



**State of Arizona
Federal Fiscal Year 2021
Three-Year Plan Program Narrative**

**TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM
JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT**

Submitted to the:

**US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION
JUNE 2021**

by:

**THE STATE OF ARIZONA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF YOUTH, FAITH AND FAMILY**

and the

ARIZONA JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION



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FY 2021 FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM JUSTGRANTS REGISTRATION

The Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family registered for solicitation of the OJJDP FY 2021 Title II Formula Grant program on May 21, 2021 through Grants.gov (tracking no. 13369278). In compliance with Executive Order 12372, the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) form was completed on May 21, 2021.

ASSURANCE AND CERTIFICATIONS

The Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family has reviewed and accepted the "Assurances and Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsible Matters; and the Drug Free Workplace Requirement" as outlined in the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Formula Grants Program Announcement.

2021 Arizona Three-Year Plan

Program Narrative

DESCRIPTION OF THE ISSUE

System Description: Structure and Function of the Juvenile Justice System

Arizona's Juvenile Justice System includes a diverse array of services and programming. In order to adequately address the complex needs of youth in the system, agencies and systems must collaborate. An understanding of the structure and function of the system, as well as an analysis of current trends, provides the basic framework to move forward in developing solutions that address emerging issues and fill service gaps.

Arizona's Juvenile Court System

Arizona's Juvenile Justice System consists of fifteen county juvenile courts and probation departments as well as the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC). Youth ages eight to 17 are processed through this system for committing delinquent or incorrigible offenses (see Exhibit A). The Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, Juvenile Justice Services Division (AOC/JJSD) provides administrative support and oversight for the following county juvenile justice programs: diversion, standard probation, intensive probation and treatment. The AOC serves as the coordinating agency for policy, service contracts and payments to treatment providers that comprise the continuum of treatment services authorized or ordered by the juvenile courts. The AOC is also responsible for management of state appropriations allocated to fund these treatment and probation efforts. The AOC regularly collaborates with the counties on the establishment and monitoring of budgets and programming to deliver these services. Arizona statute requires juveniles placed in out-of-home residential care funded through Section 472 of the Social Security Act receive protections specified in sections 471–475 of the Act, including a case plan and case plan review.

Juvenile Courts and Probation Departments

In Arizona, county juvenile probation departments operate under the authority of a presiding juvenile court judge. Each presiding juvenile court judge has the authority to appoint the chief juvenile probation officer. In some counties, this role is named the director of juvenile court services. This position supervises the county probation department. County probation departments provide diversion, court/probation services, treatment and short-term detention to youth who come into the juvenile justice system. Juveniles who must comply with specific terms and conditions as a result of committing a delinquent or incorrigible (status) offense are assigned to a probation officer. Probation officers monitor and supervise youth during the intervention phase of the continuum. Typically, services progress from less restrictive to more restrictive consequences.

Detention

Juvenile detention centers provide the temporary and safe custody of juveniles. A juvenile may be detained pending a court hearing or as a dispositional option as ordered by the court. Arizona has ten operating juvenile detention centers and juvenile temporary holding facilities. During the 2019 fiscal year, 3,466 juveniles were detained at least once in a juvenile detention center. The presiding judges of the juvenile courts are statutorily responsible for the supervision of detention centers, which are primarily supported by their respective county governments. The AOC has administrative authority over all the courts and court programs, including juvenile detention centers. This essentially means that the state contributes the majority of program funding, as well as provides administrative oversight, to the detention facilities.

Juvenile detention centers are required to comply with statewide policies and procedures outlined in the Arizona Juvenile Detention Standards, revised in 2018.

Secure juvenile facilities must implement these best practice standards to guide operational, environmental and admissions procedures. Juvenile detention personnel are mandated by the state to receive specialized training that prepares them to serve and address the special needs of youth as stated in Section IB3 of the Arizona Juvenile Detention Standards. Periodic inspections are conducted by the AOC to ensure compliance. In addition, each juvenile detention facility offers services beyond providing secure housing to detained juveniles. These services include education, healthcare, nutrition, recreation and family visitation. Many facilities also provide behavioral health services such as parenting skills classes, anger management classes and substance abuse treatment.

Diversion

Diversion is a process that allows a juvenile to avoid the formal court process and instead receive a referral alleging an adjusted offense if the juvenile complies with one or more conditions. To adjust means to dispose of a case without the juvenile being required to appear in court. If a referral is adjusted, a petition is not filed. A petition is a document filed by the county attorney that seeks to have a juvenile adjudicated as a delinquent or incorrigible child.

The goal of Diversion is to direct youth away from formal court proceedings by assigning a set of conditions. When these conditions are successfully completed, further court action is avoided. Diversion referrals come from the police, schools and parents. Only youth that acknowledge responsibility for their actions are eligible. Chronic felony offenders, violent felony offenders and those arrested for drunk driving are not eligible for Diversion.

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) § 8-321 specifies the consequences that a juvenile probation officer may assign to diverted youth. The probation officer has the discretion to determine which and how many consequences will be assigned. Options include unpaid community service work, restitution to the victim(s), monetary penalties, counseling programs, outpatient rehabilitation

programs and educational programs that address delinquency and substance abuse. Probation departments, service providers or nonprofit community organizations can deliver these services.

Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) operates and maintains Adobe Mountain School, a secure care facility for the custody, treatment and education of committed juveniles. Each juvenile committed to ADJC receives programming appropriate to the juvenile's age, needs, abilities and committed offenses. Programming includes education, individual and group counseling, psychological services, health care and recreation. In addition, treatment groups and specialized housing units serve juveniles with histories of violence, substance abuse and/or sexual offenses. Each housing unit is staffed with a program supervisor, a caseworker and youth correctional officers to supervise youth and monitor their treatment plan. In addition, ADJC employs and contracts with health care professionals who manage and deliver direct services, including medical, dental and psychiatric services to committed youth.

Restraint Policies

Juvenile detention and corrections agencies utilize policies that address restraint procedures for pregnant juveniles. The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) policies 4045 and 3090.10 address restrictions on using restraints for transported pregnant juveniles, instructing officers to use restraints in the "least restrictive manner" when required to prevent escape, self-injury and harm to others. Policies 4045 and 3090.10 explicitly prohibit the use of mechanical restraints on transporting juveniles for delivery, during active labor or post-partum recovery unless present medical staff requests the use of restraints when there is a significant risk of escape and restraints are needed to maintain the safety of the juvenile and the unborn child, or the agency director "makes an individualized determination that the juvenile presents an extraordinary circumstance". When restraints are determined to be necessary, the officer shall

apply the least restrictive restraints necessary and prepare an incident report as soon as possible documenting the extraordinary need for the restraints and that the medical director or designee was consulted and approved the use of restraints.

ADJC requires the appropriate staff to receive training on handling the behaviors of juveniles when they are in a crisis situation. The department's policy 4058.02 references the Handle with Care (HWC) program that staff are trained on to address juveniles who do not respond with progressive intervention and pose a threat to harm themselves or others. HWC training is provided by certified instructors and is mandated for various employees working in the secure facility to teach self-protection and restraint skills. Support staff who work in the facility, but do not primarily have direct contact with youth, are trained on self-protection skills only. The HWC training equips staff with skills necessary for preventative verbal de-escalation, and when necessary, physical intervention to manage behavioral emergencies in the most safe and effective manner possible. In a crisis situation, these techniques promote the reduction of tension and the maintenance of a calm and safe environment for those present.

Analysis of Juvenile Delinquency Youth Crime and Needs

I. Juvenile Justice System Contact Points

The Arizona state advisory group, the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission (AJJC), utilizes the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) as a major source of data for analyzing juvenile crime and developing priority areas for funding. The data for this report is extracted each year from the Juvenile On-Line Tracking System (JOLTSaz). JOLTSaz is the automated, statewide juvenile court information management system which has been operational within Arizona for over thirty-five years. Each actively participates in collecting and maintaining data for JOLTSaz (iCIS in Maricopa County) to ensure quality and accuracy. The number of juveniles processed in the juvenile justice system is influenced by several factors such as legislative actions, law enforcement and prosecutorial practices and the population size of youth in Arizona between eight and 17 years old.

Juvenile Referrals

Arizona has seen a decrease in juvenile activity over the past five years, despite a continued increase in the juvenile population. The data below reflects the characteristics of youth who came in contact with the juvenile court system in fiscal year (FY) 2019 (July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019). The juveniles counted in the data provided are those who had a report submitted to the juvenile court alleging that the youth committed a delinquent or incorrigible act. Referrals can be made by police, parents, school officials, probation officers or other agencies and individuals requesting the juvenile court’s involvement in response to the youth’s conduct. Referrals are made up of “paper referrals”, issued as citations, or police reports to the juvenile court (“physical referrals”), in which the juvenile is physically brought to the court.

In 2019, there were approximately 980,000 youth ages eight to 17 living in Arizona. In FY 2019, 19,976 unduplicated juveniles were referred to County Juvenile Courts. This represents approximately one in every 50 juveniles. The number of youth referred to juvenile court in FY 2019 represents an eight percent decrease from FY 2018 and a 22 percent decrease from five years ago. The three most common referral types in 2019 were simple assault (12%), probation violations (10%) and drug paraphernalia (8%). Status offenses make up 11 percent of all juvenile's referred.

Top 5 Referral Categories		
Simple Assault	3,398	11.93%
Probation Violation	2,756	9.67%
Drug Paraphernalia	2,399	8.42%
Disorderly Conduct	2,096	7.36%
Possession of Marijuana	1,737	6.10%
Total	12,386	43.48%

Juveniles Referred by Gender		
Male	13,398	67.07%
Female	6,577	32.92%
Total	19,975	99.99%

Juveniles Referred by Race		
Hispanic	7,066	8.24%
African American	2,345	11.74%
White	8,650	43.30%
Native American	1,165	5.83%
Asian/Pacific Islander	124	0.62%
Other	33	0.17%
Unknown	593	2.97%
Total	19,976	100%

Juveniles Referred by Offense Class		
Felony	7,206	36.15%
Misdemeanor	8,612	43.00%
Violations of Probation & Ordinances	793	3.98%
Status	2,231	11.16%
Other	1,134	5.70%
Total	19,976	100%

Juveniles Referred by Most Serious Offense Type		
Felonies Against Persons	1,659	8.24%
Felonies Against Property	1,341	6.74%
Obstruction of Justice, Felony & Misdemeanor	1,896	9.53%
Misdemeanors Against Persons	3,094	15.56%
Drugs, Felony & Misdemeanor	3,465	17.43%
Public Peace, Felony & Misdemeanor	4,260	21.13%
Misdemeanors Against Property	1,830	9.20%
Status Offense	2,187	10.94%
Administrative	244	1.23%
Total	19,976	100%

Juveniles Referred by County		
Apache	64	0.32%
Cochise	595	2.98%
Coconino	593	2.97%
Gila	281	1.41%
Graham	209	1.05%
Greenlee	59	0.35%
La Paz	102	0.51%
Maricopa	9,323	51.03%
Mohave	789	6.65%
Navajo	339	1.34%
Pima	3,463	2.48%
Pinal	1,414	1.63%
Santa Cruz	289	2.34%
Yavapai	833	8.37%
Yuma	1,623	20.32%
Total	19,976	100%

Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

Juvenile Diversion

The county attorney decides whether or not to file a petition. When a petition against a juvenile is not filed, it is either referred to diversion or dismissed. With few exceptions outlined in state statute, all counties in Arizona are able to provide youth an opportunity to be diverted from formal court processing. The tables below represent the number of juveniles diverted from formal court proceedings. In FY 2019, there were 8,560 referrals diverted, representing 7,750 juveniles.

Of these youth, 70 percent had no prior referrals, and 18 percent had only one. Thirty-nine percent of youth referred in the state received diversion, with some counties diverting a larger portion than others. The counties with the lowest referral to diversion ratio include Cochise, with

one diverted per 50 referred, and Pinal with seven per 50 youth. Counties that had the highest ratio of diversions per referrals include Mohave (33:50) and Pima (23:50) counties.

Juveniles Diverted by Gender		
Male	4,857	62.67%
Female	2,893	37.33%
Total	7,750	100%

Juveniles Diverted by Race		
Hispanic	2,738	35.33%
African American	842	10.86%
White	3,491	45.05%
Native American	410	5.29%
Asian	63	0.81%
Other	13	0.17%
Unknown	193	2.49%
Total	7,750	100%

Juveniles Diverted by Number of Referrals		
0	5,453	70.36%
1	1,393	17.97%
2	411	5.30%
3	187	2.41%
4	78	1.01%
5	67	0.86%
6	32	0.41%
7	26	0.34%
8 +	103	1.33%
Total	7,750	100%

Juveniles Diverted by County		
Apache	20	0.26%
Cochise	11	0.14%
Coconino	196	2.53%
Gila	106	1.37%
Graham	76	0.98%
Greenlee	20	0.26%
La Paz	24	0.31%
Maricopa	3,955	51.03%
Mohave	515	6.65%
Navajo	104	1.34%
Pima	1,575	2.48%
Pinal	192	1.63%
Santa Cruz	126	2.34%
Yavapai	181	8.37%
Yuma	649	20.32%
Total	7,750	100%

Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

Juvenile Petitions

A petition is filed in juvenile court by the county attorney to allege that a child is delinquent or incorrigible. This document begins the formal juvenile court process and includes what charges the state will bring against the juvenile. If a petition is filed and proceeds through adjudication, the juvenile may receive a penalty only, standard or intensive probation, residential community placement or placement in juvenile corrections as disposition.

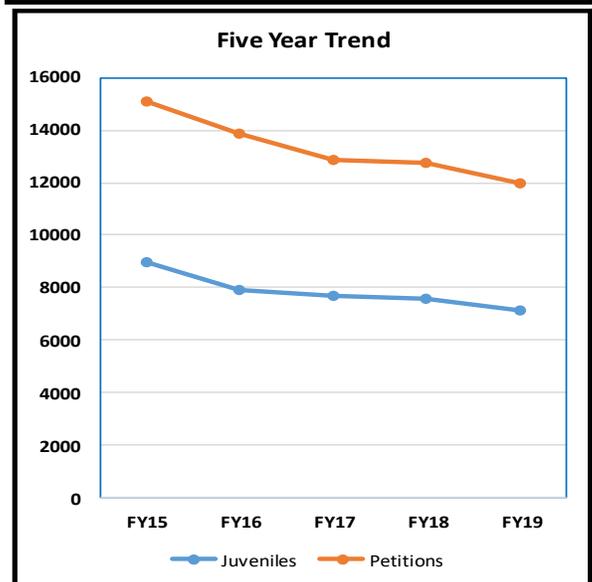
In FY 2019, the number of juveniles receiving petitions slightly decreased from the previous year, dropping by 5.4 percent. Overall, petitions have steadily decreased over the past five years, consistent with the decline in juvenile referrals. Statewide, males represent three-fourths of the total number of petitioned population.

Juveniles Petitioned by Gender		
Male	5,335	74.53%
Female	1,823	25.47%
Total	7,158	100%

Juveniles Petitioned by County		
Apache	36	0.50%
Cochise	133	1.86%
Coconino	240	3.35%
Gila	153	2.14%
Graham	126	1.76%
Greenlee	14	0.20%
La Paz	6	0.08%
Maricopa	3,228	45.10%
Mohave	347	4.85%
Navajo	177	2.47%
Pima	1,014	14.17%
Pinal	469	6.55%
Santa Cruz	107	1.49%
Yavapai	433	6.05%
Yuma	675	9.43%
Total	7,750	100%

Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

Juveniles Petitioned by Race		
Hispanic	2,641	36.90%
African American	1,051	14.68%
White	2,737	39.07%
Native American	523	7.31%
Asian	34	0.47%
Other	12	0.17%
Unknown	100	1.40%
Total	7,158	100%



Juvenile Detention

Temporary secure custody may be used when a juvenile requires detainment pending a court hearing or when the safety of the youth and/or public is determined to be at risk. Juvenile detention facilities house youth only and operate in ten counties.

In FY 2019, a total of 3,446 youth were detained at least once. This is an approximately 6 percent decrease from the previous year and a 33 percent decrease over the past five years. Slightly more than half (53%) of detained juveniles were held due to a new referral. The remaining youth were detained for other reasons, including warrants, courtesy holds for other jurisdictions and probation consequences. Use of detention was positively correlated with a child's increase in age, and three out of four juveniles detained were male. The most common offense type for a youth to be detained is felony against persons. Hispanic youth made up the largest ethnic group held in detention.

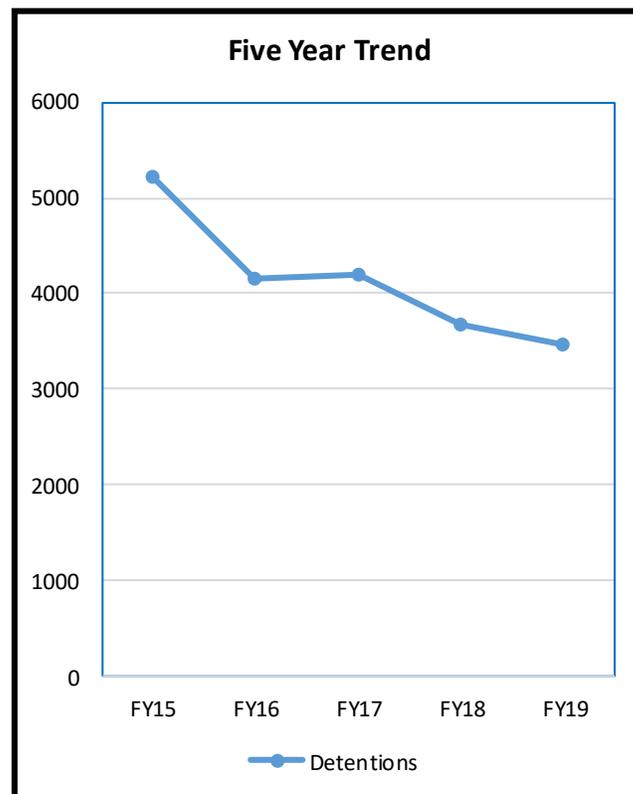
Juveniles Detained by Gender		
Male	2,747	79.26%
Female	719	20.74%
Total	3,446	100%

Juveniles Detained by Most Serious Offense Type		
Hispanic	1,409	40.65%
African American	551	15.90%
White	1,186	34.22%
Native American	260	7.50%
Asian	14	0.40%
Other	7	0.20%
Unknown	39	1.13%
Total	3,446	100%

Juveniles Detained by County		
Apache	7	0.20%
Cochise	51	1.47%
Coconino	171	4.93%
Gila	25	0.72%
Graham	51	1.47%
Greenlee	5	0.14%
La Paz	10	0.29%
Maricopa	1,798	51.88%
Mohave	215	6.20%
Navajo	64	1.85%
Pima	399	11.51%
Pinal	143	4.13%
Santa Cruz	72	2.08%
Yavapai	221	6.38%
Yuma	234	6.75%
Total	3,466	100%

Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

Detained by Most Serious Offense Type		
Felonies Against Persons	605	33.41%
Felonies Against Property	258	14.25%
Obstruction of Justice, Felony & Misdemeanor	392	21.65%
Misdemeanors Against Persons	141	7.79%
Drugs, Felony & Misdemeanor	156	8.61%
Public Peace, Felony & Misdemeanor	206	11.37%
Misdemeanors Against Property	19	1.05%
Status Offense	6	0.33%
Administrative	28	1.55%
Total	1,811	100%



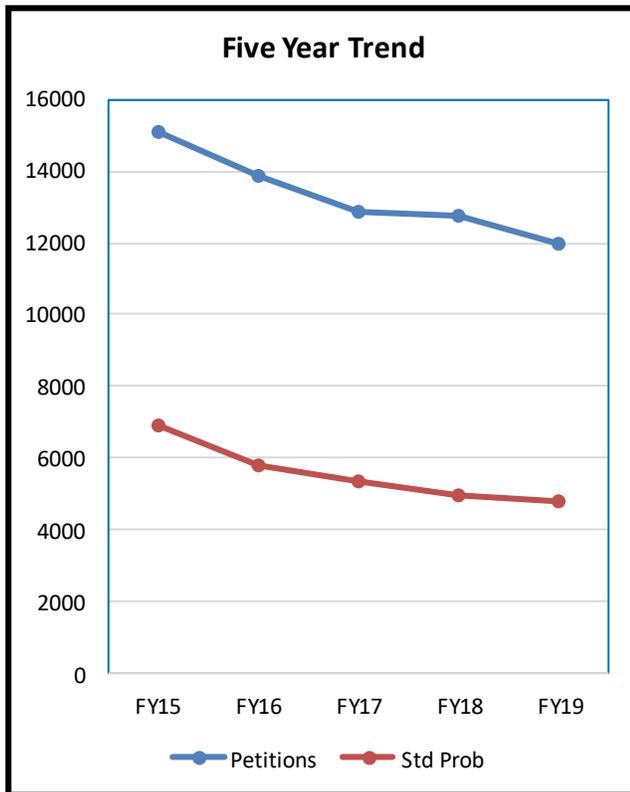
Standard and Intensive Probation

Juveniles placed on standard probation receive a personalized treatment plan and must comply with specific rules and conditions including, but not limited to, mandated curfews, drug testing, school attendance or community service. If terms are not met, or if the child continues to commit delinquent acts, the juvenile’s probation officer may impose a series of graduated sanctions to encourage greater compliance. Sanctions may include intensive probation, detention or commitment to juvenile corrections.

Standard probation dispositions made up 40 percent of all petitions filed, which is a one percent increase from the previous year. However, over the past five years, the portion of petitions that receive standard probation have overall decreased by six percent.

Standard Probation by Gender		
Male	2,623	74.31%
Female	907	25.69%
Total	3,530	100%

Standard Probation by Race		
Hispanic	1,290	36.54%
African American	470	13.31%
White	1,478	41.87%
Native American	227	6.43%
Asian	17	0.48%
Other	7	0.20%
Unknown	41	29.24%
Total	3,530	100%



Standard Probation by County		
Apache	8	0.23%
Cochise	65	1.84%
Coconino	76	2.15%
Gila	72	2.04%
Graham	67	1.90%
Greenlee	9	0.25%
La Paz	6	0.17%
Maricopa	1,920	54.39%
Mohave	142	4.02%
Navajo	90	2.55%
Pima	365	10.34%
Pinal	121	3.43%
Santa Cruz	47	1.33%
Yavapai	304	8.61%
Yuma	238	6.74%
Total	3,530	100%

Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

Juvenile Intensive Probation Supervision (JIPS) is a program instituted to increase supervision for adjudicated youth while allowing them to remain at home. This is often seen as an effective alternative to more costly sanctions such as detention or corrections. Juveniles who participate in JIPS are usually monitored more closely by their probation officer with mandated drug testing or increased participation in structured activities.

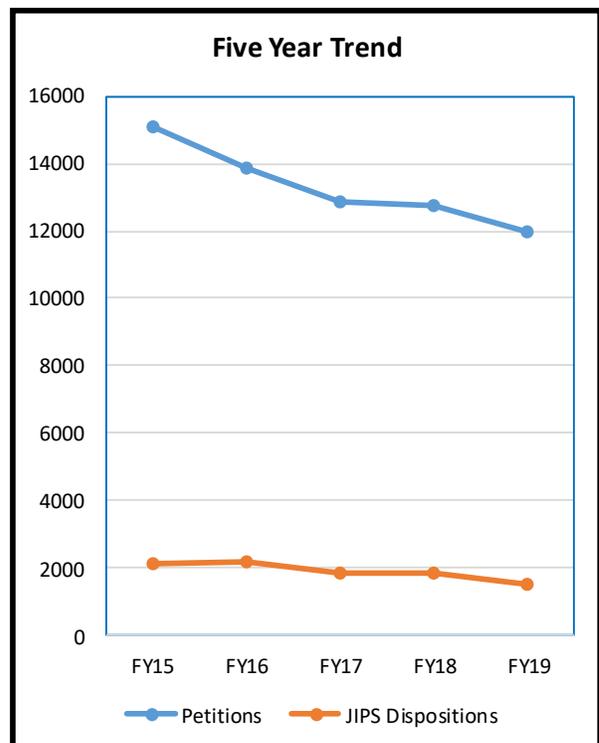
Of all petitions filed in FY 2019, 12.5 percent received intensive probation. While the portion of petitions to JIPS dispositions has fluctuated by one-half to one percent over the past five years,

2019 had the lowest ratio during this time frame. The largest portion of petitions was 15.6 percent in FY 2016. The number of youth placed on JIPS in 2019 was 771. Nearly one-half of the total JIP cases were initiated by felony or misdemeanor obstruction of justice offenses (i.e., probation or parole violations, contempt of court, perjury, absconding, resisting arrest), which indicates this level of supervision is often used as a graduated sanction when standard probation is unsuccessful.

JIPS by Gender		
Male	658	85.34%
Female	113	14.66%
Total	771	100%

JIPS by Race		
Hispanic	372	48.25%
African American	117	15.18%
White	225	29.18%
Native American	43	5.58%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	0.65%
Other	1	0.13%
Unknown	8	1.04%
Total	771	100%

JIPS by Most Serious Offense Type		
Felonies Against Persons	132	17.14%
Felonies Against Property	154	20.00%
Obstruction of Justice, Felony & Misdemeanor	379	49.22%
Misdemeanors Against Persons	22	2.86%
Drugs, Felony & Misdemeanor	39	5.06%
Public Peace, Felony & Misdemeanor	29	3.77%
Misdemeanors Against Property	13	1.69%
Status Offense	2	0.13%
Administrative	1	0.13%
Total	771	100%



Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

Juvenile Corrections

When additional treatment and restrictive care is needed, the juvenile court may commit an adjudicated child to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC). These youth receive programming suitable to the juvenile’s age, needs, abilities and committing offenses, while housed in confinement and subsequently when released to community supervision (parole). Over the past six years, between three and four percent of youth petitioned in the county system were committed to juvenile corrections. Ninety percent of commitments in FY 2020 were male (a slight decrease from 95 percent in FY 2017), and Hispanic youth made up the largest ethnic group at 45 percent of the total population. The two highest offense types over the past five years include crimes against property (42–36 percent), and crimes against persons (31–29 percent). Most youth have received six to ten referrals prior to commitment to ADJC, which is consistent since FY 2016, and over one-half had a history of between two and five adjudications over that period.

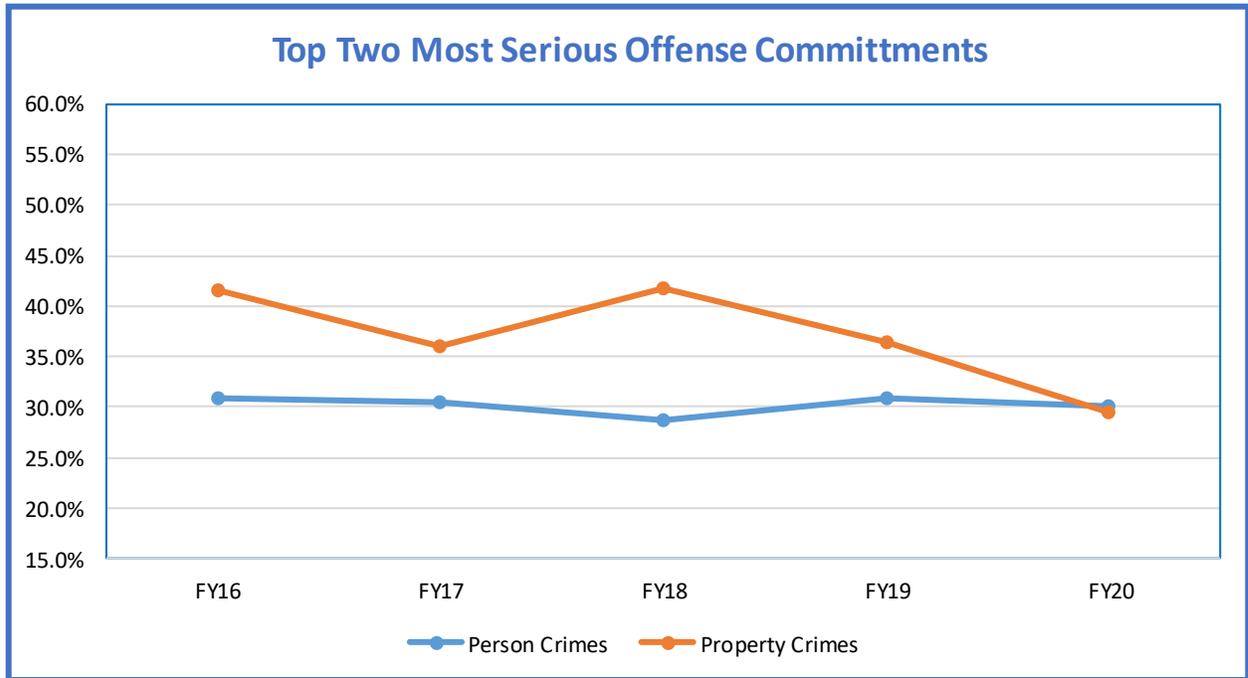
Juvenile Commitments by Gender, FY 20		
Male	186	89.9%
Female	21	10.1%
Total	207	100%

Juviles Committed by Race/Ethnicity, FY 20		
Hispanic	93	44.9%
White	42	20.3%
African American	31	15.0%
Native American	8	3.9%
Mixed	28	13.5%
Mexican National	5	2.4%
Asian	0	0%
Total	207	100%

Juviles Committed by Most Serious Offense, FY 20		
Crimes Against Persons	62	30.0%
Crimes Against Property	61	29.5%
Drug Offenses	37	17.9%
Public Order Offenses	23	11.1%
Weapons Offenses	21	10.1%
All Other Offenses	3	1.4%
Total	207	100%

Number of Referrals, FY 20		
1 Referral	11	5.3%
2 Referrals	9	4.3%
3 – 5 Referrals	36	17.4%
6 – 10 Referrals	61	29.5%
11 – 15 Referrals	52	25.1%
16 or more	38	18.4%
Total	207	100%

ADJC Annual Commitments: Demographic Data FY 20



Similar to youth on probation, services are provided to youth in the care and supervision of ADJC delegated through the child’s treatment plan, which is based on a thorough assessment. In many cases, youth are committed to ADJC due to unsuccessfully completing their terms of probation due to non-compliance or the commitment of new offenses. Therefore, youth in ADJC custody are typically higher risk and have greater needs.

Committed Juvenile Special Populations				
	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Serious Mental Illness	46.0%	31.2%	40.4%	49.7%
Substance Problems	83.0%	84.7%	84.6%	85.5%
Special Education	30.0%	24.9%	23.1%	25.6%
Dually Adjudicated	17.0%	27.0%	20.7%	19.8%
Gang Involved	45.0%	48.7%	45.7%	48.3%

ADJC Annual Commitments: Demographic Data FY 20

The most common issue experienced by committed youth is substance abuse. ADJC provides various treatment programs to youth in their care both in confinement and community settings. Programs include Aggression Replacement Training, a cognitive behavioral health intervention

that seeks to reduce aggression and violent behavior; Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT); a substance abuse curriculum named Seven Challenges; Sex Trafficking Awareness and Recovery; and Victim Offender Recovery, a program that allows a crime victim to meet with the offender in a controlled environment and engage in a purposeful discussion.

Transfers to the Adult Criminal Justice System

Youth charged with certain offenses can be transferred to the adult criminal court system. This process is usually initiated by the county attorney when a juvenile 15 to 17 years of age is accused of committing an eligible offense listed in state law (mandatory), or when a fourteen year old is accused of committing a qualifying offense (discretionary). In addition, the juvenile court can also transfer a minor to the jurisdiction of criminal court if it is determined to be in the interest of the child or the public.

Juveniles Sent to Adult Court		
Direct Mandatory	212	76.26%
Direct Discretionary	48	17.27%
Transfer	18	6.47%
Total	278	100%

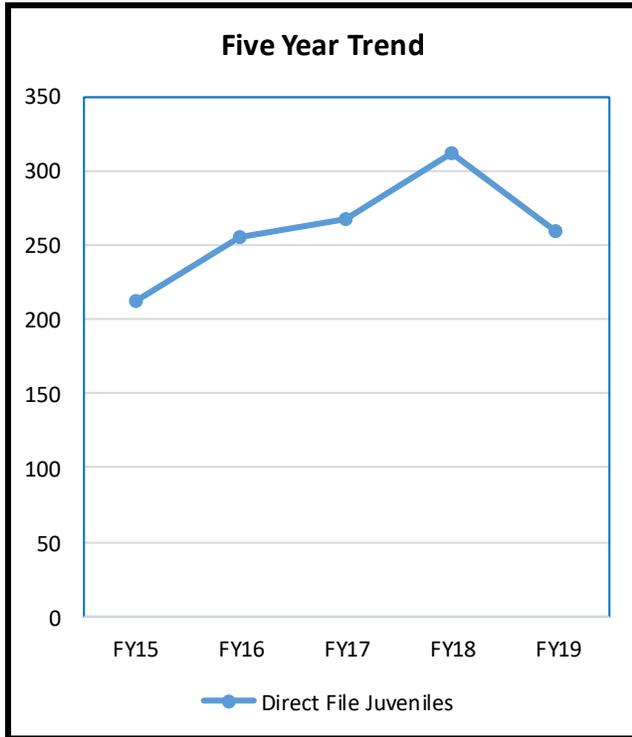
Depending on the nature of the committed offense(s), a judge may order the child to be held in a juvenile detention center, which is often better equipped to serve minors with age-appropriate programming from staff who are more thoroughly trained to work with juveniles. In FY 2019, a total of 278 juveniles were sent to the adult court system. The majority of youth in this category were directly prosecuted by the state in criminal court.

Hispanic youth were the highest represented race category for FY 19 direct file cases, making up 50 percent of the population. Males made up about 90 percent of the total. Maricopa, Pima and

Pinal counties, in that order, were the top three counties that youth were filed directly to criminal court.

Direct Filed Juveniles by Gender		
Male	236	90.77%
Female	24	20.74%
Total	260	100%

Direct Filed Juveniles by Race		
Hispanic	131	50.38%
White	64	24.62%
African American	56	21.54%
Native American	6	2.31%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Unknown	3	1.15%
Total	260	100%



Direct Filed Youth by County		
Apache	0	0%
Cochise	0	0%
Coconino	0	0%
Gila	1	0.38%
Graham	0	0%
Greenlee	0	0%
La Paz	0	0%
Maricopa	182	70.00%
Mohave	1	0.38%
Navajo	0	0%
Pima	20	20.00%
Pinal	14	5.38%
Santa Cruz	0	0%
Yavapai	2	0.77%
Yuma	8	3.08%
Total	260	100%

Arizona's Juvenile Court Counts FY 19

II. Youth Exit Survey

The Youth Exit Survey (YES) is administered to youth to voluntarily provide feedback on their experiences in the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections secure campus, Adobe Mountain

School. The purpose of the YES was described as a method for evaluating internal operations of the department from the perception of the population served. Results provide valuable input, which is used to inform the agency on performance and improve various programming strategies and increase positive outcomes. More recently, data has been used to support employee engagement efforts.

The YES is voluntary, anonymous, and is completed online using a link provided by the juvenile's caseworker. The completion rate in FY 20 was 74.83 percent. It focuses on several domains, including safety, treatment, medical services, clinical services, pro-social activities and community transition. Resources that were considered helpful to the youth (education, ADJC staff, caseworker, etc) are listed to allow the participant to select any particular intervention they viewed as beneficial to their experience. Overall, responses rated the various domains assessed as overwhelmingly positive, ranging between 94.6 and 71.8 percent favorability. A comments section allowed participants to express themselves with their own words to describe staff who exhibited positive role model qualities, changes they have made since committed to ADJC, who they feel is important in the community and any additional matters regarding their stay at Adobe Mountain.

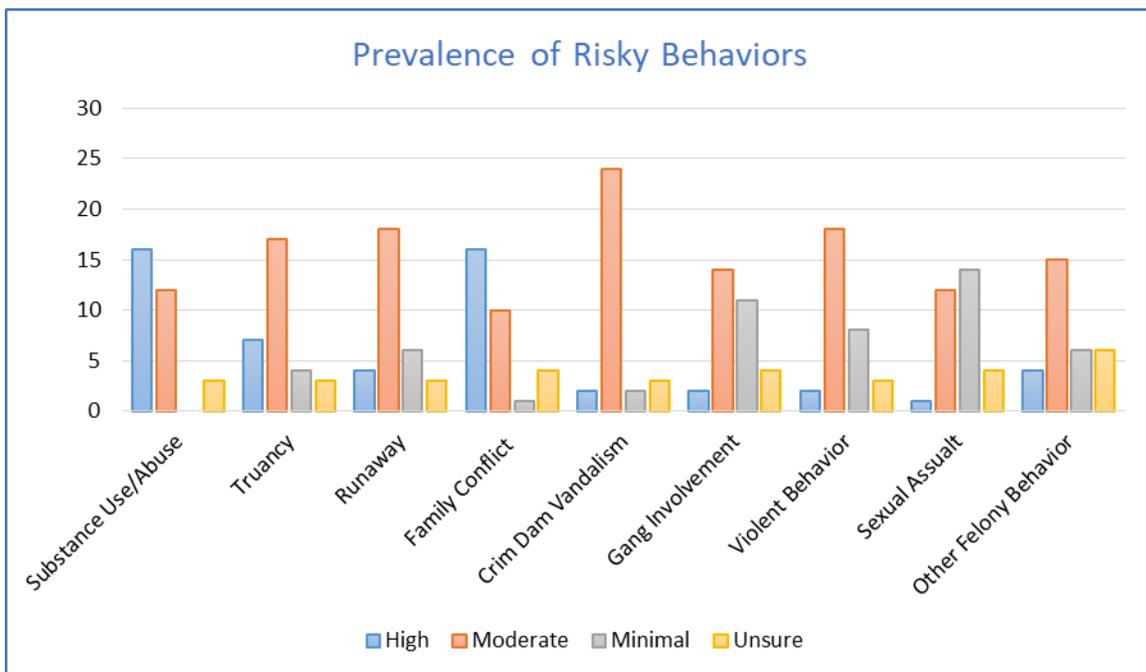
III. Statewide County and Tribal Juvenile Justice Stakeholders Surveys

In February 2021, an anonymous survey was sent to various juvenile justice stakeholders working in counties or tribal communities. Altogether, 42 individuals completed the survey, providing their perspective on needs within their jurisdictions. The survey asked participants to note prevalent delinquency and incorrigible behaviors, in addition to various services they felt were needed to support prevention and treatment within their community.

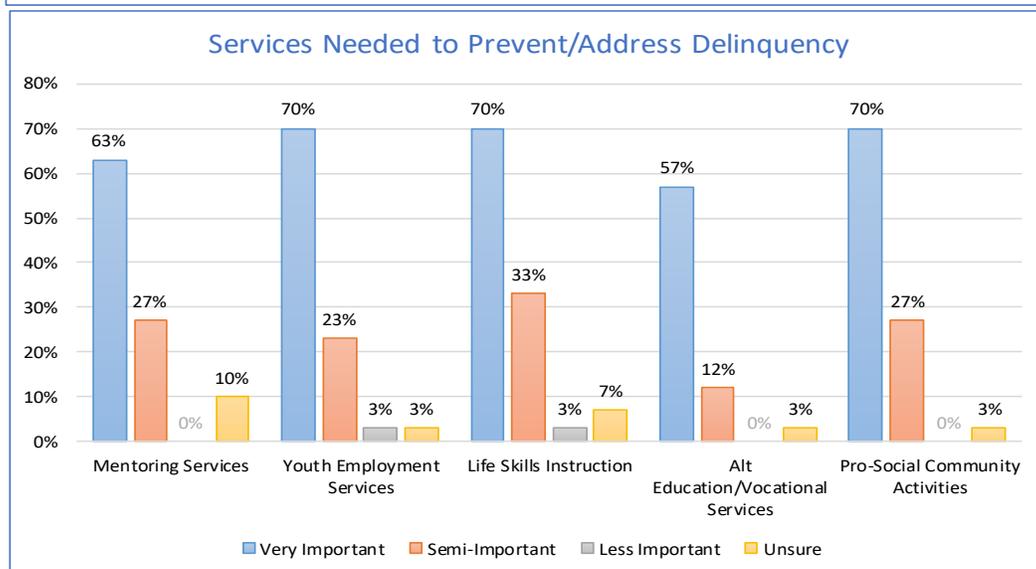
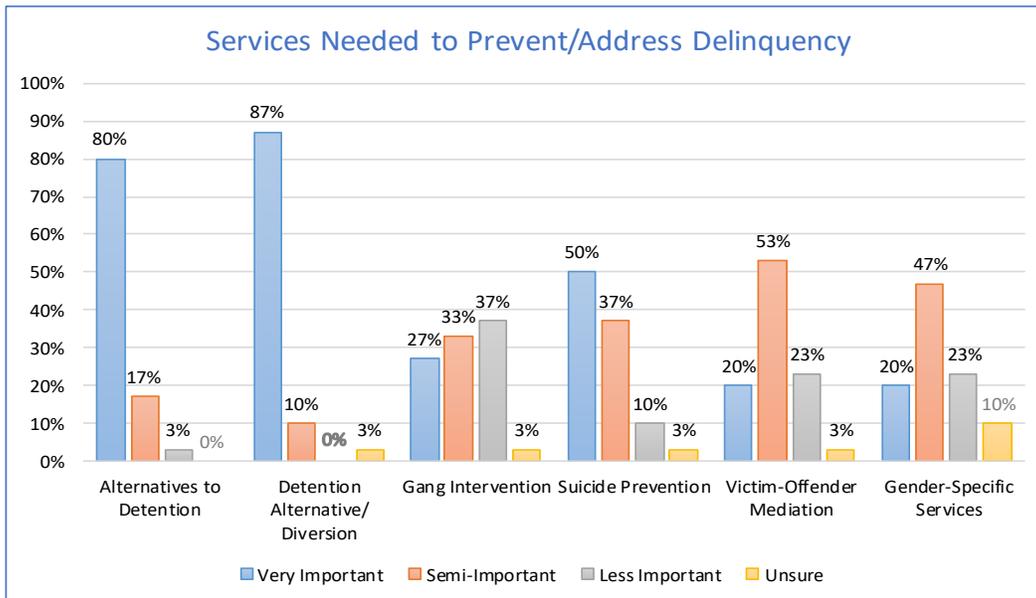
County-level Survey

Responses from the county-level officials illustrated some common themes on issues faced around the state and the recommended interventions to address them. No responses were received from Santa Cruz County; however, all other counties submitted at least one survey. The majority of participants were legal professionals (including prosecutors, defense attorneys and GALs), with the remaining responses coming primarily from judicial officers and probation staff. Four out of five respondents noted juvenile delinquency as a serious or moderate community problem.

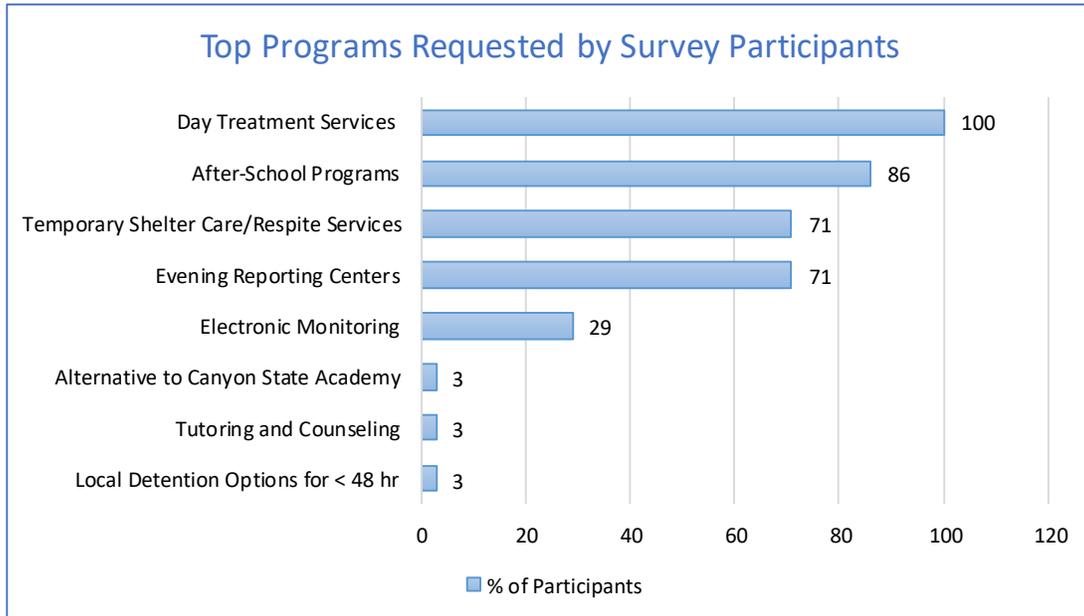
Ninety percent of surveys submitted identified alcohol and substance use/abuse as the most prevalent high-risk issue within their community. This was followed by criminal damage and family conflict (84% for both) as the next two most often recognized risky behaviors. However, more respondents classified family conflict as a serious problem, while all but two participants indicated criminal damage as a moderate problem. Incurable acts, including runaway and truancy were also widely ranked as moderately prevalent.



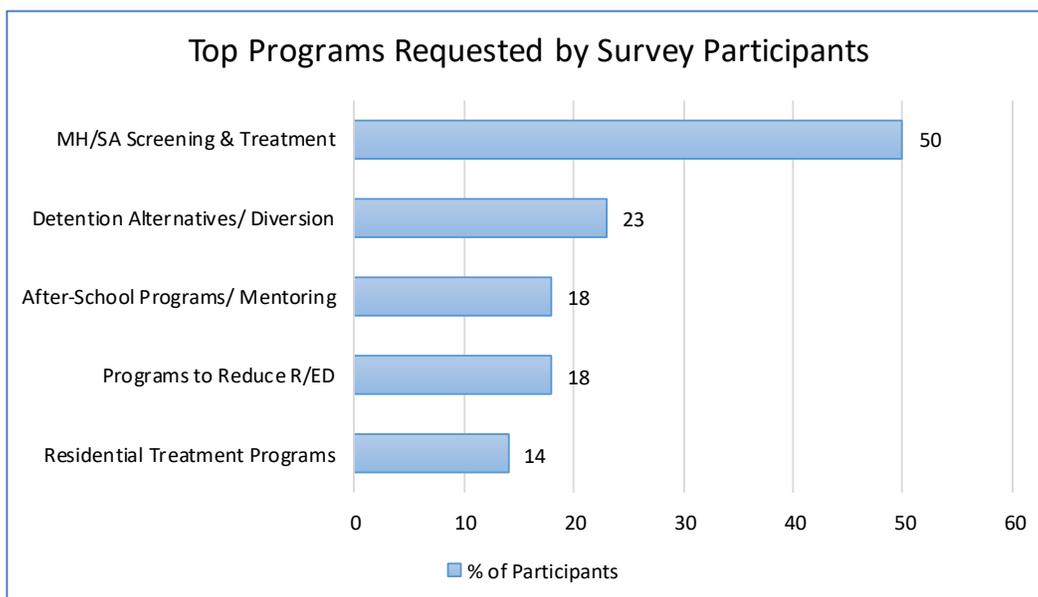
Survey participants were also asked to provide their input on the type of services most needed in their community. As expected, most surveys indicated at least some interest in all categories provided; however, programs receiving the highest ranking of need were delinquency prevention and detention alternative services at 84 and 77 percent, respectively. About two-thirds of participants noted the importance of life skills programs, youth employment services and pro-social activities, either of which can be seen as a specific type of delinquency prevention service.



Detention alternatives can often represent a wide range of community programs. For specificity, the respondents were asked to list their top three services considered to be most needed in their community.



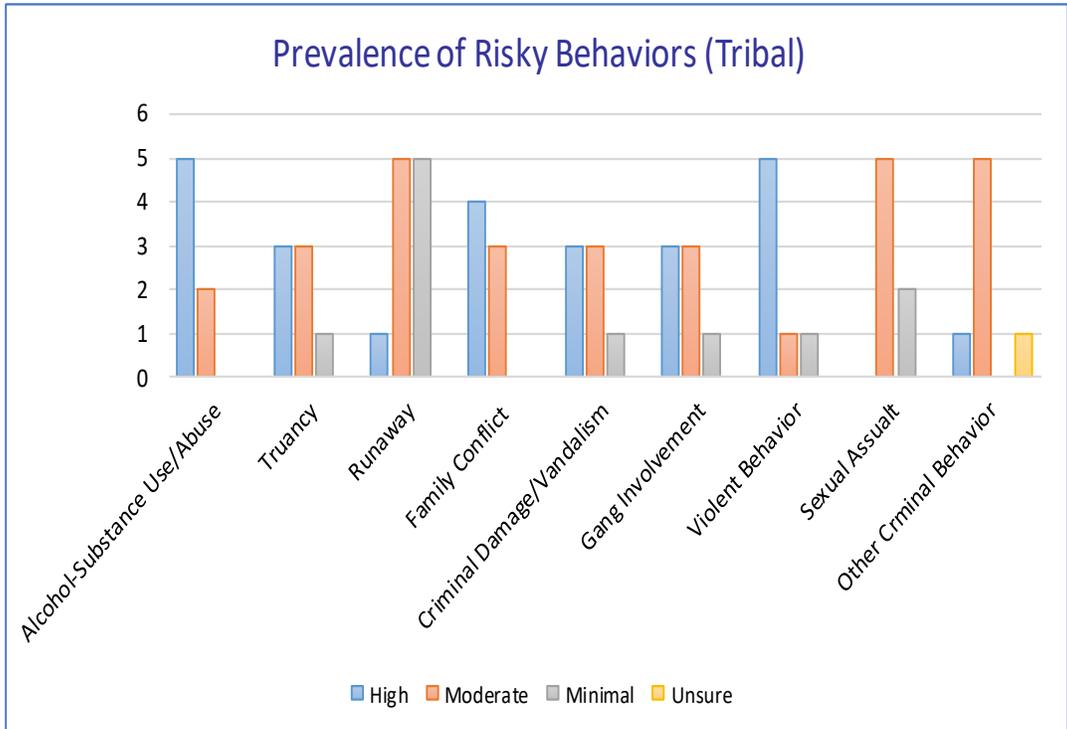
Respondents were permitted to provide comments on what services they viewed as most needed in their community. Many of the comments provided parallel the types of programs most valued in the previous section.



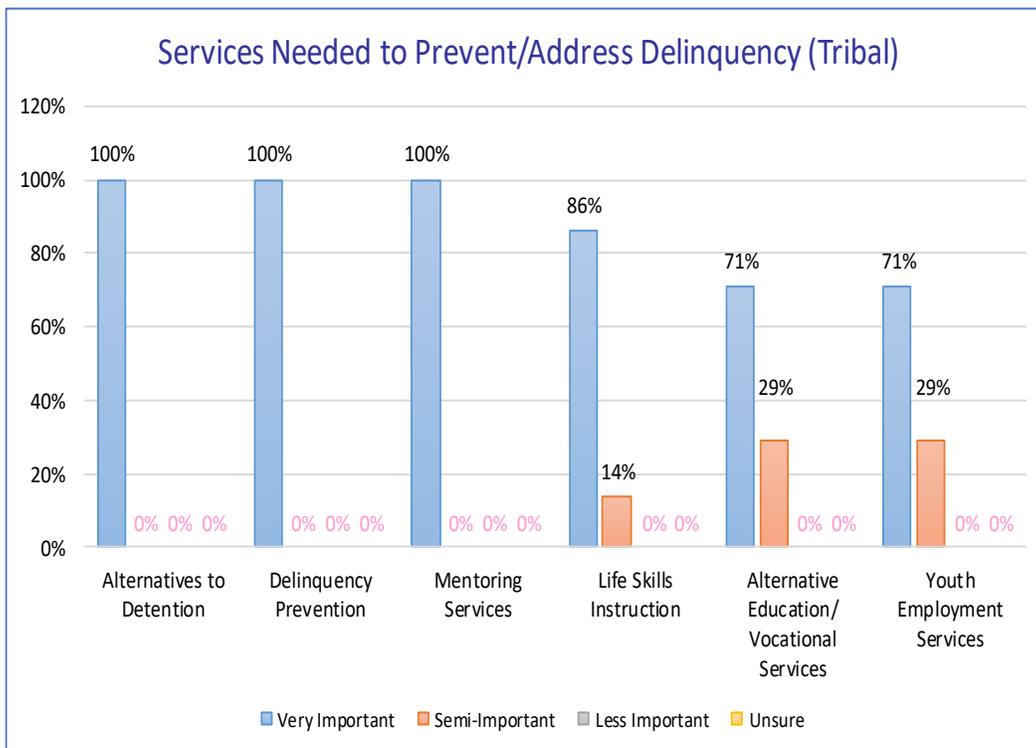
Participants provided their input on the adequacy of culturally-informed programming, with about one-third feeling that it was always or usually incorporated, one-third believing it is sometimes sufficiently ingrained and most of the remaining third responded they were unsure. Two participants stated a belief that cultural awareness is rarely infused into services. In addition, respondents were asked to provide their opinions on how fair youth are treated in the justice system based on race and ethnicity. Overall, diversion was indicated as the point youth are treated the most equitably, with 65 percent stating this occurs always or most of the time. And, while no significant discrepancies between decision points were noted, among survey participants there was slightly less confidence of equitable treatment at the referral stage and with elevating juveniles to the adult system.

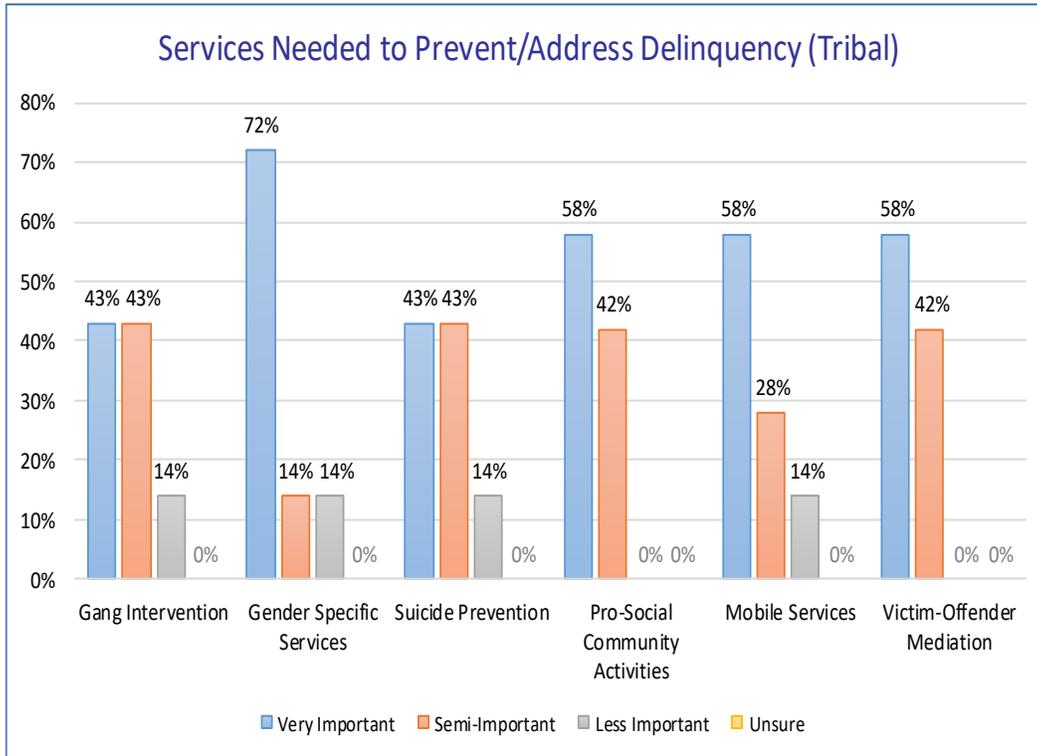
Tribal Survey

The survey provided and completed by three Tribal: White Mountain Apache, Yavapai-Apache Nation and Ak-Chin Indian Community. Unfortunately, the survey response rate was low with only seven participants returning a completed questionnaire. However, similar to the county-level version, the results point to some general themes that can be used as a starting point for further inquiry into the needs of tribal communities throughout the state. Six of the seven respondents referenced juvenile crime as a significant issue in their community stating the problem is moderate to very serious. Substance and alcohol use were noted as the most prevalent risky behaviors, followed by violence and family conflict. Runaway and truancy was commonly noted as an issue, though possibly not quite as serious as the previous three.

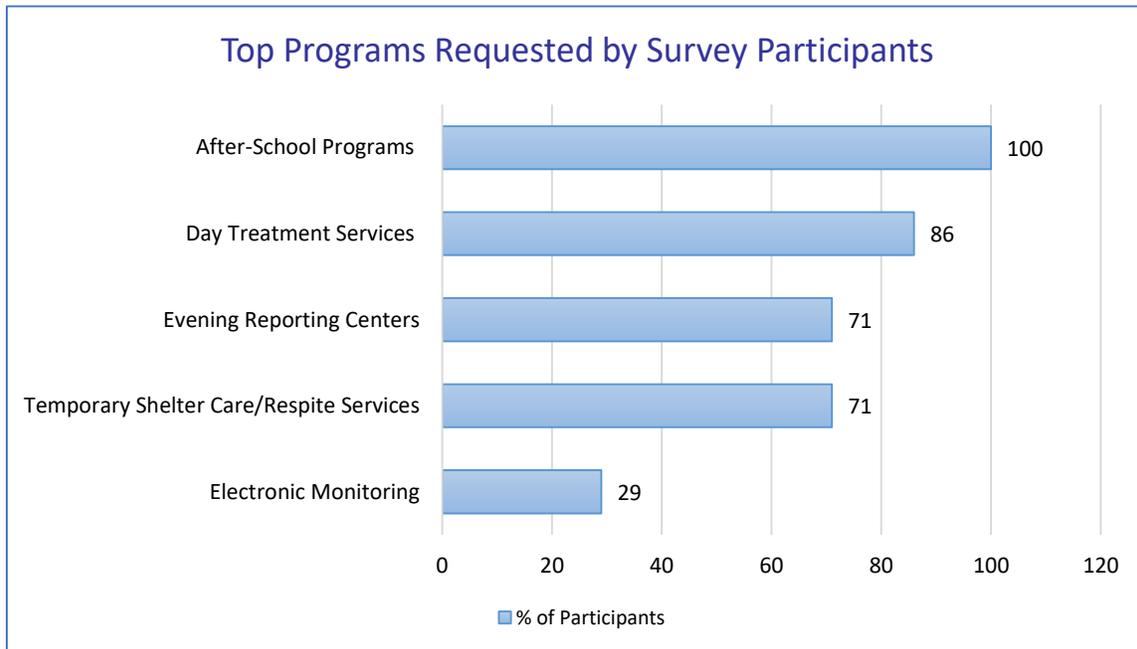


The survey also provided feedback on the type of programs most needed in each respondent’s community. Similar to the county survey, a variety of services were noted, and two of the three considered most vital were detention alternative and prevention programs. In addition, mentoring programs were also identified unanimously as very important.





Detention alternative programs were broken down in the survey to allow participants to specify the ones they considered most valuable. All types of detention alternatives were identified as a community need; however, only two surveys indicated electronic monitoring as favorable.



As provided in the county survey, respondents were given the opportunity to indicate specifically the types of community services needed from their personal point of view. While every survey participant provided a unique comment, the overall consensus underscored the need for prevention, increased availability of mentoring, life skills and pro-social activities and residential detention alternatives for low-risk offenders.

Lastly, participants were asked to rate the degree to which current programming is culturally-informed. Interestingly, three of the respondents stated they were unsure whether cultural elements are infused into services tribal youth receive. The remaining four respondents stated that this occurred either usually or sometimes.

To summarize, while the scope of these surveys are limited due to the relatively small sample size, analyzing the overarching themes provided by experts is nevertheless helpful. The most clearly referenced need from the county survey is for increased availability of mental health/substance abuse screening and treatment services. The reference to these types of programs is consistent with data that illustrates the disproportionate pervasiveness of behavioral

health issues in the justice-involved youth population. In addition, various types of community based programs, including culturally-sensitive detention alternatives, diversion, after-school and mentoring programs that divert youth from initial contact and further penetration into the system were commonly deemed as important. The tribal survey illustrated a lack of available programs that provide youth with positive, healthy and culturally-appropriate activities, believing these services would offer an alternative to risky behaviors that may lead to delinquency. The general concepts gleaned from these surveys should be reviewed and considered in the state's mission to improve outcomes for youth. As the tool gains more traction in the years to come, and incrementally engages a greater number of participants, it should serve as an additional feasible method for regularly assessing statewide issues and identifying community-specific needs.

IV. Substance Use and Risky Behaviors

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) and the Arizona State University's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice produce a biennial survey of middle and high school use to measure the prevalence of substance use and other high-risk behaviors in Arizona. The study, most recently conducted in 2018, provides insight into what are the current, more frequently committed activities by adolescent youth that may pose a threat to their health and safety. For instance, the report created for the study shows that while many dangerous drugs are on decline, alcohol, marijuana and tobacco use are increasing. This is likely impacted by a large segment of youth (56 percent) not perceiving drugs as dangerous. The three substances reported as being the most commonly used among students are those that are generally accepted by society as normal. It is legal for much of the population to use these substances, and therefore many youth grow up seeing non-negative depictions of vaping, liquor and marijuana consumption as they become adolescents in the current culture.

Another warning sign that demonstrates youth are at a higher risk for delinquency is connectivity to the child's school. Fifty-two percent of the state's youth report feeling little to no connection to their school. In some situations, a child's school can be the safest and most stable environment in their life. Not only is a student's academic performance important for future success, this is the source of most peer interaction and positive adult role models outside the family. It is thus extremely important each community continues to identify strategies to keep youth engaged.

V. Trauma and Toxic Stress

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study from 2012 revealed that roughly half of Arizona's children have one to three ACEs. Sixteen percent reported four to ten ACEs. These experiences have been empirically linked to an increased risk in hazardous conditions, such as drug and alcohol addiction, depression and medical problems, such as heart disease. Due to the impact that trauma can have on a child's life, which can lead to risky behaviors well into adulthood, it is gravely important that the link between ACEs and delinquency is understood when determining strategies for reducing toxic stress by integrating trauma-informed and evidence-based practices when prevention and intervention services are developed for at-risk youth.

Continued analysis of the scope and impact of ACEs on Arizona's youth should be a priority to routinely measure where and what type of intervention is needed to promote resiliency within these populations to reverse the negative impacts of trauma. Programs and initiatives can be strategically targeted to address ACEs "hot spots" by ensuring various youth-serving sectors, such as education, justice and treatment providers incorporate trauma-informed approaches.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Arizona Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) is the state planning agency designated by the governor to supervise the development of the Three-Year Plan. The state advisory group, the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission (AJJC), provides valuable input and oversight to address the state's juvenile justice needs (see Exhibit B). Each year, the commission meets to discuss the state's priorities for the upcoming year. This feedback assists GOYFF in designating priorities that are responsive to current statewide needs.

Based on the analysis of juvenile delinquency issues unique to Arizona, and the needs to address delinquency and public safety, the state proposes the following goals and objectives. These statements are a reflection of the state's priorities and will serve as guidance for the advisory group and planning agency to develop strategies targeting effective programming and systems-improvement to improve outcomes for youth, families and communities.

Goal 1: Prevent juvenile justice system involvement by engaging youth, parents and communities with services that increase protective factors and reduce delinquent behaviors.

Objective 1: Support and promote evidence-based and trauma-informed prevention services for youth and families.

Objective 2: Support and promote services that divert status and other low-risk offenders from further involvement in the justice system.

Goal 2: Ensure youth have access to behavioral health services pre- and post-justice system involvement.

Objective 1: Support and promote programs that connect youth and families to appropriate mental health and substance abuse treatment services.

Objective 2: Support and promote increased availability of mental health and substance abuse treatment services in rural and tribal communities.

Goal 3: Reduce recidivism by ensuring youth and families receive adequate support through effective post-placement and reentry services.

Objective 1: Support and promote evidence-based, trauma-informed intervention strategies for incarcerated youth.

Objective 2: Support and promote ongoing collaboration between juvenile justice and child welfare systems to ensure crossover youth receive appropriate services that decrease justice-involvement and improve permanency outcomes.

Objective 3: Support and promote reentry services that engage families to help facilitate the successful transition from incarceration into the community.

Goal 4: Maintain compliance with the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Objective 1: Achieve de minimis compliance rate with DSO, Separation and Jail Removal core requirements.

Objective 2: Collaborate with stakeholders to reduce racial and ethnic disparities for youth of color in the justice system.

Goal 5: Establish strong partnerships with tribal communities to address the needs of at-risk and justice-involved Native American youth.

Objective 1: Increase outreach efforts with all tribal nations in Arizona to establish strong rapport and share strategies that address delinquency in their communities.

Objective 2: Support juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention services in Arizona's tribal communities.

PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

Goal 1: Prevent juvenile justice system involvement by engaging youth, parents and communities with services that increase protective factors and reduce delinquent behaviors.

The state will support and promote evidence-based and trauma-informed prevention services for youth and families by identifying statewide needs for appropriate prevention programs and strategies and promote findings to the public. This will be achieved by a) reviewing available data to determine needs and service gaps and b) studying promising strengths that utilize scientific knowledge regarding adolescent development and behaviors. This information will be shared with stakeholders and the general public. In addition, formula grant funds will be used to support evidence-based prevention services in rural, urban and tribal communities.

The state will use a similar process to identify community needs for juvenile court based detention alternative projects and promote findings to the stakeholders. The commission will review the availability for gender-based services to address the needs of female youth, who can be overlooked as programming tends to target court-involved boys.

Goal 2: Ensure youth have access to behavioral health services pre- and post-justice system involvement.

The state will work to identify jurisdictions and populations with highest need for increased access to behavioral health care, including counties that detain youth pending placement into residential treatment programs areas. This information will help to inform stakeholders which regions have the greatest needs for resources. The state will also work to pinpoint communities that experience limited diversity of adequate behavioral health providers and support and promote programs that address the needs of underserved populations. In addition, the state will

use formula grant funds to support innovative initiatives that will increase access to mental health and substance abuse services.

Goal 3: Reduce recidivism by ensuring youth and families receive adequate support through effective post-placement and reentry services.

A review of current programs provided for youth in detention will be conducted, along with a study of promising detention-based strategies. This information will be used to support evidence-based and trauma-informed programs for detained youth. The state will also review its current collaboration status between juvenile justice and child welfare systems to ensure the needs of crossover youth are addressed by both sectors. To address post-incarceration, the state will work with community corrections, youth serving agencies and families to ensure a continuum of care is provided to youth transitioning back into their communities. The state will collaborate with partnering agencies to procure additional funding that supports effective reentry services that engage parents and reduce recidivism.

Goal 4: Maintain compliance with the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act

The GOYFF compliance monitor will continue to lead efforts to ensure Arizona is effectively monitoring for compliance of the DSO, Separation and Jail Removal core requirements. This will be necessary to ensure the state maintains compliance with JJDP Act and will inform the AJJC of barriers to compliance as they arise. While the most recent rates of compliance were well under the maximum standard established by OJJDP, the state will continue to be vigilant in responding to all compliance violations. The state will also work to ensure compliance of the requirement under 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(11)(B), effective December 21, 2021, by collaborating with the criminal court system to develop a process for tracking minors charged as adults. This plan will be based on creating standard protocols based on the pending guidance from OJJDP. In

addition to the first three core protections, the state will continue its work on the fourth requirement to reduce racial and ethnic disparities. The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission will staff the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Workgroup to promote equity in the juvenile justice system and track statewide efforts that target this issue and report to OJJDP on the state's progress.

Goal 5: Establish strong partnerships with tribal communities to address the needs of at-risk and justice-involved Native American youth

The AJJC will continue to work on increasing avenues between the state's juvenile justice system and the 22 federally recognized Native American tribal nations in Arizona to support delinquency prevention and recidivism reduction efforts based on their defined needs. A portion of formula grant funding will be reserved to fund tribal programs. In addition, the state will continue to identify opportunities to facilitate communication and establish regularly used avenues for ongoing collaboration.

Current Implementation

Various statutory requirements mandated by the reauthorization of the JJDP A are currently being implemented.

34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(iv)

The state of Arizona, over the past several years, has increased access to detention alternatives for status offenders, sex trafficking victims, and other youth who are considered to be low-risk to public safety. A number of county detention centers have closed, thus requiring these jurisdictions to research innovative ways to provide needed services and accountability to these youth so that they can remain in their communities and thus encounter minimal social and academic disruption, which can at times lead to further justice-system penetration. Teen centers have recently opened in two rural counties that no longer house a detention center, both of which

provide pro-social activities that aim to keep youth engaged in positive adult and peer relationships. These facilities are managed by the local juvenile court, and they can help identify youth who may be at-risk for delinquency. These facilities also accommodate overnight respite periods that provide families in crisis a short break to stabilize and access needed resources.

In addition to the teen centers, other counties that operate juvenile detention facilities have repurposed unused detention space to manage short-term detention alternative programs where youth who are not eligible for detention can be referred. These facilities provide non-secure short-term respite and resources to status and low-level offenders in lieu of incarceration. Long term residential services are available as well. Mingus Mountain Academy, a residential treatment group home and school, serves commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and provides the Empowerment over Exploitation program in a non-secure, protected wilderness environment. Youth are often referred by the juvenile court after a finding of victimization has been established.

While community responses to address the needs of status offenders and trafficking victims are expanding throughout the state, there is much more work to be done to ensure all areas of the state have access to these programs that improve outcomes for low risk youth, increase public safety and save public dollars. The GOYFF will work with the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission to facilitate meaningful discussion and ideas for replicating successful programs. The commission will also continue to monitor the use and refinement of the state's validated detention screening tool, which (when appropriate) directs intake staff to refer youth to detention alternative programs. Because this work is closely tied to the commission's responsibility to ensure the state complies with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) requirement, alternatives to detention will

continue to be a priority in the years to come until all jurisdictions have ample resources to provide these services.

34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(ix):

Juvenile detention and corrections agencies utilize policies that address restraint procedures for pregnant juveniles. The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) policies 4045 and 3090.10 address restrictions on using restraints for transported pregnant juveniles, instructing officers to use restraints in the “least restrictive manner” when required to prevent escape, self-injury and harm to others. Policies 4045 and 3090.10 explicitly prohibit the use of mechanical restraints on transporting juveniles for delivery, during active labor or post-partum recovery unless present medical staff requests the use of restraints when there is a significant risk of escape and restraints are needed to maintain the safety of the juvenile and the unborn child, or the agency director “makes an individualized determination that the juvenile presents an extraordinary circumstance”. When restraints are determined to be necessary, the officer shall apply the least restrictive restraints necessary and prepare an incident report as soon as possible documenting the extraordinary need for the restraints and that the medical director or designee was consulted and approved the use of restraints.

34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(29):

ADJC requires the appropriate staff to receive training on handling the behaviors of juveniles when they are in a crisis situation. The department’s policy 4058.02 references the Handle with Care (HWC) program that staff are trained on to address juveniles who do not respond with progressive intervention and pose a threat to harm themselves or others. HWC training is provided by certified instructors and is mandated for various employees working in the secure facility to teach self-protection and restraint skills. Support staff who work in the facility, but do not primarily have direct contact with youth, are trained on self-protection skills only. The HWC training equips staff with skills necessary for preventative verbal de-escalation, and when necessary, physical intervention to

manage behavioral emergencies in the most safe and effective manner possible. In a crisis situation, these techniques promote the reduction of tension and the maintenance of a calm and safe environment for those present.

34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(30):

In Arizona, justice-involved juveniles are assessed using the Arizona Youth Assessment System (AZYAS), which was adapted from the Ohio Youth Assessment System with the assistance of the Ohio State University. This AZYAS is administered to assess the needs of youth who enter the justice system to assist with case planning and the implementation of appropriate interventions based on individual need. In all, the AZYAS includes six different tools for various contact points within the juvenile justice system. The disposition screening tool is conducted pre-adjudication and assesses substance use history and antisocial attitudes. The disposition tool is conducted post-adjudication and assesses a greater range of domains including those that address substance abuse, mental health, pro-social skills and others.

Mental health and substance abuse services for juveniles on probation can be initiated in several ways. This includes 1) through an evaluation/assessment that recommends substance abuse and/or mental health outpatient services, which are selected by the home county's probation department; 2) through a court order that directs substance abuse/mental health services; or 3) when the probation officer completes the AZYAS and it has been determined there is a high need or risk to recidivate criminally in the substance abuse or mental health category. In all instances, a Service Authorization Form is used to give the provider basic information about the juvenile and family, and is a method for the county and the state to track when approval is given to fund the service. In detention settings, mental health and substance abuse assessments are not conducted by in-house staff, but by contracted providers who are called in to perform the appropriate assessments when needed. These providers use evidence-based and approved industry-standard tools, which are required in the terms of their contract. Expedition of these assessments is prioritized, but can be delayed due to provider

availability. Youth in need of immediate behavioral health services or assessments are transported to the local hospital emergency room to address acute needs.

34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(31):

For juveniles committed to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections, re-entry case planning begins on day one of arrival. The Arizona Youth Assessment System (AZYAS) Re-entry Tool is used to assess various needs of the juvenile and provide guidance to the child's case plan. These needs are based on seven different domains, including juvenile justice history; family and living arrangements; peers and social support; education and employment; pro-social skill sets; substance abuse, mental health and personality; and attitudes, values and beliefs.

The youth is assigned a parole officer (PO) and a youth transition specialist (YTS) on the day of arrival to secure care. The PO and/or YTS will then conduct an in home assessment with the guardian within the first 30 days. This assessment is geared towards determining feasibility of return home. If the home is adequate, the PO will then maintain contact and visits with the guardian throughout the stay to ensure the home remains suitable. If a home is determined to be unsuitable, placement options are explored as well as how to mitigate the suitability of the home. During re-entry, the youth's case plan is regularly reviewed by the parole officer and other providers involved in the transition process. Child family team meetings are conducted routinely to allow for updates on the youth's progress and to discuss any potential modifications to the case plan.

34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(33):

Over the last several years due to increased awareness, state and local juvenile justice systems have increased services available to help minor victims of sex trafficking. Across the state, each juvenile probation department employs a sex trafficking specialist to support efforts in their county, which may include providing trafficking awareness training in different communities and screening youth for trafficking flags during detention intake. When a finding is made that a child is a victim of sex trafficking, they are referred to the appropriate services that offer specialized trauma care as an

ancillary service to mental health counseling. In Arizona, residential care for male and female victims of human trafficking are available. As awareness of this problem continues to grow, new initiatives are implemented throughout the state to address the needs of youth victims who are involved, or at risk for involvement, with the justice system. One example is the Maricopa County Superior Court, which implements the STRENGTH (Strength through Resilience – Empower New Growth through Hope) program, a specialized court that focuses on the needs of trafficked youth.

Youth who are committed to ADJC are screened for human trafficking via clinical interview and record review. Once a youth is identified as a victim of human trafficking, he or she is offered individual therapy that targets the issue. They also receive support through participating in the Sex Trafficking Awareness and Recovery group.

Collecting and Sharing Juvenile Justice Information

Every justice agency is required to use the same general information flow model. Each is constrained by the same rules and requirements. For example, arrest must precede booking, booking precedes trial and trial precedes sentencing. The law requires that the criminal process follow certain steps and procedures. The applicable law is found, in part, in Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 13, Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure, Arizona Rules of Court, and the case law of the United States Supreme Court and the Arizona Courts. In many cases, information flow cannot be changed without making changes to the legal process. However, there are opportunities to share information between systems when appropriate and while following the specific agency requirements for sharing of information.

Information is shared regularly when it does not contain identifying information or anything that might violate confidentiality requirements or regulations. These data are found in regularly published reports such as the *Arizona Juvenile Court Counts*, published by the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, or the *Arizona Youth Survey*, published by the Arizona

Criminal Justice Commission. These reports provide the foundation for data driven decision-making for the Three-Year Plan, as well as other strategic plans developed across the juvenile justice system. Reports are easily accessible on various agency websites and shared among epidemiological work groups and/or data sharing work groups.

Gathering juvenile justice information and sharing data across state agencies has been an ongoing development for many years. With the implementation of the upgraded Juvenile Online Tracking System (JOLTSaz), probation departments from different counties can more efficiently share information to address the needs of youth who contact the juvenile justice system in multiple counties. In 2018, all counties in Arizona will be connected with the updated database, including Maricopa County, which possesses a separate system that was previously incompatible with JOLTSaz. These improvements should greatly enhance data sharing across the state.

Barriers to effective data sharing continue to exist between different systems including juvenile justice, education, child welfare and mental health providers. This especially impacts the state's crossover youth population. These youth are involved in both the juvenile justice and dependency systems and often have very high needs. Arizona is continuing to address the challenge of implementing data sharing policies that allows more effective service delivery for youth and families, without violating the child's privacy rights. In 2017, the Task Force on Crossover Youth Data and Information Sharing was established to issue recommendations for addressing the needs of crossover youth, including appropriate information sharing practices that will lead to better outcomes for the state's at-risk youth. In all, the published report titled *Opening the Door* included 49 recommendations ranging from comprehensive screening procedures for youth entering the juvenile justice system that identifies dependent youth to establishing a crossover youth agency that serves as a point of contact for organizations that

work with this population and provides training and assistance for navigating statutes and regulations that govern information sharing.

The AJJC is committed to supporting ongoing efforts to develop and refine mechanisms for comprehensive information sharing. Through support of information sharing projects and initiatives, the AJJC will continue to stay informed on current procedures and will facilitate ongoing dialogue that addresses the collection and exchange of relevant juvenile justice information, including information that can be shared between multiple youth-serving agencies.

PLAN FOR COLLECTING THE DATA REQUIRED FOR THIS SOLICITATION'S PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Title II Formula Grant performance measures help GOYFF report on outcomes that demonstrate the results of the work carried out by the award. In addition to collecting data from Title II funded subgrantees, GOYFF will assess state-implemented activities supported by the FY 2021 formula grant program and provide OJJDP with the appropriate outcomes as listed in the OJJDP FY 2021 Title II Formula Grants Program Performance Measures form. The information captured by the GOYFF data collection tools will be entered into the JustGrants reporting system annually.