

ModelsforChange

Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice

Measurable Progress

A Summary of Illinois Juvenile Justice Reforms
2005 - 2012

October, 2012

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I. PREFACE

The last several years have brought about tremendous changes in our understanding of adolescent development and its impact on youthful offending. A major catalyst for these changes was research supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation that established a scientific base of knowledge for the causes, treatment and prevention of juvenile delinquency. In an effort to use this research to assist juvenile justice stakeholders improve their responses to youth crime, the MacArthur Foundation established the Models for Change initiative, a national juvenile justice reform program aimed at promoting more rational, fair and effective juvenile justice systems. Illinois was selected as one of four “core” Models for Change states based on its tradition of juvenile justice leadership, community and civic engagement, ongoing reform efforts, and receptivity to change. Since 2005, the goal of the Illinois Models for Change initiative has been to design, implement and support an integrated approach to achieving a model juvenile justice system, one in which the needs of youth, victims, families and communities are recognized appropriately, in which youth are treated as individuals with strengths and the capacity to change, in which communities are protected, and in which public and private stakeholders work collaboratively toward a common goal of continuously improving the juvenile justice system.

This report summarizes some of the key changes in juvenile justice law, policy and practice that have taken place in Illinois during the period 2005 – 2012. These changes have accelerated over the life of the project and include a reduction in secure confinement and greater reliance on community-based alternatives, improved strategies and tools for juvenile justice planning and decision-making at both the state and local levels, expanded juvenile court jurisdiction, and extensive legislative and practice changes around issues as diverse as data collection and analysis, transfer, screening and assessment, indigent defense, restorative justice, diversion, and sentencing.

These changes and others would not have been possible without the collective vision and commitment of juvenile justice partners around the state, including prosecutors, law enforcement officials, judges, probation officers, defenders, service providers, agency leaders, and youth, community and family advocates. Illinois has also benefitted from the expertise and technical assistance provided through the Models for Change National Resource Bank and Action Networks.

Although our state has made tremendous strides in recent years, the goal of moving Illinois closer to a model juvenile justice system has not yet been achieved. Fortunately, Illinois has recently established new and strengthened leadership structures to steward the course of juvenile justice progress going forward. These include the Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, and the Illinois Juvenile Justice Research and Information Consortium.

A sincere thank you to each of you who has or will contribute to meaningful change in our state’s juvenile justice system. This summary of measurable progress acknowledges and celebrates your achievements. It is also intended to serve as a resource for other jurisdictions that seek to make improvements in their juvenile justice systems.

Illinois Models for Change
October, 2012

II. MODELS FOR CHANGE WORK AT A GLANCE

The following government agencies and nonprofit organizations have partnered with the Illinois Models for Change initiative in their capacity as Models for Change grantees. Further information about each Illinois grantee and the national organizations comprising the Models for Change National Resource Bank is contained in the Appendix.

CHICAGO AREA PROJECT: With Models for Change support, CAP worked to build community capacity to divert Chicago youth – with an emphasis on youth of color -- from unnecessary juvenile justice system involvement while improving outcomes for young people, families and communities.

CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE: CUL's Models for Change efforts focused on engaging Illinois leaders and communities in reducing disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in the juvenile justice system. CUL relies upon coalition building, community partnerships, communications strategies and policy expertise to produce positive change for Chicagoans.

CHILDREN'S HOME ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS (PEORIA): CHAIL has led Peoria County's Models for Change efforts in partnership with the county's Juvenile Justice Council. Their work has improved support and services to youth dually-involved in the child protection and delinquency systems, increased use of school- and community-based restorative justice programs to divert youth from unnecessary arrest and juvenile justice system involvement, and improved system responses to youth charged with domestic battery.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE FOR YOUTH INITIATIVE: CJYI has spearheaded the use of restorative justice principles to more effectively divert Chicago's young people from unnecessary arrest, detention or prosecution, with a goal of improving outcomes for youth, families and communities.

DUPAGE COUNTY PROBATION AND COURT SERVICES: Building on a strong record of evidence-based policy and practice, DuPage County's Models for Change work has featured four components: 1) improving care, supervision and support for youth dually-involved in the child protection and delinquency systems; 2) improving community and system responses to youth charged with domestic battery; 3) implementing evidence-based supervision and treatment strategies for juvenile sex offense cases; and 4) increasing family outreach, engagement and partnership.

ENLACE: Enlace has utilized its strong community partnerships to mobilize families, policy makers and juvenile justice practitioners in DMC reduction efforts through data analysis, technical assistance, coalition building, community partnerships and communications strategies.

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE COUNCILS: With Models for Change support, the IAJC has created the state's only forum for statutorily-authorized juvenile justice councils to encourage the creation of local councils and to provide information, training and guidance in local juvenile justice planning, resource allocation and efficacy.

ILLINOIS BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE: IBARJI serves as the state's network of restorative justice leaders and practitioners, supporting the use of BARJ practices to restore crime victims, increase community engagement and improve outcomes for youth, families and communities.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE: With Models for Change support, IDJJ has engaged in comprehensive efforts to shift the agency from an adult corrections model to one which delivers needed services and support to youth, successfully reintegrates youth into their communities and, in doing so, enhances public safety.

ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE INITIATIVE: JJI has spearheaded much of Illinois Models for Change legislative education and state-level policy efforts. JJI has conducted research and analysis, built coalitions of stakeholders, legislators and policy-makers and implemented system reform strategies guided by adolescent development principles, procedural due process requirements and a reliance on proven, community-based interventions with youth in conflict with the law.

JOHN HOWARD ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS: The John Howard Association is the state's only independent prison "watchdog." In this capacity, JHA has worked to ensure that IDJJ fulfills its obligations to youth in its care and to the communities to which young people return by monitoring compliance with performance-based juvenile corrections standards and reporting to the legislature, stakeholders and the public on IDJJ's performance and needs.

LOYOLA CIVITAS CHIDLAW CENTER: The ChildLaw Center has served as the Lead Entity for Illinois Models for Change. In this capacity, the Center works closely with Models for Change grantees and leaders, state and local juvenile justice practitioners, reform advocates and local, state and national policy-makers and advocates to implement positive changes in the Illinois juvenile justice system.

METROPOLIS STRATEGIES: Metropolis Strategies has provided vital leadership and guidance to the Illinois Models for Change initiative through its role on the Illinois Coordinating Council and through its work to establish the Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY CHILDREN AND FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER: CFJC's Models for Change efforts have been multifaceted and include: 1) enhanced support to Illinois' juvenile defender network at the trial and appellate levels; 2) research and analysis of the state's reentry / parole system; 3) post-dispositional advocacy and policy change; 4) youth and family engagement; and 4) support for improved IDJJ policy, practice and programming.

OGLE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COUNCIL: Ogle County has utilized Models for Change resources to forge strong and successful models of local governance and planning. Its work has increased local opportunities for diversion of young people from unnecessary system involvement, improved mental health screening and service linkage, increased local restorative justice options, strengthened partnerships with schools, law enforcement, the community and other justice system partners, and demonstrated innovative strategies to encourage expungement of minor juvenile records in ways which reduce obstacles to employment, education and other positive outcomes.

SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT: The Second Circuit utilized Models for Change resources to building strong local governance with the capacity to reduce unnecessary system involvement, improve mental health screening and assessment, identify service gaps and needs, increase use of balanced and restorative justice practices, reduce disproportionate minority contacts among target populations, and build a new web-based probation and detention case management system (JWatch).

HONORABLE GEORGE TIMBERLAKE: After his retirement from the bench (Chief Judge of the 2nd Judicial Circuit), Judge Timberlake joined the Models for Change initiative as a consultant. He

currently serves as chair of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and is a member of the Illinois Models for Change Coordinating Council.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA – CHAMPAIGN: The University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development (CPRD) and the School of Social Work have served as data partners for Illinois Models for Change grantees. Researchers from the School of Social Work have assisted Models for Change grantees in obtaining, analyzing and applying data on dually-involved youth and in conducting objective evaluations of new policy and programs. CPRD conducted a state-wide juvenile justice data scan and spearheaded development of the JWatch web-based probation case management systems in collaboration with Models for Change and Redeploy Illinois practitioners.

YOUTH OUTREACH SERVICES (COOK COUNTY): YOS's Models for Change efforts focused on improving mental health service linkages and family engagement with young people in Evening Reporting Centers and on reducing detention admissions stays for youth charged with domestic battery. Collectively, YOS, DuPage County and Peoria's Children's Home have developed innovative and replicable crisis response and family engagement strategies which improve responses to families experiencing "adolescent domestic battery."

III. SUMMARY OF ILLINOIS LAW, POLICY AND PRACTICE CHANGES

Note: This compendium of progress is an effort to summarize major changes and activities that have occurred in Illinois since 2005. As noted in the text, many but not all of these efforts were spearheaded by Models for Change and its local, state and national partners.

ADJUDICATION AND SENTENCING

No Less Restrictive Alternative to DJJ Commitment

With enactment of Public Act 97-0362, judges considering commitment of a youth to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice must now ensure that commitment is necessary and the least restrictive alternative available. This requires examining evidence that efforts were made to locate a less restrictive placement and considering why those efforts were unsuccessful. P.A. 97-0362 (2012); 705 ILCS 405/5-750.

Judges Given Sentencing Discretion for Youth Under 15

Prior to Public Act 95-0462, judges hearing delinquency matters had limited options when child protection services were needed. In revising the Juvenile Court Act, the Illinois General Assembly expanded juvenile court sentencing authority by permitting a judge to order a youth under the age of 15 to be placed in the guardianship of the Department of Children and Family Services when an independent basis of abuse, neglect or dependency exists. An independent basis exists if the allegation or adjudication did not arise from the same circumstances which gave rise to a pending delinquency charge. Previously, a judge could enter such an order only if the child was under the age of 13. P.A. 95-0462 (2007); 705 ILCS 405/5-710 (i)(a)(iv).

Supreme Court Issues Rule on Shackling

In 2010, the Illinois Supreme Court adopted Supreme Court Rule 430 on restraining accused persons during trial to address concerns that adults and young people should not be routinely or unnecessarily shackled for court appearances and that doing so was especially harmful to adolescents. The Rule states that detained defendants (including those in Juvenile Court) should not be placed in any type of restraint unless there is a clear need to protect the security of the court, maintain order, or prevent escape. The Rule requires a separate individualized hearing on the need for restraints. S. Ct. Rule 430 (Mar. 22, 2010).

Youth Entitled to Sentencing Credit for Detention Center-Based Treatment Program

In *In re Christopher P.*, 2012 Ill. App. (4th) 100902 (2012), the Fourth District Appellate Court addressed the issue of sentencing credit for young people committed to IDJJ, ruling that a youth required to complete a treatment program in a locked detention center facility was entitled to sentencing credit after he was later resentenced to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice.

AFTERCARE AND REENTRY

Illinois Juvenile Parole System Reviewed

In December 2011 the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission released a legislatively-mandated study of Illinois' juvenile reentry system. The study, *Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission Youth Reentry Report*, was the first of its kind, examining the strengths and deficits of the state's efforts to prepare for safe, successful release of a youth from a secure state facility to his or her community. The report includes a number of recommendations for improving Illinois reentry law, policy and practice and is informing current efforts to improve multiple aspects of aftercare preparation, release decision-making, parole revocation processes and community-based supervision and services. P.A. 96-1271 (2011); 20 ILCS 505/17a-5.

Illinois Pilots Program to Reduce Recidivism and Adult System Involvement

Based on findings in its *Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission Youth Reentry Report*, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission awarded over \$1.5 million in grants and support to two community-based agencies in Chicago and Southern Illinois. These Juvenile Reentry Demonstration Projects are creating policy and practice models to more effectively identify the needs and strengths of young people in IDJJ care and to implement a comprehensive case plan for their successful and safe return home, in close collaboration with IDJJ and IDOC aftercare staff.

IDJJ Expands Aftercare Specialist Model Beyond Cook County

Using federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice established a pilot program in Cook County in which newly-hired, specially-trained aftercare specialists provide case management, supervision and support to youth released from IDJJ facilities. Illinois' FY13 budget allocates state funds to sustain the Cook County program and to expand its reach to other regions of the state. The new aftercare models seek to provide appropriate supervision and support to young people on parole, rather than being assigned to IDOC parole agents supervising large caseloads of adults, with limited support or resources to work with youth.

Post-Dispositional System Mapping

Northwestern's Children and Family Justice Center promulgated a "post-disposition system map" of the state's juvenile justice policy and practice at the post-adjudication and post-sentencing phase. In part because youth no longer have access to legal counsel once committed to IDJJ care, reform advocates and practitioners lacked current, comprehensive and complete information regarding the complicated network of policy, administrative authority and local practices which governed the post disposition phase of the justice system. The CFJC research and analysis informed subsequent system improvement efforts and collaboration.

State-City of Chicago Collaborative on Reentry

Since 2009, Illinois and City of Chicago representatives have met on a regular basis to review best practices, hear from decision-makers, and galvanize support for policies aimed at developing a comprehensive framework of services and resources for incarcerated juveniles and adults reentering society and communities across the state.

Multi-System Collaboration on Dually-Involved Youth

The Illinois Departments of Human Services (DHS), Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) and Child and Family Services (DCFS) created a cross-agency collaboration to participate in Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Multi-System Integration Certificate Program for Public Sector Leaders. This "Capstone Team" has worked collaboratively to ensure that child-welfare involved youth are not held unnecessarily in secure facilities due to lack of system collaboration or placement options.

Neighborhood Recovery Initiative

In 2010, Governor Quinn and the State General Assembly allocated \$50 million in new funding to launch a comprehensive effort to help strengthen and revitalize Illinois' urban communities. Based largely on feedback from the Governor's Anti-Violence Commission, the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative focuses on rebuilding Illinois' most vulnerable neighborhoods and protecting young people by offering more job and education opportunities, with multiple components providing mentoring, education, job training and other support to youth and young adults returning to Chicago and suburban communities from the state's corrections facilities. The legislature allocated funding in the State Fiscal Year 2013 budget to continue the programs.

APPEALS

Specialized Docketing and Preparation of Juvenile Appeals Instituted

In recognition of the importance of timely appeals in juvenile delinquency cases, the Office of the State Appellate Defender implemented specialized timelines and processes for the briefing and preparation of juvenile appeals. The specialized process allows for expedited preparation of juvenile matters by designated appellate defenders within OSAD, which also represents adult defendants in criminal appeals.

Expedited Juvenile Appeals Recommended

In 2012, the Illinois State Bar Association recommended that the Illinois Supreme Court adopt rules expediting appeals in juvenile delinquency matters. Currently, juvenile cases are placed on the appellate dockets on a “first in / first out” basis, placing juvenile appeals in a queue with adult criminal cases. By the time juvenile appeals are resolved, individual issues are often moot, with youth having served sentences in detention centers, on probation or within the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice. These time lines may lead to a reduction in meaningful review, case law and appellate guidance to trial judges, prosecutors and defenders. The Supreme Court Rules Committee is currently considering adoption of the proposed rule, which would expedite resolution of juvenile appeals, similar to expedited processes for child custody appeals.

BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

BARJ Trainings and Resources Held Across State

Through the efforts of the Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative and its local partners, local and state juvenile justice practitioners accessed comprehensive training sessions and materials on implementation of balanced and restorative justice practices. Probation and detention officials, local law enforcement officers, IDJJ staff and others have utilized training and implementation support to begin or enhance restorative justice programs which divert young people from the justice system or deflect them from system penetration, through practices which can hold youth accountable for misconduct in developmentally appropriate ways.

Chicago Public Schools Policy Incorporates Restorative Justice

The Chicago Area Project and the Community Justice for Youth Initiative were instrumental in the decision of the Chicago Public Schools to adopt new Student Code of Conduct to scale back “zero tolerance” provisions that can result in young people being pushed out of schools and into the juvenile justice system unnecessarily. CPS includes 600 elementary and high schools, serves more than 400,000 students and is the nation’s third-largest school district. The new code emphasizes the use of restorative justice strategies such as peer juries, peace circles and victim-offender conferencing to address conflict or disciplinary infractions instead of punitive approaches such as suspension or expulsion.

School-Based Restorative Justice Efforts Successful in Reducing School to Prison Pipeline

Peoria’s Manual High School and Keifer Day school revamped their traditional school discipline policies and practices, which had been demonstrated to contribute to disproportionate minority contact with the justice system, to include restorative justice practices. Using peer juries and peace conferences, these schools piloted BARJ approaches as alternatives to arrest, suspension and expulsion. Based on the efficacy of the pilot projects, teachers and administrators in other Peoria schools participated in extensive training efforts and developed customized programs and practices for their schools.

South Suburban BARJ Project Initiated

Spearheaded by the Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative, Cook County's South Suburbs – comprising the 6th Municipal District of the Circuit Court of Cook County – have launched an ambitious effort to implement restorative justice principles at each stage of the juvenile justice system, beginning with conflict in communities. Funded by a \$300,000 grant from the United Methodist Church, the project is building collaborative strategies to address the growing number of youth of color entering the juvenile justice system in these suburban communities.

IDJJ BARJ Project

With Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funding, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice and the Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative have launched a restorative justice project at IYC Harrisburg. IYC Harrisburg is one of the largest of Illinois' eight youth centers, serving boys from across the state. Harrisburg administrators and staff are working with IBARJI to implement restorative justice practices and philosophies to resolve conflict and prevent violence among youth and between youth and staff. The project also seeks to empower facility staff and leadership to address youth misconduct without resorting to the use of isolation or disciplinary tickets which can delay a youth's release. Governor's State University is conducting process and outcome evaluations to better document impact and develop replicable models of policy and practice.

COMMUNITY-BASED ALTERNATIVES

Redeploy Illinois Cited as a Model Program to Reduce Youth Corrections Population

Redeploy Illinois was created by Public Act 93-0641 and implemented in 2005, with the support of Models for Change grantees and advocacy partners, to provide a financial incentive for the use of community-based services to youth and families, rather than rely upon commitments to the state's Department of Juvenile Justice. Counties participating in Redeploy Illinois receive state funds to create or expand community-based programs and commit to a 25 percent reduction in the number of juveniles committed to state facilities from those counties. The youth diverted from the juvenile prison system remain in their home communities and receive comprehensive services that include counseling, substance abuse and mental health treatment, life skills education, and cognitive therapies. Redeploy sites can also provide transportation, parent and family support services, victim-related services, electronic monitoring and other needed support. Redeploy Illinois began as a pilot project in four sites and has since expanded to eight sites and 28 counties, providing individualized services to more than 1500 youth and families to date. Redeploy counties have reduced their commitments by 50%, along with overall decreases in the use of county-based detention. When Redeploy Illinois was implemented in 2005, IDJJ housed over 1500 youth. By July 2012, that number had dropped to 970 youth, lowest census in IDJJ facilities in more than two decades.

CCBYS Contracts Expanded

The Illinois Department of Human Services funds and administers a statewide network of community-based crisis response, respite care and supportive services, called Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services. CCBYS programs divert families from unnecessary juvenile justice system involvement, with a focus on youth who have run away from or been kicked out of their homes. Beginning in State Fiscal Year 2013, IDHS expanded the target population eligible for CCBYS services to include families experiencing domestic battery crises, in response to the crisis de-escalation and respite models developed by Models for Change Illinois grantees.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND EXPUNGEMENT

New Confidentiality Law Aimed at Early Mental Health Diagnosis and Treatment

In an effort to promote early detection and treatment of justice-involved youth with mental health disorders, the Illinois General Assembly enacted legislation limiting the use of statements made by youth as part of any behavioral health screening, assessment, evaluation or treatment program. P.A. 96-1251 (2011); 705 ILCS 405/5-401.5.

Process for Expungement of Juvenile Records Eased; Transfer of Misdemeanor Arrest Records Limited

In light of the negative collateral consequences that a juvenile record can have on a youth's future employment and educational opportunities, new legislation allows youth charged with a misdemeanor as a first offense to file a petition for an expungement review hearing when they turn 18 or complete any dispositional sentence, whichever is later. If no objection is filed by prosecutors, expungement is automatic. The same law prohibits the transfer of confidential juvenile arrest records from the Department of State Police to the FBI unless they relate to a case in which the minor is charged as an adult. P.A. 96-0707 (2010); 20 ILCS 2630/5(a).

VOYRA Registry Revisions

Public Act 097-0432 revises Illinois' Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act (VOYRA) to address unintended consequences of including youth adjudicated delinquent for battery offenses against siblings or peers. The amendments, crafted by the DuPage County Office of the State's Attorney, help ensure that young people in contact with the justice system due to low-level family, peer or school-based conflicts do not face unintended collateral consequences under VOYRA.

DATA AND INFORMATION

Illinois' Second Judicial Circuit Pioneers Model Probation Case Management System

With blended funding from the Models for Change Initiative and the Redeploy Illinois Initiative, the Second Judicial Circuit and the University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development built an innovative case management and data system for use by juvenile probation and court services departments in Illinois. Called JWatch, the system gathers and organizes information on youth demographics, system involvement, family information, risk / needs / strengths assessments and services provided, to assist both front line workers and supervisors in working with individual youth

and in managing caseloads. The program is available at no cost to other probation department who wish to implement it.

JWatch Data System Expansion Approved

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funding has been allocated by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to support expansion of the JWatch data system developed in the Second Judicial Circuit with Models for Change and Redeploy Illinois seed funding. The University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development will work with the Second Circuit to expand the application of the JWatch system beyond the probation caseload phase.

CPRD Statewide Data Scan Conducted

The Center for Prevention Research and Development conducted and compiled a statewide data scan to create a current and comprehensive “data map” of the state’s juvenile justice system information. This scan and a companion briefing has been provided to Models for Change partners, including the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, to inform state and local data system improvement efforts and to maximize the use of available data. The scan has also informed the Commission’s legislatively mandated studies of juvenile reentry / aftercare, raising the age of juvenile court jurisdiction and best practices with juveniles adjudicated delinquent for sexual offenses.

Model Ogle Data Integration Project Completed

With Models for Change support, Ogle County developed a model integrated juvenile justice data system, including linking the State’s Attorney, Probation and Court Services Department and Circuit Court Clerk data programs, to allow more meaningful analysis of data trends and system outcomes.

IJJC / ICJIA Data Partnership Results in New Data Tools

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority worked collaboratively to leverage funding and expertise to produce a number of data and system-improvement tools. Among these are annual Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data Reports, which include state-level data on arrests, court involvement and post-dispositional caseloads and trends. ICJIA also published, in partnership with the Commission, *Policies and Procedures of the Illinois Juvenile Justice System*, a detailed and user-friendly step-by-step description of the Illinois juvenile justice system and a series of fact sheets on the arrest, pre-trial, sentencing and parole phases of the system. These materials are available at www.icjia.state.il.us.

Recidivism Analysis Published

In August 2012, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority published a research report entitled *Juvenile Recidivism in Illinois: Examining Re-arrest and Re-incarceration of Youth* to provide historical, current and trend data on the re-arrest and incarceration of youth committed to the state’s Department of Juvenile Justice. This previously unavailable data is informing efforts to improve supervision and services to young people paroled from juvenile prisons, as well as to guide effective policy and practice. The report is available at www.icjia.state.il.us.

Chicago Youth Data Project Initiated

Project NIA launched the Chicago Youth Justice Data Project to provide data-rich profiles of neighborhoods most significantly affected by the juvenile justice system. Established in 2009, Project NIA is an advocacy, organizing, public education, research, and capacity-building organization with the long-term goal of ending youth incarceration. Project NIA advocates for the use of restorative justice approaches and community-based alternatives to secure confinement. It recently released a report, *Policing Chicago Public Schools: A Gateway to the School-to-Pipeline*, highlighting previously unpublished data from the Chicago Police Department on school-based arrests of CPS students in 2012.

Statewide Juvenile Justice Electronic Data Base Created

Illinois has a new tool for reaching juvenile justice practitioners across the state and for receiving their ideas for systems improvement on a regular basis. The Illinois Models for Change initiative has created a comprehensive statewide electronic base of law enforcement, prosecution, defense, judicial, and probation officials in order to permit ongoing communication and feedback with frontline juvenile justice workers. With permission, researchers and others can use the data base to carry out surveys or other data and information projects.

Models for Change *Fast Forward* Project Allows Illinois Juvenile Justice Leaders to Weigh in on Needs

Representatives of the Illinois Models for Change initiative surveyed juvenile justice leaders around the state to gather their ideas on the current state of the state's juvenile justice system, where additional progress is needed, and how best to accomplish the work that remains to be done. The project resulted in a published report that has been widely circulated and is intended to provide baseline information on juvenile justice reforms going forward.

Statewide Survey of Juvenile Justice Practitioners Underway.

In 2012, Models for Change carried out an electronic statewide survey of juvenile justice practitioners, including law enforcement officials, judges, probation officers, prosecutors and defense counsel and detention personnel. The goal of the survey was to gather and analyze the experience of practitioners and to receive input on how the state's juvenile justice system can be strengthened in the future. Survey results are being analyzed and will be published.

Juvenile Justice E-Resource Center Planned

Currently there is no single site where researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, youth and families, and the general public can access information on Illinois' juvenile justice system. With support from Models for Change, Loyola University's Civitas ChildLaw Center recently began a project that will allow open web-based access to such information, including reports, legislation, case law and data.

Cook County Detention Population Drops and New Resources Allocated for Community-based Alternatives

As a result of new programs and efforts on the part of Cook County officials, the census at the Cook County Detention Center has dropped to historic lows and plans are underway to further reduce the population by diverting eligible youth to community-based alternatives. The Cook County Board has allocated \$800,000 for that initiative and has approved appointment of an advisory board to oversee the Detention Center's operations after a transitional administrator appointed by a U.S. federal court approves transfer of the Center's operations to the County.

Report on Juvenile Detention in Cook County Makes Recommendations for the Future

With input of Models for Change grantees and partners, the Jane Addams Juvenile Court Foundation and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency issued a 2012 report analyzing detention usage and trends in Cook County and providing a series of recommendations to continue downsizing detention center capacity, while investing in services and support responsive to the needs of youth facing detention in Chicago and surrounding communities.

Identifying Needs and Engaging Families of Youth in Detention Alternatives

While alternatives to detention must be narrowly crafted to avoid "net-widening," these programs can present critical opportunities to engage a young person and his or her family in needed services and support. Youth Outreach Services, Cook County's Juvenile Probation Department and the judiciary have developed innovative policies and practices to strategically engage youth and families in screening, assessment, community-based linkages and individualized advocacy in ways which prevent unnecessary system involvement and penetration while working collaboratively with families to address critical behavioral health needs. YOS also worked closely with the National Center for Juvenile Justice to enhance collection and use of data to track Evening Reporting Center operations and outcomes.

DIVERSION

Ogle County's Front-End Diversion Strategies

One of Ogle County's top priorities for Models for Change efforts was to better identify and address the needs and strengths of families involved in the local juvenile justice system. Through an innovative MOU and collaborative efforts of the Ogle County Juvenile Justice Council, law enforcement contact with youth is now recorded, tracked and shared with the Council in order to better understand the community's needs and to ensure the development and support of community-based resources which can address those needs. Ogle County's enhanced mental health screening and enhanced data systems also advance this multi-disciplinary effort to address the underlying causes of delinquency without pulling families into the system unnecessarily or compromising public safety. Since implementation, Ogle County has diverted 70% of youth in contact with law enforcement into community-based programs and away from formal justice system involvement. The 2nd Judicial Circuit has adopted Ogle County's law enforcement contact system.

Community Conferencing Aimed a Diverting Youth

The Peoria County Juvenile Justice Council, the Peoria Police Department and the Covenant for Black America established a new program to divert youth charged with low-level or non-violent offenses from the juvenile justice system, utilizing trained community volunteers to hold peace conferences with young people, victims of youth crime and the families of both. Launched in 2010, the Community Peace Conferences hold youth appropriately accountable for harmful behavior, while engaging victims in a restorative process and mitigating the negative outcomes of justice-system involvement.

Adolescent Domestic Battery Research and Analysis Leads to New Intervention Strategies

Illinois Models for Change projects in Cook, DuPage and Peoria Counties developed policy, practice, and program models to better respond to adolescent domestic battery, in many cases diverting youth and families from the justice system. In this context, the term “adolescent domestic battery” (ADB) encompasses family crisis or violence that results in police contact and possible delinquency system involvement for a young person. The sites have developed a continuum of services for these families, including round-the-clock crisis response and respite care available at the law-enforcement contact stage, through the state’s CCBYS provider network. Other improved policy and practices include community-based behavioral health support, family-focused problem-solving and skill-building programming, and safety planning assistance. Together, these models have diverted young people from arrest or prosecution, while providing much-needed support to domestic battery victims and families. The sites have also developed a new “ADB Typology” to help practitioners understand the dynamics of families in crisis and to identify needed interventions as well as a model continuum of services to address the range of issues underlying ADB. Based on the success of the sites’ work, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority have allocated continuation funding for the projects.

DUALLY-INVOLVED YOUTH

Multi-System Collaboration in Peoria

Data gathered by the Peoria County’s Detention Center on the dually-involved population produced some unexpected findings: while the overall number of dually involved youth in detention was lower than initially estimated, almost 70 percent of them were detained as a result of a domestic dispute, sometimes with foster families and sometimes within a family of origin. This shared data observation led the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, the Children’s Home and the Probation and Court Services Department to develop policy and practice for improved identification of dually-involved youth, improved cross-system information-sharing and coordinated case planning, regardless of the presenting charge. DCFS-involved families also receive more specialized support to prevent and address crises such as those formerly resulting in arrests of adolescents for domestic battery.

Working with “Cross-Over” Youth in DuPage

The first phase of DuPage County’s “Cross Over” project, which focused on data gathering, analysis and sharing, indicated that the largest driver of dual-involvement was arrest of youth for relatively low-level offenses at a large residential group home. The next phase of effort built upon a new partnership among the Lutherbrook Child and Adolescent Center, the DuPage Probation Department, the Addison Police Department and the Department of Children and Family Services and produced a better understand of the needs of youth in placement, improved responses to negative youth behaviors and enhanced cross-system collaboration to improve youth outcomes. The group also provided practitioners with training on adolescent development, and the impact of trauma and evidence-based practices and convened multi-disciplinary meetings to revise local policy and practice with youth in placement. Their efforts have significantly reduced arrest and detention of youth in placement, produced new models of cross-system collaboration and created replicable models and resources for child welfare practitioners, police, probation officers and residential care providers.

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

Evidence-Based Behavioral Health Screening and Assessment at IDJJ

The Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) has made significant progress in the use of evidence-based tools to identify and meet the needs of young people in its care. As described in more detail in the “Mental Health” section of this document, all youth now entering the Illinois youth prison system are being screened for mental disorders using evidence-based screening (MAYSI-II) and assessment (VDISC) tools, with those in crisis receiving immediate attention.

Trauma-Informed Screening and Assessment for DJJ and Aftercare

With funding from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, IDJJ is currently implementing the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS -JJ) at reception / classification and in DJJ’s Aftercare program, which features specially trained staff linking youth leaving DJJ with services in their home communities in Cook County. The Illinois Department of Children & Family Services uses CANS for treatment and permanency planning of children, and DJJ is implementing a modified version of CANS created for youth involved in the delinquency system. The CANS will assist in identifying the impact of trauma on youth in IDJJ care, planning for trauma-responsive services, identifying youth strengths, and monitoring the effectiveness of programming.

Training Resource Made Available to Cross-Section of Juvenile Justice Stakeholders

Illinois Models for Change presented statewide training on evidence-based practices in 2007, featuring the MfC National Resource Bank, to a range of juvenile justice practitioners from across the state. Prosecutors, defenders, probation and court services professionals, community-based service providers and others attended the training sessions, which addressed the use of evidence-based screening and assessment tools as a part of evidence-informed local practices.

Adolescent Domestic Battery “Typology” Tool Developed

The Illinois Models for Change teams in Cook, DuPage and Peoria counties developed policy, practice, and program models to divert families experiencing ADB from the justice system or reduce unnecessary detention or incarceration, while better responding to the needs of victims and families. To develop more informed, individualized responses to families experiencing ADB, site leaders launched an innovative process to map the dynamics and characteristics of families experiencing ADB and establish a “typologies” tool to aid in case management, treatment planning, training and development of a continuum of services for youth and families in crisis. This typology matrix relies on several key historic, emotional, behavioral, situational and other factors present in families experiencing ADB, and includes five distinct categories, with a guide to interventions most appropriate for each category.

FAMILY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Engaging Families as Partners in Probation

Family engagement was one of DuPage County’s top priorities in its Models for Change efforts. After researching strategies employed in other jurisdictions, the Probation and Court Services Department conducted one- on- one interviews and focus groups with families whose children had completed juvenile probation successfully and unsuccessfully. They met with parents of youth who had been detained, held a series of community meetings and surveyed young people who had been on probation. Based on this outreach effort, DuPage implemented a series of new policies and practices to ensure that families are treated with respect, that they are viewed as valued partners in attaining positive outcomes for young people, and that they have meaningful opportunities to provide input and feedback on their juvenile court and probation experiences.

New Guides Help Youth and Families Understand and Navigate the Justice System

Northwestern’s Children and Family Justice Center published *Your Guide to the Juvenile Justice System in Illinois*, a youth-friendly guide to the justice system with the goal of educating young people about their rights and responsibilities before any contact with the system occurs. The guide is in an accessible “graphic novel” format and is based on research, focus group conversations and interviews with juvenile justice practitioners and youth and families who have been involved in the juvenile justice system across Illinois. It is available in English and Spanish. A complementary publication, *The Juvenile Justice System: A Guide for Families in Illinois*, was developed by the Illinois Models for Change Mental Health Action Network team in response to feedback from parents and families that they need practical information to make better decisions regarding whether and how to seek help from the justice system and how to better navigate that system if their family does become system-involved.

INDIGENT DEFENSE

Detained Youth Given Right to Appointment of Counsel upon Filing of Petition

Illinois youth who are arrested and detained now have a statutory right to the appointment of counsel immediately upon the filing of a petition for adjudication of wardship. No detention hearing

may be held until the youth has an adequate opportunity to consult with counsel. The minor's attorney may request that the 40 hour statutory time period for a detention hearing be tolled so that he or she may prepare for the detention hearing. PA 95-0846 (2009); 705 ILCS 405/5-415.

Court Rules Youth's Right to Counsel Compromised When Attorney Assumed Dual Roles

Reversing lower court opinions, the Illinois Supreme Court in *In re Austin M.*, 2012 IL 111194 (2012) found that there was a *per se* conflict of interest when a juvenile defendant's attorney functioned simultaneously as his attorney and guardian ad litem despite the fact that he had not been formally assigned both roles.

Indigent Defense Assessment Leads to New Laws and Practices

In *In re Gault*, the United State Supreme Court ruled that children accused of delinquent acts are entitled to the protections of due process of law, including the right to counsel. Northwestern's Children and Family Justice Center, in partnership with the National Juvenile Defender Center, conducted a statewide assessment of access to counsel in Illinois' juvenile justice system and made recommendations to strengthen the quality and accessibility of defender services. Several of the assessment's suggestions were subsequently adopted. The partnership also collaborated on the release of the *Illinois Juvenile Defender Practice Notebook*, a resource for Illinois attorneys who represent youth charged with crimes.

Post-Disposition Representation Project Initiated

In cooperation with the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, the Children and Family Justice Center implemented a pilot project to provide post-sentencing representation to youth at hearings before the Prisoner Review Board (PRB) in IDJJ facilities. This post-dispositional representation is particularly beneficial to youth, who are no longer have access to public defenders if committed to IDJJ, but has also assisted IDJJ and the Prisoner Review Board in responding to the needs and perspectives of young people being considered for release or parole revocation.

Online Resources Launched to Improve Legal Representation of Youth

Attorneys who represent young people in the delinquency system now have access to a variety of materials, including case law updates, sample briefs and legal documents, emerging research, training sessions and communication networks with fellow defenders through a secure juvenile defender website and listserv developed by the Children and Family Justice Center.

JUVENILE SEX OFFENSES

Study Underway to Examine Best Practices for Responding to Juvenile Sex Offenders

The Illinois General Assembly charged the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission with studying and reporting on best practices for effectively supervising and treating sexually offending youth. The report, expected to be released in early 2013, includes an analysis of state-level arrest, detention and commitment data, reviews of local probation files, analysis of the files of youth committed to IDJJ,

practitioner interviews and analysis of current research on best practices with youth who sexually offend. P.A. 97-0163; 20 ILCS 505/5-17a-5.

Evidence-Based Supervision, Services and Support for Juveniles Who Offend Sexually

DuPage County's Probation and Court Services Department leveraged Models for Change support to improve the way the County responds to youth who sexually offend and develop models of evidence-based assessment, treatment and supervision of this challenging population. The DuPage County's JSO project sought to improve outcomes for youth with sexual behavior problems, enhance safety planning with victims and families and reduce reoffending. Their outcomes include specialized probation caseloads overseen by officers with tailored training and expertise, evidence-based assessment, enhanced standards for treatment contracts, and improved community-based supervision. The new protocols and practices have nearly eliminated the use of costly out of home placements.

Illinois Legislation Allows Minors to Petition for Removal from Sex Offender Registry

The Illinois legislature amended the state's sex offender registry laws to permit juveniles to petition for removal from the registry after five years. P.A. 95-658; 730 ILCS 150/3-5. In response Northwestern University Law School's Children and Family Justice Center initiated an "Off the Record" project to assist attorneys representing clients seeking registry removal and to provide representation to eligible youth.

Illinois Reclassifies "Sexting" as a Status Offense

Responding to the growing phenomenon of "sexting" by adolescents (the electronic dissemination of graphic photos or other materials), Illinois adopted legislation categorizing such behavior as a status offense subject to mandatory counseling and supportive services rather than treating it as a crime under the state's child pornography statute. Reclassification of these behaviors now ensures that young people using technology inappropriately do not face conviction as sex offenders nor the registration requirements and other life-long collateral consequences of such a conviction. P.A. 96-1087 (2011); 705 ILCS 405/3-40.

JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION

Juvenile Court Given Original Jurisdiction over Juvenile Drug Cases

In 1985, the Illinois General Assembly embarked upon what some have called an "experiment" to respond to reduce juvenile drug offenses by passing legislation to automatically transfer young people charged with certain drug offenses to the adult criminal court. In the two decades these laws were in effect, thousands of low-level and first-time drug offenders – overwhelmingly youth of color -- were transferred to the adult criminal court system. In 2005, PA 94-0574 reversed the automatic transfer of juvenile drug cases to adult court, providing that these young people stay under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. Subsequent data analyses indicate that automatic transfers decreased in Cook County by more than two-thirds without any corresponding increase in juvenile caseloads, indicating that the rollback of the Illinois drug transfer law had no detrimental effect on public safety.

Juvenile Court Jurisdiction Expanded to Cover 17 Year Olds Charged with Misdemeanors – Study of Strategies to Include 17 Year Olds Charged with Felonies Ordered

In response to increased knowledge of adolescence and in an effort to bring Illinois into alignment with the majority of other states, Illinois juvenile courts now have original jurisdiction over cases involving 17 year olds charged with misdemeanors. P.A. 95-1031 (2010); 705 ILCS 405/5-120. The General Assembly also adopted legislation charging the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission with studying the issue of expanding the juvenile courts' jurisdiction over all 17 year olds. P.A. 96-1199 (2011); 20 ILCS 505/17a-6.

Juvenile Court Given Authority to Require IDJJ to Provide Periodic Status Updates on Committed Youth

New legislation expands juvenile court authority to conduct a status review of youth who have been committed to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, including departmental efforts to secure post-release placement of the youth. P.A. 97-0518 (2012); 705 ILCS 405/5-745 (1).

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURES AND ACTIVITIES

Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council Established to Steward Juvenile Justice

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council was recently established to provide stewardship for the Illinois juvenile justice system and to create a sustainable locus of leadership and collaboration among a key group of juvenile justice thought-leaders and decision-makers. It brings together juvenile justice stakeholders to enhance access to information, promote system coordination and communication, identify research and information needs, set system improvement priorities, examine policy and practice issues that bridge the child welfare-justice systems, and regularly evaluate progress toward a fair, rational and effective juvenile justice system. The Council is co-chaired by two Illinois Supreme Court Justices and the Director of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice.

Illinois Juvenile Justice Research and Information Consortium Formed

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Information and Research Consortium (“Consortium”), established with Models for Change resources and managed by Loyola University Chicago’s ChildLaw Center, works collaboratively among its members and with other change agents to identify Illinois juvenile justice system data and research needs, conducts and supports research that is policy and practice relevant, and assists in the process of assessing and reporting on the impact of policy and practice changes in the state. The Consortium includes state agencies, research institutions, and individual researchers who collectively have the experience and expertise needed to provide high quality juvenile justice data and research to policy-makers, justice-system stakeholders, and the public.

Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission Strengthened

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission serves as the “State Advisory Group,” pursuant to state and federal statute. As such, the IJJC administers the state’s federal juvenile justice funding and provides guidance to the Governor, General Assembly, state agencies and other policy makers on juvenile

justice matters. In 2010, Governor Pat Quinn strengthened the Commission with a series of appointments of experienced juvenile justice practitioners and youth advocates. Since 2010, the Commission has issued a comprehensive study of the state's youth reentry / parole system, allocated funding to support the transition of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice from an adult-corrections model to a rehabilitative model, issued a series of system and program improvement grants and developed pilot projects to demonstrate the efficacy of community-based aftercare services.

Illinois Association of Juvenile Justice Councils Established

The Illinois Juvenile Court Act provides that counties or groups of counties may establish local Juvenile Justice Councils to assess the local juvenile justice system, develop a local plan for the prevention of delinquency and to more effectively utilize community resources. (705 ILCS 405/6-12) The Illinois Association of Juvenile Justice Councils was established, with Models for Change and Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission support, to provide information, training and guidance to encourage the formation of Councils and to assist in local juvenile justice analysis, planning, resource allocation.

Illinois Juvenile Justice Prosecutor and Defender Resource Centers Authorized

In Public Act 095-0376, the Illinois General Assembly authorized the Office of the State Appellate Prosecutor to establish a "Juvenile Justice Resource Center" to improve the administration of juvenile justice cases. The Center is intended to assist juvenile prosecutors by providing access to legal advice, expert witnesses and training on juvenile justice issues. The same Act also authorizes the establishment of an Illinois Juvenile Defender Resource Center to improve delivery of trial level defender services for young people in the juvenile justice system. Housed within the Office of the State Appellate Defender, the Center is intended to provide trial counsel with assistance and access to expert witnesses and investigators, as well as training on juvenile justice matters. The Centers are to be funded through legislative appropriation; however, appropriations have yet to be established.

Connecting the Pathways Conference Leads to New Collaboration

In October 2007, Illinois' five statewide juvenile justice initiatives co-convened a multi-disciplinary conference which brought together over 400 juvenile justice practitioners, policy makers and advocates. The conference featured leaders from the Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative, Disproportionate Minority Contact reduction projects, the Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Redeploy Illinois and the Illinois Models for Change Initiative. The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, each of which plays a key role in establishing juvenile justice funding, policy, practices and services across the state, aided in planning and implementation. The Conference gave rise to a joint-working committee composed of leaders of each initiative, tasked with mapping out key priorities for the next phase of juvenile justice reform in Illinois. That group's work informed a number of new initiatives, including improving Redeploy Illinois data reporting, strengthening the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and renewing the state's JDAI committee.

“One Hundred Leaders” Summit Helped Chart Juvenile Justice Reform

In the first ever statewide meeting of juvenile justice practitioners, the Models for Change Illinois initiative brought together juvenile justice leaders from communities across the state to discuss the Illinois juvenile justice landscape, and to identify areas of need and opportunities for change. The goal of the Summit was to chart the course for reform and system improvement efforts as part of the Models for Change initiative.

MENTAL HEALTH

Comprehensive Study of IDJJ’s Behavioral Health Care Programs Released

In response to a request for technical assistance from the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, the Illinois Models for Change initiative assembled a team of mental health and corrections experts to evaluate the department’s behavioral health policies, practices and programming. The assessment was based primarily on a series of site visits to the department’s eight facilities, in which the team assessed the range of behavioral health needs of youth in the DJJ system and the systems in place for identifying these youth; the adequacy of existing behavioral health policies, programming and staffing; the appropriateness of current approaches to transitioning youth with behavioral needs out of DJJ; and the level of collaboration between DJJ and other Illinois systems responsible for meeting the needs of youth with mental health and substance abuse issues. The team’s findings and recommendations, which were published in July 2010, have driven development of policy, practice, programming and funding since its release. The report is available at www.modelsforchange.net.

IDJJ Implements Behavioral Health Screening, Assessment and Services

With funding from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and fiscal and expert support of Models for Change, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice has made significant progress in connecting youth committed to the state with mental health treatment when needed. For the first time, all youth now entering the Illinois youth prison system are being screened for mental disorders using evidence-based screening and assessment, with youth in crisis receiving immediate attention. Implementation of mental health screening and other improvements followed a review of DJJ programming conducted in 2010 by a Behavioral Health Assessment Team of experts assembled at DJJ’s request by Illinois Models for Change. Tools now in place at the state’s eight youth prisons include the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument, or MAYSI-II. Developed by the National Youth Screening and Assessment Project at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, the MAYSI is composed of 52 standardized questions and is a reliable method of identifying signs of mental disturbance or stress, including suicide risk. IDJJ has also trained its behavioral health staff in the use of the Voice Diagnostic Interview Schedule for Children (V-DISC) and the Voiced Inventory of Self-Injurious Actions (VISA). These computerized allow mental health professionals to make accurate and efficient diagnoses of mental disorders, identify potential self-harm behaviors and match appropriate mental health treatment to youth needs. IDJJ is also currently implementing the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS-JJ) tool, in partnership with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences of Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. Implementation of these tools was facilitated by Models for Change funding, significant technical assistance from NYSAP and the Models for Change National Resource Bank and by funding from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission.

Analysis of Screening and Assessment in Detention Centers

In 2010, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority published a detailed assessment of the mental health screening and assessment practices in police, probation and detention departments. The report describes the policies, practices and tools these departments utilize to identify and respond to youth with behavioral health needs. The report is available at www.icjia.state.il.us.

Screening and Linkage in Ogle County

A key feature of Ogle County's diversion efforts is enhanced screening, assessment and community-based services for families with behavioral health needs. To implement this goal, Ogle County's Juvenile Justice Council developed a Memorandum of Understanding governing the use of behavioral health and other screening and assessment tools, the appropriate sharing of information among justice system actors and the diversion of families into needed behavioral health services, while protecting public safety. Since implementation, Ogle County has diverted 70% of youth in contact with law enforcement into community-based programs and away from formal justice system involvement.

MAYSI-II Implementation in the Second Circuit

The Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center, which serves 26 of Illinois' southern counties, implemented the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-II) to better identify and address the mental health needs of youth in the facility. Developed by National Resource Bank partners, the MAYSI-II is used as a "triage" tool to identify youth who may need immediate intervention while in the care of the 38 bed facility.

Screening, Assessment and Linkage at the YOS Evening Reporting Center

As discussed in the family engagement section, Youth Outreach Services implemented evidence-based behavioral health screening and – when needed – assessment at their Evening Reporting Center (ERC), with Models for Change resources and National Resource Bank support. Youth are referred to the ERC as an alternative to detention in the Cook County Evening Reporting Center. Screening and assessment results are used to develop an individualized plan for linkages with YOS or other agencies' services, which the youth and family may access on a voluntary basis, without facing systemic sanctions if they choose not to do so. The results also assist YOS in advocating for the youth and family as probation and courts process the ongoing case.

Mental Health Action Network Curriculum Development and Diffusion

In partnership with the national Models for Change Mental Health Action Network, Illinois mental health experts played a key role in the development of a national training curriculum on adolescent development, the impact of trauma and strategies to effectively address behavioral health needs among youth and families in the justice system. This curriculum was piloted in Cook County and then utilized to provide training sessions for a wide variety of justice system practitioners, including statewide probation and detention staff, new hires and veteran supervisors with the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, State Police training participants, prosecutors, defenders, community members, youth services providers and others in communities across Illinois. IDJJ has since developed

a “train the trainer” program to ensure that the curriculum is utilized in all on-going “cycle” training presented to facility-based and aftercare staff. The curriculum is also utilized to provide training resources to juvenile justice agencies and staff across the country.

Effort to Develop Illinois Juvenile Competency Statute Underway

A cross-section of Illinois practitioners, under the leadership of the Governor’s Children’s Mental Health Partnership, are in the final stages of preparing a new juvenile competency statute for submission to the Illinois General Assembly.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Community Engagement Efforts Around Juvenile Justice

The Chicago Urban League’s Models for Change efforts focused on improving public awareness of disproportionate minority contact (DMC) with the juvenile justice system and on equipping CUL’s constituencies to engage policy makers to address these inequities. CUL published multiple issues of its Strategies newsletter featuring DMC issues and interviews with various state and national Models for Change partners and CUL’s President devoted her Chicago Defender newspaper column to urge DMC reduction efforts. The Urban League also hosted a number of community events to spark conversation and engagement, included DMC and produced and aired television features in the Chicago media market.

Illinois Public Polled on Attitudes and Willingness to Pay

Polling conducted by the Center for Children’s Law and Policy found strong support among Illinoisans for juvenile justice strategies which rehabilitate youthful offenders rather than incarcerating them. Commissioned by the MacArthur Foundation and released in December 2007, the polling found that the Illinois public overwhelmingly recognizes the potential of youth for positive change, agrees that incarcerating youth offenders without rehabilitation means “giving up on them,” and favors shifting fiscal support from incarceration to counseling, education and job training programs for youth offenders. Following release of the polling results, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Initiative worked with CCLP to create a video presentation and to brief the Illinois legislature on its findings. Full polling results are available at www.modelsforchange.net.

WBEZ’s “Inside and Out” Series Wins Award

Chicago’s Public Radio affiliate, WBEZ, launched a series of stories in January 2010 to focus on the question: “What if prisons redeemed kids instead of warehousing them?” The multi-year series includes personal stories, investigative reports, interviews, analysis, photo essays and community events. It features interviews with Models for Change grantees and partners and focuses on topics such as conditions of confinement in detention centers and juvenile prison, the obstacles presented by juvenile arrest or court records, aftercare / reentry and school policies which can push youth into the justice system unnecessarily. The full series, which won multiple Associated Press awards for Best Investigative Series and Best Documentary Series, is available at www.wbez.org/series/inside-and-out.

Redeploy Illinois Video Launched

The W. Haywood Burns Institute worked with Models for Change partners to produce “Second Chance,” a short video featuring one young man from Illinois whose future is much brighter due to the Redeploy Illinois program and the opportunities it offered him to not only avoid juvenile prison, but to develop relationships and skills to improve his own life and that of his family. The video, which is available at www.modelsforchange.net, features scenes from the 2011 Models for Change conference, at which the young man spoke to an audience of nearly 300 juvenile justice reform partners from across the country about the impact of the Redeploy program.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

Collecting and Analyzing Data on Racial and Ethnic Disparities: The Peoria Pilot Project

Published in April 2009, this monograph describes Peoria County’s Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Project work to reduce the overrepresentation of youth of color in their juvenile justice system. Their work began with the implementation of the Burns Institute model, developed by the W. Haywood Burns Institute, which relies heavily on collaborative analysis and use of objective justice system data. The monograph discusses the challenges Peoria faced in gathering and using this data effectively and how the data informed creation of new community-based diversion and restorative justice efforts to address disproportionate arrests and detention of youth of color for school-based behavior. The monograph is available at www.modelsforchange.net.

Statewide DMC Assessment Underway

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission has launched a comprehensive state-wide assessment of the disproportionate impact of the juvenile justice system on youth and communities of color. The Commission has partnered with the University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to conduct surveys, practitioner outreach and in-depth data analysis to assess the status of disproportionate minority contact with and penetration into the juvenile justice system and to guide the Commission’s DMC reduction efforts and programming. The report will be finalized in 2013.

Counting Latino Youth

The National Council of La Raza issued *Counting Latino Youth in the Illinois Juvenile Justice System* in December 2011 to discuss the availability of justice-system data on Hispanic youth, who constitute one of the fastest-growing segments of the population. The report highlights a lack of this data as a major barrier to developing strategies and policies that can effectively prevent young Latinos from becoming caught up in the justice system. The report was released by NCLR and Enlace in Chicago, with a panel of juvenile justice practitioners, advocates and policy makers discussing strategies to address data gaps. The report is available on the Models for Change website at www.Modelsforchange.net.

Race and Ethnicity Guide Leads to Changes in Identifying Latino Youth

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and the Illinois Models for Change Initiative co-issued *Guidelines for Collecting and Recording the Race and Ethnicity of Youth in Illinois' Juvenile Justice System* in December 2009. The document provides guidelines for collecting and recording the race and ethnicity of youth in Illinois' juvenile justice system and serves as a tool for improving Illinois' statewide and local data, with guidance consistent with federal policy. Following publication, the Commission worked with the University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development to revise the Juvenile Monitoring Information System or JMIS, which is the statewide repository of information on detention admissions.

Racial and Ethnic Impact Task Force Established.

Public Act 097-0433 creates the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force in response to recommendations by the Illinois Disproportionate Justice Impact Study Commission, which documented the disproportionate incarceration of African-Americans for low-level, non-violent drug crimes compared to their Caucasian counterparts. Among the Commission's recommendations were to require racial and ethnic impact statements to explore the impact of proposed criminal justice legislation, which has a direct relationship to juvenile justice matters, on racial and ethnic disparities. The REI Task force will fulfil that charge.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Federal Medicaid Claiming Begins for Youth Exiting DJJ

As a result of unprecedented interagency collaboration and coordination, Illinois for the first time began claiming federal Medicaid funds to support behavioral health services to youth leaving IDJJ facilities. These federal funds are especially significant in a time of fiscal crisis, expanding the resources available for critical mental health and substance abuse treatment. Expanded availability of these services allows IDJJ to reduce unnecessary stays in secure youth centers and improve outcomes of vulnerable youth returning to communities.

Medicaid Reinstatement Legislation Speeds Up Post-Release Services

Public Act 096-0872, effective in June 2010, provides that adults and juveniles who received Medicaid benefits prior to incarceration are eligible to have the benefits reinstated immediately upon release. Prior to this legislation, young people and adults leaving secure facilities could be without access to medication or therapy while applying for Medicaid reinstatement. The new law allows for benefits to be suspended rather than terminated, making it easier to reinstate benefits, with the goal of ensuring young people's access to needed resources that can reduce behavioral health crises and reduce obstacles to successful reentry.

Federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Authority Transfer Underway

A cross-agency workgroup has been convened among the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

to implement a transfer of federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funds from ICJIA to IDHS, in partnership with the Commission, and with the authorization of the Governor. The transfer would consolidate federal juvenile justice funding and intended to facilitate efficient and effective use of available federal juvenile justice resources, as well as streamline administration and outreach to current and prospective grantees.

JABG Funds Made Available for Adolescent Domestic Battery Interventions

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority has allocated Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funds to sustain and diffuse new models of responding to families in crisis whose youth enter the juvenile justice system for domestic battery charges. The funding will support the models developed collaboratively by the Cook County, Peoria County and DuPage County Models for Change teams.

State Probation Departments Access Title IV-E Funds For Services

The Illinois Probation and Court Services Association partnered with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to make available, for the first time, Title IV-E federal resources to support services to probation-involved youth. The initial pilot was launched in State Fiscal Year 2007 and has produced modified court processes and orders to protect against unnecessary out-of-home placements. Due to budget constraints, the pilot has not been replicated, but continues to operate in the original pilot sites in Cook, Peoria and Winnebago counties.

Federal Second Chance Grants Awarded to Improve Community Reintegration

The Illinois Department of Human Services, in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice and two community-based service providers, has received an initial federal Second Chance Grant to establish evidence-based, community-based reentry services for young people leaving IDJJ and returning to Chicago neighborhoods. The project, which has just received ongoing federal funding, utilizes the Family Integrated Transitions model to provide intense services and support to prepare high-needs youth with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health needs for successful reentry and to support them during their transition home. The project is being evaluated by the University of Chicago's Chapin Hall.

SECURE CONFINEMENT

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Separated from Adult Corrections

When the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) was created in 2006, juvenile justice reform advocates hailed the move as a critical measure in transforming the Department from one which relied heavily upon ineffective and punitive correctional strategies and functioned as a sub-division of its "host" agency, the Illinois Department of Corrections. Since its creation, IDJJ has taken significant strides toward fulfilling its statutory mission to deliver developmentally appropriate, rehabilitative interventions which produce positive outcomes for youth while also protecting public safety. With Models for Change support, Illinois has assembled a stronger IDJJ administrative team and has improved supervision, support and services for youth in its care and the skills of staff who work with them. IDJJ has made marked

shift from correctional approaches to the development of a continuum of care which utilizes evidence-based screening and assessment tools, identified behavioral health and trauma needs, provides improved care, supervision and support while youth are in facilities and provides better planning and support for successful return of young people to their communities.

DJJ Further Uncoupled From Adult Corrections By Expanding Shared Services Options

Public Act 96-1022 was passed in 2001 to give IDJJ greater flexibility and support in its evolution towards a youth-corrections model. The new statute allows and encourages IDJJ to “share services” principally with other state-level child serving agencies rather than exclusively with the Department of Corrections. This has fostered greater cross-agency collaboration on issues such as screening and assessment, case planning, service provision, and staff training.

IDJJ Training Enhancements In Place

While formally separated from the Illinois Department of Corrections in 2006, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice was reliant upon IDOC’s training functions until recently. The “shared services” legislation discussed above, new funding sources and new partnerships with Models for Change partners and others has allowed IDJJ to make progress in providing professional development opportunities to staff more in alignment with IDJJ’s evolving rehabilitative mission. Training sessions for newly-hired line staff, supervisors and aftercare specialists now features materials on adolescent development, trauma, behavioral health care and evidence-based practices, as does ongoing annual “cycle” training.

Performance-Based Standards Provide Important Data for Systems Improvement

With the support of the National Resource Bank member Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators, IDJJ has resumed implementation and use of the Performance-Based Standards system. Created in 1995 by CJCA and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, PbS provides a method to establish practice standards and goals, data tools to measure progress toward achieving these goals. IDJJ utilizes PbS to ensure appropriate and safe conditions of care for youth in its facilities and to work with staff to track performance and trends.

On-Line Education Initiative Underway

With federal and state funding, IDJJ has implemented a new on-line education program to supplement traditional class-room education provided to youth in its facilities. The on-line courses allow youth to proceed at their own pace, accelerate learning and credit accrual and choose materials of most interest to them, while also receiving individualized attention from IDJJ’s education staff. Upon full implementation, the program will include a community-based component, to allow young people to continue to earn credits toward a high school diploma after release from an IDJJ facility. The project will be evaluated by Chapin Hall, University of Chicago.

Facilities Repurposing and Closure Efforts Underway as Youth Corrections Population Drops

In 2012, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn announced the closure of two of Illinois' secure juvenile prison facilities, in response to declining rates of youth incarceration. IYC Murphysboro, which previously utilized a "bootcamp" model, and IYC Joliet are slated for closure by the end of 2012, with a portion of the cost savings invested in improved services for youth while in IDJJ facilities and in improved aftercare and reentry services for youth leaving juvenile prisons.

Mortality Review Team Established

Public Act 96-1378, effective July 2010, requires the convening of a multi-disciplinary "mortality review team" to investigate the death of any child in IDJJ care. By statute, this review team is charged with assisting IDJJ in understanding risk factors and identifying and addressing any deficiencies in services or policies that increase risk of death to young people in IDJJ's secure facilities. The statute mirrors the laws governing mortality review teams in the child welfare system.

Monitoring of State Youth Corrections Facilities Results in Regular Public Reports

JHA's Juvenile Justice Project monitors the eight Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice facilities as IDJJ strives to transition from a punitive to a therapeutic and rehabilitative model. JHA's work is centered upon the Models for Change principle that youth are fundamentally different than adults and works toward changes in the criminal justice and corrections systems that recognize those differences. JHA issues regular reports on IDJJ facilities, informed by monitoring visits and information requests to the Department. JHA then utilizes these finds to advocate for reforms that will ensure Illinois' incarcerated youth are receiving proper education, therapy, rehabilitative programming, and humane treatment while incarcerated. JHA's reports are available at www.thejha.org.

SEXUALLY-EXPLOITED YOUTH

With leadership from the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney, the Chicago Police Department, and child advocates, Illinois passed landmark legislation aimed at combating child sex trafficking by ending the practice of prosecuting children engaged in prostitution and providing a "safe harbor" for them through expanded services. P.A. 96-1464 (2010); 325 ILCS 5/3, 5/5.

STATUS OFFENDERS/TRUANCY

Based on the success of Illinois efforts to dramatically reduce the number of runaway and ungovernable youth referred to courts, the General Assembly adopted legislation requiring schools to refer youth to a network of local, nonprofit service providers (Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services [CCBYS] organizations) for truancy intervention before filing a petition alleging chronic truancy. P.A. 85-234 (2006); 705 ILCS 405/3-33.5.

MODELS FOR CHANGE ILLINOIS PARTNERS/GRANTEES

Chicago Area Project

The Chicago Area Project (CAP) is a nonprofit organization with nearly 70 years of experience in the delivery of juvenile justice prevention programs and services to low income youth, families and communities in Illinois. CAP's mission is to work toward the prevention and eradication of juvenile delinquency through the development and support of affiliated local community self-help efforts where the need is greatest.

Chicago Urban League

The Chicago Urban League works for economic, educational and social progress for African Americans. Strategies include ensuring children are well-educated and advocating for policies and programs that ensure equal participation in the economic and social mainstream.

Children’s Home Association of Illinois

Children’s Home is a Peoria-based social service agency committed to community-based, family-focused programs, including prevention, early intervention, crisis response, foster care, and treatment programming aimed at responding to the needs of youth in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Children’s Home not only provides direct services to young people and families involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems, but also utilizes insights and information gleaned from direct service provision to inform local system improvement efforts as a member of Peoria County’s Juvenile Justice Council.

Community Justice for Youth Institute

The mission of the Community Justice for Youth Institute (CJYI) is to reduce reliance on juvenile court and confinement and to promote the use of appropriate community-based alternatives by working in partnership with community residents, organizations and juvenile justice system leaders. Through these efforts, CJYI has established itself as a critical link between communities most impacted by the juvenile justice system. CJYI advocates for the use of restorative practices as concrete ways for communities to respond to crime and conflict that is responsive to the needs of victims, offenders and the community.

DuPage County

DuPage County is a suburban Illinois county located west of Chicago. It was selected as one of Illinois’ Models for Change demonstration sites in part based on its reputation for its innovative and effective evidence-based responses to youth and families involved in the juvenile justice system. Du Page County’s Models for Change projects are spearheaded by the Probation and Court Services Department and bring together a cross-disciplinary coalition of local stakeholders dedicated to

effective services, supervision and support which protect public safety and produce positive outcomes for young people and families.

Enlace

Enlace is a community-based organization dedicated to fostering a safe and healthy environment for residents of Chicago's Little Village community through a blend of direct service and system improvement advocacy. It sponsors one of Chicago's most comprehensive violence prevention initiatives, providing services ranging from school-based prevention work to advocacy for reform in juvenile justice policy, including effective reentry and expungement policies and programs.

Illinois Association of Juvenile Justice Councils

The mission of the Illinois Association of Juvenile Justice Councils (IAJJC) is to provide a forum and network for local juvenile justice councils to collaborate around the development and strengthening of local juvenile justice systems through a process of continuous assessment, resource development, service and sanction provision and evaluation.

Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Project

The Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice (IBARJ) Project's mission is to provide leadership, education and support to courts, government agencies, organizations, communities and individuals as they strive to promote the values and principles of balanced and restorative justice. IBARJP is a state-wide collaboration of victim and offender advocates, the judiciary, prosecutors and defense attorneys, law enforcement, probation, corrections, schools, and community and faith-based organizations.

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice

The Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is a state-level executive branch agency charged by statute with preserving public safety by reducing recidivism while understanding that youth have different needs than adults. In fulfillment of this mission, DJJ strives to provide individualized services provided by qualified staff to provide youth with skills to become productive law-respecting citizens. The Department is responsible for operating the state's secure youth centers and is currently implementing youth-specific aftercare and reentry services and supervision to improve youth outcomes after leaving state care.

Illinois Juvenile Justice Initiative

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Initiative (JJI) is a non-profit, non-partisan state-wide coalition of organizations, advocacy groups, legal educators, practitioners, community service providers and child advocates whose mission is to achieve systemic reform for youth in the juvenile justice system. JJI's overarching mission is to transform the juvenile justice system in Illinois by reducing reliance on confinement, enhancing fairness for all youth and developing a comprehensive continuum of community-based resources. The JJI state-wide policy approach to systemic reform in juvenile justice links research and analysis, policy development, network and coalition-building, policy education, policy advocacy, and policy evaluation and implementation assistance in an atmosphere of collaboration.

John Howard Association of Illinois

The John Howard Association of Illinois (JHA) works to achieve a fair, human and cost-effective criminal justice system by promoting adult and juvenile prison reform, leading to successful re-integration and enhanced community safety. JHA trains and engages citizen volunteers and specialized staff to regularly visit Illinois' eight youth correction facilities and issues status reports after each visit, using a set of objective observation tools and performance measures. It uses this documentation to create public awareness and to report to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) on progress in fulfilling its statutory mission and in treating troubled children in Illinois consistent with Models for Change principles.

Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center

Loyola's Civitas ChildLaw Center is an academic program committed to training law students, lawyers and child-serving professionals to be effective and ethical advocates for children. It does this through a program of teaching, scholarship and service, providing high quality legal representation to child clients, developing and supporting child-centered policies, advancing the educational and health welfare of children, and promoting children's law as an area of legal specialization. The ChildLaw Center serves as the Lead Entity for the Illinois Models for Change initiative.

Metropolis Strategies

Metropolis Strategies (successor to Chicago Metropolis 2020) is a nonprofit organization committed to tackling economic and social issues facing Chicago and surrounding counties on a regional basis. The group's overarching goals are to raise public awareness about these issues and to bring about concrete changes in public policy using a comprehensive set of strategies, including policy analysis, dissemination of information to key stakeholders, participation in the political process, and engagement of business leaders in finding solutions. Metropolis Strategies professionals serve as members of the Illinois Models for Change Coordinating Council and have been instrumental in the establishment of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council.

Northwestern Children and Family Justice Center

The Children and Family Justice Center ("CFJC"), a part of the Bluhm Legal Clinic at Northwestern University School of Law, provides direct representation to youth in the Illinois juvenile justice system and advocates for child-centered laws and policies that promote positive outcomes for youth and families.

Ogle County Juvenile Justice Council

Ogle County is a small rural county in northwestern Illinois with a strong reputation for juvenile justice leadership. Since 2001, its Juvenile Justice Council has worked to build sustainable strategies for law enforcement agencies, schools, community members and juvenile justice practitioners to work effectively together to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency. Ogle County has developed innovative, evidence-based and restorative responses to youthful offending which deflect families from the justice system when possible and meet the needs of families and communities when young people do enter the justice system.

Second Judicial Circuit

Illinois' Second Judicial Circuit, comprised of twelve rural counties in Southern Illinois, has been a leader in county-level juvenile justice system awareness and improvement efforts. In collaboration with the University of Illinois, the Second Circuit developed JWatch, a comprehensive web-based case management data system available for replication. The Circuit also sponsors an annual Kids, Courts and Schools Conference that brings together hundreds of child-serving practitioners, advocates and organizations to explore policy and program opportunities aimed at improving the lives and opportunities for children, youth and families.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development (CPRD) and the School of Social Work use research, policy analysis and evaluation to help the state and communities better understand juvenile justice issues and develop their capacity for improved data-driven decision-making. In collaboration with the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, CPRD maintains the state's JMIS system, which serves as the state's secure detention data repository.

Youth Outreach Services

Founded in 1959, Youth Outreach Services (YOS) has provided counseling, transitional housing, foster care series, workforce development opportunities and alternatives to detention for over 300,000 young people and families involved in the child welfare, homeless youth, or juvenile justice systems in the Chicago-area. In doing so, YOS has demonstrated the efficacy of community-based services and support and has created a strong foundation from which to advocate for long-term systemic changes which improve opportunities available to young people in successfully transitioning to healthy adulthood.

MODELS FOR CHANGE NATIONAL RESOURCE BANK PARTNERS

Center for Children's Law and Policy

The Center for Children's Law and Policy (CCLP) is a Washington, D.C.-based public interest law and policy organization focused on reform of juvenile justice and other systems that affect troubled and at-risk children, and protection of the rights of children in those systems.

Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators

The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to improve local juvenile correctional services, programs and practices so that youth within the system succeed when they return to the community and to provide national leadership and leadership development to the individuals responsible for the design and management of juvenile correctional systems.

Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform

The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute is designed to support leaders in the juvenile justice and related systems of care by providing a multi-systems perspective and a set of resources in support of the work being done across the country in juvenile justice reform.

Juvenile Law Center

Founded in 1975, the Juvenile Law Center (JLC) is the oldest non-profit public interest law firm for children in the United States. It plays a leadership role nationally and in Pennsylvania in shaping and using the law on behalf of children in the child welfare and justice systems to promote fairness, prevent harm, secure access to appropriate services, and ensure a smooth transition from adolescence to adulthood.

Justice Policy Institute

The Justice Policy Institute (JPI) is a national nonprofit organization with a goal of reducing the use of incarceration and promoting policies that improve individual and community well-being. It conducts research and analyses to identify effective justice-focused programs and policies, disseminates the results to the media, policymakers and advocates, and provides training and technical assistance to support people working for justice reform.

National Academy for State Health Policy

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is an independent, non-partisan academy of state health policymakers dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. It provides a forum for constructive work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health issues, including those affecting justice-involved youth.

National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice

The National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice (NCMHJJ) is a national non-profit organization founded to promote awareness of the mental health needs of youth in contact with the juvenile justice system, and to help the field develop improved policies and practices to respond to these youth based on the best available research and practice.

National Center for Juvenile Justice

The National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) is the research division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The Center's mission is to promote justice for children and families through research and technical assistance.

National Council of LaRaza

Founded in 1968, the National Council of LaRaza (NCLR) is the largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States. It conducts applied research, policy analysis, advocacy, and local capacity-building aimed at providing a Latino perspective on critical issues, including child rights, health and education.

National Juvenile Defender Center

The National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) provides support to public defenders, appointed counsel, law school clinical programs and non-profit law centers to ensure quality legal representation for youth in the juvenile justice system. Supports include training, technical assistance, advocacy, networking, collaboration, capacity building and coordination.

Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps

Since 1969, the Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps has carried on the legacy of Robert F. Kennedy by working to advance his commitment to providing all children, including poor and disadvantaged children, with the opportunity to heal, learn, grow and reach for a healthy, happy future. As part of its work, the Corps partners with national organizations such as Models for Change to advance the organization’s work at a national level.

Technical Assistance Collaborative

The Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) is a national organization committed to high quality, state-of-the-art public sector services and affordable housing. It is made up of multi-disciplinary professionals with extensive public and non-profit sector experience in the fields of health and human services. These professionals use their experience and expertise to assist state and local decision-makers improve their systems of public financing, service delivery and organizational development and management.

Vera Institute of Justice

The Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit center for justice policy and practice. It combines expertise in research, demonstration projects and technical assistance to help leaders in government and civil society improve the systems people rely on for justice and safety.

W. Haywood Burns Institute

Named after civil rights pioneer W. Haywood Burns, the Burns Institute is a San Francisco-based national nonprofit organization that works to address and reduce racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile justice systems.

AFTERWORD

Any effort to catalogue a list of changes in law, policy and practice inevitably means that somewhat arbitrary decisions must be made as to how those efforts should be organized. For example, Illinois' expanded to use of scientifically-validated screening and assessment instruments to identify mental health disorders in youth might logically fit under several headings, including mental health, evidence-based practices, and secure confinement. In this summary, a decision was made to include each change or activity under only one heading.

Readers and users of the document should contact the Models for Change initiative to suggest amendments and/or make corrections or clarifications. Suggestions may be sent to dgeragh@luc.edu.