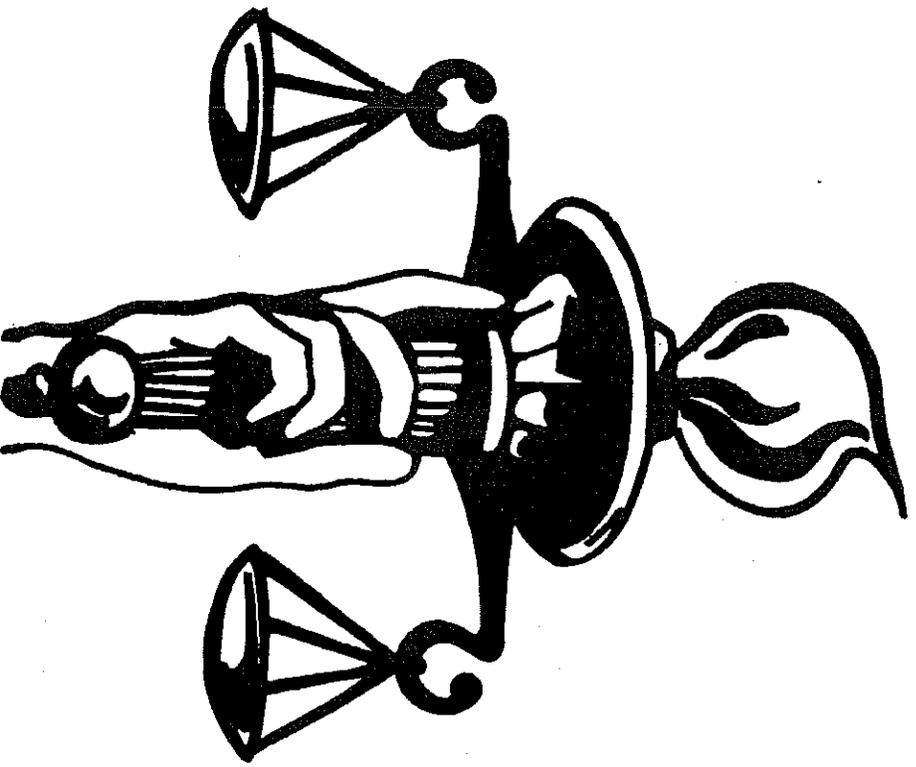


**Miami County
Juvenile Court**



1993

Annual Report

Honorable Richard A. Goater, Judge

Statistically we noticed a modest increase in the number of cases filed - delinquencies and traffic offenses remained about the same - see the last page of this report - but unruly filings increased by 1 1/2%. This may be attributable to further breakdown in the home and lack of parental support for our schools.

The David L. Brown Youth Center received a new Director - Darrell Henthorn - and is on a sound financial basis. Mr. Henthorn has increased the bed space availability from 16 to 19 and has effected some programmatic changes. We are pleased. The Center offers a behavior modification program for delinquent and unruly boys.

Also, the beginning of 1993 saw the opening of West Central Juvenile Detention Facility under the direction of Greg Simmons. This has met a great need of not only Miami County but its surrounding sister counties. Unfortunately, several of the youth attempted a breakout in June, which was quickly brought under control with minor physical damage. This caused soul searching for causes, which have been placed on human error. The structure design was reaffirmed with minor physical adjustments. The fiscal report has not been made public for security reasons.

September 1993 saw the first admission to the adjoining six county West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility under the direction of Charles R. Powell. This facility serves delinquent youth, who would have otherwise been placed at the Department of Youth Service. Placements will be made gradually until its 36 bed capacity is reached. Mr. Powell had previously worked directly for Juvenile Court and was the person responsible for bringing the facility on line. We are pleased that this brings to fruition, after four plus years, the West Central project under Charles Powell's able direction and oversight.

Internally, David Lyons moved from Chief Probation Officer responsibilities to program and project director for the Court and Randall Freeman moved to Chief P.O. status. Gerald Dornbusch assumes the duties of Assistant Chief P.O. and substance abuse specialist.

Last, and certainly not least, Phyllis Hanford retired as Chief Deputy Clerk after 14 years of loyal service, and Beverly Wilson Bell assumed her responsibilities. Beverly had previously been with the Findlay Municipal Court prior to her move to Miami County. She has brought fresh insights and directions to the Court.

Also, on a positive note, 1993 has witnessed more cooperation among child serving agencies, which is to the betterment of all Miami County families.

Richard A. Goater
Juvenile Court Judge of Miami County

MIAMI COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

A. Purpose -

1. To provide for the care, protection, mental and physical development of children.
2. To protect the public interest in removing the consequences of criminal behavior and the taint of criminality from children committing delinquent acts, and to substitute therefore a program of supervision, care and rehabilitation.
3. To achieve the foregoing purposes, whenever possible, in a family environment, separating a child from its parents only when necessary for his welfare or in the interest of the public.
4. To provide judicial procedure to which the laws outlined in Chapter 2151 of Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure are enforced, and in which the parties are assured of a fair hearing and their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and enforced.

B. Functions -

1. The Juvenile Division of the Miami County Court of Common Pleas hears all proceedings wherein a person under the age of 18 years is the primary subject of a complaint such as:

DELINQUENT	NEGLECT
UNRULY	ABUSED
DEPENDENT	JUVENILE TRAFFIC OFFENDER
2. The Juvenile Division of the Miami County Court of Common Pleas hears all proceedings involving adults on misdemeanor or complaints in their relation with children such as:

CONTRIBUTING	to delinquency, unruilness, abuse, dependency or neglect
PATERNITY	Establishing parent/child relationship
CUSTODY	
CONSENT TO MARRY	

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lou Havenar, Chairperson
 Richard A. Adams
 Arthur Haddad

MIAMI COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES - ADVISORY BOARD

Dennis H. Coffield, Chairperson	Troy City Schools
Don Emery	Piqua City Commission
Ed Ledenski	West Milton Schools
Ronald R. Fox	Miami Industries
Richard A. Adams	Miami County Commissioner
Dorland Loomis	Upper Valley JVS
Michael W. Short	Newton High School
Tom Davidson	Tipp City Police Chief
Steve Cruza	Troy Police Department
Joel H. Walker	Troy Daily News Editor
Yurko M. Willcox	Piqua City Schools

MIAMI COUNTY JUVENILE COURT EMPLOYEES

Richard A. Goater	Judge
Lynnia K.C. Wagner	Referee
David E. Lyons	C.P.O./Court Services Director
Charles R. Powell	Court Administrator/Rehab Director
Phyllis A. Hanstford (retired)	Chief Deputy
Beverly Wilson	Chief Deputy
Randall D. Freeman	Assist. C.P.O./Chief Probation Officer
Gerald L. Dornbusch, Jr.	Chemical Dependency Specialist
Donta A. Gast	Probation Officer
Diane S. Long	Probation Officer
Nora Hyland	Probation Officer
Michael Stout	Probation Officer
Laurie Lewis-Curnutte	P.O./Home Detention Caseworker
Sonia A. Kelchner	Clerical Case-Aide
Cheryl Trissel	Clerical Case-Aide
Angela Hubbard	Bookkeeper
Melissa Drewing	Bookkeeper
Judy M. Manning	Deputy Clerk
Barbara Roush	Deputy Clerk
Pat Woryk	Deputy Clerk
April Hines	Deputy Clerk
Barbara Brown	Alternative Education Teacher
Doug Workman	Teacher's Aide
Jody Josefovsky	Work Program Supervisor
Bob Wheelock	Home Detention Caseworker
Randy Stark	Home Detention Caseworker

PROGRAMS OFFERED BY MIAMI COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

1. Probation
2. Alternative Education
3. Juvenile Work Program-Restitution
4. David L. Brown Youth Center
5. Foster Care and Group Homes
6. West Central Day Treatment Program
7. Adolescent Self-Esteem
8. Psychological Services
9. Alcohol/Substance Abuse Education
10. Juvenile Traffic Offender Program
11. Miami Alternatives Program
12. Adolescent Sex Offender Program
13. West Central Detention Facility
14. West Central Rehabilitation Facility
15. Other Court Services
 - A. Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Cases
 - B. Adult Civil Procedure
 - C. Adult Criminal Procedure
 - D. Marriage Consent
 - E. Custody Review Board

1. PROBATION

Probation supervision is used after an official court order by the Judge or the Referee whereby a probation officer actively supervises and monitors the young person's adjustment in the home, school, and the community. The primary objective is to effect change while insuring compliance of court orders and to protect the interests of the community. Through the development and implementation of a structured and individualized treatment plan, the probation officer encourages the child to consider other available choices and to take ownership of his decisions and subsequent behavior.

Many varied techniques and approaches are utilized during the probation period, some of which are: the use of behavioral contracts, goal setting, experimental exercises (role playing), and use of logical consequences, each enhanced by the use of positives.

In addition, a Truancy Program was developed to better serve the needs of the unruly child who has truant from the home or school. Recognizing that "truancy" itself is often the symptom, or a means of coping or reacting to some other situation, the program has as its objective the identification of casual factors. The program

consists of an intensive 90 day supervision period during which the child and the family participate in weekly meetings and complete Adolescent Self-Esteem groups as well as any additional Court orders. At the end of the 90 day period, the case is either terminated or transferred to the probation department for ongoing services. In 1993, 107 youth were ordered into the Truancy Program.

PROBATION SUPERVISION

Placed on probation

Males

Females

253

171

82

Terminated from probation

Males

Females

215

140

75

Probation violations filed

Males

Females

192

129

63

2. ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

In August of 1982 an Alternative Education program was begun. The program is designed for probationary youth who have been expelled or suspended from their home school.

There are several purposes of the program. It attempts to keep students current in their subject areas while they are on suspension in order to make their eventual assimilation back to their home schools much easier. It allows the instructor the opportunity to work one-on-one with youth who have difficulty in a particular subject area.

In addition it affords the teacher and the probation staff the opportunity to work with the youth in the development of new goals with regard to education.

The program was formerly housed in the Safety Building in Troy, but in the fall of 1984 it was moved to the Troy Recreation Center. Originally begun as a program for six to eight youth, it has grown considerably, often involving as many as twenty to twenty-five students each day.

In 1991, the school day was increased from 3 hours to 5 hours. More attention was focused on individual testing and educational planning. A teacher's aide position was added in late 1990 to assist the Alternative Education Teacher.

Due to a temporary re-allocation of Youth Service Subsidy Funds, the Alternative Education Program was not in operation at the beginning of the school year in 1993-94. The program has a tentative re-start date scheduled for spring 1994.

NUMBER OF YOUTH IN PROGRAM (1993)

Male 61
Female 49

NUMBER OF STUDENT SCHOOL DAYS

68

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE 7.4
MIAMI COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS
SERVED BY PROGRAM 10

3. JUVENILE WORK/RESTITUTION PROGRAM

A work program involving Court youth has been in existence for several years. The major change which was initiated in 1982 was the hiring of a work program supervisor during the summer months who could assist in obtaining productive job sites and who could also supervise the youth and make their efforts more acceptable to the communities.

During the school year the youth are supervised on Saturdays by staff who provide assistance to the youth with their day to day problems while completing their work assignments.

The work program enables the youth to make restitution for the victim's loss if the dependent qualifies as being unable to make reimbursement. It also enables the youth to work off Court fines and to complete community service assignments.

During 1993 the youth continued to work at the Miami County Transfer Station and at Brukner Nature Center. In addition the youth worked at the Piqua Heritage Festival, The Troy 4th of July program, the Tipp City Park Department, the Piqua High School track complex, and cleaned stadiums after football games for West Milton, Troy and Piqua High Schools.

NUMBER OF YOUTH INVOLVED IN PROGRAM 606
Male 446
Female 160

NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED 5373
WORK CREDIT AGAINST FINES AND RESTITUTION
AT \$3.00 PER HOUR \$2,334

4. DAVID L. BROWN YOUTH CENTER

March of 1987 marked the opening of the Miami County Youth Center. Under the direction of the Miami County Juvenile Court and licensed as an Agency Group Home, the facility serves up to sixteen adjudicated males by court order from Miami, Shelby, and Darke county juvenile courts. Only those youth who do not pose a

serious threat to the community are eligible for the six month treatment program. While at the Center, the youth attend a self-contained classroom eleven months per year and receive individual and family counseling services from a licensed psychologist.

In addition to providing supervision and treatment, the staff emphasizes issues of accountability, personal responsibility, and choices in an effort to assist youth in problem solving and coping services. The center was re-named the David L. Brown Youth Center in 1993.

NUMBER OF YOUTH ADMITTED 12
NUMBER OF YOUTH DISCHARGED 9

5. FOSTER CARE, GROUP HOMES, AND SPECIAL PLACEMENTS

The providing of alternative residential placements for youth in home-like environments continues to be an integral part of Court programming. All placements are based upon a plan for the earliest possible reunification of the family unit. Many placement needs of the Court are being met by the Miami County Children's Service Board.

6. WEST CENTRAL DAY TREATMENT

The West Central Day Treatment Program was conceived in 1990 and is funded entirely by the Department of Youth Services 414 grant allocation. This six county project includes Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Miami, Preble and Shelby counties. Currently this program is located in Troy, Ohio in the West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility. This program is designed to serve non-violent felony offenders in a scholastic environment. The teachers test each youth placement and develop individual educational plans for each one. Integration back into schools of origin or preparation for GED tests are the two primary goals for the youth placements. The West Central Day Treatment Program is considered a model of cooperation and collaboration between counties in the State of Ohio.

NUMBER OF MIAMI COUNTY YOUTH SERVED 9

7. ADOLESCENT SELF-ESTEEM

The Adolescent Self-Esteem program is contracted with a licensed psychologist and is offered for both adjudicated and non-adjudicated youth. It is offered seven times each year for youth who have been identified as being in need of establishing personal values and accepting responsibility. The youth are also those in need of getting in touch with their feelings and in developing an increased awareness of choices.

A program consists of eight one hour group sessions provided by one licensed psychologist and one co-facilitator.

NUMBER OF YOUTH IN PROGRAM

59

8. PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Through a contractual agreement with a licensed psychologist, Miami County Juvenile Court is able to provide psychological diagnostic evaluations which become part of the Court record and which assist in the development of a treatment program for the youth who are referred.

The contract provides the Court accessibility to psychological service and also an understanding by the provider of the particular needs of the Court.

NUMBER OF YOUTH IN PROGRAM

9

9. ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION

A contract with the Miami County Alcoholism Program assists the Court with unruly/delinquent youth, professionally identified as in need of a program which may alter the symptomatic abuse of alcoholic beverages or other substances.

The youth meet Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for two hours daily during the last week of every month, excluding July and December. Parents may also attend. They are exposed to a similar curriculum, designed to increase the communication and the understanding between parent and youth where alcohol and/or substance abuse are involved.

NUMBER OF YOUTH INVOLVED IN PROGRAM

56

10. JUVENILE TRAFFIC OFFENDER PROGRAM

As in previous years, the Upper Valley JVS has provided at no cost to the Juvenile Court a traffic offender program. This program meets the first Monday of each month.

The program is designed to influence the attitudes of juveniles toward driving. It is not a driver's education program and does not teach driving skills. At the time a juvenile driver is adjudicated to have two moving traffic violations, his or her driver's license is suspended for 90 days. His license suspension may be terminated in 30 days if he elects to attend this program. Youth who are adjudicated DWI or DUI are Court-ordered to attend the program, but they may not reduce their license suspension by attending.

NUMBER OF YOUTH INVOLVED IN PROGRAM

88

11. MIAMI ALTERNATIVES

Through a grant provided to the Miami County Juvenile Court by the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Services, a project was created to increase treatment alternatives for unruly youth in lieu of secure detention. As in 1992, the grant provided partial funding for personnel and mileage reimbursement for 3 Home Detention Caseworkers. These caseworkers monitored youth who were under an order of Home Detention. 1993 marks the final year for this grant. Costs have been absorbed into the 510 Subsidy for 1994.

HOME DETENTION YOUTH SERVED

176

12. ADOLESCENT SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

The Adolescent Sexual Offender Treatment Group provides direct educational and counseling services to offenders and their families. An assessment is conducted by the treatment team to determine the offenders risk level to the community. This sex offender program is provided by the Miami County Mental Health Center through a contractual arrangement with the Juvenile Court.

The program provides weekly educational sessions to the offenders and their parents focusing on the psychology of the offender, progression of the offenders history, and feelings about self.

There is also a treatment phase during which the offenders participate in weekly group therapy. Families participate every third week during this portion of the project.

NUMBER OF YOUTH IN THE PROGRAM

10

13. WEST CENTRAL DETENTION FACILITY

Beginning in January of 1993, under the direction of Greg Simmons, the West Central Detention Facility began accepting youth in need of detention. Youth are court ordered into detention for an average of 3-5 days. The maximum period of detention is 90 days. During their time of incarceration, youth are given a medical physical, attend educational programming, participate in daily recreational activities and are taught to conform to a rigid curriculum designed to modify offending youth's behavior.

The West Central Detention Facility is constructed to accommodate 24 youth with 2 additional beds that may be utilized under certain circumstances. The Miami County Juvenile Court utilizes 12 beds while other counties including Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby and Clinton utilize the remainder of the beds either by

contract or as space is available. Previous to 1993, Miami County youth were detained in out of county detention facilities.

YOUTH DETAINED IN 1993

419

AVERAGE DAILY MIAMI COUNTY OCCUPANCY

8.7

14. WEST CENTRAL REHABILITATION FACILITY

In October of 1993, the West Central Rehabilitation Facility under the direction of Charles R. Powell, began accepting youth in their new state-funded rehabilitation program. Referrals to this program are made after youth have been adjudicated delinquent for the commission of a felony offense and a high level of programming is deemed necessary in a local secure facility. Previously these youth would have been committed to the Department of Youth Services. The Rehab facility will be able to accommodate up to 36 youth from a six-county area including Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby as well as Miami counties.

YOUTH SERVED IN 1993

2

15. OTHER COURT SERVICES

A. ABUSE, NEGLECT AND DEPENDENCY CASES

The juvenile is the only court to hear cases filed by the Miami County Children's Services Board wherein a juvenile is alleged to be an abused, neglected, or dependent child.

The court issues orders without a hearing, granting custody to Children's Services Board in emergency situations and also hears complaints for temporary custody (wherein the goal is to reunite the child with the family after the parents have complied with a plan to alter their behavior) and complaints for permanent custody (wherein it is necessary to terminate parental rights and to make permanency plans for the child.)

NUMBER OF CASES HEARD

139

These cases usually result in support orders being filed and support monies being returned to the Department of Human Services which of course is a substantial savings to the taxpayer. The total support generated includes orders from previous years and is collected for Public Assistance.

B. ADULT CIVIL PROCEDURE

The Court also acts for private citizens who are separated but who are not contemplating divorce in making support orders and custody determinations.

The Court also receives paternity case filings. Again most of these cases are filed at the behest of the Department of Human Services to obtain support for children on ADC. New advances in blood testing techniques (HLA blood grouping) have resolved a lot of legal battling that used to occur.

C. ADULT CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Closely aligned with the civil support cases are those criminal cases filed against fathers who have failed to support and provide for their children without justifiable cause.

Also, if an adult contributes to the unruliness or delinquency of a child, he is subject to criminal prosecution in Juvenile Court. In 1993, 28 such cases were filed.

D. MARRIAGE CONSENT

When young people desire to marry and they are not of legal age and the girl is pregnant, the Juvenile Court may grant that consent, and with custodial parent's approval, they may be issued a marriage license by Probate Court.

In 1993, 2 such matters were handled.

E. CUSTODY REVIEW BOARD

The Custody Review Board consists of five interested citizens with training or experience in the field who are appointed by the Juvenile Judge. The members study the files of all juveniles who are placed in the care or custody of a public or private organization or agency. The board reviews the youth's placements at least annually and makes recommendations about these juveniles to the Court.

The following are members of the Custody Board.

Dr. Mark Carl	Psychologist
Jim Gover	Youth Placement
Rita Hollenbacher	Teacher
Sandra Adams	Nurse
A. Melvin Kemmer	Attorney

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2151.18 OF THE REVISED CODE
OF THE STATE OF OHIO

1993
ANNUAL REPORT
MIAMI COUNTY JUVENILE COURT — TROY, OHIO
RICHARD A. GOATER, JUDGE

Adult cases involving children (paternity 79, Contributing 28) 107
Children's Cases 3445
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES FILED, ADULT AND CHILDREN 3552

BREAKDOWN OF CHILDREN'S CASES FILED

Delinquency 1287
Traffic 1328
Dependency (101), Change of Custody (38) 139
Unruly 689
Other - Consent to Wed 2
TOTAL 3445

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF

Adult Cases 90
Children's Cases 3325
TOTAL 3415

TYPES OF ADULT CASES - DISPOSED OF

Contributing to Delinquency or Unruliness 15
Paternity 90
TOTAL 105

DISPOSITION OF ADULT CASES

Dismissed 13
Court Order to Support
Court Costs
Jail Sentence

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN'S CASES - DISPOSED OF

Official Children's Cases 3325

TYPES OF CHILDREN'S CASES AND DISPOSITION

Traffic 1314
Delinquency 1283
Unruly 585
Dependency and Custody 124
Marriage Consent and Other 10
TOTAL 3316

DISPOSITION OF CHILDREN'S CASES

Temporary Custody - Children's Services 32
Long Term Foster Care - Children's Services 7
Commitment to Department of Youth Services 9
Suspended Commitment to Department of Youth Services 22
Placed on Probation 253
Wards of Court only 2
Fines and Costs Collected
Fines (Juvenile) 19,110.50
Adult Fines 111.00
Court Costs (Adult and Juvenile) 43,189.50
Referred to Other Courts 535
License Held 117
Dismissed or Withdrawn 177
Placed in Detention 419
Restitution 35
Temporary Truancy Supervision 107
Attended Traffic School 86
Alternative Education School 61
Attended Alcohol Education Classes 56
Terminated or Closed 310
Commitment to David L. Brown Youth Center 12
Home Detention 176
Commitment to West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center 3