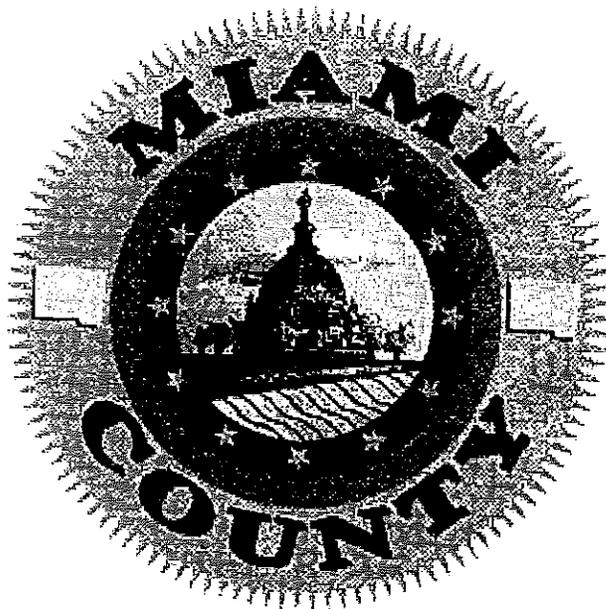


Miami County Juvenile Court

2002 Annual Report



Judge Lynnita K.C. Wagner

**Court Administrator:
Charlene Prestopino**

**Magistrates:
Gretchen K. Beers
Christopher M. Gee
Katherine Kemp-Severt**

May 2003

Dear Friends,

Our Juvenile Court Staff has worked hard over the last six years to improve Court Services. The staff worked in committees and sub groups, to identify concerns related to efficiency and quality of services. Working with county commissioners and engaging in a comprehensive quality improvement process, the staff made many internal and external changes to better meet the needs of the youth we serve and the entire community. Highlights of these improvements are:

- Remodeled court offices
- Established Piqua probation office
- Improved safety and security for staff and visitors
- Added technology: e-mail, internet access and web site
- Achieved compliance with Supreme Court case time lines
- Increased fine and court collections
- Revamped and improved probation services
- Added Diversion, Prevention Services, Mediation, Aftercare Probation, Drug Court and Home Detention Supervision.

One of our most important accomplishments in 2001 was technology related. Internet connections have helped our Court have more immediate communication with the Department of Motor Vehicles, thus allowing the Court to immediately suspend licenses for juveniles violating traffic laws and for other offenses such as those involving drugs or alcohol. I believe that the ability to drive is a great motivator for many teens and the immediacy of this consequence is very important.

Over the last four years the Court has seen a rise in the delinquency caseload. Substance Abuse plays a substantial role in this problem and the Court has developed programming such as Drug Court to combat the problem. However, due to the rise in youth committing felony offenses, which are more of a danger to the community, the Court has increased in the number of youth committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The Court is committed to insuring public safety while getting youth the services they need to make changes in their lives. In 2002, the Court has seen a rise in the number of girls involved in serious deliquent activity. We are working hard to insure that we give these girls appropriate programming to change their lives.

We have put together this annual report to help you understand the work of this Court. We continue to work hard each day to improve the lives young people and to make Miami County a safe community.

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 counsel and rehabilitate youth who commit crimes, protect the Miami County community from juvenile crime, assist the victims of that crime, and protect children from abuse, neglect, and dependency.

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

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

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

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

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

Under the direction of Judge Lynnita K.C. Wagner and with the support of one full-time and two part-time magistrates, the Court provides a broad range of community based, residential treatment and prevention services. This report is intended to help you understand the children we serve and give you an overview of the services we provided in 2002.

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 2002 charges:

2002 Delinquency Charges

Abduction	1
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	2
AntiNoise	13
Arson/Aggravated Arson	11
Assault (Misdemeanor & Felony)	127
Breaking & Entering	15
Burglary	26
Child Endangering	1
Chronic Truancy	29
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	4
Consuming Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle	2
Contributing to Delinquency/Unruliness of a Minor	1
Contempt of Court Order	163
Criminal Damaging	60
Criminal Mischief	97
Trespassing/Criminal Trespassing	84
Cruelty to Animals	3
Curfew (secondary charge to delinquent charge)	117
Possession/Discharging Firearms	10
Discharging Air gun/BB/Pellets	4
Discharging Fireworks	4
Disobeying Police Officer/Resisting Arrest/Fleeing	15
Disorderly Conduct	164
Disturbing the Peace	2
Domestic Violence	76
Dropping Material on Roadway/Littering	6
Drug Abuse	79
Drug Paraphernalia	60
Drug Possession	11
Drug Trafficking	17
Escape	18
Falsification	7

2002 Delinquency Charges

Forgery	2
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor	4
Sexual Imposition & Gross Sexual Imposition	11
Theft/Grand Theft Auto/Misuse of Credit Card	277
Inducing/Inciting Panic or Violence	10
Making False Alarms	9
Menacing/Aggravated Menacing	52
Obstructing Official Business/Justice	26
Open Container	10
Parole Violation (from Dept. of Youth Services)	6
Possession of Alcohol/Related	267
Possession of Criminal Tools	7
Probation Violation	227
Public Indecency	4
Rape	28
Receiving Stolen Property	30
Robbery/Aggravated Robbery	3
Tampering with Evidence/Property	22
Telephone Harassment	22
Other	10
Total Delinquency Charges	2256
Total Delinquency Cases	1878

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

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

Last year, the Court entered final dispositions in 1735 delinquency cases.

Unruly Child

An unruly child is defined as any child who does not subject himself to the reasonable control of his parents, teachers, guardian or custodian, is habitually truant from home or school; deports himself as to injure or endanger his health or morals; attempts to enter marriage without consent; is found in a disreputable place, or engages in an occupation prohibited by law. Unruly offenses include behaviors such as truancy at school, running away, and incorrigibility; these behaviors would not be considered a crime if committed by adults. The following is a summary of the 2002 unruly charges:

2002 Unruly Charges Filed

Chronic truant	29
Curfew Violation	240
Unruly **	269
Tobacco Law Violations	49
Total Unruly Charges	587
Total Unruly Cases	463

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

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

In 2002, the Court entered final disposition in 485 unruly cases.

Juvenile Traffic Offender

The Court has jurisdiction over all traffic offenses committed by juveniles. These cases in 2002 included:

Traffic Violations	2002
Speeding	552
DUI and Related	34
Driving Under Suspension	27
No Operator's License	68
Failure to Control/Reckless	103
Reckless Operation	
Failure to Maintain Distance	98
Failure to Yield	53
Fictitious/Expired/Missing Plates	26
Seat Belt Violation/Child Restraint	156
Stop Sign or Red Light	95
Vehicle Related Violation	18
Other Moving Violation	38
Leaving the Scene	8
Improper Backing/Lane Change	39
School Bus	0
Total Traffic Charges	1315
Total Traffic Cases	1171

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

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

In Ohio, a juvenile has a probationary license. With this license, a juvenile is subject to additional penalties imposed by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to which adults are not subject. In 2002, the Court entered final dispositions in 1286 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.

2002 Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Filings

Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency	79
Motion for Permanent Custody	21

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 69 abuse, neglect, and dependency cases and 22 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.

2002 Filings

Parentage	86
Custody or Visitation	794
Support Enforcement or Modification	1152
Total	2032

Last year the court entered final disposition in 1062 support enforcement or modification cases, 790 custody or visitation cases, and 72 parentage cases.

Adult Misdemeanor Cases

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

2002 Charges and Cases

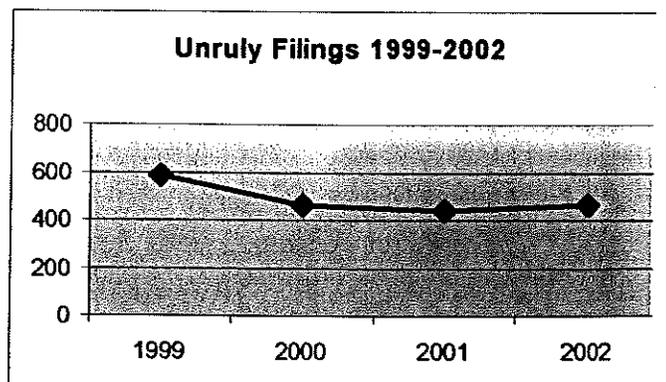
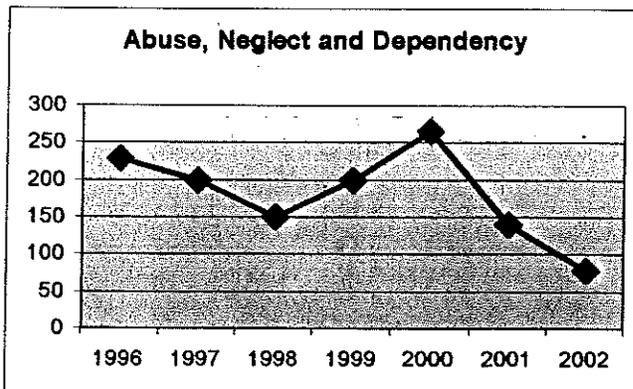
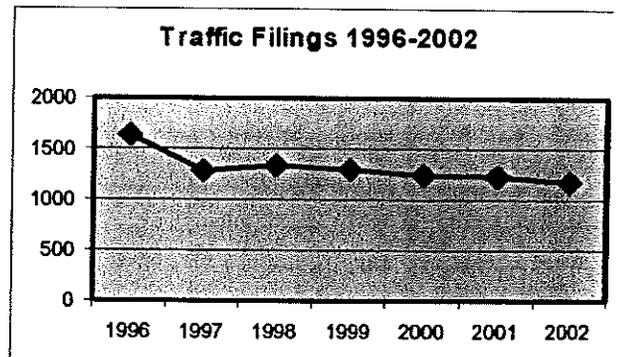
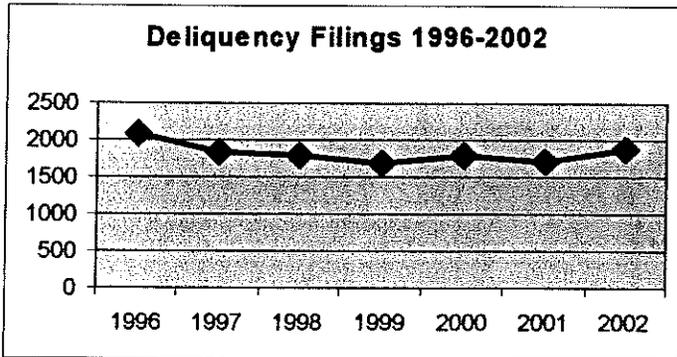
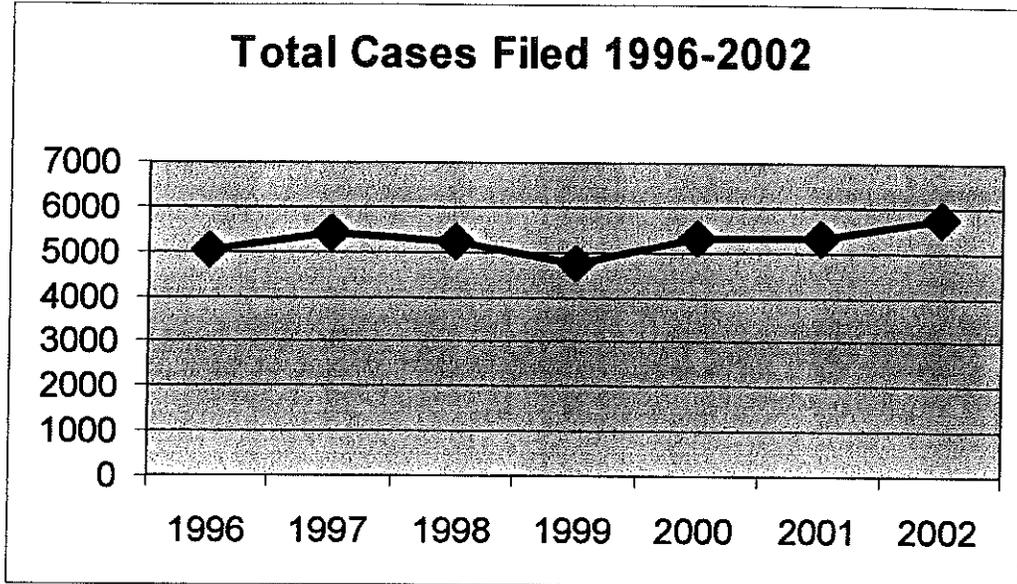
Child Endangering	4
Contempt of a Court Order	53
Contributing to the Delinquency or Unruliness of a Minor	66
Failure to send a child to school	10
Total Adult Criminal Charges	133
Total Adult Criminal Cases	109

Last year, the court entered final disposition for 154 adult cases.

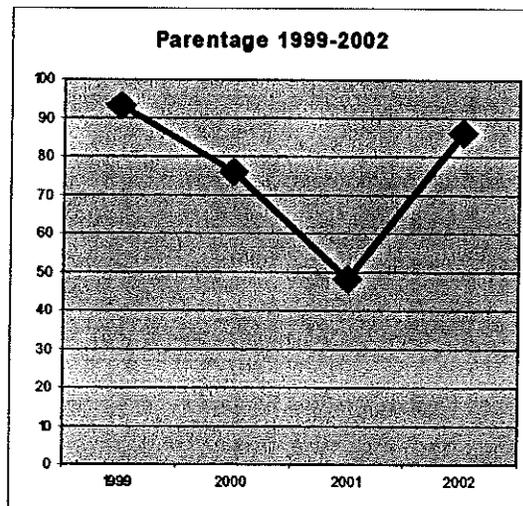
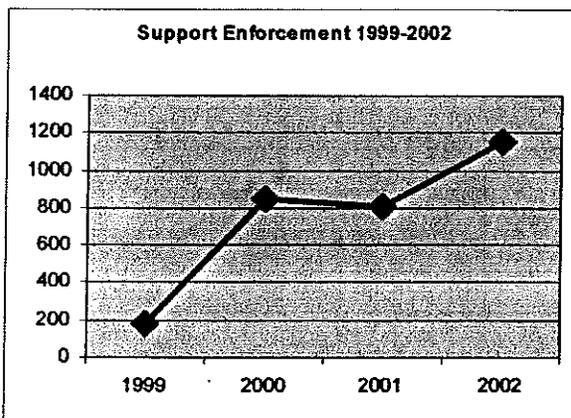
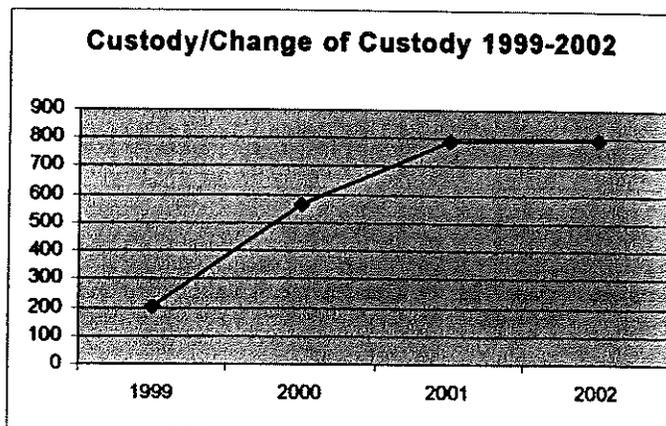
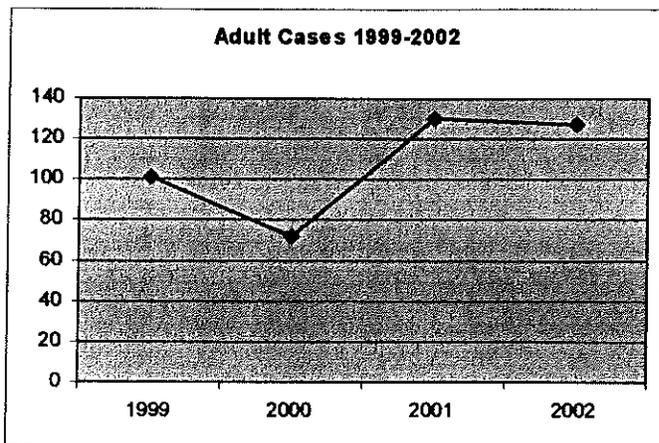
Miscellaneous Cases

The Court hears a number of cases that do not fall into any particular category. These include such issues as applications for a marriage license by an underage child, hospitalization of a mentally ill minor, and certain kinds of consents for medical treatment. Last year, the court handled 1 such case.

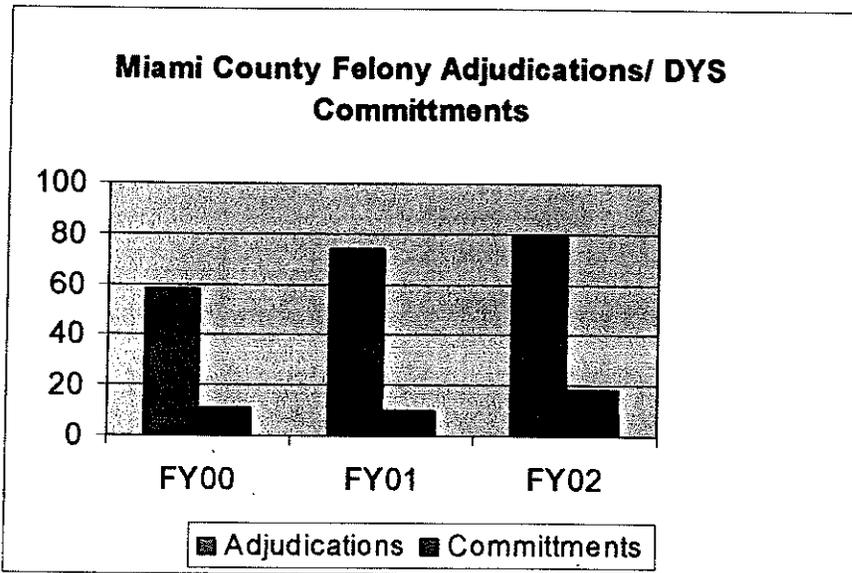
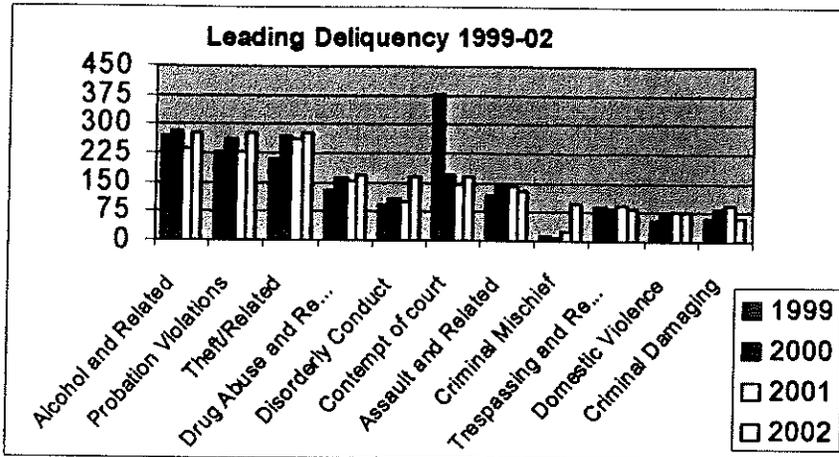
Filing Trends 1996-2002



Filing Trends Adult Cases 2000-2002



Delinquency/Adjudication Trends

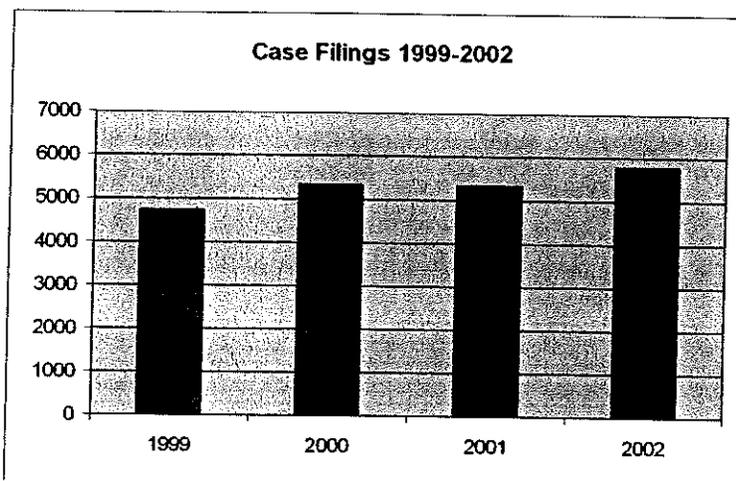


Court Services- Clerk's Office

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 2002

Total Cases Filed	5771
Total Charges Filed	6411
Total Cases with Disposition	5863



In June 2002, Miami County Juvenile Court Clerks Office became the first juvenile court in Ohio to establish an Internet link to the Department of Motor Vehicles. This link allows the Court to immediately notify the Bureau of Motor Vehicles of changes in driving status of juveniles. The Court uses suspension of driving privileges for juveniles violating driving laws and as part of disposition for other offenses such as those involving drugs or alcohol as provided by Ohio law

Also in 2002 the Clerk's office continued to work on collecting fines and Court Costs. This project was started in 2001 and was aimed at increasing payment of fines and court costs. Special non-payment hearing days were scheduled, and a better tracking system was implemented. License forfeitures and wage withholdings were added to increase compliance. Over \$92,000 has been collected since the project started.

Juvenile Probation

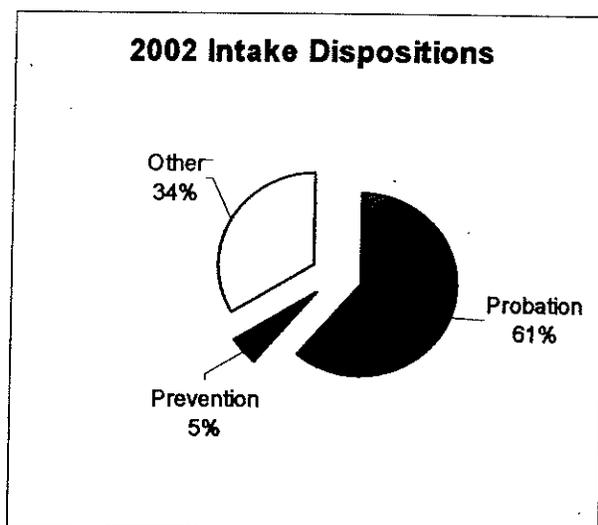
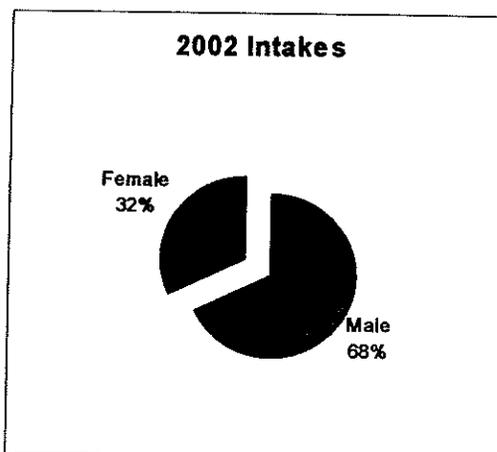
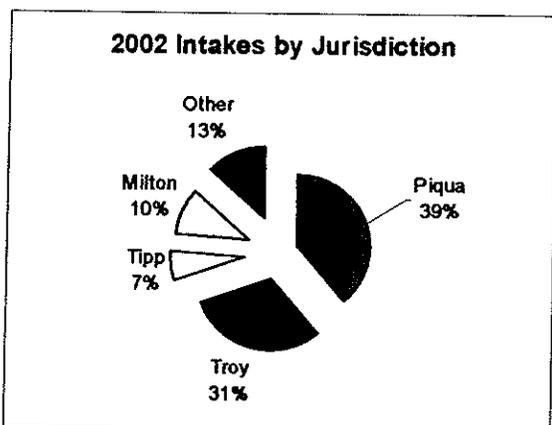
The Miami County Juvenile Probation Department's mission is to encourage youth to behave responsibly and ensure community safety through the enforcement of court orders and terms of probation. The probation department uses sanctions such as electronic home monitoring, direct supervision, and social services 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, a school based prevention officer, 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 position, which assesses the youth's level of risk and makes recommendation for an individualized treatment plans using multiple modes of intervention.
- Generalist probation officers who:
 - Concentrate on changing behavior and improving pro-social skills through individualized treatment planning and using community resources.
 - Focus on problem solving with both juveniles and their families by partnering with families in treatment plans.
 - Use a highly structured and intensive intervention through a standardized probation level system
 - Hold youth accountable by monitoring their behavior and making them face the consequences of their behaviors.
 - Are more visible in the community by working some weekend and evening hours
- Drug Court – a joint project with the Recovery Council, which includes intensive probation supervision and substance abuse treatment.
- Home Detention Monitoring Program

2002 Intake Department Statistics

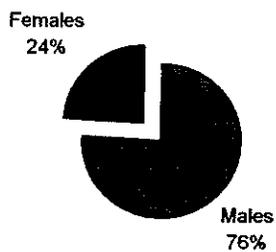
Total ordered	134
Male	91
Female	43
Misdemeanor	69
Felony	40
Unruly (1 st time)	8
Unruly	16
Traffic	1
Referred to Prevention	7
Referred to Probation	82
Referred to other services	45



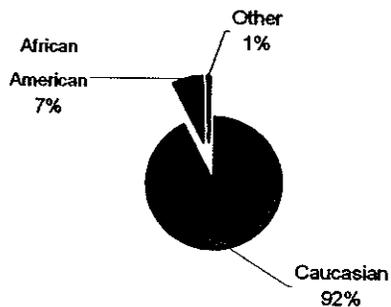
2002 Probation Assignments

Males	116
Females	37
Caucasian	141
African-American	11
Other	1
Felony	42
Misdemeanor	76
Unruly	27
Traffic	8
Total Youth Ordered on Probation	153

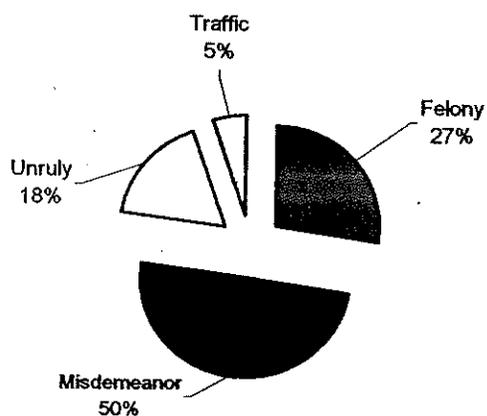
2002 Probationers



2002 Probationers by Race



2002 Probation Committing Offense



Drug Court

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

In 2002, the Juvenile Court Drug Court Program went through a period of evolution and development. We became increasingly aware that we needed to adjust our attention to younger participants. Participants who reached the age of 18 prior to graduating from the program seemed to lose focus and motivation. It was felt that earlier intervention with younger, chronic substance abusers might better reclaim the health and functioning of the child before patterns become entrenched. Through our experiences since 2002 we have made adjustments to the therapeutic components of our program to better target the needs of our participants. Also more girls were served in 2002.

2002 Drug Court Statistics

Total carried from last year	9
Admitted this year	8
Total participated in program	17
Males	12
Females	5
Caucasian	
African-American	
Successful graduations	6
Unsuccessful terminations	4

Home Detention Monitoring Program

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

2002 Home Detention Monitoring Statistics

Home Visits	1680
Total Youth Served	542
Youth Home	94%
On approved outing	32%
Violation	4%
Detention Placement	1%
Males	68%
Females	32%
Caucasian	88%
African-American	12%
Other	0

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

Piqua Office

Miami County Juvenile Court maintains a satellite office, located at 102 W. Ash Street in downtown Piqua. To reach the Piqua office call 615-0657. With partial funding from the Juvenile Accountability Block grant and in partnership with the Piqua Police Department and Piqua City Schools, the need for a local presence was established. A physical presence in the community allows probation officer to see youth more frequently, and gives prevention and diversion officers access to more youth.

Diversion and Prevention Services

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

Diversion Services

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

Court Ordered Prevention Services

- Prevention Supervision
- In-School Prevention Supervision

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

Family Diversion Program 2002 Statistics

Retained from Previous Year	69
Filed this year	314
Successfully Completed	168
Declined Services	42
Inappropriate for Service	54
Unsuccessful	23
Total Served	383
Total Pending at end of year	71

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

Prevention Services 2002 Statistics

Retained from Previous Year	43
Filed this year	88
Successfully Completed	28
Unsuccessful	14
Total Served	131
Total Pending at end of year	82

In School Prevention Services

An additional service provided through prevention services is an on-site Prevention Officer exclusive to the Piqua City Schools. This financial partnership supports a full-time Prevention Officer who serves participants in both the Family Diversion Program and Prevention Services. The prevention officer is able to provide immediate supervision, work more effectively with youth and parents around school related problems, improve attendance and refer to appropriate community services.

Curfew Diversion Program

The Court also offers a Curfew Diversion Program for youth who have received a curfew violation. This program offers youth and their parents the opportunity to participate in group session or other activities through the family diversion program instead of court. In 2002, 89 youth successfully participated in this program, thus avoiding a court appearance.

Tobacco Offenders Program

The Court maintains a diversion program for first time tobacco offenders in cooperation with the Miami County Recovery Council. Possession and use of tobacco or related products is illegal for minors. Courts can outline specific consequences for youth cited under this code. By contract with the Court, the Miami County Recovery Council provides a three-hour education class focusing on tobacco addiction and related health consequences. Youth who agree to participate in the program are diverted from the Court. In 2002, 35 youth completed tobacco education classes and 16 youth were referred to Court.

Mediation Program

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

This program restarted in September completed 5 mediations targeting first time delinquency offenders charged with the following offenses: simple assault,

disorderly conduct or menacing where the victim was a peer or in situations where both parties were charged with similar offenses (child/child conflicts). 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.

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. A new site was added bringing the total to 22 including local nursing homes, city and county municipal buildings, and football stadiums.

Funding for the program comes from the Department of Youth Services Subsidy Grant. One of the work site supervisors is provided through an AmeriCorp grant. In addition to working directly with youth, this supervisor helps develop new work sites. In 2002, 672 youth provided 5510 hours of service to the community. Sonia Kelchner coordinates the program. For more information call 332-7020.

2002 Community Service & Restitution

Program Admissions

	Felony	Misdemeanor	Unruly	Traffic	Total
Males	21	364	69	13	462
Females	5	156	46	3	210
Total	26	520	115	16	672

Program Releases

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Males	376	11
Females	187	4
Total	563	15

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 2002, 12 youth were referred and 8 were accepted. Of those not accepted 3 were sent to Ohio Department of Youth Services and 1 to West Central Rehab.
- ❖ Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education provided by contract with Miami County Recovery Council. This program works with first time offenders who have come before the Court on an alcohol or substance abuse charge. The program includes an all day educational session, a substance use assessment, and a parent component. In 2002, 120 youth successfully completed this program. A total of 12 groups were held.
- ❖ Shoplifters Group provided by contract with the Miami County Recovery Council was developed in 2000. With partial funding through a grant from the Office of Criminal Justice Services, the Recovery Council provides a home study course and a one-day educational class for youth involved in shoplifting. The sessions help youth understand the dynamics of shoplifting and why they have chosen this risky behavior. The course strives to help youth get better control of their lives and change these destructive and unlawful behaviors. In 2002, 83 youth were served in this program. A total of 9 groups were held.
- ❖ Self-Esteem Groups are provided through a contract with Tipp Professional Services in Tipp City. Unruly youth who are experiencing school and home problems attend 10 weekly sessions designed to improve communication and anger management skills. Groups are separated by age and gender. In 2002, 21 youth participated in these groups.
- ❖ Curfew Communication Groups provided through a contract with Miami County Recovery Council. This part of our prevention program is for youth with a curfew offense. This group consists of one 3-hour session for both youth and their parents. In 2002, 43 youth and 67 parents attended these sessions.
- ❖ Psychological Services provided through contracts with licensed psychologists. These limited numbers of psychological evaluations are performed to provide the Court with needed assessments integral to further court treatment plans. Forensic evaluations are also provided. These are required when deciding if a youth should be tried as an adult.

Partnerships that Strengthen Families and Protect Youth

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

Family Stability Program

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

By serving as an advisory member to this program and as a working team member, when appropriate, Juvenile Court has partnered with the team to reduce court based placements by using other alternatives and concentrating on getting early and intensive services to families in trouble. Placement reduction goals were met in every quarter of 2002.

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 State Cluster, Children Services, Juvenile Court, Mental Health, and MRDD. In 2002, Juvenile Court contributed \$146,230.64 in shared funding for the placement of 22 youth.

Resource Team

Juvenile Court is an active participant on Resource Team, a crucial component of family stability and family preservation. The team provides identification of community resources, case planning and the creation of interventions to promote family preservation. The team oversees the youth in residential placements or placements outside of the local area. The team reviews the placements, determines shared funding allocations, and works on reunification plans.

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 2002, 43 volunteers served 157 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 2002, the citizen board members were Mel Kemmer, Rebecca Holthouse, Shannon Shafer, Micki Curtner, and Rita Hollenbacher.

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.

2002 Court Budget

	Appropriations & Carryover		Expenditures
General Fund - Juvenile Court	\$	995,306.26	\$ 926,306.61
General Fund - Juvenile Probation	\$	608,523.96	\$ 559,919.08
Felony Delinquent Care and Custody	\$	330,398.83	\$ 209,922.91
AmeriCorps	\$	22,649.19	\$ 18,750.80
Juvenile Computerization	\$	38,642.00	\$ 31,824.28
Legal Research	\$	16,500.00	\$ 15,673.00
Dispute Resolution	\$	17,500.00	\$ 6,635.67
Indigent Driver Fund	\$	-	\$ -
Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG)	\$	50,471.67	\$ 38,115.75
Totals	\$	2,079,991.91	\$ 1,807,148.10

*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.

2002 Fines and Court Costs

	TOTALS
COURT COSTS	89349.79
COMPUTER FEES	29867.70
LEGAL RESEARCH	8266.05
SHERIFF FEES	3175.67
LAW LIBRARY	1250.00
COUNTY FINES	65585.22
MOTOR VEHICLE FINES	4921.78
COUNTY DRUG FINES	832.00
MISC. COSTS	992.60
ANGER MGT.	296.00
LIFE SKILLS	60.00
COPY SERVICE	9.50
JUV. CT. MEDIATION	23851.71
SPECIAL - CASA	3459.00
SPECIAL - PARENTING	3784.00
FORFEITURE FEES	1047.00
TOBACCO FEES	2590.60
STATE OF OHIO	53612.54
BOARD OF PHARMACY	1977.10
ARRÊSTING AGENCY	1190.00
SUNDRIES	109.00
TOTALS	296227.26

West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

The West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility is a state-of-the-art; secure residential facility for 36 juvenile male felons from six counties. Youth go through a rigorous re-socialization designed to correct flawed thought processes, which contributed to their criminal behavior. The program includes an individualized academic educational plan, family and individual counseling and intensive supervision. The average length of stay is six months. Specialized vocational training in machine trades is offered to youth who qualify. A Vocational Coordinator, who helps secure post release employment, assesses all youth.

The Center's 2002 budget was \$1,269,438.00. The Ohio Department of Youth Services provides funding. Local Counties pay the Ohio Department of Youth Services \$74.00 per day per 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 and is also providing to adjacent counties. Harry K. Russell is the Director.

2002 Population Statistics

County	Number of Youth
Auglaize	8
Champaign	4
Clark	8
Darke	6
Greene	1
Mercer	1
Miami	12
Preble	3
Shelby	8
Total	51

Offenses Resulting in Commitment

Offense	Number of Youth
Theft	34
Assault/Intimidation	5
Drug Related	4
Vandalism	2
Forgery	1
Arson	1
Safe Cracking	1
Other	4
Total	52

West Central Day Treatment

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

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 Russell is the director of this program.

In 2002, 109 students were enrolled in one of the two locations. Seven youth achieved G.E.D. while four others earned enough credits to obtain a graduation diploma from their high school

2002 Population Statistics

<u>Day Treatment South</u>	
Bethel	1
Bradford	1
Covington	1
Piqua	22
Tipp City	1
Troy	13
West Milton	5
Sidney	12

<u>Day Treatment North</u>	
Celina	26
Coldwater	2
Ft. Recovery	1
Parkway	5
Wapakoneta	5
St. Mary's	1
New Breman	1
Van Wert	12

<u>Age</u>	<u>Number</u>
11 yrs	3
12 yrs	1
13 yrs	7
14 yrs	13
15 yrs	19
16 yrs	29
17 yrs	34
18 yrs	<u>3</u>
Total	109

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number</u>
5	3
6	2
7	9
8	11
9	25
10	29
11	26
12	<u>4</u>
Total	109

West Central Rehabilitation Center Intensive Probation/Aftercare

In 2002, the Court contracted with the West Central Rehabilitation Center to provide intensive probation services to youth released from the Rehabilitation Center, David L. Brown Youth Center and the GATE Program. The Program funds a full time probation officer who provides services 24-hours working with the youth, parents, schools, and employers, to assure that the youth makes an appropriate readjustment to the community. This intensive supervision includes probation sanctions as necessary with support and guidance to the youth and coordination of the youth's treatment plan. Youth remain in the program until they are completed treatment plans and paid fines and court costs.

Youth Served in 2002

Rehabilitation Center Youth	13
David L. Brown Youth Center	9
GATE	5
Greene County	2
Total served	29
Total released	5

This program is funded with RECLAIM funds through the Department of Youth Services.

DAVID L. BROWN YOUTH CENTER

The David L. Brown Youth Center is a 24-hour residential treatment facility for male youth age 12-18. Under the direction of Diana Karnehm, Executive Director, DLBYC is a program of the Miami County Juvenile Court and serves a variety of Ohio Counties. The Reality Therapy/Choice Theory approach used at the Center is a nationally recognized therapeutic modality of treatment. The Youth Center provides a wide range of services in a holistic approach to meeting the needs of youth.

Located on a farm setting, east of Troy, on Children's Home Road, the Center provides Juvenile Courts with a structured alternative to incarceration. During 2002, the Youth Center contracted with Miami County Mental Health Center to provide onsite services of one full-time. Individual therapy, family sessions, and group counseling were provided. In addition, Miami County Mental Health provided Psychiatric Evaluation. In addition substance abuse services are provided. A part-time nurse and physician address medical needs.

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

The David L. Brown Youth Center's 2002 budget of \$716,461.00 was funded by a daily per diem charge, academic reimbursement, and Title XX funds.

2002 David L. Brown Youth Center - Population Statistics

Total Youth Served by County

Champaign County Juvenile Court	1
Clark County Juvenile Court	4
Darke County CSB	1
Miami County Juvenile Court	13
Miami County CSB	1
Montgomery County Juvenile Court	5
Preble County Juvenile Court	1
Preble County CSB	2
Putnam County Juvenile Court	3
Shelby County Juvenile Court	5
TOTAL	36

WEST CENTRAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

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

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center has been operational since 1993. There was a new addition added in April 1999. The operating budget for the center is \$1,699,342. Funding comes from the counties that use our facility. We have a grant from the Ohio Department of Youth Services that partially funds the GATE Program. In 2002 the Detention Center was awarded a \$10,000 equipment grant.

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

The detention center also offers prevention program called STAR (Start Today Accepting Responsibility). This program accepts referrals of youth ages 12 – 17 that are "high risk" for committing an offense. This program is only for youth that have never been incarcerated before. STAR exposes the youth to the realities of continued poor decision-making. There were 290 youth referred to the STAR program in 2002. Only 24 participants of the STAR program made it back for a longer stay in detention.

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

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

2002 Population Statistics

	Total	Auglaize	Clinton	Darke	Mercer	Miami	Preble	Shelby	Van Wert	Other
Intakes	1,542	234	83	93	104	516	147	225	59	81
Male	1,165	178	68	75	83	359	104	188	54	56
Female	377	56	15	18	21	157	43	37	5	39
Average Length of Stay	11	12	16	17	8	9	8	11	13	53

Miami County Juvenile Court
2002 Annual Report Statistical Summary

Cases Filed in 2002

Delinquent	1878
Traffic	1171
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	79
Unruly	463
Adult	109
Permanent Custody	21
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	794
Support Enforcement/Modification	1152
Parentage	86
UIFSA	18
Other	0
Total	5771

Cases Terminated in 2002

Delinquent	1913
Traffic	1155
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	84
Unruly	482
Adult	127
Permanent Custody	22
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	883
Support Enforcement/Modification	1113
Parentage	65
UIFSA	19
Other	0
Total	5863

Types of Dispositions for Youth**2002**

Bind over to Adult Court	2
Commitment to Department of Youth Services	20
Detention	537
Girls Alternative Treatment Environment	4
David L Brown Youth Center	14
West Central Day Treatment	33
West Central Rehabilitation Center	12

Types of Disposition by Charge**2002**

Community Service	672
Probation	143
Prevention	78
Electronic Home Monitoring	103
House Arrest	660
Temporary Custody to Children Services	44
Protective Supervision with Children Services	77
Permanent Custody to Children Services	23
Jail Sentences (Adult)	33
Restitution	348
Cases with Fines Assessed	1592
Cases with Costs Assessed	2773
Fines and Costs Collected	\$296,227.26

Miami County Juvenile Court Important Phone Numbers

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

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