



# Juvenile Services in Multnomah County

A Continuum for Public Safety,  
Community Connection,  
and Youth Success

May 27, 2015

# Our Goals

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## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

*Protect our community in the short and long term from risky behavior and harm*

## **COMPETENCY & POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

*Help youth become competent and caring individuals with healthy ties to our community*

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

*Take action to repair the harm caused by crime and help youth take responsibility for their behavior*



# Our Commitment

**In Multnomah County, we are committed to keeping kids connected to their home communities, as well as promoting public safety by utilizing interventions that will increase the success of youth in the juvenile justice system, and reduce the number of youth who further penetrate the juvenile or adult criminal justice systems.**



# Making Our Commitment Come Alive

## Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative: A Framework for Action

### EIGHT CORE STRATEGIES OF JDAI

#### Collaboration

Create formal and informal structures to promote collaboration between public agencies, community organizations, youth and families.

#### Data-Driven Decisions

Diagnose system's problems and assess impact of reforms. Create areas of shared understanding and agreement amongst stakeholders.

#### Objective Admissions

Identify which youth pose substantial risks to public safety or flight. Measure system's adherence to its own stated values (overrides).

#### Alternatives to Detention

Create new options for youth who would otherwise be detained, grounded in principles of adolescent development and reflecting youth's needs and cultures.

#### Case Processing

Expedite the flow of cases within the system to reduce length of stay and open space in alternative to detention programs.

#### Special Detention Cases

Re-examine policies that today result in high rates of detention for youth who lack a public safety or flight risk (e.g., probation violations).

#### Reducing Racial Disparities

Develop specific strategies aimed at identifying and eliminating bias and ensuring a level playing field for youth of color.

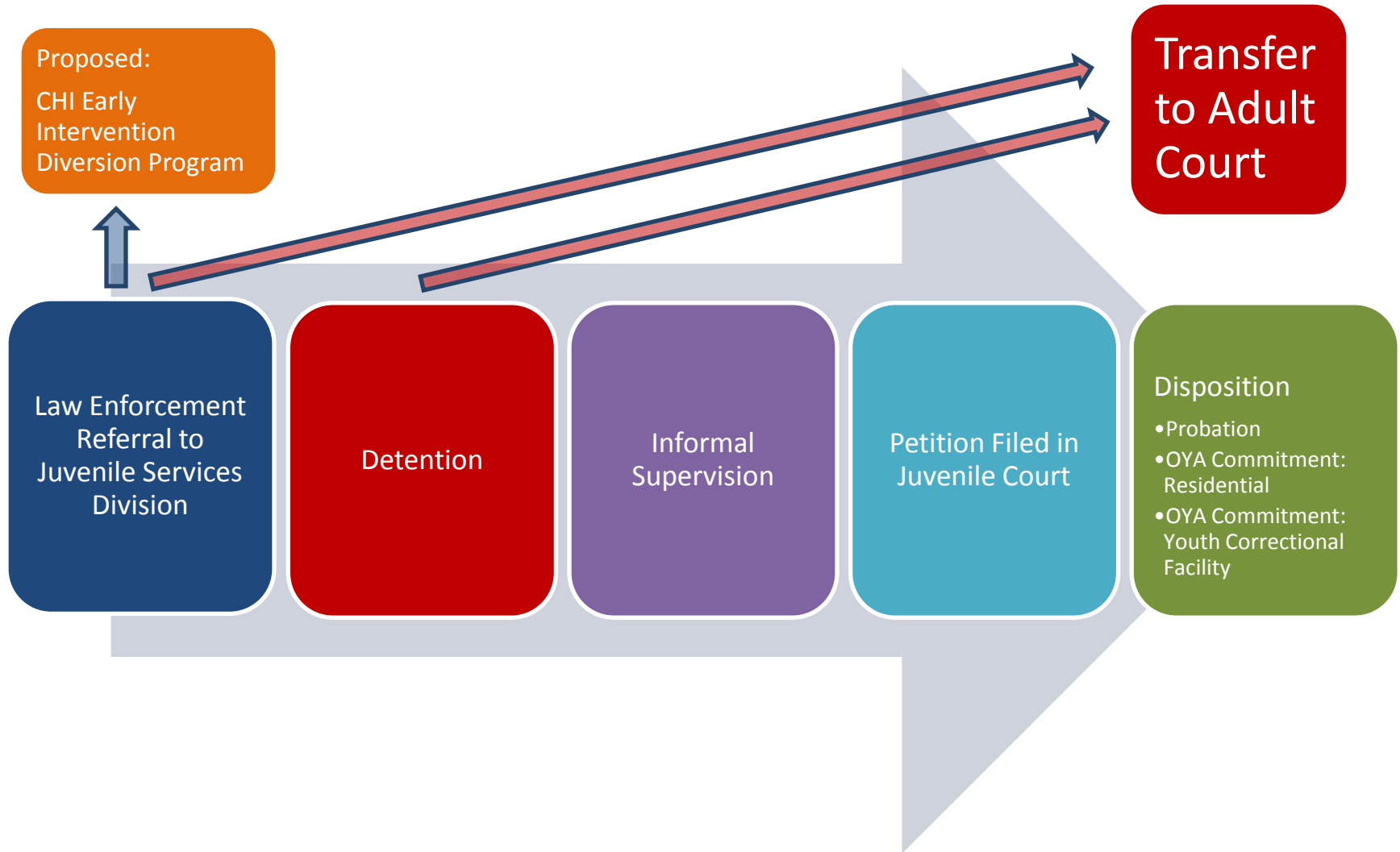
#### Conditions of Confinement

For those youth where confinement is the right option, maintain safe and humane conditions, a standard that is continuously evolving (*see 2014 revised standards*).





# Key Decision Points in the Juvenile Justice System



# Top 5 Delinquency Risk Factors

According to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Risk Assessment Tool administered to youth supervised informally or formally by the Juvenile Services Division in 2014, the top 5 risk factors for youth were:

- » **Behavioral Issues (88%)**
- » **Peer Issues (80%)**
- » **Family Issues (72%)**
- » **Substance Abuse Issues (67%)**
- » **School Issues (62%)**



# Key Areas of Juvenile Services in 2014

## Custody

**721** Youth admissions to detention

## Pre-Adjudication, Treatment & Community Interface Services

**282** Youth supervised through Informal Supervision

**331** Youth served through JSD Treatment Services

**129** Youth were referred to and received treatment services from community providers

**336** Youth served through Community Interface Services

## Probation and Accountability Services

**419** Youth supervised on Formal Probation Supervision

**492** Youth served through Accountability Programs (Community Service, Project Payback, and Community Monitoring Program)





# Juvenile Services Division: Focus on Victims

- \$56,000 paid to restitution by youth who completed community service work through Project Payback
- Contract in place with Resolutions NW for Victim Offender Mediations
- Started Victim-Offender Dialogue Program utilizing volunteers
- JSD staff trained on “Best Practices with Victims”
- Collaborated with DA’s Office to update our Interagency Agreement to delineate roles and responsibilities to ensure victims receive required notifications, and the rights of victims are honored



# Focus on Building a Fair and Just Juvenile System: Reducing Racial & Ethnic Disparities

## In Multnomah County:

- Black youth are nearly 5 times more likely than white youth to be referred to the Juvenile Services Division by Law Enforcement
- Black youth are nearly 2 times more likely than white youth to have a formal delinquency petition filed in Juvenile Court
- Latino youth are more than 3 times likely than white youth to be committed to a youth correctional facility
- Latino youth are more than 2 times likely than white youth to have their cases transferred to adult court (Measure 11/Negotiated Waivers)
- 60% of the youth who received a criminal referral in 2014 were youth of color



## Early Intervention:

# CHI Early Intervention Diversion Program

Proposed countywide expansion in FY16 of current pilot program with Gresham Police Department, Latino Network, and POIC

- **Concept:** Pilot a pre-referral, community-based early intervention and police diversion program for first-time youth with low level offenses
- **Model:** Utilize existing Community Healing Initiative (for probation youth), a community-based, culturally specific, family focused services for eligible youth and families at the “shallow end” of the juvenile justice continuum
- JCP “Quick Screen” risk assessment completed by providers



# CHI Early Intervention Diversion Program Goals

- Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities at referral to the Juvenile Services Division decision point
- Eliminate the use of “Warning Letters” and provide opportunities for all referred youth and families to increase protective factors and access services and community supports
- Reduce recidivism of eligible youth
- Reduce number of youth of color penetrating to the deep end



# Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline: The Need for Educational Advocacy

Among youth who end up in the Oregon Youth Authority system:

- More than a third qualify for special education
- More than 60% have a diagnosed mental health condition
- 85% have a history of suspension and expulsion from school



# Intervention: Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline with the SchoolWorks Program

- **Advocacy for education services**, supports, classroom placement or school placement that will support the identified goals
- **Representation of the student** at formal meetings or hearings, including Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, Placement Meetings, Expulsion Hearings, Meetings for Functional Behavioral Assessment and Behavior Intervention Planning, etc.
- **Advocacy for services or supports outside of the school setting** that may support the student's ability to succeed, such as additional tutoring, mental health counseling, after school or summer activities, or others
- **Coordination** of the above activities with the parent/foster parent, Juvenile Court Counselor and/or DHS case worker, as well as other professionals and individuals supporting the student
- **Review and monitoring** after the plans and services are identified to ensure that they are delivered or to determine whether additional changes to a student's plan are appropriate



# SchoolWorks Outcomes:

## 2,709 Closed Cases from 2002-2014

Identified goal	Number of Students with Need	Percent Achieved or Partially Achieved
Improved Academic Achievement	875	84.7%
Improved Behavior	752	85.4%
Reduced Absences	338	74.3%
Re-Enrollment	489	81.6%
Prevent School Move	179	82.7%
More Appropriate Placement	500	92.2%
Prevent or Reduce Expulsion	284	91.9%
New Plans (IEP, 504)	979	96.4%
Establish Eligibility for Spec. Ed. Or 504	337	90.2%
New Services	333	97.3%
Less Severe Disciplinary Action	111	91.9%



## Intervention:

# CHI for Gang-Involved Youth on Probation

- Community Healing Initiative (CHI) is a family- and community-centered collaboration designed to stop youth and gang violence in Multnomah County by addressing its root causes
- CHI applies culturally responsive supervision/suppression, intervention, and prevention strategies to youth and families who have recent involvement with high risk activities and behaviors relevant to violence/gun violence, and are on probation
- Each family receives a comprehensive assessment and individualized family service plan
- A network of public safety and social service agencies, and community-based organizations known as the CHI Team, focuses on sustainability through fostering family and community ownership and empowerment. Services are evidence-based, culturally specific, and family oriented





# Intervention:

## CHI Mentoring Services

- Proposed new program for FY16 to provide mentors to youth on probation who are gang-involved and participating in the Community Healing Initiative (CHI)
- **Mentors Who Get It:** Key theme of recently completed OJJDP Community Gang Model Assessment Report was the need for mentors with lived experiences of gangs to work with gang-involved youth
- Research has shown that juvenile justice youth who have participated in various mentoring programs had a reduction in recidivism compared to youth who did not receive mentoring services



## Intervention:

# Youth Villages Intercept Program

- Through a partnership with Oregon Youth Authority, JSD utilizes the Youth Villages Intercept Model, an evidence-based, culturally responsive service that is used to divert youth from residential placements and/or youth correctional facility commitments
- The Intercept Model provides intensive wraparound services to youth and families in their homes, and is in alignment with DCJ's philosophy of keeping kids connected to their communities



## Intervention:

# Assessment & Evaluation Residential Program

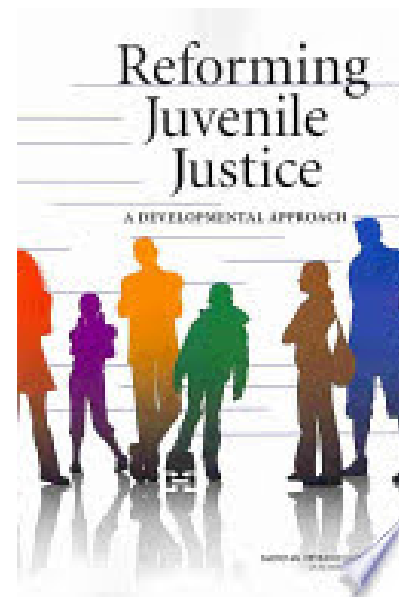
- Staff-secured residential program for assessment/evaluation, stabilization, treatment readiness and transition planning
- Participants receive comprehensive assessment administered by a licensed mental health professional and may be seen by consulting psychiatrist, if needed
- Individualized service plans are family-driven and reflect how the program will address the youth's issues
- Individual, family and group counseling/skill-building is provided in a culturally responsive environment
- Bilingual (Spanish/English) staff coverage 7 days/week




# The Future: A Developmental Approach National Academy of Sciences Study

## **Major Conclusions:**

- Being held accountable for wrongdoing and accepting responsibility in a process perceived as fair promotes healthy moral development and legal socialization
- Conversely, being held accountable and punished in a process perceived as unfair can reinforce social disaffection and antisocial behavior
- Policies and programs that are predominantly punitive neither foster prosocial development nor reduce recidivism
- No convincing evidence that confinement of juvenile offenders beyond a minimum amount required to provide intense services reduces likelihood of subsequent offending
- Evidence of developmentally sensitive interventions effectiveness bolstered by analyses of costs and benefits
- Pattern of disproportionate minority contact throughout juvenile justice process is likely to contribute to perceptions of unfairness and impede efforts to encourage minority youth to accept responsibility for their criminal acts





*“For these are all  
our children. We  
will all profit by,  
or pay for,  
whatever they  
become.”*

James Baldwin

*“There can be no  
keener revelation  
of a society’s  
soul than the  
way in which it  
treats its  
children”*

Nelson Mandela



QUESTIONS?

