

**Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County**

**JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION**

**2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

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

Honorable John D. McBride	President Judge
Honorable C. Gus Kwidis	Judge
Honorable Richard Mancini	Judge
Honorable John J. Ross	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
Charles Rossi	Supervisor
Erin Sabol	Clerical and Fiscal Manager

### **INTAKE / CHILD CUSTODY**

Michael Miller – Intake Coordinator	
Joy Porto	J.T. Engel
John Davis	Michael Braddock

### **PROBATION OFFICERS**

Daniel DelTurco	Sean Bunney
Marshall Clark	Deborah Landsbaugh
Brandi Sabol	Meena Hill
Curtis Shroads	Kris McCafferty
Nelly Peralta	Frank Jupin, Jr.
Ryan Nohe	Amber Mineard

## **CLERICAL SERVICES**

Tammy Bonchi  
Amy Buchanan  
Alicia Stauffer  
Alicia Zarrillo

## **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.

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.

In addition to our intake department, probation supervision services are provided to clients in the schools, placement, and on an intensive level. Best practice is to continue to provide specialized probation services through the risk and need of the clients and families within the community. The Juvenile Court Judges Commission provides funding for services through this department. 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).

## **2016 HIGHLIGHTS**

On April 8, 2016, Marian Bunney and Lori Petrovich retired. Marian was employed with the Juvenile Services Division since 1990, serving as a probation officer, intake/custody officer and finally our intake coordinator. She provided probation supervision, processed clients through court and conducted child custody conferences. Marian also completed all the Court scheduling. Lori Petrovich was part of our clerical staff and worked here since 1994. Best wishes to both of them in their future endeavors.

The Beaver County Juvenile Services faced several challenges over the last year, including the transitioning and training of new staff, developing a proper case plan and providing quality assurance for all the different aspects of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategies. Throughout all of these personnel changes over the past year, it has been the goal of The Juvenile Services to achieve the best possible outcomes for the youth, victims and

community that we serve. Strong family involvement and supports are encouraged in every situation and are essential to having successful outcomes. Through the leadership of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Beaver County Juvenile Services have been provided the roadmap to achieve and improve upon outcomes. One of the missions of Balanced and Restorative Justice is to provide evidenced based services through policy and practice.

In 2016, the Juvenile Services Division continued with its placement philosophy of placing only those delinquents that represent 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.

This department has continued to implement the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. The four stages are: Readiness, Initiation, Behavioral Change and Refinement. Training was provided for the Initiation and Behavioral Change Stages. In February 2016, this department conducted a Motivational Interviewing Implementation planning meeting with Dawn Shantz, liaison from JCJC and administration staff. As a result of this meeting, several staff were chosen to be coaches and subsequently attended the MI Coaches Forum in April 2016. In July 2016, the coaches attended MI training for coaches at Mercer County Juvenile Probation.

Throughout 2016, our administrative staff developed a field case plan with objectives and goals. This case plan was a pilot case plan and used with a few clients. All probation officers have since been trained on the use of this current case plan.

This department will continue to use our afterschool program and crisis intervention. We are dedicated in the use of evidenced based research and practices and will continue to implement tools such as MST, ART, Family Group Decision Making, to provide the best services possible to clients and families. Alliance, skill building, rewards and sanctions are the foundation of providing successful probation services. The Carey Guides and BITS are tools to enable staff to deal with different probation scenarios.

The Juvenile Services Division has continued to use the Youth Level Service Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) risk needs assessment as a means to determine what level a client is to re-offend. The YLS is also part of JJSES Initiation Stage. We currently have four master YLS trainers. In 2016, there were 307 assessments completed. We continue to review our YLS policy and procedures to ensure we are following best practice according to the Juvenile Court Judges Commission. This department continues to be involved with the state YLS conference calls and currently operates a YLS committee. Because the YLS is linked to the creation of an appropriate case plan that meets the risk, needs and goals for a client there has been a statewide case plan committee developed through JCJC. The committee developed a field case plan for clients that address attainable and smart goals.

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. Throughout the past year, the program continued to expand its services and now collaborates with a total of seven residential programs. The program has been extremely beneficial to the families we serve as it gives family members an opportunity to visit with their children through teleconferencing while they are in shelter, detention or a placement facility. In addition to the Virtual Visitation Program, Trails Ministry has added a component to the program referred to as Extended Aftercare. Staff from Trails attend court hearings, assist families with transportation, provide role modeling and mentoring programs through Geneva College and provide community service projects for the juvenile. In addition, staff will provide support to the client and family in meeting treatment goals.

The Beaver After School Program operated by Adelphoi Village continued to provide an array of services for Juvenile Services during the past year. The program is partnered with Beaver County Job Training which enables the youth who attend the after school program, an opportunity to learn skills such as preparing a resume and job interviews. Youth can earn up to \$300.00. Juveniles under the age of fourteen do not qualify for Career Links. These clients are involved with the Youth Earning Program. They can earn \$50.00 for attending the program for thirty days, participate and be of good behavior. The money earned has been helpful to the youth as it assist them in regards to paying their court costs and restitution they may owe to their victims.

Over the past year the program identified community resources that enabled the youth who attend the program an opportunity to participate and complete community service projects. The program dedicates two days a week for youth to attend work sites.

Adelphoi staff continued to provide transportation for clients and to and from drug and alcohol counseling. Without this service many of the youth involved with The Juvenile Services would not be able to meet the required obligation to attend, due to lack of transportation or in some case motivational issues. Youth also benefited from a structured daily schedule as the program enforces peer evaluations, group process, behavior management techniques, contingency contracting, victim awareness and conflict resolution. The youth in the program are taught to take responsibility for their actions and develop plans that will enable them to experience success.

In 2016, this department continued to operate the Underage Drinking Program. The program did have sustainability issues, but it is a service that is important to provide to the community.

The goals for 2017 are, to provide evidenced based practice training to the stakeholders, introduce the PA Detention Risk Assessment Instrument, continue with the implementation of motivational interviewing and all that entails, continue to use our YLS/CMI and provide safety equipment and safety training for staff.

## **REFERRALS AND DISPOSITIONS**

### *Referrals by type: 2012-2016*

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DELINQUENCY</b>	<b>DEPENDENCY</b>	<b>CUSTODY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2016</b>	471	55	701	1227
<b>2015</b>	477	62	784	1323
<b>2014</b>	526	55	798	1379
<b>2013</b>	562	64	927	1553
<b>2012</b>	608	70	912	1590

In 2016, delinquency referrals decreased by 1% from the prior year. Over the past five years delinquency referrals dropped 23% with an average filing of 529 allegations. Dependency referrals decreased by 11% from the prior year, with an average filing of 61 allegations since 2012. Custody referrals decreased by 11% for 2016; over the past five years there was an average filing of 824 cases.

### *Delinquency referral demographics 2016*

	<b>BLACK</b>	<b>WHITE</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>FIRST OFFENDER</b>	<b>REPEAT OFFENDER</b>
<b>2016</b>	44%	56%	68%	32%	38%	62%
<b>2015</b>	47%	53%	68%	32%	35%	65%
<b>2014</b>	46%	54%	67%	33%	37%	63%
<b>2013</b>	40%	60%	70%	30%	38%	62%
<b>2012</b>	42%	58%	76%	24%	36%	64%

Youth 15 years of age and older accounted for 74% of all delinquency allegations filed in 2016. Youth ages 10-12 accounted for 4% and 13-14 year olds represented 22% of allegations filed in 2016.

### *Referrals by source 2012-2016*

	<b>Total Delinquency Referrals</b>	<b>By Law Enforcement Agcy.</b>	<b>By MDJ</b>
<b>2016</b>	471	351 (75%)	119(25%)
<b>2015</b>	477	371(78%)	106(22%)
<b>2014</b>	527	422(80%)	105(20%)
<b>2013</b>	562	414(74%)	148(26%)
<b>2012</b>	608	457 (75%)	151(25%)

Police departments with the most referrals were: Beaver Falls, 32; New Brighton, 29; Hopewell Twp., 18; Ambridge, 17; Midland, 14; Aliquippa, Baden, Center Twp., New Sewickley Twp. had 11 filings each and all other departments had ten or less filings.

*Referrals by most serious charge*

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	17	21	25	12	9
BURGLARY	25	33	21	11	39
DRUG RELATED/DUI	94	93	76	48	43
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	115	44	39	9	15
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	29	30	24	13	18
FIREARMS & WEAPONS/MANSLAUGHTER	27	39	38	6	11
SEX OFFENSES	6	46	83	4	13
UNPAID FINES	119	107	105	148	149
THEFT (ALL)	129	117	124	50	61
ROBBERY	1	2	5	0	5
SIMPLE ASSAULT	59	79	100	59	53
TERRORISTIC THREATS	10	28	17	5	6
ADMINISTRATIVE	90	91	103	109	123

Of the 994 charges on the 471 allegations filed in 2016, 235 or 24% were graded as felonies.

*Delinquency dispositions 2012-2016*

YEAR	INTAKE ADJUSTMENT	CONSENT DECREE	FORMAL PROCESSING	TOTAL
2016	116	99	235	450
2015	147	113	285	539
2014	119	112	203	434
2013	207	151	282	640
2012	187	174	322	683

*Formal (Court) dispositions 2016:*

TRANSFERRED TO CRIMINAL COURT	0
DISMISSED	115
PROBATION	39
COMMITMENT	65
TRANSFER TO OTHER COUNTY	1

**DETENTION**

*Secure detention 2012-2016*

YEAR	ADMISSIONS	RELEASES	CHILD DAYS	AVERAGE STAY	AVG. POPULATION
2016	24	21	465	22.1	1.2
2015	49	54	882	16.3	2.4
2014	35	34	663	19.5	1.8
2013	44	44	1210	27.5	3.2
2012	53	50	922	18.4	2.5

**Shelter 2012-2016**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ADMISSIONS</b>	<b>RELEASES</b>	<b>CHILD DAYS</b>	<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	<b>AVG. POPULATION</b>
2016	67	63	1223	19.4	3.4
2015	60	64	941	14.7	2.6
2014	93	92	1773	19.2	4.9
2013	106	106	2577	24.3	7.8
2012	94	92	1375	14.9	3.8

**Temporary foster care 2012-2016**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ADMISSIONS</b>	<b>RELEASES</b>	<b>CHILD DAYS</b>	<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	<b>AVG. POPULATION</b>
2016	28	26	1247	47.9	3.4
2015	46	45	1629	36.2	4.4
2014	34	34	1475	43.3	4.0
2013	41	41	1890	46.1	5.2
2012	43	44	1948	44.3	5.3

**CLIENT SUPERVISION**

***Cases Under Court Supervision as of 12/31/16***

<b>Function</b>	<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>Avg. Caseload</b>	<b># of staff assigned</b>
Formal and consent decree	45	11	4
Intensive probation	10	10	1
Aftercare	36	12	3
School-based probation	31	10	3
Informal adjustment cases	33	33	1
Total cases under supervision	155	13	12

**CASE OUTCOMES**

The following outcomes are based on data from 113 delinquency cases closed in 2016.

***Community Protection***

- Juveniles who successfully 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 : 94; 83.2%

***Accountability / Community Service***

- Juveniles assigned community service: 105; 92.9%
- a. juveniles who completed assigned community service obligation: 105; 100%
- Total community service hours completed: 3,150

***Accountability / Restitution***

- Juveniles with a Restitution obligation: 29; 25.7%
- a. juveniles who made full restitution to their victim(s): 20; 69%
- Total amount of restitution collected; \$13,130.22



**Accountability / Victim Awareness**

- Juveniles directed/ordered to participate in a victim awareness curriculum /program while under supervision: 80; 70.8%
- juveniles who successfully completed a victim awareness curriculum / program while under supervision: 79; 98.8%

**Accountability / Other Financial Obligations**

- Juveniles ordered to pay Crime Victim's Compensation Fund Costs: 113; 100%
- Juveniles who paid Crime Victim's Compensation Fund Costs in full: 107; 94.7%
- Total amount Crime Victim's Compensation Fund Costs collected: \$3,950.00

**Competency Development**

- Juveniles directed / ordered to participate in a competency development activity while under supervision: 84; 74.3%
- Juveniles who successfully completed a competency development activity while under supervision: 80; 95.2%
- Juveniles directed / ordered to participate in a substance abuse treatment program while under supervision: 41 ; 36.30%
- Juveniles who successfully completed, or are actively participating in, a licensed substance abuse treatment program at case closing (in-patient or out-patient): 35; 85.4 %
- Juveniles employed or engaged in an educational or vocational activity at case closing: 110; 97.3%

**PLACEMENTS**

**Placement Report / 2016**

	<b>Delinquent</b>	<b>Dependent</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Placed as of 1/1/16</b>	15	51	67
<b>Placed during 2016</b>	45	6	51
<b>Released in 2016</b>	33	7	39
<b>Placed as of 12/31/16</b>	36	50	86

In 2016, there were 30 juveniles committed to delinquent placements which were funded by Value (Medicaid) and 15 were county funded. Dependency costs for the year, of 2016, were \$ 130,753.00.

**Placements and costs 2011-2016**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DEL PLCMTS</b>	<b>DEP PLCMTS</b>	<b>TTL PLCMTS</b>	<b>DEL COSTS</b>
<b>2016</b>	45	7	52	\$ 692,088
<b>2015</b>	39	9	48	981,597
<b>2014</b>	38	12	49	1,254,173
<b>2013</b>	51	39	82	1,217,505
<b>2012</b>	38	14	52	1,376,876
<b>2011</b>	51	8	59	1,110,683

## **DEPENDENCY CASES**

There were 55 dependency cases filed in 2016. Filings decreased over the last year. There were 65 dependency dispositions in 2016. There was a carryover from 2015.

### ***Dependency referral demographics – 2016***

<b>Race</b>	
<i>White</i>	64%
<i>Black</i>	25%
<i>Multi-racial</i>	11%
<b>Age at referral</b>	
<i>Under 10</i>	45%
<i>10-12</i>	9%
<i>13-14</i>	11%
<i>15-16</i>	29%
<i>17 and over</i>	6%

<b>Sex</b>	
<i>Male</i>	56%
<i>Female</i>	44%
<b>Referred by</b>	
<i>CYS</i>	60%
<i>Other</i>	40%

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>INTAKE</b>	<b>FORMAL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>45</b>

## **CHILD CUSTODY CASES**

### ***Child custody referrals and dispositions / 2014-2016***

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>REFERRALS</b>	<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>
<b>2016</b>	701	742
<b>2015</b>	784	778
<b>2014</b>	798	809

The Juvenile Services Division conducted 26 homes studies for child custody cases during 2016.

### ***Child custody dispositions / 2014-2016***

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>AGREEMENT</b>	128	157	183
<b>PROPOSED ORDER</b>	220	214	228
<b>TEMP. ORDER/ FINAL</b>	2	3	2
<b>FINAL ORDER (COURT)</b>	302	351	342
<b>OTHER</b>	96	53	55
<b>EXCEPTIONS FILED</b>	72	84	89
<b>RESOLVED AT JSD*</b>	106%	99%	101%

\*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 2016, reflects dispositions of previous pending cases from prior years.

## **COLLECTIONS**

<i>Collection Summary/2016</i>	<i>Assessed</i>	<i>Collected</i>
Restitution	\$65250.54	18564.43
Crime Victims' Comp.	3,850.00	3,694.57
DUI Fees	1,800.00	1,574.63
Juvenile Restitution Fund	36856.88	34,556.62
Juvenile Supervision Fees	8650.00	7,923.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,785.31</b>	<b>58,318.81</b>

### ***Redeem Fund / 2016***

Beginning balance	\$25,632.51
Deposits	12,552.76
Paid out	12,304.73
Ending balance	25,880.54
Clients participating	70
Clients completing	39

## **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. There were 72 clients that completed 5473 hours of community service during the year of 2016.

**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 \$10.00/hour which goes directly towards the cost owed to the victim and the client's supervision fees if money is available. In 2016, there were 39 clients that successfully completed the program. There was \$12,304.73 earned in community service hours. This money was subsequently paid to victims of crimes and for supervision fees.

**ADELPHOI AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM** – Adelphoi Village has been operating an afternoon and evening program for high risk youth on probation since 2006. It is usually 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. Healthcare education is provided to clients on a weekly basis to clients. Adelphoi served 56 youth. There were 50 new clients referred during 2016.

**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 2016, the program served 33 families. There were 4 families referred by Juvenile Services, 1 family referred by Children and Youth and 28 cases referred by mental health. 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 2016, 15 juveniles received psychosocial assessments.

**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 66 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. In 2016, 307 YLS/CMI assessments were completed. Of those cases, 0% was to be considered very high; 7% of the youth were determined to be high risk, 33% were moderate risk and the remaining 61%, 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 level sanction programs are operated out of the Adelphoi Village Afterschool 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 2016, 6 youth were ordered to participate in that program. Juveniles 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. One youth was 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 2016, there were 29 clients that were referred to the program. Out of these 29 clients, 17 were zero tolerance cases.

**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 2016, 130 underage drinking citations were filed at the various magisterial district offices. The magistrates referred 78 youth to the program and 63 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 is used by all the magistrates and school districts in Beaver County during the school year of 2015-2016 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 go 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 2015 - 2016 school year, there were 426 hearings held at the magistrates throughout Beaver County. From these citations, 152 families 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, 112 families completed the class. There are also school intervention meetings. In the year of 2015-2016 there were 697 school meetings and 144 of these clients were referred to the magistrate (20%).

In cooperation with a representative from each school district, magisterial districts, the Juvenile Services Division and Beaver County Children and Youth Services a county protocol committee was created and meets on a yearly basis. This committee established a universal truancy referral system along with intervention and prevention services.

**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. There was 1 client carried over from 2016, 8 new clients was referred in 2016 and 8 successfully completed the program. The goal is to find the cause of the truancy and provide 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 90 clients that were referred to the program and 85 (94%) 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. 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 2016, there were 16 clients that were referred for services. All participated and successfully completed their resumes or GED classes. Job Training paid \$2772.00 towards restitution and supervision fees.

**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 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. Services are provided to every family identified for a minimum of 30 days, and with four to twelve weeks of service for the majority of families. The intensity of service is dependent upon the unique needs of each identified family; however, due to the nature of the population served, contact is expected at a minimum of three visits per week. The service is provided by a team of two professionals, both a master's level and bachelor's level family worker. 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. In 2016, there were 43 families provided this service.

**TRAILS MINISTRIES** – Provides numerous services to youth and their families. This includes visits to placement, shelter and treatment facilities and emergency transportation to facilities in bereavement situations. They provide job skills, job training, computer use, mentoring, homework assistance, gift cards, food and many other services.

TRAILS staff also provide, a service for clients and their families to communicate electronically through Virtual Visitation. In 2016, 68 families were involved with Virtual Visitation. There were 46 new referrals, 16 were re-referrals and 6 were involved in 2015 and continued with services in 2016. There was an average of 23 families involved with the VV service each month. The highest month had 32 families participating. There were 103 Virtual Visits conducted. There were an additional 46 scheduled but for various reasons had to be cancelled. TRAILS were able to offer Virtual Visitation visits to youth who were in placement at eleven 11 placement/shelter/treatment sites (Abraxas, Adelphoi, Bethesda, George Junior, Glen Mills, Jefferson County Detention Center, Keystone, Mid-Atlantic, New Outlook, Pathways, and Summit Academy) across the state of PA. Transportation was provided to families to visit with their children in an additional two 2 placement sites, Outside In and Pyramid. Those facilities do not have Virtual Visitation capabilities at this time. TRAILS had 3,168 family contacts with and on behalf of youth and their families, with an average 264 contacts a month. Staff was involved with 10 youth post-release in our intensive reentry component of Virtual Visitation. Supervision was provided at work-sites for 18 youth under supervision that owe community service.