

**BERKS COUNTY JAIL SYSTEM
PRISON BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Location: Berks County Services Center and Virtual MS Teams
May 13, 2026**

*Judge Scott Lash, Chair
Commissioner Michael Rivera, Vice Chair
Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr., Secretary
Commissioner Christian Leinbach, Member
Sheriff Mandy Miller, Member
District Attorney John Adams, Member
Controller Joe Rudderow, Member
Christine M. Sadler, Esq., Solicitor*

CALL TO ORDER – 9:00 a.m.

NOTICE:

Public comment will be accepted in person and through the Q&A function. Please include your first name, last name and municipality for all comments. Any comments without name and municipality will not be considered. Each citizen can submit one comment. Comment length is dictated by limitations of the platform being used (Teams Q&A). In person comments will be accepted first, followed by comments submitted virtually. The meeting comment period is limited to a total of 30 minutes including both in person and virtual comments. This time period may be extended at the discretion of the Board. Please be concise. Comments that are germane to County business will be read during the meeting and should not be considered to be interactive dialog with the Board. The County Solicitor shall be the final arbiter of whether a comment is germane and should be read. Any response to public comment will be done at the discretion of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the April 8, 2026, and April 10, 2026, meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Jail Senior Staff Reports:

Interim Warden Report:

Population Update
Current Affairs
Programming Update

Deputy Warden of Custody Report:

Staffing Update

Deputy Warden of Operations Report:

Project Update

2. Solicitor Report:
3. Comments from the Prison Board:
4. Executive Session

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

2026 Prison Board meeting dates:

- June 10th - Berks County Jail & Teams
- July 8th – Commissioners’ Boardroom & Teams
- August 12th – Commissioners’ Boardroom & Teams
- September 9th - Berks County Jail & Teams
- October 14th – Commissioners’ Boardroom & Teams
- November 18th – Commissioners’ Boardroom & Teams
- December 9th - Berks County Jail & Teams

2026 POPULATION SUMMARY REPORT

2026	ADP	1201 COUNT	ADMISSIONS	DISCHARGES	W/E	
					+	-
		TOTALS	TOTALS	TOTALS		
JAN	703	21,766	311	299	3	3
FEB	674	18,845	282	297	3	3
MAR	681	21,089	301	300	0	0
APR	682	20,426	330	305	6	8
MAY					0	0
JUN					0	0
JUL					0	0
AUG					0	0
SEP					0	0
OCT					0	0
NOV						
DEC						
Y/T/D	ADP	TOTAL DAYS	COMMITMENTS w/Temp	DISCHARGES w/Temp	WEEKENDERS	
	685	82,126	1,224	1,201	12	14

**BERKS COUNTY JAIL SYSTEM
PRISON BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Location: Berks County Jail System and Virtual MS Teams
April 8, 2026**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 9:00 A.M. via Microsoft Teams Town Hall, pursuant to due notice to Prison Board members and the public.

Commissioner Michael Rivera, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

The following members were in attendance:

Judge Scott Lash - due to a scheduling conflict, was only able to attend part of the meeting
Commissioner Michael Rivera
Commissioner Christian Leinbach
Sheriff Mandy P. Miller
Controller Joe Rudderow
District Attorney John Adams

The following members were not in attendance:

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr.

The following County staff were in attendance:

Warden Jeffrey Smith
Deputy Warden Stephanie Smith
Deputy Warden Franco Tassone
County Solicitor Christine Sadler
Chief Operations Officer Kevin Barnhardt
Chief Clerk Jessica Blauser

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 11, 2026, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

PRESENTATION

Berks County Criminal Justice Overview Presentation (attached). The following participants/ organizations participated in the presentation:

- Berks County Jail System
- Prime Care Medical- Medical and Mental Health Services
- Council On Chemical Abuse- Substance Use Disorder Services
- Berks Counseling Center- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services
- Berks County Intermediate Unit- Education Services
- Connections Work- Reentry, Pretrial, Forensic Diversion and Other Support Services
- Reality Check Project- Peer Support and Reentry Skills

- Transformative Solutions Network- Chapel Services

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Jail Senior Staff members gave the following reports:

Warden Report

Today's Population – 667, no juveniles.

Year To Date:

Average Daily Population – 686 inmates (for March 2026)

Commitments – 853

Total Discharges – 841

True Pretrial Pop (As of March 2nd) – 215 individuals / 32% (Bail only)

Total Pretrial Pop (As of March 2nd) – 450 individuals / 67% (Bail and detainers)

Inmates Sentenced to an SCI:

30 are sentenced to an SCI. 14 are ready to be transported to an SCI between now and April 30th, 2026, and 16 are still awaiting a transport date or pending other charges.

Currently, there are 36 individuals at the jail with an immigration detainer. We have discharged 7 to ICE in the last 30 days.

National Correctional Officers and Employees Week is observed from Sunday, May 3, to Saturday, May 9, 2026. This week honors the dedication, courage, and professionalism of correctional staff.

Deputy Warden Custody Report

Staffing Update:

There are 18 Correctional Officer vacancies and four Sergeant vacancies. Currently we have six Cadets in the Academy that started on February 25th. They should be graduating on or around May 21st. The last CO testing was on March 18th with 13 candidates in the interview phase. The next CO testing is April 28th.

Deputy Warden of Treatment Report

Programming Update:

There are currently 95 D roster individuals in custody. This makes up 14% of the total population. The combined C and D active mental health roster makes up 64% of the total population.

In March, 20 individuals were eligible for work release per their sentencing order. There was an average Trusty population of 22 and 8 individuals who were newly classified as Trusty.

For the month of March, the PennDOT ID Program received 55 referrals, processed 41 applications, received 12 products from PennDOT and one voucher.

As of March 31, 2026, one individual was waiting to go to Norristown for competency and zero waiting to go for treatment. There was one individual waiting to go to Wernersville. In March, one individual was sent to Norristown for competency restoration, and they waited 14 days; one

individual was sent for treatment and waited 15 days. There were 12 individuals at Norristown, nine were there for competency and three were there for treatment.

Operations Report

Project Update:

Securitas was on site for continued security upgrades throughout the jail. Kelly Bros. is the process of replacing yard doors. Transport vehicles will be outfitted with video monitoring. The cadets are in their 7th week of training. The book vending machine has dispensed 278 books since its unveiling.

2. Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report and no executive session is needed.

3. Comments from the Prison Board

No comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Crystal Kowalsi, Wyomissing, shared concerns about ICE detainers and urged the Prison Board to stop cooperating with ICE.

Jane Palmer, Wyomissing, shared concerns about ICE detainers and urged the Prison Board to stop cooperating with ICE.

Lisa Gallagher, Spring Township, asked what the financial impacts are when holding an individual on an ICE detainer and urged the Prison Board to stop cooperating with ICE.

Colin Underwood, Fleetwood, shared concerns about ICE detainers and urged the Prison Board to stop with cooperating ICE.

Andrea Campbell, Boyertown, spoke about ICE detainers spoke about ICE detainers and urged the Prison Board to stop cooperating with ICE.

Craig Schaffer, Cumru Township, shared concerns about ICE detainers and urged the Prison Board to stop cooperating with ICE.

Jenna Dumbrowsk, Longswamp Township, spoke about ICE detainers and urged the Prison Board to stop cooperating with ICE.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Rivera adjourned the meeting at 11:04 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr. – Prison Board Secretary

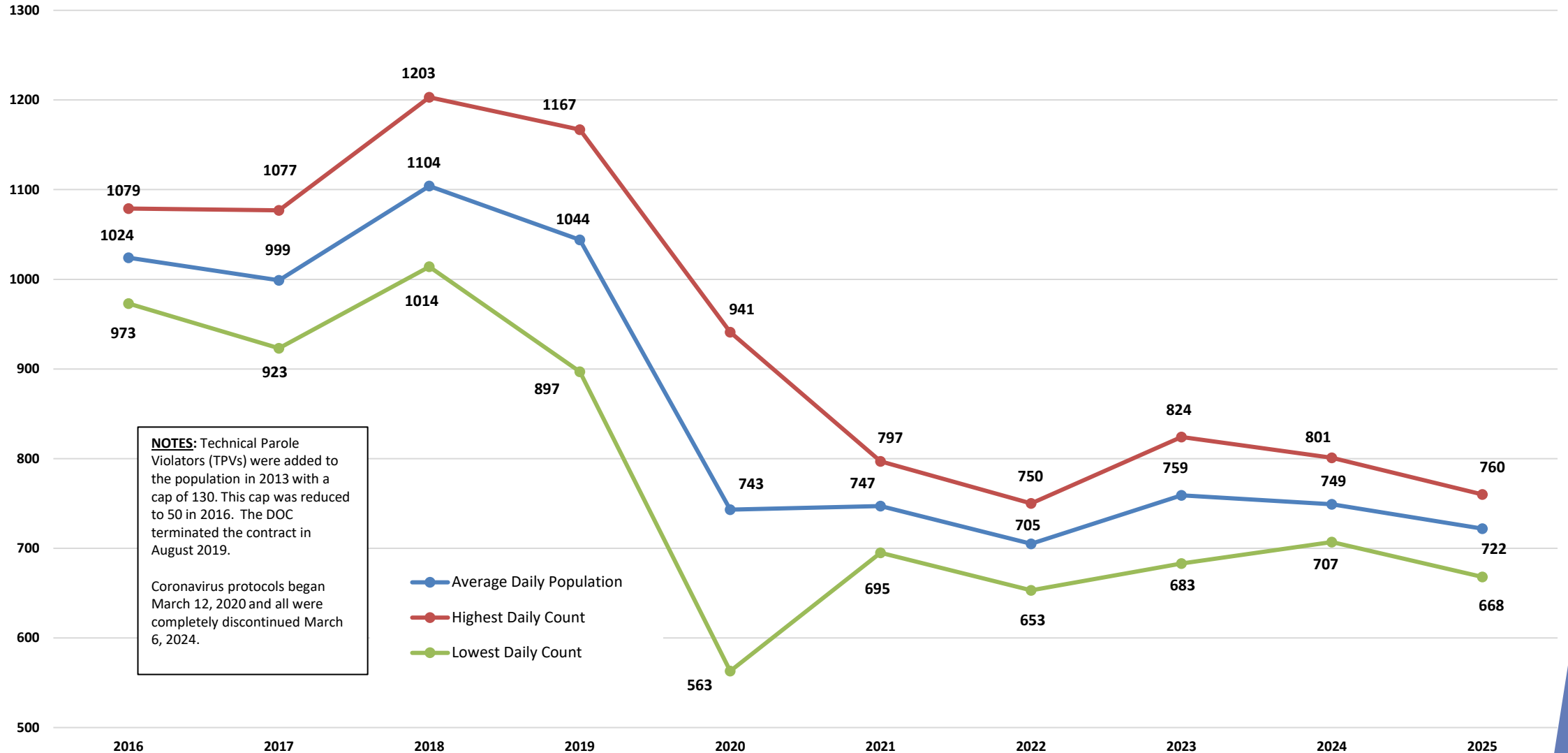
Berks County Criminal Justice Overview

April 8, 2026

Berks County Jail System 2025 Programs

Berks County Jail System Population Snapshot 2016-2025

Inmate Count



NOTES: Technical Parole Violators (TPVs) were added to the population in 2013 with a cap of 130. This cap was reduced to 50 in 2016. The DOC terminated the contract in August 2019.

Coronavirus protocols began March 12, 2020 and all were completely discontinued March 6, 2024.

- Average Daily Population
- Highest Daily Count
- Lowest Daily Count

Treatment Programs and Services Overview

- ▶ Group and Individual Counseling
 - ▶ Basic Cognitive Skills
 - ▶ Core Skills
 - ▶ Thinking For Good
 - ▶ Seeking Safety
 - ▶ One on One Counseling
 - ▶ Sex Offender Treatment
- ▶ Classification
- ▶ Orientation
- ▶ Risk Screening and Assessment
- ▶ Program Referrals
- ▶ Case Management
- ▶ Institutional Employment
- ▶ Earned Time Program
- ▶ Volunteer Coordination

Programs During Incarceration



INCREASED OUT OF
CELL TIME



UPGRADED FITNESS
AND RECREATIONAL
EQUIPMENT



FREE MONTHLY
PHONE CALLS



FREE WEEKLY
VIDEO CALLS



INCREASED IN-
PERSON VISITATION

Community Reentry Programs



Community Medication Access



PennDOT ID Program



Medical Assistance Application Expansion



Reality Check Community Program

Reality Check program is in the Jail System, as well as, out in the community to those who have been incarcerated within a year of release from BCJS.

Support Programs

- ▶ Book Vending Machine for Visitors
- ▶ Special Topics Training for Staff:
 - ▶ Human Trafficking: The North Star Initiative

**NORTH
STAR
INITIATIVE**



New in 2026



BCJS PUPPY PROGRAM



Additional providers and programs...

- ▶ **Prime Care Medical-** Medical and Mental Health Services
- ▶ **Council On Chemical Abuse-** Substance Use Disorder Services
- ▶ **Berks Counseling Center-** Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services
- ▶ **Berks County Intermediate Unit-** Education Services
- ▶ **Connections Work-** Reentry, Pretrial, Forensic Diversion and Other Support Services
- ▶ **Reality Check Project-** Peer Support and Reentry Skills
- ▶ **Transformative Solutions Network-** Chapel Services

BERKS COUNTY JAIL SYSTEM CORRECTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES 2025- YEAR IN YEAR

PrimeCare Medical, Inc.
3940 Locust Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17109
April 8, 2025



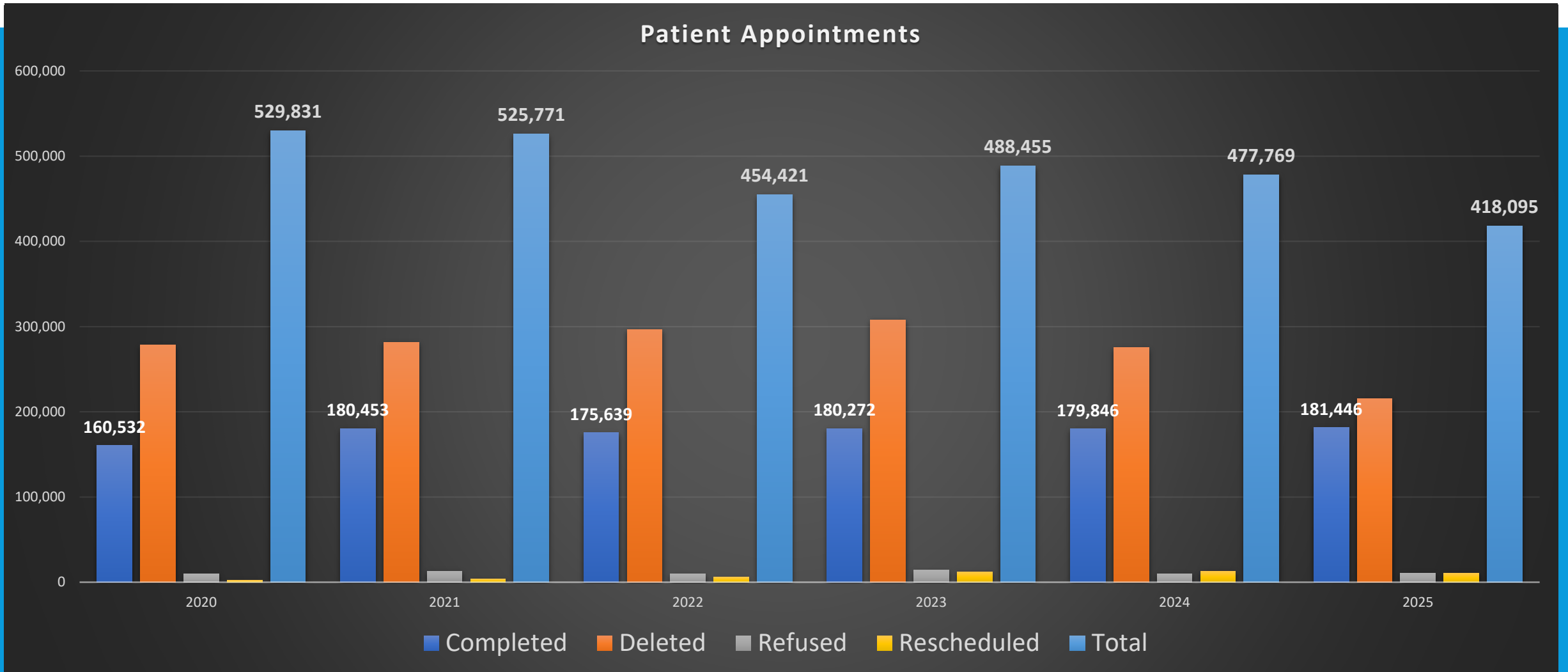
PRIMECARE MEDICAL, INC.

- Founded in 1986
- Berks County – PrimeCare Medical partnership began Oct. of 1989 37 years
- Exclusively provide health care in correctional facilities
 - Medical
 - Behavioral/Mental Health
 - Dental
 - Medication Assisted Treatment
- 6 states (PA, MD, NY, FL NH, and OH)
- 86 locations
- Greater than 23,000 patients served on average daily.

CURRENT BERKS COUNTY HEALTH TEAM

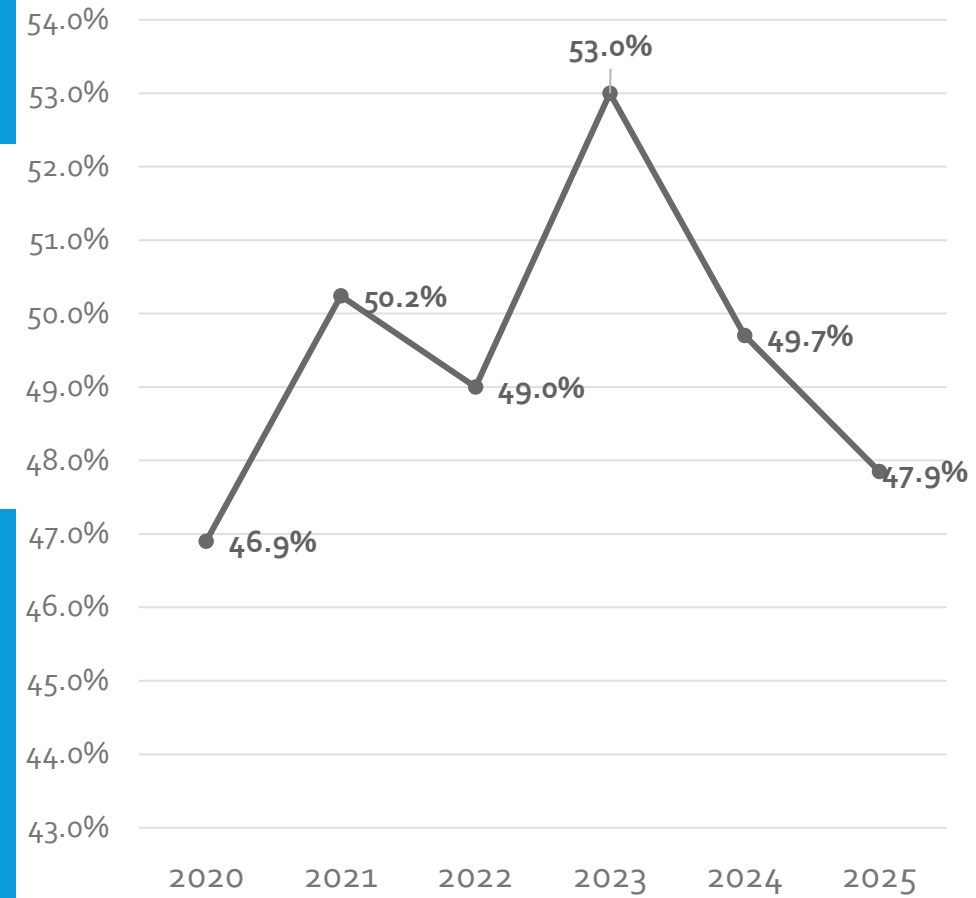
- Current contracted FTEs within facility are 45.6
- Medical / Dental Providers: 2.6 FTEs
- Behavioral Health Services: 10.6 FTEs
- MAT Program (Provider, Coordinator and Nurses) 2.8 FTEs
- Nursing and Assistants: 25.6 FTEs
- Admin and Assistants: 4.0 FTEs

CARE DELIVERY



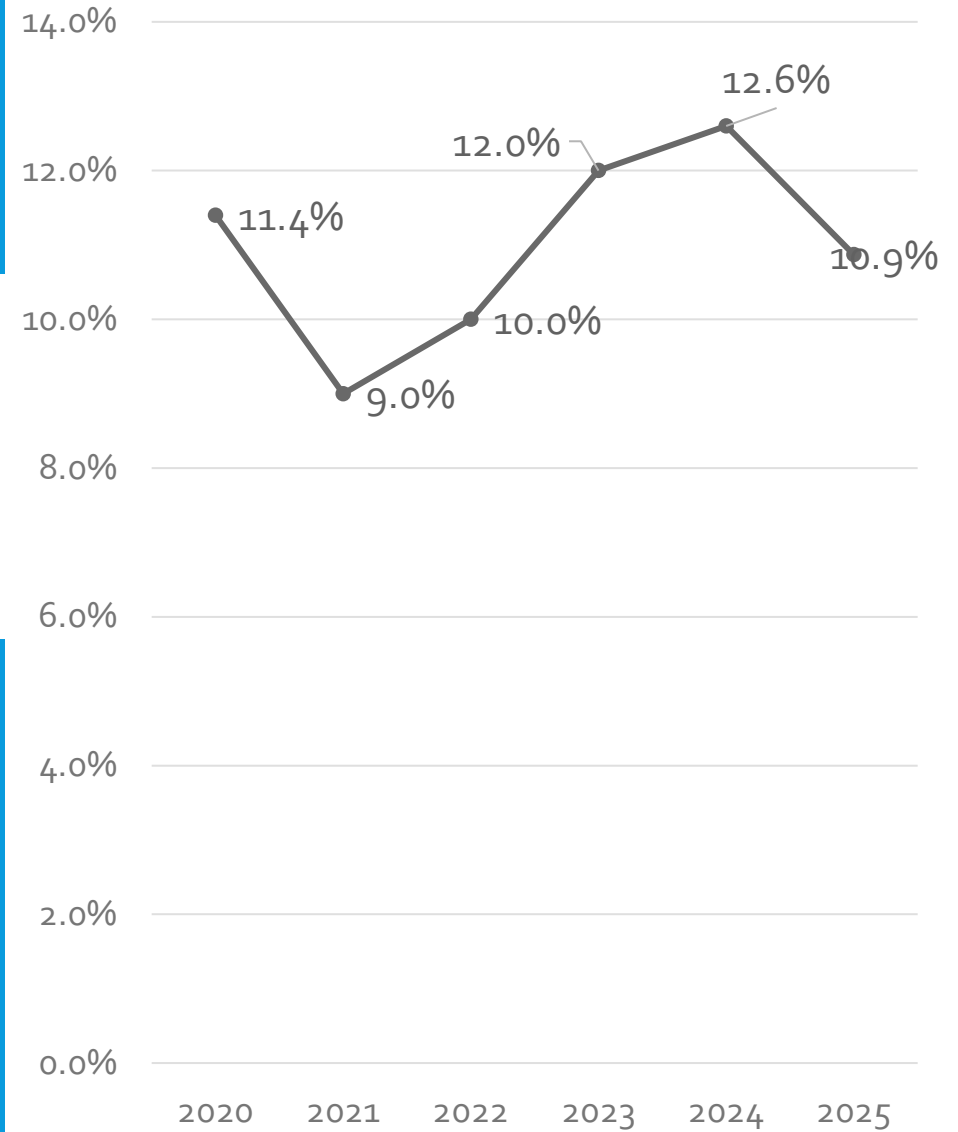
MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS NON-SMI

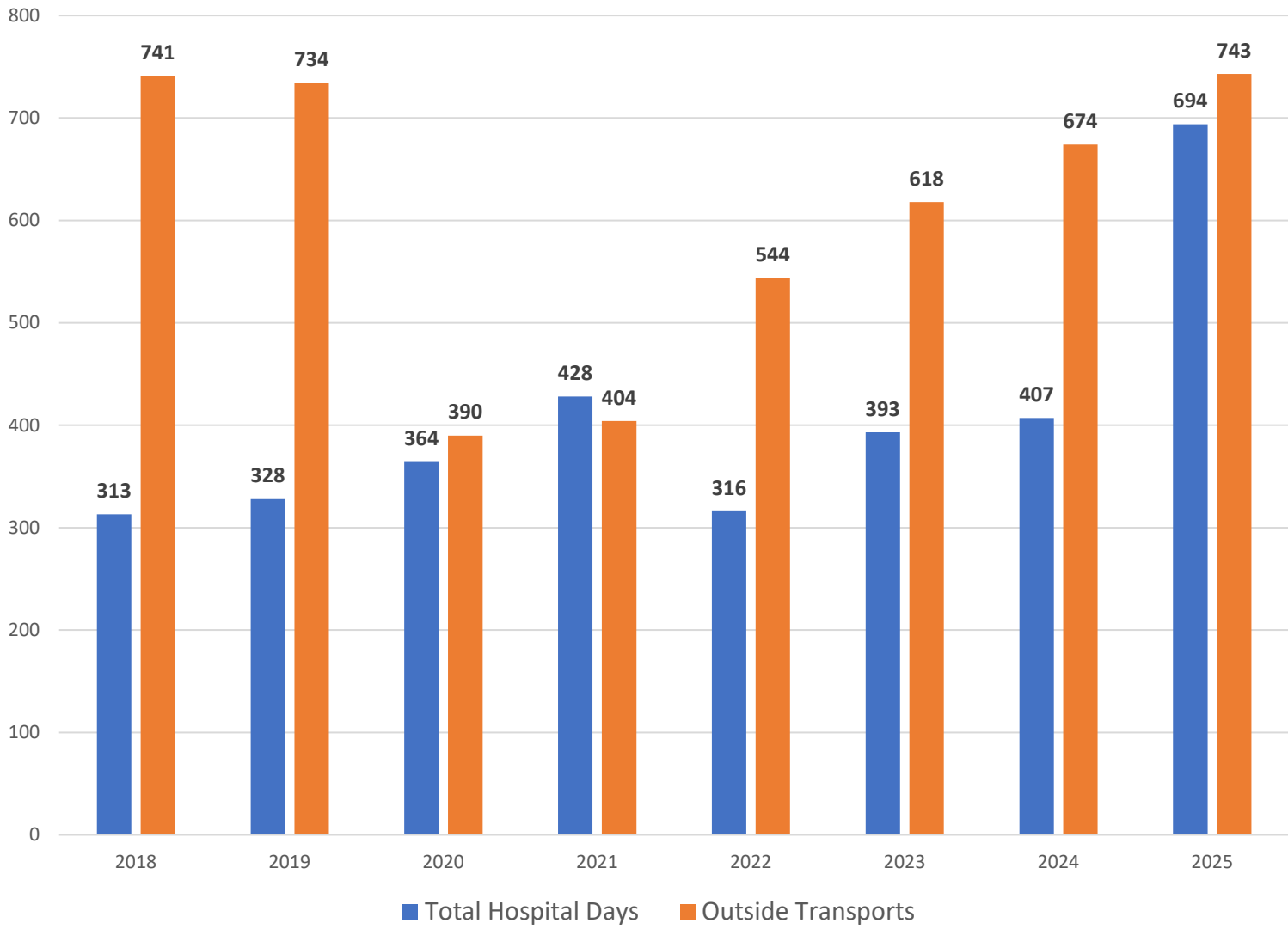
MH Stability Scale C (Mental Health Patients
Active on Meds)



SERIOUS MENTALLY ILL (SMI CATEGORY D)

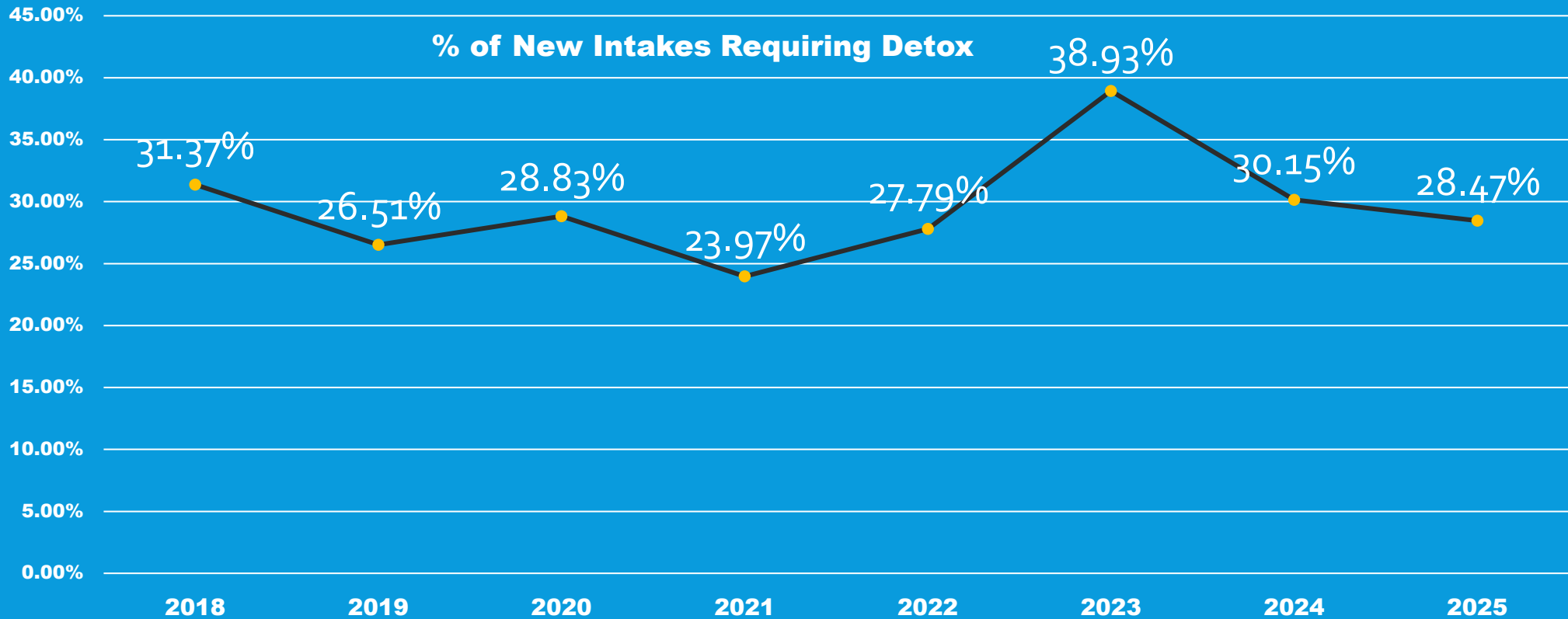
MH Stability Scale D SMI Diagnosis





HOSPITAL DAYS / COMMUNITY CARE

NEW ADMISSIONS - SUBSTANCE ABUSE



MAT PROGRAMMING

- Opioid Epidemic
- Expansion from Methadone and Vivitrol to all forms of MOUD treatment
- Patient safety concerns when released from custody
- MOUD (MAT) Programs
 - Current Program (Subutex / Methadone / Continuation / Induction)
 - Approximately 68% of our returning MAT patients return and have continued treatment
 - All Patients leave with an appointment, medication (14 days), Narcan, assistance with education on for housing, food, connections work, transportation, etc.

Effective MAT programs benefit the patient, facility and community

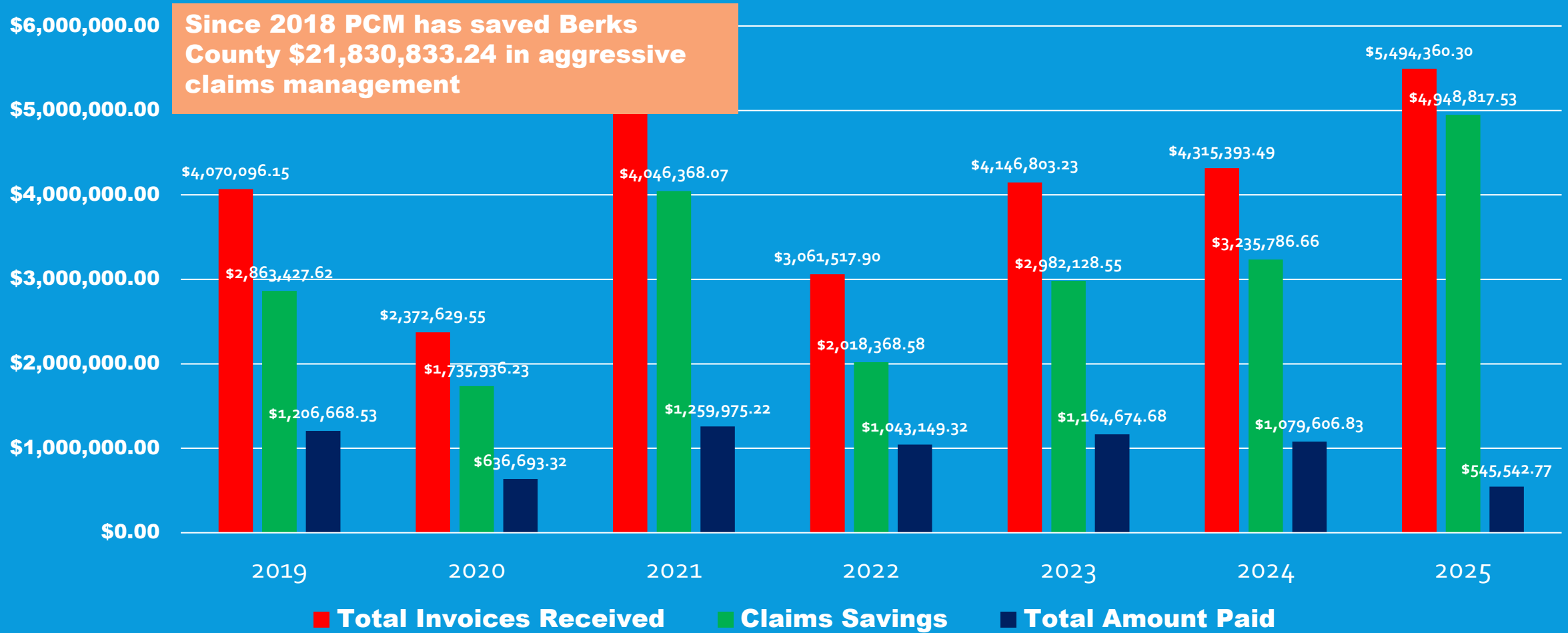
MAT SERVICES

- Dr. Pamela Rollings, CMO
- Jessica Norton MA. LCMHC, MLADC, Director of SUD

- MAT Coordinator
- MAT Provider
- MAT Nurses
- MAT IDT Team Meetings

2025 Total # of Patients on MAT	1566
# of Intakes on Continuation of MAT	265
# of New Patient MAT Inductions	159
# of Patients on Methadone	270
# of Patients on Suboxone	0
# of Patients on Subutex	1259
# of Patients on Sublocade	2
# of Patients on Oral Naltrexone	27
# of Patients on Vivitrol	9
# of Patients on Brixadi	0
# of Patients on Acamprosate	0

CLAIMS PROCESSING SHARED RISK





Council on Chemical Abuse Supporting Recovery and Reentry

**COCA-Funded Substance Use Disorder Services at the Berks County Jail System
FY 2024–25 Annual Report**

Presented to the Berks County Prison Board by the Council on Chemical
Abuse | April 2026



Executive Summary

During FY 2024/25, the Council on Chemical Abuse (COCA) partnered with the Berks County Jail System (BCJS) to deliver comprehensive, evidence-based substance use disorder services. These programs create a coordinated continuum of care – from intake through reentry – supporting recovery, stabilizing individuals during incarceration, and strengthening public safety outcomes.

Assessment & Counseling

Services provided by Berks Counseling Center throughout incarceration

MA Jail Diversion

Structured diversion to inpatient treatment for people on probation or with parole violations

MAT Expansion

Medication-Assisted Treatment expanded with opioid settlement funding

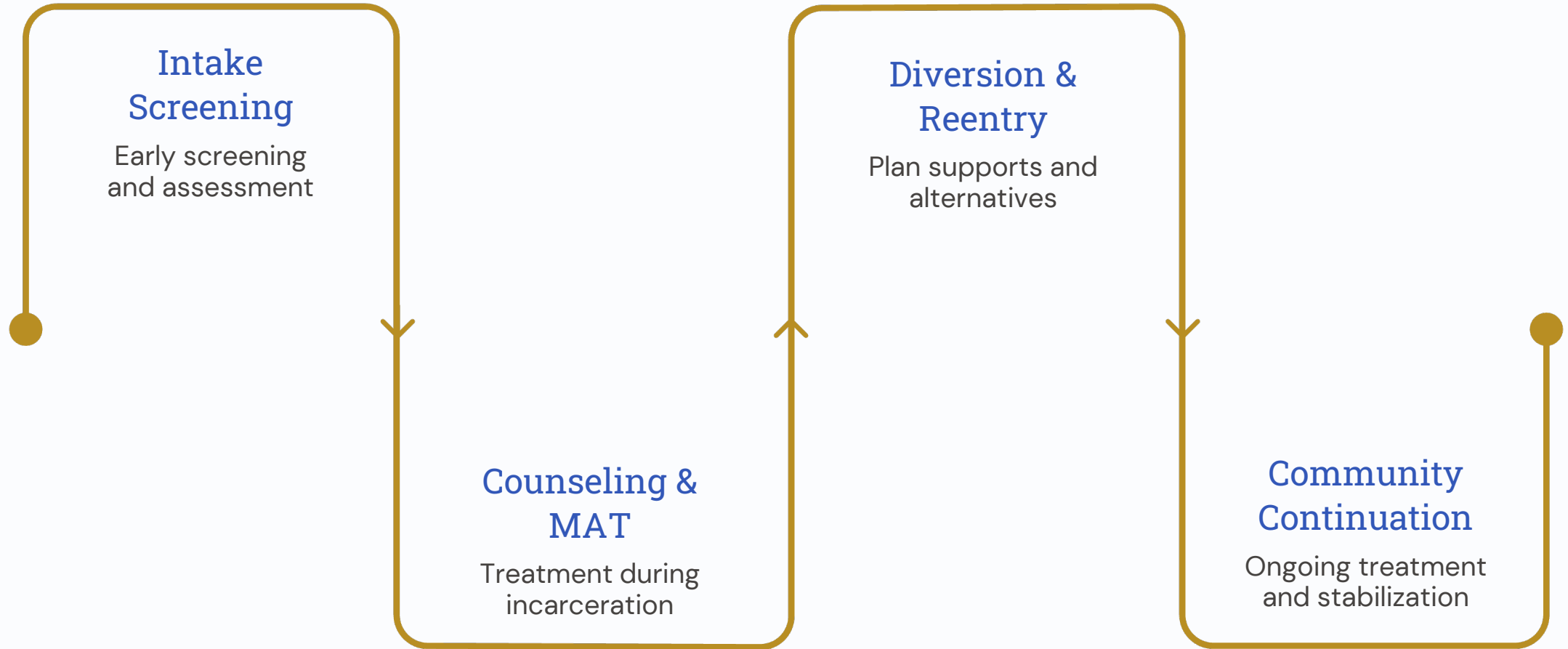
About COCA

- Founded in 1971 to address substance use issues in Reading and Berks County
- Non-profit corporation governed by a volunteer board of directors
- Act 63 of 1972
 - Established the Single County Authority (SCA) System
 - Planning and evaluation of community drug and alcohol prevention, intervention and treatment services.
 - Counties had options on how to structure
- 1972 - The County Commissioners begin to contract with COCA to function as Berks County Single County Authority (SCA) for drug and alcohol programs
- Not directly part of county government
- Commissioners appoint COCA's board of directors



A Coordinated Continuum of Care

COCA implements nationally recognized best practices across the full arc of incarceration and reentry – from early screening to community stabilization.



This integrated approach addresses both the medical and psychological components of recovery, strengthening public safety and long-term outcomes for justice-involved individuals.

Substance Use Disorder Assessment & Counseling

1,838

Pre-treatment assessments conducted

1,207

Individuals referred to pre-treatment services

707

Pre-treatment admissions from referrals

51

Enrolled in early recovery support services

- COCA contracts with Berks Counseling Center (BCC) to provide assessment, outpatient counseling, and early recovery support groups within the jail. Services include individual and group counseling, with specialized groups for women and Spanish-speaking individuals.
- Counseling services are closely coordinated with MAT to ensure integrated behavioral health support during incarceration and improved stability upon release.
- FY 25/26 Budget: \$369,302.

Medical Assistance Jail Diversion Program

COCA contracts with the Treatment Access and Services Center (TASC) to operate the MA Jail Diversion Program, primarily serving probation or people with a parole violation referred by the Berks County Adult Probation and Parole Office. The program connects eligible individuals to residential treatment immediately upon release rather than cycling further into the criminal justice system. **FY 25/26 Budget: \$65,000**

437 Referrals

- Received from probation & parole

400 Assessments

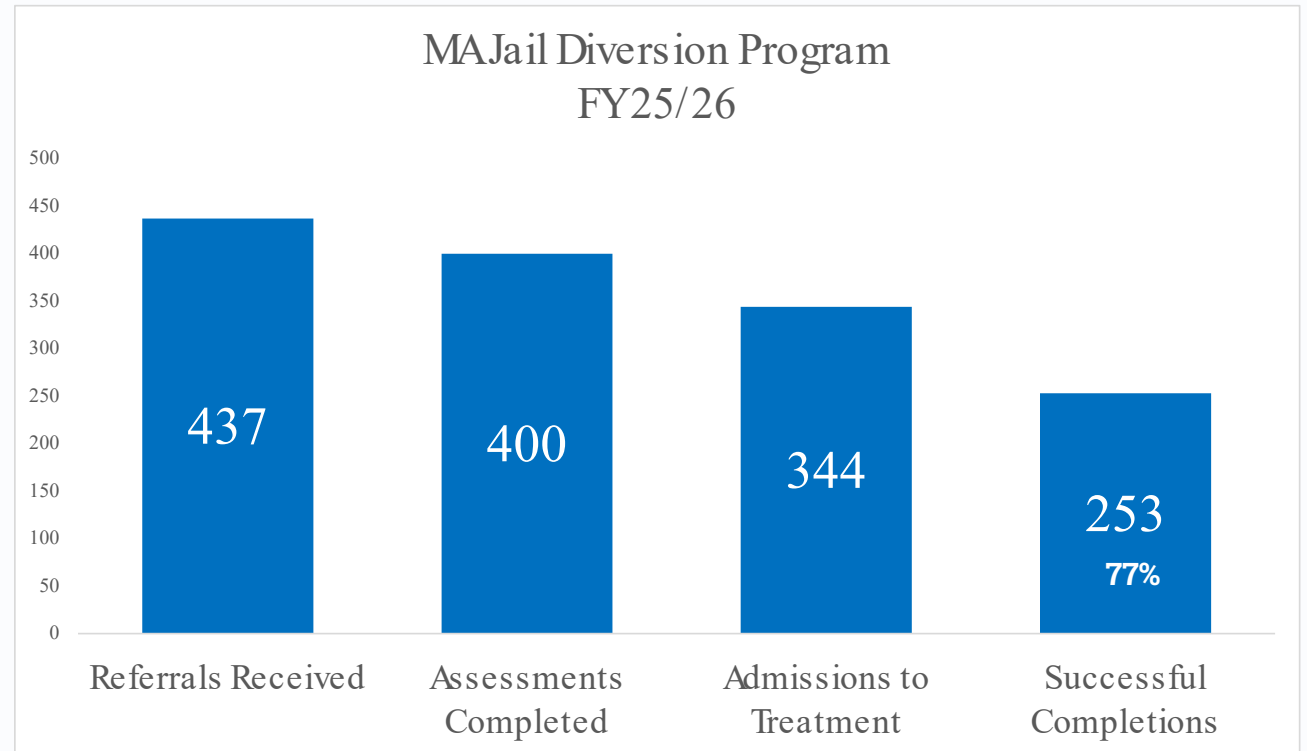
- Clinical assessments completed

344 Admissions

- Placed in inpatient treatment

77% Success

- 253 discharges classified as successful completions



Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Expansion

BCJS provides comprehensive MAT services for individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD), combining FDA-approved medications with behavioral health support. In 2023, BCJS received **opioid settlement funding grants from COCA** to expand MAT capacity. The program includes both induction and continuation of previously prescribed treatment. **FY 25/26 Budget: \$866,341**

Medications Available

- Methadone*
- Buprenorphine
- Vivitrol
- Sublocade

FY 2024/25 Activity

- 494 individuals enrolled in MAT expansion
- 270 individuals received induction services
- 51 Vivitrol recipients received dedicated case management

Note: Opioid Settlement Funds are a priority for COCA and the County of berks.





MAT Case Management & Model Recognition

Reduces Overdose Risk

MAT initiated during incarceration significantly reduces post-release overdose risk — a critical intervention given the 10x elevated mortality window after release.

Improves Community Engagement

Individuals who receive MAT during custody show improved engagement in community-based treatment following release, supporting long-term recovery.

Supports Accountability



Dedicated case management for recipients ensures continuity of care, recidivism tracking, and structured reentry coordination.



National Recognition: The BCJS MAT program is recognized as a model for other county correctional facilities. The BCJS team has been invited to provide consultation to jurisdictions seeking to implement similar services.

Financial Stewardship & Accountability

MAT expansion is supported in part through opioid settlement funding awarded in 2023, strategically allocated to expand treatment capacity, increase induction availability, and support dedicated case management.

Opioid Settlement



Structured Oversight

COCA and BCJS maintain structured oversight of program activity, enrollment data, treatment outcomes, and reentry coordination.



Formal Evaluation Underway

A formal program evaluation of the MAT expansion is in development. It will assess post-release recidivism, treatment continuation, and participant perspectives.



Data-Informed Refinement

Findings will ensure transparent stewardship of opioid settlement funds and support ongoing, evidence-based program improvement.



Why These Services Matter

63% of Incarcerated Individuals

National studies estimate that 63% of people in jails meet criteria for a substance use disorder¹ – making treatment access a public health imperative.

10x Elevated Overdose Risk

The period immediately after incarceration carries a more than ten-fold higher risk of overdose death compared to the general population, especially in the first two weeks post-release.²

MAT Reduces Relapse & Recidivism

Evidence-based interventions – particularly MAT initiated during custody – reduce post-release relapse and overdose risk and improve engagement in community treatment.³

1. Bronson, J., Stroop, J., Zimmer, S., & Berzofsky, M. (2017). *Drug use, dependence, and abuse among state prisoners and jail inmates, 2007–2009*. U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/dudaspi0709.pdf>
2. Binswanger, I. A., Stern, M. F., Deyo, R. A., et al. (2007). Release from prison — A high risk of death for former inmates. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 356(2), 157–165. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMsa064115
3. Moore, K. E., Roberts, W., Reid, H. H., Smith, K. M., Oberleitner, L. M., & McKee, S. A. (2019). Effectiveness of medication assisted treatment for opioid use in prison and jail settings: A meta-analysis and systematic review. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 99, 32-43. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsat.2018.12.003>

Looking Ahead: System Priorities



While FY 2024/25 reflects strong program utilization and positive outcomes, ongoing opportunities remain to strengthen system impact.

Post-Release Care Coordination

Continued expansion to ensure uninterrupted treatment engagement after release

Enhanced Outcome Tracking

Improved monitoring of recidivism and long-term recovery outcomes

Cross-System Collaboration

Ongoing coordination among BCJS, treatment providers, probation/parole, and community agencies

Capacity Monitoring

Tracking demand trends to ensure adequate MAT and diversion capacity

Conclusion

COCA-funded services at BCJS reflect a coordinated, evidence-based approach to addressing substance use disorders within the correctional setting. Through assessment, diversion, counseling, and expanded MAT, these programs ensure timely intervention during incarceration and structured support upon release.

Scale of Impact

1,838 assessments, **494** MAT enrollments, and **344** diversion admissions in a single fiscal year

Strong Outcomes

77% diversion completion rate and a nationally recognized MAT model

Sustained Commitment

Continued collaboration among BCJS, COCA, providers, and community partners is essential to long-term recovery pathways



Berks Counseling Center

Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services

Bonnie Triebig, Clinical Director, gave an overview of what Berks Counseling Center does as a partner with the Berks County Jail System. Berks Counseling Center (BCC) has been a partner of the Berks County Jail System for well over 30 years providing substance use disorder assessment, treatment, and early recovery support to the inmates. She ended her presentation with a story of a client.

Berks County Jail Education Program

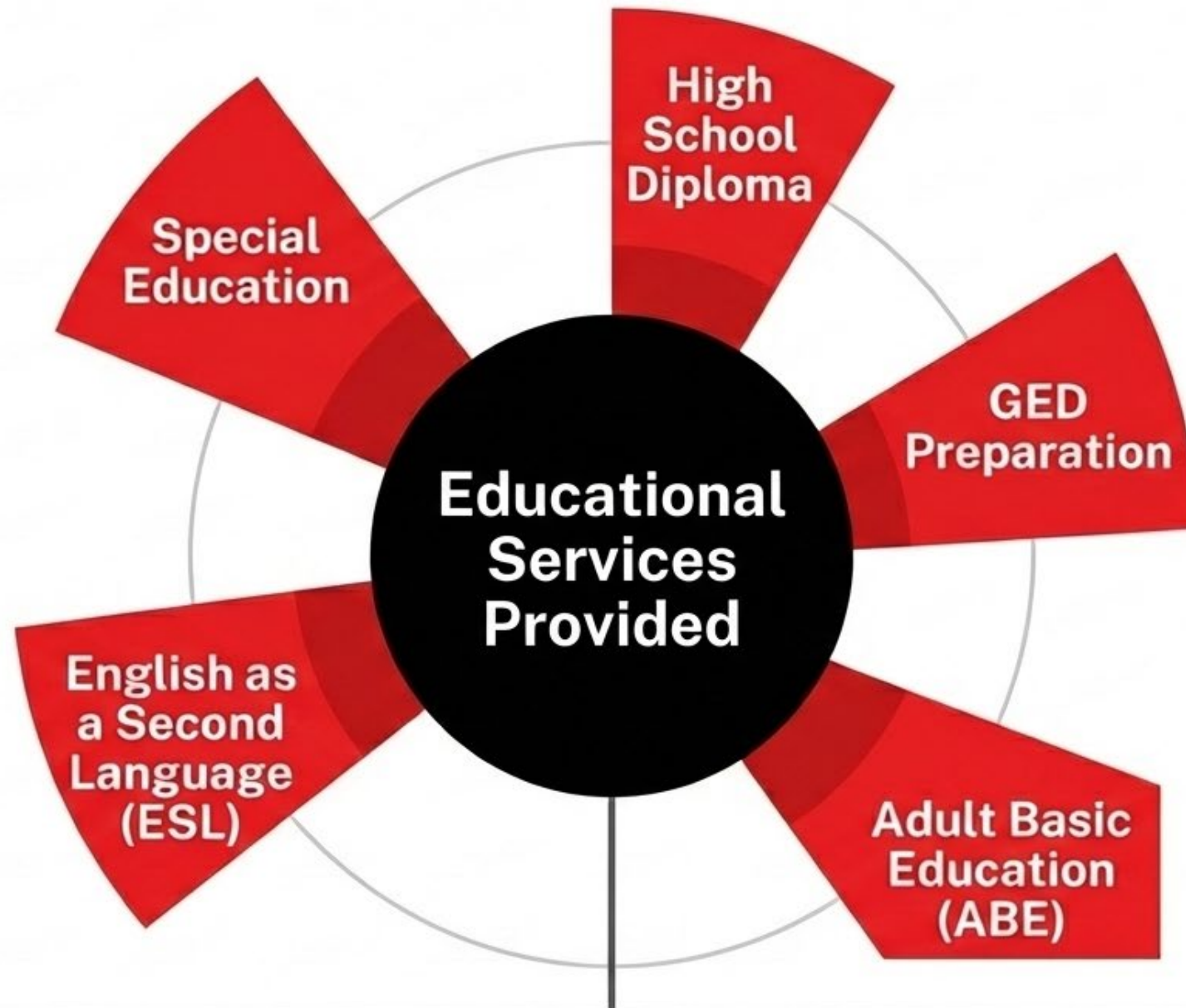
2025–2026 School Year Highlights

Dr. Sara George, BCIU Assistant Director of
Student Services



Driving positive community outcomes through education.





Providing continuous educational services since 1997 (Diploma) and 2018 (GED).



Certified Excellence.

Fully certified
teachers and
dedicated
support staff.



Uncompromised Compliance.

Full Special
Education
Compliance,
officially affirmed
affirmed by the
2024 PDE Review.



Specialized Expertise.

Extensive staff
training in
trauma-informed
care and
correctional
education.

Program Strengths

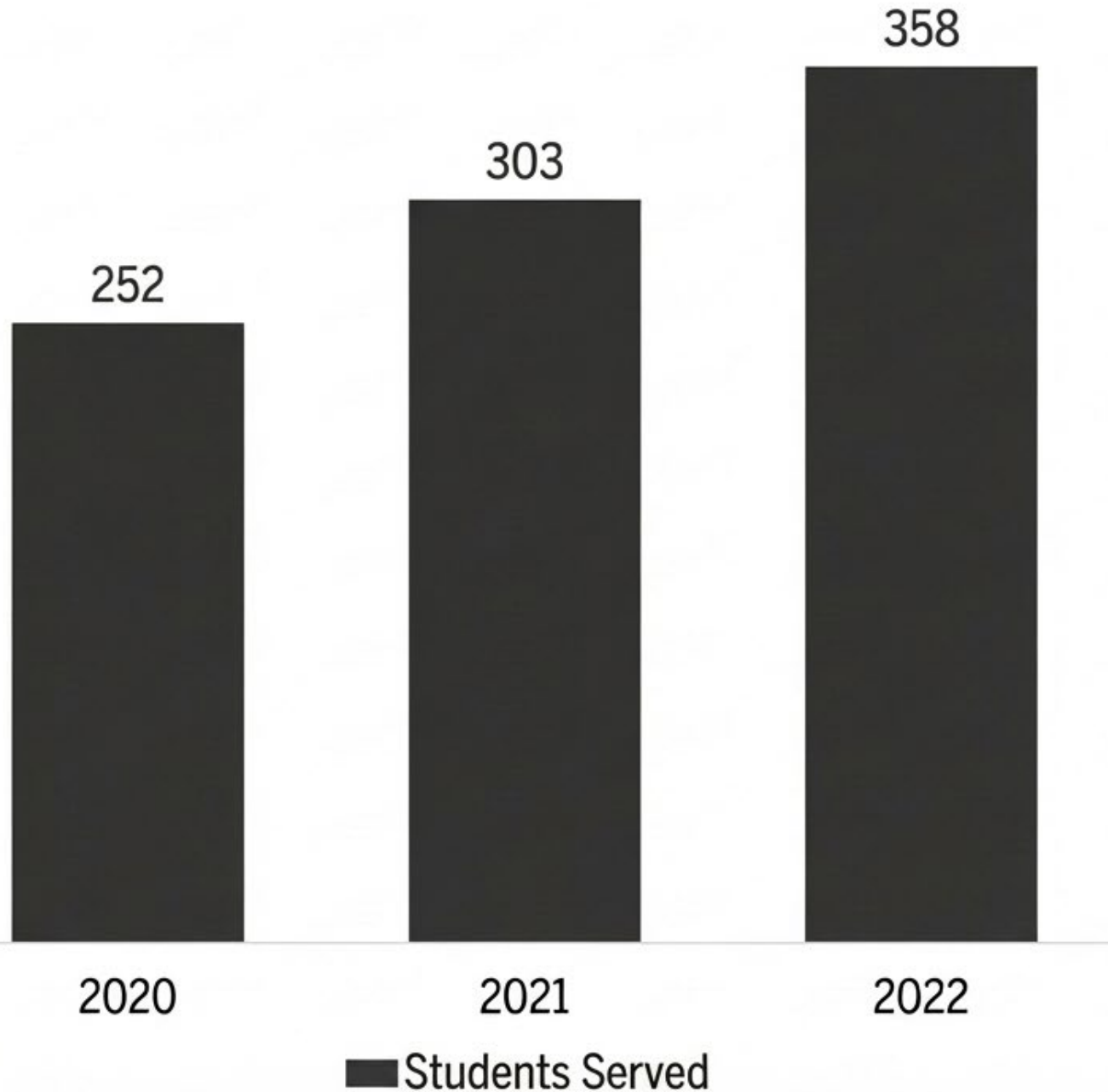
871

**GED Students
Served
Historically**

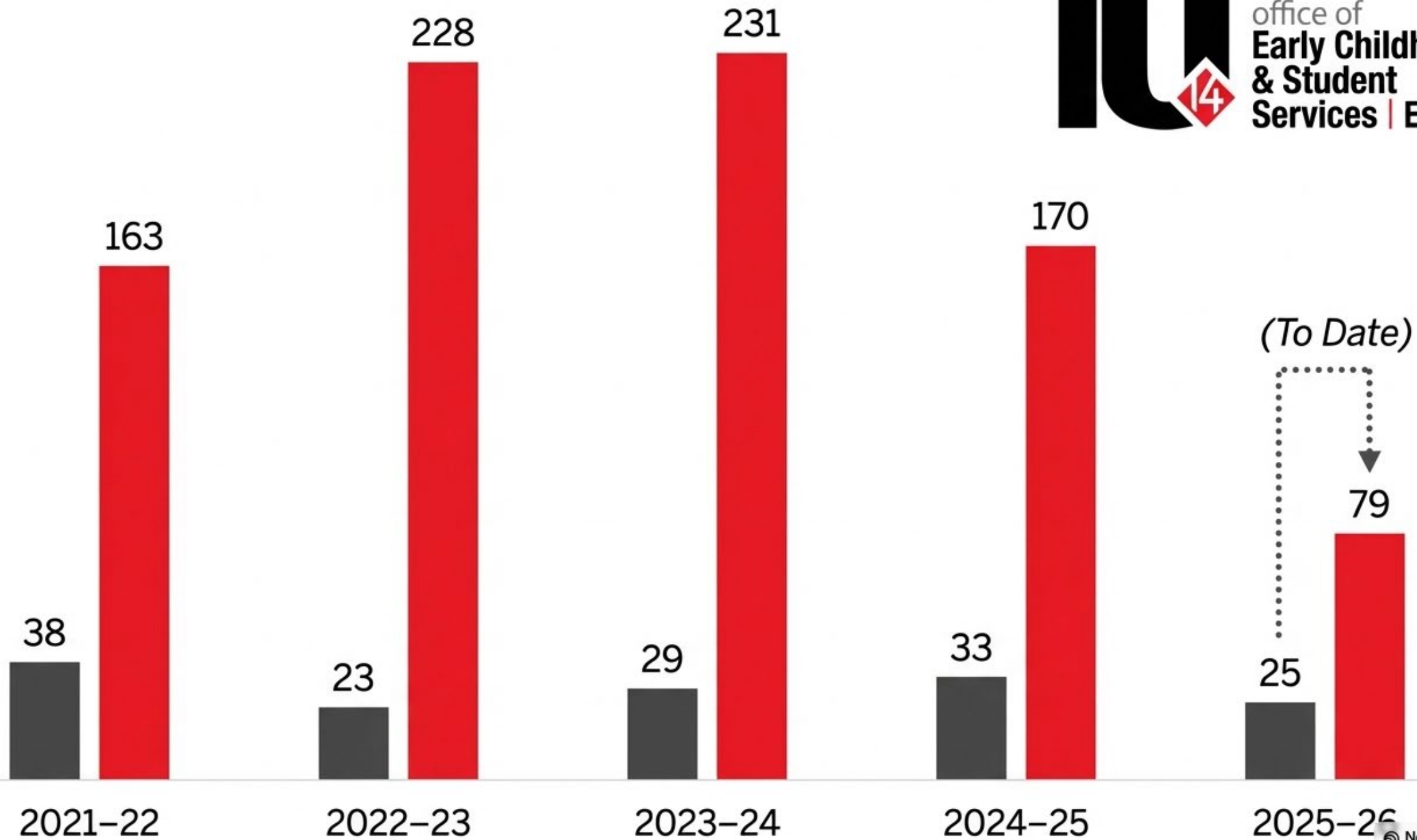
148

**Diploma
Students Served
Historically**

Consistent engagement supporting literacy, vital credentials,
and a reduced risk of recidivism.



Learning Never Stopped.
Student engagement steadily increased year-over, demonstrating continuous commitment to education despite external challenges.





Consistent, year-over-year attainment of the highest educational credential available within the facility.

2024–2025 Wrap-Up



office of
Early Childhood
& Student
Services | ECSS

2025–2026 In-Progress

45 Adults Tested

58 Tests Administered

52 Sections Passed

9 Full GEDs Earned

104 Total Students Served
(79 GED / 25 Diploma)

40 Tests Administered

28 Sections Passed

1 Full GED Earned
(To Date)



First-Ever GED Graduation Ceremony

A historic milestone for the Berks County Jail Education Program, honoring the dignity of student achievement and celebrating a critical step toward successful reentry.



office of
**Early Childhood
& Student
Services | ECSS**



Expand Completion

Expand GED completion rates across all student populations.

Honor Achievement

Continue and scale graduation recognition events.



Career Focus

Strengthen alignment with workforce readiness initiatives.



Uphold Standards

Maintain high-quality, strictly compliant educational programming.

Thank you
Dr. Sara George
Berks County Intermediate Unit
Assistant Director of Student Services
sargeo@berksiu.org / 610-987-8656



MISSION STATEMENT

Connections Work changes lives and improves communities by providing services and support to individuals seeking pathways to success.

Peggy Kerschner, Co-Executive Director gave a brief overview of Connections Work.

Connections Work Jail Based Programs

- Reentry Resource Center
- Working Toward Change
- Mother's/Father's Voice
- Pretrial Services Program
- Pretrial Jail Population Management
- Forensic Diversion Program
- Berks County Jail Voting Project
- Berks County Jail PA ID Project

Peggy gave an overview of the above programs and projects and shared statistics.



Reality Check Project

Peer Facilitated Reentry Programming

Reality Check Project is a nonprofit organization focused on reentry support and personal transformation. Charles Jackson, Jr., Founder, gave an overview of Reality Check Project. He shared his 2026 focus is on identity vs ego and his goal to educate the community members of survival mode, purpose mode, and leadership mode. He also shared his recent book publication titled "What If?".

Transformative Solutions Network Chapel Services

Michael Kaucher, CEO, gave an over view of various programs including:

- Chapel library
- Weekly 1 on 1 visits
- Staff & Volunteers
- Study groups
- Worship groups
- Dietary accommodations
- Gifts during holidays
- Crisis news - counseling and compassion

This is the end of the Criminal Justice Overview Presentation

**BERKS COUNTY JAIL SYSTEM
PRISON BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Location: Virtual Only Microsoft Teams
April 10, 2026**

The Berks County Prison Board met in a regular session on Friday, April 10, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. via Microsoft Teams Town Hall, pursuant to due notice to Prison Board members and the public.

Judge Lash, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

The following members were in attendance:

Judge Scott Lash
Commissioner Michael Rivera
Commissioner Christian Leinbach
Sheriff Mandy P. Miller
Controller Joe Rudderow
District Attorney John Adams

The following members were not in attendance:

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr.

The following County staff were in attendance:

Warden Jeffrey Smith
Deputy Warden Stephanie Smith
Deputy Warden Franco Tassone
County Solicitor Christine Sadler
Chief Operations Officer Kevin Barnhardt
Chief Clerk Jessica Blausen

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion and appointment of interim Warden

Judge Lash reported that the Prison Board has received Warden Smith's letter of resignation, as he will be accepting a position in another county. Warden Smith recommended that Deputy Warden Stephanie Smith be appointed by the Prison Board as interim Warden.

Commissioner Leinbach made a motion to appoint Deputy Warden of Treatment, Stephanie Smith, to interim Warden and Controller Rudderow seconded the motion.

Deputy Warden Smith expressed appreciation to both the Warden and Prison Board members for considering and expressing their confidence in her serving as interim Warden. She outlined her commitment to advancing the team's established goals, initiatives, and programs. Deputy Warden Smith also voiced her confidence in the leadership team that she and Warden have developed over the past 12 years.

Prison Board

April 10, 2026

There being no further discussion, the motion carried. After the motion was made, Commissioner Leinbach amended the motion with the appointment effective May 8, 2026.

2. Comments from Warden Smith

Warden Smith expressed appreciation to the Prison Board, Human Resources, Solicitor, and the COO team for their continued support over the years.

3. Comments from the Prison Board

Commissioner Leinbach requested Human Resources to outline the new Warden hiring process. The position will be posted today via standard channels, CCAP, and the Warden’s Association for two weeks, followed by phone screens and interviews. The Prison Board members thanked Warden Smith for his service and wished him well in his next career.

4. Solicitor’s Report

Nothing to report other than an item for Executive Session that does not require action from the Prison Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Judge Lash adjourned the meeting at 8:48 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr. – Prison Board Secretary