

# ANNUAL REPORT



60405

Fiscal Year 1977-1978

Post Office Box 1734  
Natchez, Mississippi 39567

Emily N. Baker  
County Court Judge  
Jackson County, Place 1

TO THE CITIZENS OF JACKSON COUNTY:

In reviewing the activities of our Court for the past year, I am filled with both a sense of accomplishment and a need to express my thanks to all who contributed to the work of the Court in 1978.

First, I am extremely grateful for your confidence and trust in me and express my personal and sincere thanks to each of you for allowing me another four years in office as your County Judge. Being a Judge is a grave responsibility and with God's help and your prayers, I shall do all within my power to be deserving of this honor and to administer justice in a wise and fair manner ever mindful that our laws are of and for the people of this County.

I would like to thank my staff for their loyalty and dedication to their work and to the Court. Our new Administrator, Tom Landrum, has brought to his position experience as well as professionalism. Since we were without a full-time Psychologist for some time, we owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Donald Matherne for his help during that interim period. Dr. Anthony Rivera has now joined the Court Staff and we will again be able to offer in-depth services to children and their parents. To those who have been with us since our early days, I say a big thank you, for your work is indeed the cornerstone of the Court. Some who have left our employ continue to work with us on a voluntary basis and all of us at the Court extend a very special thanks to them.

To those who serve the Court as Youth Court Counselors from the Department of Youth Services and as Social Workers from the Department of Public Welfare and who work with the children and their families, I would like to pay special tribute for they are indeed very special people. A requisite for their work is a loving concern for people and the ability to give of themselves, not just time and energy for which they are compensated, but that something extra which I see them giving each day. I appreciate their persistence in continuing to work when a client takes one step forward and two backward; their own strength of character and the example this sets for their clients; their ability to recognize those invisible but so dangerous scars of emotional abuse, and then their patience in working with that child to rebuild his self-esteem; their encouragement to children to establish good moral values; their guidance of clients through troubled times, and their kindness and courtesy to those clients with whom they work. Also appreciated is their recognition and acceptance of this Court's position that discipline is as necessary to a child as the air he breathes and that children as well as their parents must recognize their responsibilities.

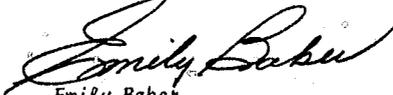
Our Court, as a county agency, depends on the cooperation and aid of others within the area and on behalf of the Court, I wish to express our thanks to these people: especially to our Board of Supervisors; to our four school systems both for their support of our detention school and in recognition of their in-school suspension programs; to our Mental Health Agency; to Singing River Hospital; Vocational Rehabilitation; to our Clerk of the Court; to our Juvenile Officers as well as each of those dedicated men and women who comprise our efficient law enforcement systems throughout the County. The Court appreciates your help, that of all other county agencies and our Child Abuse Team in diagnosing and treating the problems of our young people.

Last, but by no means least, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to the greatest group of people in the world -- our Volunteers -- who give the greatest gift of all -- the gift of self -- to help each of our children in trouble.

Thanks to each of you. It has been a fruitful year and with your help our work will continue to be rewarding both to the Court and to the community.

God bless you all.

Sincerely,

  
Emily Baker  
Youth Court Judge

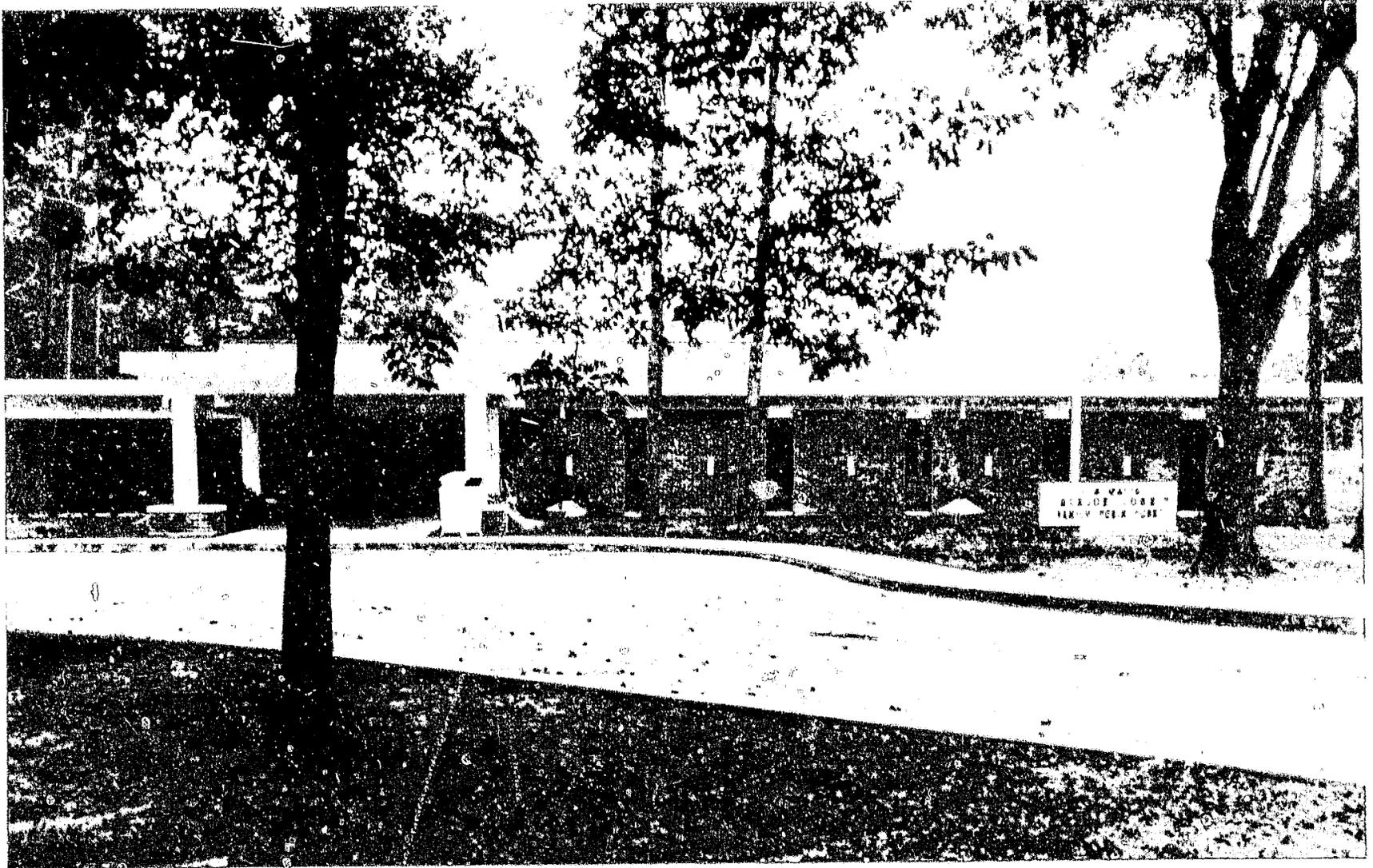


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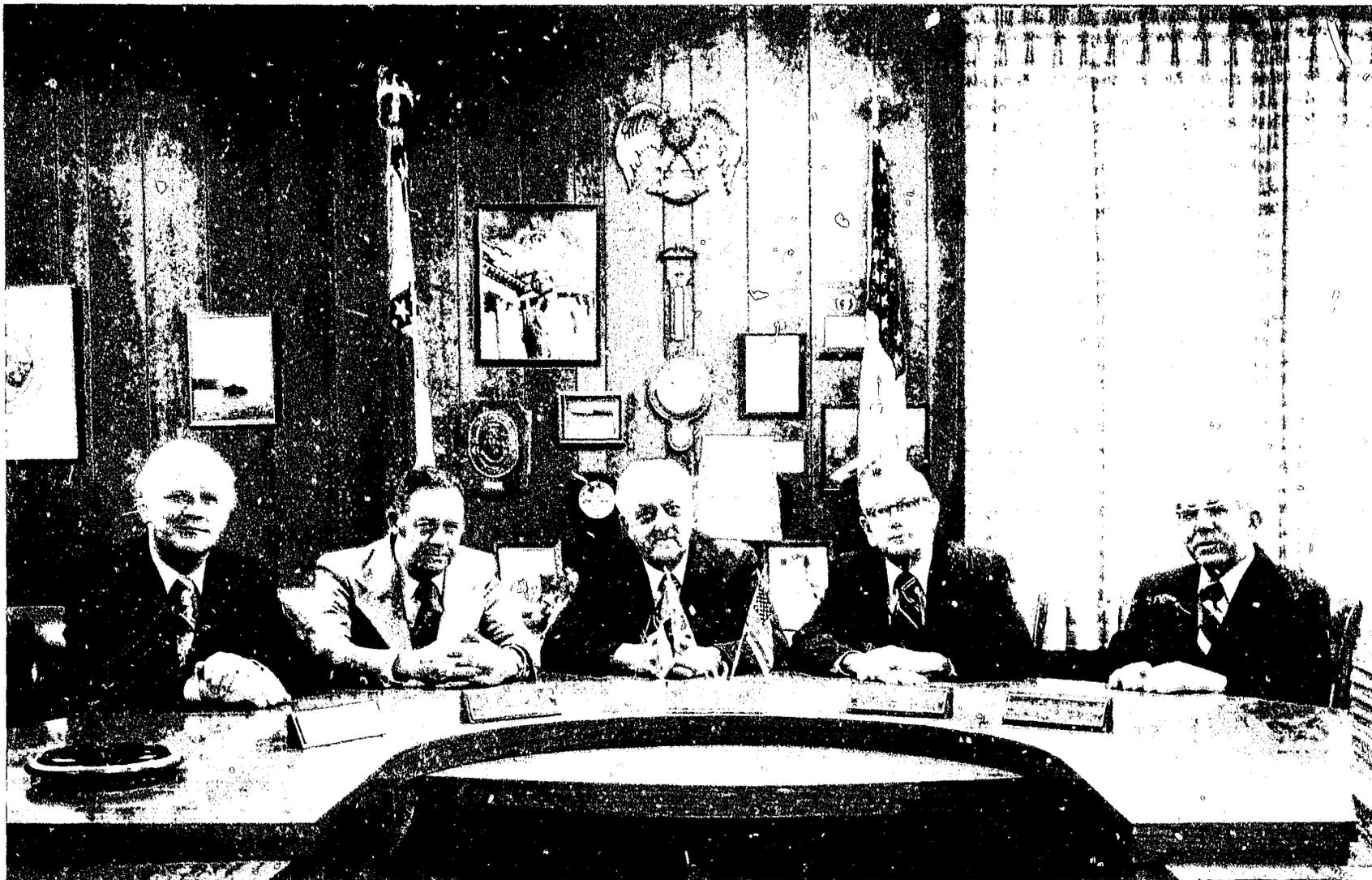
ACQUISITIONS

EMILY V. BAKER  
COUNTY COURT JUDGE  
JACKSON COUNTY, PLACE I



The L. A. Watts Family Youth Court Facility was named in honor of the late Judge L. A. "Red" Watts.

It is with pleasure that we dedicate this 1977-78 Annual Report to our volunteers within the court system. We in Jackson County are privileged to be associated with such an outstanding group of volunteers, citizens who care enough to go that "extra mile". The words love, understanding, time, enthusiasm, are synonymous with "volunteer". Volunteers are love expressed in the greatest of all forms, "The Gift Of Self" and we thank God for all of you.



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Boasting a population of over 120,000 citizens, Jackson County is one of the most progressive counties within the state of Mississippi. This progressive spirit is motivated by the capable leadership of the Board of Supervisors. Under the guidance of the Board President, Edward A. Khayat; Vice President, Lum R. Cumbest; District 3 Supervisor, J. C. May; District 4 Supervisor, William T. Roberts; and District 5 Supervisor, Ed McElroy; outstanding progress has been maintained in the fields of industry,

government, and human services. The construction of the Youth Court Center is an example of this progress in action. The Center was constructed in 1975 at a cost of approximately \$800,000.00. The present value of the facility including the land is over \$1,000,000.00.

The model Youth Court Center serves as an example of the concern that all citizens of the county have for their youth.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Last year's annual report cited three separate areas of the Court which needed immediate attention and relief. They were, (1) adequate funding for the operation of the court; (2) internal organization of the court, and (3) stronger prevention/diversion programs.

As Administrator, I am pleased to report that positive relief has been applied to each of these areas during this fiscal year itemized as follows:

1. Financial relief came in January, 1977 when the State Department of Public Welfare approved funding of the Emergency Shelter Program under the Title XX Program, leaving the departments of Detention, Court Service and Probation and Parole to be financed by the one mill levy from county funds.

2. Internal organization of the court's personnel was partially achieved by the preparation of an in depth Handbook of Policy and Procedure. The handbook serves as a guide for court personnel to understand the policies procedures and regulations of the court in such areas as compensatory time, vacation, insurance plans, promotional policies, etc.

Two additional staff members to the court also enhanced its internal organization. In addition to the eight counselors, a Clinical Psychologist is now available for services to both the child and his family. A full time Detention Superintendent-Night Intake Officer has greatly relieved some of the problems of the internal workings of the court system. Both of these positions have resulted in more effective and meaningful services to the minors as well as the community.

3. Extensive relief for stronger prevention/diversion programs has been developed in many areas of the court system.

(a) Operation CARE (Counseling, Avocation, Recreation and Education) has been expanded and now includes St. Martin, Pascagoula, Moss Point, Gautier and Ocean Springs. Through this program, children receive counseling, psychological and tutorial services, medical attention and other referral services as needed in their own locale.

(b) The position of Outreach Counselor has proven to be one of the more significant diversion programs. The Outreach Counselor coordinates and develops a systematic approach for diverting delinquency by providing special "outside-the-court" programs, activities and resources for both the minor and his family.

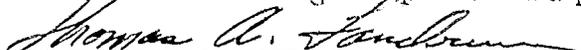
(c) A Token Economy System is now in effect in the Detention Center, designed to make detention a positive learning experience and to teach the children responsibility for their actions. Tokens are earned by the children exhibiting a positive attitude, conforming with detention rules and performing various chores in the detention area. The earned tokens are "spent" for privileges such as watching television in the dayroom, making phone calls, participating in planned, supervised co-educational activities and buying items from the token economy store which stocks candy, games and personal items. The system has proved itself successful as it keeps the children busy, improved their behavior by creating incentive and has assisted in keeping the detention area neat and clean.

(d) A regular on-going schedule of Probation and Parole Programs is prepared and executed on topics of major interest and need of the minors.

(e) More individual and organization volunteers have been recruited during the year by the Volunteer Coordinator of Court Services and the Volunteer Coordinator of the Shelter Program. These volunteers have collectively logged hundreds of hours of services to the children.

Being aware of the urgent need for an effective diversionary program for status offenders released from the training school, we are currently in the planning stages of creating such a program.

It has been a year of changes, challenges and commitment. Changes were made to create expansion in certain areas, the challenge is always present to improve, and the commitment comes each day on the job as all of us strive constantly to be even a small part in redirecting a youngster's life toward his becoming a responsible and productive adult.

  
Thomas A. Landrum, Youth Court Administrator



THOMAS A. LANDRUM  
ADMINISTRATOR  
JACKSON COUNTY YOUTH COURT

## TREATMENT AND CLINICAL SERVICES

Judge Baker maintains the philosophy that a better understanding of children's emotional and learning problems will lead to more systematic and effective treatment. She states that, "perhaps, when we have a better understanding of the forces which lead to child abuse and neglect, acts of delinquency, and running away from home, then hopefully we can reduce the amount of recidivism and offer a more effective service to troubled families and the community at large."

Clinical and treatment services within the Youth Court are provided under the supervision of the Court Psychologist. Dr. Anthony J. Rivera, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist, has become an integral part of the management staff of the Youth Court during this fiscal year. His professional skills have been utilized to assist in administrative responsibility, case work, and probation supervision, and in-service training for both the staff and Youth Court volunteers. He has also provided needed crisis counseling with minors and/or their parents referred to the Court for delinquency or family problems, although the Court Psychologist provides the Judge with psychological evaluations to assist in the disposition of cases. In addition to diagnostic services, psychotherapy is provided to improve communication within troubled families.

Graduate students in clinical psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi have been involved in an externship program to provide experience, training and supervision in dealing with juvenile problems. The extern is involved in diagnostic services as well as individual and group psychotherapy. Dr. J. Donald Matherne, Clinical Psychologist, has

functioned on a consulting basis during this fiscal year and provided supplemental clinical services and supervision. This broad utilization of professional skills was of great benefit to the overall operation of the Youth Court and is in keeping with the evolving social and legal philosophy with respect to the rights of children and adolescents.

During this fiscal year, minors were evaluated by the Clinical Psychologist and graduate student externs for educational, behavioral and emotional problems. The results of these evaluations indicate that the majority of youngsters had learning disabilities and/or emotional problems or significant impairment in intellectual functioning. These conditions limit the ability of children and adolescents to cope with school, home, and society. Other evaluations have involved questions concerning child abuse, incest, and certification of minors as adults. Because of the need for mental health services, an additional number of minors and/or their parents have been evaluated and have received treatment or counseling through Singing River Services or private psychotherapists. These services have emphasized need for private screening of children early in their academic years in order to identify potential learning, mental or emotional problems since these conditions represent contributing factors in delinquent behavior.

Treatment services within the Youth Court have included individual, group and family psychotherapy. In some instances, parents have been involved in child management courses which have included behavior modification procedures or systematic procedures in effective parenting.



DR. ANTHONY J. RIVERA  
Clinical Psychologist

PHIL YORK

DR. J. DONALD MATHERNE  
Clinical Psychologist

PEGGY FOLK

JOHN RILEY





CHARLES COLEMAN  
Baliff

JUDGE EMILY BAKER

KATHRYN WILKS  
Senior Court Reporter

PAULA GOFF  
Deputy Court Reporter

### COURTROOM STAFF

The function of a court reporter as required by law, Section 3-19-25 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated, is to "take full and complete notes, stenographically (and may use recording machines in aid thereof) of all the oral evidence and other oral proceedings...in each case...or in any other matter or in any other case that the judge may especially direct."

In addition to this, Court Reporters for this Court are charged with the duty of compiling, in an orderly form, each Order and Directive of the Court. Because of the continuously crowded

docket of this Court, it is necessary that the Court utilize both a Senior Court Reporter and a Deputy Court Reporter. The reporters alternate days recording hearings in order to prevent a backlog of Orders. Court reporters are required by statute as well "... upon demand of either party to any case . . . to write out in typewriting a complete copy of his stenographic notes as taken therein . . ." (Section 9-13-25).

The Senior Court Reporter also maintains the Court docket and serves as secretary to the Judge in addition to her other duties.

# COURT STATISTICS

## COURT DOCKET STATISTICS FOR JACKSON COUNTY YOUTH COURT

TYPES OF HEARINGS	1976/77	1977/78
Neglect/Abuse		
Ex Parte & Immediate	41	35
Adjudications	74	54
Contempts	54	27
Review and Other	157	133
Delinquent/Status Offenses		
Probable Cause (Detention)	192	154
Adjudications (includes joint		
Adjudications & Dispositions)	405	727
Dispositions	182	453
Certifications	12	16
Reviews	82	0
Parole	33	58
Probation/Parole Release	98	90
Miscellaneous*	222	465
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1552</b>	<b>2217</b>
* includes pre-trial motions, fingerprinting, restitution reimbursements, orders to detain, case review motions.		

## DELINQUENCY DETERMINATIONS

	1976/77	1977/78
Found Delinquent for 1st time	125	152
Found Delinquent for 2nd		
or more times	92	77
Found in violation of		
Probation or Parole	15	10
Certified to Circuit Court	6	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>248</b>

## DISPOSITION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES

	1976/77	1977/78
Probation	147	170
Court Supervision (Status)	52	55
Commitments:		
A. Columbia Training School	26	31
B. Oakley Training School	32	24
Suspended Commitments,		
placed on Probation	34	55
Other (Alternative Placement)	82	125
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>460</b>



ALTON ELLIS  
Program Coordinator

## INTAKE - NEGLECT/ABUSE CASES

The Shelter Program Coordinator acts as Intake Officer for neglect/abuse referrals and has many duties which are both directly and indirectly related to the care and welfare of minors. These duties can be categorized into six basic areas:

1. Coordination of the Emergency Shelter Program
2. Intake of abuse/neglect cases
3. Intake of neglect cases based on a failure to support
4. Coordination of the Jackson County Child Abuse Team
5. Coordination with the Welfare Department

All of these duties entail the intake of initial reports, an interview of the child and parents/guardian, preparation of formal petitions, securing a Guardian Ad Litem for a child in an abuse/neglect case, and limited counseling service for parents and/or children in these types of cases.

The Intake Officer is also responsible for receiving and reviewing all initial referrals to the Court. During this period there were 858 referrals. There were 81 children referred for abuse, 635 for neglect and 142 referred for family problems. He is also responsible for follow-up reports concerning children in placement by the Court.

### TYPE OF REFERRALS FOR MINORS HOUSED IN THE EMERGENCY SHELTER FACILITY IN 1977

Abused . . . . .	22
Neglected . . . . .	96
Abandoned . . . . .	11
Runaway . . . . .	35
Displaced . . . . .	0
Other . . . . .	<u>168</u>
TOTAL . . . . .	332



LOIS SALLEE  
Title XX Secretary



LINDA OGLE  
Shelter Volunteer  
Coordinator

ALTON ELLIS

# INTAKE DELINQUENT/STATUS OFFENDER

This Intake Department is established to handle complaints and referrals of delinquency (basically an act which, if committed by an adult, would be a criminal offense), status offense (an act that would not be a crime if committed by an adult, i.e. runaway, incorrigible or uncontrollable) and disruptive family situations. All matters of neglect and abuse are referred to the Program Coordinator of the Emergency Shelter for intake.

According to the Mississippi State Statute, the Court has jurisdiction of both boys and girls until age 18. If a minor in this age bracket violates the law or is considered to be incorrigible, uncontrollable, or runs away from home; the Intake Officer handling these matters interviews the person making the complaint and determines how best to handle the situation.

The Intake Officer has various options available in reaching a decision on how to proceed on a complaint.

1. The matter may be handled unofficially. After an interview with the minor and parents or legal guardian, the Intake Officer may warn and release provided the offense is a first misdemeanor or if after being investigated, it is determined that a case cannot be made. The emphasis here is upon diversion of young people away from the juvenile justice system. If a child or his family can be helped without Youth Court involvement, the chances are better that the child may not come before the Youth Court again. Diversion resources include the parents themselves or local agencies such as Singing River Services, Alpha House Drug Treatment Center, Mental Health Agency, Vocational Rehabilitation, etc. The Court also has diversion programs which include Operation CARE, the Shoplifting Program, or others.
2. The matter can be handled informally. The minor will be assigned to a counselor who will prepare a social summary and treatment plan and will work with the minor and his parents for the time designated. When a matter is handled unofficially, the minor does not appear before the Judge. Unofficial cases include such offenses as first offense shoplifting, minor family problems or similar offenses.
3. The matter may be handled officially. A formal petition is filed, process served and the minor summoned to appear before the Judge for a hearing.



BECKY SHAVER SIMS  
INTAKE OFFICER



LT. WALLACE GILL  
JUVENILE DIVISION HEAD  
PASCAGOULA POLICE DEPT



SGT. RAY BRAZELL  
MOSS POINT  
JUVENILE OFFICER



JOHN WATSON  
PASCAGOULA  
JUVENILE OFFICER



TONY BEST  
PASCAGOULA  
JUVENILE OFFICER



DEL WELTON  
OCEAN SPRING  
JUVENILE OFFICER

# DETENTION

The Detention Center provides twenty-four hour supervised care for juveniles whose behavior necessitates such an environment.

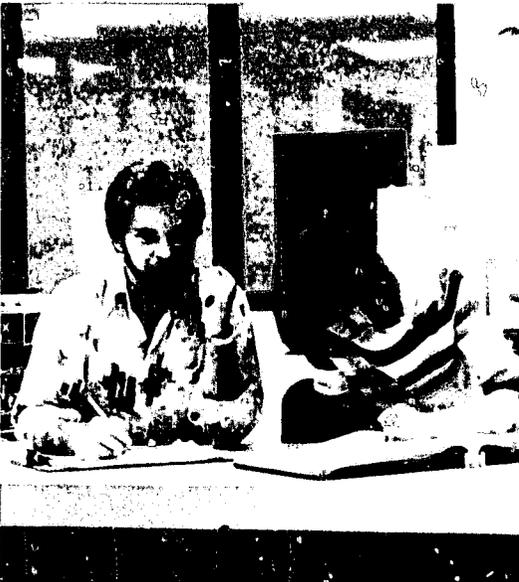
It has a capacity for housing eighteen children and offers a planned schedule of activities designed to provide a learning experience for the children during their incarceration. Daily classes are conducted by a full time school teacher and privileges are earned by the children through an effective individual incentive program. In addition to indoor dayroom activities, daily outdoor recreation is provided, weather permitting. Carefully selected volunteer organizations visit the children and provide inspirational services as well as recreational activities. Medical care is available to the children and they receive three hot meals a day from the Detention kitchen.

The Detention staff is comprised of a Detention Superintendent who is responsible for the organization and administration of all activities in the detention area. The Superintendent is also responsible for nine correctional officers who work alternating shifts to staff the facility around the clock. They are scheduled so that one male and one female officer is on duty at all times.

The Detention Center and its activities have been used as a model program throughout the state.



JACK L. ROBERTS  
Detention Supervisor



CORRECTION OFFICERS



CLAUDIA ALEXANDER  
Detention Teacher



BAMA BRADLEY  
Meal Planner

## EMERGENCY SHELTER

Since the opening of the Emergency Shelter Facility in November, 1975, many hundreds of children have been afforded temporary housing and care in its home-like atmosphere.

It is designed to separate the sleeping quarters for boys and girls, yet they share the day room, game room, library and kitchen. Each of the four bedrooms has a private bath and allows its occupants a private bed and chest of drawers for their personal belongings. The facility was completely furnished inside and outside with donations of furniture, linens, playground equipment, etc. from civic clubs, organizations and individuals. Under normal conditions, the Shelter can house twelve children in the bedrooms and care for three infants in its Nursery.

Since January 1977, the Emergency Shelter Program has continued operating under Title XX Federal Funds administered through the Mississippi State Department of Welfare. Under this funding source, services continue to expand at the request of the local Welfare Department and/or State Welfare Department under Title XX guidelines.

While at the Shelter, children may receive physical and dental examinations, psychological services, three nutritious meals each day and snacks, emergency clothing when needed, transportation to schools and community activities, indoor and outdoor recreation and sitting services for children who may become hospitalized and require supervision while in the hospital.

The staff is comprised of the following: a Program Coordinator who is responsible for the overall supervision of the program including intake and crisis counseling for children and their parents; a Clinical Psychologist who provides psychological services to the children; a Shelter Supervisor who is responsible for the day to day operation of the facility and who supervises the Attendants who are responsible for the physical care of the children; a Secretary who handles all of the clerical and bookkeeping necessities of the facility; a Driver Aide-Recreation Coordinator who provides transportation and recreation for the children; and a Volunteer Coordinator who recruits, trains and supervises the many volunteers who offer miscellaneous services and opportunities to the children.

The operation and accomplishments of the Shelter Program have been so successful that it has been observed as a model program by other courts and agencies throughout the state.



EMERGENCY SHELTER



SHELTER ATTENDANTS



PHYLLIS JACKSON  
Shelter Supervisor



IDA REEVES  
Recreation-Transportation Director

## PROBATION AND PAROLE SERVICES

Because the law does not set down specific punishments for specific offenses in Youth Court, and because minors are not punished, they are rehabilitated to the extent of their abilities. The Youth Court Counselor plays a major role in the Juvenile Justice System by investigating, assembling, reporting, recommending, supervising and counseling the minors involved.

Jackson County's Youth Court is fortunate to have a full time, qualified professional staff to deal with the minors coming before the court who require probation and parole services.

Eight counselors work directly with assigned cases attempting to curb delinquency, provide direction and purpose, and to investigate fully each child's own particular circumstances so that whatever areas of his life are contributing to his delinquency behavior may be adjusted or eliminated in order to aid his rehabilitation.

A full time clerical position is assigned to this area of the Court and a Volunteer Coordinator is on staff who recruits, trains and supervises individual volunteers and organizations who provide various services to both the counselor, the child and his family.

The Mississippi Department of Youth Services funds five of the counselors, the Volunteer Coordinator and the clerical position. One counselor is funded by the Jackson County Board of Supervisors and the remaining two counselors are funded by the CETA program.

A counselor is assigned to a child as soon as the Intake Officer interviews the child and the parents and assesses the situation. Prior to the dispositional hearing, a home investigation is made to attempt to determine certain information about the child's home situation. A visit to the child's school is made to determine his status scholastically, his record of attendance and his overall attitude and behavior at school. From these investigations, a social history is compiled reflecting whether the child's needs are social or emotional and recommending treatment plans for the child. The social history is presented to the Judge at the dispositional hearing by the counselor in the presence of all parties involved.

After the formalities of the court hearings and the decision of the Judge concerning probation and parole, the counselor begins the real task of assisting the child in completing his probation and parole period successfully.

The counselor meets with the child on a scheduled basis often including the parents. Frequently, referrals to other agencies for additional group counseling services are made by the counselors.

A series of Probation Programs are conducted at the court and each counselor is responsible for coordinating one of the program units which consists of four meetings, each being approximately one and one-half hours long. Program topics include Career Education, Sex Education and Family Planning, Recreation, Communication and Delinquency. The counselor requires the child to complete as many of the programs as he feels would be advantageous to the child.

Assisting in these and other programs of the court are community leaders, attorneys, teachers, nurses, police officers and interns from various college campuses around the state.

When the child's case involves restitution, the Counselor assists the child and his family in arranging payment as ordered by the Court as part of the child's overall rehabilitation.



YOUTH COURT COUNSELORS



Lou Wade      Becky Shaver Sims      Dr. Anthony Rivera

## VOLUNTEER

The Volunteer is as old as society, itself. The recent focus on juvenile courts by volunteers is a reflection of governmental authority beginning to share responsibility with the community after relaxing its traditional defensiveness and apprehension concerning "outsiders" over whom the Court has no control. The advantages of extended service and wider knowledge of the Court's functions, problems, and needs have out-weighed the "risks" involved. Consequently, the number of volunteer programs in juvenile courts has grown in America from 3 or 4 in 1961 to encompass more than 750,000 volunteers who serve throughout the entire spectrum of Criminal Justice System.

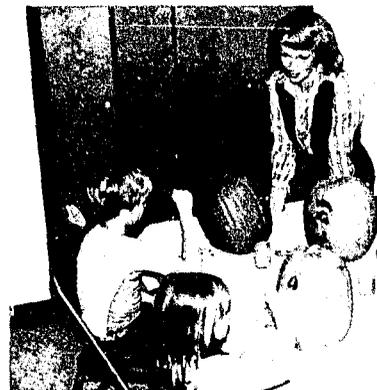
Volunteers are used to provide programs in Detention on a daily basis, assist with the supervision and recreation of minors in the Emergency Shelter, provide one-to-one friendship to minors on Probation and/or Parole, and assist in many other Court project such as Operation C.A.R.E. (Counseling, Avocation, Recreation, Education). Student groups working under supervision of staff provide many needed services. Civic organizations, clubs, and church groups have spent many hours in direct service to youngsters in the Court and have also provided articles of clothing and materials for many of them. Businesses and individuals have made miscellaneous donations and have contributed in many ways toward the children's enjoyment of special holidays.

The Child Abuse Team (C.A.T.) is comprised of volunteer members of the various disciplines within our County including the medical profession, social services agencies, Parent's Anonymous, the legal profession, the journalism field, the Mental Health Agency and the Youth Court Staff. The team members meet on a regular basis to discuss new cases and review present cases. In addition, they are subject to call at any time for meetings of an emergency nature. They each offer their well-formed opinions which are presented to the Court as recommendations for the handling of those matters.

The Children in Placement (CIP) is a part of a national program of the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges Association. The primary purpose is to provide follow-up reports on all children removed from their homes and placed in foster homes or other placements in order to insure that such placement continues to be in the best interest of the child.



KATHY WILLIAMS    CATHERINE AVANT, LINDA OGLE  
Secretary            Volunteer Coordinators



## SERVICES

The purpose of the Curfew Callers is to make probationers aware that curfew times are enforced by the Court and that frequent checks by the Court will be made. Violators of curfews are reported to the child's Youth Court Counselor for further action.

Another important group is the Citizens Advisory Committee (C.A.C.). This committee of concerned citizens has donated many hours of work during this year. The Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet was held to honor all Court volunteers sponsored by the C.A.C. in October, 1978. Judge Carl Guernsey of Hinds County Youth Court was the guest speaker. Awards were presented to the outstanding volunteers in the following categories.

1. Volunteer of the Year
2. Outstanding Volunteer in Shelter
3. Outstanding Volunteer in Detention—Group and Individual
4. Outstanding Volunteer in Probation
5. Outstanding Organization of the Year
6. Outstanding Volunteer in Court Services
7. Outstanding Guardian Ad Litem
8. Outstanding Volunteer—Operation C.A.R.E.
9. Volunteer Home
10. Outstanding Volunteer—Children in Placement
11. Outstanding Leadership—Chairman of Citizens Advisory Committee

Volunteer Coordinator, Catherine Avant, is responsible for the recruiting, training and supervision of individuals and organizations as volunteers who provide services to children in Detention and/or Probation and Parole. A new and additional Volunteer Coordinator position is filled by Linda Ogle who is responsible for the recruitment and training of volunteers for the Emergency Shelter, who provide miscellaneous services to the Youths in our care.

Under the capable leadership of these Volunteer Coordinators, expansion of the volunteer programs will continue.



# OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS 1977-1978

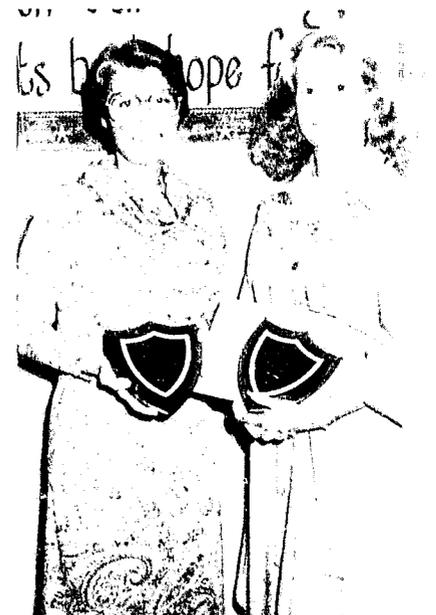
According to Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick: "The greatest urge in the world is to feel needed."

This is what the Volunteer Program is all about — the fact that there are people who need help and there are those who are able to give it.

These "Outstanding Volunteers" of the Youth Court personify the best Jackson County has to offer. They give more than is required--of their talents, their time, their love--themselves to a child needing that little extra caring that these dedicated volunteers can give.



JUDGE EMILY BAKER  
SHIRLEY GIAFAGLIONE  
Outstanding Volunteer  
of the Year



PAT GARRISON, Sponsor  
Outstanding Volunteer Organization  
The Bethel Team  
MITZI ROBERTS  
Outstanding Volunteer  
in Shelter



AGNES BRYAN  
Outstanding Volunteer  
Children In Placement  
MELVIN WELLS  
Outstanding Volunteer  
in Detention, Individual



JOHN SIMS  
Outstanding Guardian  
Ad Litem  
ANNE and SNUFFY SMITH  
Outstanding Volunteer Home

TERRY and PAT SHACKELFORD  
Outstanding Volunteer  
in Court Services

FRAN WILLIAMS  
Outstanding Volunteer  
Operation C.A.R.E.  
JOE WHITE  
Outstanding Leadership  
Chairman, Citizens  
Advisory Committee

(Pictures Not Available)



KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL  
Outstanding Volunteer  
in Detention—Group  
LINDA OGLE  
Shelter Volunteer  
Coordinator  
CHARLIE MYLES  
Outstanding Volunteer  
in Probation



LOU WADE  
Counselors Supervisor

## THE OUTREACH COUNSELOR



JAMES TYLER  
Outreach Counselor

The Outreach Counselor for the Jackson County Youth Court is an arm of the Court in our community. This program will attempt to rehabilitate juvenile offenders by encouraging the use of diversionary resources that are not a part of the Juvenile Justice System. It would employ resources through organizations such as schools, community agencies, special interest groups, and businesses and industries. This is intended to develop positive peer relationships.

Another responsibility of the Outreach Counselor is coordinating and developing a systematic approach to prevention and treatment of delinquency within the community for the minors involved with the Youth Court. The functions include: increasing the visibility of the Court functions to the community, assist in Crises Intervention situations referred by law enforcement and/or school systems, as well as providing problem counseling to all participants, both individual and in groups. Special efforts will be made to involve parents and youths in counseling sessions.

This program proposes to divert juveniles out of the Justice System and to reduce the rate of repeat offenders in the Youth Court by establishing a summer camping program, assisting probationers in obtaining scholarships to school within the Outward Bound System, organizing canoeing trips, educational outings, arranging trips to the State Penitentiary at Parchman for hard core delinquents.

### ST. MARTIN

Operation was implemented in this area in early 1976, utilizing two college students from William Carey College under the University "Year of Action" Program and several dedicated volunteers. The program opened in the Lion's Club Building near the junior and senior high school. Through Operation CARE, many youth in that area have received counseling services, psychological evaluations, tutorial services, medical examinations and other referral services. The continued support of the Lion's Club is greatly appreciated.

### OCEAN SPRINGS

Through the assistance of volunteers from Saint John's Episcopal Church, Operation CARE became operational in that city in early 1977. Many young people from that area have received individual and group counseling, tutorial assistance and other referral services. The program is located in the Youth House and the support of the volunteers and parishioners of Saint John's Episcopal Church is greatly appreciated.

### PASCAGOULA

Operation CARE became a reality in Pascagoula in early 1977. The First Methodist Church graciously made available space in the Youth House for the program and members of the church congregation have served as volunteers. Located near the high school and annex facilities, the house is a prime location for the many young people desiring the services offered. These services include individual counseling, referral services, tutorial counseling and other needed services.

### MOSS POINT

Operation C.A.R.E. was established in Moss Point in February, 1978. Its purpose has been to work with youngsters involved with the court to help them help themselves toward self improvement. Rap sessions are held whereby each group member is urged to take part. For Recreation the group takes field trips and plays scrimmage basketball. The group which meets every week at Moss Point High School has thus far shown itself to be a productive tool in not only working with the youth but has created an atmosphere wherein the goals of good citizenship and fair play have fostered a good feeling among those involved.

### GAUTIER

Gautier Operation C.A.R.E. began meeting in November in the Singing River Electric Power Association building on Highway 90. Youths from the Gautier area are referred from Intake as a diversionary measure and other youths who are on probation and or parole attend for group therapy sessions.



1977-78 OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS



JUDGE EMILY BAKER  
Award For Outstanding Legislation  
for 1978

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Shortly after the establishment of the Jackson County Youth Court it became apparent that there were areas in the lives of those minors involved in the court that were lacking in proper and concrete information. In an attempt to fulfill these needs the court established a series of programs held once a week and covering such topics as Vandalism, Career Education, Running Away, Sex Education, Drug and Alcohol Use and Abuse, Recreation, Communication, Personal Hygiene, Family Planning, After Youth Court, What? and Police and Society.

These programs were initially held once a week for an hour. This past year has seen a unification of all of these programs into UNITS. A Program Unit consists of a month of programs on one topic. Several of the past program topics have been combined and it is felt that by having the youths in attendance for four meetings instead of one that more can be accomplished. The present programs meet on Monday Night and consist of five Units. These Units are:

- Unit I--Career Education
- Unit II--Sex Education and Family Planning
- Unit III--Recreation
- Unit IV--Delinquency
- Unit V--Communication

Various members of the community are called upon and give freely of their time and talents to assist in presenting these programs.

As part of the educational programs of the court the shoplifting programs is presented once a month. This program consists of a movie on shoplifting, information on laws pertaining to shoplifting, and a speaker from one of the department stores in town. Minors are assigned to this program who have been referred to the court as first offender shoplifters.

The youths that are attending the Program Units of the court are assigned by their counselor to attend the Units that the youth and the counselor feel will benefit that particular child.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES



**SOCIAL WORKERS**  
Jackson County Welfare Dept.

### JACKSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

All reports of possible abuse or neglect of children are referred to the Jackson County Welfare Department for investigation. The social worker, working with the law enforcement officers, schools, medical personnel, other agencies, the community, and the child abuse team, gathers the necessary information for the Court hearings. The emphasis is on proving or disproving the charges and being prepared to offer suitable recommendations for the child and the family.

The Welfare Department is charged also with the continuing responsibility to work with the family offering counseling, homemaker services, referral to services needed by the family. The worker also is charged with the responsibility of continuing reports to the Court on the family. Should a child need placement outside of

his home, the Social Worker looks first into homes of suitable relatives. If a relative placement is not feasible, the Agency seeks appropriate foster care or group care resources for the child.

The Social Worker is responsible for the child's care in such a placement and tries to make certain that his medical, educational, physical, and emotional needs are met. The worker must have a continuing working relationship with the family to encourage them in making necessary improvement, changes, and plans for the child's return home. The worker must also keep the Court informed as well as prepare for following hearings.

The State Department of Public Welfare through Title XX provides over 70% of the funds to operate the Emergency Shelter program here in Jackson County. The local office determines eligibility for the service.

### SINGING RIVER SERVICES

Singing River Services, our local mental health center, supplies in-depth counseling for all age groups. Children as well as parents are referred here for treatment as part of the rehabilitation process of the Court. Systematic Training for Effective Parenting is taught at varying hours of the day, so that all who are in need of it may be able to avail themselves of it.

Alcohol and Drug information groups each consist of a series of four meetings at which youths and parents are made aware of the effects that alcohol and drugs can have on a person's personality, his life functions, his future, and his family relationships. Alcohol counseling services are provided to help the adult overcome all alcohol problems. This center also provides group experience and counseling to youth who have difficulty in their interpersonal relationships.

### CHILD ADVOCACY OFFICER, KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE

Capt. Taylor Anthony, Child Advocacy Officer at Keesler Air Force Base is one of the many experts relied upon by the Jackson County Youth Court. Capt. Anthony deals with the child abuse/neglect cases which come to the attention of the Jackson County Youth Court dealing directly with military families. The major role filled by Capt. Anthony is to provide both individual and group treatment to families where actual or potential abuse/neglect is found. The Court finds that the military families relate very well to a treatment person who is aware of the life style and problems of the military family. The Court is fortunate to have such a valuable resource in the community.

### JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Jackson County Health Department holds weekly clinics on family planning and provides tests for pregnancy along with mid wife program. This clinic also supplies birth control pills and information and testing for venereal diseases. All youths who go to training schools get a health examination from this agency prior to their commitment.

### THE JACKSON COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Jackson County Baptist Association sponsors different programs for the youth of this area. As these programs are initiated, the Court is made aware of them. The most recent program was a pilot program on "Marriage and Family Planning". Since a great number of the young people involved in Youth Court are of marriageable age, this program was one which was of great value in dispensing information regarding family planning, sexual aspects of marriage, how to manage financial matters, and care of new born children. Youths who were not able to get information of this sort from their parents or teachers found this film to be invaluable.

### ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS AND RELATED PROGRAMS

Alcoholic Anonymous serves the Court by being available for referrals of alcoholics and their families. It helps the alcoholic and his family to understand the alcoholic's behavior and is a place where they can get encouragement and advice on how to deal with everyday situations of the alcoholic. When the other family members are able to understand the alcoholic better, the entire home situation is less stressful for the children involved and not as likely to produce runaways or delinquent behavior on the part of the child.

### THE NEW ALPHA HOUSE

The New Alpha House, a residential drug treatment center, has been utilized by the Court as part of the treatment of youths who are heavy drug users. The minor must volunteer to go into this program and in some instances the final disposition of a case will be continued until the minor has had time to complete the course at the drug center. Since it is a fact that as long as the drug dependency exists, the youthful offender will continue to violate the law in order to maintain his supply of drugs, this program is very useful in reducing the delinquency recidivism rate.

### PARENTS ANONYMOUS

Parents Anonymous is a national organization designed to counsel abusive and potentially abusive parents. It is sponsored locally by the Pas-Point Junior Auxilliary.

This organization is used by the Court as a referral source and is one method of ventilation and self-identification for parents who are found to be abusive. This non-profit organization does not give reports to the Court but provides a self-help service to parents.

### PROMISE INCORPORATED

Promise, Incorporated is supplying the area with a home for very needy girls whose home life is insufficient to support their physical and psychological needs. These children are not necessarily delinquent, but need a structured environment in which they can learn to obey rules and interact with peers and adults in a warm, loving relationship. Many children are referred to this home by the Court as an alternative placement.

### THE JACKSON COUNTY BOY'S CLUB

The Jackson County Boy's Club has activities which involve boys in leisure time and recreational development. Instead of "running the streets" with time on their hands, they can pursue a constructive activity with their peer group and adult guidance. Often boys are required to attend these programs as part of their probation. The tutoring program, wherein boys are assisted in improving their reading and mathematical skills, has also been utilized by the Court for boys who have had very unsuccessful school experiences.

## CLERICAL



LOIS SALLEE, SANDRA STUCH, KATHY WILLIAMS, VELVA WHITE



EVE RILEY  
File Clerk

NANCY EAST  
Deputy Clerk



MYRNA WINBORN  
Receptionist



VELVA WHITE  
Supervisor



ELEANOR HIGHTOWER  
Bookkeeper

Mildred Adkisson (Mrs. Lawrence), Pascagoula, MS  
Agnes Bryan (Mrs. John), Pascagoula, MS  
James Carroll, Ocean Springs, MS  
Jane Cook, Ocean Springs, MS  
Darrell Crawford, Pascagoula, MS  
W. E. (Bill) Evans, Gautier, MS  
Louis Fortenberry, Pascagoula, MS  
Shirley Giafiglione (Mrs.) Ocean Springs, MS  
Walter Greene, Gautier, MS  
Andy Hammond, (Quaker Oats), Pascagoula, MS  
Robert Hartung, Pascagoula, MS  
Helen Hensley, Pascagoula, MS  
Gary Holland, Pascagoula, MS  
Hoover, Peggy (Mrs.), Pascagoula, MS, Vice Chairperson  
Aaron Jones, Gautier, MS

CITIZENS  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
MEMBERSHIP

Oscar Jordan, Ocean Springs, MS  
Kathy Keene, Pascagoula, MS  
Rev. Ralph Kelly, Ocean Springs, MS  
Dr. Charles Keith, Gautier, MS  
Warren Langworth, Pascagoula, MS  
Fred Lemon, Ocean Springs, MS  
Aneice Liddell, Moss Point, MS  
Jerry Little, Big Point, MS  
Trudy Mills (Mrs. Gerald J.), Gautier, MS, Treasurer  
Ann Moore, Pascagoula, MS  
Dorothy Myles (Mrs.), Moss Point, MS

Mitchell Parker, Ocean Springs, MS  
Marty Perkins (Mrs.), Moss Point, MS  
Rev. Bobby Perry, Moss Point, MS  
Rev. Henderson Rasberry, Wade, MS  
Tom Reynolds, Ocean Springs, MS  
Francis Scott, Moss Point, MS  
Carolyn Seyler (Mrs.), Moss Point, MS  
Anne Smith (Mrs.), Pascagoula, MS, Secretary  
J. R. Spillers, Moss Point, MS  
Rev. Donna Spence, Pascagoula, MS  
Frank Stratakos, Ocean Springs, MS  
Don Tanner (Corning Glass), Pascagoula, MS  
Doug Tanner, Pascagoula, MS

Carroll Turner, Pascagoula, MS  
Steve Vlahos, Pascagoula, MS  
James Voivedich, Ocean Springs, MS  
Alton Waltman, Ocean Springs, MS  
Charlie Watts, Moss Point, MS  
Joe White, Pascagoula, MS, Chairman  
Johnette Wilkerson, Pascagoula, MS  
W. M. Williams, Moss Point, MS  
Mary Alfred (Mrs.), Moss Point, MS

Catherine Avant, Pascagoula, MS, MS JCYC Volunteer Coordinator  
Linda Ogle, Gautier, MS, Shelter Volunteer Coordinator  
John Sims, Pascagoula, MS

JOE Q. WHITE  
Chairman, 1977-78



# STATISTICS — DETENTION FACILITY

AGE, RACE AND SEX OF MINORS  
ADMITTED TO DETENTION IN 10/1/77 to 9/30/78

AGE	WHITE		BLACK		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
10	6	0	8	1	15
11	3	5	7	0	15
12	17	7	27	6	57
13	39	37	29	13	118
14	71	45	50	17	183
15	138	79	70	20	307
16	147	59	61	15	282
17	127	39	32	9	207
18	11	3	2	4	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1204</b>

RESIDENCE OF MINORS  
ADMITTED TO DETENTION IN 10/1/77 to 9/30/78

RESIDENCE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Pascagoula	112	232	344
Moss Point	72	232	304
Ocean Springs	42	96	138
Jackson County	90	205	295
Other Counties	29	33	62
Other States	25	36	61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>1204</b>

TYPES OF REFERRALS RESULTING IN MINORS  
ADMITTED TO DETENTION  
10-1-77 to 10-30-78

REFERRALS	WHITE		BLACK		TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Acts of Mischief/ Vandalism	0	0	7	1	8
Arson	1	0	0	0	1
Auto Theft	13	4	26	0	43
Burglary & Larceny	109	9	100	1	219
Carry concealed weapon	3	0	9	1	13
Contempt of Court	7	5	22	3	37
Drug Law Violations	18	13	39	3	73
Injury to Persons - Assault	12	9	17	3	41
Involuntary Manslaughter	1	0	1	0	2
Liquor Violation - Status	20	3	13	0	36
Robbery	6	0	52	2	60
Runaway	71	94	34	50	249
Sex Offenses	3	1	4	4	12
Shoplifting	16	14	50	36	116
Uncontrollable/ Incorrigible	38	26	38	39	141
Violation Probation/ Parole	19	3	29	28	79
Other	32	4	28	10	74
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1204</b>

# STATISTICS — SHELTER FACILITY

## AGE, RACE AND SEX OF MINORS HOUSED IN THE EMERGENCY SHELTER FACILITY IN 10/1/77 to 9/30/78

AGE	WHITE		BLACK		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
under 1	8	9	2	2	21
1	4	3	2	1	10
2	3	3	3	3	12
3	2	2	4	1	9
4	0	4	0	5	9
5	3	5	2	5	15
6	6	2	3	3	14
7	3	5	0	0	8
8	5	5	5	3	18
9	3	2	1	2	8
10	6	1	5	1	13
11	2	5	8	2	17
12	12	6	5	2	25
13	13	3	2	0	18
14	11	22	5	4	42
15	16	11	4	1	32
16	24	13	3	1	41
17	12	8	0	0	20
TOTAL	133	109	54	36	332

## RESIDENCE OF MINORS HOUSED IN THE EMERGENCY SHELTER FACILITY IN 10/1/77 to 9/30/78

AREA OF RESIDENCE	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
Pascagoula	44	46	90
Moss Point	40	25	65
Ocean Springs	34	24	58
Jackson County	45	37	82
Other Counties	13	9	22
Other States	11	4	15
TOTAL	187	145	332

REPORT OF RESTITUTION ORDERED BY THE COURT  
AS PART OF REHABILITATION OF MINOR  
DURING 10/1/77 - 9/30/78

Amount order officially .....	\$22,290.75
Amount agreed on informally .....	1,265.60
Number of Juveniles involved in official cases ...	460

STATISTICS OF MINORS IN RESTITUTION PROGRAM

AGE	B/M	W/M	B/F	W/F	TOTALS
10	8				9
11	7		1	5	12
12	7		6	7	20
13	9	9	7	7	32
14	20	17	13	5	55
15	28	28	27	19	102
16	47	37	25	14	123
17	22	27	19	9	77
18	12	11	4	3	30
<b>Totals</b>	160	129	102	69	460

SUPPORT

AND

RESTITUTION

TYPE OF OFFENSES  
FOR WHICH RESTITUTION ORDERED

Burglary and Grand Larceny .....	36
Vandalism .....	28
Forgery .....	0
Assault and Battery .....	41
Auto Theft .....	43
Grand Larceny .....	47
Burglary .....	67
Robbery .....	30
Breaking and Entering .....	73
Theft .....	13
Petty Larceny .....	33
Malicious Mischief .....	8
Arson .....	1
	420

YOUTH COURT INTAKE STATISTICS FISCAL YEAR 1977-1978

I. STATUS OFFENSE (non-criminal offense - disruptive family situations)									
					338				
					147				
					<u>21</u>				
				Sub-Total	506				
II. CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS									
					22				
					48				
					46				
					13				
					<u>11</u>				
				Sub-Total	139				
III. CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY									
					1				
					43				
					136				
					108				
					6				
					1				
					5				
					15				
					88				
					53				
					14				
					2				
					135				
					21				
					<u>76</u>				
				Sub-Total	704				
IV. OTHER									
					31				
					2				
					96				
					1				
					28				
					15				
					17				
					21				
					<u>14</u>				
				Sub-Total	225				
TOTAL DELINQUENCY AND STATUS REFERRALS:					1,574				
TALLEY OF AGE, SEX AND RACE									
Status	W/M	B/M	W/F	B/F	Delinquency	W/M	B/M	W/F	B/F
	172	63	220	51		478	197	115	36

# EXPENDITURES

EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR  
1977 - 1978  
JACKSON COUNTY YOUTH COURT

Budget of Jackson County Youth Court as approved by the Board of Supervisors for the fiscal year 1977-78, limited to one mill.

a. Tax Collections .....	\$205,412.96
b. Prior Taxes .....	5,031.30
c. Homestead Exemption Taxes .....	4,845.52
d. Non-Revenue Receipts .....	1,164.30
	\$216,454.08

Expenditures of the Jackson County Youth Court for fiscal year 1977-78 .....

\$450,685.89

Revenue from other Sources:

a. State Department of Public Welfare, Tital XX .....	\$153,066.72
b. Criminal Justice Planning Division (LEAA) .....	44,244.69
	\$197,311.41

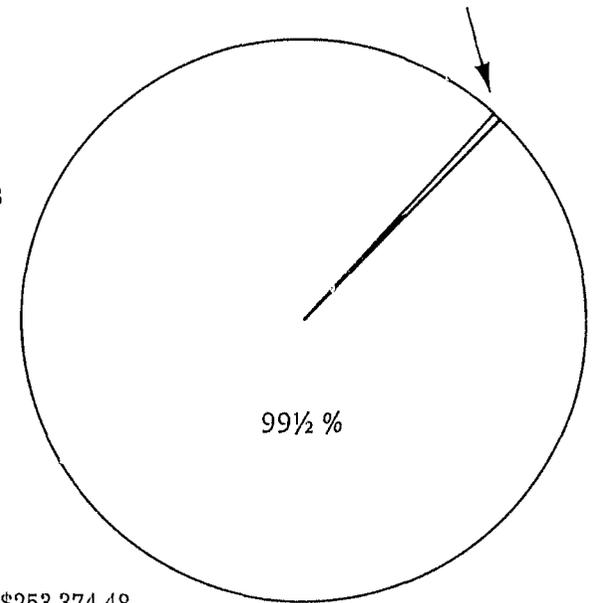
Total County funds required for operation of Youth Court .....

\$253,374.48

The total expenditures for Jackson County were \$63,249,489.50 The expenditures for the Youth Court represent less than one-half of one per cent of the total county expenditures.

Youth Court Expenditures  
\$253,374.48  
( $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1%)

\$216,454.08



TOTAL 1977-78 Jackson  
County Expenditures:  
\$63,249,489.50

**END**