

# Juvenile Justice System Service Gaps

Juvenile Justice Council

October 15, 2007

DCJ and DHS were invited to engage in identifying service gaps with the public safety plan for the adult system. While going thru the process they realized juvenile had not been identified as a participant so they are now soliciting feedback. They are engaging JCC's and stakeholders into looking at potential service gaps in juvenile activities that may be able to help stem the flow of youth into the adult system. The end result will be a public safety levy to impact prevention and intervention of high-risk juveniles. All proposals in regard to the levy need to be received by mid-November and a decision will be made by the board in December. A subcommittee from this council may be formed to facilitate this issue. Note to keep in mind. Juvenile Justice cannot be "everything" to everyone.

## RESTORATION OF SERVICE

- African American specific shelter and residential monies
- Day Reporting/constructive activity center/court school
- Skill Development programming for younger youth (at risk)

## EXPAND SERVICE

- Educational Advocacy (Prevention/Intervention)
- Culturally specific treatment foster care with day services
- Improve coordination and address quality assurance issues with community partners

## NEW SERVICE

- Comprehensive array of housing/residential options
- Proctor how to secure environment for assessment and evaluation 45-90 days stabilization (AITP)
- Need adequate transition and step down services (e.g. residential)
- Family aftercare component for all residential
- Parent partners and family advocates to work with youth and families
- Siting residential and shelter options in the community (less money)

## SERVICE GAP

- Severe and chronic mental health issues not being adequately addressed in the community - could be addressed in mental health system rather than juvenile justice (e.g. commitment)
- Explore more opportunities and resources for provision of Wraparound services. Need to put sufficient money into creating capacity and infrastructure
- Operational practice > improve assessment and sorting process to identify appropriate youth for placement and the right type of services (e.g. responsivity)
- Someone (life coach, mentor) to work specifically with the youth in their community to help youth connect with the community; Catholic Community Services ("whatever it takes" model).
- Extend services to medium-risk youth offenders; engage and expand resources earlier in a youth's delinquency (sorting).

## PRE-DELINQUENCY MODELS

- Services for at-risk youth through the SAPF (e.g. expand SAI); early identification in the Child Welfare system for at-risk dependency-involved kids. Family supports and strengthening linked to this.
- More access to treatment and family services for lower < 12 year old youth. WSI type vocational training for all types of youth.
- Employment/education options for youth - job training and development; link with schools
- Parenting delinquents need residential beds (mother and child) to reinforce good parenting and develop capable teen parents.
- Collaboratively determine with OYA where to allocate resources and consider OYA as part of the service continuum.

## Votes (in order they were ranked):

1. African American specific shelter and residential monies
2. Educational Advocacy (prevention/intervention) - explore more opportunities and resources for provision of Wraparound services. Need to put sufficient money into creating capacity and infrastructure
3. Parenting delinquents need residential beds (mother and child) to reinforce good parenting and develop capable teen parents. Employment/education options for youth - job training and development; link with schools