



HOPE | CHANGE | IMPACT

COLLABORATION WORKS

Douglas County Juvenile Justice Collective Impact Newsletter

Winter, 2017

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THE OYS FAMILIES WORK GROUP 1ST ANNUAL “PACK THE CLOSET” LINEN DRIVE

Operation Youth Success Families Work Group organized their 1st Annual “Pack the Closet” Linen Drive throughout the months of October and November of this year.

At their September meeting, the Operation Youth Success Families Work Group identified a need that could be easily fulfilled.

The OYS Families Work Group organized a drive to benefit financially strained families that come through the Douglas County Youth Center (DCYC). The DCYC Family Liaison spoke to the group members about the needs that she sees daily as she talks to families visiting youth at the DCYC. The decision was made to start the drive small, then see how it can grow as it progresses. Long term, the group hopes to be able to assist families experiencing financial strain at multiple system points via partnership with community-based organizations throughout Douglas County.

The Families Work Group challenged each other and all the other JDAI/OYS Work Group members to donate items including, but not limited to, sheets, blankets, pillows, and kitchen and bath towels. Items were collected at several different drop-off locations and then donated to DCYC.

This year’s drive was a success and we look to the future and expanding this idea with time.

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

The OYS/Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Disproportionate Minority Contact subcommittee poses for a group picture after a recent meeting. Co-chaired by LaVon Stennis-Williams (Re-Connect Inc.) and Mark LeFlore (DCYC), the goal of this subcommittee is to assist in developing strategies that will reduce racial disparities at all points in the Juvenile Justice System.

<http://operationyouthsuccess.org/disproportionate-minority-contact/>



SYSTEMS CHANGE STRATEGIES: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

Operation Youth Success was highlighted in the Collective Impact Forum Blog on November 22.

“Operation Youth Success is a collective impact initiative aimed at bringing people together to decide what aspects of juvenile justice in Douglas County, Nebraska, need to change and how that change will happen. OYS was started by an urgency to reduce the outcomes for those involved in Douglas County’s juvenile justice system and improve the outcomes for those youth that were system involved.”

“The work of Operation Youth Success (OYS) to reduce school-based arrests as one area of focus in a larger juvenile justice effort offers a tangible examples and concrete results.”

“None of the activities taken on by OYS required large amounts of funding or new programs. Rather, **continuous communication drove alignment, shifted mindsets, and changed policies that contributed to school-based arrests declining by 50% from 2015-2016.**”

Read the full blog post at:

http://collectiveimpactforum.org/blogs/1816/systems-change-strategies-theory-practice?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Continue%20Reading&utm_campaign=20171127OYSBlogOneShot



OPERATION YOUTH SUCCESS: BUILDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Operation Youth Success staff and work group members enjoyed the opportunity to volunteer at the PACE –

Police Athletics for Community Engagement – Flag Football Finale held on October 20th at Christie Heights Community Center. It was wonderful to see so many young people and families under the Friday night lights!

OYS staff and members of our working groups also volunteered at the 7th Annual Christmas in the Village celebration held on December 2nd at 24th & Lake Streets, presented by The Empowerment Network and OEDC. This event gave people the opportunity to enjoy free gifts, food, music, a live nativity scene, carriage and “train” rides, face painting and more, all while supporting local businesses and getting the chance to purchase their holiday gifts.



To all who choose to volunteer, we appreciate you!

*Welcome Karla Dush,
Program Specialist, to OYS!*



Please join us in welcoming the newest backbone staff member, Karla Dush. Karla started in the Program Specialist position in September and has fast become an invaluable member of the team.

FY 2018 CBA RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

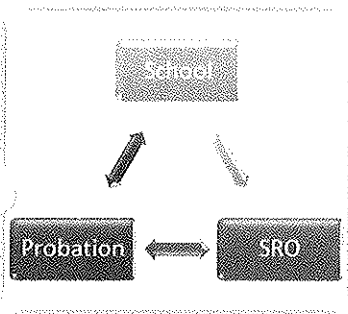
Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid (CBA) Douglas County, NE

| Project Name | Recommended |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | \$ 25,000 |
| Boys Girls Club - Jaguar Football – Prevention | |
| Boys Town - South Omaha Prevention – Family Support | \$ 109,881.00 |
| Completely KIDS - Mental Health Services | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Concord Mediation Center - Restorative Justice/ Peer Mediation | \$ 5,706.83 |
| Douglas County Administration - Grant Specialist | \$ 64,931.00 |
| Douglas County Attorney - Alternatives Coordinator | \$ 31,623.00 |
| Heartland Family Service – Youth Links Shelter Care | \$ 20,000.00 |
| HOME Program – Alternatives to Detention | \$ 90,215.00 |
| Juvenile Assessment Center | \$ 243,212.00 |
| JAC Pre-adjudicated Services: <i>(In-Home Crisis Services, Community Coaching, Intensive Family Preservation, Day/Evening Reporting, Behavioral Health Services)</i> | \$ 318,875.00 |
| JDAI Coordinator | \$ 75,004.00 |
| JDAI Data Coordinator | \$ 48,940.00 |
| Midlands Mentoring Partnership - Youth Initiated Mentoring | \$ 40,000.00 |
| Nebraska Writers Collective - Creative Writing Program - | \$ 17,740.00 |
| Operation Youth Success - Backbone Support | \$ 138,313.00 |
| Police Athletics for Community Engagement – Prevention | \$ 68,211.00 |
| Latino Center of the Midlands - Pathways to Success – Truancy | \$ 100,294.50 |
| Release Ministries - Mentoring Program, Family Support | \$ 78,220.00 |
| Heartland Family Service – Refugee Juvenile Justice Advocacy – Family Support | \$ 60,000.00 |
| Thrive - System Involvement Prevention - Family Support, Assessment, Prevention | \$ 146,844.00 |
| Center for Holistic Development - Urban BOLT | \$ 54,878.67 |
| Urban League - Youth Attendance Navigator – Truancy | \$ 28,013.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 1,815,902.00 |

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

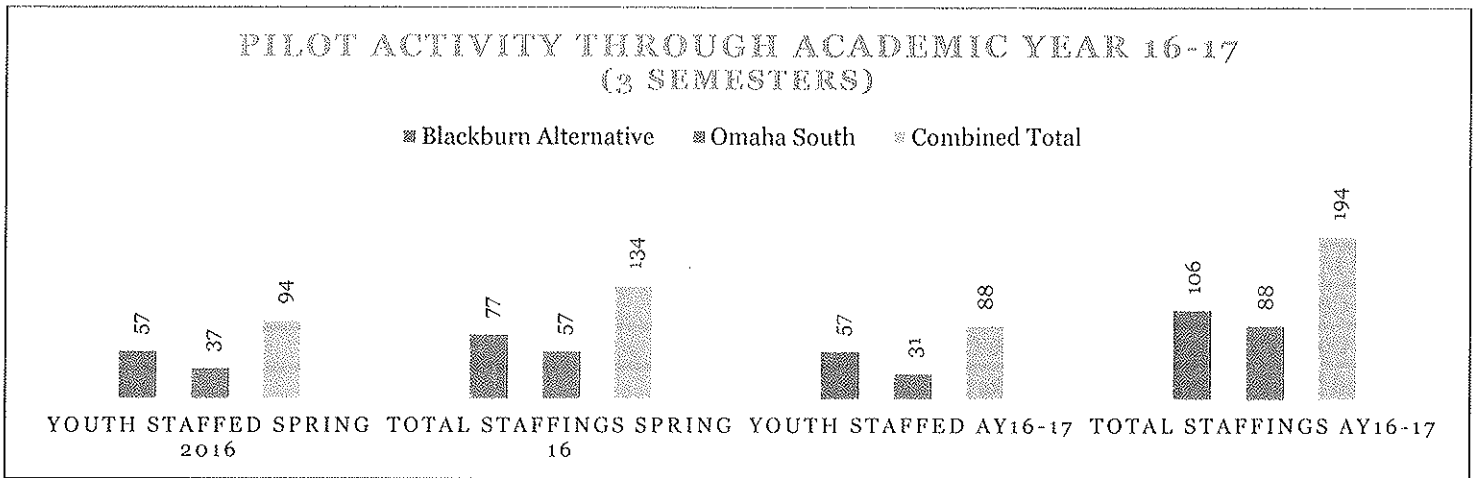
The School-Justice Partnership (SJP) enhances the capacity of two schools located within the Omaha Public School System, South High Magnet School and the Blackburn Alternative Program, to decrease the use of out-of-school suspensions, expulsions and school-based arrests through a number of established goals and strategies. The pilot project focuses on youth presently involved in the juvenile justice system who are placed on a term of probation. Training elements identified by the team increase knowledge and skills

which have directly impacted the use of exclusionary discipline. The SJP team is comprised of Douglas County Youth Impact, Douglas County Attorney’s Office, Douglas County Juvenile Court, Omaha Public Schools (OPS), Operation Youth Success (OYS), Nebraska State Probation, Nebraska Families Collaborative (NFC), Westside Community School District, Omaha Police Department (OPD), many contracted providers for probation, and a number of other key stakeholders involved in Douglas County juvenile justice system reform efforts.

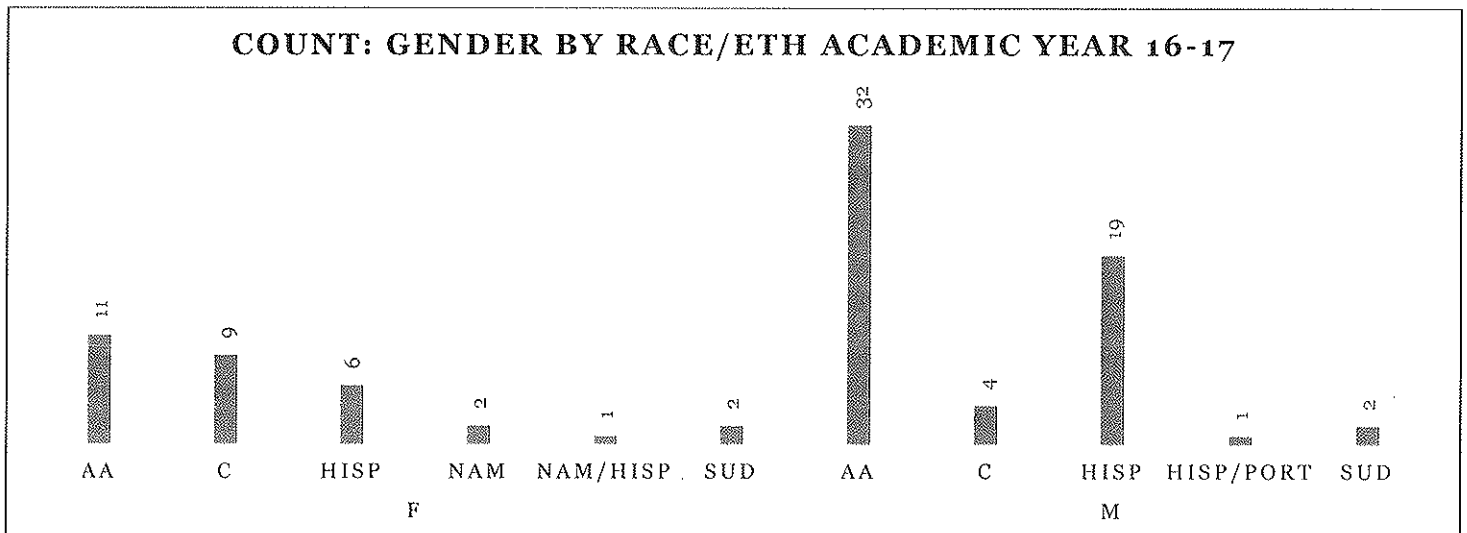
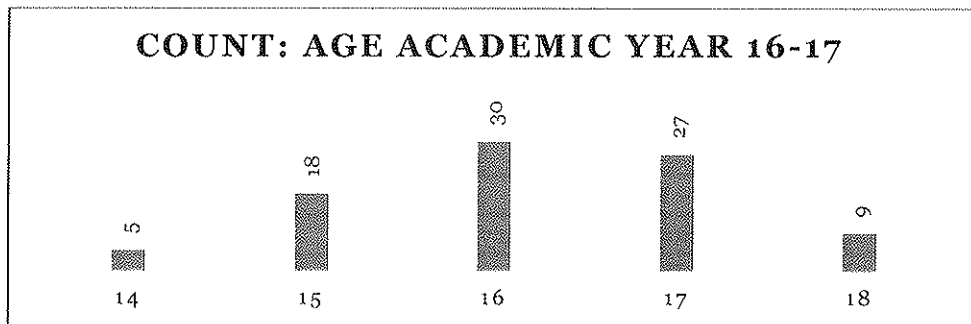


The “**School Justice Partnership**” pilot includes a core team of school resource officers, administrators, school guidance staff, and probation officers that met at the two pilot schools weekly to discuss high-risk system-involved youth. The teams focus on the current status of the youth and how to keep them on a positive trajectory. When appropriate, the Core Teams identify additional wrap-around services to address any new or unmet needs.

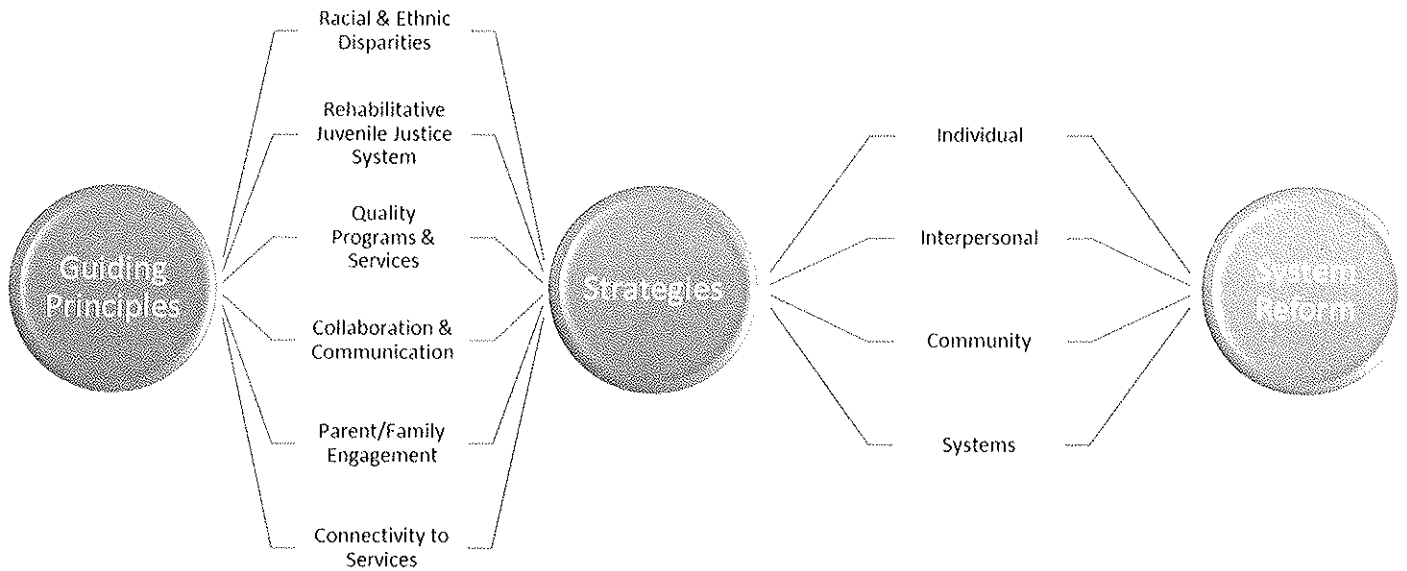
SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP PILOT: ACTIVITY SUMMARY



Academic Year 16-17 School-Justice Partnership (SJP) Pilot Site DATA



AA - African American C – Caucasian HISP - Hispanic/Latino HISP/PORT - Hispanic & Portuguese
 NAM - Native American NAM/HISP - Native American & Hispanic SUD – Sudanese



~ Community Planning Update ~

Operation Youth Success backbone staff continue the work of compiling the required elements of the 2018 – 2021 Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. Submission date for this document is June, 2018.

2017 Trauma Training Series for Juvenile Justice Professionals



The 2017 series of Trauma Training events, presented by Project Harmony Child Advocacy Center in conjunction with Operation Youth Success and Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative of Douglas County, were scheduled on July 12th at the Omaha Home for Boys, July 27th at Project Harmony, August 15th at the Boys Town South Omaha location, and August 29th at Project Harmony. There were some technical difficulties at the first session on July 12th and that session had to be cancelled. Another session was subsequently scheduled at

Project Harmony on November 1st to allow those who could not make one of the earlier sessions a final chance to attend. The series was a huge success, with all but one of the session's advance registration at 100%. Thank you to everyone who attended and to all who helped make this training successful.

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