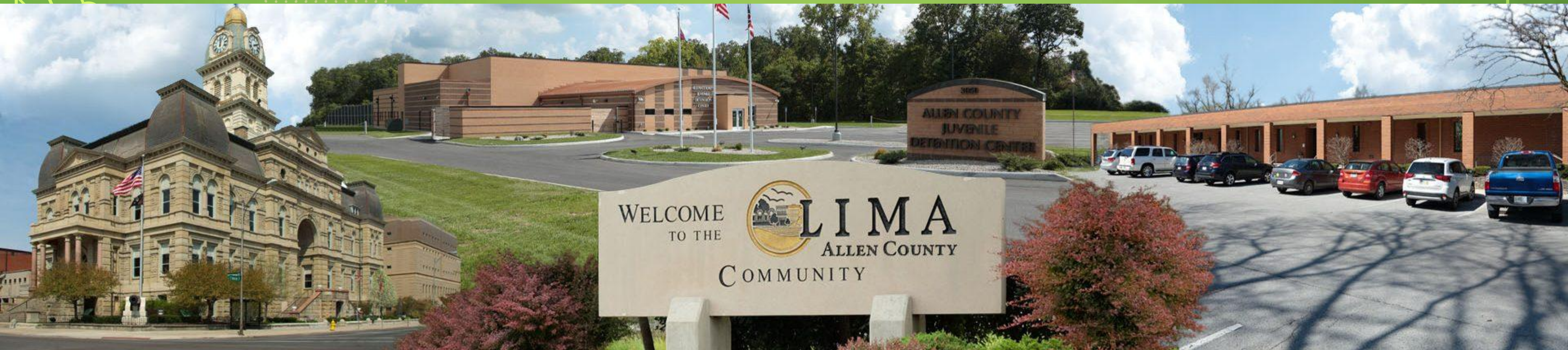


# THE PROBATE & JUVENILE COURTS OF ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO

1



## JUDGE TODD E. KOHLRIESER

### 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by:  
Berlin Carroll, Court Administrator  
June 30, 2026



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1

## Meet the Judge

Judge Todd Kohlrieser's bio, his judicial philosophy, and a list of previous Judges

2

## Our Leadership Team

Short Bios for our Court Administrator, Magistrates, & Department Heads.

3

## Our History

A short look at our origins, facilities, and the foundational laws, functions, and classifications under which we operate.

4

## Probate & Juvenile Clerk's Offices

Probate & Juvenile Court Judges operate their own Clerk's Office: Here is an overview of their duties as Clerk of their own courts.

5

## Community Based Programs & Services

Programs & services offered through our A.C.C.E.S.S. Center: linkage & referral to partner agencies, community control, diversion, intervention, and prevention.

6

## Residential Programs & Services

Programs & services offered to youth housed at our juvenile detention center.

7

## Data Science & Analytics

A look at our cases, programs, and services by the numbers including our 2024 required truancy data

8

## Court Finances

A review of the Court's general fund budgets as well as subsidy grant funds received from the Ohio Department of Youth Services through RECLAIM Ohio.

9

## Public Information & Travel Directions

A business plan is a written document that describes in detail how a business.



# Meet the Judge





# Meet Your Probate & Juvenile Court Judge

## The Honorable Todd E. Kohlrieser

4

The Honorable Todd E. Kohlrieser was elected as Judge of the Allen County Probate and Juvenile court, with his full term beginning February 9, 2021. Prior to becoming Judge, he had served the Court as a Magistrate for 13 years.

Judge Kohlrieser is a graduate of Wapakoneta High School. He is a graduate from the University of Toledo, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, with honors, in history in 1999, graduating magna cum laude. He attended law school at Ohio Northern University and received his Juris Doctorate degree in 2002.

During his second and third years of law school, Judge Kohlrieser served as an intern at the Public Defender's Office at Lima Municipal Court. After graduating law school, Judge Kohlrieser went into general private practice at the Law Offices of Thomas Kuhn and Randy Reeves, focusing on credit card disputes, civil litigation, and criminal law. Judge Kohlrieser was hired as an Assistant City Prosecutor for the City of Lima in 2003, and worked in that capacity for five years. Judge Kohlrieser had been a Magistrate for the Allen County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, since his appointment in 2008, and became the Court's Chief Magistrate in January of 2015.

Judge Kohlrieser has been a member of the Allen County Bar Association since 2002. He has served the Allen County Bar Association as a member of the Juvenile Court Committee and the Admissions Committee. He further served on the Probate Law Committee and the Juvenile Law Committee. Judge Kohlrieser has been a member of the Ohio State Bar Association since 2002 and is a member of the Ohio Judicial Conference.

Judge Kohlrieser has also served on the Court's Treatment Center Advisory Board and on the Drug Court Treatment Program. Judge Kohlrieser served on the Quality Hearing Workgroup, the Subcommittee on Responding to Child Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency with the Supreme Court of Ohio. He has participated with the Court Review Assessment Team from the Supreme Court of Ohio, as well as completed the Dependency Case Flow Management program from the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Judge Kohlrieser is a member of the Lima Noon Optimist Club. He is a former member of the Fraternal Order of Police and the Knights of Columbus. Judge Kohlrieser is also a graduate of the Allen Lima Leadership Program, Class of 2019. Judge Kohlrieser is very dedicated to the Allen County Probate and Juvenile Court, and the citizens of the community. He believes in the importance of family, as well as the necessity of the community to assist its youth; to help ensure they have a bright future rather than struggling with addictions and delinquent activity. He strives to help impact the youth in a positive way in every case he handles, whether it be a custody dispute, a case of abuse or neglect, or even in delinquency proceedings. Judge Kohlrieser also values the importance of helping some of the community's most vulnerable citizens; those with special needs, with mental health issues, substance abuse addictions, and the elderly.

Judge Kohlrieser was born and raised in Northwest Ohio and is proud to be part of the Allen County community. He and his wife have been married since 2002 and they have two children.





# Previous Allen County Probate & Juvenile Judges

- 1906 – 1913 John N. Hutchinson
- 1913 – 1921 Fred C. Becker
- 1921 – 1933 Jesse H. Hamilton
- 1933 – 1950 Raymond P. Smith
- 1950 – 1954 Joseph B. Quatman
- 1954 – 1955 Harry J. Bennett
- 1955 – 1965 Paul J. Rockey
- 1965 – 1974 David O. Steiner
- 1974 – 2007 David R. Kinworthy
- 2007 – 2021 Glenn H. Derryberry



# Philosophy on Juvenile Justice

Judge Todd Kohlrieser

6

- The Court shall be responsible for providing fairness and equality to all persons who enter the legal system. These are principles that helped in the establishment of our great nation, and which continue today in a free democratic society.
- Once an individual enters the justice system and has been found to have violated the law, he or she must be held accountable for the wrong that has transpired, by fair and measured dispositional alternatives.
- The Court shall strive to rehabilitate juvenile offenders, while also ensuring the safety of our community.
- The goal of the Allen County Juvenile Court shall be to craft the appropriate disposition, with both accountability and rehabilitative services, through the utilization of community resources and programs, in an effort to return the juvenile as a productive and contributing citizen to our community.
- The staff of the Allen County Probate and Juvenile Court shall endeavor to perform their duties with respect and professionalism for all with whom they come into contact, whether victim, offender, parent, professional, or witness.



**Restorative  
Practices**



# The Purpose for Probate Courts

**P r o b a t e :   f r o m   t h e   L a t i n   m e a n i n g   “ t o   p r o v e ”**

- The Ohio Constitution of 1851 provided that probate courts be established as separate, independent courts with jurisdiction over the probate of wills and supervision of the administration of estates and guardianships. In 1968, under the Modern Courts Amendment of the Ohio Constitution, probate courts became divisions of the courts of common pleas. Probate courts also have jurisdiction over the issuance of marriage licenses, adoption proceedings, determination of sanity or mental competency, and certain eminent-domain proceedings. Probate judges may perform marriages and may charge a fee for the service.
- According to the Ohio Association of Probate Judges, the Ohio Revised Code places over two hundred separate duties on the Probate Court. In general, the function and purpose of the Probate Court is to perform those powers and duties authorized by the Constitution of the State of Ohio and Chapter 2101 of the Ohio Revised Code. The types of cases handled by the Probate Court (the Court's jurisdiction) are specified in Ohio Revised Code Section 2101.24.





# Meet our Court Leadership Team





# Court Administrator

## Berlin Carroll

Berlin R. Carroll, II currently serves the Honorable Judge Todd E. Kohlrieser as the Court Administrator of both the Probate & Juvenile Divisions of the Allen County Court of Common Pleas in Lima, Ohio. Mr. Carroll entered public service in 1993 as a youth leader working in the Court's secured Treatment & Detention Center. Having served in a variety of progressive positions over the years, his current duties as Court Administrator include serving as Judge Kohlrieser's chief of staff and director of court services.

As Court Administrator, Mr. Carroll is responsible for overseeing and directing the daily operations of the Probate & Juvenile Divisions of the Allen County Common Pleas Court and its various departments by providing direct supervision of their administrative, programmatic, and fiscal functions. Mr. Carroll leads and assists a team of dedicated court executives who are responsible for court finances, human resources, professional development, secured & community based programs & services, and court security. Mr. Carroll serves on various state and local boards, committees, and task forces representing Judge Kohlrieser and the court. Mr. Carroll was appointed to a three year term on the Supreme Court of Ohio's Commission on Technology and the Courts by Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor in 2016 and reappointed to an additional 3 year term in 2019.

Mr. Carroll has been recognized for his service to youth, his community, and in the fields of criminal justice, emergency medical services and firefighting by various local, state and national organizations. Mr. Carroll was a recipient of the 2015 "Friend of Children" award for his services and dedication to the Children of Allen County, Ohio and is a recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship by Rotary International for charitable service & contributions. He has previously served the Allen County Sheriff's Office as a paramedic/diver on the Dive Recovery Team and has worked as a Paramedic/Level II Fire Fighter/Arson Investigator for the Bath Township Fire Department.

Mr. Carroll attended the Supreme Court of Ohio's Judicial College from 2012 to 2017 participating in the court management program where he was credentialed by the National Center for State Courts as a court manager in 2014 and as a court executive in 2017. Mr. Carroll was certified as a corrections executive by the American Correctional Association in 2009 and is a 2001 Graduate of the James A. Rhodes State College Paramedic Program. Mr. Carroll is also a graduate of the Allen Lima Leadership program, class of 2017 as well as our court's inaugural cultural leadership academy in 2023.

Mr. Carroll is a Past President (2022) of the Ohio Association for Court administration, the Lima Rotary Club Foundation (2024), and the Allen County Family & Children First Council (2024 & 2025),





# Magistrates

## Holly Looser & Mark Van Dyne



Holly Looser became a magistrate with the Allen County Juvenile Court in June of 2019. Ms. Looser currently handles the Dependency, Neglect, and Abuse docket. She received her Juris Doctorate degree from Ohio Northern University and became licensed to practice law in 2014. During law school, Ms. Looser interned for two years at the Allen County Prosecutor's Office in the Civil and Juvenile divisions. Ms. Looser was also actively involved in the Moot Court program, arguing issues of constitutional and criminal law, and serving as the Administrative Justice. After law school, Ms. Looser worked as an Assistant County Prosecutor until becoming a magistrate in 2019. Ms. Looser graduated magna cum laude from Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania and has a bachelor's degree in English. She is a graduate of the 2020 Allen Lima Leadership program and is a member of the Allen County Bar Association.

Mark Van Dyne was appointed as a probate and juvenile magistrate in October of 2020 by then Judge Glenn Derryberry. He was reappointed and continues in the same position under Judge Todd Kohlrieser. Magistrate Van Dyne handles guardian ship, name change, minor settlement and other issues for the Probate Court. For the Juvenile Court, he hears cases on the Court's dependency docket and delinquency docket as well as private custody matters. Before joining the Court staff, Mr. Van Dyne was in private practice for over 30 years, practicing in many of the same areas he now presides over as a magistrate. Mark has been admitted to practice in Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia. He is also admitted to each of the federal courts in those states, as well as the Federal Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Magistrate Van Dyne obtained his bachelor's degree from Ohio University summa cum laude and his law degree from Ohio Northern University. Magistrate Van Dyne is a member of the Allen County Bar Association, the Ohio State Bar Association and the Ohio Association of Magistrates.





# Chief Deputy Clerk ~ Chief Bailiff

## Chelsea Hankinson & Andy Smith

11



Chelsea Hankinson began her career at Allen County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division in November of 2015 and began her position as Chief Deputy Clerk in January, 2019. Ms. Hankinson earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from Eastern Michigan University in the field of Paralegal Studies in 2014, and her Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Northwestern Ohio in 2017. Ms. Hankinson is a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, alumna of Delta Zeta woman's sorority, a member of the Lima Young Professionals Group and a member of the local League of Woman Voters. Ms. Hankinson received her Certified Court Manager credentials through the Court Management Program, in 2021, which is a certification offered by the National Center for State Court's. She is currently seeking her Certified Court Executive credentials, with an expected graduation date in 2024. Ms. Hankinson supervises the Probate and Juvenile Clerk's offices, manages statistical reporting and is a member of the court's leadership team. Ms. Hankinson is a graduate of the 2022-2023 class of the Allen County Probate and Juvenile Court's Cultural Leadership Academy.

Andrew Smith was appointed to the position of Chief Bailiff in the Allen County Common Pleas Court; Probate and Juvenile Divisions in April of 2020 by the Honorable Judge Glenn H. Derryberry. Mr. Smith began his career in the Court in 2004 as a Youth Leader in the Juvenile Detention Center. He was then promoted to Bailiff in 2006. Mr. Smith was then promoted to Senior Bailiff in 2018 and that position until being named Chief Bailiff. In the position of Chief Bailiff, Mr. Smith oversees the transporting of incarcerated juveniles to and from the Court and placements, process serving of summons and subpoenas, safety and security of the Court and maintaining the daily hearing schedule for the Court. In 2010, Mr. Smith completed the Bailiff/Court Officer Training Program and Defensive Tactics Instructor Program at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. Mr. Smith is graduate of the 2022-2023 Allen Lima Leadership Program.





# A.C.C.E.S.S. Director ~ J.D.C. Director

## Michelle Breitigan & Amy Brock

12



Michelle Breitigan was appointed to the position of Director of Community Control/Chief Probation Officer for the Allen County Common Pleas Court Juvenile Division Community Control Department in November 2021 by the Honorable Judge Todd Kohlriseser. Ms. Breitigan began her career at the Court in 2002 as a Youth Leader in the Juvenile Detention Center. She was then hired as a Probation Officer in 2003. Ms. Breitigan was promoted to Senior Probation Officer in 2009 and held that position until 2012 when she left the Court to work in the field of prevention. It was during that time Ms. Breitigan began teaching classes in parenting, teen dating violence, suicide awareness and supervising local support groups ran by the agency. Ms. Breitigan gained a great deal of knowledge and experience regarding mental health and child development during that time. She returned to the Court as a Probation Officer in 2015. She advanced to a Placement Coordinator/Probation Officer in 2016 and then Training Coordinator/Probation Officer in 2017. In her position, as Director of Community Control/Chief Probation Officer, Ms. Breitigan oversees all prevention, intervention, diversion and probation services offered by the Community Control department. Further, she monitors compliance with all requirements of the Sub-grant agreement between the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services and Allen County Juvenile Court for participation in the federal reimbursement program awarded under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. In 1999 Ms. Breitigan completed her Associates Degree in Law Enforcement/ Corrections Option. She became an Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist in May 2015. Ms. Breitigan is currently enrolled in the Ohio Court Management Program through the National Center for State Courts and the Supreme Court of Ohio. Ms. Breitigan is a graduate of the 2022-2023 class of the Allen County Probate and Juvenile Court's Cultural Leadership Academy.

Amy Brock was appointed to the position of Director of Detention Services for Allen County Common Pleas Court in September of 2022 by the Honorable Judge Kohlriseser. Ms. Brock began her career at the Court in 2010 as a Detention Officer and was promoted as a Supervisor in 2011 and held a leadership position until she was promoted as the Director. In 1993 Ms. Brock completed her Associates Degree in Law Enforcement. In 1994 she became an Ohio Certified Peace Officer. Amy served as a police officer on various law enforcement agencies throughout her law enforcement career. Ms. Brock also served as the Life Safety and Environment of care Coordinator for St. Rita's Medical Center where she became a Certified Health Care Specialist. She also was the position of Policy Specialist for Bon Secours Mercy Health. In her position, as the Director of Detention Services, Ms. Brock oversees the care, custody and control of the residents being housed at the detention center. Ms. Brock ensures compliance with federal, state and local laws ensuring the facility provides a high level of security and structure. Ms. Brock brings with her a wealth of experience and education in law enforcement sciences, organizational leadership, and staff development & supervision to include degrees in law enforcement and health care administration. Ms. Brock is a graduate of the 2022-2023 class of the Allen County Probate and Juvenile Court's Cultural Leadership Academy





# Chief Financial Officer ~ Support Service Manager

## Lyuda Frueh & Devaki Ganesh

13



Lyuda Frueh began her career with Allen County Common Pleas Court Probate & Juvenile Divisions as a Deputy Director of Central Services in March, 2017 and was subsequently promoted to Chief Financial Officer in May, 2020. Ms. Frueh was recognized by her peers at Allen County Juvenile Court with the Outstanding Team Member Award in December, 2018. In June, 1987, Ms. Frueh received her Bachelor of Science in Economics in the Ukraine and in May, 2011, she completed her Bachelor of Science in Accounting in the United States graduating with honors. Ms. Frueh is a graduate of the 2022-2023 class of the Allen County Probate and Juvenile Court's Cultural Leadership Academy.

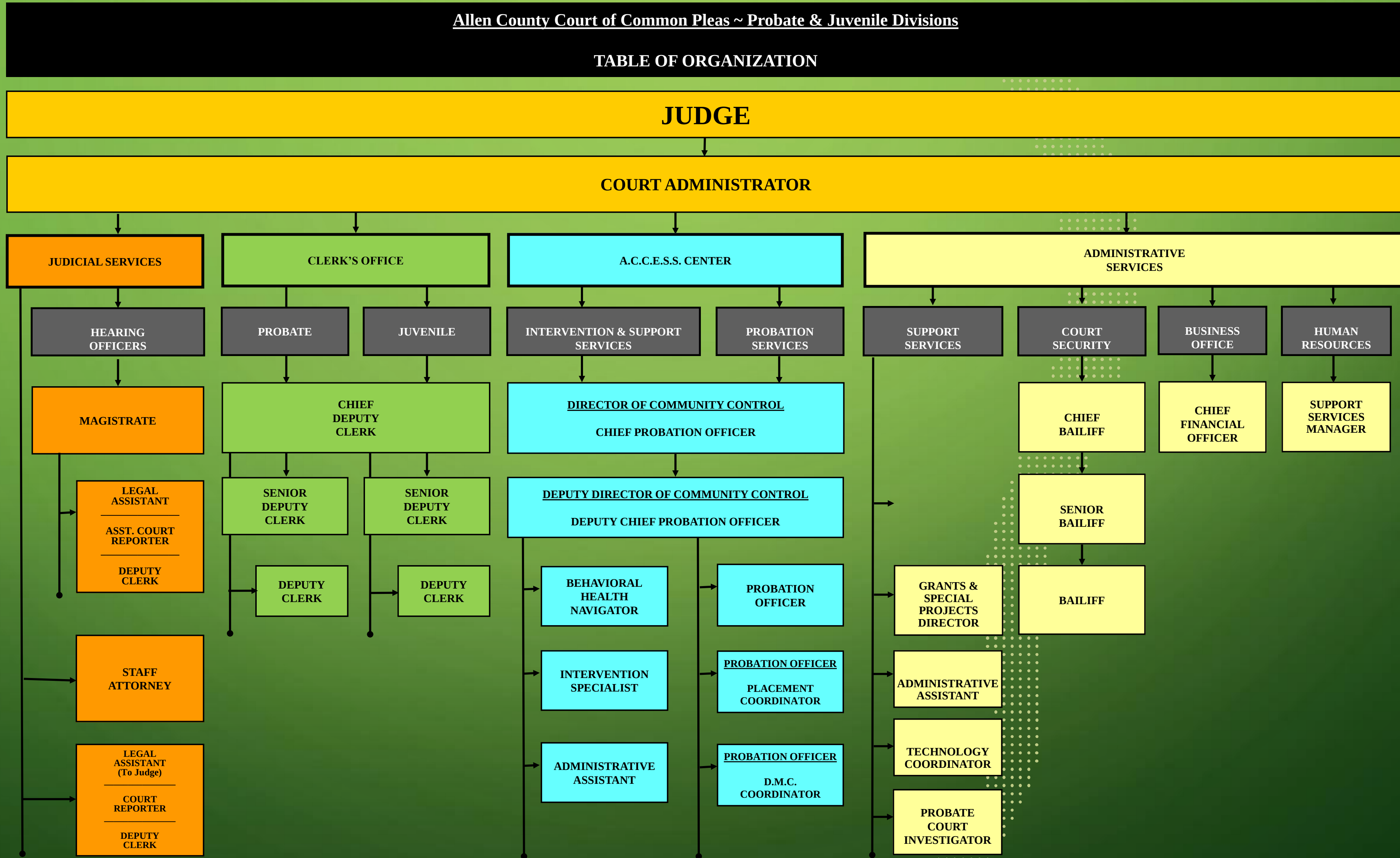
Devaki Ganesh was appointed to the position of Support Services Manger in the Allen County Common Pleas Court; Probate and Juvenile Divisions in April of 2024 by the Honorable Todd Kohlrieser. Mrs. Ganesh is a graduate of the University of Northwestern Ohio with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration. Mrs. Ganesh played collegiate golf while attending UNOH and was a two time Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference NAIA champion. She is currently seeking her Masters degree in social work from Grand Canyon University.





# Probate & Juvenile Court

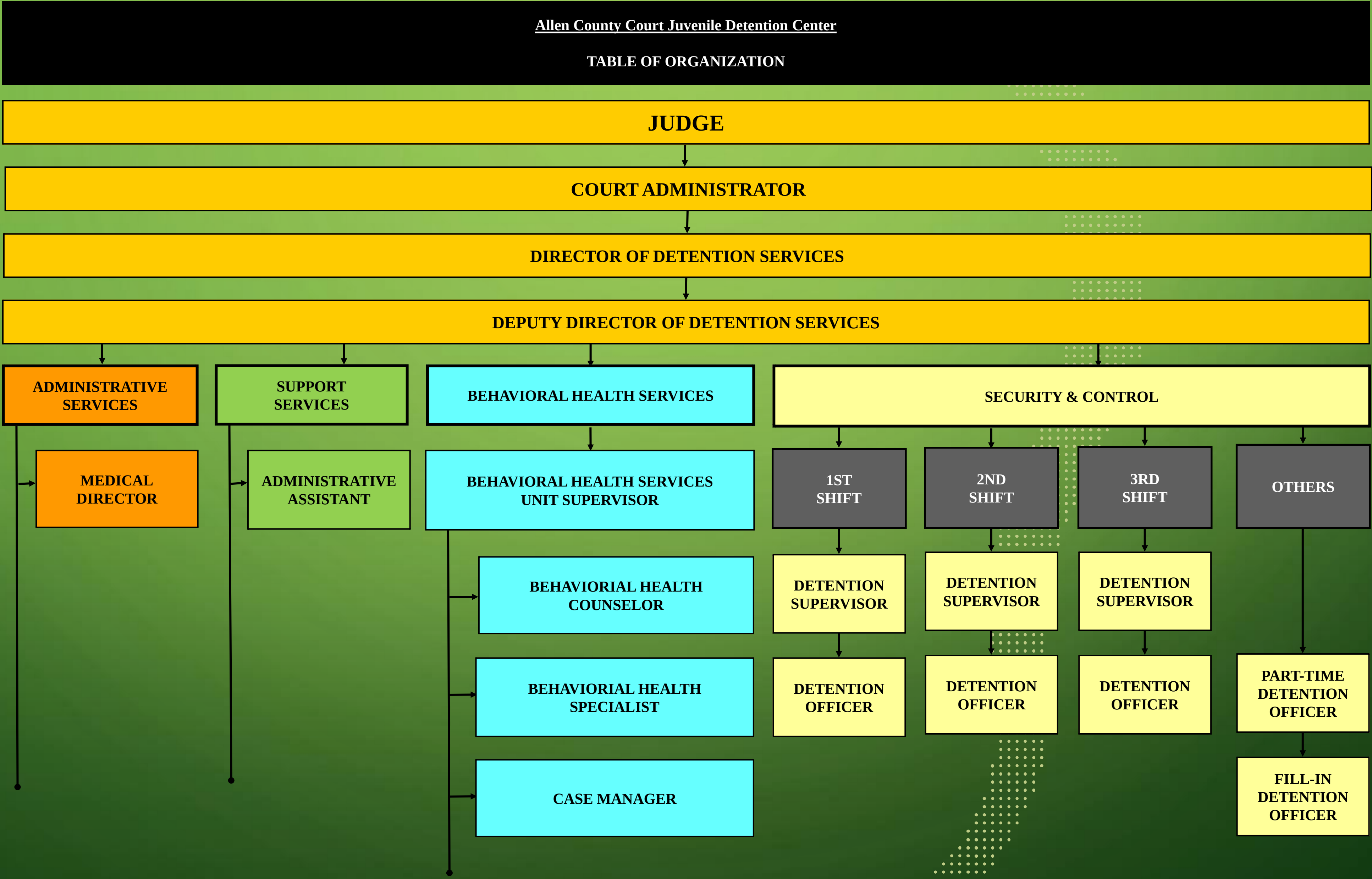
14





# Juvenile Detention Center

15





# Our History & Purpose





# OUR HISTORY: Establishing the Courts

17

## 1889

### First Juvenile Court in United States

Established in Cook County, Illinois by a law entitled  
“An Act to Regulate the Treatment and Control of  
Dependent, Neglected, and Delinquent Children.”

## 1902

### Ohio Establishes Juvenile Courts

Ohio’s first Juvenile Court was established in Cuyahoga County following a series of similar actions beginning in 1899 in California, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

## 1906

### Allen County Juvenile Court Established

Following suit with the growing trend across the country, Our court was established in Lima, Ohio to serve Allen County as part of the Probate Court under Judge John N. Hutchinson..



# Our History Continued: Current Facilities

18

## 2019

### Current Juvenile Detention Center Opened

In order to better meet the Court's mission of returning delinquent youth to the community as productive and contributing citizens, a new detention center was opened at 3050 North Cole Street with a holistic design more conducive to supporting the educational and therapeutic needs of incarcerated youth.



## 1975

### David O. Steiner Juvenile Services Center Established

At the threshold of the bicentennial of our United States, the court's current home, the detention center's previous home, was opened at 1000 Wardhill Avenue in order to better provide for the care & control of dependent, negotiated, and delinquent children.



## 2023

### A.C.C.E.S.S. Center Opened

The Allen County Community Engagement & Specialized Services Center was opened as a resource to the children & families we serve in suite 201 at 528 West Market Street to house our community based programs.





# Construction and Purpose of the Juvenile Court

## [Ohio Revised Code 2151]

19

- Applicable to proceedings involving Unruly, Dependent, Neglected, and Abused Children and Juvenile Tobacco Offenders:
  - (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.
- Applicable to proceedings involving Delinquent Children and Juvenile Traffic Offenders:
  - (A) The overriding purposes for disposition under chapter 2152 are as follows:
    - to provide for the care, protection, mental, and physical development of children;
    - to protect the public interest and safety;
    - to hold the offender accountable for actions;
    - to restore the victim;
    - to rehabilitate the offender
    - These purposes shall be achieved by a system of graduated sanctions and services.
  - (B) Dispositions under this section shall:
    - be reasonably calculated to achieve the aforementioned purposes;
    - be commensurate with and not demeaning to the seriousness of the conduct and its impact on the victim; and
    - be consistent with dispositions for similar acts committed by similar delinquent children or juvenile traffic offenders
    - the court shall not base any disposition on the race, ethnic background, gender or religion of the child.



# Functions of the Juvenile Court

[Ohio Revised Code 2151]

- The Juvenile Division of the Allen County Court of Common Pleas hears all proceedings wherein a child (a person under the age of 18 years at the time of the offense/action), is the primary subject of a complaint. For example:
  - Delinquent;
  - Unruly;
  - Dependent;
  - Neglected;
  - Abused
  - Juvenile Traffic Offenders;
  - Juvenile Tobacco Offenders;
  - Child custody cases stemming from a case that previously involved the Allen County Children Service Board;
  - Proceedings involving adults charged with criminal misdemeanors involving children, such as:
    - contributing to delinquency and unruliness,
    - child endangering, and
    - parental educational neglect;
  - Childcare Power of Attorney and Caretaker Affidavit
  - Civil Contempt of Court for Non-Payment of Child Support
  -
- The Juvenile Division of the Allen County Court of Common Pleas maintains jurisdiction of an adjudicated child until their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.



# Classification of Juveniles

- **Status Offenders/Unruly Children** – a child under 18 years of age who will not subject himself/herself to the reasonable control of parents, guardians, teachers or custodians. This includes children who run away from home, truant themselves from school, violate curfew, or violate a law that applies only to children.
- **Delinquent Offenders** – a child under 18 years of age who violates any federal, state or local law or ordinance. Also considered a delinquent offender is a person under the age of 18 years of age who violates a lawful order of the court or is considered a chronic truant.
- **Dependent, Neglected and Abused Children** – children who are dependent on the state for their care or are abused or neglected by a parent, custodian or caretaker.
- **Juvenile Traffic Offenders** – any child who violates a traffic law, traffic ordinance or traffic regulation, other than those violations which are handled by a parking violation bureau.
- **Juvenile Tobacco Offenders** – a child who is found to have used, consumed or possessed cigarettes, tobacco products, or papers used to roll cigarettes. A child who is found to have purchased or attempted to purchase cigarettes, tobacco products, or papers used to roll cigarettes. A child who is found to have ordered, paid for or shared the cost of cigarettes, tobacco products, or papers used to roll cigarettes (exceptions relate to child's employment).





# Probate & Juvenile Clerk's Office





# Additional Responsibilities of the Probate & Juvenile Court Judge

23

- The Judge of the Probate & Juvenile Courts acts as his/her own Clerk of Courts.
  - The Judge assumes responsibility for the filing of complaints and other pleadings, as well as collection of court costs and fines.
  - The Clerk's Office also operates the Juvenile Traffic Bureau, which permits a juvenile to waive appearance in court on certain enumerated offenses upon entering a written admission and payment of fines.
  - In addition to overseeing the filing of documents with the Court, the Clerk's Office collects data in order to report to the Supreme Court of Ohio regarding the Court's docket and other activities.
  - The Clerk's Office is responsible for scheduling all court hearings, and must ensure that matters are disposed of in certain time periods in compliance with the Rules of Superintendence adopted by the Supreme Court of the State of Ohio.



# Duties of the Clerk's Office

24

Clerks typically have a wide range of administrative duties that vary county to county, but can include:

- Filing documents
- Managing the court docket
- Maintaining records
- Certifying documents and records
- Responding to requests for information
- Receiving payments of fines, costs and restitution
- Supervising the processing of fines and forfeitures
- Disbursing funds
- Processing required reports
- Assisting the public in person and by phone
- Processing motions and complaints
- Preparing summons for parties for hearing
- Assisting with the scheduling of hearings with legal counsel
- Disposing of cases in the case management system



# Case Types Processed by Our Clerk's Office

25

## Case Types Processed by Probate Clerks:

- Birth Corrections
- Guardianships
- Minor Settlements
- Disinterment's
- Name Changes
- Decedent's Estates
- Adoptions
- Civil Commitments
- Involuntary Substance Abuse Treatment
- Certain Imminent Domain Proceedings

## Case Types Processed by Juvenile Clerks:

- Unruly (Status) Offenses
- Traffic Offenses
- Juvenile Civil Protection Orders
- Delinquency Offenses
- Certain Adult Criminal Offenses
- Dependency Cases
- Child Abuse Cases
- Child Neglect Cases
- Consent of Minor to Marry
- Abortion Bypass



# Community Based Programs & Services A.C.C.E.S.S. Center





# The A.C.C.E.S.S. Center



- The Allen County Community Engagement & Specialized Services Center is a community based resource for youth, families, schools, and other network agencies & partners. Walk ins are welcome by visiting our location at 528 W. Market Street, Lima, OH 45801 or you can reach us by phone at 419-998-5249.
- The Purpose of the ACCESS Center is to identify the needs of a youth and/or family and provide linkage and referral to area agencies and resources. Additionally, the A.C.C.E.S.S. Center serves as the umbrella under which all of the Court's community based programs and services operate to include: Community Control, Diversion, Intervention, Prevention, and Behavioral Health Navigation.
- The A.C.C.E.S.S. Center offers a vast array of services, open to any member of the community to address any degree of concern – no problem is seen as too large or too small. This is included but not limited to: Behavioral Health Needs, Substance Use/Abuse, Suicidal Ideation, Family Discord, Youth Criminogenic Behaviors, or other Self-Defined Crisis.
- Youth and/or families may be referred to an A.C.C.E.S.S. Center facilitate group or program to aid in addressing the presenting concerns. These may be parenting programs, youth programs, or family programs.





# A.C.C.E.S.S. Programing & Services

Using current research and evidence based programming the Allen County Juvenile Court has adopted a Community Control model that provides prevention, early intervention, diversion, presentence and official probation services.

- C.A.S.T.: A multi-disciplinary team that works to divert youth away from juvenile justice system or from further involvement. The CAST Team can also be utilized to avoid youth becoming displaced due to familial circumstance.
- Prevention/Intervention Services: Provides linkage and referrals including: Educational and Behavioral Change Groups, Parenting Groups, and more.
- Diversion Services: Provides youth who are at risk of becoming court involved with the opportunity to address the presenting concerns without having court involvement on their permanent record. The goal is to reduce recidivism, prevent labeling, increase accountability and provide appropriate services to prevent further court involvement.
- Probation Supervision: The most common disposition made in delinquency cases. The goal is to work within the doctrine of the least restrictive alternative individualized case plan allows. Court workers are to provide linkage and networking services which may include counseling, electronic monitoring, mentoring services and small group programming. The case plan works to provide positive youth development activities and to foster success in school, as well as career preparation. Community Control Officers monitor compliance with court orders, as well as assist the child and family in improving the child's overall condition. Routine contacts are accomplished through office visits, home visits, and school visits.
- Behavioral Health Navigation: Counseling and outside agency assessments are coordinated through the Behavioral Health Navigator. The Behavioral Health Navigator provides consultation and recommendations to the programmatic departments of the Court when dealing with high risk behavioral health and multi-system involved youth. This is accomplished by providing behavioral health service coordination, as well as behavioral health screening, assessment, treatment and linkage services.
- Pre Sentence Services: Assigned Community Control Officers are responsible for completing and/or facilitating Pre-Dispositional Reports (PDR), which are equivalent to a Pre-Sentence Investigations (PSI) in the adult system, Social Histories, Competency Evaluations, and/or Psychiatric Evaluations when so ordered by the Court.





# Juvenile Detention Center





# Our JDC Mission

“In service to the citizens of Allen County, Ohio and under the auspices of the Juvenile Division of the Common Pleas Court;

the Allen County Juvenile Detention Center is dedicated to providing a safe, secure, and sanitary facility for the care of delinquent children;

and to the delivery of helpful interventions and rehabilitative services delivered by a compassionate and respectful team of well trained professionals.”





# Detention Center History

31



- **2019 to Present:** Construction began on the current 25 bed facility located at 3050 N. Cole Street in Lima, Allen County, Ohio on April 23, 2018 and on August 28, 2019 the facility was dedicated as the Allen County Juvenile Detention Center. Constructed by the Peterson Construction Company in partnership between the Allen County Juvenile Court and the Allen County Board of Commissioners; in recognition that at times, for purposes of providing a means by which to ensure public safety, it is sometimes necessary to separate youthful offenders from the community and that when doing so, given the juvenile justice system does not deal with fully developed adults, keeping the child in a local facility provides the best opportunity for family engagement, support, and successful rehabilitation. With this facility the Juvenile Division of the Allen County Common Pleas Court has been given the means by which to provide meaningful interventions, structured programming, and quality educational opportunities in a holistic, sanitary, safe, and secure environment and thus is better enabled to reach its goal of successfully returning the children placed in its care to the Lima-Allen County community as both productive and contributing citizens.
- **1973 to 2019:** The first Juvenile Detention Center in Allen County, Ohio was dedicated “The Walter J. Roush Rehabilitation Wing” on April 6, 1975 as a 33 bed secure detention and residential treatment facility in memory of the late Walter J. Roush, who was born February 21, 1927 in Lima, Ohio. On October 13, 2011 the facility was rededicated the “Walter J. Roush Juvenile Detention Center.” Mr. Roush graduated from Lima Central High School; attended Ohio Northern University for three years in the field of Education; served seventeen years at Baldwin Lima Hamilton as a Sales Product Supervisor; and, was veteran of the United States Navy, having served two years in the South Pacific. Mr. Roush came to the Juvenile Court of Allen County, Ohio as a Probation Officer on February 17, 1964 and was subsequently made Chief Probation Officer under the late Judge Paul J. Rockey, serving in that capacity through the remainder of his years with the Court until his death on December 30, 1968. Mr. Roush was the privileged husband of Eleanor L. Casey and proud father of two children, Brad and Bretta. Recognized as a leader in the community for his untiring efforts in counseling, advising, and working with the youth of the community he became know as a “Friend of the Boy.” Mr. Roush believed in young people, lived with young people, and knew the young people of his day. The Walter J. Roush Juvenile Detention Center operated under the auspices of the Juvenile Division of the Allen County Court of Common Pleas. The facility was part of the David O. Steiner Juvenile Services Center located on 4.1 acres at 1000 Wardhill Avenue in Shawnee Township, Lima; Allen County, Ohio. The Treatment/Detention Center provided sleeping facilities, shower facilities, indoor/outdoor recreational/leisure areas, an educational classroom, administrative offices, and treatment/counseling facilities. The rated capacity was 26 youth in two wings, 17 Detention beds and 9 Treatment beds in a one-story brick and concrete structure constructed in 1973 and opened in 1974.



# Allen County JDC Directors Past & Present

- **1974 – 1985**     **Robert Sleczkowski**
- **1985 – 2007**     **Larry Webb**
- **2008 – 2014**     **Berlin Carroll**
- **2014 – 2016**     **Steve Brown**
- **2016 – 2020**     **Chad Overs**
- **2020 – 2022**     **Alison Sites**
- **2022 – Present**     **Amy Brock**



# J.D.C. Programing & Services

33

Using current research and evidence based programming the Allen County Juvenile Court has adopted a Community Control model that provides prevention, early intervention, diversion, presentence and official probation services.

- **Secured Detention:** Youth may enter detention as the result of being arrested and charged with a delinquency, by order of the court, or by their Probation Officer for failing to comply with the terms and conditions of probation. Youth placed in detention prior to adjudication are given a detention hearing within 24 - 72 hours to determine the need for continued detention pending the next scheduled hearing. Children may only be held in secured detention in accordance with Ohio's juvenile rules of arrest and procedure, for their own protection from an immediate threat, for the protection of other persons and/or their property, if they are likely to abscond the jurisdiction of the Court, or if there is no parent/guardian/agency that can provide them with adequate control and supervision. Upon entry into detention, all youth are administered basic mental and physical health screens to identify needs and ensure their safety. Daily life in the Detention Center includes a focus on education with residents receiving structured instruction provided by the Allen County Educational Service Center in accordance with Ohio Department of Education standards. Non-denominational church services are provided on a weekly basis with participation being voluntary. The Detention Center's primary objective is to provide a humane environment for youth that is safe, secure, and structured, and which meets their daily needs and encourages them, by example, to make positive changes in their lives. To achieve such, Center staff are trained in operational and programmatic procedures that includes a wide variety of interventions and modalities.
- **Residential Treatment:** A rehabilitative program committed to a philosophy of providing a comprehensive approach to individualized holistic treatment through a series of evidenced based assessments and interventions which identify and target the criminogenic needs of program participants. A youth may enter the Treatment Program only by dispositional order of the Court after having been adjudicated to be a delinquent child for having committed felony level crimes. Residents entering the Treatment Program undergo multiple physical, mental, and emotional health screens as well as risk/needs assessments to determine appropriate levels of service and interventions and to aid with the development and management of an individual case plan. Individual and family counseling services are provided by a licensed professionals who also provide group counseling services coordinated by the Center's treatment team. Interventions and programming are based on the cognitive-behavior model with a focus on modeling and reinforcing pro-social behaviors & interactions within an interpersonal framework. Highly qualified behavioral health counselors, specialists, navigators, case managers, and teachers serve as members of the treatment team providing counseling, mental/behavioral health, emotional, and educational support.



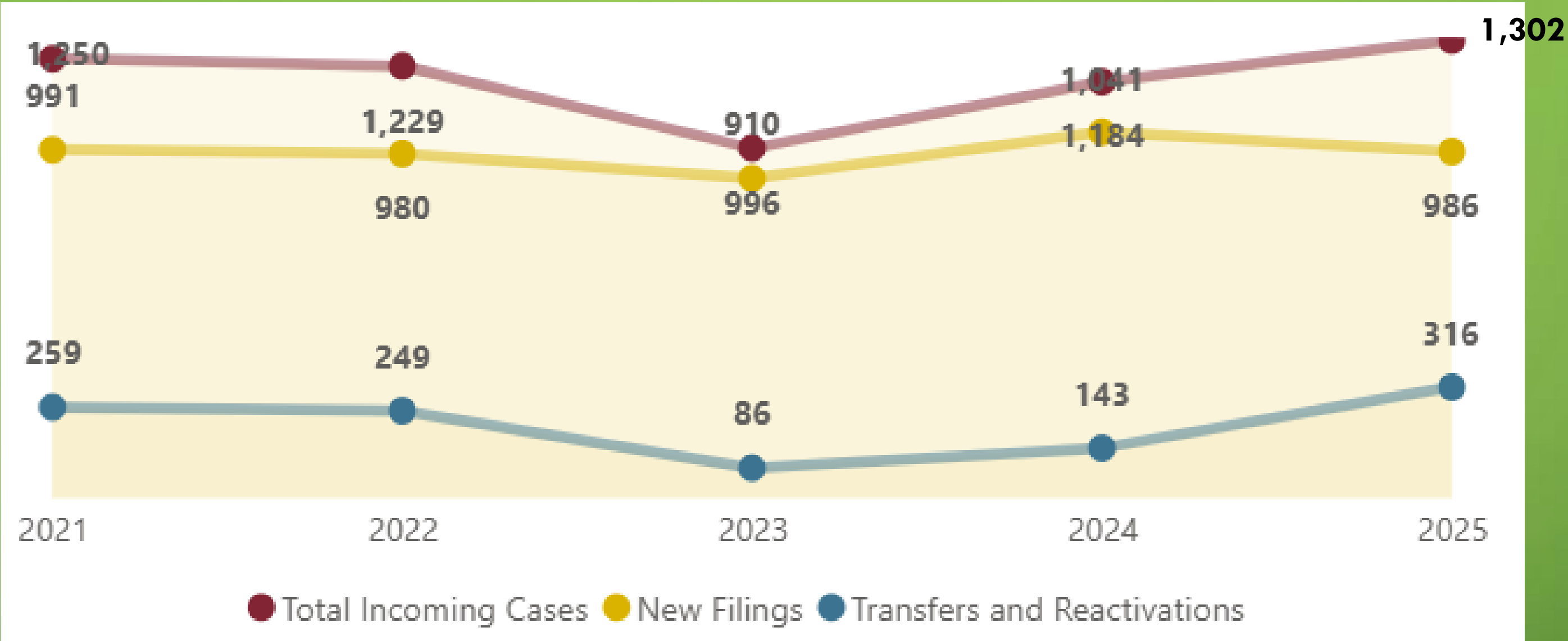


# Data Science & Analytics





# 2025 Juvenile Case Totals



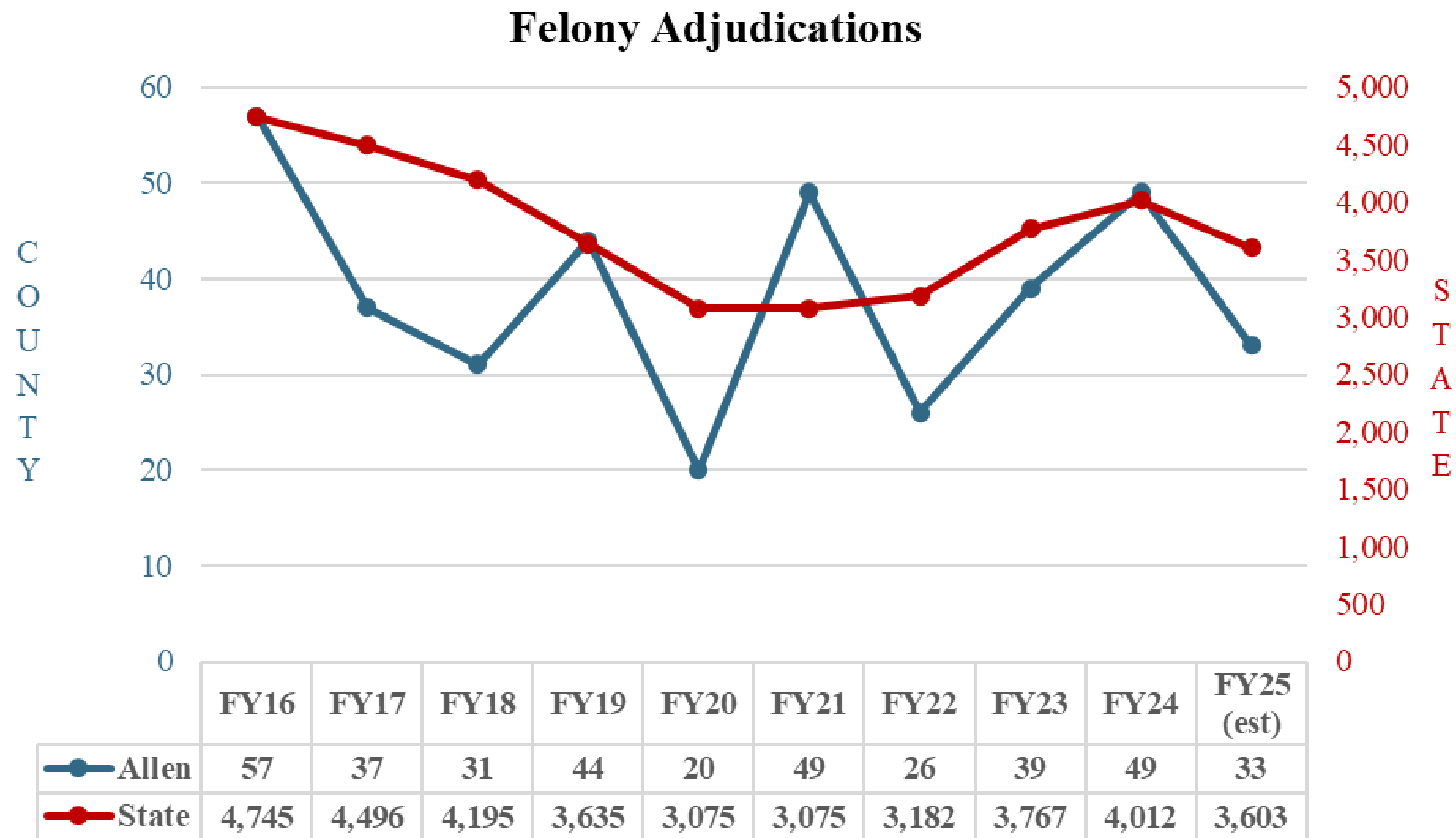
| <u>Case Type of Interest</u> | <u>Total Incomming Cases</u> | <div>TOTAL<br/>1302</div> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Traffic                      | 470                          |                           |
| Delinquency                  | 202                          |                           |
| Abuse, Dependancy & Neglect  | 177                          |                           |
| Custody/Visitation           | 83                           |                           |
| Adult Cases                  | 53                           |                           |
| Support Enforcement          | 23                           |                           |
| Unruly                       | 65                           |                           |
| Permanent Custody            | 18                           |                           |



# Allen County –vs- State of Ohio

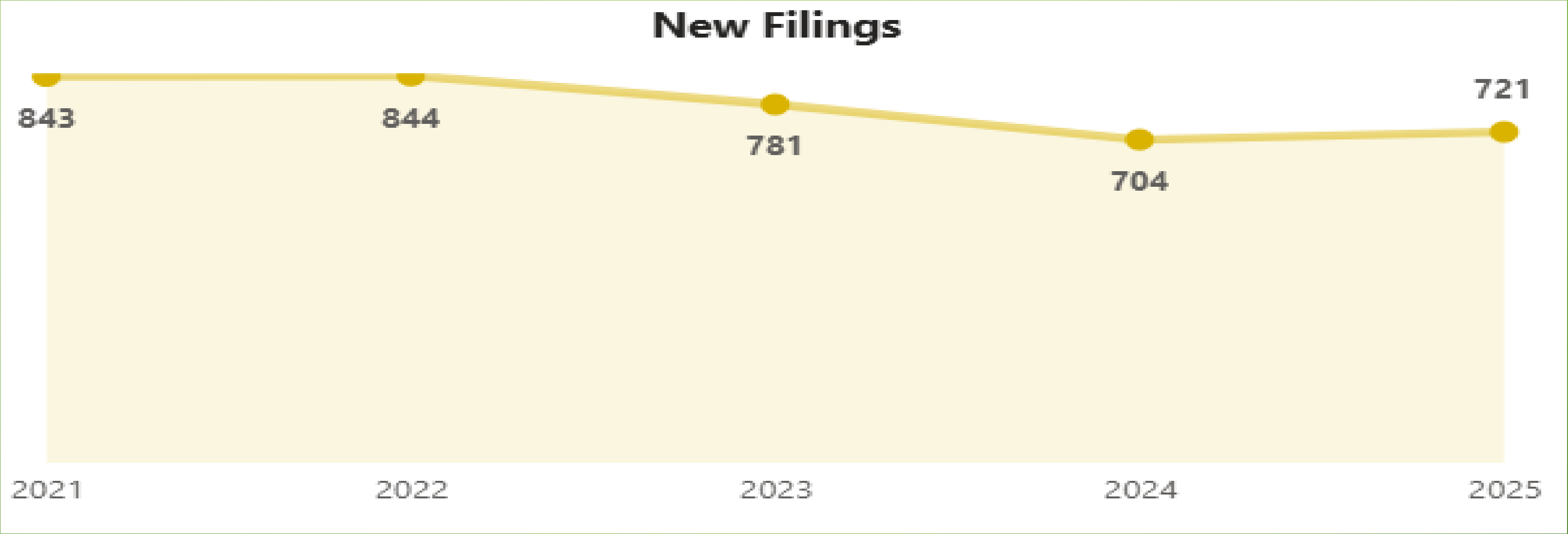
## Felony Adjudication Trends

36





# 2025 Probate Case Totals



Various Case Types of Interest

Marriage Licenses Issued  
Decedent's Estates  
Name Chages  
Adoptions  
Civil Commitments  
Guardianship of Adults  
Guardianship of Minors  
Civil Actions  
Minors' Settelments  
Birth Records  
Testamentary Trusts

Number of Cases

584  
507  
56  
46  
45  
38  
10  
10  
14  
8  
1

**TOTAL  
PROCESSED  
1305**



# Juvenile Detention Center Intake Data: 2024 –vs- 2025

38

| No. of Detentions     |      | 2024-2025 Detentions |          |
|-----------------------|------|----------------------|----------|
| 2024                  | 2025 | Change               | % Change |
| 201                   | 180  | -21                  | -10.4%   |
| No. of Youth Detained |      | Change               | % Change |
| 2024                  | 2025 |                      |          |
| 160                   | 142  | -18                  | -11.3%   |

## No. of Youth Detained by Race

|                       | 2024 | 2025 | Change | % Change |
|-----------------------|------|------|--------|----------|
| African American      | 76   | 78   | 2      | 3%       |
| Caucasian             | 83   | 62   | -21    | -25%     |
| Hispanic, Hispanic/.. | 3    | 2    | -1     | -33%     |

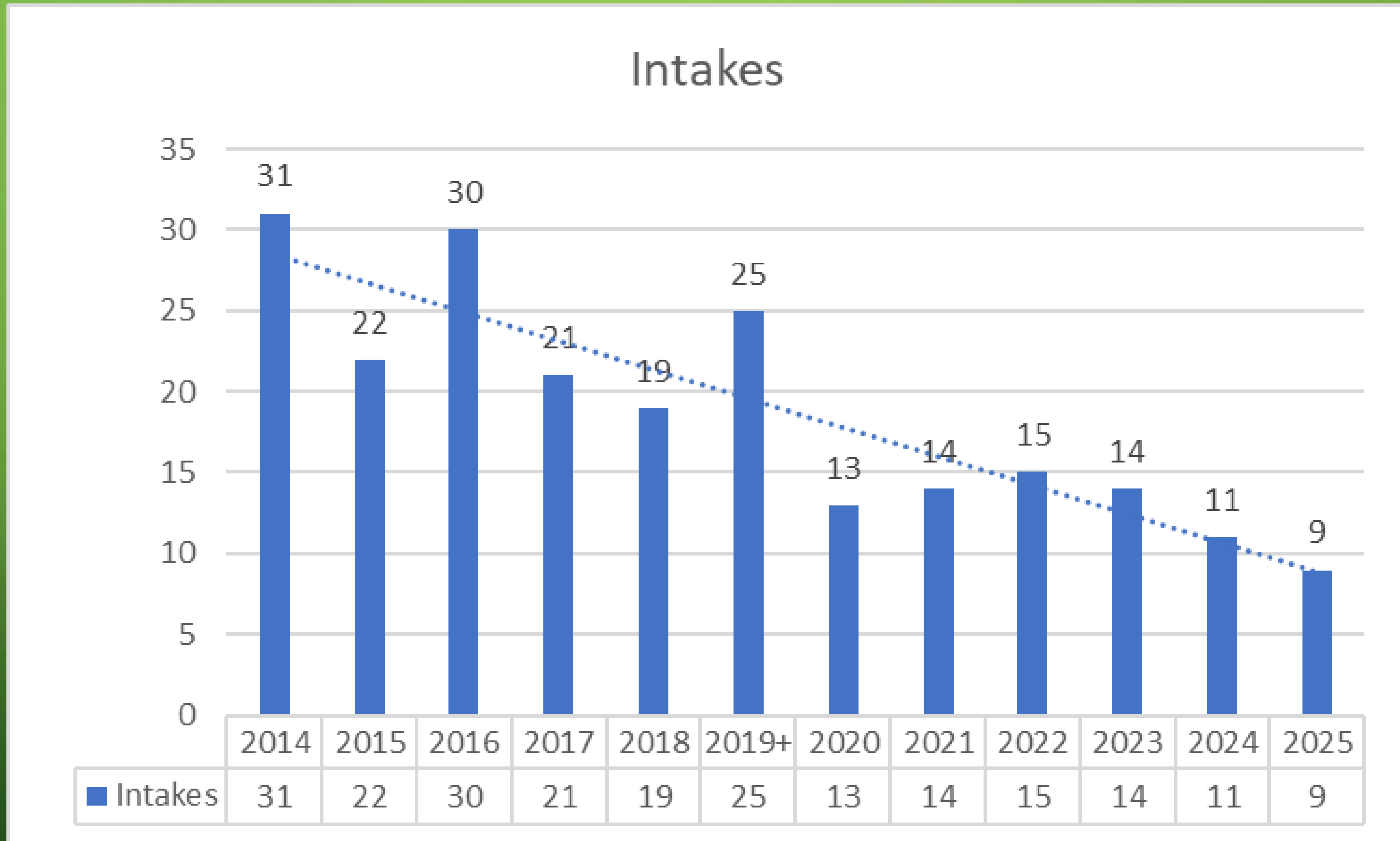
## No. of Youth Detained by Gender

|                | 2024 | 2025 | Change | % Change |
|----------------|------|------|--------|----------|
| Female         | 48   | 39   | -9     | -19%     |
| Male           | 111  | 104  | -7     | -6%      |
| No Information | 1    | 0    | -1     |          |



# Residential Treatment Participants

39

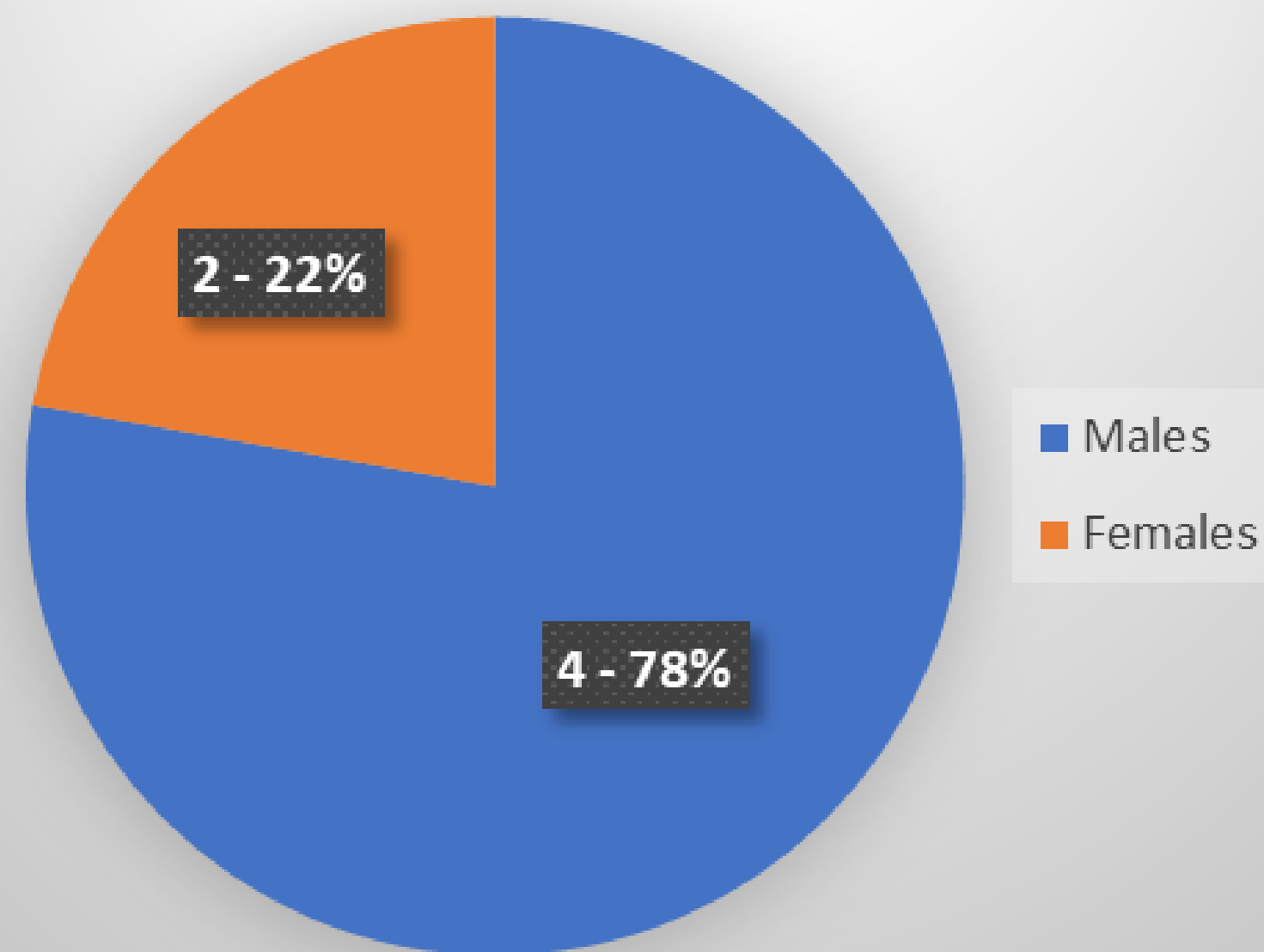




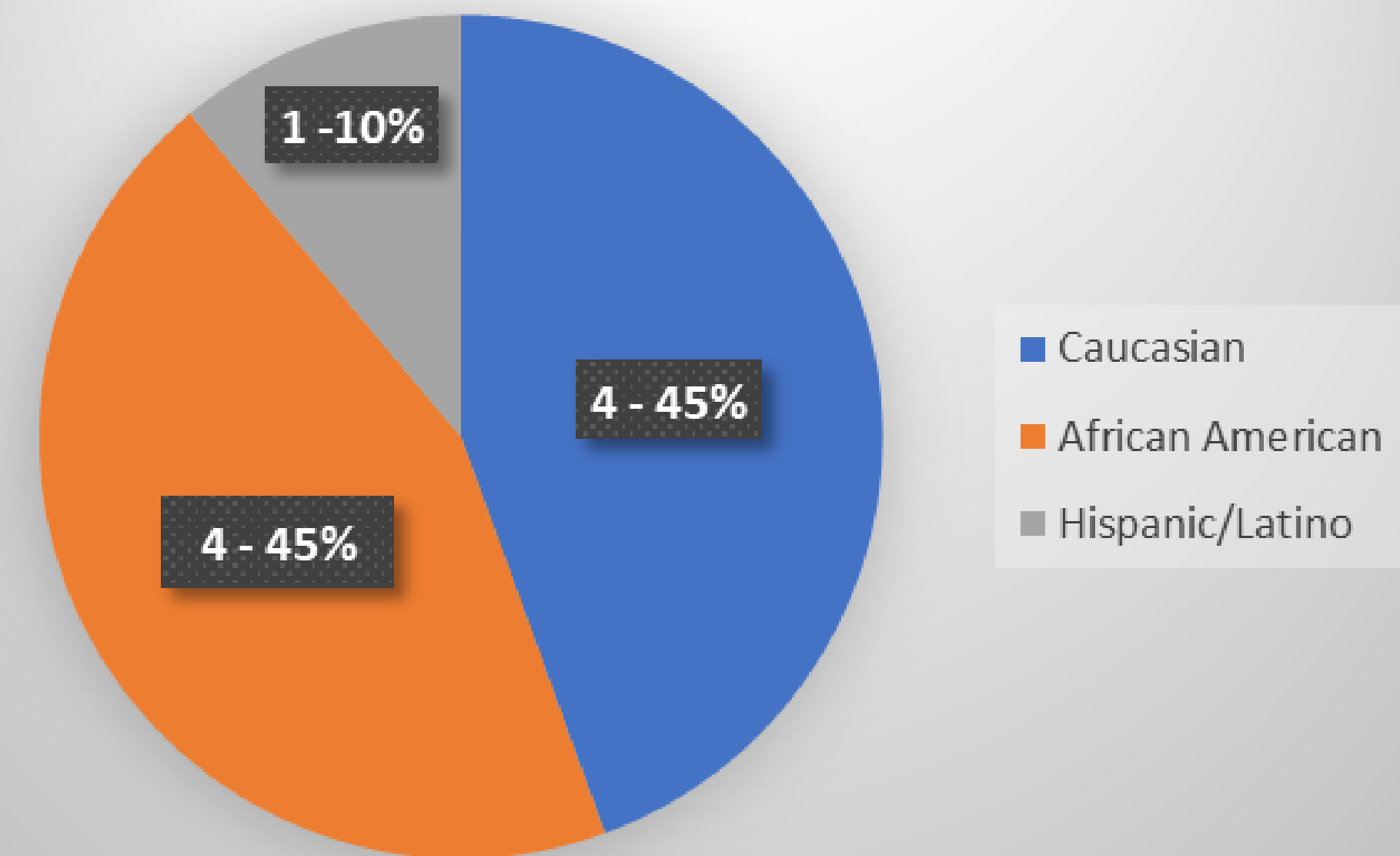
# 2025 Treatment Demographics

40%

## Treatment Youth by Gender

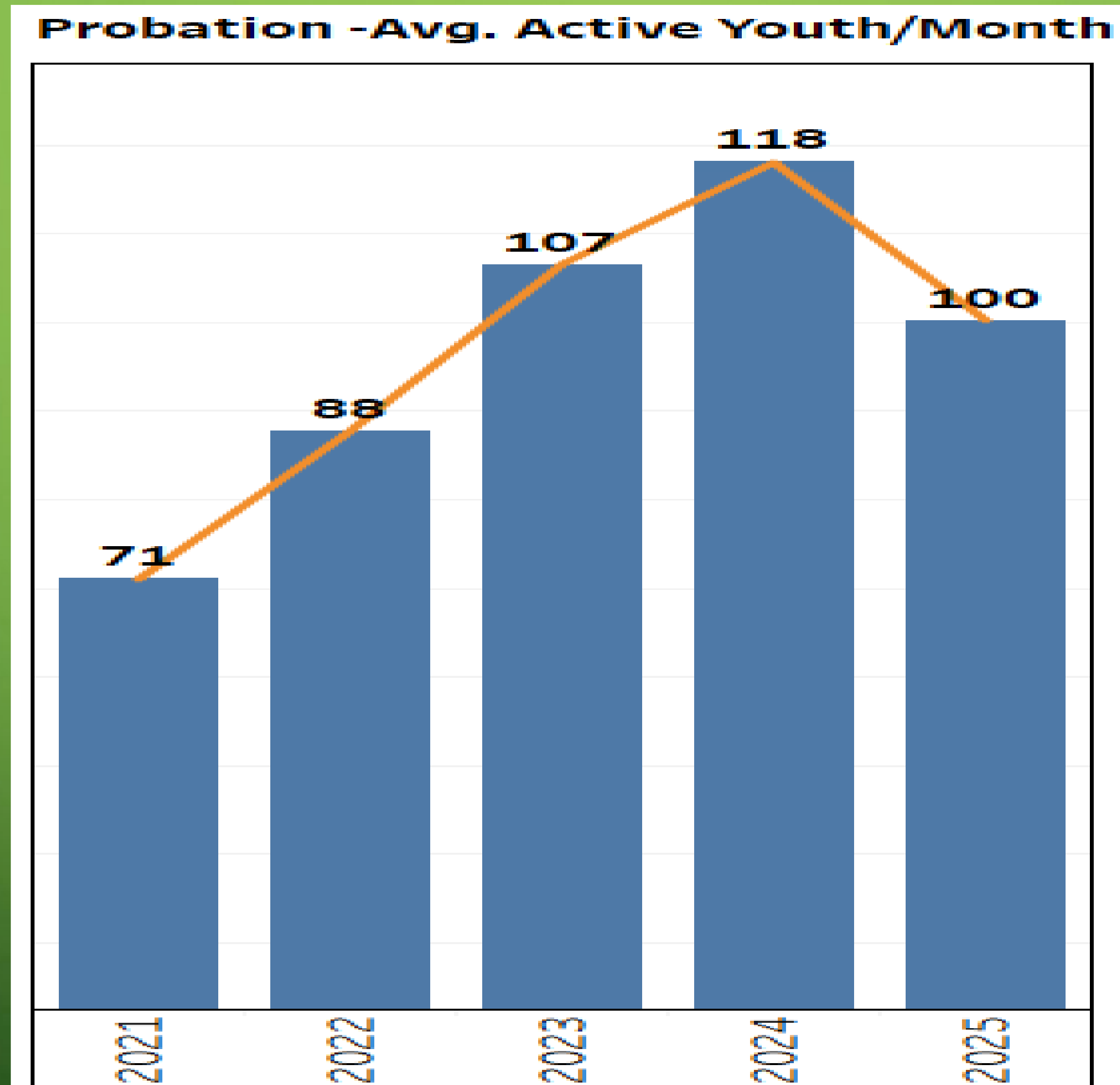


## Treatment Youth by Race





# 2025 Probation Data



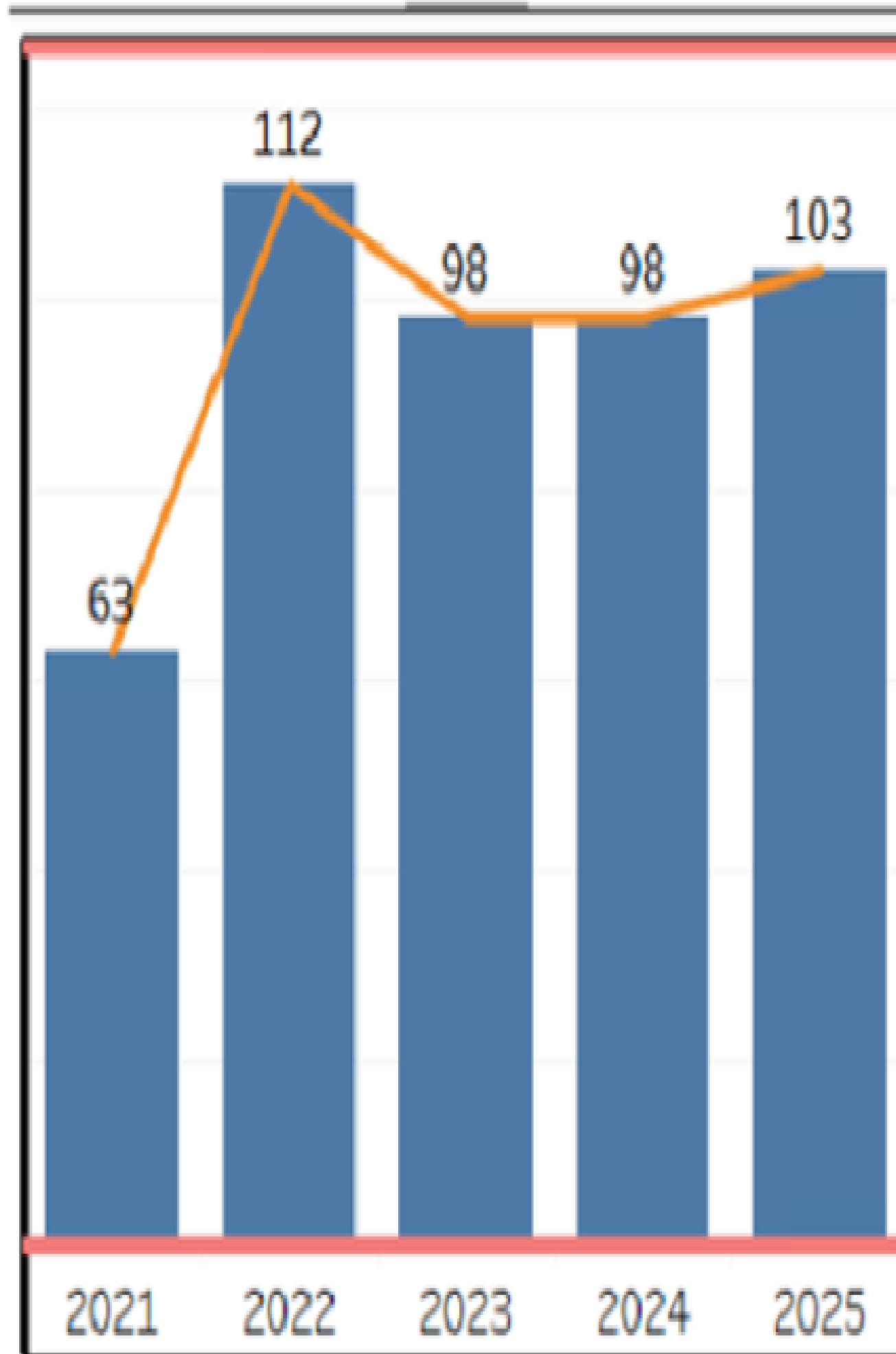


# 2025 Diversion Stats

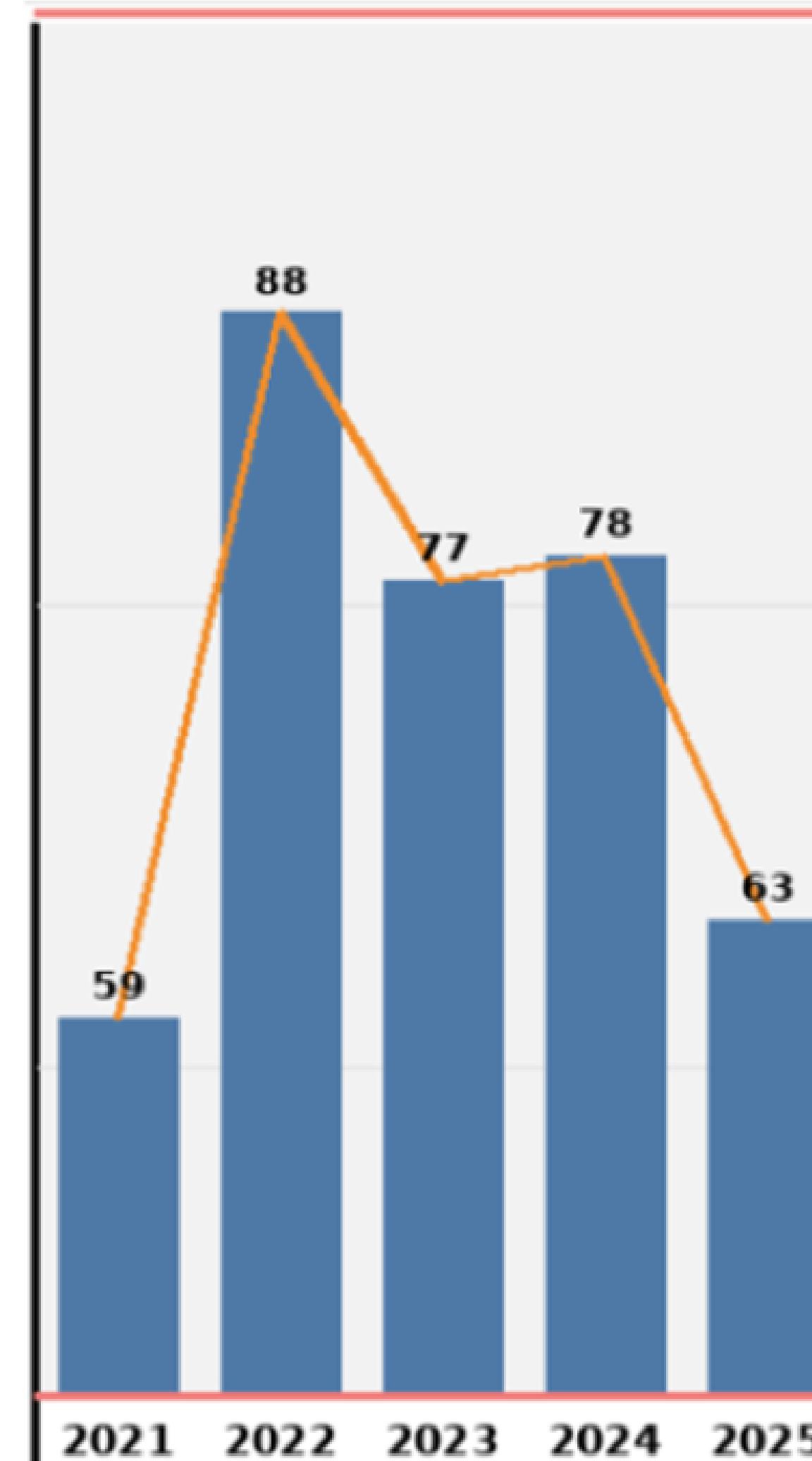
(Non-Truancy)

42

No. of Youth referred to diversion



No. of Youth officially placed on diversion





# 2025 Diversion Demographics

(Non-Truancy)

43

## Referrals

|        | 2021      | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Female | 32(50.8%) | 43(38.4%) | 42(42.9%) | 37(37.8%) | 48(46.6%) |
| Male   | 32(50.8%) | 69(61.6%) | 56(57.1%) | 61(62.2%) | 54(52.4%) |

## Diversions

|        | 2021      | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Female | 30(46.2%) | 37(45.7%) | 29(37.2%) | 33(41.3%) | 28(41.2%) |
| Male   | 36(55.4%) | 44(54.3%) | 49(62.8%) | 47(58.8%) | 40(58.8%) |

## Referrals

|                        | 2021      | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Caucasian              | 38(60.3%) | 61(54.5%) | 34(34.7%) | 58(59.2%) | 40(38.8%) |
| African American       | 23(36.5%) | 34(30.4%) | 46(46.9%) | 28(28.6%) | 51(49.5%) |
| No Information         | 5(7.9%)   | 13(11.6%) | 9(9.2%)   |           | 5(4.9%)   |
| Bi-Racial & Mixed Race |           | 5(4.5%)   | 9(9.2%)   | 4(4.1%)   | 5(4.9%)   |
| Hispanic               |           |           |           | 5(5.1%)   | 2(1.9%)   |

## Diversions

|                        | 2021      | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Caucasian              | 41(63.1%) | 49(60.5%) | 27(34.6%) | 50(62.5%) | 32(47.1%) |
| African American       | 23(35.4%) | 27(33.3%) | 38(48.7%) | 23(28.8%) | 30(44.1%) |
| No Information         | 4(6.2%)   |           | 5(6.4%)   |           | 2(2.9%)   |
| Bi-Racial & Mixed Race |           | 5(6.2%)   | 8(10.3%)  | 2(2.5%)   | 3(4.4%)   |
| Hispanic               |           |           |           | 5(6.3%)   | 1(1.5%)   |



# 2025 Truancy Metrics

44

No. of Youth Referred by School Year

| 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|---------|---------|
| 170     | 104     |

Outcome

|                | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Successful     | 166     | 101     |
| Neutral        | 3       | 3       |
| No Information | 1       |         |

No. of Youth Referred by Gender

|        | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|--------|---------|---------|
| Male   | 95      | 46      |
| Female | 75      | 58      |

No. of Youth Referred by Race

|                  | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|------------------|---------|---------|
| Caucasian        | 66      | 40      |
| African American | 65      | 38      |
| Bi-Racial/Others | 27      | 19      |
| Hispanic         | 5       | 6       |
| Unknown          | 7       | 2       |
| Grand Total      | 170     | 104     |

No. of Youth Referred by Type of Referral

|                | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Court Referred | 108     | 36      |
| Unofficial     | 62      | 72      |

- Not unduplicated count as same youth appears in multiple categories here

Type of Referral and No. of Youth Referred (2024-25 School Year only)

|                |                          |    |
|----------------|--------------------------|----|
| Court Referred | Lima Senior High         | 8  |
|                | Elida                    | 7  |
|                | West Central Learning .. | 6  |
|                | Spencerville             | 2  |
|                | Shawnee                  | 2  |
|                | Perry                    | 2  |
|                | Lima West                | 2  |
|                | Lima South               | 2  |
|                | Lima North               | 2  |
|                | Jeffer                   | 1  |
| Unofficial     | Delphos                  | 1  |
|                | Bath                     | 1  |
|                | Lima Senior High         | 41 |
|                | West Central Learning .. | 16 |
|                | Perry                    | 7  |
|                | Shawnee                  | 4  |
|                | ELIDA                    | 4  |

No. of Youth Referred by Race and Gender

|                  |        | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Caucasian        | Female | 28      | 23      |
|                  | Male   | 38      | 17      |
| African American | Male   | 37      | 20      |
|                  | Female | 28      | 18      |
| Bi-Racial/Others | Female | 14      | 13      |
|                  | Male   | 13      | 6       |
| Hispanic         | Male   | 3       | 3       |
|                  | Female | 2       | 3       |
| Unknown          | Male   | 4       | 1       |
|                  | Female | 3       | 1       |





# Court Finances



# 2025 Juvenile Court Budget

## General Fund - 060

|                            | <u>Initial Allocation</u> | <u>Changes +/-</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Salary - Employees         | \$862,614.00              | \$0.00             | \$862,614.00   |
| Salary - Magistrates       | \$170,984.00              | \$0.00             | \$170,984.00   |
| Salary - IT Employee       | \$22,362.00               | \$0.00             | \$22,362.00    |
| PERS                       | \$147,835.00              | \$0.00             | \$147,835.00   |
| Medicare                   | \$15,311.00               | \$0.00             | \$15,311.00    |
| Office Supplies            | \$22,029.00               | \$0.00             | \$22,029.00    |
| Books                      | \$0.00                    | \$0.00             | \$0.00         |
| Postage & Mailings         | \$525.00                  | \$0.00             | \$525.00       |
| Gasoline                   | \$9,900.00                | \$0.00             | \$9,900.00     |
| Other Expenses             | \$16,500.00               | \$0.00             | \$16,500.00    |
| Utilities                  | \$3,600.00                | \$0.00             | \$3,600.00     |
| Repairs - Vehicles         | \$5,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$5,000.00     |
| Repairs - Office Equipment | \$891.00                  | \$0.00             | \$891.00       |
| Consulting                 | \$6,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$6,000.00     |
| Transcripts                | \$3,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$3,000.00     |
| Grant - FCFC Dues          | \$1,500.00                | \$0.00             | \$1,500.00     |
| Juror Fees                 | \$800.00                  | \$0.00             | \$800.00       |
| Witness Fees               | \$3,500.00                | \$0.00             | \$3,500.00     |
| Fees - Misc.               | \$1,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$1,000.00     |
| Travel / Meetings          | \$15,000.00               | \$0.00             | \$15,000.00    |
| Office Equipment           | \$7,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$7,000.00     |
| Totals                     | \$1,315,351.00            | \$0.00             | \$1,315,351.00 |



# 2025 A.C.C.E.S.S. Budget

## General Fund - 061

|                    | <u>Initial Allocation</u> | <u>Changes +/-</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Salary - Employees | \$522,844.00              | \$0.00             | \$522,844.00   |
| Overtime           | \$0.00                    | \$0.00             | \$0.00         |
| PERS               | \$73,198.00               | \$0.00             | \$73,198.00    |
| Medicare           | \$7,582.00                | \$0.00             | \$7,582.00     |
| Sundry             | \$2,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$2,000.00     |
| Travel - Meetings  | \$6,000.00                | \$0.00             | \$6,000.00     |
| Totals             | \$611,624.00              | \$0.00             | \$611,624.00   |



# 2025 Detention Center Budget

## General Fund - 062

48

|                       | <u>Initial Appropriations</u> | <u>Changes +/-</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Salary - Employees    | \$964,293.00                  | -\$2,000.00        | \$962,293.00   |
| Overtime              | \$51,470.00                   | \$17,000.00        | \$68,470.00    |
| PERS                  | \$142,207.00                  | \$0.00             | \$142,207.00   |
| Medicare              | \$14,728.00                   | \$0.00             | \$14,728.00    |
| Unemployment          | \$0.00                        | \$0.00             | \$0.00         |
| Food & Beverage       | \$10,000.00                   | \$0.00             | \$10,000.00    |
| Kitchen Supplies      | \$0.00                        | \$0.00             | \$0.00         |
| Medicine & Drugs      | \$8,500.00                    | \$0.00             | \$8,500.00     |
| Clothing              | \$4,000.00                    | \$0.00             | \$4,000.00     |
| Linens                | \$3,500.00                    | \$0.00             | \$3,500.00     |
| Other Expenses        | \$6,000.00                    | \$0.00             | \$6,000.00     |
| Utilities             | \$2,500.00                    | \$0.00             | \$2,500.00     |
| Services - Consulting | \$24,000.00                   | \$0.00             | \$24,000.00    |
| Travel - Meetings     | \$9,000.00                    | \$0.00             | \$9,000.00     |
| Equipment             | \$3,000.00                    | \$0.00             | \$3,000.00     |
| Totals                | \$1,243,198.00                | \$15,000.00        | \$1,258,198.00 |



# 2025 Behavioral Health Navigation Budget General Fund - 063

49

|                    | <u>Initial Appropriations</u> | <u>Changes +/-</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Salary - Employees | \$78,333.00                   | \$0.00             | \$78,333.00    |
| PERS               | \$11,023.00                   | \$0.00             | \$11,023.00    |
| Medicare           | \$1,142.00                    | \$0.00             | \$1,142.00     |
| Totals             | \$90,498.00                   | \$0.00             | \$90,498.00    |

Note: Funding for Behavioral Health Navigation is reimbursed to the Allen County general fund by the Mental Health & Recovery Service Board of Allen, Auglaize, and Hardin Counties at 100%



# 2025 Probate Court Budget

## General Fund - 065

|                    | <u>Revised Appropriations</u> | <u>Expended</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Salary - Employees | \$14,000.00                   | \$0.00          | \$14,000.00    |
| Salary - Employees | \$370,104.00                  | \$0.00          | \$370,104.00   |
| PERS               | \$53,775.00                   | \$0.00          | \$53,775.00    |
| Medicare           | \$5,570.00                    | \$0.00          | \$5,570.00     |
| Office Supplies    | \$8,000.00                    | \$0.00          | \$8,000.00     |
| Books              | \$0.00                        | \$0.00          | \$0.00         |
| Other Expenses     | \$3,000.00                    | \$0.00          | \$3,000.00     |
| Repairs            | \$2,500.00                    | \$0.00          | \$1,422.00     |
| Foreign Judges     | \$250.00                      | \$0.00          | \$250.00       |
| Travel             | \$3,800.00                    | \$0.00          | \$3,800.00     |
| Witness Fees       | \$0.00                        | \$0.00          | \$0.00         |
| Juror fees         | \$1,000.00                    | \$0.00          | \$1,000.00     |
| Office Equipment   | \$500.00                      | \$0.00          | \$500.00       |
| Totals             | \$448,499.00                  | \$0.00          | \$448,499.00   |



# Public Information

## Travel Directions





# Travel Directions

T o P r o b a t e & J u v e n i l e C o u r t

**From the North:** Take I-75 south to Bluelick Road Exit. Turn right onto Bluelick Road. Go to the dead-end of Bluelick Road and turn left onto North Cole Street. Continue through Lima on North Cole Street until it dead-ends at North Shore Drive. Turn right onto North Shore Drive until reaching Wardhill Avenue. Turn left onto Wardhill Avenue. The Juvenile Court/Detention Facility will be on the right-hand side of the street.

**From the South:** Take I-75 north to the Breese Road exit. Turn left onto Breese Road and continue until reaching to Shawnee Road. Turn right onto Shawnee Road and continue until Shawnee Road turns into Spencerville Road. Continue on Spencerville Road until reaching Wardhill Avenue. Turn right onto Wardhill Avenue. The Juvenile Court/Detention Facility will be on the right-hand side of the street.

**From the East:** Enter Lima on either State Route 309 or State Route 117. Follow State Route 117 route signs through Lima to Wardhill Avenue. Turn left onto Wardhill Avenue. The Juvenile Court/Detention Facility will be on the right-hand side of the street.

**From the West:** Enter Lima on State Route 309 going east until reaching North Cable Road. Turn right onto North Cable Road and continue until Cable Road dead-ends into Spencerville Road. Turn left onto Spencerville Road and continue until reaching Wardhill Avenue. Turn right on Wardhill Avenue. The Juvenile Court/Detention Facility will be on the right-hand side of the street.



# CONTACT US

[www.allenohioprobate.com](http://www.allenohioprobate.com)

## Probate & Juvenile Court

1000 Wardhill Avenue, Lima, OH 45801

419.227.5531

## HOURS

Mon-Fri 8 AM to 4:30 PM

Closed weekends, holidays, and daily from Noon – 1 PM

## Information E-MAIL

Probate: [probate@allencountyohio.com](mailto:probate@allencountyohio.com)

Juvenile: [acjc@allencountyohio.com](mailto:acjc@allencountyohio.com)

## E-Filing E-Mail

[probatefilings@allencountyohio.com](mailto:probatefilings@allencountyohio.com)

[juvenilefilings@allencountyohio.com](mailto:juvenilefilings@allencountyohio.com)

## A.C.C.E.S.S. Center

528 W. Market Street, Lima, OH 45801

419.998.5249

## Detention Center

3050 N. Cole Street, Lima, OH 45801

419.998.5240

## X (formerly TWITTER)

@ProbateJuvenile

## Facebook

@ProbateJuvenileCourt