

# Miami County Juvenile Court

## 2017 Annual Report



Judge W. McGregor Dixon, Jr.

Court Administrator:  
J. Andrew Wannemacher

Magistrates:  
Rebecca Hall  
Katherine Kemp-Severt

## Our Purpose

The Juvenile Court of Miami County is a division of the Miami County Common Pleas Court. Our purpose is to protect the Miami County community from juvenile crime, assist the victims of that crime, counsel and rehabilitate youth who commit crimes, protect children from abuse, neglect, and dependency and provide allocation of parental rights for children whose parents were never married.

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

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

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

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

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

Under the direction of Judge W. McGregor Dixon, Jr. and with the support of two full-time magistrates, the Court provides a broad range of community based, residential treatment and prevention services. This report is intended to help you understand the children we serve and give you an overview of the services we provided in 2017.

# The Youth We Serve

## Juvenile Delinquency

In Ohio, a juvenile delinquent is defined as “.... any child who violates any law of this state, the United States, or any ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision of the state, which would be a crime if committed by an adult; except that any child who violates any traffic law, ordinance, or regulation shall be designated as a juvenile traffic offender.” This definition also includes any child who violates any lawful order of the Juvenile Court. Each year the Court handles many types of delinquency charges, some are considered misdemeanors and others are felonies. The following is a summary of some of the 2017 charges:

<b>Charges</b>	<b>2017</b>
Abuse Harmful Intox	1
Arson	3
Assault Misdemeanor	61
Assault Felony	5
Breaking & Entering	10
Burglary & Agg Burglary	2
Carry/Concealed weapon	2
Child Endangering	1
Chronic Truancy	38
Conspiracy	1
Contempt of Court Order	60
Contributing to Delinquency/Unruliness of a Minor	4
Criminal Damaging	18
Criminal Mischief	18
Cruelty to animals	2
Curfew	37
Deception to Obtain drugs	0
Discharging Air gun/BB/Pellets/Firearm	2
Disobeying Police Officer/Resisting Arrest/Fleeing	8
Disorderly Conduct	54
Dog at Large	1
Domestic Violence	43
Drug Abuse	42
Drug Paraphernalia	42
Drug Possession	27
Drug Trafficking & Agg Drug Traff	6
Escape	3
Falsification	1
Forgery	3
Illegal conveyance of drug	0

Importuning	0
Inducing/Inciting Panic or Violence	6
Littering	1
Making False Alarms	8
Menacing/Aggravated Menacing	13
Obstructing Official Business/Justice/failure to disclose	26
Other weapons charges	1
Possession of Alcohol/underage consumption	50
Possession of Criminal Tools	1
Probation Violation	71
Public Indecency	3
Rape	6
Receiving Stolen Property	12
Robbery/Aggravated Robbery/ complicity	12
Safecracking	1
Sexting	0
Sexual Imposition & Gross Sexual Imposition	4
Tobacco violation	9
Tampering with Evidence/Property	2
Harassment	6
Theft/Grand Theft Auto/Misuse of Credit Card/Identity	60
Trespassing/Criminal Trespassing	25
Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle/Property	6
Unruly	6
Vandalism	5
Weapon on school grounds	0
<b>Total Delinquency Charges</b>	<b>831</b>
<b>Total Delinquency Cases Filed or Reactivated</b>	<b>726</b>

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

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

In 2016, the Court had filings in 856 delinquency cases.

## Unruly Child

An unruly child is defined as any child who does not subject himself to the reasonable control of his parents, teachers, guardian or custodian, is habitually truant from home or school; departs himself as to injure or endanger his health or morals; attempts to enter marriage without consent; is found in a disreputable place, or engages in an occupation prohibited by law. Unruly offenses include behaviors such as truancy at school, running away, and incorrigibility; these behaviors would not be considered a crime if committed by adults. The following is a summary of the 2016 unruly charges:

### 2017 Unruly Charges Filed

<b>Unruly Charges Filed</b>	<b>2017</b>
Truancy	46
Curfew Violations	48
Incorrigible	144
Behavior that injures health or morals	11
Tobacco Law Violations	13
Total Charges	262
Total Unruly Cases	242
Truancy	
Chronic Truant (delinquency)	38
Habitual Truant	6
Total Truancy	46
Total dispositions entered	258

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

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

In 2017, the Court entered final disposition in 272 unruly cases.

## Juvenile Traffic Offender

The Court has jurisdiction over all traffic offenses committed by juveniles. These cases in 2017 included:

### 2017 Traffic Charges Filed

<b>Traffic Charges</b>	<b>2017</b>
Speeding	271
Fail To Control/Reckless Operation	57
Failure to Maintain Distance	58
Seatbelt/Child Restraint	31
Disregarding Traffic Control Device ( Sign/Lights)	28
Fail To Yield	40
Improper Backing, Turn or Lane Change	21
No OL/Permit/Allowing Unlicensed Driver to Drive	17
Driving Under Influence & Related	8
Driving Under Suspension	6
Fictitious/Expired/Missing Plate/Registration/insurance	3
Probationary or temporary license restriction	12
No head or tail lights	10
Vehicle Related Infractions	1
Leaving the Scene	7
Passing a school bus	5
Left of center	2
Squealing Tires/Noise Ordinance	4
Driving on closed street	0
Drag Racing	0
Speed in school zone	10
Passing on left	1
Texting	2
Flee/Elude	1
Impeding Traffic	0
Disregard Safety PvP	3
<b>Total Traffic Charges</b>	<b>605</b>
<b>Total Traffic Cases</b>	<b>560</b>

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

- ◆ Suspending a license for any time period up to age 21

- ◆ Place child on probation
- ◆ Impose fines or costs
- ◆ Place child in Detention (for persistent offense or serious violations)
- ◆ Order child to attend CARTEENS or a Driver's Improvement Program
- ◆ Order restitution
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific program, such as community service or a therapeutic program

In Ohio, a juvenile has a probationary license. With this license, a juvenile is subject to additional penalties imposed by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to which adults are not subject. In 2016, the Court had filings in 475 traffic cases.

### **Abused, Neglected and Dependant Children**

An abused child includes any child that exhibits evidence of any serious physical or emotional injury inflicted other than by accidental means or is the victim of sexual activity. A neglected child is one who is abandoned or lacks parental care because of the faults, habits, and indifference of the parents or custodians. A dependant child lacks proper care or support through no fault of the parents or custodian. The juvenile court has the responsibility to hear such cases and make a finding or adjudication. The Court may make orders altering legal custody or redefining the parental rights and responsibilities to protect the child. These cases are very complex and require close cooperation with Miami County Children Services Board, law enforcement, and other social agencies.

#### 2017 Abuse, Neglect & Dependency Charges Filed

Abuse, Neglect and Dependency	92
Motion for Permanent Custody	19

The Court believes that when a child's physical, mental and emotional health is at stake and when the child's needs are not being met, that the child needs an advocate. Therefore, in all of these cases the Court appoints a guardian ad litem either through CASA/GAL of MIAMI COUNTY or a private attorney. Based on the complaint before it and by considering the best interest of the child, the Court may use a variety of options for dealing with abused, neglected, and dependant children including:

- ◆ Order protective supervision by Miami County Children Service Board
- ◆ Remove the child from the home on a temporary basis and give custody to Children Services during which time the parties can work on a plan for reunification.
- ◆ Give legal custody to a relative
- ◆ Place the child in long-term foster care when the parent is not able to assume care
- ◆ Award permanent custody to Children Services, so that the child can be adopted

In 2016, the Court had filings of 77 abuse, neglect, and dependency cases and 15 permanent custody cases.

### **Paternity, Custody, Child Support, and Visitation**

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction in cases of children whose parents were never married. Sometimes, this involves determining who the father of a child is. It can also involve deciding which parent gets custody of a child and the amount of child support and visitation the child can have with a parent. The Court also deals with requests from people other than parents, such as relatives or friends who want custody of a child. These cases often involve working with the Miami County Child Support Enforcement Agency.

#### 2017 Paternity, Custody, Visitation & Child Support Charges Filed

Custody/Visitation	643
Support Enforcement/Modifications	1597
Parentage	40
UIFSA	18

In 2016, the Court had filings in 1717 support enforcement or modification cases, 762 custody or visitation cases, 66 parentage cases and 19 UIFSA cases.

### **Adult Misdemeanor Cases**

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

#### 2017 Adult Charges Filed

Child Endangering	0
Contempt of Court	5
Contributing to the Delinquency or Unruliness of a Minor	19
Failure to send to school	70
Imposition of sentence	0
Adult charges filed	94
<b>Total Adult Criminal Cases Filed or Reactivated</b>	<b>103</b>

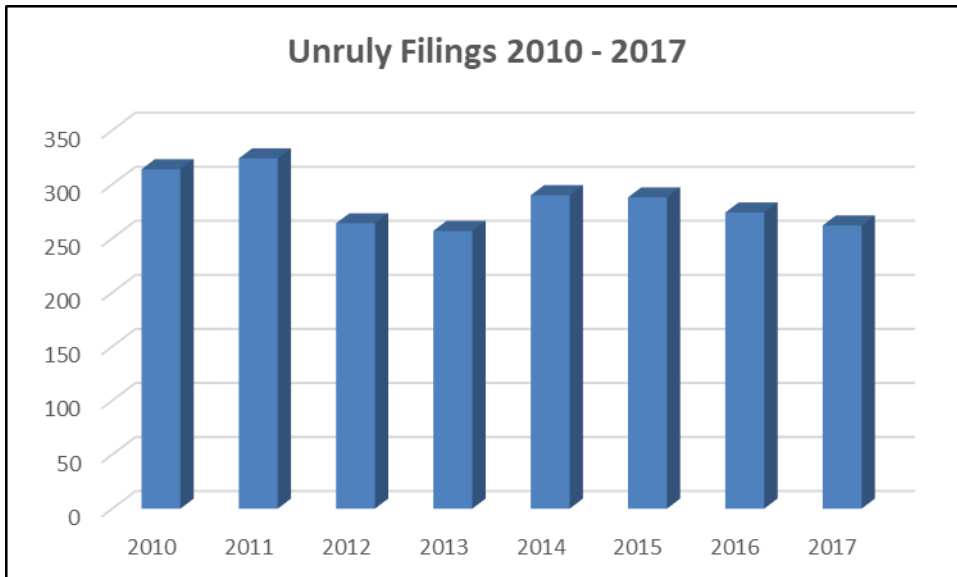
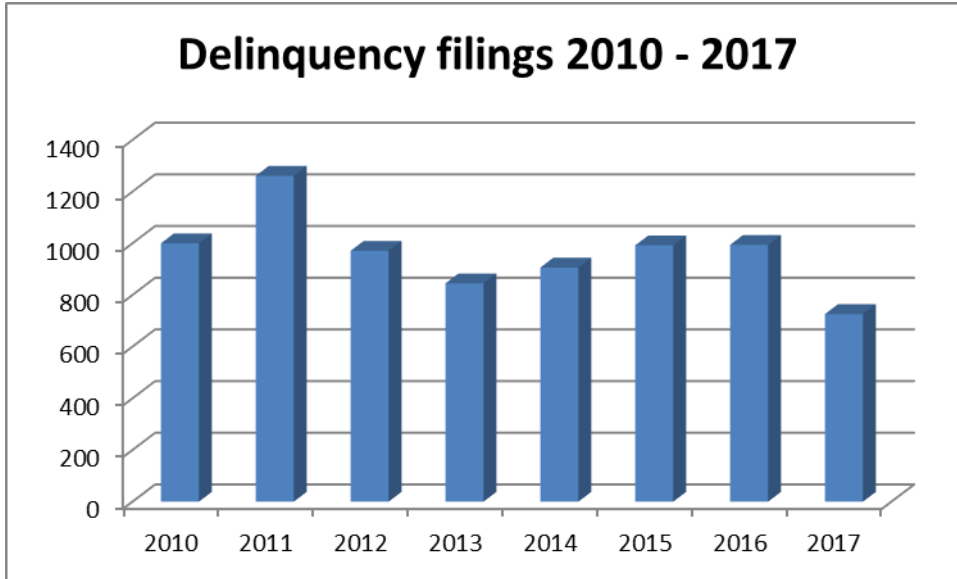
In 2016, the Court had filings in 137 adult cases.



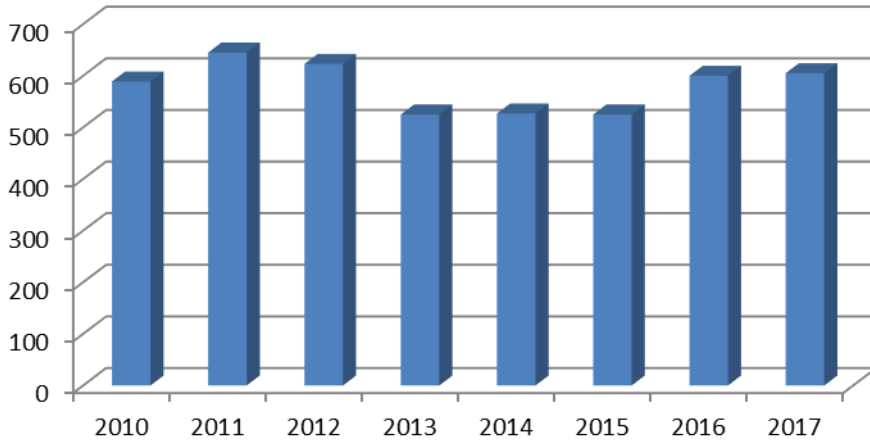
## **Miscellaneous Cases**

The Court hears a number of cases that do not fall into any particular category. These include such issues as applications for a marriage license by an underage child, hospitalization of a mentally ill minor, certain kinds of consents for medical treatment, judicial bypass, search warrants, civil protective orders and motion to waive civil filing fees. In 2017, the court handled 3 such filings including civil protection cases.

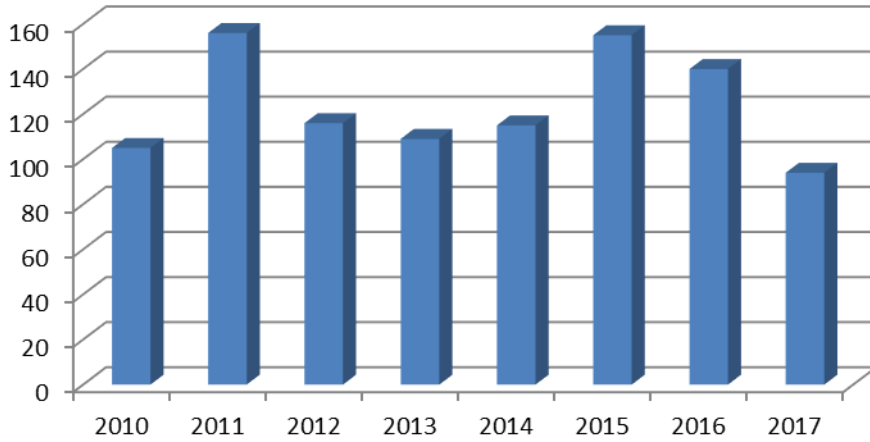
## Filing Trends 2010-2017



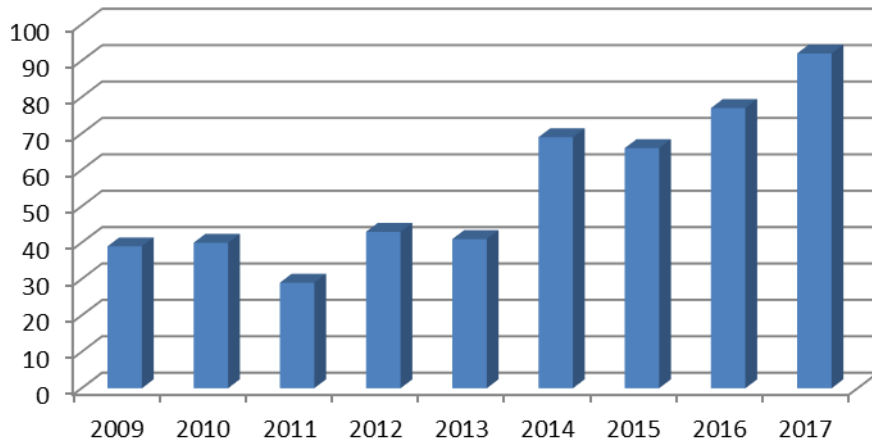
### Traffic Filings 2010 - 2017



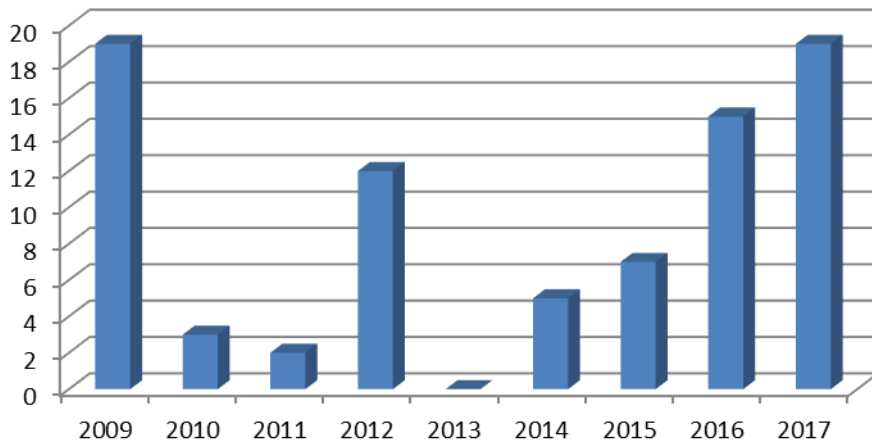
### Adult Filings 2010 - 2017



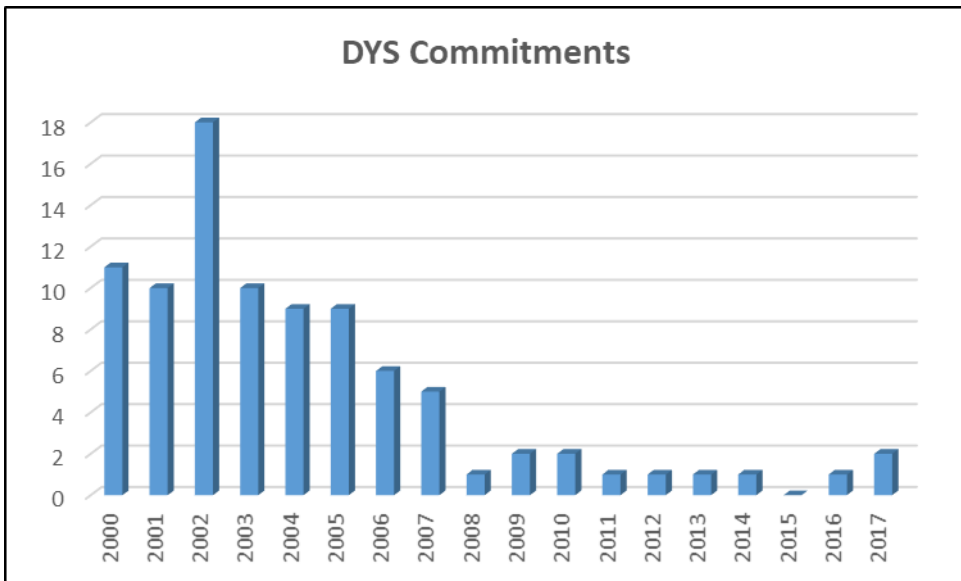
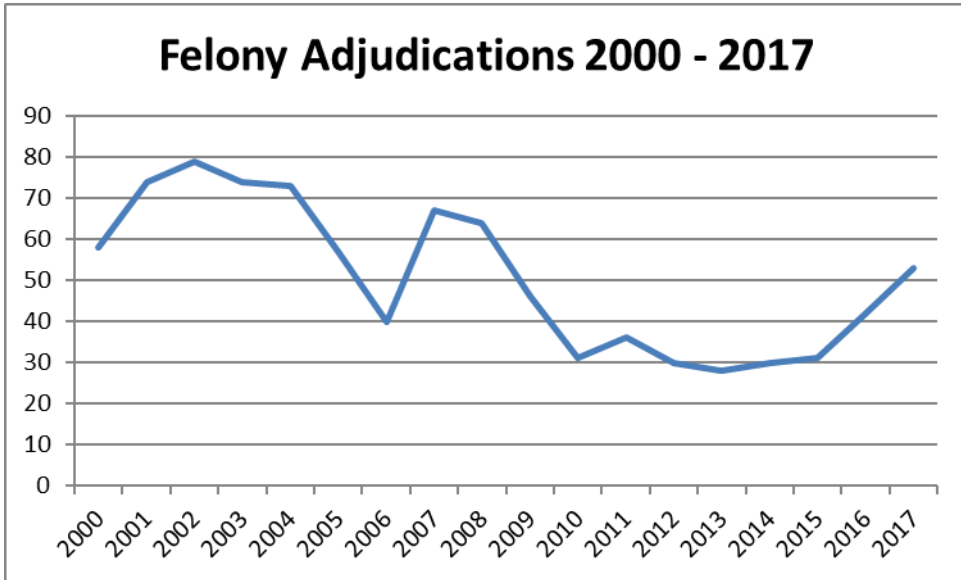
### Abuse/Neglect/Dependency 2017



### Permanent Custody 2017



## Adjudication Trends



## Court Services - Clerk's Office

The clerk's office is responsible for handling all the paperwork related to any court case. They accept the filings, schedule hearings, certify all orders, process all the paperwork, act as court reporters and generally maintain all case records. Under the direction of Chief Deputy Clerk, Nicole Rodriguez and with the help of six full-time and one part-time clerk, the office serves all the clients of the Court.

### 2017 Court Activity

Total Cases Filed	4037
Total Cases with Disposition	4107

## Juvenile Probation

The Miami County Juvenile Probation Department's mission is to encourage youth to behave responsibly and ensure community safety through the enforcement of court orders and terms of probation. The probation department uses sanctions such as electronic home monitoring, direct supervision, and social services to solve family problems and change youth behavior. The Probation Department routinely networks with schools, law enforcement, and other human services agencies to serve the needs of probationers. The department utilizes a number of contracted services to meet the therapeutic needs of the youth.

To achieve the mission the department maintains the following components:

- A Diversion program for first time offenders, which includes an array of education and mental health services to assist families in addressing communication and behavior problems
- An assessment of the youth's level of risk and dispositional recommendations with individualized treatment plans using multiple modes of intervention
- Specialized supervision of sex offenders and youth in specialized out-of-home placements
- Intensive supervision of youth released from West Central Rehabilitation, Miami Valley Rehabilitation Center and other Community Corrections Facilities, David L. Brown Youth Center and other out-of-home placements
- Probation supervision which concentrates on changing behavior and improving pro-social skills through individualized treatment planning and using community resources. Working with parents, officers monitor court orders to assure accountability
- House Arrest Monitoring Program which supervises youth placed on house arrest during weekend and evening hours
- Community Service Program which gives youth the opportunity to participate in supervised work projects which benefits the community

Under the direction of Elizabeth Yingst, Chief Probation Officer, the probation department has seven full time probation officers, one probation assistant, two part-time community service youth supervisors and a seasonal part time youth supervisor.

## 2017 Assessment Statistics

Miami County Juvenile Court utilizes assessments of youth to help determine the appropriate disposition and level of services. These assessments provide the Court with the level of risk that a youth poses, as well as with dispositional recommendations based on individualized treatment plans using multiple modes of intervention.

<b>Assessment statistics</b>	
Total	72
Boys	49
Girls	23

<b>Offense Type</b>	
Misdemeanor	42
Felony	19
Unruly/Truancy (first time)	N/A
Unruly	11
Traffic	0

<b>Recidivating for other services</b>	
Total Referred to outside services	23
Number recidivated	5

<b>City of Residence</b>	
Piqua	22
Troy	28
Tipp	6
Milton	8
Pleasant Hill	2
Covington	6

<b>Disposition</b>	
Probation	41
Other	23
DYS	0
Lived out of county	0
WC Rehab	0
Pending	8

<b>Intakes by Charge</b>			
Unruly/truancy	11	Receiving Stolen Property	2
CCW	2	Theft	6
Criminal Trespass	0	Obstruction/falsification/Resisting	4
Criminal Damaging	2	Menacing	0
Identity Fraud	0	Kidnapping	0
Unauthorized Use	4	Drug Abuse/Possession	2
Assault/Agg Assault	5	Drug Paraphernalia	5
UAC/Possession	1	Domestic Violence	6
Disorderly	6	Robbery	5
Burglary	0	Arson related	0
B & E (or attempted)	1	Weapon on School	0
Contempt	2	Inducing Panic	3
Make false alarm	1	Trafficking	2
Safecracking	1	Public Indecency	1
		<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>



## 2017 Probation Department

<b>Probation Assignments</b>	
Boys	53
Girls	19
Caucasian	60
African American	10
Other	2
Felony	29
Misdemeanor	38
Unruly	5
Traffic	0
Total Youth Ordered	72
Total Youth From Previous Year	68
<b>Total Served</b>	<b>140</b>

<b>Probation by Age</b>	
11-under	0
12&13	7
14&15	23
16 and up	42

<b>Probation by City</b>	
Piqua	21
Troy	23
Tipp	7
Milton/Ludlow/Laura	9
Bradford/Covington/P Hill	9
Other	3

<b>Dept. Charges filed by</b>	
Piqua	16
Troy	19
Tipp	5
West Milton	3
MCSO	13
Covington	1
Probation Officer	1
Other	13
School (THS/TJHS)	1

<b>Charges resulting in Probation</b>	
Arson	2
Drug Trafficking	3
Drug/Alcohol Possession	8
Corrupting another w/ drugs	0
Criminal Damage/mischief/Vandalism	3
Breaking Entering/Burglary	2
Trespassing	2
Disorderly Conduct	6
Unruly/truancy/curfew	5
Theft related	9
Contempt of Court	1
Assault	5
Making false alarm	1
Improper use of a firearm	1
Agg Robbery/Robbery	4
Domestic Violence	5
Menacing	0
Obstruction/Resisting	3
Sex Offenses	11
Kidnapping	0
CCW	1
<b>Total Charges</b>	<b>72</b>

<b>Felony Charges</b>	
Rape	0
Gross Sexual Imposition	8
Burglary	0
Kidnapping/abduction	0
Breaking Entering	1
Theft	2
Aggravated Assault	4
Robbery	3
Weapon on School	0
Drug trafficking	2
Drug Abuse	0
CCW	1
Vandalism	1
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	<b>2</b>
Arson	2
Tampering/Obstruction	2
Importuning	1
<b>Total Charges</b>	<b>29</b>

<b>School</b>	
Troy High School	17
Troy Jr High	5
Piqua High School	12
Piqua Jr High	3
Tipp Central	2
Tipp High	4
Miami East High	2
Miami East Jr High	0
Upper Valley Career Center	1
Milton Union Middle School	3
Milton Union High School	6
Miami Valley Career Tech	1
Covington High School	4
Graduated/GED	0
Newton	2
Bethel High School	0
Home schooled	4
Other	7

## Child Placement Services

Miami County Juvenile Court Probation Department may take custody/care and control of an adjudicated unruly or delinquent youth when the parent is unable to effectively parent or manage the child's behavioral problems. The child can be placed in an out-of-home setting such as foster care or residential treatment. This decision is only made when the Probation Department has made reasonable efforts to prevent placement and the Court determines it is in the child's best interest to live away from their parent or guardian.

In 2012, Miami Juvenile Court Probation Department became a Title IV-E certified court. Title IV-E is a federal program that subsidizes the cost of out-of-home care for eligible youth. The goal of the program is reduce the reliance on out-of-home care and encourage the use of preventative and reunification services. Through this program the Court acts as a child service agency and provides services which are individualized and in the best interest of a child. To be eligible for this program, each Court must be approved by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and must comply with federal and state regulations.

When a child is placed in care and control the case is transferred to the Intensive Supervision Probation Officer who coordinates all the eligibility paperwork and establishes a reunification and treatment plan for the child and family. That probation officer works closely with the placement facility or foster parents to assure that the child's needs are met.

If a child in custody meets income eligibility, the Court can receive reimbursement for some of the foster care maintenance costs and reimbursement for administrative and training costs related to serving youth at risk for placement. The Court utilizes FFP funds to improve services to children and youth services in Miami County, with special emphasis given to specialized placements for high risk youth and reducing the number of placements in state funded Correctional Institutions.

### 2017 Care & Control Statistics

<b>Placed in Care and Control</b>	<b>2017</b>
Boys	3
Girls	0
Caucasian	1
African American	2
Other	0

Total Youth entering care in current year	3
Youth in care from Previous Year	3
Youth released from care in current year	5
Youth still in care at end of year	1
Total Served in care/control	6

<b>Charges resulting in Care/Control</b>	
PV/Contempt	2
Unauthorized Use of MV	0
Weapon on School Grounds	0
Obstruction	0
B&E/Burglary	0
Assault/Domestic Violence	1
Escape	0
Receiving Stolen Property	0

<b>Where placed</b>	
DLBYC	3
MARSH	0
Abraxas	0
Foundations for living	0
Mohican Youth	0
Michael's Group Home (transfer from DLBYC)	1

<b>Released from custody during year to :</b>	
Parental Home	5
Relative Placement	0
MCCSB	0
Other Custodian	0

<b>Age</b>	
12/13	0
14/15	1
16 & up	2

## Alternatives to Detention

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

## Electronic Home Monitoring

The Electronic Home Monitoring Program is one that uses ankle brackets to allow the probation department to know the whereabouts of the child at all times. Probation is notified if the child has left the house. This program is often used for youth coming out of a long term residential stay, so as to help adjust to the reduced amount of structure.

### 2017 Electronic Home Monitoring

Boys	60
Girls	17
Caucasian	66
African American	8
Other	3
Felony	28
Misdemeanor	49
Unruly	0
Traffic	0
Terminated Unsuccessfully	17
Terminated Successfully	59
Total Youth Ordered	77
<b>TOTAL YOUTH SERVED</b>	<b>83</b>
Average days on EMHA	30

## House Arrest Monitoring Program

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

### 2017 House Arrest Monitoring

Boys	135
Girls	40
Caucasian	144
African American	27
Other	4
Felony	59
Misdemeanor	105
Unruly	11
Traffic	0
Terminated Unsuccessfully	30
Terminated Successfully	144
<b>Total Youth Ordered</b>	<b>175</b>
still on house arrest	4
# of Compliance Checks done by PO's	462
# of man hours PO spent doing HA checks after hours/weekends	161
Average length of time on HA	45 days

## Piqua Office

The Piqua Probation Office is located at 1105 W. Wayne Street in downtown Piqua. To reach the Piqua office call 937-615-0657. This office is used by probation officers to conduct visits with youth and their families and to provide group treatment programming.

## Diversion Services

The Court uses the Diversion Program as an intervention to formal court proceedings. All charges against first time offenders are sent to Scott Auxier to assess whether intervention is appropriate. The Court only does intervention on specific types of charges, such as unruly offenses, (school truancy, running away, curfew violations, tobacco offenses or violating the rules set by their parents or school officials), as well as minor delinquencies such as petty theft, disorderly conduct, criminal trespassing and criminal damaging. The youth and their parents are given the opportunity to participate in educational groups as an alternative to appearing in court. Youth are also offered volunteer opportunities to assist in redirecting behavior. When youth and families complete the program, the original citation or complaint is sealed and never filed with the Court.

### 2017 Diversion Program

<b>Family Diversion</b>	
Retained from Previous Year	32
Filed this year	197
Successfully Completed	185
Declined Services	0
Inappropriate for Service	0
Unsuccessful	14
Total Pending at end of year	30
<b>Total Served</b>	<b>229</b>

<b>Truancy Charges</b>	
# sent to diversion	25
# of diversion cases	
	Succ 23
	Unsucc 2
# of adjudicated truancy charges	2

<b>Offenses referred in 2017</b>	Successful	Unsuccessful	Pending
Curfew	32	1	3
Tobacco	1	1	0
Unruly	63	7	4
Theft related	14	0	0
Truancy	25	2	4
Assault	6	0	2
Criminal Damaging/Mischief	18	0	0
Criminal Trespass	3	0	1
Disorderly Conduct	14	0	2
Littering	0	0	0
Disseminating	2	1	0
Pandering	10	1	5
Open Cont/Possession	0	1	0
Obstruction	1	0	0
Swimming in Ludlow Falls	4	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>

## Community Service/Restitution

The Community Service Program is designed for youth that have been ordered by the Court to perform community service hours as a consequence for their behavior. The Restitution program allows youth to work to reimburse victims for their losses. The purpose of the program is to hold juveniles accountable for their actions by requiring them to participate in a work program that gives back to the community. It is also intended to promote appropriate work and employment skills. Both youth on formal probation and those informally supervised by the Court can be enrolled in the program.

Youth work at sites in the community and are supervised by part-time and seasonal court staff. Work is scheduled so as not to interfere with school, occurring late afternoon, weekends, and on school vacations. Efforts are made to enroll youth in sites within their home communities. The program has 19 sites including local nursing homes, city and county municipal buildings, and football stadiums. In 2017, 347 youth provided 3262 hours of service to the community.

### 2017 Community Service Program

<b>Program admissions</b>	
Boys	247
Girls	106
Felony	24
Misdemeanor	194
Unruly	65
Traffic	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>

### 2017 Crops for Change Program

In 2016, the Court re-introduced “Crops for Change”. This project was originally conceptualized by Miami County Juvenile Court Magistrate Katherine Kemp Severt. The youth plant, weed, water, and harvest crops, consisting of a variety of vegetables including peppers, cabbage, and tomatoes. After harvest, the juveniles make salsa which they shared with staff and other county employees. This experience helps the participating juveniles understand the growth cycle of plants and that food doesn’t have to come from the grocery. It also enables them to see their hard work provides food to those families in need. In 2017, 23 youth participated in this project.

Funding for the program comes from the Department of Youth Services Reclaim Grant.



## Community Partnerships

Miami County Juvenile Court has developed many partnerships with community agencies to provide services to the youth involved with the Court. Through contracts with the Court, these agencies provide needed services developed specially for the Court involved youth and their parents. Juveniles are ordered into these programs according to their needs.

### Contract Services

- ❖ Adolescent Sex Offender Treatment provided by contract with Kate Benton, a licensed sex offender therapist. Youth convicted of a sexual offense receive assessment, outpatient group and individual treatment on a weekly basis. In 2017, ten (10) youth were assessed.
- ❖ Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education is provided by contract with Miami County Recovery Council. This program works with first time offenders who have come before the Court on an alcohol or substance abuse charge. The program includes an all-day educational session, a substance use assessment, and a parent component. In 2017, 25 youth successfully completed this program. A total of six (6) groups were held.
- ❖ Shoplifters Group is provided by contract with the Miami County Recovery Council. The Recovery Council provides a home study course and a one-day educational class for youth involved in shoplifting. The sessions help youth understand the dynamics of shoplifting and why they have chosen this risky behavior. The course strives to help youth get better control of their lives and change these destructive and unlawful behaviors. In 2017, 13 youth were served in this program. A total of six (5) groups were held.
- ❖ Psychological Services is provided through contracts with licensed psychologists. Psychological evaluations are performed to provide the Court with needed assessments integral to further court treatment plans. Forensic evaluations are also provided. These are required when deciding if a youth should be tried as an adult, and whether the child is competent to stand trial.

### Shared Placements

Placement services are provided for youth who receive assistance from multiple agencies, such as **Miami County Children Services, Riverside Developmental Disabilities, and Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health**. The Court shares in the placement costs of some youth in the custody of Children Services who are also involved with the Court. Youth are placed in various types of settings including foster care, group homes, and residential treatment. In 2017, Juvenile Court contributed \$80,628.74 in shared funding for the placement of six youth.

## **Guardian Ad Litem**

Juvenile Court provides funding to **CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY** to provide advocacy services on behalf of abused and neglected children. The advocates, specially trained volunteers serving as Guardian ad Litem (GAL), represent the best interest of children involved in dependency, neglect, and abuse cases for which placement is being determined by the Court, and, any other case where permanent custody has been filed. CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY is a private non-profit agency. In 2017, 38 volunteers served 172 children, up from 2016, when 37 volunteers served 152 children.

The Court also may provide an attorney to represent the child.

## Financial Report

Miami County Juvenile Court receives funding from a variety of sources including the Miami County General Fund, the Department of Youth Services, and various federal and state grants.

	Appropriations & Carryover	Expenditures
General Fund - Juvenile Court	\$1,174,749.99	\$1,036,697.13
General Fund - Juvenile Probation	\$675,924.45	\$344,380.71
General Fund - Juvenile Probation (Special Int. Prg.)	\$1,000.00	\$148.45
Felony Delinquent Care and Custody	\$702,642.03	\$496,051.98
Juv. Probation Title IV-E Administration	\$164,088.40	\$96,277.27
Juv. Probation Title IV-E Maintenance	\$200,000.00	\$-
Juv. Court Child Support Fund	\$14,933.94	\$14,734.83
Juv. Computerization	\$11,010.00	\$4,642.47
Special Projects - General	\$10,568.01	\$5,659.14
Legal Research	\$5,000.00	\$3,165.29
Indigent Driver Fund	\$1,000.00	\$-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,960,916.82</b>	<b>\$2,001,757.27</b>

\*Does not include Budgets of David L. Brown, West Central Detention, and West Central Rehabilitation Center

### Fines and Court Costs

Fines and court costs are ways to hold youth and adults accountable for their behavior. Miami County Juvenile Court believes that these fines and costs should be assessed to youth and they are encouraged to pay their own costs. Adults who are convicted in this court are also assessed fines and costs. Juvenile Court has taken an aggressive stance in an effort to collect fines and court costs. Fines are assessed and collected immediately after court hearings. When individuals cannot pay immediately, a payment plan is established. Fines and costs are dispersed to the general fund and to other agencies as defined by law. Failure to pay fines can result in further court hearings and/or a suspension of driver's license.

## 2017 Fines and Court Costs Collected

	<b>TOTALS</b>
COURT COSTS	<b>\$ 56,995.32</b>
COMPUTER FEES	<b>\$ 14,209.00</b>
LEGAL RESEARCH	<b>\$ 3,036.00</b>
SHERIFF FEES	<b>\$ 476.00</b>
LAW LIBRARY	<b>\$ 1,250.00</b>
COUNTY FINES	<b>\$ 8,982.48</b>
MOTOR VEHICLE FINES	<b>\$ 2,882.00</b>
COUNTY DRUG FINES	<b>\$ 60.00</b>
MISC. COSTS	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
COPY SERVICE	<b>\$ 495.06</b>
WITNESS FEES	<b>\$ 16.00</b>
SPECIAL PROJECT - GEN	<b>\$ 27,513.29</b>
DRUG TESTING	<b>\$ 1,208.19</b>
P.D. APPLICATION FEE	<b>\$ 2,393.00</b>
P.D. RECOUPMENT FEE	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
TOBACCO FEES	<b>\$ 150.00</b>
IDAT	<b>\$ 559.50</b>
STATE OF OHIO	<b>\$ 23,177.65</b>
BOARD OF PHARMACY	<b>\$ 120.00</b>
ARRESTING AGENCY	<b>\$ 95.00</b>
SUNDRIES	<b>\$ 95.00</b>
BONDS RECEIVED	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
DEPOSITS APPLIED	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>\$ 143,593.49</b>

## West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

The West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility is a state-of-the-art, secure residential facility for 32 juvenile boys, who have committed felonies. Youth go through a rigorous re-socialization program designed to correct flawed thought processes, which contributed to their criminal behavior. The Center has a specialized sex offender treatment program. All boys receive an individualized academic educational plan, family and individual counseling and intensive supervision. The average length of stay is six months to one year.

The Center's 2017 budget was \$1,797,088. The Ohio Department of Youth Services provides funding for the center. Local Counties are debited from their RECLAIM Allocation through the Ohio Department of Youth Services for youth placed at the center. Local school districts pay per school day to support educational programming.

Located on 25A in Troy, the West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility serves Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby, and Miami County providing Juvenile Judges a local alternative to committing youth to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The Center also takes boys from other counties in the state if there is space available. Brent Knackstedt is the Director of the Center.

### 2017 WCJRC Statistics

**Admissions: 37**

**Releases: 36**

Successful: 26      Unsuccessful: 8      No Further Benefit: 2

<b>County</b>	<b># boys</b>	<b>County</b>	<b># boys</b>
Allen	2	Mercer	2
Auglaize	6	Miami	2
Champaign	1	Paulding	0
Clark	4	Pike	2
Darke	2	Preble	2
Delaware	1	Putnam	0
Fayette	1	Shelby	1
Harrison	1	Union	0
Highland	3	Van Wert	1
Licking	1		
Marion	5	<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>

<b>Age at Admission</b>	
13 years	2
14 years	7
15 years	6
16 years	9
17 years	10
18 years	3
19 years	0

<b>Felony Level</b>	
F-5	6
F-4	4
F-3	15
F-2	6
F-1	6

<b>Committing Offense</b>	
Assault	2
B & E	2
Burglary	6
CCW	0
Domestic Violence	2
Drug Possession	2
Drug Abuse	0
Escape	1
Gross Sexual Imposition	7
Intimidation	1
Rape	6
Robbery	1
Receiving Stolen Property	0
Safe Cracking	0
Sexual Battery	1
Theft	3
Vandalism	2
Weapons under disability	1

<b>Race</b>	
Caucasian	28

Other	9
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<b>Average Length of Stay</b>	
Sex Offender Program	380 days
General Offender Program	241 days

**Day Treatment**

Day Treatment is a court ordered academic educational program for non-violent offenders. This program allows 13-17 year old boys and girls on probation to attend school in a structured environment with individualized attention. In December of 2016, the program moved from the West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility to the David L. Brown Youth Center. In 2017, the program only served Miami County children. The program was put on hiatus when the David L. Brown Youth Center closed in November of 2017.

Youth work on individualized educational plans completing G.E.D, or their regular courses needed for graduation by their home school. The school operated year round and transportation was provided. The average length of stay is four to five months. Funding for this program is provided through the local school districts.

In 2017, 49 students were enrolled in the program. Seven students earned enough credits to obtain a graduation diploma from their high school.

2017 Day Treatment Population Statistics

<b>Day Treatment</b>	
<b>School District</b>	
Piqua	13
Tipp City	9
Troy	1
Vandalia Bulter	1
<b>Total Served in Program</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Gender</b>	
Boys	21
Girls	3

<b>Age</b>	
13 years	0
14 years	0
15 years	4
16 years	6
17 years	12
18 years	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>

<b>Outcome of Day Treatment</b>	
Successful Release	10
Unsuccessful Release	7
GED prep	1
Graduation	1
Moved out of county	1
In program when DLBYC closed	4



## DAVID L. BROWN YOUTH CENTER

The David L. Brown Youth Center was a program of the Miami County Juvenile Court. Under the direction of Sue Parker, Executive Director and located on a farm setting, east of Troy, the Youth Center was a 24-hour residential treatment center for boys ages 12-17. The primary purpose of the facility was to provide an environment in which youth can assume responsibility for their thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors. The Center used Trauma-Informed Cognitive Behavior Therapy, a nationally recognized therapeutic treatment modality. Most of the boys were referred to the Center by a variety of Ohio County Juvenile Court systems, Children's Service agencies, and Family and Children's First organizations. The Center was licensed by Ohio Jobs and Family Services and was Title IV-E approved.

The Center was closed in mid-November by the Court. The Court had seen a steady decline in the number of youth being placed in the center. This decline has been seen nationally as there continues to be a push away from residential placements for juvenile delinquents.

### 2017 BUDGET

The expenditures for David L. Brown Youth Center for fiscal year 2017 was \$598,654. The daily per diem rate is \$183.00 per day. School districts also pay a per diem to cover educational expenses. In addition to the revenue received from sending agencies, the center received Federal Food Subsidy, Title XX for Miami County youth, and private donations.

### 2017 DLBYC Annual Census

County	2017
Miami County CSB	1
Miami County Juvenile Court	3
Preble County CSB	2
Greene County CSB	1
Warren County CSB	1
Allen County Juvenile Court	1
Fayette County CSB	1
Highland County CSB	1
Mercer County CSB	1
Lucas County CSB	1
<b>Total Served</b>	<b>13</b>

## **WEST CENTRAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER**

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

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center opened in January 1993 as a 24-bed facility and later added a 20-bed pod. The 2017 operational expenses were 1,757,323. All operational funding comes from the counties that use our facility with no money being utilized from the County General Fund.

West Central JDC provides youth with all the basic necessities. The residents receive three hot meals a day, they have structured gym exercise every day and attend an on-site school Monday through Friday. Youth must participate within group programs such as: anger management, substance abuse, health & hygiene, Planned Parenthood, life choices, and receive various topics from community leaders and motivational speakers. The youth have the option to participate in a bible study program and to attend a Sunday morning service while at the Center. There are visitation appointments for parents to visit three times per week. The residents may make phone calls at designated times and are provided all the necessary materials for writing letters to family.

The West Central JDC also provides a prevention program called STAR (Start Today Accepting Responsibility). This program is for “high risk” youth between ages 12 – 17 and the youth must be referred from a Juvenile Court to be eligible for the realistic tour of the detention center. At least one parent must attend the program with the youth and remain on site at West Central JDC for the two-hour program. In 2017, 113 youth were referred with 96 completing the program. This program is free of charge to the courts under contract with West Central JDC.

The West Central JDC is located in the Miami County Government Complex at 2044 North County Road 25A, north of Troy. Lance Ray is the Superintendent of Detention.

## West Central Juvenile Detention Center 2017

County	WCJDC	Auglaize	Clinton	Darke	Highland	Mercer	Miami	Preble	Shelby	Van Wert
Male	750	162	36	98	9	68	165	85	91	36
Female	218	56	12	24	1	21	50	18	28	8
NonCon	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Intakes	972	218	48	122	10	89	215	103	123	44
Total Days in Detention	13,047.00	2,460.00	799	1,971.00	374	818	2,810.00	679	2,306.00	830
Average Length of Stay Days	13.4	11.3	16.6	16.2	37.4	9.2	13.1	6.6	18.7	18.9

Average daily population – 35.3

**Miami County Juvenile Court**  
**2017 Annual Report Statistical Summary**

**Cases Filed in 2017**

<b>Cases Filed/Transferred In</b>	
Delinquent	726
Traffic	560
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	67
Unruly	242
Adult	103
Permanent Custody	20
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	602
Support Enforcement/Modifications	1695
Parentage	39
UIFSA	16
Other	3
<b>Total Cases Filed</b>	<b>4073</b>

**Cases Terminated in 2017**

<b>Cases terminated by Case Type</b>	
Delinquent	769
Traffic	554
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	69
Unruly	258
Adult	126
Permanent Custody	19
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	603
Support Enforcement/Modification	1641
Parentage	44
UIFSA	20
Other	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4107</b>

**Cases Terminated by Type of Termination**

Trial by Judge	234
Trial by Magistrate	1068
Dismissal	345
Admission by Judge	154
Admission by Magistrate	1100
Certification/Waiver Granted	0
Unavailability of Party for Trial	137
Transfers to another Court	106
Interlocutory Appeal	0
Other Terminations	963
<b>Total</b>	<b>4107</b>

**Types of Dispositions for Youth in 2017**

<b>Types of Dispositions</b>	
Bind over to adult court	1
Commitment to DYS	4
Detention	150
David L. Brown	3
West Central Day Treatment	49
West Central Rehabilitation Center	2
Other CCF	0
Suspended commitment to DYS	29
Community Service	274
Probation	73
Electronic Home Monitoring	51
House Arrest	155
Temporary Custody CSB	15
Protective Supervision CSB	69
Permanent Custody CSB	11
Jail Sentence (Adult)	20
Restitution	36
Cases with Fines Assessed	577
Cases with costs Assessed	618
Waiver due to Indigence	623
Fines and Court costs	\$143,593.46

## **Miami County Juvenile Court Important Phone Numbers**

Juvenile Court Clerks Office (general information) .....	440-5970
Chief Deputy Clerk –Nicole Rodriguez.....	440-3533
Chief Probation Officer – Elizabeth Yingst.....	440-3521
Court Administrator – J. Andrew Wannemacher.....	440-5990
Fiscal Officer – Terra Homan .....	440-5926
West Central Detention Center - Lance Ray (Director).....	440-5651
West Central Rehabilitation Center –Brent Knackstedt (Director).....	440-3485

Please visit our web site at: [www.miamicountyohio.gov](http://www.miamicountyohio.gov)