

### The North Carolina Department of Public Safety Juvenile Justice Reentry Project

An Overview of the Project Details

Julie Singer, Ph.D. Project Manager Juvenile Justice Facilities Strategic Plan – April 2014 (recap)

- Phase out outdated/unsafe facilities
- Renovate/expand facilities to be safer, more secure, cost efficient
- Enhance support operations (transportation)
- Continue to provide treatment and education rooted in a cognitive-behavioral approach
- Reinvest cost savings into community-based programming
- Continue to plan and prepare for potential future changes to the JJ system

## Reentry Project Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Establish a task force to guide the development of the juvenile reentry systems reform strategic plan

## Goal 2: Develop an outcome measurement and evaluation plan

- Track juveniles for 5 years, including employment and educational attainment
- Identify the points at which the juvenile is most likely to reoffend
- Increase juvenile data tracking quality

## Reentry Project Goals and Objectives

**Goal 3: Develop a juvenile reentry systems reforms strategic plan** 

- Recommend increased use of evidence-based programming and evaluation
- Create a plan to increase the continuum of care for the most serious juvenile offenders
- Create a plan to increase the training and oversight of our juvenile court counselors

## Re-Entry Project Goals and Objectives

## Goal 3: Develop a juvenile reentry systems reforms strategic plan (continued)

- Phase out outdated facilities, renovate and expand new, safer, cost-efficient facilities
- Create a plan to better engage families and youth in case planning, supervision, and services
- Create a plan to reduce the likelihood of adult arrest from 1 in 3 to 1 in 6 within 3 years of leaving a youth development center (YDC)

## Re-Entry Project Goals and Objectives

#### **Goal 4: Develop an implementation plan**

• Develop a realistic juvenile reentry strategic plan implementation schedule

#### Goal 5: Develop a sustainability plan

 Build and support an action plan to sustain implementation of the strategic plan with and without OJJDP implementation funding

## **Project Suggested Priorities**

- Implement a Comprehensive Service Plan
- Increase family involvement
- Develop more workforce development /educational opportunities for high risk youth
- Increase data quality and number of tracked indicators

## North Carolina Juvenile Justice System Strengths

- NC-JOIN and NC-ALLIES data tracking systems
- Annualized measure of recidivism at the state level
- Use of evidence-based programming
- Use of structured decision making tools:
  - Validated risk and needs assessment tool
  - Detention screening tool
  - Comprehensive Service Plan (piloted)

## North Carolina Juvenile Justice System Strengths (continued)

- Service matching of juveniles to services most appropriate for their risk and needs
- Appropriate diversion of low risk juveniles to community programs
- Continuity of care: maintain the same court counselor for the juvenile throughout their involvement with the JJ system
- Engagement of Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and Council of State Governments (CSG) for assistance

## **Project Challenges**

- Limited funding in JJ
- Raising the juvenile age of jurisdiction (resources and funds)
- Limited opportunities for training
- Reducing recidivism in the most serious and chronic juvenile offenders
- Tracking juveniles for 5 years, including education and employment

# Key to Success: Coordination of Efforts

- This project offers an opportunity for significant advancement in policy and procedure regarding juvenile reentry
- NC's juvenile justice system does not exist in a silo our juveniles are involved in many service systems which requires a coordinated effort
- These are OUR children....your input and support will help us to offer the right service for the right child at the right time!

## **Project** Timeline

Task force initial meeting	March 13, 2015
Task force meets monthly	March – September 2015
Complete the data plan (Establish baseline recidivism rates and other youth outcomes, improvement targets, and plan for tracking progress)	March 31, 2015
Complete full draft of strategic plan	April 30, 2015
Complete first drafts of implementation and sustainability plans	June 30, 2015
Implementation grant proposal submission	due July 2015
Complete and submit the data plan, strategic plan, implementation plan, and sustainability plan	September 2015
Planning grant ends	September 30, 2015



## Questions?