

1977

Juvenile Probation

Annual
Report

**Harris
County**

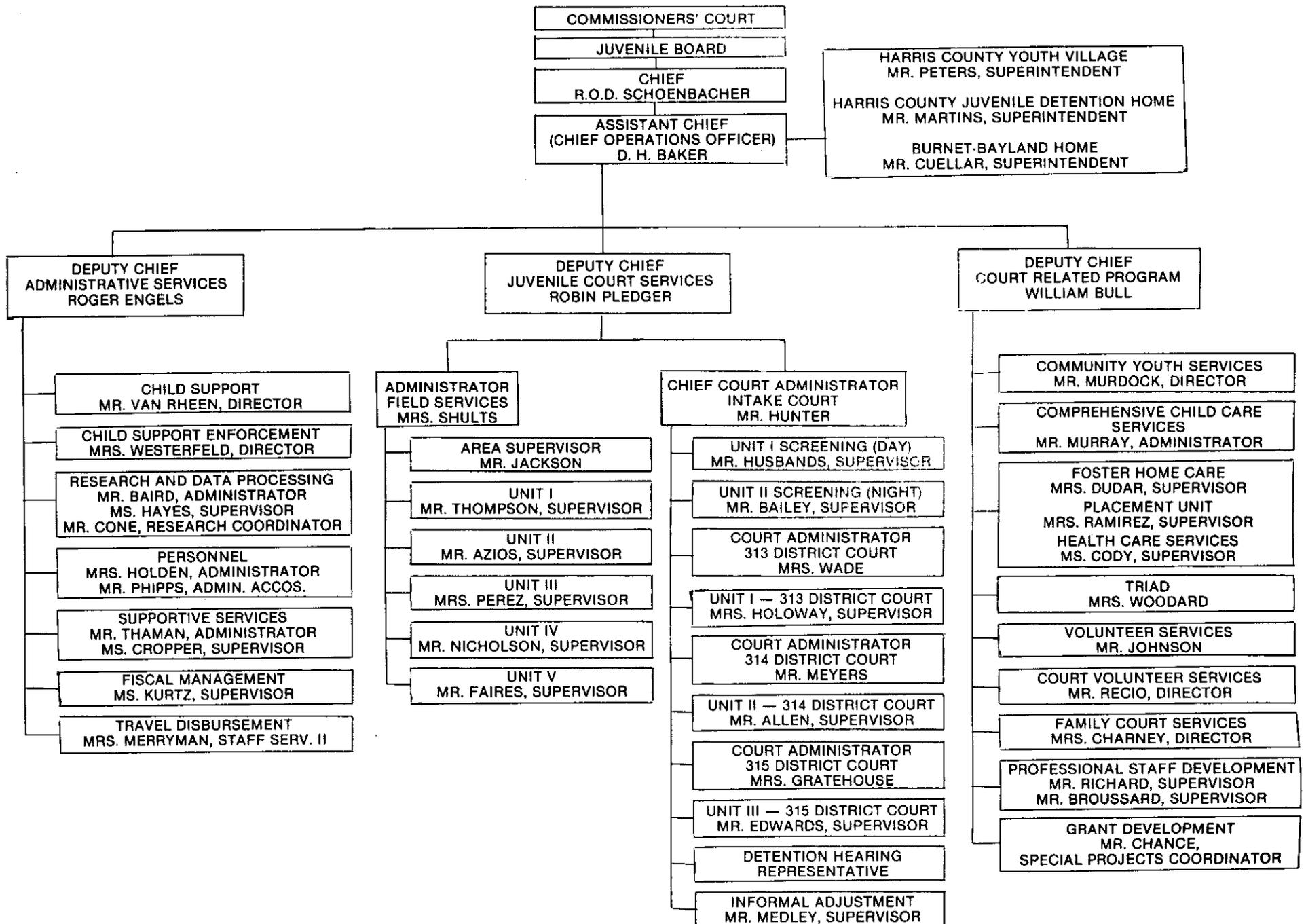
3540 W. Dallas
Houston, Texas

TO THE STAFF WHO
MADE
THIS PUBLICATION POSSIBLE
AND TO THE
YOUTH OF THE COMMUNITY
WHOM WE TRY TO HELP AND SERVE

"Young heads are giddy, and young hearts are warm, and make mistakes for manhood to reform."

William Cooper 1784

HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART — 1977



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**313TH FAMILY DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE ROBERT L. LOWRY**



**COUNTY JUDGE
HONORABLE JON LINDSAY**



**151ST CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE JOHN L. COMPTON**



**314TH FAMILY DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE W. H. MILLER**

HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD

[Through the powers enacted by State law (Empowered by State Law Article 5139VV), this board formulates policy and procedures for the employees of the probation department and the county institutions for the care of neglected, dependent and delinquent children.]



**176TH CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE WILLIAM M. HATTEN**



**315TH FAMILY DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE CRISS COLE**



**CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER
R. O. D. SCHOENBACHER**



**308TH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE WELLS STEWART**



COUNTY JUDGE
HONORABLE JON LINDSAY

TO: Harris County Commissioners Court
Harris County Citizens

RE: Transmittal of 1977 Annual Report

This 1977 Annual Report is hereby transmitted to our Harris County citizenry. The document provides a small glimpse of many efforts of progress promulgated by the Juvenile Board and placed into operation by the 422 employees who work within the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department.

As Chairman for the Harris County Juvenile Board and County Judge, I applaud your continued support and interest in the services we provide to troubled children in Harris County.

Sincerely,

Jon Lindsay, County Judge
Chairman, Harris County Juvenile Board



CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER
R.O.D. SCHOENBACHER

One of our primary objectives of the Juvenile Court, the Juvenile Board and Juvenile Probation Department has been to develop Community awareness, *i.e.*, working with all segments of our community in finding ways, other than detention, to provide services and treatment programs for our troubled youth. Today, we have the assistance and cooperation of both private and public agencies, volunteer groups and individual citizens who work with our department to provide for a variety of services for our clients.

I wish to thank everyone involved for their help in meeting this goal and solicit your continued involvement.

Respectfully,

R.O.D. Schoenbacher

R. O. D. Schoenbacher, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Chief Executive Officer, Harris County Juvenile Board

THE JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

**David H. Baker Assistant Chief
Juvenile Probation Office**

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, with its central office located at 3540 West Dallas, is in the broadest sense, a human resource agency for Harris County children and families. Its governing body, the HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD, consists of 6 District Judges and the County Judge. The chairperson is elected annually by the Board. The Harris County Juvenile Board meets monthly to determine policy for all functions associated with the Juvenile Probation Department.

All functions of the JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT are the expressed responsibility of the CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER. The Juvenile Probation Department's primary task is in matters relating to juveniles between the ages of 10 years to 17 years, who, through acts of delinquent conduct, mental impairment or emotional instability, must be rendered a service as prescribed by the Texas Family Code. Additionally, the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer is, by law, responsible for the operation of all COUNTY INSTITUTIONS for children. This includes BURNETT-BAYLAND HOME for dependent and neglected children and children in need of supervision, the HARRIS COUNTY YOUTH VILLAGE, a co-educational school for juveniles between the ages of 10 years to 17 years, who have been adjudicated delinquent, and the HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION HOME, a secure facility empowered by law to detain those juveniles who, by their actions, must be removed temporarily from the community while awaiting a court hearing. Also, supervision of GROUP CARE, FOSTER CARE, and OTHER CONTRACTED PLACEMENTS for children placed by the Juvenile Courts, is the responsibility of the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer.

The Juvenile Probation Department is responsible for serving 9 Family District Courts in matters of domestic relations. This area of service is designated as "FAMILY COURT SERVICES." All minor children in Harris County are served by Family Court Services in all matters relative to custody in divorce cases, and other matters relating to adoption proceedings.

As designated by law, the CHILD SUPPORT DIVISION is under the Juvenile Board. The Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, by their direction, collects and disburses, as ordered by the Family District Courts, some \$29,000,000.00 for child support. Additionally, the CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT DIVISION functions as an arm of the Juvenile Probation Department, and is responsible for the continued legal process to ascertain payments for support of minor children as ordered by the Courts.

Lastly, the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer is charged with the responsibility of monitoring Federal and State grants relative to the entire Juvenile Justice System in Harris County.

"There is no wealth where there are no children"

Japay Proverbs

Juvenile Court Services

ROBIN PLEDGER, Deputy Chief

COURT INTAKE

Mr. Hunter, Administrator

FIELD SERVICES

Mrs. Shults, Administrator

Juvenile Court Services was designed to assist the Juvenile Courts in working with juvenile offenders who come within the authority of the Family Code. This numbered 23,878 referrals in 1977. Facing the reality of limited staff and limited resources within the Justice System, we feel that diversion is a very viable alternative.

It must be remembered that for the protection of society, as well as the juveniles, those offenders who commit heinous crimes (murder, rape, robbery, kidnapping) and repetitive misdemeanors or felonies cannot be diverted from the Justice System. In this framework, the newly reorganized Court/Intake Division provided services through diversion and Court action for 23,878 referrals during 1977.

Our Intake Screening Services received 23,878 referrals involving felonious, misdemeanor, and status offenders. Of this number, 2,452 petitions filed were for court action; 1,107 informal adjustment contracts were approved for unofficial courtesies supervision. Of the 23,878 referrals received, Intake Services diverted 16,785 children without court action.

Our Intake Services has long attempted to divert children and keep youngsters out of the Juvenile Justice System. This has been accomplished in several ways, however, primarily by utilizing community based resources. These resources consist of Family Service Centers, half-way houses, community based counseling groups and in some cases, private placement for children of families financially able. In addition to the referrals to other agencies, Intake Screening provides 24-hour service delivery for any client if the situation is appropriate for some type of child/parent intervention.

Intake's 24-hour service delivery has proven to be very successful. Very few Juvenile Probation Intake Offices provide this type

coverage nationally. We are proud of the help we can provide with this type delivery and hope to continue this service for the residents of Harris County, Texas.

Our Court Services provided help to 2,452 children by offering them the most efficient and expert service available. Through the continuing efforts of the newly formed Court Intake Unit, children are processed through the Juvenile Courts within a 10 to 20 day period. This is in keeping with the philosophy that justice must be swift and sure.

Some of the children who are processed through Court, commit offenses so serious that the State feels they cannot be provided for in the Juvenile Justice System. In this framework, the state filed 25 motions to waive jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court (legal process whereby juveniles between 15 and 17 may be certified as adults).

The Informal Adjustment Section provides a viable alternative to Court action as a diversionary tool. Informal Adjustment has done much to reduce the number of cases going to Court, and at the same time has provided needed services to over 1,200 children referred to this department.

During 1977, the Informal Adjustment Section received 1,448 new cases. Were it not for the Informal Adjustment Section, these first offender felony cases would have been processed through the Juvenile Courts. Of the total number of cases received by the Informal Adjustment Section, 122 were returned to Court for violation or rejection of contract. Therefore, only 10% of the total number of cases required Court action.

Diversion became a reality on November 1, 1977 with the implementation of the phase-in portion of the Chimney Rock Center project. For the first time, Harris County Child Welfare, Harris County Juvenile

Probation, Mental Health Mental Retardation and TRIAD have combined personnel to provide social services to status offenders under Title II of the Texas Family Code. Simply put, Probation intake procedures were exchanged for Child Welfare procedures. Detention hearings were exchanged for 24-hour emergency hearings to affect the parent-child relationship. Court adjudication was exchanged for show cause hearings with placement recommended. The goal of Chimney Rock Center is to have no child appear before the Juvenile Court as the result of a petition alleging the child is in need of supervision. Instead, the status offender would become the responsibility of Harris County Welfare and enter Court via Harris County Child Welfare procedures.

Juvenile Court Services is committed to the philosophy that diversion is a viable alternative to the Juvenile Justice System. In this framework, we will move forward in 1978.

Community Unit Probation Services represents the Field Services component of the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department. It presently consists of 5 decentralized units located in strategic areas of Harris County. The primary function of the Community Unit Probation Services units is to provide post-court supervision for juvenile offenders under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile District Courts. Field Services offers an individualized plan of service for each juvenile probationer, and also attempts to assist the entire family when possible. Services are provided directly, or by referral, to supportive agencies. Additionally, Informal Adjustment cases are supervised by field personnel.

"Is it not strange that he who has no children brings them up so well"

Confucius 500 B.C.

COURT RELATED PROGRAMS

WILLIAM BULL, *Deputy Chief*

**CHILD CARE PLANNING
TRIAD
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
GRANT DEVELOPMENT
VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT
CYS
FAMILY COURT SERVICES**

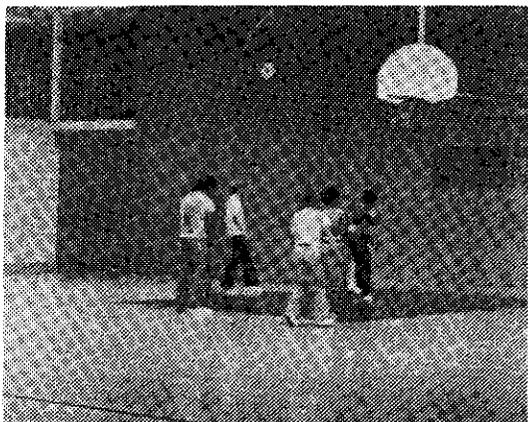
COMPREHENSIVE CHILD CARE SERVICES

Comprehensive Child Care Services (C.C.C.S.), a section of the Court Related Programs Division, is comprised of three units, Health Care Services, Placement Services and the Foster Home Development Program.

The overall role of Comprehensive Child Care Service is to provide a variety of supportive and developmental services that will meet the needs of the Courts, Probation Officers, and children referred to the Juvenile Probation Department. The goal is to prevent or reduce the reoccurrence of delinquent behavior, neglect, or abuse of children.

PLACEMENT SERVICES

The major role of Placement Services is to facilitate the accessibility of existing local, State, and out-of-State residential services



HARD AT PLAY



HARD AT WORK

to children on probation that are in need of residential care. In 1977, 290 children were placed in 42 residential facilities. Of these, 190 or 70% were male and 30% were female. The average number of children in paid placement was 179 with \$237,000 expended on board payments and \$36,762 on clothing expenses.

In addition to providing placement services for children, the placement specialists are responsible for: 1) monitoring and evaluation of residential facilities, 2) coordination of the provision of clothing to children going into or at residential facilities, 3) monitoring the budgets for board and clothing, 4) coordination for children going to and from residential facilities, and 5) maintaining statistical records on change of placements, facility populations, and total number of children placed by facilities.

FOSTER HOME PROGRAM

The Foster Home Unit, formerly a part of the Placement component, was created as a separate unit in 1977. Its role is to recruit, approve, train, and maintain foster homes, and/or single family or group homes that will provide 24-hour residential care for children. It is staffed by 2 full-time workers, 2 part-time grant positions and 3 social work students.

In 1977, 23 families provided full-time service and 6 families provided part-time back up services. Collectively, they served 41 children.

A major development of this unit in 1977 was the creation of a 24-hour support team offering therapeutic services to foster families. The recidivism rate for children in foster homes was 15% for full-time and 20% for part-time families.

Additional activities of this unit are: 1) recruitment of foster families, 2) home studies [36 initiated from 160 inquiries], 3) 40 training sessions for foster parents, 4) completion of a foster care recruitment film, "The Second Door", 5) production of a foster parent handbook, 6) training of six second-year graduate students from the University of Houston, 7) the development of two group foster care homes.

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The opportunities for training by professional staff and volunteer staff was aided by the addition of grant funded institutes and seminars offering the best of current training techniques. The training staff offers support to new staff and volunteers. A special series for management and administrative personnel was offered while all new personnel, professional, clerical, and volunteer/interns received training from this unit.

*"If youth be a defecet
it is one we outgrow only too soon"*

James Russell Lowell 1886

TRIAD

"A Consortium of Public Child-Serving Agencies"

Harris County Child Welfare Unit
Harris County Juvenile Probation
Department
MHMR Authority of Harris County

The original direction of TRIAD, a consortium of the three public child-serving agencies in Harris County — Child Welfare Unit (CWU), Juvenile Probation (JPD), and Mental Health / Mental Retardation Authority (MH / MRA) — was the development of local residential programs to meet the needs of dependent, neglected, emotionally disturbed, and/or delinquent children.

The inter-agency experience gained by the TRIAD agencies in the development of residential programs led to a natural conclusion that services to children should be coordinated. Thus, the major focus of TRIAD has been directed toward the development of centralized, coordinated services at the Intake level.

Chimney Rock Center is the realization of a coordinated intake facility where the emphasis is placed on diverting the status offender/child in need of supervision (C.H.I.N.S.) to social services programs and away from the juvenile justice system.

A Director has been selected and staff from the three participating agencies are actively involved in planning for Chimney Rock Center's opening in the summer of 1978. Preliminary ideas for service components include Central Intake 24 hours per day, seven days per week for children of ages 10 to 18 years, intitial screening and assessment of medical, dental, and psychological needs, emergency shelter facilities, crisis counseling, referral to appropriate public and/or private resources, and out-patient therapy.

VOLUNTEER/INTERN SERVICES

Volunteers and Interns contribute greatly to the service delivery system of our Department. Interns alone contribute in time and effort the equivalent of 12 full-time positions. Volunteers contribute another 14 positions with their labors.

COURT VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Founded in October, 1968, Court Volunteer Services of Harris County, Inc. trains men and women, recruited from the Harris County area, to work on a one-to-one basis with youthful offenders. Volunteers work with children at all levels of the juvenile justice system, be it Intake, Court, Probation Field Services, or Detention. In addition, Court Volunteers serve in the Media Center located in the Harris County Detention Home. This Center offers youthful offenders a library, audio/visual equipment, stereo and record enjoyment, games, and conversation during their stay in Detention.

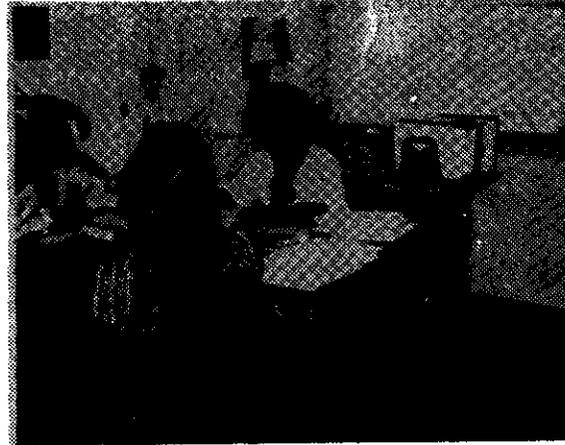
Volunteers are required to attend a Juvenile Justice Training Seminar and a screening process before they are assigned to work with a child. They must commit themselves to work with a youngster for at least one year, and are required to see the child at least one hour per week.

During the 1977 calendar year, Court Volunteer Services has operated with funds from the Criminal Justice Division, State of Texas, and has worked with the Juvenile Probation Department of Harris County and the Juvenile Courts on a contractual basis. The annual budget is \$20,214.00.

During 1977 Court Volunteers compiled the following statistics:

1. Number of Volunteers Trained: 112
2. Average Number of Children Served Per Month: 612
3. Average Number of Active Volunteers Per Month: 217
4. Average Number of Volunteer Hours Per Month: 1,736

Court Volunteer Services office hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. The staff is available and on call 24 hours a day to assist with Volunteers and their assigned youth, as well as to perform such duties as public speaking, training, screening or recruiting.



COUNSELING A STATUS OFFENDER

COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICES

The Community Youth Services (CYS) Division was the beginning project for the Department's diversionary efforts. The goal of the CYS program was to work cooperatively with the schools and other youth serving agencies in identifying and diverting status offenders (i.e. runaways, truants, Class C misdemeanors, City ordinances) from the formal juvenile justice system.

Community Youth Services has been funded under a Criminal Justice grant for two years. During that time, the results have been rewarding. In 1977, CYS achieved its goal of diverting 4,000 status offenders from the juvenile justice system by actually diverting 4,829 youngsters. Additionally, 470 Status offenders were placed in alternatives to detention through voluntary placements.

Community Youth Services is involved in 13 programs with Harris County schools and school districts. The school programs are structured differently according to the district but the focus remains the same: to offer quality social services to young adults and their families within their own communities.

During August of 1977, the CYS administrative offices were moved from 3540 West Dallas to 6425 Chimney Rock. The Chimney Rock Center (CRC) is the proposed intake and assessment center for non-court actionable offenses and behavioral problems. The CRC is symbolic of the commitment to the diversion of status offenders, and Community Youth Services hopes to be an integral part of the program.

FAMILY COURT SERVICES

Family Court Services was created in 1973 as a separate division of the Juvenile Probation Department. The dual purpose of the division, as defined at that time, was to provide social studies in independent adoptions, to provide and help develop the five then-existing Courts of Domestic Relations.

The Custody section moved to the Family Law Center in 1973 in order to work in close proximity with the Courts. Referrals began to increase, as anticipated, to 137 in 1973, 215 in 1974, 316 in 1975 and 368 in 1976.

The heavy volume of cases in the Courts of Domestic Relations caused the Texas legislature to create four additional courts in 1977. The four additional courts began operation in September, and referrals for custody investigations from the nine courts rose to 516 by the end of the year.

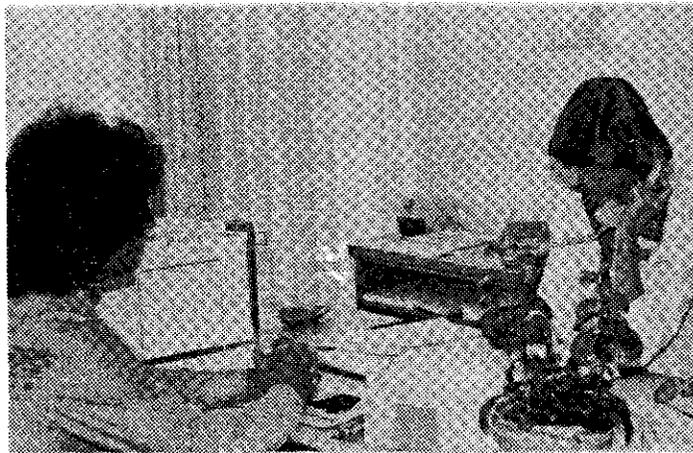
Additional staff was approved by Commissioners' Court in September, in order for this unit to provide casework services for the new Courts. The great majority of referrals come from the nine Family District Courts who hear divorce cases. Some referrals are received from the Probate Courts as well as the Juvenile Courts. Home investigations are also conducted for out of County agencies on a reciprocal basis, and this increased from 967 referrals in 1976 to 1101 in 1977. This is in all probability due to the rapidly increasing population growth of Harris County.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

The role and function of Health Care Services is to provide, through the purchase of services, quality health care for children who are under the jurisdiction of the Courts. Medical, mental, and dental services are purchased from five major agencies and a variety of professionals. Over \$124,000 worth of services was purchased for county youth in 1977.

The following is a listing of services provided and number of children served:

Service	Number Served in 1977
Consultations	602
Children assessed / evaluated	529
Family evaluations	113
Drug Abuse Consultations	406
M.R.J.O. Assessments	22
Psychiatric Evaluations	98
Physical Examinations	531
Dental Examinations	221
Vision: Ophthalmologic / Optometrist	305
Consultations with Case-Workers	322
Clinical interviews (children)	289
Number of hours of Therapeutic Counseling	684
Neurologicals / EEG Examinations	95
Foster Parent Physical Examinations	31
Dental Services	290



MEDICAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT STAFF

The overall responsibility of this Unit is to provide as many resources as possible for the diversion of children from within the Juvenile Justice System.

To this end the Child Care Services budget was increased by generous action of the Commissioners' Court and the TRIAD facilities were augmented, especially where treatment, for the mentally retarded juvenile offender and emotionally disturbed child was concerned.

GRANTS INVOLVING TREATMENT AND DIVERSION:

- 1) Comprehensive Health Care
- 2) Community Youth Services —
Deinstitutionalization of Status Offender
- 3) Community Youth Services — Phase II
- 4) Diversion Impact Project
- 5) Foster Home Development
- 6) Delinquency Prevention Training
Project.

These programs totaled over a million dollars and provided tremendous treatment services to our juvenile clients. Innovative Programs centered around alternatives to detention and Foster Home development. One of the most significant programs is the increased use of the Larger Circle facilities, an alternative to secure detention.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

ROGER ENGELS, *Deputy Chief*

CHILD SUPPORT

Mr. Van Rheen, Director

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Mrs. Westerfeld, Director

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Mr. Thamen, Administrator

Harris County Child Support handles support payments in divorce and separation cases, keeping a record of these payments for the Courts and disbursing payments to the recipients.

In September 1977, the State created four new District Courts and now a total of twelve Civil District Courts of Harris County utilize Child Support.

History: Support Collection Increases—

Year	Active Cases	Annual Support Collections
1935	360	\$ 18,563.63
1945	1,673	358,293.79
1955	3,551	2,111,715.55
1965	10,837	8,031,345.16
1975	18,761	25,551,819.38
1977	31,336	29,887,245.97

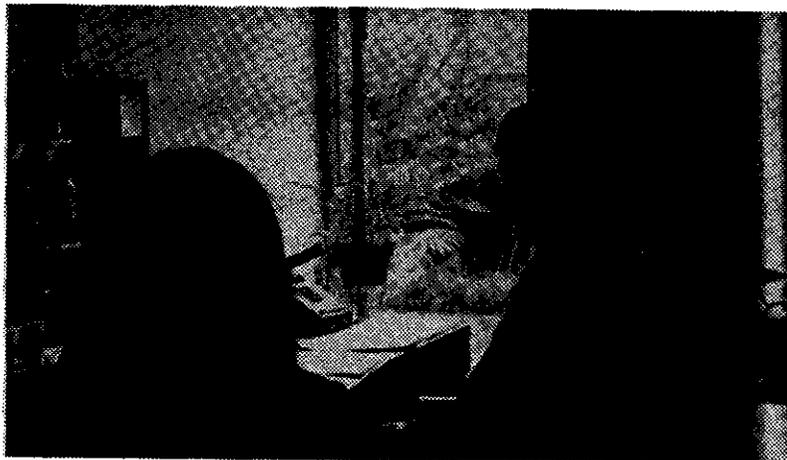
By 1982 our growth projections of the Child Support Office note in excess of 60,000 cases and over 50 million dollars in child support collections and disbursements.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

The Harris County Child Support Enforcement Division began operations on December 15, 1976, with the selection of a Director. By March of 1977, a sufficient number of personnel had been selected to assume from the State Department of Public Welfare the responsibility of all trial work in Harris County welfare cases.

The originally budgeted seventeen positions were filled by June, 1977. However since this division was required to assume the State's existing caseload of 36,000 cases, the responsibility of receiving and acting upon approximately 600 new cases each month necessitated a request for additional staff. The Harris County Commissioner's Court increased the Enforcement Division's budgeted positions from seventeen to twenty-six effective August 1, 1977.

Monthly collections have been averaging \$45,000. However, during the month of December, 1977, the welfare-related



**COUNSELING CHILDREN IS A MAJOR
FUNCTION OF OUR DEPARTMENT**

collections as reflected by the State Department of Human Resources (previously known as State Department of Public Welfare) were over \$58,000. This Division is presently filing approximately 40 cases per week on welfare related matters and during 1977, the Harris County Child Support Enforcement Division performed its contracted responsibilities for the State Department of Human Resources without cost to Harris County.



ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKE

"It is better to bind your child to you by respect and gentleness than by fear"

Terence 160 B.C.

In 1978, the unit will continue to perform absent parent locate, and child support enforcement services for the citizens of Harris County. In addition, the contract with the State Department of Human Resources continues in effect in 1978, requiring the office to continue to monitor over 40,000 files, receive and take timely action on over 600 cases per month, file over 150 cases per month and monitor over 1500 existing accounts.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The task of budget design, preparation, and presentation, is under the jurisdiction and control of the Deputy Chief, Administrative Services for final approval by the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer and the Juvenile Board. Also, this division has the responsibility for approving all purchases within the total department.

In order to give our citizenry a better understanding of the growth and size of the Department, and the fiscal funding necessary for its operation, a breakdown of each of the departments eight accounts are noted for public scrutiny.

ACCOUNT NO.	TITLE	EXPENDITURE	PERCENTAGE OF EXPENDITURE
2-02	Family Court Services	\$ 378,747	5.17%
2-64	Probation	2,617,738	5.64%
2-66	Child Support	369,947	5.03%
2-66B	Child Support Enforcement	412,039	5.61%
2-68	Detention Home	1,018,948	13.87%
4-08	Burnett-Bayland Home	973,478	13.26%
4-10	Harris County Youth Village	1,028,121	14.00%
4-34	Foster Home Development	545,426	7.42%
		<u>\$7,344,444</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

2-02 Family Court Services			
Salaries & Fringe	\$356,818	94.20%	
Equipment & Buildings	12,444	3.29%	
Material & Supplies	5,092	1.35%	
Services & Other	4,395	1.16%	
	<u>\$378,749</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	

2-64 Probation			
Salaries & Fringe	\$2,384,198	91.08%	
Equipment & Buildings	46,616	1.79%	
Materials & Supplies	32,159	1.23%	
Travel	38,363	1.46%	
Services & Other	116,402	4.44%	
	<u>\$2,617,738</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	

2-66 Child Support

Salaries & Fringe	\$279,538	75.62%
Equipment & Buildings	20,478	5.54%
Material & Supplies	49,960	13.51%
Services & Other	19,701	5.33%
	<u>\$369,677</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

2-66B Child Support Enforcement

Salaries & Fringe	\$257,575	62.52%
Equipment & Buildings	16,493	4.01%
Material & Supplies	20,756	5.03%
Travel & Transportation	101,287	24.58%
Services & Other	<u>101,287</u>	<u>24.58%</u>
	<u>\$412,038</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

2-68 Detention Home

Salaries & Fringe	\$763,719	74.95%
Equipment & Buildings	13,471	1.33%
Material & Supplies	178,169	17.48%
Travel & Transportation	5,566	.55%
Services & Other	<u>58,002</u>	<u>5.69%</u>
	<u>\$1,018,927</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

2-10 Harris County Youth Village

Salaries & Fringe	\$ 603,523	58.70%
Equipment & Buildings	21,759	2.12%
Materials & Supplies	213,576	20.77%
Travel & Transportation	5,907	.57%
Services & Other	<u>183,357</u>	<u>17.83%</u>
	<u>\$1,028,122</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

4-34 Foster Home Development

Salaries & Fringe	\$199,792	36.65%
Material & Supplies	271,131	49.72%
Services & Other	74,230	13.63%
	<u>\$545,153</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

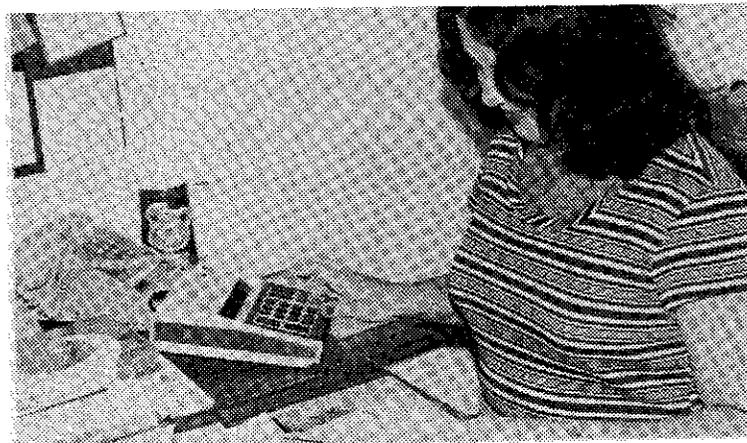
4-08 Burnett-Bayland Home

Salaries & Fringe	\$553,039	56.81%
Equipment & Buildings	6,343	.66%
Material & Supplies	303,809	31.21%
Travel & Transportation	13,419	1.37%
Services & Other	<u>96,869</u>	<u>9.95%</u>
	<u>\$973,479</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

Additional responsibilities of Administration Services include the monitoring of various other business oriented facets of the total Department, and the formation, design and operation of a new Data Processing System. Tremendous strides have been realized during the past year in many areas of this program. The most significant was the acquisition of the "On Line" terminals that have been installed in key locations throughout the complex. Hopefully, the remainder will be installed when available. A computer training program is in the development stage and should be ready for the training of select personnel in the Spring

of 1978.

A newly activated Personnel Section began its operation during this reporting period. This unit is working very closely with the County Personnel Officer to enhance the hiring, screening and testing process. The department is adhering to all E.E.O. regulations and has complied with all work force ratio's required by Affirmative Action guidelines. A re-design of the departments Polycys and Procedures Manuel is being prepared for approval in 1978 and all job descriptions and job specifications are being reviewed.



BUSINESS FUNCTIONS

Detention Hearings

GERALDINE TENNANT, Referee

Support of the family structure and keeping the child a part of his family structure, highlight the purposes set out in the Texas Family Code. Caring for children, protecting the public and controlling the commission of unlawful acts are required to be accomplished in a family environment when possible:

“Separating the child from the parent only when necessary for the welfare or in the interest of public safety and when a child is removed from his family to give him the care that should be provided by his parents.”

Detention hearings necessarily may result in the separation of a child from his parents. However, the law provides safeguards by requiring a prompt initial detention hearing before a judge or a referee, and subsequent hearings every ten days when a child has been detained. At the first hearing, there is a finding of probable cause prior to detention. The judge or referee must release the child after any detention hearing unless he finds the existence of one or more specified circumstances.

At the conclusion of a detention hearing the judge or referee may detain the child, release the child, or release the child upon conditions reasonably necessary to insure the child's appearance at later Court hearings.

A discussion by one of the drafters of the Family Code states that the release upon condition was intended to encourage the release from pre-trial detention in marginal cases by authorizing the judge or referee to specify conditions of release reasonably necessary to insure the child's appearance at later proceedings:

“Such conditions are limited only by the judge or referee's imagination and the requirement that any condition imposed be reasonably necessary to insure the child's appearance at later proceedings. The drafting committee hopes that juvenile courts will seize

upon this opportunity to design innovative community programs to reduce the number of children held in pre-trial secure detention.”

Most of the children released from detention by the Harris County Referee have been released with conditions intended to get the child back to Court as required.

Releases are most often made to parents following detention hearings to parents; but have also been made to other persons—such as guardians, foster parents, other relatives, family friends, neighbors, employers, etc. Community services which might provide “supervised release” pending Court, have not yet been developed in Harris County. As the law review article states—the Family Code contemplated the use of such services. There is such a need in Harris County.

It is difficult for a secure detention center to be home-like, even though every effort is made to provide care for children appropriate to their needs. The Harris County Juvenile Board has certified for detention, in addition to the secure detention center, a closely supervised non-secure facility for up to five boys, which provides a home-like setting. The referee has frequently recommended placement of boys in this facility when the circumstances have seemed appropriate. In the past, a similar non-secure detention center was available for girls, but is not now available and is needed.

In 1977, the number of children detained and the number of children released pending detention hearings dropped slightly from 1976, which was encouraging.

INSTITUTIONS

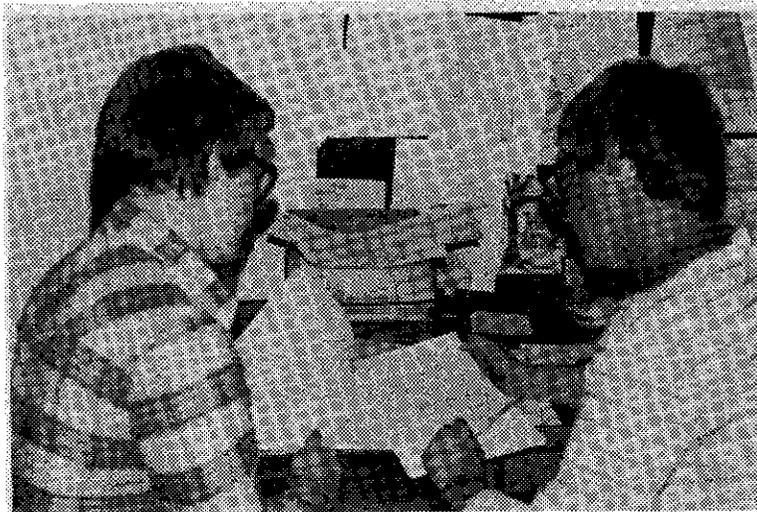
DETENTION HOME

JAMES MARTIN, *Superintendent*

In 1977, the Harris County Juvenile Home offered secure detention and related custodial and treatment programs to 7,725 children. A rapidly growing community indicates that this total will continue to increase in years to come.

This year has been successful in many areas, most notable being our educational program. Title I funding has provided two additional tutor/counselors, and several sophisticated Systems 80 teaching machines. These teachers are an addition, both to the already diversified educational program, and individual and group counseling services provided by the Juvenile Home.

Fortunately, the broadening personnel market in the Houston area has provided our overall program with an increasingly educated and capable staff. This, coupled with in-service training, has resulted in a higher level of staff effectiveness. Continuing program development in all areas will remain a primary goal of the Harris County Juvenile Home.



"Children have more need of models than of critics."

Joubert Pensees 1810

BURNETT-BAYLAND HOME

ROBERT CUELLAR, Ph.D, *Superintendent*

According to recent assessments of the contemporary Juvenile Justice System, we must realize that not all youths coming to the attention of the courts, the probation departments, or the police need to be placed in secure detention facilities.

By the same token, we must realize that the return of the juvenile to his own family or community can not always be in the child's best interest either.

When a decision is to be made as to whether or not to divert a juvenile from the Justice System, a number of questions might be asked as guidelines against which to measure the adequacy and propriety of the decision.

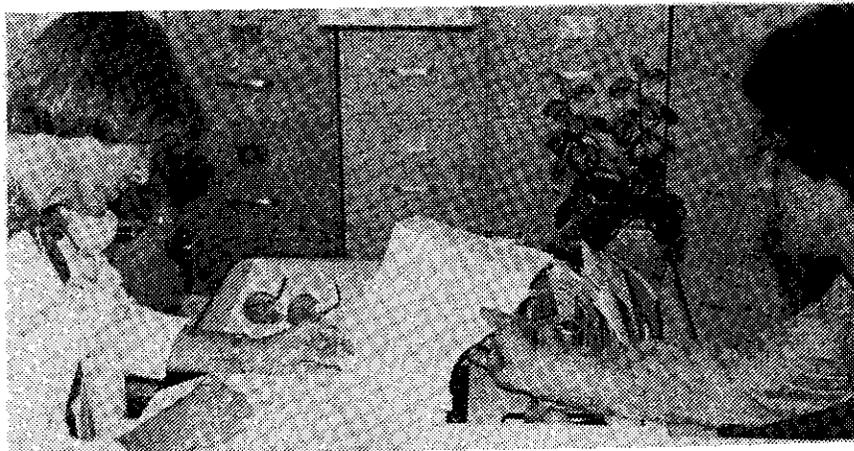
Diversion can take place in a variety of different ways. Sometimes we are so concerned with keeping the juvenile out of the Justice System that we divert him back to abusive parents, and uncaring communities. Every alternative should be checked out. Placement of the juvenile in a structured setting which offers some degree of supervision might divert the juvenile from school truancy, from the use of drugs, or from having the opportunity to go unsupervised well into the night.

Let us be careful that in our attempts to insure the freedom of each individual, we fail to realize that freedom and responsible behavior go hand in hand.

The diversion program at Burnett-Bayland Home has always been designed to allow children to have freedom, while providing structure and support while they learn to use their own judgment in constructive ways.

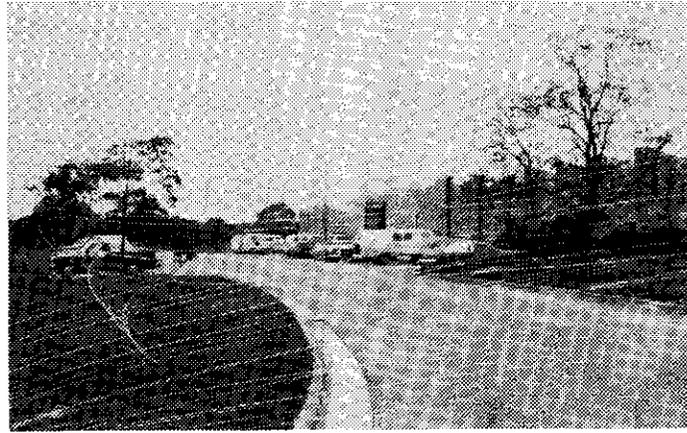
Many community based programs have failed, not so much because of lack of monies or because of inadequate staff, but more because the programs have not met the youth's needs. Most of these programs have gone from one extreme (secure environment) to the other (unstructured environment). The diversion program at Burnett-Bayland is a middle of the road approach. It allows the youth the amount of freedom he can handle without violating the law, and enough structure and supervision to curtail the amount of freedom when he abuses it. There is no blanket approval or disapproval. Each youth's situation is carefully evaluated and a program is designed to fit the youth individually. As has been observed, this is contrary to how other programs have developed. The child has traditionally had to fit the program, with failure often times as the end result.

Due to the large number of children to be served in our community, there is a great need to establish what is available throughout the community in terms of children's services, and then assume that the best possible placement and program is provided for each juvenile that comes into our care.



"As the steele is imprinted in the soft waxe, so learning is engraved in ye minde of an young impe"

John Lyly 1579



ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

YOUTH VILLAGE

JOHN PETERS, *Superintendent*

The Youth Village consists of many varied programs. Operational theories and policies are continually being adopted in order to keep abreast with new ideas, while the goal of correcting social deviative behavior in juveniles remains the same. In this changing atmosphere, staff members must be adaptive to new and innovative programing ideas. Emphasis has been placed on staff development through training workshops, group meetings, lectures, seminars, etc. This continuing education of staff works toward the melioration of the students.

In the previous year the Youth Village has developed new areas of community

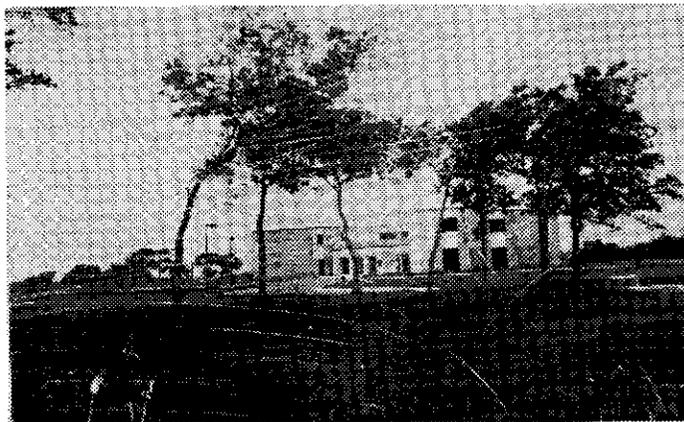
involvement and interaction. In addition to volunteer tutoring and religious education by residents in the area, there are also guest speakers from NASA, sports competition with area teams, college and university interaction, and many 'additional therapy programs with established individuals and other professionals.

With ever increasing community interaction, 1977 has been a successful year. The Youth Village has been able to draw on more varied resources to fit the individual needs of the child. We hope to continue growing in this area and strengthen established resources in the year to come.

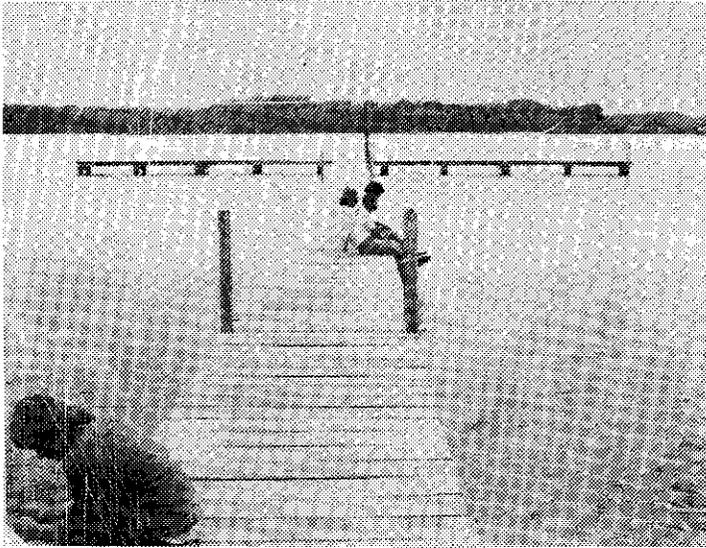


DEDICATION CEREMONIES OF THE GIRLS' FACILITY — 1977

Left to Right, **Mr. John Peters**, Superintendent; **Mr. R. O. D. Schoenbacher**, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer; **Honorable Jon Lindsay**, County Judge; **Honorable Wells Stewart**, Member, Juvenile Board.

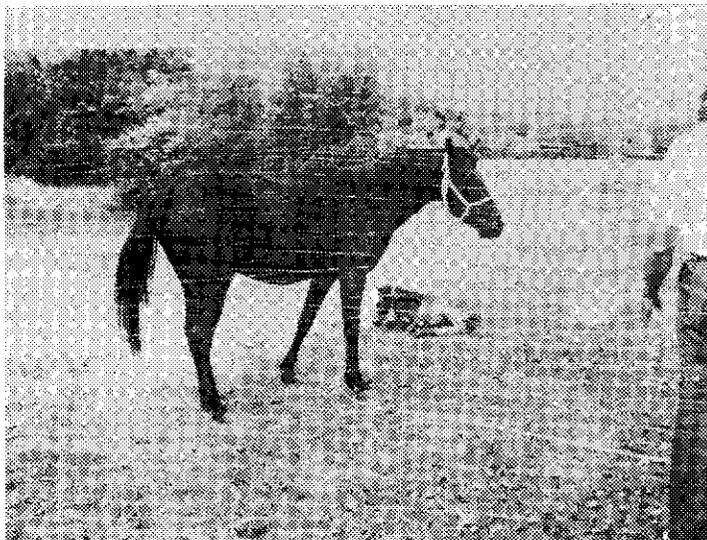
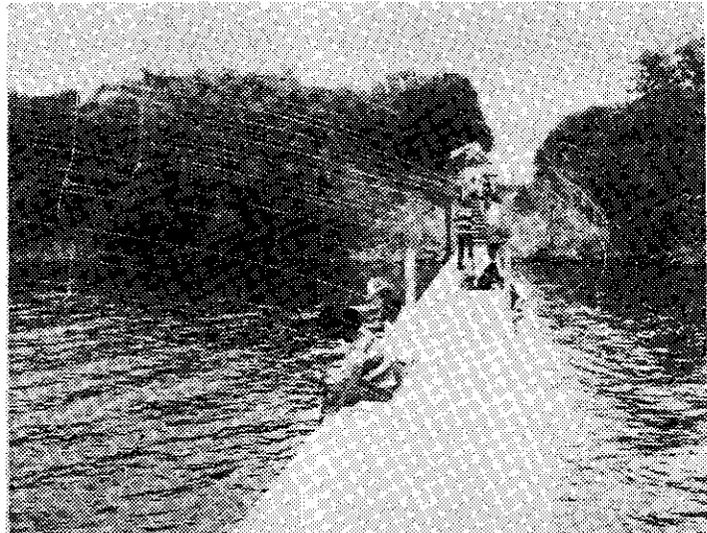


**HARRIS COUNTY YOUTH VILLAGE
GIRLS' COTTAGES**



"THE THOUGHTS
OF YOUTH
ARE LONG,
LONG THOUGHTS"
H. W. LONGFELLOW 1855

A LAZY AFTERNOON, HCYV



HCYV,
ONE-WEEK-OLD MASCOT

1977
STATISTICAL SUMMARY NARRATIVE
AND
FREQUENCIES OF VIOLENT OFFENSES

"Little people should be seen and not heard is a stupid saying."

E. J. Hardy 1866

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

REFERRALS:

There was a significant decrease (10.92%) in the number of referrals received on children under supervision, a slight decrease (1.61%) in the total number of referrals to the department, and an increase (4.07%) in the number of referrals received at the Intake/pre-Court level. The number of referrals closed at the Screening level increased to 88.00% of those received at that level, which is an increase of 1.97% in the rate of closing over last year. There was, however, a significant increase (32.98%) in felony offenses against persons.

DETENTION:

There was a daily average of 78.66 boys and 23.27 girls (or a total of 101.94 children) in detention in 1977. Boys' average length of stay was 5.01 days and the Girls' average length of stay was 4.27 days. The weighted average length of stay in detention (boys and girls together) was 4.84 days during 1977. Thus, there was a slight increase (5.18%) in the overall number of children being detained (boys +11.35% and girls -11.45%), but a very significant decrease (9.19%) in the overall length of detention (boys -7.22% and girls -16.76%).

PETITIONS:

During 1977, 2,233 petitions were requested to be filed on (9.35% of the referrals received), and the District Attorney's Office filed on 1572 petitions (70.40% of those requested or on 6.58% of the referrals received). This was a decrease (6.06%) in the number of petitions requested, a very significant increase (19.31%) in the number of cases in which the District Attorney's office declined to file a petition, and a very significant decrease (13.77%) in the number of petitions filed. There was a decrease of 0.44% (from 9.79% in 1976 to 9.35% in 1977) referrals received in the rate of those on which we requested a petition, and a decrease of 0.93% (from 7.51% in 1976 to 6.58% in 1977) in the rate of those in which a petition was filed.

RECIDIVISM:

Recidivism may be defined any number of ways; however, for the purposes of this report, the definition approved by our Juvenile Courts (the number of provable referrals on cases under supervision divided by the number of cases under supervision) will be used. In 1977, there was a slight decrease in recidivism (0.13%) to a current rate of 6.12%.

PLACEMENT:

There was a significant increase (12%) in the number of children in placement at the Harris County Youth Village and a slight increase (6.91%) in the number of children in other placement locations. The combined figures for children in placement indicate a monthly average of 292.98 children (up from 269.15 children in 1976), an overall increase of 8.85%.

VIOLENT OFFENSE COMPARISON BY YEAR

It is quite interesting to note the statistical implication of the frequencies of violent offenses referred to this department during the years 1974 through 1977.

OFFENSE DESCRIPTIONS	1974	1975	1976	1977
ARSON	66	72	76	80
ASSAULT	415	375	491	475
ASSAULT (CAUSING SERIOUS BODY INJURY)	51	66	82	108
ASSAULT (AGGRAVATED) WITH A DEADLY WEAPON	34	72	90	86
ASSAULT (DEADLY) ON A PEACE OFFICER	9	13	22	23
ASSAULT (SIMPLE)	28	41	49	98
ASSAULT TO MURDER	1	1	1	1
CHILD ABUSE	5	2	5	4
INDECENCY WITH A CHILD	1	21	30	32
KIDNAPPING	5	6	6	10
MURDER	11	32	34	34
RAPE	17	26	33	43
ROBBERY (AGGRAVATED) WITH A DEADLY WEAPON	42	95	122	130
ROBBERY WITH INJURY	21	43	33	32
SEXUAL ABUSE	1	10	32	26
TERRORISTIC THREAT	107	14	29	37
COLUMNAR TOTALS	814	899	1135	1219

1977

BREAKDOWN OF OFFENSES

	FELONY	MISDEMEANOR	TOTAL
Crimes Against PERSON	254	574	828
Crimes Against Property	3,233	3,566	6,799
Status Offenses	-0-	11,720	11,720
Drug & Drug-Related Crimes	122	1,278	1,400
Other Crimes	208	2,923	3,131
Total	3,817	20,061	23,878