

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

November 19, 2015



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

1

Progress Report

- Raise the Age Study
 - New Scope to be presented in December
- Report on National Conference: Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System- A 50 State Forum
- Report and Recommendations on Education Issues Facing Children in the Juvenile Justice System



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

2

Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System- A 50 State Forum

- The Council of State Governments- Sponsor
- November 8-10, 2015 in Austin, Texas
- Gathering of Federal, State, Foundations, and Universities committed to improved outcomes for youth
- Learning and Sharing on system reform challenges
 - Diversion
 - Recidivism
 - Incarceration



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

3

Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System- A 50 State Forum

- Successes in other states- Texas, Utah, Illinois, Kentucky
 - Strategic Partnerships
 - Data informed policy and programming
 - Measurable Goals
- “What Works” from *Edward Latessa*, Director of the School of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati
 - Validated Assessments
 - Classification by Risk
 - Treatment Matching
 - Quality Assurance



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

4

Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System- A 50 State Forum

- Youth who have transitioned from system involvement to crime free and productive adults
 - Consistent Caregiver
- *Shay Bilchek*, Director of Juvenile Justice at Georgetown University, about youth in custody and their model for evidence-based transition to community
 - Principles similar to *Latessa*
- Federal Funds will be available to assist in reform, especially for states given strategic planning grants, such as Connecticut
- Significant technical assistance from national organizations



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

5

Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System- A 50 State Forum

- My Take Aways:
 - We are on the right track!
 - We have a strong strategic partnership
 - The JJPOC
 - University Partners
 - We have Strategic Goals
 1. 20% Increase in Diversion
 2. 10% Decrease in Recidivism
 3. 30% Decrease in Incarceration



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

6

My Take Aways (cont.)

- We have interdisciplinary groups at work
- We have experts on Education and Mental Health conducting reports
- We are building a database to support our efforts beginning with measure of recidivism
 - Other indicators in planning
- In January, we begin to implement the DOJ grant targeting incarcerated youth returning to big cities and building a strong, seamless connection between confinement and the community
- Optimism- Connecticut cited as a model at the National Conference



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

7

JJPOC Goal- Increase Diversion by 20%

- School Based Diversion Initiative (SBDI)
- Cited as a model diversion program by *Kathleen Skowrya*, Associated Director of National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice
- **Goals**
 1. **Reduce** the number of suspensions, expulsions, and discretionary school-based arrests
 2. **Build** knowledge and skills among teachers, administrators, staff, and resource officers to recognize and manage behavioral health crises in school
 3. **Link** youth who are at-risk of arrest to appropriate school and community-based services and support

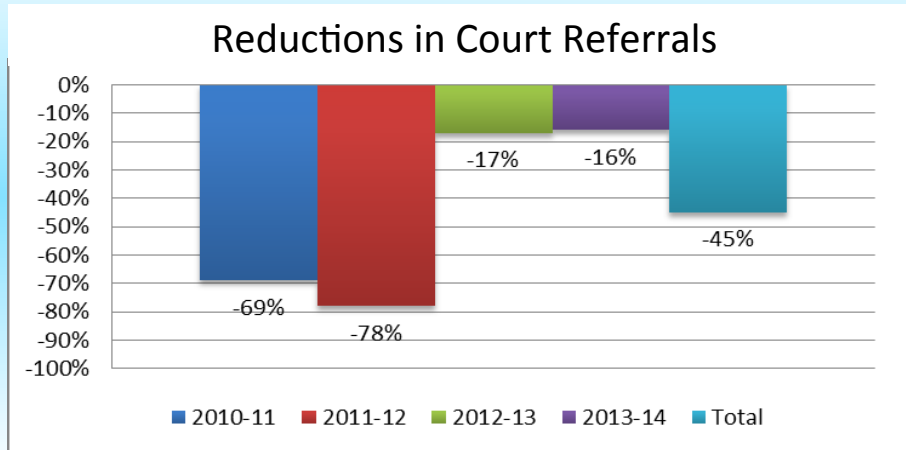


University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

8

JJPOC Goal- Increase Diversion by 20% SBDI Cited As National Model

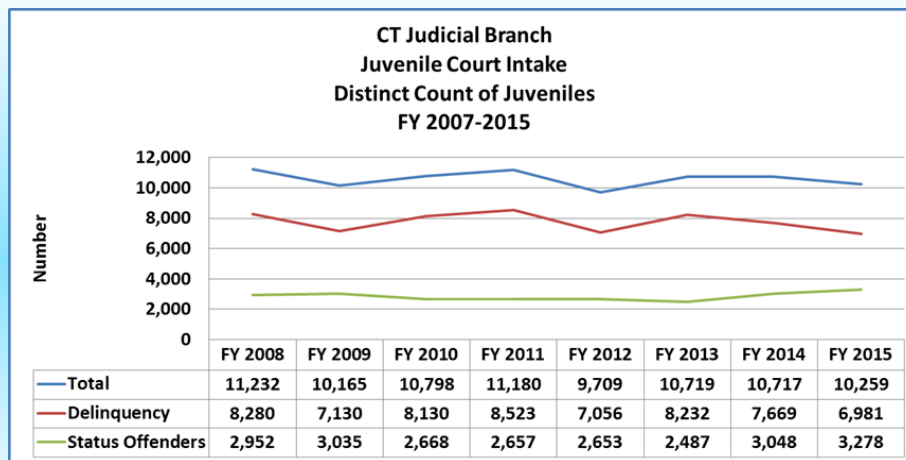


University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

9

JJPOC Goal-Increase Diversion by 20%



The number of juveniles referred to the court is down 9% since 2008, despite full implementation of Raise the Age.



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

10

JJPOC Goal- Recidivism Reduction by 10%

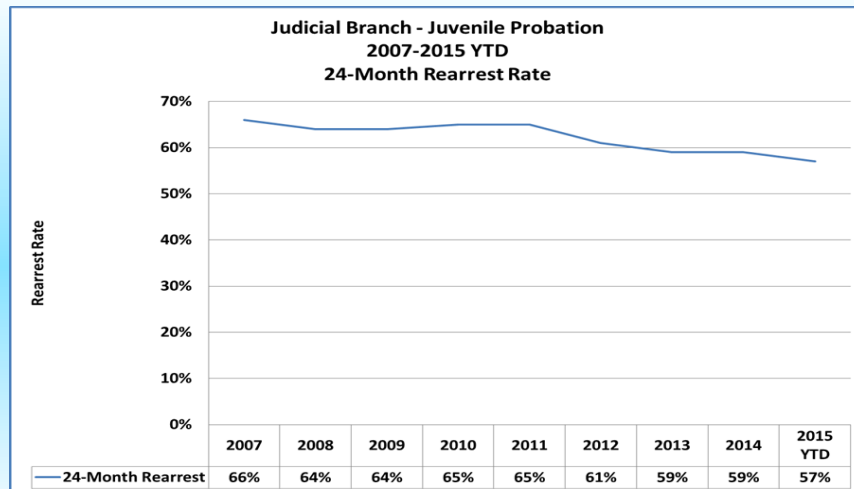
- *Dr. Latessa's* Formula:
 - Validated Assessments
 - Matching Criminogenic Risk Factors to the Right Treatment Needs
 - Address both Criminogenic and Protective Factors
 - Address “Responsivity”
 - Use Motivational Interviewing and Positive Reinforcement
 - Quality Assure Program Models
 - Track Progress



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute

JJPOC Goal- Recidivism Reduction by 10%

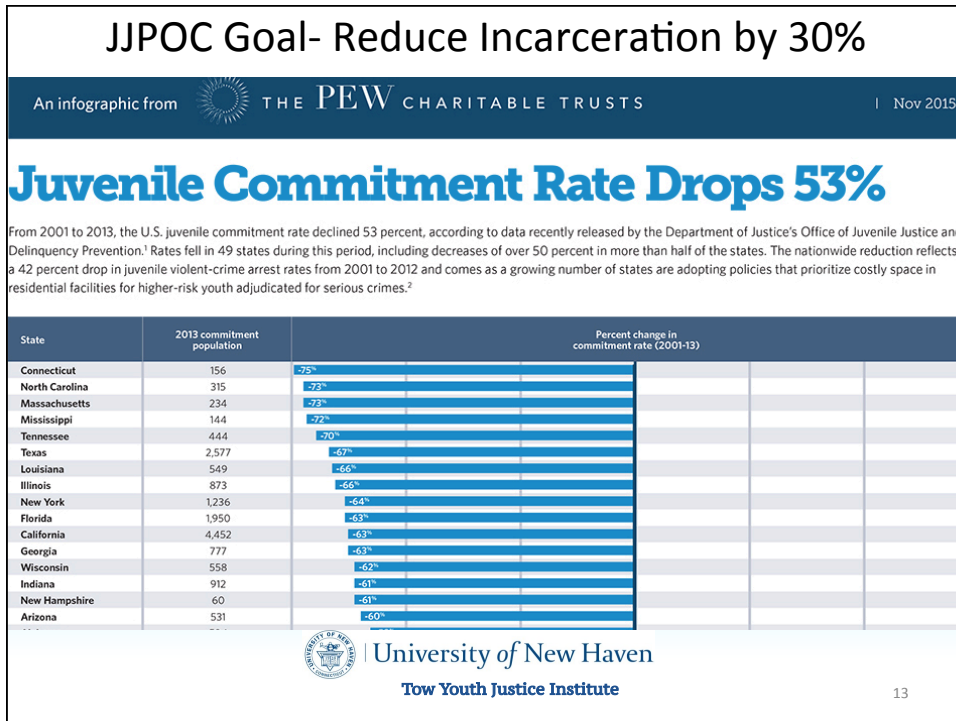


15% Reduction since 2007



University of New Haven

Tow Youth Justice Institute



Progress Report

- We have achieved significant reform
- That reform will position us to consider raising the age again, as recommended by Governor Malloy
- The job is not complete-
 - The new DOJ grant will address the issue of youth transitioning from incarceration
 - Disproportionate Minority Contact
 - Education and Mental Health
- We move ahead on a very solid foundation

 | University of New Haven
Tow Youth Justice Institute

14