



**Durham County
Justice Services Department
FY 2024**

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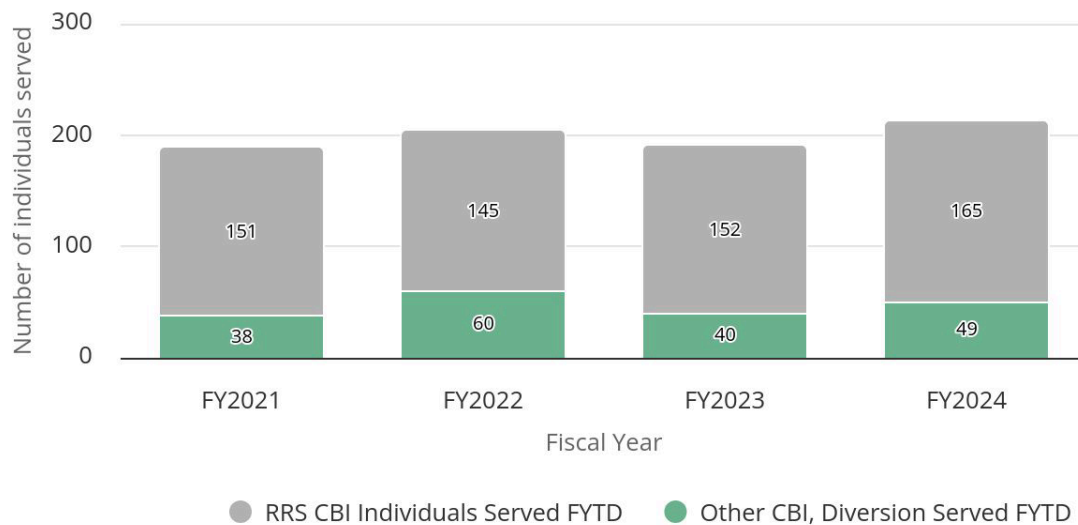
Community Support Services

JSD provides outpatient substance use 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.

CBI

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

CBI helped me to consider my thoughts and actions and use cognition before acting out. I grew up and was able to use CBI to help me communicate with my Probation Officer and get off Probation 6 months early.
“Kevin”



Jail Transitions

Jail Transitions staff connect Durham County Detention Facility detainees referred mostly by the Jail Mental Health staff to community-based services. In most cases, the Jail Transitions team begins working with detainees prior to their release date; after receiving a referral from the Jail Mental Health team, 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.

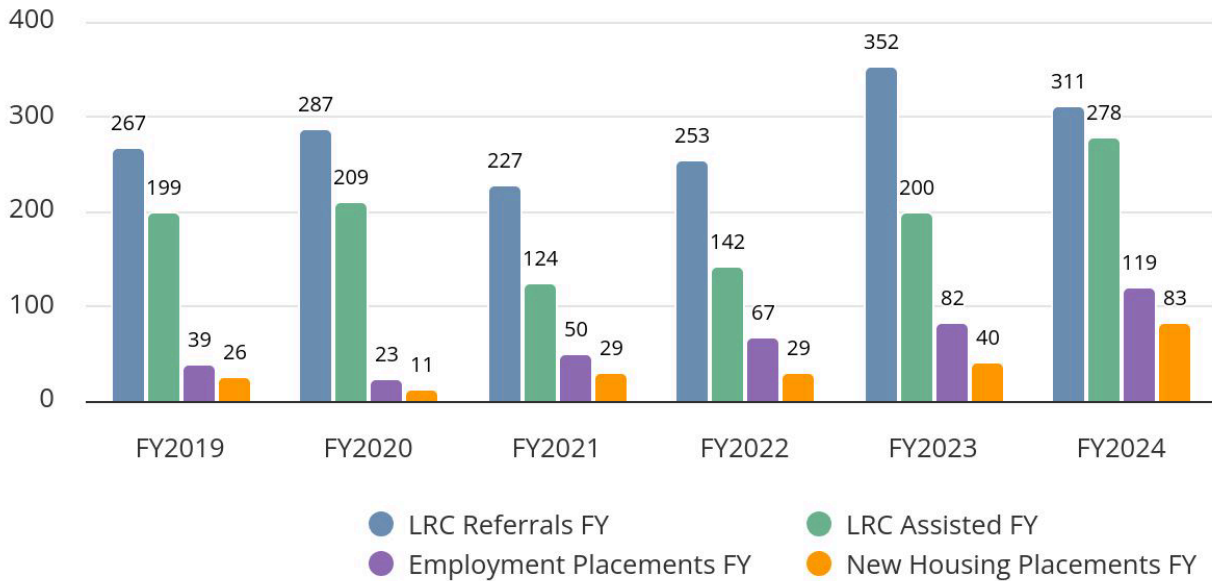
On the day of their release, clients meet with Jail Transitions staff, who ensure a warm hand-off from jail-based behavioral health services to a community-based provider, assist with transportation, provide clothing and hygiene kits, and offer other assistance as needed. Beyond release day, staff provide ongoing case management, transportation assistance, and other supportive services depending on the individual's assessed needs.

"Getting out of jail in itself is a tough transition, but especially if you have other factors like mental health issues, complex medical needs, substance use – all of that can be overwhelming and difficult to navigate. It helps to have someone on the journey with you," Case Manager Sophia Janken

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. For nearly a decade, JSD has served as the LRC Intermediary Agency, the organization responsible for managerial oversight, administrative support, fiscal accountability, and service coordination.

During Second Chance Month in April, LRC staff organized and sponsored a series of reentry-focused activities to engage staff, educate community members, and provide assistance to LRC clients. Highlights included an event with GoTriangle to help equip individuals with the tools and knowledge necessary to navigate Durham's bus system safely and efficiently, a Reentry Simulation designed to help community members understand the barriers individuals face when returning to the community after incarceration, and donation drives for backpacks, clothing, and food.



In FY24, several new partner organizations came on board to help LRC participants address their basic needs.

- Nearly New Thrift, a nonprofit organization that provides free clothing and household goods to individuals in need, now offers \$50 clothing vouchers for clients.
- Southern Coalition for Social Justice – a nonprofit focused on the political, social, and economic rights of communities of color and economically disadvantaged communities – has started assembling snack bags for LRC participants.
- LRC participants are eligible for emergency food assistance from Grace Outreach Enrichment Ministry five days per week.
- New housing partners at Mangum’s House of Sober Living, Victorious Outcomes, and A&T Affordable Homes offer short-term housing placements, while Fairfax Realty provides a permanent housing option for justice-involved clients.

Other partners worked with clients to build essential job skills and secure stable employment.

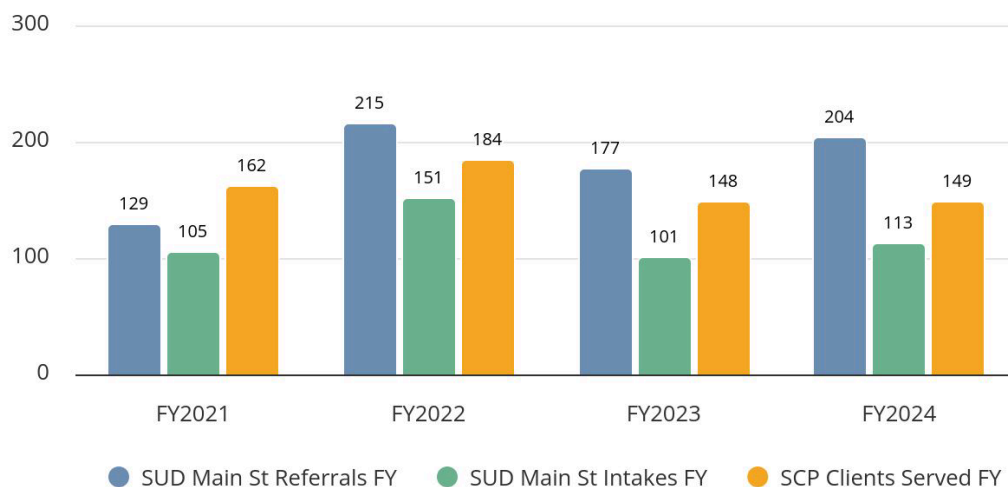
- This year, the LRC coordinated with NC Works to host a Career Fair, with more than 90 attendees participating in on-the-spot interviews with employers ready to hire justice-involved individuals.
- Higher Skill prepared participants for their job search by helping them create a digital resume.
- LRC participants can also access CDL training through Lorac Academy Truck Driving School.

Treatment Services

Second Chance Program

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

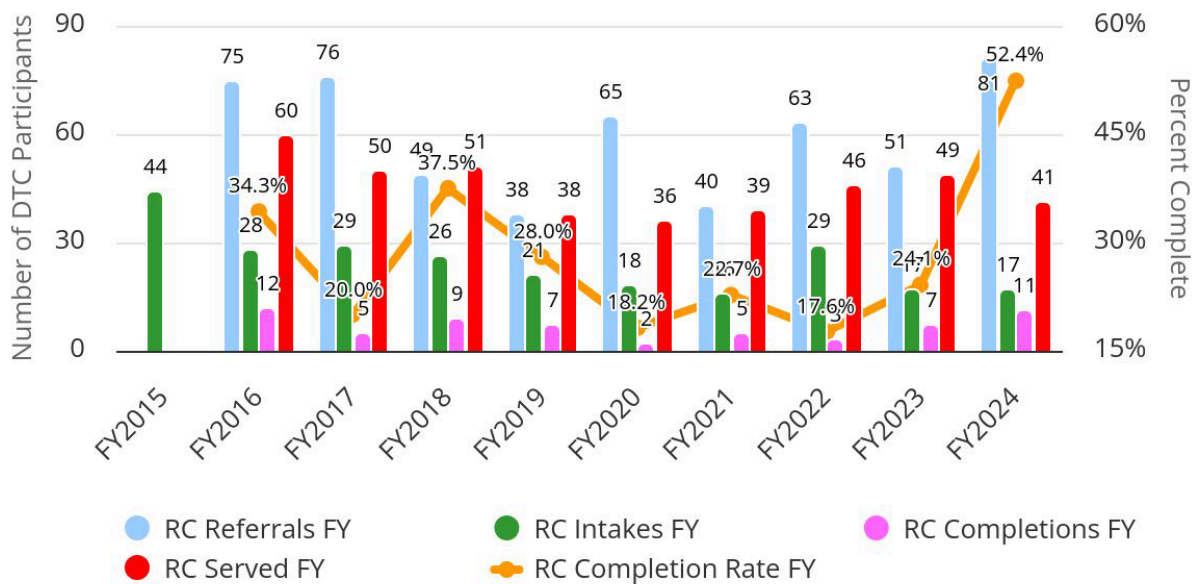
Prior to enrolling in services, participants complete a comprehensive clinical assessment to identify their strengths and needs. Based on the results of this assessment, participants then enter either regular outpatient treatment or intensive outpatient treatment. Services offered include substance use 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.



Recovery Court

Recovery Court, 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 (RC) 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 variety 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.

In September 2023, JSD was awarded a five year, \$1.1M 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 by hiring a dedicated Substance Abuse Counselor serving RC participants, (2) provide more intensive treatment options for RC enrollees by launching a Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment (SACOT) group, and (3) enhance its current recovery support services for the population of focus by bringing on a full-time Peer Support Specialist.

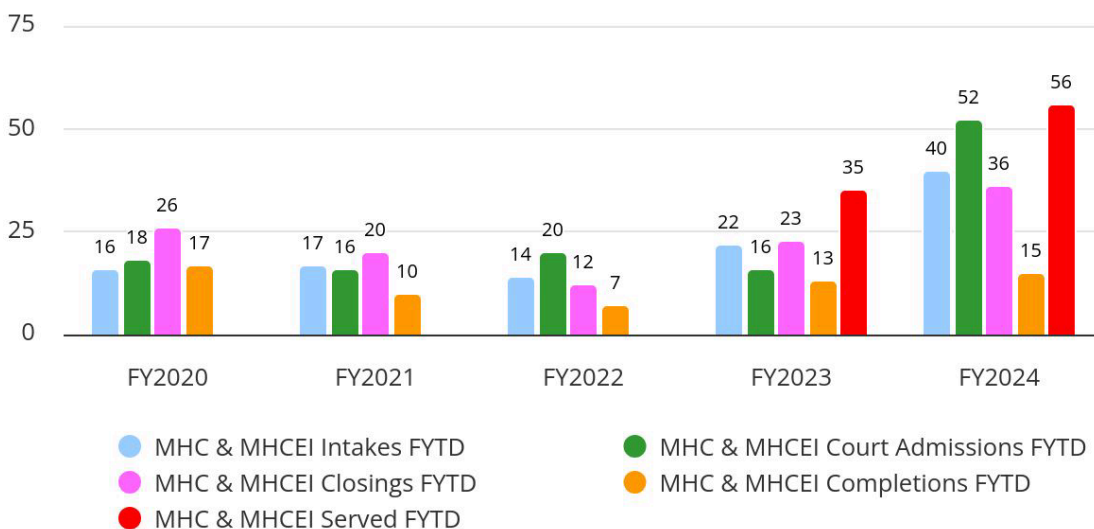


Mental Health Court Diversion

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 can access Medication Bridge services, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), individual and group therapy, evidence-based mental health and substance use treatment and education, case management services, crisis intervention, and basic needs assistance.

The Mental Health Court Expansion Initiative (MHCEI), funded by a Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant, was launched in 2021 to enhance treatment options and serve individuals who do not meet the MHC eligibility criteria, including people with more serious charges and those who have personality disorders. The program prioritizes individuals living with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders.

JSD hired a Justice Liaison, who supports the MHCEI by screening clients for eligibility for specialty Courts and JSD programs; building relationships and facilitating communications between the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, District Court officials, and the Mental Health Court team; and presenting cases to the team at staffing. The grant also funds a staff member who works directly with individuals deemed ineligible for Mental Health Court, providing intensive developmental and therapeutic assessment and treatment in serious or complicated cases which require a range of evaluation and therapeutic intervention skills.

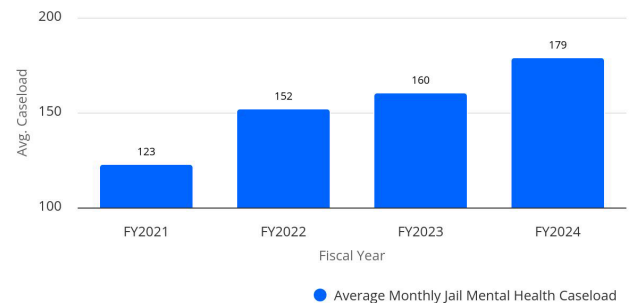
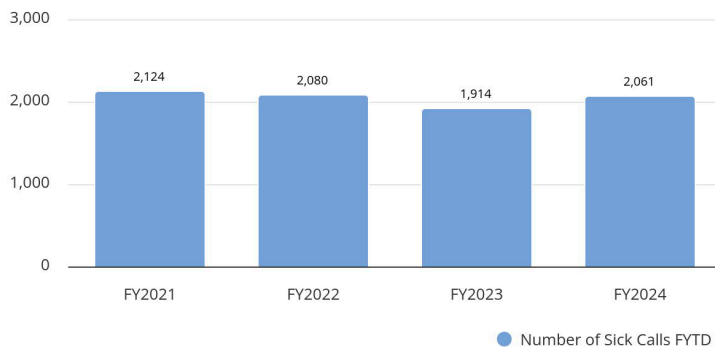
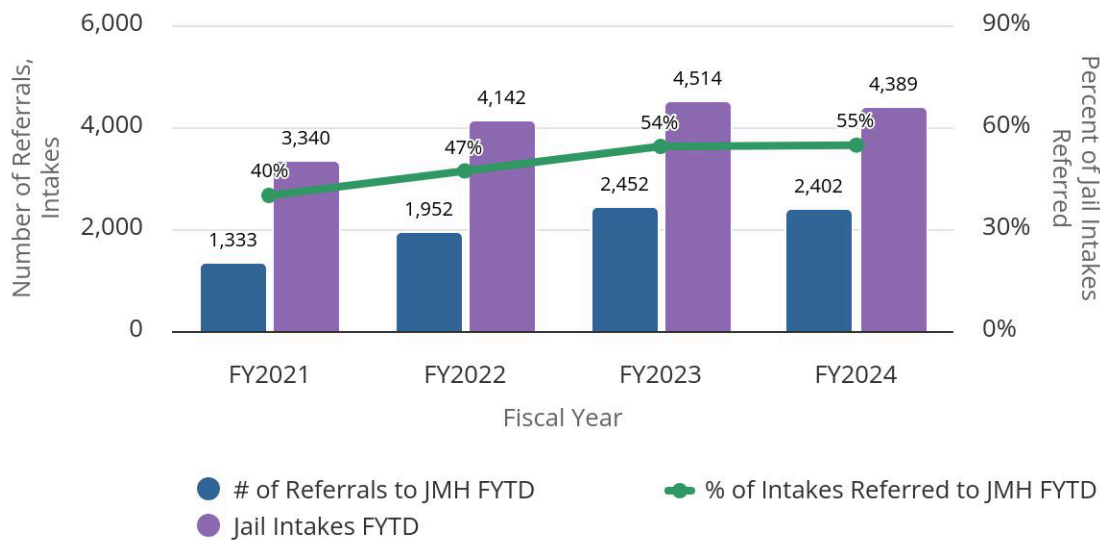


Jail Mental Health

The Jail Mental Health (JMH) Team serves detainees who are either 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. JMH staff also responds to detainee requests for a mental health check up or sick call.

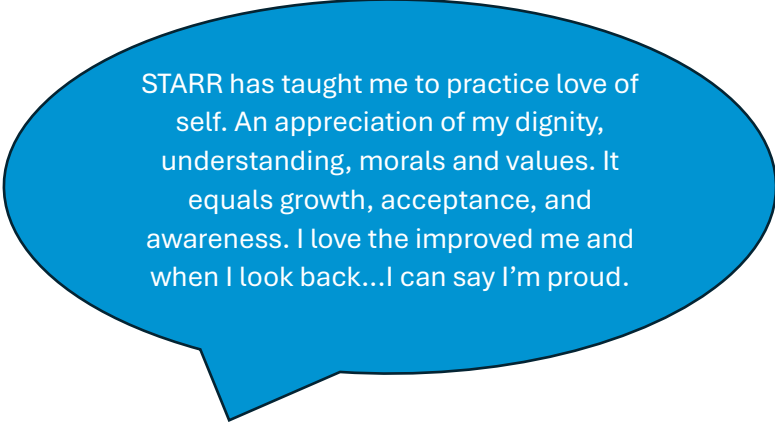
In addition to mental health programs, JMH works to stabilize inmates on psychiatric medication, offers discharge planning and connection to care, and delivers specialized programming for high-acuity detainees in the therapeutic housing unit. Because of the high needs of this population, the JMH team provides services around-the-clock, with staff and telehealth available on evenings and weekends. JSD also contracts with a Psychiatrist for 12-20 hours per week to support detainees.

In FY24, JMH reinstated women's programming for the first time since the onset of the pandemic. This educational group meets 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.

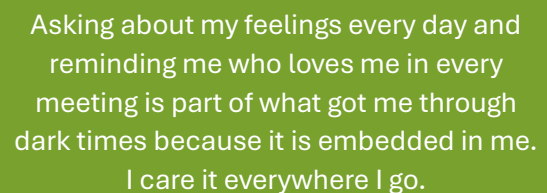


STARR

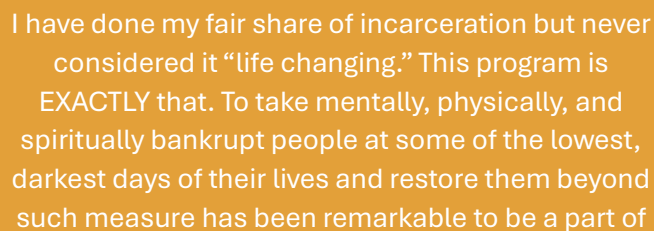
The Substance Use Treatment and Recidivism Reduction Program (STARR), managed by JSD in collaboration with the Office of the Sheriff, provides comprehensive substance use treatment to detainees at the Durham County Detention Facility. STARR follows a harm reduction model, delivers services that are trauma-informed and gender-specific, and utilizes evidence-based practices developed for justice-involved individuals living with substance use disorders, mental health challenges issues, and criminogenic needs. The program provides therapeutic individual and group counseling, psychoeducational classes, and case management services, as well as access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) through an ongoing partnership with the Sheriff's Office.



STARR has taught me to practice love of self. An appreciation of my dignity, understanding, morals and values. It equals growth, acceptance, and awareness. I love the improved me and when I look back...I can say I'm proud.

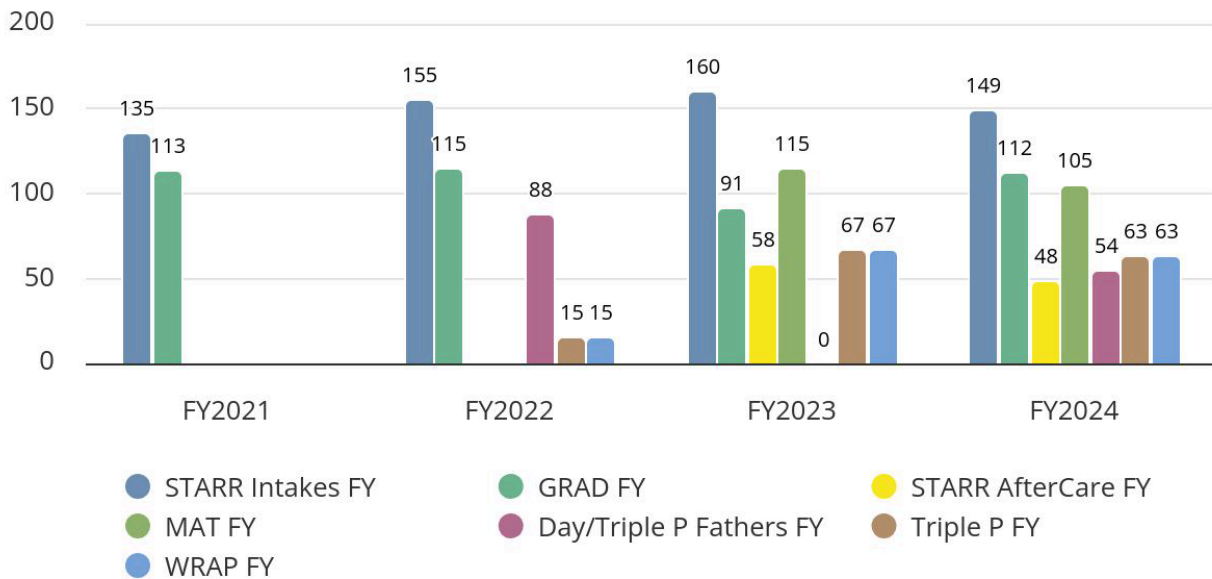


Asking about my feelings every day and reminding me who loves me in every meeting is part of what got me through dark times because it is embedded in me. I care it everywhere I go.



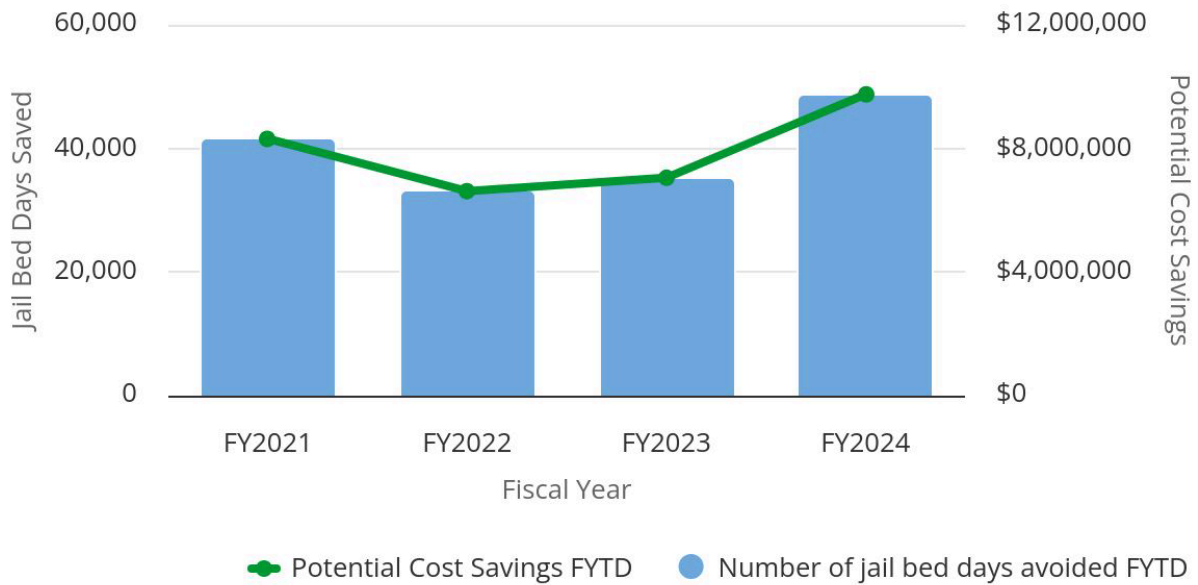
I have done my fair share of incarceration but never considered it "life changing." This program is EXACTLY that. To take mentally, physically, and spiritually bankrupt people at some of the lowest, darkest days of their lives and restore them beyond such measure has been remarkable to be a part of

STARR continues to enhance its programming to address identified needs among detainees. This past year, STARR offered the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) to help detainees develop parenting skills, improve relationships with their children, and build their families' well-being. FY24 also marked the first full year of Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) services following a successful launch in Spring 2023. SBIRT is substance use counselors' initial point of intervention with persons entering the Durham County Detention Center. A comprehensive, integrated public health model, 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. In addition to the continuation of these services, STARR began providing tobacco cessation classes in June 2024.



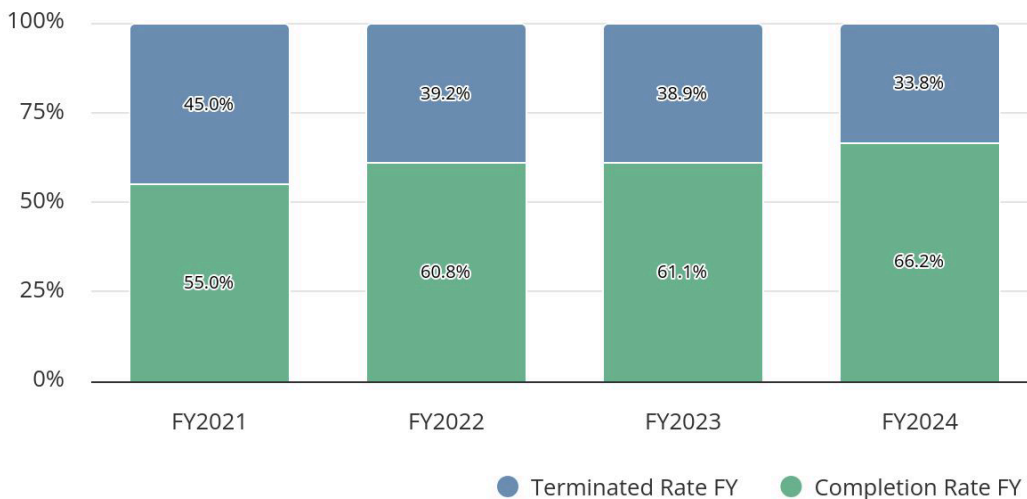
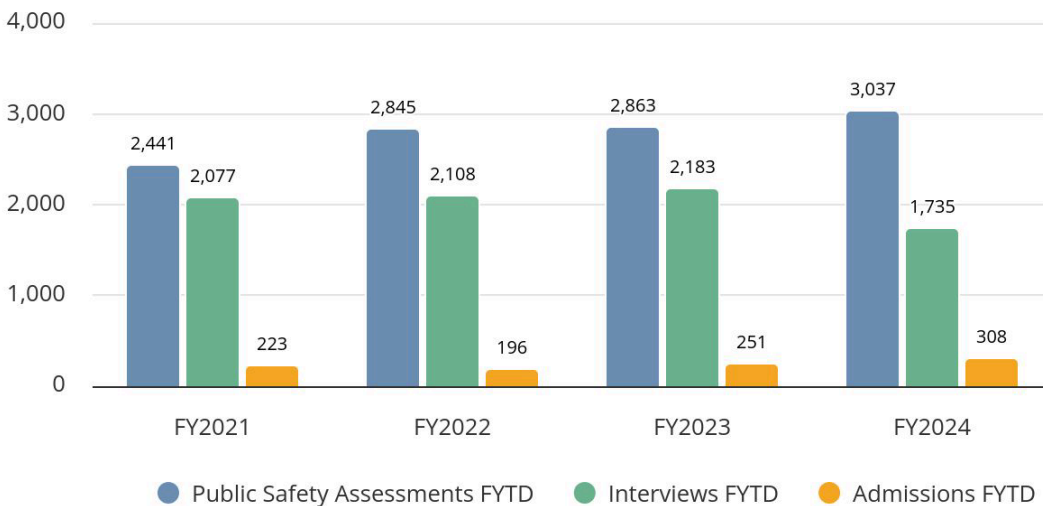
Pretrial Services

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. By keeping low-risk defendants out of jail, Pretrial Services also generates considerable community cost savings.



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. 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.



Diversion

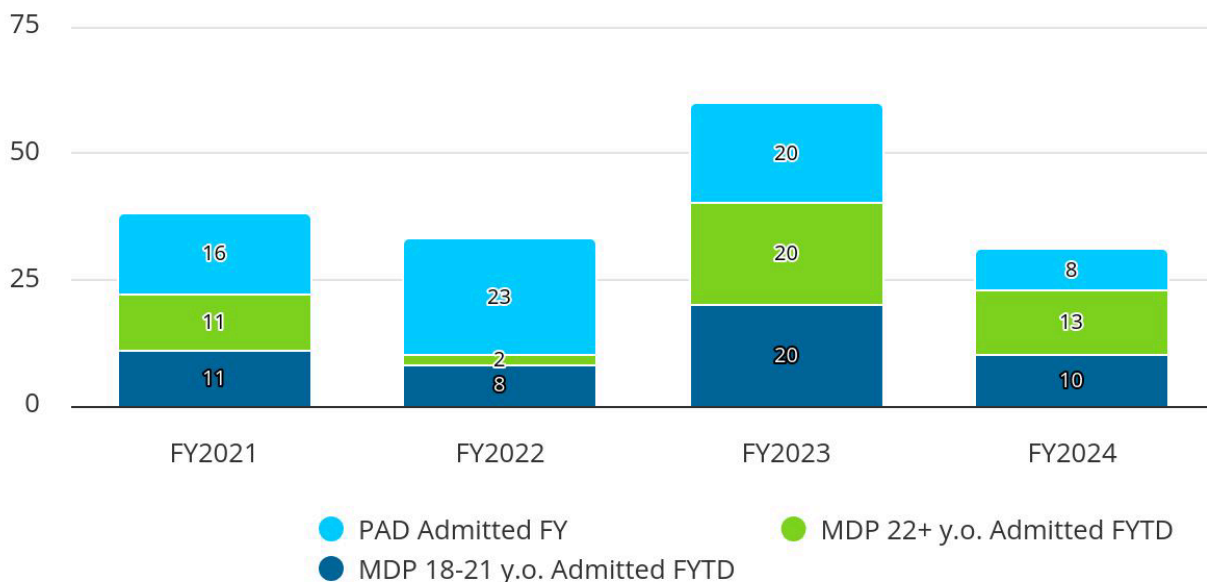
Misdemeanor Diversion Program

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 ages 18-26, with older adults allowed to participate at officer 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 4-12 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. The PAD program is offered at no cost to participants or their families.



Community Collaborations

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 FY24, the Committee updated Durham's Sequential Intercept Map, 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.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

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

Following a community needs assessment, the Durham County JCPC launched a competitive RFP process for youth-serving organizations to address the needs of court-involved and at-risk youth and fill service gaps. In FY23, JCPC approved two-year awards for the following organizations:

GRACED, Inc.	Durham Teen Court & Restitution
The P.R.O.U.D. Program	Elna B. Spaulding Conflict Resolution Center
EPIC	Triangle Literacy Center - YouthBuild
Project BUILD	Parenting of Adolescents (Exchange Family Center)



Elna B Spaulding Conflict Resolution Center
Durham Teen Court & Restitution





Justice Services Department Staff

The mission of the Justice Services Department is to promote community well-being and public safety by collaborating with the local criminal justice system. We provide restorative opportunities for justice-involved individuals through treatment, case management, wrap around and supportive services and supervision. We support their efforts through continuous improvement driven by the integrity, teamwork, and innovation of Justice Services Department staff.

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