



JUDICIAL BRANCH OF CONNECTICUT

Process and Outcome Evaluation of the Connecticut Family with Service Needs 'Family Support Center' Project

JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER

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The FWSN Project

Family with Service Needs (FWSN) Youth:

- Referred to court as FWSN or
- Actively under judicial FWSN supervision due to:
 - Running away, beyond control, truancy, defiance of school rules, or other FWSN statutorily defined behaviors (C.G.S.A. § 46b-149)

Family Support Center (FSC) Model:

- A multi-service, one-stop center for FWSN-referred juveniles and their families aimed at quickly assessing treatment needs and providing treatment services for youth and their families



The FSC Project

Phase 1 (Oct. 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008):

- Development and implementation of referral process
- Four Family Support Centers open:
 - Hartford
 - Bridgeport
 - New Haven
 - Waterbury

Phase 2 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009):

- Six additional Family Support Centers open:
 - New Britain
 - Waterford
 - Willimantic & Rockville
 - Middletown
 - Torrington & Danbury
 - Stamford & Norwalk



Justice Research Center

The Justice Research Center is a certified Minority Business Enterprise, headquartered in Tallahassee, Florida.

The staff at the JRC has more than 35 years combined experience working in the fields of child welfare, juvenile justice and criminal justice.





Justice Research Center

JRC staff members are criminologists, sociologists, computer programmers and social workers with expertise in quality research, data analysis, curriculum development, and training.



With private, state government and federal contracts, our clients are diverse and our research initiatives are grounded in sound, objective empirical inquiry.



Justice Research Center's Role

- Conduct a process evaluation of the Family Support Center (FSC) Project
- Conduct an outcome evaluation of the FSC Project
- Develop an interactive, online database to store project evaluation data
- Provide training to FSC staff on program documentation and data collection procedures
- Report on outputs, outcomes and policy recommendations to CT Judicial Branch.

Why Evaluate?

- To further evidence-based practices in Connecticut's Judicial Branch by determining whether the FSC Project effectively achieves its intended goals
- To identify any potential gaps in treatment implementation reducing the overall effectiveness of the FSC model
- Evaluation is therefore critical to both:
 - Determining the effectiveness of the FSC Project model, and
 - Determining the effectiveness of the implementation of the project



How Do We Evaluate?

- Document the implementation of the Family Support Center Project through a *process* evaluation
- Conduct an outcome evaluation of outputs and outcomes to determine whether the FSC Project achieved its intended effects of:
 - Eliminating FWSN violators in detention,
 - Reducing judicial FWSN petitions,
 - Reducing FWSN violations, and
 - Reducing subsequent delinquency among youth served by the FWSN Project.

Work Plan

- Develop an online information system for data gathering
- Perform a process evaluation of the development and implementation of the Family Support Center (FSC) component of the FWSN Project
- Perform an outcome evaluation that will document the results and relative success of the FSC Project

Update Demographics and Address - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Comcast

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Address <https://www.thejrc.com> FWCN Web.html

JRC Return to FWCN Screen Return to Youth Data Sheet

DJJID: 999999 [Update Record](#)

Demographic Data						Show Hide		Main Address						Show Hide	
First Name: Gregs			Last Name: Testcase			Edit Street Address: 1234 Test St						Confirmation Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
SSN: 999999999		Date of Birth: 5/24/1974		Gender: M	Race: Asian	Edit City: Test		Edit State: FL		Edit Zip: 99999		Edit Home County: Unknown		Edit Phone Number: 9999999998	Update Date: 6/14/2007

View or Add Additional Addresses [Show Hide](#)

DJJID	Name of Person or Organization	SSN	Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone Number	Additional Address Type	Mailable	Date	Initial	Source	Comments	Edit	Delete
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Internet



Process Evaluation

- Thorough description and evaluation of the FWSN project and the implementation of the Family Support Center initiative
- Quarterly Site Visits to FSCs
- Monthly Conference Calls with CSSD and FSC Project Directors and FSC staff
- Process Evaluation Report and Presentation: June 2008 and June 2009



Outcome Evaluation

- Identification of Treatment and Control Cohorts for Phase 1 and Phase 2 using FSC screening instrument
- Post Identification Propensity Score Matching to Eliminate Potential Bias



Outcome Evaluation – Youth and Family Outcomes

- Youth and Family Outcome Measures:
 - Subsequent delinquency charges
 - School attendance and behavior
 - School suspensions
 - Family functioning
 - Decreased emotional distress
 - Increased resiliency, pro-social factors
 - Improvement of community connections



Outcome Evaluation - Program Outcomes

- Overall Programmatic Effects:
 - Elimination of FWSN violators in detention
 - Reduction of judicial FWSN petitions
 - Reduction of FWSN violations
 - Reduction of the number of delinquency referrals disposed by the court



Deliverables

- Quarterly Activity Reports and Invoices
 - Jan. 5, 2008, and on the 5th of each month thereafter
- Process Evaluation Report
 - June 30th 2008 and June 30th 2009
- Outcome Evaluation Report
 - May 1, 2009
- Final Project Report
 - June 1, 2009



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Questions?

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