

COMPREHENSIVE COUNTY YOUTH
SERVICES
PLAN UPDATE

JANUARY 2022 – DECEMBER 2022

GUIDELINES



NEW JERSEY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

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Planning Process

Gloucester County

Instructions

In this section describe to the public your county's planning process regarding identifying the needs of youth in your county. Your answers to each of the following questions should describe your county's planning process, not the results/outcome of the planning process. Answer all questions using this form.

1. Briefly describe your county's planning process for determining funding decisions.

The Gloucester County Youth Service Commission examines current local and regional juvenile justice data secured from both state, regional and local resources that speak to the need of the County with regards to supporting our youth. Data is reviewed in the continuum of prevention, diversion, detention, disposition, re-entry and family crisis to determine where gaps, in service, exist. Our planning committee is a collection of key stakeholders within the County that have extensive knowledge of roadblocks that youth/families face while working their way through the justice system as well as interventions mediating risk factors that may prevent youth from being involved in the system. Once gaps/needs are determined and funding opportunities are realized from our grantor, the committee then determines and creates the service profiles that will address current gaps/needs. The committee also determines the amount of funding necessary for the program profile based on several factors such as level of services, outcomes and additional service components that will factor into the determination of program cost. Once program profiles are created and approved by the planning sub-committee and YSC voting members, recommendations are sent to the Gloucester County Commissioner Board for final approval.

2. What additional information was helpful in completing this Plan Update?

Additional information that always factors in for the YSC when making decisions is current service provider progress, outcomes and level of service as well as changing needs throughout the county with regard to juvenile justice. We continue to examine these factors monthly and will often make minor adjustments to current programming as need to ensure youth in need have access. We also try our best to know who local service providers are in Gloucester County and what services are already being offered to avoid duplication of services.

3. As a JDAI site, list at least two juvenile justice system improvements made over the last year that have impacted the Youth Services Commission and the County Council on Juvenile Justice System Improvement on decisions making and program implementation?

The JJC's recommendation and YSC efforts to build a more transparent relationship between the CJJSI and YSC Steering/Planning Committee with regards to currently services and new opportunities has assisted both committees in establishing were potential gaps exist during

planning. As members from each committee learn services that exist throughout the entire juvenile justice continuum and collaborate with key stakeholder both committee then are able to familiarize themselves with the expectations and responsibilities to ensure increased positive outcomes and seek services that address service gaps within the County.

Another system improvement lies with the increased focus of addressing racial disparities and family engagement. Both the CJJSI and YSC Planning bodies realize the importance both measures will have on providing service and seeking positive outcomes for all youth involved in the justice system. Currently programing offers both family engagement and family resource events. CJJSI has also been able to review data, with the assistance of our Juvenile Justice Commission Reform Specialist, pertaining to the Risk Screening Tool with a stronger focus on disparities. The YSC Administrator has begun to track referrals for all diversion and disposition programming to see what youth are being referred to ensure all stakeholder understand the referrals demographics. The overall goal is to bring transparency and equality to the system, ensure all youth are getting treated appropriately and also ensure access for all.

IV. CONTINUUM OF CARE

- A. Definitions: Defines and describes each Point of Intervention on the Continuum.
- B. Instructions for Completing Work Sheet
- C. CY 2022 Continuum of Care - Points of Intervention

POINTS OF INTERVENTION DEFINITIONS

PREVENTION

Delinquency Prevention Programs are strategies and services designed to increase the likelihood that youth will remain free from initial involvement with the formal or informal juvenile justice system. The goal of delinquency prevention is to prevent youth from engaging in anti-social and delinquent behavior and from taking part in other problem behaviors that are pathways to delinquency. Primary Delinquency Prevention programs are those directed at the entire juvenile population without regard to risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system. Secondary Delinquency Prevention programs are those directed at youth who are at higher risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system than the general population. Given this goal, Delinquency Prevention programs developed through the comprehensive planning process should clearly focus on providing services that address the known causes and correlates of delinquency.

Delinquency Prevention data describe trends in juvenile delinquency and in factors that reflect the causes and correlates of delinquent activity. By understanding the nature and extent of delinquent behavior and the factors associated with involvement in delinquency, Counties can better identify the content and scope of prevention programs needed. This information will help Counties make informed decisions regarding the allocation of resources to delinquency prevention, including those disseminated by the Juvenile Justice Commission (e.g., Title II, State/Community Partnership, and Family Court Services).

The Delinquency Prevention data required for this Comprehensive Plan is meant to become the foundation for prevention program planning. However, it should be noted that the typical prevention planning process requires an in-depth analysis of community, family, peer, and education factors that identify problem areas in a particular municipality or County.

This Comprehensive Plan requires only a small portion of the data that could potentially be collected at the County or municipal level. Counties are encouraged to examine all other data not provided by the JJC in its planning process.

DIVERSION

The Diversion stage of the juvenile justice system offers alleged juvenile offenders an opportunity to avoid arrest and/or prosecution by providing alternatives to the formal juvenile justice system process. The goal of Diversion is to provide services and/or informal sanctions to youth who have begun to engage in antisocial and low level delinquent behavior in an effort to prevent youth from continuing on a delinquent pathway. Youth who do not successfully complete a diversion program may ultimately have their case referred for formal processing by the juvenile court. Given this goal, Diversion programs developed through the comprehensive planning process should clearly focus on providing services and/or informal sanctions that address the known causes and correlates of delinquency.

Diversion Process

In New Jersey, juveniles are dealt with informally through one or more of the following: Law Enforcement Station House Adjustments, Family Crisis Intervention Units (FCIU), Family Court Juvenile Conference Committees, or Family Court Intake Service Conferences.

Law enforcement officers might divert a youth suspected of a delinquent act if, in lieu of making an arrest, the officer chooses to dismiss the youth with a warning and reprimand, or to refer the youth to a social service agency. This process is known as a station house adjustment.

Youth who are accused of committing a delinquent act directly tied to family dysfunction may be diverted, with their families, to the Family Crisis Intervention Unit. The FCIU can provide services to youth and their families to resolve the immediate crisis leading to delinquency, thereby preventing the juvenile and his or her family from entering the formal court system.

Diversions within Family Court occur after a complaint has been filed, but prior to the case being formally heard by a judge. At this point, youth may be diverted to either a Juvenile Conference Committee (JCC) or to an Intake Services Conference (ISC). First and second time offenders charged with low level delinquent offenses may be diverted first to the JCC - a committee of volunteers from the community who attempt to settle the complaint. Complaints not resolved at the JCC level are referred to an Intake Service Conference. An ISC is a meeting between the youth and an intake officer who attempts to settle the case. Complaints not resolved at the ISC may be referred to a judge for formal processing.

Diversion Programs

Diversion programs are the structured services and sanctions typically provided to youth and/or their families at any point in the Diversion process. A law enforcement agency or the court might operate a Diversion program directly or the youth might participate in a program operated by a contracted service provider.

Diversion data describe trends in the extent and nature of cases diverted in your county that reflect the causes and correlates of delinquent activity. By understanding the volume of the existing types of diversion cases and the factors associated with involvement in delinquency, counties can more effectively plan the content and scope of Diversion programs. This information will help counties make informed decisions regarding the allocation of resources to Diversion programming, including those disseminated by the Juvenile Justice Commission (e.g., State/Community Partnership, Family Court Services and Title II).

DETENTION

The Detention phase/component of juvenile justice includes detention, the temporary care of juveniles and the provision of Detention Alternative Programs.

Detention

“Detention” is defined as the temporary care of juveniles in physically restricting facilities pending court disposition (N.J.A.C. 13:92-1.2).

An objective of detention is to provide secure custody for those juveniles who are deemed a threat to the physical safety of the community and/or whose confinement is necessary to insure their presence at the next court hearing (N.J.A.C. 13:92-1.3). For the purpose of this plan a limited amount of funding may be provided to support court ordered evaluations for adjudicated youth who reside in the detention center, if all other resources have been exhausted.

Detention Alternatives

Detention Alternative Programs provide supervision to juveniles who would otherwise be placed in a secure detention facility while awaiting final disposition of their case, expanding the array of pre-disposition placement options available to the judiciary. Detention Alternative Programs/Services are not to be provided in the detention center. These programs are designed to provide short-term (30 – 60 days) supervision sufficient to safely maintain appropriate youth in the community while awaiting the final disposition of their case. As such, these programs help to reduce the overall detention population and relieve detention overcrowding and its related problems where it exists.

Detention data describe the number of juveniles placed in detention, the characteristics of those juveniles, and the types of offenses for which they are detained. By understanding the nature and extent of the detained population and the extent to which detention is used and the characteristics of the youth, planners can better identify the content and scope of Detention Alternative Programs needed in their counties. As such, counties will be better equipped to make informed decisions regarding the allocation of resources to Detention Alternative Programs, including those disseminated by the Juvenile Justice Commission (State/Community Partnership, Family Court Services, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives, and Title II).

DISPOSITION

Disposition is the phase of the juvenile justice system where youth adjudicated delinquent are ordered by the court to comply with specific sanctions, supervision, and services as a consequence for their delinquent behavior. In New Jersey, the range of dispositions available to the court includes but is not limited to restitution/fines, community service, probation, and commitment to the Juvenile Justice Commission. For youth disposed to a term of probation supervision, among the conditions of probation that might be imposed by the court is the completion of a Dispositional Option Program. The structure of these Dispositional Option Programs are varied, but common among these options are intensive supervision programs, day and evening reporting centers, and structured day and residential programs. Given this goal, Disposition programs developed through the comprehensive planning process should clearly focus on providing sanctions, supervision, and services that address the known causes and correlates of delinquency.

When determining the appropriate disposition in a given case, the court faces the complex task of considering multiple goals, including promoting public safety, ensuring offender accountability, and providing juveniles with opportunities for personal growth and skill development through rehabilitative efforts. By developing and enhancing local Dispositional Option Programs, counties can facilitate the achievement of these goals by providing the court with the range of options that matches best the supervision and service needs of youth in their communities. Research and experience indicate that well developed community-based Dispositional Option Programs can effectively reduce the likelihood of continued delinquency, improving the lives of the youth they serve, and the quality and safety of the local community and its citizens.

Disposition data describe the number of youth adjudicated delinquent and disposed by the court, as well as the characteristics of these juveniles that reflect the causes and correlates of delinquent activity. By understanding the nature and extent of the juvenile population facing disposition and the factors associated with involvement in delinquency, planners can better identify the content and scope of Dispositional

Option Programs needed in their counties. As such, counties will be better equipped to make informed decisions regarding the allocation of resources to Dispositional Option Programs, including those resources disseminated by the Juvenile Justice Commission (State/Community Partnership, Family Court Services, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives and Title II).

REENTRY

In the juvenile justice system Reentry generally refers to the period of community-based supervision and services that follows a juvenile's release from a secure facility, residential program, or other structured dispositional placement.

However, for the purposes of this plan, the use of the term Reentry only applies to committed youth paroled from a Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) facility and supervised by the JJC's Office of Juvenile Parole and Transitional Services and to juveniles disposed to a JJC program as a condition of probation and supervised by the Juvenile Probation Division. Reentry is a mechanism for providing the additional support during this transitional period that is necessary to foster the successful reintegration of juveniles into their communities. Given this goal, Reentry programs developed through the comprehensive planning process should clearly focus on providing services to youth, regardless of their age, that address the known causes and correlates of delinquency.

By developing Reentry services that compliment the supervision provided by the JJC and Probation, Counties can increase the likelihood that juveniles returning to their communities will reintegrate successfully. This type of cooperative effort in the delivery of Reentry services and supervision improves each youth's chance of becoming productive, law-abiding citizens, which in turn enhances the safety and quality of the local communities in which these juveniles reside.

Reentry data describe the number of committed youth and probationers returning to the community from JJC facilities and programs, as well as the demographic and offense characteristics of these juveniles that reflect the causes and correlates of delinquent activity. By understanding the nature and extent of the population released to Reentry and the factors associated with involvement in delinquency, planners can better identify the content and scope of Reentry services and programs needed in their counties. As such, counties will be better equipped to make informed decisions regarding the allocation of resources to Reentry services, including those resources disseminated by the Juvenile Justice Commission (State/Community Partnership, Family Court Services, and Title II).

CY 2022 Existing Services
Continuum of Care - Points of Intervention

CY 2022 Continuum of Care - Points of Intervention

1. List the programs/services your county considers a part of its continuum of care regardless of funding. *List the name of the program and/or agency. Also indicate the annual level of service and funding source in parenthesis.* Additional pages may be utilized.
2. Programs/services should include those funded through the Juvenile Justice Commission (State/Community Partnership & Family Court, JJDP and JDAI) and all other programs/services considered a part of the county's continuum.
3. Level of Restrictiveness – List programs from least restrictive to most restrictive. For example – A Mentoring program is less restrictive than an In-Home Detention Program. If you are a JDAI Site, consider using the continuum of Detention Alternatives developed by your local Council on Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement.

CY 2022 CURRENTLY FUNDED PROGRAM AND SERVICES
Continuum of Care (Points of Intervention)
County of Gloucester

Delinquency Prevention Programs

Name/LOS/Funding Source

1. GALS/Blues Bro. Woodbury (90) PS
2. Glassboro Intermediate (20) PS
3. Paulsboro Evening Alt (50) PS
4. PTAH Professional Trainers (10) PS
5. Boys and Girls Club (20) PS

Law Enforcement Diversion Programs

Name/LOS/Funding Source

1. CFS Stationhouse Adjustment (48) PS

Family Crisis Intervention Unit

Name/LOS/Funding Source

1. FCIU Vicinage 15 FC
2. Ranch Hope Shelter/ (2) County Funded
3. CFS Together Youth Shelter/ (2) County Funded

Family Court Diversion Programs

Name/LOS/Funding Source

1. CFS Stationhouse Adjustment (48) PS
2. Acenda True Colors (24) PS

**Detention Alternative Programs
(Pre-Adjudicated Youth)**

Name/LOS/Funding Source

1. CFS ACE Program (54) Innovations
2. UAG Family Supervision Assistance Program (15) Innovations
3. Ranch Hope Shelter (2) County Funded
4. CFS Together Youth Shelter (2) County Funded
5. Home Detention/JHED/County Funded

FUNDING SOURCES:
 SCP: State/Community Partnership,
 FC: Family Court,
 JDAI IF: Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative – Innovations Funding,
 O: Other,
 U: Unknown

**Community Based Disposition Options
(Post-Adjudicated Youth)**

Name/LOS/Funding Source

Reentry Programs

Name/LOS/Funding Source

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|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Acenda Cog Life Skills (16) FC</u>2. <u>YAP Mentoring (15) FC</u>3. <u>CFS PASO (9) FC</u>4. <u>CFS MST Program (8) FC & PS</u>5. <u>Hopeloft Education /Employment (12) FC</u> |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>YAP Mentoring (20) PS</u>2. <u>CFS PASO (9) FC</u>3. <u>CFS MST Program (8) PS & FC</u>4. <u>Hopeloft Education /Employment (12) FC</u> |
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