

HOLMES COUNTY
JUVENILE COURT

2023
ANNUAL REPORT



Judge Thomas C. Lee

March 18, 2024

To the Citizens of Holmes County, Ohio:

On behalf of Holmes County Juvenile Court and its staff, I am pleased to present the 2023 Annual Report. This report is prepared pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.18(B) and contains information on the Court's cases, as well as the services and programs offered by the Court to Holmes County families and children.

It is my sincere desire that the Court provide quality assistance to Holmes County families and children. If you have questions or suggestions as you read this report, please feel free to contact me. I value your input.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Lee
Juvenile Court Judge

COURT PERSONNEL



| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Judge..... | Hon. Thomas C. Lee |
| Magistrate..... | Hon. Julie Dreher |
| Court Administrator..... | Megan M. Hoxworth, CCM |
| Bailiff..... | Bradley S. Conn |
| Chief of Probation..... | David Williams, LSW |
| Probation/Diversion Manager..... | Brody Williams |
| Probation/Diversion Manager and Therapy Dog Handler... | Rachel Cornell |
| Therapy Dog..... | Marlee |
| Probation/Diversion Services Secretary..... | Jean Spencer |
| Deputy Clerk..... | Kristi Walton |
| Deputy Clerk..... | Jessica Rohr |
| Deputy Clerk..... | Malori Snyder |
| Deputy Clerk..... | Tammy Miller |
| Connections Mentoring Program Coordinator..... | Nicole Lepley |

PURPOSE OF JUVENILE DISPOSITIONS



Ohio Revised Code Section 2152.01 sets forth the purpose of Juvenile Court dispositions (sentences or Court orders) as follows:

2152.01: Purposes; applicability of law

(A) The overriding purposes for dispositions under this chapter are **to provide for the care, protection, and mental and physical development of children** subject to this chapter, **protect the public interest and safety, hold the offender accountable for the offender's actions, restore the victim, and rehabilitate the offender.** These purposes shall be achieved by a system of graduated sanctions and services.

(B) Dispositions under this chapter shall be reasonably calculated to achieve the overriding purposes set forth in this section, commensurate with and not demeaning to the seriousness of the delinquent child's or the juvenile traffic offender's conduct and its impact on the victim, and consistent with dispositions for similar acts committed by similar delinquent children and juvenile traffic offenders. The court shall not base the disposition on the race, ethnic background, gender, or religion of the delinquent child or juvenile traffic offender.

(C) To the extent they do not conflict with this chapter, the provisions of Chapter 2151 of the Revised Code apply to the proceedings under this chapter.

JURISDICTION



The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction under Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.23. The types of cases listed below are the most common cases handled in our Court.

Delinquent Child:

Those who commit an offense, prior to their 18th birthday, that would be a crime if committed by an adult.

Unruly Child:

Those who commit an offense that only applies to someone under the age of 18.

Juvenile Traffic Offender:

Those who commit a traffic offense prior to attaining the age of 18.

Abused Children:

Children who have been physically or sexually abused by parents, guardians, or another adult.

Neglected Children:

Those children who are not properly cared for or are abandoned by their parents or guardians.

Dependent Children:

Those children whose condition or environment requires state (Children's Services) intervention.

Adults:

Criminal charges against adults who have contributed to the delinquency or unruliness of a child or have failed to send their children to school.

Paternity:

Actions to determine the father of a child born out of wedlock.

Child Support:

Actions to determine child support to be paid by either parent and actions to enforce the obligor's responsibility to pay.

Custody:

Actions to determine the custody of any child.

Protection Orders against a Child:

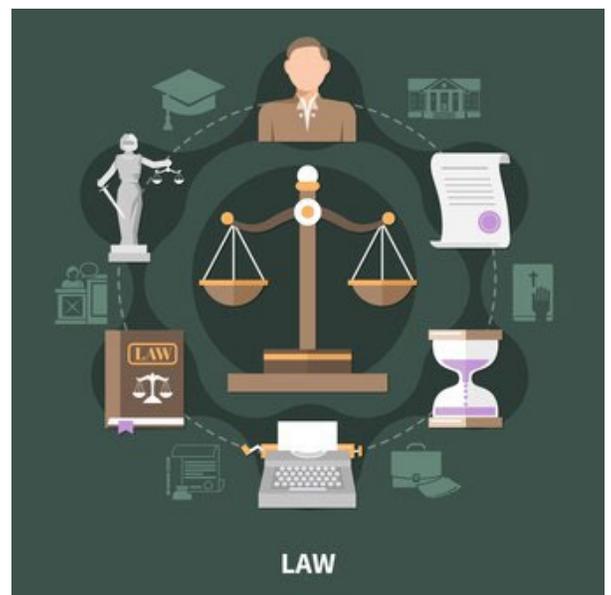
Actions by any person that include an allegation that the respondent engaged in a violation of felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, aggravated menacing, menacing by stalking, menacing, aggravated trespassing, or a sexually oriented offense.

Consent to Marry:

Actions for consent to marry if either of the applicants are under the age of 18.

Children taken into Custody:

A child is removed from the home when there are reasonable grounds to believe that the child's removal is necessary to prevent immediate or threatened physical or emotional harm.



JUVENILE COURT DOCKET



New cases filed in Juvenile Court in 2023:

| | |
|---|----|
| Delinquency..... | 22 |
| Traffic..... | 98 |
| Dependency, Neglect or Abuse..... | 59 |
| Unruly..... | 14 |
| Adult Cases..... | 0 |
| Motion for Permanent Custody..... | 1 |
| Custody, Change of Custody, Visitation..... | 22 |
| Support Enforcement/Modification..... | 25 |
| Parentage..... | 1 |
| U.I.F.S.A. (Uniform Interstate Family Support Act)..... | 0 |
| All Others..... | 1 |

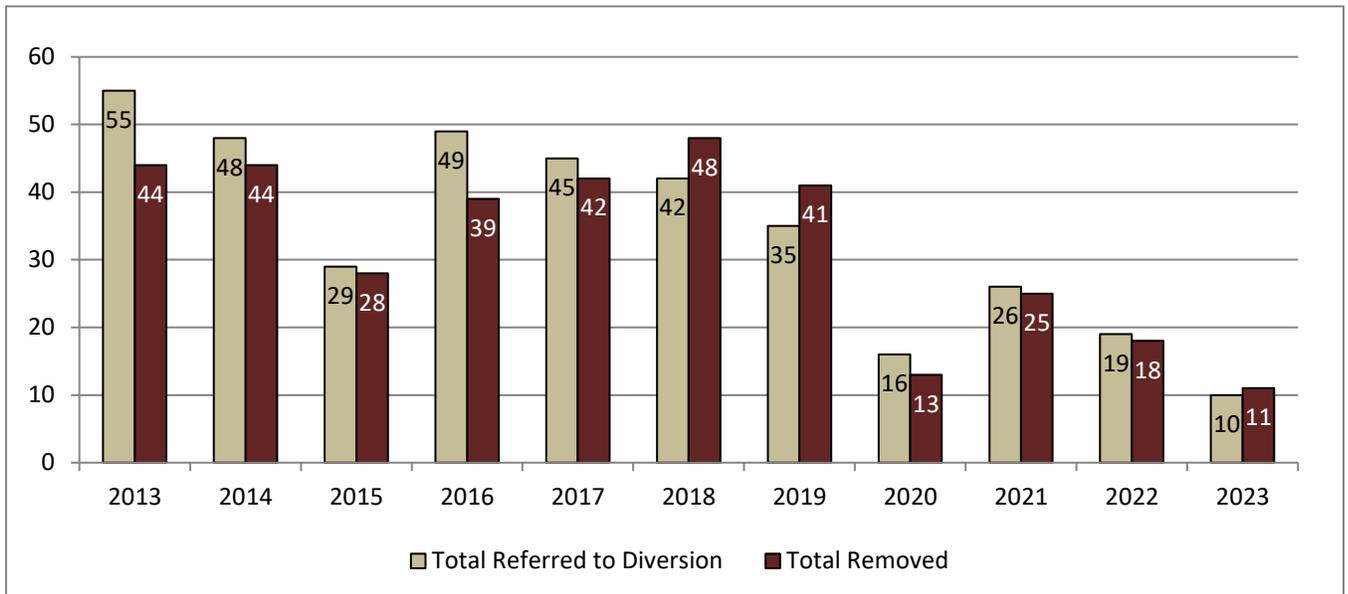
Total: 243

Diversion

The Diversion Program is *typically* designed for first time offenders with allegations of unruly or misdemeanor offenses. It is a voluntary program in which the juvenile must admit to the allegations in the complaint. The probation/diversion officer determines the outcome of the case with a list of terms and conditions similar to probation. If the juvenile complies with their terms and conditions, ***their case is terminated and sealed (as if it never existed).***

If the juvenile is non-compliant or has new charges, the case is filed in with Court and the Judge or Magistrate determines what orders to impose.

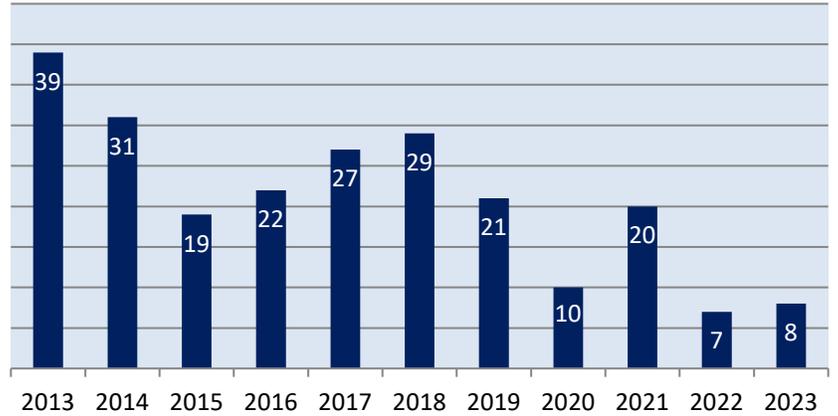
Diversion is a short-term program which is to be completed within three months.



In 2023, ten (10) juveniles *who were first-time offenders* were referred to the **Diversion Program**, thus reducing the number of cases brought formally before the Court. Of the 10 juveniles, 8 were male and 2 were female.



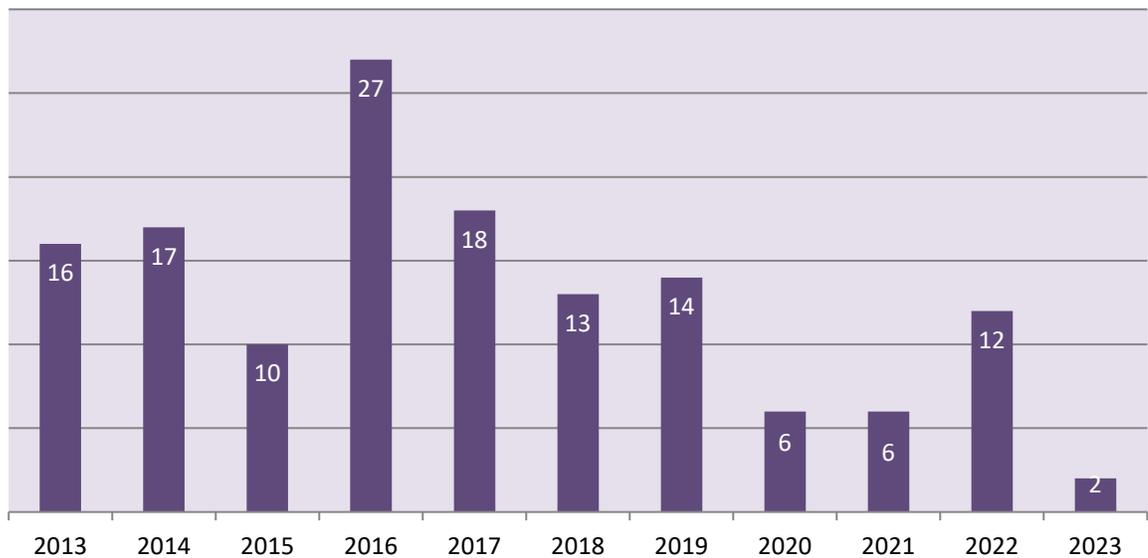
Males Referred to Diversion



Types of cases handled through the Diversion program in 2023 include:

- AGGRAVATED MENACING
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION
- UNRULINESS (HABITUALLY DISOBEDIENT OR TRUANT FROM SCHOOL)
- ILLEGAL USE OR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

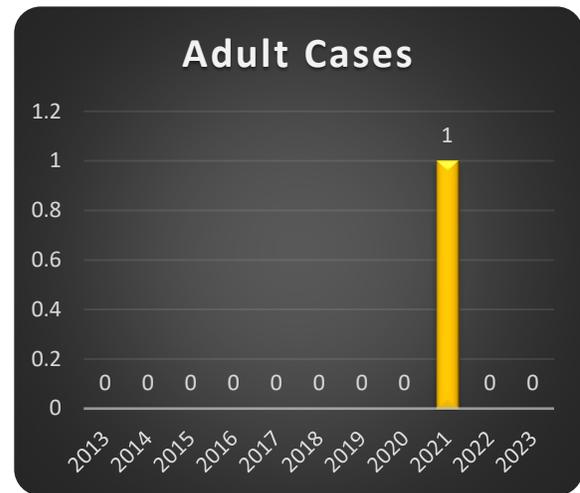
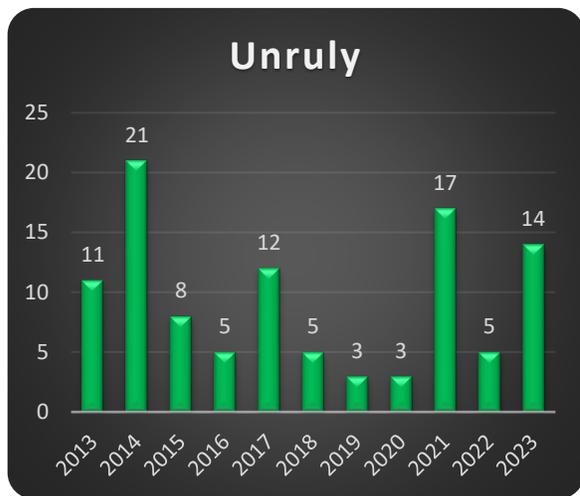
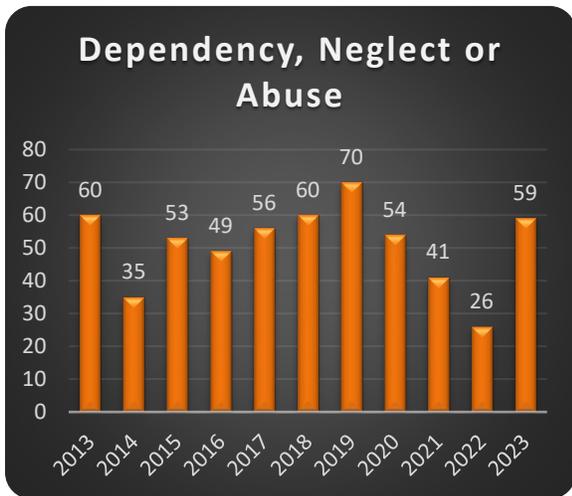
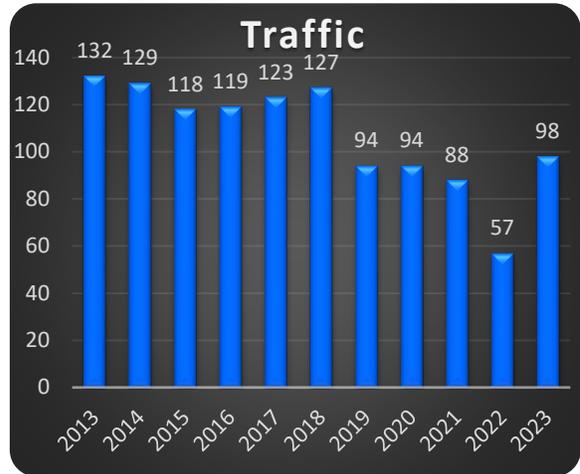
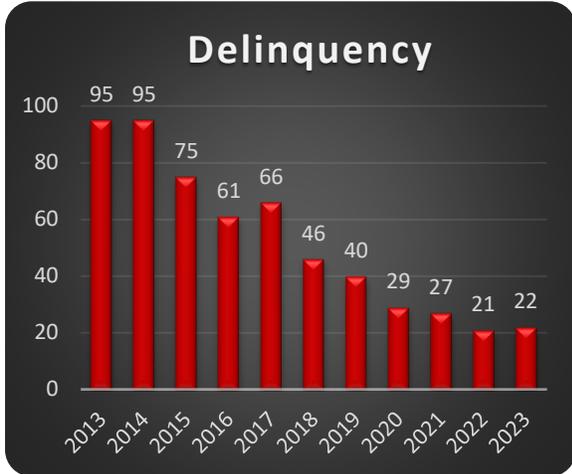
Females Referred to Diversion



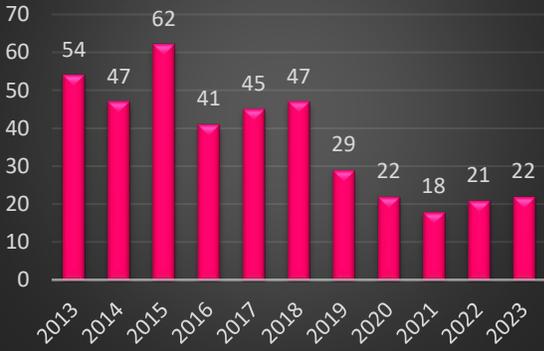
Eleven (6 males and 5 females) were removed from Diversion in 2023. Of those removed; five (5) were successful completions, five (5) were unsuccessful and one (1) was neutral.

Filed

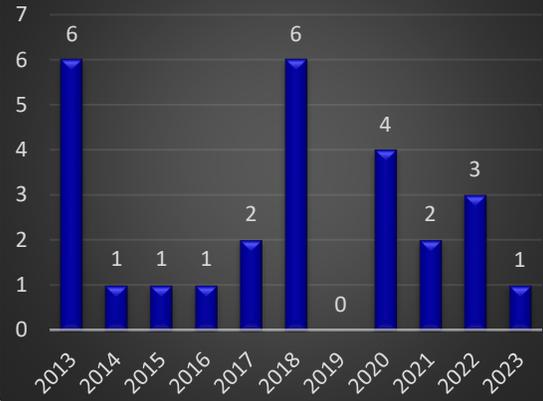
The following graphs illustrate the number of cases filed by case type for the years 2013 through 2023:



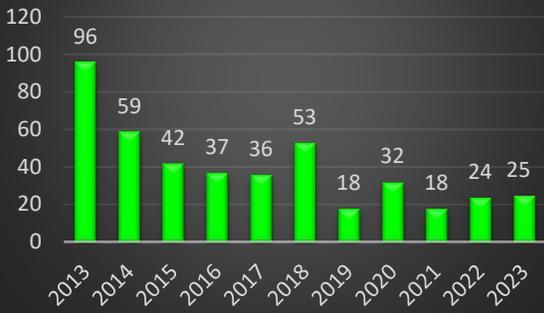
Custody, Change of Custody, Visitation



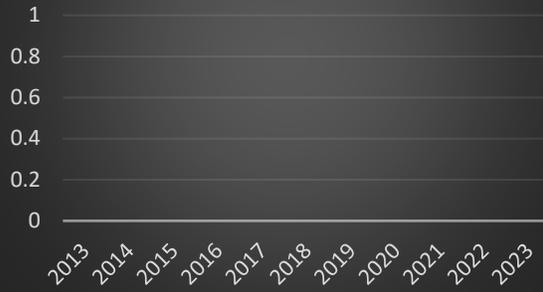
Parentage



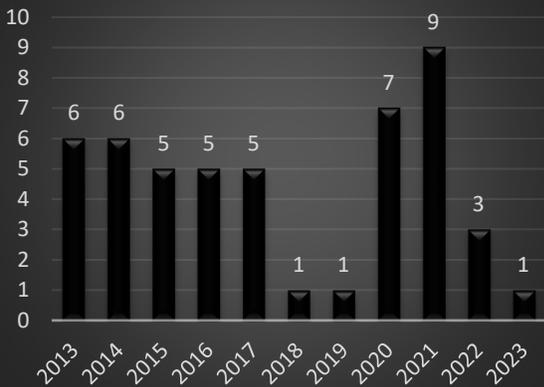
Support Enforcement/Modification



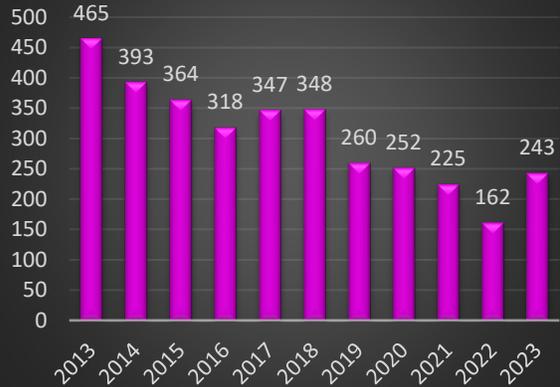
(U.I.F.S.A.) Uniform Interstate Family Support Act



All Others



Total Cases Filed



Note: Cases reported in the "All Others" category may include Grandparent Power of Attorney, Caretaker Authorization Affidavit, Civil Protection Order and Tobacco Violation.



2023 JUVENILE TRAFFIC REPORT



| Adjudicated Offenses | # of violations |
|---|-----------------|
| Speed | 36 |
| Failure to Control | 14 |
| Driving without a Valid License or Permit | 8 |
| Assured Clear Distance Ahead | 7 |
| Failure to Wear Safety Belt | 7 |
| Right of Way | 6 |
| License Plate violations | 4 |
| Failure to Stop / Yield at Stop Sign or Traffic Light | 3 |
| Probationary License Restrictions | 2 |
| Left of Center | 2 |
| Off Highway Vehicle violations | 2 |
| Reckless Operation | 1 |
| No Temporary Permit / no adult | 1 |
| Prohibited use of Handheld Electronic Devices | 1 |
| Total adjudication/dispositions in 2023: | 94 |



In 2022, the Court began ordering Juvenile Traffic Offenders who committed moving violations to complete a self-guided virtual driving test after adjudication. The test is taken at the Court and takes about 15 minutes to complete.





Ready Assess combines a predictive driver assessment with personalized feedback and targeted intervention to improve their driving skills.

The juvenile must pay for the assessment and watch the suggested safe driving videos. A written response back to the Court of what they learned through this assessment must be filed within 90 days of the Court order.

Ready-Assess™

SELF-GUIDED VIRTUAL DRIVING TEST BY DIAGNOSTIC DRIVING, INC.

Your Score:

Your score is around the average. Out of 100 people who took the same test, 56 got a better score than you.

Remember: Watch the videos chosen for you, which are on the next page of this report.

Keep practicing There are still many things you can improve to become a safer driver.

Some Unsafe Actions or Driving Choices Linked to Your Score:

- Crashing into a pedestrian
- Crashing into a vehicle
- Crashing into an object
- Driving through a red light
- Driving through a stop sign
- Not following the driving directions

Keep reading to learn more about how you did in crash situations, and to get helpful tips and videos.

Ready-Assess™
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Safe Driving Videos To Watch

Guidance and Instruction Based on Your Ready-Assess™ Results:

The links below will connect you to easy, short, and helpful safe driving videos. We chose these videos for you based on the results of your test. They are proven to help people build upon their driving skills.

After you have watched each video, you will have completed Ready-Assess™.

Note - the content below was originally created to help parents and their teenage drivers get ready for the road. We understand that you are not a teen. Please know that these links below provide information that is helpful to drivers of ALL ages.

Your Assigned Videos

To switch videos, Click these tabs.

Hover over the buttons on the left to switch between videos

- Space Cushion 2:44**
- Intermediate Roads: Space Cushion
- Scanning

Watch later Share

4

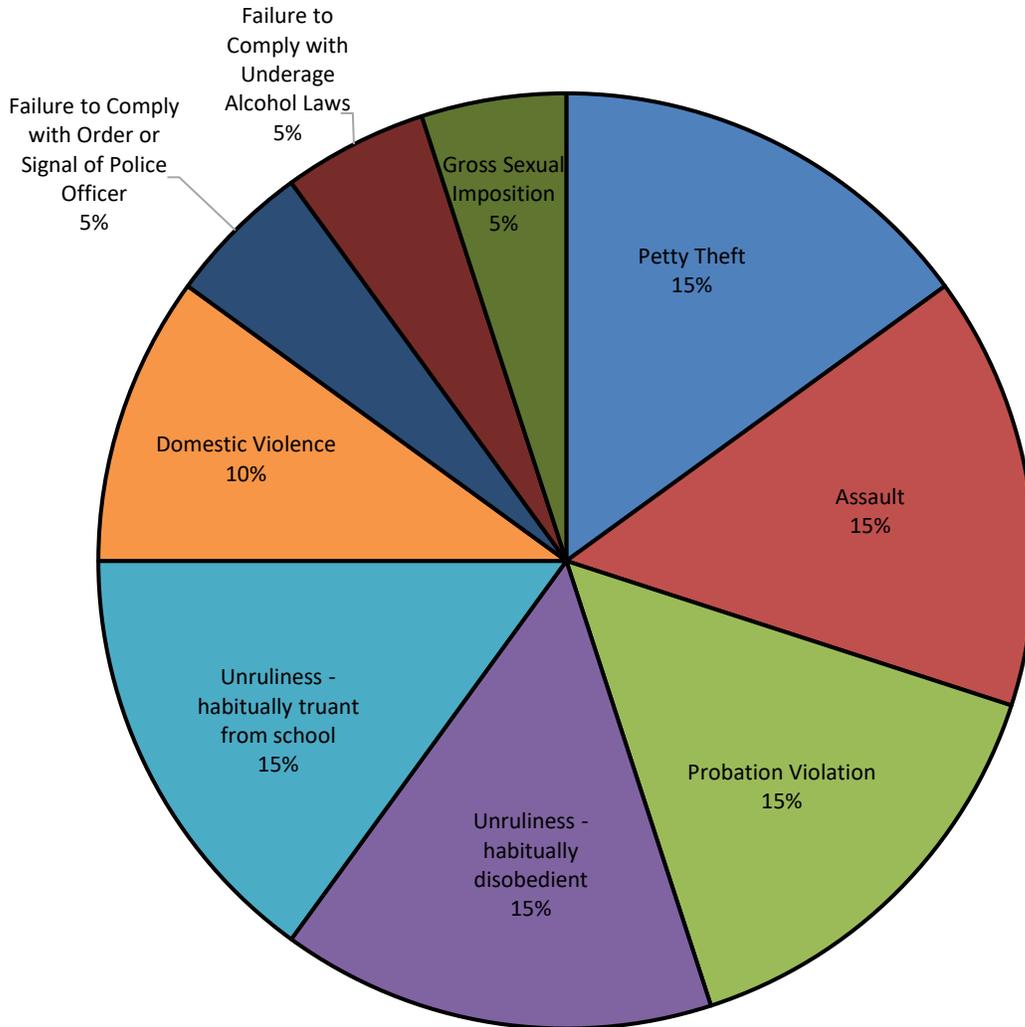
You can email us at any point at support@diagnosticdriving.com if you have any questions or need assistance.

In 2023, the Court had 53 drivers go through the Ready-Assess self-guided virtual driving test.

2023 DELINQUENT AND UNRULY ADJUDICATIONS



This graph represents the most frequent charges/adjudications filed in the Juvenile Court.



Other charges adjudicated include:

Arson, Breaking & Entering, Criminal Damaging or Endangering, Illegal use of a minor in Nudity-Oriented material or performance, Illegal use or possession of marihuana drug paraphernalia, and Telecommunications Harassment.

FELONY ADJUDICATIONS

IN 2023



The Court handled five (5) felony adjudications
(four (4) male juveniles and one (1) female juvenile)

- Fleeing & Eluding F-5
- Illegal use of minor or impaired person in Nudity-Oriented Material or Performance F-5
- Breaking & Entering F-5
- Gross Sexual Imposition F-3
- Arson F-4



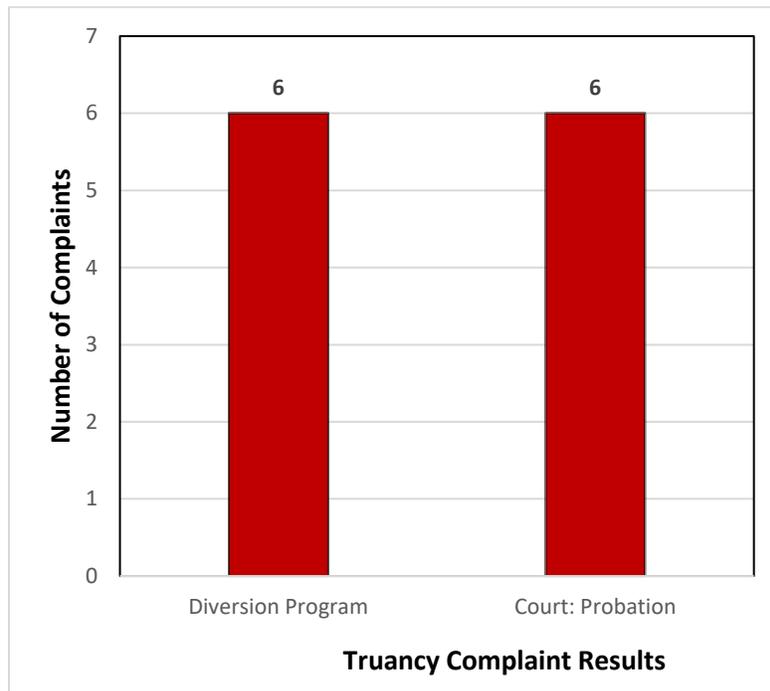
2023 Habitual Truancy



“Habitual Truancy” means any child of compulsory school age who is absent without legitimate excuse for absence from the public school the child is supposed to attend for **thirty (30) or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse, forty-two (42) or more hours in a school month without a legitimate excuse, and seventy-two (72) or more hours in a school year without a legitimate excuse.** This constitutes the offense of Unruliness, in violation of Ohio Revised Code §2151.022(B).



In 2023, Twelve (12) habitual truancy complaints/referrals were received. The below graph illustrates the outcomes.



House Bill 410

Note: House Bill 410 was passed by the General Assembly and became effective April 6, 2017. Below are some of the changes as a result:

- ◆ Eliminates the law’s distinction between a “chronic truant” and “habitual truant” and, instead, provides that a child who has been adjudicated a habitual truant and who violates the court order regarding that adjudication may be further adjudicated a “delinquent child.”
- ◆ Bases the measure for “habitual truancy” on the number of **hours**, instead of the number of **days**, absent.
- ◆ Prohibits a school district or school from suspending, expelling, or removing a student from school solely on the basis of a student’s unexcused absences, and removes “excessive truancy” from the specifications for a school district’s zero tolerance policy for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior.
- ◆ Makes changes to district and school policies on addressing truancy.
- ◆ Requires the Juvenile Court, upon the filing of a complaint that a child is unruly based on the child’s habitual truancy, to consider an **alternative to adjudication**, and provides that the court must consider the complaint only as a matter of last resort. The bill requires the juvenile court to provide notice of any adjudication related to a child’s truancy to the school district and school in which the child was enrolled when the complaint was filed.

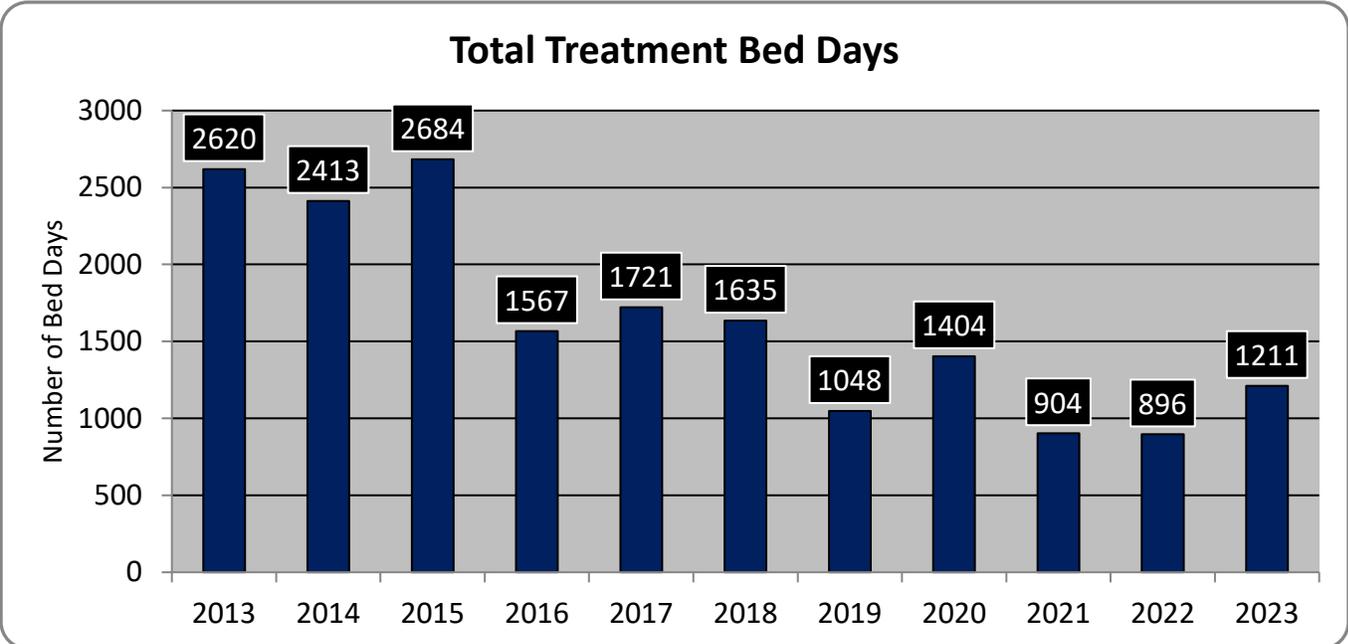


- ◆ Requires a Juvenile Court, when adjudicating a child unruly for truancy, to warn the parent, guardian, or custodian that the child’s violation of a court order regarding the child’s designation as an unruly child for being a habitual truant **may result in a criminal charge against the parent, guardian, or custodian.**

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS



The Court strives to achieve its purposes while keeping a child in a family environment, separating the child from his or her parents *only when necessary* for his or her welfare or in the interests of public safety.



In 2023 the Court utilized Residential Treatment Centers for a total of **1211 bed days** for placements.

Ohio Department of Youth Services Facilities (ODYS) – ODYS is the Juvenile corrections system for the state of Ohio. It is statutorily mandated that only **felony** offenders, ages 10 to 21, who have been adjudicated, can be committed to ODYS by one of Ohio’s 88 county Juvenile Courts. Commitment is at the discretion of each Court’s Judge.

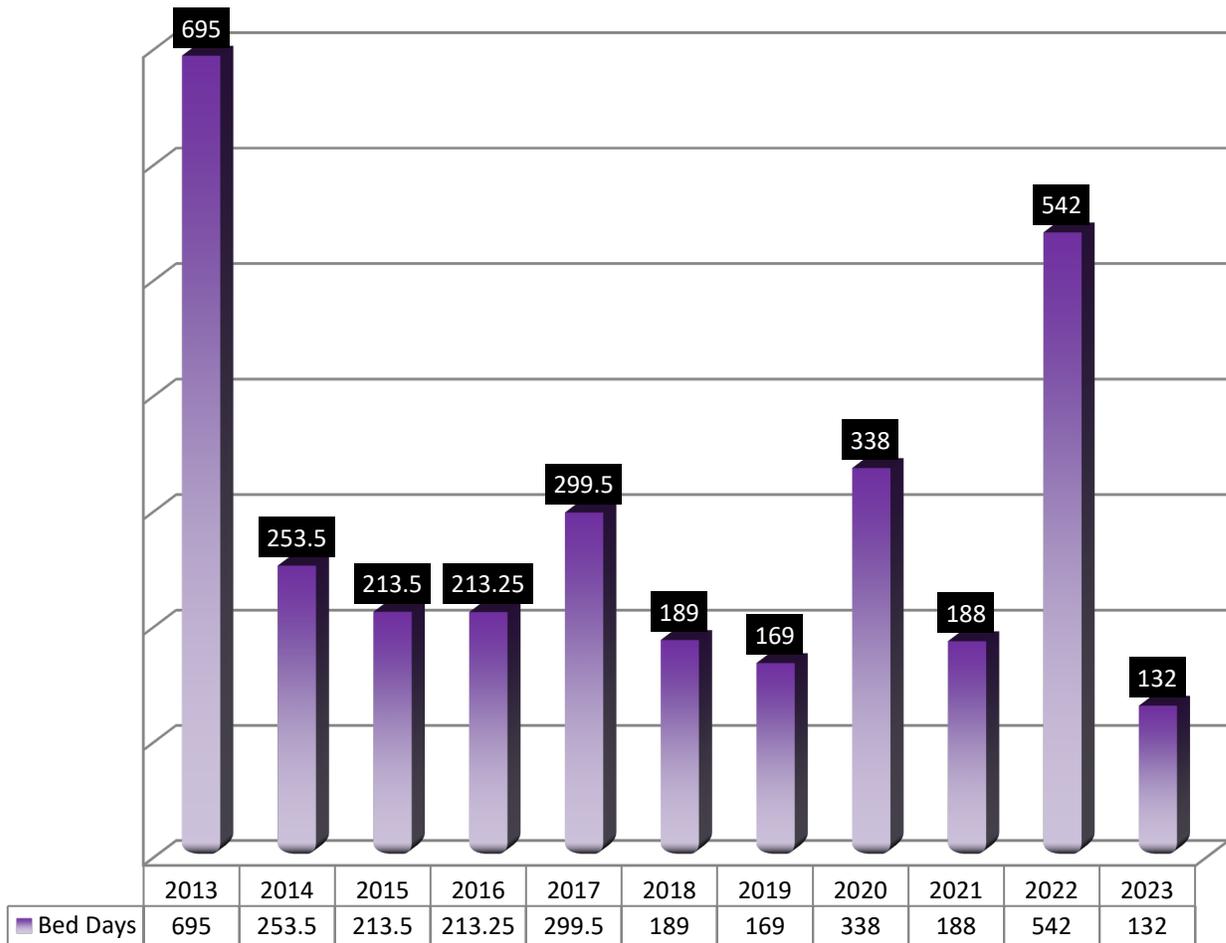
No Juveniles from Holmes County were committed to an ODYS Facility in 2023.

DETENTION BED DAYS



In 2023 Holmes County used **132 detention bed days**.

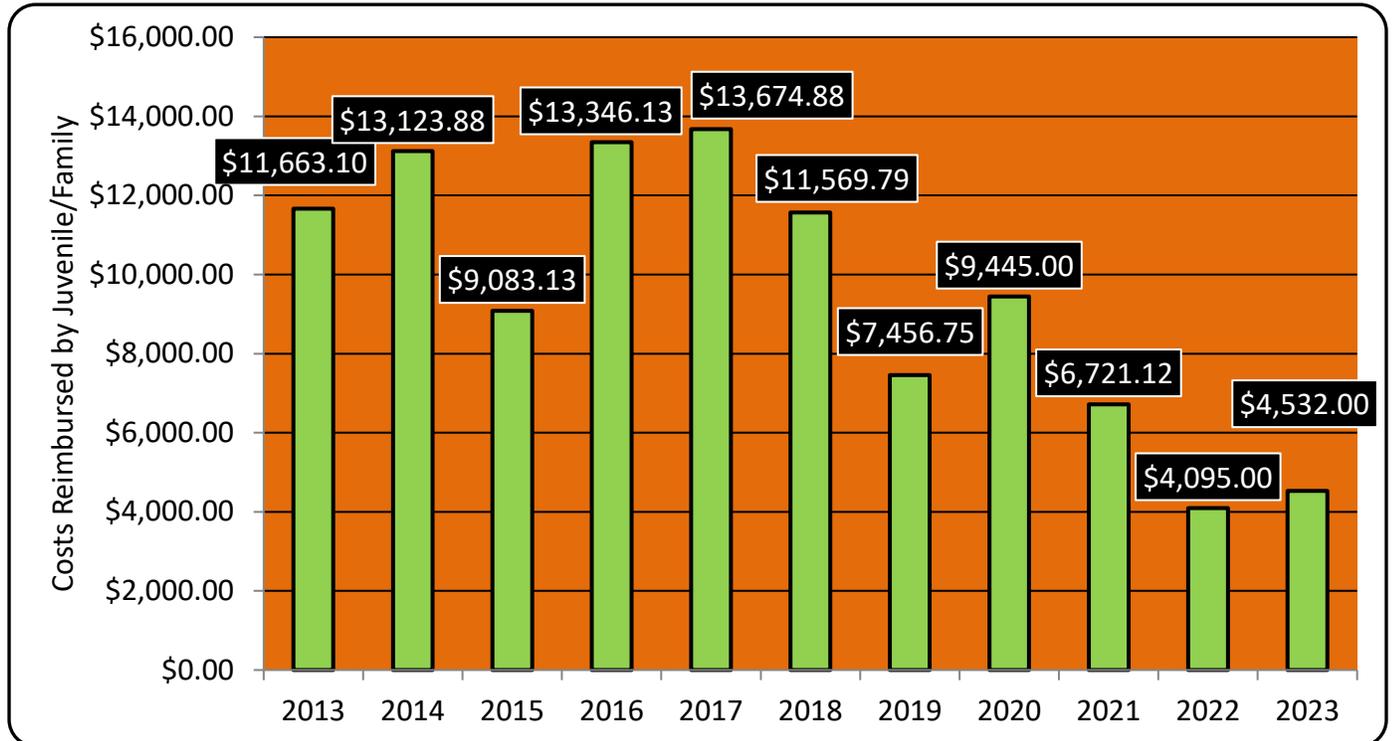
Following is a graphic illustration of detention bed day usage from 2013 through 2023.



In January 2011, Holmes County withdrew from the Multi-County Juvenile Attention System. Since that time detention services have been contracted with Richland County through its Juvenile Detention Center in Mansfield, Ohio.



Detention Cost Reimbursement



The detention costs collected in 2023, which amount to \$4,532.00 represent the cost of approximately 45 detention bed days.

- ◆ Beginning June 1, 2017, the cost for detention at the Richland County Juvenile Detention Center increased from \$85.00 per day to \$100.00 per day.
- ◆ The parents/legal custodians of the juveniles are ordered to pay the costs of detention. The Juvenile Court pursues collection of these costs and reimburses the county from money collected. Detention costs may be waived or reduced after a review of the parent(s)/custodian(s) finances.

Collection of costs for detention began in 2011. As of the end of 2023, **the county has been reimbursed a total of \$117,216.56** towards said detention costs.

PROGRAMS

Probation/Diversion Department

The Probation/Diversion Department of the Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, of Holmes County is an active department, consisting of a Chief of Probation, two (2) Probation/Diversion Managers and a Probation/Diversion Services Secretary. All managers have caseloads assigned to them in which they are actively involved. Additionally, all managers have the following required duties:

- Monitoring those youth involved with the Probation or Diversion Programs or those under court supervision;
- Attending ongoing education and training sessions;
- Writing and filing reports;
- Assist local school districts with truancy team meetings;
- Public speaking;
- Filing Violations of Law/Court Orders through the Prosecutor's Office;
- Utilizing arrest authority when appropriate;
- Testifying in Court hearings.

All youth are assessed with the Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS) to measure the risk of recidivism. Youth assessed as "Moderate" or "High" to recidivate are provided with Evidence Based Programs to help reduce their risk.



Probation/Diversion Managers work closely and regularly with the Prosecutor's Office, schools, police, community, and the various support agencies in the county. Attempts are made to have personal "face to face" contact with not only those on probation or diversion, but all agencies with which this department has a business relationship.

In order to be an effective, knowledgeable operation it is vital to be involved with the schools, law enforcement and the community as much as possible in order to properly supervise those involved with Probation/Diversion Services.



It is also of the utmost importance that the Probation/Diversion Managers know the environments of those they supervise and the issues the youth face on a daily basis. An increase in use of illegal substances, deterioration in parental supervision and lack of positive home environments are the primary reasons more and more youth become involved in the criminal justice system.



Habilitation & Rehabilitation of the juvenile offender is our objective

through accountability, responsibility, treatment, incentivizing and supervision. However, the public safety and welfare are also considered when deciding the appropriate action to be taken.

The Probation/Diversion Department also continued its duty of organizing and supervising **Community Service** performed by juveniles as part of their sentence. *Community Service requires a child to perform work beneficial to the community **without pay**.* The program provides youth with an opportunity to “repay” the community for the problems caused by the child’s behavior, as well as provide the youth with valuable work experience.

In 2023, a total of **102.5 hours** were completed by 3 juveniles for their community service commitment. At a minimum wage rate of \$10.10 per hour, those 102.5 hours represent *services valued* at \$1,035.25 to the Holmes County community.



During calendar year 2023:

- Nineteen (19) juveniles were placed on probation (12 male and 7 female)
- Twelve (12) were removed from probation (9 male and 3 female)
 - Of those removed from probation:
 - 10 were successful
 - 2 were unsuccessful

*statistics related to youth placed on Diversion were mentioned previously in this report.

Dog Therapy Program

The need for trauma sensitive courts is being recognized throughout the nation. This need is clear when children become involved in the court system as victims of abuse, have dysregulated behaviors or are anxious about appearing before the Judge or Magistrate. To address these needs, in 2023 the Holmes County Juvenile Court envisioned and made progress towards establishing a dog therapy program.

The program, developed by Judge Lee, utilizes a female goldendoodle, Marlee, to provide comfort and a sense of security to children who must undergo forensic interviews, testify in Court or undergo Probation/Diversion programming. Marlee may also be used for those who are mentally or emotionally challenged, or whenever the court needs to take a more therapeutic approach.

Studies show that people are better able to recollect facts and provide more accurate information regarding traumatic events when they are calm and feel safe. With the assistance of our dog team, children and adults can relieve their anxiety about the underlying traumatic events so they can provide more precise testimony in court proceedings. With a clearer record, the Court can dispense justice more effectively and equitably. Therapeutic dogs also help youth to regulate their emotions and make better decisions when they are anxious.



The Holmes County Juvenile Court utilizes a pet therapy team consisting of a professionally trained, ADA certified dog and its handler. In her first year of service, Marlee will complete 28 weeks of training with the ultimate goal of becoming a “Certified Therapy Dog.” During this time the Court has observed the positive effects of the therapy dog, resulting in a neutralized youth who was exhibiting aggressive behavior.



First Day



Puppy Star



Basic Obedience



Advanced Obedience

Marlee and her handler have visited schools, residential treatment centers, foster homes, prayer vigils, mental health recovery centers and fundraising walks. A recent article published in a local newspaper highlights Marlee and her handler.

<https://thebargainhunter.com/news/features/marlee-makes-immediate-impact-on-juveniles-in-court>



Additional information about this program may be obtained by contacting the Holmes County Juvenile Court at (330) 674-5841 and ask to speak with the Therapy Dog Handler, Rachel Cornell.

Parent Mentoring Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)

The Holmes County Juvenile Court, implements Parent Mentoring with the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) through Catholic Charities. Triple P is a program that serves male and female youth between the ages of 12 and 18 who are involved with the Holmes County Juvenile Court.



Participating youth meet some if not all of the following criteria:

- ✓ At risk of out-of-home placement or returning from out-of-home placement.
- ✓ Multiple system involvement.
- ✓ Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) willing and committed to participating in the program.
- ✓ Previously failed treatment attempts.
- ✓ Significant history of involvement with the juvenile justice system.

Once a youth is identified as a possible candidate for the Triple P program, a member of Probation or Diversion Services makes an initial screening contact with the family to verify eligibility, discuss the program, and gauge the ***family's willingness and commitment to participate***. If the family is determined to be appropriate for this program, a referral is submitted to a Catholic Charities of Wayne County supervisor, who then conducts a thorough screening call with the family.

Upon completion of the referral process, the case is given to the Triple P therapist to conduct a comprehensive clinical assessment prior to beginning work with the family. *The Triple P therapist meets with the family **approximately three times per week**, or what is deemed clinically appropriate, for **approximately six to 9 months** depending on the family's needs.* Triple P consists of eight modules and is self-paced to meet the families unique needs.



These meetings occur in the families' natural environment (home, school, community), and include the families' support system (relatives, friends, neighbors, etc.). Families have access to Triple P therapist 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for crisis situations. The therapist's low case load of four to six families at a time allows for increased availability.

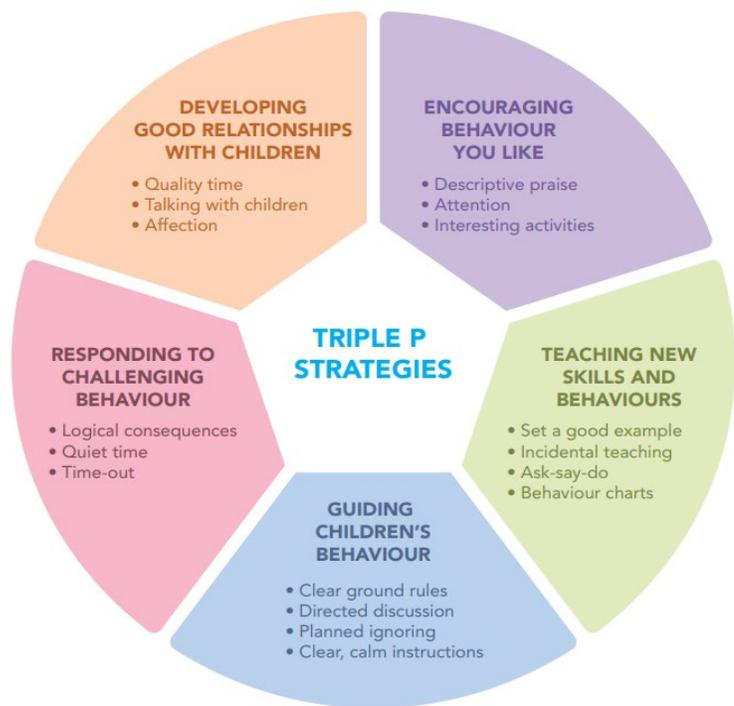
The goal of Triple P is to empower the caregivers with the skills to manage the youth's current behaviors and any new behaviors that might arise, as well as to be able to apply those skills to other youth in the home.

This evidence-based program is based on more than 35 years of ongoing research and used in more than 30 countries. Triple P works across cultures, socioeconomic groups and in different kinds of family structures. Therapists *focus on engagement and alignment with the primary caregiver and key stakeholders.*

The Triple P framework is built on four cornerstones:

1. Respectful of parents;
2. Understanding children/teens;
3. Provides a "toolbox" of practical, doable strategies;
4. Believes small changes make a BIG difference!

Throughout the duration of participation in Triple P the therapist stays in close communication with the youth's Probation/Diversion Manager and/or other key participants, through regular phone calls and meetings. The Triple P Key Principles are Realistic Expectations, Parent Self-Care and Adaptation & Community.



Program staff complete numerous screening tools and questionnaires with the participants throughout the program to aid in program evaluation by Case Western Reserve University, including: Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS), Caregiver Information Questionnaire (CIQ-I), Enrollment and Demographics Information Form (EDIF), Ohio Scales, Recent Exposure to Violence (REVS), Substance Use Survey (SUS) and Trauma Symptoms Checklist for Children (TSCC).



Determining when the youth has successfully completed Triple P is a collaborative decision between Catholic Charities, Probation/Diversion Manager, youth, parents and other support systems that may be involved with the youth. In making the decision the team determines if the treatment goals (i.e., referral behaviors) have been achieved for at least three to four weeks, and if the family is able to effectively manage any future problems with success.

The ultimate outcome is to ensure the youth remain in the home, in school, and have no new legal charges at discharge.

★ The Positive Parenting Program served five (5) youth/families in 2023. Of those five (5) families, all successfully completed their program.

Instrumental outcomes are:

- Evidence that the primary caregiver has improved the parenting skills necessary for handling subsequent problems;
- Evidence of improved family relations;



- Improved network of informal social supports;
- Evidence of success in an educational setting;
- Youth involved with prosocial peers and activities;
- Changes in behavior of the youth and in the systems contributing to the referral behaviors have been sustained for 3-4 weeks.

“Connections” Mentoring Program



This program addresses the problem of young people who lack positive adult role models. Parents often do not have the time and energy needed to spend time with their children and model general life and decision-making skills.

Connections matches these young people with adult volunteers who are trained by the Program Coordinator and

are willing to commit to spending four to eight hours per month with the young person for a period of at least twelve months.

**IT IS THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE
A RELATIONSHIP FOR THE CHILD WITH A CARING ADULT
WHO WILL ASSIST THEM IN REACHING THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL
AS THEY GROW INTO RESPONSIBLE ADULTS.**

The youth targeted for the mentoring program are elementary age through high school and include those adjudicated delinquent and unruly as well as those who are in the Court's Diversion Program or are simply at-risk.

Nicole Lepley, the Program Coordinator, presents the program to the community, in an effort to make the public aware of this Court Program, as well as to secure *volunteers* as mentors. She conducts training sessions for the adult volunteers. Ms. Lepley also meets with youth and their families to determine if the young person is a good candidate for the Mentoring Program and to facilitate good matches of youth to mentors.



At the end of 2023 Connections had ten **(10) active matches**. These children are served by compassionate residents of Holmes County and are being exposed to learning new life skills, improved self-esteem, and a consistent example of positive family life. There are currently 10 active volunteer mentors. The Program continues to seek new mentors and currently has a waiting list of 1 child.

Youth Services Grant / RECLAIM

(Reasoned Equitable Community & Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors)

The Youth Services Grant/RECLAIM are State subsidized programs designed to assist Juvenile Courts in the development of local service options for youthful offenders. The grant is administered on a fiscal year, beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th.



In Fiscal Year 2023 (covering the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023) Holmes County Juvenile Court received \$208,750.41 with which to plan and provide programs which meet the requirements and standards set by the Ohio

Department of Youth Services.

The amount received from the Department of Youth Services is based on a formula prescribed by Ohio Revised Code Section 5139. Factors included in that formula are the number of felony adjudications for the County and for the State over the past four-year period. The amount allocated to the County based on the prescribed formula is then debited by an amount based upon the number of bed days which the County has used in Department of Youth Services institutional and community correctional facilities.



Funds not expended during the fiscal year may be carried-over for funding of additional or continuing programs in coming years.

The following programs were totally or partially funded by the Youth Services Subsidy Grant in 2023:

Holmes County Juvenile Carey Guide Probation

This grant program provides:

- A portion of wages and benefits for two Probation/Diversion Managers and the entire wages and benefits for the Probation/Diversion Services Secretary.
- Cellular phones and service for our two full-time Probation/Diversion Managers to allow for continuous contact with the Court, Probation/Diversion office and the youth in those programs.
- Partial funding for a new case management system (OJSS) and annual support for the Probation/Diversion Programs.
- Funding for drug testing and supplies.
- Funding for electronic monitoring.
- Funding to provide incentives for youth who are successful in the program.
- 2 new infant simulators for the Baby Think it Over Program.
- Other fiscal needs for the program.

The Department of Youth Services continues to move towards a behavior change approach when dealing with youth, rather than supervision and community control.

Holmes County Juvenile Diversion

This grant program provides:

- A portion of wages and benefits for two Probation/Diversion Managers.

Connections

The Court contracts with the Connections Mentoring Program Coordinator for her services.

This grant program provides:

- Funding for the contractual services by the coordinator.
- Funding for advertising and publicity to help recruit more mentors.
- Funding for supplies and program activities.
- The cost of background checks for potential mentors.
- The costs associated with training for the coordinator.
- Funding to provide incentives for youth who are successful in the program.

Parenting Mentoring Program

The Court contracts with Catholic Charities for their parenting mentoring services to the youth/families in Holmes County.

This grant program provides:

- Mileage reimbursement for the therapist's travel expenses.
- Reimbursement for services not covered by the youth/family's private insurance.

Holmes County Juvenile Court Grant Administration

The grant also allows for funding related to the administration of the grant which provides:

- Lodging, meals and parking costs associated with trainings for staff.
- Registration fees for trainings and conferences.
- Other fiscal needs related to the administration of the grant.



MISSION STATEMENT

Holmes County Juvenile Court exists to foster the development of a healthy community for children and families through the timely administration of justice and the delivery of quality services in a cost-effective, courteous, and professional manner.

