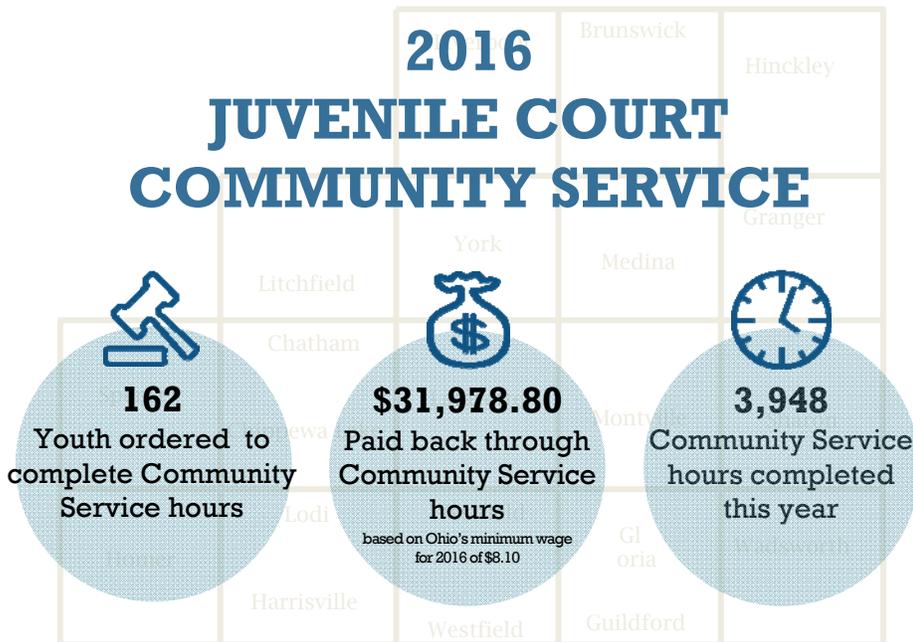


MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT NEWSLETTER

JUDGE KEVIN W. DUNN JANUARY 2017

COURT-INVOLVED YOUTH GIVE BACK THROUGH LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK

Judge Kevin Dunn and the Medina County Juvenile Court magistrates often order juvenile offenders to repay the community through service hours, assisting various organizations and businesses in our county. This may involve scrubbing floors and walls, washing police cars, or pulling weeds in the community garden. The goal is to make youth more aware of the consequences of their actions while reimbursing the community for any damages they may have caused. Below is a snapshot of the work completed by Medina County Juvenile Community Service for 2016.



Community Service Projects & Locations

- Buckeye High School
- Build-A-Bear
- Children's Center
- Cloverleaf High School
- Cornerstone Chapel
- Cups Café
- D.A.R.E.
- Feeding Medina County
- First Congregational Church
- Gloria Glens
- Homerville Community Center
- Historical Society
- JDC/ Annex
- Kite Fest
- Medina County Fairgrounds
- Medina County Home
- Medina High School
- Medina Township "Pick It Up Day"
- Montville Police Dept.
- Oaks Family Center
- ODOT
- Our Lady Help of Christians Church
- Project Munch
- Shop With A Cop
- Seville Library
- SPCA
- Taste of Wadsworth
- Wadsworth Blue Tip Parade
- Wadsworth Fire Dept.
- Wadsworth Older Adult Center
- Wadsworth Police Dept.
- Wadsworth Salvation Army
- Valley City Fire Dept.

COMMUNITY SERVICE GOALS

- Youth Accountability
- Provide Structure
- Develop Teamwork Skills
- Build Personal Confidence
- Provide Supervision
- Payback the Community

Community Service youth also assisted by creating and delivering 80 Build-A-Bears to special needs children and adults during the holidays.



MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT NEWSLETTER

JUDGE KEVIN W. DUNN JANUARY 2017

PROBATION SUSPENSION PROGRAM UNDERWAY

In May 2016, Judge Kevin W. Dunn and Programming and Grants Coordinator Tony Miller received notice that their proposal for a suspension school program was accepted by the Ohio Supreme Court for a \$75,000 Innovation Grant. Since the program officially began in October, five youth have been ordered to attend PSP, prompting a visit from Supreme Court of Ohio Judicial and Education Services Division Director W. Milt Nuzum III, Esq.

PSP, monitored by a Medina City Schools paraprofessional, offers Juvenile Court's Probation Officers an alternative placement for youth monitored by the Court who receive an out-of-school suspension. During the 2015-2016 school year, 58 youth monitored by the Court received out-of-school suspensions ranging from one to ten days for infractions of school rules including fighting, profanity, insubordination, and leaving school



Programming and Grants Coordinator Tony Miller, paraprofessional Alexandra Myers, and W. Milt Nuzum III from the Supreme Court of Ohio.

grounds without permission. Of those 58 youth, 32 were detained at the detention center. So far this school year, 15 students monitored on Probation have received an

out-of-school suspension and five have been diverted from detention and ordered to attend PSP.

"This visit from the Supreme Court is beneficial because it allows us the opportunity to show the State firsthand that this program is doing what we intended, which is to provide a setting for students to complete their work diligently during their suspension," Miller said.

Miller reported that Nuzum was pleased overall with the program, but did offer suggestions for evaluating the effectiveness of the program over time, such as establishing a control group.

"Of course we are always open to suggestions for improvement," Miller said. "We would like PSP to be an on-going program provided by the Court and creating evidence-based data will support that effort."

MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE COURT RENEWS STATE CERTIFICATION FOR DRUG COURT PROGRAM



Programming and Grants Coordinator Tony Miller, Alicia Feehery Wolf, Esq. from the Commission on Specialized Dockets, and Judge Kevin W. Dunn

The Juvenile Drug Court of Medina County Juvenile Court has earned final certification from the Ohio Supreme Court's Commission on Specialized Dockets.

Specialized dockets are courts that are dedicated to specific types of offenses or offenders and use a combination of different techniques for holding offenders accountable while also addressing the underlying causes of their behavior. Standards are set by the Supreme Court of Ohio to provide a minimum level of uniform

practices for specialized dockets throughout Ohio, and allow local courts to innovate and tailor to meet their community's needs and resources. In order to receive the certification, Medina County Juvenile Court had to submit an application, undergo a site visit, and provide specific program materials in response to certification standards that went in to effect in January 2014.

The certification requirements include establishing eligibility requirements, evaluating effectiveness of the specialized docket, and assembling a treatment team for implementing daily operations of the specialized docket. The team can include licensed treatment providers, law enforcement, court personnel, and is headed by the specialized docket judge.

Medina County Juvenile Drug Court exceeds those required standards, providing an alternative for juveniles and their families whose criminal justice involvement stems from alcohol or drugs. Using community resources, the Program provides monitoring, intervention, treatment and structure to juveniles. Medina County Juvenile Drug Court also reduces recidivism, protects the community

and teaches juveniles how to lead a healthy lifestyle. To date, 442 youth have successfully graduated from Juvenile Drug Court since the program began in 2004.

Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor congratulated the Medina County Juvenile Court and Judge Kevin W. Dunn for receiving final certification.

"Specialized dockets divert offenders toward criminal justice initiatives that employ tools and tailored services to treat and rehabilitate the offender so they can become productive members of society," said Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor. "Studies have shown this approach works by reducing recidivism while saving tax dollars."

There are more than 210 specialized dockets in Ohio courts that deal with issues related to drugs and alcohol, mental health, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

"I'm pleased that we renewed our certification from Columbus," Judge Dunn said. "It is an arduous process, but necessary for such a successful program focused on helping youth and their families."