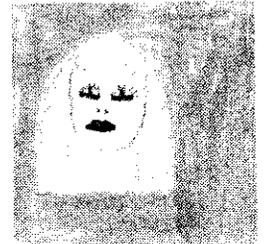
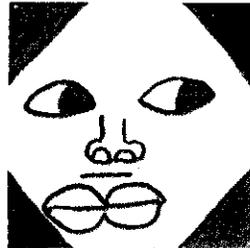
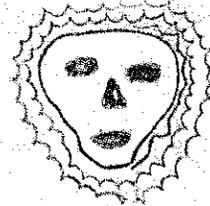
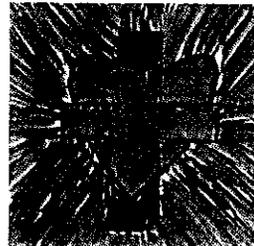


Young and in trouble . . . a self-portrait



Harris County Juvenile Probation Department



1990 Annual Report

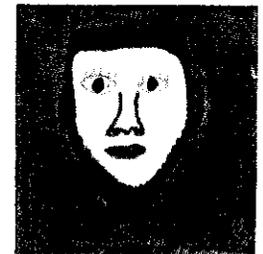
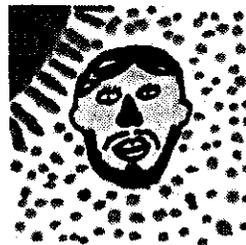


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To the Citizens of Harris County

As chairman of the Harris County Juvenile Board, I am proud to present the 1990 Harris County Juvenile Probation annual report.

Sadly, 1990 was a year in which juvenile crimes grew more alarming as children committed more violent acts at younger ages. The increased use and sale of drugs by juveniles, and the growing number of youth gangs do not hold much promise for the future. The resources of the Department and the County were stretched to provide services to approximately 20,000 youths and their families.

Although 1990 was a year in which street drugs, youth gangs and delinquency dominated the headlines, it is encouraging to note that Harris County received national acclaim for its innovative efforts to redirect the lives of children in trouble. The Juvenile Probation Department received two national awards. One award was in the area of educational programs; the other was for the Department's arts programs. As demonstrated by this recognition, the Juvenile Probation Department and its many dedicated volunteers should be commended for developing innovative programs and partnerships.

I urge all citizens to become involved and support the efforts of those who work with the children and youth most at risk in our society. Through intervention at a young age, delinquent youth will have the opportunity at a second chance.



Jon Lindsay
Harris County Judge
Chairman, Harris County Juvenile Board

Message from the Chief

1990 was a tough year for us. Youth crime demanded more and more from an already stressed agency. Still, a resourceful and dedicated staff worked to turn 1990 into a year of progress and remarkable achievement.

Our Youth Village won a prestigious national award for its outstanding education program, and our probation and court services won national accreditation by meeting the highest professional standards.

Greater community support enabled us to stretch resources to the maximum. Our volunteer ranks topped 500, giving us a volunteer-to-staff ratio of one-to-one.

An educational video, produced and donated by Transco Energy Company, helped us inform more citizens about youth crime and its consequences. And the addition of on-site security from Precinct One constables increased safety and security for staff and clients.

By year's end, a small, experimental art program, started just three years ago, had become an award-winning project commended for its innovation and total private sector funding.

Besides building self-esteem, self-discipline and self-expression, the arts can be a special window into the hearts and minds of those we seek to understand.

In this report, for the first time, the children speak for themselves through their art.



John A. Cocoros
Executive Director
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Young and in trouble . . . a self-portrait

In recent years, we have asked some of Houston's most respected artists to share their talents with juvenile offenders. Today, 32 local painters, sculptors, poets, photographers and actors are working in our three institutions and six probation supervision units.

The arts bring many special gifts to these children. Art can be the mirror which allows the "bad child" to discover the beautiful child within. Art is a safe place for the "tough kid" to shed his hard, outer mask and dare to be vulnerable and loving again. And art gives us each a window into the hearts, minds and lives of our most troubled young people.

In art classes, these children create poignant, often disturbing self-portraits—moving and compelling images of what it is like to be young and in trouble.

What Do I See?

by Jerome P.

What do I see?

A drug dealer, a pimp, a junkie.

That's what some people see.

Not me.

A loudmouth, a loser, a jerk.

That's what some people see.

Not me.

So you're asking yourself,

What do I see?

A winner, a talent, a friend.

That's what I see.

A poet, a lawyer, a teacher.

That's what I see.

A man being the best he can possibly be.

So, bottom line,

You ask yourself,

What do I see?

It's really quite simple,

I see me.



On the Edge

by T. Bone

It's Wednesday afternoon at the edge of the world.
Purple pages lift in the wind and fall.
Dust threads, cut loose from the heart, float up and fall.
Something's off-key in my mind.
Whatever it is, it bothers me all the time.





The Mirror

by Anonymous

I stand in front of the mirror on the door
The mirror is my life.
Suddenly, shattered on the floor,
I try to tape my past back together,
But the jagged edges slice my fingers.
My blood drips to the floor.
No one is there,
To catch my red tears.
I am left alone,
Brokenhearted,
Bleeding hands,
And shattered dreams.

I Am

by A.G.

I am the one I have to hold . . .

I am the one who watches me grow . . .

I am the one who loves me so dear . . .

I am the one who holds me so near . . .

I am the one who feels all my pain . . .

I am the one, only I can change.





Would You Help the Dangerous?

by Chad

I am in an ocean with no shores.

I am bad will, little God.

You're in a ship too large for me to get in.

You see me swimming in whirls,
holding onto the water's curls,
trying to save this dangerous, worthless life.

Then you spot me out of the corner of your eye.
You watch me growing tired as time flies.
Is it worthless or shall I give it a try?

He might change and soar through the skies.
Anyone can change if only they try.
All they need is a little help and some self-confidence.



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Harris County Commissioners' Court

The Harris County Commissioners' Court is a five-member elected body responsible for the general administration of county business.

As a county agency, the Juvenile Probation Department receives most of its annual budget from the Commissioners' Court. In 1990, \$19,222,733 was allocated for staff salaries, direct client services, private placements, residential services and general operating expenses.

The Commissioners' Court also determines county personnel regulations and sets operational guidelines followed by the Department. Commissioners' Court support enables our Department to provide services to thousands of this community's troubled youth and their families each year.

Judge Jon Lindsay County Judge

El Franco Lee Commissioner
Precinct One

Jim Fonteno Commissioner
Precinct Two

Steve Radack Commissioner
Precinct Three

Jerry Eversole Commissioner
Precinct Four

Harris County Juvenile Board

The Harris County Juvenile Board is the governing body of the Juvenile Probation Department. As mandated by state statute, the Juvenile Board monitors all of the Department's programs, institutional services and residential placement facilities. The Board also sets administrative policies and approves the Department's annual budget prior to submission to the Commissioners' Court.

During 1990, the Juvenile Board faced serious problems stemming from the alarming increases in the number of children handled by the Probation Department. While proud of the quality of services which

Judge Jon Lindsay County Judge
Chairman

Judge Robert L. Lowry 313th District Court
Vice Chairman
Program Committee
Personnel Committee
Tri-Board Committee

gave the Department its ACA-accredited status, Board members were forced to consider cuts to meet the needs of overwhelming probation case loads, jeopardizing the ACA distinction. Burdened court dockets called attention to the need for additional resources to process cases; grants to fund programs for serious and high-risk offenders were sought; and the presence of security guards in the detention center courtroom and grounds reflected the increasing violence and severity of the offenses. New directions and alternatives were explored to address the crisis.

Judge Robert B. Baum 314th District Court
Board Secretary
Program Committee
Tri-Board Committee
Budget and Finance Committee

Judge Eric Andell 315th District Court
Program Committee

Judge Mary Bacon 338th District Court
Buildings and Grounds Committee

Judge Bill Elliott 311th District Court

Judge Wyatt H. Heard 190th District Court

Juvenile Board Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee provides citizen participation in the juvenile justice system, making recommendations and providing consultation to the board.

Joe Bart Attorney
Chairman

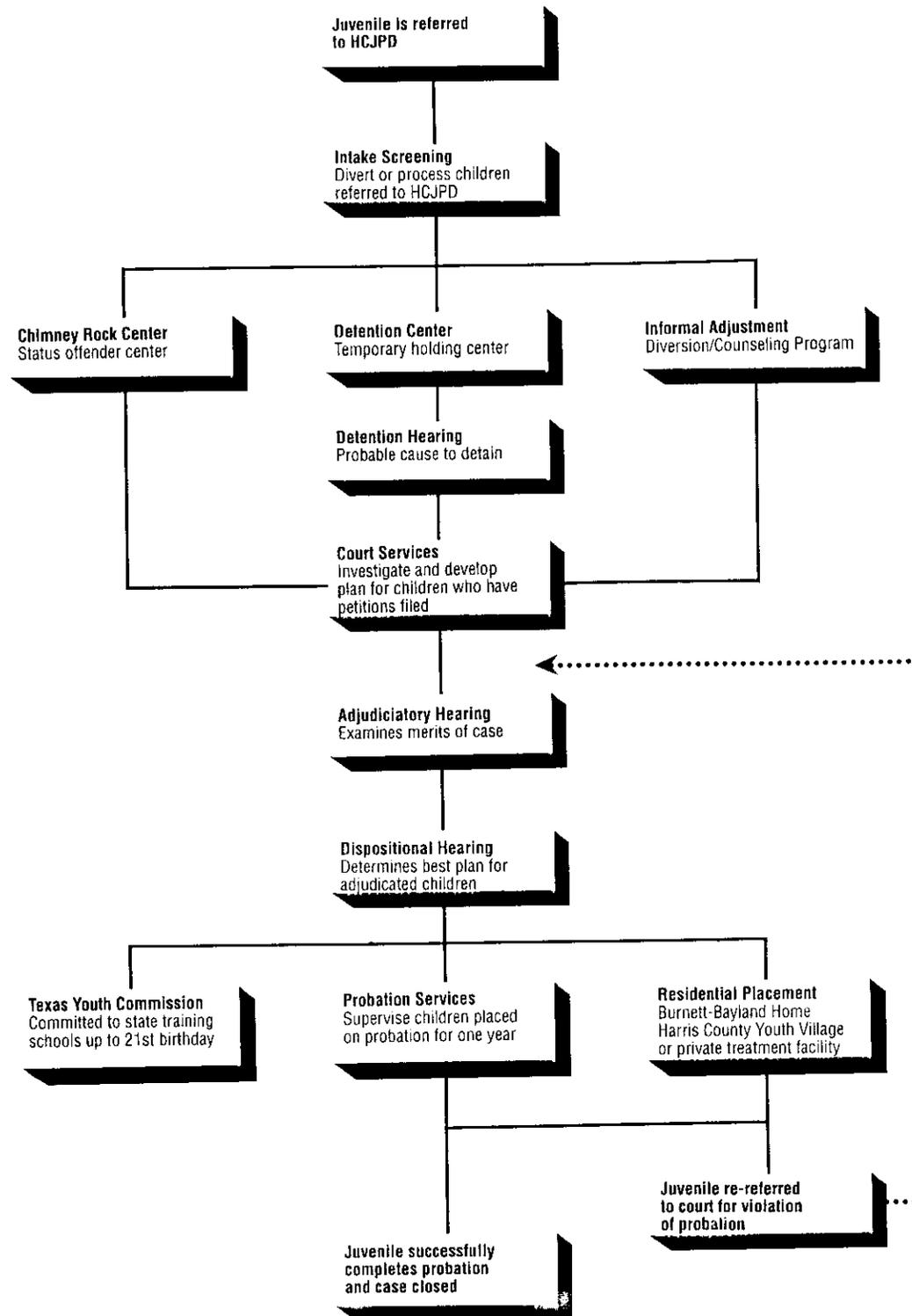
Shirley C. Hunter Attorney

Ramona John Attorney

David Longoria Attorney

Alice O'Neill Psychotherapist

Case Flow Chart, 1990



Harris County Juvenile Probation Department

In 1990, following a rigorous, 18-month agency audit, the Department's probation and court services were accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA). Along with our recently accredited detention center, the ACA has certified that this Department meets or exceeds more than 400 of the highest national standards.

Other agency-wide highlights this year included a massive expansion of arts programs. Starting with one painter teaching art in the detention center in 1988, by the end of 1990, four Houston arts organizations had secured sufficient private grant funding to employ 32 professional artists to teach in all our institutions and probation field units.

Through these programs, more than 3,200 hours of art instruction will be offered to 8,000 youths each year. Youths will exhibit their works in galleries, perform them in main-stage theaters and have them published in books. The exhibition of art and poetry from this project, Street smART, traveled around the state and was booked for showings well into 1991.

Another first in 1990 was the employee health fair. Organized by our training division, local health-care agencies provided information on stress reduction, smoking and alcohol addictions, weight control and healthy eating, disease prevention, and improving lifestyle habits. Free medical screenings were provided.

Intake Court Services Division

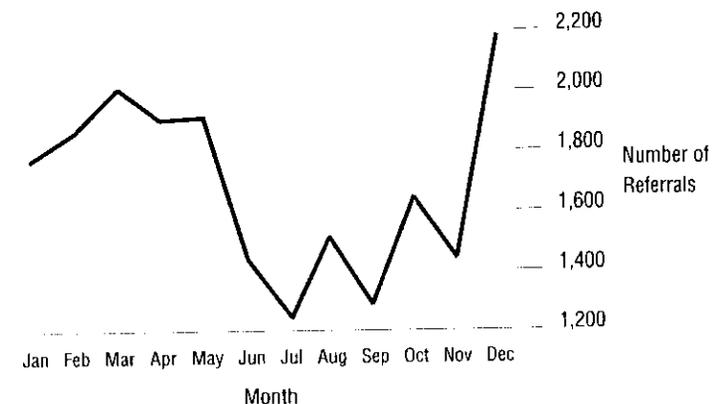
Intake Screening

A child picked up by law enforcement officers in Harris County may be taken to one of two intake units of the Juvenile Probation Department.

Intake Screening is responsible for assessing the child's immediate circumstances and deciding where the youth will stay prior to a court hearing. Two 24-hour intake units, one located in the Juvenile Detention Center and the other at Chimney Rock Center, receive and review incoming cases.

Chimney Rock Center, a children's shelter and crisis facility, is jointly operated by the Juvenile Probation Department, Children's Protective Services and the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County. Several other agencies provide services from the Center.

Number of Referrals by Month, 1990



Last year, probation intake staff at Chimney Rock Center provided screening, assessment, crisis intervention, counseling and referral services to nearly 1,000 youths involved in status offenses (such as truancy and

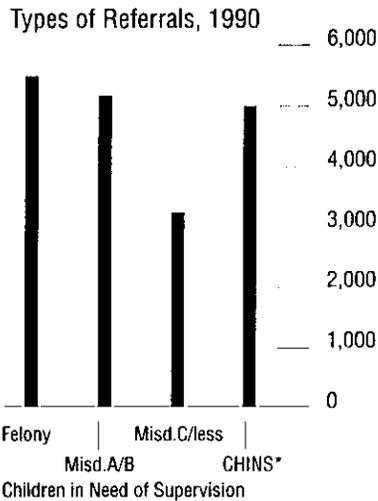
runaway) and Class C misdemeanors (such as alcohol violations). All other cases were reviewed at detention intake.

When a child is thought to present a threat to the community or himself, or is likely to abscond before trial, he will be held in detention. To prevent unnecessary detention, the in-custody diversion program concentrates on sending children home when appropriate and often provides transportation. Last year, this unit diverted 575 children from needless detention.

Referral Source, 1990

Baytown Police Department	595
Harris County Sheriff's Department	2,691
Houston Police Department	10,952
Pasadena Police Department	983
Other	5,075
Total	20,296

Intake also provides monthly workshops on drug and alcohol abuse and other topics, and refers youths and families to other agencies for assistance.



Offense Per Referral, 1988, 1989 and 1990

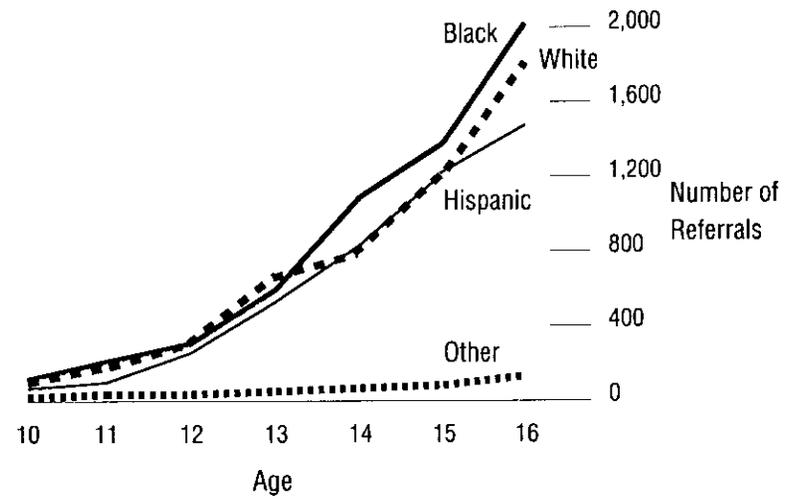
	1988	1989	1990
Murder	12	20	32
Arson	68	100	75
Assault			
Felony	219	247	336
Misd A/B	82	152	187
Misd C	786	1,024	1,000
Sexual Assault	108	126	152
Robbery	223	236	374
Burglary	1,474	1,698	1,642
Theft			
Felony	166	162	159
Misd A/B	1,654	1,627	1,810
Misd C	1,050	1,024	1,184
Auto Theft	351	565	714
Joyriding	436	677	857
Drugs			
Felony	249	519	584
Misd A/B	326	290	212
Misd C	366	384	525
Inhalants	51	50	40
Alcohol	22	15	10
Other			
Felony	424	515	602
Misd A/B	1,977	2,339	2,746
Disorderly Conduct	164	181	261
City Ordinance	153	196	299
Violation of Probation	369	327	230
Runaway (CHINS) *	6,321	4,678	4,288
Other (CHINS)* Offense	668	714	788
TYC Runaways	283	223	237
Administrative Actions	732	772	952
Total	18,734	18,861	20,296

* Children in need of supervision.

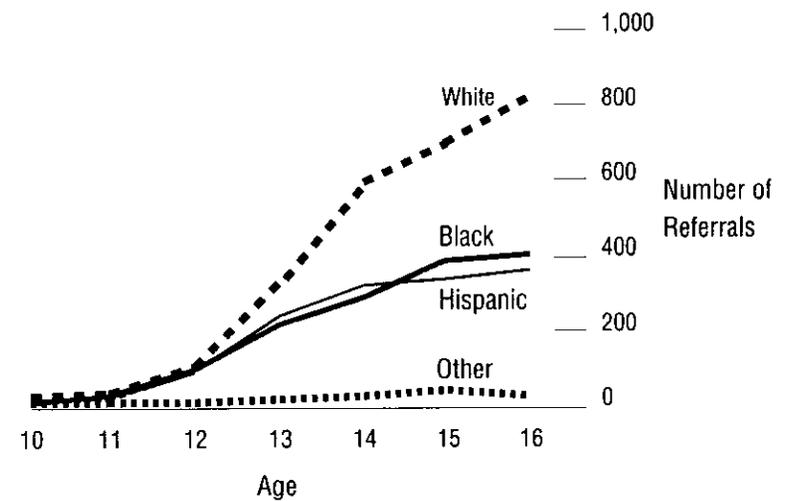
Referrals by School District and Ethnicity, 1990

	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	Total
Aldine	381	315	361	56	1,113
Alief	352	134	304	44	834
Channelview	5	12	89	2	108
Clear Creek	42	19	225	5	291
Crosby	19	12	40	0	71
Cypress	103	83	540	15	741
Deer Park	3	17	253	0	273
Galena Park	67	114	189	1	371
Goose Creek	144	158	320	0	622
Houston	3,857	3,165	815	61	7,898
Huffman	5	0	28	0	33
Humble	18	12	351	1	382
Katy	23	46	320	5	394
Klein	119	36	383	34	572
La Porte	31	13	149	0	193
North Forest	468	24	15	2	509
Pasadena	82	487	758	28	1,355
Sheldon	31	6	56	0	93
Spring	77	31	255	4	367
Spring Branch	178	244	292	20	734
Tomball	4	1	67	0	72
Stafford	0	3	6	0	9
Waller	2	0	5	0	7
Private/Parochial	54	61	166	2	283
Out of County	195	100	375	12	682
Not Available	635	638	971	45	2,289
Total	6,895	5,731	7,333	337	20,296

Referrals by Age and Ethnicity, 1990 - Males



Referrals by Age and Ethnicity, 1990 - Females



Court Services

Once the District Attorney's office has filed a petition, the court services staff prepares a comprehensive profile of the child and the case. This detailed report aids the judge in determining a suitable disposition by including specifics on the offense, the child's physical and emotional status, and school and family circumstances.

Three judges and two masters hear delinquency cases in Harris County. They are the 313th, 314th and 315th District Courts, presided over by Judges Robert Lowry, Robert Baum and Eric Andell, respectively, and Master Ramona John, 313th and 315th District Courts, and Master Mary Craft, 314th District Court. If found delinquent or in need of supervision (CHINS), a child may be allowed to live at home under stringent rules of probation or be placed in a residential facility.

Disposition	
Probation	2,112
Probation/Restitution	307
Informal Adjustment	249
Committed to Texas Youth Commission	595
Certified to Criminal Court	21
Passed - Writ Issued	144
Passed	268
Non - Suit	651
Dismissed	14
Incentive completed	67
Other	725
Total	5,153
MHMR Statistics	
Psychologicals	712
Psychiatric	381
Family Evaluations	69
Total Evaluations	1,162

Placement Services

When it appears a child must be removed from his home, the Placement Services staff prepares a list of suitable residential institutions for the judge's review. From a list of approved facilities, they recommend those which best meet the child's specific needs. More and more, those needs are for drug treatment.

Residential Treatment Centers	
Mary Lee Foundation	7
Tejas Home for Youth	6
Nacogdoches Boys Ranch	7
Odyssey Harbor	3
Lena Pope Home	1
Houston Achievement Place	2
West Branch Treatment Center	7
Florence Crittendon	1
K.I.D.S.	1
Youth & Family Enrichment	1
Unity Children's Home	7
Jay's Boys Home	9
Child & Adolescent Development	2
Shoreline, Inc.	3
AAMA - Casa Phoenix	1
Progressive Adolescent (PALS)	1
Depelchin Children's Home	1
Odyssey House	1
Gulf Coast Trades Center	45
Hope Center Wilderness Camp	13
Vernon Drug Abuse Center	31
Number of youths placed during 1990	150*

*This does not include the Harris County Youth Village nor Burnett-Bayland Home totals.

Institutions Division

Three institutions are operated by the Probation Department: *Burnett-Bayland Home*, a residential facility with a community-based program; *Harris County Youth Village*, with a complete on-campus program, and the *Juvenile Detention Center* where children are held until court hearings.

Juvenile Detention Center

The Juvenile Detention Center is a secure, temporary residential facility for children requiring a restricted environment while awaiting court action.

The center features 145 private sleeping rooms, 26 multi-purpose activity rooms, three gymnasiums, three outdoor playground areas, visitation and counseling areas, facilities for medical, dental, psychological and social services, a separate intake section and courtroom. Technologically advanced monitoring systems and innovative architectural designs

provide security and safety without bars.

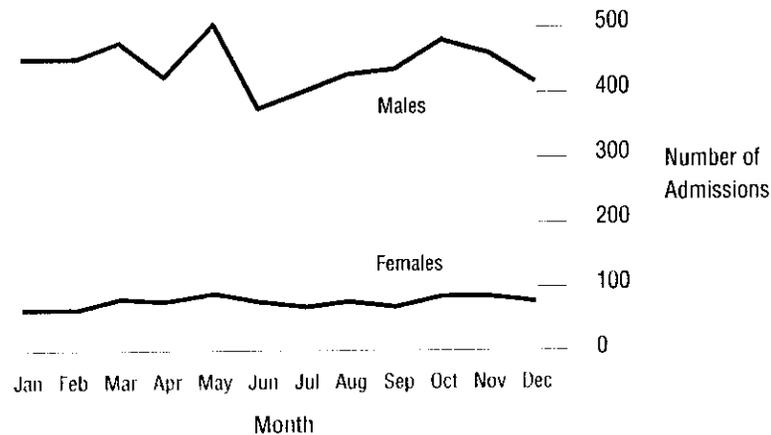
During their stay, children undergo physical and psychological assessments, short-term therapy and crisis intervention. Recreation specialists provide daily physical education activities. Highly trained staff and volunteers work with the children, promoting feelings of self-worth, establishing trust and teaching them to relate to others through structured unit activities.

The Houston Independent School District provides a complete education program. The program focuses on remedial reading, language and math, skills in which these children are generally deficient.

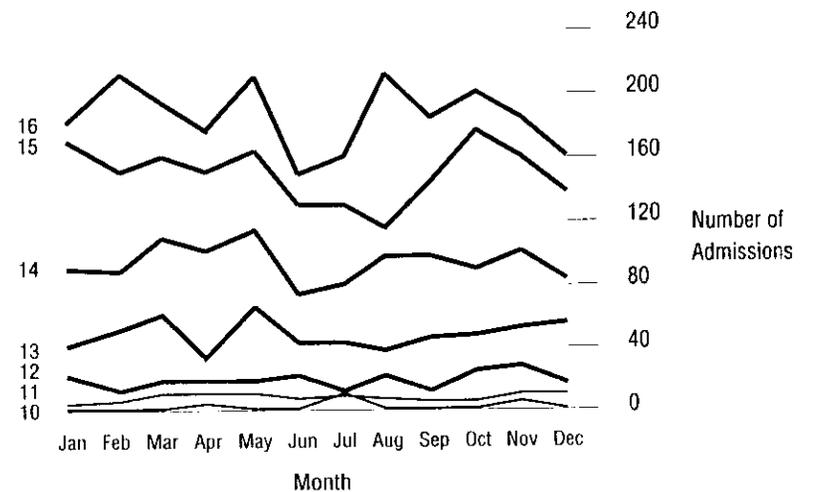
Volunteers and other agencies provide additional services including health awareness, self-esteem workshops, tutoring, individual visitation and social activities.

In 1990, the Art League of Houston's rehabilitative arts program expanded from one to two professional artists in Detention and funding was

Admissions to Detention by Month and Sex, 1990



Admissions to Detention by Month and Age, 1990



Offense Per Admission to Detention,
1988, 1989 and 1990

	1988	1989	1990
Murder	11	18	32
Arson	20	41	30
Assault			
Felony	172	157	225
Misd A/B	34	70	72
Misd C	78	77	93
Sexual Assault	62	66	64
Robbery	150	179	245
Burglary	758	871	793
Theft			
Felony	67	82	75
Misd A/B	420	478	481
Misd C	45	35	42
Auto Theft	212	372	462
Joyriding	258	455	595
Drugs			
Felony	180	408	469
Misd A/B	100	93	96
Misd C	31	39	66
Inhalants	17	10	12
Alcohol Misd C	7	0	1
Other			
Felony	168	212	243
Misd A/B	696	814	1,033
Disorderly Conduct	72	87	143
City Ordinance	17	20	48
Violation of Probation	185	177	41
Runaway (CHINS)*	378	320	321
Other (CHINS)* Offense	13	19	24
TYC Runaways	187	167	206
Administrative Actions	281	206	264
Total	4,619	5,473	6,176

* Children in need of supervision.

secured for five creative writing teachers from Writers in the Schools.

Last year, 6,176 children were held in detention. Their offenses were increasingly more serious and violent, and the need for intensive supervision greater. And for the first time, in 1990 overcrowding caused youths to sleep two to a room, an uncomfortable and risky practice, but unavoidable, given the growth in numbers and offense severity.

Burnett-Bayland Home

Delinquent boys who do not require secure confinement, or those who are making a transition from the more restricted Youth Village to community life, may be placed by the court at Burnett-Bayland Home for up to one year. The children live in home-like cottages on the 40-acre park campus. They attend local public schools and may participate in extracurricular activities off-campus.

Civic organizations and citizen volunteers enhance the program with tutoring, counseling, education and recreation.

Family involvement is viewed as essential. Parents participate in regular educational meetings and other activities to prepare them for their child's transition back to home life. Family visitation is encouraged and children often enjoy weekends at home.

In 1990, 123 boys lived at Burnett-Bayland. The average length of residence was 3.5 months.

Harris County Youth Village

The Youth Village is a more restricted facility located in the Clear Lake area. The lake-front campus provides a spacious setting for delinquent children in

need of a more secure environment. Boys and girls are placed at the Youth Village for up to one year by court order. The program includes therapeutic, recreational, medical and drug counseling services.

The Houston Independent School District operates an accredited school on campus with a full academic and vocational curriculum, including athletics, guidance and remedial education. With a small teacher-to-student ratio and an accelerated teaching pace, many children overcome major scholastic deficiencies during their stay at the Youth Village.

In addition to academic, computer and vocational instruction, children are taught "life skills" such as job hunting, responsible budgeting, household management, parenting and coping skills.

This year, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges awarded the "best education program" award to the Youth Village for its excellent, comprehensive educational program.

In 1990, 299 children stayed at the Youth Village an average of 4.7 months.

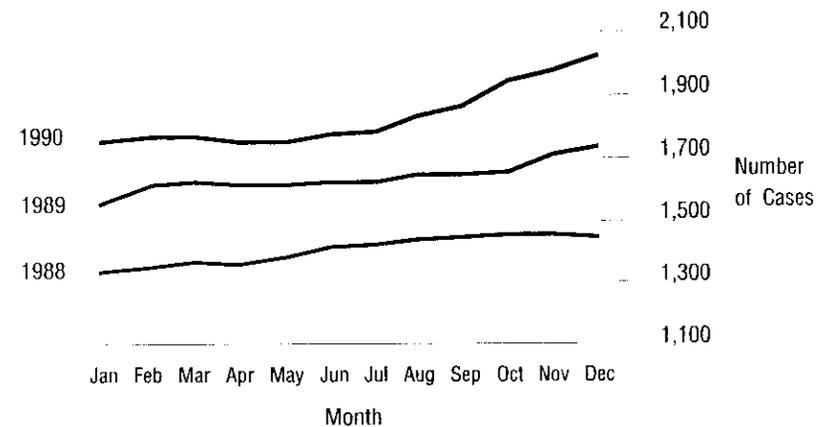
Probation Field Services Division

Most children who go through the court system are not placed in a residential facility but remain at home under probation supervision for up to one year. Probation supervision and rehabilitative services for children and their families are provided by the Field Services Division from ten offices conveniently located throughout Harris County.

When a child has been declared delinquent and is placed on probation, the court sets rules of probation for the child. General rules include reporting change of address, attending school or holding a job,

not leaving the county without the probation officer's permission, curfew hours, restrictions on motor vehicle use and submitting to drug testing upon request. In addition, special rules may be imposed requiring the child to attend counseling or special educational programs, or to pay monetary and/or community service restitution.

Probation Case Load, 1990



In 1990, probation officers faced increasing challenges as more young probationers were involved with drugs and serious crimes. And with more young people getting into trouble, the probation officer's average caseload jumped to 71, nearly double that of a few short years ago. The addition of Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors working in all field services units was a helpful response to the growing number of youths on probation who are involved in drugs or whose families are significantly drug involved. At the end of 1990, over 2,000 children were on probation.

1990 Field Services Programs

Program	Description
Educational Workshops Y.E.E.S.	Workshops for youths and families on various topics. Tutorial, remedial, pre-employment training and G.E.D. preparation.
Therapeutic Counseling	By professional service providers with certified therapists.
L.A.W.	Legal Awareness Workshops presented by judges and attorneys.
Peer Pressure Workshops	Presented by Houston Police Department on positive and negative effects of peers.
Parent Training R.O.P.E.S.	Teaching parenting skills. Problem solving through group physical tasks.
Vision Care	School of Optometry screens and examines youths, providing glasses and treatment.
Restitution	Community Service with The American Red Cross.
Prohibited Weapons	Houston Police Department workshops teach consequences of possession of illegal weapons.
Incentive Program	A voluntary program that may shorten the probationary period.
T.D.C. Outreach	Youths visit T.D.C. in Sugar Land and learn realities of prison life.
N.C.T.I.	National Corrections Educational/counseling for youths and family members.
Art Program	Youths learn to express themselves through visual arts, and develop artistic skills.
Mentor Program	Prominent community leaders are paired with boys on probation to provide positive role models.

Informal Adjustment

In some cases, the court or the Legal Screening Unit defers a child from the court system into the Informal Adjustment program. Generally, this is a younger, non-violent offender who may be offered the option of voluntary participation or may be court-ordered into the program. Informal Adjustment guides children through six months of specialized programs, intensive counseling and supervision aimed at diverting them from the juvenile justice system.

Drug-dependent children may participate in therapy and education, AA's programs or the Palmer Drug Abuse Program. Other services include parent training workshops, AIDS education and peer pressure programs designed to teach children to act responsibly. Upon successful completion of Informal Adjustment, the child's case is dismissed and a juvenile record avoided.

In 1990, 945 children participated in the Informal Adjustment program.

Administrative Services Division

The Administrative Services Division oversees data control, research, computer support, personnel and legal screening services.

Data Control Systems

As children move through the justice system, the Data Control Systems Unit keeps the master file on each case, maintaining the Department's mainframe computer system and entering the initial information about the juvenile's alleged offense. From this point, staff throughout the agency update case information to keep records current and complete.

Research, Planning and Evaluation

The Research, Planning and Evaluation Unit maintains and analyzes data to ensure responsiveness to the needs of juveniles referred to the Department. This information is used to monitor trends, develop special programs and services, and identify staff and funding needs. In addition, this unit reviews and reports on research inquiries from other agencies to ensure a functional coordination of services throughout the community.

Computer Support Services

Computer Support Services is responsible for all personal computers used throughout the Department. Personal computer applications are designed, programmed and maintained by the Computer Support staff.

The Computer Support staff maintains the personal computer network and also trains users on personal computer applications and various software packages.

Personnel

The Personnel Unit provides staffing for the Department and ensures that County hiring guidelines are followed throughout the agency. This unit posts available positions, processes employment applications, and supervises screening and hiring. Personnel also maintains employment records for all Department staff.

At the end of 1990, the Department employed 519 persons.

Legal Screening

The attorneys of the Legal Screening unit review all incoming felony and some misdemeanor cases to determine if legal grounds exist to file a

delinquency petition. If legal grounds do not exist, the child in custody is released to a parent or guardian.

By law, children who are detained receive a detention hearing within two working days of admission and every 10 days thereafter. Legal Screening attorneys represent the District Attorney's Office in these hearings and must show due cause for detaining the child.

Through periodic training workshops and consultation, Legal Screening provides training to new agency employees and volunteers, updating them on any changes in juvenile law. This unit also answers inquiries from police officers or complainants and helps to increase community awareness of juvenile issues through public speaking.

Ancillary Services

Several agency units report directly to the Executive Director or Assistant Executive Director and provide services to the family courts or to other areas of the Department.

Family Court Services

Although administered by the Juvenile Probation Department, Family Court Services handles cases of adoption and disputed child custody rather than delinquency cases.

Family Court officers investigate cases and prepare comprehensive social histories through home visits, interviews with relatives, neighbors, employers, law enforcement and school officials, and other relevant sources. This history aids the judge in determining whether to

grant adoption or where to place custody. In 1990, this unit researched 656 child custody cases and 645 adoption cases for 12 district courts which hear such cases.

A child who cannot stay in his home during the family court investigation is temporarily placed in a residential facility. Such arrangements are made by the Family Court Services staff.

Budget and Supportive Services

The Budget Unit oversees the Department’s fiscal operations including preparation and management of the annual budget, and regulating receipts and expenditures.

In 1990, the Department operated with a combined budget of \$21,106,919. The funds were received from five primary sources:

1990 Budget

Source of Funds	
Harris County Commissioners’ Court	\$19,222,733
Texas Juvenile Probation Commission:	
State Aid to Counties	1,324,389
Intensive Supervision Grant	40,000
Diversionary Placement Grant	45,000
Criminal Justice Division/Governor’s Office:	
Purchase of Services Grant	387,797
Private Funding:	
Brown Foundation, Inc.:	
Family, Individual Counseling Grant	30,000
Serious Offender Counseling Grant	50,000
Junior League of Houston, Inc.	
Art supplies	3,500
Exhibit system	3,500
Total Juvenile Probation Department funding	\$ 21,106,919

Harris County Commissioners’ Court, Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor’s Office, the Brown Foundation, Inc. and Junior League of Houston.

The Supportive Services Unit handles payroll, insurance benefits, staff identification, office inventories, general supplies, mail and courier services and the print shop. Building and grounds maintenance are also provided by Supportive Services.

Training and Staff Development

The Training and Staff Development Unit provides in-service training to enhance staff skills and meet the state training standards for probation officers. To maintain state certification, probation officers are required to attend 40 hours of accredited training per year.

The Training Unit researches and coordinates training programs for child care workers, secretaries, computer personnel, administrative staff and all probation officers.

Recent training topics included managing stress and burnout, drugs and AIDS, notary public, community resource update, public speaking, teen sexuality, team building and the employee health fair. In 1990, over 504 workshops provided 3,576 training hours.

Volunteers

In 1990, the Department operated with almost as many volunteers as paid staff. Carefully screened and trained, these volunteers donated invaluable talents and time, enabling the Department to provide highly specialized, personal attention to our children.

Two organizations recruit, train and coordinate most of the Department's volunteers:

Juvenile Court Volunteers, Inc., a United Way agency, provides individual counseling, tutoring, educational workshops and recreational activities. Court Volunteers also brings companionship and cheer to detained children through parties, visitation and special events. In 1990, the 225 Juvenile Court Volunteers donated 26,250 hours of service valued at \$10.80 per hour, or nearly \$285,000!

Junior League of Houston volunteers worked 4,800 hours with children and families in 1990. The 97 volunteers provided their skills and support to programs and services such as individual counseling, intake counseling, parent education, educational/vocational counseling, tutoring and drug counseling.

Many other private citizens and members of civic and church organizations volunteered over 5,000 hours to Harris County children and families in our juvenile justice system this year. These volunteer programs integrate the community with the agency—a partnership which enables us to meet mutual goals of providing quality services to redirect the lives of many youths in Harris County.

Student Interns

Fifty-one students participated in the Department's student intern program in 1990. Eleven of these were from the University of Houston's Graduate School of Social Work. The others attended various other local and state colleges and universities. They worked throughout the agency in a variety

of positions, receiving training and experience in juvenile corrections. Interns provided 9,800 hours of service to 2,880 children and their families.

Public Information Office

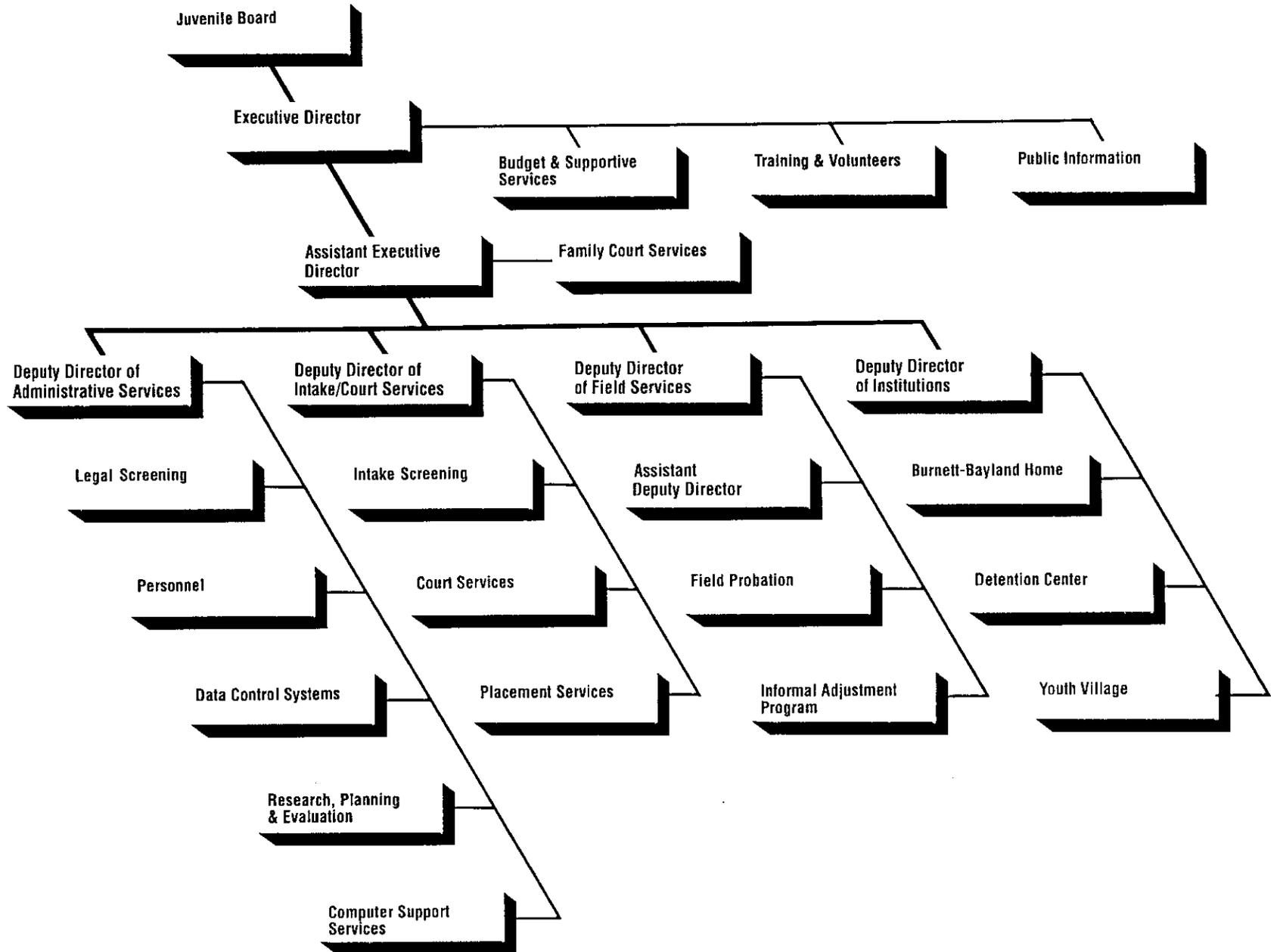
The Public Information Office is responsible for providing meaningful and accurate information to the news media, other agencies, public officials, academic institutions, students and interested citizens.

The office provides 24-hour, immediate response to media inquiries, maintains video and news clipping reference files, produces the annual report and other publications, briefs administration on breaking news situations, and works to maximize public and media access to the juvenile justice system within legal constraints.

The goals of the public information office are to increase public understanding of juvenile corrections and to build community support for the agency's mission. This office also coordinates agency arts programs, acting as the interface with arts organizations and artists, generating opportunities for public exhibitions and performances of the children's works, and locating sources of private-sector funding.

In 1990, the public information office enlisted the aid of Transco Energy Company for the production of an 11-minute video, "When a Child Breaks the Law." Transco donated all production services and costs, and copies of the video for all units of the agency.

Organizational Chart, 1990



Administrative Staff

John A. Cocoros Executive Director
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Teresa V. Ramirez Assistant Executive Director
Assistant Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Administrative Services

Harvey Hetzel Deputy Director

Russell Baird Administrator
Data Control Systems

Frank Dear Administrator
Computer Support Services

Phyllis Kisor Administrator
Research, Planning & Evaluation

Charles Phipps Supervisor
Personnel

Rick Valadez Senior Attorney
Legal Screening

Intake Court Services

Bernard Hunter Deputy Director

Debbie Williams Administrator
Placement Services

Field Services

Elmer Bailey, Jr. Deputy Director

John P. Murray Assistant Deputy Director

Institutional Services

John A. Peters Deputy Director

James K. Martins Superintendent
Detention Center

Ronald Niksich Superintendent
Youth Village

Robert Waller Superintendent
Burnett-Bayland Home

Ancillary Services

Mary Craft Juvenile Court Master

Joseph H. Funches Court Systems Manager

Ramona John Juvenile Court Master

JoAnn Jones Administrator
Training & Volunteers

Dianne Logan Public Information Officer

Veronica Morgan-Price Juvenile Court Referee/Master

Sue Suber Director
Family Court Services

John Sukols Administrator
Budget & Supportive Services

Credits

This year, 32 of Houston's most respected artists, working in our three institutions and eight neighborhood probation offices, will teach more than 3,200 classroom hours, building confidence and self-esteem in youths.

This privately funded program has been named the nation's "most unique and innovative project" for juvenile offenders by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

The Juvenile Probation Department thanks the artists and organizations who offer these programs to our youths:

Art League of Houston
Writers in the Schools
University of Houston's Shakespeare Outreach Theater
Southwest Alternate Media Project

The agency offers special thanks to those who sponsor these programs through gifts of funding, goods and services:

Simone Bateman
The Brown Foundation
Cole Supply
Cultural Arts Council of Houston
Ben DeSoto
Farish Fund
Judge Alfred Hernandez
Junior League of Houston
Juvenile Court Volunteers, Inc.
Laurelwood Hospital
Lowe Foundation
Texas Art Supply
Texas Commission on the Arts
Transco Energy Company

Harris County Juvenile Probation Department
3540 West Dallas
Houston, Texas 77019