
BE D·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Julie Oliver, Ph.D.

State Forensic Director
DBHDD Office of Forensic Services

6.26.24

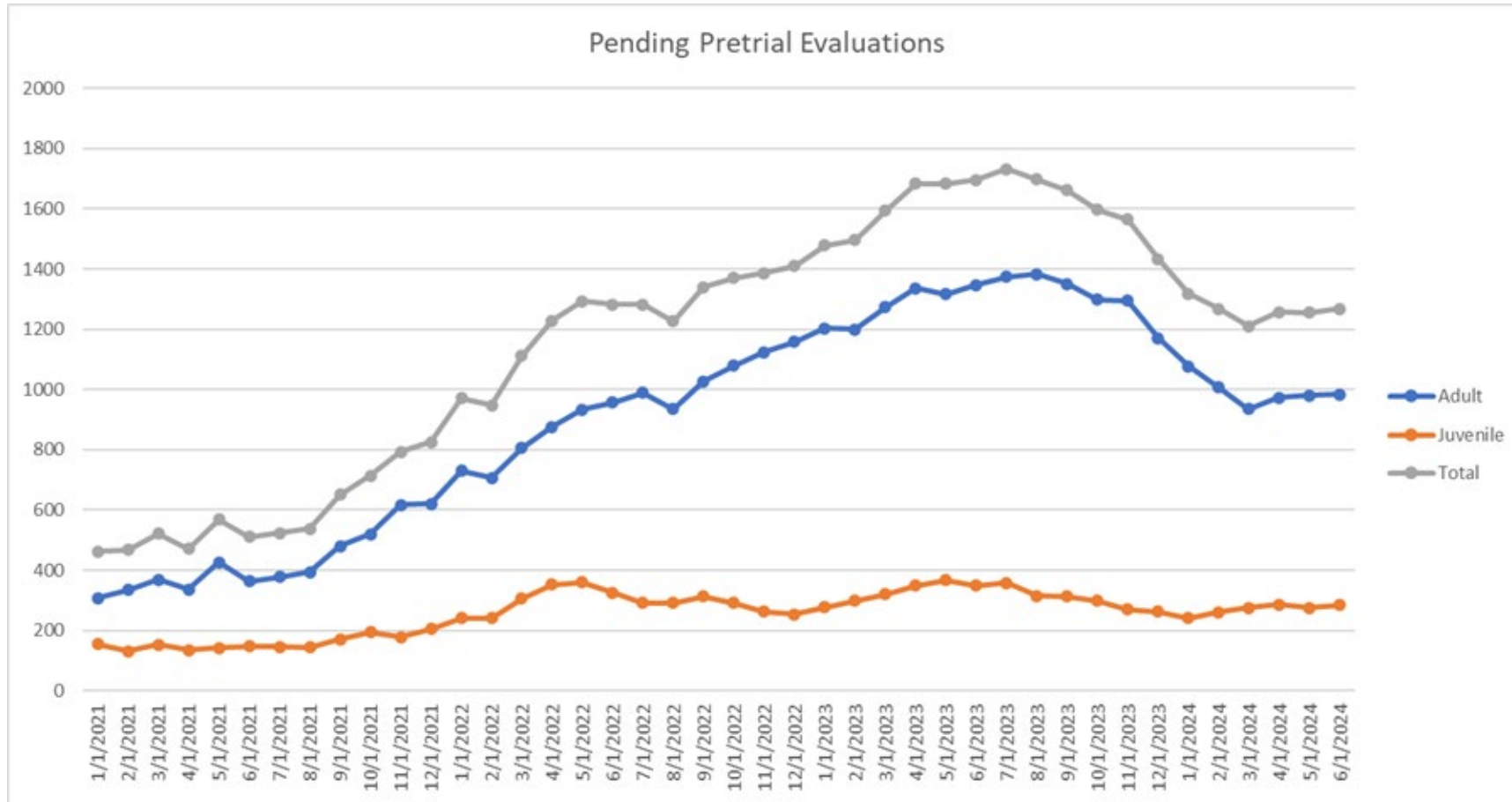


D·B·H·D·D

Presentation Overview

- Current Status - Data
- Diversion Efforts & Initiatives
- Strategic Planning
- Competency Advisory Committee

Forensic Services Pretrial Evaluations Pending



Adult Pretrial Evaluations – to be evaluated 6.4.24

Data as of 4:20PM

922

Number of Unique Defendants

Number of Cases

936

Felony = 510
Misdemeanor = 218
Missing = 196

All Orders

Report Type Ordered	Distinct Case Count
Competent	446
Competent + Responsible	443
Responsible	41
440	5
Disposition	1
Total	936

State Court Orders

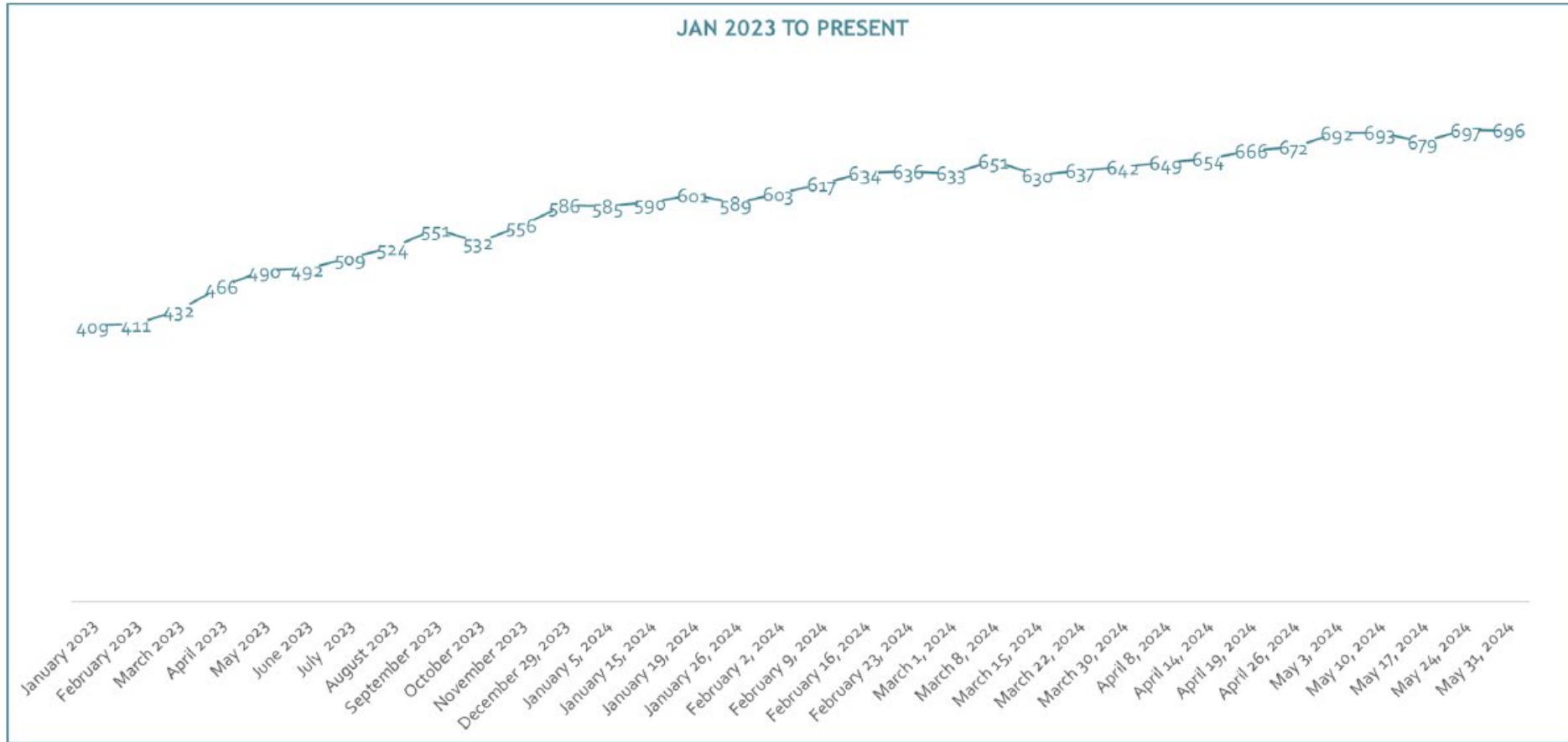
Report Type Ordered	Distinct Case Count
Competent	135
Competent + Responsible	80
Responsible	2
Disposition	1
Total	218

Adult Pretrial Evaluations – report pending 6.4.24



Report Type Ordered	Distinct Case Count
Competent + Responsible	78
Competent	72
Responsible	15
Total	165

Admission Waiting List 5.31.24



Admission Waiting List Breakdown

- Total = 696
- Bond = 33*
- State Court Only = 80
- Female = 139
- Pretrial (initial evaluation) = 9
- Hold = 33
 - Cannot be admitted
 - Unable to locate
 - On bond out of state
 - Medical issues

Admission Wait Times

- Males = 339 days
- Females = 184 days

Jail-Based Restoration Programs

- Chatham (CARES) – February 2024
 - 14 beds
 - Current census = 12
- Cobb (RISE) – January 2023
 - 20 beds
 - Current census = 20
- Fulton
 - 16 beds
 - Current census = 16

Diversion Pilots

- Gwinnett County Pretrial – misdemeanor
 - Dr. Bailey/GRHA and View Point Health
- Henry County Admission Waiting List – misdemeanor
 - Behavioral Health/Forensic Services and McIntosh Trail
- Fulton County* – misdemeanor
 - Fulton County Solicitor General
 - JBA Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Grant
 - Court Clinic Model
- Richmond County – Forensic Jail Liaison
 - Richmond County Jail and Forensic Services

Initiatives – Adult Evaluations

- Georgia Toolkit
 - Eliminate the Wait – Texas
 - BJA grant – Center for Justice Innovation
 - Goal – outline best practices to reduce referrals/wait times for individuals who are justice involved
- Court Clinics
 - BJA grant – Center for Justice Innovation
 - Hall County
 - Piloting in other counties
 - Abbreviated report
 - Focus on diversion recommendations when appropriate
 - Examine evaluation model and productivity requirements
 - Identified day for jails to share information

Initiatives – Adult Evaluations

- Contract evaluators
- Hospital “moonlight” evaluations
- Incentive pay for increased productivity

Initiatives – Juvenile Evaluations

- Juvenile Evaluation Manager – started December 2024
 - Updated court order
 - Clarify what courts want/need
 - Direct families to participate in interview/scheduling
 - Order in lieu of ROI, specify who should release records
 - Parent questionnaire completed at time of court order
 - Priority assignment of cases to meet courts' needs
 - Evaluator training & updated report format
 - Collaborate with DJJ staff for scheduling – decrease RYDC LOS
 - Equalize wait times for evaluations across the state
 - NGRI policy
- Morehouse School of Medicine/Dr. Vinson Contract – July 2024
 - Complete up to 100 juvenile evaluations in Fulton and Metro Atlanta
 - Recruit and train Forensic Psychiatry Fellow

Initiatives - Hospital

- Continue with FCC check-ins and re-evaluation
 - “Informal” jail-based restoration
- Dodge County Jail-Based Restoration Program
 - Goal is August 1 opening
 - 32 beds
- Operation New Hope at GRHS
 - Goal is October opening
 - 30 bed transition unit
 - Vocational and life skills training

Initiatives – Hospital Discharges

- Discharge Planning
 - Forensic Functional Assessment
 - Discharge Planning Worksheet
 - Updated Discharge Planning policy
- Community Integration Home & Forensic Apartments
 - Video introduction to placements for staff and future residents
 - Behavioral interventions/de-escalation training for staff
- Alternative funding sources to overcome significant SS delays

Initiatives - Communication

- Notification Letters to Judges
- ForensicAdmissions@dbhdd.ga.gov
- Admission wait times on website
 - <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/forensic-services>
 - Updated monthly

Strategic Planning

- Update Forensic Referral
 - Is diversion an option?
- DD Services Collaboration
 - Start waiver process at time of evaluation
- Evaluator Training
 - Diversion recommendations judges can use
 - Consider medical issues/NH recommendations
 - Determining when someone is non-restorable

Strategic Planning

- Artificial Intelligence
 - Risk Assessments & Forensic Evaluations
- Circuit/County-Specific Planning
 - Forensic data by circuit/county/judge
- State Justice Statistics Grant
 - Examine cost of restoration
 - Case outcome after restoration

Competency Advisory Committee

- Examine Pathway for Misdemeanor vs. Felony cases
 - Non-violent vs. violent cases
 - Collecting information from other states
 - Location of restoration, reduced restoration period
- Education
 - Bench Card
 - Standard Court Orders
 - GA Toolkit
 - Forensic Data to Judges
 - Community Restoration Materials
 - DD Services Information
 - Diversion Process Map
 - Special Populations – dementia, IDD