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KING COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

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1986 ANNUAL REPORT





King County Executive
TIM HILL



Dear Resident:

The King County Department of Youth Services has as its primary mandate the provision of services to youthful offenders, administering intake, detention and community supervision programs.

The goal of these programs is to help integrate these young people into their communities as productive citizens. The Department also works toward this goal by striving to identify the reasons young people become offenders, and by advocating for services in the community to address these problems.

Finding the balance between programs which focus on the early prevention of problems, and remedial programs which address the needs of youth already involved in the justice system, is the difficult task of the Department of Youth Services. I urge you to read this report to gain a better understanding of some of the issues and associated programs impacting troubled youth in King County.

Sincerely,

Tim Hill
King County Executive

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

There are many changes underway at the Department of Youth Services in program delivery, policy, procedure, and organization. We who work in the Department know the juvenile justice system is complex, with many complicated issues and interests. To change the system presents staff and management with an enormous challenge.

Despite the complexity of the system, the theme guiding all these changes is very simple: How can we, individually and as an organization, best help the youth we serve?

We are here to assist youth grow and overcome negative thinking and behavior. How that can best be done will be the subject of a great deal of discussion, and analysis and decision-making in the future.

Our central theme, helping youth, will guide us as we move forward.

YOUTH SERVICES MISSION

The mission of the King County Department of Youth Services is

- To support the King County Juvenile Court by providing intake, detention, and community supervision for juveniles; and
- To provide treatment services to juveniles in the context of detention and community supervision programs; and
- To administer other youth programs assigned by the Executive; and
- To advocate within the Government and Community for youth.

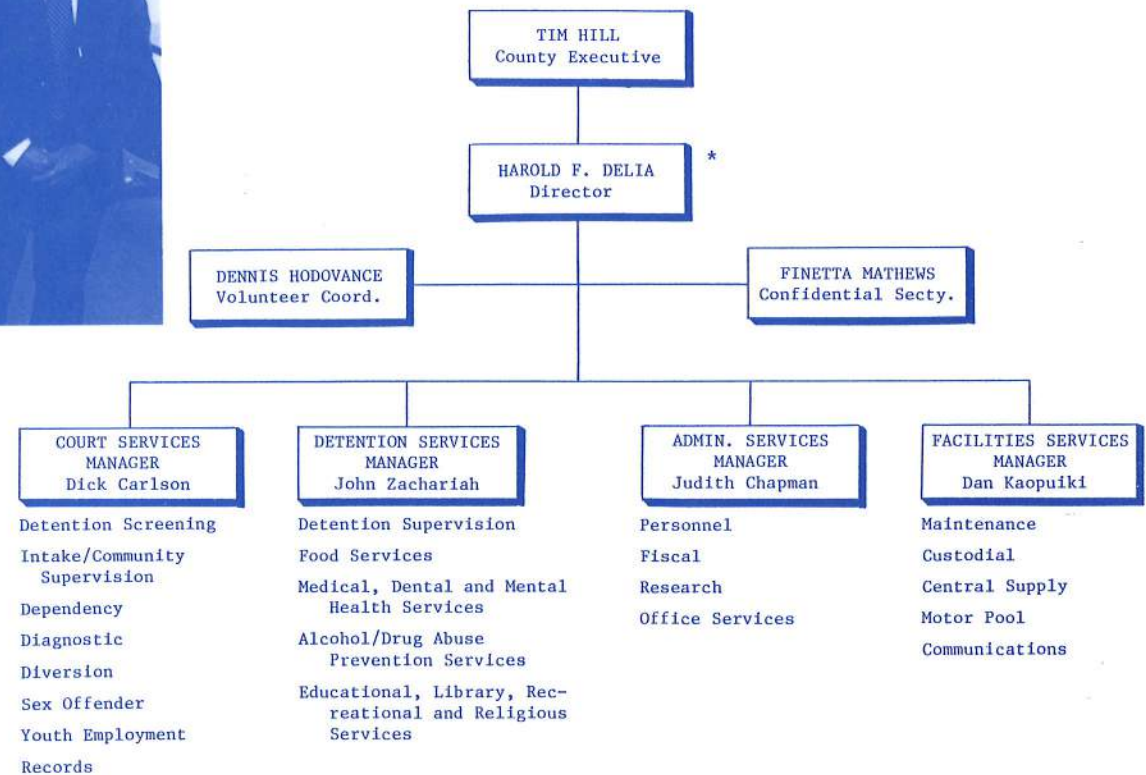
The Department will undertake this Mission with a focus on public safety, the positive integration of youth into their communities, and youth development.

Department programs will respect the dignity of youth and their families, foster youths' desires to be productive citizens, and will reflect community concern for its youth.

ORGANIZATION



From left, John Zachariah, Judith Chapman, Harold Delia, Dick Carlson, Dan Kaopuiki



* Appointed September 1986

DIRECTIONS '86

The year 1986 was in part a year of transition, marked by the appointment in September of Harold F. Delia as Director.

The Department mission was reaffirmed, future directions and programs were determined and schedules for implementation adopted. Most programs and studies identified in the third quarter and scheduled for work will be in place some time in 1987. Among these are a planned reduction in average detention populations and more specialized training for Juvenile Corrections Officers and Juvenile Probation Counselors.

A long desired study of the Department's community relations needs was begun as was a study of detention facility requirements through the year 2000.

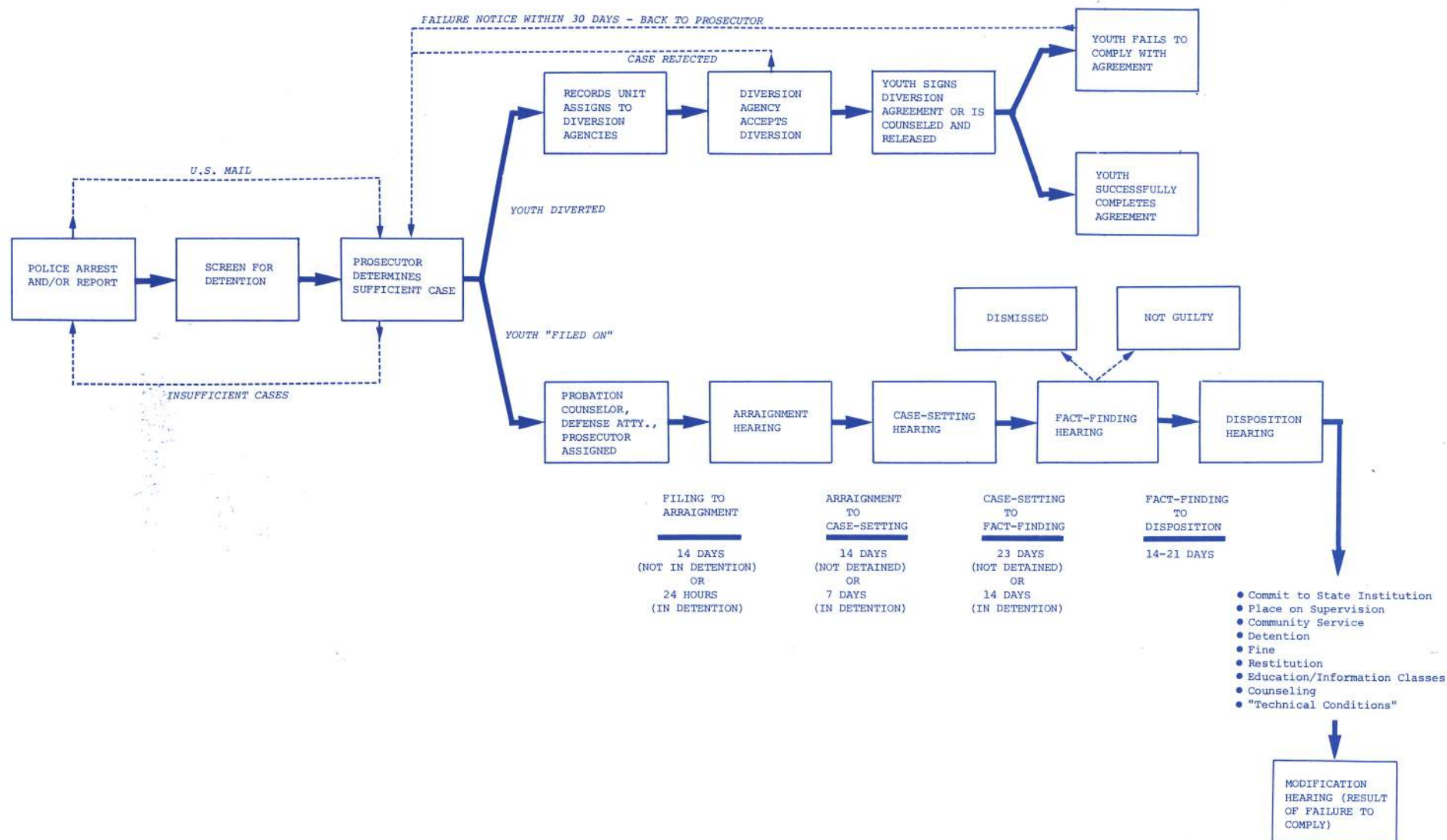
Early in the year the State of Washington contracted with the Department for the performance of post-commitment diagnostic work for King County youths. The work previously was done by the state's Department of Juvenile Rehabilitation.

The mental health program in the detention facility, planned in view of a significant increase in psychological and emotional disorders among admitted youth was initiated during the year.

The Employment Development for Youth (EDY) Program broadened its training offering through a state grant. The Commission of Vocational Education made possible vocational instruction and counseling for detained youth. The EDY Program, King County Work Training Program and Renton Vocational Technical Institute have coordinated their efforts here.

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

King County, State of Washington



Referred Youth May be Held for Court Hearings or...

DETENTION SCREENING

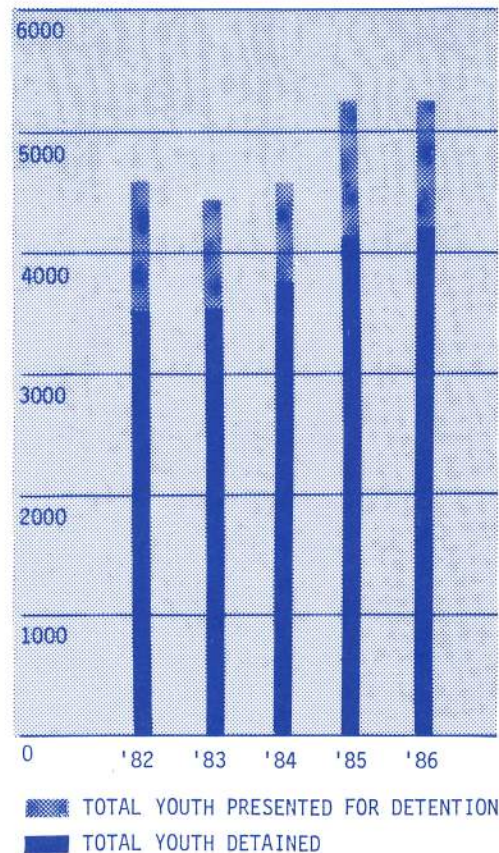
Juvenile Probation Counselors (JPCs) who screen youths physically presented for detention by police, parents, youths themselves and others, face a complex task. They must thoroughly evaluate each youth in a relatively short period of time and decide if detention is warranted, asking: Is there an outstanding warrant, a troubled history, current legal status with other courts.

Screeners interview the youth, parent, police and query computerized information systems, often asking innumerable questions as they seek a basis for their decisions.

About a fifth of the youths presented for detention are not held. Many are counseled and may be referred to various community resources for help with personal problems; others - though not detained - will be the subjects of reports. They will be diverted or enter into the judicial system for adjudication where they may face release, probation or sentencing.

Continuing an upward trend, 5271 youths were presented for detention in 1986, 4125 of whom were detained.

Youth Screened for Detention



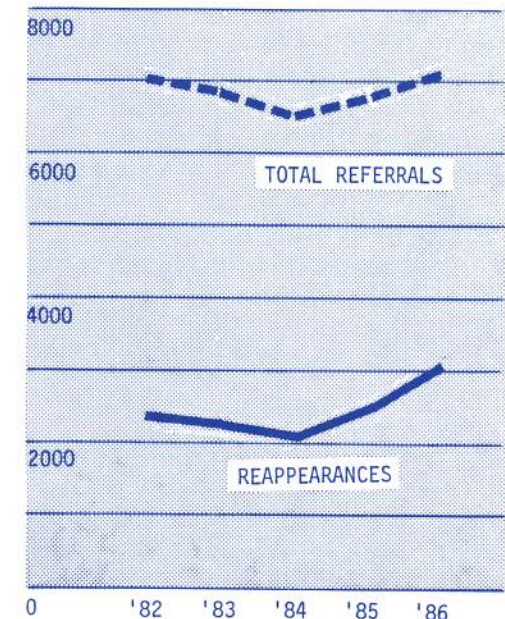
INTAKE

Intake JPCs provide pre-court evaluations and recommendations for judges on all youth bound for court hearings. They also enter into and monitor diversion agreements on appropriately referred youth.

Investigative work completed in preparing a recommendation to court routinely includes an assessment of the offense, the attitudes of the youth and his or her family and very much more, all intended to hold the youth accountable while reducing the odds that he or she will reoffend.

In 1986 Intake JPCs handled 7155 referrals, up four percent from 1985, 3054 of which were reappearances (new offenses by youths already active in the system).

Intake Referrals



Diverted to the Community

DIVERSION

A means of applying justice outside the courtroom process requires the DYS to join with the state, superior court and prosecuting attorney in the administration of the diversion program.

The DYS Records Unit receives diverted cases from the prosecutor and assigns them to diversion units throughout the county. Upon accepting a case diversion unit staff hold the offending youth accountable to the terms of a diversion agreement which may assess community service, restitution to a victim and a fine. They also counsel with and steer the youth to resources designed to help him or her understand and deal with problems. Failure to comply with the diversion agreement results in the youth's case being sent to court.

There were 10,392 referrals to community-based diversion units in 1986, up from 10,059 in 1985.

Diversion Units

These youth-oriented offices serve as diversion units for King County.

Superior Court Conference Committees

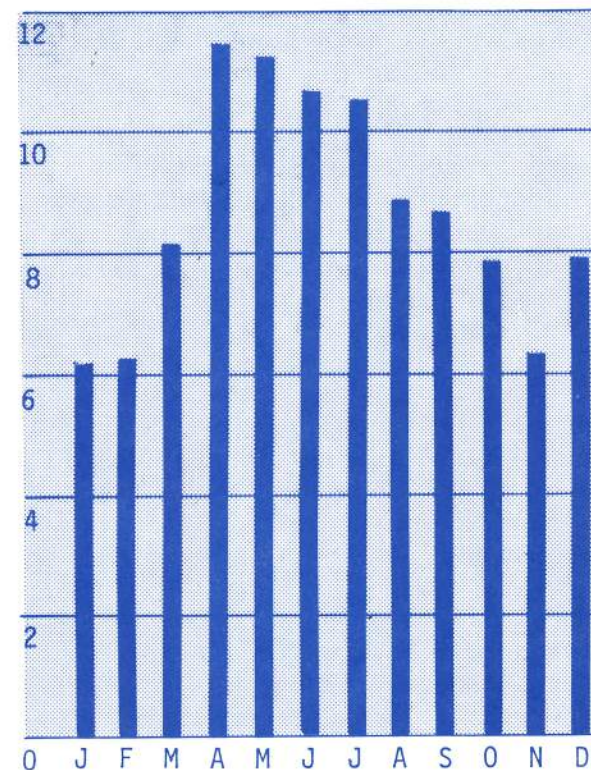
Auburn	Redmond
Des Moines	Shoreline
Enumclaw	Vashon-Maury
Federal Way	West Seattle
Highline	Carnation-Duvall
Kent	Central Seattle
Maple Valley	Issaquah
Renton	Leschi
Bellevue	Northeast
Capitol Hill	Northwest
Kirkland	Queen Anne
Magnolia	Snoqualmie Valley
Northshore	

Youth Service Bureaus

Mercer Island
Evergreen Safety Council
Mt. Baker/Central
North Seattle
Southeast (Seattle)
Kent Valley
Highline
Youth Eastside Services
Center for Human Services
Mt. Baker/Central (Alcohol/Drug)

Diversion Referrals

Diversions in hundreds



Most Adjudicated Youth Enter Into Community Supervision

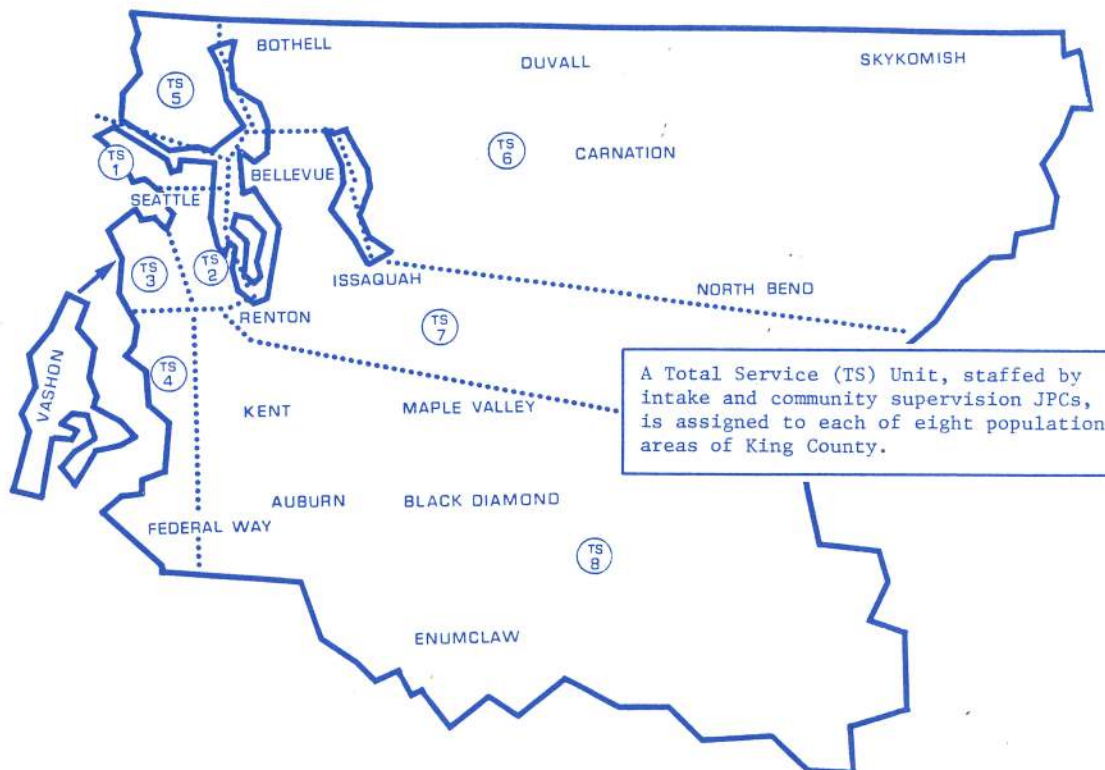
7

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

After the court disposition hearing the Community Supervision JPC works to assure the youth's compliance with the terms of his or her probation as established by court order. The range of supervisory techniques and resources available to the JPC is extensive and often needed to steer the probationer away from situations that might cause him or her to reoffend.

Should a youth fail to meet probation terms the JPC will take him or her back to court, recommending further sanctions that may include detention time at the DYS.

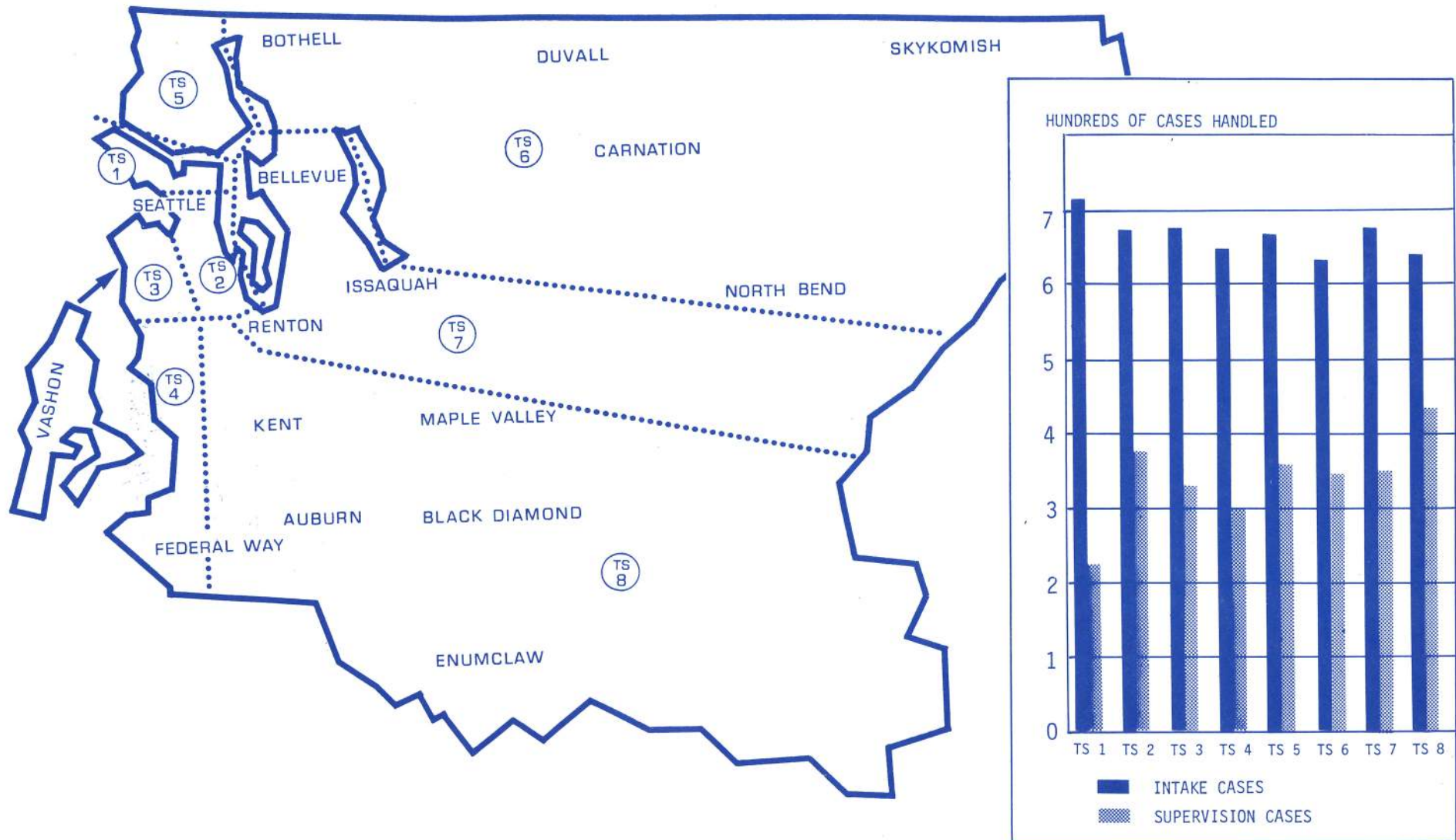
During 1986 Community Supervision JPCs carried an average of 33 cases each. The average length of time on probation was 4.7 months per youth (per court order).



	COMMUNITY SUPERVISION CASELOAD ACTIVITY				
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Average Caseload per Supervision JPC	41	43	34	33	33
Average Number of Months Youth On Probation per Court Order	6.6	5.9	4.9	4.8	4.7
Supervision Cases Active at End of Year	1347	1465	1169	1187	1069
Reappearances	2506	2406	2219	2124	2199

INTAKE AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION CASES HANDLED

Eight Total Service Units



Restitution and Community Service: Parts of Probation

9

COMMUNITY SERVICE

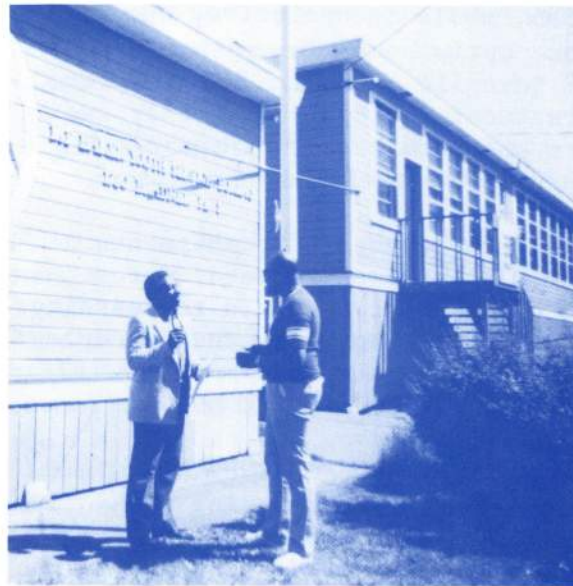
The offending juvenile is subject to penalties as well as the guidance and special programs designed to help change those attitudes and actions that contributed to his or her criminal activity.

Diverted and adjudicated youth are commonly required to perform community service consisting of useful hours spent in, for example, doing custodial work in a public building or filing in a neighborhood drop-in center.

Hours are assessed by court order or, in the case of diverted youth, included in the diversion agreement.

The DYS contracts with eleven private, non-profit community based agencies for the provision of community service worksites where youths "do their hours."

In 1986 a total of 47,534 community service hours were ordered. During the year offender youth completed 32,161 hours of service.



Mt. Baker Youth Service Bureau

RESTITUTION

Restitution (in dollars) may be a companion to community service. When a juvenile's crime has caused financial loss to a victim, restitution may be ordered based on the juvenile's ability to pay.

In 1986 restitution assessments totaled \$199,244.90.

Restitution	
Assessed	\$199,244.90
Collected	\$134,906.41



SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

Ninety-four juvenile sex offenders were referred to the state-funded DYS Sex Offender Program during 1986. About 75 percent of these youths were charged with a sexual offense, the most common being an Indecent Liberties charge. Of the non-sexual offenses, Simple Assault was seen most frequently and often was the result of plea bargaining.

Eighty-four offense-specific assessments were completed by the staff during the year. Approximately 70 percent of the juvenile offenders were placed on community supervision and ordered to complete treatment. Commitments to the DJR were about 15 percent and when institutionalization was recommended, it was most often for a period longer than that specified by the standard range.

Twenty-two offenders were placed in treatment with the two DYS therapists during 1986. Each of these clinicians is on contract to provide service for a minimum of seven offenders; their combined total, however, averaged about 20 youths. In addition they led an ongoing therapy group and they provided some consultation and training for DYS staff.

Preliminary data regarding recidivism, while inconclusive, suggests some optimism is in order. Of the 43 juvenile offenders who completed treatment during 1984-5, only two are known to have reoffended sexually.

While the number of commitments to the DJR has been reduced, more attention must be given to learning what happens to these young people as they mature.

The DJR has given the program a high priority for the 1987-89 biennium. Continued program funding with only a nominal increase over the present rate is anticipated. The provision of no-cost treatment for juvenile sex offenders and their families will continue, presumably with no waiting list for now or in the near future.

AT-RISK OFFENDERS

Contracts between the DYS and two Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs) to assist at-risk youths were continued in 1986.

The Highline and Southeast YSBs reach youths on community supervision in West Seattle, Burien, Rainier Valley and central Seattle. Bureau staff steer youths away from continued unlawful behavior through counseling and specialized training. These are youths who are in danger of going to state institutions.

During the year 124 at-risk youths were reached within the service areas of these two bureaus and 127 more in King County were helped by other service organizations.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Employment Development for Youth (EDY) is a special work training program operating mostly at the community level; however, vocational education services are offered to youth in detention.

The program encourages return to formal education if a youth has dropped out by offering assistance in getting back into public school, locating vocational training or other educational programs such as GED completion classes if they are appropriate.

The program recruits youth for other employment training programs: King County Work Training, City of Seattle Youth Employment, Seattle Public Schools Work Training, Center for Career Alternatives and Job Corps.

During 1986 EDY:

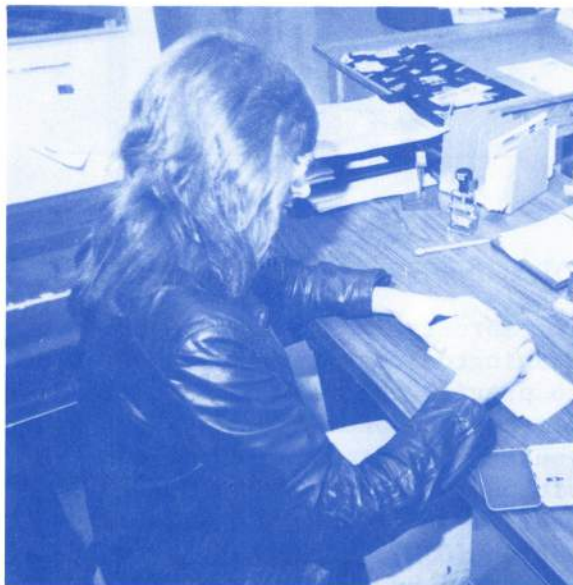
Provided employment training services to 771 youths.

Enrolled 184 youths in work experience or educational placements.

Obtained unsubsidized jobs for 86 youths.

Provided 564 detained youth with employment preparation and career education service.

Provided 32 youths vocational instruction in basic construction skills.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Volunteers recruited by the volunteer coordinator gave close to 45,000 hours of service to the DYS in 1986, the equivalent of over 15 people working an average day, every day.

More than 300 community and student volunteers were assigned to work as case aides, tutors, discussion leaders, recreation leaders and career specialists. Others worked within the alcohol/drug, employment and diagnostic programs.

As in the past, students from state colleges and universities were highly visible, especially in the Detention and Court Services Divisions where they were placed with Juvenile Corrections Officers and Juvenile Probation Counselors. Chances are that a few of them, with time to devote, were able to help turn a few troubled youths around.

TWO UNITS OF THE COURT SERVICES DIVISION PERFORM SPECIALIZED TASKS IN CONJUNCTION WITH OFFICES OF STATE GOVERNMENT.

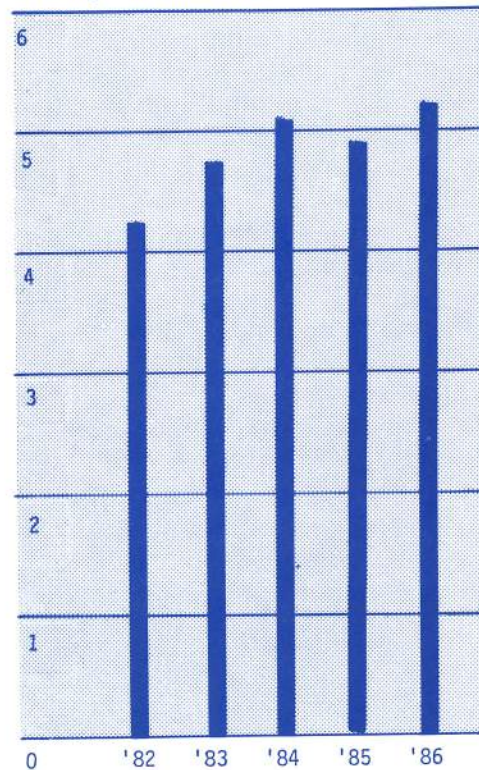
DEPENDENCY

Dependency JPCs review petitions alleging dependency and expedite filing and hearings while they make certain the court receives all the information it needs to make decisions. A statute requiring that all active dependency matters be reviewed every six months necessitates the tracking of several thousand cases each year.

Dependency hearings increased by seven percent in 1986, reaching 5231.

Dependency Hearings

Hearings in thousands



DIAGNOSTIC PROGRAM

In February 1986 the State of Washington contracted with the DYS to provide the post-commitment diagnostic function for King County youths committed as juvenile offenders and sentenced to the Department of Juvenile Rehabilitation (DJR), a function previously performed by the state.

Three half-time diagnostic workers and a full-time clerk performed the diagnostic work for the remainder of the year, processing 281 cases.

The diagnostic process for committed youths involves data gathering and the review of many reports common to the juvenile justice system. Among these are police, legal, psychological, medical, dental, and educational and behavioral reports. Alcohol and drug use are assessed by the diagnostic worker assigned to administer the Client Substance Index.

A review board - with parents, the youth and assigned JPC present - examines, confirms and supplements information previously gathered and discusses the youth's institutional stay. Significant information is summarized and a state computer process identifies the institution to which the youth is assigned. Files are created to provide documentation required by the institution or group home, the regional office of the DJR and the Diagnostic Unit.

Primary goal of the Diagnostic Unit is to work effectively with committed youth and their families in order to facilitate and motivate their use of institutional resources during incarceration.

Safe and Secure Housing is Essential for Youths Who Must be Detained

13

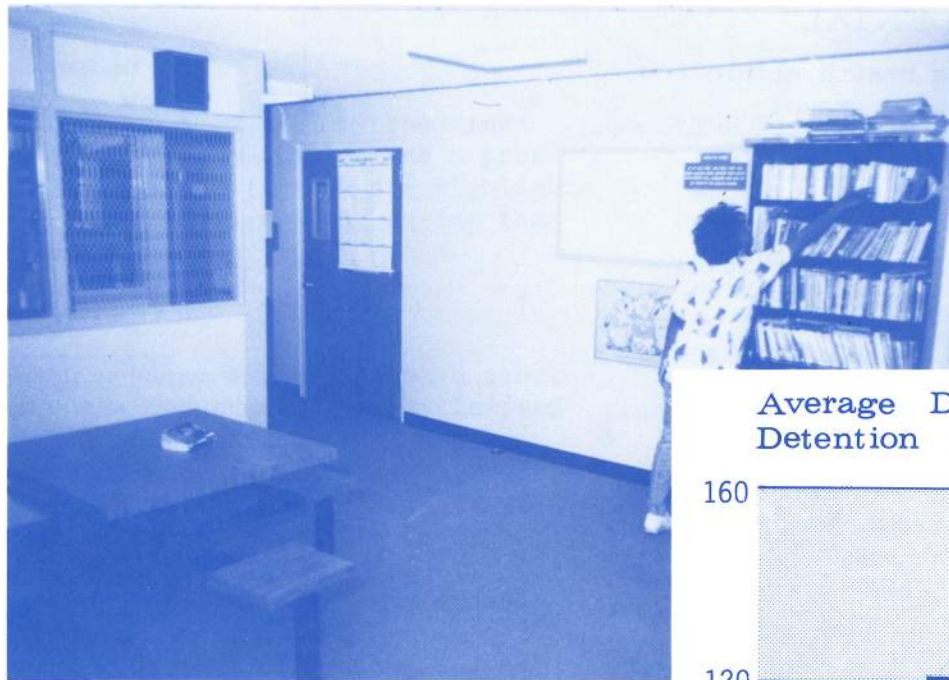
DETENTION

Upon admission to detention youths are assigned to five pre-trial living units based upon age, sex and in some cases the nature of their offenses. There are three pre-trial units for boys, one for girls and a high-security unit. A sixth unit houses sentenced offenders who live within a carefully structured program geared to improving attitudes and behavior.

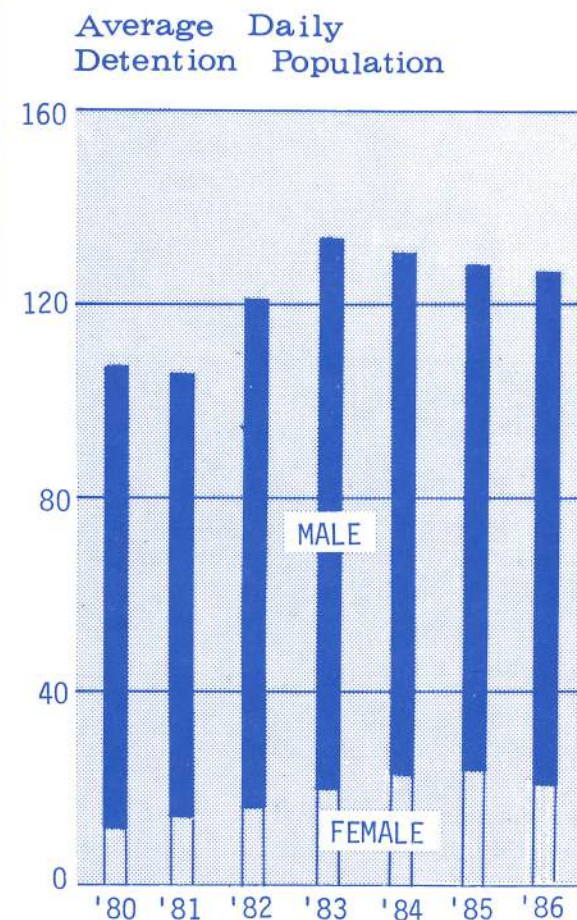
The detention facility provides short term secure care for juveniles accused of crimes and who are awaiting court action or who have been sentenced to confinement after court disposition.

The detainee receives basic shelter, food, clothing, medical care and his or her legal rights are protected.

Every effort is made to protect youths from assault or intimidation by staff or other juveniles while making sure the environment is safe, healthful and humane. Nor are the youth's emotional, spiritual, educational and social needs forgotten....While detained a youth will attend school and also may visit the library, use a computer, play games and swim, make a clay pot, discuss problems with peers, chaplain and others, and receive counseling for alcohol/drug problems.



A typical living unit in the detention facility



Care for Mind and Body

14

HEALTH AND DENTAL

For several years the health clinic has served as a training ground for pediatric health care workers. Operated by students, residents and a regular staff, it responded to a total of 22,356 visits to physicians and nurses by detainees during 1986. The clinic is a training ground to be sure.

The dental clinic operates through a contract with the Seattle/King County Department of Public Health. Good dental hygiene is stressed, along with the arrangement for follow-up care in the community. During the year 1580 detainees were seen by the dental staff.

MENTAL HEALTH

During 1986 a mental health team was formed to treat youth who display psychiatric and emotional disorders. A psychiatrist, employed half-time, and two psychiatric nurses conduct cursory mental health screenings of all youths admitted to detention. Additional psychiatric evaluations are made as warranted.

The team has developed individualized treatment plans for certain youths, made placement recommendations and performed special counseling daily for youths placed on the suicide alert, a component procedure of the suicide precaution plan.

ADMISSIONS TO DETENTION

AGE	Non-Sentenced		Sentenced		Total	Percent
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
-10	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	6	-	-	-	6	.10
11	4	-	3	-	7	.12
12	74	25	11	4	114	1.93
13	199	89	76	12	376	6.35
14	349	144	152	35	680	11.49
15	632	189	338	56	1215	20.53
16	874	245	402	48	1569	26.51
17	794	226	454	50	1524	25.75
+17	225	12	176	15	428	7.23
TOTAL	3157	930	1612	220	5919	
RACE						
Asian	75	14	16	5	110	1.86
Black	1091	256	332	44	1723	29.11
White	1754	601	1198	163	3716	62.78
Am. Ind.	124	40	44	4	212	3.58
Sp./Chic.	58	10	13	1	82	1.39
Other	55	9	9	3	76	1.28
TOTAL	3157	930	1612	220	5919	

ALCOHOL/DRUG PROGRAM

Alcohol and drug abuse permeate the fabric of our society and the young are prime targets of the purveyors of these substances. The Alcohol/Drug Program at the DYS makes a strong effort to reach users during their short stays in detention and to deter others who are under peer pressure to experiment.

The A/D Program counselor provides curriculum, supervision and expertise to the detention school skills class, a session which presents A/D education to students along with refusal, negotiation and anger control techniques.

During the year the skills class was attended by an average 92 youths per day. A second program in the Special Programs Unit reached an average of six youths.

Diagnostic evaluations are made upon referral by a JPC, the health clinic or the mental health team.

During the year the A/D Counselor reached 2000 youths throughout the community with alcohol and drug abuse presentations to public and private schools and church groups.

LIBRARY

Library services were substantially curtailed in 1986 by a 50 percent budget reduction in the contract with the King County Library System.

While the professional library was dismantled entirely, the library for detainees required only a reduction in certain services.

The decline in circulation was largely the result of shortened hours, fewer materials and reduced staffing since interest in materials and information continued at a high level, almost doubling the 1985 total.

	1985	1986
Reference (requests)	667	1006
Circulation	52464	36690

Losses in materials was in part overcome by the regular borrowing from other branches in the system.

The security living unit (SPU) was given access to the scheduled library periods allowing detainees assigned there to enjoy the array of books, magazines, games, cassettes and computer programs in the library collection.

A concert sponsored by the King County Arts Commission and a presentation on kayaking were highlights in library programming during the year.

SCHOOL

With a sense of helping each other and the opportunity to participate fully in the educational process many detainees are realizing self-motivation and the resultant self-esteem critical to learning, all of which will boost their performance in their home schools too.

The success stems in part from the detention school effort to develop and implement programs and foster attitudes that do much to enhance basic courses (reading, language arts, mathematics, etc.). The approach to these basic courses includes an orientation to law, vocational and educational choices, cultural awareness and community services, each of which needs to be prominent in a youth's thinking for success.

School staff, with the aid of JCOs, encourage hands-on activity and learning styles based upon cultural diversity; they call up relevant topics in the learning process which gets students relating to issues, reading, making choices.

The "Intervention Room" plays a positive role in student well-being. When the court experience proves an unsettling one and the youth retreats confused or angry, this quiet room with a teacher or two to talk with helps to restore his or her balance.

Problem Solving Steps

- 1) What happened?
- 2) Why is that a problem?
- 3) What do you want?
- 4) Give yourself 3 plans to get what you want
- 5) Can any of these make more problems? (yes)(no) HOW?
- 6) Which plan will you try? Why?
- 7) What can go wrong w/your plan?
- 8) What will you do then?
- 9) When will you try this plan?

Detainees work out their own problem solving method.

SUPPORTING DYS LINE OPERATIONS ARE THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND FACILITIES SERVICES SECTIONS. THESE ORGANIZATIONS ASSIST THE DIRECTOR AND FACILITATE AS REQUIRED THE WORK OF THE COURT SERVICES AND DETENTION SERVICES DIVISIONS.

FACILITIES SERVICES

The primary Facilities Services responsibility is for the DYS physical plant, a complex of offices, court rooms, housing units, playfields, library, kitchen, health clinic and much more.

Facilities handles custodial and maintenance work, provides supplies and equipment and administers the communications system and motor pool.

Late in 1986 Operation Cleanup was announced and began in the detention living units. General refurbishing of the complex will continue through 1987.

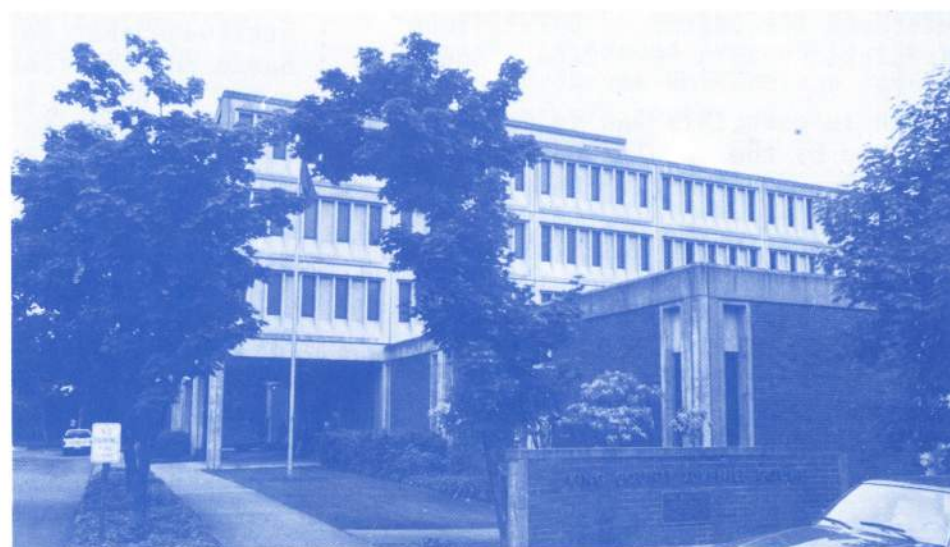
A long range issue of special interest to this Section was the Phase I portion of the study to plan the physical needs of the DYS through the year 2000. Changes will be required and Phase II (in 1987) will determine the remodeling or new building necessary.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Administrative Services prepares and controls the DYS budget (current expense and grant), contracts for services with outside organizations and conducts various studies and liaison tasks. It also operates the personnel, fiscal (payroll, accounts payable and receivable) and office services units.

DYS Employment Activity

New Employees	17
On-Call Employees	61
Promotions	10
Retirements	2



Production by Administrative Services

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