

Lucas County Juvenile Detention Center

Dan Jones, Administrator



Dan Jones trains at the Toledo Police Academy on procedures to follow for bringing youth to the Assessment Center.

As a result of JDAI efforts, bookings and admissions into secure detention have continued to decrease since 2000. Since 2009, when Lucas County officially became a JDAI site, bookings have decreased by 55.8% from 3,295 bookings in 2009 to 1457 in 2015. Likewise, the Average Daily Population (number of youth in JDC on an average day) dropped from 67.3 in 2009 to 27.6 in 2015.

The opening of the Lucas County Assessment Center has greatly contributed to the reductions in detention bookings. This was the direct result of two years of planning and collaborating with community leaders. After October 1, 2014, non-violent misdemeanor offenses began to be served upon arrest by non-secure assessment center staff. Cases that had previously been served in JDC such as, Safe School Ordinance, Unruly, and Domestic Violence now meet with case managers in the assessment center and are screened and linked to services in the community that can immediately help meet the youth's and family's needs. Every youth who enters the assessment center receives the OYAS and GAIN-SS. As reported above, the Lucas County Assessment Center screened 1,022 youth in 2015. It is important to note that prior to creating this process, youth were often booked and released, without the benefit of screening and

assessment. Today, each youth arrested and brought to the Assessment Center receives screening, and when necessary, referral for further assessment and interventions.

Lucas County Juvenile Detention (JDC) also strives to meet the highest quality for Conditions of Confinement. During 2015, a priority was ensuring the educational needs of youth were being met. Toledo Public Schools provides educational services in JDC. Over six hours of education are offered every day during the week throughout the year for every youth in JDC. JDC offers traditional learning classes taught by teachers and a menu of on-line educational material set at the student's own pace. Youth also engage in summer school for 8 weeks. All residents get to take part in an Art Integrated Math (A.I.M.) program five days a week, year round. All of the art projects encompass math, facilitated by a certified art teacher with degrees in education and art therapy. Several of these art pieces can be found proudly displayed throughout the Lucas County Juvenile Court today. Individual G.E.D and O.G.T. sessions are also provided for youth. An educational specialist helps youth transition out of detention back into the school environment assisting with any needs throughout the reentry process. In 2015, JDC had three youth who earned their final credits to successfully graduate from TPS.

After school hours, youth participate in psycho-educational groups conducted by the Juvenile Detention Officers that use Rational Behavioral Training teaching the youth pro-social skills and how to make healthy and safe decisions. RBT also provides the fundamental basis for the cognitive based behavior management system utilized in JDC. This approach which incorporates praise, logical consequences and disengagement greatly reduces the need for seclusion.

Every youth admitted into JDC receives a pamphlet on behavior expectations, their rights and what they can expect from staff. The youth in JDC spend their days in school or the common areas on the units learning and are only confined to their rooms during sleeping hours or earned consequences consistent with the program. In addition, the pamphlet clarifies what appropriate behavior is expected from each youth to earn all their points

and what consequences are earned if inappropriate behavior is displayed.

JDC staff also worked diligently in 2015 to comply with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act. Safety for both staff and youth in the facility is of utmost importance. Juvenile Court recognizes how imperative safety is by prioritizing equipment purchases and policy reviews resulting in a safer environment. A major accomplishment this year in JDC was the replacement of the entire camera system to help ensure a safe setting for all youth and staff. Youth are taught multiple ways that they can report sexual abuse in the facility. Each youth entering the facility signs for and receives a PREA informational pamphlet with all pertinent material printed for their reading. The Juvenile Court website was also updated, per policy, for any interested party to file a concern about sexual abuse in a Lucas County Juvenile Court Facility: <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/FormCenter/PREA-8/PREA-Sexual-Misconduct-Reporting-Form-43>. With resident safety being one of our utmost responsibilities and objectives, Rescue Mental Health staff are on site working with youth on a daily basis by staff referral or youth request. Rescue has accomplished a total of 2,805 counseling sessions with JDC residents in 2015.

With aid from the Lucas County Commissioners, JDC youth and staff benefited from an updated camera system and a substantial project renovating the gym ceiling to exceed higher sanitary specifications. Lucas County Juvenile Detention Center and the Court look forward to building upon the successes of 2015 in the upcoming year ahead. JDC is committed to continuous quality improvement of its operations. JDC and staff accept the great responsibility of caring for and respecting youth while teaching fundamentals that will give them the tools they need to make healthier, more responsible decisions once transitioned back into the community.



Community Detention

Mary Niederhauser, Community Detention Manager

The primary purpose of the Community Detention (CD) Program is to provide a safe community-based alternative to secure detention for low to moderate youth awaiting trial.

Community Detention consists of four levels:

Level 1 is Secure Detention/JDC.

Level 2 is contracted out to the East Toledo Family Center (ETFC). Youth attend programming from 12pm-8pm if not in school, and 4pm-8pm if they are in school. While in the program, youth are on house arrest. Youth complete community service, attend Thinking for a Change Classes, and take part in group discussions and positive recreational activities. ETFC collaborates with many agencies in the community.

Level 3 is house arrest with surveillance.

Level 4 is Electronic Monitoring.

During 2015, 80% of all CD clients were successfully terminated from the program, while only twenty percent were unsuccessfully terminated from the program.

	Successful	Unsuccessful	Total
CD2	77	24	101
CD3	129	30	159
CD4	88	21	109
Total	294	75	369

Community Detention- Level 2 focused on training and implementation of Positive Youth Justice (PYJ) activities this year. Youth were engaged in a variety of activities ranging from participating in Global Youth Day Clean Up to helping Bowling Green State University paint a mural in East Toledo on East Broadway Street. CD2 started a job readiness program that consists of teaching the youth how to fill out job applications, dressing for interviews, and most importantly how to keep a job. CD2 staff have helped at least four of youth involved in the program to

get a job. Youth participated in town meetings at the East Toledo Family Center (ETFC) to foster a sense of pride in the community in which they live. Youth helped set-up and tear down community functions that were being held at ETFC. CD2 partners with the Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) where the youth visit on Fridays for various tours and educational instruction. The TMA scheduled studio time for the youth after every tour, which provided the youth with an opportunity for self-expression. CD2 introduced youth to the Maumee River and its history. They visited the outlet of the river where it meets Lake Erie, and traveled to Grand Rapids, Ohio to show the youth the different parts and functions of the Maumee River.

