

2015 Annual Report

William P. Kannel
Juvenile Court Center

**Summit County Court of Common Pleas
Juvenile Division
Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio**



Turning lives around one child at a time.



Linda Tucci Teodosio, Judge

Robert Bickett, Court Administrator
David Horner, Asst. Court Administrator

Summit County Juvenile Court Vision Statement

"The Summit County Juvenile Court strives to serve the best interests of our children through outreach, early intervention, community education and innovative programming, while fairly administering justice to all whose lives are impacted by the juvenile justice system."

The Magistrates of the Summit County Juvenile Court

In years past, the Court Magistrates handled two specific dockets: five Magistrates heard delinquency cases, five Magistrates heard dependency, neglect & abuse cases and a part-time Magistrate handled the Traffic Court docket. However, two years ago, the Court introduced programming designed to promote continuity for families involved in the juvenile justice system. Simply put, “one family, one Magistrate.” Now, Court Magistrates have blended dockets of both delinquency and dependency, neglect and abuse cases. Pictured below are the Summit County Juvenile Court Magistrates.



Tavia Baxter Galonski



Katherine Bertsch



Daniel Cody



Thomas Freeman



Kristin Maxwell



Robert McCarty



Denise McGuckin



Mary Ann Mendlik



Laura Robinson



Rita Rochford



Esther Thomas

Court Finance

Prepared by Robert A. Bickett, Court Administrator

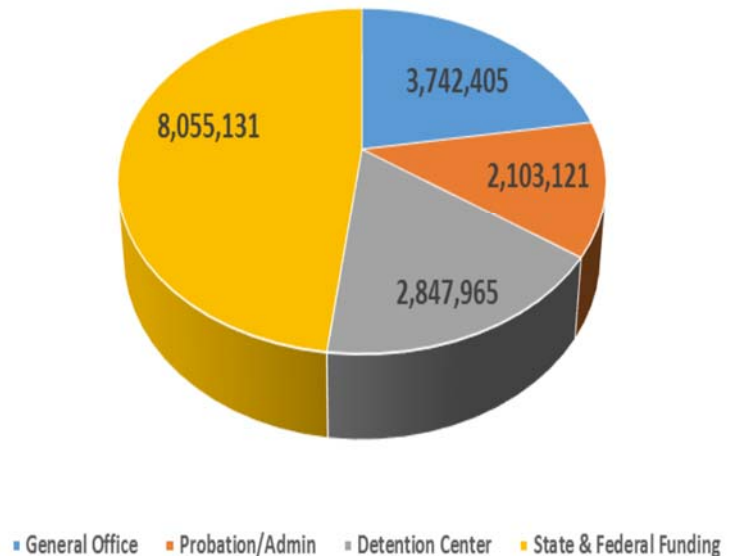
The 2015 Summit County Juvenile court budget, consisting of both county and state/federal funding, totaled \$16,748,622

General Office/Judicial	\$3,742,405	Reclaim Ohio	\$5,086,817	Personnel/Salaries & Benefits	\$11,708,875
Probation/Administration	2,103,121	Title IV-E	1,146,018	Contract Service	2,569,581
Detention Center	<u>2,847,965</u>	Title XX/TANF Job Re-entry	143,237	Other	<u>2,470,166</u>
Total County Funding	\$8,693,491	Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice	271,984	Total Expenditures	\$16,748,622
		Juvenile Accountability Block	14,205		
		Victims of Crime	32,039		
		National CASA (2)	45,000		
		Title II DMC	8,977		
		OJJDP Family Drug Court	171,268		
		National School Lunch Program	89,487		
		Title XX for Guardian Ad Litem	265,169		
		TANF for Family Resource Center	370,000		
		State Victims Assistance	3,286		
		Supreme Court Improvement Funds	32,148		
		Title IV-D	34,432		
		CASA Volunteer Board	82,643		
		Ohio MHS Specialized Docket Subsidy	56,686		
		Summit Co. ADM Detention MH Services	186,260		
		Casey Foundation JDAI	<u>15,475</u>		
		Total State/Federal Grant funding:	\$8,055,131		

STATE/FEDERAL FUNDED SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACTS TO COURT

<u>SERVICE PROVIDER</u>	<u>CONTRACT AMOUNT</u>
Day Treatment	
Akron UMADAOP	55,000.00
Electronic Monitoring	
Oriana House, Inc.	85,000.00
Out of Home Placement	
Shelter Care Youth Assessment Shelter	137,750.00
Juvenile Court share of Summit County Family And Children First Council/Summit County Cluster for Youth Funding Agreement	100,000.00
Short Term out of home placement	
Shelter Care Youth Assessment	220,000.00
Integrated Co-Occurring Treatment (ICT)	
Child Guidance & Family Solutions	159,000.00
Drug/Alcohol Assessments Services	
Community Health Center	32,000.00
Summit County Health District	55,346.00
Mentoring	
CYO and Community Services	25,000.00
Akron UMADAOP	16,150.00
Akron Area YMCA	16,150.00
Mental Health Counseling	
Child Guidance & Family Solutions	25,000.00
Competency Evaluations	
Summit Psychological Associates	15,000.00
Community Service/Restitution Program	
Funds to victims	50,000.00
Long Term out of Home Placement	
Various Placement Agencies	600,000.00
Diversion Programming	
Distributed in varying amounts to 14 Police Departments and Sheriff's Office	208,575.00
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Model Program	
Village Network	144,000.00
Parent Advocates for Court Involved Youth	
Mental Health America of Summit County	10,000.00
Youth & Family Counseling	
Greenleaf Family Center	45,000.00

Court Funding



Additional 2015 Funding

Prepared by Grants Administrator, Woody Tyrrell

In addition to the county's general fund and formula funding from state/federal sources that sustain its operation, the Court actively pursues additional revenue through local, state and federal agency grant funding. These funds are typically used to create, maintain or expand programs at the Court aimed at meeting our goal of assuring that each child entering the Court leaves with increased opportunity for success in school, work, family relationships and the community. ***In 2015, grant funding committed to the court for special programming totaled \$1,707,953.56. Twenty-four (24) full- and part-time court positions and several positions for community service providers are supported by these funding streams.*** The programs either fully or partially operated by this funding in 2015 are:

Intensive Probation Supervision, \$14,205: The Court's Probation Officers offer intense services and case management to high risk offenders. Most Intensive Probation cases are placed on a suspended commitment through the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS). All participants are engaged in a minimum of 32 hours per week in structured activities. ***Funding is provided by Federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funds and administered by the Ohio Department of Youth Services.***

The Peace Justice and Equality Committee received **\$9,693.00** to create and implement innovative Restorative Justice programming in targeted communities as a way of addressing **Disproportionate Minority Contact** in Summit County. ***Funding is provided by Federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funds and administered by the Ohio Department of Youth Services.***

The Family Resource Center, \$400,000: Intensive case management is delivered to court-referred, at-risk youth and their families at the court and in the community. The FRC is also a resource for other youth and the community as a whole. It serves as a central point of referral for all services available throughout Summit County for youth and their families. More than 400 families were served in 2015. ***Funding is provided by Federal TANF/PRC funds administered by the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, Russell M. Pry, Executive.***

The Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice Program, \$353,324.00: Intensive probation and case management services, drug/alcohol/mental health treatment and/or cognitive behavioral therapy is delivered in home families of youth who are at the greatest risk of commitment to Department of Youth Service institutions. Approximately 50 youth and their families are served annually. ***Funding is provided by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the program is administered in collaboration with the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board.***

Jobs Re-entry Program, \$115,000: provides intensive case management services to 20-30 youth/year in the custody of the Ohio Department of Youth Services and after their release aimed at developing life and job skills, linking them to education and training opportunities, jobs, higher education, providing mentoring and generally helping to transition them successfully back into their families and the community. ***Funding is provided by the Federal Title XX/TANF funds administered by the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, Russell M. Pry, Executive.***

Family Reunification through Recovery Court Program with a second year award of **\$159,309 (\$538,636 3-year total):** creates a specialized docket intended to re-unite and stabilize family units through the provision of suitable Intensive treatment and intervention for families who have had their children removed as a result of substance abuse or when it has been determined to be a major contributing factor to the children's removal. The court closely collaborates with Summit County Children's Services and a host of other county agencies and providers in partnership with

the county's federally funded STARS program. ***Funding is provided by the United States Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.***

Restore Court, Human Trafficking Specialized Docket for identified victims of human trafficking and youth found to be at high risk for becoming victims, was awarded **\$149,445.00** in 2015 by the **Ohio Department of Youth Services under its Competitive RECLAIM funding project**. The program offers youth an array of services including case management, therapy/counseling and targeted mentoring through community partners and court staff as well as intensive judicial monitoring and support.

Specialized Docket funds were received in 2015 for the court's two Ohio Supreme Court certified specialized dockets—***Crossroads Co-occurring mental health and substance abuse Court*** and the ***Family Reunification through Recovery Court***. Combined, the two problem-solving courts received **\$81,103.41.00** from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as part of newly approved state legislation under House Bill 483.

The Information Technology Department received two grants from the **Supreme Court of Ohio** in 2015 to upgrade infrastructure hardware, **\$11,398.56** and to modify/upgrade the Proware case management system for abuse, neglect, dependency journal entries, **\$20,750.00**.

CASA/GAL Child Advocate Team, \$281,398: provides a team of Licensed Social Workers (LSW) GAL positions devoted to directly providing child advocacy/case management services to children removed from their homes. Typically, these professionals are assigned in place of volunteer CASAs when the youth removed from the home are also involved in delinquency cases, when they are placed outside of Summit County and extensive travel will be involved for the assigned worker or in otherwise complicated/complex removals. ***Funding is provided by Federal Title XX/TANF funds administered by the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, Russell M. Pry, Executive.***

Additional CASA/GAL Program Funding awarded in 2015 was again provided by a variety of sources including:

Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, \$97,542 for operating costs and State Victims Assistance Act (SVAA), \$3,286 for supplies and technology were received through and administered by the ***State of Ohio Attorney General's Office.***

The **National CASA Association** granted the CASA/GAL Program **\$11,500** to partially fund staff and training to support specialized and targeted work with youth in Children Services custody who were exposed to substance abuse.

The Summit County CASA Volunteer Board Association also generously contributes significant funds to the CASA program as reported in the CASA Program section of this annual report.

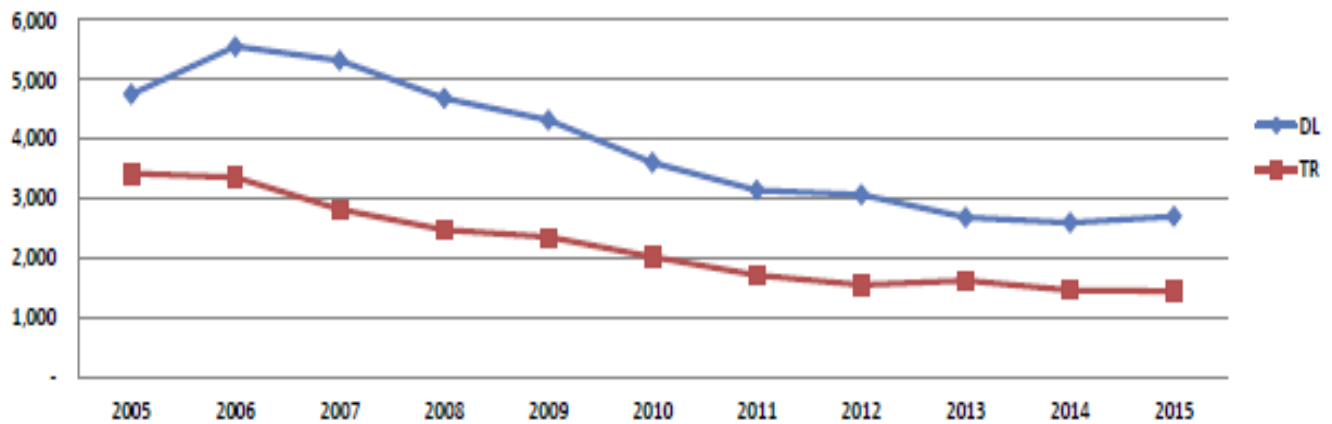
RECLAIM Ohio Funding

Marking one decade, the Court was one of the top two counties in Ohio in receiving RECLAIM Ohio funds. The Court received those funds based on the number of felony adjudications and Ohio Department of Youth Services bed-day usage. Those numbers are factored into a formula and compared to the activity of other counties in the state. The funding is a product of responsible management at the Court while providing innovative programming and education at the community level. This has allowed the Court to enhance its rehabilitation for youth who remain under Court supervision. This has resulted in a decrease in bed-days, which is becoming a positive trend. For example, during fiscal year 2015, there were 572 less bed-days used than in fiscal year 2014. As a result, in fiscal year 2015, the Court yielded \$4.28 million, or a 13.99% share, of available RECLAIM funds from the State of Ohio.

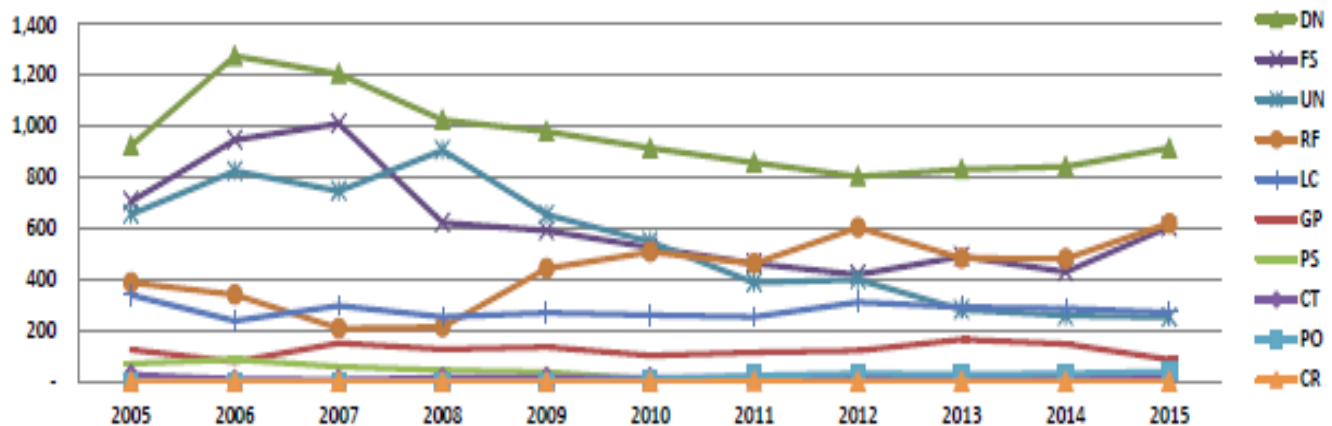
2015 By the Numbers

Case Type	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
DL	4,751	5,555	5,320	4,688	4,319	3,601	3,139	3,064	2,682	2,591	2,700
TR	3,419	3,359	2,821	2,475	2,351	2,016	1,709	1,549	1,625	1,458	1,442
DN	924	1,276	1,207	1,025	980	915	858	805	832	843	915
FS	707	947	1,012	623	592	526	464	420	492	431	607
UN	656	826	747	907	654	549	388	401	283	259	253
RF	388	341	210	214	444	509	463	605	485	483	621
LC	339	238	298	255	270	261	254	312	293	288	272
GP	126	79	151	128	136	103	115	123	165	148	88
PS	72	87	60	46	38	9	9	14	14	10	11
CT	28	10	9	16	18	17	18	17	13	19	15
PO	-	-	-	-	-	10	25	33	30	34	40
CR	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-
Total	11,410	12,718	11,835	10,377	9,803	8,516	7,444	7,343	6,914	6,565	6,964

Case Type 10 year Trend 2005 - 2015



Case Type 10 year Trend 2005 - 2015



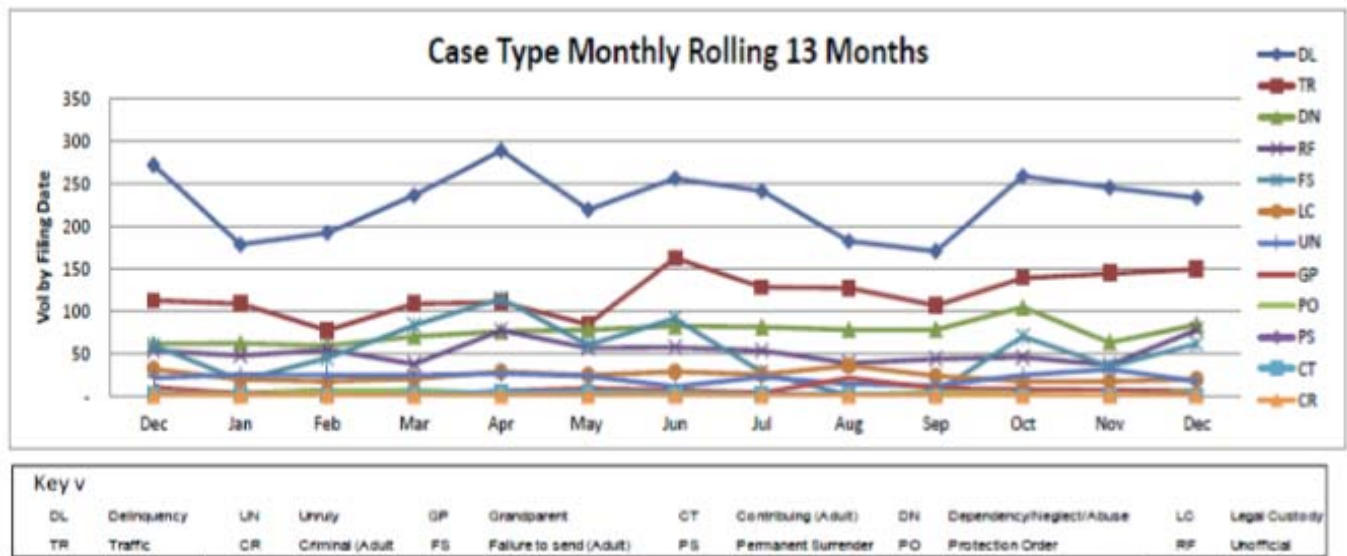
Key v

DL	Delinquency	UN	Unruly	GP	grandparent	CT	Contributing (Adult)	DN	Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	LC	Legal Custody
TR	Traffic	CR	Criminal (Adult)	FS	Failure to send (Adult)	PS	Permanent surrender	PO	Protection order	RF	Unofficial

2015 By the Numbers, con't.

Case Type Monthly Breakout

	2014	2015												2015 % of	2015
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Total
DL	272	178	192	236	289	219	256	241	182	170	259	245	233	38.77%	2,700
TR	112	108	77	108	110	84	162	128	127	106	139	144	149	20.71%	1,442
DN	61	62	59	70	76	78	82	81	78	78	104	63	84	13.14%	915
RF	53	47	54	37	77	56	57	53	38	43	45	36	78	8.92%	621
FS	59	18	44	83	114	60	91	27	1	4	70	34	61	8.72%	607
LC	31	19	17	20	28	24	28	25	35	23	17	17	19	3.91%	272
UN	21	25	24	24	26	23	11	22	14	12	24	31	17	3.63%	253
GP	10	3	7	1	6	9	7	4	21	9	8	7	6	1.26%	88
PO	3	2	6	7	3	4	3	2	2	4	2	-	5	0.57%	40
PS	1	1	-	-	2	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	2	0.16%	11
CT	1	-	-	2	5	4	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	0.22%	15
CR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%	-
Total	624	463	480	588	736	562	701	586	500	449	668	577	654	100.00%	6,964



Case Type by Gender

Felony	This Month			2015 Totals			2014 Totals			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
BURGLARY	-	9	9	7	113	120	5	77	82	40.00%	46.75%	46.34%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	-	7	7	13	87	100	11	39	50	18.18%	123.08%	100.00%
BREAKING AND ENTERING	-	7	7	1	26	27	1	17	18	0.00%	52.94%	50.00%
FELONIOUS ASSAULT	2	4	6	5	16	21	12	18	30	-58.33%	-11.11%	-30.00%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	2	3	5	6	26	32	6	20	26	0.00%	30.00%	23.08%
THEFT	2	3	5	6	37	43	9	32	41	-33.33%	15.63%	4.88%
OTHER FELONY	6	21	264	41	276	317	65	267	332	-36.92%	3.37%	-4.52%
Total Felony	12	54	303	79	581	660	109	470	579	-27.52%	23.62%	13.99%
Misdemeanor	This Month			Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
CHRONIC TRUANCY	31	35	66	222	247	469	186	202	388	19.35%	22.28%	20.88%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	18	18	36	138	195	333	192	275	467	-28.13%	-29.09%	-28.69%
THEFT	7	21	28	216	311	527	118	170	288	83.05%	82.94%	82.99%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	9	18	27	126	179	305	126	174	300	0.00%	2.87%	1.67%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	0	19	19	19	157	176	33	110	143	-42.42%	42.73%	23.08%
OTHER MISDEMEANOR	34	93	127	423	1,058	1,481	377	997	1,374	12.20%	6.12%	7.79%
Total Misdemeanor	99	204	303	1,144	2,147	3,291	1,032	1,928	2,960	10.85%	11.36%	11.18%
Status	This Month			Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
UNRULY CHILD DEFINED	19	24	43	230	330	560	215	299	514	6.98%	10.37%	8.95%
PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO CIGARETTES OR TOBACCO	-	4	4	9	22	31	5	6	11	80.00%	266.67%	181.82%
UNRULY BY REASON OF INCORRIGIBILITY	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE	-	1	1	5	6	11	1	4	5	400.00%	50.00%	120.00%
UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE DID USE OR POSSESS	-	1	1	-	-	-	11	19	30	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%
Total Status	19	31	50	244	358	602	232	328	560	5.17%	9.15%	7.50%
Combined	This Month			Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Total All	130	289	656	1,467	3086	4553	1,373	2726	4099	-6.41%	-11.67%	-9.97%
% Felony	9.2%	18.7%	46.2%	5.4%	18.8%	14.5%	7.9%	17.2%	14.1%	-32.17%	9.20%	2.62%
% Misdemeanor	76.2%	70.6%	46.2%	78.0%	69.6%	72.3%	75.2%	70.7%	72.2%	3.75%	-1.63%	0.10%
% Status	14.6%	10.7%	7.6%	16.6%	11.6%	13.2%	16.9%	12.0%	13.7%	-1.57%	-3.59%	-3.22%

2015 By the Numbers, con't

Charges by Gender and Bi-Yearly Comparison

Felony	2015 Totals			2014 Totals			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
BURGLARY	7	113	120	5	77	82	40.00%	46.75%	46.34%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	13	87	100	11	39	50	18.18%	123.08%	100.00%
BREAKING AND ENTERING	1	26	27	1	17	18	0.00%	52.94%	50.00%
FELONIOUS ASSAULT	5	16	21	12	18	30	-58.33%	-11.11%	-30.00%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	6	26	32	6	20	26	0.00%	30.00%	23.08%
THEFT	6	37	43	9	32	41	-33.33%	15.63%	4.88%
OTHER FELONY	41	276	317	65	267	332	-36.92%	3.37%	-4.52%
Total Felony	79	581	660	109	470	579	-27.52%	23.62%	13.99%
Misdemeanor	Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
CHRONIC TRUANCY	222	247	469	186	202	388	19.35%	22.28%	20.88%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	138	195	333	192	275	467	-28.13%	-29.09%	-28.69%
THEFT	216	311	527	118	170	288	83.05%	82.94%	82.99%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	126	179	305	126	174	300	0.00%	2.87%	1.67%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	19	157	176	33	110	143	-42.42%	42.73%	23.08%
OTHER MISDEMEANOR	423	1,058	1,481	377	997	1,374	12.20%	6.12%	7.79%
Total Misdemeanor	1,144	2,147	3,291	1,032	1,928	2,960	10.85%	11.36%	11.18%
Status	Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
UNRULY CHILD DEFINED	230	330	560	215	299	514	6.98%	10.37%	8.95%
PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO CIGARETTES OR TOBACCO	9	22	31	5	6	11	80.00%	266.67%	181.82%
UNRULY BY REASON OF INCORRIGIBILITY	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE	5	6	11	1	4	5	400.00%	50.00%	120.00%
UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE DID USE OR POSSESS	-	-	-	11	19	30	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%
Total Status	244	358	602	232	328	560	5.17%	9.15%	7.50%
Combined	Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Total All	1,467	3,086	4,553	1,373	2,726	4,099	-6.41%	-11.67%	-9.97%
% Felony	5.4%	18.8%	14.5%	7.9%	17.2%	14.1%	-32.17%	9.20%	2.62%
% Misdemeanor	78.0%	69.6%	72.3%	75.2%	70.7%	72.2%	3.75%	-1.63%	0.10%
% Status	16.6%	11.6%	13.2%	16.9%	12.0%	13.7%	-1.57%	-3.59%	-3.22%
Felony	2015 Totals			2014 Totals			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
PAROLE VIOLATION	-	14	14	-	12	12	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%
PROBATION VIOLATION	31	199	230	73	270	343	-57.53%	-26.30%	-32.94%
VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER	8	20	28	1	13	14	700.00%	53.85%	100.00%
Total Felony	39	233	272	74	295	369	-47.30%	-21.02%	-26.29%
Misdemeanor	Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
PROBATION VIOLATION	50	77	127	57	106	163	-12.28%	-27.36%	-22.09%
VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER	38	55	93	81	107	188	-53.09%	-48.60%	-50.53%
Total Misdemeanor	88	132	220	138	213	351	-36.23%	-38.03%	-37.32%
Status	Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER	-	-	-	2	3	5	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Total Status	-	-	-	2	3	5	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Combined	Year to Date			Year to Date Last Year			Percent Inc/Dec Over Last Year		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Total All	127	365	492	214	511	725	-40.65%	-28.57%	-32.14%
% Felony	30.7%	63.8%	55.3%	34.6%	57.7%	50.9%	-11.19%	10.58%	8.62%
% Misdemeanor	69.3%	36.2%	44.7%	64.5%	41.7%	48.4%	7.45%	-13.24%	-7.64%
% Status	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%

2015 By the Numbers, con't

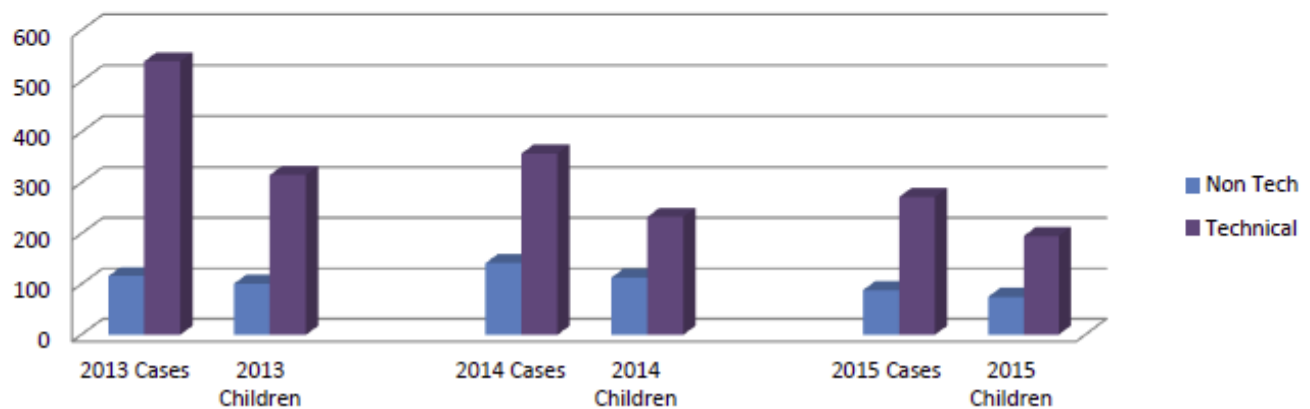
Probation Violations, Traditional & Non-Traditional

	2013 Cases	2013 Children
Non Tech	116	101
Technical	539	316
Total	655	417

	2014 Cases	2014 Children
Non Tech	142	113
Technical	358	233
Total	500	346

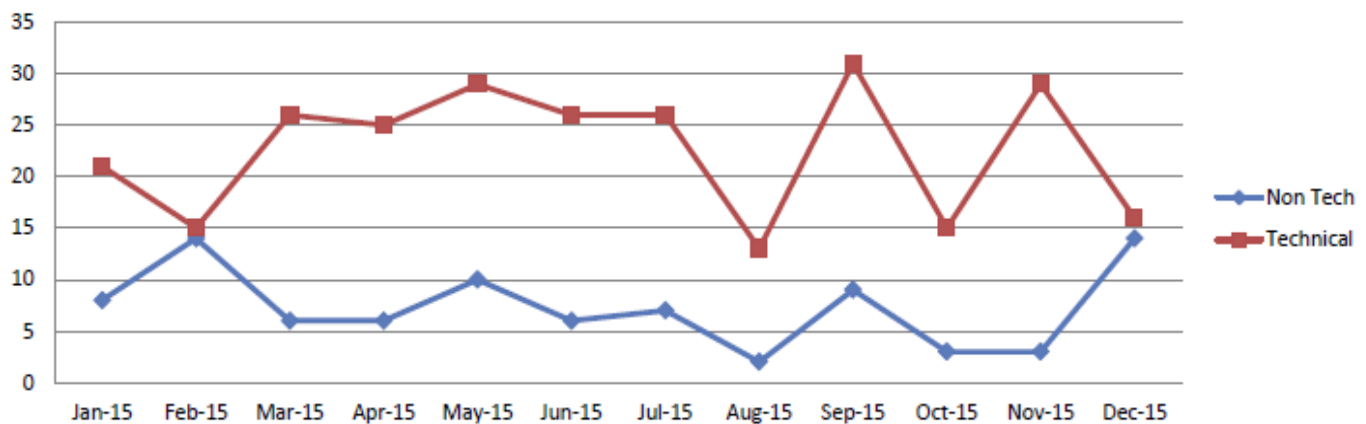
	2015 Cases	2015 Children
Non Tech	88	75
Technical	272	195
Total	360	270

Probation Violations NT/T



	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	2015 Totals
Non Tech	8	14	6	6	10	6	7	2	9	3	3	14	88
Technical	21	15	26	25	29	26	26	13	31	15	29	16	272
Total	29	29	32	31	39	32	33	15	40	18	32	30	360

Probation Violations NT/T Monthly Trend



Detention Services
Phil Lucco, Superintendent

The Summit County Juvenile Court's Detention Center reached an important milestone in 2015 when it received accreditation from the American Correctional Association (ACA), culminating a goal of Judge Teodosio's administration of the Court. The ACA began its audit of Detention Center operations in 2014 and notified the Court that it achieved an overall rating of 98.66 and, in May 2015, received its formal certification of accreditation.

Receiving accreditation status demonstrates that the Detention Center staff strives to provide a safe and secure environment for the youth who are housed in the facility while promoting public safety.

The Summit County Juvenile Detention Center consists of seven main housing units plus two annex units, making the total capacity for 100 juveniles, although the daily population averages 41 youth, 37 males and four females.

Full-time Detention Center staff members are required to receive a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education and training annually. All Detention staff members are responsible for providing a safe and secure environment for juveniles, personnel and other persons, and assist with the security of the facility. Detention Officers are also responsible for transporting juveniles to Court hearings, medical appointments, counseling appointments, diagnostic evaluations and other appointments deemed necessary by the Court.

Education remains an important facet of Detention Center operations. Certified Akron Public School teachers offer courses in health, history, language arts, math, reading and science. When the youth re-enters school upon release, a school counselor assures that the curriculum the youth studied while in Detention is reported to the school he or she attends. Recognizing that youth learn at different levels, Judge Teodosio worked to have the PLATO educational program installed on a new computer lab. PLATO allows youth to learn particular courses at their own rate of aptitude. Credit recovery from the courses studied while in the Detention Center can now be applied to their record and assist in receiving the necessary credits needed to graduate from high school. Additional tutorial services are provided by Akron Public Schools through the Title I Program.

Judge Teodosio implemented a 100 Book Challenge to promote reading, and today, some members of Summit County Library staff come in once a week so youth can check out books from the Detention library.

The Detention Center also has an active garden in which the youth grow vegetables that are available at a salad bar Judge Teodosio had installed in the cafeteria. The flowers are transplanted on the grounds of the Juvenile Court Center campus. The Court hopes to expand the gardening project in the coming year.

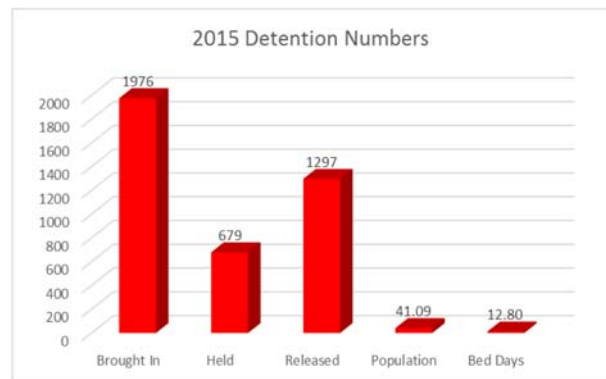
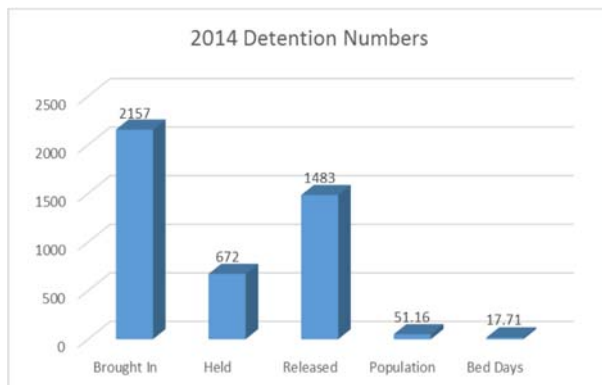
Creative writing and art programs continue to be offered and the result of that creativity can be seen in the Detention Center lobby where adult volunteers and some Detention Center youth designed and created various murals depicting Akron's skyline and landmarks as well as messages promoting diversity and unity.

The Detention Center has also employed the methods of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and continues to work to maintain the high standards it seeks to achieve. In fact,

the Summit County Juvenile Court was one of the JDAI model sites in the state of Ohio and it takes its role and the mission of JDAI seriously.

In 2015:

- **1,976** juveniles were brought into the Summit County Juvenile Detention Facility. Whenever a juvenile is brought to Detention they go through the Intake process which consists of reviewing all paperwork and having the Detention Risk Assessment completed to determine whether the juvenile should be held or released.
- **679** juveniles were held in the detention facility; 506 were males and 173 were females.
- **1,297** were released through the aforementioned admission process which consists of having the Detention Risk Assessment completed and the juvenile scoring below 24 points.
- The average daily population of the facility was **41.09**.
- The average bed days in Detention were **12.80 days** (the average bed days represent the number of days a juvenile held in Detention spends in the facility from the time assigned to a unit until departure/release). There were **13** juveniles who had motions filed to have them bound over to the adult system. The Detention Facility continues to use the Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment device which provides information to allow staff make better decisions as to which juveniles should be to be held in Detention and which can be released.



JUVENILE COURT DETENTION CENTER RECEIVES ACCREDITATION

It took years of planning, 18 months of implementing change and 72 hours of intense scrutiny to finally come to a moment in a hotel ballroom in Columbus on May 31st that lasted two minutes. That is when the Summit County Juvenile Court's Detention Center received a certificate formalizing its accreditation status from the American Correctional Association (ACA) after a final examination of the Court's application and adherence to ACA requirements.

It was worth the wait.

The process began in earnest in October 2014 when ACA representatives spent three days evaluating the Detention Center. The process was thorough and painstaking. The ACA requires applicants to meet a menu of 420 items that vary from the mundane to the meticulous. In particular, there were 28 mandatory items the Detention Center had to pass otherwise it would have automatically failed the audit. The ACA reviewed the Detention Center's compliance in the areas of safety, security, physical plants, food service, education, staff development and training and other detention facility operations.

In the end, the Court passed all of the mandatory areas and posted an impressive overall rating of 98.66%.

"This is a testament to the hard work and the teamwork of the Detention Center staff," said Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio. "The Detention Center receiving its designation as an accredited correctional facility indicates that it is operating at the highest standards established by the leading organization of its kind in the nation."

The ACA also reviewed the Court's policies and procedures for the Detention Center. Writing those policies was the task of Melissa Gerney, who joined the Court staff nearly three years ago. She worked closely with Detention Superintendent Phil Lucco to implement the necessary changes to meet the ACA's requirements.

Accepting those changes was another challenge introduced in the accreditation process. Detention staff members were being asked to alter their workplace practices to adhere to the ACA standards.



Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio holds certificate acknowledging the Detention Center's accreditation status.

"It's human nature to resist change, especially when your detention facility is operating well, as ours is," stated Ms. Gerney. "But there were areas that needed to be addressed to meet those ACA requirements and that meant accepting new ways to do their old practices."



Judge Teodosio, far left, with Detention Superintendent Phil Lucco and Melissa Gerney, who wrote the policies that helped the Detention Center attain its accreditation designation.

The results were encouraging. Superintendent Lucco said he received feedback from Detention Supervisors and Detention Officers who lauded the changes and acknowledged that some of the new policies and procedures brought a fresh outlook to how to better do their jobs.

"Getting everybody on the same page resulted in a lot of discussion," said Lucco. "In the end, consensus was reached through a myriad of methods including using examples of how accredited facilities handled certain situations; modifying existing practices we used in our own facility and following the leadership and advice of Judge Teodosio and Court administrators."

The ACA is nationally recognized as the most influential voice for best practices in corrections. But is such scrutiny really necessary? Is receiving accreditation that important? Judge Teodosio has no doubt that it is.

"While it means that we have received the ultimate recognition from the standard-bearer in corrections, it goes beyond that, for me," said Judge Teodosio. "It also gives the Detention staff something to aspire to sustain every day they come to their jobs. They take pride in their work. Receiving accreditation demonstrates that not only to them, but to the entire community."

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)

2015 marked the beginning of the 6 year of involvement for Summit County Juvenile Court in the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), as supported by a grant through the Ohio Department of Youth Services through the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF). A specific achievement and product of two years of planning and collaboration between members of the JDAI Case Processing Committee, was the completion of a one-year pilot of a juvenile summons process for Summit County law enforcement jurisdictions. Piloted by the Barberton Police Department under the leadership of Chief Vince Morber, the juvenile summons offers law enforcement officers an alternative means to summons, or ticket youth who commit low level delinquent acts in the community to court. This summons alternative effectively reduces the amount of time an officer will spend processing a complaint against a youth, thereby affording them the opportunity to remain on duty in the community.



Historically, JDAI work was focused on finding alternatives to detention for pre-adjudicated youth; those who are in our system and have not yet been found delinquent of the act for which they have been accused. In 2014, the Casey Foundation expanded the JDAI work into the “Deep End” of the system, looking at post-adjudicated youth; those who have been found delinquent of their offenses, and are at the highest risk for out-of-home placement as a result of their delinquency involvement. The Summit County Juvenile Court was selected as a Deep End site in July of 2015. As a Deep End reform site, the Court will undergo an extensive data collection and analysis process. This analysis will allow for a better understanding of dispositional trends within the system, leading to the development of a plan of action intent on safely reducing the use of out-of-home placements for youth who do not pose a threat to public safety.



The Peace, Justice and Equality Committee is an element of the JDAI initiative, and the movement received some valuable assistance from The University of Akron's Urban Studies Department which will provide training for volunteers seeking to become Peace Keepers. These volunteers undergo a three-day training to learn how to facilitate and moderate Peace Circles which are designed to promote and encourage communication between youth, law enforcement and neighbors. The Peace Circles are diversionary in nature and seek to foster understanding between all parties involved in a dispute.

The PJE movement also conducted community events to introduce the PJ&E concept to the community. More such events are scheduled in the coming year with the eventual goal to make the Peace, Justice & Equality movement truly a community-based program.

Clerk's Office

Donald Lomax, Chief Deputy Clerk

All pertinent information concerning official Court proceedings is processed and filed with the Clerk's Office. The Clerk's Office is also responsible for responding to requests for files from the Judge and Magistrates. The office also provides requested information to appointed counsel, attorneys, prosecutors, law enforcement, agencies and private citizens.

Evidence from cases also comes under the purview of the Clerk's Office as does the mailing of notification to all parties regarding Court hearings. All Court costs and fines are collected by staff members. In 2015, \$210,430.49 were collected by the Clerk's Office in the form of fines and Court costs, restitution, credit card fees and application fees.

The staff members of the Clerk's Office are often the primary contacts for those coming to Court seeking information about the cases and filing documents. Many people visiting the Court are here under difficult circumstances and the Clerk's Office works hard to accommodate their needs and provide the information they are seeking in an expedient and efficient manner.

In 2015, the Clerk's Office collected a total of \$217,994.49 in various fees. Of this amount, \$117,480.31 was collected from computer and legal research special fees, county and clerk fees, indigent application fees and credit card fees. \$76,625.60 was yielded from Indigent Drivers Alcohol treatment, Indigent Defense Support and the Legal Aid Society Fund. The driver intervention SAFTE Program totaled \$6,750 in fees. Restitution accounted for \$6,477, \$6,073 was paid into the Juvenile Court Clerk Fund, \$3,002 was received from the payment of fines and Court costs from delinquency, unruly and adult cases, and \$1,586.42 was collected from merchant services.

Noted below are the monthly filings received by the Clerk's Office:

MONTH	TRIAL JUDGE	TRIAL MAGIST RATE	DISMISS	ADM JUDGE	ADM MAGIS TRATE	CERTIFI CATION	UNAVA ILABLE	TRANSF ER	REFERR AL PRIVAT E JUDGE	INTERLO CUTORY	OTHER TERM
January	7	57	130	19	273	1	37	5	0	0	72
February	2	25	85	18	220	12	62	9	0	0	47
March	6	93	276	36	253	1	40	19	0	0	14
April	15	92	88	32	219	1	36	4	0	0	23
May	3	88	130	24	324	1	68	28	0	0	27
June	6	43	118	39	293	0	53	11	0	0	19
July	8	64	124	25	298	1	97	12	0	0	29
August	14	108	95	45	264	0	107	22	0	0	94
September	9	141	126	51	230	0	95	21	0	0	31
October	12	119	120	57	279	13	40	20	1	0	6
November	11	133	104	19	218	1	47	7	0	0	92
December	11	80	140	30	299	1	45	11	0	0	14
TOTALS	104	1043	1536	395	3170	32	727	169	1	0	468

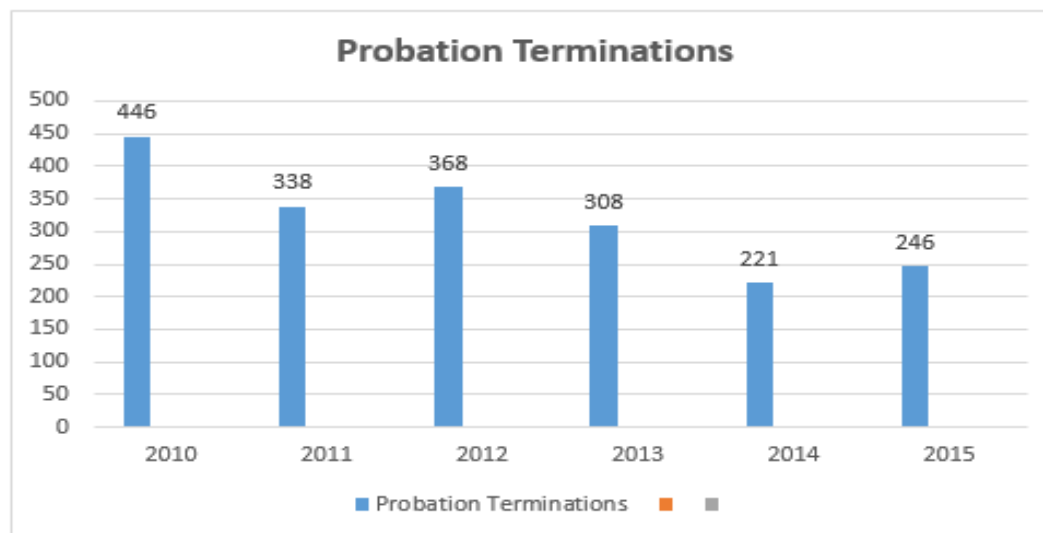
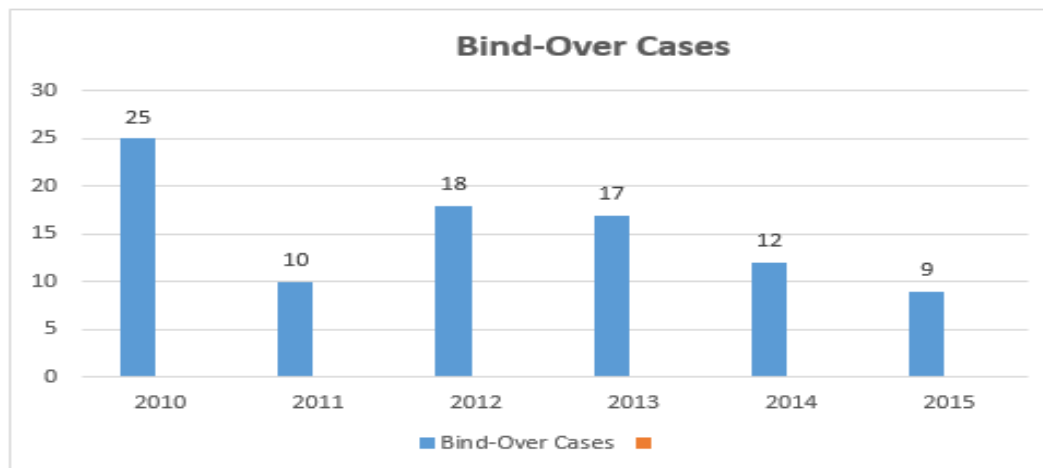
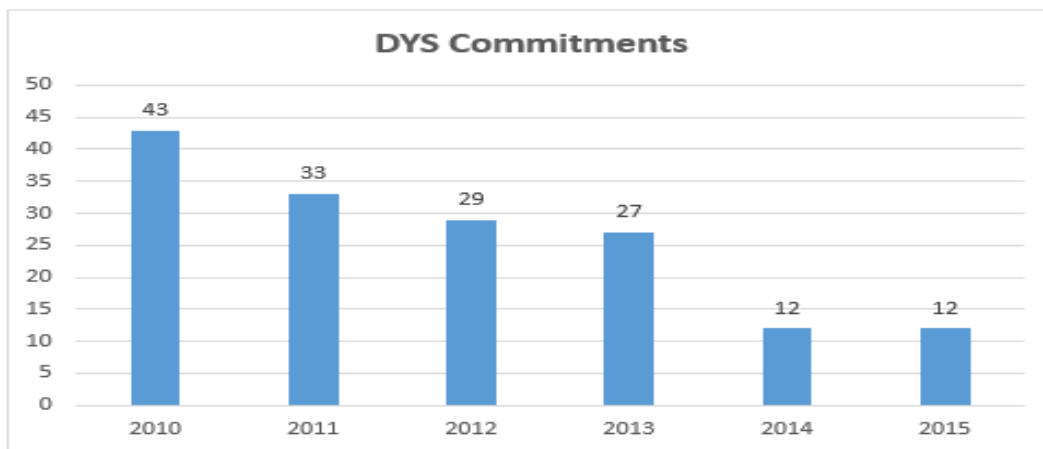
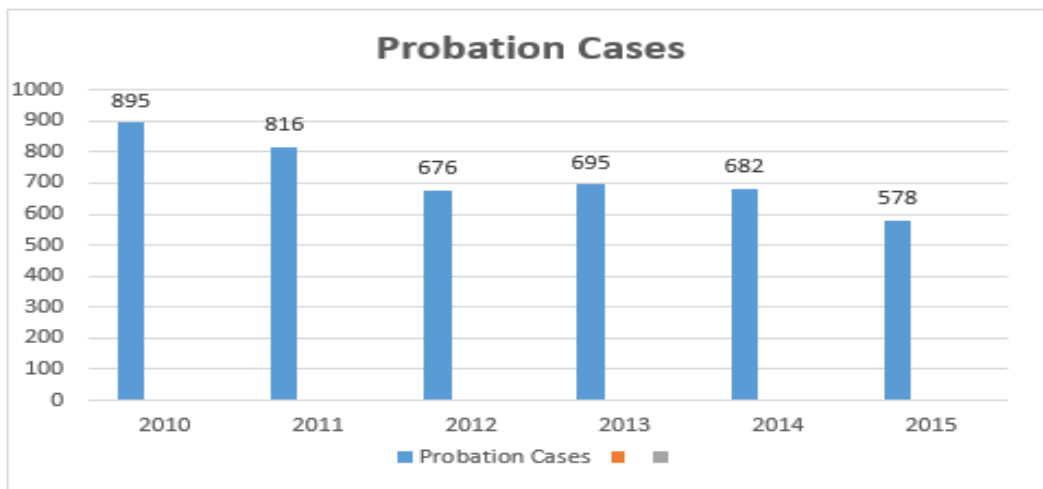
Traditional Probation Department
Curtis Howard, Chief Probation Officer

The Probation Department strives to meet three primary objectives: community safety, offender accountability and practical rehabilitation of offenders. In 2015, the department was responsible for the supervision and investigation of 578 cases, which included 332 new cases and 246 cases that were carried over from the previous year. The number of cases served in 2015 was less than the previous year's total of 682 cases.

Probation case assignments are based on geographic districts, allowing Probation Officers to establish and maintain rapport with clients, families, schools and agencies within a district. The average caseload for Probation Officers in 2015 was approximately 25 cases for each Probation Officer. The Probation staff consists of Probation Officers, Probation Community Workers, Case Managers, a Probation Supervisor, an Administrative Assistant and the Chief Probation Officer. The Department collaborates internally and with community partners to serve our youth and families.

There were 12 youth who were committed or revoked to the Ohio Department of Youth Services in the 2015 calendar year. Six were on probation at the time they were committed. In 2015, the number of cases transferred from the Juvenile Division of Common Pleas Court to the General Division totaled nine. There were nine bindover cases of which seven were mandatory and two were discretionary. In 2015, 246 cases were successfully terminated from probation supervision.

The Probation Department and the community continued to benefit from two grants that supported evidence-based programs. The Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice Grant supported two community-based programs that provided intensive in-home therapy for youth and parents. In 2015, 39 families engaged in intensive home-based therapeutic programs. The Targeted RECLAIM Grant supported additional services including the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy model "Thinking for a Change" groups which served 57 detention youth and 37 community youth. The Probation Officers and Probation Community Workers delivered 376 EPICS (Effective Practices In Community Settings) and F-EPICS (Family Effective Practice In Community Settings) interventions in 2015, as well as additional evidence-based interventions



Intake Department
Lynda Mullins, Supervisor

The Intake Department is often the first contact youthful offenders have when becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. Upon referral, the staff of the Intake Department is charged with gathering pertinent information about the youth's background, family dynamic and demographics, and other information that can be assessed to determine the recommendations the staff members render to the Court for disposition.

In 2015, the Intake Department underwent some re-evaluation and renewed planning in the manner in which it goes about performing its duties. The department realized that some programs could be updated. This has been a work in progress as it reviews practices, scheduling and available programming at the Court and in the community. This re-evaluation is aimed at achieving and maintaining one goal: to provide the best services to clients and to address their individualized needs while emphasizing community safety and assuring compliance to Court policies and procedures.

Intake staff continues to apply the Motivational Interviewing techniques for which they were recently trained that offers concepts that could be used during interviews to reach resistant clients. In 2015, the Intake Department worked closely with Information Technology staff to expedite data that examined referral numbers, trends and recidivism that could be useful in decisions determining placement.

This allows Intake staff to adhere to the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) philosophy that has been embraced by the Court since 2011 which seeks to keep youth in the home and providing community-based services without compromising public safety. This was particularly significant in 2015, as the Court took the next important step forward in the JDAI movement by employing the deep end approach to newly-adjudicated youth who are at-risk for out-of-home placement.

The Intake Department has also had to adjust the manner in which it accepts truancy referrals. State legislators have mandated that schools take a greater responsibility in addressing those students struggling with attendance. When a truancy referral does come to the Court, Intake staff decided to work with the Court's Family Resource Center's mediation program, a decision that has worked well.

CASA/GAL Program

Beth Cardina, Program Director

With a blend of compassion, commitment and conscientiousness, the CASA/GAL volunteers and staff work vigilantly to assure that the Court is given information that compels the Court to act in the best interests of the child.

Volunteers complete a thorough, mandatory 40-hour training program to become advocates for abused, neglected and dependent children who come in contact with the Court system through no fault of their own. Through collaboration with key service agencies and legal counsel and utilizing other community resources, the volunteers make recommendations on behalf of the child during Court hearings. The CASA/GAL volunteers investigate and monitor many facets of the child's background and make assessments to the Court based on their findings.

The Juvenile Court funds the CASA/GAL Program, but the program also receives grants from the Victims of Crime Act and the State Victims Assistance Act. Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry offers funding from Federal Title XX/TANF funds administered through the county's Department of Job and Family Services. The National CASA Program and several local foundations, businesses and organizations also provide much-needed funding. Additionally, the local CASA Board Volunteer Association partners with the Court to assist in the mission of the program and its volunteers. The CASA Board is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that contributed over \$78,000 to the program's general operating costs in 2015.



Judge Teodosio, seated, center, with graduates from the CASA/GAL 2015 winter training class.

The CASA/GAL Program also benefits from donations from the Kimberly S. Denholm Charities, community grants and the Juvenile Court's Women's Board to underwrite the program's annual Holiday Toy Shop, which purchases gifts that are selected and delivered to the children by their CASA volunteer. In 2015, over 400 children received an early and happier holiday because of the efforts of the CASA/GAL Program and their advocates.

It is the task of the 17-member staff of the CASA/GAL Program to assure that the volunteers have the materials and support that they need to see each of their cases through to a successful end. In 2014, 257 volunteer child advocates provided a voice for over 1,000 dependent, abused or neglected children in Juvenile Court proceedings. The number of children served by the program ranks as the highest of any CASA/GAL Program in the state of Ohio and positions the program as one of the largest in the nation.

Crossroads Program and New Paths Probation Unit

Katy VanHorn, Program Supervisor

It is the first program Judge Teodosio sought to implement when she became Juvenile Court Judge in 2003. The program, called Crossroads, was grounded in community collaboration and aimed to offer youth facing the challenges of substance misuse and mental health issues a chance to be held accountable for their actions while working to unveil the core impulses that led to those actions and find a way to correct them.

By viewing substance misuse and mental health issues as co-occurring disorders, the Crossroads Program developed an intensive probation program for youth who were referred to and accepted into the program.

Judge Teodosio's visionary program has resulted in national acceptance and recognition. It has become a model for other Juvenile Courts statewide and beyond. The Crossroads Program received further validation in 2014 when the Ohio Supreme Court granted the program final certification as a specialized docket. Crossroads applied for recertification in 2015 and hopes to hear from the Ohio Supreme Court in early 2016.

The Crossroads Program consists of three Probation Officers and a part-time Probation Community Worker who report to the Program Supervisor. An attorney Guardian ad Litem is contracted to provide legal representation for each youth throughout their duration in the program. Crossroads is incentive-based which places a premium on accountability. The Crossroads Magistrate Kristin Maxwell conducts weekly review hearings to determine whether youth have earned the ability to move forward in the program or receive sanctions for failing to adhere to the strict guidelines contained in their case plan. Family members play an essential role in the progress a youth makes in the program, which usually takes one year to achieve graduation.

In 2015, 67 families were served by the program, including the admission of 26 new families. The program saw 15 of its participants graduate after successfully completing program requirements. Their graduation means that their admitted offenses and any subsequent violations will be dismissed and sealed. But, more importantly, they leave the program with the tools to live a clean, happy and sober lifestyle.

The Crossroads concept has been applied to another Court program, the New Paths Probation Unit. New Paths is a specialized intervention service designed to address the needs of youth with a developmental disability or cognitive delay who have become Court-involved with a delinquency issue. New Paths Probation Officers act as intake worker, probation officer and case manager for the youth and their families. They will help them navigate through the Court process while seeking suitable care for the youth through appropriate referrals to community providers.

The hallmark of New Paths is creating continuity of care and consistency. Magistrate Thomas Freeman has been assigned the New Paths docket and he will hear nearly every New Paths case. In the event a youth is adjudicated delinquent and placed on probation, the same New Paths Probation Officer will follow the youth throughout the duration of the probationary period. Progress is monitored through regular school visits, contact with service providers and regular review hearings.

Restore Court Docket Established at Court in 2015

“No one can help me.”

Those were the very words spoken by a youth who was a victim of human trafficking and saw her case referred to the Summit County Juvenile Court’s Restore Court, which was implemented in January of 2015. Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio presides over the Restore Court docket. She assured the young lady that, indeed, there was help for her. She just had to accept it.

Restore Court gives youth like that young lady an opportunity for a second chance at a normal life; a chance to make decisions on their own, a chance to be drug-free and free of the hold another has on them, to end their victimization. When the Ohio General Assembly passed the Safe Harbor Law in 2012, it provided a foundation to deliver structure, service and support for youth who have been victimized. Safe Harbor also gave local jurisdictions a wide berth on how they chose to put into place methods that could identify and curb human trafficking in their communities. Restore Court is one of the latest instruments devised to provide help to victims from being taken in by someone who then sells the youth’s services for either sexual activity or labor.

The effort got a major boost in January when it was announced that the Court applied for and won approval to receive two, three year grants totaling \$149,445 annually from Ohio’s Competitive RECLAIM fund to enter into collaboration with local agencies to develop programming to offer victims. Restore Court hopes to offer the services it provides to 25-30 youth a year.

Many youth who are trafficked have a substance misuse problem. Many are runaways who feel they are escaping from an unloving home. The predators who take in these youth make them feel as though they belong and build a trust that belies their intentions for them. The most challenging aspect of the process isn’t the resistance the youth shows toward receiving services; it is their inability or reluctance to identify themselves as victims, at all. Restore Court is designed to offer counseling and mentoring. However, the statute provides for a 90-day program, plus two, 90-day extensions.

Faced with that restricted timeframe, the individuals who work with the youth try to plant seeds, so to speak, to equip them with coping skills and resiliency skills that they can take away from their counseling to reverse the cycle and the habits acquired in the lifestyle that brought them to the Court’s attention.



Some members of the Restore Court Treatment Team gather after a session at the Court where they discuss youth on the Restore Court docket and make recommendations to the Court.

That is where the Restore Court Treatment Team comes into play. The Treatment Team is comprised of Court staff, including Case Managers, Probation Officers, CASA/GALs. They are joined by treatment providers from community service and support agencies. Restoration is a delicate balancing act because of the exploitation the youth has suffered and the alliance the youth feels toward the person exploiting them.

Thus far, the Restore Court has proven effective. In less than nine months, two youth successfully completed the program, one of them in the first 90-day cycle, the other, well, a little bit longer. One of them? The young lady who said that no one could help her. Even better, she has learned how to help herself.

In the coming year, the Court hopes to have the Ohio Supreme Court award certification of Restore Court as a Specialized Docket.

Family Re-unification through Recovery Court

Becky Ryba, Program Coordinator

The Family Re-unification through Recovery Court (FRRC) has a twofold mission: to strengthen the family unit and to assist a parent with finding the inner-strength to recover from the addiction that led to an official action that resulted in the separation of parent and children from the home.

Once Summit County Children Services identifies a parent with substance misuse issues serious enough to intervene and take temporary custody or protective supervision of any children in the home, it contacts the Court and makes a referral to the FRRC. If program qualifications are met, and from that point forward, the parent will be given a case plan from the FRRC Treatment Team aimed at recovery. The Treatment Team also makes recommendations and reports progress to the FRRC Magistrate during regular review hearings. Other family members will have services provided for them to assure their individual needs are addressed.

Selected staff members from the Court, Children Services and other agency professionals associated with the FRRC program received specialized training underwritten by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Once the parent successfully completes the requirements of the program, which places a premium on remaining substance-free, the program will move to reunite the family.

In 2015, 24 cases were referred to the FRRC Program. Four of those cases were successfully complete, six were discharged for medical or legal reasons and 14 remain active in the program with hopes of successful completion during 2016.

Court's FRRC Program Receives Re-Certification from Ohio Supreme Court

Summit County Juvenile Court Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio has announced that the Court received notification from the Ohio Supreme Court that its Family Reunification through Recovery Court (FRRC) has earned final certification as a Specialized Docket.

The FRRC received its initial certification in August 2014. The Supreme Court's 22-member Commission on Specialized Dockets chose the FRRC to undergo recertification. The Commission visited the Court, reviewed program materials and investigated whether the FRRC met certification standards.

Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor congratulated Judge Teodosio for the FRRC receiving final certification, which is effective through December 31, 2018.

"Specialized dockets have proven effective at addressing persistent criminal behaviors," said Justice O'Connor. "Specialized dockets result in significantly lower recidivism rates which means offenders become productive members of society, for which we all benefit."

Specialized dockets are Courts that are dedicated to specific types of offenses or offenders and use a combination of different techniques for holding offenders accountable while also addressing the underlying causes of their behavior. The FRRC was established in 2013, a product of a three year, \$538,000 federal grant. Representatives from Juvenile Court, Summit County Children Services (SCCS) and other community agencies received training to recognize individuals and families that can be referred to the FRRC.

The success of the FRRC is grounded in the spirit of collaboration that exists between the Court, SCCS and the treatment/recovery support services provided by such agencies as Akron UMADAOP, the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services (ADM) Board, the Community Health Center, Oriana House and Summit County Public Health.

"Obviously, I am very pleased that the program received re-certification," said Judge Teodosio. "I look forward to the FRRC continuing its mission of helping people recover from their substance misuse issue and bringing families back together."

FRRC, Program, Graduate and Son Recognized by ODYS

The Summit County Juvenile Court's Family Reunification through Recovery Court (FRRC) and one of its first program graduates received the Thomas J. Stickrath Re-entry Award from the Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) in December 2015 in Columbus. ODYS honored six programs and individuals with Community Recognition Awards as part of the Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges Winter Meeting in Columbus.

Jessica P. and her son, Gavin, were in attendance to receive the award together. Eighteen months ago, that wouldn't have been possible. Summit County Children Services had moved to take temporary custody of Gavin because of Jessica's ongoing issues with substance misuse.

Not long afterward, Jessica was referred to the FRRC. Designated as a Specialty Docket last year by the Ohio Supreme Court, the Family Reunification through Recovery Court is a collaborative effort spearheaded by the Juvenile Court and Summit County Children Services, which provides training to representatives from local agencies. The training is designed to help identify individuals and families who could be referred to the FRRC to receive the services the program provides. First, it must be ascertained that a parent has an issue with substance misuse. Secondly, Children Services must have sought some level of supervision or custody. The goal is for the parent to achieve recovery and to, subsequently, reunite the family.

Jessica fit the criteria for referral, but she hardly welcomed the opportunity, at first. Jessica likes to express herself in many ways. She is passionate, personable and a poet. She certainly didn't have a problem expressing herself when she was referred to the Summit County Juvenile Court's Family Reunification through Recovery Court (FRRC) docket. In fact, the first time she appeared before the FRRC Magistrate, she responded to an inquiry by offering a hand gesture deemed impolite and insulting by anyone's standards. She meant it, too. Consequences and conduct mattered little to her.

But, then, it happened, an unthinkable circumstance to any parent that jolted her to the core and, eventually, led her to seek a solution: she lost custody of her 10-year old son.

"That's what brought me to recovery," Jessica stated. "When that happened, I realized that I was all that he had. Even though he had to endure everything that went with my addiction, he loved me without a fault. I needed to do the same for him."

Enter the Family Reunification through Recovery Court.



Mother and son stand together following the ceremony at the Embassy Suites in Columbus.

After her referral, and after that petulant display at her first hearing, Jessica began to see that the FRRC could provide ways to recover from her addiction and, more importantly, the custody of her son. Armed with that epiphany, Jessica chose compliance over defiance. She embraced the methods applied by the FRRC and its community partners.

Jessica says when she sets her mind to something she tends to do it. Never was that evidenced more than on June 24, 2015, when Jessica and another woman were the first to graduate from the FRRC program.

At the awards ceremony, Ohio Department of Youth Services Executive Director Harvey Reed outlined the parameters and purpose of the FRRC and told Jessica's story. When he concluded, he asked Jessica and Gavin to come forward to receive their awards. A standing ovation accompanied them to the podium.

"I just want to thank Judge Teodosio and everyone involved with the FRRC. Because of the FRRC, I have been able to learn and to cope," said Jessica after accepting the award. "I now appreciate what I have and being a good mother means everything to me."



Following the Awards Ceremony, the namesake of the award, Thomas Stickrath, far left, stands with, from left to right, Jessica P., her son, Gavin, Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio, Juvenile Court Judicial Attorney Douglas McDougal, FRRC Program Coordinator Becky Ryba, ODYS Assistant Director Linda Janes and ODYS Director Harvey J. Reed.

Crossover Youth Practice Model
Rashara Walker, Program Coordinator

The Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) was implemented at the Juvenile Court in 2012 in partnership with Summit County Children Services (SCCS). The Court and SCCS remain the two lead agencies of the CYPM. The collaboration between the two agencies are the bedrocks of the program, but other agencies and support that are brought in to facilitate progress in the hearings are integral to the process.

“Crossover youth” are identified as youth who are simultaneously involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. The Crossover Youth Practice Model is designed to assure that specific practices are put in place to help the youth navigate between active cases at the Court. CYPM participants will have their delinquency and dependency, neglect and abuse hearings before the same Judge or Magistrate for the duration of their Court involvement.

This approach offers the best method for everyone involved to be well-versed in all the issues confronting youth and their families, whether it concerns the delinquency case or the family situation. It also gives family members a better opportunity for full participation throughout the process because of the continuity that is offered by having one judicial officer hear the families’ cases.

A youth can be referred to the CYPM under specific circumstances:

- Must be a permanent resident of Summit County or be placed in a residential facility by SCCS
- Must have an open delinquency or unruly case at Juvenile Court
- Must have an open dependency, neglect or abuse case at Juvenile Court

There are restrictions to referrals to the CYPM:

- The youth’s delinquency or dependency, neglect and abuse case is resolved or dismissed
- The youth’s case is referred to the Court’s Crossroads Program
- The youth’s case is referred to the Court’s New Paths Docket
- The youth is referred to the Court Offender Specific Unit
- The youth is placed on parole
- The youth is committed to an Ohio Department of Youth Services or community correctional facility.

In 2015, the CYPM successfully closed 30 cases and 13 cases remain open.

Offender Specific Unit

Kevin Floyd, Felony Disposition Supervisor

The Offender Specific Unit has the challenging task of working with youth who have committed a serious offense against another. That task falls to the three full-time Probation Officers and the Felony Disposition Supervisor which comprise the Offender Specific Unit (OSU). Each specialized probation officer supervises an average caseload of 15 youth who have been charged with or adjudicated for a sexually aggressive offense as described in the Ohio Revised Code. In 2015, 40 youth were referred to this department, reflecting an increase of eight youth from 2014. The average term of probation for this population is 18 to 20 months.

These specialized Probation Officers serve a multidisciplinary role in that they supervise their youth from intake through termination of probation, including any out-of-home placements that may occur.

The Probation Officers make face-to-face contacts with youth at home, school, office, community counseling appointments and placement facilities. Using Evidence Based Practices, the unit collaborates with Child Guidance and Family Solutions to provide community based treatment to their clients. The OSU also co-facilitates three treatment groups each week, including a group which serves youth with developmental disabilities. This unit served an additional 30 youth by offering "Wise Guys" and "Smart Girls" as an alternative for less serious offenders. Teaching victim empathy is a key element to rehabilitation and treatment and that is addressed by assigning youth projects through the "Amends" program. These projects benefit local victim and advocacy groups and allows for the offender to give back to the community. Additionally, social skill building remains a high priority with this population of youth which is achieved through ongoing group counseling and community service work.

In 2015, the Offender Specific Unit continued to provide a parent group in collaboration with Child Guidance and Family Solutions. The parent group meets regularly to provide education, support and guidance to parents of offenders.

The members of the Offender Specific Unit are generous with their time and expertise. They provided 21 educational presentations to Police Diversion Units, school districts and various community support organizations. OSU Probation Officers also sit on several important committees within the county and state. They are members of the Supreme Court of Ohio's Roundtable which provides additional training on statewide issues. These collaborations provide the Probation Officers with the opportunity to discuss best practices in order to develop new services to successfully manage juvenile offenders in the community.

Family Resource Center
Lisa Karas, Program Coordinator

The Family Resource Center (FRC) is unique to any Juvenile Court in the state of Ohio. The concept was devised by Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio in 2006. The philosophy of the FRC is that short-term assistance could result in preventing a youth from becoming Court-involved, or if a youth is Court-involved, lessening the possibility of recidivism.

The FRC offers services for youth and families faced with the challenges of community re-entry, domestic violence, teen parenting, truancy and other school-related issues and unruly behavior. Clients must be referred to the Family Resource Center and there are some income requirements that must be considered, although there are exceptions made in some instances. FRC staff members offer case management, and if the FRC cannot directly provide services for the issues facing the family, referrals will be made to the wealth of community service providers that have partnered with the FRC.

Additionally, the FRC offers tutorial and educational enrichment programs. The Court's Women's Board, the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation and the county's Department of Job and Family Services made key funding and equipment donations to facilitate the start-up of the educational component of the FRC. University of Akron students and community volunteers provide the tutoring that has proven helpful to get at-risk youth back on track academically. A computer lab offers youth remedial help with school-based curriculum. Students are also encouraged to bring with them homework and other projects that have been assigned to them. In the 2015 year, 18 youth participated in the tutoring program.

In fiscal year 2015, 595 youth and adults received case management through the FRC, and nearly 75% of those participants successfully completed the goals of their service plan.

The FRC expanded its reach into the community with the advent of the Responder Program, a school-based intervention and diversionary program, which has been coordinated through the FRC for the past five years. An FRC staff member serves as the Responder when a youth is identified as at-risk for chronic truancy, has displayed signs of mental health issues, is engaged in disruptive behavior or is lagging academically. The Responder works to bring school administrators, the youth and their parents to the table to address specific concerns and devise a work plan to correct them and, in the process, avoid a referral to Juvenile Court. In 2015, 13 schools in the Summit County area participated in the Responder Program. The case management that is provided has proven to be successful in diverting youth away from the court system, as well as linking youth to needed services within the community.

The FRC also facilitates the Truancy Mediation Program, another diversionary program which addresses chronic truancy and/or failure-to-send cases. An FRC staff member mediates a meeting between school administrators and the family to resolve the truancy issue. In 2015, 45 cases were mediated, of which 35 of those mediated cases were closed as successful mediations, meaning that the identified youth increased their school attendance by at least 50%.

FRC Program Coordinator Lisa Karas and other FRC staff members have taken an active role on the Summit County Collaborative Against Human Trafficking which was empaneled in 2014. In 2015, the Family Resource Center provided a vital service by of providing and managing the case management to youth who were identified as victims of human trafficking, or identified as high risk.

Child Responsibility Project/Community Service

Jeffrie Pope, Program Director

Accountability is the centerpiece of the Court's The Child Responsibility Project (CRP). Often, part of the disposition a youth receives involves restitution to the victim of their offense. Community service is another frequent sanction. The function of the CRP is to locate job sites where youth will work in order to pay restitution to the victim of their offense. The CRP staff members supervise youth working at those sites at all times. The RECLAIM Ohio grant provides the funding for the program and the hourly wages earned by the youth are paid directly to the victim by the Court in an amount that is capped at \$600. As well as providing work site supervision, CRP staff also records the amount of hours worked by the youth in the program. In 2015, there were 113 juveniles that took part in the Child Responsibility Project, completing 3,057 hours worked and earning \$33,781.73 which was paid to victims of crime. The juveniles earned \$8 an hour. In 2015, 122 juveniles were ordered to make restitution of \$24,453.45 through this program.

Working closely with the Intake and Probation Departments, CRP staff assures that youth are meeting the requirements of their community service sanction. In 2015, 192 juveniles completed their community service orders, working 1,326 hours.

In 2003, Judge Teodosio devised the Special Projects program. This program allows a juvenile to earn credit for eight hours of ordered community service by spending \$40 to purchase toys, food or school supplies. These items are donated to the needy in Summit County. It is the responsibility of this department to track the paperwork for the projects, take custody of the items and assure the delivery of the items to those in need. A total of 86 juveniles participated in this program in 2015. This enabled the court to donate over \$3,440 of toys, food and school supplies to needy families.

Citizen's Review Board

Magistrate Rita M. Rochford, Director

The Citizen's Review Board (CRB) is an independent arm of the Court. It was established to monitor permanency planning efforts. The CRB consists of community volunteers who determine whether the best interests of the children in Dependency, Neglect and Abuse cases are being met. The Board consists of representatives with social work, criminal justice, education and/or medical backgrounds or other significant community involvement. The CRB consists of four separate boards, each of which meet twice a month to review the status of children in the permanent custody of Summit County Children Services. The CRB ensures that the needs of the children are being met and that Summit County Children Services is using reasonable efforts to facilitate the child's permanency plan, which is typically adoption.

CRB members review each case at least once every six months and more frequently, if necessary. The Board, in concert with the Magistrate, has the authority to issue orders during the review hearings, to maintain the child's welfare or permanency plan.

In 2015, the Citizen's Review Board conducted 170 hearings. The members of the CRB logged 525 volunteer hours.

The Citizen's Review Board operates pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code and is supervised by Magistrate Rita Rochford under the direct authority of Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio.

The Women's Board to the Juvenile Court

The Women's Board has been a mainstay at the Summit County Juvenile Court for 59 years. The volunteers of the Women's Board devote their time, energy and resources to enhance Court operations.

Whether it was donating substantial funding for the renovation of an entire wing of the Detention Center to house the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Unit; whether it was literally providing the seed money to create a garden for detention youth to cultivate, nurture and grow vegetables and flower; whether it was expanding the gardening program to a year-round activity by purchasing a greenhouse; whether it was donating over \$20,000 to upgrade the Detention Center gymnasium; to buying something as simple as a dress shirt so a youth can be properly attired for a job interview once they leave Detention, the Women's Board unhesitatingly steps up to assist.

The Board members also hold reward nights in the Detention Center for youth who have earned it by performing at positive levels and host a luncheon for Court staff every February. The members also offer volunteer services during the evenings Traffic Court is conducted and meet monthly to assist the Clerk's Office with microfilming. Four of its members have been name Volunteer of the Year including current members Ruth Dodridge (2009), Jane Hutmacher (2012) and Kim Ray (2013).

In 2015, members of the Women's Board conduct a Style Show and luncheon and other fundraising events during the year to help underwrite their donations. The Women's Board continued their incredible dedication to the Court, logging over 4,650 volunteer hours.



Member Zula Motley models at a Women's Board Style Show. She was introduced by fellow member Kim Ray.

Teen Court

It has been an objective of the Juvenile Court to open its doors to the community. One of the programs designed for that is Teen Court. This diversionary program provides the local high school students an introductory to the juvenile justice system. Teen volunteers hear actual cases in Juvenile Court and they actually participate in the proceedings.

Teen Court accepts referrals from Court staff to have youth receive their dispositional orders in the Teen Court setting. Almost all cases involve first-time offenders who have admitted to committing a low-level misdemeanor. The youth and his or her parents or guardians must agree to have the case referred to Teen Court for a dispositional hearing literally before a jury of their peers. Volunteers receive training on Court procedure and how to apply the principles of restorative justice to their dispositional orders. The volunteers must receive mandatory training before they can serve on Teen Court. In 2015, 23 students received training and began their service on Teen Court

Volunteers assume the roles of jurors, defense attorney and prosecutor. Akron Bar Association attorneys and assistant county prosecutors give their time to assist the teen attorneys in shaping their opening and closing statements, as well as the questions they will ask witnesses during the hearing. Once testimony has been delivered the jurors begin their deliberations and return with a disposition. Should the youth abide by the conditions of their disposition to the satisfaction of the Court, the charge against them will be dismissed.

In 2015, 40 active volunteers from 14 high schools participated in 10 Teen Court hearings involving charges of theft, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief and criminal trespass.



Magistrate Rita Rochford hears the Teen Court docket. She is shown here swearing in the jury prior to a hearing.



Members of a Teen Court jury prepare to deliberate following a hearing.

Employees of the Year



Kenzie Barclay: Described as a quiet leader in the Detention Center, Barclay is lauded for his keen interest in receiving more training and for always being available to help his fellow Detention Officers. He is praised for his willingness to work beyond the normal workday hours and for changing shifts when a key opening occurs.



Keith Luhring: In his 25 years with the Court, Luhring has held several positions in the Traditional Probation Department and has excelled at them all. Among his strengths are his organizational skills and his ability to prioritize his case load while assuring that Court policies and procedures are being followed.



Sarah Sapper: As the receptionist on the 3rd Floor, Ms. Sapper is often the first person people encounter when they come to the Court. Recognizing that visitors are there on less than desirable circumstances, she unfailingly treats them with empathy and respect. A team player, she often works through lunch hours or after work to assure her work is done.



Tracy Williams: As a 20-year staff member in the Clerk's Office, Ms. Williams has emerged as a leader and a mentor in the office. She demonstrates patience and poise when working with the public and has been asked by her supervisor to train new staff members on the recording systems used to enter docket information.

CASA/GAL NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Bathsheba Phillips is a quiet, quaint woman. By looking at her one wouldn't think that she has a fierce tenacity and desire to work on behalf of her children as a Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad Litem (CASA/GAL). Ms. Phillips has been with the CASA/GAL Program since 2009 and she has advocated for 18 children in that time. She personifies the CASA mission to work in the best interests of the child.

In her introduction of Ms. Phillips, Judge Teodosio said: "Time and distance are immaterial to her. She will go to any lengths at any time to get done whatever is necessary. That will and that want to do right by the children she represents are among the many reasons she was nominated for this award."

Employees of the Summit County Juvenile Court *

Bruce Alexander	Christopher Fox	Lisa Mancini	Kynasia Sherman
Rebecca Armstrong	Thomas Freeman	Tillman Manuel III	Tiffany Sieg
Damoniq'e Askew	Alan Futo	Dawne Marlowe	Edward Simmons
Tia Autrey		Jim Martin	Cheryl Simpson
	Danny Gabel	Lavar Martin	Robert Singletary
Joseph Baglieri	Tavia Galonski	Mary Martin	Triston Smead
Beric Banos	Denzel Gambrell	Stacey Mathieu	Christopher Smith
Kenzie Barclay	Susan Gatts	Kristin Maxwell	Kathy Smith
Tammy Barnes	Melissa Gerney	Robert McCarty	Thomas Smith
Terry Bendo	Michael Goebel	Douglas McDougal	Kyle Snyder
Linda Bennett	Katherine Good	Denise McGuckin	Steve Stahl
Pamela Bennett	Shayla Goree	Mary Ann Mendlik	Tammy Stiles
Joseph Berlyak	Don Guthrie	Davone Miller	Kristin Stricklett
Joey Bernabei		Reese Miller	Maureen Sullivan
Kathy Bertsch	Heidi Day Hall	Sean Millhouse	Timothy Sutherland
Bob Bickett	Darrell Hammett	Duane Mitchell	
Jaime Blair	Adam Harris	Twanysha Mitchell	Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio
Jennifer Bond	Angela Hart	David Molis	Luchiana Terrell
Jon Booher	Cheryl Hatcher	Kandy Monroe	Adam Testa
Welby Broadus	Brandon Hayes	Joanne Moore	Sarah Testa
Christine Brown	Xavier Hayes	Leslie Morris	Cathy Richardson Thomas
Bryan Bryce	Tom Henretta	Lynda Mullins	Esther Thomas
Justin Burton	Katie Herman	Lyndsi Munford	Jody Tolley
Alex Byard	Nicholas Hetsch	Lora Mycoskie	Regina Valdez Torrez
	Gregory Higgins	Keysha Myers	Woody Tyrrell
Beth Cardina	LaTonya Hill		
Emily Caudill	Kandy Hixson	Shanda Nagle	Dante Ursetti
Kielan Cherry	Rochelle Hodoh-McLane	Brittany Neal	Don Ursetti
Crystal Chillious	Chennel Holley	Steven Nettle	
Luv Chounramany	Karen Holmes	Vicky Newell	Katy Van Horn
Brad Christman	Deon Horn	Calvin Newman	
Roslyn Clark	David Horner	Sarah Norman	Denver Wade
Rollin Clayton	Chad Horstman	Sarah Noviks	Rashara Walker
Daniel Cody	Christopher Howard		Terry Walton
Renee Conlon	Curtis Howard	Jimmy Oliver	Michael Ward
Hamilton Cosey	Katherine Hullum		Dr. Thomas Webb
Laconia Crandall	Tae Hullum	James Palm	Justin Whitfield
Kelli Crawford-Smith	Nicole Huntsman	Remarr Parnell	Kevin Williams
	Brittany Hysell	Ariel Perusek	Tracy Williams
Daniel Dario		Terrie Pfeil	Jane Wilson
Cassie Davis	Perry James	Bathsheba Phillips	Eddie Winstead
William Davis	Michael Johnson	Lori Phillips	Lauren Wurm
Stephanie DeLeo	Tammy Johnson	Tiffany Poole	Quin Wychanko
Lisa DiSabato-Moore	Kenneth Jones	Jonathan Pooler	
Carmen Dorman	Adam Jovicic	Jeff Pope	Joshua Young
		Kevin Prevo	Michael Young
Lisa Eagle	Lisa Karas		Tawanna Young
Rachel Earich	Willie Kellie	Rhonda Riddle	
Sally Ede	Joe Kernan	Angela Robinson	Abraham Zabay
Erin Ehrhart	Getta Kutuchief	Takashamaya Robinson	Joan Zito
Cheryl Evans		Rita Rochford	
Stephan Evans	Elizabeth Lashley	Ralph Roebuck	
Tatanina Evans	Jeremiah Latimore	Tysha Ross	
	Laimere Latson	Sally Roupe	
Matthew Fahrney	Shantel Lawler	Becky Ryba	
Chanin Faith	Bethany Lee		
Chris Fergus	Jennifer Lewis	Julie Sample	
Tremain Fields	Andrea Lisowski	Sarah Sapper	
Hilary Finkel	Donald Lomax	Andrew Scaif	
Kevin Floyd	Ashlee Lucco	Jolynn Schaetzle	
Brian Fogle	Phil Lucco	Todd Schauffer	
Darin Ford	Keith Luhring	Cory Schweigert	
Johnntay Ford	Laura Lynd-Robinson	Reginald Scott	

* list includes part-time employees, interns and employees who worked a portion of 2015 at the Court.

