

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

May 19, 2016



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

1

Progress Report

- Review of House Bill 5642, An Act Concerning the Recommendations of JJPOC
 - Passed and Awaiting Governor Approval
- Discussion by JJPOC members
 - Issues for Future Consideration
- Next Steps: Work Groups



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

2

JJPOC Goals by July, 1, 2018

Goals Adopted August 2015:

- 30% reduction in incarceration of juveniles
- 20% increase in diversion of juveniles
- 10% reduction in recidivism among juveniles in the Juvenile Justice System



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

3

JJPOC Goals by July, 1, 2018

- 4 Work Groups: reducing incarceration, increasing diversion and decreasing recidivism; and cross-agency data sharing
- 2 Studies commissioned by JJPOC :
 - Education Barriers (Center for Children’s Advocacy)
 - Mental Health (Child Health and Development Institute)
- Recommendations presented to JJPOC on January 21 and 28, 2016 adopted



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

4

JJPOC Goals by July, 1, 2018

Cross-Agency Data Sharing: Increase accountability in the Juvenile Justice System through improved data sharing, analysis, and outcome measurement

Education: Remove barriers to effective educational achievement for juveniles in the Juvenile Justice System

Mental Health: Address the overlap of mental health and juvenile justice



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

5

House Bill 5642

Significant Progress on all JJPOC Goals:

- Reducing incarceration
- Increasing diversion
- Reducing recidivism
- Improving data sharing & accountability
- Removing educational & mental health barriers

Passed unanimously



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

6

Goal: Reduce Incarceration by 30%

Juvenile Detention (Eff. January 1, 2017)

Juvenile Court Jurisdiction and Process Changes

- Court where the child resides has jurisdiction and must immediately proceed
- Detention period must not exceed seven days instead of the current fourteen days



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

7

Goal: Reduce Incarceration by 30%

Juvenile Detention cont.

Criteria Under Which a Child May be Placed in Detention

Changed from 6 to 3 criteria

1. If the child will pose a risk to public safety if released
2. A need to hold the child in order to ensure the child's appearance before the court
3. A need to hold the child for another jurisdiction



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

8

Goal: Reduce Incarceration by 30%

Juvenile Detention cont.

Detention Risk Assessment Instrument to Guide Decision-Making on Use of Detention

Development, Implementation, and Use

- Court must use the detention risk assessment instrument
- Developed and implemented by January 1, 2017
- Subject to confidentiality protections and may only be used for detention screening purpose
- May order child participation in programs and services



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

9

Goal: Reduce Incarceration by 30%

Juvenile Detention cont.

Judicial and DCF Community Services Plan for Released Juveniles (Effective: Upon Passage)

- Judicial and DCF jointly develop a plan to provide community-based services by October 1, 2016
- Based on DCF's existing comprehensive behavioral health implementation plan
- Assessment Centers, Intensive Care Coordination, and Respite Beds
- Implement plan by July 1, 2017
- Implementation Progress Report to JJPOC by January 1, 2017



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

10

Goal: Reduce Incarceration by 30%

Juvenile Court's Authority (Eff: Oct. 1, 2016)

- Removed orders to punish and deter a child
- Court orders must provide individualized supervision, care, accountability, and treatment and ensure the child is responsive to the court process

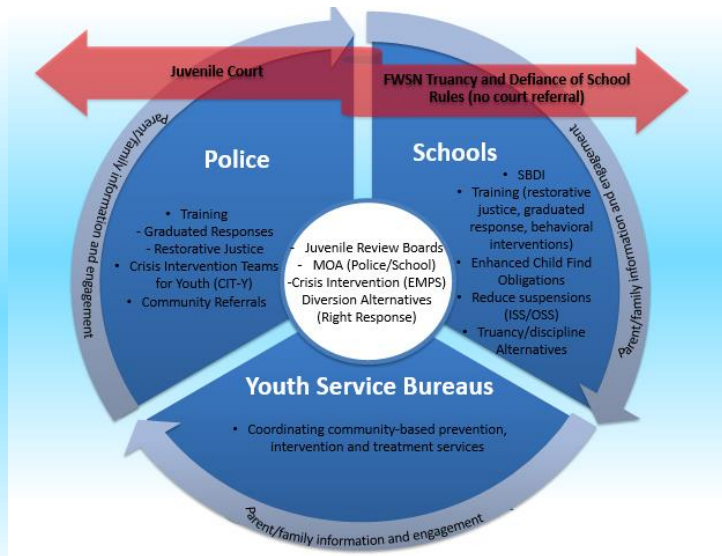


University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

11

Goal: Increase Diversion by 20%



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

12

Goal: Increase Diversion by 20%

Truancy

- Family With Service Needs (Eff. Aug. 15, 2017)
 - ✓ Eliminates truancy for court referral as FWSN
- Effective Truancy Intervention Models Established (Effective Upon Passage)
 - ✓ SDE to identify effective truancy intervention models for school boards to implement by August 15, 2017
 - ✓ Implement approved truancy intervention model at any school with disproportionately high truancy rate determined by SDE by August 15, 2018



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

13

Goal: Increase Diversion by 20%

Multi-Agency Plan on Diversion (Effective Upon Passage)

Requires a plan with cost options for developing community-based diversion system to the JJPOC by January 1, 2017

- Divert children who commit crimes
- Identify evidence-based and trauma-informed services
- Expand capacity of JRBs
- Expand access to in-home and community services
- Expand use of MOUs (schools & police)



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

14

Goal: Increase Diversion by 20%

Police Recruit and Field Training must include:

1. Use graduated sanctions
2. Techniques for handling trauma
3. Restorative Justice Practices
4. Adolescent development
5. Risk-assessment and screening tools
6. Emergency mobile psychiatric services



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

15

Goal: Reduce Recidivism by 10%

Recidivism Reduction Framework
(Effective Upon Passage)

DCF and Judicial work with private service providers to adopt and adhere to an empirically supported recidivism reduction framework for the juvenile justice system to include:

- Validated Instruments to assess risks and needs
- Evidence-based practices and programs
- Target criminogenic areas
- Treatment matching
- Measure Outcomes
- Quality Assurance



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

16

Goal: Reduce Recidivism by 10%

DCF and Judicial Branch must address “Descalation” Techniques in State and Private Facilities (Effective: Upon Passage)

- Requires staff training on policies and practices, collection of data, tracking and analyzing recidivism rates in the system by January 1, 2017

OPM Tracking of Recidivism Reduction

(Effective: January 1, 2017)

- OPM Secretary must track and analyze recidivism rates for children in the state



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

17

Cross-Agency Data Sharing & Accountability

JJPOC - Permanent Data Working Group

Develop a plan for a data integration process linking data on children across executive branch agencies and the Judicial Branch

- Specifies new members
- Data integration plan must include cost options and provisions
 - ✓ State and Federal confidentiality laws
 - ✓ Client-specific data sharing
 - ✓ Standard MOU template



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

18

Cross-Agency Data Sharing & Accountability

Results Based Accountability (RBA) in effect

- Population Indicators
 - ✓ Youth recidivism rate (all youth referred to court)
- System Performance Measures
 - ✓ % of youth that recidivate at 6,12, and 24 months are referred to court and incarcerated
- Common Program Performance Measures
 - ✓ % referred to court assessments, services, achieving outcomes, and positive social outcomes



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

19

Addressing Education Barriers

School Expulsion (Eff. August 15, 2017)

Notice of Hearing and Right to an Attorney or Advocate

- Notice to student's parent/guardian at least 5 business days before the hearing with information and legal rights
- Parents may postpone for up to one week to seek representation



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

20

Addressing Education Barriers

School Expulsion cont.

Alternative Education for Expelled Students

- “Alternative Education” defined ... nontraditional setting and addresses social, emotional, behavioral, and academic needs
- Must offer individualized learning plan
- Expands category of expelled students offered an alternative educational opportunity



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

21

Addressing Education Barriers

School Expulsion cont.

Returning to School After Placement in the Juvenile Justice System

Must allow a student to re-enroll and not expel the student for additional time on an offense



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

22

Addressing Education Barriers

Out-Of-School Suspensions in Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities (Effective: July 1, 2017)

Prohibits facilities from imposing out-of-school suspension on a child residing in the facility



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

23

Addressing Education Barriers

Plan for Educational Needs of Children in the Justice System and Reentering the Community (Effective: Upon Passage)

- SDE, DCF, DOC, and Judicial develop and submit plan to assess and address children's individualized educational needs and deficiencies by August 15, 2017
- Specifies requirements of the implementation plan
 - ✓ Transition teams from out-of-home placement to local school
 - ✓ Reentry liaisons in all school boards



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

24

Addressing Education Barriers

Plan for Educational Needs of Children in the Justice System and Reentering the Community (Effective: Upon Passage)

- Research nationally recognized models
- Consult with local and regional school boards
- Oral Progress Report to JJPOC in January 2017



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

25

Addressing Mental Health Needs

School-Based Diversion Initiatives

(Effective: Upon Passage)

- SDE, DCF, DMHAS, and Judicial develop plan with cost options for SBDI to reduce juvenile justice involvement among children with mental health needs
- Expand the program to more schools in the most cost-effective way



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

26

Addressing Mental Health Needs

JJPOC Report (Effective: January 1, 2017)

Produce a plan with cost options for developing community-based system to include recommendations to address the mental health and juvenile justice nexus

- Increase access to community-based behavioral health services
- Document cost savings and consider “reinvestment” option
- Examine Medicaid reimbursement policies
- Promote common behavioral health screening tools
- Expand service capacities where gaps exist



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

27

Conclusions

- HB5642 ensures continued progress and reform
- “New work” for the JJPOC in the year ahead (Implementation Plan and HB5642)
- Systems of Accountability(RBA) put in place
- New investment from Federal and Foundation sources
- Major Research Projects begin
- CT leads the Nation in juvenile justice reform
- Governor’s Raise the Age proposal builds on JJPOC foundation of reform



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

28