

**WOOD COUNTY
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUVENILE DIVISION**

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

DAVID E. WOESSNER, JUDGE

WOOD COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

PURPOSE OF THE COURT

Under Section 2151.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Juvenile Court's purpose is:

- (A) To provide for the care, protection, and mental and physical development of children subject to Chapter 2151 of the Revised Code, whenever possible, in a family environment, separating the child from the child's parents only when necessary for the child's welfare or in the interests of public safety;
- (B) To provide judicial procedures through which Chapters 2151 and 2152 of the Revised Code are executed and enforced, and in which the parties are assured of a fair hearing, and their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and enforced.

WOOD COUNTY JUVENILE COURT STAFF

David E. Woessner, Judge

Mollie Hojnicky-Mathieson
Magistrate

Bridget Ansberg
Executive Director

Jessica Sautter
Fiscal Director

Hannah Vollmar
Director, Clerical Services

Cynthia Chapman
Deputy Clerk

Maureen Bressler
Deputy Clerk

Robin Roe
Deputy Clerk

Keri Niceley
Deputy Clerk

Anna Schaublin
Deputy Clerk

MacKenzie Hinline
Deputy Clerk

Ronda Downard, Co-Director, Probation and Intake Services, Program Mgr.
Lora Graves, Co-Director, Probation and Intake Services, Case Mgr.

David Baldonado
Probation Officer

Lisa Zeigler
Probation Officer

Kayla Martin
Probation Officer

Anthony Paulus
Probation Officer

Jodi Whitacre
Director, Court Appointed Special Advocate Program

Kristen Leverton
Volunteer Coordinator

Kara Svendsen
Volunteer Coordinator

Linda Hammer
Recruitment/Officer Manager

Richard D. Schmidbauer

Director, Detention Services

Jared Goris
Asst. Director, Detention Services

Holly Ramirez
Detention Supervisor

Russell Krotzer
Detention Supervisor

George Rife
Detention Supervisor

Crystal Quinlin
Detention Officer

Josh Knoke
Detention Officer

Josh Morris
Detention Officer

Renee Williams-Boyd
Detention Officer

Alyssa Sharninghouse
Detention Officer

Nate May
Detention Officer

Josh Vantrease
Detention Officer

Diamond Young
Detention Officer

Michael Maier
Detention Officer

Grant Batten
Detention Officer

Kurt Smith
Detention Officer

Scott Spiess
Detention Officer

Baylee Wyss
Detention Officer

Court Security

John Dauer
Court Constable

Mark Hanson
Court Constable

Mike Christen
Court Constable

JUDGE DAVID E. WOESSNER

Judge David Woessner has been Judge of the Wood County Common Pleas Court, Probate and Juvenile Divisions, since December 29, 1998. While Judge, Judge Woessner has served as the Wood County Common Pleas Court Security Judge; has been and is currently serving as the Presiding Judge of the Wood County Common Pleas Court; and was a District One Trustee for the Ohio Association of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Since 2006, Judge Woessner has continuously been appointed to serve on the Ohio Juvenile Law and Procedure Committee. Judge Woessner has also been an instructor for continuing legal education courses for attorneys, Magistrates and Judges.



In addition to his regular duties, Judge Woessner oversees the 48 bed Wood County Juvenile Detention Center, which houses youth from Wood and surrounding counties. Judge Woessner also serves as the Administrative Judge for the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio. This facility accommodates up to 42 adjudicated felony level offenders and provides services for juveniles from Wood, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, and Williams County, as well as additional counties upon request.

Prior to serving as Judge, Judge Woessner had been a Magistrate for the Wood County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division. Judge Woessner also served as a Magistrate in the Wood County Juvenile Court. From 1990 until taking office in 1998, Judge Woessner was employed by and was a partner with the law firm of Middleton, Roebke, and Woessner.

Prior to joining Middleton, Roebke, and Woessner, Judge Woessner was the Chief Assistant Prosecutor for the Wood County Prosecutor's Office. As an Assistant Prosecutor, Judge Woessner handled cases ranging from capital murder to felony theft. During his tenure with the Wood County Prosecutor's Office, Judge Woessner was also the Juvenile Prosecutor as well as an Assistant Prosecutor in the civil division, assisting in the representation of school districts, townships, and providing legal opinions to a variety of county offices. Judge Woessner also had previous experience as a Referee at the Bowling Green Municipal Court and worked as a legislative intern in Washington, D.C. for then Representative Stewart McKinney.

Judge Woessner has been actively involved in a variety of professional and community boards, agencies, and activities. He is a past President of both the Wood County Bar Association and the Wood County Law Library Association. Judge Woessner was also appointed by then Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery to the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Grant Advisory Board; was a member of the Board of Trustees of Behavioral Connections of Wood County; and served for over six years as a member of the Wood County Ethics, Grievance, and Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee. Judge Woessner has also been involved in a wide variety of other groups and activities, including a variety of athletic and recreational programs relating to youth.

2021 Wood County Juvenile Court **A Summary**

The Juvenile Court hears cases concerning traffic offenses, delinquency, unruliness, neglect, abuse, dependency, custody involving individuals under the age of 18, as well as certain paternity and support cases for adults and children. The court may also hear misdemeanor cases involving adults charged with certain offenses involving children. The Juvenile Court's jurisdiction is outlined in, but not limited to, Section 2151.23 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The Wood County Juvenile Court is located at 1032 South Dunbridge Road in Bowling Green, Ohio. The court facility includes the judge's chambers and courtroom, the magistrate's courtroom, the offices of the clerical and probation departments, the Wood County Juvenile Detention Center, Court Security, and the Court Appointed Special Advocate department.

Despite the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, the court saw a 22% increase in the number of cases filed in 2021 -- which totaled 2,311 compared to 1,888 cases filed in 2020. Utilizing technological resources provided by the Wood County Commissioners and the Ohio Supreme Court, the court continued to conduct a wide variety of hearings by video and phone.

The Juvenile Detention Center experienced a 21% increase of detained youth -- up from 283 in 2020 to 343 in 2021. This number included 238 males and 105 females.

The court's Probation Department remained active in 2021. Utilizing diverse and expansive case management services, probation officers supervised 185 youth and adults. 98 youth and families received services through the Diversion and Intervention program.

The Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad Litem (CASA/GAL) program continued to provide invaluable volunteer advocacy services for youth in need. 34 individuals advocated for 97 alleged abused, neglected, or dependent children.

COURT CLERICAL DEPARTMENT

The Clerical Department maintains six full-time Deputy Clerks under the supervision of the Clerical Director.

The Clerical Department is responsible for various duties, some of which include:

- Serving as a bailiff for the judge and magistrate
- Scheduling / managing the court's docket
- Processing Judgment Entries, Magistrate's Decisions and Orders
- Processing all legal filings, motions, and pleadings – filed both in paper or via the court's eFiling system
- Processing and sending out court summons and notices
- Case receipting which involves costs, fines, probation fees, restitution, filing fees
- Initiating and processing all new complaints
- Preparing weekly, monthly and yearly reports
- Entering data into the court's case management system
- Processing traffic citations
- Serving as a liaison between attorneys, outside agencies and the court

COURT STATISTICS

The amount of court fees and fines collected in 2021 totaled \$111,578.26. This is a substantial increase from 2020, which totaled \$89,256.00.

The court saw a 22% increase in the number of cases filed in 2021 -- which totaled 2,311 compared to 1,888 cases filed in 2020. The number of cases disposed of in 2021 totaled 2,181. A complete breakdown of the cases filed and disposed is charted below.

ALTERNATIVES TO ADJUDICATION REGARDING HABITUAL TRUANTS

There were a total of 11 habitual truancy cases filed in 2021. The number of those truancy cases placed in alternatives to adjudication pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.27(G) were four (4). Six (6) youth were adjudicated unruly and one remains pending.

E-FILING

The Wood County Juvenile Court implemented E-filing services in 2019 for paternity, custody, support and visitation case types. E-filing provides a secure, fast, and convenient way for attorneys to submit documents to the court for new and existing cases.

E-filing creates the appropriate records for the court's case management system. The documents are also submitted to the Digital Management System for storage and online access.

JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

During 2021, the Juvenile Court Probation Department continued to provide services to the children and families of Wood County. Noteworthy achievements by the department in 2021 included:

- Despite pandemic related challenges, over 1,625 hours of community service work were completed by juveniles at a variety of sites. Juveniles not working at the court completed hours at area churches, schools and food banks, to name a few.
- Overseeing the return of over \$7,700 in restitution to victims of crimes committed by juvenile offenders in Wood County.
- The Juvenile Court continued a partnership with 3rd Millennium Classrooms, which offers online educational options to court involved youth. The online courses are three to four hours long designed for youth involved in theft related incidents, conflict, alcohol use, marijuana use, and vaping offenses. During 2021, forty-eight youth completed various courses offered by 3rd Millennium.
- During 2021, twenty-two youth completed the court's innovative Safe and Healthy Sexuality Program.
- The Probation Department began an Intervention and Diversion program

at the start of the 2019/2020 school year. 98 families were served by this program in 2021.

- The Probation Department continued to supervise the planting and maintenance of a community garden outside the Juvenile Court Center and donated produce to local food pantries, including the Brown Bag Project and the Cocoon Shelter.

The Probation Department performs a variety of responsibilities within the Juvenile Court. Six full-time staff accomplish this by assessing the individual needs of the child and their family, and developing a treatment plan that is in the child's best interest. The least restrictive setting is considered, and the use of community agencies and services is an important element of the family's treatment plan.

The primary responsibility of the Probation Department is to supervise youth and adults who have been ordered to complete a period of probation, also known as community control. The majority of probationers are under the age of 18. However, adults charged with misdemeanor offenses involving child victims can be prosecuted through the Juvenile Court and serviced through the Juvenile Probation Department.

During 2021, 185 juveniles and adults were supervised through the Juvenile Probation Department.

The Probation Department prepares Pre-Dispositional Intake Reports – which include a personal assessment of a youth's social history which includes recommendations tailored to meet the individual's needs and situation. To assist with recommendations, the department utilizes the Ohio Youth Assessment System as a key component of the intake process. In 2021, the Probation Department completed 102 Intake Reports. An additional four reports were completed with adults requesting their records be sealed or expunged.

The Juvenile Court encourages the completion of both required training as well as additional training hours by the Probation Department staff. Six staff members completed 235.25 hours of training during 2021.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK / RESTITUTION PROGRAMS

Community service and restitution to victims of juvenile crime continue to be priorities of the court. The Probation Department operates a community service project on Saturdays from March through November. Funding for the crew supervisors is secured through an Ohio Department of Youth Services grant. In addition to the Probation Department's Program, youth are able to perform

community service at various locations throughout Wood County.

During 2021, 89 youth performed 1,625 hours at over 20 different sites and organizations in Wood County.

Once again this year, the Community Service Crew planted a community garden as a service learning project, utilizing vegetable donations from Ben and Cheryl Santee of Bonnie's Plants. The court also received beautiful flowers to line the garden from Bonnie's Plants. The garden provided a good learning experience for the youth. This year hundreds of tomatoes, a variety of banana and bell peppers, zucchini, squash and various herbs were harvested and donated. Youth who worked were also permitted to take home a bag of produce.

In addition, the Juvenile Court also received a donation of Hardy Mums from Diane Hoefkens of Obie's Flowers and Shasta Daisies, Lilies and other perennials from Zach Edwards of Black Diamond, so the youth could landscape the court grounds.

Restitution is an integral part of the treatment philosophy held by the Juvenile Court. Whenever a citizen incurs monetary damages, the youth may be held accountable for reparation to the victim. When youth are unable to pay the victim, the youth can work off the damages by performing community service. The court, through a Department of Youth Services grant, will then pay restitution to the victim once the youth has completed the required number of hours. During 2021, \$7,767.95 in restitution was returned to victims of juvenile crime.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING

Unfortunately, many youth involved with the Juvenile Court use or abuse drugs, therefore, probationers are routinely required to submit to random drug testing. The probation department currently utilizes laboratory based oral saliva/swabs to complete drug tests. Forensic Fluids laboratories provides drug testing kits which can be used in a safer, more socially distant fashion. The Forensic Fluids Laboratories provide screening and automatic verification of any positive test result. The lab tests for a total of twelve substances and is able to test for additional, specific substances with a special request. The following drugs of abuse can be tested for: amphetamines, methamphetamines, THC, cocaine, opiates, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, oxycodone, tramadol, buprenorphine/suboxone, methadone, and fentanyl. Prior to being discharged successfully from level two probation, a youth must produce a screen free from the presence of drugs of abuse.

In 2021, 406 drug tests were administered to youth on probation in Wood County. Of this total, 74 of the samples tested positive for drugs of abuse. When a youth on probation produces a positive urine screen, they are charged a \$5.00 fee. A total of 33 drug tests were taken from youth not on probation. Of this total,

11 of the samples tested positive for drugs of abuse. Drug testing generated revenue of \$612.00.

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

The Juvenile Court uses a portion of its Department of Youth Services (DYS) grant allocation to pay for youth under electronic surveillance. On a case by case basis, the Juvenile Court may utilize electronic surveillance in lieu of incarceration. Electronic surveillance allows the youth to attend school, counseling services, and other pre-approved activities while being monitored. Additionally, electronic surveillance is less costly than incarceration and allows the youth to remain in a less restrictive environment with his or her family.

In 2021, a total of 31 youth were monitored for a total of 1,151 days during the year.

SAFE AND HEALTHY SEXUALITY PROGRAM

Safe and Healthy Sexuality is an innovative and educational program designed for youth in middle school or older. Topics discussed in this class include high risk behaviors and self-protection, consent and legal issues, sexting and internet safety, and pornography and its impact. Youth may be referred to this program by parents, counselors, school administrators, the Wood County Prosecutor's Office, probation officers, or the youth him/herself.

Due to the pandemic, in person classes were not held in early 2021, and eight youth were given individual packets to complete and review with probation staff. Classes resumed in later 2021, and an additional 14 youth were served through this program.

INTERVENTION AND DIVERSION

Intervention and Diversion is a program designed to assist when a youth's behavior, functioning or attendance in school is impacting performance and success. Youth and families referred to this program submit to a strengths and needs assessment. A case manager is assigned to the youth/family and is responsible for making sure the youth/family has access to recommended services and supports. This program is available to any school aged child who resides in Wood County and may be used as part of a school district's absence intervention plan with a youth. Youth may be referred to the Intervention and Diversion program by school administrators, the Wood County Prosecutor's Office, or the Juvenile Court Judge or Magistrate. 98 families were served during 2021.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) is the juvenile corrections system for the state of Ohio. DYS is statutorily mandated to confine felony offenders, ages 10 to 21, who have been adjudicated and committed by one of Ohio's 88 county juvenile courts.

Additionally, DYS funds and supports 625 community programs throughout the state, offering more than 93,000 youth opportunities and services to encourage positive change and decrease the number of youth who need to be incarcerated. Funding resources to the Juvenile Court include 401 Reclaim and 510 Subsidies.

During 2021, RECLAIM OHIO funds were used to pay for services, salaries and benefits of Probation Department staff who monitor the RECLAIM OHIO grant and programs. Under a statewide formula, the court is debited RECLAIM funds for any youth committed to an Ohio Department of Youth Services facility or to a Community Correction Facility.

In 2021, the Juvenile Court 510 subsidy was used for staff salaries and benefits, supplies, purchasing community based services, and other related expenses.

COMMITMENTS TO DYS and ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

Prior to committing a youth to the Ohio Department of Youth Services, every attempt is made to provide services to the youth while residing at home, utilizing community based resources. On occasion, youth who do not respond to these efforts or otherwise present a serious risk to the community are committed to the Department of Youth Services.

Alternatives used by the Probation Department to avoid a youth being sent to the Department of Youth Services include: Electronic surveillance, local detention time, placement at a Community Correction Facility (CCF); placement at other community based residential or outpatient treatment facilities; and/or other probation services.

One youth was committed to Ohio Department of Youth Services in 2021, and one youth remained in placement from the previous year.

JUVENILE RESIDENTIAL CENTER OF NORTHWEST OHIO

In August, 1994, the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio (JRC) opened. JRC is a Community Correction Facility (CCF) and serves as an alternative to a Department of Youth Services commitment. Located adjacent to the Wood County Juvenile Court Center, this ten-county facility provides secure treatment for male felony level offenders, with a family counseling and graduated community reunification component. This alternative to a commitment to the

Department of Youth Services allows courts to serve youth locally. Judge Woessner serves as the administrative judge for the Juvenile Residential Center.

In 2021, six Wood County male youth were placed at the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio, and two youth continued to be served by the Juvenile Residential Center from a prior year's placement.

Additionally, one Wood County female youth was placed at the Miami Valley Residential Center, a CCF that provides specialized services for girls.

TITLE IV-E

In June 2008, the court entered into a sub-grant agreement with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and became a Title IV-E eligible court. The federal Title IV-E program provides funds for needy, delinquent children who require specialized residential placement. Monies are provided on a reimbursement basis to assist courts in recovering some of the costs incurred maintaining a child in residential treatment or treatment foster care homes. Title IV-E also reimburses courts for a portion of the administrative costs expended to keep youth in their own homes and avoiding placement.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE/ GUARDIAN AD LITEM (CASA®/GAL) DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Wood County Court Appointed Special Advocate/ Guardian ad litem Program is to recruit, train, guide, monitor and maintain qualified CASA/GAL volunteers (Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardian ad Litem), who are appointed by the Wood County Juvenile Court Judge as Guardian ad Litem to advocate for the best interests of children who are before the court as a result of abuse, neglect and dependency as defined by state child welfare laws.

The CASA/GAL Program has successfully provided this needed service to Wood County children since 1988. The CASA/GAL Program complies with Rules 48 of Rules of Superintendence for Courts of Ohio which guides GAL practice. The Wood County CASA/GAL program is a member in good standing of both the National CASA Association and the Ohio CASA/GAL Association.

The CASA/GAL Program is staffed by a full time director, one full time and one part time volunteer coordinator and a part time recruitment/office coordinator.

The program director also serves as the liaison between the program and the non-profit advisory board, Friends of Wood County CASA, and participates in Ohio CASA/GAL Association Program Director trainings and activities.

In addition, the program director serves as the GAL Coordinator for the court under Rule 48 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio. The primary duties of the GAL Coordinator are to ensure compliance with each section of the rule, including GAL qualification verification, maintaining GAL records and accepting grievances concerning the services of GALs.

Responsibilities of the volunteer coordinators include recruiting, training, screening and supervising the CASA/GAL volunteers' advocacy efforts. They also are responsible for coordinating the Citizen Review Board (CRB) meetings and volunteer recruitment and screening of the CRB.

Responsibilities of the recruitment/office coordinator are to assist with volunteer recruitment and the application process, coordinate public relations and outreach activities, maintain the program website (www.woodcountycasa.org), set up all new case files and ensure that all new case information and volunteer activities are properly inputted and maintained in the data management software.

The program receives financial support through the Wood County Juvenile Court/Wood County Commissioners general fund for much of the administrative needs of the program. The Victim of Crime Act Grant (VOCA) funds those costs related to support staff salary. State Victim Assistance Grant (SVAA) assists with the expenses related to staff attendance at the annual Two Days in May Conference and the Ohio CASA Celebrate Kids Annual Conference. Federal Department of Human Services funding via the Ohio CASA Association assists with the cost of training new and current volunteers.

CASA/GAL VOLUNTEERS SERVE AS ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

In 2021, a total of 34 individuals served as volunteers, advocating for at least one child alleged to have been abused, neglected or dependent. The volunteers provided over 1778 hours of service to the CASA/GAL program, and traveled over 13,670 miles to obtain information regarding their cases.

All individuals who became CASA/GAL volunteers in 2021 participated in a 33 hour pre-service training facilitated by the program staff, utilizing the National CASA Association curriculum. They also participated in an additional 3 hours of time spent observing the court process. Judge Woessner administered the oath of office to the individuals who completed pre-service training requirements. Eight individuals completed the training requirements and took the Oath of Office in 2021.

In 2021, the average tenure with the program was 6 years. Two volunteers have been actively advocating for the children of Wood County for over 20 years.

CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED CASA / GAL ADVOCACY

At the beginning of 2021, CASA volunteers were serving 46 children. In 2021, Judge Woessner appointed a CASA/GAL volunteer to advocate for the best interest of 58 children. CASA/GAL volunteers closed cases involving a total of 51 children in 2021. As of December 31, 2021, 97 children continued to receive the services of a CASA/GAL volunteer.

CITIZEN REVIEW BOARDS

There are two Citizen Review Boards (CRB), each comprised of five community volunteers appointed by the Juvenile Court judge for up to three-year terms of service. The CRB meets monthly at the Juvenile Court. One additional trained individual serves an alternate and is able to participate on either board as needed. The responsibility of the Citizen Review Board members is to review case plans of children under the protective supervision or in the temporary custody of the Wood County Department of Job and Family Services. In 2021, the CRB members met for approximately 203 hours collectively, reviewing 228 case plans and provided recommendations to the Court regarding the appropriateness of the case plans established to assist abused or neglected children and their families.

FRIENDS OF WOOD COUNTY CASA

The “Friends of Wood County CASA” is a non-profit organization which lends support to the Wood County CASA/GAL Program. Currently there are seven community volunteer members serving on the advisory board. The Board’s primary responsibilities are raising public awareness of the Wood County CASA/GAL Program, fund raising, and developing recommendations for program enhancement.

Friends of CASA receives various donations from individuals in the community. These donations are used to assist with public awareness, recruitment and retention activities. They also use the donations received to assist with defraying the cost for volunteers to attend community trainings and the annual Ohio CASA Association conference.

<u>CASA/GAL Volunteer Advocates</u>	<u>Friends of CASA Board of Trustees</u>	<u>Citizen Review Boards</u>
<p><u>Active as of 12/31/2021</u></p> <p>Connie Bailey Lois Bowlus Denise Brigode Joy Campbell Marlene Cervenec Mike Cervenec Angie Corogin Nancy Davis Jolene Edgar Don Gerke Sandy Grolle Linda Hammersmith Linda Herman Audrey Herroon Christian Holler Tonya Huger Mary Jacquot Kim Jones Rebecca Krukemyer Austin Lambert Kristen Leverton Jane McIntyre Jessica Mehl Pam Miller Kathy Munger Joyce Osterud Ann Pantenburg Deborah Schocket Sheila Schrag Kara Svendsen Allison Taylor Jeanne Titus Mary Tudor Jodi Whitacre</p>	<p>Current members as of 12/31/2021</p> <p>Elizabeth LeMaster Karrie Failor Dr. David Gemmill Dr. Shalini Singh-Coates Irene Jones Jonathan Thomas Matt LeMaster</p>	<p>(All active as of 12/31/2021)</p> <p><u>Wednesday Board</u> Jane Robb (chair) Don Gerke Pam Krebs Steve Heckler Kathy Munger</p> <p><u>Tuesday Board</u> Lee Welling (Chair) Jane Eaton Ann Hannah-Cizaukas Claudia Lance Tonya Huger</p> <p><u>Alternate</u> Linda Herman</p>

WOOD COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

The Wood County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is located in Bowling Green, Ohio, and is part of the Wood County Juvenile Court. It is designed to house 48 juveniles in individual rooms. The primary goals of the facility are to ensure the safety, security, health and welfare of all detained residents. The facility has indoor and outdoor recreational areas, a meal service program with dining facility, activity area, library, and two classrooms. Although the Detention Center is owned and operated by Wood County, contractual arrangements have been made with surrounding counties in order to assist them with their juvenile detention requirements. The Detention Center provides both pre-trial and short term commitments for incarceration. Care is provided equally to all, regardless of court status (i.e., accused, adjudicated, delinquent or unruly).

Wood County detained 155 juveniles for a total of 2,017 days in 2021. Together with the contracted counties in Northwest Ohio, a total of 343 (238 male and 105 female) juveniles were detained for 4,496 days. This activity generated \$212,890 in revenue for Wood County. The average length of stay for a detained youth in 2021 was 13.11 days per stay.

In 2021, the Detention Center facilitated 205 video court hearings for numerous counties including Hancock, Putnam, Paulding, and Wood. This number more than doubled the 91 video hearings performed from the previous year. This service has been provided since 2016, and allows for a much safer and cost effective avenue to hold court hearings, especially due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to video court hearings, JDC also facilitates and conducted a wide variety of other types of video services for the residents. Staff facilitated 56 video counseling appointments (including both clinician and psychiatrist appointments), 17 video counseling assessments, 17 school meetings (suspension, expulsion, and I.E.P. meetings), five video admission assessments for the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio, and three physician appointments for various medical reasons.

In addition to day to day duties, Detention Center staff collected 178 sets of fingerprints and 20 swab samples of DNA material for court users who were statutorily required to submit to these processes in 2021.

STAFFING/TRAINING

The Director of Detention is responsible for planning, directing and coordinating all functions of the Wood County Juvenile Detention Center, with a staff of 19 full-time employees, and a roster of part-time employees generally ranging between 2 and 5 employees. There are three shifts; first and second shift each are predominantly staffed with a shift supervisor and three to five detention officers,

while third shift is primarily staffed with a shift supervisor and two detention officers.

During the calendar year 2021, the Wood County Juvenile Detention Center staff completed 1,423 hours of training, an average of 67.76 hours of training per staff member. Detention officers receive training in emergency medical response, Operational Policy and Procedures of Juvenile Detention, Juvenile Suicide and Crisis Prevention, fire safety issues, defensive tactics and general responses to resistance and aggression, as well as other basic correctional officer training. This training regimen exceeds the mandatory standards set by the Ohio Department of Youth Services of 40 hours per year.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

MEDICAL SERVICES

Necessary medical services were provided to the residents through a contractual agreement with Wellpath, LLC. Mental health counseling and psychological services are obtained from the Children's Resource Center. The Children's Resource Center staff is granted access to detained youth on a twenty-four hour basis, as are other mental health professionals, to ensure that the complex and sensitive emotional problems some youth experience are properly addressed.

RATIONAL BEHAVIOR TEACHING PROGRAM

The Juvenile Detention Center has a lengthy history of endorsing and utilizing Rational Behavior Teaching (RBT) when working with residents. The underlying philosophical components of RBT are based on separating youth from their behaviors and focuses on eliminating the bad choices a youth makes by reinforcing good behaviors.

Staff conduct teaching groups to focus on core RBT concepts, such as a rational thought model, and specific tools for helping young people determine whether their thoughts are rational vs. irrational and "needs" specific vs. "wants" specific.

EDUCATION

The education program at the Wood County Juvenile Detention Center is provided by the Wood County Educational Service Center (ESC). The ESC provides an education coordinator and two full time teachers. Students are administered the Test of Adult Basic Education at intake, and again one week later. This provides grade equivalency scores in the areas of reading, math and spelling. Contact is made with the home school district, the first day that the student is placed at JDC. Requests are made for current copies of the IEP, ETR and the 504 Plan as appropriate. These documents are kept on file for the

academic year. The JDC Education Program is an educational option written in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Education.

In addition to classroom instruction, all residents are offered the opportunity to remain current with their home school requirements, by utilizing the detention center's secure, wireless internet services and secure laptops.

The Wood County Educational Service Center also offers a variety of programming through its Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) staff after school and during the summer months. Two separate sessions of a blended program containing curriculum from both the Life Skills and Why Try were taught in 2021.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

The Juvenile Detention Center contracted with the Children's Resource Center (CRC) in 2021 to provide substance abuse-related services. Through its co-occurring disorder licensure, CRC provided both mental health and substance abuse specific services to individual youths. The goal of this initiative is to discover what types of issues each youth was struggling with for the purpose of linking those youth with appropriate aftercare services when they are released.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Juvenile Detention Center works closely with the Children's Resource Center to provide both crisis intervention services and ongoing mental health services for detained youth. Twenty four hour access is given to all mental health professionals to assist youth. As needed, youth are allowed to be transported to mental health appointments outside of the facility.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Non-denominational religious services are provided on a weekly basis by the Wood County Chaplaincy Committee. In addition, families can make arrangements through detention center administration to have their own pastor or minister visit youth. In person services were re-instated at the end of 2021.

VISITATION

The detention center encourages juveniles to maintain ties with their parents and/or legal guardians through regular in house visits. However, in 2020 those visits were suspended due to the pandemic, and phone and video calls were substituted for in-person parent visitation sessions. It is the hope and desire of detention center administration that in-person visitation with parents/guardians resumes in the near future. Each detention resident is afforded the opportunity for ninety minutes of visitation weekly, in thirty minute increments allotted at each of three scheduled visitation times.

RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

The detention center provides youth with recreation and leisure time programs that includes organized large-muscle activity and structured leisure activities. A large gymnasium and outside recreation yard are available. The center is equipped with a library containing various books and encyclopedias for use by detention residents. All library materials are generously donated by local businesses, area schools, parents and the general public.

JUVENILE COURT SECURITY

The Wood County Juvenile Court Security Department is staffed by four part time court constables who oversee the public entrance, ensuring that no weapons or contraband are introduced into the Juvenile Court complex; provide security in the courtrooms, and ensure safety and security for the entire court complex.

Court constables provide appropriate levels of security to address any foreseeable concern or emergency that may arise during the course of business. In 2021, 10,329 visitors entered the Juvenile Court through court security.

All visitors entering the complex pass through a walk-through magnetometer, with accompanying x-ray machine for viewing of packages and handbags. There were 6,017 items scanned and 72 items were held at security. During 2021, five adults were detained by court security.