

Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee

Reinvestment Subcommittee

April 17th, 2026

Program Updates

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA): Since our last update, we have continued to have training for staff. By the end of April 2026, there will be 49 staff that have completed the training. There will also be one additional training course later this year.

Gender Responsivity Training: We have had 26 staff complete the training so far in FY 2026. Additional staff are enrolled and should complete the training before end of June 2026.

Family Engagement: A Child and Family Team Facilitator Training of Trainers is set for July 2026 and will be held in Salina. The training will allow for 40 staff across the state to become certified trainers. KDOC and PCG will be working cooperatively on the development of a Juvenile Justice Best Practice training that will be available for all juvenile justice stakeholders. We are still in the early stages of developing the material and topics for this training.

Moral Recognition Therapy: (no new update) We currently do not have enough staff that are in need of this training to host another in-person training. We are continuing to look at virtual options, but in order to host an in-person training course we would need more officers that have a need for the training.

Parent Project: (no new update) We currently do not have enough staff that are in need of this training to host another in-person training. We are continuing to look at virtual options, but in order to host an in-person training course we would need more officers that have a need for the training.

Juvenile Defense: Gault Center held meetings with state decision makers regarding the implementation of the Youth Defense Standards. They are working on a more comprehensive approach to the adoption and implementation of the standards. The standards are being presented to the Kansas Bar Association Executive Board (KBA) to consider adoption of the standards. There are also discussions of the standards being adopted with Kansas Assoc. of Criminal Defense Lawyers (KACDL). Gault Center staff continued to build and sustain the Statewide Youth Defense Workgroup. They have convened several meetings with Board of Indigent Defense Services (BIDS) to build up the youth defense system in Kansas and have a youth defense office. A more detailed update will be provided in the supplementals.

Stepping Up: The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) and the KS Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center is hosting a two-day learning and collaboration event. Day one will focus on strengthening county Stepping Up efforts, including presentations and breakout sessions on justice and behavioral health topics and the Stepping Up for Youth Initiative. Day two will spotlight Mobile Crisis Response in Kansas and the continued implementation of Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) as part of the state’s Crisis Continuum of Care.

Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM): Will give update during the meeting.

JJOC Vision Statement

Improve the lives and well-being of all youth in Kansas.

JJOC Mission Statement

The Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) is a statutorily defined, multidisciplinary team of stakeholders of youth-serving systems. The JJOC is responsible for regularly reviewing information and data on progress and outcomes across all parts of those systems. The JJOC provides policy and funding recommendations and influences stakeholders across agencies and branches of government, on sound, data-driven, evidence-based implementation, and sustainability of juvenile justice reforms.