

Cascade County DMC/JDAI Effort

JDAI 8 Core Strategies

1. **Collaboration and Leadership;**
2. **Data driven decisions;**
3. **Objective admissions (DRAI);**
4. **Alternatives to detention;**
5. **Case processing reforms;**
6. **Special detention cases;**
7. **Reducing racial & ethnic disparities**
8. **Conditions of confinement**

Collaboration and Leadership

- ▶ 2005 Alliance for Youth was the first to apply for a sub grant to address DMC among the Juvenile Justice Population.
- ▶ Their DMC Collaboration implemented the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) in 2008 along with Hill, Missoula, and Yellowstone Counties.
- ▶ Cascade is the only JDAI site to retain the same leadership and consistently progress in JDAI since its inception in Montana.
- ▶ Successful w/Identifying, engaging, and sustaining collaboration with the right community and state partners, however, Engaging Minority Stakeholder has been problematic.

Data Driven Decisions

- ▶ Use of data to identify problem areas
- ▶ Effective use of technical assistance to dig deeper and identify promising/best practice solutions
- ▶ Have a sustenance plan in place BEFORE applying for funds to pilot a program

DATA Talks

- ▶ Cascade County relied on data and data mining efforts to understand who, what & why we were detaining youth.
- ▶ Dig Deeper- undercover that the top 3 offenses for detainment was 1. Probation Violations 45%; 2. PFMA;15% and 3. 11% Shoplifting & Theft.
- ▶ Dig Deeper- extensive file review of probation violations to undercover that probation violations were there as the result of runaway 84%, especially Native American Female youth running away from placement.

Response to Data

Runaway

- ▶ TA Request through MBCC and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) to complete a runaway focus group study
- ▶ runaway study made recommendations for strategies to address the situation but funding was not available at the time to implement all the recommendations.
- ▶ May 2014- a Mediator Case Management position was implemented to address Cascade County's runaway population

Response to Data (continued)

Mediator Case Manager– Pilot program to interrupt the negative cycle of running away!
Two evidence based programs braided together

1. Evidence Based Mediation Services
2. Brief Strength Based Case Management

Response to Data Cont.

PFMA & Shoplifting–

- ▶ National Curriculum and Training Institute (NCTI) curriculum administered through Youth Court Services
- ▶ 2 Youth Probation Officers trained in the Cognitive Change Curricula
- ▶ Administer classes that target specific offense types:
 - Partner Family Member Assault
 - Assault
 - Theft
 - Shoplifting
- ▶ Youth are referred to the classes by other JPO's

Class Specifics

- ▶ Class types include:
 - Anger Management 1 and 2
 - Misdemeanor Offense Class and Shoplifting Classes
- ▶ Classes are conducted every other month
- ▶ Instruction helps individuals clarify the relationship between:
 - Values
 - Attitudes
 - Behaviors
- ▶ 30 & 60 day follow up's are completed by class facilitators

Reducing Ethnic & Racial Disparities

The overarching goal of our collaboration is to effectively reduce over representation of Native American youth three points within the Justice System

1. Point of Arrest
2. Point of Detention
3. Point of Diversion

Reducing DMC cont.

- 10 Existing Strategies (Policies and/or Programs) in Place to Address or Reduce DMC in Cascade County
1. Detention Log Information Sharing – Reduce ALOS
 2. Probable Cause Form
 3. Telephonic Probable Cause @ Detention Hearing
 4. DRAI–Evaluation & pilot implementation
 5. Review Hearings
 6. Social Responsibility Training–SRT (Prevention Effort)
 7. SRT Graduation Credit
 8. Shoplifting
 9. PFMA
 10. Runaway– Mediator Case Manager

Measuring Success

- ▶ Cascade County measures success with evidence–based data evaluations including: RRI Scores, Quarterly Detention Reports, and Results Reports.
- ▶ Additionally, success is measured by innovating new policies, procedures, or programs that benefit the youth in Cascade County.