



Montana DMC CASP

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DMC Committee



- ▶ MT has had some form of DMC Committee of the state advisory group (SAG) since 1995.
- ▶ Current committee composition requires five members; there is the option for a sixth member. 3 must be members of the SAG, 2 may be appointed by the Chair of the SAG from outside the SAG. A sixth member may be the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs or their designee.

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 1992 Nella R. Lee, Ph. D. first formal assessment of DMC.
 - Identified DMC at all decision points for AI/AN youth.
 - Began enforcing 4 core requirements.

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 1995 informal assessment of causes of DMC using anecdotal information and existing data sources.
 - Identified unequal access to services as a major reason for DMC.
 - Advocated for:
 - more studies of AI/AN plains tribes by OJJDP
 - more OJJDP funding for tribes
 - Addressing DMC at the level of prevention/intervention
 - Began funding of tribal prevention/intervention applications in excess of NA pass through requirements.

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ Charted decisions of the Youth Court Act (2000)
 - Identified:
 - statutes with disproportionate minority impact
 - Practice differed from statutes due to a lack of training on statutory changes
 - Began advocating for:
 - Changes to statutes that had disproportionate impact
 - Statewide training of JJ professionals
 - Hiring of minorities
 - Cultural sensitivity training

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 2000 Gary R. Leonardson, Ph.D. contract to assess DMC and evaluate the Child Adult Protective System/Juvenile Probation Information System (CAPS/JPIS) as an appropriate source of data for compiling the RRI on a regular basis.
 - **Identified**
 - DMC with Hispanics
 - CAPS/JPIS was not a reliable source of data for RRI
 - **Began advocating for new data systems.**
 - 2002 added RRI and DMC requirement to Title II and Title V RFPs*
 - Obtained statewide JABG waiver and put out a request for proposals for new Court and Corrections data systems
 - New data systems were implemented in 2005.

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 2001 sub-grant with Cascade County Law Clinic to assess the quality of representation for Montana's indigent juvenile offenders.
 - Identified:
 - Disproportionate minority access to public defense and justice by geography issues
 - Advocated for:
 - New public defender system
 - New Public Defense System in Montana in 2005

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 2001 sub-grant with a coalition of service providers to assess the service needs for the 100 most expensive multi-agency youth in MT
 - Identified DMC among multi-agency youth with mental illness
 - Began advocating for a system of care (SOC) for youth with mental illness
 - Resulted in state statute requiring the development of a system of care among child serving agencies (2003)

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 2002 analyzed detention data to identify top five counties placing youth of color into detention.
 - Identified Cascade, Flathead*, Hill, Missoula, and Yellowstone Counties as DMC sites.
 - Applied to Annie E. Casey Foundation to become a JDAI site.
 - Application was approved in late 2007
 - JDAI was kicked off in early 2008.
 - Detention risk assessment instrument (DRAI) implemented in all sites in January 2009

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 2011 Contract with the Criminology Research Group of the Social Science Research Laboratory at the University of Montana to evaluate the DRAI implemented in the JDAI pilot sites in 2009.
 - Found RAI to be non-prejudicial to minorities but detaining youth that were not flight or public safety risks
 - Advocated for RAI rescore and curriculum development
 - The Montana Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) was built from the earlier RAI in 2012.
 - Automation of and curriculum development for the DRAI is in progress.

Assessments and Related Interventions



- ▶ 2011 Contract with the Criminology Research Group of the Social Science Research Lab at the University of Montana to Assess DMC (First assessment applying the OJJDP DMC Reduction Model.)
 - Identified:
 - DMC is a multidimensional issue.
 - Culture, poverty, family, alcohol and drug abuse, school, and mental health were found to be consequential issues influencing minority disproportionality.
 - The most apparent race/ethnicity differences occurred for likelihood of delinquency findings at adjudication and secure confinement.

Statewide Committee Training

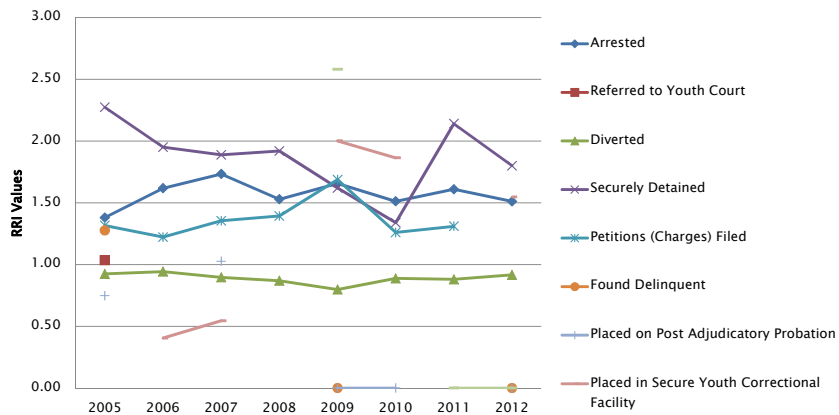


- ▶ Our state's advisory group (SAG), the Youth Justice Advisory Council (YJC) receives training on OJJDP's DMC Reduction Model as part of their Orientation to the YJC.
- ▶ We were scheduled to deliver the Enhanced DMC Reduction Model training to the YJC at their March 6th meeting. However that meeting was cancelled because the new Governor has not yet renewed the Executive Order for the Committee. It is rescheduled for the June meeting.

Statewide Trend Data



MT 's Statistically Significant RRI Trends for AI/AN Youth



Contextual Considerations of All DMC Sites



Local Champions

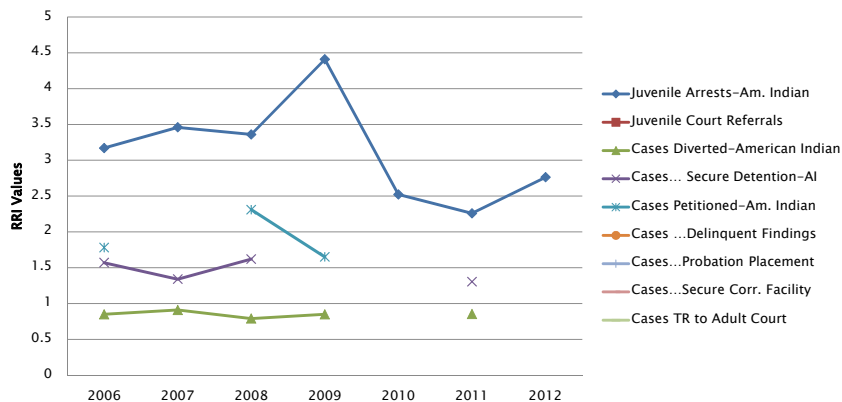


- ▶ Cascade County has been invested in the DMC & JDAI process under the leadership of non-profit organization, Alliance For Youth.
- ▶ Alliance for Youth Provides the local coordination position
- ▶ In addition to Alliance for Youth's local leadership several key stakeholders share in the responsibility of reducing DMC:
 - Youth Court Services (Probation)
 - County Attorney
 - Law Enforcement
 - Great Falls Public School District

Cascade RRI Trends Using School Data



Cascade County Significant AI/AN RRI Trends Using School Enrollment Data Adjusted for Drop-out Rates



Mobility of AI/AN Juveniles



“A lot of our native kids don’t live with parents, but they live with extended family, so they might come down to [the city] and stay for 12 or 13 days, and then they go back up to the reservation for eight or nine days, and then they come back down. So what we find is it is hard for them to really grow roots anywhere. They hop around a lot. I think the reason for that is because a lot of the services they need—medical, dental, anything like that—they will go back up to the reservation for, and then they will come back down here when they are not needing those services any longer. It is a lot of back and forth. They do a lot of traveling.”

–Quote from a Juvenile Probation Officer

Mobility Issues and the RRI

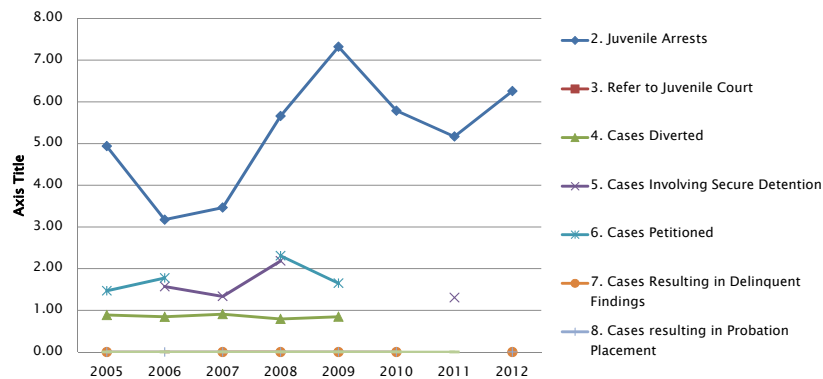


- ▶ The back and forth movement of Native juveniles from the reservation to towns and cities, cast doubt on the accuracy of census estimates.
 - As shown below, the RRI at the arrest point of contact when estimated using school enrollment data in Cascade County is half the disparity compared to estimates based on census data

Cascade Census Trend Data



Cascade Co. Statistically Significant RRI Trends for
American Indian Youth



Engaging Minority Stakeholders



Like the state advisory group, the local Cascade County DMC Committee has had problems engaging and sustaining minority participation.

State and Community Collaboration



Collaboration formed to apply for funding between:

- ▶ MBCC
- ▶ The Alliance for Youth and
- ▶ The Criminology Research Group of the Social Science Research Laboratory at the University of Montana

High Level Goals of the Application



- Assess DMC at local point of arrest
- Determine if census estimates are the appropriate data for computing Relative Rate Index (RRIs) scores at the arrest point of contact for MT's migrant American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) populations
- Implement local detention strategies based on NCCD study of local runaways from placement
- Implement local arrest strategies based on local assessment study at point of arrest
- Learn how to better engage and retain minority stakeholders at the state and local levels.
- Use lessons learned at the local level to inform DMC at the state and national levels.

State Measurements of Efficacy



- ▶ MBCC has a sub grant award contract with the Alliance for Youth, a local non-profit that manages the project for the local site. The award contract specifies quarterly reporting on contract goals, objectives, and performance measures. DCTAT performance measures are included as a part of that contract.
- ▶ Terms and conditions of the deliverables from the Criminology Research Group for the arrest point of contact study have been formalized in a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between MBCC and the University of Montana.

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.