

Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County
JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF BEAVER COUNTY

(As of December 31, 2012)

Honorable John D. McBride	President Judge
Honorable C. Gus Kwidis	Judge
Honorable Richard Mancini	Judge
Honorable John P. Dohanich	Judge
Honorable Deborah A. Kunselman	Judge
Honorable Kim Tesla	Judge
Honorable Harry E. Knafelc	Judge
A.R. DeFilippi	District Court Administrator
Aileen Bowers	Deputy District Court Administrator
William Hare	Deputy District Court Administrator
John L. Walker, Jr.	Juvenile Master
J.Philip Colavincenzo	Juvenile Master

JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Gary Rosatelli	Director
Colleen Tittiger	Assistant Director
Doug Clarke	Supervisor
Erin Sabol	Clerical and Fiscal Manager

INTAKE / CHILD CUSTODY

Marian Bunney – Intake Coordinator	
Joy Porto	Paul Morrison
Billie Morrison	Michael Miller

PROBATION OFFICERS

Daniel DelTurco	Sean Bunney
Marshall Clark	Deborah Landsbaugh
Brandi Sabol	Meena Hill
Curtis Shroads	John T. Engel
John Sims	Kris McCafferty
Charles Rossi	Damon Neal
John Davis	

CLERICAL SERVICES

Lori Petrovich
Tammy Bonchi
Amy Buchanan
Kristen Kalcevic

THE AGENCY

The Juvenile Services Division is an agency of the Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County. It operates pursuant to 42 PA. C.S. 6301 et. seq. (The Juvenile Act) and the Pennsylvania Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure. The focus of the agency is delinquency cases, dependency cases and child custody conciliation services.

All programs and services provided by the agency to delinquent youth are predicated on the balanced and restorative justice model as set forth in 42 PA C.S. 6301 (b) (2). Under this model agency services provide balanced attention to community protection, imposition of accountability and the development of competencies to enable youth to become productive and responsible members of the community.

In addition to intake and probation supervision services, the agency provides several specialized programs partially funded by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. These include: aftercare, intensive probation, school based probation and community based services. Also, The Juvenile Services Division operates a community service program, the Truancy Intervention Program (TIP), Underage Drinking Program, Victim Awareness and the Redeem Fund (Restitution Program).

2012 HIGHLIGHTS

At the close of 2011, Robert Rose, the Director of Juvenile Services, retired after 38 years of service to Beaver County. Bob also served as the Director of the Allencrest Detention Center from 2000 to 2010. He was a true innovator and leader in implementing services for children and their families. Bob was instrumental in developing and implementing local as well as statewide initiatives in the field of Juvenile Justice. Bob was highly respected by peers and the vast number of employees he supervised during his career. Bob's achievements were influential in shaping the progressive philosophy that guides our system today. Bob's successes and commitment to the Juvenile Justice Field will be greatly missed.

The Truancy Intervention Program (T.I.P.) began in 2009. Since its inception, it has made significant accomplishments especially in 2012. In 2012, the Truancy Summit Conference was held at the Community College of Beaver County in cooperation with a representative for school districts, magisterial districts, the Educational Law Center, the Bar Association, the Juvenile Services Division and Beaver County Children and Youth Services. The goal was to create a county protocol that would unify all the stakeholders in establishing a universal truancy referral system along with intervention and prevention services. The Summit was a success for it generated an awareness of how fragmented the truancy process was in Beaver County. More importantly, the agencies gained valuable insight from listening and sharing information. As a result the school districts, in cooperation with the aforementioned agencies created sub-committees to address three main areas. One sub-committee was designed to address definitions of truancy, another sub-committee's purpose was to research legal aspects of truancy and finally the third

sub-committee focused on the medical implications upon truancy. Each committee has been meeting regularly and understands the importance of time management towards developing a truancy protocol. The TIP program also has been modified by the staff in that, intervention is provided in the elementary and secondary schools prior to a truancy citation being filed.

A Truancy Abatement Program was created in 2011 and implemented in 2012, by the Juvenile Services Division for the purpose of alleviating chronic truancy. The process begins with the school referring a child through a truancy citation to the Magistrate's Office. Once the juvenile completes the TIP Program and continues to be truant the Magistrate may then refer a child that is a chronic truant to the Juvenile Services Division through a dependency filing whereby a probation officer can then provide supervision under an Informal Adjustment Consent.

In 2012, the state began to implement the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. The process is to use evidenced based practices to ensure Balanced and Restorative Justice is being achieved. There are four different stages to the JJSES Monograph. Beaver County Juvenile Services Division is currently in stage one. The goal is to target the needs of the juvenile and provide the appropriate services to the client with the attempts to alleviate further penetration into the criminal system. The goal for 2013 is to finish stage one by completing the organizational survey, provide evidenced based practice training, review the cost analysis and have training for all of the stakeholders to become aware of the practice and embrace this type of philosophy.

In 2012, the Juvenile Services Division continued with its placement philosophy of placing only those delinquents that represents a high risk to recidivate for the most serious offenses as well as offenders whose needs cannot be met in the community. Our efforts to maximize the use of intervention and diversion programs have yielded positive outcomes with respect to removing juveniles from their homes. The commitment to short term sanction programs and enhanced monitoring supervision by probation officers has reduced the length of placement periods significantly.

The agency has been operating an Underage Drinking Program since 2009. The program allows magisterial district judges to offer an alternative to fines and license suspension to youth charged with underage drinking through participation in a 12-hour class developed by the Pennsylvania DUI Association. Also, the Underage Drinking Program has been offered to the school districts within Beaver County and private citizens. Since January 2012, 231 Underage Drinking Citations were filed throughout all of the magisterial district justices. There were 127 youth referred to the program and 124 have successfully completed the class.

The Juvenile Services Division also operates a restitution program. The juveniles who owe restitution and supervision fees can complete community service to enable them to pay off their fees.

In conjunction with the restitution program, this department has now created a Victim Awareness Program. The program is designed to increase a juvenile's awareness of how crime affects individual victims and the community.

REFERRALS AND DISPOSITIONS

Referrals by type: 2008-2012

YEAR	DELINQUENCY	DEPENDENCY	CUSTODY	TOTAL
2012	608	70	912	1590
2011	618	74	775	1467
2010	691	56	834	1581
2009	696	109	628	1433
2008	681	147	610	1438

In 2012, delinquency referrals have decreased only 1.6% from the prior year. Over the past five years delinquency referrals dropped 12%. Dependency referrals decreased 5% from the prior year, but declined 53% since 2008. Custody referrals increased 15% for 2012; over the past five years there was an increase of 33%.

Delinquency referral demographics 2012

	BLACK	WHITE	MALE	FEMALE	FIRST OFFENDER	REPEAT OFFENDER
2012	42%	58%	76%	24%	36%	64%
2011	36%	63%	70%	30%	41%	59%
2010	41%	55%	75%	25%	38%	62%
2009	36%	61%	76%	24%	41%	59%

Youth 15 years of age and older accounted for 81% of all delinquency allegations filed in 2012. Youth ages 10-12 accounted for 3% and 13-14 year olds represented 16 % of allegations filed in 2012.

<i>Referrals by source 2008-2012</i>			
	Total Delinquency Referrals	By Law Enforcement Agcy.	By MDJ
2012	608	457 (75%)	151(25%)
2011	618	319 (51%)	166(27%)
2010	691	346 (50%)	201(29%)
2009	696	348 (50%)	197(28%)
2008	681	401 (59%)	109(16%)

Police departments with the most referrals were: New Brighton, 42; Monaca, 37; Beaver Falls, 29; Ambridge, 25; Center Township, 21; Aliquippa, 19; Midland, 18; North Sewickley Twp., 15; Hopewell, 14; Beaver, 12; and Rochester Borough, 12.

Referrals by most serious charge at referral

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	9	21	10	24	27
BURGLARY	39	14	34	19	22
DRUG RELATED	43	36	38	55	46

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	15	39	14	18	43
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	18	1	19	13	13
FIREARMS AND WEAPONS	11	4	10	15	7
SEX OFFENSES	13	6	24	10	16
UNPAID FINES	149	166	199	197	132
THEFT (ALL)	61	69	46	57	31
ROBBERY	5	7	8	2	12
SIMPLE ASSAULT	53	56	69	58	69
TERRORISTIC THREATS	6	5	3	5	8
ADMINISTRATIVE	123	115	109	129	81

Of the 1220 charges on the 608 allegations filed in 2012, 203 or 17 % were graded as felonies.

Delinquency dispositions 2009-2012

YEAR	INTAKE ADJUSTMENT	CONSENT DECREE	FORMAL PROCESSING	TOTAL
2012	187	174	314	683
2011	183	128	295	606
2010	255	130	285	670
2009	194	149	353	696

Formal (Court) dispositions 2012:

TRANSFERRED TO CRIMINAL COURT	0
DISMISSED	121
PROBATION	95
COMMITMENT	94
TRANSFER TO OTHER COUNTY	4

DETENTION

Secure detention 2008-2012

YEAR	ADMISSIONS	RELEASES	CHILD DAYS	AVERAGE STAY	AVG. POPULATION
2012	53	50	922	18.4	2.5
2011	99	98	1530	15.6	4.1
2010	109	116	2069	17.8	5.7
2009	162	163	3454	21.2	9.5
2008	198	198	3628	18.3	9.9

Shelter 2008-2012

YEAR	ADMISSIONS	RELEASES	CHILD DAYS	AVERAGE STAY	AVG. POPULATION
2012	94	92	1375	14.9	14.9
2011	58	71	1039	14.6	2.8
2010	52	48	913	19	2.5
2009	40	45	800	17.8	2.2
2008	85	83	1097	13.2	3.0

Temporary foster care 2008-2012

YEAR	ADMISSIONS	RELEASES	CHILD DAYS	AVERAGE STAY	AVG. POPULATION
2012	43	44	1948	44.3	5.3
2011	57	56	1578	28.1	4.3
2010	36	46	1342	29.2	3.7
2009	60	49	1396	28.5	3.8
2008	74	73	1898	26	5.2

CLIENT SUPERVISION

Cases Under Court Supervision as of 12/31/12

Function	Total Cases	Avg. Caseload	# of staff assigned
Formal and consent decree	100	22	4.5
Intensive probation	7	7	1
Aftercare	34	17	2
School-based probation	42	14	3
Informal adjustment cases	44	44	.5
Total cases under supervision	227	21	11

CASE OUTCOMES

The following outcomes are based on data from 149 delinquency cases closed in 2012.

Community Protection

- 83.2% completed supervision without a new offense resulting in a consent decree, adjudication of delinquency, ARD, nolo contendere or finding of guilt in a criminal proceeding.
- 2.7% were direct filed and entered ARD, a nolo contendere plea or was found guilty in a criminal proceeding.
- 2.7% were, while under supervision, charged with a new offense and whose cases are pending in criminal court.
- 82.6% completed supervision with no judicial finding of technical violations of probation.
- Median length of supervision was 6.0 months.

Accountability / Community Service

- 96.6% were assigned community service as a condition of supervision.
- Of those 100% completed their assigned community service obligation.
- Juveniles whose cases were closed completed 5073 hours of community service while under supervision.

Accountability / Restitution

- 38.3% of closed cases had a restitution obligation.
- Of those, 77.2% made full restitution to their victims.
- Juveniles whose cases were closed paid a total of \$53,652.47 in restitution.

Accountability / Victim Awareness

- 43% of juveniles were directed to participate in a victim awareness curriculum while under supervision.
- 98.4% of those youth successfully completed that requirement.

Accountability / Other Financial Obligations

- 98% of youth whose cases were closed were ordered to pay Crime Victim’s Compensation Fund costs.
- 98.6% of those youth paid the costs as ordered.
- Total amount of Crime Victim’s Compensation Fund Costs collected: \$3850.00.

Competency Development

- 80.5% of juveniles whose cases were closed were directed to participate in a competency development activity while under supervision.
- 99.2% of those youth successfully completed the activity as ordered.
- 40.3% of juveniles whose cases closed were engaged in an educational or vocational activity at the time of closing.

PLACEMENTS

Placement Report / 2012

	Delinquent	Dependent	Total
Placed as of 1/1/12	25	8	33
Placed during 2012	38	14	52
Released in 2012	42	17	59
Placed as of 12/31/12	17	5	22

In 2012, there were 38 juveniles committed to delinquent placements; 19 are funded by Value (Medicaid). And 19 are county funded. Dependency costs for the year, of 2012, were \$189,371.

Placements and costs 2006-2012

YEAR	DEL PLCMTS	DEP PLCMTS	TTL PLCMTS	DEL COSTS
2012	38	14	52	\$1,217,505
2011	51	8	59	1,376,876
2010	30	12	42	1,110,683
2009	58	17	75	2,149,999
2008	62	31	93	2,426,238
2007	63	23	86	2,516,297
2006	53	50	103	2,493,728

DEPENDENCY CASES

There were 70 dependency cases filed in 2012. Filings have increased slightly over the last year, but have substantially decreased over the past five years. There were 70 dependency dispositions in 2012.

Dependency referral demographics – 2012

Race	
White	59%
Black	32%
Multi-racial	9%
Age at referral	
Under 10	44%
10-12	4%
13-14	12%
15-16	27%
17 and over	13%

Sex	
Male	56%
Female	44%
Referred by	
CYS	84%
Other	16%

YEAR	INTAKE	FORMAL	TOTAL
2012	10	60	70
2011	4	54	58
2010	3	55	58

CHILD CUSTODY CASES

Child custody referrals and dispositions / 2010-2012

YEAR	REFERRALS	DISPOSITIONS
2012	866	912
2011	775	708
2010	834	739

Child custody dispositions / 2010-2012

	2012	2011	2010
AGREEMENT	174	118	159
PROPOSED ORDER	268	287	287
TEMP. ORDER/ FINAL	3	0	1
FINAL ORDER (COURT)	383	235	254
OTHER	75	63	38
EXCEPTIONS FILED	88	110	99
RESOLVED AT JSD*	105%	91%	87%

*Cases resolved at JSD is the percentage of cases filed that did not result in the filing of exceptions. It does not take into consideration that some exceptions may have been filed during the year on cases filed the prior year. The percentage of dispositions resolved at JSD for the year of 2012, reflects dispositions of previous pending cases from prior years.

COLLECTIONS

Collection Summary/2012

Restitution	\$ 41,007.84
Crime Victims' Comp.	4,970.51
DUI Fees	1,386.50
Juvenile Restitution Fund	15,392.79
Juvenile Supervision Fees	10,976.09
Total	73,733.73

Redeem Fund / 2012

Beginning balance	\$10795.19
Deposits	16770.57
Paid out	10583.56
Ending balance	16982.50
Clients participating	46
Clients completing	32

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Juvenile Services Division operates programs for youth involved in the justice system and utilizes several other community based privately operated programs on behalf of our clients and community. A brief summary of these programs follows:

COMMUNITY SERVICE – Since 1985 the agency has operated a community service program. Nearly every delinquency disposition order has a requirement for community service. Most orders are for 25 to 50 hours. To make amends for their offenses, juvenile offenders provide thousands of hours of free service in their communities each year by participating in projects such as the Nationality Days, the Recycling Center, Maple Syrup Festival, The San Rocco Festival, Good Samaritan, several Car Cruises, the Ohio River Cleanup and various other sites throughout Beaver County. In 2012, there were several new sites created. This includes services for Monaca Borough, Penn State Agriculture, Car Washes for local police departments and the Sheriff Department, and a gardening project for St. Joe's Villa. There were 262 offenders that completed 7321 hours of community service during the year of 2012.

ADELPHOI AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM – Adelphoi Village has been operating an afternoon and evening program for high risk youth on probation since 2006. It is a four month program that supplements probation supervision and serves to keep offenders off the street during the high risk times for criminal activity. It provides community service opportunities, job acquisition assistance, tutor assistance and life skills services, and transportation to and from drug and alcohol counseling sessions. In 2012, the program served 82 youth. There were 56 new clients referred during 2012.

MULTI SYSTEMIC THERAPY (MST) – MST is an evidence based service shown to be effective with youth and families in the juvenile justice system. It is provided in Beaver County by a team of therapists from Mars Home for Youth. In 2012, the program served 42 families and averaged 12 families per month. This program has been very successful throughout Beaver County.

PSYCHOSOCIAL ASSESSMENTS - Northwestern Human Services employs a staff member housed in the Adult Probation Department who conducts psychosocial assessments on a walk-in basis for clients of the criminal and juvenile justice systems who have mental health issues. The psychosocial provides a background history of the family and possible services that could be implemented. A report with recommendations is provided to the agency in each case. In addition, in October 2010, through a grant to Beaver County Behavioral Health, Northwestern Human Services initiated the Transition Independency Process-System to offer a variety of services to high risk youth who are eligible for the program based on results from their psychosocial assessments. In 2012, 17 juveniles received psychosocial assessments and 10 of those were eligible to participate in TIPS.

YLS/CMI - Beaver County was one of the 10 pilot counties in Pennsylvania to implement the Youth Level of Service / Case Management Inventory. There are 65 counties in Pennsylvania that use the YLS/CMI. The YLS/CMI is an instrument that is administered as a part of the probation process to assess a youth's level of risk to re-offend. That information is used to help intake staff determine appropriate case processing and disposition recommendations. Risk level information allows the agency to allocate a greater amount of resources to high and moderate risk clients. The instrument also helps identify issues that are problematic for a given youth so that an appropriate case plan can be developed to address them. In 2012, 227 YLS/CMI assessments were completed. Of those cases, 9% of the youth were determined to be high risk, 37% were moderate risk and the remaining 54%, were low risk. Periodically during the life of a case, probation officers reassess clients so that services may be adjusted upward or downward to reflect any changes in risk level.

SANCTION PROGRAMS – Probation officers have numerous methods of bringing clients into compliance with probation rules and conditions. These range from less severe sanctions that can be imposed by the probation officer to more severe sanctions that require due process. The objective is to use the least severe sanction that is likely to bring about compliance. The first and second level sanction programs are operated out of the Adelphoi Village Afterschool Program. This sanction is thirty day short-term impact

program for juveniles that are not adjusting informal probation services. In 2012, 6 youth participated in the thirty day program 8 for the 60 day program.

The second level sanction is the Weekend Sanction Program through Keystone in Greenville, PA. Youth in that program are ordered to spend up to four consecutive weekends in residence at Keystone Adolescent Center. In 2012, 7 youth were ordered to participate in that program. Juvenile in the weekend sanction program are expected to complete community service and are being held accountable for their technical violations. The most severe sanction is the 30 Day Sanction program also at Keystone wherein youth are sent to Keystone for an intensive one month program. Ten youth were ordered to complete the 30 Day program. All sanctions are accountability based programs designed to bring youth back into compliance with conditions of probation. These sanctions have helped the agency limit the use of long term placements for youth who violate probation.

MCS/ELECTRONIC MONITORING – Another tool that is used by the Court is the Electronic Monitoring System. This enables high risk clients to remain in their home in lieu of detention. Probation Officers can track a client's whereabouts through the computer via satellite. The bracelet is designed to be used for a two month period. During 2012, there were 30 clients that were referred to the program. This includes 21 males and 9 females.

UNDERAGE DRINKING PROGRAM – The program is designed as an alternative disposition resource primarily for use by magisterial district judges. Under the terms of the program, youth who are charged with alcohol and minor drug related offenses are given the opportunity to attend the program in lieu of a fine and drivers license suspension. Youth are required to attend a 12.5 hour educational program on consecutive Saturdays taught by juvenile probation officers trained by the Pennsylvania DUI Association which also developed the curriculum. In 2012, 231 underage drinking citations were filed at the various magisterial district offices. The magistrates referred 127 youth to the program and 124 completed it by year end. The program is self supporting via fees paid by program participants.

TRUANCY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (TIP) – This program was initiated in 2009. It was designed by two juvenile probation officers from Butler County as a research project for graduate school. In Butler County the program has helped to greatly reduce truancy. It is evidenced based. The program was expanded to all magistrates and school districts in Beaver County during the school year of 2011-2012 and is operated jointly between the Juvenile Services Division and Beaver County Children and Youth Services. A team consisting of a two CYS caseworkers and a juvenile probation officer goes to all schools and attend truancy hearings held by local magisterial district judges. Their presence emphasizes the seriousness of truancy and the need to attend school regularly. Parents and youth cited for truancy are also required to attend a class run by the Caseworkers / PO team in lieu of a fine or for a reduced fine. In 2011 -2012, there were 485 truancy citations filed throughout Beaver County. From these citations, 125 youth from all school districts including Aliquippa, Ambridge, Beaver, Beaver Falls, Blackhawk, Central Valley, Freedom, Hopewell, Midland, New Brighton, Riverside, Rochester, Southside and Western Beaver were referred to the program. Out of this number of referrals 87 (70%) clients completed the class. Magisterial District Justices that participated were; District Justice Edward Howe, District Justice Joseph Schafer and District Justice Dale Nicholson, District Justice Janet Swihart, District Justice Dibenedetto, District Justice William Livingston, District Justice Douglas Loughner, District Justice Andy Hladio and District Justice Tim Finn.

ABATEMENT PROGRAM – The Abatement Program was created in addition to the truancy program. Once a family is cited for truancy, referred to a Magistrate's, completes Truancy Intervention Program, has had services provided by agencies in the community and continues to be truant, the Magistrate can then file a dependency application. The client will meet with an intake officer and then assigned to a probation officer through and Informal Adjustment Consent. During 2012, 6 clients were referred to the program and 5 successfully completed. The goal is to find the cause of the truancy and provides services to the family to reduce the chronic absenteeism.

VICTIM AWARENESS – The Juvenile Services Division previously relied on staff from our Adelphoi Program to provide a victim awareness curriculum for clients involved with the judicial system and specifically those clients in the restitution program. As part of a research project for graduate school, a staff member from the Juvenile Services Division adopted the evidenced based program created by Valerie Bender a Consultant for the Juvenile Court Judges Commission. Classes are conducted on a quarterly basis. Clients that are eligible for probation supervision in the community are referred to the program through Juvenile Services. There were 52 clients that were referred to the program and 48 (92%) clients completed the program.

REALITY TOUR -- The reality tour is sponsored by Beaver County Behavioral Health and is a re-enactment of events that can occur when a family member or juvenile uses drugs and alcohol. It was held six times at Mt. Gallitzin Academy in Baden, PA. A child must attend with a parent. In 2012, there were approximately 11 clients that attended the tour and 24 clients that voluntarily participated in the program.

CAREER LINKS – The Juvenile Services Division in partnership with Beaver County Adult Probation and Beaver County Domestic Relations have worked with Career Links which is located in the Beaver Valley Mall, Monaca PA. Clients worked on various issues such as learning how to obtain their GED, complete a resume, complete job applications, and apply for OVR Services and job training. Career Links helped both parents and juveniles in contacting local community based programs to assist with paying their rent, gas, electric, and buying food. In 2012, there were 15 clients that were referred for services. Six of those clients participated in obtaining there GED; 11 clients successfully completed their resumes online with Careerlink; 4 clients completed applications online through Careelink; 4 clients did job searches; and 1 client participated in the workforce program. Several parents were referred to Careerlink and other services for assistance.

