

# THE SIGNS ARE THERE: GIRLS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE IN WAYNE COUNTY

In 1899, a group of reformers concerned about the care and treatment of children in the justice system began the juvenile justice system that is the basis of what we see today. Their emphasis was on rehabilitation, accountability, and the special circumstances of youth. More than 100 years later, we are concerned with these same issues but argue that there are now gender-specific concerns that must be addressed when assessing treatment, community safety, and fairness.

Nationally, we have seen an increase in the number of adolescent females entering the juvenile justice system — a system modeled on male offending and subsequent rehabilitation and/or punishment options and alternatives. Girls' experiences, however, are often different from those of their male counterparts. Many girls in the juvenile justice system share certain characteristics and experiences:<sup>1</sup>

- Experiences of physical, psychological, and sexual abuse
- Family fragmentation due to serious and multiple stressors including poverty, loss, violence, and/or a multi-generational pattern of incarceration
- Serious mental and/or physical problems
- Poor educational experiences including suspension/expulsion from school, repeating one or more grades, and placement in special classrooms
- Institutional bias in the processing and handling of their cases resulting in placements in settings and facilities that are too restrictive and that do not address their unique needs for intervention, treatment, and rehabilitation
- Once they enter the juvenile justice system, vulnerability to physical and sexual abuse that sometimes is worse than what they experienced in their homes and communities

The growth in the number of girls in the juvenile justice system may be due to a number of factors and not just an increase in girls' aggressive and violent behavior. Rather, preliminary research suggests that the re-labeling of girls' conflicts with their families as violent offenses, the changes in police arrest practices and procedures regarding domestic violence and aggressive

The data and information in this report were compiled by staff of the Skillman Center for Children, College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs, Wayne State University; the Institute for Social Research University of Michigan, and members of the Wayne County Female Services Advisory Committee. Questions or comments should be directed to the Skillman Center for Children.



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**Wayne County Female  
Services Advisory  
Committee:**  
A collaborative whose mission is  
to identify, develop and/or  
coordinate integrated gender-  
sensitive services and advocate  
for a juvenile justice system  
responsive to the needs of girls  
and their families.

behavior, the gender bias in processing misdemeanor and status offense cases, and a systemic failure to understand the unique developmental issues facing girls have contributed to the increase of girls entering the juvenile justice system.<sup>2</sup>

The state of Michigan faces the same issues reported at the national level. In particular, Wayne County, which includes the City of Detroit and is the state's largest urban county, is wrestling with growing numbers of female youth in juvenile detention and placement. In 1999, the Wayne County Female Services Advisory Committee (FSAC) was convened to address concerns raised by the Third Judicial Circuit Court and the Wayne County Department of Community Justice about the quality and quantity of services for girls in the juvenile justice system.

The FSAC membership currently includes girls and their families; and representatives from over 25 community-based agencies that serve girls in Wayne County, the Third Judicial Circuit Court, the Wayne County Department of Community Justice, the Wayne County Family Independence Agency, the Detroit Health Department, the MSU Extension Service, the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, and the Skillman Center for Children, College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs at Wayne State University. Since its inception, the FSAC has accomplished various planning objectives that have included but are not limited to: identification of agencies and programs in Wayne County that provide services to girls, a review of model programs for at-risk girls, an ongoing assessment of juvenile justice policies and procedures, and securing systematic information about the characteristics and processing of girls in the Wayne County juvenile justice system.

Although the findings reported by the FSAC are preliminary, it is apparent that there are insufficient culturally-competent, developmentally sound, and gender-specific diversion, prevention, treatment and reintegration programs for girls in the Wayne County juvenile justice system. This brief report, compiled by the Skillman Center for Children, Wayne State University with assistance from the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and FSAC members is a first step in bringing to light the unique problems and issues faced by girls entering the justice system by detailing the data that support these assertions.

## DEMOGRAPHICS OF GIRLS IN WAYNE COUNTY

- Girls ages 10 – 17 years old represent 43% of the total female population under age 18 in Wayne County<sup>3</sup>
- 21% of Michigan girls reside in Wayne County<sup>4</sup>
- 29% of Wayne County children ages 0 to 17 years live in poverty compared to 19 percent of Michigan children (2000)<sup>5</sup>
- 10% of Wayne County children ages 0 – 18 years receive Family Independence Program assistance (FIP) compared to 5% of children in Michigan (2000).<sup>6</sup>
- 19% of Wayne County children ages 0 – 18 years are receiving food stamps compared to 10% of children in Michigan (2000).<sup>7</sup>
- Births to teens, ages 15 – 17 years<sup>8</sup>
  - Wayne County 36 per 1000
  - Michigan 25 per 1000
- 13.3% of births were to teens in Wayne County compared to 12.2% for Michigan (1999)<sup>10</sup>
- 23.1% of Wayne County teen births were to teens who were already mothers compared to 21% for Michigan (1999)<sup>11</sup>

### Social/Ethnic Distribution of Wayne County females less than 18 years of age<sup>12</sup>

Total Females	10-14 years	15-17 years
African American	49.6%	47.0%
White Non-Hispanic	41.7%	44.2%
Hispanic	4.2%	4.2%
Multi-Race	3.2%	3.0%
Other Races	1.7%	1.8%
Asian & Pacific Islander	1.5%	1.7%
Native American	.3%	.4%

## RISKY BEHAVIOR BY YOUTH

The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) routinely monitors several categories of priority health-risk behaviors among youth and young adults. These include behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries, tobacco use, alcohol and other substance abuse, and sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. The survey is multi-faceted and includes a national school-based survey as well as state, territorial, and local school-based surveys. For the period of February through May 1999, the following data have been released for the city of Detroit. All of the responses are from high school students between grades 9 and 12.

What is unique about this survey is that it presents data by gender. Prevention and intervention strategies must begin before girls enter the justice system. Understanding girls' behavior within certain contexts can go far in informing the court and communities of the need for an array of gender-specific community-based services and alternatives/options for girls.

### Behaviors Contributing to Unintentional Injuries

	Girls in Detroit	Boys in Detroit
Rarely or never wear seatbelts	18%	26%
Rode with a driver who had been drinking	38%	36%
Drove after drinking alcohol	5%	9%

### Behaviors Contributing to Intentional Injuries

Carried a weapon (gun, knife or club)	14%	27%
Carried a gun	3%	14%
Have engaged in a physical fight	39%	53%
Injured in a physical fight during the last 12 months	4%	6%

### School-Related Violence

Felt too unsafe to go to school	20%	16%
Carried a weapon on school property	6%	11%

### Sadness and Suicide

Felt sad or hopeless	37%	28%
Seriously considered attempting suicide	21%	14%
Made a suicide plan	16%	13%
Attempted suicide	10%	7%

### Tobacco and Substance Abuse

Currently use tobacco	20%	25%
Episodic heavy drinking (5 drinks at one time)	12%	14%
Currently use marijuana	19%	22%
Current cocaine use	2%	3%
Have used heroin	3%	5%
Drank alcohol before age 13 years	26%	39%

### Behaviors Contributing to Unintended Pregnancy and Transmission of STDs

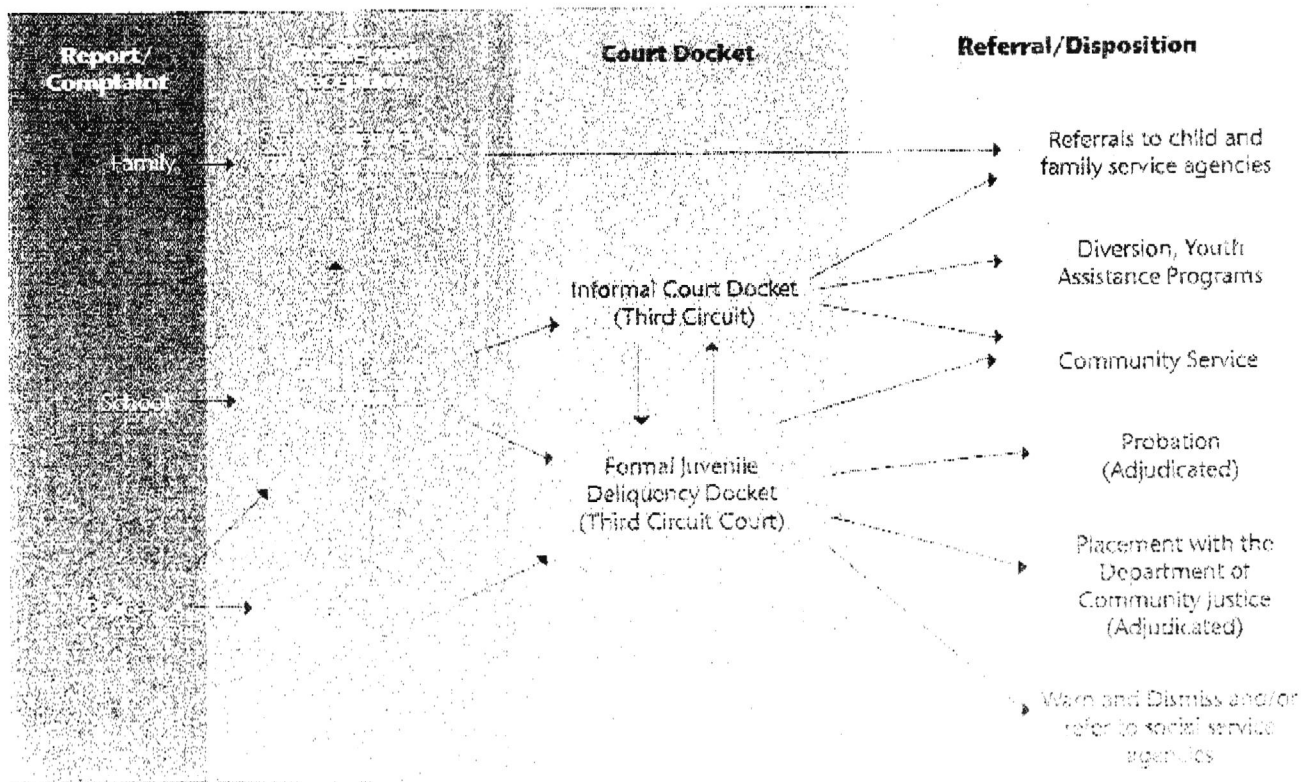
First sexual intercourse before age 13	9%	27%
Currently sexually active	40%	48%
More than 4 sexual partners in their lifetime	14%	36%
Condom use	63%	70%
Birth control pill use (self or partner)	13%	8%
Alcohol or drug use during last sexual intercourse	13%	18%
Have gotten pregnant or gotten someone else pregnant	13%	9%

## YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Wayne County juvenile justice policies, procedures and practices have recently changed due to a shift in responsibility for juvenile offenders from the Family Independence Agency (FIA) to a new county-based juvenile justice process. All juvenile justice cases are now the responsibility Wayne County Department of Community Justice (WCDC).

Youth enter the juvenile justice system through the Third Judicial Circuit Court, Family Division (see chart below). Most are referred to the Court by their parents, school, or the police. Many youth are diverted through the Status Offender Unit (SOU) and other informal dockets. As a result, many charges are not made formal or are resolved without coming before a judge. Youth coming through the SOU will be referred to local social service agencies. Other individuals placed on the informal docket may be required to perform community service or pay restitution.

### Third Circuit Court/Wayne County Department of Community Justice Processing of Juvenile Delinquency Cases



#### The Court

A judge or referee hears cases on the formal docket. Most juvenile delinquency cases are heard by referees who often make a quick deposition, usually in one session. Options include:

- Warn and dismiss the case and/or refer to social service agencies.
- Place the youth on probation. Individuals on probation may undergo court-ordered treatment, pay restitution, or perform community service (formally adjudicated).
- Placement with Wayne County Department of Community Justice (formally adjudicated).

### **Status Offenders**

The Status Offender Unit was created to keep status offenders who have been reported by their parents off the formal docket. The intent is to provide community-based social services for youth and their families without adding a criminal record. Yet, many status offenders are adjudicated and sent to residential facilities. For example, a girl may be confined for a probation violation after a string of status offenses or may "slip through the cracks" and be committed for a subsequent more serious offense. Beginning in 2001, status offenders were diverted to Youth Assistance Programs or other similar agencies.

### **Juvenile Assessment Center**

Youth who are adjudicated and placed with WCDCJ are sent to the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) where they undergo a comprehensive assessment. Recommendations for treatment and services may include substance abuse treatment or mental health interventions. Binding security levels are also determined such as community-based; low-, medium-, or high-security residential placement. JAC also provides assessment services to adjudicated youth referred by the probation department as well as groups of at-risk youth referred by other agencies.

### **Care Management Organization (CMO)**

Adjudicated youth are assigned to a regional Care Management Organization based upon their home residence zip code. The CMO is responsible for developing a treatment plan within the mandate of the security recommendation made by the JAC. Besides providing services outlined in the treatment plan, the CMO oversees the discharge and aftercare plans. Services may be provided in-house or contracted to other agencies in the community, or a youth may be committed to the Michigan Family Independence Agency when the crime is very serious, particularly in cases where mental health services are needed.

## **WHY AND HOW DO GIRLS ENTER THE WAYNE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM?**

- Parents and police file the majority of complaints about girls. Schools, however, may also file complaints.
- Most girls first come to the court for status offenses. The most common offense in Wayne County is incorrigibility, which is usually reported by parents. Parents often have different expectations of girls and boys, turning girls over to the juvenile justice system for behavior that they accept among boys. Parents may believe that their daughters are "out of control" and need the protection of the juvenile justice system. They may also be concerned about their daughters' sexual activity.
- During the past year, there has been a shift to referring parents to social service agencies for assistance with their daughters as opposed to filing a formal complaint with the court. It is anticipated that over time, the petitions filed for incorrigibility will decrease measurably.
- Truancy from home and school are also common offenses. Other offenses girls are charged with include domestic violence/assault, retail fraud, and drug offenses. Girls are very rarely charged with serious violent offenses.



## **WHAT HAPPENS TO GIRLS AFTER THEY ARE ARRESTED OR A COMPLAINT IS FILED?**

Assessments of girls are made at one or all of the following points within the justice system by:

- Detention intake workers
- Detention social workers
- Status Offender Unit

- Clinic for Child Study
- Court's intake unit
- Probation unit
- JAC
- CMO
- Treating agency(s)

Risk factors used in making decisions – prior offenses, association with delinquent peers, family/home circumstances, school experiences – are based upon male offending and do not adequately represent rates of female recidivism. In addition, there are issues and problems experienced by many girls involved with the juvenile justice system that are often not included in assessment such as risk of pregnancy, domestic violence/abuse, living on the streets, etc.

### Assessing and Addressing Abuse

an estimated **70% or more** of Michigan girls committed to out-of-home placement in the juvenile justice system have survived physical and/or sexual abuse.

During all the numerous pre-disposition assessments, neither girls nor boys are systematically asked about abuse and neglect. It is important to understand how to distinguish between cases of delinquency and those of neglect. For example, a girl may be abused physically and/or sexually by her mother, father, mother's boyfriend, other male etc. She frequently runs away, fights with her

**40%** of Michigan girls committed to out-of-home placement in the juvenile justice system have an official history of abuse and/or neglect.

mother or other family members and ends up before the court because of complaints filed by her parent(s). If she is placed on probation and her family reports further incorrigibility or running away, she can be sent to an out-of-home facility for delinquent girls. Thus, survival strategies to avoid abuse, such as running away from home, are criminalized.

During violent family conflicts, girls may be penalized because of mandatory domestic violence arrest policies that require police officers to make an arrest. It may not be clear who instigated the violence, and police are reluctant to remove parents who have care responsibilities for other children.

### Mental Health

Many youth with mental health problems go undiagnosed under the current system of assessment. There are, however, few treatment options available even

**27%** of GIRLS committed to out-of-home placement in the juvenile justice system in Michigan have attempted **SUICIDE**.

for those who are diagnosed with mental health concerns. Further, many parents, particularly those with low income or without insurance, have gone to the juvenile court for mental health services for their children that are not available elsewhere.

an estimated **53 to 77 %** of GIRLS in the juvenile justice system in Michigan have mental health problems.

### Truancy

Many youth in the juvenile justice system have been out of school for extended periods of time. Although schools are required to report truants, there is difficulty in compiling reports because there is staff inconsistency with management skills to track truants, students change schools frequently, or parents may be apathetic in responding to school inquiries. Girls who are not in school are



often hanging in the streets. They often become involved in drugs, prostitution, and gangs - activities that bring them to the attention of the court. Many of these girls have histories of abuse.

## Detention

Between 1988 and 1997, the use of detention for girls nationwide increased 65% compared to a 30% increase for boys.<sup>15</sup> In addition to increased detention for girls, there is evidence that girls are being detained for less serious offenses

45% of girls were committed to Wayne County Department of Community Justice (WCDCJ) for status offenses compared to 14% of boys (2000).<sup>16</sup>

than boys. These offenses include public disorder, status offenses, shoplifting and probation violations. Thus, we

see that detained girls tend to have histories of status offenses and misdemeanors compared to histories of violence. This supports the contention that detention is being used as a social control of girls' behavior.

79% of girls were committed to WCDCJ for non-felony (including status) offenses compared to 41% of boys (2000).<sup>17</sup>

Even though girls' rates of recidivism are lower than those of boys, the use of probation, community supervision violations, and contempt proceedings make it more likely that girls will return to detention (even without committing a new crime). Data collected from the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) reported that in select study sites, girls comprised only 14% of the total detention population. Within one year, however, 30% of these girls had returned to detention. The majority

less than 1% of girls in the Wayne County juvenile justice system were on intensive probation compared to 18% of boys (1999).<sup>18</sup>

only 17 girls were committed to FIA and 127 were placed in private residential facilities (2001).<sup>19</sup>

of these girls were returned to detention because of probation or technical violations (53% of girls versus 41% of boys). For those returned to detention three times within one year, 72% of girls did so because of probation violations or failure to meet program expectations compared to 49% of boys.<sup>18</sup>

In 2001, despite a smaller detention center and a streamlined admission process, 701 girls were held in the Wayne County Detention Facility, about the same as in 1998. At the same time, fewer girls are being detained in private facilities.

**A** critical issue facing girls in detention is that a significant number of them are pregnant or parenting. Detaining young mothers presents serious problems beyond the issue of incarceration - for the children, their families and the community.

Over 25% of Michigan Girls committed to out-of-home placement in the juvenile justice system are pregnant and/or parenting.

Cost of 1 day in an FIA residential program for juvenile offenders: approximately \$300  
in a community based treatment program for juvenile offenders: \$50 to \$100

**T**ime awaiting placement includes 2-

14 days from adjudication

until the JAC receives the referral, up to 14 days for the JAC to complete their assessment, up to an additional 16 days for the CMO to prepare a plan of care and place the youth. The process typically is completed within 44 days but in the case of special needs youth the time may be extended up to 60 days with any additional time allowed beyond the 60 days being allowed only with approval by the Director of Juvenile Division of the Wayne County Department of Community Justice.

There is a lack of innovative community programs and foster homes for girls. A CMO may not be able to find a bed at one of the local agencies or the case may have to be transferred several times to different agencies before a suitable placement can be found. Many encounter difficulty because girls may truant from programs that do not provide a necessary level of security.

Girls also spend time in detention because their parents often refuse to take them home. Bond is made available for all but the most serious offenders and so virtually all female offenders could be at home instead of in detention. If a parent refuses to take a child when they are released, the WCJDF will file charges of neglect because the agency cannot hold youth that have been released.

Girls spent an average of 23 DAYS in detention in Wayne County (1999)  
Boys spent an average of 16 DAYS in detention in Wayne County (1999)

## CONCLUSION

This report is but a thumbnail sketch outlining some of the issues confronting girls in the Wayne County juvenile justice system as well as those faced by professionals responsible for carrying out the duties and responsibilities mandated by the system. The data indicate that girls should not continue to be placed into programs designed for boys. Nor should we design separate juvenile justice systems for girls and boys. Rather, while some girls need to be in secure, confined settings, a vast majority of delinquent girls can be more appropriately served by culturally-competent gender-specific programs that are developmentally sound. As such, the most effective programs would be ones rooted in the experience of girls that also incorporate an understanding of female development. There are efforts underway in Wayne County to offer a more gender-specific assessment intake program within both Probation and the Wayne County Department of Community Justice. Detention alternatives for girls are also under examination. Measures are being taken to address truancy and better monitor status offenders.

There is no single solution to female delinquency, but employing a gender-specific approach to all facets of the juvenile justice system would go a long way in:

- encouraging healthy attitudes and behaviors, and promoting social competence in girls
- addressing important issues that girls face within the context of their relationships to family, peers, school, and community
- promoting family support and involvement with their daughters
- empowering girls so that they recognize they have alternatives and options available to them so they can make a positive transition to adulthood



## SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

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## WEB PAGES

### Balanced and Restorative Justice

<http://www.mibarj.org>

The Balanced and Restorative Justice philosophy explores ways to help young people develop the attitudes and skills that they need to lead productive lives within the law. BARJ maintains an appropriate focus on public safety, while promoting strategies that encourage youngsters to face the consequences of their actions, by restoring individual victims and the communities that they have harmed. Michigan is one of the states chosen by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to demonstrate how to integrate BARJ into all aspects of the juvenile justice system.

### The Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ)

[http://www.mfia.state.mi.us/CFSAdmin/jj/juvenile\\_justice.html](http://www.mfia.state.mi.us/CFSAdmin/jj/juvenile_justice.html)

A unit of the Family Independence Agency (FIA), provides supervision and services to youth who are adjudicated as state delinquent wards by Michigan's courts.

### The Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice

<http://www.cjcj.org>

This is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to reduce society's reliance on the use of incarceration as a solution to social problems.

**The Juvenile Information Network (JIN)**<http://www.juvenilenet.org>

This network is intended to encourage communications among juvenile justice professionals and to foster the development of new reform programs in systems at the state and local levels.

**National Criminal Justice Reference Service**<http://virlib.ncjrs.org/JuvenileJustice.asp>

Juvenile justice publications

**National Center for Juvenile Justice**<http://www.ncjj.org>

Since its inception in 1973, the Center has been a resource for independent and original research on topics related directly and indirectly to the field of juvenile justice. The Center is the research division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

**Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention** [www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org](http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org)

JUVJUST. Offers instructions on both how you can subscribe to an electronic mailing list to receive new JUVJUST postings two to three times a week and how you can receive previous postings.

Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse. Describes how to contact the Clearinghouse via mail, telephone, fax, or e-mail to learn more about OJJDP.

**ENDNOTES**

<sup>1</sup> American Bar Association and the National Bar Association. *Justice by Gender: The Lack of Appropriate Prevention, Diversion and Treatment Alternatives for Girls in the Justice System* (May, 2001).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Census Bureau/CUS/Wayne State

<sup>4</sup> Kids Count in Michigan Data Book 2000

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> [www.mfia.state.mi.us](http://www.mfia.state.mi.us)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> [www.mlhs.org](http://www.mlhs.org)

<sup>9</sup> *The Right Start in Michigan* (2001)

<sup>10</sup> 2000 Census: SFI WSU/Center For Urban Studies

<sup>11</sup> CSMIS data from the Michigan Family Independence Agency

<sup>12</sup> National Mental Health Association (1999) "Mental Health and Adolescent Girls in the Justice System"

<sup>13</sup> CSMIS data from the Michigan Family Independence Agency

<sup>14</sup> National Mental Health Association (1999) "Mental Health and Adolescent Girls in the Justice System"

<sup>15</sup> American Bar Association and the National Bar Association. *Justice by Gender: The Lack of Appropriate Prevention, Diversion and Treatment Alternatives for Girls in the Justice System* (May, 2001).

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Albertson, C., Sarri R. & Gavin, C. (2001) "Juvenile Court Processing in Wayne County"

<sup>18</sup> Wayne County Department of Community Justice, 2001

<sup>19</sup> Wayne County Department of Community Justice, 1999

<sup>20</sup> Wayne County Department of Community Justice (2001) "Juvenile Services 2000 & 2001 Statistical Information"

<sup>21</sup> Wayne County Department of Community Justice, 1999

<sup>22</sup> Wayne County Department of Community Justice (2001) "Juvenile Services 2000 & 2001 Statistical Information"

<sup>23</sup> Albertson, C., Sarri R. & Gavin, C. (2001) "Juvenile Court Processing in Wayne County"

## SELECTED LIST OF LOCAL RESOURCE NUMBERS FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR GIRLS IN WAYNE COUNTY

**Juvenile Assessment Center (313) 896-1444**  
Provides assessment services for adjudicated youth in Wayne County

**Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility (313) 967-2011**

**Third Judicial Circuit Court - Family Division**

- Probation Department (313) 833-0284
- Status Offender Unit (313) 833-1975

**Department of Community Justice (313) 833-3468**

**Care Management Organizations (CMOs)**

- Black Family Development, east Detroit area (313) 921-2533
- Central Care Management Organization, central Detroit area (313) 862-2800
- StarrVista, west Detroit and out Wayne County (313) 387-6000
- Bridgeway Services, southwest Detroit and downriver communities (734) 324-2500
- Western Wayne CMO, c/o Growthworks, out Wayne County (734) 455-4095

**Youth Assistance Agencies**

- City of Detroit Safety Program (313) 874-2930  
prevention program for high risk non adjudicated youth, 10-16 years of age who live in the city of Detroit.
- Black Family Development (313) 567-9463 (Detroit)
- Growth Works (734) 397-3181 (Western Wayne)
- Ecorse/River Rouge Youth Assistance Program (313) 843-2210
- Garden City Youth Assistance Program (734) 525-8836
- Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods Youth Assistance Program (313) 885-3510
- Lincoln Park Youth Assistance Program (313) 928-3076
- Taylor Youth Assistance Program (734) 942-2273
- The Guidance Center (734) 287-1716 (Downriver communities)
- Westland Youth Assistance Program (734) 467-7904
- Wyandotte Youth Assistance Program (734) 324-7268

**Shelter/Short term housing for Girls**

- Alternatives for Girls (313) 496-0938
- Off the Streets/Metro Matrix (313) 873-0678
- Counterpoint/Starfish (313) 563-3005
- Sanctuary/Common Ground (248) 547-2260

**Residential Non Parenting Placements through the Court Specific to Girls in the local area**

- Vista Maria (800) 784-7826 (toll free)
- Barat House (313) 833-1525
- Federation of Youth (313) 571-4707
- Boysville
  - Bowman House (313) 372-7320
  - Cabrini Center (313) 537-7778
- Lutheran Child & Family Services/Williams House (248) 968-0100
- Boys and Girls Republic (248) 476-9550
- Spectrum Human Services
  - Residential Services (734) 458-8736
  - Independent Living (248) 552-8020
- Salvation Army Denby (313) 537-2130

**Parenting Residential Placements through Court, FIA or self referral for adolescent mothers and infants**

- Catholic Social Services (313) 922-0094
- Detroit Rescue Mission (313) 993-6692
- Federation of Youth (313) 267-4488
- Lula Belle Stewart Center (313) 867-2372
- Salvation Army Denby Maternity (313) 537-2130
- Spectrum Human Services/Garden City - Supervised Independent Living (248) 552-8020
- Florence Crittenton Center Maternity and Parenting Jackson, MI (517) 787-3500

**Medium and Secured Placements**

- Vista Maria Detention 1-800-784-7826, Ext. 222, 223
- Adrian Training School, Adrian MI (517) 263-2104
- Nokomis Challenge Center Prudenville, MI 1-800-622-0993

**Teen Parenting Programs - Provide case management, counseling, referrals, resources**

- Federation of Youth Services (313) 267-4488
- Lula Belle Stewart (313) 861-7761
- Lutheran Child and Family Services of MI (248) 968-0100
- Marillac Outreach Services/St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher (248) 559-2272
- Alternatives for Girls (Supportive Services for Homeless Teen Parents) (313) 496-0938

**Education, Life Skills, Peer Education, Recreation**

- Alternatives for Girls (313) 964-8331
- Girl Scouts (313) 842-4475
- Boys and Girls Clubs (313) 894-3320
- Covenant House (313) 825-7000
- Mercy Education Project (Girls' Program) (313) 963-5881
- YO! Youth Opportunity Movement (313) 965-9080

**Prevention Services**

- Alternatives for Girls (313) 963-5833 (for girls 5-17 in Southwest Detroit)
- Vista Maria (313) 271-3050, ext.266 (in elementary school, for girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grades)

**Mentoring**

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sisterhood (313) 393-8577
- Volunteers in Prevention, Probation and Prisons (313) 964-1110

**Coalitions**

- Wayne County Female Services Advisory Committee (248) 626-7527, ext. 3314
- State Gender Specific Task Force (248) 442-6536
- Wayne County Teen Parent Consortium (313) 256-1814

**Mental Health**

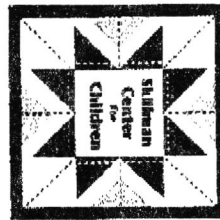
- Southwest Counseling and Development Services (313) 831-5535
- Children's Center (313) 831-5535

**Substance Abuse**

- Growth Works (734) 455-4095
- City of Detroit S.A.F.E.T.Y. Program (313) 874-2930

**WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE OF URBAN, LABOR  
AND METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**



**Skillman Center for Children**

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313-872-7166

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[skillmancenter@wayne.edu](mailto:skillmancenter@wayne.edu)

[skillmancenter.culma.wayne.edu](http://skillmancenter.culma.wayne.edu)

**Did You Know.....**

Over **25%** of Michigan **Girls**

committed to out-of-home placement for the  
juvenile justice system are **pregnant** and/or  
**parenting**

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