Understanding the Intersection of Youth Homelessness and Juvenile Justice/Corrections Involvement


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Our Mission

Advancing housing solutions that:

- Improve lives of vulnerable people
- Maximize public resources
- Build strong, healthy communities
What the Data Tells Us Nationally


- **Nearly 44%** had stayed in a jail, prison, or juvenile detention center.
- **Almost 78%** had at least one interaction with the police.
- **Nearly 62%** had been arrested.

Source: Coalition for Juvenile Justice
2015 MN JJAC Annual Report

- Youth of color are overrepresented for arrests, secure detention admissions, and probations.
- African American youth represent 60% of curfew/loitering arrests and nearly 37% for the offense of runaway.
- Males account for 72% of Curfew or Loitering
- Females account for 54% for the offense of Runaway

2015 Wilder Homeless Survey

- 34.5% have been held in a correctional facility (juvenile or adults).
- in Greater MN, 41% have been in a correctional facility; in the Metro, 30% of youth have been in a correctional facility.
- who have a corrections history, 40.5% have left a facility in the past year.
Vital Partnerships in Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness

**MN Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee 2017 Priorities**

- Developing a Uniform Juvenile Justice Data Collection strategy
- Reducing levels of disproportionality of young people of color in the juvenile justice system.
- Advocating for policies and strategies to support, serve, and protect vulnerable and/or exploited youth.

**Heading Home Plan**

- develop recommendations on eligibility and standards for receiving transition services and clarify responsibility party in Minnesota statute section 260B.340.
- Ensure successful transition from juvenile corrections placement.
- Explore data sharing options for youth involved in the juvenile justice, child welfare and education systems to increase case coordination.
Purpose over next 70 minutes

- Learn something new about the intersection between youth homelessness and the juvenile justice system.
- Reflect on promising practices shared by presenters.
- Offer up your experience, inquiry and perspective to each other.
- Leave with something you can bring back to your role, an existing effort, your agency.
YMCA Youth Intervention Services

YMCA OF THE GREATER TWIN CITIES
Investing in Young People

• Investment in Our Communities

• Investment in Our Future

• Daiquan’s Story
The Y Vision:
We serve relentlessly with our community until all can thrive in each stage of life.

The Y Youth Intervention Services Purpose:
We build capacity with youth to overcome barriers, achieve self-sufficiency and thrive.

Our Work:
We focus on young people experiencing life challenges due to circumstances of foster care, involvement with the juvenile justice system, or homelessness.
Our History

• 165 years of YMCAs strengthening our communities
• 30 years of Youth Intervention Services
• Began serving homeless youth with basic needs
• 80% of homeless youth were “systems involved”
• Analyzed data, gaps, current services, best/promising practices
The Issue

80% of youth in need were “systems involved”

- Upwards of 60% of youth are dually involved in justice system and child welfare system

- 1 of 4 will be incarcerated within the first 2 years after they leave the child welfare system

- Approximately 58% have a high school degree at age 19, compared to 87% of a national comparison group of youth who have not been in placement
More Issues…

- 1/3 have no health insurance, double the national rate
- 1/3 report mental health issues
- 1/3 have incomes at or below the poverty level, a figure 3 times that of the national poverty level
- 3 times more likely to be unemployed and out of school than a national comparison group
- 100% of these youth have experienced TRAUMA.
Young Adults Face Particular Challenges

- **Transitioning to Independence**
  - Aging out of Foster Care
  - Inexperience with independent living and life skills

- **Employment Challenges**
  - Few vocational skills and little job experience
  - Difficulty securing steady source of income

- **Acute Behavioral Health Needs**
  - Certain mental health conditions emerge
  - Substance use peaks

- **Collateral Consequences**
  - Ineligibility for housing due to criminal record
Benefits of Nonprofit Response

• Understand youth and local communities
• Are NOT “the system” but partner WITH and BRING TOGETHER systems (NO PO!)
• Utilize a strengths-based approach (Life Coaching)
• Engage families in support
• Implement trauma informed-care
• Diverse Staff Teams and Volunteers
• Resource Experts and Connectors
• Build Permanent Connections
Juvenile Justice Program Example

- 1:1 authentic relationships
- Youth Driven
- Partnerships in all phases of program: planning, implementation, evaluation, etc.
- Prioritize immediate needs (Housing, Education, Employment, Life Skills)
- Holistic approach (SSM)
- Begin transition services Day 1
- Culturally relevant services
- Trauma informed approach
Promising Practices

BASED ON DATA and EVIDENCE BASED BEST PRACTICES

• Educate yourself on local juvenile justice system, stats and programs
• Ask youth connecting to your housing program(s) about criminal history
• Learn how to or who to refer youth to for expungement or legal aid
• Coordinate across justice, child welfare, employment and education systems
  – Partner with multiple government and local agencies
  – Educate across systems about needs
Promising Practices con’t.

• Plan and support transitions out of systems/services
  – Foster Care, Juvenile Justice

• Begin “upstream” services
  – Prevention Programs (Afterschool and out of school time programs, Violence Prevention)
  – Early Intervention (Youth Education Success/Foster care, Truancy Prevention)

US Interagency Coalition on Homelessness

Justice Center Issue Brief outlining best practices and recommendations: “Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Young Adults in the Juvenile and Adult Criminal Justice Systems”
Effective Program Models

• Re-Entry Programs
• Housing First Model
• Transitional Living Programs WITH supported Case Management
• Partnering with small housing agencies
• “Risk Pool”
• Expungement
• Leveraging multiple funding sources to make program flexible
Essential Program Partners

2 FOLD: CORRECTIONS and COMMUNITY

• Department of Corrections/Juvenile Probation
• Placement Facilities (Hennepin County Home School, Bar None, Woodland Hills, Red Wing etc.)
• Juvenile Detention Centers/Evening Reporting Centers
• County Social Services (dually involved youth)

• Housing Providers (local CoC, landlords)
• Community Resource Agencies (mental health, chemical dependency, drop in centers, etc.)
• Schools (Homeless Liaisons)
• Youth Internship programs and Employers (‘felon friendly’)
• YOUTH
Advocacy and Youth Voice

- Youth Consultants
- Youth Advisory Board
- Local and State Government
  - County Planning
  - Day at the Capital
  - Letters/Visits with local Reps
  - Ex. Home School
- National
  - YUSA
  - YIPA
  - (Youth Intervention Programs Association)
  - National Juvenile Justice Network
Interrupting the Cycle

Delinquency

Homelessness
Changing the Intervention

- **Coordinated and holistic approaches**
  - Crossover youth protocol – Child and Family Services and Juvenile Corrections
  - Embedded Children’s Mental Health Social Worker in Juvenile Corrections
  - Truancy
  - Added a Mental Health Professional to Corrections Division
    - Juvenile Detention Center – assessment, evaluation, intervention
    - Diagnostic Assessments
    - Trauma and Grief Component Therapy for Adolescents (TGCTA)
Coordinated and holistic approaches

- Shift focus from placement to alternative to placement
- These are “our” kids
- Blurring the lanes
- Focus on reentry
Changing the Budget

Olmsted County Juvenile Corrections OHP Costs

Projected Costs from 2005 to 2016.
Justice Reinvestment at the County Level

- Youth Night Campus Program
- Family Based Services
- Collaborative Intensive Bridging Services (CIBS)
- Gage East
Addressing disparities

Olmsted County 2015

- **Olmsted Youth Population [n=43,187]**
  - White, not Hispanic: 75%
  - Minority (includes Hispanic): 25%
- **Youth Receiving Child/Family Services [n=3,651]**
  - White, not Hispanic: 57%
  - Minority (includes Hispanic): 43%
- **Youth in Out-Of-Home Placement [n=247]**
  - White, not Hispanic: 52%
  - Minority (includes Hispanic): 48%
- **Youth in Detention [n=138]**
  - White, not Hispanic: 45%
  - Minority (includes Hispanic): 55%

[Source: factfinder.census.gov](http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml)
Addressing disparities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RACIAL/ETHNIC CATEGORY</th>
<th>POPULATION ESTIMATES¹</th>
<th>NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXPERIENCING CARE²</th>
<th>RATE PER 100 IN POP.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>997,743</td>
<td>6,191</td>
<td>0.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>112,509</td>
<td>2,348</td>
<td>2.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>25,025</td>
<td>2,617</td>
<td>10.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian / Pacific Islander</td>
<td>79,074</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>0.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>70,036</td>
<td>2,049</td>
<td>2.93</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,284,387</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,612</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.06</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>111,175</td>
<td>1,292</td>
<td>1.16</td>
</tr>
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Minnesota youth of color are over-represented in out-of-home care. Black and multi-race next highest followed by Hispanic.
### Addressing disparities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Summary of Change from 2010 to 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>White (Non Hispanic)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Stays (admits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Days</td>
</tr>
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**Key Points:**

- County population for youth of color (age 10-19) up by 12%
- Youth of color detainees - stays, days, and number of youth down significantly
- 2014 first year that the total number of detention days is greater for white youth
Additional Resources

- http://juvjustice.org/resources/1013
- https://dps.mn.gov/entity/jjac/Pages/default.aspx
Additional Resources Continued

- http://njjn.org
- https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/Ifservlet/Public/DHS-6530-ENG
- https://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc
- http://www.ymcamn.org/our_cause/how_we_help/help_kids_thrive/youth_intervention_services
- http://mnhomeless.org/