

Multnomah County Juvenile Crime Prevention Strategic Plan

2009-2011 Biennium – Executive Summary

JCP Planning Overview

Multnomah County's Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) strategic planning process sets the direction for Juvenile Crime Prevention in our community in the coming years, assuring a comprehensive, balanced strategy to fight crime and keep our community safe. Through this process our community identified how to address public safety issues with existing resources, and target service gaps for future development. This plan belongs to the community, and extensive efforts were made to be inclusive.

The JCP planning process was orchestrated by a collaboration between the Multnomah County Commission on Children, Families and Community and the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice. The JCP plan is approved by the Commission on Children, Families and Community, the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) and its juvenile justice forum the Juvenile Justice Council, the Board of County Commissioners, and the Oregon Commission on Children and Families.

The process included input through community stakeholder forums made up of representatives from the public safety, child welfare and education systems, as well as local youth-serving community organizations and youth. JCP planning occurred in multiple meetings facilitated by the LPSCC executive director. Participants from the community forums contributed their experience and expertise to develop community issue areas for concentration of strategies in the 2009-2011 biennium, revolving around education, employment, safe communities, and healthy families.

Analysis

The planning process included analysis of risk profile data on the youth most likely to enter or further penetrate the juvenile justice system, including Juvenile Crime Prevention Risk Assessment data, decision point analysis by race/ethnicity, crime trend and recidivism data, census demographic data, and geographical overlays of justice-involved youth residences with prevention service locations. Key Multnomah County analysis points:

- Overall Crime and recidivism continue to trend downward
- Of youth screened by the juvenile justice system:
 - 1 in 4 youth had a school failure or disconnection problem
 - 5 in 8 youth had peer relationship problem
 - 2 in 5 youth had substance use beyond experimental stage
- Of youth who start the 9th grade
 - 58% of all youth graduate
 - 51% of African American youth graduate
 - 40% of Latino youth graduate
- Comparing population percentages with racial/ethnic breakouts at key decision points, African American youth are overrepresented at the police referral, adjudication and commitment to Youth Correctional Facility (YCF) decision points. Latino youth are overrepresented at the YCF commitment decision point.

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- Prevention services are not concentrated in areas where youth who are charged with crimes are living. The David Douglas area especially stands out in this regard.

Strategic Themes

Four main strategic themes emerged in the planning process:

- **Connection to Community.** Participants voiced a strong desire to replace one-sided institutional responses with collaborative prevention and intervention approaches. Community members and organizations are committed to crime prevention and express a will to work with systems to get better results.
- **Empowering Families.** Parents want to know how to navigate complex systems and successfully advocate for their children. They call for meaningful ways to express concerns about systems contribute to system improvement.
- **Commitment to Ending Racial and Ethnic Disparities.** Overall community safety continues to improve in the County. Crime and recidivism continue to decline. But for more than the last decade African-American and Latino youth have continued to experience disproportionate school failure/fallout/pushout, police contact, detention, commitment to youth correctional facilities, and transfers to adult criminal court. We have to do better. No single solution will correct the disparity, which is complicated, diffuse and often unacknowledged. Communities, families, schools and child-serving agencies voiced determination to share the responsibility for getting better outcomes for African American and Latino youth.
- **Commitment to Cross-System Partnerships.** Child welfare, juvenile justice, law enforcement, schools, treatment and community organizations express continued commitment to work together to fight crime, coordinate services, and improve systems.

Community Issues, Gaps, Barriers, Strategies & Activities

The planning process identified community issues and gaps & barriers within each issue area. It became clear that many of the gaps and barriers identified were related to ineffective collaboration with families and community, and between youth-serving organizations. Others were the result of shrinking resources. Some were rooted in policy.

Participants proposed strategies and activities to address the gaps and barriers. Many current activities will continue in the next biennium rounding out a comprehensive set of crime prevention strategies. These include continuing the allocation of JCP Prevention funds to outpatient substance abuse & mental health treatment, and cognitive behavioral skill development courses within the Department of Community Justice.

Following is a list of community issues with proposed strategies and activities prioritized in the planning process:

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Acronyms:

- **CEP:** Community Education Partners
- **CCFC:** Commission on Children, Families and Community
- **DCJ:** Department of Community Justice
- **ELS:** Education Life and Success Work Group
- **JJC:** Juvenile Justice Council
- **MESD:** Multnomah Education Service District
- **MYC:** Multnomah Youth Commission
- **YGV:** Youth and Gang Violence Work Group of the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council

Community Issue – Systemic Improvements

- **Strategy – Overall Quality Improvement:**
 - Implement an evidence-based case management system. **Lead:** DCJ
 - Develop an action plan to improve outcomes for African-American and Latino youth in the justice system. **Involved:** CCFC, MYC, DCJ, YGV
 - Develop an action plan to prevent delinquency for African-American and Latino youth at risk of entering the system. **Involved:** CCFC, MYC, DCJ, YGV
- **Strategy – Developing Culturally Competent Services**
 - Address needs of other youth populations experiencing over-representation in the Juvenile Justice System. **Involved:** CCFC, DCJ, YGV, JJC
- **Strategy – Multi-Agency Networking:**
 - Continue existing collaborations and partnerships to specifically address resource gaps in East county (e.g. David Douglas neighborhood) and set and reach outcome targets. **Involved:** Commissioner Judy Shiprack, East County Caring Community, CCFC, DCJ, YGV
- **Strategy – Building Capacity:**
 - Increase Detention Alternatives: Community Detention/Electronic Monitoring, shelter beds. **Lead:** DCJ

Community Issue – System Review of Measure 11 on Youth and Public Safety

- **Strategy – Engaging Individuals and Organizations:**
 - Convene a cross-system local M-11 policy group with broad community involvement focused on optimizing community safety outcomes. **Lead:** Judge Nan Waller & JJC

Community Issue – School Discipline

- **Strategy – Develop a Program:**
 - Through collaboration with education stakeholders develop consistent discipline policies aimed at correcting racial & ethnic disparity in school discipline. **Involved:** CCFC, DCJ, CEP, ELS
 - Expand suspension alternatives programming for youth; expand Restorative Justice programming in other area schools. **Involved:** CCFC, DCJ, CEP, ELS, YGV

Community Issue – Career and Vocational Supports

- **Strategy – Develop a Program:**
 - Increase GED/vocational program capacity, with a focus on maximum academic achievement for increased educational opportunities and earning capacity. **Involved:** MESD, DCJ, CCFC, Community Partners
 - Develop community service experiences w/ real world partners. **Involved:** DCJ, Community Partners
 - Increase vocational and peer mentorship programs to enhance employment skills, including real-world work experience. **Involved:** DCJ, Community Partners

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Community Issue – Community/Environmental Factors

- **Strategy – Alter or New Practices, Approaches, Methods:**

- Utilize community project model similar to Harlem Children's Zone to develop block by block outreach in targeted area, build community projects with all ages involved. **Involved:** DCHS, CCFC, East County Caring Communities, YGV

Community Issue – Resources and Relationships

- **Strategy – Building Advocacy:**

- Provide education and culturally-responsive training and information to help families navigate complicated systems (e.g. school, justice, etc.) and effectively advocate for their children. **Involved:** CCFC, DCJ, YGV, Community Partners
- Strengthen and expand the network of support for youth and increased access to services by high risk youth. Work with partners in the community to reflect all areas: schools, extra-curricular, volunteering, community service, mentoring, after school, sports, work experience, faith based, etc. **Involved:** DCJ, CCFC

- **Strategy – Develop or Alter an Activity:**

- Implement a parent/family mentorship program, focusing on parents of high-risk, African-American and Latino gang-affected youth. **Involved:** DCJ, Community Partners
- Enhance partnership with schools and districts to provide training in juvenile justice system/approaches. **Involved:** DCJ, CCFC, YGV, JJC

- **Strategy – Developing Culturally Competent Services**

- Increase multi-systemic training and education around racism, implicit bias, prejudice, systemic exclusion, equity and disproportionality. Work with system partners to develop accountability measures. **Involved:** CCFC, DCJ, YGV, Community Partners

Moving Forward

Through the process of creating this plan parents, youth, schools, treatment professionals, mentors and youth advocates have asked clearly for change. They want to be involved in shaping Juvenile Crime Prevention services and strategies in the county. A number of community members very bravely asked the system to do better, and they offered their help to make it better. People inside the system have an obligation to listen to the voices of the people they serve and find meaningful ways to work together to get better results. Putting this plan into action provides opportunities to do that.

The strategies and activities included in this plan are ambitious. The next step is to create a work plan with a process for monitoring progress, including clear milestones for implementation and outcome measures for understanding how effective the strategies are.

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Planning Participants

Engaged in the JCP Community Stakeholders Planning Sessions

Dave Koch – Director, Department of Community Justice, Juvenile Services Division
Karen Gray – Superintendent, Parkrose School District
Carla Piluso – Chair, Commission on Children, Families and Community
Corie Wiren – Chief of Staff, Multnomah County District 4 – Diane McKeel
Abbey Stamp – Department of Community Justice
Laura Burgess – Department of Community Justice
Michelle DeShazer – Department of Community Justice
Erica Finstad – Center for Family and Adolescent Research
Craig Bachman – Department of Community Justice
Lorena Campbell – Public Affairs Liaison, East County Schools
Rebecca Stavenjord – Staff, Commission on Children, Families and Community
Sgt. Dave Thoman – Portland Police Bureau, School Resource Officer, Marshall HS
Elizabeth Davies – Staff, Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
Debbie Hansen - Oregon Youth Authority
Julie LaChapelle – Oregon Department of Human Services, District 2
Joan Williams – Portland Public Schools
Jessie Dudley – Oregon Commission on Children and Families
Diane Cohen-Alpert – Commission on Children, Families and Community
Joshua Todd – Director, Commission on Children, Families and Community
Scott Taylor – Director, Department of Community Justice
Rob Ingram – Director, City of Portland Office of Youth Violence Prevention
Rick Jensen – Department of Community Justice
Tom Cleary – Multnomah County District Attorney's Office
Tina Edge – Department of Community Justice
Amy Parkhurst – Worksystems Inc., Workforce Investment Act Region 2
Any Sekino – Oregon Commission on Children and Families
Matthew Lashua – Chief of Staff, Multnomah County District 3 – Judy Shiprack
Jan Bishop – Department of Community Justice
Linda Ridings - Commission on Children, Families and Community
Greg Belisle – Impact NW
Andre Channel – Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center
Deidra Gibson-Cairnes – Department of Community Justice
Hon. Merri Souther Wyatt – Oregon Judicial Department
Elizabeth M. Levi – Metropolitan Public Defender, Portland Office
Julia Mitchell – Community Member
Mark McKechnie – Juvenile Rights Project
Keith Bickford - Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
Lynn Magnum – Department of Community Justice
Kris Bella – Northwest Behavioral Health Care Services
Shannon Wight – Partnership for Safety and Justice
Pam Hiller – Multnomah County Health Department
Lonnie Nettles – Department of Community Justice
Ricardo Lopez – Catholic Charities, El Programma Hispano
Olga Kaganova - Commission on Children, Families and Community
Shalonda Menefee - Commission on Children, Families and Community
Larry Fritz – Department of Community Justice
Cathy Sherick – Greater Gresham Area Prevention Partnership
Judy Griswold – Oregon Department of Human Services, District 2
Sharon Maxwell-Hendricks – Community Member

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Rob Halverson – Department of Community Justice
Thach Nguyen – Department of Community Justice
Peter Ozanne – Director, Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
Gabriel Cruz – Central City Concern, Alcohol and Drug Prevention
Ivette Iparraguirre – Central City Concern, Alcohol and Drug Treatment
Raidel Leon – Central City Concern, Alcohol and Drug Treatment
Vickie Parker – Department of Community Justice

Involved through planning with the Juvenile Justice Council

Hon. Nan Waller - Oregon Judicial Department
Neal Japport, Oregon Judicial Department
Bill Feyerherm - Portland State University
Joanne Fuller - Multnomah County Department of County Human Services
Carolyn Graf - Assistant SDA2 Manager DHS Child Welfare
Carol Herzog - Oregon Judicial Department
Linda Hughes - Oregon Judicial Department
Julie McFarlane - Juvenile Rights Project
David Knofler - Oregon Judicial Department
Hon. Paula Kurshner - Oregon Judicial Department
Hon. Michael Loy - Oregon Judicial Department
Hon. Keith Meisenheimer - Oregon Judicial Department
Hon. Maureen McKnight, Oregon Judicial Department
Lisa Fithian-Barrett - Oregon Judicial Department
Tammy Jackson, Portland Public Schools
Louise Palmer - Brindle, McCaslin & Lee Attorneys At Law
Christine Pedersen - Oregon Judicial Department
Hon. Tom Ryan - Oregon Judicial Department
Charlene Rhyne – Department of Community Justice
Thuy Vanderlinde - Department of Community Justice
Suzanne Wehrley – State of Oregon Department of Human Services, District 2
Hon. Diana Stuart - Oregon Judicial Department
Susan Svetkey - Oregon Judicial Department
Steve Walker – Department of Community Justice
Karen Rhein - Department of Community Justice
Katherine Tennyson - Oregon Judicial Department
Rod Underhill - Deputy District Attorney/Chief
Heather Updike - Department of Community Justice
Michael Ware – Black Parent Initiative
Donna Henderson - Portland Police Bureau
Cynthia Thomas-Johnson, New Decision Treatment Foster Care
Jodi Shaw - Multnomah County Department of County Human Services
Dana Schnell - Department of Community Justice
Lori Arnett - Department of Community Justice
Lore Cop - Department of Community Justice
Gloria Martin - Oregon Judicial Department