

HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT



2008 ANNUAL REPORT

JUDGE THOMAS R. LIPPS

JUDGE KARLA J. GRADY



Judge Thomas R. Lipps
Administrative Judge



Judge Karla J. Grady



Court Administrator
Mark H. Reed

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COSTS PER COPY \$3.05

OVERVIEW

Hamilton County Juvenile Court has the responsibility to hear and determine all cases and issues concerning children in Hamilton County. Additionally, the Juvenile Court administers programs and facilities providing for the custody, care and rehabilitation of youth within its jurisdiction.

The types of cases appearing before the Juvenile Court include:

- Delinquency cases in which a youth is charged with what would be a crime for an adult.
- Dependency cases in which it is alleged that a child has been abused or neglected by a parent or other person.
- Paternity/Child Support cases to determine parentage and collect support.
- Traffic cases in which a juvenile is charged with violating traffic law.
- Custody cases in which the parties disagree concerning with whom the child should live or visit.
- Adult cases in which there is an issue of contribution to a child's delinquency or failure to send a child to school.
- Various other cases which impact the best interests of children.

Two judges direct the work of the Court. In 2008, those judges were Administrative Judge Thomas R. Lipps and Judge Karla J. Grady. The judges, along with the Court Administrator, Mark H. Reed, oversee all Court operations, including:

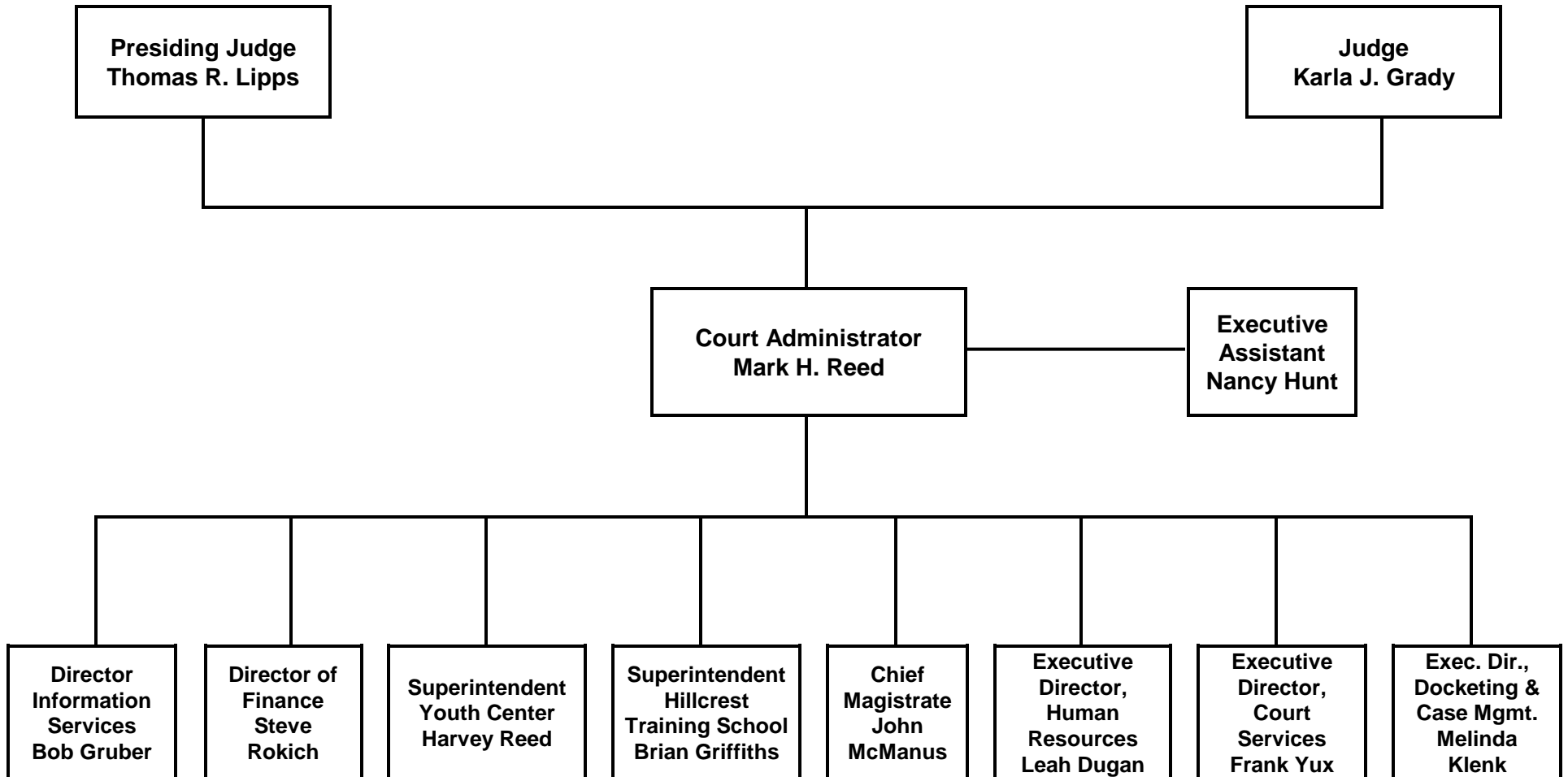
- Department of Docketing and Case Management comprised of the Clerk's Office, Docketing Departments, Record Room and Security.
- Magistrates Department comprised of 27 magistrates who hear a large volume of cases in various jurisdictional areas.
- Department of Court Services comprised of the Probation Department, Intervention Unit, and Work Detail.
- The Youth Center, a 160-bed secure detention center, housing youth in secure custody pending court hearings.
- Hillcrest Training School, a 142-bed residential treatment center for youth court-ordered into the program for violating the law.
- Various administrative departments encompassing the Office of Court Administrator, Administrative Magistrate, Personnel, Finance, Information Services, Operations and Training.

The Court also contracts with various placement and program services offered by child care agencies, including inpatient secure diagnostic services, shelter care housing children, custodial drug treatment centers, youth counseling programs, etc. Further, the Juvenile Court along with other official entities, have formed the Family and Children First Council to consolidate efforts, increase efficiency and improve service to families and children.

The Juvenile Court is fortunate to enjoy the services of many volunteers who give their time, expertise and money for the enhancement of children. Volunteer programs include over 30 community unofficial hearing officers where members of the legal profession deal with minor infractions, diverting the case from official charges. Volunteer chaplains provide spiritual guidance to youth held in the custody of the Court. An Advisory Council composed of citizens in the community directs services and funds to enhance court programs which cannot be funded by tax revenue to provide needy children with clothes and positive life experiences.

The National Council of Juvenile Court and Family Court Judges designated the Hamilton County Juvenile Court as the nation's first model court. Hamilton County programs are praised by the national judicial and correctional associations and in published reports. Judges and officials from around the nation and across the world have traveled to Cincinnati to observe our Court.

Hamilton County Juvenile Court



COURT ADMINISTRATION

In 2008, the Hamilton County Juvenile Court experienced a significant reduction in funding from all sources, but most significantly in dollars appropriated from the County General Fund. This fund itself had experienced a substantial revenue shortfall as a result of the deteriorating economic conditions within the County. In response the Court was forced to reduce capacity in the Youth Center by twenty five percent, in treatment beds at Hillcrest School by fifteen percent, and to fully implement a hiring freeze that had already begun in late 2007.

Fortunately, case filings of almost every type decreased again in 2008 as they had in 2007 and by almost the same five percent figure. However, while overall case filings were down, some offense types, most notably burglary and robbery continue to rise. Both of these offense types increased more than twenty percent over their 2007 levels and are consistent with national trends that show a decrease in overall juvenile delinquency rates, but an increase in severity of the offense committed.

In spite of these significant pressures, there were many areas in which the Court made noteworthy accomplishments in the past year. Hillcrest School was recognized as one of the three top juvenile correctional programs in the nation. Hillcrest was also a finalist for the Performance Based Standards (PbS) Barbara Allen Hagan Award. The Youth Center was again reaccredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care Services, to go along with prior accreditations by the American Correctional Association and the American Association in Suicidology, the only detention facility in Ohio to be so recognized.

By weaving together innovative funding sources, the Court was able to expand its array of specialty courts, first begun with family treatment and mental health courts, to include a teen court. The past year also saw the Court fully implement the National Center for State Court designed CourTools methodology of performance measurement in case management.

Finally, this report would not be complete without acknowledging the good work done by the employees of this Court, who continued to serve the public well during a very difficult year.

CASE MANAGEMENT

DOCKETING/CASE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

The Docketing and Case Management Department of the Juvenile Court is responsible for docketing and presenting all complaints filed, maintaining and updating all legal records, and maintaining audio cassettes for Magistrates' hearings. The department consists of 43 employees who handle cases involving Delinquency, Unruly, Custody, Visitation, Traffic, Adult Jurisdiction, Child Support, and Dependency. Jobs currently within the department include Docketing Clerks, Traffic Clerk, Warrant Clerk, Case Managers, Unofficial Hearing Officer, Receptionists, School Case Managers, and File Clerks.

COMPLAINTS AND SOME MOTIONS FILED

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
DELINQUENT & UNRULY	19,803	19,894	21,160	18,752	18,449
TRAFFIC	6,810	6,568	6,511	5,664	4,954
PATERNITY & SUPPORT	3,536	1,961	1,095	912	755
CONTEMPT MOTIONS	6,403	4,568	5,785	4,386	3,584
MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT	1,062	794	738	709	691
MOD. OF SUPPORT - CSEA	260	1,244	937	1,753	1,404
ADMIN. ORDER of SUPPORT	237	1,736	2,544	1,016	N/A
REGISTRATION of ADMIN. ORDER	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,718	3,068
ADMIN. MODIFICATION ORDER	477	1,239	976	1,784	1,392
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT	4,333	4,222	3,550	3,465	3,315
DEPENDENCY, NEGLECT & ABUSE	618	598	618	593	677
CUSTODY, VISITATION & HABEAS CORPUS	1,239	1,417	1,334	1,316	1,387
MISCELLANEOUS	2	1	0	0	1
ADULT MISDEMEANOR .	1,730	1,602	1,329	1,442	1,412
TOTALS	46,510	45,844	46,577	43,510	41,089
HEARINGS CONDUCTED	151,447	164,283	163,890	153,339	143,653
HEARINGS PER CASE	3.26	3.58	3.52	3.52	3.50
HEARINGS PER DAY	606	657	656	613	575
DELINQUENT FILINGS	18,166	18,120	19,339	17,101	16,861
FELONY FILINGS	2,881	2,939	3,172	2,766	2,643
JUVENILES PC TO DYS	125	159	158	143	132
JUVENILES BOGJ	39	76	73	70	70
JUVENILES SYO	5	1	0	0	2

COURTOOLS

In 2008 the Court incorporated the CourTools Performance Measurement methodology within its existing case management system. CourTools was developed by the National Center for State Courts as a way to integrate the NCSC designed Trial Court Performance Standards with relevant concepts from other successful public and private sector performance measurement systems. Combining CourTools with available benchmarking opportunities through the Ohio Supreme Court, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the American Bar Association and other organizations enables the Court to demonstrate the effectiveness in which it has performed the critical task of hearing the cases that come before it in a timely and efficient manner.

One of the most fundamental measures of a Court's efficiency is its ability to keep up with its incoming caseload. If cases are not disposed in a timely manner a backlog of cases will be created. Court's should aspire to clear (i.e. dispose of) at least as many cases as have been filed or reopened in a year by having a clearance rate of 100 percent or higher. The statistics for 2008 are as follows:

New Filings	22,199
Reopened /Reactivated Cases	<u>10,956</u>
Total Incoming Cases	33,155
Total Cases Closed	33,366
Clearance Rate	100.64%

CLERK'S OFFICE

In Hamilton County Juvenile Court, Judge Thomas R. Lipps and Judge Karla J. Grady are Ex Officio Clerks of the Court. All cases filed are processed through either the Clerk's Office at 800 Broadway, or at the Youth Center Intake Department. The Clerk's Office at 800 Broadway consists of the Chief Deputy Clerk and 13 employees. The Clerk's Office staff screen, process and image new complaints and motions; send service to notify parties of court dates; prepare mandated, and internal statistical reports; establish restitution accounts; and process financial transactions for restitution, fines, court costs, purges, bond, and other ordered fees.

JUVENILE JURISDICTION

DELINQUENT COMPLAINTS FILED

	2007	2008			
HOMICIDE			MENACING		
Aggravated Murder	6	0	Aggravated Menacing	149	153
Complicity Aggravated Murder	1	0	Complicity Aggravated Menacing	0	1
Murder	6	10	Menacing	177	192
Attempt Murder	0	2	Menacing Child Service / Agency Worker	0	3
Aggravated Vehicular Homicide	2	1	Menacing By Stalking	6	8
Vehicular Homicide	0	1	TOTAL	332	357
Vehicular Manslaughter	2	2			
TOTAL	17	16	KIDNAPPING		
ASSAULT			Kidnapping	9	8
Felonious Assault	154	136	Abduction	1	4
Felonious Assault Peace Officer	4	0	Unlawful Restraint	2	4
Complicity Felonious Assault	4	3	TOTAL	12	16
Attempt Felonious Assault	0	1			
Aggravated Assault	10	4	EXTORTION		
Aggravated Vehicular Assault	2	0	Extortion	0	1
Vehicular Assault	6	0	TOTAL	0	1
Assault	857	856			
Assault, Teacher, Administrator, Bus Driver	103	90	SEXUAL OFFENSES		
Assault Child Service / Agency Worker	19	5	Rape	54	46
Assault Corrections Officer	17	12	Attempt Rape	4	4
Assault Peace Officer	30	19	Sexual Battery	1	1
Complicity Assault	6	2	Gross Sexual Imposition	28	32
Attempt Assault	3	1	Attempt Gross Sexual Imposition	1	0
Negligent Assault	0	4	Sexual Imposition	12	7
TOTAL	1,389	1,133	Importuning	0	3
			Public Indecency	15	17
			TOTAL	115	110

	2007	2008		2007	2008
PROSTITUTION			THEFT (Cont.)		
Soliciting	2	4	Theft of Drugs	5	
Loiter to Engage in Prostitution	2	4	Complicity Theft	27	31
TOTAL	4	8	Complicity Grand Theft	9	12
OBSCENITY			Attempt Grand Theft	4	5
Disseminate Material Harmful to a Juvenile	0	1	Attempt Theft	8	24
Pandering Sexual Matter Involving a Minor	0	10	Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	56	53
TOTAL	0	11	Unauthorized Use Vehicle -Felony	2	1
ARSON			Complicity Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	0	2
Aggravated Arson – Person	15	16	Auto Theft	51	37
Aggravated Arson – Property	14	12	Unauthorized Use of Property	1	6
Arson – Private Property	19	28	Passing Bad Check	3	0
Arson – Public Property	6	7	TOTAL	1,507	1,454
Arson – Land	4	1	MISUSE OF CREDIT CARDS		
Attempt Arson	1	0	Misuse of Credit Cards	5	23
TOTAL	59	64	TOTAL	5	23
DISRUPTION, VANDALISM, DAMAGE			FORGERY		
Disrupt Communication Services	3	2	Forgery	8	13
Disrupt Transportation / Utility Services	14	5	Complicity – Forgery	0	1
Disrupt Service – Emergency Personnel	3	6	TOTAL	8	14
Vandalism	59	60	FRAUD		
Complicity Vandalism	2	0	Tamper with Records	3	0
Vandalism of Burial Structure	0	6	Identity Fraud	0	2
Criminal Damaging	419	456	Taking Identity of Another	2	4
Complicity Criminal Damaging	1	6	TOTAL	5	6
Criminal Mischief	54	85	RECEIVING		
Complicity Criminal Mischief	1	5	Receive Stolen Property	325	232
Vehicular Vandalism	9	6	Receive Stolen Property - Over	49	57
Railroad Vandalism / Trespass	0	7	Complicity Receive Stolen Property	2	0
TOTAL	565	644	TOTAL	376	289
ROBBERY			GAMBLING		
Aggravated Robbery	203	237	Public Gaming	4	2
Complicity Aggravated Robbery	21	21	Gambling	2	1
Attempt Aggravated Robbery	0	4	TOTAL	6	3
Robbery	159	208	OFFENSES AGAINST PEACE		
Complicity Robbery	2	5	Inciting to Violence	2	11
Attempt Robbery	5	0	Aggravated Riot	17	4
TOTAL	390	475	Riot	7	16
BURGLARY			Failure to Disperse	2	3
Aggravated Burglary	23	28	Telecommunication Harassment	34	38
Complicity Aggravated Burglary	0	1	Inducing Panic	67	46
Attempt Aggravated Burglary	0	1	Complicity Inducing Panic	2	0
Burglary	241	297	Making False Alarms	37	40
Complicity Burglary	6	10	Complicity Making False Alarms	2	0
Attempt Burglary	7	13	Disorderly Conduct	1,333	1,233
Break and Enter	167	219	Disorderly Conduct - Intoxicated	32	26
Complicity Break and Enter	6	6	Misconduct at Emergency	3	1
Attempt Break and Enter	8	12	TOTAL	1,538	1,418
TOTAL	485	587	OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY		
TRESPASS			Endangering Children	9	10
Criminal Trespass	431	452	Contrib. To Unruliness/Delinquency	4	0
Aggravated Trespass	2	5	Domestic Violence	509	483
TOTAL	433	457	Domestic Violence Felony	85	74
SAFECRACKING			TOTAL	607	567
Safecracking	1	0	OFFENSE AGAINST JUSTICE		
Tamper With Coin Machine	5	1	Failure to Disclose Personal Information	0	3
Complicity Tamper With Coin Machine	2	0	Impersonating an Officer	0	1
TOTAL	8	1	Intimidation	25	9
THEFT			Intimidating Victim, Witness	1	5
Theft	1,306	1,238	Retaliation	1	1
Grand Theft	35	45			

OFFENSES AGAINST JUSTICE (Cont.)	2007	2008
Falsification	152	169
Tampering with Evidence	25	13
Compounding a Crime	0	1
Obstructing Official Business	633	656
Obstructing Justice	9	2
Assault Police Dog or Horse	1	0
Resisting Arrest	158	147
Flee and Elude Police Officer	13	12
Fail to Comply with Police	11	6
Fail to Comply with Police - Felony	20	7
Attempt Fail to Comply with Police – Fel.	1	0
Escape	18	14
Convey Drug/Weapon into Detention	2	0
Harassment by an Inmate	2	3
TOTAL	1,072	1,049

ATTEMPT, COMPLICITY, CONSPIRACY		
Conspiracy	0	1
Attempt	18	17
Complicity	17	25
TOTAL	35	43

WEAPONS CONTROL		
Carrying Concealed Weapon	153	117
Carry Concealed Weapon Felony	3	14
Complicity Carry Concealed Weapon	1	1
Have Weapon Under Disability	38	25
Possess Weapon in Detention Facility	1	0
Weapon in School Safety Zone	38	28
Use Weapon While Intoxicated	0	1
Possess Object Indist from Firearm	3	6
Discharge Firearm Habitation/School	6	7
Discharge Firearm on/near Prohib Prem.	5	0
Discharge Firearm on/near Public Road	3	0
Dangerous Ordnance	10	10
Possess a Defaced Firearm	0	2
Firearm – Underage Purchase	0	1
Improperly Furnish Firearm to Minor	2	0
Firearm Transport Loaded	1	4
Firearm Transport Unloaded	0	1
Improp. Handling Firearm in Motor Veh.	4	0
Possess Criminal Tools	40	57
TOTAL	308	274

DRUG OFFENSES		
Corrupt Another with Drugs	0	1
Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs	8	1
Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs - School	15	5
Trafficking Drugs	10	20
Trafficking Drugs Near School	18	19
Complicity Drug Trafficking	0	2
Attempt Drug Trafficking	1	0
Drug Trafficking Marijuana	18	16
Drug Traff Marijuana Near School	19	21
Drug Trafficking Cocaine	26	17
Drug Trafficking Cocaine Near School	44	33
Drug Trafficking Heroin	0	2
Drug Trafficking Heroin Near School	5	4
Illegal Cultivation of Marijuana	1	1
Aggravated Possession of Drug	8	4
Possession of Drug	34	76
Possession of Cocaine	109	92
Possession of Heroin	5	6
Possession of Marijuana	314	330

DRUG OFFENSES (Cont.)	2007	2008
Possession of Hashish	1	1
Drug Abuse	16	0
Permit Drug Abuse	0	1
Possess Drug Abuse Instrument	3	2
Possess Drug Paraphernalia	152	176
Illegally Process Drug Document	1	0
Tampering With Drugs	0	
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	1	2
Illegally Dispense Drug Samples	2	0
Possess Counterfeit Cont. Substance	22	31
Traff Counterfeit Controlled Substance	7	2
Traff Count Cont Subs – School	5	0
TOTAL	845	865

MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES		
Ill Dist of Cigarette or Tobacco Products	1	0
Desecration	3	8
Ethnic Intimidation	3	3
Contaminate Substance-Human Use	3	1
Littering	0	1
TOTAL	10	13

FIREWORKS VIOLATIONS		
Discharge Fireworks	2	0
TOTAL	2	0

LIQUOR CONTROL		
Consume Possess Liquor in Veh	1	0
Purchase/Consume	295	360
Possession	12	12
Misrepresent to Obtain Alcohol	2	1
Furnish Alcohol to a Minor	3	4
TOTAL	313	377

DRIVER LICENSE LAW		
Fictitious License, ID Card	3	0
Display Improper Driver's License	0	1
TOTAL	3	1

PHARMACISTS, DANG. DRUGS		
Unauthorized Practice of Pharmacy	1	3
Dangerous Drug, Purchase, Poss., Sell	2	5
TOTAL	3	8

HABITUAL / CHRONIC TRUANCY		
Chronic Truancy	494	564
TOTAL	494	564

VIOLATIONS		
Violation of Court Order	38	29
VCO Incurrigible	613	508
VCO Probation	535	601
VCO Placement	868	830
VCO Runaway	1,097	1,041
VCO Truancy	945	847
VCO Tobacco	5	5
VCO Work Detail	499	476
VCO Stay Center / Release Center	236	93
VCO EMU	168	264
VCO Curfew Violation	694	749
Parole Violation	217	195
TOTAL	5,915	5,638

MISCELLANEOUS/LOCAL CODES		
Miscellaneous Codes	423	369
TOTAL	423	369

TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS FILED

	2007	2008
Licensing of Motor Vehicle	99	79
Driver License Law	175	227
Financial Responsibility	2	1
Operation of Vehicle	3,065	2,584
Equipment and Loads	450	392
Motor Vehicle Crimes	94	63
Local Ordinances	1,778	1,608
TOTAL	5,663	4,954

UNRULY COMPLAINTS FILED

	2007	2008
Runaway	733	601
Incorrigible	120	108
Incorrigible Out of County	28	28
Unruly Tobacco	4	0
Unruly	39	59
Curfew Violation	471	617
Habitual Truancy	251	182
TOTAL	1,646	1,595

RESTITUTION

In 2008, the total restitution collected was \$87,878.11

FINES & COSTS COLLECTED

Fines	\$16,722.32
Court Costs	\$45,165.15
RRF & GRF	\$99,876.52
Computer Fees	\$15,823.58
Legal Research	\$4,670.15
Witness Fees	\$4,933.81
Delivery Fees	\$11,885.89
Work Detail Fees	\$982.18
Restitution Process Fee	\$2,549.39

DISMISSALS

In 2008, 8,133 delinquent, unruly, traffic and adult misdemeanor cases were dismissed.

CRIMES AGAINST ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED

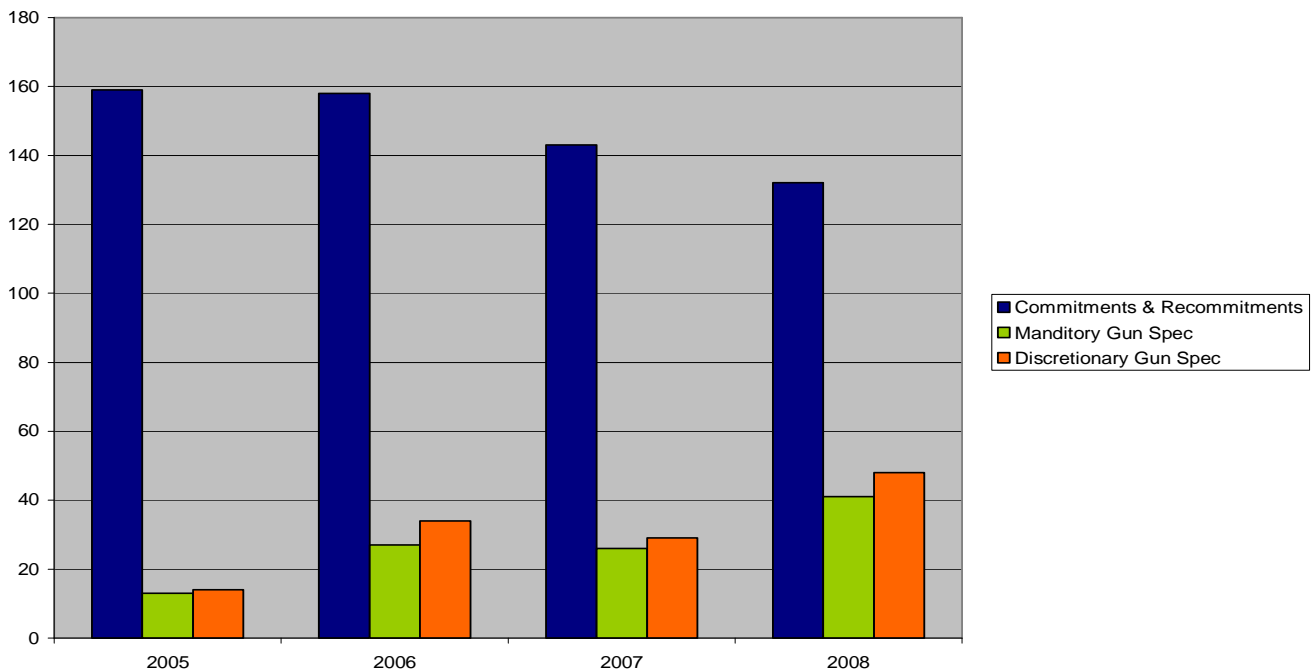
The following report, mandated by section 2151.18 of the Revised Code, reflects the number of complaints filed with the court, that allege that a child is a delinquent child, in relation to which the court determines under division (D) of section 2151.27 of the Revised Code that the victim of the alleged delinquent act was sixty-five years of age or older or permanently and totally disabled at the time of the alleged commission of the act.

TYPE OF OFFENSE	PROPERTY	THEFT	VIOLENT
DELINQUENT COMPLAINTS FILED	2	18	61
ADJUDICATIONS	1	13	34
ADJUDICATION & RESTITUTION	1	9	9
COMMITTED TO AN INSTITUTION	0	2	1
TRANSFERRED FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION	0	0	0

COMMITMENTS TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

The Court committed 132 juveniles to the Department of Youth Services and revoked parole for 34 juveniles in 2008. Of youth committed, two thirds were committed as a result of their use of a firearm while committing a crime. One third of the total committed received a mandatory commitment to the Department as a result of the severity of their offense.

Commitments and Recommitments



Commitments To DYS

	2008		
	Boys	Girls	Total
Committed	113	1	114
Recommitted	17	1	18
Total	130	2	132
Parole Revocations	29	2	31
Grand Total	289	6	163

Commitments/Recommits Characteristics

	2008
Murder (Aggravated)	0
Felony 1	41
Felony 2	18
Felony 3	28
Felony 4	28
Felony 5	17

Four Year Trends for Commitments

	Commitments			
	2005	2006	2007	2008
Boys	133	116	107	113
Girls	2	3	8	1
Total Commitments	135	119	115	114

Commitments vs. Recommitments

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Commitments	135	119	115	114
Recommitments	24	39	28	18
	159	158	143	132

Revocations

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Boys	47	28	21	29
Girls	0	1	0	2
Total Revocations	47	29	21	31

Four Year Trends Commitments/Recommitments - Mandatory

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Commitments	13	25	25	40
Recommitments	0	2	1	1
	13	27	26	41

Four Year Trends Commitments/Recommitments - Non-Mandatory

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Commitments	14	32	28	47
Recommitments	0	2	1	1
	14	34	29	48

TRANSFERS TO ADULT JURISDICTION

In 2008, 66 youth had their cases transferred to the adult division of the Court of Common Pleas. Of that number, 40 of those youth were required to be transferred for trial as a result of their age and the serious nature of the alleged offense.

	Youth
Filings	197
Mandatory Transfer	40
Discretionary Transfer	<u>26</u>
Total Transfers	66

Bindover Summary for 2008

	Cases	Youths
Carried from 2007	52	32
Carried to 2009	21	17
Filings	389	197
Mandatory	57	40
Discretionary	44	26
Total Bind Overs	114	66

ADULT JURISDICTION

DEPENDENCY, NEGLECT AND ABUSE

The Dependency Department is responsible for all complaints filed by public and private agencies alleging a child to be dependent, neglected, and/or abused. If a child is placed in the care of an agency, the dependency department must approve and monitor the implementation of the agency's plan for each child. The goals of the statutes that define the operation of the department are to protect children, to respect the rights of parents and to obtain permanent homes for children in a timely fashion.

	2007	2008
NEW FILINGS	487 cases 802 children	518 cases 885 children
FILINGS DISMISSED	76 children	89 children
INITIAL DISPOSITIONS		
Direct Custody to Individual	58 children	69 children
Protective Supervision	117 children	174 children
Temporary Custody	437 children	534 children
Permanent Commitments	45 children	34 children
Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	39 children	40 children

During 2008, in addition to the 34 children placed in permanent custody as an initial disposition, 66 children were modified from a status of temporary custody to permanent custody.

During 2008, in addition to the 39 children placed in planned permanent living arrangements as an initial disposition, 50 children were placed in planned permanent living arrangement as a modification to a prior grant of temporary custody

CHILDREN UNDER AGENCY CUSTODY OR SUPERVISION AT YEAR END

	2007	2008
Pending Complaints	299 children	285 children
Protective Supervision	119 children	162 children
Temporary Commitments	475 children	540 children
Permanent Commitments	313 children	238 children
Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	216 children	309 children
TOTAL	1,422 children	1,534 children

In addition to addition to addressing child abuse, neglect and dependency cases, the Dependency Department hears motions to modify prior dependency orders, as well as child custody cases that have been transferred from the Court of Domestic Relations. New filings of these cases are set forth below:

	2007	2008
New motions to Modify Prior Dependency Dispositions	336 cases 505 children	350 cases 560 children
New Cases Transferred from the Court of Domestic Relations	4 cases 6 children	0 cases 0 children

OTHER COMPLAINTS FILED

	2007	2008
ADULT MISDEMEANORS		
Failure to Send Child to School	1,348	1,292
Endangering Children	14	12
Tend to Cause Delinquency of a Minor	52	50
Contribute to Delinquency	9	25
Adult Probation Violation	12	15
Probation Contempt	0	1
Violation of EMU	7	17

TOTAL **1,442** **1412**

	2007	2008
PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP	778	545
SUPPORT	2,917	3,277
CUSTODY	1,230	1,240
VISITATION	136	177
CHILD CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY	147	159
CARETAKER AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT	21	18
HABEAS CORPUS	0	0
PERMISSION TO MARRY	0	0
PARENTAL BYPASS	0	1

SOME MOTIONS FILED	2007	2008
CONTEMPT	4,386	3,584
MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT	2,462	2,095
ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION ORDER	1,784	1,382
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS	3,465	3,315
HEARINGS CONDUCTED	2007	2008
TOTAL HEARINGS CONDUCTED	153,339	143,643
AVERAGE NUMBER OF HEARINGS PER FILING	3.52	3.36

SECURITY DEPARTMENT

The Security Department is comprised of 11 full-time Law Enforcement Officers. These Officers have been certified by the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission and have received specific and advanced training. The Hamilton County Juvenile Court Security Department is the first and only juvenile court certified by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

The Security Department operates in compliance with the Supreme Court of Ohio, Court Security Standards. The Security Department is responsible for providing security and prisoner transports within Juvenile Court at 800 Broadway. They further provide security and prisoner transports to the courtrooms at the Youth Center, prisoner transportation to and from other jurisdictions and is responsible for providing security at the Community Services Work Detail Program.

MAGISTRATES

There are twenty-six Magistrates in Juvenile Court. The Magistrates are appointed by the Juvenile Judges to preside over the daily case management in Juvenile Court. The powers of a Magistrate are similar to those of a Judge, however, their decisions and orders are subject to review and approval by the assigned Juvenile Court Judge. In Hamilton County, Magistrates determine delinquency, unruly, dependency, custody, paternity and child support matters in Juvenile Court. One hearing officer is assigned to hear delinquency and unruly cases referred for unofficial hearings.

Nine Magistrates are assigned to preside over cases involving allegations of dependency, neglect and abuse of children. They are responsible for deciding the temporary and permanent placement of children. The primary goal of the dependency process is to protect the best interest of the child.

The remaining Magistrates preside over delinquency, unruly, traffic, custody, paternity and child support. In delinquency, unruly and traffic matters, Magistrates preside at the plea and trial hearings and sometimes in conjunction with the Probation Department and Court Services Department determine appropriate dispositions.

Juvenile Court has jurisdiction of paternity, custody and child support when a child is born out of wedlock, or when married parents have not filed for divorce. The Magistrates oversee proceedings to establish the proper parent/child relationship. In addition to establishing paternity, the Magistrates also set child support orders. A Magistrate has the authority to hold a parent in contempt of court and place them before the assigned Judge for imposition of a jail term for failure to pay child support. The Magistrates also decide custody and visitation matters in Juvenile Court. Custody and visitation decisions determine who shall be the residential parent or custodian of a child and provides for the visitation schedule of a child.

UNOFFICIAL COURT PROGRAM

In March of 1975 the Court established an Unofficial Court Program to hear unruly and minor misdemeanor offenses. Supervision of the program is handled by the Executive Director of Docketing and Case Management Department, Hamilton County Juvenile Court.

During the year 2008, a total of 1269 juveniles were referred to the Unofficial Hearing Officer on 1,429 charges. Of the 1,429 charges heard, 301 charges were referred back to the Official Docket for hearing.

VOLUNTEER REFEREE PROGRAM

Two referee diversion programs exist in Hamilton County in an attempt to divert youth from official delinquent records.

Judge Benjamin S. Schwartz of Hamilton County Juvenile Court initiated the Volunteer Referee Program in 1958. It was the first program of its kind in the country. Attorneys were appointed by the Court as Volunteer Referees to hear unofficial cases of a minor nature within their own community. The program has continued with few modifications over the years, under Judges William J. Morrissey; Olive L. Holmes; David E. Grossmann; John P. O'Connor, Sylvia Sieve Hendon, Thomas R. Lipps, and Karla J. Grady.

Local businesses, schools, police and citizens refer cases. The advantage of the program is that cases are heard within the youth's own community. Generally the cases are heard in the evening, as it is more convenient for all parties to participate. There is high visibility of the child for enforcing house arrest, work details and other measures of discipline.

During the year 2008, there were 990 youth served by the Volunteer Referee Program. Of these 159 were referred back to the police department or school for further action. A total of 831 were handled unofficially and diverted from the system.

UNOFFICIAL TEEN COURT PROGRAM

In April of 2007 the court established an Unofficial Teen Court Program to hear first time minor misdemeanor offenses. Supervision of the program is handled by the Teen Court Coordinator, a Magistrate, the Diversion Hearing Officer and a Probation Officer.

During the year of 2008, a total of 73 juveniles were referred to the Teen Court Program on 93 charges. Of the 93 charges, 19 were referred back to the Official Docket for hearing.

FAMILY TREATMENT DRUG COURT

MISSION

The Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court is a collaborative effort to ensure timely permanence for children in the custody of the Hamilton County Department of Job & Family Services or under agency supervision. The goal is to provide the most efficient substance abuse treatment for parents, as a safe return to a sober parent is the most natural form of permanency the system can provide. This program avoids ineffective treatment, ill-informed court decision-making and repetitive litigation that impeded permanency.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As a condition for admission to the Family Treatment Drug Court the parent stipulates to the admissibility of all Family Treatment Drug Court findings and treatment records in any dependency proceeding and waives any further cross examination or confrontation of the reporters to the Family Treatment Drug Court. In exchange for this waiver of rights, the parent receives the benefits of close judicial monitoring of treatment, efficient exchange of information among collaborative agencies, and individualized case planning all of which are designed to effect the safe return of the child. Conversely, unsuccessful completion of the program will be documented in the findings of fact and conclusions of law issued by the Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court and will be considered by the Dependency System for all purposes in the future. This voluntary program, at its core, protects the due process rights of the participants yet offers the treatment benefits associated with adult drug courts. As a separate tract to the Hamilton County Juvenile Court's model court, which is already conducting close monitoring of the child's case plan, the Family Treatment Drug Court achieves the goal of timely permanency for children within a context that does not unduly compromise parental rights.

The Family Treatment Drug Court began in September of 2002, and received funding through a grant from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration. The program is comprised of three phases, and the anticipated time for completion of the program is one year.

STATISTICS

In 2008, ten parents entered the Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court, and the program served a total of eleven clients. The Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court discharged nine participants from the program in 2008, and nearly half of the participants discharged from the program were in compliance or substantial compliance with their treatment plan at the time of their discharge.

MEDIATION

Mediation offers an effective alternative to the traditional court process by using a non-adversarial conflict resolution process in an environment of collaborative problem solving. Mediation provides a forum to parties that promote the safe, guided exchange of information following simple rules that are clearly explained from the outset. Parties are permitted to explore any avenue of possible resolution unfettered by external restraints.

CUSTODY AND VISITATION MEDIATION

The Court contracts with attorneys and social workers trained in family mediation and dispute resolution to mediate petitions and motions for custody and visitation. The magistrates referred 99 cases involving custody and visitation petitions to mediation in 2008, following a pretrial hearing.

The parties reached a full or partial agreement in 57% of the cases mediated.

CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATION

The goal of the Child Protection Mediation Program is to create an atmosphere that values children and families through a reliable process that empowers families and generates reasonable and creative solutions resulting in permanency for children. The types of cases served by the Child Protection Mediation Program included the following: custody or visitation petitions; adjudications of abuse, neglect and/or dependency; dispositional and post-dispositional requests of protective supervision, temporary custody, planned permanent living arrangement and permanent custody; and disputes related to case plan services.

The magistrates referred 42 families with active child protection cases to mediation in 2008. The parties reached a full or partial agreement in 66% of the cases mediated. Of those cases in which the parties reached an agreement, 84% resulted in a full agreement and 16% resulted in a partial or interim agreement. The magistrates approved all but one of the agreements reached by the parties in mediation.

INDIVIDUALIZED DISPOSITION DOCKET

PROGRAM HISTORY

In 2004, Hamilton County Juvenile Court partnered with the Hamilton County Community Board of Mental Health to implement a juvenile mental health court, known as the Individualized Disposition Docket. This program incorporates the following best practice principles from the *RESOURCE GUIDELINES: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse & Neglect Cases* and the *JUVENILE DELINQUENCY GUIDELINES: Improving Court Practice in Juvenile Delinquency Cases* published by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges: one magistrate/one family case assignment model; frontloading of services; family engagement in all stages of the proceedings; frequent substantive review hearings; the use of individualized dispositions that includes graduated sanctions/rewards; and community collaboration. The docket serves youth between the ages of 12 and 17 years who are adjudicated delinquent and diagnosed with a serious emotional disturbance. Although these youth are at risk for out of home placement, they have a designated caregiver who will work them in an intensive, home-based intervention.

MISSION

The Individualized Disposition Docket is a community collaborative model of service delivery which utilizes an interdisciplinary and integrated team approach to treatment for youth with serious emotional disorders who are involved in Juvenile Court and require specialized, supported care in order to remain in the community. This model of service focuses on the provision of assertive, comprehensive psychiatric interventions designed to assist and empower the family in achieving individualized goals which are tailored to meet their needs, thus eliminating the risk of out of home placement or other court sanctioned dispositions.

SERVICE MODEL

In 2005, the Hamilton County Community Mental Health Board contracted with Lighthouse Youth Services to provide the intensive home-based intervention for the youth and families on this docket. Lighthouse utilizes Functional Family Therapy, an evidenced-based model of treatment. Also included in the program design are components of the Assertive Community Treatment (adult mental health court model). This model also integrates drug and alcohol services as over sixty percent of the youth on this docket presented with a co-occurring disorder. The continuum of services available through Lighthouse includes: comprehensive family assessments; twenty-four hour crisis intervention; mental health case management; psychiatric services; medication management; individual and family therapy ; educational support; behavior management; chemical dependency assessment/education; anger management/conflict resolution; and community support and resource development.

STATISTICS

In 2008, sixteen youth with serious emotional disorders entered the Individualized Disposition Docket, and the program served a total of twenty-three youth and their families. The Individualized Disposition Docket discharged fourteen participants from the program in 2008, and all of the youth discharged from the program were in compliance or substantial compliance with their treatment plan at the time of their discharge.

PRETRIAL DIVERSION DOCKET

PROGRAM HISTORY

In early 2004, the Hamilton County Juvenile Court partnered with the Hamilton County Community Board of Mental Health to implement a juvenile mental health court, known as the Individualized Disposition Docket. In implementing the Individualized Disposition Docket, it became apparent there was a need for early identification of mentally ill adolescents before they became entrenched in the legal system. At the same time, Hamilton County Juvenile Court received a Planning and Implementation Grant through the Department of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance for a juvenile diversion mental health court. In November of 2006, Hamilton County Juvenile Court began a 6 month planning process to divert mentally ill adolescents from traditional court services.

MISSION

This mission of the Pretrial Diversion Docket is to provide early identification and intervention services prior to adjudication in an effort to avoid future contact with the juvenile justice system for youth diagnosed with a serious emotional disorder, who also may have a co-occurring substance use disorder, and have had no contact or minimal delinquency contact with the Hamilton County Juvenile Court.

SERVICE MODEL

In 2006 the Hamilton County Community Mental Health Board contracted with Lighthouse Youth Services to provide the intensive home-based intervention for the youth and families on this docket. Lighthouse utilizes Functional Family Therapy, an evidenced-based model of treatment. Also included in the program design are components of the Assertive Community Treatment (adult mental health court model). This model also integrates drug and alcohol services as over sixty percent of the youth on this docket presented with a co-occurring disorder. The continuum of services available through Lighthouse includes: comprehensive family assessments; twenty-four hour crisis intervention; mental health case management; psychiatric services; medication management; individual and family therapy ; educational support; behavior management; chemical dependency assessment/education; anger management/conflict resolution; and community support and resource development

STATISTICS

In 2008, the Pretrial Diversion Docket admitted fifteen youth with severe emotional disorders to the program and served twenty-seven youth and families. The Pretrial Diversion Docket discharged twenty participants from the program in 2008, and 80% of the youth discharged from the program were in compliance or substantial compliance with their treatment plan at the time of their discharge.

ATTENDANCE PROGRAM

The Attendance Program involves a partnership between the Court, Westwood Elementary and Talbert House. This collaborative effort is designed to reduce absences within the schools. The Attendance Clerk and Visiting Teacher/Attendance Program Liaison identify students with poor attendance, and the school personnel engage in activities and remedial services intended to improve attendance for this targeted population. If these interventions do not result in improved outcomes, the student and their parents or guardian are cited to court. The court conducts bi-weekly hearings to monitor attendance and a service plan directed to address the underlying causes or contributing factors to the poor attendance record. The goals of the program are to increase attendance, provide support to families and prevent future contacts with the juvenile justice system. The Attendance Program Case Manager works closely with selected families by providing direct services and arranging ancillary services as needed. The Hamilton County Juvenile Court provides a Magistrate and Case Presenter for the hearings. Westwood Elementary has shown improved daily attendance and parent participation in the school setting.

DEPARTMENT OF COURT SERVICES

The Department of Court Services is charged with the implementation of a wide variety of Court orders and services directed at prevention, intervention and rehabilitation. There are six separate departments within Court services: the Intervention Unit, Community Service / Work Detail, Probation and Service Grants and the Youth Center Psychology Clinic. Services and programs in each of these areas work collaboratively and independently to provide services to youth and their families. Court Services uses general funds and specialized grants to fulfill its mission.

INTERVENTION UNIT

The Hamilton County Juvenile Court Intervention Unit, a division of Court Services, serves families as the result of a child's rebellious or incorrigible behavior. Efforts are made to contact families within 24-48 hours of receiving the referral and schedule an appointment within 10 working days. If the parent(s) or guardian(s) are unwilling or unable to attend a session at the Intervention Unit, a family counselor will provide crisis intervention by telephone. It is the Intervention Unit's goal to provide direct treatment services to at least 10% of all families referred. During 2008, 16% of all cases closed had received ongoing treatment services. This was an increase of 3% over the previous year. Cases in which the family made the first appointment, 43% returned for additional treatment sessions. A total of 1,735 appointments were scheduled for families in 2008, in contrast to 1,467 in 2007 (an increase of 18%). This increase is likely due to the stability of staffing, as well as more families taking advantage of IU services. The Family Counselors are able to provide more intensive services due to the decrease in referrals.

The duration of a single crisis-intervention session is typically 2-3 hours. Treatment sessions generally last 1-2 hours. Telephone interventions are provided to clients who do not utilize in-person services due to work schedules, transportation problems, lack of child care, disinterest in counseling, or improvement in the child's behavior. Such cases are monitored for 30 days or longer should problems arise again. Families are encouraged to maintain contact with the assigned counselor during this period; many may call for additional guidance even after the case is closed. There was an average of six contacts per case during 2008.

The First Time Runaway Program provides ongoing case management from the initial filing of the charge through final disposition of the case. Regular phone contact is maintained with the parent(s) or guardian(s). The Intake Coordinator offers guidance and supportive counseling throughout the process, and has the option to refer cases to the Family Counselors for ongoing services. The position was vacated in March 2008 and has not been filled due to the County budget crisis. The Intervention Unit Director has assumed the majority of the Coordinator's duties, with support of the Counselors and Secretary.

1,106 cases were referred to the Intervention Unit during 2008, which was a decrease of 144 when compared to 2007. The decrease in referrals is directly correlated with the Youth Center's Intake Office reducing the hours during which parent driven complaints can be filed, as well as not processing such complaints on weekends. The hours of operation were changed in October 2008, and the Intervention Unit experienced a 43% drop in referrals when contrasted with 2007. Most effected by the change were unofficial unruly/incorrigible referrals and First Time Runaway Program referrals.

Substance abuse/dependency, physical and sexual abuse, and mental illness remain constant and significant factors affecting family functioning. Trends suggest that increasing numbers of children referred have had prior exposure to mental health services or psychiatric hospitalization. Ages of youth referred ranged from 5 through 17 years. Minority populations represented 70% of youth referred; 53% of the total referrals were female. 673 (61%) of the 1106 referrals received during 2008 were minority youth for which this was their first contact (unofficial or First Time Runaway) with the Juvenile Justice System. The Unit's mission and services offered to families has had a positive impact upon Disproportionate Minority Confinement and/or Contact initiatives presently proposed by the State of Ohio.

The Unit closed 1,168 cases during 2008 and provided service to 67% of the families referred. Services included: First Time Runaway case management, single session interventions, ongoing treatment services, and telephone interventions. 23% of cases referred either did not schedule services or the youth's warrant remained active for over 3 months. 10% of families that scheduled a session failed to keep the appointment and did not reschedule. In many of these instances, Counselors scheduled several appointments with clients prior to case closure, encouraging families to utilize services.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Intervention Unit utilizes the services of a contractual psychologist to provide consultation services to ensure fidelity to the model of Brief Strategic Therapy. Bi-weekly live video team supervision sessions occur throughout the year, and all Family Counselors are required to participate. The Intervention Unit's Family Counselors, as well as its Director, are licensed by The State of Ohio Counselor, Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

PROGRAM EVALUATION/RECIDIVISM RATES

The Intervention Unit assesses the effectiveness of services based upon re-involvement with the Court. Recidivism is defined as *any* subsequent official charge, but does not reflect whether there was an adjudication for the case. The results may be negatively skewed as counselors periodically encourage parents to pursue charges as a means of holding children accountable. In addition, minor status offenses and traffic offenses are not differentiated from delinquency charges. To provide a meaningful appraisal of positive outcome, the population was drawn from closures dating from September 2000 through September 2008. A recidivism range within 3 months of case closure was used.

REFERRAL SOURCE	TOTAL CLOSED	NEW FILINGS	RECIDIVISM RATE
Dependency Court Magistrates	3	0	0%
Delinquency Court Magistrates	1,298	467	36%
First Time Runaway Program	3,741	1,186	32%
Clerk's Office Unofficial Referrals	4,221	840	20%
Probation Department	555	212	38%
Township Unofficial Dockets	38	9	24%
Teen Court	14	3	21%
TOTALS	9,871	2,717	27%

TOTAL CASES DIVERTED FROM OFFICIAL JUVENILE COURT DOCKETS	7,154
PERCENTAGE OF REFERRALS UTILIZING SOME FORM OF IU SERVICE	68%

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Client satisfaction surveys are conducted annually, and request input from both the parent(s)/guardian(s) as well as the youth. Below are the responses of the 71 parents and 69 youth who participated in the 2008 survey.

- 1) Were you happy with the services you received today?

Parent :	Yes	100%	No	0%	
Youth :	Yes	93%	No	4%	Unsure 3%
- 2) Do you feel that the Counselor understood your problem?

Parent :	Yes	100%	No	0%
Youth :	Yes	90%	No	10%
- 3) Do you feel that you were treated with respect today?

Parent :	Yes	100%	No	0%
Youth :	Yes	99%	No	1%
- 4) Was this a helpful service?

Parent :	Yes	100%	No	0%	
Youth :	Yes	84%	No	10%	Unsure 6%
- 5) Rate Your opinion of the Intervention Unit:

Parent:	Waste of time: 0%	Undecided: 7%
	Somewhat Helpful: 13%	Very helpful: 80%
Youth:	Waste of time: 2%	Undecided: 13%
	Somewhat Helpful: 32%	Very helpful: 51%

COMMUNITY SERVICES WORK DETAIL

The Work Detail program is a dispositional option for adjudicated youth in Hamilton County Juvenile Court. The program provides youth with a productive, short-term work experience as a consequence for delinquent behavior. Youth are given an opportunity to learn the principles of accountability and responsibility through various clean up and beautification projects in communities that have been affected by their delinquent behavior.

Work Detail is based on the recognized model of restorative justice. Restorative Justice is victim centered, as repairing harm to the victim caused by the offense and the offender. This is performed by the many community service projects the youth perform throughout their Court ordered Work Details. Community beautification projects are often performed in the same neighborhoods that the youth committed offenses. Restorative Justice requires rethinking the meaning of accountability and the role of punishment in the juvenile justice system. Holding an offender accountable in a restorative justice regimen requires that offenders accept responsibility for their actions and actively participate in the restoration of their victims, both materially and emotionally. The youth from Hamilton County receive an immediate consequence when they are placed on Work Detail. They are also held accountable with additional charges if they fail to comply with the initial Court order.

During 2008, the Work Detail department continued its partnership with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. The department also continued its partnership with Hamilton County Environmental Services to provide assistance with environmental and educational programs for youth. The department worked with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission and the Hamilton County Park district to provide assistance with park clean up. Work Detail youth participated in the annual Great American Clean Up as well as the annual flower and garden show. The department continued to maintain its ten adopt-a-block locations throughout the Cincinnati area. In total, the department served over one hundred community sites throughout Hamilton County. Work Detail received 3,234 referrals during 2008.

Daily Work Details Performed	4,807	Hours of Service:	26,804
Saturday Work Details Performed	4,459	Hours of Service:	13,377
TOTAL:	9,266	TOTAL:	40,181

PROBATION

Probation and the work of the Department are defined under Section 2151 and 2152 of the Ohio Revised Code. It is the duty of all department officers to carry out the orders of the Court and serve to protect the interest of the community. It is the responsibility of Probation Officers to use all suitable methods to aid youth on probation to bring about improvement in their conduct. The Probation Department has been accredited through the American Correctional Association since 1999. The Probation Department utilizes a computerized version of its own risk assessment and case classification model. The department utilizes the "What Works" principles to serve its clientele.

In 2008 the Probation Department received 1,382 referrals for investigation and supervised 1,202 cases under probation supervision.

REFERAL STATISTICS

	2007		Total	2008		Total
	F	M		F	M	
Cases Referred to Probation	398	1,152	1,550	319	1,063	1,382
Race						
Asian	0	0		2	0	
Bi-Racial	14	25		7	14	
Black-African American	281	805		228	747	
Caucasian	102	310		82	293	
Hispanic	0	7		0	5	
Mexican-American	0	1		0	2	
Other	0	1		0	0	
Unknown	0	2		0	1	
Referring Offense	F	M		F	M	
Felony	79	560	639	61	525	586
Misdemeanor	197	434	631	157	439	596
Violation of Court Order	115	131	246	94	83	177
Unruly	6	20	26	6	11	17
Traffic	1	7	8	1	5	6

Age at Referral		
9	5	1
10	8	8
11	16	23
12	44	40
13	98	76
14	195	154
15	281	270
16	321	306
17	378	333
18	190	158
19	3	4
Number of Youth to Terminate at Placement	643	476
Number of Youth to Transfer into Probation	715	662

Referrals to Probation by Offense**	2007	2008
Arson	18	17
Assault	122	110
Attempt, Complicity, Conspiracy	3	10
Burglary	166	138
Cruelty to Animals	1	1
Disruption, Vandalism, Damaging	29	41
Drug Offenses	176	154
Forgery / Fraud	9	14
Habitual / Chronic Truancy	69	53
Homicide	1	3
Kidnapping	2	1
Liquor Control	23	20
Menacing	26	22
Miscellaneous Offenses	1	5
Misuse of Credit Cards	3	6
Obscenity	0	1
Offenses Against Family	116	92
Offenses Against Justice	52	37
Offenses Against Peace	75	66
Receiving	78	52
Robbery	95	126
Safecracking	1	0
Sexual Offenses	42	32
Theft	159	151
Traffic Related Offenses	5	2
Trespass	13	17
Violations of Court Orders	211	138
Weapons Offenses	88	57
** as defined for Annual Report		

PROBATION PROCESS

During the course of a Probation Investigation, the youth is assessed as to their level of risk to re-offend as well as to the type and level of service needs. Dispositional recommendations can vary from releasing the youth back to the full supervision of their parents to enforce sanctions and follow-up with service referrals, to supervision by the Probation Department of varying intensities and to ensure service follow through, to placement in a residential treatment facility designed to address their identified need, to commitment to a state run correctional institution. Along with the risk assessment, offense characteristics, prior Probation adjustment and service history play a large part in the decision making.

During the course of Probation supervision, the youth's level of risk is regularly reassessed. Should a youth be charged with a new offense or fail to abide by the rules of probation, consideration of whether the youth should be referred to placement is reviewed. Re-offending at a felony level while under Probation supervision, in most cases, moves the case in the direction of a referral for placement. Consideration for placement is handled through a thorough review of the case with a decision making team consisting of the assigned officer and many levels of management.

SPECIALIZED CASELOADS

SEX OFFENDER SPECIFIC CASELOAD

Since 1989 the Hamilton County Juvenile Court Probation Department has been utilizing specialized assessments of adjudicated sexual offenders. This was part of continuum of care treatment approach that followed the youth through legal, treatment and aftercare settings. The objectives for providing such an approach were: 1.) To determine the general dangerousness of the behavior and threat to the community, current victim and potential future victims. 2.) To estimate the risk of the sexually aggressive behavior being repeated. 3.) To evaluate the specific social, family, environmental and behavioral treatment strengths and needs of the adolescent offender. 4.) To determine specific recommendations regarding the ideal course of intervention and treatment along with secondary recommendations should the ideal course not be possible. All youth adjudicated of a sexually oriented crime are assigned to specially trained probation officers.

GENDER SPECIFIC CASELOAD

Girls Empowered and Motivated for Success (GEMS) is designed to address the specific needs of adolescent females who are on probation. Five probation officers and a supervisor manage the GEMS caseload. The caseload is set up to decrease the risk for re-offending among females on probation. Girls assigned to this caseload receive traditional supervision along with promising practice gender specific programming.

MENTAL HEALTH CASELOAD

This caseload was established with the Court's creation of an Individualized Disposition Docket to address youth with Mental Health issues that lead to their continued involvement with delinquent behavior. This officer is part of a team of Court and community service providers who develop an individualized plan of care for each youth and family accepted into the program. The goal of this program is to provide a seamless system of care, which will help stabilize the youth's behavior, help improve the family's ability to manage the youth and eliminate delinquent behavior. After a period of intensive services, including Functional Family Therapy, the youth and family are transitioned back to less intensive services within their community.

ELECTRONIC MONITORING UNIT (EMU)

The Juvenile Court implemented an EMU Program in 2004. EMU is a community surveillance program managed by the Court's Probation Department to provide increased supervision of high-risk youth involved with the court. The program utilizes an electronic transmitter bracelet that is worn by the juvenile, and a field monitoring device that is connected to the existing power and phone lines in the juvenile's home. Using radio frequency technology, the receiver monitors the presence or absence of the juvenile within a specified range. Should the juvenile leave the specified range area, the curfew violation is reported to the department's monitoring center. During 2008, 575 youth were ordered into Electronic Monitoring and 387 successfully completed it.

DRUG TESTING

A component of Probation Supervision is drug testing. The department has trained its staff to collect urine on site in a specially designed test cup that will give instant results. During 2008 872 tests were administered. Of those 623 tested negative for any substance and 227 tested positive. (22 test cups were determined to be invalid.)

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Youth who are involved with the Juvenile Court Probation Department often need additional services that involve community-based programs and/or out-of-home placement. Probation Officers are responsible for coordinating referrals and providing supervision for youth placed within these programs.

The following is a brief description of the programs to which youth are referred for outpatient treatment services:

LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY PRESERVATION

Lighthouse Youth Services provides a family outreach component for juveniles on probation that could benefit from a time-limited, structured in-home therapy approach. Workers are on call 24 hours a day during the program and work with the entire family system to help strengthen the family unit.

CENTERPOINT HEALTH SEX OFFENSE SPECIFIC TREATMENT

Centerpoint contracts with the Court to provide ongoing group, individual and family treatment for youth adjudicated on sexual offenses who are able to be maintained in the community but who need intensive treatment for their behavior. The 2 groups can accommodate approximately 7-8 youth at any given time, due to the lengthy nature of the treatment and the slow turnover that occurs. Additional youth are served individually.

COMMUNITY OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS

Occasionally the Court contracts on a case-by-case basis with various local providers for various outpatient treatment services for probation youth. Some examples of this would include individual sexual offender assessment and/or treatment, violence prevention program participation, theft prevention program participation, intensive in-home therapy and case management, Multi-dimensional family therapy, and the like.

HAMILTON CHOICES

This managed care concept wrap around program has been in existence within Hamilton County since 1995 under several different vendors over the years. The overall mission and purpose, as well as service operations, are as follows: to purchase, evaluate, and monitor a wide variety of services directed to the County's most difficult to serve multi-system children and their families. Youth receive a wide array of services ranging from community-based to residential, and remain in the program approximately 12-18 months based on their issues and needs. In 2008, 45 Juvenile Court youth were served in this project.

TEAM CHILD PROJECT

Team Child, a project of the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati, provides interventions and advocacy so that children involved in the delinquency system can return to and remain in school and improve their educational success. Research shows that being out of school is a predictor of juvenile crime. Improving academic performance and strengthening bonds to school lessen the risk of delinquency. In 2008, 78 youth were referred to the program.

COMMUNITY PLACEMENTS

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS

The Juvenile Court periodically utilizes various residential placements to address the multiple needs of some of its client population. Usually these placements include an average length of stay of approximately six months, and satisfy a need that outpatient services cannot. Placements such as group homes and residential facilities in and outside the state have been utilized including:

- Abraxas Youth and Family Services
- Correctional Management Companies
- The Bridge
- Alternatives
- Passages
- Boys Town
- Glen Mills School
- The Village Network
- Tri-State Youth Academy
- Central Ohio Youth Center
- Lighthouse Paint Creek
- Hillcrest Training School

In 2008, there were a total of 372 Juvenile Court youth served in the above 12 facilities.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The purpose of the Psychology Clinic is to provide mental health evaluations for the Juvenile Court System at the request of judges, magistrates, probation officers, and both prosecuting and defense attorneys. The evaluations are to determine whether juvenile offenders are competent to stand trial, appropriate for waiver, and to assist in dispositional planning. Occasionally, referrals from the dependency docket request clinic staff to assist in custody matters. The Court requested services in 2008 were:

CLINIC SERVICES	TOTAL
Psychological Evaluations	274
Mental Health Court Assessments	6
Psychiatric Evaluations	9
Evaluations for Waiver	73
Competency to Stand Trial	91
Job Applicants	28
Emergency Referrals	1,891
Detention High Risk Assessments	1,272

The Psychology Clinic staff was reduced by three positions in 2008.

**HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
YOUTH CENTER**



YOUTH CENTER

While still providing short term secure placement for youth awaiting trial or placement, the Youth Center experienced several major changes to the facility's programs and personnel in 2008. The Youth Center is accredited by the American Correctional Association, the National Commission on Correctional Health Care Services and the American Association of Suicidology. The Youth Center was the first detention center in the nation to participate in the Performance Based Standards Initiative (PBS).

In 2008, 4,229 youth were admitted to detention, which is a 20 percent decrease from 2007. There were 4,673 youth diverted from detention after arrest. The decrease in the number of admitted youth due to the reduction of available beds is a direct result of the County budget cuts.

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Intake Department reduced the operation hours at the complaint window for the general public to file complaints. The department deployed staff to other departments, and assigned staff to the citation fingerprinting process that was moved from 800 Broadway.

Facility Control Department is responsible for overall facility movement between floors and access to and from secure section of the facility. The department has taken over the Youth Center plea hearing courtroom security. Also, coordinated the use of Work Detail staff to assist in first floor hall operation.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

The Housing Department incurred the most changes in operation for 2008. First, there was the elimination of Program Managers as a result of a flattening of management positions. The entire fourth floor was closed as a result of the reduction in beds. The girls' unit was moved to the third floor. The reduction of twenty housing staff in 2008 has occurred mostly by attrition. The Rights and Special Needs Unit were integrated into the general population.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Medical Screenings	6442
Full Physical Examinations	1941
Sick Call Examinations by nurse practitioner or physician	1246

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The Youth Center is fortunate to have access to a broad array of volunteers, who work with detained youth in the development of their educational, social and spiritual capacities. In 2008, 291 volunteers provided 1,870 hours of volunteer programming. Based on government statistics, the estimated dollar value of volunteer time is \$17.53 per hour. Thus volunteers provided programming with a value of \$32,781 to youth center residents at no cost to the Hamilton County taxpayers.

DETENTION ALTERNATIVES

It has often been stated that detention should be viewed as a legal status, with varying levels of custody supervision, rather than as a building. The use of effective detention alternatives assures that youth who do not require secure care are supervised in less costly programs while the most serious offenders are adequately supervised in a secure setting. In Hamilton County these alternatives take various forms.

Each week, senior management staff of the Hamilton County Jobs and Family Services, Hamilton Choices, the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the Juvenile Court review the record and individual plan for each youth held in secure detention with a view toward moving appropriate youth to a lower level of supervision as well as expediting all cases to a timely conclusion.

Hamilton County has made use of electronic monitoring for the past several years when it appeared that a level of supervision less than physical custody but more than routine house arrest was warranted. In 2008 524 youth were placed on electronic monitoring, for an average length of 32 days for each juvenile. The Court on occasion will also employ electronic monitoring devices that makes use of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology should a greater degree of supervision be necessary.

The Court also makes use of shelter care programs, which are residential programs in non secure facilities staffed to provide time limited housing for a youth as an alternative to secure detention. In Hamilton County shelter care is provided by Youth, Inc. and with Lighthouse Youth Services. In 2008 Youth, Inc. received 506 youth that had previously been held in secure detention while another 324 juveniles were diverted from secure detention and placed in shelter care with the Lighthouse.

HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

HILLCREST TRAINING SCHOOL



HILLCREST TRAINING SCHOOL

Hillcrest Training School is located at 246 Bonham Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215. The agency primarily serves children between the ages of twelve and eighteen who have a history of court involvement. Hillcrest operates 94 residential treatment beds and an aftercare program for delinquent boys. In addition, the school operates 12 assessment beds for adjudicated boys. Hillcrest holds a dual accreditation by the American Correctional Association by meeting both the "Training School" Standards and "Aftercare Services" Standards. Hillcrest maintains National Commission on Correctional Health Care Services and American Association of Sociology accreditation. The agency is also licensed by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and participates in the CJCA (Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators) Performance Based Standards initiative.

2008 Achievements

- Recognized as one of the three top juvenile correctional programs in the country by Bartollas, Heinz & Wise, *Administering Residential Treatment Facilities: A Leadership Guide*.
- Finalist for the Performance Based Standards (PbS) Barbara – Allen Hagan Award. This award recognizes excellence in operational standards.
- Successfully reduced budget by 50% through attrition and by significant reductions in mid-management positions. These costs were offset by leveraging other sources of revenue.
- Successfully converted campus inventory process to the Archibus Inventory System. This computerized inventory system allows for the electronic scanning and recording of equipment and is compatible with the County Facilities' inventory program.

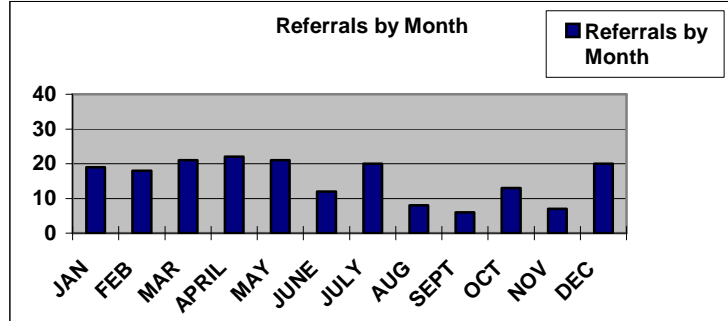
INTAKE STATISTICAL REPORT

RESIDENTIAL CARE		ASSESSMENT PROGRAM	
Referrals	187	Total Served	302
Admissions	172		
Terminations	209		
Number of Youth Served	299		
Average Length of Stay (Days)	289		
Days of Care Provided	35,548		

TOTAL REFERRALS

Referrals by Month

JAN	19
FEB	18
MAR	21
APR	22
MAY	21
JUN	12
JUL	20
AUG	8
SEP	6
OCT	13
NOV	7
DEC	20



TOTAL 187

RACE OF REFERRALS:

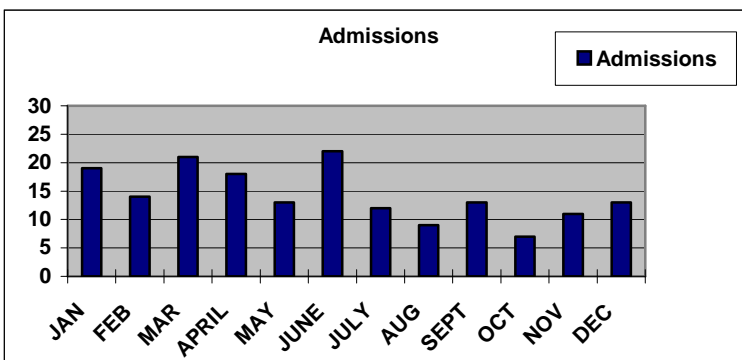
	Number	Percentage
African-American	154	82.35%
Caucasian	29	15.51%
Bi-Racial	3	1.60%
Hispanic	1	.53%
TOTAL	187	100%

AVERAGE AGE	AVERAGE # OF PRIORS	AVERAGE # OF DAYS ON REFERRAL
15.5 Years Old	8 Priors	30 Days

TOTAL ADMISSIONS

Admissions by Month

JAN	19
FEB	14
MAR	21
APR	18
MAY	13
JUNE	22
JULY	12
AUG	9
SEPT	13
OCT	7
NOV	11
DEC	13
TOTAL	172



RACE OF ADMISSIONS:

	Number	Percentage
African-American	142	82.56%
Caucasian	26	15.12%
Bi-Racial	3	1.74%
Hispanic	1	.58%
TOTAL	172	100%

DEGREE OF COMMITTING OFFENSE:

	Number	Percentage
Violation of Court Order		
Sex Offense Specific	4	2.33%
Substance Abuse	16	9.30%
Disruptive Behavior	2	1.16%
Misdemeanor		
Sex Offense Specific	2	1.16%
Substance Abuse	25	14.53%
Disruptive Behavior	7	4.07%
Felony		
Sex Offense Specific	8	4.65%
Substance Abuse	75	43.60%
Disruptive Behavior	33	19.19%
TOTAL	172	100%

SUSPENDED COMMITMENTS TO DYS:

	Number	Percentage
Admits With SC/DYS		
Sex Offense Specific	13	7.56%
Substance Abuse	105	61.05%
Disruptive Behavior	40	23.26%
Admits Without SC/DYS		
Sex Offense Specific	1	.58%
Substance Abuse	11	6.40%
Disruptive Behavior	2	1.16%
TOTAL	172	100%

DAYS OF RESIDENTIAL CARE PROVIDED IN 2008:

Quarter	Residential Days of Care
1 st	9,596
2 nd	9,748
3 rd	8,841
4 th	7,363
TOTAL	35,548

RESIDENTIAL TERMINATIONS:

	Number	Percentage
Aftercare	174	83.25%
PC to DYS	11	5.26%
Unsuccessful	7	3.35%
Other Placement Made	15	7.18%
Bound Over	2	.96%
TOTAL	209	100%

2008 AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY:

	Disruptive Behavior	Substance Abuse	Sex Offense Specific
Total # of Children Served	68	198	33
Total Residential Days Care	7,850	21,024	6,674
Terminations	42	135	22
Average Length of Stay in Days	190	199	478

AFTERCARE CASELOAD:

	Releases	PC/DYS
2004	145	29
2005	124	38
2006	136	24
2007	147	28
2008	143	21

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UTILIZATION STATISTICS

PSYCHOLOGY:

The Psychology Department conducts psychological intake assessments for each youth admitted. These assessments identify mental health, substance abuse, and psycho-educational issues. A formal diagnosis and treatment recommendation(s) are offered for each youth. The department provides staff training and consultation, individual and group counseling, and crisis intervention. Services include suicide risk assessment and assignment of suicide precautions, management of youth prescribed psychotropic medications and liaison with area mental healthcare providers. The Psychology Department takes a leadership role in coordinating and facilitating intensive cognitive-behavioral treatment groups for substance abuse and anger management problems. The department staffing includes psychology assistants and two licensed psychologists who supervise all psychological services as specified by the Ohio State Board of Psychology.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	TOTAL
Psychological Evaluations	285
Intake Evaluations	172
Extended Diagnostic Evaluations	77
Individual Counseling	647
Crisis Intervention Services	326
Group Counseling Sessions	278

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM:

All youth are assessed for substance abuse by the Intake Social Worker, Psychology Department, Residential Social Worker, and Health Care Services. Identified youth are referred to the following programming: (1.) an intensive six month cognitive/behavioral program designed to address the dual issues of alcohol and other drug use and criminal conduct, (2.) an advanced substance abuse program including restricted and graduated home visits and increased use of toxicology screening, (3.) individual counseling with certified chemical dependency counselor. Aftercare services include routine curfew checks by legal authorities, Electronic Monitoring, Social Worker contacts, and Relapse Prevention treatment groups.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES	TOTAL
Cognitive Behavioral Groups	581
Individual Substance Abuse Counseling	2
Toxicology Screening	2,943
Residential	2,783
Aftercare	160
Relapse Prevention (Aftercare) Groups	60

SEX OFFENSE-SPECIFIC PROGRAM:

The primary goals of the sex offense-specific program are: community safety, victim restoration, and relapse prevention. The program offers an educational, parent support, and group therapy component. As a portion of the overall assessment process, the program relies on the use of polygraph examinations to verify information, deter further sexually abusive behaviors, and prevent program and treatment drift. Parental participation is mandatory. The average length of stay for sex offenders is 14 months with an additional period of community supervision and treatment. A family support group is also provided and each parent is required to attend at least one family support session. Aftercare services include routine curfew checks by the legal authorities, Electronic Monitoring, Social Worker contacts, and weekly Relapse Prevention treatment groups. The staff consists of a Treatment Team Administrator, a Psychology Assistant, two contractual sex offender treatment therapists, and a Licensed Psychologist.

SEX OFFENSE SPECIFIC SERVICES	TOTAL
Sex Offender Groups	419
Parent Support Groups	26
Sex Offender Education	24
Relapse Prevention (Aftercare) Groups	95
Polygraphs	33

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR DISORDERS:

This program focuses on helping youth identify and change antisocial attitudes, values, and beliefs. Youth with a pattern of violating the law and the rights of others, but who have no sexual offenses and no identified substance abuse problems are placed in this program. Treatment interventions include problem-solving, social skills, and anger management groups. Aftercare services include routine curfew checks by the legal authorities, Social Worker contacts, and Electronic Monitoring.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR SERVICES	TOTAL
Anger Management Groups	106
Problem Solving / Social Skills Groups	110
Relapse Prevention (Aftercare) Groups	82

HEALTH SERVICES

Services include health assessments, daily sick call, and management of special needs cases, medication distribution, immunizations, substance abuse urinalysis, routine dental care and training. In-service training is provided for both staff and residents focusing on health and wellness. The Health Service Department oversees the exposure control plan and assists in the monitoring of certain health safety requirements throughout the facility. Hillcrest provides on site medical and dental services. Additional health services are available through various community clinics and hospitals, as needed. The staff consists of LPNs, an RN supervisor, a contractual physician, a dentist, and a contractual psychiatrist.

HEALTH SERVICES	TOTAL
Physical Examinations, Residential	290
Psychiatric Evaluations	63
Psychiatric Follow-Up Visits	221
Sick Call	
Pediatrician Visit	366
Nurse Visits	4,998
Dental Cleaning and Restoration	277

MULTIDIMENSIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (MAP)

The Multidimensional Assessment Program is a fourteen day assessment program for court involved youth designed to provide a comprehensive assessment including a substance abuse screening, educational testing and complete psychological evaluation. At the end of the youth's stay, specific recommendations are presented to the Court to address the youth's delinquent behavior. In 2008, 278 youth were served in this program.

SUPPORT SERVICES

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department, under the Administrative Services Division is responsible for the preparation, expense and monitoring activity of the Annual County Operating budget and various state grants. Another major responsibility is the maintenance of employee sick and vacation records and production of the bi-weekly payroll. In addition, court ordered restitution is disbursed to the victim and child support for youth in placement is monitored.

2008 General Fund	Revenue	Expense
General Fund Subsidy	\$13,558,337.39	
Judges' Office	\$2,803,314.50	\$13,464,509.33
Youth Center	\$1,434,483.93	\$9,333,257.81
Hillcrest *	\$13,314,317.54	\$8,312,686.22
TOTAL	\$31,110,453.36	\$31,110,453.36
Grants		
Reclaim Ohio / Youth Services	\$3,037,321.25	\$3,037,321.25
Hillcrest School	\$957,238.68	\$957,238.68
Pretrial Mock Diversion	\$277,396.31	\$277,396.31
Legal Research	\$55,700.00	\$55,700.00
Hillcrest MST	\$11,201.92	\$11,201.92
JAIBG	\$80,271.68	\$80,271.68
TOTAL	\$4,419,129.84	\$4,419,129.84
GRAND TOTAL	\$35,529,583.20	\$35,529,583.20

* Hillcrest revenue includes 2007 revenues collected in 2008.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

The Court's most important resource is its staff, whose dedicated service advances the Court's mission to children, families, and the public. This is especially so in an environment of diminishing resources when everyone is asked to do more with less. The Human Resources Department supports our staff in those endeavors through personnel administration and training services, always working to develop a competent professional, and ethical workforce.

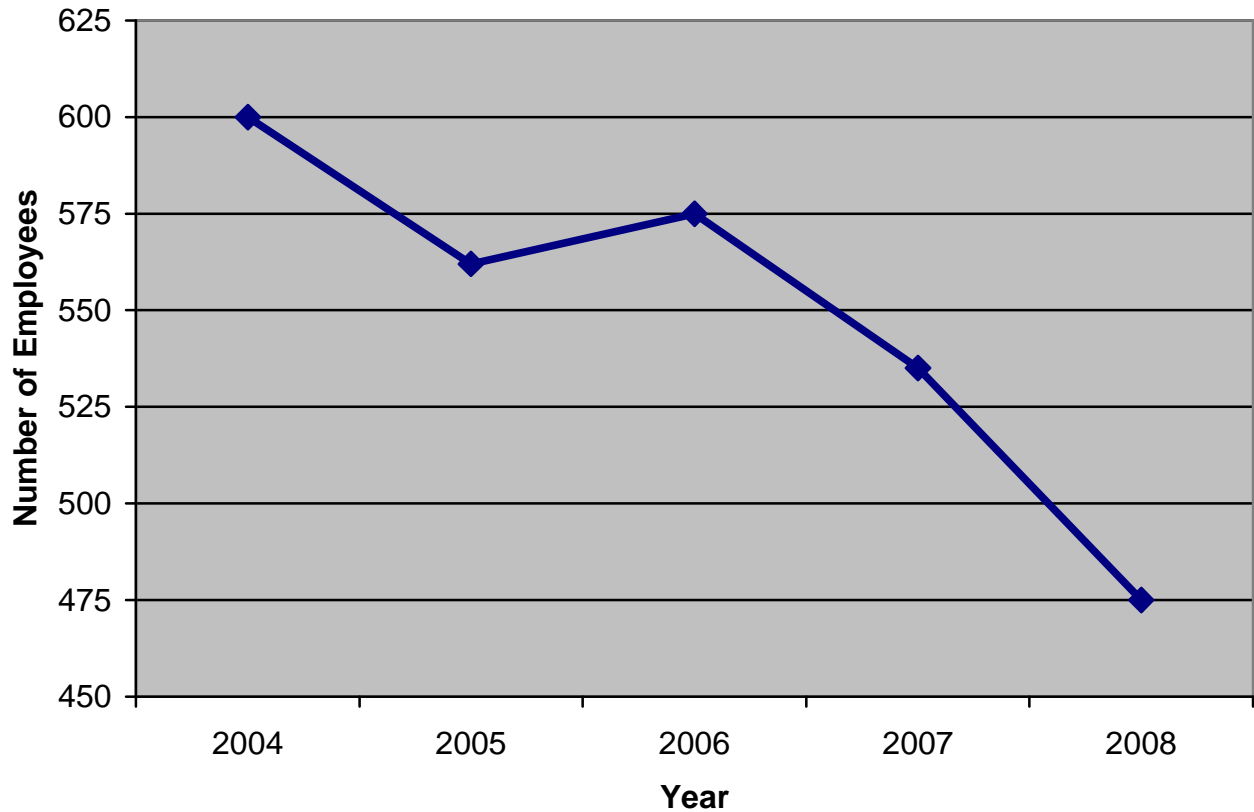
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

The Personnel Department is responsible for many critical functions: wage, salary, and benefits administration; maintenance of personnel records; and management of the performance review process and the service pin recognition program. The department also assists with employee relations to assure a workplace that reflects fairness, dignity and respect for all and that is in compliance with applicable labor laws. The department supports employee development and is available to all staff for consultation, advice and guidance.

The personnel department's activities in recruitment, application processing, and hiring were significantly reduced in 2008 due to the need for a smaller workforce. By comparison to 2007, in 2008 the department: processed 336 fewer applications, down 35%; conducted 73 fewer interviews, down 37%; and processed 40 new hires, down 54%. Nearly all hiring activity occurred in the opening months of the year. Thereafter, in response to negative budget projections and an unprecedented mid-year budget cut, hiring activity was significantly restricted before it was ultimately eliminated.

For much of 2008 the Court was subject to targeted hiring freeze. Combined with planned attrition, this allowed the Court to continue to reduce staffing levels consistent with current funding, thus avoiding layoffs of personnel. This approach has allowed the Court, over the past several years, to reduce its number of full-time employees by fully twenty percent.

Full Time Employees at the Hamilton County Juvenile Court



TRAINING DEPARTMENT

The Training Department provides introductory orientation, continuing education, and other learning opportunities for Court employees. Department staff identify needs with internal departments and actively solicit comment for curriculum development and continual improvement of the training experience. Training staff also coordinate scheduling, maintain training records and equipment, and support ongoing relationships with outside agencies to maximize training opportunities and resources. Different types of learning opportunities covering a wide array of topics meet the diverse needs of Court staff. In 2008, Court employees received nearly 30,000 hours of training. This represents a 20% decrease from 2007 levels, reflective of a smaller work force and a reduction in elective training requirements. Core training mandates related to safety, security, and accreditation standards remain unchanged. Where possible, the training department accesses grant funding to support training programs.

The Training Department continued to advance its mission in 2008. A systematic performance evaluation system was initiated at 800 Broadway to track participant response to training programs. Overall, training programs averaged a participant score of 4.7 out of 5.0.

In its fifth year and through the joint efforts of the training staffs from 800 Broadway, Hillcrest School, and the Youth Center, the Court sponsored its annual intersystem children's mental health training program. This year's program, *Trends in Juvenile Violence*, featured Dr. Charles Scott, a nationally recognized expert on the topic along with team members from CIRV (Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence). By accessing community resources and grant funding through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Southwest Ohio Regional Training Consortium, minimal funds were expended. More than 250 staff from the Court and other child-serving agencies attended and received continuing education credit without cost.

In 2009, the Training Department will continue to access external grant funding in addition to developing internal expertise so that appropriate training standards can be maintained in the most cost-effective manner possible.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Information Services Department is comprised of eleven full-time employees and two contract positions, in 2008 this department reduced their staff by one full time employee. Staff are responsible for the design, development, implementation and support maintenance of the Court's computer hardware and software systems at all four court locations. In 2008 the Information Services Department upgraded the wireless system at the Youth Center and upgraded the Courtroom audio-visual recording system for 12 courtrooms. The programming staff completed our connection to the Ohio Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS), which enabled us to link to the statewide network of records for Juvenile Courts and the Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS).

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

The basic function of the Operations Department is to determine the equipment and supply requirements for the Juvenile Court, maintain an inventory of supplies commensurate with the requirements and place all necessary vendor orders. It is the department's responsibility to maintain control of Court equipment by proper record keeping, conducting an annual inventory and monitoring maintenance contracts. The Operations Department handles the majority of the purchasing for the Juvenile Court, therefore, the department is also responsible for authenticating all invoices for payment.

The Operations Department also maintains a Print Shop for the purpose of developing, duplicating and reproducing all the forms that the juvenile Court utilizes. The Operations Department is staffed with 2 full-time members. Along with the Operations Director, there is a Supply Clerk/Printer.



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