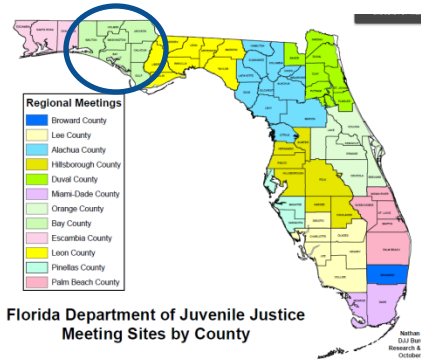


“Roadmap to System Excellence”

Bay County
January 30, 2013
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

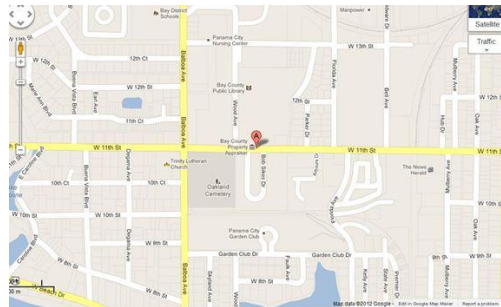
Introduction

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice is holding a series of Town Hall meetings at 12 locations around the state to obtain feedback and answer questions regarding its reform efforts and specifically its “Roadmap to System Excellence.”



Location

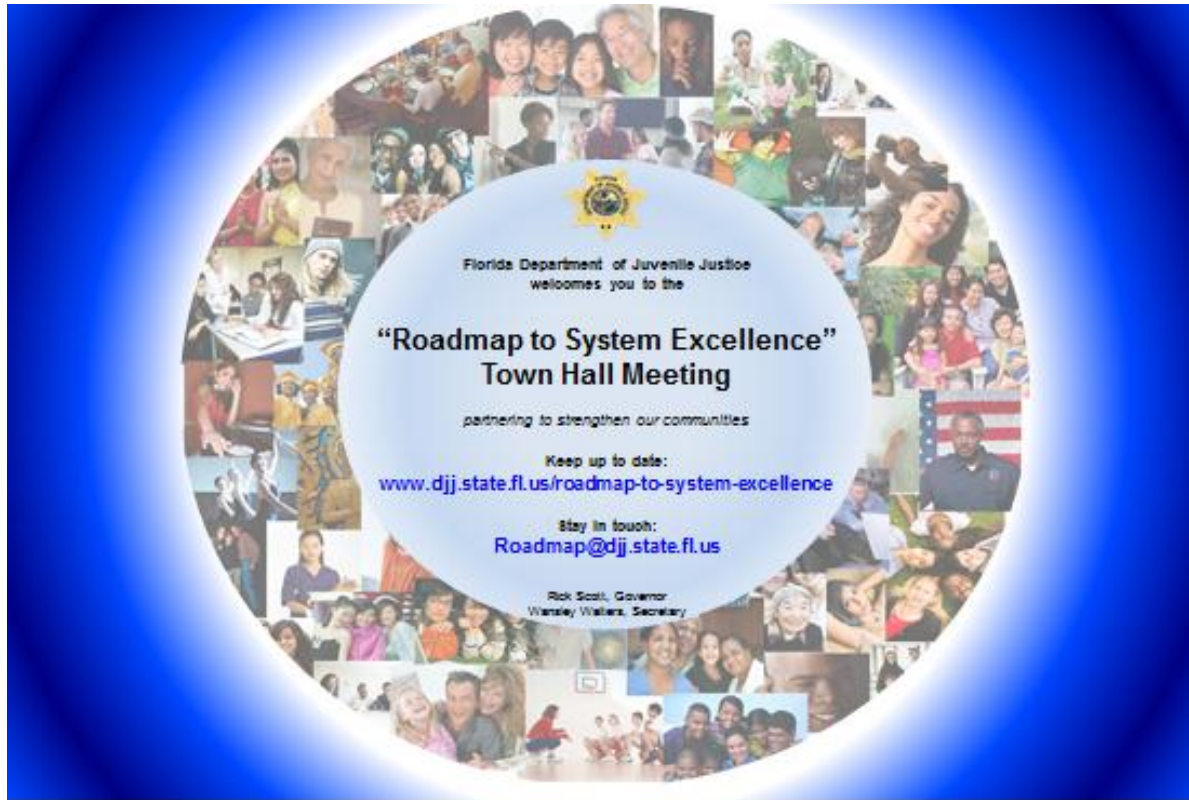
Bay County Government Center
840 West 11th Street
Panama City, FL



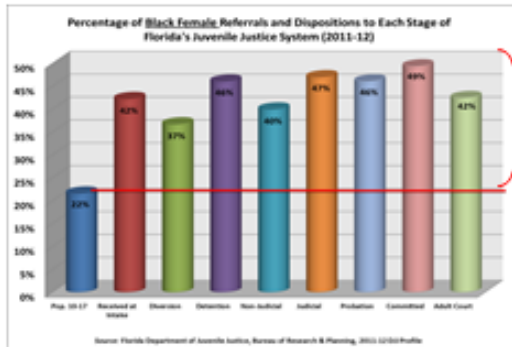
Agenda

6:00 Welcome	Representative Jimmy Patronis
6:15 Opening Speaker	Wansley Walters, Secretary and Alex Kelly, Chief of Staff Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
6:30 Questions and Comments	Audience Members
8:00 Adjourn	

Easel Data Points



Prevent More Youth from Entering the Juvenile Justice System

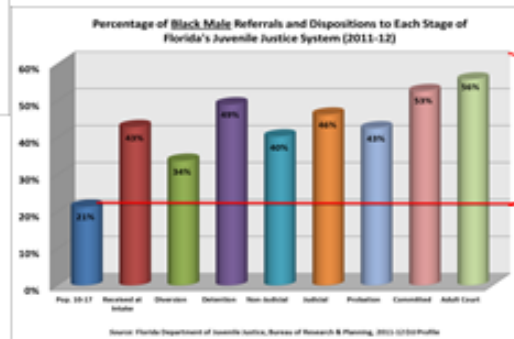


Above the black female population

Disproportionate Minority Contact

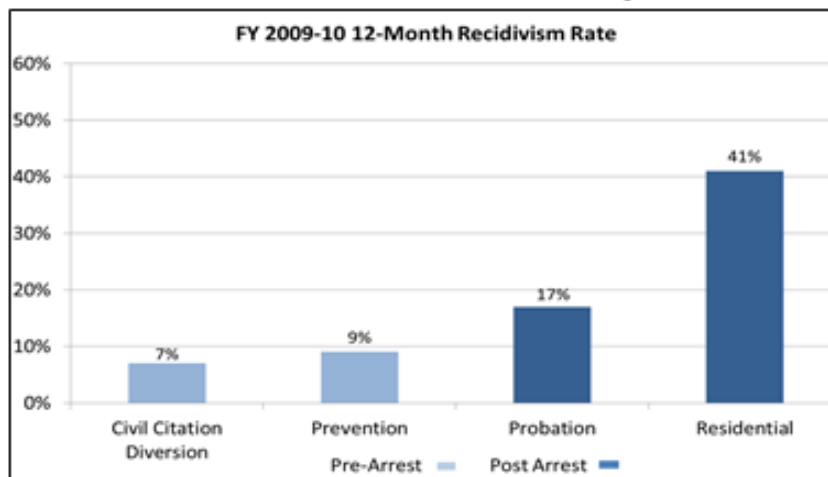
Disparities exist in the racial make-up of youth that come into contact with juvenile justice authorities. Currently, minority youth are overrepresented relative to their white counterparts. This is known as Disproportionate Minority Contact. To address this issue, DJJ will:

- Increase diversion programs like Civil Citation.
- Train law enforcement and hold forums with youth.
- Generate and strengthen participation among juvenile justice and community stakeholders.
- Develop employment training programs for underserved minority/high-risk areas.
- Initiate collaborations with schools.
- Identify community liaisons.



Above the black male population

Divert More Youth from Involvement with the Juvenile Justice System



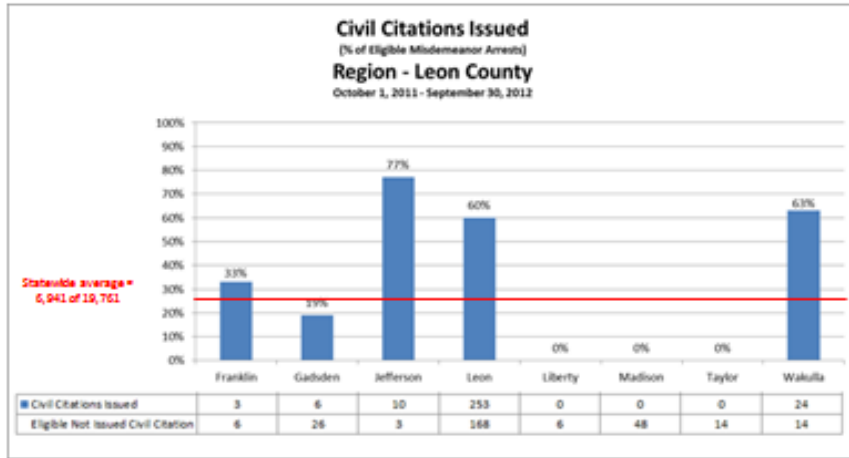
The best way to impact recidivism is to reach youth before they penetrate the juvenile justice system. Civil Citation is an appropriate sanction for youth that commit first-time, non-violent misdemeanors. The Civil Citation process prevents youth from formal arrest, avoids them having an arrest record and effectively discourages future offending. Youth are still held accountable for their poor behavior without harming their long-term prospects to become productive citizens.

Divert More Youth from Entering the Juvenile Justice System

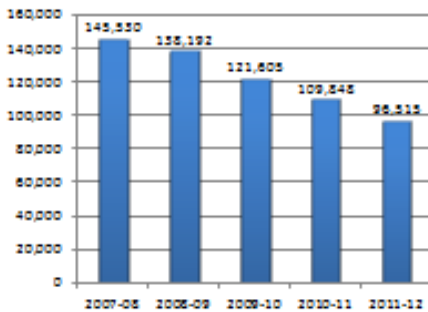
Over 60% of juveniles arrested for a first-time delinquent offense do not re-offend.

First-time offenders, particularly non-violent offenders, should be diverted from the juvenile justice system through innovative practices such as Civil Citation.

Community-based intervention is more effective in diverting these youth from further delinquency without the negative consequences or expense of entering the juvenile justice system.



Divert More Youth from Secure Detention

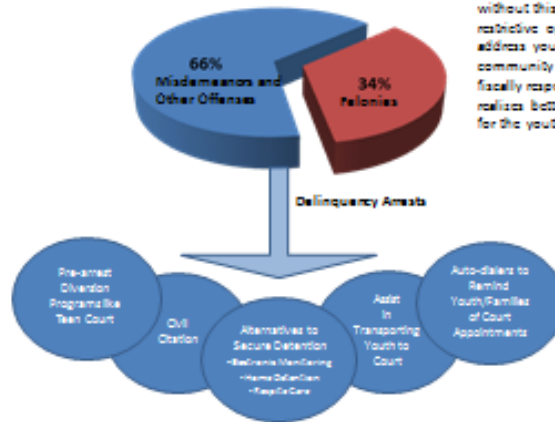


Although the number of youth arrested continues to decline in Florida, too many youth are unnecessarily placed in secure detention.

Secure detention can be used inappropriately when youth are detained for missing a court date or for being non-compliant with an aspect of their probation, such as missing curfew. Effective, progressive incentives (actions or rewards used to reinforce positive behavior) and sanctions can help them succeed, instead of pushing them further and further into the system.

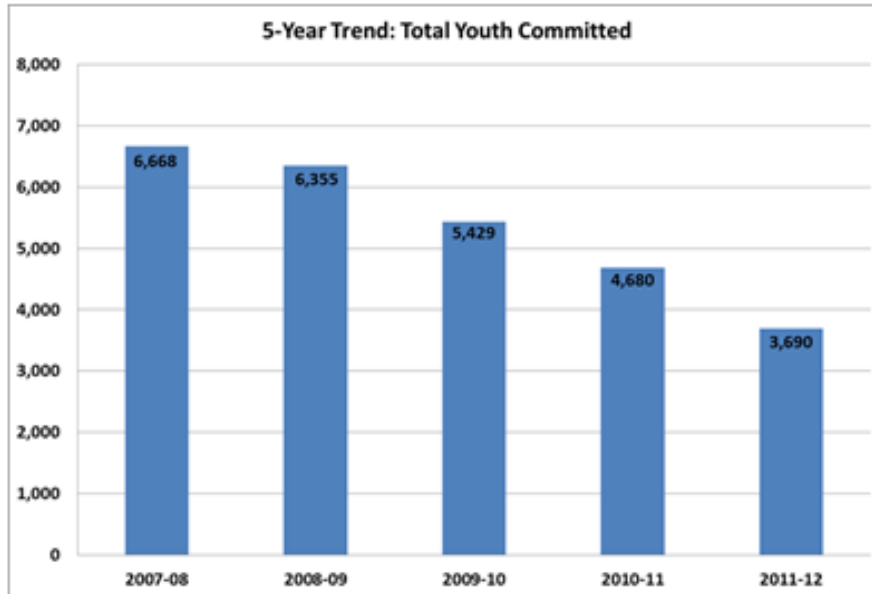
Youth who pose no risk to public safety or have no need for support and services should be diverted from secure detention.

Secure detention is suitable for some DJJ youth but not for the majority.



Many Florida communities can meet the needs of their at-risk youth safely without this most restrictive option and address youth needs in the community in a way that is fiscally responsible and realizes better outcomes for the youth.

Residential Commitments Down 46% in 5 Years



Declining delinquency rates and commitments have reduced the number of youth in residential placement by 46% in the past five years. This allows DJJ to strategically reduce the number of residential commitment beds.

However, it is critical that the remaining residential programs effectively provide services to youth and have the funding to meet their specialized needs.

Ensure Appropriate Utilization of Residential Beds through Strategic Placement Decisions

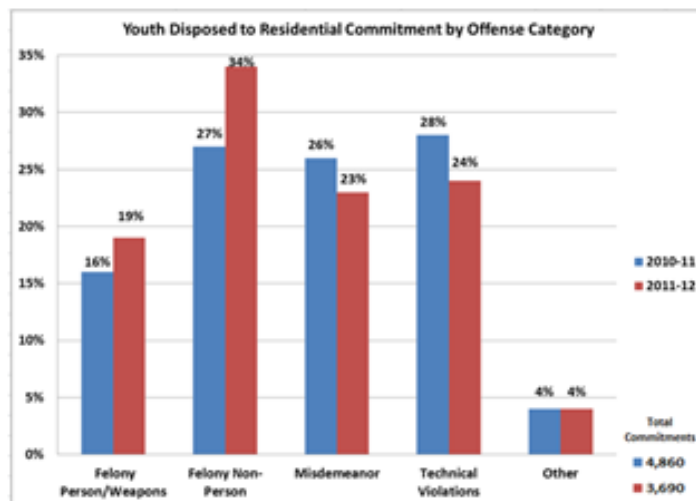
Many youth in DJJ's residential programs could be served better in the community while maintaining public safety and providing effective programming and treatment at a reduced cost to the Florida taxpayer.

Youth who are identified as low-risk to reoffend can—and should—be safely and effectively served by non-residential, community-based service providers.

Out-of-home placement for these youth at higher levels of care than needed can increase the likelihood of recidivism, damage future prospects for educational and career success, and may cause youth unintended negative consequences.

Although the number of youth committed for misdemeanors or technical violations (e.g., missed curfews) was down from the previous year by 34%, 47% were still committed to a residential program.

These resources could be used more productively for front-end services to better serve delinquent youth and identify and serve more at-risk youth.



Reduce Recidivism Through Transition and Re-entry Services



Youth are at greatest risk of re-offending almost immediately after being released from residential commitment, so DJJ's transition strategies must include best practices that target this critical time, and youth must be connected to appropriate services upon returning to their home and community.



DJJ Myths vs. Facts

- Myth:** Delinquency increases in the summer when youth are out of school and have less formal supervision.
- Fact:** Delinquency consistently declines in the summer and during December.
- Myth:** Jail tours and similar "Scared Straight" programs can help youth from entering the juvenile justice system.
- Fact:** Research has repeatedly shown that these types of programs are ineffective and can actually increase the likelihood of future delinquency.
- Myth:** The longer a youth stays in a residential program, the less likely he/she is to re-offend.
- Fact:** Research has found that increased length of stay alone does not reduce the likelihood of re-offending.
- Myth:** Girls are more violent and delinquent than ever.
- Fact:** Girls are committing fewer offenses overall as well as fewer violent offenses than in the past.
- Myth:** Secure detention is a good "wake-up" call for youth and will help them correct their behavior.
- Fact:** Studies have found that secure detention can actually make things worse for some youth. DJJ supports the appropriate use of detention and is actively working to reduce unnecessary detention stays.

Handouts

- “Roadmap To System Excellence”
 - Executive Summary
 - One-pager
 - Brochure
- Data Chart Statewide
- Data Chart Local
- Searchable Data on the Internet
- FJJF Brochure
- Civil Citation Brochure
- Program with Evaluation/Comment Card

Press/Editorial Board Packet

- “Roadmap To System Excellence”
- One-pager
- Data Chart Statewide
- Data Chart Local
- Press Release

Speaker Comments & Questions

- **Susan Rodger (Assistant State Attorney)** made four suggestions:
 - Look at other ways to save money and allow a cooling off period for youth charged with domestic violence.
 - Extend the maximum detention stay to 30 days to allow for a thorough investigation and to protect the community for youth charged with serious felony charges and avoid having to direct file youth to the adult system.
 - Ensure residential programs help youth charged with property crimes pay restitution (not parents).
- **Mark Carroll (Panama City Marine Institute)** wanted to know about the future of education and whether there will be a strong bond between DJJ and the school districts or will that be a function of the providers.

Speaker Comments & Questions continued

- **Paul Mosca (Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs)** commended DJJ on its emphasis on prevention programs which promote good health, education, and civic responsibility like the Street Smarts program.
- **Dr. Susan Balk Kradel (psychiatrist, contractor for DJJ)** is concerned about:
 - The availability of Mental Health and Substance Abuse services for youth who are about to be committed.
 - The coordination of services and care for youth who are leaving commitment and need continued Mental Health services and to abstain from Substance Abuse.
 - Continued education for youth who have their GED. She suggested the Florida Virtual Online School.
- **Michael Johnson (provider and “concerned citizen”)** is concerned about access to services for rural counties, the future of the Juvenile Justice Boards and Councils, and training for Law Enforcement Officers.
- **Debra A. Sasser (DJJ employee)** wants to know if parents can be required to participate in the children's treatment and services, such as training and allowing counselors in their homes. She suggested having youth and parents attend staffings and commitment meetings where they could apologize to victims in person. She also wanted contracts with communities to help youth pay restitution, get youth mentoring, and take youths to programs.

Statistics

- 41 Attendees (a severe thunderstorm and tornadoes in the area hampered attendance)
- 6 Speakers
- 5 evaluations completed

Evaluation Summary ***NOTE: Only 5 evaluations were turned in.

1. How did you learn about this meeting?

1 = News media

3= Work

1 = Invitation

2. I attended as a:

3 = Juvenile justice professional, such as DJJ staff, court representative, program provider, FDLE, etc.

3. Why did you attend?

Retired County Commissioner and Sheriff's Office
Information on Roadmap
To stay informed on youth services, policies, and issues
To represent my office

4. Do you know more about Florida Department of Juvenile Justice's (DJJ) plans after attending?

5 = Yes

5. On a scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (extremely), how confident are you in the following juvenile justice partners?

(Averages)

4.2 = DJJ

4.2 = Law enforcement

4.2 = Schools and school resource officers

3.8 = Court system

2.8 = Community resources

2.8 = Service providers

6. Did you learn or share what you needed to during the meeting?

2 = Yes

2 = Maybe

1 = No

7. The length of the meeting was:

2 = Just right

8. On a scale from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent), how would you rate this meeting? _____

4.6

9. Would you participate in future meetings, such as this, hosted by DJJ?

100% Yes

Additional Comments

None
