



Iowa Department of Human Rights, Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning

Statistical Analysis Center

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Three Year Plan Program Narrative

2021-2023

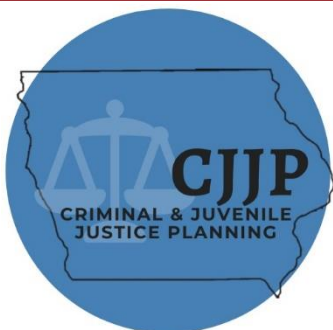


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Project Abstract

Iowa will use funding from the 2021 formula grant to serve delinquent youth, focusing on the following priority areas:

- Prevention and Intervention;
- Behavioral Health;
- Transition of Youth;
- Gender Equity;
- Disproportionate Minority Contact.

The Iowa Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC), which serves as the State Advisory Group (SAG), selected these priority areas after reviewing research, information, and trend data during a planning retreat in September 2020. These priority areas were further defined when the JJAC's Policy and Program (PnP), Iowa Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW) and Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) subcommittees developed goals, objectives, and action steps. After much discussion these finalized priority areas were approved by the JJAC in March 2021.

Due to the nature of these priority areas, multiple partners and cross-systems collaborations are required to attain measurable progress in achieving the goals and objectives. The primary strategies for the SAG are to (1) align activities with best practices in juvenile justice reform, (2) leverage existing statewide collaborations and efforts, and (3) build on the expertise of the ITFYW subcommittee, the DMC subcommittee and youth with lived experience. The SAG intends to seek technical assistance from national experts, cultivate local efforts that mirror statewide priorities, partner with Juvenile Court Services (JCS) in Iowa's eight judicial districts, and advance data driven recommendations that support the developmental needs of youth while mitigating racial and ethnic disparities.

The collaborative nature of the activities of these cross-system initiatives will provide meaningful and long-lasting changes in policies and practices that will improve the landscape of the juvenile justice system. Additionally, these efforts support programs and services that improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system.

The majority of the formula funds will be allocated to the eight JCS judicial districts upon the approval of local plans to address the specific identified needs in their respective communities. The local plans will be developed with input from community stakeholders and local partners.

Formula grant funding will also support the continuation of compliance monitoring efforts, and data analysis support for the identified priority areas and other juvenile justice related issues. No funding will be used to conduct research. At least annually during the three-year time period, the SAG will review compiled progress reports along with the goals, objectives, and activities in the three-year plan to evaluate progress and determine if any modifications should be made.

PREAMBLE

The Iowa Department of Human Rights (DHR), Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) serves as the Designated State Agency (DSA) for the State of Iowa for the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). CJJP also houses the State of Iowa's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC). Iowa's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC) serves as the State Advisory Group (SAG), for the OJJDP Title II Formula Grants Program.

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

System Description – Structure and Function of the Juvenile Justice System

Iowa's juvenile court is a specialized court that has authority over certain cases involving the lives of children. The most common of these cases are:

- Child Welfare - Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) cases most typically involve abused, abandoned, or neglected children, and sometimes lead to termination of parental rights.
- Juvenile Justice - Delinquency cases involve acts that would be considered criminal acts if committed by an adult.

The related child welfare and juvenile justice systems include agencies and policies that implement and regulate formal government-sanctioned interventions for system-involved youth. Iowa's approach to service system funding is complex. Although the bulk of system services are funded through the state; county officials and other local funding sources can have a major impact on their communities' service array and delivery. Judges and juvenile court officers (JCOs) determine eligibility and the type of services provided to delinquent youth; while judges and the Department of Human Services (DHS) determine eligibility and services for abused, neglected, and status offending youth.

Iowa has a unified court system organized under the Judicial Branch. All judges, clerks of court and Juvenile Court Services (JCS) personnel are employees of the state Judicial Branch. The responsibility of public defense for juvenile offenders lies with the state. The flow of youth through

the juvenile court system is detailed in *Figure 1: Juvenile Delinquency Processing Flow Chart in Appendix A*.

Law enforcement in Iowa is primarily a local responsibility at the county and municipal levels (county sheriffs and city police departments). These are supported by the Iowa State Patrol, which are statewide and are divided into 15 regional districts. Iowa Code requires any arrest by the State Patrol to be processed in the sheriff's office of the county where the arrest occurred.

Juvenile detention centers are operated by a county or coalition of counties under regulations and rules established by DHS. Community-based sanctions, interventions, and services for youth in the juvenile justice system (e.g., probation, school-based supervision, tracking and monitoring, outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment, and wrap-around) are coordinated by JCS (*see Figure 1: Juvenile Delinquency Processing Flow Chart in Appendix A*). Iowa continues to increase its capacity to provide quality and effective community-based youth services. Out-of-home placements (e.g., boys' state training school, group foster care facilities) are funded and regulated by DHS.

CJJP leads and partners in a number of statewide initiatives. The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol™ (SPEP), which determines the likely effectiveness of services for delinquent youth in terms of recidivism reduction when compared to an extensive delinquency service research base, is conducted by CJJP staff and is now a requirement for those services supported by Title II funds. As JCS has planned its response to the federal Family First Prevention Services Act, CJJP has partnered with them to develop their continuous quality improvement process, which includes the SPEP.

Additionally, CJJP developed a Decision Matrix for eventual statewide use by juvenile justice professionals. The Decision Matrix is a type of structured decision making which uses historical data to determine the level of supervision and services likely to be the most successful

with youth, thereby maximizing recidivism reduction. This data-driven tool is currently being piloted in two local jurisdictions in partnership with Juvenile Court Services in order to determine the tool's validity.

Finally, a variety of localized planning initiatives shape services for system and non-system youth. Many communities have access to these planning efforts, and the local/regional officials work to coordinate the planning efforts. These youth serving/planning efforts include:

- Early Childhood Iowa – unite agencies, organizations and community partners to speak with a shared voice to support, strengthen and meet the needs of all young children and families.
- Decategorization (Decat) – have developed innovative cross-system approaches to providing more community-based responses to children and families who enter the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- Juvenile Justice Youth Development Allocation – allows regional and local planning for services for juvenile offenders.

a. Analysis of Juvenile Delinquency problems

The following information plus data provided in *Appendix A* documents juvenile delinquency issues in Iowa, and helped inform the development of Iowa's priorities and goals.

The following analysis encompasses data from the U.S. Census Bureau and National Center for Health Statistics (NCHIS) including juvenile populations; Iowa Department of Education including high school enrollment, graduation, drop-out, suspensions and expulsions; data from the Iowa Justice Data Warehouse including complaints (referral to Juvenile Court Services), charges/allegations, diversions, petitions filed by JCS, adjudications, and adult court waivers; and, data from the Iowa Juvenile Detention Database for juvenile detention holds. The discussion focuses primarily on delinquent youth (youth who have committed criminal-related acts); however, related processing and many of the services also effect CINA youth. The overview of basic delinquency decision points includes information regarding some of the juvenile court's

major decision points for youth ages 10-17 (see *Figure 1: Juvenile Delinquency Processing Flow Chart in Appendix A*), and includes data from the Iowa Justice Data Warehouse (JDW).¹ *Appendix A* provides more specific and detailed data and graphs to supplement information provided in this analysis of Iowa's juvenile delinquency problems and needs. It should be noted that calendar year 2020 data was not included in this analysis due to the impact of COVID-19 which resulted in an abnormally low number of juvenile delinquency cases. In future years, calendar year 2020 data will be incorporated into data analysis.

Juvenile Population (2015-2019)

Iowa juvenile population estimates for youth aged 10 - 17 were taken from the *Easy Access to Juvenile Populations*. These were derived from data originally collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and subsequently modified by the NCHIS (see *Figure 2: Iowa Population Data by Race and Gender in Appendix A*). A review of the population data provided the following highlights:

- The number of White youth and Native American youth decreased between 2015 and 2019, while all other racial categories increased.
- The total number of Hispanic youth had the greatest increase at 4,185 youth. Whereas the total number of White youth decreased by 3,313.
- From 2015 White youth accounted for 81.9% of the juvenile population, ages 10 – 17, and in 2019 White youth accounted for 79.8% of the juvenile population, ages 10 – 17; a decrease of 2.6%.
- Hispanic youth are the largest group of youth of color in the state; however, African American youth represent the largest number of youth of color involved with the juvenile justice system.
- At the current growth rates for White youth and youth of color in the year 2095 there will be approximately equal number of White youth and youth of color in Iowa.

¹ The Justice Data Warehouse is a central repository, including data from the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS) from all 99 counties.

Juvenile Populations (10 – 17) by County, 2019

As shown in *Figure 3: Juvenile Populations (age 10 – 17) by County, 2019 in Appendix A*, Iowa is primarily a rural state, with 68 of the 99 counties having a larger rural than urban population. Of those 68 counties, 22 have no urban population. However, 64.0% of Iowa's population is urban, meaning that while the majority of Iowa's landmass is rural (54,904 mi²), most of the population live in urban areas (953 mi²).²

- Fifty of Iowa's 99 counties have between 1,001 and 2,500 youth, ages 10 – 17, and 19 have less than 1,000.
- Only Polk county (53,109) has a juvenile population above 25,001. Polk county accounts for 16.0% of Iowa's youth age 10 – 17.

Youth of Color Population (10 – 17) Percentage, 2019

In Iowa, youth of color (20.2%) account for one in every five youth between the ages of 10-17. In 2019, Iowa's ten largest population counties (Black Hawk, Dallas, Dubuque, Johnson, Linn, Polk, Pottawattamie, Scott, Story and Woodbury), accounted for 53.9% (178,317) of the youth population ages 10 - 17. These ten counties account for 47.9% (126,546) of the White youth, and 77.5% (51,771) of the youth of color. Eighteen counties have a higher percentage of youth of color than the statewide average of 20.2%, and two of those counties (Buena Vista and Crawford) are more than 50% youth of color. These numbers would suggest that Iowa's youth of color populations are concentrated in select counties, and generally counties with larger metropolitan areas (*see also Figure 4: Youth of Color Population (age 10 – 17) Percentage, 2019 in Appendix A*).

School Enrollment (Grades 6 - 12)

Certified enrollment is the annual report of enrolled resident public-school students. The

² Iowa State University, Iowa Community Indicators Program, 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

count is taken on the first day of October every year. *Figure 5: School Enrollment by Race and Gender in Appendix A* provides additional school enrollment data. A review of the school enrollment data provided the following highlights:

- Similar to juvenile population data there has been an increase in students enrolled between 2015/16 and 2019/20. There was a greater percent increase for student enrollment in grades 6 – 12 compared to the increase in the percentage of juvenile population (age 10 – 17).
- The change in student enrollment follows a similar pattern to the change in juvenile population. While there has been a decrease for White youth, there has been an increase for the number of youth of color.

Graduation Rates (2015/16 – 2019/20)

The four-year graduation rate is calculated by dividing the number of students who graduate with a regular high school diploma in four years by the number of first-time 9th graders enrolled minus the number of students who transferred out plus the total number of students who transferred in³. The overall graduation rate in Iowa in 2019/20 was 91.8%, which is among the highest graduation rates in the country, and above the national rate of 89.5%⁴. The Iowa Department of Education also calculates a five-year graduation rate, which was not included in this analysis. *Figure 6: Four Year Graduation Rates by Race and Gender in Appendix A* provides additional graduation data. A review of the graduation data provided the following highlights:

- There was a 0.5% increase from a 91.3% graduation rate in 2015/16 to a rate of 91.8% in 2019/20.
- While Iowa's graduation rate is high, there is disparity between White youth and most other youth of color. White youth consistently have a graduation rate over 90%. Asian/Pacific Islander youth typically have a graduation rate over 90%. In the five years reviewed, Black, Hispanic, and Multiracial youth did not have a graduation rate above 90%.

³ <https://www.educateiowa.gov/graduation-rates-and-dropout-rates>

⁴ National Center for Education Statistics

Dropout Rates (2015/16 – 2019/20)

Iowa's annual dropout rate reflects the percentage of students in grades 9-12 who drop out of school during a single year. This includes students who satisfy one or more of the following conditions:

- Was enrolled in school at some time during the previous school year and was not enrolled as of Count Day of the current year, or
- Was enrolled in school at some time during the previous school year and left the school before the previous summer, and
- Has not graduated from high school or completed a state or district-approved educational program; and
- Does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions:
 - a. transfer to another public-school district, private school, or state or district-approved educational program,
 - b. temporary school-recognized absence for suspension or illness,
 - c. death, or
 - d. move out of the state or leave the country.

A student who has left the regular K-12 educational program to attend an adult program designed to earn a High School Equivalency Diploma (HiSED) or an adult high school diploma administered by a community college is considered a dropout. However, a student who enrolls in an alternative school or alternative program administered by a public-school district is not considered a dropout. *Figure 7: Four Year Dropout Rates by Race and Gender in Appendix A* provides additional school dropout data. A review of the dropout data provided the following highlights:

- In contrast to Iowa's high four-year graduation rate, the overall drop-out rate is low at 1.5% in 2019/20. There was a 21.1% decrease from 2015/16 (1.9% drop-out rate).
- Similar to White youth and Asian/Pacific Islander youth having the highest graduation rates, they also have the lowest drop-out rates, always under 2.0%. Likewise, all other

youth of color consistently have dropout rates greater than 2.0%; with the exception of multiracial females in 2019/20 with a 1.9% drop-out rate.

In-School and Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions (Grades 6-12)

Local school districts in Iowa have broad authority to determine suspension procedures. Iowa law only addresses suspensions related to violence, firearms, and possession of drugs. Unlike the aforementioned behaviors which are outlined in Iowa law, if a student violates a school policy related to the use of substances on school premises, the local school board has discretion to suspend the student⁵. *Figure 8: School Suspensions and Expulsions by Race and Gender in Appendix A* provides additional suspension and expulsion data. A review of the suspension and expulsion data provided the following highlights:

- Suspensions and expulsions have followed a similar trend as school enrollment from 2015/16 through 2019/20.
- For White youth, student enrollment between 2015/16 and 2019/20 decreased, so did the number of suspensions and expulsions; a decrease of 8.7%.
- Likewise, student enrollment of youth of color increased between 2015/16 and 2019/20 and there was a 26.2% increase in the number of suspensions and expulsions.
- While youth of color represented 25.0% of school enrollments in 2019/20, they represented 48.6% of suspensions and expulsions. For African American youth, they represented 6.2% of school enrollment, but over a quarter (26.0%) of suspensions and expulsions.

Complaints to Juvenile Court

A complaint is an official claim by law enforcement that initiates actions in juvenile court processing. All complaints are referred to JCS, which provides juvenile intake and probation services. Once the complaint is received by JCS, all available case information is entered into the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS) which is uploaded into the Justice Data Warehouse. *Figure*

⁵ [Iowa School Discipline Laws and Regulations.pdf \(ed.gov\)](#)

9: *Juvenile Complaints (age 10-17) by Race and Gender in Appendix A* provides additional juvenile complaint data. A review of the complaints data provided the following highlights:

- White youth experienced a 7.8% decrease in the number of complaints between 2015 through 2019. Youth of color experienced a 12.5% increase in the number of complaints.
- For African American youth, the increase in the number of complaints between 2015-2019 was 19.2%.
- From 2015 – 2019, African American youth averaged 6.3% of the statewide juvenile population (age 10 – 17); however, they averaged 27.7% of juvenile complaints.

Charges

A charge/allegation is the description of a law violation in a complaint. There may be one or more charges/allegations per complaint. Iowa offense levels include felonies, indictable misdemeanors (aggravated and serious), simple misdemeanors, and other offenses, typically local ordinances of scheduled violations (fine only).

Youth, 16 or older, committing “forcible felonies” are statutorily excluded from juvenile court jurisdiction and are processed in adult court. Statutorily excluded offenses include murder, voluntary manslaughter, robbery, sexual abuse and assault causing serious injury. The analysis of charge/allegation data does not include data on youth excluded from juvenile court jurisdiction.

Figure 10: Juvenile Allegations (age 10-17) by Race and Gender in Appendix A provides additional juvenile charge/allegation data. A review of the charge/allegation data provided the following highlights:

- White youth experienced a 6.7% decrease in the number of charges between 2015 through 2019. African American youth experienced a 30.9% increase in the number of charges.
- White youth experienced a 20.3% decrease in the number of simple misdemeanor charges between 2015 through 2019, African American youth experienced a 13.3% increase in the number of simple misdemeanor charges.
- African American youth experienced an increase in every offense level.

Diversion

Diversion is an evidenced based practice that provides interventions, activities, or programming to keep delinquent youth from processing further in the juvenile justice system. Diversion is the only data point in which there is a desired increase year to year. This reflects intentional effort to provide an exit strategy for youth from the juvenile justice system. Diversion is provided as an option for youth at low risk to public safety that require minimal JCS supervision.

Iowa Code §232.29 defines an informal adjustment as a written agreement signed by youth, parents/guardian, and a JCO to resolve a complaint without court involvement. These agreements are considered diversion. Youth must acknowledge guilt to receive an informal adjustment. Many youth referred to the juvenile court receive informal adjustments and terms typically include: referral to private agency, prohibition from driving, restitution, and community services, etc. If a youth complies with the conditions of the informal agreement, they are released from JCS oversight within six months. The following diversion data do not include any pre-charge/pre-arrest diversion efforts, these programs are addressed in sections *b. Project Goals and Objectives* and *c. Project Design and Implementation*. *Figure 11: Juvenile Diversions (age 10-17) by Race and Gender in Appendix A* provides additional juvenile diversion data. A review of the diversion data provided the following highlights:

- The number of diversions has followed a similar pattern as complaints from 2015 through 2019. White, Hispanic, and Native American youth all had a decrease in the number of complaints and diversions; while, African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Other/Unknown youth all had an increase in the number of complaints and diversions.

Petitions Filed

JCS staff refer youth that require more serious court intervention to the respective county attorney in their geographic area. A delinquency petition is filed by the county attorney and initiates formal court proceedings. *Figure 12: Juvenile Petitions Filed (age 10-17) by Race and*

Gender in *Appendix A* provides additional juvenile petitions filed data. A review of the petitions filed data provided the following highlights:

- Asian/Pacific Islander males and Native American males, experienced a decrease from 2015 through 2019 for the number of petitions filed while Asian/Pacific Islander females had no change.
- All other racial and gender groups experienced an increase in the number of petitions filed.
- White youth had a 10.2% increase, African American youth a 28.1% increase, and other youth of color had a 16.0% increase.
- In 2019, White youth had petitions filed at a rate of 6.3 per 1,000 youth, whereas African American youth had petitions filed at a rate of 62.2 per 1,000 youth. This is a relative rate of 10, meaning for every petition filed against a White youth, there are 10 petitions filed against African American youth.

Adjudications

An adjudication is a hearing on a petition filed in juvenile court to determine if charges/allegations are supported by evidence. Youth who are found to have committed an offense are typically adjudicated as delinquent. There are rare occasions where youth may be adjudicated as CINA which then is referred to DHS for child welfare services. *Figure 13: Juvenile Adjudications (age 10-17) by Race and Gender* in *Appendix A* provides additional juvenile adjudications data. A review of the adjudications data provided the following highlights:

- While White youth experienced a 3.6% decrease in the number of adjudications between 2015 through 2019, youth of color experienced a 39.5% increase in the number of adjudications.
- In 2019, there were 73 more adjudications of delinquency for White youth when compared to African American youth, while in comparison there are 242,206 more White youth (264,254) in Iowa when compared to African American youth (22,048), age 10 – 17.

Juvenile Detention Holds

Youth accused of any delinquent act and those who have been adjudicated delinquent can be held in a juvenile detention facility. There are nine such facilities in Iowa. Four of the facilities are operated by a single county (Polk, Linn, Scott, and Woodbury), and are under the administrative control of that county's board of supervisors. The other five (North Iowa, Central Iowa, Northwest Iowa, Southwest Iowa, and South Iowa Area) are operated by multiple counties through a 28E agreement, and are supervised by a board with representatives from the counties that are part of the 28E agreement.⁶

Juvenile detention facilities are mechanically secure residential settings where youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court are held while awaiting a court hearing or disposition; a disposition for delinquent youth who violate their probation; and youth under the jurisdiction of the adult court awaiting trial, sentencing, or are serving their sentence.

Iowa administrative rule (IAC 441-105.8(2)) requires juvenile detention facilities to include an education component. These education services are provided by Area Education Agencies (AEA's). At varying levels, juvenile detention facilities additionally provide select physical, mental and behavioral health services, group or individual counseling, recreation and skill building activities, etc.

In all jurisdictions, the initial detention decisions for youth held by the juvenile court are made by a JCO using a standardized Detention Screening Tool (DST). Law enforcement makes a referral to juvenile court and then either the JCO or detention staff will use the DST to determine if the youth qualifies for placement at a detention center. JCO's may override a DST result of release if extraordinary conditions exist that would warrant the detention of the youth. Youth held

⁶ Iowa Code, chapter 28E permits state and local governments to make efficient use of their powers by enabling them to provide joint services and facilities with other agencies and to cooperate in other ways of mutual advantage.

in juvenile detention facilities must have a court hearing within 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays. There are exceptions where the DST is not considered for placement. For example, youth charged with a delinquent offense that are being held for warrant issued in another state, holds for federal agencies (e.g., U.S. Marshals, Bureau of Indian Affairs), and youth that have been transferred to the adult criminal court for prosecution.

Information derived from Iowa's Juvenile Detention Database contains information specific to all "holds" performed in juvenile detention facilities throughout Iowa. For all reported holds, facilities indicate the most serious offense alleged to have been committed by the youth. Analysis of the data is based upon the release date of the hold. Detention holds do not count youth or complaints, but rather a placement or hold in detention. For example, a single youth placed multiple times over the course of the year will appear in the count multiple times. Additionally, a youth transferred from one facility to another facility, and reported by each facility as a hold would be counted multiple times, even if each hold were for the same delinquent act. *Figure 14: Juvenile Detention Holds (age 10-17) by Race and Gender* in Appendix A provides additional juvenile detention holds data. A review of the juvenile detention holds data provided the following highlights:

- While White youth experienced a 17.1% decrease in the number of detention holds between 2015 through 2019, African American youth experienced an 8.7% increase in the number of detention holds, and other youth of color experienced a 6.4% increase.
- In 2018, there were more detention holds for African American youth (1,143), then for White youth (1,114). This is the first time since Iowa started using the Juvenile Detention Database in 2003 to collect detention data that there were more holds for African American youth compared to White youth.
- In 2004, the first full year of detention data in the Juvenile Detention Database there were 1,035 holds for African American youth and 3,096 holds for White youth. Sixteen years later in 2019, there has been a decrease of 102 holds for African American youth, and a

decrease of 2,033 holds for White youth.

Adult Criminal Court Waivers

Iowa has two basic processes to waive/transfer youth to the adult criminal court for prosecution on a delinquent offense. The first is a discretionary process defined in Iowa Code §232.45, where the juvenile court can have a hearing to decide whether the youth should be waived to the adult criminal court for criminal prosecution. During the waiver hearing the court must consider:

- a. The nature of the alleged delinquent act and the circumstances under which it was committed.
- b. The nature and extent of the child's prior contacts with juvenile authorities, including past efforts of such authorities to treat and rehabilitate the child and the response to such efforts.
- c. The programs, facilities and personnel available to the juvenile court for rehabilitation and treatment of the child, and the programs, facilities and personnel which would be available to the court that would have jurisdiction in the event the juvenile court waives its jurisdiction so that the child can be prosecuted as an adult.⁷

The second route is a statutory exclusion process, where youth ages 16 and 17 that are charged with a forcible felony, or a couple of specifically identified felonies are excluded from the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, and by default are prosecuted in the adult criminal court. The conditions of this statutory exclusion process are detailed in Iowa Code Section §232.8(1)(c). There is a process that allows the adult criminal court to waive these excluded youth to the juvenile court for prosecution (reverse waiver). This adult criminal court to juvenile court process is detailed in Iowa Code Section §803.6.

Iowa also has an “once an adult, always an adult” statute that applies to 16- and 17-year-old youths. Iowa Code Section §232.45A defines that once 16- and 17-year-old youth have been

⁷ Iowa Code Section 232.45(8)

convicted in the adult criminal court any subsequent charges will immediately be prosecuted in the adult criminal court. If the youth's case is acquitted or dismissed by the adult criminal court any subsequent charges will initiate in the juvenile court. Therefore, the "once an adult, always an adult" only applies to 16- and 17-year-old youths that have been convicted in the adult criminal court.

The analysis of the data only examined those youth that were waived by the juvenile court for prosecution in the adult criminal court using the discretionary process detailed above. The data does not include those youth that were statutorily excluded from the juvenile court due to the nature of their offense (e.g., forcible felony, the statutory exclusions), or the "once an adult, always an adult" exclusions. The data on these youth that are excluded from juvenile court processing are maintained in the criminal court database rather than the juvenile court database, and must be accessed separately. *Figure 15: Adult Court Waivers (age 10-17) by Race and Gender* in Appendix A provides additional adult court waiver data. A review of the adult court waiver data provided the following highlights:

- There were decreases in the numbers or no change for all race and gender groups except White males, African American males, and Hispanic females.
- The numbers for Asian/Pacific Islander youth, Native American youth, Other/Unknown youth, and Hispanic females were almost negligible.
- White males accounted for 43.6% of adult court waivers in 2019, and African American males accounted for 33.2%. However, White males accounted for 40.9% of the statewide juvenile population, age 10 – 17, and African American males accounted for 3.4% of the juvenile population.

b. Project Goals and Objectives

In FFY2020, the SAG identified five priority areas for the JJDP A Formula Fund grant application. The identified priorities encompass the underlying principles that the SAG applies towards the improvement of the juvenile justice system in Iowa. These priority areas are

considered equally weighted by the SAG. In March 2021, the SAG officially approved the priorities, goals, and objectives for the 2021 JJDP Formula Fund 3-year plan, which includes those developed by Iowa's Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Subcommittee, Policy and Program Subcommittee, and Iowa Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW). A full list of priorities, goals, objectives, and action steps, can be found in *Appendix B* and are further elaborated in section *c. Project Design and Implementation*.

Priority 1, *Prevention and Early Intervention*, was developed using charge/allegation data and school suspension and expulsion data to inform the goals, objectives, and action steps. This priority focused on the number of low-level offenses between 2015-2019. Specifically, 55% of charges/allegations being simple misdemeanor or other charges. This priority will focus on preventing youth, particularly youth of color, from formal involvement with the juvenile justice system through pre-arrest/pre-charge diversion programs.

Priority 1: Prevention and Early Intervention (OJJDP FY 2021 Title II Program Area A)

Goal 1: Identify programs, both inside and outside of Iowa, to determine which are leading models.

Goal 2: Determine how to expand the successes of those programs identified as leading models, and assist with replicating effective programs in Iowa and across the country.

Goal 3: In collaboration with the DMC Sub-Committee, enhance and expand Iowa's Pre-Charge Diversion (PCD) program.

Priority 2, *Behavioral Health*, was developed due to a shortage of comprehensive data available within the juvenile justice system. There is a copious amount of anecdotal evidence regarding the need for behavioral health supports for youth served by the juvenile justice system, but a scarcity of data collected by the juvenile justice system about youth's engagement in these services.

Priority 2: Behavioral Health (OJJDP FY 2021 Title II Program Area T)

Goal 1: Determine the extent of screening and assessment for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning by the juvenile justice system.

Goal 2: Collect data on mental health, substance abuse, and family support resource utilization to analyze ongoing needs for services and to measure success for system involved youth.

Priority 3, *Transition of Youth*, used the adult court waiver data to inform the development of the goals, objectives and action steps. The primary goal is to extend the age for which juvenile court may provide services. This would ultimately reduce or eliminate the number of youth that are being excluded from juvenile court processing and facing long, life defining punishments meted out by the adult criminal court system. This priority also encompasses efforts to standardize the availability of services and opportunities for youth exiting from congregate care to reduce recidivism.

Priority 3: Transition of Youth (OJJDP FY 2021 Title II Program Area M, N and R)

Goal 1: Extend the original jurisdiction of youth in the Juvenile Court System.

Goal 2: Juvenile Court Maintains Exclusive Jurisdiction of All Juveniles.

Goal 3: Standardize Juvenile Reentry Best Practices.

Iowa has a practice to analyze all juvenile justice data by race/ethnicity and gender. This practice allows Iowa to recognize any disparities for these populations and informed the development of the goals, objectives, and activities in Priority 4, *Gender Equity*. Currently, in Iowa, there is a lack of gender specific services, particularly deep end services available to girls in the state. Concurrently, while expanding services and opportunities, there is also a need to expand gender specific training for practitioners.

Priority 4: Gender Equity (OJJDP FY 2021 Title II Program Area V)

Goal 1: Make the experiences and needs of girls who are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system (i.e., black, native, and LGBTQ+ youth) central to all ongoing work.

Goal 2: Establishment of a specialized setting(s) for serious, violent and chronic offenders as well as systemic measures to reduce the need for such a setting as outlined in the recommendations of the “Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders” report.

Goal 3: Fill the gaps and improve the quality in the continuum of care for girls in both residential and community-based service settings with well-defined options that allow for differential responses based on culture, risk level, development and needs.

Priority 5, *Disproportionate Minority Contact*, is supported by every data set presented in section *a. Analysis of Juvenile Delinquency problems*. Throughout the data analysis there was a constant and persistent disparity between White youth and Youth of Color, particularly African American youth. From the beginning of the juvenile justice processing system to the deep end portions of the system African American youth are significantly overrepresented.

Priority 5: Disproportionate Minority Contact

Goal 1: Minimize system contact for low-risk youth of color by developing formal, statewide diversion opportunities through implementation of structures and policies at early juvenile justice system processing.

Goal 2: Continue Collaboration with Iowa Task Force for Young Women to ensure appropriate systematic response and considerations for young women.

Goal 3: Explore and effect change for deep-end youth of color including those youth under adult court supervision.

c. Project Design and Implementation

In addition to the priorities and goals adopted by the JJAC, corresponding objectives and activities have also been incorporated into Iowa’s three-year plan. These objectives and activities are detailed below with each corresponding priority area and goal. The list of identified activities is not exhaustive of the full efforts the JJAC will take over the next three years, but instead provides insight as to how the JJAC intends to address its priorities and goals.

Prevention and Early Intervention Related Objectives and Implementation Activities

Goal 1: Identify programs, both inside and outside of Iowa, to determine which are leading models.

- Objective A: Engage stakeholders including Area Education Agencies (AEA), schools, service providers (including mental health, substance abuse, behavioral health, residential), community members, and system youth to identify existing programs/services for children 6-10 years of age.
 - Specifically focus on programs working with youth that are system involved, including the programs of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Court-Appointed Advocates (CASA), YMCA/YWCA, Boys & Girls Club.
- Objective B: Identify leading programs in Iowa, Midwest, and nation.
 - Complete a service gap analysis in communities, across judicial districts.
 - Conduct program assessments to ensure that the right youth are being served by the right program at the right time.
 - Ensure that any leading models considered include racial and gender equity, and utilize a trauma-informed approach.

Goal 2: Determine how to expand the successes of those programs identified as leading models, and assist with replicating effective programs in Iowa and across the country.

- Objective A: Explore approaches to expand effective programs in Iowa and to replicate successful programs from other states.
- Objective B: Using the service gap analysis, prioritize expansion/replication of programs in the areas a high need has been identified.

Goal 3: In collaboration with the DMC Sub-Committee, enhance and expand Iowa's Pre-Charge Diversion (PCD) program.

- Objective A: Work with communities and law enforcement agencies to replicate and implement the PCD programs in additional communities across Iowa.
- Objective B: Ensure a uniform process is utilized to guarantee all first-time, low-risk offenders are referred to PCD in communities where available.
- Objective C: Initiate a statewide process to collect PCD data for analysis.

Behavioral Health Related Objectives and Implementation Activities

Goal 1: Determine the extent of screening and assessment for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning by the juvenile justice system.

- Objective A: Identify all screenings that are conducted by Juvenile Court Services (JCS) and by juvenile detention centers during the respective intake processes, including screenings for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning.
- Objective B: Determine the assessments and referral services that are triggered by JCS screenings, and the availability and ease to access these services.
- Objective C: Collaborate with other state agencies, local communities, and committees addressing the mental health, substance abuse, and family system support of youth.

Goal 2: Collect data on mental health, substance abuse, and family support resource utilization to analyze ongoing needs for services and to measure success for system involved youth.

- Objective A: Determine the availability of mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning screening information within the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA).
- Objective B: Identify screening tools for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning.
- Objective C: Inventory the number of treatment beds for youth in the juvenile justice system for mental health, and substance abuse services, and the number of youths who receive treatment in the beds.
- Objective D: Partner with Juvenile Court Services to identify the number of youths who are referred to outpatient mental health services and who successfully complete services.
- Objective E: Identify the number of youths with identified mental health, substance abuse, or family system concerns that recidivate.
- Objective F: Determine the length of time youth with identified mental health, substance abuse, or family system concerns are involved with the juvenile justice system.
- Objective G: Ensure that all data collected includes analysis by gender and racial subgroups.

Transition of Youth Related Objectives and Implementation Activities

Goal 1: Extend the original jurisdiction of youth in the Juvenile Court System.

- Objective A: Study effective and efficient community-based and residential rehabilitative models to provide the appropriate level of care for moderate and high-risk juvenile offenders, up to the age of 21 years of age.
- Objective B: Estimate the need and cost for additional community-based and residential facilities for youth up to the age of 21 years of age.
- Objective C: Develop/support policy efforts including legislation to provide Juvenile Court Services with the authority and resources to continue providing services to youth already under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court up to the age of 21 years of age.
 - Legislation must include language that would exclude new criminal charges after age 18 from being included in the juvenile court.

Goal 2: Juvenile Court Maintains Exclusive Jurisdiction of All Juveniles.

- Objective A: Develop/support policy efforts including changes to legislation to eliminate automatically excluding youth ages 16 and 17 that are charged with a forcible felony and other certain felony offenses from the juvenile court.
- Objective B: Develop/support policy efforts including legislation that ensures the decision to waive youth to district court is a responsibility of juvenile court judges.
- Objective C: Develop/support policy efforts including legislation that youth are only waived to adult court for felony offenses.

Goal 3: Standardize Juvenile Reentry Best Practices.

- Objective A: Provide technical assistance and guidance to Juvenile Court Services to advance successful juvenile reentry by:
 - Enhancing and expanding family involvement with youth in congregate care to improve reentry results.
 - Enhancing and expanding support opportunities and services for youth transitioning from congregate care.

Gender Equity Related Objectives and Implementation Activities

Goal 1: Make the experiences and needs of girls who are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system (i.e., black, native, and LGBTQ+ youth) central to all ongoing work.

- Objective A: JJAC/CJJP uses racial and gender equity lenses intentionally throughout all of its work.

- Generate a tangible method for assuring implementation.
- Use council funds, and leverage additional funds to support gender and racial equity training.
- All JJAC members and sub-committee members are trained in the use of gender and racial equity lenses.
- Collect data about any training received.
- Objective B: Continue collaborative work with the DMC subcommittee.
 - Continue annual joint meeting.
 - Establish a joint project/activity/goal (e.g. school to court pipeline).
- Objective C: Complete revamp of cornerstone publication, “Healing Justice”.
 - Continue workgroup meetings.
 - Solicit reviews by outside subject matter experts.
- Objective D: Support the implementation of recommendations related to gender and race from the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) validation report.

Goal 2: Establishment of a specialized setting(s) for serious, violent and chronic offenders as well as systemic measures to reduce the need for such a setting as outlined in the recommendations of the “Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders” report.

- Objective A: Select a small number of recommendations from the report to elevate.
 - Review report recommendations.
- Objective B: Engage legislative and/or other leadership champions interested in establishing this level of care.
 - Revisit talking points.
 - Make use of DHR Legislative Day on the Hill.

Goal 3: Fill the gaps and improve the quality in the continuum of care for girls in both residential and community-based service settings with well-defined options that allow for differential responses based on culture, risk level, development and needs.

- Objective A: Document what options/opportunities girls have compared to boys throughout the system to demonstrate any need for capacity building.
 - Use information from service inventory.
 - Assess and review service data side by side with males.
- Objective B: Explore ways to leverage DHS FFPSA work to fill service gaps for girls.

- Identify any evidence-based services for JJ girls to replicate.
- Objective C: Explore ways to study low risk/high need girls under JJ supervision.

DMC Related Objectives Implementation Activities

Goal 1: Minimize system contact for low-risk youth of color by developing formal, statewide diversion opportunities through implementation of structures and policies at early juvenile justice system processing.

- Objective A: Develop statewide policy on pre-charge diversion.
 - Explore feasibility of developing/introducing/supporting legislation and/or policy around pre- charge diversion including impact of such changes in communities with minimal resources.
 - Provide support to individual communities on implementation of pre-charge diversion efforts.
 - Continue work on pre-charge diversion application (data collection).
 - Seek OJJDP technical assistance to advance a standardized model for pre-charge diversion.
- Objective B: Develop statewide policy to minimize the use of detention for technical violations of probation.
 - Continue to provide training and implementation oversight on use of Detention Screening Tool (DST).
 - Seek OJJDP technical assistance to advance standardized practices for response to technical violations of probation.
 - Explore alternatives to detention for violations of probation.
- Objective C: Expand/ amend utilization of the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) to use the contained information to understand and address system youth’s strengths and challenges with regards to mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning.
 - Survey each judicial district to determine mental health/substance abuse resource utilization for system youth.
 - Collect aggregate data from identified facilities and service providers to determine the representation of youth of color and young women in those settings.
- Objective D: Implement recommendations related to race and gender from the IDA validation.

- Advance recommendations to state court administration from ITFYW and DMC subcommittees.
- Objective E: Advance DMC efforts and priorities through support of key legislative/policy initiatives.
 - Support the recommendations (including legislative recommendations) contained in the Iowa Girls Justice Initiative (IGJI) “Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders” report.
 - Seek refinement and expansion of minority impact statement legislation to effect bills that impact minority overrepresentation.
 - Support the concept of prohibiting racial profiling to address disparate treatment of minorities in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.
 - Advance the recommendations contained in the “Racial Disparities Three Decision Points” report with regards to pre-charge diversion and waiver of youth to adult court.

Goal 2: Continue Collaboration with Iowa Task Force for Young Women to ensure appropriate systematic response and considerations for young women.

- Objective A: Finalize key priorities for Black young women.
 - Review/analyze data (school suspension, JCS, detention, deep end, etc.).
 - Study research-causes for Black females’ overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system.
- Objective B: Hold joint meeting(s) between DMC Sub and Iowa’s Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW).
 - Determine specific areas/activities for the two groups to collaborate.
 - Staff and subcommittee chairs will actively coordinate efforts.

Goal 3: Explore and effect change for deep-end youth of color including those youth under adult court supervision.

- Objective A: Utilize basic data format developed by ITFYW (and other data sets) to develop and write an action plan for boys of color eligible for placement at STS. (using eligibility for State Training School Placement (STS) according to Iowa Code §232.52(2) to define the cohort).
 - Collaborate with ITFYW for action plan development to include eligible young women of color.

- Objective B: Investigate and provide recommendations for youth under adult court supervision as referenced in the “Racial Disparities Three Decision Points” report.
 - Access federal technical assistance, as required, to further efforts.
- Objective C: Advance recommendations for supporting successful re-entry for youth from congregate care (group care, state training school, etc.) settings.
 - Work with Juvenile Court Services and provider agencies to develop and advance recommendations for family engagement and case planning for the re-entry of youth from congregate care settings.
 - Ensure specific strategies exist to address the needs for youth of color and their families.

Three-year plan adherence to 34 U.S.C§ 11133(a)

Iowa’s three-year plan is in alignment with guidance outlined in 34 U.S.C§ 11133(a). Additional detail as to how the plan addresses specific expectations within 34 U.S.C§ 11133(a) can be found in *Appendix C*.

Consultation and participation of units of local government

The majority of Iowa’s federal 2021 formula grant award will be allocated to JCS offices in each of the state’s eight judicial districts. Iowa’s JJDP A funding allocation process, in itself, lends to the input from local units of government. The allocations are based on the percentage of child population ages 10-17 in each judicial district. Each district includes a small number of metropolitan counties, but as was detailed earlier in the discussion on juvenile population 68 of Iowa’s 99 counties are rural. The Chief JCO for each judicial district submits a plan to the DSA for approval and for authorization of allocations. In most cases, the Chief JCO works closely with multiple local Decategorization (Decat) planning boards to incorporate respective local needs into the plan. Decats are described in the *System Description* section of this plan. It is noteworthy that county board of supervisor representatives are mandatory members of local Decat boards. Similarly, individuals connected with local units of government are represented on the SAG and/or its subcommittees. Thus, there is a specific capacity to gather input from local units of government.

Collecting and sharing juvenile justice information

As the SAC, Iowa Code §216A.316 grants CJJP access to a wide variety of data maintained by other state agencies. Additionally, CJJP has memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with the Department of Corrections, State Jail Inspection Unit, and the DHS that provides authority to complete on-site compliance monitoring data verification audits. Along with Iowa Code §216A.316, these MOUs provide CJJP the authority to go on-site to state and locally operated facilities for compliance monitoring audits. CJJP has other MOUs with a variety of state agencies for other research and analysis on juveniles including, but not limited to, the Department of Education, Workforce Development, and Public Health.

There are a number of systems Iowa uses to collect juvenile justice information data. Among these are the JDW that compiles ICIS data from all 99 counties. This system includes relevant information on cases informally and formally handled by JCS, along with placement, services and risk assessment information. CJJP maintains the JDW, a central repository of key criminal and juvenile justice data. CJJP also accesses hold information from the state's nine juvenile detention centers through the DST. Additionally, CJJP collects pertinent information on youth placed at the State Training School for Boys (juvenile corrections), state mental health institutes, and enhanced residential treatment facilities directly from those agencies.

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) is responsible for collecting arrest data from law enforcement agencies across the state. The Uniform Crime Report data has some issues making it less timely and reliable, which makes it more difficult to utilize. DPS officials note that not all Iowa law enforcement agencies report arrest information, and that some agencies under-report arrest statistics. Therefore, any data provided related to "arrest" is likely an under-reporting of juvenile arrests in Iowa.

Plans for Compliance Monitoring

DMC/ Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) Compliance Activities

Pursuant to the JJDP Act at 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (15), Iowa will remain in compliance with the DMC / R/ED requirement by implementing policy, practice, and system improvement strategies at the state and local level to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. The state DMC Subcommittee serves as the coordinating body for Iowa's DMC / R/ED efforts. For over 20 years, Iowa has maintained an active DMC Subcommittee. The group meets quarterly and has membership from across the state. Over 50% of its members are persons of color who are active leaders in their local DMC efforts.

Iowa's DMC goals are developed by the DMC Subcommittee based on their review and analysis of juvenile justice data, research and lived experiences. In accordance with OJJDP guidance, the specific data points analyzed for development of DMC / R/ED goals and objectives include: arrest/ complaints, diversions, pre-trial detention holds, secure confinements, and adult court transfer. Data at these decision points are analyzed by race and gender to determine which areas create disparities. Data and updates related to the goals and objectives are discussed at DMC meetings.

In addition to the statewide coordination of DMC / R/ED efforts under the DMC Subcommittee, CJJP provides support to local jurisdictions to align DMC / R/ED reduction efforts. Iowa's DMC compliance plan includes local DMC plans from 10 jurisdictions (Black Hawk, Des Moines, Dubuque, Johnson, Linn, Polk, Pottawattamie, Scott, Webster, and Woodbury Counties). The combined African American youth population in these 10 jurisdictions comprises 79% of Iowa's overall population for such youth. Local DMC efforts are supported by various groups in each of the jurisdictions including law enforcement, community-based organizations, and other

key stakeholders. Juvenile Court Services personnel are the primary facilitators of local DMC efforts. To enhance planning and action at the local level, CJJP models the support provided at state level by providing technical assistance, training, data, etc. More detailed activities to address DMC / R/ED in Iowa can be found in the comprehensive DMC / R/ED plan submitted in the compliance monitoring tool.

Compliance Monitoring of the JJDP A Related Implementation Activities

Iowa has a 30+ year history of compliance with the core requirements of deinstitutionalization of status offenders, jail removal, sight and sound separation. Documentation affirming this compliance can be found in the Compliance Monitoring Tool (CMT) as required. Iowa's plan to maintain compliance with Public Law §223(a) (11), §223(a) (12), and §223(a) (13) includes continuing to collect and review data from all secure facilities across the state, including county jails, city lockups, juvenile correction facilities, juvenile detention centers, state mental health facilities, court holding facilities, and secure residential foster care homes. In addition to data collection and review, the state will continue to conduct yearly on-site data verification at a minimum of one-third of each type of facility. The DSA will also continue to perform on-site visits to agencies (e.g. police departments without secure custody capacity, public university Departments of Public Safety, state patrol offices) that have public authority to take a juvenile into custody to determine whether the facility has the mechanical capacity to securely detain juveniles.

The DSA will work with the state SAG by providing it with updates during its quarterly meetings regarding the progress of the compliance monitoring efforts, and using the SAG as a resource to help correct any problems that arise.

The DSA will provide training to the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association, Jail Administrators', South Iowa Area Crime Commission and, as requested, local law enforcement agencies and jails. These training sessions are vital to educate

law enforcement officers and jail staff across the state regarding both federal and state requirements pertaining to holding juveniles in secure or nonsecure custody.

The DSA will continue to monitor legislative bills to determine if any legislation has been introduced that would bring Iowa law into conflict with the requirements or definitions of the JJDP. The DSA will file legislative impact statements on any legislation that would have the potential to create violations to the core requirements of the JJDP, or would be counterproductive to the goals of the SAG and DSA in improving the juvenile justice system.

The DSA will use the juvenile justice data to which it has access to support juvenile justice system improvement projects. This includes, but is not limited to, R/ED efforts, gender equity efforts, identifying and increasing the saturation of evidence-based practices across the state, working with state and local efforts to address behavioral health issues of youth – specifically those in the juvenile justice system, and reentry projects for youth transitioning back into their communities after out-of-home placement.

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures

CJJP is a division of the Iowa Department of Human Rights. CJJP is the State of Iowa Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), which conducts independent research, policy analysis, planning, program evaluation, data coordination and information clearinghouse functions to identify issues of concern and to improve the operation and effectiveness of the justice system. CJJP was also designated by Governor Branstad on July 1, 1991, as the sole agency responsible for supervising the preparation and administration of the three-year State plan required under Section 223 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and the oversight of related funds from OJJDP. The Iowa JJAC is the SAG and is responsible for allocation of Title II OJJDP funds.

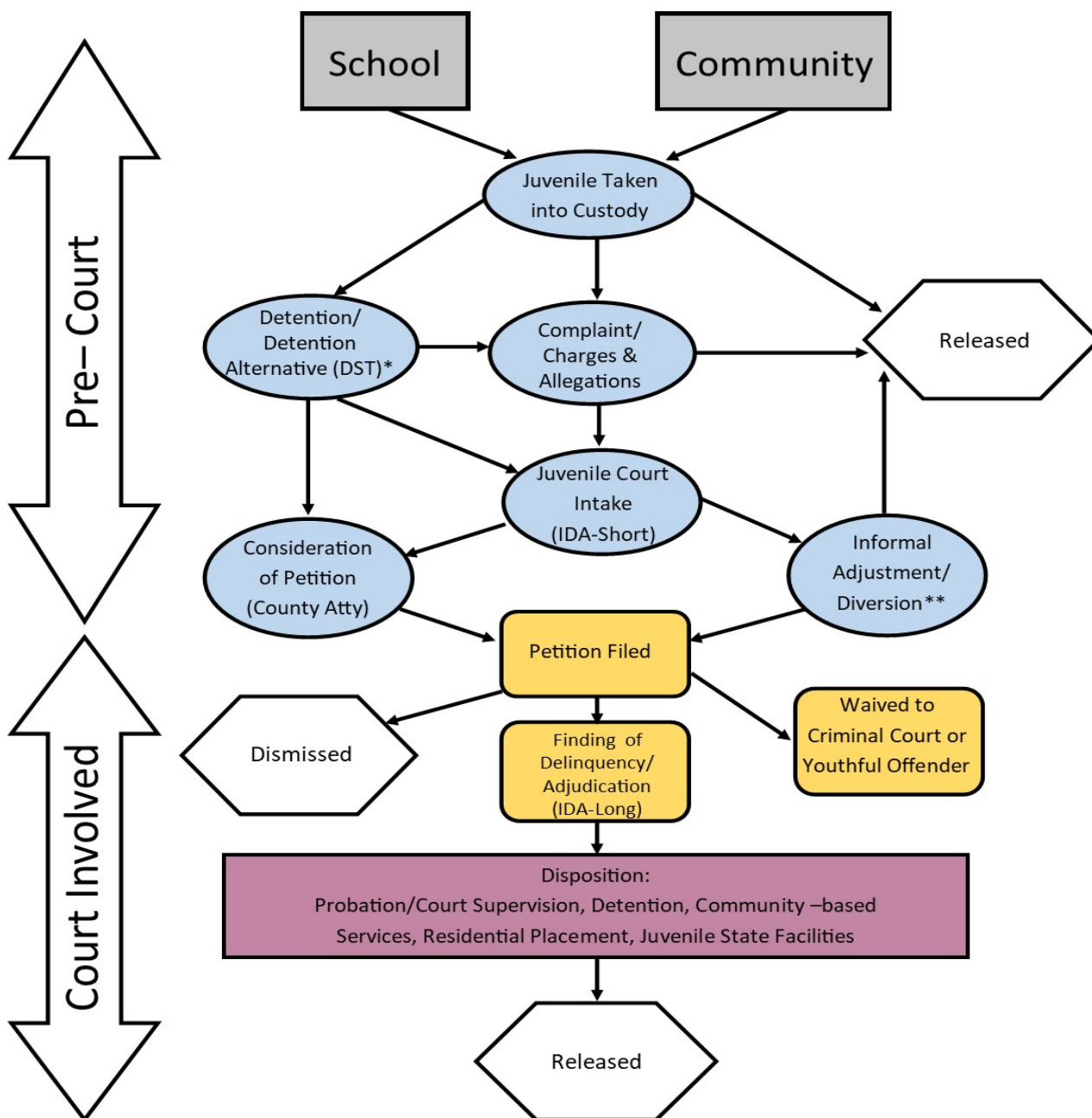
CJJP utilizes a standardized progress report to collect case-level information for every youth that receives a service paid for by funds from the Title II Formula Grant. This form includes gathering a minimum of data on a youth's risk level (if known), age, race, and gender. The form is completed by service providers within each of the judicial districts and submitted to CJJP on a quarterly basis.

This progress reporting structure allows CJJP to integrate the service data with data from the Iowa Justice Data Warehouse (JDW) to look at trends for recidivism, subsequent return to Juvenile Court Services or Adult Court, within one year after the service ends, and potentially other outcomes. Quarterly progress reporting also allows CJJP to integrate the collected information in the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) effort currently used with service programs across the state.

APPENDIX A

Figure 1: Juvenile Delinquency Processing Flow Chart

Juvenile Delinquency Processing Flow Chart



Notes: This flow chart has been updated as of April 2021, and is an overview document that does NOT include every delinquency decision point.

*Youth can be detained at multiple decision points during the delinquency process.

** Most jurisdictions provide diversion for low level offenses referred to Juvenile Court Services. Includes many programmatic options or sanctions (e.g. shoplifting, substance abuse education, mediation, community service, etc.).

Figure 2: Iowa Population Data by Race and Gender

Juvenile Populations (10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015-2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	130,464	137,103	130,064	136,805	129,843	136,818	129,541	136,078	128,794	135,460	-1.3%	-1.2%
African American	9,543	9,791	9,906	10,054	10,198	10,588	10,489	10,918	10,767	11,281	+12.8%	+15.2%
Hispanic	14,511	14,962	14,958	15,708	15,648	16,386	16,137	16,830	16,445	17,213	+8.0%	+14.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4,492	4,346	4,648	4,521	4,735	4,740	4,771	4,827	4,852	4,972	+8.0%	+14.4%
Native American	664	668	665	657	664	638	684	640	656	609	-1.2%	-8.8%
Total	159,674	166,870	160,241	167,745	161,088	169,170	161,622	169,293	161,514	169,535	+1.2%	+1.6%

Source: OJJDP EZ Population Access

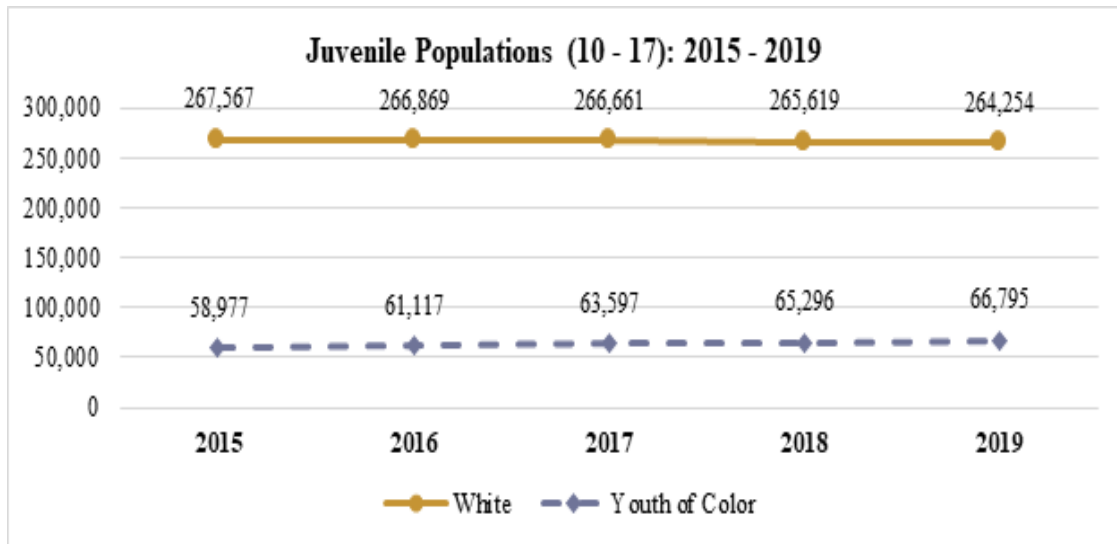


Figure 3: Juvenile Populations (age 10 – 17) by County, 2019

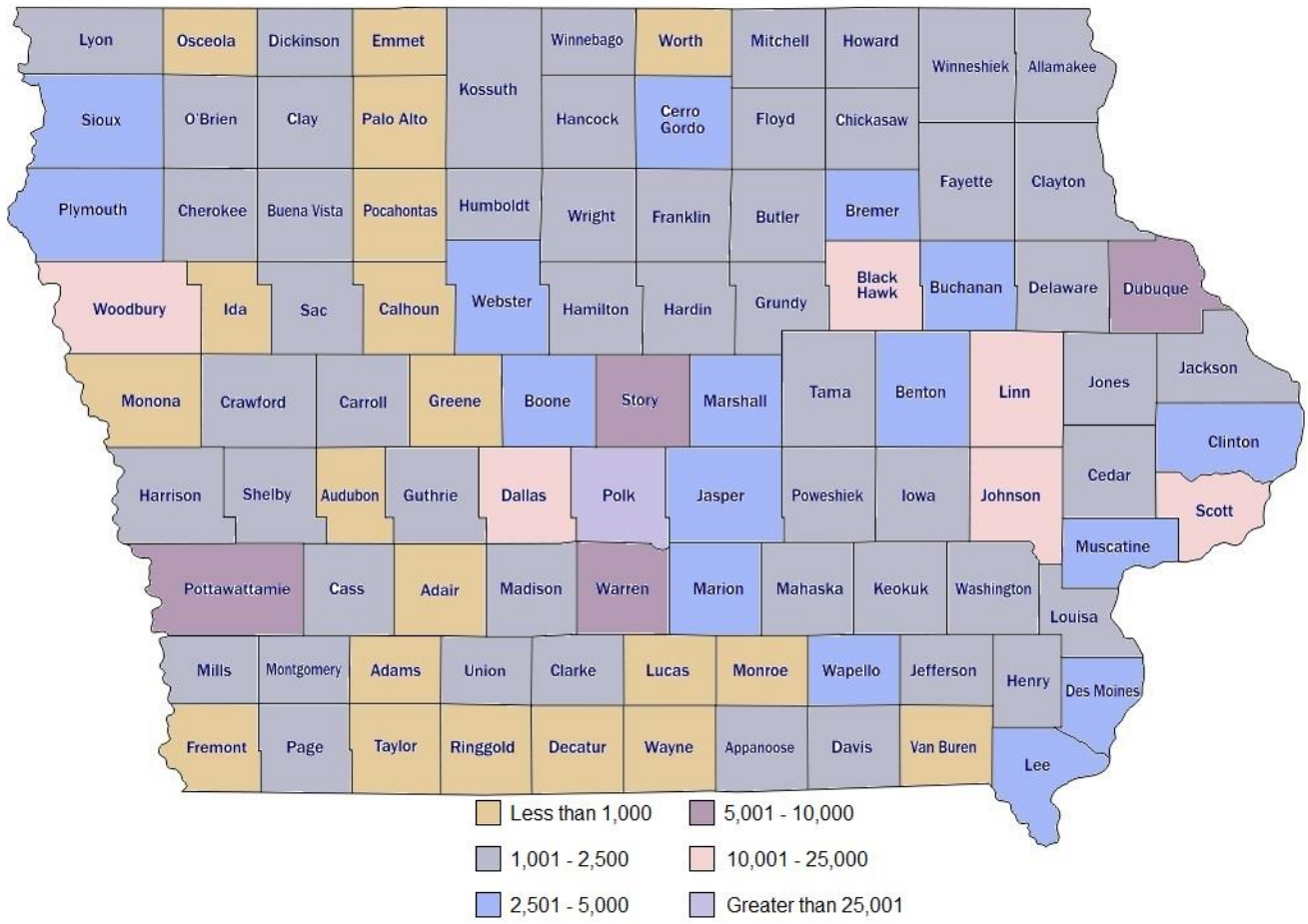


Figure 4: Youth of Color Population (age 10 – 17) Percentage, 2019

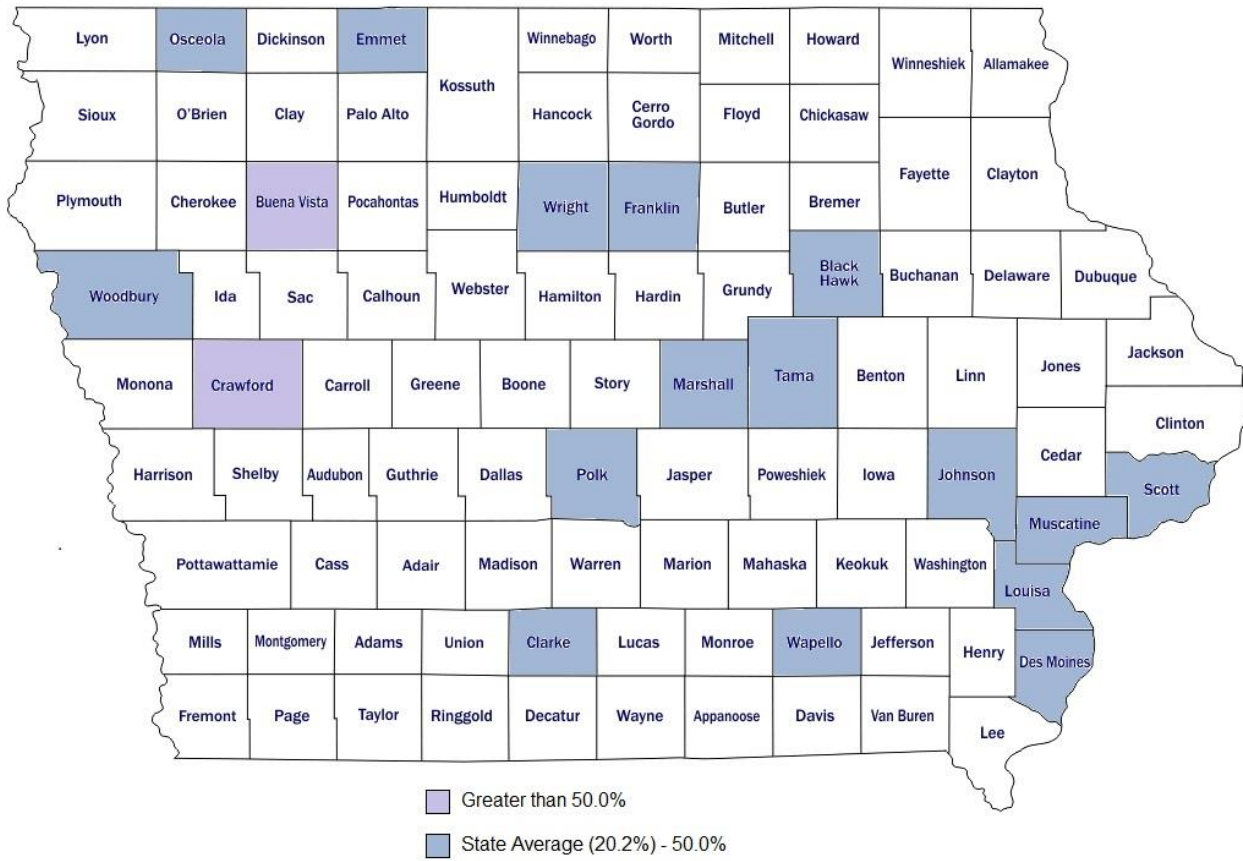


Figure 5: School Enrollment by Race and Gender

School Enrollment	2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		Percent Change 2015/16 -2019/20	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	97,873	103,694	97,016	102,821	96,804	102,669	96,830	102,555	96,961	102,937	-0.9%	-0.7%
African American	6,829	7,406	7,086	7,614	7,376	7,887	7,696	8,261	8,135	8,638	+19.1%	+16.6%
Hispanic	11,966	12,669	12,640	13,411	13,429	14,115	14,047	14,737	14,927	15,724	+24.7%	+24.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3,272	3,388	3,337	3,461	3,516	3,589	3,559	3,642	3,598	3,827	+10.0%	+13.0%
Native American	513	530	477	488	444	482	476	502	452	510	-11.9%	-3.8%
Multiracial	3,893	3,921	4,164	4,237	4,480	4,588	4,755	4,912	5,085	5,264	+30.6%	+34.3%
Total	124,346	131,608	124,760	132,032	126,049	133,330	127,363	134,609	129,158	136,900	+3.9%	+4.0%

Source: Iowa Department of Education: School District – Certified Enrollment

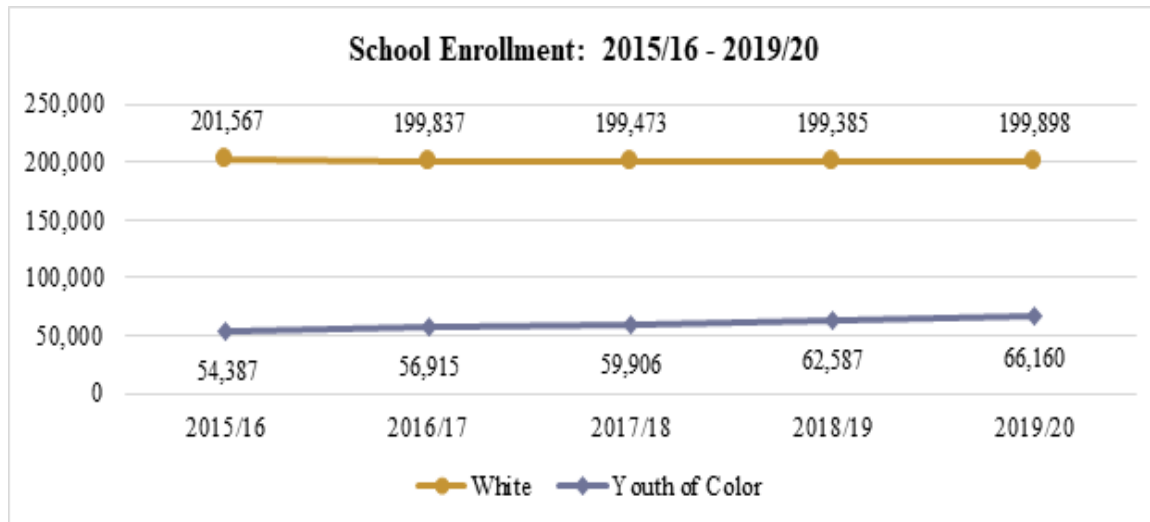


Figure 6: Four Year Graduation Rates by Race and Gender

Four-Year Graduation Rates	2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		Percent Change 2015/16 -2019/20	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	94.4%	91.5%	94.4%	91.1%	94.8%	91.7%	94.8%	91.9%	94.9%	92.7%	+0.5%	+1.3%
African American	82.2%	77.3%	84.5%	80.1%	84.3%	78.6%	85.8%	77.4%	82.9%	78.6%	+0.9%	+1.7%
Hispanic	88.0%	81.1%	84.5%	80.5%	87.1%	80.8%	87.0%	82.1%	88.2%	81.5%	+0.2%	+0.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	92.3%	90.5%	92.2%	90.4%	95.1%	87.1%	91.7%	90.0%	95.5%	88.8%	+3.5%	-1.9%
Native American	76.7%	83.8%	89.2%	76.4%	75.9%	75.4%	80.0%	75.0%	84.6%	80.3%	+10.3%	-4.2%
Multiracial	89.4%	78.8%	87.3%	83.1%	89.3%	86.2%	90.4%	86.2%	89.7%	87.9%	+0.3%	+11.5%
Total	93.0%	89.5%	92.7%	89.3%	93.3%	89.6%	93.3%	89.9%	93.3%	90.4%	+0.3%	+1.0%

Source: Iowa Department of Education: Four-Year Graduation Rates

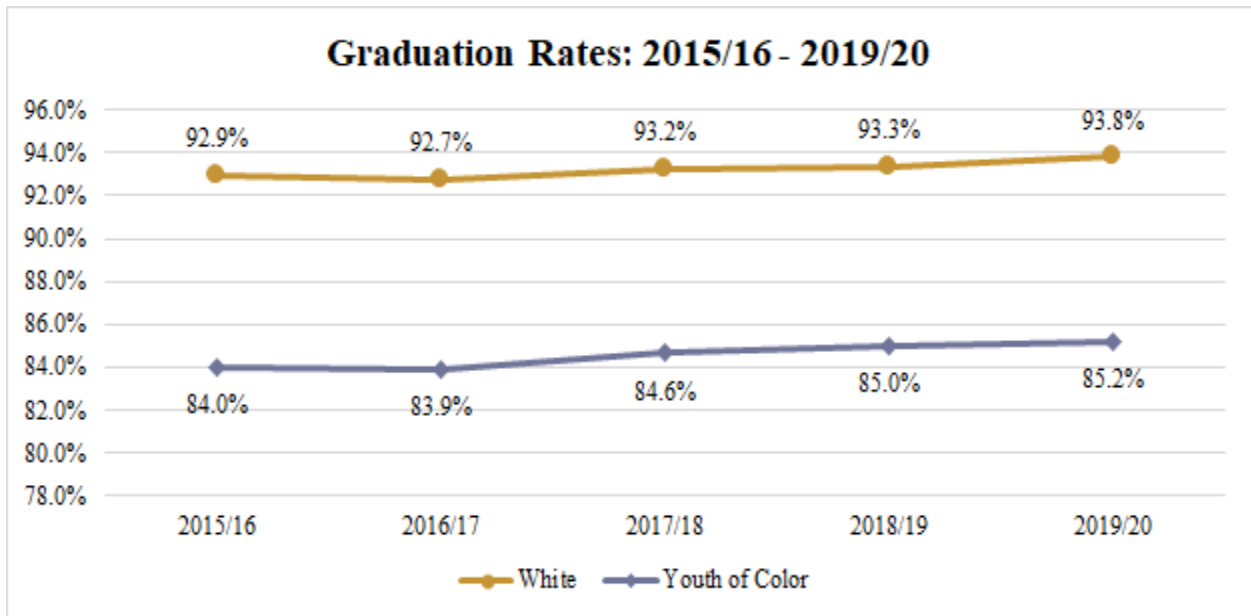


Figure 7: Four Year Dropout Rates by Race and Gender

Drop-Out Rates	2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		Percent Change 2015/16 -2019/20	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	1.3%	1.8%	1.2%	1.7%	1.1%	1.6%	1.1%	1.5%	0.9%	1.3%	-30.8%	-27.8%
African American	4.0%	5.1%	4.7%	5.2%	4.1%	4.9%	3.6%	5.4%	2.6%	4.3%	-35.0%	-15.7%
Hispanic	2.9%	4.0%	2.6%	4.1%	2.6%	3.9%	2.6%	3.9%	2.4%	3.4%	-17.2%	-15.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.4%	0.7%	1.7%	0.8%	1.5%	0.8%	2.0%	0.6%	1.2%	-14.3%	-14.3%
Native American	5.6%	3.3%	4.4%	6.0%	2.7%	6.4%	5.1%	4.6%	4.0%	6.0%	-28.6%	+81.8%
Multiracial	2.3%	3.4%	2.6%	3.9%	2.3%	3.1%	2.4%	2.6%	1.9%	2.2%	-17.4%	-35.3%
Total	1.6%	2.2%	1.6%	2.2%	1.5%	2.1%	1.5%	2.1%	1.2%	1.7%	-25.0%	-22.7%

Source: Iowa Department of Education: Drop-Out Rates

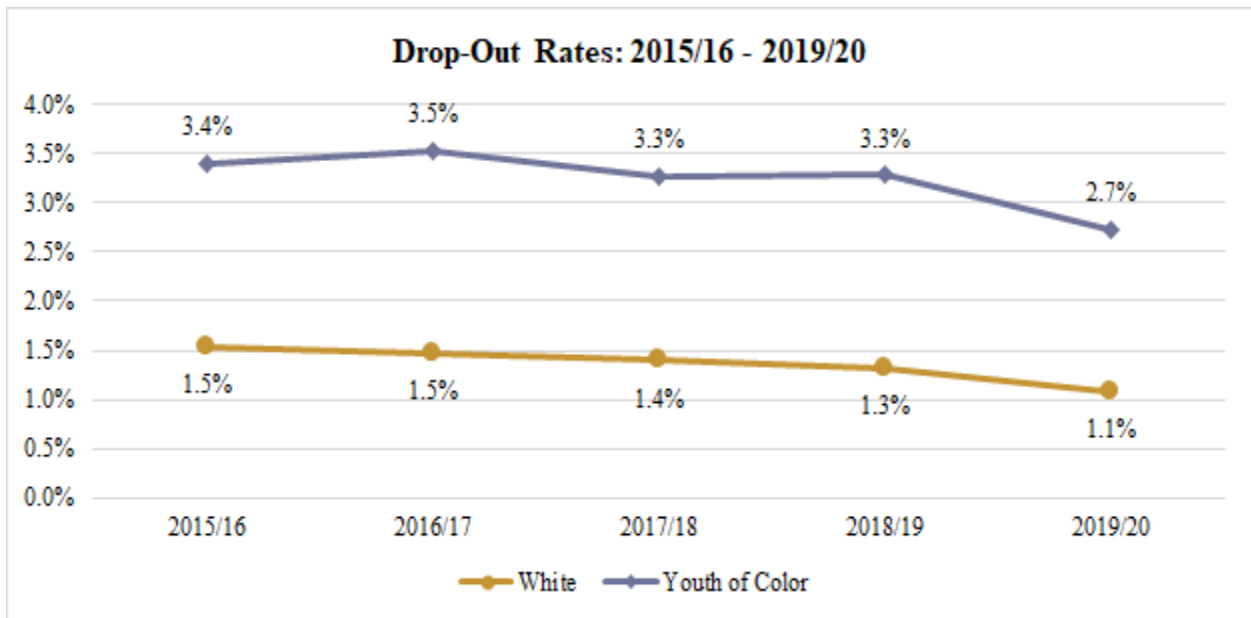


Figure 8: School Suspensions and Expulsions by Race and Gender

School Suspensions & Expulsions	2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		Percent Change 2015/16 -2019/20	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	6,775	22,053	6,540	22,774	7,103	23,383	9,077	27,902	6,623	19,683	-2.2%	-10.7%
African American	3,199	6,963	3,394	7,227	3,650	7,783	6,387	12,720	4,628	8,670	+44.7%	+24.5%
Hispanic	1,557	4,245	1,517	4,194	1,739	4,452	2,543	5,384	1,956	3,960	+25.6%	-6.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	117	305	103	344	129	397	170	524	112	419	-4.3%	+37.4%
Native American	122	149	150	187	128	227	128	324	91	178	-25.4%	+19.5%
Multiracial	837	2,214	947	2,460	1,057	2,860	2,052	4,837	1,509	3,347	+80.3%	+51.2%
Total	12,607	35,929	12,651	37,186	13,806	39,102	20,357	51,691	14,919	36,257	+18.3%	+0.9%

Source: Iowa Department of Education: School Suspensions (in-school and out-of-school) and Expulsions

In 2018/19 total is high because Davenport Community School District (CSD) reported a significant increase in the number of removals effecting statewide totals. To provide context, Davenport CSD reported 4,211 total removals in 2017/18 (8.0% of the total 52,908 reported statewide removals). This number increased to 20,444 total removals in 2018/19 (28.4% of the total 72,049 reported statewide removals).

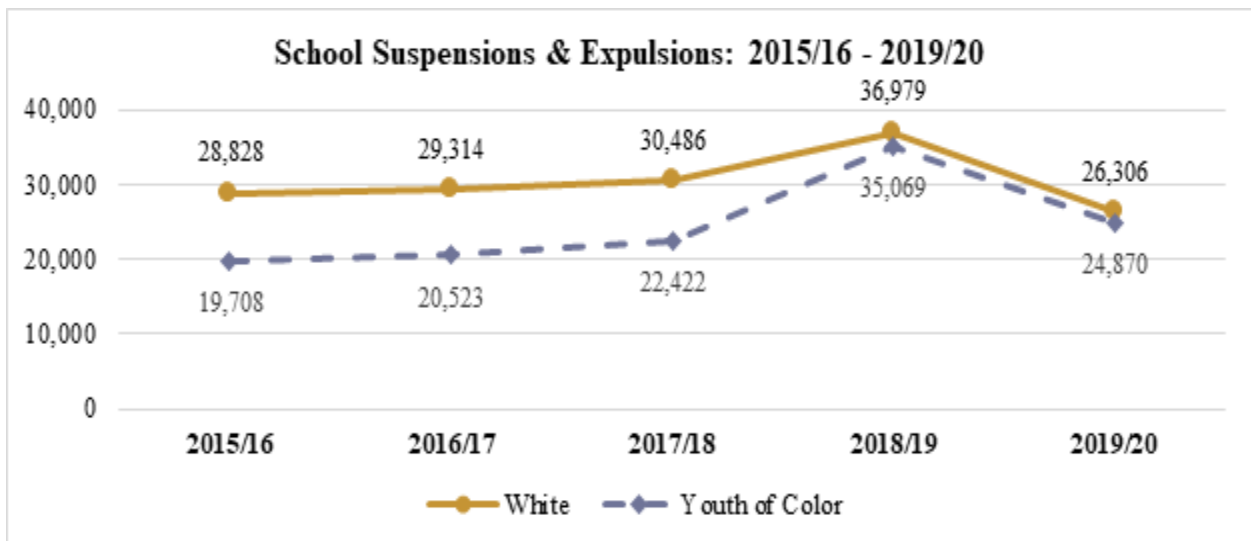


Figure 9: Juvenile Complaints (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Complaints (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	2,790	5,516	2,500	5,413	2,616	5,530	2,543	5,179	2,428	5,228	-13.0%	-5.2%
African American	1,087	2,380	901	2,327	1,026	2,436	1,074	2,631	1,398	2,735	+28.6%	+14.9%
Hispanic	347	710	285	724	248	720	307	692	336	665	-3.2%	-6.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	23	85	33	75	25	71	31	113	32	104	+39.1%	+22.4%
Native American	66	106	66	71	59	81	69	77	50	70	-24.2%	-34.0%
Other / Unknown	48	108	51	107	56	115	85	122	76	116	+58.3%	+7.4%
Total	4,361	8,905	3,836	8,717	4,030	8,953	4,139	8,814	4,320	8,918	-0.9%	+0.1%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 6, 2021

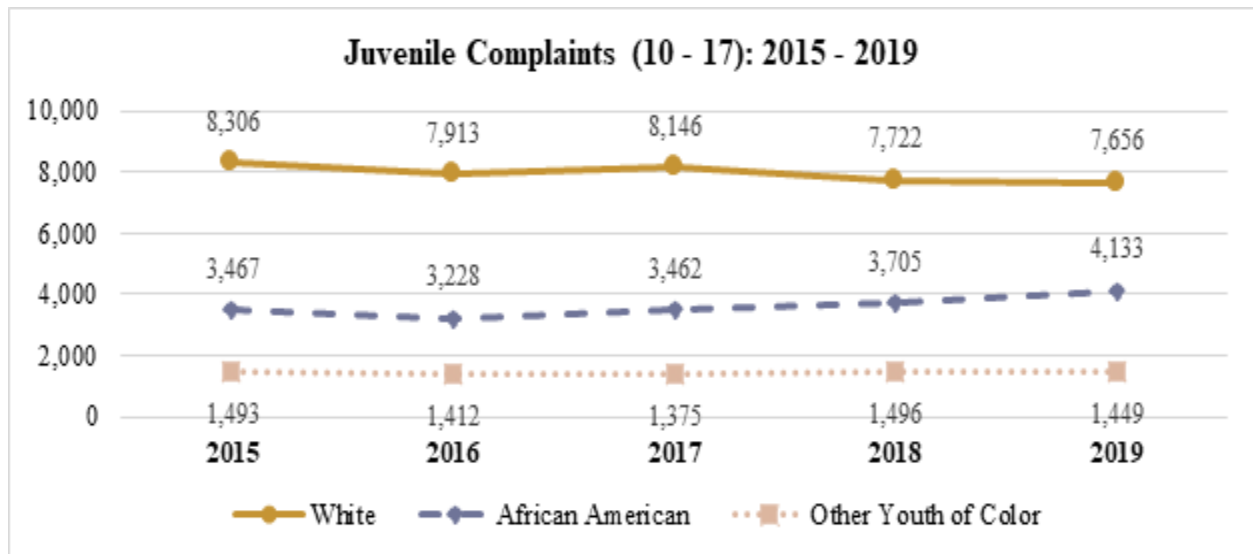


Figure 10: Juvenile Allegations (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Charges / Allegations (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White												
Felony	165	973	136	939	156	1,040	184	989	173	962	+4.8%	-1.1%
Indictable Misdemeanor	883	2,296	871	2,323	903	2,496	1,007	2,570	916	2,586	+3.7%	+12.6%
Simple Misdemeanor	1,859	3,592	1,558	3,454	1,664	3,279	1,474	2,889	1,462	2,884	-21.4%	-19.7%
Other	486	671	473	676	512	773	533	813	469	739	-3.5%	+10.1%
Total	3,393	7,532	3,038	7,392	3,235	7,588	3,198	7,261	3,020	7,171	-11.0%	-4.8%
African American												
Felony	48	460	49	492	125	627	130	696	118	600	+145.8%	+30.4%
Indictable Misdemeanor	301	896	359	1,136	357	1,023	428	1,271	485	1,311	+61.1%	+46.3%
Simple Misdemeanor	883	1,639	715	1,541	760	1,517	759	1,577	1,095	1,763	+24.0%	+7.6%
Other	35	85	44	86	60	161	79	163	108	210	+208.6%	+147.1%
Total	1,267	3,080	1,167	3,255	1,302	3,328	1,396	3,707	1,806	3,884	+42.5%	+26.1%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 6, 2021

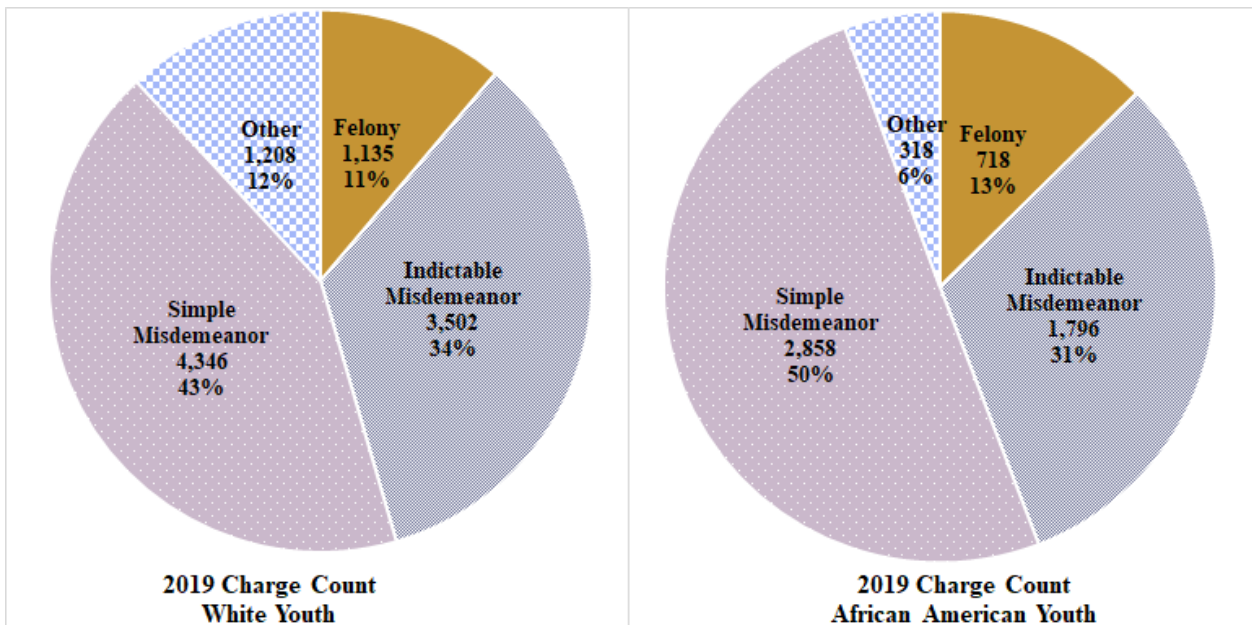


Figure 11: Juvenile Diversions (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Diversions (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	2,518	4,317	2,190	3,993	2,332	4,152	2,221	3,929	2,198	3,845	-12.7%	-10.9%
African American	898	1,482	675	1,375	783	1,415	790	1,575	1,109	1,709	+23.5%	+15.3%
Hispanic	292	535	258	549	238	511	264	491	266	491	-8.9%	-8.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	21	63	25	66	21	47	25	86	35	85	+52.4%	+34.9%
Native American	49	60	50	46	48	41	58	51	37	54	-24.5%	-10.0%
Other / Unknown	43	81	38	67	54	81	70	90	61	92	+41.9%	+13.6%
Total	3,821	6,538	3,236	6,096	3,476	6,247	3,428	6,222	3,706	6,276	-3.0%	-4.0%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 6, 2021

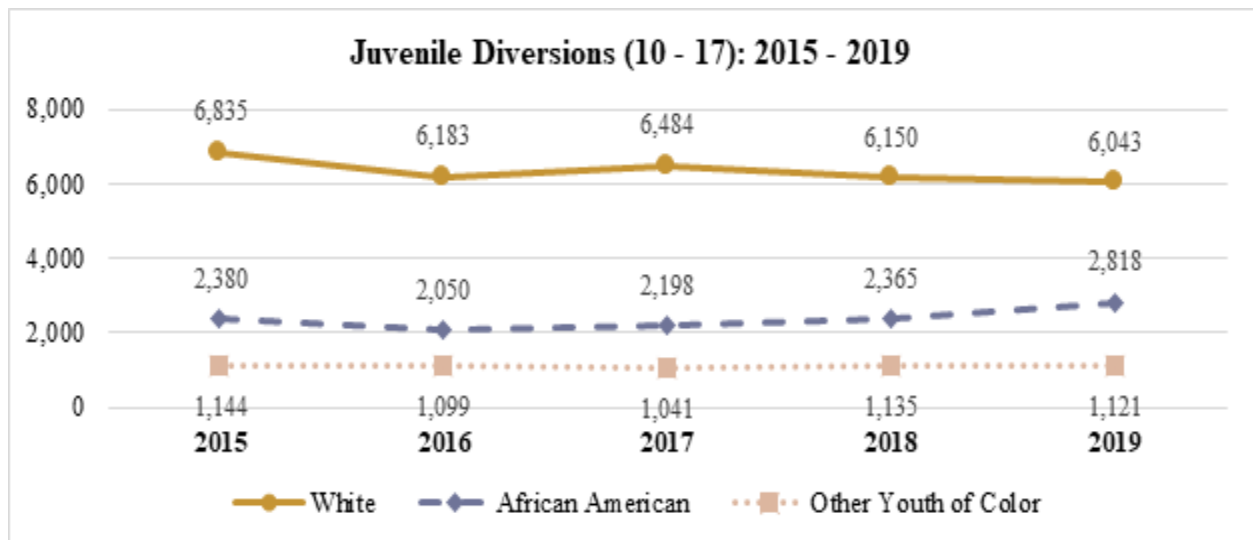


Figure 12: Juvenile Petitions Filed (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Petitions Filed (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	280	1,219	298	1,233	316	1,227	343	1,289	291	1,361	+3.9%	+11.6%
African American	214	857	204	942	214	943	284	1,058	277	1,095	+29.4%	+27.8%
Hispanic	49	142	36	173	31	194	31	208	51	182	+4.1%	+28.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	17	4	9	3	15	5	23	1	12	0.0%	-29.4%
Native American	6	29	8	29	7	37	5	19	12	14	+100.0%	-51.7%
Other / Unknown	15	22	6	38	9	32	16	39	23	31	+53.3%	+40.9%
Total	565	2,286	556	2,424	580	2,448	684	2,636	655	2,695	+15.9%	+17.9%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 6, 2021

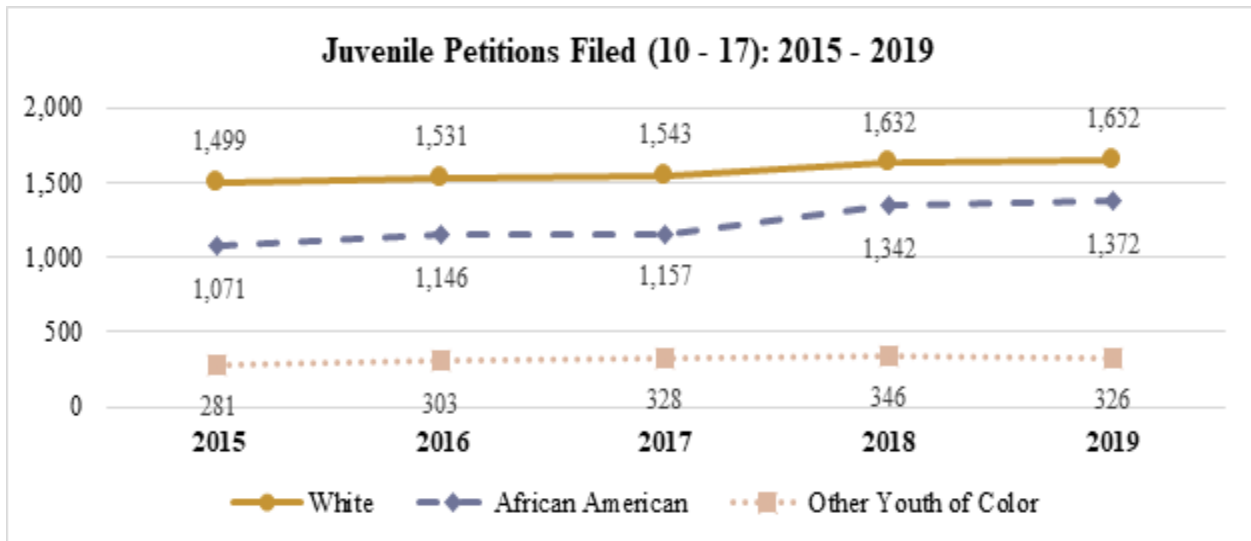


Figure 13: Juvenile Adjudications (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Adjudications (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	67	434	72	420	81	374	103	416	87	396	+29.9%	-8.8%
African American	52	242	58	301	56	279	60	324	63	347	+21.2%	+43.4%
Hispanic	9	60	17	46	8	66	14	71	11	52	+22.2%	-13.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	4	0	1	1	8	0	4	1	2	n/a	-50.0%
Native American	2	10	1	10	3	8	1	7	3	7	+50.0%	-30.0%
Other / Unknown	1	4	0	7	0	12	3	9	3	8	+200.0%	+100.0%
Total	131	754	148	785	149	747	181	831	168	812	+28.2%	+7.7%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 6, 2021

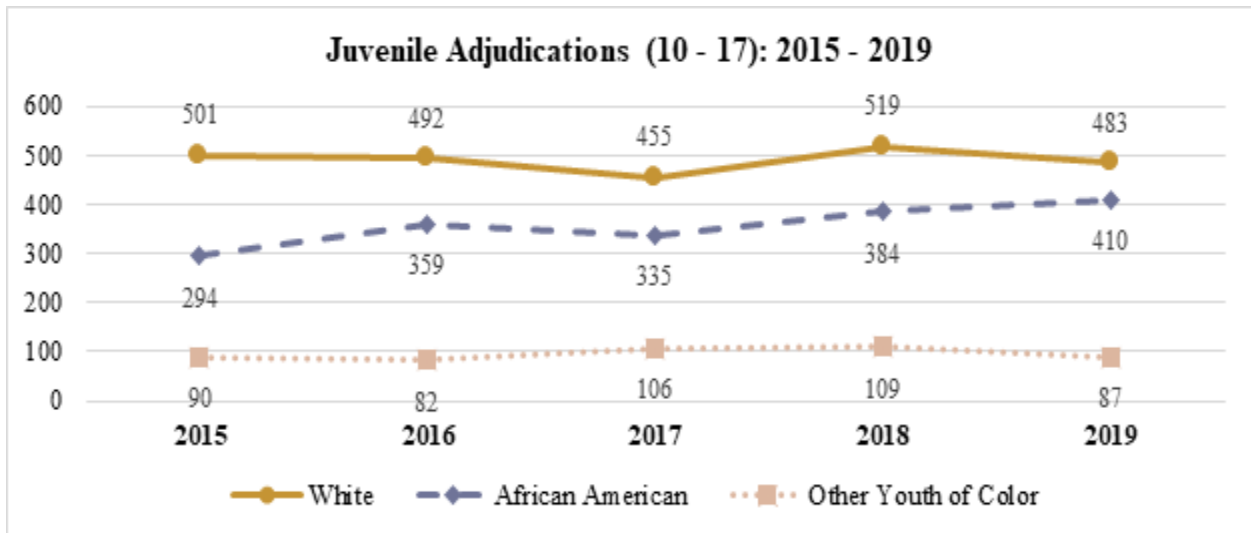


Figure 14: Juvenile Detention Holds (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Detention Holds (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	283	1,000	290	946	237	889	295	819	224	839	-20.8%	-16.1%
African American	182	676	154	705	155	711	225	918	170	763	-6.6%	+12.9%
Hispanic	36	167	35	188	46	157	48	203	36	188	0.0%	+12.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	8	3	3	4	17	2	14	2	4	+100.0%	-50.0%
Native American	12	32	11	21	10	21	9	19	10	16	-16.7%	-50.0%
Other / Unknown	44	77	55	86	46	82	43	90	31	114	-29.5%	+48.1%
Total	558	1,960	548	1,949	498	1,877	622	2,063	473	1,924	-15.2%	-1.8%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 6, 2021

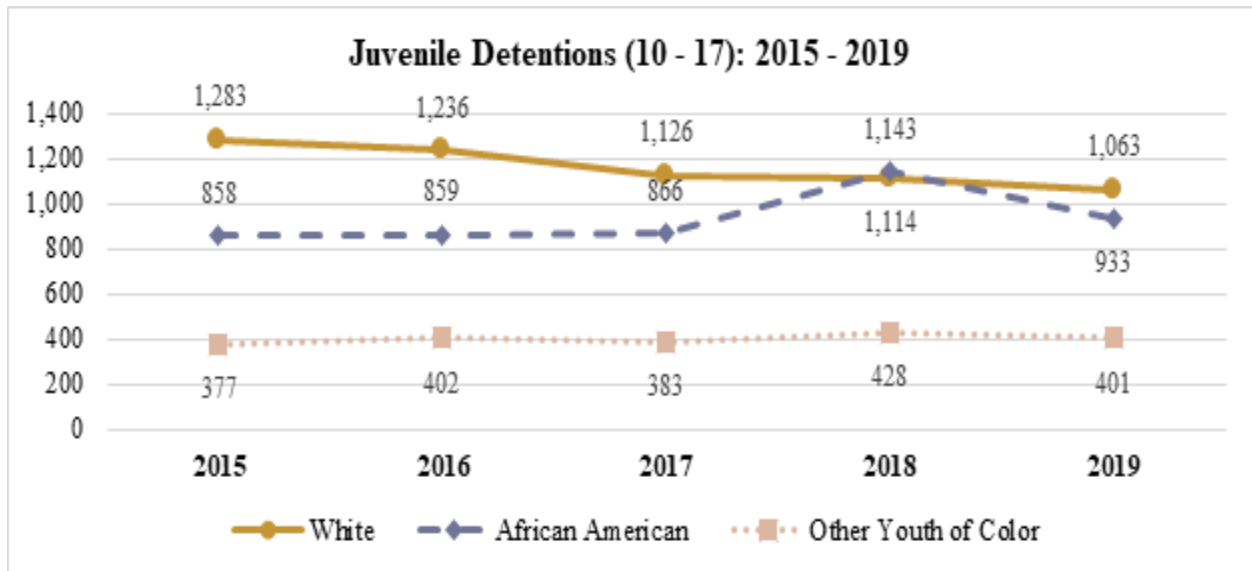
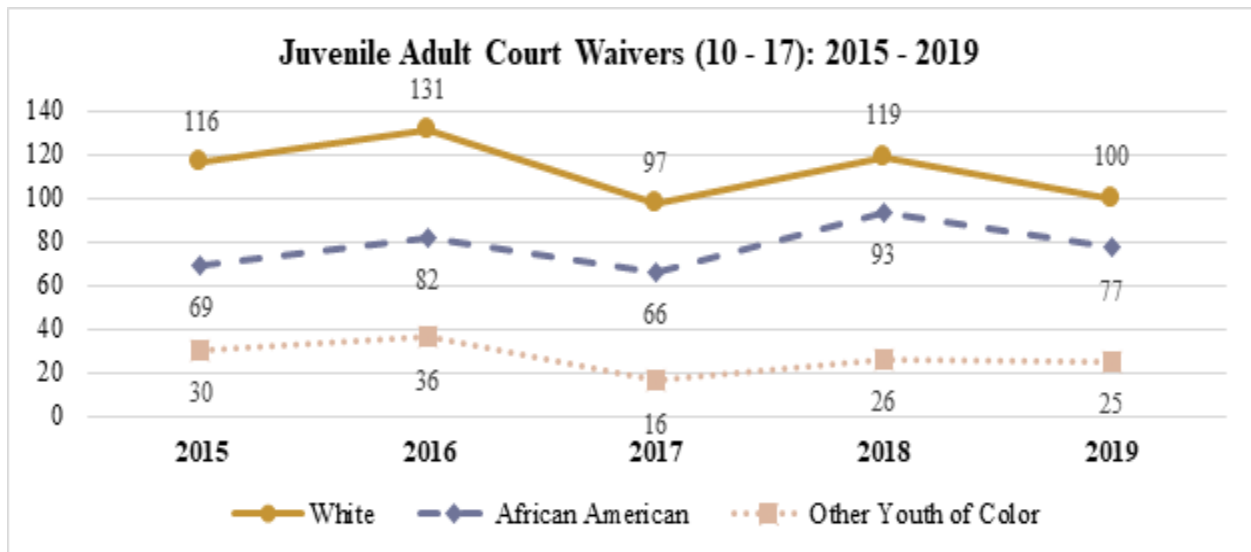


Figure 15: Adult Court Waivers (age 10-17) by Race and Gender

Adult Court Waivers (Age: 10-17)	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Percent Change 2015 -2019	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
White	31	85	22	109	16	81	21	98	12	88	-61.3%	+3.5%
African American	12	57	8	74	4	62	11	82	10	67	-16.7%	+17.5%
Hispanic	1	20	4	23	1	10	1	19	2	17	+100.0%	-15.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	n/a	n/a
Native American	0	4	0	3	0	2	1	2	0	1	n/a	-75.0%
Other / Unknown	0	5	1	4	0	3	0	3	0	1	n/a	-80.0%
Total	44	171	35	214	21	158	34	204	24	178	-45.5%	+4.1%

Source: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, April 8, 2021



Appendix B

Juvenile Justice Advisory Council

2021-2023 Strategic Planning Priority Areas

Priority 1: Prevention and Intervention

Goal 1: Identify programs, both inside and outside of Iowa, to determine which are leading models.

- Objective A: Engage stakeholders including Area Education Agencies (AEA), schools, service providers (including mental health, substance abuse, behavioral health, residential), community members, and system youth to identify existing programs/services for children 6-10 years of age.
 - Specifically focus on programs working with youth that are system involved, including the programs of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Court-Appointed Advocates (CASA), YMCA/YWCA, Boys & Girls Club.
- Objective B: Identify leading programs in Iowa, Midwest, and nation.
 - Complete a service gap analysis in communities, across judicial districts.
 - Conduct program assessments to ensure that the right youth are being served by the right program at right time.
 - Ensure that any leading models considered include racial and gender equity, and utilize a trauma-informed approach.

Goal 2: Determine how to expand the successes of those programs identified as leading models, and assist with replicating effective programs in Iowa and across the country.

- Objective A: Explore approaches to expand effective programs in Iowa and to replicate successful programs from other states.
- Objective B: Using the service gap analysis, prioritize expansion/replication of programs in the areas a high need has been identified.

Goal 3: In collaboration with the DMC Sub-Committee, enhance and expand Iowa's Pre-Charge Diversion (PCD) program.

- Objective A: Work with communities and law enforcement agencies to replicate and implement the PCD programs in additional communities across Iowa.
- Objective B: Ensure a uniform process is utilized to guarantee all first-time, low-risk offenders are referred to PCD in communities where available.
- Objective C: Initiate a statewide process to collect PCD data for analysis.

Priority 2: Behavioral Health

Goal 1: Determine the extent of screening and assessment for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning by the juvenile justice system.

- Objective A: Identify all screenings that are conducted by Juvenile Court Services (JCS) and by juvenile detention centers during the respective intake processes, including screenings for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning.
- Objective B: Determine the assessments and referral services that are triggered by JCS screenings, and the availability and ease to access these services.
- Objective C: Collaborate with other state agencies, local communities, and committees addressing the mental health, substance abuse, and family system support of youth.

Goal 2: Collect data on mental health, substance abuse, and family support resource utilization to analyze ongoing needs for services and to measure success for system involved youth.

- Objective A: Determine the availability of mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning screening information within the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA).
- Objective B: Identify screening tools for mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning.
- Objective C: Inventory the number of treatment beds for youth in the juvenile justice system for mental health, and substance abuse services, and the number of youths who receive treatment in the beds.
- Objective D: Partner with Juvenile Court Services to identify the number of youths who are referred to outpatient mental health services and who successfully complete services.
- Objective E: Identify the number of youths with identified mental health, substance abuse, or family system concerns that recidivate.
- Objective F: Determine the length of time youth with identified mental health, substance abuse, or family system concerns are involved with the juvenile justice system.
- Objective G: Ensure that all data collected includes analysis by gender and racial subgroups.

Priority 3: Transition of Youth

Goal 1: Extend the original jurisdiction of youth in the Juvenile Court System.

- Objective A: Study effective and efficient community-based and residential rehabilitative models to provide the appropriate level of care for moderate and high-risk juvenile offenders, up to the age of 21 years of age.
- Objective B: Estimate the need and cost for additional community-based and residential facilities for youth up to the age of 21 years of age.
- Objective C: Develop/support policy efforts including legislation to provide Juvenile Court Services with the authority and resources to continue providing services to youth already under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court up to the age of 21 years of age.
 - Legislation should include language that would exclude new criminal charges after age 18 from being included in the juvenile court.

Goal 2: Juvenile Court Maintains Exclusive Jurisdiction of All Juveniles.

- Objective A: Develop/support policy efforts including changes to legislation to eliminate automatically excluding youth ages 16 and 17 that are charged with a forcible felony and other certain felony offenses from the juvenile court.
- Objective B: Develop/support policy efforts including legislation that ensures the decision to waive youth to district court is a responsibility of juvenile court judges.
- Objective C: Develop/support policy efforts including legislation that youth are only waived to adult court for felony offenses.

Goal 3: Standardize Juvenile Reentry Best Practices.

- Objective A: Provide technical assistance and guidance to Juvenile Court Services to advance successful juvenile reentry by:
 - Enhancing and expanding family involvement with youth in congregate care to improve reentry results.
 - Enhancing and expanding support opportunities and services for youth transitioning from congregate care.

Priority 4: Gender Equity

Goal 1: Make the experiences and needs of girls who are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system (i.e., black, native, and LGBTQ+ youth) central to all ongoing work.

- Objective A: JJAC/CJJP uses racial and gender equity lenses intentionally throughout all of its work.
 - Generate a tangible method for assuring implementation.
 - Use council funds and leverage additional funds to support gender and racial equity training.
 - All JJAC members and sub-committee members are trained in the use of gender and racial equity lenses.
 - Collect data about any training received.
- Objective B: Continue collaborative work with the DMC subcommittee.
 - Continue annual joint meeting.
 - Establish a joint project/activity/goal (e.g., school to court pipeline).
- Objective C: Complete revamp of cornerstone publication, “Healing Justice”.
 - Continue workgroup meetings.
 - Solicit reviews by outside subject matter experts.
- Objective D: Support the implementation of recommendations related to gender and race from the IDA validation report.

Goal 2: Establishment of a specialized setting(s) for serious, violent, and chronic offenders as well as systemic measures to reduce the need for such a setting as outlined in the recommendations of the “Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders” report.

- Objective A: Select a small number of recommendations from the report to elevate.
 - Review report recommendations.
- Objective B: Engage legislative and/or other leadership champions interested in establishing this level of care.
 - Revisit talking points.
 - Make use of DHR Legislative Day on the Hill.

Goal 3: Fill the gaps and improve the quality in the continuum of care for girls in both residential and community-based service settings with well-defined options that allow for differential responses based on culture, risk level, development and needs.

- Objective A: Document what options/opportunities girls have compared to boys throughout the system to demonstrate any need for capacity building.
 - Use information from service inventory.
 - Assess and review service data side by side with males.
- Objective B: Explore ways to leverage DHS FFPSA work to fill service gaps for girls.
 - Identify any evidence-based services for JJ girls to replicate.
- Objective C: Explore ways to study low risk/high need girls under JJ supervision.

Priority 5: Disproportionate Minority Contact

Goal 1: Minimize system contact for low-risk youth of color by developing formal, statewide diversion opportunities through implementation of structures and policies at early juvenile justice system processing.

- Objective A: Develop statewide policy on pre-charge diversion.
 - Explore feasibility of developing/introducing/supporting legislation and/or policy around pre-charge diversion including impact of such changes in communities with minimal resources.
 - Provide support to individual communities on implementation of pre-charge diversion efforts.
 - Continue work on pre-charge diversion application (data collection).
 - Seek OJJDP technical assistance to advance a standardized model for pre-charge diversion.
- Objective B: Develop statewide policy to minimize the use of detention for technical violations of probation.
 - Continue to provide training and implementation oversight on use of detention screening tool (DST).
 - Seek OJJDP technical assistance to advance standardized practices for response to technical violations of probation.
 - Explore alternatives to detention for violations of probation.
- Objective C: Expand/amend utilization of the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) to use the contained information to understand and address system youth's strengths and challenges with regards to mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family functioning.
 - Survey each judicial district to determine mental health/substance abuse resource utilization for system youth.
 - Collect aggregate data from identified facilities and service providers to determine the representation of youth of color and young women in those settings.
- Objective D: Implement recommendations related to race and gender from the IDA validation.
 - Advance recommendations to State Court Administration from ITFYW and DMC sub committees.
- Objective E: Advance DMC efforts and priorities through support of key legislative/policy initiatives.
 - Support the recommendations (including legislative recommendations) contained in the Iowa Girls Justice Initiative (IGJI) "Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders" report.

- Seek refinement and expansion of minority impact statement legislation to effect bills that impact minority overrepresentation.
- Support the concept of prohibiting racial profiling to address disparate treatment of minorities in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.
- Advance the recommendations contained in the “Racial Disparities Three Decision Points” report with regards to pre-charge diversion and waiver of youth to adult court.

Goal 2: Continue Collaboration with Iowa Task Force for Young Women to ensure appropriate systematic response and considerations for young women.

- Objective A: Finalize key priorities for Black young women.
 - Review/analyze data (school suspension, JCS, detention, deep end, etc.).
 - Study research-causes for Black females’ overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system.
- Objective B: Hold joint meeting(s) between DMC Sub and Iowa’s Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW).
 - Determine specific areas/activities for the two groups to collaborate.
 - Staff and subcommittee chairs will actively coordinate efforts.

Goal 3: Explore and effect change for deep-end youth of color including those youth under adult court supervision.

- Objective A: Utilize basic data format developed by ITFYW (and other data sets) to develop and write an action plan for boys of color eligible for placement at STS. (using eligibility for State Training School Placement (STS) according to Iowa Code §232.52(2) to define the cohort).
 - Collaborate with ITFYW for action plan development to include eligible young women of color.
- Objective B: Investigate and provide recommendations for youth under adult court supervision as referenced in the “Racial Disparities Three Decision Points” report.
 - Access federal technical assistance, as required, to further efforts.
- Objective C: Advance recommendations for supporting successful re-entry for youth from congregate care (group care, state training school, etc.) settings.
 - Work with Juvenile Court Services and provider agencies to develop and advance recommendations for family engagement and case planning for the re-entry of youth from congregate care settings.
 - Ensure specific strategies exist to address the needs for youth of color and their families.

APPENDIX C

Project Design and Implementation Requirements

- **Describe how the state plan is supported by or takes account of scientific knowledge regarding adolescent development and behavior and regarding the effects of delinquency prevention programs and juvenile justice interventions on adolescents; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a).**

There are five priority areas identified in Iowa's 2021 Title II Formula Grant application: *Prevention and Early Intervention*, *Behavioral Health*, *Transition of Youth*, *Gender Equity*, and *Disproportionate Minority Contact*. There has been an effort to incorporate and promote evidence-based practices (EBP), promising practices, and best practices in supporting adolescent development throughout the implementation and advancement of the priority areas. These efforts are detailed in the following paragraphs and throughout the Proposal Narrative.

Efforts have included the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) reviews, the development and implementation of Iowa's Decision Matrix, Iowa's Juvenile Reentry System (JReS) efforts through OJJDP's Second Chance Act Juvenile Reentry grant, the use of evidence-based practices such as Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Aggression Replacement Training (ART) by Juvenile Court Services (JCS), and the state's long-time efforts of working with the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI); see additional details in subsequent sections.

The *Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)* efforts have focused on evidence-based strategies to mitigate racial and ethnic disparities in Iowa's juvenile justice system. This includes

statewide efforts such as the expansion of pre-charge diversion for youth through a toolkit designed for local DMC collaborations.⁸

Among the *Gender Equity* efforts has been the promotion of the *Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders* report developed by the Iowa Girls Justice Initiative (IGJI) in 2017 and the related annual data report; see additional details in a subsequent section. The Iowa Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW), a JJAC sub-committee, has also long promoted best practices with publications detailing how to use a female-responsive approach and is currently overhauling its primary publication of that nature to bring it into alignment with new research.

When training law enforcement officers and correctional officers on the requirements of the JJDPa there is an opportunity to educate officers on the research and advancements in scientific knowledge of adolescent brain development, and behavior development, and how federal and state court decisions have been impacted by this increased scientific knowledge.

- **Provide for an equitable distribution of the award funds within the state, including in rural areas; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(6).**

Iowa distributes Title II Formula Grant funds through an allocation process to the eight Juvenile Court Services (JCS) offices. These funds are allocated based on the juvenile population in the eight judicial districts. These eight judicial districts cover all 99 counties in Iowa, and each judicial district has urban and rural communities. Each local JCS office develops a plan and budget for its portion of the allocation that addresses the needs of the youth that it serves. The JCS offices contract with units of local government and private service providers to implement their respective

⁸ Center for Children’s Law and Policy (2019). Iowa’s Pre-charge Diversion Toolkit. <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/media/Iowa%20Diversion%20Toolkit%20-%20Final%20Draft%205-2-2019.pdf>

plans. These local plans are approved and monitored by the Designated State Agency (DSA) with consideration to the priorities and goals developed by the SAG.

- **Contain an analysis of gender-specific services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(i).**

The *gender equity* priority of the three-year plan was developed based on the following analysis of gender-specific services in Iowa. The goals and objectives within the *gender equity* priority are guided by this analysis.

The growing emphasis on evidence-based services has hindered the use of both female-responsive and culturally-responsive approaches. It is both time-consuming and expensive to conduct the research and evaluation necessary for a service to be considered evidence-based and the vast majority of the services currently labeled as such are neither female nor culturally-responsive. For example, in the OJJDP Model Programs Guide, there are currently 361 programs listed. Of that 361, only 15 (4%) are specifically for females, with two labeled as “Effective”, 12 labeled as “Promising” and one having “No Effects.” Some of these listed programs are also specific to narrow settings and/or have other parameters that would limit their reach. None of the Effective or Promising programs listed for females are in use in Iowa.

OJJDP Model Programs Guide - Female Programs

Title	Rating
Enhanced Assess, Acknowledge, Act Sexual Assault Resistance Program	Effective
Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide for Education and Therapy	Effective
Athletes Targeting Healthy Exercise & Nutrition Alternatives	Promising
Gender-Responsive Intervention for Female Juvenile Offenders	Promising
Home-Visiting Program for Adolescent Mothers	Promising
Juvenile Justice Anger Management Treatment for Girls	Promising

KEEP SAFE	Promising
Movimiento Ascendencia	Promising
Risk Detection/Executive Function Intervention	Promising
SAM (Solution, Action, Mentorship) Program for Adolescent Girls	Promising
SNAP Girls	Promising
Social Learning/Feminist Intervention	Promising
Taking Charge	Promising
The Women’s Program	Promising
Prime Time	No Effects

Iowa has initiated use of a Service Inventory to capture available services across the state. While not reflective of changes to the service array happening due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Service Inventory shows a clear lack of services that are specifically targeted toward females and black females in particular. Table 3 is a list of the handful of community-based services in Iowa’s eight judicial districts that are targeted specifically toward females.

Services in Iowa Targeting Females

Judicial District	Service
First	None
Second	Female Gender Specific Group
Third	Girls Inc. of Sioux City
Fourth	None
Fifth	Girls Self-efficacy Training Girls Circle Girls Day Treatment Too Good to Lose (girls specialty court)

Sixth	G World (primarily for black girls) (In)Power
Seventh	Young Women’s Leadership Group
Eighth	Gender-specific Life Skills

An examination of girls involved in Iowa’s juvenile justice system between 2016-2020 shows that among the subset of girls who received a service, they received a “Gender Specific” service on average 16.6% of the time.

Table 4: Services Ended by State Fiscal Year, Gender and Type

		State Fiscal Year End									
		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
		N	% within SFY	N	% within SFY	N	% within SFY	N	% within SFY	N	% within SFY
Gender Specific Service	Female	11	7.6%	13	9.0%	33	22.8%	33	22.8%	30	20.7%

There are evidence-based services for females in use in Iowa that are not included in OJJDP’s Model Programs Guide (i.e. Girls Circle) and there are evidence-based services that are not female or culturally-responsive in use in Iowa that are included in OJJDP’s Model Programs Guide (i.e. Functional Family Therapy). Available options to enhance the opportunities for girls to receive evidence-based services include:

- Implementation of female and culturally-responsive, evidence-based services; or
- Expansion of existing evidence-based services supplemented with female and culturally-responsive training.

- **Contain a plan for providing needed gender-specific services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(ii).**

In alignment with the three-year plan's priority areas, particularly the *gender equity* priority, and in collaboration with the JJAC, Iowa has applied for OJJDP's FY2021 Reducing Risk for Girls in the Juvenile Justice System. If Iowa receives this grant it proposes to undertake an approach that involves multiple elements under one primary umbrella of soliciting applications (sub-grantees) using a competitive process. This approach will facilitate the creation and/or expansion of female and culturally-responsive services targeted toward Black girls who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system and do so at disproportionately high rates.

Applicants for Sub-Awards will be Required to Address These Elements in Proposals

1. Need for a new or expanded service
2. Assessment of DMC in the intended service area
3. Assessment of rural and high/chronic poverty in the intended service area
4. Service-related training plan
5. Participation in the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol™ SPEP process

Iowa's State Advisory Group has recently determined that the approach outlined above will be supported specifically with Title II funds.

- **Contain a plan for providing needed services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency in rural areas; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(iii).**

As part of the plans provided by the eight Juvenile Court Service offices for the allocation of Title II funds they receive from the pass-through dollars they must include a plan on how the money will be used across their judicial district to prevent and treat juvenile delinquency. This includes the rural communities and the urban communities within their individual districts.

- **Contain a plan to provide alternatives to detention for status offenders, survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, and others, where appropriate, such as specialized or problem-solving courts or diversion to home-based or community-based services or treatment for those youth in need of mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring disorder services at the time such juveniles first come into contact with the juvenile justice system; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(iv).**

Iowa Code section §232.22(1) does not permit the placement of status offenders in juvenile detention, city lock-up, or county jail. Additionally, Iowa Code section §232.22(8) prohibits the secure detention of juveniles charged with or adjudicated on the offense of possession of alcohol under the legal age. Iowa has a unified court system, under the Judicial Branch. This unified system is divided into eight geographical regions; each of these with an independent JCS agency. These JCS offices have worked with local providers to develop programs for the youth that they serve, and have identified those programs and services in their regions that are available for these youth. Among these services includes a Female Juvenile Offenders Court in the 5th judicial district, and Juvenile Drug Courts in the 3rd, 5th, and 8th judicial districts. Currently in Iowa, there are no specific services that exist to provide comprehensive support for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation.

- **Contain a plan to reduce the number of children housed in secure detention and corrections facilities who are awaiting placement in residential treatment programs; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(v).**

The priorities in Iowa's three-year plan were developed using a holistic approach to juvenile justice system reform. By enhancing the availability and coordination of services under the priorities of *prevention and early intervention* and *behavioral health*, the needs of youth impacted

by Iowa's juvenile justice system can be addressed through less restrictive means. Iowa's Department of Human Services (DHS) is represented on the SAG to ensure collaboration in statewide efforts to reduce the number of children housed in detention who are awaiting placement in residential treatment. As mentioned in the Proposal Narrative, DHS administers regulations and rules over Iowa's congregate care facilities including detention and residential treatment facilities. Their participation and partnership is integral to the development and execution of Iowa's three-year plan. Through implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act, DHS has had a concentrated effort to reduce the number of youth being placed in congregate care, and instead serve these youth in their homes through community-based programs. This reduction of youth being served by congregate care has had a positive impact of reducing the number of youth placed in a juvenile detention facility while they await placement in a congregate care setting.

- **Contain a plan to engage family members, where appropriate, in the design and delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and treatment services, particularly post-placement; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(vi).**

Family engagement is addressed in Iowa's three-year plan through the priorities of *behavioral health* and *transition of youth*. The *behavioral health* priority directs efforts to explore the extent of family involvement and family functioning and improve data collection for these areas. Further, the *transition of youth* priority supports the standardization of best practices for youth reentry from congregate care (placement). Within these best practices is an explicit call for engagement of families in reentry planning and coordination. This work aligns with Iowa's Juvenile Reentry Systems (JReS) efforts which have been, and continue to be, supported through OJJDP's Second Chance Act Juvenile Reentry funding (2015 and 2019). This work is currently funded until 2022.

As part of the JReS efforts, the Juvenile Reentry Task Force (JRTF), comprising the State Court Administration, juvenile justice system officials, congregate care providers, and other system stakeholders, is considering policy and practice changes to increase family engagement in post placement services coordination. The JRTF is engaged in technical assistance to support these efforts including: operationalizing family engagement, assessing the extent of data collected to measure family engagement, and development of standardized materials that integrate the principles of family engagement.

- **Contain a plan to use community-based services to respond to the needs of at-risk youth or youth who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(vii).**

As part of the plans provided by the eight Juvenile Court Service offices for the allocation of Title II funds they receive from the pass-through dollars, specific detail must be provided as to how the funds will be used to leverage community-based services. This intentional focus aligns with the statewide practices used in the administration of Graduated Sanctions funds. Since the early 1990's, DHS has allocated Graduated Sanctions funding to Iowa's eight JCS offices. Approximately \$15 million is available statewide and is allocated to the judicial districts on a child population formula similar to the formula used in the Title II allocation process. JCS contracts this funding to youth serving agencies. The funding supports community-based services for JJ youth including: school-based supervision, group and individualized counseling, tracking and monitoring, life skills and supportive enhancements provided in a community-based setting.

- **Contain a plan to promote evidence-based and trauma-informed programs and practices; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(viii).**

The provision of evidence-based and trauma-informed programs and practices is a primary focus within the administration of Title II funds. CJJP has been engaged with the process of moving toward a more evidence-based, data driven system for many years. One project that represents that bridge between past and future is the development of the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (™). The SPEP is a validated, data driven rating instrument for determining how well an existing service matches research evidence for the effectiveness of that particular type of intervention in terms of reducing the recidivism of juvenile offenders. Developed by Dr. Mark Lipsey at the Peabody Research Institute of Vanderbilt University, the SPEP operationalizes more than 700 research studies allowing practitioners to directly apply research to juvenile justice practice. It allows both brand name and non-brand name services to be matched to a large body of research on program effectiveness. Once matched, the SPEP can be used to compare the key characteristics of a specific program to the characteristics the research shows to be associated with programs that are effective for reducing recidivism. Simply put, the SPEP serves as a practical way to evaluate services for juvenile offenders in a standardized, scientific, and sustainable manner.

CJJP has been evaluating both community-based and residential services using the SPEP since 2013. Beginning in 2019, the SPEP became incorporated as a part of the requirements Title II funded services must meet. Currently, the SPEP is being institutionalized into the newly developed, statewide continuous quality improvement process which JCS has put in place related to the FFPSA. Additional mechanisms leveraged through the administration of Title II funds to ensure services are trauma-informed and evidence-based are:

- Justice Data Warehouse: The JDW is a central repository of key criminal and juvenile justice information from the Judicial Branch (JB) Case Management (CM) system and also contains information from the Iowa Corrections Offender Network (ICON), which includes prison services and community-based corrections data. The overall mission of the JDW is to provide the various branches of government, and other entities with improved statistical and decision support pertaining to justice system activities. The Justice JDW is managed and maintained by CJJP.
- Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA-Comprehensive JCS Risk/Need Tool): A short form of the IDA is completed at intake and determines youth risk level. JCS staff complete the long-form IDA for youth who are adjudicated delinquent. The long-form of the IDA is a more comprehensive version which includes both criminogenic and social elements related to the needs of the youth (delinquency history, substance abuse, mental health, peers, school-related issues, etc.) and is used for case planning. The IDA is maintained on the JB CM system.
- Decision Making Matrix: CJJP is coordinating the development of a data-driven, structured decision-making tool that uses risk level, as determined by the IDA, and most serious active offense to determine the optimal level of supervision and intensity of services for youth. It uses historical data from similarly situated youth to inform present decisions with the intention of increasing the likelihood of success related to those decisions. Two local jurisdictions have been piloting the Decision Matrix. Based on the success of that effort, expansion will include other jurisdictions.

- **Contain a plan that shall be implemented not later than December 21, 2020, to—**
 - **eliminate the use of restraints of known pregnant juveniles housed in secure juvenile detention and correction facilities during labor, delivery, and postpartum recovery, unless credible, reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff, or others.**
 - **eliminate the use of abdominal restraints, leg and ankle restraints, wrist restraints behind the back, and four-point restraints on known pregnant juveniles, unless—**
 - **credible, reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff, or others; or**
 - **reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and credible risk of escape that cannot be reasonably minimized through any other method; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(ix).**

On January 8, 2020, the Iowa Department of Human Services, in consultation with CJJP instituted new administrative rules prohibiting the use of restraints during labor, delivery, and postpartum recovery, unless there are credible, reasonable grounds that the youth presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff or others; and, a facility may not use abdominal restraints, leg and ankle restraints, wrist restraints behind the back, and four-point restraints on known pregnant youth, unless there are credible, reasonable grounds that the youth presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff or others, or an immediate risk of escape and that risk cannot be reasonably minimized through other methods. The new rules on these restrictions are detailed in Iowa Administrative Code, Section 441, Title XII, Chapter 105, Paragraph 16, Sub-paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f).

- **Provide for the coordination and maximum utilization of evidence-based and promising juvenile delinquency programs, programs operated by public and private agencies and organizations, and other related programs (such as education, special education, recreations, health, and welfare programs) in the state; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(8).**

Beginning in 2019, the SPEP became incorporated as a part of the requirements Title II funded services must meet. This update was made to ensure programs operated using Title II funds are evidence-based and promising juvenile delinquency programs. As mentioned, the SPEP is a validated, data driven rating instrument for determining how well an existing service matches research evidence for the effectiveness of that particular type of intervention in terms of reducing the recidivism of juvenile offenders. Additionally, prior to the receipt of funds, the eight Juvenile Court Service offices must submit a plan detailing the scope of the intended services that will be provided using Title II funds. This plan must include detail as to how the services meet the expectation for being evidence-based and promising juvenile delinquency programs.

- **Provide for procedures to be established for protecting the rights of recipients of services and for assuring appropriate privacy with regard to records; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(18).**

Iowa Code section §232.147 addresses the privacy and confidentiality of juvenile records, including social records and delinquency records. This section addresses which agencies in the state, private and public, that have permission to access these records, and the purpose for which the records can be accessed. Additionally, this section details the process that these agencies must follow when sharing these records. Under this section, social and delinquency records are private, however, there is an exception for delinquency records when the allegation is for a forcible felony as defined by Iowa code when the presiding judge permits the release of the delinquency records in accordance with this code section.

- **Provide that the designated State agency will**
 - (A) To the extent practicable give priority in funding to programs and activities that are based on rigorous, systematic, and objective research that is scientifically-based;**
 - (B) from time to time, but not less than annually, review its plan and submit to the Administrator an analysis and evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs and activities carried out under the plan, and any modifications in the plan, including the survey of State and local needs, that it considers necessary; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (22).**

As described in the Proposal Narrative and previously detailed, since 2019 CJJP and the SAG require that programs and services JCS is looking to fund with their allocation of the pass-through Title II funds participate in SPEP. This requirement, along with the detailed plans submitted by JCS outlining services that will be provided ensures that activities are based on rigorous, systematic, and objective research that is scientifically-based.

As a requirement of receiving Title II funds, JCS must submit quarterly progress reports to CJJP that are compiled and shared with the SAG. These progress reports collect aggregate, case-level information for every youth that receives a service paid for by Title II. The progress reporting form includes gathering a minimum of data on a youth's risk level (if known), age, race, and gender. At least annually, the SAG reviews the compiled progress reports along with the goals, objectives, and activities in the three-year plan to evaluate progress and determine if any modifications should be made. A summary of this analysis will be made available to OJJDP as required.

- **Provide for the coordinated use of funds provided under the award with other Federal and State funds directed at juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention programs; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (28).**

As detailed in the Proposal Narrative and previously in this document, Iowa has intentionally augmented and strengthened the use of the Formula Grant Title II funds. Title II funds bolster and enhance the services and programs JCS provides through state funded DHS Graduated Sanctions. Likewise, there have been efforts by CJJP and the SAG to align Title II funds with other federal funds (e.g., Second Chance Act Juvenile Reentry, Reducing Risk for Girls in the Juvenile Justice System, Family First Prevention Services Act, Delinquency Prevention Grants Program) to further address the priority areas developed in the three-year plan.

- **Describe policies, procedures, and training in effect, if any, for the staff of juvenile state correctional facilities to eliminate the use of dangerous practices, unreasonable restraints, and unreasonable isolation, including by developing effective behavior management techniques; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (29).**

In March 2020, the State Training School (STS) for Boys at Eldora was found to have violated resident's constitutional rights by not providing adequate mental health care, using isolation as punishment, and using mechanical restraints for extended periods of time. The facility was required to develop a corrective action plan to address the shortcomings identified in the court case, *C.P.X. vs. Garcia*. The facility was placed under supervision by two federal monitors, and is currently under the supervision of those monitors while they implement the changes developed in the corrective action plan. Activities included in the corrective action plan have included, but are not limited to elimination of physical restraints and extended isolation, an increase in the number of mental health professionals at the facility, and an emphasis on positive behavior reinforcement.

The STS was found in compliance with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) in May 2020. The STS has made the decision to move away from accreditation by the American Correctional Association (ACA), last completed in May 2018, to monitoring program effectiveness at the facility through a Performance-based Standards (PbS) program.

- **Describe:**

- **The evidence-based methods that will be used to conduct mental health and substance abuse screening, assessment, referral, and treatment for juveniles who—**
 - **request a screening;**
 - **show signs of needing a screening; or**
 - **are held for a period of more than 24 hours in a secure facility that provides for an initial screening; and**
- **How the state will seek, to the extent practicable, to provide or arrange for mental health and substance abuse disorder treatment for juveniles determined to be in need of such treatment; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (30).**

During the intake process, juveniles referred to juvenile court services (JCS) are screened with the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) tool. This assessment tool has multiple questions that evaluate whether a juvenile may need a further mental health and/or substance abuse evaluation. If JCS determines that a juvenile requires a further evaluation, there are the options of a private community-based provider, public mental health services, or possibly commitment to one of the state's mental health institutions for a 30-day evaluation program. Juveniles that are confined within a juvenile detention center will receive a mental health screening. Most Iowa juvenile detention centers use the MAYSI-II, generally within the first 24-hours of admission.

Like most states, Iowa could benefit from additional mental health and substance abuse practitioners; especially, in rural communities where distance to a practitioner is as large of a barrier as availability of services. However, the most pressing need for juveniles with mental health or substance abuse concerns is the crisis response when a juvenile is experiencing an acute mental health emergency. This includes having trained first responders that can identify mental health and substance abuse emergencies and issues and specialized response teams trained in managing mental health crisis situations that have access to emergency placement and stabilization programs.

- **Describe how reentry planning by the state for juveniles will include—**
 - **A written case plan based on an assessment of needs that includes—**
 - **the pre-release and post-release plans for the juveniles;**
 - **the living arrangement to which the juveniles are to be discharged; and**
 - **any other plans developed for the juveniles based on an individualized assessment;**
 - **Review processes; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (31).**

The *transition of youth* priority in the three-year plan supports the standardization of best practices for youth reentry from congregate care (placement). As previously described, Iowa's JReS effort and JRTF provide direction for statewide reentry policies and practices. Based on example federal and state regulations, the JRTF developed the state's first comprehensive state-level transition policy related to juvenile reentry from placement. This policy outlines planning requirements that must take place while a youth is in placement and continue through the time a youth returns to their community.

The statewide transition policy notes important case planning requirements. As part of case planning, JCO's are required to complete permanency and transition plans. These plans are

required by Iowa Law and administrative rule. Each of the plans requires consideration and planning for youths housing upon release from placement.

As a part of reentry planning, Iowa utilizes Youth Transition Decision Making teams (YTDM's) that enhance youth's ability to drive their own reentry effort. A key aspect of Iowa's JReS approach involves the utilization of YTDM's for all juvenile justice youth (16 and older) in congregate care. YTDM's are youth-led meetings that are facilitated by an individual trained/approved in this specialized model.

The YTDM model assists in the development of permanency/transition plans. Importantly, YTDM's are a tool used to foster support for a youth's return to their community. YTDM teams are composed of individuals the youth invites. The team members assist the youth to develop their individual goals and plans and actions needed to achieve the goals. Team members usually include key formal and informal juvenile justice system representatives, family members, school personnel, and supportive individuals from the home community.

As a result of the YTDM, a personalized transition plan is developed for each youth. The effectiveness of YTDM is predicated on the extent to which supportive individuals from the various facets of youth's lives are engaged in the process. By establishing reliable supports in the youth's reentry continuum, the YTDM model promotes self-sufficiency in the transition to adulthood with its focus on the youth's future plan for success.

The YTDM is a best practice that DHS has adopted for child welfare youth. The principles of YTDM are also included in the adopted statewide Juvenile Court Services transition policy related to juvenile reentry from placement. Ultimately, the YTDM model is consistent with national research which asserts that juvenile justice system personnel should meaningfully involve the

caring adults in youth's lives from the point of case inception so that they understand, buy into, and are fully equipped in their role to holistically support youth.

- **Describe policies and procedures, if any, to—**
 - **Screen for, identify, and document in records of the state the identification of victims of domestic human trafficking, or those at risk of such trafficking, upon intake; and**
 - **Divert youth described in subparagraph (A) to appropriate programs or services, to the extent practicable; 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) (33).**

Iowa does not have any organized screening tool for identifying victims of human trafficking. Over the last couple of years, JCS has been providing training to its juvenile court officers (JCOs) about identifying victims, making an appropriate response and focusing on increasing awareness of vulnerable populations. Additionally, training has focused on resources and services available for suspected victims of human trafficking.

There are other initiatives in the state to address human trafficking; including the Iowa Department of Public Safety, Office to Combat Human Trafficking, and the Iowa Attorney General's Office, Crime Victim Assistance Division (CVAD). An April 2017 report by CVAD, *Understanding Human Trafficking in Iowa, Final Report* cited "...although the proper referral mechanisms may be in place, the number of served victims is limited by a lack of training on how to adequately and efficiently identify human trafficking victims. A lack of training on identification, coupled with a victim's resistance to self-identify, creates a situation where many human trafficking victims may be missed..." This would indicate that additional and continued training is an essential requirement for professionals, along with increasing public awareness as to what exactly constitutes human trafficking. Additionally, CVAD has identified a number of service providers in the state that provide specific programming to assist victims of human

trafficking; including Braking Traffik, Catholic Charities, Friends of the Family, and Chains Interrupted.

While there exist services, and professionals in different fields are being educated there is room for improvement and coordination between agencies. A 2017 report by the Department of Public Safety, Office to Combat Human Trafficking identified six areas of focus to address human trafficking: (1) Public Awareness, (2) Victim Services, (3) Investigative Services, (4) Justice System Response, (5) Legislative Response, and (6) Funding.

- **Describe-**

- **How the SAG will be afforded the opportunity to review and comment, not later than 30 days after their submission to the advisory group, on all juvenile justice and delinquency prevention grant applications submitted to the state agency designated under paragraph (1);**
- **How the three-year plan meets the requirement that the SAG advise the state agency designated under paragraph (1) and its supervisory board;**
- **How the SAG has/ will submit to the chief executive officer and the legislature of the state at least annually recommendations regarding state compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13);**
- **How the SAG will contact and seek regular input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.**

At every meeting of the SAG (at least quarterly), members are able to review and comment on the three-year plan priorities, goals, and objectives as well as the applications and progress reports provided by each of the eight judicial districts receiving funds. The DSA requires local

plans be submitted no later than August 30th each year. These plans are reviewed during the September SAG meeting (typically the first week of September).

The SAG leads in the development of the three-year plan with assistance and guidance provided by CJPP. For example, in September 2020, the SAG participated in a planning retreat to review and analyze juvenile delinquency and other youth specific data points to inform the three-year plan priorities. Once the priorities were established, the SAG then delegated the development of goals and objectives for each priority area to the Policy and Programs subcommittee, Disproportionate Minority Contact subcommittee, and the Iowa Taskforce for Young Women. These subcommittees then brought their recommendations back to the SAG for formal adoption into the three-year plan in March 2021. Once the three-year plan and Title II application is approved by OJJDP, it is then placed on the CJJP website. The Governor's Office and state legislative leaders are directed to the website. Furthermore, each legislative session, the Iowa Department of Human Rights hosts a Day on the Hill. CJJP, as a division of the Iowa Department of Human Rights participates in this event and educates the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and legislators on the three-year plan priorities and Iowa continued compliance with the core requirements of the JJDPA.

Within the last two years, the SAG has implemented specific efforts to seek regular input from youth under the jurisdiction of delinquency and family courts. These efforts include the Talking Wall, which is a listening/feedback session annually facilitated at juvenile detention facilities, group care facilities, and the Achieving Maximum Potential (AMP) local child welfare councils. In 2021, the SAG approved the addition of a youth-directed subcommittee which recruitment is currently underway. This subcommittee will be made up primarily of youth with lived juvenile justice experience. The subcommittee is expected to provide recommendation and

feedback to the SAG at its quarterly meetings. The leadership of the youth subcommittee will be a SAG member.

- **Provides affirmation that the state/territory complies with the requirement to “provide assurance that youth in the juvenile justice system are treated equitably on the basis of gender, race, family income, and disability;”**

Iowa affirms it has protections in place to ensure that youth in the juvenile justice system are treated equitably on the basis of gender, race, family income, and disability. The primary protection is found in the Iowa Constitution.

Iowa Constitution. Article I. Bill of Rights. Laws uniform. SEC. 6. All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation; the general assembly shall not grant to any citizen, or class of citizens, privileges or immunities, which, upon the same terms shall not equally belong to all citizens.

The Iowa Supreme Court has a long history of ensuring civil rights in the state. These can be seen in the Iowa Supreme Court cases of *In Re the Matter of Ralph*, July 1839; *Clark v. The Board of Directors*, 1868; *Coger v. The North Western Union Packet Co.*, 1873; in 1869, the Iowa Supreme Court “ruled that women may not be denied the right to practice law in Iowa and admitted Arabella A. Mansfield. Ms. Mansfield was the first woman admitted to the practice of law in any state in the nation.”

- **Provide affirmation that the state/territory complies with the requirement to “provide assurance that consideration will be given to and that assistance will be available for approaches designed to strengthen the families of delinquent and other youth to prevent juvenile delinquency (which approaches should include the**

involvement of grandparents or other extended family members when possible and appropriate, and the provision of family counseling during the incarceration of juvenile family members and coordination of family services when appropriate and feasible);”

Iowa affirms that consideration is given to and assistance will be made available for approaches designed to strengthen the families of delinquent and other youth to prevent juvenile delinquency. The goals and objectives of the prevention and early intervention and mental health priorities align with this assurance. Further, the *Transition of Youth* priority addresses the needs for youth who are in out of home placement including engagement of families and coordination of services.

- **Provide assurance that (A) Any assistance provided under this Act will not cause the displacement (including a partial displacement, such as a reduction in the hours of non-overtime work, wages, or employment benefits) of any currently employed employee; (B) Activities assisted under this Act will not impair an existing collective bargaining relationship, contract for services, or collective bargaining agreement; and (C) No such activity that would be inconsistent with the terms of a collective bargaining agreement shall be undertaken without the written concurrence of the labor organization involved;**

Iowa affirms that any assistance provided under this Act will not displace any currently employed employee due to the assistance provided by this Act; will not impair an existing collective bargaining relationship; nor, have any activity that would be inconsistent with the terms of a collective bargaining agreement without the written concurrence of the labor organization involved.

- **Provide assurance that it meets the requirement to “provide such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures necessary to assure prudent use, proper disbursement, and accurate accounting of funds received under [the Formula Grants Program]”, and submit the financial management and internal controls questionnaire;**

Iowa affirms that it possesses strong internal controls and fund accounting procedures necessary to ensure prudent use, proper distribution, and accurate accounting of funds received under this title. The Financial Management and Internal Controls questionnaire has been completed and signed by the Financial Point of Contact.

The DSA provides a staff position dedicated to financial administration of the JJDP and other funds. That same position conducts all of the performance reporting to the OJJDP and tracking the receipt of such reports from sub-grantees. The DSA is located within the Iowa Department of Human Rights. One division within the Department of Human Rights, Central Administration, has responsibility for overall administration of all the funding received by the department. Central Administration actively participates in the review and processing of JJDP related claims and contracts. The DSA program staff submit required OJJDP progress and other reports and assist with the provision of performance reporting. Those overall efforts are integral the success of JCS allocation effort. The DSA has developed and utilizes a Fiscal Monitoring Instrument (FMI) used during fiscal audits of the awards allocated to the eight JCS Offices.

- **Provide reasonable assurance that federal funds made available under this part for any period will be so used as to supplement and increase (but not supplant) the level of the State, local, tribal, and other non-Federal funds that would in the absence of such Federal funds be made available for the programs described in this part, and will in no event replace such state, local, tribal, and other non-Federal funds;**

Iowa affirms the Title II Formula Grant funds provided by this proposal will be used to supplement and increase state, local, and other nonfederal funds; these funds will not be used to supplant any state, local, or other nonfederal funds.

- **Provide assurance that the state will not expend funds to carry out a program if the recipient of funds who carried out such program during the preceding 2-year period fails to demonstrate, before the expiration of such 2-year period, that such program achieved substantial success in achieving the goals specified in the application submitted by such recipient to the state agency;**

Iowa affirms that it will not fund programs that in the previous two years failed to demonstrate substantial success in achieving goals. This was demonstrated in January 2017, when a contract was terminated after a program was unable to maintain the required number of participants. There was a requirement that a minimum of four youth participate in each group session, with two sessions each week. Over the previous two years, the program was only able to average 2.82 youth participating, and during the final months of the program had reduced to a single session a week. As the program was unable to demonstrate that it was able to maintain the minimum requirements to achieve success the contract for the program was terminated.

- **Provide assurance that if the State receives under section 222 for any fiscal year an amount that exceeds 105 percent of the amount the State received under such section for fiscal year 2000, all of such excess shall be expended through or for programs that are part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services;**

Iowa affirms that if the state were to receive an amount that exceeds 105% of the amount received under this section in FFY2000, all such excess would be expended through or for programs as part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services. Iowa has compared the amount received in FFY2000, \$600,000, with the amount expected to be received in FFY2021, \$600,000, and the FFY2021 amount does not exceed 105% of the FFY2000 amount.

- **Provide assurance that the percentage (if any), will not exceed 5 percent, of funds received by the State under section 222 (other than funds made available to the State advisory group under section 222(d)) that the State will reserve for expenditure by the State to provide incentive grants to units of general local government that reduce the caseload of probation officers within such units;**

Iowa affirms that 0% of the funds received by the state under section 222 [34 U.S.C. § 11132] are used to provide incentive grants to units of government to reduce the caseload of probation officers.

- **Describe how the plan provides that “the state, to the maximum extent practicable, will implement a system to ensure that if a juvenile is before a court in the juvenile justice system, public child welfare records (including child protective services records) relating to such juvenile that are on file in the geographical area under the jurisdiction of such court will be made known to such court so as to provide for— (A) data in child abuse or neglect reports relating to juveniles entering the juvenile justice system with a prior reported history of arrest, court intake, probation and parole, juvenile detention, and corrections; and (B) a plan to use the data described in subparagraph (A) to provide necessary services for the treatment of such victims of child abuse or neglect”;**

Iowa affirms that, to the maximum extent practicable, a system has been implemented to ensure that if a juvenile is before the juvenile court for delinquency processes that any child welfare records relating to such juvenile that are on file in the geographical area under the jurisdiction of such court will be made known to such court. Iowa further affirms that the state has efforts to ensure that if a juvenile is before the court in the juvenile justice system, child protective service records relating to such juvenile will be made known to such court. Finally, Iowa affirms that CJJP has worked with DHS and JCS to develop a working document for case plans and case plan reviews for CINA and delinquent youth placements.

System to Ensure that Child Welfare Information is Shared in Delinquency Cases

Iowa has a unified court system, under the Judicial Branch, and all clerks of court and juvenile court services personnel, including probation services, are funded by the state. Judges are state employees. According to Iowa Code §602.7101 a juvenile court is established in each county.

The juvenile court is within the district court and has the jurisdiction provided in Iowa Code Chapter 232. The chief judge designates district judges and district associate judges to act as judges of the juvenile court for a county. Juvenile court judges hear both child in need of assistance cases (CINA) and delinquency cases. The structure of the court clearly allows judges access to CINA and delinquency information.

According to Iowa Code §602.7102, Iowa's juvenile court is a court of record, and its proceedings, orders, findings, and decisions must be entered in books that are kept for that purpose and that are identified as juvenile court records. The clerk of the district court is the clerk of the juvenile court for the county. §602.7102 clearly establishes a system of record for CINA and delinquency juvenile court proceedings.

In Iowa, Juvenile Court Officers (JCO's) supervise cases for delinquent youth. As was indicated above, JCO's are included in the Judicial Branch of government. They are agents of the court. According to Iowa Code §602.7202 juvenile court officers have the powers of a peace officer while engaged in the discharge of their duties. JCO duties are prescribed in Iowa Code Chapter 232; JCO's are subject to the direction of the judges of the juvenile court. JCO's have access to all court information on delinquent youth, and also, as "court officers", information on CINA cases.

Iowa Code §232.48 requires a predisposition investigation prior to adjudication hearings for delinquent youth. The investigation shall require the following:

- a) *the social history, environment and present condition of the child and child's family,*
- b) the performance of the child in school,
- c) *the presence of child abuse and neglect histories,* learning disabilities, physical impairments and past acts of violence.

The §232.48 predisposition investigation report requirement provides the structure for child welfare information to be incorporated into delinquency proceedings and case planning. Included below is information regarding the various case planning and review requirements for CINA and delinquency cases.

Policies and Systems to Incorporate Child Protective Records in Delinquency Plans

Above, an explanation is provided that ensures that child protective information is part of case planning for delinquency cases. It should be noted that the juvenile justice section of the Iowa Code, §232.1 through §232.57, outlines the processing, planning, and review requirements for delinquent youth in Iowa's system. Those sections are the statutory requirements related to Iowa's efforts to ensure safeguards for youth in its delinquency system. Provided below is specific information (both statutory and by administrative rule) relative to those safeguards.

Assurance for Case Plan and Review for Juvenile Offender Placements

A series of safeguards exists to ensure that juvenile offenders whose placement is funded through 42 U.S.C. 672 receive statutorily defined protections. An interagency agreement

between Juvenile Court Services and the Iowa Department of Human Services has been established to assure that all IV-E requirements are met when IV-E funds are used for delinquent children placed out of the home. Under this agreement Juvenile Court Services is responsible for case management, including the provision of the protections mandated under Title IV-E, and the Iowa Department of Human Services monitors these activities and determines the delinquent child's eligibility for IVE funding.

Iowa Administrative Code §441, Chapter 202.2(3) requires a social history to be completed on all (CINA and Delinquent) children at the time of placement in a foster care setting. Iowa Code §232.2(52) defines a social investigation as an investigation conducted for the purpose of collecting information relevant to the court's fashioning of an appropriate disposition for a CINA case. The information collected is utilized for the development of a social report and a social history. Iowa Administrative Code §441, Chapter 202.6(1) requires a case permanency plan at the time of out-of-home placement for both CINA and delinquent youth. Iowa Code §232.97 prohibits disposition of CINA petitions until two days after the social report has been submitted to the court.

As was mentioned above, Iowa Code §232.48 requires that predisposition investigation reports for delinquent youth include social history and child abuse information. Iowa's administrative Code and State law ensure that child welfare information must be a part of case planning for all delinquent youth in an out-of-home setting.

Iowa Code §232.21 requests the court to determine whether it is contrary to the welfare of the child to remain home and to determine whether reasonable efforts have been made to prevent the need for removal before a child (CINA or Delinquent) is placed in shelter. Iowa Code §232.22 provides the same protection for children placed in detention.

Additionally, Iowa Code §232.52 requires the court to address the child's best interests and to assess the efforts made to prevent removal when a delinquent child is removed from the home at a delinquency dispositional hearing. Iowa Code §232.53 requires that any agency, facility, institution, with custody of a delinquent juvenile file a written report with the court every six months concerning the status and progress of the child. Chapter 202.9(2)(6) Iowa Administrative Code 441, Chapter 202.6 requires that case permanency plans be reviewed and submitted to the court every six months. Iowa Administrative Code and state law clearly require case plan review at the required intervals.

- **Provide assurance that juvenile offenders whose placement is funded through section 472 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 672) receive the protections specified in section 471 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 671), including a case plan and case plan review as defined in section 475 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 675);**

Refer to *Assurance for Case Plan and Review for Juvenile Offender Placements* in previous section.

- **Provides assurance that the agency of the State receiving funds under this title collaborates with the State educational agency receiving assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) to develop and implement a plan to ensure that, (A) the student records of adjudicated juveniles, including electronic records if available, are transferred in a timely manner from the educational program in the juvenile detention or secure treatment facility to the educational or training program into which the juveniles will enroll;(B) the credits of adjudicated juveniles are transferred; and(C) adjudicated juveniles receive full or partial credit toward high school graduation for secondary school coursework satisfactorily completed before and during the period of time during which the juveniles are held in custody, regardless of the local educational agency or entity from which the credits were earned; and in order to support educational progress.**

CJJP regularly collaborates with the Iowa Department of Education (DE) which is the state educational agency receiving assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. As a part of this collaboration, CJJP, Juvenile Court Services, and the Iowa Department of Education developed school placement and reentry policies and procedures.

These procedures include:

A. Identify the *school of origin* designated Point of Contact (POC).

Note: school of origin is the school district/building the student is attending at the time of court placement or the last school attended if placement is during the summer, or during school breaks. *Resident district* is used for special education purposes only.

B. Notify school of origin POC of youth's transition as soon as possible. All students changing schools are required to have an immediate and appropriate enrolment in the

new school district [(Iowa Code section 280.29(1)]. The school district has the authority to “assign” the student to the appropriate program.

C. Verify transfer of records, i.e. transcript, grade reports, and work in progress [if applicable Individualized Education Plan (IEP)]. All records are required to be transferred (between schools) within five days of JCS notification of out of home placement/change in placement.

D. All out of state placements, for students with IEPs, must be approved by the Department of Education (DE).

1. The resident school district shall complete an initial request for out of state placement and forward to the request to the Director of Special Education at the respective Area Education Agency (AEA).

2. The AEA special education director will submit the out of state placement request to the DE.