LANCASTER COUNTY

The Department provides the following programs and specialized services:

- **Assessment Unit** – This Unit is responsible for completing evaluations for all offenders who are required to have them completed as part of their supervision. Evaluations completed by this Unit include, but are not limited to, Pre-sentence Investigations (PSI), Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R), and Court Reporting Network (CRN).

- **Central Intake Unit** – The Unit interviews offenders after sentencing, gathers information to open the case and assigns the case to a supervision unit based upon the needs of the offender.

- **Collections Enforcement Unit (CEU)** – This Unit collects and manages the collection enforcement of Court-ordered fines, costs, restitution, and offender supervision fees. The goal of the CEU is to reduce the number of delinquent offender accounts, thus increasing revenue.

- **Domestic Violence Unit** – This Unit supervises offenders with sentences related to domestic violence. This Unit, also, coordinates an intervention group for offenders Court-ordered to participate in the domestic violence prevention group. Programming is based on the Duluth Model and runs for twenty (20) weeks.

- **Drug Court Unit** – This Unit is responsible for the Drug Court Program in Lancaster County. This Treatment Court primarily targets offenders who are high risk/high needs through its evaluation process. This provides the participant an opportunity to pursue treatment for his/her addiction(s), while productively addressing associated legal problems. Once accepted, Program participants can expect frequent contact with the Adult Drug Court Judge, adult probation officer, treatment providers, and the Drug Court Team. The Drug Court Program involves a minimum time commitment of twelve (12) months, followed by a period of aftercare. The length of the aftercare component is based on the criminal charges for which the participant is being supervised: one (1) year for misdemeanors and three (3) years for felonies. Once the participant graduates from the Drug Court Program, including payment in full of all associated fines, costs, and restitution, the criminal charges filed against the participant will be dismissed. In 2012, Lancaster County Drug Court received accreditation from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC).

- **Electronic Monitoring** – This Unit is responsible for supervising offenders Court-ordered to a form of electronic monitoring. Using Radio Frequency (RF), Global Positioning System (GPS), and Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring (SCRAM) technologies, probation officers can track offenders’ use of alcohol and their geographic locations while on supervision.

- **Medium/Maximum Caseload Units** – These four (4) Units represent the bulk of offenders supervised within APPS. Offenders supervised within these Units have an LSI-R score of Medium or Maximum Supervision level.

- **Mental Health Court Unit** – This Unit is responsible for managing Lancaster County’s Mental Health Court. Lancaster County Mental Health Court is a Treatment Court Program for offenders diagnosed with a serious mental illness. Offenders can be referred to the Program by police officers, Magisterial District Judges, attorneys, adult probation officers, case managers, prison staff, judges, family members, and other agencies or individuals who come into contact with an
offender who might qualify for the Program. Mental Health Court participants are expected to honor an approximate eighteen (18) month commitment to the Program, which consists of four (4) phases. Phase I is intensive and requires frequent contact with the participant’s adult probation officer and case manager, as well as frequent Court appearances. Offenders who successfully complete the requirements of a given phase (a period of approximately 3 to 6 months) are promoted to the next phase. With each successive phase, and as long as they continue to meet Program and treatment requirements, offenders are monitored less frequently.

- **Mental Health Unit** – This Unit is responsible for the supervision of mentally ill/challenged offenders. Each offender is assigned to an adult probation officer and a Mental Health Caseworker with the goal of assisting the offender to maintain functional stability and achieve his/her maximum potential in life.

- **Pre-Parole Unit** – This Unit is responsible for ensuring the accuracy of time calculations, developing parole plans, and preparing the parole petitions and orders for the Court. The Unit, also, completes an LSI-R to assess risk and determine the services that will be needed upon parole of the offender. The Unit develops a reintegration plan based upon the LSI-R and arranges the initial parole interview for the offender upon release.

- **Re-Entry Unit** – Formed in 2012, this Unit is responsible for supervision of offenders released from prison. The goal of this Unit is stabilization of offenders within the community by assisting in obtaining housing, employment, training, or other needs required. After forty-five (45) days, supervision transfers to another Unit within APPS.

- **Sex Offenders Unit** – This Unit provides intensive supervision to sexual offenders, monitors computer use, if appropriate, and ensures compliance with SORNA and treatment requirements. Adult probation officers assigned to this Unit are, also, trainers for the Board’s Basic Training Academy.

- **Transfer Unit** – This Unit is responsible for monitoring progress reports for offenders who have been transferred to other counties within the Commonwealth or other states and taking any follow-up action required.

- **Veterans Court Unit** – This Unit is responsible for managing the Lancaster County Veterans Court. The Lancaster County Veterans Court is a Treatment Court based on proven national research and program models of Drug Courts, as well as successfully implemented Veterans Courts in jurisdictions nationwide. This Court provides the participant an opportunity to pursue appropriate treatment, while productively addressing associated legal problems. The Lancaster County Veterans Court is open to any current or former member of any branch of the military, including the Reserves and National Guard. Once accepted, Program participants can initially expect weekly contact with the Veterans Court Judge, and frequent contact from their adult probation officer, treatment providers, Veterans Justice Outreach worker, and the Veterans Court Team. Participants will proceed through three (3) phases of engagement, with no minimum or maximum required time commitment; the content and duration of Veterans Court will be determined on an individual basis. Accepted participants will be assigned a Veteran Mentor. Veteran Mentors are military veterans who volunteer their time to assist participants in the Court. Upon successful completion of the Veterans Court Program, including payments of fines, costs, and restitution,
the participant’s charges may be reduced, dismissed, or the District Attorney’s Office will seek to expunge the pertinent charges as previously agreed, subject to Court approval.

The Department also performs DNA collection and operates an in-house urine specimen analysis lab.