



North Dakota Juvenile Court Annual Report 2010

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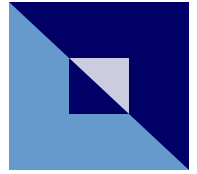
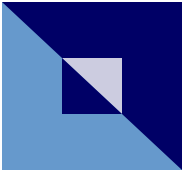


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Balanced and Restorative Justice

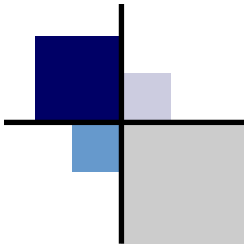
In carrying out the mission of Balanced and Restorative Justice, North Dakota Juvenile Court is to promote public safety, hold juvenile offenders accountable and increase the capacity of juveniles to contribute productively to their community. In carrying out this mission, the courts will empower victims and encourage community participation and parental responsibility.



In 2010, nearly 12,000 total charges (10,065 delinquent/unruly and 1,526 child deprivation) were handled by the Juvenile Courts of North Dakota. Virtually every single case has contact with a juvenile court officer at some point in the process. Juvenile Court Officers screen law enforcement, school and agency referrals determining how they should be processed, making detention or emergency shelter care decisions on some of them, preparing court recommendations on those that proceed to the formal courts, and processing the vast majority of the cases (75%) via an informal adjustment conference. Juvenile probation is one of the most widely used tools to ensure court requirements are met. Court goals often include repairing the harm to the victim, compliance with programming geared at reducing the risk of the offender while increasing the overall competency of the offender to contribute to society.

Using the guiding mission of Balanced and Restorative Justice, North Dakota Juvenile Court officers improve and impact the lives of the youth, families and communities in which they work.

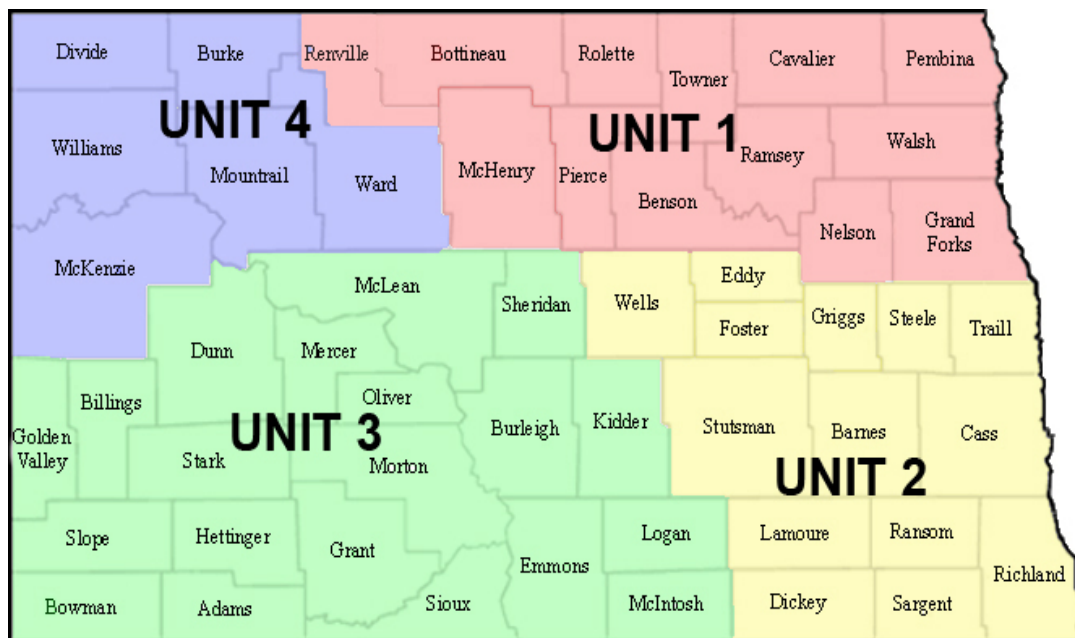
**Repairing Harm, Reducing Risk and
Creating Opportunities**



North Dakota Court Administration

Since 2004, the administration of the Juvenile Court of North Dakota has been divided into four administrative units, each under the supervision of a Unit Court Administrator. Within each unit, there is a Director of Juvenile Court who supervises the juvenile court staff and is responsible for the planning and directing of all juvenile court services in the unit.

The geographical areas of these administrative units are as follows:



Unit One: Northeast and Northeast Central Judicial Districts

Juvenile Offices: Grand Forks, Devils Lake, Bottineau, Grafton

Unit Two: East Central and Southeast Judicial Districts

Juvenile Offices: Fargo, Jamestown, Valley City, Wahpeton

Unit Three: Southwest and South Central Judicial Districts

Juvenile Offices: Bismarck and Dickinson

Unit Four: Northwest Judicial District

Juvenile Offices: Minot and Williston



N.D. Juvenile Court Jurisdiction

Delinquent or Unruly Youth: North Dakota Juvenile Court has exclusive jurisdiction over youth ages seven to seventeen who are alleged to have committed a delinquent act, an act which would be a crime if committed by an adult, or youth who have violated laws that only apply to them based on their age such as truancy, runaway, ungovernable behavior or minor consuming.

Deprived Children: The Juvenile Court also has exclusive jurisdiction over children from birth until age seventeen who are alleged to be deprived of proper care or control by their parent, guardian or other custodian. This would be more commonly known as child abuse and neglect cases and they are referred to the courts by the county social service agencies after a child abuse and neglect investigation.

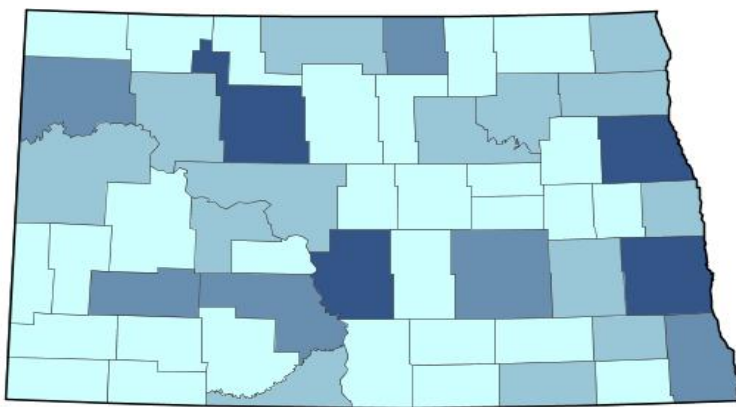
ND Kids Count Data:

In 2008, children ages 0 to 17 comprised 22 percent of North Dakota's total population, compared to 25 percent in 2000 and 28 percent in 1990.

Due to a consistent increase in births during the past few years, the number of children ages 0 to 5 in N.D. has grown each year since 2003. The number of children ages 6 and older continues to decrease statewide, with the exception of Cass County.

The number of children living in foster care totaled 2,105 in 2009, representing 1 percent of all children ages 0 to 18 statewide.

(See www.ndkidscount.org)



123 - 1,069 1,070 - 2,765 2,766 - 6,454 6,455 - 33,853

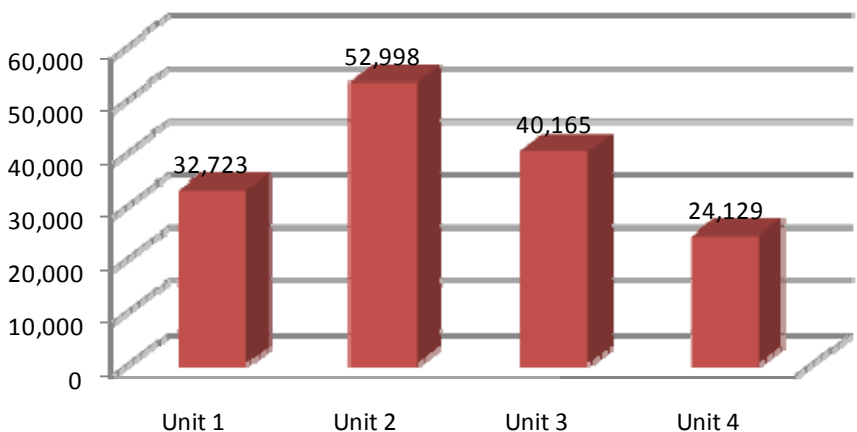
Children by Age Group: Ages 0-18 (Number) – 2008

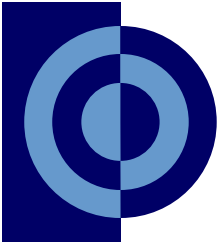
North Dakota KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
A Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation



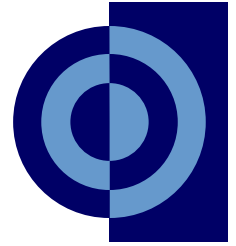
Children Ages 0-17

(2008 NDKidsCount)

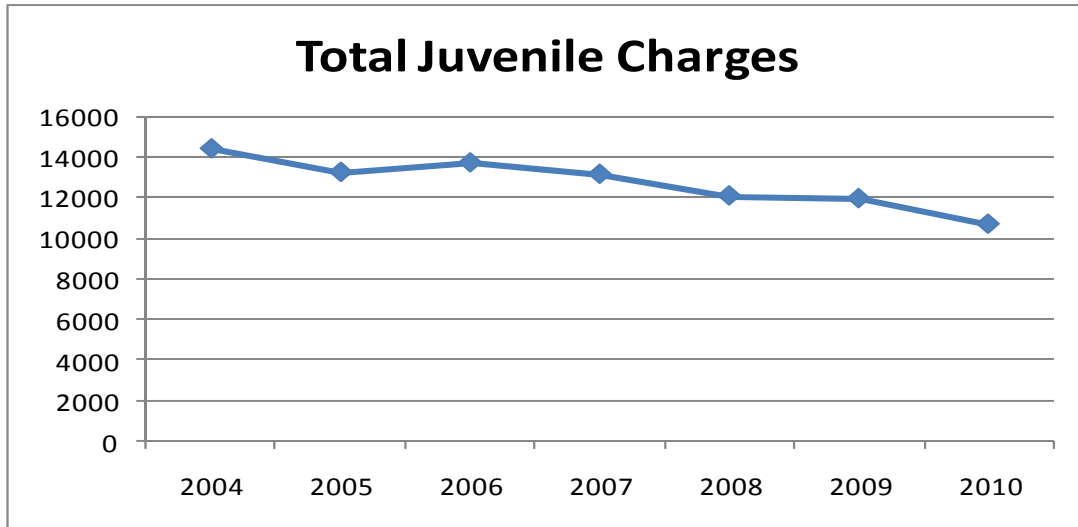




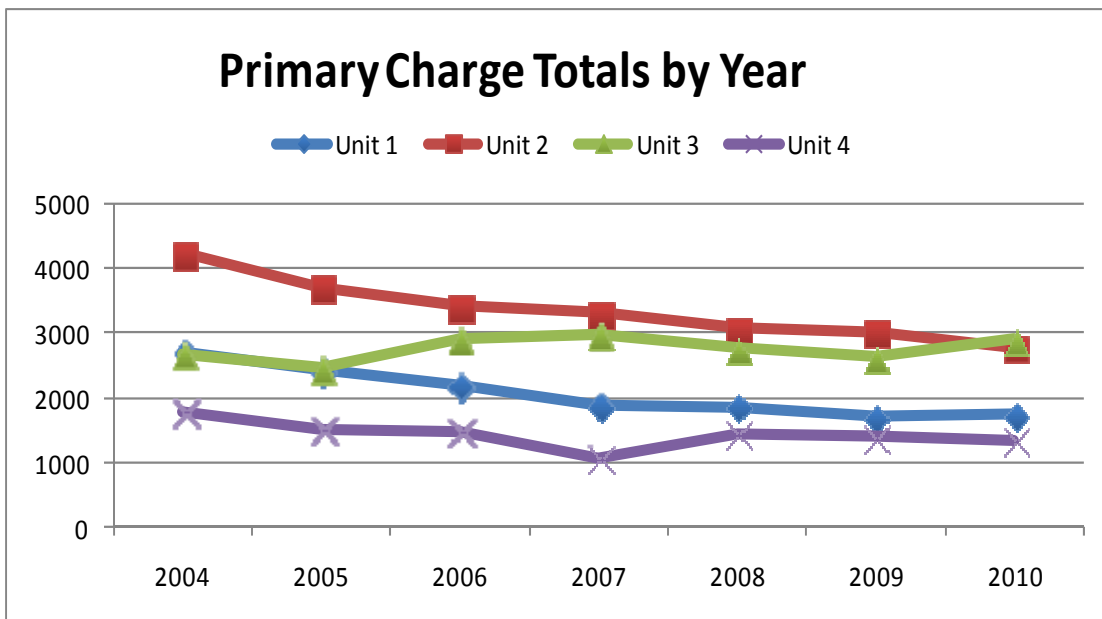
2010 Juvenile Court Referrals



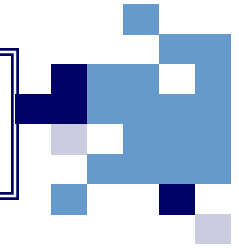
Total Charges, Statewide: Juvenile Court referrals are received from law enforcement, schools, social services agencies and parents. The following chart indicates the total number of charges referred to the juvenile courts over the past seven years.



Primary Charges: Another way to look at the total number of cases referred to the Juvenile Courts is to examine the number of primary charge referrals received. In other words, counting the cases by the most serious offense in an event, which excludes any lesser charges that occurred at that same event and which will be handled together as one case.

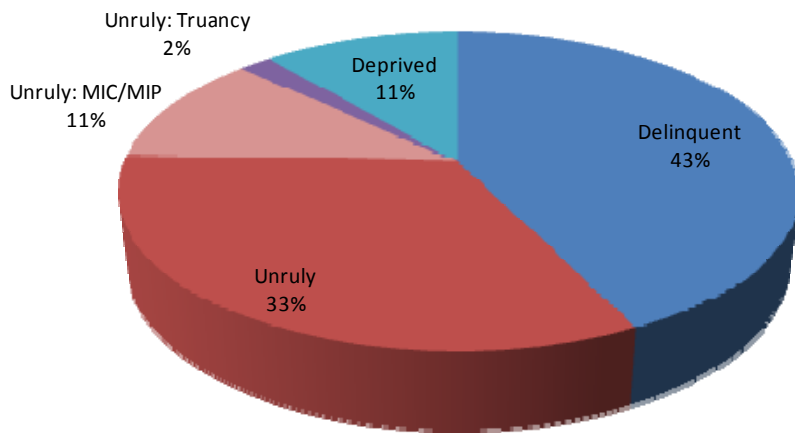


Analysis of 2010 Juvenile Referrals by Case Type



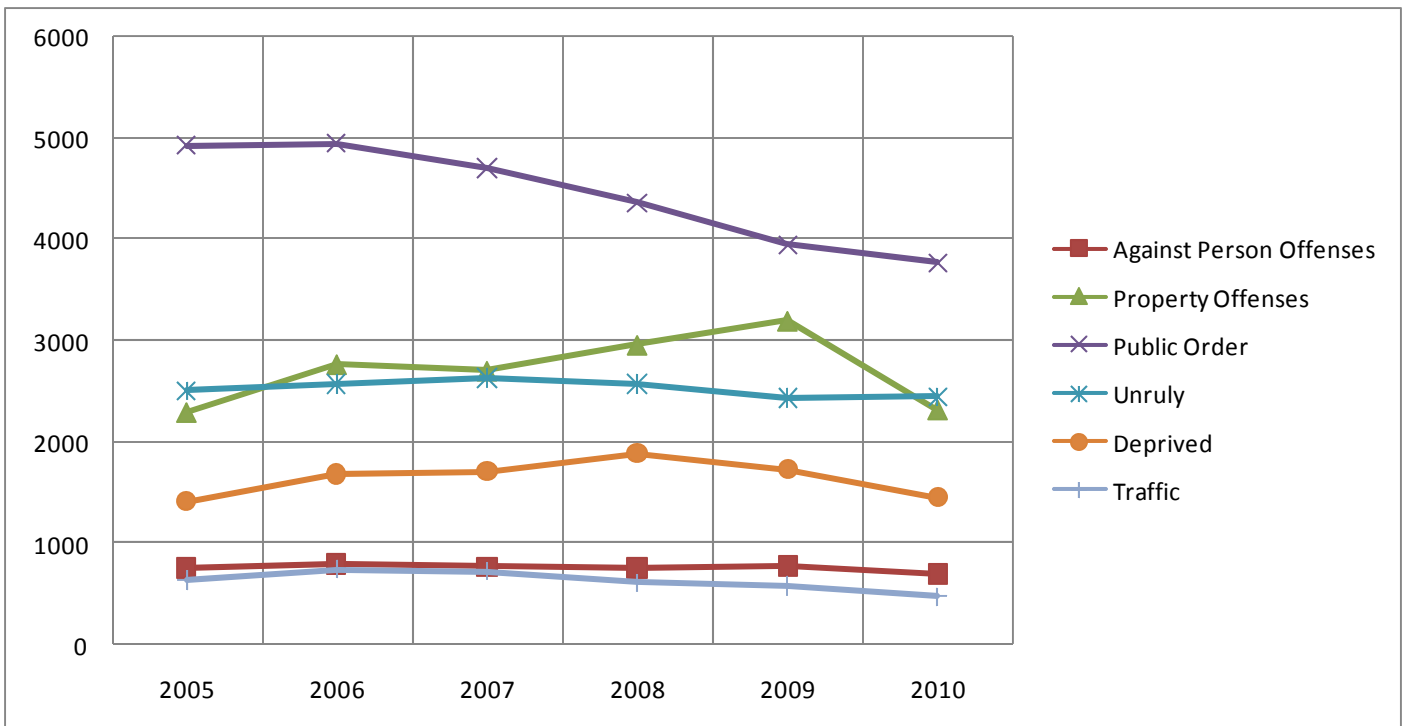
In 2010, a total of 46 % of all referrals received had an unruly case type as the most serious charge with 11% of all cases having to do only with minors consuming or possessing alcohol. 43% had a delinquent charge and only 11% of all cases received fell under the deprived (child abuse and neglect) category.

Total Referrals 2010 by Case Type



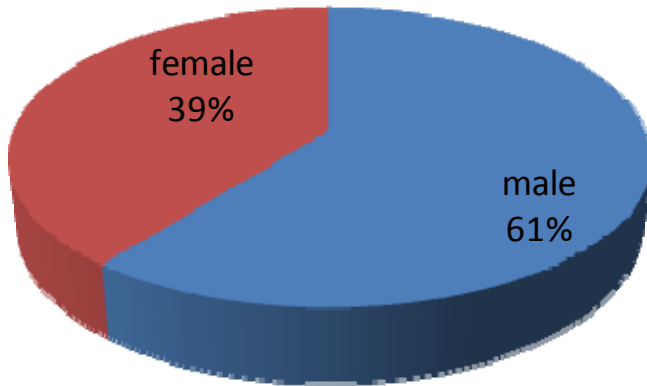
Of the delinquent referrals, 84% would be misdemeanors if committed by an adult, 14% are felony level offenses and 2% consist of infractions.

As noted in the chart to the left, only 2% of all referrals are school truancies, 11% are alcohol offense as the primary charge and the remaining 33% are ungovernable behavior or runaway referrals.



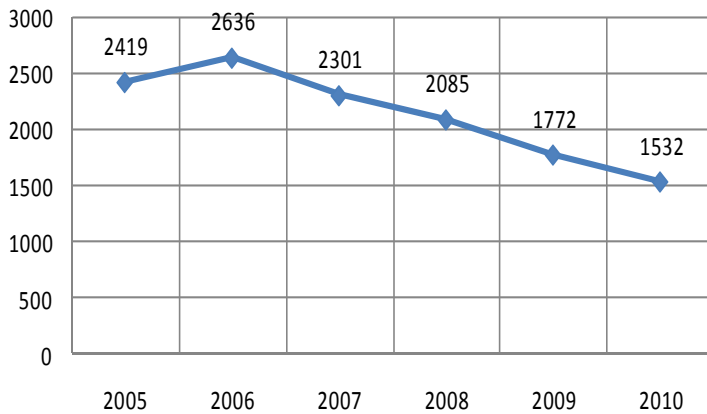
The chart above shows juvenile court referrals case types over the past five years.

Total Unruly/Delinquent Charges

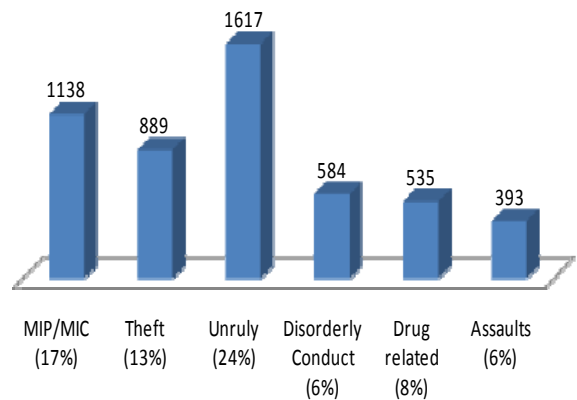


More boys are referred to the juvenile courts than girls but the number of adolescent girls referred continues to rise. It is not known if this is a true rise in girl delinquency or rather a change in societal response to girl behavior. Studies indicate that most juvenile girls referred to the courts have been victims of abuse, physical or sexual.

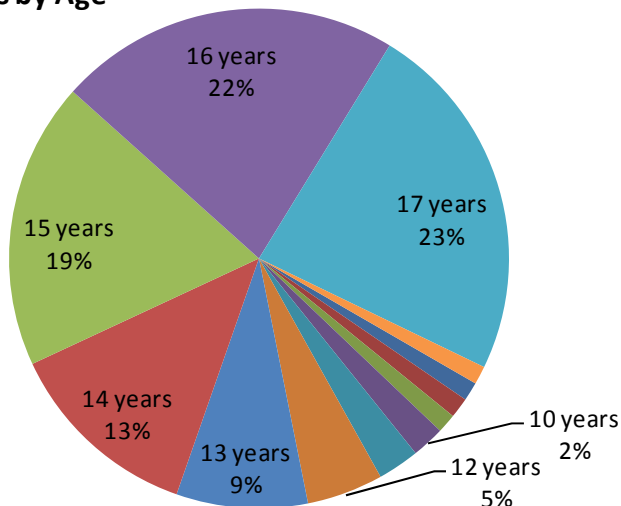
Alcohol Offenses



2010 Most Common Referral Types



Referrals by Age

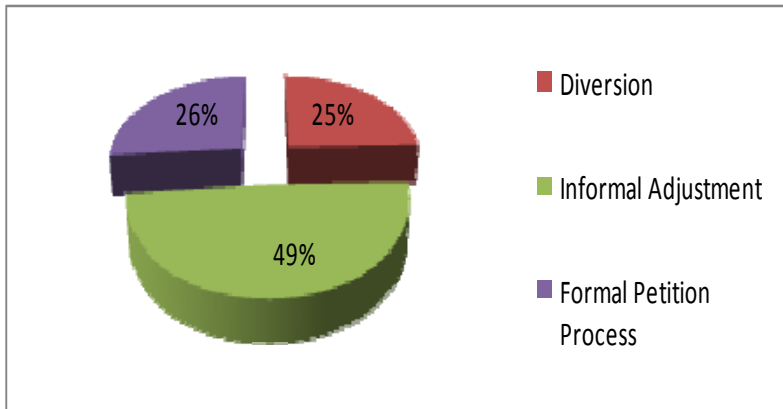


By North Dakota law, only children who have reached the age of seven can be referred to the juvenile courts for delinquent or unruly behavior.

In 2010, the most common age of youth referred to the juvenile courts for delinquent or unruly behavior was 17 years of age.

2010 Juvenile Court Dispositions

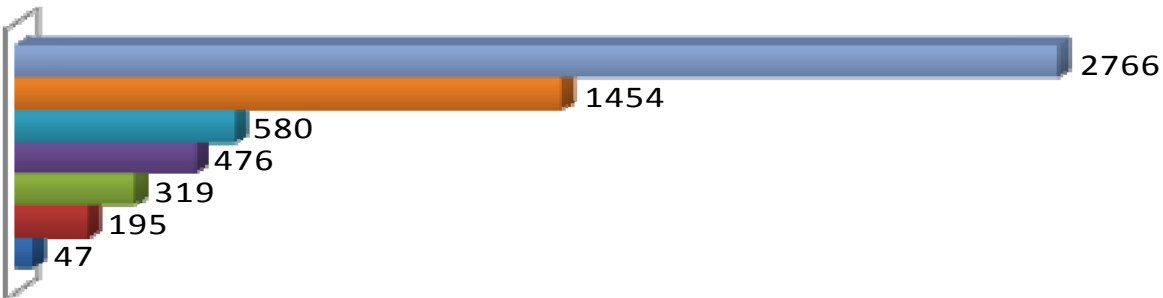
North Dakota law wisely provides a system whereby the vast majority of juvenile cases are handled quickly and efficiently by juvenile court officers. All juvenile referrals are screened by a juvenile court officer for possible diversion to a program such as a class or counseling, the holding of an informal adjustment (a meeting of the youth, parents, court officer and victim, if the victim so chooses) or by accessing the formal court process by referring the matter to the States Attorney for the filing of a petition and hearing of the matter before a judge or judicial referee. In 2010, 74% of all juvenile cases were handled outside of the courtroom through either a diversion to programming or an informal adjustment confer-



Most low-level offenses and early offenders are handled via diversion or informal adjustment.

Typically felony-level cases, youth requiring placement or contested matter appear before a judge in the formal petition process.

Disposition Types: North Dakota law allows a great deal of flexibility in outcomes once a juvenile has admitted or been found to have committed a delinquent or unruly offense which allows individual justice to be administered on an individual basis depending on the child’s needs and risks as well as the needs of the victim and community.



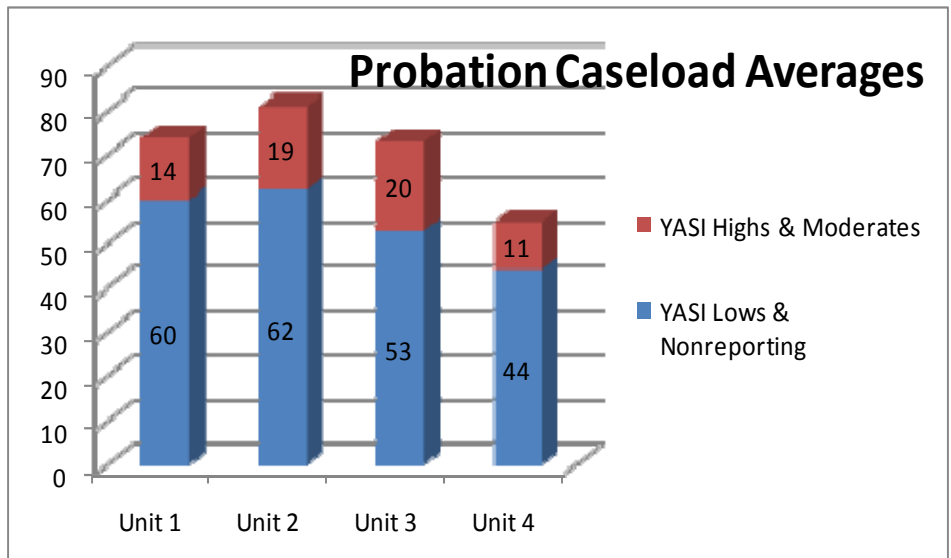
Probation Supervision

Making smart choices means providing the right sanctions and services to the right juveniles at the right time without regard to biases or prejudices but based upon each child's unique risks and needs .

Probation is the most widely-used community-based juvenile court program. During the period of probation supervision, a juvenile offender remains in the community and continues normal activities such as school and work while complying with individualized probation rules such as curfew, community service, payment of restitution and attendance at classes or counseling. The supervision of offenders in their communities enhances community safety and prevents the need for costly out-of-home placement.

Risk and Needs Assessments: Juvenile Court Officers use a risk assessment instrument called the YASI to assess the likelihood of recidivism and the specific needs of each child. By using the YASI, court officers make decisions about supervision levels, program and treatment needs. A mental health assessment called the MAYSI-II is used to assess a broad scope of possible mental health needs.

The most current national caseload standards for juvenile probation officers recommends 35 juveniles per probation officer. (National Center for Juvenile Justice) North Dakota Juvenile Best Practices Manual recommends that a court officer have no more than 30 YASI high and moderate risk youth but does not limit the low risk caseload. For many ND juvenile staff a significant amount of time is spent traveling rural roads in order to supervise youth.



Transfer to Adult Court: Studies have shown that transferred youth quickly reoffend and at much higher rates than juveniles kept in the juvenile system. Further, nationally, studies have shown that transferred youth detained pretrial in adult jails are at serious risk of rape, assault, death or suicide. Transfer is an option of last resort but some youth do request transfer as a means to elude the rehabilitative work that would be required of them in the juvenile system.

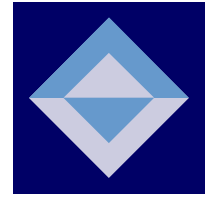
In North Dakota in 2010, 11 youth were transferred to adult court involuntarily and 36 youth voluntarily requested transfer.



Jordan Brown, who in February of 2009, in the State of Pennsylvania was transferred to adult court at the age of 11. If convicted he will become the youngest person in U.S. history sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.



Restoring Justice to Victims



Despite the fact that Juvenile Court cases are closed to the public in North Dakota, state law allows victims of juvenile crime the same rights as victims of adult crimes. In a petitioned proceedings via the formal process it is the states attorney who is tasked with giving all victims notice of the charges filed, hearings scheduled and their ability to give input as to the disposition.

Non-petitioned proceedings result in the juvenile court staff contacting victims, informing them of their rights and seeking their active input in the resolution of a case. Victims are invited to attend Informal Adjustment conference and some do choose to do that. Some cases are referred to an offender accountability conference for resolution.



Restitution: Offenders are required by the Court to pay for the harm they have caused their victims. In 2010 \$366,174.41 was ordered in restitution and of that amount ordered, the total amount of restitution collected by juvenile court staff and returned to the victims at of the end of the calendar year was \$218,904.26.

Community Service: Offenders may also be required to perform community service as a way to repay the victims and the community for any harm suffered because of the youth's behavior. The amount of community service hours and completed as of January 1, 2011 was 33,308 hours.

Victim Empathy Seminars and Offender Accountability Conferences: In support of the balanced and restorative justice mission, the courts contract with Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota to provide victim empathy classes and offender accountability conference state-wide. The 4-hour victim empathy class is educational and intended to help the juvenile and their parents understand how their behavior impacts others. The Accountability Conferences bring together the offender, victim and key supporters to discuss the impact of the juvenile's behavior and ways to repair the harm caused with the assistance of a trained facilitator.



In 2010, 272 juveniles participated in an Offender Accountability Conference and 305 juveniles completed the Victim Empathy Seminar in their community.

In carrying out the mission of Balanced and Restorative Justice, North Dakota Juvenile Court is to promote public safety, hold juvenile offenders accountable and increase the capacity of juveniles to contribute productively to their community. In carrying out this mission, the courts will empower victims and encourage community participation and parental responsibility.

Intervention	Accountability Benefits	Competency Benefits	Community Safety Benefits
Community Service	Makes amends to the community	Develops Skills, including work skills	Structures time, involves community in supervision
Offender Accountability Conferencing	Answers personally to the one harmed and makes amends	Develops communication and conflict resolution skills and empathy	Reduces victim fear in most cases and increases understanding of crime
Victim Empathy Classes	Increases understanding of impact of own behavior	Increases interpersonal skills	Structures youth's time
Cognitive Restructuring Classes or Groups	Increases understanding of responsibility for behavior and the impact of behavior	Improves decision-making and critical thinking skills	Structures youth's time
Educational Classes	Increases understanding of the impact of the offense	Increases understanding of the topic and the associated law	Structures youth's time
Employment	Generates revenue to pay restitution	Teaches work and social skills	Structures time under adult supervision
Drug Court	High level of supervision and weekly appearance before Judge	High level of treatment and addiction education	Reduces likelihood of behavior associated with substance abuse
Traditional tracking	Youth develops relationship with a positive adult which enhances accountability	Develops social and study skills	Structures time and provides appropriate adult supervision
Secure Detention	---	----	Removes youth from opportunity to offend
Residential Placement	---	May address skills	High level of supervision

Unit One

In 2010, Unit One experienced the start-up of the Odyssey computer system. This was a major focus of much training and effort to make this a smooth transition. The system has worked very smoothly thanks to a great team working diligently to make it happen. It has also been an opportunity to work more closely with the clerks of court, giving both offices a better understanding of each others' role in the court system.

Grand Forks again participated in helping to train the police department in a series of workshops about what the Juvenile Court does, and to improve working relationships between the two agencies. A program has been started utilizing police officers as mentors to juveniles on probation. Mentoring is research based, with a positive-outcome, and a good relationship with law enforcement will have a far-reaching impact on each juvenile in the program.

Also starting in the Grand Forks office, a girls group is being developed to assist young girls age 14-17 with self-esteem and life skills such as: resiliency, communication and goal achievement, using the GREAT model. Juvenile Staff teach the class. This program is also done in the Fargo Juvenile Court.

Drug Court in Grand Forks celebrated its 10th anniversary in May, 2010. A celebration was held in Grand Forks with Judges and Justice Maring, and current and former participants and team members. We also welcomed a new drug court coordinator, Bridget Hill.

Devils Lake is in year two of its Juvenile Drug Court. Judge Foughty is still the Juvenile Drug Court Judge and has been very committed to its success. We have a new Juvenile Drug Court coordinator, Trudy Dick. Drug Court is always a learning curve for a team, but they are very supportive and dedicated to its success. Devils Lake region has so many extra challenges with the population that they serve. Tracking is particularly difficult on the reservation, and the generational poverty families are an extra challenge. They have had six in the program in 2010, and have one graduate from the program so far.

Devils Lake has a new attendant care program, and the plan is to try to extend that program into an assessment center as well. A meeting was held on the project, and research is being done by the Director, community members, and the Center for Solutions for furthering this project.

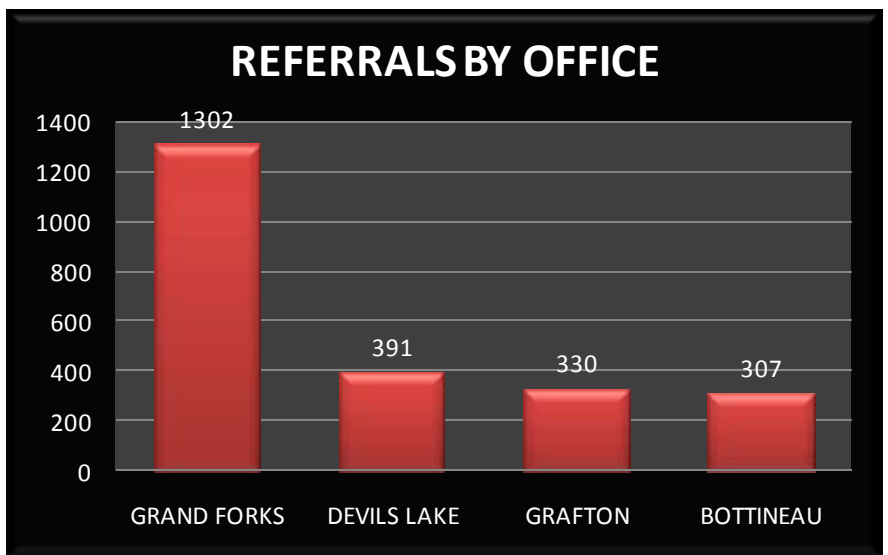
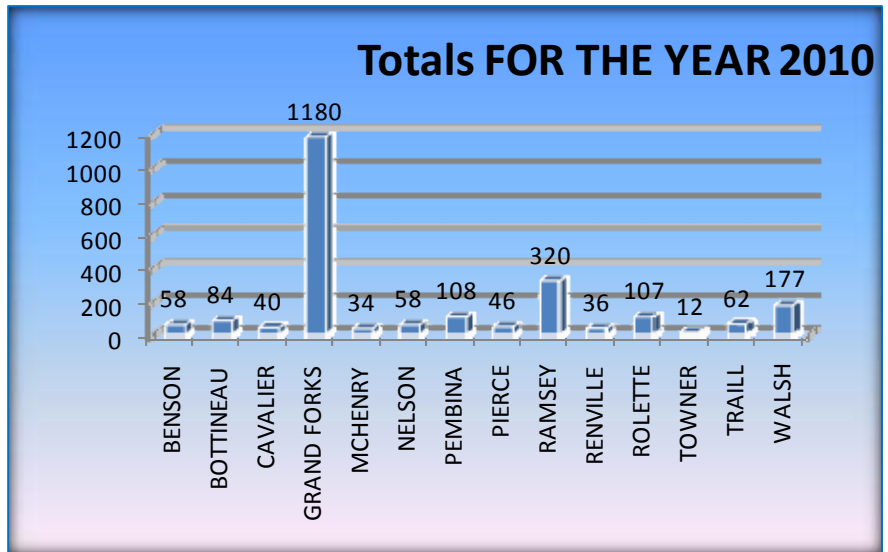
Devils Lake had an extra honor this year, by having Karen Olson, Court Officer III, named as Outstanding Employee of the Year for the state by the North Dakota Juvenile Court Association.

Grafton is continuing with its unique Victim Impact Program where victims from drunk-driving accidents speak to juveniles with alcohol related or high risk driving offenses. Along with its other programs, Grafton is utilizing an on-line education program called 3rd Millennium. The program can cover one of three areas: Alcohol, Marijuana, or Shoplifting. This is a huge leap forward for rural areas, as the rural community often is at a disadvantage for services either by distance or availability. The concept of utilizing the internet for education will be an expanding area of planning in Unit One. We will be seeking ways to expand this method of service delivery.

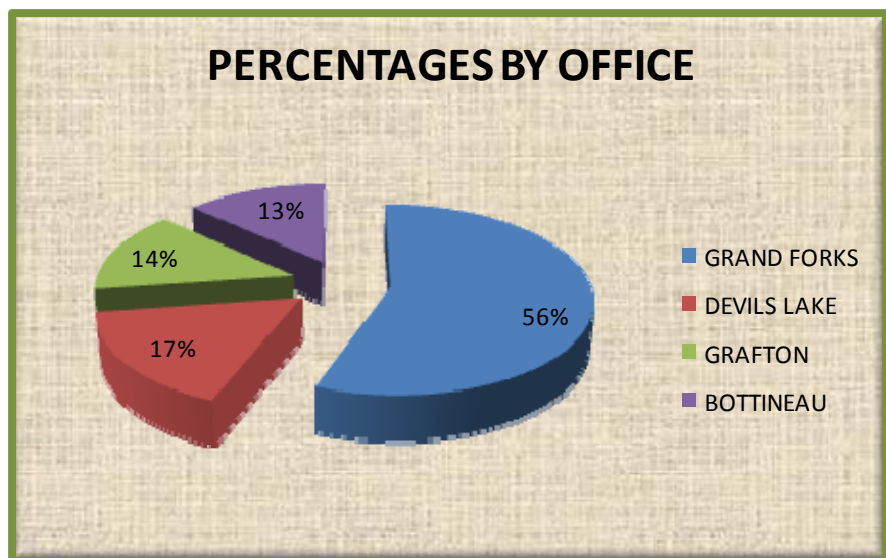
In the Bottineau office, the court has a new program available to it. The Human Service center is delivering the SPARCS program in Rolette. This program provides group counseling to youth who may be traumatized with chronic stress and are acting out that stress. An expansion of programming in a rural office is a positive event for both Juvenile Court and the community.

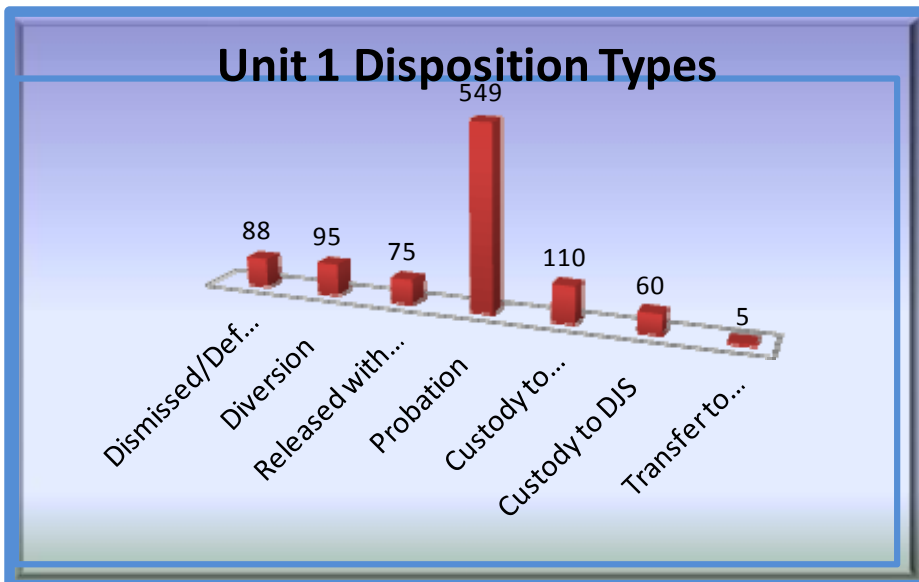
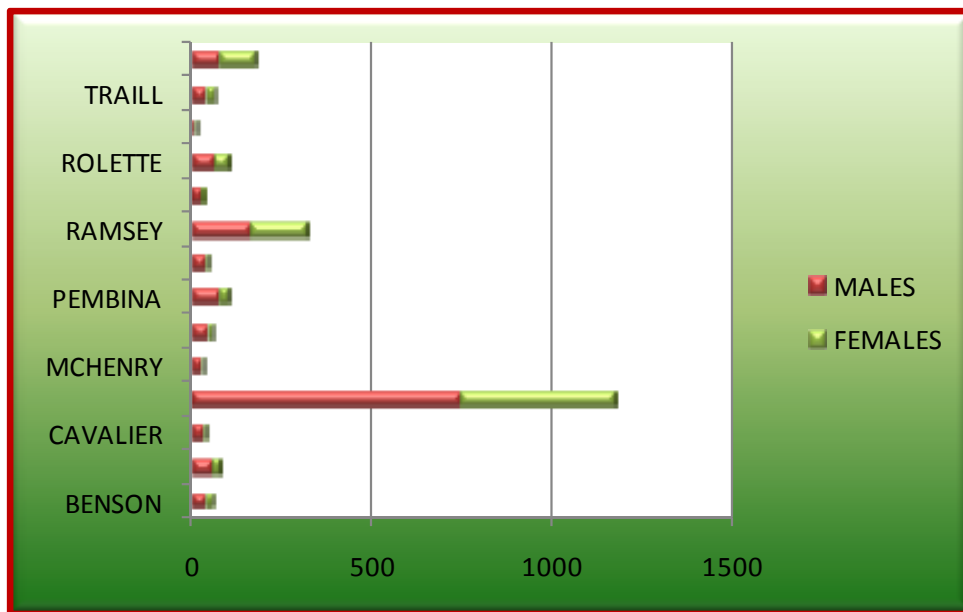
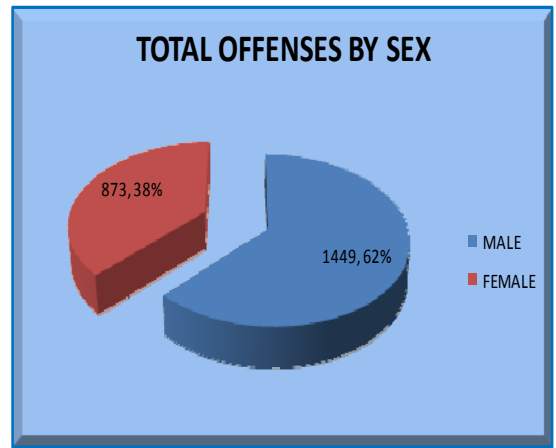
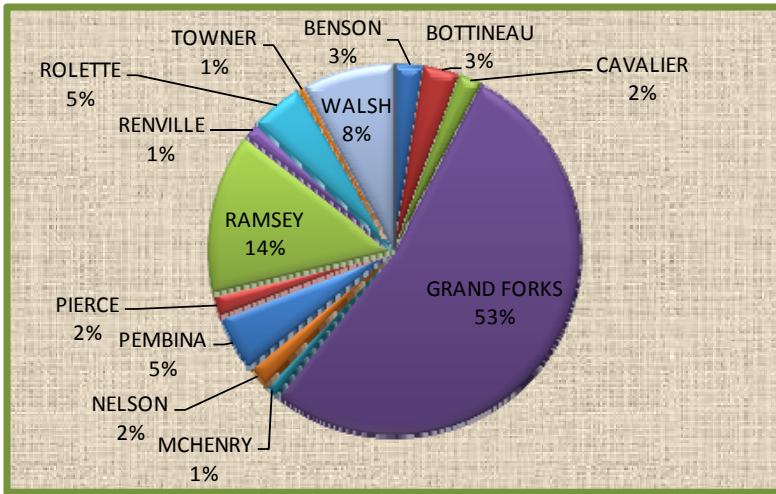
The Bottineau office is also working on a Teen Activity group. There are activity trunks that have all the tools needed for implementing a particular activity (GPS, digital photography, etc.) The activity trunks allow kids to learn new ways to utilize their free time in a positive way.

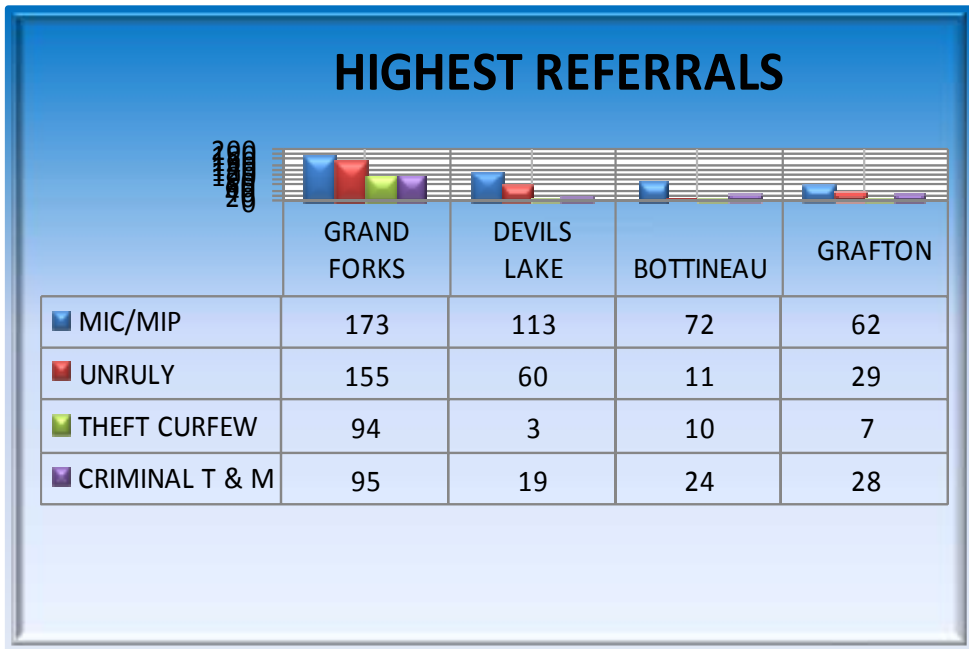
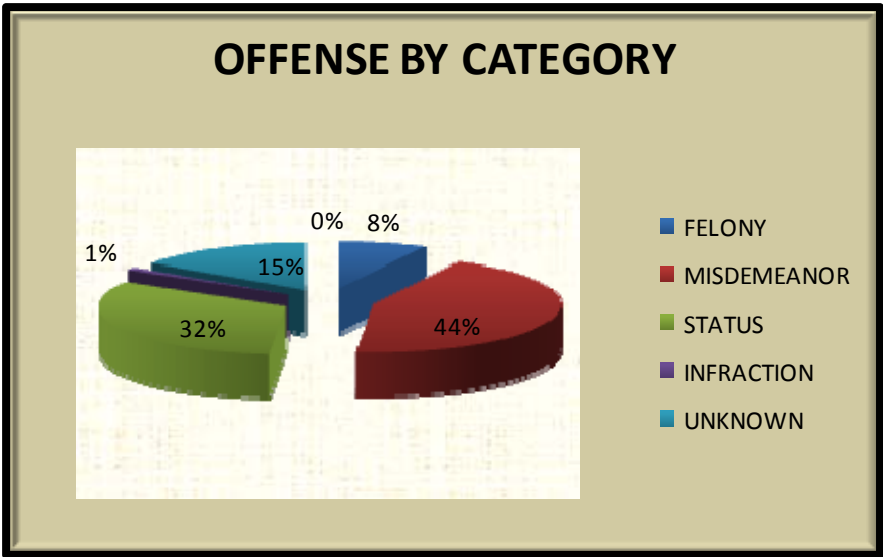
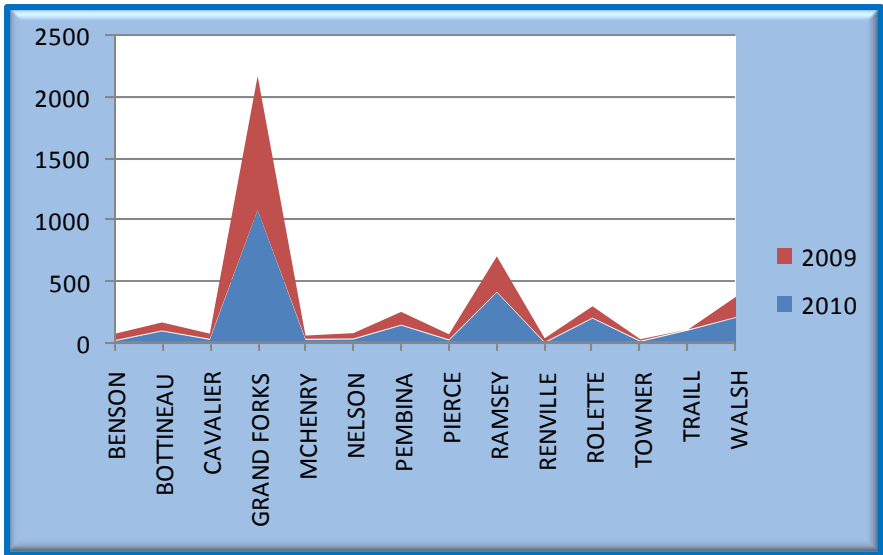
It is an ever expanding challenge to keep up with all of the information regarding programming that is being done across the country. All of the Directors are working together to insure that all of the staff in North Dakota have the best tools, the latest information, and the ability to innovate to keep our Juvenile Courts in the forefront of juvenile justice.



Deborah Carlson
 Director of Juvenile Court
 Administrative Unit One



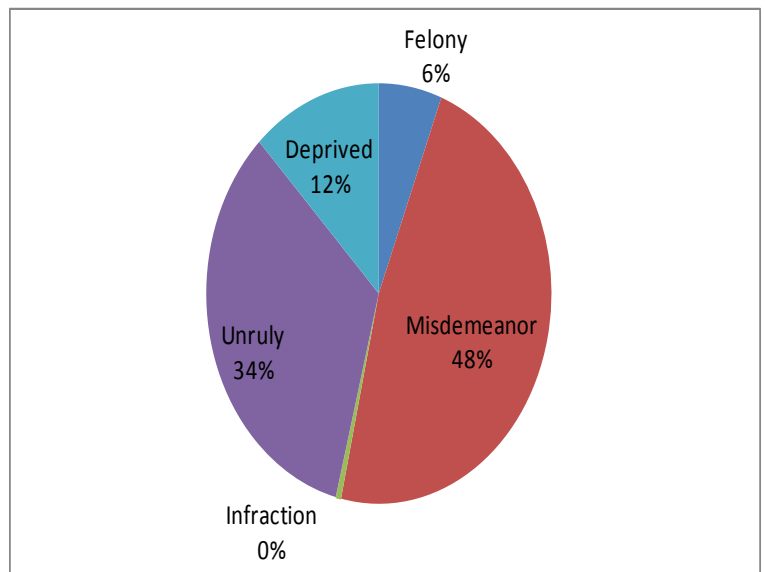




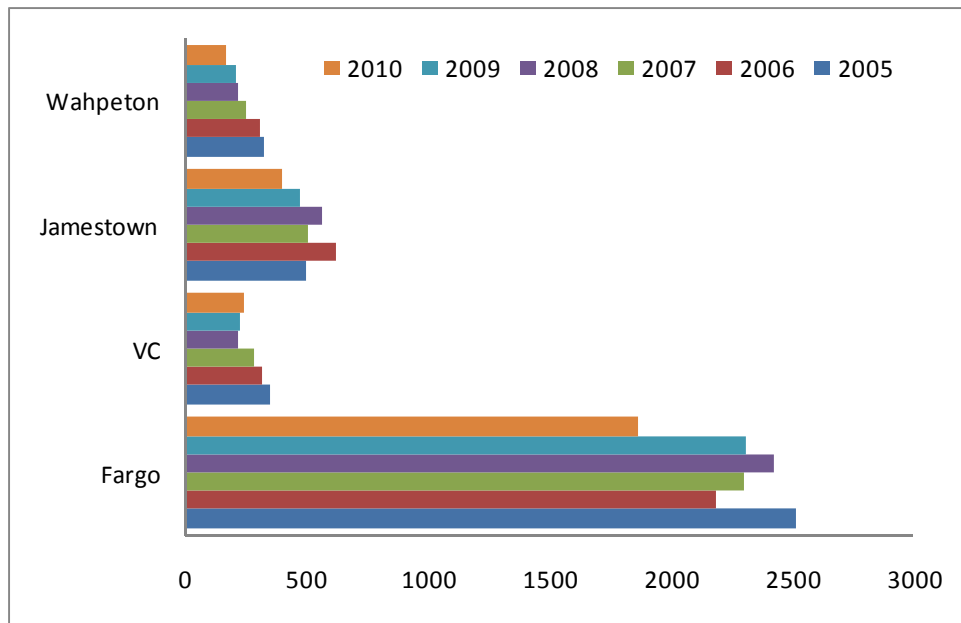
Unit Two

In 2010, a total of 3,027 juvenile charges were handled by the staff of the Unit Two Juvenile Court. Every referral received is screened by a juvenile court officer in order to make intake, detention and shelter care decisions. Of the total number of referrals received 72% were handled via the nonpetitioned process (diversion or informal adjustment) and 28% (547 cases) resulted in formal hearings before a Judicial Referee or District Court Judge via the petitioned process. The Chart below shows that the vast majority of referrals are misdemeanors.

The most common age of referral is 17 years of age and more boys (61%) are referred than girls (39%); however, each year the percentage of girls referred has grown. Whether this reflects a change in girl behavior or a change in societal reaction to girl behavior is debatable. However, to respond to this trend, the Fargo juvenile court officers now teach classes and run groups that are specifically geared for girl offenders. In the Southeast Judicial District a girls delinquent group will be offered if enough delinquent girls to form a group arises.

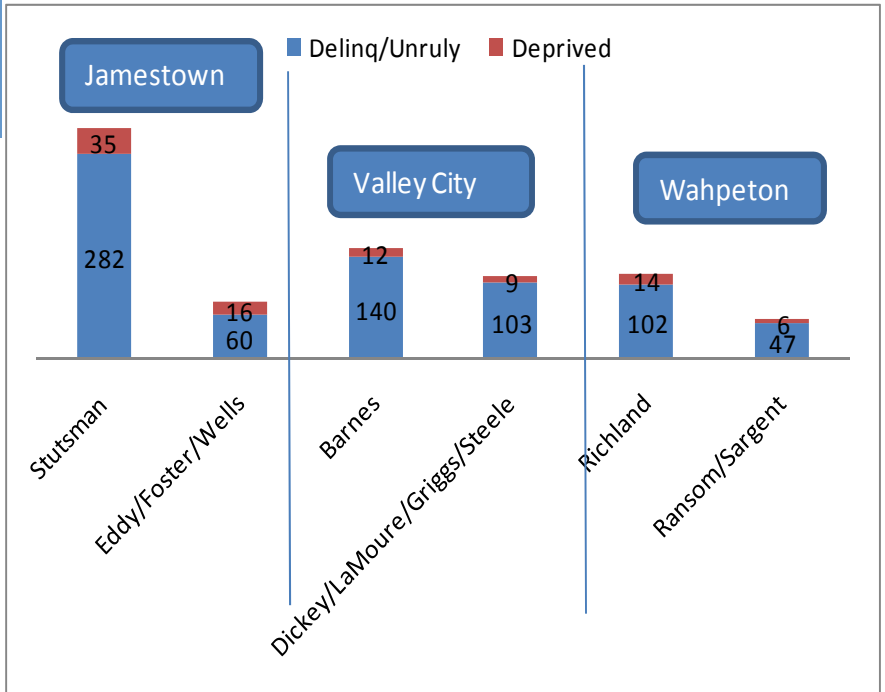
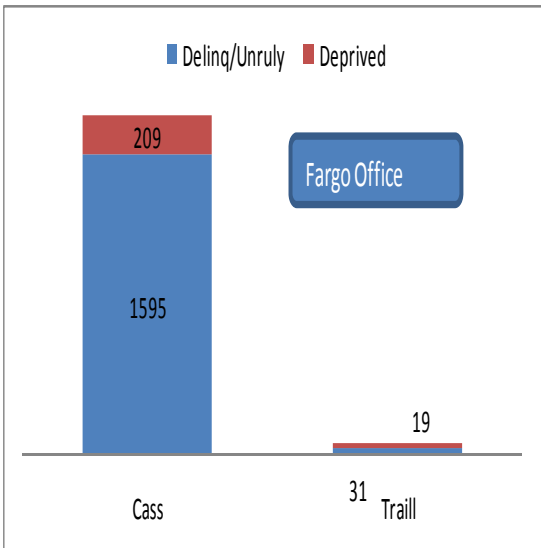


Trends over Time: Statewide, as well as locally, referrals to juvenile court have recently declined. This can be attributed to an enhanced array of community-based services which research supports as having a greater

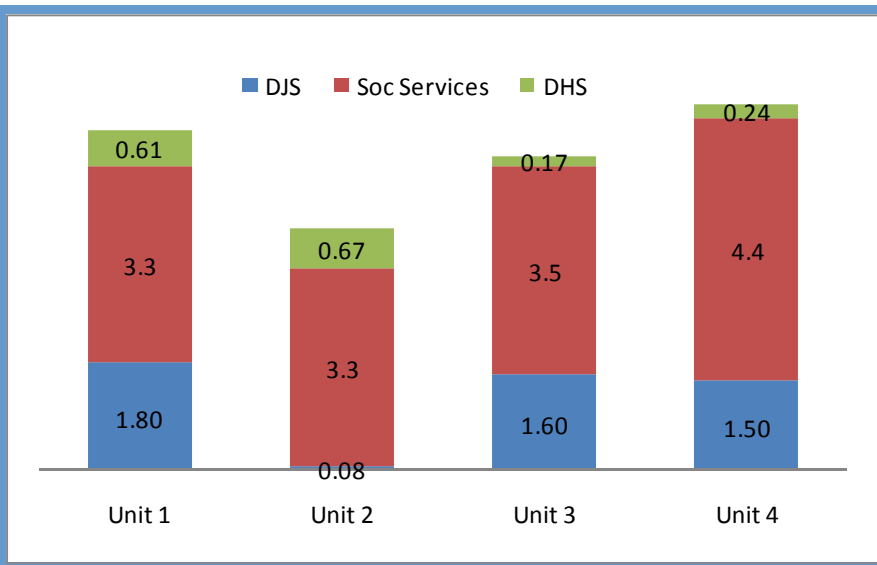
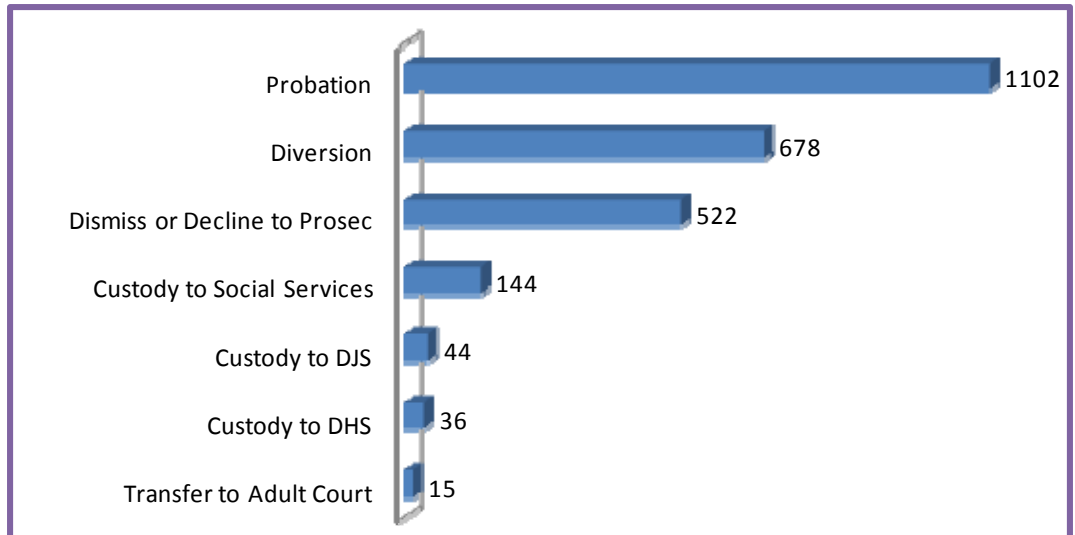


impact on recidivism reduction than traditional methods and perhaps also to several successive years of extreme winters and historic spring flooding which both reduces crime as well as law enforcement's time to respond to crime. Cases are complex and often involve family dysfunction, addiction and mental health issues in addition to the offense which brings the matter before the Court.

Juvenile Referrals 2010 by Office Region and by Case Type



Juvenile Court Dispositions: North Dakota law allows a great deal of flexibility in outcomes once a juvenile has admitted or been found to have committed a delinquent or unruly offense which allows individual justice to be administered on an individual basis depending on the child's needs and risks as well as the needs of the victim and community.



Rate of Custodial Placements per 1000 Youth Population

Unit Two strives to advance public safety and reduce delinquency by keeping youth supervised within their community settings if at all possible. Research encourages appropriate community placement for youth because positive assets such as family life, schooling and friends can continue uninterrupted.



Unit Two—Enhancing Offender Competency

Cognitive Restructuring Programs: Unit Two juvenile staff are committed to providing the most comprehensive array of juvenile cognitive restructuring programs in the State. Here is the description of the programs offered by staff and the number of youth completing each program in 2010.

DECISION-MAKING 101 - A cognitive restructuring program designed to help one make better decisions through group activities, and to provide tools and support for effective long term change in behavior. (144 youth, 164 parents in Fargo and 90 youth and parents in the Jamestown/Valley City region)

GAP GIRLS GROUP- (GIRLS ASSERTING POWER) A therapeutic group designed to promote self esteem, assertiveness, and to gain self awareness for their potential to succeed. This is free, and taught by Juvenile Court Staff. (19 girls)

GREAT GIRLS GROUP –(GIRLS RESPECTING EACH OTHER AND THEMSELVES) A free weekly group for girls to obtain tools for positive peer relationships, and respecting themselves and the prevention of bullying. This group is for younger girls and was just created in 2010. The first group started in January 2011.

Life Management—A free weekly group that leads participants to examine habits and provides a safe place to practice and reinforce good habit and good decision-making. (32 youth in the Fargo region)

SPARCS- (Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress). This is a group counseling setting for youth who may be traumatized with chronic stress and are acting out in the community. (6 girls in the Fargo region)

EQUIP— This is a free group taught jointly by juvenile court and DJS staff which examines criminal thinking patterns and reinforces accountability in thoughts, words and actions. (7 youth in the Fargo Region and a class is beginning in the Jamestown/Valley City region in 2011)

Unit Two—Goals for 2011

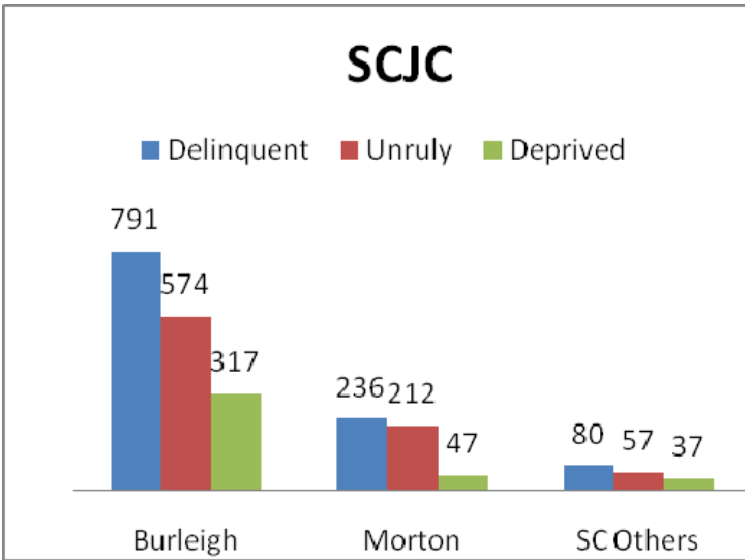


1. Study and analysis of the juvenile court offered cognitive programs and groups to evaluate effectiveness and maintain program integrity.
2. Develop a collateral consequences of a juvenile adjudication brochure in order to increase the public's understanding of the system and also increase the number of youth who choose to utilize legal representation in the petitioned proceedings.
3. Develop a protocol and practice to utilize the YASI assessment prior to formal disposition in order to better address in court recommendations the unique criminogenic risks and needs of each youth.
4. Begin the use a detention screening tool on each youth within 24 hours of entry into secure detention in order to study the appropriateness of placement and monitor for disproportionate minority contact.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Kringlie, Esq.
Director of Juvenile Court
Unit Two

Unit Three

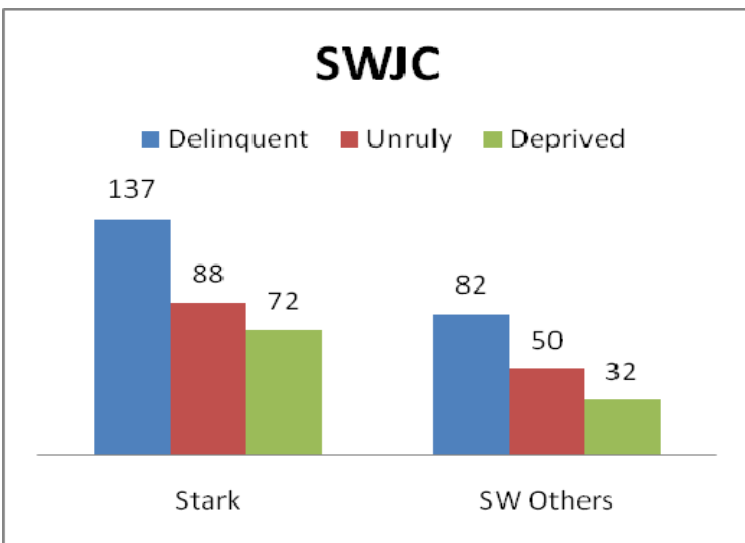
Challenges came in many waves in Unit 3 for 2010. As the only Unit with an overall increase in referrals, juvenile court staff stretched and strengthened without both Court Officer IIIs for a large part of the year, and transitioned to change with a new director. Staff filled in where they were needed and developed new skills. As the Unit moves forward in 2011, we will look through a different windshield and carry a new torch of building on kids' strengths, following evidence based practices, reducing risks, and teaching skills.



SC other = Emmons, Grant, Kidder, Logan, McIntosh, McLean, Oliver, Sheridan, Sioux

The two graphs to the left show the case types received in 2010. Males continue to lead with 70% of the delinquent referrals for the Unit, however, referrals are split evenly between males and females in unruly and deprivation cases.

In Unit 3, the average age of referral for both males and females is 17 years old. The only referral age that differs are the unruly females where the average age is 16.

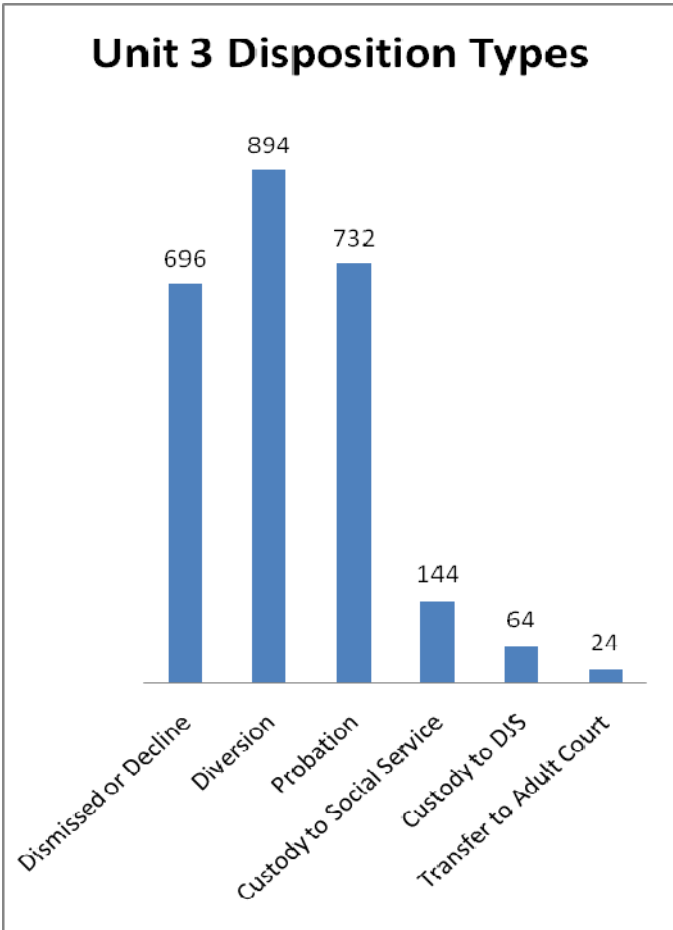


SW other = Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, *Mercer*, Slope.



*Note: Mercer County is within the jurisdiction of the SCJD but for juvenile case assignments is covered by the Dickinson, SWJD, office staff.

In Unit 3, diversion programs handled approximately 35 % of the juvenile court referrals for 2010. Juvenile Court Officers understand that new evidence-based research suggests locking up young people ultimately increases crime. These diversion programs keep a large number of youth out of the probation services, which helps prevent youth from going deeper into the juvenile justice universe. Staff will continue to intake and divert low risk and first time juveniles by following best practices and evidence based research. Courts officers understanding the latest juvenile justice research on what works with kids ultimately serves the interest of justice for all involved including the juveniles, families, victims, and communities.



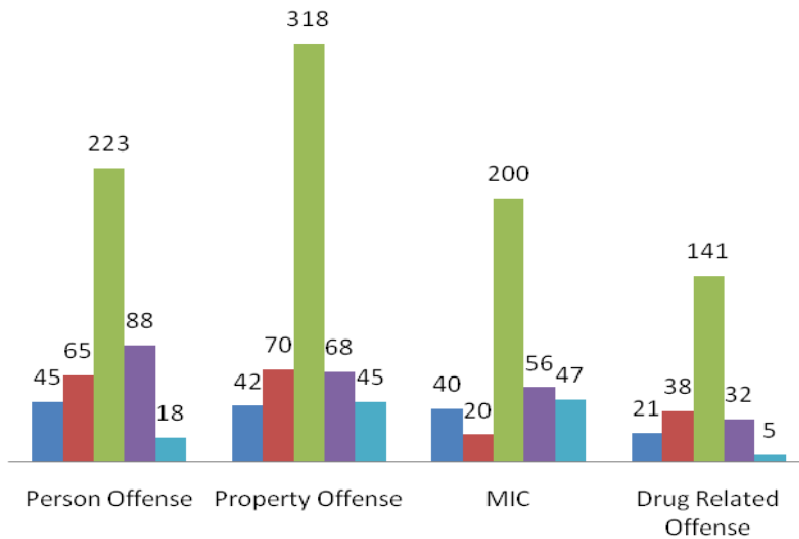
Drug Court is in its ninth year of operation in Bismarck and continues to be a highly effective means of supporting positive behavior change in youth struggling with abuse/addiction. The South Central Juvenile Drug Court leads the way in technology regarding monitoring of its participants. In 2010, Drug Court switched from urine testing to oral saliva samples which are then tested by a certified lab in Michigan. In addition, the implementation of the MEMS unit in every participant home allows the Court to monitor alcohol use 24/7 by method of deep lung breath samples and positive picture ID. Drug Court had four (4) graduations, four (4) terminations and one (1) transfer due to moving out of state in 2010. These participants were given the opportunity to remain in the parental home as opposed to being placed with a custodial agency at the time of adjudication/disposition. Referee John Grinsteiner and the Drug Court team continue to be creative with rewards and sanction for participants and are active in community projects which bring team members together with youth. Drug Court projects include regular community service support for Carrie’s Kids, which helps homeless youth and families with basic everyday needs. Other projects include the Red Ribbon Carnival, Trinity Lutheran Church Banquet, Christmas Angel Tree program, Pizza for Parents, and several Dakota Zoo projects in the summer time. These programs encourage participants to spend time with team members doing manual labor for city and state agencies.

The graph above shows common dispositions in Unit 3 for 2010.



UNIT 3 REFERRAL TYPES

■ Stark ■ SW-other ■ Burleigh ■ Morton ■ SC-other



The graph to the left breaks out the referral types for 2010 in Unit 3 with the three larger counties separated out. Felony referrals are seen as a higher risk behavior in juveniles, however felonies are only 8.5% of all referrals received by Unit 3.

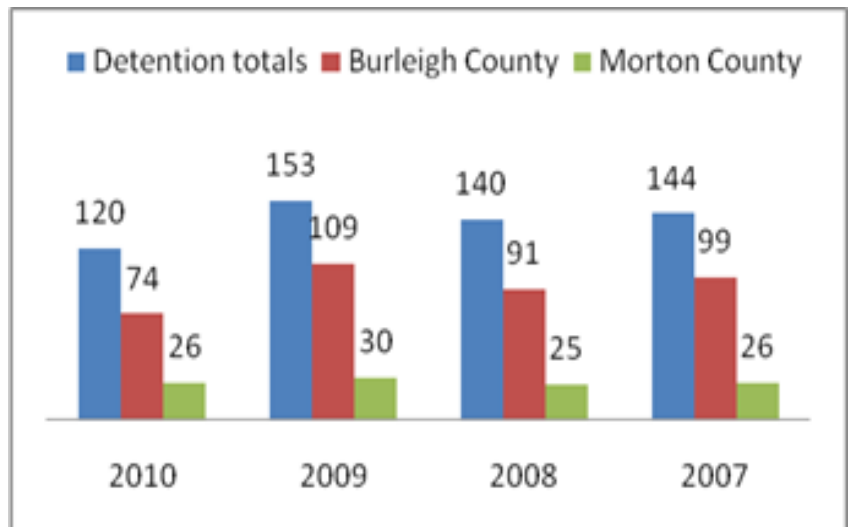
- 10% of all person offenses were felonies
- 5% of property offenses were felonies
- 8% of all drug related offenses were felonies.



In 2010, court officers organized projects with the Dakota Zoo and the Chamber of Commerce. Court officers will continue to promote meaningful relationships for juveniles to people outside their usual peer group, and will begin looking for cognitive programming and groups, and teach skills to the juvenile to be productive members of our communities. Court Officers will continue to be active in both rural and urban school programs such as Teen Maze, Youth Activity Day, and the Stay in School Project in addition to serving on advisory boards and committees of child serving agencies. Court staff will provide information on the court's role and represent the court in a positive manner in hope to pass on the research and philosophy of the best practices of the juvenile court.

2010 Detention Pilot

120 youth were detained in 2010; which was down from 153 last year. It was the first year using the detention screening tool in Bismarck/Mandan, however, much work is ahead as juvenile court only received the screening tool on 66 of the 100 juveniles detained in the piloted area. To the right is the detention total for Unit 3 over time and a majority of juveniles detained are from Burleigh County. The detention screening instrument will continue to be a pilot project in 2011 and it will include all youth from Unit 3 placed in detention. Court officers will continue to promote consistency in juvenile detention practices, which will reduce disproportionate detention placements from our minority population.



The Youth Cultural Awareness Program (YCAP) – continues to be supported by the court, to help Native American/American Indian youth and families navigate and provide prevention programs. The YCAP provides Native American/American Indian youth:



1)peer and cross-age mentorship, 2)culturally-relevant psychological assessment, 3)therapy (individual and groups, 4)cultural based activities, 5) case management, 6)wrap-around services.

YCAP Groups include : Job Club, Girls Group, Summer STOMP, and Keeping the Culture Alive.

Over 65 Native American/American Indian youth participated in the program in 2010. Referrals for the program came from the juvenile court, schools, social services, Police Youth Bureau, parent and families.

31% of the juveniles referred to the program have at-risk sibling for whom services were also utilized.

82% of the juveniles in the program had juvenile referrals pending.

31% of juveniles in the program were cited with another offense while in the program .

84% cited were for unruly behaviors.

8% of juveniles in the in the program went on to long term placement.

UNIT 3 GOALS for 2011:

- Reduce out-of-home removals by better matching of unruly and delinquent youth needs with effective services within their community;
- Support and implementation of evidence-based programming in both judicial districts in Unit 3 to increase juveniles’ skills and help them to become productive in their communities;
- Reduce reliance on detention and shelter care by increasing the use of community-based alternative sanctions and completing a detention screening tool on 100% of all youth placed in detention within Unit 3; and
- Improve cross-system coordination and collaboration to improve the juvenile justice system by ensuring that the structural components of the YASI risk and needs assessment and graduated sanctions are fully implemented as a platform for evidence-based program improvements and reduction of recidivism.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cory T. Pedersen

Director of Juvenile Court, Unit Three

Unit Four

A priority for Unit 4 Juvenile Court offices in 2010 pertained to the review of current services available to our youth and maximizing utilization of these services. Unit 4 currently contracts with a variety of entities to provide services to youth to address the issues that lead to their referral to the Court system. Staff throughout the unit has maintained a positive working relationship with collateral agencies to meet the needs of our youth.

Sunrise Youth Bureau – In 2009, Sunrise Youth Bureau was contracted to provide diversion services to youth and families in McKenzie County. The Sunrise Youth Bureau works with young people who have had involvement with law enforcement and are experiencing issues in personal, family, and/or school relationships. The goal being to provide early intervention services to youth through assessment and accountability. The agency provides education and cognitive thinking exercises to youth and families in order to change attitudes, thus diverting youth from further legal and social difficulties. Data from 2010 indicated that the top referrals in this area of the unit involved unruly behavior. As a result, in November 2010 this service was expanded to provide coverage to include Divide and Williams counties in addition to McKenzie County. Staff spends a considerable amount of time attending to these low level offenders.

Meaningful Community Service - Throughout 2010 the Minot Juvenile Court staff worked on developing more meaningful community service opportunities for youth that have come into contact with the Court. As a condition of probation, youth are required to perform community service hours as a way to repay the victim and the community for any harm suffered as a result of the youth's actions. The Juvenile Court partnered with the Northern Lights Habitat for Humanity Chapter, A Brush With Kindness program . This program assists low income home owners and provides assistance with exterior repairs to their property that due to financial, physical or other limitations, they are unable to perform on their own. The program is designed to revitalize the appearance of the neighborhood, and encourage connections with the community. The court officers and youth participated in several projects that ranged from scraping and priming a home , property clean up, and dismantling and cleanup following the Norsk Hostfest. There were several other opportunities for youth to participate in positive projects this year that included the City-wide cleanup, Painting project with the Minot Park District, Salvation Army Fill the Truck back to school project, and Community Action-Santa Store project.

Drug Court - The *Ward County Juvenile Drug Court (JDC)* is approaching its four year anniversary in January of 2011. During 2010, there were 13 active juveniles who participated in JDC. Nine of those juveniles were male and four were female. From the 13 active juveniles who were in the program in 2010, four were terminated and two graduated from the program. The remaining seven juveniles are currently still in the program with our next graduation scheduled for January 2011. A total of 26 juveniles have participated in JDC since its inception in January 2007. The number of juveniles who were admitted in JDC increased by 44.4% in 2010 compared to the previous year.

Juvenile Drug Court participants were involved in a variety community service projects throughout the year. They continued with the backyard garden they constructed at the Roosevelt Park Zoo. This involved ongoing maintenance of the garden as well as new

construction of a nature path at the front entrance of the zoo. Youth were involved in projects with Habitat for Humanity-A Brush with Kindness, the Kiwanis pancake breakfast, cookie project with the Chamber of Commerce, and toy wrapping with the Salvation Army. Juveniles were also given opportunities for skill development throughout the year. All drug court youth attended a class presented by Scott Weston focusing on making better decisions in life. Additionally, the youth completed CPR and First Aide certification. Parents of the Drug Court participants attended a presentation by the Ward County Drug Task Force informing them of signs to look for when dealing with drug and alcohol problems among youth.

The *Williams County Juvenile Drug Court* continued to focus on program development, which included obtaining incentives and identifying special projects for the participants. The participants are involved in community service and are rewarded with incentives for positive behavior that can be of monetary value, or in the form of adjustment to their current probation conditions. In 2010 the Williams County Juvenile Drug Court had 2 referrals, one male and one female. The male candidate was released from JDC due to his ongoing substance abuse. He was on Path 4. The female was released due to non-compliance. She was in Path 2. There had been other potential candidates screened for the program, however due to ongoing legal issues were not accepted into the program. The program had an additional set back which involved one of the participants committing suicide. This had a great impact on the other participants as well as the team members.

In October the decision was made to forego referrals into the Williams County Juvenile Drug Court program. This determination came as a result of the absence of key team members out for extended periods of leave. The intention is to regroup and resume the program in early 2011.

Statistics – The attached charts reflect a breakdown by county and office in Unit 4 as it pertains to referrals and dispositions handled in 2010 in the Juvenile Court offices. Additionally, a glossary of services available to youth and families throughout the unit is included.

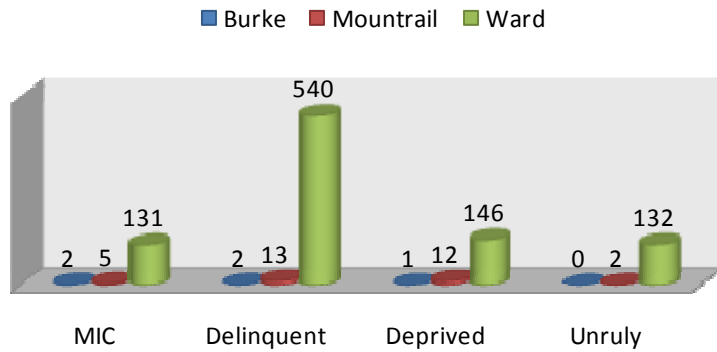
Goals:

- Continue to monitor and evaluate existing contracts and services.
 - Consistent staff meetings to enhance collaboration of needs, resources available, and case planning. Continued education of new staff and re-educating experienced staff on services available and utilizing these services.
 - Establish process for tracking utilization of resources consistently throughout the unit on a monthly and quarterly basis. Address gaps in service coverage throughout the Unit.
- Enhance community interaction and support through consistent communication with local schools, and community partners in order to improve knowledge, understanding and needs of youth in the community.

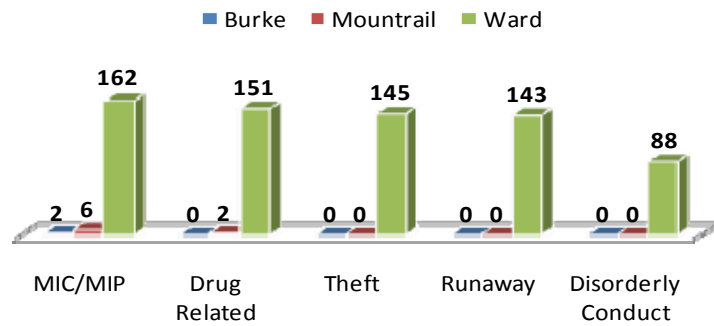
Submitted by:

Scott Hopwood
Director of Juvenile Court
Administrative Unit 4

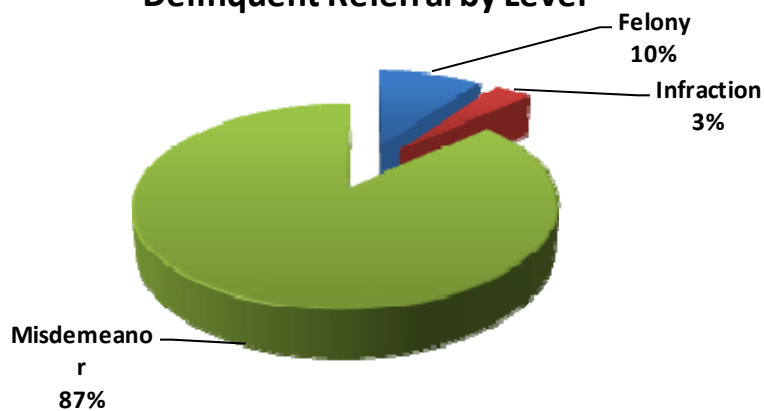
NWJD - Minot Office Referrals by Category



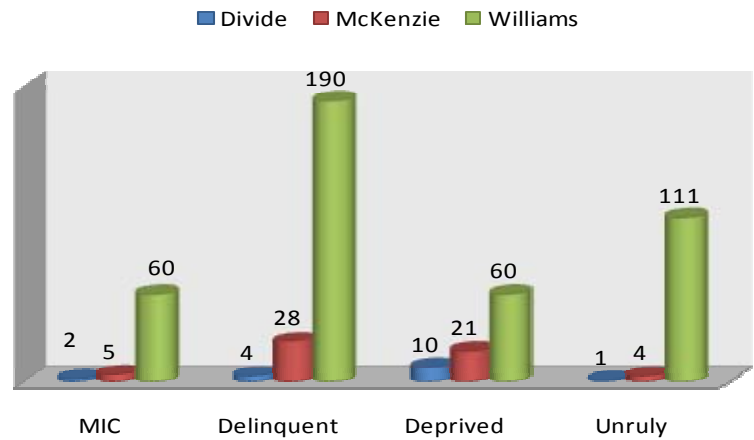
NWJD - Minot Office Most Common Referral Types



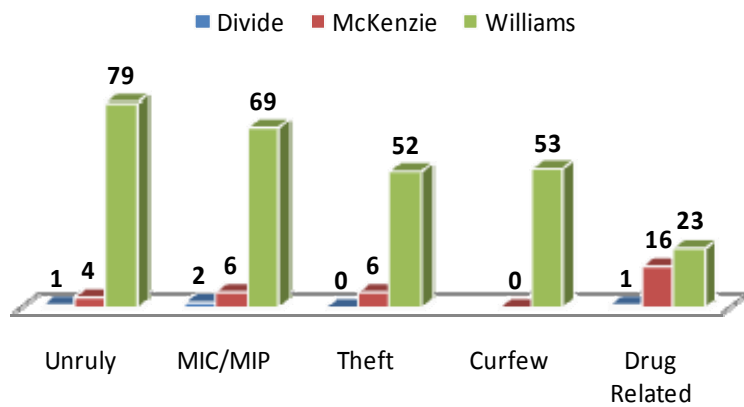
NWJD - Minot Office Delinquent Referral by Level



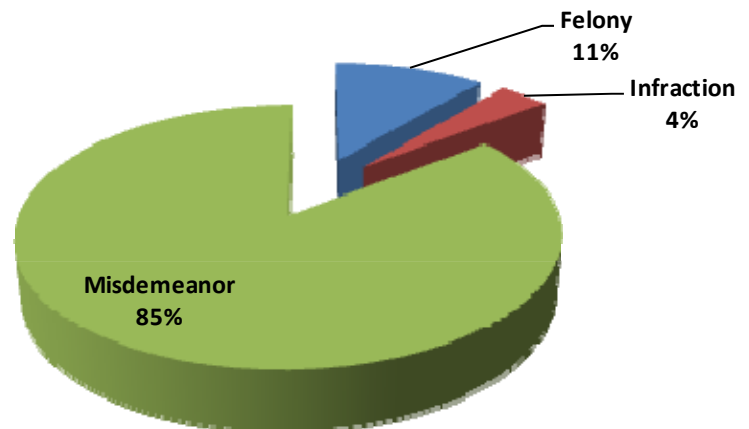
NWJD - Williston Office Referrals by Category



NWJD - Williston Office Most Common Referral Types

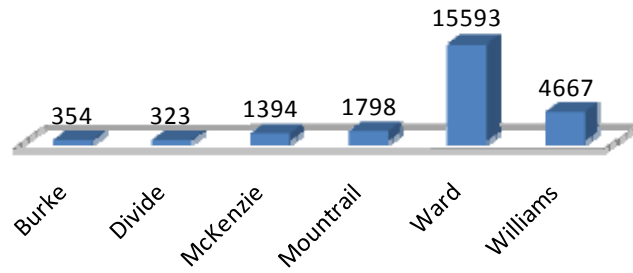


NWJD - Williston Office Delinquent Referrals by Level

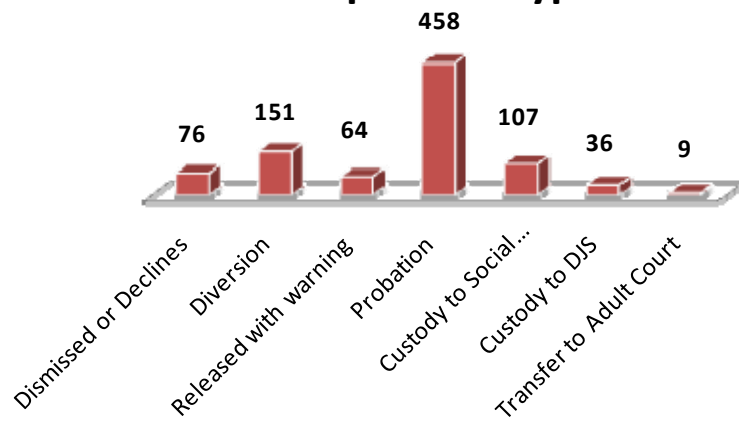


Unit 4 Youth Population Ages 0-18

2008 NDKidsCount



Unit 4 Disposition Types



Director's Summary & Goals for 2011

The Juvenile Courts of North Dakota have a strategic plan written by the four Directors of Juvenile Court. The top goals are:

1. Develop and improved probation programming.
2. Improve access to mental health screening, evaluation and treatment for youth.
3. Improve custodial placements.
4. Enhance court staff professional development.
5. Ensure relevant data capture and analysis.

The goals for the Juvenile Courts are outlined in that plan, but there are other goals as well that have been discussed and will be implemented in the upcoming years in the court system.

Philosophically speaking, the Directors have looked at the national research and literature, and have taken that information to create even more goals and a philosophy in keeping with the state of the art in juvenile justice.

We are currently beginning a study of the detention facilities in the state to determine criteria and rules regarding juveniles in detention. The study evolved from a Drug Court study to expand into the whole state detention network. We are trying to determine recidivism in light of detention commitments.

The second issue of merit is transfer to adult court. In light of all of the current research, it is clear that only in the most extreme cases, should a child be transferred to the adult court. An adolescent's brain will not become fully developed until age 25, which holds huge implications for the court doing transfers at the age of 14, even for a murder case. To stay ahead of the national curve, we are clearly encouraging our staff, the States Attorneys, and Defense counsel to consider this information when making decisions for a child's life and their future.

The Directors are working hard to insure geographic equity in terms of the services available. Opportunities for rehabilitation should not be limited to the urban areas. Therefore, utilization of such technologies as web education, expansion of service contracts, and advanced training for all Juvenile Court staff are imperatives for now and the future.



***Children are
100% of our
future***

GLOSSARY OF PROGRAMS

ACT TEAM- Referrals made to the ACT team involve families with complex issues involving their child/children. Identification of needed services and who can provide it are the goal of the first meeting. Representatives from many different agencies sit at the referral meeting and offer services to the family on the spot. A plan is constructed and a follow-up is scheduled to monitor progress. Also case management is available to families in need.

ADULT COURT OBSERVATION PROGRAM- Juveniles attend adult hearings to observe and report back on the types of offenses and sentences received in Adult Court.

ADULT MIP CLASS- An education class on alcohol and other drugs for juvenile court offenders who have reached the age of 18.

ALIVE AT 25- A series of classes designed to educate juveniles on the dangers of drinking and driving. Provided by the North Dakota Safety Council.

AMACHI MENTORSHIP- Provides Adult Retired Senior volunteer mentors for youth. The program is designed primarily for children with an incarcerated parent, but all youth are considered if a mentor is available.

ANGER MANAGEMENT- This is a program to assist juveniles in recognizing anger issues, and learning skills to cope with and diffuse inappropriately expressed anger.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND SANCTION PROGRAMS- There are several educational and/or accountability programs utilized by the Juvenile Court to allow the child to gain insight into their behavior, and to allow them an opportunity to take responsibility for their behavior. These include: Letter of apology, Community Service, Research or Report Paper, Video Report, House Arrest, Robocuff or Electronic Monitoring (EMS).

CAPH- This program is a partial hospitalization program designed for children and adolescents age 17 and under who have a variety of behavioral and emotional difficulties. The program is highly structured and allows the child to participate in a hospital program without actually being hospitalized.

CAREBED PROGRAM- A low intensity residential CD treatment provided by Path Foster Homes.

CD SERVICES- Chemical dependency services includes: Screening, Evaluation, Education, Outpatient, Inpatient, and Aftercare. A child would be referred if it is suspected that he/she has a problem, or an alcohol or other drug charge that would indicate an involvement with chemicals.

COGNITIVE RESTRUCTURING- These are educational programs which have been shown to be one of the most effective programs in working with at-risk youth. These programs address decision-making from our experiential perspective to providing tools and skills to change behavior and follow through with that change. Some of the cognitive programs offered throughout the state include: KEYS to Innervision, Youth Cog Program, Decision-Making 101, GREAT Girls Group, GAP Girls Group, STRIKE TWO, Life Management and EQUIP.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL (a.k.a. COMMUNITY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COUNCIL)- An accountability conference where the victim is not present or the victim is the community or a business rather than an individual. Panels of community members sit in place of the victim, and represent their interests at the meeting. A mutually acceptable agreement is developed on ways to repair the harm caused.

COMMUNITY SERVICE- Imposed as a condition of probation, community service requires the offender to work a certain number of hours as reparation to the community. Many different sites are utilized. Some courts have their own program, and others contract or network with community agencies for work sites.

COUNSELING- An array of services that range from individual to family counseling. This may include individual evaluation, treatment and/or counseling for a specific problem area. This could also be for the entire family, to include assessment, treatment, Intensive In-Home counseling or even just support.

DAY TREATMENT- A program in the schools developed for students who have behavioral and/or emotional problems in the classrooms who are referred by Juvenile Court, and who need to be away from the mainstream classroom, but do not meet other special needs criteria. Special staff is assigned who include not only academic services, but also social work methodologies as well. Care is taken to include family as well as the student in addressing student needs.

DAY REPORT- A program provided by Lutheran Social Services in Grand Forks or by the Juvenile Court in Valley City, to attend to the needs of Juveniles in the hours after school, when they would otherwise be unsupervised. This program runs from about 2-8:00 pm. Dinner is provided as well as after-school tutoring, and life skill training.

DD SERVICES- Services provided by the Human Service Centers for the Developmentally Disabled.

DECISION-MAKING 101 - An entry level cognitive restructuring program for youth and their parents designed to help one make better decisions through group activities, and to provide tools and support for effective long term change in behavior.

DRIVING PROGRAMS- Referrals are made to local law enforcement and private providers when a juvenile has a driving or related offense which shows a need for more driving education. These are occasionally alcohol related events as well. The programs available are: ALIVE @ 25, Drivers Safety, YIELD, DUI Seminars and Defensive Driving.

DRUG COURT- Juvenile Drug Court is a decade long program in the state which addresses the needs of chemically dependent children for whom other forms of treatment have been ineffective. The program is from 9-12 month in duration, and monitors every aspect of the child's life over a long period time. The program includes weekly court sessions with the JDC judge and team, rewards and sanctions for behavior, and upon successful completion, may be eligible to have offenses dismissed. This is considered one of the most promising programs for drug addicted youth with chronic chemical issues.

DRUG TESTING- Juveniles on probation may be randomly screened by urinalysis or mouth swab for use of illegal substances. Drug kits are purchased and available to parents as well who request them for home use or parents are referred to a local drug testing agency.

ELECTRONIC MONITORING- (EMS) A home electronic "bracelet" system that allows for restricting and monitoring an offender within the home as an alternative to incarceration.

EQUIP- A cognitive restructuring program designed to help one make better decisions through group activities, and to provide tools and support for effective long term change in behavior.

FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING- The Village Family Services provides this program for utilizing nuclear and extended family for determining the best potential placement for a child who is to be placed out of the home. Extensive research and meetings help to determine a collaborative decision.

FAMILY ASSESSMENT-To assess and recommend services to families with juveniles at risk of out of home placement. The assessment is based on a session with the family in their home and includes current life situations and stressors, and a psycho-social history. Upon completion, an assessment report and recommendations are given to Juvenile Court.

FETAL ALCOHOL SCREENING- In conjunction with Dr. Larry Burd from the University of North Dakota, the state has access to a questionnaire that is filled out by the probation officer in cooperation with the juveniles family to ascertain any fetal alcohol issues that a juvenile may have. Follow-up is provided by Dr. Burd in the event of any issues discovered.

GAP GIRLS GROUP- (GIRLS ASSERTING POWER) A therapeutic group designed to promote self esteem, assertiveness, and to gain self awareness for their potential to succeed. This is free, and taught by Juvenile Court Staff.

GREAT GIRLS GROUP –(GIRLS RESPECTING EACH OTHER AND THEMSELVES) A free weekly group provided by Juvenile Court staff for girls to obtain tools for positive peer relationships, and respecting themselves and the prevention of bullying. This group is for younger girls.

HUNTER SAFETY- Provided by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department in the area of gun and hunting safety, with testing at the conclusion for a satisfactory passing grade. Juveniles are referred for hunting or hunting-related gun violations.

INTENSIVE IN-HOME- Counseling provided for families in the home setting allowing for more flexibility around family work schedules. The sessions may be several times a week for a period of several months.

JOB CORPS- Job Corps is a program administered by the United States Department of Labor that offers free-of-charge education and vocational training to youth ages 16 to 24. The Quentin Burdick Job Corps located in Minot is the main referral source for North Dakota courts.

KEEPING LIFE IN BALANCE - The "Keeping Life In Balance" Program is a diversion program developed for unruly youth referred to the court for first time runaway and curfew violations.

KEYS TO INNERVISION- A cognitive restructuring program designed to help one make better decisions through group activities, and to provide tools and support for effective long term change in behavior.

LIFE MANAGEMENT- A cognitive restructuring group designed to help one make better decisions through group activities, and to provide tools and support for effective long term change in behavior.

MAYSI 2- The Juvenile Court standardized initial mental health screening tool for juveniles placed on probation to determine indicators of mental health issues. Follow up is done when there are red flags for immediate risk to self or others.

MEMS UNIT- A deep lung breath monitor used to detect alcohol 24/7 by use of breath sample and picture ID for high surveillance drug court participants.

MERCER COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU- (MCYB) - A diversion agency with programming to work with low level/low risk youth to keep them out of Juvenile Court.

OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCES- (or YOUTH ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCES) Provided by Lutheran Social Services, a trained mediator sets up a face-to-face contact with the victim of the offense and the offender. The victim and offender attempt to gain closure, and come up with a mutually signed agreement that satisfies the victim, while allowing the offender to make reparations, both for himself and the victim. This may either be a court ordered referral, or a diversion program.

POLICE YOUTH BUREAU-(BISMARCK) - A diversion program provided by the Bismarck Police Department designed to work with low level/low risk youth to keep them out of Juvenile Court.

PRIME FOR LIFE- A drug and alcohol *education* program. (SEE CD SERVICE)

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES- The Juvenile Courts have an array of services provided by the state Human Service Centers. These would include: Psychological Evaluations, Treatment, Psychosexual Evaluation, Sex Offender Education (CAR), Psychiatric Evaluations, Treatment, Family Evaluations, Counseling, and Addiction Services. There are also private providers, such as the local medical facilities or private therapists as well.

ROBOCUFF- A computerized voice recognition system designed to randomly contact a juvenile who is on home restrictions. When called by the computer, the juvenile must repeat a set of numbers back to the computer when called at home, and the computer can recognize the juvenile's voice. If it does not recognize the appropriate voice, a message is sent to the probation officer via email to alert them of the failed cases.

SPARCS- (Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress). This is a group counseling setting for youth who may be traumatized with chronic stress and are acting out in the community and is taught either by Human Service Center staff or trained juvenile court officers.

STRIKE TWO- A cognitive program that is geared toward first time minor delinquency referral or second time unruly offenders. This is a diversion program that alerts the participant that they have reached the point in the juvenile system where one more "strike" could lead to them to falling deeper into the system.

SUNRISE YOUTH BUREAU [SYB] - A diversion agency with programming to work with low level/low risk youth to keep them out of Juvenile Court.

THEFT AWARENESS CLASS- (TAP)- A diversion awareness class for shoplifters or other theft offenders.

THIRD MILLENIUM- An education program that is done online. It is four hours of online education relating to one of four areas: 1) Alcohol 2) Marijuana 3) Shoplifting. This concept will be expanding in the future as the rural areas are a site of huge potential growth for this type of online program.

TRACKING- Traditional: This type of tracking would be a mentoring "Big Brother" or "Big Sister" type program. The child and tracker develop a relationship through positive recreational activities and relationship building experiences. *Intensive:* This type of tracking is an accountability type of tracking where the tracking is mainly checking for drug activities through drug testing, curfew checks, and behavior monitoring.

VICTIM IMPACT PANEL- The Victim Impact Program is meant to provide juveniles the opportunity to hear real stories on impaired driving and the effects it has on people. Speakers talk from experience and share how their life was before the crash, immediately after and how their life has changed since. The goal is for juveniles to think before they get into a car or get behind the wheel after their or the driver's judgment is impaired.

VICTIM EMPATHY CLASS- This class is designed to teach juvenile offenders about the human consequences of crime, with the goal of the juvenile offender accepting responsibility for their past harmful actions. These classes are done when the victim chooses not to participate in an accountability conference, or circumstances would preclude holding a face to face meeting.

YASI- (YOUTH ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL)- The Juvenile Court standardized screening tool for juveniles placed on probation to determine their risk level and area of risk, and also to identify strengths and needs for program planning.

YCAP (BISMARCK) -

YCAP (Bismarck) - Youth Cultural Achievement Program for Native American youth offered by Youthworks. The programs include youth mentoring, wraparound family services and individual counseling.

YCAP- (Williston) A program offered by Human Services for adolescents receiving their first alcohol offense. It is offered every other month, for period of six to eight hours.

YES PROGRAM- A "correspondence" education program for first time juvenile shoplifters.

YIELD- A traffic diversion program designed to educate juveniles who have driving or traffic related offenses.

YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU [YSB] (MANDAN)- A diversion agency with programming to work with low level/low risk youth to keep them out of Juvenile Court.

YOUTHWORKS- A diversion agency with programming to work with unruly and low level/low risk youth experiencing family dysfunction with the aim to keep them out of Juvenile Court. Youthworks also provides an evaluation program from Attendant Care in Bismarck and a short-term shelter in both Bismarck and Fargo.

Family Assessment	√									√	√									
Family Focus	√									√	√									
Family Support	√									√	√									
Group Counseling	√									√	√									
House Arrest	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Hunters Safety	√									√	√									
Keys to Innervation/social skills	√									√	√									
MIP Class	√	√						√	√	√	√									
MAYSI II	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Offender Accountability Conferences	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Parent aid	√									√	√									
Partnership Program	√									√	√							√		
Prime for Life	√									√	√									
Psych Evaluation	√	√								√	√									
Psychiatric Inpatient										√	√									
Psychiatric Outpatient	√									√	√									
Report or Research Paper		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
RoboCUFF	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
SPARCS Group	√									√	√									
Psychosexual evaluation	√									√	√									
Sex Offender Education (CAR)	√									√	√									
Tracking Traditional	√							√		√	√									
Tracking Intensive	√							√	√	√	√							√	√	
Theft Awareness Class (TAP)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Victim Impact Panel (VIP)	√									√	√									
Victim Empathy Class	√									√	√							√	√	
Youth Court/Teen Court										√	√									
MEMS - Alcohol Monitoring										√	√									
Attendant Care	√									√	√									
PYB										√										
SYB	√																			
MCYB									√								√			
YSD											√									

** Note that most programs are offered in the larger areas or county seats but are available to rural youth when they can travel to the site of the program, class or treatment.

UNIT 4

	NWJD WILLISTON			NWJD MINOT		
	Divide	McKenzie	Williams	Burke	Mountrail	Ward
Juvenile Court Programming						
Adult Court Observation/Report						
Adult MIP Class						√
Alive at 25	√	√	√	√	√	√
Anger Management			√			√
Apology Letter	√	√	√	√	√	√
CAPH						√
Carebed Program						
CD Aftercare			√			√
CD Counseling			√			√
CD Outpatient			√			√
CD Day Treatment						
CD Education			√			√
CD Evaluation			√			√
CD I.O.P (Intensive Outpatient)			√			√
CD Inpatient						√
Community Council						
Community Service	√	√	√			√
Counseling-Intensive In-Home				√	√	√
Counseling- Family			√			√
Counseling-Individual			√			√
Day Treatment						
Day Report						
DD Services			√			√
DecisionMaking 101						
Defensive Driving			√			√
Divert						
Drivers Safety						

Driving Restrictions	√	√	√	√	√	√
Drug Court			√			√
Drug Testing	√	√	√	√	√	√
DUI Program						
DUI Seminar			√			√
EMS	√	√	√	√	√	√
EQUIP						
Family Group Decision Making						√
Family Assessment						
Family Focus						
Family Support						
GAP Girls Group						
GREAT Girls Group						
Group Counseling						
House Arrest	√	√	√	√	√	√
Hunters Safety			√		√	√
Keys to Innervision						
Life Management						
MIP Class			√			√
MAYSI II	√	√	√	√	√	√
Offender Accountability Conferences	√	√	√	√	√	√
Parent aid		√	√			√
Partnership Program			√	√	√	√
Prime for Life						
Psych Evaluation			√			√
Psychiatric Inpatient						√
Psychiatric Outpatient			√			√
Report or Research Paper	√	√	√	√	√	√
RoboCUFF	√	√	√	√	√	√
SPARCS Group			√			√
Psychosexual evaluation						√
Sex Offender Education						√
Tracking Traditional		√	√			√

Tracking Intensive		√	√			√
Theft Awareness Class (TAP)						
Victim Impact Panel (VIP)						
Victim Empathy Class	√	√	√	√	√	√
Video Report						√
YIELD						
Youth Court						
ACCI Cog Lifeskills Workbooks						
Keeping Life In Balance						√
Strike Two						√
Sunrise Youth Bureau	√	√	√			
Youth Cog Program			√			√
NW Youth Assessment Center			√			
Juvenile Detention Center						√
Attendant Care						√
Transition Program						√
Stay In School Project						√
Sheltercare						√

**** Note - Many of the programs are located in Williston and Minot, however are available to youth throughout the entire unit.**