

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

March 21st, 2019 Legislative Office Building 2pm Room 1B

Progress Report



- Announcement: Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG Justice Center)
- Status Update of 2019 Recommendations
- Consolidation of Juvenile Functions within the Judicial Branch CSSD
- Presentation: Preliminary Data Review of "Car Theft"
- JJPOC Workgroup 2019 Work Plans
 - Cross Agency Data Sharing
 - Incarceration
 - Diversion





Current Status of Population

174 children were transferred from DCF to the Judicial Branch CSSD effective 7/1/18

- 65 of those juveniles remain on probation
 - 42 remain under probation supervision or pending with court orders
 - 15 have been placed under Probation Supervision with Residential Placement and are placed in a REGIONS residential program. Of those:
 - 9 are in REGIONS Secure Programs
 - 6 are in REGIONS Staff Secure Programs
 - 2 females are under Probation Supervision with Residential Placement and placed in Journey House
 - 6 are in specialized community residential programs
 - The remaining juveniles who transferred over have had their probation cases closed because their DCF commitment end date, which by operation of the law became their Juvenile Probation Supervision period end date, has passed.



Disposition Options effective 7/1/18

- Probation supervision with residential placement up to 18 months
- Probation supervision also up to18 months
- Both can be extended an additional 12 months (total period of up to 30 months)

New Residential Programs: The Judicial Branch has established new treatment-oriented residential facilities for juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent.

- These fall into two categories Secure and Staff-Secure.
- The recommended level of a placement is determined through a comprehensive assessment process that informs the Court to assist in the adjudication of each case.
- Juveniles are not sentenced to a set period of time in these programs. Discharge is based on the progress they make with respect to their individualized treatment goals.



Secure residential facilities.

- The Judicial Branch has established a REGIONS (Re-Entry, Goal Oriented, Opportunity to Nurture Success) secure treatment program for males at each of the two detention centers (Bridgeport and Hartford). Each program has 12 slots, for a total capacity of 24.
- In addition, the Judicial Branch issued an RFP for a community-based secure facility and received one response. It's anticipated that it will be awarded and will provide 8 secure beds for males in a contracted facility on or after July 1, 2019 with admissions expected in the fall.
- Girls: The Judicial Branch assumed the operation of Journey House, a secure residential facility for girls formerly operated by DCF.



Staff-Secure Facilities

- The Judicial Branch has entered into two contracts for 2 staff-secure facilities to serve juveniles who are stepping down from a Secure facility as well as those placed directly by the Court. These facilities are up and running.
 - REGIONS Staff-Secure facility in Waterbury, operated by the Connecticut Junior Republic, for up to 8 boys
 - REGIONS Staff-Secure facility in Milford operated by Boys and Girls Village, for up to 12 boys.
 - These facilities opened for business on 12/4/18 and are currently fully operational.



Per Diem Beds:

- In addition, a variety of residential placements are available on a fee-for-service basis for juveniles whose needs cannot be met by our contracted programs.
- These placements are in a variety of existing DCF-licensed residential centers.
- The Judicial Branch CSSD is planning to expand its per diem bed options to ensure access to a greater range of treatment options.



- Assessments and Dispositions since 7-1-2018
 - 85 juveniles received a comprehensive forensic and behavioral health evaluation to determine public safety risk and treatment needs.
 - 40 juveniles have been placed in the REGIONS Secure units
 - 5 were discharged to home
 - 7 were stepped down to Staff Secure facility.
 - 22 have been admitted to REGIONS Staff-Secure.
 - 7 have been placed in specialized per diem beds.
 - 11 girls have been admitted to Journey House
 - 3 have been discharged home
 - 1 has transferred to a specialized step-down bed.



Juvenile Probation

Expansion of Juvenile Probation Officer Role and Services

- Juvenile Probation Officers maintain client contact/relationship and case management responsibility throughout placement, participate in multi-disciplinary case review team meetings with clients, families, REGIONS Staff, and other providers to ensure engagement in treatment, attainment of goals, and a seamless transition to home/community.
- Supervision practices and case planning are aligned with cognitive-behavioral principles to promote behavioral change in risk relevant domains.
- JPOs identify natural supports and community resources to ensure sustainable connections and linkages after the completion of probation.
- Expanded capacity to modify conditions of probation without filing new charges/violations.



Community Based Services – Existing

- **MST- MultiSystemic Therapy** is a proven home-based, family-focused intervention for high risk, chronic, serious and violent juvenile offenders and their families.
 - **MST Family Integrated Treatment (FIT)** services are delivered to a youth in a residential placement and continue upon his/her release home to provide a seamless transition from institutional setting to home.
 - MST Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) targets the 17-21 year old population.



Community Based Services, cont'd

LYNC – Linking Youth to their Natural Communities

- LYNC is a center-based program that focuses on providing youth and their families with an array of evidenced-based and evidence-informed services, including:
 - Intake, Screening, and Assessments, Care Coordination, Structured Case Management, Individualized Service Planning, Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Group Interventions, Short-Term, Individual and Family Sessions, Educational and Vocational Services, Life Skills, Parenting with Love and Limits (in certain locations), Community Connections, Transportation, Access to Flex Funds for basic needs, prosocial connections, etc., Referrals to Treatment
- LYNC has a strong focus on connecting youth and their families to appropriate community, grassroots agencies, and/or natural supports.



Community Based Services, cont'd

- Flex Funds Assist Juvenile Probation Officers, Detention Center staff and contracted service providers to respond to the individual needs of clients. Primary uses of flex funds include meeting clients' basic needs (clothes, food, bus tokens), providing access to customized prosocial activities (lessons, memberships, etc), and as positive reinforcements for engagement and/or goal attainment.
- Mentoring
- Juvenile Problem Sexual Behavior Treatment and Education Program
- Respite Residential Programs
- Intermediate Residential Programs



Future Challenges/Services - Dependent on Funding

- Additional Secure Regions Programs Transition from Detention Centers to Close to Home model.
- Additional Staff Secure Regions programs Additional capacity is necessary to ensure appropriate level of service for youth transitioning from a secure setting and those placed directly by the Court.
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is an empirically proven family intervention program for juvenile justice involved and at-risk youth aged 11-18 and their families.
- Vocational Support Services One of the challenges for juveniles involved in the justice system is finding adequate employment.
- Treatment Foster Care Oregon (Expansion TFCO) was developed as an alternative to institutional, residential, and group care placements for children and youth ages 12-17 with severe emotional and behavioral disorders.



Questions and Discussion

State of Connecticut Motor Vehicle Theft Trends (2008-2017)



Summary Findings



- CT Motor Vehicle Thefts (MVT) largely mirror the national trend
- The Spoke and Wheel Trend: as motor vehicle thefts have declined in major urban areas like Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven, they have increased in surrounding suburban communities
- Waterbury as an outlier: Waterbury is the only department of the top five communities with motor vehicle thefts that has seen a significant 10 year increase
- Age Distribution of Arrestees: The age distribution of those arrested has remained fairly consistent over the last 20 years



US vs. CT Rate



- CT Motor Vehicle Thefts (MVT) largely mirror the national trend
 - Over the last 10 years, MVTs are down 19% nationally and 17% in CT
 - MVTs are down 43% over the last 20 years in CT

 Over the last three years there has been an increase in MVTs both in CT and nationally





US vs. CT 10 yr. Rate

Year	U.S. Rate		CT Rate	
	Number	Percent Change	Number	Percent Change
2008	959,059	-12.9%	8,823	-11.0%
2009	795,652	-17.0%	7,424	-15.9%
2010	739,565	-7.0%	6,656	-10.3%
2011	716,508	-3.1%	6,620	-0.5%
2012	723,186	0.9%	6,441	-2.7%
2013	700,288	-3.2%	6,215	-3.5%
2014	686,803	-1.9%	6,100	-1.9%
2015	713,063	3.8%	6,427	5.4%
2016	767,290	7.6%	7,105	10.6%
2017	773,139	0.8%	7,310	2.9%
2008 to 2017	↓185,920	-19.4%	↓1,513	-17.2%





Motor Vehicle Theft Rate



Spoke and Wheel Trend



- Bridgeport, New Haven and Hartford are a smaller share of motor vehicle thefts over the last 10 years
 - In 2008 they accounted for 43% of MVT, but only 28% in 2017
- The top 10 communities that have historically contributed the largest share of the MVTs are contributing less
 - In 2008 they accounted for 68% of MVT and 60% in 2017
- Over the last 10 years, MVTs have declined in urban areas and grew in suburban areas



Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven Distribution of Total Thefts







Top 10 Departments Distribution of Thefts

Top 10 Departments Distribution of MVT (10 Yr. Average)					
1. Bridgeport	6. Stamford				
2. Hartford	7. West Haven				
3. New Haven	8. East Hartford				
4. New Britain	9. Meriden				
5. Waterbury	10. Norwalk				





Top 10 Departments Distribution of Total Thefts



Top 10 Other

Spoke and Wheel Trend



Change in MVT by Town Population Size

Population	# of Dept.	2008 Thefts	2017 Thefts	% Change
Less than 25,000	51	665	803	+20.8%
25,000 to 50,000	23	1,004	1,074	+7.0%
50,000 to 100,000	14	2,291	1,926	-15.9%
Over 100,000	5	4,431	3,123	-29.5%
Total	93	8,391	6,926	-17.5%

*Numbers only include data from municipal police departments



Spoke and Wheel Trend



- Statistically significant changes in rates of stolen motor vehicles occurred primarily along the 1-91 corridor
- Towns that experienced a significant increase in rates of stolen motor vehicles were significantly more likely to have higher median incomes and fall along the I-84 and I-91 corridors relative to towns that did not experience a significant increase
- Rates of motor vehicle theft were previously higher surrounding New Haven, but hot spot mapping shows a significant increase in suburban towns in central Connecticut

Changes in Rates of Stolen Motor Vehicles







Changes in Rates of Stolen Motor Vehicles







Changes in Rates of Stolen Motor Vehicles







Changes in Rates of Stolen Motor Vehicles







Waterbury as an Outlier



- Of the top five departments with the most motor vehicle thefts over the last 10 years, Waterbury is the only department that has seen a significant 10 year increase
 - MVT increased 91% from 2008 to 2017
 - Bridgeport: 37% decrease
 - Hartford: 49% decrease
 - New Britain: 38% decrease
 - New Haven: 51% decrease



Between 2008 and 2017, Waterbury's MVTs increased 91 percent





Waterbury MVT (2008 to 2017)

Waterbury went from having the least to the most MVTs among the top five cities.







Age Distribution of Arrestees



- The age distribution of those arrested has remained fairly consistent over the last 20 years (Caution: arrest rates are small each year)
 - In 2008, 46% of those arrested were under 19 compared to 49% in 2017
 - In 2008, 63% of those arrested were under 24 compared to 63% in 2017
 - The under 24 population has consistently made up between 61% and 63% of all those arrested



Age Distribution of Arrestees





■ 10 to 14 ■ 15 to 19 ■ 20 to 24 ■ Over 24

Key Takeaways



- Regional influences appear to impact motor vehicle theft rates. Therefore, regional solutions will have the greatest impact.
- Additional data is needed to better assess the regional factors contributing to the increase in MVT's.
 - Additional information should be collected from Waterbury and suburban communities in central Connecticut.
- A coordinated educational campaign about motor vehicle theft prevention should target communities most impacted by thefts.
 - Additional technological or environmental modifications should be considered on a com by community basis (i.e. more street lights, cameras, etc.)



Next Steps



- Continue to build broader stakeholder partnerships, to include more police departments and other with expertise in MVT
- Regular meetings of the MVT subcommittee of the Cross Agency Data Sharing Workgroup
- Review of police, community and JJ system interventions shown to be effective in reducing auto theft in other states
- Further analysis of Judicial Branch data on auto theft amongst youth referred to juvenile court
- Periodic reporting to JJPOC and workgroups, as appropriate



Questions and Discussion



2019 Work Plan for JJPOC Work Groups

Cross Agency Data Sharing Work Group



- Car theft report
- Data request protocol
- Impact of New Grounds of Detention Evaluation
- Collect and report out of yearly data listed in the Strategic Plan

Diversion Work Group 2019 Work Plan



- Transfer of FWSNs out of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction
- Justice Reinvestment
- Refining the Community Response to Truancy/Defiance of School Rules
- Right Size the System

 \odot Raise the lower age

Incarceration Work Group 2019 Work Plan



- Definition of Solitary Confinement
- Exploratory Study of Removal of Youth from MYI/YCI
- Create a Youth in Custody Bill of Rights
- Increase Family Access and Knowledge of Ombudsman/Woman



Questions and Discussion



Next JJPOC Meeting April 18th, 2019 2:00-3:30 PM