

ANNUAL REPORT

Court of Common Pleas,
Juvenile and Probate
Divisions
Wayne County,
Ohio



2022

LATECIA E. WILES,
JUDGE

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To the Citizens and County Commissioners of Wayne County, Ohio

Ohio Revised Code §2151.18 requires Juvenile Courts in Ohio to annually report to their Board of County Commissioners, the Supreme Court of Ohio, and the communities they serve – showing the number of cases, kinds of cases, disposition of cases coming before the Court for the preceding year, and any other pertinent information on the work of the Court.

We are pleased to present to you the Court’s Annual Report for 2022. This year, we have included information about Probate Court as well. In Wayne County, the Juvenile and Probate Divisions are combined courts under one judge.

The Court continually seeks to improve its service to the community through innovative and efficient means. In 2022, the Juvenile Court sought to expand low-income access to quality legal representation. Through a grant provided by the Supreme Court of Ohio and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Wayne County was one of six sites selected to design, implement and test a multi-disciplinary legal representation pilot.

If you are accessing this report online, please use the links provided throughout the report for additional information from our website and from other related sources.

I extend the Court’s – and its staff’s – continuing gratitude to the many friends in the community for their support, collaboration, and encouragement.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Latecia E. Wiles, Judge



Roles in the Juvenile and Probate Courts

Judge Latecia E. Wiles

The Honorable Latecia E. Wiles, Judge, serves as the elected judge of the Wayne County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile and Probate Division. The Juvenile Court Judge in Wayne County is also the Judge of the Probate Court, and Clerk of Court for the Probate and Juvenile Courts. Judge Wiles is a graduate of the College of Wooster, and the University of Akron School of Law. She was admitted to the practice of law in Ohio in 2004, and has served as Judge since 2012.

Magistrates

Magistrates hear cases and conduct hearings in the same manner as the judge, however, their decisions are subject to objection by one or both of the parties to the legal action being decided. Upon written objection, the judge may decide to rehear the case, may modify the magistrate's decision, or may remand (send back) the case to the magistrate for further hearing. Magistrates must also be attorneys admitted to the bar. Magistrates are appointed by the elected judge and serve an indefinite term. In 2022, the Juvenile Court employed one full-time and three part-time magistrates; and the Probate Court employed one full-time magistrate who also serves as Staff Attorney for the court.

Probation Services

Probation officers manage juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent and unruly to assist in the rehabilitation of the youth. The Court employed one Chief Probation Officer; four full-time probation officers; one Youth Services Supervisor; one Prevention and Intervention Officer; and one Legal Secretary in 2022.

Court Administrator

The Court Administrator is the person charged with responsibility for the overall operations of the Court. The Administrator supervises staff, manages the processes of the Court and Clerk offices, and implements policies and procedures in concert with the judge to provide for the efficient operation of the Court. The Court employed one Court Administrator in 2022, who also served as one of the part-time magistrates.

Deputy Clerks

Since the judge of the Court is also the Clerk of the Court, the judge is authorized to appoint deputy clerks to assist in the administration of the Court. Deputy clerks receive pleadings and other documents filed with the Court, receive and distribute payment of fines, court costs and fees, issue notices and generally maintain the records of the Court by processing the paperwork of the Court from case filing to termination. The Juvenile Court employed four deputy clerks in 2022, and one Chief Deputy Clerk. The Probate Court employed three full-time deputy clerks, one part-time deputy clerk, one law clerk and one Chief Deputy Clerk in 2022.

Roles in the Juvenile and Probate Courts

Recovery Court Director

The Recovery Court Director acts as a liaison between drug court participants, the treatment team, and the Judge. The Recovery Court Director helps recruit interested and eligible participants, submits participants to ongoing drug screening, helps secure financial and programming support for participants, monitors participants' treatment progress, and reports this progress to the treatment team and the Judge. The Court employed one Recovery Court Director in 2022.

Account Grant Clerks

The Account Grant Clerks are accountable for the court's fiscal operations, including budgeting, processing payments and reconciling accounts. The Court employed two Account Grant Clerks in 2022.

Overview of Juvenile Court Cases

Ohio Courts are subject to the Rules of Superintendence of the Supreme Court of Ohio. The Rules of Superintendence include rules governing operations, funding, standards for courthouse facilities, and a requirement that all Ohio Courts file monthly reports with the Supreme Court in order to verify that the Court is hearing and resolving cases in a timely fashion.

Each month, Ohio Juvenile Courts file reports to inform the Supreme Court on the number of new cases filed or transferred into the Court, along with cases heard and terminated in the month of the report. The detail of the reports also includes information on whether the cases were heard by the judge or a magistrate. The Supreme Court provides guidelines that recommend the maximum time a case may be before the Court from filing to termination.

On the next page is a recapitulation of all the cases filed, transferred into the Court, and terminated by the Court in the calendar year 2022. Each case type is tracked on the report, and every case is accounted for each year. Cases carried over from the previous year are counted only as terminations.

In 2022, 1,879 cases were presented to the Juvenile Court, which includes 239 cases that were carried over from 2021.

The Wayne County Juvenile Court has a clearance rate of 99% for all new, transferred, reactivated, and redesignated cases.

Total Reported Juvenile Court Cases between 1/2022 and 12/2022

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | T | V |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Delinquency | Traffic | Dependency, Neglect or Abuse | Unruly | Adult Cases | Motion for Permanent Custody | Change of Custody, Visitation | Support Enforcement or Modification | Parentage | U.I.F.S.A. | All Others | Total | Visiting Judge |
| Pending beginning of period | 24 | 25 | 29 | 19 | 3 | 9 | 90 | 31 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 239 | 0 |
| New cases filed | 227 | 334 | 110 | 121 | 68 | 0 | 99 | 88 | 7 | 4 | 20 | 1078 | 0 |
| Cases transferred in, reactivated, or redesignated | 40 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 20 | 18 | 97 | 350 | 21 | 0 | 3 | 562 | 0 |
| TOTAL (Add lines 1-3) | 291 | 359 | 139 | 153 | 91 | 27 | 286 | 469 | 36 | 4 | 24 | 1879 | 0 |
| TERMINATIONS BY: | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | T | V |
| Trial by judge | 0 | 0 | 77 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 99 | 0 |
| Trial by magistrate | 0 | 4 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 86 | 0 |
| Dismissal by party, judge, or prosecutor | 30 | 0 | 19 | 20 | 28 | 2 | 42 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 150 | 0 |
| Admission to judge | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 371 | 22 | 3 | 0 | 412 | 0 |
| Admission to magistrate | 109 | 305 | 0 | 40 | 32 | 0 | 75 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 584 | 0 |
| Certification/Waiver granted | 0 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | 0 | 0 |
| Unavailability of party for trial | 23 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 15 | 0 | 6 | 21 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 79 | 0 |
| Transfer to another judge or court | 63 | 16 | 0 | 65 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150 | 0 |
| Referral to private judge | X | X | X | X | X | X | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Interlocutory appeal or order | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other terminations | 30 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 21 | 71 | 0 |
| TOTAL (Add lines 5-15) | 255 | 330 | 111 | 142 | 75 | 19 | 219 | 422 | 30 | 4 | 24 | 1631 | 0 |
| Pending end of period (Subtract line 16 from line 4) | 36 | 29 | 28 | 11 | 16 | 8 | 67 | 47 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 248 | 0 |
| Time Guideline (months) | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 12 | 12 | 3 | 6 | X | X |
| Cases pending beyond time guideline | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Number of months oldest case is beyond time guideline | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | X | 0 |
| Number of informal cases (all case types) | 105 | 0 | 0 | 67 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 172 | 0 |

Juvenile Court Cases

Delinquent Child: When a person under the age of eighteen commits an act that, if committed by an adult, would be a crime, the juvenile is determined to be “delinquent” – that is – late in developing proper judgment to follow the requirements of law. In 2022, the Court addressed 255 delinquency cases. [Click here to read more about delinquency on the Juvenile Court’s website.](#)

Traffic: When a juvenile violates a traffic law, the juvenile is referred to as a “juvenile traffic offender.” Juveniles are subject to different penalties, referred to as “consequences,” compared to adult traffic offenders. In 2022, the Court addressed 330 juvenile traffic cases. [Click here to read more about traffic on the Juvenile Court’s website.](#)

Abused, Neglected, or Dependent: The Court may determine that a child is abused, neglected, or dependent under the definitions of the law. The Court may remove the child from an inappropriate or dangerous environment in order to place the child in foster care or with relatives, or the Court may leave the child in the care of his or her family but under supervision. In 2022, the Court addressed 111 abuse, neglect, or dependency cases. [Click here to read more about abuse, neglect, and dependency on the Juvenile Court’s website.](#)

Unruly: A child who does not submit to the reasonable control of the child’s parents, teachers, or guardian may be adjudicated an unruly child. A child who is truant from school or behaves in a manner as to injure or endanger his or her health or morals or the health or morals of others also may be adjudicated an unruly child. The Court has broad discretion to fashion a remedy to resolve the unruly behavior. In 2022, the Court addressed 142 unruly cases.

Adult: Adult cases are prosecutions against persons over the age of eighteen years, accused of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. In 2022, the Court addressed 75 adult cases.

Motions for Permanent Custody: Motions for permanent custody are filed in situations where the child’s environment is so inappropriate and the parents’ ability to care for the child is so inadequate that the situation warrants permanently terminating the rights of parents in the parent-child relationship. Such motions may be filed as part of an abuse, neglect, or dependency case. In 2022, the Court addressed 19 motions for permanent custody.

Custody/Visitation: The domestic relations division of the Court of Common Pleas hears issues of custody and visitation concerning parents who are or previously were married to each other. The Juvenile Court, on the other hand, has jurisdiction over issues of custody and visitation where the parents have never been married to one another. In 2022, the Court addressed 219 custody and visitation matters. [Click here to read more about custody and visitation on the Juvenile Court’s website.](#)

Juvenile Court Cases, continued

Support: Issues of child support between parents who are or were once married to each other are addressed by the domestic relations division of the Court of Common Pleas. The Juvenile Court hears issues over child support for children whose parents were never married to each other. In 2022, the Court addressed 422 support cases. [Click here to read more about child support on the Juvenile Court's website.](#)

Parentage: A parentage action may be commenced by a child, a person claiming to be the parent of a child, such parent's representatives, or the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA). Determination is usually made by the use of DNA testing of the parents of the child. Once parentage is established, issues of parental rights and support may be addressed. In 2022, the Court addressed 30 parentage matters. [Click here to read more about parentage on the Juvenile Court's website.](#)

U.I.F.S.A.: The Uniform Interstate Family Support Act is embodied in Ohio law in § 3115.01 *et seq.* of the Ohio Revised Code. This Act provides a procedure whereby court orders of support in different states may be enforced in Ohio if one of the parties is an Ohio resident. Cases brought under this Act are typically brought by the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA). In 2022, there were 4 U.I.F.S.A. case filed with the Court.

All Others: Cases that do not fall into the categories listed here are recorded in the Supreme Court Report. These cases include Grandparent Powers of Attorney, Caretaker Affidavits, Judicial Bypass, Marriage Consents, Civil Protection Orders, Reclassification Petitions, and any other matters that do not fall into other categories. In 2022, the Court addressed 24 miscellaneous cases.



Probate Court Cases

Adoptions: Several types of adoptions are heard by the Wayne County Probate Court, including Step-Parent Adoptions; Agency Adoptions; Private Adoptions; Foreign Adoptions; and Adult Adoptions. In each of these cases, persons seeking to adopt a child may file an application with the court to have the court declare the child to be the child of the applicant(s). In 2022, the Probate Court received 32 petitions for adoption.



Adoptees add their fingerprints to the artwork at Probate Court once their adoption is finalized.

Adult Protective Services: As Ohio's elderly population continues to rise, the number of older adults at risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation also increases. Multiple state and local agencies are tasked with combatting and preventing elder abuse. Authorized providers of adult protective services are able to file Petitions for Protective Services requesting authorization to implement a protective services plan for an elder who is in need of these services.

Birth Registrations: If a person is born in Ohio, and their registration of birth is not recorded, the individual can file an application with the Court to register the birth. If granted, this allows for the Ohio Bureau of Vital Statistics to create a birth record and birth certificate for the individual. In 2022, the Probate Court processed 21 requests for birth records to be updated.

Civil Actions: Civil actions can include Appropriate cases, Land Sales, Declaratory Judgments, Will Contests, Determinations of Heirs, Concealment of Assets and other contested civil actions. 19 Civil Actions were filed in 2022.

Civil Commitments/Involuntary Treatment: When a person with severe mental illness, or a person suffering from alcohol or substance abuse, is in imminent danger or is in imminent threat of danger if not treated, appears to need treatment, but refuses to go, or remain, in the hospital, the Probate Court may order the person to receive the necessary treatment. The Probate Court addressed 10 Civil Commitments in 2022.

Conservatorships: A conservatorship is a voluntary, court-supervised relationship in which a mentally competent, but physically infirm, adult applies to the court to appoint a conservator to care for the applicant's person, property or both. Frequently, the conservatee has suffered an injury or an illness that inhibits or prevents him/her from physically signing his/her name or taking physical actions necessary to handle business affairs. The conservatee remains in control of his/her own business and legal interests, and the conservator acts only upon the direction of the conservatee. Probate Court had one conservatorship filed in 2022.

Probate Court Cases, continued

Depositing a Will: Probate Court can accept a will for safekeeping before or after the death of an individual. 11 Wills were deposited with the Probate Court in 2022.

Disinterment: Probate Court can receive applications to disinter the remains of a deceased individual for specific legal reasons.

Guardianships: Guardianship is a court-supervised relationship, established to protect the legal rights and interests of the person in need of protection, called the "ward." A guardian can be a family member or a friend. There were 15 Guardianships of Minors, and 68 Guardianships of Adults filed in 2022.

Estate Administration: Probate Court supervises the process of transferring property owned by a deceased person to his/her heirs or beneficiaries. The Estate Administration process (commonly called "probate") involves identifying the decedent's property, making an inventory, appraising the value of assets, listing debts, paying creditors and taxes, and then distributing the balance of assets to the heirs or beneficiaries. In 2022, 679 Estates were filed.

Marriage Licenses: Probate Court Clerk's office issues marriage licenses to residents of Wayne County who are planning to marry. In 2022, 643 Marriage Licenses were issued.

Minor's Settlements: When a child under the age of eighteen receives money or other property of value-- such as an inheritance, proceeds from a life insurance policy, a settlement of a personal injury claim, or a wrongful death settlement-- the Probate Court must approve the settlement of the minor's claim or right to receive the property. 12 Minors' Settlements cases were filed in Probate Court in 2022.

Name Changes/Birth Certificate Corrections: When an individual wishes to change his/her legal name, Probate Court can consider an application to change a name. In addition, Probate Court may order a birth record that was not accurately recorded at the time of birth to be corrected. 72 requests for Name Changes were filed in 2022.

Trusts: There are many types of trusts, but the Probate Court typically works with four types: testamentary trusts, living trusts, wrongful death trusts, and special needs trusts. 8 Testamentary Trusts were filed in 2022.

Wrongful Death: The Probate Court's role in a wrongful death situation is at the beginning and end of the process. An estate must first be opened for the deceased person, which then legally authorizes the Executor or Administrator to commence a legal action against the wrongdoer for damages in the general division of the Court of Common Pleas. Any disbursement of money damages must then be approved by the Probate Court.

Recovery Court

In 2017 and in partnership with various Wayne County public and private entities, the Juvenile Court started the Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC). The FDTC was established as a specialized docket on the abuse, neglect, and dependency docket to better assist parents in need of substance use treatment. Wayne County’s FDTC was first certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio’s Specialized Docket Section in 2017. The FDTC is now known as “Recovery Court.”



Judge Wiles with Recovery Court graduates

The Recovery Court consists of weekly court hearings and meetings with a multidisciplinary treatment team, and includes representatives from the Court, Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office, Wayne County Public Defender, Wayne County Children Services Board, OneEighty, and A New Day. This treatment team coordinates services throughout their respective agencies to help provide ongoing treatment and support to parents seeking reunification with their children or otherwise working to address underlying concerns in the household.



Magistrate Smith with a Recovery Court graduate

In 2022, the FDTC worked with 20 adult participants as well as their collective 39 children. A total of 5 participants successfully graduated from the program in 2022. A total of 10 participants continued into the program in 2023.

Mission of the Wayne County Recovery Court

The Wayne County Recovery Court is designed to provide judicially managed, comprehensive community based services for parents who have substance use disorder and who have either lost custody of their children or are at risk of removal of their children. The Recovery Court seeks to ensure safety by focusing on healthy and sober parenting with a goal of achieving permanency for a child by utilizing best practices methods of recovery while taking into account the child’s sense of time.

The graphic features a central white compass rose on a dark blue background. The text is arranged around the compass rose:

- Top: **Child Safety & Well-Being**
- Left: **Achieve & Maintain Parent Sobriety**
- Right: **Obtain Permanency for Children**
- Bottom: **Reduce Recidivism of Child Abuse & Neglect**

Grant Funding

The Court applies for and receives several grants that assist the Court in covering the cost of services to youth and families. In 2022, the Court received awards through 9 grant programs.

| GRANT NAME | GRANTOR | AWARD | PROGRAM/BENEFIT |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Addiction Treatment Program (ATP) | Supreme Court of Ohio | \$1,785.00 | Recovery Court |
| BHJJ Grant | Ohio Dept. of Youth Svcs. | \$140,964.75 | Multi-Systemic Therapy |
| JDAI Program (Continuation) | Ohio Dept. of Youth Svcs. | \$51,417.06 | Juvenile Detention Alternatives |
| Legal Representation Pilot | Supreme Court of Ohio | \$149,501.00 | Multi-Disciplinary Team Legal Representation |
| OhioMAS Grant | Ohio Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction Svcs. | \$35,000.00 | Recovery Court |
| RECLAIM Grant | Ohio Dept. of Youth Svcs. | \$402,444.05 | Juvenile Probation, Diversion, Out-of-Home Placement |
| SVAA Grant | Ohio Attorney General | \$1,786.00 | Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Program |
| VOCA Grant | Ohio Attorney General | \$24,819.52 | Volunteer Guardian ad Litem program |
| Youth Services Grant | Ohio Dept. of Youth Svcs. | \$166,938.00 | Juvenile Probation, Diversion, Out-of-Home Placement |

Multi-Disciplinary Legal Representation

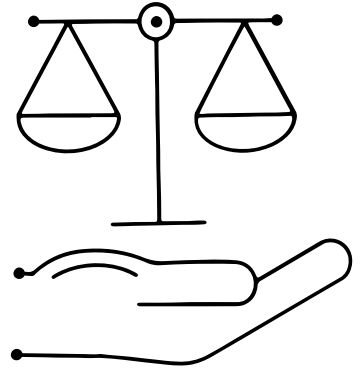
In 2021, the Juvenile Court received a grant from the Supreme Court of Ohio, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, to provide multidisciplinary legal representation to parents involved or at-risk of involvement with the child welfare system. When a parent qualifies for legal representation through this grant funded project, the parent receives a multi-disciplinary team comprised of an attorney to provide legal advice and who can handle a variety of civil legal issues (housing, custody, etc.); a social worker to provide case management services; and a parent advocate with lived experience with the child welfare system. Together, this team provides the parent with legal representation and support.

The goals of the project include keeping children in their home and out of foster care; promoting appropriate arrangements for parents and children; and connecting families to necessary family services and support in furtherance of stability and permanency.



Help Desk

Since 2018, the Court has offered unrepresented, low-income residents no-cost legal advice for Juvenile Court matters. At the Juvenile Court Help Desk, local attorneys answer questions regarding paternity, custody, parenting time (visitation) and child support, and provide assistance with completing Juvenile Court forms.



Qualifying participants sign up through court staff for scheduled time slots to meet with a local attorney. Participants can then meet with an attorney as arranged and receive legal advice relevant to the participants' current or anticipated legal issues. In addition to the Juvenile Court Help Desk, the Court also offers a Help Desk focused on Probate Court matters, where residents can receive assistance with completing Probate Court forms and answering questions regarding estates with minimal assets, release of administration, summary releases, guardianships with little or no assets, and name changes.

In 2022, 12 local attorneys provided legal advice at 36 scheduled sessions. Of those sessions, 23 sessions of Juvenile Help Desk were offered. 139 appointments were scheduled for the Juvenile Help Desk and a total of 77 participants received no-cost legal advice. At the Probate Help Desk, 60 appointments were scheduled over the course of 13 sessions where 33 participants received no-cost legal advice.

Appointed Counsel

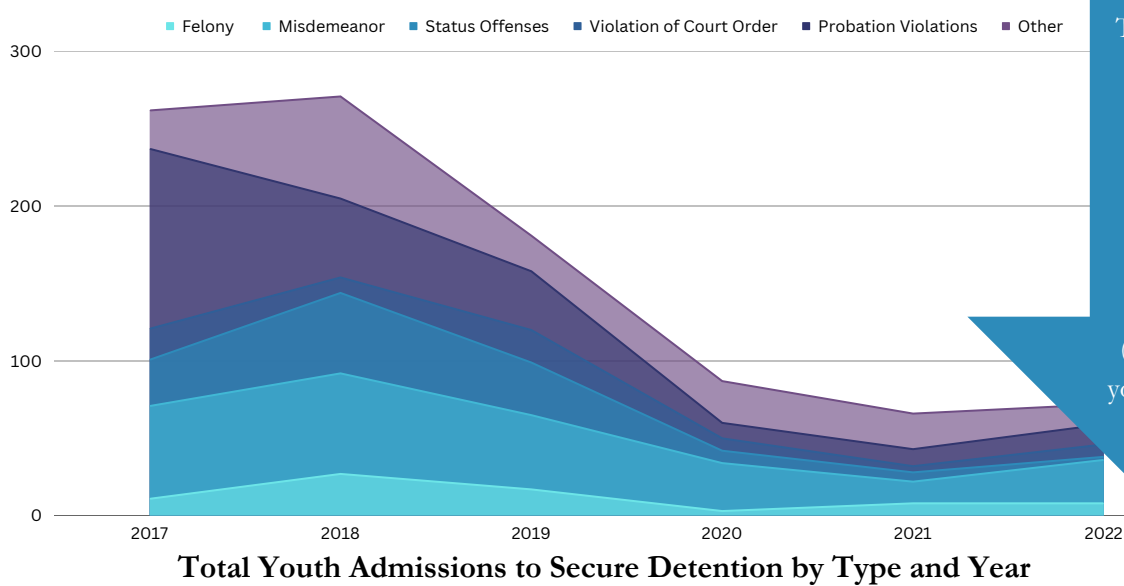
The United States and Ohio Constitutions require that parties to a criminal or quasi-criminal case understand their legal rights. In cases where there is a need for legal representation, and the parties are financially unable to pay for private counsel, attorneys must be appointed at public expense. The right to counsel arises when there is a potential for loss of liberty or when a fundamental substantive legal right is at issue, such as termination of parental rights.

Typically, the Wayne County Public Defender Program is appointed to provide counsel in cases. In 2022, the Public Defender Program provided representation in 190 cases in Juvenile Court. When the Public Defenders have a conflict, the Court then appoints private counsel. In 2022, the Court paid a total of \$264,203.30 for appointed counsel.

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

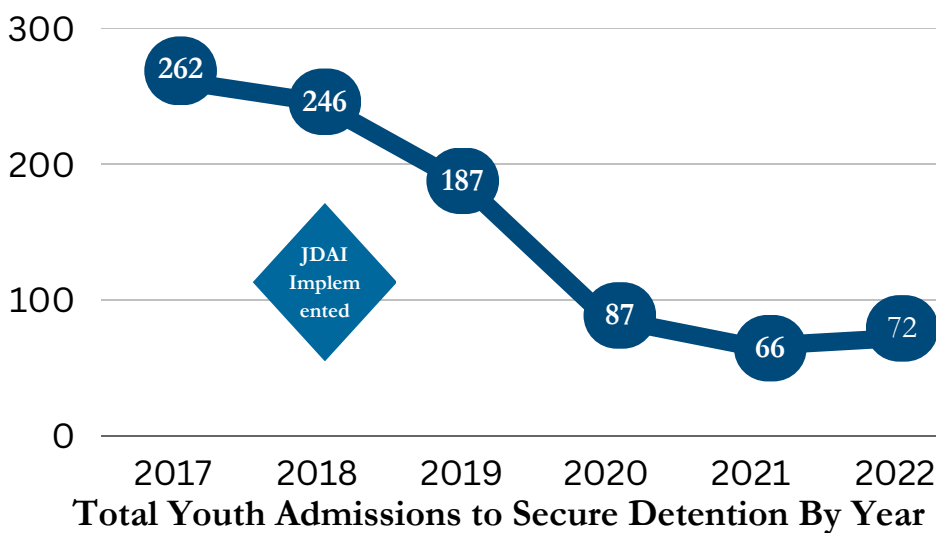
Beginning in 2010, Ohio joined the nationwide Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), starting with just five counties. Wayne County joined the initiative in 2018. Established by the Annie E. Casey Foundation over 25 years ago, JDAI is designed to address the efficiency and effectiveness of juvenile detention. JDAI is designed to help counties make prudent use of secure detention, promote efficient use of resources, and support public safety. At the statewide level, JDAI is coordinated through the Ohio Department of Youth Services.

Since implementation in 2018, Wayne County has worked with a multidisciplinary collaboration to address better ways of keeping youth in the community and out of secure detention.



The use of secure detention has significantly decreased, especially for probation violations and status offenses (such as holding youth in detention who have run-away).

Total Youth Admissions to Secure Detention by Type and Year



Building a better and more equitable youth justice system in Wayne County by keeping young people safe and on-track for long-term success, while holding them accountable for their actions, and reducing reliance on local detention.

Total Youth Admissions to Secure Detention By Year

Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Program

Guardians ad litem are unbiased persons who assist the Court to investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and dependency, and make recommendations regarding the best interests of children in those cases. The Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program served 90 children in 2022.

In 2022, the program had 13 volunteer guardians handling cases.

Karin Connolly Wiest, Esq. joined the Volunteer Guardian ad Litem program in October 1998, and serves as the Director. Her position is funded through a one-year VOCA/CASA grant with Wayne County providing matching funds.



Judge Wiles swearing in newly appointed Volunteer Guardians ad Litem in 2022



Keynote Speaker, Melissa Roshan Potter, at the GAL Seminar

In October 2022, the Volunteer GAL Program, in conjunction with the Wayne County Bar Association, hosted a 6-hour seminar. 30 attorneys, volunteer GALs, and GALS from the Domestic Relations program attended. Topics included Children Services visitation policies and procedures, Building Resiliency in Our Youth and Families, Strengthening Cultural Competence & Humility, A GAL's Guide to the CSEA, and Case Law and Court Updates.

Thank you!

How many hours do the GALs contribute?

According to Director Wiest, she estimates that GALs spend 5-10 hours per month, per family, for a total of 1500-2500 hours annually.



The Court would like to extend a special thank-you and recognition to our longest serving volunteer, Gladene Hershberger, who retired at the end of 2022. She served as a volunteer for 34 years, and mentored several newer volunteers.

Continuing Legal Education

Wayne County Juvenile Court Trial Practice: On June 24, 2022, the Juvenile Court offered a full day of training to over 50 local attorneys and other interested individuals. Topics included: Fundamentals and Procedures in an Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Case; Noncustodial Parents and the Reasonable Efforts Standard; Case Law Update; The Ins and Outs of Children Services' Visitation Policy; Qualified Residential Treatment Program Hearings: Background, Purpose & Expectations; Family Dependency Treatment Court: Is this Right for my Client?; Medical Marijuana: A Legal Perspective; The Science Behind Drug Screens; and What Did You Say? Defining Hearsay.

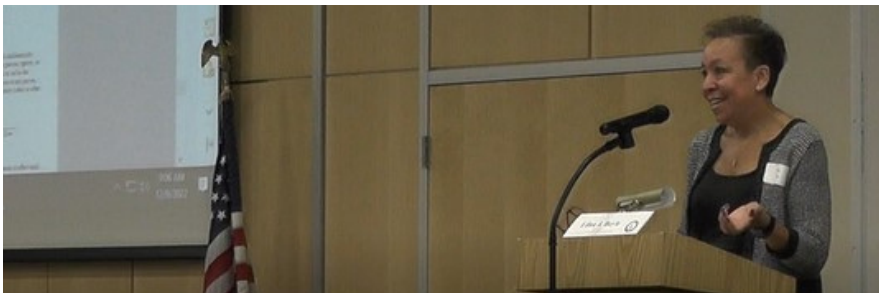
Honorable Latecia E. Wiles, Wayne County Court of Common Pleas, Probate and Juvenile Judge, along with Magistrates Patricia A. Rodgers and Joshua Newton, provided step by step instruction to effectively represent a litigant in an Abuse, Neglect and Dependency case in Wayne County, by providing the fundamentals and procedures, case law related to specific problems, and the standard of proof. The Court welcomed guest speakers including: Honorable Mary Katherine Huffman, Montgomery County Common Pleas Court, General Division Judge; Jerome Reed, Certifying Scientist; John Dillon, MPA, Clinical Services Director at Wayne County Children Services; and Jacqueline Wynn, Family Support Services Supervisor at Wayne County Children Services.



Continuing Legal Education

Juvenile Justice-- A New Direction: On December 9, 2022, the Juvenile Court offered a full day of training to over 30 local attorneys and other interested individuals. Topics included: Fundamentals and Procedures in Juvenile Delinquency, Unruly and Traffic Cases; Detention: A History, Core Strategies, Assessments, and a Reasoned Shift to Alternatives; Indigent Defense Reimbursement; Racial Inequities and the Pursuit of Racial Fairness at All Levels of the Justice System; Top Ten Issues That Delay Processing of Judgment Entries That Can Result in Unanticipated Outcomes Due to CSEA's Policies and Procedures; Ethics, Professionalism and Conflicts of Interest.

Magistrate Edna J. Boyle, along with Magistrate Patricia A. Rodgers and Chief Probation Officer Misty Hanson provided in-depth information to effectively represent a juvenile who has been alleged delinquent, unruly or a traffic offender; along with the changing direction and resources available to juvenile offenders and their families. The Court welcomed guest speakers including: Honorable Lauren C. Moore, Cleveland Municipal Court Judge; Laura Austen, Esq., Deputy Director of Policy and Outreach at the Office of the Ohio Public Defender; Shayne M. Oehlhof, Esq., Director of the Wayne County Child Support Enforcement Agency; and Craig Reynolds, Esq., Attorney, Reynolds Law Office.



Probation Services

Probation Services provides a multitude of services, not just supervising youth who are placed on probation, to assist the Juvenile Court. On a day-to-day basis, probation officers may be conducting home, school or office visits; participating in team meetings regarding youth with community partners; testifying at court hearings; supervising court programming such as Saturday school or work crew as well as any other duties that assist in the operation of the court. Probation officers will monitor compliance with due dates for youth not placed on probation and provide investigative information to the court prior to disposition on some cases. Investigative information may include, but is not limited to, conducting pre-dispositional report investigations that may include forensic interviews in the case of youth adjudicated of problem sexual behavior; conducting home safety evaluations; preparing restitution reports, as well as getting victim impact statements completed.

Community Safety Evaluations: If a case involves a sex offense committed by a youth, a probation officer is assigned to the case from the beginning. The probation officer will complete a community safety evaluation to ensure it is safe for the youth to remain in the community while the case is pending.

Investigations/Pre-Dispositional Reports: The probation department gathers additional information for the hearing officer when ordered to do so, and prepares a pre-disposition report with recommendations to substantiate the findings. The probation officer interviews the youth and caregiver, and collects information regarding school, counseling, etc., to determine the best dispositional recommendations. The probation officer facilitates psychological assessments with a court contracted provider when ordered to do so. In addition to investigating and preparing the report, the probation officer will seek out and make recommendations to the court for appropriate programs for the youth, which could include out-of-home placements or commitment. If the case involves a sex offense, the probation officer completes a sex offender assessment. The Court's probation department is certified by Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) to complete assessments for juvenile sex offenders.

Probation Services completed reports regarding 29 youth in 2022 (2 that were started in 2021, and 27 from 2022, with 9 remaining open going into 2023).



Probation Services

Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Trauma Screening Program: In order to identify the needs of Court-involved youth as early in the process as possible, the Court developed the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening Program in May of 2014. Youth are now also screened for Trauma. Through a contract with Catholic Charities, the Court is able to have a clinician on-site for eight hours per week to perform screenings. The program serves both youth participating in the Court's Diversion Program as well as any youth adjudicated of an offense through the Court prior to disposition. The screenings allow the Court to have the information necessary to put in place the most appropriate interventions specific to the needs of each individual to prevent future Court involvement.

Drug screens are administered by the Court's probation officers and the prevention and intervention officer as an aid in monitoring youth's compliance with probation and diversion or for evaluation purposes. The drug screens are paid for by the youth and from RECLAIM funds.

In 2022, 192 mental health, substance abuse and trauma screenings were completed through this program. At-risk youth and youth who have returned to the court and who have not had a screening within six months complete the Screening Program. The numbers below are based upon the total of 192 screenings.

50%

Youth self-reported history of substance use and/or abuse

2.32

Average adverse childhood experiences (ACES)

62%

Youth history of mental health treatment/diagnosis

14%

Youth history of psychiatric hospitalizations

16%

Youth history of prior suicide attempts

34%

Youth on mental health medication

Probation Services, continued

Diversion and Intervention: Youth who have no prior record may be eligible for diversion, where they can complete programming without the formal filing of a delinquency or unruly child complaint. The goal is to reduce unnecessary incarceration of youth and provide an alternative intervention, including the use of community resources, to redirect and address the behavior and situation that brought the juvenile to the attention of the Court. Eligible youth who have had a police report filed against them are referred to Diversion directly from the Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney prior to the filing of a formal court case. The Court may also refer a youth to diversion if the youth is found to be eligible after a formal court case is opened. First time offenders with misdemeanor offenses, and occasionally felony offenses, may be eligible for Diversion.

To be successful in Diversion, a youth is required to participate for a minimum of 90 days; attend school daily; follow curfew rules; participate in community service activities; write essays; have no additional charges filed against them; and follow through with any referrals to community resources such as counseling, substance use education, and/or anger management education.

If the youth is unsuccessful or uncooperative in completing the requirements for Diversion, the case is returned to the Prosecuting Attorney to be considered for the formal court process.

In 2022, there were 105 new referrals for Diversion. Of the youths in Diversion, 62 were successful, 4 were unsuccessful, and 39 remained open going into 2023.

Truancy Diversion: The passage of House Bill 410 in December 2016 required the development of a diversion program for youth who were habitually truant (absent from school an excessive amount of time without a legitimate excuse). Truancy Diversion diverts the child from the juvenile court system.

In 2022, 67 youth were placed in Truancy Diversion. 22 youth successfully completed Truancy Diversion, and 20 youth were unsuccessful in their attempt and were adjudicated unruly. 25 youth remained in the program into 2023.

"The purpose of diversion is to redirect youth from involvement in the formal juvenile court system in an effort to hold youth accountable for their behavior without resorting to legal sanctions, court oversight, or the threat of confinement to mitigate future risk and subsequent delinquent behavior."

The Supreme Court of Ohio, Juvenile Diversion Toolkit for Judicial Use, (May 2021), <https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/docs/JCS/CFC/resources/juvenileDiversionToolkit.pdf> (accessed 5/25/2023).

Probation Services, continued

Community Control Compliance: Not all youth who are adjudicated delinquent or unruly are placed on probation. Many youth are placed under Community Control and given a variety of sanctions, including community service, completion of schooling, obtaining a substance use assessment or treatment, attendance in anger management counseling, monitored time, electronic monitoring, restitution, writing letters of apology, or any other remedy the Court deems reasonable. Starting in 2012, a designated probation officer was assigned to monitor compliance of those Community Control sanctions by these non-probation youth. This probation officer also monitors a probation caseload.

Once a youth is ordered on Community Control with sanctions (excluding probation), a copy of that entry is forwarded to the probation officer in charge of monitoring. The probation officer will track the deadlines of the sanctions and send letters 30 days in advance to remind the youth of the upcoming due date. Once all sanctions under Community Control are met, the probation officer will make a Motion to the Court requesting Community Control be terminated. If the youth has not been granted an extension, and the due date passes with no proof of completion submitted, the probation officer will file a complaint for Violation of a Court Order or a Motion for Contempt.

In 2022, the Community Control Compliance Program monitored 113 cases, with 77 cases terminating, showing all sanctions being completed, and 36 cases remaining open and monitored into 2023. The Community Control Compliance program has allowed the Court to be more efficient in monitoring its Orders and holding individuals who violate Community Control accountable.

Clinical and Diagnostic Evaluations: The Court obtains psychological evaluations and risk assessments for a variety of reasons. The findings and recommendations of these evaluations are used for case planning, dispositional options, amenability, sex offender classification purposes, or for cases where out of home placements are being considered. The Court contracts with outside sources to obtain these evaluations. In 2022, 7 psychological and risk assessments were performed. The evaluations and assessments are funded by the RECLAIM Ohio grant.

Probation Services, continued

Probation: During disposition, the juvenile may be placed on probation, which means that the youth has been adjudicated unruly or delinquent, and has been ordered to complete court-based supervision, which is provided by the Court's probation officers. The probation officers supervise youth placed on probation by Wayne County or youth who the court has accepted a transfer of probation from another Ohio county. The probation officers may provide courtesy supervision for youth in Wayne County who were placed on probation for a felony level offense in another state. Probation officers are assigned cases based on the home school district of the juvenile. This allows for efficiency in the department since probation officers consult with school personnel, conduct in home visits, and confer with local law enforcement. Additionally, probation officers refer the juvenile and his or her family to local agencies for services to address the areas of need. In cases where the juvenile fails to respond to probationary efforts, or presents a safety risk to the community or him- or herself, an out of home placement may be ordered by the Court. Probation officers are responsible to seek an appropriate residential placement and monitor the juvenile's progress while in placement, as well as assist in after-care when the juvenile is returned to the community. The probation officers also collect DNA specimens and monitor electronic house arrest.

In 2022, 48 youth were on probation, including 27 who started in 2021, 21 who were placed on probation in 2022, with a total of 27 remaining on probation going into 2023.

Truancy Probation: A youth may be placed on truancy probation, also known as TEMP Probation, for failing to attend school. Typically these youth have prior truancy issues or have failed to be successful in truancy diversion. TEMP Probation is a specialized probation caseload created to respond to habitual truants. For those juveniles placed TEMP probation, the probation officer is responsible for monitoring the activities of assigned probationers, and ensuring compliance with court orders. 41 youth were on truancy probation in 2022, including 25 who started in 2021; 16 who were placed on truancy probation in 2022, and a total of 25 youth remaining on truancy probation going into 2023.

Probation Services, continued

Out-of-Home Placements: The Court’s practice is to make use of local resources to rehabilitate youth whenever possible. In some cases, community-based programs are not a viable option because of community safety issues, the child’s behavior presents a danger to his or her health or well-being, or the child has not been amenable to other efforts to affect change. Out-of-home placement is an option in instances where it is necessary to place juveniles in private treatment facilities, group homes, therapeutic foster homes, or Multi-County Juvenile Attention System (MCJAS) facilities.

Juveniles found delinquent because they have committed a misdemeanor or felony may be placed in detention locally. Those juveniles who have been delinquent because they have committed an act that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony, may be committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services or a community corrections facility. Where appropriate, a juvenile may be placed in a facility other than detention or the Ohio Department of Youth Services. As a part of disposition, the Court determines which facility will be the most appropriate to reform the juvenile’s behavior.

In 2022, one youth was committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services, and one youth was committed to a community corrections facility. In addition, one youth was ordered into out of home placement in a residential treatment center. Ohio Teaching Family Association and Mohican Young Star Academy were utilized.

Family and Children First Council (FCFC) Clinical Diversion Team: Children who present multiple needs and specialized treatment placements are referred to the Wayne County Family and Children First Council. Numerous county agencies work together to set policy for the Council, including Wayne County Children Services, Wayne County schools, Wayne County Health Department, and many others.

Misty Hanson, as Chief Probation Officer of the Court, serves as the Juvenile Court’s representative on the Council’s Clinical Diversion Team, which also includes the Council Coordinator and representatives from Wayne County Children Services, The Counseling Center, Wooster City Schools, Tri-County Educational Services, agencies with alcohol and drug services, and Wayne County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Through a team approach, this group formulates interagency cooperative planning (and funding) for referred youth with special needs.

Probation Services, continued

Community Service: Community service is a frequently used dispositional order that requires a youth to perform work beneficial to the community. The program provides youth with an opportunity to “repay” the community for the problems caused by the youth’s behavior, as well as provide the youth with the opportunity to gain work experience. Youth who participate in the Court’s Diversion program may also be assigned community services as a condition of that program.

In 2022, 820 hours of community service were ordered, and 520 hours were completed.

Work Program: The Work Program is designed to provide an immediate response to youth who violate their probation or fail to complete their community service. The program also allows youth with difficult schedules or circumstances, and who need direct supervision, an avenue to complete community service hours. The Work Program started in July 2012 as a replacement for the Saturday at Work Program.

The program allows five juveniles per program day to complete community service hours under the direct supervision of two probation staff. The program is scheduled for two four-hour work days per week in the summer, and two to three days over the Winter Break and the Spring Break. Work sites vary according to the availability in the community and weather conditions. The program is funded through the RECLAIM Ohio Grant.

In 2022, 20 youth successfully completed the program.

Character Building Group: In January of 2014, in collaboration with Catholic Charities, the Court launched the Character Building Group. This intervention was designed to address several criminogenic needs of the participants which include: poor problem solving skills, poor self-control and self-management, antisocial attitudes and identification and association with antisocial role models. The overall goal is to help the participants identify and problem-solve the factors that landed them in the court system and assist them in formulating a plan to not return to the court system. Participants attend one, three-hour group session.

In 2022, 25 youth were referred to the program, and 22 of those youth successfully completed, and 3 continued the program into 2023.

Probation Services, continued

Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST): Starting in 2013 through a Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice grant that was awarded to the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes County, the Court was able to implement the MST program in a continued effort to keep youth in the community and out of placement. The MST program targets juvenile offenders with serious behavioral issues that cause them to be at a significant risk for out of home placement.

A specially trained MST therapist from the Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center of Stark County, Inc. is assigned to work with the families of Wayne County who are candidates for this type of program, and provides intensive family and community based treatment that addresses the multiple factors that contribute to a juvenile's delinquent behavior. The MST therapist works to bring key participants of the juvenile's life together to form a support system, so that once the Court is out of the family's life, the family has support to continue on a positive path.

In 2022, a total of 3 families participated in and successfully completed the MST Program. Due to a lack of providers/staffing shortages, this program was discontinued at the end of 2022.

Multi-Systemic Therapy for Problem Sexual Behaviors (MST-PSB): In January 2015, the Court applied for and received a three-year Competitive RECLAIM grant through the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The Court used the funds to implement the MST-PSB program. This evidence-based program allows youth who are either adjudicated of a sexually-oriented offense, or youth who are displaying problem sexual behaviors, to receive treatment in their community rather than placement outside of the home. Referrals for this program are made by either the Court or Wayne County Children Services.

An MST-PSB therapist from the Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center of Stark County, Inc. works intensively with the youth and their families in a home-based setting. MST-PSB is a unique, goal-oriented, and comprehensive evidence-based intensive treatment program designed to promote victim safety and reduce the likelihood of future problem behaviors and criminal activities.

In 2022, 4 families participated in the MST-PSB program, and 3 families successfully completed the program, and 1 family was unsuccessful. Due to a lack of providers/staffing shortages, this program was discontinued at the end of 2022.

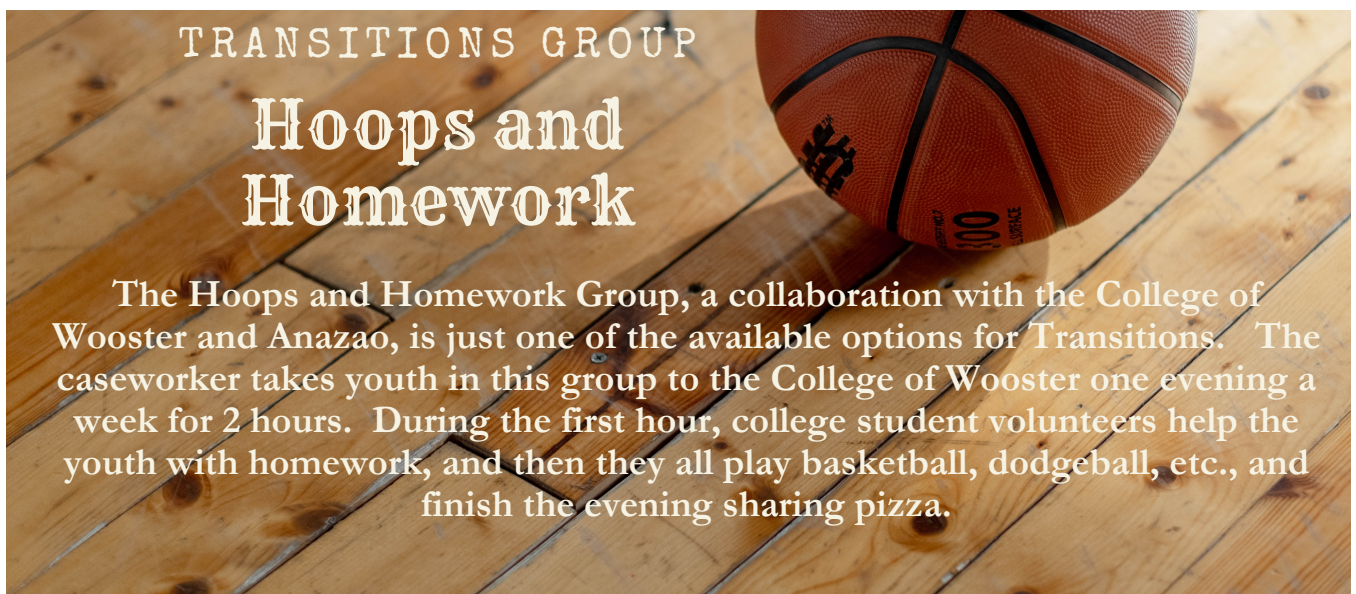
Probation Services, continued

Transitions: Transitions is an individualized case management program provided through a contract with Anazao Community Partners with the goal of improving life skills and social skills in youth. Expected outcomes will be an increase in general life skills, increase in positive relationships, stability in employment or school, and the ability to plan steps toward future goals. The program follows the Transitions to Independence model and focuses on Community Life Functioning, Personal Wellbeing, Educational Opportunities, Employment, and Home Environment Stability.

The youth and parent/guardian complete an intake assessment. The results of the assessment are used to develop an individualized plan for each youth. Youth are involved in the process so they learn how to access assistances needed and make a plan to reach goals. Youth meet weekly with a caseworker. Incentives such as baseball games, movies, or dinners are given to youth who consistently participate and make efforts to reach their goals.

Plans are reviewed each month with probation staff to ensure youth are progressing and to discuss issues that may develop. The length of the program may vary from 6 months to 18 months, depending on each youth's needs and goals. Youth graduate from the program when their goals are met.

In 2022, 17 youth participated in the program, and 3 successfully completed. 1 youth moved out of county and was neutrally terminated from the program. 13 youth remained in the program into 2023.



TRANSITIONS GROUP

Hoops and Homework

The Hoops and Homework Group, a collaboration with the College of Wooster and Anazao, is just one of the available options for Transitions. The caseworker takes youth in this group to the College of Wooster one evening a week for 2 hours. During the first hour, college student volunteers help the youth with homework, and then they all play basketball, dodgeball, etc., and finish the evening sharing pizza.

Probation Services, continued

Parents and Children Cooperating Together (PACCT): PACCT is a home-based family therapy program provided by contract through Catholic Charities Community Services. To be eligible for services, families must reside in Wayne County, have one or more children in the family who was referred as a condition of a diversion contract, or who has been adjudicated delinquent or unruly. The program is funded by Catholic Charities, United Way, and the Court.

The program is flexible and works with the family to address whatever issues are creating problems for the youth and their family. Services may be short term or continue for a longer period of time depending on the specific needs of the youth.

A major focus of the program is to provide home-based counseling to referred youth and their families. PACCT works with families to engage them in the therapy process, and to help them see the value of family counseling. The therapist works with the family to address issues that may impact the functioning of the referred youth and also assist siblings to avoid future problems.

During 2022, 23 youth participated in the PACCT program.

Youth Engagement Specialist: Originating from a need presented by local law enforcement agencies, in 2020, the Court contracted with Catholic Charities Community Services to provide a Youth Engagement Specialist to the Wayne County community. This program provides a licensed clinician to assist families in need of services after involvement with a local law enforcement agency. This clinician can assess youth and families and refer them for further services.

In 2022, 86 families were served.

Life Skills: Since 1982, the Court has cooperated with Goodwill Industries to provide a job skills program that allows youth to develop appropriate work skills and experience. Youth are also able to earn funds to pay fines, costs and restitution. The Probation Department is responsible for supervising these placements and working with the Goodwill staff to provide a support system for the youth. Goodwill also provides a life skills class to help those in the program learn about different careers, interview tips, and how to apply for employment. This program is funded by the RECLAIM Ohio grant.

In 2022, 7 youth were referred to Life Skills. 5 of those referred were successful, and 2 were not successful.

Saturday School: The Court's Saturday School program started in 2015 as an alternative sanction for Court involved youth demonstrating behavioral, attendance, or academic issues at school. The program runs two Saturdays a month during the school year and is staffed by two teachers and one probation officer. The Court collaborates with the youth's school to obtain school work to complete, and to determine any areas that the youth could benefit from additional assistance. While at Saturday School, the youth can receive targeted assistance with academic areas that they struggle with.

In 2022, 17 youth were ordered into the Saturday School Program, and 16 successfully completed the program.

Probation Services, continued

Juveniles Addressing Restitution (JAR): JAR is a program operated by the Court that provides a means for juveniles to pay Court ordered restitution. Referral to the program is made from the bench by the Judge or Magistrate. The program allows juveniles to perform community service work that is converted to minimum wage per hour worked. The Court's Compliance Officer monitors and tracks the community services hours performed by the juvenile.

The Compliance Officer arranges community service work sites or in cases where the juvenile has access to a volunteer work source, they may make their own arrangements at an approved work site. Work hours are documented and the Compliance Officer submits proof of completed hours to the Court for processing of payment. Restitution payment is made by the Court directly to the victim using money secured through the RECLAIM grant.

Should a juvenile be appropriate for the JAR program and was not referred from the bench, the Compliance Officer may file a request with the hearing officer for the referral. A juvenile may be dismissed from the JAR program for failure to comply with the conditions of the program.

The purpose of the JAR program is to aid the victim of certain crimes committed by the delinquent acts of juveniles in receiving restitution for their losses as determined by the Court. While the primary goal is to repay the victims, the program does provide for the offender to be held directly accountable for his/her actions by giving of their time and effort.

In 2022, 4 youth were admitted to the JAR program and \$2,017 was paid to victims for losses.

Chemical Abuse and Behavior (CAB): The Chemical Abuse and Behavior (CAB) group is a program initiated by the probation department in 2011. The group focuses on substance abuse and behavior issues and uses various curriculums addressing thinking errors, relationship building, problem solving skills, etc. The group is run by a certified substance abuse counselor from Catholic Charities. The Court contracts with Catholic Charities to provide this service, which is paid out of the RECLAIM Ohio grant. A youth may be assigned to this group as a result of a positive drug screen, as a sanction for possession or usage of illegal substances or paraphernalia, or as part of an aftercare plan following a more intensive treatment program. The group meets Thursdays after school and is interactive by design.

In 2022, 26 youth were referred to the Chemical Abuse & Behavior Program. 19 youth successfully completed CAB, 1 youth unsuccessfully ended the program, 1 youth moved out of the county and 5 youth remained ongoing into 2023.

Book Club: Since the Book Club was established in 2003, the Court has participated in an alternative community service option and invited appropriate youth to join the Juvenile Court Book Club. Youth are referred to the Book Club by either the Probation Officers or the Prevention and Intervention Officer.

Youth can join the Court's Book Club, where they can read books and then answer questions or write a report to turn into the Court. Youth who are successful receive community service credit. In 2022, books read by youth included *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson, *A Rip in Heaven* by Jeanine Cummins, *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers, and *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson. Funding for new books to add to the library is provided by the RECLAIM grant.

In 2022, 5 youth participated and successfully completed the Book Club program.

Probation Services, continued

Strive Mentoring Program: The Strive Mentoring Program began in late 2017, through a collaboration with Catholic Charities Community Services. The year-long program pairs at-risk or court-involved youth ages 10-17 with a community volunteer, who serves as a supportive individual to help the youth deal with various life challenges. The youth and their mentor spend four hours a month together in one on one activities and planned group activities. Examples of activities include baking cookies, laser tag, making crafts, fishing, cooking classes, painting, visits to the local airport and similar activities.

Interested in learning more about becoming a STRIVE mentor? Click here to watch a video about the Strive Mentoring Program: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=os3SfDXQMLw>

In 2022, 12 youth were paired with mentors and all of them are continuing in the mentorship program into 2023.

In 2022, 9 mentors volunteered to provide mentorship to area youth. In March 2023, mentors were recognized at the 1st Annual Mentor Appreciation Night.

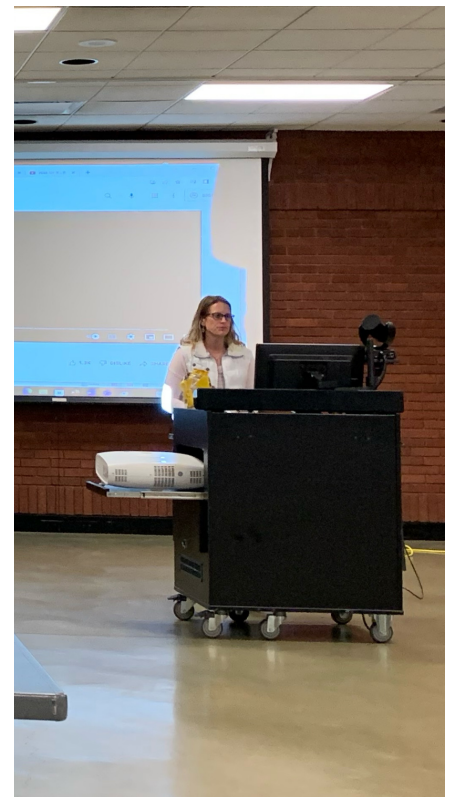


Probation Services, continued

Wayne County 4-H CARTEENS: Low-level or first time-juvenile traffic offenders may be ordered to attend CARTEENS, which is a driver education program that has operated in Wayne County for over 25 years. This program emphasizes Caution And Responsibility (CAR) with teen drivers. The Ohio State University Extension Office coordinates CARTEENS with Wayne County 4-H and in partnership with the Juvenile Court. Adult volunteers and teen leaders help to prepare and present the program curriculum.

CARTEENS covers topics such as excessive speeding, driving under the influence, seat belt safety use, consequences for unsafe decisions, dealing with peer pressure, understanding traffic laws, and recognizing and reacting to traffic signs and signals.

In 2022, 163 teen traffic offenders were referred to CARTEENS.



Thank you



As has been noted in this and prior reports, community-based programming would fail without the aid of local partnering agencies.

The help of Anazao Community Partners, OneEighty, the Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties, Catholic Charities, Family and Children First Council, Goodwill, the Ridge Project, the Wayne-Holmes Mental Health and Recovery Board, and many other community agencies is greatly appreciated.

Wayne County Courthouse: This year’s cover features an image of the historic Wayne County Courthouse after undergoing significant, historically accurate renovations that were necessary to restore and preserve the Courthouse. The renovations began in 2014 and were completed in 2016. The image was captured by Jane Robbins. The Courthouse is located at 107 West Liberty Street in Wooster. It was designed by architect Thomas Boyd and built in 1870. The Courthouse is built of stone and is attached to a brick office building that was built in 1869. The Courthouse was constructed in the French Renaissance style.

The Wayne County Courthouse was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. [Additional information on more of Ohio’s historic courthouses is available on the Supreme Court of Ohio’s website.](#)

Images and Copyrights: Photographs of the Wayne County Courthouse are courtesy of Jane Robbins. Other photographs, images and graphics were either taken by Court staff and agency partners of actual programming or obtained freely from Canva at Canva.com.

Printing Costs: Ohio Revised Code § 2151.18 requires that the Court include on each printed copy of the Annual Report the cost of each printed copy. The 2022 Annual Report was printed at a cost of \$16.30 per copy. Only two printed copies are being made in order to satisfy the legal requirement that two copies remain on file with the Court. Distribution of the Annual Report is again being made online in order to minimize costs. [Click here for additional links to Annual Reports from this year and previous years.](#)

**For more information,
please visit the Court's website:
wayneprobateandjuvenile.org**

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