

# **Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan**

**July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 – June 30th, 2021**



**Revised January 2019**

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA JUVENILE JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP  
THREE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES PLAN  
2018-2021

*The Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Team consists of the following counties  
“Madison (lead county), Antelope, Boone, Burt, Cuming, Knox, Pierce, Stanton & Wayne”*

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# Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan 2018-2021

## Introduction

The Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership is comprised of nine counties in Northeast Nebraska. The counties that collectively make up the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership are Madison, Stanton, Antelope, Pierce, Cuming, Burt, Boone, Knox and Wayne. The counties included in this Partnership work together for the good of all youth within the covered area providing guidance and support where needed.

## Vision

This comprehensive plan focuses to support and strengthen families, reduce delinquency, and provide services to youth and their families when delinquent behavior occurs, while working to increase overall public safety in Madison, Stanton, Antelope, Pierce, Cuming, Burt, Boone, Knox and Wayne Counties through the collaborative efforts of Juvenile Court, law enforcement agencies, schools, and juvenile support service groups within and around the Northeast Nebraska Communities.

## Mission Statement

The purpose of the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan is to support the mission of the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services Programs:

The mission statement of the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan is:

***To assist and encourage children and adolescents in the Northeast Nebraska Communities to become successful, contributing adults. The Northeast Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan provides Juvenile Services Programs to hold youth accountable by building, sustaining, and strengthening their sense of personal responsibility so that they can go on to be productive members of their communities. The counties who are part of the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Team function as part of a larger team supporting other agencies and school districts involved in juvenile services throughout the Northeast Nebraska area.***

## **Section IV**

### **Community Socio-Economics**

#### **Madison County**

Madison County is located in Northeast Nebraska. It is bordered by Stanton, Platte, Boone, Antelope, and Pierce Counties. The main highway that runs north and south in the county is U.S. Highway 81; the main highways running east and west are U.S. Highway 275 in the northern half of the county and Nebraska Highway 32 in the southern half of the county. Nebraska Highways 24, 35, 45, and 121 also cross through Madison County. U.S Highway 81 is a main thoroughfare crossing north to south through the United States and brings a variety of people from all along the highway through Madison County.

Located within Madison County are the cities/towns of Battle Creek, Madison, Meadow Grove, Newman Grove, Norfolk, and Tilden (partial). The total population of Madison County, from the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Population was 35,144. The City of Norfolk is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest city in the state. The total overall population of Madison County has increased from the year 2010, when it was listed as being 34,876 by the 2010 U.S. Census.

Many of the major economic pillars are located in or very near to Norfolk, Nebraska. They include Nucor/Vulcraft, AWG, Covidien, Wal-Mart, and Faith Regional Health Services. Another of the major economic pillars in Madison County is the Tyson Foods plant located in the county seat, Madison, Nebraska. All of these businesses not only supply residents of Madison and surrounding communities jobs, but also attract prospective employees from across the country and from bordering nations to Madison County.

Located within Madison County are two collegiate/trade schools. They are Northeast Community College and Joseph's College of Beauty. Both are located in Norfolk, Nebraska. Both of these schools bring in young adults from around the Midwest area and students from across the country into Madison County.

Given the number of economic opportunities available in Madison County, and the opportunities for higher learning also presented, a variety of different cultures, outlooks, familial values, and views of government officials are present within this northeast Nebraska county, presenting local law enforcement, county government, and juvenile accountability officers a wide array of individuals to encounter in a myriad of situations.



Madison County is also home to 14 different primary level public schools, three middle schools, and four high schools (including the Alternatives for Success, alternative high school). Madison County also is home to 10 private schools encompassing both primary and secondary levels of education.

Madison County rests in the easternmost portion of the Cowboy Trail, Skyview Lake, and to the Yellowbanks State Wildlife Management Area. It is also home to the Off Road Ranch and Divots Devent Center, both of which bring in revenue and visitors from around the area, state, and the Midwest for special events, concerts and more. These specific attractions along with several local events, including the Christian Cross Festival and Big Bang Boom, put on by bars, churches, civic organizations, and other local businesses combine to attract a large number of individuals from the surrounding area to Madison County. These attractions also bring with them their fair share of juveniles and the challenges that accompany them as they attend concerts and other events at these locations.

While visiting Madison County you will find numerous parks located in each of the towns found within the county, presenting several locations for juveniles to congregate.

In addition to the above mentioned attractions, Madison County also is the home to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Norfolk Regional Center which houses a 120-bed sex offender treatment center, and the District #7 Probation Office.

The population of Madison County, based on the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website, is 35,144 people. There are 5,320 persons that are of Hispanic/Latino descent and 29,824 persons are non-Hispanic/Latino descent.

Of the total population of 35,144 there are 17,386 males and 17,758 that are female, with 8,260 of these individuals listed as being under the age of 17. This equates to approximately 24% of the total population of Madison County being 17 and under. The remaining racial breakdown of the population of Madison County is listed below.

**MADISON COUNTY POPULATION BY AGE, RACE & GENDER**

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	3777	.1075%	147	.0042%	167	.0048%	67	.0019%
18-20	708	.0201%	26	.0007%	19	.0005%	12	.0003%
21-24	872	.0248%	29	.0008%	31	.0009%	14	.00045
25 & over	10721	.0305%	217	.0062%	172	.0049%	136	.00395

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	3713	.1057%	144	.0041 %	174	.0050%	71	.0020%
18-20	675	.0192%	25	.0007%	28	.0008%	9	.0003%
21-24	872	.0248%	16	.0005%	20	.0006%	15	.0004%
25 & over	11,186	.3183%	149	.0042%	168	.0048%	255	.0073%

2017 EASY ACCESS TO JUVENILE POPULATIONS: POPULATION PROFILES

Given the large amount of juveniles showcased in the above chart, and the wide variety of opportunities present within the county, it is obvious that Madison County is a growing county and is in need of a multifaceted, multi-agency approach towards working for/with local youths and their families to maintain a safe and positive community environment for everyone coming to Madison County.

## **STANTON COUNTY**

Stanton County is located in Northeast Nebraska. It is bordered by Cuming, Colfax, Platte, Madison, and Wayne Counties. The main thoroughfare that runs through Stanton County is U.S Highway 275, which runs from east to west in the northern end of the county, and Nebraska Highway 35 which crosses over the northwestern corner of the county. Nebraska Highways 15, 24, 32, and 57 also cross through Stanton County.

Stanton, the county seat, is the larger of the two towns located in Stanton County, with the other being Pilger. The total population of Stanton County, based on the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations Profiles, is 5,988. This is down from the total population of the county in the 2010 Easy Access to Juvenile Population Profile, which was 6,053.

Stanton County is also home to the Woodland Park housing development, which is an unincorporated community and census designated. According to the website, <https://suburbanstats.org/population/nebraska>, for 2017 and 2018 Woodland Park had a total population of 1,866 with 1,683 individuals being white, 167 Hispanic or Latino and 115 of another race. Of those 1,866 residents, 610 are ages 17 and under, so 33% of the population in Woodland Park would be 17 and under. Woodland Park sits just outside the 2 mile jurisdiction for the City of Norfolk. Woodland Park also houses an elementary school that is part of the Norfolk Public School system.

The main economic structure of Stanton County is agriculturally based, including farming and small businesses related to the agricultural field.

The City of Stanton is home to two primary schools, one middle school/high school, and elementary school, that encompasses the primary grade levels.

Located within Stanton County is the Wood Duck State Wildlife Management Area and Maskenthine Lake Recreation Area. Both of these areas attract people from the surrounding area who enjoy taking part in a variety of outdoor and water activities including camping, fishing, boating, hiking, and bike trails.

Much like most other agriculturally centered counties in the Midwest, Stanton County is composed of a few small towns, in this case two, and is surrounded by large amounts of open farmland and other wildlife areas. Given this make up, the overall amount of attractions and activities found in the county is severely limited. The closest economic centers to Stanton County are Norfolk, located in Madison County; Wayne, located in Wayne County; and West Point, located in Cuming County.

The Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention website states that Stanton County has a total population of 5,988 people, of which 328 are Hispanic/Latino descent, and 5660 people of non-Hispanic/Latino descent. The Easy Access to Juvenile Populations data for 2017 lists that there are 3,036 males living within Stanton County, and 2,952 females, of these individuals, 1432, are the age 17 and under. The percentage of the population that are under the age of 18 is 23%. Further breakdowns of Stanton County by race are listed in the chart below.

**STANTON COUNTY POPULATION BY AGE, RACE & GENDER**

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	720	.1202%	23	.0038%	6	.0010%	5	.0008%
18-20	97	.0162%	5	.0008%	3	.0005%	0	.0000%
21-24	114	.0190%	4	.0007%	5	.0008%	0	.0000%
25 & over	1987	.3318%	17	.0028%	10	.0017%	7	.0012%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	647	.1080%	24	.0040%	7	.0012%	0	.0000%
18-20	87	.0145%	4	.0007%	1	.0002%	0	.0000%
21-24	122	.0204%	1	.0002%	1	.0002%	1	.0002%
25 & over	1992	.3367%	12	.0002%	15	.0025%	8	.0013%

2017 EASY ACCESS TO JUVENILE POPULATIONS: POPULATION PROFILES

As noted above, 23 % of the population of Stanton County is under the age of 18. Given the close proximity of Stanton County to Norfolk, Nebraska and all of the opportunities that are presented within that town, it is likely that the numbers of juveniles residing in

Stanton County will not change drastically, as different families take up residence within Stanton County. Much like other rural agriculturally based counties, however, there is, in general, an overall lacking of options when it comes to positive, safe, and productive opportunities within the county for juveniles to partake in. Those options that do exist are mostly small in size and limited in the amount of outreach and advertising that they can do to attract new youth to them. As such, it is vital for the wellbeing of the youth located within Stanton County that the opportunities within the county and surrounding areas are promoted to the youth in the area. This is to assist the families, youth, and support services individuals working with youth in the county maintain a positive, safe, and law-abiding environment for all.

## **ANTELOPE COUNTY**

Antelope County is located in Northeast Nebraska. It is bordered by Pierce, Madison, Boone, Wheeler, Holt and Knox Counties. U.S. Highway 20 and U.S. Highway 275 are the main thoroughfares that pass through the county. Nebraska Highways 13, 14, 45, and 70 also pass through the county.

Located within Antelope County are the towns of Brunswick, Clearwater, Elgin, Neligh, Oakdale, Orchard, Royal, and Tilden (partial). The largest city in the county is the county seat of Neligh. The total overall population of Antelope County is 6,362 based on the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website. This overall population is down from the population taken in the 2000 U.S. Census, which was 7,452.

The main economic structure of Antelope County is agriculturally based and includes farming and small businesses related to the agricultural field.

Antelope County is home to four primary schools, four high schools, and two private schools covering both primary and high school levels.

Ashfall Fossil Beds is located within Antelope County and attracts tourists from the surrounding area of the Midwest and visitors from around the world.

Like many agriculturally based economic counties in the Midwest, Antelope County is composed of a number of small towns surround by farmland. As such, the number of attractions and activities, aside from some small locally based activities from time to time, is less than in more populated areas. The closest economic centers to Antelope County are the towns of O'Neill, located in Holt County; and Norfolk, located in Madison County. This means that aside from a few small local attractions, that residents, including juveniles, are forced to

create their own entertainment or to travel some distance to neighboring towns and counties to pursue other options of entertainment, shopping, and the like.

Based on the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website, Antelope County Antelope County is composed of 3,177 males and 3,185 females, of which 1,417 residents in the county are under the age of 18. Given these numbers approximately 22% of the population of Antelope County is under the age of 18. Of those 6,362 residents there is a total population of 217 individuals of Hispanic/Latino descent, and 6,145 people of non-Hispanic/Latino descent. The complete breakdown by race in Antelope County according to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website is show in the table on the next page.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	716	.1125%	6	.0095%	3	.0005%	6	.0009%
18-20	100	.0157%	1	.0002%	2	.0003%	1	.0002%
21-24	120	.0189%	1	.0002%	1	.0002%	0	.0000%
25 & over	2148	.3376%	10	.0016%	7	.0011%	5	.0008%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	665	.1045%	12	.0019%	3	.0005%	6	.0009%
18-20	89	.0140%	1	.0002%	1	.0002%	2	.0003%
21-24	123	.0193%	1	.0002%	0	.0000%	2	.0003%
25 & over	2215	.3482%	5	.0008%	8	.0013%	14	.0022%

Given the above information, including the large number of juveniles in Antelope County in comparison to young adults, it appears that there is little to attract young adults to Antelope County. This in turn lends itself to the struggles faced by the large juvenile population within the county as they attempt to find meaningful, safe, and legal opportunities to fill their spare time. Given this information, it is obvious that it is imperative to identify and promote the activities that are found in and around Antelope County to assist these juveniles and their families in maintaining a safe and healthy environment for the juveniles.

### **Pierce County**

Pierce County, Nebraska is home to 7,138 residents according to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations Profiles. Pierce County is located in the northern northeast part of the state. Only one county separates Pierce County from the South Dakota border. Pierce County is bordered by Cedar, Wayne, Antelope, Knox, and Madison Counties. The major highways that cross Pierce County are U.S. Highways 20 and 81 and Nebraska Highways 13, 98, and 121.

The county seat is located in the City of Pierce. The other communities that make up Pierce County are Foster, Hadar, McLean, Osmond, and Plainview. There are three main school districts in the county which include Pierce Public Schools, Plainview Public Schools, and Osmond Public Schools. There are also a few private schools including Zion Lutheran Elementary Schools in Pierce and Plainview, Immanuel Lutheran Elementary Schools in Hadar and Osmond, and St. Mary Elementary School in Osmond.

Pierce County is home to the beautiful and popular Willow Creek State Recreation Area just outside of Pierce. This is a 700 acre lake complete with boat ramps, hiking and biking trails, camping, fishing, playground equipment, and an archery range. Many people are attracted from surrounding counties to partake in the activities at Willow Creek especially during the summer months.

Another local attraction that is unique to the area is the Klown Doll Museum located in Plainview. The museum is the home to over 7,000 Klown dolls and is open six days per week during the summer months.

The small communities that are a part of Pierce County have very nice city parks and recreational areas many with fairly updated playground equipment, swimming pools, and baseball complexes. The annual Pierce County Fair in the summer is a highlight in the area and draws many local youth and other visitors from surrounding counties that enjoy partaking in the activities that this event brings.

Pierce which is the largest community in the county is only 15 miles from Norfolk and many people travel to Norfolk to work and spend leisure time. Many youth in Pierce County go to Norfolk in search of additional recreational opportunities not offered in their own smaller communities.

Based on the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website, Pierce County is predominantly white in its racial breakdown. Out of the total Pierce County population of 7,138 residents, only 130 do not identify themselves as white. A total of 128 people in the county identify themselves as being of Hispanic/Latino descent.

Pierce County has 23 percent of its population that is under the age of 18. Additionally, there is a fairly small percentage of young adults in the area which suggests that many may leave the area in search of more opportunities offered in larger areas. The complete statistical breakdown of the age of the population in Pierce County can be seen on the following below.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	828	.1160%	18	.0025%	6	.0008%	3	.0004%
18-20	125	.0175%	1	.0001%	1	.0001%	0	.0000%
21-24	151	.0212%	3	.0004%	1	.0001%	1	.0001%
25 & over	2383	.3338%	15	.0021%	14	.0020%	15	.0021%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	800	.1121%	10	.0014%	4	.0005%	7	.0010%
18-20	85	.0119%	3	.0004%	0	.0000%	2	.0003%
21-24	150	.0210%	2	.0003%	2	.0003%	0	.0000%
25 & over	2395	.3355%	10	.0014%	4	.0005%	8	.0011%

2017 EASY ACCESS TO JUVENILE POPULATIONS: POPULATION PROFILES

As has been the challenge of nearly every rural county included in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan, there are a limited number of positive experiences and attractions to draw the youth and keep them occupied in safe, meaningful activities.



## Cuming County

Cuming County is located in the northeastern part of the state of Nebraska and is in the Elkhorn River Valley. It is adjacent to the other counties of Burt and Stanton. It is also surrounded by Thurston, Dodge, Colfax, and Wayne Counties. The major highways that run through Cuming County are U.S. Highway 275 and Nebraska State Highway 32.

The county seat of Cuming County is West Point. The other small towns that make up Cuming County are Bancroft, Beemer, and Wisner. The largest community in Cuming County is West Point.

Cuming County's economic structure is agriculturally based and is home to many family farms many which are actively involved in the production of livestock and grain.

Cuming County has a total of eight schools including four primary schools, one middle school, and three high schools.

Cuming County's small communities have several parks for recreation including Wilderness Park, Timmerman Memorial Park, Wisner River Park, and Boy Scout Memorial Park. There are two museums which are the Cuming County Heritage Museum Complex and the Wisner Heritage Museum. There are also two theaters: the Beemer Community Theater and the West Point Community Theater.

Although regular recreation sources may be limited, there are several fun events during the year that bring in visitors from surrounding communities. There is the Leprechaun Run held every year in Wisner for their annual St. Patrick's celebration. There is also the Last Fling 'Til Spring Car Show which is held in September each year. Finally, there is the annual Thunder ByThe River Tractor Pull which draws extremely large crowds each year from surrounding areas in Northeast Nebraska and beyond.

According to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations there are 9,042 people that make Cuming County their home and 958 of them are of Hispanic/Latino descent. This represents nearly 10.5% of the total population in Cuming County. Cuming County has a significant portion of its residents under the age of 18, nearly 23 percent of the population falls into this range. The remaining age divisions and race in Cuming County are summarized in the chart below.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	1041	.1151%	16	.0018%	16	.0010%	4	.0004%
18-20	147	.0163%	1	.0001%	0	.0000%	2	.0002%
21-24	232	.0257%	2	.0002%	1	.0001 %	2	.0002 %
25 & over	2994	.3311%	18	.0002%	13	.0014%	8	.0009%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	992	.1097 %	8	.0009%	12	.0013%	10	.0011%
18-20	134	.0148%	1	.0001%	0	.0000%	1	.0001%
21-24	193	.0213%	1	.0001%	1	.0001%	1	.0001%
25 & over	3029	.3350%	12	.0013%	14	.0015%	29	.0032%

2017 EASY ACCESS TO JUVENILE POPULATIONS: POPULATION PROFILES

Given the above information, including the large number of juveniles in Cuming County in comparison to young adults, it appears that there is little to attract young adults to Cuming County. This may suggest that it may be challenging to find meaningful, safe, and legal opportunities to fill their spare time. Given this information, it is crucial to identify and promote whatever available activities there are in and around Cuming County to help these juveniles and their families in maintaining a safe and healthy environment for the youth.

## **Burt County**

Burt County is located on the east border of the state of Nebraska in the northern part of the state. It is positioned halfway between Omaha, Nebraska and Sioux City, Iowa. Burt County is a very rural area, but it is located only 25 miles from Interstate 29. It borders Iowa and is surrounded by the Nebraska counties of Thurston, Washington, Dodge, and Cuming. The major highways that go through Burt County are U.S. Highway 75, U.S. Highway 77, Nebraska Highway 32, and Nebraska Highway 51.

Burt County is comprised mostly of small towns. The primary communities in Burt County are Tekamah, Oakland, Lyons, Decatur, and Craig. The largest of these towns is Tekamah which is also the county seat of Burt County. There are three main public school districts in Burt County which consist of the Tekamah-Herman, Oakland-Craig, and Lyons-Decatur Northeast.

The main economic structure of Burt County is agriculturally based, including farming and small businesses located in the communities. Nearly 66 percent of the people employed in Burt County travel to some other city or area to work.

The communities in Burt County hold various events throughout the year that attract both local residents and visitors. The very popular Warrior Dash was held in Tekamah in 2014. Tekamah also holds the Hoot Gibson Memorial Rodeo. Oakland is the host of the Swedish Festival which is held during the first weekend of June on odd numbered years. Decatur hosts Riverfront Days during June as well.

Some of the area attractions in Burt County are the Burt County Museum, the Summit Lake State Recreation Area, and the Pelican Point State Recreation Area. Burt County also boasts some of the best waterfowl hunting in the area due to the fact that the county is on the migratory bird path. This draws many hunters to the area during the appropriate season.

According to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations, Burt County has a total population of 6,535 people. Of these people, 196 were of Hispanic/Latino descent and 6,339 were of non-Hispanic/Latino descent. Further breakdowns of Burt County by race are listed in the chart below.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	690	.1056%	10	.0015%	23	.0035%	4	.0006%
18-20	87	.0133%	3	.0005%	4	.0006%	2	.0003%
21-24	127	.0194%	0	0.0%	8	.0012%	0	0.0%
25 & over	2169	.3319%	16	.0024%	46	.0070%	2	.0003%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	624	.0955%	14	.0021%	20	.0031%	4	.0006%
18-20	72	.0110%	6	.0009%	0	0.0%	3	.0005%
21-24	113	.0173%	1	.0002%	3	.0005%	4	.0006%
25 & over	2337	.3576%	9	.0014%	51	.0078%	12	.0018%

## 2017 EASY ACCESS TO JUVENILE POPULATIONS: POPULATION PROFILES

According to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations nearly 21% of the population of Burt County is under the age of 18. This is nearly one quarter of the population living in this county and is potentially subject to the oversight of the Juvenile Accountability Office. Like many of the other rural Nebraska counties described in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Plan, Burt County is limited in opportunities and ongoing activities for its area youth.

## **Boone County**

Boone County is the southern-most county included in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan. It is surrounded by Madison, Platte, Greely, Wheeler, and Nance Counties. Several highways run across Boone County. They include Nebraska Highways 14, 32, 39, 45, 52, 56, and 91. Boone County is also comprised of a series of very small towns. The largest of these communities is Albion. Other communities in Boone County include Cedar Rapids, Petersburg, Raeville, Primrose, and St. Edward.

Boone County is mostly an agricultural area with many producing farms in operation. There are, however, other significant employers in the area including Cargill, Sentinel Building Systems, the Valero Renewables Ethanol Plant, and Source Gas. The largest employer in Boone County is the Boone County Health Center which employs more than 240 people.

There are three public school districts in Boone County which are as follows: Boone Central Schools, Cedar Rapids Public Schools, and St. Edward Public Schools. There are two private schools in Boone County which include St. Michael's School in Albion (grades K – 8) and St. John the Baptist (grades 1 through 6).

There are a few significant recreational opportunities in Boone County. The new Albion Family Aquatic Center just opened in June of 2014. It is a type of water park that attracts people from surrounding communities as well with its water slide, zero-depth entry, diving boards, and cargo net play area. There is also the Olson Nature Preserve which offers hiking trails and access to nature. Finally, there is the Albion Speedway which has long been popular entertainment on a weekend for stock car fans in the area. There is also the Boone County Fitness Center which is an asset to the community. The center is complete with a swimming pool, weights, spinning room, racquetball court, hot tub, and sauna.

Although small in size the town of Petersburg attracts statewide attention each year with its annual Punkin' Chunkin' contest in late October of each year. The Punkin' Chunkin' contest is actually a nationally sanctioned event with the winner being eligible to compete in the World Championship. Each year, participants shoot, launch, or fling 6 to 12 pound pumpkins across the wide open fields near the town.

Some Boone County events that attract visitors and occupy local residents are the annual Rhythm and Ribs Festival in Albion which features food sampling and live bands. There is also the Smoke and Chrome event which features cars and cycles for viewing. The Boone County Fair held in Albion is another highlight of the summer with various events.

The demographic breakdown by race is seen on the table below. Boone County is primarily inhabited by those that identify themselves as white. Out of the total of 5,352 residents that live in Boone County, only 134 categorize themselves as Hispanic.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	584	.1091%	14	.0026%	2	.0004%	2	.0004%
18-20	90	.0168%	2	.0004%	0	.0000%	0	.0000%
21-24	111	.0207%	1	.0002%	2	.0004%	1	.0002%
25 & over	1816	.3393%	9	.0017%	4	.0007%	3	.0006%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	579	.1082%	14	.0026%	5	.0009%	1	.0002%
18-20	78	.0146%	1	.0002%	1	.0002%	1	.0002%
21-24	108	.0202%	1	.0002%	0	.0000%	1	.0002%
25 & over	1842	.0344%	6	.0011%	2	.0004%	6	.0011%

2017 EASY ACCESS TO JUVENILE POPULATIONS: POPULATION PROFILES

Just over 23% of the population in Boone County is under the age of 18 years old. There is the strong potential that the services offered by the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Team will be continued to be utilized for this sector of the population. As can be evidenced by the building of the recent water park in Albion, Boone County is attempting to take steps to attract and maintain the younger members of the population. The remaining age groups are summarized below in the table.

## **Knox County**

Knox County, Nebraska is located in the very northernmost part of the state and borders the Lewis and Clark Lake on the Missouri River. Knox County is on the South Dakota Border. The Nebraska counties that are directly adjacent to Knox County are Cedar, Pierce, Antelope, Holt, and Boyd. Major Nebraska Highways that stretch across Knox County are Highways 12, 13, 14, 59, 84, and 121.

The towns and communities found in Knox County are very small. The largest community in Knox County is the town of Creighton. The other communities that make up Knox County are Bazile Mills, Bloomfield, Center, Crofton, Niobrara, Santee, Verdel, Verdigre, Wausa, and Winnetoon.

Knox has several school districts including Bloomfield Community Schools, Creighton Public Schools, Crofton Community Schools, Niobrara Public Schools, Santee Community Schools, Wausa Public Schools, and Nebraska Unified District #1 (Verdigre). Knox County also has a couple of private schools: St. Ludger Elementary School in Creighton and St. Rose of Lima Elementary School in Crofton.

Knox County has many outdoor attractions due to its location relative to the Niobrara and Missouri Rivers. One of the main locations to visit is Niobrara State Park which offers several activities such as camping, hiking, swimming, horseback trail rides, and raft tours. Other such outdoor attractions found in Knox County are the Lewis and Clark Trail, the Elk and Buffalo Trail, and the Grove Trout Rearing Station.

Other attractions in Knox County include the Ohiya Casino which is located a few minutes east of Niobrara. There are also several city parks and four 9-hole golf courses within the county. During the month of December, Creighton hosts Santa Land which is the town's annual Christmas Festival and Light Display. This attraction draws several families to the area both locally and from other communities in the state.

During the summer months, various festivals and fun activities are held in Knox County. Verdigre holds its Kolach Days in the month of June. Desperado Days are held in July on Outlaw Trail in Niobrara. Creighton also hosts Berry Pepper Days in June.

According to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website, the racial composition of Knox County is mostly white. Although there is a significant percentage of Native American population in the county as well. Out of the 8,472 people that reside in Knox County, 867 of them or just over 10 percent, are classified as American Indian or Alaska Native. This is a result of the Santee Sioux Reservation being located in the county. The major town on the reservation is

Santee. A detailed breakdown by race in Knox County is shown on the following page. Nearly 23 percent of the population of Knox County is under the age of 18. This is nearly one quarter of the population living in this county and is potentially subject to the oversight of the Juvenile Accountability Office. Like many of the other rural Nebraska counties described in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Plan, Knox County faces the same challenges for its youth of there being limited activities in which they can be regularly engaged.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	765	.0903%	15	.0018%	161	.0190%	19	.0022%
18-20	111	.0131%	2	.0002%	28	.0033%	0	.0000%
21-24	142	.0168%	2	.0002%	16	.0019%	1	.0001%
25 & over	2615	.3087%	16	.0019%	220	.0260%	4	.0005%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	783	.0924%	18	.0021%	193	.0228%	7	.0008%
18-20	100	.0118%	2	.0002%	24	.0028%	1	.0001%
21-24	126	.0149%	2	.0002%	11	.0013%	1	.0001%
25 & over	2750	.3246%	12	.0014%	214	.0253%	14	.0017%



## Wayne County

Wayne County is located in Northeast Nebraska. The counties that are adjacent to Wayne County are Dixon, Thurston, Cuming, Stanton, Pierce and Cedar. The major highways that run through Wayne County are Nebraska Highway 15, 16, 35, 57 and 98.

The largest community in Wayne County is the City of Wayne, the other smaller communities that make up Wayne County are Wakefield, Carroll, Hoskins, Sholes and Winside.

Several school districts surround and are within Wayne County. These schools include Wayne Community Schools, Wakefield Public Schools, Winside Public Schools, Norfolk Public Schools, Laurel-Concord Public Schools, Randolph Public Schools, Pierce Public Schools, Pender Public Schools and Wisner-Pilger Public Schools.

Wayne County has many attractions which include Garden Perennials, a Planetarium, the Wayne County Museum, and many walking trails. The residents of Wayne County and people from various parts of the United States also take part in their famous Wayne Chicken Show and annual county fair.

The racial composition of Wayne County is mostly white by over 96% of the population. Other races that include a less than 1% of population include African American, Asian, American Indian, Native Hawaiian, Other, or identified by two or more.

According to the 2017 Easy Access to Juvenile Populations from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention website seen in the chart below, nearly 30.5 percent of the population of Wayne County is under the age of 18. This is slightly over one quarter of the population living in this county and is potentially subject to the oversight of the Juvenile Accountability Office. Like many of the other rural Nebraska counties described in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Plan, Wayne County faces the same challenges for its youth of there being limited activities in which they can be regularly engaged.

**MALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	897	.0963%	21	.0023%	17	.0018%	10	.0011%
18-20	375	.0402%	37	.0040%	4	.0004%	6	.0006%
21-24	490	.0526%	24	.0026%	3	.0003%	6	.0006%
25 & over	2670	.2865%	48	.0052%	12	.0013%	13	.0014%

**FEMALE POPULATION**

AGE	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	AMERICAN INDIAN	%	ASIAN	%
17 & under	807	.0866%	19	.0020%	11	.0012%	10	.0011%
18-20	519	.0557%	13	.0014%	8	.0009%	8	.0009%
21-24	445	.0478%	9	.0010%	6	.0006%	3	.0003%
25 & over	2660	.2855%	23	.0025%	18	.0019%	21	.0023%

## **Section V**

### **Identified Priority Areas & Corresponding Strategies**

## Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership's Prioritized Needs

**PRIORITY ONE**  
**TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM BY**  
**EXPANDING AND IMPROVING PREVENTION PROGRAMS**  
**AND COMMUNITY BASED JUVENILE SERVICES**

The main goal of Priority One is to decrease the number of youth in the Juvenile Justice System. Team members have worked together to expand or add diversion programs in the Northeast Nebraska communities, this is done to keep youth out of the court system or any Criminal Justice involvement. Priority One also has programs such as the Alternative School, the Your Life Program, and the Connected Youth Initiative which work to provide youth in the 9 county area with Community Based Services to prevent youth from becoming involved in the criminal justice system. Another goal of the programs are to prevent youth from using illegal substances. Each county works to put programs in place to provide substance abuse prevention either through a Diversion Program, the Health Department

In reviewing the data for the 9 counties in the Northeast Nebraska Partnership Plan one of the main concerns would be alcohol use. In 2016 the Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey was completed. In the survey 1,045 students in Madison County, who are in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, participated. The percentage of students who reported using alcohol within the last 30 days for 12<sup>th</sup> graders was 39.4 %, the percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> graders who reported using alcohol one or more times in his/her lifetime was 64.2%, which is higher than the national level of 61.2%. The same type of pattern is also shown for the rest of the counties in the Partnership Plan. The chart below shows the percentages of youth in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade regarding alcohol use. Three counties, Burt, Stanton and Wayne, did not participate in the survey in 2016.

In reviewing the last 3 years of youth who were referred to the Diversion Program, we do show a slight decrease in the amount of youth who have been charged with Minor in Possession. In 2018 Madison County had 23 youth charged with Minor in Possession that were referred to the Diversion Program and 3 youth charged with Minor in Possession along with a drug offense, in 2017 there was 29 youth charged with Minor in Possession, and in 2016 there were 31 youth.

<b>2016 Survey by County</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade Alcohol Use Lifetime (one or more times in lifetime)</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade Alcohol Use Current (one of more times past 30 days)</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> grade Alcohol Use Lifetime (one or more times in lifetime)</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade Alcohol Use Current (one or more times past 30 days)</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade Alcohol Use Lifetime (One or more times in lifetime)</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade Alcohol Use Current (one or more times past 30 days)</b>		
Antelope	62.5%	34.4%	34.6%	11.5%	29.6%	11.1%		
Boone	76%	36%	40.9%	22.7%	40.7%	11.1%		
Cuming	62.9%	47%	37.6%	16.5%	24.4%	10.2%		
Knox	59.1%	29.2%	39.1%	14.5%	23.7%	5.3%		
Madison	64.2%	39.4%	44.1%	18%	22.3%	4.8%		
Pierce	61%	25.4%	43.7%	18.3%	23.8%	9.7%		
NATIONAL LEVEL	61.2%	33.2%	43.4%	19.9%	22.8%	7.3%		
STATE LEVEL	61.2%	34.4%	42.3%	20%	23%	7.3%		

In reviewing the last 3 years of youth who were referred to the Diversion Program in Madison County, we do show a decrease in the amount of youth who have been charged with Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. In 2016 Madison County had 19 youth charged with Possession of Marijuana and 10 youth with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, in 2017 there were 15 youth charged with Possession of Marijuana and 13 youth charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and in 2018 there was a significant decrease. In 2018 we show that only 6 youth were charged with Possession of Marijuana and 5 for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

A review of the data was also done for students who reported using marijuana one or more times in their lifetime and who used marijuana within the last 30 days. The percentages for youth who used marijuana one or more times in their lifetime was lower than the national level but very close to the average for the state level. The percentages for youth who used marijuana in the last 30 days were also lower than the national level but close to the average for the state level.

<b>2016 Survey by County</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade Marijuana Use Lifetime (one or more times in lifetime)</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade Marijuana Use Current (one of more times past 30 days)</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> grade Marijuana Use Lifetime (one or more times in lifetime)</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade Marijuana Use Current (one or more times past 30 days)</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade Marijuana Use Lifetime (One or more times in lifetime)</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade Marijuana Use Current (one or more times past 30 days)</b>		
Antelope	18.8%	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		
Boone	32%	8%	22.7%	13.6%	7.4%	0.0%		
Cuming	21.7%	8.7%	5.5%	2.8%	0.8%	0.0%		
Knox	22.7%	9.4%	11.6%	7.2%	5.3%	2.6%		
Madison	39.6%	18.5%	17.4%	10.2%	5.7%	2.6%		
Pierce	18.6%	5.1%	9.9%	0.0%	3.2%	3.2%		
<b>NATIONAL LEVEL</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>5.4</b>		
<b>STATE LEVEL</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>		

In reviewing Disproportionate Minority Contacts for the past 3 years for Diversion Programs in the 9 county area of the Partnership Plan it appears that the youth are predominately white. Please review the tables below regarding data for diversion youth.

**Boone County Diversion Stats**  
(All youth from 1/1/16 to 12/31/18)

<b>Males</b>		<b>Females</b>	
White	14	White	10
Asian	1		0

**2016 Diversion Youth by Race**

Diversion by County	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Multiple Races	
Burt	17	1	0	3	0	1	
Cuming	6	0	3	0	0	0	
Madison	40	8	19	4	0	4	

**2017 Diversion Youth by Race**

Diversion by County	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Multiple Races	
Burt	23	1	1	2	0	1	
Cuming	5	0	3	3	0	0	
Madison	65	9	24	11	0	4	

**2018 Diversion Youth by Race**

Diversion by County	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Multiple Races	Unspecified
Burt	10	0	0	0	0	1	1
Cuming	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madison	68	4	34	8	1	4	0

The table above states that from 2016 to 2018, all Diversion Programs served a total of 421 youth. Percentages for youth of color in the 9 county area are very low. The following are percentages for the 4 year time frame: White youth-.6293%, Black youth-.0542%, Hispanic youth-.1996%, American Indian youth-.0736%, Asian youth-.0048%, Multiple races-.0380%.

The following strategies have been put into place by the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership team to provide community based services for youth in the 9 county area.

Strategies	Action Steps	Responsibility	Time Frame	Resources Needed	Expected Outcomes
Collaboration between counties to provide community based juvenile services	The lead county (Madison) will continue to work with each of the counties involved to ensure that programs remain active and they receive the assistance or resources needed to make their programs successful.	Director of the NNJJP team, Program Coordinators	Contact with each county monthly	Funds for personnel, mileage, funds for services	<p>Identify existing programs in each community and determine the resources needed to sustain the programs. Juveniles will successfully complete programs or remain active in on-going programs.</p> <p>The Stanton County TeamMates Program will provide mentoring for program for at risk youth.</p> <p>Wayne County Community Response Program will provide community support for families in need.</p>
Continue to research and implement prevention programs	Each county administrator or program coordinator will research resources available in their area such as mental health providers, after school programs or other prevention programs. The team will work together to implement new programs and ensure that	Administrative or Coordinators for each county and the Director of the NNJJP team	Updates quarterly	Funds for personnel, mileage, funds for services	Identify the programs and services that are being offered in each community and determine what needs are not being met. Implement new programs or updates to program.



	all necessary contracts are in place.				
Enhance and expand established prevention programs	Madison County will continue to update and expand the Alternatives for Diversion Program and provide any requesting counties updated copies of the power point. Madison County will also assist in ordering and supplying the counties with the workbooks or other materials needed.	Director of the NNJJP team, Alternatives Instructor	Review information monthly	Funds for instructor, funds for workbooks and other materials	Reduce the number of Juveniles entering into the Criminal Justice System. .
Enhance and Expand Community Based Program	Continue to develop substance abuse programs, decision making programs and social skills programs. Expand Community Based Programs such as the Crofton Youth Program, the Connected Youth Initiative, Your Life Program	NNJJP team members  Knox County Community Team	Ongoing research and quarterly updates  6 months	Funds for personnel, funds for educational materials	Provide positive, evidence-based programs to youth in the NNJJP area.  Addition of Evidence Based Programs within the Community Based Programs such as materials from the Change Companies.  A Knox County Community Team will be established to determine the need for services in Knox County.  Community Based Services in Wayne County for families in need.  Parent Assist Program for families that are struggling on what to do with their youth who are in crisis.

<p>Offer a tiered response Diversion Program</p>	<p>Provide a Diversion Program based on the youth's offense and assessments. Help families connect with community resources.</p>	<p>Chief JAO, Administrative Assistant, Diversion Officers, County Attorney</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Funds for personnel, class materials  Funds for youth to take the Alive at 25 class.</p>	<p>Provide youth that are first time offenders with an alternative to entering the Juvenile Justice System.  Reduce the amount of juveniles entering the Criminal Justice System.</p>
<p>Offer an alternative educational setting for youth at the Day Reporting Center</p>	<p>Provide a safe, structure environment where youth age 11 to 18 can complete their education needs if they have received an out of school suspension or expulsion. Provide prevention pieces daily to assist the youth in making the right choices.</p>	<p>Chief JAO, Day Reporting Coordinator, Truancy Officer</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Funds for staffing, utilities, educational items and meals</p>	<p>Youth will attend the Day Reporting Center and be able to complete their daily work and remain current with their classes. Attend prevention sessions to improve behaviors and social skills.</p>
<p>Provide Tutoring Assistance for youth in the NNJJP area.</p>	<p>Provide a safe, structure environment for youth to ages 11 to 18 years of age to after school. Provide tutors to work with the youth to help assist with their education needs.</p>	<p>Day Reporting Coordinator, Truancy Officer</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Funds for tutors and education supplies, funds for afterschool snacks</p>	<p>Assist youth in improving their grades and becoming more confident in their education skills.</p>
<p>Promote alternative extracurricular activities for youth in grade 7-12 through The Zone</p>	<p>The afterschool program focuses on six program areas: education, enrichment, health and wellness, community involvement, leadership and special activities. The Zone afterschool program exposes</p>	<p>The Zone Afterschool program director, other zone staff members</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Funds for staffing and incentives</p>	<p>Motivate disadvantaged youth to graduate from high school, live healthy lifestyles and be effective leaders in their communities.</p>

<p>After-school Program</p>	<p>and engages youth in community service activities so the youth learn how they can contribute to their community and become productive members of society.</p>				
<p>Strengthen and provide the “Your Life” Program to youth ages 11 to 18 years of age</p>	<p>Engage with youth that exhibiting high risk behaviors but have not been cited/involved with the court and determine what factors may be causing the behaviors.</p> <p>Meet with youth at least every 1-2 weeks. Prepare a written contract of goals or behavioral changes with the youth.</p>	<p>Juvenile Accountability Officers</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Funds for staffing</p>	<p>Reduce the number of youth or prevent youth from becoming involved in the Juvenile Justice System</p>
<p>Help develop and implement a community team in Knox County.</p>	<p>Collaborate with organizations within Knox County to create a team of individuals dedicated to providing services to youth in the area. Identify the needs of youth within the communities of Knox County. Identify the services already available in Knox County.</p>	<p>Chief JAO, Knox County community members, service providers</p>	<p>December of 2018</p>	<p>Funding for staff, training, mental health services, mental health assessments,</p>	<p>Provide youth of Knox County with mental health assessments and services as needed. Implement a diversion program for youth based on their offenses and assessments.</p>

**PRIORITY TWO**  
**TO INCREASE COLLABORATION BETWEEN JUVENILE SUPPORT**  
**SERVICE GROUPS WITHIN THE NORTHEAST NEBRASKA JUVENILE**  
**PARTNERSHIP TEAM AREA**

The Northeast Nebraska Partnership Plan tries to have 4 meetings a year. The meetings are held in Norfolk and the average attendance for the meetings are between 13-15 team members. This is a concern as we have 9 counties involved. Part of the reason is the distance between some of the counties and Norfolk, as a majority of the meetings are held in Norfolk. In the future we will be working towards starting small teams in each county, one has already been started in Knox County.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Resources Needed</b>	<b>Expected Outcome</b>
Coordinate efforts with all services groups and community providers	Through the coordination and collaboration between the 9 counties several issues can be addressed. The goal is to continue this program to provide delinquency and prevention programs to decrease substance abuse, truancy, youth coming involved in the Criminal Justice System and Alternatives to Detention.  Collaborate with service groups coalitions and other community resources monthly	NJJP Members and Community Leaders	Quarterly Meetings	Funding for staffing and educational materials for prevention programs	Improvement of services that the NNJJP area can provide youth. Make good use of resources that are available and sharing those resources between counties.  Assist the smaller communities by providing support and resources such as having mental health staff travel to those communities. Collaborating with smaller communities to provide evidence based programs to youth in the communities.  Wayne County Community Response will work with other service providers in the area to provide community based supports to families in need.

Improve Communication and information sharing	Ongoing meetings will be held between services groups, coalitions and other resources	Service Providers and NJJP team members	Monthly	Funding for staff and mileage	Improving communication between services providers to improve services
Provide training and education to staff members	Make training sessions that may include topics such as Trauma Informed Care, Digital Citizenship, etc. available to staff. Other opportunities offered to staff include The NJJA and Heartland Juvenile Justice Association Conferences.	NJJP team members and staff members	On-going	Funds for staffing and training	Provide up to date training for staff so they are successful in the work they are doing for youth.
Continue quarterly team meetings, attendance at coalition meetings and other meetings with service providers.	Ensure continuous communication between team members, staff and other service providers in order to enhance the knowledge of services in the NJJP area.	NJJP team members, staff members, services providers	On-going	Funds for staffing	Provide an agenda to stay on task during team meetings, provide information for members to review prior to the meeting to enhance discussion and communication
Establish and Enhance the NJJP Advisory Committee	Due to the large area this team covers a Advisory Committee was created which contains members from each county and a variety of service groups, but holds a limited amount of members.	NNJJP team members	Monthly	Funds for staffing	Provide an advisory group to assist in approving, grants, sub-grant adjustments and changes to the community plan.

**PRIORITY THREE**  
**TO ASSIST AREA AT-RISK YOUTH IN NEED OF MENTAL**  
**HEALTH SERVICES**

Mental Health for youth has become a great concern for the Northeast Nebraska Partnership Team due to recent suicides by youth in the past two years. In looking at the State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Website for 2016, there were 8 youth between the ages of 10-19 that did intentional self-harm (suicide) to themselves by gunshot and 11 youth between the ages of 10-19 that did intentional self-harm (suicide) by hanging.

The Nebraska Adolescent Mental Health Facts report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for 2017 states that a survey was completed with youth grades 9 to 12. The information or percentages is very concerning as the State of Nebraska is close to if not the same as the percentages for youth in the United States. The following questions were asked:

Question #1 asked the “percent of high school students who report they felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing some usual activities.” The percentage of students in the State of Nebraska was 27%, where the percentage of students in the United States was 31%.

Question #2 was for youth between the ages of 12-17 during the years 2015-2016 was “percent of adolescents ages 12-17 who report they had at least 1 major depressive episode, which occurred in the 12 months before the survey.” The percentage of students for the State of Nebraska was 13%, the percentage of students for the United States was also 13%.

Question #3 asked “percent of high school students who report they seriously considered attempting suicide.” The percent of students for the State of Nebraska was 16%, and the percentage of students for the United States was 17%.

Question #4 asked “percent of high school students who report they attempted suicide 1 or more times-during the 12 months before the survey.” The percentage of students in the State of Nebraska was 8%, and the percentage for the United States was 7%.

Question #5 asked “Percent of high school students who report they attempted suicide resulting in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse-during the 12 months before the survey.” The state of Nebraska was 2% and the percentage for the United States was also 2%.

The data provided above was from the following sources; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2018). 1991-2017 High School Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System data. Retrieved June 20, 2018 from <https://nccd.cdc.gov/Youthonline/App/Default.aspx>, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2017). 2015-2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health State Prevalence Estimates-Individual Excel and CSV Files by Outcome. Table 30. Retrieved May 22, 2018, from <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health>, and the American Psychiatric Association (1994). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (4<sup>th</sup> ED). Washington, DC, American Psychiatric Association.

The Nebraska Risk and Protection Factor Student Survey for 2016 asked youth the following questions regarding anxiety, depression and suicide. The data collected was from students in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, although there was a low participation rate. The questions below were asked and the chart shows the percentage of youth who answered yes to those questions. The questions were

1. Percentage who reported during the past 12 months being so worried they could not sleep well at night most of the time or always.
2. Percentage who reported during the past 12 months did you ever feel sad or hopeless almost everyday for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?
3. During the 12 months did you hurt or injure yourself on purpose without wanting to die?

2016 Survey by County	Student Grade Level	Lost Sleep	Depressed	Inflicted Self-Harm	Considered Attempting Suicide	Attempted Suicide
Antelope-	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.7%	14.3%	7.1%	10.7%	0.0%
	10 <sup>th</sup>	19.2%	26.9%	11.5%	3.8%	0.0%
	12 <sup>th</sup>	18.8%	37.5%	12.5%	12.5%	6.3%
Boone	8 <sup>th</sup>	18.5%	33.3%	14.8%	14.8%	11.1%
	10 <sup>th</sup>	21.7%	50.0%	30.4%	39.1%	13%
	12 <sup>th</sup>	24%	32%	12%	16%	4%
Cuming	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.3%	24.8%	8.5%	12%	2.5%
	10 <sup>th</sup>	13.8%	22%	8.3%	7.4%	1.8%
	12 <sup>th</sup>	17.7%	23.9%	7.1%	11.6%	5.3%
Knox	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.1%	19.4%	5.6%	11.1%	2.8%
	10 <sup>th</sup>	14.7%	21.7%	13.2%	11.6%	7.2%

	12 <sup>th</sup>	25.8%	39.4%	7.7%	18.2%	3%
Madison	8 <sup>th</sup>	16%	28.5%	11.2%	14.1%	2.6%
	10 <sup>th</sup>	21%	39.6%	16.1%	19%	5.3%
	12 <sup>th</sup>	22.6%	36.5%	12.3%	14.2%	3.2%
Pierce	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.1%	23.8%	11.1%	7.9%	3.2%
	10 <sup>th</sup>	16.9%	26.8%	11.3%	22.9%	4.2%
	12 <sup>th</sup>	16.9%	20.3%	6.8%	11.9%	1.7%

Mental Health is one of the top priority with many team members. Although in the chart above, it may appear the percentages are low, you also need to take into consideration the amount of people that participated. For example under Depression 33.3 % of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 50% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 32% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported they were depressed. In Boone County only 75 students participated in the survey so a large majority of the youth reported concerns with depression.

Due to the majority of the Northeast Partnership Plan area being in smaller communities or a rural area it was found that several youth did not have access to mental health care or they had to travel to another town or farther to receive services. A decision was made to start bringing the therapist into the smaller communities by having them meet with the youth at the school. A referral will be made to the Juvenile Accountability Office and then a contracted provider in that area will be contacted and asked to see the youth where they attend school. Grant funds are used to assist in paying for those services.

The following strategies are being used to assist in providing these services:

Strategies	Action Step	Responsibility	Time Frame	Resources Needed	Expected Outcomes
Establish what mental health services are available in each county	Collaborate with service groups, coalitions and other community resources to review what services are available. Maintain and Complete required contracts. Inform families of mental health services in their communities.	Chief JAO, program coordinators in each county	On-going	Staffing, mileage, funds for mental health services and medication for youth.	Provide immediate services to youth in need of mental health services.



Provide evidence based mental health assessments	Improve and enhance mental health assessments and the referral process for further services.	Chief JAO, Assessment Officer, Day Reporting Coordinator, Program Coordinators	On-going	Assessment materials and training	Provide youth with the treatment needed based on their risks/needs from the assessment.
Expand communication with schools and other organizations to make sure they are aware of what services can be provided.	Meetings will be held with school guidance counselors and administration to make sure they are aware of assistance that be provided to youth.	Chief JAO, Truancy Officer, Program Coordinators	On-going	Staffing, mental health services and assessments	Improved communication between school guidance counselors, services providers, parents and mental health providers.
Providing mental health services in smaller communities	Partnering with mental health agencies who would travel to locations in the smaller communities. Provide services to youth while they are at school.	Chief JAO, School guidance counselors, mental health providers.	On-going	Staffing, mental health services and assessments.	Provide mental health services to youth in the school system who would normally not be able to receive those services.

**PRIORITY FOUR**  
**TO REDUCE LEVELS OF TRUANCY WITHIN THE NORTHEAST NEBRASKA**  
**PARTNERSHIP AREA**

The Madison County Juvenile Accountability works directly with the Norfolk Public Schools and other schools in Madison County regarding youth who are truant from school. Youth who have missed 10 days or more are referred to the Madison County Juvenile Accountability Office. Staff reviews each case to determine the cause of the truancy which can be for a variety of reasons. In the City of Norfolk one of the main reasons we have youth who are truant seems to be due to transportation. Several of the Hispanic families in the community have parents that leave for work very early in the morning, leaving their children at home to wake up and get themselves to school on their own. Transportation is one thing the team continuously reviews to find a solution.

The number of youth referred for truancy for Madison County is listed below, the youth listed in the table below only include youth between the ages of 10-18, or 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, both open and closed cases from 2013 to 2018. In 2017 there was a significant increase in referrals but it dropped again in 2018. In 2017 white youth counted for 57.5% of the truancy cases and Hispanic youth counted for 36%. The chart below shows the number of referrals broke down by year, also showing race and gender.

<b>Truancy Referrals</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>M/F</b>	<b>African American</b>	<b>M/F</b>	<b>HISPANIC</b>	<b>M/F</b>	<b>American Indian</b>	<b>M/F</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>M/F</b>	<b>Other Race</b>	<b>M/F</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5/10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3/3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0/1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1/0</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10/6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1/3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5/2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0/1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12/7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2/2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9/6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0/1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0/1</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9/15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1/5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3/3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0/5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0/1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>25/32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1/5</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>20/20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0/5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1/2</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10/7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0/2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7/8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0/2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0/0</b>

The team also researched graduations rates for Norfolk Public Schools from 2011 to 2018. The graduation rate has increased 85% from 2011 to 2018. The team feels that the increase is partially due to the work we done with our truancy program. The chart below shows the percentages for Norfolk Public Schools from 2011 to 2018.

<b>2011 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>76.07%</b>
<b>2012 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>78.75%</b>
<b>2013 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>85.06%</b>
<b>2014 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>85.17%</b>
<b>2015 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>88.05%</b>
<b>2016 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>90.99%</b>
<b>2017 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>86.91%</b>
<b>2018 Graduation Rate</b>	<b>90%</b>

The following strategies have been put into place regarding the Truancy Program:

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Resources Needed</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>
Eliminate the barrier of transportation for youth in the Norfolk area.	Madison County team members will research transportation options for youth who attend Norfolk Public Schools	School Administration, Chief JAO, Truancy Officer	On going	Funds for transportation, county vehicles, staffing	Reduce the number of truanies or excessive absences in the NJJP area due to lack of transportation.
Provide Evidence Based or Best Practice Truancy	Expand truancy programs to provide programs that provide family and student engagement. Identify barriers of family engagement.	School administration, Juvenile Services Staff, Services	On-going	Staffing, mileage	Reduce the number of youth that are truant from school by providing the needed resources in the home.

Programs for youth.		Providers, Parents			
Provide a truancy diversion program to prevent court involvement	Truancy officer or Chief JAO will meet with the youth and their family and offer a Truancy Diversion Program to try and prevent court involvement.	Chief JAO, Truancy Officer, School Administration	On going	Staffing	Youth’s attendance will improve and the family will engage in their child’s education needs.

**PRIORITY FIVE****TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES FOR AREA YOUTH WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM OR AT RISK OF BEING PLACED INTO DETENTION**

Youth who are adjudicated into the Criminal Justice System continues to rise. In researching the 9 counties in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Plan we found that between 2015-2017 there was a 48% increase in youth who have been adjudicated for a status offense, a 40% increase for youth who have been adjudicated for a misdemeanor offense and a 30% decrease in youth who have been charged with a felony offense. Due to the increases we feel that the 9 county area needs to provide as much intervention as possible prior to, or to prevent, the youth from entering the Juvenile Justice System.

Strategy	Action Steps	Responsibility	Time Frame	Resources Needed	Expected Outcomes
Provide tracker and electronic monitoring services	Pre-adjudication youth will be court ordered to follow Conditions of Release which may include tracking or electronic monitoring.	Juvenile Services Staff members	On-going	Funds for Staffing, mileage and equipment rental	Youth are able to remain at home, attend school, mental health services and other required programs.
Provide Community Based Services as Alternatives to Detention	Provide a community based alternative to detention, designed to provide non-residential, supportive services, and supervision for juveniles that have been suspended or expelled from school. Continue to provide the Day Reporting Center, which has become an alternative location where behavioral youth whom cannot return to the classroom can come to de-escalate and finish their day with the homework	Juvenile Services Staff	On-going	Funds for staffing, mileage, education materials	Students are able to complete their homework while they are away from school.  In the event that the student does not have homework to complete, the Day Reporting Coordinator provides delinquency prevention education material to the juvenile. Group discussions are also encouraged.

	provided from school. Staff gathers homework from the appropriate school and provides assistance when needed. Staff stays in close contact with the school/teachers and forwards completed assignments back to be graded.				
Family Engagement	Maintain consistent communication with parents and school staff to ensure that we are meeting the needs of youth. Provide resources such as Parent to Parent, Professional Partners, the Befriend Mentoring Program to assist the youth and their family.	Chief JAO, Juvenile Service Officers, Service Providers	On-going	Funds for staffing, program coordinators, team meetings	Keep parents/ guardians involved with their child/children's educational, behavioral, and mental health needs.

# **APPENDIX**

**Revised January 2019**

### Section III

## Juvenile Justice System Analysis Tool

<p><b>SYSTEM POINT: ARREST/CITATION</b></p> <p><b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Police/Law Enforcement</b></p>	
<p><i>Decision: Whether an information report should be filed, or what offense, if any, with which juvenile should be cited or arrested.</i></p>	
<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sufficient factual basis to believe offense was committed by juvenile</li> <li>b. Underlying support for a particular offense.</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Police officer discretion to issue a citation based on their department's policies</li> <li>b. Age of the juvenile</li> </ul>
<p>Notes: In the case where a juvenile comes into contact with law enforcement for allegedly committing a law violation, it is customary for law enforcement to issue a citation to the juvenile for a law violation and forward a report to the county attorney. In the event that a citation is not issued, law enforcement may still submit a report to the county attorney who will then determine what charges, if any, should be filed. It is also the officer's discretion to issue a warning to the juvenile in lieu of a citation and not contact the county attorney's office.</p>	
<p><i>Decision: Whether to cite or arrest juvenile the juvenile</i></p>	
<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In accordance with state statute</li> <li>b. Seriousness of Offense</li> <li>c. Age of Juvenile</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Criminal History of the juvenile</li> </ul>
<p>Notes: Law enforcement normally cites the juvenile for an offense whether or not it is a felony or a misdemeanor but does not usually enter a court appearance date on the ticket. It is the responsibility of</p>	



the county attorney to determine whether or not the charges should be filed or if a referral should be done to the Diversion Program.

***Decision: Whether to take juvenile into custody or to cite and release***

<p>Formal Determining Factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In accordance with state statute             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Seriousness of offense</li> <li>b. Protection of the juvenile</li> <li>c. Protection from the public</li> <li>d. Mental illness or dangerousness</li> <li>e. Whether the juvenile is a flight risk</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Whether the child can be safely returned to his home or whether other options for placement exist besides detention</li> </ul>
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Notes: Law enforcement generally will cite and release a juvenile unless the above formal issues exists. If law enforcement decides to detain, the probation office determines whether or not the juvenile will remain in detention, be placed back into the home or placed in out-of-home placement. A mental health case may result in temporary custody being placed with the Department of Health and Human Services, and the juvenile is then taken to a youth mental health facility for safekeeping and to undergo an evaluation.

**SYSTEM POINT: INITIAL DETENTION**  
**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: STATE OF NEBRASKA PROBATION**

***Decision: Whether the juvenile should be detained or released***

<p>Formal Determining Factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Whether or not the juvenile is detained is based on findings of a risk assessment, with the ability by probation to override the assessment findings.</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. None</li> </ul>
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Notes: Secure detentions are a last resort for law enforcement and probation. The probation office conducts a risk assessment. According to the result of the assessment that juvenile can be placed in a staff secure facility, an emergency shelter or placed back with the parents, legal guardian or a responsible family member. If the juvenile is released, he may be placed on tracking and electronic monitoring services through the Madison County Juvenile Accountability Program.

**SYSTEM POINT: CHARGE JUVENILE**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: County Attorney**

*Decision: Whether to prosecute juvenile.*

Notes:

Once the county attorney’s office receives a citation and/or police report from law enforcement, the juvenile accountability office conducts an assessment on the juvenile to determine whether or not the juvenile is a candidate for the diversion program. This is done through checking the juvenile’s prior history with law enforcement as well as past or pending charges or past diversion participation. Their findings are noted on the case report and the report is then referred to the juvenile Deputy Madison County Attorney who notes the juvenile accountability office’s findings. If the attorney finds that there is a sufficient evidence to prosecute. The case will be referred to diversion or a petition will be filed in juvenile court. In cases where the juvenile is charged with a Class 1 or Class 2 felony and in accordance with State Statute, a decision can be made to file in adult court. The County Attorney will have the final decision if the case goes to a diversion program or court. If there is an insufficient evidence to prosecute, the juvenile does not participate in either. If the juvenile participates in the diversion program, the juvenile accountability office conducts a risk assessment on the juvenile.

*Decision: Whether youth should be prosecuted as juvenile or adult.*

Formal Determining Factors.

- a. Age requirements as determined by state statute
- b. Misdemeanor or Felony
- c. Traffic Offenses

Informal Determining Factors

- a. Juvenile’s history
- b. A matter of public safety
- c. Seriousness or circumstances of the event

Notes:

In cases where the adult courts and the juvenile court have concurrent jurisdiction, the ultimate decision to prosecute a juvenile as an adult will rest entirely on the discretion of the county attorney taking into consideration the seriousness or the circumstances of the offense, the juvenile’s prior history and issues of the safety of the public.

**SYSTEM POINT:PRE-ADJUDICATION DETENTION OR PROBABLE CAUSE HRG**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Juvenile Court Judge**

***Decision: Whether juvenile detained at the time of citation/arrest should continue in detention or out-of-home placement pending adjudication.***

<p>Formal Determining Factors under NRS § 43-253</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The physical safety of persons in the community would be seriously threatened</li> <li>b. To secure the presence of the juvenile at the next hearing, as evidenced by a demonstrable record of willful failure to appear at a scheduled court hearing within the last twelve months.</li> <li>c. No child 12 years of age or under shall be detained.</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. None</li> </ul>
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Notes: Juveniles in detention are brought before the judge within 24 hours at which time the court decides whether the juvenile shall remain in detention. Based on the seriousness of the offense and the need to protect the public and/or the juvenile, the Court can order that the juvenile (1) remain in detention pending another hearing, (2) be released to the custody of the parent or custodian, or (3) authorize probation to find suitable placement. If the juvenile is released to the parent, the Court can issue Conditions of Release which are temporary court orders that govern the behavior and whereabouts of the juvenile. An electronic monitor can be ordered through the Juvenile Court. The electronic monitor will be administered by the designated county Juvenile Accountability/Services Program. The Juvenile Accountability/Services Officer can also perform tracker services where the juvenile can be subject to random compliance checks based on the Conditions of Release. If the juvenile remains in detention, the youth is placed in the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services detention center in Madison until his/her next court appearance date.

**SYSTEM POINT: COMPETENCY/MCNAUGHTON EVALUATION**  
**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Juvenile Court Judge**

***Decision: Whether juvenile is competent to participate in the proceeding and whether juvenile is “responsible” for his/her acts***

<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Material allegation in the petition regarding the juvenile’s physical or mental condition.</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Concern for the Competency of the Juvenile</li> <li>c. The juvenile’s responsibility for his/her acts</li> <li>d. Whether to provide emergency medical treatment.</li> </ul>	
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Notes:

If anyone involved in the juvenile court proceedings believes that there is a question whether the juvenile understands the proceedings or appreciates the nature of the offense, then an evaluation will be ordered. Not only will an evaluation be ordered but the Court will appoint a Guardian ad Litem to the juvenile and direct the Guardian ad Litem to meet with the juvenile and assist the juvenile in understanding the proceedings. When these evaluations are ordered, it can be done locally because there are several qualified psychologists in Northeast Nebraska.

**SYSTEM POINT: ADJUDICATION**  
**PARTY RESPONSIBLE** Juvenile Court Judge

**Decision:** *Decision: Whether the juvenile is, beyond a reasonable doubt, “a person described by section 43-247.”*

<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Legal sufficiency of evidence presented during adjudication hearing – proof beyond reasonable doubt</li> <li>b. Whether juvenile admits the allegations of the petition</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. None</li> </ul>
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Notes:

The juvenile courts in Counties of the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Area operate under the statutory framework and Nebraska case law. If a juvenile denies the charges in the juvenile court petition, an adjudication hearing is held where the State must present evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. Even though this is not “criminal” court, the e rules of evidence. For example, the State cannot just present hearsay evidence unless it falls within one of the permitted exceptions to the hearsay rule. Juveniles have the right to counsel – court appointed if they cannot afford it. There is a general presumption that juveniles cannot afford counsel of their own due to their dependency on their parents. There have been occasions when a parent who has the financial wherewithal to afford counsel has been taxed with some of the costs of court-appointed counsel if they have chosen not to retain

counsel for their children. In those cases, a parent has filled out a financial affidavit and the court has made a determination that they need to pay a portion of the court appointed costs. In many cases, the juvenile does admit to the charges instead of going to trial. In those cases, the judge will inquire of the juvenile if their admission is made freely and voluntarily with a full knowledge of the possible dispositions available. The judge will also ask the juvenile if he or she knows that he or she is giving up the right to an adjudication hearing and all the other trial rights. The judge will then ask the juvenile what it is that he or she has done to commit the act alleged in the juvenile court petition. This ensures that the juvenile is making an intelligent plea and that there is an adequate factual basis to support the plea.

***Decision: Whether to order probation to conduct a pre-disposition investigation.***

<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Whether to Place Juvenile on Probation</li> <li>b. Whether to Permit the Juvenile to Remain in the family home or other suitable home.</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Is Additional Information Needed?</li> <li>b. What is the Risk Level?</li> <li>c. What is the Appropriate Supervision Level?</li> <li>d. Nature of the offense</li> </ul>
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Notes:  
 The juvenile court determines the appropriate disposition for a juvenile after adjudication. Sometimes, the court has sufficient information following the adjudication to make a disposition immediately. For instance, if there is little to no prior history of delinquency and the juvenile is otherwise behaving at home and at school, the court may not order a pre-disposition investigation. If the court believes it needs additional information in order to make a decision at disposition, then the juvenile is often ordered to submit to a pre-disposition investigation (PDI) with the probation office. The PDI generally takes 6 to 8 weeks to complete. The court then utilizes the PDI to determine the risk level and supervision level needed for the juvenile. Restitution may be an issue and information will be gathered for the PDI. If the juvenile has committed a felony, it is the general practice to order a PDI. If the juvenile has an extensive prior history, the juvenile is often ordered to submit to a PDI to determine what other options are left for the juvenile court.

**SYSTEM POINT: DISPOSITION**  
 PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Juvenile Court Judge

STATUTE REFERENCE: NRS § 43-286 (1)

**Decision: *Whether to place juvenile on probation*** NRS § 43-286(1)(a)(i)

Formal Determining Factors under NRS § 43-286

- a. Whether Probation is Appropriate.

Informal Determining Factors

- a. Nature of the Offense
- b. Prior History
- c. Behaviors
- d. Family Circumstances

Notes:

Dispositions in the juvenile court of the nine county area end with an order of probation. It is the preferred option because it is the least restrictive rehabilitation plan. The court takes the recommendations of the County Attorney’s Office, the juvenile’s counsel and/or guardian ad litem and even the parents into consideration when making a decision on disposition. In the event that the juvenile has been continuously unsuccessful in previous probations or the State has exhausted all community based programs to rehabilitate the juvenile, the juvenile may be committed to a Youth Treatment Center. Probation oversees the juveniles progress during the time they are at a Treatment Center. The county attorney must file a motion to court requesting that the juvenile be placed in a youth treatment facility and that all efforts has been exhausted to rehabilitate the juvenile.

**SYSTEM POINT: ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Probation**

**Decision: *Whether to impose administrative sanctions on a probationer***

Formal Determining Factors

- a. Probation officers have reasonable cause to believe that probationer has committed or is about to commit a substance abuse violation or a non-criminal violation
- b. Substance abuse violation refers to a positive test for drug or alcohol use, failure to report for such a test, or failure

Informal Determining Factors

- a. Whether violation is major or minor
- b. Whether violation can be handled informally through administrative sanction
- c. Whether juvenile cooperates in agreeing to the administrative sanction
- d. Whether parent agrees to assist juvenile in complying with sanction

to comply with substance abuse evaluations or treatment	e. Whether an extension of probation is needed to handle violation
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Notes:

The State Probation Office in Norfolk follows Nebraska law and its own rules and regulations regarding whether to impose an administrative sanction. If the probationer has violated the probation order but the type of violation can be handled informally, then the probation officer has the authority to request that the probationer submit to the administrative sanction. The probationer would sign a standard administrative sanctions form that requires them to agree that they violated their probation and requires them to agree to comply with an additional request of the probation officer. In the case of a substance abuse violation, the probation officer may request that the juvenile submit to a drug and alcohol evaluation and follow the recommendations. That may mean enrolling in a drug and alcohol education course or engaging in substance abuse counseling. The probationer may also be instructed to report more frequently for drug testing. Such a sanction will avoid the necessity of reporting to court for a motion to revoke probation. Future violations may require the filing of a motion to revoke probation. Violations of affirmative duties such as paying restitution or performing community service hours may require the probationer to enter into an agreement to apply for an extension of the probation. That agreement is then sent down to the court for approval. Administrative sanctions have proved useful in handling minor probation violations rather than needing to go back to court for every issue.

**SYSTEM POINT: MOTION TO REVOKE PROBATION**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: County Attorney**

<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Probation Office Files Alleged Violation</li> <li>b. Law Enforcement Citation is a Violation</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Nature of the Violation.</li> <li>b. Severity of the Violation.</li> <li>c. Necessity for Accountability.</li> <li>d. Need for Alternative Disposition.</li> </ul>
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Notes:

The area County Attorney’s Office is notified of probation violations generally in one of two ways. The State Probation Office may send an alleged probation violation to the county attorney’s office. The document sent by the probation office sets forth the nature of the violation of probation. The other way

for the county attorney’s office to be notified is if there is a citation and/or report from a law enforcement agency and the internal records show that the juvenile is still on probation. Also, the county attorney’s office may be notified of probation violations if contacted by the parent of the juvenile or contacted by the school where the juvenile attends. In any of these circumstances, the County Attorney’s Office may file a motion to revoke probation alleging which conditions of probation have been violated. A hearing is set up by the juvenile court and the juvenile has a first hearing similar to the first hearing conducted on the original petition. In other words, the juvenile will be advised of his or her rights, possible consequences and possible pleas.

**SYSTEM POINT: MODIFICATION/REVOCAION OF PROBATION**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Juvenile Court Judge**

<p>Formal Determining Factors Should probation be modified? a. Should probation be extended? b. Should new disposition be entered?</p>	<p>Informal Determining Factors a. Recommendations by probation office. b. Recommendations by counsel. c. Recommendations by other professionals.</p>
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Notes:  
Once a juvenile has been found in violation of the probation order, then the juvenile court has a limited amount of options. The critical question is whether the juvenile is a good candidate to remain on some form of probation. Often, the juvenile court will order a letter report from the probation office in order to obtain recommendations. In addition, letters of recommendation from professionals (counselors, social workers, school officials) working with the juvenile will be obtained. During the disposition hearing, counsel of record will make recommendations to the court. If the juvenile court is under the belief that the juvenile is still making progress and making amends for the probation violation, then the court is more than likely going to keep the juvenile on some form of probation. That order can include an extension on probation. The probation order can be modified to include an additional condition such as counseling. There are also times where a probation order can be made more restrictive by either tightening the curfew conditions or implementing an order of intensive supervised probation. In the event that probation is revoked by the court, the juvenile court can either terminate the probation, extend the probation they currently are on, place the juvenile in out of home placement, or institute a new order such as commitment to a Youth Treatment Center.

**SYSTEM POINT: SETTING ASIDE ADJUDICATION**

**PARTY RESPONSIBLE: Juvenile Court Judge**



***Decision: Whether juvenile has satisfactorily completed his or her probation and supervision or the treatment program of his or her commitment***

<p>Formal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Juvenile’s post-adjudication behavior and response to treatment and rehabilitation programs</li> <li>b. Whether setting aside adjudication will depreciate seriousness of juvenile’s conduct or promote disrespect for law</li> <li>c. Whether failure to set aside adjudication may result in disabilities disproportionate to the conduct upon which the adjudication was based.</li> </ul>	<p>Informal Determining Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Whether juvenile requests a set-aside.</li> <li>b. Whether State objects to set-aside.</li> </ul>
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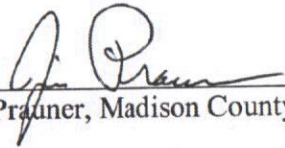
Notes:  
 There is a procedure for a juvenile to have the adjudication set-aside after a successful completion of probation. Once a juvenile turns 18 years old, the juvenile court will send out a notice regarding the sealing of the juvenile’s records. Absent any significant problems with the juvenile or the underlying case, the State typically does not object.

The Northeast Nebraska Partnership Plan was revised in June of 2018 and approved by the Madison County Board of Commissioners on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

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Jim Prauner, Madison County Board Chairman

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