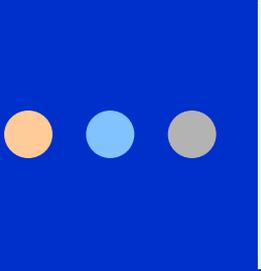




Changing the Status Quo for Status Offenders: Efforts to Help Troubled Teens

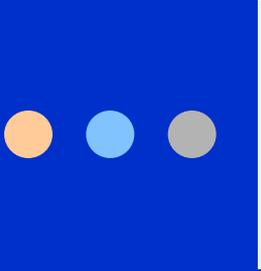
Sara Mogulescu
The Vera Institute of Justice

May 10, 2007



Status Offenders?

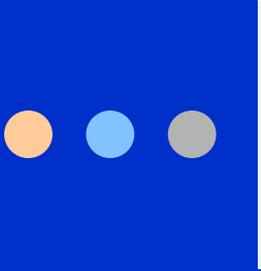
- Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS)
 - Children in Need of Services (CHINS)
 - Conduct Indicating a Need for Supervision (CINS)
 - Families with Service Needs (FWSN)
 - Families in Need of Services (FINS)
 - Unruly Children
-



History of PINS Assistance Project: Vera State-wide PINS Report

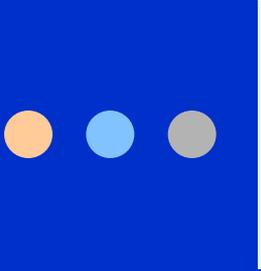
Changing the PINS System in New York: A Study of the Implications of Raising the Age Limit for Persons in Need of Supervision

By Jesse Souweine and Ajay Khashu
Vera Institute of Justice
September, 2001



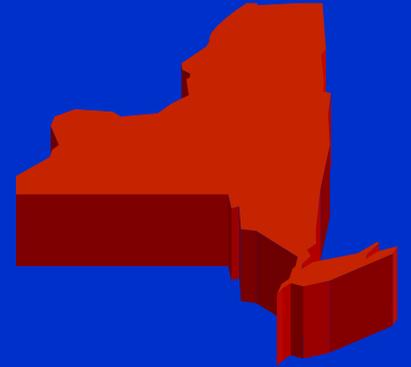
Findings of Vera's PINS Report

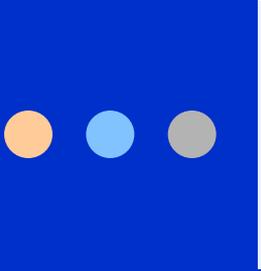
- New York State expected to experience a **69-105%** increase in new PINS intakes under current system;
 - Projected costs of **\$29 million** for increased use of detention and placement.
-



New York State PINS Assistance

- Prompted by:
 - New PINS Legislation
 - Vera State-wide PINS Report
- OCFS contracted with Vera to help the state and its counties prepare for the influx of youth entering the system under the new law.

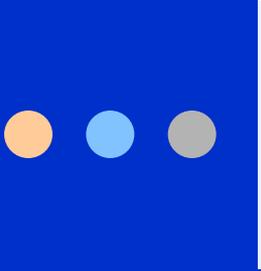




New York State PINS Reforms

Two Central Trends:

- Front end – Strategies to improve intake and diversion;
 - Back end – Development of community-based alternatives to detention and placement.
-

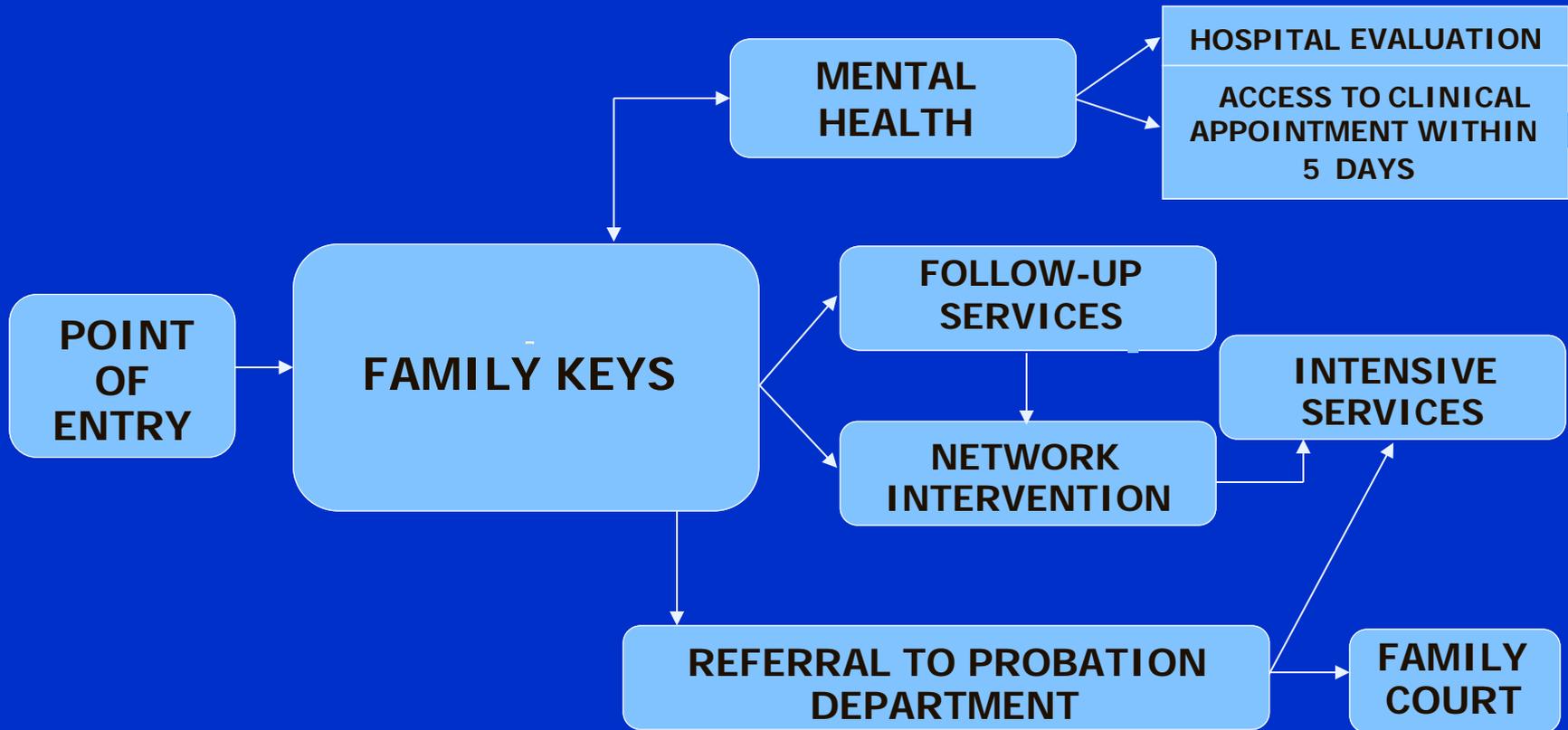


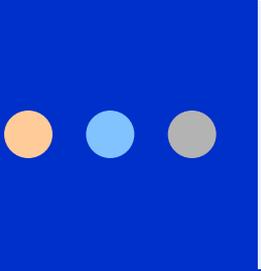
Intake and Diversion

Issues:

- Lack of immediate crisis response (delay in services)
 - High number of court referrals
 - Immediately
 - Upon termination of diversion services
 - High use of non-secure detention and placement
-

Intake and Diversion: Orange County

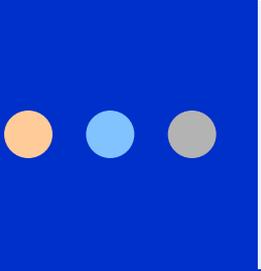




Intake and Diversion: Chemung County

New Agency: Children's Integrated Services

- First Response Team
 - Interdisciplinary Staffing
 - Not just PINS – Centralized and Streamlined Services for Youth and Families
-



Intake and Diversion: New York City

Family Assessment Program (FAP)

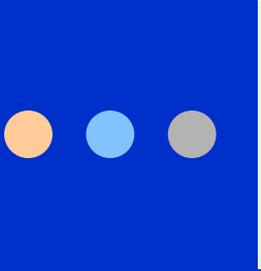
- ACS point of entry
 - Immediate response
 - Reduction in in PINS intakes
 - Reduction in PINS court referrals
 - Reduction in PINS placements
-

Alternatives to Detention and Placement

Issues:

- Cost
- Overcrowding
- Poor outcomes
- Focus on keeping youth and families together – at home and in the community

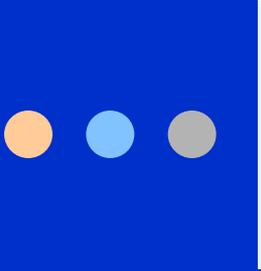




Alternative to Detention: Albany County

Juvenile Release Under Supervision:

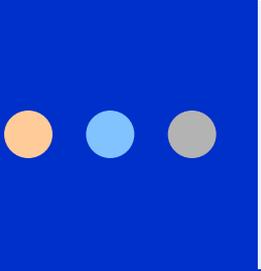
- DSS Funded
 - Daily contact with youth
 - Service referrals
 - PINS and JDs
 - Reduction in non-secure detention costs
-



Alternative to Detention: Erie County

Evening Reporting Centers

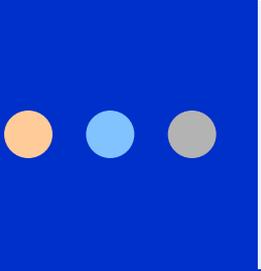
- Modeled after ERCs established in Chicago
 - Transport to location after school
 - Tutoring, counseling, group programming
 - PINS and JD populations
 - Probation violators and detention alternative
-



Alternative to Placement: Onondaga County

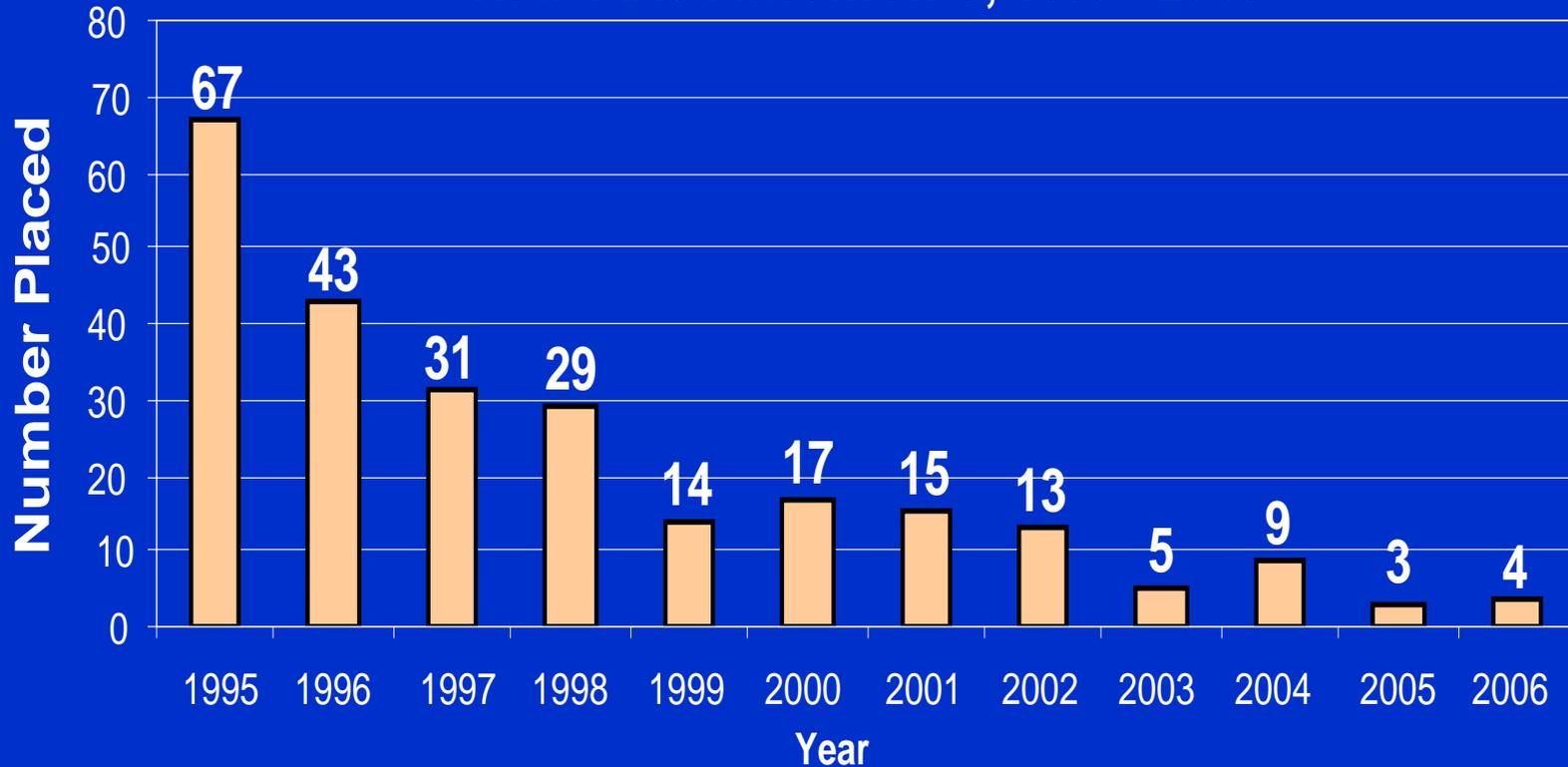
Probation Rehabilitation Intensive Services Management (PRISM)

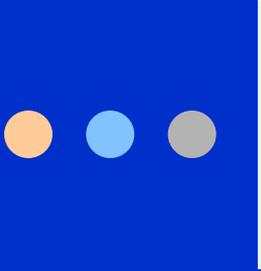
- Partnership between Probation, Social Services, and the Salvation Army
 - Comprehensive treatment planning
 - Every PRISM case staffed by FFT therapist
 - Pre-placement youth are eligible
-



Alternative to Placement: Onondaga County

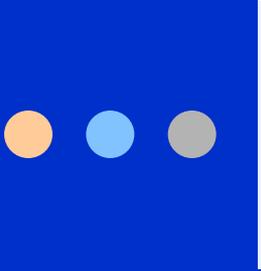
New PINS Placements, 1995 - 2006





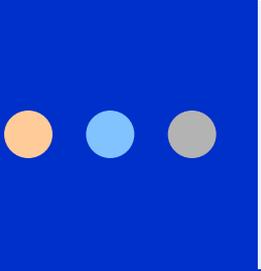
Alternative to Placement: Adolescent Portable Therapy

- Strength-based, family-centered intervention
 - Portable across systems
 - Treatment travels with the adolescent
 - Also preventive application
-



New York State Family Court Act 2005

- Mandated diversion services;
 - Emphasized immediate crisis response;
 - Changed detention eligibility criteria.
-

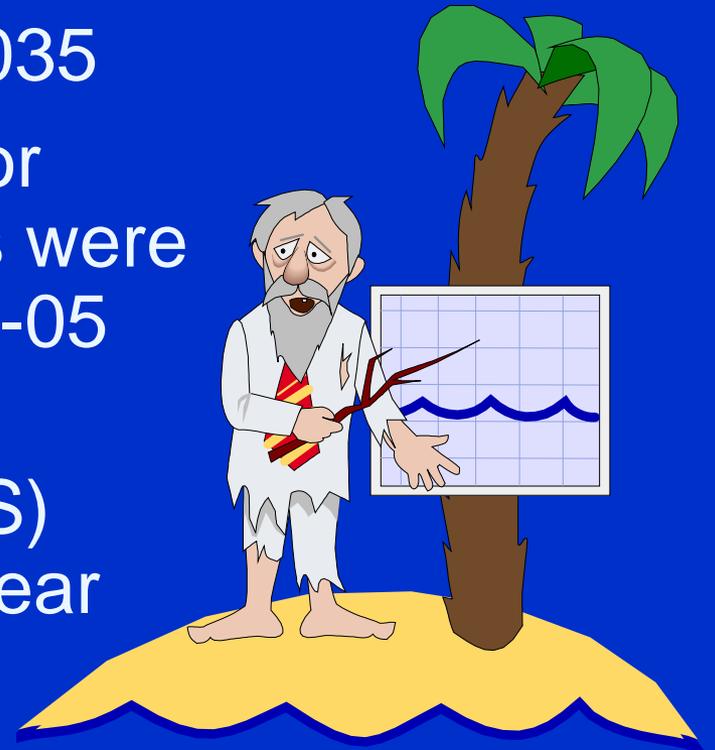


National Models

- Florida
 - Cook County, Illinois
 - San Francisco, California
 - Maricopa County, Arizona
-

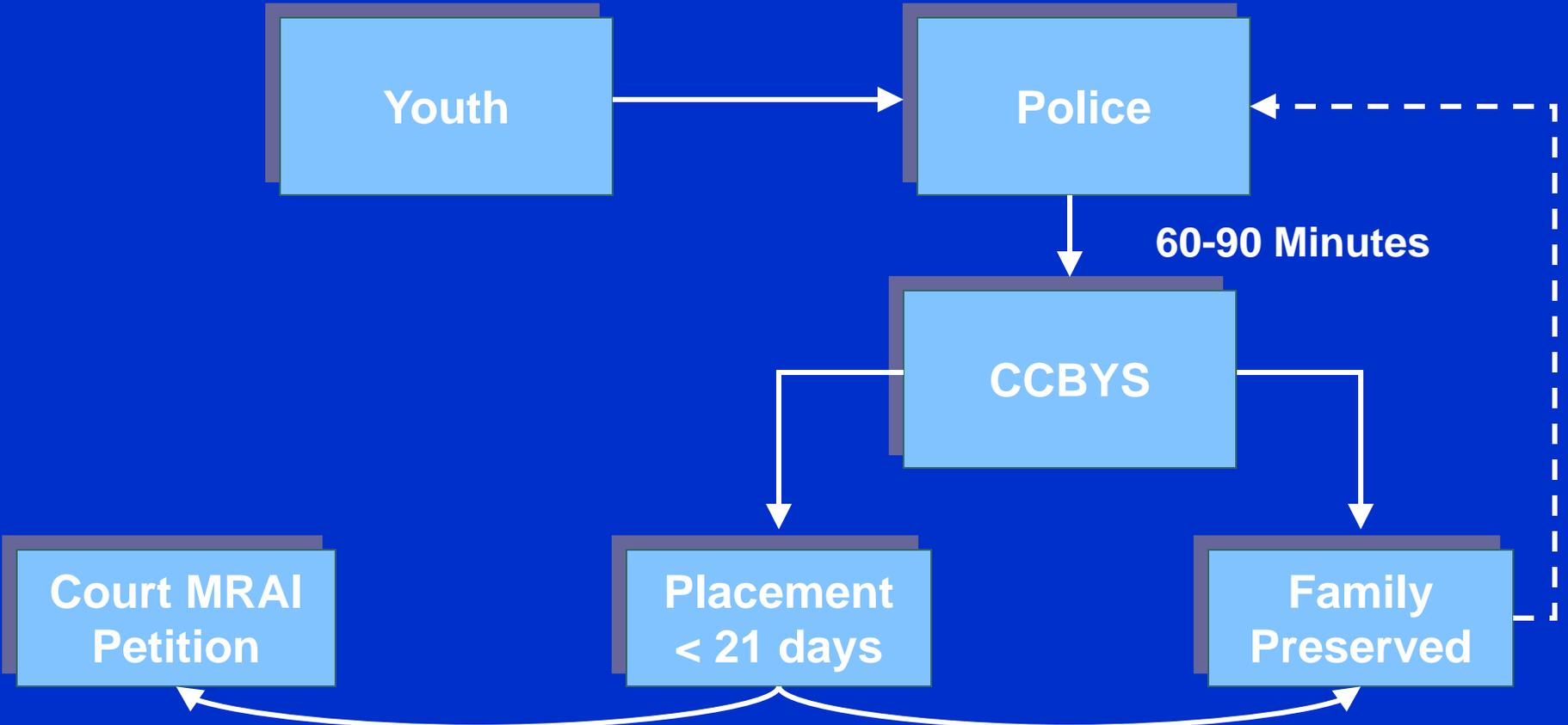
Florida

- 13,709 children received services (CINS + FINS)
- TOTAL SERVED: 16,035
- 689 petitions (CINS) for court-ordered services were filed statewide in 2004-05
- The number of court ordered children (CINS) has decreased each year for the past 6 years

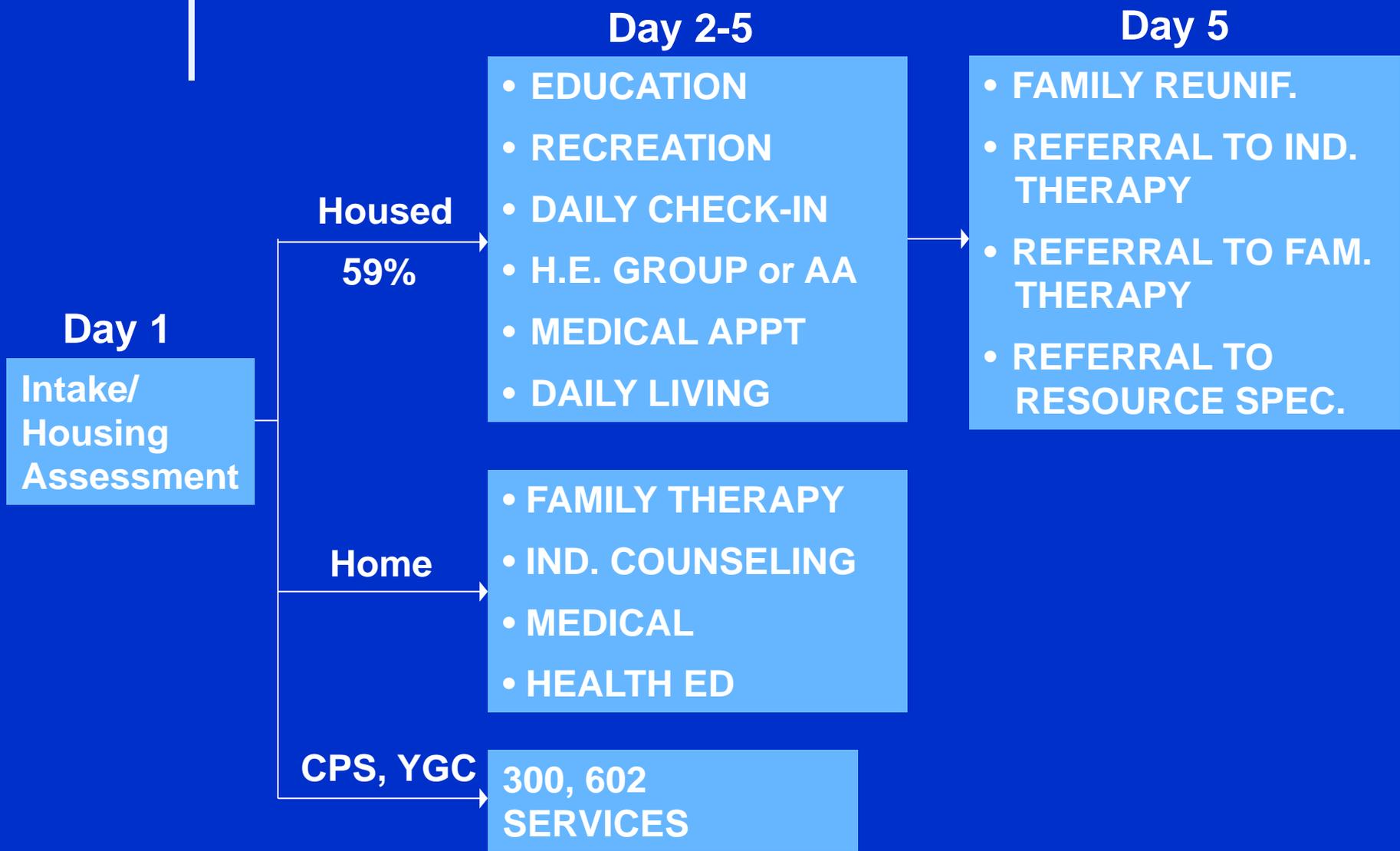


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Illinois

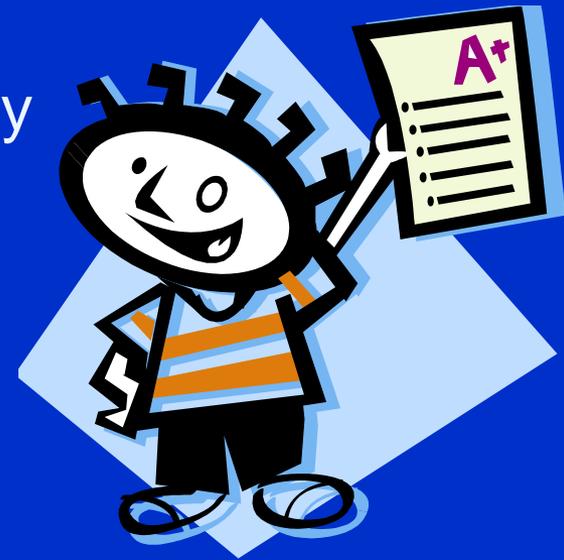


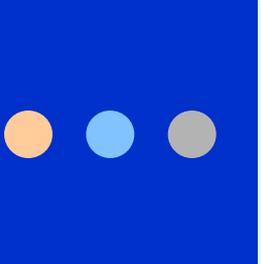
San Francisco: Huckleberry House



Court Unified Truancy Suppression (CUTS)

- Goal: To help our students be successful by attending school on a daily basis
- Program Agreement between school official and juvenile probation official
- CUTS hearing on school campus
- Range of services and accountability
- Unintended positive consequences
- Next Generations of CUTS





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May 10, 2007
