



# 2022 Annual Report

Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
Family Court Services – Juvenile Division  
Callaway County & Boone County



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## INTRODUCTION OF CHIEF JUVENILE OFFICER RUTH MCCLUSKEY

Ruth McCluskey began her employment for the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit in 1996 as a Caseworker at the Robert L. Perry Juvenile Justice Center. She was promoted to the position of Intake and Evaluations Coordinator in 2000, and served in that capacity until 2008, when she transferred to the Boone County Juvenile Office as a Deputy Juvenile Officer. While at the Juvenile Office, Ruth worked in the Intake Unit and was assigned to some cases in the Child Abuse/Neglect Unit. In 2013, Ruth became the Supervisor for the Callaway County Juvenile Office, and in 2015, she was promoted to her current position as the Chief Juvenile Officer for the 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit.

Ruth is originally from the state of Tennessee. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Villanova University in 1994 and her master's degree in counseling psychology from Boston College in 1996.



### BOONE COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICE

The Boone County Juvenile Office is located in Columbia, Missouri. The Chief Juvenile Officer's office is located in this office. This office consists of a supervisor, Angie Bezoni, three staff attorneys (One splits her time between Boone and Callaway), one paralegal, five Abuse/Neglect and eight Delinquency/ Status DJO's, and three Administrative Professionals.

### CALLAWAY COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICE

The Callaway County Juvenile Office is located in Fulton, Missouri. This office consists of a supervisor (who also carries a full Abuse/Neglect caseload), Tosha Good, one staff attorney (who splits her time between Boone and Callaway), one Abuse/ Neglect and two Delinquency/Status DJO's, and one Administrative Professional



## STAFF TRAINING

The Missouri Juvenile Officer Performance Standards require for Juvenile Office Personnel to have ongoing training every year. The Juvenile Division Education Committee has created core skills and competency trainings for staff to complete within their first six months of employment, within their first year of employment, within their second and third years of employment and then ongoing 24 hours of job-related training per year after that.

In the first and second years of being a Deputy Juvenile Officer, they learn the basic core skills and knowledge of the court system, which includes learning about the history of the Juvenile Office and learning the statutes and juvenile codes which help ensure their understanding of the roles of the job. For seasoned Deputy Juvenile Officers, they must maintain 24 hours of continuous training each year.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit Courts has 14.5 Deputy Juvenile Officers, 1 Training Deputy Juvenile Officer, 1 Program Deputy Juvenile Officer, 4 supporting staff, 2 supervisors and the Juvenile Officer. For 2022, Deputy Juvenile Officers had a total of 660 hours of training. Supporting staff had a total of 80 training hours.

One of the highlighted training held for 2022 was on Second-Hand Trauma, offered by Patrica Carter, PhD. The training explained the causes of second-hand trauma and ways to help improve self-health while working with youth and their families.



## Referrals

A referral is a written report or statement that alleges that a juvenile has come under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. A juvenile is defined as a child under the age of 18 years..

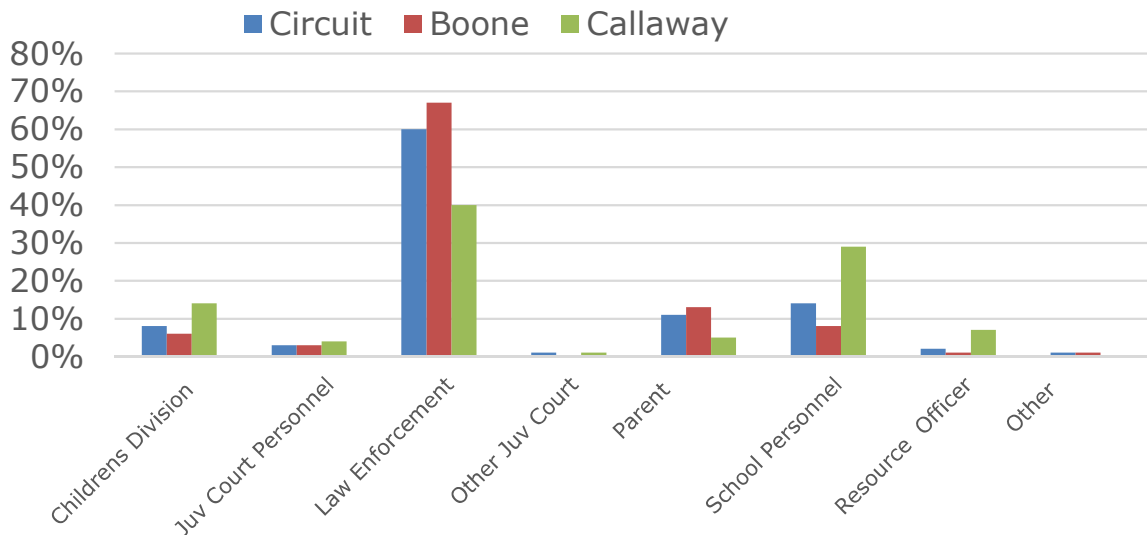
Referrals should be in writing and contain the juvenile's name, date of birth, address, and parent's name, along with sufficient information explaining the allegations. The reporter must also be identified. Verbal referrals can be received and acted upon in emergency situations, but the referral must be reduced to writing as soon as practicable.



Juvenile Division Referrals					
Year	Boone		Callaway		Circuit
	#	%	#	%	
2022	1,505	72%	576	28%	2,081
2021	1,099	67%	535	33%	1,634
2020	934	70%	456	30%	1,390
2019	1,285	70%	557	30%	1,842
2018	1,176	71%	479	29%	1,655

## Referral Sources

The Juvenile Office receives referrals from various sources. The numbers below indicate the disposition referral source. In 2022, law enforcement was the largest referral source for the Circuit, accounting for 60% percent of all disposed referrals. School personnel were responsible for an additional 14% of the referrals and Children's Division accounted for 8%.





## Abuse/Neglect

Child Abuse and Neglect referrals are made due to physical injury, sexual abuse, or emotional abuse inflicted on a child by those responsible for the child's care, custody, and control. Referrals to this unit are also received for failure to provide necessary care by those responsible for the care, custody, and control of the child. Necessary care includes support, education as required by law, nutrition, or medical/surgical care necessary for a child's well-being.

### CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT UNIT

#### Boone County Deputy Juvenile Officers

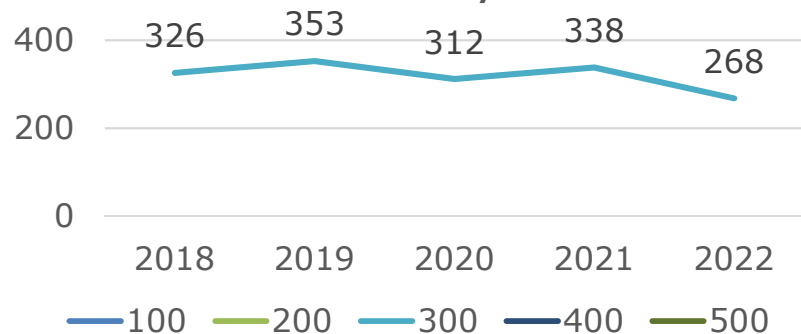
Cindy Agbonifo  
Kris Cortez  
Vanessa Davis  
Lorraine Rice  
Linelle Romine, Training

#### Callaway County Deputy Juvenile Officers

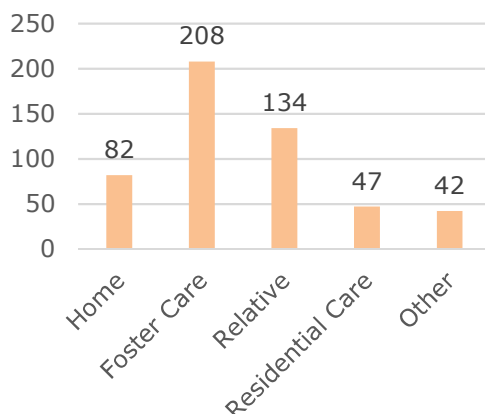
Tosha Good, Supervisor  
Ashley Jordan

The graph below shows the number of referrals received by this unit each year between 2018 and 2022. Overall, the Child Abuse and Neglect Unit is seeing a slow decline in referrals. In 2022, a total of 268 referrals were received by the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. Boone County received 173 referrals and Callaway County received 95 referrals.

### Abuse/Neglect Unit Referrals by Year

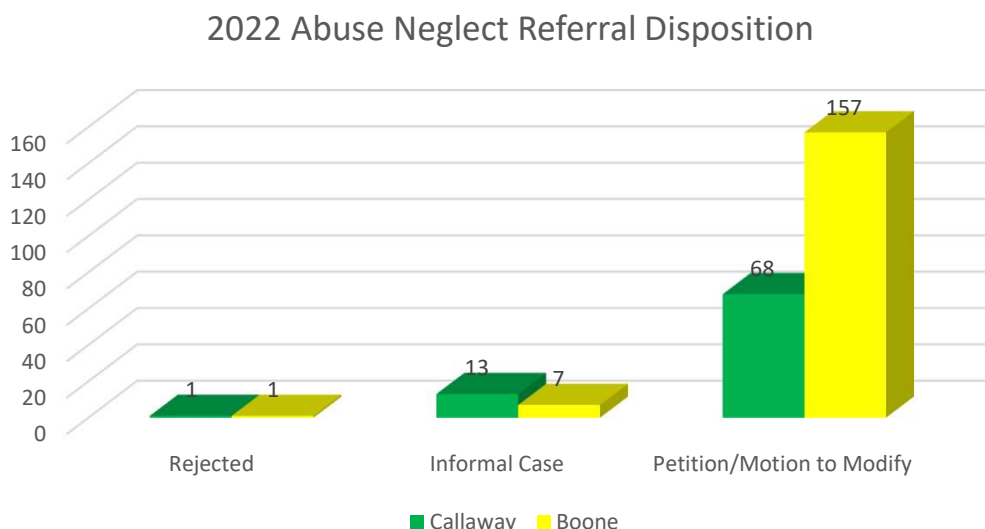


### 2022 Abuse & Neglect Placements



Boone and Callaway Counties each have Deputy Juvenile Officers dedicated to monitoring the abuse and neglect caseload. Boone County has five Deputy Juvenile Officers and Callaway County has two Deputy Juvenile Officers, (the supervisor carries a caseload) on the Abuse/Neglect Team. These officers are committed to attending Family Support Team Meetings and being active participants in the permanency planning of children in care. Deputy Juvenile Officers make every effort to return children to the parental home as quickly as possible without jeopardizing their safety. The chart to the left shows the average number of children under court supervision by type of placement. Statutorily it is a requirement for children to be placed with grandparents or relatives whenever possible.

Rarely are referrals to the Child Abuse and Neglect Unit disposed of without filing a Petition or Motion to Modify in the case. Below you can see the disposal numbers for this unit by county.



In Boone County, counsel appeared at 1,785 hearings in 2022, and was in court for an average of 149 hearings a month. General dockets for this caseload averaged 19 cases per docket and contested dockets averaged 8 cases per docket.

In Callaway County, counsel appeared for 935 hearing averaging 78 hearings per month. General dockets averaged 23 cases per docket and only four contested dockets in 2022.

It should be noted that sibling groups are counted as one case (ex: a sibling group of 4 is 1 case) when calculating the number of Abuse/Neglect hearings. One specific abuse and neglect case could be heard multiple times in a year due to mandatory hearings or hearings as requested by a party to the case or the Judge.

## ***Termination of Parental Rights***

In May 2015, the 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit agreed to allow parties to pursue the process of a 453 Adoption on child abuse/neglect cases in situations where the parents were willing to consent to adoption and the team was in agreement. A 453 adoption is where the adoptive parents work with their own attorney to adopt a juvenile(s). It was also approved in cases where the legal basis for termination of parental rights was abandonment. The practice of filing a 453 Adoption has increased over the years as there were 22 filed in 2021 and 34 filed in 2022.

In certain Abuse/Neglect cases, the Juvenile Office petitions for termination of parental rights. There were 33 cases filed in 2022.

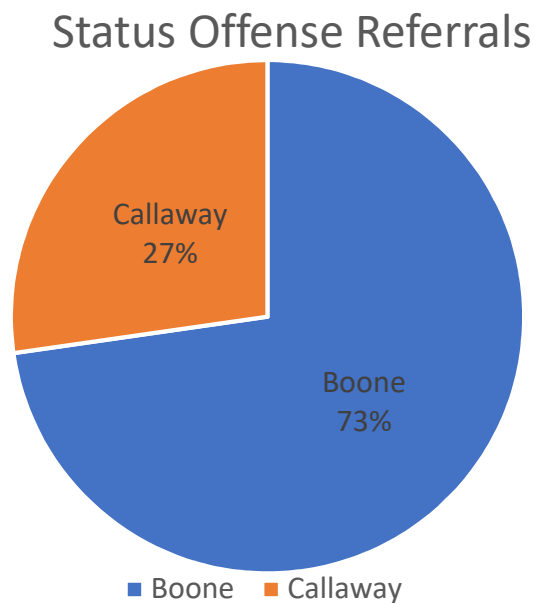
## STATUS OFFENSES AND DELINQUENCY VIOLATIONS

Status offenses involve acts that are only illegal for juveniles under the age of 18. The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over cases involving children who are runaways, out of parental control, behavior injurious to self or others, or habitually truant from school. The majority of the referrals are due to the charge, behavior injurious to self or others, as seen on the table to the below.

STATUS OFFENSE & DELINQUENCY VIOLATION UNITS
<b>Boone County</b>
<b>Deputy Juvenile Officers</b>
Shelby Carroll
Dylan Carter
Pamela Dampier
William Hardmon
Dominic Moody
Samantha Logue
Dominic Moody
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<b>Callaway County</b>
<b>Deputy Juvenile Officers</b>
David Gibson
Reshonda Peterson

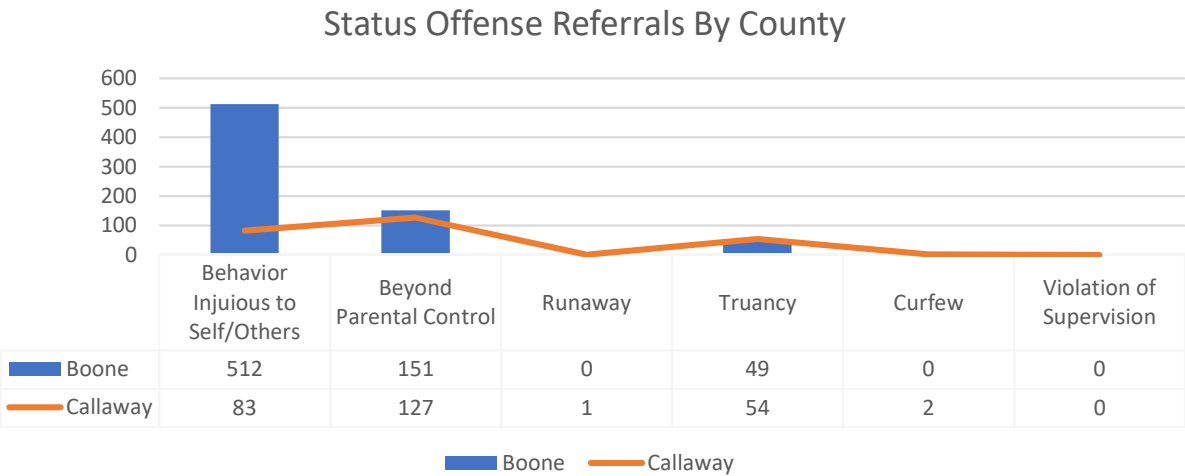
2022 STATUS OFFENSE REFERRALS	
Behavior Injurious to Self/Others	61%
Beyond Parental Control	28%
Truancy	11%
Curfew	0%
Runaway	0%
Violation of Supervision	0%

In 2022, the Juvenile Office received a total of 979 status offense referrals.

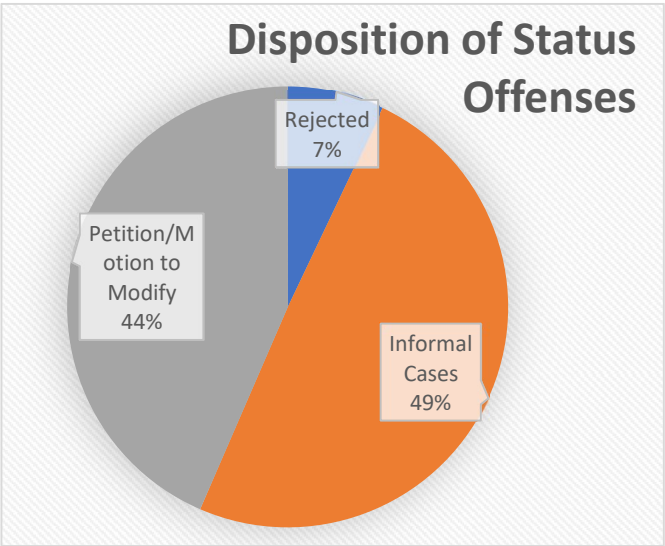




The number of Status Offense Referrals vary by county. Below you'll see that the majority of referrals in Boone County are due to behavior injurious to self or others, and in Callaway County the majority of the referrals are due to beyond parental control.



Once a Deputy Juvenile Officer (DJO) has had a chance to meet with the juvenile and parent/guardian, and review the case, the referral will be disposed of in one of three ways. The DJO will either create an informal case, to where the juvenile, parents/guardian and the DJO have developed conditions for the juvenile to follow. Or the DJO will request that legal counsel file a formal case; where the juvenile will then attend court hearings. The third option is for legal counsel to reject the referral usually due to insufficient findings. This third option as you can see by the pie to the right is rare. Nearly half of the referrals to this unit resulted in an informal case. Of those remaining, 44% resulted in the filing of a petition or motion to modify, and 7% of the referrals were rejected.



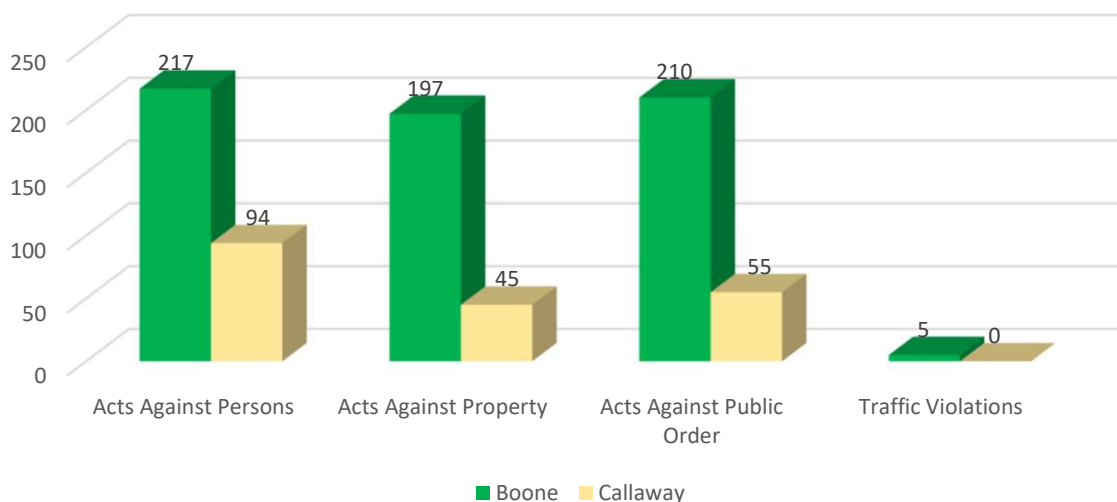
Delinquency violations are violations if committed by an adult would be considered illegal. These violations, when in regards to juveniles, include acts against persons, acts against property, acts against public order, and traffic violations. The juvenile court works with children under the age of 18 in regards to law violations/delinquency cases. This unit is designed to provide protection, and offer outside treatment and rehabilitation services to the juvenile and their family. Punitive measures are not used, as the juvenile and the family are in need of assistance when it comes to the care, education, protection, and guidance of the juvenile while working with the DJO.



In 2022, there were 823 referrals to the Delinquency Violations Unit. Callaway County made up 24% of these referrals. With the exception of traffic violations, all other categories made up nearly equal portions of the pie as you can see in the image to the left.

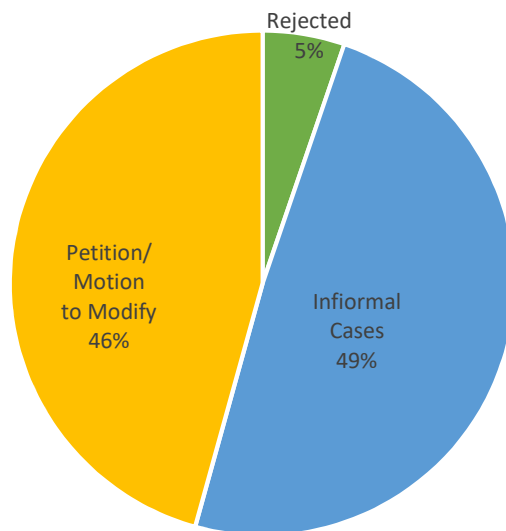
Below is a graph that shows delinquency violation referrals received by each county divided by category.

Violation Referrals By County



Disposition of delinquency cases are handled in the same manner as status cases. The Deputy Juvenile Officer can open an Informal case, request the Attorney to review and file a petition/motion to modify, or reject the referral. In 2022, nearly half of the referrals resulted in an Informal Adjustment Agreement. 46% of the remaining referrals resulted in a petition or motion to modify being filed, and 5% were rejected.

### Disposition of Delinquency Violations



Status Offense and Delinquency Violation cases are heard on the same docket, therefore statistics for these types of cases are combined. In 2022, there were 184 initial filings for the Status Offense Unit and Delinquency Violations Unit. Of these cases, only 9 were dismissed and 144 were adjudicated, some of these were carried over from 2021. Motions to Modify are filed on juveniles, when additional referrals are received, that are already on formal supervision with the court. The Juvenile Office filed 49 Motions to Modify, and was able to adjudicate on 46.

In Boone County, counsel was in court for 1,399 hearings in 2022, and averaged 116 hearings a month. The general docket for Status Offenses and Delinquency Violations averages 14 cases per docket. Contested cases average ten cases per docket.

In Callaway County, counsel appeared in court for 217 hearings, averaging 18 hearings per month. The general docket average 6 cases per docket and there were no contested dockets in 2022

## Risk Assessments

A primary tool used by the Juvenile Division in delinquency and status offense cases is the Risk and Needs Assessment Form. A risk assessment is completed on juveniles at the point of intake and helps guide decision-making regarding disposition. Some of the information gathered for Risk and Needs is based on self reporting information provided by parents and children.

The following are 2022 circuit statistics for each category of the most recent ***risk assessment*** completed on juveniles referred to the Juvenile Officer.

Age at 1 <sup>st</sup> Referral	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
16	72	64	53	96	131
15	79	93	65	98	137
14	80	106	62	110	147
13	95	92	74	118	85
12 & under	170	208	129	168	182

Assault Referrals	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No Prior	333	397	238	410	459
One or more prior misdemeanor	144	152	129	161	182
One or more prior felony	19	14	16	19	41

History of Child Abuse/Neglect	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No History	395	435	292	452	458
History	101	128	91	138	224

History of Placement	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No prior out-of-home	338	392	250	378	575
Prior out-of-home	158	171	133	212	107

Parental History/Incarceration	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No Prior Incarceration	377	438	301	471	575
Prior Incarceration	119	125	82	119	107

<b>Parental Management Style</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Effective	231	262	138	310	447
Moderately Ineffective	221	246	190	210	175
Severely Ineffective	44	55	55	70	60

<b>Peer Relationships</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Neutral influence	175	200	84	167	254
Negative influence	279	279	241	352	367
Strong negative influence	42	42	58	71	61

<b>Prior Referrals</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
None	223	252	162	275	315
One or more	273	311	221	315	367

<b>School Attendance/Disciplinary</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No/minor problems	178	185	122	227	324
Moderate problems	246	304	198	269	294
Severe problems	72	74	63	94	64

<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No problem	372	461	287	440	520
Moderate problem	117	86	84	138	147
Severe problem	7	16	12	12	15

## Needs Assessments

A primary tool used by the Juvenile Division in delinquency and status offense cases is the Risk and Needs Assessment Form. A needs assessment is completed when the Juvenile Officer is going to provide some level of supervision and is used to assist with determining the level of programs/services that would best meet the youth's needs. Some of the information gathered for Risk and Needs is based on self reporting information provided by parents and children.

The following are 2022 circuit statistics for each category of the most recent **needs assessment** completed on juveniles referred to the Juvenile Officer.

<b>Academic Performance</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Passing without difficulty	288	348	224	359	483
Functioning below average	141	143	107	145	124
Failing	50	47	33	39	23

<b>Attitude</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Motivated to change	251	315	151	305	425
Generally uncooperative	192	184	167	195	167
Very negative attitude	36	39	46	43	38

<b>Behavior Problems</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No significant problem	83	116	17	69	129
Moderate problem	338	370	273	402	435
Severe problem	58	52	74	72	66

<b>Employment</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Full-time	14	12	18	79	97
Part-time	17	16	14	45	37
Unemployed	11	24	10	16	17
Not applicable	437	486	322	403	479

<b>Health/Handicaps</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No problems	457	525	357	535	606
No problems, but limited access to health care	8	3	3	5	19
Mild physical handicap or medical condition	13	7	4	1	4
Pregnancy	1	2	0	1	0
Serious physical handicap or medical condition	0	1	0	1	1

<b>History of Child Abuse/Neglect</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No history	378	427	284	427	493
History	101	111	80	116	137

<b>Interpersonal skills</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Good skills	177	229	80	231	344
Moderately impaired skills	279	286	257	269	260
Severely impaired skills	23	23	27	43	26



<b>Juvenile's Parental Responsibility</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No children	468	531	358	538	615
One child	7	7	6	5	15
Two children	1	0	0	0	0
Three or more children	3	0	0	0	0

<b>Learning Disorder</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No diagnosed learning disorder	410	462	325	489	544
Diagnosed learning disorder	69	76	39	54	86

<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No mental health disorder	334	402	248	347	433
Mental health disorder w/ treatment	133	22	103	177	185
Mental health disorder w/o treatment	12	14	13	19	12

<b>Parental Management Style</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Effective	212	262	121	303	427
Moderately ineffective	225	246	195	174	156
Severely ineffective	42	55	48	66	47

<b>Parental Mental Health</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No history	407	492	316	474	563
History	72	46	48	69	67

<b>Parental Substance Abuse</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No substance abuse	395	479	321	482	559
Substance abuse	84	59	43	61	71

<b>Peer Relationships</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Neutral influence	166	200	74	132	232
Negative influence	271	279	238	357	357
Strong negative influence	42	42	52	54	41

<b>School Attendance/Disciplinary</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No or minor problems	167	185	112	224	311
Moderate problems	236	304	193	244	274
Severe problems	76	74	59	75	45

<b>Social Support System</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Strong support	263	271	143	287	333
Limited support	196	255	200	239	251
Weak support	16	9	20	13	40
Strong negative	4	3	1	4	6

<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
No problem	354	461	276	412	501
Moderate problem	118	86	78	122	117
Severe problem	7	16	10	9	12

## Supervision

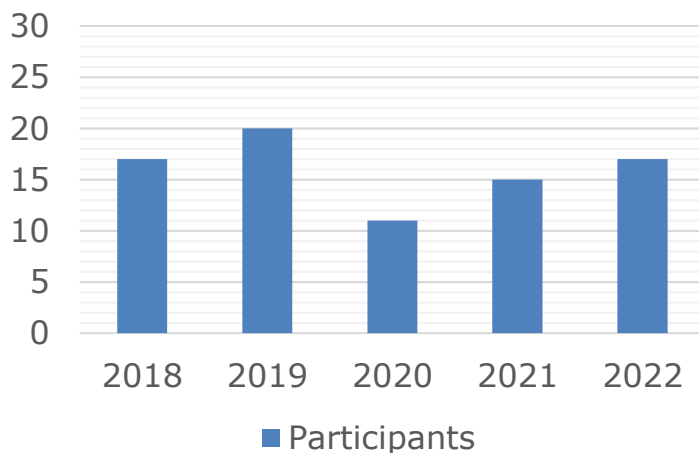
The charts below indicates the number of youth under informal or formal supervision by risk levels at the end of December each year.

Formal Supervision by Risk	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
High	49	34%	42	36%	43	48%	52	42%	66	45%
Moderate	89	62%	71	60%	45	50%	64	52%	72	49%
Low	5	3%	5	4%	2	2%	5	4%	9	6%
No Level Indicated	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	3	2%	1	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>		<b>118</b>		<b>90</b>		<b>124</b>		<b>148</b>	

Informal Supervision by Risk	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
High	27	22%	38	22%	24	21%	32	20%	43	22%
Moderate	85	70%	124	73%	84	74%	115	72%	131	68%
Low	9	7%	7	4%	5	4%	10	6%	17	9%
No Level Indicated	1	1%	2	1%	1	1%	2	1%	3	2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122</b>		<b>171</b>		<b>114</b>		<b>159</b>		<b>194</b>	

## Intensive Intervention Model Program (IIMP)

The Intensive Intervention Model Program (IIMP) provides enhanced services to at-risk youth and families. Youth in this program are linked to community resources designed to provide needs-based interventions, which allow participating youth the opportunity to remain in their homes and in the community as well as be referral free to the Juvenile Office once they have completed their probation period. It is believed that the services provided are critical in order to be successful in diverting youth from out of home placement and to provide them skills and resources to be successful both as a youth and as an adult.



Five Year Summary of IIMP Participants	
Year	Participants
2018	17
2019	20
2020	11
2021	15
2022	12

## *Juvenile Detention Assessment*

Missouri's Juvenile Detention Assessment instrument (JDTA) provides juvenile officers objective criteria for evaluating the need to detain juveniles alleged to have committed offenses pursuant to Missouri Statute.

This instrument was created by the Detention Assessment Workgroup, which consisted of Missouri's Juvenile Court staff. The instrument was implemented in early 2007 in selected Missouri circuit courts. Data was collected by Resources Development Institute (RDI) and a final validation report was provided in October 2007. The Detention Assessment Committee reviewed the validation study and recommended some changes along with conducting a second validation study with the help of OSCA Research staff and the Justice Information System. Implementation of the edited detention assessment tool began June 1, 2009.

In January 2010, juvenile court staff of the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Family Court began using the JDTA to screen juveniles for possible detention. Information necessary to complete the JDTA is obtained through police reports, MULES/NCIC, the Judicial Information System (JIS), the Missouri Juvenile Justice Information System (MOJJIS), and CaseNet.

In 2012 OSCA mandated that a JDTA form be completed on any juvenile taken into custody; therefore, resulting in an increase in the number of juveniles administered the JDTA. In 2022, 716 youth were administered the JDTA. Below is a breakdown of the number and percentages of juveniles administered the JDTA in 2022 and the outcome.

It should be noted that, though the JDTA is administered any time a youth is taken into custody and the assessment decision is generally followed, supervisory staff do have the authority to authorize an override to the assessment decision, in certain cases. Common reasons for supervisory override include the fact that there is no suitable custodian to whom the child can be released, the child does not meet the local age guidelines for detention, or a mental health placement was obtained for the juvenile.

### *Youth Receiving Level of Detention on JDTA Assessment*

SEX	OVERRIDE	COUNT	%
Female	No Override	15	13%
	Override Down to Alternative	4	4%
	Override Down to Release	3	3%
Male	No Override	57	64%
	Override Down to Alternative	21	18%
	Override Down to Release	14	12%
Unknown	No Override	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>114</b>	<b>100%</b>

RACE	OVERRIDE	COUNT	%
Black	No Override	49	42%
	Override Down to Alternative	13	11%
	Override Down to Release	15	13%
Hispanic	No Override	2	2%
	Override Down to Alternative	0	0%
	Override Down to Release	0	0%
White	No Override	21	18%
	Override Down to Alternative	12	11%
	Override Down to Release	2	2%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>114</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Youth Receiving Level of Alternative to Detention on JDTA Assessment*

SEX	OVERRIDE	COUNT	%
Female	No Override	22	16%
	Override Down to Release	21	6%
	Override Up to Detention	5	4%
Male	No Override	32	40%
	Override Down to Release	42	31%
	Override Up to Detention	15	11%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>137</b>	<b>100%</b>

RACE	OVERRIDE	COUNT	%
Black	No Override	32	29%
	Override Down to Release	37	27%
	Override Up to Detention	14	10%
Hispanic	No Override	1	1%
	Override Up to Detention	2	1%
White	No Override	21	15%
	Override Down to Release	26	19%
	Override Up to Detention	4	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>137</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Youth Receiving Level of Release on JDTA Assessment*

SEX	OVERRIDE	COUNT	%
Female	No Override	210	48%
	Override Up to Alternative	1	0%
	Override Up to Detention	1	0%
Male	No Override	249	50%
	Override Up to Alternative	2	0%
	Override Up to Detention	2	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>465</b>	<b>100%</b>

RACE	OVERRIDE	COUNT	%
Asian or Pacific Islander	No Override	4	1%
	Override Up to Alternative	0	0%
	Override Up to Detention	0	0%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	No Override	0	0%
	Override Up to Alternative	0	0%
	Override Up to Detention	0	0%
Black	No Override	258	46%
	Override Up to Alternative	0	0%
	Override Up to Detention	2	0%
Hispanic	No Override	19	4%
	Override Up to Alternative	0	0%
	Override Up to Detention	0	0%
White	No Override	178	38%
	Override Up to Alternative	3	1%
	Override Up to Detention	1	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>465</b>	<b>100%</b>

## *Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative*

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) is a process where juvenile justice professionals are reconsidering their use of detention and by implementing eight core strategies are using detention only when necessary, which is for those youth that will: 1) pose a threat to community safety if released pending their court date; or 2) who will fail to appear for their court date.

The eight core strategies of JDAI involve the following:

- collaboration among juvenile justice agencies, community organizations and other government agencies;
- the use of data in making policy and case-level decisions;
- objective instruments to guide detention decisions;
- operation of a continuum of non-secure detention alternatives;
- case processing efficiencies to reduce time between arrest and case disposition;
- improve conditions of confinement;
- safe reductions of special populations; and
- racial/ethnic fairness in policy and case-level decision making.

According to information provided on the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Help Desk Website ([www.jdaihelpdesk.org](http://www.jdaihelpdesk.org)), JDAI began as a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation in 1992 with an overall purpose to show others that juvenile court jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient juvenile justice methods to accomplish the purpose of juvenile detention without jeopardizing public safety. The Annie E. Casey Foundation's vision was that all youth involved in the juvenile justice system would have opportunities to develop into healthy and productive adults.

The main goals of JDAI are to:

- reduce the number of youth unnecessarily or inappropriately detained;
- decrease the number of youth who fail to appear for their court appearances or who re-offend pending adjudication;
- redirect public funds toward successful reform strategies;
- reduce the disproportionate minority confinement and contact within the juvenile justice system; and
- improve the juvenile justice system.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit Juvenile Division implemented JDAI in October 2009. A JDAI collaborative team was established in December 2009, and is made up of representatives from local law enforcement, Division of Youth Services, mental health agencies, community organizations, schools and county government.

Another area of focus since implementing JDAI in 2009 has been in the area of developing detention alternatives. Currently the Juvenile Division offers several different alternatives including conditional release, and electronic monitoring with Global Positioning Satellite and cell phone options, all of which are considered prior to placing a youth in secure detention.

In July 2011, the Juvenile Division developed a Racial/Ethnic Disparities(R/ED) committee to work on ensuring racial/ethnic fairness when referring youth of color as well as in case level decision making at the Juvenile Office. From this committee a sub-committee was formed to work on a memorandum of understanding among the Columbia Public School district, local law enforcement, and the Boone County Juvenile Office, which has been in effect since 2015. The table below represents the number of youth who were placed in an alternative to detention based on being in custody for an offense. It does not include youth released from detention and placed in an alternative or number of youth placed in an alternative as a sanction for violation of supervision.

Alternatives to Detention	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Conditional Release	57	82	19	24	50
Crisis Intervention Services	0	1	0	0	0
In Home Detention	8	12	6	6	33
Mental Health Placements	1	2	1	0	0
Residential Placements	0	0	1	2	0

#### **Conditional Release Program:**

This program, which began in April 2011, allows a youth in custody to be released to a parent or guardian with special conditions pending a scheduled conference with a deputy juvenile officer to determine the method of disposition. In 2022, 50 youth participated in the Conditional Release Program in lieu of detention.

#### **In-Home Detention:**

Juvenile Division staff have used In-Home Detention for over a decade as an intervention for youth. We currently use cellular or global positioning satellite technology, as provided by Behavioral Interventions, Incorporated. The global positioning satellite technology incorporates the use of an ankle transmitter fitted to the juvenile's leg to monitor the juvenile's location 24 hours a day. Juvenile Division staff have used In-Home Detention as an alternative to detention 33 times in 2022; however, 79 additional juveniles were either ordered released from detention and placed on in-home detention or ordered as a sanction for behaviors while under supervision.

#### **Other Alternatives:**

As illustrated in the chart on page 20, no youth participated in mental health treatment as an alternative to being placed in detention.

It should be noted the costs associated with In Home Detention are paid through the Office of the State Courts Administrator Juvenile Justice Program Assistance Grant, which allows for a wider base of assistance where needed for youth.

Alternatives to detention have evolved over time and have been invaluable to the 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit Juvenile Division in providing quality options to detention that allow a youth to remain in the community to be with their family, attend school, and receive services while being held accountable for their behavior.



## ***Commitments to the Division of Youth Services***

In 2022, the number of total circuit commitments to the Division of Youth Services was 21. The circuit receives funding for the Intensive Intervention Model Program and Probation Services Enhancement Program from Division of Youth Services court diversion grant funds. Two deputy juvenile officers have been funded through this grant since 1995. A goal of these programs is to divert juveniles from commitment to the Division of Youth Services by enhancing services at the community level.

<b>Five Year Summary of DYS Commitments</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Boone</b>	<b>Callaway</b>	<b>Circuit</b>
2022	20	1	21
2021	16	6	22
2020	11	8	19
2019	12	4	16
2018	15	3	18

## ***Certifications***

Certification is the most serious action that can be taken in a juvenile case. This action allows the juvenile court to dismiss the juvenile court action to allow for prosecution in the adult criminal court. While some of these investigations remain at the Juvenile Officer's discretion, the Juvenile Crime Bill of 1995 made many of these investigations mandatory, based on specific statutory criteria. It should be noted that a mandated investigation may not always recommend certification.

In 2022, 8 youth were certified, 3 for murder, 2 for assault first degree, 1 for tampering first degree, 1 for robbery in the first degree, and 1 for statutory rape and child molestation.

<b>Boone</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Number of Certification Investigations	1	2	0	1	13
Number of Juveniles Certified	1	1	0	1	6

<b>Callaway</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Number of Certification Investigations	1	1	0	0	2
Number of Juveniles Certified	0	0	0	0	2

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Number of Certification Investigations	2	3	0	1	15
Number of Juveniles Certified	1	1	0	1	8

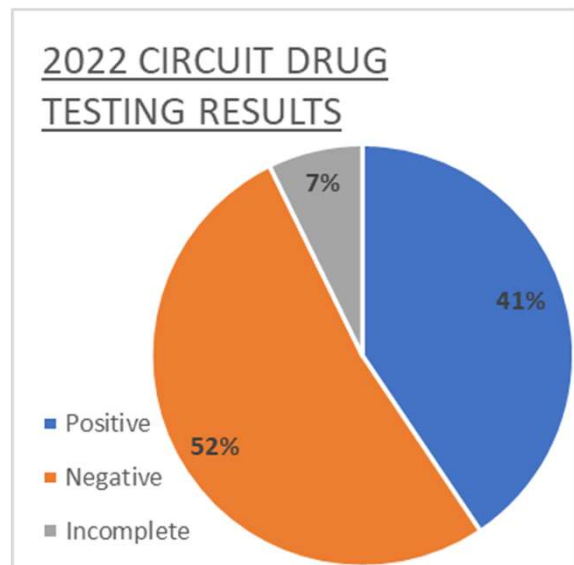
## Programs

The Juvenile Office provides a variety of programs to help educate, yet hold juveniles accountable for their actions. In 2022, the Juvenile Office offered the following programs: Drug Testing Program, Y.E.S.! Academy, Mighty Minds, and Court Prevention Program. The Drug Testing Program was the only program offered circuit wide in 2022. The other programs were offered in Boone County only with the expectation of expanding into Callaway County.

### Drug Testing

The Drug Testing Program was offered in both Boone and Callaway Counties in 2022. A total of 69 drug tests were administered between the two counties. The majority of juveniles in Boone County tested positive for THC. The remaining three juveniles showed positive results for Amphetamines, Benzodiazepines, and Cocaine. In Callaway County half as many drug tests were given. Samples given by juveniles in Callaway County tested positive for THC and Methamphetamine.

2022 DRUG TESTING RESULTS		
	Boone	Callaway
Positive	23	5
Negative	19	17
Incomplete	5	0
TOTAL	47	22



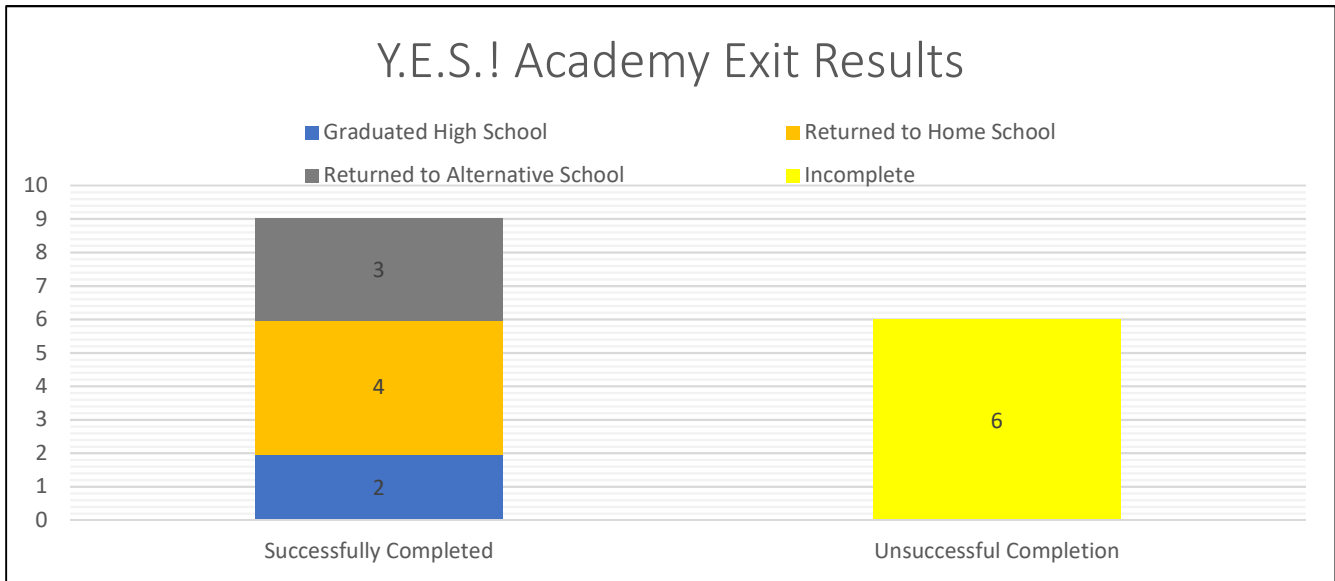
### YES! Academy

Y.E.S.! Academy is an alternative educational program offered through a partnership with Columbia Public Schools and the Boone County Juvenile Office primarily to serve students in grades 9-12 for credit earning educational support. Y.E.S.! Academy is designed to be a student centered/student paced environment that provides support, supervision, and education services to help students recoup and earn high school credit. Our end goal is to provide students with the strategies they need to be successful upon returning to their home school and beyond.

Throughout the entirety of 2022, the Y.E.S.! Academy has served a steady flow of students who required extra support on their educational journey. The program houses up to ten students, one teacher, one home school communicator, and one SPED part-time teacher.

Y.E.S.! Academy started the year with four students remaining in the program from the 2021 school year. In 2022, a total of 12 referrals were received through the Juvenile Office, and a total of 19 students attended throughout the year.

By May 2022, two students had successfully completed all required credits and were able to graduate. By the end of the year, four students had returned to their home schools to be reintegrated into a regular school setting, and three students continued on to an alternative educational setting to obtain employment experience as well as earn their diplomas/HiSet. Unfortunately, six students left the program without successful completion. These students either returned to their home schools virtually or went on to pursue employment.



**Mighty Minds (M&M)**

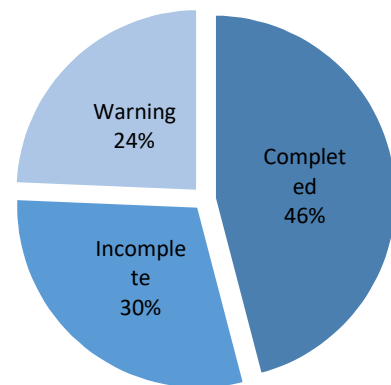
Mighty Minds is a collaboration created by the Juvenile Office with the help of a doctoral student, Hannah Battafarano, who was pursuing her degree in occupational therapy from the College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Nebraska. Currently, a third year PhD student in the Clinical Psychology Program at the University of Missouri, Rylee Park, began working with the juveniles in the program. Ms. Park is passionate about improving mental health services for justice-involved youth and their families. Her continued partnership with the Boone County Juvenile Office will be invaluable as the Mighty Minds Program continues to impact the lives of those who are enrolled to attend.

Mighty Minds is a program that was created to address youth mental health and behavior through education. Students receive basic psychosocial education to help them understand their own and others' behavior. Through journaling and discussion students develop self-reflection and problem-solving skills. Group and individual activities allow students to learn and practice coping skills to improve their self-regulation and mental well-being. A group approach allows students to develop social skills, gain perspective on their own situations, decrease feelings of isolation, and address the stigma of mental illness. Mighty Minds provides students with a safe and inclusive space where they can learn and grow.

Mighty Minds has had three successful sessions that have run since it began in 2022. Of the 18 that participated, only one juvenile did not successfully complete the program.

### Court Prevention Program

The Court Prevention Program was developed in late 2022 as a refreshed version of a previously existing program, the Consequence Program. It was designed for low level offense referrals to the Juvenile Office as a one-time intervention to assist in helping the family avoid going to court, as well as to redirect the juvenile to a better path. The juvenile must be at least 13 years of age to attend and the offense must be referred for a low-level offense that does not involve restitution.



The program is a presentation where the juvenile and their parent or guardian learn about the juvenile court system, referral process, and the consequences of future referrals. This is a voluntary educational diversion program the juvenile and family can choose to attend in lieu of an intake conference to address the referral; however, they do still have the option of a one-on-one meeting if they feel they need more assistance.

The Court Prevention Program had its first session on September 20, 2022. Sessions were held one day a week, every other week, throughout the remainder of the year. There was a total of 37 juveniles assigned to the Court Prevention Program in 2022. Of those, 17 completed the program, nine were given warnings without being required to participate, and 11 did not complete the program, which resulted in scheduling of an informal adjustment conference.

## Community Service Work

### Community Service Work

In 2022, 40 hours of Community Service Work were completed by juveniles ordered by the court. To evaluate the impact the CSW Program has on the community, one can multiply the number of hours completed by the rate of compensation equal to minimum wage. Using this formula, it is estimated that the community received a benefit of \$446.00.

Five Year CSW Comparison	
Year	Hours Completed
2022	40
2021	225
2020	378
2019	490
2018	652

### Community Service Work for Restitution

In 2022, 9.7 hours were completed in the Community Service Work for Restitution program.

Five Year CSW for Restitution Comparison			
Year	Number of Hours Completed	Amount of Restitution Paid to Victims	Percentage to Total Restitution Collected
2022	9.7	\$99.71	7%
2021	162	\$1,665.51	15%
2020	0	\$0.00	0%
2019	35	\$299.58	2%
2018	268	\$2,047.00	21%

## Restitution

The juvenile division is committed to ensuring victims who have suffered financial loss as a result of a crime committed by a juvenile offender receive restitution for their loss. The table below shows amounts ordered and collected in the years 2018-2022. The amounts collected include amounts collected for restitution ordered in previous years.

Year	Amount Ordered	Amount Collected	Percent Collected to Amount Ordered
2022	\$12,356.16	\$14,325.68	116%
2021	\$34,136.91	\$15,362.78*	45%
2020	\$18,540.88	\$6,244.08	34%
2019	\$23,592.43	\$15,257.94	65%
2018	\$5,008	\$9,981	199%

## Victim Services

### Right of Victims

In Missouri, victims have the right to information about the crime committed against them and an explanation of the criminal justice process through the Crime Victims' Constitutional Amendment. Extending this right to the victims of juvenile offenses is a measure which benefits the system as well as the community. Removing the aura of secrecy while protecting the confidentiality of the juvenile reduces the anger, frustration, and isolation sometimes felt by the victims of juvenile crimes. The goal of the juvenile division is to provide the victims, at no cost, an overview of the family court process and support services.

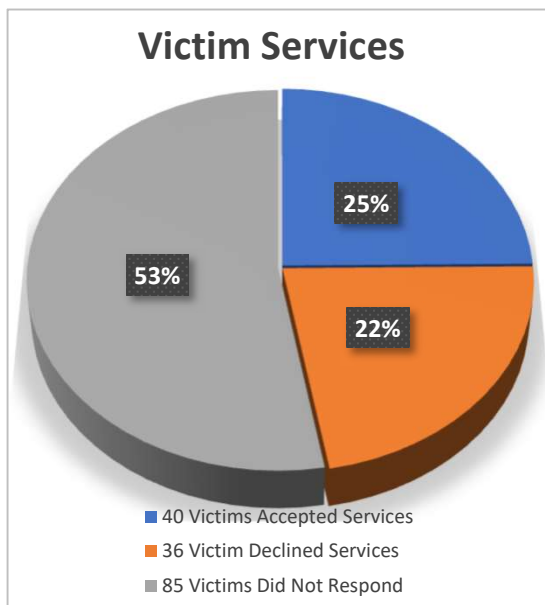
### Callaway County Victim Services

Callaway County Juvenile Office did not have a person designated as a Victim Advocate in 2022. The Deputy Juvenile Officer (DJO) that was assigned the case was in charge of making sure the victim received the appropriate paperwork and was aware of court dates. Callaway County had 10 victim referrals received. The DJO was able to assist all 10 victims.

### Boone County Victim Services

An administrative professional is performing the duties of the Victim Advocate. Victims can be referred for victim services by Deputy Juvenile Officers, Law Enforcement Officers, or even the victims themselves. Eleven percent of all referrals received by the Juvenile Office in Boone County in 2022 involved a victim.

Once a victim referral is received, staff contacts the victim by mail, e-mail, or phone. Of the 194 victim referrals received, staff was able to contact 161 of the victims. The remaining 33 victims were not contacted either because no contact information was provided for the victim or because the victim resided with the juvenile that committed the offense against them.

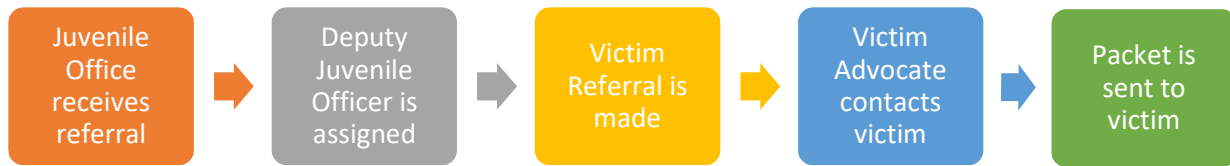


194 VICTIM REFERRALS IN 2022		
Victim Referrals Contacted	171	84%
Victim Referrals Not Contacted	15	7%
Victim Referrals Rejected	18	9%

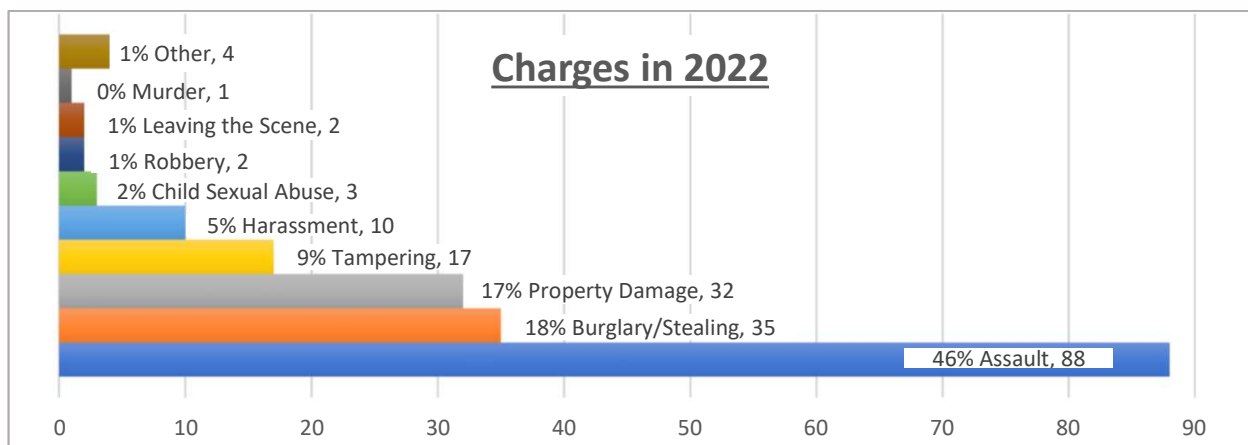
Not all victims choose to utilize the victim services offered to them. The image to the left shows that 36 of the victims contacted declined services and just over half (53%) of the victims contacted did not respond at all. There were, however, 50 victims of the 161 contacted that requested to receive victim services.



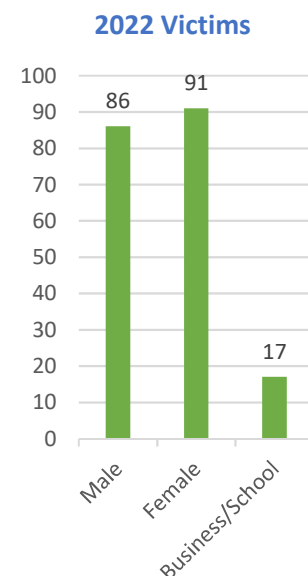
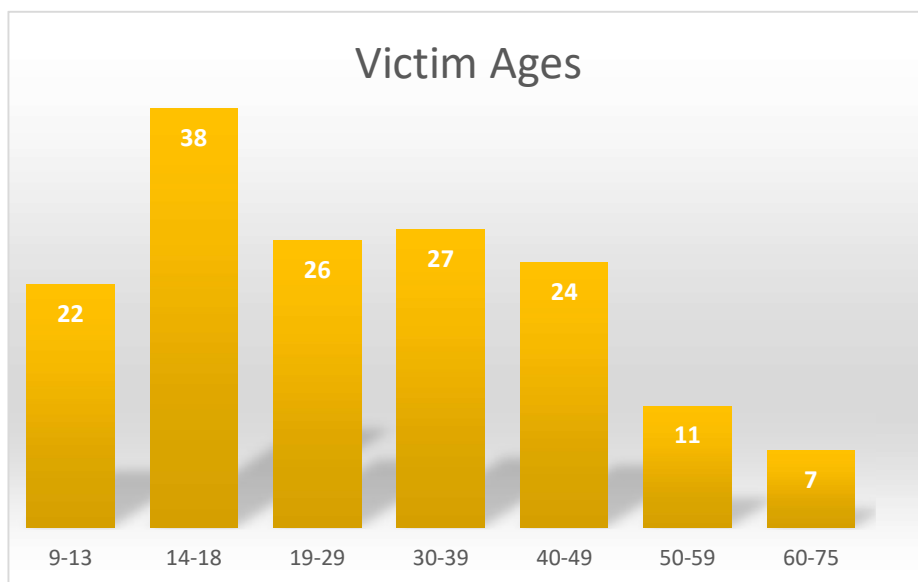
Victim services include notifications regarding the status of the juvenile's case, providing the court with a Victim Impact Statement, an award of restitution if applicable, and sometimes an appearance in court. In 2022, there were 30 Victim Impact Statements made, nine victims awarded restitution, and one victim appeared in court.



The Victim Advocate tracks charges commonly received by juveniles that commit crimes involving victims. The image below shows the charges connected to each victim referral. As you can see, assaults make up the largest portion (46%) of the charges.



Victims that reported their age in 2022 ranged from age 9 to 75. The largest group of victims was in the 14-18 age group. Victims not only included individuals, but also businesses and schools. The graph below shows there were 17 victims in the business/school category, 86 victims identified as male, and 91 victims identified as female.



## Questionnaire Summary

Each year the Boone and Callaway County Juvenile Offices send questionnaires to parents, guardians and juveniles asking their feedback regarding their experience with the court. The information obtained from these surveys is used to make changes in the juvenile programs, in order to better serve the community.

### Intake

In 2022, a circuit total of 30 intake questionnaires were returned.

Intake Questionnaire	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Felt the receptionist treated them in a professional and courteous manner.	86%	71%	100%	100%	100%
Said the intake interview started on time.	86%	57%	100%	100%	96%
Felt the intake officer treated them in a professional and courteous manner.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Said the intake conference was helpful.	100%	71%	100%	100%	100%
Felt the intake officer considered their opinions and concerns.	100%	86%	100%	100%	96%

The following are a few comments given by the parents who filled out the surveys in 2022:

"The discussion with the Deputy Juvenile Officer gave perspective to my teenage daughter. He came across as authoritative, but understanding."

"The Deputy Juvenile Officer was very professional. He answered my concerns. "

### Supervision

Any time a juvenile is successfully released from supervision attempts are made to conduct an interview with the parent and youth served. In 2022, a total of 3 Supervision Termination Questionnaires were completed.

Supervision Termination Questionnaire	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Felt the receptionist treated them in a professional and courteous manner.	100%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Felt the supervising deputy juvenile officer met frequently enough with their child to provide appropriate supervision.	100%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Felt the deputy juvenile officer kept them informed about their child's supervision.	100%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Felt deputy juvenile officer supervision was helpful.	100%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Felt their child's behavior at home improved.	100%	100%	0%	0%	100%

The following are a few comments given by parents who filled out the surveys in 2022:

"The Deputy Juvenile Officer did an excellent job. She was very kind and concerned. She stayed on top of everything."

"Everybody did their job."