



# **The New Jersey 2009-2011 Comprehensive Three-Year Plan**

**Submitted to:  
The U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

**On behalf of:  
The New Jersey Governor's  
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee  
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## **Attachment 1: Program Narrative**

### **COMPREHENSIVE THREE-YEAR PLAN COMPONENTS**

#### **1. DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM IN NEW JERSEY**

##### **A. Structure and Function of the Juvenile Justice System**

This section presents New Jersey's juvenile justice system. The system includes various sub-systems that serve youth who come into contact with law enforcement agencies. The description draws upon common practices authorized by court rule and New Jersey statutory law. A flow chart of New Jersey's juvenile justice system is depicted in Table 1.<sup>1</sup>

##### **Complaint**

A juvenile enters the juvenile justice system when a complaint is signed charging the juvenile with the commission of a delinquent act. A police officer, probation officer, or private citizen can file a complaint. Complaints are prepared on a standardized complaint form at the local police department. Policies governing the arrest of juveniles and the complaint process are established by the Attorney General.

##### **Stationhouse Adjustment**

Police officers have discretion whether or not to sign a formal complaint when they encounter minor delinquent activity. The officer may issue a curbside warning or take the juvenile into custody and return to the stationhouse. The intent of the stationhouse adjustment is to provide for immediate consequences such as community service or restitution and a prompt and convenient resolution of the matter without the signing of a formal delinquency complaint. In doing so, a juvenile involved in minor delinquent activity is diverted from formal court proceedings.

In December 2005, an Attorney General's Directive was issued that mandated the use of stationhouse adjustments in all municipal police departments in New Jersey.

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<sup>1</sup> Not all counties provide as comprehensive a system as is described in this discussion or included in Table 1.

The Directive attempts to standardize, improve and equalize its utilization. In an effort to support the diversion of youth – especially minority youth – from the system, the NJ State Advisory Group (SAG) has chosen to fund programs in police departments to support and promote the use of stationhouse adjustments.

### **Prosecutorial Screening**

County prosecutors provide guidance to law enforcement officers on juvenile arrests and complaints. In some counties, all juvenile complaints are processed by the prosecutor's office and then forwarded to the court. In other counties, police consult with the prosecutor regarding specific juvenile cases and the use of stationhouse adjustments as needed.

### **Court Screening**

After the law enforcement officer or prosecutor completes a juvenile delinquency complaint, it is forwarded to the Family Division of the Superior Court. Court staff then decides how the case will be handled, as indicated below. A Family Division intake staff person makes the screening recommendation with the approval of a judge and a prosecutor. Screeners of complaints consider prior history as well as the seriousness of the complaint in making a determination about how the case will be handled.

The options for screening include:

- *Formal Calendar* - judge and counsel mandatory. This is the only calendar from which a juvenile may be incarcerated.
- *Informal Calendar* - judge or juvenile referee; counsel not mandatory.
- *Diversion* (Intake Service Conference or Juvenile Conference Committee) - no attorney necessary if the case is diverted.

Screening decisions are based on the facts of the case as well as the juvenile's prior history. Factors considered when screening a case include:

- *Court* (formal or informal calendar) – first-time serious offenses, repeat serious offenses and repeat minor offenses.
- *Intake Services Conference* - repeat minor offenses and slightly more serious offenses.

- *Juvenile Conference Committee* - first- and second-time minor offenses.

## **Calendars**

The *formal calendar* or counsel mandatory calendar is reserved for cases in which an attorney is required to represent a juvenile pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-39. In these cases the offense history is sufficiently serious that the juvenile may be incarcerated. A judge hears formal matters. This does not mean that every case on the formal calendar will result in incarceration. If a “not guilty” plea is entered, a trial is conducted. If the juvenile is adjudicated delinquent, a disposition comparable to a sentence in adult court, will be entered. Sometimes the judge will request a pre-dispositional report (PDR) to help him/her make a determination about the disposition in the case including whether or not to continue detention.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-39, the informal calendar (counsel non-mandatory calendar) consists of those cases before a judge or referee where an attorney is not required to represent a juvenile. Cases may be placed on the informal calendar when there is no threat of incarceration. If the juvenile enters a plea of not guilty, a trial is held. If the juvenile is adjudicated delinquent, a disposition is entered.

Most counties have a Juvenile Referee. A Referee is a person appointed by the Chief Justice to hear informal calendar matters. The referees must meet certain education and experience requirements in juvenile justice. Unlike in diversion programs, a Referee is authorized to conduct fact-finding hearings. Juvenile Referees make recommendations to judges regarding their findings and proposed disposition. However, Referees may not recommend removal of a juvenile from the home. A juvenile who declines to accept the Referee’s recommended disposition may request a new trial by the judge. If all parties consent to this approach, the new trial may involve a review of the Referee’s proceedings.

Diversion is a voluntary process used to resolve minor delinquency complaints. There are no fact-finding hearings in diverted cases. If facts are disputed or if the parties do not wish to participate, a court hearing can be requested. Court representatives, parents/guardians, the juvenile and the victim/complainant discuss the complaint. If an agreement is reached and the juvenile carries out the terms of the agreement, the case is considered successfully diverted and the complaint will be

dismissed. There is no adjudication. If the juvenile does not successfully carry out the requirements of the agreement, the case is returned to the court to be re-screened and could result in a referral to an Intake Services Conference or a hearing before a judge or Juvenile Referee.

A delinquency case may be diverted to a Juvenile Conference Committee or an Intake Services Conference. In such matters no attorneys are necessary because the cases are diverted. Intake workers conduct Intake Services Conferences at the court house. Juvenile Conference Committees are volunteer citizen panels of six to nine trained members who meet in the evening or some time outside the normal work/school day to hear cases referred to them by the court. The Committees are located in the community.

Parents, juveniles and complainants/victims are invited to attend the Juvenile Conference Committee meeting or Intake Services Conference. Any conditions to be followed by the juvenile to resolve the complaint are set down in an agreement. All parties in attendance must concur with the agreement. The agreement is then reviewed for approval by a Superior Court Judge. Once the approved conditions have been met, the Judge must also approve the recommendations of the Juvenile Conference Committee or the Intake Services Conference worker for dismissal of the complaint. Successful diversion of a case to either the Juvenile Conference Committee or the Intake Service Conference does not result in a formal adjudication of delinquency but will eventually result in a dismissed complaint. If the juvenile does not comply with the agreed-upon resolution, the case may be returned to the court for screening and disposition.

### **Secure Detention**

Secure detention is the temporary placement of juveniles charged with delinquent acts into secure juvenile facilities prior to disposition of their cases. New Jersey law mandates that the court can only detain juveniles if they are considered a danger to the community or if they are deemed a risk not to appear in court (N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-34). In addition, some juveniles are detained post-disposition while awaiting program placement. Several counties have also developed a short-term commitment program that serves as a dispositional option.

Secure detention has been a major focus in New Jersey for many years, seen as the critical point at which a young person will be deprived of their liberty. Juvenile justice system planners and administrators have sought to provide alternatives by various means in efforts to reduce detention overcrowding, reduce the inappropriate use of detention and to ensure that those detained have humane conditions of confinement.

To create more effective and efficient processes surrounding the use of detention, in late 2003, New Jersey was selected as a replication site for the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

New Jersey began its JDAI work in five pilot sites. An additional five sites were added in 2007, with the goal of expanding the JDAI Initiative statewide. One of the unintended consequences of the success of JDAI in New Jersey was that the reduction of the numbers of youth in detention at participating sites negatively impacted the education funds coming into those centers. The Legislature was approached for funding to institutionalize this Initiative. Funds provided by the Legislature paid for staff support for the Initiative, including educational support due to the reduced numbers of juveniles in detention, and an innovations fund for each participating county, which addressed any needs identified in the JDAI process. In 2008, New Jersey was named the first model site for statewide JDAI replication. New Jersey has received much positive attention for its work under JDAI. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee, New Jersey's SAG, was instrumental in laying the foundation for JDAI in New Jersey, starting with its focus on detention reform through the OJJDP Challenge Grant funds and then by funding juvenile detention specialists in three of the initial participating counties.

In New Jersey, counties are generally responsible for operating and financing detention facilities. The State's role is primarily limited to monitoring facility compliance with state regulations and providing technical assistance through the Juvenile Justice Commission. The State operates one detention facility in Atlantic County. In 2008, there were 17 juvenile detention facilities statewide, with a total capacity of 979 beds. Due to the construction of two new county detention centers, the number of available beds slightly increased from 966 in 2005, however, with the implementation of the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative in New Jersey, the overall numbers of youth in detention are greatly reduced. In the first five sites, average daily population (ADP) has

been reduced by 44.3% from 2003 to 2008. This reduction represents 221 fewer youth in the five original detention centers on any given day and a total of 2616 fewer total admissions in 2008 compared to 2003. For the five new sites (Phase II), a 22.5% reduction in ADP has been realized from 2005 to 2008. In the Phase II sites this represented 37 fewer youth in the five new detention center sites on any given day and a total of 552 fewer admissions for the year of 2008 when compared with 2003.

During 2008, several counties expressed interest in the possibility of closing their county detention centers. In these tight fiscal times some of New Jersey's counties view closing detention centers and paying a per diem rate to neighboring counties to house the juveniles detained awaiting disposition as more cost effective than operating their own. As a result of this interest, the Juvenile Justice Commission developed a set of policies and provided a template for counties through the Guidelines to Assist Counties, a document that provides direction for making major changes in detention, including closing a facility. These guidelines are intended to minimize the negative impact of such actions on youth and families. One county detention center, with a capacity of 28 beds, requested and received approval to close effective December 31, 2008. At the time of this writing at least two others have filed requests to close.

### **The Family Court Process**

The Family Court is required to hold hearings, within specific time limitations, for juveniles charged as delinquents and held in secure detention (N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-38):

1. An initial detention hearing is to be held within 24 hours of admission.
2. For juveniles remanded to detention, the initial probable cause hearing and second detention hearing are to be held within two court days. If probable cause is not found, the juvenile is released from detention pending an adjudication hearing.
3. Review hearings are held for detained juveniles at intervals of 14 and 21 court days. At each of these hearings, the judge reconsiders the juvenile's detention status.
4. At the adjudication hearing, the court makes a determination on the delinquency charges. A juvenile may be adjudicated delinquent on one or more of the charges. After an adjudication of delinquency, the judge will order a disposition.

5. In detained cases, the disposition hearing is to occur within 30 court days of admission to detention unless extended by the court for good cause.

### **Waiver to Adult Court**

A waiver is the practice of transferring jurisdiction over a juvenile from Family Court to adult Criminal Court (N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-26). Once waived, the juvenile is treated in the same manner as an adult. The juvenile can be held in an adult jail pending resolution of the charge and, if found guilty, is subject to the same range of penalties as would apply to an adult. For those sentenced to a term of incarceration, that sentence is served in an adult facility.

The prosecutor initiates the waiver process by filing a waiver motion and a judge then determines probable cause and decides whether or not to grant the waiver. To be considered for a waiver, a juvenile must be 14 or older at the time of the charged delinquent act. Juveniles aged 14 or older also may elect to have their cases waived to adult court through a voluntary waiver process.

## **DISPOSITION**

### **Deferred Dispositions**

Following an adjudication of delinquency, the formal entry of disposition of the case may be adjourned for as much as 12 months. During the time imposed, the juvenile must remain offense free and comply with whatever conditions have been placed on this "review period". Providing the juvenile completes this period of adjustment successfully, the juvenile complaint is dismissed.

## **PROBATION**

The most common disposition of formal delinquency cases involves probation supervision. Probation is often ordered along with other dispositional requirements such as performing community service or paying financial restitution. Probation can also include mandatory counseling or the more restrictive requirement of placement into a residential program. Probation is a major resource to the Family Court and the juvenile justice system.

Probation supervision is a dispositional alternative in the Superior Court, Family Part. It offers juvenile offenders the opportunity to remain in their own community under supervision by a probation officer who monitors their compliance with rules and conditions imposed by the Family Court Judge. The average period for a juvenile to serve on Probation is one year, although as many as three years may be ordered. Probation officers utilize an outcome-based model to guide their supervision practices with emphasis on eight major operational goals: reduced probationer offenses, reduced substance abuse, increased school attendance, increased employment for those youth legally out of school, increased compliance with court ordered treatment, increased community service compliance, and increased collection of restitution, fees, and fines. The probation officer sets up an individual case plan which addresses the court ordered conditions in addition to specific needs for that particular juvenile. The juvenile is required to have regular contact with the officer who provides counseling, referrals and ensures compliance with the court order.

### **Drug Courts**

A juvenile drug court provides an alternative intervention for children using drugs or involved in substance abuse behaviors. Drug Court goals include providing children with an opportunity to be clean and sober, constructive support to aid them in resisting further delinquency behaviors, support to perform well in school and develop positive relationships in the community and skills that will aid them in leading productive, substance-free and crime-free lives. To accomplish these goals the juvenile drug court judge maintains close oversight of each case as he works with the drug court "team." This team is comprised of treatment and juvenile agency providers in addition to the prosecutor and defense counsel and they confer with the court as to how best to address the substance use and related problems of the juvenile. The team's focus is on treatment rather than punishment.

### **Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP)**

The Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program provides community based supervision for juveniles adjudicated delinquent by the Family Court. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:4A-43, JISP serves as a dispositional option, which allows selected juveniles to remain in the community while under intensive team supervision.

Individualized case plans are developed and provide a roadmap for community supervision. JISP participants are monitored for compliance with program standards and court ordered conditions. Participants are also required to be enrolled in full-time education, employment, and/or vocational training.

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION (JJC)**

The JJC was created by statute in December 1995 to bring together the disparate State and local offices responsible for the various components of the formal juvenile justice system.

Woven through all JJC efforts is its charge to protect the citizens of the State of New Jersey. Decisions made and programs enacted by the JJC are intended and designed to maintain personal safety, promote responsibility and build stronger communities. To achieve these goals, the JJC has initiated a variety of programs and measures designed to address each facet of the complex issue of promoting juvenile justice.

The Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) has three primary responsibilities:

1. The care and custody of juvenile offenders committed to the agency by the courts,
2. The support of local efforts to plan for and provide services to prevent delinquency, and to provide services for at-risk and court-involved youth
3. The supervision of youth on aftercare/parole.

### **Commitment**

Short of waiving juveniles to the adult system, commitment to the JJC for incarceration is the most severe disposition available to the Family Court. A typical sentence in committed cases is two years, although terms may range from 180 days to an indeterminate term of 20 years or more. Secure facilities are full-care institutions providing all services on the grounds of the facility, including education, vocational programming, counseling and medical services. Correctional Officers are employed at these facilities to maintain a secure setting. All facilities provide year-round education focused toward the attainment of a high school diploma, GED or college credit, as well

as vocational programming. Opportunities and programs for juveniles to observe their religious practices, as well as, group and individual counseling, drug and alcohol treatment, physical education, family life and health education, and post-release planning are provided at all secure facilities. The four secure institutions where delinquent youth can be placed include: the New Jersey Training School for Boys, the Juvenile Medium Security Facility, the Juvenile Reception and Assessment Center, and the Juvenile Female Secure Care Unit.

In cases where commitment is not imposed, adjudicated youth may be placed on probation and ordered into a JJC non-institutional residential program. The JJC operates these less restrictive facilities for juveniles who do not require a secure setting and who demonstrate the ability to accept additional responsibility. The juveniles in residential programs participate in organized programming inside and outside the facilities such as community services projects, and educational and vocational training. In addition to the four facilities, New Jersey provides 14 residential programs, as well as 5 “day programs” located throughout the state. Day programs are a useful sentencing option for judges who determine that a juvenile needs structure and supervision, but does not need to be removed from his or her home. These JJC placements accept juveniles from anywhere in the state.

The JJC also believes that keeping young people in their communities, whenever possible, results in the best life outcomes. Through the strategic use of federal and state funds, the JJC’s Office of Local Programs and Services partners with the County Youth Services Commissions and the Governor’s Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee to support prevention and intervention programs, as well as to develop and improve community-based alternatives to detention.

### **Mobile Classification**

The Mobile Classification team begins the classification process by visiting the county detention centers within a designated region after adjudication and disposition to the JJC. In an effort to expedite the placement process and better prepare the system to meet the needs of the identified youth, the team reviews court, detention, and prior placement documents and histories and interviews juveniles upon their commitment. Through this process, the team identifies specific sanctions and services that have been utilized for the youth and also identifies ongoing or new service needs. The team then

makes a recommendation regarding an appropriate placement for the juvenile. Using this information, the team completes a Unified Intake Assessment that includes a recommendation for institutional care or structured non-institutional program placement. The Assessment is then submitted to the JJC Centralized Intake and Classification Office.

### **Classification and Placement**

Following the commitment order by the court, each juvenile is assigned to a specific custody level and rehabilitative program based on the assessments of the offender's supervision requirements and service needs. A determination is made using an objective risk screening instrument to determine a juvenile's appropriateness for institutional or structured non-institutional placement.

### **Special Needs Services**

In 2005 the JJC created the Office of Specialized & Interagency Services (OSIS). This office is charged with collecting data on interagency activities and special populations such as sex offenders, fire setters and those with serious mental health disorders, as well as overseeing contractual agreements between various agencies. OSIS works to ensure the most innovative and effective care for juveniles with special needs. This office is also responsible for the organization of resources and activities, particularly for young people in JJC facilities and programs in need of mental health and sex-offense specific services and substance abuse services.

OSIS operates five residential programs that focus on services for substance abuse issues, emotional disorders, special needs and sex-offenses. In addition to the residential programs, OSIS provides juveniles in its secure care facilities with specialized services.

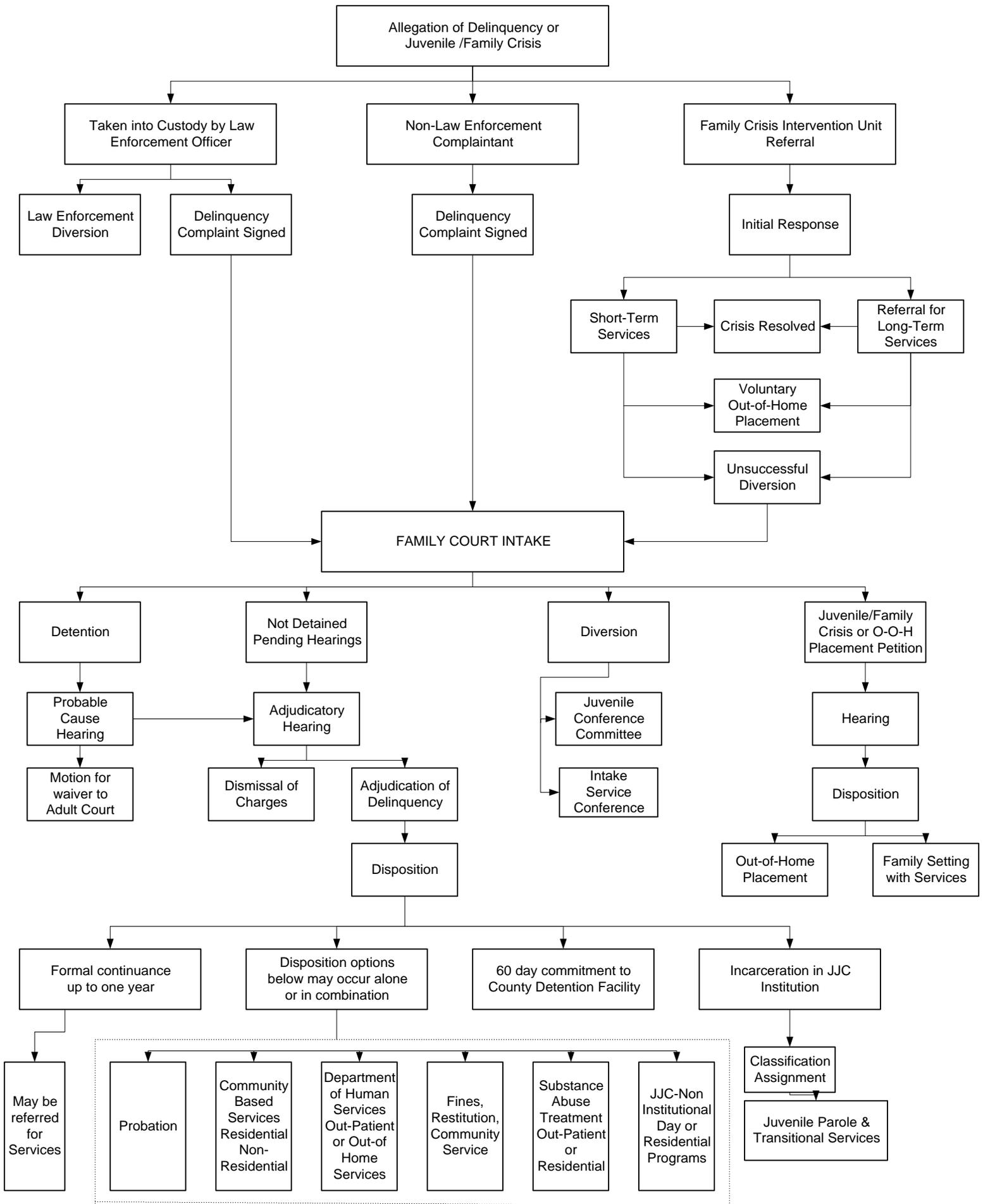
The Office also focuses on activities related to diverting young people from the juvenile justice system, when possible and appropriate, and for coordinating services that assist juveniles with their reentry or their return to the community from placement with the JJC.

## **Juvenile Parole and Transitional Services**

The Office of Juvenile Parole and Transitional Services (JP&TS) is designed to achieve a balanced approach to reintegrating juvenile parolees into their communities upon the completion of their sentences. This approach utilizes state-of-the-art supervision techniques necessary to maintain public safety, as well as individualized services essential to personal development and responsibility. With the reality that all juveniles in the JJC's care will eventually return to their communities, individual reentry and parole planning commences at admission and continues to evolve until a juvenile is paroled. Pre-release reentry planning ensures that each juvenile receives continued services upon release in an attempt to maximize a successful readjustment to the community. As part of the JJC's ongoing efforts to continue to reduce recidivism, JP&TS encourages young people to develop ties to their community. Family involvement in the re-entry planning is a key factor because the majority of youth return to their own homes and neighborhoods. In addition to working to strengthen family bonds, community team members are drawn from the neighborhoods and communities where the youth reside in order to create valuable bridges to resources as well as build a sense of citizen ownership for the prevention of criminal activity in their neighborhoods.

The JJC's primary goal is to ensure that public safety is maintained through a system of case management that incorporates the use of goals and objectives. These goals and objectives are reviewed with all youths and their families on a regular basis. Each juvenile is assessed according to the level of need, risk, supervision and services required. Four levels of supervision are applied to the monitoring of youths: maximum, intensive, medium and minimum. As youth demonstrate progress, they advance to a lower level of supervision and greater independence. Each level of supervision contains standards for monthly contacts, curfew, drug and alcohol screens and community service. Special offenders, whose behavioral history is dominated by violence, sex offending, or drug trafficking, are intensely monitored. Supervision teams also collect court-ordered financial obligations from the youth. Payments toward restitution, fines and penalties are collected and disbursed to the proper recipients.

The chart that follows depicts New Jersey's Juvenile Justice System and can be used to illustrate a youth's potential movement through this system as described in the preceding narrative sections.



## **Office of Local Programs and Services**

In 2002, based on the philosophy that communities have unique and authentic understandings of their local youth populations, New Jersey's Juvenile Justice Commission created an office specifically devoted to the coordination, funding and support of local programs. This Office of Local Programs and Services administers several state funding initiatives including the State Incentive Program (SIP) and the State/Community Partnership Grant Program. These efforts encourage the development and enhancement of a continuum of community-based services and sanctions ranging from prevention programs to sentencing options for at-risk, court-involved and delinquent youth. In a cooperative effort with statutorily mandated County Youth Services Commissions, funds are administered to develop programs and services to meet the needs of at-risk and delinquent youth at the local level.

The Office includes:

- The Grants Management Unit which is responsible for seeking grant funds that address the needs of juveniles under the JJC's Jurisdiction
- The Research and Evaluation Unit which examines performance and outcomes of its facilities and programs,
- The Court Liaisons Unit which acts as the bridge between the Family Court and the JJC and focuses on diverting juveniles from the JJC to community-based programs
- The Juvenile Detention Monitoring Unit, which oversees New Jersey county detention centers compliance with the Manual of Standards, including suicide prevention and conditions of confinement
- The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Unit staffs the SAG and monitors programs funded with JJDP Act funds.

## **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee**

New Jersey has participated in the JJDP Act since 1976. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee, New Jersey's State Advisory Group (SAG), and its staff oversee the administration of funds and monitor JJDP funded programs. The Committee and its staff ensure the state's compliance with the core requirements of the JJDP Act, notably, that youthful offenders not have sight or sound

contact with adult offenders, that juvenile non-offenders or status offenders not be kept in a secure setting, and that delinquent juveniles not be detained in any adult jail or lockup.

The SAG has been instrumental in piloting key initiatives in New Jersey and with their advocacy, some of these projects have been replicated and institutionalized. Through a JJDP grant in 1981, three County Youth Services Commissions (CYSC) were developed. Now, all 21 counties in New Jersey have CYSCs that are maintained by in large with funding through State sources for staff and programs/services in identified areas of need.

In recent years, the SAG has funded Multi-Systemic Therapy and The Nurse Family Partnership program, both of which have been identified by OJJDP as Blue Print Programs. Since inception these initial demonstration projects in NJ, the State Department of Children and Families has provided funding for replication of these programs in various sites throughout the state.

New Jersey is an Annie Casey Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) site and most recently has been identified as the first statewide JDAI replication site. In its initial stages, the SAG funded detention specialists in three JDAI sites.

The JJDP Committee has responded to the growing impact of gangs and gang related activities in the State by providing support and funding for a comprehensive program that addresses youth gangs at all levels entitled *Phoenix* which offers a cutting-edge curriculum, that can be tailored to youth in secure detention, residential and day programs, detention centers, and community-based programs, as well as local schools districts. The JJC is forming partnerships with communities and coordinating with local police and probation departments to build a 'safety net' of resources for youth, including expanding the use of the *Phoenix Curriculum* and other proven interventions and strategies.

In the mid-1990's New Jersey's responded to OJJDP's initial Challenge to the States by selecting as one of its primary of focus the Challenge Grant Fund of Gender Specific Services for Juvenile Females. Since that time, the SAG has provided leadership in this arena by hosting trainings for providers on various topics related to girls development; an annual conference for girls and their sponsors. The SAG has funded a coordinator for gender specific services within the designated state agency to

provide training and guidance to providers on this issue – and has organized and supported programs for girls in communities. Funded projects have addressed girls physical, emotional and mental health and to have provided gender-appropriate services to address trauma (including sexual assault). The SAG continues to identify gender responsive services for juvenile females as one of its priorities for the coming period.

The NJ SAG established a Minority Issues Subcommittee in the late 1980's. Over the years NJ has worked to keep DMC reduction at the center of all of its work, by calling attention to the issue in an early publication, funding programs under the DMC program area and working collaboratively with the County Youth Services Commissions and the Court System to assess and develop interventions that will reduce the numbers of minority youth at all points on the juvenile justice continuum. Most recently the SAG funded the Administrative Office of the Courts to enhance its ability to collect waiver data to include and report on race and ethnicity data, as well as a host of other information. At its retreat in 2008, the SAG identified DMC as a priority area and established a workgroup to provide continued focus on this issue.

The NJ SAG has undertaken an effort to open a dialogue within the juvenile justice community on key issues related to youth. In recent years the SAG has hosted forums on issues related to adolescent brain development and has hosted a mayors' forum to establish a dialogue with the leadership of key cities in NJ.

JABG grants afford both county and municipal local governments the opportunity to hold juveniles appropriately accountable for delinquent behaviors through Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalitions (JCEC) and the allocation of funding across priority purpose areas. The State also dedicates a share of JABG funding for technology improvements and the provision of substance abuse assessment services. The JJDP Committee acts as the JCEC for state level funds.

The JJDP Unit is located within the Juvenile Justice Commission's Office of Local Programs and Services. The SAG meets every other month and its subcommittees meet in the off months. The SAG accomplishes much of its work through the subcommittee process with each subcommittee reporting out to the SAG at its bi-monthly meetings. Various subcommittees develop notices of funding availability, review funding proposals, monitor JJDP funded programs, develop the JJDP's 3 year

plan and its annual updates, write an annual report for delivery to the governor and legislature, hold forums/conferences/retreats, and track and disseminate information on proposed and enacted federal and state legislation.

## **STATE LEVEL COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION**

### **Governor's Safety Plan**

In the fall of 2007, New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine released a Plan entitled *A Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods*. This Plan addresses three primary areas: prevention, enforcement and reentry. The SAG, the Office of Local Programs and Services within the Juvenile Justice Commission, the Attorney General's Office and the State Department of Education are critically involved in seeing that the objectives of this plan are achieved, especially those in the area of prevention.

The Governor's Plan is focused on data driven identification of problems and development of interventions that are tailored to meet the needs of communities. The data gathered in the process of developing the plan identified 20 cities reflecting the highest risk factors. These cities will be a primary focus of the action items in the Plan.

The mission of the JJC and the priorities set forth by the SAG are closely aligned with the Governor's Safety Plan. The facilitation and encouragement of local-level planning is being supported through a request to OJJDP for technical assistance to provide training in the Title V risk and resource assessment process. Additionally, staff will explore with OJJDP possible ways of expanding the use of the Title V process in New Jersey.

Currently, the SAG is working along with the JJC and others to support the identification and implementation of an evidenced-based truancy reduction pilot program. It is expected that the SAG will play a key role in this effort, as Program Area 27 - School Programs - has been identified as a priority. New Jersey is currently contracting with the National Center for School Engagement to provide technical assistance to selected school districts on the use of the OJJDP Tool kit to "Create Your Own Truancy Reduction Program."

Another action item under the Prevention Section of the NJ Governor's Plan is to evaluate and assess the effectiveness of prevention programs. This is consistent with the use of the OJJDP Performance Measures. JJDP Staff and Committee members will continue collaboration with the Governor's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods.

## **DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

In July of 2006, Governor Corzine signed legislation to officially establish the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF). This new department is staffed by over 6,600 state child welfare employees who were already working in divisions within the Department of Human Services (DHS) that focused on child protection, welfare, education, permanency, child behavioral health and abuse prevention.

### **Division of Youth and Family Services**

The Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) is New Jersey's child protection and child welfare agency within the Department of Children and Families. Its mission is to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children and to support families.

DYFS is responsible for investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect and, if necessary, for arranging for the child's protection and the family's treatment. If a child has been harmed or is at risk of harm, DYFS may ask the county Family Court to put the child in out-of-home placement.

DYFS operates a 24-hour, 7 days a week child abuse hotline, which is linked with a statewide network of Special Response Units. DYFS also contracts with many community-based agencies throughout the state to provide services to children and families. Such services include counseling, parenting skills classes, substance abuse treatment, in-home services, foster care and residential placement.

### **Division of Child Behavioral Health Services**

DCF's Division of Child Behavioral Health Services (DCBHS) serves children and adolescents with emotional and behavioral health care challenges. DCBHS'

emphasizes involvement with the family or caregiver because they play a central role in the health and well being of children. DCF involves families throughout the planning and treatment process in order to create a service system that values and promotes the advice and recommendations of the family, that is friendly to families and that provides families with the tools and support they need to create successful life experiences.

### **DCF/Prevention Division**

The Division's goal is to develop the state's prevention and early intervention systems into an integrated network of locally based, family-centered, user-friendly and culturally competent array of services and supports. The focus is to make it possible for families to get the help they need within their own communities before a crisis occurs.

DCF is one of many state agencies actively supporting the implementation of the *Governor's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods*. Under this Division, the Office of School-Linked Services oversees the School Based Youth Services Programs, the Adolescent Pregnancy Initiative, the Gang Prevention Initiative, Family Friendly Centers, the Family Empowerment Program, the Parent Linking Program and a Statewide Youth Helpline. There are many opportunities for collaboration with the SAG and some initiatives that were piloted with funding from the SAG have been replicated by the Division, including the Nurse-Family Partnership Program.

## **2A. Analysis of Juvenile Crime Problems and Juvenile Justice Needs**

### **2009 JUVENILE CRIME ANALYSIS BY RACE AND GENDER**

*The data reporting requirements for the juvenile crime analysis is provided in the attached excel spreadsheet. Please reference the document entitled "2A.JV Data".*

The crime analysis for 2004 to 2006 reveals the following:

- The total youth population (age 10-17) decreases by 2.0%. A decrease of near proportion occurred in both the male and female gender categories
  - The American Indian, Asian and Hispanic population, were the only race/ethnic categories to increase in number (1.7 %, 5.6% and 2.6%), the remaining race and ethnic categories slightly decreased in number
- With the exception of American Indians and Asian Pacific Islanders, which experienced a significant increase in arrests (49.2% and 11.4%, respectively), arrests slightly increased across the remaining race/ethnic
  - Arrests decreased by 2.7% among the female population while it increased by 2.0% among the male population
- Overall, there was a 1.9% decrease in juvenile index offenses and a 0.8% decrease in juvenile violent crime
  - There was a slight increase in index offenses committed by youth of Hispanic origin (0.4%)
  - In 2004, 55.2% of the total index offenses committed were by white youth; the percentage slightly decreased in 2006 (54.4%). The percentage of the total index offenses committed by Black youth and youth of Hispanic origin slightly increased (less than 1%)
  - Violent crimes committed by Black youth and by youth of Hispanic ethnicity increased. There was a 6.7% increase in violent crimes committed by Black youth and an 8.9% increase in violent crimes committed by youth of Hispanic origin. Violent crimes committed by White, Asian and youth of Non-Hispanic origin slightly decreased.
  - There was an increase in index offenses and violent crimes committed by American Indian/Alaskan Native youth. These youth make up less than 1% of New Jersey's youth population
- The total number of cases handled informally (by the police) significantly increased by 13.1%
- The total of juvenile referrals to court decreased by 7.5%.
  - The largest decrease was found to occur among White youth (10.7%)
  - Referrals to juvenile court decreased among juvenile males by 5.3% and among juvenile females by 13.3%

- The number of diversions decreased across all gender and race categories, with the exception of American Indian/Alaskan Native (less than 1% of youth population) which increased by 90.0%
  - The largest decrease in diversions occurred among Asian (24.2%), White (18.0%) and Black (17.5%) youth
  - Diversions significantly decreased across gender categories; juvenile male (13.1%) and juvenile female (18.9%)
- Detention admissions decreased across all race/ethnic and gender categories but the most significant decrease was found among White youth (34.1%)
- The total number of cases resulting in delinquent findings decreased by 10.5%
  - The only increase across race/ethnic categories was found among Asian youth (13.2%); delinquent findings decreased among American Indian/Alaskan Native youth by 33.3%
  - Delinquent findings decreased among female youth by 18.0% and 8.6% among male youth
- Probation placements increased among Asians/Pacific Islanders (14.4%) while it decreased for the other race categories. Placements decreased across both gender categories
  - Placements in a Juvenile Justice Commission Residential Program (on a Probationary status) decreased across all race/ethnic and male youth; placements remained constant for female youth
- Commitments (to the JJC) increased for Hispanic youth (8.3%) and significantly decreased among White youth (34.8%); commitments decreased among Black youth (6.1%)
- Juveniles admitted to adult jails significantly decreased across all race/ethnic and gender categories
- The number of waivers\*\* to adult court that were sought increased by nearly 2% while the number of waivers granted decreased (3.4%)

\*\*Waiver data is not yet available by age, race or gender

## **2 B. LIST OF STATE'S PRIORITY JUVENILE JUSTICE NEEDS/PROBLEM STATEMENTS**

### **1. Disproportionate Minority Contact**

In New Jersey, recent research indicates that despite attention to the issue, minority youth continue to be overrepresented at key points in the system resulting in seriously disproportionate confinement in county and state secure facilities. Minority youth are more likely to be arrested, referred to court, adjudicated delinquent, placed in county detention facilities, and committed to the JJC. They also are less likely to be diverted by the court from adjudication proceedings. The differences tend to vary in the racial/ethnic category (with disproportionality typically greatest for African American youth) and by jurisdiction.

In 2006, minority youth comprised an estimated 42.8% of the overall 10 to 17 population (up from 33% in 2000). African American youth accounted for 42.2% of total juvenile arrests, 43.7% of Index arrests (including 61.4% of arrests for murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault), and 38% of drug arrests. Hispanic youth (which, as an ethnic category overlaps with the minority racial categories) accounted for 16.4% of total juvenile arrests, 16.4% of Index arrests (including 21.6% of violent Index arrests), and 12.3% of drug arrests.

In 2006, minority youth accounted for 60.5% of all adjudications of delinquency (slightly up from 60% in 2000), while comprising 49.2% of all court diversions (e.g., Juvenile Conference Committees, Intake Services Conferences). In addition, minority youth accounted for 86.1% of all admissions to secure detention facilities statewide, up from 82% in 2005 (and up from 80% in 1995) and comprised 89.8% of all commitments to the JJC, up from 85% in 2005 (slightly up from 88% in 1995).

As is clear from the above, DMC continues. Reasons for the ongoing disproportional numbers (and its variation across jurisdictions) remain less clear. One *partial* explanation offered is the greater likelihood of arrest among minority youth – particularly for certain categories of offenses. However, this point is argued by some as more an indication of differential practices and handling by police of minority youth (e.g., police patrol practices) than of differential behavior by race/ethnicity.

Minorities have the highest overrepresentation at the points of detention and commitment. New Jersey's five targeted DMC sites have achieved early gains in reducing the number of minority youth in detention since the implementation of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in April 2004. Juvenile detention facility populations have been reduced dramatically in the JDAI sites, with a substantial positive impact on minority youth. On any given day in 2006, there were 215 fewer youth (199 of them minority youth) in secure detention across the five JDAI sites compared with 2003. This was a decline of 43.1% in average daily population. Despite this positive impact on the *number* of minority youth detained on any given day, disproportionality has not decreased across these sites. It is worth noting, however, that the length of stay in detention for minority youth has decreased substantially, by 34.3% across all JDAI sites. Additionally, with the support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, New Jersey continued its expansion of JDAI into 5 additional sites in 2007.

## **2. School Programs**

Malcolm X once said “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” Although most youth pass through the school system successfully, many of those most likely to become involved with the juvenile justice system face numerous challenges and develop patterns of behavior that first come to light during their time in school.

Truancy is often the first sign of trouble for youth. It is an initial indicator that a child is giving up and losing his or her way. Truancy is linked to delinquency, drug and gang involvement and dropping out of school. When young people start skipping school, it is a signal to their parents, school officials and the community at large that they are in trouble and need our help if they are to keep moving forward in life. Encouraging students to see the value of education and assisting them in developing good habits regarding attendance will serve the student greatly as he/she prepares for the world of work. Truancy threatens the potential labor force and thus, the future quality of life of our children.

During the 2006-2007 school year, there were 1,393,782 youth enrolled in New Jersey's schools. The school districts report 11,166 incidents of violence, 3,809 incidents of vandalism and 2,647 incidents of substance abuse.

In New Jersey, truancy is defined as more than 10 unexcused absences. New regulations require school districts to develop interventions for intervals prior to the youth reaching the marker of 10 unexcused absences. During the 2006-2007 school year, a total of 7,773 truancy cases were referred to municipal courts for handling. Of that number, 1,117 were found guilty and 5,734 cases were dismissed for various reasons. In New Jersey, truancy cases can be referred to municipal court for handling or to the county-based Family Crisis Intervention Units designed to address status offenses and other family related matters that may cause disruption.

The NJ Governor's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods includes an action item in the prevention section to develop and implement an evidence-based Truancy Reduction Pilot Program. JJDP Staff and Committee members are currently participating on the work group with the Department of Education (DOE) to address this action item. This work group will seek to provide opportunities for school districts to develop interventions specific to their jurisdiction. Technical assistance to be provided

by the National Center for School Engagement will be focused on the use of the OJJDP Toolkit for Truancy Reduction.

In addition to being a precursor for delinquency, truancy is logically a precursor for dropping out. Statewide data for the 2005-2006 school year indicates that a total of 9,009 youth dropped out during that school year. Of that number 36.7% were White youth, 32.2% were Black, 27.8% were Hispanic, and 3% were Asian.

As part of the Governor's Plan, a high school graduation project has been developed to address the dropout issue.

### **3. Gender Specific Services**

Through the creation of the Young Women's Action Coordinator (formerly the Gender Specific Services Coordinator) position, the needs of at-risk and delinquent females are addressed holistically. This coordinator's position is funded with Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act funds and stands as the JJDP Committee's commitment to the growth of this initiative. At its retreat in the Spring of 2008, the SAG identified services to girls as one of its three priority areas to be addressed in the coming year. The Gender Specific Services Initiative consists of both prevention and intervention measures that are responsive to the unique needs of girls. In an effort to prevent juvenile females from entering the juvenile justice system, the Young Women's Action Alliance Coordinator provides regionalized training to local service providers to educate them regarding the unique needs of juvenile females and to increase their capacity to develop and deliver effective programming for girls and those who work with girls.

The overall population of girls in New Jersey decreased by 1.89% between 2004 and 2006. During that period there was also a slight decrease in the arrest of juvenile females by 2.71%. The number of girls referred to juvenile court decreased by 13.2%. In addition, the percentage of girls diverted from formal court proceedings decreased by 18.8%, the number placed in detention dropped 18.5% from 2004 to 2006, and the percentage of girls adjudicated delinquent dropped 18%.

From a dispositional perspective, the number of girls placed on probation dropped 21.6%. The number of girls placed in the Juvenile Justice Commission residential community home on probation status remained the same (30 intakes) and the number of girls committed to the JJC decreased from 54 to 53 (1.8%). During the

same time frame, there was a 100% decrease of juvenile females admitted to adult jails. In 2004, there were 2 juvenile females admitted to adult jails, while in 2005 and 2006, there were not any juvenile female admissions.

A major goal for this grant year will be to continue to develop and update a gender responsive resource guide for girls. In an effort to achieve this objective, the quality assurance work group of the Young Women's Action Alliance (YWAA) has developed and finalized a gender responsive checklist. This checklist will assist agencies in providing holistic services and programs for girls. The YWAA plans to administer this questionnaire to its member agencies and then to disseminate it to other girl serving agencies across the state. Once this information is completed and synthesized, the YWAA will have the ability to create and update a resource guide of gender responsive programming.

Additionally, the Coordinator will work to increase gender specific equity among Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) run programs and local service providers. At the request of the JJC's Executive Director, the YWAA Coordinator has designed a survey instrument which was administered to all facilities (day, residential, secure) run by the JJC in late 2008. This instrument contains an inventory of and invites respondents to offer comments on all services and programs provided to students and residents of JJC programs and facilities. Once the feedback from respondents is analyzed, the Coordinator will provide a report to the Executive Director and will have the opportunity to assess gender equity and to plan for program enhancements to all students and residents.

In an effort to collect youth input for the Comprehensive Plan, the SAG hosted two forums with juvenile females on issues related to gender. Based on the input of the juvenile females who participated believe that gangs, family issues (including abandonment), sexual abuse/molestation, domestic and dating violence/abusive relationships, sexually transmitted diseases and peer pressure are the main issues that they face. Our interviews tell us that girls believe that having community mentors for girls, family counseling, after school programs, safe havens in the community, effective sex education courses, and recreational programs for girls are the best strategies for addressing the challenges girls face. Doing so may further prevent female delinquency.



### **3. Plan for Compliance with the First Three Core Requirements of the JJDP Act and the State's Compliance Monitoring Plan**

**A. Plan for Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO)** - New Jersey's DSO violation rate for 2007 was 2.93. Comparatively, the rate was 6.23 in 2004, 4.59 in 2005, and 2.87 in 2006. The State's DSO compliance rate has been improving, with the exception of 2007, due to 1) more frequent on-site monitoring of lockup facilities, 2) the targeting of lockups that produce violations with technical assistance and follow up, and 3) the 2004 NJ court ruling that prohibits the placement of status offenders who violated court orders in secure juvenile detention facilities.

The State has a plan to ensure that status offenders and nonoffenders are not placed in secure detention or secure correctional facilities. The following is NJ's strategy for monitoring various types of secure facilities for compliance with the DSO regulation:

- a. Juvenile Detention Facilities - In order to determine DSO compliance, compliance monitoring staff review every admission into NJ's county juvenile detention system. This is primarily accomplished through on-site record reviews at all 17 county facilities as well as database reviews via the Family Automated Case Tracking System (FACTS). Further follow up with facility, Family Court, or Municipal Court staff is made when necessary. Utilization of the relatively new Juvenile Detention Information System (JDIS) database starting in 2007 provides monitors with another method to facilitate the monitoring of county detention facilities. This system will also require county staff to be more diligent in determining the actual reasons for admission.

NJ law no longer allows for the admission into detention of chronic status offenders. Therefore, the use of the federal "Valid Court Order Exception" is no longer allowed. Any status offenders/nonoffenders admitted into any

of these secure facilities are therefore reported as DSO violations if held beyond the 24-hour grace period. It should be noted that in 2007, for the first time in many years, no DSO violations were detected in these facilities.

- b. Juvenile Correctional Facilities - The four secure juvenile facilities receive on-site compliance visits annually. Contacts with administrative staff, classification staff, and random reviews of files on-site invariably demonstrate total DSO compliance in these facilities.
- c. Lockup Facilities - The primary methodology used to monitor NJ's approximately 500 lockups are surveys sent to every facility biannually. Any facility reporting DSO violations through these surveys are contacted in order to verify actual violations.

Site visits are essential to compliance practices in lockups. Monitors plan to visit at least 1/3 of NJ's lockups every year. Therefore, every lockup should receive at least one visit every three years. Policies and procedures related to DSO compliance are reviewed during these visits. Facilities specifically targeted for inspections are those with a poor survey response rate, those that report significant violations, or those that request technical assistance. Monitors provide facility staff with verbal and written feedback following an inspection.

Police are routinely provided written materials that support DSO compliance including an Attorney General Directive, State regulations, and sample documentation forms. Additionally, since the layout and furnishings of a lockup can have a direct impact on DSO compliance, monitors also participate in the planning and design of new and renovated facilities.

Role of the SAG – NJ's SAG is informed of compliance monitoring issues during scheduled meetings and has provided critical feedback and direction regarding past compliance challenges. In addition, the Compliance Monitoring Coordinator annually provides SAG members a verbal report and written copy of NJ's *Compliance Monitoring Report* that includes statistics, levels of compliance with the core requirements as well as descriptions of barriers to total compliance. In instances where monitoring efforts have not been sufficient, the SAG has provided funding to remedy non-compliant practices in specific facilities. Additionally, the office that administrates the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) in NJ is required to inform funding applicants of possible DSO violations when minors charged with Possession/Consumption of Alcohol by Persons under Legal Age are held securely within lockup facilities.

## **B. Plan for Separation of Juveniles from Adult Offenders**

New Jersey's had a total of 14 Separation violations in 2007. Comparatively, there were 28 such violations in 2004, 16 in 2005, and 7 in 2006. The noncompliant instances in 2007 proved to be isolated cases without any apparent pattern or practice contributing to their occurrence. Higher numbers of Separation violations between 2001 and 2004 were primarily due to the placement of juveniles with federal immigration detainees in adult jails. This practice has diminished significantly since 2004.

New Jersey has a plan to ensure that juveniles (delinquents and status offenders) do not have contact with adult inmates who are incarcerated because they have been convicted of a crime or are awaiting trial on criminal charges. The following clarifies how particular types of facilities are monitored for the Separation requirement:

- a. County Juvenile Detention Facilities and Juvenile Correctional Facilities -  
Monitoring these secure facilities for the mandated sight and sound

separation of juvenile and adult offenders involves a tour of the physical plant and contact with administration, staff, and residents.

- b. Collocated Facilities - NJ has no collocated juvenile/adult detention facilities at the present time.
- c. Lockup Facilities - The primary methodology used to monitor NJ's approximately 500 lockups are surveys sent to every facility biannually. Any facility reporting Separation violations through these surveys are contacted in order to determine actual violations. Since the layout and furnishings of a lockup can have a direct impact on Separation compliance, monitors also participate in the planning and design of new and renovated facilities.
- d. Court Holding Facilities - Since a court holding facility does not fit the definition of an "adult jail or lockup," only the Separation requirement applies. During site visits to these facilities, monitors observe operations and review facility policies and procedures relating to separation. Following a site visit, written feedback is provided to court security staff and written recommendations to address any potential separation concerns are communicated to the Sheriff's Department and county administration officials. Materials covering JJDP Act requirements and applicable state regulations are disseminated. Monitors also have input into the planning of new and renovated court holding facilities through collaboration with the state agency involved in the approval process.

In 2007, holding areas within nine county courthouses were inspected. The remaining 12 courthouses were scheduled and inspected in 2008. Technical assistance provided by monitoring staff mitigated the possibility of separation violations in a few of the facilities. Overcrowding, physical

plant concerns, and other issues that impact on the safety of juveniles will continue to be addressed in several facilities.

### **C. Plan for Removal of Juveniles from Adult Jails and Lockups**

New Jersey's Jail Removal violation rate for 2007 was 6.20. Comparatively, the rate was 7.71 in 2004, 6.80 in 2005, and 5.80 in 2006. This general trend toward an increased rate of compliance in recent years is primarily due to the lower number of status offenders and non-offenders that are being securely held in lockup facilities (greater DSO compliance). The number of six-hour violations occurring in lockup facilities in recent years has remained fairly constant. These violations were isolated instances and did not reflect any pattern or practice of noncompliance.

New Jersey maintains a plan to ensure that no juveniles are detained or confined in any adult jail or lockup. The following clarifies how particular types of facilities are monitored for the Jail Removal requirement:

- a. Lockup Facilities - The Jail Removal requirement prohibits the secure holding of status offenders or nonoffenders for any length of time in this type facility. Also, delinquent youth may not be securely held beyond six hours in a lockup. The primary methodology used to monitor NJ's approximately 500 lockups is through the use of surveys sent to every facility biannually. Any facility reporting Jail Removal violations via these surveys are contacted in order to verify actual violations.

Site visits are essential to compliant practices in lockups. Monitors plan to visit at least 1/3 of NJ's lockups every year. Therefore, every lockup should receive at least one visit every three years. Policies and procedures related to Jail Removal compliance are reviewed during these visits. Facilities specifically targeted for inspections are those with a poor

survey response rate, those that report significant violations, or those that request technical assistance. Monitors provide facility staff with verbal and written feedback following an inspection.

Police are routinely provided written materials that support Jail Removal compliance including an Attorney General Directive, state regulations, and sample documentation forms. Additionally, since the layout and furnishings of a lockup can have a direct impact on the ability of a police department to achieve Jail Removal compliance, monitors also participate in the planning and design of new and renovated facilities.

- b. Jails** - The primary methodology used to monitor compliance with Jail Removal in NJ's 21 county jails is a thorough review of databases (FACTS, JADIS, and primarily the County Correctional Information System or CCIS). Site visits are scheduled at least once every three years. During these visits, monitors review admissions records and inmate files, documentation practices, and policies/procedures relevant to Jail Removal. In order to verify potential violations, monitors routinely have contact with jail classification/records personnel, administrative staff, and Family/Criminal/Municipal court personnel, as necessary.

The State utilizes two of the three following exceptions to the secure holding of juveniles:

1. **Six-Hour Hold Exception** – Consistent with the JJDP Act, New Jersey regulations do allow for the secure holding of criminal-type youth in lockups and jails up to a maximum of six hours before such holding is declared a Jail Removal violation. This six-hour period commences when the youth is placed into a secure holding status. Prior to this six-hour period, the youth may be held securely for a brief time for booking/processing if a non-secure area is not available.
2. **Rural Removal Exception** - New Jersey does not utilize this exception.

3. Transfer or Waiver Exception – New Jersey does allow youth, under the age of 18, who have had a waiver filed for Criminal Court charges to be placed in an adult facility (jail or lockup) without violating the Jail Removal requirement.

**D. Plan for Compliance Monitoring for the First Three Core Requirements of the JJDP Act**

Pursuant to Section 2239a)(14) of the JJDP Act, New Jersey is required to provide for an adequate system of monitoring for compliance with the Act. The following 10 elements clarifies NJ's monitoring system:

1. Policy and Procedures – NJ has a *Manual* that elucidates the procedures involved in monitoring the State for compliance with the core requirements of the JJDP Act, however, this *Manual* needs to be revised and updated. The JJDP Compliance Monitor will revise and submit the *New Jersey Manual for Monitoring Compliance with the JJDP Act* for JJC administrative review by March 30, 2009, with a goal of approval of the document by June 30, 2009.
2. Monitoring Authority – The JJDP Committee funds the Compliance Monitor Coordinator's position within the JJC's "JJDP Compliance Monitoring Unit." The JJC, within NJ's Department of Law and Public Safety, is the designated State agency responsible for NJ's overall monitoring effort and partners with the JJDP Monitoring Unit.

State statutes (attached) provide that "the Juvenile Justice Commission shall specify the place where a juvenile may be detained..." and, the Commission has "...the power of visitation and inspection of all juvenile detention facilities." In addition, State regulations require that juvenile detention facilities comply with the State's JJDP Multi-Year Plan, pursuant to the JJDP Act. Other State regulations (attached) were specifically developed to authorize and support the JJDP Unit's monitoring effort and ensure that adult facilities are in compliance with the Act. In addition, a NJ Attorney General

directive (attached) addressing lockups also reinforces compliant juvenile holding and documentation practices.

3. Monitoring Timeline (see table attached)
4. Violations Procedures – A county detention facility found to have a pattern or practice leading to violations will be required to abate the problem within a reasonable period of time. In cases of serious violations that remain unabated, the State could ultimately threaten to remove a county’s authority to house juveniles.

Similarly, other types of monitored facilities will generally be notified in writing of compliance issues and given an appropriate amount of time to address the concerns. The JJC, as an agency within the NJ Department of law & Public Safety, can request assistance from the NJ AG’s office and the appropriate County Prosecutors Office to address compliance issues in adult facilities where violations or the potential for violations persist. In the past, other entities and agencies have been alerted when facilities within their jurisdiction were in non-compliance and jeopardized federal JJDP Act funds that are or may be awarded to programs within their counties and local municipalities.

5. Barriers – In New Jersey’s administrative code “possession or consumption of alcohol by persons underage” is listed as a criminal offense. Although the JJC considers this a status offense for purposes of monitoring, the fact that the State’s criminal code does not comport with the federal definition may still contribute to some violations.
6. Definitions – The State uses compliance terminology and definitions that mirror the federal definitions. Federal definitions are used in all training and educational materials except where State regulations are more stringent. State regulations supporting compliance are also written using federal terms.

The sole exception is that, in NJ, possession/consumption of alcohol by a minor is listed as a delinquent offense.

7. Identification of the Monitoring Universe – The JJDP Monitoring Unit is responsible for identifying any facility (whether secure or not) in the State that might hold juveniles pursuant to public authority. These are the facilities that may fall under the purview of the JJDP Act. Among the facilities included in NJ's universe are: public/private facilities for neglected/dependent, at-risk, or delinquent youth; psychiatric, substance abuse treatment, group homes, shelters, and other facilities under the auspices of the Depts. Of Human Services and Children and Families; JJC facilities (secure and non-secure); police/lockup facilities (municipal, county, state, transportation authorities, colleges/universities, malls, sports/entertainment complexes, others); court holding; county jails; and, state prison facilities. In 2007 monitoring staff began to develop a more comprehensive list of known or suspected non-secure facilities. As required by OJJDP for the first time, this list of non-secure facilities was included in the 2007 Monitoring Report submitted to OJJDP in 2008.
  
8. Classification of the Monitoring Universe - Within the universe of its facilities, each participating state is required to identify any secure facility that may hold juveniles under court authority. The Monitoring Unit maintains comprehensive lists of those facilities classified as secure and that may hold juveniles under public authority. These are the facilities that can produce violations of the Act and therefore must be monitored diligently. The following NJ facilities, classified as secure, are monitored regularly for compliance with the Act:
  - a. County juvenile detention facilities (17)
  - b. State juvenile correctional facilities (4)
  - c. Lockups (504)

- d. County jails (21)
  - e. Court holding (21)
  - f. State adult correctional (14)
9. Inspection of Facilities – On-site inspection of facilities is critically important in monitoring for compliance and receives a high priority in New Jersey:
- a. County juvenile detention facilities – As required by OJJDP, all 17 of the states juvenile detention facilities receive at least one on-site visit annually in order to review primary documentation of admissions. Facilities with high numbers of admissions or more challenging record-keeping systems are scheduled for multiple visits as needed. In order to review and verify data for the *2007 Monitoring Report* a total of 23 visits to detention facilities were conducted.
  - b. Lockups -- OJJDP requires that a minimum of 10% of a state's total number of lockups be visited annually and recommends that every lockup receive an on-site visit at least once every three years. Accordingly, the JJDP Monitoring Unit attempts to inspect a minimum of 1/3 of NJ's lockup facilities annually. In 2006 a total of 141 separate lockups received on-site inspections and, in 2007, 252 facilities received site visits. This represents approximately 78% of all lockups in NJ. Any lockup not visited in 2006 or 2007 was scheduled for a visit in 2008.
  - c. JJC secure facilities -- All four of NJ's secure juvenile correctional facilities are inspected annually. These facilities are monitored for the DSO and Separation requirements. The many checks and balances in the judicial system have prevented any DSO violations in recent years.

- d. County jails -- Monitors visit a minimum of 10% of NJ's 21 county jails annually. Jails that tend to receive more youth under the age of 18 and jails that have Separation or Jail Removal violations are generally prioritized for visits. In 2007 five jails received monitoring visits, and three additional jails were visited in 2008.
- e. Court holding – The JJDP Monitoring Unit plans to meet OJJDP guidelines of visiting a minimum of 10% of NJ's 21 county court holding facilities annually. Visits focus on compliance with the Separation requirement and issues affecting juvenile safety. In 2007, a total of nine holding areas within separate county courthouse were inspected. A total of 21 visits to 19 separate counties were accomplished in 2008.
- f. State prison system – In 2007 and again in 2008 monitoring staff reviewed admissions data and records onsite in one state prison facility in order to ensure compliance within this system. Violations continue to be very rare. Contact is also made with JJC classification officials in order to detect possible violations through the administrative transfer route.

10. Data Collection and Verification - All states participating in the Act are required to have an adequate system to collect and verify facility data in order to determine levels of compliance with the applicable JJDP Act requirements of DSO, Separation, and Jail Removal. Data is collected and verified in different types of facilities using various methodologies and time frames. JJDP monitors review and report on a full 12 months of data annually.

Any non-reporting facilities are factored into the final determination of compliance levels. NJ's reporting period is based on the calendar year and the *Monitoring Report* is provided to OJJDP by June 30 of the following year.

Data collected for the various types of facilities is generally verified through more than one source. For example, every violation reported by a lockup is followed up by contact with police staff in order to determine the actual circumstances surrounding the violation. A priority site visit is scheduled whenever a pattern of violations is evident. Data collected from surveys is verified during facility inspections through a review of internal records during a site visit.

Potential county jail violations are first detected through data gleaned from a focused search of the CCIS database. Other databases are then used to corroborate violations. In cases that remain ambiguous, jail and/or court personnel are contacted. Additionally, data from some jails is verified on-site through a review of records and discussions with jail classification/records staff.

#### **Additional Elements and Tasks:**

Assurances – The state of New Jersey assures that waived juveniles who are solely under the jurisdiction of the Criminal (adult) Court – and have no active case involvement in Family Court - are removed from secure juvenile facilities to an adult facility within six months after the youth reaches the State's age of full criminal responsibility (18).

Monitoring Resources – OJJDP will be notified if circumstances arise or if resources are lost that could jeopardize the State's ability to maintain compliance with the core requirements. Currently, the JJDP Monitoring Unit consists of one full-time employee and another who dedicates a portion of her time to the monitoring effort. The full-time Compliance Monitoring Coordinator has been involved in JJDP Act monitoring since 1998. Another staff member who joined the effort in late 2005 was reassigned in September 2008. The part-time monitor joined the Unit in early 2007.

Resources to maintain compliance are on file and available for review. These include:

- OJJDP training material, JJDP Act of 2002, Guidance Manual, summaries of OJJDP Compliance Monitoring conference calls, etc.
- NJ statutes and regulations that impact on compliance
- The Manual for Monitoring NJ's Facilities for Compliance with the JJDP Act, though dated, is basically consistent with current procedures
- Facility lists containing addresses, emails, contact persons, site visit dates, data collected, violations information, etc.
- Tables, spread sheets, and forms used to collect and organize monitoring information
- Individual facility files containing notes on site visits, contacts, data collected, and correspondence
- Priority site visits and scheduling lists
- All prior *Monitoring Reports* and the primary data collected to support compliance determinations

## 4. Plan for Compliance with the DMC Core Requirement

### Phase I: Identification

**(1) Updated DMC Identification Spread Sheets** – *New Jersey updates the Identification Spread Sheets biennially. The spreadsheets were last updated for activities that occurred in 2006. The 2008 data is due but will not be available until the second quarter of 2009. We have included as attachments the 2006 RRI data, which is the most recent data available.*

### **(2) DMC Data Discussion**

#### **The statewide significant findings for 2004-2006 are as follows:**

- Overall population figures for 10-17 year decreases by 2.0% between 2004 and 2006. The American Indian, Asian and Hispanic population, were the only race/ethnic categories to increase (1.7 %, 5.6% and 2.6%)
- Arrest figures increased for all minorities with significant increases occurring among American Indian/Native Alaskan and Asian youth
- Referrals to Juvenile Court decreased across all race/ethnic categories
  - With the exception of American Indian/Native Alaskans, cases diverted decreased across all race/ethnic categories
  - Cases involving secure detention went down significantly across all race/ethnic categories
  - With the exception of Asians, cases resulting in a finding of delinquency decreased across all race/ethnic
  - With the exception of Asians, cases resulting in probation placement significantly decreased
  - Cases resulting in secure confinement (with the Juvenile Justice Commission) decreased significantly for Whites but increased for Hispanic

#### **State Relative Rate Index**

- Minority youth are almost twice as likely than white youth to be arrested. The RRI for arrests involving African American youth slightly increased

from 3.03 in 2004 to 3.06 in 2006. For Hispanic youth, the arrest rate slightly increased from 1.36 to 1.38. **Across all minority categories, the rate slightly decreased from 1.89 to 1.88.**

- Minority youth are more likely than white youth to be referred to court. The referral rate for cases involving African American youth slightly increased from 1.17 in 2004 to 1.20 in 2006. The rate for cases involving Hispanic youth slightly increased from 1.05 in 2004 to 1.07 in 2006. **Across all minority categories, the referral rate increased from 1.17 to 1.23.**
- Minority youth are less likely to be diverted than white youth. The diversion rate slightly decreased from 0.71 in 2004 to 0.69 in 2006 for cases involving African American youth. The rate increased from 0.79 in 2004 to 0.81 in 2006 for cases involving Hispanic youth. **Across all minority categories, the diversion rate slightly increased from 0.74 to 0.75.**
- Minority youth are almost five times more likely to be placed in secure detention than white youth. For cases involving secure detention, the rate slightly increased for African American youth from 3.91 in 2004 to 5.24 in 2006, and increased for Hispanic youth from 3.56 in 2004 to 4.15 in 2006. **Across all minority categories, the rate for cases involving secure detention increased from 3.68 to 4.67.**
- Minority youth are more than one times more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than white youth. For cases involving a finding of delinquency, the rate decreased from 1.36 in 2004 to 1.23 in 2006 for cases involving African American youth. The rate for cases involving Hispanic youth decreased from 1.22 in 2004 to 1.11 in 2006. **Across all minority categories, the rate decreased from 1.31 to 1.17.**
- Minority youth are more likely to receive probation placement than white youth. For cases involving probationary placements, the rate increased from 1.14 in 2004 to 1.23 in 2006 for cases involving African American youth. The rate for cases involving Hispanic youth slightly increased from 1.22 in 2004 to 1.23 in 2006. **Across all minority categories, the rate increased from 1.15 to 1.21.**
- Minority youth are six times more likely to be placed in secure confinement than white youth. For cases resulting in confinement in juvenile correctional facilities, the rate increased from 3.88 in 2004 to 5.96 in 2006 for cases involving African American youth. The rate for cases involving Hispanic youth increased from 3.38 in 2004 to 5.68 in 2006. **Across all minority categories, the rate increased from 3.65 to 5.68.**

**Significant findings for 2004 – 2006 by points on the continuum for selected counties are as follows:**

**Juvenile Arrests**

- In 2004 the counties with the highest RRI for arrests involving minority youth were Salem (4.49), Mercer (2.92), Camden (2.86), Hunterdon (2.69), Monmouth (2.47) and Essex (2.35).
- In 2006 the counties with the highest RRI for arrests involving minority youth were Mercer (3.35), Salem (3.20), Camden (2.66), Essex (2.53), Hunterdon (2.24), Cumberland (2.23), Monmouth (2.11), Gloucester (2.08) and Burlington (2.04).

**Referrals to Juvenile Court**

- In 2004 the counties that had the highest RRI for cases referred to juvenile court that involved minority youth were Hudson (2.75), Union (2.37), Passaic (1.81), Essex (1.69), Cumberland (1.64), Atlantic (1.54), Sussex (1.46), Middlesex (1.44) and Bergen (1.41).
- In 2006 the counties that had the highest RRI for cases referred to juvenile court that involved minority youth were Hudson (3.82), Passaic (2.19), Union (2.06), Morris (2.65), Hunterdon (1.58), Atlantic (1.56) and Cumberland (1.49).

**Cases Diverted**

- In 2004 the counties with the lowest RRI for the diversion of cases that involved minority youth were Hunterdon (0.48), Essex (0.61), Monmouth (0.64), Sussex (0.66), Warren (0.66), Cape May (0.67), Mercer (0.68), Somerset (0.68) and Union (0.69).
- In 2006 the counties with the lowest RRI for the diversion of cases that involved minority youth were Cape May (0.54), Mercer (0.61), Monmouth (0.68), Middlesex (0.70), Somerset (0.71), Passaic (0.72) and Essex (0.74).

**Cases Involving Secure Detention**

- In 2004 the counties with the highest RRI for cases involving secure detention that involved minority youth were Essex (7.07), Passaic (6.84), Union (6.68), Sussex (6.68), Mercer (6.35), and Hudson (3.92).
- In 2006 the counties with the highest RRI for cases involving secure detention that involved minority youth were Union (8.07), Essex (7.83), Bergen (6.95), Passaic (5.76), Mercer (5.88), Hudson (5.79), Somerset

(4.35) and Monmouth (4.30).

### **Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings**

- In 2004 the counties that had the highest RRI for cases resulting in delinquent findings that involved minority youth were Essex (1.61), Atlantic (1.50), Monmouth (1.34), Hudson (1.33), Morris (1.31), Mercer (1.31), Somerset (1.24), Passaic (1.22) and Camden (1.18).
- In 2006 the counties that had the highest RRI for cases resulting in delinquent findings that involved minority youth were Cape May (1.68), Hudson (1.36), Essex (1.28), Mercer (1.27), Monmouth (1.26), Passaic (1.25), Atlantic (1.25), Burlington (1.23), Middlesex (1.18), Camden (1.13) and Cumberland (1.12).

### **Cases Resulting in Probation Placement**

- In 2004 the counties with the lowest RRI for cases resulting in probation placement that involved minority youth were Warren (0.88) and Burlington (0.98).
- In 2006 the counties with the lowest RRI for cases resulting in probation placement that involved minority youth were Morris (0.74), Salem (0.93), Bergen (0.98) and Ocean (0.99).

### **Cases Resulting in Secure Confinement**

- In 2004 the counties with the highest RRI for cases resulting in secure confinement that involved minority youth were Passaic (3.86), Monmouth (3.77), Camden (2.99) and Middlesex (2.59).
- In 2006 the counties with the highest RRI for cases resulting in secure confinement that involved minority youth were Middlesex (5.57), Burlington (4.35) and Mercer (2.46).

### **Significant findings for 2004 – 2006 by selected counties are as follows:**

#### **Burlington County**

- The rate of arrest for minority youth slightly increased; minority youth are twice as likely to be arrested than white youth.
- The RRI for the diversion of cases involving minority youth slightly decreased; minority youth remain less likely to be diverted than white youth.
- The RRI for cases involving minority youth that resulted in delinquency increased; minority youth are more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than

white youth.

- Where as the RRI for cases resulting in secure confinement could not be calculated in 2004 because of an significant number of white youth securely confined, in 2006 cases involving minority youth were four times more likely to result in secure confinement than cases involving white youth.

### **Cumberland County**

- The rate of arrest for minority youth increased; minority youth are twice as likely to be arrested than white youth.
- The rate of court referrals decreased yet minority youth are still one and half times more likely to be referred to court than white youth.
- The RRI for the diversion of cases involving minority youth slightly increased; minority youth are almost diverted at an equal rate as white youth.
- Cases involving minority youth that resulted in a finding of delinquency remained constant; minority youth are more likely than white youth to be adjudicated delinquent.

### **Essex County**

- The rate of arrest for minority youth increased; minority youth are two and half times more likely to be arrested than white youth.
- Although the RRI for diversions has increased, minority youth remain less likely to be diverted than white youth.
- The detention rate for minority youth increased; minority youth are almost eight times more likely to be detained than white youth.
- Although the RRI for cases resulting in delinquent findings decreased, minority remain more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than white youth.

### **Hudson County**

- The rate of referrals to court increased for minority youth; minority youth are almost for times more likely to be referred to court than white youth.
- Although the RRI for diversions slightly increased, minority youth remain less likely to be diverted than white youth.
- The detention rate among minority youth increased; minority youth are almost six times more likely to be detained than white youth.
- The RRI for cases resulting in delinquent findings slightly increased for minority youth; minority youth remain more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than white youth.

### **Mercer County**

- The rate of arrest for minority youth increased; minority youth are more than three times more likely to be arrested than white youth.
- The rate of diversions slightly decreased and remains very low.

- Although the detention rate decreased, minority youth are almost six times more likely to be detained than white youth.
- The RRI for cases resulting in delinquent findings slightly decreased for minority youth, however they remain more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than white youth.

### **Monmouth County**

- The rate of arrest for minority youth decreased, however, minority youth are still more likely to be arrested than white youth and remain less likely to be diverted.
- The detention rate increased; minority youth are four times more likely to be detained than white youth.
- There was a slight decrease in the adjudication rate, however, minority youth remain more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than white youth.

### **Passaic County**

- The rate of referrals to court increased for minority youth; minority youth are twice as likely to be referred to court than white youth.
- The RRI for diversions slightly decreased, minority youth remain less likely to be diverted than white youth.
- Although the detention rate among minority youth decreased, minority youth are almost six times more likely to be detained than white youth.
- The RRI for cases resulting in delinquent findings slightly increased for minority youth; minority youth remain more likely to be adjudicated delinquent than white youth.

## **Phase II: Assessment/Diagnosis**

A statewide DMC assessment has not been conducted or completed.

## **Phase III: Intervention**

### **(1) Progress Made in FY 2008**

#### **Activities that have been implemented**

##### **Police Diversion Projects**

The JJDP Committee awarded a total of \$247,874 in funds to Fort Lee Borough, Lawrence Township, the City of Trenton, Passaic City, and the City of Perth Amboy to implement Stationhouse Adjustment Programs. The program implementation began in January 2008 with the goal of increasing law enforcement's use of stationhouse adjustments to prevent youth, particularly

minority youth, from entering and progressing further into the juvenile justice system. Currently, all of the projects are still in the first year because each project received extensions due to start up delays. It is expected that each of these projects will receive continuation awards.

### **Collection of Waiver Data by Race**

The JJDP Committee awarded The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) a grant, in the amount of \$18,427, to expand their data management system, which was unable to capture the race/ethnic demographic of youth transferred (waived) to adult court. In 2008, the AOC completed the expansion of their data management system. The expansion provides a uniform manner of recording applications for waiver and the results of these applications throughout the state. As a result of this funding, the AOC is able to generate monthly waiver data reports, by County, that includes age, race, gender and offense type. The AOC began use of this database in the summer of 2008. It is expected that waiver data, by race will be available by July 2009

### **Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative**

In 2008, New Jersey was named the first statewide national replication site for the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). The JJDP Committee played a key role in the expansion efforts of JDAI, which began with five counties in 2004 (Atlantic, Camden, Essex, Monmouth and Hudson). In the early stages, the Committee awarded \$238,400 in funds to provide Detention Specialists in three of the original sites. In addition to funding the Detention Specialist positions, the Committee also funded a JDAI program in Monmouth County, the Monmouth County Evening Reporting Center.

On any given day in 2008, across the original JDAI sites there were 201 fewer youth of color in detention than in 2003, a decrease of -43.2%. Youth of color accounted for 91.0% of the total decrease in the average daily population across the original five sites. The number of minority youth in detention has been cut in half in Essex (-55.3%) and has dropped by -44.1% in Camden.

The expansion of JDAI to the five additional sites (Mercer, Union, Bergen, Burlington and Ocean) has yielded additional positive outcomes for New Jersey's detention system. Collectively the sites have seen the number of youth held in detention centers on any given day drop by -22.5%, with all five sites experiencing a reduction, youth of color account for 78% of this decrease. Admissions to detention have decreased by 25.4%, and average length of stay has decreased by -3.3%.

Without a doubt, the pilot implementation of New Jersey's detention admission Risk Screening Tool in 2008 in four pilot sites is prominent among the factors contributing to a decrease in detention populations during the most recent year. The JJDP Committee awarded \$10,183 to the AOC to pilot enhanced 24-hour wireless access to the JDAI risk screening tool. As a result, state policy makers

are now able to make informed decisions concerning the risk screening tool and the methodology and utility for access to the Juvenile Registry and Family Automated Case Tracking System.

Lastly, to strengthen the systems improvement efforts of JDAI, the Council of Juvenile Justice System Improvement has been jointly convened between the Juvenile Justice Commission and the Administrative Office of the Courts with the support of the Supreme Court.

### **County Youth Services Commissions (CYSC) Three-Year Planning Process for 2009-2011**

The Juvenile Justice Commission maintains oversight of county efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparity in the juvenile justice system. The County Youth Services Commissions are required to submit a comprehensive three-year plan to the Commission along with an annual update. In 2008, Chapter 10 of the Three-Year Plan, the section of the plan that addresses racial and ethnic disparities, was revised so that it more clearly examines each point on the JJ System Continuum through the lens of race. To date, all 21 counties have submitted their Three-Year Plan and all plans are now in the process of being reviewed.

### **Activities that have not been implemented**

An ad hoc DMC subcommittee of the SAG was formed during the March 2008 SAG retreat. During this retreat and planning process, the subcommittee reviewed 2004 and 2006 DMC data and identified five local communities within the counties having highest RRI and prioritized these communities for further investigation. These communities are Bridgeton, Lawrence Township, Millville, the City of Trenton, and Vineland. The ad hoc DMC subcommittee proceeded to gather DMC data for each of five local communities. The ad hoc subcommittee has yet to obtain all of the data necessary to complete their work. Upon doing so the DMC coordinator will work with the ad hoc subcommittee to determine the best approach to infusing DMC reduction strategies with the local efforts already taking place in these communities.

The DMC Coordinator will be working with local stakeholders to mobilize community leaders and residents interested in addressing the issue of disproportionate number of minority youth entering the juvenile justice system.

### **(2) DMC Reduction Plan for FY 2009-2011**

The JJDP Committee anticipates the continuation of the five police diversionary programs in Fort Lee Borough, Lawrence Township, the City of Trenton, Passaic

City, and the City of Perth Amboy throughout 2009 and 2010. The goal of these programs is to reduce the number of minority youth entering and progressing through the system. In 2008, a second NOAF was disseminated to select additional SHA programs. The Committee has funded an additional police diversionary project in North Bergen and anticipates their continuation as well.

Juvenile waiver reports will be available by race in the third quarter of 2009. As a result, New Jersey will be able to input the figures for transfers to adult court on the RRI Identification Spreadsheet and conduct a thorough assessment of DMC in the state and by county.

As part of the JDAI Initiative, New Jersey has contracted with the W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI) to provide technical assistance to Atlantic, Camden and Monmouth Counties. BI will engage these counties in a consensus-based, data-driven approach to change policies, procedures and practices that impact DMC in their local jurisdictions.

The SAG continues to keep DMC at the forefront of its planning efforts and has maintained that the overarching goal for each NOAF address DMC reduction.

#### **Phase IV: Evaluation**

The stationhouse adjustment police diversionary programs are being evaluated and monitored using the DMC performance output and outcome measures. However a formal process or outcome evaluation as a component of the DMC reduction model has not yet been conducted. Therefore “Not Applicable” is the appropriate indication for this section.

#### **Phase V: Monitoring**

Chapter 10 of the County Three Year-Plan not only includes data by race, but it also indicates at each point of the system the implications of the data and provides recommendations and strategies to ensure similar outcomes for similarly situated youth. Upon submission and approval of the reports by the Juvenile Justice Commission’s County Youth Service Commission Grants Management Unit, Chapter 10 of each county report is forwarded to the DMC Coordinator for review and monitoring purposes.

The DMC Coordinator will continue the ongoing monitoring of the police diversionary programs. Additionally, the DMC Coordinator will actively participate in the work that the Burns Institute will be doing in Atlantic, Camden and Monmouth County.

## **5. Coordination of Child Abuse and Neglect and Delinquency Programs**

The JJDP Committee recognizes the relationship between childhood maltreatment and delinquency. The Committee continues to fund programs addressing traumatic experiences in the lives of girls and has engaged other state departments in expanding funding for home visitation programs.

A. Currently, the SAG does not provide specific incentive grants to units of local government aimed at reducing the caseload of probation officers, however, caseloads have come down throughout the state as a result of system reform efforts.

B. Information sharing across state departments is promoted so that children/youth receive the most appropriate services available and to promote coordination of services and reduce redundancy.

C. In New Jersey, the court has the ability to order/request records that may be pertinent in deciding the best method of addressing the needs of specific youth.

## **6. COLLECTING AND SHARING JUVENILE JUSTICE INFORMATION**

A. State agencies generally gather data in a method and format that best serves the needs of that individual agency. Data that would be typically sought by other interested parties is often available at the state agency's website. Data is also generally available upon request. The JJC currently also has access to much of the data generated by the Court's Family Automated Case Tracking System (FACTS). All of these avenues for accessing data and information have been used in the development of the SAG's 3-year plan.

Information is provided to law enforcement through a Statewide Juvenile Central Registry. Information provided to the State Department of Education is included, subject to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 which covers disclosure of juvenile information on a confidential basis to the principal of the school where a juvenile is enrolled. This record cannot be maintained except as authorized by regulation of the Department of Education.

Juvenile Information can be provided to the Department of Human Services or Department of Children and Families if they are providing care for the juvenile. To promote information sharing while maintaining individual privacy, the judiciary meets at the state level to discuss and share information and to review practices and to plan for

future initiatives, to organize training to improve practice and to identify barriers that impede effective coordination.

B. Barriers to sharing information include issues surrounding the confidentiality of youth and families who are involved in the various child-serving systems. The Child in Court Improvement Committee has been established at the state level to address issues pertaining to case processing for abused and neglected youth. This Committee is also working on issues pertaining to accessing data across state agencies.

Requests for confidential data can always be made through the appropriate authority and a determination will be made regarding confidential information/data being shared. Legislation has been recently introduced to increase information sharing for the benefit of youth, while protecting the individual privacy.

## **Compliance Monitoring**

Standard Program Area: 06 (also incorporates Standard Program Areas 08, 17, and 28)

**Program Problem Statement:** Section 223(a)(14) of the JJDP Act of 2002 requires that participating states provide for an adequate system of monitoring facilities that may hold juveniles pursuant to public authority. This monitoring shall ensure that the JJDP Act's core requirements of Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders and Nonoffenders [Sec.223(a)(11)], Separation of Juveniles and Adults [(Sec.223(a)(12)], and the Removal of Juveniles from Adult Jails and Lockups [(Sec.223(a)(13)] are met. It also requires that an annual reporting of the results of such monitoring be provided to the administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

**Goal:** To continue to meet the requirements for monitoring NJ for compliance with the Act through the maintenance of the JJDP Compliance Monitoring Unit.

### **Objectives:**

- 1) To maintain a system whereby the State, under the guidance of NJ's JJDP Committee, adequately monitors for and ensures compliance with the core requirements of the Act noted above;
- 2) To ensure that pertinent entities and persons are knowledgeable of the requirements of the JJDP Act and that regulations, policies and practices support compliance with the Act;
- 3) To maintain *de minimus* violation rates as per OJJDP guidelines;
- 4) To collect and verify data sufficient to determine NJ's overall compliance rates with the first three core requirements of the Act; and,
- 5) To identify and eliminate facility policies and practices leading to violations of the Act.

### **Activities:**

- 1) Maintain current and comprehensive lists of all facilities (the "universe") within the State that may hold juveniles pursuant to public authority;
- 2) Maintain current and comprehensive lists of all facilities classified as secure and that require routine monitoring for compliance with the Act;
- 3) Maintain a schedule of site visits to facilities within the universe that may need to be monitored routinely in order to determine their purpose, practices involving juveniles, and secure classification;
- 4) Maintain a schedule of inspections to facilities classified as secure (those requiring routine monitoring) in order to determine compliance;
- 5) Survey all lockup facilities semi-annually and follow up as necessary in order to identify violations or practices that could lead to violations;
- 6) Conduct site visits to all county juvenile detention facilities annually to review admissions records;
- 7) Conduct site visits annually to all secure JJC facilities to monitor for compliance;

- 8) Conduct on-site inspections of at least 1/3 of NJ's lockup facilities annually and inspect 100% of all such facilities within the three year period ending 12/31/2011;
- 9) Conduct site visits to a minimum of 10% of adult county jails annually and visit all such facilities in the three year monitoring period ending 12/31/2011;
- 10) Conduct site visits to a minimum of 10% of county court holding facilities annually and visit all such facilities in the three year monitoring period ending 12/31/2011;
- 11) Conduct site visits to State adult correctional facilities and review records to determine compliance with the Act;
- 12) Develop and submit an annual Monitoring Report to OJJDP by June 30, 2009 (for calendar year 2008);
- 13) Collect, verify and analyze data sufficient to determine New Jersey's compliance levels in secure facilities subject to compliance with the Act;
- 14) Maintain files and records related to all compliance activities;
- 15) Provide technical assistance to facility staff on an as-needed basis;
- 16) Train others, primarily facility staff, on compliance issues;
- 17) Develop and maintain educational materials, forms, record-keeping systems, and correspondence relating to compliance;
- 18) Develop and periodically revise State regulations that support compliance with the Act; and,
- 19) Prepare reports for the SAG and attend SAG meetings as needed to apprise the Committee on pertinent compliance issues.
- 20) Update NJ's *Compliance Monitoring Manual* by June 30, 2009.

**Performance Measures:**

**Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Funds allocated to adhere to Section 223(a)(14) of the JJDP Act of 2002**

**Number of activities that address compliance with Section 223(a)(14) of the JJDP Act of 2002**

**Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Submission of Annual Monitoring Report to OJJDP**

Number and percent of program staff with increased knowledge of program area

## **Delinquency Prevention**

Standard Program Area: 09

### **Program Problem Statement:**

*The Governor's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods* contains a prevention component that targets youth at-risk of delinquency and addresses the need to increase services before youth turn to delinquency. Local and county agencies are responsible for implementing the overwhelming majority of crime prevention and intervention strategies. It is important to provide, county, and municipal governments with the knowledge and tools that will increase the collective ability to prevent and intervene in delinquency through the implementation of effective and evidence-based strategies.

Another component of the Governor's Strategy focuses on the need to provide positive activities for youth during their time spent away from school. New Jersey's SAG plans to continue its summer programming for youth which provides support for providers to implement and expand programs for youth.

The SAG funded the first Nurse Family Partnership Program in New Jersey. This program is recognized as a Blue Print Program by OJJDP and has demonstrated long lasting effects. Since funding this initial program NJ's SAG has worked collaboratively with other state Departments to support the expansion of this model. In late 2008 the NJ Department of Children and Families was awarded a federal grant to expand Home Visitation. The SAG agreed to provide support for the expansion of NFP into two additional counties in New Jersey.

### **Goals:**

To reduce delinquency by working collaboratively with other state agencies to train and support municipal coalitions that are willing and ready to conduct community assessments, create three-year comprehensive prevention plans and implement evidence-based programs; and

To reduce delinquency, by supporting summer programming for youth in communities statewide and early intervention with at-risk families through home visitation.

### **Objectives:**

- 1) Through providing the Title V training series to at least six existing and new municipal-level coalitions statewide; and to increase the use of community assessments by providing methods to identify risk and protective factors as part of the planning process within community.
- 2) To explore with OJJDP a mechanism for expanding opportunities for on-going community assessment of existing programs and activities, as well as gaps in services; and develop local comprehensive delinquency prevention plans that

strengthen existing protective factors, fill in gaps where protective factors are lacking; and create schedules for on-going monitoring of progress and evaluation of strategies.

- 3) To provide funding assistance to at least three municipal coalitions that complete the process of creating comprehensive plans and address the implementation of evidence-based delinquency prevention strategies,
- 4) To provide funding for at least 12 summer expansion programs statewide.
- 5) To provide funding to support the expansion of Nurse Family Partnership into two additional counties in New Jersey.

**Activities:** Through OJJDP TA grant a Title V training is currently being hosted for six key cities across the state. Key leaders were engaged in the training process. The SAG will continue to work cooperatively with Office of the Attorney General to support expanded use of the risk and resource assessment process in New Jersey's communities. The SAG has voted to use Formula Grant funds to support the Title V effort in New Jersey since the level of Title V funds has diminished over the years.

Funds to provide summer programming for youth supports the Governor's Strategy ideal of providing activities for youth during out of school time. A NOAF will be disseminated in early 2009 so that providers can be selected. Summer expansion funds are available to those providers that currently serve youth, to expand their work with youth by increasing the numbers served, the activities to be held, or to extend a school year program into the summer.

The SAG will continue to work cooperatively with the New Jersey Department of Children and Families to support the expansion of the Nurse Family Partnership Program in New Jersey.

**Performance Measures:**

**Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Formula Grant funds (amount) awarded for services**

**Number of program youth served**

Number of program staff trained

Number of planning activities conducted

Number of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) developed

**Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Number and percent of program youth exhibiting desired change in Anti-social behaviors**

**Number and percent of youth completing program requirements**

Number and percent of youth satisfied with program

Number and percent of families satisfied with program

## **Disproportionate Minority Contact**

Standard Program Area: 10

**Program Problem Statement:** In New Jersey, the total number of arrests for all juveniles slightly decreased between 2004 and 2006 but the total number of arrests of Hispanic juveniles increased by 7.4%. Significantly, the overall number of cases, among all races, handled informally (delinquency compliant not filed by police) increased by 13%. Correspondingly, the total juvenile referrals to court decreased by 7.5%. The data reflects a significant decrease in the number of Black and Hispanic youth adjudicated delinquent between 2004 and 2006. Adjudications decreased by 14% among Black youth and 9.2% among Hispanic youth.

In December 2005, an Attorney General's *Directive* mandated all municipal and other law enforcement agencies having patrol jurisdiction to use SHA's when appropriate. This Directive was followed by the dissemination of the *Attorney General Guidelines for Stationhouse Adjustment of Juvenile Delinquency Offenses*. The Guidelines clarify which offenses may be considered for a SHA, procedures/techniques, and referrals to outside agencies, sample SHA forms, and quarterly reporting requirements to the County Prosecutor's Offices.

**Goal:** To expand law enforcement's use of stationhouse adjustments to address low level delinquent activity in order to divert increased numbers of New Jersey youth, particularly minority youth, from the formal juvenile justice system.

**Objectives:** To fund, monitor and advocate for the increased use of stationhouse adjustments by municipal police departments across the state through the review of data collected quarterly by county prosecutors offices as mandated by the *Attorney General Guidelines for Stationhouse Adjustment of Delinquency Offenses*; To utilize existing data to complete the assessment phase of the DMC Reduction Model.

**Activities:** The JJDP Committee will assist counties and municipalities throughout the state in the use of stationhouse adjustments, which will include training on the guidelines and monitoring all collected data. The Committee continues to keep DMC at the forefront of its planning efforts and will ensure that DMC is identified in the goal of each NOAF that is released. Additionally, existing JDAI data and data collected through the W. Haywood Burns Institute will be used to assess and address DMC in New Jersey.

### **Performance Measures:**

#### **Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Formula Grant funds (amount) awarded for services**

**Number of program youth served**

Number of program slots available

Number of service hours completed

#### **Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Number and percent of program youth who offend or reoffend**

**Number and percent of program youth completing program requirements**

Number and percent of program youth exhibiting a desired change in targeted behavior  
Number and percent of program youth satisfied with program

## **Gender Specific Services**

Standard Program Area: 13

**Program Problem Statement:** The overall population of girls in New Jersey decreased by 1.89% between 2004 and 2006. During that period there was also slight decrease in the arrest of juvenile females by 2.71%. The amount of girls referred to juvenile court decreased by 13.2%. In addition, the percentage of girls diverted from formal court proceedings decreased by 18.8%, the number of placed in detention dropped 18.5% from 2004 to 2006, and the percentage of girls adjudicated delinquent dropped 18%.

From a dispositional perspective, the number of girls placed on probation dropped 21.6%. The number of girls placed in Juvenile Justice Commission residential community home on a Probation status remained the same (30 intakes) and the number of girls committed to the JJC decreased from 54 to 53 (1.8%). During the same time frame, there was a 100% decrease of juvenile females admitted to adult jails. In 2004, there were 2 juvenile females admitted to adult jails, while in 2005 and 2006, there were not any juvenile female admissions.

Through the use of focus groups, key issues were identified by youth and the staff who work with them, which include traumatic life events resulting in anger management problems and health related issues (i.e. mental health, physical health and substance abuse). Opportunities at the community level to address these and other issues leading to juvenile justice system involvement will assist New Jersey in preventing involvement in violence and other negative behavior for girls.

**Goal:** To continue community-based model gender specific services programs to reduce the number of girls entering the juvenile justice system inappropriately and to reduce the number of girls in both secure and non-secure care at the JJC.

**Objectives:** 1) To utilize the Young Women's Action Alliance to address key issues identified by the JJDP Committee as affecting New Jersey's juvenile females; 2) To write a Notice of Funding Availability for local service providers to host the Annual Celebration of Womanhood Conferences during the Spring of 2009; 3) To provide support and technical assistance within the JJC upon request; 4) To interpret the impact of the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) on girls with the juvenile justice system; and 5) To keep the community at large informed on key issues and resources related to girls through the use of regional training sessions, email, and other forms of communication.

**Activities:** Through monitoring and providing technical assistance to two gender responsive programs, NJ's gender initiative will seek to ensure the success of the funded programs in meeting the needs of girls in community. Staffing will be provided to the YWAA and its workgroups to address the key issues of girls in communities, including those returning from JJC placements. A key function of the YWAA under the leadership of the Young Women's Action Alliance Coordinator is to coordinate the annual Celebration of Womanhood Conferences with local service providers. Additionally, regional training

sessions will be facilitated to keep the New Jersey Community abreast of the needs of girls and gender responsive programming.

**Performance Measures:**

**Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Formula Grant funds (amount) awarded for services**

**Number of program youth served**

Number of service hours completed

Average length of stay in program

**Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Number and percent of program youth who offend or reoffend**

**Number and percent of program youth exhibiting desired change in targeted behaviors**

**Number and percent of program youth completing program requirements**

Number and percent of program youth charged with formal probation violations

Number and percent of program staff with increased knowledge of the program area

Number and percent of program youth satisfied with program

## **Planning and Administration**

Standard Program Area: 23

**Program Problem Statement:** In order to maintain the core functions of Compliance Monitoring, Plan Development, Grants Administration, Program Evaluation, and Performance Measurement Reporting, a staff of professionals is needed. The JJDP Unit works internally to achieve each facet of these functions, and works cooperatively with community-based agencies and organizations to ensure that federal funds are accessed and utilized in a manner that maximizes efficiency and avoids duplication.

**Goal:** To provide for a professional staff which oversees the implementation of the JJDP Act of 2002, as amended and for compliance with its core requirements.

**Objectives:** 1) To continuously plan for the needs of at-risk and court-involved youth at the state and local levels; 2) To annually apply for formula grant funding through submission of a plan or plan update; 3) To provide ongoing monitoring and evaluation of funded projects; 4) To ensure that a system of monitoring for compliance (with the Act's core requirements) is in place; 5) To adequately staff the Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee, (New Jersey's SAG); 6) To submit all Subgrantee Information Forms and annual Performance Measure Reports on the Grants Management System (GMS); and 7) To develop and distribute Notices of Availability of Funds for local grant funding.

**Activities:** Activities of JJDP staff include: 1) Ongoing compliance monitoring; 2) Continuous fiscal and programmatic monitoring of funded programs, services, and subgrantees; 3) Ongoing staffing of JJDP Committee and Subcommittees; 4) Maintaining effective and useful performance measurement reporting; and 5) Ongoing planning meetings with JJDP members, county representatives, community-based representatives, and Subgrantees.

### **Performance Measures:**

#### **Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Formula Grant funds (amount) awarded for Planning and Administration**

**Number of subgrants awarded**

Number of SAG committee and subcommittee meetings staffed

Number and percent of programs monitored

#### **Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Number and percent of programs funded directly in line with the 3-year Plan**

Percent change in technically acceptable proposals received

Average time from receipt of subgrant application to date of award

## School Programs

Standard Program Area: 27

**Program Problem Statement:** The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee identified as one of three primary areas in which they want to focus attention as Truancy/Absenteeism.

**Truancy Problem Statement:** Truancy is the first sign of trouble for youth; it is an initial indicator that a child is giving up and losing his or her way. Truancy is linked to delinquency, drug and gang involvement and dropping out of school. When young people start skipping school, it is a signal to their parents, school officials, and the community at large that they are in trouble and need our help if they are to keep moving forward in life. Encouraging students to see the value of education and assisting them in developing good habits regarding attendance will serve the student greatly as he/she prepares for the world of work. Truancy threatens the potential labor force and thus, the future quality of life of our children.

In New Jersey truancy is defined as more than 10 unexcused absences. New regulations require school districts to develop interventions for intervals prior to the youth reaching the marker of 10 unexcused absences.

*The NJ Governor's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods* includes an action item under the Prevention section to develop and implement an evidence-based Truancy Reduction Pilot Program. SAG members and staff are currently participating on the Interagency Workgroup hosted by the state Department of Education (DOE) in collaboration with the Office of Attorney General, to address this action item. This work group will seek to provide opportunities for school districts to develop interventions specific to their jurisdiction based on the OJJDP Toolkit for Truancy Reduction.

**Truancy Goal:** To reduce truancy and increase students' attachment to school and help them overcome any personal, family, or community impediments to school attendance.

**Truancy Objectives:** 1) To participate in the state level work group to develop an interagency collaboration to address the problem of truancy; 2) To fund at least 3 school districts to implement evidence-based programs to reduce truancy; 3) To provide truancy prevention and intervention services in selected jurisdictions to at least 300 students 2010; and 4) To reduce truancy in the funded jurisdictions by at least 10% of the previous year's baseline.

**Truancy Activities:** Funding for communities and school districts to implement evidence based truancy prevention and intervention efforts be targeted to six of the 20 high need cities identified in the Governor's Strategy. The Department of Education will provide \$100,000 to engage the National Center for School Engagement (NCSE) on behalf of the six jurisdictions to begin a planning process which utilizes the Toolkit to identify best practices to address truancy within their school districts. The JJDP Committee will follow this process with a Notice of Availability of Funds to support selected best-practices models. The JJDP Committee will coordinate with the State-level Interagency Truancy Workgroup to review the recommended practices and offer assistance in supporting

initiatives that are child-friendly and family focused. In addition, technical assistance provided by the NCSE will include an examination of school and community policies and practices that could be established or changed to support the truancy reduction goals. A comprehensive approach will be employed to ensure that the unique needs of each child can be met and offer a greater community wide response to the problem of truancy.

**Performance Measures:**

**Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Formula Grant funds (amount) awarded for services**

**Number of program youth served**

Number of program slots available

Number of MOU's developed

**Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

**Number and percent of program youth completing program requirements**

**Number of program youth who offend or reoffend**

**Number and percent of program youth exhibiting desired change in targeted behavior – School Attendance**

## **State Advisory Group Allocation**

Standard Program Area: 31

**Program Problem Statement:** The JJDP Act of 2002 requires that there be a State Advisory Group (SAG), hereafter to be referred to as the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee, appointed by the chief executive officer of the state to carry out the responsibilities outlined in the Act. The Act also delineates the composition of the JJDP Committee and allocates funding to allow it to fulfill its responsibilities. New Jersey's FFY2006 and FFY2007 Formula Grant allocations were special conditioned because the composition of the SAG. In March 2008, the Governor made the necessary appointments. The Committee is now in full compliance.

**Goal:** To fulfill the requirements of the JJDP Act by maintaining an effective JJDP Committee, New Jersey's SAG, which is consistent with the federal requirements.

**Objectives:** 1) To ensure that the membership of the JJDP Committee consists of between 15-33 members, includes a minimum 1/5 youth (under 24 at the time of appointment) membership, has at least one locally elected official representing general purpose local government, is not more than 50% full time government employees, and has at least three representatives who are or who have been involved with the juvenile justice system; 2) To ensure a review of the Comprehensive Plan and its updates by JJDP Committee members; 3) To ensure that members are involved with making subgrant awards under formula grants and that members actively participate in a minimum of one on-site programmatic visit per year; 4) To assist with the development of Notices of Availability of Funds for formula grant funding; and 5) To submit to the Governor and the Legislature an annual report which documents the activities of the JJDP Committee and includes recommendations with respect to improving the juvenile justice system.

**Activities:** The activities of the JJDP Committee include the development of and reviewing annually the 3 Year Comprehensive Plan and Plan Updates, completion of the annual report to submit to the Governor and Legislature, creating the schedule of and attending Committee and Subcommittee meetings, overseeing federal formula grant funding by approving subgrant awards, attending site visits of funded subgrantee programs, attending conferences and trainings sponsored by OJJDP and/or the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ), and overseeing the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of funded programs. In addition to attending and participating in conferences, the JJDP Committee also hosts community education forums, conferences and symposiums on various juvenile justice related topics.

**Performance Measures:**

**Output Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

- Number of grants funded with Formula Grants funds**
- Number of grant applications reviewed and commented on**
- Number of JJDP committee meetings held**
- Number of JJDP subcommittee meetings held**
- Number of grant applications reviewed and commented on

**Outcome Performance Measures** (mandatory in **bold**):

- Number and percent of Plan recommendations implemented**
- Number and percent of JJDP Committee members show increased knowledge of their program areas (for which they have oversight)

## **8. SUBGRANT AWARD ASSURANCES**

### **A. Sub-Award Selection**

Since its inception, the Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee has consistently funded programs for continuation past the startup phase depending on outcomes and program performance. Since 2005, most Notices of Availability of Funds (NOAFs) have directed subgrant applicants to use the Model Programs Guide from OJJDP when proposing programs for funding consideration. Future NOAFs will continue to require that applicants propose to replicate with fidelity and or implement an evidence-based program from the Model Programs Guide, since the Guide effectively covers all programs in the continuum of care.

During a funded program's first year of funding, routine site visits are conducted by members of the JJDP Committee and its staff to monitor program performance and to ensure program fidelity. In addition to the standard reporting of programmatic progress and the newly required performance measurement reporting, some programs are also required to do a more formal type of evaluation. Only programs that successfully demonstrate programmatic achievement by accomplishing their goals and objectives, meeting all performance measurement reporting obligations, and, if required, completing the formal evaluation process are eligible for second and third year continuation funding.

### **B. Geographic Information**

All subgrant applicants, prior to receiving funding, are required to provide the geographic information for both the administrative and fiscal office of the agency and the address where services will be provided, if different. The state will provide this information to OJJDP following the subgrant award process.

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Represents</b>	<b>Full-Time Gov.</b>	<b>Youth Member</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
1	Nafeesah Allen	E		X	9/07
2	Robert Baselice	G			11/04
3	W. David Burns	A, G			3/95
4	Jarrett Cato			X	2/08
5	Tevon Combs	F		X	2/08
6	Jude DelPreore	B	X		1/01
7	Thomas Fiskén	C	X		11/04
8	Honorable F. Lee Forrester	B	X		9/07
9	Shama Haider	D, F			9/07
10	Cindy Hamer	C	X		1/01
11	Carlos Hendricks	F, D			11/04
12	Calvin Johnson, Jr.	E		X	2/08
13	Jean Krauss **	E			1/01
14	Miguel Maldonado	D			10/07
15	Margaret McLeod	H			3/95
16	Roy Perham	E			1/01
17	Mary Previte	G, E			3/95
18	Briele Reynolds			X	2/08
19	A. Cynthia Rodriguez			X	2/08
20	Lydia Santoni-Williams	D			9/07

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Represents</b>	<b>Full-Time Gov.</b>	<b>Youth Member</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
21	Barry Serebnick	B	X		9/07
22	Daniel Sharper	F		X	2/08
23	Barbara Wallace	E, C	X		9/07
24	Cathy Wasserman *	B	X		2/01
25	Adam Jeffrey Wrzesinski			X	2/08

**\*\*Denotes Chairperson**

**\*Denotes Vice Chairperson**

**The SAG serves as the supervisory   X   or advisory        board.**

**Key Code:**

A. Locally elected official representing general purpose local government.

B. Representative of law enforcement and juvenile justice agencies, including:

Juvenile and family court judges, prosecutors, counsel for children and youth, and probation workers

C. Representatives of public agencies concerned with delinquency prevention or treatment:

Welfare, social services, mental health, education, special education, recreation, youth services.

D. Representatives of private nonprofit organizations, including persons concerned with:

Family preservation and strengthening; parent groups and parent self-help groups; youth development; delinquency prevention and treatment; neglected or dependent children; quality of juvenile justice; education; social services for children.

E. Volunteers who work with juvenile justice.

F. Youth workers involved with programs that are alternatives to confinement, including organized recreation activities.

G. Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to school violence and vandalism and alternatives to suspension and expulsion.

H. Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to learning disabilities, emotional difficulties, child abuse and neglect, and youth violence.

