

DeKalb County, Illinois

Jail and Justice System Study

Project Description:

DeKalb County, Illinois is a rapidly growing county, which suffered from an overcrowded jail and inadequate space to support the increasing number of inmates being held each year. Mark Goldman & Associates and an architecture firm contracted with the County to conduct a study in order to determine the most appropriate solutions to the problems it was facing.

Services Delivered:

The study included:

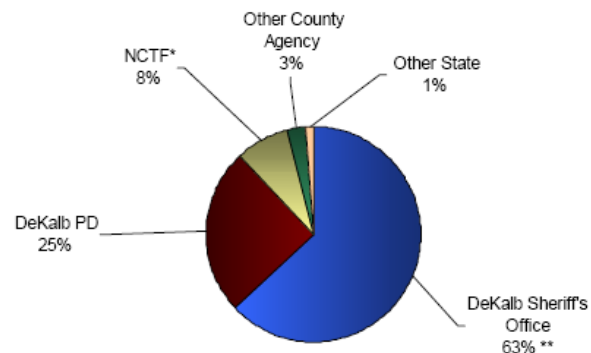
- A detailed inmate population profile;
- Population projections and bed needs projections (for 20 years);
- Evaluation of the county's current uses of alternatives to incarceration for pre-trial and sentenced inmates;
- Additional (proposed) alternatives and changes to the justice system that would limit operational and construction costs and, consequently, reduce DeKalb County's bed needs.

Additionally, the team studied the existing facility and reported on the impact that the facility's layout and limitations had on operations. The team aided the County by proposing and evaluating options for providing sufficient jail capacity. To test each option and help the County make a sound decision, the team developed a preliminary architectural program, a conceptual design, a staffing plan, and estimated staffing and construction costs for each option.

Through meetings with the DeKalb County Sheriff and his staff, the team generated a report to address the building needs of the Jail and other related building space.



Exterior of the Existing Facility



Arresting Agency
of Inmates in Custody on Day of Snapshot