

# CJCC AT RISK YOUTH PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

How do we better impact families, and how can they better benefit from services and systems?

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# OBJECTIVE

Develop integrated systems for at risk youth (up to age 18). This includes changed policies, and improved utilization of resources toward measurable near and long term reduction of school and community youth behavioral incidence, and a plan for continued development and effective collaboration.

# OVERVIEW FINDINGS TO DATE

- **Our schools, judicial systems, and communities continue to face challenges with youth who have unresolved behavioral or mental health issues. Existing resources and systems have limited impact for the following reasons:**
  - 1) Process and procedures are not addressing core needs
  - 2) Resources are not being utilized due to lack of access
  - 3) Lack of ability of the systems to meet the demand
  - 4) Not utilizing the potential of systems to encourage or require participation in needed substance abuse and mental health support for families, or other family supports toward developing a positive supportive climate
  - 5) Case management operates in silos resulting in solutions that are only apparent within the subsystem therefore not engaging, or coordinating resources other ongoing support efforts for that family.

# APPROACH TO DEVELOP AT RISK YOUTH (ARY) INTEGRATED SYSTEMS

- A) Develop a decision process for how and when resources may be utilized
  - Method:
    1. Focus on each type of trigger (i.e. behavior, substance, or criminal violation) and challenges faced
    2. Identify where systems and supports are not connected and how to improve connection through a process of asking..
      - a) What is the recurring issue (disruptive behaviors, substance use, legal violations)?
      - b) What resources have been engaged?
      - c) How can we increase or better engage families?
      - d) What barriers remain?
      - e) How can systems collaborate to address remaining issue?
- B) Focus of meetings scheduled will be centered on each of the key Systems to include:
  - School Systems, Juvenile Justice, DCYF, Public Defender, Mental Health
  - Legislation from agency and regional perspective to identify supports that can be utilized, and gaps that need development at the local level. Child in Need of Services, legal code, education drop out and disability mandates.

# AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup> OBJECTIVES

- 1) Review and start development of a flow chart for how and when resources can be utilized.
- 2) Look at where the new Child in Need of Services legislation fits into the process from agency and regional perspective to later identify supports that can be utilized, and gaps that need development at the local level.
- 3) Develop agenda and goals for school-based focused September meeting.

# BEHAVIOR (1)

Child erupts in school, is violent, or continues to disrupt classroom

Understand what has been engaged, can be engaged, and objective of each

1. Resources
2. Involvement of families
3. Remaining barriers

If involvement with judicial system, then case is assigned to a juvenile probation officer and a juvenile public defender is available. Resources provided are guidance, counseling, discipline, supervision, treatment, or rehabilitation or other needs of care. [Community Programs](#)

Barriers exists that judicial system or [DCYF](#) could promote

If involvement with judicial system, then case is assigned to a juvenile probation officer and a juvenile public defender is available. Resources provided are guidance, counseling, discipline, supervision, treatment, or rehabilitation or other needs of care. [Community Programs](#)

# BEHAVIOR (2)

Habitual or willfully truant from school, runs away from home, disregards lawful command of guardians, places self others in unsafe circumstances, under 17 and exhibits willful repeated or habitual conduct that is equivalent to violations of adult criminal laws, under 16 and exhibits willful repeated or habitual conduct that is prohibited by the motor vehicle laws, including motor vehicle violations and misdemeanors

Understand what has been engaged, can be engaged, and objective of each

1. Resources
2. Involvement of families
3. Remaining barriers

If identified for CHINS, assigned a Juvenile Probation Officer to provide guidance, counseling, discipline, supervision, treatment, or rehabilitation or other needs of care. [CHINS](#) Community Programs

Barriers exists that CHINS would promote

Certain motor vehicle felonies that do not apply to CHINS

# SUBSTANCE OFFENSE

Complete for all that apply	What resources have been engaged?						
What is the Substance Issue?	Home Involvement	Mental Health	Support Systems School (Tier II)	CBT and other Behavior	Police and Judicial	Diversion	Chemical Health Screening and treatment
<b>Criminal Offense</b>					<u>Circuit Court Family Division CHINS</u>		
Repeat Offense							
<b>Potential Mental Health Need</b>							
Has Seen or is seeing a Counselor							
Anger or other related MH need							
<b>Home Trauma, Abuse, or Incarcerated or Parents with Addiction or Mental Health Needs</b>							
Potential							
Documented							
<b>Support Systems in the School Adjustment needed</b>							

- a) What is the substance issue?
- b) What resources have been engaged?
- c) How can we increase engagement of families?
- d) What barriers remain?
- e) How can systems collaborate to address remaining issue?

# BEHAVIORAL ISSUE

Complete for all that apply	What resources have been engaged?					
What is the behavior issue?	Home Involvement	Mental Health	Support Systems School (Tier II)	CBT and other Behavior	Police and Judicial	Diversion
<b>Criminal or CHINS Offense</b>					<u>Circuit Court</u> <u>Family Division</u> <u>CHINS</u>	
Repeat Offense						
<b>Potential Mental Health Need</b>						
Has seen or is seeing a counselor						
Anger or other related MH need						
<b>Home trauma, abuse, or incarcerated or parents with addiction or mental health needs</b>						
Potential						
Documented						
<b>Support systems plan needed</b>						

- a) What is the behavior issue?
- b) What resources have been engaged?
- c) How can we increase engagement of families?
- d) What barriers remain?
- e) How can systems collaborate to address remaining issue?

# BEHAVIORAL ISSUE

# Example

- a) What is the behavior issue?
- b) What resources have been engaged?
- c) How can we increase engagement of families?
- d) What barriers remain?
- e) How can systems collaborate to address remaining issue?

Complete for all that apply	What resources have been engaged?					
What is the behavior issue?	Home Involvement	Mental Health	Support Systems School (Tier II)	CBT and other Behavior	Police and Judicial	Diversion
<b>Criminal or CHINS Offense</b>					<u>Circuit Court</u> <u>Family Division</u> <u>CHINS</u>	
Repeat Offense						
<b>Potential Mental Health Need</b>						
Has seen or is seeing a counselor						
Anger or other related MH need						
<b>Home trauma, abuse, or incarcerated or parents with addiction or mental health needs</b>						
Potential						
Documented						
<b>Support systems plan needed</b>						

# BEHAVIORAL ISSUE

# Example

a) What is the behavior issue?

b) What resources have been engaged?

c) How can we increase engagement of families?

d) What barriers remain?

e) How can systems collaborate to address remaining issue?

Complete for all that apply	What resources have been engaged?					
Decision Process	Home Involvement	Mental Health	Support Systems School (Tier II)	CBT and other Behavior	Police and Judicial	Diversion
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">Child becomes violent in a classroom</div>						
<b>Criminal Offense</b>					<a href="#">Circuit Court Family Division CHINS</a>	
Repeat Offense						
<b>Potential Mental Health Need</b>						
Has seen or is seeing a counselor						
Anger or other related MH need						
<b>Home trauma, abuse, or incarcerated or parents with addiction or mental health needs</b>						
Potential						
Documented						
<b>Support systems plan needed</b>						

# CHILDREN IN NEED OF SERVICES (CHINS)

- Children In Need of Services (CHINS)
- CHINS is an abbreviation for "Child In Need of Services".
- Acts that qualify as "delinquent" are excluded from the CHINS definition. In NH a CHINS is a child who is:
  - Subject to compulsory school attendance (between ages 6 and 16) and who is habitually, willfully and without good and sufficient cause, truant from school;
  - Under 18 years of age and who habitually runs away from home;
  - Under 18 years of age and who repeatedly disregards the reasonable and lawful commands of his or her parents, guardian or custodian and places himself or herself or others in unsafe circumstances;
  - Under 17 years of age and exhibits willful repeated or habitual conduct that is equivalent to violations of the criminal laws of this state if committed by an adult (excluding felonies and misdemeanors);
  - Under 16 years of age and exhibits willful repeated or habitual conduct that is prohibited by the motor vehicle laws, including motor vehicle violations and misdemeanors (excludes certain motor vehicle felonies); and
- Children identified for CHINS are assigned a Juvenile Probation and Parole Office (JPPO) to provide guidance, counseling, discipline, supervision, treatment or rehabilitation and other needs of care.

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# JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- **Community Programs:** all community-based services, both residential and non-residential, are administered by this unit, through JJS institutional and field staff in cooperation with the NH court system. The services are then delivered by local organizations and providers. These services include home-based therapeutic services, substances abuse assessment and counseling, mental health services and an array of residential services, (foster homes, group homes, and intensive treatment facilities) [Back to Presentation](#)

# CIRCUIT COURT FAMILY DIVISION

- **Circuit Court Family Division - Children in Need of Services**
- The Family Division handles cases of "Children in Need of Services" also known as CHINS. Petitions are filed to assist children experiencing serious difficulties and who are in need of services in order to protect the child from the long lasting impact of harmful behavior. These petitions may be filed by parents, guardians, schools or law enforcement ***with the consent of the NH Department of Health and Human Services.***

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# DCYF

DCYF staff provide a wide range of family-centered services with the goal of meeting the needs of parents and their children and strengthening the family system. Services are designed to support families and children in their own homes and communities whenever possible. The major program areas of DCYF are:

- **Child Protection**

The Bureau of Child Protection works to protect children from abuse and neglect while attempting to preserve the family unit. Child Protective Service Workers help prevent further harm to children from intentional physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, exploitation or neglect by a person responsible for a child's health or welfare.

- **Juvenile Justice**

Juvenile Justice Services (JJS) is responsible for providing supervision and rehabilitative services to youth adjudicated under state law as delinquent or as Children In Need of Services (CHINS). JJS provides supervision, case management, and an array of rehabilitative services through its staff of Juvenile Probation and Parole Officers (JPPOs) and a network of community-based providers who are licensed and/or certified by DHHS.

- **Permanency**

Permanency means that a child has a long term, safe, stable environment. This creates a lifelong relationship with a nurturing caregiver to establish the foundation for a child's health development. Permanency Workers are located in each District Office and are trained to assist children and their families to identify permanent, lifelong connections. Reunification is the preferred permanency option. When reunification is not possible, adoption, guardianship or another permanent living arrangement is sought.

- **Adolescents**

The Adolescent program is designed to ensure that the current and former DCYF and JJS youth obtain the preparation, resources and positive youth development they need to establish permanent connections and become healthy, self sufficient and successful adults. Adolescent workers with specialized training lead, educate and collaborate with youth, colleagues and the community to ensure the best practice for adolescents.

# DCYF CONT

- **Foster Care**

The Foster Care Program provides foster family homes and a family experience for children who cannot be safely cared for in their own homes. Specially trained Resource Workers in each DCYF District Office recruit, train and license foster families, and match children in need of out-of-home care with a foster family best suited to meet the specific needs of each child.

- **Foster Care Health Program (FCHP)**

The Foster Care Health Program (FCHP) is committed to meeting the health care needs of children in out-of-home placement. Through healthcare coordination and consultation, children in DCYF out-of-home placements will receive the on-going care they need to achieve and maintain optimal physical, emotional and developmental health.

- **Adoption**

The Adoption program provides an array of services to families who adopt children through DCYF. These services include:

- Case management
- Education
- Information and referral
- Financial assistance
- Support groups
- Assistance to adoptees searching for their birth families
- Community and Family Supports

- **Community and Family Support Services provides services both to families in their communities, and to families that are involved with DCYF, including:**

Funding for community-based programs that work to prevent child abuse and neglect, juvenile delinquency, and out-of-home placement of children and youth;

Clinical services and mental health support for children involved with DCYF;

Educational advocacy and support for children involved with DCYF.