2012 Program Report Card: Juvenile Probation – (Judicial Branch)

Quality of Life Result: Connecticut citizens live in safer communities. Connecticut children learn from their mistakes, and live in families that meet their needs and communities that support their success.

Contribution to the Result: The purpose of Juvenile Probation is to reduce the risk of recidivism by engaging juveniles and their families in meaningful services and ensuring compliance with court orders, all of which result in safer communities.

Program Expenditures	State Funding	Federal Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding	*Juvenile Probation is supported by contracted treatment programs and services that receive funding from the Judicial Branch totaling \$43.4m.
Actual FY 11	\$14,809,131	\$0	\$0	\$14,809,131	
Estimated FY 12	\$15,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,500,000	

Partners: Department of Children and Families, the Governor's Office, General Assembly, Office of Policy and Management, State Department of Education, DMHAS, Office of Workforce Competitiveness, Public Defenders, Prosecutors, parents, parent and juvenile justice advocates, treatment providers, Youth Service Bureaus, Department of Correction, and universities

How Much Did We Do?





Story behind the baseline: Juvenile court intake fell 18% from 13,626 in FY 2008 to 11,180 in FY 2011. While there has been an increase in intake during the past two years, the level is still lower than FY2007 and FY 2008 when 16 year olds were not in the JJ system. The impact of this reduction in intake has been significant, including leading to the closing of the New Haven Detention Center in October 2011.

Trend: **▲**

How Well Did We Do It?

Juveniles Engaged in Criminogenic Need-based Treatment, 2009-2011



Story behind the baseline: All juveniles placed on probation or supervision are assessed for risk and need. Juvenile probation officers are required to make referrals to treatment and services designed to address top criminogenic needs. This performance measure displays the extent to which juveniles are starting and completing treatment. Research suggests that the completion of targeted treatment is connected to lower recidivism rates. The positive trend in this area is a reflection of consistent identification and attention to the criminogenic needs of juveniles.

Trend:

How Well Did We Do It?

Technical Violation Percentage, 2007-2011



Story behind the baseline: A Take Into Custody Order or Warrant can be issued when there is a technical violation of probation orders. This rate has steadily declined over the past four years, reaching a low of just 3.3 percent of court intake in 2011. Juvenile Probation Officers are encouraged to utilize graduated sanctions, which may include more frequent contact, additional treatment requirements, or electronic monitoring, prior to seeking a Take Into Custody Order.

Trend: **▲**

Quality of Life Result: Connecticut citizens live in safer communities. Connecticut children learn from their mistakes, and live in families that meet their needs and communities that support their success.

Is Anyone Better Off?



Story behind the baseline: This performance measure examines the rate of re-arrest (recidivism) at 12-months after the start of a period of probation or supervision. For example, 51 percent of the juveniles placed on probation or supervision in 2006 were rearrested by the time their 12-month follow up period ended in 2007. This trend has been declining over the past five years as the focus on risk reduction strategies has grown in juvenile probation. It is important to note that the 2011 Year-to-Date figure includes the first cohort of 16-year olds served in the juvenile justice system.







Story behind the baseline: Juveniles committed to either long-term residential placement or to incarceration at the Connecticut Juvenile Training School have decreased by 63 percent over the past 12 years and by 37 percent from 2004-2011. Even with the addition of 16-year olds to the juvenile justice system beginning in 2010, the number of commitments remains below 2008 levels. A greater reliance on the use of Case Review Teams over the past several years has contributed significantly to serving more highrisk juveniles in more cost-effective community settings.

Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:

- Participation in the Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project (JJSIP) coordinated by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform aimed at further aligning CSSD Operations and Programs with evidence-based approaches to reduce recidivism;
- Partner with DCF, SDE, Advocacy Groups, LISTS, local school officials, and researchers to improve behavioral interventions and opportunities for diversion at the local level to reduce school-based arrests;
- In consultation with the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute (CJJR), work to address the unique issues presented by children and youth who are known to both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. The goal is a reduction in the number of youth placed in out-of-home care, the use of congregate care, the disproportionate representation of children of color, and the number of youth becoming dually-adjudicated; and
- In consultation with the Center for Children's Law and Policy, utilize working groups in Hartford and Bridgeport to develop strategies to reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact.

Data Development Agenda:

Developing data collaboratives with education systems to track long-term education outcomes

Trend: **▲**

Trend: