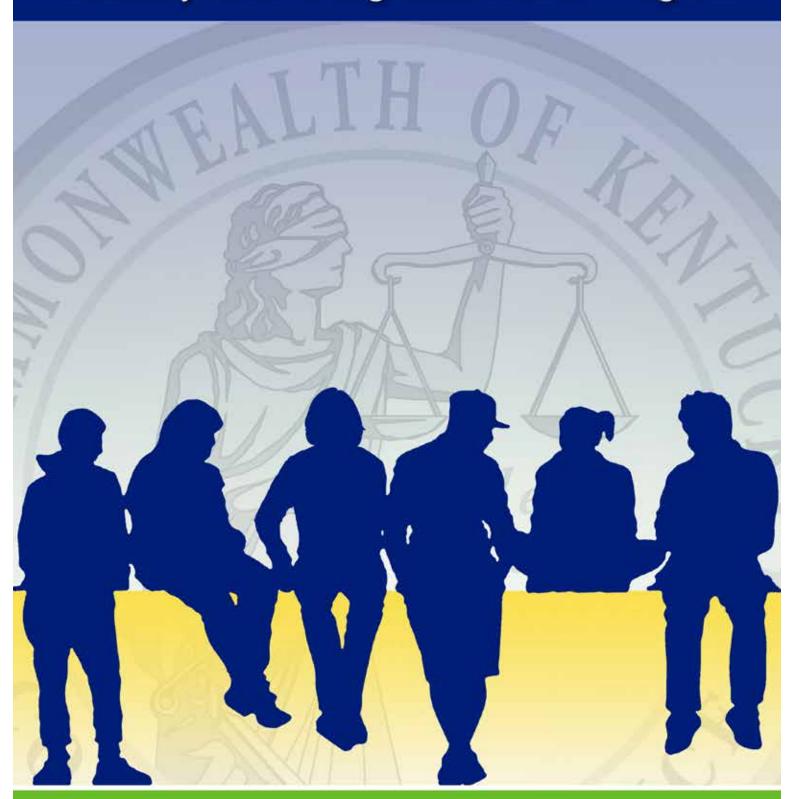
### **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

### Kentucky Court Designated Worker Program



**Working Toward Juvenile Justice Reform** 

# Court designated workers on front lines of juvenile justice reform



John D. Minton Jr. Chief Justice of Kentucky

The passage of Senate Bill 200 in spring 2014 was a tipping point for the welfare of Kentucky's youth. Leaders from all three branches of state government came together to enact sweeping changes that will

improve how we treat our young offenders.

Too many of our youth end up in detention and our common goal is simple: To help young people succeed by steering them into community-based treatment as an alternative to incarceration.

Because that goal dovetails with the work of the Court Designated Worker Program, CDWs have found themselves on the front lines of juvenile justice reform in Kentucky. CDWs play a critical role in the state court system by helping juveniles avoid formal court appearances through diversion programs, which teach young people to be accountable for their actions and encourage them to avoid other encounters with the law.

CDWs work within the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts, which is moving quickly to carry out the court system's mandates under SB 200.

The 2014 CDW Annual Report takes a look at the progress made by the courts during the early months of juvenile justice reform. I invite you to learn more about how CDWs are working alongside representatives from state, county and local agencies to give our young people a better chance for a brigher future.

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## Progress Report: CDWs are providing enhanced services to thousands of Kentucky youth



Rachel Bingham, Executive Officer
Department of Family and Juvenile Services
Administrative Office of the Courts

### **Highlights for Calendar Year 2014**

I am pleased to present the 2014 annual report for the Court Designated Worker Program. The Administrative Office of the Courts

produced the first CDW Annual Report in 2013 to enhance its data collection, analysis and reporting as required under Senate Bill 200.

With the second annual report, we once again track key indicators of the CDW Program to provide insight into how well Kentucky is succeeding in handling its youthful offenders.

Juvenile justice reform began in 2014 with the passage of Senate Bill 200 and the AOC took the lead in partnering with a variety of agencies throughout the commonwealth to create Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response Teams. By the end of 2014, the AOC had established seven FAIR Teams and was making progress to implement teams in each county.

The AOC also hired nine court designated specialists to fill positions essential to the success of the FAIR Teams.

CDWs have embraced their role in bringing about improved conditions for youth involved with the law and are working tirelessly to carry out their responsibilities under SB 200. Their efforts have helped thousands of young people gain access to enhanced diversion programs, where treatment services provide an alternative to detention by addressing their needs and underlying issues.

Highlights from 2014 show the effectiveness of CDWs who:

- Documented 22,227 juvenile complaints.
- Conducted 13,125 status offense and truancy pre-complaint conferences.
- Entered 7,356 diversions.
- Assisted with the release of 7,560 juveniles detained in custody by law enforcement.

I appreciate your support of court designated workers as they continue their important work on behalf of Kentucky youth.

### Courts have enhanced record-tracking role under Senate Bill 200

Senate Bill 200 requires the Court Designated Worker Program to produce an annual report offering a detailed analysis of the youth served by the program. The 2014 CDW Annual Report is the second report prepared under this mandate. The data in this report comes from the CDWCMS, the electronic case management system used by the CDW Program.

The changes in reporting can be found in KRS 605.020, which was amended in part to read:

(6) (a) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall collect and track data, and provide an annual report to the oversight council created in KRS 15A.063 containing the following information:

- 1. The number and type of complaints received by each court-designated worker;
- The outcome of each complaint, including whether a referral was made to the county attorney or the Department for Community Based Services;
- 3. The number of children committed to the Department for Community Based Services pursuant to KRS Chapter 620 who were originally charged with status offenses under KRS Chapter 630 or whose cases were amended from status to dependency, neglect, and abuse; and
- 4. Whether a child who successfully completed a diversion agreement was, within one (1) year following completion of the agreement, adjudicated a public offender or convicted in the adult court of a criminal offense.

# Court designated workers on front lines of juvenile justice reform

In 2014, the Kentucky General Assembly enacted legislation that brought sweeping juvenile justice system reform to Kentucky. Senate Bill 200 established evidence-based practices for agencies across the juvenile justice system, accountability through data sharing and performance measures, improved communication and collaboration, more effective use of funds and resources, and ultimately better outcomes for youth and their families.

SB 200 mandated significant changes to the Court Designated Worker Program. The legislation requires the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide specialized training for staff, develop a graduated response protocol, use a validated risk and needs assessment, collect and share specific data, and implement an enhanced case management process that includes establishing Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response Teams in every judicial district.

FAIR Teams are led by CDWs and are comprised of legal, education, mental health and other juvenile justice professionals. Their role is to develop enhanced case management plans and opportunities for services for children.

AOC piloted the FAIR Team process in nine districts:

- Anderson/Shelby/Spencer
- Barren/Metcalfe
- Bourbon/Scott/Woodford
- Breathitt/Powell/Wolfe
- Campbell
- Christian
- Clark/Madison
- Jefferson
- Warren

In each pilot site, the AOC hosted an orientation to educate community partners about the purpose of SB 200 and the CDW Program's role in juvenile justice reform. Following these meetings, local staff identified FAIR Team members and held a FAIR Team Orientation on the referral process and the responsibilities of the FAIR Team. The FAIR Team then began to receive and review juvenile cases.

FAIR Teams review these types of cases:

- ▶ Juveniles charged with status offenses who:
- Fail to appear for appointments.
- Decline to participate in diversion.
- Fail to complete the terms of their diversion agreement.
- Are referred directly from a school in an action brought to enforce compulsory attendance.
- ▶ Juveniles charged with public and status offenses who qualify as having high needs through the screening and assessment process.

By the end of 2014, seven FAIR Teams were actively hearing cases in five judicial districts. Data regarding cases heard by these teams can be found on pages 6, 7, 8 and 9. While this data displays a glimpse of the types of cases handled through the FAIR Team process, much more data is needed for evaluation.

The AOC will continue to work with its justice and community partners to establish FAIR teams statewide and meet the other requirements of SB 200.

### **About the Court Designated Worker Program**

When a young person is in trouble, positive intervention can mean the difference between a bright future and one with challenges. In Kentucky, court designated workers process complaints against juveniles under age 18, giving CDWs the opportunity to help thousands of children and teens every year.

The Court Designated Worker Program began in 1986 when the Kentucky General Assembly established a statewide pre-court program. The program addresses complaints filed against juveniles prior to any action taken in formal court.

Every Kentucky county has the services of a CDW who is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The CDW Program operates under the direction of the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The CDW Program ensures due process for juveniles by involving them in the complaint review process and explaining their rights under the law. They are also informed of the options for handling their case, whether informally through a diversion agreement or formally through the court system.

When appropriate, juveniles are diverted from the formal court system. Those who are eligible for diversion will not have a formal court record if they successfully complete the supervised educational and treatment-based program agreed upon in a pre-court contract, called a diversion agreement.

#### **Duties of a Court Designated Worker**

CDWs are responsible for:

- Processing all public and status complaints on children under age 18.
- Assisting in the custody process.
- Conducting preliminary investigations and interviews.
- Developing and supervising diversion agreements.

The CDW receives all complaints, which fall into two categories, status offenses and public offenses. Status offenses are non-criminal forms of juvenile behavior, such as running away from home, not attending school, tobacco and alcohol offenses, and exhibiting beyond-control behaviors at home or at school. Public offenses are defined in the same terms as adult charges.

Anyone can file a complaint against a juvenile, including a police officer, victim, parent or school official. Juveniles who have a complaint filed against them are given the opportunity to meet with a CDW.

#### **Custody Instead of Arrest**

Under Kentucky's juvenile justice system, children under age 18 are taken into custody instead of being arrested. CDWs assist law enforcement officials in finding appropriate placements, such as with parents or guardians, relatives or an emergency shelter. Detention may be authorized by a judge if there are concerns that a juvenile may reoffend or fail to appear for court.

#### **Appropriate Placements**

It is always the intent of the CDW to find the least-restrictive placement option. CDWs have five least-restrictive alternatives to consider when making placement decisions:

- Parent or custodial guardian, unless prohibited by the court for alleged abuse.
- Responsible adult, such as a relative, neighbor or friend of family.
- Emergency shelter.
- Crisis stabilization units, if applicable.
- In-patient mental health assessment, if applicable.

#### **Diversion Agreements**

The goal of diversion is to reduce further involvement in the court system. CDWs follow established criteria to determine if a juvenile is eligible to participate in a diversion agreement or if the case, by law, must be referred to formal court. If the juvenile is eligible and agrees to the informal process, he or she enters into a diversion agreement with the CDW.

The diversion agreement holds juveniles accountable for past actions and provides tools to manage current behavioral issues. These tools include:

- Prevention and education programs
- Service learning projects
- Community service
- Restitution
- Curfew
- School attendance
- Counseling
- Treatment

The CDW monitors juveniles throughout the diversion program, which helps ensure they are given the tools and skills necessary to make better decisions in the future.

When the juvenile successfully completes a diversion program, the case is closed and no formal court record is created.

## Training programs prepare CDWs to take on new responsibilities

Training court designated workers and court designated specialists is critical to the smooth implementation of juvenile justice reform. The Administrative Office of the Courts is working with court personnel and several partner agencies to meet the training requirements of Senate Bill 200. In 2014, CDWs participated in the following professional development opportunities.

## Training on Family Engagement CDW Regional Meetings Spring 2014

The AOC collaborated with the Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children to provide regional training sessions for CDWs. Approximately 175 staff received training on family engagement and how to understand the perspective of parents and children impacted by the social service, mental health and court systems.

## **Building Healthy Families Conference Administrative Office of the Courts, Frankfort May 19-21, 2014**

The AOC Department of Family and Juvenile Services hosted a conference for more than 250 CDWs and employees of the Division of Family Services. The three-day event focused on building healthy families and offered sessions on such topics as:

- How to Identify Secondary Traumatic Stress
- Understanding Families Through a Cultural Competency Lens
- Achieving Positive Outcomes Through a Strength-Based Approach
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Study Overview
- Juvenile Justice Panel discussion about services for children and families
- Maintaining Safe and Healthy Workspaces
- Reducing Stress and Avoiding Burnout

The goal of the conference was to begin discussions about the rollout of Senate Bill 200 and help staff develop ways to cope with the stress and fatigue that can come from working with families and children in high-need situations. In addition, CDSs received specialized one-day trainings on:

- Administration of the GAIN-Q3 tool, a needs assessment used to guide diversion terms and service referrals.
- Recognizing signs of trauma and providing trauma-informed care to youth.
- Using a strength-based approach when working with youth and families.

#### Diversion 101 Training Administrative Office of the Courts, Frankfort Dec. 3-4, 2014

The Diversion 101 training was a joint effort between the Administrative Office of the Courts and Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, the Crime & Justice Institute and The PEW Charitable Trusts. The two-day event attracted approximately 87 attendees from agencies throughout Kentucky.

The training offered sessions on the history of the Court Designated Worker Program, the purpose of diversion and a national picture of juvenile diversions. It also provided a review of Kentucky's intake process for diversion, guidance on how to appropriately use and share information, and how to create diversions that encourage juvenile and family participation.

The participants learned about current community collaboration initiatives in Kentucky, the importance of data to evidence-based practices, and how to monitor program processes and outcomes. They also took part in breakout discussions to identify existing and needed services and resources, strategies to improve community collaboration, and outcomes that would indicate successful interventions with children and their families.

## Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response Teams play key role in juvenile justice reform

The FAIR – Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response – Teams are a cornerstone for juvenile justice reform. Senate Bill 200 requires the Administrative Office of the Courts to establish FAIR Teams statewide in an effort to provide young people with enhanced services while reducing time in detention.

FAIR Teams consist of community partners that work with court designated workers to give juveniles and families access to more treatment options and the enhanced case management process. In the counties with FAIR Teams, the AOC anticipates a notable reduction in juvenile caseloads in District Court and status offense caseloads in Family Court.

After SB 200 was enacted in 2014, the AOC moved quickly to implement nine pilot FAIR Teams in seven jurisdictions. The teams held 16 meetings from October through December. Of the 30 cases reviewed by the teams, seven of the cases were successfully diverted, two cases were referred to the county attorney and dismissed, and 11 cases were unsuccessfully diverted and referred to court for further action. The remaining 10 cases were still active and pending at the end of 2014.

#### **How FAIR Teams Are Established**

In each judicial district, the AOC first holds a meeting with community members to inform partner agencies about the requirements of SB 200 and enhancements to the diversion process. The AOC then provides an orientation to educate FAIR Team members about the CDW Program and the duties and the responsibilities of the FAIR Team.

Finally, the FAIR Team begins actively reviewing eligible cases and providing recommendations.

As the FAIR Teams become more established, the team members play an increasingly important role in identifying service gaps and addressing the needs of juveniles and families. Their expertise helps CDW staff identify the appropriate terms for diversion and service referrals. FAIR Teams have also been instrumental in coordinating access to services and identifying local barriers to receiving services.

The AOC's goal is to establish FAIR Teams in every judicial district in Kentucky by the end of 2015.

#### **Partnerships Produce Results**

FAIR Team members benefit from collaborating with court personnel to provide appropriate services for youth on diversion.

"By allowing open communication, team members are able to piece together information from all agencies in which the child has previously had involvement," said Maddie Yewell, a court designated specialist in Fayette County. "We also work together to provide the appropriate and best plan of services for that child."

Kim Black, a parent representative from Anderson County, said, "I've seen firsthand all of the members of various organizations coming together to provide multifaceted recovery services for the young person who may be struggling in several different areas. Unlike a more punitive system, the agencies involved in the FAIR Team bring together valuable resources with the goal of helping youth recover and lead productive lives."

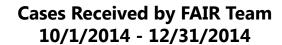


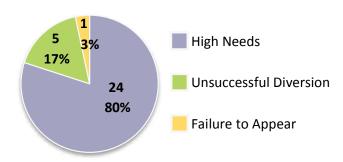
#### **FAIR Team Case Information**

The pilot FAIR Teams held 16 meetings from October through December 2014. They reviewed 30 cases, which included 24 highneeds cases, five unsuccessful diversions and one case for a juvenile who failed to appear for appointments.

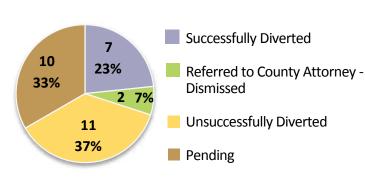
Of the 30 cases processed by the FAIR Teams, seven were successfully diverted, two cases were referred to the county attorney and dismissed, and 11 cases were unsuccessfully diverted and referred to court for further action.

The remaining 10 cases were still active and pending at the time of data collection.





### Case Outcome by FAIR Team 10/1/2014 - 12/31/2014



### FAIR Team Case Data 10/1/2014 - 12/31/2014

County	Breathitt/Wolfe	Campbell	Christian	Clark	Jefferson	Madison	Powell	Total		
Number of Meetings	1	2	3	3	2	4	1	16		
	Case Type									
High Needs	2	3	5	2	5	5	2	24		
Unsuccessful Diversion	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	5		
Failure to Appear	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		
<b>Declined Diversion</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total Cases	5	3	5	4	6	5	2	30		
			Outcome							
County	Breathitt/Wolfe	Campbell	Christian	Clark	Jefferson	Madison	Powell	Total		
Successful Completion	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	7		
Unsuccessful Completion	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	11		
Dismissed	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2		
Active/Pending	2	0	0	2	2	3	1	10		
Total Cases	5	3	5	4	6	5	2	30		

## Complaints Filed for Specified Counties Per Assigned CDW CY 2014

	CDW ID#	Public	Status	Total
BREATHITT	203	1	0	1
	559	38	29	67
	583	5	5	10
	619	4	0	4
	636	10	11	21
	Total	58	45	103
CAMPBELL	228	139	54	193
	460	111	21	132
	562	30	35	65
	589	1	0	1
	619	1	0	1
	621	7	23	30
	634	101	5	106
	646	1	0	1
	654	15	0	15
	Total	406	138	544
CHRISTIAN	73	1	0	1
	336	1	0	1
	598	145	18	163
	602	161	10	171
	624	152	7	159
	642	19	1	20
	Total	479	36	515
CLARK	159	98	36	134
	366	2	0	2
	544	7	10	17
	Total	107	46	153
MADISON	159	7	3	10
	366	99	26	125
	399	19	5	24
	544	96	42	138
	637	21	4	25
	Total	242	80	322
POWELL	203	3	0	3
	210	0	1	1
	559	49	10	59
	583	7	4	11
	619	3	0	3
	636	9	2	11
	Total	71	17	88
WOLFE	559	20	2	22
	583	4	0	4
	636	8	0	8
	Total	32	2	34

	CDW ID#	Public	Status	Total
JEFFERSON	63	350	63	413
	249	196	24	220
	253	353	46	399
	257	322	45	367
	304	304	56	360
	323	312	68	380
	349	60	9	69
	394	361	54	415
	421	1	0	1
	438	173	27	200
	478	42	10	52
	516	119	1	120
	553	7	2	9
	579	28	4	32
	580	287	42	329
	582	60	5	65
	603	244	46	290
	604	22	1	23
	607	133	26	159
	616	326	73	399
	617	320	57	377
	647	1	0	1
	649	1	1	2
	650	1	0	1
_	Total	4023	660	4,683

### Public Complaints Filed by Case Close Reason for Specified Counties Per Assigned CDW CY 2014

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553		478	-		2	-	-	1		- 23			1	-		42
579		516	-		-	-	1	-				-	_	-		119
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366	MADISON															7
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S44		399		4	1	1		-		- 2	5	2	2	2	-	19
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<u> </u>		Total		3	3	-		-		- 3	4	1	16	2	-	32

## Status Complaints Filed by Case Close Reason for Specified Counties Per Assigned CDW CY 2014

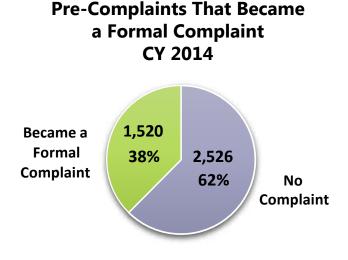
		CDW Referred Case for Formal	Child Failed To Appear for Preliminary Inquiry	Child Requested Formal Court	Closed Reason	County Attorney Requested Informal Processing/	Formal Court Referral - County Attorney	Formal Court Referral - Judge	No Probable	No Reasonable	Successful	Unsuccessful	
		Processing	Interview	Hearing	Unknown	Dismissed	Requested	Requested	Cause	Grounds	Diversion	Diversion	Total
BREATHITT	559	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	17	7	29
	583	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
	636	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	11
CAMPBELL	Total 228	<u>1</u>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b> 2	<b>0</b>	1 12	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b> 2	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b> 31	<b>11</b>	<b>45</b> 65
CAWIFBELL	460	2	3	2	0	8	4	1	1	0	13	2	36
	562	7	3	1	0	5	0	2	6	0	10	2	36
	621	1	5	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	13	1	24
	634	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	7	0	13
	Total	17	15	5	1	28	6	5	12	0	74	11	174
CHRISTIAN	598	1	0	0	0	1	2	5	0	0	8	1	18
	602	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	4	1	10
	624	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	7
	642	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
CLARK	Total 159	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b> 15	<b>2</b> 3	<b>36</b> 36
CLARK	544	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	6	9
	Total	5	0	2	0	2	5	1	4	0	17	9	45
JEFFERSON	63	6	9	0	0	8	12	0	0	0	13	16	64
	249	5	2	1	0	4	2	0	1	0	5	5	25
	253	11	4	0	0	5	11	1	1	0	8	7	48
	257	6	9	1	0	4	10	1	0	0	10	5	46
	304	10	8	5	0	6	10	1	0	0	12	7	59
	323	9	14	3	0	10	7	2	1	0	8	13	67
	349	2	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	9
	394 438	17	<u>4</u> 5	<u>2</u> 1	0	3	12 7	0	0	1 0	9	11 11	59 27
	436	2	<u> </u>	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	10
	516	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	553	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	579	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
	580	2	4	0	0	2	15	0	0	0	9	11	43
	582	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
	603	6	4	2	0	6	16	0	0	0	5	8	47
	607	3	1	1	0	1	14	0	0	0	2	4	26
	616 617	12 17	<u>8</u> 5	4	0	14	16 10	1	1	0	14 17	11	81 65
	649	0	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	0	6	0	0	0	0	17	9	1
	700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	708	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Total	114	81	21	0	74	156	6	4	1	113	121	691
MADISON	159	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
	366	7	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	11	4	26
	399	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	7
	544	3	6	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	23	5	41
	637 <b>Total</b>	1 13	<u> </u>	0 <b>2</b>	0 <b>0</b>	0 <b>0</b>	2 4	0 <b>6</b>	0 1	0 <b>0</b>	38	0 10	80
POWELL	210	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	38 0	0	1
FOWLLL	559	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	10
	583	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
	636	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
	Total	4	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	6	2	18
WOLFE	559	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2

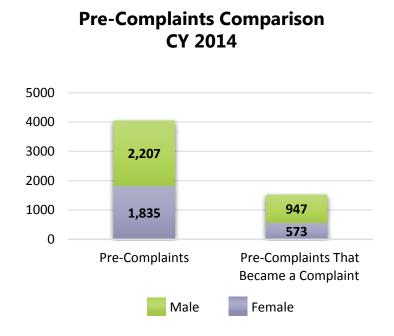
### **Pre-Complaint Conferences**

A pre-complaint conference gives CDWs the opportunity to coordinate a young person's case management and any prevention services prior to a complaint being filed.

CDWs conducted 4,046 pre-complaint conferences for status offenses in 2014 and only 1,520 resulted in a formal complaint being filed with the court.

The effective use of the pre-complaint process reduced the need to file complaints by 62 percent.



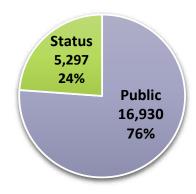


### **Public & Status Complaints**

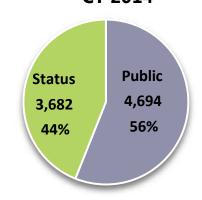
Of the 22,227 complaints filed against juveniles in 2014, 76 percent were for public offenses and 24 percent were for status offenses.

Thirty-eight percent of the complaints were school related and 62 percent were non-school related. Status offenses comprise 44 percent of school-related complaints.

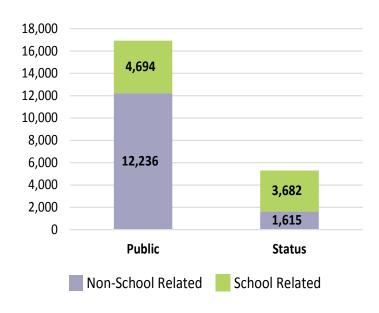
Complaints Filed by Type: Public vs. Status Offenses CY 2014



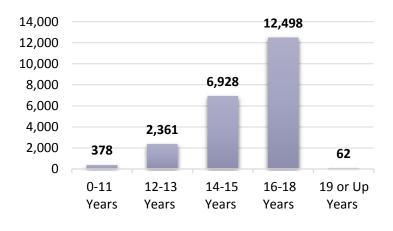
School-Related Complaints
CY 2014



School-Related vs. Non-School-Related Complaints
CY 2014



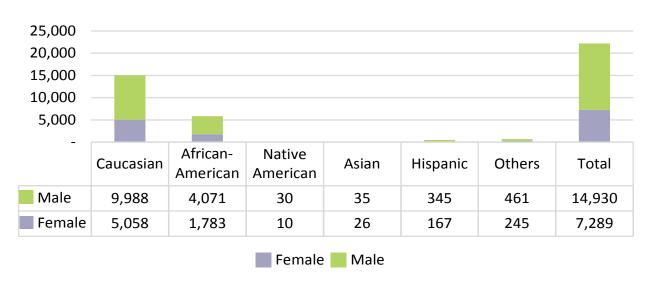
Complaints Filed by Age CY 2014



### **Complaints by Race & Gender**

Of the 22,227 complaints in 2014, 68 percent were filed against Caucasian juveniles and 26 percent against African-American juveniles. The remaining complaints were filed against juveniles who were Native Americans, Asians, Hispanics or some other racial groups not captured individually.

Public & Status Complaints Filed by Race & Gender CY 2014

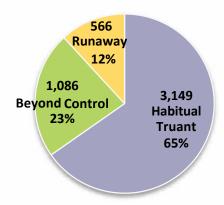


Note: 8 complaints with unknown gender are excluded.

### **Status Complaints Filed**

There were 5,297 status complaints filed on juveniles in 2014. Those complaints contained 5,313 charges. Of the 4,801 most common status complaints, 65 percent were for habitual truancy, 23 percent were for beyond control and 12 percent were for runaway.



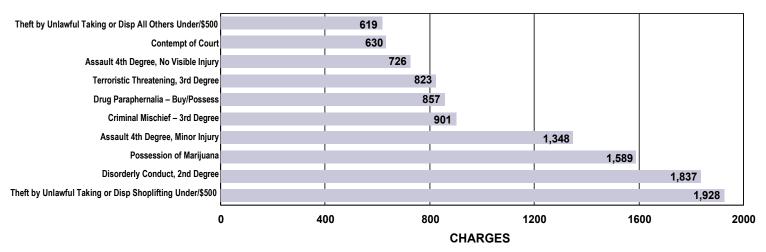




### **Public Complaints Filed**

There were 16,930 public complaints filed on juveniles in 2014. Those complaints contained 25,809 charges. Of the 11,256 most common public complaints, 17 percent were for theft by unlawful taking/shoplifting, 16 percent were for disorderly conduct - 2nd degree, 14 percent were for possession of marijuana, 12 percent were for assault 4th degree - minor injury and 8 percent were for criminal mischief - 3rd degree.

### 10 Most Common Charges Filed With Statewide CDW Program CY 2014



#### Restitution

The amount of restitution collected from juveniles is affected by the number of cases involving theft, damage to property and medical expenses for the victim. Youth paid \$52,127 in restitution to victims in 2014.

#### **Restitution Collected Per Calendar Year**

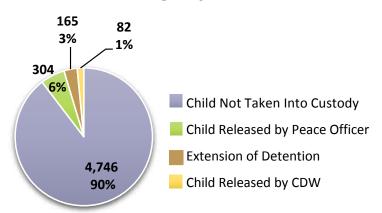
Calendar Year	Statewide
2009	\$67,668.84
2010	\$58,753.76
2011	\$64,904.43
2012	\$87,354.92
2013	\$53,998.99
2014	\$52,126.87
TOTAL	\$384,807.81

### **Custody Outcomes**

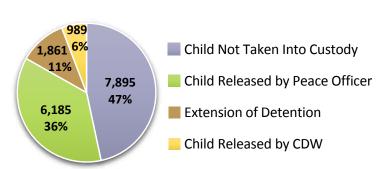
**Status Complaints.** There were 5,297 status complaints on juveniles in 2014. Of the juveniles involved, 90 percent were not taken into custody, 6 percent were released by peace officers, 3 percent were detained and 1 percent were released by the CDW.

**Public Complaints.** There were 16,930 public complaints on juveniles in 2014. Of the juveniles involved, 47 percent were not taken into custody, 36 percent were released by peace officers, 11 percent were detained and 6 percent were released by the CDW.

### **Custody Outcomes of Status Complaints CY 2014**



### Custody Outcomes of Public Complaints CY 2014



### Custody Outcomes CY 2014

	PUBLIC	STATUS	TOTAL
Child Not Taken Into Custody	7,895	4,746	12,641
Child Released by Peace Officer	6,185	304	6,489
Extension of Detention	1,861	165	2,026
Child Released by CDW	989	82	1,071
Total	16,930	5,297	22,227

### **Custody Outcomes From Public & Status Complaints**

A juvenile can be taken into custody by a law enforcement officer who has probable cause to believe the child has committed an offense. The law enforcement officer may release the child to a parent, relative, guardian or custodian upon his or her written promise to appear with the child in juvenile court.

However, children meet the criteria for detention if:

- There is reasonable belief the child is unlikely to appear in court.
- Detention is essential to protect the child or the community.
- The child is charged with a serious offense.
- A parent, guardian or custodian cannot be located or is unwilling to take custody.
- The child has a reasonable basis for requesting detention.

Once a child has been taken into custody, a CDW will respond to the custody site and determine if the child meets the criteria for detention. The CDW will contact a judge if the child is eligible to be detained.

If the child is held in a Juvenile Detention Center, a detention hearing must be held after the child is taken into custody.

At the detention hearing, the judge:

- May dismiss the charges and release the child if there is no probable cause the child has committed an offense.
- Has the discretion to release the child to his or her parents, guardians or custodians upon promise to reappear in Juvenile Court.
- May order the child to surrender his or her driver's license as a condition of release.
- May order continued detention if there is reasonable belief
  the child is unlikely to reappear; if detention is essential to
  protect the child or the community; if the parent, guardian
  or custodian cannot be located or is unwilling to take
  custody; or if the child has a reasonable basis for requesting
  detention.

The majority of youth with public and status complaints are not taken into custody. Of the 16,930 young people with a public complaint, 47 percent were not taken into custody. Of those taken into custody, 36 percent were released by a law enforcement officer, 13 percent were housed in detention at the direction of the judge pending a court hearing and 4 percent were released by the CDW.

Of the 5,297 youth with a status complaint, 94 percent were not taken into custody. Four percent of the children had an extension of detention and the remaining 2 percent were released by a law enforcement officer or CDW.

### **Preliminary Inquiry**

Kentucky's Unified Juvenile Code directs whether a juvenile complaint is eligible to be processed formally in a court setting or informally through a diversion agreement.

A young person has the right to waive the informal processing of his or her case and request a formal court hearing to determine the validity of the allegations.

The AOC has developed the Preliminary Inquiry Formal/ Informal Processing Criteria and Recommendations (JW-40) form, which gives court designated workers a checklist of the criteria set out in the Unified Juvenile Code.

#### **Informal Process**

CDWs are statutorily authorized to informally process a total of three status or non-felony public offense complaints per child and, with the written approval of the county attorney, one felony complaint that did not involve the commission of a sexual offense or the use of a deadly weapon.

A young person who is eligible for informal processing will be able to avoid court and participate in a diversion program. A youth's eligibility is based on legal criteria and input from the person filing the complaint and/or the victim, along with the court and the county attorney.

A juvenile who is eligible for informal processing must agree to participate in a diversion program.

### **Diversion Agreements**

In 2014, 5,656 public complaints and 1,700 status complaints were handled through diversion agreements. A diversion agreement is a contract, also called a case plan, which the CDW negotiates with the child.

The goal of the diversion agreement is to hold the child accountable for his or her behavior, secure services if appropriate, and serve the best interests of the child while providing redress and restitution for his or her offenses without court action and without creating a formal court record.

Case plans are customized to fit the individual needs of the child. The CDW draws upon community resources and a variety of tools and programs to resolve a complaint. Successful diversion agreements have produced a significant amount of money in the form of restitution.

### Diversion Agreements Within Complaints CY 2014

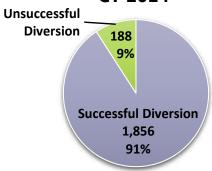
	PUBLIC	STATUS	TOTAL
Complaints	5,656	1,700	7,356

#### **Successful Diversions**

Of the 2,044 public complaints closed as successful and unsuccessful diversions, 91 percent of the diversions were completed successfully.

Status complaint cases are generally more complex than a public complaint. Of the 856 status complaints closed as successful and unsuccessful diversions, 75 percent were successfully completed diversions.

### Public Complaints Closed With Diversion CY 2014



### Status Complaints Closed With Diversion CY 2014



#### **Diversion Terms**

The terms used to set up a juvenile's diversion agreement must provide prevention, education, accountability and/or treatment when appropriate. There were 41,383 terms used in diversion agreements during 2014. The number of terms are not to be confused with the number of diversion agreements.

Forty-five percent of diversion agreements included the following terms: individual service learning projects, counseling, school attendance, report to CDW and educational diversion assignment. While diversion agreements may contain as few as one of the diversion terms, many diversion agreements contain multiple terms.

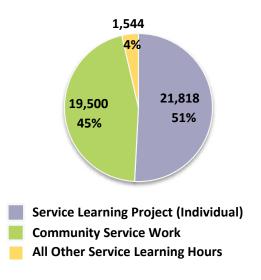
### Terms of Diversion Agreements CY 2014

CY 2014	Terms
Assault Workbook/Service Learning Project	1,092
Bullying Workbook/Service Learning Project	202
Character Counts!	138
Community Service Work	1,623
Community Works	58
Counseling Assessment	2,319
Counseling Referral	3,216
Criminal Mischief Workbook/Service Learning	351
Curfew	1,761
Drug/Alcohol Education	152
Educational Diversion Assignment	3,325
Educational Seminar/Program (Specify)	718
Families Workbook/Service Learning Project	256
Farmer's, Families, Friends, & Fitness Work	11
Harassment/Internet Safety Workbook/Service	188
Letter of Apology	2,374
Look Before You Leap	36
Making Choices	108
Making It on Your Own	15
No Negative Contact	1,580
Other	1,473
Report to CDW	3,544
Restitution	298
School Attendance	5,191
Service Learning Project (Group)	180
Service Learning Project (Individual)	6,653
Service Learning Workbook	145
Street Law for Juvenile Justice Programs	58
Substance Education Activity Program	354
Substance Workbook: Journal	294
Taking Active Control Today	6
TBUT Workbook/Service Learning Project	1,303
Teen Court Diversion	288
Theatre in Diversion	7
Tobacco Workbook/Service Learning Project	91
Truancy Diversion Program (TDP)	566
Truancy Workbook/Service Learning Project	1,409
Total	41,383

### **Service Learning Hours**

Juveniles on diversion completed 42,862 hours of service learning. Fifty-one percent of these hours were earned through individual service learning projects and 45 percent were earned through community service.

### Service Learning Hours CY 2014



Service Learning Hours								
	CY 2014							
Service Learning Project (Individual)	21,818							
Community Service Work	19,500							
Character Counts!	512							
Service Learning Project (Group)	367							
Making Choices	282							
Street Law for Juvenile Justice Programs	180							
Look Before You Leap	103							
Making It on Your Own	70							
Community Works	30							
Total	42,862							

### **Counseling With Diversion**

Counseling is an important part of a juvenile's diversion agreement. Sixty-eight percent of juveniles with public complaints and 98 percent of juveniles with status complaints participated in counseling as part of their diversion agreement.

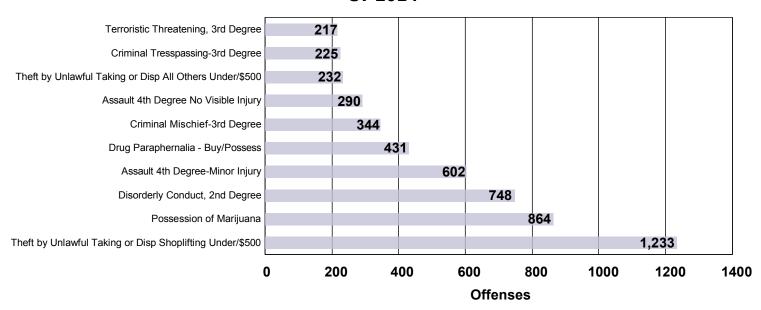
## Diversion Agreements With Terms of Counseling Assessment and/or Counseling Referral CY 2014

	PUBLIC	STATUS	TOTAL
Complaints	3,663	1,759	5,421

### **Public Complaints Filed With Diversion**

Juveniles on diversion for public complaints had a total of 8,837 charges. Of the 5,186 most common charges, 24 percent of those charges were for theft by unlawful taking/shoplifting, 17 percent were for possession of marijuana, 14 percent were for disorderly conduct 2nd degree, 12 percent were for assault 4th degree - minor injury and 8 percent were for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Top 10 Offenses Within Public Complaints Filed With Diversion Agreement CY 2014



### **Teen Court Diversion Program**

Teen Court provides first-time juvenile offenders the opportunity to participate in a less formal court process carried out by their peers. As part of the diversion agreement, a juvenile agrees to participate in Teen Court and have his or her sentence set by a jury of their peers.

Peer pressure in a Teen Court setting can have a more immediate and meaningful effect upon a young defendant than the traditional juvenile justice approach.

The program succeeds as a positive alternative to Juvenile Court by bringing together high school students and volunteer teacher-coaches and attorney-coaches.

Teen Court operates in 25 Kentucky counties. More than 17,000 students have participated in the program since its inception in 1992.

## Complaints Closed by Case Close Reason With Teen Court Diversion Agreement CY 2014

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS				
Child Requested Formal Court Hearing	3			
County Attorney Requested Informal Processing/Dismissed	1			
Formal Court Referral - County Attorney Requested	1			
Formal Court Referral - Judge Requested	4			
No Probable Cause	3			
Successful Diversion	201			
Unsuccessful Diversion	28			
Total	241			
STATUS COMPLAINTS				
Formal Court Referral - Judge Requested	1			
Successful Diversion	20			
Unsuccessful Diversion	3			
Total	24			
TOTAL	265			

### **Truancy Diversion Program**

The Administrative Office of the Courts created the Truancy Diversion Program in 2005 to help students at risk of being charged with truancy because of too many unexcused absences.

The program uses a multidisciplinary team approach to help students become more successful. The team consists of judges, school personnel and court designated workers. They meet weekly to help students develop good attendance habits and improve their overall school experience. During 2014, 149 schools in 65 counties participated in the Truancy Diversion Program.

#### **Two-Phase Program**

The Truancy Diversion Program is divided into two phases.

#### **Pre-Complaint Phase**

The Pre-Complaint Phase is when the truant student and his or her parents meet with the TDP Review Team and attend a twohour educational workshop.

#### **Complaint Phase**

The Complaint Phase is when the student has been absent or tardy six or more times without a valid excuse and is considered habitually truant. The court designated worker fills out a complaint on the student. The student and his or her parents attend weekly sessions with the TDP Review Team and comply with recommendations and requirements set forth by the team. The Complaint Phase of the program lasts 10 weeks.

### **TDP Pre-Complaint Conferences School Year 2013-14**

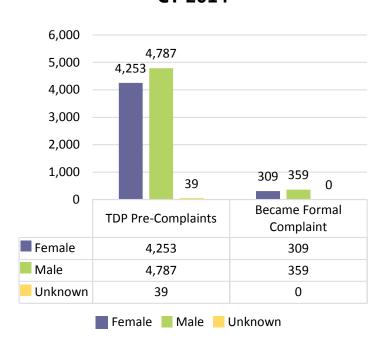


#### **Truancy by Gender**

Of the 9,079 pre-complaints related to truancy, 55 percent involved males and 45 percent involved females (excludes 39 unknown).

- CDWs provided case management to 9,079 TDP pre-complaints in Phase One.
- Only 668 cases advanced to Phase Two, which resulted in a formal complaint being filed.

### TDP Pre-Complaint Conferences by Gender CY 2014



#### Juvenile Recidivism

The Division of Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts conducted a juvenile recidivism study that examined a cohort of 9,936 distinct juvenile offenders who had a complaint filed during CY 2011 and were processed through the diversion program. This first referral was not necessarily the juvenile's actual first referral, but instead the first referral during CY 2011.

The juvenile cohort was tracked through the CDW Case Management System for at least two years from the complaint date to determine whether or not subsequent complaints had been filed Jan. 1, 2011, through Dec. 31, 2014. The majority of juveniles – 86 percent (8,528) – had an original referral that was a successful diversion and the remainder – 14 percent (1,408) – had an original referral that was an unsuccessful diversion.

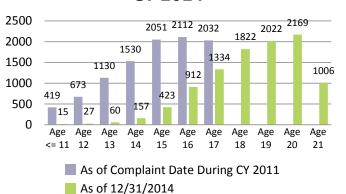
Among the cohort of 9,936 juveniles, 59 percent of juveniles did not reoffend while under 18 years old. Twenty-one percent of the cohort reoffended only once after the initial 2011 complaint through Dec. 31, 2014.

Note: Adult criminal record checks were not analyzed for the 71 percent of juveniles in the cohort who turned 18 by Dec. 31, 2014, and were no longer were eligible for CDW referrals.

## Any Subsequent Complaint Filed for Juvenile 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2014



### Ages of Juveniles Within Cohort CY 2014



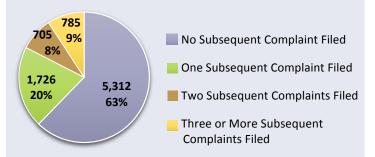
### First Complaint Filed for Juveniles by Case Close Reason CY 2011

	PUBLIC	STATUS	TOTAL
Successful Diversion	6,038	2,490	8,528
Unsuccessful Diversion	549	859	1,408
Total Distinct Juveniles	6,587	3,349	9,936

### **Successful Diversions Among Juvenile Cohort**

Of the 8,528 juveniles who successfully completed the diversion program, 63 percent did not reoffend or have any subsequent complaints filed while under 18 years old as of Dec. 31, 2014.

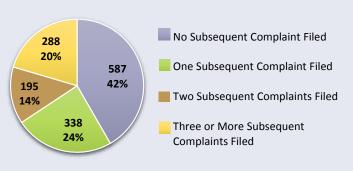
### Successful Diverted Juveniles Reoffense Rate 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2014



### **Unsuccessful Diversions Among Juvenile Cohort**

Of the 1,408 juveniles who did not successfully complete the diversion program, 42 percent did not reoffend or have any subsequent complaints filed while under 18 years old as of Dec. 31, 2014.

### Unsuccessful Diverted Juveniles Reoffense Rate 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2014



### **Juvenile Complaints: Summary of Statistics CY 2014**

Complaint Types	Number of Complaints
Total complaints	22,227
Total status pre-complaints filed	4,046
Status pre-complaints that became a formal complaint	1,520
Total public complaints	16,930
Total status complaints	5,297
Total school-related complaints	8,376
School-related status complaints	3,682
School-related public complaints	4,694

Complaints With Diversion Agreements
37 different types of terms available to be included in diversion agreements
8,893 distinct juveniles with one or more diversion agreements
5,656 public complaint diversions
1,856 public complaint diversions successfully completed
1,700 status complaint diversions
639 status complaint diversions successfully completed

### Recidivism

63 percent of successful diversions in CY2011 did not have any further complaints filed by Dec. 31, 2014.

42 percent of juveniles with an unsuccessful diversion in CY2011 did not have any further complaints filed by Dec. 31, 2014.

### **Glossary**

The following definitions describe the terms used by the Court Designated Worker Program. Please note that the terms are used in pre-court situations and may differ from the terms used in formal court settings.

**Beyond Control of Parents.** A child who has repeatedly failed to follow the reasonable directives of his or her parents, legal guardian or person exercising custodial control or supervision other than a state agency. The behavior results in danger to the child or others and does not constitute behavior that would warrant the filing of a petition under KRS Chapter 645, which is the Mental Health Act of The Unified Juvenile Code.

**Child/Juvenile.** Any person who has not reached his or her 18th birthday, unless otherwise provided.

**Commitment.** A court order that places a child under the custodial control or supervision of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, or another facility or agency until the child reaches age 18 unless otherwise provided by law.

**Complaint.** A verified statement that sets forth allegations regarding a child and contains sufficient facts supporting any subsequent petition that may be filed in court.

**Complaint Filing Date.** Date that a complaint was signed by the complainant.

Complaint Close Date. Date that the complaint was closed.

**Contempt of Court.** A willful disobedience of a court order or willful interference with the administration of justice.

**Decline Diversion.** A situation in which a child does not wish to participate in diversion or does not agree to the terms of a diversion, but does not request that the case be formally processed in the court system. If the case is a status offense and the child declines diversion, the case is consequently referred to the FAIR Team.

**Diversion Agreement.** An agreement between a court designated worker and a child charged with committing a public or status offense. It is designed to hold the child accountable for his or her behavior and, if appropriate, to secure services for the child. The purpose of a diversion agreement is to serve the best interests of the child and provide redress for his or her behavior without court action and without the creation of a formal court record.

**Failure to Appear.** A situation in which a child does not appear for any scheduled appointment. If the case is a status offense and the child fails to appear for an appointment, the case is consequently referred to the FAIR Team.

FAIR - Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response -

**Team.** A multidisciplinary team that will exist in every judicial distict and will be comprised of no more than 15 members. The FAIR Team reviews the work of the local CDW and creates enhanced case management plans and opportunities to provide resources and services for youth in diversion. Senate Bill 200 mandates that the FAIR Team include legal, education, social service and mental health professionals as well as representatives of agencies that provide services to youth in the juvenile justice system.

**GAIN-Q3.** The Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Quick is a needs assessment conducted on every child that scores high on the GAIN-SS. The GAIN-Q3 provides in-depth information on the needs of a child on diversion and how those needs can be met.

**GAIN-SS.** The Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Short Screener is a screening conducted on every child referred to the CDW Program. The GAIN-SS asks a short series of questions meant to quickly identify areas that potentially need further mental health assessment.

**Habitual Runaway.** Any child found by the court to have been absent from his or her place of lawful residence without the permission of his or her custodian for at least three days during a one-year period.

**Habitual Truant.** Any child who has been found by the court to have been reported as a truant two or more times during a one-year period. Truancy is defined in KRS 159.150(1).

**High Needs**. Level of score used to identify those children referred to the FAIR Team for service coordination, based on the score on a child's Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Short Screener (GAIN-SS) and Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Quick (GAIN-Q3).

**KRS.** Kentucky Revised Statutes are the laws of the commonwealth of Kentucky.

**Petition.** A verified statement that sets forth allegations regarding a child and initiates formal court involvement in the child's case.

**Pre-Complaint.** A meeting with the child, parent/guardian and possibly the complaining witness to assist in the coordination of a case management plan and prevention services prior to a complaint being filed.

**Public Offense.** An action that would be a crime if committed by an adult, whether a felony, misdemeanor or violation other than an allegation that a child age 16 or older has committed a motor vehicle offense.

### **Glossary**

Restitution Payment. Full or partial compensation paid to the victim of a status or public offense.

Retain in Custody. After a child has been taken into custody, the continued holding of the child by a law enforcement officer for a period of time not to exceed 12 hours when authorized by the court or the court designated worker for the purpose of making preliminary inquiries.

Secure Juvenile Detention Facility. Any physically secure facility used for the secure detention of children other than any facility in which adult prisoners are confined.

Senate Bill 200. Legislation passed by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2014 that enacted systemwide juvenile justice reform by steering more children to treatment instead of detention. SB 200 was fully effective July 1, 2015.

Status Offense. An offense that would not be a crime if committed by an adult. The behavior, which is unique to juveniles and is not to be considered criminal or delinquent, includes offenses such as beyond control of parents or school, habitual truant, habitual runaway, and various alcohol and tobacco offenses.

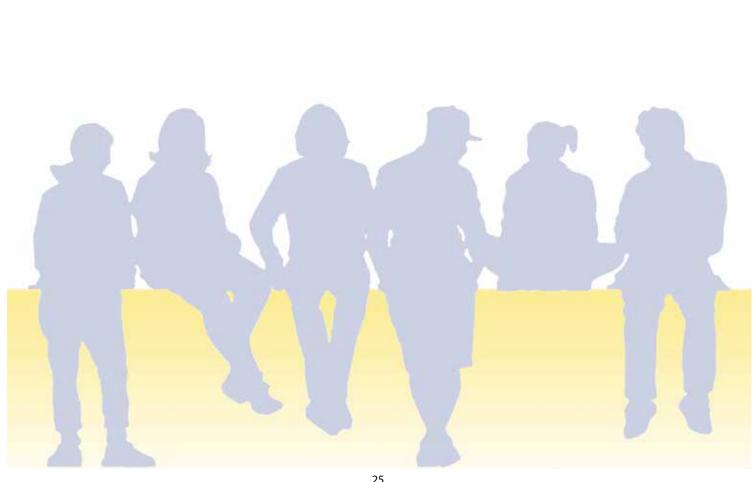
Successful Diversion. A child's successful completion of a diversion agreement.

Truancy Diversion Program. A program for students at risk of being charged with habitual truancy that uses a multidisciplinary team approach to help them become successful.

Truant. A child between the ages of 6 and 18 who has been absent from school without a valid excuse for three or more days or tardy without a valid excuse on three or more days. Truancy is defined in KRS 159.150(1).

Unified Court System. Kentucky has a unified court system that provides centralized administration and standardized judicial organization statewide to streamline legal matters and reduce duplication of efforts.

**Unsuccessful Diversion.** A child's failure to complete a diversion agreement. Cases involving status offenses are referred to the FAIR Team in the event of an unsuccessful diversion. Cases involving public offenses are referred to the county attorney.



# CDW Case Management System: Definitions & Methodology

The statistical information in this report is from the Court Designated Worker Case Management System. The CDWCMS is a statewide electronic database maintained by the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The following definitions explain the methodology used to produce the statistical reports.

**Intake Action Date.** Date that the intake action (release or detention) is applied.

**Number of Juveniles.** Each juvenile is assigned a unique identifier the first time he or she is entered into the CDWCMS. That identifier remains with the juvenile for each subsequent referral/complaint, ensuring that the CDWCMS maintains a count of distinct juveniles.

**Number of Complaints/Referrals.** The terms complaint and referral are interchangeable. A juvenile may have more than one complaint during any given time frame. A complaint may be a status complaint or a public complaint. Status complaints are those that include offenses unique to juveniles, such as beyond control, habitual truant, runaway, and various alcohol and tobacco offenses. Public offenses are those that would be crimes if committed by adults and, thus, are not unique to juveniles, such as felonies, misdemeanors and violations.

Number of Referrals by Case Close Reason. The case close reason, or outcome, is the definitive action taken and recorded in the CDWCMS regarding how a particular complaint/referral ended. The case close reason date is used to determine when the complaint will be counted and reported for statistical purposes.

**Referrals Filed/Closed.** The date that complaints/referrals are filed is obtained by a query by referral filing date. The same is true for complaints/referrals closed, which are queried by the closing date.

**Recidivism Methodology.** Recidivism data was obtained by looking at juveniles processed through the CDW Program whose first complaint was processed during calendar year 2011. These cases were closed due to a successful or unsuccessful diversion. The study followed those juveniles to see if they had one or more subsequent complaints filed through Dec. 31, 2014.

The cases involving first complaints were broken down by:

- No subsequent complaints, one subsequent complaint, two subsequent complaints, and three or more subsequent complaints.
- No reoffense, reoffense less than a year, reoffense within a year, and two years or more to reoffend.

The offense period was defined as the day after the first complaint date in 2011 through Dec. 31, 2014. A juvenile was counted as a recidivist if he or she had an additional complaint filed during that time frame.

The study excluded juveniles who committed a serious offense and were tried as an adult; juveniles who turned 18 prior to Dec. 31, 2014, and were processed as an adult within the criminal justice system; and juveniles who aged out of the juvenile system and reoffended within the adult system.

Note: A comprehensive breakdown of recidivism data is on page 22.

### **CDW Case Management System Disclaimer**

The data from the Court Designated Worker Case Management System – CDWCMS – is subject to changes, reprogramming, format modifications and availability at the direction of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

At any particular moment, the data may not reflect the most up-to-date status of court cases due to ordinary limitations, delays or errors in the system's operation.

It is important to note that when SB 200 was passed in 2014,

the CDWCMS was not capable of tracking all of the data mandated by the bill. Although the Administrative Office of the Courts has been hard at work to upgrade the system, some information for the 2014 Annual Report cannot be retrieved.

This includes data that spans case management systems, such as the number of children who were adjudicated a public offender or convicted of a criminal offense in an adult court within one year of successfully completing a juvenile diversion agreement.

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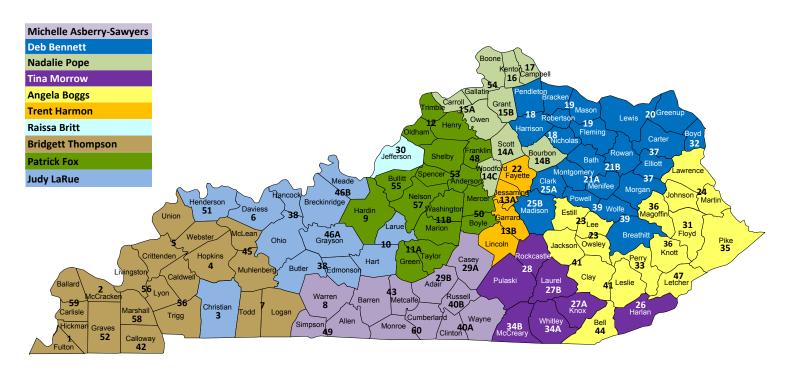
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### **Court Designated Worker Supervisory Regions**

Court designated workers provide services to every county in Kentucky. The CDW supervisors who oversee the 10 regions of the statewide program are listed below.



### **Acknowledgments**

2014 Court Designated Worker Annual Report Submitted pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 605.020

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