The Ohio Department of Youth Services

Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report

www.dys.ohio.gov
Director’s Message

Fiscal Year 2005 was a busy year for the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS). For both the agency and myself, this has been a time of transition. Since my appointment as director, DYS has undertaken many new initiatives designed to improve the quality of life for youth in our care and to improve the safety and security of our institutions and Ohio communities.

DYS has gone “Back to Basics” in its approach to improving overall operations in our institutions. This initiative includes a thorough review of all operating practices with the staff that use them on a daily basis. Employees at every level of the agency have been helpful in changing and modifying practices and procedures to make them safer, more efficient and more conducive to the rehabilitation of youth.

Another major initiative underway is implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). This federal act calls for zero tolerance for sexual assaults and makes prevention a top priority. I am very pleased to say that DYS is a national leader in PREA compliance on the juvenile level. Not only have we implemented training for every DYS employee on PREA, we are also conducting vulnerability assessments of each institution to identify and secure areas within the physical plant where assaults could occur.

Our juvenile correctional facilities made great strides toward excellence this fiscal year. In all, six of our facilities are now accredited by the American Correctional Association, with the remaining two to be obtained in the next fiscal year.

In addition to operational changes, a number of staff changes that took place in FY 2005. Of the eight facility superintendents, six were newly appointed. Many regional parole administrators were also new to their positions. New deputy directors and bureau chiefs also came on board and quickly rose to the challenge of their new roles.

I am pleased to say that FY 2005 was a productive, dynamic year for DYS. Our staff worked tirelessly to improve the agency and their efforts are appreciated. There are a number of talented and committed individuals in DYS who strive to assist youth with becoming productive citizens. We will stay the course in the next year and continue our efforts to become a national model in juvenile justice.

The MISSION of the Ohio Department of Youth Services is to enhance public safety by holding youthful offenders accountable and providing opportunities for rehabilitation.

The VISION of the Ohio Department of Youth Services is safer Ohio through positive change in the lives of those impacted by our agency.
The Ohio Department of Youth Services is the juvenile corrections system for the state of Ohio. DYS is statutorily mandated to confine felony offenders, ages 10 to 21, who have been adjudicated and committed by one of Ohio’s 88 county juvenile courts.

DYS operates eight correctional and rehabilitation facilities and provides parole services from six regional sites throughout Ohio.

DYS also funds nearly 100% of the operational costs of twelve Community Correctional Facilities (CCFs) which are run by counties and used to treat lower-level felony delinquent youth who otherwise would be committed to a DYS facility.

**Juvenile Justice Flow Chart**

**Adjudication:** The final decision for a youth’s pending criminal case. Similar to a conviction in the adult court process.

Total number of Ohio youth adjudicated delinquent for a felony-level offense in FY 2005: **8802**

**Commitment:** When a youth is sent by the court to the Ohio Department of Youth Services for incarceration

Total number of Ohio youth committed to DYS on a felony-level offense in FY 2005: **1484**
Community Integration

The Ohio Department of Youth Services strives to hold youth accountable for their behavior, to increase their skills and to promote the safety of communities. Successful reentry of offenders is a key component of the juvenile justice continuum. Every youth in the custody of DYS will return to his or her home community. In order for a seamless transition to occur, the department relies upon a number of collaborations with community partners including, behavioral health providers, law enforcement, courts, Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Boards, employment specialists, volunteers and more. At the state level, DYS has regular interaction with the departments of Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and Job and Family Services to help in the mission of rehabilitating youthful offenders.

DYS collaborations:

Family and Children First (FCF)  Created in 1992, codified by the Ohio General Assembly in 1993, and supported by the Taft Administration, the Ohio Family and Children First initiative is a partnership of government agencies and community organizations committed to improving the well-being of children and families. This partnership is intended to draw people out of their day-to-day systems and align resources and activities around a shared vision to meet the needs of children.

DYS is an active participant in Family and Children First at the state level. All 88 counties have a Family and Children First council that includes a DYS Parole staff representative.

Partnerships for Success (PfS)  PfS is a collaborative strategic planning framework through which counties develop and implement comprehensive plans to promote positive child and adolescent development, strengthen families, and respond more effectively to the problem behaviors of youth. Successful implementation of such community efforts result in a reduction of youth problem behaviors and provides opportunities for youth and families to be healthy and resilient contributors to the community.

The families, agencies, organizations, and institutions engaged in PfS share an evidence-based approach to youth development that incorporates programs and practices research has shown to be effective.

PfS is an initiative of the Taft Administration, under the leadership of DYS and in close cooperation with the Ohio Family and Children First (FCF) Cabinet Council.

Access to Better Care (ABC)  The Access to Better Care (ABC) Initiative, enacted with the FY06-07 biennial budget, was developed to respond to the growing realization that the lack of access to care for mental health and alcohol/drug needs of youth can often lead to school failure, suicide, criminal behavior, unwanted pregnancy and out-of-home placements. With the involvement and input of parents, advocates, and state and local leaders, the ABC Initiative responds to these needs with emphasis on family-centered, evidence-based strategies in prevention, assessment/early intervention and treatment.

With the leadership of legislators, and assistance from the departments of Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, the Ohio Association of Community Behavioral Health Authorities and others, the Department of Youth Services has worked to help craft this community-focused initiative.
FY 2005 Highlights

- Established the Division of Treatment & Rehabilitation to improve the delivery of treatment services to youth in our custody and care.
- The youth grievance system was revised and a new ‘user-friendly’ policy is in place.
- Twelve teams consisting of over employees statewide have been formed to address specific conditions of confinement issues.
- The Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives was created to encourage relationships between community mentors and youth in DYS.
- During FY 2005, 296 GEDs and 60 diplomas were earned by youth. In addition, 30,000 hours of vocational instruction was offered to DYS students.

FY 2005 Expenditures: $263,262,585

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Court Subsidies</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parole &amp; Community Corrections</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditures</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Services</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ohio Department of Youth Services

Agency Goals - FY 2006

**Goal 1:** To improve conditions of confinement, including a reduction in incidents of violence.

**Goal 2:** To improve the quality of programming and build better ties to community based services.

**Goal 3:** To enhance staff professionalism and retention.

**Goal 4:** To continue the agency-wide “Back to Basics” initiative.

**Goal 5:** To ensure programs administered by the Division of Treatment and Rehabilitation Services are systematically developed, implemented and assessed.
Average Daily Population for DYS Facilities:

- Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility ———— 214
- Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility ———— 246
- Freedom Center ———— 21
- Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility ———— 218
- Marion Juvenile Correctional Facility ———— 262
- Mohican Juvenile Correctional Facility ———— 165
- Ohio River Valley Juvenile Correctional Facility ———— 283
- Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility (male) ———— 169
- Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility (female) ———— 101

Average FY 2005 Daily Population for DYS Parole Regions

- Akron ———— 351
- Cincinnati ———— 262
- Cleveland ———— 347
- Columbus ———— 280
- Dayton ———— 219
- Toledo ———— 204

Institutional & Parole / Aftercare Services Offered:

- High School Education
- Vocational Programming
- Mental Health Services
- Sex Offender Services
- Gender Specific Services
- Social Services
- Substance Abuse Services
- Medical Services
- Victim Awareness
Ohio Department of Youth Services
Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report

Average daily facility population: 1,751
Average daily parole population: 1,662
The average per diem cost to house, care and treat a juvenile offender in a DYS facility: $203.92
Average length of stay: 10.3 months

DYS Youth Profile:
- 71% have had past mental health treatment
- 32% are on the mental health caseload
- 71% have had a severe drug problem
- 58% have had or currently have a family member incarcerated
- 19% have a history of self injury
- 47% of females have tried to commit suicide
- 90% of females committed to DYS have been abused

Education:
- During FY 2005, 60 youth obtained their high school diploma and 296 youth received their GED
- Nearly 30,000 hours of vocational instruction was offered to approximately 3,000 students during FY 2005
- The average level of education in math and reading for a DYS youth is 7th grade
- DYS provides Special Education services to 49% of its total population

Admission by Offense

Admission by Race
Six counties made up 58% of the total FY 2005 admissions to DYS
- Cuyahoga 15.4%
- Franklin 10.6%
- Hamilton 9.9%
- Montgomery 9.8%
- Summit 7.9%
- Stark 4.7%

Admission by Gender

Admission by Age

For additional information, please visit our website www.dys.ohio.gov