



Pete Ricketts
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(Nebraska Crime Commission)

Darrell Fisher, Executive Director

301 Centennial Mall South

P.O. Box 94946

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4946

Phone (402) 471-2194

FAX (402) 471-2837

NEBRASKA COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

March 07, 2016, 9:00 a.m. CDT

The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice met Friday, March 07, 2016, 9:00 a.m. CDT at the Northbridge Community Center, 1533 N. 27th St, Lincoln NE. Notice of this meeting was published February 22, 2016 in the Lincoln Journal Star and on the Crime Commission website.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. CDT by Cassandra Blakely, Chairperson.

II. Open Meetings Law Advisement

Blakely informed the Coalition that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, as amended by LB 898, is located on the table in the back of the room for public review if desired.

III. Roll Call

Members Present: Darrell Fisher (left at 10am), Mark Benne, Dan Scarborough, Kara Brostrom, Amanda Speichert, Judge Vernon Daniels, Ron Johns, Denise Kracl, Cassandra Blakely, Kim Hawekotte (left at 11:30 a.m.) Neleigh Boyer, Kathy Seacrest, Jeanne Brandner, Michelle Schindler, Tony green, Elaine Menzel, Chris Rodgers

Members Excused: Nicola Variano, Brett Matthies, Heather Duhachek, Tiffany Gressley, Kent Turnbull

Members Absent: John-Robert Bloom, Brian Halstead

Staff Present: Lisa Stamm, Vanessa Humaran, Cindy Kennedy, Amy Hoffman, Derek Jones, Kristy Nguyen, Danni McGown

Public Members: Caroline Crillau, David Mann, Derudre Mayfield, Akile Banister, Katie McLeese Stephenson

IV. Introductions

Blakely invited a motion to approve the December 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

V. Approval of December 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Schindler and seconded by Hawekotte to approve the December 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes. Voting in favor of motion: Fisher, Benne, Scarborough, Brostrom, Speichert, Daniels, Johns, Kracl, Blakely, Rodgers, Hawekotte, Boyer, Seacrest, Brandner, Schindler, Green

VI. Approval of up to \$1,500 to send NCJJ members to attend the NJJA Conference in May. Blakely informed the Coalition that it will take place the 18th – 20th of May, 2016.

Motion

A motion was made by Schindler and seconded by Hawekotte to amend that the Coalition support \$1,500 to attend Juvenile Justice Conferences across Nebraska. Voting in favor of motion: Benne, Brostrom, Speichert, Daniels (Abstained), Johns, Kracl, Blakely (Abstained), Rodgers, Hawekotte, Boyer (Abstained), Brandner (Abstained), Seacrest, Schindler, Green (Abstained)

VII. Approval of up to \$2,000 for 2 youth members to attend the CJJ Youth Summit. Blakely informed the Coalition that conference will occur in Washington DC in June of 2015.

Motion

A motion was made by Johns and seconded by Kracl to approve up to \$2,000 for 2 youth members to attend the CJJ Youth Summit. Voting in favor of motion: Fisher, Benne, Scarborough, Brostrom, Speichert, Daniels(Abstained), Johns, Kracl, Blakely, Rodgers, Hawekotte, Boyer (Abstained), Seacrest, Brandner, Schindler, Green (Abstained)

VIII. Approval of up to \$5,000 for Annual Dues

Motion

A motion was made by Rodgers and seconded by Kracl to approve of up to \$5,000 for Annual Dues. Voting in favor of motion: Fisher, Benne, Scarborough, Brostrom, Speichert, Daniels(Abstained), Johns, Kracl, Blakely, Rodgers, Hawekotte, Boyer (Abstained), Seacrest, Brandner, Schindler, Green (Abstained)

IX. Approval of up to \$100.00 in appreciation gifts.

Motion

A motion was made by Benne and seconded by Seacrest to approve of up to \$100 in appreciation gifts. Voting in favor of motion: Fisher, Benne, Scarborough (Abstained), Brostrom, Speichert, Daniels (Abstained), Johns, Kracl, Blakely, Rodgers, Hawekotte, Boyer (Abstained), Seacrest, Brandner (Abstained), Schindler, Green (Abstained)

X. Grantee Presentation – Banister’s Leadership Academy

Akile Banister provided a presentation on Banister’s Leadership Academy. Derudre Mayfield shared his success story to the Coalition. There was a brief discussion between the Coalition and the presenters. Blakely introduced Danni McGrown, new member of the Nebraska Crime Commission, to the Coalition.

XI. Grantee Presentation - Firesetters

David Man, coordinator for Juvenile Firesetters program, provided a presentation on Firesetters. (Please see attachment 1) There was a brief discussion between the Coalition and Mann.

XII. DMC Evaluation Presentation

Dr. Wiener gave a presentation on the Disparate Minority Contact Evaluation Project which included: Evidence Based practice in Juvenile Justice, four roads to evidence based practice, system of categorization emerging from the literature review, DMC evaluation process, programs evaluated, in the process of being evaluated and to be finished by June 30 (Please see attachment 2). Dr. Wiener also explained on the generic findings across DMC Programs, He provided a summary of findings for Girls Inc. Pregnancy Prevention program and stated that it is a promising program. There was discussion among the Coalition and Dr. Wiener.

XIII. Legislative Update

Menzel provided a handout written by Laurie Holman and provided a legislative update. Menzel gave an update on Juvenile Justice Coalition 2016 Bill Statements of Intent (please see attachment 3). There was a discussion among the Coalition. The Coalition members then agreed to consider creating a Legislative Committee.

XIV. Probation/JDAI Update

Brandner provided an update on Probation and JDAI. Brandner provided an explanation on the Probation Juvenile Justice Reform Efforts which included the Juvenile Services Division Outcomes (Please see attachment 4).

XV. JJ Specialist & Compliance Monitor Report

Humaran provided a brief update on JJ Specialist. Jones provided a brief update on Compliance Monitor Report.

XVI. Subcommittee Reports

a. Executive

Blakely provided an update on Executive subcommittee. Blakely informed the Coalition that the committee is working on the cross-walk of the strategic planning or charters for the various statewide groups. There was a brief discussion among the Coalition.

b. DMC

Rodgers provided a brief update on DMC. Rodgers informed the Coalition that the upcoming DMC Training will be on June 21, 2016 in Grand Island.

c. Grant Review

Blakely and Humaran provide a brief update on the Grant Review Subcommittee.

d. Youth

Blakely provided a brief update on the Youth subcommittee.

e. County Planning Advisory

Menzel and Kennedy provided an update of the County Planning Advisory subcommittee. Menzel provided a brief update on the Staff Review, Grant Review and the Funding Panel. There is a brief discussion among the Coalition.

f. Diversion

Kracl provided a brief update on the Diversion Subcommittee.

XVII. Old Business

No old business at this time.

XVIII. New Business

No new business at this time.

XIX. Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

XX. Meeting Dates

- a. June, 2016 TBA

XXI. Adjournment

Motion

A motion was made by Daniels and seconded by Kracl to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Huong (Kristy) Nguyen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Huong (Kristy) Nguyen
Support Assistant, Grant Division

ATTACHMENT

1

Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Fact Sheet

- Juveniles set over **50%-70%** of all fires.
- In a typical year fires set by children and youth claim the lives of approximately 300 people and destroy more than **300 million dollars** worth of property.
- Children are the victims of these fires, accounting for 85 of every 100 lives lost.

(U.S. Fire administration 1997,2004)

The Omaha Fire Department has an educational program divided into three age groups with proven curriculum used across the country from the National Fire Academy.

Process for 3-7 and 8-11 year olds: (modified to each individual family)

1. Family contacted by phone for initial intake.
2. One meeting set up at local library or Police Precinct for Interview and Education.
3. OFD Certified JFS Intervention Specialist conduct Interview
4. Education for child and family
 - a. Home Escape Plan
 - b. Fire Safety Check List
 - c. Smoke Detector
 - d. Carbon Monoxide Detector
5. Follow up by phone 30 days, 60 days and one year after class.

Process for 12-18 Year Olds

1. **Deputy Douglas County Attorney**
DDCA provides full background check on the family and Juvenile case.
2. **Juvenile Assessment Center**
JAC contacts family and performs an evaluation to determine if the family is in need of Mental Health assistance or, if they need further assistance.
3. **Omaha Fire Department**
OFD initiates a 2 hour group session with interactive activities to engage youth and families to talk about their events.
 - **OFD** provides education about the dangers of fire and the consequences of fire play.
 - The Omaha Police Department, **OPD** will define the 3 degrees of Arson and the consequences fire setting.
 - The **NE Med. Burn Unit** educates about burn victims and the human factor consequences of fire play.
 - The class concludes with empowering the families with a **Play Safe Be Safe Kit**. The newly empowered Fire Stoppers uses the kit to educate extended family or neighboring families on fire safety in the home.

Escape Plans are created by each family and Smoke & CO detectors are provided if needed.

Follow up calls are made to families and referral assistance is provided if needed.

ATTACHMENT

2

Disparate Minority Contact Evaluation Project

Update (February 8, 2016)

Dr. Richard L. Wiener (UNL)
(Team of 3 JD/Ph.D graduate students)

1. Evidence Based Practice in Juvenile Justice: Nebraska White Paper

By Dr. Richard L. Wiener (University of Nebraska/Lincoln)
Dr. Anne Hobbs and Dr. Ryan Spohn (University of Nebraska/Omaha)

Review of EVP literature in juvenile justice drawing heavily from:

- a. University of Colorado Blueprints for Violence Prevention Project (Blueprints) (Mihalic et al., 2001)
- b. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- c. Peabody Research Institute at Vanderbilt University (Lipsey, Howell, Kelly, & Carver, 2010)

2. Four Roads to Evidence Based Practice:

- a. Experimental or Quasi-experimental Evaluation of Implemented Programs
 - i. Randomized Control Trial (RCT)
 - ii. Quasi-experiment
- b. Model Programs Approach to Evidence Based Practice
- c. Comparing Existing Interventions to Program Specific Meta-analyses
- d. Comparing Existing Interventions to Generic Meta-analyses

3. System of Categorization emerging from the literature review:

- a. **Fully Evidence Based** – supported with one RCT or 2 quasi-experiments with successful outcomes and independent replications
- b. **Effective** – supported with one RCT or 2 quasi-experiments and at least one replication with successful outcomes *but not independent*
- c. **Promising** – one successful or RCT or quasi-experiment but no replications **OR** the program attributes match the dimensions of successful meta-analyses
- d. **Inclusive** – there are RCTs or quasi-experiments with some contradictory findings or only short term effects
- e. **Ineffective** – RCT's and/or quasi-experiments failed to show significant differences between the treatment and control groups
- f. **Harmful** -- RCT's and/or quasi-experiments show significant differences in which the control group outperformed the treatment group
- g. **Insufficient Evidence** – there are not RCT's or quasi-experiments and there is insufficient data to compare the program with existing meta-analyses

4. DMC Evaluation Process:

- a. Three or more visits and interviews with the program directors and staff

- b. **Visit 1:**
 - i. Determine if the program has a logic model – help develop one
 - ii. Collect program documents and any data collection tools
 - iii. Discuss the nature of the program and its approach to successful outcomes (ex. Girls Inc. Program Model)
- c. **Visit 2, 3, and 4:**
 - i. Conduct in-depth interviews with program staff to describe program attributes comparing them to existing meta-analyses
 - ii. Develop Excel spreadsheet to assist program in collecting future data
 - iii. Determine next steps for the program to move it along the EBP continuum
 - iv. Example of Excel spreadsheet to collect data
- d. **Report: (5 submitted to date)**
 - i. Review of program model
 - ii. Report of where program stands on each of the roads to EVP
 - iii. Report card for the program
 - iv. Data collection sheets for the program
 - v. Recommendations for the program
 - vi. All data and interviews attached

5. Programs Evaluated to Date:

- a. Four Directions Program at the Indian Center of Lincoln
- b. Girls Inc. Preventing Adolescent Pregnancy Program in Omaha
- c. Girls Inc. Success Preparation Program in Omaha
- d. Urban League Truancy Program in Omaha
- e. School Engagement and Diversion Project of Lancaster County

6. Programs in the Process of Being Evaluated:

- a. Many Nations Counseling Project – Indian Center
- b. Brick by Brick – Omaha
- c. Fire Setters - Omaha

7. Additional Programs to be Finished by June 30:

- a. Levels of Leadership Program: Banister's Leadership Academy - Omaha
- b. Friday Night Lights – Omaha

8. Generic Findings Across DMC Programs to date:

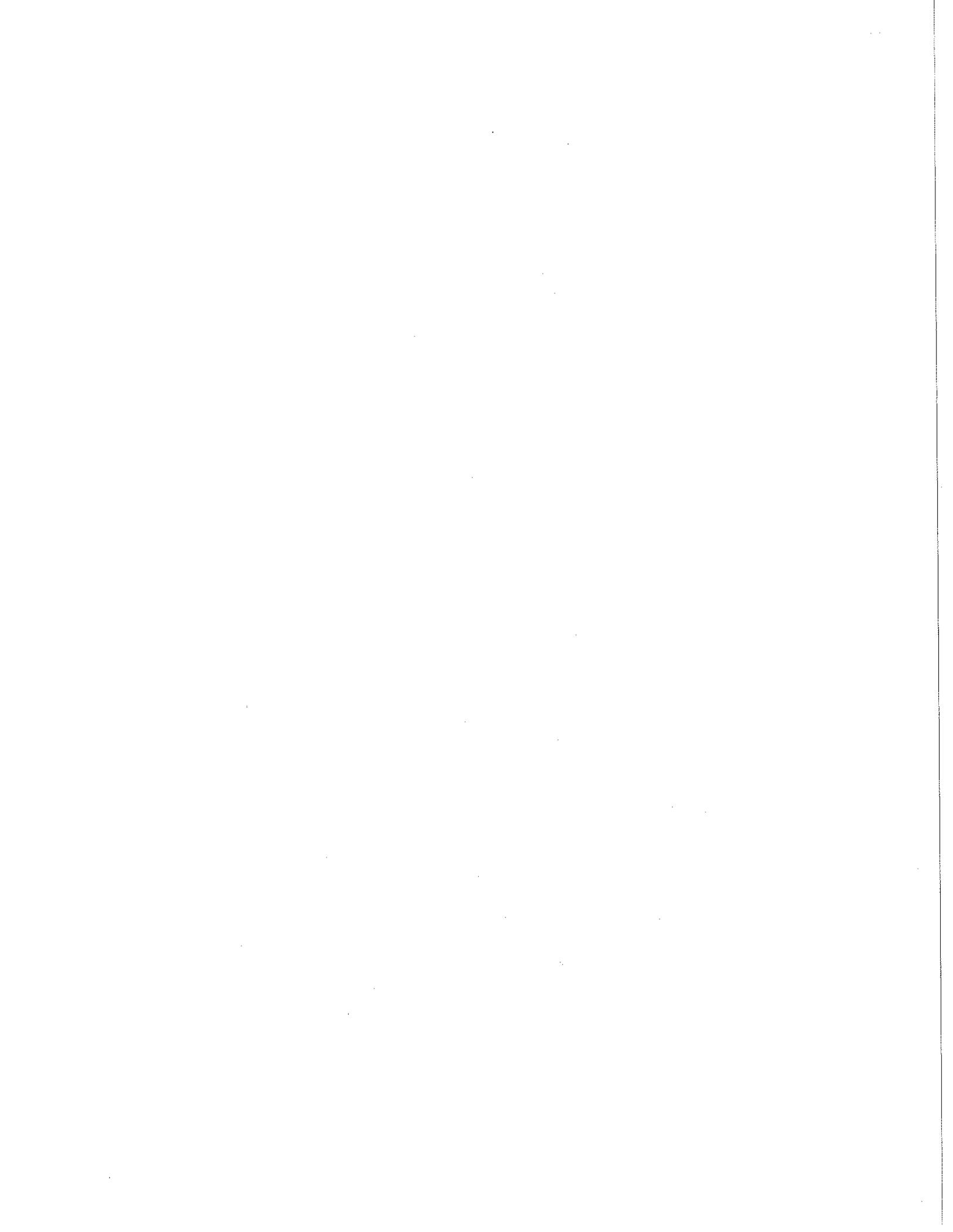
- a. No programs have RCT or quasi-experiments completed
- b. The literature in juvenile justice examines programs designed to reduce contact with the criminal justice system -- reduce recidivism – none of the DMC programs to date have this as a primary goal but some have it as a secondary goal
- c. Some of the DMC programs have no logic models or poorly defined logic models or incomplete logic models
- d. Programs need to measure program process and outcomes systematically
- e. Programs need to institute quality assessment and fidelity measures
- f. **NEXT STEPS – ASSIST IN DATA COLLECTION AND CONDUCT QUASI-EXPERIMENTS FOR PROGRAMS THAT ARE READY**

Summary of Findings for One Program: Girls Inc. Pregnancy Prevention (Promising Program)

1. **Program Description and Model**
 - a. 3 subprogram curriculum devised and tested by Girls Inc. National to prevent teenage girls from getting pregnant
 - b. Uses a combination of didactic classroom experiences and cognitive behavioral therapy to convey information, create critical thinking, and nonjudgmental attitudes which should increase assertiveness
 - c. **Goal:** avoid pregnancy in teenage girls
 - d. **Positive side effects:** improve school performance, school attendance, improve relationships, and lower contact with the criminal justice system

2. **Roads to EBP:**
 - a. There have not been any RCT's or Quasi-experiments on site
 - b. Girls Inc. National has conducted some quasi-experimental tests but is in the process of rewriting much of the program
 - c. The program does utilize CBT as its major component – there are meta-analyses of successful CBT programs in the juvenile justice literature
 - d. The program does not have systematic data to compare with the meta-analyses but we did collect a great deal of program materials and interviews to use in these comparisons

3. **Lipsey Meta-analysis comparisons:**
 - a. The program does not use a standardized and valid risk assessment tool and it should.
 - the girls in the program are at low risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system (self-report)
 - few girls have prior law violations (0 to 5%)
 - girls are likely to show aggressive verbal behavior (50-60%) and some show aggressive physical conduct (20-30%)
 - b. This is a **skill building program using CBT techniques** – which are the most successful types in the meta-analysis
 - c. The secondary program approach is counseling techniques – which are also successful attributes in the Lipsey meta-analysis
 - d. Moderate to high **completion rate** (self-report) 75%
 - e. Program staff are **well trained LMHP's** that undergo between 74 to 170 hours of professional training each year – a high level of training (self-report)
 - g. There has been **no staff turnover** in recent years (self-report)
 - h. **Dose** – approximately 10 weeks per year across multiple years for at least 1 ¾ hours per week – **sufficient dose** (self-report)
 - i. **Quality assurance and fidelity** – no systematic data collection of fidelity but the program developers are on site and direct the program which leads to higher fidelity



ATTACHMENT

3

Juvenile Justice Coalition 2016 Bill Statements of Intent:

LB 673 (Krist)

The intent of LB 673 is to allow county boards the flexibility to create internal Guardian ad Litem (GAL) divisions. If a county board chooses to create an internal GAL Division, the juvenile court would be required to appoint from this division, unless a conflict of interest exists in representation. In addition, LB 673 provides county boards the authority over the rates/fees paid for attorney services.

LB 675 (Krist)

Over twenty years of national research tells us that placement in a locked detention center increases the odds that youth will be found delinquent and committed to correctional facilities, and can seriously damage a child's prospects for future success in education and employment. Secure confinement should only be used as a last resort emergency measure, when a child presents a significant risk of harm to the community or a significant risk to flee the jurisdiction and avoid court processes. LB 675 will align and harmonize state law with national best practice standards by ensuring youth who pose little or no threat to public safety do not experience the damaging effects of confinement.

LB 707 (Coash)

LB707 increases the number of judges (from five judges to six judges) of the separate juvenile court in counties having four hundred thousand inhabitants or more, which have established a separate juvenile court

LB 709 (Howard)

LB 709 is predominately a code clean-up bill occurring in 3 parts:

1. Provides a definition for a term used in the juvenile code. The definition of "alternatives to detention" is aligned with national best practice, and is consistent with the definition in use by Community Based Aid grant funding evaluation and the Juvenile Detentions Alternative Initiative definitions committee.
2. Inserts the term "alternatives to detention" in the appropriate places in statute, striking and removing reference to an old term ("nonsecure detention") that currently creates confusion.
3. Brings the language defining "staff secure placement" out of chapter 83 and places it directly in to the list of terms in the juvenile code, without changing an existing statutory language.

LB 746 (Campbell)

LB746 implements provisions of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act regarding the promotion of "normalcy" among children and youth in foster care. Normalcy is intended to mean age and developmentally appropriate activities and experiences essential to the healthy development of children and youth. The bill creates the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act for the following reasons: To ensure foster children can participate in extracurricular and social activities such as field trips, sports, school clubs, religious groups, family vacations and photos, sleepovers, and obtaining a driver's license. To ensure foster parents are able to make decisions about such activities using a reasonable and prudent parent standard. To involve birth parents in such decisions. To require the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure children are made aware of their rights and responsibilities and have

access to certain documents before aging out, to ensure foster parents are trained and supported in making determinations as to reasonableness, and report on progress. To require juvenile courts to ensure children's rights are protected and that children are able to engage in such activities, and to make certain findings part of the child's record. To eliminate the use of Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement as a permanency goal for youth under age 16.

LB 845(Pansing Brooks)

This bill would provide for definitions and standards regarding the recording and reporting of juveniles being placed in solitary confinement, or 'room confinement' at juvenile facilities and adult correctional facilities. Specifically, the bill provides that if a juvenile is subject to room confinement at certain designated time periods, staff (including, in some instances, the director) of the juvenile facility must record certain information regarding the juvenile, the circumstances relating to the confinement, why lesser-restrictive means were not successful or pursued, and information regarding the psychological and physical health of the juvenile in relation to the period of confinement. In addition, the affected facilities will be required to report to the Legislature instances in which juveniles are being subject to lengthy terms of confinement. This reporting will be done on a quarterly basis beginning September 30, 2016. Finally, the bill directs the Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare to review all data collected pursuant to the reporting requirement and to prepare an annual report to the Legislature regarding the use of room confinement at the facilities.

LB 866(Bolz)

LB866 establishes a program for young people who have been in out-of-home placement and have been adjudicated as a juvenile. The program provides case management and assistance for young people working to transition into adult living.

LB 893(Pansing Brooks)

This bill would require that a juvenile would have to be at least eleven (11) years old to be prosecuted or adjudicated for a criminal law violation or to be prosecuted as ungovernable, in juvenile or adult court. Instead, the juvenile court in each county, shall have jurisdiction of children who are 10 and younger, who engage in conduct which would otherwise be considered as a law violation under 43-247(3)(a).

LB 894(Pansing Brooks)

This bill makes several statutory changes relating to juveniles' rights to counsel in juvenile and adult court. With respect to juveniles' out of court rights to counsel, the bill would require law enforcement, when questioning juveniles regarding the right to counsel, to use 'developmentally appropriate' language with such juvenile. Additionally, should the juvenile request counsel and unless there exist exigent circumstances, such juvenile shall have access to counsel, either retained or appointed, 'without delay.' The bill also requires the juvenile courts to appoint counsel at the time the juvenile petition is filed and prior to the juvenile appearing before the court. The bill further requires juvenile courts to only accept waivers of right to counsel in open court, on the record, and such waivers shall be confirmed in writing signed by the juvenile. The court shall ensure that the waiver is made intelligently, voluntarily, and understandingly and in determining these descriptions regarding the waiver, the court shall consider a variety of factors including the age, intelligence, and emotional stability of the child, among other factors. In no

circumstance shall the court accept a waiver of counsel for a child under age 14; for a detention hearing; for any dispositional hearing requiring out of home placement; or a motion to transfer a case from juvenile court to adult court. Further, the Supreme Court shall set standards for all attorneys practicing in juvenile court.

LB 939(Mello)

LB 939 would adopt the Nebraska Early Childhood Advantage Act. The bill would establish annual state reporting requirements for Departments administering state-funded home visiting programs.

LB 954(Krist)

LB954 amends provisions in the Office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare Act and a confidential records provision to address concerns raised by the Nebraska Supreme Court Administrator regarding access to juvenile records by the Inspector General of Child Welfare.

LB 975(Kolterman)

LB975 seeks to secure safe and loving foster and adoptive homes for children in need by protecting child-placing agencies against adverse action by the state. The bill allows and will encourage the Department of Health and Human Services to continue its practice of contracting with a diverse array of child-placing agencies, some of which are guided by their religious faith, to serve children in need. Such agencies actively recruit parents willing to take foster and adopted children into their homes, increasing the number of parents caring for state wards. Agencies in other states have recently had to close their doors due to adverse action by state and local governments. The bill ensures the State of Nebraska will maintain as many qualified child-placing agencies as possible by not allowing the state to take adverse action against such agencies based on their sincerely held religious beliefs.

LB 998(Schumacher)

To provide for emergency community crisis centers and change provisions relating to emergency protective custody.

LB 1008(Coash)

LB1008 is a bill recommended by the Nebraska Supreme Court commissioned Subcommittee of Vulnerable Adults. The subcommittee recommended that legislation should be pursued to define the duties and/or role of guardian ad litem in probate proceedings because, unlike the Juvenile Code, no statutory parameters for guardians ad litem exist in the Probate Code. There is a currently a huge question about what GALs can and cannot do. This bill defines the responsibilities of adult GALs. LB1008 requires that GAL be attorneys, complete training, and advocate for the best interests of whom they represent, including defending for that person's social, economic, and safety interests. The GAL may conduct discovery, present witnesses, cross examine witnesses, present other evidence and file motions on behalf of the person they are appointed. The GAL may also enter into agreements, request medical, psychological, geriatric, or other evaluations of the person who is the subject of the guardianship or conservatorship. The GAL shall make recommendations to the court regarding a temporary or permanent guardianship, conservatorship, or other protective order. The guardian ad litem's appointment

begins immediately at the time he or she is appointed and ends when the court allows the termination. The GAL must make contact with the person he or she is representing within two weeks of appointment and become familiar with that person's condition. The court will determine whether the county or the person who is the subject of the conservatorship or guardianship pays for the GAL.

LB 1010(Williams)

The purpose of LB 1010 is to allow county attorneys to file juvenile court petitions electronically. Current law requires petitions to be notarized, which cannot be filed electronically.

LB 1034(Campbell)

LB1034 is intended to update the statutes authorizing the Nebraska Children's Commission and extend the Commission through June 30, 2019. The Commission was created in 2012 after serious problems with the child welfare system led the Legislature to restructure the goals of the child welfare system and require more oversight and accountability. The Nebraska Children's Commission has been very successful at bringing together stakeholders, monitoring, and making recommendations in the child welfare system. After 4 years of operation, it is necessary to extend the Children's Commission or it will terminate June 30, 2016. The bill also updates the duties of the commission to include juvenile justice youth.

Bill Number	Introducer	Title	Committee	Hearing Date	General File	Select File	Final Reading	Gov.
LB 673	Krist	Change provisions relating to appointment of guardians ad litem	Judiciary	1/20/16				
LB 675	Krist	Change provisions relating to placement and detention of juveniles	Judiciary	1/20/16				
LB 707	Coash	Increase the number of judges of the separate juvenile court	Judiciary	3/2/10				
LB 709	Howard	Provide for an alternative to detention for juveniles	Judiciary	1/20/16				
LB 746	Campbell	Adopt the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act, change provisions for guardians ad litem and services for children, and create the Normalcy Task Force (Campbell priority bill)	HHS	1/21/16 voted to GF 2/5/16 AM 1903	2/22/16 AM 1903 adopted advanced to SF			
LB 845	Pansing-Brooks	Provide requirements relating to confinement of juveniles and provide a duty for the Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare	Judiciary	1/20/16				
LB 866	Bolz	Adopt the Transition to Adult Living Success Program Act	HHS	2/3/16 voted to general file 2/22/16 AM 2181				
LB 893	Pansing Brooks	Modify jurisdiction of juvenile courts and change provisions relating to temporary custody and disposition of juveniles	Judiciary	1/22/16				
LB 894	Pansing Brooks	Change provisions relating to appointment of counsel in juvenile cases (Judiciary priority bill)	Judiciary	1/20/16 voted to GF 2/10/16 AM 1962				
LB 939	Mello	Adopt the Nebraska Early Childhood Advantage Act	HHS	2/19/16				

ATTACHMENT

4

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF PROBATION

P.O. Box 98910
 Lincoln, NE 68509
 Phone: (402) 471-2141

Probation Juvenile Justice Reform Efforts January 2016

Juvenile Services Division Outcomes:

The following outcomes were created by the Juvenile Services Division with research supporting national data to track success in achieving Juvenile Probation's goals for reducing recidivism. These goals focus on preventing juveniles from returning to the juvenile justice system or entering the criminal justice system by:

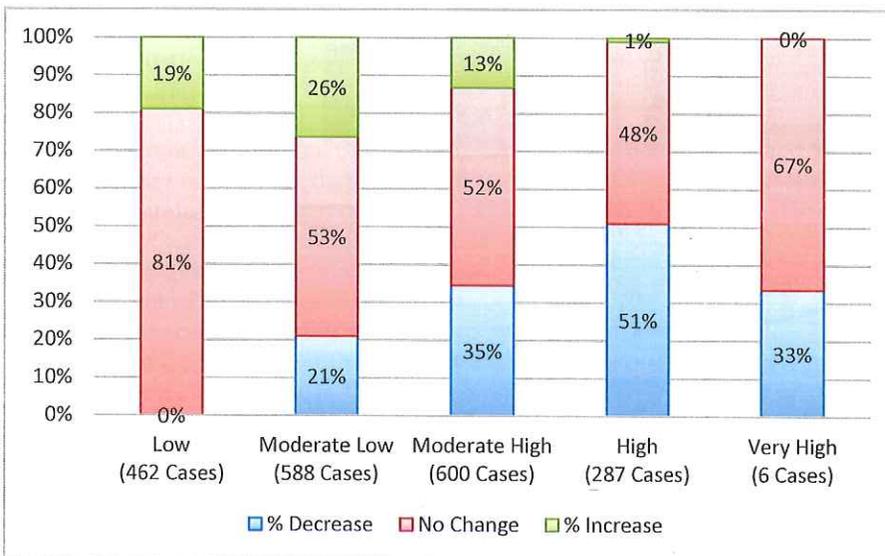
1. Engaging juveniles and their families in the juvenile court process;
2. Eliminating barriers to families accessing effective treatment and services;
3. Partnering with educational and community stakeholders to assure coordinated case management, focused accountability and improved outcomes.

Outcome 1: Risk Reduction: Youth involved in the juvenile justice system will receive targeted services that reduce assessed risk to reoffend upon release from supervision.

The juvenile justice system measures risk for youth under supervision to assist in determining the possibility that the youth will recidivate or return to the system. The assessing of risk also helps a probation officer focus on exactly what a youth is struggling with, for example, substance use. Therefore, to measure if probation is impacting youth, it is essential to evaluate if risk has been reduced during the period of probation supervision.

National research supports this outcome as the number one core principle in a research compilation titled "Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System" authored by the Council of State Governments Justice Center. The first core principle being "Base supervision, service and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments."

This outcome is measured by first, categorizing probation cases by the initial and final Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) assessment score, then comparing the initial score for each individual court case, and finally, assessing whether risk increased or decreased during the probation term.



Of the cases discharged between August 1st, 2015 and January 31st, 2016, 50.5% of cases that scored "High" or "Very High" on the initial risk assessment scored at a lower level on the YLS/CMI preceding probation case closure.

Lower assessed youth can see an increase in risk due to several reasons. Some include: not sharing information upon initial assessment, additional risks identified after being placed on probation and ensuring targeted case management is utilized.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF PROBATION

P.O. Box 98910
 Lincoln, NE 68509
 Phone: (402) 471-2141

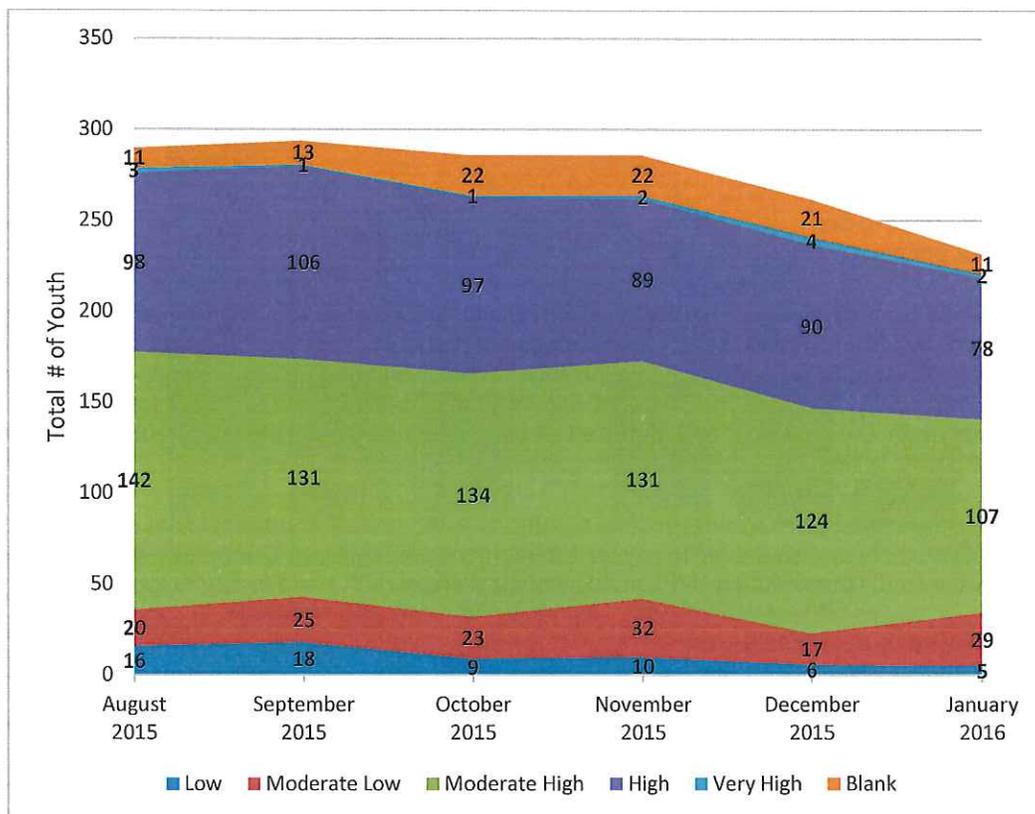
Outcome 4: Detention: Reduce the number of youth placed in detention who are not at high risk to reoffend.

The use of detention for youth has been found by research as very harmful. Detention should only be used when a youth is a true risk to the safety of the community. Additionally, low risk youth who are not a risk to the community show negative results when placed in detention. Therefore, probation officers ensure that only high risk youth that are a risk to public safety are placed in the detention centers across the state.

This is further supported by The Annie E. Casey Foundation publication "No Place for Kids: The Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration." As priority number one, "Limit Eligibility for Correctional Placements: Commitment to a juvenile correctional facility should be reserved for youth who have committed serious offenses and pose a clear and demonstrable risk to public safety."

This outcome is measured by reporting the number of youth in detention by their most recent YLS/CMI score. These detention numbers do not include youth who are detained as an 'intake' and are not on probation at the time of detention. Some youth have not had an YLS/CMI completed and account for the small number of blank YLS/CMI scored youth.

Detention admissions for probation youth have declined 20% in the last six months. Comparing August, 2015 to January, 2016, youth who scored as Low on the YLS/CMI saw a 68.8% reduction in admission to detention. However, Moderate Low risk youth increase 45% in last six months.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF PROBATION

P.O. Box 98910
 Lincoln, NE 68509
 Phone: (402) 471-2141

Outcome 5: Education and Employment: A higher percentage of youth will be involved in pro-social activities including school and employment.

Ensuring that a youth is involved in pro-social activities is essential and has shown great outcomes towards successful probation. The two major factors that support this are school and employment. Therefore, assisting a youth in being successful at school and employment is key to a youth not returning to the juvenile justice system. One service that probation offers youth throughout Nebraska is the Rural Improvement for Schooling and Employment (RISE) program. RISE is an AmeriCorps program focused on providing education and employment skills to at-risk youth. Implemented in Nebraska in 2007, RISE Program Specialists support youth in the Nebraska probation system by facilitating a skills-building program centered on improving grades, attendance, and employment opportunities for at-risk youth while improving community safety through reducing recidivism.

The RISE Program was created in response to a 2006 Vera Institute study that showed high risk youth are more successful on probation when education and employment are a key focus. Another core principle identified by the Council for State Governments Justice Center is principle 3 "Employ a coordinated approach across service systems to address youth's needs." This ensures all experts are working together, which is key to long term success.

The RISE Education program helps juvenile probationers decrease behaviors within the school environment that can lead to failing or dropping out, through a skills building curriculum focused on an educational skill set. During the month of January, 79% of enrolled RISE juvenile probationers saw a decrease in their behaviors.

