



Guitar crafted by a client participating in community services alternative program, Caring Crafts.

# 2024

## COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES

# ANNUAL REPORT



**COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

Generating a Lifetime of Opportunities

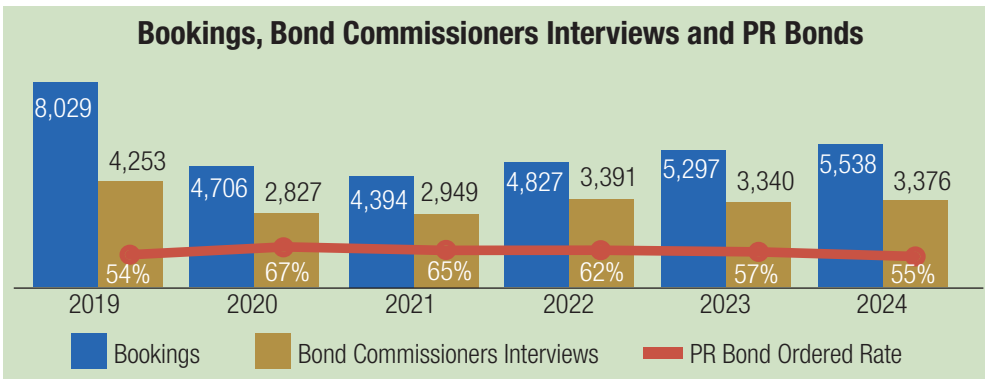
AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS  
**COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES**  
HEAD START  
HEALTHY YOUTH ALLIANCE  
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES  
WORKFORCE BOULDER COUNTY

## Alternatives to Incarceration

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

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

In 2024, CJS continued to facilitate system-wide bond reform efforts by regularly meeting with partner agencies to make data-informed decisions regarding pretrial reform. The BC 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.



**Pretrial Supervision Unit (PTS)** supervises court-ordered clients as a condition of bond. PTS supervised **3,733** cases in 2024.

Case managers engage clients to assist in navigating the court process and developing client-focused case management plans to support future success. They can refer a client to the Resource Navigator Program which assists clients struggling with behavioral health issues by connecting them with stabilizing services in the community. These can include housing, medical, mental health, transportation, benefits enrollment, and identification documents. Case managers and the resource navigator work collaboratively to remove financial and basic needs barriers to build stability and increase clients' compliance with pretrial conditions.

**66%** of supervised clients made all court appearances

**76%** of supervised clients had no new charges during the pretrial period

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

### Community Service Alternatives

As part of CS, clients with case manager discretion can opt for one of our alternative community service options: Caring Crafts, Backpack Program, or Fast Track. The Backpack Program was created by case managers as a result of COVID. Backpacks are donated to Boulder County non-profits and CJS programs.

**1,817** intakes in the Community Service Program

**2,272** hours completed by participants of Fast Track

**43,894** hours of community service were completed, saving **\$1,595,986** to the county and local non-profits (Value derived from the Independent Sector calculation of 2023 Colorado volunteer time at \$36.36 per hour).

# Behavioral Health Teams

CJS provides high quality supportive services to justice involved individuals with behavioral health needs, providing continuity of care from the jail to the community. **This year, jail-based behavioral health programs were awarded the Community Partner of the Year by Bridge House/Ready to Work.**

**Jail Education & Transition Program (JET)** is a jail-based therapeutic community program providing assessment-based and trauma-informed services to meet individual client need. Program goal is to support individuals with mental health and substance use disorders to gain insight into thinking and behavior patterns that lead to incarceration. The program had **93** re-entry clients and **80** GED tutoring students.

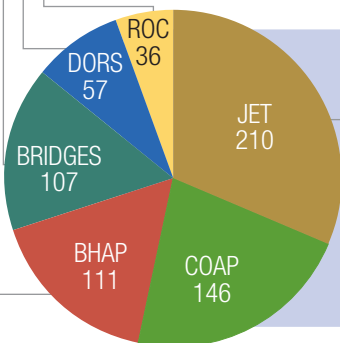
**Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP)** is a jail-based therapy program providing screenings to assess opioid dependency and risk for overdose, support timely linkage to services and supervision including safe withdrawal, ongoing treatment, and recovery services. COAP and Jail Medication Assisted Treatment (JMAT) work together to promote individual recovery goals. COAP served **68** re-entry clients in 2024.

**Behavioral Health Assistance Program (BHAP)** provides intensive re-entry case management to individuals with behavioral health needs being released from the Boulder County Jail. BHAP partners with Clinica Family Health and Wellness to provide jail-based treatment for mental health and substance use inside the jail and peer support both in the jail and after release.

**Bridges Court Liaison Program** identified, advocated, and reduced barriers to improve outcomes for participants where competency was in question. The three liaisons serving Boulder County transitioned to a state run program. The program served **107** participants until June 2024.

**Diversion Opportunity for Resources and Stabilization (DORS formerly MHDP)** collaborated with the District Attorney's office to provide intensive case management services and an avenue for charges to be dismissed. This program transitioned to be fully managed by the District Attorney's office in July 2024.

**Restoring our Community (ROC)** is a substance use disorder treatment program designed for men who have three or more impaired driving convictions. Clients are clinically assessed for appropriate programming to improve their quality of life, reduce unhelpful behaviors, and address the conditions related to their offense.



## Behavioral Health Teams Clients Served

Numbers served by each program vary due to complexity of cases, length of services, and resources.

**79%** of clients successfully completed the program

**18** months average stay for successful clients

**95%** of graduates had no new DUI charges filed one year post-program

**Clinical and Resource Engagement Program (CARE)** focuses on resource support for individuals on probation, increasing access to housing, benefits, and mental health support. Team and services increased serving over **699** referrals. This year, the CARE team finished its grant-related collaboration with a local counseling agency serving individuals with PTSD on probation. The success of the programming led to the agency continuing the program outside of the grant with community members.



## Other Alternatives & CJS Supporting Services

**Community Corrections** is a state-funded program that diverts individuals from prison or transitions them to the community after release from prison. The Community Corrections Board reviews cases and determines acceptance, with community safety as the primary consideration. Over the last 1.5 years, our evaluator has been interviewing clients in prison to provide a report to the board with meaningful information directly from clients. Clients shared feedback about their interview experience stating they felt heard and seen as a person as opposed to just a file. Other boards expressed interest in replicating this program.

**205** diversion cases with **83%** acceptance rate

**108** transition cases with **51%** acceptance rate

**Alternative Sentencing Facility (ASF)** will provide a dignified, therapeutic living environment for up to 252 residents who have been sentenced to one of the county's community-based sentencing programs. It will offer an array of rehabilitative programs designed to treat individual criminogenic risk factors, and support clients' successful re-entry into society. ASF construction is expected to be completed by May 2025.

**Justice System Volunteer Program (JSVP)** community participants provides case management, evidence-based therapy, re-entry assistance, and pro-social interactions with juvenile and adult clients. While program changes and restrictions in the jail continue to limit volunteer engagement, interns and Community Corrections Board volunteers served virtually and in-person. JSVP staff mentored new county volunteer coordinators, trained new disaster response staff, and improved emergency response procedures.

**1,344** client interactions

**3,051** volunteer hours

**\$110,934** value of volunteer time\*  
\*Value derived from the Independent Sector calculation of 2023 Colorado volunteer time at \$36.36 per hour.

**Operational Services** supports Community Justice Services (CJS) by managing **20,000** annual client interactions, including in-person and phone contacts for court-referred pretrial supervision and community service. As the first point of contact, the bilingual staff ensures clear communication, a welcoming environment, and seamless access to services. They also oversee office supplies, finances, and facilities, playing a vital role in CJS operations.

**Research and Planning** works with CJS and partners in the 20th Judicial District to perform professional and technical work in the justice system and the Community Services Department. Work involves systems planning and meeting facilitation, data, legislative and policy analysis, legal and scientific research, and presentations to stakeholders. Projects in 2024 included analysis of pretrial substance use monitoring trends and JET and COAP program trends.

**Business Analyst Team** represents the IT interests of CJS and the CS department. Works very closely with CJS Research & Planning, County IT, system partners, and assist with all data and data analytical requests. The team's focus has been: ASF building and hardware planning, development of a division wide new case management system (Unify) and, ensuring the smooth functioning of CJS IT systems while complying with County IT's technology upgrades.



# Supportive Juvenile Justice Programs

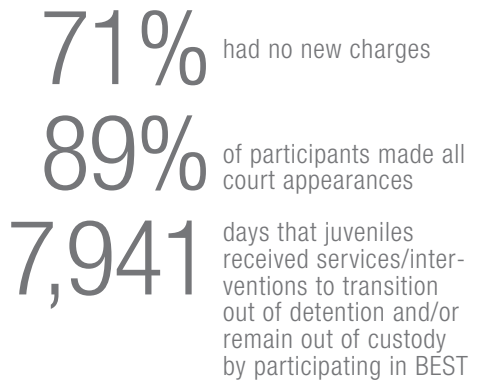
The **Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)** is Colorado's only county-funded intake, assessment and short-term detention facility for juveniles. Its main purpose is to assess youth for release into the community, provide secure lodging, and ensure public safety. The center offers positive programming during 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.



*Juvenile admissions declined in the last few years, due in large part to legislation that reduces the population of youth in custody, by reserving detention for those youth with the highest criminal risk. JAC staff work diligently to ensure public health and safety of the youth and community.*

## 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 **68** opportunities for youth to return home with the support and structure needed to maintain safety for both the juvenile and community.



**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 **629** contacts made in Track 1 and **57** families served in Track 2. Also, there were **1,516** referrals to community supports and programs during 2024.

**Juvenile Assessment Center Clinician** provides supportive behavioral health services to detained youth and a caseload of ongoing outpatient therapy clients who have returned to the community. This includes assessment, care coordination, and individual psychotherapy, as well as other treatment, mentorship, and pro-social activity referrals.



# From our Division Manager Monica Rotner, LCSW

Reflecting on 2024 brings celebration of many accomplishments and forward movement for Community Justice Services and our criminal justice system. Efforts made during the year by criminal justice system stakeholders included:

- Collaborative work with the State Bridges program, the 20th Judicial bench, the District Attorney’s Office, the Boulder County Jail, and the Public Defender’s Office to create a competency docket pilot and competency diversion processes.
- An award of Community Partner of the Year from Bridge House/Ready to Work to CJS Jail programs including JET, COAP, and BHAP, and Sheriff’s Office programs JBBS, JMAT, Transitional Housing, and Pre-Sentence Re-Entry.
- Thanks to the Boulder County Commissioners and the staffing plan for the Alternative Sentencing Facility, we now have sustainable funding support for our critical Behavioral Health Assistance Program (BHAP).

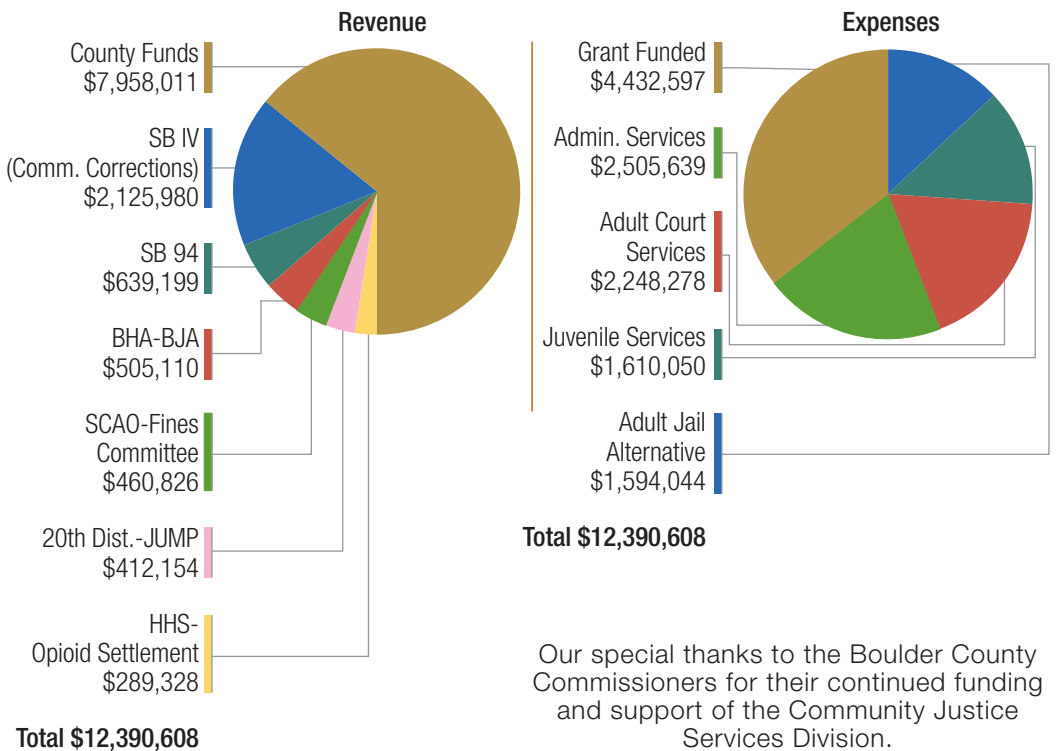
As we move into 2025 and the official launch of the “The Pelle Center”, the county’s new Alternative Sentencing Facility, we utilized 2024 to ensure we had an adequate organizational composition for a successful opening of the building. We strive to maintain and continue to adjust our core CJS correctional services to meet the growing needs of our community and stakeholders.

We thank the Boulder County Commissioners, state and local stakeholders, our engaged staff, and the clients we’ve served for the accomplishments of 2024.

## CJS Revenues and Expenses

CJS collected **\$142,116** in Community Service Client Fees and **\$9,150** in ROC and JAC Client Fees. This revenue goes into the County General Fund.

### 2024 Revenues and Expenses



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