

41st Annual InterCourt Conference



Session 3A:
Sex Offender
Diversion and
Treatment Programs

March 13, 2025
3:15 p.m.—4:45 p.m.

Hilton Columbus at
Easton Town Center
Columbus, OH

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

TIM BAUERSCHMIDT received his Bachelors of Arts in Psychology in 1994 from the University of Toledo. He began working with Lucas County Juvenile Court in 1995, developing an understanding of problematic sexual behavior through his work as a residential specialist at the court's Youth Treatment Center. In 1997, Tim moved to the court's probation department and subsequently began working with the sex offender treatment program in addition to his job as a Probation Officer. 2008 Lucas County Juvenile Court began a focused effort to redefine Sexual Behavior Treatment and Tim was asked to be a part of that redevelopment in addition to being a specialized Sexual Behavior Treatment Probation Officer. In 2021, Tim was asked by the court to assume the role of Sexual Behavior Treatment Program Manager following the retirement of then manager William Weis. Tim presently continues in his role with the court as the Juvenile Sexual Behavior Treatment Program Manager, Supervisor, Educator, Liaison, Consultant and Researcher.

LEANN CLARK is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor with supervisory endorsement in the State of Ohio. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice from Ohio Northern University. She earned her Master of Arts in Counseling with a specialization in forensic psychology from Adler University in Chicago, Illinois. Ms. Clark is a Certified Sex Offender Treatment Specialist and Certified Juvenile Sex Offender Counselor. Ms. Clark's career began in the juvenile justice system working with youth and providing court ordered assessments and treatment. Ms. Clark serves as the Chair of the Department of Youth Services Juvenile Problematic Sexual Behavior Treatment Program Certification Advisory Board. Ms. Clark developed and currently supervises The Sexually Oriented Diversion Approach (SODA) Program in Montgomery County..

Sex Offender Diversion and Treatment Programs

Tim Bauerschmidt

*Sexual Behavior Treatment Program Manager
Lucas County Juvenile Court*

LeAnn Clark

*SODA/10 & Under Supervisor
Montgomery County Juvenile Court Intervention
Center*



Vision Statement for the Juvenile Sexual Behavior Treatment Program

*The Lucas County Juvenile Court Sexual Behavior Treatment Program is committed to **reducing** the incidence of problematic sexual behavior by developing support and understanding that promotes community education and safety, victim restoration, and treatment for youth and families.*

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

The Big Question! Does it Work?

In 2014 we knew that we were achieving a considerable level of success, but it was also recognized that without empirical validation we couldn't move forward with programmatic improvements.

The Court contracted with University of Cincinnati researcher Dr. Lori Brusman-Lovins to conduct an outcome evaluation study

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The Outcome Evaluation

“The current study found that Lucas County was not only able to keep youth in the community for programming (94% in the contemporary sample), but successfully complete the majority of these youth (83.5%). This finding underscores Lucas County’s commitment to serving youth in the community, along with their success at effectively managing this population while maintaining community safety.”

Lori Brusman-Lovins, Ph.D. (2014) *An Outcome Evaluation of the Management of Juvenile Sex Offenders in Lucas County Ohio.*

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

Who are our youth and What does the program look like?

We focus on community-based treatment if possible

Risk * Need * Responsivity

The prosecutor reviews all no-touch cases such as Pandering or Illegal Use of a Minor in Nudity, and;

- Most of these cases are dismissed 29(F)2(C) with some education.
- None of these cases have recidivated to date.

The youth we work with are primarily **low self-worth** youth. The other cases included: **learned behavior, low sexual knowledge, gender questioning, developmental disabilities, vengeful youth, power and control youth.**

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Lucas County Current Programs and Protocols

Follow all cases involving sexual behavior

Beginning with the development of a plan for safety referred to as safeguards

What supervision may need to look like

What treatment will likely look like

(Adjudication)

Assessment and Recommendations to the court including

Assessment

Comprehensive

Risk- based, Needs-driven

By trained/skilled assessors

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

PYJ



Work * Education * Relationships * Community
* Health * Creativity

Attaching/Belonging

- Becoming an active member of pro-social group(s)
- Developing and enjoying the sense of belonging
- Placing a high value on service to others and being part of a larger community

Learning/Doing

- Developing new skills and competencies
- Actively using new skills
- Taking on new roles and responsibilities
- Developing self-efficacy and personal confidence

Butts, Jeffrey A., Gordon Bazemore, & Aundra Saa Meroe (2010). Positive Youth Justice--Framing Justice Interventions Using the Concepts of Positive Youth Development. Washington, DC: Coalition for Juvenile Justice.

Sexual Behavior Assessment

Lucas County Juvenile Court
JUVENILE SEXUAL OFFENDER TREATMENT ASSESSMENT,
SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

NAME: _____ Date: _____
D.O.B: _____ ID#: _____
INTERVIEWER: Tim Bauerschmidt

The Reader's attention is directed toward the following material for corroboration and supportive information.

| | | |
|--|--|------------|
| Toledo Police Report | 012345-20 | 02/28/2020 |
| Lucas County | | |
| Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division | | |
| Complaint | #20123456.01 | 10/07/2020 |
| Magistrate/Judge's Order | # 20123456.01 | 02/01/2021 |
| Sex Offender Assessment | Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment Protocol – II | 03/12/2021 |



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I. Offense specific information:

II. Background Information, Nature, Length, and Progression of Offense Behavior:

III. History of Personal Victimization:

IV. Parent Interview:

V. Areas of Concern:

VI. Areas of strength:



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Little Johnny was scored with The Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment Protocol - II (J-SOAP - II) on May 23, 2023. Little Johnny's score on The Overall J-SOAP-II score was 23 out of a possible 56 (41%). The J-SOAP-II is divided into two main categories, which are Static and Dynamic scores. The total J-SOAP-II score is a total of these two categories. Each of these main scores is subdivided into two additional categories.

The first main category, The Static Score, is understood to represent history, or the past factors in Little Johnny's life that will not change. These include items such as prior offenses, victimization history, school behavior, and diagnosed conduct disorder. Little Johnny's overall static score was calculated to be 10 out of a possible 32 (31%). The two sub-categories used to calculate this were; the Sexual Drive/Preoccupation Scale and Impulsive-Antisocial Behavior Scale. Little Johnny scored 5 out of a possible 16 (31%) on the Sexual Drive/Preoccupation Scale. This is interpreted to reflect Little Johnny's focus on sexual activity or preoccupation with satisfying sexual desires or needs. He scored 5 out of a possible 16 (31%) on the Impulsive-Antisocial Behavior Scale. This is believed to reflect internal self-control.

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The second of the two main score categories the Dynamic Scale is understood to represent the factors in Little Johnny's life that are changeable. These include peer relationships, cognitive distortions, empathy, and management of sexual urges. The overall Dynamic score for Little Johnny was 13 out of a possible 24 (54%). This score is the sum of two sub-scales: The intervention scale and the community stability scale. The first of the two scales is the Intervention Scale where he scored 7 out of a possible 14 (50%). This scale is interpreted to assess possible treatment intervention as it relates to attitudes, behaviors, and empathy in both sexual and non-sexual offending. The second sub-category is The Community Stability Scale. Little Johnny scored 6 out of a possible 10 (60%). This scale reflects the socially acceptable management of sexual urges and desires, and the stability of the home, school, and support systems

Dr. Prentky, Ph.D., and Dr. Righthand, Ph.D

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Assessment Tools

- Sex Behavior Assessment (SBT)
- Ohio Youth Assessment System – (OYAS– Disposition Tool)
- Juvenile Sexual Offender Assessment Protocol–II (J–SOAP–II)
- Dr. Jamie Yoder’s Quality of Life Survey (QoL)
- Global Appraisal of Individual Needs * Short Screener (GAIN–SS)
- The Lucas County Juvenile Court Public Health Screener (PHS)
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression Questionnaire (SOGIE)
- Therapist impressions from a mental health Diagnostic Assessment (DA)
- Classification Tool for Youth with Problematic Sexual Behaviors (CTYPSB)

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Lucas County Current Programs and Protocols

Treatment includes

Balanced and Restorative Justice that is Comprehensive, Community–Based Treatment

- Specialized/Dedicated Staff
 - Specialized Probation
- Training and Staff Development
- Dedicated Magistrate and Docket
 - Monthly (+) reviews for each case
- Collaboration and Partnerships with community partners

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

Lucas County's Current Program (con't)

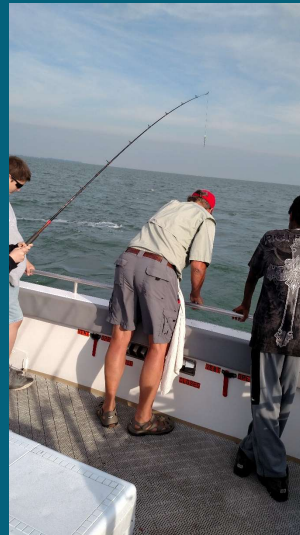
- Assessment of youth and family needs
- Supervision and Management
- JSBT Team Approach
 - Weekly staffing with treatment providers
 - Focus on At-Risk behaviors
 - Key decision-making point for system resources and effectiveness
 - Co-facilitated groups
- Education
- Program Evaluation
- Increased Intensity
- Family Involvement



JSBT Program 2/20/2025

Lucas County's Current Program (con't)

- Treatment components
 - Victim Impact
 - Competency Development
 - Mental Health Treatment for youth and families
 - Healthy Relationship development
 - Strength Based practices
 - Skill building
 - A Positive Youth Justice Framework
 - A 6-module curriculum



JSBT Program 2/20/2025

CURRICULUM CONTENTS

Module 1: **Prosocial Skill Building**

- Group Formation/ group rules and expectations
- Identify social support network and clarify roles
- Increase self-esteem
- Implement effective communication strategies
- Accept responsibility
- Improve decision-making skills
- Understand Stages of Change (Pre-contemplation, Contemplation, Planning, Action and Maintenance)
- Introduction of Cognitive-Behavior Concepts: thoughts, feelings, and behaviors; thinking errors



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Module 2: **Sex Education and Sexual Health**

- Provide psychoeducation regarding sex and sexuality
- Identify how views/values (gender roles) impact relationships
- Understand the role of sexual arousal/cope with sexual feelings
- Identify healthy relationships
- Identify a history of nonsexual delinquent behaviors and anger management
- Introduction of the pattern and cycle of abuse
- Identify implications of substance abuse/management of addictive qualities



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Module 3: Autobiography and Trauma History

- Improve understanding of self and expression of feelings
- Document family and social history
- Identification and remediation of family issues
- Resolution of victimization in the history of the offender
- Identification of the pattern and cycle of abuse
- Disclosure of the committing offense
- Understanding the consequences of offending to self, victim, and community



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Module 4: Offensive Cycle

- Identification of thinking errors and cognitive distortions that trigger offending behaviors
- Identification of pattern and cycle of abuse
- Understanding the cycle and applying it to self
- Identification and interruption of cycle
- Management of addictive qualities
- Identify healthy touching
- Development of internal mastery and control



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Module 5: Empathy and Restorative Justice

- Identify how abuse has affected them and how they have affected victims
- Identification and expression of feelings
- Understanding the consequences of offending to self, victim, and community
- Development of Empathy
- Explore and encourage healthy relationships



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Module 6: Relapse Prevention and Reintegration

- Increase control of the urge to re-offend
- Identification and interruption of cycle
- Develop relapse prevention strategies
- Management of addictive qualities
- Implementation of prosocial and life skills
- Implementation of mastery and control
- Demonstrate understanding and implementation of relapse prevention strategies



JSBT Program 2/20/2025

Juvenile Sex Behavior Placements

- From 2015 to 2020:
- 22 youths were placed for JSBT offenses at a total cost of \$1.2 mil. (\$20,620/mo.)
-
- From 2020 to present:
- We have placed 6 youths at a total cost of \$147,774.36 (\$3,399/mo. [42 months])

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More Recent Commitments

- From 1/1/2015 to 1/1/2020, 9 youth were sent to ODYS.
 - 4 non-JSBT program youth
 - 4 JSBT youth f/ non-sex offense
 - 1 JSBT youth f/ new sex offense
- From 1/1/2020 to present 3 youth were sent to ODYS.
 - 2 JSBT youth f/non-sex offense
 - 1 JSBT youth f/ new sex offense

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

The End Result

- ▶ The evaluation demonstrates that effective JSBT programming enhances public safety
- ▶ By treating youth and parents holistically, we preserve families
- ▶ Developing collaborative partnerships within the community brings an elevated level of effectiveness to the program
- ▶ Understanding the special dynamics of juvenile problematic sexual behavior ensures a balanced and reasoned response that again enhances public safety

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

The End Result

- ▶ Community-based treatment interventions save valuable resources and assists the Court in efficiently and effectively operating in challenging fiscal times

MOST IMPORTANTLY—it allows us to protect the children of our community, both those involved with the Court and those whose childhoods we preserve by our goal of “No More Victims”

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

We must resist the urge to
create policies, practices,
and dispositions that mirror
those designed for adult
sex offenders.

JSBT Program

2/20/2025

The Court's JSBT Team

Tim Bauerschmidt
JSBT Program Manager
419-213-6648
tbauer@co.lucas.oh.us

Gary Butler
JSBT Program Officer
419-213-6662
gbutler@co.lucas.oh.us

Angela Morgan
JSBT Program Officer
419-213-6751
amorga@co.lucas.oh.us

JSBT Program 2/20/2025

Helen Wallace, Administrative Judge
Julie Bruns, Judge

Eric Shafer, Court Administrator
Tiffany Dulin, Deputy Court Administrator

Montgomery County Juvenile Court Sexually Oriented Diversion Approach (SODA) Program



LeAnn Clark MA, LPCC-S, Diversion Supervisor

Agenda

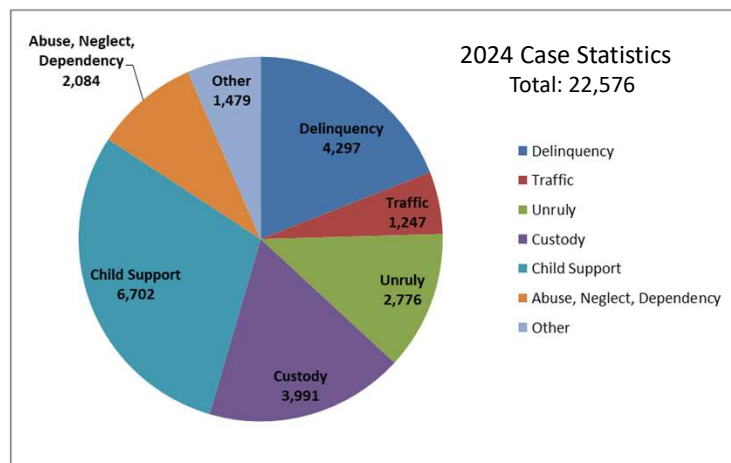
- Sexually Oriented Diversion Approach (SODA) Program overview
- Screening process
- Treatment services
- Statistical data


Montgomery County Juvenile Court

- SODA is one of eight diversion programs within the Intervention Center
- Montgomery County population: 537,309 individuals in 2020
- The Intervention Center offers 24-hours a day, 7-days a week centralized intake, screening, assessment, and case processing for all youth referred to the Court.
- The Intervention Center also consists of the Programming Unit, which offers diversionary opportunities for services and supervision needed to be successful, without creating an official record.




Montgomery County Juvenile Court





Sexually Oriented Diversion Approach (SODA) Program

- The Sexually Oriented Diversion Approach (SODA) Program provides services to Court involved youth with sexually oriented offenses by utilizing a diversionary approach. SODA offers the youth an opportunity to avoid the stigma and label associated with the sex offender adjudication process, while still receiving the same level of treatment and care.
- SODA ensures the appropriate assessments, safety plan, treatment, and level of supervision is provided for youth with problematic sexual behaviors. Every youth will receive psycho-sexual assessments to determine eligibility for the program. Once the youth has successfully completed the program, the charge(s) will be closed and sealed.



Sexually Oriented Diversion Approach (SODA) Program

- The first case was accepted in late 2018
- Serves 30 youth per year
- Program staff: two Diversion Officers and one supervisor
- SODA is certified as a Problematic Sexual Behavior Program through the Ohio Department of Youth Services - Juvenile Problematic Sexual Behavior Treatment Program Certification Advisory Board

Why Diversion for Sex Offenses?

Research emphasizes the importance of prevention, early intervention, rehabilitation and accountable measures for this population

Tabachnick, J., & Klein, A. (2011)

SODA allows youth to receive treatment, while being held accountable

Eliminates barriers for the youth to be successful:
No adjudication
No Juvenile Sex Offender Registration

“I want him/her to get help, but I don’t want this to ruin their life”

Tabachnick, J., & Klein, A. (2011). A Reasoned Approach: Reshaping Sex Offender Policy to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse [Review of A Reasoned Approach: Reshaping Sex Offender Policy to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse]. Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers

Why Diversion for Sex Offenses?

Victims do not have to testify and be re-traumatized

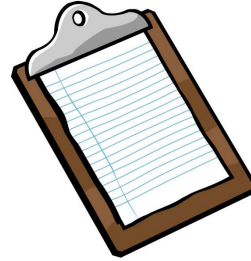
Treatment is individualized

Goal:
Decrease recidivism

99.98% of youth have not received a sexually oriented charge within 12 months of successful completion from the SODA Program

SODA Criteria

- Montgomery County resident
- 6-17 years old (current age)
- Referred for a sexual offense
- First sexual offense
- Not on probation or parole
- No extensive history with the Court
- Assessed and deemed appropriate for community based treatment
- No active warrant
- Restitution must be \$500 or less per offense count
- Victim must be in agreement with youth's participation



Victim(s) Involvement

The victim must be in agreement for the youth to participate in the SODA Program



Montgomery County Juvenile Court adheres to Marsy's Law



Victim Impact Statement Form and Ohio Victims' Rights Request Form are completed by the victim(s), which determines the degree of contact per their wishes

Referrals

- Any felony and misdemeanor level sex offense(s)
- Felony level sex offense(s) can be referred by the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney (APA) or a Judge/Magistrate
- Misdemeanor level offenses can be referred by the Intervention Center, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney or a Judge/Magistrate

The Screening Process

Referral

- SODA referral is received from the Judge/Magistrate , Assistant Prosecuting Attorney or the Intervention Center
- SODA screens the referral for initial eligibility

Administrative Hearing

- SODA Diversion Officer meets with the youth/family to discuss the program, review expectations, sign paperwork, and answer questions
- Youth admits to sexually inappropriate behavior
- Diversion Contract
- Safety Plan

Assessment

- A psycho-sexual assessment will be completed to determine the youth's level of care
- Outpatient therapy must be recommended for eligibility
- This psycho-sexual assessment can be completed by the SODA staff, or a community agency

Administrative Hearing

- Review charge(s), alleged behavior, and unofficial case handling
- Explain program overview and expectations
- Gather background information and social history
- Discuss and sign the Diversion Contract
- Develop and sign the Safety Plan
- Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS) Diversion Tool
- San Diego Quick Assessment of Reading Ability
- AOD Questionnaire

Safety Plans

- An individualized safety plan is developed based on age, behavior, and situations
- Sections include:
 - Supervision in and out of the home
 - Internet/cell phone use
 - General boundaries with others
 - Peer restrictions
 - Contact with victim(s) is discussed as it varies per case

Internet Use and Cell Phone

- No use at all of internet and cell phone will be allowed.
- Internet and/or cell phone will only be allowed with adult always viewing the screen.
- Internet will only be allowed for school use (no adult present) _____
- No cell phone use will be allowed at night time.
- Internet and cell phone use is allowed except for pornographic material and device history will be checked at any time.

✓ _____

Apps to be Deleted

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discord | <input type="checkbox"/> Roblox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snapchat | <input type="checkbox"/> Tinder/Bumble/Grindr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instagram | <input type="checkbox"/> MeetMe/Skout |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TikTok | <input type="checkbox"/> WhatsApp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kik | <input type="checkbox"/> Whisper |

Sexualized Behavior Assessment Tools

Age 6-11 years old

- Mental Health Assessment
- Latency Age-Sexual Adjustment and Assessment Tool (LA-SAAT) (pre-adolescent males, ages 8-13)

Age 12-17 years old

- Juvenile Sexual Assessment Protocol-II (JSOAP-II) (males, ages 12-18)
- Protective + Risk Observations For Eliminating Sexual Offense Recidivism (PROFESOR) (males and females, ages 12-25)

Program Components

Supervision

- Diversion Officers will monitor the youth's compliance and follow the established case contact standards
- Program involvement is approx. 6 to 9 months
- If the case is official, Status Review Hearings will be held every 60 days, until orders have been completed

Treatment

- The youth will be required to complete treatment with Lighthouse Youth & Family Services or the National Youth Advocate Program
- Additional service referrals can be established

Completion

- Treatment and additional orders must be completed to the Court's satisfaction, in order to be successfully discharged
- If successfully discharged, charge(s) will be closed and sealed

Services and Sanctions

- Sexualized behavior treatment
 - Individual therapy
 - Group sessions
 - Family sessions
 - Trauma
 - Education
- Diversion Supervision
 - Home
 - School
 - Therapeutic/ Community visits
- Brief Intervention Tools (B.I.T.S)



Services and Sanctions

- Motivational Interviewing
- Safety Planning
- Case Management
- Additional services may include: substance use counseling, anger management, diagnostic assessments, etc.
- Sanctions may include: community service, apology letter, essay, chores, parental house arrest, etc.

Not Accepted/Unsuccessful Completion

Charge(s) will be forwarded to the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for review and if approved, the charge(s) will be filed officially.

The following will result in non-acceptance or unsuccessful closure:

- Denial at the Administrative Hearing
- Recommended for residential treatment on psycho-sexual assessments
- Noncompliance
- New sex offense charge(s) during program

Program Recap

Referral

- SODA referral is received from the Judge/Magistrate, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney or the Intervention Center
- SODA screens the referral for initial eligibility

Administrative Hearing

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Treatment

- The youth will be required to complete treatment with Lighthouse Youth & Family Services or the National Youth Advocate Program
- Additional service referrals can be established

Discharge

- Treatment and additional orders must be completed to the Court's satisfaction, in order to be successfully discharged
- If successfully discharged, charge(s) will be closed and sealed
- If unsuccessfully discharged, charge (s) will be forwarded to the APA for review

Program Feedback

"I think this is a good program for kids to move forward and talk about things they normally wouldn't."

"The most helpful part of the program is the treatment that I got."

Program Feedback

"She matured a lot, healed some trauma, and was able to reunify with her family."

"He is better educated of the laws, as well as boundaries and don't have a record."

SODA Program Statistical Data 2018-2024

184 youth have been screened

125 youth have been accepted

Case Closures

- 103 Successful (93% Success Rate)
- 8 Unsuccessful
- 14 Open

One year from successful program completion, 99.98% of youth have not received a new sexually oriented charge

SODA Program Contact Information

- Jodi Benson, Program Manager
 - Jbenson@mcjcoho.org
 - 937-225-4121
- LeAnn Clark, Diversion Supervisor
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 - 937-225-4047
- Courtney Von Sossan, Diversion Officer
 - Coutney.Vonsossan@mcjcoho.org
 - 937-224-8456
- Michael Cogliano, Diversion Officer
 - Michael.Cogliano@mcjcoho.org
 - 937-224-8858



Questions

