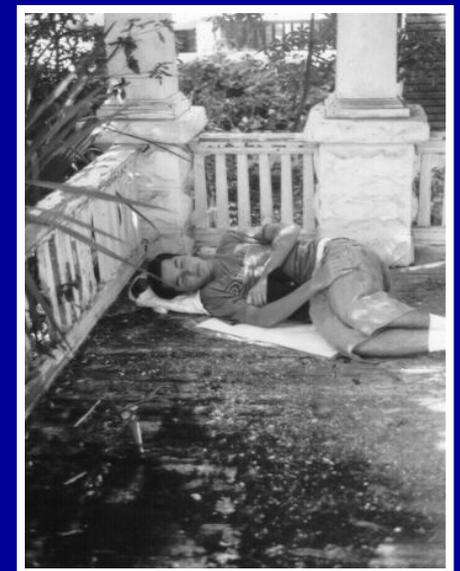
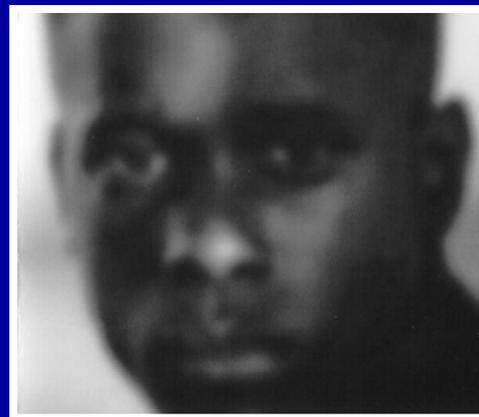
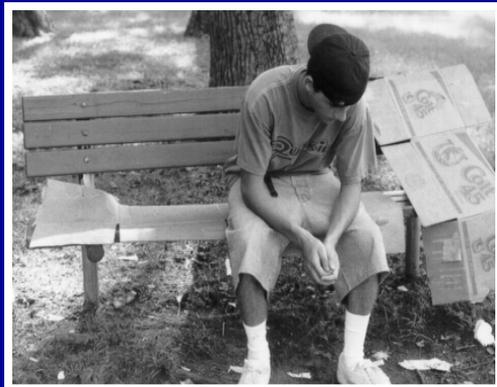


# Serving Children Who Commit Status Offenses



# Florida Network MISSION

The Florida Network values young people and therefore creates safe pathways to their futures by building strong families and communities.

Department of Juvenile Justice  
Mission

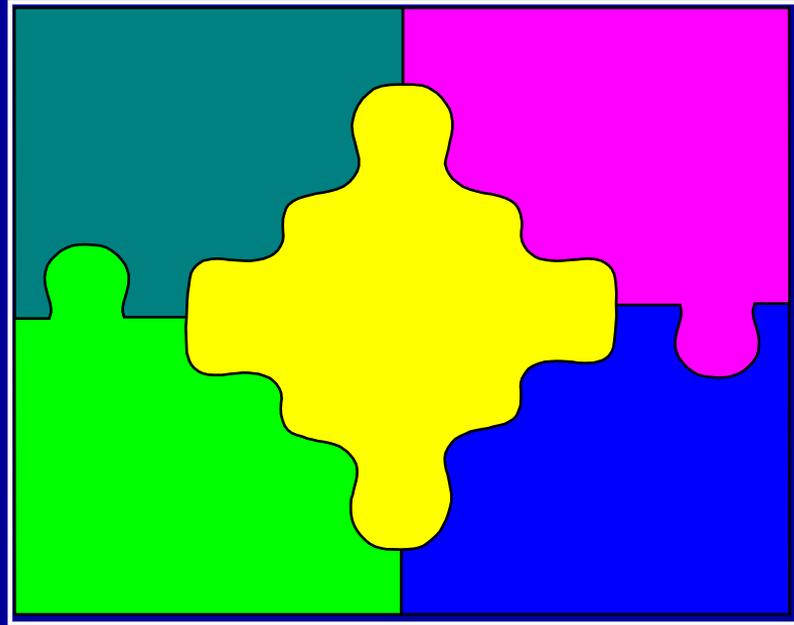
Reduce Juvenile Crime

# What is a Status Offense in Florida?

Many states have different names to refer to Status Offenders: e.g., CHINS, PINS

In Florida, status offenders are defined in 2 categories:

1. FINS: A Family In Need of Services
  2. CINS: A Child In Need of Services
- FINS ARE VOLUNTARY SERVICES
  - CINS ARE COURT-ORDERED SERVICES (a petition must be filed)



**BASIC STRUCTURE**

# Department of Juvenile Justice

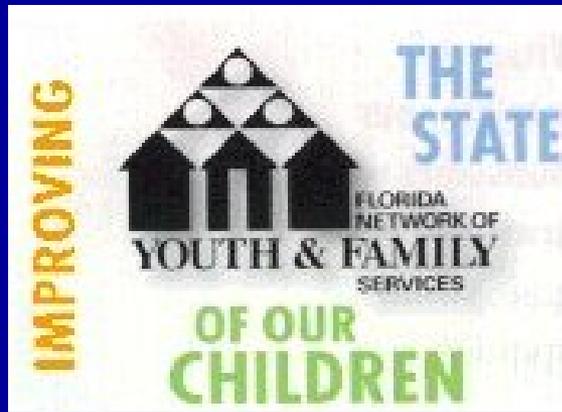
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graph TD; A[Department of Juvenile Justice] --> B[State DJJ Office of PREVENTION & VICTIM SERVICES CINS/FINS contract management Quality Assurance]; B --> C[FL Network State Office]; C --> D[Subcontracted CMBE (direct/on-site contract management)]; D --> E[24 Local CINS/FINS Community-based Providers Serve 20 Judicial Circuits];
```

**State DJJ Office of  
PREVENTION & VICTIM SERVICES  
CINS/FINS contract management  
Quality Assurance**

**FL Network State Office**

**Subcontracted CMBE  
(direct/on-site contract  
management)**

**24 Local CINS/FINS  
Community-based Providers  
Serve 20 Judicial Circuits**



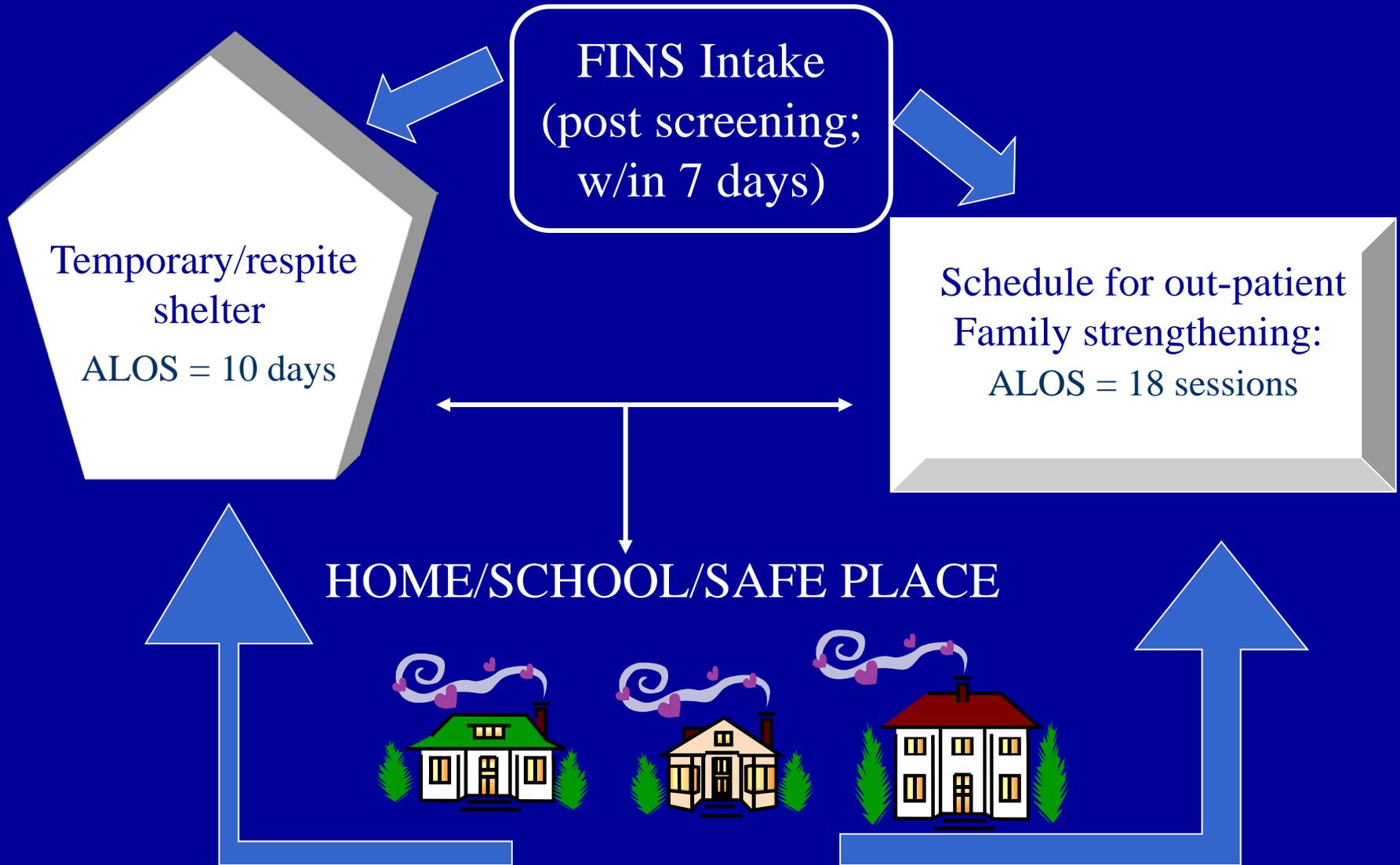
is made up of

- 1 Twenty-five (25) community-based, not-for-profit agencies that operate
  - 29 shelters--2 are operated by county government
  - 3 stand-alone non-residential counseling centers
  - emergency shelter placements for DCF in 27/29 shelters
- 2 State Network Office (8 employees)
  - data collection, analysis and reporting for state and federal funding
  - contract monitoring
  - training
  - programming resources
  - public information material

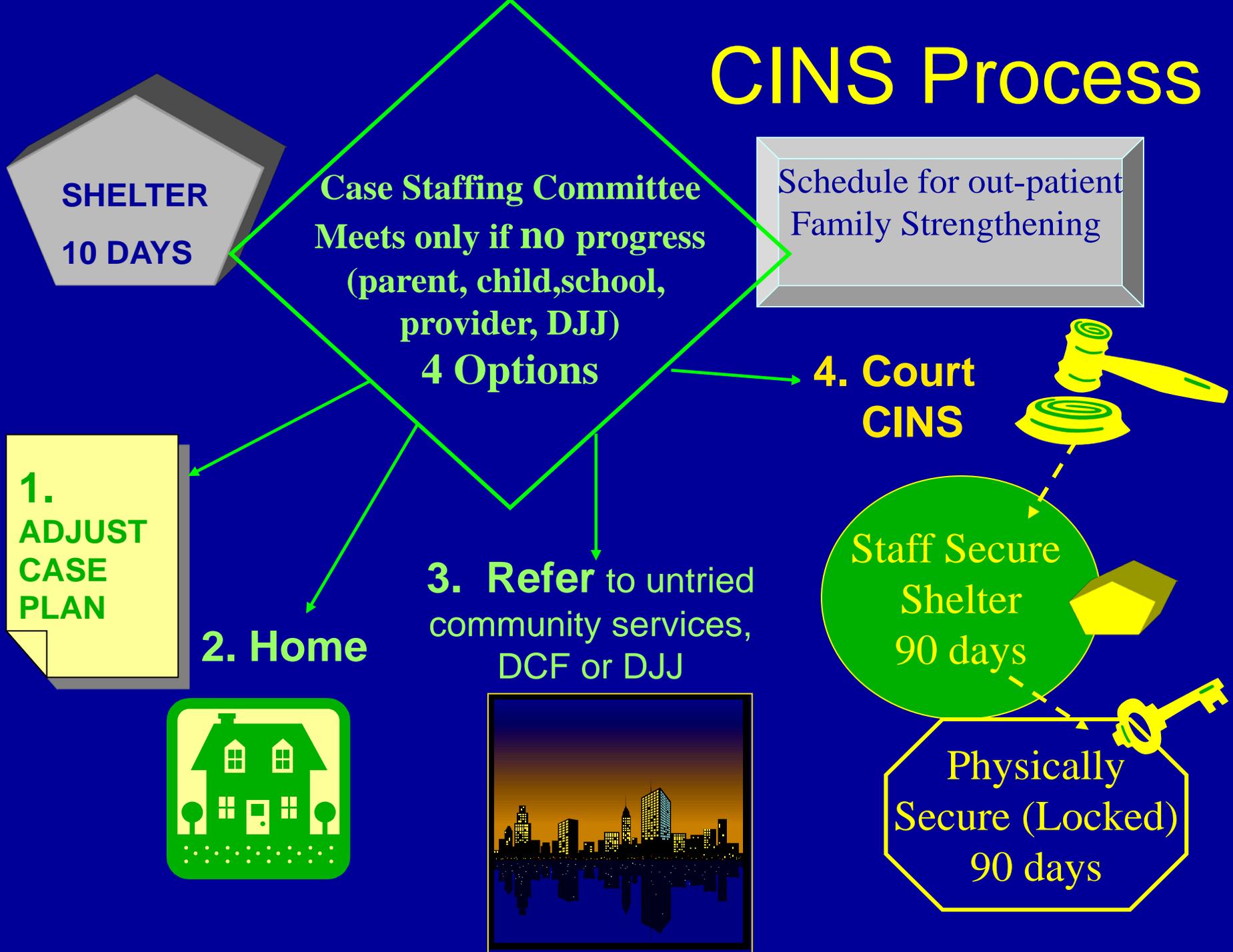
# Florida Status Offender Services.....

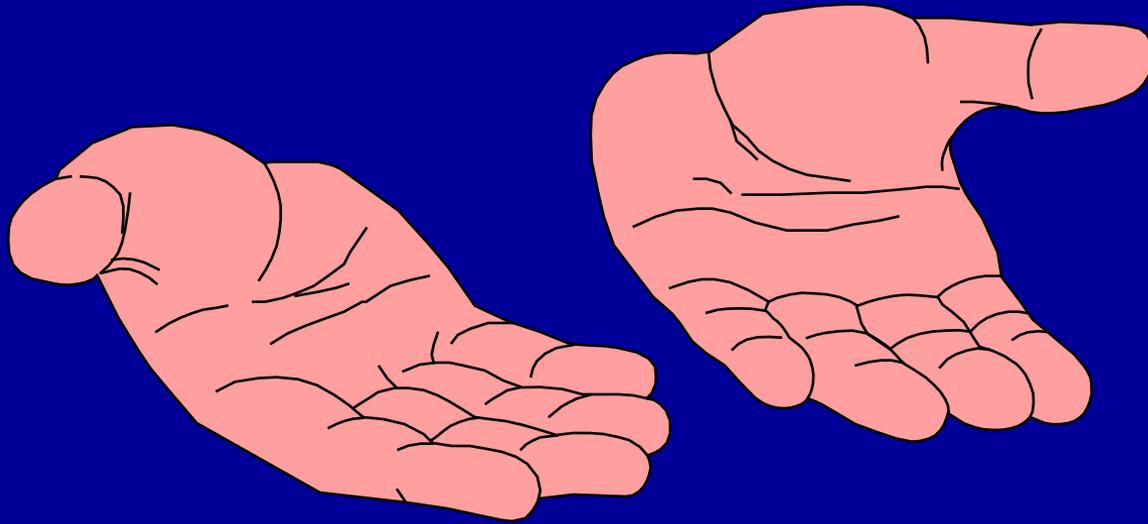
- ✧ Operate very much like a **hospital emergency room** for troubled families and their children
- ✧ Provide Crisis, short-term services
- ✧ Are accessible 7 days per week, 24 hours per day through the shelters
- ✧ Children and families are served in all counties in Florida

# FINS Process



# CINS Process





**SERVICES and OUTCOMES**

# CINS/FINS CORE SERVICES

## (Emergency Room)

- ✦ Centralized Intake Open 24/7 (Assessment, Triage)
- ✦ Runaway/Crisis Shelter (In-patient admission)
  - ◆ Voluntary for FINS
  - ◆ Court-ordered for CINS
- ✦ Non-residential Services to Families (Out-patient Services)
- ✦ Case & Court Management (Referral/Check-ups )
- ✦ Prevention and Outreach (Public Health Education)

# CINS/FINS CORE SERVICES

- **Family Preservation/Reunification** is the goal. Child Protection Hotline called if required.
- **FIRST INTERVENTION** Out-patient, short-term services
- **Respite Services** in **temporary** shelter
- **LAST alternative**--referral to court

# Children and Families in Need of Services vs. Supervision

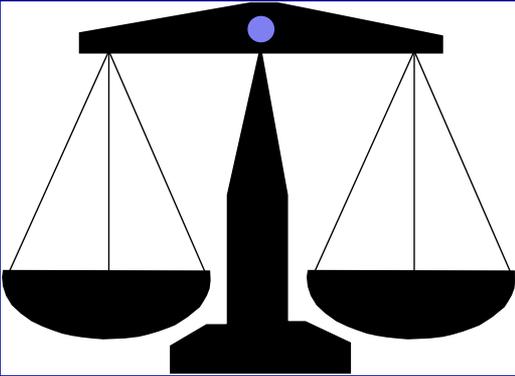
- **Standardized intake** screening (health, suicide risk, mental health, topography of referral)
- **Youth & family assessments**: published, standardized for reliability and validity
- **Specialized expertise** can be sought
  - Refer for specialized assessments, e.g., drug dependence, mental health, learning problems
- **Case management**

# Mandated Outcomes

- 80% of all youth and their families will complete services.
- 90% of all youth will not be charged with crimes while receiving services
- 85% of all youth will not enter the DJJ system within 6 months of case closure

# Mandated Outcomes

- 70% of all youth served in the shelters will have risk factors in 3 or 4 of the 4 risk domains: school, family, peers, antisocial behavior
- 70% of all youth served with non-residential (out-patient) services will have risk factors in 3 or 4 of the 4 risk domains: school, family, drugs, antisocial behavior
- 60% of all youth served will reside in zip codes where rate of juvenile arrests is high



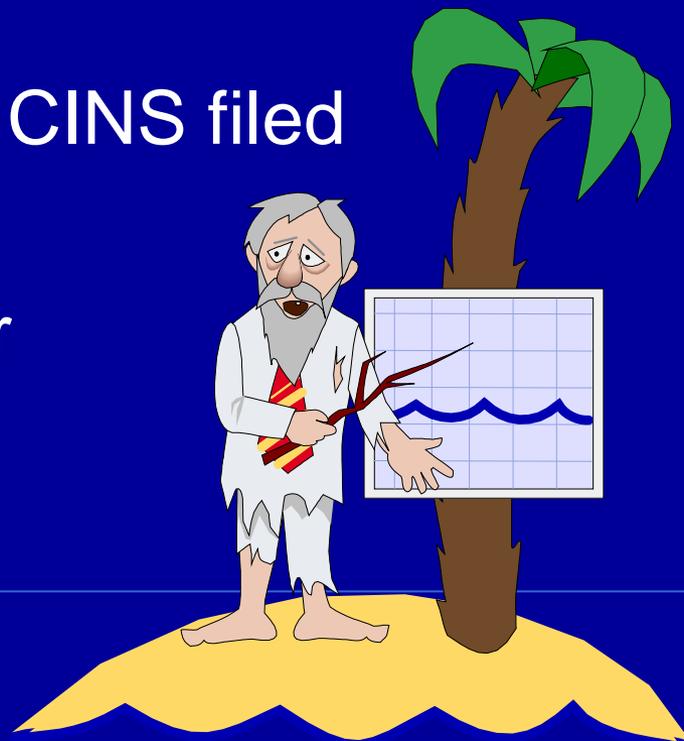
# Florida Statutes

FANS VERSUS CINS



# From FINS to CINS: COURT PETITIONS

- Between 17,000 and 20,000 children receive services under **FINS each year**
- Only 5 % have petitions for CINS filed
- This trend has been true for at least 7 years



## **CINS Petition - S. 984.15, F.S.**

A CINS petition is filed by the DJJ attorney if the case staffing committee recommends the filing of a petition and:

1. The family and child have in good faith, but unsuccessfully, used services recommended by the CINS provider or the case staffing committee; or
1. The family or child have refused recommended services.

## **A parent may also file a CINS petition if:**

- The requirement for a case staffing is waived.
- The case staffing is not convened within 7 days.
- The parent does not agree with the plan of services  
or
- A written report of why a petition is recommended or declined is not provided to the family.

AND

- Has in good faith, but unsuccessfully, participated in the recommended services.

The petition must be in writing and served on the DJJ Attorney.

# CHILD and FAMILY PROFILES



# Profile of Florida's Status Offenders

## Who refers them?

- 27% from concerned individuals/adults
- 24% from schools
- 13% from Law Enforcement
- 11% from Juvenile Justice
- 16% from other sources in community
- 9% are self-referrals by the youth

# Profile of Florida's Status Offenders

## Age

- Average age of youth in shelter: 15.2
- Average age of youth receiving counseling services: 14.3
- The most frequent ages of served youth: 15, 14 & 16

## Gender

- 51% female 49% male

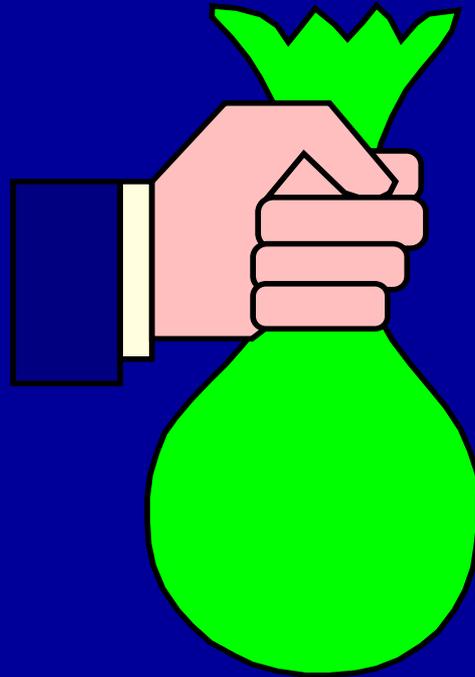
## Needed help with.....

- **School problems -- 92%**
- **Family problems -- 96%**
- **Suicide risks -- 28%**
- **Previous Arrest -- 36%\***

\*DJJ Outcome Evaluation Report 2006.

# Profile of Florida's Status Offenders

- Serious Family Problems
  - 14% of served youth faced abuse (physical or emotional) or neglect.
  - 11% of served youth faced domestic violence.
  - 9% of served youth were runaways at the intake.
- School
  - 36% of served youth failed at least a grade.
  - 27% of served youth are habitual truants.
  - 25% of served youth have learning disability or mental health issues.



# FUNDING AND UNIT COSTS

# UNIT COSTS

- Face-to-face & phone screenings \$10 per occurrence
- Assessment \$120 per occurrence
- Shelter per child, per day \$110/day (room, board, basic supervision)
- Base for 88 beds available \$40,150 per bed
- Family & child counseling 12 weeks/sessions (average) \$1,000 per case
- Short-term services ( less than 6 hours in shelter, less than 24 hours in out-patient) \$45/day

# UNIT COSTS

- Staff Secure: \$110/day
- Physically Secure: \$225/day
- Mental health/substance abuse: \$500/child  
(purchased assessments or crisis intervention)
- Targeted Outreach: \$35,000 per position