Message from DYS Director Harvey Reed

Strategies and Tools to Enhance Probation

June 6, 2018

Carey Guides Training in Holmes County

DYS is backing training on evidence-based probation approaches to equip county professionals with strategies and tools they can use as they work with youth to address their needs and make positive changes in their lives.

David Williams, Chief Probation Officer in Holmes County and member of the Executive Board for Chief Probation Officers Association, was one of 30 participants in a training on Carey Guides that took place in May.

“Of the available interventions, we chose Carey Guides as it provides a framework for appointments beyond just reporting,” Williams said. “Clients receive pages of homework to get them thinking. It’s hands-on, colorful, and engaging without being overpowering.”

According to Williams, one of the advantages of Carey Guides is that it is beneficial for working with both youth and adults.

“In juvenile probation, we often deal with parents and children in need of help. Carey Guides is designed for both and focuses on providing tools and skill building.”

This fiscal year, DYS has offered approximately $320,000 in RECLAIM funding to train 42 counties to enhance probation services using evidence-based approaches. The goal has been to improve outcomes for low-risk youth who should be diverted from probation as well as those higher risk youth in need of a resource probation approach. Beginning in 2020, DYS will only fund evidence-based probation approaches rather than traditional supervision probation.

Training sessions began in May and continue through September, most of which bring together court personnel (juvenile and some adult) from multiple counties and departments. In addition to
Carey Guides, sessions on Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS), Motivational Interviewing, and Core Correctional Practices have been scheduled. Knox and Holmes Counties were the first to participate in training. Additional sessions will be held in Lake, Clark, Shelby, Greene, Madison, Montgomery, Williams, Hancock, Jackson, Adams, Clermont, Hamilton, and Marion Counties.

All training sessions are designed to give probation professionals the information and tools they need to support positive change in youth. Later this year, follow-up training sessions and other quality assurance measures will be implemented. For additional information, please contact Tony Panzino, Bureau Chief of Courts and Community Services, at (614) 752-8131 or at Tony.Panzino@dys.ohio.gov.