JUVENILE & DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT

DESCRIPTION

The Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court hears criminal, civil, traffic, and social services matters. The Juvenile and Domestic court exercises Jurisdiction of juvenile cases in which they are the offender or victim, adult misdemeanor and preliminary felony hearings of cases involving family or household members, juvenile traffic infractions, child/spousal support, custody/visitation, and social services cases including foster care. The Juvenile Court differs from other courts in their commitment to rehabilitate those who come before the court, in addition to protecting the public and holding juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior. The Juvenile and Domestic Relations Clerk's Office is responsible for entering all cases, subpoenaing witnesses, processing criminal cases, writing support/custody orders, entering protective orders, answering phone calls, and assisting walk ins.

The Judges of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court are elected by the General Assembly for a term of six years. The Judges, Clerk, and Deputy Clerks are paid directly by the Commonwealth. The county provides space, furniture, and support for the court. Currently, five full-time judges preside over the Henrico County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

OBJECTIVES

- To update records quickly and accurately so that case information is available, and accounting of court funds is correct.
- To enhance customer service to effectively assist litigants and court professionals seeking information on cases
- To ensure the efficient and effective operation of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for the citizens of Henrico County.

FISCAL YEAR 2024 SUMMARY

Annual Fiscal Plan

| | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | Change |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Description | Actual | Original | Approved | 23 to 24 |
| Personnel * | \$ 33,487 | \$ 0 | \$ 107,650 | 0.0% |
| Operation | 80,139 | 107,275 | 107,275 | 0.0% |
| Capital | 0 | 3,750 | 3,750 | 0.0% |
| Total | \$ 113,626 | \$ 111,025 | \$ 218,675 | 97.0% |
| | | | <u> </u> | |
| Personnel Complement * | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

^{*}Full-time Personnel expenses are paid by the Commonwealth of Virginia and are not reflected in the county's personnel complement.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures

| | | | | Change |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | 23 to 24 |
| Workload Measures | | | | |
| Cases filed in Juvenile Court | 15,049 | 11,768 | 14,000 | 2,232 |
| Court Hearings | 38,874 | 31,418 | 36,500 | 5,082 |

^{*}Note: These estimates are prepared by State Supreme Court Personnel.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The FY24 budget for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court is \$218,675. This budget is an increase of \$107,650 over FY23 due to a salary supplement provided by Henrico County. These funds support the operational needs of the five judges and their staff, whose salaries are funded by the State.

DEPARMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS

As noted in the FY22 narrative, Barbara Rubel, a trauma informed keynote speaker came in June 2022. Barbara addressed issues of secondary/vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue from the workplace, and effective ways to cope. Henrico JDR staff, Judges, Court Services Unit staff, and Sheriff's Deputies were invited to attend.

Henrico JDR continues to remain fully operational with 13 full time employees and 2 part-time, hourly employees. Full staffing requires 23.5 full-time employees. Henrico County also funds 2 part-time positions for mediation coordinators. Management continues to recruit and train new employees.

In Spring 2022, Henrico JDR received an audit of FY21, and "no matters required written communication with court management."

In August 2022, Henrico JDR began receiving a salary supplement from Henrico County of \$4,000.00/year per employee. Management worked with Henrico HR to implement this new process. Receiving this supplement has improved employee morale and assisted in recruiting efforts. There have been 2 transfers from other JDR Courts who came to Henrico JDR because of the supplement.