Evidence-based Nebraska 2024-2025

Diversion Program Evaluation Reports

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This Year's Process

- Updating all data (July 1, 2020- June 30, 2023)
 - Funded
 - No longer funded
- Run analysis and write brief reports
- Meetings by program type
 - Discuss findings in "communities of practice"
 - Discussion of "effectiveness"
 - If inconclusive or ineffective please meet 1:1
 with us



What's Our Why?

"Program design and evaluation provide pathways for putting a vision into action and continuing to hone its effectiveness and impact."

Del Tufo & Gonell (2023)

Individual Program Reports

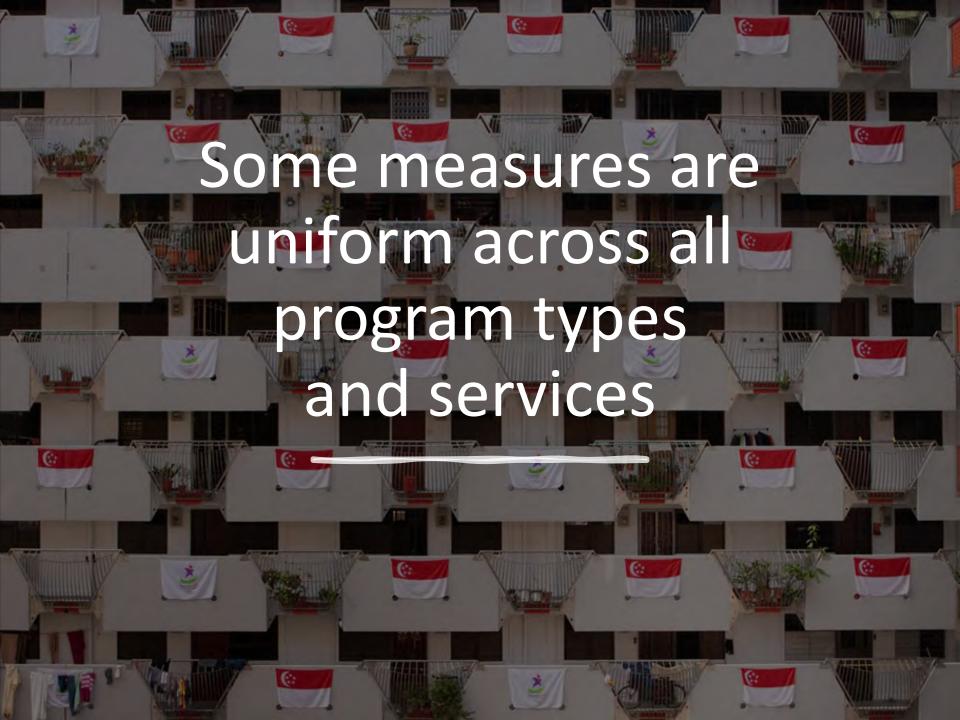
- Designed to be useful to you
- Help you and your staff examine ways that you can improve a service or intervention
- Help determine youth that your program is not reaching sufficiently.
- Recommendations specific to your program.

Data Required for the Research Question

 Is your program effective at the specific aim of your program type and at keeping youth out of the "system"?

Must have sufficient cases

Must have sufficient data to examine outcomes



Future System Involvement (FSI)

The intent of the Community-based Aid Fund was to develop local programming and provide services *before youth are drawn into* the juvenile (or adult) justice system.

- Status Offenses
- Law Offenses
- Probation
- Detention

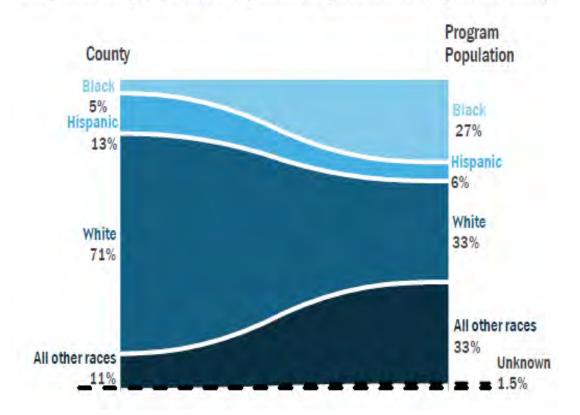
Reading Your Report

Program Name

County X July 2020- June 2023

Compared to [COUNTY's] youth population, a greater proportion of the program's youth were Black or multiracial/youth of another race.3

Racial/Ethnic Group Proportions of Population compared between Program and County



Program Type

AGE

Youngest = 8 years old

Average = 16 years old

Oldest = 19 years old

GENDER

59% (388) Male

¥ 41% (267) Female

CHARGES

Average of 1 charge (range 1-7)

Top three common charges:

- 1. Minor in possession (192)
- 2. Tobacco use, underage (86)
- 3. Ungovernable (81)

Trends Over Time

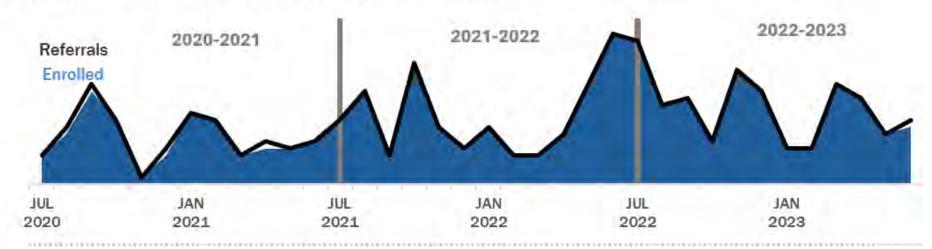
TRENDS OVER TIME

Across all three years, XXX County enrolled nearly all youth referred for diversion.

The program received the most referrals in fiscal year 2020, with 130 total referrals that year.

Counts of referrals (black line) and youth enrolled (blue) between July 2020 and June 2023.

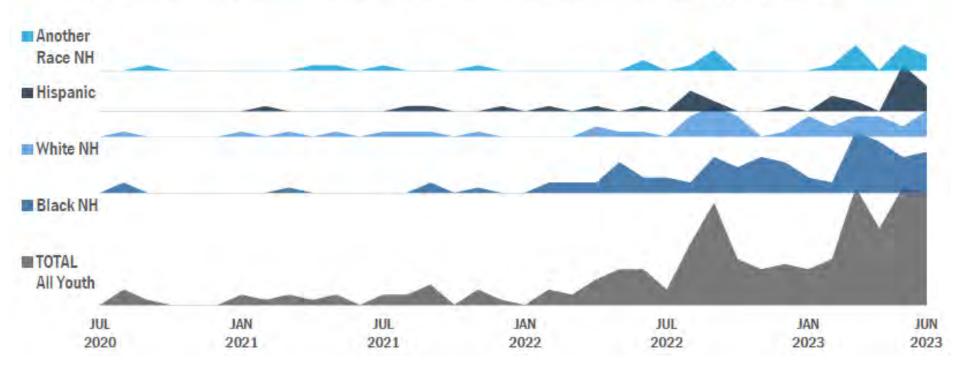
Counts of referrals (black line) and youth enrolled (blue) between July 2020 and June 2023. Gaps represent months in which not all youth referred to the program were enrolled.



Race/Ethnicity Comparison Over Time

Cases involved in the [PROGRAM] increased in fiscal year 2022-23. Starting in fiscal year 2021-22, approximately half of all youth receiving scholarships were **Black**, and about a quarter of youth were White.

Counts of cases involved in referral services program between July 2020 and June 2023 by race/ethnicity.



PROGRAM PROCESSES & OUTCOMES



89%

of case plans indicated youth attitude concerns.

91%

of these cases received relevant programming (e.g., behavioral health).

57%

indicated education or employment assistance.

99%

received relevant programming (e.g., skill building, academic).



289

1%

indicated family circumstances as a need

0%

received relevant programming (e.g., family support, restorative).

0%

indicated recreation needs.

0%

received relevant programming (e.g., prosocial activity).



Q.

40%

indicated peer relations as a need. 99%

received relevant programming (e.g., restorative).

89%

indicated behavioral concerns or needs.

91%

received relevant programming (e.g., behavioral health).





53%

indicated substance abuse intervention.

88%

received relevant programming (e.g., personal goals). On average, youth completed 10 program hours & 8 program activities.

White youth were slightly more likely to be discharged successfully compared to other groups.

Case outcomes by race/ethnicity. All bars total to 100% for each race category.

■ Successful

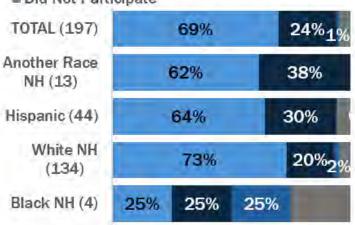
AIAN NH (0)

■ Unsuccessful

100%

■ Other

- **Z**Still Open/Unknown
- Did Not Participate



Evaluation Matrix

Diversion Programs

BASIC PROCESS VARIABLES:

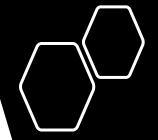
- Youth referred (date)
- Youth "enrolled" (date)
- Program completion
- Demographic: Race and ethnicity, gender, age

HOW DO WE DETERMINE EFFECTIVENESS?

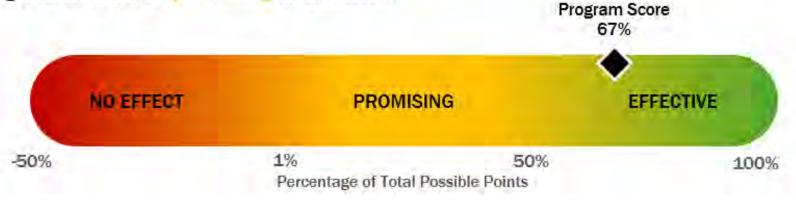
- The JJI examined whether youth needs were assessed
- Whether the top domains matched the activities assigned in the case plan
- The number of activities and hours required, and the percentage of youth who completed required hours
- The percentage of youth who participated in the program that had future system involvement and FSI comparisons between successfully and unsuccessfully/other discharged youth.

Diversion Evaluation Criteria

Meets Data Standards	Missing more than 20% of data on required variables OR has fewer than 10 cases. (rated <i>Inconclusive</i>).		Has over 80% of data on required variables.
Needs Attention			Working Well
Domains and Programming Activities	Fewer than 40% of youths enrolled received programming matching their need(s).	Between 40% and 80% of youths enrolled received programming matching their need(s).	Over 80% of youths enrolled received programming matching their need(s).
Program Hours & Completion Rates	-5	+0	(+5)
	Youths completed, on average, less than 40% of all required time AND/OR on average, youths completed fewer than 50% of activities.	Youths completed, on average, between 40% and 60% of all required time AND/OR on average, youths completed between 50% and 80% of activities.	Youths completed, on average, at least 60% of all required time AND on average, youths completed at least 80% of activities.
	-5	+0	(+5)
Successful Cases Future System Involvement	Successful youth were statistically <i>more</i> likely to have FSI, or became system involved quicker, than unsuccessful or other closed cases.	No significant difference between successful and non-successful youth's likelihood of FSI.	Successful youth were statistically <i>less</i> likely to have FSI, or took longer to become system involved, than unsuccessful or other closed cases.
Overall Future System Involvement	-5	+0	+5
	High FSI among all youth served (i.e. over 30% of youth).	Moderate FSI among all youth served (i.e. between 10% and 30% of youth).	Low FSI among all youth served (i.e. fewer than 10% of youth).
	-5	(+0)	+5
Overall Rating	No Effect =	Promising =	Effective =
	0% of <i>total possible</i> points, or negative points	1-50% of total possible points	Over 50% of total possible points



The XXX County Juvenile Diversion Program received 10 out of 15 possible points. The program is rated as promising to effective.



Narrative Description

- Understanding your program rating
 - Serving the correct population
 - Hitting targets that are specific to your program type
 - Successful closure of cases
 - Future System Involvement
- Recommendations
 - Understanding potential ways to improve the effectiveness of your program

Program Evaluation Report Dates

Promotion/ Prevention – June 26, at 2:00 p.m.

General Report Questions

1:1 meeting?

Please complete the survey

Juvenile Justice Institute

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