



2010 MACCAC Legislative Platform

MACCAC strongly encourages, at a minimum, the Legislature and the Governor maintain current levels of funding for local supervision of offenders in the community.

At a time when cuts to state services may be unavoidable, funding for alternatives to expensive prison and jail beds is needed more than ever. The MACCAC Board of Directors believes this is a time to consider modest increases in state funding for community supervision in an effort to minimize the use of prison and jail beds. The foundation of Minnesota's public safety net is probation, parole, and supervised release. Minnesota has more than 141,000 people under some form of community supervision, with less than 10,000 in prison. Minnesota is able to ensure the safety of the public in a very cost effective manner, thus leaving public funds for other services. The success of the community supervision model in Minnesota is a result of a system that relies not only on state funding, but also substantial county funds. If we are to continue our success, we need to maintain our capacity to supervise offenders in the community without creating an undue burden on the counties that manage and fund the system. Supporting the use of probation, parole, and supervised release versus prison and jail is a cost-effective model that has resulted in Minnesotans having a safe place to live, work, and raise their children.