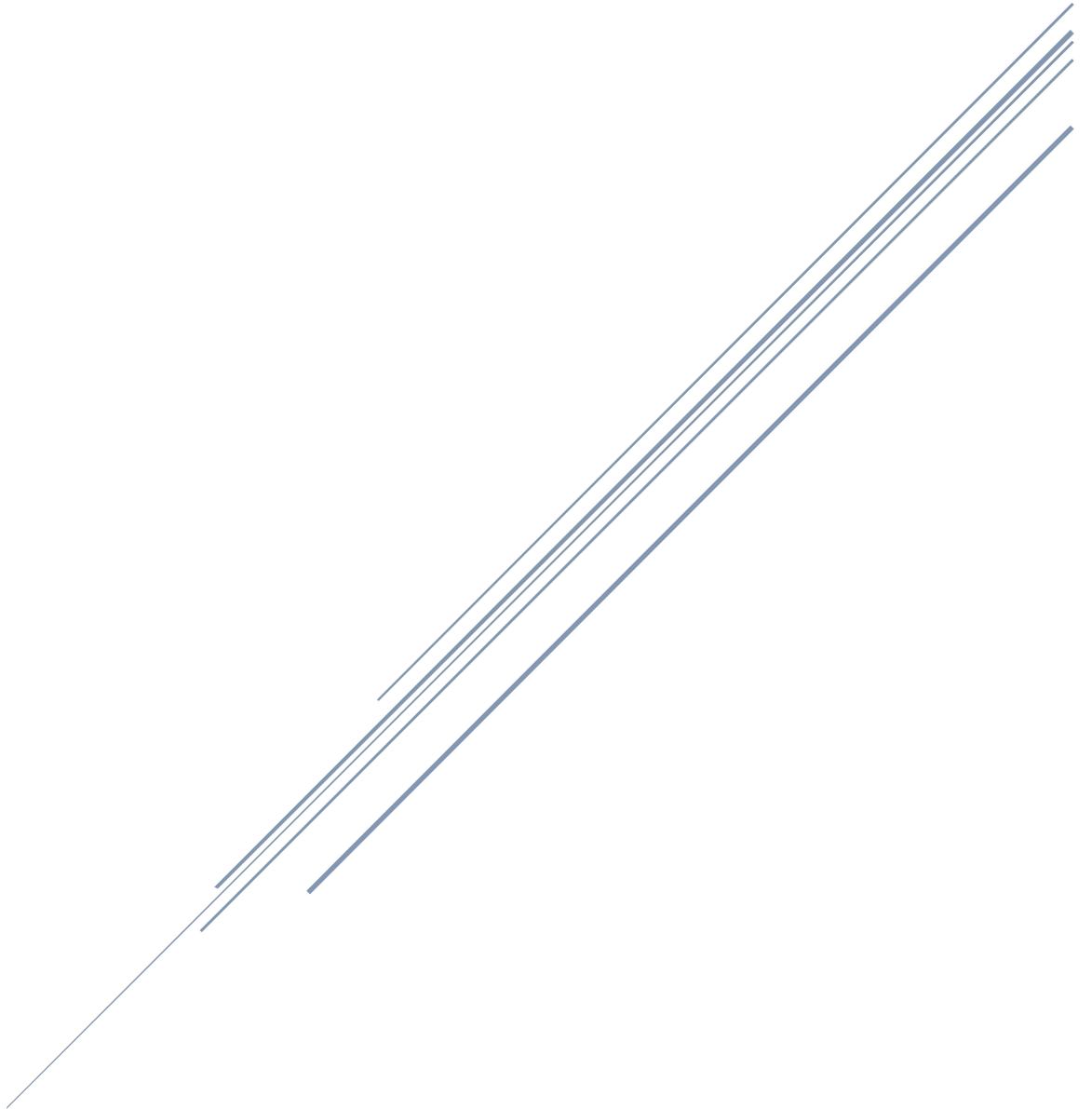


KANSAS JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

2020



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Executive Summary

2020 has been a tumultuous year for all, including those in the juvenile justice system. In the face of the tumult, however, the juvenile justice system has continued to move forward. The Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee's (JJOC) focuses of 2020 has been to increase the level of cross-system work and to make decisions that help all Kansans. In particular, stakeholders have begun working on providing a model for working with crossover youth – those youth who are involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice system or at risk of crossing from one system to the other – as well as working with multiple agencies to provide mental health and substance abuse counseling for youth in the juvenile justice system and their families. All of these initiatives derived from listening to county and district juvenile justice staff, Juvenile Correctional Advisory Boards, and data collected by all agencies and branches working in juvenile justice.

Across the system, improvements have been made, and work has continued. The JJOC reviewed information from all points of the juvenile justice system throughout the year.

- The Department of Education and the JJOC have been discussing ways to update Memoranda of Understanding between law enforcement and schools, as well as training for school resource officers and other school personnel regarding the juvenile justice system and the reforms of 2016 Senate Bill 367 (SB367).
- Notices to Appear (NTA), and the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) have both been used to keep youth out of detention as much as possible, and both continue to be successful. In 2020, 82% of youth issued an NTA complied, meaning they appeared at the Juvenile Intake Assessment Center when required to. Intake staff have been working through fidelity measures to ensure the KDAI is used well, and are preparing for a validation study in 2021.
- Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) continue to be used well, with 90% of youth in pre-file IIP and 86% of youth in post-file IIP completing their programs successfully. IIP allows youth to be diverted away from the juvenile justice system in a way that improves public safety and reduces the costs of intensive supervision.
- Case filings for juvenile offenders continue to fall, a trend that started before SB367 was passed and has continued since. The number of misdemeanor case filings has fallen faster than the number of felony case filings, which demonstrates that youth with lower-level offenses are being kept out of the juvenile justice system.
- Combined, youth supervised by Court Services and Community Corrections earned 4,460 weeks of Earned Discharge Credits off their supervision times. Youth earn these credits by making prosocial choices and complying with their supervision terms.

- The number of youth placed in the Juvenile Correctional Facility (JCF) continued to decline in 2020. In State Fiscal Year 2013, there were 364 youth placed in the JCF. In State Fiscal Year 2020, that number was down to 148. This is a reduction of 59%.
- Staff from OJA, KDOC, and DCF have continued to receive new, and continuing training to improve their knowledge of and skills for working with youth. These trainings have focused on improving understanding of legislative updates, improving interaction skills, and using tools effectively.

The members of the JJOC understand the additional strains faced in 2020, and the impacts those are likely to have on youth in the juvenile justice system, their families, and all Kansans. For that reason, we have sought to work across systems to assist youth and their families navigate the juvenile justice and child welfare systems, increase access to mental health and substance abuse treatment, and appropriately treat criminogenic needs to reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Each of these initiatives will improve the health and safety of Kansans, ultimately leading to a healthier and safer state.

Finally, in 2020 additional grant opportunities were offered to local Juvenile Correctional Advisory Boards. These are in addition to the ongoing county and district reinvestment grants. Across the two types of grants, over \$5,000,000 was awarded to implement, expand, or improve programs in localities across Kansas.

Next year, the JJOC will be focused on three initiatives: implementing and expanding the Crossover Youth Practice Model, implementing mental health counseling for justice-involved youth and their families, and conducting a study to determine the drivers of racial and ethnic disparities across the juvenile justice system. Each of these are focused on creating a more equitable, healthy, and fair system for youth.

Introduction

2020 has presented unprecedented challenges, particularly related to the impact of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19), along with numerous social upheavals. The juvenile justice system is no exception. Over the past year, all of the systems, agencies, and individuals involved in the Kansas juvenile justice system have had to adjust quickly, repeatedly, and appropriately to a series of changes, sometimes under rapidly changing circumstances. The role of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) is to monitor and collaborate with juvenile justice system agencies and stakeholders to ensure best practices are followed and justice-involved youth receive appropriate supervision, assistance, and accountability. These responsibilities have remained important as the JJOC has worked collaboratively throughout the year to assist agencies during these challenging times.

Beyond the series of crises, the day-to-day business of juvenile justice carried on. While focusing on providing the needed support to agencies and stakeholders, the JJOC also continued making important decisions about services for youth, and operations have needed to continue, even if in a new way. In the chaos of 2020, juvenile justice stakeholders remained focused on responsibility and sustainability. Each time the JJOC met, representatives discussed both how the entity they represent was dealing with Covid-19, and progress made on long-term projects in an effort to continue the changes that began in 2016.

One of the most prominent changes that began before 2020, but has increased in both speed and scope, is the level of cross-system work, and the desire to make decisions that help all Kansans. In October 2019, work began on providing a model for working with crossover youth – those youth who are involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems or are at risk of crossing from one system to the other. The JJOC also began working on collaborating with other agencies to provide mental health and substance abuse counseling to youth in the juvenile justice system and their families. Both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems understand the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted Kansas families and all systems want to ensure that justice-involved youth have the support from both the system and their family to be successful.

Further, in order to continue moving the reforms forward and sustain positive changes, the JJOC has been focused on increasing the collection and reporting of additional data to understand outcomes. One of the goals since 2016 has been to bring online new data systems, to encourage additional studies, and to utilize data to inform decision-making. The Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) is in the process of building a new data system, and the Office of Judicial Administration (OJA) continues to implement its system. As time moves forward, the JJOC will continue examining an increasing library of data and continue our data-driven approach.

Progress Throughout the Juvenile Justice System

This report will walk through the juvenile justice process and demonstrate the progress that has been made in each stage beginning with one of the most common first points of contact with the justice system – schools – then move to contact with intake, immediate intervention, adjudication and disposition, supervision, and finally programming.

Schools

The Department of Education has two primary requirements within 2016 Senate Bill 367 (SB367): to collect memoranda of understanding between local law enforcement, school districts, and local courts to establish common understanding for addressing behavior at schools; and to provide training regarding juvenile justice to school personnel. The requirement to create MOUs was fulfilled in 2016. However, during 2020, discussion within the JJOC turned to these MOUs and whether they need to be updated. The Department of Education has participated in and facilitated many conversations for how best to update the MOUs.

As part of those conversations, the JJOC also suggested additional training for school personnel to learn about the juvenile justice system, the MOUs, and the reasons for reform. The Department of Education has recommended that training be conducted on a three-year cycle.

Intake

The two biggest reforms to intake occurred early in the implementation of SB367 – the ability to issue Notices To Appear (NTA), and the statewide use of the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument – and are being used consistently.

Notices To Appear are similar to citations allowing the youth to be processed at a scheduled time at a Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center rather than being arrested and taken to the center immediately. The NTA process became even more prominent and critical in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic. While law enforcement agencies were using caution in arresting and transporting youth to juvenile intake and assessment services across the state, NTAs were a good option for communities to address behaviors of youth while also keeping possible COVID transmission at a minimum. Many communities reported this process was an essential and effective tool during this time. In spite of the pandemic, the state realized an 82% compliance rate with NTAs – meaning youth and families came to the centers at the designated times, as shown below in Figure 1.

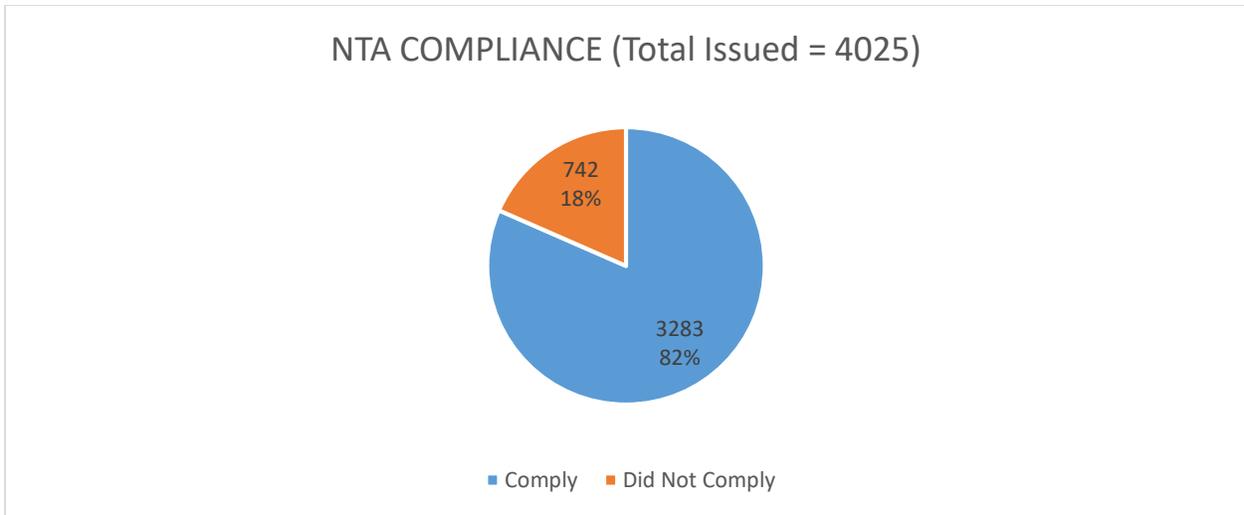


Figure 1 Notice To Appear Compliance SFY2020

Intake staff continue to administer the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) as an objective way to determine if a youth should be detained, sent to an alternative to detention, or sent home between intake and a court appearance. This year, KDOC has been focusing on fidelity with the KDAI. Intake staff have participated in interrater reliability exercises – practice assessments to determine the extent to which staff are using the tool in the same way. KDOC has shared that intake staff have done well with these exercises and the tool will soon be ready for validation. Validation, a process in which KDAI data is used to determine how well the tool is working, is an important part of fidelity. The validation will be completed in 2021.

Immediate Intervention Programs

Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) provide Kansas youth an opportunity for diversion from deeper juvenile justice system involvement. This aligns with best practices and research which states providing youth with low-level charges an opportunity to complete community-based programs and interventions to avoid future system involvement improves public safety and reduces the hefty costs shouldered by communities if youth move deeper into the system. In Kansas, IIPs are operated either by the judicial branch through local court services programs, or through the executive branch via community corrections agencies. Each jurisdiction collaborates and determines if they will offer pre-file IIP, post-file IIP, or both. As shown in Figure 2, IIP programs continue to see strong results, with 90% of youth successfully completing pre-file IIP (compared to 89.5% in SFY19) and 86% of youth successfully completing post-file IIP (compared to 87% in SFY19).

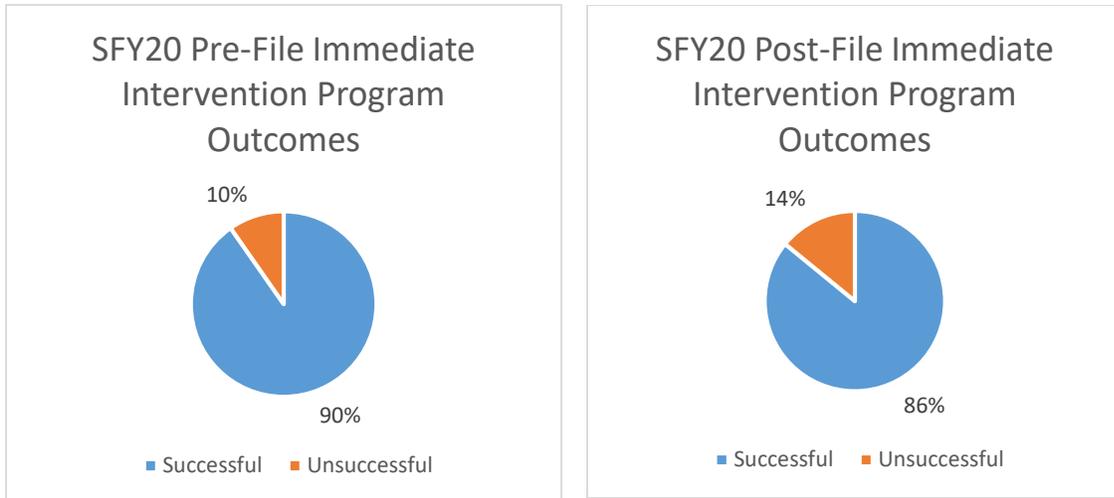


Figure 2 State Fiscal Year Pre- and Post-File Immediate Intervention Program Outcomes

Filings, Adjudications, and Dispositions

Case filings for juvenile offenders have fallen steadily since before SB367 was passed, and that trend continued in SFY20, as can be seen in Figure 3. Child in Need of Care cases have had little variation since SFY14, with the notable exception of SFY20, which has had substantially fewer filings. It is too early to make any assertions regarding the cause of the drop in SFY20, which is likely related to Covid-19.

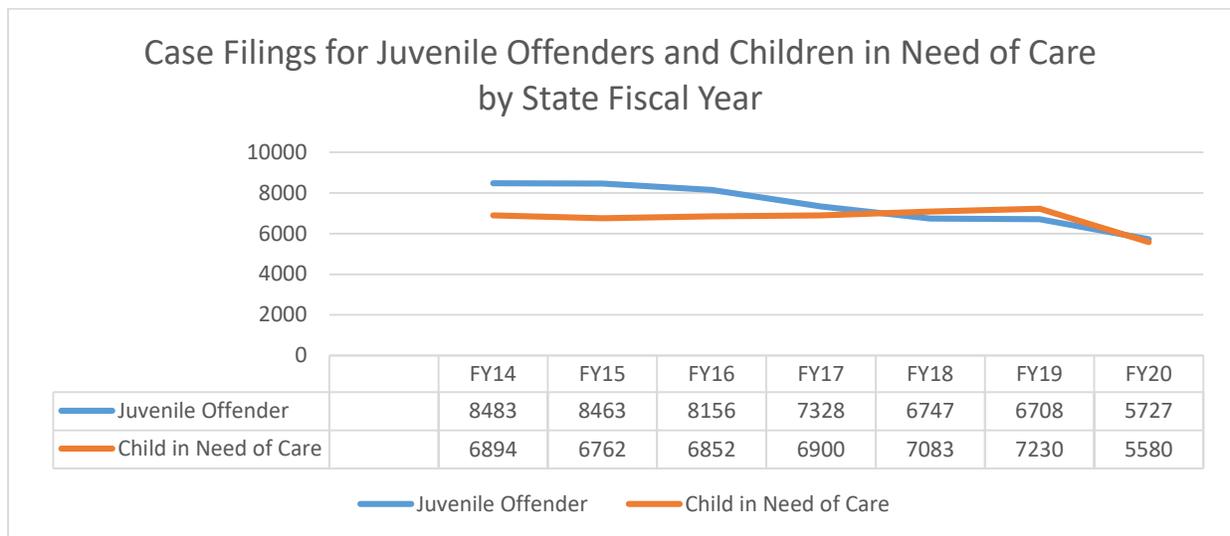


Figure 3 Case Filings for Juvenile Offenders and Children in Need of Care by State Fiscal Year

One of the goals of the reforms codified in SB367 was to keep youth who commit lower level offenses out of the juvenile justice system as much as possible. Research consistently shows that the more youth are involved in the juvenile justice system, the more likely they are to return to the juvenile and adult justice systems. For that reason, where possible, it is best to minimize the amount of exposure to the system; Figure 4, below, shows that there has been a decline in felony adjudications, and more notably a substantial decline in misdemeanor adjudications.

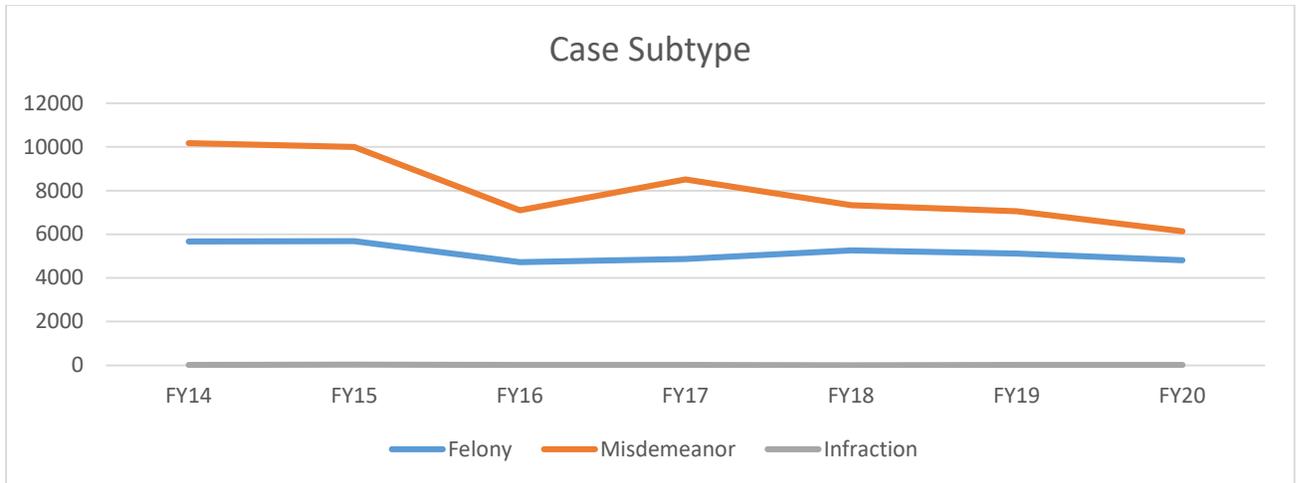


Figure 4 Adjudications by Case Subtype and State Fiscal Year

Probation

Kansas utilizes the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) to assess risk and need of all adjudicated youth in the juvenile justice system. Using a validated, actuarial tool such as this allows professionals to better target the needs of youth through case-planning and supervision, increasing the probability of rehabilitation and behavior change. Research is consistent that systems realize more behavior change by targeting youth assessed as moderate to high risk. Figure 5 below demonstrates the risk level of youth placed on community corrections and court services probations, with 90% of community corrections youth and 81% of court services youth being either moderate to high risk. This shows that Kansas continues to better align itself with evidence-based practices for justice-involved youth.

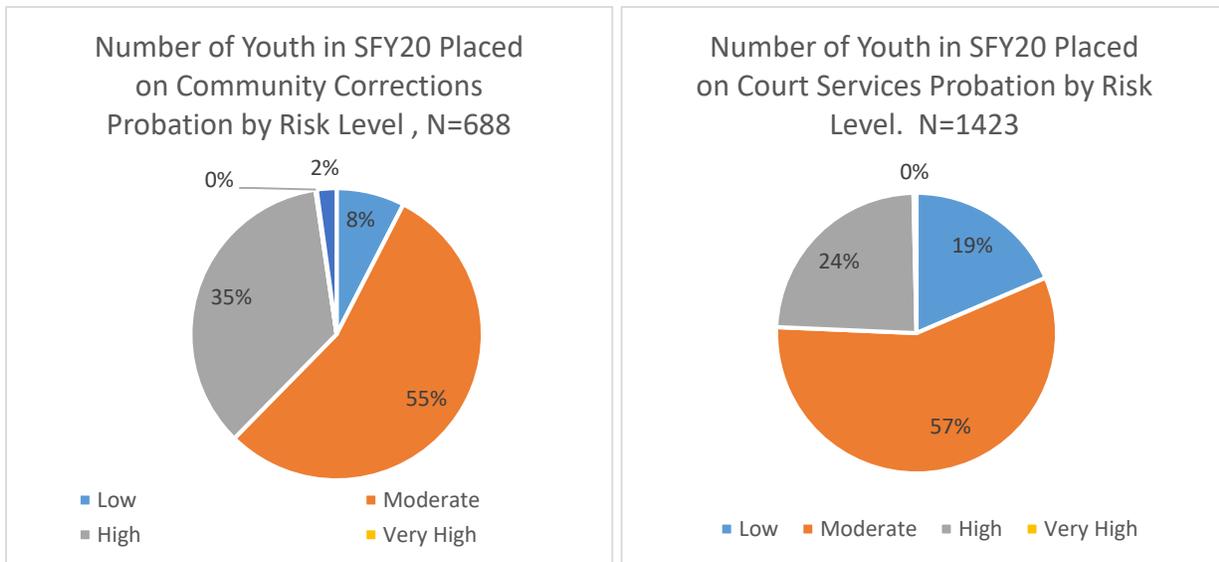


Figure 5 Number of Youth in SFY20 Placed on Community Corrections and Court Services Probations by Risk Level.

Supervision Lengths and Earned Discharge Credits

In the original [Workgroup](#) which led to SB367¹, it was noted that supervision lengths in Kansas were very long. Case length and probation length limits were introduced to reduce the time youth spent on supervision. As Figure 6, below, shows, the average number of days spent on community corrections supervision has continued to drop in SFY20, from a high in SFY16 of over a year and a half down to just over a year.

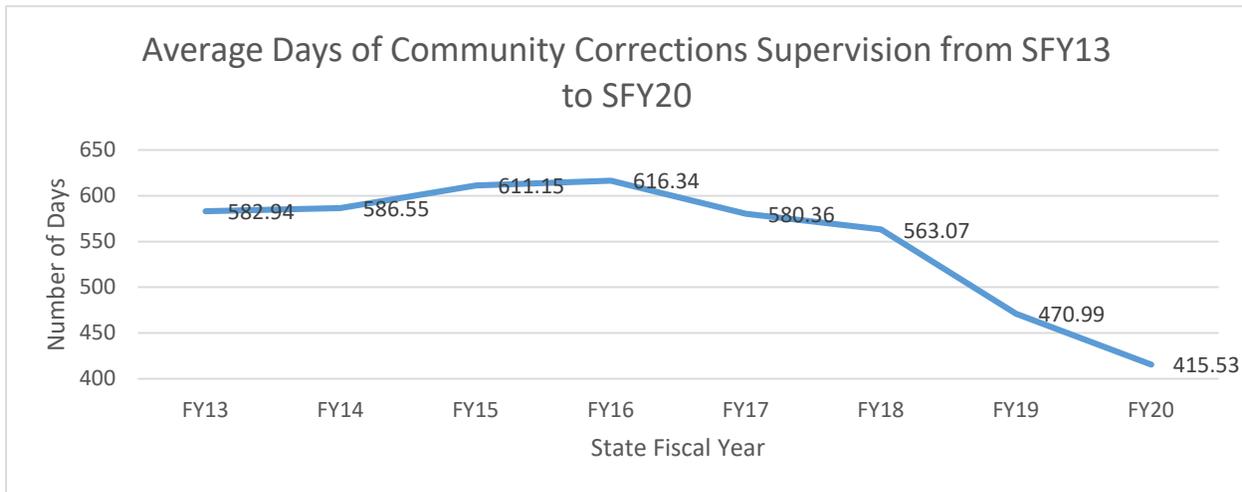


Figure 6 Average Days of Community Corrections Supervision from State Fiscal Year 2013 to State Fiscal Year 2020

Kansas Supreme Court Rule 1801 was adopted to establish the process for earning credits and allows the judicial administrator to adopt procedures and forms related to the calculation of Earned Discharge Credits (EDC). The judicial administrator adopted these procedures and forms in March 2018 for use by Court Services Officers. To enhance collaboration and encourage consistency, the Office of Judicial Administration shared its procedure and forms with the Department of Corrections. Beginning in July, 2018, all Court Services and Community Corrections began reporting the number of EDC days awarded. During fiscal year 2020, 20,034 days of credits were awarded to juvenile probationers supervised by Community Corrections Officers. Youth on Court Services probation in Kansas earned 11,186 days off their probation periods due to compliance. With both Court Services and Community Corrections, this amounts to a total of 4,460 weeks.

¹ Established in June 2015, the bipartisan, inter-branch Kansas Juvenile Justice Workgroup consisted of 17 representatives from all parts of the juvenile justice system, including judges, district/county attorneys, law enforcement, public defenders, the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC), and legislators from both parties and chambers. The Workgroup undertook a comprehensive analysis of the state’s juvenile courts and corrections system and reached consensus on a set of data-driven recommendations to improve outcomes for Kansas. If adopted, the recommendations would: Protect public safety and hold juvenile offenders accountable; Contain taxpayer costs by focusing system resources on the most serious offenders; and Improve outcomes for youth, families, and communities in Kansas.

Juvenile Correctional Facility

The number of youth placed in the juvenile correctional facility (JCF), the deepest end of the juvenile justice system, has continued to decrease each year, a trend that began shortly before SB367 passed. In SFY13, there were 364 youth placed in the JCF; in SFY20, there were 148 – a reduction of 59%. Additionally, the average risk level of the youth placed in the JCF has increased as expected, driven by fewer low- and moderate-risk youth entering the facility. Figure 7, below, shows the number of youth entering the JCF within each risk level for each year since SFY13. The number of low- and moderate-risk youth have dropped, while the number of high-risk youth have remained relatively constant over time. This demonstrates that the youth who do not need the deep-end supervision and programming are being kept in the community and out of the JCF.

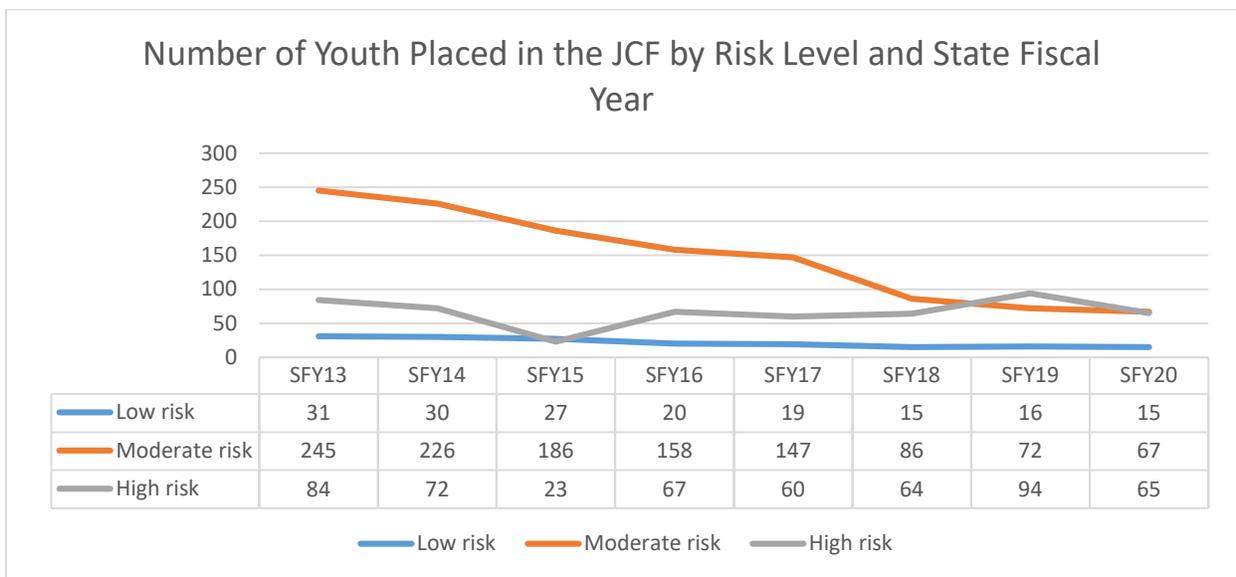


Figure 7 Number of Youth Placed in the Juvenile Correctional Facility by Risk Level and State Fiscal Year

Department for Children and Families

In 2019, the Department for Children and Families (DCF) convened two working groups to study the impact of SB367 on crossover youth. The second working group was convened in SFY20 and the [final report](#) which includes the summary of results and key findings may be found on the DCF website. Since 2005, DCF has annually obtained data from KDOC and prepared the “Crossover Youth Report.” DCF has continued to engage with various agencies to continue the discussion regarding families of children who may intersect programs or agencies involved with juvenile offender and the child in need of care systems.

The interconnectedness of justice-involved youth and children in need of care cannot be ignored. DCF is changing the way it engages with families. Through the new [Kansas Child Welfare Practice Model](#) DCF is committed to organizing networks around families to build resilience and prevent maltreatment through implementing evidence-based practices, informed decisions, and building our workforce. This is achieved through programs and principles such as Family Finding, Team Decision Making and reshaping our Child Protection Framework. KDOC-JS staff and Juvenile Intake and Assessment Centers across Kansas participated in the Family Finding boot camps.

Judicial Branch Training

K.S.A. 20-318a requires OJA to develop or designate a training protocol for judges, defense attorneys who work in juvenile court, and county and district attorneys. The training protocol was released July 12, 2017. It recommends this same group obtain continuing education in at least one of the following areas:

- Adolescent mental health issues,
- Adolescent brain development,
- Evidence-based sentencing,
- Principles of effective intervention,
- Cognitive behavioral intervention,
- Trauma-informed care of adolescents,
- Juvenile justice legislative updates, and
- Other topics related to juvenile justice.

The protocol, the reporting tool used to comply with the data requirements of the statute, and the news release are on the judicial branch website. As of November 4, 2020, 38 individuals self-reported participating in 343 hours of continuing legal education or continuing judicial education training as outlined in the protocol, as shown in Figure 8.

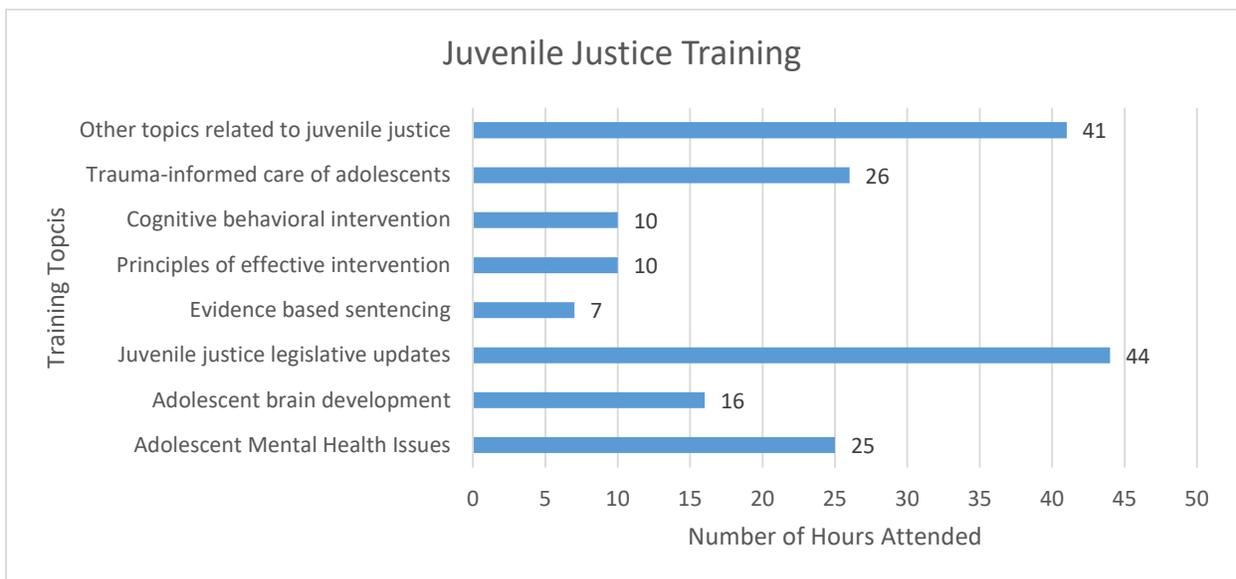


Figure 8 Number of Hours Juvenile Justice Staff Participated in by Topic

K.S.A. 38-2394 requires that Court Services Officers who work with juveniles receive training in evidence-based programs and practices. The judicial branch currently contracts with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) to train Court Services Officers. The institute is a national leader in training for evidence-based practices. Court Services Officers receive training in the use of the YLS/CMI risk and needs assessment, case planning, and evidence-based practices, including Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS). Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, over 240 Court Services Officers attended 1920 hours of in-person training. Additionally, the judicial branch provides access to on-demand, e-learning modules purchased from UCCI. These trainings are shown below in Figure 9.

Training Topic	Training Hours	Number of Sessions Held	Total Number of Participants
YLS Booster Training	4	6	150
EPICS New User and Coaching Sessions	32	1	30
EPICS Booster Training	6	2	60

Figure 9 Trainings supplied to Judicial Branch Staff.

Kansas Department of Corrections Training

KDOC offered training to their staff as well as any staff who worked with justice-involved youth. Trainings included knowledge for special populations, such as youth in custody, programs to assist youth, such as MRT, and tools used with youth, such as the YLS/CMI, KDAI, Graduated responses, and EPICS-II. The Parent Project, a focus in 2019, has continued to be well-attended, allowing staff to assist families with youth in the juvenile justice system to be engaged and effective in parenting and support. The trainings offered are shown below in Figure 10. Notably, all of these trainings, a total of 11,938.5 contact hours, were completed despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

Training Topic	Number of Attendees	Number Hours	Total Hours
Juvenile Custody Special Needs (KHP)	16	4	64
MRT	40	36	1440
MHTC-JJ	23	18.5	425.5
YLS/CMI	18	16	288
Human Trafficking Multidisciplinary Training	482	7.5	3615
Parent Project	94	40	3760
KDAI	64	7	448
Case Planning	122	8	976
Graduated Responses	21	4	84
EPICS II	22	16	352
Juvenile Justice Basics	42	8	336

IIP Database	100	1.5	150
Total			11938.5

Figure 10 Trainings supplied to KDOC staff and stakeholders.

Department for Children and Families Training

Training opportunities have extended beyond DCF and into the four foster care case management providers. The Crime and Justice Institute (CJI), a leading national juvenile and criminal justice technical assistance provider, provided training to DCF, Cornerstones of Care (COC), KVC Kansas (KVC), Saint Francis Ministries (SFM) and TFI Family Services, Inc (TFI) in Cognitive Interaction Skills (CIS) training. The CIS training provided research on effective interventions and identified a set of practices that have shown to improve behavioral outcomes with youth exhibiting behaviors that may warrant attention from the juvenile justice system. The training curriculum included a basic overview of these practices and taught participants how to model, teach, and practice pro-social skills and behaviors with youth. Training participants received on-site coaching and feedback from CJI staff on use of the skills taught during the session.

Cross-Agency Collaboration

A key component of SB367 has always been collaboration across the various agencies, branches, and stakeholders that work with justice-involved youth. Collaboration continued in 2020; beyond the regular discussions and meetings that occur across the agencies, two significant, collaborative efforts came to fruition this year: the Crossover Youth Practice Model, and the validation of the Youth Level of Services/Case Management Inventory.

Crossover Youth Practice Model

In August 2019, KDOC contracted with the Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) to implement the Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) in Kansas. The CYPM was established in 2010 and has since been introduced in over 120 jurisdictions across the United States. Research demonstrates that the CYPM is effective in reducing out-of-home placements and recidivism while increasing prosocial outcomes among crossover youth, or those young people who are involved with both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. The CYPM has been recognized as a “promising practice” by the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse and the National Institute of Justice.

During the fall of 2019, CJJR collaborated with KDOC, DCF, and OJA to identify and convene a multi-disciplinary collective that became the Kansas Crossover State Policy Team (the State Policy Team). The State Policy Team consists of professionals from the juvenile justice, child welfare, education, law enforcement, and mental and behavioral health fields as well as legal stakeholders and individuals with lived systems experience from across the state. Upon its inception, the State Policy Team established a vision for the work that focuses on intentional interagency collaboration, the facilitation of information sharing, adaptability and accountability, and the active incorporation of youth and family voice in decisions. In pursuit of this vision, the State Policy Team holds monthly public

meetings under the guidance of CJJR and has created four subgroups, each specifically aimed at one of the following goals:

1. Understand and improve information sharing capacities to facilitate the exchange of data and information between agencies
2. Remove barriers that hinder local jurisdictions from addressing the needs of crossover youth, particularly as they relate to cross-county cases and information sharing
3. Identify common factors that contribute to crossover and develop strategies to disrupt this trajectory for various subpopulations of youth
4. Address service-related challenges facing local jurisdictions, such as difficulties with accessibility

Nationally, each community that implements the CYPM determines a specific target population on which to focus their efforts. The State Policy Team made it a priority to clearly define the term “crossover youth” to ensure its use is consistent across the state. The definition is:

A young person age 10 and older with any level of concurrent involvement with the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, inclusive of out-of-home placements, probation, Immediate Intervention Programs (IIPs), and voluntary/preventative services (defined as Child in Need of Care [CINC] cases that are open for services such as Family Preservation, Family First, and Family Services).

CYPM pilot sites will all adopt this definition. Montgomery and Shawnee counties were designated as pilot sites based on their expressed interest in engaging in the crossover work and due to their collective reflection of the diverse composition of Kansas localities.

Montgomery and Shawnee Counties were introduced to the CYPM in September 2020 by CJJR with support of the State Policy Team. After being provided an overview of the work, each county was tasked with the following:

- Acquire aggregate crossover youth data specific to the county inclusive of race, ethnicity, and gender
- Create Leadership and Implementation Teams that reflect the crossover population and are inclusive of professionals across systems, agencies, and organizations
- Develop a plan to engage youth and families in the crossover work

These efforts and all subsequent CYPM deliverables will be carried out by Shawnee and Montgomery Counties with the support of CJJR and the KDOC, DCF, and OJA Crossover Youth Coordinators, who will act as liaisons between the community- and state-level teams. This fall, CJJR will conduct a systems assessment with the communities to identify the strengths and challenges of each. The results of the assessments will inform the work that follows.

Crossover Youth State Policy Team KSDE and DCF have been able to engage in continuing discussions that will address the needs for crossover youth. One example is a series of webinars that DCF produced and offered to USD's across the state, these included 1) Mandated Reporting 2) Independent Living Programs and 3) Communities Helping Families. Anecdotally, schools have reported an appreciation for DCF helping with reported cases and although there are not real numbers to report yet, there is an educated assumption that the number of reported cases (and the subsequent interventions) have increased significantly.

Finally, CJJR has reengaged with Sedgwick County to provide quality assurance support. Sedgwick County adopted the CYPM in 2015 and will be participating in a systems assessment in October to ascertain the status of the CYPM practices that were previously instated. This information will be utilized to develop an action plan, inclusive of training and practice recommendations.

YLS/CMI Validation

SB367 required the adoption and validation of a risk and needs tool by June 30, 2020. In the four years since, collaboration has led to the use of a uniform tool, many exercises, coaching opportunities, and trainings to determine to what extent the tool is being used in the same way, and, ultimately, a validation.

Validating a risk and need tool involves using Kansas risk tool and recidivism data to determine how well the tool correlates risk level and recidivism. The higher the correlation, the better the tool is at predicting future recidivism. The [validation study](#) was conducted by the Crime and Justice Institute with data collected by both KDOC and OJA. The study demonstrated that the YLS/CMI is a valid tool for the Kansas population. Validation, however, does not end the need for fidelity. Both OJA and KDOC continue to work together to implement recommendations from the validation study and to improve both the use and the predictions of the YLS/CMI.

Reinvestment

There has been much discussion surrounding the reinvestment of cost savings realized by keeping youth out of locked facilities and in the community as much as possible. Over the past two years in particular, there has been a focus on the size of the evidence-based practices fund, the account in which reinvestment funds are kept. While it is true that there is a sizable sum in that account, it is also true that those funds are all dedicated for evidence-based programs and practices that will improve the lives of not only youth and families, but seek to improve the safety and health of all Kansans.

In 2019, the JJOC approved a sustainable, long-term reinvestment plan that addressed the needs of the state and the localities across the state. Understanding that Kansas communities vary, The JJOC is committed to reinvesting in a way that works for the whole state. This means having some programs and services run statewide, some for particular agencies or branches of government, and others determined at the county or district level.

Some needs exist statewide, so the JJOC opted to bring in statewide contracts for several programs that assist youth with those needs. These programs include three cognitive-behavioral programs: Functional Family Therapy funded at \$1,387,000, Youth Advocacy Programs funded at \$255,000, and Moral Reconciliation Therapy, funded at \$42,000. There are two training curricula: a mental health training curriculum, funded at \$23,000, and the Parent Project training, funded at \$50,000. Finally, one staff member at KDOC and DCF explicitly to assist the implementation of the Crossover Youth Practice Model are funded at \$173,000². Table 1 shows each contract and the annual costs associated.

Statewide Contracts	Annual Cost
Functional Family Therapy	\$1,387,000
Youth Advocacy Programs	\$255,000
Moral Reconciliation Therapy	\$42,000
Mental Health Training Curriculum	\$23,000
Parent Project	\$50,000
CYPM Staff for DCF and KDOC	\$173,000

Table 1 Currently funded statewide contracts

Some reinvestment funds are used to assist implementation. This has involved updating assessment tools that were outdated, including upgrading to an online Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument-2 tool for mental health, and implementing the Youth Level of Service –Screening Version for recidivism risk each funded at \$12,000. Additional funding was used for ongoing training for judicial branch employees for \$108,000, and data upgrades for both the Office of Judicial Administration and the Department of Corrections for \$136,800, and \$2,000,000 respectively. Finally, outside experts were brought in from the Crime and Justice Institute for JJOC and implementation assistance and Georgetown University for piloting and implementing the Crossover Youth Practice Model for \$66,000 and \$246,000 respectively.

Branch/Agency Contracts	Cost Per Year
CJI/Technical Assistance	\$66,000
Crossover Youth Practice Model	\$246,000
MAYSI-2 Screening Tool	\$12,000
YLS Screener	\$12,000
Microsoft Athena Data System for KDOC	\$2,000,000
Tyler Data Collection System for OJA	\$136,800
Training	\$108,000

Table 2 Initiatives funded through the Evidence-Based Practices Fund

Finally, the JJOC understands that each judicial district is unique and that supplying funds at only a macro level would never be sufficient. Therefore, the JJOC created mechanisms for judicial districts and counties to receive local funding to implement programs that met the needs of their communities. Since 2017, each judicial district has been able to apply for non-competitive district grants. Last year,

² Funds have been reserved for a staff member for OJA as well.

\$4,000,000 was allocated for this purpose, and \$2,983,545 was awarded to 24 districts (7 districts did not apply). A comprehensive list of these programs can be found in Appendix A, and an aggregated list is below in Table 3. The programs/services that occurred in the most places are family engagement and services, cognitive-behavioral treatments, and mental health and substance abuse services and evaluations. Although those were the most common, even when aggregated, there were 15 categories of programs/services, demonstrating the varying needs across the state and that local funding must continue to be available to meet these needs.

Type of Program/Service Funded Through District/County Reinvestment Grants	Number of District Requests
Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy	7
Family Engagement and/or Services	7
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Evaluations and/or Services	5
Transportation	4
Wraparound Services	4
Day/Evening Reporting Centers	3
Victim-Offender Mediation	3
Advocacy	2
Case Management	2
Fidelity Monitoring	2
After-School Program	1
Anger Management	1
Legal Services	1
Mentoring	1
Youth Court	1

Table 3 Types of Programs/Services Funded Through District/County Reinvestment Grants

Starting last year, in response to feedback, an additional \$5,000,000 was allocated for Juvenile Correctional Advisory Board (JCAB) requests. CAB members, through the annual report process alerted the JJOC that there were needs in their areas that were not fully covered by the reinvestment grants. In State Fiscal Year 2020, \$5,000,000 was allocated, and the JCABs ultimately were awarded \$3,296,576.81. Much like the district reinvestment grants, there was a wide variety of services requested; a full list can be found in Appendix B and an aggregated list is presented as Table 4, below. Additionally, a map showing all county and JCAB grants can be found in Appendix C

Type of Program/Service Funded through JCAB Grants	Number of JCAB Requests
Diversion/Case Management	4
Family Engagement	4
Cognitive Behavioral Program	3
Life Skills/Job Training	3
Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder	3
Mentoring	3
Training	3

Advocacy	2
Day/Evening Reporting Center	2
Case Management	1
Community Collaboration	1
Drug Court	1
Electronic Monitoring	1
Fidelity	1
System Assessment	1

Table 4 Types of Programs and Services Funded Through Juvenile Correction Advisory Board Grants

Across all the programs and services discussed above, in SFY20, \$11,000,000 was allocated by the JJOC. There were six more expenditures planned for 2020³ that, due to unforeseen circumstances, did not come to fruition.

1. Juvenile Crisis Intervention Centers. KDOC was statutorily required to set aside \$2,000,000 from the Evidence-Based Practices Fund to help fund up to three Juvenile Crisis Intervention Centers (JCIC). This money has, as required, been reserved, and the JCICs have been advertised in requests for proposals twice, but to date no funds have not been awarded⁴. While this is outside the scope, the JJOC is investigating why no awards have been made, and if there are ways to increase the likelihood of the JCICs becoming reality.
2. Family Engagement. The family engagement process and guide had been planned to go ahead this year. The goal of this initiative was to help families understand the juvenile justice process, and to help them understand the importance of and methods to engage with their children in a way that helps them make prosocial choices. In 2019, KDOC began talking with contractors who would be best suited to create the family guide and assist with the family engagement process. Unfortunately, Covid-19 struck before this process could get underway. We hope it can begin again very soon.
3. Mental Health Services. The JJOC is focusing on funding mental health services. Mental health has been a need of youth in the juvenile justice system, and beyond, for a long time. Now, however, with the Covid-19 pandemic, societal unrest, a difficult economy, and all the stressful components of 2020, youth, and their families, are struggling with mental health issues, and these need to be addressed. To assist with these efforts, the JJOC has been talking with the Children’s Cabinet, KDADS, and last week with the Special Committee on Mental Health Modernization and Reform, to determine the best agency to assist with this process. Conversations with these groups will continue in order to ensure the mental health needs of youth and their families are met.

³ Items 2-4 were approved by the JJOC, but not yet for the KDOC budget.

⁴ The first RFP process was headed by DCF; the second by KDADS.

4. Substance abuse counseling for families. The JJOC is aware that many families have one or more member who struggles with substance abuse issues. To give youth the best opportunities to succeed, we want them to have support, safety, and stability at home, as well as within the justice system. To this end, the JJOC recommended substance abuse assistance be offered not only to justice-involved youth, but also their immediate families. Much like mental health services, this will need to be handled with the help of another agency or outside entity. This is a very high priority, and it will begin shortly after implementation of mental health services is underway. We want to make sure these two initiatives are done well, and in order to do that, we felt it best to take on one, then the other. Mental health is the first priority; followed by substance abuse counseling.

Two other initiatives, creating an open-ended cognitive program and adopting a justice system navigator, have, for now, been tabled. As agencies have gathered and analyzed more data regarding what programs already exist across the state, the JJOC has learned that there are more cognitive programs than initially believed, meaning creating another program would be duplicative. The second, having justice system navigators to help youth and their families through the system, as well as accessing any other systems that could be beneficial to them, has, over time, become part of the family engagement initiative.

Ultimately, the JJOC spent ample time, obtained appropriate data, and made important decisions for how to invest in the youth of Kansas. We have encountered some bumps in the road, as everyone has, but we are dedicated to moving forward with the plans made to provide the best possible outcomes for justice-involved youth, their families, and all Kansans.

Looking Forward

While much has been accomplished, there is always more work to be done. The fundamental goal of the reform has always been to improve the juvenile justice system and outcomes for youth coming into contact with the system. That goal requires continually moving forward. To that end, over the next year, the JJOC has three goals: continue and expand the Crossover Youth Practice Model, work with an outside agency to implement mental health counseling for youth, and work with the Kansas Advisory Group to facilitate a study on Racial and Ethnic Disparities.

Crossover Youth Practice Model

As discussed above, Georgetown University has been working with three counties to set up a pilot of the Crossover Youth Practice Model. This is an 18-month process to go from working group meetings to instituting the changes recommended by that working group. The workgroup should conclude this year, allowing implementation of the model to begin. Once this work concludes, it is expected that the model will expand to additional locations.

Mental Health Counseling

As discussed above, the JJOC is committed to funding mental health counseling for youth and their families. As there are many other entities also looking at mental health needs, it is crucial that the JJOC coordinate and collaborate with partners who are experts in the field of mental health.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities Study

During the YLS/CMI validation study, some data regarding racial groups was presented to the JJOC. In the study, the recidivism rates varied across racial groups and included a recommendation to conduct an in-depth study to determine the drivers of this discrepancy. Additionally, adjudications from 2014 to 2020 show different degrees of change across racial groups. However, without a more nuanced understanding of the drivers of these data, the JJOC does not have enough information to make recommendations to improve programs, services and outcomes for youth of color in the juvenile justice system. To assist with these efforts, the JJOC will collaborate with the Kansas Advisory Group (KAG), who has been conducting separate analyses regarding Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the juvenile justice system, to facilitate a deep study into the drivers of these data, and will follow with recommendations for increasing the equity of outcomes across race.

Conclusion

2020 has been an enormously difficult year. There has been tumult in ways that were unimaginable when SB367 was passed. In spite of these challenges, juvenile justice reform in Kansas has continued to move forward. The changes brought about by SB367 have continued with success, and stakeholders have continued to work on new initiatives. 2020 has been a challenge, and the juvenile justice system has been agile and steadfast in its work, and youth continue to be served in a helpful, appropriate way setting them up for success.

Appendices

Appendix A: Programs Funded by District/County Reinvestment Grants

Judicial District	Program Name	Total Amount Awarded SFY20
1JD	Day Reporting Center	\$145,586.90
3JD	KCSL Oasis	\$181,726.00
	Boys & Girls Club of Topeka	\$75,918.00
	IBSA	\$42,470.00
4JD	MH/SUD services	\$80,000.00
10JD	IIP (Court Services)	\$45,744.00
	Problem Solving Drug Court	\$65,000.00
	Fidelity Specialist	\$83,970.46
	System Assessment	\$115,355.71
	YAP Family Coordinator	\$90,703.00
11CR	Program Advocate	\$82,827.23
11LB-CK	CMHC Contract	\$64,412.04
12JD	JAG-K	\$59,000.00
13JD	Empowered, Engaged, and Peaceful Families	\$142,000.00
14JD	Program Specialist	\$76,057.52
	Four County Mental Health Center	\$47,857.00
15/17/23	Resilient Youth, Resilient Homes, Resilient Schools	\$177,598.77
18	Administrative Services	\$38,376.82
	Sedgwick County CYPM	\$74,956.70
	Community Collaboration Coordination	\$225,202.79
	Contracted MH/BH Services	\$143,937.00
	Coordination of Services Program	\$99,467.00
	Partnering with Crossover Youth and Families Forum	\$0.00
	Positive Intervention and Supports	\$13,394.00
	Programming Enhancements	\$94,000.00
	Life Skills and Girls Circle	\$66,527.00
	Residential Child and Youth Care Professional	\$4,275.00
	Development Assets & Relationship Framework Training	\$7,400.00
19JD	Adolescent Co-occurring Treatment Program	\$67,140.00
	Home-based Services Program	\$33,122.54
21JD	Parent Project	\$32,083.32
	Electronic Monitoring	\$0.00

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25JD	Big Brothers Big Sisters	\$54,000.00
	LiveWell	\$60,000.00
28JD	Grief Counseling	\$154,500.54
	CAPS Family Mentoring Program	\$35,092.00
29JD	Girls Circle (Court Services)	\$6,600.00
	Parent Project (Court Services)	\$2,500.00
	Warriors4Wyandotte	\$460,278.20
30JD	Sumner County MH	\$47,497.27
TOTAL		\$3,296,576.81

Appendix B: Programs Funded by JCAB Reinvestment Grants

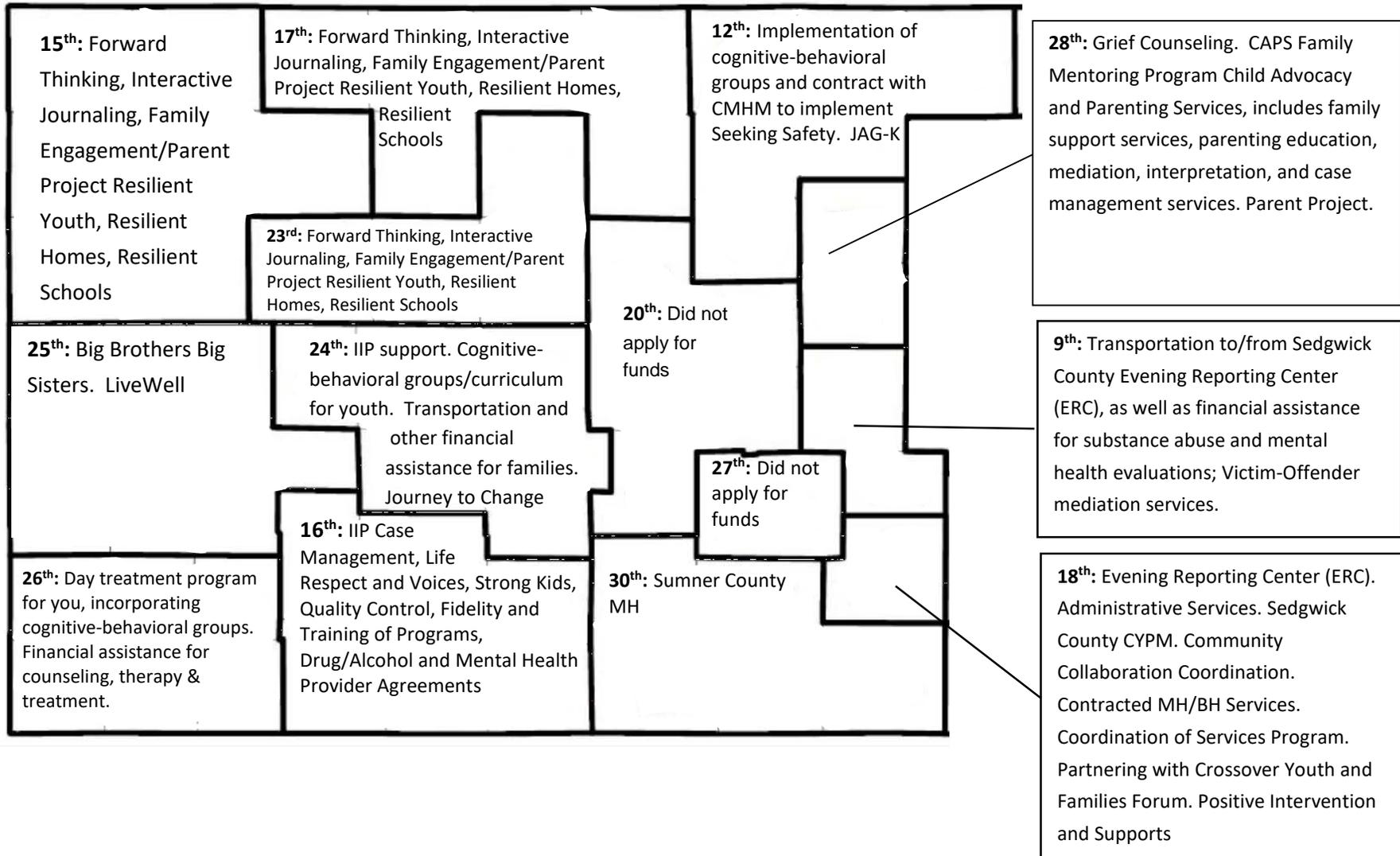
Judicial District	Proposed Program/Service	Amount Awarded SFY20
1JD	Project C.H.A.N.G.E. (Change Helps Achieve New Goals Effectively) - Anger management and substance abuse counseling	\$116,020
3JD	S.A.V.E. (Strategies Against Violence Everywhere) - Victim-offender mediation for youth on immediate intervention program	\$70,173
5JD	Spartan Explorers: Afterschool program for justice-involved youth	\$19,647
6JD	Wraparound services and evidence-based programming	\$90,152
7JD	Mentoring through Boys & Girls Club; Strengthening Families Program; Youth Crossroads; financial assistance for youth/families without insurance.	\$98,348
8JD	IIP supervision, cognitive programming & implementing the Parent Project	\$91,392
9JD	Transportation to/from Sedgwick County Evening Reporting Center (ERC), as well as financial assistance for substance abuse and mental health evaluations; Victim-Offender mediation services.	\$69,321
10JD	Education Legal Services; Education Advocacy Program; Mental Health Assessment Assistance; Substance Abuse Evaluation and Treatment Assistance	\$320,619
11JD	Wraparound services and evidence-based programming	\$66,262
12JD	Implementation of cognitive-behavioral groups and contract with CMHM to implement Seeking Safety	\$41,081
13JD	Transporting youth to and from the ERC Sedgwick County sponsored Evening Reporting Center (ERC)	\$28,220
14JD	Day Report Program and Adolescent Co-Occurring Treatment Program (ACTP)	\$112,317
15/17/23 NWKS	Forward Thinking, Interactive Journaling, Family Engagement (Parent Project)	\$142,079
16JD	Juvenile Services Enhancement: IIP Case Management, Life Respect and Voices, Strong Kids, Quality Control, Fidelity and Training of Programs, Drug/Alcohol and Mental Health Provider Agreements	\$107,692
18JD	Evening Reporting Center (ERC): provides a spectrum of evidence-based practice programming to youth to support rehabilitation, decrease recidivism, maintain accountability for behavior and decrease use of secured detention.	\$614,028
19JD	Family engagement programming and cognitive behavioral programming; Facilitating transportation to EBP in Sedgwick County. Incentives for youth and families supervised by Youth Services.	\$80,210
20JD	Parent Project, Family Engagement	\$128,251
21JD	IIP Youth Court program.	\$67,230
22JD	Wraparound case management services for juvenile offenders and families	\$67,114

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24JD	IIP support for outer counties. Cognitive-behavioral groups/curriculum for youth. Transportation and other financial assistance for families.	\$14,171
26JD	Day treatment program for you, incorporating cognitive-behavioral groups. Financial assistance for counseling, therapy & treatment.	\$106,462
28JD	Family Mentoring Program: Child Advocacy and Parenting Services: includes family support services, parenting education, mediation, interpretation, and case management services. Parent Project	\$157,253
29JD	Quality Assurance Coordinator to collect and analyze data. Youth Empowerment Center where juvenile offenders can receive access to services, groups, and staff. Implementation of trauma-informed groups/services, Parent Management Training, Strengthening Families and mental health interventions. Youth Services TRACK Facilitator (our cognitive program). Professional Program Assistant who will focus on Family Engagement and parent advocacy. Funding for substance abuse assessments and treatment.	\$375,503
TOTAL		\$2,983,545

Appendix C: Reinvestment and JCAB Grants in Each Judicial District SFY2020

Western District



Reinvestment and JCAB Grants in Each Judicial District SFY2020

Eastern District

