

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

380 W. Second St  
Dayton, OH 45422  
(937) 224-7908  
[www.mcjcoho.org](http://www.mcjcoho.org)

JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

Montgomery County  
Juvenile Justice Center

## ANTHONY CAPIZZI, ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

Judge Capizzi, who retired in December 2022, has been a strong advocate for youth throughout his career, serving as a voice for children on issues such as drug and mental health treatment, disproportionate representation of minorities, and using technology to better help children and families.

Judge Capizzi has overseen the growth of the Juvenile Treatment Court and the implementation of a Juvenile Mental Health Court and Family Treatment Court. He led the initiative to create multiple Evening Reporting Centers, put into practice the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI), created the Pro Se Services program, and strengthened the Court's Reclaiming Futures and Natural Helpers programs. Judge Capizzi instituted the use of texting to remind families of hearing dates. He also implemented the use of the IBM Watson Artificial Intelligence in case management and health management issues capabilities in all courtrooms.

He serves as Past-President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Association. In addition, he serves on the National Center for State Courts National Judicial Opioid Task Force and the Stewards of Change Institute National Board.



## HELEN WALLACE, JUDGE

Judge Helen Wallace is the first woman elected to serve as a Montgomery County Juvenile Court Judge. Judge Wallace is committed to protecting and serving children and families. In 2022, Judge Wallace handled delinquency, abuse, neglect and dependency cases, civil cases, motions to impose jail sentences, and all child

endangering cases in Juvenile Court.

Judge Wallace leads the Court's Education Unit, front loading services to families with truancy issues.

She created Book Nooks all around the courthouse to promote reading. The Book Nooks provide free books, donated by our wonderful community, to all families that enter the Court.

Judge Wallace founded the Helping Everyone Learn Program (HELP) after obtaining a grant from the Ohio Supreme Court to identify individual learnings needs of children, and leads the Court's efforts to provide specialized education support to our youth.

Judge Wallace helped found the Montgomery County Female Leadership Academy, which provides community leaders as mentors to young woman ages 15-17. She was recognized as the 2021 Public Elected Official of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers, Region 7.

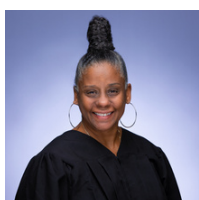
## MAGISTRATES



Chief Magistrate  
Julie Bruns \*



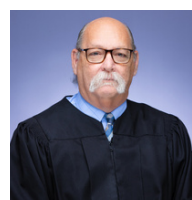
Magistrate  
Todd Calaway



Magistrate  
Paula Durden



Magistrate  
Gina Feller



Magistrate  
John Kolberg



Magistrate  
Marshall Lachman



Magistrate  
Kate Lenski



Magistrate  
Jeffrey Livingston



Magistrate  
Moira Murty



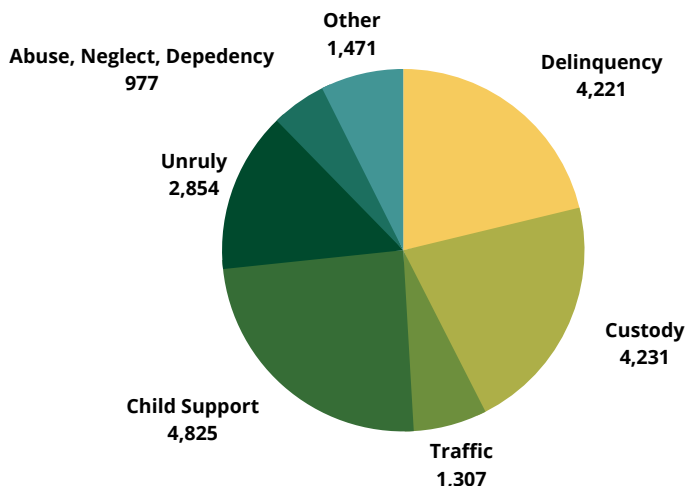
Magistrate  
Hope Smalls

\* In November 2022, Julie Bruns was elected to serve as Judge, beginning in January 2023.



The Court adopted a new logo in September 2022.

## 19,886 Total Referrals in 2022



## FOCUSED ON YOUTH

**DELINQUENCY DOCKET:** The Juvenile Delinquency Docket has jurisdiction over all offenses involving children under the age of 18, as well as cases involving juvenile protection orders, unruly filings, and juvenile traffic offenders.

**ABUSE, NEGLECT, DEPENDENCY DOCKET:** Juvenile Court presides over cases regarding children alleged to be abused, neglected, or dependent. The goal is to strengthen families so that children can safely remain with their families whenever possible, and to find permanent homes for children when that is not possible.

**PRIVATE CUSTODY, CHILD SUPPORT & VISITATION DOCKET:** The Private Custody, Child Support, and Visitation Docket has jurisdiction involving the issues of paternity, custody, parenting time, visitation, and child support when the child's parents were not married at the time of their birth, when the child's parents married after their birth but have not filed for divorce, or when a non-parent initiates a filing.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES DIVISION REORGANIZES

In March of 2022, the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program and the Natural Helper's Program (formally known as Reclaiming Futures) joined together to form a new division within the Juvenile Court called Volunteer Services. With a total of 14 employees, this new division supports our community volunteers committed to serving as trained CASAs as well as positive mentors.

Volunteer Services welcomed 19 new dedicated CASA's and 24 new Natural Helper's mentors for 2022. This year the programs began combining their recruitment, training and group activities efforts as one. Trainings were enhanced and continued to be offered on a monthly basis for the professional development of volunteers. Volunteer Services Staff assisted in several annual court activities including the Back to School Extravaganza, Building Bridges Thanksgiving Dinners and Christmas celebrations.

In 2022, CASA had over 80 active volunteers. Two volunteers, James Bowers and Terri Carter, celebrated their 20th year with our CASA program. Ten CASA Volunteers have over 10 years of experience with our program. We served over 613 children in 2022 with 221 active cases.

As of the end of 2022, the Natural Helper program had more than 40 volunteers serving as mentors for the children in our community. These Helpers are committed to trainings and involved in the lives of the children and families. In 2022, the Natural Helper Program received 69 referrals from different court departments. Fifty-five youth were immediately matched with a Natural Helper. Monthly activities were held so Helpers could interact with their mentees with structured support from staff.

Volunteer Services teamed up with several organizations to assist families in need. Stitches of Love Group donated numerous blankets, hats, scarves and bags. The Rylee Sellars Foundation offered continued support of back-to-school supplies and Christmas gifts for youth. The CASA program received grants from Kettering Family Philanthropies, Mark Andrew Kreusch Foundation and Physician's Charitable Fund. Ohio CASA, National CASA and VOCA helped pave the way for local programs to succeed. CASA Volunteer Alyssa Hayman and her family donated Easter bags for CASA youth.

The Natural Helpers Program received funding from the Montgomery County Human Services Levy, which is essential for the program to succeed. The Juvenile Court Foundation also provided financial support for monthly activities including bowling, painting class, corn maze visits and meals for youth.



## HUMAN RESOURCES: PUTTING EMPLOYEES FIRST

Employee recruitment, compensation and retention remains a top concern for the Court. The Human Resources Department provides support to approximately 460 employees, along with many volunteers, dedicated to providing justice for our children and protecting our community.

Court employees are located at four Juvenile Court buildings:

Juvenile Justice Center – 380 West Second Street, Dayton (approximately 239 employees.)

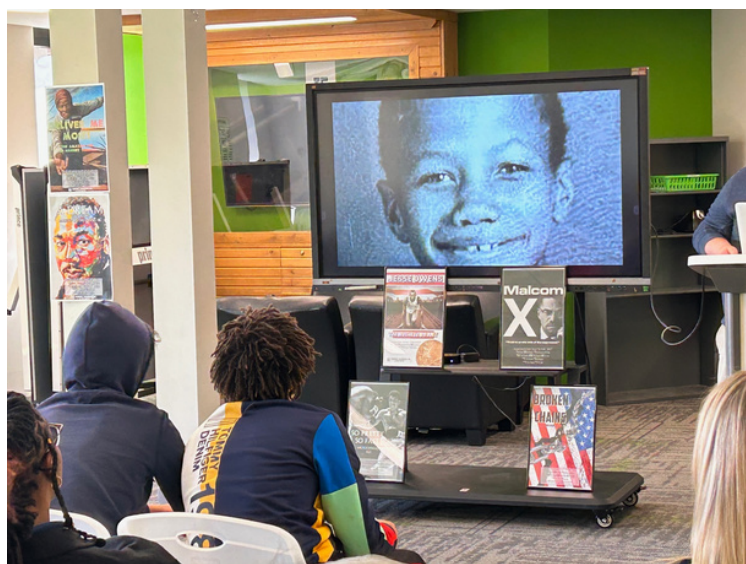
Center for Adolescent Services – 333 Access Road, New Lebanon (85 employees.)

Nicholas Residential Treatment Center – 593 Infirmary Road, Dayton (51 employees.)

Probation Services – 3501 Merrimac Avenue, Dayton (85 employees.)



# YEAR-ROUND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DELIVERS RESULTS



The Juvenile Court's Education Department is chartered by the Ohio Department of Education and offers comprehensive and individualized year-round programming for students placed in each of three facilities within the County: Nicholas Residential Treatment Center, Center for Adolescent Services and the Detention Center.

Some highlights that demonstrate the students' progress include:

For the 2022 calendar year, 260 standardized Student Achievement in Reading (STAR) assessments were conducted for 165 students. Sixty-one of those students took two or more tests within 3-4 months to track growth. Students moved up an average +0.8 grade levels in reading during that time.

In Math, 268 standardized student achievement tests were conducted for 162 students. Fifty-nine of those students took two or more tests within 3-4 months of each other to track growth. The results show that the students improved an average + 0.6 grade levels in math during that time period.

Also during the year, approximately 24 percent, or 49 of 202 students, maintained a quarterly 4.0 grade point average during their time at the school.

Five students earned enough credits to graduate from high school during their placements.

## INTERVENTION CENTER CONNECTS FAMILIES TO RESOURCES

The Intervention Center (IC) is a 24-hour, 7-day a week single point of entry for court service for unruly and delinquent youth, located at the Juvenile Justice Center, 380 W. Second St. in Dayton. With the onsite support of outside agencies, including South Community, Inc.'s Caring for Kids, that conducts comprehensive assessments on youth, and the Children Services Division of the Department of Job and Family Services, the IC can provide a triage for youth and their families when more in-depth intervention is needed.

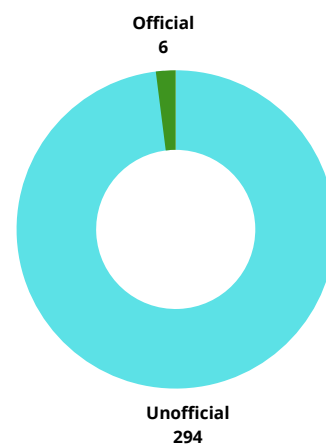
In 2022, the IC formed a partnership with Omega Community Development Corporation (Omega CDC) - Hope Center Family Services Program. Omega CDC was one of six recipients in the nation to receive a nearly \$30 million Promise Neighborhood grant award from the US Department of Education. The funds will support a cradle to career continuum of services delivered by neighboring organizations. A pilot program was developed between Omega CDC and the IC to promote parent engagement and positive youth development.

The IC also established a relationship with Goodwill-Easter Seals Miami Valley (GESMV). As a result of this collaboration, GESMV provides a combination of prevention programming, wrap around services for individual youth and their families,

education supports, and job readiness training for IC families.

Youth are connected to resources such as individual counseling services, certified peer recovery services, and opportunities for restorative justice through community service activities. Parents/guardians of youth will be engaged with parenting skills, individual and family counseling, and employment skills if needed.

Also within the past year, an alliance with Montgomery County Educational Services Center (MCESC) was developed. MCESC now facilitates Prime for Life sessions in the IC. Prime for Life is an evidence-based motivational prevention, intervention and pre-treatment program specifically designed for youth who may be making high-risk choices. The curriculum provides a judgment free approach of understanding how alcohol and drug-related problems develop, what can be done to prevent them, and why sometimes youth need help.



**300 Truancy  
Referrals in 2022**

## OFFERING SAFETY & TREATMENT IN DETENTION CENTER

Detention Services provides a comprehensive program for pre and post dispositional youth, in a safe and secure environment, while protecting the public safety. Youth range in age from 10- to 20-years old. Detention Services houses five distinct populations within its 144-bed facility - offering evidence based programming, educational, mental health, medical, physical, and life-skills programming.

In 2022, Detention Services continued to keep detained youth safe while protecting staff and visitors from Covid-19 infection. There was a drastic decrease in secure transports to Dayton Children's Hospital for Covid-19 screening as the facility began in-house testing. Additionally the use of quarantine within the facility was drastically reduced due to effective screening and safety practices. Detention Services continued to offer weekly virtual visits despite the renewal of in-person visitation. We completed hundreds of phone conferences for detained youths with their attorneys, placement coordinators, and GAL's.

The five distinct populations and the numbers of youth served in 2022 include:

Detention Services - those awaiting the legal process or transfer to approved placements (818 youth in 2022)

The Juvenile Cognitive Alternative Rehabilitative Effort-Specialized Treatment Program (JCARE-STP) is designated for male sex offenders ages 14 to 18 of all felony levels. (13 served)

Juvenile Cognitive Alternative Rehabilitative Effort-Aggression Replacement Training (JCARE-ART) is a treatment program in the Ohio Youth Assessment System for those identified moderate- to high-risk male youth, ages 12 to 19; who would otherwise be committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. (24 served)

The Corrections Program is an alternative for adjudicated youth who have demonstrated the need for an immediate short-term commitment, either for 5- or 10-days. The program is designated for youth between the ages of 10-17. (49 served)

The Detention Certified program is for youth under age 21, whose cases are transferred to adult court for prosecution, but who can be behaviorally maintained in a juvenile setting. (4 served)

# CONTINUED FOCUS ON TRANSFORMATIONAL PROBATION

Probation Services continued Transformational Probation, which focuses on a team approach to address issues, and attempts to improve behaviors by utilizing positive-action case plans and incentives. Studies have shown that continued Court involvement only increases the likelihood a youth stays involved in the legal system. The transformational approach utilizes behavior modification techniques that encourage the youth to develop a support team to lean on to make better choices/decisions.

The Intake Unit came to fruition within the Probation Department in 2022 as a systematic change specializing in assessing incoming youth and families on the forefront to effectively use court-ordered supervised time. Intake Officers analyze probationer's individualized needs, strengths, and areas of risk for reoffending to expedite connections to applicable services. The Intake Unit merged with Judge Wallace's 2021 successful addition of specialized education services offering intensive case management for youth who have documented educational barriers as their high risk area for reoffending, provided by the Special Education Probation Officer IV and the Help Everyone Learn Project Program Coordinator. The specialized education support offered by the Intake Unit reconnects youth to their community schools in order to successfully graduate high school, reduce recidivism, and improve future earning potential.

Juvenile Treatment Court and LIFE Court are separate specialized dockets within the Court that assist in the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders who have been adversely affected by substance use issues and/or mental health concerns.



Combined, both dockets provide intensive services to approximately 75 youth and their families at any time.

These programs are individually paced. Successful completion typically takes nine months, but can take up to two years. Both dockets were granted renewal for their Ohio Specialized Docket Certifications in 2022. Our Montgomery Family Treatment Court, another specialized docket that serves adults with substance use issues, was also granted renewal of their Ohio Specialized Docket Certification this year.

## PROVIDING CARE THAT YOUTH NEED AT NICHOLAS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER

The Nicholas Residential Treatment Center (NRTC) is a 24-hour, non-secure residential facility that offers behavioral intervention, substance abuse, and mental health treatment for males and females, age 11-17, who reside in Montgomery County. NRTC accepts referrals from the Montgomery County Juvenile Court (MCJC) and Montgomery County Job and Family Services, Children's Services Division (MCJFS-CSD) and has the capacity to serve 25 youth.

NRTC is licensed as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (Q RTP), as outlined by the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) and accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA).

In 2022, NRTC served 45 youth, including 24 with a felony offense, 14 with a misdemeanor, and 7 with no offense.



## CENTER FOR ADOLESCENT SERVICES EQUIPS TEENS

The Center for Adolescent Services is a Community Correctional Facility located in New Lebanon that provides evidence-based therapeutic and treatment services for felony-adjudicated youth. In 2022, the Center for Adolescent Services admitted 62 residents into placement and provided services to 79 residents.

Other accomplishments include:

- Awarded the Gold Award in the Schools of Excellence Prevention Program.
- 100% compliance on the American Corrections Association Audit.
- Implemented Core Youth-Cognitive Behavioral Interventions. Group

programming developed by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute.

·Partnered with Finding Hope Consulting for trauma informed care practices.

·Trained staff on Carey Guides/Brief Intervention Tools and implemented into youth programming. The Carey Guides/Brief Intervention Tools are guided interventions and skills practice used to address behaviors and meet case plan goals.