

New Mexico Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) Presentation to the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee Thursday, October 29, 2015



Highlights

- \$3,287,777 in state & federal funding (\$3,090,000 state, \$197,777 federal) awarded to support the prevention of delinquency, alternatives to secure detention, improvement of the juvenile justice system, and the development of a continuum of graduated sanctions for juveniles in local communities.
- In FY14, County secure detention centers reported operating costs of roughly \$255/day, while the JJAC funded community-based alternatives were one-third of that cost (approximately \$85/day).
- Following national best-practices by reducing our reliance on detention and expanding our use of community-based resources, the number of referrals to juvenile justice continues to decline.
- Aggressive movement towards fiscal and programmatic accountability.
- Data from programs are collected electronically and reviewed quarterly.
- Programs reported that 8,235 unduplicated youth were served.
- Funded program areas are:

○ Accountability Based	194,401
○ Alternatives to Detention	973,168
○ Delinquency Prevention	130,744
○ Diversion	202,028
○ Gender Specific	232,035
○ General Prevention	381,981
○ Mentoring	34,137
○ Restorative Justice	130,607
○ Risk/Needs Assessment	148,335
○ Rural Area Program	154,210
○ School Program	147,791
○ Strategic Community Planning	558,340
	\$3,287,777
- 40% Match Requirement \$1,315,110
- Total value: \$4,602,887

Introduction

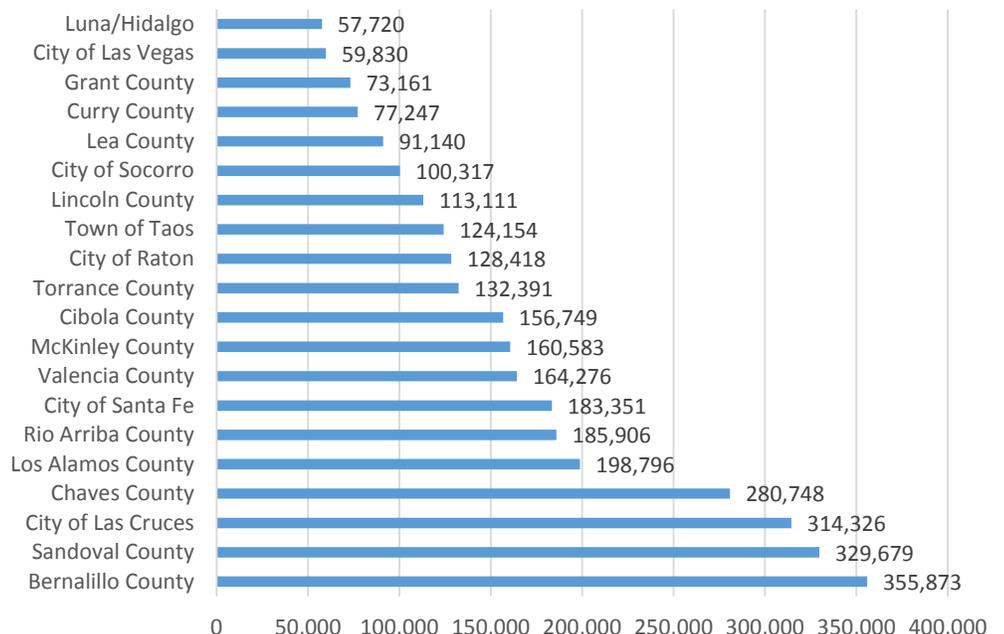
The JJAC, a Governor appointed board, supports the local development of evidence-based programming that includes diverse, culturally competent, and gender responsive services. JJAC advocates for the prevention of delinquency, alternatives to secure detention, improvement of the juvenile justice system, and the development of a continuum of graduated sanctions for juveniles in local communities.

Each year, the JJAC reviews continuum applications for funding targeted youth services. Program services, allocation requests, match availability and number of youth served are considered carefully, before making funding recommendations to the CYFD Cabinet Secretary.

Continuum Model

In an effort to reduce the likelihood that youth in rural areas will receive fewer services, or have less access to such services, compared to those in urban areas because of their location in the state, New Mexico utilizes the “juvenile justice continuum model” which is a unique approach to the structuring and allocation of federal and state grant funds. It is a system of services and sanctions for juveniles arrested or referred to juvenile probation, or at risk of such referral, and consists of a formal partnership among one or more units of local or tribal governments, the children’s court, the district attorney, the public defender, local law enforcement agencies, the public schools and other entities such as private nonprofit organizations, the business community and religious organizations. Furthermore, it is established through a Memorandum of Understanding and a continuum board.

In FY16, JJAC granted funds to twenty continuums to serve twenty-one counties. Luna and Hidalgo counties have separate continuum boards, with Luna County serving as the fiscal agent.



Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)

In 2003, CYFD joined the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) juvenile justice reform effort known as the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). The purpose of JDAI is to demonstrate that jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient system to accomplish the purpose of juvenile detention by focusing on the following five goals:

- Reduce the inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention;
- Reduce the number of youth who fail to appear in court or reoffend pending adjudication;
- Redirect public funds towards effective juvenile justice processes and public safety strategies;
- Reduce the disproportionate minority confinement and contact of the juvenile justice system; and
- Improve the juvenile justice system overall.

CYFD has partnered with the New Mexico Supreme Court and the New Mexico Association of Counties, through a Memorandum of Understanding executed in May of 2015, to embed JDAI’s principles in our juvenile justice system. On a state level, we have experienced much success, including:

- JDAI’s principles are ingrained in our Children’s Code and in CYFD’s policies and procedures;
- Every county currently utilizes the Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) and a GAIN Short Screener assessment; additionally, to address case processing times, the Fast Track process is being promoted statewide;
- Some district court judges have received training that will allow them to access CYFD’s data system, providing them with accurate and current assessment information;
- The New Mexico Legislature continues to support the Juvenile Continuum Grant Fund for prevention services that assist to divert youth away from the juvenile justice system, as well as, the development of alternatives to secure detention and reducing inappropriate juvenile incarceration.

Four Core Requirements

To be eligible to receive federal grants, we must commit to achieve and maintain compliance with the following four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency & Prevention Act. Those are:

- Reduction of disproportionate minority contact (DMC) within the juvenile justice system;
- Deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO);
- Separation of juveniles from adults in secure facilities (separation); and
- Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups (jail removal).

CYFD employees a statewide DMC Coordinator for maintaining compliance with the first core requirements, while the JJAC Unit oversees a contracted Compliance Monitor to maintain statewide compliance with the three remaining core requirements.

JJAC Population Coverage

The most current estimated of youth population, ages 10 to 17, in New Mexico is 224,144. This population group has also been broken down to the county level. The chart to the right shows estimated youth population per continuum site. The current twenty-one continuums offers services to approximately 85 percent of New Mexico’s youth, 10-17. With the addition of continuums in Otero, San Juan and Sierra Counties, in FY17, that percentage increases to 95. We will work with Eddy County in the coming year for inclusion in FY18. This will increase the service coverage to 98 percent.

Estimated State Population, 10-17 Years Of Age: 224,144				
Continuum	Estimated 10-17 year olds	Continuum	Estimated 10-17 year olds	
Bernalillo County	68,916	Sandoval County	16,319	
Chaves County	7,952	City of Santa Fe	13,421	
Cibola County	2,868	City of Socorro	1,824	
Curry County	5,440	Town of Taos	2,905	
Grant County	2,845	Torrance County	1,759	
City of Las Cruces	24,079	Valencia County	8,916	
City of Las Vegas	2,738	FY16 TOTAL:	145,197	85%
Lea County	8,482			
Lincoln County	1,688	Otero County	6,491	
Los Alamos	2,054	San Juan County	15,279	
Luna	2,785	Sierra County	807	
Hidalgo	491	FY17 TOTAL:	167,774	95%
McKinley County	9,334			
City of Raton	1,186	Eddy County	6,522	
Rio Arriba County	4,339	FY18 TOTAL:	174,296	98%