

## A Report Card to Our Stakeholders January – December 2016

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### Our Vision

**To be the foremost juvenile justice organization in the United States of America by proactively working to eliminate juvenile crime and to support and educate our community on juvenile justice**

### Our Mission

**To provide professional services that build, reinforce, and sustain skills to enhance the lives of youth and families**

### Our Agency Values

**Accountability, Dedication, Diversity, Fairness, Integrity, Trust**

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Ada County Juvenile Court Services (ACJCS)

Dawn Burns, Director

Main Office

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# A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



To Our Community,

The changes continued in ACJCS throughout 2016, as the Department adjusted to a new Director, a new Division, and a new software and process for Juvenile Court documents.

Much of 2016 included the final preparations for implementation of the new Odyssey Court software and related process revisions. This software allows all adult and juvenile courts in Ada County to utilize electronic filing and move away from paper. In July, the Juvenile Court Clerks were transferred to the Ada County Clerk's office as part of the County's process changes. In early August the Idaho Supreme Court implemented Odyssey in all Ada County courts, only the second Idaho County to move to Odyssey. The remainder of the year and beyond was spent adjusting to the technical and process revisions brought about by Odyssey, especially in Probation.

Detention music programs were enhanced this year with help from staff of the Boise School of Rock, who volunteer time to work on music with our juveniles once a month. Three authors (Jacqueline Woodson, Colum McCann and Dennis Mansfield) came to speak about their lives, and about writing.

A big event was the May 2016 dedication of our new Juvenile Probation office in Meridian. This LEED certified building provides services to the growing population in West Ada County. While the Probation Division's primary focus this year has been adjusting to the implementation of the Odyssey program, this has not taken away from their ongoing efforts to serve youth in our community. In just six months alone, from August to December of 2016, Probation has facilitated 144 classes in eight different schools. Fifth through ninth graders completed prevention classes in topics like: growing healthy, relationships, friendship, expressing individuality, and body image.

Launching new educational programs took center stage in the Programs Division; the Employment & Career Opportunities (ECO) program launched in September 2016. This new program, equipped with a certified teacher, enables students to work towards their GED or high school diploma in our onsite classroom. In addition to the formal educational programs students can also learn independent living skills and/or participate in an employability program. Services are offered at our Benjamin Lane (Boise) location and as a mobile service in Meridian and Kuna.

The new Support Services Division combined the talents of our planning, victim services, administration, budget/finance, business analysis, and training teams. This small but highly engaged division focuses on providing key support to the department as well as the other three divisions. It also provides critical liaison duties to partners such as the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare and other County departments and offices.

Thank you for your interest in Ada County Juvenile Court Services. In the short time I've been director, I've been amazed at the talent and dedication of the ACJCS staff. It's an honor to be part of this organization.

Sincerely,

Dawn Burns, Director



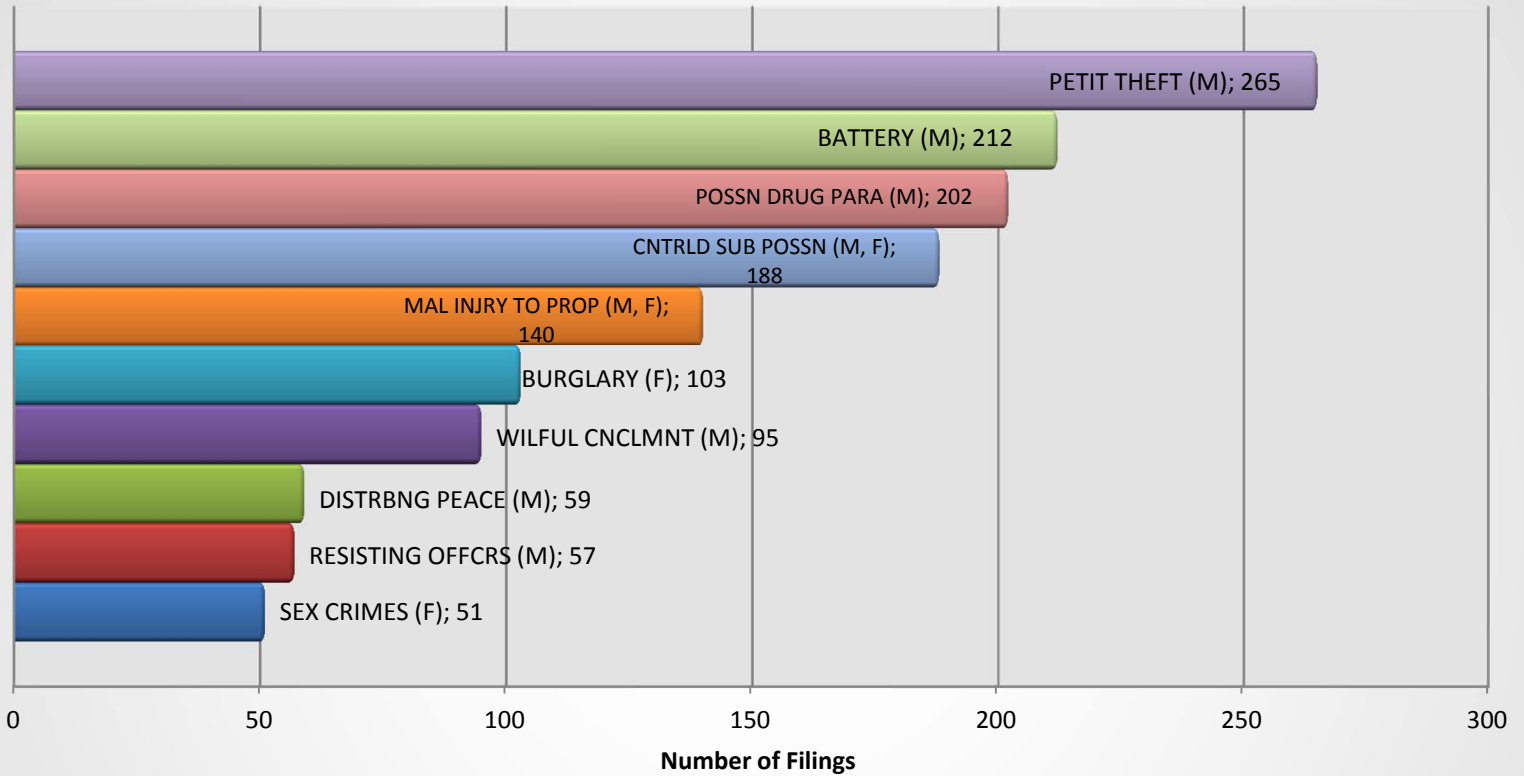
# A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

## ACJCS CRIME FACTS

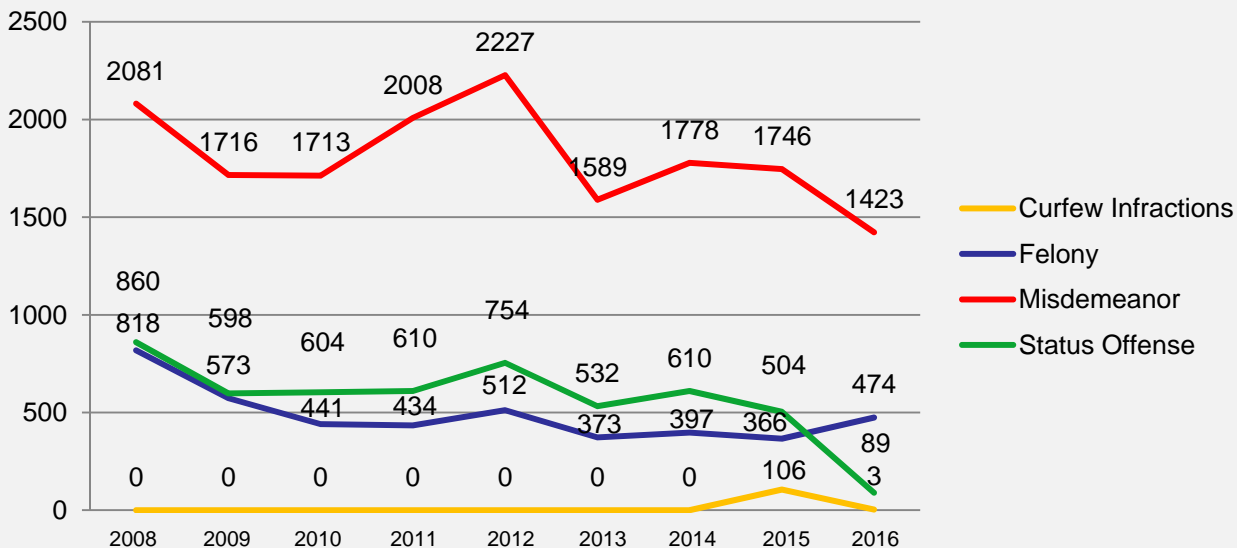
### JUVENILE CRIME

In 2016, law enforcement agencies arrested or referred 1,039 juveniles for over 1,980 law violations alleged to have been committed in Ada County. The Prosecuting Attorney evaluates each police report and determines whether the case should be dismissed, diverted, or charged (filed) by formal petition.

#### Top 10 Crimes Filed in Juvenile Court



#### Law Violations Filed in Juvenile Court



#### SEVERITY OF LAW VIOLATIONS

Misdemeanor crimes averaged 72% of all law violations filed in Juvenile Court, followed by felony crimes at 24%, and status offenses (such as Runaway or Beyond Control) at 4%.

# A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

## VICTIM SERVICES

Vision Statement: *“Proactively responding to victims of juvenile crime in a manner that is restorative and meaningful.”*

The Victim Impact Program provides informative and restorative services to victims of juvenile crime, including victim advocacy and restitution.



### Victim Advocacy & Restitution

Services = 245 clients

Restitution Collected = \$34,268

### VICTIM ADVOCACY

- Assists victims throughout the court process and keeps them informed and updated on their cases; and accompanies them to court as needed.
- Serves as liaison between victims and the various personnel within the court system.
- Provides elder abuse safeguarding tips to seniors 65+ who are victims of juvenile crime, to help them identify and prevent future abuse.
- Facilitates Victim-Offender Mediation and Dialogue, a voluntary program that brings the victim and offender together to address the personal nature of the offense. This allows both parties the opportunity to take part in reparation and decide together how restitution should be made to the victim.
- Screens letters of apology from juvenile offenders for appropriateness, empathy, and sincerity to provide for victim closure.
- Conducts Victim Impact Panels to bridge the gap between juvenile offenders and their community, which helps offenders understand the impact their crime/s have in the community.

### RESTITUTION SERVICES

- Assists victims in filing a restitution claim with the court.
- Victims may receive financial compensation from juvenile offenders to restore what was lost.



# A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

## DETENTION SERVICES

### DETENTION POPULATION

We admitted 1,041 residents in 2016 (75% male and 25% female), including 129 juveniles held for other jurisdictions. Number of admissions were down 4% from 2015. Average daily population and average length of stay in detention both increased slightly from 2014.

### SCHOOL

Masters-level teachers from the Boise School District provide instruction to detention residents 5 days a week. Residents earned 305 high school credits in 2015.

### MEDICAL SERVICES

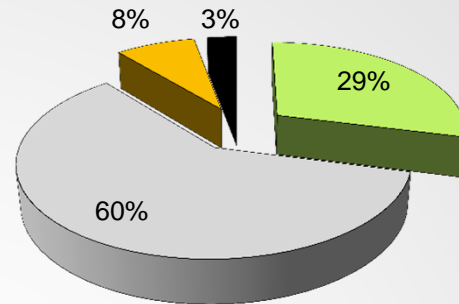
Our medical department maintained its accreditation with the National Commission on Health Care in 2016. Residents receive mental health services, health education, counseling, STD and HIV testing, immunizations, and prescription services.

### PREA

PREA compliance and required resident and staff training continued throughout 2016. ACJCS is preparing for its next Federal PREA Audit in the spring of 2017; audits are required once every three years.

### 2016 Underlying Offenses for Resident Admissions

- Felony Crime
- Misdemeanor
- Status Offense
- Violation of Court Order



### FOOD SERVICES

Detention & Program Meals = 32,803  
 Detention & Program Snacks = 21,757

Our Food Service Department consistently receives high quality ratings from Central District Health.

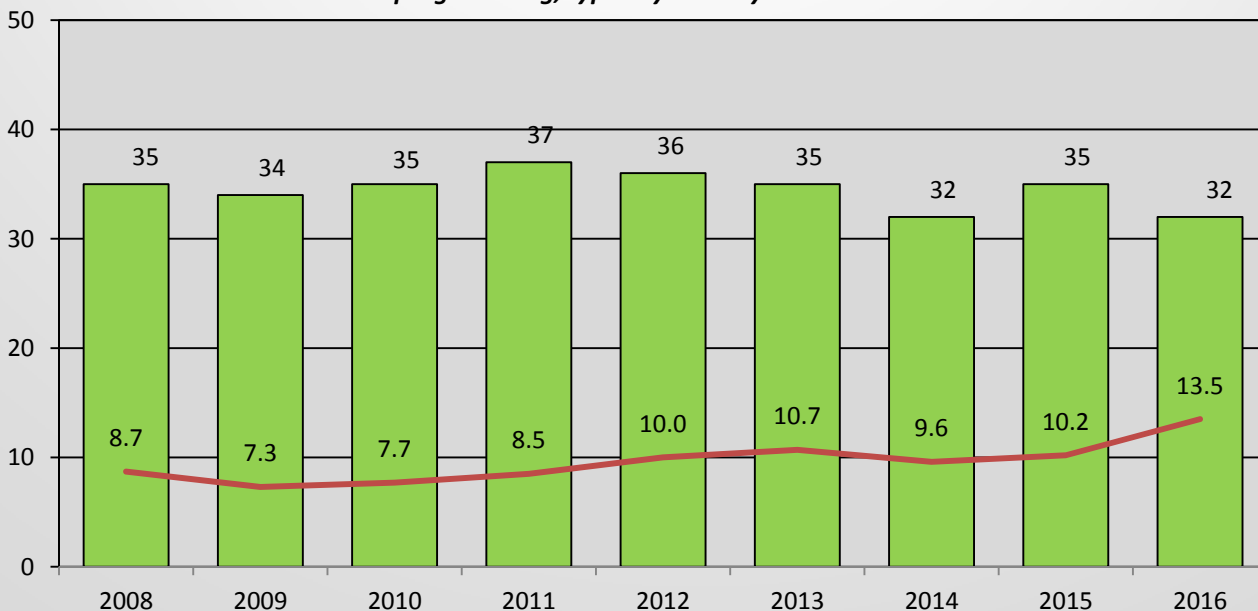
### SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES PROGRAM

236 residents participated in our residential Substance Abuse Services program in 2016.

### Average Daily Population & Length of Stay in Detention (Days)

*Includes longer-staying youth in Substance Abuse Services programming, typically 60+ days*

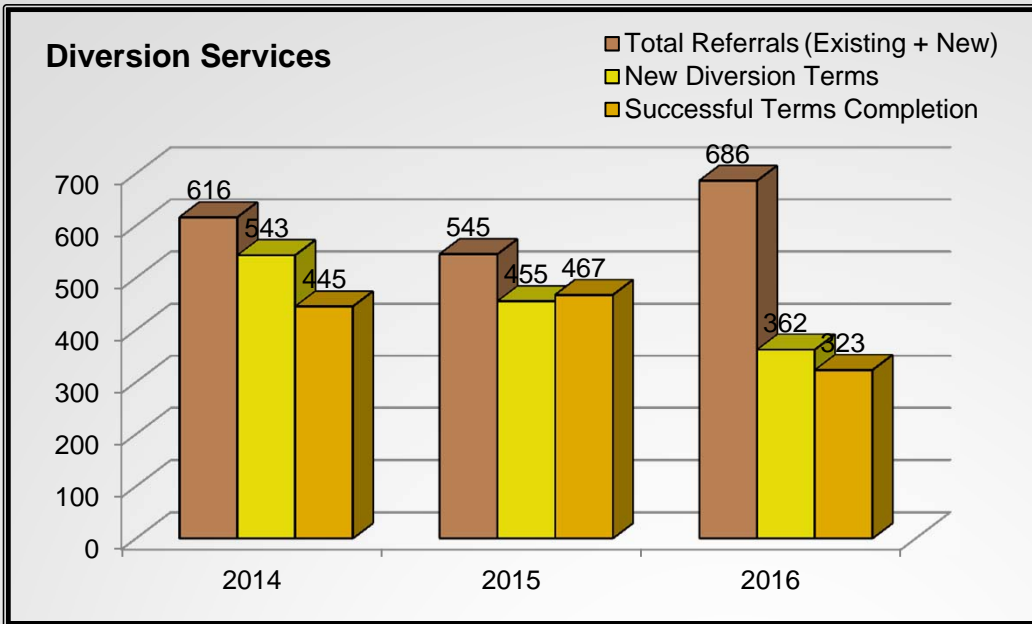
- Average Daily Population
- Average Length of Stay





# A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

## DIVERSION & PROBATION SERVICES



**DIVERSION**

Participation in Diversion is an option granted by the Prosecuting Attorney to youth referred for low level offenses with no prior referrals. If the youth agrees to and completes conditions outlined in a contract, such as community service work and restitution payment in full, then the referring charge is dismissed.



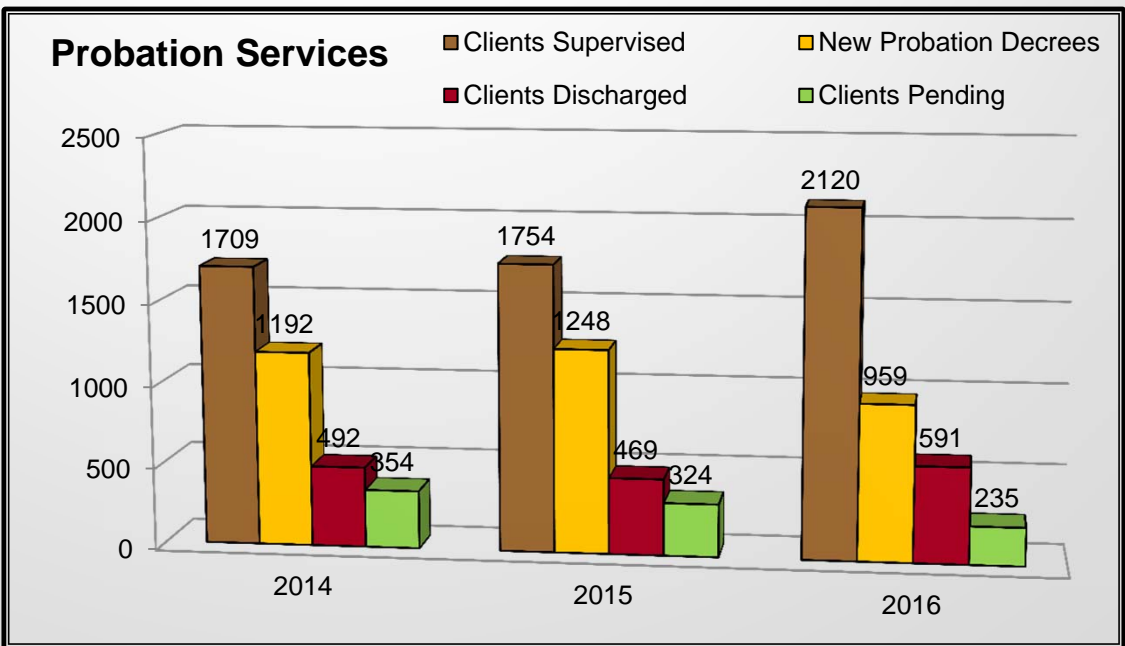
**DETENTION ALTERNATIVE MONITORING**

Electronic Monitoring and In-Home Detention are examples of the Conditional Release Order (CRO) monitoring program, which provides court-sanctioned alternatives to detention for juveniles not posing serious risk to the community. Our probation officers monitored 136 CROs in 2016.

**PROBATION CASELOAD: A SNAPSHOT IN TIME**

On 12/31/16, the agency's caseload consisted of :

- 69% males
- 31% females
- 35% on probation in the community
- 28% on diversion
- 32% pending court hearings
- 5% in state custody



# A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

## PROGRAMS & CLINICAL SERVICES



### WORK IN LIEU OF DETENTION

Total Hours Served = 4,351  
Value of Service = \$31,554

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Total Hours Served = 9,641  
Value of Service = \$69,897

*Juveniles work in the community to make amends for the harm their crimes caused.*

### CLINICAL COUNSELING SERVICES

The Clinical Program is licensed to provide substance abuse and mental health assessments and services for youth involved in juvenile court.

- Drug/Alcohol Assessments = 359
- Trauma Assessments = 21
- Outpatient Treatment = 121 clients
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment = 35 clients
- Substance Abuse Service = 59 clients
- Tobacco / Alcohol Program = 44 referrals
- Diversion Counseling = 24 clients



### Education Career Opportunity

ECO is a program designed to meet the changing needs of our court-involved youth. ECO is prepared to offer a variety of services to clients, including GED preparation, employability skills, and Independent living skills.

**GED Students = 29**

Test Taken = 7

Completed = 1

**Employability Students = 16**

**ICON Students = 3**

Credits Earned = 1

**Additional Referrals = 8**

**Life Skills Students = 8**