



CJS is committed to core values of courage, compassion and connection in developing our workforce to provide effective community services.



The mission of Boulder County Community Justice Services (CJS) is to address core stability, provide hope, support and safety, inspire continual growth, collaborate and empower community.



# 2021

## COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT



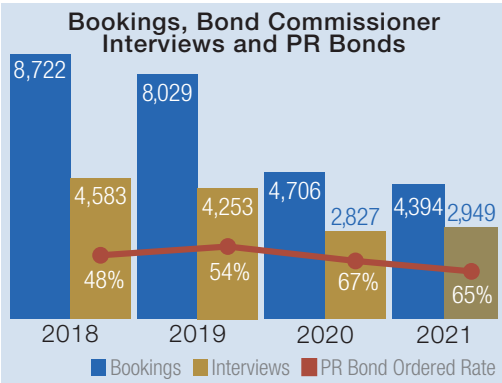
AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS  
**COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES**  
HEAD START  
HEALTHY YOUTH ALLIANCE  
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES  
WORKFORCE BOULDER COUNTY

**Generating a Lifetime of Opportunities**

# Community and Jail-Based Services

The **Bond Commissioners Unit (BC)** provides initial assessment of individuals after arrest in order to recommend or set bond, as well as non-monetary conditions such as pretrial supervision.

In 2021, CJS continued to facilitate system-wide bond reform efforts by regularly meeting with partner agencies to make data-informed decisions regarding pretrial reform. The Bond Commissioners Unit continued to provide risk assessment information to aid release decision making by the Courts, supporting the use of non-monetary Personal Recognizance (PR) bonds while tracking court appearance and public safety rates.



*In 2021, bookings were comparable to 2020 as part of efforts to keep the jail population reduced during the continuing pandemic.*

## Behavioral Health Team

CJS facilitates system-wide planning for individuals both in and out of jail. Grant and county-funded resources support specialized behavioral health assistance in the criminal justice system when a lack of treatment support has increased clients' involvement in the legal system:

**Jail Education & Transition Program (JET)** serves diverse clientele with a wide range of difficulties including unmet basic needs, severe mental health challenges, substance use disorders, and other criminogenic needs. Clients receive management and therapeutic support through assessments, case planning, group work, and individual counseling. JET utilizes evidence-based techniques to address these factors and create safer re-entry into the community.

89 clients served  
51 Re-entry clients  
96 students total tutored in Spanish, English & GED classes

**Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP)** supports incarcerated individuals who struggle with opioid addiction. Support includes safe withdrawal, medically-assisted treatment, recovery support, and re-entry services for a safe transition to the community. As grants expire, CJS will be collaborating with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office to sustain the program moving forward.

126 clients served  
2,131 client contacts individual & groups

**Bridges Court Liaison Program** provides individuals in the competency process with the highest mental health needs a connection to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community.

189 clients referred by court

**Mental Health Diversion Program (MHDP)** collaborates with system partners to divert individuals with mental health needs and certain charges from the justice system, providing connections to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community.

34 new clients  
85% successful completions

**Behavioral Health Assistance Program (BHAP)** provides justice-involved individuals with mental health or substance related needs a connection to behavioral health treatment and stabilizing resources in the community upon jail re-entry.

198 referrals for support  
492 case mgmt. meetings

# Alternatives to Incarceration

CJS programs provide alternative sentencing options to keep clients in the community and reduce jail bed usage while providing treatment, improving safety outcomes, and reducing criminal justice costs.

The **Pretrial Supervision Unit (PTS)** supervises clients who are court-ordered as a condition of bond. Tailored case management focuses on connecting clients to resources while helping ensure community safety. PTS supervised 3,210 cases in 2021. Supervision was adapted to safely continue supporting clients, including those of higher risk, in order to reduce the jail population during the pandemic.

64% of supervised clients had no new charges during the pretrial period

61% of supervised clients made all court appearances

Pretrial staff engage clients in efforts to achieve positive changes by identifying ways to strengthen their support networks and build their protective factors. Staff also assist them in navigating the court process and developing positive behavior change to support future success.

**Community Service** is a sentencing alternative that serves the courts and the community by placing clients into unpaid positions in approved non-profit agencies, providing them the opportunity to give back to communities where they have done harm.

1,309 intakes in the Community Service Program

1,576 hours completed by participants of **Fast Track**, an option for clients to complete their obligation over the weekend. Fast Track ran at half capacity due to the pandemic and public health restrictions.

47,309 hours of community service were completed, saving **\$1,433,936\*** to the county and local non-profits

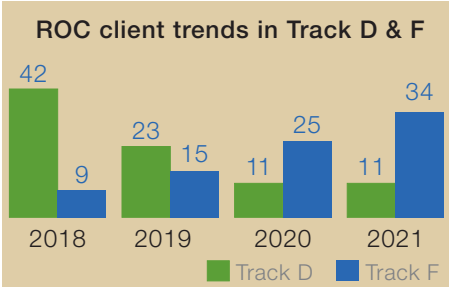
## Caring Crafts

As part of the Community Service program, clients can opt to purchase all supplies and create handmade items. These items are then donated to local non-profit agencies. Case managers match projects to a client's skills. It is an opportunity to create a meaningful restorative justice experience for our clients, our communities and the Court system. The program has donated 250 backpacks to the homeless and approximately 150 to school age children as well as 50 to new mothers.



The mural of a plum tree was created for the Wild Plum Center in Longmont, the Head Start location for the St. Vrain Valley School District.

**Restoring our Community (ROC)** is a substance use disorder treatment program designed for men who have three or more impaired driving convictions. With the felony Driving Under the Influence (DUI) legislation going into effect in 2017, the ROC program has continued to see an increase in Track F referrals and admissions. These participants need higher care, collaboration, and treatment to reduce their risk of getting another DUI.



Track D are lower level offenses with a minimum participation of 55 weeks. Track F are felony charges with a minimum participation of 79 weeks.

# Alternatives to Incarceration - continued

**Community Corrections** is a state funded program that diverts individuals from prison or transitions them to the community after release from prison. It provides residential community-based services for clients with the goal of supporting their productive reintegration into society. The board reviews cases and determines acceptance, with community safety as the primary consideration. While COVID-19 presented challenges, the halfway houses have returned to normal operations with safety protocols in place. The State of Colorado audited a facility this year and smaller audits were completed by Community Corrections staff. A client survey resulted in a lot of positive feedback for halfway house staff.

161 diversion cases with 86% acceptance rate      94 transition cases with 57% acceptance rate

## CJS Supporting Services

**Justice System Volunteer Program (JSVP)** volunteers provide juvenile and jail-based education, training, mentoring, resources, re-entry help through probation, and staff assistance. COVID pandemic restrictions in JSVP workplaces barred most volunteers, except for some interns and youth mentors who continued to meet safely in the community. Staff was redeployed to Emergency Management and Public Health to run weekly outdoor COVID testing sites as well as the Marshall Fire response.

9,041 hours donated      50 volunteers and interns

\$274,033 value of volunteer time\*

**Operational Services** managed an estimated 20,000 client contacts (in-person or by phone) referred by the courts for pretrial supervision and community service. Bilingual staff also manage office supplies, finance, and facility matters. In many cases, this team is the first contact clients have with CJS.

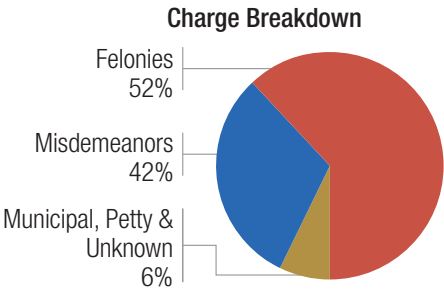
**Research and Planning** works with CJS and partners in the 20th Judicial District. Work involves systems planning and meeting facilitation, data and policy analysis, and scientific research. In 2021, this program collaborated with the District Attorney’s Office to analyze the impact of COVID-19 on the justice system.

**Business Services Team** represents CJS and the CS Dept. across county wide technology programs and initiatives. Creates and manages all data analytical reports and dashboards within CJS. Assists in technology and data programs and works in close partnership with County IT. The team had three major areas of focus this past year: Ensure staff and offices were appropriately equipped to provide quality service to our clients while majority of the staff continue working from home; create the necessary framework to measure the impact of COVID19 Recidivism on the justice system; and upgrade the Jail Management System at the Juvenile Assessment Center and Boulder County Adult Jail.

*\*Value derived from the Independent Sector calculation of 2021 Colorado volunteer time at \$30.31/hr*

# Supportive Juvenile Justice Programs

The **Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)** is Colorado's only county-funded intake, assessment, and short-term detention facility for juveniles. Its main purpose is to assess youth for release into the community, provide secure lodging, and ensure public safety. The center offers positive programming during incarceration to further reduce harm and utilizes volunteers and interns to assist staff with daily activities, as well as special programming including yoga, therapy dogs, and art education for youth.



**143** admissions  
**66%** male  
**15** average age

*Juvenile admissions declined in the last couple of years, due in large part to the pandemic and efforts to reduce the population of youth in custody. JAC staff put great effort into ensuring public health and safety of the youth and community.*

The **Youth Mentoring Program** served **42** clients in 2021. Volunteers provide one-on-one mentoring and guidance for a minimum of one year by building positive ongoing relationships, serving as role models, encouraging community connections, and offering support. Although the pandemic affected meetings at the beginning, volunteers have found ways to meet in-person while complying with social distancing requirements.

The **Boulder Enhanced Supervision Team (BEST)** provides services, supervision, and support for youth involved in the early stages of the justice system who are at high risk of being detained in a locked facility. BEST provided **52** opportunities for youth to return home with the support and structure needed to maintain safety for both the juvenile and community.

**72%** had no new charges  
**88%** of participants made all court appearances  
**5,693** days that juveniles were kept out of detention by participating in BEST

The **Family Navigator** supports families with questions about their child's involvement in the juvenile justice system. It serves as a one-time liaison between community agencies and families (Track 1), or a long-term support that increases self-efficacy as families navigate the system (Track 2). There were **698** contacts made in Track 1 and **19** families served in Track 2.

The **Juvenile Assessment Center Clinician** provides behavioral health services to detained youth and a caseload of outpatient therapy clients who have returned home. Youth receive assessment, case management, individual psychotherapy and other treatment referrals. A pro-social activity program created during the pandemic continued in 2021 for youth in the community. In collaboration with local organizations, youth were provided with group outdoor adventures like boxing, rock climbing, horseback riding, mountain biking and paddle boarding to develop wellness and connection while working through their legal, mental health and substance use challenges.



# CJS Progress and Updates in 2021

CJS implemented new programs and strategies parallel to nationwide reforms in criminal justice:

- The **Alternative Sentencing Facility (ASF)** building design has passed the first phase of site review with the City of Boulder and is poised for groundbreaking in Q4 of 2022. The construction phase will span 18 months with completion expected in Q1 2024.
- **JAG Practice Model Project** as part of the staffing plan for the ASF, CJS is developing a case management practice model for the use of evidence-based practices in the justice-involved community. This will facilitate consistent case management for clients as they progress through stages of the criminal justice process. JAG began in 2021 and funding for 2022 was granted.
- **Co-Responder and Behavioral Health Hub** led to the implementation of a resource and referral system (NowPow) that improves access to behavioral health services for criminal justice programs, and development of a conceptual framework for providing centralized navigation services.
- **Overdose Data to Action Project** uses data to guide policy and service efforts to prevent and/or mitigate the impacts of substance abuse in Boulder County. CJS continues to lead this multi-year project funded by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment which includes management of the Substance Use Advisory Group.

## A Note from Division Manager Monica Rotner, LCSW

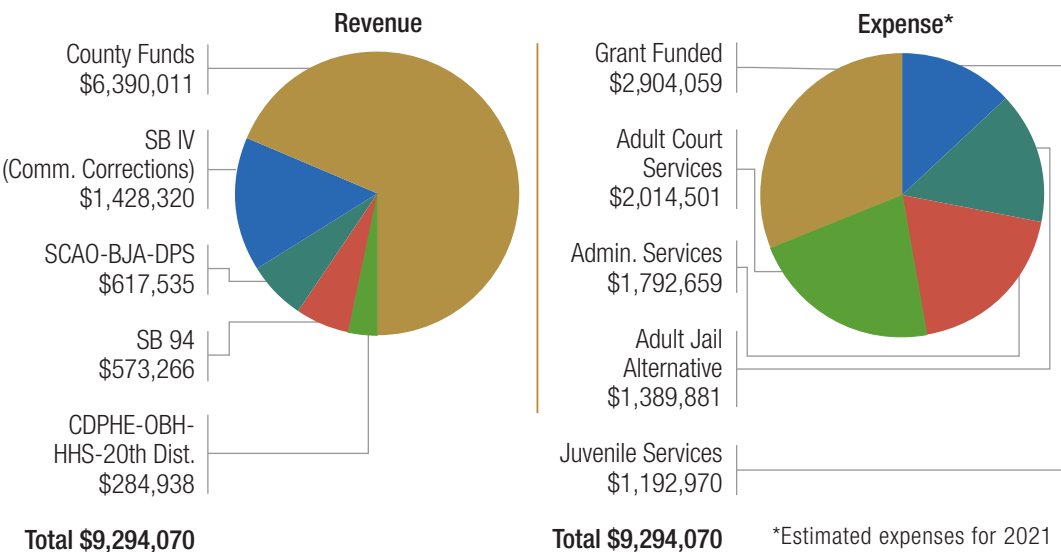
Throughout 2021, CJS, manifested its best hopes for our long-term vision for the community while managing through the pandemic, and being a part of this great community that experienced the tragic loss of ten community members and then the devastation of the Marshall Fires. We are grateful for the high level of collaboration with justice system stakeholders that manage the best in public service. CJS continued to:

- Further develop systems and reports for data-informed decision making among stakeholders in the county.
- Promote the social determinates of health and behavioral health services for those engaged in the criminal justice system and the broader community while maintaining public safety.
- Target grant sources that support programs using the Sequential Intercept Model, particularly at pretrial and reentry.
- Support staff innovation and evidence-based practices to meet changing community and workforce needs.

## CJS Revenues and Expenses

CJS collected **\$115,787** in Community Service client fees and **\$7,252** in ROC and JAC client fees. This revenue goes into the County General Fund.

### 2021 Revenues and Expenses



*Our special thanks to the Boulder County Commissioners for their continued funding and support of the Community Justice Services Division.*