



Bill Federice <federicebill@gmail.com>

## LEAD program

2 messages

**Pat Hults** <hultsp@outlook.com>

Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 7:23 AM

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Early in the review process there was quite a bit of time devoted to the LEAD program - explaining what it is and the services it offers. The Sheriff's Department was an early adopter in the State. We have kind of forgotten about it as we look at recommendations. It truly is one of those transformative programs that switches the emphasis from arrest and punishment to one of prevention and healing. It is just the kind of change in policing we all would like to see more of.

One of our recommendations should focus on that program - noting the progressive thinking of the Sheriff's Department for engaging in it early and it's expansion to include people before they run into the law. An action can be to look at ways to support and improve the program - there is probably already a group in place that could speak to that - Catholic Charities and the Sheriff's Department. Does it get enough funding? Is there follow-up analysis on the success rate among participants (and how is that measured?)? What are the road blocks the program faces? Another thing to look at is that a program that relies on officer discretion on who is diverted into that program needs to keep alert so that implicit bias isn't directing who gets into the program. Is that being addressed?

This program is a real win and should be included in the recommendations.

Patricia Hults

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Sun, Feb 28, 2021 at 12:40 PM

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Check out the official Town of Conesville Website at:

<http://www4.schohariecounty-ny.gov/government/town-of-conesville/>