

Harris County Juvenile Probation Department

2006 Annual Report

Building for the Future



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Mission Statement

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department is committed to the protection of the public and provision of services to youth referred for violations of the law. As mandated in the Texas Juvenile Justice Code, the department provides services including treatment, training, rehabilitation and incarceration while emphasizing responsibility and accountability of both parent and child for the child's conduct and offering the most opportunities for those youth who demonstrate the greatest potential for positive change.



To the Citizens of Harris County

In the spring of 2006, the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department moved into the \$60 million Juvenile Justice Center at 1200 Congress in downtown Houston. The interior of the old Harris County Criminal Courts was totally demolished and refurbished to house the new Juvenile Justice Center. The Juvenile Justice Center is part of an overall Harris County Downtown Courthouse Master Plan that includes the Family Law Center, the Criminal Justice Center, the Civil Courthouse, and the 1910 Civil Courthouse. A common tunnel system connecting to a new below-grade jury assembly center underneath the courthouse plaza is also part of the plan.

Our goal is to provide treatment, training, and rehabilitation to youth and to offer opportunities for those youth who demonstrate the greatest potential for positive change. The new Juvenile Justice Center allows for the juvenile courts, youth services, and pre-adjudicated juveniles to be under one roof.

The departments in the new Center are the Juvenile District Courts, Juvenile Probation Department, Juvenile Courts District Clerks, and soon the District Attorney's Juvenile Division and Constables' Juvenile Division. The building is nine stories with a basement. The detention levels are the basement through the sixth floor. There are 210 individual rooms and dormitory style rooms for 40 more. The sixth floor has a recreational area with four basketball courts.

The new Juvenile Justice Center has direct visual supervision, video arraignment, and state-of-the-art surveillance technology. The detained youth and the probation department workers will both be protected with the surveillance technology.

The 3540 West Dallas facility had served as the base of operations for the agency, including detention, since 1958. The youth and their parents had to travel back and forth from the courts in downtown Houston to West Dallas for court proceedings, meeting with probation officers and other court business. It was confusing and made already difficult situations even worse. The facility was outdated and was no longer meeting the needs of the community. Now, all services related to juvenile probation are at one location. The new Juvenile Justice Center is easily accessible via METRO Transit routes that provide youth and family members dependable transportation to downtown for appointments and detention visits.

Harris County government strives to meet the needs of our citizens. In planning and funding the new Juvenile Justice Center, the Commissioners and I believe that we have improved services to the community and increased opportunities for youth and families to overcome their problems and move on to successful lives.

Robert Eckels
County Judge



From the Executive Director

When the Harris County Master Plan for downtown buildings was created, the Juvenile Probation Department was not left out. Plans were announced in 1999 for the change and renovation of the Criminal Courts Building. It would become the Juvenile Justice Center in 2006, taking its rightful place with the Civil Courthouse and the Criminal Justice Center. A number of factors delayed the implementation of the project, not the least of which was Tropical Storm Allison that flooded the entire downtown courthouse complex and required the relocation of courts back into this building.

As we finalized plans over the years, choosing where staff would be located and services provided, it seemed like the day would never come to lock the front door at 3540 West Dallas. But, slowly and surely, renovation downtown was completed and it was time to clean our desks and move our records and belongings to 1200 Congress.

Admittedly, the move has been easier for some staff than others. The years of free parking are a thing of the past and carpooling, buses and trains are now more popular. Just as it takes a while to settle into a new house, the same is true for a new building. We appreciate a roof that doesn't leak in heavy rains, large, clean restroom facilities and offices that are not shared by two, sometimes three, employees. The security afforded by our new home downtown is outstanding. Anyone who remembers the threat of a "drive by" at the West Dallas office one afternoon appreciates the downtown security to the fullest.

Change is not always easy, but working in a new building either downtown or at the Harris County Youth Service Center on Chimney Rock has many advantages to offer. The primary advantage is that we are able to offer services to clients and families in secure, professional settings and minimize travel in many instances.

If you haven't seen our new building at 1200 Congress, we invite you to stop by and take a tour. We're here to provide services to the citizens of Harris County.

Harvey Hetzel
Executive Director



Juvenile Justice Center

Building for the Future

Former County Judge A. E. Amerman dedicated the “new” Harris County Courthouse on February 16, 1952, and referred to the “massive and enduring foundation “of the building which is now the Juvenile Justice Center. Some 40 years before, he had been involved in the building of the original Harris County Courthouse just across the street which became too small to offer the services needed by a growing county. Even then, Harris County was building for the future.

Judge Amerman took the opportunity to call on his colleagues in government to “go forward in strong and unshakeable integrity, rugged in our honesty of purpose, as this building is rugged...” He would be amazed to see the incredible transformation of the building he had dedicated to the magnificent structure which now houses juvenile detention, courts and administration offices.

Old buildings are like old shoes – comfortable and familiar but eventually just not able to provide enough support or to keep up with the times. The juvenile probation administration building on West Dallas and the Chimney Rock Center on Chimney Rock are two such buildings, both at least 50 years old and showing their ages.

As the population of Harris County grew, so did caseloads fueled by an increase in juvenile delinquency and status offender referrals, family problems, domestic violence and economic struggles. Every inch of both buildings was pressed into use for staff, files, equipment and client services. The Chimney Rock Center was a busy place shared by a shelter, Community Youth Services, TRIAD, the TRIAD Prevention Program, related Children and Adult Protective Services programs and other youth services agencies. It also experienced structural problems and lack of space. Excitement began to grow as plans were announced for a new Harris County Youth Services Center on Chimney Rock. Following the formal dedication of the new facility in April, services for youth quickly shifted across the street. All programs offered at the old facility are available at the new building. A juvenile probation intake unit works with Children and Adult Protective Services and Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority to continue to meet the problems of families in crisis.



New Harris County Youth Services Center

As the years passed, both the juvenile probation building and the detention center on West Dallas required frequent and costly repairs. Roofs leaked, air conditioners broke down, tiles fell, walls cracked and plumbing systems failed. Staff made the best of crowded conditions, but when rain poured in on computer equipment and important files, it was evident that better quarters were needed.

At last, a visionary master plan was underway for the county. The first step was the completion of the Criminal Justice Center downtown in 2001 which offered hope for the Juvenile Probation Department administration and staff. Years of planning sessions and blueprint study turned into massive changes in the old courthouse downtown. On April 4, 2006, dignitaries, judges and special guests listened as County Judge Robert Eckels dedicated the new building to provide services to benefit the citizens of Harris County.

The contrast between the West Dallas office and the new downtown headquarters is astounding and begins with rigid and welcome security at the entrance. Intake offices are easily found by law enforcement officers bringing youth and families are quickly directed to the proper site for visits to detention. Juvenile probation officers recognized from the beginning that with the detention center, hearings and courts in the same building, there is a much better and quicker flow of services to the juveniles and their families.

After the initial period of finding new transportation routes and parking places, the staff refers to the new headquarters as “professional, well built, clean, safe and secure.” Families no longer face multiple trips back and forth from West Dallas to downtown courts, then back for detention visits and on to outlying field offices.

The year 2006 brought huge changes in the location of juvenile probation personnel and programs, but the department’s goal of making positive changes in young lives as rapidly as possible remains the same. The process of finding solutions to the problems of Harris County youth and their families gets a quick start at both the new Harris County Youth Services Center on Chimney Rock and the new Juvenile Justice Center downtown. Thanks to the vision of the Commissioners Court and juvenile board leadership, supported by the taxpayers of Harris County, there truly has been building for the future.

2006 Highlights

The dedication of the new Youth Services Center (YSC) on Chimney Rock, which opened in February, followed by the move from the West Dallas office downtown to the newly renovated Juvenile Justice Center topped all the highlights of the year. These two major moves brought with them other program changes as well. Officers of the Pre-Adjudication Team (PAT) are now located at the YSC, as well as the Crossroads staff.

Deferred Prosecution was incorporated into CUPS (Community Unit Probation Services) offices located throughout the county where juvenile probation officers now handle both adjudicated and deferred caseloads in the communities where their clients reside. A Post-Court Interview (PCI) Unit at the Juvenile Justice Center was implemented to allow clients to go directly from court for their initial interview.

Commissioners Court funded 155 new positions to reduce caseloads and bring relief to institutional staff. Salaries for detention officers, unit supervisors and medical staff were upgraded as well as the salaries for diversion officers.

For the first time in 20 years, female probationers were housed at cottages at Burnett-Bayland Home (BBH). The program for females will be moved to the Youth Village in Spring 2007.

The annual general staff meeting was held for the first time in the Jury Assembly Building in order to accommodate all staff members who wanted to attend. This year, Charlene Laskoskie of BBH was honored as Boss of the Year; Pat Tobe of CUPS 4, Staff Services Employee of the Year; Juan Reyes, Support Services Employee of the Year; Pat Montgomery of the Juvenile Detention Center Mental Health Services, Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year; Robert Goldsmith of the Delta Boot Camp, Institutional Officer of the Year; and Latisha Goudeau, Outstanding Educator of the Year.

A number of staff celebrated long time service records as follows: 20 year veterans: John Sloan, Sonia Latham, Luann McCoy, Izer Billings, Rick Gomez, Lou Ethel Lastrape and Terry-Snow Smith; 25 years for Pam Boveland, Genny Walls, Annie Jenkins, Jenifer Ballard, John Sukols, Lillie Konvicka, Vanessa Burrell, Brenda Everett-Addison and Dan Smith; 30 years for Bea Bownds, Donald Clemons and Harvey Hetzel; 35 years for Bob Husbands and Alice Sweeney-Herd; and one 40 year veteran, Bernard Hunter.

John Mouton of the Burnett-Bayland Home staff was nominated and selected as male line worker of the year for the state by the Texas Juvenile Detention Association at its annual conference in May.

The following staff members served in the military or are currently serving: Keith Kurth, Vincent Burton and Terrance Hammons, all of the Detention Center and Bert Ramirez, Budget and Technology. From the Delta Boot Camp: Monica Bertrand, Benjamin Coleman, Joel Garza, Patrick Harty, Jose Velez, Ramon Ayala, Leonardo Bryant, David Hunter, Fred Newsome, Samuel Ramos, Ignacio Rodriguez Jr., Jonathan Williford and Bernard Wilson.

The department raised \$2,164 for United Way with Residential Facilities and Related Services leading the way with their contributions.

Thanks to Dedicated Retirees who have served the community well!

40 years of service!.....A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Bernard Hunter joined the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department in 1966. With a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology, a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice and winning ways with people, he was destined to move up. Starting as a probation officer, promoted to assistant supervisor, then administrator, he became the Deputy Chief of Intake Court in 1980 and finished his career as Deputy Director of Community Services. Few people in the Juvenile Probation Department are as well known in the community as Bernard Hunter. He was honored as "Boss of the Year" in 1997 and again for his contributions to the department and achievements in 2006. With an open door policy for staff, Bernard's cookie jar, jelly bean bowl and holiday decorations were always favorites.

Other employees who retired in 2006 include:

Ron Perren

35 years, Probation Services Administrator

Cheryl Conrad

33 years, Probation Services Administrator

Judy Sembera

32 years, Intake Screening Probation Officer

Patricia Khan

32 years, Budget and Information Technology Staff Services

Annie Jenkins

26 years, Probation Services Probation Officer

Lillie Konvicka

26 years, Budget and Information Technology Staff Services

Paula Harrington

20 years, Juvenile Detention Center Unit Supervisor

Mary Etta Clark

16 years, Juvenile Detention Center Probation Officer and Caseworker

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 2006, \$55,276,374 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 the Juvenile Probation Department to provide services to thousands of troubled youth and their families in the community each year. The members of the Commissioners Court are as follows:

Robert Eckels Harris County Judge	El Franco Lee Commissioner Precinct One	Sylvia Garcia Commissioner Precinct Two	Steve Radack Commissioner Precinct Three	Jerry Eversole Commissioner Precinct Four
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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 court. The members of the Juvenile Board are as follows:

Judge Robert Eckels County Judge Chairman	Judge Pat Shelton 313th District Court Buildings and Grounds	Judge John Phillips 314th District Court Vice Chairman Secretary Buildings and Grounds	Judge Kent Ellis (retired April, 2006) Judge Michael Schneider 315th District Court (effective May, 2006)	Judge George Godwin 174th District Court Budget and Finance
	Judge Georgia Dempster 308th District Court Budget and Finance	Judge Ken Wise 152nd District Court		

Associate Judges

Robert Molder 313th District Court	Aneeta Jamal 314th District Court	Sherry Van Pelt 315th District Court	Beverly Malazzo Detention Center
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Juvenile Board Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee brings together representatives of the medical, educational and legal community who have a clear understanding of the juvenile offender population. They make recommendations and provide consultation when called upon. The committee includes the following:

Beverly Malazzo Associate Judge Chairperson	Ann Campbell Helen Jackson Robert Thomas	Connie Clancy Jo Ann Jones-Burbridge John Trevino (effective December, 2006)	Elizabeth Godwin Rebecca Reyna	Celestine Harris Will Risser, M. D.
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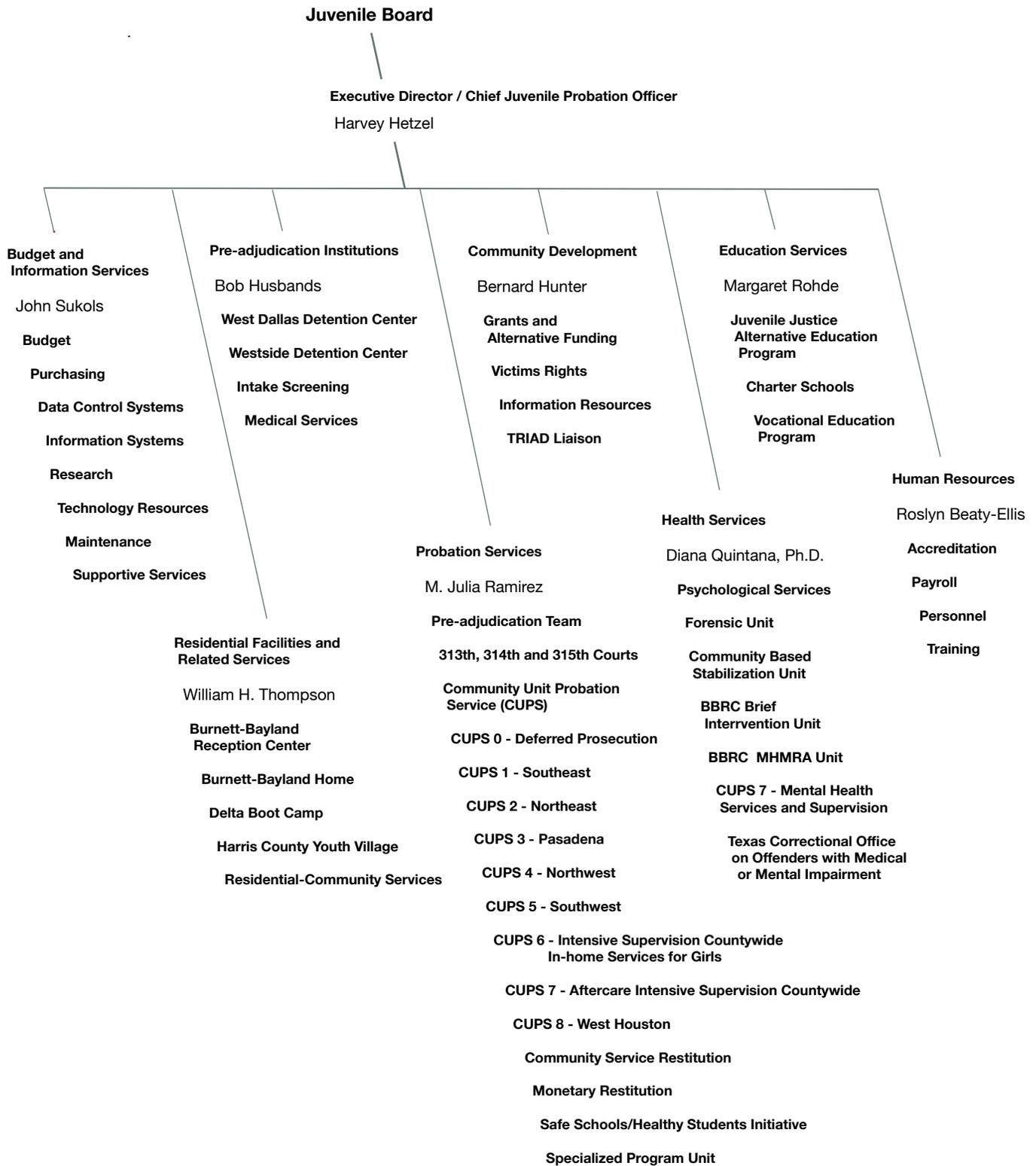
Members completing service in 2006: **Philip Farley, M.D., Omowale Luthuli-Allen and Rueben Torres**

Administrative Staff

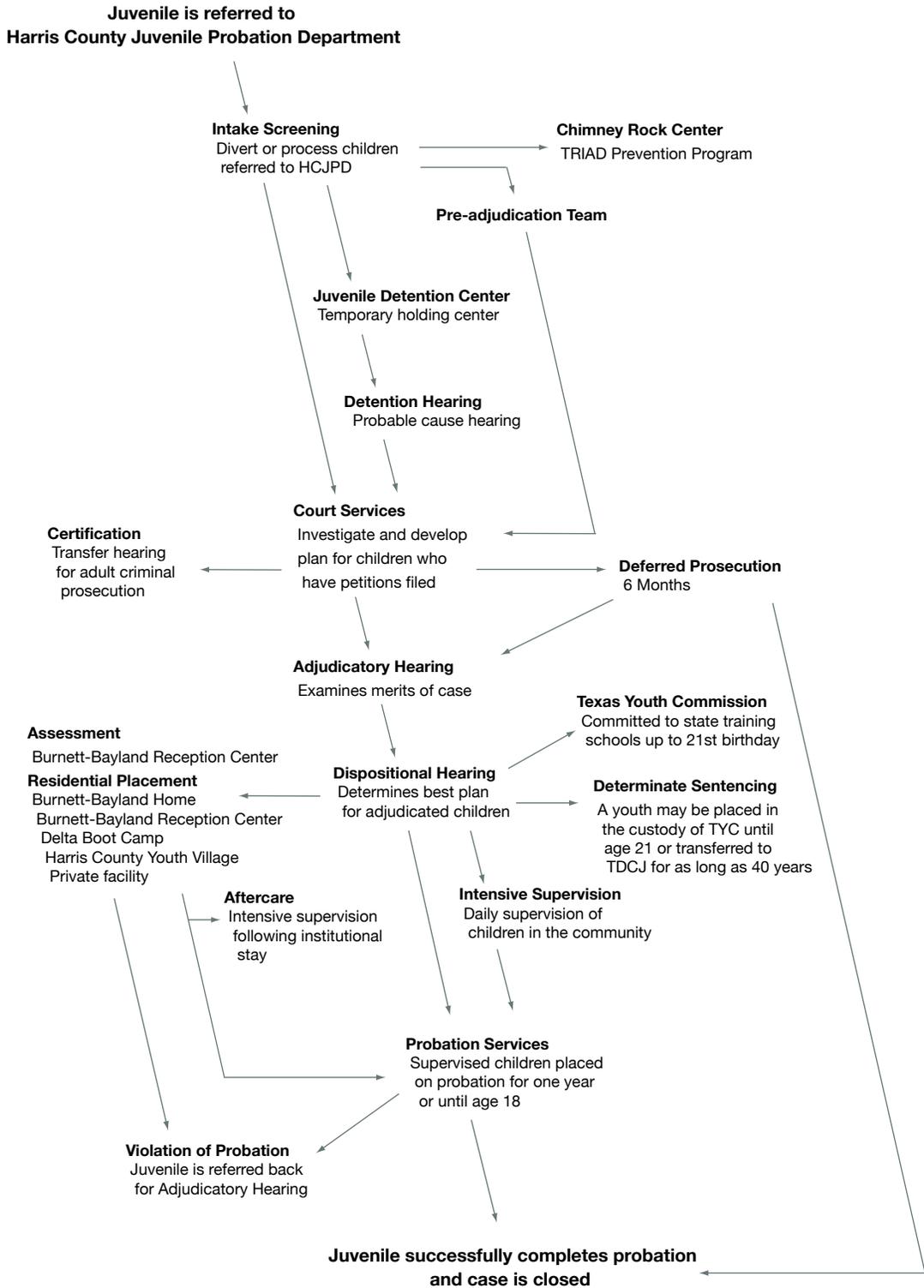
Executive Director, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer	Harvey Hetzel
Budget and Information Technology	
Deputy Director	John Sukols
Assistant Deputy Director	Izer Billings
Assistant Budget Officer	Jerome Booker
Administrator of Technology and Systems Development	Pam Boveland
Administrator of Special Projects and Custodian of Records	Genevieve Walls
Administrator of Systems Operations	Robert Murray
Community Development	
Deputy Director	Bernard Hunter
Administrator of Community Development	Kendall Mayfield
Education Services	
Deputy Director	Margaret Rohde
Assistant Deputy Director	Henry Gonzales
Human Resources	
Deputy Director	Roslyn Beaty-Ellis
Administrator of Training	Keith Branch
Administrator of Personnel	Marilyn Broussard-Webb
Health Services	
Deputy Director	Diana Quintana, Ph.D.
Pre-adjudication Institutions	
Deputy Director	Bob Husbands
Superintendent, West Dallas/Juvenile Justice Center	David Hetzel
Superintendent, Westside/Juvenile Justice Center	Donald Clemons
Residential Facilities and Related Services Division	
Deputy Director	William H. Thompson
Superintendent, Burnett-Bayland Reception Center	Terry Snow-Smith
Assistant Superintendent	Kernal Bobb
Superintendent, Burnett-Bayland Home	John Kandeh
Assistant Superintendent	Charlene Laskoskie
Superintendent, Delta Boot Camp	Larry Smith
Assistant Superintendent	Bert Carter
Superintendent, Harris County Youth Village	Loretta Tigner
Assistant Superintendent	Obi Nweke
Administrator, Residential-Community Services	Debbie Williams
Probation Services	
Deputy Director	M. Julia Ramirez
Assistant Deputy Director	Tom Brooks
Assistant Deputy Director	Luann McCoy
Administrator of Field Services Operations	Alice Sweeney-Herd
Administrators, 313th, 314th, 315th Court Units	Terri McGee, Ron Perren, Guadalupe Mendiola
Administrator, CUPS 0*	John Sloan
Administrator, CUPS 1	Diana Johnson
Administrator, CUPS 2	Tim Washington
Administrator, CUPS 3	Pedro Guzman
Administrator, CUPS 4	Cheryl Conrad/John Sloan
Administrator, CUPS 5	James Redic
Administrator, CUPS 6	Andrea Rice
Administrator, CUPS 7	Susan Bonich
Administrator, CUPS 8	Donald Camp
Administrator, Specialized Programs	Tania Wallace

* Community Unit Probation Services (CUPS)

Organizational Chart



Case Flow Chart





Ribbon cutting at the Youth Services Center on Chimney Rock Road.

TRIAD Prevention Program

Before moving its programs to the new Harris County Youth Services Center (YSC) in February, the Chimney Rock Center (CRC) served as a 24-hour intake center for youth, ages 10 to 16, who are picked up for status offenses such as runaway, truancy and curfew or Class C Misdemeanors (theft, assault, disorderly conduct or public intoxication) and those who are in need of supervision. (These offenses are classified as Progressive Sanction Level I cases. If a child repeatedly commits offenses, Progressive Sanction guidelines recommend increased penalties and supervision.) At the YSC, services included screening and assessment, crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter, referrals and follow-up. The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD), Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS) and the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA) are partners in the TRIAD Prevention Program with the TRIAD executive director reporting to HCPS. In 2006, 2,696 juveniles who had run away, broken curfew, skipped school or committed Class C misdemeanors such as alcohol violations received services at the YSC and another 1,808 juveniles were assisted by the probation staff. Many parents consult the TRIAD staff to find ways to prevent their child from breaking the law.

In addition to Intake services, the TRIAD Prevention Program operates the Justice of the Peace Court Family Service Case Manager Program, the TRIAD Mental Health Services Program and the Alliance for Children and Families (formerly the Community Resource Coordination Group). The TRIAD Prevention Program also administers grant-funded programs including Services to At-Risk Youth (STAR), Community Youth Development, Truancy Learning Camp and Title V Stay in School Program.

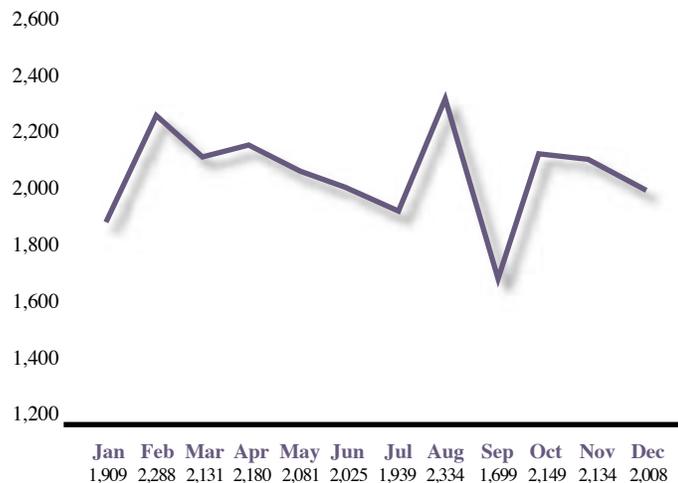
Intake Screening

Harris County law enforcement officers may take a juvenile to one of two 24-hour intake units of the Juvenile Probation Department, the Youth Services Center, previously located at the Chimney Rock Center, or the Juvenile Detention Center.

Intake Screening is responsible for assessing immediate circumstances and deciding if the youth is to be detained or released. When a youth is thought to present a threat to self or to the community or is likely to run away and not return for a court appearance, he or she will be detained for a probable cause detention hearing conducted by an associate judge.

In 2006, there were 6,935 youths received at the Juvenile Detention Center. Approximately 10% of all youth received at the detention center are diverted annually by Intake Screening. This diversion program consists of the youth not being processed and being released within three hours from the time of receipt at the detention center. Additionally, Intake Screening and the Youth Services Center divert youth from detention via telephone staffings with all law enforcement and

Number of Referrals by Month, 2006





“The Juvenile Justice Center has proven to become a place for centralized services to juveniles and their families. I am able to see the impact and convenience of the centralized services given to the families.”

Iris Lewis, Probation Services - CUPS 7

school district agencies.

For mental health issues, Intake Screening makes referrals by telephone for youths to the Ben Taub Neuron-psychiatric Center and the Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority to address their immediate psychiatric needs.

PRE-ADJUDICATED INSTITUTIONS DIVISION

The Juvenile Detention Center on West Dallas, which was vacated in April, was a secure residential facility for juveniles requiring a restricted environment while awaiting court action. The Intake Screening staff is responsible for assessing immediate circumstances and deciding if a youth is to be detained or released. When thought to present a threat to self or to the community or being likely to run away and not return for a court appearance, the youth will be held in detention. The Juvenile Detention Center in the new Juvenile Justice Center operates with the same procedures and also houses youth awaiting transfer to the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center, private placement or the Texas Youth Commission (TYC).

The new Juvenile Detention Center consists of six housing floors accommodating 250 youth, and features private sleeping rooms, multi-purpose activity rooms, gymnasiums, visitation and counseling areas, facilities for medical, dental, psychological and social services,

a separate intake section and a courtroom. Advanced monitoring systems and architectural designs provide security and safety without bars. During their stay, juveniles undergo physical and psychological assessments, short-term therapy and crisis intervention. Recreation specialists provide daily physical education activities. Highly trained staff and volunteers work to promote feelings of self-worth, to establish trust and teach juveniles to relate to others through structured unit activities.

The Juvenile Justice Charter School provides an educational program which focuses on areas in which these students are generally deficient such as remedial reading, language, and math skills. Volunteers and other agencies provide additional services including health awareness, self-esteem workshops, tutoring and individual visitation. Finally, a maximum capacity of 48 juveniles was held at the Westside Detention Center to minimize crowding at the West Dallas location.

HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

The Health Services Division encompasses both Mental and Medical Health Services, creating a division to better serve the juvenile population. A Post Adjudicated Nursing Supervisor and a Director of Nursing have joined the staff and all policies and procedures have been reviewed.

The Health Services Deputy Direc-

tor supervises the MHMRA Forensic Assessment Unit which provides psychological evaluations for pre-adjudicated and post-adjudicated youth in the Detention Center. The Forensic Unit is staffed by mental health professionals under the supervision of licensed psychologists and psychiatrists. They conducted 2,053 evaluations in 2006, including 245 psychiatric assessments. The Forensic Unit continues to serve as a practicum site for graduate students from the Sam Houston State Forensic Doctoral Program, the Prairie View A&M Forensic Psychology Department and the University of Houston Clear Lake masters program. In addition, the forensic staff psychiatrist provides supervision and training for University of Texas psychiatry residents.

The Psychological and Social Services Department conducted 8,610 counseling sessions and assessments of youths in the Detention Center in 2006 with at least 2,142 different juveniles. Referrals and evaluations can be handled electronically which facilitates the provision of services and treatment. The Psychological and Social Services Department is recognized as a specialized unit and all therapists have at least a master's degree in counseling or related services. A psychiatrist visits the Detention Center to provide medication interventions or follow-up care. Approximately 35-40% of youths in the detention center are prescribed psy-



“It’s nice to be near the other employees in my division instead of several hallways away. An intact ceiling is always a plus!”

Carla Glover, Research Analyst, Budget and Information Technology

chotropic medications at an annual cost of nearly \$570,000.

Youths that present with chronic and severe psychiatric symptoms can be treated in a special 16 bed unit at the Harris County Psychiatric Center (HCPC) Subacute Unit. HCPC served 113 youths in 2006, and a total of 833 since May 2001. The Psychiatric Stabilization Unit at BBRC provided intense psychiatric and counseling interventions to 126 post-adjudicated youths in 2006. These services were provided in collaboration with MHMRA of Harris County.

The Community Unit Probation Services (CUPS) 7 office is the home of the Special Needs Program funded by the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) and the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairment (TCOOMMI). This program consists of four teams made up of juvenile probation officers and mental health professionals who work with special caseloads of youths with mental health problems. In addition, a psychiatrist is assigned to the unit for crisis intervention and medication management. This program served 171 youths in 2006.

The Community Based Stabilization Unit (CBSU) was created in 2005 and follows the same concept as the Special Needs Program; however, this program is able to serve a broader population of youths (i.e., juveniles who are

post-adjudicated, diagnosed with mental retardation or with substance dependency issues). This program staff consists of six teams made up of a juvenile probation officer and a mental health worker. They served 169 youths in 2006.

The Health Services Division was very active in two grant-funded collaborative initiatives during 2006. The Juvenile Probation Department is a key member in the Harris County Systems of Hope project which is a multi-agency children’s mental health systems initiative funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This project provides a case manager and a parent partner for youth who are identified as being seriously emotionally disturbed. The department is also participating in the Operation Redirect initiative that places four triage clinicians within the intake process. This will allow the department to identify youth with mental health concerns at the time of intake and will generate referrals to mental health services both within and outside of the agency.

PROBATION SERVICES DIVISION

The Probation Services Division is a combination of Court Services and Field Services that offers an array of programs.

Pre-Adjudication Team

The Pre-Adjudication Team (PAT) provides intensive supervision to juvenile of-

fenders who can be released from detention to await their court dates. This team ensures that the Detention Center has beds available for serious offenders who must be detained. Experienced officers work extended hours daily to monitor juveniles who are awaiting court. During 2006, the team handled 203 cases with considerable savings in bed space and associated care in the Juvenile Detention Centers.

Court Services

Once the District Attorney’s office has filed a petition, probation services staff prepares a comprehensive profile of a juvenile and the case. This detailed report may be used with other information to aid the judge in determining a suitable disposition by including details about the youth’s physical and emotional status as well as school and family circumstances. If a juvenile is found to have engaged in delinquent conduct, he or she may be allowed to live at home under stringent rules of probation, placed in a residential facility, county institution, or committed to TYC.

The department and the Precinct 1 Constable’s Office have created a “Top 30 Most Wanted List” of youths who have either absconded from the courts or who have left a court-ordered placement facility without permission.



“I think being downtown in the Juvenile Justice Center has been a positive impact on our agency and the juvenile justice process. We are in a building that is well built, clean, safe and secure with modern day technology and equipment.:

Tom Brooks, Deputy Director of Court Services

Deferred Prosecution

The court offers Deferred Prosecution to juveniles who are younger, non-violent offenders. The program guides them through six months of specialized programs, counseling and supervision aimed at avoiding adjudication and diverting them from the juvenile justice system. Parent-training workshops, AIDS education, anger management and peer pressure programs are designed to teach juveniles to act responsibly. Drug-dependent youth are referred for therapy and education. Youths accused of shoplifting are referred to a home study program designed for shoplifters. Upon successful completion of their Deferred Prosecution contract, their cases can be dismissed.

In 2006, an average of 1,352 juveniles participated in the Deferred Prosecution program each month. Beginning in the summer 2006, Deferred Prosecution cases were assigned to the CUPS office located closest to the probationers' homes.

Probation Supervision

Most juveniles who go through the court system remain at home under probation supervision. The time period is usually one year, but the courts may lengthen the duration of probation to age 18. Probation supervision and rehabilitative services for youth and their families are provided from nine probation services sites located

throughout Harris County. During 2006, an average of 5,235 juveniles was under supervision by the Probation Services Division each month.

When a juvenile has been declared delinquent, the court sets rules of probation. General rules include completing community service restitution hours, 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, monetary restitution may be required and the juvenile may be referred to counseling and educational programs.

Intensive Supervision

The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) is intended to divert high-risk youth from the state institutions of the TYC and redirect their lives through a program of close supervision and rehabilitation. Each ISP participant must have adequate supervision by parents or significant adults at home. After placement in the program by the courts, clients are contacted twice weekly by a probation officer. This program is administered by juvenile probation officers and human service professionals who work with trained volunteers, student interns and community and civic groups. In 2006, an average of 580 juveniles received services in the ISP

each month.

The In-Home Services program for girls allowed some female probationers to remain at home with 24-hour supervision instead of going to a more costly residential facility. Many services are available and their “Baby, Think It Over” program utilizing computerized infants is an excellent learning experience for girls.

The “Super Saturday” events demonstrate the flexibility and creativity of the ISP Unit. Probationers and parents meet with tutors, counselors and other service providers for special sessions and workshops.

The Intensive Aftercare Program Unit (IAP) provides intensive supervision for youths leaving all county institutions during the weeks following release from structured institutional life. In 2006, an average of 540 juveniles received services in the IAP Unit each month. Clients participated in Saturday programs, drug testing, electronic monitoring, parent-education workshops and Reality Orientation through Physical Experiences (ROPES) courses. Project 17 officers work to interest the older probationers in careers and prepare them for independent living. The Youthful Offenders Demonstration Project in collaboration with HoustonWorks also concentrates on educational and vocational training needed for permanent job placement.

Offense per Referral, 2004 - 2006

Offense	2004	2005	2006
Homicide	14	13	16
Arson	54	57	57
Assault			
Felony	360	382	383
MA/MB	1,173	1,193	1,392
Sexual Assault	146	189	186
Robbery	304	323	355
Burglary	985	954	937
Theft			
Felony	91	67	110
MA/MB	1,508	1,405	1,421
Auto Theft	44	52	47
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	338	276	251
Drugs			
Felony	758	689	762
MA/MB	1,608	1,566	1,705
Alcohol MB	13	8	5
Other			
Felony	608	708	746
MA/MB	3,222	3,282	3,417
Assault - MC	2,345	2,071	2,114
Theft - MC	190	157	101
Drugs - MC	96	53	67
Alcohol MC	14	12	7
Other - MC	7	1	1
Disorderly Conduct	72	70	133
City Ordinance Violations	1,347	871	715
Violations of Probation	2,194	1,823	2,144
Runaways - CHINS *	3,083	1,858	2,527
Other CHINS *	483	257	274
TYC Runaways	112	86	92
Administrative Actions **	4,903	5,025	4,912
Total	26,072	23,448	24,877

* Children In Need of Supervision.

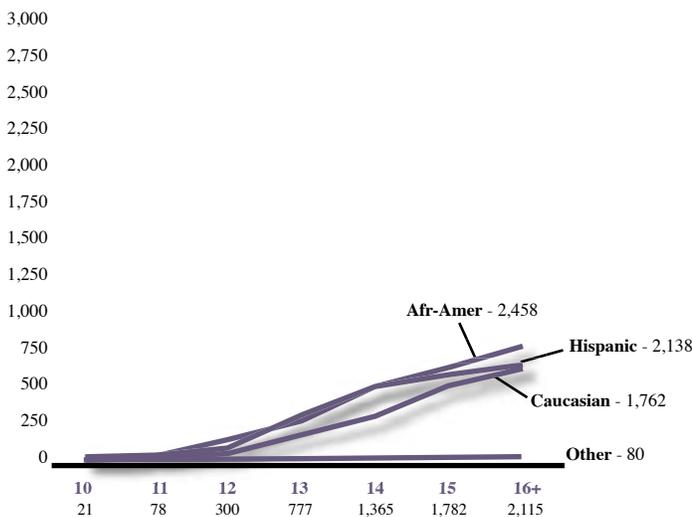
**Administrative Actions may include offenses such as motion to modify, hold as material witness, request of change in custody and motion for release and transfer. Offenses not limited to these categories.

Offense per Admission to Detention, 2004 - 2006

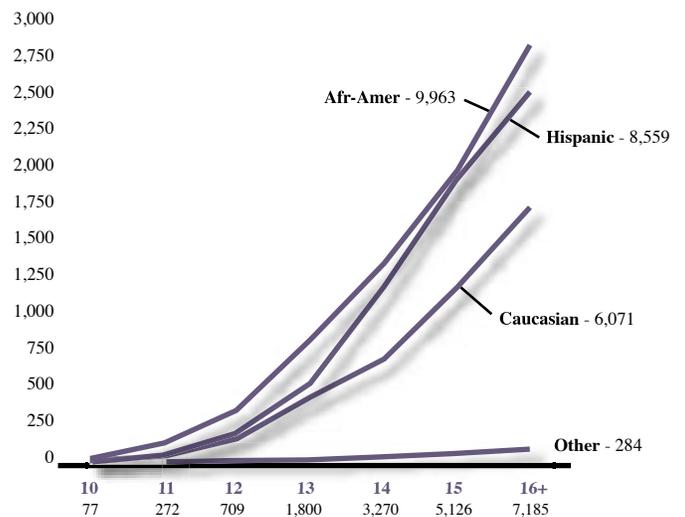
Offenses	2004	2005	2006
Murder	8	10	12
Arson	41	29	29
Assault			
Felony	268	301	309
Misd A/B	634	622	769
Misd C	31	43	48
Sexual Assault	135	171	162
Robbery	289	285	283
Burglary	505	523	477
Theft			
Felony	57	47	49
Misd A/B	459	366	396
Misd C	17	10	7
Auto Theft	32	34	31
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	233	223	167
Drugs			
Felony	304	296	337
Misd A/B	534	515	585
Misd C	8	3	4
Inhalants	0	0	0
Alcohol Misd A/B	6	2	4
Alcohol Misd C	5	1	3
Other			
Felony	292	333	322
Misd A/B	982	1,061	1,124
Disorderly Conduct	40	52	100
City Ordinance	42	42	38
Violation of Probation	1,167	1,096	1,207
Runaway* (CHINS)	110	115	90
Other* (CHINS) Offenses	7	3	3
TYC Runaways	214	173	177
Administrative Actions	196	252	202
Total	6,616	6,608	6,935

*Children In Need of Supervision (status offenses)

Referrals by Age and Ethnicity - Females, 2006



Referrals by Age and Ethnicity - Males, 2006



Referrals by School District of Residence and Ethnicity, 2006

School District	Afr-Amer	Hispanic	Caucasian	Other	Total
Aldine	579	506	210	5	1,300
Alief	623	337	105	34	1,099
Channelview	37	71	86	2	196
Clear Creek	56	49	129	4	238
Crosby	16	9	36	0	61
Cypress	391	350	524	32	1,297
Deer Park	11	57	108	2	178
Galena Park	171	227	111	0	509
Goose Creek	128	174	128	1	431
Houston	2,456	1,785	515	30	4,786
Huffman	4	4	22	0	30
Humble	147	123	216	0	486
Katy	71	130	256	17	474
Klein	180	139	181	15	515
La Porte	4	9	82	0	95
North Forest	293	49	6	0	348
Pasadena	161	671	340	11	1,183
Sheldon	46	38	47	0	131
Spring	319	96	169	12	596
Spring Branch	159	320	172	1	652
Tomball	36	21	91	0	148
Stafford	1	4	4	0	9
Waller	10	7	25	0	42
Pearland	3	2	6	0	11
Private/Parochial	523	330	263	3	1,119
Out of County	390	116	302	7	815
College/University	34	44	29	1	108
H C Department of Education	222	156	84	7	469
JJAEP	215	343	202	9	769
Juvenile Board Charter School	218	115	99	0	432
Not Available	2,459	2,277	1,523	91	6,350
Total	9,963	8,559	6,071	284	24,877

Referring Agency, 2006

Agency	Total
Baytown Police Department	520
Constable's Office	2,225
Harris County Sheriff's Department	2,787
Houston Police Department	6,262
Juvenile Probation Officer	5,310
Pasadena Police Department	448
Schools	5,627
Other	1,698
Total	24,877

Offense Severity, 2006

Offense Severity	Total
Felonies	3,850
Misd. A/B	7,940
Misd. C/Less	5,282
CHINS	2,893
Admin. Offenses	4,912
Total	24,877

Court Activity, 2006

Disposition	Total
Certification	90
Certification Denied	4
CPS Involvement	96
Deferred Prosecution	3,227
Dismissed / Non-Suit	3,798
Early Termination of Probation	108
Not Found CHINS or Delinquent	11
Passed	823
Passed/Writ	480
Probation*	5,325
Probation/Restitution*	550
Probation/Determinate Sentencing**	19
TYC/Determinate Sentencing**	33
TYC	656
Bound Over to TDC	10
Other	692
Total	15,922

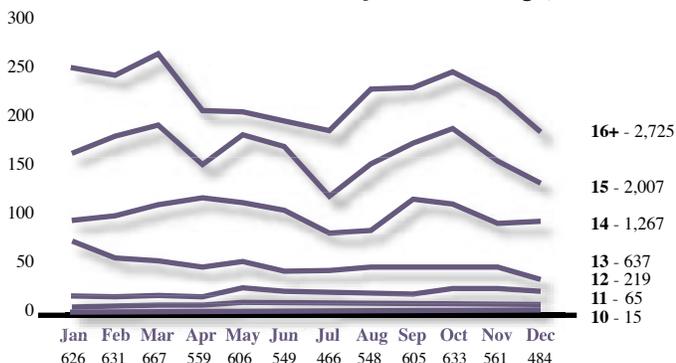
* Includes changes of custody

**Approximate numbers use declared determinate sentencing as court result

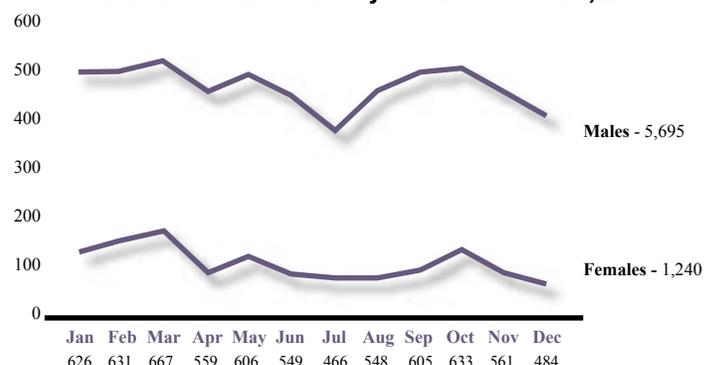
Residential Services for Youth, 2006

Center for Success and Independence	38
CSC/Colorado County Boot Camp	27
Daystar Residential, Inc.	22
Gulf Coast Trades Center	79
HCPC-Residential Treatment Center	4
Jaycee's Children's Center	18
Krause Center	62
McDuffie's Adolescent Center	1
Minola's Place	39
Positive Steps, Inc.	43
Renewed Strength	2
Rockdale Justice Center	37
Roo Agency	2
Sandy Brook Res. Treatment	7
Shiloh Treatment Center	3
Shoreline	2
TMG/Hays County Juvenile Center	87
Totally Fit	14
We Care	6
Total	493

Admissions to Detention by Month and Age, 2006



Admissions to Detention by Month and Gender, 2006



Specialized Program Unit

The Specialized Program Unit was formerly part of the Aftercare Supervision Program.

Sex Offender Supervision is designed for youths adjudicated on sex offense charges that meet the state registration eligibility. These clients have completed the court-ordered Sex Offender Treatment program at the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center before being released for supervision in the community. In 2006, 165 juveniles received services through the sex offender program.

The Gang Supervision Caseload program focuses on the sharing of information about gang members. In a collaborative effort with the Mayor's Anti-Gang Office and AAMA (Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans), 261 youth were monitored in 2006. Tattoo removal is available through a partnership with the City of Houston and graffiti abatement projects are done on a regular basis. One juvenile probation officer participates in the federally funded Gang Free Schools initiative.

Community Service Restitution

The Community Service Restitution Program supervises work projects done by probationers and sometimes with their

parents at non-profit agencies or institutions that have been approved as work-sites by the Juvenile Board. Work sites are arranged for youth from all divisions of the department including those from intake court services referred for lesser offenses. In 2006, 6,060 probationers and 84 parents worked 66,872 hours at an estimated value of \$324,747.

Monetary Restitution

In 2006, the courts ordered 851 juvenile offenders to pay \$285,236 to victims. The department collected \$138,043 in financial restitution with collection continuing from cases heard in the latter part of 2006. Financial restitution of more than \$2,000,000 has been collected since 1993.

Post-Court Interview

This unit was created in the Juvenile Justice Center to make contact immediately after court with the client and parent. The identity, address, school, employment and all pertinent information related to the youth and family is verified and a MAYSI assessment instrument given to determine mental health needs. The AMY (Addiction Measure for Youth) instrument is also conducted to identify drug/alcohol education, counseling and/or treatment needs.

Additional Probation Services

Programs for 2006

Drug Free Youth Program

Certified alcohol and drug abuse counselors are available to all CUPS offices by the Houston Council on Alcohol and Drugs to intervene with those who have substance abuse problems.

Educational Workshops

Workshops for youths and families on various topics.

Early Termination

A voluntary program that may shorten probationary periods.

MADD Victim Impact Panel

Workshops for probationers and families intended to show the tragic consequences of drinking and driving presented by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Peer Pressure Workshops

Workshops presented by the Houston Police Department on positive and negative effects of peer pressure.

Prohibited Weapons Workshops

Houston Police Department workshops which teach consequences of possession of illegal weapons.

Wings

Educational specialists advocate for juveniles to keep them in school, to reinstate them if expelled or to arrange completion of GED requirements and career planning.



“I love the enormous file room which has given us four different areas to file and view the cases.”

Darlene Rose, Budget and Information Technology Division

RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND RELATED SERVICES DIVISION

Post-adjudication facilities include the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center, the Burnett-Bayland Home, the Delta Boot Camp and the Harris County Youth Village. The division continues to use the DART system of structured supervision and programming from campus to campus. DART stresses personal accountability through Discipline, Accountability, Redirection and Transition.

Burnett-Bayland Reception Center

The Burnett-Bayland Reception Center (BBRC) is a secure placement constructed near the Burnett-Bayland Home (BBH) site. Each male juvenile offender to be placed in a county residential facility is first sent to BBRC to be carefully evaluated. In 2006, assessments were completed for 1,865 youths who were then routed to other county campuses, private placement, TYC and, in some cases, placed at home on regular probation. In addition to the general population programming, BBRC offers specialized treatment components: the sex offender program, Psychiatric Stabilization Unit and a poly-substance dependent treatment program, made possible by Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) funding. A substance abuse educational program is now avail-

able to the general population of BBRC. There is also a 30-day Impact Program which is an intensely structured program to encourage proper behavior. The Children’s Assessment Center provides group counseling for those youths who indicate sexual victimization in their past. Writers in the schools assist juveniles in writing projects. Volunteers from Special Youth Services and Crossroads bring guest speakers, tutors, religious services, art services and other programs to BBRC. The Juvenile Justice Charter School provides educational classes.

Burnett-Bayland Home

The Burnett-Bayland Home is a residential placement for delinquent youth ranging in age from 10 to 17 years who do not require secure confinement. In 2006, 305 youths participated in the program. On September 18, a female residential program began at BBH, and 13 female residents entered the gender specific program residing in cottages segregated from the boys.

Family visitation is encouraged and parents participate in regular counseling sessions. Therapeutic intervention and behavior modification are important in the rehabilitation process of each resident as well as participation in peer mediation, anger management, drug/alcohol counseling and Operation Outreach. Individual

and family therapy play a significant role in the residents’ transition back into the community. Crossroads volunteers provided mentors for residents on campus and the Rotary Club of Houston continued its generous support providing community service projects at Hermann Park. Activities such as art, photography program, leather craft program and a print shop bring other learning dimensions to the residents. Three basketball teams and a softball team coached by staff allow residents to compete with other Harris County institutions and private schools in the community. Residents also participated in a summer Boy Scout program and various extra curricular activities off campus that include the TSU summer program and Commissioner El Franco Lee’s Summer Street Olympics. Residents attend on-campus classes taught by the Juvenile Justice Charter School. A vocational curriculum has been added with instruction on writing resumes and completing job applications. Youth Advocates, Inc. and AmeriCorps staff provide weekly tutoring.

Harris County Youth Village

The Youth Village lakefront campus located in the Clear Lake area provides educational, medical and therapeutic services, as well as drug education therapy, for males who are 15 to 17 years of age.



“The new building is a huge improvement over our previous facilities. I have a beautiful office and my department is now located closer to other departments we need to be in frequent contact with which makes for better communication.”

Roxanne Geaslen, M.Ed. LPC, Staff Psychologist

In 2006, 572 youths stayed at the Youth Village. The behavioral program of the Youth Village targets personal responsibility, appropriate expression of anger, positive decision-making and leadership, and ultimately, self-management of one’s own behavior. Student-led community governments meet weekly. Parent and guardian involvement is encouraged with visitation, input on treatment plans, family and multifamily counseling and occasional home visits. Community volunteers also support the Youth Village programs by providing incentive awards and working with residents as mentors, librarians, financial advisors and tutors.

In 2006, the Youth Village’s vocational program continued providing residents with stronger ties to continued education, as well as employers in the community. The Vocational Education Program (VEP) can accommodate 120 students per year. Central to this program is its partnership with the San Jacinto College System’s Central Campus, where residents complete certification-level vocational classes which are recognized in the industry and can be used to further the students’ studies at either the college or the general trades level. Professors from San Jacinto College instruct students in an 18-week program in either electrical or automotive studies. Students in the electrical program take basic, residential and commercial wiring courses. Students in

the automotive program take Introduction to Automotive Systems. In addition to their vocational studies, all students are enrolled in GED classes on campus, where they spend four hours each day preparing to take not only the GED exam, but college-level entrance exams. All students are given academic and employment counseling by both staff at the Youth Village and San Jacinto College, who have assisted students with college financial aid paperwork, scholarships, grants and job applications. As an added bonus, youth in this program qualify for grants to assist with tuition and fees for one year after their release which allows many students to continue with their college studies as they transition back into the community. Program outcomes from the 2006 student groups totaling 97 students are as follows: 98 percent of the students successfully completed all components of their vocational coursework in electrical or automotive systems and 70 percent obtained GEDs and either transitioned into a trade job or continued on with college courses.

Delta Boot Camp

The Delta Boot Camp provides a residential correctional program for adjudicated males, ages 13 to 16, who have been determined by the court to need a discipline-oriented program. The boot camp facility in west Harris County opened in

1999 and accommodates 144 young men at one time. During 2006, 804 young men participated in the program. The trainees take part in a structured basic training program incorporating the four phases of DART which are Discipline, Accountability, Redirection and Transition. The goal of the Delta Boot Camp is to provide a successful reintegration into the community and family. Educational classes are provided by teachers from the Juvenile Justice Charter School as well as counseling, anger management and mental health services by MHMRA of Harris County.

Following their stay at the boot camp, the trainees return home and attend school with intensive supervision by JPOs from CUPS 7, a special Probation Services aftercare unit. They also participate in community service projects, drug testing and counseling sessions. In 2003, the Delta Boot Camp implemented an intense 30-day Impact Program which recorded a 95 percent success rate in 2006. This program is designed to redirect probationers whose behavior is jeopardizing their current community or residential probation status.

Residential-Community Service

When a juvenile must be removed from the home, the Residential-Community Services staffing committee considers all available alternatives. Information is supplied by the JPO as well as a psycho-

logical and psychiatric evaluation by the MHMRA forensic staff. Placement options are included in the court report for the judge's consideration. Another special unit reviews all cases for possible federal reimbursement from Title IV-E funds. In 2006, a total of \$287,038 was received in IV-E reimbursement from the federal government for youths in private placement. Another reimbursement in the amount of \$160,785 was received from TJPC for youth who were Sanction Level 5 and placed in a private secure facility or in the BBRC Sexual Offender Unit. In addition, \$3,524,087 was received in Title IV-E administrative reimbursement.

The Harris County Advocate Program (H-CAP) offers a community-based alternative to placement. The program serves adjudicated offenders whose behavior and social circumstances put them at risk of placement in residential treatment facilities. It offers a range of individualized, non-traditional, wrap-around and advocacy services for the youth and the entire family. Referrals are taken from probation services and institutions saving placement dollars and leaving youths in their own homes. In 2006, 435 youths received services from the H-CAP program.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Community Development Division is committed to serving at-risk and delinquent youth through education and in-

volvement. It serves as the department's liaison to other agencies, supervises Progressive Sanction Level 1 cases, monitors juvenile justice issues, provides information to the public including victims and the media, and acquires alternative funding to finance numerous programs.

TRIAD Prevention Program

As part of the TRIAD consortium, the division has 14 juvenile probation staff assigned to the TRIAD Prevention Program. They coordinate and provide intervention and prevention services to at-risk children and families.

Grants and Alternative Funding

During 2006, the division acquired over \$500,000 dollars from the state and federal governments to assist the department in providing a variety of basic and specialized probation services. These services include residential placement for serious offenders, specialized services for female offenders, and intervention/prevention services in targeted schools.

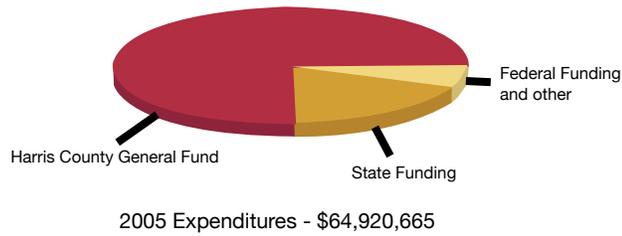
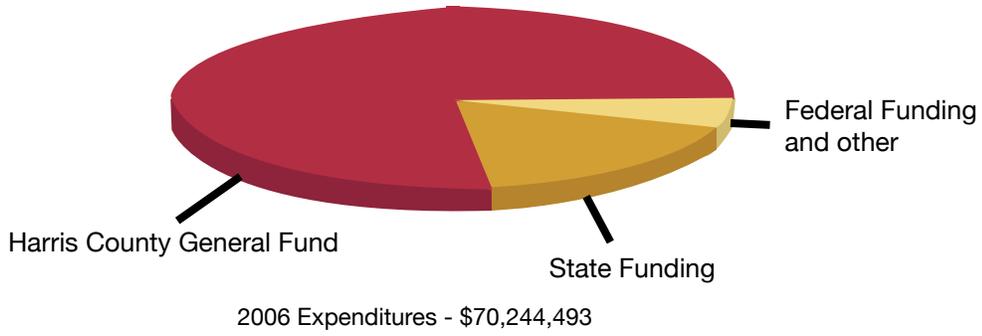
In addition, staff co-coordinated and co-authored two grants that bring needed mental health services to Harris County. The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health awarded \$500,000 to Harris County to restore mental health services lost as a result of budget reductions and increased need. Later in the year, Harris County was awarded approximately \$1,500,000

from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to begin the strategic planning process to improve the systems of mental health care in Harris County.

BUDGET AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

The Budget and Information Technology Division supports the mission of HCJPD through the provision of professional and technical services in the areas of budget and fiscal management, computer network and information systems, and supportive services. Budget and fiscal management services manage the agency's revenues and expenditures. Day-to-day activities include developing and monitoring budgets, grants, purchasing and fiscal report preparations. Computer networking, information systems and research are the functions of Technology and Systems Development (TSD). Supportive Services staff manage inventory, office supplies and equipment, provide mail courier service and operate a print shop. It also provides various other services upon request that support agency operations.

In 2006, the department's expenditures were \$70,244,493. The county, state, federal and private funding is identified in the chart.



2006 Expenditures

County - \$55,276,374

Harris County General Fund \$ 55,276,374

State - \$10,803,087

TJPC - State Aid 5,067,064
 TJPC - Community Corrections 3,778,283
 TJPC - Juvenile Boot Camp 1,002,027
 TJPC - Secure Facility Operations 676,111
 TJPC - TCOOMMI (Mental Health) 257,372
 TJPC - Equipment Fund 22,230

Federal and Other - \$4,165,032

Title IV-E Federal Reimbursement 3,681,990
 Coordinated Juvenile Crime Enforcement 230,950
 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment 112,268
 Family Protection Fees 81,500
 Gang Free Schools and Communities 40,035
 HISD Safe Schools 17,605
 Memorial Trust Fund 684

Total 2006 Expenditures \$ 70,244,493

Figures are actual expenditures for the period of January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.



“...this building not only looks like a professional workplace, but, it also raises your self-esteem.”

Bert Ramirez, Budget and Information Technology

Technology and Systems Development

TSD services are developed and delivered in concert with Harris County Justice Information Management System (JIMS) and Information Technology Center (ITC) protocol. Staff utilize technology system facilities that track juveniles, their offenses, pre- and post-adjudication services and activities, case docketing and dispositions. TSD supports agency objectives through the development and effective use of technology resources. Its technicians maintain the agency's computer network and provide user support services. Services include wide area network (WAN) management, computer hardware and software maintenance/support and the use of information technology resources for research, planning and resource management purposes. The agency's WAN is comprised of the Juvenile Justice Center and sixteen remote sites located throughout the county. Network users have access to JIMS facilities, desktop applications, the Internet and e-fax as well as specialized applications developed by staff programmers. The programmers engage in a diverse set of activities that include application development and maintenance, research, planning and user training. Research staff addresses data requests from federal, state and local agencies including universities, funding sources and the media. Senior technology staff continues to actively participate in the development of JIMS-2.

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION

Personnel, Payroll, Training and Accreditation are the four major areas that define the Human Resources Division.

Personnel and Payroll

Personnel and payroll work diligently to ensure that Harris County Personnel Regulations are adhered to and fairly applied. Personnel performs the hiring function for the department which includes developing job descriptions, researching salary information, recruitment, interviewing, processing, investigating and hiring new staff. The unit monitors job performance, ensures that the performance appraisal instrument is appropriate and facilitates the completion of the performance appraisal process on a yearly basis.

Personnel and payroll work together with other county agencies to maintain position control, establish and maintain accurate salary compensation, initiate and monitor salary changes, and provide and counsel more than 1,250 employees regarding benefit information, training and other functions.

Training Unit

The Training Unit provides academy training for new staff. The 40-hour academy is often attended by juvenile probation officers from around the state, as they seek state approved training hours in order to obtain their certifications. The Training Unit is also responsible for pro-

viding continuing educational training for all tenured staff. The unit monitors HCJPD staff training hours to ensure that requirements are met for continued certification. Many of the department's staff serve as Resource Training Officers in addition to meeting the demands of their regular job duties.

In 2006, the unit conducted over 57,000 hours of training for 1,582 employees and visitors from other agencies in Harris County and throughout the state. Training topics ranged from officer safety to interagency collaboration. The Training Unit works in collaboration with Harris County agencies and neighboring counties to co-sponsor trainings. It also manages the department's Speakers Bureau which provides education regarding probation services to schools, churches and community groups. Representatives from the Speakers Bureau speak to hundreds of children throughout Harris County annually.

Accreditation

Training and accreditation work together to monitor the department's facilities and ensure the agency's compliance with state standards established by the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission for all secure juvenile facilities. TJPC audits both pre- and post-secure adjudication facilities annually to ensure compliance. The Burnett Bayland Reception Center's score was 99.21%. The Detention Center

at 3540 West Dallas was also accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA) was subject to ACA audits every three years. An ACA audit for the Juvenile Justice Center Detention Center may occur the latter part of 2007.

Crossroads: Community Partnership for Youth, Inc.

In 2006, 502 volunteers and interns donated 50,095 hours in recreational, educational, mentoring, religious and community service for youths on probation or in institutions. With volunteer work valued at \$18.04 per hour, the department has received \$903,713 in assistance from community volunteers and interns.

Included in the grand total are volunteers working in specific areas of the department. Six volunteers from Junior League of Houston, Inc. donated 245 hours counseling children and families, continuing a remarkable partnership of almost 40 years with the department. Fifty-six dedicated volunteers with Special Youth Services donated 7,027 hours and 120 volunteers with Youth Exchange worked 6,699 hours. Also included in the grand total is the work of 39 interns from area colleges and universities who worked 7,419 hours in the department's student intern program. They served throughout the agency in a variety of positions receiving training and experience in juvenile corrections.

Often requested by the courts, 245

Crossroads volunteers served 26,212 hours as mentors and role models for youth. Crossroads, a non-profit United Way agency, carefully recruits, screens and trains volunteers and interns for the department. Crossroads integrates the community with the agency, a partnership that allows the department to meet the goals of providing quality services to redirect the lives of youth. Associate Judge Beverly B. Malazzo of the Juvenile District Courts serves as a member of the Crossroads Board.

EDUCATION SERVICES DIVISION

Under the authority of the Juvenile Board, the Educational Services Division provides educational programs for every expelled student and delinquent youth placed in a county-operated juvenile institution. Since the 2005-2006 school years, the HCJPD has been responsible for all programs of the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) and the Juvenile Justice Charter School (JJCS).

Juvenile Justice Charter School

Beginning in 1998, all juveniles placed by the courts in detention and residential facilities have been provided educational services under one comprehensive academic program, the Harris County Juvenile Justice Charter School. The JJCS focuses on student progression in the core academic curriculum, TAKS remediation, vocational education and life skills.

Sixty-six students received a GED during 2005-2006 school years. Funded by the Texas Education Agency and state and federal grants, the JJCS provides a year-round school to enable students to continuously improve their educational skills.

Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program

Students attending the JJAEP have been expelled from one of 22 local school districts for serious criminal activity or serious misconduct while at school. The program also provides academic transition services to many juveniles returning from county juvenile institutions. The JJAEP focuses on accelerated academic growth and behavior skills that will help students be successful when they return to their home schools. Juvenile probation officers are located at the school to assist with the students' probation-related requirements and to provide mentoring, counseling and prevention-related services. Other ancillary services include mental health services, substance abuse intervention, social services, health-related services and summer school. The JJAEP is funded by the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, local school districts, and state and federal grants. During the 2005-2006 school years, 1,320 students were enrolled with an average attendance rate of 82% for the year. The average length of enrollment per student was 70 school days.

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