

**JOHNSON COUNTY'S INTERVENTION PLAN
TAKEN FROM:**

**IOWA'S PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE
DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT
(DMC) CORE REQUIREMENT OF THE
FEDERAL JUVENILE JUSTICE AND
DELIQUENCY PREVENTION ACT**

JULY 2018



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Johnson County

This document is an excerpt from Iowa's 2018 Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Compliance Plan. This document provides information regarding Johnson County's activities and progress with DMC in calendar year (CY) 2017, and DMC reduction strategies planned for CY 2018. The information provided here includes: the application of services, system changes, training, and technical assistance, at the county level to reduce DMC in Iowa's juvenile justice system. The reduction strategies in this county-level report were developed by local officials in Johnson County.

Similar documents are available which provide intervention information at the state-level and for the following local jurisdictions: Black Hawk, Dubuque, Linn, Polk, Pottawattamie, Scott, Webster, and Woodbury counties. A full copy of the DMC Compliance plan is available by contacting Julie Rinker at CJJP (Julie.Rinker@iow.gov, or 515 242-5823).

Phase III: Johnson County Intervention

1. Activities and Progress, Johnson County, CY2017

Johnson County Site Activities Implemented

- Continued working with schools to reform their discipline policy to further incorporate LADDERS program into their graduated sanctions procedures.
 - JCS continues to participate in the Core Management Team at Iowa City Community School District (ICCSA) to address racial disparities in suspension and charges. Although no specific date could be provided, it is believed suspension numbers are not improving. JCS has reached out to the district administration to improve efforts of the Core Management team.
- Continued to offer and expand the LADDERS and Theft-5 pre-charge diversion program.
- Further reviewed and modified the school's discipline policies to ensure they are objective, fair, and applied consistently to all youth.
- Utilized partnerships with the county attorney, public defender, school officials, and others, in order to address concerns regarding the appropriateness and/or duration of placement of youth in alternative school settings.
 - JCS is working closely with ICCSD to streamline communication between out-of-home placements and the youth's returning school. There are dedicated personnel for those contacts. JCS also continued to attend those placement meetings and work toward reintegration of the youth to their returning school from alternative educational placement within the school district.

- Continued to pull case files to explore reasons for the increase in trespassing charges.
 - Reduced Charges of Trespass from 34 charges in FFY2016 to 21 charges in FFY2017
- Collected local data for juvenile justice or related data sets.
- Actively participated in the state DMC Subcommittee.
- Actively participated in local programmatic evaluation effort as part of the state JJRRI effort.

Johnson County Site Activities Not Implemented

- Further examine probation protocol to assess if and why technical violations may have increased particularly for sex offenders.

2. DMC Reduction Strategies, Johnson County, CY2018

The Johnson County Identification Section (page 39) and Assessment/Diagnosis Section (page 2) of this report provides a volume of research and data that reflect overrepresentation of minority youth, particularly African-American and Hispanic youth, at specific points of the local juvenile justice system. Those data and research indicate, in particular, overrepresentation at complaint, petition, detention and underrepresentation at diversion. Johnson County strategies, together with collaborative efforts from the local partners, the SPA, and the DMC Subcommittee, are targeted to reduce overrepresentation/underrepresentation at key decision points.

Activity	Timeline
<i>Continue Implementation of School Discipline Reform</i>	Throughout CY2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue working with schools to reform their discipline policy further incorporate said LADDERS program into their graduated sanctions procedures. ● Further review and modify the school's discipline policies to ensure they are objective, fair, and applied consistently to all youth. ● Utilize partnerships with the county attorney, public defender, school officials, and others, in order to address concerns regarding the appropriateness and/or duration of placement of youth in alternative school settings. 	
<i>Pre-Charge Diversion Program</i>	Throughout CY2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to offer and expand the LADDERS and Theft-5 pre-arrest diversion programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will discuss expanding the program to more 1st offense charges – more specifically Interference with Official Acts. ● Continue to pull case files to explore reasons for the increase in trespassing charges. 	

Participate in State DMC Sub.

Quarterly

Participate in Local DMC Committee

Local Committee meets
monthly

SPA DMC-related TA

Site visits from SPA

Enhance efforts to reduce DMC

Throughout CY2018

- Exploring offering a Girls Circle group for juvenile justice youth through a very popular and effective “G! World” program in Johnson County. “G! World” currently serves 170 girls of color in all secondary schools in the ICCSD.
- Receive technical assistance for training and financial assistance for their spring conference.