The Department provides the following programs and specialized services:

- **Collections Enforcement Bureau** - This Program is assigned the following full-time staff: one (1) supervisor, two (2) adult probation officers, two (2) compliance officers and five (5) support staff. The unit manages the collection of fines, costs, restitution, supervision fees, and fees associated with sexual offenders, interstate transfers and electronic monitoring. The unit collects payments from both active and inactive cases, including those that are beyond their maximum supervision date and have been closed. The unit, also, collects payments from state cases that are incarcerated and after discharge from supervision.

- **Community Service** – Two (2) adult probation officers and a work crew leader, who is a para-professional, staff this Program. The majority of offenders assigned community service are DUI offenders and/or first-time offenders. Sexual offenders or offenders with a history of violence are not typically accepted into this Program. There are currently four hundred (400) Erie County agencies (governmental and not-for-profit organizations) that have been approved by the Court to receive community service workers.

- **Housing Authority** – This is a cooperative venture between the Erie City Housing Authority, Erie County Juvenile Probation, the Quebec Unit of the Erie Police Department and the Erie County Adult Probation Department. This is a highly visible program, with foot, bike and vehicle patrols that have yielded successful results in reducing crime within the Housing Authority’s properties. It is, also, active in monitoring offender and community involvement. Offenders are encouraged to attend vocational and educational programs, and community outreach includes social events and picnics. One (1) adult probation officer is assigned to this program.

- **Integrated Adult Sex Offender Program (I.A.S.O.P.)** – This Program targets the high-risk sexual offender population and provides intensive supervision from a team approach. This involves the collaboration of two (2) adult probation officers and two (2) full-time sexual offender therapists on staff with the Department. One (1) part-time support staff member is, also, assigned to this Program. Offenders receive weekly group and individual therapy and assessments and polygraph exams are completed on all offenders who are placed into this Program. Minimum contact requirements dictate that the supervising adult probation officer make contacts at the offender’s home, employment, and with the treatment provider. This Program is a collaborative effort that includes Stairways Behavioral Health, the Erie County Office of Mental Health, and the Crime Victim Center of Erie County.

- **Institutional Parole Representative (IPR)** – The adult probation officer in this Program is located at both the Erie County Prison and the Adult Probation Office. The IPR conducts pre-parole interviews, prepares parole plans, reports to the Court on inmate status, and completion of any programs, such as anger management, while lodged in the Erie County Prison. Additionally, this adult probation officer works with the prison to coordinate the Early Release Program.

- **Mentally Ill Offender (MIO) Program** - This Program is comprised of clinically diagnosed mentally ill offenders including those designated as “seriously and persistently mentally ill”, or those with a forensic mental health diagnosis. The latter group requires intensive supervision and are usually long-term cases. There are four (4) adult probation officers assigned to this Program who work
closely with the treatment providers to ensure that the offenders are participating in treatment and receiving prescribed psychotropic medication. The Program has office space at the Stairways Forensic Clinic located at 29th and State Streets. This allows adult probation officers to work on-site at the forensic clinic on a regular basis during the week with their offenders while they are receiving services at the clinic.

- **Pre-Trial Program** – This Program is designed to reduce jail population by quickly identifying and processing bail reductions for appropriate defendants. An adult probation officer interviews all new inmates and evaluates their ability to post bail. This effort involves Erie County Prison’s treatment team staff and the Magisterial District Judges. There is generally no active supervision of defendants by the Department while they are on bail, but the offender can be placed on electronic monitoring if so directed. This Program helps reduce the number of Pre-Trial detainees who are awaiting trial in the Erie County Prison.

- **Probation Training, Education, and Employment Program (Job Club)** – The adult probation officer assigned to this Program is not assigned an active caseload. He receives referrals from other adult probation officers to address issues of chronic unemployment, lack of education and lack of employable skills. Emphasis is placed on obtaining the General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or high school diploma, skilled certificate training, and an active job search campaign. Offenders are referred to job training (e.g. resume preparation, interviewing techniques), and work closely with Career Concepts, an employment agency.

  -- As an extension of this Program, an offender “job club” was developed in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole and Federal Probation. The offender must undergo an extensive evaluation process which determines their specific strengths, barriers, educational, vocational, and employment needs. Referrals are made to community partner agencies to assist with educational and vocational needs as well as other areas such as health, housing, non-support and other related needs. The ultimate goal of the Program is to reduce recidivism by promoting job readiness and meaningful employment opportunities. The offenders, also, are enrolled with Career Link and experience a recorded mock interview. Participants are expected to have a positive attitude, and willingness to learn and work within a group. Absenteeism and tardiness are not accepted. The Program utilizes cognitive behavioral groups from the National Curriculum and Training Institute (NCTI) Jobtec Program.

- **Special Probation Services** – This Program is designed to provide individualized and specialized services to offenders who are intellectually disabled and have received an Erie County Court sentence. An adult probation officer is assigned full-time to work together with a full-time caseworker assigned by Erie County Care Management to supervise intellectually disabled offenders. Life skills trainings are provided with the intent to improve an offender’s coping skills and, ultimately, his level of functioning.

- **Treatment Court-Mental Health Court** – Treatment Court is comprised of a Drug Court and a Mental Health Court component. Drug Court sessions are held every Thursday. Participating offenders must attend out-patient drug and alcohol treatment, 12-step meetings, and submit to urinalysis testing, as well as maintain employment and make regular payments on all Court-ordered financial obligations. Although an offender’s length of participation is at the discretion of the Court, successful completion of the Program is predicated upon the completion of multiple phases and culminates in a formal graduation ceremony. The Erie County Drug Court is
a joint program between the Erie County Court, the Erie County District Attorney’s Office, the Erie County Public Defender’s Office, the County Drug and Alcohol Office, and various treatment providers. The Drug Court is a member of both the National and Pennsylvania Association of Drug Court Professionals.

- **Veterans Court** – The Erie Veterans Court is free standing and not part of Treatment Court. It will incorporate our current practices that relates to veterans currently on supervision. Veterans Court is held every Tuesday. The team members of Veterans Court are comprised of a representative of the following agencies: District Attorney's Office, Public Defender, a member of the Veterans Administration, Office of Children and Youth and Adult Probation Officers. All participants in Veterans Court are assigned a mentor as part of the program. Participating veterans are treated for various issues including but not limited to PTSD, Drug/Alcohol and other Mental Health issues.