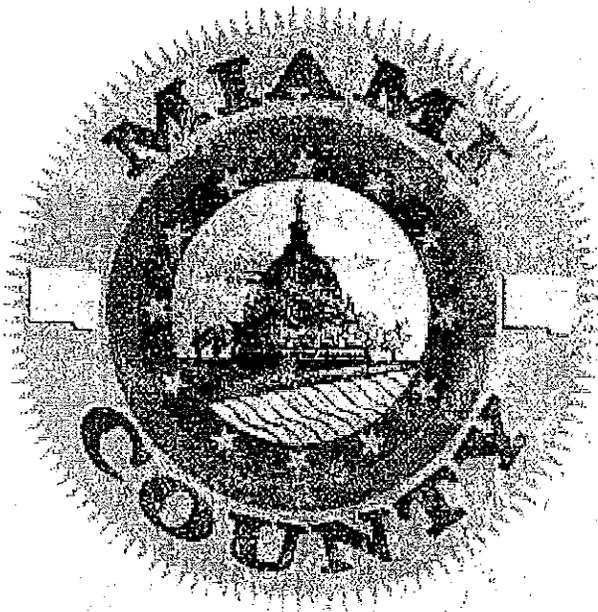


Miami County Juvenile Court

2007 Annual Report



Judge Lynnita K.C. Wagner

Court Administrator:
Charlene Prestopino

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

May, 2008

Greetings to the Citizens of Miami County

The year 2007 was, in terms of statistics, a rather average, uneventful year. The number of total filings over the last three years has leveled out to right around 5,000 cases.

The Juvenile Court works with children in many different ways. Some children come to the attention of the Court through civil filings which result from family circumstances. Fortunately, the filings for child abuse, neglect, and dependency are down; as are custody and visitation filings. However, with an increase of children born to parents who were never married we have seen parentage and support issues increase.

Other children come to the Court's attention because of the youth's behavior because of delinquent or unruly behaviors or because they violate traffic laws. Over the last few years, traffic laws involving juveniles have changed significantly and with these changes the Court has seen a steady reduction in traffic cases. And, as in all past year, violations for speeding are one of the most common offenses accounting for 40% of all traffic charges.

This year also brought an increase in unruly filings. This category had been on the decline, but increased last year with incorrigible (not obeying parents or teachers) being the largest category.

Delinquency filings have been level the last three years, but dropped from earlier years. Felony level offenses have leveled out the last three years, with a dramatic drop from previous years. Unfortunately, substance use is on the rise. In 2007, alcohol and related were the leading delinquency charge. These filings are now higher than theft related charges, which dropped to third place. Of significance is that drug trafficking charges increased sharply.

The youth who are the most serious threat to the community or who need the most intensive help are generally committed to The Ohio Department of Youth Services and West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center. This year we saw these placements decline significantly.

Also, we placed the lowest number of youth on probation in the last eight years (122) but had the next to the highest number of total youth served. Probation continues to supervise about three times as many boys as girls and the numbers increase with age, serving the most 16-17 year olds. The number of youth on intensive supervised probation continues to decline as felony filings decline. The number of unsuccessful terminations has gone down from 50% to 11% in three years.

The most notable increase occurred in criminal filings against adults. Adult charges have increased by 31% over the last four years.

The Court offers many services to help juveniles change their behavior. For example, in 2007, we started a new program for violent offenses committed within the family. The project called DART (Domestic Aggression Reduction Training) had fourteen successfully complete the program. Ten of the fourteen had no new offenses and none had violent offenses.

Drug Court, which serves the heavily addicted population, had a 50% success rate and kept four youth out of residential placement.

The out-patient sex offender group for low to moderate risk offenders had a 71% success rate with only two youth being unsuccessfully discharged to an institution for residential treatment.

The family diversion program enjoyed a 69% successful termination and the prevention program a 62% successful completion.

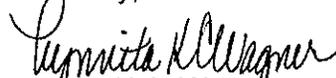
Court ordered community service completed 4195 hours and mediation (agreed upon) community service completed over 200 hours. Our youth donated over \$1000 in food to food pantries.

These statistics are evidence that serious crime by juveniles is on the decline and with fewer youth to serve, we are becoming more successful. Youth in Miami County are being held accountable and are learning the skills to be successful in the community when their Juvenile Court involvement is terminated.

The "eventful" part of 2007 came on Mother's Day when a water pipe on the second floor burst and flooded Probate Court and Prosecutor's Office. This required these offices to relocate during the restoration process, which took approximately three months. The impact on Juvenile Court was that probate clerks crowded in with the juvenile clerks and four hearing officers had to share two court rooms. In spite of it all, we managed well and got to know each other better. Looking back, with the stress a distant memory, we have a lot of funny stories and fond memories.

Overall, 2007 was a good year!

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 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 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 one part-time magistrate, 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 2007.

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 2007 charges:

Delinquency Charges	2007
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	1
AntiNoise	1
Arson/Aggravated Arson	7
Assault (Misdemeanor & Felony)	98
Breaking & Entering	27
Burglary/Aggravated Burglary	29
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	4
Child Endangering	3
Chronic Truancy	27
Coercion	0
Consuming Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle	0
Contempt of Court Order	97
Contributing to Delinquency/Unruliness of a Minor	0
Criminal Damaging	58
Criminal Mischief	14
Dangerous Ordnance in school zone	0
Discharging Air gun/BB/Pellets/firearm	5
Discharging/Possession Fireworks	1
Disobeying Police Officer/Resisting Arrest/Fleeing	11
Disorderly Conduct	173
Domestic Violence	56
Dropping Material on Roadway/Littering	1
Drug Cultivation	3
Drug Abuse	59
Drug Paraphernalia	43
Drug Possession	26
Drug Trafficking	14
Escape	10
Falsification	6
Forgery	0
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor	5
Inducing/Inciting Panic or Violence	2
Importuning	0
Impeding a parked Bus	0
Impersonating a police officer	5

Intimidation	0
Making False Alarms	4
Menacing/Aggravated Menacing	40
Negligent Homicide	0
Obstructing Official Business/Justice	51
Obstructing the Street	1
Open Container	7
Parole Violation (from Dept. of Youth Services)	15
Pedestrian walking in middle of street	1
Possession of Alcohol/Related	185
Possession of Criminal Tools	6
Probation Violation	117
Public Indecency	4
Rape	12
Receiving Stolen Property	35
Robbery/Aggravated Robbery/ complicity	1
Sexual Imposition & Gross Sexual Imposition	29
Skateboards	5
Tampering with Evidence/Property	12
Telephone Harassment	5
Theft/Grand Theft Auto/Misuse of Credit Card/Identity Theft	161
Trespassing/Criminal Trespassing	55
Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle/Property	16
Vandalism	14
Vehicular Homicide	0
Vehicular Manslaughter	0
Weapon on school grounds	7
Total Delinquency Charges	1569
Total Delinquency Cases Filed or Reactivated	1357

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 or any CCF (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 make restitution
- ◆ Order the child to attend a specific treatment program
- ◆ Impose a fine and court cost
- ◆ Make any order the judge finds will benefit the child

Last year, the Court entered final dispositions in 1320 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; departs 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 2005 unruly charges:

2007 Unruly Charges Filed

Unruly Charges Filed	2007
Truancy	49
Curfew Violations	183
Incorrigible	233
Behavior that injures health or morals	14
Tobacco Law Violations	51
Total Charges	530
Total Unruly Cases Filed or Reactivated	382
Truancy Breakdown	
Chronic Truant (delinquency)	28
Habitual Truant	21
Total Truancy	49

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 or prevention supervision
- ◆ Impose costs of the case against the juvenile
- ◆ Or, whatever the judge finds will benefit the child

In 2007, the Court entered final disposition in 369 unruly cases.

Juvenile Traffic Offender

The Court has jurisdiction over all traffic offenses committed by juveniles. These cases in 2007 included:

Traffic Charges	2007
Bicycle Violations	6
Disregarding Traffic Control Device (Sign/Lights)	50
Driving Under Influence & Related	21
Driving Under Suspension	17
Fail To Control/Reckless Operation	76
Fail To Yield	42
Failure to Maintain Distance	50
Fictitious/Expired/Missing Plate/Registration/insurance	16
Improper Backing, Turn or Lane Change	41
Improper start/acceleration	0
Leaving the Scene	8
Moped Violation	1
No OL/Permit/Allowing Unlicensed Driver to Drive	46
Other Moving Violations	3
Parking Violations	0
Passing a School bus	5
Seatbelt/Child Restraint	90
Speeding	291
Squealing Tires/Noise Ordinance	0
Railroad crossing violation	1
Vehicle Related Infractions	19
Total Traffic Charges	783
Total Traffic Cases Filed or Reactivated	705

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 CARTEENS or a Driver's Improvement Program
- ◆ 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 2007, the Court entered final dispositions in 719 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.

2007 Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Filings

Abuse, Neglect and Dependency	57
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 63 abuse, neglect, and dependency cases and 17 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.

2007 Filings

Custody or Visitation	771
Support	
Enforcement/Modifications	1422
Parentage	79
Total	2272

Last year the court entered final disposition in 1428 support enforcement or modification cases, 808 custody or visitation cases, and 91 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.

2008 Adult Charges and Cases

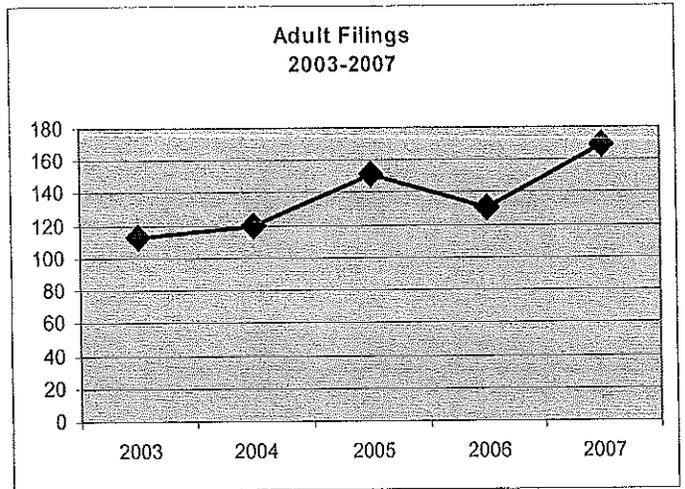
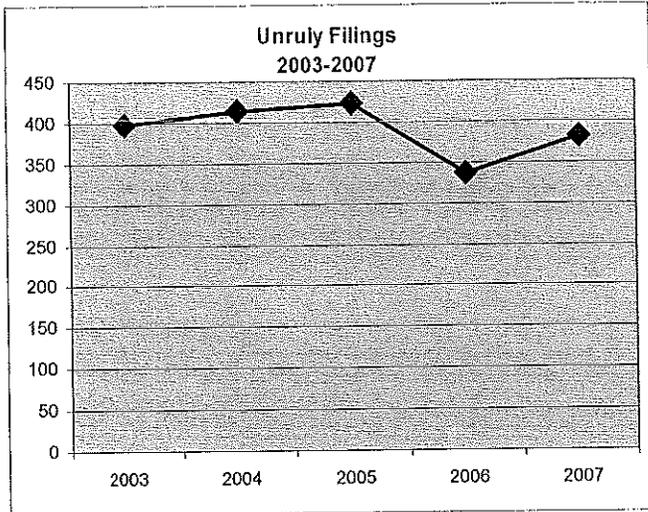
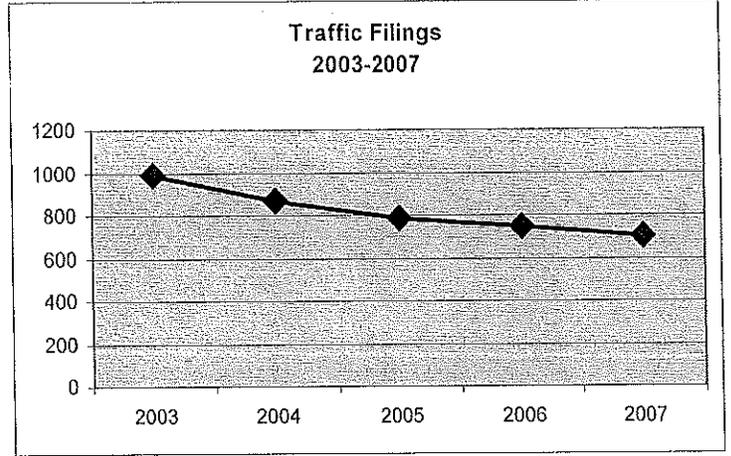
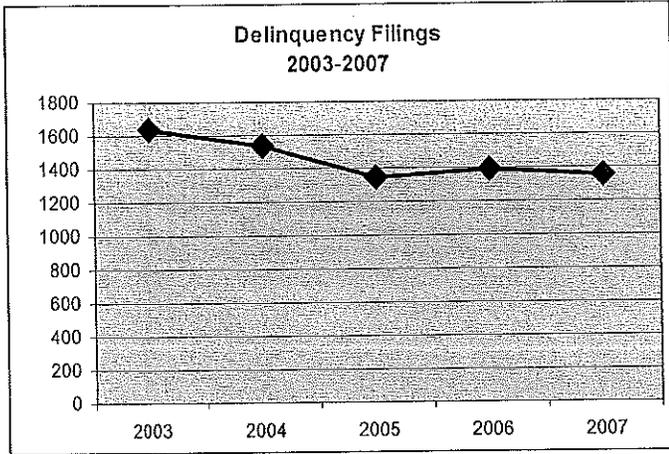
Adult Charges and Cases	2007
Child Endangering	4
Contempt of Court Order	52
Contributing to the Delinquency or Unruliness of a Minor	85
Failure to send a child to school	25
Probation violation	0
Imposition of Sentence	4
Total Adult Criminal Charges	170
Total Adult Criminal Cases	169

Last year, the court entered final disposition for 173 adult cases.

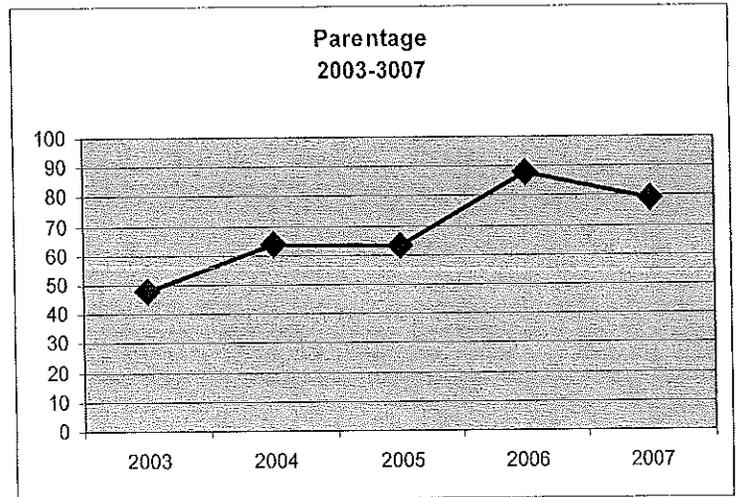
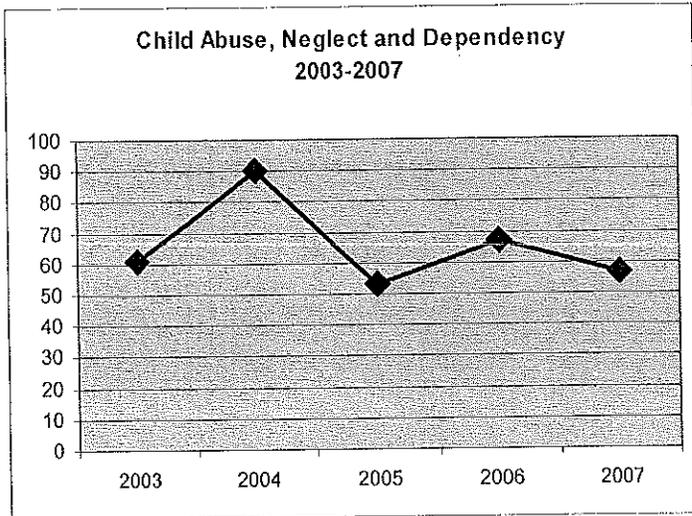
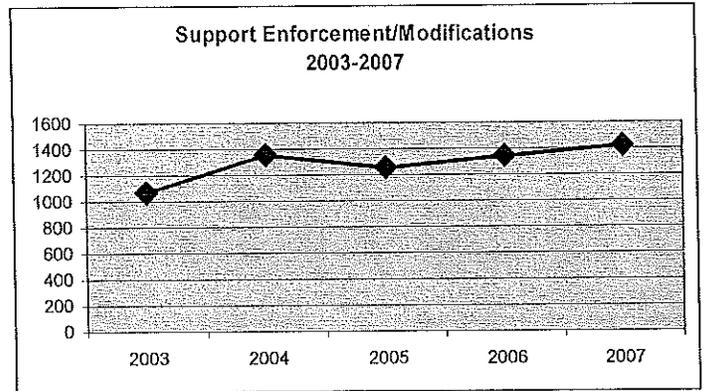
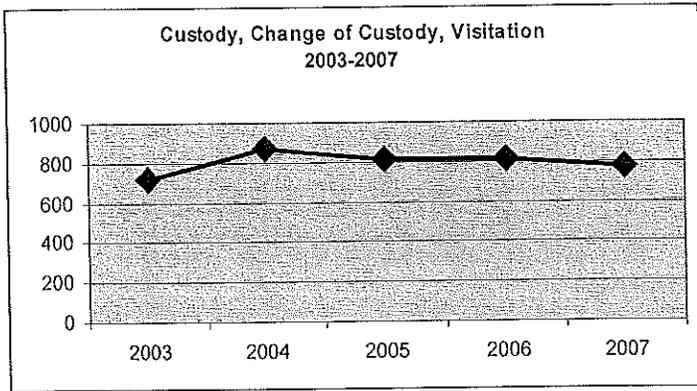
Miscellaneous Cases

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 2 such cases.

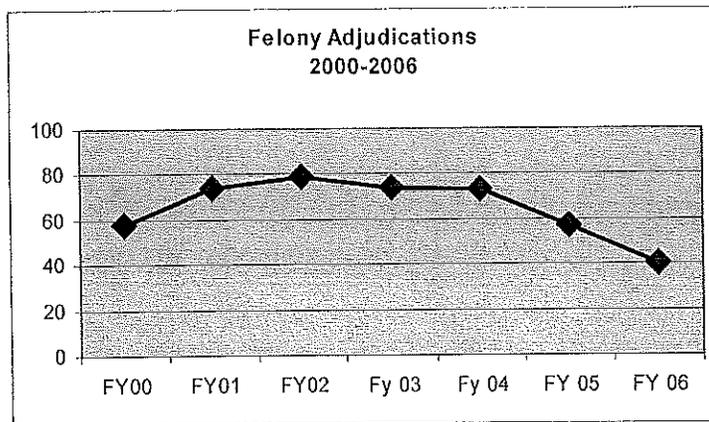
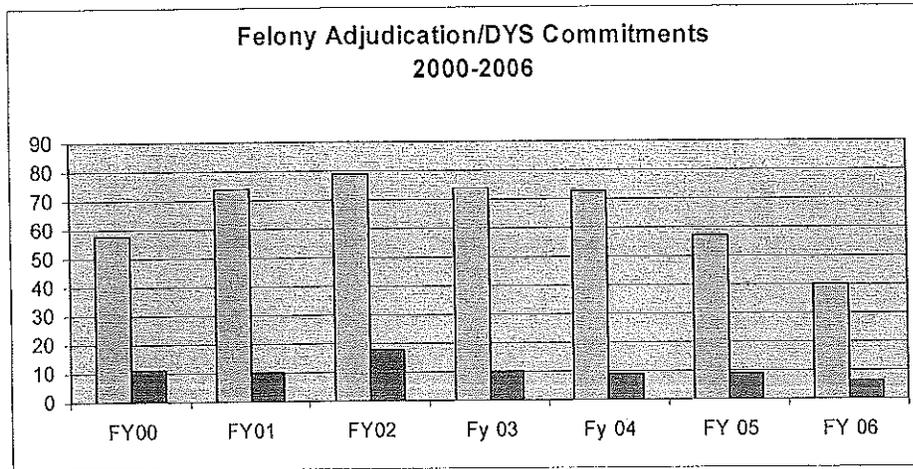
Filing Trends 2003-2007



Filing Trends Civil Cases 2003-2007



Adjudication Trends

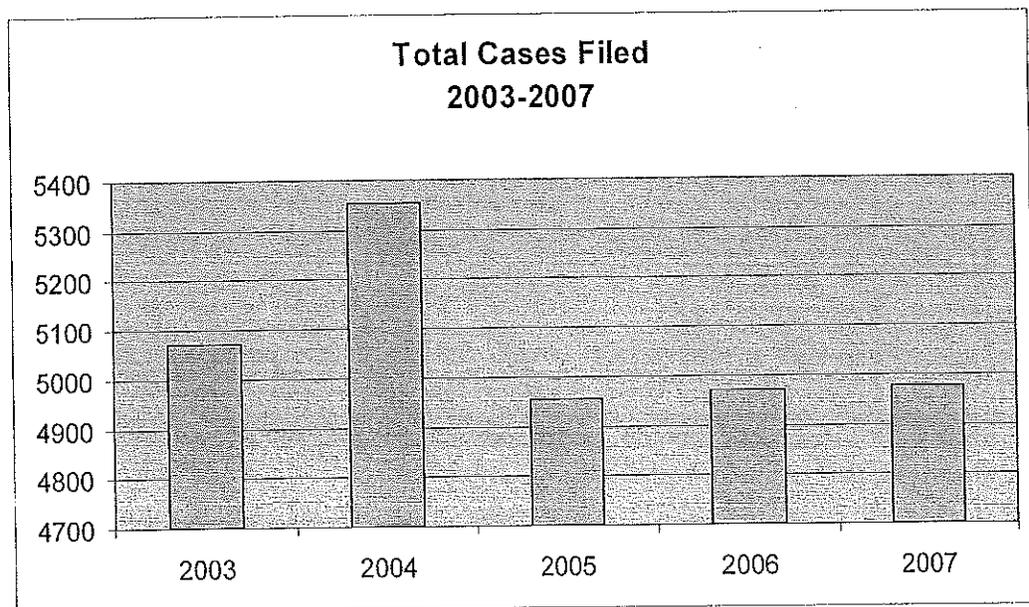


Court Services- Clerk's Office

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 six full-time and two part-time clerks, the office serves all the clients of the Court.

Court Activity 2007

	2007
Total Cases Filed	4977
Total Charges Filed	5363
Total Cases with Disposition	5004



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 through the use of 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

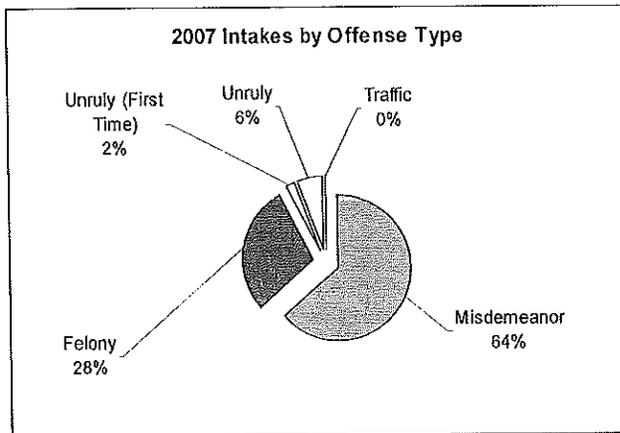
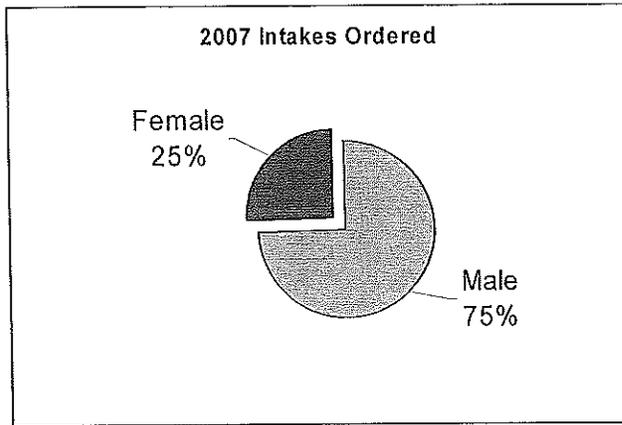
- Drug Court – a joint project with the Recovery Council, which includes intensive probation supervision and substance abuse treatment.
- House Arrest Monitoring Program which supervises youth placed on house arrest.

Under the direction of Randall Freeman, Chief Probation Officer, the probation 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. This division has a coordinator, mediation coordinator and two full time officers.

➤ 2007 Intake Department Statistics

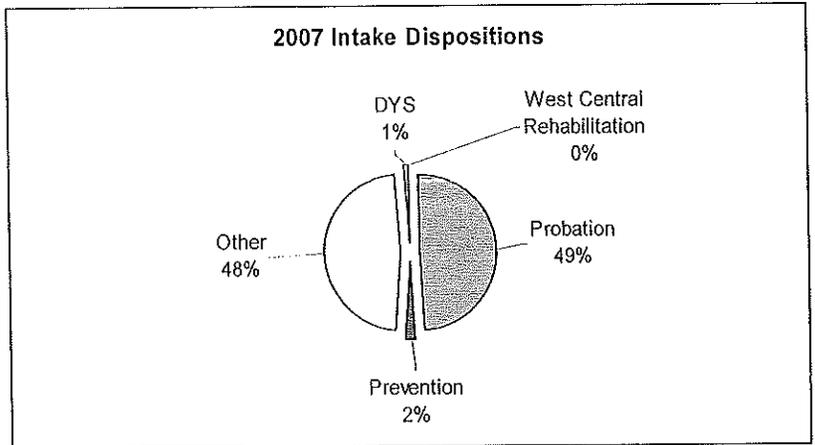
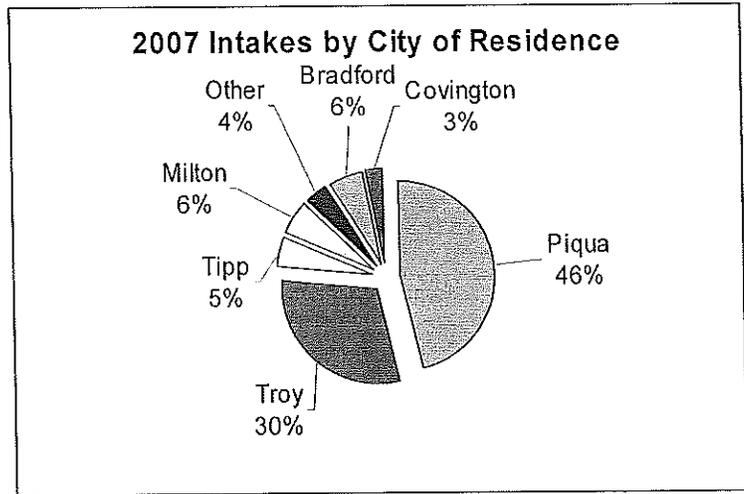
Intake Statistics	2007
Total Ordered	102
Male	76
Female	26
Offense Type	
Misdemeanor	65
Felony	29
Unruly (First Time)	2
Unruly	6
Traffic	0
City of Residence	
Piqua	47
Troy	31
Tipp	5
Milton	6
Other	4
Bradford	6
Covington	3
Disposition	
Probation	50
Prevention	2
Other	49
DYS	1
West Central Rehabilitation	0

**Of the 49 youth referred to "other" in 2007 4 have recidivated



2007 Intake Department Statistics

Intakes by Charge	2007
Unruly	8
Contempt	2
Criminal Trespass	1
Criminal Damaging	2
Unauthorized Use	5
Assault	10
Underage Consumption/Possession	7
Disorderly	10
Burglary	3
B & E	11
Receiving Stolen Prop	2
Theft	9
Forgery	3
Obstruction/falsification	4
Inducing Panic	1
Arson related	1
Menacing	4
Trafficking	2
Drug Abuse/Possession	2
Domestic Violence	7
Vandalism	2
Weapon on School	5
Total	101



2007 Probation Department

Probation Assignments	2007
Males	90
Females	32
Caucasian	110
African American	10
Other	2
Felony*	*38
Misdemeanor	67
Unruly	14
Traffic	3
Total New Youth Ordered	122
Total Youth From Previous Year	188
TOTAL YOUTH SERVED	310

Probation by Age	2007
11-under	1
12&13	20
14&15	47
16 and up	54

Probation by City	2007
Piqua	44
Troy **	46
Tipp	9
Milton	9
Bradford/Covington	7
Other	7

*includes youth sent to DYS or placed/transferred to another county

**Troy numbers include youth in custody of CSB, who may not be placed in Troy

Probationers by School District	
School	2007
Troy High School	25
Troy Jr. High	13
Piqua High School	39
Wilder Intermediate	1
Piqua Jr. High	5
Tipp High	7
Miami East High	1
Miami East Jr. High	1
Upper Valley JVS	15
Milton Union Middle School	2
Milton Union High School	3
Bradford High School	4
Bradford Jr. High School	2
Miami Valley Career Tech	3
Covington Middle School	2
Covington High School	2

**includes youth who are transferred to other counties

Intensive Probation/Aftercare

The Probation Department provides intensive probation services to youth released from the Rehabilitation Center, David L. Brown Youth Center and the GATE Program. A full time probation officer provides services to youth, parents, schools, and employers, to assure that the youth makes an appropriate readjustment to the community. The officer's hours are structured to be available during evenings and weekends, when you may encounter transition problems. This intensive supervision includes frequent visits with the youth and family, development and coordination of a youth's case plan, support and guidance to the youth, and probation sanctions as necessary. Youth remain in the program until they have completed treatment plans and paid fines, court costs and restitution.

2007 Intensive Probation Statistics

	2007
Total Served on ISP	21
Total Placed current year	6
Total Retained previous year	15
Total Terminations	9
Successful	8
Unsuccessful	1
Moved	0
Successful Terminations	8
Terminations without new charges	3
Obtained employment	6
Educational goals met	7
Non-Reporting Status	0
Returned to probation	0
Successful	0
Average Length of Probation	8.5 months
Successful	9.1 months
Unsuccessful	4 months
All Youth	21
New misdemeanor charges	8
New Felony charges	1
Probation violations	15
Youth turned 18 on Probation	10
Successful terminations	6
Unsuccessful terminations	0

Drug Court

Drug Court was started in June 2000 in cooperation with the Miami County Recovery Council. This programs goal is to better coordinate and facilitate services for youth with substance abuse problems. 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.

2007 Drug Court Statistics

Total Carried from last year	7
Admitted this year	8
Total Participated in Program	15
Males	11
Females	4
Caucasian	14
African-American	1
Successful Graduations	4
Unsuccessful terminations	4
Other (moved)	0
Remaining in the program	7

Alternatives to Detention

House arrest and electronic home monitoring are two alternatives to secure Detention that allow a youth to remain in the community yet restrict a youth's movement within the community. These strategies allow a youth to continue to live at home and attend school, jobs, counseling and other approved activities. These programs serve as a short term sanction and remind juveniles that they need to pay attention to curfews and other court imposed expectations. House arrest is less restrictive and relies heavily on a youth's compliance, parental participation and monitoring. Electronic home monitoring uses an ankle bracelet technology that detects movement and alerts probation officers when a child is engaging in activity away from approved venues. Both approaches are used extensively by Probation Officers to enhance supervision.

Electronic home monitoring	2007
Males	36
Females	11
Caucasian	42
African American	4
Other	1
Felony	14
Misdemeanor	33
Unruly	0
Traffic	0
Terminated Unsuccessfully	7
Terminated Successfully	40
Total Youth Ordered	47
TOTAL YOUTH SERVED	47
Average days on EMHA	35.6

House Arrest Monitoring Program

The House Arrest Monitoring Program was started through a grant. Once the grant ended, the probation staff elected to continue the programming. The Probation/Prevention department does random, unscheduled visits to the home of youth placed under an order of House Arrest by the Court in order to determine their compliance with the Court's orders. In addition to monitoring youth's compliance with the Court's orders this also allows the Probation/Prevention officers to be a more visible presence after "traditional Court hours", in the evenings and also on weekends.

2007 House Arrest Monitoring Statistics

House Arrest	2007
Males	320
Females	127
Caucasian	411
African American	35
Other	1
Felony	100
Misdemeanor	293
Unruly	53
Traffic	1
Terminated Unsuccessfully	94
Terminated Successfully	336
Total Youth Ordered	447
# of Compliance Checks done by PO's	1439
# of man hours PO spent doing checks after hours/weekends	201.5
 	50
Average length of time on HA	days

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 and first time offenders. 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

The Family Diversion Program serves youth who have been formally cited as unruly children or who are first time offenders. 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 2007 Statistics

Family Diversion	2007
Retained from Previous Year	26
Filed this year	106
Successfully Completed	79
Declined Services	0
Inappropriate for Service	18
Unsuccessful	18
Total Pending at end of year	17
Total Served	132

A number of unruly or first time 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, a first time offender or a youth who is very young. These youth have appeared in court and were

ordered into prevention programming. The court monitors participation and a formal record is maintained.

Prevention Services 2007 Statistics

Prevention Services	2007
Retained from Previous Year	31
Filed this year	53
Successfully Completed	23
Unsuccessful	14
Total Pending at end of year	47
Total Served	84

By Charges	2007
Unruly	27
Truancy	10
Curfew	2
Contempt	2
Assault	2
Disorderly	3
Domestic Violence	1
Criminal Damaging	1
Drug Abuse	1
Arson	1
Menacing	1
Total ordered on Prevention	51

Sex	2007
Males	31
Females	20
Total	51

Race	2007
Caucasian	48
African American	3
Other	0

Age	2007
11-under	1
12 &13	17
14&15	18
16 and up	15

City	2007
Piqua	29
Troy	15
Tipp	3
Milton	2
Casstown	1
Bradford	1

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. This year 75 youth were diverted

from the court system. Many of these youth agreed to make food donations to area soup kitchens and food pantries totaling \$1030.00. These youth also volunteered over 200 hours in a local soup kitchen.

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. Youth who agree to participate in a program are diverted from the Court. Upper Valley Medical Center offers smoking cessation groups to youth and their parent. Eighteen youth completed this program. Seven youth have yet to complete the program and one youth declined attending a program and was 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. Volunteer mediators with training in the mediation process meet with the youth and victim and guide them through a problem solving process. 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.

In 2006, the Court added a civil mediation program to include child custody, parental visitation and child support cases. This program uses paid mediators who have specialized training in child custody matters. If individuals qualify financially, the Court pays the mediator. Parents offer their own solutions and work out differences in a confidential environment, so that they can do what is best for their child. One of the program goals is to help parents to develop better communication skills for the future. In 2007, 8 cases were sent to civil mediation.

2007 Mediation Services

Mediation	
Delinquency Mediation	2007
Successful	37
Unsuccessful	2
Total referred	39

Mediations by Charge	Successful
Disorderly conduct	13
Assault	2
Menacing	0
Complicity to Theft	0
Receiving Stolen Property	1
Theft	4
Criminal Damaging	5
Unruly	0
Vandalism	0
Telephone Harassment	0
Criminal Mischief	5
Tampering with Property	2
Trespassing	5
Total	37

Mediation dispositions	
	2007
Restitution	\$ 2,295.00
Volunteer hours	61

Civil Mediation	2007
Number of cases referred	8
Successful	3
Unsuccessful	5

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 34 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 2007, 519 youth provided 4195 hours of service to the community. Cindy Petrofes coordinates the program. For more information call 440-5987...

2007 Community Service & Restitution Program Admissions

Community Service	2007
Males	347
Females	172
Felony	31
Misdemeanor	346
Unruly	132
Traffic	10
Total	519
Sites	31
Total hours	4195

Program Releases

Program Release	
	2007
Males	296
Females	136
Satisfactory	429
Unsatisfactory	3
Total released	432

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 2007, 15 youth were referred and 9 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 2007, 68 youth successfully completed this program. A total of 8 groups were held.
- ❖ Shoplifters Group provided by contract with the Miami County Recovery Council. 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 2007, 40 youth were served in this program. A total of 6 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, and whether the child is competent to stand trial
- ❖ Domestic Aggressive Response Training Group (DART) is provided by contract with DAYBREAK, Inc. This psycho-educational group is offered over ten weeks to youth and their families for youth charged with domestic violence or some related offense. This group helps youth and families work on communication issues and reduce family violence. In 2007, 18 youth were involved in the program, 14 successfully completed the program.

Partnerships that Strengthen Families and Protect Youth

Family Connections Saturday Series

The Court has 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 parents active in the child's life. In 2007, 12 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.

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 2007, Juvenile Court contributed in \$129,975.20 shared funding for the placement of 20 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 2007, 41 volunteers served 152 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 2007, the citizen board members were Rita Hollenbacher, Rebecca Holthaus, Tom Rodberg, Randal Harvey, and Sandy Christian. Also attending are Magistrate Gretchen Beers, Children Services Representatives Kay Wheeler and Lori Rusnack. A member of the Court's clerk staff serves as secretary of the Board. In 2007 Angela Vanchure served in this capacity.

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.

2007 Court Budget

	Appropriations & Carryover		Expenditures	
General Fund - Juvenile Court	\$	1,166,167.06	\$	997,421.84
General Fund - Juvenile Probation	\$	848,911.49	\$	701,376.83
Felony Delinquent Care and Custody	\$	430,909.97	\$	324,417.22
Juvenile Rehab Aftercare	\$	30,321.49	\$	23,535.99
Juvenile Computerization	\$	44,945.00	\$	29,039.06
Legal Research	\$	8,624.00	\$	7,472.30
Dispute Resolution	\$	37,537.00	\$	16,331.45
Indigent Driver Fund	\$	-	\$	-
S.P. Parenting Course	\$	6,200.00	\$	1,800.00
S.P. CASA	\$	4,750.00	\$	3,000.00
Totals	\$	2,578,366.01	\$	2,104,394.69

*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.

2007 Fines and Court Costs Collected

COURT COSTS	59,130.72
COMPUTER FEES	20,273.97
LEGAL RESEARCH	5,415.70
SHERIFF FEES	6,439.41
LAW LIBRARY	1,250.00
COUNTY FINES	24,825.26
MOTOR VEHICLE FINES	3,464.74
COUNTY DRUG FINES	545.00
MISC. COSTS	-
ANGER MGT.	132.00
LIFE SKILLS	211.10
COPY SERVICE	18.15
WITNESS FEES	1,061.11
JUV. CT. MEDIATION	21,592.20
SPECIAL - CASA	3,599.29
SPECIAL - PARENTING	3,887.00
DRUG TESTING	199.56
P.D. APPLICATION FEE	2,604.00
P.D. RECOUP FEES	1,016.00
FORFEITURE FEES	-
TOBACCO FEES	822.50
STATE OF OHIO	36,311.52
BOARD OF PHARMACY	440.00
ARRESTING AGENCY	595.00
SUNDRIES	2,840.38
BONDS RECEIVED	50.00
TOTALS	196,724.61

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. 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.

In 2003, a sex offender treatment program was added. This program uses a nationally recognized cognitive behavioral approach which helps a youth understand offense cycles and triggers while taking full responsibility for their actions. The average length of stay is 12-18 months.

The Center's 2007 budget was \$1,566,086.50. The Ohio Department of Youth Services provides funding. Local Counties are debited from their RECLAIM Allocation through 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 or similar counties. Harry K. Russell is the Director.

2007 Population Statistics

County	Youth
Auglaize	8
Allen	0
Champaign	1
Clark	15
Darke	2
Delaware	3
Greene	2
Marion	3
Mercer	1
Miami	11
Preble	2
Richland	0
Sandusky	1
Shelby	10
Union	1
Total	60

Age at Admission	
12 years	0
13 years	4
14 years	13
15 years	11
16 years	16
17 years	16
18 years	0

2007 Offense Admissions to West Central Rehabilitation

Committing Offense

Committing Offense	Youth
Aggravated Assault	3
Aggravated Robbery	1
Assault	2
Attempted Abduction	1
Attempted Failure to Comply	1
Attempted Gross Sexual Imposition	3
Attempted Rape	1
Attempted Receiving Stolen Property	2
Attempted Robbery	2
Breaking & Entering	8
Burglary	2
Carrying Concealed Weapon	1
Complicity to Arson	1
Domestic Violence	1
Drug Trafficking	2
Ethnic Intimidation	1
Felonious Assault	3
Forgery	1
Gross Sexual Imposition	4
Importuning	1
Obstructing Official Business	1
Possession of Dangerous Drugs	1
Rape	6
Receiving Stolen Property	1
Robbery	2
Theft	2
Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle	1
Vandalism	3
Weapon Under Disability	1

Committing Felony Level

Felony Level	Youth
F-5	25
F-4	11
F-3	12
F-2	6
F-1	6
Total	60

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 separate 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 2007, 129 students were enrolled in one of the two locations. One youth achieved G.E.D. while five others earned enough credits to obtain a graduation diploma from their high school.

2007 Day Treatment Population Statistics

Day Treatment South		Day Treatment North	
School District	2007	School District	2007
Miami East	1	Celina	29
Piqua	27	Coldwater	0
Sidney	16	Felicity Fran	0
St. Mary's	1	Ft. Recovery	0
Tipp City	1	Parkway	2
Troy	11	Preble Shawnee	0
Milton Union	3	St. Henry	1
Newton	1	New Knoxville	1
Northmont	1	Crestview	1
Fairlawn	1	St. Marys	15
Bradford	0	Van Wert	9
Total Served in South	63	Wapakoneta	8
		Total served in North	66

2007 Day Treatment Population Statistics

Gender	2007	
	North	South
Males	44	53
Females	22	10

Age	2007	
	North	South
11 years	0	0
12 years	2	1
13 years	3	3
14 years	13	8
15 years	19	15
16 years	14	21
17 years	14	13
18 years	1	2

Outcome of Day Treatment	2007	
	North	South
Successful Release	45	34
Unsuccessful Release	7	24
GED	0	1
Graduation	5	1

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 ages 12-18. The primary purpose of the facility is to provide an environment in which youth can assume responsibility for their 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 Family and Children's First 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 2007, the Youth Center contracted with the Miami County Mental Health Center to provide two part time on-site master's level therapists 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
- *Group Therapy
- *Coordination of Med-Somatic Services
- *Family Counseling
- *Leadership Training
- *Case Management

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

All youth referred to the David L. Brown Youth Center receive a complete substance use assessment and a corresponding treatment plan. The Center employs a Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor and utilizes a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor who is an employee of the Miami County Mental Health Center. The Youth Center offers a variety of treatment modalities designed to effectively intervene in substance use, abuse, or dependency:

- *Prevention Education
- *Individual Counseling
- *Group Counseling
- *Intervention Education
- *Family 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. In addition, the center employees a licensed substitute teacher who works in the class room daily. The following is provided:

- *Individualized Learning Plans
- *GED Preparation and Pre-testing
- *Coordination of Academic
- *Agri-Science Program
- *Academic Case Management
- *Evaluation and 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
- *Highway Litter Control
- *Community Service Overfield Tavern
- *Completing Court Ordered Community Service Hours

2007 BUDGET

The appropriated budget for David L. Brown Youth Center for fiscal year 2007 was \$773,573.22. The daily per diem rate is \$145.00 per day. School districts also pay a per diem to cover educational costs. In addition to the revenue received from sending agencies, the center received Federal Food Subsidy, Title XX for Miami County youth, and private donations.

2007 ANNUAL CENSUS BY COUNTY

Miami County Juvenile Court	17
Montgomery County Juvenile Court	5
Clark County Juvenile Court	8
Shelby County Juvenile Court	4
Preble County Job & Family Services	1
Total	35

WEST CENTRAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center is a secure holding facility serving youth from Auglaize, Clinton, Darke, Mercer, Miami, Preble, Shelby and Van Wert Counties. The center can house up to 44 youth who will attend school classes, undergo counseling and psychological assessment as needed and participate in a variety of treatment and education programming while detained.

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center opened in January 1993 as a twenty four-bed facility. In April 1999, a 20-bed pod was added and the operational budget is \$1,849,600. Operational funding comes from the counties that use our facility.

West Central JDC provides youth with all the basic necessities. The residents receive three hot meals per day, they have structured gym exercise everyday and attend an on-sight school Monday through Friday. Youth must participate within group programs such as: anger management, substance abuse, health & hygiene, Planned Parenthood, life choices, and receive various topics from community leaders and motivational speakers. The youth have the option to participate in a Bible study program and 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 in 2006. This program is for "high risk" youth between ages 12 – 17 and the youth must be referred from a Juvenile Court to be eligible for the realistic tour of the detention center. At least one parent must attend the program with the youth and remain on site at West Central JDC for the 2-hour program. 264 youth were scheduled to attend STAR, 178 youth completed the program, 86 youth were referred but did not show up for the STAR tour and there were no special incidents reported during 2007. This program is free of charge to the courts that use it.

GATE (Girls Alternative Treatment Environment) Program was partially funded with a grant from the Department of Youth Services with the grant period started July 1, 2006 and runs through June 30, 2007. This program ended In July.

The West Central JDC is located in the Miami County Government Complex at 2044 North County Road 25A, north of Troy. Greg Simmons had been the Superintendent of the Detention Center since it opened in 1993 and retired at the end of February, 2007. Mr. Lance Ray is the new Superintendent of Detention. He has been employed with the West Central JDC since opening on January 1, 1993. Starting out as a part time CO, he has held the positions of full time CO, CO Supervisor and was the Assistant Director since August of 1995.

2007 Detention Population Statistics

	Total	Auglaize	Clinton	Darke	Mercer	Miami	Preble	Shelby	Van Wert	Other
Intakes	1,373	324	112	81	68	347	182	192	64	3
Male	1,011	250	78	66	50	248	132	144	43	0
Female	362	74	34	15	18	99	50	48	21	3
Average Length of Stay in days		8	13	26	13	12	6	13	13	

Miami County Juvenile Court
2007 Annual Report Statistical Summary

Cases Filed in 2007

Case Filed	2007
Delinquent	1357
Traffic	705
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	57
Unruly	382
Adult	169
Permanent Custody	15
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	771
Support Enforcement /Modification	1422
Parentage	79
UIFSA	18
Other	2
Total	4977

Cases Terminated in 2007

Cases terminated	
Delinquent	1320
Traffic	719
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	63
Unruly	369
Adult	173
Permanent Custody	17
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	808
Support Enforcement/Modification	1428
Parentage	91
UIFSA	14
Other	2
Total	5004

Types of Dispositions for Youth in 2007

Bind over to Adult Court	2
Commitment to Department of Youth Services	3
Detention	346
Girls Alternative Treatment Environment	1
David L. Brown Youth Center	13
West Central Day Treatment	44
West Central Rehabilitation Center	11
Miami Valley Greene County	0
Community Service	519
Probation	122
Prevention	51
Electronic Home Monitoring	47
House Arrest	447
Temporary Custody to Children Services	30
Protective Supervision to Children Services	72
Permanent Custody to Children Services	18
Jail Sentences (Adult)	214
Restitution	270
Cases with Fines Assessed	790
Cases with Costs Assessed	1747
Waved due to indulgency	58
Fines and Costs Collected	\$ 196,726.00

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 – Cindy Petrofes	440-5987
Court Administrator - Charlene Prestopino.....	440-5990
Fiscal Officer - Angie Hubbard	440-5988
Prevention Services – Tom Bomhard	440-3515
David L. Brown Youth Center – Diana Karnehm (Director).....	339-1858
West Central Detention Center - Lance Ray (Director).....	440-5651
West Central Rehabilitation Center –Harry Russell (Director).....	440-5651

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