

Lorain County Court of Common Pleas

**Domestic Relations Division
Juvenile Branch**



2013 Annual Report

The Court

**Lorain County Justice Center
225 Court Street
2nd and 4th Floors
Elyria, Ohio 44035**



Off Site Locations

**Community Intervention Program
320 No. Gateway Blvd.
3rd Floor
Elyria, Ohio 44035**

Juvenile Complex:

**Pathways, 1076 Infirmary Road
Stepping Stone, 1064 Infirmary Road
Turning Point, 1080 Infirmary Road**



**Multi-Purpose/Administration
1070 Infirmary Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035**

**Lorain County Detention Home, 9967 S. Murray Ridge Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035**



The Citizens of Lorain County:



Debra L. Boros
Administrative Judge



Frank J. Janik
Judge



Lisa I. Swenski
Judge

The Court is very pleased to present our 2013 Annual Report for your information and use. This report documents the Court's continuing efforts to enhance the services and programming provided to Lorain County citizens. Significant areas of activities are documented throughout this report through narrative, operating statistics and data.

The Court has a long-standing approach of maintaining a high level of services for the citizens of Lorain County. The Judges and staff pledge to seek innovative and efficient means of providing these services. We extend our gratitude to our many friends in the community for their continual support, collaboration and encouragement.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra L. Boros', written over a horizontal line.

Debra L. Boros
Administrative Judge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank J. Janik', written over a horizontal line.

Frank J. Janik
Judge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa I. Swenski', written over a horizontal line.

Lisa I. Swenski
Judge

MISSION STATEMENT

Lorain County Domestic Relations Court will serve the Citizens of Lorain County in a professional, dignified and timely fashion. The Court will protect the public interest, make cost-effective use of public funds, engage appropriate community resources in providing services, and endeavor to provide for the safety of the public. The Court will strive to ensure that parties receive a just determination in every Court proceeding and enforcement of their constitutional and legal rights. Foremost, the Court will provide for the care, protection, and well being of the children and families who come before it.

FORWARD

The Domestic Relations Division of the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas has exclusive jurisdiction over all domestic matters as well as jurisdiction over all juvenile cases. 2013 was another busy year for our Court, as the stresses of the economy took its toll on the families in Lorain County. It remained our commitment to the citizens of Lorain County, doing our best, with fewer resources, to assist the families we serve in the resolution of their matters before the Court.

Case resolution in the courtrooms, however, continues to be only a part of the total service the Court provides. The Court has a well-established history of providing services and programming to the community. Further, there remains ongoing evaluation, oversight, and innovation to assure that programming and services remain relevant, necessary, and operated in the most efficient and cost effective manner.

During 2013, the Court reduced staff, continued to cut expenses, and strived to maintain the services to the public that the citizens of Lorain County have come to expect.

The staff of the Lorain County Domestic Relations Court takes great pride in their jobs and aim to set the standard of being the best example of public service.

The following pages will provide the foundation for a working knowledge of the makeup and responsibilities of the Court.

Jody Barilla
Court Administrator

JUDGES

The three Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court Judges are very active in their courtrooms, hearing a variety and multitude of cases. The Judges refer a wide range of cases to the Magistrates. The type of cases and matters heard by the judiciary include, but are not limited to, the following:

Marriage dissolutions

Divorces - contested and uncontested

Civil protection order petitions - domestic violence

Pre and Post-Decree domestic relations contempt motions

Juvenile hearings involving the following:

- Motions to bind the juvenile over to the general division
- Commitments to the Department of Youth Services (DYS)
- Out-of-home placements
- Serious youthful offender matters
- Cases involving Sexual offender registration and notification

Objections to Magistrates orders and decisions

Motions to vacate Magistrates' orders

Motions to vacate final judgments

Permanent surrenders for adoptions

Judicial bypass hearings

Judicial releases from DYS

Marriage consents

| Court Filings in 2013 | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | New Filings | Reopened | Terminations |
| Divorce with Children | 310 | 35 | 392 |
| Divorce w/o Children | 293 | 25 | 334 |
| Dissolution with Children | 209 | 4 | 203 |
| Dissolution w/o Children | 228 | 3 | 233 |
| Change of Custody | 0 | 134 | 147 |
| Visitation | 0 | 39 | 39 |
| Support | 41 | 603 | 672 |
| Domestic Violence | 447 | 16 | 465 |
| Uresa | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| All others | 9 | 164 | 199 |
| Total | 1537 | 1023 | 2684 |

MAGISTRATES

Due to the volume of cases and hearings before the Court, Magistrates are essential to the work being accomplished in an expedient and efficient manner.

PERSONAL COURT MAGISTRATES

Each Judge has on their personal staff three Magistrates, having general responsibility for covering all domestic and juvenile cases. Types of cases, issues, and hearings heard by the Magistrates are determined at the discretion of their Judge.

GENERAL COURT MAGISTRATES

Several areas in the Court require Magistrate involvement. The following comprise this group (the departments are described later in this Report):

Intake Magistrate – An Attorney Intake Magistrate, with an office located in the Boys' Detention Home has a multitude of duties. Along with an Intake Hearing Officer, the Intake Magistrate reviews all requests for detention and admission to the shelter care facility. The Magistrate conducts a variety of hearings, including arraignments on children brought to the Detention Home and hearings on unruly matters.

CSEA/Domestic Support - Two full time magistrates, in a dedicated unit, conduct child support hearings.

Mediation - A magistrate hears and journalizes all agreements reached in the pro-se mediation process. In addition, this Magistrate serves as the Supervisor of the Mediation staff, a program of Family Court Services.

ADMINISTRATION

Jody Barilla, Court Administrator

Administration is responsible for the management and direction of all Court operations, with the exception of the Judges and their personal staffs. The team is made up of the Court Administrator, Director of Human Resources and Facilities and the Administrative Assistant.

The Court now consists of four departments with approximately 180 employees. Court operations include: service provider contracting; fiscal management; human resources; program planning, implementation, development, and evaluation; handling disciplinary issues and conducting

disciplinary hearings; public relations/media contact; and the operation and maintenance of the Court's physical facilities.

The Director of Human Resources and Facilities is responsible for the following: recruiting, interviewing, performing background checks and selection of qualified applicants; developing and planning staff training; developing and managing special projects; and representative to the Integrated Services Partnership (ISP), as well as collecting statistical information related to ISP placements. This position also acts in the place of the Court Administrator when the Court Administrator is unavailable.

INVESTIGATION AND REFERRAL TEAM

The Investigation and Referral Team, through information gathering, investigation, and case assessment, makes a recommendation to the Court as to the appropriate level and type of Court intervention for juveniles needing probation services.

Case Planners review cases prior to disposition and develop case plans when needed. The process includes screening (using the MAYSI and OHIO SCALES), completion of the DIR and OYAS and a review of the findings. If warranted, a mental health screening, psychological assessment, psychiatric evaluation or an alcohol/drug assessment may be arranged. Upon referrals to Court programs, the program staff will provide input into the case plan development. Recommendations will be created based upon the information that is gathered. The task of I & R becomes blending the level of supervision with the risk for re-offending and the needs of the child and family, and identifying community resources to address the concerns revealed in the I & R process.

At disposition, these recommendations will be presented for the Court's consideration, reflecting a specific case plan for the youth, including community control expectations for all parties and therapeutic interventions. This year there were 324 cases referred. Out of that number, 78 were re-referrals.

There is an ongoing effort to continue to review and augment our evidence based programming.

The department employs an Education and Program Specialist, who coordinates the psycho-educational programming offered by the Court. The Education and Program Specialist also provides direct services to youth who are sentenced to the Detention Home. When needed, community based

services may also be provided to families who otherwise might not have access to them.

A forensic psychologist is contracted to provide evaluations for youth when mental health or developmental concerns are present. The psychologist also provides competency, bind over and parental evaluations when needed. The psychologist is available for staff consultation as well. In 2013, this psychologist provided 107 evaluations.

The I&R Program Manager also acts as the liaison for the Bellefaire Juvenile Offender Project, a collaborative effort between the local Mental Health Board, Lorain County Juvenile Court, and Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau. The project provides for an extensive psychological evaluation of violent juvenile offenders, residential placement for continued evaluation, if needed, and ongoing in-home services.

The comprehensive evaluation involves psychometric testing, review of collateral contacts, assessment of family functioning and review of Court records. From this evaluation, recommendations are formulated to address the identified needs.

During 2013, 20 youth were provided with a psychological evaluation through the Juvenile Offender Project and Bellefaire JCB. Additional youth were evaluated by a private contractor. The recommendations provided through the evaluation process were instrumental in determining an appropriate level of supervision and direction for Court intervention and referral.

Court-Sponsored Psycho-Educational Programs

Psycho-educational groups are interventions intended to reduce the risk factor associated with criminal behavior. During 2013, the Court utilized evidence-based programming to address criminogenic factors. Evidence-based programs are those whose outcomes have been researched and found to be effective. Training was provided to staff to assist in the facilitation and presentation of these groups.

Anger Management

In 2013, two anger management programs provided basic intermediate psycho-educational groups to aid juveniles and their parents in addressing anger issues. Aggression Replacement Training (ART), facilitated by Court staff, is an intensive ten-week, twenty-session program. Keeping Your Cool (KYC) is a skill building program that provides strategies to control anger and

aggression, looking at changing your thinking in order to effect change, comprised of ten (10) consecutive sessions.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Aggression Replacement Training (ART) | Keeping Your Cool (KYC) |
| 54 Youth ordered / participated | 40 Youth ordered / participated |
| 60 Completions | 33 Completions |
| 37 Successful completions | 17 Successful completions |
| 9 Unsuccessful terminations | 7 Unsuccessful completions |
| 14 Neutral terminations | 9 Neutral terminations |

Strengthening Families

The Strengthening Families program is a joint effort between Catholic Charities, LCADA and the Lorain County Domestic Relations Court. The programs' goals are to prepare youth for their teen years, avoid problems with drugs and alcohol and strengthen family communication. Parents discuss what youth in the age range of their groups are like, making rules and enforcing consequences, how to solve problems with youth and ways to show love and support. The youth learn how to handle frustration, resist peer pressure, appreciate parent/caregivers, and how to get along with others.

- 25 Youth ordered / volunteered
 - 29 Youth completed*
 - 21 Successful completions
 - 3 Unsuccessful terminations
 - 5 Neutral terminations
- *(carryover)

Thinking For A Change

Thinking For A Change is a cognitive behavioral program that addresses problem solving, social skills and cognitive self-change. The program utilizes role-plays, as well as other appropriate interventions. The goal is to change behavior as a result of changing thoughts.

- 122 Youth ordered / volunteered
 - 126 Youth completed*
 - 98 Successful completions
 - 13 Unsuccessful terminations
 - 15 Neutral terminations
- *(carryover)

Girls' Circle

The "Pathways to the Future" curriculum is a skill building support circle for use with at-risk or Court-involved girls. It examines thoughts, beliefs and actions about friendship, trust, authority figures, mother / daughter relationships, sexuality, dating violence, HIV, drug abuse, stress and goal setting. It encourages girls to explore their choices and decision making through lively, prepared discussions and activities.

16 Youth ordered / volunteered

23 Youth completed*

18 Successful terminations

3 Unsuccessful terminations

1 Neutral termination

*(carryover)

Boys' Council

Boys' Council is a strengths-based group approach to promote boys' and young men's healthy, safe development and encourages them to act safely, show respect in their relationships, develop a healthy perspective, see other's points of view, use good judgment and identify goals and dreams. The topics that may be addressed include: competition, bullying, valuing diversity, safe expression of emotions, making safe and healthy decisions and rejecting violence.

55 Youth ordered / participated

150 Youth completed

34 Successful Completions

4 Unsuccessful terminations

3 Neutral terminations

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy

DBT is an approach which has been shown to be effective in helping adolescents and their families cope with complex and difficult problems in life. Adolescents and their family members learn to apply a variety of skills so that they are able to better focus their attention where they want it, handle stressful situations, cope with their feelings and effectively deal with others.

29 Youth ordered / volunteered

10 Youth completed

7 Successful completions

2 Unsuccessful terminations

1 Neutral termination

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY COURT SERVICES

Lori O'Connor, Director

INTRODUCTION

Family Court Services is involved in both domestic and juvenile matters. The domestic side involves Family Divorce Services and Domestic Support while the Voices for Children program advocates for abused and neglected children.

FAMILY DIVORCE SERVICES

This department can be utilized by either Court order or party request when an agreement as to issues of custody and visitation cannot be reached or when assistance in compliance with orders of the divorce decree is needed.

Family Divorce Services covers seven major areas:

1. Court-ordered Mediation
2. Pro-Se Mediation
3. Truancy Mediation
4. Visitation Assessment
5. Home Study
6. Seminar for Separating Parents
7. Seminar for Unmarried Parents

Court-Ordered Mediation is a process whereby the parents and a third-party mediator work together to gather information, isolate issues of disagreement, generate options to settle those issues, negotiate among those options, and reach a mutually satisfactory agreement to accommodate the needs of both parents and their children. This past year, 90 cases were submitted for court-ordered mediation with 39 cases reaching agreement. Agreements were approved by the Court for a 43.3% success rate. There were 7 mediations of clients returning for a second time, reaching 5 agreements for a 71.4% success rate. Hearings were held for all mediated agreements.

The Pro-Se Mediation program enables citizens who divorced, established parentage in this county, or obtained an administrative order of paternity through the Lorain County Child Support Enforcement Agency to avail themselves of mediation. Issues for mediation include property that has not been returned or transferred, exchange of medical insurance information, unpaid medical bills, noncompliance with visitation schedules, and establishing visitation. In 2013, the Court received 310 referrals with 71 cases mediated. Agreements were reached in 65% of the cases mediated. There were 8 clients

with prior mediation returning for a second time, reaching 3 agreements, for a success rate of 37.5%. Hearings were held for all mediated agreements.

The Juvenile Truancy Mediation program brings together the child and the parent (or legal guardian) for a mediation session to examine the issues in the family that interfere with the child attending school on a consistent basis. No other parties are present for this mediation. In 2013, there were 46 referrals made for mediation. 20 of those referred actually participated in truancy mediation. Of those who participated, there were 18 agreements reached for a 90% success rate.

The Visitation Assessment unit assists the Court and parties in the implementation of visitation orders. This assistance may include an investigative report with recommendations to the Court regarding companionship, implementing or monitoring visitation schedules, and supervising visitation in the Department. A visitation assessment may be requested by either a client or his/her attorney but requires an accompanying Court order to access the service. In 2013, there were 65 cases referred for assessments with 79 reports completed and submitted to the Court. These reports include facilitation reports, supervised visitation reports, and other reports. A total of 201 supervised visits took place in the department this past year serving 553 clients.

The Home Study unit prepares an investigative report to the Court. Information is gathered through interviews with parties and outside resources. The study assists the Court in determining the most appropriate placement for the children and must be accessed by Court Order.

| <u>Home Studies Received for Investigation</u> | |
|--|----|
| Divorce | 10 |
| Allocation of Parental Rights..... | 18 |
| Out of County..... | 0 |
| Total | 28 |

The Seminar for Separating Parents is a required program that seeks to better inform parents about the impact of divorce on their children and provide them the information to minimize these conflicts. The two-hour presentation provides pertinent information and resources early in the divorce process and strives to enhance the likelihood of parental cooperation. Attendance is mandatory for parents with minor children, with the philosophy that a child's future welfare depends upon the parents' ability to help their children navigate through the divorce without being subjected to unnecessary parental conflict.

Retired Judge David A. Basinski and Family Divorce Services staff present the seminar. A Court-produced video specifically addresses the needs of separating parents and is shown at times when the Judge is not available. The Court's publication, From Crisis to Cooperation, is a guide to assist families in coping with the divorce process and is given to all participants. The seminar is provided at no cost to the participants. This past year 814 parents completed the seminar.

The Seminar for Unmarried Parents was developed to help unmarried parents understand both the legal and emotional issues involved with visitation. Family Divorce Services staff facilitates the seminar and a Court magistrate is present to answer legal questions. The Court-produced video illustrates the importance of positive parental communication, the need for positive parent/child contact, and answers common legal questions. The seminar is provided at no cost to the participants. The seminar is followed by the offer of individual visitation conferences designed to develop a companionship schedule for the non-residential parent. This past year 239 parents completed the seminar.

DOMESTIC SUPPORT UNIT

The Lorain County Domestic Support Unit provides judicial services to the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA), operated by the State of Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Ohio's child support program is a federal, state and county partnership charged with creating and implementing programs that comply with federal and state laws and regulations. The Lorain County Domestic Relations Court contracted for both judicial services and juvenile clerking services for 2013. The juvenile clerking contract totaled \$367,398 and the magistrate services contract totaled \$360,848. The contracts provide funding for the operation of the Domestic Support Unit and include full and partial reimbursement of salary and benefits for 16 court employees, including two magistrates.

The purpose of the Domestic Support Unit is to provide hearings to address all issues involving the support of children, including establishment, modification and contempt. The juvenile clerking unit provides staff to prepare and file all journal entries pertaining to child support in the Juvenile Clerk's Office.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Domestic Support Unit conducted 6,440 hearings involving issues of child support. The staff in the Juvenile Clerk's

Office registered 27,508 journal entries for filing during the twelve-month period of 2013.

Hearings Conducted in 2013

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Paternity | 283 | Terminations..... | 225 |
| Contempt | 4,527 | Modifications..... | 469 |
| CNS | 74 | All others..... | 533 |
| Arrears..... | 329 | Total | 6,440 |

VOICES FOR CHILDREN

Voices for Children (VFC) is a member of the nationally recognized National Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad Litem Association (NCASA/GAL Assoc.). The mission of the Voices for Children Program is to speak up for the "Best Interest" of abused, neglected and dependent children who are involved in the court system through no fault of their own. Based on the belief that every child is entitled to a safe, permanent and nurturing home, the Voices for Children Program works in the court system through trained volunteers within our community in collaboration with key agencies, legal counsel and community resources to serve as the child's advocate and represent the child's needs and wishes before a Magistrate or Judge.

In order for a volunteer CASA/GAL to make a sound recommendation to the court on behalf of the child's best interest, he or she must investigate the circumstances and family life of the child. In addition, he or she will review records, interview the children, parents, relatives, foster parents, teachers, neighbors, caseworkers, etc, which have direct involvement and/or knowledge of the child. Once the preliminary investigation is complete, the volunteer CASA/GAL will submit a report to the Court with his or her findings and recommendations as it pertains to the "Best Interest" of the child.

In order to become a volunteer CASA/GAL, one must submit an application with 3 non-related personal references; be interviewed by the staff; undergo a criminal background check through the Web Check System and be screened through Lorain County Children Services. The volunteer CASA/GAL must complete 30 hours of pre-service training that includes four classroom sessions (30 hours) and courtroom observation (minimal of 2 hours). At the last training session, the Judge administers an oath. At that time, all of the volunteer CASA/GAL trainees are recognized as Officers of the Court. In addition, the volunteer CASA/GAL is required to attend a 3 hour continuing educational training class and accumulate at least 9 hours of in-service training.

The success of the Voices for Children Program is due to the commitment of the volunteer CASA/GALs recruited from within the community, the program and support staff, private citizens, community organizations and the Voices for Children Board of Directors. The Board assists the program in fund raising, marketing, public awareness and recruiting.

2013 Funding

Court: \$140,809

State: \$3,119

Title IV-E funding (federal funds): 9,034

VOCA (Grant): \$30,709

Total: \$183,671

Volunteers

The volunteer CASA/GALs represented a wide diversity, similar to the population of Lorain County.

- 138 active volunteers
- Ages: 21-29 (9) / 30-39 (20) / 40-49 (25) / 50-59 (34) / 60+ (50)
- Gender: 113 Females and 25 Males
- Education: High School (14) / Some College (48) / College Graduate (32) / Post Graduate (44)
- Race: Caucasian (117) / African American (14) / Hispanic (5) / Asian (1) / Multi-Racial (1) / Native American (1)

Children Served

- Total number of children served in 2013: 415
- Gender of children served: Female (212) Male (203)
- Ages of children served: Birth to 5 (223) / 6 to 11 (122) / 12 to 15 (49) / 16 to 17 (15) / 18 and above (6)
- Racial Makeup of children served: Caucasian (276) / African American (79) / Hispanic (12) / Multi Racial (48)
- Total number of children whose case had closed in 2013: 241

Reason for Court/Program Closure

- Adopted: 15
- Case Removed from Docket: 12
- Family Moved: 10
- Case Transferred to another Jurisdiction: 2
- Child Aged out of System: 3
- Placed with Legal Guardian: 107
- Returned to Home of Origin: 89
- Death of a Child: 0

Types of Petitions

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Dependency/Neglect: | 414 |
| Dependency:..... | 1 |
| Deserted Child: | 1 |
| Divorce/Custody:..... | 2 |
| Educational Neglect: | 6 |
| Medical Neglect:..... | 5 |

DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION AND YOUTH SERVICES

Patricia Wilson, Director

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Probation and Youth Services provides direct and indirect services for youth who have been referred to the Court for delinquent (misdemeanor and felony level) and status (ungovernable, curfew, etc) offenses. The department encompasses Juvenile Probation and related programs, the Intake Department (the Intake function that controls admissions to the Detention Home and conducts initial detention hearings), the Pay-Back program, Community Service and the Court / School Attendance program. Department personnel make recommendations to the Magistrates and Judges on all cases.

The Court has continued to serve youth and families that are identified by the Court for supervision and other on-going services in Calendar Year 2013. In addition to supervision and internal Court programs, Court staff collaborates with other community agencies to ensure that services and resources are identified and secured to assist youth and families and to reduce or eliminate

barriers and address their needs. The Court continues to seek grants and funding for the necessary services available to assist families and works closely with community providers addressing the needs of the shared population we serve.

The Department of Probation and Youth Services is incorporating “evidence-based” practices and programs in case plans and approaches for youth and family interventions. Cognitive based therapy, Strengthening Families, Thinking For A Change, Girls’ Circle, Boys’ Council, Anger Reduction Training and Keeping Your Cool are examples of evidence-based programs that have been utilized throughout 2013. Several of the Probation staff members have been trained to facilitate these programs and utilize these skills in their one-on-one supervision of youth on probation.

The Probation staff utilizes the Ohio Youth Assessment Survey (OYAS), a Risk / Needs assessment tool developed by the University of Cincinnati specifically for the State of Ohio. This instrument assists the Court in effectively targeting services and interventions that result in a higher rate of successful completions of Probation by reducing risk factors. Assessing youth and providing strength-based approaches, geared at reducing risk factors, continues to be the foundation of our programs. Effective screening results in case plans that assist in determining the most appropriate supervision and programming for a youth and their family.

The Probation staff provides different levels of supervision to Court-involved juveniles who remain in the community. The diverse strengths and needs of juveniles and their families require unique interventions and levels of supervision. The programs and services are as follows:

COMMUNITY CONTROL

Juveniles placed on General Community Control have been assessed as not needing significant and intensive Court services. However, they are required to complete a Court ordered case plan. Juveniles placed on General Community Control are assigned a Community Control Officer (CCO). The Officer monitors the juvenile’s compliance with Court orders and case plans through contact with the juvenile, school officials, parents, service providers and other people significant in the juvenile’s life.

The juvenile and family are responsible for completing case plan components and following all rules of Community Control. The Officer is responsible for

making reports to the Court regarding the youth's progress or behavioral concerns. Rewards and sanctions are administered through continual oversight of the juvenile's conduct. The responsibilities of the CCO include notifying all parties of hearings, providing security services for the Court, participating in meetings with outside agencies, assisting families in working with those agencies and working with various school systems.

Four (4) Community Control Officers are assigned to the General Probation Unit of the department. These officers serve youth and families from all the communities of Lorain County as well as youth who are maintained on probation that live out of County. A total of 272 juveniles were served on General Probation in 2013. Ninety-four (94%) of juveniles successfully released from Community Control upon completion of their individual case plans decreased their Risk score based on the OYAS standards. These included youth who were placed on Temporary Orders prior to final disposition of their case. General Community Control Officers also provide supervision for those adults placed on supervision for Contributing to the Unruliness or Delinquency of a Minor.

The Court can place an adjudicated youth on Monitored Time. While on Monitored Time, the juvenile will be required to report to the Community Control department on a predetermined basis. A total of 76 juveniles were served on Monitored Time / Community Control in 2013. Two (2) Inside CCO's are responsible for this caseload. They make phone contact with the youth, parents, school and service providers and report the progress of the youth to the Court. The CCO's also closely monitor the Magistrates' dockets, track continued cases and do initial interviews of youth and families referred for additional Court services.

Two (2) Community Control Officers initially supervised juveniles placed on Status Probation, offenses that would not be illegal if committed by an adult. Reassignment of staff has resulted in one Community Control Officer supervising this caseload. A total of 60 juveniles were served on Status Offender probation. These youth were provided supervision and given an opportunity for additional Court services. Some of these youth were referred for in-home services such as an Alternative to Secure Detention program, providing counseling to the youth in the home to address multiple problems.

IN-HOME DETENTION

The In-Home Detention Program provides a service that offers an alternative to detaining a youth in the Detention Home. Juveniles designated for placement in the program are generally less serious offenders who do not appear to represent a danger to themselves or to the community. The release of some youth from the Detention Home will require the use of electronic monitoring equipment, which is supervised by program staff. Use of this equipment permits 24-hour monitoring of a youth's adherence to "home detention".

To ensure compliance, all youth accepted into the program are required to sign a contract. Parents, or legal guardians, are also required to pledge to ensure compliance and report any non-compliance with program rules.

Court personnel monitor the adjustment of the youth while they are in the program. Random home visits and phone calls are conducted repeatedly. Staff will also visit schools and work sites to ensure compliance with the rules of the program and the signed contract. Violation of the rules could result in the child being remanded to detention in the secure facility until a final Court hearing.

Calendar Year 2013

127 Juveniles were provided In-Home Detention Services

108 (85%) of juveniles successfully completed program requirements

19 (15%) of juveniles readmitted to the Detention Home

COMMUNITY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (CIP)

The Community Intervention Program (CIP) provides intensive Court supervision and services to delinquent youth throughout Lorain County. Youth are placed into the program by a Judge or Magistrate as a disposition when adjudicated delinquent for a criminal offense. The target population is adjudicated delinquent youth ranging from 12 to 18 years of age.

The program is based on a traditional intensive supervision model. The make-up of the program is characterized by low caseloads, averaging 10 to 15 youth. The youth placed in the program have a prescribed case plan based on identified risks and needs. The program functions on a level system comprised of four phases. As the participant demonstrates appropriate behavior, the level of supervision is diminished. A 45-day family team meeting with CIP staff

and service providers and a 90-day review hearing before the assigned Judge is conducted to assess the progress of the participant.

The youth may participate in groups that address anger management, social skill building, and employment skills. All programs have been restructured in an effort to incorporate a more cognitive behavioral approach, inclusive of the utilization of a Cost Benefit Analysis. Program participants in need of mental health and substance abuse services receive assistance through partnerships with various community agencies and service providers. In addition to providing positive interventions, program participants are required to engage in community service opportunities in an effort to provide the participant with an alternative framework for thinking about their wrongdoings.

Calendar Year 2013

90 Juveniles participated in CIP (with a 2012 carry-over of 41)

70 Juveniles released from the program

39% Youth had felony level charges

61% Youth had misdemeanor charges

45 Youth were released Successfully from the program (64%) (completed all Court requirements and were released from Court supervision)

25 Youth were released Unsuccessfully (36%) (removal from the home and placed in out-of-home placement or the Ohio Department of Youth Services)

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

Juveniles adjudicated delinquent for a sexual offense are referred for a sex offender risk assessment. The assessment determines appropriate recommendations, with options including community treatment, out-of-home placement, or commitment to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. For juveniles who remain in the community, the Community Control Officer (CCO) will design safety plans to provide adequate supervision of the offender and protection for the victim. Two (2) CCO's initially supervised juveniles by monitoring their participation in sex offender specific treatment, monitor the juveniles' behavior and actions at home, school, in the community, and supervise compliance with dispositional orders of the Court. Due to staff reassignment, one CCO has maintained supervision of the Sex Offender caseload. The CCO's receive specific training to assist in identifying behavior that can lead to further offending.

Offenders participate in individual and/or group therapy with local agency treatment providers. The CCO maintains frequent contact with the treatment providers to share information, observations, and interventions. Programming lasts between 12 and 24 months. Failure to complete all requirements of the program will result in further Court action, probably requiring out of home placement.

Based on age and type of offense, the Court may classify an offender as a Sexually Oriented Offender Registrant (JSORN). In 2013, four (4) juveniles were classified or re-classified upon completion of dispositional orders.

Calendar Year 2013

- 43 Juveniles supervised and participated in treatment
- 12 Completed all Court orders and were released from Community Control
- 0 Juveniles committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services
- 0 Juvenile sentenced to the Detention Home
- 4 Juveniles placed in other residential placements

MENTALLY ILL – DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED CASELOAD (MI-DD)

Juveniles who are lower functioning and/or have a significant mental health diagnosis are placed on this specialized caseload. These juveniles typically already have an Individual Educational Plan (IEP), psychiatric and psychological treatment services, and/or in-home counseling in place prior to Court involvement. They will often need additional assessments, hospitalizations, and other intensive services due to their presenting needs.

The Community Control Officer (CCO) provides close supervision and facilitates communication between community service providers, the family, and the Court. This facilitation is vital in identifying and overcoming barriers, recognizing progress, and resolving problems of the child and family. Social Workers and other case management service providers work closely with the CCO who is providing intensive supervision.

Calendar Year 2013

- 20 Juveniles carried over in the program from the 2012 caseload
- 17 Juveniles placed on Probation
- 18 Successfully released from Community Control
- 0 Juveniles committed to Ohio Department of Youth Services
- 2 Placed at Court operated Group Homes
- 9 Placed on a more intensive level of supervision (i.e. CIP)

BELLEFAIRE / JOP

The Juvenile Offender Project (JOP) is a collaborative effort between the Court, Integrated Services Partnership of Lorain County, the Board of Mental Health, and Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau. This partnership provides an extensive assessment and psychological evaluation for juveniles currently involved with the Court, primarily for offenses of violence that have exhibited significant mental health issues. The evaluation is comprised of multiple testing tools, an assessment of the family, and charts and reports from previous service providers and school systems. The assessments may be done by Bellefaire JCB or a contracted service provider. Community resources are recommended and services put in place to assist the juvenile and family. Bellefaire also provides a JOP / residential bed when the need for inpatient treatment is indicated.

Community Control Officers are responsible for monitoring and assisting in the components of the case plans. Court staff monitors and documents all contacts with the juvenile and family, attends staff meetings, makes home visits, participates in JOP / 4-C Children's Continuum of Care Committee reviews, and provides transportation services, if necessary.

Calendar Year 2013

- 20 JOP level evaluations completed
- 6 Juveniles placed on Specialized Services Supervision (SFY, MI/DD)
- 7 Juveniles placed in other Court programs
- 7 Juveniles placed "out of the home" (i.e. Stepping Stone Residential Center, Detention Home or the Ohio Department of Youth Services)

SUCCESS FOR YOUTH

Success for Youth provides skill development for lower functioning, delinquent youth. Programming offers an opportunity to learn social skills, computer skills, and job skills to assist juveniles in obtaining employment and eventual independence. Success for Youth focuses on males and females in Lorain County, ages 14-17, who are experiencing difficulties due to their low level of intellectual functioning.

Catholic Charities collaborates with the Court to provide case management, social skills development, assistance with career development, preparation of resumes, computer skills and realistic job skills training. Programming is

designed to meet educational and employment needs, as well as personal development.

Calendar Year 2013

- 23 Juveniles served
- 10 Released from Community Control
(6 Successful, 2 Transferred to other programming, 2 placed in Detention)
- 1 Juvenile committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services

MENTAL HEALTH COURT

The Mental Health Court, under the direction of the Honorable Judge Frank J. Janik, is a specialized program that works within the framework of the existing Domestic Relations Court. It began in February, 2010 and serves juveniles charged in Juvenile Court who also have a mental health diagnosis which may have traditionally presented barriers to the youth's success. The goals of the program are to divert these youth into Court monitored treatment, to reduce recidivism among mentally ill delinquents, and to empower the participants to lead more clinically stable, safe and law-abiding lives in the community. In the short-term, the program can provide opportunities to youth who would not necessarily get treatment on their own. In the long-term, the program assists in preventing further involvement with the Court and increasing their responsibility to the community.

The Juvenile Mental Health Court serves youth who have been adjudicated delinquent, who have severe and persistent mental illnesses that are contributing or mitigating factors in their law enforcement involvement and for whom Court-monitored treatment and other services would influence their ability to lead a law-abiding life. Based on an agreement with the Lorain County Prosecutor's office, the youth's presenting charges will be dismissed if they successfully complete the program.

In 2013, the Juvenile Mental Health Court received initial certification and recognition as a Specialized Docket as outlined by the rules of Superintendence and the Ohio Supreme Court.

Calendar Year 2013

- 11 Juveniles served in program..... (5 Males 6 Females)
- 3 Juveniles terminated from program..... (1 Male 2 Females)
- 3 Juveniles completed program / Charges dismissed.....(1 Male 2 Females)

JUVENILE DRUG COURT

The Lorain County Juvenile Drug Court program provides a therapeutic and strengths-based approach in assisting juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent and have significant substance abuse issues. The program is funded, in part, by a grant through the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

The Honorable Judge Debra L. Boros presided over the team of the Juvenile Drug Court in 2013. The team consists of the Judge's Magistrate, Program Manager, Community Control Officer / Case Manager, a chemical dependency assessor from the Court and the addiction services counselor from the Nord Center. Weekly hearings are held with each participant to review both positive and negative behavior. The Juvenile Drug Court utilizes contingency-based rewards to recognize positive behavior.

Participants must abstain from drugs and alcohol, demonstrate positive behavior in the community and school, obtain employment and cooperate with treatment components to advance through the five levels of the program. Parents and / or guardians participate in treatment sessions, in addition to attending Court hearings on a weekly basis. The Court makes every effort to assist families in overcoming barriers that may inhibit success. Based on an agreement with the Lorain County Prosecutor's Office, the presenting charges are dismissed upon successful completion of all program components. Failure to comply with the program results in termination from the program and the case being set for disposition.

In 2013, the Juvenile Drug Court received initial certification and recognition as a Specialized Docket as outline by the Rules of Superintendence and the Ohio Supreme Court.

Calendar Year 2013

| | Males | Females |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Participants | 12 | 2 |
| Terminations | 5 | 1 |
| Graduations | 3 | 0 |

FAMILY DRUG COURT

Family Drug Court is funded through a grant from the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS). Family Drug Court assists clients of Lorain County Children Services (LCCS) who are drug / alcohol

dependent and their children have either been adjudicated abused, neglected or dependent, or the clients are involved with LCCS on unofficial / In-Home cases. Participation in Family Drug Court is voluntary, but upon agreeing to participate, a court order or agreement through a Contract of Participation, requires compliance. Compliance is expected with all program components. The ultimate goals are for participants to retain or regain custody of their children, working towards completion of the case plan components and maintaining sobriety. Failure to comply can result in LCCS seeking permanent family / relative placement, temporary custody, permanent custody, foster care or adoption.

The Family Drug Court team is comprised of the Honorable Judge Debra L. Boros and her Magistrate (who preside over Family Drug Court), Program Coordinator, treatment counselor from LCADA, a representative from Voices for Children (guardian ad litem), Elyria YWCA, Faith House, the Nord Center and Lorain County Children Services. Collaboration between agencies provides In-Kind services addressing drug / alcohol dependency, parenting skills, domestic violence awareness, life-skills preparation, employment guidance and assistance in obtaining housing. Participants are also referred to mental health agencies for assessments, individual counseling, parenting skills and domestic violence sessions.

Calendar Year 2013

- 20 Clients served (20 women)
- 20 Children placed outside the home with a parent or relative
 - 5 Children placed in foster care
 - 1 Family Drug Court Graduate

JUVENILE INTAKE DEPARTMENT

The Juvenile Intake Department, located at the Boys' Detention Home, performs several functions for the Court. This unit handles the following:

- Unofficial complaints
- First offense shoplifting cases
- Tobacco violations
- Arraignments on official status charges
- Unofficial hearings for intervention and diversion purposes

The year 2013 was one of staff transition for the Intake Department. One primary Intake Magistrate, with the assistance of three Court Magistrates, are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week, to respond to

law enforcement's requests for admission of boys and girls to the Detention Home and Turning Point Shelter. The Intake Magistrate conducts the majority of Preliminary Detention hearings, arraignments and Release hearings for juveniles who have been admitted to the Detention Home.

Calendar Year 2013

- 1046 Referrals were Reviewed and Processed
- 187 Unofficial Hearings conducted
- 251 Hearings on official charges on non-detained juveniles
- 452 Preliminary detention / arraignment hearings and release hearings for juveniles admitted to the Detention Home
- 53 Cases certified from outside of Lorain County

Children involved in domestic violence who are admitted to the Detention Home or Turning Point Shelter are assessed by the Turning Point Shelter Social Worker, who then provides recommendations to the Court regarding risk factors and recommends services to assist the juvenile and family. There were 157 Domestic Violence assessments conducted to determine risk in 2013.

The Lorain County Juvenile Intake Department reviews reports that are referred to the Court for consideration of Diversion services. There were 112 referrals for Diversion Services in 2013. Twelve (12) families availed themselves of these services. These cases may require an initial contact with a parent or legal guardian, unofficial hearing with a Hearing Officer, referral to community resources for assistance, follow-up contact, possible official legal charges or Court supervision based on a Status offense (an act that would not be illegal if committed by an adult).

ATS Program / Alternative to Suspension / Smoking Treatment Program

The Court, in conjunction with LCADA, offers a treatment program for juveniles who have been cited for Underage Tobacco use. Juveniles appear in Court and may be placed in the educational program, or may waive the hearing and pay Costs.

Calendar Year 2013

- 23 Juveniles charged with Underage Tobacco use
- 14 Juveniles referred to ATS program
- 14 Attended the program

The remaining juveniles either paid a waiver fee or were repeat offenders and were ineligible to participate in the ATS program. Juveniles who failed to comply with programming or paying Court Costs will be brought back before the Court on Further Dispositional Orders.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMS

YES Program

The Youth Education Shoplifting Program (YES Program) is an educational, rehabilitative program offered to juveniles referred to Court for first time petty theft / shoplifting offenses. Participants are ordered into the program from both official and unofficial cases heard by Intake.

Calendar Year 2013

91 Juveniles completed the program / testing analyzed and scored:

| | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|------------------|-----|
| 64% | Low Risk to Re-Offend | National Average | 56% |
| 12% | Moderate Risk to Re-Offend | National Average | 15% |
| 24% | High Risk to Re-Offend | National Average | 29% |

EDUVENTION / Substance Abuse Education Program

The Court's Eduvention Program is designed to provide drug and alcohol education and information to juveniles and parents, when juveniles are referred to the Court for misdemeanor alcohol and / or drug offenses. Juveniles and their parent / guardian can attend the four sessions of education in lieu of a delinquency charge being filed. Eligible participants are typically, but not exclusively, first time offenders. Some participants are Court-ordered to attend the sessions, while most are referred from a police report provided to the Court from the Prosecutors' office without official charges being filed. A record of their attendance is docketed into the Court record. Lorain County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (LCADA) provides, at no cost to the participants, Eduvention programming, off-site from Court operations. Pre- and post- program testing, as well as a screening instrument, is administered to participants to determine the need for further recommendations for assistance or treatment. After an orientation meeting with families, some are determined to require additional interventions and LCADA staff refers them accordingly.

Calendar Year 2013

- 171 Referrals to the program (29 carried over from 2012)
- 121 Juveniles completed the program
 - 20 Completed substitute / alternate programs
 - 24 Juveniles officially charged and arraigned

PAY-BACK PROGRAM

Restitution is an essential component in the rehabilitation process and is also the means whereby victims find recourse through the justice system. Offenders are held accountable for their financial obligations to victims. The Pay-Back Program has four objectives:

- Ensure the offender's compliance with Court orders
- Provide a work experience that allows the offender to make restitution
- Provide victims with access to the Court for reasonable redress
- Facilitate communication between the Court, victims, prosecutors, insurance companies, etc...

The process is initiated by the Lorain County Prosecutors' Office prior to dispositional hearings. The victim is required to supply documentation to the Prosecutor verifying their loss. Once the restitution amount is determined, it is ordered at disposition. Following the dispositional hearing, the juvenile and parent / guardian meet with the PayBack Program Manager to establish a payment plan. The juvenile is given two payment options:

- Execution of a monitored, monthly payment schedule
- Placement in a Court developed jobsite, credited with minimum wage compensation and payment to the victim is made through the Lorain County Treasurer's Office. Juveniles gain work experience while fulfilling their Restitution obligations.

Calendar Year 2013

- 336 Cases referred for investigation of restitution
- 72 Cases admitted to the program
- 55 Cases terminated from the program
- 51 Successful cases terminated
- \$17,463.54 Collected through payment schedules and dispersed to Victims
- \$ 5,767.52 Paid to Victims through the Treasurer's Office for Community Service hours completed through the Work for Pay program
- 825.50 Hours of Community Service performed for payment

Community Service

Dispositional Orders may include community service hours as a means of “giving back” to the community. The Judge or Magistrate may order a specific number of hours of community service for a juvenile to perform as part of their dispositional orders. The Program Manager will assist the juvenile in obtaining placement in a non-profit organization to complete the Court-ordered community service. Another option to complete the order is to purchase and donate non-perishable items that are then distributed to various organizations or needy families throughout the county.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROGRAM

The Lorain County Juvenile Court’s School Attendance Program addresses the attendance issues of students deemed to be truant from school. To address truancy, the program utilizes a formal process, which involves the collaborative efforts of the Lorain County Education Service Center, participating school districts, the Lorain County Juvenile Court and the Lorain County Prosecutor’s Office.

The process for addressing truancy follows a continuum of approaches from prevention to intervention to prosecution. As a *preventative* measure, the school principal initiates the “process” with a letter to the parents of each student showing an early pattern of excessive absences. The letter explains the compulsory education laws, explains the district’s school attendance policy, and advises of a referral to the Court’s School Attendance Program, if the problem continues.

When a student has accumulated five unexcused absences, he/she may be formally referred to the attendance officer by the school principal or assistant principal. Upon receiving a referral, it is the responsibility of the attendance officer serving the school to address the issue of truancy with the parent(s) and the child utilizing a number of interventions. Student attendance is monitored on a *weekly* basis to determine the interventions needed to address the attendance problem.

During the 2012 - 2013 school year, 96% of the 937 cases referred to the attendance officers responded to interventions. Of the 4% of cases which did not respond to interventions:

- 36 juveniles (3.84% of referrals) were referred for Truancy charges
- 6 adults were referred on charges of Failure to Send a Child to School and Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor.

Attendance Officers participate in the prosecution process through:

- Preparation of a narrative report and case materials
- Participation in all adult/juvenile legal proceedings
- Monitoring of the compliance of Court orders
- Filing a sworn affidavit with the Prosecutor’s Office for the violation of court orders, which enables the Prosecutor’s Office to file a motion for the violator to show good cause for failure to comply with a Court order.

During the 2012-2013 school year, four Attendance Officers addressed 937 referrals from the following school districts (and alternative schools):

- Avon35 referrals
- Avon Lake17 referrals
- Clearview..... 139 referrals
- Columbia34 referrals
- Elyria..... 304 referrals
- Firelands29 referrals
- Keystone.....42 referrals
- Midview 141 referrals
- North Ridgeville53 referrals
- Oberlin21 referrals
- Sheffield/Sheffield Lake62 referrals
- Wellington19 referrals
- Lorain County Academy12 referrals
- Lorain County JVS.....26 referrals
- Education Alternatives.....1 referral
- PEP (Positive Education Program) 2 referrals

- Families identified with “at-risk” family issues which interfere with a child’s school attendance may be referred for In-Home services provided by a service provider within the community. Services are voluntary, but provide assistance for the entire household.

Calendar Year 2013

- 74% Of the students referred to the program reduced unexcused absences
- 40% Average decrease of unexcused absences per child
- 18% Program’s rate of recidivism during the 2012-2013 school year

JUVENILE STATISTICS

| Age and Gender of Youth | Female | Male | Total |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Age 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Age 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Age 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Age 11 | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Age 12 | 6 | 19 | 25 |
| Age 13 | 14 | 54 | 68 |
| Age 14 | 43 | 106 | 149 |
| Age 15 | 63 | 193 | 256 |
| Age 16 | 109 | 198 | 307 |
| Age 17 | 89 | 236 | 325 |
| Age 18 | 20 | 31 | 51 |
| Age 19+ | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 349 | 848 | 1197 |

| Where Youth Reside | Female | Male | Total |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Amherst | 10 | 12 | 22 |
| Avon | 4 | 11 | 15 |
| Avon Lake | 7 | 37 | 44 |
| Columbia Station | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Elyria | 117 | 264 | 381 |
| Grafton | 7 | 18 | 25 |
| LaGrange | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| Lorain | 140 | 275 | 415 |
| North Ridgeville | 22 | 68 | 90 |
| Oberlin | 10 | 22 | 32 |
| Sheffield Lake/ Sheffield Village | 6 | 39 | 45 |
| South Amherst | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Vermilion | 3 | 12 | 15 |
| Wellington | 5 | 20 | 25 |
| Other | 8 | 58 | 66 |
| Total | 349 | 848 | 1197 |

| Reason for referral | Female | Male | Total |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Aggravated Murder | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol Consumption | 13 | 41 | 54 |
| Arson | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| Assault | 35 | 63 | 98 |
| Attempted Murder | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Breaking & Entering | 0 | 3 | 3 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Burglary | 5 | 48 | 53 |
| Criminal Damaging | 6 | 36 | 42 |
| Criminal Mischief | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 31 | 102 | 133 |
| Domestic Violence | 47 | 86 | 133 |
| Drug Offenses | 10 | 73 | 83 |
| Escape | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Falsification | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Induce Panic | 1 | 12 | 13 |
| Kidnapping | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Menacing | 2 | 17 | 19 |
| Obstructing Official Business | 5 | 21 | 26 |
| Other | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Rape | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| Receiving Stolen Property | 1 | 27 | 28 |
| Resisting Arrest | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| Riot | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Robbery | 4 | 10 | 14 |
| Runaway | 18 | 19 | 37 |
| Sex Offenses | 7 | 13 | 20 |
| Telephone Harassment | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Theft | 69 | 66 | 135 |
| Tobacco | 2 | 15 | 17 |
| Trespassing | 11 | 24 | 35 |
| Truancy | 56 | 51 | 107 |
| U.U.M.V. | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| Ungovernable | 17 | 62 | 79 |
| Vandalism | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Vehicular Homicide | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Weapons Offense | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Total | 349 | 848 | 1197 |

| Dispositions | Female | Male | Total |
|---|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Committed to Adult Correctional Facility | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Committed to ODYS/Northern Ohio | 0 | 28 | 28 |
| Continued on Probation | 5 | 27 | 32 |
| Courtesy Supervision | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Dismissed | 109 | 159 | 268 |
| Fines & Costs and / or Restitution | 68 | 143 | 211 |
| Fines & Costs and / or Restitution- Suspended | 104 | 210 | 314 |
| Judicial Release/Revoke | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other | 6 | 8 | 14 |
| Placed on Monitored Time / Felony | 0 | 10 | 10 |
| Placed on Monitored Time / Misdemeanor | 20 | 42 | 62 |
| Parole | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Parole Revocation | 0 | 9 | 9 |

| | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Placed on CIP / Felony | 0 | 17 | 17 |
| Placed on CIP / Misdemeanor | 7 | 26 | 33 |
| Placed on General Community Control / Felony | 5 | 20 | 25 |
| Placed on General Community Control / Misdemeanor | 18 | 31 | 49 |
| Placed on Community Control - Other / Felony | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Placed on Community Control - Other / Misdemeanor | 8 | 18 | 26 |
| Placed on Community Control - Sex Offender / Felony | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Placed on Community Control - Sex Offender / Misdemeanor | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Placed on Community Control - Status | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| Residential Facility Placement / Felony | 5 | 19 | 24 |
| Residential Facility Placement / Misdemeanor | 14 | 25 | 39 |
| Sentenced to Detention Center / Felony | 3 | 22 | 25 |
| Sentenced to Detention Center / Misdemeanor | 15 | 38 | 53 |
| Serious Youth Offender | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sex Offender Classification Modified | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Suspended Commitment / Sentence | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| Transferred to Adult Court | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Transferred to Another Court | 9 | 49 | 58 |
| Unavailability | 48 | 90 | 138 |
| Suspended DH/Felony | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Suspended DH/Misdemeanor | 26 | 75 | 101 |
| Total | 480 | 1112 | 1592 |

| Traffic Violations | Female | Male | Total |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Alcohol Offenses | 9 | 19 | 28 |
| Assured Clear Distance | 54 | 70 | 124 |
| Driving Under Suspension | 3 | 10 | 13 |
| Failure To Control | 36 | 48 | 84 |
| Failure To Yield | 44 | 35 | 79 |
| Impeding Traffic Flow | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Improper Backing | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Improper Lane Usage | 6 | 12 | 18 |
| Improper Turn | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Jaywalking | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Leaving the Scene | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| License Plates | 7 | 11 | 18 |
| Lights Violation | 11 | 17 | 28 |
| No Driver's License | 32 | 26 | 58 |
| Noise Violation | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Other | 14 | 13 | 27 |
| Parking Violations | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Reckless Operation | 7 | 16 | 23 |

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Seat Belt | 17 | 31 | 48 |
| Speeding | 196 | 348 | 544 |
| Squealing Tires | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Tinted Windows | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Traffic Control Device | 36 | 46 | 82 |
| Unsafe Vehicle | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Walking in Roadway | 16 | 42 | 58 |
| Total | 501 | 764 | 1265 |

| Traffic Dispositions | Female | Male | Total |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Absentia | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| Detention Home Sentence | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Dismissed | 231 | 345 | 576 |
| Fines & Costs | 108 | 169 | 277 |
| Fines & Costs Suspended | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| License Restricted | 33 | 60 | 93 |
| License Suspended | 13 | 30 | 43 |
| Other | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Seatbelt Mail-in Waiver | 12 | 20 | 32 |
| Transfer to Another Court | 44 | 88 | 132 |
| Unavailability | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Total | 456 | 734 | 1190 |

DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

David Lucey, Director of Human Resources and Facilities

INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Facilities Complex provides locked and unlocked residential placement and shelter care for male and female juveniles. The complex consists of two detention centers and four buildings providing residential services in a campus-style setting.

Lorain County Juvenile Detention Home

9967/9911 South Murray Ridge Road, Elyria

The purpose of the detention home is to provide secure confinement of appropriate juveniles under age 18. Judges and magistrates determine if detention is appropriate as indicated by statute or the Ohio Supreme Court Rules. Unruly or ungovernable youth may not be placed in detention beyond twenty-four hours. However, delinquent youth may be confined to detention

by an order of the Court for a period not to exceed 90 days. Commencing in 2004, the Court sentenced juveniles to the Lorain County Detention Home for up to 90 days. In 2013, there were 100 youthful offenders sentenced to the Detention Home.

As a cost-cutting measure, the Girls Detention Home was closed and the girls relocated to the Boys Detention Home at the end of 2008. Both male and female residents are currently housed in separate wings of the Boys Detention Home.

The Lorain County Detention Homes are licensed and monitored by the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The facilities are designed to house 44 males and 12 females. The staff ratio during daylight hours is 12:1, with a ratio increasing to 25:1 during the 10pm-6am shift.

During the admission process each youth is administered the Maysi II test which screens for mental health issues. Beach Brook will conduct an assessment if issues are highlighted. Each youth also reviews a 30 minute video presentation on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and is informed of our zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse/rape, harassment, and how to report it. The medical staff is available at any time for consultation and has regularly scheduled hours. Within seven days of admission, the detention home nurse or doctor physically examines every juvenile.

While in detention, education continues year-round through the Educational Service Center of Lorain County. Upgrades now provide for twenty-five individual computer stations with emphasis placed on the state proficiency exams.

2013 Admissions

- 596 males
- 176 females
- 772 juvenile admissions
- Average length of stay: 20.26 days
- Average male daily population: 35
- Average female daily population: 7
- Average daily population total: 42

Pathways Group Home / Stepping Stone Residential Center
1076 / 1064 Infirmary Road, Elyria

Pathways Group Home and Stepping Stone Residential Center are non-secure court-operated programs for female and male offenders, ages 13-17. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licenses and monitors these facilities, which are limited to 10 females and 20 males.

Pathways and Stepping Stone prepare residents for successful reintegration into the community. Programs assist juveniles in managing personal problems and family issues, as well as developing an increased ability to access community resources, and establish positive goals for the future.

Referrals to Pathways and Stepping Stone are made through internal processes of the court. The Department of Probation & Youth Services, Investigation and Referral Team, Magistrates, Lorain County Children Services, and mental health workers provide input in this process. A Judge makes the final determination and places appropriate candidates into the programs.

The formats of Pathways and Stepping Stone parallel each other. Each is a one-year program divided into two phases. Phase one (1) is a minimum 21-week in-house stay. The child will participate in graduated off-grounds visits with the parent-guardian ranging from one (1) hour to seventy-two (72) hours during the first phase of the program. The child and parent-guardian will receive appropriate services on an individualized basis during this phase based on the resident's case plan. Parental cooperation and participation is vital. Some group programming for the child will also be included. During this phase the child will receive a physical exam within the first sixty (60) days of placement with appropriate follow-up. If the child remains in placement beyond 21 weeks, a dental exam will be secured by the 180th day of placement. The Educational Service Center of Lorain County provides educational services for the residents in the facilities. Three certified teachers are present M-F to work with the residents of Pathways and Stepping Stone.

Phase two (2) is aftercare. The child will live at the home of the parent-guardian during this phase under the supervision of a Community Control Officer (CCO). Applicable services will be received during this phase on an individualized basis.

Case plans are developed for each juvenile. Areas addressed through service providers include daily family issues, health, living skills, individual and family

counseling, and drug and alcohol issues. The Stepping Stone residents had the opportunity to participate in the Boy Scouts in 2013. They had monthly meetings and went on several day trips to camp grounds in the area.

| <u>2013</u> | <u>Pathways</u> | <u>Stepping Stone</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Participants | 28 | 66 |
| New Admissions | 19 | 45 |
| 2011 Carry-Over | 09 | 21 |
| Successful Completions | 09 | 15 |
| Committed to ODYS | 00 | 03 |
| Sentenced to Detention Home | 05 | 12 |
| Lorain County Jail | 00 | 00 |
| Transferred to CIP | 00 | 04 |
| Moved out of County | 00 | 00 |
| Specialized Services | 00 | 00 |
| Transferred to Other Probation | 00 | 00 |
| Out of County Placement | 00 | 00 |
| Currently in Program | 14 | 32 |
| AWOL | 00 | 00 |

Turning Point

1080 Infirmary Road, Elyria

Turning Point is a non-secure residential facility providing short-term care (maximum 14 days) for 5 males and 5 females ages 12-17. The juveniles are involved in domestic dispute situations or selected status offenses. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licenses Turning Point. Turning Point provides 24-hour supervision and guidance by trained childcare staff. In addition, a full-time social worker provides services to the juveniles and their families with appropriate referrals to service providers in the community. In addition, youth who are involved with domestic disputes receive a domestic violence screening by Catholic Charities of Lorain County. This information is shared with the Social Worker to establish an appropriate reunification plan.

Admissions are approved by the Intake Department and judicial orders. Turning Point does not function as a sentencing or dispositional alternative. It is a program for youth in crisis or emergency situations.

The goal of Turning Point is to return the youth to their home after a brief respite without further intervention by the court. During 2013, Turning Point served a total of 230 youth – 135 males and 95 females.

DEPARTMENT OF FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Kristen Richardson, Director

The Fiscal Department is comprised of four departments, the Financial Accounting Department (Fiscal), the Juvenile Clerks Department (Clerks), the Grants Department (Grants) and the Information Systems Department (Systems).

Fiscal

The Fiscal Department is responsible for financial processing and reporting, including accounting, processing payroll, benefits and Court appointed counsel payments. Oversight of the IV-E reimbursement program is also a major responsibility of the Fiscal Department.

The Fiscal Department prepares and monitors the Court's annual budget, recording revenue and processing payments of more than \$11 million annually. Fiscal processed over \$409,000 of payments to court appointed counsel in 2013.

Juvenile Clerks

In Lorain County, The Administrative Judge is the Ex Officio Clerk of the Juvenile Court. All cases filed are processed through the Clerk's Office at the Lorain County Justice Center on 225 Court Street in Elyria. The Clerk's Office consists of the Office Manager and 20 Clerks. The Clerks provide customer service to the general public, attorneys, and various officers of the court and the positions require a broad knowledge of the court and its functions. The Clerk's Office staff screen, process and image new complaints and motions; send service to notify parties of court dates; prepare mandated and internal statistical reports; establish restitution accounts; and process financial transactions for restitution, fines, court costs, purges, bond, and other ordered fees.

Grant Writing and Management

The Grants Department is responsible for researching grant opportunities available through state, federal and local agencies, writing grant proposals and monitoring grant and entitlement programs received. The Grants Department is also responsible for recording and monitoring Special Revenue funds throughout the Court. The Court applied for five grants in 2013. Three were awarded, one was denied, and one is pending.

Systems Management

The Systems Management Department (Systems) is responsible for the Court's computer hardware, software and other related systems. The Court's case management system is the Courtview system used to maintain the Court's docketing, case, judicial and probation management systems.

Systems also manages the high resolution digital security camera system in the Boys and Girls Detention Facilities that allows for remote monitoring and archiving 90 days of security camera data. The video security system provides comprehensive monitoring capabilities and a heightened level of safety for the juveniles and the workers.

2014 goals include an email upgrade, replacing Windows XP desktop computers, and enhancing our case management system to streamline Court operations and eliminate duplicative tasks.

For the calendar year 2013, the Domestic Relations Court's General Fund Expenditures were as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Judicial/Administrative/Divorce Services | \$2,152,511 |
| Juvenile Probation..... | \$1,972,568 |
| Juvenile Detention Home | \$2,126,078 |
| Domestic Support..... | \$ 617,424 |
| Facilities..... | \$ 488,680 |
| Total County General Fund | \$7,357,261 |

In addition to General Fund support, the Court receives a substantial amount of funding from various state and federal pass-through grant and reimbursement programs per year. In 2013, the Court received financial support from the following:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| <i>Ohio Department of Youth Services</i> | |
| Program supported: Various | \$1,257,991 |
| <i>Ohio Department of Job & Family Services</i> | |
| Program supported: (Title IV-D) Domestic Support..... | \$ 440,867 |
| Program supported: (Title IV-E) Various | \$1,535,538 |
| <i>Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Services</i> | |
| Program supported: Drug Court | \$ 82,646 |
| <i>Ohio Department of Mental Health</i> | |
| Program supported: Juvenile (Violent) Offender..... | \$ 25,000 |
| <i>Ohio Department of Education</i> | |
| Program supported: Detention Home – Food Service | \$ 121,362 |
| <i>Ohio Attorney General’s Office</i> | |
| Program supported: Voices for Children..... | \$ 30,709 |
| <i>Local School Districts (Fees for Service)</i> | |
| Program supported: Truancy Intervention | \$ 164,997 |
| <i>Miscellaneous Non-General Fund Revenues</i> | |
| Fines and Fees | \$ 102,751 |
| Stepping Stone Reimbursements..... | \$ 74,538 |
| Children’s Services support of Turning Point Shelter | \$ 72,000 |

The Domestic Relations Division of the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas is sincerely grateful to the many agencies, community leaders and providers that all work toward the common goal of providing effective and efficient services to the citizens of Lorain County.

This goal, coupled with the creative vision, energy, and passion of those involved, allows this Court to continue being a positive force in addressing the needs of the community.

We sincerely thank all those who contributed their time, energy, resources, and effort into making Lorain County a leader among Courts in the state of Ohio.

Domestic Relations Court Contact Information

| | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Fax</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Judge Debra Boros | 440-328-2201..... | 440-328-2211 |
| Judge Frank Janik | 440-329-5365..... | 440-328-2258 |
| Judge Lisa Swenski | 440-329-5357..... | 440-329-5438 |
| Administration | 440-329-5360..... | 440-329-5232 |
| Juvenile Clerk | 440-329-5187..... | 440-329-5271 |
| Family Divorce Services..... | 440-326-4846..... | 440-326-4844 |
| Juvenile Probation | 440-326-4880..... | 440-326-4896 |
| Domestic Support..... | 440-326-4835..... | 440-326-4844 |
| Assignment Commissioners: | | |
| Domestic Relations | | 440-329-5368 |
| Domestic Relations | | 440-329-5362 |
| Domestic Relations | | 440-329-5369 |
| Juvenile | | 440-328-2200 |
| Fax | | 440-329-5436 |

Lorain County Court of Common Pleas
 Domestic Relations Division and Juvenile Branch
 Lorain County Justice Center
 225 Court Street
 Elyria, Ohio 44035



Jody Barilla
 Court Administrator

10 Copies @ \$10.94 each