## 2021 Annual Report



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### **ARLINGTON JUVENILE COURT JUDGES**



Judge George Varoutsos (left), Judge Robin Robb

### **JDRC CLERK & DEPUTY CLERKS**

### **Mission**

To serve the Court by preparing and dispersing judicial orders, assisting with Court procedures and providing efficient services for the people coming before the Court, other agencies, attorneys and employees within the provisions of the Code of Virginia and Virginia Supreme Court policies



(I to r): Darcee King, Supervising Deputy Clerk; Evelyn Ramos, Margarie Jeffers, Teresa Lara, Joyce Janeway, Deputy Clerks; Ronikka Lartey, Clerk

### **CLERK'S DATA**

### Court Case Comparisons

	2021	2020	2019	2018
Juvenile New Cases				
Traffic	77	97	85	90
Delinquency	277	586	668	821
Custody/Visitation	908	890	1156	1293
Status	151	167	191	194
Total	1413	1740	2033	2398
New Adult Cases				
Misdemeanors	347	322	333	361
Felonies	77	101	91	103
Capias\Show Cause\Other	259	289	397	447
Civil Support	494	470	683	652
Criminal Support	0	0	0	0
Total	1177	1182	1504	1613
Total New/Continued Cases				
Juvenile Cases	3708	4806	5098	6135
Adult Cases	3730	3840	4011	4574
Total	7438	8646	9109	10709
Hearing Results				
Traffic Pre-Paid	25	21	20	22
Juvenile Dispositions	1524	1794	2085	2551
Adult Dispositions	1266	1191	1540	1855
Continued Juvenile Cases	2159	2991	2993	3562
Continued Adult Cases	2464	2649	2471	2719
Total	7438	8646	9109	10709

Source: Virginia Supreme Court

### Restitution Program

The Restitution Program allows victims of crimes to be compensated for their out-of-pocket expenses. Victims provide documentation of their losses and offenders are ordered to repay that amount through the Clerk's office. The judge or the probation officer determines how long the person has to complete payments.

In FY 2021, the Clerk's Office collected \$10,789.77 in restitution. This amount is \$460.72 less than the amount collected in FY 2020.

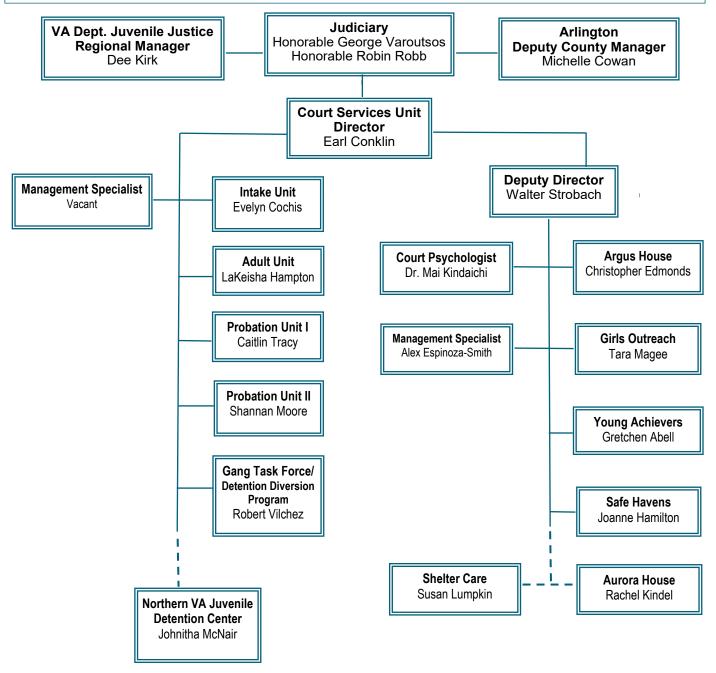
Source: Clerk's Office

## Arlington Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Services Unit



#### **MISSION**

To provide effective, efficient and quality services, programs and interventions to juveniles, adults, and families while addressing public safety, victim impact, offender accountability and competency development in conformance with court orders, provisions of the Code of Virginia and standards set forth by the Department of Juvenile Justice.



### **STAFF**

#### Director

Earl Conklin, MSW

### **Deputy Director**

Rick Strobach, MPA

Staff as of 6/30/21

#### Administrative Staff

Judges Executive Administrative
Assistant Yvonne Duncan
Administrative Assistants:
Sabrina Argumedo
Curtina Wilson-Baba
Elizabeth Owens

#### Gang Task Force & DDP

Coordinator & DDP Supervisor, Robert Vilchez DDP Counselors: Osvaldo Castillo, MA, Ed.S.

> Relief Counselors: Urooj Perez Katherine Herrera

### Psychological Services

Mai Kindaichi, Ph.D.

#### **Management Specialists**

Faye Majette, MPA Alex Espinoza-Smith

#### Intake

Supervisor, Evelyn Cochis, MSW
Intake Counselors:
Alexandra Caltrider
Erika Yalowitz
Diversion Specialist:
Angel Garcia
Court Duty Counselor:
Garbriela Grajeda

#### Safe Havens

Abbell Zecharias

Program Supervisor, Joanne E. Hamilton, BA Visitation Monitors: Maria Cortez Tina Spurlock

#### **Adult Probation**

Supervisor, LaKeisha Hampton Adult Probation Counselors: Kimberly Dexter, MA, MAC, CSAC Marvin Dickerson Mauricio Tagle Lisa Vega

### Juvenile Probation-Unit I

Supervisor, Caitlin Tracy

Juvenile Probation Counselors:
Tim Coffman
Kevin Daniel
Sha'Nyra Lyons
Melissa Villacorta

#### Juvenile Probation-Unit II

Supervisor, Shannan Moore, MS CSAC

Juvenile Probation/Parole Counselors:
Colin Bagwell
Niasha John, MS, CSAC
Autumn Murray

Quality Assurance Specialist: Lacretia Davis

### **School Probation Counselors**

Tony Bentley
Michael D. Calabro
Monica Larrieu
Heather Mizell
Al Reid
William Wheeler

#### Girls' Outreach Program

Program Supervisor, Tara Magee, BSW

Outreach Counselors: Tasia Kizer, M.A, QMHP-C Chamone Marshall, MSW

> Relief Counselors: Jessicka Dickerson Korina Bonilla

### Young Achievers

Program Supervisor Gretchen Abell, MS, CSAC

Counselors: Joseph Jones III, MA Kelii Ligon

### Andrew B Ferrari Argus House Group Home Manager,

Christopher Edmonds, MSW

Residential Supervisor,
Jessica Cabrera
Family Therapist,
Aiina De Trina, LCSW, CSAC

Group Home Counselors:
Tyrell Chatman
Maree Jones, MSW
Emerson Muhammad
Trevor Tufty
Relief Counselors:
Dominic Crowell
Custis Davis
Bridgette Fonville
Bobby Huntley
Detrick Ingram
Sahr Jalloh
Jennifer Sizer
Donald DeLeon Thompson

Administrative Assistant, Vacant Food Service Manager, Dixie Vereen

#### **Aurora House**

Group Home Manager, Rachel Kindell, MSW

Residential Supervisor, Vacant

Therapist,
Dr. Tania Ponomarenko, Ph.D., LCSW

Counselors:
Rachael Ellis
Marissa Oden
Georgina Thompson
Adrienne Williams
Relief Counselors:
Lucy Beard
Annie Joyner
Stephanie Lewis-Hawkins
Michelle Mundey
Samantha Nolet, MSW
Senior Administrative Assistant,
Amy Howell

### **STAFF CHANGES & HIGHLIGHTS**

## Years of Service

Alexandria Caltrider	5
Kevin Daniel	5
Autumn Murray	5
Mauricio Tagle	5
Lissette (Lisa) Vega	20
Robert Vilchez	20
Alexandria (Alex) Espinoza-Smith	30

<sup>\*</sup> Years of Service is based on the calendar year.

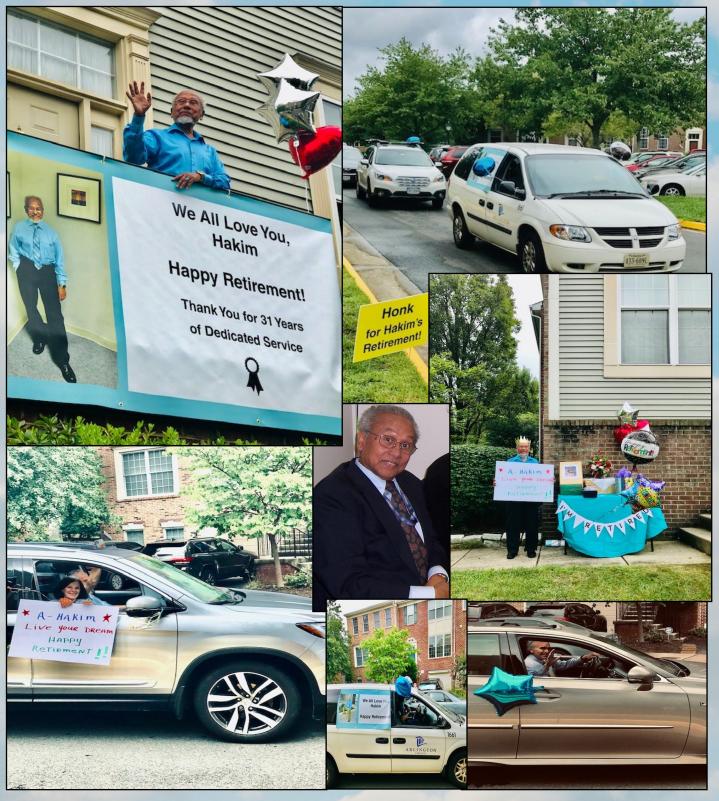


Abbell Zecharias - Court Duty Counselor LeKeisha Hampton - Adult Unit Supervisor

## **Departures**

Karla Alfaro - Juvenile Probation Tina Asinugo - Argus House Andre Taylor - Argus House Margarie Jeffers - Clerk's Office Hakim Khandoker - Retired

# Officially Retired Let the fun begin



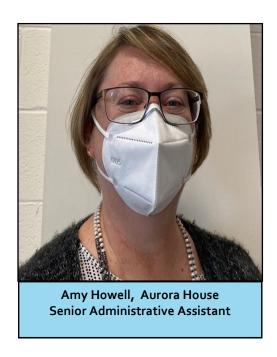
Our beloved Mr. Hakim Khandoker retired during the COVID-19 pandemic and was honored by caravan of co-workers, and past CSU retirees who would not allow the pandemic to prevent them from driving by Mr. Hakim's home to wish him a happy retirement.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**



thank you!

thank you!



The administrative staff provides vital support critical to the smooth operation of the CSU and good customer service.







### **EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE (EBP) DEFINITIONS**

**Effective Practices in Community Supervision** (EPICS) is cognitive behavioral interventions designed to help our clients learn and practice new skills, including new ways of thinking and replacement behaviors. It is an evidence-based model that probation counselors use to structure contact sessions with their clients. The four-part EPICS format consists of check-in, review, intervention and homework.

**Incentives and Sanctions** holds that rewarding positive behavior is more effective in producing long-term positive change than punishing negative behavior. Research demonstrates that punishment alone is an ineffective intervention for many offenders (Leukefeld et al. 2002).

**Motivational Interviewing** was introduced to the field of corrections in the 1990s through the Evidence Based Practices (EBP) model as a method of enhancing intrinsic motivation. Counselors use it as an approach to counseling communication, building rapport, and tapping internal motivation of the clients they work with (https://NCIC.gov).

The **Standardized Dispositional Matrix** (SDM) was developed to provide a structured decision-making tool to probation staff to assess cases in an equitable and reliable manner. Families are asked to participate with the SDM at the preadjudication level. Probation staff then complete a brief assessment that produces a recommendation for the court based on the criminal offense and the risk level of the youth and reduces the subjectivity of recommendations made without the tool.

The **Youth Assessment Screening Instrument** (YASI) is a tool used by probation staff to determine risk levels and needs of the youth who come before the court. This is an evidence based tool designed to help probation focus on the more moderate and high risk youth, and also helps probation determine what criminogenic risk areas to work on in developing supervision plans. The tool also identifies protective factors (positive things) for each youth in order for probation staff to help build on those.

### **INCENTIVES AND SANCTIONS INITIATIVE**



### **Program Description**

The Incentives Program, officially launched in 2919, is managed by Sabrina Argumedo, Tim Coffman, Lacretia Davis, Marvin Dickerson, and Angel Garcia. The program provides Probation Counselors with gift cards they can provide to adults or youth under their supervision to reinforce and incentivize pro-social behaviors. The program utilizes a tier system that aligns client behavior with an appropriate incentive that counselors use to reward clients for prosocial behavior.

#### **Best Practices**

In our direct interactions with clients, we are implementing evidence-based techniques that enhance the alliance between the probation counselor and probationer in order to achieve lasting behavioral changes. A crucial aspect of achieving lasting change is the use of incentives rather than punishment. Our counselors are trained in the evidence-based Effective Practices and Community Supervision (EPICS) model which recommends four incentives to every one sanction, which is the ideal ratio for achieving desired behavioral changes. Research supports this practice, coupled with other evidence-based interventions, because is proven to help reduce recidivism.

### **Special Initiatives**

The Incentives Program is funded by the Court Services Unit, however the program also seeks funding from community organizations. The Arlington Bar Association awards yearly grants towards projects, programs, or initiatives that promote improvements in the criminal justice system. The Incentives Program received both a \$500 and \$1000 grant in 2021.

"Rewarding positive behavior is more effective in producing long-term positive change than punishing negative behavior."

### **Key Trends**

Clients communicate that they are motivated to comply with probation and court orders, i.e., abstaining from substances, attending class regularly, and engaging in services, in order to earn incentives. The incentives program supports behaviors that increase clients' protective factors and serves as a buffer against delinquency. The frequency with which probation counselors use and document incentives has steadily increased since the program began.

The CSU is consistently achieving and exceeding the ideal ratio of four incentives to every sanction given to clients. In FY 21, there were 476 incentives and 108 graduated sanctions recorded, which translates to a 4.4 to 1 incentives to sanction ratio.

### **INTAKE UNIT**

The **Intake Unit**receives and processes
civil and criminal
complaints as it is the
first point of access to
the court.
Intake serves as an
information and referral
source, and provides
diversion and counseling
services.

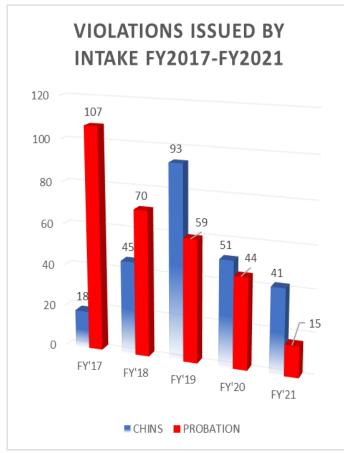
Intake utilizes the evidence-based Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) to aid in making recommendations to the court regarding detainment of youth. The Youth Assessment Instrument (YASI) is used for pre-screening youth to assess their risk level and to determine service needs for diversion cases. Effective Practices In Community Supervision (EPICS) is a four-part, evidence based model that Intake Counselors use to structure contacts with diversion clients.

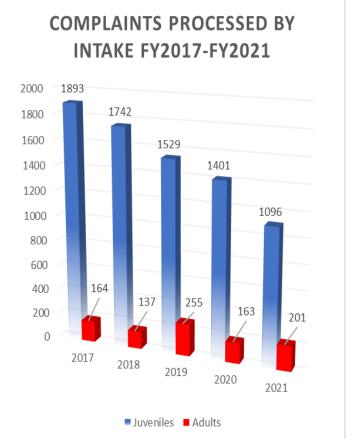
Throughout FY 21, the Intake Unit continued practices initiated at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Intake Unit continues to take inquiries from law enforcement, the Department of Social Services and citizens virtually.

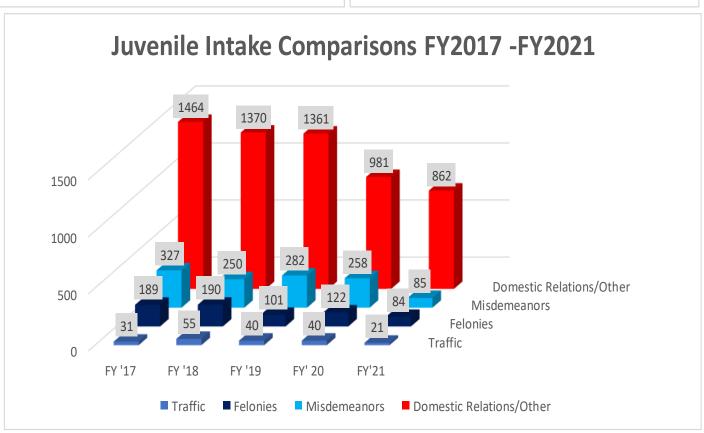


L to R - Abell Zecharias, HIT Duty Counselor; Evelyn Cochis, Intake Supervisor; Sabrina Argumedo, Administrative Assistant; Alexandra Caltrider, Erika Yalowitz, and Angel Garcia, Intake Counselors

### **FY 2021 INTAKE HIGHLIGHTS**







### **ARLINGTON JUVENILE OFFENSES BY TYPE**

Data Source: DJJ BADGE Intake Reports

ALC-4165-M1	ALCOHOL/Under 21 Years Old/Purchase, Possession Or Consumption By Person Less Than Age 21	4
ALC-4185-M1	ALCOHOL/Under 21 Years Old/First Offender Violation; Possession Etc. Alcohol	1
ASL-1313-M1	ASSAULT/Simple Assault/Simple Assault / Assault And Battery	4
ASL-1315-M1	ASSAULT/Simple Assault/Simple Assault, Against Family Member	5
ASL-1319-F9	ASSAULT//Firearm Use In Commission Of Felony-(First Offense)	3
ASL-1329-M1	ASSAULT/Mob/Simple, By Mob	1
ASL-1334-F3	ASSAULT//Stabbing, Cutting, Wounding With Malicious Intent	1
ASL-1336-F2	ASSAULT/Malicious Wounding/Stab, Cut, Wound W/Malicious Intent Victim Perm. Impaired	1
ASL-1342-F6	ASSAULT/Law Enforcement, Court, Fire, Medic/Simple Assault On Law Enforcement, Court, Doc, Fire/Medical, Etc.	2
BUR-2213-F9	BURGLARY/Statutory - Larceny, Other Felony O/Dwelling House With Intent To Commit Larceny, A&B, Etc.	3
BUR-2216-F9	BURGLARY/Statutory - Larceny, Other Felony O/Other Structure With Intent To Commit Larceny, A&B, Etc.	2
BUR-2221-F3	BURGLARY/Common Law/Dwelling At Night W/Intent To Commit Felony Or Larceny	2
CON-5009-J9	CONTEMPT OF COURT/Juvenile And Domestic/Child In Need Of Supervision Violates Court Order	10
CON-5014-S9	CONTEMPT OF COURT/Juvenile And Domestic/Failure To Obey Summons	3
DIS-5311-M1	DISORDERLY CONDUCT//Disorderly Conduct	1
FAM-3810-F6	LABOR/Child Abuse And Neglect/Endangerment, Cruelty Or Injuries To Children	1
FAM-3856-J9	FAMILY OFFENSE/Tobacco - Civil/Purchase, Attempted Purchase Or Possession Of Tobacco By Minor	1
FRD-2505-M1	FRAUD/Identity Fraud/Obtain Identifying Info. To Avoid Arrest Or Impede Investigation	2
FRD-2517-F6	FRAUD/Forging - Bank Notes, Etc./Possess Forged Bank Notes Or Coins-10 Or More	1
FTA-5019-F6	FAILURE TO APPEAR//Fail To Appear In Court For Felony Offense	5
FTA-5020-M1	FAILURE TO APPEAR//Fail To Appear In Court For Misdemeanor Offense	6
HIT-6603-M1	TRAFFIC - HIT AND RUN, ACCIDENT REP/Hit And Run/Damage To Attended Property-Driver Fails To Report (Less Than \$1000)	1
HIT-6608-F5	TRAFFIC - HIT AND RUN, ACCIDENT REP/Hit And Run/Victim Injured - Driver Fails To Stop, Report Or Assist	2
HIT-6610-M1	TRAFFIC - HIT AND RUN, ACCIDENT REP/Hit And Run/Damage Over \$250-Driver Fails To Report Or Leave Note	1
HIT-6614-F6	TRAFFIC - HIT AND RUN, ACCIDENT REP/Hit And Run/Victim Injured-Passenger Fail To Report	1
ICJ-8101-J9	INTERSTATE COMPACT/Juvenile And Domestic/Return Of Absconders, Escapees, Accused Delinquents - Article I(lii)	3
JUS-4810-M1	OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE/Name, False Identity/Falsely Identify Self To Law-Enforcement	1
JUS-4811-M1	OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE/False Report/False Statement During Investigation Of Another'S Crime	1
JUS-4831-M1	OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE/Fleeing - Resisting Arrest/Prevent Law Enforcement Officer From Making Arrest	1
KID-1010-F5	KIDNAPPING/Force, Deception Or Intimidation/Abduct By Force Without Justification	4
LAR-2359-F9	LARCENY/Grand/\$1000 Or More Not From Person	2
LAR-2361-F9	LARCENY/Grand/\$5 Or More From Person	2
LAR-2366-M1	LARCENY/Petit/Less Than \$1000 Not From Person	15
LAR-2383-F9	LARCENY/Firearm/Firearms, Regardless Of Value, Not From Person	1
LAR-2404-F9	LARCENY/Grand/Auto Theft	25
LAR-2412-F6	LARCENY/Unauthorized Use/Unauthorized Use Of Animal, Auto, Boat Worth \$1000 Or More	10
LAR-2708-M1	LARCENY/Embezzlement/Embezzlement, Less Than \$1000	1
LAR-2808-F9	LARCENY/Receiving/Possession/Receive Stolen Property/Goods - \$1000 Or More	4
LAR-2809-M1	LARCENY/Receiving/Possession/Receive Stolen Property/Goods - Less Than \$1000	1
LAR-2810-F6	LARCENY//Receipt Of Transfer Of Vehicle, Aircraft, Or Boat	2
LAR-2817-F6	LARCENY/Receiving\Possession/Receive Stolen Firearm	1
LIC-6808-M2	TRAFFIC - OPERATOR'S LICENSE/No License/Drive Without A Valid License	6

### **ARLINGTON JUVENILE OFFENSES BY TYPE**

LIC-6829-M2	TRAFFIC - OPERATOR'S LICENSE/Learner'S/Operate Vehicle Without Licensed Driver, Learner'S Permit Violation	2
MOB-1291-F5	GANGS/Participation/Participation In Criminal Act For Benefit Or Direction Of Ga	1
MOV-6450-I9	TRAFFIC - MOVING VIOLATIONS, GENERA//Speeding-10 To 19 Mph Above Speed Limit	2
MOV-6457-l9	TRAFFIC - MOVING VIOLATIONS, GENERA//Entering Highway, Fail To Stop Or Yield Before	2
MOV-6475-I9	TRAFFIC - MOVING VIOLATIONS, GENERA/Infraction/Speeding In Residential Area Etc.	2
MOV-6481-l9	TRAFFIC - MOVING VIOLATIONS, GENERA/Infraction/Speeding - Limit Set By Transportation Commissioner	9
NAR-3020-S9	NARCOTICS/Marijuana/Possess Marijuana (Civil)	2
NAR-3022-F5	NARCOTICS/Schedule I Or li Drugs/Possession	3
NAR-3031-M1	NARCOTICS/Marijuana/Sell, Distribute, Pwi, One Ounce Or Less	1
NAR-3136-F6	NARCOTICS/Schedule lii To Vi Drugs/Sell, Distribute, Etc. Schedule Iv Drug	1
OBS-3705-F6	OBSCENITY/Minors/Unlawful Filiming, Videotaping Or Photographing A Minor	2
OBS-3712-M4	OBSCENITY/Drunkenness/Drunk In Public, Intoxicated From Any Drug	1
ORD-9940-S9	ORDINANCE, CITY, OR COUNTY (FOR USE/Obstruction Of Justice/Fail To Show Id Or Identify Self To Police	1
ORD-9958-S9	ORDINANCE, CITY, OR COUNTY (FOR USE/Traffic And Driving/Ordinance Violations Relating To Traffic And Driving	1
PRB-5012-S9	PAROLE, PROBATION, SUPERVISION VIOL/Juvenile And Domestic/Probation Violation - Juvenile And Domestic	13
RAP-1122-M1	SEXUAL ASSAULT/Battery/Battery, Sexual	2
REC-6624-F6	TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING/Police Command, Disregard/Disregard Police Command To Stop, Endangement	4
REC-6625-M1	TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING//Endanger Life Or Limb	1
REC-6631-M2	TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING/Police Command, Disregard/Fail To Stop For Police, Attempt To Escape Or Elude	1
REC-6646-M1	TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING/Speeding/20 Mph Or More Over Speed Limit	3
REC-6648-M1	TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING/Speeding/Speed Over 85 Mph	2
REG-6735-M1	TRAFFIC - REGISTRATION, PLATES, ETC//Title Issued To Another, Possess	1
REG-6751-l9	TRAFFIC - REGISTRATION, PLATES, ETC/Infraction/Expiration Of Registration, Expired Plates	1
ROB-1204-F9	ROBBERY//Street With Use Of Gun	1
ROB-1214-F9	ROBBERY//Street	10
ROB-1217-F9	ROBBERY//Carjacking	8
SIG-655249	TRAFFIC - SIGNS AND SIGNALS//Fail To Obey Signs	1
SIG-655349	TRAFFIC - SIGNS AND SIGNALS//Stop Sign, Fail To Stop At	2
SIG-6578-19	TRAFFIC - SIGNS AND SIGNALS/Infraction/Fail To Obey Highway Sign, Driver Sleeping/Resting	1
SOL-7200-F6	SOLICITATION/Type Not Clear/Solicitation To Commit A Felony	1
STA-3842-J9	STATUS OFFENSES - CHINS SUPERVISION/Juvenile And Domestic/Runaway, Child In Need Of Supervision	18
STA-3844-J9	STATUS OFFENSES/Juvenile And Domestic/Services, Child In Need Of	23
STA-3845-J9	STATUS OFFENSES - CHINS SUPERVISION/Juvenile And Domestic/Truancy, Child In Need Of Supervision	3
TRS-5709-M1	TRESPASS/Other/After Being Forbidden To Do So	2
VAN-2922-M1	VANDALISM, DAMAGE PROPERTY/Property/Intentionally, Damage/Destroy Any Property Or Monument, <\$10	2
VAN-2926-M3	VANDALISM, DAMAGE PROPERTY/Trees/Damage To Trees Etc. In Park Or On State Land	2
VAN-2949-M1	VANDALISM, DAMAGE PROPERTY/Vehicle/Vehicle, Aircraft Or Boat	8
VAN-2956-F6	VANDALISM, DAMAGE PROPERTY/Property/Intentionally, Damage/Destroy Any Property Or Monument >=\$10	7
WPN-5202-M1	WEAPONS/Concealed/Carry Concealed Weapon	2
WPN-5268-M1	WEAPONS/Minors/Possess Handgun Or Assault Rifle Under Age 18	3
WPN-5296-F6	WEAPONS/Felon/Convicted Felon (Violent) Possess/Transport Firearm	1
	Total Arlington FY2021 Juvenile Intake Complainants:	298

### **FALLS CHURCH JUVENILE OFFENSES BY TYPE**

Data Source: DJJ BADGE Intake Reports

ASL-1313-M1	ASSAULT/Simple Assault/Simple Assault / Assault And Battery	1
LIC-6808-M2	TRAFFIC - OPERATOR'S LICENSE/No License/Drive Without A Valid License	1
LIC-6829-M2	TRAFFIC - OPERATOR'S LICENSE/Learner'S/Operate Vehicle Without Licensed Driver, Learner'S Permit Violation	1
LIC-6876-M2	TRAFFIC - OPERATOR'S LICENSE/Learner'S/Passengers, More Than One And Driver Under Age 21	1
MOV-6464-I9	TRAFFIC - MOVING VIOLATIONS, GENERA//Speeding- Business/Residential District	1
MOV-6481-I9	TRAFFIC - MOVING VIOLATIONS, GENERA/Infraction/Speeding - Limit Set By Transportation Commissioner	2
PED-6934-I9	TRAFFIC - PEDESTRIANS//Pedestrian Right-Of-Way-Violate	1
PRB-5012-S9	PAROLE, PROBATION, SUPERVISION VIOL/Juvenile And Domestic/Probation Violation - Juvenile And Domestic	2
REC-6646-M1	TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING/Speeding/20 Mph Or More Over Speed Limit	3
VAN-2940-F6	VANDALISM, DAMAGE PROPERTY/Vehicle/Shoot Or Throw Missile At Train, Car Vessel W/O Malice	2
	Total Falls Church FY2021 Juvenile Intake	15

### **JUVENILE COURT DIVERSION**

The Juvenile Court seeks to divert youth from formal court contact whenever possible. According to research, the less contact youth have with the court system, the more positive their outcomes. A case is diverted and handled informally when no petition is filed, and the juvenile is provided an opportunity to resolve the complaint without formal court intervention. In these cases, the intake officer "diverts" the youth to a program or service designed to address the underlying behaviors that contribute to the offense. This process is known as "diversion".

The Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI) is an evidence-based tool intake counselors use to access risk level and service needs for diversion cases. They also use Effective Practices In Community Supervision (EPICS), a four-part, evidence-based model used to structure contact sessions with diversion clients.

A diversion plan is developed with the youth and family. General agreements of the plan include good behavior at home, school, and in the community. Diversion of a case includes, but is not limited to, referral for counseling, programs, services, and informal supervision. Diversion contracts are for a maximum of 120 days, except in truancy cases where the contract does not exceed 90 days.

Resources used to support diversion includes Intervention Prevention Education (IPE) and Second Chance. The CSU contracts with Northern Virginia Family Service for IPE to offer gang prevention/

intervention services. Second Chance is a collaborative substance abuse prevention community effort that provides education and refusal strategies to middle and high school students.

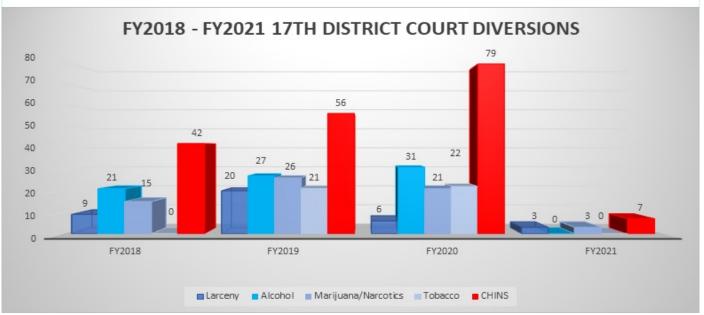
### **CSU Programs that support diversion**

- RISE Program (mentoring for youth)
- Truancy (youth, family, school official and therapist meet to address school attendance)
- Victim Impact Program (structured curriculum focused on youth taking responsibility, assessing core values, victim empathy through discussion, group activities, role plays and watching videos)
- Girls Outreach Program (after school program provides supervision, support and structure)

Two important events contributed to the drastic reduction in the number of diversion cases filed this year. The COVID-19 state of emergency began in last quarter of FY 20, and persisted throughout FY 21.

In order to reduce the spread of the virus, schools and public buildings were closed and operated in a virtual format. Truancy petitions were not filed and access to diversion services in general were limited during this time.

The penalty for possession of marijuana in Virginia was reduced to a civil offense in July 2020, carrying a \$25 fine, which may have also had an impact on the number of diversion cases.



### **JUVENILE COURT EARLY DIVERSION**

"Early Diversion" is a new service that has been developed over the past two years. It is the process of redirecting youths' at-risk behaviors into positive channels under the structured supervision and guidance of concerned parents and responsible adult role models, so the youths never become involved in a formal court process.

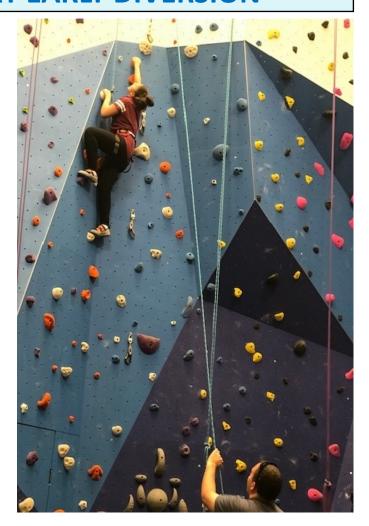
Diversion, however, is a commonly used approach designed to keep youth from going further in the formal court process. The difference is a there is no court intake in "Early Diversion", whereas in Diversion there is a court intake.

Arlington JDRC researches best practices for serving youth and families and develops programs and services based on empirical data and model programs. "It is believed that formal processing and incarceration of youths leads to a greater likelihood of future criminal behavior, and that alternatives such as decriminalization, deinstitutionalization and diversion are better for long-term youth development." (OJJDP, Model Programs Guide, Diversion Programs).

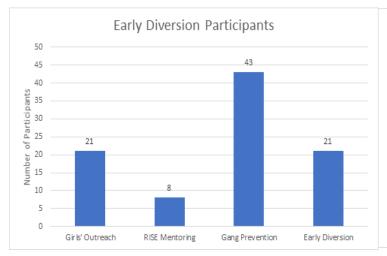
Youth who exhibit at-risk behaviors at home, school or in the community may be brought to the attention of the Early Diversion outreach program specialist by parents, school officials, police officers, or social workers and mental health professionals.

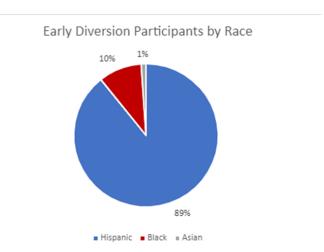
Youth involved in early diversion services benefited from participation in the following programs:

- Girls' Outreach Program Tara McGee, Supervisor
- ◆ Gang Prevention Robert Vilchez, Gang Task Force
- ◆ RISE Mentoring Erika Yalowitz, Coordinator
- Early Diversion Community Outreach Angel Garcia, Coordinator



Youth & mentor participating in Early Diversion rock climbing activity organized by the Girls' Outreach Program





### **VICTIM IMPACT PROGRAM**



Co-facilitators, Lacretia Davis (I) and Alexandria Caltrider

"Participants are guided in values clarification activities which helps them identify their values (what is important to them) and learn prosocial behaviors."

#### **Program Description**

The Victim Impact Program (VIP) helps to promote empathy, accountability and rehabilitation of court involved youth. In VIP, juveniles process their offenses and its impact on members of the community and/or the victim. The class uses intensive group discussions where participants can process and understand the negative effects of their crimes. Participants are guided in values clarification activities which helps them identify their values (what is important to them) and learn prosocial behaviors. In addition, youth are invited to visualize their futures and discuss what makes them feel proud. They are constantly prompted to reflect on the disconnect between their delinquent behavior and the vision they have for their future.

#### **Best Practices**

The Victim Impact Program is offered in two class types. Court-ordered participants and diversion clients take the class separately in order to diminish engagement between clients with lower and higher risk of recidivism. Classes for court-ordered youth are offered quarterly. Diversion-referred classes are offered on a case-by-case basis.

### **Special Initiatives**

Since the start of the pandemic, VIP adapted its program to be offered virtually. Clients with sexual offenses are offered the class separately in order to give them an opportunity to participate without stigma from their peers. In addition, the program also accepts referrals from probation counselors and other programs within our Court Services Unit.

#### **Key Trends**

There were 21 court-ordered referrals during FY21. Victim Impact Program classes were offered quarterly in which 17 clients successfully completed the program. From the remaining four referrals, three did not complete the program and their cases were closed in court. The remaining one, was terminated from the program due to poor conduct during class and a violation was filed by the probation counselor.

### RISE MENTORING PROGRAM



Erika Yalowitz Program Coordinator

### **Program Description**

The RISE Mentoring Program works to match atrisk youth with responsible, caring adults in the Arlington and City of Falls Church community. Mentors are carefully selected through a recruitment process that involves personal interviews, record checks and training. Mentee referrals are received from various sources including Probation Officers, Intake Officers, Department of human Services, School Counselors and parents.

Parents complete applications with information about the minors and authorization to participate in the scheduled activities that may include transportation, food, formational and recreational activities free to the group. The activities intend to facilitate bonds between mentors and mentees and provide a support network for young people at risk of criminal behavior, truancy or runaway behavior.

### **Key Trends**

During the fiscal year 2020-2021 the RISE Mentoring program operated at 50% with six events scheduled. The group had several new mentee applications and participants, and mentors were consistently the same as in the previous fiscal year. RISE in-person and indoor events were limited due to continued Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and the Program communicated by using the WhatsApp application on mobile phones through a private group for mentors and mentees. Group members and staff interact an average of four times monthly to check-in and plan future programming. The program had an average of seven

participants present per activity. Mentor recruitment was stalled during 2020-2021 due to constraints in the completion of fingerprinting and new record checks. Mentee recruitment was ongoing and received referrals from DHS, Probation Officers, and CSU Special Programs.

### **Best Practices**

The Program includes training for mentors and mentees. Mentors must complete all record checks as mandated for Arlington County employees and CSU volunteers as well as a 2-hour training that includes information on best practices for mentors, child abuse prevention, and guidance for handling emergency situations. The mentee training includes best practices for establishing a respectful mentor-mentee relationship and guidance on handling emergency situations.

### **Special Initiatives**

During FY 21, the RISE Mentoring team scheduled mentor-mentee activities at outdoor facilities, such as Gravely Point Park, Lacey Woods Park, Roosevelt Island, and an open bus tour of Washington D.C. The group also attended a virtual concert via Zoom, offered by a RISE mentor to benefit a local non-profit organization. This was the first virtual event enjoyed by the group with Doordash food delivery gift cards provided instead of the usual dinner together. The mentor-mentee group also attended a movie theater with proper social distancing protocols.

"We welcome and appreciate the support of volunteers to assist with the RISE Youth Mentoring Program, Argus and Aurora House group homes, the Young Achievers' and Girls' Outreach Programs, and the Safe Haven child visitation and exchange program."

### **INTERAGENCY TRUANCY PROGRAM**



Angel Garcia
Diversion Specialist

#### **Program Description**

The Truancy Program is a diversion program established to address truancy and compulsory school attendance requirements. Section 22.1-258 of the Code of Virginia specifies actions for non-compliance after a student has accumulated 5 unexcused absences from school. One of those actions permits an intake officer to defer filing a formal truancy petition for 90 days and to proceed informally by developing a truancy plan.

A major component of the Truancy Program is the Truancy Committee, an interagency team that meets to review cases and develop the truancy plan. The Truancy Committee includes the student and parent/guardian, the school attendance specialist, DHS representative, a private provider representative, and the court's truancy coordinator.

The juvenile and parent/guardian must agree in writing to the truancy plan. If the juvenile does not complete the plan successfully within the 90 day period, the truancy coordinator, in his role as intake officer, shall file the petition. The truancy coordinator is the in-house resource on truancy matters and attends court hearings in cases where a formal petition is filed.

### **Special Initiatives**

The public schools remained closed throughout FY 21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic with students continuing to attend school on a virtual plat-

form from home, thereby creating new challenges for monitoring school attendance.

The interagency truancy team met weekly amidst the COVID-19 pandemic to establish new approaches to monitoring student attendance, and be supportive to students and families during the pandemic. Due to the various issues related to the pandemic, (virtual learning, connectivity, physical health/mental health, child care, financial hardship) juvenile court suspended hearings, except in cases accompanied by self-harm, violence, and absconding behaviors. The JDR truancy diversion specialist used this as an opportunity to launch a new early diversion program to support youth and parents with outreach engagement, including home visits, to divert youth from formal court intake.

"The truancy committee is an interagency team that meets to review cases and develop the truancy plan."

### **Best Practices**

The truancy diversion specialist is fully trained in the use of YASI, motivational interviewing and EPICS as assessment and counseling engagement tools in working with youth and families.

#### **Key Trends**

During FY 21 there were twenty three referrals to the interagency truancy committee; all were successful except two which resulted in formal CHINS petitions. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schools remained closed, and virtual classes from students' homes continued throughout the year.

Most of the referrals to the truancy program were high school students. Common reasons for truancy were bad sleeping habits, dislike of the virtual format, lack of supervision, disconnect between parents and school, and students experiencing anxiety and depression.

### NORTHERN VIRGINIA JUVENILE DETENTION HOME

Program Description The Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center (NVJDC) is a secure detention facility in Alexandria, Virginia, that is certified to operate by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. The facility serves adolescents who have been confined by the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court or a Circuit Court. The NVJDC operates under the authority of a five-member, juvenile detention commission and is managed by an executive director. The commissioners are appointed by the three jurisdictions served by the center, and in FY2021 included the following:

<u>City of Alexandria: Mike Mackey, Pamela Rana Stewart</u> <u>Arlington County: Earl Conklin (Chair), Zakiya Worthy</u>

City of Falls Church: Alex Boston

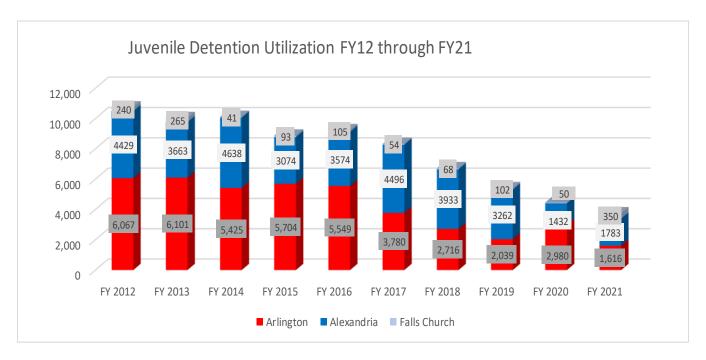
NVJDH Executive Director: Johnitha McNair

Population Served NVJDC provides pre-dispositional detention services to youth who are alleged to have committed an act that would be a felony or Class 1 misdemeanor if committed by an adult. To be placed in the JDC, the youth must also present a clear and substantial threat to the person or property of others or to themselves. Youth may also be sentenced by the court to JDC for a specified period after they have been found delinquent for a criminal offense. This includes sentences of up-to thirty days. In some circumstances, the court may order juveniles to complete the six-month post-dispositional program, called New Beginnings. This program offers a local alternative to commitment to a state correctional center.

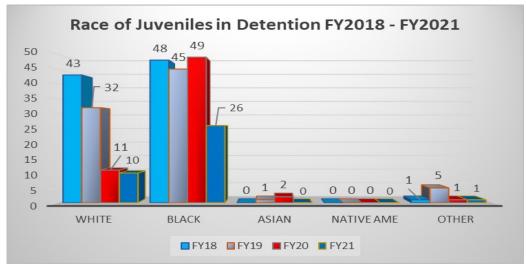
<u>Program Objective</u> The Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center's mission is to create through example, policy, programs, and environment, a safe and secure setting that advocates good mental and physical health for the youth placed in the program.

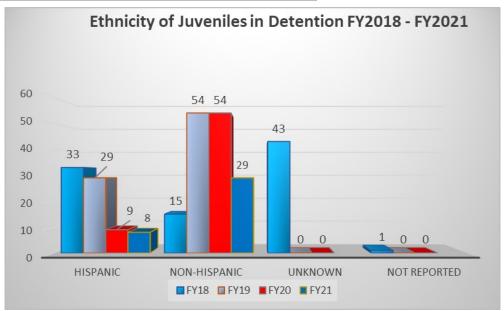
Program Methodology JDC services include education, medical care, recreation, emergency psychiatric intervention, life skills training, visitation, and various volunteer programs. The behavior management program is based on positive reinforcement through a level system that allows detainees to earn additional privileges by demonstrating positive behaviors. Mental health services for Arlington youth at NVJDC are provided by a therapist with the Child and Family Services Division of the Arlington Department of Human Services. Alexandria City Public Schools provide teachers certified by the Virginia Department of Education to teach Math, English, Social Studies, Science, and Art. Instructional staff includes special education teachers, a literacy coach and an English language learner's teacher.

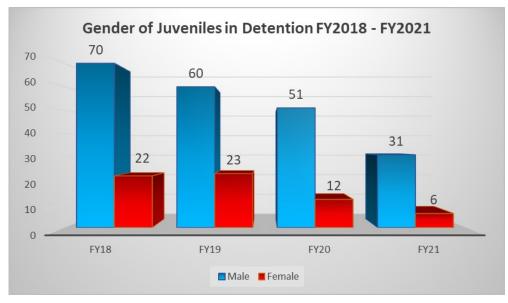
Key Trends The Arlington Juvenile Justice System has established priorities to, 1) reduce the overall use of secure detention for youth; and 2) to reduce racial and ethnic disparities among youth placed in the facility. Key strategies to achieve these goals have been the use of a structured decision-making tool – the Juvenile Detention Instrument – and the reduction of technical violations among youth of color that contribute to placement of youth in JDC. These efforts have contributed to a decline in placements in the JDC of 73.4% since FY 2012.



### **ARLINGTON JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER DEMOGRAPHICS**







### **DETENTION DIVERSION**

### **Program Description**

The Detention Diversion Program (DDP) helps reduce the number of youth placed in the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Home (NVJDH) by offering a secure detention alternative. It is a closely supervised, community-based, home detention program that provides intensive supervision for pre and post-dispositional juveniles. Juvenile court judges are the primary source of referrals to the program, and probation counselors refer clients to DDP as a graduated sanction.

The DDP counselors maintain intense supervision and case management of DDP youth by conducting community outreach contacts, schools visits, and daily contacts with primary probation counselors and social services professionals involved with the youth. The court may also order the DDP to utilize Electronic Monitoring (EM) to enhance home detention and supervision of some youth as this is the most restrictive aspect of the program.

The DDP counselor maintained established safety protocols during the second year of the COVID pandemic while maintaining daily contact with youth on house arrest.

#### **Best Practices**

Electronic Monitoring requires youth to wear an ankle transmitter that is monitored by DDP counselors. The ankle transmitter monitors clients in real time and uses GPS tracking to transmit their whereabouts. The DDP counselors are trained in the use of Motivational Interviewing and Effective Intervention in Community Corrections (EPICS) to help DDP clients change negative behaviors and make positive behavioral choices.



Osvaldo Castillo, DDP Counselor

### **Special Initiatives**

The DDP counselors organized and facilitated recreational and enrichment activities with youth to help build positive assets by demonstrating constructive use of free time. The activities also create opportunities for youth to develop positive relationships with caring and supportive adults.

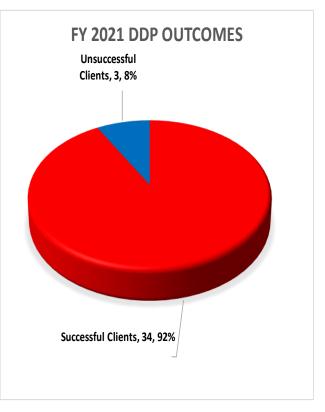
### **Key Trends**

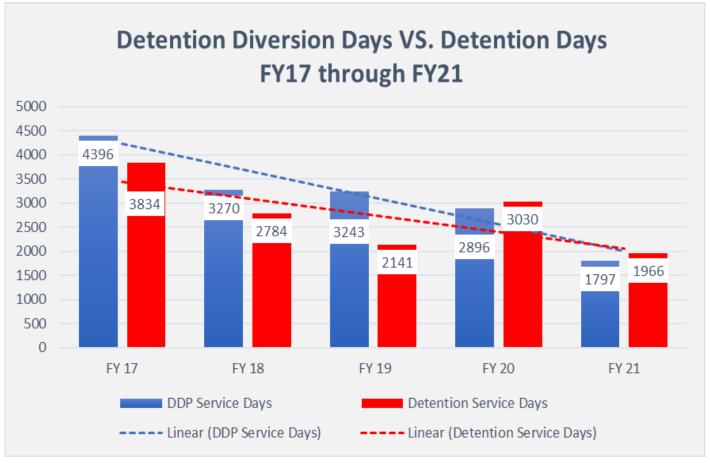
During FY21, there was a notable decrease in DDP cases compared to FY 20; 42 youth were enrolled in DDP in FY 21, whereas 60 youth were enrolled in FY 20.

Latino clients constituted 45% of all referrals, Blacks constituted the second highest at 43%. FY 21 data indicates a slight decrease in the percentage of Latino youth served from 48% to 45%, compared to FY 20 data, while the percentage of Black youth increased from 25% to 43%. The percentage for Whites, Asians and others was less than 12%.

### **DETENTION DIVERSION DATA**

Detention Diversion Program Demographics						
	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21		
Youth Enrolled	81	76	60	*37		
Males	69	55	49	33		
Females	12	21	11	4		
White	15	7	11	21		
Black	21	30	15	15		
Asian	3	5	3	1		
Other Race	2	0	1	0		
Hispanic	40	34	29	17		
Arlington Placements	78	76	56	33		
Falls Church Placements	3	0	4	4		
Service Days	3270	3243	2896	1797		
Utilization Rate	56%**	72.25%	57%	46.5%		





### **JUVENILE PROBATION SERVICES**

### **Program Description**

The Juvenile Court Service unit provides probation supervision to youth under the court's purview for delinquent or status offenses. Probation counselors work with families whose children have delinquency or other behavioral problems, significant emotional, mental health, substance abuse, educational, and/or family concerns. Court service staff work with law enforcement, behavioral health providers, schools, social services, and other agencies securing high quality services based on the needs of a client; always seeking to utilize the least restrictive setting for the provision of services to children and adolescents. Additionally, custody investigations and social history reports make up the majority of the reports that the juvenile probation unit completes. Social history reports are designed to assist the court in identifying the most appropriate level of intervention and services, while custody investigations are used to determine the best custody and visitation outcome for children, and to aid the court in making its decision.

#### **Best Practices**

Juvenile probation counselors provide risk-based supervision for delinquent youth. Probation counselors complete YASI assessments to inform supervision levels, ensuring "right dosage", and targeting of domains with moderate or high risk in order to focus on the "Criminogenic Need". Furthermore, matching high quality services based on the needs of a client identified during assessments and case planning sessions. Behavioral interventions are the most effective tool at reducing recidivism. Probation counselors utilize motivational inter-

viewing skills and a range of EPICS interventions throughout supervision, designed to build motivation, identify/replace risky thinking, and teach pro-social skills. Probation also saw a significant increased use in incentives and graduated sanctions in lieu of violations to further limit youth's involvement into the criminal justice system.

### **Special Initiatives**

During FY21 Counselors continue to perfect use of the SDM (Standardized Disposition Matrix), under the guidance of the Supervisors and the Quality Assurance and Fidelity Specialist. The SDM is a structured decision-making tool, designed to reduce subjectivity; is used during the pre-adjudication level, and was also incorporated into all court-ordered, presentence investigations. The QA&F specialist assists probation supervisors by providing analysis, quality assurance, and internal trainings to ensure CSU client services are delivered with fidelity.

As the pandemic persisted throughout FY 21, probation followed the CSU wide plan that was initiated in FY 20 for responding to this extraordinary emergency. In-person office and field visits with clients were suspended. Counselors maintained contact with clients by use of telephone and video conferencing. Furthermore, in finding new ways to meet their client's needs, probation counselors engaged in virtual learning sessions, delivering EPICS interventions remotely, and focused their efforts on assisting youth with coping skills, assessing for crises and needs and ensuring families were safe and healthy during this unprecedented time.

RISK ASSESSMENT	COMPARISONS

### Arlington— CSU

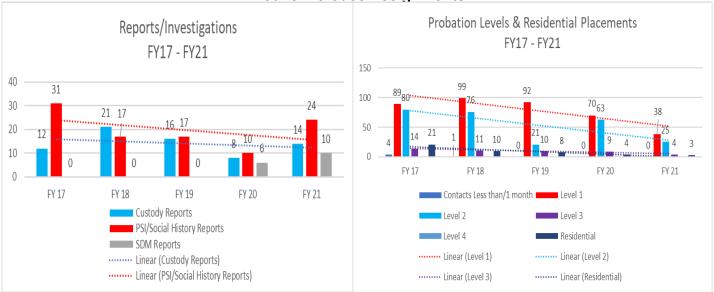
	FY 2018	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2021
Risk	Overall Risk		Overall Risk		Overall Risk		Overall Risk	
Classification	YASI Assessments	Percent	YASI	Percent	YASI	Percent	YASI	Percent
			Assessments		Assessments		Assessments	
Low	29	17%	25	15%	41	28.30%	20	25.30%
Moderate	83	48.50%	91	53%	80	55.20%	48	60.80%
High	59	34.50%	54	32%	24	16.60%	11	13.90%
Total	171	100%	170	100%	145	100%	79	100%

#### Virginia Statewide Data\*

	FY 2018	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2021
Risk Classification	Overall Risk YASI Assessments	Percent						
Low	1956	26.80%	2001	29%	1857	44.80%	918	37.70%
Moderate	3595	49.30%	3194	47%	1723	41.50%	1062	43.60%
High	1707	23.40%	1538	22.80%	567	13.70%	454	18.70%
No			1	0				
Total	7291	100%***	6734	100%	4147	100%	2434	100%

### **JUVENILE SERVICES AND DEMOGRAPHICS**

### **Juvenile Case Assignments**



Probation levels (1 - 4) are determined by the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) with level 4 representing highest risk to reoffend. Frequency of contact with youth is based on the probation level; the higher the probation level, the more frequent the contact with juvenile.

### Juvenile Supervision Services — Total Clients: 71

GENDER, RACE AND ETHNICITY:			AGE:		
Male:	54	76%	Twelve & under:	0	0%
Female:	17	24%	Thirteen:	11	6%
			Fourteen:	17	9%
Black:	29	31%	Fifteen:	25	14%
White:	36	65%	Sixteen:	55	31%
Asian/Pacific Is.:	3	3%	Seventeen & over:	72	40%
Other:	3	1%			
Hispanic Origin:	23	32%			
Non-Hispanic/Unknown	48	68%			
FAMILY PROFILE:			GRADE:		
1 Parent:	27	27%	Seventh & Below:	10	6%
2 Parents:	32	21%	Eighth:	8	4%
Other relatives:	2	1%	Ninth:	27	15%
Institution:	0	0%	Tenth:	48	27%
Foster Care:	2	3%	Eleventh:	51	28%
Guardian	1	1%	Twelfth:	23	13%
Alone	0	0%	Graduated/GED/No longer in school:	7	4%
Unknown	11	47%	Unknown	6	3%
SCHOOLS:	_				
Gunston Middle School:	3	2%	HB Woodlawn High School	1	.5%
Kenmore Middle School: 15.5%	4	2%	Wakefield High School:	28	
Swanson Middle School:	4	2%	Washington-Lee High School:	43	24%
Thomas Jefferson Middle School:	1	.5%	Yorktown High School:	28	
15.5% New Directions:	9	5%	None	2	1%

### **JUVENILE PAROLE**

### **Program Description**

The juvenile parole officer supervises all youth who are committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice and who are in direct care. Once these youth are released from DJJ they are placed on parole and continue to be supervised by the parole officer. In fiscal year 2021, the parole officer position remained vacant due to low numbers of youth committed to DJJ.

#### **Best Practices**

Best practices for parole supervision demonstrates that committed youth should remain connected to their communities and families in order to achieve positive outcomes. In keeping with this practice, DJJ strives to place youth in facilities close to their communities whenever possible and use Community Placement Programs (CPPs) within local detention centers. Free transportation is also offered to the families of committed youth so they can visit and be involved in their child's treatment and services.

### **Special Initiatives**

Community placement programs replaced old, outdated DJJ correctional facilities that were often located in areas inaccessible to many families of committed youth. The CPPs are utilized to place youth in, or near their communities where their families can visit and participate in their service plans. The DJJ provides transportation for families in cases where it is needed, and extended family members are now allowed to visit committed youth. Counselors collaborate with the DJJ Regional Reyouth entry Specialist to help connect with employment and vocational services to improve their outcomes upon return to the community.

#### **Key Trends**

The downward trend of committing youth to DJJ was exacerbated by the COVID 19 pandemic. In fiscal year 2021 there were no new commitments from Arlington or Falls Church City, and only one youth was on community supervision (parole).

PAROLE DATA						
	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21		
Youth Committed to DJJ	6	0	1	0		
Males	6	0	1	0		
Females	0	0	0	0		
White	0	0	0	0		
Black	3	0	1	0		
Asian	0	0	0	0		
Other Race	0	0	0	0		
Hispanic	3	0	0	0		
Youth Correctional Centers Direct Care & CPPs	6	6	1	0		
Males	5	6	1	0		
Females	1	0	0	0		
White	0	0	0	0		
Black	5	4	1	0		
Asian	0	0	0	0		
Other Race	0	0	0	0		
Hispanic	1	2	0	0		
Community Supervision (Parole)			1	1		
Males	2	2	1	1		
Females	0	1	0	0		
White	0	0	0	0		
Black	1	2	2	1		
Asian	0	0	0	0		
Other Race	0	0	0	0		
Hispanic	1	1	0	0		

### **ADULT PROBATION**

### **Adult Unit Description**

The adult unit serves as an extension of the court to support adult offenders and hold them accountable for complying with court ordered conditions in cases of domestic violence, sexual offenses against children, and other family related criminal matters. Occasionally, youthful offenders who turn 18 years old after committing an offense as a juvenile, and placed on probation, may be supervised by the adult unit. In addition to providing probation supervision, the adult unit conducts custody investigations, provides referral services to local community partners which may include, but not limited to the following: mental health, substance abuse, anger management, health and human services, parenting classes, and abuser intervention services, to ensure compliance with court orders and maintain community safety.

### **Best Practices**

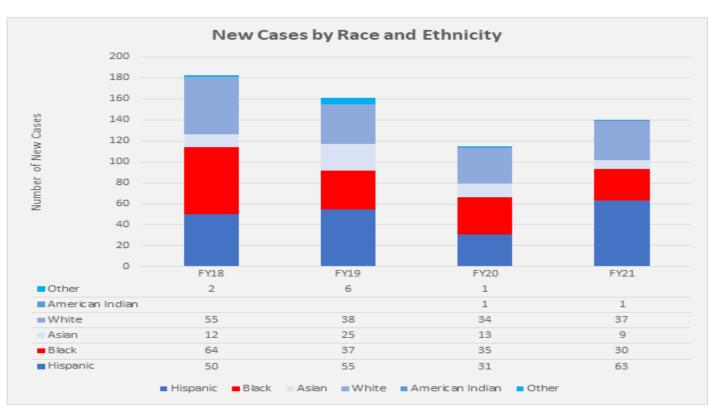
The adult unit uses Effective Intervention in Community Supervision (EPICS) to help clients make positive changes in their behavior. It (EPICS) is an evidence-based approach that utilizes cognitive behavioral strategies provided by thoroughly trained probation counselors. The counselors and supervisor receive training in the correct use of

EPICS, to include refresher courses and ongoing coaching. The unit is also trained to use motivational interviewing along with EPICS to maximize client engagement in the change process.

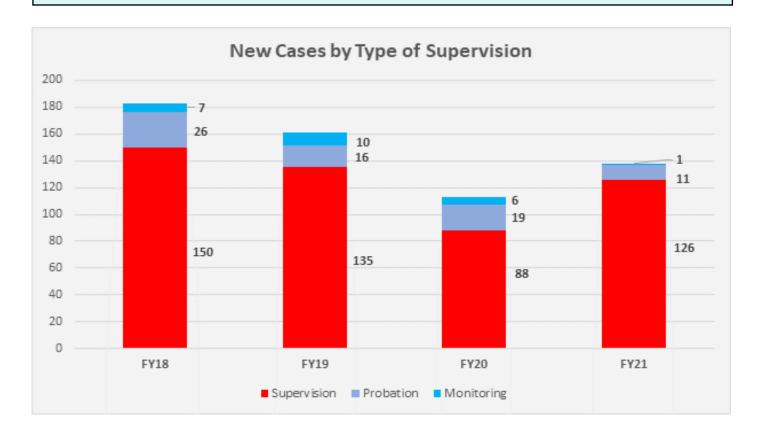
When the governor issued a stay at home order due to the COVID pandemic in March of 2020, the adult unit faced the challenge of adopting a new approach to case management. Counselors pivoted to the use of technology to communicate and maintain their contact with their clients, community partners, and co-workers. A new level of case management was ushered in, using state of the art technology for uninterrupted client contact, virtual court hearings, teleworking.

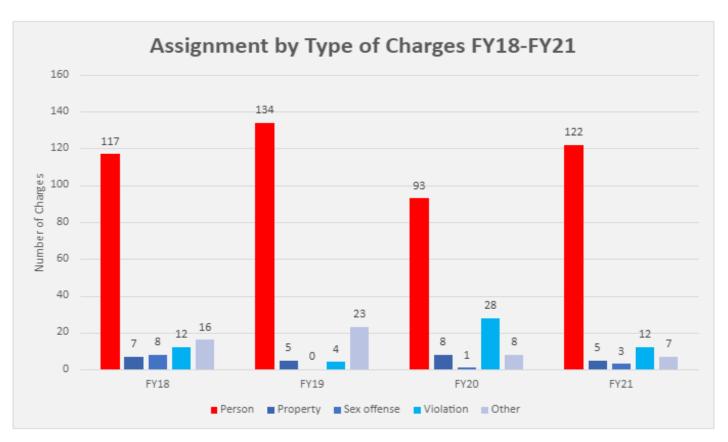
### **Special Initiatives**

In order to promote successful outcomes in community supervision, the adult unit uses incentives and graduated sanctions to motivate clients to comply with court orders and to deter recidivism. When clients are found in violation of a court ordered condition, they may receive a graduated sanction, and when they are found to be in compliance, they may receive an incentive in form of a gift certificate, for example.



### **ADULT PROBATION DATA**





### **PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES**



Dr. Mai Kindaichi Court Psychologist

**Program Description:** The **Psychological Services Team** provides direct and consultative psychological services to adult and juvenile offenders and their families.

### **Program Objectives:**

- Provide the court with psychological and mental health assessments on individuals before the court for use in disposition of cases
- Improved psychosocial functioning among juveniles and adults before the court
- Provide probation officers and other CSU program staff with guidance on client behavioral and mental health and strategies for intervention
- Reduce the risk of further acting-out and delinquent behavior so that offenders may enjoy
  more adaptive and satisfying participation in the community.
- Licensed clinicians provide family therapy and on-site consultation to youth and families Involved in our residential programs, Argus House and Aurora House.

**Population Served:** The Psychological Services team provided services to program clients in the Young Achievers' and Girls' Outreach Programs, and residential programs Argus House and Aurora House. Psychological Services offers consultation to youth and families who

are under probation supervision and diversion on an ad hoc or ongoing basis. Specific evaluation and consultation services were offered to 12 adult and juvenile clients during FY 2021(+20% from FY 2020).

#### **SERVICES FOR JUVENILE AND ADULT CLIENTS**

- Psychological Evaluations
- Family, Individual and Group Therapy

#### **SERVICES FOR CSU STAFF**

- Individual consultation on client mental health issues
- Training in mental health issues
- Identification and coordination of outside treatment and evaluation resources
- Racial Cultural Self-Awareness and Justice initiatives and consultation

### SERVICES FOR ARGUS HOUSE, GIRLS' OUTREACH, YOUNG ACHIEVERS, AND AURORA HOUSE

- Family and group therapy for program participants, as outlined in the respective program
- Resident treatment planning and regular case consultation for program staff
- Training in mental health and interventions to staff.

#### **BILINGUAL SERVICES**

Psychological Services hired a full-time licensed clinical social worker to provide family therapy within the Argus House

#### **Key Trends:**

Continuing from FY 2020, the majority of the comprehensive psychological evaluations were conducted by the court psychologist. Evaluations which were referred to contracted psychologists were those pertaining to risk of sexual offense, parental capacity, or for youth whose circumstances benefited from specific expertise. Two comprehensive psychological evaluations were ordered for adults within parental capacity evaluations, and one risk of violence assessment for a juvenile were conducted. Individual therapy was given to one youth who had acute circumstances and resided in Aurora House while the licensed family therapist position was vacant and community resources were not accessed. Twenty-percent of juvenile evaluations were in the context of parental custody matters and entailed ongoing consultation. Within the COVID-19 context, evaluations were primarily conducted virtually, which restricted access to valid web-based assessment instruments.

Court-ordered Evaluations:	Ву Туре:		By Age:
Ten evaluations were court-ordered. Contracted evaluators completed psychosexual risk evaluation, and parental capacity evaluations.	Comprehensive Psychological: Mental Health Evaluation: Risk of Violence: Parental Capacity: Psychosexual Risk: Short term individual therapy:	3 2 1 2 1	Juvenile: 7 (-63.2% from FY 2019) Adult : 3 (-25%from FY 2019)

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **Program Description**

Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR), a local restorative justice nonprofit, manages the community service program for Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. Community service provides an alternative sentencing mechanism for youth and adults involved with the criminal justice system. Individuals complete volunteer work instead of detention, incarceration, and other penalties. Some perform community service to pay off fines, court costs, and other fees. In FY 2021, the program helped 1,125 people keep jobs, stay in school, remain with their families, and contribute to the community.

### **Best Practices**

OAR's Community Service Program works with individuals from start to finish so that each person can complete their court ordered community service hours. The program connects participants with over 300 nonprofits, faith communities, and public sector agencies in the DC metro area that provide volunteer worksites or virtual volunteer opportunities. It also informs them about ways they can accrue volunteer hours by helping with special community events, such as the Arlington County Fair, 5K races, and service club fundraisers.

### **Special Initiatives**

Since March 2020, OAR has conducted intake sessions with Community Service Program participants by phone or video. They no longer need to take off work, pay for transportation, or arrange childcare to come to OAR's office for in-person meetings. OAR has also refocused the program to empower participants to succeed. Changes included eliminating fees, providing options for virtual volunteering, and making more frequent follow-up contacts with participants as they complete their service hours. Completion rates are up, and the courts are dealing with fewer instances of noncompliance.

### **Key Trends**

Community service programs trace their origin to the restorative justice movement of the 1970s. The Arlington and Falls Church courts have used this form of alternative sentencing and entrusted OAR of Arlington, Alexandria, and Falls Church to manage this program for decades. With efforts underway in the community and across the country to reduce reliance on mass incarceration (a legacy from the "war on drugs" that has disproportionately affected Black, Indigenous, and People of Color), the criminal legal system has started focusing more on the role of diversion programs, including community service.



	Juvenile	Adult
Referrals		
Hours completed		
Violations		
Value		

### **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

Andrew B. Ferrari ARGUS HOUSE

AURORA HOUSE

GIRLS' OUTREACH

YOUNG ACHIEVERS

SAFE HAVENS

### **ANDREW B. FERRARI ARGUS HOUSE**

### **Program Description**

The Andrew B. Ferrari Argus is a community-based group home for at risk adolescent males between the ages of 13 and 17. Clients are referred by the Arlington County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Service Unit, Arlington County Social Services, The City of Falls Church, or the City of Alexandria Courts and/or Social Services. They can be either court involved due to delinquency or status offenses and/or in the custody of social services. The residents typically have issues related to family dysfunction, authority issues, anger control, academic performance, and supervision issues. The program is client centered and develops treatment plans and goals based on the clients individual and family needs. The program has a structured level of care with a set daily schedule utilizing a combination of services to include daily life skills, family counseling, group and individual work utilizing evidenced based practices, recreation, academic support, and community service.

### **Best Practices**

The Andrew B. Ferrari Argus House uses multiple evidenced based practices to assist residents and their family members to achieve their treatment goals and the program outcome objectives. The program uses motivational interviewing, trauma informed care, the Crossroads Curriculum, EQUIP Groups, Multisystemic Family Therapy, Play Therapy, Music Therapy, Art Therapy, substance abuse education, and cognitive behavioral interventions. The program has a Licensed Clinical Social Work and Certified Addictions Counselor who provides family therapy and oversees model fidelity in the use of our interven-

tions. Argus House residents participate in peer groups sessions to address social problems and confront each other about poor choices, and give constructive feedback about personal, family, and school issues. When a client completes the Andrew B. Ferrari Argus House program, there are tangible improvements at home, school, and community.

### **Special Initiatives**

Argus House continues to monitor and follow CDC and Virginia State health Department recommendations as it pertains to COVID-19. Anyone entering the Argus House building (including all staff, residents, contractors and visitors) are expected to take an assessment, get their temperature taken, and wash their hands upon entry into the building. Due to COVID-19 procedures Argus House has temporarily capped the population to 5 residents as opposed to 12 in order to abide by social distancing measures in place. This allows each resident to have their own room. Daily, Arlington County DES employees cleaning the facility and doing wipe downs of high touch surface areas. All staff and residents are expected to wear masks when in general areas. During the COVID pandemic, any resident entering the AH program required a medical clearance.

In FY 21, Argus House resumed all of its services to include home-visits, in person therapy, visitation, and home passes. Argus House residents are participating in many activities both in and out of the facility to include: recreation, community service projects, music therapy, art therapy, boxing gym, educational activities.

### **Key Trends**

	FY '18	FY ' 19	FY ' 20	FY '21
Clients Served	15	22	19	11
Success Rate graduates from program	100%	100%	53%	100%
Utilization Rate	44.4%	54%	66%	*31%
Recidivism* Rate	40%	40%	47%	22%

DJJ defines 'recidivism' as a client's rearrest on a new criminal offense during the twelve months following his release from Argus House.

#### **Clients by Court Status**

CHINS 6 Probation 5

Clients b	y Race	Clients by Ethr	nicity
Black:	4	Hispanic:	3
White:	6	Non-Hispanic	8
Asian :	1		

### **Clients by Age at Admission**

14 years of age	3
15 years of age	1
16 years of age	4
17 years of age	3

#### School attended at Time of Admission

New Directions Alternative School	1
Wakefield High School	3
Washington-Liberty High School	2
Yorktown	2
George Mason High School	1
Kenmore	1
Arlington Community High School	1

<sup>\*</sup>The program has capacity for 12 youth, however during the COVID-19 pandemic, which spans FY 20 and FY 21, the program did not operate at full capacity for safety reasons.

### **AURORA HOUSE**

#### **Aurora House Program Description**

Aurora House, established in 1991, is a community-based residential program for adolescent females' ages 13-17 who may be court-involved and experiencing issues such as academic underachievement, behavioral problems, substance abuse, and troubled family and/or peer relationships. The program is certified by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice and operates under the direction of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for Arlington County and City of Falls Church. The program can accommodate up to 12 residents at a time in both a short-term or long-term track and services youth from Arlington County, Fairfax County as well as the City of Alexandria and Falls Church. Aurora House is licensed as an Independent Living Program as well.

Aurora House provides Substance Abuse Education and Awareness, Pre-Independent Living Skills, Flexibility of stay, Structured program of care, Individual counseling, group counseling, and family therapy, Educational Services, Recreation, and Graduated system of home passes for integration/transition into the community.

Aurora House Model of Success allows for youth to remain the local community. Youth are easily accessible to parents, case managers, and service providers. The program has a tailored and flexible approach that includes wraparound services and preparation for independent living and community integration.

#### **Best Practices**

Aurora House uses an evidence based curriculum utilizing Seeking Safety/Thinking 4 Change Models and (Evidence-Based for PTSD/Substance Use and Delinquency). Master level staff are Certified Trauma Specialist. Issues addressed include: Mental Health Con-



L to R— Sol Orozco, Food Service Coordinator; Rachel Kindell, Group Home Manger; Rachael Ellis (foreground), Relief Counselor; Amy Howell, Administrative Assistant; Shaina Anderson, Residential Counselor

cerns, Trauma/Self-Harm, Body Image, Substance Use. Poor relationships with family/peers, Running away from home, Truancy and/or academic failure, and Identity issues.

#### **Special Initiatives**

Special Program includes a plethora of services for the youth. Aurora House offered Trauma Informed Yoga/Mediation and Arts & Crafts projects, Writing Camp, Substance Abuse education workshops, ServSafe Training, and CPR/First Aid courses.

### **Key Trends**

	FY '18	FY ' 19	FY ' 20	FY '21
Clients Served	21	18	13	15
Success Rate	98%	72%	82%	97%
Utilization Rate	43%	46%	48	28.6%
Recidivism* Rate	43%	39%	*27%	*66%

DJJ defines 'recidivism' as a client's rearrests on a new criminal offense during the twelve months following release from Aurora House. Source: DJJ's CPR.

\*The program has capacity for 12 youth, however during the COVID-19 pandemic, which spans FY 20 and FY 21, the program did not operate at full capacity for safety reasons.

#### **Clients by Court Status**

CHINS 4 Probation 1 Foster Care 11

Clients	by Race	Clients by Eth	nicity
Black	3	Hispanic	5
White	4	Non-Hispanic	8
Arabic	1		

### Clients by Age at Admission

13 years of age	1
14 years of age	2
15 years of age	1
16 years of age	9
17 years of age	3

### **School Attended at Time of Admission**

Arlington Career Center	1
Arlington Community	1
George Mason High School	1
Kellar School	1
Minnie Howard	1
New Directions Alternative School	3
Phillips	2
Wakefield	2
Yorktown	3

### **GIRLS' OUTREACH PROGRAM**



L to R - Korina Bonilla, Relief Counselor, Chamone Marshall, Youth Program Counselor, Tasia Kizer, Youth Program Counselor, Jessicka Dickerson, Relief Counselor, Tara Magee, Program Supervisor

### **Program Description**

The Girls' Outreach Program is an after-school program supported by the Arlington County Juvenile Court, which provides daily academic, emotional, and social support to young women ages 12-17 who live in Arlington County and Falls Church City. The program assists young women in developing prosocial skills through psycho-educational groups, field trips, skill-building activities, and other enrichment opportunities. In addition, Girls' Outreach supports academic recovery during study hall and one-on-one staff attention.

### **Key Trends**

	FY '18	FY ' 19	FY '20	FY '21
New Clients	18	14	7	18
Total Clients	24	23	14	14
Success Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%
Utilization Rate	71.2%	68%	*49%	*51%

<sup>\*</sup>The program has capacity for 10 youth, however during the COVID-19 pandemic, which spans FY 20 and FY 21, the program did not operate at full capacity for safety reasons.

#### Clients by Court Status

CHINS	5
Delinquent	3
Pre Court Diversion	4
Diversion from Intake	2

#### **Best Practices**

The Girls' Outreach Program employs a variety of evidenced based practices in working with adolescent girls. The program is based on the idea of intervening with youth early and addressing issues which may cause them to become involved with the Court system thereby diverting them from the Court. This is considered a best practice when working with low to moderate risk youth. The program is structured around incentives to reinforce positive pro social behaviors and discourage less desirable behaviors. In addition, the program makes use of evidence-based practices such as Motivational Interviewing, Trauma Informed Yoga, the EQUIP program, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy and Trauma Informed Care models.

### **Special Initiatives**

Special programming and initiatives were limited in FY21 due to the pandemic. The year was marked with change and adjusting the program frequently to meet the unique needs of the youth during the pandemic. As the pandemic continued into FY21, the program shifted to offering clients a safe, quiet, and monitored place to attend virtual school. Staff assisted clients with online school by aiding them with technology and their academics while supporting them emotionally. In addition, the program offered increased services such as transportation to and from the program and meals. Once the schools switched to hybrid learning, the program again pivoted to offering after-school programming with an increased focus on stress management, coping skills, and academic recovery.

Clients by Race		Clients by Ethnicity		
Black	3	Hispanic	10	
White	11	Non-Hispanic	4	
Asian	0			

### Clients by Age at Admission

13 years of age	- 2
14 years of age	,
15 years of age	
16 years of age	
17 years of age	

#### **School Attending at Time of Admission**

New Directions Alternative School	1
Wakefield High School	2
Washington-Liberty High School	3
Yorktown High School	2
George Mason High School	1
Swanson Middle School	1
Kenmore Middle School	2
Williamsburg Middle School	1
Career Center	1

### YOUNG ACHIEVERS PROGRAM

#### **Program Description**

Young Achievers Program is an after-school program for boys ages 13-17, who are involved in the juvenile court system. The Young Achievers Program provides its clients with a structured, supportive environment designed to foster academic achievements, develop skills needed to make informed choices, manage social pressure and demands without negative consequences, and to have positive and respectful peer and adult relationships.

While attending the Young Achievers Program, the participants are afforded the opportunity to hone the skills necessary to avoid further court involvement. This is accomplished through consistent, direct, and honest feedback and conversations regarding their behaviors and accomplishments. It is driven by an active and balanced schedule that incorporates healthy physical activities, supportive study hall, community service, and a myriad of psycho-educational groups. The program has a strong component of accountability, utilizing a strength based point system with both positive and negative consequences designed to keep each individual moving forward and involved in their process.

#### **Best Practices**

Working directly with the Probation Counselors and using service plans developed with the YASI (Youth Assessment Screening Instrument), program staff work to highlight the individual's strengths while building up areas for improvement. Motivational Interviewing, cost benefit analysis, problem solving skills and emotional regulation and anger management from a cognitive behavioral framework are some best practices used to achieve positive outcomes. One of the strengths of the program is the pro-social relationships that develop between the counselors the program participants. In addition to what the program offers, special attention is given to linking the partici-



Kelii Ligon, Joseph Jones III, Gretchen Abell, McFred Benson

pants to individual and family services through the Department of Human Services, as well as advocating for the student and family in the IEP process.

#### **Special Initiatives**

In FY 21, the program utilized a mobile, virtual school format, based in the community, as the COVID pandemic limited the use of our indoor space. The counselors and Achievers adapted to a new, modified version of the program which consisted of community visits for individual and group sessions at community sites during the summer, daily face-time calls and continued journaling. The use of "Journal Questions" helped educate the Achievers about COVID, how to keep themselves and their families safe, as well as local resources available during the pandemic. This proved to be very useful for the Achievers' families as the Achiever was educated on how to find information and to be a resource for their family.

### **Key Trends**

	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21
New Clients	13	18	19	18
Success Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%
Utilization Rate	99.6%	96.6%	88%*	84% *

<sup>\*</sup> The program has capacity for 8 youth, however during the COVID-19 pandemic, which spans FY 20 and FY 21, the program did not operate at full capacity for safety reasons.

### **Clients by Court Status**

CHINS 8
Delinquent 10

Clients by Race		Clients by Ethnicity	
Black	5	Hispanic	10
White	13	Non-Hispanic	8

### **Clients by Age at Admission**

13 years of age	•
14 years of age	3
15 years of age	5
16 years of age	6
17 years of age	3

### **School Attending at Time of Admission**

New Directions	4
Washington-Liberty HS	
Wakefield HS	6
George Mason (Meridian)	1
Phillips School	1

### **SAFE HAVENS**

### **Program Description**

Arlington Safe Havens is a Supervised Visitation and Exchange Program established by a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women. This three-year grant funded a visitation and exchange site, which opened in 2018. For the first time, Arlington families who experienced violence in the home had a safe space that met their needs for both parent-child contact and also sight-and-sound separation of the parents.

All Staff receive ongoing training in the following areas: Mandated Reporting, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, coercive control tactics and trauma informed care.

Safe Havens is located in the Arlington Department of Human Services Building at 2100 Washington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia.

#### **Best Practices**

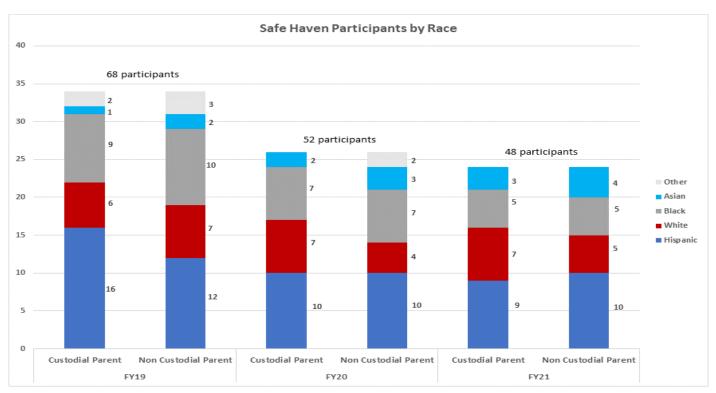
Under the terms of the grant, families must experience the following in order to be eligible for services: Domestic Violence, Stalking, Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Sexual Abuse. Families are typically referred to the program by the Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court. Parents participate in separate intakes, and when appropriate, children also have preliminary meetings with staff. Staff accompany each family member throughout the intake process who determine whether the person is ready and able to participate fully in the visit.



Joanne Hamilton, Safe Havens Coordinator

#### **Service Initiatives**

After a referral is accepted, families are scheduled for the court -ordered service, whether supervised visitation or a safe exchange of their child or children between parties. Staff escort children to and from the visitation room. By design, parents only have contact with staff and not each other. The safety of the parties is paramount--before, during and after visits and exchanges at Safe Havens.





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