

STATE OF THE COUNTY 2004 WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY...

County Executive
William R. Steinhaus

“Just recently a local newspaper reported on the excessive costs and high recidivism of youth remanded to institutions. In an effort to reduce youth placements in institutions in 2003 we initiated an exciting new assessment tool, the YASI (Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument), for the juvenile probation population. With this tool, which is now used by both Probation and Youth Bureau staff, our ability to predict criminal/delinquent behavior, match levels of service to that risk and target higher risk individuals has been significantly enhanced. This instrument is already proving to be of great benefit in terms of more successful outcomes for youth and families. That’s why our PINS (Persons in Need of Supervision) placements have decreased by 55%, from 60 in 2002 to 27 in 2003. In 2004 a similar tool will be fully implemented at Probation for our adult probation population.”