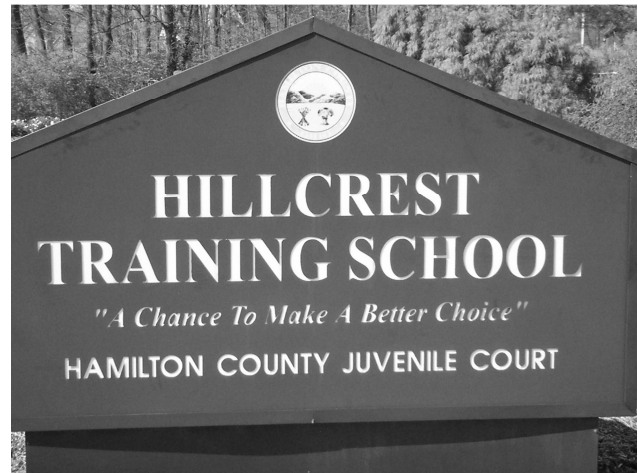
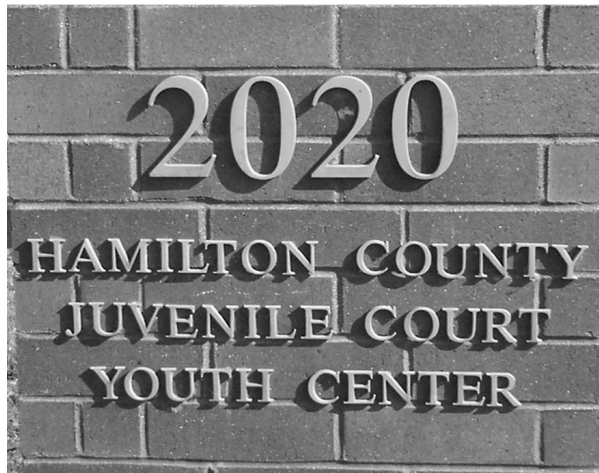
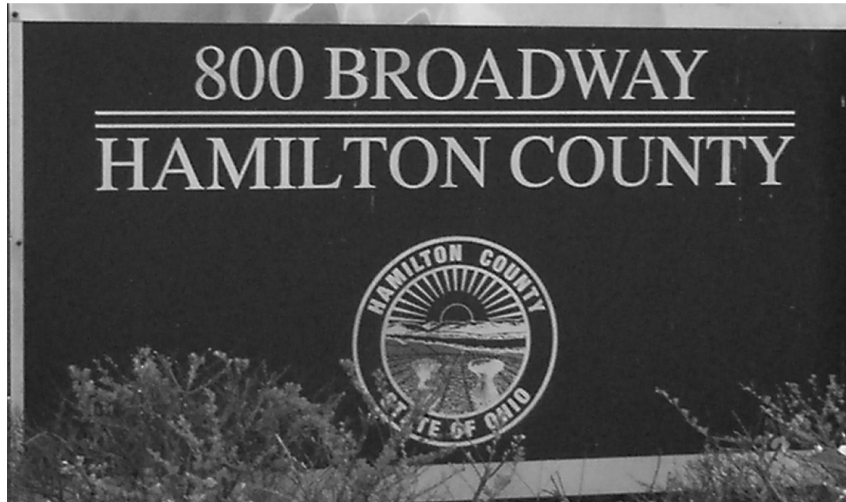


HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT



2011 ANNUAL REPORT

JUDGE JOHN M. WILLIAMS



Judge John M. Williams
Administrative Judge



Court Administrator
Curtis E. Kissinger

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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. For the majority of 2011, Administrative Judge Karla J. Grady presided over the Court. With Judge Grady's retirement in October, Judge John M. Williams was appointed to the Court and assumed the responsibilities of Administrative Judge. As the result of litigation pending regarding the election of the second judicial seat, Retired Judge Thomas Lipps continued to serve the Court by appointment from the Ohio Supreme Court. Also, throughout the majority of 2011, Mark Reed served as Court Administrator until November when Curtis E. Kissinger assumed the Administrator position. The judges, along with the Court Administrator, oversee all Court operations, including:

- Department of Docketing and Case Management comprised of the Child Support Department, Clerk's Office, Dependency Department, Docketing Department and Record Room.
- Magistrates Department comprised of 24 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, Human Resources, Finance, Information Services, Security and Operations.

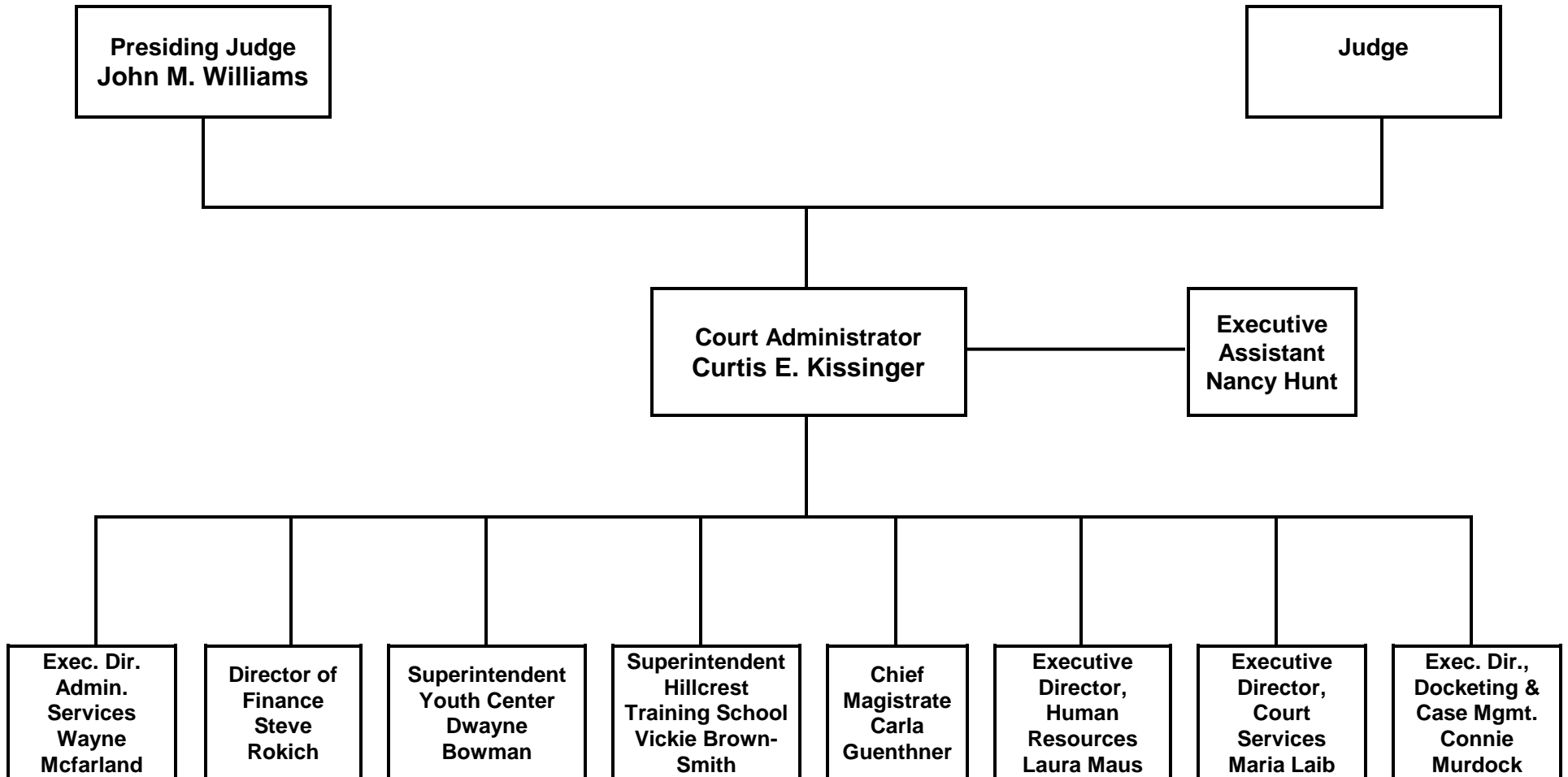
The Court also contracts with various placement and program services offered by child care agencies, including inpatient secure diagnostic services, shelter care housing children, custodial drug treatment centers, youth counseling programs, etc. Further, the Juvenile Court along with other official entities, 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

The year 2011 saw continued change at Juvenile Court with the retirement of Judge Karla Grady. Judge Grady had a 35 year career in public service beginning as a school teacher and continuing as a Prosecutor, Municipal Court Judge, and eventual appointment to the Juvenile Court in 2005. Judge Grady's dedication to the judiciary will be missed.

With the retirement of Judge Grady, Judge John M. Williams was appointed to the Court and assumed the position of Administrative and Presiding Judge. From his first day on the bench, Judge Williams demonstrated his commitment to the principles of juvenile justice and keeping our children and communities safe. Judge Williams' era promises to be one that will not only build upon and extend the excellence so exemplified by the term of Judge Grady, but will also no doubt foster new and exciting initiatives over the next several years.

Throughout 2011, Retired Judge Thomas Lipps served the Court filling the second Juvenile Court seat by appointment of the Ohio Supreme Court as the result of pending litigation related to the November 2010 election. Judge Lipps' continued service has been appreciated.

It's anticipated that the coming year will continue to offer significant challenges to the Court as once again it deals with reduced funding. The Court remains fortunate to retain a dedicated core of employees who, year after year, regardless of the circumstances, continue to provide quality public service to the children and families of Hamilton County.

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 recordings for Magistrates' hearings. The department consists of 49 employees and 5 supervisors who handle cases involving Delinquency, Unruly, Custody, Visitation, Traffic, Adult Jurisdiction, Child Support, and Dependency.

COMPLAINTS AND SOME MOTIONS FILED

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
DELINQUENT & UNRULY	18,752	18,449	15,338	13,816	12,484
TRAFFIC	5,664	4,954	4,345	3,922	3,332
PATERNITY & SUPPORT	912	755	662	409	530
UIFSA COMPLAINT FILED	N/A	N/A	N/A	24	114
OBJECTION TO ADMIN. ORDER	526	467	413	365	372
CONTEMPT MOTIONS	4,386	3,584	2,249	3,990	3,524
MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT	709	691	754	699	683
MOD. OF SUPPORT - CSEA	1,753	1,404	1,769	1,740	1,458
ADMIN. ORDER of SUPPORT	1,016	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
REGISTRATION of ADMIN. ORDER	1,718	3,068	2,723	2,608	2,596
REGISTRATION of FOREIGN ORDER	N/A	N/A	N/A	118	184
ADMIN. MODIFICATION ORDER	1,784	1,392	1,760	1,722	1,455
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT	3,465	3,315	3,407	3,499	3,530
DEPENDENCY, NEGLECT & ABUSE	593	677	692	631	646
CUSTODY, VISITATION & HABEAS CORPUS	1,316	1,387	1,371	1,426	1,530
MOTION CUSTODY / VISITATION	1,249	1,259	1,199	1,256	1,286
MISCELLANEOUS	0	1	3	2	3
ADULT MISDEMEANOR .	1,442	1,412	1,375	1,288	1,152
OBJ TO MAG DEC / SET ASIDE ORDER	481	437	404	410	408
JUVENILE PROTECTION ORDER	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	41
TOTALS	45,766	43,252	38,464	37,958	35,318
HEARINGS CONDUCTED	153,339	143,653	128,764	120,169	120,028
HEARINGS PER CASE	3.35	3.32	3.35	3.17	3.40
HEARINGS PER DAY	613	575	515	481	480
DELINQUENT FILINGS	17,101	16,861	14,285	12,682	11,432
FELONY FILINGS	2,766	2,643	2,323	1,820	1,571
JUVENILES PC TO DYS	143	132	107	49	48
JUVENILES BOGJ	70	70	70	49	52
JUVENILES SYO	0	2	0	0	0

CLERK'S OFFICE

In Hamilton County, Judge John M. Williams is the Ex Officio Clerk of the Juvenile 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 12 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

HOMICIDE	2010	2011	ARSON	2010	2011
Aggravated Murder	4	5	Aggravated Arson – Person	7	3
Murder	3	10	Aggravated Arson – Property	4	4
TOTAL	7	15	Complicity Aggravated Arson	2	0
ASSAULT			Arson – Private Property	11	5
Felonious Assault	102	79	Arson – Public Property	1	5
Complicity Felonious Assault	1	1	Complicity Arson	6	3
Attempt Felonious Assault	2	0	TOTAL	31	20
Felonious Assault – Peace Officer	2	2	DISRUPTION, VANDALISM, DAMAGE		
Aggravated Assault	3	2	Disrupt Communication Services	0	2
Attempt Aggravated Assault	0		Disrupt Transportation / Utility Services	12	0
Aggravated Vehicular Assault	2	0	Vandalism	58	22
Vehicular Assault	2	0	Vandalism of Burial Structure	22	0
Assault	748	618	Attempt Vandalism	0	1
Assault, Teacher, Administrator, Bus Driver	59	53	Criminal Damaging	286	431
Assault Child Service / Agency Worker	4	2	Complicity Criminal Damaging	3	0
Assault Corrections Officer	9	7	Attempt Criminal Damaging	1	0
Assault Peace Officer	43	22	Criminal Mischief	49	84
Complicity Assault	2	0	Vehicular Vandalism	10	5
Attempt Assault	4	4	Railroad Vandalism / Trespass	0	1
Negligent Assault	1	1	TOTAL	441	546
TOTAL	984	791	ROBBERY		
MENACING			Aggravated Robbery	139	117
Aggravated Menacing	111	108	Complicity Aggravated Robbery	7	4
Menacing	128	123	Attempt Aggravated Robbery	1	0
Menacing Child Service / Agency Worker	7	2	Robbery	126	110
Menacing By Stalking	1	4	Complicity Robbery	3	1
TOTAL	247	237	Attempt Robbery	0	1
KIDNAPPING			TOTAL	276	233
Kidnapping	16	9	BURGLARY		
Complicity Kidnapping	1	0	Aggravated Burglary	15	11
Abduction	0	2	Complicity Aggravated Burglary	1	0
Unlawful Restraint	3	6	Burglary	171	191
TOTAL	20	17	Complicity Burglary	10	11
SEXUAL OFFENSES			Attempt Burglary	13	11
Rape	51	62	Breaking and Entering	133	136
Complicity Rape	0	0	Complicity Breaking and Entering	2	2
Attempt Rape	4	3	Attempt Breaking and Entering	4	10
Sexual Battery	1	1	TOTAL	349	372
Gross Sexual Imposition	33	35	TRESPASS		
Sexual Imposition	12	11	Criminal Trespass	323	292
Voyeurism	2	1	Aggravated Trespass	4	3
Public Indecency	13	6	TOTAL	327	295
TOTAL	116	119	SAFECRACKING		
PROSTITUTION			Safecracking	0	3
Soliciting	3	5	Tamper With Coin Machine	5	2
Loiter to Engage in Solicitation	0	4	TOTAL	5	5
TOTAL	3	9	THEFT		
OBSCENITY			Theft	935	1,073
Pandering Obscenity Involving a Minor	5	0	Grand Theft	32	24
Pandering Sexual Matter Involving Minor	1	1	Theft of Drugs	6	11
Pander Sexual Perform Involving Minor	1	0	Complicity Theft	24	26
Illegal Use Minor in Nudity Matter/Perform	4	0	Complicity Grand Theft	5	0
TOTAL	11	1	Attempt Grand Theft	3	7
			Attempt Theft	9	17
			Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	45	29
			Unauthorized Use of Vehicle – Felony	3	0
			Auto Theft	32	16

THEFT (continued)	2010	2011
Unauthorized Use of Property	9	8
Passing Bad Check	1	0
TOTAL	1,104	1,211
MISUSE OF CREDIT CARDS		
Misuse of Credit Cards	13	10
TOTAL	13	10
FORGERY		
Forgery	10	13
Criminal Simulation	5	3
TOTAL	15	16
FRAUD		
Identity Fraud	2	0
Tampering With Records	1	0
Illegal Use of Food Stamps	0	1
TOTAL	3	1
RECEIVING		
Receiving Stolen Property	195	127
Receiving Stolen Property – Over	22	21
Complicity Receiving Stolen Property	0	1
TOTAL	217	149
GAMBLING		
Public Gaming	3	4
Gambling	2	1
TOTAL	5	5
OFFENSES AGAINST PEACE		
Inciting to Violence	1	8
Aggravated Riot	12	3
Riot	2	8
Failure to Disperse	1	1
Telecommunication Harassment	16	18
Inducing Panic	46	26
Making False Alarms	18	37
Disorderly Conduct	976	776
Complicity Disorderly Conduct	1	0
Disorderly Conduct – Intoxicated	17	20
Misconduct at Emergency	4	1
TOTAL	1,094	898
OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY		
Endangering Children	1	5
Contribute to Unruliness / Delinquency	0	1
Domestic Violence	418	352
Domestic Violence Felony	62	51
Violation of Protection Order	1	2
TOTAL	481	411
OFFENSES AGAINST JUSTICE		
Failure to Disclose Personal Information	6	3
Intimidation	7	4
Intimidating Victim / Witness	3	2
Retaliation	0	5
Falsification	138	110
Tampering with Evidence	17	23
Failure to Report a Crime	1	0
Obstructing Official Business	500	449
Obstructing Justice	3	1
Assault on Police Dog or Horse	0	1
Resisting Arrest	148	100
Flee and Elude Police Officer	5	9
Fail to Comply with Police	5	0
Fail to Comply with Police – Felony	7	5
Escape	14	8

OFFENSES AGAINST JUSTICE (cont.)	2010	2011
Convey Drug/Weapon into Detention	1	1
Harassment by an Inmate	2	2
TOTAL	857	723
ATTEMPT, COMPLICITY, CONSPIRACY		
Conspiracy	1	0
Attempt	5	6
Complicity	10	11
TOTAL	16	17
WEAPONS CONTROL		
Carrying Concealed Weapon	98	104
Carry Concealed Weapon Felony	3	5
Attempt Carry Concealed Weapon	0	1
Have Weapon Under Disability	39	31
Weapon in School Safety Zone	10	24
Poss. Weapon in Detention Facility	1	0
Possess Object Indist. from Firearm	2	4
Discharge Firearm Habitation / School	1	0
Discharge Firearm on / near Public Road	4	0
Dangerous Ordnance	3	0
Possess a Defaced Firearm	2	2
Unlawful Transaction – Weapon	3	0
Firearm – Transport Loaded	0	3
Firearm – Transport Unloaded	1	0
Improp. Handling Firearm in Motor Vehicle	1	2
Possess Criminal Tools	47	34
TOTAL	215	210
DRUG OFFENSES		
Corrupt Another with Drugs	1	0
Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs	1	7
Trafficking Drugs	8	6
Trafficking Drugs Near School	3	4
Drug Trafficking Marijuana	11	18
Drug Trafficking Marijuana Near School	21	17
Drug Trafficking Cocaine	13	5
Drug Trafficking Cocaine Near School	14	4
Drug Trafficking Heroin	3	11
Drug Trafficking Heroin Near School	4	2
Aggravated Possession of Drug	14	1
Possession of Drug	31	27
Possession of Cocaine	24	21
Possession of Heroin	4	11
Possession of L.S.D.	0	1
Possession of Marijuana	320	434
Permit Drug Abuse in a Vehicle	3	0
Possess Drug Abuse Instrument	1	2
Possess Drug Paraphernalia	154	202
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	1	3
Possess Counterfeit Cont. Substance	15	9
Traff. Counterfeit Controlled Substance	11	1
TOTAL	657	791
MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES		
Ethnic Intimidation	1	3
Littering	4	4
Possess Fireworks	5	1
TOTAL	10	8
LIQUOR CONTROL		
Consume / Possess Liquor in Vehicle	1	3
Purchase / Consume	212	255
Possession	14	8
Misrepresentation to Obtain Alcohol	3	0
Permit Underage Consumption	9	2
TOTAL	239	268

DRIVER LICENSE LAW	2010	2011	VIOLATIONS	2010	2011
Fictitious License / ID Card	2	0	Violations of Court Order (VCO)	12	11
TOTAL	2	0	VCO Incurrigible	277	276
MOTOR VEHICLE CRIMES			VCO Probation	430	525
Stop After Accident – Delinquency	1	2	VCO Placement	618	447
TOTAL	1	2	VCO Runaway	591	537
PHARMACISTS, DANGEROUS DRUGS			VCO Truancy	569	468
Purchase, Poss., Sell Dangerous Drug	4	4	VCO Tobacco	5	2
TOTAL	4	4	VCO Work Detail	393	264
HABITUAL / CHRONIC TRUANCY			VCO Stay Center / Release Center	77	0
Habitual Truancy	1	0	VCO EMU	412	507
Chronic Truancy	415	347	VCO Curfew Violation	633	512
TOTAL	416	347	Parole Violation	129	81
			TOTAL	4,146	3,630
			MISCELLANEOUS / LOCAL CODES		
			Miscellaneous Codes	274	77
			TOTAL	274	77

TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS FILED

	2010	2011
Licensing of Motor Vehicle	57	52
Driver License Law	170	132
Financial Responsibility	1	1
Operation of Vehicle	2,211	2044
Equipment and Loads	255	208
Motor Vehicle Crimes	58	43
Traffic Offenses	187	140
Local Ordinances	986	702
TOTAL	3,922	3,322

UNRULY COMPLAINTS FILED

	2010	2011
Runaway	380	333
Incurrigible	83	78
Incurrigible Out of County	25	10
Unruly	25	48
Curfew Violation	476	425
Habitual Truancy	144	164
Tobacco Violation	0	3
TOTAL	1,133	1,061

RESTITUTION

In 2011, the total restitution collected was \$51,169.89

FINES & COSTS COLLECTED

Fines	\$22,911.65
Court Costs	\$67,396.47
RRF & IDF	\$73,568.90
Computer Fees	\$30,037.26
Legal Research	\$8,671.00
Witness Fees	\$3,017.45
Delivery Fees	\$8,587.15
Work Detail Fees	\$504.00
Restitution Process Fee	\$2,103.64
Indigent Drivers Alcohol Fund	\$2,589.00
Public Defender Application Fee	\$5,460.00
Mediation	\$13,195.50
Special Projects	\$80,305.74
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$6,036.00

DISMISSALS

In 2011, 5,647 delinquent, unruly, traffic and adult misdemeanor cases were dismissed.

CRIMES AGAINST ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED

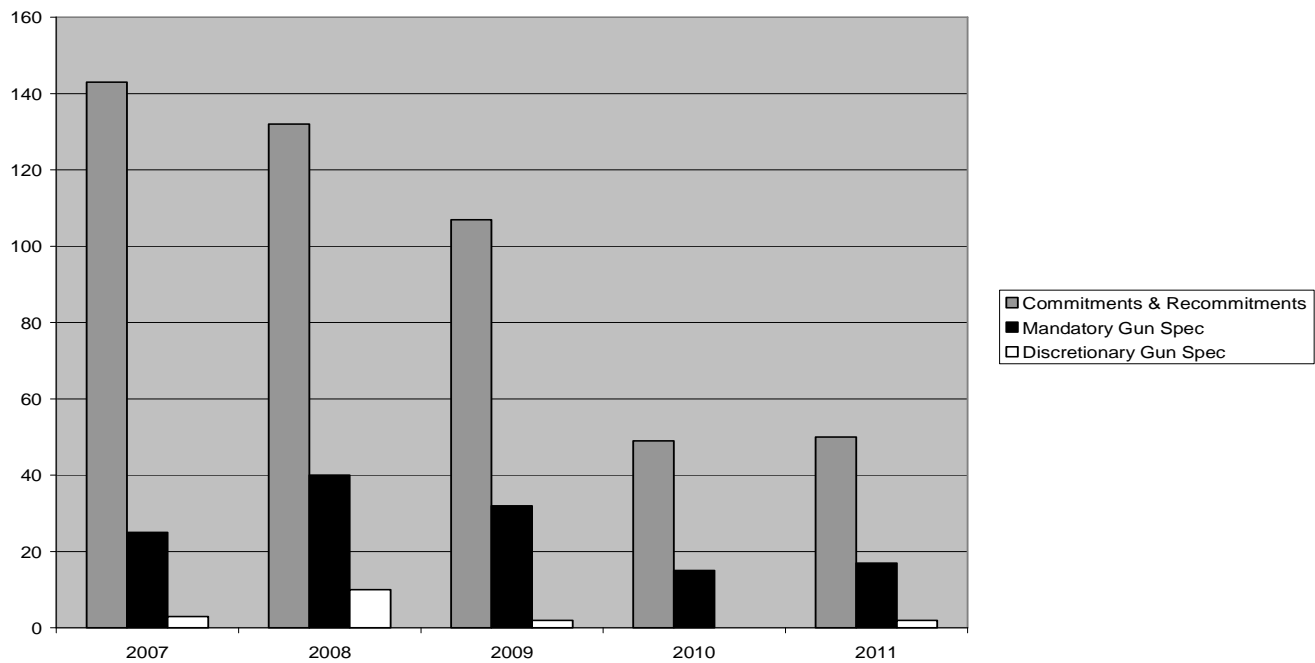
The following report, mandated by section 2151.18 of the Revised Code, reflects the number of complaints filed with the court, that allege that a child is a delinquent child, in relation to which the court determines under division (D) of section 2151.27 of the Revised Code that the victim of the alleged 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	15	28	64
ADJUDICATIONS	8	16	29
ADJUDICATION & RESTITUTION	8	8	2
COMMITTED TO AN INSTITUTION	0	0	0
TRANSFERRED FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION	0	3	1

COMMITMENTS TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

The Court committed forty eight juveniles to the Department of Youth Services, two of which were committed twice in 2011. Four juveniles had their parole revoked in 2011. One third of the total committed were a mandatory commitment to the Department as a result of a gun specification.

Commitments and Recommitments



Commitments To DYS

	Boys	2011 Girls	Total
Committed	34	2	36
Recommitted	13	1	14
Total	47	3	50
Parole Revocations	4	0	4
Grand Total	51	3	54

Commitments/Recommits Characteristics

	2011
Murder (Aggravated)	0
Felony 1	14
Felony 2	11
Felony 3	16
Felony 4	5
Felony 5	4

Five Year Trends for Commitments

	Commitments				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Boys	107	113	82	36	34
Girls	8	1	2	2	2
Total Commitments	115	114	84	38	36

Commitments vs. Recommitments

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Commitments	115	114	84	38	36
Recommitments	28	18	23	11	14
	143	132	107	49	50

Revocations

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Boys	21	29	22	5	4
Girls	0	2	2	1	0
Total Revocations	21	31	24	6	4

Five Year Trends Commitments/Recommitments - Mandatory

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Commitments	24	39	30	15	15
Recommitments	1	1	2	0	2
	25	40	32	15	17

Five Year Trends Commitments/Recommitments - Non-Mandatory

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Commitments	3	10	2	0	2
Recommitments	0	0	0	0	0
	3	10	2	0	2

TRANSFERS TO ADULT JURISDICTION

In 2011, 52 youth had their cases transferred to the adult division of the Court of Common Pleas. Of that number, 27 of those youth were required to be transferred for trial as a result of their age and the serious nature of the alleged offense.

Bindover Summary for 2011

	Cases	Youths
Carried from 2010	38	21
Carried to 2012	14	9
Filings	255	105
Mandatory	52	27
Discretionary	47	23
Total Bind Overs	105	52

ADULT JURISDICTION

DEPENDENCY, NEGLECT AND ABUSE

The Dependency Department is responsible for hearing and deciding 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 Court must approve and monitor the implementation of the agency's plan for each child. The priorities in handling child abuse and neglect cases include protecting children, respecting the rights of parents and obtaining permanent homes for children in a timely fashion.

	2010	2011
NEW FILINGS	497 cases	561 cases
	890 children	1,027 children
FILINGS DISMISSED	66 children	101 children
INITIAL DISPOSITIONS		
Direct Custody to Individual	70 children	82 children
Protective Supervision	187 children	171 children
Temporary Custody	492 children	534 children
Permanent Commitments	38 children	41 children
Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	17 children	26 children

In 2011, the Court placed 41 children in permanent custody as an initial disposition and 85 children in permanent custody as a modification to a prior grant of temporary custody.

In 2011, the Court placed 26 children in planned permanent living arrangements as an initial disposition and 53 children in planned permanent living arrangement as a modification to a prior grant of temporary custody

CHILDREN UNDER AGENCY CUSTODY OR SUPERVISION AT YEAR END

	2010	2011
Pending Complaints	324 children	326 children
Protective Supervision	211 children	242 children
Temporary Custody	602 children	687 children
Permanent Custody	205 children	213 children
Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	267 children	236 children
TOTAL	1,609 children	1,704 children

In addition to addressing child abuse, neglect and dependency cases, the Dependency Department hears motions to modify prior dependency orders. New filings of these cases are set forth below:

	2010	2011
New motions to Modify Prior Dependency Dispositions	379 cases	370 cases
	589 children	545 children

OTHER COMPLAINTS FILED

ADULT MISDEMEANORS	2010	2011
Failure to Send Child to School	1,118	995
Endangering Children	12	7
Tend to Cause Delinquency / Unruliness of a Minor	59	66
Contribute to Delinquency / Unruliness	24	13
Adult Probation Violation	54	34
Violation of EMU	21	35
TOTAL	1,288	1,150

	2010	2011
PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP	330	457
SUPPORT	2,565	2,739
CUSTODY	1,308	1,383
VISITATION	168	205
CHILD CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY	219	232
CARETAKER AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT	35	27
HABEAS CORPUS	0	0
PERMISSION TO MARRY	0	1
PARENTAL BYPASS	2	3

SOME MOTIONS FILED	2010	2011
CONTEMPT	3,990	3,524
MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT	2,439	2,141
ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION ORDER	1,722	1,455
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS	3,499	3,530
OBJECTION TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	365	372

HEARINGS CONDUCTED	2010	2011
TOTAL HEARINGS CONDUCTED	120,169	120,028
AVERAGE NUMBER OF HEARINGS PER FILING	3.17	3.40

MAGISTRATES

There were twenty-one Magistrates in Juvenile Court at year end. 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 hear and decide delinquency, unruly, dependency, custody, paternity and child support matters in Juvenile Court. Two hearing officers are assigned to preside over 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.

Twelve 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. 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 provide 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 2011 1,039 juveniles were referred to the unofficial docket on a total of 1,226 charges. Of the 1,226 charges heard, 286 charges were referred back to the official docket for hearing.

VOLUNTEER REFEREE PROGRAM

The volunteer referee diversion program exists 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, Karla J. Grady and John M. Williams.

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.

In 2011, there were 906 juveniles served by the volunteer referee program. Of this number 147 were referred back to the police department or school for further action. A total of 759 juveniles were handled unofficially and diverted from the system.

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 2011, six parents entered the Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court, and the program served a total of eight clients. The Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court discharged six participants from the program in 2011, and 83% 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 promotes 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 118 cases involving custody and visitation petitions to mediation in 2011, following a pretrial hearing.

The parties reached a full or partial agreement in 56% 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 43 families to mediation in 2011. The parties reached a full or partial agreement in 66% of the cases mediated.

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 with 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 2011, twenty youth with serious emotional disorders entered the Individualized Disposition Docket, and the program served a total of thirty-seven youth and their families. The Individualized Disposition Docket discharged twenty-seven participants from the program in 2011, and 65% of the youth discharged 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. In 2009, Hamilton County Juvenile Court received an Expansion Grant through the Department of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance to expand the types of services provided to youth and families on the docket. The Expansion grant will focus on connecting youth and families to non-traditional community supports.

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 2011, the Pretrial Diversion Docket admitted twenty-three youth with severe emotional disorders to the program and served thirty-seven youth and families. The Pretrial Diversion Docket discharged twenty-six participants from the program in 2011, and 81% of the youth discharged from the program were in compliance or substantial compliance with their treatment plan at the time of their discharge.

HAMILTON COUNTY CROSSOVER YOUTH PRACTICE MODEL

In 2010, Casey Family Programs and the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University selected Hamilton County as one of eleven jurisdictions who began to design and implement the Crossover Youth Practice Model [CYPM]. CYPM utilizes a strength-based approach in responding to the needs of youth who have contact with the child protection and juvenile justice systems. The CYPM Project is designed to achieve the following outcomes: reduction in out-of-home placements; reduction in congregate care placements; improved inter-agency information sharing; increased use of joint assessments; increased use of joint case management and case planning; enhanced youth and family engagement; decreased length of stays in detention; and decreased recidivism in the child protection/juvenile justice systems.

Hamilton County Department of Job & Family Services [hereinafter HCJFS], and Hamilton County Juvenile Court serve as the lead agencies for the CYPM Project. It is important to acknowledge that the success of this project rests on strong partnerships and a spirit of cooperation between public agencies and private partners. The partners have entered into a commitment to reform practice and the handling of crossover cases by maximizing resources, implementing best practice approaches, utilizing evidence-based or promising treatment models and developing innovative programming and supports to improve outcomes for youth who have contact with the child protection and juvenile justice systems without compromising community safety. In the first year following implementation in August of 2010, Hamilton County served 93 youth and families in the CYPM Project. An outcome evaluation of the project is pending.

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 four separate departments within Court Services: the Intervention Unit, Probation, Placement and Special Services 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 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 ten 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 10% of all families referred. During 2011, 18% of all cases closed were involved in ongoing treatment. Of cases in which the family made the first appointment, 46% returned for additional sessions. A total of 1,589 appointments were scheduled for families in 2011.

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 5.7 contacts per case during 2011.

The Intervention Unit's Family Counselors have assumed case management of all runaway referrals that had been assigned to the Intake Coordinator in the past. They offer supportive guidance to the family from the initial filing of the charge through disposition of the case, as well as provide counseling services if requested. Hearing reports offering background information regarding the family, and treatment recommendations are provided to Magistrates.

856 cases were referred to the Intervention Unit during 2011, which was an increase of 13 when compared to 2010. At the same time, there are more families taking advantage of treatment services.

The Unit closed 705 cases during 2011 and provided service to 66% of the families referred. Services included: case management for first time runaway cases, single session interventions, ongoing treatment services and telephone interventions. 21% of cases referred either did not respond to contact attempts or the youth's warrant remained active for over three months. 13% failed to attend their appointment. In many instances, Counselors scheduled several appointments with clients prior to case closure, hoping that they'd utilize services.

Substance abuse/dependency, physical and sexual abuse, and mental illness remain constant and significant factors affecting family functioning. Many of the youth have had prior exposure to mental health services or psychiatric hospitalization. Ages of youth range from 7 through 17 years. Minority populations represented 77% of youth referred; 46% of the total referrals were female. This was the third year that females did not constitute the majority of the referrals, which may be the result of parents not being able to file Runaway charges on weekends. 60% of the 856 referrals received during 2011 were minority youth for whom this was their first contact (unofficial or first time Runaway) with the Juvenile Justice System. The services provided by the Intervention Unit are one of the important ways that the Juvenile Court is addressing the issue of Disproportionate Minority Confinement and/or Contact.

In 2011, the Intervention Unit participated in a research project conducted by both Wright State University's School of Professional Psychology and the Ohio State University's School of Social Work. The focus was on the effectiveness of the Integrative Family and Systems Treatment (IFAST) model. Families were solicited to participate in the research project and the results are currently being evaluated. In addition, the Unit assumed management of the Court's Unofficial Docket-with such cases being heard twice per week with a Family Counselor being the Magistrate. This is another effort by the Court to address DMC issues as well as provide a diversion process to official Court involvement. Lastly, the Intervention Unit Director is now providing a clinical perspective to the Court's Placement Team on a weekly basis, and the Clinical Coordinator continues to offer supervision to student interns from local universities.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Intervention Unit utilizes Brief Strategic Therapy as its primary treatment modality. Bi-weekly live video team supervision sessions occur throughout the year and all Family Counselors are required to participate. This process also ensures that fidelity to the model is maintained. 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. In addition to the above, the Unit conducts annual customer service surveys seeking input from both parents and youth.

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND RECIDIVISM RATES

The Intervention Unit assesses the effectiveness of services based upon re-involvement with the Court. Recidivism in this case 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 2001-September 2011. A recidivism range of 3 months after case closure was used, since that is the standard set by the Department of Youth Services.

REFERRAL SOURCE	TOTAL CLOSED	NEW FILINGS	RECIDIVISM RATE
Dependency Court Magistrates	3	0	0%
Delinquency Court Magistrates	1,783	619	35%
First Time Runaway Program	4,017	1,242	31%
Clerk's Office Unofficial Referrals	4,664	909	19%
Probation Department	705	256	36%
Township Unofficial Dockets	47	9	19%
Teen Court	24	6	25%
TOTALS	11,243	3,035	27%

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 previously been accredited through the American Correctional Association. The Probation Department is participating with the state of Ohio in the utilization of the Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS). This assessment is a component of the department's classification/supervision model. It assists in identifying areas to be addressed in order to bring about improvement in the conduct of our probationers and ultimately reduce recidivism.

In 2011 the Probation Department received 819 cases, 745 referred for Investigation, 89 cases referred for Competency. Throughout the year the department averaged 623 cases under Supervision at any given time.

REFERAL STATISTICS

	2010		Total	2011		Total
	F	M		F	M	
Cases Referred to Probation	260	760	1,020	200	647	847
Competency Referrals			119			89
Race						
Asian	2	2	4	0	1	1
Bi-Racial	15	18	33	10	20	30
Black-African American	166	523	689	136	472	608
Caucasian	72	211	283	69	218	287
Hispanic	3	5	8	1	5	6
Mexican-American	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other	2	1	3	0	2	2
Unknown	0	0	0	1	3	4
Referring Offense	F	M		F	M	Total
Felony	50	353	403	35	303	338
Misdemeanor	142	336	478	129	357	486
Violation of Court Order	54	51	105	41	44	85
Unruly	10	10	20	9	10	19
Traffic	4	10	14	3	9	12

Age at Referral	2010	2011
9	2	0
10	9	1
11	17	12
12	45	23
13	90	69
14	110	120
15	175	149
16	198	184
17	252	242
18	110	123
19	3	2
20 and over	9	15
Number of Youth to Terminate at Placement	355	330
Number of Youth to Transfer into Probation	440	369

Referrals to Probation by Offense**	2010	2011
Arson	5	5
Assault	89	87
Attempt, Complicity, Conspiracy	11	12
Burglary	110	117
Cruelty to Animals	0	1
Disruption, Vandalism, Damaging	24	13
Drug Offenses	90	82
Forgery / Fraud	2	2
Habitual / Chronic Truancy	11	5
Kidnapping	0	3
Liquor Control	22	20
Menacing	17	15
Miscellaneous Offenses	0	1
Misuse of Credit Cards	1	2
Obscenity	7	0
Offenses Against Family	62	54
Offenses Against Justice	34	23
Offenses Against Peace	48	42
Prostitution	0	3
Receiving	26	16
Robbery	72	53
Sexual Offenses	37	38
Theft	109	131
Traffic Related Offenses	11	119
Trespass	11	8
Violations of Court Orders	107	91
Weapons Offenses	52	55
** 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. Youths re-offending at a felony level while under Probation supervision, in most instances, moves the case in the direction of 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.

In an effort to integrate new and promising practices into Probation Supervision, a team of 7 officers was trained in EPICS (Effective Practices in Community Supervision). This approach is a more cognitive based approach of interaction between Officer and Probationer focusing on skill building.

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. Four 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 violation is reported to the department's monitoring center. During 2011, 851 youth were supervised under Electronic Monitoring.

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Youth who are involved with the Juvenile Court Probation Department often need additional services that require connection to community-based programs. Probation Officers are responsible for coordinating referrals and providing supervision for youth enrolled in these programs.

The following is a brief description of some 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 who 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 and prevent out of home placement from occurring. Lighthouse has a Gender Responsive Program that specifically provides these services to female youth in a best practice manner.

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 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. In 2011, Centerpoint added case management services specific to address reintegration issues for youth stepping back into the community from residential placement for sexual offending issues.

CAMELOT CARE MDFT

The Court contracts with Camelot Care for juveniles on probation in need of intensive in-home drug and alcohol and mental health treatment. This program is a twelve - week program utilizing the best practice approach of MDFT (Multidimensional Family Therapy), which targets youth that have co-occurring disorders of mental illness and substance abuse.

CHILDREN'S HOME OF CINCINNATI

The Court contracts with Children's Home for juveniles in need of ongoing mental health services in community settings. Youth can receive services in a variety of settings and from therapists who have developed an expertise in working with delinquent youth. This past year therapists from the program were trained in trauma-focused CBT principles in order to work effectively with youth who have sustained significant trauma contributing to emotional and behavioral issues.

ABRAXAS COUNSELING CENTER

Abraxas Youth and Family Services began an outpatient program in Cincinnati in 2010 to serve youth with drug and alcohol abuse needs through group, individual and in-home services. The primary recipients of this service are youth returning to the community from residential placement settings, as well as youth under probation supervision in the community at risk of placement.

HAMILTON CHOICES / HOPE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

This managed care 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. Funding comes from pooled dollars contributed by the major child-serving systems within the county. 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. Of total youth in the project from all systems, more than half have involvement in the Juvenile Court at some level, which is a fairly significant number. The project changed management from an outside vendor (Hamilton Choices) to an internal contract (HOPE for Children and Families) on October 1, 2011.

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 2011, 81 youth were referred to the program.

PLACEMENT AND SPECIAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS

The Juvenile Court utilizes various residential placements to address the multiple needs of some of its client population and community safety risk. 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 over this past year, including:

- Abraxas Youth and Family Services
- Talbert House (Alternatives)
- Talbert House (Passages)
- Talbert House (Bridge)
- Glen Mills School
- The Village Network
- Tri-State Youth Academy
- Lighthouse Paint Creek
- Lighthouse Independent Living
- Starr Commonwealth
- Foundations for Living
- Buckeye Ranch
- Children's Center of Ohio
- Sequel Youth Services
- Sugar Creek
- Altercrest
- Bellefaire JCB

In 2011, there were a total of 88 Juvenile Court youth referred and placed in the above 17 facilities.

PLACEMENT AND ENHANCED REINTEGRATION TEAM (PERT)

Over the past two years, the Probation Department has worked under the funding of the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant. PERT is comprised of 7 officers and 1 supervisor. Each PERT Probation Officer is assigned with the task of maintaining a specialized caseload of approximately twenty – five probationers that are placed in residential treatment and/or correctional settings. Team members receive enhanced Probation training and skill building in order to successfully manage a "high – risk" population of youth with multiple needs and dynamic family situations. The overall goal of the grant was to improve the criminal justice system by providing enhanced, comprehensive reentry services to youth returning from placement and reducing further risk of offending. The evidence-based treatment models of Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) and Integrative Families and Systems Treatment (I-FAST) have been incorporated in the specialized services for identified youth. Thus far, this model has proven a success as anticipated outcomes are a reduction in recidivism and the number of admissions to state correctional facilities has reduced. Each youth and family received more intensive community-based supervision and services. This has helped to build a strong network of traditional and non-traditional supports for successful reintegration from the various placement settings back with their family, school, peers and community life.

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. Each member of the Psychology Clinic rotates weekly 24 hour a day on-call responsibility. The court requested services in 2011 were:

CLINIC SERVICES	TOTAL
Psychological Evaluations	201
IDD / PDD Evaluations	16
Psychiatric Evaluations	7
Evaluations for Bind Over	27
Sex Offender Risk Assessments	35
MAP Evaluations	22
Competency to Stand Trial	123
Competency Attainment	432
Competency Treatment Plans	87
Job Applicants / Volunteers	62
Emergency Referrals	586
Detention High Risk Assessments	819

HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT YOUTH CENTER



YOUTH CENTER

During 2011, the Youth Center has experienced several major changes to the facility's programs and personnel, while still providing short term secure placement for youth awaiting trial or placement. The Youth Center's new Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent were in place during the early part of the year. The Youth Center has continued its accreditation with the National Commission on Correctional Health Care Services, while meeting the standards of the Department of Youth Services.

In 2011, The Youth Center had 5989 intakes (youth who are under arrest) a reduction of 12% from the prior year. There were 2328 youth (approximately 39% of the intakes) who were admitted to detention, this represents a 16% decrease from 2010. The average daily population was seventy-eight (78) youth in detention, with an average length of stay of thirteen (13) days. There were 3646 youth diverted from detention after arrest.

The Work Detail community service program has been incorporated into detention operations. The combined staffing and operational resources have benefited both work sites. While Work Detail Crew Leaders/JCO's work the detention facility during the weekdays, Work Detail referrals are relegated to detention Out -To>Returns and youth not currently enrolled in school during the same period.

The Youth Center staffing levels have been affected by retirements and attrition; during this year we were able to hire ten (10) new employees for operation and housing departments.

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Clerk's Office staff were cross-trained to effectively process youth properly and timely into the facility. The Clerk's Office implemented a court date notice at the time of a youth's release, reducing the number of capiases issued for failure to appear.

The collaborative work with the University of Cincinnati was continued through project funding.

The Youth Center third shift staff assisted in monitoring youth placed on EMU through the Probation Department.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

The Housing Department continued to operate at 80-bed capacity. The focus is clearly to concentrate on retaining serious felony offenders and the safety of the public community. Additional cameras were added to the housing and day area to increase the level of safety and security of residents and staff.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Medical Screenings	2,322
Full Physical Examinations	1,420
Sick Call Examinations by Nurse Practitioner or Physician	758

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Youth Center continues to vary community programs through our volunteer programs and services for youth.

Volunteer Hours	1,513
Total Number of Volunteers	147
Total Number of Programs / Organizations	62
Total Number of Training Hours	9,925

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 that have been affected by their delinquent behavior.

The Work Detail program operates under the fundamental ideology of restorative justice. This is where the youth offender goes back to the community to repair harm to the victim which they may have caused. This is performed by many community beautification service projects the youth perform through their Court ordered Work Details.

During 2011, the Work Detail department continued many of its community service projects with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Hamilton County Park district, Hamilton County Environmental Services, Great American Cleanup, Mt. Auburn Community Day, and the Zoo.

Number of Youth Performed Daily Work Details	381
Number of Youth Performed Saturday Work Details	1,245
TOTAL	1,626
Cumulative Work Detail Service Days	4,489

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 58 residential treatment beds and an aftercare program for delinquent boys. Hillcrest has dual accreditation by the American Correctional Association (ACA) by meeting both the "Training School" and "Aftercare Services" Standards. Hillcrest maintains National Commission on Correctional Health Care Services (NCCHC), and American Association of Suicidology accreditation. The agency is also licensed by the Ohio Department of Mental Health, and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services. Hillcrest also participates in Performance Based Standards (PBS) through the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators.

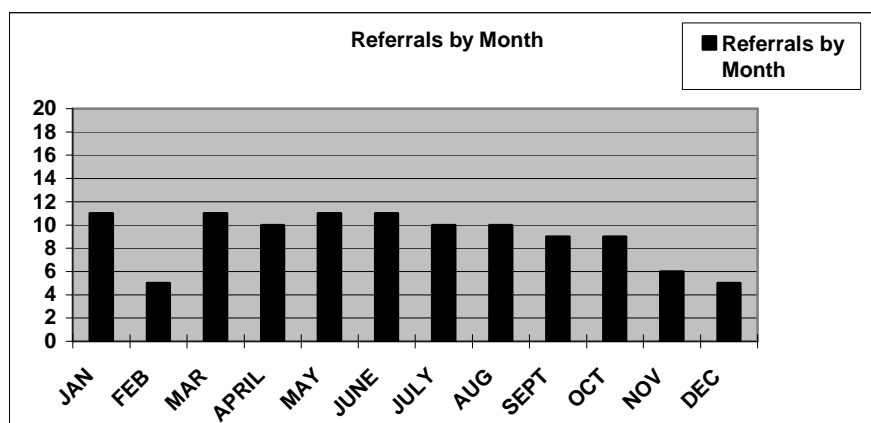
2011 Achievements

- Successfully recertified by the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services for 2011-2014.
- Completed two Performance Based Standards data collection cycles and received a level II rating as compared to other similar institutions.
- Received a \$470,000 Targeted Reclaim Subsidy Grant.
- Awarded the Rewarding Education and Academic Performance Grant of \$500 from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation.
- Continued to define Hillcrest Training School's relationship with the Princeton School District.

TOTAL REFERRALS

Referrals by Month

JAN	11
FEB	5
MAR	11
APR	10
MAY	11
JUN	11
JUL	10
AUG	10
SEP	9
OCT	9
NOV	6
DEC	5
TOTAL	108



RACE OF REFERRALS:

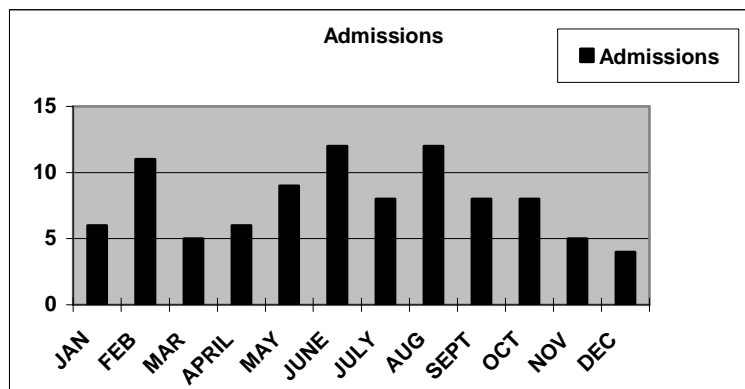
	Number	Percentage
African-American	94	87.04%
Caucasian	13	12.04%
Hispanic	1	.93%
TOTAL	108	100%

AVERAGE AGE	AVERAGE # OF PRIORS	AVERAGE # OF DAYS ON REFERRAL
15.8 Years Old	10 Priors	27 Days

TOTAL ADMISSIONS

Admissions by Month

JAN	11
FEB	5
MAR	6
APR	9
MAY	12
JUNE	8
JULY	12
AUG	11
SEPT	8
OCT	8
NOV	5
DEC	4
TOTAL	99



RACE OF ADMISSIONS:

	Number	Percentage
African-American	85	85.86%
Bi-racial	1	1.00%
Caucasian	12	12.12%
Hispanic	1	1.00%
TOTAL	99	100%

DEGREE OF COMMITTING OFFENSE:

	Number	Percentage
Violation of Court Order		
Substance Abuse	2	2.02%
Misdemeanor		
Substance Abuse	6	6.06%
Disruptive Behavior	3	3.03%
Felony		
Substance Abuse	75	75.76%
Disruptive Behavior	13	13.13%
TOTAL	99	100%

SUSPENDED COMMITMENTS TO DYS:

	Number	Percentage
Admits With SC/DYS		
Substance Abuse	80	80.81%
Disruptive Behavior	16	16.16%
Admits Without SC/DYS		
Substance Abuse	3	3.03%
TOTAL	99	100%

DAYS OF RESIDENTIAL CARE PROVIDED IN 2011:

Quarter	Residential Days of Care
1 st	3,967
2 nd	3,801
3 rd	4,572
4 th	5,089
TOTAL	17,429

RESIDENTIAL TERMINATIONS:

	Number	Percentage
Aftercare	12	11.76%
PC to DYS	6	5.88%
Unsuccessful	1	.98%
Successful	47	46.08%
Other Placement Made	20	19.61%
Bound Over	2	1.96%
No Sub Status	14	13.73%
TOTAL	102	100%

2010 AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY:

	Disruptive Behavior	Substance Abuse	Sex Offense Specific
Total # of Children Served	26	123	10
Total Residential Days Care	3,329	13,837	263
Terminations	27	116	18
Average Length of Stay in Days	250	201	638

AFTERCARE CASELOAD:

	Releases	PC/DYS
2007	147	28
2008	143	21
2009	138	24
2010	90	6
2011	75	1

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UTILIZATION STATISTICS

PSYCHOLOGY:

The Psychology Department conducts both standard psychological assessments as well as criminogenic assessments for each youth admitted. These assessments identify mental health, risk, need and responsivity, as well as psycho-educational issues, and provide recommendations for treatment and other services. The department provides staff training and consultation, individual and group psychotherapy, and crisis intervention. Services include assessments of suicide risk and assessment of appropriate level of suicide precaution, management of ADHD diagnosed youth, liaison with area mental health agencies, and the initiation of clinical case conferences to address the special needs of identified residents. The department staffing includes psychology assistants and two licensed psychologists that supervise all psychological services as specified by the Ohio State Board of Psychology.

- 99 Intake
- 509 Individual Sessions
- 583 Emergency Sessions

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM

Pathways for Self-Discovery and Change (**formerly Strategies for Self-Improvement and Change**) is the primary treatment curriculum at Hillcrest for residents determined to have significant substance abuse issues. Youth involved in this programming participate in twice weekly groups that are facilitated by two trained staff. This curriculum helps participants understand the relationship between thoughts and behavior and how changing faulty thinking can decrease substance abuse and criminal conduct. With the help of the Pathways workbook, group sessions, and homework assignments, participants are challenged to examine the negative effect their substance abuse and criminal conduct has on them and those around them. Residents are taught new skills that support them in their effort to stop abusing alcohol and other drugs and from engaging in criminal behavior. Participants in Pathways are also subject to routine drug screening. Individual substance abuse programming is also available and typically reserved for those that would not benefit from a group program or need a more intensive dosage of treatment (e.g., individual and group).

- 284 treatment groups were held with a maximum of 12 youth in each group.

THINKING FOR A CHANGE

Thinking for a Change is a twenty-five session modular program designed to help participants learn new skills that can help them become more effective in their daily lives. With the help of group sessions, role plays, and homework assignments, residents are taught how to identify and change “risky thoughts” that increase the possibility of making negative choices. They also learn social skills that increase the ability to effectively interact with others and problem solving skills for managing the challenges of every day life. Thinking for a Change groups occur twice a week and are facilitated by two staff. The skills learned in this program overlap with and are reinforced by other group programming.

- 5 individual youth were served with 30 sessions held.

AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING

Residents with a history of aggressive behavior and anger issues can be referred for Aggression Replacement Training (ART). This 30-session modular course helps participants learn effective ways to manage their emotional reactions to anger-provoking situations. Participants gain new skills that help them get their needs met assertively rather than aggressively. Finally, participants learn to challenge self-centered thinking and increase their empathy by putting themselves in other's shoes. Discussion groups, role-plays, hassle logs, and homework assignments are used to teach the new skills. Participants complete ART while participating in their other treatment programs, so being in this group does not extend the length of residential stay. The ART groups occur once a week for 20 weeks to cover two of the components of the programming (e.g., anger control training and moral reasoning). The final component of the programming (i.e., skillstreaming) occurs during weekend programming throughout the residents' stay at Hillcrest. All programming has been facilitated by two trained staff.

- 3 treatment groups were held with a maximum of 12 youth in each group.

TARGETED RECLAIM PROGRAM

Funded by the Ohio Department of Youth Service (ODYS), this program is designed for youth that would normally be considered for placement at an ODYS facility. Residents assigned to this program participate in an intensive program that utilizes Hillcrest's three primary treatment curriculums (i.e., ART, Thinking for a Change, and Pathways). These curriculums are augmented by an additional group focusing on risk management planning. The programming is designed to address maladaptive thinking and to replace this with adaptive thinking and behavior. Role – plays, journaling, and Thinking Reports are key components of this program. The residents assigned to the Targeted Reclaim Program, based on need, may also participate in any/all other treatment programs offered at Hillcrest.

- 34 youth were served in this program.

HEALTH SERVICES

Services include health assessments, daily sick call, and management of special needs cases, medication distribution, immunizations, 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	102
Psychiatric Evaluations	29
Psychiatric Follow-Up Visits	156
Sick Call	
Pediatrician Visit	125
Nurse Visits	2,457
Dental Cleaning and Restoration	129

SUPPORT SERVICES

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department, under the Support 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.

2011 General Fund	Revenue	Expense
General Fund Subsidy	\$12,679,174.32	
Judges' Office	\$1,409,360.00	\$8,440,176.52
Youth Center	\$1,715,549.04	\$7,406,933.84
Hillcrest	\$3,672,467.57	\$3,629,440.57
TOTAL	\$19,476,550.93	\$19,476,550.93
Grants		
Reclaim Ohio / Youth Services	\$6,328,788.03	\$6,328,788.03
Hillcrest School	\$2,265,621.63	\$2,265,621.63
Pretrial Diversion	\$0.00	\$1.00
Community Control	\$93,845.38	\$93,845.38
Specialized Mental Health	\$26,991.17	\$26,992.17
Intervention Unit	\$53,700.47	\$53,700.47
Mental Health Collaboration	\$98,316.68	\$98,316.68
PERT	\$309,217.30	\$309,217.30
Legal Research	\$49,010.00	\$49,010.00
JAIBG	\$77,078.03	\$77,078.03
TOTAL	\$9,302,568.69	\$9,302,570.69
GRAND TOTAL	\$28,779,119.62	\$28,779,121.62

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

In 2011, Juvenile Court began using the Hamilton County Human Resources Department to provide all Human Resources (HR) functions for Juvenile Court. This shift in the way the Court's HR function is administered has allowed the Court to save over 50% of its annual cost for providing HR services. The shared service approach provides a Juvenile Court division of the HR Department that is specifically dedicated to the Court's needs, while allowing for the Court to benefit from the expertise of all of the HR Department's specialists.

The Hamilton County HR Department's services to Juvenile Court include:

- Wage, salary and benefits administration;
- Maintenance of personnel records;
- Management of the performance review program;
- Employee relations;
- Compliance with applicable labor laws.

STAFFING LEVELS

Juvenile Court's staffing levels continued to decrease in 2011, due to budget pressures. At the end of 2010, the Court had 372 full time employees and 17 part-time employees, for a total of 389 employees. At the end of 2011, the Court had 344 full time employees and 13 part-time employees, for a total of 357 employees. This decrease of 32 positions continues a steady decline in the Court's staff count.

However, throughout 2011, the Court did post and fill positions that are essential to fulfilling the Court's mandated services. The hiring process has been streamlined and now allows for online applications, which has made the hiring process more efficient.



TRAINING

In previous years, the Court's Personnel Department had a training division. In 2011, the Juvenile Court's Youth Center assumed that responsibility for the Court, and the HR Department's Juvenile Court division no longer has a training division.

As part of that training division transition, the Youth Center's Superintendent took a lead role in coordinating the Juvenile Court Annual Training Seminar. The 2011 topic was "Making a Difference by Engaging Youth and Families through a Multicultural Lens," and it was well-received by the participants. The program featured Dr. Shawn Marsh, Ph.D., Mr. Anthony Harris, Mr. Lyman Letgers, and Ms. Mimari Hall. The program was supported almost entirely by community resources and federal funding, allowing 250 staff from the Court and other child-serving agencies to attend without charge. Continued educational credit to maintain licensure was available for counselors, social workers, and attorneys.

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

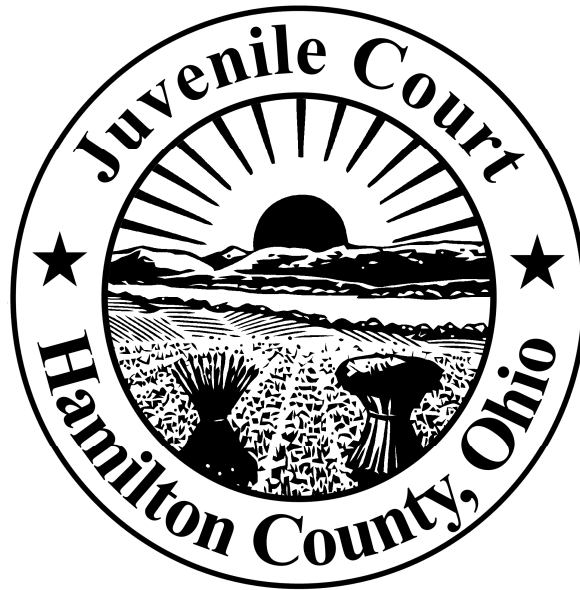
Administrative Services, as a division of the Court was established in 2011. The division is comprised of the Security Department, Information Services, Reasonable and Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors (RECLAIM) management and the responsibility for the maintenance of the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).

SECURITY DEPARTMENT

The Security Department is comprised of 9 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 Security Department operates in compliance with the Supreme Court of Ohio, Court Security Standards. The Security Department is responsible for providing safety, 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 are responsible for providing security at the Community Services Work Detail Program.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Information Services Department is comprised of ten full-time employees and two contract positions. Staff are responsible for the design, development, implementation and support maintenance of the Court's computer hardware and software at all four court locations. In 2011 the Information Services Department deployed over 400 pieces of new equipment to end users. The help desk call center closed 1661 tickets in 2011. The department also implemented an enhanced web filtering system to further protect software and prevent unauthorized use. The development staff updated multiple modules of the Juvenile Court Management System to accommodate changes in legislation and to assist the Court Services department with federal reporting. Uniface and Oracle upgrades to the Juvenile Court Management System were also completed in 2011.



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