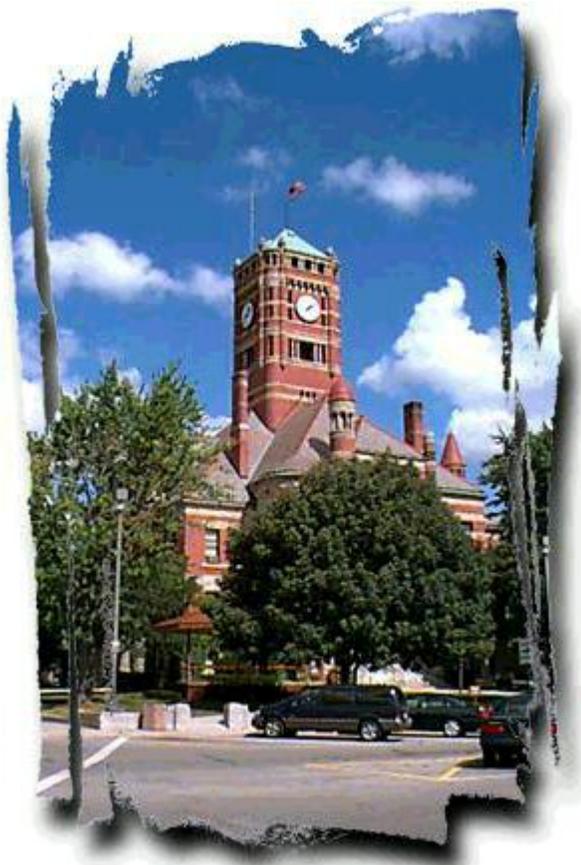


2015 Annual Report



**Steven R. Bird, Judge
Williams County Probate/Juvenile Court
Bryan, Ohio**

Table of Contents

COURT PERSONNEL	3
WILLIAMS COUNTY PROBATE/JUVENILE COURT & PROBATION STAFF	4
STATEMENT OF JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY	6
JUDGE BIRD’S 2015 REPORT.....	7
MISSION STATEMENT	8
PROBATION DEPARTMENT SERVICES	8
INTAKE.....	8
DIVERSION	8
UNOFFICIAL CASES FILED IN 2015.....	9
DRUG AND ALCOHOL OFFENDERS	9
DRUG SCREENING	10
SEX OFFENDER PROTOCOL	10
ON-CALL OFFICER	10
SECURE DETENTION AND TRANSPORT	10
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM.....	11
VIDEOCONFERENCING.....	11
TREATMENT SERVICES.....	11
FOUR COUNTY FAMILY SERVICES.....	11
OTHER MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	12
TOBACCO EDUCATION	12
VICTIM SERVICES	12
VICTIM OFFENDER RECONCILIATION PROGRAM (VORP).....	12
VICTIM ASSISTANCE	12
RESTITUTION.....	12
COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS/INVOLVEMENT	13
WILLIAMS COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL.....	13
COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FOR HEALTHY FAMILIES (CAHF)	13
SUMMIT ON CHILDREN/SUMMIT BREAKFAST.....	13
STUDENT EXPERIENCES	13
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	14
RECLAIM OHIO.....	14
FAMILY INTERVENTION COURT	14
PLACEMENT, JRC/DYS.....	15
JUVENILE RESIDENTIAL CENTER OF NORTHWEST OHIO	15
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES	15
OTHER COURT SERVICES	16
ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND DEPENDENCY.....	16
VOLUNTEER GUARDIAN AD LITEM (V-GAL) PROGRAM.....	16
PARENTAGE CASES/UNMARRIED PARENTS	16
CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT.....	17
JUVENILE TRAFFIC COURT	17
OHIO 4-H CARTEENS	17
STATISTICS.....	18
2015 TRAFFIC STATISTICS.....	18
2015 FELONY STATISTICS	19

2015 COURT INITIATED CHARGES/HEARINGS	19
2015 DELINQUENCY CHARGES	19
2015 UNRULY CASES	21
2015 OTHER CASES FILED	21
7 YEAR COMPARISON OF CASES FILED	21
JUVENILE COURT OPERATING FUNDS	22
GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING	22
PROGRAM FUNDING THROUGH SUBSIDY GRANTS	22
2015 JUVENILE COURT DEPOSITS	23
BREAKDOWN OF COURT COSTS AND FINES COLLECTED IN 2015	23
SUPERVISION FEES	24
PROBATE COURT	24
2015 PROBATE CASES FILED	24
PROBATE COURT COSTS COLLECTED	25
VOLUNTEER GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM	25
PROBATE COURT GUARDIANSHIPS	26
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	26
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION.....	26
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	27

Court Personnel



**The Hon. Steven R. Bird
Probate/Juvenile Judge
Serving since 1997**



**Hon. David P. Rupp, Jr., Magistrate
Serving since 7/16/07**

Williams County Probate/Juvenile Court & Probation Staff



New Staff in 2015



John Karacson, Michael Polley, Jerry Stollings, Amanda Beck, Karissa Jagers

Jerry Stollings, Esq.
Juvenile Court Administrator
1 year service

Holly A. Schlosser, CCM
Probate Court Administrator
18 years service

Alan L. Dietrich, B.A.
Probation Officer/Bailiff
15 years service

Amanda Beck
Diversion Counselor
Family Intervention Court
Coordinator
1 year service

**Deborah L. Willis, B.S.,
LSW**
Probation Officer
20 years service

John Karacson
Probation Officer
School Attendance
Officer
1 year service

Michael Polley
Probation Officer
School Attendance
Officer
1 year service

Holly L. Doseck
Deputy Clerk/Bookkeeper
32 years service

Cynthia J. Schultz
Deputy Clerk
5 years service

Camilla Miller
Deputy Clerk/Secretary
14 years service

Deanne Batterson
Deputy Clerk
2 years service

Karissa Jagers
Assistant Deputy Clerk
1 year service

RETIRED IN 2015

Kathleen Nern
41 years experience

Nick Woodall
26 years service

Jon Ely
10 years service

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!!!

Statement of Judicial Philosophy

The Juvenile Court has the responsibility to carry out its functions with compassion and concern for the well being of both the juvenile and the communities in which they live. To that end, the administration of justice should be handled in a fair, impartial, and efficient manner.

The Juvenile Court is charged with providing for the care; protection; and mental, emotional, and physical development of children; protecting the public interest through provision of programs for the supervision, care and rehabilitation of youth. This goal is the same whether the youth has been adjudicated unruly, delinquent, abused, neglected, or dependant. All of this must be achieved within the context of the family whenever possible, while at the same time providing for judicial procedures within the system of due process. When necessary these goals may have to be achieved outside the context of the family. The changing nature of the communities and society in which we live has made these goals both more important and more difficult.

In order to adapt to these changing needs, the court must develop a variety of tools for administering justice. These can best be accomplished by working with the community and its schools, parents, and organizations to identify and understand the challenges our youth are facing. Creative and innovative solutions must be sought out to address the changing needs of our youth and communities. To the extent possible, these needs should be met within the context of the communities in which our youth live, attend school, and will eventually work and raise families.

The Juvenile Court must meet the children where it finds them, intervene when necessary, and address the problems with energy and commitment. We cannot afford to merely pass the problems on to the adult system. We cannot allow our frustration with the complexity of the problems to overwhelm the system we have put in place. It is the court's responsibility to confront these problems head-on and seek to find more effective solutions.

Judge Bird's 2015 Report

As anticipated, 2015 was a very busy year here at the Williams County Juvenile Court. Together with the Juvenile Courts in Defiance and Henry Counties, we launched the Northwest Ohio Reclaiming Futures (NORF) Initiative. Working together, the courts rolled out a coordinated effort to address juvenile issues with a consistent philosophy focused on better assessment and more targeted case planning for adjudicated youth in Northwest Ohio. Staff from all three courts participated in a national Reclaiming Futures training during the fall of 2015. Further training and strategic planning rolled out during the winter of 2016.

Here in Williams County, we received our initial certification for the Williams County Family Intervention Court (FIC) docket and final certification from the Ohio Supreme Court was announced after our site visit in August 2015. Henry County's alternative docket was certified late in 2015 and Defiance County is anticipated to be onboard later in 2016.

Family Intervention Court is a specialized docket certified by the Ohio Supreme Court to take especially challenging cases involving families with identified issues in at least two of three areas. These areas are substance abuse, mental health and family issues.

By the end of 2015 Williams County had three families enrolled and participating in FIC. The results have been very encouraging for all three families. We anticipate bringing our enrollment up to the maximum of 10 families in 2016. In addition to traditional delinquency cases, FIC is also certified to accept Abuse, Neglect and Dependency cases that are recommended by the Treatment Team.

Each family presents unique challenges that must be addressed as a family as well as with each family member individually. By utilizing the alternative docket, the timelines for achieving the case plan goals are broadened and much closer supervision of the treatment process is provided by using weekly treatment team reviews and frequent court review of each individual and case. This process allows a more holistic approach that has proven to more effective with families facing such challenges.

We look forward to continuing the implementation of these promising practices and continuing our partnership with Defiance and Henry Counties. Working together, the Northwest Ohio Reclaiming Futures initiative shows great promise for maximizing our resources and delivering the best screening, assessment and treatment options available to the children and families in our region.

Steven R. Bird, Judge

JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

(1997)

The Juvenile Probation Department is part of the Williams County Juvenile Court. The fundamental purpose of the department is to implement the orders of the Court.

The goal of the Probation Department is to concentrate on reducing delinquency among juveniles and its effects on the community. This goal is achieved by providing services to adolescents and their families through programming that emphasizes the traditional ideals of family, school, and community as the basis for human development.

To this end, the Juvenile Probation Department is committed to serve the citizens and youth of Williams County.

Probation Department Services

Intake

Complaints and police reports filed with the Court are processed through Intake to determine whether the case should be diverted to the Court's Diversion Counselor or scheduled for an official hearing before the Judge.

There were 255 complaints/police reports logged through Intake in 2015. Of those, 163 were referred for official hearing.

Diversion

The goal of the Diversion Program is to resolve matters with juveniles without formally involving the Court.

The Diversion Counselor worked with 158 cases in 2015 compared to 140 last year. Eighty - four completed the program of which 73 were closed successfully. Seven were referred officially to Court, 1 moved out of the area, and 1 turned 18 years old. Fifty-four of the youth were female which the same as 2014 was. The Court referred 13 cases to the Diversion Program.

While working with the Diversion Counselor, 96% of the youth did not have new charges filed; a percentage unchanged from last year.

Sixty-one percent of the cases closed within six months.

Unofficial Cases Filed in 2015

Offense	Males	Females	TOTALS
Ungovernable	36	27	63
Curfew	1	1	2
Truancy	14	1	15
Runaway	0	1	1
Tobacco	0	2	2
Theft	2	1	3
Disorderly Conduct	2	3	5
Criminal Trespass	1	0	1
Criminal Damaging	1	0	1
Criminal Mischief	1	2	3
Assault	1	0	1
Offenses Involving Minors	5	1	6
Pandering Obscenity	0	1	1
Telecommunications Harassment	1	0	1
Totals:	65	40	105

Official Probation

Williams County Juvenile Court is fortunate to have three probation officers with approximately 30 years of relevant experience. Two male and one female probation officer carry reporting caseloads that are a mix of adjudicated delinquents in terms of age, sex and race; level of offense; geographic location and home school. Support services are provided to the probation department by three deputy clerks with over 45 years of combined experience.

Drug and Alcohol Offenders

The Juvenile Court heard 40 cases in the past year that involved alcohol or drug related offenses. Assessment of each youth guides the disposition of every case. Referral to Recovery Services offers community based intervention.

The Juvenile Detention Center offers an in-house Life Without Drugs Program (LWD), an intensive institutionally based treatment option the Court utilizes for youth with more severe substance abuse challenges. After completion of LWD, each youth is engaged in a furlough plan monitored by the Probation Department and the Court. The plan follows a protocol with close community-based supervision and regular review hearings with the Judge that provides for accountability, any modification of treatment implementation, and/or celebration.

Drug Screening

Probationers are subject to drug screening conducted by the Probation Officers. Laboratories are utilized if further verification is required. Screens are conducted through urine and saliva samples.

Sex Offender Protocol

To promote public safety, protection of victims, and consistency of accountability and treatment of the sexual offender, the Probation Department follows a Sex Offender Protocol that outlines time frames, safety and accountability measures, and treatment options while working with juvenile sex offenders in the community. The protocol is a derivative from other jurisdictions that addresses the specific needs of the local community, victims and the offenders. This protocol has proven to be an effective tool as sex offenders continue to comprise about 10% of the youth that come before the Court.

Electronic Monitoring

Advances in technology have expanded the options available for electronic monitoring. GPS systems and alcohol monitoring have proven to be useful tools to ensure compliance with court orders and treatment plans. State funding has provided electronic monitoring for appropriately screened “status” offenders to prevent or reduce the time and costs of secure detention.

One female experienced electronic monitoring in 2015. Cost for this service is approximately \$14 per day. Alternative to Detention funds from the State of Ohio provided service for two males.

On-Call Officer

A Probation Officer is available to law enforcement 24/7 for consult on juvenile matters. Probation Officers can authorize a youth’s detention or assist in determining an alternative arrangement pending a court hearing. Pre-arranged safety plans for each youth on probation are a resource utilized as an alternative to detention.

Secure Detention and Transport

Fifty-two intakes (41 males and 11 females) to the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention and Training Center utilized 1924 bed days in 2015. This compares to 1750 bed days in 2014.

The Probation Department transported 72 males and 13 females this past year. The total mileage incurred for these transports was 2881 miles. This was a significant decrease from the 3322 detention transport miles in 2014 due to fewer youth being placed out of the county. Fortunately, these transports were all conducted safely and without incident.

The Williams County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO) occasionally conducts transports when Court staff is not available or needs extra assistance. When the Probation Department transports, the WCSO can attend to other duties in the county.

Community Service Program

The Community Service Program (CSP) collaborates with a variety of public service and non-profit organizations representing every municipality in the county. The cooperation from each allows young people the opportunity to “give back” to their community. No additional program funds are expended for this effort. Coordination of the program is conducted by a Probation Officer. The Court expresses its gratitude to all of the entities that make CSP possible.

Videoconferencing

Utilizing funding provided by the Office of Criminal Justice Services, the Ohio Department of Youth Services purchased and installed videoconferencing equipment in our Court in 2011 to support re-entry planning, training, meetings and hearings.

The technology saves time and reduces costs as it is used for hearings, trainings and for youth interviews with the Juvenile Residential Center in Bowling Green and other Community Correctional Facilities in the state. The videoconferencing is also utilized for family visitation to overcome transportation barriers and promote vital family connections and involvement in the treatment process.

TREATMENT SERVICES

Four County Family Services

Four County Family Services provides individual and family counseling and case management services to youth and their families. Services are designed to meet the individual needs of each case. In 2015, this agency served 36 referrals from the Juvenile Court and the Diversion Program. A majority of the treatment services occur in the home setting; overcoming transportation, child care, and other barriers that may prevent a youth and family from participating in office-based service provision. Treatment modalities include Family Systems Therapy and In-Home Based Intensive Therapy, both of which are Evidenced-Based Practices.

Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio

Youth charged with underage drinking often receive substance abuse assessment and education from Recovery Services. In addition to education, Recovery Services also provides individual and group counseling and aftercare for those on furlough from the Life Without Drugs Program conducted at the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training and Rehabilitation Center. In 2015, 38 youth were referred by the Court to Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio.

Recovery Services recently implemented Integrated Health Care at the Bryan office. This provides individuals the opportunity to receive many services under one roof: medical, behavioral, pharmaceutical, integrated dual disorder treatment, case management, psychiatric, education, substance abuse services, etc. The number one priority is helping people stay physically and mentally healthy.

Other Mental Health Services

Williams County is fortunate to have a variety of resources and services available for youth and families. The Juvenile Probation Department often acts as a resource and referral guide for those seeking options or assistance. Specifically, AJA Behavioral Services has provided services for our youth in the past; and Correctional Counseling to youth at the detention center has been utilized. Maumee Valley Guidance Center, Dr. Diane Peters and Associates, Shalom Mediation services and other private practitioners provide services to our community's youth and families.

Tobacco Education

Tobacco citations are processed through the Juvenile Probation Department. First offenders are ordered into an education class facilitated by the Juvenile Probation Department. Successful completion of the class avoids a formal Court appearance.

Six youth were referred in 2015.

VICTIM SERVICES

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP)

The Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) provided through Shalom Ministries encourages healing and reconciliation through mediation, and focuses on accountability, responsibility, and restitution for persons in conflict with others. It exemplifies Restorative Justice at work.

Twenty-six offenders and twenty-seven victim referrals were served by VORP in 2015. The most common types of cases referred included criminal mischief, theft, trespass, and criminal damaging.

Victim Assistance

A victim of a juvenile who has been found delinquent by a judge has particular rights as defined by the Ohio Revised Code. The Williams County Victim Assistance Services Office notifies victims of their rights, including the right to notification, to recover damages, and to submit a victim impact statement.

During the period October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015 Williams County Victim Assistance Services provided advocacy and information for 28 cases involving juveniles, down from 28 through the same period in 2013-2014.

Restitution

Restitution is often a part of the repair to the victim who has been harmed as a result of a delinquent act.

Payments totaling \$3,047.83 were paid by thirteen youth to fifteen victims in 2015. To the extent possible, efforts are made by the Probation Department to assure all victims are reimbursed in a fair and timely manner. Civil remedy may be sought if the victim reparation needs are beyond juvenile court efforts.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS/INVOLVEMENT

Williams County Family and Children First Council

The Williams County Family and Children First Council (FCFC) has a required mandate to provide a formalized venue to facilitate the alignment of systems, policies, resources, and services. The Juvenile Court is a mandated member of council in an advisory capacity. A juvenile court representative participates in the full council which meets four times per year.

Community Advocates for Healthy Families (CAHF)

Formed in 2005, CAHF's efforts are directed at the causes of high-risk behaviors among youth rather than treating the symptoms. CAHF sponsored its eight annual *Ready, Set Relax!* in October. Participant surveys reveal continued strong support for the event and a growing understanding of the underlying principal: *making family moments count*.

Summit on Children/Summit Breakfast

The Williams County Summit on Children has been convening since 2009. The challenge posed by the Ohio Summit in 2008 was to assess the strengths of local services for children. A series of breakfast meetings have been held to educate key people from the county about the services and programs that are available to assist kids and families.

Programming and resources available for area youth and families are presented at each breakfast. Attendees represent a broad range of participants including school personnel, law enforcement, court staff, mental health professionals, and social service providers. The breakfasts are also a networking opportunity to enhance communication among youth/family service providers and to share ideas and challenges. Thank you to the Bryan Eagles who continue to generously provide meeting space for the quarterly breakfasts.

Student Experiences

One student from North Central High School completed work as intern with the Juvenile Court in the past year.

We value our relationships with area educational institutions and look forward to interacting with their students.

Community Education

We welcome opportunities to present information about the Court's history and mandate, operations and processes, program and treatment options, and current issues and challenges that impact the Court. Probation staff present for classes at Northwest State Community College. The Judge and Court staff participates in the annual high school senior Courthouse tours and also host 3rd graders from Bryan City Schools and St. Patrick's. Members of the court staff and the Judge also accept invitations to speak to various service clubs and groups across the county.

Reclaim Ohio

Reclaim Ohio funding made possible through the Ohio Department of Youth Services provides resources for the Diversion Program, part of a probation officer's salary, parent training, administrative support services, clinical assessment, electronic monitoring services, home based services/family support, and residential treatment.

While the amount of this funding has fluctuated over the past years based on felony adjudications, it remains a critical resource for providing community-based services to youth and families with the goal of preventing further penetration of youth into the juvenile justice system, out of home placement, and family disintegration.

Mandatory program reporting, quality assurance monitoring, and fiscal auditing occurs annually for the Reclaim Grant. There was a clean audit for fiscal year 2014 with minor changes required and a Program Monitoring was conducted with no correction plan.

Family Intervention Court

The Juvenile Court was certified was a specialized docket court with its Family Intervention Court. The Family Intervention Court is a court process that takes cases out of the traditional docket and places them in a specialized docket. The purpose of the Family Intervention is to bring more intense services to cases with mental health issues, substance use issues, or family systems issues. Case may be referred to the court from delinquency cases or abuse, neglect, dependency cases. Each case is reviewed by a treatment team consisting of different organizations and service providers in Williams County. The Family Intervention Court may accept a maximum of 10 cases. To successfully complete the process, participants must pass through four phases. It is a voluntary program and all members of the household must consent to being involved in the process.

The Family Intervention Court was certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio initially on June 11, 2015, and obtained final certification on September 15, 2015. In 2015, we accepted three delinquency cases into the Family Intervention Court with none of them completed the program during that time. One participant had moved to Phase II and the other participants were still in Phase I of the program.

Northwest Ohio Reclaiming Futures

The Court obtained a grant from the Ohio Department of Youth Services that provided for the opportunity for Williams County Juvenile Court, along with Defiance County Juvenile

Court and Henry County Family Court, to contract with Reclaiming Futures for technical assistance in applying a particular philosophy under which the courts operate. Together the plan is referred to as the Northwest Ohio Reclaiming Futures Initiative.

Throughout 2016 the Courts will be initiating the changes brought about by the implementation of the Reclaiming Futures methodology. The regional approach to the implementation should invigorate the effort. A primary component of the Reclaiming Futures initiative is community involvement and involvement of the treatment community.

PLACEMENT, JRC/DYS

When community-based treatment is ineffective, insufficient or unsuccessful, the court may order out of home placement to meet the treatment and accountability needs of a youth. Placement may be in the form of foster or group home care, or a private residential facility, keeping in mind the least restrictive alternative, the best interest of the child, and the safety of the community.

After a five year period where out of home placements remained extremely low (only one youth was placed by the Court between 2008 and early 2013), the Court has ordered placement for six youth in 2013. By the end of 2015, only two remained in placement. These youths have been placed and treated in residential care facilities, group and/or foster homes. The two remaining youths were also in the custody of Job and Family Services with JFS and the Court sharing placement expenses and case management responsibilities. Child support is ordered by the Court and paid as appropriate for parents/guardians to contribute also to the care of their child as plans are made for community re-entry or a planned permanent placement arrangement.

Juvenile Residential Center Of Northwest Ohio

The Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio (JRC) located in Bowling Green is a secure community correctional facility for adjudicated males who commit offenses that would be felonies if committed by an adult. The facility has 42 beds and is an alternative for youth who may otherwise be committed to the Ohio Department of Youth Services.

Two Williams County youth were served at JRC in 2015.

Ohio Department of Youth Services

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) is the state correctional system for juvenile offenders aged 10–21 who commit offenses that would be felonies if committed by an adult. ODYS provides security, programming and treatment.

Parole services are provided to the youth upon release to assist in the transition from the institution back into the community. The parole officer is based in Toledo.

No Williams County youth were in an ODYS facility in 2015. Two youth were on parole through the ODYS parole authority.

OTHER COURT SERVICES

Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency

The Court processed 75 new cases of abuse, neglect, and dependency in 2015, as opposed to 28 in 2014. Initial investigation and on-going case management is provided by the Williams County Department of Job and Family Services under the mandates and guidelines of the State of Ohio.

Abuse, Neglect & Dependency Cases Filed in 2015

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Dependent	15	21	36
Abused/Dependent	3	16	19
Neglected/Dependent	8	12	20
TOTALS:	26	49	75

Volunteer Guardian ad Litem (V-GAL) Program

The Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Program (V-GAL) is designed to serve children and the Court by assigning trained volunteers, rather than attorneys, to “be the voice of the child in Court” in cases involving child neglect and dependency. (Child abuse cases are assigned to an Attorney Guardian ad Litem).

The role of the V-GAL is to advocate for the child’s best interest. The V-GAL visits the child(ren) monthly and is available to attend other meetings on behalf of the child(ren). Periodic case reviews are held where the Court is updated by the V-GAL regarding the current status of each child.

Volunteers are screened and trained before any case assignment. Caseload size is dependent upon the volunteer’s availability. V-GALs participate in a minimum of three training hours each year.

Volunteers remain an invaluable resource for each child and the Court.

Parentage Cases/Unmarried Parents

New cases involving unmarried parents numbered 120 for the year 2015. These cases involve child support, custody/visitation and paternity and are heard before the Magistrate. In 2015 the Magistrate conducted 315 hearings with 181 being visitation/custody cases.

Williams County has offered a Pro Se Clinic since August 2010. The Clinic allows time with a legal aid attorney, at no charge, for those who desire to represent themselves. The

attorney provides forms for the preparation and the review of documents pertaining to child support, paternity, custody and allocation of parental rights.

Two clinics are offered per month. A deposit is required upon the actual filing of documents with the court. In 2015, 72 individuals registered for the Pro Se Clinic as opposed to 57 in 2014.

Child Support Enforcement

The Magistrate hears cases when a party fails to pay child support; an arrearage is to be collected or to determine any deviation from an Administrative Order. The Magistrate heard 134 child support cases in 2015.

Child support collection also helps defray the costs of youth ordered to detention or other placement outside of their home. \$16,411.73 was collected in 2015 for this purpose and deposited into the General Fund.

Juvenile Traffic Court

In 2015, a total of 225 traffic citations were filed with the Williams County Juvenile Court. Court costs and fines are common dispositions in juvenile traffic cases.

Juveniles receiving a traffic citation must appear in front of the Judge with at least one parent or legal guardian. Those receiving a seat belt citation only are allowed to post a fine and court costs with no appearance required.

OHIO 4-H CARTEENS

CARTEENS is a teen facilitated traffic safety program for juvenile traffic offenders. It is presented through the collaboration of the Northwest Ohio OSU Extension 4-H Professionals, volunteer teen leaders, the juvenile courts of Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. It brings together teens and adults representing local agencies and organizations to educate teen drivers and save lives on Ohio roads. CARTEENS' goals include: reduce the number of initial and repeat juvenile traffic offenders and increase teen awareness of traffic and vehicular safety.

Williams County Juvenile Traffic Court began using CARTEENS in April of 2011. First offense moving violations with no accident involving property damage or injuries to third parties are eligible for the program held Northwest State Community College. If a youth successfully completes the program and examination, the case can be vacated with no record.

Forty-four Williams County youth participated in CARTEENS during 2015. Of those 44 youth, 6 received another citation after their participation in the CARTEENS program.

STATISTICS

2015 Traffic Statistics

Violation Name:	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Speed	45	43	88
Seat Belt/Driver	12	4	16
Seat Belt/Passenger	1	0	1
OVI	2	0	2
No Operator's License	3	2	5
Failure to Control	14	9	23
Failure to Yield	4	4	8
Stop Sign	5	6	11
Peeling	1	0	1
Improper Backing/Starting	1	3	4
Dr Lic Viol – Curfew	6	3	9
Dr Lic Viol – Excessive Passengers (Juv)	4	1	5
Dr Prob Lic w/o Lic. Driver	2	0	2
A.C.D.A.	5	6	11
Reckless Operation	0	2	2
W/W Disregard – Private Property	0	1	1
W/W Disregard – Safety	1	0	1
Equipment Violation	2	0	2
Red Light	2	0	2
Headlights Required	0	2	2
Left of Center	1	3	4
Dr Under Suspension	0	1	1
Dr Under FRA Suspension	1	0	1
Dr Under Court Suspension	1	0	1
Probationary OL – Suspension	2	0	2
Drag Racing	1	0	1
Prob Lic – Handheld Communication Device	1	1	2
Driving on Closed Highway	1	0	1
Marked Lanes	2	0	2
Failure to Reinstate	2	0	2
Littering from Motor Vehicle	1	0	1
Stopped School Bus Violation	0	1	1
Prohibit Snowmobile, ATV, etc - Highway	1	0	1
Expired Plates	1	4	5
Fic. Plates	1	0	1
Fic. Registration	1	0	1
Passing Lane Rules	1	0	1
Violation – One Way	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTALS:	129	96	225

2015 Felony Statistics

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Harassment by Inmate	F5	0	2	2
Assault on a Corrections Officer	F5	4	0	4
B & E	F5	13	0	13
Gross Sexual Imposition	F3	1	0	1
Burglary	F2	1	2	3
	F3	1	0	1
Trafficking	F4	0	1	1
Trafficking in Dangerous Drugs	F4	0	1	1
Agg. Possession of Drugs	F5	0	2	2
Rape	F1	13	0	13
Inducing Panic	F2	0	1	1
Illegal Use of Minor in Nudity Oriented Material	F2	1	0	1
	F5	1	0	1
Theft of Drugs	F5	0	1	1
Theft	F3	0	1	1
Agg. Trafficking	F3	0	2	2
Agg. Arson	F1	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTALS		38	13	51

2015 Court Initiated Charges/Hearings

<u>Violation Name</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>T</u>
Probation Violations	31	8	39
Placement Review Hearings	4	0	4
D.Y.S. Parole Review Hearings	8	0	8
J.R.C. Review Hearings	2	0	2
Life w/o Drugs Furlough Hearings	12	1	13
Life w/o Drugs Review Hearings	21	0	21
Probation Review Hearings	2	0	2
Annual Review Hearing	1	0	1
Status Hearing	4	0	4
Motion Hearing	1	0	1
Competency Hearing	1	0	1
Court Costs Review Hearing	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTALS:	90	9	99

2015 Delinquency Charges

<u>Offenses:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Theft	16	6	22
Burglary	2	2	4
B & E	12	0	12

Criminal Damaging	32	1	33
Criminal Trespass	6	0	6
Criminal Mischief	6	2	8
Assault	8	1	9
Assault on Corrections Officer	4	0	4
Offenses Involving Minors	10	5	15
Possession of Dangerous Drugs	0	1	1
Agg. Possession of Drugs	0	2	2
Possession of Drugs	0	1	1
Agg. Trafficking	0	2	2
Possession of Marijuana	2	1	3
Drug Abuse/MJ	3	1	4
Possession Drug Paraphernalia	2	0	2
Illegal Use or Possession of Marijuana Paraphernalia	2	1	3
Theft of Drugs	0	1	1
Trafficking in Dangerous Drugs	0	1	1
Trafficking	0	1	1
Harassment by Inmate	0	2	2
Rape	13	0	13
Gross Sexual Imposition	1	0	1
Illegal Use of Minor in Nudity Oriented Material	2	0	2
Falsification	1	1	2
Inducing Panic	0	1	1
Disorderly Conduct	16	4	20
Menacing	1	0	1
Agg. Menacing	6	0	6
Resisting Arrest	2	0	2
Obstructing Official Business	0	2	2
Agg. Arson	3	0	3
Domestic Violence	6	2	8
Hunting without Permission	1	0	1
Hunting on Roadway	1	0	1
Jacklighting	2	0	2
Target Shooting on State Property	1	0	1
Chronic Truant	6	3	9
Possession of Criminal Tools	1	0	1
TOTALS:	168	44	212

2015 Unruly Cases

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Ungovernable	1	0	1
Tobacco	1	0	1
Truancy	1	1	2
TOTALS:	3	1	4

2015 Other Cases Filed

Adult Contributing	0
Parentage	6
U.I.F.S.A.	1
Support Cases (establish & contempt)	131
Permanent Custody	6
Custody, Custodianships, Visitation & Contempt	72
Misc. Cases	3
TOTAL:	219

7 Year Comparison of Cases Filed

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Delinquency	235	219	215	263	247	213	251
Unruly	9	17	11	12	5	11	4
Traffic	276	238	216	209	201	192	225
Neglected-Dependent-Abused	57	65	66	66	38	28	75
Adult Contributing	1	0	1	2	2	0	0
Parentage	9	1	5	2	5	6	6
Custody, Visitation	61	45	57	81	72	72	72
Support	135	127	142	85	116	131	131
U.I.F.S.A	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
Misc. Cases	4	3	7	3	1	3	3
TOTALS:	788	715	720	724	687	657	768

JUVENILE COURT OPERATING FUNDS

Grants and Other Funding

Year	Title IV-D	Juv. Acct. Blk Gt	Title II	Title IV-E
1997	15,521			
1998	16,961			
1999	17,040	11,673		
2000	11,287	13,714		
2001	15,519			
2002	27,227	6,847		
2003	25,048	6,162	15,000	
2004	17,497			
2005	16,010			
2006	23,613			55,584
2007	18,140			114,498
2008	18,429			10,066
2009	16,117			4,232
2010	26,150			61,796
2011				61,694
2012	22,347			1,480
2013	26,210			8,843
2014	41,360			77,004
2015	35,400			64,040

Program Funding Through Subsidy Grants

Fund	2009	2010	2011 (FY 2012)	2012 (FY 2013)	2013 (FY 2014)	2014 (FY 2015)	2015 (FY 2016)
Diversion	30,489	30,489	33,536	34,905	37,738	41,190.71	33,582.41
A.C.E. Program	80,914	9,728	0	0	0	0	0
Community Service	1,261	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monitoring/Surveillance	3,120	1,770	3,270	7,920	7,620	3,780.00	3,800.00
Probation	30,957	63,582	13,236	16,534	17,484	13,953.08	21,437.17
Family Preservation	33,000	54,000	36,000	11,520	10,322	100.00	3,800.00
Out of Home Placement	18,000	1,097	15,850	100,959	137,001	73,165.00	150,000.00
Program Administration	36,109	32,603	33,732	40,402	42,536	42,036.18	47,440.17
House Bill 153							150,000.00

Recreation (Est FY 2016)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,400.00
Wraparound Services	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parent Support	9,800	0	0	5,035	6,450	6,950.00	7,000.00
Clinical Assessment		4,825	4,800	4,800	5,600	1,400.00	2,450.00
Alternatives to Detention			7,992	7,176	5,384	5,020.00	2,864.00
TOTAL:	\$249,650	\$200,104	\$148,416	\$229,251	\$270,136	\$187,594.97	\$424,773.75

2015 Juvenile Court Deposits

Department of Youth Services Support Payments	\$20.00
Placement Support Payments	\$1.32
Juvenile Residential Center Support Payments	\$3,139.31
Detention Support Payments	\$7,211.09
Life without Drugs Support Payments	\$5,990.01
Juvenile Court IV-E Money Received	\$64,040.98
Supervision Fees Collected	\$10,345.09
Electronic Monitoring Reimbursement	\$1,020.00
Misc. Deposits (prescription reimbursement)	\$ 50.00
TOTAL:	\$91,817.80

Breakdown of Court Costs and Fines Collected in 2015

County: General Fund/Local Costs	\$17,725.98
Computerization Fund	4,387.01
Legal Computer Research	1,304.95
Traffic Fines – County Fund	518.58
Traffic Fines A&G Vehicle Fund	1,059.92
Traffic Fines – Law Library	1,578.50
Juvenile Fines—County Fund	70.63
Juvenile Fines—A&G Vehicle Fund	20.62
Juvenile Fines—Law Library	678.25
Liquor Violations—County Fund	204.00
Liquor Violations—Law Library	204.00
Drug Fines—County Fund	50.00
Tobacco Fines—County Fund	0
Adult Contributing—County Fund	0
Adult Contributing—Law Library	0
Public Defender Fee (\$25 each)	1,240.00
Special Projects Funds	9,777.52
DI-Alcohol Monitoring, Indigent Traffic Offender	252.00
State: Victims of Crime	2,991.00
State Highway Fines	976.50
Liquor Violations	408.00
Seat Belt Fines	330.00
Legal Aid	430.65
Indigent Defense Support Fund	6,864.00

Drug Law Enforcement Fund	565.20
Justice Program Service Fund	16.80
Other: Supervision Fees	11,679.00
Restitution	5,332.99
Sheriff Fees	254.00
Arresting Agency (Drug)	275.00
Board of Pharmacy (Drug)	150.00
Sundries	33,638.14
TOTAL	\$102,983.24

Supervision Fees

Each youth on official probation pays a supervision fee to the Court. These fees cover costs for drug screening materials, training and miscellaneous expenses involved with supervising youth on probation. Total collected in 2015 was \$11,679.00 (see above chart).

Probate Court

The Probate Court is responsible for the handling of Estates, Incompetent Guardianships, Minor Guardianships, Trusts, Birth Registration and Corrections, Marriage Licenses, Adoptions, Name Changes, Adult Protective Services, Mental Commitments and Minor Settlements.

2015 Probate Cases Filed

Type of Case	2011 Cases Filed	2012 Cases Filed	2013 Cases Filed	2014 Cases Filed	2015 Cases Filed	Pending
Adoptions	18	17	16	18	14	7
Civil Actions	6	6	13	7	9	10
Estates	242	249	284	248	247	164
Guardianships (Incompetent)	19	17	17	16	15	140
Guardianships (Minors)	11	10	6	11	6	49
Mental Illness	15	15	16	22	15	0
Miscellaneous-Miscellaneous	1	1	3	1	0	0
Misc-Change of Name	8	14	8	11	8	0
Misc-Adult Protective Service	0	1	1	0	0	0

Misc-Minor Settlement	6	2	4	0	1	0
Registration or Change of Birth	3	2	3	7	3	0
Marriage Licenses	252	263	247	248	275	0
Trusts	3	8	7	2	1	51
TOTAL:	577	605	625	691	594	421

Probate Court Costs Collected

Probate Court Costs Collected	2012	2013	2014	2015
County: General Fund	32,326.20	31,119.52	35,459.62	29,607.42
Indigent Guardianship	6,294.00	7,806.00	7,178.06	6,280.00
Conduct of Business-Probate	263.00	259.00	248.00	276.00
Computerization Fund	5,530.00	5,440.00	5,538.50	5,269.26
Legal Computer Research	870.00	855.00	909.00	748.00
Domestic Violence	4,471.00	4,403.00	4,216.00	4,692.00
State: Legal Aid	5,798.00	6,084.00	6,656.00	5,643.56
Ohio Putative Father Registry	480.00	450.00	660.00	180.00
TOTAL:	\$56,032.20	58,429.52	60,865.18	52,696.24

Volunteer Guardianship Program

When a person is no longer capable of managing themselves, their property and assets, or both; under Ohio Law a person can be determined incompetent. A finding of incompetency results in the Probate Court appointing a guardian to assist the “ward”.

The Volunteer Guardianship Program is only for persons who live in long term care facilities. The guardian makes sure the ward’s basic needs are being met, seeks services to help the ward reach the highest possible potential, authorizes treatment, executes documents on the ward’s behalf, and makes end of life decisions for the benefit of the ward.

Usually a family member or close friend is the first choice of the Court to serve as the guardian.

However, for a variety of reasons, there continues to be cases where no suitable person exists or is willing to act as guardian. Local attorneys cannot meet the high demand. The Volunteer Guardianship Program fills the void by providing a pool of screened and trained volunteers to serve those who cannot help themselves.

As a collaborative with the Probate Court, the program is administered by the Department of Aging.

Probate Court Guardianships

In 2014 the court began its *Court Visitor Program* to monitor the status of Guardianships under the supervision of the Court.

Court Visitor Reports provide a less formal, more personal contact with the people who are under legal guardianship. Court Visitors make a face to face visit with each Guardian and their Ward confirming contact information and alerting the Court to any changes, concerns or needs that are not being met.

Working on behalf of the Court, the Visitors completed a total of 71 visits (19 minors and 52 adults) during 2015.

The law now requires that all Ohio guardians of adults are required to participate in an six hour educational course and three hours of continuing education annually to help provide them with information and tools to help guide them in their duties in a way that is consistent with national standards and Ohio's rules for courts. The Court must now maintain and monitor a roster of guardians with 10 or more wards under their care. Guardians must meet with wards under their care at least quarterly.

Staff Development

Our commitment to staff development and training is second only to the commitment to provide the best possible service to those we serve.

The probation staff engaged in nearly 200 hours of training and continuing education in 2015.

Throughout the year, the entire staff received Mental Health First Aid training which is helpful in recognizing youth in mental health distress. Further, many members of the staff received training on various issues surrounding drug use, abuse, and the illegal manufacturing of drugs. One staff member completed a Master's in counseling while another is in the last year of a Master's program in counseling.

Licensed social workers in the probation department, the juvenile court administrator, and the judge have annual required continuing education units for their respective professions. Probation officers are now required to receive yearly training. The staff received a great deal of training this year to continue to pursue an effort toward excellence.

Awards and Recognition

Each April, the Department of Job and Family Services presents a "Cherish the Child" Award as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month. We are proud to report that for 2013, Diversion Counselor Nick Woodall was the recipient of this award which was presented at the quarterly Summit Breakfast. Judge Steven Bird was the recipient in 2014. In 2015, Jerry Stollings was invited to serve on the Ohio Attorney General's Task Force on Criminal Justice and Mental Health, and to serve on the subcommittee on Juvenile Justice.

We also saw the retirement this year of three long-serving staff member. Kathleen Nern retired in July of 2015. She had over 40 years of experience in the juvenile justice system with the last 8 serving as Court Administrator for the Juvenile Court. Nick Woodall retired in September of 2015 after serving more than 25 years as a school attendance officer and diversion counselor in Williams County. And, Jon Ely retired after ten years as a juvenile probation officer. Their service made a lasting impact on Williams County and their presence will be missed.

Acknowledgments

We value our partners and colleagues as we strive together to deliver the best services possible to our community. The Court particularly acknowledges:

Williams County Commissioners
Williams County Job & Family Services
Williams County Sheriff's Department
Williams County Prosecutor
Ohio Department of Youth Services
Supreme Court of Ohio
Williams County Family and Children First Council
Williams County Juvenile Court Advisory Council
Reclaiming Futures Advisory Board
Alternative Docket Advisory Board
Family Intervention Court Treatment Team
All Local and Regional Law Enforcement Agencies
Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training and Rehabilitation Center
Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio
Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio
Maumee Valley Guidance Center
Shalom Counseling and Mediation Services
The Center for Child and Family Advocacy
Four County Family Services
Four County ADAMhs Board
Fraternal Order of Eagles, Bryan Aerie #2233
City of Bryan Fire Department
All School Systems in Williams County
Northwest Ohio Educational Services Center
Staff of Independent Education Center
Department of Aging

The Williams County Juvenile Court 2015 Annual Report was written and compiled by the Hon. Steven R. Bird and staff. Copies were produced at a cost of approximately \$3.45 per copy.