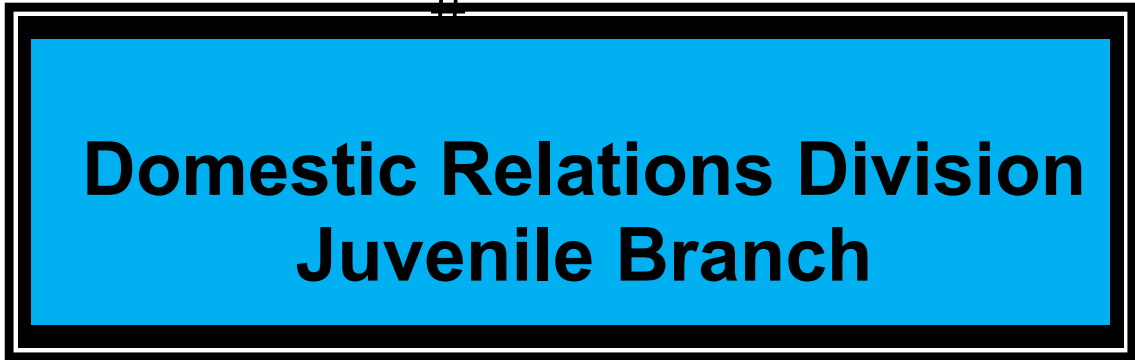


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Lorain County Court of Common Pleas

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2016 Annual Report

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The Court

Lorain County Justice Center
225 Court Street
2nd and 4th Floors
Elyria, Ohio 44035



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Juvenile Complex:

Pathways, 1076 Infirmary Road
Stepping Stone, 1064 Infirmary Road
Turning Point, 1080 Infirmary Road

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Multi-Purpose/Administration
1070 Infirmary Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035

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Lorain County Detention Home, 9967 S. Murray Ridge Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035

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The Citizens of Lorain County:



Debra L. Boros
Judge

The Court is very pleased to present our 2016 Annual Report for your information and use. This report documents the Court's continuing efforts to enhance the services and programming provided to Lorain County citizens. Significant areas of activities are documented throughout this report through narrative, operating statistics and data.



Frank J. Janik
Administrative Judge

The Court has a long-standing approach of maintaining a high level of services for the citizens of Lorain County. The Judges and staff pledge to seek innovative and efficient means of providing these services. We extend our gratitude to our many friends in the community for their continual support, collaboration and encouragement.



Lisa I. Swenski
Judge

We hope you find this report enlightening, informative and welcome any questions or comments.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Debra L. Boros#
Judge#

Frank J. Janik
Administrative Judge

Lisa I. Swenski#
Judge#

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MISSION STATEMENT

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Lorain County Domestic Relations Court will serve the Citizens of Lorain County in a professional, dignified and timely fashion. The Court will protect the public interest, make cost-effective use of public funds, engage appropriate community resources in providing services, and endeavor to provide for the safety of the public. The Court will strive to ensure that parties receive a just determination in every Court proceeding and enforcement of their constitutional and legal rights. Foremost, the Court will provide for the care, protection, and well being of the children and families who come before it.

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FORWARD

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The Domestic Relations Division of the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas is a dual jurisdiction court; it has exclusive jurisdiction over both Domestic Relations Court and Juvenile Court matters. In the exercise of its Juvenile Court jurisdiction, the Court has the responsibility to hear and determine all cases and issues concerning children in Lorain County, Ohio. In addition, the Court administers juvenile justice programs and operates facilities that provide for the custody, care and rehabilitation of youth within its jurisdiction in order to balance public safety and juvenile accountability while working to prevent recidivism.

The Court enjoys a strong collaboration with its community justice partners including but not limited to the Board of Mental Health, the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Lorain County, the Board of Developmental Disabilities, and Lorain County Children Services. These collaborative efforts have allowed the Court and the county agencies to maximize their resources while providing quality services and programming to the children and families they serve.

The Court operates three specialized dockets that have been certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio: Juvenile Drug Court, Family Drug Court and Juvenile Mental Health Court. This therapeutic, strength-based approach to addressing substance abuse and mental health concerns is possible through the teamwork of court staff, agency providers and the families being served. Lorain County's drug courts and team members have received awards and accolades for their compassionate and effective delivery of this model.

The Court and its employees remain committed to ensuring the best interests of the children who come before it through its administration of the Court's Voices for Children CASA GAL program, mediation, supervised visitation, a dedicated child support unit, diversion, juvenile probation, the school attendance program, Turning Point shelter, our boys and girls group homes, and the Juvenile Detention Home.

During 2016, we bid farewell to Judge Debra Boros as she retired at the end of the year. The Court made technical improvements to the court's internet and network, which assisted staff's ability to work. The Court increased security measures at the Juvenile Detention Home and residential facilities by adding security cameras.

Indigent litigants in criminal or juvenile proceedings have a Constitutional right to be represented by an attorney. In Lorain County, indigent parties who qualify are represented by court-appointed counsel. In order to ensure consistency in attorneys' qualifications to handle these matters, the Ohio Public Defender's Office implemented education and experience requirements that these attorneys must meet in order to qualify to be appointed to represent these litigants. The Court enacted a local rule and application process to ensure that the attorneys it appoints meet these qualifications.

The following pages provide a foundation to more fully explain the makeup, responsibilities and work of the Court.

Jody L. Barilla
Court Administrator

JUDGES

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The three Domestic Relations/Juvenile Court Judges are very active in their courtrooms, hearing a variety and multitude of cases. The Judges refer a wide range of cases to the Magistrates. The type of cases and matters heard by the judiciary include, but are not limited to, the following:

Marriage dissolutions

Divorces - contested and uncontested

Civil protection order petitions - domestic violence

Pre and Post-Decree domestic relations contempt motions

Juvenile delinquency hearings involving the following:

- Motions to bind the juvenile over to the general division
- Commitments to the Department of Youth Services (DYS)
- Out-of-home placements
- Serious youthful offender matters
- Cases involving juvenile sex offender registration and notification

Objections to Magistrate's orders and decisions

Motions to vacate Magistrate's orders

Motions to vacate final judgments

Permanent surrenders for adoptions

Judicial bypass hearings

Judicial releases from DYS

Marriage consents

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Court Filings in 2016			
#	New Filings	Reopened	Terminations
Divorce with Children	287	23	273
Divorce w/o Children	253	17	292
Dissolution with Children	202	1	202
Dissolution w/o Children	224	2	228
Change of Custody	0	106	95
Visitation	0	28	35
Support	41	352	399
Domestic Violence	505	14	534
Uresa	0	0	0
All others	9	134	136
Total	1521	677	2194

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MAGISTRATES

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Due to the volume of cases and hearings before the Court, Magistrates are essential to the work being accomplished in an expedient and efficient manner. All Magistrates are licensed attorneys.

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PERSONAL COURT MAGISTRATES

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Each Judge has three Magistrates on his or her personal staff, having general responsibility for covering all domestic and juvenile cases assigned to his or her Judge's docket. Types of cases, issues, and hearings heard by the Magistrates are determined at the discretion of their Judge.

GENERAL COURT MAGISTRATES

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Several areas in the Court require Magistrate involvement. The following comprise this group (the departments are described later in this Report):

Intake Magistrate – An Intake Magistrate, with an office located in the Boys' Detention Home has a multitude of duties. The Intake Magistrate reviews all requests for detention and admission to the shelter care facility. The Magistrate conducts a variety of hearings, including arraignments on children brought to the Detention Home and hearings on unruly matters. She also hears all truancy cases filed with the court.

CSEA/Domestic Support - Two full time magistrates, in a dedicated unit, conduct child support hearings.

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ADMINISTRATION

Jody Barilla, Court Administrator

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Administration is responsible for the management and direction of all Court operations, with the exception of the Judges and their personal staffs. The team is made up of the Court Administrator, Director of Human Resources and Facilities and the Administrative Assistant.

The Court consists of four departments with approximately 170 employees. These departments include Family Court Services, Probation and Youth Services, Fiscal Management, and Residential Services. Court operations include: service provider contracting; fiscal management; grant writing; human resources; program planning, implementation, development, and evaluation; handling disciplinary issues and conducting disciplinary hearings; public relations/media contact; and the operation and maintenance of the Court's physical facilities.

The Director of Human Resources and Facilities is responsible for the following: recruiting, interviewing, performing background checks and selection of qualified applicants; developing and planning staff training; developing and managing special projects; and representative to the Integrated Services Partnership (ISP), as well as collecting statistical information related to ISP placements. This position also acts in the place of the Court Administrator when the Court Administrator is unavailable.

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DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY COURT SERVICES

Lori O'Connor, Director

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Family Court Services is involved in both domestic and juvenile matters. The domestic side involves Family Divorce Services and Domestic Support while the Voices for Children program advocates for abused and neglected children. The Juvenile Clerks Office provides customer service to the general public, attorneys, and various officers of the court.

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FAMILY DIVORCE SERVICES

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This department can be utilized by either Court order or party request when an agreement as to issues of custody and visitation cannot be reached or when assistance in compliance with orders of the divorce decree is needed.

Family Divorce Services covers seven major areas:

1. Court-Ordered Mediation
2. Pro-Se Mediation
3. Truancy Mediation
4. Visitation Assessment
5. Home Study
6. Seminar for Separating Parents
7. Seminar for Unmarried Parents

Court-Ordered Mediation is a process whereby the parents and a third-party mediator work together to gather information, isolate issues of disagreement, generate options to settle those issues, negotiate among those options, and reach a mutually satisfactory agreement to accommodate the needs of both parents and their children. This past year, 56 cases were submitted for court-ordered mediation with 32 cases reaching agreement. Agreements were approved by the Court for a 57% success rate. There were 3 mediations of clients returning for a second time, reaching 3 agreements for a 100% success rate. Hearings were held for all mediated agreements.

The **Pro-Se Mediation** program enables citizens who divorced, established parentage in this county, or obtained an administrative order of paternity through the Lorain County Child Support Enforcement Agency to avail themselves of mediation. Issues for mediation include property that has not been returned or transferred, exchange of medical insurance information, unpaid medical bills, noncompliance with visitation schedules, and establishing visitation. In 2016, the Court received 155 referrals with 75 cases mediated. Agreements were reached in 27% of the cases mediated. Hearings were held for all mediated agreements.

The **Juvenile Truancy Mediation** program brings together the child and the parent (or legal guardian) for a mediation session to examine the core issues in the family that interfere with the child attending school on a consistent basis. No other parties are present for this mediation. In 2016, there were 18 referrals made for mediation. 13 of those referred actually participated in truancy mediation. Of those who participated, there were 9 agreements reached for a 69% success rate.

The **Visitation Assessment** unit assists the Court and parties in the implementation of visitation orders. This assistance may include an investigative report with recommendations to the Court regarding companionship, implementing or monitoring visitation schedules, and supervising visitation in the Department. A visitation assessment may be requested by either a client or his/her attorney but requires an accompanying Court order to access the service. In 2016, there were 44 cases referred for assessments with 62 reports completed and submitted to the Court. These reports include facilitation reports, supervised visitation reports, and other reports. A total of 223 supervised visits took place in the department this past year serving 544 clients.

The **Home Study** unit prepares an investigative report to the Court. Information is gathered through interviews with parties and outside resources. The study assists the Court in determining the most appropriate placement for the children and must be accessed by Court Order.

Home Studies Received for Investigation

Divorce	0
Allocation of Parental Rights.....	11
Out of County.....	0
Total	11

The **Seminar for Separating Parents** is a required program that seeks to better inform parents about the impact of divorce on their children and provide them the information to minimize conflicts. The two-hour presentation provides pertinent information and resources early in the divorce process and strives to enhance the likelihood of parental cooperation. Attendance is mandatory for parents with minor children, with the philosophy that a child’s future welfare depends upon the parents’ ability to help their children navigate through the divorce without being subjected to unnecessary parental conflict. Retired Judge David A. Basinski and Family Divorce Services staff present the seminar. A Court-produced video specifically addresses the needs of separating parents and is shown at times when the Judge is not available. The Court’s publication, **From Crisis to Cooperation**, is a guide to assist families in coping with the divorce process and is given to all participants. The seminar is provided at no cost to the participants. This past year 777 parents completed the seminar.

The **Seminar for Unmarried Parents** was developed to help unmarried parents understand both the legal and emotional issues involved with visitation. Family Divorce Services staff facilitates the seminar and a Court magistrate is present to

answer legal questions. The Court-produced video illustrates the importance of positive parental communication, the need for positive parent/child contact, and answers common legal questions. The seminar is provided at no cost to the participants. The seminar is followed by the offer of individual visitation conferences designed to develop a companionship schedule for the non-residential parent. This past year 248 parents completed the seminar.

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DOMESTIC SUPPORT UNIT

The Lorain County Domestic Support Unit provides judicial services to the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA), operated by the State of Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Ohio’s child support program is a federal, state and county partnership charged with creating and implementing programs that comply with federal and state laws and regulations. The Lorain County Domestic Relations Court contracted for both judicial services and juvenile clerking services for 2016. The juvenile clerking contract totaled \$462,632.33 and the magistrate services contract totaled \$391,326.11. The contracts provide funding for the operation of the Domestic Support Unit and include full and partial reimbursement of salary and benefits for 16 court employees, including two magistrates.

The purpose of the Domestic Support Unit is to provide hearings to address all issues involving the support of children, including establishment, modification and contempt. The juvenile clerking unit provides staff to prepare and file all journal entries pertaining to child support in the Juvenile Clerk’s Office.

During the 2016 calendar year, the Domestic Support Unit conducted 5,934 hearings involving issues of child support. The staff in the Juvenile Clerk’s Office registered 23,637 journal entries for filing during the twelve-month period.

Hearings Conducted in 2016

Paternity.....	299
Contempt	3,793
CNS	165
Arrears	185
Terminations.....	230
Modifications.....	391
Impounds	585
All others.....	286
Total	5,934

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VOICES FOR CHILDREN

Voices for Children (**VFC**) is affiliated with and a member of the nationally recognized Court Appointed Special Advocate (**CASA**) Program. Voices for

Children's purpose is to provide volunteer guardian ad litem (**GALs**) to the Court to advocate on behalf of the neglected and dependent children coming before it. The GAL volunteer undertakes an investigation into the circumstances and the family life of the child. They review records, interview parents, relatives and foster parents, talk to teachers, neighbors and most importantly, the child. Upon completion of the investigation, the GAL appears in Court, provides the information and makes recommendations to the Court as to what course of action is in the best interest of the child.

GAL volunteers must complete 30 hours of pre-service training which includes four classroom sessions (30 hours) and additional hours for courtroom observation (minimum of 2 hours). All GALs are screened, interviewed, and a criminal background check is administered through the Web-Check System. The Judge administers an oath and the volunteers are then recognized as Officers of the Court. In addition, the volunteer CASA/GAL is required to attend 12 hours of continuing education annually.

The success of the Voices for Children Program is due to the commitment of the volunteers recruited from within the community, the program and support staff, private citizens, community organizations, the business community and the Voices for Children Board. The Board assists the program in fund raising, marketing, and public awareness of the Voices for Children Program.

2016 Funding

County: \$28,098.06

VOCA (Grant): \$170,758.94

State (SVAA): \$3,119.00

Total: \$201,976.00

Volunteers

The volunteers represented a wide diversity, similar to the population of Lorain County.

- 135 active volunteers
- Ages: 21 to 60+ (median age – 51.1)
- 118 Females and 17 Males
- Education spans high school graduate to post college graduate
- Diverse racial mix: Caucasian - (117); African American - (6); Hispanic - (7); Asian - (3); Multi-Racial - (2)

Children Served

- Total number of children served in 2016: 415
- Gender of children served: Female - (205); Male - (210)

- Ages of children served: Birth to 5 - (195); 6 to 11 - (159); 12 to 15 - (44); 16 to 17 - (13); 18 and above - (4)
- Racial Makeup of children served: Caucasian - (272); African American - (75); Hispanic - (36); Multi Racial - (32)

Total number of children whose cases were closed in 2016: **217**

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Reasons for # of closed cases

- Adoption: 14
- Case Removed from Docket: 12
- Case Transferred to another Jurisdiction: 1
- Placed with Legal Guardian: 89
- Returned to Family: 64
- Interested Third Party: 13
- Family Moved: 0
- Death of a Child: 0
- Child Aged out of System: 3
- Other: 21

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Juvenile Clerks

In Lorain County, The Administrative Judge is the Ex Officio Clerk of the Juvenile Court. All cases filed are processed through the Clerk's Office at the Lorain County Justice Center on 225 Court Street in Elyria. The Clerk's Office consists of the Office Manager and 19 Clerks. The Clerks provide customer service to the general public, attorneys, and various officers of the court and the positions require a broad knowledge of the court and its functions. The Clerk's Office staff screen, process and image new complaints and motions; send service to notify parties of court dates; prepare mandated and internal statistical reports; establish restitution accounts; and process financial transactions for restitution, fines, court costs, purges, bond, and other ordered fees.

DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION AND YOUTH SERVICES

Patricia Wilson, Director

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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Probation and Youth Services provides direct and indirect services for youth who have been referred to the Court for delinquent (misdemeanor and felony level) and status (ungovernable, curfew, etc) offenses. The department encompasses Juvenile Probation and related programs, the Investigation and Referral Department, the Intake Department (the Intake function that controls admissions to the Detention Home and conducts initial detention hearings), the Pay-Back program, Community Service and the

Court/School Attendance program. Department personnel make recommendations to the Magistrates and Judges on all cases.

The Court has continued to serve youth and families that are identified by the Court for supervision and other on-going services in Calendar Year 2016. In addition to supervision and internal Court programs, Court staff collaborate with other community agencies to ensure that services and resources are identified and secured to assist youth and families and to reduce or eliminate barriers and address their needs. The Court continues to seek grants and funding for the necessary services available to assist families and works closely with community providers addressing the needs of the shared population we serve.

The Department of Probation and Youth Services has been incorporating evidence-based practices and best-practices approaches and programs in case plans for youth and family interventions. Cognitive based therapy, Strengthening Families, Thinking For A Change, In-Home Based Treatment, Girls' Circle, Boys' Council, the PREP program, Anger Reduction Training and Keeping Your Cool are examples of programs that have been utilized throughout 2016. Several of the Probation staff members have been trained to facilitate these programs and utilize these skills in their one-on-one supervision of youth on probation.

The Probation staff utilizes the Ohio Youth Assessment Survey (OYAS), a Risk/Needs assessment tool developed by the University of Cincinnati specifically for the State of Ohio. This instrument assists the Court in effectively targeting services and interventions that result in a higher rate of successful completions of Probation by reducing risk factors. Assessing youth and providing strength-based approaches, geared at reducing risk factors, continues to be the foundation of our programs. Effective screening results in case plans that assist in determining the most appropriate supervision and programming for a youth and their family.

The Probation staff provides different levels of supervision to Court-involved juveniles who remain in the community. The diverse strengths and needs of juveniles and their families require unique interventions and levels of supervision. The programs and services are as follows:

INVESTIGATION AND REFERRAL TEAM

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The Investigation and Referral Team, through information gathering, investigation, and case assessment, makes a recommendation to the Court as to the appropriate level and type of Court intervention for juveniles that may need probation services.

Case Planners review cases prior to disposition and develop case plans when needed. The process includes screening (using the MAYSI and OHIO SCALES), completion of the DIR and OYAS and a review of the findings. If warranted, a mental health screening, psychological assessment, psychiatric evaluation or an alcohol/drug assessment may be arranged. Upon referrals to Court programs,

the program staff will provide input into the case plan development. Recommendations will be created based upon the information that is gathered. The task of I & R becomes blending the level of supervision with the risk for re-offending and the needs of the child and family, and identifying community resources to address the concerns revealed in the I & R process.

At disposition, these recommendations will be presented for the Court's consideration, reflecting a specific case plan for the youth, including community control expectations for all parties and therapeutic interventions. This year there were 288 cases referred.

There is an ongoing effort to continue to review and augment our evidence based programming.

The department employs an Education and Program Specialist, who coordinates the psycho-educational programming offered by the Court. The Education and Program Specialist also provides direct services to youth who are sentenced to the Detention Home. When needed, community based services may also be provided to families who otherwise might not have access to them.

A forensic psychologist is contracted to provide evaluations for youth when mental health or developmental concerns are present. The psychologist also provides competency, bind over and parental evaluations when needed. The psychologist is available for staff consultation as well. In 2016, this psychologist provided 170 evaluations.

The I&R Program Manager also acts as the liaison for the Bellefaire Juvenile Offender Project, a collaborative effort between the local Mental Health Board, Lorain County Juvenile Court, and Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau. The project provides for an extensive psychological evaluation of violent juvenile offenders, residential placement for continued evaluation, if needed, and ongoing in-home services.

The comprehensive evaluation involves psychometric testing, review of collateral contacts, assessment of family functioning and review of Court records. From this evaluation, recommendations are formulated to address the identified needs.

During 2016, 16 youth were provided with a psychological evaluation through the Juvenile Offender Project and Bellefaire JCB. Additional youth were evaluated by a private contractor. The recommendations provided through the evaluation process were instrumental in determining an appropriate level of supervision and direction for Court intervention and referral.

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Court-Sponsored Psycho-Educational Programs

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Psycho-educational groups are interventions intended to reduce the risk factor associated with criminal behavior. During 2016, the Court utilized evidence-based programming to address criminogenic factors. Evidence-based programs are those whose outcomes have been researched and found to be effective.

Training was provided to staff to assist in the facilitation and presentation of these groups.

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Anger Management

In 2016, two anger management programs provided basic intermediate psycho-educational groups to aid juveniles and their parents in addressing anger issues. Aggression Replacement Training (ART), facilitated by Court staff, is an intensive ten-week, twenty-session program. Keeping Your Cool (KYC) is a skill building program that provides strategies to control anger and aggression and looks at changing your thinking in order to effect change. It is comprised of ten (10) consecutive sessions.

Aggression Replacement Training (ART)

46 Youth ordered
44 Successful completions
2 Unsuccessful terminations
0 Neutral terminations

Keeping Your Cool (KYC)

26 Youth ordered
12 Successful completions
9 Unsuccessful completions
5 Active

Strengthening Families

The Strengthening Families programs' goals are to prepare youth for their teen years, avoid problems with drugs and alcohol, and strengthen family communication. Parents discuss what youth in the age range of their groups are like, making rules and enforcing consequences, how to solve problems with youth and ways to show love and support. The youth learn how to handle frustration, resist peer pressure, appreciate parent/caregivers, and how to get along with others.

26 Youth ordered
20 Successful completions
5 Unsuccessful terminations
1 Neutral termination

Thinking For A Change

Thinking For A Change is a cognitive behavioral program that addresses problem solving, social skills and cognitive self-change. The program utilizes role-plays, as well as other appropriate interventions. The goal is to change behavior as a result of changing thoughts.

- 59 Youth ordered
- 49 Successful completions
- 7 Unsuccessful terminations
- 3 Neutral terminations

Girls' Circle

The “Pathways to the Future” curriculum is a skill building support circle for use with at-risk or Court-involved girls. It examines thoughts, beliefs and actions about friendship, trust, authority figures, mother/daughter relationships, sexuality, dating violence, HIV, drug abuse, stress and goal setting. It encourages girls to explore their choices and decision making through lively, prepared discussions and activities.

- 32 Youth ordered
- 27 Successful terminations
- 4 Unsuccessful terminations
- 1 Neutral termination

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Boys' Council

Boys' Council is a strengths-based group approach to promote boys' and young men's healthy, safe development and encourages them to act safely, show respect in their relationships, develop a healthy perspective, see other's points of view, use good judgment and identify goals and dreams. The topics that may be addressed include: competition, bullying, valuing diversity, safe expression of emotions, making safe and healthy decisions and rejecting violence.

- 34 Youth ordered
- 29 Successful Completions
- 5 Unsuccessful terminations
- 0 Neutral terminations

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)

The Personal Responsibility Education Program is a comprehensive sex education program that provides young people with complete, medically accurate and age appropriate sex education in order to help them reduce their risk of unintended pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and to educate young people on both abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS.

In addition to education on abstinence and contraceptive use, PREP also offers services to prepare young people for adulthood by implementing activities that address the subject areas below:

- Healthy relationships, including development of positive self-esteem and relationship dynamics, friendships, dating, romantic involvement, marriage and family interactions;
- Positive adolescent development, to include promotion of healthy attitudes and values about adolescent growth and development, body image, racial and ethnic diversity, and other related subjects;
- Financial literacy, to support the development of self-sufficiency and independent living skills;
- Parent-child communication skills;
- Education and employment preparation skills;
- Healthy life skills, such as goal-setting, decision making, negotiation, communication and interpersonal skills, and stress management.

39 Youth ordered
 35 Successful completions
 3 Unsuccessful terminations
 1 Neutral termination

COMMUNITY CONTROL

Juveniles placed on **General Community Control** have been assessed as not needing significant and intensive Court services. However, they are required to complete a Court ordered case plan. Juveniles placed on General Community Control are assigned a Community Control Officer (CCO). The Officer monitors the juvenile's compliance with Court orders and case plans through contact with the juvenile, school officials, parents, service providers and other people significant in the juvenile's life.

The juvenile and family are responsible for completing case plan components and following all rules of Community Control. The Officer is responsible for making reports to the Court regarding the youth's progress or behavioral concerns. Rewards and sanctions are administered through continual oversight of the juvenile's conduct. The responsibilities of the CCO include notifying all parties of hearings, providing security services for the Court, participating in meetings with outside agencies, assisting families in working with those agencies and working with various school systems.

Five (5) Community Control Officers (inclusive of the specialized Sex Offender Community Control Caseload) are assigned to the General Probation unit of the department. These officers serve youth and families from all the communities of Lorain County, as well as youth who are maintained on probation that live out of County. A total of 331 juveniles were served on **General Probation** in 2016. One hundred percent (100%) of juveniles successfully released from Community Control upon completion of their individual case plans decreased their Risk score based on the OYAS standards. These included youth who were placed on Temporary Orders prior to final disposition of their case. General Community Control Officers also provide supervision for those adults placed on supervision

for Contributing to the Unruliness or Delinquency of a Minor. In 2016, the separate Status Offender caseload was eliminated and merged with General Probation caseloads, without any specific designation of status, misdemeanor or felony offenses.

The Court can place an adjudicated youth on **Monitored Time**. While on Monitored Time, the juvenile will be required to report to the Community Control department on a predetermined basis. A total of 57 juveniles were served on Monitored Time/Community Control in 2016. Two Inside CCO's are responsible for this caseload. They make phone contact with the youth, parents, school and service providers and report the progress of the youth to the Court. The CCO's also closely monitor the Magistrates' dockets, track continued cases and do initial interviews of youth and families referred for additional Court services.

IN-HOME DETENTION

The In-Home Detention Program provides a service that offers an alternative to detaining a youth in the Detention Home. Juveniles designated for placement in the program are generally less serious offenders who do not appear to represent a danger to themselves or to the community. The release of some youth from the Detention Home will require the use of electronic monitoring equipment, inclusive of landline, cell and GPS units, which is supervised by program staff. Use of this equipment permits 24-hour monitoring of a youth's adherence to "home detention".

To ensure compliance, all youth accepted into the program are required to sign a contract. Parents, or legal guardians, are also required to pledge to ensure compliance and report any non-compliance with program rules.

Court personnel monitor the adjustment of the youth while they are in the program. Random home visits and phone calls are conducted repeatedly. Staff will also visit schools and work sites to ensure compliance with the rules of the program and the signed contract. Violation of the rules could result in the child being remanded to detention in the secure facility until a final Court hearing.

Calendar Year 2016

136 Juveniles were provided In-Home Detention Services
107 (79%) of juveniles successfully completed program requirements
29 (21%) of juveniles readmitted to the Detention Home

COMMUNITY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (CIP)

The Community Intervention Program (CIP) provides intensive Court supervision and services to delinquent youth throughout Lorain County. Youth are placed into the program by a Judge or Magistrate as a disposition when adjudicated delinquent for a criminal offense or a status offense but determined to be at high or moderate criminogenic risk. The target population is adjudicated delinquent youth ranging from 12 to 18 years of age.

The program is based on a traditional intensive supervision model. The make-up of the program is characterized by low caseloads, averaging 10 to 15 youth. The youth placed in the program have a prescribed case plan based on identified risks and needs. The program functions on a level system comprised of four phases. As the participant demonstrates appropriate behavior, the level of supervision is diminished. A 45-day family team meeting with CIP staff and service providers and a 90-day review hearing before the assigned Judge is conducted to assess the progress of the participant.

The youth may participate in groups that address anger management, social skill building, and employment skills. All programs have been restructured in an effort to incorporate a more cognitive behavioral approach, inclusive of the utilization of a Cost Benefit Analysis. Program participants in need of mental health and substance abuse services receive assistance through partnerships with various community agencies and service providers. In addition to providing positive interventions, program participants are required to engage in community service opportunities in an effort to provide the participant with an alternative framework for thinking about their wrongdoings.

Calendar Year 2016

57 Juveniles participated in CIP
49% Youth had felony level charges
51% Youth had misdemeanor charges
30 Youth were released successfully from the program
23 Youth were released unsuccessfully

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

Juveniles adjudicated delinquent for a sexual offense are referred for a sex offender risk assessment. The assessment determines appropriate recommendations, with options including community treatment, out-of-home placement, or commitment to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The Community Control Officer (CCO) will design safety plans for juveniles who remain in the community to provide adequate supervision of the offender and protection for the victim. One CCO supervises this caseload by monitoring their participation in sex offender specific treatment, monitors the juveniles' behavior and actions at home, school, in the community, and supervises compliance with dispositional orders of the Court. The CCO receives specific training to assist in identifying behavior that can lead to further offending.

Offenders participate in individual and/or group therapy with local agency treatment providers. The CCO maintains frequent contact with the treatment providers to share information, observations, and interventions. Programming lasts between 12 and 24 months. Failure to complete all requirements of the program will result in further Court action, probably requiring out of home

placement. Based on age and type of offense, the Court may classify an offender as a Sexually Oriented Offender Registrant (JSORN).

Calendar Year 2016

- 44 Juveniles supervised and participated in treatment
- 16 Completed all Court orders and were released from Community Control
 - 0 Juveniles committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services
 - 0 Juveniles sentenced to the Detention Home
 - 8 Juveniles placed in other residential placements

#

MENTALLY ILL – DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED CASELOAD (MI-DD)

Juveniles who are lower functioning (not necessarily with lower Full scale IQ scores) and/or have a significant mental health diagnosis are placed on this caseload. These youth typically have an Individual Educational Plan (IEP), psychiatric and psychological treatment services, and/or in-home counseling in place prior to Court involvement. They will often need additional assessments, hospitalizations, and other intensive services due to their presenting needs. Typical referents will have recent (within the past 6 months) episodes of self-harming behavior, psychiatric hospitalization, and/or suicidal ideations/attempts; experiencing crisis based upon their psychiatric symptoms. Youth will have a pervasive mental health diagnosis which results in their inability to regulate their behavior based upon their mental health symptoms.

The Community Control Officer (CCO) provides close supervision and facilitates communication between community service providers, the family, and the Court. This facilitation is vital in identifying and overcoming barriers, recognizing progress, and resolving problems of the child and family. Social Workers and other case management service providers work closely with the CCO who is providing intensive supervision.

Calendar Year 2016

- 33 Juveniles placed on Probation
- 16 Successfully released from Community Control
 - 0 Juveniles committed to Ohio Department of Youth Services
 - 0 Placed at Court operated Group Homes
 - 1 Transferred to a different level of supervision (CIP, General, DH)
 - 2 Juveniles unsuccessfully terminated

BELLEFAIRE / JOP

The Juvenile Offender Project (JOP) is a collaborative effort between the Court, Integrated Services Partnership of Lorain County, the Board of Mental Health, and Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau. This partnership provides an extensive assessment and psychological evaluation for juveniles currently involved with the Court, primarily for offenses of violence that have exhibited significant mental health issues. The evaluation is comprised of multiple testing tools, an assessment of the family, and charts and reports from previous service providers

and school systems. The assessments may be done by Bellefaire JCB or a contracted service provider. Community resources are recommended and services put in place to assist the juvenile and family. Bellefaire also provides a JOP/residential bed when the need for inpatient treatment is indicated.

Community Control Officers are responsible for monitoring and assisting in the components of the case plans. Court staff monitors and documents all contacts# with the juvenile and family, attends staff meetings, makes home visits, participates in JOP/4-C Children's Continuum of Care Committee reviews, and provides transportation services when necessary. The MI/DD Community Control Officers work closely with the JOP participants, their families and service providers.

Calendar Year 2016

- 16 JOP level evaluations completed
- 9 Juveniles placed on Specialized Services Supervision (SFY, MI/DD)
- 4 Juveniles placed in other Court programs
- 0 Juveniles placed "out of the home" (i.e. Stepping Stone Residential Center, Pathways Group Home, Detention Home or Ohio Department of Youth Services)
- 2 Juveniles placed in the Mental Health Court program#
- 1 Juvenile case carried over into 2017 without placement#

SUCCESS FOR YOUTH

Success for Youth provides skill development for lower functioning, delinquent youth. Programming offers an opportunity to learn social skills, computer skills, and job skills to assist juveniles in obtaining employment and eventual independence. Success for Youth focuses on males and females in Lorain and Elyria, ages 15-17, who are experiencing difficulties due to their low level of intellectual functioning.

Catholic Charities collaborates with the Court to provide case management, social skills development, assistance with career development, preparation of resumes, computer skills and realistic job skills training that is designed to meet educational and employment needs, as well as personal development.

Calendar Year 2016

- 23 Juveniles served
- 1 Juvenile unsuccessfully terminated
- 5 Juveniles transferred to another program

MENTAL HEALTH COURT

The Mental Health Court docket under the direction of the Honorable Judge Frank J. Janik is not a separate Court, but is a specialized program that works within the framework of the existing Domestic Relations Court. It began in February, 2010 and serves juveniles charged in Juvenile Court who also have a mental health diagnosis which may have traditionally presented barriers to the

youth's success. The goals of the program are to divert these youth into Court monitored treatment, to reduce recidivism among mentally ill delinquents, and to empower the participants to lead more clinically stable, safe and law-abiding lives in the community. In the short-term, the program can provide opportunities to youth who would not necessarily get treatment on their own. In the long-term, the program assists in preventing further involvement with the Court and increasing their responsibility to the community.

The Juvenile Mental Health Court serves youth who have been adjudicated delinquent, who have severe and persistent mental illnesses that are contributing or mitigating factors in their law enforcement involvement and for whom Court-monitored treatment and other services would enhance their ability to lead a law-abiding life. In an agreement with the Lorain County Prosecutor's office, the youth's presenting charges will be dismissed if they successfully complete the program.

The Juvenile Mental Health Court was awarded final certification and recognition as a Specialized Docket as outlined by the Rules of Superintendence of the Ohio Supreme Court. Reapplication for continued certification will occur in 2017.

Calendar Year 2016

- 13 Juveniles served in program (5 Males - 8 Females)
- 2 Juveniles terminated from program..... (0 Males - 2 Females)
- 4 Juveniles successful completions/Charges dismissed.. (1 Male - 3 Females)

JUVENILE DRUG COURT

The Lorain County Juvenile Drug Court program serves juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent and have been diagnosed as being substance abuse dependent. The program is funded, in part, by a grant through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

The Honorable Judge Debra L. Boros presides over the team of the Juvenile Drug Court. Participants must engage in drug and alcohol treatment, demonstrate stability in their educational program, engage in positive activities in the community and achieve sobriety with the assistance of intensive treatment and supervision. Juvenile Drug Court utilizes a level system and graduated sanctions and rewards system. Based on an agreement with the Lorain County Prosecutor's Office and upon successful completion of the program, the presenting charge(s) are dismissed and the record is sealed. Failure to comply with the terms of the program results in termination from the program and the case being set for disposition.

The Juvenile Drug Court was awarded final certification and recognition as a Specialized Docket as outlined by the Rules of Superintendence of the Ohio Supreme Court. Reapplication for continued certification will occur in 2017.

Calendar Year 2016

		Males	Females
Participants	13	6	7
Terminations	6	2	4
Graduations	3	1	2
Neutral Discharge	1		

FAMILY DRUG COURT

Family Drug Court is partially funded through a grant from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Family Drug Court assists clients of Lorain County Children Services (LCCS) who are drug/alcohol dependent and their children have either been adjudicated abused, neglected or dependent, or the clients are involved with LCCS on unofficial/In-Home cases. Participation in Family Drug Court is voluntary, but upon agreeing to participate, a Court order or Participant Agreement requires compliance. Compliance is expected with all program components. The ultimate goals are for participants to retain or regain custody of their children, working towards completion of the case plan components and maintaining sobriety. Failure to comply can result in LCCS seeking permanent family/relative placement, temporary custody, permanent custody, foster care or adoption.

The Family Drug Court team is comprised of the Honorable Judge Debra L. Boros (who presides over Family Drug Court), Program Coordinator, Court Case Manager, treatment counselor from The LCADA Way, a representative from Voices for Children (guardian ad litem program), Elyria YWCA, Faith House, the Nord Center and a designated caseworker from Lorain County Children Services. Collaboration between agencies provides In-Kind services addressing drug/alcohol dependency, parenting skills, domestic violence awareness, life-skills preparation, employment guidance and assistance in obtaining housing. Mental health counseling is also an integral part of the program.

The Family Drug Court was awarded final certification and recognition as a Specialized Docket as outlined by the Rules of Superintendence by the Ohio Supreme Court. Reapplication for continued certification will occur in 2017.

Calendar Year 2016

- 22 Clients served (21 females and 1 male)
- 10 Clients terminated due to failure to comply with LCCS, treatment and/or mental health components
- 11 Children placed outside the home with a parent or relative
- 7 Children placed in foster care
- 1 Family Drug Court Graduate

JUVENILE INTAKE DEPARTMENT

The Juvenile Intake Department, located at the Boys' Detention Home, performs several functions for the Court. This unit handles the following:

- Unofficial complaints
- First offense shoplifting cases
- Tobacco violations
- Arraignments on official status charges
- Unofficial hearings for intervention and diversion purposes

One primary Intake Magistrate, with the assistance of three Court Magistrates, is available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week, to respond to law enforcement requests for admission of boys and girls to the Detention Home and Turning Point Shelter. The Intake Magistrate conducts the majority of Preliminary Detention hearings, arraignments and Release hearings for juveniles who have been admitted to the Detention Home.

Calendar Year 2016

- 828 Referrals were Reviewed and Processed
- 205 Unofficial Hearings conducted
- 225 Hearings on official charges on non-detained juveniles
- 354 Preliminary detention/arraignment hearings and release hearings for juveniles admitted to the Detention Home
- 52 Cases certified from outside of Lorain County

Children involved in domestic violence who are admitted to the Detention Home or Turning Point Shelter are assessed by the Turning Point Shelter Social Worker, who then provides recommendations to the Court regarding risk factors and recommends services to assist the juvenile and family. There were 137 Domestic Violence assessments conducted to determine risk in 2016.

Reports that are referred to the Court for consideration of **Diversion Services** are reviewed by the Diversion Specialist. These reports are Unofficial Complaints filed by parents/guardians, school officials and the public, or designated police reports that are screened through the Prosecutor's Office. There were 360 referrals for Diversion Services in 2016. Each referral is reviewed and handled on an individual basis. Forty-nine (49) families availed themselves of actual Diversion services. These cases may require an initial contact with a parent or legal guardian, filing as a Record Purpose matter, unofficial conference with the Diversion Specialist (the Diversion Specialist held 175 conferences with juveniles and their parent/guardian), referral for community resources for assistance, follow-up contact, possible official legal charges or Court supervision based on a Status offense (an act that would not be illegal if committed by an adult). Thirty (30) families were referred to the Parent Management Training program and nine (9) families were referred for services within the home through the Pro-Kids program for diversion cases.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMS

YES Program

The Youth Education Shoplifting Program (YES Program) is an educational, rehabilitative program offered to juveniles referred to Court for first time petty theft/shoplifting offenses. Participants are ordered into the program from both official and unofficial cases heard by Magistrates and the Diversion Specialist.

Calendar Year 2016

54 Juveniles completed the program/testing analyzed and scored:

44%	Low Risk to Re-Offend	National Average	59%
12%	Moderate Risk to Re-Offend	National Average	15%
44%	High Risk to Re-Offend	National Average	26%

EDUVENTION / Substance Abuse Education Program

The Court's Eduvention Program is designed to provide drug and alcohol education and information to juveniles and parents who are referred to the Court for misdemeanor alcohol and/or drug offenses. Juveniles and their parent/guardian can attend the four sessions of the program in lieu of a delinquency charge being filed. Eligible participants are typically, but not exclusively, first time offenders. Some participants are Court-ordered to attend the sessions, while others are referred from a police report provided to the Court from the Prosecutors' office without official charges being filed. A record of their attendance is docketed into the Court record. The LCADA Way (LCADA) provides, at no cost to the participants, Eduvention programming, off-site from Court operations. Pre- and post- program testing, as well as a screening instrument, is administered to participants to determine the need for further assistance or treatment. After an orientation meeting with families, some are determined to require additional interventions and LCADA staff refers them accordingly.

Calendar Year 2016

174 Referrals to the program
104 Juveniles completed the program
19 Completed substitute/alternate programs
13 Juveniles officially charged and arraigned

PAY-BACK PROGRAM

Restitution is an essential component in the rehabilitation process and is also the means whereby victims find recourse through the justice system. Offenders are held accountable for their financial obligations to victims. The Pay-Back Program has four objectives:

- Ensure the offender's compliance with Court orders
- Provide a work experience that allows the offender to make restitution
- Provide victims with access to the Court for reasonable redress

- Facilitate communication between the Court, victims, prosecutors, insurance companies, etc...

The process is initiated by the Lorain County Prosecutors' Office prior to dispositional hearings. The victim is required to supply documentation to the Prosecutor verifying their loss. Once the restitution amount is determined, it is ordered at disposition. Following the dispositional hearing, the juvenile and parent/guardian meet with the PayBack Program Manager to establish a payment plan. The juvenile is given two payment options:

- Execution of a monitored, monthly payment schedule
- Placement in a Court approved, non-profit jobsite, credited with minimum wage compensation and payment to the victim is made through the Lorain County Treasurer's Office.

Calendar Year 2016

108 Cases admitted to the program
 72 Cases terminated from the program
 68 Successful cases terminated
 \$19,124.93 Collected through payment schedules and dispersed to Victims
 \$14,166.90 Paid to Victims through the Treasurer's Office for Community Service hours completed through the Work for Pay program

Community Service

Dispositional Orders may include community service hours as a means of "giving back" to the community. The Judge or Magistrate may order a specific number of hours of community service for a juvenile to perform as part of their dispositional orders. Placement in a Court-approved, non-profit organization to complete the Court-ordered community service is acceptable. Another option to complete the order is to purchase and donate non-perishable items that are then distributed to various organizations or needy families throughout the county.

Calendar Year 2016

260 Juveniles ordered to complete Community Service
 123 Successfully Completed

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROGRAM

The Lorain County Juvenile Court's School Attendance Program addresses the attendance issues of students deemed to be truant from school. To address truancy, the program utilizes a formal process, which involves the collaborative efforts of the Lorain County Education Service Center, participating school districts, the Lorain County Juvenile Court and the Lorain County Prosecutor's Office.

The process for addressing truancy follows a continuum of approaches from prevention to intervention to prosecution. As a *preventative* measure, the school principal initiates the "process" with a letter to the parents of each student

showing an early pattern of excessive absences. The letter explains the compulsory education laws, explains the district's school attendance policy, and advises of a referral to the Court's School Attendance Program, if the problem continues.

When a student has accumulated five unexcused absences, he/she may be formally referred to the attendance officer by the school principal or assistant principal. Upon receiving a referral, it is the responsibility of the attendance officer serving the school to address the issue of truancy with the parent(s)/guardian and the child utilizing a number of interventions. Student attendance is monitored on a *weekly* basis to determine the interventions needed to address the attendance problem.

During the 2015-2016 school year, 84% of the 1,972 cases referred to the attendance officers responded to interventions. Of the 16% of cases which did not respond to interventions:

- 48 juveniles were referred to the Prosecutor for Truancy charges
- 15 adults were referred on charges of Failure to Send a Child to School and Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor and found Guilty
- 11 Affidavits were filed (Violation of Court Order)

Attendance Officers participate in the prosecution process through:

- Preparation of a narrative report and case materials
- Participation in all adult/juvenile legal proceedings
- Monitoring of the compliance of Court orders
- Filing a sworn affidavit with the Prosecutor's Office for the violation of Court orders, which enables the Prosecutor's Office to file a motion for the violator to show good cause for failure to comply with a Court order

During the 2015-2016 school year, six Attendance Officers addressed 1,972 referrals from the following school districts (and alternative schools):

- Avon 38 referrals
- Avon Lake 16 referrals
- Clearview..... 289 referrals
- Columbia 5 referrals
- Elyria 224 referrals
- Firelands..... 59 referrals
- Keystone 60 referrals
- Lorain 879 referrals
- Midview 158 referrals
- North Ridgeville 111 referrals
- Oberlin..... 31 referrals
- Sheffield/Sheffield Lake..... 28 referrals

- Wellington..... 52 referrals
- Lorain County Academy 5 referrals
- Lorain County JVS..... 17 referrals

Families identified with “at-risk” family issues which interfere with a child’s school attendance may be referred for In-Home services provided by a service provider within the community. Services are voluntary, but provide assistance for the entire household.

JUVENILE STATISTICS

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Age and Gender of Youth	Female	Male	Total
Age 9 and under	0	0	0
Age 10	1	9	3
Age 11	7	10	17
Age 12	11	18	29
Age 13	38	45	83
Age 14	58	76	134
Age 15	78	150	228
Age 16	123	239	362
Age 17	95	264	359
Age 18	16	21	37
Age 19	0	0	0
Total	427	832	1259

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Where Youth Reside	Female	Male	Total
Amherst	7	17	24
Avon	12	36	48
Avon Lake	3	22	25
Columbia Station	7	7	14
Elyria	103	203	306
Grafton	6	17	23
LaGrange	0	12	12
Lorain	186	342	528
North Ridgeville	17	43	60
Oberlin	19	36	55
Sheffield Lake/ Sheffield Village	10	14	24
South Amherst	0	2	2
Vermilion	8	8	16
Wellington	6	21	27
Other	43	52	95
Total	427	832	1259

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Reason for referral	Female	Male	Total
Aggravated Murder	0	2	2
Alcohol Consumption	7	13	20
Arson	0	3	3
Assault	67	80	147
Attempted Murder	0	0	0
Breaking & Entering	1	4	5
Burglary	6	29	35
Criminal Damaging	10	25	35
Criminal Mischief	3	10	13
Disorderly Conduct	41	70	111
Domestic Violence	70	90	160
Drug Offenses	16	44	60
Escape	6	5	11
Falsification	2	4	6
Induce Panic	1	7	8
Kidnapping	0	0	0
Menacing	6	21	27
Obstructing Official Business	5	27	32
Other	1	4	5
Rape	1	9	10
Receiving Stolen Property	2	16	18
Resisting Arrest	2	1	3
Riot	0	0	0
Robbery	1	20	21
Runaway	1	0	1
Sex Offenses	2	21	23
Telephone Harassment	0	4	4
Theft	31	78	109
Tobacco	1	0	1
Trespassing	9	54	63
Truancy – Chronic	89	117	206
Truancy – Habitual	0	0	0
U.U.M.V.	3	8	11
Ungovernable	32	54	86
Vandalism	9	7	16
Vehicular Homicide	0	0	0
Weapons Offense	2	5	7
Total	427	832	1259

Dispositions	Female	Male	Total
Committed to Adult Correctional Facility	2	7	9
Committed to ODYS/Northern Ohio	3	14	17
Continued on Probation	9	20	29
Courtesy Supervision	2	0	2
Dismissed	77	106	183
Fines & Costs and / or Restitution	87	209	296
Fines & Costs and / or Restitution- Suspended	110	149	259
Judicial Release/Revoke	0	0	0
Other	11	10	21
Placed on Monitored Time / Felony	2	8	10
Placed on Monitored Time / Misdemeanor	17	26	43
Parole	0	0	0
Parole Revocation	0	2	2
Placed on CIP / Felony	8	21	29
Placed on CIP / Misdemeanor	12	16	28
Placed on General Community Control / Felony	3	16	19
Placed on General Community Control / Misdemeanor	19	54	73
Placed on Community Control - Other / Felony	4	8	12
Placed on Community Control - Other / Misdemeanor	30	62	92
Placed on Community Control - Sex Offender / Felony	1	8	9
Placed on Community Control - Sex Offender / Misdemeanor	0	4	4
Placed on Community Control - Status	4	2	6
Residential Facility Placement / Felony	7	11	18
Residential Facility Placement / Misdemeanor	11	9	20
Sentenced to Detention Center / Felony	2	6	8
Sentenced to Detention Center / Misdemeanor	20	46	66
Serious Youth Offender	0	1	1
Sex Offender Classification Modified	0	0	0
Suspended Commitment / Sentence	1	11	12
Transferred to Adult Court	0	6	6
Transferred to Another Court	24	40	64
Unavailability	1	1	2
Suspended DH/Felony	2	1	3
Suspended DH/Misdemeanor	23	90	113
Total	492	964	1456

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Traffic Violations	Female	Male	Total
Alcohol Offenses	3	10	13
Assured Clear Distance	73	64	137
Driving Under Suspension	0	4	4
Failure To Control	19	40	59
Failure To Yield	29	30	59
Impeding Traffic Flow	0	1	1
Improper Backing	2	5	7
Improper Lane Usage	7	14	21
Improper Turn	1	0	1
Jaywalking	0	0	0
Leaving the Scene	1	3	4
License Plates	5	8	13
Lights Violation	8	10	18
No Driver's License	20	33	53
Noise Violation	0	1	1
Other	3	3	6
Parking Violations	1	0	1
Reckless Operation	6	22	28
Seat Belt	19	22	41
Speeding	186	282	468
Squealing Tires	0	0	0
Texting while Driving	0	0	0
Traffic Control Device	25	28	53
Unsafe Vehicle	2	3	5
Walking in Roadway	0	5	5
Total	410	588	998

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Traffic Dispositions	Female	Male	Total
Absentia	4	5	9
Detention Home Sentence	1	1	2
Dismissed	174	263	437
Fines & Costs	135	182	317
Fines & Costs Suspended	0	3	3
License Restricted	24	38	62
License Suspended	7	19	26
Other	0	0	0
Seatbelt Mail-in Waiver	18	14	32
Transfer to Another Court	49	74	123
Unavailability	1	1	2
Total	413	600	1013

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DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

David Lucey, Director of Human Resources and Facilities

INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Facilities Complex provides locked and unlocked residential placement and shelter care for male and female juveniles. The complex consists of a detention center and four buildings providing residential services in a campus-style setting.

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Lorain County Juvenile Detention Home

9967 South Murray Ridge Road, Elyria

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The purpose of the detention home is to provide secure confinement of appropriate juveniles under age 18. Judges and magistrates determine if detention is appropriate as indicated by statute or the Ohio Supreme Court Rules. Unruly or ungovernable youth may not be placed in detention beyond twenty-four hours. However, delinquent youth may be confined to detention by an order of the Court for a period not to exceed 90 days. Commencing in 2004, the Court sentenced juveniles to the Lorain County Detention Home for up to 90 days. In 2016, there were 51 youthful offenders sentenced to the Detention Home.

As a cost-cutting measure, the Girls Detention Home was closed and the girls relocated to the Boys Detention Home at the end of 2008. Both male and female residents are currently housed in separate wings of the Boys Detention Home.

The Lorain County Detention Homes are licensed and monitored by the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The facilities are designed to house 44 males and 12 females. The staff ratio during daylight hours is 12:1, with a ratio increasing to 25:1 during the 10pm-6am shift.

During the admission process each youth is administered the Maysi II test which screens for mental health issues. Beach Brook will conduct an assessment if issues are highlighted. Each youth also reviews a 30 minute video presentation on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and is informed of our zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse/rape, harassment, and how to report it. The medical staff is available at any time for consultation and has regularly scheduled hours. Within seven days of admission, the detention home nurse or doctor physically examines every juvenile.

While in detention, education continues year-round through the Educational Service Center of Lorain County. Upgrades now provide for twenty-five individual computer stations with emphasis placed on the state proficiency exams.

2016 Admissions

- 316 males
- 203 females
- 519 juvenile admissions
- Average length of stay: 24.8 days
- Average male daily population: 23
- Average female daily population: 10
- Average daily population total: 33

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Pathways Group Home / Stepping Stone Residential Center

1076 / 1064 Infirmery Road, Elyria

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Pathways Group Home and Stepping Stone Residential Center are non-secure court-operated programs for female and male offenders, ages 13-17. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licenses and monitors these facilities, which are limited to 10 females and 20 males.

Pathways and Stepping Stone prepare residents for successful reintegration into the community. Programs assist juveniles in managing personal problems and family issues, as well as developing an increased ability to access community resources, and establish positive goals for the future.

Referrals to Pathways and Stepping Stone are made through internal processes of the court. The Department of Probation & Youth Services, Investigation and Referral Team, Magistrates, Lorain County Children Services, and mental health workers provide input in this process. A Judge makes the final determination and places appropriate candidates into the programs.

The formats of Pathways and Stepping Stone parallel each other. Each is a one-year program divided into two phases. Phase one (1) is a minimum 21-week in-house stay. The child will participate in graduated off-grounds visits with the parent-guardian ranging from one (1) hour to seventy-two (72) hours during the first phase of the program. The child and parent-guardian will receive appropriate services on an individualized basis during this phase based on the resident's case plan. Parental cooperation and participation is vital to the child's success in the program. Some group programming for the child will also be included. The Educational Service Center of Lorain County provides educational services for the residents in the facilities. Three certified teachers are present Monday - Friday to work with the residents of Pathways and Stepping Stone.

Phase two (2) is aftercare. The child will live at the home of the parent-guardian during this phase under the supervision of a Community Control Officer/Case Manager. Applicable services will be received during this phase on an individualized basis.

Case plans are developed for each juvenile. Areas addressed through service providers include daily family issues, independent living skills, individual and family counseling, and drug and alcohol treatment.

<u>2016</u>	<u>Pathways</u>	<u>Stepping Stone</u>
Participants	25	40
New Admissions	18	22
2015 Carry-Over	7	18
Successful Completions	6	16
Committed to ODYS	0	0
Sentenced to Detention Home	2	9
Lorain County Jail	0	0
Transferred to CIP	3	1
Moved out of County	4	0
Specialized Services	3	0

Turning Point

1080 Infirmary Road, Elyria

Turning Point is a non-secure residential facility providing short-term care (maximum 14 days) for 5 males and 5 females ages 12-17. The juveniles are involved in domestic dispute situations or selected status offenses. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licenses Turning Point. Turning Point provides 24-hour supervision and guidance by trained childcare staff. In addition, a full-time social worker provides services to the juveniles and their families with appropriate referrals to service providers in the community. In addition, youth who are involved with domestic disputes receive a domestic violence screening by the social worker. The information gathered is used to establish an appropriate reunification plan.

Admissions are approved by the Intake Department and judicial orders. Turning Point does not function as a sentencing or dispositional alternative. It is a program for youth in crisis or emergency situations.

The goal of Turning Point is to return the youth to their home after a brief respite without further intervention by the court. During 2016, Turning Point served a total of 224 youth – 100 males and 124 females.

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DEPARTMENT OF FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Kristen Richardson, Director

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Introduction

The Domestic Relations Court receives the majority of its funding from the Lorain County Board of Commissioners. Funding is applied to youth services, operational costs, and support staff salaries and benefits for over 160

employees. Supervision fees are also collected from youth placed on court supervision by Judges and Magistrates.

The Fiscal Department is comprised of three departments, the Financial Accounting Department (Fiscal), the Grants Department (Grants) and the Information Systems Department (Systems).

Fiscal

#

The Fiscal Department is responsible for financial processing and reporting of expenditures, payroll, benefits and Court appointed counsel payments.

The Fiscal Department prepares and monitors the Court’s annual budget, records revenue and processes payments of more than \$11 million dollars annually.

In 2016 the Fiscal Department processed more than \$531,000 of payments to Court appointed counsel.

The Domestic Relations Court’s 2016 General Fund expenditures were as follows:

Judicial Salaries	\$ 41,964.34
Administrative Services	\$2,346,887.77
Probation Services; Clerk’s Office	\$2,118,899.87
Juvenile Detention Home	\$2,226,843.13
IV-D/Domestic Support	\$ 792,949.18
Facilities Complex	<u>\$ 395,050.54</u>
Total County General Fund	<u>\$7,922,594.83</u>

Grant Writing and Management

The Grants Department is responsible for researching grant opportunities available through state, federal and local agencies, writing grant proposals and monitoring grant and entitlement programs received.

In addition to General Fund support, the Court receives a substantial amount of funding from various state and federal pass-through grant and reimbursement programs per year. In calendar year 2016, the Grants Department applied for five grants, with a total potential award of \$397,448.00. Four grants were awarded totaling \$385,275.00. One grant is pending in the amount of \$12,173.00.

In 2016, the Court received financial support from the following:

Ohio Department of Youth Services

Program supported: Various \$2,041,657.30

Ohio Department of Job & Family Services

Program supported: (Title IV-D) Domestic Support..... \$481,527.98

Program supported: (Title IV-E) Various \$147,907.87

Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Services

Program supported: Drug Court..... \$82,616.00

Program supported: Specialized Family Drug Court..... \$101,400.00

Program supported: Specialized Juvenile Drug Court \$101,400.00

Ohio Department of Mental Health

Program supported: Specialized Mental Health Court \$84,046.00

Ohio Department of Education

Program supported: Detention Home – Food Service \$114,777.32

Ohio Attorney General’s Office

Program supported: Voices for Children \$167,920.81

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant

Program supported: Payback/MERIT \$24,138.00

Local School Districts (Fees for Services)

Program supported: Truancy Intervention..... \$202,286.00

Miscellaneous Non-General Fund Revenues

Fines and Fees \$98,532.01

Stepping Stone Support Reimbursements..... \$43,219.83

Children’s Services support of Turning Point Shelter..... \$72,000.00

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Systems Management

The Systems Management Department (Systems) is responsible for the Court’s computer hardware, software and other related systems. The Court’s case management system, Courtview, is used to maintain the Court’s docketing, imaging, and judicial and probation management systems.

Systems also manages the high resolution digital security camera system located in the Detention Home and Facilities Complex that allows for remote monitoring and archiving 90 days of security camera data. The video security system

provides comprehensive monitoring capabilities and a heightened level of safety for the juveniles and staff.

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In 2016, Domestic Relations Court began collaborating with various county agencies and elected officials in search of an updated case management system.#

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The Domestic Relations Division of the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas is sincerely grateful to the many agencies, community leaders and providers that all work toward the common goal of providing effective and efficient services to the citizens of Lorain County.

This goal, coupled with the creative vision, energy, and passion of those involved, allows this Court to continue being a positive force in addressing the needs of the community.

We sincerely thank all those who contributed their time, energy, resources, and effort into making Lorain County a leader among Courts in the state of Ohio.

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