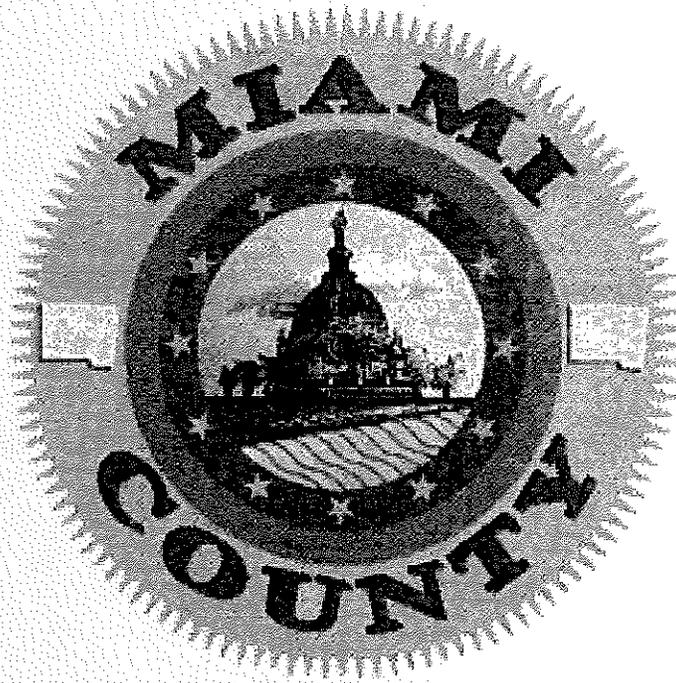


Miami County Juvenile Court

2000 Annual Report



Judge Lynnita K.C. Wagner

**Court Administrator:
Charlene Prestopino**

**Magistrates:
Gretchen K. Beers
Christopher M. Gee
Katherine KempSevert**



PROBATE/JUVENILE COURT MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO

Lynnita K.C. Wagner - Judge
Gretchen K. Beers - Magistrate
Christopher M. Gee - Magistrate
Katherine Kemp Severt - Magistrate

Charlene Prestopino - Juvenile Court Administrator
Beverly A. Bell - Juvenile Chief Deputy Clerk
Randall D. Freeman - Juvenile Chief Probation Officer
Sherry B. Conard - Probate Chief Deputy Clerk

Greetings to the Citizens of Miami County,

The year 2000 has been our most exciting year yet! We undertook a complete remodeling program of our physical space that resulted in the construction of two new courtrooms and the relocation of many personal offices. The construction was completed in four phases and was accomplished within the budget set by the County Commissioners. We had no interruption of services to the public with the resulting achievement of better physical space to accommodate the public, more privacy for the clients and more efficiency for the staff.

In the midst of this remodeling we were still striving to improve our operations. The probation department obtained a federal grant that allowed us to add a Shoplifters Program for youth charged with petty theft and the hiring of a home detention monitor to enforce the court orders of house arrest. The Court also added a Drug Court Program to serve those youth who experience severe drug and alcohol addictions and are unable to remain clean and sober with traditional therapies. The program coordinates treatment providers, youth accountability and court sanctions to better serve this high need, at-risk population. The probation department continues to increase and improve interagency programming and cooperation to share the responsibility of rehabilitating our youth.

The clerks have also undertaken a new division of duties that has increased the cross training and team building approaches which has increased the efficiency of the staff and resulted in more work being accomplished to keep up the increased number of filings. Several staff members devoted themselves to improving our case flow management, which will continue to be an on-going project.

The Court has also developed a Web Site to keep up with our changing times.

This last year was a great challenge to our staff and also a year of tremendous professional growth and group accomplishments for the benefit of those who we consider it a privilege to serve.

Sincerely,


Lynnita K.C. Wagner
Judge, Probate/Juvenile Division

Our Purpose

The Juvenile Court of Miami County is a division of the Miami County Common Pleas Court. Our purpose is to counsel and rehabilitate youth who commit crimes, protect the Miami County community from juvenile crime, assist the victims of that crime, and protect children from abuse, neglect, and dependency.

Juvenile Court becomes involved in the lives of our children under 18 who:

- ❖ Do not obey their parents, school officials, and other custodians
- ❖ Do not attend school, who violate curfew, who drink alcohol and use drugs
- ❖ Commit violations of traffic laws
- ❖ Commit criminal acts
- ❖ Are victims of abuse, neglect or dependency
- ❖ And who's circumstances require orders of paternity, visitation, and child support

The Court also hears cases of adults who contribute to the unruliness or delinquency of a minor. Consistent with our purpose to provide safe and appropriate homes to the children of Miami County, Juvenile Court handles paternity, child support, and child custody and visitation cases.

The Court protects the interests and rights of our children and the public by rehabilitating and holding youth and their families accountable for their actions. The Court strives to strengthen the family and empower the parents to actively provide the balance of love, structure, supervision and responsibility so that their children will develop the self-control and independence needed to become productive, self-sufficient, law abiding adults.

Referrals reach the Court through various channels, including parents, school officials, law enforcement authorities, neighbors, Children Services representatives, and the Prosecutor's office.

Under the direction of Judge Lynnita K.C. Wagner and with the support of one full-time and two part-time magistrates, the Court provides a broad range of community based, residential treatment and prevention services. This report is intended to help you understand the children we serve and give you an overview of the services we provided in 2000.

The Youth We Serve

Juvenile Delinquency

In Ohio, a juvenile delinquent is defined as "... any child who violates any law of this state, the United States, or any ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision of the state, which would be a crime if committed by an adult; except that any child who violates any traffic law, ordinance, or regulation shall be designated as a juvenile traffic offender." This definition also includes any child who violates any lawful order of the Juvenile Court. Each year the Court handles many types of delinquency charges, some are considered misdemeanors and others are felonies. The following is a summary of the 2000 charges:

2000 Delinquency Charges & Cases

Abduction	2
Arson and Aggravated Arson	6
Assault and related	142
Attempted Murder	0
Vehicular Homicide	2
Breaking and Entering and related	17
Burglary & Related	19
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	7
Chronic truant	12
Contempt of Court Orders	168
Criminal Damaging	86
Criminal Mischief	10
Discharging Firearm and related	7
Disorderly Conduct	108
Domestic Violence	68
Drug Abuse & Related Drug Offenses	159
Escape	16
Forgery	5
Gross Sexual Imposition & Related	8
Kidnapping	1
Menacing (and related)	40
Obstruction of Official Business	28
Parole Violations	7
Possession of Weapon in School	1
Probation Violations	261
Rape	9
Receiving Stolen Property	46
Robbery and Related	4
Tampering with Property	25
Theft & Related	271
Trespassing & Related	85
Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle	13
Underage Consumption & Possession	282
Vandalism	7
All Other Delinquency Filed	134
Total Delinquency Charges Filed	2058
Total Delinquency Cases Filed	1788

The Court has many options when dealing with a delinquent child including:

- ◆ Place the child on probation supervision
- ◆ Commit the child to the Ohio Department of Youth Services (felony only)
- ◆ Commit the child to West Central Rehabilitation Center (felony only)
- ◆ Place the child in foster care or in a residential center
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific community program
- ◆ Require the child to complete community service and restitution
- ◆ Order the child to attend a specific treatment program
- ◆ Impose a fine and court cost
- ◆ Make any order the judge thinks will benefit the child

Last year, the Court entered final dispositions in 1771 delinquency cases.

Unruly Child

An unruly child is defined as any child who does not subject himself to the reasonable control of his parents, teachers, guardian or custodian, is habitually truant from home or school; deports himself as to injure or endanger his health or morals; attempts to enter marriage without consent; is found in a disreputable place, or engages in an occupation prohibited by law. Unruly offenses include behaviors such as truancy at school, running away, and incorrigibility; these behaviors would not be considered a crime if committed by adults. The following is a summary of the 2000 unruly charges:

2000 Unruly Charges Filed

School Truancy	94*
Curfew Violation	192
Unruly (disobedient/runaway)	283
Total Unruly Charges	569
Total Unruly Cases	463

*This year the court saw a new category of school truancy called the chronic truant. This category captures youth who have had significant history of truancy the court can use many of the same dispositions as in delinquency cases. In 2000, the Court had 12 filings for chronic truants.

The Court has many options for dealing with an unruly child and they are:

- ◆ Counseling for the child and/or parent
- ◆ Make an order of mandatory school attendance and have the order monitored by court officers
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific program that the child could benefit from such as community service or attend a therapeutic program
- ◆ Place the child in a non-secure facility or with a relative
- ◆ Place the child on probation supervision
- ◆ Impose costs of the case against the juvenile

- ◆ Or, whatever the judge thinks will benefit the child

In 2000, the Court entered final disposition in 502 unruly cases.

Juvenile Traffic Offender

The Court has jurisdiction over all traffic offenses committed by juveniles. These cases in 2000 included:

2000 Traffic Cases

Speeding	543
DUI and related	28
Driving under suspension	43
No Operator's License and related	56
Failure to Control and related	69
Reckless Operation	32
Failure to Maintain Assured Clear Distance	96
Failure to Yield	58
Seat Belt Violation	161
Stop sign or red light	117
Vehicle Related Violation	40
Other Moving Violation	150
Total Traffic Charges Filed	1393
Total Traffic Cases Filed	1239

The Court has a variety of options for dealing with a juvenile traffic offender including:

- ◆ Suspending a license for any time period up to age 21
- ◆ Place child on probation
- ◆ Impose fines or costs
- ◆ Place child in Detention (for persistent offense or serious violations)
- ◆ Order child to attend Driving School
- ◆ Order restitution
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific program, such as community service or attend a therapeutic program

In Ohio, a juvenile has a probationary license. With this license, a juvenile is subject to additional penalties imposed by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to which adults are not subject.

In 2000, the Court entered final dispositions in 1254 traffic cases.

Abused, Neglected and Dependant Children

An abused child includes any child that exhibits evidence of any serious physical or emotional injury inflicted other than by accidental means or is the victim of sexual activity. A neglected child is one who is abandoned or lacks parental care because of the faults, habits, and indifference of the parents or custodians. A dependant child lacks proper care or support through no fault of the parents or custodian. The juvenile court has the responsibility to hear such cases and make a finding or adjudication. The Court may make orders altering legal custody or redefining the parental rights and responsibilities to protect the child. These cases are very complex and require close cooperation with Miami County Children Services Board, law enforcement, and other social agencies.

2000 Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Filings

Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency	250
Motion for Permanent Custody	15

The Court believes that when a child's physical, mental and emotional health is at stake and when the child's needs are not being met, that the child needs an advocate. Therefore in a majority of these cases the Court appoints a guardian ad litem either through CASA/GAL of MIAMI COUNTY or a private attorney. Based on the complaint before it and by considering the best interest of the child, the Court may use a variety of options for dealing with abused, neglected, and dependant children including:

- ◆ Order protective supervision by Miami County Children Service Board
- ◆ Remove the child from the home on a temporary basis and give custody to Children Services during which time the parties can work on a plan for reunification.
- ◆ Give legal custody to a relative
- ◆ Place the child in long-term foster care when the parent is not able to assume care
- ◆ Award permanent custody to Children Services, so that the child can be adopted

Last year, the Court entered final disposition in 262 abuse, neglect, and dependency cases and 14 permanent custody cases.

Paternity, Custody, Child Support, and Visitation

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction in cases of children whose parents were never married. Sometimes, this involves determining who is the father of a child. It can also involve deciding which parent gets custody of a child and the amount of child support and visitation the child can have with a parent. The Court also deals with requests from people other than parents, such as relatives or friends who want custody of a child. These cases often involve working with the Miami County Child Support Enforcement Agency.

2000 Filings

Parentage	80
Custody or Visitation	597
Support Enforcement or Modification	817
Total	1485

Last year the court entered final disposition in 717-support enforcement or modification cases, 428 custody or visitation cases, and 97 parentage cases.

Adult Misdemeanor Cases

The Juvenile Court also has jurisdiction in misdemeanor cases against adults charged with acts against children. This includes contributing to the delinquency or unruliness of a minor, and contempt of a court from orders made by the Juvenile Court.

2000 Filings

Child Endangering	1
Contempt of a Court Order	31
Contributing to the Delinquency or Unruliness of a Minor	67
Total Adult Criminal Cases	99

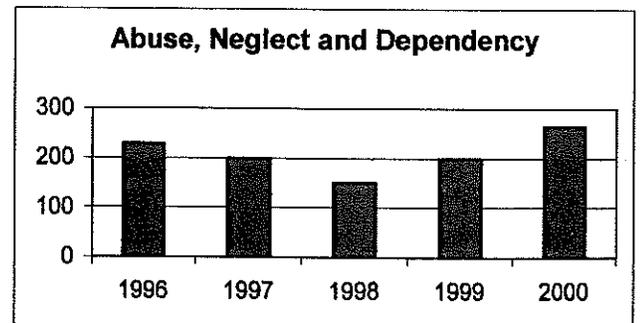
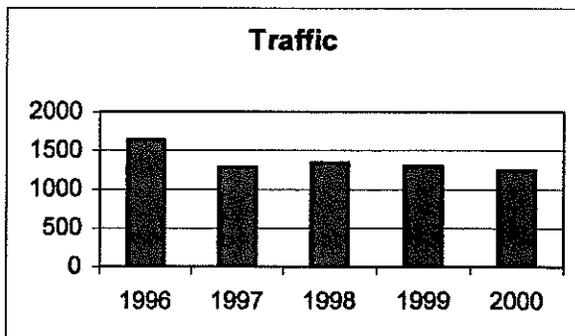
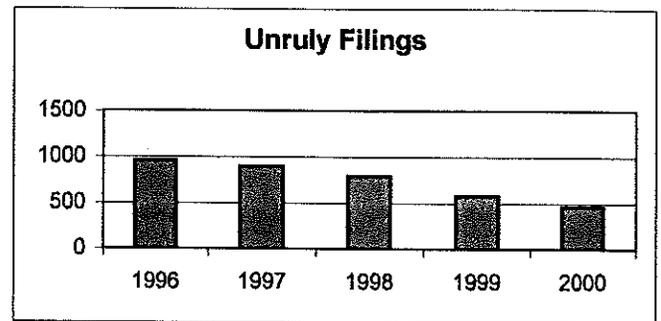
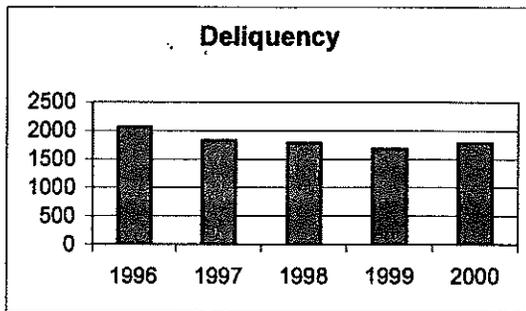
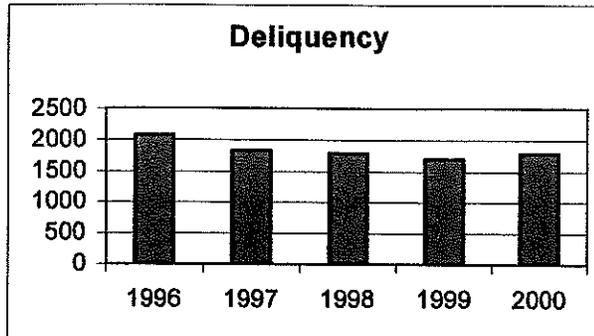
Last year, the court entered final disposition in 72 adult cases.

Miscellaneous Cases

The Court hears a number of cases that do not fall into any particular category. These include such issues as applications for a marriage license by an underage child, hospitalization of a mentally ill minor, and certain kinds of consents for medical treatment. Last year, the court handled 3 such cases.

Filing Trends 1996-2000

Changes in court services have resulted in a change in overall filings over the last four years. Particularly changes in probation and increased emphasis on prevention services have resulted in lower filings in unruly and traffic cases.



Court Services

The clerk's office is responsible for handling all the paperwork related to any court case. They accept the filings, schedule hearings, certify all orders, process all the paperwork, act as court reporters and generally maintain all case record. Under the direction of Chief Deputy Clerk, Beverly Bell and with the help of six full-time and two part-time clerks, the office serves all the clients of the Court.

2000 was a year of a lot of change for the court and the clerk's office. Remodeling of existing facilities required this office to function in temporary quarters for several months. Despite the disruption all court activity continued with little or no disruption in services. Additionally, this office reorganized its work duties to increase efficiency and cross train staff in all areas.

Court Activity	2000
Total Case Filed	5331
Total Counts Filed	5878
Total Cases Disposed	5096

Juvenile Probation

The Miami County Juvenile Probation Department's mission is to encourage youth to behave responsibly and ensure community safety through the enforcement of court orders and terms of probation. The probation department uses sanctions such as electronic home monitoring, direct supervision, and social services to solve family problems and change youth behavior. The Probation Department routinely networks with schools, law enforcement, and other human services agencies to serve the needs of probationers. The department utilizes a number of contracted services to meet the therapeutic needs of the youth.

To achieve the mission the department maintains the following components:

- Comprehensive and cohesive early intervention unit for first time offenders, which includes The Family Program, a school based probation officer, and an array of education and mental health services.
- An intake position, which assesses the youth's level of risk and makes recommendation for an individualized treatment plans using multiple modes of intervention.
- Generalist probation officers who:
 - Concentrate on changing behavior and improving pro-social skills through individualized treatment planning and using community resources.
 - Focus on problem solving with both juveniles and their families by partnering with families in treatment plans.
 - Use a highly structured and intensive intervention through a standardized probation level system
 - Hold youth accountable by monitoring their behavior and making them face the consequences of their behaviors.
 - Are more visible in the community by working some weekend and evening hours

In 2000, the department also started two special programs, drug court and a home detention-monitoring program, to better meet the needs of the youth they serve.

2000 Intake Department Statistics

Total ordered	199
Male	148
Female	51
Misdemeanor	105
Felony	33
Unruly	61
Referred for Probation	141
Referred to other services	58

2000 PROBATION ASSIGNMENTS

Males	138
Females	54
Caucasian	175
African American	10
Other	7
Felony	25
Misdemeanor	92
Unruly	70
Traffic	5
Total Youth ordered on to probation	192

Drug Court

Drug Court was started in June 2000 in cooperation with the Miami County Recovery Council. This program brings together the court, prosecutor, defense attorney and several Miami County agencies serving youth with substance abuse problems to better coordinate and facilitate services. Participating youth and their families engage in an intensive regimen of substance abuse therapy and probation supervision designed to encourage and support abstinence from substance use. The child and their parents attend semi monthly court hearings where their progress is reviewed and monitored. Participants advance through structured phases of programming with each phase bringing greater freedoms and fewer obligations. Successful completion requires a minimum of 9 months.

2000 Drug Court Statistics

Males	8
Females	1
Caucasian	8
Bi-racial	1
Total participated in program	9

Home Detention Monitoring Program

The Home Detention Monitoring Program began in July 2000 with a grant from the Office of Criminal Justice Services. This program adds a part-time after hours staff person who makes random unannounced visits to youth placed by the court on home detention to confirm their compliance with the court order. The goal of the program is to reduce the number of youth in secure detention and to insure compliance with court orders.

2000 Home-Detention Monitoring Statistics

Youth seen through Program	193
Number of visits made	1030

Under the direction of Randall Freeman, Chief Probation Officer, the department has one full time intake officer and four full time probation officers who work directly with youth placed on probation. The Prevention Program is an adjunct to the probation department and works with first time status offenders. For more information contact the probation department at 332-6993

Early Intervention Services and Prevention Services

The Court has provides an array of interventions designed to cope with unruly behaviors. These interventions include the Family Program, Prevention Services, In School Prevention Services and Early Intervention Monitoring.

The Family program is an early intervention diversion program. It serves offenders who have been formally cited as unruly children. Common examples of unruly offenses included school truancy, running away, and violating the rules set by their parents or school officials. These youth and their parents are offered corrective and educational groups as an alternative to appearing in court. When families complete the program, the originally citation or complaint is never filed with the Court. The Family Program also serves youth who are deemed at risk of court involvement. Students may be referred for diversionary services by their parents or school officials without an actual charge.

Family Program 2000 Statistics

Retained from previous year		55
Filed this year		165
Successfully completed program	65	
Declined Services	27	
Inappropriate for services	61	
Unsuccessful	31	
Total Served		220
Total Pending at end of year	36	

A number of unruly offenders are deemed inappropriate for the Family Program. Some of these youth have previously been enrolled in the program and have failed to complete services, others have declined. These youth can be enrolled in Prevention Services. Prevention Services assists families in which a youth has been formally charged as an unruly child. These youth have appeared in court and were ordered into prevention programming. Participation is monitored for the court and a formal record is maintained.

Prevention Services 2000 Statistics

Retained from Previous Year		10
Filed this year		58
Successfully completed program	2	
Declined services	3	
Inappropriate	2	
Unsuccessful	0	
Total served		68
Total pending at end of year		61

An additional service provided through prevention services is that of on on-site Prevention Officer exclusive to the Piqua City Schools. Piqua City Schools entered into a financially shared partnership with the court. This partnership supports a full-time Prevention Officer. This Prevention Officer serves participants in both the Family Program and Prevention Services. The purpose of this partnership is to immediately improve attendance, decrease other behaviors that get in the way of learning; and, prevent the youth from getting into more serious trouble. The prevention officer is able to provide immediate supervision, work more effectively with parents around school related problems, and refer the youth to appropriate community services.

The court also offers a Curfew Program for youth who have received a curfew violation. This program offers youth and their parents the opportunity to participate in a two-hour educational group session instead of court. In 2000, seventy-eight youth successfully participated in this group with their parents, thus avoiding a court appearance.

Curfew Program 2000 Statistics

Retained from Previous Year		18
Filed this year		94
Successfully completed program	78	
Declined services	6	
Inappropriate	13	
Unsuccessful	2	
Total served		112
Total pending at end of year	13	

Community Service/Restitution

The Community Service Program is designed for youth that have been ordered by the Court to perform community service hours as a consequence for their behavior. The Restitution program allows youth to work restitution to reimburse victims for their losses. The purpose of the program is to hold juveniles accountable for their actions by requiring them to participate in a work program that gives back to the community. It is also intended to promote appropriate work and employment skills. Both youth on formal probation and those informally supervised by the Court can be enrolled in the program. Youth work at sites in the community and are supervised by part-time and seasonal court staff. Work is scheduled in late afternoon, weekends, and on school vacations.

Youth work at sites in the community and are supervised by part-time and seasonal court staff. Work is scheduled in late afternoon, weekends, and on school vacations. Efforts are made to enroll youth in sites within their home communities. A new site was added bringing the total to 22 including local nursing homes, city and county municipal buildings, and football stadiums.

Funding for the program comes from the Department of Youth Services Subsidy Grant. One of the work site supervisors is provided through an AmeriCorp grant. In addition to working directly with youth, this supervisor helps develop new work sites. In 2000, 480 youth provided 7189 hours of service to the community. Sonia Kelchner coordinates the program. For more information call 332-7020.

Piqua Office

Miami County Juvenile Court maintains a satellite office in downtown Piqua, located at 102 W. Ash Street in downtown Piqua. To reach the Piqua office call 615-0657.

With partial funding from the Juvenile Accountability Block grant and in partnership with the Piqua Police Department and Piqua City Schools, the need for a local presence was established. A physical presence in the community allows probation officer to see youth more frequently, and gives prevention and diversion officers access to more youth.

Community Partnerships

Miami County Juvenile Court has developed many partnerships with community agencies to provide services to the youth involved with the Court. Through contracts with the Court, these agencies provide needed services developed specially for the Court involved youth and their parents. Juveniles are ordered into these programs according to their needs.

Contract Services

- ❖ **Adolescent Sex Offender Treatment** provided by contract with the Miami County Mental Health Center. Adolescent males convicted of a sexual offense receive assessment, outpatient group and family treatment on a weekly basis. In 2000, the program experienced some changes. Five youth graduated from the group treatment. There was no recidivism for sexual offenses from youth graduating from this service. The group and family treatment components were temporarily suspended to accommodate changes in staff. Youth continued to be assessed and referred to other kinds of treatment programs until the group resumed in late in the year.
- ❖ **Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education** provided by contract with Miami County Recovery Council. This program works with first time offenders who have come before the Court on an alcohol or substance abuse charge. The program includes an all day educational session, a substance use assessment, and a parent component. In 2000, 121 youth successfully completed this program.
- ❖ **Shoplifters Group** provided by contract with the Miami County Recovery Council was developed in 2000. With partial funding through a grant from the Office of Criminal Justice Services, the Recovery Council provides a home study course and a one-day educational class for youth involved in shoplifting. The sessions help youth understand the dynamics of shoplifting and why they have chosen this risky behavior. The course strives to help youth get better control of their lives and change these destructive and unlawful behaviors. In 2000, 29 youth were served in this program.
- ❖ **Self-Esteem Groups** are provided through a contract with Tipp Professional Services in Tipp City. Unruly youth who are experiencing school and home problems attend 10 weekly sessions designed to improve communication and anger management skills. Groups are separated by age and gender. In 2000, 46 youth participated in these groups.
- ❖ **Curfew Communication Groups** provided through a contract with Miami County Mental Health. This part of our prevention program is for youth with a curfew offense. This group consists of one 2-hour session for both youth and their parents. In 2000, 78 youth attended these sessions.

- ❖ **Psychological Services provided through contracts with licensed psychologists. These limited numbers of psychological evaluations are performed to provide the Court with needed assessments integral to further court treatment plans. Forensic evaluations are also provided by Eastway Mental Health Center. These are required when deciding if a youth should be tried as an adult.**

These programs are examples of services paid for by the Court. Youth and their families are also referred to other community-based services.

Partnerships that Strengthen Families and Protect Youth

Miami County Juvenile Court is an active participant in the Miami County Family and Children's First Council and is committed to the collaborative goals of building partnerships with families and empowers them to achieve their potential and have an improved quality of life. Through our active participation in the council we are dedicated to working with other agencies to redesign the service delivery system to attain better results, fill service gaps and develop new approaches where needed. The following are projects we have participated in through our work with the council.

Resource Team

Juvenile Court is an active participant on Resource Team, a crucial component of family stability and family preservation. The team provides identification of community resources, case planning and the creation of interventions to promote family preservation. Cases of youth in danger of being placed outside their home or in out-of-home placements are referred and followed by the team. The team consists of representatives from Family and Children's First, MRDD, Juvenile Court, Children Services Board, Mental Health, and the local school board. Families and workers meet with the team on a weekly basis to reduce the risk for out-of-home placement.

Family Stability Program

Started in December 1999, this grant funded program works to reduce out-of-home placements by providing an integrated system for planning, development and coordination of comprehensive services that support families and children at-risk. Working with the resource team, the Family Stability Program provides assessment, case planning and coordinates the work of a family team (a group of providers representing appropriate agencies).

By serving as an advisory member to this program and as a working team member, when appropriate, Juvenile Court has partnered with the team to reduce court based placements by using other alternatives and concentrating on getting early and intensive services to families in trouble. The Family Stability Program had a 21% reduction in placements in 2000.

Family Support Program

This program strengthens families by reducing abuse and neglect and preserving families. This wellness block grant funded program contracts with providers who serve as family coaches to provide flexible support within the home. These coaches provide homemaker services, model, and teach parenting, cooking and cleaning skills, assist the family with medical appointments and other service referrals. In addition the coach provides emotional support to an overwhelmed family. Juvenile Court serves as the fiscal lead for the program, which is coordinated by Karen DeVilbiss. In 2000, the Family Support Program has served 51 families.

Shared Placements

Placement services are provided for youth who have multi-problems and are involved with more than one agency including Children Services, Riverside (MRDD), Mental Health, or Juvenile Court. Juvenile Court assumes the lead to fund temporary out-of-home placement for some delinquent and unruly youth that have been assessed as appropriate for placement by an interagency team called The Resource Team. Youth are placed in various types of settings including foster care, group homes, and residential treatment. Cases are reviewed every 90 days to assure that treatment goals are being met.

The cost for these placements is shared by funding from State Cluster, Children Services, Juvenile Court, Mental Health, and MRDD. In 2000, Juvenile Court contributed \$189,130.94 in shared funding for the placement of 29 youth.

Guardian Ad Litem

Juvenile Court provides funding to CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY to provide advocacy services on behalf of abused and neglected children. The advocates, specially trained volunteers serving as Guardian ad Litem (GAL), represent the best interest of children involved in dependency, neglect, and abuse cases for whom placement is being determined by the Court, and, any other case where permanent custody has been filed. CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY is a private non-profit agency. In 2000, CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY served 180 children.

The Court also may provide an attorney to represent the child. In 2000, the Court spent \$84,088.60 on attorney fees for this service.

Custody Review Board

The Miami County Citizens' Custody Review Board is a group of volunteers who review the status of children in care or custody of a public or private agency. Volunteers determine that a plan for a permanent, nurturing environment exists and that the agency is working toward a plan. The board reviews cases monthly and makes recommendation to the Court about the appropriateness of the placement and plan. This on-going review process assures that Miami County children receive needed services in a timely manner and in the least restrictive environment possible.

In 2000, the citizen board members were Mel Kemmer, Sandy Adams, Steve Greggerson, Nicky Curtner, and Rita Hollenbacher.

Financial Report

Miami County Juvenile Court receives funding from a variety of sources including the Miami County General Fund, court fines, the Department of Youth Services, and various federal and state grants.

Funds	2000 Court Budget Appropriations and Carryover	Expenditures
General Fund - Juvenile Court	\$882,649.93	\$757,130.14
General Fund - Juvenile Probation	\$590,737.29	\$523,874.70
Felony Delinquent Care and Custody	\$219,404.00	\$178,108.05
AmeriCorps	\$10,155.00	\$8,273.91
Juvenile Computerization	\$33,418.00	\$17,744.87
Legal Research	\$9,880.00	\$4,880.00
Abuse & Neglect Prevention	\$26,365.57	\$23,751.55
Indigent Driver Fund		
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	\$30,899.50	\$19,968.29
Total	\$1,803,509.29	\$1,533,731.51

*Does not include Budgets of David L. Brown, West Central Detention, and West Central Rehabilitation Center

Fines and Court Costs

Fines and court costs are ways to hold youth and adults accountable for their behavior. Miami County Juvenile Court believes that these fines and costs should be assessed to youth and they are encouraged to pay their own costs. Adults who convicted in this court are also assessed fines and costs. Juvenile Court has taken an aggressive stance in an effort to collect fines and court costs. Fines are assessed and collected immediately after court hearings. When individuals cannot pay immediately, a payment plan is established. Fines and costs are dispersed to the general fund and to other agencies as defined by law. Failure to pay fines can result in further court hearings.

2000 Fines and Court Costs Collections

Court costs	\$68,638.03
Computer Fees	\$22,329.05
Legal Research	\$6,425.00
Sheriff Fees	\$618.95
Law Library	\$1,250
County Fines	\$38,566.82
Motor Vehicle Fines	\$12,279.39
Misc. Costs	\$191.34
State of Ohio	\$42,029.39
Board of Pharmacy	\$950.00
Arresting Agency	\$412.00
Total	\$193,689.97

West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

The West Central Rehabilitation Center is a state-of-the-art secure residential facility for 36 non-violent juvenile male felons from six counties. Youth go through a rigorous re-socialization designed to correct flawed thought processes which contributed to their criminal behavior. The program includes an individualized educational plan, family, and individual counseling and intensive aftercare supervision. The average length of stay is 6 months. Specialized vocational training in machine trades is offered to youth who qualify. All youth are assessed for vocational and skill building through a grant from Office of Criminal Justice Services. This grant called the job enhancement training program helps youth plan for their futures.

The Center's 2000 budget was \$1,206,127.17. The Department of Youth Services provides funding. Local courts pay DYS \$66.50 per day per youth placed at the center. Local school districts pay \$26.50 per school day to support educational programming.

Located on 25A, in Troy, The West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation serves Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby, and Miami County and provides judges in each county a local alternative to committing youth to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Mike Cantrell is the director.

2000 Population Statistics

County	Number of Youth
Auglaize	7
Champaign	3
Clark	6
Darke	7
Greene	4
Mercer	2
Miami	10
Preble	6
Shelby	10
Total	55

Offenses Resulting in Commitment

Theft	40
Drugs	3
Assault	3
Arson	0
Vandalism	2
Weapons	2
Other	5

West Central Day Treatment

Day Treatment is an educational program for non-violent felony offenders from Miami and Shelby counties located at the West Central Rehabilitation Center. This program allows up to fourteen 13-17 year old male/female offenders on probation to attend school in a structured environment with individualized attention.

Youth work on individualized educational plans completing G.E.D, or their regular courses needed for graduation by their home school. The school operates year round and transportation is provided. The average length of stay is 4-5 months. Youth participate in groups to correct flawed thinking. Funding is provided through the local school districts.

2000 Population Student Statistics

Total Students Enrolled =51

Students by School

Arcanum-Butler	1	St. Mary's	1
Bethel	1	Tipp City	1
Bradford	1	W. Milton	1
Covington	2	Tri-Village	1
Fairlawn	2	Troy	5
Franklin-Monroe	1	Versailles	2
Ft. Loramie	1	Wapakoneta	3
Piqua	7	Waynesfield-Goshen	1
Sidney	20		

Highest Grade Completed

Age

13	2
14	2
15	12
16	13
17	17
18	5

6th	1
7th	5
8 th	14
9 th	11
10 th	14
11th	6
GED Candidates	14
GED Passed	8

West Central Rehabilitation Center Intensive Probation/Aftercare

In 2000, the Court contracted with the West Central Rehabilitation Center to provide intensive probation services to youth released from the Rehabilitation Center, David L. Brown Youth Center and the GATE Program. The Program funds a full time probation officer who provides services 24-hours working with the youth, parents, schools, and employers, to assure that the youth makes an appropriate readjustment to the community. This intensive supervision includes probation sanctions as necessary with support and guidance to the youth and coordination of the youth's treatment plan. Youth remain in the program until they are completed treatment plans and paid fines and court costs.

Youth Served in 2000

Rehabilitation Center Youth	23
DAVID L. Brown Youth	13
GATE	4

This program has been very successful. 89% of the youth successfully completed the program within the year and 75% had no further charges within three months of release. This new program will be closely monitored to assure effectiveness.

This program is funded with RECLAIM funds through the Department of Youth Services. The cost of the program is \$51,000 per year.

DAVID L. BROWN YOUTH CENTER

The David L. Brown Youth Center is a residential treatment center for delinquent and unruly males ages 12-17. Each young man is interviewed and considered for placement depending on his attitude towards treatment and offense history. The program houses up to 21 youth from Miami and surrounding counties. The program includes a behavior modification level system, individual, group and family counseling, and on-site education. The educational program is individualized to improve academic skills.

An Agri-Science program co-sponsored by the Upper Valley JVS is also available to eligible youth. The young men grow various crops and supervise the care of small farm animals. A partnership with the Bowman-Landes Farm was established employing youth from the Center.

The youth of the Center volunteered their time as kettle ringers for the Piqua branch of the Salvation Army. The young men collected over \$10,000.00 in donations. This was the sixth year for this project.

A partnership with Miami County Mental Health provides on-site therapists to work with youth and families. A part-time nurse and physician address medical needs.

The Center's 2000 budget was \$726,745.00. Funding is provided through a subsidy from the Department of Youth Services, per diems paid by referring agencies, Miami County Title XX funds and funds from Miami County Juvenile Court. The cost per bed is \$80 per day. Educational costs are paid by referring school districts @ \$26.50 per school day. The Center also receives a USDA food subsidy.

Located on a farm setting, east of Troy, on Children's Home Road, the Center provides Juvenile Courts with a structured alternative to youth whose behavior is problematic to himself or the community. David A. Thomas directs the Center.

2000 Population Statistics

Total Youth Served by County

Auglaize County CSB	1
Champaign County Juvenile Court	2
Clark County Juvenile Court	6
Department of Youth Services	1
Miami County CSB	1
Miami County Juvenile Court	21
Montgomery County Juvenile Court	5
Preble County Juvenile Court	6
Shelby County Juvenile Court	11
Shelby County CSB	2
TOTAL	56

West Central Juvenile Detention Center

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center is a secure holding facility for youth from Miami, Auglaize, Clinton, Darke, Mercer, Preble and Shelby counties. The center can house up to 44 youth that are waiting adjudicatory or dispositional hearings and who cannot be released into the community. The programs redirect attitude and thought process, holding the youth more accountable for their actions making the transition back into the community more successful. Detained youth attend school classes, undergo counseling and psychological assessment as needed and participate in a variety of treatment and education programming including anger management, substance abuse education and self-esteem groups. Voluntary participation in religious services provided by a variety of churches in the area is also provided.

The center also offers a prevention program called STAR (Start Today Accepting Responsibility). This program accepts referrals of youth ages 12 – 17 who are "high risk" for committing an offense who have never been incarcerated and exposes them to the realities of continued poor decision making. In 2000, 305 youth participated in this program.

In 2000, West Central Detention Center had an operating budget of \$1,478,213.53. Funding comes from the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the counties using the facility paid \$67.75 per day per each detained youth.

The center also runs the Girls Alternative Treatment Environment (G.A.T.E.) Program. This detention program was designed to meet specific developmental needs of juvenile female offenders. The program is providing education, structure, discipline and safety for the girls and the community. The girls are given programming that will deal with coping, social and everyday living skills. The girls are provided education that will help them maintain their current grade level. One additional part of the program is 4-H. The average length of stay is 70 days. In 2000, 31 girls participated in the GATE program.

The center is located at 2044 North County Road 25A in Troy and is directed by Greg Simmons.

2000 Population Statistics

	Total	Auglaize	Clinton	Darke	Mercer	Miami	Preble	Shelby	Misc
Intakes	1,416	228	45	98	96	522	169	171	87
Male	1,040	175	28	75	58	350	146	139	69
Female	376	53	17	23	38	172	23	32	18
Average Length of Stay	15.1	13.4	22.5	16	9.6	7.3	8.4	9.6	24.6
Total Bed Days Used	16,818	3,339	1,276	1,602	974	4,589	1,527	1,681	1,830

Miami County Juvenile Court 2000 Annual Report Statistical Summary

Cases Filed	Total Cases 2000
Delinquency	1785
Unruly	462
Traffic	1239
Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency	265
Permanent Custody	11
Custody, Change of Custody, Visitation	564
Support Enforcement or Modification	848
Adult (Criminal)	79
Parentage	76
Other	3
UIFSA	5
Total Number of Cases	5337

Cases Disposed	2000
Trial by Judge	44
Trial by Magistrate	424
Dismissal	383
Admission to Judge	758
Admissions to Magistrate	2166
Certification/Waiver Granted	0
Unavailability of Party for Trial	19
Transfers to another Court	517
Other Terminations	805
Total of all case types disposed	5116

Types of Dispositions for Youth	2000
Bind over to Adult Court	0
Commitment to Department of Youth Services	15
Detention	425
Girls Alternative Treatment Environment	6
David L. Brown Youth Center	21
West Central Day Treatment	18
West Central Rehabilitation Center	10

Types of Disposition by Charge

2000

Community Service	662
Probation	192
Electronic Home Monitoring	66
House Arrest	434
Temporary Custody to Children Services	49
Protective Supervision with Children Services	49
Permanent Custody to Children Services	14
Jail Sentences (Adult)	29
Restitution	276
Cases with Fines Assessed	1922
Cases with Costs Assessed	2747
Fines and Costs Collected	\$193,689

Miami County Juvenile Court Important Phone Numbers

Juvenile Court Clerks Office (general information)	332-6993
Chief Deputy Clerk - Beverly Bell	332-6949
Chief Probation Officer - Randall Freeman.....	332-6856
Community Service and Restitution - Sonia Kelchner.....	332-7020
Court Administrator - Charlene Prestopino.....	332-6951
Fiscal Officer - Angie Hubbard	332-7021
Prevention Services - Donita Gast.....	332-6952
David L. Brown Youth Center - Dave Thomas (Director).....	339-1858
West Central Detention Center - Greg Simmons (Director).....	339-2820
West Central Rehabilitation Center -Mike Cantrell (Director).....	339-2820

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