

Juvenile Justice Report 2013



Kenosha County Juvenile Court
Kenosha County District Attorney's Office
Juvenile Court Intake Services
Kenosha County Division of Children & Family Services
State Public Defenders' Office

May, 2014

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Introduction

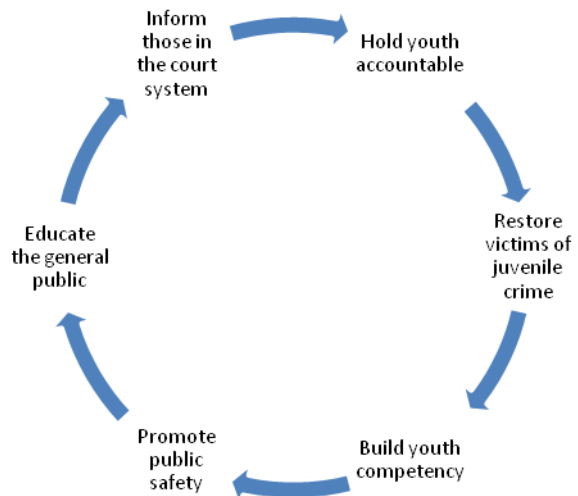
We are pleased to release the ninth Juvenile Justice Report for Kenosha County. For the past 9 years we have tracked several outcome indicators to identify trends and to evaluate the impact of services provided to youth through our juvenile justice system. Kenosha County dedicates substantial resources to a balanced approach including the principles of:

- Accountability of youth offenders
- Restoring victims of juvenile crime
- Protection of the community
- Youth competency development

The data reflected in this report includes youth within Juvenile Court Intake Services (JCIS) and the Division of Children and Family Services-Court Services Unit (DCFS). Both agencies work with youth who are delinquent or habitually truant from school. JCIS provides informal supervision and diverts youth from the court process. DCFS provides formal supervision of youth who have been found delinquent or truant by the court. Youth and their families are court-ordered to comply with a number of conditions designed to meet child and community needs. In 2013:

- **59%** of the cases supervised by Juvenile Court Intake were diverted from court.
- **72%** of the youth supervised by the Division of Children and Family Services-Court Services Unit remained free of new charges in court.

While we face many challenges in our progress toward our goals, we recognize the need to invest in our youth and our community to prevent juvenile delinquency. Through partnerships with the community and other stakeholders, we continue to strive for improvements in the methods we use to serve youth and their families and the impacts on our community.



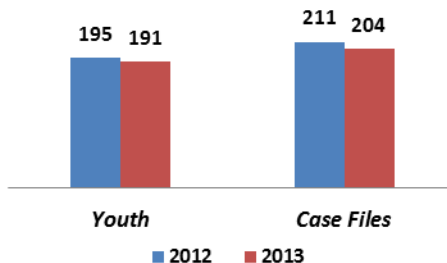
2013 Case Closures

Number of Youth and Case Files Closed—*Juvenile Court Intake (JCIS)*

A total of **191** JCIS youth had cases closed in 2013—virtually unchanged from 2012 (n=195). The number of youth reached a high of 286 in 2007.

The number of *cases* closed also remained nearly the same inbetween 2012 and 2013—a difference of 7 cases.

Number of Youth & Case Files - JCIS

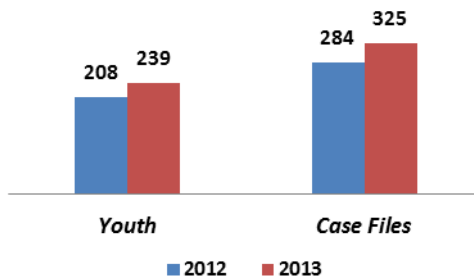


Number of Youth and Case Files Closed *DCFS-Juvenile Court Services Unit*

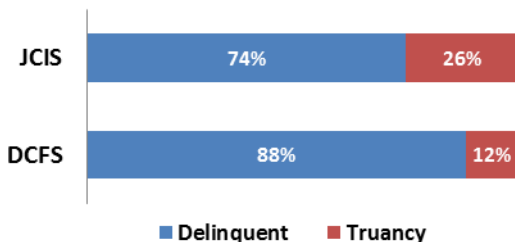
A total of **239** youth under supervision with DCFS -Court Services Unit had cases closed in 2013—a nearly **15%** increase from 2012.

The number of *cases* closed increased by just over **14%**. There were **59** youth (**25%**) with more than one case closed in 2013.

Number of Youth & Case Files - DCFS



2013 Case Closures by Type

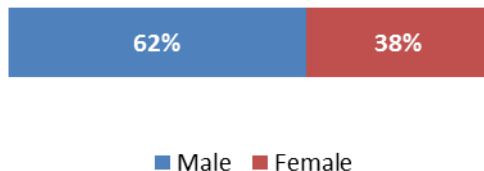


As shown in the chart at left, in 2013 **26%** of the cases closed by JCIS were for habitual truancy compared to **12%** of the cases closed by DCFS.

Overall, most cases closed in 2013 were for delinquency (**83%**), the percentage of which has remained unchanged since 2011.

Demographics

Gender - 2013 Closed Cases

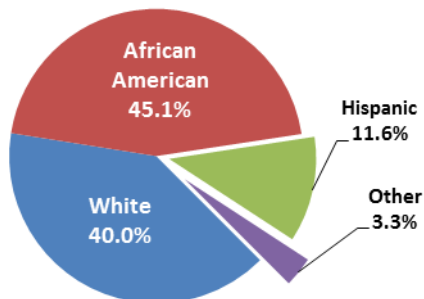


Over one-third of the 2013 case closures were female (**38%**), although this generally varies by agency (JCIS **36%** and DCFS **39%**).

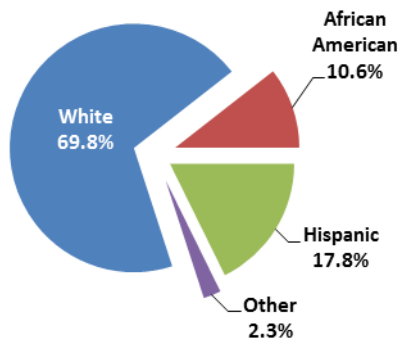
Females are less likely to commit felonies (14%) and are more likely to be under supervision for habitual truancy (59%). The most common offenses committed by females in the DCFS 2013 cohort was disorderly conduct and retail theft.

Most youth with cases closed in 2013 were African American (**45%**), followed by White (**40%**) and Hispanic (**12%**). As shown in the charts below, African American youth are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system.

Race/Ethnicity - 2013 Case Closures



Race/Ethnicity - Youth Ages 10-17 (Kenosha County)

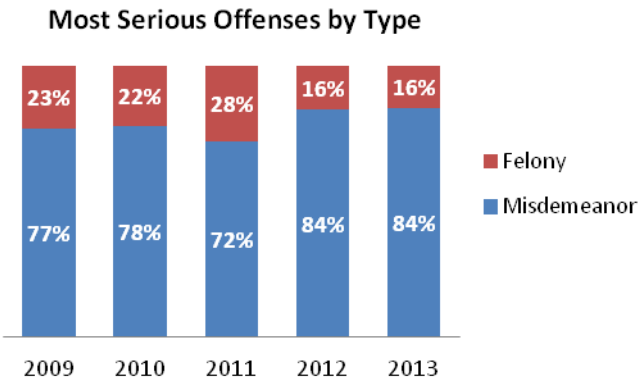


Source: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/>

Across the United States, minority youth are overrepresented at every stage of the juvenile justice system – from arrest to placement in correctional facilities. Kenosha County's efforts have focused on three key areas: overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system, reducing differential treatment at key decision points, and keeping minority youth from moving deeper into the court system. We have improved our data gathering capacity, implemented objective risk assessment tools, used alternatives to detention and out-of-home placements, changed case management practices and provided training opportunities to our local school district.

Most Serious Offenses by Case File

Misdemeanors, such as disorderly conduct, retail theft and misdemeanor battery comprise the highest percentage of “most serious offenses” committed by delinquent youth with case files closed in a given year. During the last five years the percentage was as low as 72%, but has remained at **84%** since 2012.



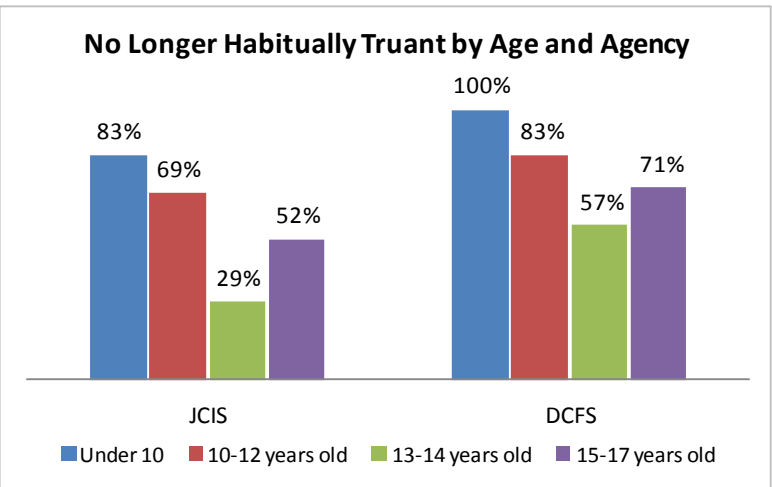
According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, the habitual truancy rate for KUSD middle school students was 11.5% and 33.5% for high school students (2013-14 school year).

Habitual truant—as defined by the *Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*, means a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for part or all of 5 or more days on which school is held during a school semester.

The percentage of youth under supervision for truancy, no longer considered habitually truant during their most recent semester before case closure was **65%**, an increase from 2012 where the rate was **51%**.

For the first four years of this report (2005-08) the average was **49%** - between 2009-12 the average was **56%**.

“No longer truant” rates at case closure vary by age - ranging from **100%** for youth under 10 years of age (DCFS) to a low of **29%** for youth between 13 and 14 (JCIS).



Community service work provides juveniles the opportunity to be accountable for delinquent conduct, make a positive contribution to the community, and develop important life skills.

Division of Children & Family Services—Court Services Unit

How many kids were ordered CSW?	113
How many total hours were ordered?	3,056
How many total hours were completed?	2,737
What is the completion percentage?	90%
How many kids completed some or all of their CSW?	109
What percentage of kids completed some or all of their CSW?	96%

Juvenile Court Intake Services

How many kids were ordered CSW?	85
How many total hours were ordered?	3,211
How many total hours were completed?	2,327
What is the overall completion percentage?	72%
How many kids completed some or all of their CSW?	69
What percentage of kids completed some or all of their CSW?	81%
What is the completion percentage for cases diverted from court?	89%

*The number of community service hours completed by youth with cases closed in 2013 totaled **\$37,980***.*

*Calculated using Wisconsin’s minimum hourly wage.

Youth Employment in the Arts participants working at Bullen Middle School.



Restitution

Restitution – DCFS

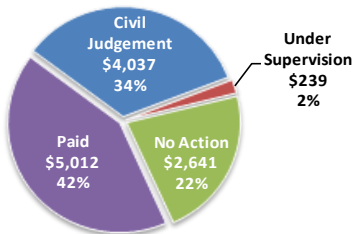
How many kids were ordered to pay restitution?	23
What was the total amount determined?	\$11,929
What was total amount recovered?	\$5,012
What is the recovery percentage?	42%
How many kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	15
What percentage of kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	65%

4 youth (19%) were responsible for nearly 58% (\$6,871) of the total restitution amount.

Restitution – JCIS

How many kids were ordered to pay restitution?	9
What was the total amount determined?	\$1,400
What was total amount recovered?	\$1,010
What is the recovery percentage?	72%
How many kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	8
What percentage of kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	89%

DCFS - Restitution (2013 Closed Files)

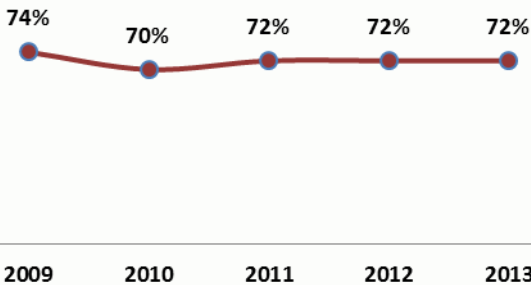


DCFS takes seriously a youth’s obligation to pay restitution in cases in which it is ordered. At times, a juvenile case file will close with outstanding restitution still owed. This may occur for several reasons such as youth have met all other conditions of supervision, are unable to be extended on supervision, enter the adult system while on juvenile supervision, or are under supervision with DCFS on another file. The chart at left illustrates how the Division continues to make youth accountable for their restitution obligation after the juvenile court order expires.

The goal of the Summer Youth Employment Program is to build competencies in youth and provide them with valuable work experience. A secondary benefit to the program is that youth who have a restitution obligation and are involved in the Summer Youth Employment Program are required to sign a wage assignment form. The form allows 15% of their salary to be paid to Juvenile Court Intake Services and applied towards their restitution. Youth can then transfer the skills learned during the program to obtain unsubsidized employment and successfully fulfill their restitution obligation.

In 2013, **59%** of deferred prosecution files closed through Juvenile Court Intake Services were successfully diverted from formal juvenile court involvement.

Year	Diversion Rate (%)
2009	64%
2010	56%
2011	64%
2012	53%
2013	59%



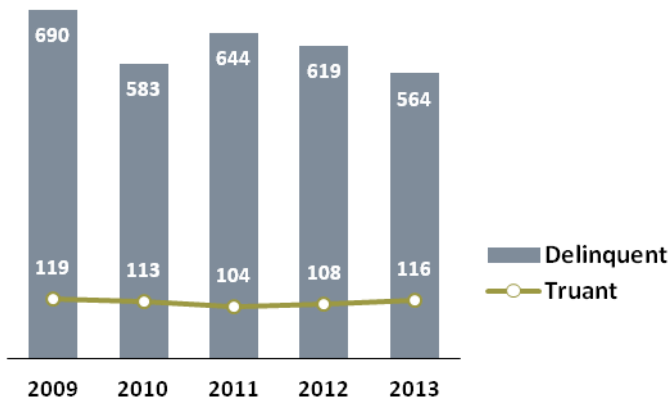
The average non-recidivism rate for the first four years of this report (2005-08) was **75%** compared to **72%** for 2009-12.

*A Summer Youth
Employment participant
receives her first paycheck.*



Incoming Referrals—2013

Incoming Referrals - Juvenile Court Intake Services



Delinquency referrals to JCIS in 2013 decreased nearly **9%**. Compared to 2009 the number of delinquency referrals have decreased by just over **18%**.

The number of truancy referrals increased by over **7%** 2013 and have fluctuated between **104** in 2011 to **119** in 2009.

*There were 34 adult waiver petitions filed in 2013, a **44%** decrease from 2012 (n=61).*

After an increase of **11%** between 2011 and 2012, the number of delinquency referrals to the DCFS Court Services Unit decreased nearly **12%** in 2013. Compared to 2009 the number of delinquency referrals has decreased by almost **23%**.

Truancy referrals - representing a smaller proportion of referrals to the Court Services Unit - has varied over the past 5 years. In 2013, the number of truancy referrals decreased by nearly **8%**.

Incoming Referrals - DCFS Court Services Unit

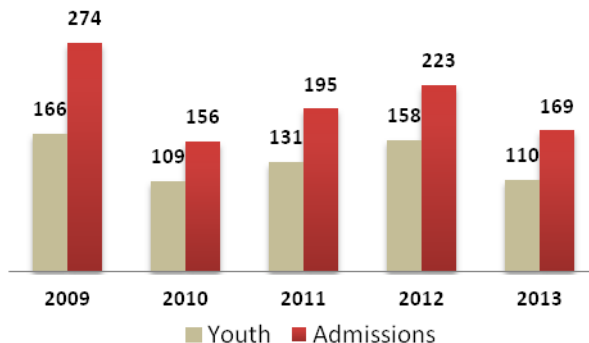


Secure Detention

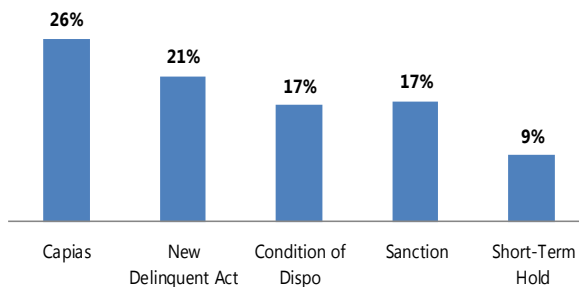
The number of unduplicated youth placed in secure detention increased **20%** in both 2011 and 2012, followed by a decrease of **30%** in 2013.

Admissions to secure detention dropped **43%** between 2009 and 2010. The numbers began to steadily increase until 2013—where the number of admissions dropped by **24%**.

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Secure Detention
Number of Secure Detention Admissions

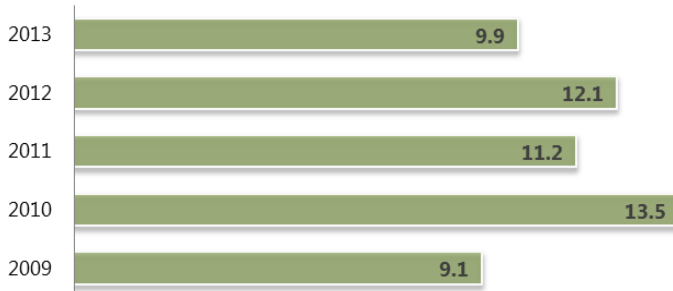


Most Common Reasons for Placement
Secure Detention - 2013



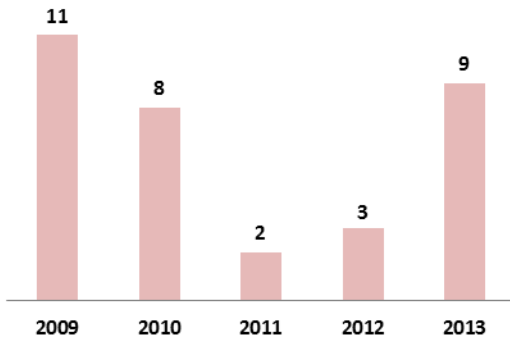
The average length of stay in secure detention has fluctuated during the past 5 years - ranging from a low of **9.1** days in 2009 and high of **13.5** days in 2010. As shown in the chart at right, the average length of stay in 2013 was nearly **10** days.

Secure Detention
Average Length of Stay (days)



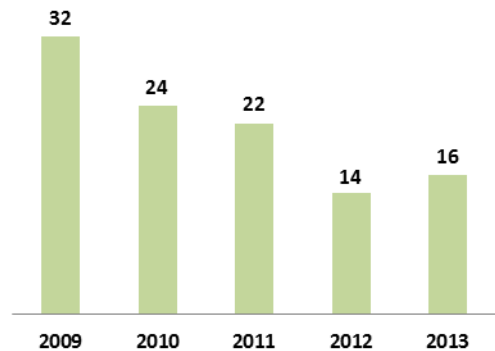
Substitute Care

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Regular Foster Care



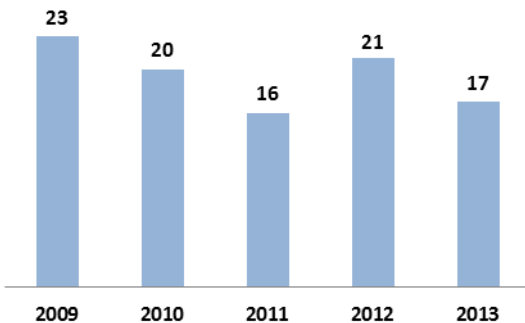
Temporary placement with a foster family is considered the least restrictive of out-of-home placements. A very small number of delinquent youth are placed in regular foster care in any given year. After dropping **75%** between 2009 and 2012, the number of youth placed in foster care increased to **9**. All youth placed in 2013 were female.

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Treatment Foster Care



Treatment foster parents receive a higher level of training to work with youth that require a more intensive level of care. The number of delinquent youth placed in this setting has decreased by **56%** between 2009 and 2012. In 2013, **50%** of the youth placed were female.

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Group Homes



Group homes provide structured living settings, often for older adolescents and specialize in the type of care they provide, such as those with drug abuse issues.

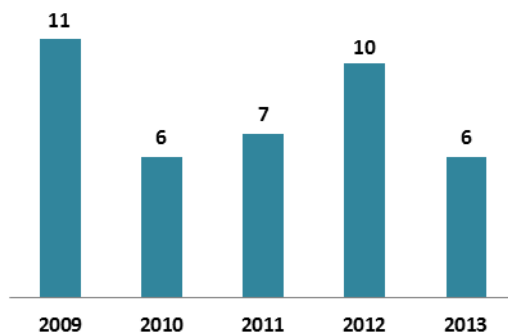
Most youth placed in 2013 were male (n=15; **88%**) and **59%** (n=10) were African American. The average length of stay for those discharged from care was **4.5** months.

Substitute Care

Residential treatment centers (RTC) provide highly structured settings where youth receive intensive counseling and therapy. Youth placed in these settings generally have severe behavioral problems requiring a highly structured environment.

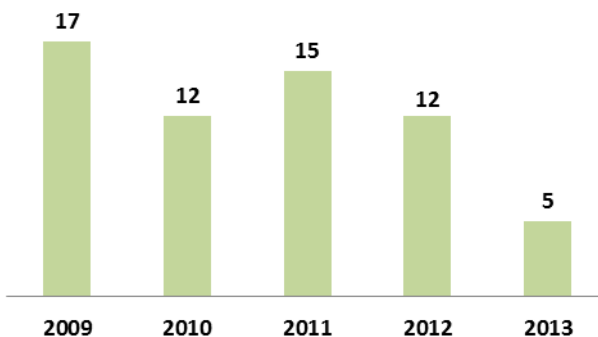
The number of delinquent youth placed in RTCs decreased by **40%** in 2013. The median length of stay was **5.5** months compared to 2012 (**4.0** months). All youth placed in 2013 were male and **67%** were minority.

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Residential Treatment Centers



The number of youth placed in Juvenile Corrections decreased by over **58%** in 2013 to **5** youth - the lowest number since this report was published.

Number of Youth Placed in Juvenile Corrections



- * Of the 5 youth placed in Juvenile Corrections, 3 were African American (**60%**) and 2 were Caucasian (**40%**).
- * All youth placed were male.
- * Three of the 5 youth have been discharged from care with an **4.9** month average length of stay. The two remaining youth have been in Corrections 8.5 and 13.1 months.
- * Three of the 5 youth (**60%**) had some type of child welfare system involvement prior to their first delinquency adjudication:
 - Two (2) youth were involved with a substantiated child abuse or neglect referral.
 - One (1) youth was involved with an unsubstantiated child abuse or neglect referral.

Substitute Care

The Alternatives to Corrections Through Education (ACE Program) is an alternative to a correctional placement and provides direct services in a secure facility for youth that are adjudicated delinquent. There are several advantages to utilizing the ACE Program, including:

- * Proximity to Kenosha and the inclusion of family in treatment.
- * Ability to provide psychiatric care in a timely manner.
- * School credits are earned at a faster pace.
- * Furloughs to home and school are used as a transition tool.

There were **7** youth placed in the ACE Program during 2013, with an average length of stay of **4.3** months. Two of the seven youth were female (**29%**) and 5 were African-American (**71%**). Six of the 7 youth (**86%**) had some type of child welfare system involvement prior to their delinquency adjudication.

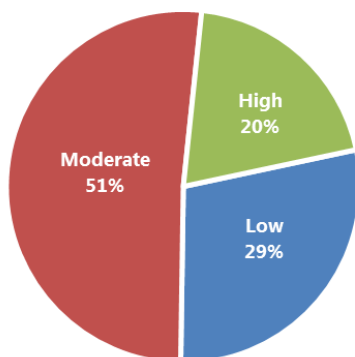
Graduated Responses

The DCFS-Court Services Unit began entering graduated response data into the unit's management information system (MIS) in 2013. A "graduated response grid" lists a variety of options that may be applied when a youth violates conditions of their supervision. The rationale behind graduated responses (sometimes referred to as "graduated sanctions") is to use the least restrictive response for desired behavior change utilizing the principles of youth risk level and severity of the violation.

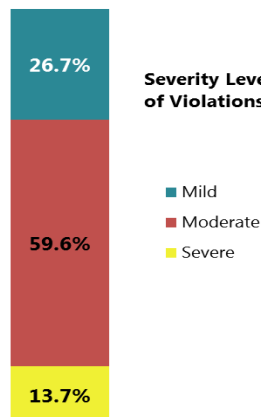
Of the cases closed in 2013, 61 youth had information regarding graduated responses imposed while on supervision entered into the MIS. Most sanctions were for mild to moderate violations and 80% youth were either low or moderate risk according to the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI).

The goal of graduated responses is to use effective case management strategies that encourage the use of resources, by integrating the principles of evidence-based practices, thus reducing the use of secure detention.

Risk Level of Youth at Time of Violation



Severity Level of Violations



Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI)

Of the 239 delinquent youth with closed cases in 2013, 170 had a YASI initial assessment administered and **153** were also administered a re-assessment.

Table 1: Race and Make-Up of Juveniles with Initial and Re-Assessment

Race	Male	Female	Total
Caucasian	32 (21%)	19 (12%)	51 (33%)
African American	50 (33%)	28 (18%)	78 (51%)
Hispanic	13 (8%)	5 (3%)	18 (12%)
Multiracial/Other	3 (2%)	3 (2%)	6 (4%)
Total	98 (64%)	55 (36%)	153 (100%)

Of the **153** youth with initial and re-assessments, the majority were male (64%) and 51% were African American.

The primary risk factors identified at intake are *community* and *peers* and *legal history*, followed by *school* and *family*. Further, court involved youth had low static protective factors and low protective capabilities regarding their aggression, attitudes and skills.

Table 2. Comparison of Initial and Re-Assessment by Risk and Protective Factors (N=153)

	Static Risk			Dynamic Risk			Static Protective			Dynamic Protective		
	IA mean	RA mean	t-test	IA mean	RA mean	t-test	IA mean	RA mean	t-test	IA mean	RA mean	t-test
Legal History	2.86	3.03	.061	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Family	2.57	2.69	.316	2.00	1.93	.453	--	--	--	3.20	2.89	.010
School	2.57	2.45	.061	2.78	2.17	.000	--	--	--	1.87	2.39	.000
Community/Peers	2.87	2.87	1.00	1.96	1.85	.189	--	--	--	2.48	2.37	.252
Alcohol and Drugs	1.61	1.53	.257	1.33	1.20	.135	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mental Health	1.43	1.33	.148	0.00	0.00	NA	--	--	--	--	--	--
Aggression	0.00	0.00	NA	2.21	1.89	.000	--	--	--	1.28	1.41	.226
Attitudes	0.46	0.50	.416	2.51	2.18	.000	1.87	1.91	.669	1.75	1.78	.733
Skills	--	--	--	2.74	2.35	.000	--	--	--	1.75	1.68	.149
Employment and Free Time	1.11	1.14	.548	1.21	1.09	.041	0.63	1.11	.000	2.37	2.79	.005
Overall	3.41	3.59	.067	2.45	2.21	.007	1.42	1.93	.000	4.06	4.24	.228

IA= Initial Assessment; RA= Re-Assessment

-- indicates that the category does not exist within that domain and **Bolded** text indicates a statistical increase.

- * **Static Risk:** On average, youth increased their static risk.
- * **Dynamic Risk:** Youth saw significant decreases in dynamic risk (particularly in school, aggression, attitudes and skills).
- * **Static Protective:** Youth saw significant increases in static protective factors (particularly Employment and Free Time).
- * **Dynamic Protective:** While there was not a significant increase in overall dynamic protective factors, there were statistical increases in school and employment & free time, and a decrease in family.

Scores are based on a 4- point Likert scale:
0 = No Risk
1 = Low Risk
2 = Low-Moderate
3 = Moderate Risk
4 = Moderate-High
5 = High Risk

Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI)

Statistically Significant Changes Following Participation in Court Services by Gender

Static Risk: Males significantly increased their static risk (from **3.40** to **3.69**). Females static risk did not change statistically, however, on average it decreased from **3.44** to **3.40**.

Dynamic Risk: Males significantly decreased their dynamic risk (from **2.91** to **2.60**)— particularly in *school, aggression, attitudes, skills* and *employment* and *free time*. Females *school* dynamic risk decreased significantly; otherwise there was no statistical change. However, on average, their dynamic risk score decreased from **1.58** to **1.46**.

Static Protective: Both males and females significantly increased their static protective score (from **1.24** to **1.64** for males and **1.75** to **2.46** for females) — particularly under the *employment* and *free time* factor.

Dynamic Protective: Neither males or females significantly increased their dynamic protective score; however, both statistically improved in *school* and males also statistically improved their *employment* and *free time* protective factor.

In addition to risk and protective factors, 23 females (**35%**) and 47 males (**43%**) were flagged for mental health and 32 females (**53%**) and 68 males were flagged for violence issues (**62%**).

Statistically Significant Changes Following Participation in Court Services by African American and Caucasian youth (due to small sample sizes, statistical changes for Hispanic and multi-racial youth could not be calculated):

Static Risk: African American youth significantly increased their static risk (from **3.02** to **3.43**). Their overall static risk did not change statistically, however, on average it increased from **3.71** to **3.74** and the *community* and *peers* factor decreased significantly. On average, both Hispanics and multi-racial youth also saw increases in their average overall static risk.

Dynamic Risk: African American youth significantly decreased their dynamic risk (from **2.69** to **2.22**) — particularly in *school, community* and *peers, aggression, attitudes, skills* and *employment* and *free time*. For Caucasian youth, *school* and *skills* dynamic risk decreased significantly; otherwise there was no statistical change. However, their average dynamic risk score decreased from **2.12** to **2.06**. Hispanic youths' average risk increased while multi-racial youths' average risk decreased.

Static Protective: Both African American and Caucasian youth significantly increased their static protective score (from **1.04** to **1.68** for African Americans and **1.90** to **2.41** for Caucasians) — particularly under the *employment* and *free time* factor. On average, both Hispanic and multi-racial youth also saw increases in their average overall static protective score.

Dynamic Protective: Neither African American nor Caucasian youth significantly increased their dynamic protective score; however, both statistically improved in *school* and African American youth also statistically improved their *employment* and *free time* protective factor. On average, Hispanic youth saw no change in their overall dynamic protective score and multi-racial youth saw a large increase.

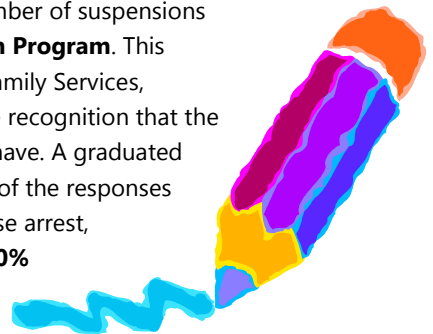
Program Spotlight: TIME and Bridges Program

Hillcrest School is an alternative school collaboration between the Kenosha County Division of Children and Family Services, Kenosha Unified School District and Community Impact Programs that provides two different types of programming for KUSD students:

Total Integration Model for Education (TIME) works with special education students who have a significant history of behavioral problems that include aggression and violence in the school setting. The program also accepts youth who are returning to the community from an out-of-home placement to help them transition into a smaller supportive environment before re-entering their home school.

The **Bridges Program** works with students who have been expelled or are on abeyance of an expulsion from their home school. Bridges allows students who would normally be out of school the opportunity to work toward returning to their home schools. Students are required to address and improve in the areas of concern that brought them to the Bridges Program.

Hillcrest School began two initiatives this school year to decrease the number of suspensions and increase academic success. The first is the **Alternative to Suspension Program**. This initiative was designed in conjunction with the Division of Children and Family Services, Community Impact Programs and Hillcrest School administration with the recognition that the more time students spend out of school, the less academic success they have. A graduated response grid is utilized depending on the severity of the incident. Some of the responses have included calls to parents, social workers, in-school suspensions, house arrest, community service work and time in secure detention. This has led to a **20%** reduction in the number of discipline referrals, allowing youth to spend more time in the classroom.



The second initiative is **Students Opportunity for Academic Results (SOAR)**. This program works with students over the age of 18, providing them with the opportunity to prepare for the ITED test while taking the necessary required classes to graduate. These students would struggle to graduate in a traditional school setting as they are often severely credit deficient. SOAR gives them the opportunity to graduate high school thus increasing their chances for success as they transition into adulthood.

In large part due to these initiatives, student attendance and grades have improved at Hillcrest School, as witnessed by the following success thus far in the 2013-2014 school year:

90% of Hillcrest students have at least an 80% school attendance rate – a 22% increase from the 2012-13 school year.

81% of Hillcrest student passed all of their academic classes - a 10% increase from the 2012-2013 school year.

Summer Youth Employment Program

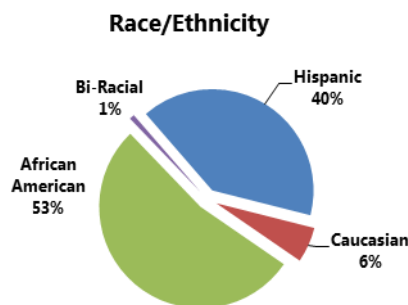
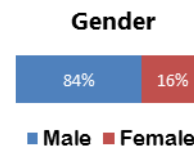
Kenosha County continues to support a very successful Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Kenosha Police Department records continue to show an average 37% decline in juvenile arrest during the program duration as compared to the same time period prior to SYEP implementation. At the end of the 2013 program, just over **8%** of youth were hired (unsubsidized) by their SYEP employer. This compares to 6-7% for similar programs nationwide.

Summer Youth Employment Program	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of Youth	296	214	191	210	204
Number of Job Sites	45	49	42	41	42
Number of Job Types	54	39	48	52	47
Total Hours Worked	27,815	23,000	26,194	22,614	24,756
Number of Youth Obtaining Unsubsidized Employment	33	13	21	24	17
Number of Youth Earning ½ credit toward graduation	116	113	106	121	116

Youth Gang Diversion Program

The goal of Kenosha County's gang prevention effort is to reduce delinquent behavior and gang involvement by incorporating research-based interventions to address personal, family and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity. Kenosha County contracts with the Boys & Girls Club and Community Impact Programs to provide gang prevention programming directly to youth.

The Gang Intervention Supervisor works with the provider agencies and other community-based organizations including the Kenosha Police and Sheriff's Departments, Kenosha Unified School District, private agencies, and the faith-based community to combat youth gang involvement, strengthen neighborhoods against crime and educate youth and families about gangs.

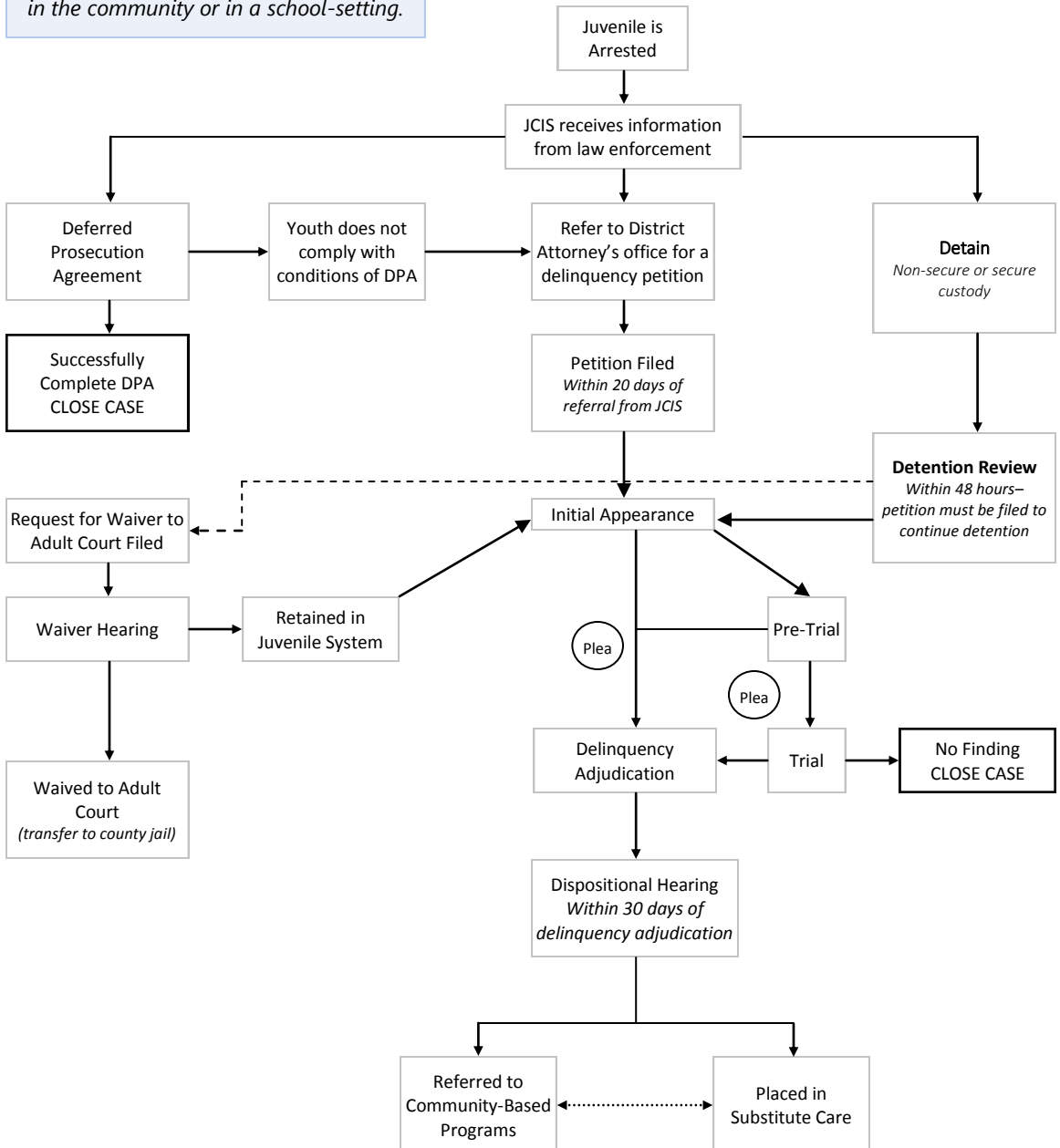


2012-2013 Outcomes

- **90%** of youth were not apprehended for a new offense while in the program
- **82%** of youth maintained or reduced their gang risk score
- **57%** of youth that completed the program improved their school performance (i.e. grades)
- **92%** of youth that completed the program improved their school attendance

Juvenile Justice Code - Chapter 938

The chart below is a scaled-down illustration of what generally occurs when a juvenile is arrested. An arrest can occur in the community or in a school-setting.



2013 Partners and Stakeholders

Juvenile Court Intakes Services Staff
DCFS-Court Services Unit Staff

Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services
Community Impact Programs
Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services
Kenosha Human Development Services
One Hope United
Prevention Services Network
Professional Services Group

The mural on the cover page was created by 24 students in the Youth Employment in the Arts Program under the direction of Melody Kaelber, KUSD Art Teacher.

Electronic versions of the Juvenile Justice Reports are located on the Kenosha County Department of Human Services web page.

<http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/>

Departments > Human Services > Divisions > Children & Family Services

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