Indiana’s Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)
Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)
JDAI: A Public Safety Initiative

PURPOSE:

To demonstrate that jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient systems to accomplish the purpose of juvenile detention without compromising public safety.
JDAI: A Way of Doing Business

- Model for process of continuous juvenile justice system improvement
- Requires self-evaluation of system – policies, practices, procedures along all decision points
- Regular review of data to monitor changes/outcomes
- Transparency with system and non-system stakeholders
JDAI: The Eight Core Strategies

GOALS:

- Eliminate inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention
- Reduce failures to appear and re-offense pending disposition
- Redirect public funds to effective juvenile justice and public safety strategies
- Improve conditions in secure detention facilities
- Reduce racial, ethnic and gender disparities

Collaboration
Data Driven Decisions
Objective Admissions
Alternatives to detention
Case Processing Improvements
“Special” Detention Cases
Reducing Racial, Ethnic and Gender Disparities
Conditions of Confinement
By the end of 2015 JDAI is in 39 states plus the District of Columbia and Mexico City.
JDAI in Indiana:
A State Scale Initiative
Indiana JDAI Governance Structure

JDAI State Executive Committee

JDAI State Steering Committee (90/Meeting)

Work Groups:
- Legislative Education
- Data/Detention Utilization
  - Data Standards
  - JDAI Quest Best Practice Group
  - JDAI Odyssey Best Practice Group
  - JDAI CSI Best Practice Group
  - JDAI PBS Best Practice Group
- Access to MH/SA Treatment
- Admissions/Screening
- Conditions of Confinement
- RED/DMC

IN Statewide Director of JDAI (IN Judicial Center)

Staff
- Associate (x1) (IN Judicial Center)

Dir. of Alternative Programs (x1)
Sup. of Reintegration Specialists (x1)
Reintegration Specialists (x6)
Juvenile Detention Center Auditor (x1) (IN Dept. of Correction)

Coordinator Consultant (x1) (IN Judicial Center)

Data Consultant (x1) (IN Dept. of Child Services)

Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana (AECF Grantee for JDAI)

State Strategist Supervisor (x1) (IN Judicial Center)

State Strategist (x6) (IN Judicial Center)

Local JDAI Sites (x32) (IN Dept. of Correction)
- JDAI is being implemented in 32 counties
- 69% of Indiana youth ages 10 – 17 live in a JDAI Community
Indiana JDAI: Producing Results in our First 19 JDAI Counties

End of 2014

- Admissions to Secure Detention* 44%
- Average Daily Population in Secure Detention* 34%
- Juvenile Felony Petitions Filed** 35%
- Commitments to IN Department of Correction* 34%

The dual goals of enhancing public safety and improving the outcomes for youth are often not at odds

Note: Data is reported from each jurisdiction’s baseline year compared to 2014 from their Annual Results Report.
  *These data points do not include percent change from Bartholomew, Henry and Monroe Counties.
  **This crime indicator does not include data from Bartholomew, Clark, Delaware, Henry, Monroe and Wayne Counties.
Collaboration

- Steering Committees and Workgroups
- Systems of Care and JDAI
- CIT-Y and JDAI
- Policy Academy
- Sub-Committee of JDAI State Steering Committee
Survey Results

1. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Services are available, but not necessarily accessible.
2. Acute/Immediate Mental Health Treatment Services and Immediate/Detox Services are being primarily provided in Emergency Room settings.
3. The Juvenile Justice System is seen as the fastest and easiest way to access Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment for youth.
4. Approximately 30% of respondents reported less than two weeks to get appointment for ongoing Mental Health or Substance Abuse Treatment.
5. The services currently offered are often not appropriate, high quality, or provided in a way that promotes positive outcomes.
6. Top three barriers: Transportation, Inability to Pay, Not Enough Providers/Staff.
7. Many community supports identified.
Data Driven Decisions

- Detention Utilization Study
  - Diagnostic Tool
    - To understand use of secure detention and Alternatives to Detention
    - To tell the story through data rather than anecdote
    - To inform the workplan
  - Data Collected
  - Mental Health Indicators for youth in secure detention
    - Average percentage of “Yes” = 39%
    - Average percentage of “Unknown” = 32%
“JDAI assists with placing the right kids, in the right place, for the right reason, for the right amount of time.”

- Justice Steven David
Final Thoughts.....

JDAI is not a program, it is a process which allows communities to implement the eight core strategies in ways that align community resources, both financial and human, with community values.
Contact Information

Nancy Wever
Juvenile Justice Strategist Team Leader
Indiana Judicial Center
nancy.wever@courts.in.gov