OPERATION YOUTH SUCCESS

VISION STATEMENT: Across Douglas County, our vision is a comprehensive, coordinated, and community-wide approach to juvenile services that eliminates the need for youth involvement with our justice system while maintaining public safety.

For all youth who do enter our justice system, our goals are to provide effective, compassionate and individualized support that empowers youth and their families to succeed and to build an environment of mutual trust and accountability.

Non-hierarchical, inclusive, and coordinated structures will execute our vision and goals.

Influences on At-Risk or System Involved Youth

Community

Advisement Systems

Justice Stakeholders

Service Providers

FOCUS AREAS

STARTING POINT

• Understand the evidence base for peer navigators for prevention

• Conduct a landscape analysis to understand current gaps in prevention services

• Determine current funding streams, funding gaps, unmet funding, and a cost/benefit analysis

Families working group update

To empower and effectively engage families the families VYS seeks to:

1. Increase trust, respect, and understanding between families and system professionals

2. Help families understand the system and develop processes for engagement

3. Improve coordination between all of the system professionals and community providers that provide services to families

4. Provide access to appropriate services to youth and families

Prevention working group update

WG goal: to prevent youth from entering and re-entering the justice system. To do so, we will act on earlier recognition of at-risk youth and families, knowledge of how to best serve youth and their families, and access to needed supports and services.

Our three focus areas are:

1. Address barriers that prevent youth and families from seeking and accessing services

2. Build system professionals’ knowledge of and capacity to better identify and serve all at-risk youth and families

3. Increase funding for preventative community supports and services

Schools working group update

Focus areas:

1. Reducing absenteeism: reducing direct system involvement ( juveniles )

2. Reducing the need for school-based arrests: reducing youth entering the system directly from school and addressing symptoms of the broader school to prison pipeline

3. Improving outcomes related to school re-entry: addressing challenges youth face navigating to the school environment or academic demands

Burning issue:

TRAJICUMA

How can you stay informed and get involved?

1) Operation Youth Success Website: www.operationyouthsuccess.org

2) “Like” the Operation Youth Success Facebook page at www.facebook.com/operationyouthsuccess

3) Become a work group member: Applications are available at each town’s website.

4) Contact: Jamie Settell, Operation Youth Success Resource Director at jsettell@douglascommunity.org

5) Twitter: Operation Youth Success/Twiter Manager at @OperationYouthSuccess

Email: info@OperationYouthSuccess.org / info@youthsuccess.org

SUCCESS FACTORS

Building critical structures, including establishing a backbone

Engaging the community

Developing a shared vision for change (e.g., common agenda)

Working together differently to employ long-term solutions

Sustaining momentum

Working groups are critical to driving and sustaining momentum:

Where are we now?

Douglas County Stakeholder Quotient (April 2016)

• Investment in collective impact structures – especially the backbone – will ensure success

• The local community voice is unrepresented

• CI has allowed diverse stakeholders to build on what’s working to achieve a common goal

• The diversity of people at the table has allowed us to make connections and work with others in new ways

Working group responsibilities:

1. Establishes and meets regularly in Douglas County and nationally

2. Determination of our VYS should remain in support of overall vision

• Learning through a pilot

• Increasing coordination

• Enhancing services

• Advocating for policy

• Identifying resources

4. Determine how we will measure our progress and success

5. Coordinate actions between working groups, the steering committee, and the justice youth league

How this work should feel different:

• Work should be strategic, dynamic, and collaborative

• You should be connecting and building trust with people beyond the “usual suspects” you work with on a day to day basis

• You should have a sense of momentum, accomplishment, and solving problems in new ways (both in terms of short-term quick wins and longer-term systems changing strategies)

Building a strong foundation
Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Vision and Goal

JDAI's vision is to change the odds for court involved youth, aiming to increase their chances of growing out of delinquent behavior and leading healthy, productive lives. In return, the hope is by changing these odds fewer youth will graduate to criminal behavior as adults, travel deeper into substance abusing patterns, and rely less on public assistance.

Through this successful initiative, we all benefit through improved public safety, strong labor force, intact and self-supporting families and less government spending on corrections, public health, etc.

Alternatives to Detention

- To create Alternatives to Detention that will allow for youth to remain placed in their own home or a home setting while providing services that will support youth and family in crisis. The specific alternatives to be created will include (but may not be limited to): In-home crisis response; Emergency Respite Care; Community Coaching and Intensive Family Preservation. This ATD working group will explore community programs for expansion of services in Douglas County.

- Increase participation in this working group by ATD providers, Probation Intake Staff and community stakeholders to ensure collaboration and information sharing. This increased participation and information sharing will lead to the effectiveness of services to youth as called for in the Community Plan. This Collaborative will also increase the knowledge of available alternatives in the Douglas County Alternatives to Detention Continuum making for increased opportunity for youth and families to participate in services that are best practice in the Juvenile Justice field.

- Increase utilization of ATD's by youth who, based on their RAI, are to be released with an appropriate alternative as opposed to utilizing detention. Decrease the number of youth unnecessarily or inappropriately detained due to lack of appropriate alternatives. Decreases the number of youth placed out of the family home through utilization of community-based Alternatives.

EQUITY – DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT

- To review and analyze data related to minority youth in Douglas County and develop strategies and make recommendations to reduce and eventually eliminate issues of Disproportionate Minority Contact within the target populations that have been identified as indicated by the Community Plan.

- To utilize the Collaborative approach and the use of data to determine effects of system related response on youth of color in Douglas County. This DMC group will, through the use of data, identify appropriate Alternatives to Detention for minority youth populations to be created within the community that the youth resides.

- To increase community awareness of issues surrounding DMC and to create a community survey to understand the warrant population in Douglas County. The DMC group also aims to increase family engagement in the Juvenile Justice System. The DMC group also aims to engage affected populations and stakeholders. The DMC group also aims to assist parents/caregivers resolve conflict that often contribute to the youth leaving home.

CASE PROCESSING

- Utilize core JDAI strategies to restructure policy and practice to create system improvements as called for by the Community Plan. This working group will work to improve the detention hearing process for youth in the Juvenile Justice system as called for by Anne E Casey and JDAI.

- This working group will aim to improve the Juvenile Justice system overall by utilizing Pre-detention staffing calls with all parties to assist in developing a plan for the youth to avoid delays in obtaining needed services.

- This working group aims to create a Standardized Detention Information form to improve overall system performance and decrease case processing time through collaboration of parties.

- Review local court rules regarding standardizing case processing timelines, in particular to review hearing related to youth placed out of home. Utilize core JDAI strategies in this effort as called for by the Community Plan.

- Revisit local court rules and practice regarding the issuance of warrants. Ensure collaboration between all legal parties and Juvenile Probation to ensure the greatest collective impact as called for in the Community Plan.

OBJECTIVE ADMISSION

- The Objective Admission group will review the Risk Assessment Instrument utilized by Juvenile Probation to ensure its legitimacy for use across Douglas County. An Objective RAI lends to the decrease in DMC and works in alignment with core JDAI Principles.

DATA

- Develop procedure for the accurate collection of data to ensure that reports (monthly, quarterly annually) are submitted on-time with true information.

- Review and analyze data and to provide an avenue for data requests from JDAI/OYS working groups. To identify relevant data related to the target population of Douglas County and offer strategies to assist working groups in safely reducing the use of secure detention.

- To provide a place of central information sharing as indicated in the Community Plan and to provide this information through a Collaborative approach to ensure a collective impact response to information exchange by supporting the working groups of JDAI Collaborative.

- To propose and undertake evaluative efforts that will inform strategies to reduce rates of detention in Douglas County.

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative’s Core Strategies and Best Practices Matrix