Lebanon County

Intermediate Punishment Treatment Plan for 2026-2027

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Lebanon County's leaders remain committed to preventing overcrowding at the Lebanon County Correctional Facility (LCCF). Keeping the Average Daily Population (ADP) of inmates at a manageable level (below 300) is accomplished by offering viable, cost-effective alternatives to incarceration for eligible offenders while protecting the public. County officials have authorized and revised these sentencing alternatives as part of County Intermediate Punishment (CIP) programming and as restrictive conditions of probation in accordance with Chapter 42 Section 9763 (c) and (d), which "significantly restrict the person's movement" and could include home confinement or electronic monitoring. The County's criminal-justice stakeholders, who are represented on the Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (LCCJAB), remain committed to these alternatives to imprisonment, continually monitoring them to ensure their effectiveness. They also recognize the importance of ensuring that offenders who have been imprisoned return successfully to the community and avoid further involvement with the criminal justice system. The Offender Reentry Coalition has been reenergized and meeting regularly under the direction of a County Reentry Coordinator, who is also a core member of the CJAB. The Coalition is working on strategic planning and will conduct a Reentry Simulation in November 2026. LCCF has also implemented a Life Skills Class for inmates who are about to be released.

Act 115 of 2019 replaced what had been formerly known as County Intermediate Punishment (CIP) with Restrictive Conditions of Probation. Since the enactment of that law, the County has been committed to working within its guidelines, including changes to eligibility ***for probation*** under Title 42, Section 9721 (a.1), while maintaining the proactive practices that benefit both the offender and the community. The County adheres to the Seventh and Eighth Editions of the PA Sentencing Commission Guidelines that address the sentences and supervision of offenders eligible for intermediate punishment. The County's IP Plan is based on these guidelines. An "eligible offender" includes:

1) Offenders sentenced for an offense under the 7th Edition at Levels 2, 3, or 4 and who would otherwise be sentenced to a period of partial or total confinement in a county facility.
2) Offenders sentenced for an offense under the 8th Edition at Level B, with a standard range recommendation that includes restrictive conditions.
3) Offenders sentenced under the 8th Edition at Level C or D and who would otherwise be sentenced to a period or total confinement in a county facility.

Eligible offenders may receive restrictive conditions of probation in accordance with Title 42, Chapter 9804 since the County's IP programs meet the requirements for these conditions under Chapter 9763 (c) and (d).

This updated plan, developed under Title 42 Chapter 9806 and meeting the required criteria, reviews the IP programs and restrictive conditions for eligible offenders that are currently in place or could be in place at a future time. For FY 2026-2027, the County requests IP-grant funding for some, but not all, components of the plan.

The main goal of the plan is to offer viable alternatives to incarceration as means of keeping the Average Daily Population (ADP) at the Lebanon County Correctional Facility (LCCF) below 300. The County has been achieving this objective on a consistent basis. The ADP at the end of November was 281. The ADP at the end of February was 271; the ADP for April was 267; the ADP for June was 267; July's ADP was 261. The average length of stay during these months was 22 days. These figures present evidence that the diversionary programs in place in the County are working. Despite the short length of stay, inmates continue to receive counseling and treatment post-release. A major service for inmates is the Medication Assisted Program (MAT). This includes both a maintenance and induction component funded primarily through MAT-related grant funding from PCCD as well as opioid settlement funds. LCCF has reestablished Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and 12 Step on a regular basis. This is in addition to quarterly Life Skills classes and semi-annual Trauma Informed Care classes.

The County is also concerned about the rising number of inmates over the age of 60. An aging inmate population means a greater demand for medical treatment and the fiscal costs associated with it.

Another ongoing concern has been the number of inmates with mental health issues, defined as inmates who are being monitored via the medical vendor stability rating at the prison and whose needs have not always been addressed. Lebanon County MH/ID/EI collaborates with PrimeCare, the health-care provider contracted to deliver medical services to inmates at the LCCF, to devise effective care for this segment of the inmate population. MH/ID/EI also has an active Team MISA (Mental Illness and Substance Abuse) program in Lebanon County. Comprised of representatives from criminal justice departments, Team MISA works to divert low-risk offenders with mental illness and other special needs from prison. It also focuses on expanding community-treatment options and working toward early diversion for defendants with drug/alcohol or MH/ID issues. No additional funding from the County budget is required. Team MISA meets monthly to discuss the cases of individuals with a mental-health history or drug/alcohol history. The purpose is to engage in meaningful dialogue about identified individuals and develop treatment plans to bring before the court. Since January 2026,109 individuals entering LCCF have had a documented history with MH/ID/EI. Notably, 16 of these individuals have been incarcerated more than once during the same period.

The President Judge also intends to establish a Wellness Court in Lebanon County by late-2026. Planning meetings, including the development of a court manual, are ongoing. This represents another proactive step toward providing those with mental health needs with options that do not include incarceration. Discussions about establishing this fourth treatment court have also addressed early identification of offenders with mental health needs as well as viable housing options for such offenders

Lebanon County believes that CIP/Restrictive Conditions of Probation should be less costly and more effective than incarceration. These conditions include a combination of supervision, treatment, and behavioral management.

Lebanon County also realizes that such programming is not appropriate for all offenders, but should be specifically oriented to individuals who, through restrictive probation and alternative

sentencing program, will benefit from program contact without jeopardizing community safety. In 2024, Probation Services began utilizing the nationally recognized Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) as the chief evidence-based assessment tool to identify offenders' criminogenic needs and to determine whether to incarcerate an offender. The ORAS is now used by most counties in the Commonwealth. Since January 2023, the County has been assessing offenders prior to sentencing--immediately after an offender enters a guilty plea-- to determine risk levels and offenders' criminogenic needs. The County contends that pre-sentence assessments assist the Court in determining a more appropriate sentence and subsequent levels of supervision/conditions of probation. The practice of assessing offenders prior to sentencing continues in 2026-2027 with ORAS, which has a very accurate pre-screening component. Training of adult probation officers in how to use ORAS effectively will continue.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD

The Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (LCCJAB) hears reports on and discusses elements of this plan at CJAB meetings, which take place every other month. The focus is on ensuring that these alternatives to imprisonment remain effective.

CIP/Restrictive Conditions of Probation Policies in Place

Lebanon County continues to utilize—and plans to continue utilizing--the following programs as viable alternatives to incarceration.

- Electronic Monitoring
- Drug Court
- D.U.I. Court
- Veterans' Court
- Wellness Court (Pending)

Referrals are the primary methods of alerting the courts to individuals eligible for restrictive programming. Many referrals come from Probation/Parole Officers who make recommendations to the court as part of the pre-sentence investigation and assessment. Members of the District Attorney's staff as well as members of the Public Defender's Office (or other defense counsel) also serve as significant sources for referrals. All must agree on whether a recommendation will be made to the sentencing judge on placing an offender in an alternative to incarceration. The Court then incorporates any recommendation into the sentence

Offender accountability is vital. If offenders fail to comply with program requirements, the program identifies and imposes specific sanctions, including incarceration.

ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT CIP PROGRAMS/RESTRICTIVE CONDITIONS OF PROBATION

What follows is a review of existing programs that the County is using as Restrictive Conditions of Probation or offering as alternatives to incarceration ***under Title 42, Chapter 9804.*** These programs meet the minimum standards for Intermediate Punishment listed in Appendix "D" of the PCCD's grant announcement:

ELECTRONIC MONITORING (EM) – The Office of Probation Services continues to utilize the Electronic Monitoring Program for eligible offenders as an alternative to incarceration. The average caseload of offenders on EM/HA usually ranges from 50 to 60. The length of time on house arrest/electronic monitoring varies, usually ranging from three to six months, and is not the same for every offender**.** Offenders participating in the three specialty courts also serve a phase of their sentence on house arrest as a restrictive condition under Title 42 Section 9763 (d) that restricts the person's movement and monitors compliance**.** The Court will continue to make use of this restrictive condition of probation. It will remain a vital part of IP in 2026-2027 and beyond.

DRUG TREATMENT COURT—The County established this specialty court in November 2022 as an alternative to the former Renaissance-Crossroads Program, which had been rehabilitating eligible offenders for two decades. This is a 16–18-month program, though an offender can complete the program sooner depending on adherence to guidelines. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and meet certain other eligibility criteria, including having a diagnosis of drug/alcohol dependency. Violent offenders or sex offenders are not admitted to the program. Applications are initially reviewed by the Drug Court Coordinator. After an applicant completes a drug and alcohol evaluation, the Drug Court Review Team reviews the application and makes a recommendation to the President Judge. PA Counseling Services, Inc. performs the drug/alcohol assessment using the ASAM criteria for adults, as required. (PA Counseling Services is a State-licensed provider that has collaborated with the County for over two decades.)

The Drug Court consists of four phases lasting between 90 days and up to one year, requiring offenders to complete one phase satisfactorily before advancing to the next phase. The program requires electronic monitoring/SCRAM for participants during the first phase. All phases require continued treatment as needed. Offenders must also remain clean for a set period before advancing to the next phase**.** The number of participants in this program continues to range from 25-30, the highest participant level among the three treatment courts. An advisory team meets regularly with the President Judge to review applications, discuss participants' progress, and address any other issues that arise. Participants in the Drug Court appear regularly before the President Judge to report on their progress and experiences with the program. The President Judge is pleased with the program's progress, noting that it provides offenders with an excellent opportunity to avoid incarceration in State prison for two years or more for their drug-related offenses. The officer in charge of supervising offenders in the program is also an active participant in the advisory team. The plan is to continue this treatment court in 2026-2027

LEBANON COUNTY D.U.I. COURT PROGRAM – Started in 2008, the D.U.I. Court Program is the longest running of the County's treatment courts, focusing on second and third-time D.U.I. offenders who have serious problems with alcohol abuse or issues of dependency. ***Violent or sex offenders are not admitted to the program***. D.U.I. Court presents a heightened level of judicial involvement and intensive probation supervision coupled with rigorous treatment to address addiction. The D.U.I. Treatment Court employs an aggressive approach designed to assist the participants in their rehabilitation through a supervised program of treatment and accountability. ***These strict guidelines meet the standards under Title 42 Chapter 9763(c), which govern eligibility for Restrictive DUI Probation for those convicted of DUI under Title 75.*** Offenders appear before the President Judge on a regular basis to discuss their progress, goals, and setbacks. The Lebanon County D.U.I. Court does not accept participants with mental-health issues that renders the offender unable to complete the program's requirements.

Key to the program's success is the use of substitute Electronic Monitoring and/or the use of a SCRAM unit (or other Alcohol Monitoring device) in lieu of incarceration. The program may also provide a combination of incarceration and Electronic Monitoring to fulfill the mandatory sentencing required by law.

The County funds this specialty program with local dollars, underscoring the County Commissioners' belief in the merits of the program and its success in keeping intoxicated drivers off the road and embracing sobriety. (Other methods of funding include a D.U.I. Court fee, an electronic monitoring fee, and a SCRAM monitoring fee.)

In recent times, the number of participants at any time has ranged from 18-30, though the number has been as high as 39. As of 8-12-26, the number of participants was 21, with the review team considering six applicants. The plan is to continue identifying eligible defendants under Act 115 to maintain participation levels in this longstanding, successful program. The plan is to continue this treatment program for FY 2026-2027.

Members of the court treatment teams also attend annual training, which is part of the requirement to attain and/or renew AOPC accreditation. Team members attended the PA Association of Treatment Court Professionals Conference in State College in October 2025. Team members also plan to attend the same conference in October 2026.

VETERANS' COURT PROGRAM—In January 2017, Lebanon County became the 21st county in the Commonwealth to have an official Veterans Court. The number of participants has ranged from 11 to 15. The program is open to any current or former member of any branch of the military, including the Reserves and National Guard. Referrals are accepted by the Court, except if an offender has been charged with homicide or registrable sex offenses. Referrals may also include those who are before the Court for alleged violations of existing probation/parole sentences or as a condition of ARD.

The goal is to continue to increase the number of participants, with all offenders matched up with a volunteer mentor who is a veteran of the armed forces, preferably from the same branch

as the offender. Members of the Veterans Court Review Team meet regularly to review applicants to the program and discuss participants' progress. Participants appear regularly before the President Judge to report on their progress in meeting the program**'s** goals and expectations. The officer in charge of offenders in this program is also an active participant in the advisory team.

The program has a diversion and non-diversion track. For those on the diversionary track, sentencing is deferred pending completion of the program. Upon successful completion, the charges could be reduced, dismissed, or expunged, subject to Court approval. For those on the non-diversionary track, successful completion of the program may result in the reduction or termination of any remaining supervision; however, these records will not be expunged.

Part of the program is regular contact with a representative from Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO). The County has a solid working relationship with VJO, strengthened by the fact that Lebanon County is home to a large and expanding VA Medical Center. VJO is also represented on the CJAB.

The plan for 2026-2027 is to continue this court program.

WELLNESS TREATMENT COURT—President Judge John C. Tylwalk plans to have a Mental Health Court fully operational in the County by ***January 2027***

[Offenders in all treatment courts have an opportunity to participate in pro-social activities such as golf and bowling. The softball tournament referenced in the Veterans' Court paragraph might be open to the other treatment courts. Pro-social activities, under the supervision of probation officers, will continue in 2026-2027.

The latest edition to the treatment courts is the facility dog ("Shannon"), that is used for offenders who might be experiencing anxiety or stress during court sessions. A trained facility dog has a calming presence during such stressful situations. Susquehanna Service Dogs (SSD) of Grantville awarded the County the facility dog in May 2026, following an extensive application and review process. Shannon resides with APO Jenah Kauffman., who has been vetted and approved by SSD. APO Kauffman also attended two weeks of SSD-sponsored training after the dog was placed with her. Shannon is now a fixture at Probation Services as well as at court sessions.]

OTHER PROGRAMS IN PLACE IN LEBANON COUNTY

Lebanon County offers other program for offenders that are not CIP/Restrictive Conditions, but do serve a purpose for offenders as well as the community.

COMMUNITY SERVICE—Probation Services coordinates Community Service efforts throughout the county in addition to managing a minimum supervision caseload. Offenders in this program clean the Probation Building. It is important to note that some juvenile offenders also perform community service as part of their restitution, including, for example, mopping floors and emptying waste baskets at the Probation Building (Juvenile Unit). The LCCF uses inmates for yard work at the prison as well as other county properties. In early April 2025, only 26 inmates were involved in any work detail.

VICTIM RESTITUTION – Administered by the office of District Attorney, this program offers an alternative to traditional periods of probation and incarceration, enabling an offender to make restitution according to a predetermined schedule. Probation Services monitors and enforces collections. Failure to make restitution results in the imposition of more severe penalties, including appearing in Court.

WORK RELEASE – After a COVID-related hiatus, the Work Release Program was reinstated in January 2023. This has been a longstanding approach used by the Lebanon County Courts as a means of retaining prisoners while enabling them to provide for their families, to pay restitution, or to pay other court costs, fines, and fees. The program includes releasing eligible prisoners to work at an approved job in the community. The prisoner returns to the Correctional Facility at the conclusion of his/her work shift. At the end of July 2026, 11inmates were employed in the community; four had been added to the program, while another four had been removed. LCCF has a full-time Director of Work Release.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS IN LEBANON COUNTY—The County has taken proactive steps over the years to ensure effective diversion programs for juvenile offenders. A day-treatment alternative for eligible juvenile offenders is in place, thanks to a collaborative effort between the County and Youth Advocate Programs (YAP). Located at a centralized location in Lebanon City, YAP's Community Treatment Center (CTC) represents a viable, cost-effective alternative to sending offenders to out-of-county placement. (Lebanon County does not have its own detention facility.) The program offers drug and alcohol treatment, family counseling, and treatment groups. As of 08/12/2026, six juvenile offenders were participating in this program. In recent times, the number of participants has rarely reached ten or more. The County does have a contract for guaranteed access to one detention bed at Abraxas Academy in Morgantown, PA and another at Adelphoi Manor Detention in Ebensburg, PA. When these beds are already occupied, the County uses house arrest with electronic monitoring.

First-time juvenile offenders who are arrested for possessing a small amount of marijuana and/or drug paraphernalia are referred to Teen Intervene. This program is a collaboration between the Juvenile Court, Empower the Mind, and Lebanon Family Health Services. Juveniles who complete Teen Intervene are not supervised by Juvenile Probation; rather, they are referred to this pre-petition diversion program. Empower the Mind screens each participant for any drug and

alcohol treatment needs and is authorized to refer a juvenile for services if necessary. Lebanon Family Health then completes a four-session drug and alcohol education curriculum with the young offender. Services can be provided in a variety of settings, including at school. The objective is to help teens identify a potential substance use disorder. After successful conclusion of Teen Intervene, the juvenile's case is closed and eligible for expungement in six months. The average caseload for Teen Intervene is 10 juveniles at a time.

The plan is to continue these non-CIP/Restrictive programs in 2026-2027.

USE OF EXISTING COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Many treatment alternatives require utilization of existing community resources in either direct or supporting roles. Lebanon County utilizes the following community agencies and organizations wherever possible. ***Participation in any of the faith-based organizations (*) is strictly voluntary.***

a) New Perspectives at White Deer Run
b) PA Counseling Services, Inc.
c) Veterans Administration Medical Center
d) PA Careerlink
e) Jubilee Ministries*
f) WellSpan Philhaven Behavioral Health
g) Salvation Army*
h) Rescue Mission*
i) Lebanon County Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention
j) Lebanon County Area Agency on Aging
k) Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
l) TRIAD Treatment Specialists
m) Lebanon County Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse
n) Domestic Violence Intervention (DVI)
o) Sexual Assault Resource and Counseling Center (SARCC)

Approved by the Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board on 9-8-26

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