

Blue Earth County Community Corrections

2024-2025 Comprehensive Plan



Blue Earth County Justice Center

401 Carver Road

PO Box 3245

Mankato, MN 56002-3245

Phone: 507-304-4750

Fax: 507-304-4710

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Introduction

A. History

Blue Earth County is a business and population regional center located in south-central Minnesota. There is tremendous historical significance and honor to the Native American influence and culture of the area when noting the names of the county and primary city. Blue Earth is a translation from the Dakota word “Mahkato” which means “greenish blue earth.” Primary importance to the county is its many rivers, streams, and lakes which were natural highways and a byway traveled by the Native Americans who have lived in the region for hundreds of years.

B. Geography

Established in 1853, Blue Earth County is 75 miles southwest of Minneapolis-St. Paul and is easily accessed from Minnesota Highway 169 which passes north to south through the entire county. Blue Earth County has 23 townships and 11 cities with a total population in 2022 of 69,631. The area is heavily agricultural with some of the best agricultural areas in the nation with over 447,200 acres of farmland. Top production crops include corn and soybeans. Blue Earth County is also a hog producer as well as a significant producer of beef, milk, and canning products. It is currently the 13th most populous county in Minnesota.

C. Demographics and Statistics (Population Estimates from 2022 U.S. Census Bureau)

County Population:	69,631
Population Under 18:	19.5%
Per Capita Income:	\$35,182
Median Household Income:	\$70,906
Persons Living in Poverty Status:	14.9% (Statewide avg. is 9.6%)
White, not Hispanic:	85.5%
Black or African American:	5.2%
Native American, Asian, Hispanic, Other:	9.3%

D. Economy

Blue Earth County’s median household income is \$70,706 which is below the state’s median income of \$84,313. The percentage of households living below the poverty guidelines is 14.9%; again, a higher rate than the statewide average of 9.6% and the national rate of 11.5%.

Administration and Organization of Correctional Services

Our Mission

To promote the safety of all citizens by assisting in building offender competencies through increased community collaboration and to help restore the victim's sense of security when affected by crime.

Our Values

- *Human dignity and respect for all persons*
- *Partnering in cooperation and collaboration*
- *Establishing practices that are based on evidence and driven by data to reduce recidivism*

The Blue Earth County Board is made up of five elected county commissioners who set policy for the Blue Earth County government. Community Corrections is administered by a Director, who is accountable to the County Administrator and the County Board. The County Administrator is the chief executive of the county and implements Board policy and oversees all Blue Earth County departments.

Responsibilities

The **County Board** sets policy, sets salaries, and appoints boards and committees. Through its County Administrator, the Board has the overall responsibility for administering all state and federal funds within the Department of Community Corrections.

The **Community Corrections Director** has daily overall responsibility for the operation of the department. The Director reports to the County Administrator on all administrative and fiscal matters. Program decisions are recommended by the Judiciary, the Advisory Board, or the Director to the County Administrator and County Board.

An **Advisory Board**, appointed by the County Board, serves in an advisory capacity to the County Board, the Judiciary, the County Administrator, and the Corrections Director. The Advisory Board is responsible for providing input into the annual Comprehensive Plan and Strategic Plan. Members are encouraged to be involved in program planning, evaluation, and development. Ongoing committee discussion is encouraged to maintain efforts at improving the delivery of correctional services to Blue Earth County.

The **Judiciary** serves as an advisory body to the County Board and the Community Corrections Director. They, along with our correctional clients, are the key clientele the Department of Community Corrections strives to serve.

Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners – 2024

Patty O'Connor	District 1
Vance Stuehrenberg	District 2
Mark Piepho	District 3
Kevin Paap	District 4
Kip Bruender	District 5

Judges of The Fifth Judicial District

Serving the Blue Earth County District Court

- The Honorable Mark E. Betters
- The Honorable Krista J. Jass
- The Honorable Kristine Weeks
- The Honorable Gregory Anderson
- The Honorable Andrea Lieser

Advisory Board Members – 2024

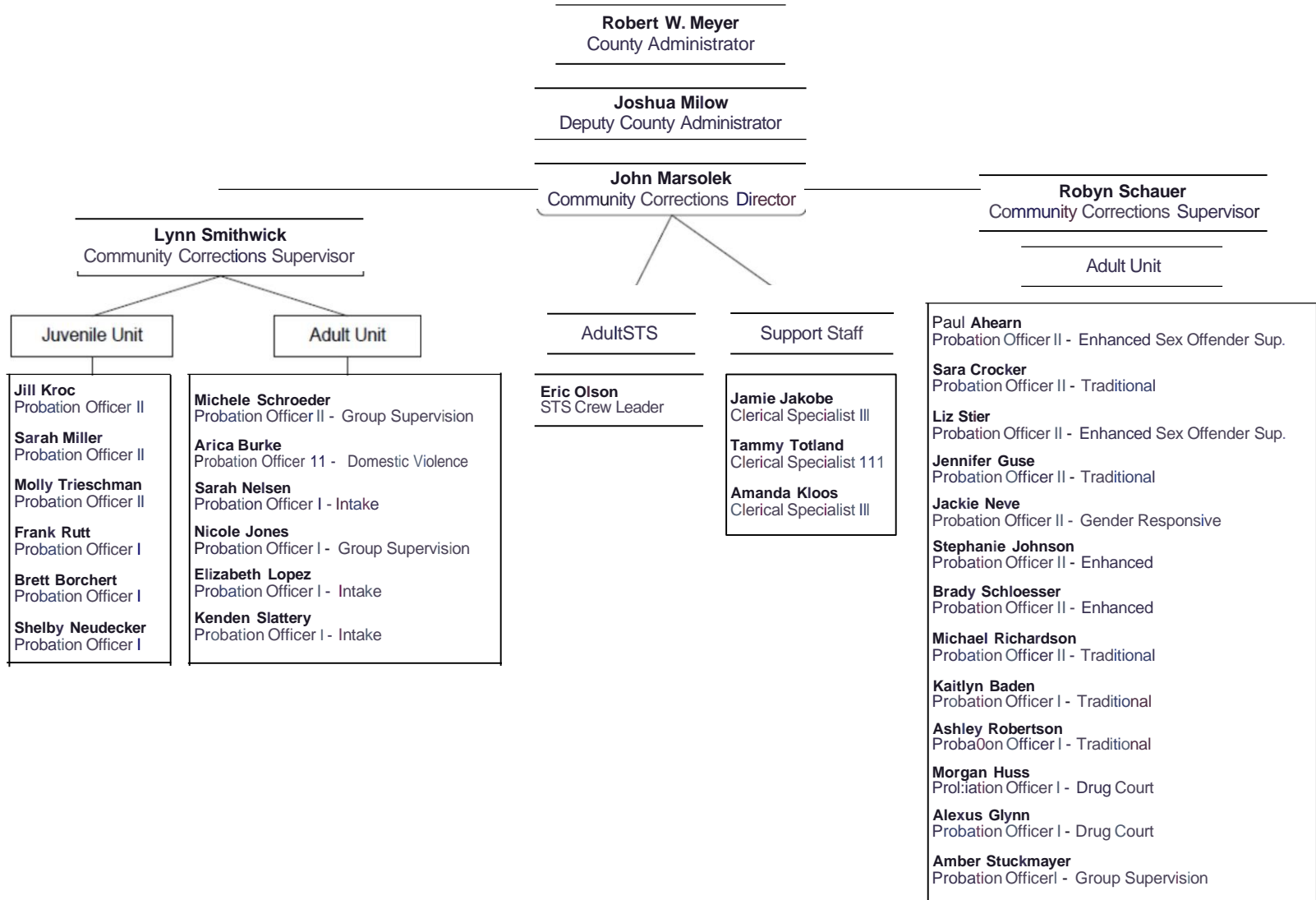
Pat McDermott	County Attorney	Blue Earth County
Darrin Ewert	Assistant Jail Administrator	Sheriff's Department
Linda Isebrand	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 4
Krista Jass	Judge	5th Judicial District

Vee Williams	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 4
Matt DuRose	Mankato Public Safety	Law Enforcement
Carie Robb	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 2
Scott Cutcher	Public Defender	5th Judicial District
Ben Honsey	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 5
Sara Rose	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 4
Jessica Mclaughlin	Education	MN State University-Mankato
Steve Lenz (Chair)	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 2
Julie Stevermer	HS Supervisor	Human Services
Tamera Hansen	Citizen Member	Commissioner District 4
Paul Ahearn	Probation Agent	Blue Earth County
Mohamed ALSadig	Citizen Member	Greater Mankato Diversity Council

Vance Stuehrenberg	County Commissioner	Ex-Officio Member
John Marsolek	Corrections Director	Ex-Officio Member
Sarah Eischens	DOC District Supervisor	Ex-Officio Member

Blue Earth County Community Corrections Organizational Chart

Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners



Community Corrections Staff

ADMINISTRATION

Marsolek, John	Community Corrections Director
Schauer, Robyn	Community Corrections Supervisor
Smithwick, Lynn	Community Corrections Supervisor

ADULT CORRECTIONS

Ahearn, Paul	Probation Officer II	Sex Offender Supervision
Baden, Kaitlyn	Probation Officer I	Traditional Caseload
Burke, Arica	Probation Officer II	Domestic Caseload
Crocker, Sara	Probation Officer II	Traditional Caseload
Glynn, Alexis	Probation Officer I	Drug Court
Guse, Jennifer	Probation Officer II	Traditional Caseload
Huss, Morgan	Probation Officer I	Drug Court
Johnson, Stephanie	Probation Officer II	Enhanced Supervision
Jones, Nicole	Probation Officer I	Group Supervision
Lopez, Elizabeth	Probation Officer I	Intake Unit
Nelsen, Sarah	Probation Officer I	Intake Unit
Neve, Jackie	Probation Officer II	Gender Responsive
Olson, Eric	Sentence to Serve	STS Crew Leader
Richardson, Michael	Probation Officer II	Traditional/Veteran's
Robertson, Ashley	Probation Officer I	Traditional Caseload
Schloesser, Brady	Probation Officer II	Enhanced Supervision
Schroeder, Michele	Probation Officer II	Group Supervision
Slattery, Kenden	Probation Officer I	Intake Unit
Stier, Liz	Probation Officer II	Sex Offender Supervision
Stuckmayer, Amber	Probation Officer I	Group Supervision

JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

Borchert, Brett	Probation Officer I	Traditional Caseload
Kroc, Jill	Probation Officer II	Traditional Caseload
Miller, Sarah	Probation Officer II	Traditional Caseload
Neudecker, Shelby	Probation Officer I	Traditional Caseload
Rutt, Frank	Probation Officer I	Traditional Caseload
Trieschman, Molly	Probation Officer II	Traditional Caseload

SUPPORT STAFF

Jakobe, Jamie	Clerical Specialist III	Clerical
Kloos, Amanda	Clerical Specialist III	Clerical
Totland, Tammy	Clerical Specialist III	Clerical

Staff Training

An internal training committee is chaired by a Probation Officer II with participation on the committee from a cross-section of the agency. The committee's goal is to bring a minimum of 20 hours of evidenced-based training to the county each year. Some training is specific to our organization while other training is opened to other county agencies and surrounding corrections professionals. Each agent is expected to receive a minimum of 40 hours of training per year, with clerical expected to complete 8 hours of training annually.

The committee prioritizes booster sessions for EBP topics as well as special-interest topics for members of the office. Our agency also has staff that have been trained in their discipline as trained trainers and curriculum facilitators. This includes Case Planning, Motivational Interviewing, MITI Coding, LSCMI, YLS, Carey Guides, Thinking for a Change, Moving On, Decision Points, Domestic Violence, and Physical Control Tactics/Search and Seizure. Most recently we had staff become trained trainers in Decision Points, and they are now training others in this curriculum around the state.

The department has also recently formed a safety committee. This committee is chaired by a Probation Officer II and has four members. They are reviewing incident reports, discussing training opportunities, and two of them are planning to become trained safety trainers.

Volunteers/Interns

The Joint Opportunities to Learn and Thrive (JOLT), a collaborative program with Minnesota State University-Mankato (MSU-M), continues to operate. This is a program in which college students enrolled in college corrections course work can receive college credits by receiving experiential learning through our agency. Students are assigned to probation staff to assist in probation work throughout the school year and also work with the YMCA to mentor youth through their programming. The program begins the school year with training and education from our probation staff, the YMCA and MSU faculty; and after training is completed, they begin working within the department.

Our agency also utilizes interns with approximately two or three interns accepted throughout the year.

Research and Evaluation

Our agency continues to partner with Minnesota State University-Mankato for data analysis and evaluation. No current research projects are currently being conducted through the University.

We have a small group of staff currently conducting exit surveys with clients and have collected information on this topic to ensure they are delivering quality service.

Overview of Supervision Population

ADULT DEMOGRAPHICS

	2023	2022	2021
Pretrial	496	467	447
Probation	1,296	1,336	1,448
Supervised Release	78	85	77

Pretrial

	2023	2022	2021
Male	379	366	362
Female	117	101	85
White	342	332	307
Black	138	126	127

Probation

	2023	2022	2021
Male	944	989	1,088
Female	352	347	360
White	823	888	1,009
Black	295	293	292

Hispanic	50	66	88
Non-Hispanic/Unknown	1,246	1,270	1,360

Supervised Release

	2023	2022	2021
Male	65	78	67
Female	13	7	10
White	61	58	53
Black	16	24	22

Caseloads – Open Clients at Year-End					
	Drug Court	Sex Offender	Diversion	Group/ Administrative	Enhanced
2023	56	86	29	386	66
2022	41	94	33	406	59

Risk Level Breakdown – Adult Probation Clients

Risk	Very Low Adult	Low Adult	Medium Adult	High Adult	Very High Adult
*Number	2	101	73	98	28
% total	.01%	33.3%	24.1%	32.4%	9.2%

***Data from 12/31/23 on 302 clients was available for this report. This is less than 25% of the open clients per the Probation Survey Report.**

Percent of Adult Cases Successfully Closed

Year	2022	2023
% Successful	92.2%	94.7%
% Unsuccessful	7.8%	5.3%

JUVENILE DEMOGRAPHICS

	2023	2022	2021
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*Pretrial	48	73	54
Probation	147	145	132

***INCLUDES TRUANCY CASES**

Probation

	2023	2022	2021
Male	87	84	82
Female	60	61	50
White	62	67	73
Black	47	56	37
Hispanic	5	3	6
Non-Hispanic/Unknown	142	142	126

Risk Level Breakdown – Juvenile Probation Clients

Risk	Low Juvenile	Medium Juvenile	High Juvenile	Very High Juvenile
*Number	27	32	12	1
% total	37.5%	44.4%	16.6%	1.4%

***Data from 12/31/23 on 72 clients was available for this report.**

Caseload Sizes

Beginning in 2017, additional focus was placed on Truancy Supervision with more youth being supervised in the summer with a priority placed on those required to attend summer school. Previously, we have had juvenile caseloads averaging 25-30; however, the average caseload has now increased to 35-55 while also taking on additional tasks within the unit such as diversion, group/admin, and programming. We have added two additional juvenile agents in the past few years as well as another supervisor that oversees the juvenile unit.

Agents are assigned to specific schools to establish a good working relationship with that school's administration. The breakdown of Truancy to Delinquency varies depending on the school and age of the students. Generally speaking, agent assigned to middle schools are more likely to have truancy cases and agents working at the alternative school settings are more likely to have delinquency cases. Overall, the truancy to delinquency breakdown is approximately 50% of each.

Percent of Juvenile Cases Successfully Closed

Year	2022	2023
% Successful	100%	100%
% Unsuccessful	0	0

Due to the nature of how cases are closed within the juvenile unit, all cases show that they were discharged “successfully”. Ongoing discussions are taking place on how to track case closures for future versions of the Comprehensive Plan.

Strategic Plan

The community Corrections Department alongside of the Advisory Board have establish the following strategic plan goals.

Our goals address the needs of our agency by first identifying the risk and needs of the clients we serve. After correctly assessing, the clients can be moved to another caseload to receive the appropriate supervision and the client can receive programming specific to their risk and needs.

Additionally, the strategic plan goals include a continued emphasis on victim work. The department has done various work on this topic in the past few years and continues to work to make sure victims are treated with dignity and respect. The last goal to be added to the plan is related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The department has hosted various training and continues to seek additional training on this topic.

An ongoing goal of the plan has been related to outcomes. This will be a continued focus moving forward given the new expectations related to the comprehensive plan.

Goal: Promote public safety by identifying client needs and promoting their competency.

Action Initiative: Identify criminogenic needs by having staff training in a risk assessment tool with yearly booster and proficiency scoring.

Responsibility: Probation Officer and Management Team.

Timeline: Yearly audit of agent training records to determine completion.

Measurement: Percentage of staff trained in risk assessment and receiving yearly booster and proficiency scoring.

Goal: Promote public safety by addressing offender criminogenic needs.

- A. Action Initiative: Staff will be trained in case planning and have the ability to complete case plans on high-risk clientele.

Responsibility: Probation Officers and Management Team.

Timeline: Yearly audit of training records to determine completion.

Measurement: Percentage of staff trained in case planning and yearly boosters.

- B. Action Initiatives: Effectively communicate with clientele by utilizing Motivational Interviewing to elicit the process of change.

Responsibility: Probation Officers and Management Team.

Timeline: Ongoing.

Measurement: Percentage of staff trained, completing boosters and completion of coded tape in a year.

Goal: Help restore the victim's sense of security.

- A. Action Initiative: Increased relationships with victims' service agencies in an effort to collaborate to provide quality services to victims.

Responsibility: Management Team and Probation Officers.

Timeline: Ongoing.

Measurement: Develop meetings with agencies to coordinate services and programming to assist victims and offenders.

- B. Action Initiative: Provide victim specific training to become more cognizant of victim issues.

Responsibility: Training committee and Management Team.

Timeline: Annually.

Measurement: Training held on victim specific issues at a minimum of annually.

Goal: Increase and improve agency collaboration with our partners to improve service delivery.

A. Action Initiative: Build relationships with stakeholders to increase collaboration and communication.

Responsibility: All Staff.

Timeline: Ongoing.

Measurement: Consistent meetings with stakeholders will take place throughout the year.

B. Action Initiative: Improve relationships by offering shared training to our collaborative agencies.

Responsibility: Training committee and Director.

Timeline: Ongoing.

Measurement: Provide at least 8 hours of training a year that can be offered in concurrence with our system partners.

Goal: Have a well-trained staff that is developed and up-to-date in all new practices and research.

Action Initiative: Staff will complete a minimum of 40 hours of training per year with the training committee offering a minimum of 20 hours per year.

Responsibility: Training committee and Management Team.

Timeline: Ongoing.

Measurement: Completion of 40 hours of training per agent and 20 hours of locally offered training.

Goal: Develop relevant outcome measures to determine the quality of work being done by the agency.

A. Action Initiative: Provide accurate caseload data and work task numbers on a yearly basis to determine proper resource allocation.

Responsibility: Management Team.

Timeline: Yearly.

Measurement: Yearly statistics on caseload, investigations and work tasks

compiled to determine proper workload allocation.

- B. Action Initiative: Work with staff and advisory board to determine new outcome measures that would benefit the agency.

Responsibility: Director, Advisory Board and Staff.

Timeline: Reviewed with advisory board and staff meetings.

Measurement: New outcome measures tracked upon identification of the agency and Advisory Board.

Goal: Promote strategies related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within the agency.

Action Initiative: Complete trainings offered related to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Identify and assess agency needs following trainings.

Responsibility: All Staff.

Timeline: Ongoing

Measurement: Completed trainings

Pretrial, Diversion, and Other Services

Pretrial/Conditional Release

The agency completes statutorily mandated bail studies using the MNPAT/MNPAT-R in addition to other offenses that are completed locally as part of an agreement with the Bench. The agency Director co-chaired the statewide MNPAT-R implementation committee over the past two years. A team of staff in the agency complete the tool.

The agency has three types of individuals that would be open and subject to supervision on pretrial/conditional release. They would include individuals that have a condition of release to do drug testing, are on alcohol monitoring or GPS as a condition of release or are subject to furlough. The agency started to supervise furlough cases over the past two years as individuals were being released from the jail without posting bail or bond and were not supervised in the community. Our agency believed it fit within the mission to open these cases and ensure compliance with the Court order.

Right now tasks associated with bail studies and conditional release are delegated to

juvenile, drug court, traditional, and intake agents. There is a plan that these tasks will be centralized with the addition of a new agent in 2024.

Diversion

Diversion - Juvenile

The juvenile diversion program is conducted by an agent who works with the youth and parents to set up needed services with the youth. Services may include a referral for substance abuse education, mental health services, and/or community work service. Services may also include individualized cognitive skills education. The County Attorney has expanded this program to include additional offense to the divertible list.

Diversion - Adult

The adult diversion program operates under Minnesota Statute 401.065. When signing the diversion agreement, the defendant waives their right to a speedy trial, acknowledges responsibility for the offense with which they are charged, and must agree to comply with the conditions of the contract. Conditions are established by the prosecuting attorney and this department. Failure to comply with the conditions and complete the contract is cause to refer back to the prosecuting authority.

Pre-Sentence Investigation/Post-Sentence Investigation

Most adult investigations are completed by the adult intake unit. The Intake unit is comprised of three staff that complete pre-sentence investigations for the agency. This unit also provides supervision of cases sentenced directly from the bench without an investigation. This unit provides initial supervision and upon completion of assessments would determine if the clientele would be supervised by an administrative or traditional probation officer.

Juvenile Pre-Disposition Investigations

The juvenile unit is comprised of six agents that will complete pre-disposition reports. The unit is also responsible for preparing for detention hearings and completing Extended Juvenile Jurisdiction Reports and Certification Studies.

Core Interventions and Evidence-Based Practices Programming

Risk/Needs Assessment - Adult

The LSCMI is utilized by the entire agency to complete risk/need assessments. A LSI-RSV is also used as a prescreen tool for cases sentenced from the bench. If the client score above two on the prescreen, they will have a full LSCMI completed. Assessments are also completed at the investigation stage of our involvement with the client or within 30 days of any case directly assigned probation with a prescreen above two or on supervised release from prison. Reassessments are to be completed yearly to determine if criminogenic needs are being addressed and to place the offender under the correct supervision level.

Offenders are classified minimum, medium, maximum or enhanced depending on the scores of the completed LSCMI and supervision history. Misdemeanor person offenses, gross misdemeanor non-DWI, and felony files all receive the standard LSCMI for classification purposes. Non-person misdemeanor cases directly assigned supervision from the court are not assessed and are sent directly to the administrative/paper supervision caseload.

Specialized risk assessments are completed in the Intimate Partner Violence and Sex Offender caseloads. Intimate Partner cases utilize the DVI and the ODARA in addition to the LSCMI. The Sex Offender supervision unit utilizes the STABLE and STATIC99 in addition to the LSCMI to assist in supervision of their clientele. The Gender-Specific caseload utilizes the Women's Risk Needs Assessment (WRNA).

Gender Responsive Supervision

Gender responsive supervision and programming is active in our agency. One agent provides supervision and also facilitates the Moving On curriculum and handles a caseload of around 40 clients. This specialized supervision was implemented to better serve our female clientele and be more responsive to their needs. The agency had additional facilitators trained in the Moving On curriculum in the past year.

Enhanced Supervision

This caseload is designed to supervise approximately 35 offenders in an effort to increase supervision and focus on criminogenic needs. This caseload is designed to supervise offenders with a high or very high LSCMI score, crimes of violence, and a history of supervision failures. The goal of this caseload is to keep offenders in the community by focusing on offenders' needs and to also hold them accountable in an effort to provide public safety to the community.

Enhanced Sex Offender Supervision Program

This unit handles all supervision for sex offenders in our agency. Recently, another Probation Officer was trained in basic sex offender supervision specifically to write sex

offense Pre-Sentence Investigations. Typically, this caseload has approximately 50 individuals on supervision. Supervision levels are set based on input of the LSCMI, STABLE and STATIC99. Psychosexual evaluations are mainly provided by Riverside Psychological Services. Outpatient sex offender treatment is completed primarily by CORE Professional Services and the agency has started using a new provider, New Path, for virtual outpatient services. Both programs have staffing and expertise to properly treat clientele within the community. The staff in this unit work very closely with the sex offender treatment staff to provide supervision to our clientele.

Treatment Court Supervision

Our agency provides supervision to clientele in our Drug Court and Veteran's Courts. The Drug Court is a hybrid model that accepts DWI and any other non-violent offense in which the client is chemically dependent. Currently our agency has two Probation Officers working with the Drug Court. The Veteran's Court is operated throughout the 5th Judicial District and serves Southwest Minnesota. One probation officer is assigned to work with Veteran's Court. The Court had employed an outside case manager, but our department took that over in 2021. The probation officer oversees Blue Earth County participants and provides veteran related services and case management to all participants in the program.

Field Services - Traditional

Traditional probation officers primarily perform supervision for the courts and the Minnesota Department of Corrections. The focus of the traditional unit is on medium and high-risk clientele within the community with the bulk of investigative writing assigned to the Intake Unit. Average caseload sizes have been between 60-70 individuals.

Minimum Supervision

LSCMI assessments showing minimum-supervision level are transferred to the Group Supervision/Administrative caseload. When on group-reporting status, the offenders are required to report to their agent quarterly. Offenders on administrative supervision are not required to report to the office in person.

Medium Supervision

If the offender is a medium-supervision case, the case is assigned to one of the five traditional adult probation officers. There is the requirement that the offender have at least one face-to-face meeting with the probation agent each month. Other collateral contacts and employment or home checks are also required per agency policy and procedures. Other conditions of an offender's probation supervision contract and case plan would be determined depending on the offense committed, the degree of risks, and needs the offender presents as indicated by the LSCMI.

Maximum Supervision

If the offender is classified as maximum supervision, the case is also supervised by the traditional probation officers. The offender is required to report for a face-to-face meeting with the probation agent every three weeks. In addition, probation agents are required to complete at least one home visit on a quarterly basis while on this supervision status.

Group Reporting/Administrative Supervision

This program handles our low supervision probation caseload by moving minimum probation supervision cases to a separate reporting unit. This position does not complete PSI's and does not supervise offenders on an enhanced or medium supervision basis. All supervision is minimal, although the offenders may be adult probation cases of felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor offense levels. During COVID, this supervision transferred from in-person quarterly reporting to quarterly reporting via telephone. The quarterly meetings consist of verifying conditions are complete as well as obtaining up-to-date personal information data. This caseload has an average of 500 individuals on supervision.

Cognitive Behavioral Programming

Our agency provides cognitive skills programming and has groups for male and female clientele. As mentioned earlier Moving On has been implemented to provide programming to our female clientele within Blue Earth County. Several staff have been trained in the curriculum and are facilitating the program. We have been facilitating for around five years. Our agency has staff trained in Decision Points and this has become the preferred cognitive program for Blue Earth County over the past year. We have increased our number of facilitators in order to allow for staff to rotate facilitating. We have explored adding this programming to the jail but at this time we will continue to focus on clients in the community.

Our agency provides one on one cognitive programming in the form of Carey Guides and other Core Correctional Practices. We have access to the Tools on Devices which allows the guides to be assigned to clients for completion.

Offender Housing

Offender housing can be a challenging endeavor for many of our clientele on supervision. Most offenders can secure housing but residency restrictions continue to be added in local jurisdictions that limit the ability of many sex offenders to secure housing. We do still have many landlords willing to rent to clientele on supervision and emergency housing funds through the Department of Corrections are also beneficial to provide stable housing.

The region has a couple homeless shelters and also there are multiple sober houses and board and lodges for transitional housing.

Risk/Needs Assessment – Juvenile

The YLS 2.0 is the risk assessment tool utilized by our organization. Policy dictates that assessments must be done within 30 days of disposition and reassessed every 6 months on juvenile caseloads. There has been a concerted effort to keep traditional caseload manageable and focus services on medium and high-risk juvenile clientele. Juvenile agents are also trained in Motivational Interviewing, Level I and II as well as case-planning in an effort to make effective use out of the risk/needs assessment. We have one staff trained as a master trainer in the YLS 2.0 who assists with staff training and quality assurance.

The YLS prescreen is also utilized by the agency. Should the client meet criteria for a full YLS then that will be completed as dictated by policy.

The juvenile unit also utilizes the MAYSI to assess mental health needs. Over the past two years the unit has put an emphasis on completing MAYSI's in both Delinquency and Truancy cases.

Probation Services by Risk Level/Programming - Juvenile

The agency has utilized the risk principle in providing service to clientele in our community. We have removed programming for low-risk clientele in an effort to focus services on the high-risk youth. Low-risk youth have been removed from programming where they may interact with high-risk clients and have only been provided services and referrals if it appears they had a domain that was in need.

Our agency provides one on one cognitive programming in the form of Carey Guides and other Core Correctional Practices for juveniles. Agents will utilize thinking reports, essays, and apology letters as part of case management.

Services include outpatient chemical dependency treatment, sober school, psychological evaluations, counseling, and mental health case management. Day treatment programs in the community are operated by Prairie Care and Christian Family Solutions. Responsivity of gender and ethnic factors are considered by providers when providing programming to our clientele within the community and facilities. There is also outpatient sex offender-specific treatment located within the community offered through CORE Professional Services. Prior to out-of-home placement, the juvenile screening team is utilized to assist in case-planning to identify community resources.

Our agency utilizes community-based foster care when possible to keep the juvenile in the community and to receive resources where they reside. Our county continues to recruit foster homes to serve adolescents as this is historically a difficult population to place. Foster care is seen as a less-restrictive, low-cost option as it compares to other out-of-home placements.

Juvenile Institutions

The state facility at Red Wing continues to house juvenile males. Blue Earth County has always viewed the state institutions as a last resort and will continue to use the least-restrictive options when appropriate.

Our county utilizes Carver County as a primary facility to provide secure detention services for our community. We also utilize Anoka County, Prairie Lakes Youth Programs, and Dakota County for secure residential services when needed. There continues to be a lack of available beds for secure detention and residential services. Our agency has contracts with both Carver County and Prairie Lakes Youth Programs for one secure bed at both facilities.

Our county utilizes the Village Ranch continuum of services and the Scott County Juvenile Alternative Facility for non-secure programming options.

Victim Concerns

Service to victims is built into the mission of the agency. The strategic plan includes a goal that is to restore the victim's sense of security. Our department's approach to work with victim's has shifted over the past few years. This includes working to address restitution. The agency has been proactively working with clients to set up regular payment plans and having clients ordered to fill out financial disclosure forms per statute. The agency has been extending or violating probation in cases where restitution has not been paid.

The agency has also been a partner with CADA(Committee Against Domestic Abuse) to address victim' suggestions and concerns. The agency partners with CADA as part of the Blue Earth County Blueprint for Safety.

Correctional Fees

Correctional fees have been utilized to support staffing needs within the agency. The vast majority of the fees imposed are supervision fees. The agency also assesses fees for diversion and cognitive programming. Cognitive programming fees are waived as an incentive for successful completion of the program. Even though new legislation states that fees will be eliminated, the agency will continue to assess fees at this time. The agency also has a waiver process for clients that meet statutory criteria to have their fees waived.

2022 Fees Imposed Data:

Fee Type Imposed:	Amount:
Adult Supervision Fees	\$212,265
Juvenile Supervision Fees	\$9,300
Drug Court Supervision Fees	\$10,440
Cog Skills Fees	\$7,325
Diversion Fees(adult and juvenile)	\$6,375
Total Fees Imposed	\$245,705
Total Supervision Fees Collected	\$144,746

2022 Fees Waived Data:

Adult Supervision Fees	\$22,227
Juvenile Supervision Fees	\$1,958
Drug Court Supervision Fees	\$1,820
Cog Skills Fees	\$3,700
Diversion Fees	\$475
Total Fees Waived	\$30,180

Correctional fees are a one-time fee, per uninterrupted supervision period, per client.

Adult:

Felony offender or SR 1+year:	\$360
Gross Misdemeanant offender:	\$300
Misdemeanant offender or SR 6-12 months:	\$225
Drug Court:	\$360

Juvenile:

All offense categories:	\$75
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Program Fees: Diversion:

Adult:	\$75
Juvenile:	\$50
Decision Points	\$75
Moving On	\$75

Color Code Testing: Per month

Red:	\$40
Green:	\$30
Blue:	\$20

Out-of-County Color Code Testing: Per month

Red:	\$80
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Green:	\$60
Blue:	\$40

Contracted Services and Proposals for New Services

Contract Services/Grants and Related Services		
Grants/Contracted Service	Source	2024 Estimated Revenue
Adult – Remote Electronic Alcohol Monitoring	MN DOC	\$15,000
Adult – Sentence To Service	MN DOC	\$25,828.54
Adult – Treatment Courts	MN DOC	\$142,000

The agency has used the REAM grant for the past few years. This grant helps DWI offenders pay for costs associated with alcohol monitoring if they meet basic criteria. The agency does not track outcomes for the REAM grant.

The agency has a contract with the state to operate a Sentence to Service program. We currently have one STS crew leader who is employed by Blue Earth County. The crew leader monitors adult offenders sentenced by the judge for Sentence to Service. Due to the COVID pandemic, hours completed in 2020 decreased significantly. Since that year, the number of hours completed has increased each year.

Sentence To Service

Hours Completed	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
STS	4,448	3,632	3,540	2,312	7,634	8,266
Value of work \$10/hour 2018-2022 \$15/hour 2023	\$66,720	\$36,320	\$35,540	\$23,120	\$76,340	\$82,660

The agency will continue to explore opportunities for new services. We continue to utilize a lot of resources to the supervision of Truancy cases and are looking at alternative options for the supervision of some of these cases.

Budget/Budget Narrative

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET
(nearest dollar)

County/Group: Blue Earth
Budget Year: 2024

Consolidated Budget

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				3,822,420
Service & Contractual				342,300
Travel				22,295
Training				10,049
Supplies & Materials				24,500
Capital Outlays				0
*Other Services (specify below)				258,443
Direct Budgeted Expenses	2,206,618	2,078,289	195,100	4,480,007
Use of State Institutions	0	0	0	0
Total Budgeted Expenses	2,206,618	1,995,264	195,100	4,480,007

Budget for Subsidy Program: Administration

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				302,404
Service & Contractual				38,300
Travel				1,850
Training				
Supplies & Materials				12,500
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				258,443
Direct Budgeted Expenses		613,497		613,497
Use of State Institutions				0
Total Budgeted Expenses		613,497		613,497

County/Group: Blue Earth
 Budget Year: 2025

Consolidated Budget

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				4,033,611
Service & Contractual				342,300
Travel				22,295
Training				10,049
Supplies & Materials				24,500
Capital Outlays				0
*Other Services (specify below)				258,443
Direct Budgeted Expenses	2,206,618	2,289,480	195,100	4,691,198
Use of State Institutions	0	0	0	0
Total Budgeted Expenses	2,206,618	2,289,480	195,100	4,691,198

Budget for Subsidy Program: Administration

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				322,404
Service & Contractual				38,300
Travel				1,850
Training				
Supplies & Materials				12,500
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				258,443
Direct Budgeted Expenses		633,497		633,497
Use of State Institutions				0
Total Budgeted Expenses		633,497		633,497

County/Group: Blue Earth
 Budget Year: 2025

Budget for Subsidy Program: Court and Field Services

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				3,500,464
Service & Contractual				287,500
Travel				19,445
Training				10,049
Supplies & Materials				11,500
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	2,206,618	1,517,240	105,100	3,828,958
Use of State Institutions				0
Total Budgeted Expenses	2,206,618	1,272,670	105,100	3,828,958

Budget for Subsidy Program: Specialty Court (Drug, DWI, Etc.)

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				210,743
Service & Contractual				16,500
Travel				1,000
Training				
Supplies & Materials				500
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses		138,743	90,000	228,743
Use of State Institutions				0
Total Budgeted Expenses		138,743	90,000	228,743

*OTHER SERVICES (FUNDING SOURCE SPECIFIED)		
Program Name	Description	Amount
Administration	A.S. Reimbursement	185,475
Administration	General Insurance	50,371

2024 PAYROLL

Project # 20241
Level # 5

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 2024 as of 12/5/2023**

Report #: B504

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HCSP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS									
250 - ADMINISTRATION									
241 MARSOLEK, JOHN COMCOR DIR	1.00	121,808	0	7,552	1,766	9,136	18,171	79	158,512
993 SMITHWICK, LYNN COMCOR SUP	0.50	41,320	0	2,562	599	3,099	9,085	27	56,692
5975 SCHAUER-WIEBERS, ROBYN COMCOR SUP	0.50	54,787	0	3,397	795	4,109	9,085	27	72,200
0101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2.00	217,915	0	13,511	3,160	16,344	36,341	133	287,404
250 - ADMINISTRATION	2.00	217,915	0	13,511	3,160	16,344	36,341	133	287,404

Project # 20241
Level # 5

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 2024 as of 12/5/2023**

Report #: B504

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HCSP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
260 - COURT SERVICES									
107 AHEARN, PAUL PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,120	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,874
361 HUDSON, STEPHANIE PO II	1.00	88,384	0	5,480	1,282	6,629	18,171	31	119,977
366 SCHLOESSER, BRADY PO II	1.00	84,841	0	5,260	1,230	6,363	18,171	31	115,896
401 RICHARDSON, MICHAEL PO II	1.00	85,431	0	5,294	1,238	6,407	18,171	31	116,572
448 BURKE, ARICA PO II	1.00	85,244	0	5,285	1,236	6,394	18,171	31	116,361
478 STUCKMAYER, AMBER OFF COORDI	1.00	62,664	0	3,885	909	4,700	18,171	31	90,360
550 NELSEN, SARAH PO I	0.10	7,947	0	492	115	597	1,817	3	10,971
563 WHITNEY, KAITLYN PO I	1.00	79,112	0	4,905	1,147	5,933	18,171	31	109,299
601 JONES-WILLIAMS, NICOLE PO I	1.00	77,324	0	4,794	1,121	5,799	18,171	31	107,240
608 JORDAN (ROBERTSON), ASHLEY PO I	1.00	77,181	0	4,785	1,119	5,789	18,171	31	107,076
653 HUSS, MORGAN PO I	1.00	70,836	0	4,392	1,027	5,312	18,171	31	99,769
806 TRIESCHMAN, MOLLY PO II	1.00	75,371	0	4,645	1,086	5,653	18,171	31	104,957
869 TOTLAND, TAMMY CL SPECIII	1.00	54,163	0	3,358	785	4,063	18,171	31	80,571
882 BORCHERT, BRETT PO I	1.00	72,341	0	4,485	1,049	5,425	18,171	31	101,502
918 LOPEZ, ELIZABETH PO I	1.00	71,714	0	4,446	1,040	5,378	18,171	31	100,780
946 NEUDECKER, SHELBY PO I	1.00	69,471	0	4,278	1,001	5,211	18,171	31	98,163
993 SMITHWICK, LYNN COMCOR SUP	0.50	41,320	0	2,562	599	3,099	9,086	28	56,694
1059 GLYNN, ALEXUS	0.10	6,814	0	423	99	511	1,817	3	9,667

Project # 20241
Level # 5

BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 2024 as of 12/5/2023

Report #: B504

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HCSP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
PO I									
1061 KLOOS, AMANDA CL SPECIII	1.00	53,234	0	3,301	772	3,992	18,171	31	79,501
1070 SLATTERY, KENDEN PO I	1.00	66,793	0	4,141	969	5,009	18,171	31	95,114
1345 CROCKER, SARA PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,117	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,871
2448 GUSE-PIERSKALLA, JENNIFER PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,120	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,874
2929 JAKOBE, JAMIE CL SPECIII	1.00	66,581	0	4,125	965	4,994	18,171	55	94,891
3700 KROC, JILL PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,117	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,871
4340 STIER, ELIZABETH PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,120	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,874
4674 MILLER, SARAH PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,120	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,874
4920 NEVE, JACQUELINE PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,120	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,874
4996 OLSON, ERIC ADULT STS	1.00	78,463	0	4,865	1,138	5,885	18,171	55	108,577
5770 RUTT, FRANK PO I	1.00	79,736	0	4,944	1,156	5,980	18,171	31	110,018
5975 SCHAUER-WIEBERS, ROBYN COMCOR SUP	0.50	54,787	0	3,397	794	4,109	9,086	28	72,201
6070 SCHROEDER, MICHELE PO II	1.00	98,717	0	6,120	1,431	7,404	18,171	31	131,874
10019 VACANT010019, PROBATION OFFICER I (FT) PO I	1.00	66,477	0	4,122	964	4,986	18,171	31	94,751
0101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	29.20	2,365,965	0	146,618	34,289	177,450	530,594	978	3,255,894
260 - COURT SERVICES	29.20	2,365,965	0	146,618	34,289	177,450	530,594	978	3,255,894

Project # 20241
Level # 5

BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 2024 as of 12/5/2023

Report #: B504

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HCSP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
262 - DRUG COURT									
550 NELSEN, SARAH PO I	0.90	71,526	0	4,435	1,037	5,364	16,354	28	98,744
1059 GLYNN, ALEXUS PO I	0.90	61,327	0	3,802	889	4,599	16,354	28	86,999
0101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1.80	132,853	0	8,237	1,926	9,963	32,708	56	185,743
262 - DRUG COURT	1.80	132,853	0	8,237	1,926	9,963	32,708	56	185,743

Project # 20241
Level # 5

BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 2024 as of 12/5/2023

Report #: B504

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HCSP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	33.00	2,716,733	0	168,366	39,375	203,757	599,643	1,167	3,729,041

2025 PAYROLL

Project # 11111
Level # 1

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 1111 as of 12/18/2023**

Report #: B503

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HSCP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS									
250 - ADMINISTRATION									
241 MARSOLEK, JOHN COMCOR DIR	1.00	125,441	0	7,777	1,819	9,409	18,171	79	162,696
993 SMITHWICK, LYNN COMCOR SUP	0.50	42,552	0	2,638	617	3,192	9,085	27	58,111
5975 SCHAUER-WIEBERS, ROBYN COMCOR SUP	0.50	56,424	0	3,499	818	4,231	9,085	27	74,084
ADMINISTRATION	2.00	224,417	0	13,914	3,254	16,832	36,341	133	294,891

Project # 11111
Level # 1

**BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 1111 as of 12/18/2023**

Report #: B503

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HSCP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS									
260 - COURT SERVICES									
107 AHEARN, PAUL PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,303	1,474	7,625	18,171	31	135,263
361 HUDSON, STEPHANIE PO II	1.00	91,031	0	5,644	1,320	6,827	18,171	31	123,024
366 SCHLOESSER, BRADY PO II	1.00	87,379	0	5,418	1,267	6,554	18,171	31	118,820
401 RICHARDSON, MICHAEL PO II	1.00	87,988	0	5,455	1,276	6,599	18,171	31	119,520
448 BURKE, ARICA PO II	1.00	87,795	0	5,443	1,273	6,585	18,171	31	119,298
478 STUCKMAYER, AMBER OFF COORDI	1.00	64,542	0	4,002	936	4,840	18,171	31	92,522
550 NELSEN, SARAH PO I	0.10	8,185	0	508	119	613	1,817	3	11,245
563 WHITNEY, KAITLYN PO I	1.00	81,483	0	5,052	1,182	6,111	18,171	31	112,030
601 JONES-WILLIAMS, NICOLE PO I	1.00	79,643	0	4,938	1,155	5,973	18,171	31	109,911
608 JORDAN (ROBERTSON), ASHLEY PO I	1.00	79,495	0	4,929	1,153	5,962	18,171	31	109,741
653 HUSS, MORGAN PO I	1.00	72,950	0	4,523	1,058	5,472	18,171	31	102,205
806 TRIESCHMAN, MOLLY PO II	1.00	77,618	0	4,787	1,120	5,821	18,171	31	107,548
869 TOTLAND, TAMMY CL SPECIII	1.00	55,774	0	3,458	809	4,183	18,171	31	82,426
882 BORCHERT, BRETT PO I	1.00	74,508	0	4,620	1,080	5,588	18,171	31	103,998
918 LOPEZ, ELIZABETH PO I	1.00	73,858	0	4,579	1,071	5,540	18,171	31	103,250
946 NEUDECKER, SHELBY PO I	1.00	71,546	0	4,407	1,031	5,366	18,171	31	100,552

Project # 11111
Level # 1

BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 1111 as of 12/18/2023

Report #: B503

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HSCP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS									
260 - COURT SERVICES									
993 SMITHWICK, LYNN COMCOR SUP	0.50	42,552	0	2,638	617	3,191	9,086	28	58,112
1059 GLYNN, ALEXUS PO I	0.10	7,018	0	435	102	526	1,817	3	9,901
1061 KLOOS, AMANDA CL SPECIII	1.00	54,817	0	3,399	795	4,111	18,171	31	81,324
1070 SLATTERY, KENDEN PO I	1.00	68,791	0	4,265	997	5,159	18,171	31	97,414
1345 CROCKER, SARA PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,300	1,473	7,625	18,171	31	135,259
2448 GUSE-PIERSKALLA, JENNIFER PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,303	1,474	7,625	18,171	31	135,263
2929 JAKOBE, JAMIE CL SPECIII	1.00	68,570	0	4,248	994	5,143	18,171	55	97,181
3700 KROC, JILL PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,300	1,473	7,625	18,171	31	135,259
4340 STIER, ELIZABETH PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,303	1,474	7,625	18,171	31	135,263
4674 MILLER, SARAH PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,303	1,474	7,625	18,171	31	135,263
4920 NEVE, JACQUELINE PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,303	1,474	7,625	18,171	31	135,263
4996 OLSON, ERIC ADULT STS	1.00	80,737	0	5,006	1,171	6,055	18,171	55	111,195
5770 RUTT, FRANK PO I	1.00	82,123	0	5,092	1,191	6,159	18,171	31	112,767
5975 SCHAUER-WIEBERS, ROBYN COMCOR SUP	0.50	56,424	0	3,498	818	4,232	9,086	28	74,086
6070 SCHROEDER, MICHELE PO II	1.00	101,659	0	6,303	1,474	7,625	18,171	31	135,263
10019 VACANT010019, PROBATION OFFICER I (FT)	1.00	68,466	0	4,245	993	5,135	18,171	31	97,041

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HSCP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS									
260 - COURT SERVICES									
PO I									
COURT SERVICES	29.20	2,436,565	0	151,007	35,318	182,745	530,594	978	3,337,207

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HSCP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
250 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS									
262 - DRUG COURT									
550 NELSEN, SARAH PO I	0.90	73,669	0	4,567	1,068	5,525	16,354	28	101,211
1059 GLYNN, ALEXUS PO I	0.90	63,160	0	3,916	916	4,737	16,354	28	89,111
DRUG COURT	1.80	136,829	0	8,483	1,984	10,262	32,708	56	190,322

Project # 11111
Level # 1

BLUE EARTH COUNTY
Budget Salary Schedule
For 1111 as of 12/18/2023

Report #: B503

Employee	FTE	Salary	MOD/HSCP	FICA	MEDI	PERA	Hlth Ins	Life Ins	Total
11 - HUMAN SERVICES									
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS TOTALS	33.00	2,797,811	0	173,404	40,556	209,839	599,643	1,167	3,822,420

Highlights

A. New Funding and Legislative Requirements

In 2023 new Legislative Requirements were established and the formula for funding probation Minnesota changed. The Council of State Government helped facilitate some of these changes and there are multiple workgroups working on the new deliverables established during the last legislative session. We actively participated in the sanctions and incentives workgroup and continue working with the Justice Reinvestment Initiative phase II workgroup.

Other legislative changes include restoration of voting rights and the five-year probation cap. The department had to address both matters over the summer of 2023.

B. Decision Points

In the fall from 2021 the agency sent two agents to be trained in the Decision Points cognitive curriculum. Since that time the department has expanded the number of facilitators and we also have two staff trained as trained trainers in the curriculum. They have facilitated trainings statewide. We have made Decision Points our primary cognitive curriculum in the department.

C. Joint Opportunities to Learn and Thrive (JOLT)

In 2023 the JOLT program was recognized at the MACCAC conference. The program began in 2002 with the first cohort of students participating in the class in 2003. In honor of the 20th anniversary of the program they were nominated and recognized at the winter conference in St. Cloud.

D. New Staff

As part of the new funding the department has been allowed to add additional staff. Over the summer of 2023 we added a juvenile probation officer to the department as juvenile caseloads continued to increase, especially with Truancy filings. A second position was approved as part of the 2024 budget and that position was recently filled as well.

E. MNPAT-R implementation

The department Director was asked to be co-chair of the MNPAT-R implementation committee. This workgroup was tasked with overseeing the conversion from the MNPAT to the MNPAT-R.