**Social Work Program Helping Nonviolent Offenders**

*By JUSTIN STORY* *jstory@bgdailynews.com* *Feb 21, 2016*

For many clients with court-appointed public defenders, the efforts that Kita Clement puts into their cases can mean the difference between prison and a better outcome.

While attorneys with the Department of Public Advocacy represent indigent criminal defendants in court, Clement’s position as a social worker in Bowling Green’s DPA branch involves duties behind the scenes that are crucial to a client’s case.

Being a social worker for a client of a public defender means frequent visits with clients to develop what are known as alternative sentencing plans that outline how a defendant potentially facing prison for felony offenses can address issues related to substance abuse, mental health or other problems in order to become a productive member of society while avoiding incarceration. Read the FULL ARTICLE

<http://www.bgdailynews.com/news/social-work-program-helping-nonviolent-offenders/article_84e15564-f91d-5293-bb24-532633b0d7c1.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share>