

Community Corrections Funding



Washington County supports a 4% increase in funding for Community Corrections Act Counties Subsidy for each year of the next biennium.

Issue At-A-Glance

- Minnesota’s criminal justice system is largely a state responsibility that relies heavily on community supervision as an alternative to costly imprisonment.
- Community Corrections Act Counties are an essential part of providing cost-effective community supervision to offenders in our community.
- The state has not fulfilled its responsibility to fund this alternative to maintain the balance of county and state funding.
- The continued lack of state funding contributes to a reliance on probation fees paid by clients which may create barriers to success, often with disparate impacts on lower income individuals and people of color. In addition, the state continues to shift its financial responsibility to the local level through increases in property tax levies that are necessary for counties to maintain effective probation services.

83%

83% of probation services in Minnesota are delivered at the county level although increases in county funding are not consistent, despite the Department of Corrections receiving regular increases each year.

Inadequate State Funding for Community Corrections Act Counties Subsidy

Financial Responsibility

probation fees, often with disparate impacts on lower-income individuals and people of color

local level through increases in property tax levies

Support

The Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties, the Minnesota Inter-County Association, and the Association of Minnesota Counties.

Legislators in both bodies expressed bipartisan support for increases in community supervision during the 2020 legislative session.

Previous Consideration

The 2019 and 2020 Legislature provided no increase in base funding for Community Corrections Act Counties.

No Action

Counties will continue to assume a larger financial responsibility for funding alternatives to expensive state imprisonment through property tax dollars. Counties that are unable to support levy increases will likely be required to cut staff positions, which could have negative impacts on public safety outcomes.

Financial Implications

County property tax dollars will be needed to cover any increased cost of community supervision or services would be reduced to reflect current resources.

Contact

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