LPSCC

Local Public Safety Coordinating Council

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

What Exists, What's Missing, What Works: Multnomah County Youth Violence Prevention Programs and Best-Practice Overlap

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Acknowledgments

This work would not exist without the leadership and personal commitment of Commissioner Vince Jones-Dixon (District 4). His investment in youth violence prevention runs deeper than policy — it is rooted in lived experience, in loss, and in the conviction that communities like ours deserve something better. We are grateful for his vision, his trust in this work, and his continued presence on the project's advisory group, which has guided the direction and priorities of this effort from the start. This report was developed in close collaboration with the advisory group and reflects their substantive contributions, perspectives, and recommendations alongside those of the authors.

We are equally grateful to the many county staff, community-based organizations, and frontline providers who opened their doors and shared their work with us during Phase 1. This report is built on what they do every day — often quietly, and often without enough recognition. Their honesty, their time, and their dedication to young people in Multnomah County are what give this landscape scan its meaning.

Reader Guide

📖 How to Read This Report:

This report is primarily about Multnomah County's youth violence prevention landscape. Its main purpose is to show what programs, services, and system partners currently make up the local prevention landscape, and to help readers quickly understand its overall shape, strengths, and gaps.

A national evidence review is included to provide **context**, not to overshadow the county work. It helps think about how the local landscape compares with broader evidence on youth violence prevention.

📚What This Report Helps You See

- who is doing the work across county and community-based systems
- which populations, settings, and justice contexts appear most visible
- where the local landscape seems broad, concentrated, or thin
- how the county landscape compares, at a high level, with national evidence

⛔What This Report Is Not:

This is **not** a formal evaluation of local program effectiveness. It does not determine whether a specific local program works or does not work. Instead, it provides a **descriptive foundation** for planning, coordination, and future decision-making. Additionally, given the **limited sample size**, the results should not be overgeneralized or over-read.

📝Three Things to Keep in Mind:

1. **This is a landscape scan, not a scorecard.**
    a. The report describes what is present in the county landscape; it does not rank programs by quality.
2. **More visible does not always mean more effective.**
    a. Some services appear frequently in the local system, but that does not automatically mean they have the strongest evidence behind them.
3. **Gaps in the report may reflect gaps in the system, the data, or both.**
    a. Some populations, settings, or strategies may be underrepresented in the inventory or less clearly documented.

🛣️Best Reading Path:

- **Short on time?**
    - Read the **Executive Summary**, **At a Glance** sections, the **local findings**, and the **final implications / recommendations**.
- **Want the full picture?**
    - Start with the county findings, then read the national evidence section as context, and finish with the synthesis section.

❓ Main Question to Keep in Mind:

What does Multnomah County's current youth violence prevention landscape look like, and what does that suggest for future planning?

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Executive Summary

At a Glance (See Figure 1)

25	82	565	61%
Departments	**Programs**	**Service Offerings**	**Multi-Service Programs**
8 county & 17 CBOs	*41 County & 41 CBOs*	*Across the system*	*Programs delivering multiple services*

Additional Insights

78%	56	52	44
Gender	**Outreach & engagement**	**Multnomah-focused**	**Multi-setting programs**
All genders	Most common service	Largest geography	Most common setting

Note: Counts reflect programs from the Phase 1 landscape inventory. Percentages are based on the 82 unique programs unless otherwise noted.

📋**What this phase shows**

Multnomah County's youth violence prevention system functions as a coordinated service ecosystem, not a collection of discrete programs. The study mapped 82 unique programs, yet those programs collectively deliver 565 services, demonstrating that prevention infrastructure is organized around layered, multi-service delivery rather than one-to-one program models. County organizations and community-based organizations (CBOs) are evenly represented overall, but their contributions are not the same. CBOs appear to anchor a wider share of visible service activity across multiple areas, whereas county agencies appear more concentrated in institutional, system-based, and specialized roles

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📋**The strongest signal in the data:** Outreach is the system's most visible backbone.

Across the mapped landscape, outreach and engagement is the most common service category. It is followed by education support and basic needs support, with additional concentration in case management/navigation, recreation and positive activities, leadership/youth voice, family support, and behavioral health.

📋**Who the system is reaching**: Broadly youth-serving, but not purely universal.

Most programs are described as serving all genders (78.0%), and the largest age-focus category is youth through young adulthood to age 24 (23.2%).

📋**Race focus is present,** but most programs are coded as open to all.

The largest race-focus category is open to all/race-neutral (54.9%), while Black-focused and Latino-focused programming each appear in 17.1% of programs. Because programs can identify more than one focal population, these categories are not mutually exclusive.

📋**How the system is organized:** Multi-setting delivery is a defining feature.

The strongest structural pattern in the report is the dominance of multi-setting delivery. More than half of all programs (53.7%) operate across multiple contexts rather than from a single location.

📋**Geography is mostly county-centered**

Most programs (63.4%) are Multnomah-focused, especially among county agencies. Community-based organizations show more geographic spread across regional, cross-county, and outside-county service areas.

📋**Justice context varies across the system**

The single largest justice-context category is general/not justice-involved (31.7%), but large shares of programs are also concentrated in court-involved/probation and multi-stage justice-continuum contexts (each 18.3%).

📋**One of the report's most important insights:** Setting and justice context are closely linked.

The report shows that services are not distributed randomly across the system:

- Community-only services are concentrated in general, non-justice-involved contexts
- Multi-setting services are more embedded in court-, diversion-, and justice-continuum-related contexts

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📋**Where the landscape is most visible:** The report identifies the strongest concentrations in:

- Outreach and engagement
- Education support
- Basic needs support
- General youth/open population
- Higher-risk/violence-impacted youth
- Justice/system-involved youth
- Gun and/or group violence
- General/not justice-involved and court-involved justice contexts

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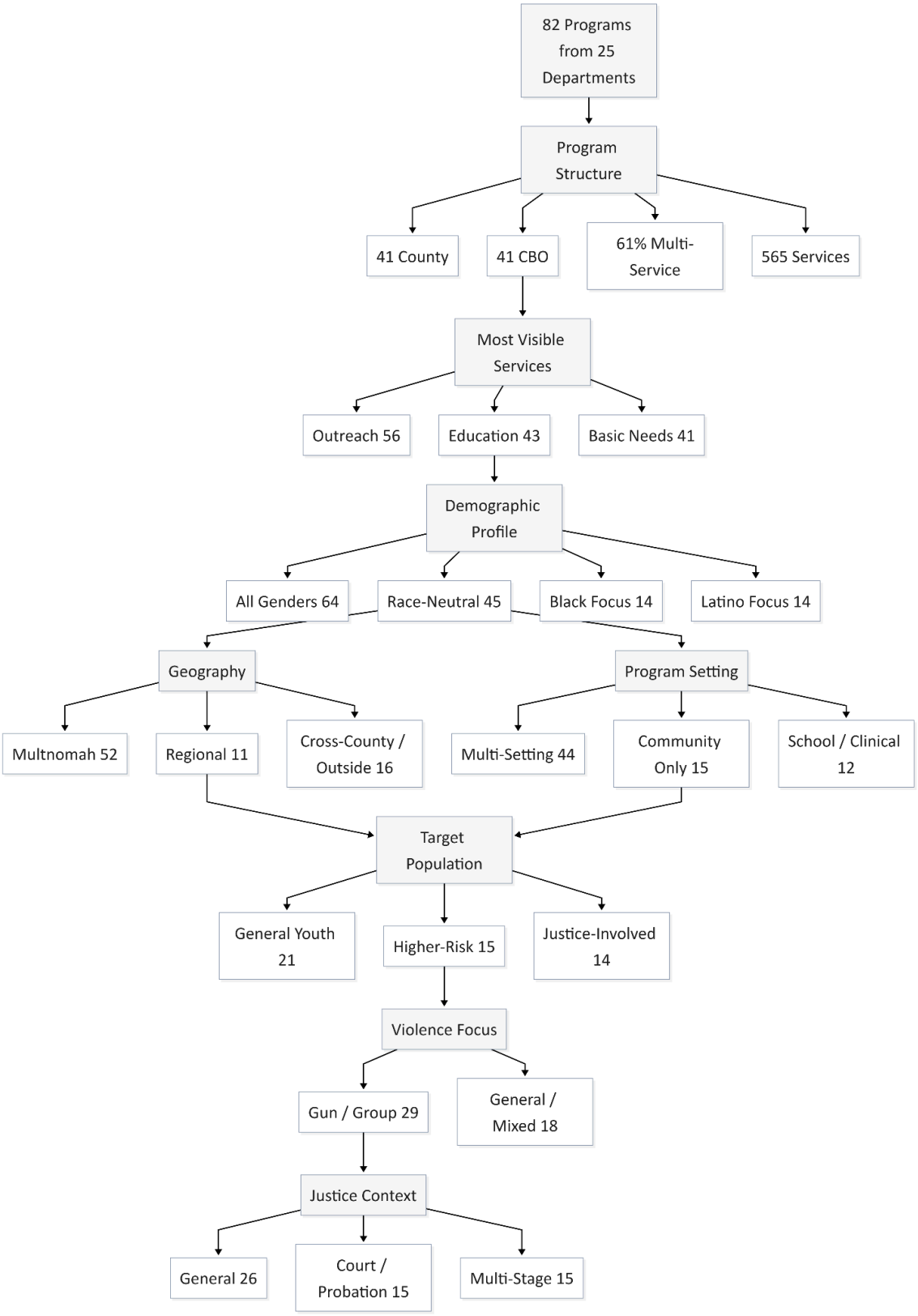
📋**Where visibility is thinnest in the current dataset:** Some populations and contexts appear far less visible in this phase of mapping, including:

- Early childhood-only programming
- LGBTQI+ populations
- Behavioral health-specific populations
- Asian-focused programming
- Multiracial-focused programming
- American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) -focused programming

Figure 1. A Quick Overview of Youth Prevention Programs in Multnomah County

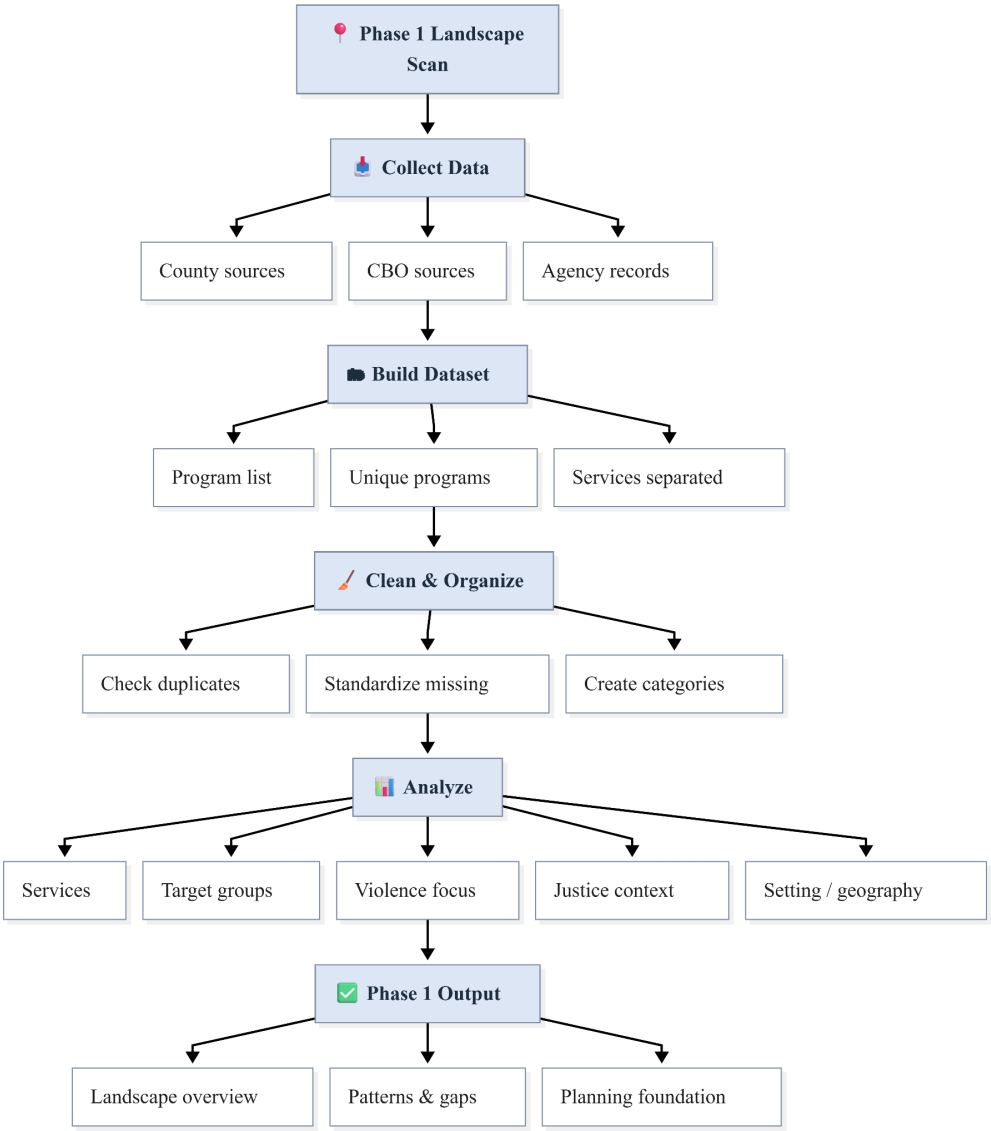


Method Section

At a Glance (Refer to Appendix A for the full methodology)

- **Focus:** Map the local youth violence prevention landscape in Multnomah County
- **Sources:** County and CBOs program information gathered during Phase 1
- **Unit of analysis:** Unique programs and service offerings
- **Categories:** Services, populations, settings, geography, justice context, and demographics
- **Purpose:** Describe the landscape, not rate program effectiveness

Figure 2. How the Phase 1 Local Landscape Analysis Was Conducted



Results

This section presents the descriptive findings of our youth violence prevention landscape. For quick reference, each section begins with a short snapshot summarizing key statistics.

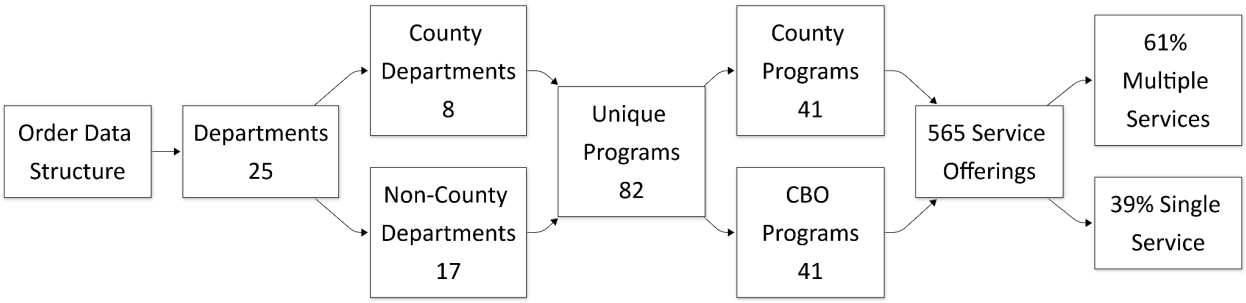
Analytic Sample

At a Glance:

- **82** programs across **25** departments
- **565** service offerings
- **50/50** split between county agencies and CBOs (**41** each)
- **61**% of programs offer multiple services

The final dataset comprised 82 unique programs across 25 county and CBO departments, representing 565 service offerings (Figure 3). Programs were evenly divided between county organizations and community-based organizations (CBOs), with 41 programs (50.0%) in each group. Still, this likely captures only part of the county's broader CBO landscape, which preliminary estimates suggest may include more than 200 organizations. The dataset reflects the first round of outreach conducted from January to March 2026; due to time constraints and limited responses, data were obtained from only 17 CBOs. A second round of outreach is planned for the summer to reach the remaining existing CBOs, although some unrepresented organizations may be inactive or have shifted their focus. Programs frequently crossed service categories: 50 programs (61.0%) were associated with multiple services, while 32 (39.0%) were linked to only one. Overall, programs ranged from 1 to 16 services, with a median of 6 and an average of 6.89.

Figure 3. Structure of Departments, Programs, and Services



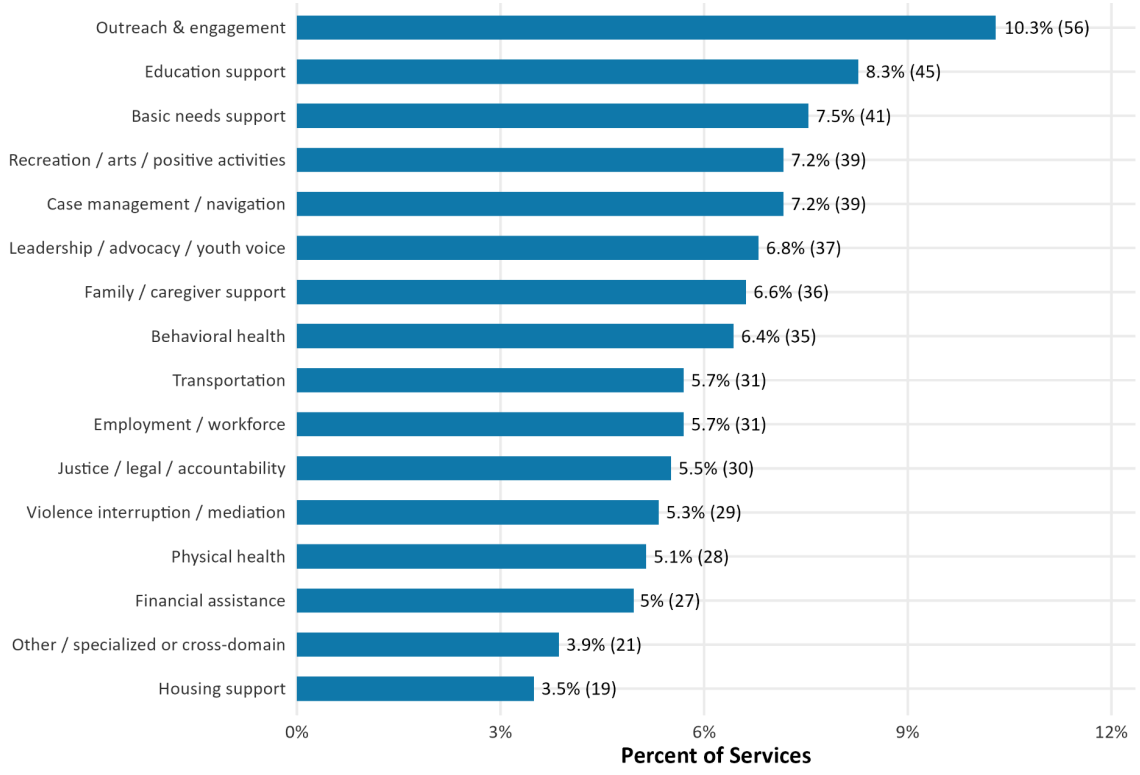
Services

Top program-level services:

- **Outreach & engagement:** 68.3% of programs and 10.3% of total services
- **Education support:** 52.4% of programs and 8.3% of total services
- **Basic needs support:** 50.0% of programs and 7.5% of total services

Figure 4 depicts the local service landscape appears broad and multi-faceted rather than concentrated in only a few areas. Across all programs,[1] (Outreach & engagement was the most common broad service category, representing 10.3% (n = 56) of all services. This was followed by Education support at 8.3% (n = 45) and Basic needs support at 7.5% (n = 41). Several other categories also made up substantial shares of the service landscape, including Recreation / arts / positive activities and Case management / navigation, each at 7.2% (n = 39), as well as Leadership / advocacy / youth voice at 6.8% (n = 37), Family / caregiver support at 6.6% (n = 36), and Behavioral health at 6.4% (n = 35). Lower but still meaningful shares were observed for Transportation and Employment / workforce at 5.7% (n = 31) each, Justice / legal / accountability at 5.5% (n = 30), Violence interruption / mediation at 5.3% (n = 29), Physical health at 5.1% (n = 28), and Financial assistance at 5.0% (n = 27). The least represented categories were Other / specialized or cross-domain at 3.9% (n = 21) and Housing support at 3.5% (n = 19).

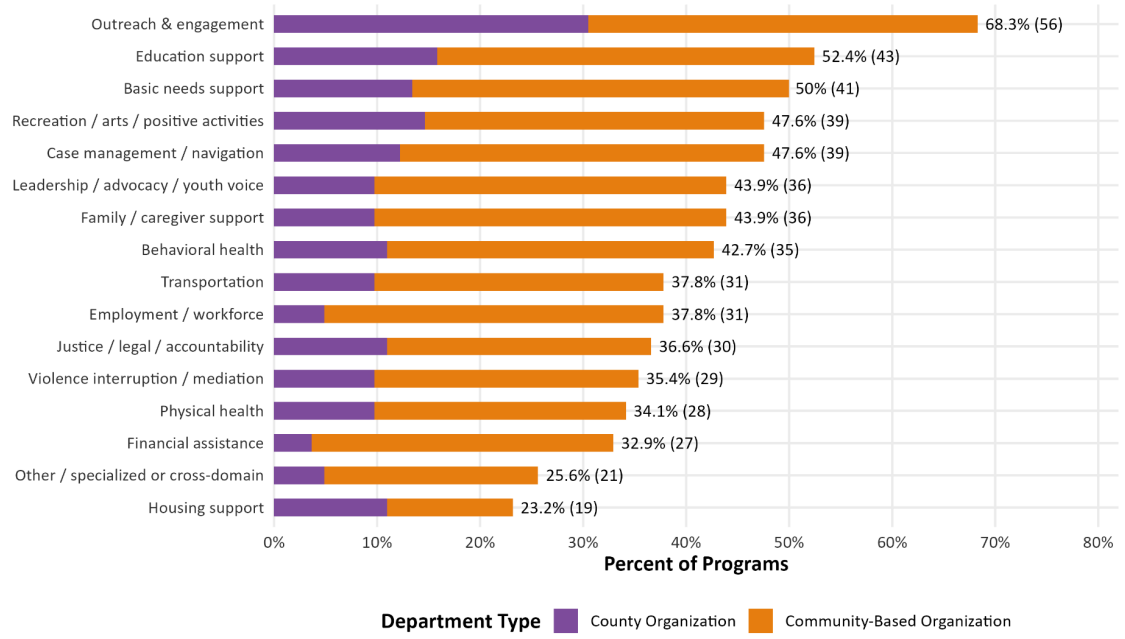
Figure 4. Outreach and education dominate the service landscape



[1] We excluded 21 service rows that remained unclassified because they did not fit cleanly into the broad-service taxonomy or lacked enough detail for a confident assignment.

When broad services were examined at the program level by provider type, a similar but distinct pattern emerged because this analysis used 82 unique programs rather than total services (Figure 5). Outreach & engagement was the most common category, appearing in 56 programs (68.3%), including 31 CBO programs and 25 county programs. This was followed by Education support (43 programs, 52.4%; 30 CBO, 13 county) and Basic needs support (41 programs, 50.0%; 30 CBO, 11 county). Case management / navigation and Recreation / arts / positive activities each appeared in 39 programs (47.6%), again with larger CBO representation. The same pattern held across most other categories, including Leadership / advocacy / youth voice, Family / caregiver support, Behavioral health, and Employment / workforce, where CBOs consistently accounted for the larger share. At the lower end, Other / specialized or cross-domain appeared in 21 programs (25.6%) and Housing support in 19 programs (23.2%); housing was one of the most evenly split categories across county and CBO programs. Overall, the program-level findings suggest that while county departments play an important role in some areas, especially outreach and housing, the broader service landscape is more heavily represented by community-based organizations across most domains.

Figure 5. The Distribution of Broad Services by Provider Type



💡 What This Means:

The landscape appears to be built largely around **broad supportive services**, especially **outreach, education support, basic needs, and navigation**. This suggests that the county's current system is oriented more toward **engagement, stabilization, and connection to support** than toward a narrow set of specialized interventions.

🔎 Why It Stands Out

These service types appear much more frequently than more specialized areas, including **housing support** and some **violence-specific responses**. As a result, they stand out as defining features of the current landscape.

🧭 Planning Implication

The service landscape is built around engagement, stabilization, and connection to support rather than a narrow set of specialized interventions. This is broadly consistent with a tiered prevention model. The practical question for decision-makers is not whether to continue these services, but whether their distribution across provider types, geographic areas, and population groups is as even as the aggregate numbers suggest.

Demographics

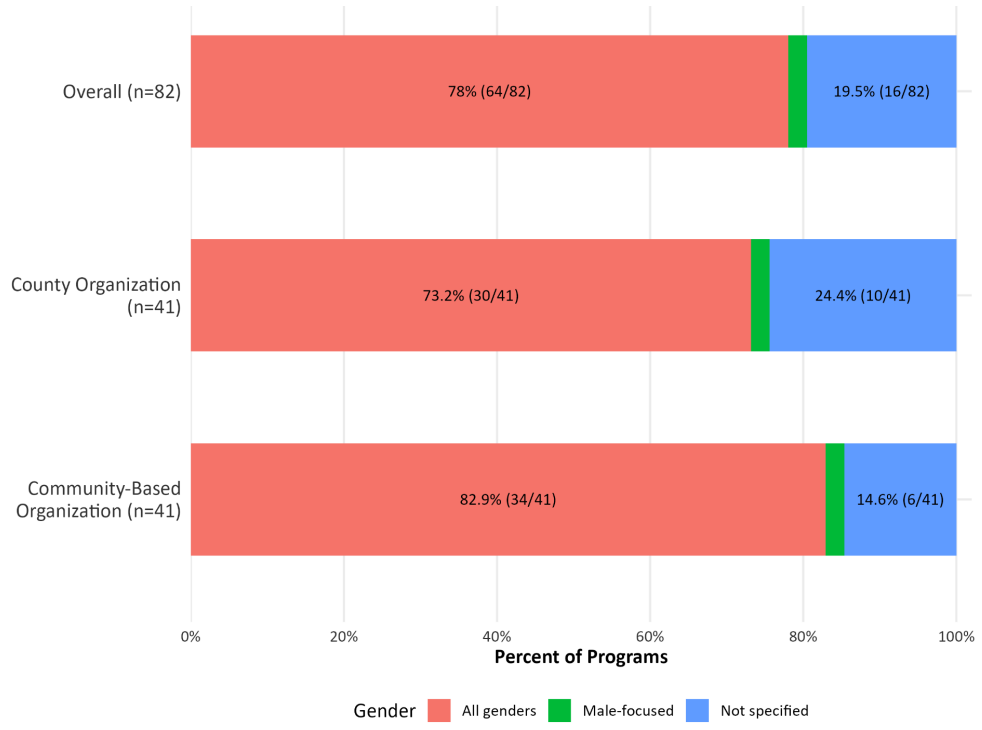
Who Programs Serve

- **78.0%** All genders
- **23.2% Youth through young adulthood (to 24):** Largest age group
- **54.9%** Race-neutral / open to all
    - Largest targeted racial groups: **Black-focused** and **Latino-focused** (**17.1% each**)

Gender

Figure 6 shows the landscape is predominantly characterized by gender-neutral programming, with 78.0% (64 of 82 programs) classified as serving All genders. Only 2.4% (2/82) of programs were Male-focused, and 19.5% (16/82) did not specify a gender focus. This general pattern of inclusive programming was more common among Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) (82.9%, 34/41) than county organizations (73.2%, 30/41). Male-focused programs represented a small fraction of the portfolio in both the county and CBO sectors (2.4%, 1/41 each).

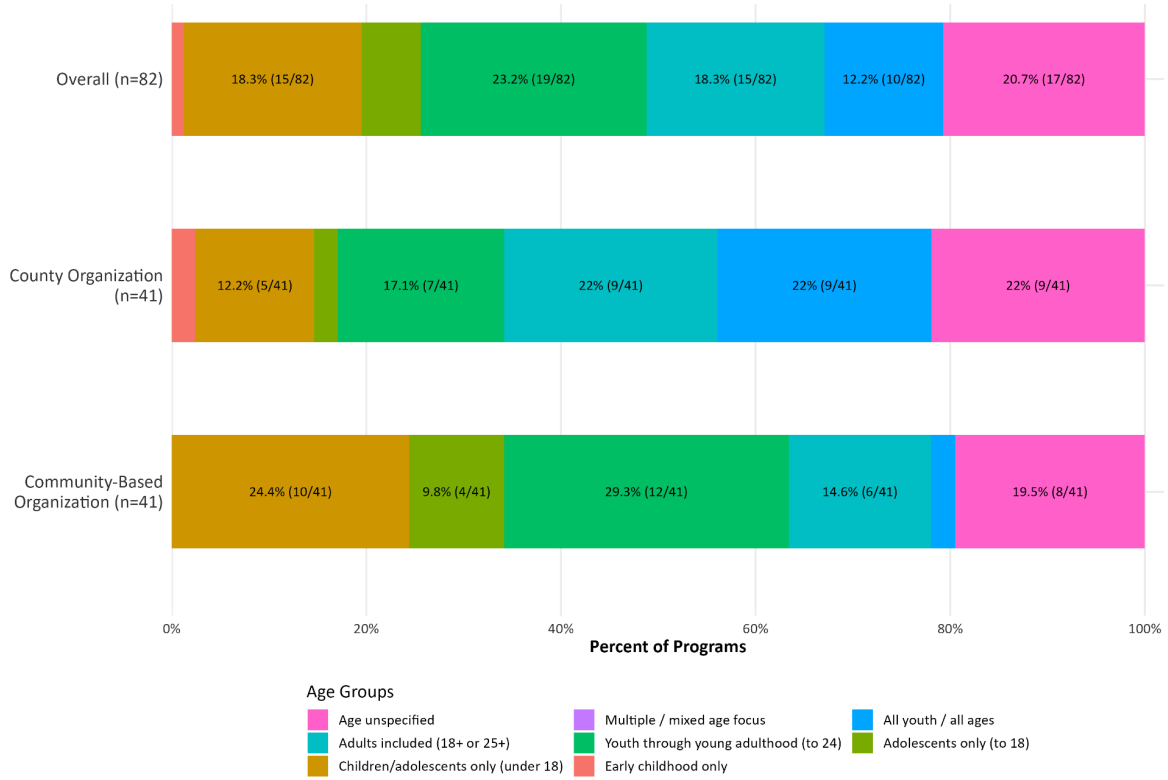
Figure 6. Most Programs Serve All Genders



Age

Figure 7 presents that the single largest age category was youth through young adulthood (to 24) at 23.2% (19/82).[2] Children/adolescents only (under 18) and programs that included Adults (18+ or 25+) were equally represented at 18.3% (15/82) each, while All youth / all ages made up 12.2% (10/82). Fewer programs focused exclusively on Adolescents only (to 18) at 6.1% (5/82) or Early childhood only at 1.2% (1/82). The distribution varied significantly by provider type: Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) showed a distinct concentration in younger populations, with high shares in Youth through young adulthood (29.3%, 12/41) and Children/adolescents only (24.4%, 10/41). In contrast, county organizations displayed a more balanced portfolio, with programs serving Adults included, All youth / all ages, and Age unspecified each accounting for an equal share of 22.0% (9/41), followed by Youth through young adulthood at 17.1% (7/41).

Figure 7. Programs Primarily Serve Youth Through Young Adulthood



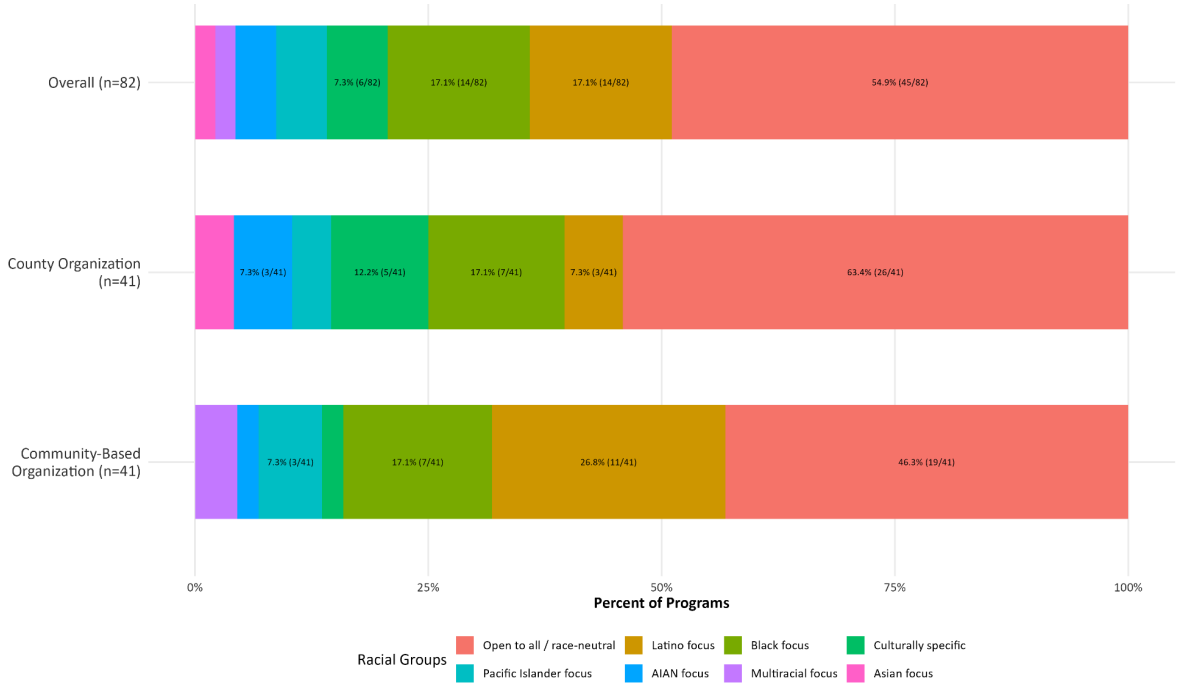
Race

As seen in figure 8, the most common category was Open to all / race-neutral, reported by 54.9% of programs (45/82). This was followed by Black and Latino, each at 17.1% (14/82). Smaller categories included Culturally specific (7.3%, 6/82), Pacific Islander focus (6.1%, 5/82), AIAN focus (4.9%, 4/82), and Asian focus and Multiracial focus (2.4%, 2/82 each). Because programs could be associated with more than one race-focus category, these percentages do not sum to 100%. By department type, county organizations were more likely than CBOs to be classified as Open to all / race-neutral (63.4%, 26/41 vs.

[2] For 17 of the 82 programs (20.7%), the age information was not reported.

46.3%, 19/41). Latino focus was much more common among CBOs (26.8%, 11/41) than county organizations (7.3%, 3/41), while Black focus was identical across both sectors (17.1%, 7/41 each). County organizations were also more likely to report Culturally specific programming (12.2%, 5/41 vs. 2.4%, 1/41) and AIAN focus (7.3%, 3/41 vs. 2.4%, 1/41).

Figure 8. Most Programs Are Race-Neutral



Landscape Context and Design

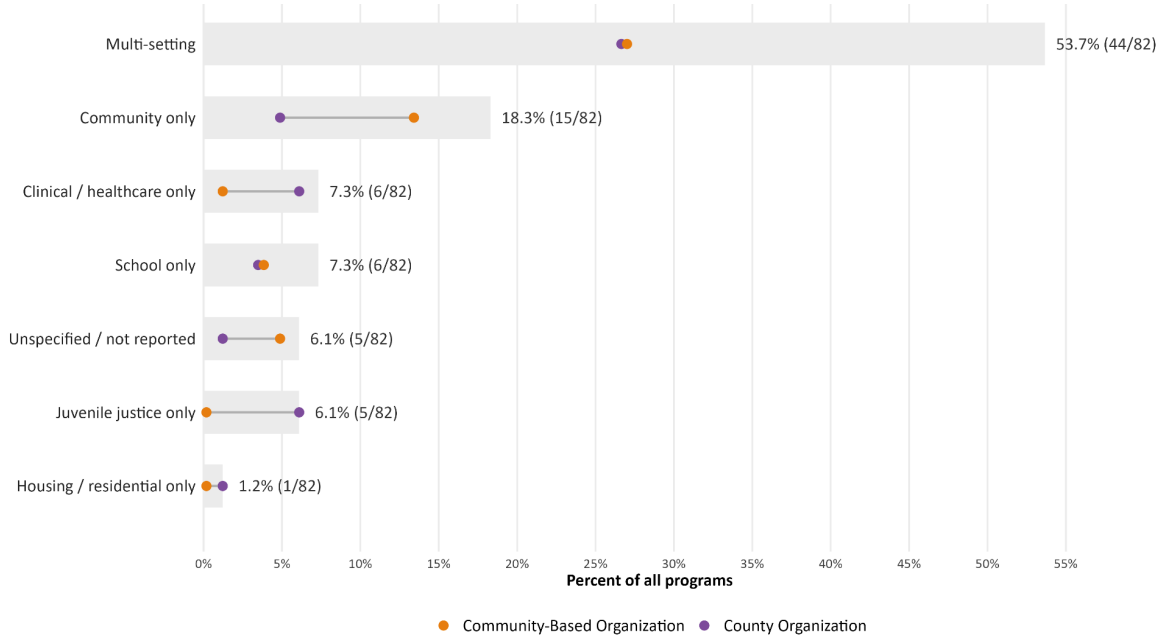
Program Structure + Focus

- **53.7%** multi-setting
- **25.6%** general youth / open population
    - **18.3%** higher-risk / violence-impacted
    - **17.1%** justice / system-involved
- **35.4%** gun and/or group violence focus
- **Top justice contexts:**
    - **41.5%** general population
    - **45.1%** Justice-involved individuals (including youth currently on probation, in diversion programs, or in detention/placement)

Setting

Multi-setting operation dominates the service landscape, with the majority of programs (53.7%, 44/82) being delivered across two or more contexts (Figure 9). The second most frequent model is Community only at 18.3% (15/82). Single-setting specialization is less common, with Clinical / healthcare only and School only each accounting for 7.3% (6/82) of programs, followed by Juvenile justice only and Unspecified / not reported at 6.1% (5/82) each. Housing / residential only is the rarest delivery model at 1.2% (1/82). This pattern holds true across provider types, as both county organizations and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) reported multi-setting delivery in equal measure (53.7%, 22/41 each). However, CBOs are more likely to utilize the Community only setting (26.8%, 11/41) compared to county organizations (9.8%, 4/41). Conversely, county organizations show a greater concentration in institutional settings, being more likely to be classified as Clinical / healthcare only (12.2%, 5/41) and Juvenile justice only (12.2%, 5/41). Notably, no CBO programs were found to operate exclusively in Juvenile justice only or Housing / residential only settings.

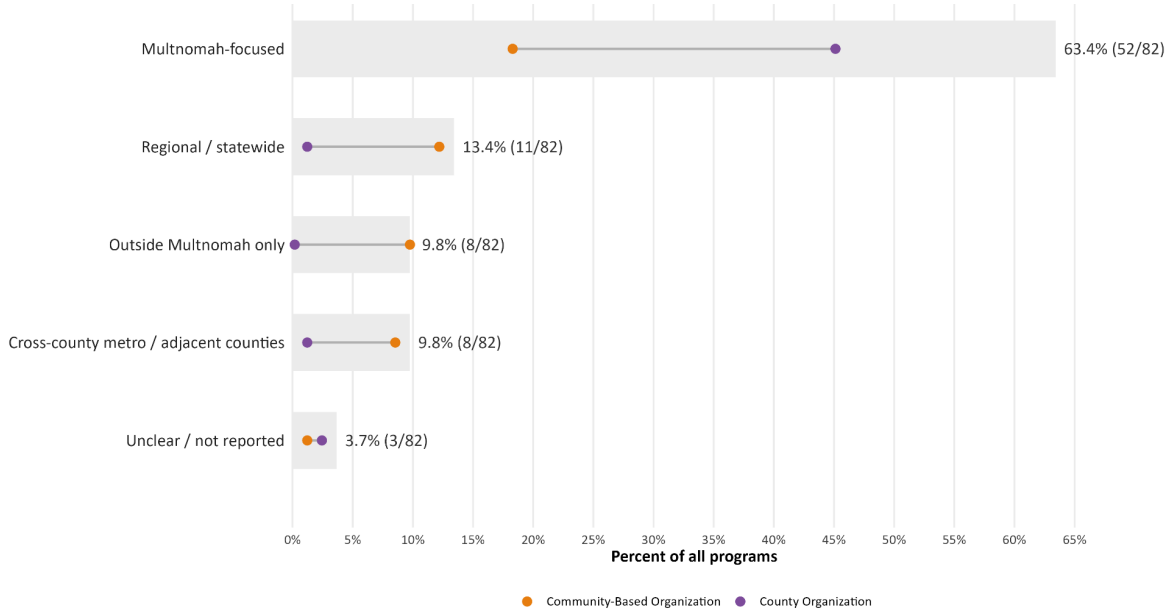
Figure 9. Most Programs Utilize Multiple Settings



Geography

The overall landscape was primarily Multnomah-focused, with 63.4% of programs (52/82) falling into this category (Figure 10). Regional / statewide programs accounted for 13.4% (11/82), while Outside Multnomah only and Cross-county metro / adjacent counties each represented 9.8% (8/82). Unclear / not reported accounted for 3.7% (3/82). By department type, the geographic profile differed sharply. Among county organizations, programs were overwhelmingly Multnomah-focused (90.2%, 37/41), with only small shares classified as Cross-county metro / adjacent counties (2.4%, 1/41), Regional / statewide (2.4%, 1/41), or Unclear / not reported (4.9%, 2/41); none were Outside Multnomah only. In contrast, CBOs were more geographically dispersed: 36.6% (15/41) were Multnomah-focused, 24.4% (10/41) were Regional / statewide, 19.5% (8/41) were Outside Multnomah only, and 17.1% (7/41) were Cross-county metro / adjacent counties.

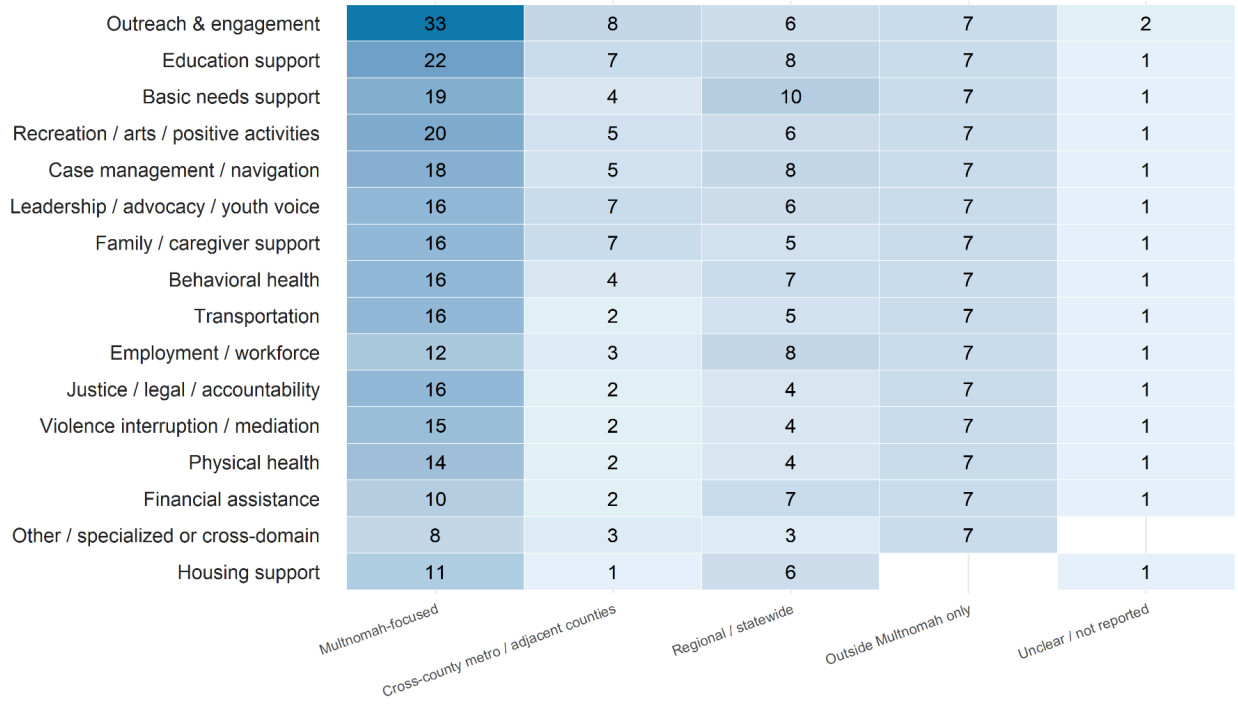
Figure 10. County Programs Stay Local, CBOs Range Wider



Geographic Distribution of Services.

Figure 11 shows how broad services are distributed across geography categories in the Phase 1 landscape. Across nearly all service types, the largest number of offerings are Multnomah-focused, with especially high counts in outreach and engagement, education support, basic needs support, recreation/arts/positive activities, and case management/navigation. Smaller but still visible shares appear in regional/statewide and cross-county metro/adjacent counties categories.

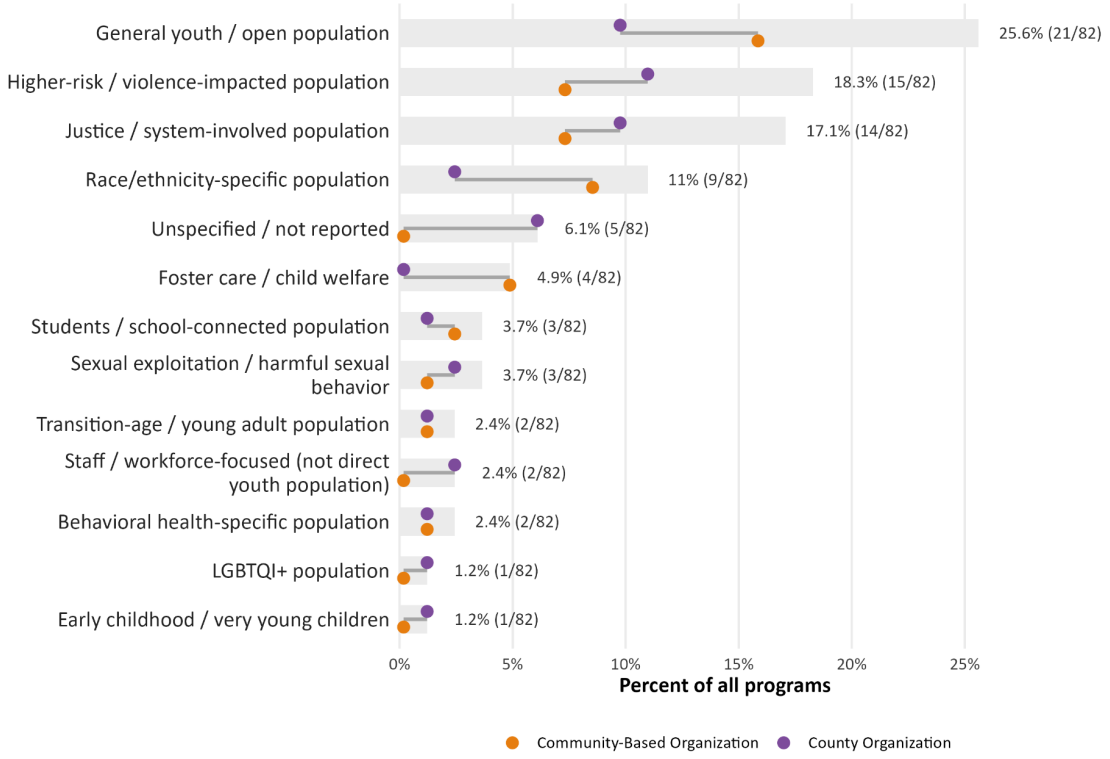
Figure 11. Geographic Distribution of Service Offerings by Broad Service Category



Targeted population[3]

The most common broad target population was the general youth / open population, representing 25.6% of programs (21/82). This was followed by Higher-risk / violence-impacted population at 18.3% (15/82) and Justice / system-involved population at 17.1% (14/82). Additional categories included Race/ethnicity-specific population (11.0%, 9/82) and Unspecified / not reported (6.1%, 5/82). Less common categories were Foster care / child welfare (4.9%, 4/82), Students / school-connected population and Sexual exploitation / harmful sexual behavior (each 3.7%, 3/82), Transition-age / young adult population, Staff / workforce-focused (not direct youth population), and Behavioral health-specific population (each 2.4%, 2/82), and LGBTQI+ population and Early childhood / very young children (each 1.2%, 1/82).

Figure 12. Targeted Programs Prioritize General, High-Risk, and Justice-Involved Youth



Violence focus

The dominant violence-focus area across the program landscape is Gun and/or group violence, which represents 35.4% (29/82) of all programs (Figure 13).[4] This is followed by a substantial segment of

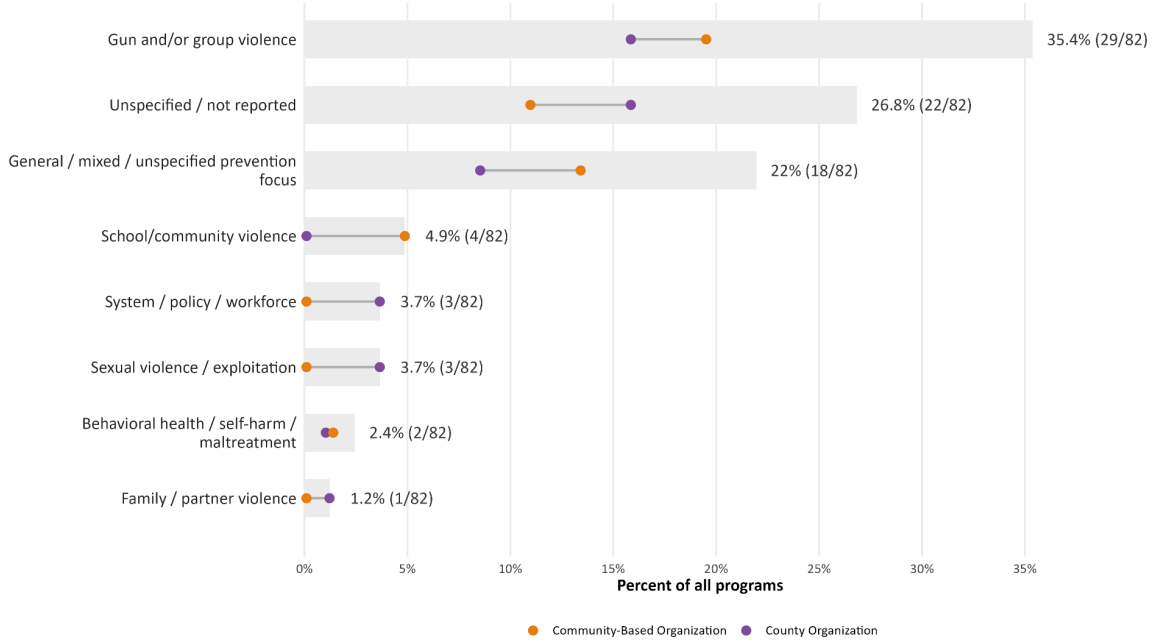
[3] Note: Reported population focus categories were created from original program descriptions and should be interpreted as descriptive groupings rather than standardized eligibility definitions. Programs did not necessarily use the same terms in the same way. For example, descriptions grouped under "higher-risk / violence-impacted population" included youth or families affected by gun or group violence, youth assessed as at elevated risk for violence involvement, youth in high-violence neighborhoods, youth experiencing instability, and youth directly impacted by violent injury or community violence. These categories are useful for identifying broad patterns across the landscape, but they should not be read as precise or uniform program eligibility criteria.

[4] A big segment of programs "Unspecified / not reported (26.8%, 22/82)" did not provide details on this variable.

programs with a General / mixed / unspecified prevention focus (22.0%, 18/82). The rest of the categories account for smaller shares of the portfolio, including School/community violence (4.9%, 4/82), Behavioral health / self-harm / maltreatment (2.4%, 2/82), Sexual violence / exploitation (3.7%, 3/82), System / policy / workforce (3.7%, 3/82), Gun/group violence with retaliation/injury (2.4%, 2/82), and Family / partner violence (1.2%, 1/82).

When comparing provider types, Gun and/or group violence is a primary focus for both Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) (39%, 16/41) and county organizations (31.7%, 13/41). However, CBOs are more likely to have a General / mixed / unspecified prevention focus (26.8%, 11/41) than county organizations (17.1%, 7/41), while county organizations exhibit a higher proportion of programs classified as Unspecified / not reported (31.7%, 13/41) compared to CBOs (22.0%, 9/41). Finally, certain categories are unique to one sector: CBOs are the sole providers of programs focused on School/community violence and Sexual violence / exploitation, whereas county organizations are the only ones reporting programs for System / policy / workforce and Family / partner violence.

Figure 13. Gun and Group Violence is the Dominant Focus

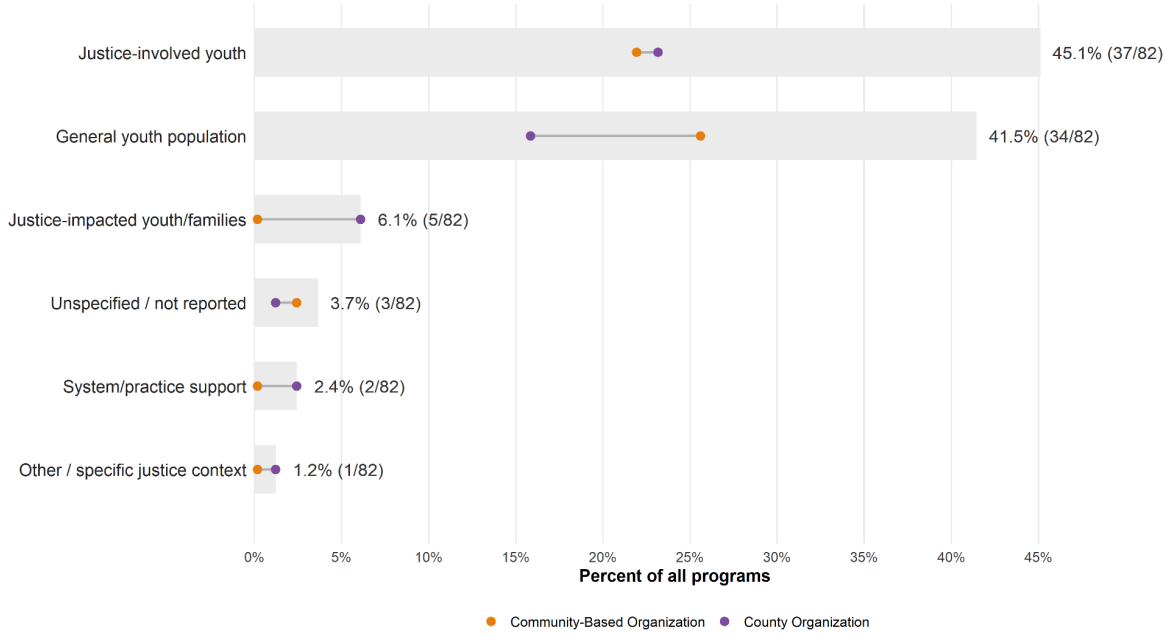


Justice context[5]

Figure 14 shows Justice context was concentrated in two main groups: justice-involved youth and the general youth population. Nearly half of all programs were categorized as serving justice-involved youth at 45.1% of programs, or 37 out of 82. Another 41.5% of programs, or 34 out of 82, served the general youth population without a specific justice-involvement focus. Together, these two groups accounted for 86.6% of all programs. Smaller shares of programs focused on justice-impacted youth or families at 6.1%, unspecified or not reported justice context at 3.7%, system/practice support at 2.4%, and other specific justice contexts at 1.2%.

The organization-type markers suggest some differences in service focus. Community-based organizations appear more concentrated in programs serving the general youth population, while county organizations appear slightly more represented among justice-involved youth programs and in the smaller justice-related categories. Overall, the chart suggests that the local youth service landscape is primarily organized around either direct justice-system involvement or broader general youth services, with fewer programs focused on justice-adjacent families, workforce/system support, or other specialized justice contexts

Figure 14. Justice-Context Focus: Justice Focus Splits Between General Prevention and System Stages



💡 What This Means

The contextual variables suggest that the landscape is shaped by **where services are delivered, the justice contexts in which they operate, and the broader conditions they are designed to respond to**. The contextual variables collectively demonstrate that the county's youth violence prevention system is structurally broad, with prevention efforts spanning multiple environments, including **community, school, home,** and **justice-related settings**.

[5]Note: This category reflects the program's stated connection to the justice system, not necessarily all youth served. Some general prevention or community-based programs may also serve justice-involved youth.

🔎 Why It Stands Out

This stands out because youth violence prevention does not appear to be organized around one single institutional setting or pathway. Instead, the landscape reflects a **multi-context system**, in which services are delivered across different parts of young people's lives. This shows that prevention efforts are being approached as a broader community and systems issue, rather than only as a school issue or only as a justice-system response.

🧭 Planning Implication

This suggests to us that the county already has a **contextually broad prevention landscape**, which may be a strength. At the same time, an important next step is to assess whether these contexts are **well connected, balanced, and strategically aligned**, or whether some key settings or justice contexts remain comparatively underdeveloped.

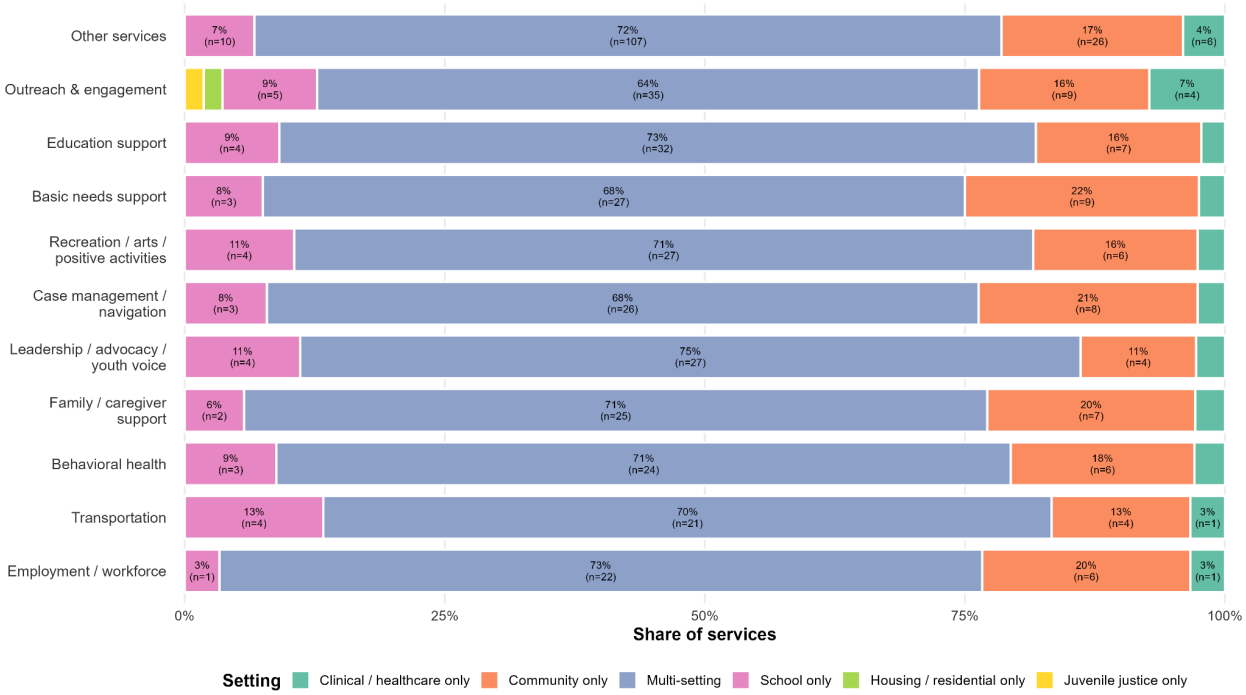
Cross-System Patterns in Services, Populations, and Contexts

Building on the overall service distribution described above, the cross-pattern analyses provide additional insight into how services are configured across settings, targeted populations, and justice contexts. These results suggest that the service landscape is not only broad in scope, but also patterned in systematic ways across dimensions of delivery.

Broad Services Across Settings

First, the setting composition within broad service categories was consistent (Figure 16). Across all major broad-service groupings, the majority of services were delivered in multi-setting configurations, including 64% (n = 35) of Outreach & engagement, 73% (n = 32) of Education support, 68% (n = 27) of Basic needs support, 71% (n = 27) of Recreation / arts / positive activities, 68% (n = 26) of Case management / navigation, and 72% (n = 107) of the aggregated Other services category. In each case, community-only delivery was the next most common configuration, ranging from 16% to 22% of service rows, while school-only delivery accounted for a smaller but still recurring share, generally between 8% and 11%. All other settings were rare within each service category. These findings reinforce the earlier conclusion that the landscape is characterized less by single-setting specialization than by service delivery that spans multiple contexts.

Figure 16. Broad Services Across Settings: Services Consistently Use Multiple Settings

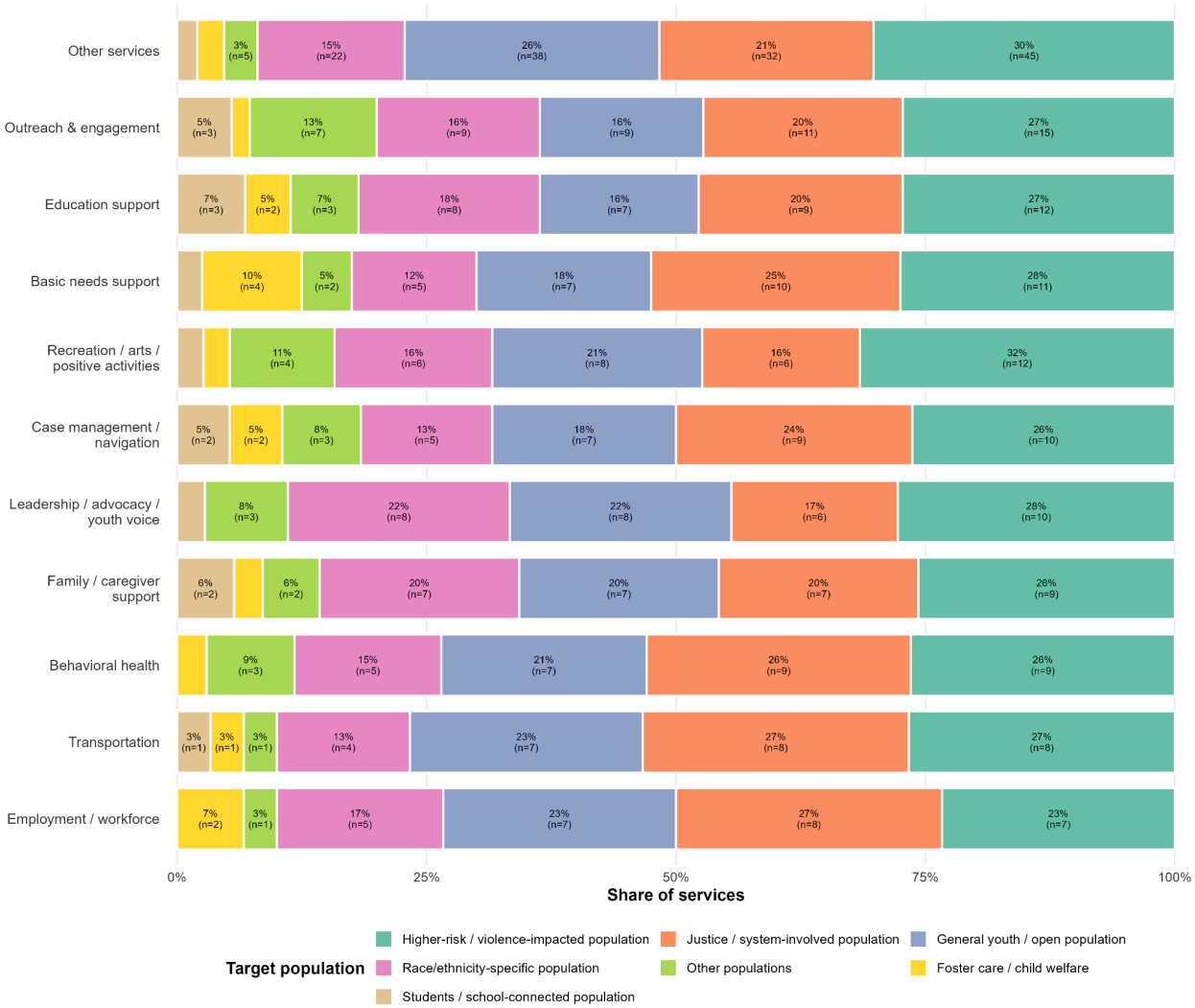


Broad Services Across Targeted Populations

Second, the targeted population profile within broad service categories was varied (Figure 17). Higher-risk / violence-impacted population consistently represented one of the largest shares, accounting for 27% (n = 15) of Outreach & engagement, 27% (n = 12) of Education support, 28% (n = 11) of Basic needs support, 32% (n = 12) of Recreation / arts / positive activities, 26% (n = 10) of Case

management / navigation, and 28% (n = 88) of Other services. Justice / system-involved population also represented a substantial share across categories, ranging from 16% (n = 6) in Recreation / arts / positive activities to 25% (n = 10) in Basic needs support. At the same time, General youth / open population remained prominent across all categories, comprising 16% to 24% of service rows depending on the service type. Race/ethnicity-specific population also appeared consistently, ranging from 12% (n = 5) in Basic needs support to 18% (n = 8) in Education support. By contrast, Foster care / child welfare, Students / school-connected population, and Other populations accounted for smaller shares. Overall, these results suggest that broad service areas are not directed toward a single uniform target group; rather, most service categories serve a mix of general youth, higher-risk youth, justice-involved populations, and more specifically targeted groups.

Figure 17. Broad Services Across Targeted Populations: Services Reach a Mix of Target Populations



Major Concentrations, Gaps, and Overall Patterns

Figure 17 (also see Figure 1 in Appendix B for the detailed configuration) shows how services are organized across three key dimensions of the local system: service type, delivery setting, and justice context. The maps out how services are combined within the system rather than as a count of distinct programs. Because individual programs may offer multiple services, the visual is intended to highlight recurring service patterns and pathways, not to estimate the number of unique programs represented in each combination. We consolidated less frequent categories into "Other services," and removed cases coded as "Unspecified / not reported" from the setting dimension so that the most prominent configurations are easier to identify.

The most prominent pattern is the central role of multi-setting delivery. Across the service categories, the largest or near-largest combinations typically involved services that were coded as multi-setting and then paired with either court-involved in community / probation or general / not justice-involved contexts. For Outreach & engagement, the two largest configurations were Multi-setting + Court-involved in community / probation (n = 12) and Multi-setting + General / not justice-involved (n = 8). For Education support, the same two configurations were also the largest, at (n = 11) and (n = 9), respectively. Basic needs support showed a similar pattern, with Multi-setting + Court-involved in community / probation (n = 10) and Multi-setting + General / not justice-involved (n = 4), although Community only + General / not justice-involved was also substantial (n = 8). Case management / navigation was likewise concentrated in Multi-setting + Court-involved in community / probation (n = 8), followed by Multi-setting + Multi-stage justice continuum (n = 6) and Community only + General / not justice-involved (n = 6). Recreation / arts / positive activities was most often configured as Multi-setting + Court-involved in community / probation (n = 10), followed by Multi-setting + General / not justice-involved (n = 7) and Community only + General / not justice-involved (n = 6).

These counts indicate that several major service categories are commonly organized across more than one setting rather than being confined to a single site of delivery. They also suggest that multi-setting services are not linked to only one justice context. Instead, they appear in both more justice-connected contexts, such as community probation, and broader non-justice-involved contexts. Put differently, the figure does not show services moving from one place to another; rather, it shows that the same broad service types are often recorded in recurring combinations of setting and justice context.

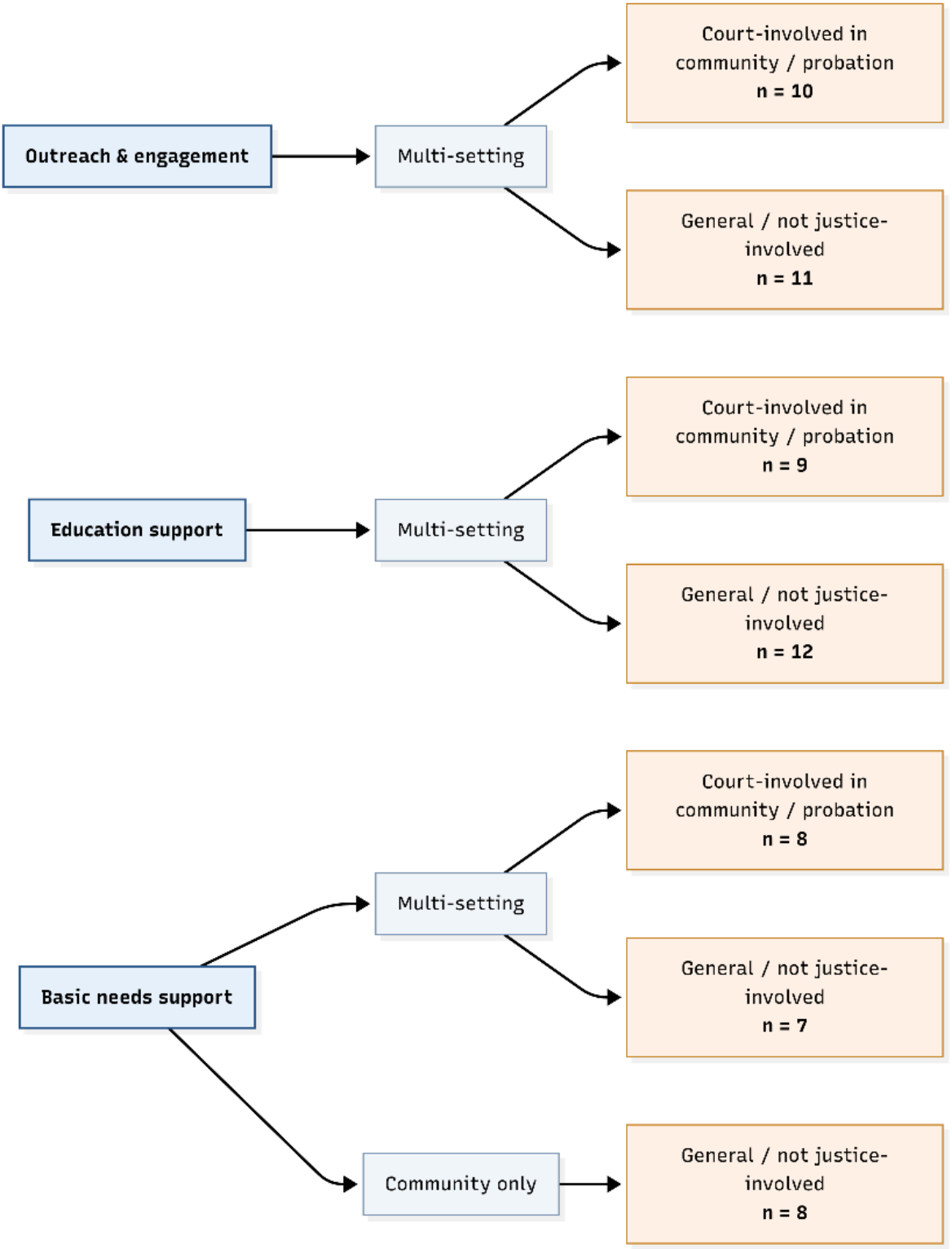
A second major pattern is the importance of community-only services associated with general, non-justice-involved contexts. This configuration appears repeatedly across the service categories: Outreach & engagement (n = 7), Education support (n = 6), Basic needs support (n = 8), Case management / navigation (n = 6), and Recreation / arts / positive activities (n = 6). This does not mean that community-based delivery is exclusively non-justice-involved, since smaller counts are also present for Community only + Court-involved in community / probation. However, it does suggest that when a service is delivered only in community settings, it is more often associated with a broader, less directly justice-connected context than with more intensive justice involvement.

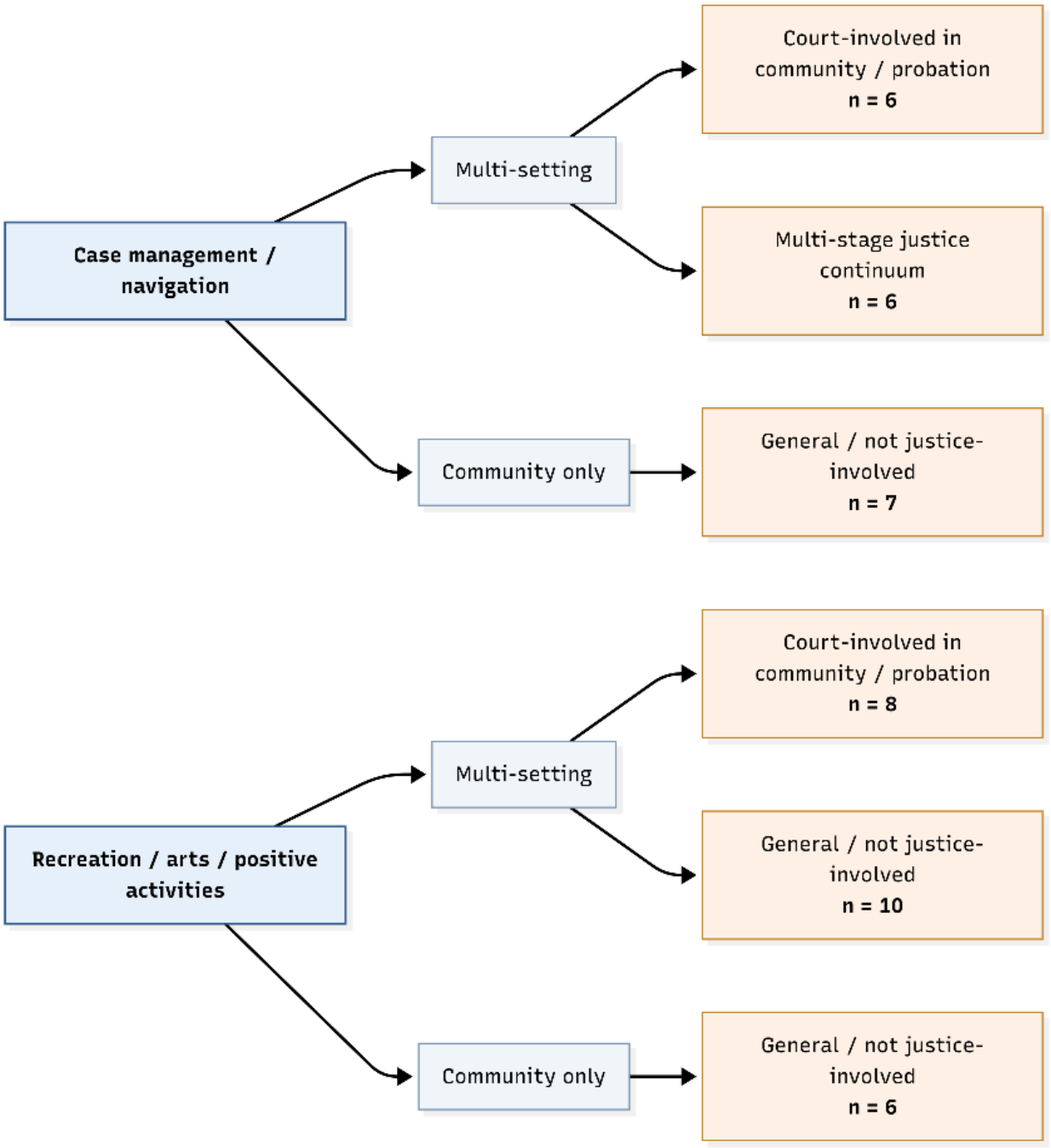
The grouped "Other services" category reinforces the same overall interpretation while also showing the scale of the broader service landscape. Within this grouped category, the largest single configuration by far was Multi-setting + Court-involved in community / probation (n = 62). Other sizeable combinations included Multi-setting + Diversion / early intervention (n = 32), Community only + General / not justice-involved (n = 28), Multi-setting + Multi-stage justice continuum (n = 26), and Multi-setting + General / not justice-involved (n = 17). These counts should be interpreted with caution because Other

services combines multiple less common service categories into one large grouping. Even so, the pattern is informative: the broader service landscape beyond the categories is also concentrated in a relatively small number of recurring configurations, especially those involving multi-setting delivery and either court-related or diversion-related justice contexts.

The smaller pathways add nuance but should not be overinterpreted. School-only services appear in both General / not justice-involved and Justice-adjacent / family-impacted contexts across several service categories. For example, Outreach & engagement included School only + General / not justice-involved (n = 3) and School only + Justice-adjacent / family-impacted (n = 2); Education support included (n = 2) in each of those same school-based combinations; and Recreation / arts / positive activities also showed (n = 2) in each. Clinical / healthcare only rows were relatively uncommon and most often paired with Other contexts, although there were isolated exceptions, such as Outreach & engagement + Clinical / healthcare only + In custody / detention / placement (n = 3). A few categories appeared only once, such as Outreach & engagement + Housing / residential only + Multi-stage justice continuum (n = 1) and Outreach & engagement + Juvenile justice only + Other contexts (n = 1). Because these cell counts are small, they are better understood as evidence of heterogeneity within the system than as central organizing patterns.

Figure 17. Service Configurations Across Broad Service, Setting, and Justice Context




Case management / navigation
Multi-setting
Court-involved in community / probation
n = 6
Multi-stage justice continuum
n = 6
Community only
General / not justice-involved
n = 7
Recreation / arts / positive activities
Multi-setting
Court-involved in community / probation
n = 8
General / not justice-involved
n = 10
Community only
General / not justice-involved
n = 6

Least and Highest Visible Groups and Contexts Across Equity Dimensions

Very limited representation in the dataset:

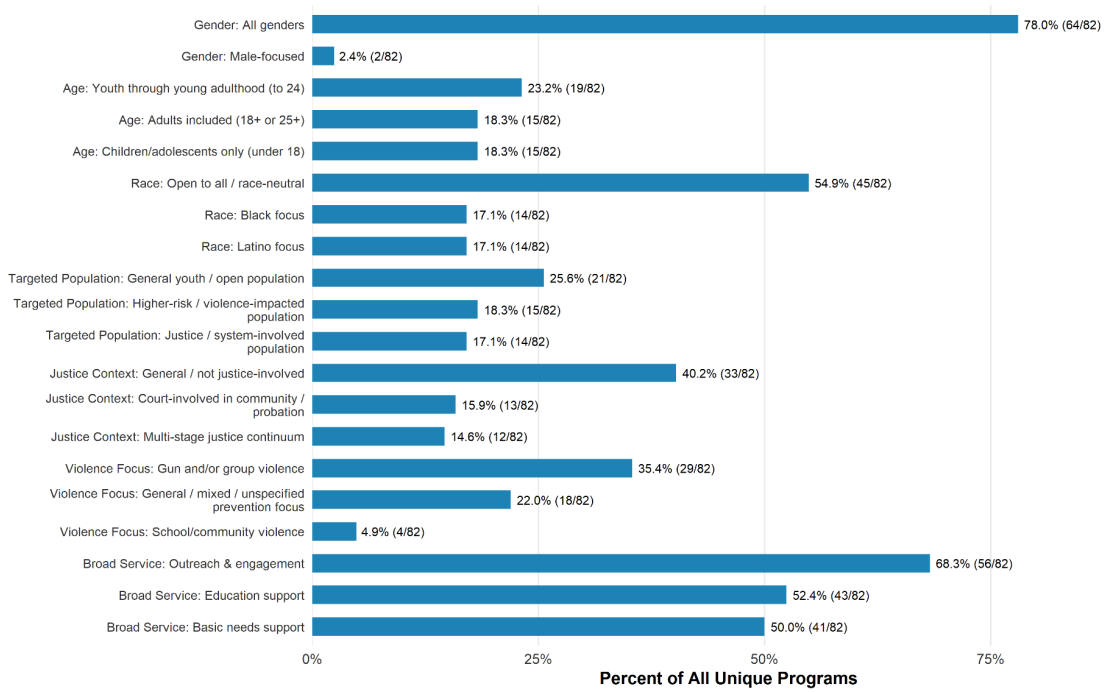
- **Early childhood only: 1 program**
- **LGBTQI+ populations: 1 program**
- **Asian-focused: 2 programs**
- **Multiracial-focused: 2 programs**

Most Concentrated Areas in the Local Landscape

The concentration analysis shows that the current landscape is focused most strongly in a few broad patterns (Figure 18). At the program level, the system is overwhelmingly oriented toward all-gender programming, with 64 of 82 programs (78.0%) documented as serving all genders. In terms of age focus, the largest group of programs serves youth through young adulthood (to age 24), representing 19 programs (23.2%), followed by programs that include adults (18+ or 25+) and programs focused on children and adolescents under age 18, each with 15 programs (18.3%). In the race-focus profile, the strongest pattern is a large share of programs that are open to all or race-neutral, accounting for 45 programs (54.9%), while Black-focused and Latino-focused programming each appeared in 14 programs (17.1%).

The same pattern of concentration appears across target population, justice context, violence focus, and service type. The most common target-population category was general youth / open population (21 programs, 25.6%), followed by higher-risk / violence-impacted youth (15 programs, 18.3%) and justice/system-involved populations (14 programs, 17.1%). In justice context, the largest category was justice-involved individuals (37 programs, 45.1%) followed by the general population (34 programs, 41.5%). In violence focus, the most visible category was gun and/or group violence (29 programs, 35.4%), followed by general or mixed prevention focus (18 programs, 22.0%). The service pattern is even clearer: Outreach & engagement was by far the most widely represented broad service area, appearing in 56 programs (68.3%), followed by Education support (43 programs, 52.4%) and Basic needs support (41 programs, 50.0%).

Figure 18. Most Concentrated Areas in the Local Landscape

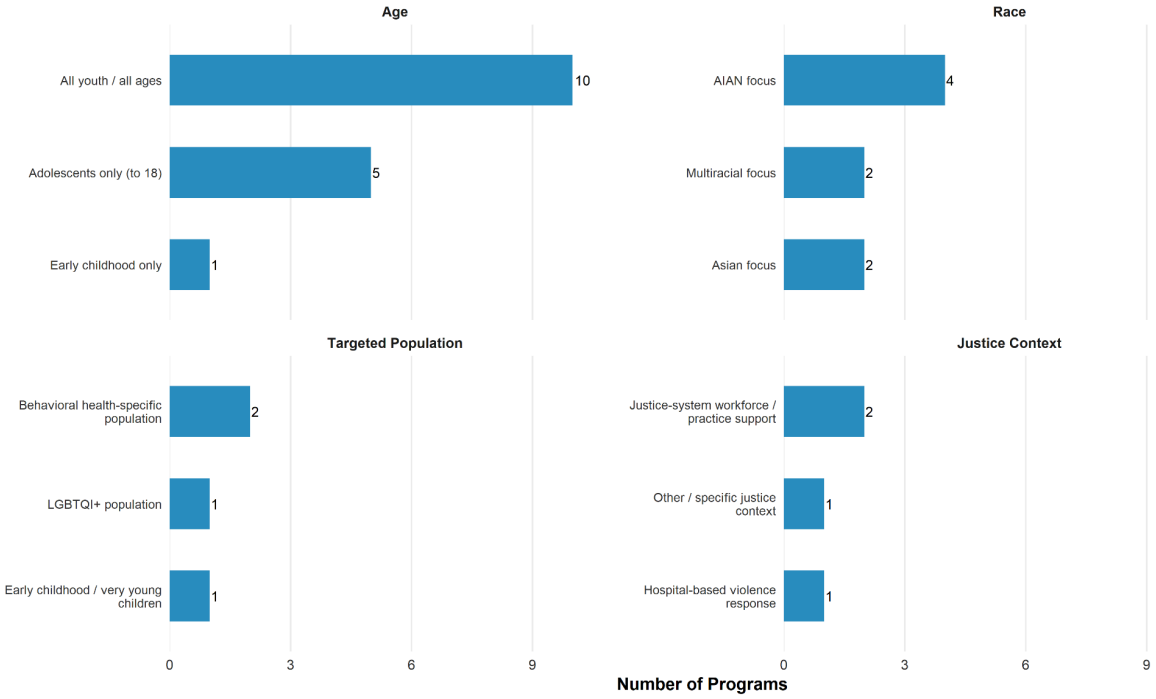


Least Visible Groups and Contexts

The least-visibility analysis highlights areas that appear comparatively thin in the current dataset (Figure 19). In the age profile, the least represented categories were early childhood only (1 program), adolescents only (to 18) (5 programs), and all youth / all ages (10 programs). In the race-focus profile, the least visible categories were Asian-focused programming (2 programs), multiracial-focused programming (2 programs), and AIAN-focused programming (4 programs).

The same pattern of limited visibility appears in a number of population and justice-related categories. Within target population, the least represented groups were early childhood / very young children (1 program), LGBTQI+ populations (1 program), and behavioral health-specific populations (2 programs). In justice context, the least visible categories were hospital-based violence response (1 program), other / specific justice context (1 program), and justice-system workforce / practice support (2 programs). These low counts do not necessarily mean that these populations or contexts are unimportant locally. There are at least three possible explanations for thin visibility: the service may not exist in meaningful form in the current system; it may exist but was not captured during Phase 1 outreach; or it may have been captured but not documented with enough detail to code at a specific level. For populations like LGBTQI+ youth, AIAN youth, and very young children — whose needs may be served by smaller or less institutionally connected providers — Phase 1 outreach limitations are likely a meaningful contributor to the low counts. The upcoming second round of CBO outreach and a targeted documentation review should help distinguish between a service gap and a documentation gap before planning decisions are made.

Figure 19. Least Visible Groups and Contexts



A Synthesis of Local Services and National Evidence [6]

This Phase 1 work combines two different but complementary lenses on youth violence prevention (Table 1, also see supplementary tables in Appendix A). The national review summarizes where the documented research base is stronger, where findings are mixed, and where the evidence base is thin across populations and settings. The local mapping report describes what is actually operating across the county right now—82 programs across county and CBO organizations, delivering 565 services and frequently spanning multiple service types and settings. Read together, the two products support a single planning question: How does the county's current portfolio align with stronger evidence signals, where does it sit in more mixed territory, and where does the literature provide limited guidance—requiring local learning and evaluation?

What the national evidence review shows

The national evidence landscape is broad but uneven: most reviewed programs fall in the "Promising" tier, fewer are "Effective," and a substantial share are "Ineffective," underscoring that well-intended interventions do not automatically produce benefits. Evidence strength also varies by domain and setting, and some populations and contexts (including several age groups, racial/ethnic groups, and tribal/rural settings) are less visible in the documented evidence base.

Where local patterns most plausibly align with more favorable evidence signals

Several highly visible parts of the local portfolio fall in areas that appear comparatively more favorable in the national review:[7]

- **Family and caregiver support** appears in 36 local programs (43.9%), while family/home-based approaches appear comparatively favorable in the national evidence landscape.
- **Behavioral health services** appear in 35 local programs (42.7%), and behavioral health/substance use/clinical treatment contains one of the largest absolute concentrations of effective programs in the national evidence review.
- **Education support** (43 programs; 52.4%) most closely resembles national school/academic/attendance programming, which is common nationally and stand out as one of the promising domains by promising -share in the national review.
- **Multi-setting delivery** dominates locally (44 programs; 53.7%), and mixed-setting/home-linked/clinical delivery patterns appear more favorable than school-only or institution-only settings in several parts of the national evidence review (while noting that some national setting categories are small and should be interpreted cautiously).

Where comparisons are weaker or require caution

Several highly visible local service areas do not have clean counterparts in the national rating framework:

- **Outreach and engagemen**t is the most visible local backbone (56 programs; 68.3%), but the national evidence review does not include a directly equivalent "outreach" program category—limiting one-to-one evidence comparisons.
- **Justice-linked programming** is meaningfully represented locally across diversion, probation/court-involved contexts, and multi-stage justice-continuum contexts; nationally,

[6] Note on companion products: This synthesis draws on two complementary Phase 1 products. The first is the local landscape mapping described in this report. The second is a companion national evidence review, which is documented separately and summarized in the tables in Appendix B. Readers who want the full evidence ratings, methodology, and program-level findings from the national review should consult that document directly. The synthesis presented here is intentionally comparative and high-level.

[7] These parallels should be interpreted as portfolio-level alignment signals, not proof that local programs are effective.

justice-system/court/diversion/supervision approaches show more mixed results than some family- or clinical-linked approaches in the national review and the supplementary literature synthesis. This does not argue against justice-connected services; it flags a need for tighter outcome definitions and routine monitoring when expansion or redesign is considered.

Where both local visibility and national evidence are thinner

The county mapping identifies limited visibility for early-childhood-only programming, LGBTQI+ populations, behavioral-health-specific populations, hospital-based violence response, and some racially focused categories (including AIAN- and Asian-focused programming). The national review similarly highlights thinner coverage for some age groups and some racial/ethnic and geographic settings. These overlaps are not a perfect match (the category systems differ), but they suggest areas where the county may have fewer “off-the-shelf” evidence models and should prioritize local partnership, documentation, and evaluation.

The synthesis provided here functions strictly as a comparison of broad patterns, not as a direct performance review or scoring of individual programs. This distinction is necessary because the units of analysis differ: the national review relies on standardized program profiles and evidence categories, while the county report maps actual local services as they operate across overlapping settings, populations, and functions in the real world. The value of this work, therefore, is not the classification of each local program as "evidence-aligned" or "evidence-misaligned". Rather, its chief contribution is to guide county strategy by helping to distinguish areas that appear to rest on a stronger evidence foundation, areas that warrant heightened caution and monitoring, and areas where external literature offers limited guidance for decision-making.

The combined picture derived from the national review and local mapping provides greater value than either report could alone. The national review serves to prevent the county from mistakenly assuming all prevention approaches are supported equally, while the local mapping ensures that the discussion of evidence remains tethered to the actual configuration of the county's current system. When utilized together, they suggest a practical planning orientation: to build more confidently in areas where the local landscape appears broadly consistent with more favorable evidence patterns, to proceed with increased caution where local concentration falls into more mixed evidence areas, and to invest in local learning, partnership, and evaluation in areas where both the county map and the broader literature offer comparatively limited guidance.

Table 1. Connecting the Local Landscape to the National Evidence Base

Local landscape pattern	National evidence signal
Outreach and engagement service is highly visible locally	Comparable national evidence is **less clearly concentrated** in outreach itself and appears more mixed across related domains
Education support is common in the county landscape	School/academic programs are **numerous nationally**, but their evidence profile is **more promising** than some other domains
Basic needs and navigation services are prominent locally	These supports are important locally, but they do not map neatly onto the strongest national evidence categories
Family and caregiver support are clearly present	Family/home-based support shows a **stronger evidence profile nationally**
Behavioral health services are well represented	Behavioral health / clinical treatment is one of the **largest and strongest national evidence areas**
Justice-involved and system-involved youth are a visible target group	Justice/diversion models show **some stronger evidence**, but the overall picture is still mixed
Multi-service and multi-setting programming are common locally	Mixed-setting, home-based, and clinically oriented approaches often appear **more favorable nationally** than narrower single-setting models
Gun and group violence prevention is visible in the local landscape	Violence/safety-focused programs show a **weaker or more mixed national evidence profile** overall
Early childhood programming appears thin locally	Younger-age programming can show **promising evidence**, but local representation is limited
Some populations appear underrepresented locally, including LGBTQI+ youth and some racial/ethnic groups	National evidence is also thinner or less explicit for some populations and culturally specific contexts

Policy Implications

The findings shift the county's planning question. The question is no longer whether youth violence prevention capacity exists in Multnomah County — it does, in substantial form. The more productive question is how to work strategically within a large, varied landscape where different parts of the portfolio carry different levels of research support. The local mapping makes clear that the current system is concentrated in particular service types, delivery settings, and population groups. The national evidence review shows that those same areas do not all carry the same level of empirical support. This means that the county's planning task is less about building from scratch and more about making deliberate choices: where to build with greater confidence, where to proceed with more care, and where to invest in local learning because the external literature offers limited guidance.

A key takeaway is that local visibility should not be confused with evidence-based effectiveness. This report illustrates what is currently present in the landscape, not necessarily what has been validated as most impactful. The national review highlights that common practices frequently lack the strongest evidence profiles, a distinction that is vital for decisions regarding funding, expansion, and coordination. While a highly visible service may maintain its value by fulfilling a critical operational function, strategic expansion should proceed with greater confidence in areas of favorable evidence and with heightened care where the research is mixed or less direct.

The findings also point to the importance of local fit. National evidence can help identify patterns, but it does not determine whether a model is appropriate for Multnomah County's provider landscape, staffing conditions, communities, or institutional arrangements. This is especially relevant in areas where the national literature is thinner — including some populations, age groups, and settings that may still matter greatly to the county. In those cases, the absence of strong national guidance should not be interpreted as a reason to avoid investment. It more often signals the need for stronger local documentation, thoughtful adaptation, and clearer expectations about what should be monitored over time.

Finally, the report suggests that the county now has a stronger basis for strategic stewardship. The local mapping makes the current prevention landscape more visible. The national review adds a way to think about relative evidence strength, mixed-evidence areas, and evidence gaps. Used together, they can support a more deliberate planning process: one that strengthens areas where the county appears to be operating on firmer ground, applies added scrutiny where the evidence is more mixed, and builds local learning where the literature offers less guidance.

Conclusion

The two Phase 1 products show a system with real capacity and real complexity. Locally, youth violence prevention is not a single program type or a single department; it is a mixed ecosystem spanning CBO-led outreach and stabilization supports, county-led institutional and specialized roles, and multi-setting delivery that connects community, schools, clinical settings, and justice-linked contexts. Nationally, the evidence base is large but uneven, with meaningful variation across domains, settings, and populations—and with "Promising" ratings far more common than "Effective" ratings. The combined implication for policymakers is not that the county lacks youth violence prevention capacity; it is that different parts of the portfolio carry different levels of research support and should be managed differently.

A key insight is that some of the county's most visible structural features are broadly compatible with stronger evidence signals. The local portfolio's visibility in family/caregiver supports, behavioral health, and multi-setting operations aligns with areas that appear comparatively more favorable in national evidence patterns. This should be treated as a planning advantage: the county does not need to "start from scratch" in every area. However, these alignments remain signals, not outcome proof for local programs, because the Phase 1 mapping is descriptive and the national evidence ratings are attached to specific program models studied in specific contexts.

A second insight is that the county's most visible service backbone—outreach/engagement—functions as essential infrastructure but is not "rated" in a clean national category. This creates a common policy trap: assuming that what is most common locally is automatically what is best supported by evidence. The appropriate response is not to downgrade outreach; it is to define what outreach is supposed to accomplish (e.g., connection to services, reductions in retaliation risk, improved school engagement, increased service uptake) and to require a small, consistent set of measures that can be monitored across providers without imposing unrealistic evaluation burdens.

Equity considerations cut across every conclusion. The national review shows uneven documentation for some populations and contexts; the local mapping similarly shows thin visibility for several populations and service contexts. The practical planning implication is that "thin evidence" and "thin visibility" should be treated as priority learning areas—not as reasons to disengage. These are exactly the areas where the county may need culturally grounded pilots, stronger documentation, and community-defined success measures.

Finally, this Phase 1 work directly responds to the county's existing policy commitments. The FY 2026 budget note calls for four deliverables: a youth violence prevention best-practices study, a scan of the local landscape, an action plan to improve cross-sector collaboration, and recommendations for technology and data sharing across agencies. This report contributes the landscape scan and, through the parallel national evidence review, the best-practices component. The cross-sector action plan and data-sharing recommendations are natural Phase 2 priorities — and the current findings provide the descriptive foundation needed to make those next products specific, grounded, and actionable rather than theoretical.

Appendix A

Data source

The first phase of this report is based on a local dataset of youth violence prevention programs, services, and related initiatives operating across Multnomah County. The purpose was to create a local picture of the current prevention landscape across county agencies and community-based organizations. Data collection began in January 2026 and continued through March 31, 2026. During that period, information was gathered through direct outreach to county agencies and community-based organizations. The project team met with organizations, explained the purpose of the project, and invited participation in the mapping effort. Outreach also took place through community-facing and provider-facing spaces, including events such as the Community Peace Collaborative organized by the Office of Violence Prevention and the provider fair organized by Department of Community Justice. These activities helped introduce the project, answer questions, build familiarity with the data request, and encourage participation.

To collect the data, we created a local matrix spreadsheet and shared it with participating organizations. This spreadsheet served as the main structured template for reporting program information. Because some agencies preferred a different submission method, we also created an online survey version of the same tool. Together, the spreadsheet and online survey formed the main method for collecting the raw data. The goal was to give organizations a practical way to describe their current programs, services, target populations, settings, and related characteristics in a consistent format. The resulting dataset reflects information submitted by participating organizations during the collection period. The raw data were then compiled into a single structured file for review, cleaning, and analysis.

Data preparation and cleaning

Because the information came from multiple agencies and organizations, the raw dataset required extensive preparation before analysis. Some fields were entered in highly structured ways, while others were written in open text. In addition, different respondents sometimes used different terms for similar concepts. For that reason, the dataset was carefully reviewed and reorganized before any descriptive analysis was conducted.

The first step was to preserve the original submitted information while building a more structured analytic file. Original source fields were retained so that we could refer back to the submitted wording when needed. At the same time, new cleaned fields were created to support more consistent grouping and comparison across programs. The dataset was then reviewed for duplicate entries, blank rows, incomplete records, inconsistent labels, and formatting problems. Missing values were standardized so that blank, unclear, or non-substantive responses were handled consistently. Spelling differences, capitalization differences, and small wording variations were also reviewed across key variables. Where a value could not be interpreted with reasonable confidence, it was either left missing, kept in a conservative “unclear” category, or flagged for manual review rather than being forced into a more specific category.

A second major step involved clarifying the unit of analysis. The final file was organized at the program-service row level rather than as one row per program. In practice, this means that some programs appear on more than one row because they include multiple service components or activities.

The dataset was therefore structured so that it could be examined in two ways: as a service-row file for describing the service landscape, and as a program-level file for describing unique programs, agencies, and program characteristics. This distinction was important because some descriptive findings are best understood at the service level, while others are more meaningful when each program is counted only once. Additional cleaning focused on variables that were especially important for interpretation. These included age, race, service type, setting, target population, violence focus, justice context, geography, and program status. In each case, the goal was not to erase the original data, but to build clearer analytic variables that remained valid to the source information while making the results easier to interpret.

Measures

The measures used in this report were designed to describe the structure of the local youth violence prevention landscape. The emphasis was on understanding what programs and services exist, what they do, who they appear intended to serve, where they are delivered, and how they are positioned within broader prevention and justice-related contexts.

Program and organizational structure

The dataset includes basic organizational fields such as department, program name, department type, and program status. These variables were used to describe the number of participating agencies and organizations, the number of unique programs, and the overall distribution of programming across county agencies and community-based organizations. A cleaned program status variable was also created to distinguish between programs that appeared to be active or ongoing, those that were ended or no longer active, and those for which status was unknown or not reported. This was necessary because some organizations reported status directly, while others used narrative wording that required a clearer grouped version for analysis.

Service variables

The service portion of the dataset was organized around the types of activities or supports described by each organization. Because a single program could include multiple activities, the service data were structured at the program-service row level. To make this information easier to interpret, a cleaned broad service variable was created to group service activities into larger, more meaningful categories (See Table 1 in Appendix B). A second variable, sub-service category, was used to provide more detail within those broader groupings. These variables were intended to support both summary reporting and more detailed examination of how the local landscape is organized.

Demographic variables

Several demographic fields required additional cleaning because they were not reported in a uniform format.

Gender. A cleaned gender variable was made to summarize whether a program was described as serving mixed-gender youth, male youth, female youth, or a more specific subgroup. This variable was relatively straightforward because the raw responses were more consistent than in several of the other demographic fields.

Age. Standardizing the age variable presented a challenge due to the varied formats in which programs reported this data, which ranged from precise numerical bounds to less defined, narrative descriptors like "school-age" or "young adults". To ensure analytic consistency, we pursued a dual approach: first, we developed minimum and maximum age fields for all submissions that provided clear numeric data. Second, we created two structured variables to capture developmental focus: an age-stage variable that reflects the general life stage of participants, and a more generalized age-focus variable designed for high-level reporting (See Table 2 in Appendix B). This reorganization allows the report to effectively compare programs across key developmental segments, including those aimed at early childhood, children/adolescents, adolescents exclusively, youth transitioning into young adulthood, groups with mixed ages, and programs where the age focus was indeterminate.

Race. Race was treated as a program coverage or focus measure, not as a mutually exclusive participant category. Many programs referred to more than one racial or ethnic population, and some described themselves as open to all youth while also identifying a stronger cultural emphasis or named focal groups. Because of this, race was not reduced to one single category. Instead, a set of binary indicators was created to show whether a program explicitly referenced major populations such as Black youth, Latino youth, American Indian/Alaska Native youth (AIAN), Asian youth, Pacific Islander youth, multiracial youth, or culturally specific approaches. A broader race-focus variable was also created to distinguish between programs that were open to all, programs that named focal populations, and programs that were culturally specific.

Contextual Variables

Setting. The review of program setting proved complex because programs frequently operate across multiple contexts, potentially including a combination of community, school, juvenile justice, clinical, and housing-related environments. To enable meaningful analysis, we created a revised setting variable that captures the variety of delivery locations while acknowledging multi-context operations. This variable was then categorized into broader, mutually exclusive groups: community, school, juvenile justice, clinical, housing or residential, multi-setting, and those that were unclear or not reported. This standardized approach allows us to systematically describe where services are delivered while accurately reflecting the common characteristic that many programs span more than one setting.

Target population. The target population variable was recognized as highly complex because programs routinely identified multiple intended groups, such as general youth, school-connected youth, high-risk youth, justice-involved youth, violence-impacted youth, families, or specific cultural communities. We first generated a revised, detailed target-population variable from the original raw data (See Table 3 in Appendix B). This detailed variable was essential for preserving the original nuance. Subsequently, a broader, grouped version was created specifically for descriptive reporting, enabling clear and readable comparisons across the major population types.

Violence focus. The initial violence-focus field often combined direct violence concerns with broader concepts such as prevention language, behavioral health, or system-level goals. To enhance clarity for analysis, a revised violence-focus variable was created that sorted programs into more distinct categories. These new categories include: general violence prevention, gun and group violence, family or partner violence, school or community violence, sexual violence or exploitation, behavioral health or self-harm-related concerns, system or policy support, and an unclear focus category.

Justice context. Justice context was used to describe whether a program was general youth-serving, diversion-oriented, probation- or court-connected, detention- or placement-related, reentry-related, justice-adjacent through family impact, or primarily a workforce or practice-support function. This variable required careful review because some programs were clearly tied to particular justice-system stages, while others were only indirectly linked through navigation, family support, or broader systems involvement. A revised justice-context variable and a broader grouped version were created so that the report could describe how much of the local landscape is general prevention, how much is justice-linked, and where services appear along the justice continuum.

Geography. Geography data in the raw dataset was complex, encompassing references to countywide, city, neighborhood, school district, catchment, and regional/cross-county coverage, rather than just a simple place label. Consequently, the cleaned geography fields were designed to measure service reach or service area. This cleaning yielded a detailed revised variable that included categories such as countywide, citywide, East County, place-based, school-district based, cross-county, outside-Multnomah, regional or statewide, and unclear coverage. This detailed variable was then condensed into a broader grouped geography variable to support easier reporting and interpretation.

Analytic approach

The analysis in this report is descriptive. Its purpose is not to estimate impact or determine which local program is most effective. Instead, the goal is to provide a clear and organized picture of the current youth violence prevention landscape in Multnomah County. The analysis begins by describing the structure of the dataset, including the number of participating agencies and organizations, the number of unique programs, and the number of program-service rows. It then summarizes the distribution of services, demographic focus, target populations, settings, geography, violence focus, and justice context across the local landscape.

Because the file is organized at the program-service row level, the analysis uses different denominators depending on the question being asked. Service-level analyses are used when describing the distribution of service types and service activities. Program-level analyses are used when describing unique programs and broader program characteristics such as demographic focus, geography, status, and primary context. This distinction is maintained throughout the report so that programs with multiple service rows do not unintentionally carry more weight in areas where each program should count only once. The analysis first describes the service landscape, then turns to the population and demographic profile of the system, followed by setting, geography, violence focus, and justice context. More detailed cross-tabulations are then used selectively to show how these dimensions connect. The final descriptive sections identify major concentrations and visible gaps in the current landscape.

Limitations

Several limitations should be noted. First, data were collected from 17 of an estimated 200 more CBOs — a partial sample that likely underrepresents the full range of community-based prevention work, particularly among smaller organizations, newer organizations, and those not already in established county relationships.

Second, the level of detail and consistency in responses varied across organizations. Some agencies provided highly structured and complete information, while others relied more heavily on open-text

responses or provided less detail in some fields. Although extensive cleaning and review were conducted, the final dataset still reflects differences in how organizations describe their own work. For example, the sub-service variable is less complete and less precise than the broad-service variable. In many cases, the available service description was detailed enough to assign a broad service category, but not detailed enough to support a more specific sub-service classification. For that reason, a large share of service rows remained in Other / unspecified within domain. As a result, the sub-service results should not be interpreted as a complete ranking of all detailed services. Instead, they should be read as showing the most common specifically identified sub-services among the rows with enough detail to support that level of classification. The broad-service distribution provides the more reliable picture of the overall service landscape.

Third, several key variables required analytic recoding. Fields such as age, race, setting, target population, violence focus, justice context, and geography often contained overlapping or narrative information in the original submissions. The cleaned variables improve consistency and make the findings easier to interpret, but they also simplify some of the original nuance. For that reason, the grouped variables used in this report should be understood as analytic tools rather than definitive or exhaustive classifications.

Fourth, some programs operate across multiple services, settings, populations, or system contexts. In such cases, no single grouped variable can fully capture every dimension of the work. To address this, the project preserved the original fields and created both broader and more detailed cleaned variables where possible. Even so, some complexity is inevitably reduced when preparing the dataset for descriptive reporting.

Finally, this report is descriptive and planning-oriented. It does not evaluate program effectiveness, implementation quality, outcomes, staffing capacity, costs, or fit with specific neighborhoods or communities. Its purpose is to organize the available local program information in a way that supports clearer understanding, identifies areas of concentration and areas of limited visibility, and provides a stronger foundation for future planning, coordination, and decision-making.

Appendix B: Tables

Table 1. The Distribution of All Sub-Services Across Programs

Broad Service	Sub-Service	Count of Programs
Basic needs support	Basic-needs referral / stabilization support	3
	Clothing / hygiene / personal care	3
	Flexible funds / material support	1
	Food / meal support	3
	Other / unspecified within domain	31
Behavioral health	Behavioral health referral / linkage	1
	Counseling / therapy	1
	Other / unspecified within domain	28
	Social-emotional / group skill building	1
	Trauma / grief support	4
Case management / navigation	Care coordination / treatment planning	1
	Intensive case management / coaching	2
	Other / unspecified within domain	29
	Referral-based case coordination	1
	Resource / education navigation	2
	Systems liaison / coordination	2
	Youth goal planning / support	2
Education support	College / postsecondary pathways	1
	Educational workshops / skill building	3
	Other / unspecified within domain	34
	School / safety education	1
	School engagement / reenrollment	3
	Tutoring / academic support	3
Employment / workforce	Employment referral / support	1
	Job readiness / career coaching	15
	Other / unspecified within domain	13
	Paid work / stipend opportunities	1
	Workforce placement / internships	1
Family / caregiver support	Caregiver coaching / family stabilization	1
	Family engagement / coordinated support	6
	Family relocation / safety support	1
	Family therapy / counseling	1
	Other / unspecified within domain	26
	Pregnant / parenting family support	1
Financial assistance	Emergency financial assistance	1
	Flexible financial support	2
	Gift cards / small financial supports	1
	Other / unspecified within domain	20
	Stipends / incentives	2
	Targeted financial supports	1
Housing support	Emergency / transitional housing	3
	Housing referral / support	10
	Other / unspecified within domain	4
	Reentry housing support	1

Broad Service	Sub-Service	Count of Programs
	Rental / relocation assistance	1
Justice / legal / accountability	Enforcement / prosecution coordination	1
	Immigration navigation	12
	Justice-system coordination	4
	Legal aid / court support	2
	Other / unspecified within domain	5
	Restorative accountability support	6
Leadership / advocacy / youth voice	Community leadership / placemaking	1
	Leadership development	2
	Other / unspecified within domain	19
	Youth advisory / governance	1
	Youth voice in program planning	14
Other / specialized or cross-domain	Culturally specific / healing support	2
	Data / problem analysis	1
	Multidisciplinary wraparound support	2
	Other / unspecified within domain	12
	Peer / credible messenger support	2
	Placemaking / environmental safety	2
Outreach & engagement	Community education / outreach training	3
	General outreach / engagement	14
	Other / unspecified within domain	29
	Outreach-linked referral coordination	2
	School / family outreach	3
	Street / high-risk outreach	5
Physical health	General health resource connection	1
	Health / body care supplies	1
	Medical care linkage	4
	Other / unspecified within domain	21
	Recovery / follow-up support	1
Recreation / arts / positive activities	Arts / cultural activities	12
	Community events / third spaces	5
	Life skills / hands-on activities	1
	Other / unspecified within domain	19
	Sports / enrichment activities	2
Transportation	Direct transportation assistance	2
	Other / unspecified within domain	24
	Rides / vehicle support	1
	Transit pass / fare support	4
Violence interruption / mediation	Conflict mediation / de-escalation	8
	Other / unspecified within domain	14
	Restorative accountability support	1
	Retaliation prevention / crisis response	4
	Safety / success planning	1
	Threat assessment / school safety response	1

Table2. The Distribution of Original Age Groups and New Age Groups

Age-Groups	Count of Programs
Early childhood only	
0-5 and their families	1
Adolescents only (to 18)	
12-18	14
13-18	45
14-18 year olds	4
Children/adolescents only (under 18)	
10-18	9
3-5 Pre - K and 2nd-12th school aged	3
3years-18 years	15
5-18	13
5-18 in elementary to high schools	5
6-18	1
K-12	8
K–12	13
under 18	60
youth under 18	15
Youth through young adulthood (to 24)	
10-24	8
11-24 years young	10
12-20 experiencing trauma	1
12-23	1
12–24 years old	16
13-21	30
13–21	2
13-24	11
14-19 year olds	7
14-22	8
14-23	1
16-21	10
16–24	6
17–23	7
7–23	10
8-24	9
Up to age 20	1
Adults included (18+ or 25+)	
>19	1
10-25	14
10-44	16
12-25	4
12-30 and their families	1
12-35	6

12-35 years	13
14-44	15
16 and up	15
18-25	16
At this time, council members are all 18+	1
High-risk youth and young adults (approx. 16–30)	6
Latino males 18-40	15
All youth / all ages	
All	9
All Ages (youth focused)	34
Age unspecified	
NA	3
unspecified	1
Unspecified (youth)	9
youth on probation	15
(blank)	11

Table 3. Targeted Population Definitions

Reported population focus	Working definition for this report
General youth / open population	Programs described as serving youth broadly, all youth, or youth in need of services, without a more specific eligibility or priority population.
Elevated-risk / violence-impacted population	Programs focused on youth, young adults, or families described as affected by violence, exposed to gun/group violence, living in high-violence neighborhoods, assessed as having elevated risk, or experiencing related instability.
Justice / system-involved population	Programs focused on youth or adults with direct justice-system involvement, including probation, detention, court involvement, diversion, reentry, or placement-related contexts.
Race/ethnicity-specific population	Programs that explicitly name a racial, ethnic, or culturally specific population as a focus, such as Black, African American, Latino/a/x, Indigenous, Pacific Islander, or multiracial youth and families.
Foster care / child welfare	Programs focused on children, youth, young adults, or caregivers connected to foster care, child welfare, placement changes, or transition out of care.
Students / school-connected population	Programs focused on students, school-connected youth, out-of-school youth, Title I schools, or school-based populations.
Sexual exploitation / harmful sexual behavior	Programs focused on youth at risk of or affected by sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, or harmful/offending sexual behavior.
Behavioral health-specific population	Programs focused on youth or young adults with identified behavioral health needs, such as early psychosis, social isolation, depression, or anxiety.
Transition-age / young adult population	Programs focused on older youth or young adults, especially those transitioning between youth-serving and adult-serving systems.
LGBTQI+ population	Programs that explicitly identify LGBTQI+ youth as the intended or priority population.
Early childhood / very young children	Programs focused on very young children, such as ages 0–5.
Staff / workforce-focused	Programs focused primarily on staff, administrators, managers, or system workforce rather than direct youth participants.
Unspecified / not reported	Programs where the intended population was blank, unclear, or not sufficiently described.

Table 4. Where the County Landscape Appears Most Aligned with Stronger National Patterns

Local pattern in Multnomah County	National comparison point	How to interpret the comparison
Family / caregiver support is a visible part of the local landscape (36 programs; 43.9%).	In the national review, Family / Parenting / Home-Based Support appears comparatively favorable relative to several weaker domains, though it is not the single strongest domain overall.	This is a reasonable area of broad alignment. It suggests the county has visible activity in a domain that the national literature treats more favorably than some other major categories.
Behavioral health is present across the county landscape (35 programs; 42.7%).	In the national review, Behavioral Health / Substance Use / Clinical Treatment contains the largest absolute number of effective programs among the major domains.	This is one of the clearer alignment areas. It suggests the county has visible programming in a domain where the broader evidence base is relatively well developed.
Multi-setting delivery is a defining local feature (44 programs; 53.7%).	In the national review, some home-based, mixed-setting, and clinically oriented approaches look more favorable than school-only, court-only, or correctional-only models, especially among the more common setting types.	This is a structural alignment, not a direct outcome comparison. It suggests the county's delivery model is broadly compatible with some of the more favorable setting patterns in the literature.
Education support is one of the county's largest service categories (43 programs; 52.4%).	In the national review, School / Academic / Attendance programs make up a large share of the evidence base and stand out as among the promising domains in terms of promising ratings.	Common and familiar approaches may still be important locally.
The county landscape is broad and multi-domain rather than narrowly specialized.	The national review also describes a prevention field that extends beyond direct violence response alone and includes family support, behavioral health, school-linked, justice-related, and developmental approaches.	This suggests the county is operating within a prevention framework that is broadly consistent with how the field is organized nationally.

Table 5. Areas Where Local Visibility Is High but the National Evidence Is More Mixed or Less Direct

Highly visible local area	What the national evidence can and cannot show	Planning reading
Outreach & engagement is the county's most visible broad service category (56 programs; 68.3%).	The national review does not provide a direct equivalent evidence category for outreach and engagement, so it does not support a clean strength comparison for this local service area.	High local visibility should be read as a sign of system importance, not as a direct indicator of stronger evidence.
Recreation / arts / positive activities are widely visible locally (39 programs; 47.6%).	The closest national comparison is Youth Development / Mentoring / Prosocial Skills, which shows a lower effective share than some stronger domains.	This is an approximate comparison, not an exact match. It suggests that positive-activity programming may be valuable, but should not be assumed to sit in the strongest evidence tier.
Justice-linked services are a meaningful part of the local landscape (court-involved/probation 18.3%; multi-stage justice continuum 18.3%; diversion 7.3%).	In the national review, Justice System / Court / Diversion / Supervision falls more in the middle range than in the strongest tier, and the supplementary literature also describes justice-linked findings as more mixed than some family- or community-based domains.	These local services remain important, but they are strong candidates for clearer design, closer monitoring, and cautious expansion decisions.

Table 6. Thin-Visibility Areas: Where Local Gaps and National Evidence Gaps May Overlap

Population or area	What is visible locally	What is visible nationally	What this raises for county planning
Early childhood	Early childhood-only programming is rare locally (1 program; 1.2%).	Early childhood (0–5) is also a relatively small category in the national evidence base (17 programs; 4.7%).	Thin local visibility may reflect both a local planning issue and a broader field in which early childhood prevention is less visible.
AIAN-focused programming	AIAN-focused programming appears in 4 local programs (4.9%).	American Indian / Alaska Native youth are named less often in the national evidence base than White, Black, or Hispanic youth (86 programs; 23.9%).	Where both local visibility and national coverage are limited, the county may need stronger partnership and local learning rather than simple model transfer.
Asian-focused programming	Asian-focused programming appears in 2 local programs (2.4%).	Asian / Pacific Islander youth are named far less often than several other groups in the national literature, at roughly 31% of program descriptions.	Thin visibility in both places suggests caution in assuming the national literature offers a complete guide for this population.
Programming that extends into young adulthood	The local report shows visible programming that reaches youth through young adulthood to age 24 (19 programs; 23.2%), along with programs that include adults (15 programs; 18.3%).	In the national evidence base, young adulthood only (18–24) is a relatively sparse category (9 programs; 2.5%).	The categories are not identical, but the comparison suggests the county may be working in an area of local importance where the national evidence is comparatively thin.

Table 7. Reading the Local Landscape Through the National Evidence Lens

Evidence lens	Local areas that fit best	Why they fit here	What this means for planning
Stronger footing	Behavioral health; Family / caregiver support; educational support, Multi-setting delivery	These are visible in the county landscape, and they align most plausibly with parts of the national evidence base that appear comparatively more favorable. Behavioral health stands out especially clearly in the national review, while family/home-based approaches and some mixed-setting patterns also compare more favorably than several other domains or settings.	These are the areas where the county appears to have the strongest basis for closer review, refinement, or selective strengthening.
Use caution	Outreach & engagement; Recreation / arts / positive activities; Justice-linked programming; Basic needs support	These areas are highly visible or important locally, but they do not map cleanly onto the clearest strong-evidence zones. In some cases, the national evidence is more mixed; in others, the national review does not offer a direct comparison category.	These areas may still be essential locally, but visibility alone should not be treated as evidence of stronger effectiveness. Expansion or redesign here should be paired with closer scrutiny.
Thin guidance	Early childhood-only programming; AIAN-focused programming; Asian-focused programming; Hospital-based violence response; some specialized justice-related functions	These are areas where the county landscape is thin, and in several cases the national literature is also relatively thin or uneven. That means the county may have less reliable off-the-shelf guidance precisely where important local questions remain.	These areas call for stronger local partnership, better documentation, and more deliberate learning rather than overconfidence in national models.

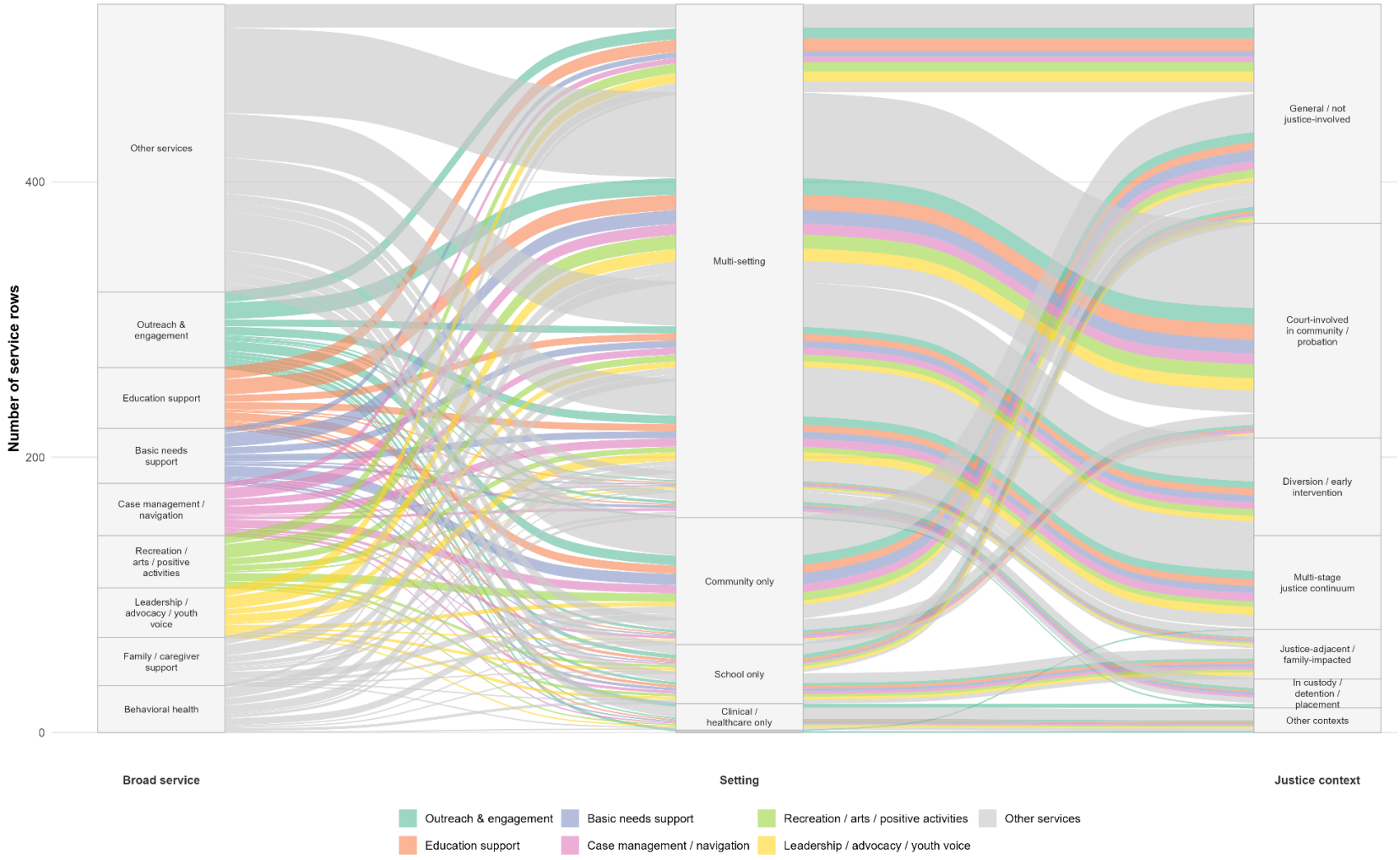



Figure 1. Service Configurations Across Broad Service, Setting, and Justice Context