



JUSTICE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2026

**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS
OF SERVICE TO THE
DURHAM COMMUNITY**



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Justice Services Department

326 East Main Street
Durham, NC 27701

Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday
8:30am - 8:30pm

Friday
8:30am - 5:00pm

Phone
(919) 560-0500

Email
jsd@dconc.gov

Website
dconc.gov/jsd

Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the staff and partners of the Durham County Justice Services Department, it is my pleasure to share with you our Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

This year Justice Services Department (JSD) is celebrating 30 years of service to the Durham community. JSD is dedicated to improving outcomes for justice-involved individuals through a comprehensive range of services that promote compassionate, whole-person care. We strive to offer support grounded in dignity and respect, from outpatient substance use disorder treatment and mental health services to cognitive behavioral programming and reentry services. This person-centered approach enables us to deliver tailored care to everyone's specific circumstances.

This report highlights some of JSD's accomplishments over the 2025-2026 service year, including:

- Securing continuation awards from SAMHSA (Recovery Court expansion) and the Durham ABC Board for FY2026-2027, and being awarded funds from the Durham County Opioid Settlement to hire a Peer Support Specialist.
- Participation in the launch of the Local Advisory Committee for the North Carolina Judicially Managed Accountability and Recovery Courts (JMARC) program, and contributing to the joint City/County Violence Reduction Summit in June 2026.
- Hosting many successful events in April and May for the community and JSD clients in celebration of Second Chance Month, Treatment Court Month, and Reentry Month.
- JSD staff being invited to participate in the Sesame Street Workshop Skill-Building Day at the All Rise 2026 Conference in Nashville, TN.
- Being named Program of the Month by the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice in June 2026.

In February 2026, the Economic Development Director Andy Miracle and I were invited to serve on the Duke Community Affairs' Economic Mobility Council on behalf of Durham County. Grounded in data and research, the Council will shape a shared strategy for improving economic mobility, guide funding for pilot initiatives, and evaluate outcomes to scale successful models.

The Justice Services Department cannot do this important work alone. We are grateful to our community partners for their dedication to this work. We are also thankful for the compassion, determination, and expertise of our exceptional staff, whose commitment makes our success possible. Our work would not be possible without the thoughtful guidance and support of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and County Administration.

With gratitude,



Director

Justice Services Department

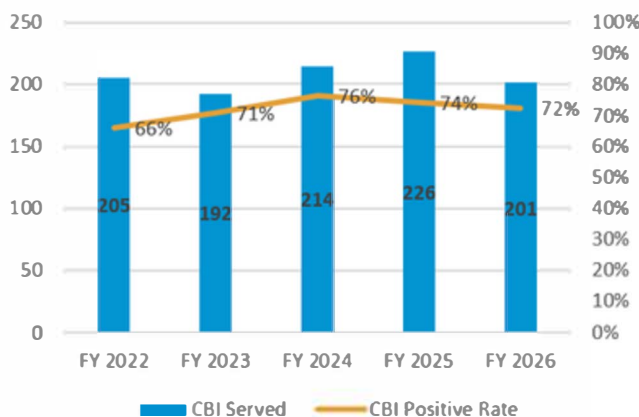


Community Support Services

The Justice Services Department (JSD) provides outpatient substance use disorder treatment, Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI), case management, housing assistance, and wraparound services to Durham County residents on supervised probation, post-release supervision, or parole, as well as individuals participating in diversion programs.

Cognitive Behavioral Intervention

CBI teaches participants how to create positive change in their lives by developing more effective ways of thinking. In CBI programs, participants are taught to examine their inner life and recognize when negative thoughts and emotions are escalating. Participants learn skills to help them solve problems and how to make good decisions when they are stressed, angry, or in conflict situations.



CBI Participant Numbers and Positive Program Exit Rate

CBI Participants Graduation in Spring 2026



Jail Transitions

The Jail Transitions team connects Durham County Detention Facility detainees referred by the Jail Mental Health and STARR staff to community-based services. In most cases, they begin working with detainees prior to their release date. After receiving a referral, the Case Manager schedules an intake appointment with the individual to identify their needs, develop a care plan, and help them get connected to appropriate community resources. On the day of their release, clients meet with Jail Transitions staff, who ensure a warm hand-off from jail-based behavioral health services to a community-based provider, assist with transportation, provide clothing and hygiene kits, and offer other assistance as needed. Beyond release day, staff provide ongoing case management, transportation assistance, and other supportive services depending on the individual's assessed needs.

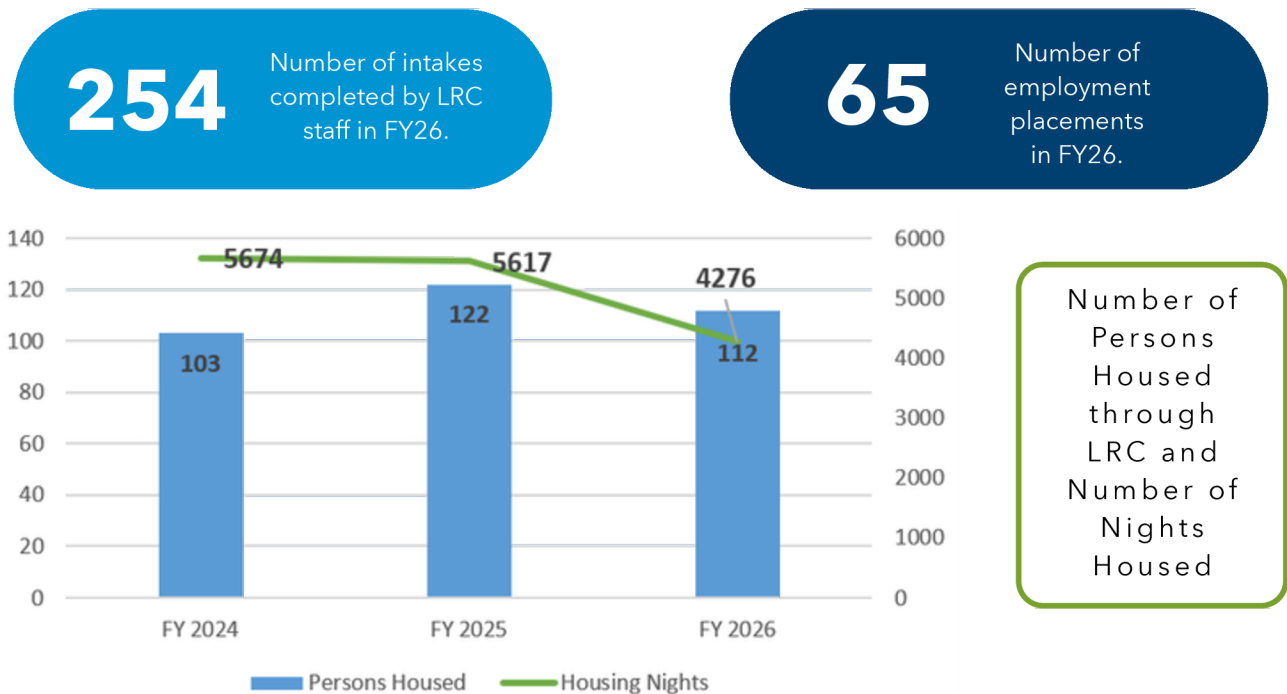
Local Reentry Council

Durham's Local Reentry Council (LRC) is a network of individuals, community organizations, and government agencies working in collaboration to provide services and supports for justice-involved individuals. LRC members represent faith-based organizations, employment and career readiness programs, community colleges, housing communities, mental health and substance service providers, and much more. Since 2017, JSD has served as the LRC Intermediary Agency (IA) in contract with the NC Department of Adult Corrections. As the IA organization, JSD is responsible for managerial oversight, administrative support, fiscal accountability, and service coordination.

LRC hosts bimonthly network and coordination meetings where local providers are invited to share about the services they offer, as well as any eligibility requirements and steps required to access their services. Community providers are invited to make announcements about events and any changes to services offered. Additionally, the Housing, Employment, and Supportive Services Subcommittees provide updates to council members on projects and future planning.

In spring 2026, LRC staff attended the NC Rehabilitation and Reentry Conference which brought together stakeholders from across the state to share and collaborate on innovative reentry information, best practices, and advocacy for systemic reform. Participants included key state leadership, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, legal and correctional professionals, justice-involved individuals, and others who support reentry efforts and initiatives.

In FY26, LRC staff also began weekly visits to the Hope Day Center which serves as a daytime resource and cooling site for unhoused and low-income individuals. These sessions provide opportunities for LRC staff to do on-site intakes and referrals for services through JSD and other community providers.



In April 2026, the LRC team hosted several events in honor of Second Chance Month. Following their "Hop Back In" theme, they chalked the Justice Services Center parking lot, conducted an educational cooking class "Balanced Bites," held a reentry panel discussion for families with an array of experts, and hosted a Sock Hop. The Sock Hop event brought together Durham County employees from many departments and collected socks and hygiene items for LRC clients.



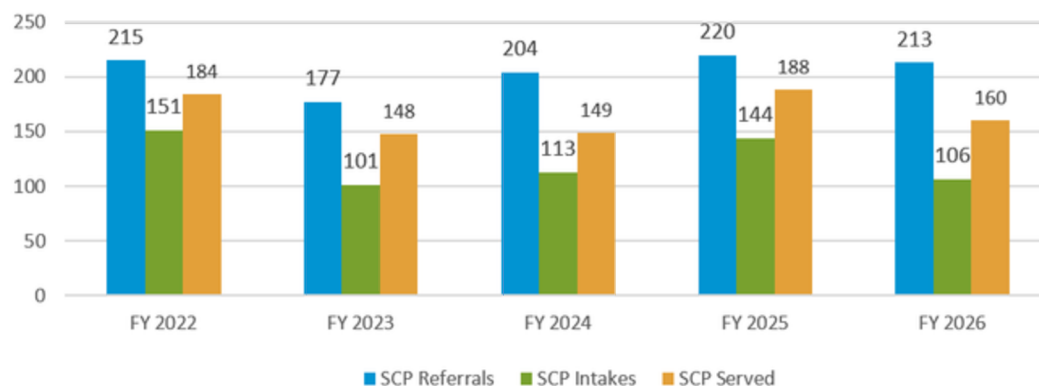
Treatment Services

Second Chance Program

Through the Second Chance Program, JSD provides outpatient substance use disorder treatment for justice-involved individuals aged 18 and older. JSD receives referrals for substance use services from partners including Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC), the Courts, probation, and community service providers.

Prior to enrolling in services, participants complete a comprehensive clinical assessment to identify their strengths and needs. Based on the results of this assessment, participants then enter either regular outpatient treatment or intensive outpatient treatment. Services offered include development of a treatment plan, substance use education, individual and group counseling, and Aftercare. Through these services, participants are expected to develop skills, gain knowledge, and build community connections to help support their ongoing recovery.

Second
Chance
Program
Referrals,
Intakes,
and Total
Served



Recovery Court

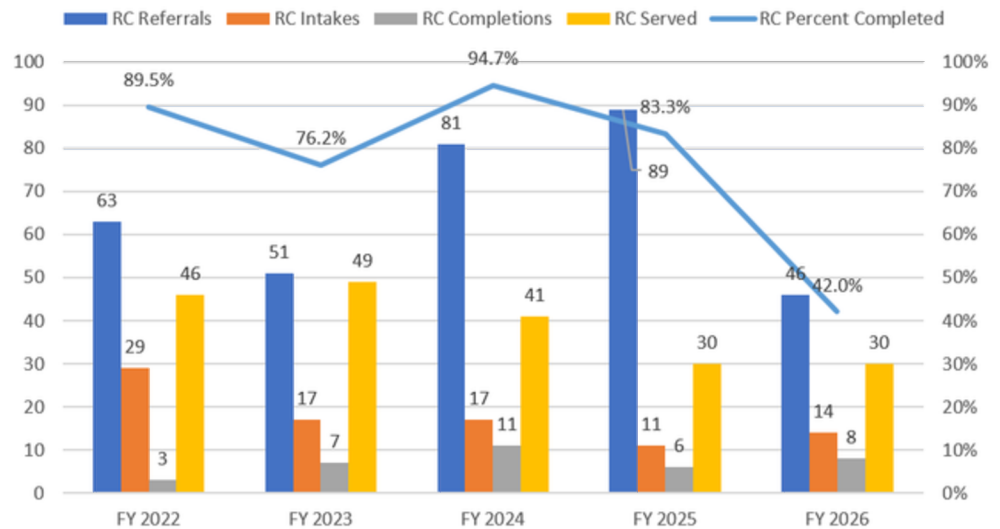
Recovery Court (RC), formerly the Adult Drug Treatment Court, has been a critical component of Durham County's continuum of services for individuals involved in the justice system since its establishment in 1999. Recovery Courts are designed to reduce recidivism and alcohol and drug use while reducing the costs of drug-involved crimes and decreasing prison crowding. Through a variety of community partnerships, RC connects participants to a wide assortment of resources to help them successfully reintegrate into the community. RC participants commit to a minimum 12-month program comprised of five stages, gradually decreasing the service intensity until clients successfully graduate from the program.



JSD was one of nine teams across the country selected to participate in the Sesame Street Workshop Skill-Building Day at the All Rise Conference in Nashville, TN July 20-23, 2026

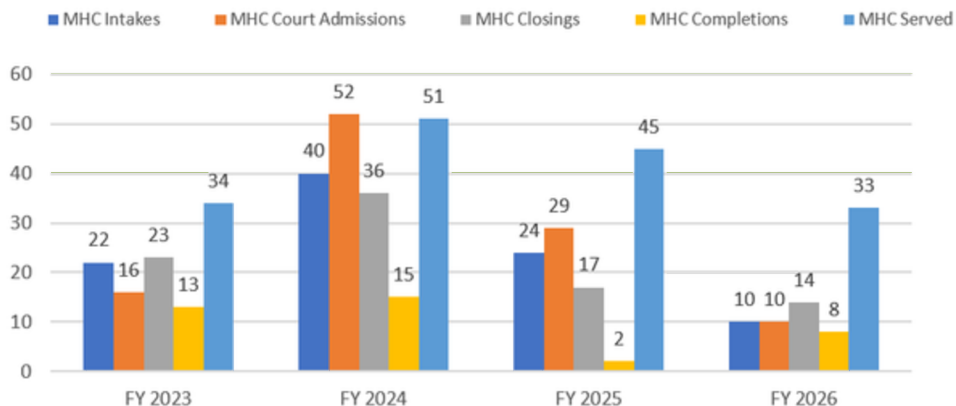
In September 2025, JSD was awarded a continuation (year three of five) on a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant to support the Durham County Recovery Court Expansion. Through this project, JSD aims to (1) increase access to substance use treatment services through a dedicated Substance Abuse Counselor serving RC participants, (2) provide more intensive treatment options for RC enrollees, including a Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment (SACOT) group, and (3) enhance its recovery support services for the population of focus with the support of a full-time Peer Support Specialist.

Recovery Court Referrals, Intakes, Completions, and Total Served



Mental Health Court

The Mental Health Court Diversion Program (MHC) connects individuals living with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) or Serious Mental Illness (SMI) to mental health treatment and other supports with an overall goal of improving participants' health and well-being while reducing recidivism. Individuals who successfully complete the program are eligible to have their charges dropped. Through the program, MHC participants have access to Medication Bridge services, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), individual and group therapy, evidence-based mental health and substance use treatment/education, case management services, crisis intervention, basic needs assistance, and support from a multidisciplinary team.



MHC Intakes, Admissions, Completions, and Total Served

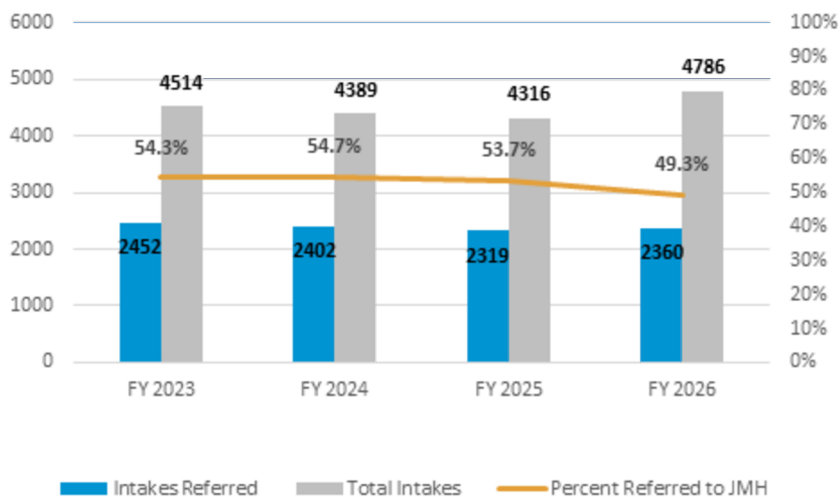
In May 2026, Recovery Court and Mental Health Court celebrated Treatment Court and Mental Health Awareness Month. JSD staff wore green and community members came together to "Walk It Out!" in support of mental health awareness.



Detention Behavioral Health

Jail Mental Health

The Jail Mental Health (JMH) Team serves detainees who are diagnosed with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) or on medication for Severe Mental Illness (SMI). All individuals booked into Durham County Jail are screened for mental health concerns, and JMH staff follows up with detainees who meet the program's eligibility criteria. Weekly clinic with a psychiatrist is offered to clients for chronic care and medication management.

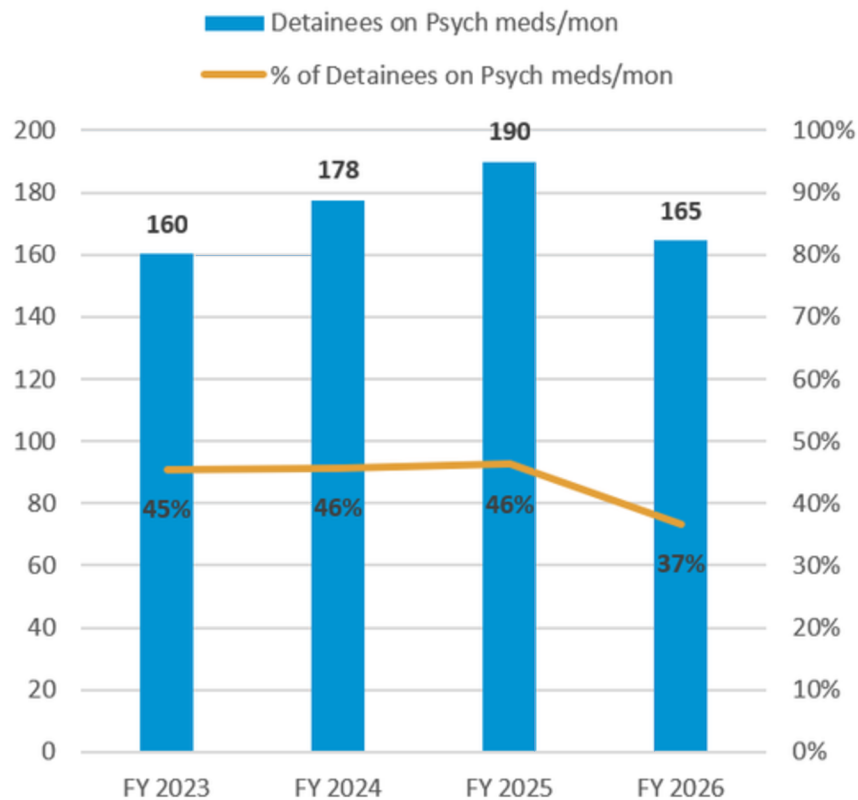


Number
and Percent
of Jail
Admissions
Referred to
Jail Mental
Health

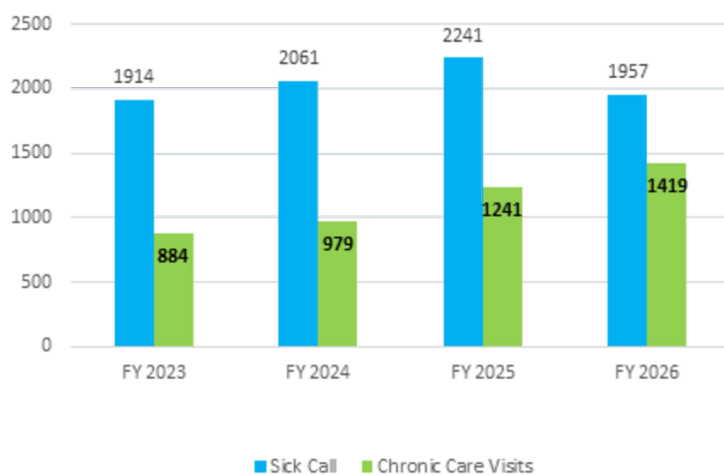
JMH continued women's programming in FY26. This educational group is open to all women in the jail. An average of 20-25 women attend these weekly sessions, during which counselors help participants address areas where they are struggling, such as relationship building, communication, and self-esteem.

In addition to mental health programs, JMH works to stabilize inmates on psychiatric medication, offers discharge planning and connection to care, and delivers specialized programming for high-acuity detainees in the therapeutic housing unit. Because of the high needs of this population, the JMH team provides a contracted psychiatrist and services around-the-clock, with staff and telehealth available on evenings and weekends.

Number and Percent of Detainees on Psychiatric Medications



JMH staff also respond to detainee requests for a mental health check up or sick call.

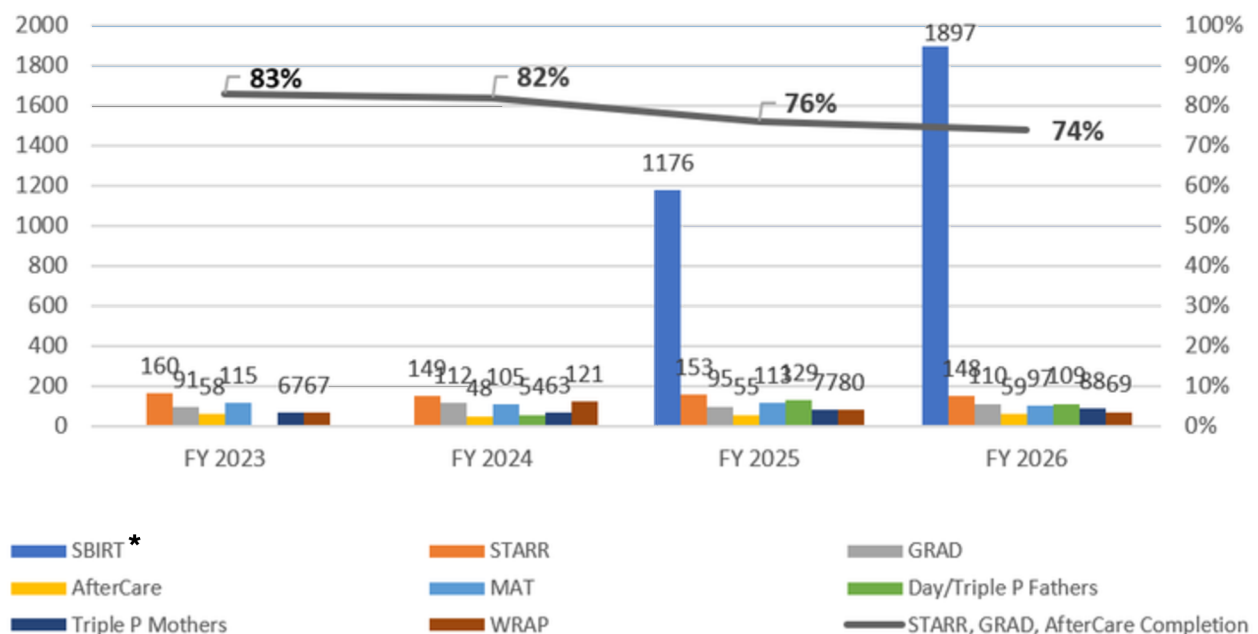


Number of Chronic Care Visits and Sick Calls

STARR

The Substance Use Treatment and Recidivism Reduction Program (STARR), managed by JSD in collaboration with the Office of the Sheriff, provides comprehensive substance use disorder treatment to detainees at the Durham County Detention Facility. STARR utilizes evidence-based practices developed for justice-involved individuals living with substance use disorders, mental health challenges, and criminogenic needs. The program is designed using experiential, didactic, and directive clinical interventions in a structured environment. STARR provides therapeutic individual and group counseling, psychoeducational classes, and case management services, as well as access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

STARR continues to enhance its programming and utilize existing programs, like Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) and SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) to address identified needs among detainees. Triple P helps detainees develop parenting skills, improve relationships with their children, and build their families' well-being. SBIRT is a comprehensive, integrated public health model given to all people entering the Durham County Detention Facility. SBIRT (1) provides universal screening, (2) detects risky, problematic, or hazardous substance use, (3) offers prevention services for individuals at risk of developing a substance use disorder, and (4) provides early intervention, appropriate referrals, and treatment for people living with substance use disorders.



*Detailed tracking of SBIRT screenings began in October 2024

I am beginning my sober life and want and need to teach my brain a new way of life. This class is opening my mind to aspects I didn't even know existed. . . . I know that because of this class and the teacher, I will have the tools for success.

Candice L.

I came to STARR willingly. I wasn't court ordered. I volunteered myself because I know if I can be helped I can help the next person with my recovery.

Makayla L.

The more I learned in class the more I was able to cope with real life problems without any drugs, and the more I learned about my sober self the happier I became with not only life in general but who I have become. So when I finally am able to leave this place I am leaving with a whole NEW happy healthier me.

Heather L.

Thanks to the knowledge [Ms. West] has given me in the STARR program I have a new outlook on what's possible for me.

Leighann P.

Before I entered the STARR program I was unsure about a lot of things and I was definitely unsure about myself. If I could really make the changes that I know I needed to in my life and most importantly my addiction. I learned through STARR and through the great teacher Ms. West that anybody can change or make a difference anywhere inside of their life. You just have to want to. . . . The STARR program has helped me tremendously.

Rachel L.

The STARR program is available to detainees in the Durham County Detention Facility. Most participants are referred through court orders or probation requirements. The program helps participants understand addiction and prepare for sustained recovery after release. The program has three phases:

STARR is a 30-day closed program which includes the following programming: Matrix Model for Criminal Justice Settings (Early Recovery Skills Group), 12-Step Facilitation, Seeking Safety, Harm Reduction, Public Health education, and Tobacco Cessation.

STARR GRAD is a 30-day closed program for those who have completed STARR. This includes the following classes: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions, "Thinking for Change" (Social Skills, Cognitive Self-Change and Problem-Solving Skills), and Parenting (Positive Parenting Program; How to be a Responsible Father/Mother: Workbook for Offenders).

STARR Aftercare is a 4 to 8 week program available to detainees who have completed STARR GRAD.

Pretrial Services

Pretrial Services was established to create a systematic approach for release and community supervision for defendants who do not pose a risk to the community as they await trial. The aim of Pretrial Services is to reduce the overall jail population while ensuring that defendants appear for their court dates and are not a public safety risk while under pretrial release.

Pretrial Services has two key components: First Appearance and Supervised Release. Defendants scheduled for First Appearance who are willing to participate are interviewed by Pretrial staff to provide the court with stability factors, community ties, mental health history, and substance use disorder concerns. Additionally, a comprehensive criminal history report and risk assessment are prepared based on the information available through criminal history reporting agencies and presented to the court for review. The judge weighs each of these factors when making bond decisions and determines the release or detention of each defendant.

Supervised Release includes office and/or field contacts as deemed appropriate and referrals for services on an individual basis or as ordered by the court. Supervision levels and conditions of release are determined by the court upon review of the charge allegations, criminal history, and findings from the public safety assessments.

90%

Percent of Pretrial clients who attended court sessions until disposition in FY26.

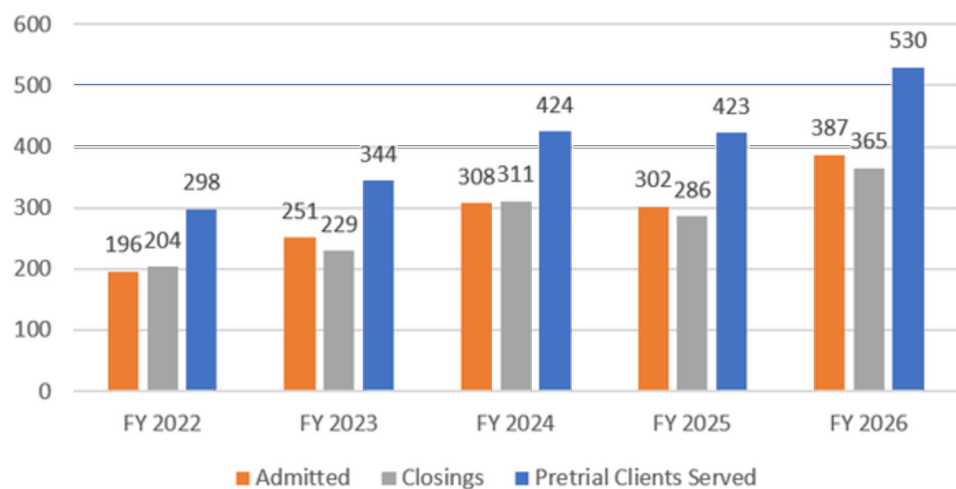
88%

Percent of Pretrial clients who did not obtain a new charge before disposition in FY26.

69%

Percent of clients in FY26 who did not obtain a new charge before disposition, attended court sessions until disposition, and complied with Pretrial conditions of release.

Pretrial
Admissions,
Closings,
and Total
Served



Pretrial Services is also responsible for electronic monitoring of a small number of identified criminal defendants released by a judge from the Durham County Detention Facility as an alternative to incarceration pretrial.

\$6.00

Average per
day cost of
Electronic Monitoring
per client
in FY26.

238

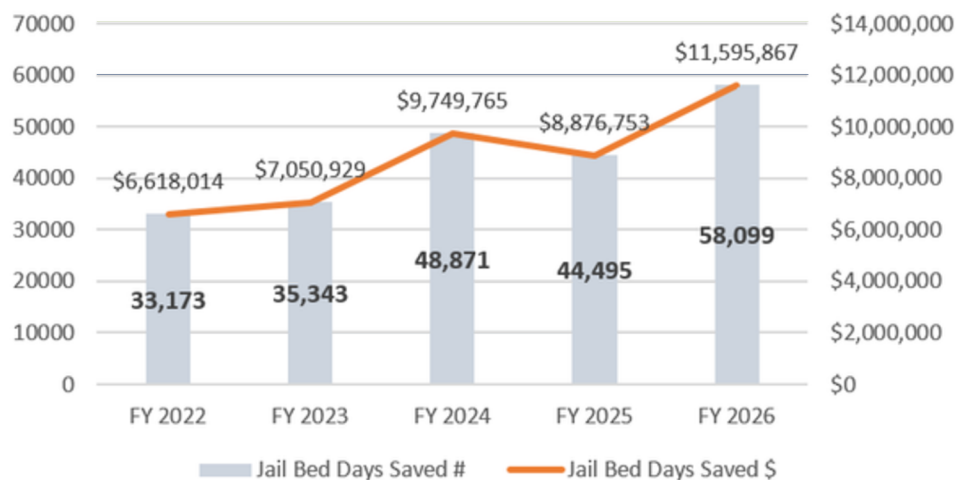
Number of Pretrial
clients placed under
Electronic
Monitoring in FY26.

194

Average number of
days clients were
under Electronic
Monitoring in FY26.

Benefits of Pretrial Release

- Provide an opportunity for defendants to be released from custody to prepare for their defense, return to their families, work and or school.
- Provide supervision in lieu of incarceration at a lower cost to the county (approximate detention per diem cost \$199.50).
- Promote victim involvement by communicating information and concerns to the court prior to and after defendant's release (set up electronic monitoring zones to notify the court of defendant location near or around designated areas).
- Assist with jail population management of pre-trial and pre-sentence defendants.
- Reduce medical costs to the county for defendants with costly medical needs.
- Provide telephone bond assistance by notifying family and/or friends of court dates and bond amounts to assist with release if requested.



In FY26:
Pretrial release
resulted in
58,099 fewer
jail bed days -
a value of
\$11,595,867
saved



An important community partner for both MDP and PAD is **Restorative Justice Durham (RJD)**.

RJD provides a community-centered approach to addressing harm by bringing together those who have been affected, those responsible for causing harm, and supportive community members to foster accountability, healing, and repair.

Through a voluntary, circle-based process grounded in shared values, participants work collaboratively to understand the impact of harm, identify needs, and develop meaningful agreements to repair and prevent future harm. By focusing on accountability, restoration, and community engagement, RJD offers an alternative to traditional criminal justice responses that emphasizes healing, strengthens relationships, and promotes safer, more connected communities.

"RJD is grateful for the long-standing partnership with Durham County's Diversion programs and with the Diversion Coordinator, Kelly Andrews. Our partnership gives us the unique opportunity in Durham to address harm and provide space for individuals to be accountable and make repair."

Diversion

Misdemeanor Diversion Program

The Durham County Misdemeanor Diversion Program (MDP) transformed how law enforcement dealt with first-time misdemeanor offenses by allowing cases to be diverted from the courts into person-centered programming and, in turn, keeping participants' criminal records clean. Over the years, MDP has expanded numerous times to address presenting community needs. The program primarily serves young adults aged 18 to 26, with older adults allowed to participate at law enforcement officer's discretion.

Following referral and intake, participants attend a community diversion program based on their individual needs and the reason for referral. If the participant does not comply or complete the assigned MDP program within 90 days, the referring officer will be notified and can opt to move forward in criminal court for prosecution. Once the participant successfully completes assigned MDP requirements, the case is closed out with the participant having no record or adult criminal history.

Post-Arrest Diversion Program

The Durham County Post-Arrest Diversion (PAD) Program, a joint initiative of the Durham District Attorney's Office and JSD, assists individuals charged with lower-level felonies. PAD participants must complete a needs assessment intake, after which they are assigned to an appropriate community-based program to be completed within 4 to 12 months. Once a participant has successfully exited the program, the Diversion Coordinator notifies the District Attorney's Office, and the prearranged agreement for the case is enacted.

Community Collaborations

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)

Appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, Durham County's Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) has a diverse membership that reflects the Durham community. This includes representatives from County government, law enforcement, the legal system, healthcare providers, the faith community, education, and more serving on the Council. The North Carolina Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is responsible for conducting a risk/needs assessment for youth who are either court involved or at risk of court involvement. They identify appropriate services and supports to address these needs, and award state funds to community organizations to support treatment, counseling, and rehabilitation services aimed at delinquency prevention.

Based on the community risk/needs assessment, the Durham County JCPC launches a competitive RFP process for youth-serving organizations to address the challenges facing court-involved and at-risk youth and fill service gaps. The following programs were funded in FY26 and selected for continued funding in FY27:



GRACED

Elna B Spaulding Conflict Resolution Center

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC)

JSD facilitates and provides staff to support the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC), which seeks to build a comprehensive continuum of services for the adult criminal justice system. CJAC works to identify service gaps and develop intervention strategies and comprehensive solutions to reduce the demand for County jail beds, to further initiatives that are respectful towards victims, offenders and the community, and to pursue funding for initiatives through grant requests to local and state government.

Top 10 Client Service Referrals Provided by JSD Staff in FY26

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1.) Personal Household Items | 6.) Mentorship / Community Support |
| 2.) Transitional or Emergency Housing | 7.) Financial Assistance / Income Support |
| 3.) Employment Services | 8.) Substance Use Disorder Treatment |
| 4.) Health, Medical, Wellness Services | 9.) Transportation Assistance |
| 5.) Mental Health Treatment | 10.) Other Support Services |

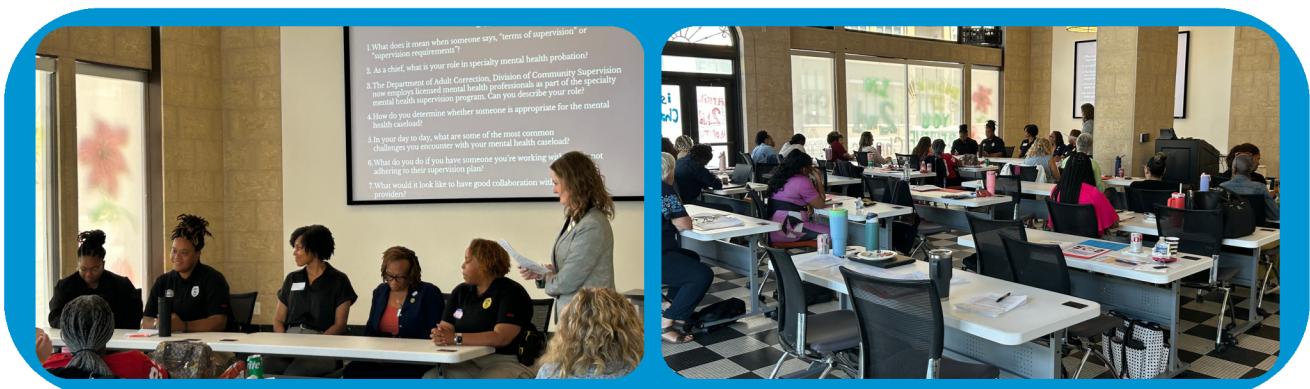
Stepping Up Initiative

For nearly a decade, Durham County has taken part in the Stepping Up Initiative, a nationwide push to reduce the number of people living with mental illness in our jails. Participating counties—including Durham—are working to achieve this goal by implementing effective, data-driven programs and policies that connect people to appropriate care and local resources. Improving access to these supports means better health outcomes for people with mental health challenges and safer, healthier communities.

In Durham, this work is led by the Stepping Up Initiative Committee, which includes representatives from local and state government agencies, law enforcement, the judicial system, the healthcare system, higher education, the faith community, and more. In FY26, the Committee brought together these stakeholders to update Durham's **Sequential Intercept Map**. This map is a tool that shows how individuals in our community interact with the justice system, identifies available resources, and guides efforts to address any service gaps.



In FY26, a new **Forensic Community Support Team (FCST)** at Carolina Outreach was launched. FCST became operational in December 2025 due to a contract between Alliance Health and Durham County, and is run through a partnership with the Stepping Up Initiative. In April 2026, JSD hosted a training for the new FCST, a collaboration between behavioral health providers and criminal justice agencies through panel discussions and collaborative case studies. They shared information on their work with justice-involved individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders.

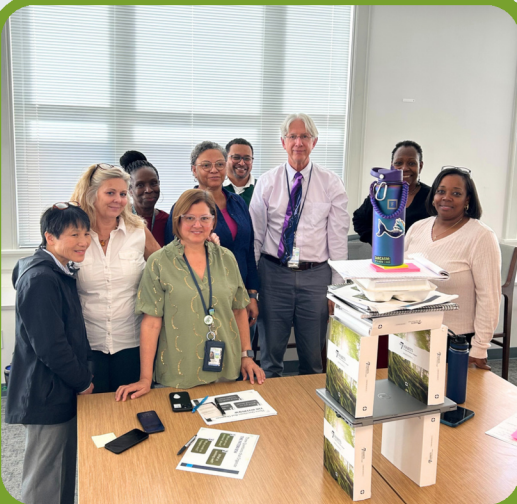




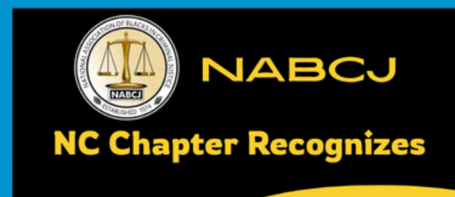
Justice Services Department Staff

Celebrating 30 Years of the Justice Services Department

In 1996, the Durham County Board of County Commissioners launched the Durham Day Reporting Center which became the Criminal Justice Resource Center (CJRC). Over time and through grants, the CJRC added the STARR Program, Reentry Program, Drug Treatment Court, Pretrial Services, Diversion, Outpatient SUD Treatment, Jail Mental Health Services, Jail Transitions, Cognitive Behavioral Programming, and the Local Reentry Council. In 2023, the CJRC was renamed the Justice Services Department (JSD). The name was selected with the input of community partners to honor JSD's many years of commitment to serving system-impacted individuals and to help destigmatize justice involvement.



In fall 2025, the JSD leadership team attended a multi-day training on the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.



Program of the Month



Durham County Justice Services Department &
Director Roshanna Humphrey

In June 2026, JSD was recognized as Program of the Month by the NC Chapter of The National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.

