

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 Legislative Office Building 2pm Room 2D

### Progress Report



- Introduction of new JJPOC members
- Update by the Office of the Child Advocate
  - PA 18-31, Section 7 (2): report on the current conditions of confinement of youth and available services of those detained or incarcerated in correctional facilities, juvenile secure facilities, and other out-of-home placements in JJ and CJ systems
- Presentation: Recommendations and Findings from the Study of Multi-Agency Data (2005-2015)
- Update regarding transfer of juvenile justice functions from DCF to Judicial Branch
- Update on OPM juvenile justice recidivism report
  - PA 16-147, Section 16: track and analyze recidivism rates of all children involved with the JJ system



#### Update by the Office of the Child Advocate



Presentation: Recommendations and Findings from the Study of Multi-Agency Data (2005-2015)



Overall, the purpose of this study is to address the legislative mandate pursuant to **Public Act 14-217 Section 79**, which requires an assessment of state-run facilities that house children and youths involved in the juvenile justice system.

#### Facilities included in study:

- JB-CSSD: Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven Detention Centers
- DCF: Connecticut Juvenile Training School and Pueblo Unit
- DOC: Manson Youth Institute and York Correctional Institution

### Focus of Discussion



- Study includes 2005 to 2015
  - Time frame for Discussion:
    - 2013 to 2015 (post-Raise the Age to 18)
- State-run facilities that currently house youth
  - JB-CSSD (presented in June) and DOC (presented in July)
- Relevant Findings
- Recommendations to JJPOC

### Information/Data Reviewed:



- Characteristics about the youth:
  - Analyzed across gender and time
- Additional predictive analyses for the outcomes:
  - Length of stay
  - Rearrests after 12 months
  - Readmissions after 12 months

### **Relevant Findings**



- Most commonly youth admitted were:
  - 15 years old Black males
    - Black youth steadily represented around 45% of all youth
    - Male youth represented around 88% of all youth
  - Residing in Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven
  - Offending in Bridgeport, Waterbury, and Hartford
  - Arrested five or more times
    - Male youth were more likely than female youth to have a higher number of arrests before detention (5 arrests vs 4 arrests, respectively).
  - Charged with Robbery 1st degree, Larceny 1st degree, and Assault 1st degree
    - However, more than a quarter of the charges were categorized as drug offenses.

# Relevant Findings (cont.)



- Male youth were 3.5 times more likely to spend 8 or more days in detention than female youth.
- As youth experience a greater number of arrests before their first admission, it is 1.45 times more likely that they will be rearrested, in comparison to youth who have fewer number of arrests before their first admission.
- As youth experience a greater number of arrests before their first admission, it is 1.3 times more likely that they will be re-detained, in comparison to youth who have fewer number of arrests before their first admission.

# Overview of Recommendations to JJPOC



#### **RECOMMENDATION 1:**

• It is recommended that juvenile justice professionals be engaged in a planning process to target youth who have received three or more **arrests.** As these youth are different from the youth who are firsttime offenders, the continuum of services should have a *differential response system* for identifying ways to prevent detention in the first place, as well as for youth who are reentering the community after detention.

# Overview of Recommendations to JJPOC



#### **RECOMMENDATION 2:**

- Additional collaboration is needed with ongoing efforts to study disproportionate minority contact with a *decentralized approach*. It is therefore recommended that juvenile justice professionals specifically **focus on identifying and implementing responses within communities to reduce system contact for Black male youth**. These responses should be *culturally competent* and based specifically on the risk and protective factors in their environments.
- Furthermore, it is recommended that facility staff should ensure that demographic information on the youth is up to date and accurate during the intake process. This will increase the accuracy of how the data reflects race based on how the youth identifies.

# Overview of Recommendations to JJPOC



#### **RECOMMENDATION 3:**

- It is recommended that juvenile justice professionals continue to identify youth who use drugs versus youth who commit drug offenses but do not use drugs. Information obtained through assessment should be more nuanced in the data to inform future research.
  - For youth who are charged with drug offenses but do not use drugs, it is further recommended that vocational education be expanded to provide economic opportunities that may prevent further system contact. Additionally, potential employers should be engaged so that the benefits and risks of providing job opportunities to justice-involve youth can be better understood.
  - For youth who use drugs, it is further recommended that data capture more about drugs of choice and drug use habits. While some drug use data is captured through assessments, additional information can help to better link youth to treatment and programs, as well as identify trends in youths' drug use habits.

### Final Thoughts?







Update Regarding Transfer of Juvenile Justice Functions from DCF to Judicial Branch



#### Judicial Branch: Court Support Services Division





# Enhancing Community Services

- Prosocial Supports and Mentoring
- Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
- Problem Sexual Behavior Treatment
- Educational Support Services (ESS)
- Fostering Responsibility, Education & Employment (FREE)
- MST TAY (MST for Transition Age Youth)
- Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO)
- MST Family Integrated Treatment (MST FIT)
- Reintegration Mentors
- Linking Youth to their Natural Communities (LYNC)

### **Expanding Residential Services**

#### HAMILTON (6 beds) – Available as of June 1



A two (2) week clinically-driven assessment and brief intervention residential program for boys located in Bridgeport. Boys under probation supervision at risk of entering detention or violating probation.

#### REGIONS Secure Residential Treatment (24 boys & 12 girls) – July 1

Program will operate in the juvenile detention centers effective July 1st. Length of stay approximately 3 months with the goal of preparing a boy to transition to a staff-secure REGIONS program. Girls will be treated at Journey House.

#### Per Diem Beds – July 1

Available for specialized needs (e.g., problem sexual behavior, major psychiatric illness, developmental disabilities).

#### REGIONS Staff-Secure Residential Treatment (26 boys) – Fall

A six (6) month treatment program for boys with cases disposed to 'probation supervision with residential placement.' Program designed to reduce delinquency risk factors and support a successful reintegration back into the community.

### **REGIONS-Secure**



- > 12-bed capacity per unit; unit management model
- > Yale Behavioral Health (clinicians, psychologist)
- Cognitive-behavioral therapy within trauma-informed framework
- Interventions: antisocial thinking and attitudes, impulsivity, oppositionality, substance use, gang involvement, mental health, family distress
- Prosocial and leadership skill building through recreation and creative experiences
- Education and vocational opportunities
- Short-term Assessment of Risk and Treatability Adolescent Version (START-AV) to determine progress on treatment goals
- Step-down to REGIONS staff-secure or release with services



#### Update on OPM Juvenile Justice Recidivism Report



#### Discussion

## July 19<sup>th</sup> JJPOC Meeting

- Presentations:
  - Draft JJPOC Strategic Plan
  - DOC & DCF Recommendations and Findings from the Study of Multi-Agency Data (2005-2015)



Next JJPOC Meeting July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 2:00-4:00 PM