

**Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County**

**JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION**

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

# **COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF BEAVER COUNTY**

Honorable Richard Mancini	President Judge
Honorable Kim Tesla	Judge
Honorable James J. Ross	Judge
Honorable Dale M. Fouse	Judge
Honorable Mitchell P. Shahan	Judge
Honorable Deborah Lancos DeCostro	Judge
Honorable Laura J. Tocci	Judge

Garrett Harper	District Court Administrator
Aileen Bowers	Deputy Court Administrator
Kate Weidner	Deputy Court Administrator

Tiffany York	Juvenile Hearing Officer
J. Philip Colavincenzo	Juvenile Hearing Officer
William Rumbaugh	JCJC

## **JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION STAFF**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Colleen Tittiger	Director (retired April 2024)
Charles Rossi, Jr.	Director
Joy Porto	Assistant Director
John Davis	Supervisor
Erin Sabol	Clerical and Fiscal Manager

### **INTAKE / CHILD CUSTODY**

Michael Miller – Intake Coordinator	
Amber Mineard	J.T. Engel
Frank Jupin, Jr.	Michael Braddock

### **PROBATION OFFICERS**

Sean Bunney	Debra Landsbaugh
Marshall Clark	Meena Hill
Brandi Sabol	Kris McCafferty
Curtis Shroads	Ryan Nohe
Nelly Peralta	Emily Keener
Nicole Miller	Marissa Bufalini

## **CLERICAL SERVICES**

Tammy Bonchi  
Deborah Goedeker  
Alicia Zarrillo  
Nanette Bruce

## **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 this agency is to process delinquency, dependency and child custody filings.

The mission of the Juvenile Services Division is to protect the public from juvenile delinquency, impose accountability for the offenses committed, provide treatment in line with each offender's individual needs and equip offenders with the required competencies to enable them to live productively and responsibly in the community.

All delinquent programs and services are predicated on the use of employing evidenced based practices through the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategies. This is completed with fidelity at every stage of the juvenile process along with the Balanced and Restorative Justice Model as set forth in 42 PA C.S. 6301 (b) (2). Under this model, the agency mandate is to 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.

The Juvenile Services Department provides supervision for clients in the community and placements. We have various levels of supervision and intensity. The department focusses on the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model, a key framework in offender rehabilitation, uses the risk principle to determine who to target, the need principle to identify what to target (criminogenic needs), and the responsivity principle to determine how to target interventions. The Juvenile Court Judges Commission provides funding for staff salaries and training. Also, the Juvenile Services Division operates a community service program, the Truancy Intervention with the Abatement Program, Victim Awareness, the Redeem Fund (Restitution Program), and Positive Transitions Seminar (a parenting class) created in 2019, for child custody litigants.

## **2024 HIGHLIGHTS**

Colleen Tittiger was employed by the Juvenile Services Department and the Court System for thirty-five years. She dedicated her career to helping families and the children of Beaver County. Over the length of her career, she held many titles and completed countless job responsibilities eventually retiring as Chief in April 2024. Due to Colleen's retirement the department went through a hiring and promoting stage. Charles Rossi was promoted to Chief from Assistant Director. Charles has been with the County since 2004. Joy Porto was promoted to Assistant Director from Intake Officer. Amber Mineard was promoted to Intake officer from

Intensive Officer. Ryan Nohe was promoted to Intensive Officer from Line Officer. Emily Keener was hired to fill Ryan's vacancy.

In 2024, the officers received new body armor to update their safety equipment. The trained officers continue to carry O.C. Spray and Narcan. The County and this department secured Mobile Radio's to increase communication to the County's Emergency Services Center.

The department was excited to announce the creation of our Juvenile Delinquency RoundTable. The RoundTable was convened by the county's Delinquency Judge and co-facilitated by the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. It is comprised of relevant stakeholders in the delinquency system including but not limited to two Juvenile Judges, two Hearing Officers, JCJC, Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Probation, CYS, Law Enforcement, and community representatives. We meet on a regular basis to share best or promising practices, address areas of concern within the county's delinquency system and make plans to overcome barriers. The primary purpose of a roundtable is to foster a collaborative and in-depth discussion among participants, ensuring equal participation and the sharing of diverse perspectives on a specific topic or issue. The membership will continue to grow and expand as we review various topics that impact our system. Our focus from everyone was to encourage equal participation from all members, regardless of their experience or role. The aim is to create a space where everyone's voice is heard and valued. We successfully completed two meetings in 2024. One of the suggestions was to review our Court scheduling process. The group reviewed our current trends, type of cases, and the rules of Juvenile Court Procedure. As a result, we revised our scheduling of felony cases and updated our process.

The State of Pennsylvania continues to experience difficulty placing juveniles on demand. This department continues to contract with various providers in and/or out of state to help satisfy this need. Because of this, we continue to utilize the Electronic Monitoring System as an alternative to detention and shelter. The Court reviews the juveniles placed on the monitor every thirty days. This department continues to watch the trend that a juvenile is more likely to receive additional allegations prior to disposition than those who have been dispositioned and supervised by an officer.

This department continues to utilize various methods of virtual technology to reduce any Court delays and maintain client communication. We use virtual equipment on a regular basis for some Court Hearings, meetings, custody conferences, trainings, and meetings with clients if they do not have transportation. This enables the department to run more efficiently.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) provides in-county support and technical assistance to juvenile courts and juvenile probation departments in all 67 counties in the Commonwealth. This is known as the Juvenile Court Consultative Program. Beaver County's consultant is William Rumbaugh (Bill). He is assigned to 16 or 17 regionally organized counties. Their direct consultation enables the JCJC to provide consistent and real-time advice, support, and technical assistance on the proper care and maintenance of delinquent and dependent youth, as well as the standards for administrative practices, personnel practices, and judicial procedures used in juvenile courts and juvenile probation departments; the analysis of data, including diversion, expungements, and racial and ethnic disparity, to ensure program effectiveness and

plan for service improvement; and the activities related to compliance with the Juvenile Services Probation Grant requirements, including plans to ensure compliance.

Every year our consultant conducts an in-person interview with our department. In 2024, JCJC required their consultants to visit each county four times. During Bill's quarterly visits he reviews our commitment to the Juvenile Justice Enhancement Strategy. He observes our Court process and proceedings in front of our Hearing Officer and Judge.

In 2024, Beaver County Juvenile Services, Children and Youth Services, and Ready Yourselves Youth Ranch continued to partner and provide opportunities to the youth and their families. This partnership has led to eight years of an award-winning summer camp and countless hours of mentorship. This program has been deemed a "worksites" by Job Training of Beaver County. That being said, the participants have the opportunity to earn money to offset their costs and restitution if they choose to participate. The ranch is a non-profit faith-based organization that was established to help mentor youth who face everyday conflicts and challenges by giving them an equestrian experience through the rescue and care of horses. The impact has been extraordinary. In 2024, we conducted the Eighth Annual Ten-week Summer Camp. The camp was focused around "Emotions and Feelings". The camp was held three days per week from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. During the first part of the camp, Ready Yourselves Youth Ranch staff provided the mentoring piece and during the second half of the day, staff from Juvenile Services worked on various cognitive behaviors through the use of motivational interviewing and competency develop activities. Staff engaged in role playing with clients, provided skills in problem solving, anger management, life skills, patience, and the clients learned how to positively interact with those around them. Also, clients created various art projects. The program was provided with seeds and vegetable plants which the kids turned into a successful garden. The kids were able to take fresh vegetables home. Twelve probation clients and six children referred by CYS enrolled and successfully completed the program. At the end of the program, a dinner was held in honor of the children that participated in the camp. They received a catered meal, awards, and then displayed their horseback riding skills to their families and mentors.

It should be noted, that the staff at Ready Yourselves Youth Ranch not only mentors our youth, but help their families as well. It gives parents the opportunity to work alongside their child and engage in effective communication in a calming serene area. This program is offered to our youth and families throughout the year so even when a client's case is closed they can continue to attend. RYYR provides all transportation to and from the camp as well as meals for the kids. All children that have previously attended the camp since 2017 can continue to attend the ranch once a month through the fall and winter of each year. They can groom and ride the horses and a meal is provided to these children. The ranch averages approximately 10 kids from the county each month that had previously attended the program since its inception in 2017.

In 2024 Beaver County Juvenile Services was approached by the New Sewickley Township Police Department. The police department was interested in working with the kids during the camp. They engaged with the youth on all three days of the camp throughout the summer. Officers also attended the banquet at the end of the year and awarded each youth with a fishing set and a youth badge from their department.

The Juvenile Services Division views placement decisions as the most important decisions in balancing the juvenile's risk to re-offend and the need to help the juvenile develop in a manner that increases the likelihood of a positive adult lifestyle. Youth should be placed in the least-restrictive environment necessary to reduce/minimize risk and provide adequate treatment to facilitate positive growth. Our efforts to maximize the use of intervention and diversion programs have yielded positive outcomes with respect to removing juveniles from their homes.

The Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (PaDRAI) is a concise, structured decision-making instrument used to assist in the critical decision of whether to securely detain a youth, release to an alternative to detention (ATD), or release to the custody of a parent or responsible adult during the period that the youth is awaiting his/her juvenile court hearing. The instrument is designed to assess the risk of a youth to: 1) commit additional offenses while awaiting his/her juvenile court hearing; and/or 2) fail to appear for his/her scheduled juvenile court hearing.

This department continues to utilize assessment tools and Evidenced Based Practices to assist staff in best serving the needs of our clients, staying in-line with the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy and the four stages; Readiness, Initiation, Behavioral Change, and Refinement. This department utilizes the CTS (Child Trauma Screen), MAYSI (Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument) and the PADRAI (Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument) at the initial stage of contact with the client. The use of the YLS/CMI enables our staff to identify the risk, need, and responsivity factors of our clients. Based on the score of the YLS, the criminogenic needs are identified which allows probation officers to develop proper case plans for each client. EPICS is a set of supervision techniques used by probation officers to help build relationships, increase motivation to change, provide intentional interventions aimed at changing a youth's behavior and identify and address skill deficits. Staff also use the Carey Guides and BITS for certain situations that arise with clients. In addition, staff utilizes SPEP (Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol) to determine what programs best serve the client's needs. Although the department has been unofficially utilizing Graduated Responses for several years throughout supervision of a client, a Graduated Response Policy was developed for the department this year. The goal for 2025 is to fully implement a Graduated Response Closet which will contain gift cards, hygiene products, and other products to be given to a client as recognition for a positive behavior.

The Juvenile Services has continued to utilize the Virtual Visitation operated by Trails Ministry. Virtual Visitation is electronic communication through the internet that allows families to come together in a way that assists them in reconciliation and at a time of crisis. Staff from Trails attend court hearings, assist families with transportation, provide role modeling, and provide gas cards to help with out of home visitation and therapy.

In 2024, this department saw a decrease in Act 53 petitions. The department was able to successfully divert a small number of referrals by linking the client to a drug and alcohol evaluation without formal Court involvement.

## **REFERRALS AND DISPOSITIONS**

### *Referrals by type: 2020-2024*

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DELINQUENCY</b>	<b>DEPENDENCY</b>	<b>CUSTODY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2024</b>	304	54	694	1052
<b>2023</b>	423	67	607	1097
<b>2022</b>	393	69	699	1161
<b>2021</b>	282	56	786	1124
<b>2020</b>	249	38	764	1052

In 2024, delinquency referrals decreased by 28% from 2023. The average filing of delinquency over the last five years is 330 allegations. In 2024, dependency referrals decreased by 19% from the prior year, with an average filing of 57 allegations since 2020. Custody referrals increased by 12.5% in 2024, since the previous year; over the past five years there was an average filing of 710 cases.

### *Delinquency referral demographics 2024*

	<b>BLACK</b>	<b>WHITE</b>	<b>MULTI-RACIAL</b>	<b>HISPANIC</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>FIRST OFFENDER</b>	<b>REPEAT OFFENDER</b>
<b>2024</b>	37.76%	46.50%	13.99%	1.4%	72%	28%	57%	43%
<b>2023</b>	41%	51.5%	7.5%		72%	28%	52%	48%
<b>2022</b>	43%	59%	6%		71%	29%	50%	50%
<b>2021</b>	48%	58%			71%	29%	57%	43%
<b>2020</b>	43%	57%			68%	32%	43%	57%

Total allegations filed by Police Department and Magistrates

Age Ten -Twelve – 25, Age Thirteen- Fourteen – 67, Age Fifteen 57, Sixteen and Older 156.

\*1 Race unknown .35%

### *Referrals by source 2020-2024*

	<b>Total Delinquency Referrals</b>	<b>By Law Enforcement Agcy.</b>	<b>By MDJ</b>	<b>Juvenile Services</b>
<b>2024</b>	287	247 (86.06%)	29(10.10%)	31
<b>2023</b>	423	337(80%)	86(20%)	
<b>2022</b>	393	312(79%)	81(21%)	
<b>2021</b>	282	230(82%)	52(18%)	
<b>2020</b>	449	192(70%)	57(30%)	

Referrals by Source: Ambridge, 29; Aliquippa, 9; New Brighton, 11; Beaver Falls, 29; Hopewell Twp., 15; Beaver Valley Regional Police, 56; PA State Police, 14; Big Beaver Falls School District, 3; Brighton Twp., 12; Center Twp., 16; Economy Boro, 1; Independence Twp., 1; Midland, 2; Monaca, 9; New Brighton School Police, 2; New Sewickley Twp., 13; North Sewickley Twp 2; Ohiossville, 1; Other Counties, 11; Patterson Twp. , 2; Beaver, 7; Rochester, 11; Rochester School Police, 2; South Beaver Twp., 1; Economy Boro, 1 and Chippewa, 15. The Magisterial District Judge’s accounted for 31 contempt’s for failure to pay fines. Juvenile Service’s filed 31 allegations that include, Consent Decree Revocations (13), violations of probation (8), and dispositional reviews (10). This does not include referrals that where expunged.

**Referrals by most serious charge**

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	16	33	47	19	13
BURGLARY	6	16	10	8	4
DRUG RELATED/DUI	5	116	66	64	34
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	9	38	57	23	17
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	3	25	20	20	16
FIREARMS & WEAPONS/MANSLAUGHTER	3	46	27	25	16
SEX OFFENSES	1	34	30	6	38
UNPAID FINES	31	86	81	53	63
THEFT (ALL)	25	202	74	48	86
ROBBERY	2	11	7	3	1
SIMPLE ASSAULT	57	106	73	66	47
TERRORISTIC THREATS	9	33	14	16	15
ADMINISTRATIVE	31	38	36	29	40

There were no counts of Arson related offenses in 2024; 1 count of Strangulation; 3 counts of Endangering the Welfare of Another; 4 counts of Institutional Vandalism; 12 counts of Disorderly Conduct and numerous other misdemeanor and summary offenses. Of the 922 charges on the 336 allegations filed by the police, probation officers, District Judges in 2024, 213 or 23% were graded as felonies; 526, or 57% were graded as misdemeanors; 152 or 16% were graded as summaries; 31 or 3% were administrative. There was a 39% decrease in felony filings from 2023. This does not include referrals that were expunged.

**Delinquency dispositions 2020-2024**

YEAR	INTAKE ADJUSTMENT	CONSENT DECREE	FORMAL PROCESSING	TOTAL
2024	93	97	178	368
2023	94	93	122	309
2022	87	117	136	340
2021	83	68	102	253
2020	70	71	126	267

**Formal (Court) dispositions 2024:**

TRANSFERRED TO CRIMINAL COURT	1
DISMISSED/WITHDRAWN	70
PROBATION	68
COMMITMENT	29
TRANSFER TO ANOTHER COUNTY	10

**DETENTION****Secure detention 2020-2024**

YEAR	ADMISSIONS	RELEASES	CHILD DAYS	AVERAGE STAY	AVG. POPULATION
2024	22	23	821	35.6	2.24
2023	16	16	603	37.7	1.7
2022	12	13	293	22.5	.8
2021	10	9	324	36	.9
2020	14	16	513	36.6	1.4

**Shelter 2020-2024**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ADMISSIONS</b>	<b>RELEASES</b>	<b>CHILD DAYS</b>	<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	<b>AVG. POPULATION</b>
2024	8	9	134	14.88	.36
2023	18	17	350	20.6	.96
2022	14	14	221	15.7	.61
2021	19	19	350	18.4	.95
2020	15	15	268	17.9	.73

**Temporary foster care 2020-2024**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ADMISSIONS</b>	<b>RELEASES</b>	<b>CHILD DAYS</b>	<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	<b>AVG. POPULATION</b>
2024	41	39	1267	32.4	3.47
2023	36	35	868	24.8	2.4
2022	23	24	324	13.5	.9
2021	30	28	496	17.7	1.4
2020	17	16	395	23.2	1.1

**CLIENT SUPERVISION**

**Cases Under Court Supervision during 2024**

<b>Function</b>	<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>Avg. Caseload</b>	<b># of staff assigned</b>
Line Probation	126	12	4
Intensive Probation	32	19	1
Aftercare	37	8	3
School-based probation	111	17	3
District Justice Unpaid Fines	49	32	1

Total cases under supervision for 2024 was 338. Probation officers also supervised truancy cases throughout 2024. There was a total of 10 cases that were supervised. There are 4 line-staff that provide truancy supervision with an average of 2-3 clients per caseload.

**CASE OUTCOMES**

**Total juveniles closed that involved probation supervision or other service: 139**

**CHANGE IN YLS RISK SCORES/LEVELS**

- 1. 131 or 92.9%** of juveniles required to complete a YLS per county policy
- 2. Of those 132 juveniles, 121 or 91.7%** of juveniles that had an initial and **case closing** assessment (among those required to complete a YLS per county policy)
- 3. 76 or 62.8%** of juveniles scored low risk at initial assessment (among those who had an initial and case closing YLS)
- 4. 38 or 31.4%** of juveniles scored moderate risk at initial assessment (among those who had an initial and case closing YLS)
- 5. 7 or 5.8%** of juveniles scored high or very high risk at initial assessment (among those who had an initial and case closing YLS)

**6.** Among juveniles who completed both assessments, the number and percentage of juveniles scoring **low risk** on their initial assessment (76) that had:

- a. a lower *YLS score* at case closing than at initial assessment - **26 or 34.2%**
- b. a higher *YLS score* at case closing than at initial assessment - **17 or 22.4%**
- c. *YLS scores* that stayed the same - **33 or 43.4%**

Among juveniles who completed both assessments, the number and percentage of juveniles scoring **moderate risk** on their initial assessment (38) that had:

- a. a lower *YLS score* at case closing than at initial assessment - **22 or 57.9%**
- b. a higher *YLS score* at case closing than at initial assessment - **10 or 26.3%**
- c. *YLS scores* that stayed the same - **6 or 15.8%**

Among juveniles who completed both assessments, the number and percentage of juveniles scoring **high or very high risk** on their initial assessment (7) that had:

- a. a lower *YLS score* at case closing than at initial assessment - **5 or 71.4%**
- b. a higher *YLS score* at case closing than at initial assessment - **1 or 14.3%**
- c. *YLS scores* that stayed the same - **1 or 14.3%**

**7.** Among juveniles who completed both assessments, the number and percentage of juveniles scoring **low risk** on their initial assessment (76) that had:

- a. a higher *YLS level* at case closing than at initial assessment - **4 or 5.3%**
- b. *YLS levels* that stayed the same - **72 or 94.7%**

Among juveniles who completed both assessments, the number and percentage of juveniles scoring **moderate risk** on their initial assessment (38) that had:

- a. a lower *YLS level* at case closing than at initial assessment - **12 or 31.6%**
- b. a higher *YLS level* at case closing than at initial assessment - **2 or 5.3%**
- c. *YLS levels* that stayed the same - **24 or 63.2%**

Among juveniles who completed both assessments, the number and percentage of juveniles scoring **high or very high risk** on their initial assessment (7) that had:

- a. a lower *YLS level* at case closing than at initial assessment - **5 or 71.4%**
- b. *YLS levels* that stayed the same - **2 or 28.6%**

**COMMUNITY PROTECTION: The citizens of Pennsylvania have a right to safe and secure communities.**

### **1. Fingerprints, Photographs, and DNA Collection**

**24 or 17.3%** of juveniles closed (139) were **required** to be **fingerprinted and photographed** for an adjudicated offense.

Of those **24** juveniles that were **required** to be **fingerprinted and photographed** for an adjudicated offense,

- 20 or 83.3% were** Fingerprinted, **4 or 16.7% were not** Fingerprinted
- 21 or 87.5% were** Photographed, **3 or 12.5% were not** Photographed
- 19 or 79.2% were indicated** as being Fingerprinted and Photographed
- 2 or 8.3% were indicated** as being not Fingerprinted and Photographed
- 3 or 12.5 % were indicated** as either Fingerprinted or Photographed

**12 or 8.6%** of juveniles closed (139) were **required to submit a DNA sample** for an applicable offense  
Of those **12** juveniles that were **required to submit a DNA sample** for an applicable offense, **11**  
or **91.7%** had DNA sample collected

## **2. Juvenile Offenses while under supervision**

**136 or 97.8%** of juveniles **successfully completed supervision without a new juvenile offense**  
resulting in a Consent Decree or Adjudication of Delinquency  
**3 or 2.2%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were charged with a new juvenile offense** that  
resulted in a Consent Decree or Adjudication of Delinquency  
**6 or 4.3%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were petitioned to court for a violation of**  
**probation**  
**2 or 1.4%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were petitioned to court for a violation of**  
**probation** that resulted in a change of disposition

## **3. Adult Offenses and Direct File while under supervision**

**3 or 2.2%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were charged with a new criminal offense** and are  
**pending** in criminal court  
**1 or 0.7%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were charged with a new criminal offense** and  
**subsequently entered ARD**, a plea of Nolo Contendere, **or were found guilty** in criminal court  
**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were charged with a "direct file" offense** that is  
**pending** in criminal court  
**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles, while under supervision, **were charged with a "direct file" offense** and **subsequ**  
**ently entered ARD**, a plea of Nolo Contendere, **or were found guilty** in a criminal proceeding

**4. Median length of supervision: 6.0 months**

## **5. Placement**

**5 or 3.6%** of juveniles were committed to out-of- home placement for 28 or more consecutive days  
(excluding detention, shelter care, and diagnostic placement)  
Median length of stay in out-of- home placement for 28 or more consecutive days  
(excluding detention, shelter care, and diagnostic placement): **6.4 months**

**ACCOUNTABILITY: In Pennsylvania, when a crime is committed by a juvenile, an obligation  
to the victim and community is incurred.**

## **1. Restitution**

**39 or 28.1%** of juveniles closed (139) **had a restitution obligation**  
Total amount of restitution **ordered was \$36,958.09**  
**35 or 89.7%** of juveniles obligated **made full** restitution to their victim(s)  
Total amount of restitution **collected was \$22,543.54**  
**4 or 10.3%** of juveniles obligated that **did not make full** restitution to their victim(s)  
**1 or 25%** of juveniles that **did not make full** restitution were **aged out and judgment was entered**  
**1 or 25%** of juveniles that **did not make full** restitution were **aged out and no judgment entered**  
**2 or 50%** of juveniles that **did not make full** restitution had their **case closed and judgment was**  
**entered prior to aging out**  
**0 or 0%** of juveniles that **did not make full** restitution had their **case closed with no judgment**

entered

**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles that **did not make full** restitution were **Deceased**

## **2. Community Service**

**124 or 89.2%** of juveniles **completed** assigned community service obligation

**2,901** total community service hours were **assigned**

**120 or 96.8%** of juveniles were **assigned** community service

**2,833** total community service hours were **completed**

## **3. Other Financial Obligations**

**123 or 88.5%** of juveniles were **ordered** to pay Crime Victim's Compensation Fund Costs

**115 or 93.5%** of juveniles paid Crime Victim's Compensation Fund Costs in full

Total amount Crime Victim's Compensation Fund costs collected: **\$2,414.25**

**131 or 94.2%** of juveniles were **ordered** to pay other fines, fees, or court costs

Total amount of fines, fees, or court costs collected: **\$11,781.00**

**123 or 93.9%** of juveniles obligated paid fines, fees, or court costs **in full**

**8 or 6.1%** of juveniles obligated **did not** pay fines, fees, or court costs in full

**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles that did not pay full fines, fees, or court costs, were **aged out and judgment was entered**

**2 or 25.0%** of juveniles that did not pay full fines, fees, or court costs, were **aged out and no judgment was entered**

**1 or 12.5%** of juveniles that did not pay full fines, fees, or court costs, had their **case closed and no judgment was entered**

**5 or 62.5%** of juveniles that did not pay full fines, fees, or court costs, had their **case closed and judgment was entered** prior to aging out

**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles that did not pay full fines, fees, or court costs were **Deceased**

## **4. Victim Awareness**

**70 or 50.4%** of juveniles **successfully completed** a victim awareness curriculum/program while under supervision

**69 or 98.6%** of juveniles were **ordered** to participate in a victim awareness curriculum/program while under supervision

**COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT: Juveniles who come within the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System should leave the system more capable of being responsible and productive members of the communities.**

## **Case Plan Activities**

**42 or 30.2%** of juveniles required to complete a Case Plan per county policy

**34 or 81.0%** of juveniles had a case plan completed that included goals and risk reduction activities to address the top 2-3 criminogenic needs identified by the YLS.

**34 or 81.0%** of case plans were successfully completed during supervision

**35 or 83.3%** case plans were updated throughout the supervision period

**Activities Utilized During Supervision for All Cases Closed**

**100 or 71.9%** of plans included **Skill Building & Tools activities**

**99 or 71.2%** of plans included **Cognitive Behavioral Group Interventions**

**37 or 26.6%** of plans included **Referral to Treatment Services**

**1 or 0.7%** of plans included **other activities**

**Education and Employment**

**136 or 97.8%** of juveniles were employed or actively engaged in an educational or vocational activity at case closing

**108 or 79.4%** of juveniles were **attending school and passing** while under supervision

**9 or 6.6%** of juveniles were **attending school and not passing** while under supervision

**13 or 9.6%** of juveniles **graduated high school** while under supervision

**1 or 0.7%** of juveniles were **attending G.E.D. preparation classes** while under supervision

**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles **obtained G.E.D** while under supervision

**2 or 1.5%** of juveniles were **participating in vocational training** while under supervision

**4 or 2.9%** of juveniles were **actively seeking employment** while under supervision

**8 or 5.9%** of juveniles were **employed full time** while under supervision

**24 or 17.6%** of juveniles were **employed part time** while under supervision

**0 or 0.0%** of juveniles were **enrolled or participating in higher education** while under supervision

**PLACEMENTS**

*Placement Report / 2024*

	<b>Delinquent</b>	<b>Dependent</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><i>Placed as of 1/1/24</i></b>	7	24	31
<b><i>Placed during 2024</i></b>	15	44	59

In 2024, there were 15 juvenile commitments to delinquent placements. Five were funded by Carelon (Medicaid).

**DEPENDENCY CASES**

There were 54 dependency cases filed in 2024. Filings decreased 19% over the last year. There were 69 dependency dispositions in 2024. There were cases that carried over from the previous year.

Dependency referral demographics – 2024

<b>Race</b>	
<i>White</i>	46%
<i>Black</i>	24%
<i>Multi-racial</i>	29%
<b>Age at referral</b>	
<i>Under 10</i>	52%
<i>10-12</i>	12%

<b>Sex</b>	
<i>Male</i>	35%
<i>Female</i>	65%
<b>Referred by</b>	
<i>CYS</i>	85%
<i>Other</i>	15%

*Dependency dispositions 2020-2024*

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>INFORMAL</b>	<b>FORMAL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>50</b>

**CHILD CUSTODY CASES**

*Child custody referrals and dispositions / 2021-2024*

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>REFERRALS</b>	<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>
<b>2024</b>	694	658
<b>2023</b>	607	624
<b>2022</b>	699	644
<b>2021</b>	786	841

The Juvenile Services Division conducted approximately two home studies for child custody cases during 2024.

*Child custody dispositions / 2021 -2024*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>AGREEMENT</b>	79	52	57	18
<b>PROPOSED ORDER</b>	129	183	179	272
<b>TEMP. ORDER/ FINAL</b>	2	0	0	0
<b>FINAL ORDER (COURT)</b>	380	336	377	430
<b>OTHER</b>	61	39	60	102
<b>EXCEPTIONS FILED</b>	62	92	67	78
<b>RESOLVED AT JSD*</b>	91%	85%	91%	90%

\*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 2024, reflects dispositions of previous pending cases from prior years. The total dispositions in 2024 was 658 – 62 = 596/658 or 91%.

**COLLECTIONS**

<i>Collection Summary/2024</i>	<i>Assessed</i>	<i>Collected</i>
Restitution	\$36,958.03	\$22,543.54
Crime Victims Comp.	\$2,500.00	\$2,414.25
Juvenile Restitution Fund	\$12,343.18	\$11,403.53
Juvenile Supervision Fees	\$12,235.00	\$11,781.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$64,036.21</b>	<b>\$48,142.32</b>

*Redeem Fund / 2024*

Beginning balance	\$23,325.23
Deposits	\$9,666.31
Paid out	\$12,179.60
Ending balance	\$20,811.94
Clients participating	66
Client's referred in 2024	40
Clients completed	46

There was a carryover of clients from 2023.

## **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 RYYR Youth Ranch, the Recycling Center, Maple Syrup Festival, The San Rocco Festival, Good Samaritan, several Car Cruises, the Ohio River Cleanup, Monaca Borough, Penn State Agriculture, Meals at Faith Community United Methodist Church, Rochester, PA, and various other sites throughout Beaver County.

**REDEEM FUND** – In 2007 the Beaver County Court of Common Pleas created and has continued to operate a restitution program. Funds come to the program from collected unpaid fines for summary offenses that were referred by the Magisterial District Offices and any juvenile that is placed on consent decree or formal probation pays the cost of \$50.00 to the program. Once a juvenile enters the program, he or she may complete community service at now \$15.00/hour which goes directly towards the cost owed to the victim and the client's supervision fees if money is available.

**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. There are 67 counties in Pennsylvania that use the YLS/CMI. 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.

**MCS/ELECTRONIC MONITORING** – Another tool that is used by the Court is the Electronic Monitoring System. This enables moderate to high risk clients to remain in their home in lieu of detention. The tools have been used more due to the lack of options with Detention Centers and Shelters. Probation Officers can track a client's whereabouts using Global Positioning System. As stated previously, the department conducts review hearings every thirty days. During 2024, there were 23 clients that were referred to the program. There was a 58% decrease in the use of the monitor from 2023. Out of these 23 clients in 2024, 8(eight) were placed on our zero-tolerance program and 15(fifteen) were placed on our non-zero tolerance program. In 2024 we spent \$15,135.40, and the average number of days that a client was on a unit was 111 days. (2,557 total days). The use of this tool has saved the department a significant amount of money.

**VICTIM AWARENESS** – 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. In 2024, there were 98 clients that were referred to the program and 66 (71%) successfully completed 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.

**PRESSLEY RIDGE CRISIS PROGRAM** - Crisis Stabilization and Family Preservation services in Beaver County are designed to serve the needs of youth and their families who are involved with the Juvenile Services Division of Beaver County and who are either returning from a juvenile detention facility or other placement or are at risk of being placed in a facility. Services are designed to do a thorough assessment of the youth and family to identify areas of volatility that risk re-entry into the juvenile justice system, and to offer crisis stabilization, brief treatment, and linkage to support services. Crisis Stabilization and Family Preservation services are provided to youth ages 12-18 years of age and their family members, including parents, siblings, and any other persons identified by the family as needing to be included. Visits are conducted both as a team and as individuals depending on the purpose of each session. Services are offered in the home and community, including meeting the youth and family in whatever location is convenient to the family.

**POSITIVE TRANSITIONS** – In 2024, the Court continued to use the Child Custody Communication Class. This class was created for several important reasons. The Courts of Beaver County needed a better tool to ensure custody and divorce litigants are better able to communicate throughout their civil Court proceedings. By having litigants complete the program; the goal is to have clients learn to communicate in an appropriate manner with the consideration of children’s feelings throughout the process. The Court also needed a system whereby the program is offered at different times throughout the month, attendance is monitored accurately, clients are provided a Court contact person and data is collected at each class to ensure each instructor is following the curriculum with fidelity. The program is self-sustaining and is funded by litigants paying an initial fee for the class. Below are the class statistics.

**Year-to-date:**

**324 individuals**

**246 successful completions**

**75.72% successful completion rate**

**Average pre-test score: 82%**

**Average post-test score: 90 %**

**Average evaluation score (out of possible 5): 4.56**

**TRAILS MINISTRIES** – In 2024, this department continued to partner with TRAILS Ministries in using their D.O.V.E. (Diversity, Occupation, Vocation, and Education) program which is PACTT affiliated. TRAILS address the academic needs of clients as well as providing technical training. TRAILS also provide parental virtual and in-person visitation as well as transportation. The end of 2023-2024 marks ten years that TRAILS has been afforded the opportunity to provide support to the juvenile justice-involved youth and their families. This includes visits to placement, shelter and treatment facilities and emergency transportation.