

CSSD Girls' Services Update

FWSN Advisory Board Meeting
November 20, 2008

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch
Court Support Services Division

Girls and boys experience many of
the same risk
factors,
but they differ in sensitivity to and
rate of exposure to the risks.

...As a result, they have different
programming
needs.

National Landscape

The Girls Study Group found risk and protective factors associated with delinquency in both girls and boys:

- Family dynamics
 - Structure and stability
 - Supervision and control
 - Family criminality
 - Maltreatment
 - ◆ School involvement
 - ◆ Availability of community-based programs
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Gender-Sensitive Risk and Protective Factors

- ◆ Early puberty
- ◆ Depression and anxiety
- ◆ Sexual assault
- ◆ Romantic partners

RTI 2008

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Girl-Specific Resiliency Factors

- ◆ Support from a caring adult
- ◆ Success in school
- ◆ School connectedness
- ◆ Religiosity

Court-Involved Girls in CT



Girls in Connecticut's Juvenile Justice System

- ◆ 36% of the JJ population in CT
- ◆ From fragmented families
- ◆ Racially diverse
- ◆ Over 11% are mothers
- ◆ 13 - 15 years old in JJ
- ◆ Multiple physical and mental health needs
- ◆ Many are status offenders or have minor offenses
- ◆ Are referred multiple times with multiple referrals

Common Threads

- ◆ Resiliency
- ◆ Fragmentation in families both in who their caretakers are and where they reside
- ◆ Cultural diverse (including sexuality)
- ◆ Trauma survivors
- ◆ Runners
- ◆ Aggressive = commitment
- ◆ Struggle academically and in school environment

Beyer, 2005

07/08 Data

	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Delinquency</u>	3209	6519	9728
<u>FWSN</u>	1074	1233	2307
<u>YIC</u>	428	457	885
<u>Total</u>	4740	8180	12,920

Percentage change from 06/07 to 07/08

	Girls	Boys
<u>Delinquency</u>	<u>-12.6%</u>	<u>-9.9%</u>
<u>FWSN</u>	<u>-36.6%</u>	<u>-39.5%</u>
<u>YIC</u>	<u>-29%</u>	<u>-25%</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>-21.1%</u>	<u>-17%</u>

Detention Admissions

	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>05/06</u>	510	1412	1922
<u>06/07</u>	474	1236	1710
<u>07/08</u>	369	1075	1444
<u>% change</u>	-27.6%	-23.8%	

System Change across CSSD



Change at all Levels

System Level:

Agency, System Partners

Program Level:


Service Providers, Referral Sources

Direct Practice Level:

Staff, Client, Family, Community

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Fundamental Female Responsive Practice Principles

- Physical, Emotional and Psychological Safety
 - Relational, Strengths-based Approach
 - Trauma Sensitive
 - Family-Focused
 - Culturally Competent
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CSSD's Timeline to Female Responsive Practice


- ◆ 1999 Infrastructure Development
 - Grant Award from OJJDP and BJA
- ◆ 1999 – 2002 Research
- ◆ 1999 - 2003 Education and Advocacy
- ◆ 2000 – 2007 Program Development
 - 2000 – 2002 Single-sex programs emerge
 - 2003 - 2006 Female Responsive Detention
 - 2005 - 2007 New Program Models for girls
 - 2007 Girls Probation Model
- ◆ 2008 Emerging as a GS JJ system

Creating a Gender Responsive Juvenile Detention System

*To establish a new culture throughout
the Juvenile Detention System in
Connecticut that **proactively** meets
clients needs and teaches client-self
management through gender responsive
approaches and services*

Creating a Gender Responsive Juvenile Detention System

A Comprehensive Process

- ◆ *Assessment*
 - ◆ *Training*
 - ◆ *Technical Assistance*
 - ◆ *Quality Assurance*
 - ◆ *Evaluation*
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Program-Level Assessment

How Female Responsive is the Detention Center?

- Philosophy
- Facility
- Staff and Management
- Program Culture
- Behavior Motivation
- Tx/Service Planning
- Programming and Services
- TQI

First Stop: Washington Street

- ◆ Single Sex to Female Responsive
 - Assessed facility adherence to principles
 - ◆ Surveys, interviews, focus groups and observations over 3 months time
 - Created a culture that was relational and strengths-based
 - ◆ Trained all staff, clarified expectations
 - ◆ Developed internal coaches
 - ◆ Provided on-site technical assistance

First Stop: Washington Street

- ◆ Single Sex to Female Responsive, cont.
 - Implemented new systems, programs and practices that are gender-specific
 - ◆ Staff facilitate groups
 - ◆ Girls actively involved in programming
 - Sustain change over time with program and systems-level quality assurance
 - ◆ Internal QA processes
 - ◆ External QA processes
 - ◆ 2x yearly audits
 - ◆ Ongoing booster sessions for staff

Washington Street Outcomes

- Eliminated mechanical restraints
 - ◆ From 4 per month to 0
- Eliminated room time
 - ◆ From 200 hours per month to 27 hours per month to 0
- Improvement in staff and client safety
 - ◆ Few use of force incidents; from 15 to 1
 - ◆ Major reductions in worker compensation claims
 - ◆ 73% reduction in number of girls returned to state detention for behavioral issues.
 - ◆ Improvements in perceived safety

Project Status

	Assessment	Training	TA/QA	Outcomes
Hartford Girls (WSD)	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE
Hamden Girls*	N/A	COMPLETE	COMPLETE	COMPLETE
New Haven	COMPLETE	COMPLETE*		T1 DONE
Bridgeport	COMPLETE	Currently Underway		T1 DONE
Hartford	COMPLETE			T1 DONE

Female Responsive Probation

GOAL

To increase the effectiveness of probation interventions for girls

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Female Responsive Probation

Objectives:


1. Enhance officer skills to identify risk and needs through root-cause analysis of presenting problems
2. Intervene in the cycle of court involvement utilizing a relational, strengths-based approach
3. Link girls to appropriate programs based on risks, needs AND strengths

Female Responsive Probation

Structure

- 11 Juvenile Probation Officers statewide
 - Capped caseloads of 25 girls
 - Assignment of cases is based on a random design, generally officers are assigned to specific towns/cities
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Female Responsive Probation

- Designated Project Coordinator in place
 - Gender officers attend bi-monthly meetings to discuss obstacles and possible solutions
 - Project Coordinator has regular contact with officers, observing client interactions and reviewing predisposition studies and case plans
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Female Responsive Probation

Implementation

- ◆ Initial and ongoing comprehensive training
 - Officers received 137 hours of training
- ◆ Standardized screening and assessment tools
 - IRS, JAG, MAYSI II
- ◆ Client-level driven

Female Responsive Probation





Support:

- Integrated technical assistance and quality assurance
 - Funds for referrals to non-traditional services and pro-social activities
 - Comprehensive process and outcome evaluation
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System wide reduction

Between 1999 and 2008, Delinquency Commitments are down 57% for girls; 59% for boys

Recidivism Differences

	12 months after referral	24 months after referral
Girls 12/05	40.5% 	48.1% 
Girls 6/06	38%	45.4%
Boys 12/05	44.9% 	52.4% 
Boys 6/06	41.7%	50.1%

Women Offender Case Management Model

- ◆ CSSD selected by NIC in 12/06 to implement WOCMM
 - ◆ 8 trained officers implemented model in 4 adult probation offices in July 07
 - ◆ Caseloads are capped at 35
 - ◆ Team approach
 - ◆ Enhanced training, coaching and meetings
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New Program Models that are Female Responsive

- ◆ Juvenile Risk Reduction Centers (3 – 4 months, center-based)
 - Provides single sex groups
 - Offers gender responsive curricula
 - ◆ Voices
 - ◆ TARGET
 - ◆ Girls Circle
 - Attention to gender and trauma sensitivity in overall programming

New Program Models that are Female Responsive

- ◆ Programs for Status Offenders
 - Developed out of research on girls AND effective practice
 - Integrates female responsive practice principles in every aspect of program
- ◆ Examples:
 - CARE: Center for Assessment, Respite and Enrichment (2 week stay; voluntary)
 - FWSN Center (45 day stay max. court ordered)
 - Family Support Centers (diversion from court)

CARE Outcomes

Diverting girls from Detention

- ◆86% 3 months post CARE
- ◆79% 6 months post CARE
- ◆77% 9 months post CARE

Diverting girls from Court Involvement

- ◆86% 3 months post CARE
- ◆77% 6 months post-CARE
- ◆65% 9 months post-CARE

CARE Waterbury


Between 2003 – 2005:

- ◆ 30% decrease in girls admissions to detention
- ◆ 40% decrease in girls sent to detention with a prior FWSN referral

In 2003, 28% of girls who went to detention from Waterbury court had a prior FWSN. In 2005, that dropped to just 15%

In 2003, 51% of girls who were referred as FWSN to Waterbury court had a subsequent delinquency, but that dropped to 44% in 05,

Emerging as a Gender Responsive Juvenile Justice System

- ◆ Policy
 - ◆ Practice
 - ◆ Outcomes
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Questions/ Discussion

