

Miami County Juvenile Court

2004 Annual Report



Judge Lynnita K.C. Wagner

**Court Administrator:
Charlene Prestopino**

**Magistrates:
Gretchen K. Beers
Rebecca Barton
Katherine Kemp-Severt**

May 2005

To the Citizens of Miami County,

2004 was a very busy year for the Miami County Juvenile Court administrative team. After many years of experiencing high staff turnover, which detrimentally impacted our ability to provide the best service possible to county residents, we were determined to address and solve this problem in 2004. Our initial efforts to convince the County Commissioners of the merit of our concerns and proposed remedy were unsuccessful. Fortunately, with the backing of the Ohio Supreme Court, we were able to negotiate a compensation plan acceptable to all parties. Miami County Juvenile Court employees are now earning at or near the amount earned by similar employees with like positions in this and surrounding counties. I am happy to report that our efforts have resulted in a decrease in staff turnover.

The number of juveniles appearing before the court in delinquency, unruly and traffic cases went down in 2004, after having leveled out over the past five years. The most frequently filed charges involve drug/alcohol offenses and theft. We provide a wide range of consequences and treatment options in these cases, including drug court, addiction treatment community resources, and a shoplifter's program. The most common traffic charge continues to be speed. Recognizing that this is the number one cause of death among teenagers, the Court, along with another agency, will be initiating a "Carteens" program. This will provide juveniles with the skills, knowledge, and peer support necessary to combat this dangerous behavior.

Miami County Juvenile Court processed a record number of civil cases during the past year, the majority of them involving the enforcement or modification of child support. We continue to hold absent parents accountable for the support of their children, and impose jail sentences when parents neglect this duty. Over the last five years, the number of adults sent to jail by this Court has increased from 28 (lowest) in 2001 to 84 (highest) in 2004. While the most common reason for a jail sentence is failure to pay child support, parents have also been sent to jail for failing to report their child's violations of probation or for not complying with case treatment plans. The Court stands firm in the belief that if we hold parents responsible for their behavior they will become better role models for their children.

2004 was also a year of financial challenges. Decreased funding and limited resources have left our probation and prevention departments, as well as our three centers (David L. Brown Youth Center, West Central Detention Center, and West Central Rehabilitation Center) struggling to meet the needs of Miami County residents. We have scrambled to meet this challenge, and successfully avoided any decrease in programs or services to our clients. We expect that these budget constraints will continue into 2005, and will be our biggest challenge in the year to come.

Sincerely,

Lynnita K.C. Wagner, Judge

Our Purpose

The Juvenile Court of Miami County is a division of the Miami County Common Pleas Court. Our purpose is to protect the Miami County community from juvenile crime, assist the victims of that crime, counsel and rehabilitate youth who commit crimes, protect children from abuse, neglect, and dependency and provide allocation of parental rights for children whose parents were never married.

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

- ❖ 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 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 two full-time and onepart-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 2004.

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 some of the 2004 charges:

Delinquency Charges	2004
Abduction	0
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	1
Anti Noise	4
Arson/Aggravated Arson	5
Assault (Misdemeanor & Felony)	130
Breaking & Entering	24
Burglary/Aggravated Burglary	42
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	7
Child Endangering	2
Chronic Truancy	40
Coercion	0
Consuming Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle	0
Contempt of Court Order	153
Contributing to Delinquency/Unruliness of a Minor	12
Criminal Damaging	78
Criminal Mischief	41
Cruelty to Animals	1
Curfew (secondary charge to delinquent charge)	75
Dangerous Ordnance	3
Discharging Air gun/BB/Pellets	6
Discharging Fireworks	9
Disobeying Police Officer/Resisting Arrest/Fleeing	4
Disorderly Conduct	148
Disposing of Vehicle	2
Disrupting Public Service	1
Disturbing the Peace	2
Domestic Violence	62
Dropping Material on Roadway/Littering	4
Drug Abuse	56
Drug Paraphernalia	57
Drug Possession	37
Drug Trafficking	5
Escape	7
Falsification	12
Fish/Hunt w/o license	0

Forgery	2
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor	1
Inducing/Inciting Panic or Violence	2
Making False Alarms	5
Menacing/Aggravated Menacing	32
Obstructing Official Business/Justice	20
Open Container	3
Pandering Obscenities	1
Parole Violation (from Dept. of Youth Services)	5
Possession of Alcohol/Related	228
Possession of Criminal Tools	15
Possession/Discharging Firearms	2
Probation Violation	153
Public Indecency	4
Rape	16
Receiving Stolen Property	25
Robbery/Aggravated Robbery	2
Safecracking	2
Sexual Imposition & Gross Sexual Imposition	18
Skateboards	0
Tampering with Evidence/Property	9
Telephone Harassment	8
Telecommunications Fraud	2
Theft/Grand Theft Auto/Misuse of Credit Card/Identity Theft	220
Toy Vehicle in street	0
Trespassing/Criminal Trespassing	44
Unauthorized swimming	0
Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle/Property	27
Vandalism	7
Weapon on school grounds	3
Total Delinquency Charges	1886
Total Delinquency Cases	1532

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 1592 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 2004 unruly charges:

2004 Unruly Charges Filed

Unruly Charges Filed	2004
Truancy	61
Curfew Violations	150
Incorrigible	288
Behavior that injures health or morals	9
Tobacco Law Violations	58
Total Charges	566
Total Unruly Cases	414

Truancy	
Chronic Truant (delinquency)	40
Habitual Truant	21
Total Truancy	61

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 2004, the Court entered final disposition in 414 unruly cases.

Juvenile Traffic Offender

The Court has jurisdiction over all traffic offenses committed by juveniles. These cases in 2004 included:

Traffic Charges	2004
Disregarding Traffic Control Device (Sign/Lights)	78
Driving Under Influence & Related	19
Driving Under Suspension	31
Fail To Control/Reckless Operation	86
Fail To Yield	48
Failure to Maintain Distance	80
Fictitious/Expired/Missing Plate/Registration	26
Improper Backing, Turn or Lane Change	56
Leaving the Scene	7
No OL/Permit/Allowing Unlicensed Driver to Drive	49
Other Moving Violations	26
School bus - passing	7
Seatbelt/Child Restraint	89
Speeding	321
Squealing Tires	9
Vehicle Related Infractions	19
Total Traffic Charges	947
Total Traffic Cases	867

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 2004, the Court entered final dispositions in 870 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.

2004 Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Filings

Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency	90
Motion for Permanent Custody	16

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 84 abuse, neglect, and dependency cases and 7 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 the father of a child is. 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.

2004 Filings

Parentage	64
Custody or Visitation	875
Support Enforcement or Modification	1352
Total	2291

Last year the court entered final disposition in 1267 support enforcement or modification cases, 815 custody or visitation cases, and 65 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 court from orders made by the Juvenile Court.

2004 Adult Charges and Cases

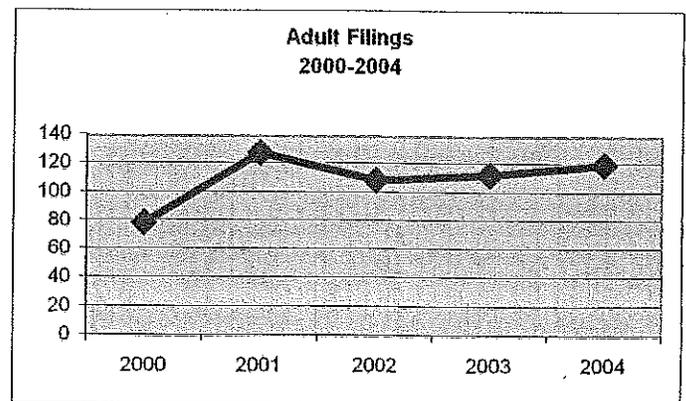
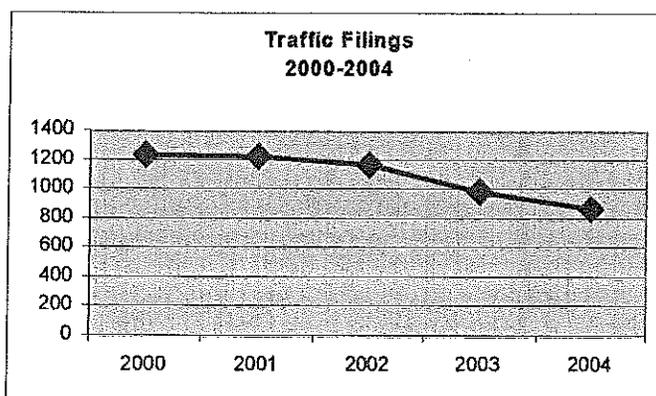
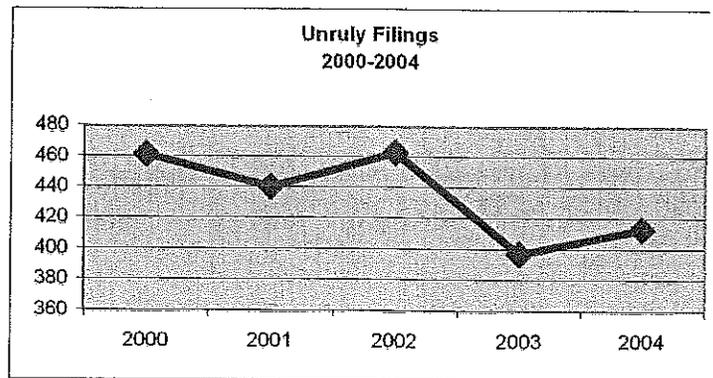
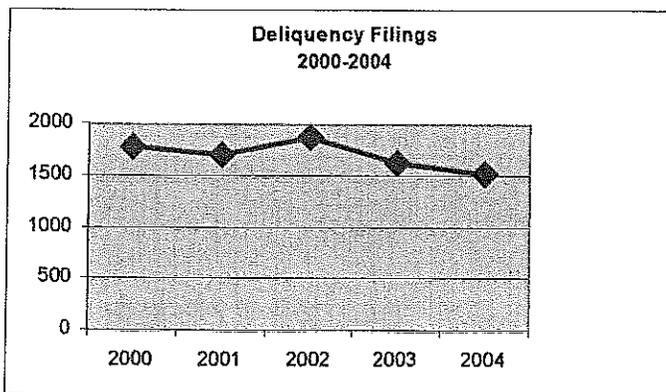
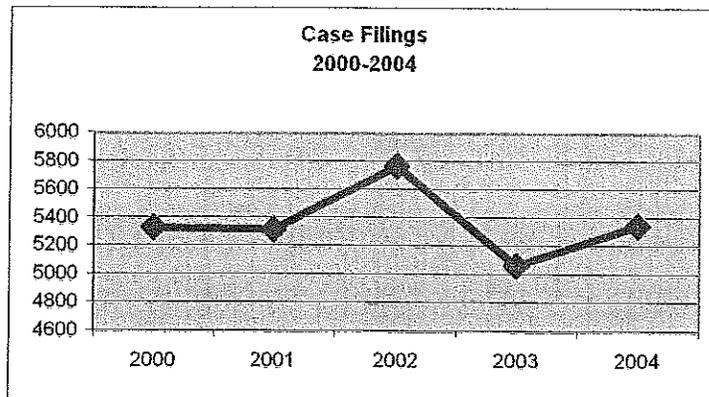
Child Endangering	0
Contempt of a Court Order	42
Contributing to the Delinquency or Unruliness of a Minor	47
Failure to send a child to school	31
Total Adult Criminal Charges	147
Total Adult Criminal Cases	120

Last year, the court entered final disposition for 125 adult cases.

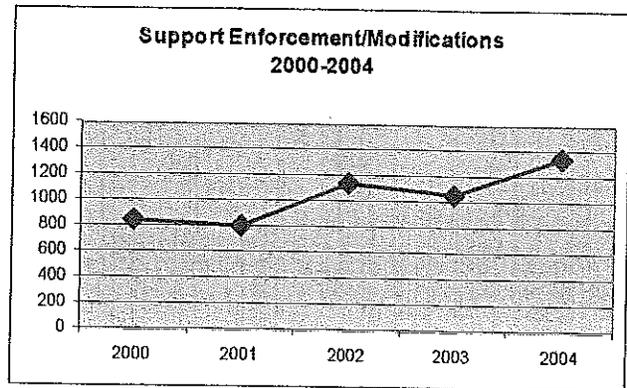
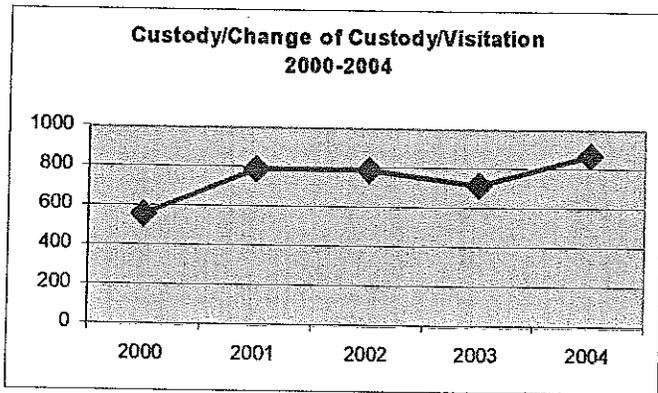
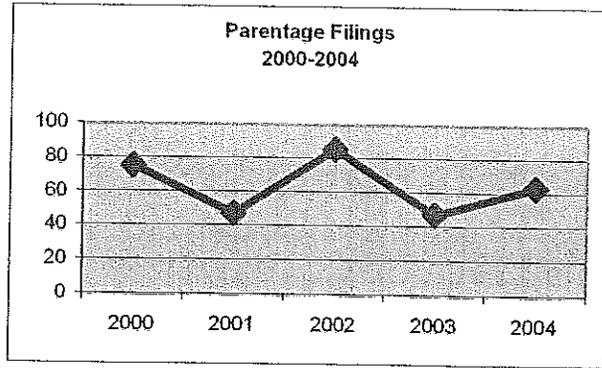
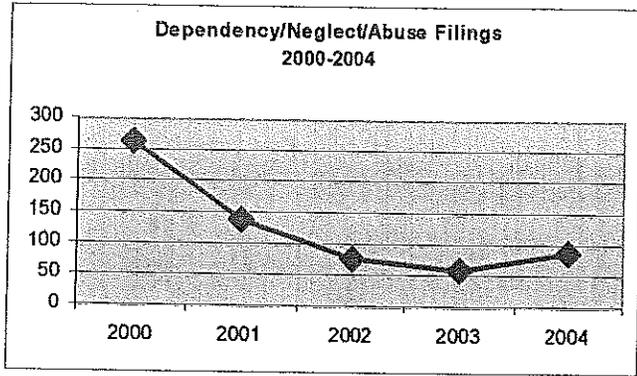
Miscellaneous Cases

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 1 such case.

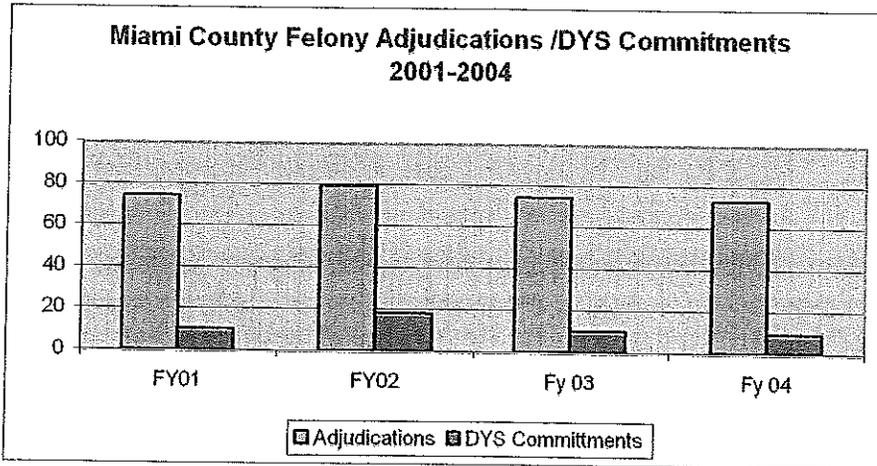
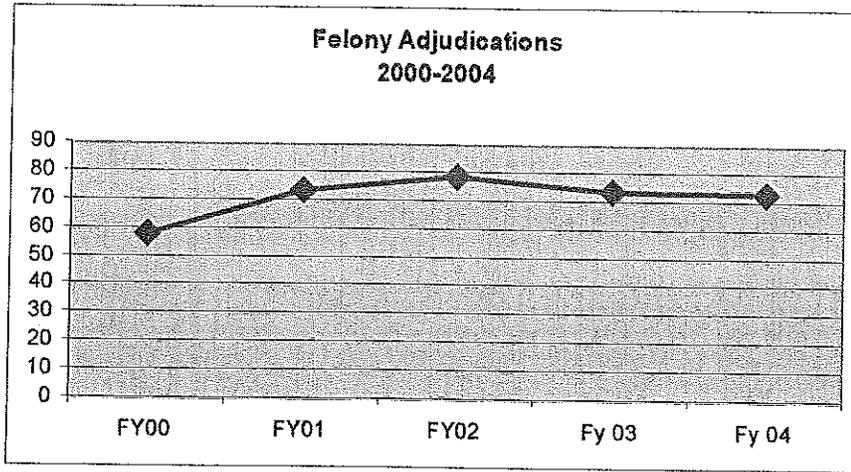
Filing Trends 2000-2004



Filing Trends Civil Cases 2000-2004



Adjudication Trends



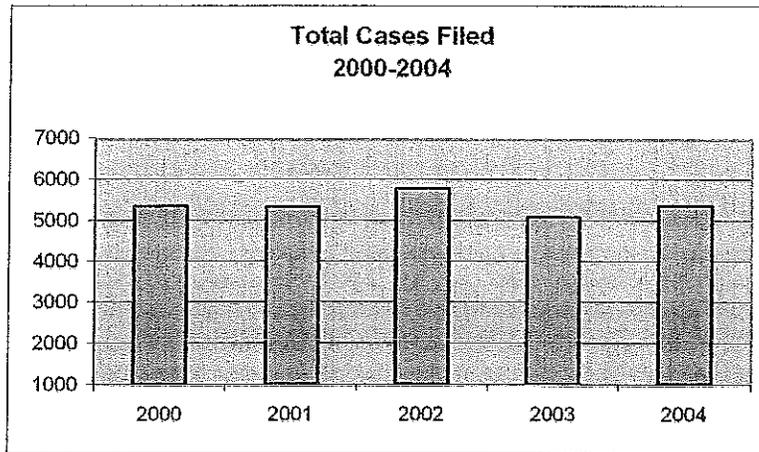
Court Services- Clerk's Office

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 five full-time and three part-time clerks, the office serves all the clients of the Court.

In 2004, the Juvenile Clerk's office continued for improved services to the court's clients by enhancing their knowledge of legislative changes and current best practices of court's across the country. In addition to staff meetings to discuss improving customer service and office efficiency, clerks were able to participate in statewide trainings to improve service delivery.

Court Activity 2004

Total Cases Filed	5354
Total Charges Filed	5877
Total Cases with Disposition	5258



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.

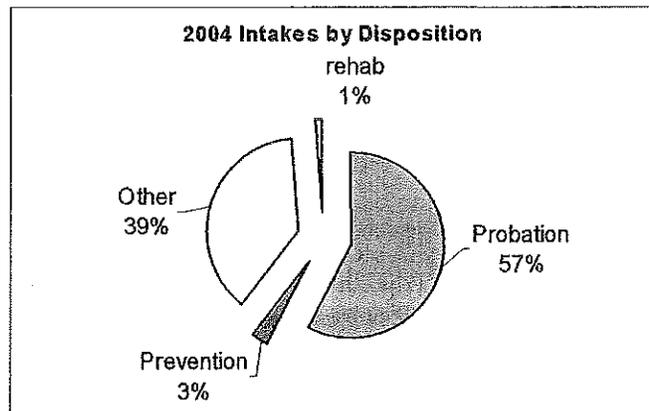
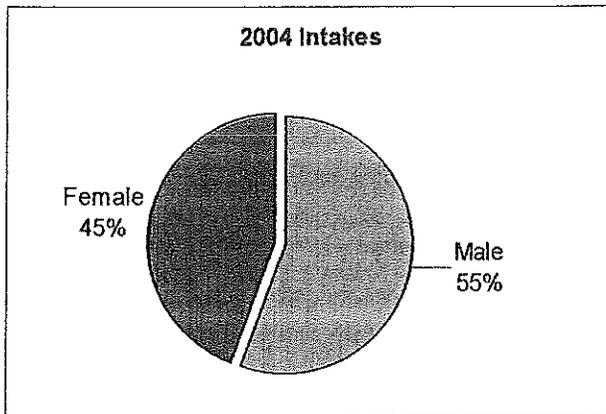
To achieve the mission the department maintains the following components:

- A Diversion/Prevention unit for first time offenders, which includes The Family Diversion Program, Court ordered Prevention Services with an array of education and mental health services. A Tobacco Violators Program, The Curfew Violators program and The Mediation Program.
- An intake officer assesses the youth's level of risk and makes recommendation for an individualized treatment plans using multiple modes of intervention.
- A specialist probation officer who supervises sex offenders and youth in specialized out-of-home probation
- An Intensive Aftercare Probation officer who supervises youth released from West Central Rehabilitation, GATE, Miami Valley Rehabilitation Center, and David L. Brown Youth Center.
- 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 visible in the community by working some weekend and evening hours

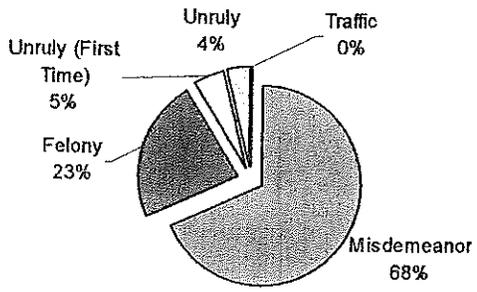
- Drug Court – a joint project with the Recovery Council, which includes intensive probation supervision and substance abuse treatment.
- Home Detention Monitoring Program which supervises youth placed on home detention.

2004 Intake Department Statistics

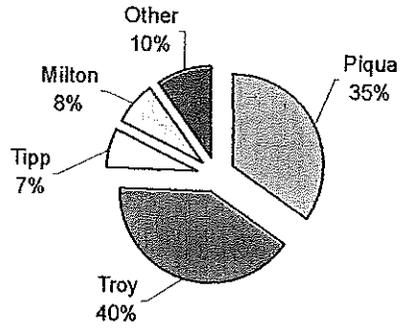
Total Ordered	101
Male	56
Female	45
Misdemeanor	69
Felony	23
Unruly (First Time)	5
Unruly	4
Traffic	0
Piqua	35
Troy	41
Tipp	7
Milton	8
Other	10
Probation	58
Prevention	3
Other	39
rehab	1



2004 Intakes by Charge

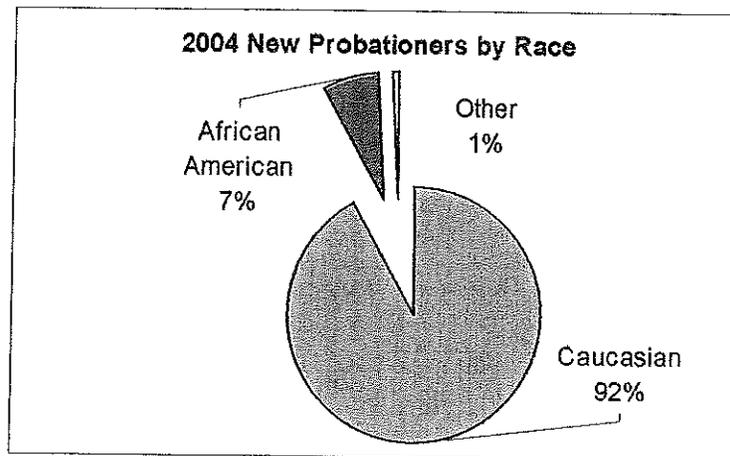
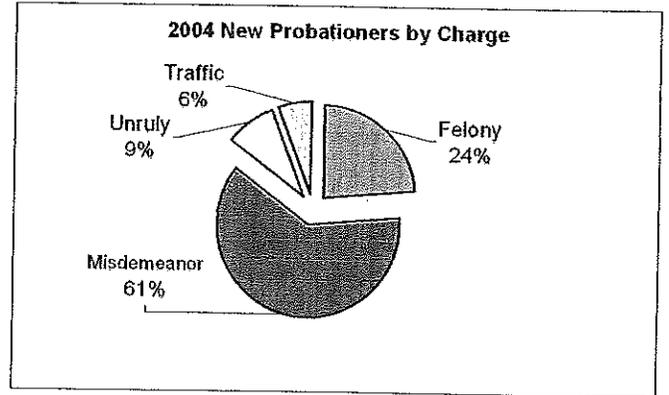
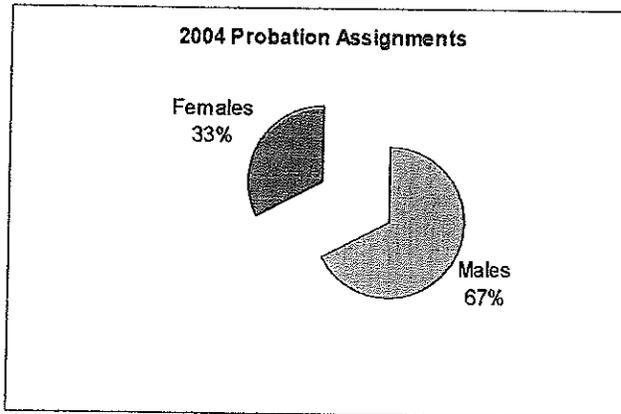


2004 Intakes by Jurisdiction



2004 Probation Department

Males	91
Females	44
Caucasian	124
African American	10
Other	1
Felony	32
Misdemeanor	83
Unruly	12
Traffic	8
Total Youth Ordered	135
Total Youth From Previous Year	179
TOTAL YOUTH SERVED	314



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.

In 2004, the Juvenile Court Drug Court Program worked on becoming more effective with youth. The collaboration between the Court and a substance abuse provider is most effective when the client and their family possess the determination and perseverance to meet Drug Court requirements. This year team members closely monitored the cooperation and compliance of Drug Court participants and referred to other support services to enhance treatment services.

2004 Drug Court Statistics

Total carried from last year	4
Admitted this year	10
Total participated in program	14
Males	10
Females	4
Caucasian	12
African-American	2
Successful graduations	3
Unsuccessful terminations	5

Home Detention Monitoring Program

The Home Detention Monitoring Program is supported by the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant. This program adds a part-time after hour's 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.

2004 Home Detention Monitoring Statistics

Home Visits	1991
Total Youth Served	634
Youth Home	1131
On approved outing	301
Violation	61
Detention Placement	20
Males	400
Females	234
Caucasian	611
African-American	44
Other	0

Under the direction of Randall Freeman, Chief Probation Officer, the department has one full time intake officer and five full time probation officers who work directly with youth placed on probation. The Diversion/Prevention Program is an adjunct to the probation department and works with first time status offenders.

Piqua Office

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

Diversion and Prevention Services

The Court provides an array of interventions designed to cope with unruly behaviors. These interventions include diversion and court ordered programs. They include:

Diversion Services

- The Family Diversion Program
- The Tobacco Offender Program
- The Mediation Program
- The Curfew Violators Program

Court Ordered Prevention Services

- Prevention Supervision
- In-School Prevention Supervision (program ended June 2003)

The Family Diversion Program serves youth 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 original citation or complaint is never filed with the Court.

Family Diversion Program 2004 Statistics

Family Diversion	2004
Retained from Previous Year	70
Filed this year	268
Successfully Completed	193
Declined Services	31
Inappropriate for Service	31
Unsuccessful	30
Total Pending at end of year	53
Total Served	338

A number of unruly offenders are deemed inappropriate for the Family Diversion 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 through a court order. 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. The court monitors participation and a formal record is maintained.

Prevention Services 2004 Statistics

Prevention Services	2004
Retained from Previous Year	77
Filed this year	108
Successfully Completed	44
Unsuccessful	48
Total Pending at end of year	93
Total Served	185

Curfew Diversion Program

The Court also offers a Curfew Diversion Program for first time offenders who received a curfew violation. The Coordinator meets with the youth and family and tailors a diversion program to address the issue.

Tobacco Offenders Program

The Court maintains a diversion program for first time tobacco offenders. Possession and use of tobacco or related products is illegal for minors. Courts can outline specific consequences for youth cited under this code. By contract with the Court, the Miami County Recovery Council provided a three-hour education class focusing on tobacco addiction and related health consequences. Youth who agree to participate in a program are diverted from the Court. In 2004, 16 youth attended tobacco group at MCRC. The contract ended in October 2004. In November 2004, Upper Valley Medical Center began offering smoking cessation groups to youth and their parent. Six youth completed this program. Seventeen youth declined attending a program and were referred to Court.

Mediation Program

This program offers eligible juveniles the opportunity to participate in a process designed to help the youth and complainant discuss and resolve issues in a mutually acceptable manner. The program offers youth the opportunity to restore loss to the victim and take responsibility for one's own behavior.

The Goals of the Program are as follows:

- To resolve underlying conflicts
- To prevent problems from reoccurring
- To reach an agreement and avoid court involvement
- To enhance communication and improve relationships between individuals.

2004 Mediation Services

Charge	Successful
Disorderly Conduct	10
Assault	8
Menacing	1
Complicity to Theft	1
Receiving Stolen Propert	3
Theft	11
Criminal Damaging	13
Unruly	4
Vandalism	0
Telephone harassment	0
Criminal Mischief	11
Trespassing	11
Total	73

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. Efforts are made to enroll youth in sites within their home communities. The program has 28 sites 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. In 2004, 592 youth provided 4720 hours of service to the community. Sonia Kelchner coordinates the program. For more information call 440-5987.

2004 Community Service & Restitution

Program Admissions

	Felony	Misdemeanor	Unruly	Traffic	Total
Males	13	305	82	0	400
Females	3	162	48	0	213
Total	16	467	130	0	613

Program Releases

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Males	385	1
Females	287	0
Total	592	1

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. Youth convicted of a sexual offense receive assessment, outpatient group and family treatment on a weekly basis. In 2004, 13 youth were referred and 8 were accepted into the group. Those not accepted were sent to other treatment providers, Ohio Department of Youth Services, West Central Rehabilitation Center, or to other Residential Treatment Centers.
- ❖ Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education is 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 2004, 138 youth successfully completed this program. A total of 13 groups were held.
- ❖ Shoplifters Group provided by contract with the Miami County Recovery Council with funding through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant. 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 2004, 54 youth were served in this program. A total of 8 groups were held.

- ❖ 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. These are required when deciding if a youth should be tried as an adult.

Partnerships that Strengthen Families and Protect Youth

Family Connections Saturday Series

In 2004, the Court entered into a contract with Family Connections to provide a parenting program for individuals sharing parenting responsibilities but who have never been married. The Saturday Series is specifically designed to improve the quality of parental relationship for parents who have never been married and who may no longer be together. The program strengthens the family structure, allowing the child to love both parents and increasing the likelihood of keeping two active parents in the child's life. In 2004 19 were served through this program

Family Stability Program

Started in December 1999, this 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. The Family Stability Program provides assessment, case planning and coordinates the work of a family team (a group of providers representing appropriate agencies). They approve out of home placements and monitor progress for reunification or other permanent placements.

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. Placement reduction goals were met in 2004.

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. 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 Title IV-E, State Cluster, Children Services, Juvenile Court, Mental Health, and MRDD. In 2004, Juvenile Court contributed \$165,675.52 in shared funding for the placement of 28 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 which 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 2004, 37 volunteers served 125 children.

The Court also may provide an attorney to represent the child.

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 2004, the citizen board members were Rita Hollenbacher, Rebecca Holthaus, Tom Rodberg, Randal Harvey, and Kay Altenburger. Also attending are Magistrate Gretchen Beers, Children Services Representatives Kay Wheeler and Lori Rusnack.

Financial Report

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

2004 Court Budget

	Appropriations & Carryover	Expenditures
General Fund - Juvenile Court	\$ 1,068,363.97	\$ 950,062.62
General Fund - Juvenile Probation	\$ 683,088.20	\$ 658,444.32
Felony Delinquent Care and Custody	\$ 345,330.18	\$ 234,058.46
Juv. Rehab Aftercare	\$ 54,485.62	\$ 28,614.26
AmeriCorps	\$ 1,672.78	\$ 1,672.78
Juvenile Computerization	\$ 38,020.00	\$ 22,553.65
Legal Research	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 5,388.34
Dispute Resolution	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 12,386.88
Indigent Driver Fund	\$ -	\$ -
Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG)	\$ 29,698.85	\$ 22,208.50
S.P. Parenting Course	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,200.00
S.P. CASA	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 2,250.00
Totals	\$ 2,267,659.60	\$ 1,939,839.81

*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 are 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.

2003 Fines and Court Costs

COURT COSTS	\$ 77,539.08
COMPUTER FEES	\$ 26,110.99
LEGAL RESEARCH	\$ 7,205.30
SHERIFF FEES	\$ 7,661.23
LAW LIBRARY	\$ 1,250.00
COUNTY FINES	\$ 46,606.75
MOTOR VEHICLE FINES	\$ 4,518.40
COUNTY DRUG FINES	\$ 1,226.00
MISC. COSTS	\$ -
ANGER MGT.	\$ 1,085.00
LIFE SKILLS	\$ 1,481.33
COPY SERVICE	\$ 35.75
WITNESS FEES	\$ 1,405.13
JUV. CT. MEDIATION	\$ 26,477.09
SPECIAL - CASA	\$ 4,848.42
SPECIAL - PARENTING	\$ 5,324.00
DRUG TESTING	\$ 576.46
FORFEITURE FEES	\$ 1,833.00
TOBACCO FEES	\$ 3,101.49
STATE OF OHIO	\$ 46,280.51
BOARD OF PHARMACY	\$ 714.00
ARRESTING AGENCY	\$ 618.00
SUNDRIES	\$ 2,310.09
BONDS RECEIVED	\$ (730.00)
TOTALS	\$ 267,478.02

West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

The West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility is a state-of-the-art; secure residential facility for 36 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 academic educational plan, family and individual counseling and intensive supervision. The average length of stay is seven months. Specialized vocational training in machine trades is offered to youth who qualify. A vocational coordinator, who helps secure post release employment, assesses all youth.

The Center's 2004 budget was \$1,314,000.00. The Ohio Department of Youth Services provides funding. Local Counties contribute to the Ohio Department of Youth Services for youth placed at the center. Local school districts pay per school day to support educational programming.

Located on 25A in Troy, the West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility serves Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby, and Miami County providing Juvenile Judges a local alternative to committing youth to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Space is also provided to other adjacent counties. Harry K. Russell is the Director.

2004 Population Statistics

County	Number of Youth
Auglaize	7
Clark	2
Darke	1
Delaware	1
Greene	4
Marion	1
Mercer	1
Miami	17
Paulding	1
Preble	4
Richland	2
Shelby	9
total	50

Age	Number of Youth
13	4
14	3
15	15
16	13
17	15
Total	50

2004 Offense Admissions to West Central Rehabilitation

Committing Offense

Arson	1
Assault	1
Attempted Burglary	2
Burglary	11
Breaking and Entering	4
Domestic Violence	1
Drug Offenses	3
Escape	1
Gross Sexual Imposition	6
Rape	4
Possession of Dangerous Ordnance	1
Receiving Stolen Property	1
Stalking by Menacing	1
Tampering with Evidence	1
Theft	8
Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle	2
Vandalism	2
Total	50

Committing Felony Level

Felony Level	
F-5	15
F-4	13
F-3	15
F-2	3
F-1	4
Total	50

West Central Day Treatment

Day Treatment is a court ordered academic educational program for non-violent offenders. This program allows 13-17 year old male/female offenders on probation to attend school in a structured environment with individualized attention. West Central Rehabilitation operates two day treatment programs: one in Troy which serves Miami and Shelby Counties and one in Celina serving youth from the northern Counties (Auglaize, Mercer and Van Wert Counties).

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. Harry K. Russell is the director of this program.

In 2004, 129 students were enrolled in one of the two locations. Seven youth achieved G.E.D. while five others earned enough credits to obtain a graduation diploma from their high school

2004 Day Treatment Population Statistics

<u>Age</u>	<u>Number</u>
10 yrs	1
11 yrs	1
12 yrs	5
13 yrs	15
14 yrs	9
15 yrs	27
16 yrs	33
17 yrs	34
18 yrs	<u>4</u>
Total	129

<u>Gender</u>	<u>Youth</u>
Males	99
Females	<u>30</u>
Total	129

<u>Grade Level</u>						
<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>	<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>
1	16	15	31	34	27	5

2004 Day Treatment Population Statistics

<u>County</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>Youth</u>
Miami	5	46
Shelby	2	23
Allen	1	1
Auglaize	2	18
Clermont	1	1
Mercer	3	26
Van Wert	<u>2</u>	<u>14</u>
	Total	
	16	129

	<u>Celina North</u>	<u>Troy South</u>	<u>Total</u>
Successful Release	45	38	83
Unsuccessful Release	4	21	25
Still in Program	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>21</u>
Total	60	69	129

DAVID L. BROWN YOUTH CENTER

The David L. Brown Youth Center is a program of the Miami County Juvenile Court. Under the Direction of Diana Karnehm, Executive Director and located on a farm setting, east of Troy. The Youth Center is a 24-hour residential treatment center for male youth age 12-18. The primary purpose of the facility is to provide an environment in which youth can assume responsibility for their own thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors. The Reality Therapy/Choice Theory approach used at the Center is a nationally recognized therapeutic modality of treatment. Most of the youth are referred to the Center by a variety of Ohio County Juvenile Court systems, Children's Service agencies, and Community Cluster organizations. The David L. Brown Youth Center provides Juvenile Courts with an alternative to incarceration and youth with the opportunity to receive a variety of intensive services in a safe therapeutic environment.

MENTAL HEALTH

During 2004, the Youth Center contracted with the Miami County Mental Health Center to provide a full time on site master's level therapist to provide a wide range of therapeutic services. Youth referred to the David L. Brown Youth Center receive a complete mental health assessment and participate in an individualized treatment plan, which typically includes several of the following services:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| *Individual Counseling | *Family Counseling |
| *Group Therapy | *Leadership Training |
| *Coordination of Med-Somatic Services | *Case Management |

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

All youth referred to the David L. Brown Youth Center receive a complete substance abuse assessment and a corresponding treatment plan. The Center employs one Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor III-E and one additional Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor I. The Youth Center offers a variety of treatment modalities designed to effectively intervene in substance use, abuse, or dependency. Services include:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| *Prevention Education | *Intervention Education |
| *Individual Counseling | *Family Counseling |
| *Group Counseling | *Intensive Treatment |

ACADEMIC

The David L. Brown Youth Center utilizes a variety of resources designed to provide educational opportunities to meet the individual needs of the youth. Collaborative efforts established with the Miami County Education Service Center and the Upper Valley Joint Vocational School provides the Center with two full time licensed teachers. This includes: Individualized Learning Plans, Academic Case Management Specialized Education, Agri-Science, Evaluation and Testing, GED Preparation and Pre-testing.

HEALTH

The David L. Brown Youth Center provides a complete physical examination for each youth and meets their non-critical medical needs by utilizing Dr. William Ginn, M.D. and Susan Westfall, R.N.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

All youth who reside at the Youth Center participate in a physical education program and a variety of additional athletic activities:

- *Cardiovascular
- *Race Walking
- *Football
- *Basketball
- *Weight Lifting
- *Running
- *Softball
- *Volleyball

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The youth of David L. Brown are provided with opportunities to develop a sense of belonging and commitment to community in a variety of ways:

- *Bell Ringing with Salvation Army
- * Working for Bowman Landes Turkey Farm
- *Food Delivery for Family Abuse Shelter
- *Serving Meals to Homeless
- *Completing Court Ordered Community Service Hours

2004 BUDGET

The appropriated budget for David L. Brown Youth Center for fiscal year 2004 was \$661,875. The David L. Brown Youth Center Budget is limited to revenue received from the following sources. This includes: daily per diem, tuition reimbursement, State of Ohio Food Subsidy and grants from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice.

2004 David L. Brown Youth Center - Population Statistics

Total Youth Served by County

Clark County	8
Miami County Juvenile Court	21
Miami County Children Services	2
Montgomery County Juvenile Court	2
Preble County Job and Family Services	2
Shelby County Juvenile Court	5
Total	40

WEST CENTRAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center is a secure holding facility for youth from Auglaize, Clinton, Darke, Mercer, Miami, Preble, Shelby and Van Wert Counties. The center can house up to 44 youth that are waiting adjudicatory or dispositional hearings and who cannot be released into the community. Detained youth attend school classes, undergo counseling and psychological assessment, as needed, and participate in a variety of treatment and education programming.

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center opened in January 1993. In April 1999 a 20 bed pod was added on to the facility. The operating budget for the center is \$1,658,422. Funding comes from the counties that use our facility. Ohio Department of Youth Services partially funds the GATE Program.

West Central JDC provides youth with all the basic necessities. The residents receive three meals per day. They have structured gym exercise everyday and attend an on-sight school Monday through Friday. Youth must participate in group programs such as: anger management, substance abuse, health & hygiene, Planned Parenthood, life choices, and various community leaders and motivational speakers. The youth have the option to participate in a Bible study program or to attend a Sunday morning service while at the center. There are visitation appointments for parents to visit three times per week. The residents may make phone calls at designated times and are provided all the necessary materials for writing letters to family.

The West Central JDC restructured the STAR (Start Today Accepting Responsibility) Program. This program is for "high risk" youth between ages 12 – 17. Youth must be referred from the juvenile court to be eligible for the realistic tour of the detention center. This program is free of charge to the courts that use it.

GATE (Girls Alternative Treatment Environment) Program is in its 6th year of operation. This program is providing education, structure, discipline and safety for the girls. They learn the nutritional value of food, the proper amount needed to maintain good health and how to prepare simple recipes. The girls also participate in 4-H. They must complete a project and have it judged. The girls receive Red Cross Certification in CPR and First Aid training and they become certified babysitters. The GATE program takes at 70 days to complete and could last as long as 90 days depending on how quickly the girls advance. Counseling and family participation are very important for these females to succeed after completion.

The West Central JDC is located in the Miami County Government Complex at 2044 North County Road 25A in Troy. Greg Simmons has been the Superintendent of the Detention Center since it opened in 1993.

2004 Detention Population Statistics

	Total	Auglaize	Clinton	Darke	Mercer	Miami	Preble	Shelby	Van Wert	Other
Intakes	1,359	233	108	74	95	434	114	219	58	24
Male	1,011	189	71	61	73	298	85	173	48	13
Female	348	44	37	13	22	136	29	46	10	11
Average Length of Stay in days		14.7	15.3	35.8	11.1	9.5	11.6	12.5	14.9	45.6

Miami County Juvenile Court
2004 Annual Report Statistical Summary

Cases Filed in 2004

Delinquent	1532
Traffic	867
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	90
Unruly	414
Adult	120
Permanent Custody	16
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	875
Support Enforcement/Modifications	1352
Parentage	64
UIFSA	23
Other	1
Total Cases Filed	5354

Cases Terminated in 2004

Delinquent	1592
Traffic	870
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	84
Unruly	414
Adult	125
Permanent Custody	7
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	815
Support Enforcement/Modification	1267
Parentage	65
UIFSA	18
Other	1
Total	5258

Types of Dispositions for Youth**2004**

Bind over to Adult Court	1
Commitment to Department of Youth Services	9
Detention	431
Girls Alternative Treatment Environment	5
David L Brown Youth Center	14
West Central Day Treatment	39
West Central Rehabilitation Center	17
Miami Valley Greene County	2

Types of Disposition**2004**

Community Service	709
Probation	135
Prevention	98
Electronic Home Monitoring	86
House Arrest	592
Temporary Custody to Children Services	31
Protective Supervision with Children Services	116
Permanent Custody to Children Services	7
Jail Sentences (Adult)	84
Restitution	386
Cases with Fines Assessed	1294
Cases with Costs Assessed	2597
Fines and Costs Collected	\$267,478.00

Miami County Juvenile Court Important Phone Numbers

Juvenile Court Clerks Office (general information)	440-5970
Chief Deputy Clerk - Beverly Bell	440-5972
Chief Probation Officer - Randall Freeman.....	440-5979
Community Service and Restitution - Sonia Kelchner.....	440-5987
Court Administrator - Charlene Prestopino.....	440-5990
Fiscal Officer - Angie Hubbard	440-5988
Prevention Services - Donita Gast.....	440-5985
David L. Brown Youth Center – Diana Karnehm (Director).....	339-1858
West Central Detention Center - Greg Simmons (Director).....	440-5651
West Central Rehabilitation Center –Harry Russell (Director).....	440-5651

Please visit our web site at www.co.miami.oh.us