

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA ALCOHOL SAFETY ACTION PROGRAM

12 Chatham Heights Rd. Suite 102 Fredericksburg, VA 22405



ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2020

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Proudly serving City of Fredericksburg, Stafford, Spotsylvania,
King George and Caroline Counties

ABOUT US:

The Rappahannock Area Alcohol Safety Action Program (RAASAP) is a criminal justice system that provides assessment, intervention placement and monitoring for persons convicted of Driving Under the Influence (DUI), Driving Under Influence of Drugs (DUID), Boating Under the Influence (BUI), and misdemeanor alcohol/drug offenses.

The program, funded entirely by client fees, has six full-time employees, two part-time employees, and five education facilitators. Fiscal services are contracted to the accounting agency Ferriss Business Services. RAASAP is certified by the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program Commission, operates autonomously and is governed by a seven-member Policy Board. The RAASAP Policy Board is represented by a member of each of our servicing localities and two members at-large.

REMARKS FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Throughout Fiscal Year 2020, the RAASAP office continued to carry out our mission to combat the problem of driving under the influence. The RAASAP office had a successful year in our prevention programs, even while operating near full capacity during the COVID-19 epidemic. The RAASAP office continued to provide efficient case management for our clients while our area courts were closed. This unprecedented event allowed our office to explore technologies often considered but never implemented until now. As a result of our efforts, RAASAP now offers virtual education options for select client populations such as Intervention Interview and offenders who reside out of state. This report reflects upon the operations of the RAASAP office in various component areas over the past fiscal year.

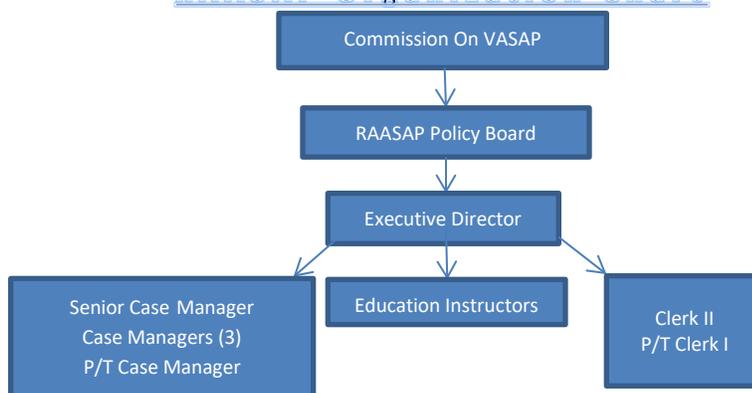
*Sincerely,
Kevin Ortegel
RAASAP Director*

OUR MISSION:

Improve highway transportation safety by decreasing the incidents of driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs leading to the reduction of alcohol and other drug-related crashes through:

- **Enforcement**
- **Adjudication**
- **Case Management and Offender Intervention**
- **Public Information and Education**
- **Evaluation & Certification**

RAASAP Organization Chart



POLICY BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman

Keri Gusmann, King George County Commonwealth's Attorney – King George County Representative

Vice Chairman

John Mahoney, Caroline County Commonwealth's Attorney - Caroline County Representative

Treasurer

Ben Nagle, Office on Youth – Member at-Large

Laura Hatch, Fredericksburg General District Court Clerk - Spotsylvania County Representative

Jamie Childress, Attorney -City of Fredericksburg Representative

Captain Lee Peters, Stafford County Sheriff's Office – Stafford County Representative

Vacant – Member At-Large

STAFF MEMBERS

Kevin Ortegel - Executive Director

Barbara VanSchoor - Senior Case Manager

Kevin Johnson - Case Manager

Mary Tressa - Case Manager

Alicia Kline - Case Manager

Lys Reed – P/T Case Manager

Crystal Martin - Clerk II

Jennifer Charlson – P/T Clerk I

Alison Bareford - Group Instructor

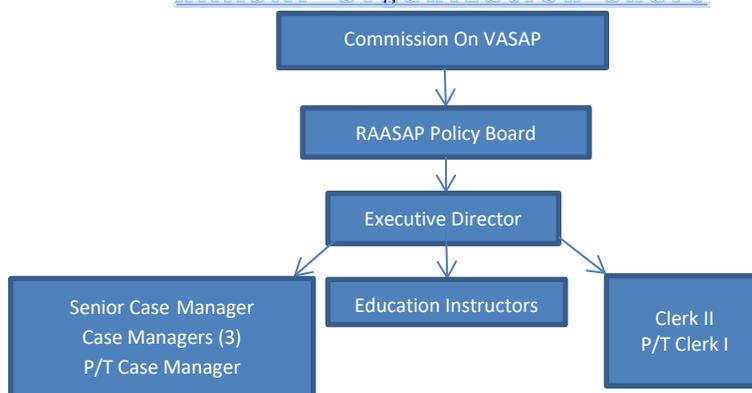
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Jacqueline Devore, CSAC - Group Instructor

Steven Devore - Group Instructor

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ENFORCEMENT COMPONENT #1

Rappahannock Area ASAP serves as a resource to law enforcement agencies to provide information and training in the early detection and apprehension of DUI offenders.

Activities:

- Captain Lee Peters for the Stafford County Sheriff's Office is a member of the Rappahannock Area ASAP Policy Board
- Rappahannock Area ASAP financially contributed to the MADD Chapter's Annual Law Enforcement Awards Ceremony recognizing local officers

ADJUDICATION COMPONENT #2

Rappahannock Area ASAP, as an extension of the court, provides such services as required by the court. The program staff will work closely with the courts to ensure effective and efficient flow of offenders between the two areas.

Activities:

- Distributed DUI consequences to Judges and Clerks of Court
- RAASAP and the Fredericksburg General District Court have come together to initiate the first DUI Court program in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Fredericksburg DUI Court is modeled after the "Drug Court" concept, coordinating substance abuse intervention with direct judicial support and imposing immediate sanctions for probationer's behavior throughout probation. RAASAP has provided the operations manual, substance abuse assessment, coordination of intervention services and case management services for operations of the DUI Court. The first DUI Court referrals began on 05/1999 from Fredericksburg General District Court. The DUI Court expanded in 7/2001, to incorporate referrals from Spotsylvania General District Court and again in 07/2005, to incorporate referrals from Stafford General District Court. The DUI Court format was expanded to King George General District Court in 01/2013.

EVALUATION COMPONENT #3

Rappahannock Area ASAP maintains a standard of excellence in its policies and processes and reviews its performance in those areas on a regular and ongoing basis. Every attempt shall be made to evaluate effectiveness of the program's efforts both on a local level and as part of the state VASAP system.

- Program evaluations completed at the end of each class.
- Case audits are performed on an ongoing basis.
- Care is taken to ensure the computer data is entered properly and hard files are organized accordingly.
- Rappahannock Area ASAP staff evaluations held annually.
- Rappahannock Area ASAP retained certification from the Commission On VASAP on April 17, 2018.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND INTERVENTION COMPONENT #4

Probation Supervision

In FY 2020, one thousand, four hundred and twenty (1,420) participants were referred to the Rappahannock Area ASAP for probation supervision. The offenses included Driving Under the Influence (DUI), Boating Under the Influence (BUI), alcohol-related reckless driving, driving after illegal consumption, misdemeanor drug and alcohol offenses, young offenders, drug offenders, and habitual/DUI 3rd offenders restored to restricted license privilege.

Classification

All participants referred to the Rappahannock Area ASAP for supervision are screened individually by the Commission on VASAP established guidelines. Participants are assigned to intervention that meets their individual needs. If the participant struggles with alcohol or drug abuse during their assigned period of supervision, their classification may be modified. Evidence-based practices are utilized. There were one thousand, two hundred and forty-five (1,245) probationers assessed, classified and referred for alcohol/drug intervention services in FY 2020.

Intervention

15% of offenders were placed in the Intensive Education Program. The intensive education program is intended for the first time offenders who exhibit problems with alcohol/drugs without appearing addicted or exhibiting addictive use patterns.

85% of offenders were placed in the Treatment Education Program. The treatment education program includes education and a referral for a substance abuse assessment. This program is for offenders with multiple DUI/drug offenses as well as offenders who exhibit tolerance and abusive patterns to alcohol/drugs.

DUI Court

In FY 2020, the Fredericksburg Regional DUI Court serviced one thousand three hundred and twenty-one (1,321) new participants. The Rappahannock Area ASAP provided case management, assessment and monitoring for the DUI Court programs located in the jurisdictions of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, King George and Stafford General District Courts.

The Rappahannock Area ASAP office provides other education and services:

Young Offender Program The Rappahannock Area ASAP office offers a specific education program designed for the youthful offender. This program is intended for offenders who have been charged with underage possession of alcohol. The course is designed to address the problems associated with underage drinking. In FY 2020, the young offender program had four (4) participants.

License Restoration Evaluation Virginia Code 46.2-360 and 46.2-391, directs the local ASAP office to complete a license restoration evaluation for the Court review when a habitual/DUI 3rd offender petitions for restoration of driving privileges. In FY 2020, the Rappahannock Area ASAP completed eighty-one (81) evaluations.

Reckless Aggressive Driver Education Program (RADEP) This program is designed for those engaged in acts of reckless or aggressive driving. It is a tool in the disposition of traffic cases in which the defendant has shown reckless/aggressive driving behaviors. The program originated from the Richmond ASAP in 1997 and was adopted at the Rappahannock Area ASAP in FY 2013. The program is twelve hours of driver education with a component that teaches methods to avoid dangerous driving behaviors. Twenty-seven (27) individuals completed this valuable program this fiscal year.

Driver Improvement This program is certified by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. It provides guidelines and techniques to improve the participants driving abilities. Seventy-six (76) individuals completed the eight- hour Driver Education Program in FY2020.

Intervention Interview This program is required under the Virginia Code 46.2-355.1 for when a driver incurs two Driving on Suspended convictions for failure to pay fines on their driving record within a ten year period of time. The program educates the offender about the consequences of further charges and how to address the behaviors that have resulted in the offenses. FY2020 was a banner year for RAASAP as we continued to provide this service using virtual technology during COVID-19, which proved to be an attractive option for Virginia residents across the state who were seeking to satisfy this requirement. Four hundred and eight (408) individuals completed the Intervention Interview, nearly double the total in FY2019.