### 2024 Business Plan Presentation

Child Advocacy and
Juvenile Services
Michelle Vereen, Director





## 2022 - 2023 YTD Recap

#### Accomplishments

- Federal reimbursement funding for advocacy and legal representation
- Supplemental state funding for CASA program expansion
- Implementation of validated risk/needs assessment and service planning tool

#### **Challenges**

- Facility capacity necessary to accommodate departmental growth
- Creating professional growth and advancement opportunities within the current organizational structure



#### **External Influences**

- Local, state, and federal legislation
- Courts
- Community
- State and local agencies
- Child welfare practices
- Juvenile justice reform



#### Notable Metrics/Trends

- National youth population demographics
  - Racial/ethnic minority projected to increase 30% by 2050
  - White youth projected to decrease 16% by 2050
  - Racial/ethnic minority youth continue to be over criminalized and overrepresented in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems



### Notable Metrics/Trends

240,000 children under age 18

- 70% African-American, Asian, Hispanic, Other
- 30% non-Hispanic White
- 38,000 children living below poverty level

- Annual 10% in referrals to juvenile court over past three years
- Black youth are 77% more likely to be referred to juvenile court than White youth
- 4,700 16- to 19-year-olds considered idle



# Identified Constraints & Opportunities

- Organizational structure limits professional advancement for proper succession planning
- Facility capacity limits long-term organizational growth
- Collaboration with County departments and local agencies to expand service delivery
- Engagement with nonprofits and community stakeholders to address needs of underserved youth





### **Operational Decisions**

- Create paths for professional growth, development, and advancement
- Expand CASA program
- Utilize technology for datadriven decision-making



# 2024 Operational Budget Changes

#### **Decision Package**

- 2 Senior Probation Officer positions to provide an avenue for retention, professional development, and proper succession planning
- Cost \$135,861



## Planning for the Future

 Continue to create opportunities for professional growth

Expand programming

Public/private partnerships





# **Total Budget**

<b>Total Requested Budget</b>	\$5,862,427
Decision Packages	\$135,861

