



Ada County Juvenile Court Services

A Report Card to Our Stakeholders
January – December 2015

Our Vision

To be the foremost juvenile justice organization in the United States of America by proactively working to eliminate juvenile crime and to support and educate our community on juvenile justice

Our Mission

Strengthening our community by providing professional services to enhance the lives of youth and families

Our Agency Values

Dedication, Diversity, Fairness, Integrity, Trust

Ada County Juvenile Court Services (ACJCS)
Janet M. Wallace, Director

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A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

To Our Community

Without a doubt, 2015 was filled with changes of all kinds.

From beginning to end we were busy with preparations for court processes to move to electronic. The Idaho Supreme Court selected a vendor for the state and Ada County will be the second county to transition our manual court process to an electronic system, known as iCourt. The transition has and will impact almost all areas of the department. We hope to complete the transition in the second half of 2016.

We were excited to get a new video that focuses on a day in the life of juveniles admitted to our Detention Center. The video was made with a local film crew and is posted on the ACJCS website. Juvenile Probation Officers also use the video for educational school visits. ACJCS has teamed with Boise State University Athletic Department for monthly visits of BSU athletes to the Detention Center to speak to residents. This has been extremely rewarding for all participants!

Our Victim Impact Panels received a complete overhaul and reviews from participants have been very favorable. Three employees began mediation certification training and we should have that program up and running in late 2016.

In-home family counseling was added to the services provided by our Clinical Staff. When youth are transitioning back to the community from state custody or undergoing treatment, staff will provide services to clients and their families. We're proud of our "in-house" designed and built Tobacco Alcohol Program (TAP) which saw its first client in Feb 2015. Over 100 youth have successfully completed the program!

Probation's School Bases Referral Program at Kuna High School saw 67 students offered services for in-school behaviors in an effort to intervene and keep these students out of the juvenile court system. 17 Probation Officers read to local students in support of Read Across the Globe, a national effort highlighting the importance of literacy.

A big event was the ground-breaking for our new Juvenile Probation Outreach Office in Meridian. This will be a beautiful building built for the future as we provide services to the growing population in West Ada County. Completion is set for Spring 2016.

This will be my last letter reporting on ACJCS as I plan to step aside in late 2016. I have no doubt that ACJCS is one of the top organizations of its kind in the country. The dedication of its staff to making a positive difference in the lives of the youth of this county is unmatched. I am filled with pride each and every day of the work they do and I thank them.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet M. Wallace".

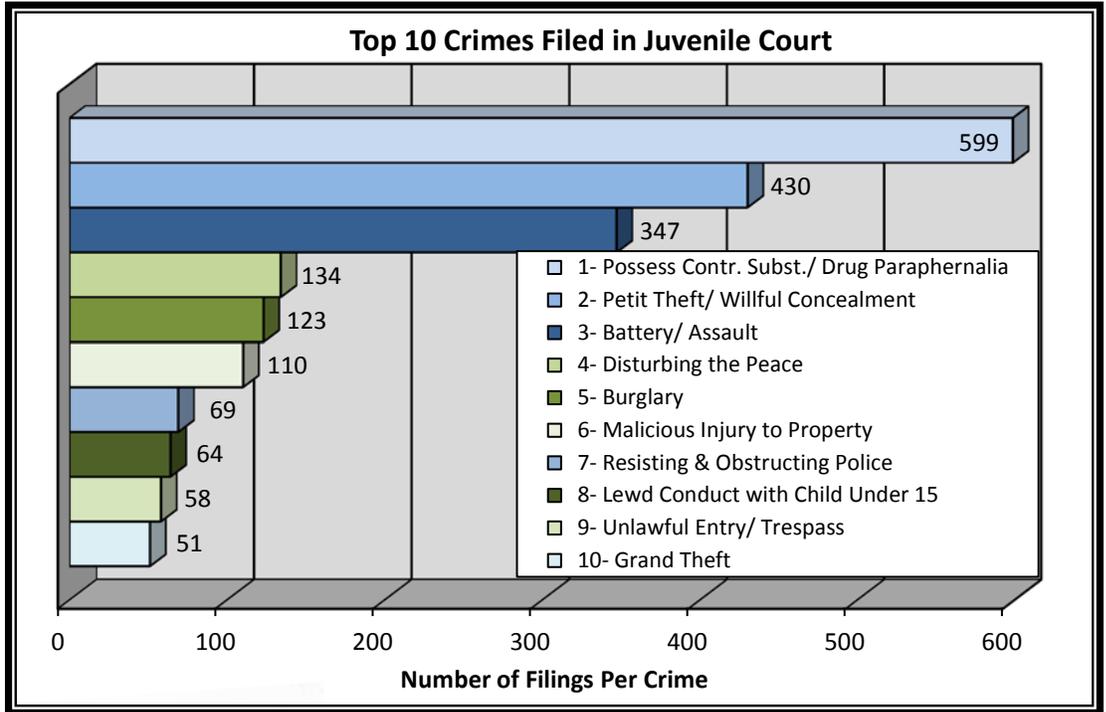
Janet M. Wallace, Director

A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

ACJCS CRIME FACTS

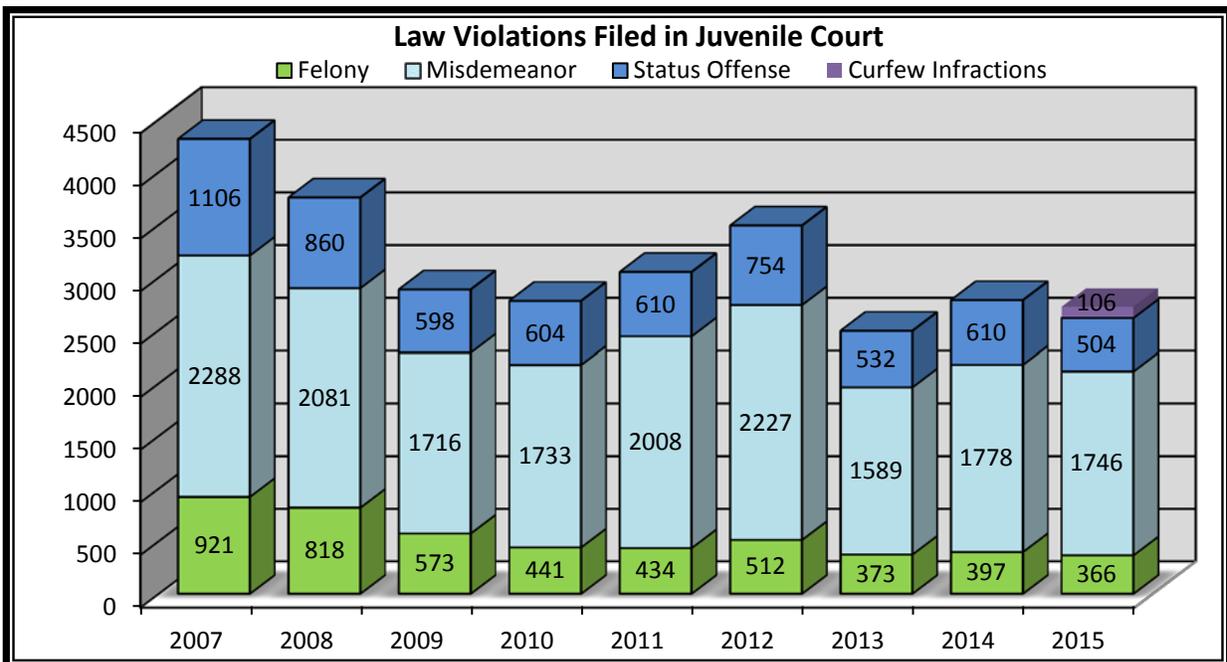
JUVENILE CRIME

In 2015, law enforcement agencies arrested or referred over 1,500 juveniles for over 3,200 law violations alleged to have been committed in Ada County. The Prosecuting Attorney evaluates each police report and determines whether the case should be dismissed, diverted, or charged (filed) by formal petition.



SEVERITY OF LAW VIOLATIONS

Misdemeanor crimes averaged 64% of all law violations filed in Juvenile Court, followed by status offenses (such as Runaway or Beyond Control) at 19%, felony crimes at 13%, and Curfew infractions at 4%.



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VICTIM SERVICES

Vision Statement: *“Proactively responding to victims of juvenile crime in a manner that is restorative and meaningful.”*

The Victim Impact Program provides informative and restorative services to victims of juvenile crime, including victim advocacy and restitution.



Victim Advocacy & Restitution

Services = 680 clients

Restitution Collected = \$84,350

VICTIM ADVOCACY

- Assists victims throughout the court process and keeps them informed and updated on their cases; and accompanies them to court as needed.
- Serves as liaison between victims and the various personnel within the court system.
- Provides elder abuse safeguarding tips to seniors 65+ who are victims of juvenile crime, to help them identify and prevent future abuse.
- Conducts Victim Impact Panels to bridge the gap between juvenile offenders and their community, which helps offenders understand the impact their crime/s have in the community.
- Screens letters of apology from juvenile offenders for appropriateness, empathy, and sincerity to provide for victim closure.

RESTITUTION SERVICES

- Assists victims in filing a restitution claim with the court.
- Victims may receive financial compensation from juvenile offenders to restore what was lost.



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DETENTION SERVICES

DETENTION POPULATION

We admitted 1,086 residents in 2015 (74% male and 26% female), including 116 juveniles held for other jurisdictions. Number of admissions were down 3% from 2014. Average daily population and average length of stay in detention both increased slightly from 2014.

SCHOOL

Masters-level teachers from the Boise School District provide instruction to detention residents 5 days a week. Residents earned 305 high school credits in 2015.

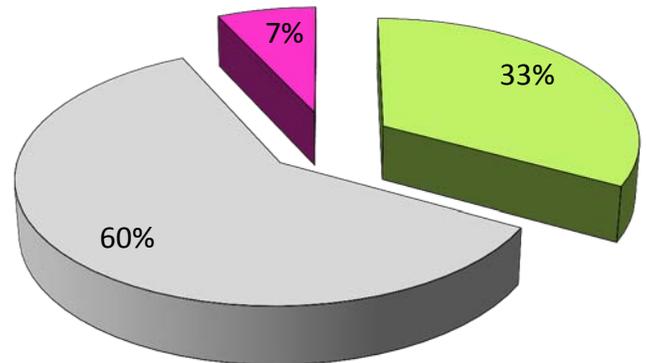
MEDICAL SERVICES

Our medical department maintained its accreditation with the National Commission on Health Care in 2015. Residents receive mental health services, health education, counseling, STD and HIV testing, immunizations, and prescription services.

PREA

PREA compliance and required resident and staff training continued throughout 2015. ACJCS is preparing for its next Federal PREA Audit in the spring of 2017; audits are required once every three years.

2015 Underlying Offenses for Resident Admissions



■ Felony Crime ■ Misdemeanor ■ Violation of Court Order

FOOD SERVICES

Detention & Program Meals = 38,606
 Detention & Program Snacks = 22,816

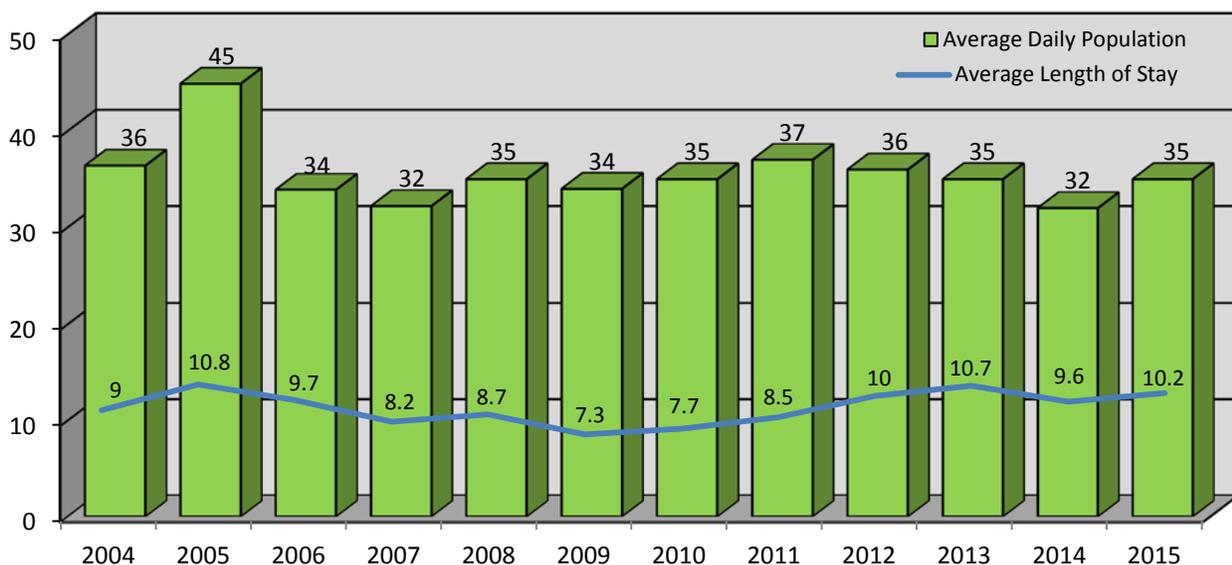
Our Food Service Department consistently receives high quality ratings from Central District Health.

SUICIDE RISK

293 residents were assessed "at risk" for suicide when they arrived, but only six attempted, and no injuries were reported.

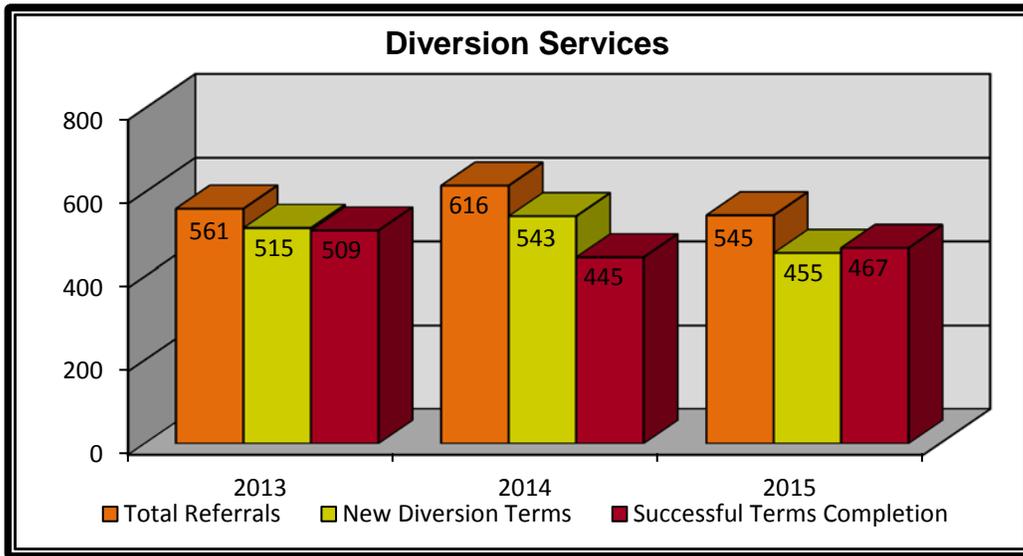
Average Daily Population & Length of Stay in Detention (Days)

Includes longer-staying youth in Substance Abuse Services programming, typically 60+ days



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DIVERSION & PROBATION SERVICES



DIVERSION

Participation in Diversion is an option granted by the Prosecuting Attorney to youth referred for low level offenses with no prior referrals. If the youth agrees to and completes conditions outlined in a contract, such as community service work and restitution payment in full, then the referring charge is dismissed.



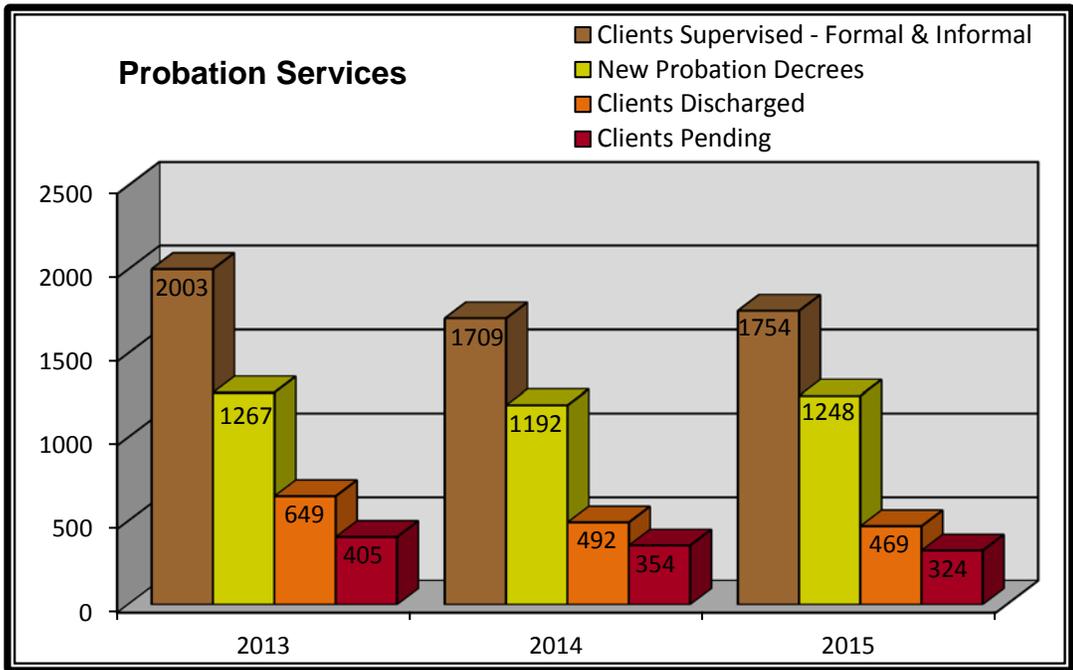
DETENTION ALTERNATIVE MONITORING

Electronic Monitoring and In-Home Detention are examples of the Conditional Release Order (CRO) monitoring program, which provides court-sanctioned alternatives to detention for juveniles not posing serious risk to the community. Our probation officers monitored 583 CROs in 2015.

PROBATION CASELOAD: A SNAPSHOT IN TIME

On 12/31/15, the agency's caseload consisted of 69% males and 31% females, and included:

- 54% on probation in the community
- 17% on diversion referral or on Terms
- 24% pending court hearings
- 5% in state custody



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PROGRAMS & OTHER SERVICES

CLINICAL COUNSELING SERVICES

The Clinical Program is licensed to provide substance abuse and mental health assessments and services for youth involved in juvenile court.

Drug/Alcohol Assessments = 429
 Trauma Assessments = 20
 Outpatient Treatment = 112 clients
 Intensive Outpatient Treatment = 46 clients
 Substance Abuse Service = 54 clients
 Tobacco / Alcohol Program = 156 referrals
 Individual/Family Counseling = 77 clients
 Diversion Counseling = 56 clients

WORK IN LIEU OF DETENTION

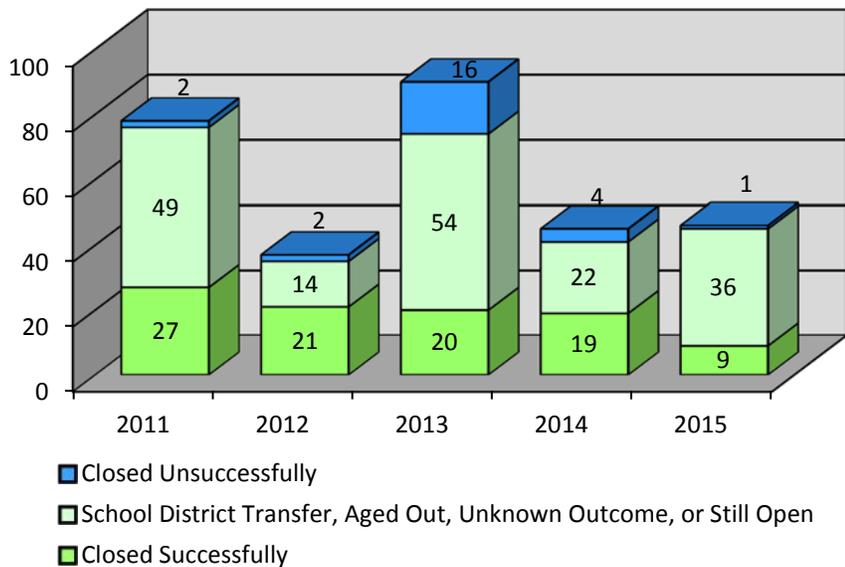
Total Referrals = 131
 Successful Completions = 122
 Total Hours Served = 3,510
 Value of Service = \$25,447

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Total Referrals = 234
 Successful Completions = 196
 Total Hours Served = 4,668
 Value of Service = \$33,843

Juveniles work in the community to make amends for the harm their crimes caused.

Attendance Court Referrals



ATTENDANCE COURT

A prevention program targeting elementary students with chronic school attendance problems. Partnering with the Boise and Meridian school districts, the court develops individual plans and monitors compliance to assist families in improving their child's attendance.

VICTORY ACADEMY

An educational program for suspended or expelled high school students, Victory Academy partners with Boise School District and Idaho Youth Ranch. Students work on self-paced curricula aligned with state and district standards, and participate in collective art and creative writing projects.

Number of Credit-Earning Students = 55
 Credits Earned = 203
 Successful Transition = 18 students
 Attained Diploma = 2 students
 Attained GED = 3 students

CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM

Educating at-risk middle school youth about the laws and consequences of juvenile crime, this program operates through partnerships with the Boise, Kuna, and Meridian school districts.

Law Related Education

4,485 students
 (174 presentations)

Small Group Curriculum

168 students
 (20 groups)