 34%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.

Image 2 of 2 - This is how the Probation Department allocated its budgetary and staff resources in 2014.
SHERIFF’S OFFICE AT A GLANCE

30+ divisions, units, volunteer teams, and task forces all working to keep SLO County safe.

3 PATROL STATIONS (Coast Station, North Station and South Station).
Received 79,347 calls for service.
The Dispatch Center handled 264,000 phone calls with 46,733 being 9-1-1 calls.

10 VEHICLE PURSUITS in 2014 (down from 22 in 2012).

Reviewed 1,391 REPORTABLE DEATHS and reviewed all 1,230 hospice cases in the county.

Narcotics Unit investigated more than 100 cases and seized nearly .32 pounds of cocaine, .98 pounds of heroin, 2 pounds of hashish, 9.12 pounds of methamphetamine, 13,773 pounds of processed marijuana, 25,300 marijuana plants.

Received Federal grant funding to purchase a 27-FOOT DEFENDER-CLASS PATROL BOAT to help protect our county’s coastline, and received $326,000 in grant funds for needed equipment and vehicles.

COUNTY JAIL
Booked more than 12,200 inmates throughout the year via arrests by local agencies.

Inmate population fluctuated between 500 and 800 inmates at any given time this year.

Broke ground on new Women’s Jail, which will have 198 beds to replace 43 cell facilities that currently serve about 98 women every day.

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**BUDGET**
- 17%
- 23%
- 60%

**STAFF**
- 42%
- 5%
- 53%

Field Operations
Support Services
Custody/Civil

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
Delivering Results

Filter:
- All
- Public Protection
- Land-based Services
- Health & Human Services
- Fiscal and Administrative Services
- County Department Support Services
- Community Services

Agriculture/Weights and Measures
Planning & Building
Public Works and Transportation

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2014 by the Numbers

Keeping SLO County Healthy

1,541 PACKAGES containing plant material were intercepted at a major distribution facility and inspected for harmful insect pests and plant diseases.

26 of these packages were denied entry into SLO County due to the presence of live pests or other shipping violations.

1 LIMITED AREA of SLO County was placed under quarantine to prevent spread of Asian Citrus Psyllid, an insect pest and vector of a disease that is fatal to citrus trees.

Regulated pesticide users were in compliance with mandated requirements 97.5% of the time, with 11,319 requirements inspected and 11,040 requirements found in compliance.

Protecting Consumers and Local Businesses

We protect consumers and competing businesses by ensuring that all merchants comply with California Weights and Measures laws.

2,839 COMMERCIAL WEIGHING AND MEASURING DEVICES were inspected and 90.5% were found in compliance.

1,724 RETAIL SHELF ITEMS were inspected for scanner price accuracy and 99.1% were found in compliance.

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**BUDGET**

- Pesticide Use Enforcement: 24%
- Agricultural Resources Management: 6%
- Pest Management: 4%
- Pest Prevention: 53%
- Product Quality: 5%
- Weights and Measures Inspections: 8%

**STAFF**

- 25%
- 6%
- 54%
- 6%
- 8%

*Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo*
PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

Balancing SLO County's Growth, Vitality and Natural Resources

- 785,609 acres protected through the agricultural preserve program
- 14,667 building inspections completed
- 16,282 walk-in clients
- 533 enforcement cases
- 40% were in compliance voluntarily within 45 days
- 127 land-use and subdivision applications processed
- Avg. processing time = 96 days
- 15 long-range plans completed or in process
- 13 new affordable housing units for low- and moderate-income families

2,622 BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

- 42% miscellaneous
- 14% single-family dwelling permits
- 31% residential additions/alternatives
- 5% commercial project permits
- 2% demolitions
- 2% grading
- 4% commercial additions/alternatives

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

Budget:
- Land Use Planning: 17%
- Development and Permit Review: 32%
- Resource Management and Monitoring: 7%
- Supporting Services: 19%
- Community Development: 26%

Staff:
- 27%
- 43%
- 10%
- 14%
- 6%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
The County is responsible for 1,092 MILES of paved roadways.

Under the Pavement Management Plan for the County, the goal is to maintain a Condition Rating of at least 65 out of 100. Currently, the Pavement Condition Rating is 62 with significant work underway to improve the system condition.

Pavement rehabilitation on over two miles of arterial roadway in 2014,
Paved over three miles of collector roads
Seal coated over 60 miles of local and residential streets.

SAFETY AND COLLISIONS:
Average collision rates for intersection, rural roads and suburban streets in the County remained well below the State Highway average collision rates for like facilities.

The County delivered over $50 MILLION in Capital Improvements in 2014 with the following performance measures:
80% of capital improvement milestones completed on time
93% of capital improvement projects completed on budget

Capital Projects completed:
- LOS OSOS WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEMS
- MAIN STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, CAMBRIA
- 16TH STREET PEDESTRIAN RAILROAD CROSSING, SAN MIGUEL
- LOS OSOS VALLEY ROAD WIDENING PROJECT
- CAYUCOS WATERLINE UPGRADES

93% of the County's 187 bridges are in a good state of repair.
The County remains in the top ten Counties in the State for overall bridge conditions.

In 2014, over a dozen bridges received major maintenance including bridge painting and deck repairs.

Maintained a 90% or better satisfactory rating from Local Engineers and Surveyors on performance of our Development Services functions

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- 78%
- 18%
- 3%
- 1%

**Staff**
- Roads: 46%
- Services to Special Districts: 3%
- Special Districts*: 3%
- Waste Management Programs: 49%

*The figures reported for Special Districts include several large multi-year projects, such as the Los Osos Wastewater Project.

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
Delivering Results

Filter:

- All
- Public Protection
- Land-based Services
- Health & Human Services
- Fiscal and Administrative Services
- County Department Support Services
- Community Services

Health Agency

Health Agency – Behavioral Health

Health Agency – Public Health

Social Services

Veterans Services

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Follow Us
5 Mental Health Services Locations
- San Luis Obispo
- Atascadero
- Arroyo Grande

4 Drug & Alcohol Services Locations
- San Luis Obispo
- Atascadero
- Paso Robles
- Grover Beach

5 Served
- 4,916 individuals

Assessed
- 1,376 individuals for mental health services*
- 698 individuals for substance use disorder services*

Provided
- 1,163 individuals with mobile crisis services

Prevention:
About 27,000 County residents reached through outreach (including countywide information, education and interventions)

That’s 10% of the County’s population; state average is 1.5%

Conducted mock DUI Trial on Campus for 500+ students**

Treatment:
- 655 people completed drug and alcohol treatment

97.6% reduced or eliminated substance abuse, or maintained sobriety

90% were “very satisfied” or “extremely satisfied” with the treatment program and their experience

*Stats from January through October 2014
**Funding provided by new youth development grant to address underage drinking and distracted driving.

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- Mental Health Services: 61%
- Drug and Alcohol Services: 17%
- Mental Health Services Act (MHSA): 22%

**Staff**
- 52%
- 28%
- 21%
Jail medical staff handled about 50,000 inmate sick visits

5,000 received nutritional education through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

1,200 pregnant women received care through the Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program

1,300 people were vaccinated during an emergency flu drill

1,250 people trained on National CPR Day

723 children received FREE vaccines

400 Foster Care youth received medical case management

4,681 women, infants and children participated in WIC every month

1 Merit Award for WIC Dental Days (from California State Association of Counties) for providing early dental intervention and education for low-income infants and children

1 foodborne illness outbreak in SLO County (compared to 4 last year)

96% of small water systems complied with drinking water standards (compared to 94.8% last year)

79% of mothers sought prenatal care in their first trimester

EDUCATION

2,000 youths educated on cycling safety

400 seniors educated on pedestrian safety

300 car seats distributed

All hospitals participated in large-scale outbreak drills

350 pregnant/parenting women/infants home visited

141 children received medical exams at Martha's Place

14 cases of HIV detected (a rate of 5 per 100,000 population)

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

How do we allocate resources?

BUDGET

- Environmental Health Services: 15%
- Family Health Services: 37%
- Health Promotion: 12%
- Emergency Medical Services: 5%
- Public Health Laboratory: 8%
- Health Agency Administration: 23%

STAFF

- 15%
- 42%
- 14%
- 4%
- 7%
- 17%

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Image 2 of 2 - This is how the Public Health Department allocated its budgetary and staff resources in 2014.
2014 by the Numbers

644 families received adoption assistance and 68 children were adopted

1,698 individuals received supportive services to help them at home instead of at a facility

76 families and relatives of adopted children received guardianship assistance

9,568 families aided by food assistance programs. The average family income is below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level for household size.

15 families benefited from the California Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) for aged, blind or permanently disabled residents

1,282 adults (age 18+) received Adult Protective Services

Affordable Care Act

30,000+ ACA applications processed

A Call Center staffed by 10 employees is dedicated to supporting ACA implementation. Call Center staff responds to calls transferred from the Covered California Service Center and helps callers establish Medi-Cal eligibility or educates and enrolls them in other health coverage options.

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo
How do we allocate resources?

**BUDGET**

- Adult Protective Services*: 12%
- CalFresh (formerly Food Stamps): 15%
- CalWORKs: 20%
- Child Welfare Services**: 23%
- County Only Program: 1%
- Medi-Cal: 19%
- Other Programs: 8%

**STAFF**

- 6%
- 13%
- 26%
- 21%
- 1%
- 24%
- 8%

*Includes County share of IHSS care provider wages paid by the State. DSS pays only County share.

** Includes services to CWS families such as counseling and transportation costs associated with family visitation.

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
How do we allocate resources?

**BUDGET**

- Compensation and Pension Claim Filing and Maintenance: 60%
- College Fee Waiver Certificate: 2%
- Outreach and Referral: 32%
- Veterans Justice Outreach: 2%
- Veterans Employment: 2%
- Veterans Low-income/At Risk (Homeless): 2%
- VA Work Study: 1%

**STAFF**

- 60%
- 2%
- 32%
- 2%
- 2%
- 1%

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Image 1 of 1 - This is how the Department of Veterans Services allocated its budgetary and staff resources in 2014.
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- 10%: Citizen Outreach/Support
- 64%: Organization Support
- 26%: Organizational Effectiveness & Development

**Staff**
- 12%: Citizen Outreach/Support
- 85%: Organization Support
- 4%: Organizational Effectiveness & Development

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
How do we allocate resources?

**BUDGET**
- Assessment Valuation, Reviews, and Appeals: 41%
- Administration/Assessment Standards: 9%
- Public Service: 7%
- Roll Preparation: 32%
- Automated Systems Management: 11%

**STAFF**
- Assessment Valuation, Reviews, and Appeals: 41%
- Administration/Assessment Standards: 9%
- Public Service: 7%
- Roll Preparation: 32%
- Automated Systems Management: 11%

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator at a Glance

Total Budget: $7,923,683
Total Staff: 65.5 Full-Time Employees

Saved the County
$1.8 Million through consolidation and other efficiencies*

Audits Completed
29 (both internal and external audits)

100% of customers surveyed rate us “good” or “excellent”
Credit ratings increased to highest possible score (AAA/V1 credit rating by Fitch Ratings)

For every 125 County employees, there are 2 Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector staff members.

98.86% of secured property taxes were collected (1.14% are still owed, state average is 1.6% owed)

32.9% of tax payments made electronically
Yes, we offer 24/7 online services for taxpayers!

16 estates of deceased residents were investigated by Public Administrator
11 had existing heirs or responsible persons to administer the estates
5 estates were administered by Public Administrator pursuant to California Probate Code

*Savings came from consolidating two departments into one and from prefunding the pension.

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo

Image 1 of 1 - Here’s a glance at how the Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator impacted SLO County and its residents in 2014.
CLERK-RECORDER’S OFFICE AT A GLANCE

497 Marriage ceremonies performed

2,116 Marriage licenses issued

11,931 Vital records issued

24,100 Recorded documents received by mail

3,333 Electronic documents recorded

16,272 Documents recorded by local title companies

15,136 Documents recorded in person over the counter

2 elections managed

150,015 Ballots counted

2,657 Poll workers

192,699 Vote by mail ballots issued

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Image 1 of 2 - Here’s a glance at how the Clerk-Recorder’s Office impacted SLO County and its residents in 2014.
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**

- Services to the Public and Administration: 52%
- Conduct of Elections: 27%
- Special Projects to enhance the recording and storage of Vital and Official Records: 21%

**Staff**

- 67%
- 15%
- 18%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo
Delivering Results

Filter:
- All
- Public Protection
- Land-based Services
- Health & Human Services
- Fiscal and Administrative Services
- County Department Support Services
- Community Services

County Counsel
General Services
Human Resources
Information Technology

About the 2014 Annual Report
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What Do You Think?
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Take the Survey

Contact Info
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How do we allocate resources?

BUDGET

31%

Litigation services*

69%

Legal Advice**

STAFF

31%

69%

*On behalf of the County or special districts.

**For County departments, agencies and special districts.

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
GENERAL SERVICES AT A GLANCE

2014 by the Numbers

- 2.5% annual improvement in fuel economy of non-emergency County-owned vehicles
- 1,000 maintained and serviced fleet vehicles
- 10 project coordinators
- 96 capital improvement projects (including the interim repairs of the Cayucos Pier, the completion of the Atascadero Library and North County Service Center, as well as the start of the Juvenile Hall Expansion Project)
- Managed...
  - 1.5 million square feet of County-owned facilities
  - $136 million in County purchases
  - 312 County-owned and leased properties
- $90 million of construction in portfolio
- 30,000 managed project hours

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo

Image 1 of 2 - This infographic provides a quick glance at how the Department of General Services has impacted San Luis Obispo County and its residents.
How do we allocate resources?

**BUDGET**
- 32%
- 19%
- 12%
- 8%
- 5%
- 9%

**STAFF**
- 15%
- 3%
- 6%
- 26%
- 27%
- 6%
- 4%
- 13%

Architectural Services: 13%
Central Mail Services: 4%
Purchasing Services: 27%
Custodial Services: 26%
Facility Maintenance: 3%
Utilities: 6%
Real Property Services: 15%
Fleet: 6%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
HUMAN RESOURCES AT A GLANCE

Recruiting, Training and Empowering SLO County Government Workers

Serves 2,871 County Employees

219 recruitments conducted

10,021 job applications processed

82% of County employees who rated the benefits program “above satisfactory” or better

Reached Collective Bargaining Agreements with 4 of the County’s 17 Bargaining Units; Engaged in collective bargaining activities with 5 additional Bargaining Units, which remain in negotiations.

470 POSITIONS FILLED

Reduced ergonomic injury claims by 31%

Fewer recordable injuries this year:

3.8% Recordable Injury Rate (One of the lowest injury rates among California counties)

600 employees received specialized safety training in addition to the safety training that all employees receive

1,100 employees received specialized training

0 grievances and appeals referred to Civil Service Commission. All employee complaints resolved at the lower level!

295 ergonomic assessments to prevent at-work injuries

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- Human Resource Services: 32%
- Training and Development: 7%
- Civil Service Commission Support: 5%
- Labor Negotiations and Contract Management: 18%
- Employee Benefits: 7%
- Safety: 5%
- Liability and Insurance: 20%
- Workers' Compensation: 6%

**Staff**
- 45%
- 9%
- 5%
- 16%
- 4%
- 6%
- 5%
- 10%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- 39%
- 30%
- 12%
- 12%
- 7%

**Staff**
- Departmental Services: 43%
- Enterprise Services: 31%
- Networked Services: 13%
- Radio Communications: 12%
- Voice Communications: 1%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.
Delivering Results

Filter:
- All
- Public Protection
- Land-based Services
- Health & Human Services
- Fiscal and Administrative Services
- County Department Support Services
- Community Services

Airports
Farm Advisor
Libraries
Parks & Recreation

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**SLO COUNTY AIRPORTS AT A GLANCE**

**TOTAL BUDGET:** $5.5 MILLION*

- **65%** of operating revenue is attributed to commercial service

- **$22.41** = operating expenditures per boarded passenger (down 3.3% since 2013)

- **$27.58** = operating revenue, including non-passenger revenue, per boarded passenger (up 2.5% since 2013)

- **$6.62** = commercial airline rents and landing fee revenue per boarded passenger at San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport

**TOTAL STAFF:** 14

- **302,652** total passengers flew in and out of SLO County Regional Airport (up 11.2% compared to 2013)**

- Reduced customer wait time during check in with new CT-80 luggage scanning equipment.

- Increased efficiency by implementing **APPLICATION 139** computer-based work order system to assign, track, and review airfield safety inspections and repairs and maintenance work orders.

- Saved **$258,769** after refinancing an existing loan for construction of the **SITE N HANGARS**.

- **SAVED ENERGY & ELECTRICITY** costs by retrofitting incandescent lights in terminal building and Hangars with LED lights.

- Completed the design phase of the proposed new terminal to address FAA safety requirements and create room for future growth.

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*SLO County Airports is an enterprise fund, which means its source of funding comes from charging user fees from service rather than the General Fund.

**Number of passengers is based the calendar year 2014, while the remaining data is based on FY 2013-14.**

---

**SERVED 3 DESTINATIONS WITH 14 DAILY FLIGHTS**

- **6 daily to LA**
- **5 daily to SF**
- **3 daily to Phoenix**

---

**STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**
1,481 PARTICIPANTS who live and/or work in San Luis Obispo County and an additional 1,711 who either didn't identify or live or work in other counties.

98% OF PARTICIPANTS report a useful gain of knowledge about productive living, protecting natural resources, and/or economic prosperity.

1,602 4-H CLUB MEMBERS (one of the largest 4-H programs in California) in 28 separate local 4-H clubs

26% of 4-H club members enroll in 4-H leadership projects

1,223 people attended monthly Master Gardener Advice to Grow By workshops

1,266 people attended other Master Gardener workshops or events

MASTERS GARDENER VOLUNTEERS DONATE 5,659 HOURS

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
How do we allocate resources?

**Budget**
- 28%
- 31%
- 41%

- Natural Resource Conservation
- Agricultural Sustainability
- Youth and Family Development

**Staff**
- 25%
- 25%
- 50%

Statistics provided by the County of San Luis Obispo.

This infographic shows how the Farm Advisor allocates its budgetary and staff resources.
SLO COUNTY LIBRARIES AT A GLANCE

TOTAL BUDGET: $8.7 MILLION
TOTAL STAFF: 70.5 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

15 BRANCHES
290,427 BOOKS AVAILABLE

13,786 eBooks and 7,232 audio books available
116,658 total digital downloads for fiscal year 2013-14

74,050 MEMBERS (54,162 active in last 2 years)

1,398 COMMUNITY EVENTS with 43,350 participants

1 MOBILE APP to give the public greater access to the library catalog as well as eBooks and other digital media.

2,436,658 items circulated fiscal year 2012-13
2,374,207 fiscal year 2013-14

4,183 kids participated in Summer Reading Program
527 adults participated in Adult Reading Programs

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Image 1 of 1 - Here's a glance at how SLO County Libraries impacted SLO County and its residents in 2014.
How do we allocate resources?

BUDGET

- Parks Facilities: 77%
- Golf Courses: 23%

STAFF

- 76%
- 24%

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
Financials

Revenue
County operations and service are funded by a variety of different revenue sources. The chart below displays the percentage of total revenue contributed by each revenue category. Additional information related to each major source is pane can be found in the FY 2014-15 Final Budget.

Expenditures
Expenditures by Functional Area*
FY 2014-15 Final Budget
Total: $545.8 million

Credit Rating
The County is in stronger financial position that it was when it entered the Great Recession several years ago, and its credit ratings are a testament to careful management of the County’s finances by employees and elected officials.

every year, the County’s Combined Treasury Pool Investment is rated by credit rating agencies based on its overall financial health. In 2014, the County received high ratings from two nationally recognized rating organizations, Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services (S&P). The ratings consider the County’s overall financial health. The County’s Combined Treasury Pool Investment received the highest credit rating issued by Fitch Ratings in 2014. The AAA rating, which means the County’s “Aaa” rating, reflects the credit quality and diversification of the underlying assets in the County’s portfolio and proper management and operational practices. The “Aaa” rating reflects the low risk and a strong capacity to return principal value to partners in an adverse interest rate environment.

Debt Obligations
Maintaining low debt levels is important in ensuring the long-term financial stability of the County. State law sets the County’s legal debt limit at 1.25 percent of the County’s total assessed value. However, the County has established a lower debt limit for itself. The County’s target is to keep the annual debt service below the General Fund. As of December 1, 2014, the County’s bonds were at 6.0 percent and the County’s debt levels remain below the statutory maximum.

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About the 2014 Annual Report
The County of San Luis Obispo’s 2014 Annual Report is a collection of reports from various departmental that highlight significant accomplishments as well as the challenges it faced in County Government in 2014. Read on to enjoy and share it with your family, friends and neighbors.
Solving Our Water Challenges

Water challenges impacted the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors agendas more than any other single issue in 2014.

Throughout the year, the County worked to better understand and address its water challenges and develop sustainable near- and long-term solutions. These water challenges include:

1. Its geographic location and conditions. The County is a relatively dry area of California and is subject to uncertain and highly variable hydrologic conditions.

2. Water supply and demand imbalances. Increased competition for finite water supplies coupled with the constantly changing, growing agricultural, urban, and environmental water demands create a challenging planning environment. Local surface water supplies are limited, and imported water supplies (i.e., State Water Project) are expensive and subject to hydrologic variability. Groundwater has been relied upon too heavily, leading to the need for increased and sustainable management to maintain both water quantity and quality.

3. Lack of funding. With a low and dispersed population, the region has limited ability to generate local funds to develop new projects and faces challenges in identifying regional opportunities to take advantage of economies of scale.

4. Limiting regulations. Regulatory requirements and processes, and permitting constraints have limited potential project opportunities, such as desalination.

Unfortunately, the region and state was also plagued by the worst drought on record in 2014, magnifying existing water issues at the local level. As a response to the drought conditions, the County formed a Drought Task Force with representatives from a variety of County departments and agencies who were tasked with monitoring drought conditions and developing appropriate responses to maintain water safety, supply, and compliance with the public.

In October 2014, the Drought Task Force held Water Summit 2014 to report on the drought conditions, challenges, and responses. Various presentations were provided by county wide staff, and best practices were shared with the public.

Near-term Actions

The following near-term actions addressed the immediate impacts of drought conditions facing the County in 2014. County Staff:

- Established emergency back-up plans should a community run out of water.

- Prepared for extreme fire conditions and developed plans that identified alternative water supplies to fight fires in certain areas in the event of a potential shortage of water.

- Reduced water usage at county facilities, parks and grounds. A water audit the visit was conducted with a focus on water efficiency opportunities at County facilities, parks, and golf courses.

- Identified high-risk areas and created regional plans to address concerns in various communities, including Cambria, San Luis Obispo, Morro Bay, and the Ynez Valley.

- Developed company plans that provide potable water for residents whose wells are running dry.

- Provided information resources to farmers and ranchers.

Long-term Actions

The County focused on longer-term actions to address imbalances in water supply and demand. In 2014, Staff focused on a number of long-term actions, some of which have continued into 2015. These include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying the highest risk groundwater basins in the County (Level of Priority I basins).

- Implementing the Paso Robles groundwater emergency ordinance, which requires increased water use for new development or irrigated agriculture be offset with water revenue.

- Implementing water offset programs for new developments in multiple areas within the County.

- Providing input and closely tracking State regulations that were recently passed (the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014) that requires more rigorous groundwater management, implementation efforts are underway.

- Creating plans to best utilize our surface water resources.

- Conducting studies to identify options for additional water supply to the County.

- Preparing a resolution and accompanying application materials for submission to the Local Agency Formation Commission for the formation of the Paso Robles Basin Water District.

- Updating countywide water conservation measures.

As drought conditions and water issues persist in our region, County staff and elected officials will continue to forge ahead and develop solutions for the community that will last.

Get the Latest Drought Updates

What Do You Think?

What do you think of the 2014 Annual Report? We want your feedback. Please take a moment to fill out our brief online survey.

Take the Survey

Contact Info

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About the 2014 Annual Report

The County of San Luis Obispo’s 2014 Annual Report features stories from various departments that highlight significant achievements as well as the challenges SOLCO faced in 2014. Read it online and share it with your family, friends and neighbors.

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Exceeding Affordable Care Act Expectations

Last year, the County of San Luis Obispo faced one of the most significant initiatives ever to affect the local health care system—The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The County was tasked with implementing the ACA, and multiple departments worked together to better understand the law, how it should be implemented and the overall effects it would have on local residents.

Thousands Receive Health Care Coverage

As a result of the passage of the ACA in March 2010, thousands of uninsured San Luis Obispo County residents became eligible for coverage under either an expanded Medi-Cal program or under new low-cost or subsidized insurance programs offered by Covered California—the state’s version of the federally required health exchange.

Under the ACA, the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services (DSS) was responsible for determining the eligibility of local residents applying for Medi-Cal coverage through Covered California.

With an additional 22 staff members and state-allocated funding of about $2.2 million, DSS exceeded California Department of Health Care Services expectations. County staff processed 44 percent more Medi-Cal applications than expected, for a total of 13,170 applications representing 18,424 County residents.

The County also exceeded Covered California enrollment projections by at least 50 percent, with a total of 12,256 residents enrolling for coverage.

“We understand that the Affordable Care Act is a controversial topic, but we don’t have the luxury of having an opinion; we are only charged with implementing it,” said Director of Social Services Lee Collins. “Our staff has done an amazing job at that, and we’ll continue to work with other County departments to meet the health care needs of local residents.”

By August 2014, one out of nine SLO County residents, or more than 30,000 people had applied for coverage under the ACA. County staff was responsible for processing the majority of these applications.

Prior to January 2014, an estimated 43,000 County residents, or near 16 percent, lacked health insurance. Reasons for the lack of health insurance included the cost being unaffordable, inequality or pre-existing health condition or undocumented immigration status, or general indigence.

Through the coverage mandate under the ACA, health insurance became available and required for the vast majority of those previously uninsured. More than 90 percent of Covered California enrollees from SLO County received federal premium subsidies available to households with incomes less than 400 percent of the federal poverty limit, and previously uninsured residents could no longer be denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition, among other important changes.

Assisting Special Populations

In addition to the thousands of people who applied for health care coverage in SLO County, special populations are also transitioning to Medi-Cal thanks to new eligibility requirements. County staff continue to identify and work with these special populations to help the transition move more smoothly.

As of August 2014, 150 County Jail inmates and 2,880 Indigent County residents—about 240 of whom received cash assistance or General Assistance each month—were eligible and applied for Medi-Cal with the help of County staff. Watch the full August 2014 staff report on the status of ACA implementation.

In September 2014, the County’s Health Agency also reported that the ACA affected the availability of health services in two important ways: (1) low-income childless adults not previously eligible for Medi-Cal were now eligible, and (2) behavioral health services were now mandated benefits for people living with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

These changes presented significant implications for many of the County Health Agency’s health care service delivery programs, including its Medically Indigent Services Programs, Mental Health Services, and Substance Use Disorder Services. To address these issues, County Health Agency staff rallied and worked with other departments and stakeholders to ensure that the medical needs of our community continued to be met.

As the County moves forward and continues to implement and be impacted by the ACA, County staff will continue to provide status reports and updates to the Board of Supervisors and the public, as well as increase its own understanding of new benefits available and previous gaps that have been addressed to implement the law.

Read the full September 2014 staff report on the effects of the ACA on health services in San Luis Obispo County.
Managing Effects of Public Safety Realignment

The state mandated Public Safety Realignment act at 90% (90%) to continue the impact of the state of Los Obispo in 2014 to cut county departments effectively collaborate with each other and communities to overcome and understand 100% changes and take advantage of opportunities presented by this shift in responsibility.

In 2014, SLO County managed 100% impacts on county jail, as well as probation supervision, and had developed innovative programs to reduce reoffenses. The Community Corrections Partnership (CCPP) of San Luis Obispo County is responsible for planning and implementing 100.

“One of the challenges for this year is that the shift funding from the State is lower than it was last year, and our Community Corrections Partnership has been in the mode of budgeting and setting some funding aside from previous years of forgoing,” said County Administrative Officer Dan Buckholz.

The CCPP has a primary goal: to maintain public safety, improve offender success rate in order to reduce reoffending and to increase allowable interventions and resources that support for 100 offenders. The partnership needs monthly to monitor the County’s reintegration plan and reports annually to the Board of Supervisors and the public with an overview of achievements and challenges. One major challenge is the impact of 100 on 100%.

Because 100 offenders rose to the same elevation as the jail instead of state prison, the population of the jail increased significantly, rising an average daily population of 100 in June 2014 and 1000 by January 2016. The jail population increased 12 percent between 2015 and 2016, yet the rate of increase has decreased each year compared to the previous year. This was estimated that 100 of the 100 population at any given time is an 100 offender.

Working to Decrease Recidivism at County Jail

County jail has been significantly impacted by 100 in more ways than one. Jackson was sent to men’s work release program for the past 12 months, facility dusted to the learning center for the possible provision for more space for high-risk medium-security inmates.

Jail culture has been affected also; what inmates are coming longer sentences are impacted by 100. County jail is now congested with prison and gang politics, which were previously seen in state prisons. Capt. Michelle Cole of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Office told the board of supervisors in 100 presentation.

Although jail has presented challenges in the past three years, it has also created a lot of opportunities for different staff to institute new programs to decrease recidivism. jail, case, case example.

Recidivism is one of the most fundamental concepts in the criminal justice system and refers to a person’s re-entry into criminal behavior. The Correctional Institute for Women is one of the many custodial institutions that develop and implement programs designed to help women offenders in the development of their cognitive processes, computer classes, budgeting and credit counseling, yoga, art, gardens projects, Alzheimer’s Anorexia and Nervosa Anorexia, mental recidivism which is a cognitive process of an 100 offender, parenting classes, and other programs, based on the evaluation, in an effort to help offenders avoid criminal behavior once they are released.

“One of our largest successes at the jail has been working with a lot of our community and community partners,” Cole said, adding that one of the many challenges we present the jail programs to inmates, which is a collaborative effort between the Sheriff’s Office, County Probation Department and County Behavioral Health Department to identify high-risk inmates and provide the treatment and tools they need to transition back into the community.

Working with Increased Probation Caseloads

The County Probation Department’s caseload increased after 100 created two new programs under the departments supervision: post-release community supervision offenders and split sentenced mandatory supervision offenders.

The department has responded to the increased workload with innovative programs and creative solutions, including the implementation of evidence-based recidivism programs to reduce re-offend rates. Municipal reform is a key pillar in county probation and programs to take additional programs into housing units, such as drug and alcohol counseling, parenting classes and anger management courses.

As a result, County jails will focus higher and more consistent program participation among inmates. Additionally, 16 percent of residents who received drug/alcohol treatment while in custody in 100 will also go on to continue drug and alcohol treatment in the community upon release.

At the same time, the Behavioral Health department will successfully post-release behavioral health treatment services, and case management services for the health care expansion. The department has added new release treatment services, recently released offenders within weeks that follow Offender Mentorship to facilitate placement and support treatment programs in the community, and the Probation and Behavioral Health departments collaborate with several community partners to offer additional services and resources as needed, including employment services, vocational training, substance abuse, rehabilitation programs, and transportation services, and transportation services.

The County will continue to address challenges and take advantage of opportunities presented by the Public Safety Realignment Act by fostering further collaboration between departments and community partners to develop effective ways to achieve the goals outlined in the County’s Investment Plan.

Read the full story report on implementation of the Public Safety Realignment Act for other details on those programs and their outcomes.

What is 100?
In 2014, the Public Safety Realignment act led 100 offenders in the State of California to comply the responsibility for the incarceration and community supervision of offenders and penalties consisted of certain lower-level offenses, defined as non-violent, non-serious and non-registered sex offenders. Along with severe law changes came funding from the State to counties, and each county developed a plan for how it would implement these changes in a way that better served local communities.

About the 2014 Annual Report
The County of San Luis Obispo 2014 Annual Report highlights significant findings for the challenges, SLO County in 2014, in Respond, and in your family, friends, and neighbors.

What do you think?
What do you think of the 2014 Annual Report? Let us know your feedback. Please take a couple of minutes to complete our brief survey.

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Addressing Homelessness

Finding the Path Home

Nearly 3,000 people are homeless in San Luis Obispo County at any given time over the course of a year. To address this, the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors and staff strengthened relationships with key community partners to implement the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

Collaboration between agencies addressing homelessness reached an all-time high in 2014. The Board of Supervisors approved $4.1 million in new funding, staff managed several ongoing programs and services to encourage self-sufficiency, and together they worked with partner agencies to create innovative programs that help homeless families and individuals obtain permanent shelter.

New Program Tries ‘Housing First’ Approach

At the recommendation of staff and the Homelessness Oversight Council (HOUC), the County Board of Supervisors approved $1.5 million over three years to fundTransitions Mental Health Association (TMDA) in August 2014 to implement a new program called SIMW.

The program provides housing for 50 SLO County most vulnerable, chronically homeless men and women whose health conditions put them at increased risk of dying on the streets. By the end of this year, the SLOWKE placed 15 of the County’s most vulnerable homeless people into housing.

By focusing on housing these individuals, the County no longer pays money on services that the most vulnerable homeless persons a community tend to use in disproportionate amount, such as hospital, and emergency room visits and ambulance transports, but the County is also gaining them better life.

TMDA mirrors a national Housing and Urban Development (HUD) movement to provide housing first, followed by treatment and other essential services. Organized and funded by the County’s Department of Social Services in partnership with TMDA, Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO) and other homeless service providers, the program is a courageous effort to house the most vulnerable, chronically homeless persons. The new program is part of the County’s broader efforts to reduce homelessness and improve health outcomes for all residents.

Additionally, in July 2014, the County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a $400,000 contribution to the CAPSLO Trust Fund to be used toward the development and construction of a new Homeless Services Center at Paso Road.

The funds will be used entirely for the development and construction of the center, addressing three of the four following critical priorities of the County’s Civilian Plan to End Homelessness:

1. Making access to affordable housing to put an end to homelessness.

2. Coordinating prevention and effective intervention programs that would help stop homelessness before it begins. It is targeting community partnerships and resource-sharing and supportive services.

3. Coordinating all programs and the financial structure to support effective plan implementation.

CAPSLO Trust Fund’s final goal is to continue to operate a new Homeless Services Center that will provide 180 beds with separate spaces for family, women and men, as well as the capacity to accommodate on average 75 individuals on an emergency basis. The estimated cost of the project is about $4.1 million, and community needs for design and fundraising should be completed in June 2015.

Additional Funding for Services to Homeless

Along with the above-mentioned $400,000, the County of San Luis Obispo will provide the $1.5 million Housing Support Program and the $50,000 contribution to the Homelessness Services Center, the County provides essential services to the homeless population and financial support to nearly all local homeless service programs. The County currently spends approximately $8 million annually to meet the administrative requirements of federal grant programs and to provide direct services to homeless individuals. In addition, the County spends more than $50 million annually to fund other health and human services programs that serve low-income and homeless individuals, in order to reduce the incidence of homelessness and encroaching sufficiency.

County Social Service programs provide everything from temporary cash assistance to nutrition assistance for needy families, county health agency programs offer a full range of specialty mental health services, drug and alcohol dependency prevention and treatment, access to health care for those without medical coverage, and the county also pays for $1,000 of dental care services for those who are otherwise without health insurance. In addition, the County provides $134 million in benefits to nearly 200,000 eligible families.

The County also continues to manage nearly $1.6 million in federal grants that it allocates to various homeless services organizations providing shelter, homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services, low-income housing, direct services, and rental assistance services to homeless individuals. In the county, at the same time, the County allocated $510,000 in discretionary funds toward various homeless programs.

County staff, elected officials and community members make great strides in 2014 to address homelessness and will continue to work collaboratively on the collective issues facing SLO County, concluding with the ultimate goal of ending homelessness in San Luis Obispo County.

As the community moves toward the goal of eliminating homelessness, County staff and elected officials will continue to work with community partners and citizens to make progress on this issue and to help those people who are less fortunate to obtain shelter and sustenance.

For more on how the County contributes to the effort to serve homeless individuals in our community, read pages 6 through 9 of this staff report.