



Tipton County

Tribune



Weather page



Team members are (front row, from left) Barb Burton, probation officer; Tracy Regnier, Community Corrections Director; and Lisa Connors, Alternatives Victim Advocate. In back are Tipton County Sheriff Tony Frawley; Prosecutor Jay D. Rich; Matt Deckard, jail commander; Justin Clouser, public defender, Tipton City Police Chief Tom Clark and Tipton Circuit Court Judge Thomas R. Lett. Members not pictured are Rick Stout, chief probation officer; Amanda Kinney, community corrections; Jim Powell, Tipton County Council; Laura Clouser, public defender; and Debra McGuckin, Community Howard Regional Health.

Jail financing moving forward

BY LOU ANN MILLET Tribune Correspondent Tipton County President Jim Powell announced the enactment of legislation signed by Mike Pence in March. A handful of gathered County Council members voted on an ordinance to impose a 1.5 percent rate of County Gross Income Tax (CGIT) in order to finance construction, acquisition, and equipping of the jail and related building and parking facilities. The costs related to the acquisition of land and existing building and acquisition of land are other reasonably expected costs AND the improvement, repair and equipment of the courthouse to address safety concerns and excess moisture in the house.

New judicial group studying evidence based decision making in justice system

BY LOU ANN MILLET Tribune Correspondent Judicial officials in Tipton County are in a select group of people in the United States who are studying evidence-based decision making (EBDM) in Local Criminal Justice Systems Initiative. Three states selected in this study were Indiana, Wisconsin and Virginia. In Indiana, the six counties selected were Tipton County, the smallest county participating in the study; Hendricks County, Hamilton County; Porter County; Bartholomew County and Jefferson County.

Regnier, team leader, the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) launched EBDM in June 2008. This study aims to create a system-wide framework to reduce pretrial misconduct and post-conviction offending. In February 2015 the NIC announced its partnership with the three above-mentioned states to "replicate and expand EBDM to multiple local jurisdictions and state-level policy teams." The goal of this partnership is to "support the alignment of local and state systems of driven, collaborative, and guided by evidence-based decision making.

What does this mean for Tipton County? During this coming year an EBDM policy team will examine every step in the criminal justice process. The team will determine what steps are effective and what ones need changed. What results is research-based "best practices." The aim of all this study is to reduce recidivism and to make the sentence fit the individual. Judge Lett noted Tipton County lacks many social services because it is a small county. Also, an antiquated jail does not lend itself to being much more than a holding place. With the potential of a new jail, comes the opportunity for the correctional system to "regroup" and make decisions based on research of what is effective.

Clouser, public defender, Justin Clouser, public defender, Rick Stout, chief probation officer; Barb Burton, probation officer; Tony Frawley, county sheriff; Tom Clark, Tipton police chief; Deb McGuckin, mental health professional; Amanda Kinney, community corrections; Jim Powell, county council; Lisa Connors, victim advocate; Matt Deckard, county jail commander; Regnier and Lett. This group will meet monthly with technical assistant Becky Ney who flies in from Pennsylvania. Members of the EBDM group will be open to new ideas and will actively listen to what others are saying. The group's upcoming meeting is July 27.

According to Tipton County Circuit Court Judge Thomas R. Lett, team leader, and Community Corrections Director Tracy

making this decision without BCC board members

sent correspondence to

Boone and Hamilton County's money has not

Henderson receives reprimand

BY VICKY BOYD Tribune Correspondent

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