



2018 KANSAS JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT



Written by the Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee

Table of Contents

Overview	2
Introduction	4
Progress Updates	4
Law Enforcement	5
Intake	5
Immediate Intervention/Diversion	5
Probation	6
Juvenile Correctional Facility	6
Juvenile Arrests	7
Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee	8
Sustainability	8
Training	8
Training protocol	8
Court Services Officer training	9
Community Corrections training	9
Collaboration	9
Data Sharing	10
Risk Tool Fidelity	10
Current Reinvestment	12
Future Reinvestment	13
Summary	14
Committee Membership	15

Overview

In the second year since Kansas passed 2016 Senate Bill 367 tremendous changes have taken place within the juvenile justice system. Consistent with the aims of the 2016 law:

Intensive system responses are more focused on the highest risk youth.

- The number of youth placed in the Juvenile Correction Facility (JCF) continued to drop from 237 in 2015 to 164 in 2018, a 31% reduction.
- The sharpest reduction came from fewer youth with misdemeanors placed in the JCF, dropping from 34 in 2015 to 4 in 2018.

Youth are held accountable through evidence-based interventions.

- Over 80% of youth issued a Notice to Appear (NTA) complied with the directive and completed the Juvenile Intake and Assessment process.
- Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) expanded across the state. Ninety-nine out of 105 counties participated in this diversion option to direct behavior change and address youth needs prior to those youth drawing deeper into the juvenile justice system. 88.6% of youth receiving an IIP successfully completed the diversion process.
- 447 youth in Community Corrections and 330 youth in Court Services earned a total of 7,308 days off their probation terms for complying with conditions of supervision.

Resources were shifted to more effective resources in the community, improving outcomes and keeping families together.

- Since the passage of SB 367, the Department of Corrections deposited approximately \$30 million into the Evidence-Based Programs Fund by closing the Juvenile Correctional Facility in Larned, and by reducing reliance on Youth Residential Centers.
- In the current fiscal year, reinvestment funds went toward treatment and programming, and regional and collaborative grants meant to address the needs of localities across the state.
- Of the first group of youth who completed Functional Family Therapy, one year post-completion, 78% of the youth remain at home with their families, 95% are in school or working, and 80% have no new arrest.

At the same time as these benchmarks were achieved, juvenile arrests in the state continued to decline.

This past year implementation and oversight of the 2016 law continued:

- Law enforcement, school and county officials, courts, and executive agencies conducted practitioner trainings, improved decision-making tools, and carried out cross-agency collaboration to strengthen the juvenile justice system. The Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center educated 164 people on system changes. Judges and attorneys who work with juveniles reported more than 220 hours of continued legal education and credit hours.

- The Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee recommends future reinvestment into system improvement be focused on (1) practices that improve parent engagement within juvenile justice, and (2) technical assistance to the Juvenile Correctional Advisory Boards.

The system improvement to date stems from the tenacity and determination of stakeholders across all three branches of government beginning with the initial workgroup and continuing through the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the many stakeholders involved in the implementation.

Introduction

Kansas undertook comprehensive juvenile justice reform in the summer of 2015. An inter-branch, bipartisan Workgroup consisting of 17 representatives met for months to learn about Kansas' juvenile justice system, best practices in juvenile justice systems and where improvements could be made to better serve youth and communities in Kansas. The process was lengthy, intensive, and thorough. The Workgroup heard from stakeholders across the state, experts from across the country, and reviewed data from all stages of the Kansas juvenile justice system. The recommendations that arose from this process, which ultimately culminated into Senate Bill 367 (passed 2016), were designed to promote public safety and hold juvenile offenders accountable, control taxpayer costs, and improve outcomes for youth, families, and communities in Kansas. It is the role of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee to monitor the process and effects of the reform, hold agencies and stakeholders accountable for implementing the legislation as intended, and make recommendations for changes if appropriate.

The improvements brought about through SB 367 aim to keep children in their homes and in their own communities while holding them accountable for their delinquent acts. Research consistently demonstrates that when youth are able to remain in the community, both the youth and the community have better outcomes.

SB 367 also aimed to provide services to youth that matched their needs. This requires knowledge first of what youth need and then the ability of all regions of the state to provide the appropriate services. The Principles of Effective Intervention for juvenile justice have long-established that both the risk level and criminogenic needs – the elements that indicate a youth's likelihood to continue engaging in delinquent behavior – must be properly addressed in order to improve outcomes for youth and ultimately the community.

Finally, SB 367 was designed to be a long-lasting improvement. Systemic change takes time and large-scale reforms do not occur quickly. The reform is only two years old; in implementation science terms, the reform work is still in its infancy. The Workgroup specifically included language within the reform to sustain the work being done and increase the likelihood of long-lasting, meaningful change.

In this second year of implementation, the state has focused on three main areas across the state: continuing collaboration across agencies and stakeholders; increasing the number and availability of programs and policies assisting youth; and ensuring all of the changes are sustained for years to come. This report will examine each of these focus areas critically, discussing how each has been undertaken, what progress has been made, and what additional improvements are needed to continue strengthening the Kansas juvenile justice system.

Progress Updates

The following updates are based on information provided to the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee from law enforcement, the Office of Judicial Administration, and the Department of Corrections. These updates demonstrate how the policies in SB 367 have come to life in Kansas and transformed the way juvenile justice works to improve outcomes for system-involved youth and the communities in which they live. The updates will generally begin from the youth's first contact with the juvenile justice system and continue to the deep end of the system.

Law Enforcement

The Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) continues to offer the “Mitigating Juvenile Exposure to the Criminal Justice System: Training for SB 367” course as required by SB 367. This course is designed for school superintendents or their designees as well as law enforcement officials, who have primary job responsibilities in school-based policing.

In 2018, KLETC offered this course five times statewide and trained 164 people, including school staff and law enforcement officials.

KLETC reports they are working on putting the course into an online format that will meet the requirements for the training, while being a more convenient format to access for new incoming school superintendents and law enforcement officers. It is projected this course will become available online in the spring of 2019.

Intake

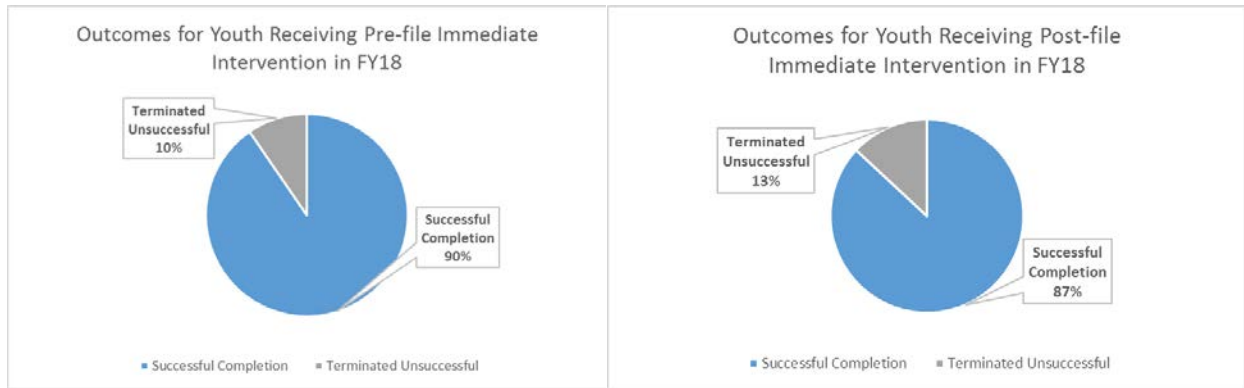
Law Enforcement across the state have continued to utilize the Notice to Appear (NTA) option to reduce immediate arrest and intake in order to reduce the burden placed on both law enforcement officers and Juvenile Intake and Assessment workers. This process allows officers to issue an NTA to youth requiring the youth to schedule an intake appointment and go through the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Services (JIAS) at a later date. This allows JIAS workers to avoid being summoned to their offices during otherwise closed hours. Youth issued NTAs, overwhelmingly, are appearing at their intake appointments. Specifically, over 80% of youth issued an NTA complied with the directive and completed the Juvenile Intake and Assessment process. This figure demonstrates the effectiveness of avoiding arrest while still ensuring youth are being held accountable and participating in the necessary intake process.

Immediate Intervention/Diversion

Research consistently demonstrates that diverting youth to evidence-based services in the community and releasing low-level youth with a warning, with few or no formal conditions, improves public safety and reduces costs. While youth who commit offenses need to be held accountable, it is the responsibility of the system to respond in the least restrictive, and most effective, way possible.

In order to adhere to these best practices, Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) have expanded across the state. Currently, 99 out of 105 counties are operating either a pre-file or post-file IIP, or both. Both pre- and post-file diversion have had positive results in fiscal year 2018, with 90% and 87% success rates, respectively. In total, 88.6% of youth successfully completed diversion. Figure 1 shows these results.

Figure 1. Outcomes for Youth Receiving Pre- and Post-File Immediate Intervention in Fiscal Year 2018



Probation

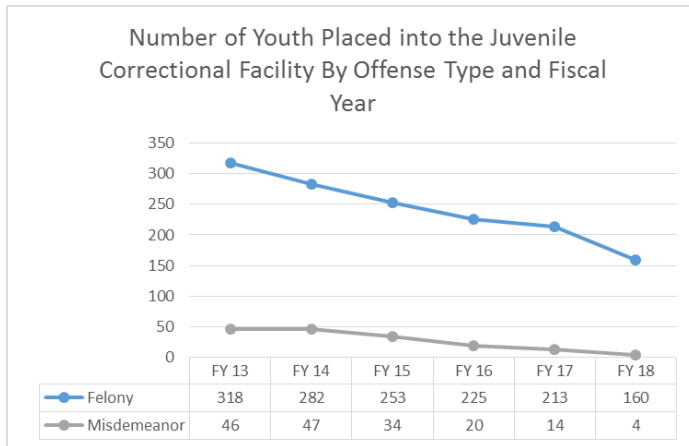
Over the past year, earned discharge credits have been an important and impactful change for youth on probation, both within Court Services and Community Corrections. SB 367 required the state to establish rules for a system of earned discharge for juvenile probationers – earned discharge allows youth on probation who have substantially complied with the conditions of their probation without any violations filed with the court to earn seven days credit for each full month of compliance. Kansas Supreme Court Rule 1801 was adopted to establish the process for earning credits and also allows the judicial administrator to adopt procedures and forms related to the calculation of earned discharge credit. Those procedures and forms were adopted by the judicial administrator for use by court services officers in March 2018. To enhance collaboration and encourage consistency, the Office of Judicial Administration shared its procedure and forms with the Department of Corrections. Beginning in July, all Court Services and Community Corrections began reporting the number of Earned Discharge Credit days awarded. From July 1, 2018, through September 30, 2018, 7,308 days of earned discharge credit have been awarded to juvenile probationers supervised by community supervision officers. Youth on probation in Kansas earned approximately 243 months off their probation periods due to compliance and no violations filed.

Juvenile Correctional Facility

Even before SB 367 the number of youth entering the Juvenile Correctional Facility (JCF) was decreasing. As research consistently demonstrates, the more youth are kept out of the deep end of the system, the better their outcomes. Within the juvenile justice system in Kansas, the JCF is, and should be, reserved for only the most serious offenses.

Since the passage of SB 367, the number of youth placed in the JCF has dropped from 237 in fiscal year 2015 to 164 in fiscal year 2018 – a 31% reduction. As Figure 2 shows, there has been a sharp reduction in the number of youth entering the JCF, with the sharpest reduction occurring in the number of youth with misdemeanor offenses. This demonstrates that youth with minor offenses are being kept within their community more often, aligning with research that shows that keeping youth out of out-of-home placement decreases their likelihood of recidivism. The number of misdemeanants placed in the JCF has dropped from 34 in FY15 to 4 in FY18 – a reduction of almost 90%. This reduction indicates closer adherence to best practices that say youth with low-level charges should be kept out of the deepest end of the system as much as possible. The drastic reduction in misdemeanants entering the JCF demonstrates that Kansas is taking action to meet that goal.

Figure 2. Number of Youth Placed Into the Juvenile Correctional Facility by Offense Type and Fiscal Year.

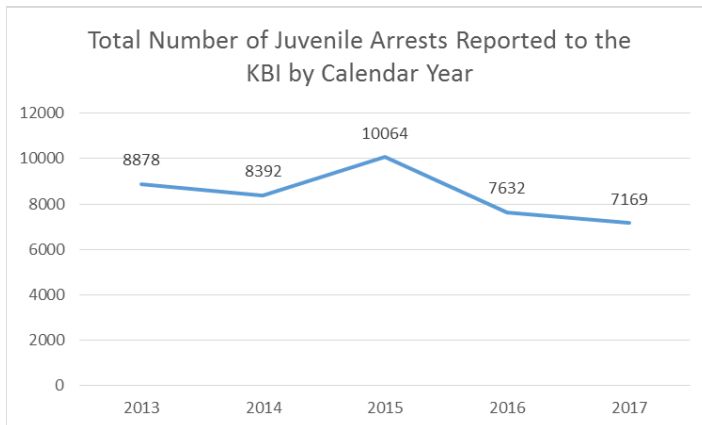


Juvenile Arrests

With the many changes that have occurred within the juvenile justice system, it is important to examine the impact on arrest rates. While arrest rates are not a perfect measure of the impact of changes, they can be a useful indicator. If arrest rates fluctuate or change dramatically after a change in the juvenile justice system, this can indicate a need for a closer examination of the changes.

In Kansas, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) collects arrest records from local, county, and state law enforcement annually. Figure 3, below, shows the trend of juvenile arrests and the number of arrests across calendar years beginning before SB 367 went into effect. The total number of juvenile arrests has decreased overall since 2013. Arrest data is one indicator of public safety in Kansas, and the data in Figure 3 suggests public safety has not been significantly challenged by the changes made with the implementation of SB 367.

Figure 3. Total Number of Juvenile Arrests Reported to the KBI by Calendar Year.



Throughout the process of system transformation brought on by SB 367, youth, and the state as a whole, have benefited. Youth are receiving more assistance, being held accountable, and as the system works towards increasing data collection and reporting, even more impacts of these changes will be understood. The state is accomplishing this while saving money and resources, but more importantly, communities will be safer both immediately and in the long-term due to the systemic changes.

Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee

The Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) has continued to meet its statutory requirements. The Committee met regularly to review implementation progress of SB 367 including hearing reports from numerous stakeholders about what is working well, what aspects of reform need review or improvement, and what should be the focus of future work. Much of the work of the Committee during 2018 has been preparing to shift from immediate implementation work to a long-term process to sustain the changes and progress made so far.

During 2018, the Committee had three major objectives. First, the JJOC focused on continued oversight on a more frequent basis than required by statute with strong engagement by members of the Committee. This has allowed the body to learn in-depth, in real-time how system transformation is proceeding across the state and to quickly develop solutions and problem-strategies when issues arise.

The second focus was the passage of bylaws that will ensure a productive, well-functioning Committee for years to come, even when membership changes may occur. All members are aware that their tenure on the Committee will end eventually, so the bylaws ensure work that has already been completed will be institutionalized and new members will have the guidance they need to seamlessly integrate into the committee's work.

The third, which is described in more detail in the last section of this report, has been to make recommendations regarding the use of reinvestment funds. The Committee has been kept well apprised of the balance of the reinvestment fund and has taken the time to meaningfully build consensus regarding recommendations on the use of funds that will be right for the entire state of Kansas.

Sustainability

Members of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee have learned a great deal about how to successfully implement lasting reforms. One of the overarching focus areas of the Committee has been about ensuring the sustainability of changes to the Kansas juvenile justice system. Implementation Science explains that successful implementation happens over many years and that one of the keys to long-term success is creating sustainability. In this second full year of implementation, sustainability has been at the forefront of stakeholders' minds and actions. Specifically, there has been an intense focus on training, and collaboration in many forms, including data sharing, interrater reliability, and a purposeful, conscientious reinvestment strategy.

Training

Training protocol

K.S.A. 20-318a requires that the Office of Judicial Administration develop or designate a training protocol for judges, county and district attorneys, and defense attorneys who work in juvenile court. The training protocol was released July 12, 2017. It recommends judges, county and district attorneys, and defense attorneys who work in juvenile court obtain continuing education in at least one of the following areas:

- adolescent mental health issues;
- adolescent brain development;
- evidence-based sentencing;

- principles of effective intervention;
- cognitive behavioral intervention;
- trauma-informed care of adolescents;
- juvenile justice legislative updates; and
- other topics related to juvenile justice.

The protocol, the reporting tool used to comply with the data requirements of the statute, and the news release are on the judicial branch website. As of October 1, 2018, 35 individuals reported participating in 222 hours of continuing legal education or continuing judicial education training as outlined in the protocol. As of October 4, 2018, there were 11,065 attorneys registered as actively engaged in the practice of law in Kansas. At this time there is no accurate way to determine the number of attorneys or judges working in juvenile court.

Select Trainings Received by Staff Supervising Youth

- Principles of Effective Intervention
- Graduated Responses
- Core Correctional Practices
- Risk Tool Use
- Evidence-Based Practices

Court Services Officer training

K.S.A. 38-2394 requires that court services officers who work with juveniles receive training in evidence-based programs and practices. The judicial branch currently contracts with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute to train court services officers. The institute is a national leader in evidence-based practices training. Court services officers receive training in the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS-CMI) risk and needs assessment, case planning, and evidence-based practices, including Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS).

Community Corrections training

Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) staff completed a train-the-trainer process on Effective Case Management in early 2018 delivered by the Crime and Justice Institute, a nationally recognized institution on best-practices in juvenile justice. The train-the-trainer process allows KDOC staff to build its own capacity to continue providing case management skills to

existing and new staff working with youth in Kansas. Community Corrections staff across the state will be attending Effective Case Management training early 2019 in addition to continuing training on the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) risk tool, Graduated Responses, and the use of Effective Practices in Correctional Settings-II (EPICS-II). All training is conducted by KDOC staff who have been thoroughly trained and coached by the Crime and Justice Institute.

Collaboration

Several sections of the revised juvenile justice code require collaboration between the judicial branch and the Kansas Department of Corrections. Since May 2016, both the Office of Judicial Administration and the Department of Corrections have met regularly to discuss implementation progress to aid this collaboration. Discussion topics include:

- graduated responses to technical violations of probation;
- earned discharge for juvenile probationers;
- immediate intervention processes;
- cutoff scores for risk levels of juveniles;

- data collection;
- a risk-needs assessment for juveniles; and
- a detention risk assessment tool for juveniles during the intake process.

This continued collaboration not only assists with implementation efforts, but also helps with consistency in supervision and interventions provided to youth across the state. Because decision-makers in the judicial branch and the Department of Corrections meet regularly to discuss key components of reform, implementation can be smoother and challenges can be overcome in more fluid ways.

Data Sharing

In order to continue building collaboration, key stakeholders within the Department for Children and Families, the Office of Judicial Administration, and the Department of Corrections have begun the process of creating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to be able to share key data in safe, confidential ways. Having the ability to share data will expand the quality and quantity of analysis and evaluation that can be done, which will lead to more sophisticated knowledge of how youth progress through the juvenile justice system, and how outcomes for youth and communities are being impacted. Currently, two thirds of the stakeholders involved have approved the MOU. The stakeholders will be able to proceed with this all-important data sharing and analysis component as IT systems are upgraded.

Risk Tool Fidelity

K.S.A. 75-7023 requires the Secretary of Corrections, in conjunction with the Office of Judicial Administration, to develop, implement and validate a statewide detention risk assessment tool. The Kansas Department of Corrections has been working on and piloting a detention risk assessment tool for several years. The tool is known as the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument or the KDAI. The purpose of the KDAI is to assist Juvenile Intake and Assessment Services to determine whether a youth should be detained pre-adjudication or allowed to remain in their community.

In March 2017, the Office of Judicial Administration, Kansas Department of Corrections, and the Crime and Justice Institute formed a steering committee to discuss and collaborate on the effective implementation of the tool. The steering committee reached consensus on some needed revisions on the tool and the revised tool was released July 1, 2017, for use by juvenile intake and assessment workers who completed training. The steering committee continues to meet quarterly to review data and discuss any further revisions to the detention risk assessment tool or implementation of the tool. One area of focus of the committee is ensuring that the KDAI is being scored consistently and accurately by staff responsible for using the tool. In order to ensure accurate scoring, agencies adopted an interrater reliability process – a process to assess and improve scoring accuracy – in June 2018, and has continued through the end of this year (for more details, see interrater reliability description on page 11). Participants have shown improvement and are moving towards reaching a high level of interrater reliability. KDOC staff continue to provide coaching and support to help KDAI users improve their skills and use of the tool.

Post-adjudication, both Court Services and Community Corrections utilize the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI), used to determine a youth's risk to commit further delinquent acts as well as to determine what staff should be addressing to reduce that risk. Each agency trains and certifies its staff separately; it is important, though, to ensure that all staff across both agencies are using the tool in the same way. One of the key methods of achieving and maintaining a high level of consistency and fidelity is interrater reliability.

The YLS/CMI interrater reliability process began in 2017 and continued through 2018. This process, along with the coaching and guidance that accompanies them, will continue regularly while Community

Corrections and Court Services staff work to achieve a high level of reliability. K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 38-2360(b) requires that a validation study of the YLS/CMI be conducted using data from completed assessments of youth in the Kansas juvenile justice. The validation study must be completed by June 30, 2020. Before a validation study can be completed, interrater reliability must reach high levels within the judicial branch and the Kansas Department of Corrections. The YLS/CMI interrater reliability process involves monthly scoring activities by court services officers and community corrections officers. The Crime and Justice Institute collects the data and analyzes whether the YLS/CMI is being scored in a similar manner by all staff using the tool. Once an 80% reliability rate is reached (i.e., 80% of all supervision officers are scoring the YLS/CMI in the same manner), the validation study will commence.

Achieving and maintaining interrater reliability is an important part of the fidelity and sustainability process for using risk tools. By placing an emphasis on this process, both the judicial branch and the Department of Corrections are demonstrating their commitment to sustainability.

Interrater Reliability

Ensuring a high rate of accuracy and consistency in risk assessment scoring strengthens supervision of youth. This practice is supported by a strong body of research demonstrating the importance of using the results of a validated risk assessment to inform supervision and treatment decisions. Accurate and consistent scoring allows agencies to do the following:

- **Match Risk Level to Supervision:** A youth's risk level should be used to inform the intensity of supervision each client receives, with the highest levels of supervision reserved for the highest risk youth.
- **Focus on Criminogenic Needs:** Risk assessment information about a youth's criminogenic needs, the factors research has found lead to increased delinquency, focused case plans and treatment options on each youth's highest need areas.
- **Improve Resource Allocation:** Understanding the overall risk levels and criminogenic needs of youth helps an agency better allocate resources to target those needs.
- **Validate on Agency Population:** An agency should validate a risk assessment on its population to ensure that it is accurately predicting recidivism for its population; accurate risk assessment results are needed to complete a comprehensive validation study.

Current Reinvestment

The final piece of sustainability is being able to finance the long-term processes that go along with reform. Over the past two years, the changes brought about by SB 367 have created savings from keeping youth in their communities rather than being put in out-of-home placements.

Keeping Youth in the Community Works!

Before SB367 was passed, youth were placed in Youth Residential Centers (YRC-IIs). Youth placed in these facilities were **unsuccessfully discharged 54% of the time**.

With the implementation of the reforms, youth who would have been placed in YRC-IIs are now **kept at home and enrolled in Community-Based Programs**. **These youth have been successfully discharged from the programs 63% to 88% of the time** (depending on the program).

By closing the Juvenile Correctional Facility in Larned, KS, and by ending the reliance on Youth Residential Centers, the Department of Corrections has been able to deposit approximately \$30 million into the Evidence-Based Programs Fund since the passage of SB 367. These funds are to be reinvested into the juvenile justice system to assist with successful implementation and improve outcomes for youth across Kansas. This is a significant amount of reinvestment money, and the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, the body responsible for making recommendations regarding how it is used, has taken its role very seriously. Frequent, thoughtful discussion has occurred over the past two years regarding the best places, methods, and times to spend these funds.

In fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) reinvestment funds are being used to fund sex offender assessment and therapy, the Youth Advocate Program (YAP), Functional Family Therapy (FFT), and regional and collaborative grants meant to address the needs of localities across the state. These evidence-based programs have each been chosen to match current needs of the state.

FFT is an evidence-based program designed to assist both the youth and family to overcome antisocial behaviors and difficult relationships within the family unit. FFT is a statewide contract in which FFT counselors travel to meet with the youth and their family regardless of the location within the state. By utilizing a statewide contract, youth can be assured that a FFT counselor will be available in every county across Kansas. Following the first youth who completed Functional Family Therapy, one year post-completion, 78% of the youth remain at home with their families, 95% are in school or working, and 80% have no new arrest.

YAP provides youth and their families wraparound services including support in the home, school, and community. YAP has been used in several districts across the state for many years and the reinvestment funds have expanded the reach of the programs.

Counties have been able to access funds for programs and practices that meet their local needs. The Department of Corrections, who administers the reinvestment funds, offers two streams of grants for local jurisdictions. The first is a non-competitive grant in which each county may request reinvestment dollars to fund particular evidence-based programs or practices. The amount of these funds depends on the size and population of the county. \$3.2 million was awarded in fiscal year 2018 for this grant. The

second funding stream is competitive regional collaboration grants. These grants require at least two counties to work together to determine a program that would suit their area. These grants are ideal for counties with smaller populations that would not be able to support a program on their own. In fiscal year 2018 there was \$354,500 awarded for these grants. Due to the geographic and demographic differences that exist across Kansas, these grants will continue to be an integral part of meeting the needs of youth in the juvenile justice system. It is expected that these grants will continue in their current capacity for years to come.

Future Reinvestment

Recently, a subcommittee dedicated to examining the best investment for these funds made two recommendations: fund programs and practices that will lead to systemic change regarding parent involvement in the juvenile justice system, and provide technical support to the Juvenile Correctional Advisory Boards (JCABs).

The first recommendation, to fund programs and practices that encourage systemic change to improve parent engagement within juvenile justice, comes from requests from localities and districts across the state as well as research that demonstrates that when parents are involved in their children's supervision, outcomes are better for the youth and for the state. Understanding that one program may not be ideal for each of our 105 counties, the first part of this recommendation is that a system, position, or entity be created to examine current practices in each district, assist with creating, adapting, or replacing policies to adhere to best practices for parent engagement and assist the districts with making changes as appropriate. This will not be an overnight solution, but with proper time and assistance, getting parents involved in their children's cases will have positive impacts on the system. The reinvestment subcommittee will continue to investigate the best manner to implement these changes.

The second recommendation, to provide technical assistance to the JCABs, aims to reenergize these bodies. The JCABs were designed to be local bodies of inter-branch stakeholders involved in the juvenile justice system. These groups meet regularly to discuss issues regarding juvenile justice as well as to make recommendations to the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee regarding what is needed in their area. However, over time, membership has changed and, currently, many JCAB members do not have a firm grounding in juvenile justice issues. The aim of this recommendation is to provide support to these JCABs to assist members to learn more about the juvenile justice system and to instill increased energy into the group. The reinvestment subcommittee is currently researching the appropriate entity to provide this technical assistance.

Both of these recommendations make it clear that long-term support and funding is necessary for continued system improvement and better outcomes for youth. The tremendous amount of work and dedication by agencies and individuals across the state to improve the Kansas juvenile justice is showing several early successes. Other measures, such as changes in recidivism, will require more time to evaluate. The charge of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee is to monitor implementation of system changes and the outcomes of those changes. That includes celebrating successes, addressing concerns, and safeguarding the work that has been done. All success is dependent on having the support of leaders and collaboration across all branches of government. The work of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee has been critical for the system improvements that have occurred in the past two

and half years; certainly these changes will not go unnoticed and this warrants continued support through the coming years.

Summary

During 2018, youth in juvenile justice in Kansas have benefited from the changes brought about by SB 367. More youth have remained in their community and received the programs they need to help them be successful. Notices to Appear and Immediate Intervention Programs have been successful in holding youth accountable while reducing any negative impact from becoming system-involved. Fewer youth with low-level offenses have been placed in the Juvenile Correctional Facility. Many different staff members in many different agencies have undertaken processes to ensure they are giving the highest quality services to youth. Savings will be used for evidence-based programs and practices to help youth in the juvenile justice system make prosocial changes and not recidivate. In fiscal year 2018, \$3.5 million was awarded to local jurisdictions to help counties and judicial districts implement programs specifically chosen for their local needs.

Over the past two years, significant and positive changes have occurred across the juvenile justice system in Kansas. At the end of the second year of implementation of SB 367, most of the changes have taken place. At this point, the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, and the stakeholders involved with implementation, are setting their sights on sustaining and furthering the changes that have occurred. Implementation is a marathon, not a sprint. The key to success is ensuring that progress continues for years to come. The stakeholders involved with SB 367 have made concerted efforts to safeguard the great strides that have taken place already. Now, at the end of the second year of reform, all three branches of government must continue the implementation process to guarantee continued success.

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