

**North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
2004-05 Ralph W. Ketner Employee Productivity Awards Application**

County:	Pitt	Employee:	Janis Gallagher	Email:	jegallagher@co.pitt.nc.us
County Department:	Legal	Employee Title:	Assistant County Attorney		
County Phone:	(252) 902-3107	County Mailing Address:	1717 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834		
Is this project being submitted on behalf of two or more employees?				No	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If yes, please provide below a listing of all project employees in Number 6. Employee & title as listed above should be for lead team member.

Fair Labors Standards Act Designation: In order for your project to be eligible, you MUST indicate one of the following. If you do not know, please contact your personnel director

EXEMPT: **NON-EXEMPT:** **BOTH (if applicable to team):**

1.	Productivity Improvement Title:	Electronic Offender Monitoring Program
2.	Implementation Date (must be between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004)	December 6, 2004
3.	Please describe the productivity improvement. (Please limit response to these 2 pages.)	
By coordinating efforts between the Office of the Pitt County Sheriff and the Pitt County Department of Social Services, Janis Gallagher and Nancy Wilson have been able to increase the level of service to families involved in the IV-D child support program, while reducing the costs associated with enforcement and incarceration. In December, 2004, the Pitt County Sheriff received grant funding to implement an electronic offender monitoring program. This program targets non-violent, non-assaultive inmates who are housed at the Pitt County Detention Center. The Sheriff has 25 monitoring units that utilize global positioning technology to track eligible inmates housed outside the jail.		
Pitt County Department of Social Services Child Support Enforcement Program (DSS) has used traditional methods to collect delinquent child support. The classic remedy for non-custodial parents who fail to pay court ordered child support is civil contempt resulting in incarceration. This remedy often recurs with the same defendants, resulting in a non-productive cycle that crowds jails and makes little progress toward consistent child support payments.		
Janis Gallagher and Nancy Wilson developed a memorandum of understanding between the Sheriff and the DSS Director whereby child support defendants in the jail who meet eligibility criteria may participate in the program. While on the program, defendants who have jobs must get wage garnishment in place. Defendants without jobs must participate in Project Strive, a community resource dedicated to job training and employment assistance. The memorandum establishes procedural protocol and effective methods of communication between County departments and community resources.		

4. Please describe why this project was initiated or what problem it addressed:

This project was initiated to address problems of overcrowding at the jail and increasing costs to house certain inmates at the jail, as well as to improve the methods and rate of collection of IV-D child support. Coordination of efforts between the Office of the Sheriff and DSS has allowed the jail to alleviate overcrowding by reducing the number of inmates by 25. For each of these 25 inmates, the county saves approximately \$35 per inmate per day. DSS has gained additional tools to break the cycle of repeated civil contempt and incarceration. Defendants who would otherwise be sitting in jail are now working and making regular child support payments via wage garnishment. Those defendants who have had difficulty obtaining or maintaining gainful employment in the past are now participating in Project Strive, a community job training resource, that will provide lifetime skills so that these defendants may better themselves and be in a position to responsibly make regular child support payments. This, in turn, reduces the number of costly proceedings to enforce delinquent child support orders.

5. Please quantify the improvement’s results in terms of cost savings, cost avoidance and/or a higher level of services provided. (Please indicate what resources were used to achieve your results, and what was done with the time savings, if any accrued).

Results have been realized in reduced costs to the jail and increased child support collection. Each day the jail has 25 people on the program, it will save \$875.00. In a one year period, the savings are expected to reach \$319,375.00. Further, overcrowding is known to be a leading cause of violence in jails and may jeopardize facility standards. This program has reduced the jail population by 25 inmates daily. Since this program has begun over \$5,000.00 in delinquent child support payments have been collected from inmates participating in the program. Many who have not worked in years are now employed with regular child support payments being received via wage garnishment. This further reduces the cost to issue a show cause to enforce delinquent child support orders.

6. Please provide any other descriptive information you would like to be considered by the review committee.

Additional employee: Nancy Wilson, Paralegal III

County Manager’s Name:	D. Scott Elliott	Supervisor’s Name:	JoAnne Burgdorff
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Return by **JUNE 1, 2005** via email Rebecca.Troutman@ncacc.org or fax to (919) 733-1065