

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court



Department Overview

The Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDRDC) is responsible for adjudicating juvenile matters, offenses committed by adults against juveniles, and family matters except divorce to residents of Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax and the towns of Herndon, Vienna and Clifton. The Court Services Unit (CSU) offers comprehensive intake, probation and residential services for delinquent and status offense youth under the legal age of 18 and post-adjudication services until age 21. The CSU also provides services to adults experiencing domestic and/or family difficulties and adult probation services. Since its inception, the CSU has been locally operated although agency activities are regulated by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) (adult probation). The agency incorporates the overall philosophy of the balanced approach providing for public safety, holding offenders accountable, and offering services and programs designed to change behavior using evidence-based practices. All staff are Fairfax County employees. The CSU's services most closely align with the County's vision element of providing safe and caring communities.

Major CSU functions are located in the Public Safety Complex in Fairfax City. CSU Administration, Juvenile Intake Services, Domestic Relations Services, Community Corrections and Supervised Release Services are located in the Fairfax County Courthouse. The Juvenile Detention Center, the Shelter Care II facility, and the Transitional Living Program are also located in the complex. The Historic Courthouse at this location is home to Center County Probation Services, the Stronger Together and Safe Havens Supervised Visitation Programs, and several alternative education programs serving court-involved youth. Juvenile probation

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

and intake services are decentralized in the Reston, Falls Church, and Mount Vernon areas of the county. Two long term residential treatment facilities, one for males (Boys Probation House) and one for females (Foundations) are located in the central area of the county.

Department Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
FUNDING			
Expenditures:			
Compensation	\$18,593,382	\$18,964,747	\$19,987,078
Operating Expenses	1,926,805	2,915,671	2,602,583
Capital Equipment	116,436	77,322	0
Total Expenditures	\$20,636,623	\$21,957,740	\$22,589,661
General Fund Revenue	\$5,657,741	\$6,119,787	\$7,579,979
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$14,978,882	\$15,837,953	\$15,009,682
POSITIONS			
<i>Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)</i>			
Positions:			
Regular	302 / 300.5	303 / 301.5	303 / 301.5
State	43 / 43	43 / 43	43 / 43
Total Positions	345 / 343.5	346 / 344.5	346 / 344.5

Lines of Business Summary

LOB #	LOB Title	FY 2016 Adopted	
		Disbursements	Positions
184	Court Services Administration	\$3,676,677	69
185	Juvenile - Adult Investigation and Probation Services	3,331,573	67
186	Intake and Intervention Services - Visitation and Exchange, Mediation, Diversion	2,866,160	37
187	Juvenile Detention Center Services	7,593,265	99
188	Shelter Care	952,216	14
189	Supervised Release Services	1,140,465	16
190	Long-Term Residential Care	3,029,305	44
Total		\$22,589,661	346

Lines of Business

LOB #184:

COURT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Purpose

Court Services Unit (CSU) administration is provided centrally. Two divisions—Juvenile and Adult Probation Services and Residential Services for Juveniles—are managed by the Court Services Unit Director who is responsible for overseeing the delivery of direct and indirect services to clients and staff. The office provides support to the CSU units and the judges and state employees who are assigned to the Clerk of Court. In addition to central administration activities, this line of business includes other centralized functions such as volunteer activities, staff training, victim services, strategic planning, special project support, grant and program development and research and program evaluation that support the agency as a whole.

Description

The Court Services Administration line of business incorporates a variety of centrally located activities that support the operation of the agency as a whole. Court Services Administration is located in the Fairfax County Courthouse located in Fairfax City. The unit is staffed by county employees and generally operates from 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday.

In addition to overall administration of the agency, Court Services Administration provides specialized programs and services that support the entire agency including volunteer programs, victim services, research, evaluation, resource development, staff training and facilities management. Human resources, budget development and financial support services are provided by county staff assigned to the agency by the Department of Administration for Human Services. Information technology services are provided to the agency by the Court Information Technology Services.

Volunteer Programs

The CSU operates two volunteer programs, the general Volunteer and Intern Program and the Volunteer Interpreter Program. The Coordinator of the Volunteer and Intern Program recruits and screens volunteers and interns, orients them to the court process and available services, and places them with appropriate staff members. All volunteers are fingerprinted and undergo background checks similar to Fairfax County employees including criminal history, DMV, and child protective services. Volunteers attend training similar to agency employees, including the agency's new employee orientation. Specific unit-related training is provided where the volunteer is placed. A CSU or Clerk's Office staff member directly supervises each volunteer. Volunteers and interns participate in the delivery of court services in the probation and parole units, in residential facilities, and as a support for juveniles under court supervision in need of a positive adult model.

The CSU *Student Internship Program* is designed to provide undergraduate and graduate students with an excellent "hands on" learning experience that supplements their classroom knowledge with practical work. Internships with the CSU are available for one or two semesters during the fall, spring, and summer. To be considered for an internship, students must be earning college credit and should have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies. Intern selection is based on his or her application, a reference check, an interview, and a criminal record check. Student interns are assigned to programs throughout the Court Services Unit. They work between 16 and 32 hours per week. Assignments are based on academic background, the interest of a student, the staffing needs of CSU programs, and supervisory availability.

The *Volunteer Interpreter Program (VIP)* provides interpreter services to court personnel and non-English speaking clients. The goals of the program are to assist non-English speaking individuals in accessing court services and to aid staff in effectively communicating with our Limited English Proficiency (LEP) clients.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Interpretation services are provided for intake interviews, probation meetings, interviews for court reports, family counseling sessions, parent groups, treatment team meetings and other pre- and post-court services. These volunteers also interpret in domestic relations status and protective order hearings and other civil hearings when a paid interpreter is not available. The program currently provides primarily Spanish language interpretation. The VIP Coordinator assesses the volunteer interpreter's English and Spanish language skills and abilities in other areas, such as listening and working with others. Volunteer interpreters also translate court documents, such as probation rules and informational pamphlets, into the Spanish language.

Victim Services Program

The Virginia Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act (VA Code 19.2-11.01) provides for services to be offered to persons who have suffered physical, psychological, or economic harm as a direct result of the commission of a felony, assault and battery, stalking, sexual battery, attempted sexual battery, maiming, or driving while intoxicated. The CSU's Victim Services Program provides assistance for individuals victimized as the result of a crime committed by a juvenile offender. Victim Services staff provide ongoing support and appropriate assistance during all stages of the criminal justice process. Services include, but are not limited to, emotional support, advanced notice of court proceedings, preparation for court, courtroom advocacy, assistance in completing Victim Impact Statements, filing a Victim Statement of Financial Loss, arrangement of victim/offender meetings, resource referrals for counseling, medical or psychological services, assistance in obtaining compensation through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund, burial assistance, transportation, and notification of an offender's status.

Staff also conduct Victim Impact Education classes with court-involved juvenile offenders. In certain circumstances, the unit has also provided victim education for young adults who are on probation with the Community Corrections Unit. Victim Impact Education is designed to teach offenders how their crimes affect the victims, the families of the victims, their families, the community, and themselves. Offenders are expected to acknowledge, identify, and accept responsibility for their criminal behavior. The curriculum focuses on phases of victimization, core values, the issue of power, poor behavioral choices, thinking errors and making amends.

Staff Training

CSU training efforts are guided by a comprehensive training plan that addresses a wide variety of issues ranging from new employee orientation to advanced skills building and management training. This includes an ongoing critical assessment of the tasks that are unique to this court and require specialized in-house training and the tasks that are similar to those of other agencies and organizations that can be met with external training. Probation Core Curriculum workshops are an example of internally designed training. These include Case Management, Role of the Probation Officer, Legal Issues, Report Writing, Court Presentations, Domestic Violence, and Suicide Prevention. The CSU works in partnership with the Community Services Board (CSB) Mental Health Services, the Department of Family Services, and CSB Alcohol and Drug Services on other core trainings. All new probation officers must attend these workshops within the first three years of employment.

The CSU's Training Coordinator assists personnel in identifying and registering for workshops and conferences and also supports career development. The Training Advisory Group (TAG), which includes representatives from each of the CSU's units, meets regularly to assist the Training Coordinator in identifying training needs, developing an integrated training plan, and arranging training events. Members act as liaisons between the training coordinator and individuals in their units. The Coordinator publishes a periodic training opportunities packet that includes upcoming training events available to CSU staff. As required by DJJ certification standards, the Training Coordinator periodically provides training records for employees that include the types and number of training hours attended by each individual. In FY2015, 12,439 training hours have been completed by employees of the CSU.

Research and Development

The CSU Administrative Services line of business also includes the Research and Development Unit that supports agency wide planning and evaluation activities. Activities include collecting, analyzing, and distributing workload, client trend, and agency performance measure data. Analysts work with managers and staff to evaluate existing services, developing new services, and measuring customer satisfaction. They also conduct research on justice system issues, identify funding opportunities, write grant proposals,

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

evaluate the results of grant-funded activities, conduct research on successful program and service strategies, and provide expertise to other court workers on data analysis, programming, and service issues. Over the past two years, the Research and Development Unit took the lead in implementing the Results Based Accountability reporting process in the agency. In addition, the unit was recently involved in developing successful proposals for technical assistance including: the Georgetown Juvenile Diversion Certificate program, the Center for Children's Law and Policy Racial and Ethnic Disparity project, and SAMHSA's trauma technical assistance program.

IT Activities

CSU administration staff work closely with the Court Department of Information Technology to maintain and develop system wide IT applications. Most recently, this has involved a multiyear project to design and implement an electronic records management system. The Juvenile and Domestic Imaging System (JDIS) is a custom-built Supreme Court of Virginia (SCV) solution that interfaces with the existing SCV Case Management System (JCMS), and other requirements unique to Fairfax County. JDIS provides improved security and integrity of records, reduces record retrieval and re-filing times, provides simultaneous and instant access to court records, reduces costs associated with space and shelving for storage of paper documents, and safeguards documents with an electronic backup.

Facilities Management

The CSU is responsible for maintaining five residential facilities, the Historic Courthouse, juvenile probation offices in three locations as well as units located in the new courthouse. Facilities Management is also responsible for Emergency Action Plans, Continuity of Operations Plans and serves as the point of contact for all occupants of the Historic Courthouse regarding building issues.

Benefits

Efficiency

The agency benefits from the centralization of services that span the individual units that make up the organization. It is more efficient to assess the needs of all parts of the organization and develop overarching plans to address those needs. This approach avoids duplication of effort and frees up unit managers from finding individual solutions to staff and client needs, allowing them to focus on the immediate day-to-day operations of their units. It also increases uniformity of service delivery throughout all parts of the organization.

Successful Volunteer and Intern Program

The CSU's volunteer and intern programs are a tremendous benefit to the agency and the clients JDRDC serves. The internship program benefits both students and the agency. Not only does the program provide the agency with additional help, but the internship program provides a significant recruiting venue for finding new staff. The VIP program expands the agency's capacity to ensure that immigrant families can fully participate in their cases. Overall, these programs bring significant additional resources to the CSU and the county. Centralization in volunteer activities also ensures there is one contact for the agency who is knowledgeable about the needs of the units for volunteer services. Universities and other volunteer organizations as well as background checking organizations have one point of contact within the agency. In addition, a centralized volunteer program frees up unit managers from locating, training, and monitoring their own volunteers.

Staff Development and Training

Guided by a comprehensive training plan that addresses a wide variety of issues ranging from new employee orientation to advanced skills building and management training, staff receive information on the agency and knowledge of best practices increasing their effectiveness in working with clients and families. Training includes ongoing critical assessment of the tasks that are unique to this court and require specialized in-house training.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Grant Funding

Over the years the research and development unit has sought and won numerous grants bringing resources and funding into the agency that would not otherwise have been available. These funds have assisted in the development of new programs, enhanced training opportunities, and provided subject matter experts and technical assistance to current programs.

Mandates

While Court Services Administration as a whole is not a “mandated” service, several of the components of the agency as a whole have code mandates and compliance standards. Below are the sections of the Virginia Code outlining services and programs that are provided within JDRDC.

§ 16.1-227

Purpose and Intent of JDRDC.

1. To divert from or within the juvenile justice system, to the extent possible, consistent with the protection of the public safety, those children who can be cared for or treated through alternative programs;
2. To provide judicial procedures through which the provisions of this law are executed and enforced and in which the parties are assured a fair hearing and their constitutional and other rights are recognized and enforced;
3. To separate a child from such child's parents, guardian, legal custodian or other person standing in loco parentis only when the child's welfare is endangered or it is in the interest of public safety and then only after consideration of alternatives to out-of-home placement which afford effective protection to the child, his family, and the community; and
4. To protect the community against those acts of its citizens, both juveniles and adults, which are harmful to others and to reduce the incidence of delinquent behavior and to hold offenders accountable for their behavior.

§ 16.1-234

Duties of Department; provision of quarters, utilities, and office equipment to court service unit the Director shall cause the Department to study the conditions existing in the several cities and counties, to confer with the judges of the juvenile and domestic relations district courts, the directors and boards of social services, and other appropriate officials, as the case may be, and to plan, establish and operate unless otherwise provided an adequate and coordinated program of probation, parole and related services to all juvenile and domestic relations district courts in counties or cities heretofore served by regional juvenile and domestic relations courts, and where specialized probation, parole and related court services were not provided as of July 1, 1973, and to counties and cities that request a development of a court service unit with the approval of the governing bodies after consultation with the chief juvenile and domestic relations district court judge. In each county and city in which there is located an office for a state juvenile and domestic relations district court service unit such jurisdiction shall provide suitable quarters and utilities, including telephone service, for such court service unit staff. Such county or city shall also provide all necessary furniture and furnishings for the efficient operation of the unit. When such court service unit serves counties or cities in addition to the county or city where the office is located, the jurisdiction or jurisdictions so served shall share proportionately, based on the population of the jurisdictions, in the cost of the quarters and utilities, including telephone service and necessary furniture and furnishings. All other office equipment and supplies, including postage, shall be furnished by the Commonwealth and shall be paid out of the appropriation for criminal charges. In counties and cities that provided specialized court service programs prior to July 1, 1973, which do not request the development of a state-operated court service unit, it shall be the duty of the Department to insure that minimum standards established by the State Board are adhered to, to confer with the judges of the juvenile and domestic relations district court and other appropriate officials as the case may be, and to assist in the continued development and extension of an adequate and coordinated program of court services, probation, parole and detention facilities and other specialized services and facilities to such juvenile and domestic relations district courts.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

In 1973, the County of Fairfax elected not to request that the State of VA to develop a state-operated court service unit (CSU.) Thus JDRDC CSU operates as a “local unit”. JDRDC is required to meets the minimum standards established by VA Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ.)

§ 16.1-235

How probation, parole and related court services provided probation, parole and related court services shall be provided through the following means:

- a. State court service units. -- The Department shall develop and operate probation, parole and related court services in counties or cities heretofore served by regional juvenile and domestic relations district courts and where specialized probation, parole and related court services were not provided as of July 1, 1973, and make such services available to juvenile and domestic relations district courts, as required by this chapter and by regulations established by the Board. All other counties or cities may request the development of a state-operated court service unit with the approval of their governing bodies after consultation with the chief judge of the juvenile and domestic relations district court of such jurisdiction.
- b. Local units. -- In counties and cities providing specialized court services as of July 1, 1973, who do not request the development of a state-operated court service unit, the governing body or bodies of the district shall appoint one or more suitable persons as probation and parole officers and related court service personnel in accordance with established qualifications and regulations and shall develop and operate probation, parole, detention and related court services. The transfer, demotion, or separation of probation officers and related court service personnel appointed pursuant to this subsection shall be under the authority of the governing body or bodies of the district and shall be only for good cause shown, after consulting with the judge or judges of that juvenile and domestic relations district court, in accordance with the Virginia Personnel Act (§2.2-2900 et seq.) and after due notice and opportunity to be heard.
- c. A county or city that is providing court services through a state-operated court services unit, with the approval of its governing body after consultation with the chief judge of the juvenile and domestic relations district court of the jurisdiction, may cease providing services through a state-operated court services unit and commence operation as a local unit, subject to all laws, regulations, policies and procedures applicable to a local unit.

§ 19.2-11.01

Victim Services are provided under the Virginia Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act. In addition, the volunteer programs must be in compliance with Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice Standards.

Trends and Challenges

Since the core responsibility of the Administrative Services line of business is to manage the programs and services provided to the citizens of the county, major trends and challenges faced by the agency have an impact on administrative services as well as on all other lines of business, individual units and workers. Trends and challenges that affect the entire agency are described below.

Changing Caseloads and Utilization Rates

At the national, state and local level, juvenile offenses have declined dramatically over the past decade. Several factors converged to bring about these shifts including national detention reform efforts; the adoption of structured decision making tools; the introduction of evidence-based intervention approaches; and the consistent application of services provided in the least restrictive interventions. Locally, there have been significant changes in the pattern of complaints handled by the JDRDC over the past several years. Overall complaints processed by the CSU intake units have decreased 6 percent in the last 8 years. However, there has been a shift in the source of the complaints. Adult, domestic relations complaints increased 33 percent between 2007 and 2015. During the same period, juvenile complaints decreased by 46 percent. At the same time, the CSU has been increasing its capacity to divert youth. Close to a quarter of delinquency and children in need of supervision complaints are now dealt with at the intake level and never go forward for formal court processing. These changes have resulted in the need to shift resources

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

within the agency. Capacity for adult probation has increased with the increase in adult cases. Juvenile resources have been increased to provide more diversion services.

The number of youth involved in the juvenile justice system drives the utilization rates of detention, shelter care, supervised release services and long-term residential services. The past decade has seen a significant decline in the number of youth coming into the juvenile justice system in the nation, the state of Virginia and locally. For example, the introduction of evidence-based programming, the adoption of structured decision making tools at various decision points to ensure appropriate matching of needs with services, and the consistent application of services provided in the least restrictive environment have all led to an overall reduction in the use of all residential services.

Mental Health Needs of Clients

Nationally the criminal justice system has seen an increase in mental health needs. Recent research indicates that approximately 70 percent of female and 60 percent of male youth detainees have at least one psychiatric disorder other than conduct disorder (Teplin et al, 2002). Locally, the CSU has seen an increase in clients with mental health needs as evidenced by a 30 percent increase in referrals to the Community Services Board (CSB) from 175 in FY2014 to 228 in FY2015 and a 89 percent increase in referrals to contracted psychological services from 28 in FY2014 to 53 in FY 2015. As a result, the CSU spent approximately \$35,000 more on contract mental health services in FY 2015. The Juvenile Detention Center and Shelter Care II administer a mental health assessment, MAYSI-2, when youth enter the facility. Approximately 58 percent of youth completing the MAYSI-2, had scores indicating a need for a mental health referral. The CSU has partnered with the CSB in establishing the Juvenile Forensic Psychology Program to provide emergency evaluations, dispositional or diagnostic evaluations, special request evaluations and consultations. Similarly, the adult probation unit has seen an increase in mental health referrals from 42 to 101 between FY 2012 and FY 2014.

Recent research has pointed to the link between experiencing traumatic events and offending behavior, especially for juvenile populations (Teplin et al 2002; Fox et al 2015). In response, the CSU has formed a Trauma Team to assist probation officers in identifying appropriate services for clients in need. The CSU has provided extensive staff training in trauma and its effects and has developed a screening and referral process for juvenile clients. The CSU is currently receiving technical assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in creating a trauma-informed organization as a whole.

Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community

Language barriers provide a challenge to CSU staff. Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) 2012 student registration data show that nearly half (49 percent) of the students enrolled in elementary school spoke a language other than English at home. The FCPS data also show that elementary students and their families speak over 170 languages at home. Language barriers complicate face-to-face meetings, phone calls, filing paperwork and general compliance with court orders. Staff use the CSU's volunteer interpreters, other bilingual staff and the language line when working with these youth and families. In addition, the CSU paid \$74,567 for language services in FY 2015. Care needs to be taken to ensure that interpretation and translation of legal terminology accurately reflects the intended meaning. The CSU has established a Volunteer Interpreter Program that currently provides Spanish interpretation and translation to agency programs; however, we have seen an increase in other languages as well including Korean and Farsi. In addition to providing interpretation and translation services, it is important to ensure that clients receive culturally competent services. Finding providers in the community who can provide such things as mental health, substance abuse or batterer intervention services in languages other than English is extremely challenging for CSU staff.

Racial and Ethnic Disparity

The CSU, like many other juvenile and criminal justice systems in the state and the nation, struggles with racial and ethnic disparity. At risk Black (10 percent) and Hispanic (23 percent) youth in the community make up the majority of juvenile intake complaints (Black 27 percent; Hispanic 29 percent), probation placements (Black 31 percent; Hispanic 40 percent) and detention placements (Black 31 percent; Hispanic 45 percent). The CSU is committed to addressing the racial and ethnic disparity issue within our system. The CSU is currently reviewing policies, practices and procedures to ensure alignment with current assessment tools and evidence-based practices and to ensure that policies do not create unintended

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

consequences contributing to the issue of disparity. To address this issue, the CSU formed the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) response team to identify issues and provide recommendations within the agency. More recently, the CSU has implemented a new diversion pilot using the YASI pre-screen assessment tool to identify risk and needs of youth coming into the system as well as a community restorative justice in partnership with the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) and the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). The CSU is also receiving technical assistance from the Center for Children's Law & Policy (CCLP) to look at areas to make improvements to reduce racial and ethnic disparities.

Transportation

Transportation is a challenge for the agency in multiple ways. Due to the size of Fairfax County, many clients have difficulties navigating public transportation and lack personal transportation to make meetings, counseling sessions and court dates. This limits family engagement in probation and residential treatment meetings that are an integral part of ensuring success of both juvenile and adult offenders. To address this probation officers travel to meet with juvenile clients at school and families at home. This increases costs for the agency in staff time and money spent on fuel. In addition, the CSU also provides cab vouchers and bus tokens to clients and families to make meetings and other important dates. In FY 2015, the CSU spent \$47,453 for transportation services.

Decreasing Availability of Grant Funding

The agency budget does not specifically provide for new program development or the specialized training necessary to implement new evidence based practices. For years, the CSU has depended on grant funding to support these activities. However, there has been a sharp decrease in federal grant funding for justice programming which affects both local grant opportunities and state opportunities to provide resources. The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant, a major source of training funds for over a decade, has been eliminated altogether. Until the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act is reauthorized, availability of funds for juvenile justice programming continues to be problematic.

Workforce Changes

Succession planning continues to be a challenge. Currently 19 percent (66 of 352) of employees of the CSU are eligible to retire within the next 5 years. This includes all senior level administrators. This indicates a major shift in administration over the next several years, impacting the agency as a whole as JDRDC moves to meet these challenges.

Managing Technology Changes and Expectations

Technology in the workforce seems to be changing constantly. There is an increased need for legal and social files to be available electronically to ease file sharing and submission of reports to court. The CSU needs workers to continue to grow and learn new technologies. There is a need for a higher level of basic technology skills among administrative staff and a general lack of adequate staff training in new technologies. In general, the public expects a better use of technology than JDRDC is currently able to provide.

Facilities Management

The CSU faces challenges with facilities management as current budget levels have made it difficult for JDRDC to keep up with significant facility maintenance needs.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #184: Court Services Administration			
FUNDING			
Expenditures:			
Compensation	\$2,817,661	\$2,467,811	\$2,644,422
Operating Expenses	1,090,093	1,523,959	1,032,255
Total Expenditures	\$3,907,754	\$3,991,770	\$3,676,677
General Fund Revenue	\$145,467	\$159,002	\$155,859
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$3,762,287	\$3,832,768	\$3,520,818
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
Positions:			
Regular	26 / 25.5	26 / 25.5	26 / 25.5
State	43 / 43	43 / 43	43 / 43
Total Positions	69 / 68.5	69 / 68.5	69 / 68.5

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Number of Volunteer Hours	13,343	16,659	18,037	18,900	18,900
Number of Volunteers	150	163	143	150	150
Benefit to Cost Ratio	3.52:1	3.62:1	3.48:1	3.64:1	3.64:1
Value of Services Added	\$353,722	\$407,979	\$449,121	\$470,610	\$470,610

CSU has increased the number of volunteer hours provided to the units by 35 percent over the last three years. In FY2015 18,037 hours of service were provided to CSU programs. These numbers include volunteers, volunteer interpreters and student interns. As the agency continues to grow its internship program through additional intern supervisors, it is anticipated that there will be an increase in the number of hours provided in FY 2016.

As the number of volunteer hours increased, the total number of volunteers decreased from 163 in FY 2014 to 143 in FY 2015. This can be attributed to turnover of student interns, volunteer interpreters taking a break from legal interpretation and closing files of volunteers who are no longer active within the CSU. A goal for the volunteer coordinator is to increase the number of volunteers to reach 150 in the next two years.

Even though there is an increase in the number of hours provided and a decrease in the total number of volunteers, the cost to benefit ratio has remained high at 3.48:1 in FY 2015.

Through the use of volunteers, the CSU added \$449,121 worth of services in FY 2015, a 27 percent increase from FY 2013. This measure is calculated using the hourly volunteer wage of \$24.90 identified by www.vaservice.org.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

LOB #185:

JUVENILE - ADULT INVESTIGATION AND PROBATION SERVICES

Purpose

The purpose of the Juvenile and Adult Investigation and Probation Services line of business is to improve public safety by reducing the incidence and impact of crime committed by offenders and to promote positive behavioral change and reduce illegal conduct for those who come within the court's authority. This is done within a framework of personal accountability, competency development, and community protection.

Description

The Code of Virginia requires all Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts to provide probation services, either by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice or the local governing body. The CSU provides probation services for juveniles before the court for misdemeanor and felony criminal offenses, as well as for youth found to be a Child in Need of Supervision (CHINS) for runaway or truancy. Probation supervision for adult offenders is provided by the Community Corrections unit for adult's court ordered on probation for misdemeanor offenses against children and family members, and in certain circumstances, adults ordered on probation for offenses committed while they were still a juvenile. Juvenile and adult probation officers provide a variety of functions, including preparation of pre-dispositional investigations and social history reports, making recommendations in court, providing probation supervision as ordered by the court, administering risk and needs assessment, developing case service plans, and making referrals for treatment and services. The various roles and functions of the juvenile probation officer reflect the underlying purpose and intent of the juvenile and domestic relations law, as well as the Department of Juvenile Justice's Balanced Approach to juvenile justice, which incorporates community safety, accountability, and competency development as its key tenets. Adult probation supervision operates with practices established by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and incorporates the same approach.

Juvenile Probation

Juvenile probation cases are assigned to one of four probation offices based on the youth's home address. There are four juvenile probation offices located in different geographical regions throughout the County. The South County office is located in Alexandria; the East County office is located in Merrifield; the Center County office is located in the Historic Courthouse in Fairfax City; and the North County office is in Reston. Youth who are on probation are typically assigned to a probation officer based on the school that they attend. This allows the probation officer to work collaboratively with school personnel and also become familiar with the available resources and services in each of their communities. In addition, locating juvenile probation offices throughout the County increases accessibility to services to youth and families in the communities where they live.

Adult Probation

Adult probation services are provided by the Community Corrections unit which is located within the Fairfax County courthouse in Fairfax City. In 2014, Community Corrections was split from Domestic Relations Services in order to create a separate unit focusing on adult probation supervision. This reorganization provides the best support to staff and meets the growing needs of the community. As a separate unit with dedicated leadership, Community Corrections is able to function more efficiently with a Unit Director and Assistant Director to divide responsibilities. The Director is now able to be more fully engaged in managing the day-to-day operations of the unit, supervising and training staff, and has also allowed for increased involvement with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Community Criminal Justice Association. In addition, the reorganization enabled the unit to hire a new Administrative Assistant to assist in the collection and maintenance of statistical data, running criminal history records, providing reports to the court, and other administrative support to the unit.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Structured Decision-Making

Over the past decade, the juvenile and criminal justice fields have developed a body of evidence-based approaches to intervention with youth and adults involved in illegal behavior. In order to better achieve its mission, the CSU has continued to be at the forefront of juvenile and criminal justice reform efforts and has incorporated many of these practices into probation case management. The CSU uses structured decision-making tools at major decision points in the case management processes. This approach increases the consistency and validity of agency case management decisions; ensures that clients will be served from the same model no matter what part of the County they come from; targets resources and available services to those most at risk of re-offending; and improves the efficiency of the system. Structured decision-making also maximizes the likelihood that decisions about clients are made on objective criteria rather than informal considerations. This brings equity and balance to the system and decreases the possibility of adding to the problems of racial and ethnic disparity.

Assessment Screening

At the same time, the CSU has worked to shift the philosophy of both adult and juvenile probation services from a primary emphasis on monitoring to one of behavior change. This shift has included extensive staff training in behavior change techniques, such as Motivational Interviewing, with an increased focus on those factors that are specific to an individual's offending behavior. Research has shown that using validated assessments instruments that identify risk and protective factors to guide case service planning, as opposed to other subjective criteria, provides better outcomes and have been shown to reduce recidivism. In 2010, the CSU adopted the use of the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI), a fourth generation assessment tool, which is administered on all youth who are placed on probation. The YASI identifies both dynamic and static risk and protective factors and is used to develop case service plans that address the risk factors most closely associated with the offending behavior. Similarly, adult probation officers administer the Modified Offender Screening Tool (M-OST) and the Offender Screening Tool (OST), which identifies the level of supervision appropriate for that offender. As with the YASI, the M-OST and the OST are also used to develop more effective case service plans. The CSU has implemented on-going training to enhance staff consistency with the use of the YASI to ensure fidelity and improve client outcomes. Additionally, through on-going collaboration and partnership with George Mason University's Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence, the CSU received training on the Plan-Do-Study-Act model for improving and testing changes, which is to be utilized as a tool to improve staff proficiency with the use of Motivational Interviewing and measuring desired outcomes.

Trauma Screening

In 2015, the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) implemented the use of a new uniform social history report to be used by all CSUs throughout the state. The report is used to guide recommendations prior to court, or following court to guide case management and service planning decisions for youth placed on probation. The new social history report includes the addition of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) trauma screening tool used to assess the impact of childhood trauma on current functioning. Research has shown that youth who experience a significant traumatizing event(s) may present with myriad problems across multiple life domains, to include: problems in school, difficulty regulating emotions and behavior, establishing trusting relationships, and are also at increased risk for substance abuse and other negative long-term health problems such as heart disease, obesity, autoimmune disorders, and cancer. In 2014, the CSU sent all juvenile probation officers to attend a two-day training sponsored by the Department of Criminal Justice Services and facilitated by Georgetown University on trauma informed care. In addition, the CSU has developed and implemented a multi-discipline trauma response team. The team is currently made up of staff from the CSU, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board and the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services that have a heightened level of trauma training. The team provides consultation, assistance with symptom screening, clinical diagnostic assessment, and referral to trauma-specific treatment providers. The team is also responsible for coordinating efforts to establish trauma informed practices. This effort is in the second stage of development. Areas of concentration during this phase are: staff and supervisor training and education, completing an organizational assessment, data collection, enhancement and maintenance of a treatment provider directory, and piloting a new trauma screening instrument to be administered on all youth on formal probation, parole, pre-dispositional monitoring, or monitored diversion.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Benefits

Positive Outcomes

Probation services contributes to the safety of the community by providing supervision and monitoring of juveniles and adults who have come before the court. Probation supervision allows juvenile and adult offenders to remain in the community with their families, as well as providing services designed to promote behavior change. The use of least restrictive, community based interventions is supported by research and is shown to produce better overall outcomes when compared to the use of secure detention, particularly with lower risk offenders. In FY 2015, 89 percent of parents surveyed reported that their child benefited from probation services. Of those youth court ordered on probation, 85 percent were attending school, graduated from high school or obtained a GED at the completion of probation.

Reduction of Racial and Ethnic Disparity

When determined to be appropriate, allowing juvenile and adult offenders to be supervised in the community aids in the reduction of the disproportionate overrepresentation of minorities in secure detention, which continues to be an area of focus for the CSU.

Mandates

Primary Services Provided

- Adult Probation Supervision - Partially Mandated (Virginia Code § 9.1-174)
- Juvenile Probation Supervision – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-234 & 235)

Per Virginia Code § 9.1-174 establishment of a community-based probation services agency, to facilitate local involvement and flexibility in responding to the problem of crime in their communities and to permit a locally designed community-based probation services agency that will fit its needs, any city, county or combination thereof may, and any city, county or combination thereof that is required by Virginia Code § 53.1-82.1 to file a community-based corrections plan shall establish a system of community-based services pursuant to this article. This system is to provide alternatives for (i) offenders who are convicted and sentenced pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-303.3 and who are considered suitable candidates for probation services that require less than incarceration in a local correctional facility and (ii) defendants who are provided a deferred proceeding and placed on probation services. Such services may be provided by qualified public agencies or by qualified private agencies pursuant to appropriate contracts.

The County of Fairfax Board of Supervisors directed that the General District Court (GDC) create a Court Services Community Corrections program in 1996 to provide the judiciary these alternative sentencing programs for local offenders who qualified, based on the recommendation of the Fairfax County Community Criminal Justice Board. This program is funded and regulated by the VA Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS.) Initially JDRDC provided a small number of adult offenders' probation supervision through its established Court Service Unit (CSU) as part of typical probation operations, primarily for juvenile offenders. However, with the increase in County's response to Domestic Violence, a change in the VA Code that required police arrest in a response to Domestic Violence, and the availability to provide defendants with a deferred proceeding and placement on probation supervision by JDRDC, it became increasingly necessary for additional probation staff resources. In an agreement with GDC, probation officers funded by the Community Corrections program were assigned to the CSU to provide probation staff resources to meet the growing demand in JDRDC. As budget deficits increased at the state level, funding from DCJS decreased to the localities. Funding for these CSU positions was eliminated. The CSU moved existing adult Probation Officers into vacant positions to ensure that this public safety sentencing alternative continued. As caseloads for these POs exceeded 100 cases, the CSU elected to take additional vacancies made available by decreasing juvenile probation caseloads and re-assigned these to the Community Corrections unit.

Please refer to the Mandate section of LOB #184: Court Services Administration for additional information.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Trends and Challenges

Please refer to the trends and challenges section of LOB #184: Court Services Administration for additional descriptions of challenges that impact this line of business including:

- Changing Caseloads and Utilization Rates
- Mental Health Needs of Clients
- Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community
- Racial and Ethnic Disparity
- Transportation

Also refer to the metrics section of LOB #185: Juvenile-Adult Investigation and Probation Services for additional discussion on changing caseloads.

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #185: Juvenile - Adult Investigation and Probation Services			
FUNDING			
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Compensation	\$2,835,803	\$3,071,389	\$3,217,440
Operating Expenses	59,160	61,379	114,133
Total Expenditures	\$2,894,963	\$3,155,504	\$3,331,573
General Fund Revenue	\$1,432,210	\$1,497,735	\$1,458,485
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$1,462,753	\$1,657,769	\$1,873,088
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)			
<u>Positions:</u>			
Regular	66 / 65.5	67 / 66.5	67 / 66.5
Total Positions	66 / 65.5	67 / 66.5	67 / 66.5

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Average total monthly juvenile and adult probation caseload	1,264	1,157	1,093	1,100	1,100
Average monthly caseload per Juvenile probation officer	23	20	19	19	19
Average monthly caseload per Adult probation officer	84	82	85	85	85
Percent of court-ordered investigations submitted prior to 72 hours of court date	91%	86%	93%	85%	85%
Percent of parents satisfied with probation services	94%	94%	94%	90%	90%
Percent of juveniles with no new criminal convictions within 12 months of case closing	80%	76%	65%	65%	65%
Percent of adults with no new criminal convictions within 12 months of case closing	NA	NA	85%	80%	80%

Juveniles placed on probation have decreased by 54 percent over the last 8 years falling from an average monthly caseload of 985 in 2007 to 453 in 2015. As a result, juvenile probation officer caseloads have dropped to an average of 19 cases per officer in FY 2015; however cases have increased in complexity and require team based planning (i.e. Family Partnership Meetings, Multi-Agency Meetings) during the case management process.

While overall probation placements (Juvenile & Adult) supervised by the CSU have decreased 14 percent over the last three years, there has been a shift in workload. For the adult probation unit, probation placements have increased 29 percent between 2007 and 2015 moving from 491 cases to 635 over the span of 8 years. This increase in probation placements has resulted in an increase in probation officer caseload with adult probation officers managing an average of 85 cases at any one time. JDRDC's service quality measure - percent of court-ordered investigations submitted prior to 72 hours of court date, continues to improve from 91 percent in FY 2013 to 93 percent in FY 2015.

There has been an increase in recidivism rates over the past 4 years. In FY 2010, within one year of probation closing, 85 percent of former probationers had *no new criminal convictions* and in FY 2014, the rate decreased to 76 percent. There are several factors that could be related to the increase in recidivism. There has been a significant increase in the use of diversion in our Intake process which screens out low risk offenders; therefore many of these low risk offenders do not enter the formal court process and are not placed on probation. This leads probation caseloads to consist of more moderate and high risk offenders. These youth are at a higher risk to reoffend compared to low risk offenders who may have previously mitigated recidivism rates. As probation cases are considered more moderate and high risk this often brings more complexity to the cases; there has been an increase in youth with mental health issues and substance abuse issues coupled with a loss of some day treatment and residential programs to provide services, which could also contribute to an increase in recidivism.

FY 2015 marks the first year recidivism data is available for adult probationers at the local level. In FY 2015, 85 percent of adults under probation supervision with JDRDC's Community Corrections unit had no new criminal convictions within 12 months of closing probation. In 2015, the National Center for State Courts released a statewide recidivism report for Virginia indicating that 12 percent of probation completers had a new conviction 1 to 12 months after completing probation (88 percent had no new convictions). This slightly elevated rate at the local level maybe due to the special domestic violence caseloads supervised by adult probation officers. Adult probation officers struggle with assessing these offenders as the OST and M-OST (risk assessment tools) are not designed for domestic violence cases. Many Domestic Violence offenders are identified as low risk requiring an override by officers to provide the appropriate level of supervision.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

LOB #186:

INTAKE AND INTERVENTION SERVICES - VISITATION AND EXCHANGE, MEDIATION, DIVERSION

Purpose

The purpose of Juvenile and Domestic Relations Intake Services is to address complaints and requests and to file civil and delinquency petitions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDRDC) in accordance with the Code of Virginia. This includes juvenile criminal offenses, matters alleging a child is in need of services or supervision and family matters, except divorce, in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the towns of Herndon, Vienna and Clifton. Specific examples of actions initiated by intake officers include Custody, Visitation, and Support Petitions, Adult Protective Orders, Delinquency Petitions, Detention and Shelter Care Orders, Abuse and Neglect Petitions, Preliminary Protective Orders and Emergency Removal Orders. Adult Intake, handled by Domestic Relations Services and referred to as Domestic Relations Intake (DR Intake) serves citizens who have civil matters in this court. Juvenile intake services accept complaints from citizens, police officers, fire marshals, merchants, relatives, school officials, and other agencies, including the Department of Family Services who bring forward requests for emergency removal orders and protective orders of children who are victims or at risk of being victims of abuse and neglect.

Description

Both Juvenile and Domestic Relations Intake Services assist clients with the processing of petitions, explain the court process and provide clients with knowledge of services and resources within the court and community. Intake decisions are made by following mandatory guidelines outlined in the Code of Virginia, Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Policies and Procedures and CSU policy and procedures. Other resources available to assist in intake services include Legal Services of Northern Virginia and the Clerk's Office. All decisions focus on community safety, best interest of the client and aim to provide services to enhance the well-being of the child and family before the court.

Domestic Relations

The Intake Officers of the DR Intake Unit assist clients by gathering information, assessing issues of jurisdiction and venue, reviewing prior orders, explaining the Court process to clients and preparing petitions for paternity, custody, visitation, child and spousal support, Motions for Rules to Show Cause and other petitions delineated in Virginia Code § 16.1-241. The Intake Officers interview clients in person or by phone to determine their needs and explain the intake process. They discuss legal matters, court procedures, and options with clients. They share information regarding county services and resources within the court and the community such as the Stronger Together and Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Exchange Programs, Kinship Care, Legal Services of Northern Virginia, the Domestic Violence Action Center, and Ayuda. They also assist clients in drawing up affidavits, motions, petitions, agreements, and other documents.

Mediation Services

Mediation services are provided by Intake Officers in custody and visitation cases when ordered by a Judge and in accordance with Virginia Code § 20-124.4. As cited, mediation services “shall be used as an alternative to litigation where appropriate.” This practice assists clients with custody and visitation matters and helps to develop a plan to address a child’s residence, visitation schedule and other care arrangements. It may also clarify how disputes between parents will be managed in the future. The Mediation process promotes communication between the parties and thus healthier relationships. Most significantly Mediation reduces strife and promotes stability in the lives of the children by facilitating the prompt resolution of custody, visitation and support issues. While the court hearings can take in excess of six months to be heard the mediation case can be completed in a matter of a few weeks. JDRDC has four Intake Officers who have completed an intensive training program to earn the title of State Court Family Certified Mediator and six other officers are currently participating in the certification program.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Preliminary Protective Orders

Domestic Relations Intake Officers prepare the Preliminary Protective Order paperwork and the Petition for the Protective Order in all family abuse cases and cases in which at least one party is a juvenile. The Intake Officer designated for the day conducts a court preparation session prior to the Preliminary hearing with the Petitioners and accompany the clients to court. After court the Intake Officer is responsible for ensuring that the petitioner is provided a copy of the Court's order granting or denying the Preliminary Protective Order. They advise the client of the next steps in the process: advising them of the court date, how service will be effected on the respondent, what to do if the respondent violates the order, how to determine whether the respondent will be released from jail, filing of subpoena forms and the obtaining of an attorney. The DR Intake Officer is responsible for referring the Protective Order clients to the Domestic Violence Action Center for the assistance of an advocate to help the petitioner with safety planning. Intake Officers explain to petitioners the services offered by Legal Services of Northern Virginia and assist clients with the application process and forward the application paperwork to LSNV. As appropriate, Intake Officers will contact Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, Police Victim Services and the Domestic Violence detective squad to refer cases.

Juvenile Intake Services works in tandem with the Department of Family Services to assure that Preliminary Protective Orders (PPO) or Emergency Removal Orders (ERO) are processed as expeditiously as possible. A PPO is issued in accordance with Virginia Code § 16.1-253.1 and an ERO under § 16.1-251 when there are allegations that the petitioner is or has been, within a reasonable period of time, subjected to family abuse or neglect.

Supervised Visitation and Exchange

Domestic Relation Intake Services supports the philosophy of families maintaining healthy and safe relationships. When a parent has been charged with an offense that has affected their ability to have custody or visitation of their child(ren) and a judge has ordered supervised visitation/exchange, a family may utilize Safe Havens or Stronger Together. Safe Havens provides supervised visitation and exchange services to residents of Fairfax County who report the presence of domestic or dating violence, or stalking, within their intimate partner relationships. The program is ordered by either a JDRDC or Circuit Court Judge. Families may self-refer to the program or be referred by a community or county agency. Families from outside agencies must be in agreement to use the program. The Stronger Together Visitation and Exchange Program provides supervised visitation and exchange services for families court ordered by a JDRDC Judge. The program promotes safe, healthy contact between parents and children at the visitation center. The program provides information and community resources for issues regarding social services, supervised visitation, parenting education, batterer intervention and domestic violence victim support and education. The centers are location in the historic courthouse in Fairfax City. The centers provide supervised visitation on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays and exchanges Mondays through Thursdays as well as weekend exchanges.

Court Ordered Investigations

Domestic Relations conducts court-ordered home studies referred by the Fairfax County JDRDC. Also, in partnership with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services; Domestic Relations conducts select court-order courtesy investigations for other jurisdictions.

Juvenile Intake

The Juvenile Intake Services Unit operates twenty four hours a day, seven days a week to meet the response time mandated by the [Code of Virginia](#). Juveniles alleged to have committed offenses which fall under the jurisdiction of JDRDC are brought into the judicial system through this office. Petitions or complaints against juveniles may be filed by police officers, citizens, family members, or other agencies. The CSU provides Intake services at the Fairfax Courthouse, the Juvenile Detention Center after normal business hours and at its three satellite probation offices located in the North, South, and East areas of the county. Intake services are provided for delinquent (criminal), CHINS (non-criminal) offenses and civil matters including custody, and abuse and neglect cases. Each intake is assessed by a Juvenile Intake Officer who must determine what is in the best interest of the youth and family; if the child's behavior presents a clear and substantial danger to others in the community or to his or her own life or health, as well as identify other community resources the family has utilized. Intake Officers decide whether a case is scheduled for a judicial hearing or diverted from formal court action as defined in Virginia Code § 16.1-227, Purpose and Intent - "To divert from or within the juvenile justice system, to the extent possible, consistent with the

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

protection of the public safety, those children who can be cared for or treated through alternative programs; To provide judicial procedures through which the provisions of this law are executed and enforced and in which the parties are assured a fair hearing and their constitutional and other rights are recognized and enforced.”

Juvenile Diversion

JDRDC is an agency that applies evidenced based programs and practices that yield proven favorable results and improve outcomes for families. Evidence shows that minor low-risk offenders should not penetrate the justice system but should be diverted. The JDRDC Diversion program is designed to hold juveniles accountable for their actions while providing a teachable moment with the goal of reducing the likelihood of further court involvement. Diversion is intended for first-time low-risk juvenile offenders who: commit minor offenses (and some felonies), have no prior court involvement, and who assume responsibility for their behavior.

There are currently three primary diversion programs used by juvenile intake services.

- **Diversion Hearings** require the juvenile and his or her parent or guardian to meet with a hearing officer and complainant. The hearing officer explains the diversion process and the pending criminal complaint. After the complainant provides an account of the events, the situation is discussed. Juveniles must accept responsibility officially for the offense in question. The hearing officer imposes sanctions appropriate for the offense, and the juvenile has ninety days to comply. The case is then successfully closed in ninety days if the juvenile has complied and has had no further violations filed against him or her. A completion letter is mailed to the family, indicating that the diversion case has been successfully closed.
- **Monitored Diversion (MD)** - Truancy complaints and certain criminal charges that, because of the nature of the offense or the juvenile’s general behavior, warrant heightened intervention are referred for *monitored diversion*. The case is assigned to a monitored diversion counselor (similar to a probation officer) to work with the family to assess the juvenile’s needs. The juvenile may be required to participate in an appropriate educational or treatment program, possibly in appropriate services, or to complete sanctions. The monitored diversion counselor will meet with the juvenile and/or his or her family once weekly for 90 days to provide additional supervision and support.
- **Restorative Justice (RJ)** is a victim-centered approach that allows those most affected by a crime to come face-to-face in a facilitated conversation in which the offenders assume responsibility for their actions and the victims/stakeholders assume an active role in determining the outcomes of the cases. In order to participate in RJ, victims must be willing to participate and take an active role in the process. Once an agreement is reached offenders have 90 days to complete the agreed upon sanctions which could include community service, restitution, or other sanctions.

Many partnering agencies assist in providing diversion dispositions which may include the following: community service hours, drug and alcohol services provided by the CSB or ASAP, a victim impact class, a shoplifter offender program, mental health assessments and/or counseling provided by CSB, participation in *Changing Lives Through Literature* (CLTL) fostered by our partnership with the Fairfax County Public Library, anger management class, restitution, letters of apology, restricted curfew, and informal house arrest.

Community Outreach

As a way to provide information about the court process, the Juvenile Intake unit actively conducts outreach presentations at Fairfax County schools, Fairfax County Police roll calls, alternative schools, other county agencies, and non-profit and community organizations. Outreach presentations have permitted Juvenile Intake Services to educate audiences on JDRDC and to give parents tips on how to navigate the court system if court intervention becomes necessary. Parent support groups are a primary way to educate parents on the role of the juvenile court as well as access to other agency’s support and services. The JDRDC Parent Support Group has been meeting for over 25 years every Tuesday evening at 7:30PM at the courthouse. Families have the opportunity to come and discuss issues and concerns with an intake officer. Other agencies join the group periodically to assist parents with common teen issues and access to resources.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Juvenile Intake frequently collaborates with Fairfax County Public Schools and other county agencies participating in Family Partnership Meetings (FPM) and Family Resource Meetings (FRM). FRM's and FPM's are formed to help empower youth and families to identify strengths, needs, and goals while connecting them to necessary services. Additionally, juvenile intake officers attend a multitude of community based committees providing education and assisting in identifying resources to aid youth and families along with other agencies.

Benefits

Community Safety

Both adult and juvenile intake officers have the ability to issue detention orders or protective orders in an expeditious manner. Doing so allows an alleged juvenile offender to be removed from the community when necessary or prevents an adult from potentially harming a family member/partner in domestic violence situations.

Coordination of Services

Intake officers may be “brokers of services” and assist families by informing them of services and opportunities that will improve their overall health and well-being. Intake officers frequently coordinate with and make referrals to other agencies such as mental health services, family counseling, and substance abuse services. Adult intake officers provide mediation to families to assist with working through the details of custody, visitation and support.

Juvenile intake services guide clients and families to a variety of programs and classes. Juvenile intake also partners with the Community Services Board, the Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP), Fairfax Fire Department, Fairfax County Public Libraries and FCPD. Each of these agencies provides classes and/or programs for clients of both diverted cases and those in which formal court dispositions have been ordered. Some of the programs include alcohol and drug awareness, mental health services, Fire Stop classes, and Changing Lives Through Literature.

Partnerships for Legal Services

A beneficial service provided is the Attorney of the Day program available in partnership with Legal Services of Northern Virginia. The attorney of the day provides clients who qualify financially with legal advocacy and advice that is pivotal in a victim's ability to protect themselves and their children. Comprehensive legal representation not only increases safety, it also increases the probability that the relief granted ultimately supports a victim's overall security and well-being. Legal Services of Northern Virginia has recently developed other avenues for clients who do not qualify for the Attorney of the Day. They are now offering an “advice line” for pro se clients who are seeking protective orders. This allows clients to seek legal advice from an attorney.

Advocacy

Another beneficial component of Adult Intake Service is the Domestic Violence advocate of the day who assists victims with articulating the abuse perpetrated against them, identifying the potential risks in their situations, protecting themselves and their children and safeguarding their economic ability.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Mandates

Primary Services Provided:

- Juvenile Intake Services – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227)
- Juvenile Diversion – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code §§16.260, 16.1-227)
- Domestic Relations Intake Services – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-260)
- Domestic Relations Mediation Services – Partially Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-274)
- Domestic Relations Supervised Visitation Services – Partially Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-274)

The CSU is required to provide juvenile and domestic relations intake services per Virginia Code §§ 16.1-227 and 16.1-260 for all matters alleged to be within the jurisdiction of JDRDC. Virginia Code §§ 16.1-255 and 16.1-256 mandate that only a Judge, Intake officer, or Magistrate may issue detention orders for juveniles, and that the CSU shall ensure the capability of a prompt response by an intake officer who is either on duty or on call, and define reasonably available as within one hour after contact by the Magistrate. Intake services are considered to be a form of Probation Services, and per Virginia Code § 16.1-228 an Intake Officer is defined as a juvenile probation officer appointed as such pursuant to the authority of this chapter. Juvenile Diversion is defined in Virginia Code § 16.260 as well as part of the overall purpose and intent of the court, Virginia Code § 16.1-227.

Virginia Code § 16.1-260, states that “an intake officer may proceed informally on a complaint alleging that a child is in need of services, supervision or delinquent.” The Code further describes that “whenever informal action is taken, as provided in this subsection, on a complaint alleging that a child is in need of services, in need of supervision or delinquent, the intake officer shall (i) develop a plan for the juvenile, which may include restitution and the performance of community service, based upon community resources and the circumstances which resulted in the complaint,..”. Diversion is voluntary and juveniles referred to diversion are not formally charged; and, if successful, their cases are closed and the complaints are removed from the Court Service Unit’s records in accordance with DJJ standards.

The CSU may be required to provide mediation services and/or supervised visitation services when directed by the Court per Virginia Code § 16.1-274 in matters involving custody, visitation, or support. However the CSU is not mandated to provide these services. The JDRDC Judiciary has requested that the CSU provide mediation services. On January 22, 2007 the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to accept the Supervised Visitation and Supervised Exchange (SVSE) Task Force report recommendations, which in essence directed the CSU to develop and implement the Stronger Together Supervised Visitation & Supervised Exchange program and funded two positions in the FY 2008 budget. The report also requested that the SVSE staff would explore applying for federal funding from US DOJ OVW through its Safe Havens – Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program to assist in the development of a specialized domestic violence component for the program.

Trends and Challenges

Domestic Relations Intake has seen an increase in pro se litigants (an individual representing themselves in court proceedings). Pro se litigation affects intake appointments and court dockets as the clients are not adequately prepared for their appointments and lack an understanding of legal proceedings and filing procedures. There is also an ethical concern when pro se clients ask intake officers for legal advice. These officers can face the risk of civil liability for providing incorrect or damaging information to a pro se client if the information is later determined to be legal advice. The challenge lies in the intake office providing legal information vs. legal advice. As such, these cases tend to take additional time and effort on behalf of the intake officer inhibiting their ability to move other cases forward.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Domestic Relations & Juvenile Intake Services has also seen a growing number of intake appointments involving LEP clients and clients with increasing mental health needs. Please refer to the trends and challenges section of LOB 184: Court Services Administration for additional challenges that impact this line of business:

- Mental Health Needs of Clients
- Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities
- Transportation

Also refer to the metrics section of LOB #186: Intake and Intervention Services-Visitation and Exchange, Mediation, Diversion for additional discussion on changes in the number of complaints processed by Adult and Juvenile Intake units.

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #186: Intake and Intervention Services - Visitation and Exchange, Mediation, Diversion			
FUNDING			
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Compensation	\$2,731,591	\$2,793,220	\$2,834,299
Operating Expenses	27,079	24,299	31,861
Total Expenditures	\$2,758,670	\$2,817,519	\$2,866,160
General Fund Revenue	\$788,825	\$825,485	\$803,614
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$1,969,845	\$1,992,034	\$2,062,546
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
<u>Positions:</u>			
Regular	37 / 36.5	37 / 36.5	37 / 36.5
Total Positions	37 / 36.5	37 / 36.5	37 / 36.5

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Non-traffic (NT) complaints processed by intake	15,438	14,094	13,788	13,800	13,800
NT complaints processed per intake officer	735	689	707	708	708
Percent of customers satisfied with intake process	91%	93%	100%	85%	85%
Percent of youth diverted from formal court processing	27%	24%	25%	25%	25%

While overall complaints processed by the CSU intake units (Juvenile Intake & Domestic Relations) have decreased 6 percent in the last 8 years, there has been a shift in where the complaints come from. On the adult side, domestic relations complaints have increased 34 percent between 2007 and 2015 moving from 7,372 to 9,872 over the span of 8 years. Juvenile complaints processed by the CSU intake unit decreased by 46 percent between 2007 and 2015. At the same time, the CSU has been increasing its capacity to divert youth. The number of youth diverted at intake has remained steady over the last three years with 25 percent of delinquency and children in need of supervision complaints dealt with at the intake level and never going forward for formal court processing. More recently the decline in the number of complaints has slowed decreasing 10 percent in the last three years.

The quality of services provided by the CSU intake units continues to excel in FY 2015 with 100 percent of customers satisfied with the intake process. Customers entering the intake units are provided a satisfaction card. They are asked to complete the card at the end of their visit and return it in a comment box as this allows for anonymity for clients.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

LOB #187:

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER SERVICES

Purpose

The Juvenile Detention Center Services Line of Business includes the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) and a post-dispositional sentencing program that is housed in the facility. The detention facility is locally operated by the CSU of the Fairfax County JDRDC. All staff are county employees. The original thirty-three bed facility opened in 1983 and was expanded to fifty-five beds in 1992 and the current 121 beds in 1998. The facility provides a safe, secure and structured residential setting for juvenile offenders who have been ordered to be detained by a judge, intake officer, or magistrate. The program offers therapeutic programming and services that promote positive change, the overall well-being of the residents, and provide for the protection of the community as ordered by the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Residents are provided with counseling, education, recreation, medical services, and emergency mental health crisis services.

Description

The Juvenile Detention Center Services Line of Business provides pre-dispositional, post-dispositional, and/or pre-placement detention of juveniles in the Fairfax County operated JDC. Secure detention services are intended for juvenile offenders (youth under the age of 18) who are charged with a Class I Misdemeanor or Felony and who meet the criteria as defined in Virginia Code § 16.1-248.1. Upon a finding by a judge/intake officer/magistrate that there is probable cause to believe that the juvenile committed the alleged act and the juvenile: is a threat to himself, is a threat to the person or property of others, or is a flight risk. Generally operated as a pre-dispositional holding facility for youth pending court action, JDC may also serve as a post-dispositional sentencing facility. The primary objective is to ensure the safety and security of its residents. The JDC has the capacity to accommodate 121 male and female juvenile offenders although it is currently staffed for 66 beds. It is one of a few juvenile detention centers in the Commonwealth of Virginia operated by a local CSU. The JDC is located in the Fairfax County Public Safety Complex in Fairfax City and is staffed by Fairfax County employees. Volunteers provide additional support. The facility operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Detention Center Facility

The facility's architecture is designed to ensure security and safety while simultaneously providing a setting that reduces stress among its residents. There are eleven small group living units with each unit having eleven bedrooms that open onto a common day room. Additional rooms are devoted to dining, education, arts and crafts, intake, reception, medical services, and administration. A fully equipped gymnasium is part of the facility.

Health Services

A nurse assesses any juvenile entering the facility within 24 to 48 hours of admittance. In addition to physical assessments, facility staff provide secure transportation for residents to medical, dental, mental health or follow-up care appointments. The program provides counseling groups, therapeutic recreation, constructive activities, and role modeling as mediums for changing behavior. Programming also addresses various areas of discipline such as: self-control, communication, and life skills. JDC liaisons include probation officers, mental health therapists, police officers, doctors, nurses, a school principal and teachers, lawyers, counselors, clergy, volunteers, psychologists, psychiatrists, crisis counselors, social workers, mentors, and most importantly, the families of the detained youth.

Education

The JDC school program consists of 5.5 hours of daily instruction taught by Virginia Department of Education licensed teachers. Students earn high school credits and are eligible to work towards their GED. The program has two daily electives, physical education and art class. Every week there are alternating elective classes during homeroom time: music, life planning, library, and literacy. The curriculum offers instruction emphasizing acquisition, fluency, and maintenance of academic and life skills. Hour-for-hour

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

credit is forwarded to the base school at the time of a juvenile's release. FCPS also monitors JDC meals to ensure that they fall under Federal guidelines for school system meal requirements.

BETA Post Dispositional Sentencing Program

The JDC Services Line of Business also includes the BETA Post Dispositional Program which was created to address the issues and needs of juveniles sentenced under Virginia Code § 16.1-284.1. Juveniles are confined in a secure setting for up to six months in a therapeutic program. The program provides the court with an alternative to committing youth to the Department of Juvenile Justice (Virginia Code § 16.1-284.1). The BETA Program also offers aftercare for six months following the confinement component.

The eleven-bed program accommodates male offenders ages 14 to 17. Youth must be referred by a probation officer and complete an admissions assessment to determine their appropriateness for placement after being court-ordered into the program. The Virginia Code requires that a youth must be 14 years of age or older, have been convicted of four misdemeanors or one felony, and be eligible for commitment to the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. Youth who are actively suicidal, psychotic, in need of immediate sex offender treatment, or have a history of violent assaults against staff or other youth are not eligible for the program. Youth may not have been released from the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice within the previous eighteen months.

Interventions address delinquency, behavioral/mental health, substance abuse, and educational issues. Treatment areas include anger management, development of positive coping skills, maintenance of healthy relationships, decision-making, moral reasoning, and identifying and setting boundaries. Services include individual and group counseling, family therapy, psycho-education, and substance abuse treatment. BETA also uses the Nurturing Parent Program, Victim Impact classes, and a creative art curriculum to address various delinquency issues. The program's counseling, mental health and substance abuse professionals provide services to each juvenile both individually and collectively.

An onsite alternative Fairfax County Public School addresses the educational needs of the youth. Three full-time teachers and additional educational personnel within JDC staff the BETA Program school. The BETA Program also organizes supervised quarterly community service activities to assist juveniles in repairing the harm they have done to the community. These activities help to connect youth with community resources and allows them to complete Court ordered community service hours while in a residential program.

Benefits

Safety and Security

The primary objective of Juvenile Detention Services is to ensure the safety and security of its residents. The architectural design helps to ensure security and safety while simultaneously providing a setting that reduces stress among its residents. The extensive use of internal windows facilitates surveillance without being conspicuous. The internal structure promotes extensive personal contact between staff and detainees and minimizes the necessity for surveillance through electronic equipment. At the center of the facility, a glass-lined inner corridor surrounds an open courtyard. Staff screen all youth for mental and physical health issues when they enter the facility; services are provided, if necessary.

Positive Behavior Outcomes

In addition, residents of JDC and the BETA programs also have access to counseling groups, therapeutic recreation, constructive activities, and role modeling as positive mediums for changing behavior while they are in the facility. Programming also addresses various areas of discipline such as self-control, communication, and life skills.

Access to Mental Health Services

All youth are administered the Massachusetts Youth Survey Instrument (MAYSI-2) upon entry to the facility. This assessment provides staff a general view of any mental health issues the youth may have and allows them to provide appropriate referrals to formal psychological assessment if necessary. This plays an important role in getting youth access to services.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Education

As noted above, youth receive 5.5 hours of daily instruction taught by Virginia Department of Education licensed teachers. Students earn high school credits and are eligible to work towards their GED.

Mandates

Primary Services Provided

- Juvenile Detention Center Services – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227; § 16.1-234)

There are several Virginia code sections addressing the mandates for Juvenile Justice Agencies that require an array of programs, services and facilities to meet the individual, family and community needs.

Please see the mandates section in LOB #184: Court Services Administration for the fundamental elements needed for a Juvenile Justice System. These elements are both specific and general in nature in order to meet the ever-changing needs and demands within Juvenile Justice Services.

Trends and Challenges

The introduction of the Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), in particular, had a dramatic impact on the number of youth placed in secure detention. This instrument guides juvenile intake officers through a series of decisions that lead to a range of alternatives that can replace secure detention. The goal is to place the youth in the least restrictive environment while still addressing public safety. During this period, pre and post-disposition secure detention admissions of juveniles in Fairfax County decreased by 48 percent going from 1,070 to 560.

Please refer to the trends and challenges section of LOB #184: Court Services Administration for additional challenges that impact this line of business:

- Changing Caseloads and Utilization Rates
- Mental Health Needs of Clients
- Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community
- Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #187: Juvenile Detention Center Services			
FUNDING			
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Compensation	\$6,100,056	\$6,079,735	\$6,698,554
Operating Expenses	495,677	802,635	894,711
Capital Equipment	70,779	32,019	0
Total Expenditures	\$6,666,512	\$6,914,389	\$7,593,265
General Fund Revenue	\$2,520,279	\$2,936,412	\$4,460,077
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$4,146,233	\$3,977,977	\$3,133,188
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
<u>Positions:</u>			
Regular	99 / 99	99 / 99	99 / 99
Total Positions	99 / 99	99 / 99	99 / 99

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Secure detention services child care days provided	12,732	13,826	13,116	13,225	13,225
Secure detention utilization rates	29%	57%	54%	54%	54%
Secure detention services cost per bed day	\$226	\$257	\$273	\$316	\$316
Percent of placements of youth supervised requiring physical restraints	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Percent of youth held in secure detention who appear at scheduled court hearing	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%

Juvenile Justice Reform and changes in the number of juvenile offenses nationally and locally have led to an overall reduction of youth involved in the juvenile justice system including the use of secure detention. Child care days provided by secure detention have decreased 55 percent from 28,894 in FY 2007 to 13,116 in FY 2015. Cost per bed day has increased moving from \$226 in FY 2013 to \$273 in FY 2015. Many of these costs are attributed to facility maintenance as well as inflation. However service quality and outcomes continue to be good with only 2 percent of youth placements supervised requiring physical restraints. This indicates staff were able to de-escalate situations with youth prior to the need for physical restraints 98 percent of the time in FY 2015 keeping both staff and juvenile residents safe. In addition, in FY 2015 100 percent of youth held in secure detention appeared at scheduled court hearings indicating no escapes or attempted escapes by youth that would keep them from appearing in court.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

LOB #188:

SHELTER CARE

Purpose

Shelter Care II (SCII) is a community-based, non-secure, temporary care, co-ed facility. The program is designed to provide court ordered youth with a safe and stable environment while awaiting court hearings to address adjudication and disposition. Stabilization is the primary focus for a youth in placement at Shelter Care. For most residents, placement in this facility stems from their early involvement with the JDRDC. The placement is also used as a least restrictive secure detention alternative when placement in secure detention is viewed as possibly having a negative impact on the resident and his or her situation. Residents are provided with counseling, education, recreation, medical services and emergency health crisis services. The facility operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Description

The CSU opened its first shelter in January 1980. The shelter moved into a separate wing of the newly expanded Juvenile Detention Center in 1982. A new shelter was approved through bond referendum in the fall of 2004 by the voters of Fairfax County. This new shelter, Shelter Care II, opened in 2010. SCII is a 12-bed program where the court may place juveniles charged with status (CHINS) and/or minor delinquency offenses. Residents are categorized in three groups:

- Youth awaiting adjudication and/or final disposition of their cases
- Youth awaiting placement in another residential facility or for other services to be arranged
- Alleged CHINS offenders who need overnight or weekend shelter after being apprehended by the police under the authority of a Shelter Care Order.

The program is designed to:

- Provide crisis intervention and stabilization
- Provide education through the Fairfax County Public Schools
- Gather and share information in order to assist with case planning and judicial decisions
- Identify service needs for the youth and family
- Prepare youth for transition either to home or other placement
- Address immediate mental and physical health needs
- Provide 24 hour supervision and care for the residents in placement

Youth Placements

Residents are placed in SCII by a Court Order, Shelter Care Order, or Capias. Youth can arrive via police after arrest and processing through Juvenile Court Intake or directly from a court hearing. Reports are provided to the court to assist the judicial process with information gathered during a resident's placement. The average length of stay in FY 2015 was 10.8 days.

Counseling

Residents are oriented to the program, school, and milieu and are given daily assignments. These assignments are designed to assist them with developing insight into their situation, address behavioral concerns, and support the short and long-term management of the case. Each resident is assigned a counselor that works one-on-one with the resident and family to begin the stabilization and needs assessment processes.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Mental Health Screening

Upon entry, residents are also given the Massachusetts Youth Survey Instrument (MAYSI-2) a self-report screening tool to determine if they are in need of mental health services. If needs are identified, a mental health referral is made so that residents can be assessed for risk by a Community Services Board (CSB) mental health clinician. In addition to conducting risk assessments, the mental health clinicians are available for consultation with staff and ongoing supportive counseling with residents presenting with various mental health needs. If appropriate, the CSB psychiatrist will conduct a medication evaluation and prescribe psychiatric medications as needed, with parental consent.

Education

During their stay at the facility, youth interact with 2 teachers that are part of the alternative school program through FCPS. Youth receive an evaluation on academic status and then receive instruction and support from the teachers to maintain good standing and earn credit with the school district.

Benefits

Alternative to Detention

The Shelter Care II provides an effective alternative to secure detention for youth in the community while still maintaining public safety. Research shows that youth placed in secure detention are more likely to reoffend, perform poorly in school and are less likely to succeed later in life. In addition, youth detained in secure detention facilities are more likely to be treated more harshly at later stages of the system. Providing an alternative such as the Shelter Care II facility lessens these impacts on youth involved with the court process while providing a public safety service to the community. During FY 2015, Shelter Care II had 191 placements with a successful program completion rate of 84 percent.

Access to Mental Health Services

As described above, all youth are administered the (MAYSI-2) upon entry to the facility. This assessment provides staff a general view of any mental health issues the youth may have and allows them to provide appropriate referrals to formal psychological assessment if necessary. This plays an important role in getting youth access to services.

Positive Environment

Youth are offered supportive counseling, education, exposure to positive recreational activities, a structured environment with positive adult role models, and the ability to participate in services with outside treatment providers.

Medical Services

For the residents whose parents are not able to access medical treatment, the program offers medical services in order to address presenting medical issues either through a course of treatment or through an assessment process that results in a referral to seek the services of specialized professionals. Additionally, the program is prepared to transport residents to the local health department to obtain testing for sexually transmitted infections. In an emergency medical situation, residents are transported by staff to a local medical facility in order to obtain necessary treatment.

Mandates

Primary Services Provided

- Shelter Care – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227; § 16.1-234)

Mandates for Shelter Care come primarily from the [Code of Virginia](#). Please see the mandates section in LOB #184: Court Services Administration for are the fundamental elements, including Shelter Care, needed for a Juvenile Justice System. It further directs that there is an adequate and coordinated program of court services, probation, parole and detention facilities and other specialized services and facilities.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Trends and Challenges

Please refer to the trends and challenges section of LOB #184: Court Services Administration for challenges around mental health, transportation, racial and ethnic disparities, and language barriers that impact this line of business:

- Mental Health Needs of Clients
- Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community
- Racial and Ethnic Disparity
- Transportation

In addition, the introduction of the Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), in particular, had an impact on the number of youth placed in Shelter Care II. Please refer to LOB #187: Juvenile Detention Center Services for a description of the DAI.

Shelter Care II also has larger staff turnover than other parts of the agency as many staff members take promotional positions within the agency or neighboring jurisdictions. The onboarding process is lengthy and training is extensive for new employees taking as long as 6 months for new staff to become proficient in their duties and program knowledge. This can impact service provisions to residents if too many staff members are new at the same time. In addition, as a short-term facility, program staff are not decision makers with regard to case management and court recommendations though they do work with probation officers for those youth under post-dispositional court supervision.

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #188: Shelter Care			
FUNDING			
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Compensation	\$863,318	\$860,302	\$914,741
Operating Expenses	31,523	28,886	37,475
Capital Equipment	0	13,227	0
Total Expenditures	\$894,841	\$902,415	\$952,216
General Fund Revenue	\$214,715	\$147,111	\$149,138
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$680,126	\$755,304	\$803,078
POSITIONS			
<i>Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)</i>			
<u>Positions:</u>			
Regular	14 / 14	14 / 14	14 / 14
Total Positions	14 / 14	14 / 14	14 / 14

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Shelter Care II (SCII) child care days provided	2,586	2,536	2,093	2,315	2,315
SC II facilities utilization rate	59%	58%	48%	53%	53%
SC II cost per bed day	\$344	\$351	\$359	\$398	\$398
Percent of parents satisfied with SC II Services	96%	96%	100%	90%	90%
Percent of SC II youth who appear at scheduled court hearing	97%	92%	92%	90%	90%

Changes in juvenile offending rates have led to an overall reduction of youth involved in the juvenile justice system including the use of Shelter Care II. In FY 2015, Shelter Care II provided 2,093 child care days down 32 percent from the 3,090 child care days in FY 2007.

As such utilization rates also fell from 71 percent in FY 2007 to 48 percent in FY 2015. Cost per bed day has increased moving from \$344 in FY 2013 to \$359 in FY 2015. Parents have been consistently satisfied with SCII services over the last three years with 100 percent satisfaction rates in FY 2015.

In addition, the percent of Shelter Care II youth appearing at their scheduled hearing remained consistent from FY 2014 to FY 2015 at 92 percent.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

LOB #189:

SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES

Purpose

The Supervised Release Services Line of Business incorporates three programs located in the Supervised Release Services Unit:

- Supervised Release Services (SRS)
- Intensive Supervision Program (ISP)
- Gang Response Coordinator

SRS provides pre-trial and pre-disposition supervision to youth before the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. The program is a detention alternative, allowing cases to be supervised at home instead of being held in secure custody at the Juvenile Detention Center or being placed in Shelter Care. The program serves all types of criminal and CHINS cases. The program operates seven days a week.

ISP provides intensive supervision for high-risk juveniles who are on probation or parole. These cases typically have been convicted of serious felonies or are gang-involved. It monitors offenders through daily unannounced visits during evening and night hours when re-offense is statistically most likely. The program operates seven days a week.

The ISP supervisor is also the Gang Response Coordinator for the agency. This position manages the code-mandated information exchange program with local law enforcement, primarily the Gang Unit of the Fairfax County Police Department. This position also oversees the IPE (Intervention, Prevention, and Education) program which attempts to intercede and prevent gang involvement with at-risk youth. Referrals to this program come from various county agencies, including FCPS, and the public.

Description

Supervised Release Services

SRS began in 1976 as the Outreach Detention program and is designed to address the evidence-based concept that unwarranted placement in secure custody can cause harm and contribute to recidivism in youth. It also meets a Code of Virginia mandate to maintain youth before the court in the least restrictive environment possible. It does this in a manner that is both cost-effective, evidence-based, and that promotes public safety. SRS staff are in the field seven days a week. Hours are primarily 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, with case managers working two evening shifts a month to have face-to-face meetings with parents.

SRS staff spend the majority of their time assisting youth and families with immediate issues contributing to the juveniles' risk to re-offend. Community safety is served by mitigating risk factors and imposing short-term limits and supervision. Staff are also able to learn about the youth's individual circumstances, and assist judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys in fashioning appropriate disposition without the need for further court hearings. SRS provides daily monitoring of youth pending trial or sentencing. Per state standards, each youth is seen four times a week in their home, school, or place of employment. Youth are monitored for compliance with the rules of their supervision. Program staff provide court recommendations, provide short-term counseling, address harmful and negative behaviors, and refer cases to services. Staff work closely with the school system, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, and the Department of Family Services. The program allows quick response to address public safety issues while facilitating supervision and services for the family while they await a court hearing. High-risk cases can be tracked using GPS electronic monitoring, which can be used to prevent contact with victims, witnesses, and co-defendants. It also ensures the youth remain in the proper environment when staff are not present.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Intensive Supervision Program

ISP began in June 1999 to provide evening and weekend supervision for juveniles in the Serious or Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) and on probation/parole and required additional oversight. ISP probation officers work rotating shifts seven days a week. Work hours are approximately 3:00 PM to 1:00 AM each shift, with weekend shifts being slightly later. Home visits are conducted through the evening and night hours to confirm adherence to probation and parole conditions, tests are administered for illicit drug or alcohol use, crisis intervention is provided for the families, and progress reports are submitted to the supervising probation/parole officers. Staff members work closely with county and local police agencies and are integrated into the Department of Public Safety Communication's dispatch system for staff safety and operational efficiency. Information is shared with the police as permitted by relevant Code of Virginia confidentiality statutes and agency policy. The goal of ISP is to reduce recidivism while allowing the youths to remain within the community with their families.

Gang Response Coordination

The Gang Response Coordinator is the liaison between the Court Service Unit and the Police Department's Gang Unit, and the vendor carrying out the IPE program. The CSU is mandated by state code to provide information on gang-involved youth to the police department. The position also oversees the county-funded IPE (Intervention, Prevention and Education) program. In this program, a vendor provides counseling, education, and service coordination to at-risk youth and their families. This prevents and reduces gang involvement prior to criminal activity. Referrals can come from any county agency or the public.

Benefits

Public Safety

The SRS program is effective in maintaining youth in the community, with their families, while maintaining public safety. In FY 2015, there were 348 placements in the program (includes new cases and those cases opened prior to FY 2015), with 90 percent of cases being offense free during their stay in the program. ISP has slightly lower success rates, but works with a more focused population of high-risk offenders, most of whom have been charged with felonies, and virtually all exhibited some level of probation or parole violation before being placed in the program. Forty-four percent completed the program by exhibiting compliance with probation or parole rules. Ninety-four percent completed the program without a new charge while under supervision.

Maintain Youth in the Community

The program meets current evidence-based research indicating that youth maintained in their home have better short and long term outcomes than youth held unnecessarily in secure detention. The program is effective in using graduated responses to hold youth accountable, and is able to have cases with serious violations taken into custody immediately and returned to court for further legal action.

Cost Effective

The cost per day for SRS is substantially less expensive than the cost per day of secure residential programs like detention centers. SRS has an estimated cost of \$103.00 per day.

Gang Intervention and Prevention

The Gang Coordinator handles this information from all parts of the agency and is the liaison with the various police departments. The Intervention, Prevention and Education (IPE) program is used by various county agencies to assist gang-involved youth leave gangs and prevent at-risk youth from becoming gang members. In FY 2015, 65 percent of gang-involved youth in the IPE program demonstrated a reduction or elimination of gang participation; 100 percent of those who were at-risk, but not yet involved in gangs, remained non-gang involved while in the program. Sixty-four percent of participants improved their school performance, 64 percent increased pro-social activities; and, 64 percent increased family involvement and effective communication.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Mandates

Primary Services Provided:

- Supervised Release Services – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227; § 16.1-234)
- Intensive Supervision Program – Partially Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-248.1; § 16.1-250)
- Gang Response Coordination – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-300)

Mandates for Supervised Release Services come primarily from the Code of Virginia. Please see the mandates section in LOB #184: Court Services Administration for are the fundamental elements needed for a Juvenile Justice System. Mandates direct agencies to provide adequate and coordinated programming of court services, probation, parole, detention facilities, and other specialized services and facilities.

§ 16.1-248.1 – Criteria for detention or shelter care. (Covers process and intent to release cases rather than hold pre-trial whenever possible.)

§ 16.1-250 – Procedure for detention hearing. (Covers process and intent to release cases rather than hold pre-trial whenever possible.)

The position of the Gang Coordinator provides the primary oversight of the agency's responsibility to meet the obligations of Virginia Code § 16.1-300. This law mandates the Court Service Unit to provide information about gang-involved cases to the police, similar to the requirement to notify CPS about suspected child abuse.

Trends and Challenges

Pre-Adjudication Supervision

SRS provides supervision to cases charged with offenses but not yet sentenced. Due to the evidence-based efforts to reduce unnecessary use of secure detention, the program is dealing with more serious levels of offenses than it has in the past; however, the program's success rate has not declined. It does however; tend to populate the program with youth who commit more minor program infractions and need more community support for individual and family issues. To address these infractions, the program applies the agency's graduated response policy, which can hold youth accountable without the need to return to court, using a proportional response to the violation. Cases needing services can be voluntarily referred for assistance prior to sentencing. Cases that decline voluntary services can have these ordered by the Court at sentencing by a judge.

Increase in Female Clients in ISP

ISP has experienced an increase in the number of female cases referred to the program. The program now has female staff and is able to administer drug testing in the field. The program works closely with the police department and is continuing to provide "roll call" training to the officers with FCPD and municipalities in Fairfax, Herndon, and Vienna.

Changes within the Community

The Gang Response Coordinator has seen more changes. Apart from the increased focus on human trafficking, undocumented minors have been more of an issue. The complex issues they face in term of legal status, family strain, and assimilation difficulties have made them a target for gang recruitment.

Please refer to the trends and challenges section of LOB #184: Court Services Administration for additional challenges that impact this line of business:

- Changing Caseloads and Utilization Rates
- Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community
- Racial and Ethnic Disparity

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #189: Supervised Release Services			
FUNDING			
Expenditures:			
Compensation	\$904,381	\$860,998	\$872,344
Operating Expenses	63,613	248,170	268,121
Total Expenditures	\$967,994	\$1,109,168	\$1,140,465
General Fund Revenue	\$158,692	\$170,686	\$170,428
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$809,302	\$938,482	\$970,037
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
Positions:			
Regular	16 / 16	16 / 16	16 / 16
Total Positions	16 / 16	16 / 16	16 / 16

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Supervised Release Services (SRS) child care days provided	11,968	11,970	13,762	13,800	13,800
SRS program utilization rate	68%	68%	79%	79%	79%
SRS cost per day	\$80	\$92	\$103	\$108	\$108
Percent of SRS youth who have face-to-face contact within 24 hours of assignment	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%
Percent of SRS youth with no new delinquency or CHINS petitions while under supervision	83%	96%	90%	85%	85%

Detention alternative programs provided by Supervised Release Services (SRS) are driven by the number of youth involved in the juvenile justice system. These changes in the number of youth in the system have led to an overall reduction of youth involved in the juvenile justice system including the use of Supervised Release Services. Long term trends show child care days provided by SRS decreasing 25 percent between FY 2007 and FY 2013; however, they have increased 15 percent in the last 3 years moving from 11,968 in FY 2013 to 13,762 in FY 2015. There has also been an increase in utilization rates moving from 68 percent to 79 percent. This increase is attributed to an increase in the use of SRS as an alternative to detention, especially in probation cases. Cost per bed day has increased moving from \$80 in FY 2013 to \$103 in FY 2015.

In addition to the slight increase over the last three years, SRS reports that 100 percent of youth in FY 2015 have face-to-face contact with an officer within 24 hours of assignment. This has been consistent over the last several years. Outcomes of SRS are also positive with 90 percent of youth in FY 2015 receiving no new delinquency or status petitions while under SRS supervision. This is up from 83 percent just two years earlier.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

LOB #190:

LONG-TERM RESIDENTIAL CARE

Purpose

The Long-Term Residential Care (LTRC) Line of Business incorporates three programs:

- Boys Probation House (BPH)
- Foundations
- Transitional Living Program (TLP)

The purpose of this line of business is to provide structured residential, community-based treatment programs for juveniles who have otherwise been unsuccessful with prior treatment interventions, such as outpatient treatment, home-based services, or day treatment. The intensive intervention services at Boys Probation House and Foundations includes individual, group and family counseling. The focus is on utilizing proven evidenced based practices such as cognitive behavioral therapy to reduce risk factors for reoffending and build protective factors that will contribute to successful outcomes. The Transitional Living Program is focused on continued education, job and life skills and employment. The focus is on youth transitioning to adulthood.

Description

Boys Probation House (BPH)

BPH is a community-based, non-secure, 16-bed residential treatment program for male juvenile offenders, ages 14-17. One goal of the program is to address long-standing behavioral, emotional, mental health and family issues, which led to the youth being placed out of the home. A second goal is to facilitate the successful reintegration of the residents into the community and the family by increasing protective factors, reducing risk factors and ultimately impacting the youth's risk to reoffend. Residents attend a Fairfax County alternative school, located onsite, where they have the opportunity to improve their academic performance in a structured and supportive school environment. The therapeutic program focuses on the personal accountability of each resident to his own individualized treatment goals-specifically as they relate to improving interpersonal effectiveness, emotional regulation, and positive engagement within the community. The program accomplishes this by engaging the residents in individual, group, and family counseling as well as involvement in positive activities and education related to health and wellness. The juveniles work toward interrupting negative behavioral patterns in a highly structured, supportive environment with increasing levels of expectation and responsibility as they move toward successful reintegration into the community.

Foundations

Foundations is a twelve bed, highly structured community based residential treatment program for court involved girls who exhibit chronic high-risk behaviors and have been impacted by significant traumatic experiences. The girls require a higher level of care than outpatient treatment can provide. The program opened in 1975; however, the current building was constructed in January of 2009 and is approximately 11,500 square feet. This new facility is a state of the art residential treatment program including 12 individual resident bedrooms and 6 resident bathrooms that are divided into three separate quads. The sleeping area also houses a staff work station, laundry facility and medication room. The living areas include a day room, recreation room, dining room, kitchen and multipurpose room. There are also 3 staff offices, 2 therapy rooms, a conference room and administrative offices. The school wing has two large classrooms, one for math and science, and the other for English and history. There is also a resource room situated between these two classrooms. The staff of Foundations includes the Director, Assistant Director, Administrative Assistant III, a full-time cook, nine full-time Counselors, substance abuse counselor, two Teachers, and three part time Counselors. An active relief staff of 6 counselors augments the counseling staff in providing 24-hour coverage. Interns and volunteers provide valuable services as well.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Residents are placed in the program by judicial order. The target population is thirteen to seventeen year old females, whose behaviors have brought them to the attention of the court, resulting in CHINS or criminal offenses. The program also has the capacity to accept girls in the custody of the Department of Family Services and the CSB through a written placement agreement and application of admission. Residents learn through a behavior modification system and intensive therapeutic services to alter distorted cognitions and maladaptive behaviors. The goal is for residents to adopt more positive interactions with themselves, their families, and communities.

The major objectives of the program are to reduce residents/chronic acting out behavior and to hold them accountable for their actions, while also helping them gain insight into their issues. The treatment is grounded in the belief that girls need to gain a sense of independence, self-control, and self-confidence in order to build healthy, productive futures. The program is designed to change behaviors, foster healthy emotional functioning, strengthen family functioning, and successfully facilitate the resident's return to her home and community. Strategies include individual, group, and family counseling, behavior modification, a positive peer culture, a parent/community group, and an in-house school program. The program structure ensures uniform behavior expectations with consistent application of rules, while also allowing enough flexibility to meet the individual treatment needs of each resident. The program has a heavy focus on trauma treatment and support services and utilizes cognitive behavior therapy to bring about behavioral change.

The average length of stay to successfully complete the program is eight to ten months. Successful completion is reached when the resident has completed their individualized treatment goals and has reached a minimum behavioral benchmark. A resident's progress is assessed monthly by her treatment team which consists of her probation officer or social worker, parents, individual, family, and substance abuse therapists, the resident, a program administrator, program teachers, and any other professionals involved in the case. The residents' families must be willing to invest time and participate fully in all of the program's family components as parents are vital and mandatory partners in their daughter's change processes.

Transitional Living Program (TLP)

TLP is a 12-bed program which offers juvenile offenders an opportunity to learn the necessary skills to successfully return to the community and become independent adults. The TLP staff strive to create a supportive and therapeutic environment. They provide guidance to each resident by helping him determine and achieve his individual goals. The staff provides opportunities for personal development, with a focus on education, employment and independent living skills. TLP has a philosophy of responsible involvement that provides a unique opportunity for residents to change chronic (ongoing) acting out behavior. The program is designed to respond to the particular needs of adolescent boys whose behavior has brought them into the purview of JDRDC. TLP was established in large part as a result of the failure of traditional methods of corrections and other interventions to deal with the problems of male juvenile offenders.

Some of the skills the TLP residents learn include:

- Independent living skills, such as using public transportation, shopping, banking, budgeting, credit, nutrition, cooking, health, insurance, utilities, tenant and landlord rights, and securing housing.
- Skills associated with obtaining and maintaining employment, diminishing criminal behaviors, and becoming productive members of the community.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Benefits

Community Placement

LTRC offers the Fairfax County Juvenile Court an alternative to commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice for juveniles. LTRC allows for juveniles to remain in the community in which they live, allowing for enhanced social integration, individual productivity, and family integration. In order to provide services to a broader female population in the community, Foundations expanded its referral sources. The program now takes placements from other agencies filling a gap created by the closure of CSB residential facilities and increasing utilization. TLP is the only LTRC that serves older males, 17-20 years of age, and offers them an opportunity to obtain independent living skills.

Reduction of Delinquent Behavior

LTRC seeks to reduce the incidence of delinquent and chronic acting-out behavior by juveniles involved in the juvenile court system by teaching skills targeting self-control and self-confidence. Residents also receive family and individual counseling designed to strengthen family systems which can result in a reduction of acting-out behavior. The facilities are also drug-free to address substance abuse issues allowing youth to abstain from illegal substance use.

Trauma-Informed Programming

LTRC offer trauma informed programming which incorporates knowledge regarding violence against juveniles and the impact of trauma. Juveniles also receive individual and group counseling to address issues around trauma in order to ease reintegration with family and community.

Mandates

Primary Services Provided:

- Boys Probation House – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227; § 16.1-234)
- Foundations – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227; § 16.1-234)
- Transitional Living Program – Fully Mandated (Virginia Code § 16.1-227; § 16.1-234)

Mandates for Long-Term Residential Care programs come primarily from the Code of Virginia. Mandates direct agencies to provide adequate and coordinated programming of court services, probation, parole, detention facilities, and other specialized services and facilities. Please see the mandates section in LOB #184: Court Services Administration for additional details on the fundamental mandates impacting the Juvenile Justice System.

Trends and Challenges

Please refer to the trends and challenges section of LOB #184: Court Services Administration for additional information on challenges that impact this line of business:

- Changing Caseloads and Utilization Rates
- Mental Health Needs of Clients
- Delivery of Services to a Culturally Diverse Community
- Racial and Ethnic Disparity
- Transportation

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Assessment Instruments

To address the growing need of mental health services, LTRC are moving towards using screening assessment instruments to direct treatment services. More attention is being placed on assessing youth for trauma, since this is a major driver of behavior for many youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Boys Probation House and Foundations' lack of access to an onsite psychiatrist impacts the ability to effectively work with youth who have been traumatized. Psychiatric evaluation and treatment can address a youth's physiological and behavior needs and stabilize them for the trauma treatment that they receive. In addition, LTRC find it challenging to identify resources that address substance abuse and mental health issues within the program.

Decrease in Utilization

The challenge of low program utilization rates of LTRC programs and the costs associated with staffing a facility, have led to increased effort to utilize wrap around community services versus LTRC programs. The decrease in youth coming to the attention of juvenile probation and the decrease in utilization is being addressed by expanding admission criteria and building partnerships with the community than can assist in addressing the additional needs of youth. Moving to broaden the array of services by partnering with other human service agencies is a way to maximize resources.

Complex Cases

Youth placed residentially in Fairfax County have historically been the most difficult cases under the supervision of the court and have a documented history of running away and/or noncompliance with services. These youth routinely score as having "high risk factors" on the YASI (Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument). Despite the difficulty of the presenting issues, the LTRC's have a high rate of acceptance of these youth into their facilities. It is standard practice to offer any referred youth who meets the basic admission criteria an opportunity to attempt the program as an alternative to commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice or other placement outside the county.

Resources

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #190: Long-Term Residential Care			
FUNDING			
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Compensation	\$2,340,572	\$2,831,292	\$2,805,278
Operating Expenses	159,660	226,343	224,027
Capital Equipment	45,657	9,340	0
Total Expenditures	\$2,545,889	\$3,066,975	\$3,029,305
General Fund Revenue	\$397,553	\$383,356	\$382,378
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$2,148,336	\$2,683,619	\$2,646,927
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
<u>Positions:</u>			
Regular	44 / 44	44 / 44	44 / 44
Total Positions	44 / 44	44 / 44	44 / 44

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Long-term residential care (LTRC) child care days provided	8,026	6,540	7,892	7,900	7,900
LTRC Utilization Rate	65%	53%	47%	47%	47%
LTRC cost per bed day	\$307	\$309	\$331	\$335	\$335
Percent of parents satisfied with LTRC services	100%	100%	100%	85%	85%
Percent of LTRC-discharged youth with no new delinquent petitions for 1 year	74%	88%	77%	70%	70%

Changes within the juvenile justice system both nationally and locally have led to an overall reduction of youth involved in the juvenile justice system including the use of long-term residential care. Over the last 8 years, utilization rates of the CSU's long-term residential care services have decreased from 83 percent in FY 2007 to 47 percent in FY 2015. LTRC programs reported 7,892 child care days for FY 2015, a 23 percent decrease from the 10,258 child care days reported in FY 2007. Cost per bed day has increased slightly as utilization decreased moving from \$307 in FY 2013 to \$331 in FY 2015.

Overall parents have been very satisfied with services provided by LTRC programs with 100 percent satisfaction rates over the last three years. Recidivism rates have been less stable over the last three years. In FY 2013, LTRC programs report 74 percent of LTRC-discharged youth had no new delinquent petitions 1-year after release compared to 88 percent in FY 2014 and 77 percent in FY 2015.