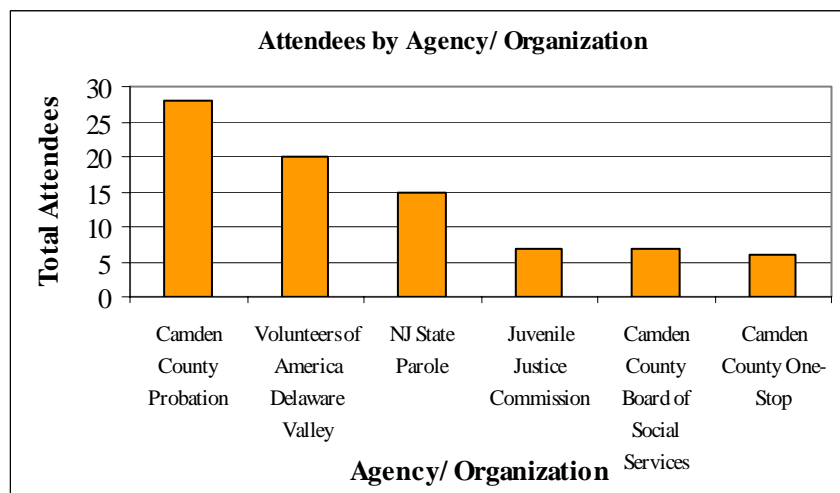


Attendee Evaluation Analysis

On May 22, 2008, the Camden Safer Cities Initiative’s held the *Summit on Social and Identification Services for Offenders* at the Waterfront Technology Center at Camden. The Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs (WRI), neutral convener for the Camden Safer Cities Initiative, recruited Planning Committee members and facilitated the planning of the event. The goal of the Summit was to communicate information on vital services for offenders, so that Parole, Probation and Juvenile Justice Commission officers would be better equipped to help their clients succeed in rehabilitating offenders on their caseloads and preventing recidivism.

The *Summit on Social and Identification Services for Offenders* consisted of: presentations on programs and services by the Camden County Department of Motor Vehicles, Child Support Division of U.S. Superior Courts/Probation, and the Camden County Board of Social Services. Additional information was disseminated by the Camden City Clerk’s Office/Vital Statistics Office and Camden County Social Security Administration through information tables, and additional handouts were supplied by the Camden City United Way and NJ Department of Corrections.

Of the 96 participants, WRI received evaluations from 2/3 of all attendees. This summary document analyzes the feedback from the Summit attendees, as the feedback will be useful in future planning. The chart below shows the number of attendees according to the agency/organization that they represented at the Summit. Of note, most attendees participated in the Summit as a direct result of their agency/organization’s participation in the Summit Planning Committee.



Attendees also represented the following agencies/organizations:

NJ Department of Corrections (2), U.S. Probation/Parole (2), Camden County Department of Motor Vehicles (1), U.S. Courts (1), Genesis School of Business (1), Janus Solutions (1), Community Planning and Advocacy Council (1), National Boxing Association for Ex-Offenders (1), South Jersey Behavioral Health Resources, PACE Program (1), South Jersey Alliance (1), National Comprehensive Center for Fathers (1).

Expectations and Satisfaction

Attendees were asked to rank their expectations for the Summit, and evaluate how well the Summit's presentations, question and answer sessions, and information tables met those expectations.

Respondents ranked expectations in the following priority:

1. How to access existing services for offenders
2. Restrictions placed on offenders for certain social services
3. New services for offenders
4. How to set up identification for offenders

Access to English as a Second Language services and comparisons to services and programs in Philadelphia were also noted as learning expectations from the half-day Summit.

Overall, respondents reported that the Summit met their learning expectations by 78%. Further, satisfaction with the format of and services that were presented at the Summit were both reported at 77%. A 90% reported satisfaction level with the location suggests that the Waterfront Technology Center at Camden be a venue for future events.

Respondents reported a high likelihood, 78%, that they would attend a similar event to the CSCI *Summit on Social and Identification Services for Offenders* in the future.

The most useful portions of the Summit were reported to be (ranked in number of responses):

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Camden County Board of Social Services (CCBSS) Presentation | 6. Clarification of Existing Services |
| 2. Child Support Presentation | 7. Information on the CCBSS General Assistance (GA) Program |
| 3. Information on Eligibility Requirements | 8. Social Security Presentation |
| 4. The Entire Summit Event | 9. Variety and Cooperation of Presenters |
| 5. Handouts and Information Binder | 10. Motor Vehicles Presentation |

Further Work

Question and answer sessions brought forth issues and ideas for future work in services offered to offenders. Attendees' suggestions are a valuable source of information for planning future events and programs for offenders in Camden City and County.

**Camden Safer Cities Initiative
Summit on Social and Identification Services for Offenders**



Suggestions from attendees included:

- Provide information on employment resources, housing programs, health/medical services, funding sources, ESL resources, support groups, drug treatment programs, and other services.
- Recruit social service agencies, the NJ Department of Corrections, the Armed Forces, and Volunteers of America Delaware Valley to present on existing and new services.
- Include legislative representatives for larger change in re-entry type services.
- Include offenders in the discussion and presentations.
- Create a forum for which updates and changes can be communicated with officers and service providers.
- Include information on eligibility requirements for sex offenders, Summits in other counties, and more ways to reduce recidivism.