

Juvenile Justice Collective Impact Quarterly Newsletter

**Operation Youth Success (OYS),
Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), & Youth Impact**

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[Douglas County School-Justice Partnership Team Named Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Fellows –](#)

February 26, 2016

[Omaha, NE] – The following people have recently been selected as new members of the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) Fellows Network based on the submission and approval of their Capstone Project: Honorable Elizabeth Crnkovich, Judge of The Separate Juvenile Court of Douglas County; Jennifer Brockman, Supervisor of K-12 Special Services and Beth Morrissette, Board Member at Westside Community Schools; Deputy Chief Greg Gonzalez, Omaha Police Executive Services Bureau; Sarah Hayek, Project Coordinator at Nebraska Families Collaborative; Captain Michael McGee with Omaha Police Department; Amber Parker, Program Manager at Douglas County Operation Youth Success; Darci Poland, Chief Deputy Probation Officer at Nebraska State Probation; Cara Stirts, Deputy County Attorney at Douglas County Attorney’s Office; and Dr. Amy Williams, Supervisor of Alternative Education at Omaha Public Schools.

The Douglas County, NE Team’s Capstone Project, titled Addressing Out-of-School Placements: A School-Justice Partnership in Douglas County, is focused on reducing the incidences of youth placed out of their home school as a consequence for behavior. “The key components of this project includes cross-system planning, staff training, and linking youth to appropriate services,” said Shay Bilchik, Director of CJJR. “Its goal is to decrease the overutilization of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions. It also has the potential to improve outcomes for students on probation, and keep them from penetrating more deeply into the juvenile justice system, thereby improving public safety.” The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, located at

Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy, advances a balanced, multi-systems approach to reducing juvenile delinquency that promotes positive child and youth development, while also holding youth accountable.

The Center works to focus the nation's juvenile justice and related systems of care on the key principles embodied in an evidence-based juvenile justice reform agenda, utilizing a multi-systems approach.

Members of the Douglas County, NE Team attended the School-Justice Partnerships Certificate

Program in September 2015 and were admitted to the CJJR Fellows Network in February 2016.

For more information on CJJR Fellows Network, visit <http://cjjr.georgetown.edu>.

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For additional information, contact Amber Parker at amber.parker@douglascounty-ne.gov

[Nebraska Juvenile Justice System Statistical Annual Report: 2015](#) - Check out this annual report to compare the various districts and counties across Nebraska as well as to gain greater insight on our state's juvenile justice system. In this report, you will find summary tables for the 12 judicial districts across the state of Nebraska. Each table displays statistics on youth 17 and under involved in the juvenile justice system by breaking down case type, geography, as well as demographics.

<https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/sites/supremecourt.ne.gov/files/reports/courts/2015-juvenile-justice-system-statistical-annual-report.pdf>

The **[JDAI Alternatives to Detention \(ATD\) Committee](#)** is excited to announce the creation of four new ATD's in Douglas County for 2016. These new alternatives are as follows:

Community Coaching: This service provides short-term individualized supervision and coaching to minimize the risk of youth re-offending or failing to appear in court. This intervention is to occur in the young person's community which may include their school, work, and/or the youth's home. Community Coaches promote success by engaging the youth in pro-social activities and community resources based on the youth's individual needs and interest.

In-home Crisis Response: Crisis response services offer an immediate response to youth experiencing a crisis in their home environment. A licensed mental health professional provides on-site crisis stabilization and intervention, safety planning, and linkage to post-crisis services to stabilize the youth in their home environment.

Intensive Family Preservation: Services provide intensive interventions in the family's home environment to improve youth and family functioning and to maintain placement of the youth in their home environment. This service will offer a team of professionals consisting of a licensed mental health provider and a skill builder.

Emergency Respite Foster Care: This allows for the immediate placement in a safe and secure environment (non-shelter or group home) to give a time period for de-escalation and stabilization of the family/home situation. Respite services offer a short-term (less than 72 hours) intervention to give temporary relief from highly emotional situations to allow time for the juvenile and/or family to calm.

At this time, these new services are available for youth at the time of intake. These services can also be used at the [Juvenile Assessment Center \(JAC\)](#) for youth already involved in the system. The ATD Committee has also developed a "Douglas County Alternatives to Detention Continuum" for both in and out-of-home ATD's. In addition, the group is currently developing a training for Douglas County JAC and Probation Intake front-line staff along with training for the Court and legal parties to ensure that all have a good understanding of the goals of each service and how to refer services for youth and families.

[Graph Source](#)

The [Disproportionate Minority Contact \(DMC\)](#) Committee of the Douglas County JDAI and OYS is excited to announce a series of upcoming trainings, **"Moving the Dial on DMC, in Douglas County!"** The first of these will be held on **Thursday, April 28, 2016** at the [Goodwill \(4805 North 72nd Street\)](#).

The purpose of this full day training is to educate Douglas County stakeholders on issues related to DMC. The over representation of youth of color remains a problem along all juvenile system points in spite of the progress made in other areas of system reform.

In looking at JDAI 4th Quarter 2015 data, the Average Daily Population (ADP) of the [Douglas County Youth Center \(DCYC\)](#) was comprised of 81% minority youth (African American 58%, Hispanic/Latino 17%, Asian 1%, American Indian/Alaska Native 5%, White 19%). The [Center for Children's Law and Policy \(CCLP\)](#), with the support of the [Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention \(OJJDP\)](#) will be coming to Omaha to provide their [Reducing Ethnic and Racial Disparity \(RED\)](#) training to stakeholders.

The DMC Committee plans to have two trainings for stakeholders and designated staff (second date to be announced). Continue Education Units were approved for this training.

The training on **Thursday, April 28** (Session 1) will outline the information found in the [CCLP's RED Training manual](http://www.cclp.org/practicemanual.php) (<http://www.cclp.org/practicemanual.php>). This session will focus on the foundational aspects and identification of key terms related to DMC. The training will also highlight the following:

- Use of Data
- Implicit Bias
- How to Talk About Race
- Cultural Responsiveness
- Family Engagement

The DMC Committee has also requested time be spent on this day providing steps to effective Action Planning in Douglas County as it relates to the reduction of DMC.

The second training (Date and Location – TBA) will focus on Decision Point-Specific content (arrest, detention, diversion, disposition, post-disposition and re-entry. This training will also provide specific strategies for Action Planning by a jurisdiction. After the work with the CCLP is complete, the DMC Committee plans to bring the information to the Community at large through a series of workshops and trainings. The Committee will plan sessions with the public to inform community members regarding DMC and what the community can do to help eliminate DMC. The DMC Committee aims to work with the community and youth and families involved in Juvenile Justice to obtain their input on services needed in our community to assist them during the

Save the date for **Thursday, April 28, 2016**. Guests will receive an invitation to register for the training on-line in the coming weeks.

More information to come!

Upcoming Events

March 20th-23rd, 2016 – National Conference on Juvenile Justice in Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.ncjfcj.org/national-conference-juvenile-justice>

April 25th, 2016 - JDAI & OYS Knowledge Exchange from 11:30-12:30 at the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center. Interesting information provided by such organization as the [Juvenile Assessment Center \(JAC\)](#) as well as Youth Impact.

May 18-20th, 2016 - 2016 Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association Annual Conference in [Kearney](#), Nebraska. For more information, please visit their website at www.njja.org/conference-2/2016-njja-conference/

Check out the left column for more valuable information and resources

We're on the Web!

Hope you'll join Operation Youth Success, JDAI, and Youth Impact! in making our community better. For more information, please visit <https://mysidewalk.com>, <http://operationyouthsuccess.org/> or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Operation-Youth-Success-1680115032243802/> and <https://www.facebook.com/JJLOYS/>

