



2012 MACCAC Legislative Platform

MACCAC strongly encourages the Legislature and the Governor to invest in the cost effective model of community supervision of offenders as an efficient solution in these difficult times.

- Community supervision is proven effective in protecting public safety at a lower cost than incarceration.
- Funding for community supervision has been flat over the last decade and has fallen well behind other areas of the criminal justice system.
- Investments in community supervision will allow for appropriate management of offenders and protection of the public through effective delivery of services.
- The branches of the criminal justice system are truly interdependent. Lack of investment in one branch results in negative consequences for the overall system. If community supervision is not funded sufficiently to be effective, there will be negative impact on the prisons, courts, and other criminal justice partners.

MACCAC believes the efficiency and effectiveness of our correctional system can be improved through the implementation of Evidenced Based Practices.

- Evidence Based Practices (EBP) is correctional practices that have been proven effective, through scientific study.
- The 2011 “Study of Evidenced-Based Practices in Minnesota; Report to the Legislature” suggests several system wide changes worthy of consideration.
- Many EBP implantation efforts are underway but could use additional support. These include:
 - Offender Risk and Needs Assessments
 - Case Planning Strategies
 - Targeted Interventions
 - Quality Assurance

Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties

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2012 MACCAC Policy Positions

Community Corrections Act (CCA) Jurisdictions

MACCAC supports the addition of CCA counties with full and ongoing state funding.

MACCAC supports adoption of legislation that would allow counties to contract with a CCA jurisdiction for delivery of correctional field services. Currently counties are only allowed to contract with the Department of Corrections. This restricts options for small counties that may not be able to meet existing criteria for entry into the CCA act, yet desire the cohesive delivery of field services that is provided with the CCA system.

MACCAC supports changes to M.S. 401.06, which currently requires the Commissioner of Corrections to review CCA comprehensive plans annually, and CCA jurisdictions to prepare and submit either a full or interim plan each year. Preparation of these plans on such a frequent basis is costly and burdensome to participating counties at a time when resources are scarce. MACCAC recommends that comprehensive plans be submitted and reviewed every five years, with only outcome measurements of the strategic plan reported annually.

Alcohol Impact Fee for Probation and Treatment

MACCAC supports alcohol tax increases to more closely reflect the health and public safety costs related to alcohol and other drug abuse (including prescription and over-the-counter drugs) and alcohol and drug-related injuries. Additional state funding is needed in key areas of chemical dependency prevention, screening, treatment and aftercare, and probation supervision.

Re-Entry

MACCAC supports the development and implementation of comprehensive initiatives and expanded transitional housing to assist juvenile and adult offenders' reintegration back into their communities and reduce recidivism and its public costs.

Juvenile Stays of Adjudication

MACCAC supports the option of longer periods of stayed adjudication for juvenile offenders in order to allow greater assessment and treatment of juveniles before an adjudication decision is made. At a minimum, the initial stay should not include the same collateral sanctions as adjudication. Lengthened stays of adjudication will enhance public safety by increasing the amount of supervision to ensure responsivity to community based education and treatment.

Sex Offender Supervision

MACCAC supports legislation that takes a statewide approach to regulating offender behavior by monitoring their activities when they are awake rather than restricting where they can sleep. MACCAC supports increased state funding for local implementation of any enhanced state standards for the supervision of sex offenders.

Juvenile Sex Offender Registration

MACCAC supports revised juvenile sex offender registration requirements that focus on the appropriate group of the most serious offenders.

Drug Courts

MACCAC supports statewide access to the adult drug court model when implemented and maintained utilizing evidence based practice and providing service to high risk and high need offenders in Minnesota, to the extent that it does not negatively impact other sources of field services funding.