Kansas News

New Juvenile Crime Community Prevention Grant Announced

KDOC will be seeking applications for the new Juvenile Crime Community Prevention Grant for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. Funds for this grant were made available in House Bill 2007 during the 2021 Kansas Legislative Session and will serve to support communities to provide evidence-based programs or services to youth that are at risk for juvenile delinquency, victimization, and juvenile justice system involvement. To meet the requirements specified in HB 2007, the grant will have two tracts.

➢ There will be $500,000 available with a $1-to-$1 matching fund requirement. These funds will be designated to support local communities in providing programs or services to help prevent juvenile crime. This fund will not be limited to any specific priority area.

➢ There will be $1,000,000 available with no matching fund requirement. These funds will be designated to support local communities in providing programs or services to help prevent juvenile crime while targeting one of four priority areas:
  - O Runaway youth
  - O Jobs and workforce development for youth
  - O Ongoing youth
  - O Homeless youth

Both governmental agencies (i.e., counties, judicial districts etc.) as well as non-governmental providers (i.e. non-profits) may apply. Finalized applications along with required supporting documents and completed signatures will need to be received by October 29, 2021 and should be sent by email to KDDC_JS_Grants@ks.gov.

If you have questions or to receive the Juvenile Crime Community Prevention Grant applications, contact Jim Johnson by phone at 785-940-1156 or by email at james.johnson2@ks.gov.

Juvenile Justice Reformers Seek Return of $21M

Cut from Kansas intervention Program Fund

Juvenile justice reformers pleaded for reversal of a decision by Kansas lawmakers to divert $21 million earmarked for community intervention programs and recommended allocation of more funding to innovative grassroots organizations involved in projects to diminish incarceration of children. “Bureaucratic roadblocks remain to fully implementing many important supports and services for young people in local communities,” said Mike Forkert, of the nonprofit advocacy organization Kansas Appleseed. “We must highlight the voices and experiences of directly impacted people.” Read more . . .

Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex - Update

Abigail Phelps, ReEntry Coordinator DOC - Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex

The Day Everything Changed for the JOs at KJCC

It was an unseasonably cool day, August 3, 2021, when the new Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR) Mobile Unit came to the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex (KJCC) for the first time. It was a day that changed everything, everything for the members of the Juvenile Offender (JO) population. They were about to get their very own Kansas REAL ID as one of them asked, “With the star, and everything?” Yes, with the star, all official.

(L) KDOR staff set up their equipment and are ready to help JOs acquire their REAL ID, while the KDOR staff member updates the list of records that would be needed. The KDOR staff member then contacts the KDOC staff to inquire about how KJCC JOs could obtain a Kansas REAL I.D. while still incarcerated. KDOC staff members then contact the KDOR staff to inquire about how KJCC JOs could obtain a Kansas REAL I.D. while still incarcerated. KDOC staff members then contact the KDOR staff to inquire about how KJCC JOs could obtain a Kansas REAL I.D. while still incarcerated.

The story began when Abigail Phelps, the KJCC ReEntry Coordinator, contacted Gayle Culberth, KDOC Statewide Offender Community ID Contact to inquire about how KJCC JOs could obtain a Kansas REAL I.D. while still incarcerated. Culberth responded by providing the list of records that would be needed in order to secure a Kansas REAL I.D. while still incarcerated. Culberth then collaborated between KDOR and KDOC so that the KDOR had the information they needed on the KJCC youth prior to their visit as well as KDOC’s guidelines and security protocols in place. The KDOR staff then made the mobile unit in the facility. After much vetting and culminating of paperwork, the day finally arrived when the energetic KDOR staff set up their remote unit in the Shawnee Building kitchen at KJCC.

Then it was the time for the JOs to begin arriving. It was quite an undertaking. As a result of KJCC’s response to COVID-19, only one Living Unit at a time could go through the process which included maintaining proper social distancing and proper mask protocol (although they were

KS Juvenile Justice Web-Line
August 2021

The Juvenile Justice Corner

Jim Johnson, Program Consultant

DOC - Juvenile Community Based Services

Years ago, I attended a training session on the topic of working with youth involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. One message that the instructor made clear for those of us working in these systems was the importance of thinking about “putting ourselves out of business.” For youth that enter the juvenile justice system, having effective interventions to reduce recidivism is critical to reduce rearrests and reincarcerations. But that is still just one piece of the picture. We truly drive down the numbers of juvenile youth our communities need effective and robust prevention interventions. This will enable us to reduce the number of youth that are on a trajectory for involvement in the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems.

With the announcement of the new Juvenile Crime Community Prevention Grant we at KDOC have an additional opportunity to partner with and support local communities to provide prevention and early intervention programs that can address gaps within the local community. The funds provided in these grants will follow one of two tracts. The first tract is targeted to address one of four priority areas (i.e., crossover, homeless or runaway youth along with jobs/workforce development for youth). The second tract has a matching fund requirement but will allow for you to target one of a variety of areas of prevention identified within your community. So in addition to the four topics listed above, other interventions can be explored such as antisocial behavior, family relationships, school attendance, substance abuse, life skills, prevention education on sex-trafficking, reparative justice interventions, targeted mentorship programs and alternatives to detention etc.

Another feature with this grant is that it is not solely restricted to governmental agencies or community corrections agencies to apply. Any community-based agency or service provider can apply such as an established non-profit agency that serves youth in Kansas or a group of established agencies that serve youth in Kansas can apply directly to KDOC for this funding.

I am reminded of the wisdom shared with us by Megan Milner (current KJC Superintendent) in an article she crafted a few years ago for the Webline. Megan wrote “in order for us to succeed in improving juvenile justice in Kansas, there must be true and genuine collaboration at all levels of our system, because this is “the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.” (To read the full article click here).” Encouraging everyone to explore, to collaborate, to innovate to achieve an uncommon result and to see if there is something more that can be done to help put ourselves out of business.

The Crossover Youth Practice Model - Update

Michelle Montgomery, CYPM Coordinator

Kansas Department of Corrections – Juvenile Services

As the Kansas State Policy Team (SPT) begins the task of discussing protocols and processes that can be implemented on a statewide level, the team invited Assistant Director, Leigh Housman, and Juvenile Services Supervisor, Robin Rooks, from the Douglas County Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAIC) to attend the July SPT meeting.

During the meeting, Robin and Leigh provided team members with a better understanding of the processes and protocols currently in place by intake workers when a youth knocks on the doors of a JIAIC. In addition to explaining the step-by-step process taken, they also provided some insight into the challenges most JIAICs face.

Typically, when a youth has run away from a local, Douglas County, placement, that placement has made a report to law enforcement. Since the placement made the report, intake staff can quickly and easily connect with the appropriate agency and workers to return the youth to the placement or take any other necessary steps to keep the youth safe. The challenges come when youth are not from a local placement and cannot or do not inform intake staff of which child-placing agency provides them with services. Leigh explained that she developed a Regional Excel spreadsheet with contacts within each child-placing agency, however, with staff turnover and changes in phone numbers, maintaining the list is difficult, and making sure the list and contact numbers are up-to-date is also a challenge.

Additionally, the JIAICs do not have a physical space, or enough space to accommodate youth for an extended time. To assist with the challenge of outdated phone lists, Ashley Brown, DOC Information Technology, shared a Contact Process Map she developed. This is a resource that provides a listing of all on-call provider contacts, as well as steps to take if on-call staff cannot be reached. Robin and Leigh reviewed the process map along with the SPT and provided feedback on additions such as color coding of providers by region and including contact information for tribal on-call and law enforcement. Once the additions are made, and a process for maintaining the list is identified, the Contact Process Map will be piloted.

Continued next page . . .
New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training

**2021 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule**

- **New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training**
  - **Date:** September 18th, 2021
  - **Time:** 9:00 am till 5:00 pm

Juvenile Justice Basics

- **KDOC_Training@ks.gov**

Juvenile Justice Basics

- **KJCC – Update continued from page 1**
  - permitted to remove their face masks while getting their photos taken. 19 JOs participated. They were all happy to have this opportunity as they filed in, took care of their business, politely thanked the workers, and then went on with their day’s program activities. Several JOs had general questions about what to expect next, and specific questions such as “What is an organ donor?” and “What do you mean I have to register for Selective Service?” It was a learning experience for everyone while being very pleasant, positive, peaceful, and productive.

- **National News**
  - **Juvenile Justice Reform:** CT Lawmakers Considering Changes after Public Outrage
    - A 2018 federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act lawmakers passed says juveniles cannot be held in custody for more than six hours. State Lawmakers say that ties hands of judges who oversee juvenile justice cases.

- **New State Law Removes Court Fees for Juveniles**
  - When Julissa Soto’s son was a teenager, he found himself in trouble with the (CO) law. From smoking weed to stealing toilet paper, Soto said they faced several challenges. At the time, the youth was a single mother working multiple jobs to provide for her family. When her son was sent to court, fees and fines ranging from $200 to $1,000 would come with it. “Every time he would get in trouble it was more and more penalties,” Soto said.

- **Youth Recidivism Halved by San Francisco Program**
  - Juveniles who participated in a youth incarceration alternative program were less than half as likely to be referred to the justice system for a new felony offense, compared to juveniles who did not participate in the program, according to the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ) in San Francisco (CA).

- **Juveniles Granted Same Access to Lawyers as Adults Under WA Reform**
  - The law enforcement community and youth justice advocates in Washington State are at odds over a new law requiring juveniles to have access to an attorney before police can question them. Advocates claim House Bill 1140, signed by Gov. Jay Inslee this spring and set to go into effect in January, is too vague and leaves it up to the discretion of police.

- **Indiana Launches Review of Juvenile Justice System**
  - Indiana leaders are taking a comprehensive look at the state’s juvenile justice system. That includes broad data analysis, interviews with key stakeholders and recommendations for improvements. The goal is reform – and mass transformation – of the system.

- **Crossover Youth Practice Model continued from page 1**
  - Being able to quickly identify and connect youth with their supporting child-placing agency and workers is critically important. With the ability to do that, youth can avoid incarceration, experience less trauma, as they spend long hours sitting, waiting, and wondering where they will go and what they will face next.

National News – Dual Involved Youth

- **Dual System Youth:** At the Intersection of Child Maltreatment and Delinquency
  - In a perfect world, a push of a button would connect all juvenile court judges and authorized staff to relevant local juvenile welfare files for young people summoned before the court. The imperfect reality is that in many American juvenile court systems, there is no button, no data linkage - no way to readily retrieve the often-incomplete personal histories found in child welfare data. Many jurisdictions lack even a culture of collaboration between child welfare services and juvenile justice, an interagency 

- **How Prioritizing Family First Can Narrow the Group**
  - You’ve probably heard about the school-to-prison pipeline, and if you’re in a child welfare space, you know of the many factors that can cause foster youth to become incarcerated at some point in their lives. One discussion that hasn’t gotten much attention, however, is the link between placing foster youth in group homes and the adverse effects of the juvenile justice system that often follow. According to the Juvenile Law Center, youth placed in group homes are 2.5 times more likely to get involved with the juvenile justice system than those placed with foster families. More than ever, I believe that many of the foster youth I lived with throughout group home care should have never Read more . . . .

- **New WA Law Hopes to Weaken Foster Care-to-Prison Pipeline**
  - According to the latest data, there are close to 450,000 children in America’s foster care system - all of whom face a disproportionate risk of being incarcerated. The problem is so severe that the Juvenile Law Center (JLC) has found that one-quarter of foster care alumni will become involved with the juvenile justice system within just two years of leaving out of the system. A Washington State Senate bill that took effect July 25th aims to interrupt that pipeline, acknowledging the need to expand “trauma-informed, culturally relevant, racial equity-based, and developmentally appropriate therapeutic placement supports” in less-restrictive community settings by providing $11.2 million for a “community transition” program for young people serving time in one of the state’s three juvenile detention centers, according to The Imprint News Read more . . . .

National Resource Center Reframes How Local Governments Can Serve Dual-Status Youth

- The U.S. emerges from more than a year of grappling with racial injustice and the over-policing of youth and people of color, state and local governments looking to better serve young people who are in foster care or the juvenile justice court system can draw on an in-depth, thoroughly researched guide to improve outcomes for youth, families and the systems that serve them.

- **Juvenile Justice Information Exchange**
  - Juvenile Justice in 2019 Dropped to the Lowest Level in Last 14 Years, Federal Data Show
  - Juveniles involved in property, drug and public order offenses, combined, declined in 2019 to their lowest levels since 2005, according to recently released National Center on Juvenile Justice data also showing that probation, rather than detention, increasingly was assigned in five categories of juvenile crime. In each of five crime categories, the likelihood of cases being tried in court declined from 2005 to 2019, with a 12% drop among drug cases being the largest of all.

- **Disruptive students, often facing challenges at home and in their communities, deserve acts of "restorative justice"**
  - This is how practitioners of restorative justice approach things: First, focus on building strong, authentic relationships in a community, including schools that are now responding. Then, if and when community members or students make a mistake or cause harm, rather than simply looking at which rule was broken and which punishment should be prescribed, collaborate to help ensure that the ensuing individual has the space and support to hold herself or himself accountable. Strive to ensure that damaged relationships are repaired and action is taken to prevent future harm.

Read more . . . .