

# APPA AWARDS

# **Sam Houston State University Award**

#### **Barbara Broderick**

Chief Probation Officer Maricopa County Adult Probation Dept. Phoenix, AZ

#### **Wendy Still**

Chief Probation Officer Alameda County Probation Dept. Oakland, CA

#### **Stephen Raphael**

Professor Goldman School of Public Policy University of California, Berkeley

"Building Trust and Legitimacy Within Community Corrections", written by Wendy Still, Barbara Broderick and Steven Raphael provides a road map for practitioners to get support and funding for community corrections. Not only does it provide six principles that can lead to reform but it also provides documentation to support the principles. This article can be used by administrators as they make budget requests, or with policymakers to counteract taking community corrections in a direction that is not only unproductive, but has been shown to not work. The authors point out that even though community corrections already supervises four million individuals, it is perhaps the most promising option for reducing unnecessary incarceration, helping states avoid prison overcrowding lawsuits, and improving public safety outcomes. While this recognition has been acknowledged by many policymakers, the authors take it to the next level by pointing out that such a policy shift will likely increase the average offense severity and risk level of probation caseloads as well as workload size and, as such, requires the strategic use of resources. This is the road map for community corrections in the 21st century.

### Joe Kegans Award for Victim Services in Probation and Parole

#### **Denise Pena**

Manager
Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
Victim Services Unit
Portland, OR

Denise is the manager of the Multnomah County
Department of Community Justice Victims Services unit.
In that role, she has built a unit that provides responsive services to victims of crime for both the adult and juvenile divisions. She serves on the Attorney General's Victims Task Force and is recognized throughout the state as a leader in the area of victims' services. Her unit has developed specialized knowledge in serving victims of domestic violence and commercial sexual exploitation.

Most recently she has been the driving force in the development of a statewide collaboration to develop an automated victims portal called the Case Companion. This portal, which uses information from the district attorney's office, the Department of Corrections, the Parole Board, and probation and parole supervision files allows victims to access the information they want at the point in the process they choose to do so.

Denise has a passion, commitment, and strategic awareness that has allowed Multnomah County to serve victims in a compassionate and effective manner.

## APPA Award for Excellence in Community Crime Prevention

#### **NeON Arts**

New York City Dept. of Probation New York, NY

NeON Arts is an innovative, community-based model of providing access to free, high quality arts education, programming, and cultural opportunities to residents of socioeconomically-challenged neighborhoods. It is a public-private partnership between the Deptartment of Probation (DOP) and Carnegie Hall, an internationally acclaimed, NYC-based music and cultural institution.

NeON Arts has become deeply ingrained in the daily function of the DOP. All NeON Arts programs are free to people under probation supervision, all other community residents, and even probation staff. NeON stakeholder groups—comprised of a diverse array of community members which include local community-based organizations, clergy, families, probation clients, probation staff, and business owners—choose the artists and arts projects they feel would bring the most value to their own communities. Through a participatory budgeting process, the

stakeholders directly fund artists and organizations to develop projects that help young people build positive peer relationships as well as creative, social, and emotional skills.



# affa awards

#### Scotia Knouff Line Officer of the Year Award

**Tiffany Whittier**Probation Officer
Pinal County Adult Probation, AZ



Tiffany Whittier is an outstanding probation officer with the Pinal County Adult Probation Department in Casa Grande, Arizona. Tiffany has served the citizens of Pinal County for nearly 12 years. A variety of assignments have allowed Tiffany to become an exceptionally skilled probation officer.

She currently oversees a caseload of probationers participating in a drug court program. Working with probationers battling addiction has become Tiffany's passion. She works daily to help the probationers and their families cope with addiction and see how they can live drug-free and build a better life. Tiffany brings an incredible contagious enthusiasm to her work.

Because of her compassion, empathy, and dedication, she is a constant source of positivity for probationers, co-workers and community partners. Nicknamed "Life Saver," Tiffany is known and respected by members of the community, law enforcement, co-workers, judicial officers and community partners for her high-quality work, integrity, dedication, and 'never quit' attitude.

#### **Greg Moore**

Juvenile Probation Officer Lehigh County Juvenile Probation, PA



At a time of such substantial change and well-needed reform in the juvenile justice system, Greg is having a tremendous influence over others while demonstrating his strength as a leader among his peers. But what Greg is most dedicated to is trying to help create an environment of change among the youth and family he serves and the community in which he works.

With such significant change and the implementation of new research-based initiatives over the years, we often see our more tenured staff struggle to embrace these new ways. However, Greg is an example of precisely what we hope to see among our probation officers—a willingness to keep their eyes and ears open, to be informed and educated on these changes, to be engaged in the discussions around change initiatives, and to always remember that our goal is to create a safer community by developing stronger, confident, and more competent youth.

Greg demonstrates all of these things, but as a juvenile probation officer in Lehigh County, it is the qualities that Greg has as an individual which make him stand out and excel as a probation officer. Anyone having the opportunity to interact with Greg, whether personally or professionally, cannot come away from the conversation anything other than impressed.



**Member of the Year Award** 

**Carmen Rodriguez** 

Senior Training Specialist
Cook County Adult Probation Department, IL

Carmen epitomizes the spirit of this award; she possesses the work ethic and energy that allows her to consistently make meaningful contributions to APPA. She embraces both the vision and mission of APPA and at every opportunity, she supports and promotes the association.

For more than 17 years, Carmen served as a member of APPA's Executive Committee; during that time, she held several positions, including President. Carmen continues to work relentlessly on behalf of APPA including helping to draft its Strategic Planning Vision document.

As an active member, one of her many contributions to APPA includes serving as a faculty member for the Leadership Institute. In this role Carmen assists with developing customized curriculum; facilitates the Diversity, and Leadership and Encouragement modules; and serves as a mentor to future leaders. Carmen is extremely passionate about the Leadership Institute, as she sees value in identifying and developing future leaders within the community corrections field.



Walter Dunbar Memorial Award

Scott Taylor

Director (Ret.)

Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, OR

Scott Taylor began his career in the criminal justice field over 40 years ago and has been a leader at the county, state and national levels throughout that time. He recently retired as Director at Multnomah County Department of Community Justice (DCJ), where he spent over ten years innovating and improving the community corrections services delivered by this department.

Throughout his career he has been a real catalyst for change. While at the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC), he began an initiative to increase success for inmates transitioning from prison to community. He brought together DOC employees, local criminal justice system representatives, and community members to create real and comprehensive system change.

While Director at Multnomah County's Department of Community Justice (DCJ), he has implemented many evidence-based practices that reduce the risk of future criminal behavior for the adults and youth on supervision. A prime example is the implementation of Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS). The implementation of EPICS has resulted in an organizational and cultural shift, reshaping how DCJ invests resources and how each supervising officer works with offenders to focus on their individual risk factors.