Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)

ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION
Today we will provide an overview of JDAI, clarify why reform is important, and what is involved

**JDAI Overview**

- Why detention reform?
- Core JDAI strategies
- JDAI Results
- The benefits and responsibilities of participation
JDAI is driven by a vision that seeks to change the odds for court-involved youth

OUR VISION:

Youth involved in the juvenile justice system will have opportunities to develop into healthy, productive adults . . .
• JDAI Overview

• Why detention reform?

• Core JDAI strategies

• JDAI Results

• The benefits and responsibilities of participation
When we began looking for a way to help juvenile justice systems accomplish this vision, we decided to focus on detention

**WHY DETENTION REFORM?**

- ✓ “Hidden Closet of System”
- ✓ Crowding Crisis/Poor Conditions
- ✓ Entry Point for System Reform
Research shows that most juveniles engage in criminal behavior, but don’t continue into adulthood

- Longitudinal studies begun in the 1950s show most juvenile offenders age out of criminal behavior.
- Researchers believe this is because the transition to young adulthood ‘cements’ bonds to society and deters most from continued criminality.

### YOUTH SELF REPORTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

- Total = 86%
  - 34% Arrested during adolescence
  - 52% Self-reported criminal activity, but not arrested

Detention leads to worse outcomes. After release, detained youth are far more likely to drop out of school and use drugs and alcohol.

**Likelihood of Behavior: Incarcerated vs. Non-Incarcerated Youth**

- Using alcohol: 49% vs. 34%
- Using any illicit drug: 42% vs. 21%
- Dropping out: 59% vs. 30%

Youth who are detained are more than three times as likely to be found guilty and incarcerated than similarly situated peers.

Detention populations doubled between 1985 and 1999 and have remained essentially the same since then.

**AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION OF JUVENILES IN DETENTION CENTERS, 1985-1999**

Additionally, youth of color are being detained at increasingly disproportionate rates.

**YOUTH OF COLOR AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL U.S. DETENTION POPULATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>56.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>62.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>65.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>69.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nationally, less than one quarter of detained youth are charged with violent crimes.

OFFENSE PROFILES:
Detained Youth in the United States, 2006

- Violent Index Crimes: 21%
- Status Offenses and Technical Violations: 28%
- Simple Assaults and Misdemeanor Person Offenses: 10%
- Property, Drugs, Public Order, and Other: 41%
Furthermore, arrests for serious crimes do not explain detention use: local policies and practices are key.

**Index arrests have declined by 43%...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Index Arrests Per 100K Youth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>2,673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>2,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1,526</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**...but detention has only declined by 12%**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Detentions Per 100K Youth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Index arrests are classified as more serious crimes including murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson; skip in 2005 for detention data is due to “unforeseen delay in mail-out” for Census of Juveniles in Residential Facilities for detained population.

Source: OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book: Juvenile Offenders and Victims 2006; Easy Access to FBI Statistics database 2007
JDAI Overview
Why detention reform?

Core JDAI strategies

JDAI Results
The benefits and responsibilities of participation
Based on what we have just described, JDAI was developed to enable jurisdictions to safely reduce reliance on secure detention.

**JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE**

**Purpose:**
To demonstrate that jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient systems to accomplish the purposes of juvenile detention.

**Objectives:**
1) Eliminate inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention
2) Minimize failures to appear and incidence of delinquent behavior
3) Redirect public finances to successful reform strategies
4) Improve conditions in secure detention facilities
5) Reduce racial and ethnic disparities
JDAI uses eight interconnected strategies to promote more effective juvenile justice systems:

- Collaboration
- Use of accurate data
- Objective admissions criteria and instruments
- Alternative to detention
- Case processing reforms
- Reducing the use of secure confinement for ‘special’ cases
- Deliberate commitment to reducing racial disparities
- Improving conditions of confinement
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**JDAI Results**
The benefits and responsibilities of participation
Using JDAI’s eight core strategies, JDAI model sites significantly reduced average daily populations in their detention centers.
The average daily population in JDAI Sites has decreased, on average, by 41%.
Ramsey County, MN
JDC Admissions 2005-2010

Under 1000 admissions in the JDC for 2010!

KEY
• JDC = Juvenile Detention Center
• YOC = Youth of color
• RAI = Risk Assessment Instrument
• GRID = Probation Graduated Responses
• CB-ATD = Evening Learning Centers & Community Coaches

JDAI Effect

JDAI Tools implemented
RAI, GRID, CB-ATD’s
Local sites implementing JDAI strategies also report reductions in juvenile crime by 24% or greater. Two-thirds of all local JDAI sites reporting in 2010 (72 of 109) have reduced juvenile crime.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Juvenile Crime Indicator</th>
<th># of Local Sites Reporting</th>
<th>Aggregate Baseline</th>
<th>Aggregate Recent</th>
<th>Change (#)</th>
<th>Change (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Felony Petitions Filed</td>
<td>36 sites (33%)</td>
<td>45278</td>
<td>34553</td>
<td>-10725</td>
<td>-24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Arrests</td>
<td>12 sites (11%)</td>
<td>38774</td>
<td>28761</td>
<td>-10013</td>
<td>-26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delinquent Petitions</td>
<td>9 sites (8%)</td>
<td>28504</td>
<td>17122</td>
<td>-11382</td>
<td>-40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Intake Cases</td>
<td>15 sites (14%)</td>
<td>34120</td>
<td>19525</td>
<td>-14595</td>
<td>-43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reductions in Disproportionate Minority Confinement

YOUTH OF COLOR IN DETENTION: U.S. vs. JDAI Trends

- National Trends: 17,783 in 2001, 18,850 in 2006 (+6%)
- JDAI Trends: 3,958 in 2001, 3,095 in 2006 (-22%)

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RESULTS (pre-JDAI vs. 2010)
Male = 70% down
Female = 81% down
Warrants = 58% down
PV’s = 86% down
Waivers = 100% down
Felony = 63% down
Misdemeanors = 67% down
Ramsey County JDAI Impact

Latino Youth

RESULTS (pre-JDAI vs. 2010)
Male = 81% down
Female = 50% down
Warrants = 33% down
PV’s = 100% down
Waivers = 100% down
Felony = 67% down
Misdemeanors = 75% down
Ramsey County JDAI Impact

Native American Youth

RESULTS (pre-JDAI vs. 2010)

- Male = 68% down
- Female = 73% down
- Warrants = 44% down
- PV’s = 100% down
- Waivers = 100% down
- Felony = 89% down
- Misdemeanors = 100% down
Fiscal Savings from Bed Reductions

27 sites
978 fewer beds
$50,000/bed/year

$48,900,000 in savings
2012 JDAI Sites

Model site  County site  State sites  4 Pending sites
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JDAI Results

The benefits and responsibilities of participation
JDAI provides sites with a variety of resources to support detention reform

**WHAT JDAI PARTICIPATION PROVIDES**

- Small cash grant (for travel & coordination)
- Technical Assistance
- JDAI Tools, Guides & Publications
- JDAI Model Sites
- JDAI Training Seminars
- JDAI National Conferences
- JDAI Network & Peers
However, there are specific expectations for all JDAI sites

WHAT JDAI PARTICIPATION REQUIRES

- Implementation of JDAI core strategies
- Fidelity to the model
- Determined leadership
- Data reporting
- Communication and Transparency with Foundation
www.jdaihelpdesk.org

OR

www.aecf.org/MajorInitiatives/JuvenileDetentionAlternativesInitiative.aspx
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