Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2001

Bob Taft, Governor
Maureen O'Connor, Lt. Governor
Geno Natalucci-Persichetti, Director
Carol Rapp Zimmermann, Assistant Director
**Director’s Letter**

Fiscal Year 2001 was a year of many changes within the Department of Youth Services. We continued to be committed to holding youth accountable while focusing on strengthening and expanding our services. A few of the highlights include:

- Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility became our central male intake and reception center in Delaware, Ohio. Scioto’s population was moved to Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility and now specializes in the treatment of the majority of sex offenders in our care. This allowed for more centralization and efficient use of facilities and resources.

- Our newest facility, Marion Juvenile Correctional Facility, became fully operational.

- The Training Institution of Central Ohio (TICO), one of our oldest and inadequate facilities, was closed. Also, Maumee Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJC), our only non-fenced, minimum security facility, was closed.

We continued our commitment to improving the local juvenile justice infrastructure by supporting Community Corrections Facilities (CCFs), which are funded completely with state dollars and provide alternative placement options for juvenile felons in their local communities who would otherwise be sent to DYS.

As an agency we are always striving to conduct the business of juvenile corrections effectively. Although several changes have occurred over the past fiscal year, we are confident our overall commitment to public safety and the treatment of Ohio’s juvenile felons will only be strengthened.

Geno Natalucci-Persichetti
Director

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**Program Highlights FY 2001**

**Office of Victim Services**
- A Victim Impact Panel was instituted. Speakers have included survivors of drunk drivers, homicide, sexual and felonious assault. A total of 144 youth have completed this course.
- Fifteen registered victim/survivors have met with the Release Authority during the review process for youth. The conferences allowed for sharing and one-on-one information between the Release Authority members and the victim/survivors.

**Education Highlights**
- 320 youth received their General Equivalency Diploma (GED).
- 66 youth graduated with diplomas from DYS high schools.
- Five youth passed the 12th grade proficiency tests and were each awarded $500 vouchers for postsecondary educational studies.

**Office of Clinical Services**
- Clinical Services staff focused on developing a program proposal restructuring the content and process of sexual offender services at DYS.
- A mental health classification and tracking system was developed and implemented to provide thorough information and timely access to mental health population data.

**Office of Medical Services**
- Twenty-four hour nursing services for all youth institut at DYS sites.
- Tuberculosis (TB) skin testing has been developed and completed at all sites, along with a schedule to maintain annual re-testing.

**Office of Substance Abuse**
- Staff at three institutions have been trained and the new Chemical Dependency Intervention (CDI) program has been implemented in specified units.

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**RECLAIM Ohio**

**The Benefits of Local Control**
RECLAIM (Reasoned and Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors) Ohio is a nationally recognized funding alternative which encourages courts to develop or purchase a range of community-based options to meet the needs of each juvenile offender. With the inception of the RECLAIM Ohio program, Ohio’s juvenile justice system was revolutionized.

This program represents a unique partnership between state and local juvenile justice. Under RECLAIM, funds that were once allocated for the operation of state facilities are instead given to every county for the treatment of youthful offenders. Giving money to local courts allows community leaders to determine how funds should be used for the sentencing of these offenders.

RECLAIM monies can be used to fund traditional sanctions like probation and electronic monitoring or for more specialized services like substance abuse classes. Since 1990, counties have seen a 69% increase in the amount of local funding available to fund local sentencing options for juvenile offenders. In fiscal year 2001, over $24 million dollars was retained at the local level to provide programming for youthful offenders.

**Holding Ourselves to a Higher Standard**
DYS has also benefited from the implementation of RECLAIM Ohio by reducing overcrowding in juvenile facilities and allowing the department to focus its treatment on the more serious, felony-level offenders being committed to its custody. To estimate how well programs are working for the offenders committed to the department, DYS tracks recidivism for the youth released from custody every year.

DYS’ definition of recidivism includes any arrest, re-incarceration, or court adjudication, at the juvenile or adult levels. It is important to remember that a youth could be considered a recidivist without being committed. DYS uses a much more broad and encompassing definition of recidivism than other states in an effort to truly represent if youth are successfully returning to society.

In fiscal year 2001, 119 youth (or 18.4%) of the 647 offenders released from DYS custody recidivated within 3 months. In addition, 250 youth (or 38.6%) of the 647 offenders released from DYS custody recidivated within 6 months.

RECLAIM Ohio is improving the way Ohio addresses the needs of juvenile offenders, while addressing the true costs of incarceration and treatment of juvenile offenders. RECLAIM continues to move forward as a model for others to follow.
DYS Mission Statement

The mission of the Ohio Department of Youth Services is to ensure public safety by providing and supporting a range of effective and cost effective services that hold youthful offenders accountable for their actions and gives them the skills and competencies they need to live crime free.

DYS Vision Statement

In order for all Ohioans to live peaceful and crime free lives, DYS will take on a leadership role assisting youthful offenders in redirecting their lives toward responsible citizenship.
Fiscal Year 2001 Annual Report Data

The number of juveniles committed to DYS during fiscal year 2001 was: 1,933
(This number excludes 520 juveniles whose commitments were revoked)

Average age of a youth at admission was: 15.9 yrs

The average per diem cost to house, care and treat a juvenile offender in a DYS institution was: $140

Direct Staff/Offender Ratio was: 1 : 1.8

Parole Officer/Parolee Ratio was: 1 : 19.5
(Parolee = Youth in the community on parole with DYS)

The number of officers and direct care DYS institution-based staff was approximately: 1,195

Average daily institutional population was: 2,177
Average daily parole population was: 2,140

Average Length of Stay

Felony 5 8.6 months
Felony 4 8.6 months
Felony 3 10.6 months
Felony 2 14.7 months
Felony 1 21.5 months
Murder 68.6 months
Revocations 3.9 months

Disbursements FY 2001

470-401 Care & Custody $153,776,923
470-402 Community Program Services $2,149,757
470-404 Vocational Rehabilitation $268,435
470-412 Lease Rental Payments $13,250,822
470-501 Rehabilitation Subsidy $2,068,645
470-502 Detention Subsidy $5,820,691
470-510 Youth Services $21,772,244
472-321 Parole Operations $16,140,171
474-321 Marion Facility Activation $469,326
477-406 Interagency Collaborations $250,000
477-321 Administrative Operations $13,870,253
147 & 175 State NGRF $12,229,994
321 Federal NGRF $12,406,076
4A2, 4G6, 4J7, 4W3, 479, 623, 5J7 Rotary NGRF $1,166,763
Total $255,640,100

Commits by Race
- Caucasian 48.4%
- African-American 46.7%
- Hispanic 2.4%
- Other 2.4%

Commits by Gender
- Female 9.8%
- Male 90.0%

Recidivism Rates (1st quarter of FY 2001)
- Youths Released: 647
- Recidivism at 3 mos: 18.4%
- Recidivism at 6 mos: 38.6%

Offense Types

- Homicide 0.5%
- Other 0.5%
- Sex 11.5%
- Drugs 10.6%
- Property 44.8%
- Person 24.8%

Intake by Age

Total Youth Population = 1,933