WORKING ACROSS SYSTEMS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR CROSSOVER YOUTH: THE CROSSOVER YOUTH PRACTICE MODEL

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September 7, 2016
Children's Summit
Kearney, Nebraska

Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy
Center for Juvenile Justice Reform

CJJR'S MISSION

The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform supports leadership development and advances a balanced, multi-systems approach to reducing juvenile delinquency that promotes positive child and youth development, while also holding youth accountable.

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- Sharing a Personal Perspective on Experiences in the Child Welfare System
- Juvenile Maltreatment and Delinquency
- Crossover Youth
- Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM)
- CYPM Key Elements
- CYPM Data Findings
- Meeting the Needs of Crossover Youth in Nebraska

Addendum:

- CYPM Implementation Core Elements

Juvenile Maltreatment and Delinquency

PATHWAYS TO DELINQUENCY

- The average age at which juveniles took their first step toward delinquent behavior was approximately 7.
- Moderately serious behavior began at about age 9.5.
- Serious delinquency began at age 12.
- The average age at which youth first came in contact with the juvenile court was 14.5.

This means that there is a seven year window of opportunity to intervene and interrupt their pathway to delinquency.

RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR DELINQUENCY

APPLICATION OF RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS TO DELINQUENCY: THE ROCHESTER STUDY

Youth with 5 or more risk factors were "high risk."

Youth who had five or more risk factors and who had 5 or fewer protective factors offended at a rate of almost 80%.

High-risk youth with 9 or more protective factors offended at a rate of just over 22%.

The presence of these 4 additional protective factors reduced offending rates by 75%.

Source: Research from Causes and Correlates Study.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT AS A RISK FACTOR FOR DELINQUENCY

- Increased likelihood of arrest as a **juvenile** by 55% and for a violent crime as a **juvenile** by 96%
- Increased likelihood of arrest as an **adult** by 28% and for a violent crime as an **adult** by 30%
- Increased the odds of future delinquency and adult criminality overall by 29%

Source: Widom, Tuell, & Wiig, 2003; Update on the Cycle of Violence, 2001.

EXPONENTIAL EFFECT OF EXTRA FACTORS

- Compounded risk factors – research
- Are we also compounding the risk by our system responses?

CROSSOVER YOUTH

CROSSOVER YOUTH: DEFINITIONS

CROSSOVER YOUTH PATHWAYS

Child Welfare → Juvenile Justice

Pathway 1: Open CW case with subsequent delinquency referral or arrest

Pathway 2: Previous but not current CW case at time of new delinquency referral or arrest

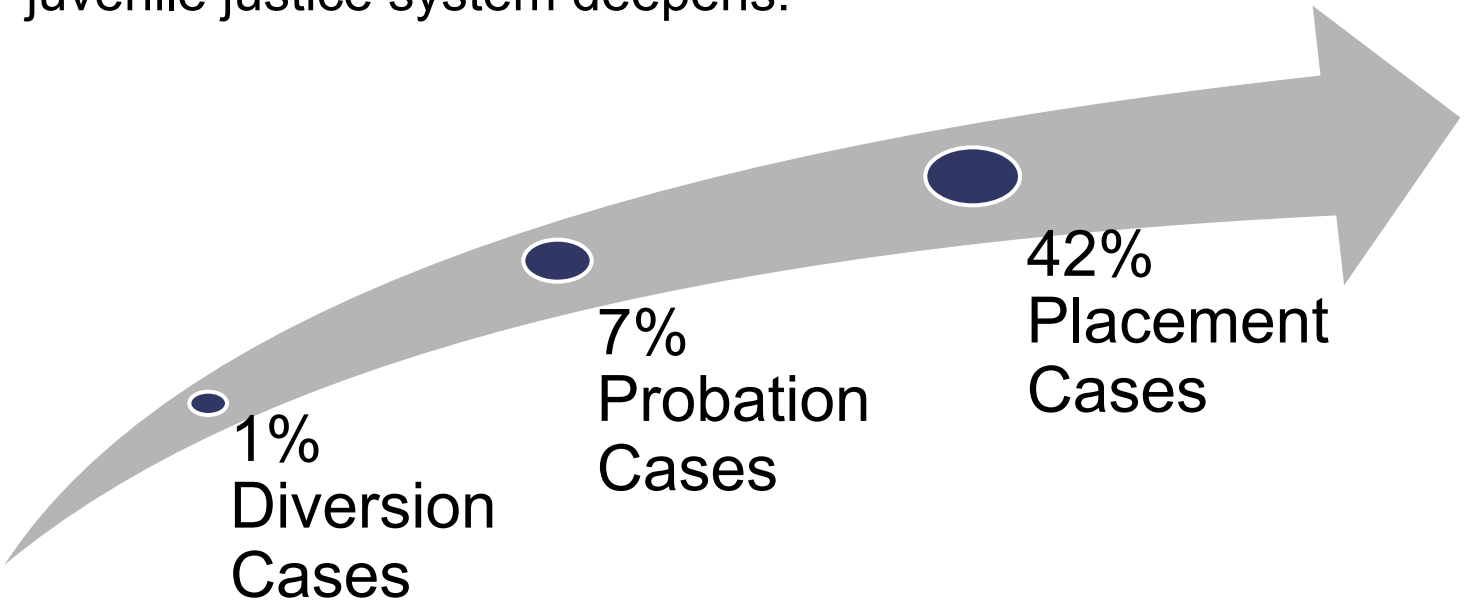
Pathway 3: Upon JJ investigation after delinquency occurs, maltreatment discovered → referral to CW

Pathway 4: Term of correctional placement ends, but no home/safe home to return to → referral to CW

Juvenile Justice → Child Welfare

PREVALENCE

- Studies estimate that between 9 and 29% of child welfare involved youth have contact with the juvenile justice system
  - Most maltreated youth do not have official records and do not self report delinquency.
- Higher proportion of crossover youth as penetration in the juvenile justice system deepens:



Sources: Smith, Thornberry, Ireland, & Elwyn, 2008; Johnson, Ereth, & Wagner, 2004; Dennison & Waterson, 2002; Halemba 2004.

WHO ARE THE YOUTH WHO CROSS OVER INTO DELINQUENCY?

Demographics

- Increased likelihood of being female
- More likely to be African-American
- Younger at the age of their first arrest than youth not involved in child welfare

Experiences with Abuse/ Neglect and the Child Welfare System

- Persistence or adolescent maltreatment, alone
- Type of maltreatment
- Type and # of placements
- Absence of positive attachments

CHARACTERISTICS OF CROSSOVER YOUTH

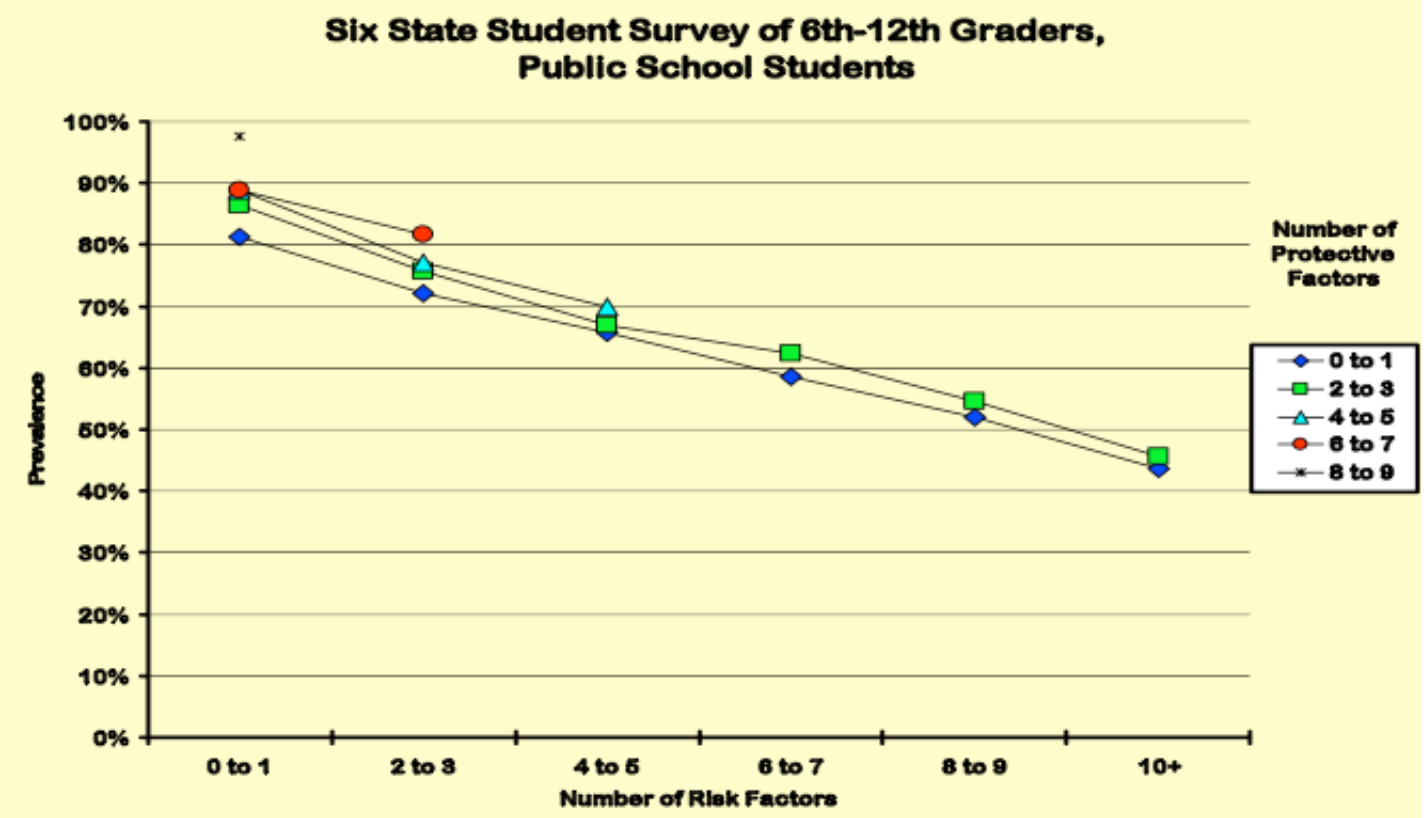
Individual Characteristics

- Truancy, drop-out, and push-out
- Special education issues that may or may not have been identified
- Parents and youth with history of mental illness, substance abuse, domestic violence, and/or criminal behavior

Juvenile Justice Involvement

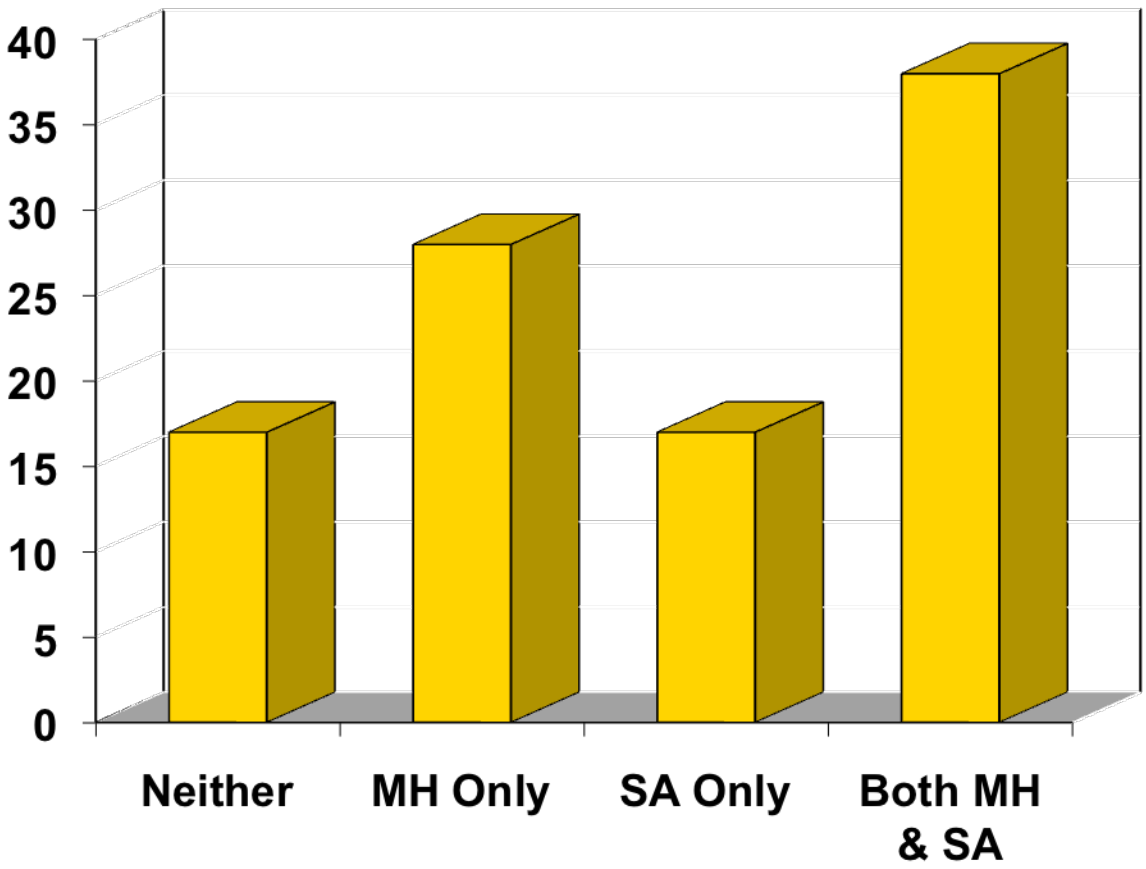
- Less than ½ charged with violent offenses
- 1/4 to 1/2 detained at the time of arrest
- Prior contact with the system for previous criminal or status offense charges

CHARACTERISTICS: ACADEMIC PROGRESS



Source: Richard F. Catalano, Ph.D. *The Knowledge Base for Prevention Science: Risk and Protective Factors*. 5 October 2006.

CHARACTERISTICS: MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS



Source: Herz, Denise. *A Review of the Research and Issues Related to Crossover Youth*. June 2009.

EXPERIENCES IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Pre-Adjudication

Inconsistent identification; More likely to be detained

Charging

System personnel perceive Dually-Involved Youth as higher risk; Less likely to receive diversion

Disposition

Less likely to receive probation supervision and more likely to receive placement in a group home setting

→ → → Higher proportion of crossover youth → → →

Sources: Conger & Ross, 2010; Morris & Freundlich, 2004; Ryan, Herz, Hernandez, & Marshall, 2007; Halemba, et al., 2004.

LONG TERM OUTCOMES

- Higher rates of substance abuse and mental illness
- Higher recidivism rates
- Higher rates of criminal involvement as adults
- Higher rates of child welfare involvement as parents/perpetrators of maltreatment

CROSSOVER YOUTH PRACTICE MODEL

WHAT IS A PRACTICE MODEL?

A practice model is a conceptual map and organizational ideology that includes definitions and explanations regarding how staff partner with families, service providers, and other stakeholders in the delivery of services to achieve positive outcomes for youth and their families.

CYPM GOALS

Overarching Goals

- Reduction in:
  - Number of youth placed in out-of-home care
  - Use of congregate care
  - Disproportionate representation of children of color
  - Number of youth crossing over and becoming dually involved

CYPM GOALS

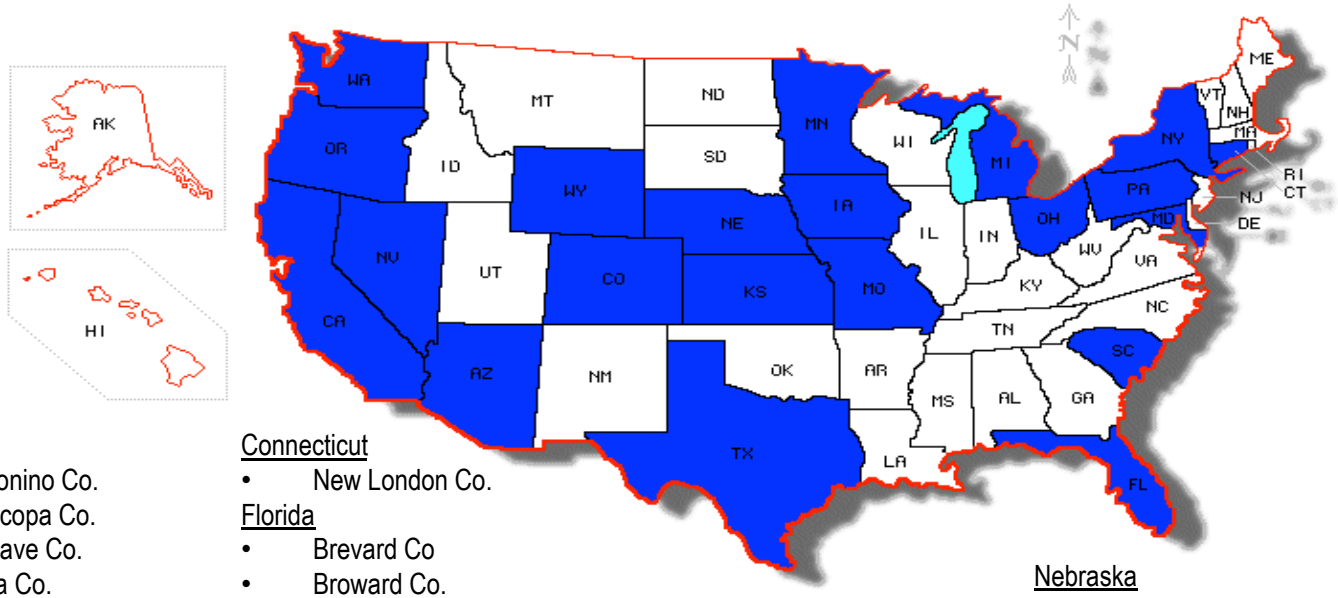
Practice Goals

- Reduction of use of pre-adjudication detention
- Increase use of diversion
- Reduction of number of youth reentering child welfare from juvenile justice placements
- Improvement in pro-social bonds
- Reduction in recidivism

Process Goals

- Increase use of interagency information-sharing
- Increase use of “joint” assessment
- Increase inclusion of youth and family voice in decision-making

Crossover Youth Practice Model Sites



Arizona
- Coconino Co.
- Maricopa Co.
- Mohave Co.
- Pima Co.
- Pinal Co.
- Santa Cruz Co.
- Yavapai Co.

California
- Alameda Co.
- Los Angeles Co.
- Sacramento Co.
- San Diego Co.

Colorado
- Broomfield Co.
- Denver Co.
- Douglas Co.
- Gunnison Co.
- Jefferson Co.
- Larimer Co.
- Mesa Co.
- Morgan Co.
- San Luis Valley

Connecticut
- New London Co.

Florida
- Brevard Co
- Broward Co.
- Duval Co.
- Marion Co.
- Miami-Dade Co.
- Polk Co.
- Seminole Co.
- Volusia Co.

Iowa
- Woodbury Co.

Kansas
- Sedgwick Co.

Maryland
- Montgomery Co.
- Prince George's Co.

Michigan
- Berrien Co.
- Genesee Co.
- Oakland Co.
- Wayne Co.

Minnesota
- Carver Co.
- Hennepin Co.
- Kandiyohi Co.
- Olmsted Co.
- Stearns Co.

Missouri
- Camden Co.
- Cass Co.
- Greene Co.
- Jefferson Co.
- Johnson Co.
- Laclede Co.
- Miller Co.
- Moniteau Co.
- Morgan Co.

Nebraska
- Dodge Co.
- Douglas Co.
- Gage Co.
- Lancaster Co.
- Sarpy Co.

Nevada
- Washoe Co.

New York
- Bronx Co.
- Kings Co.
- Monroe Co.
- New York Co.
- Queens Co.
- Richmond Co.

Ohio
- Carroll Co.
- Clarke Co.
- Cuyahoga Co.

Ohio
- Franklin Co.
- Hamilton Co.
- Lucas Co.
- Mahoning Co.
- Montgomery Co.
- Ross Co.
- Stark Co.
- Summit Co.
- Trumbull Co.

Oregon
- Jackson Co.
- Lane Co.
- Marion Co.
- Multnomah Co.
- Washington Co.

Pennsylvania
- Allegheny Co.
- Philadelphia Co.

South Carolina
- Berkley Co.
- Charleston Co.
- Georgetown Co.

Texas
- Bexar Co.
- Dallas Co.
- El Paso Co.
- McLennan Co.
- Tarrant Co.
- Travis Co.

Washington
- King Co.

Wyoming
- Laramie Co.

PRACTICE AREAS

Practice Area 1: Arrest, Identification, and Detention

Practice Area 2: Decision-making Regarding Charges

Practice Area 3: Case Assignment, Assessment, and Planning

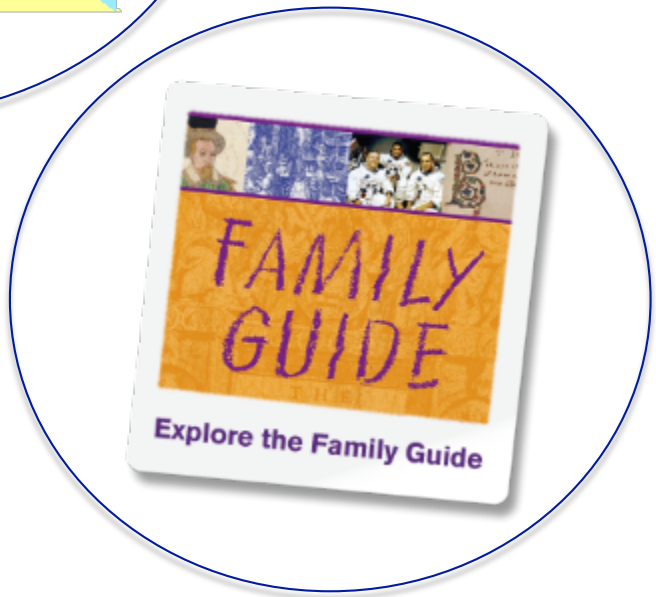
Practice Area 4: Coordinated Case Supervision and Ongoing Assessment

Practice Area 5: Planning for Youth Permanency, Transition, and Case Closure

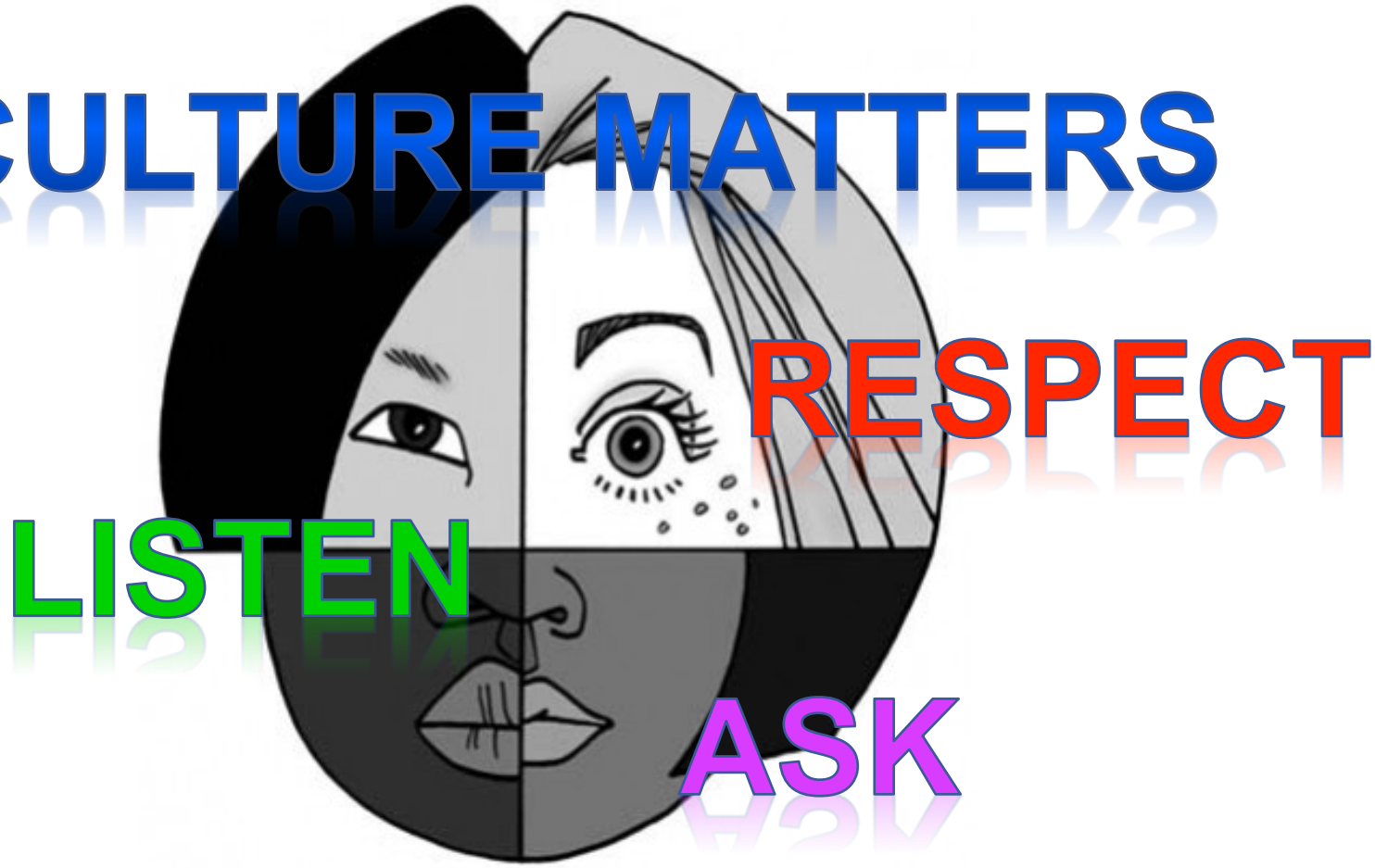
CROSSOVER YOUTH PRACTICE MODEL:

KEY OVERARCHING and FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT THROUGHOUT ALL PRACTICE AREAS



REDUCING DISPARATE TREATMENT & DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION – THROUGHOUT ALL PRACTICE AREAS



SUSTAINING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING CHANGE IN PRACTICE

A plan and/or curriculum has been developed for training all staff involved

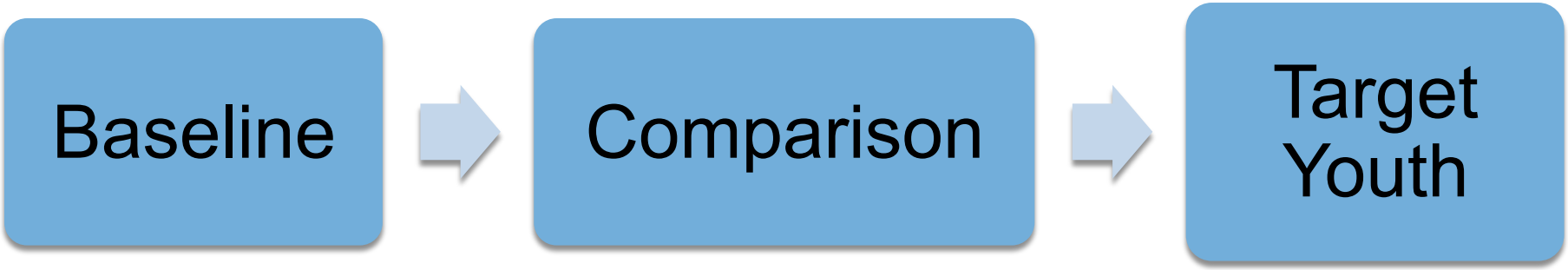
All of the practice changes have been included in current policy and procedure manuals

Supervisors in both agencies are clear that it is their responsibility to sustain crossover youth practice through personal evaluation and quality assurance

CYPM DATA FINDINGS

2016

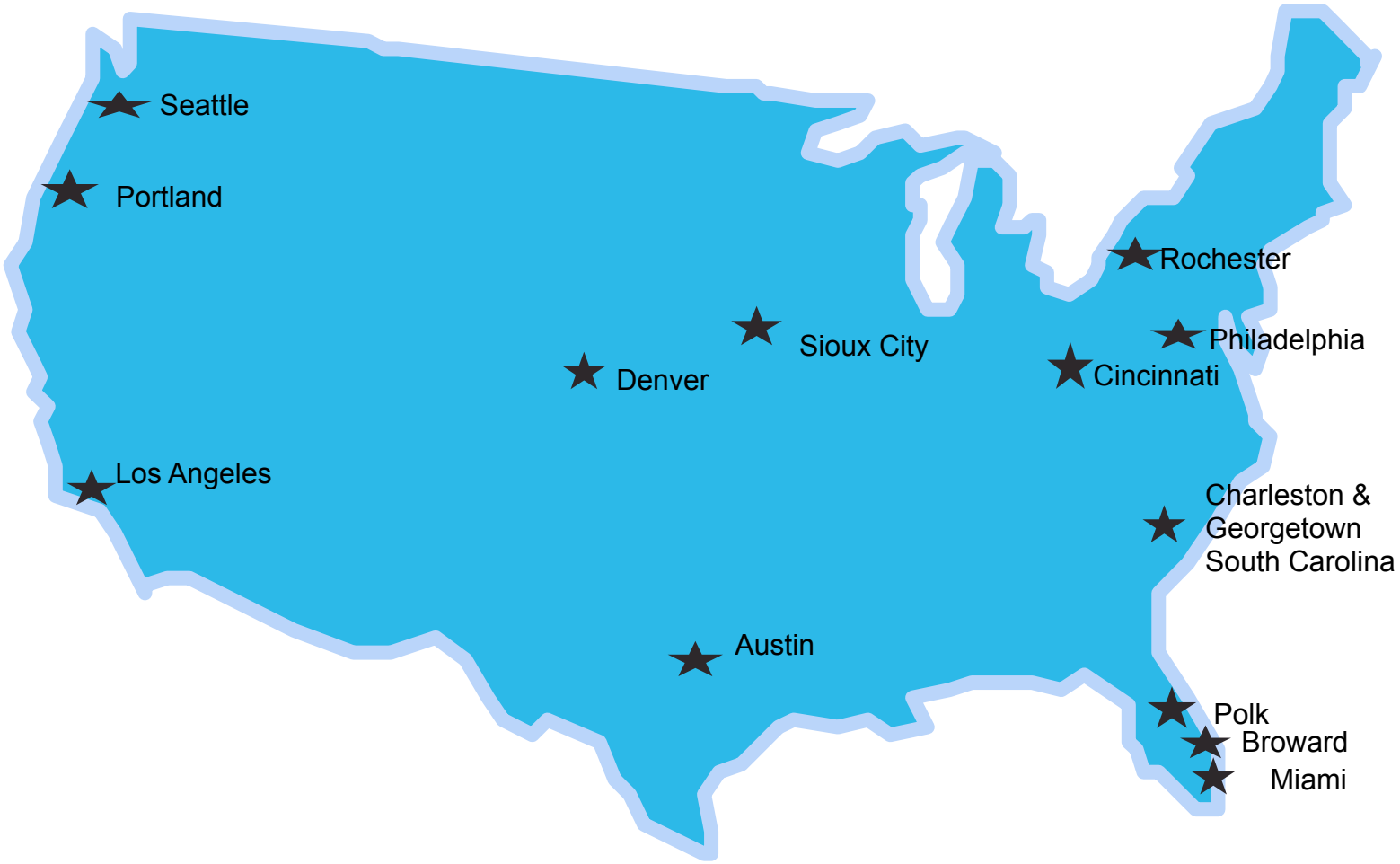
CYPM Data Collection Process



CYPM Outcomes

- Highlights from the 2010 Cohort of Sites
- Pathway 1 Youth Only (n = 1093)
- Study Youth Included:
  - CYPM Youth: Youth who met a site's target population and were identified for one year between June and Sept. 2010
  - Pre-CYPM Youth: Youth drawn historically from the year prior to data collection

2010 CYPM Sites (N=13)



Who Are CYPM Youth in These Sites?

60% Are African American

84% Have a MH and/or SU Problem

31% Not Attending School

40% Are Female

79% Have Academic and/or Behavioral Problems at School

Child Welfare Characteristics of CYPM Youth in These Sites

35% Living at Home at Time of Arrest

55% Involved with CW for Neglect

55% Had One or More Placement Changes in the Past 6 Months

25% Living in Congregate Care at Time of Arrest

4.3 years Average Time in CW (Median 2.2 years)

Juvenile Justice Characteristics of CYPM Youth in These Sites

61% Had at Least One Prior Offense

25% Detained at Arrest

Charge Type for Current Offense

22% Property Offense

41% Violent Offense

37% Other Offense*

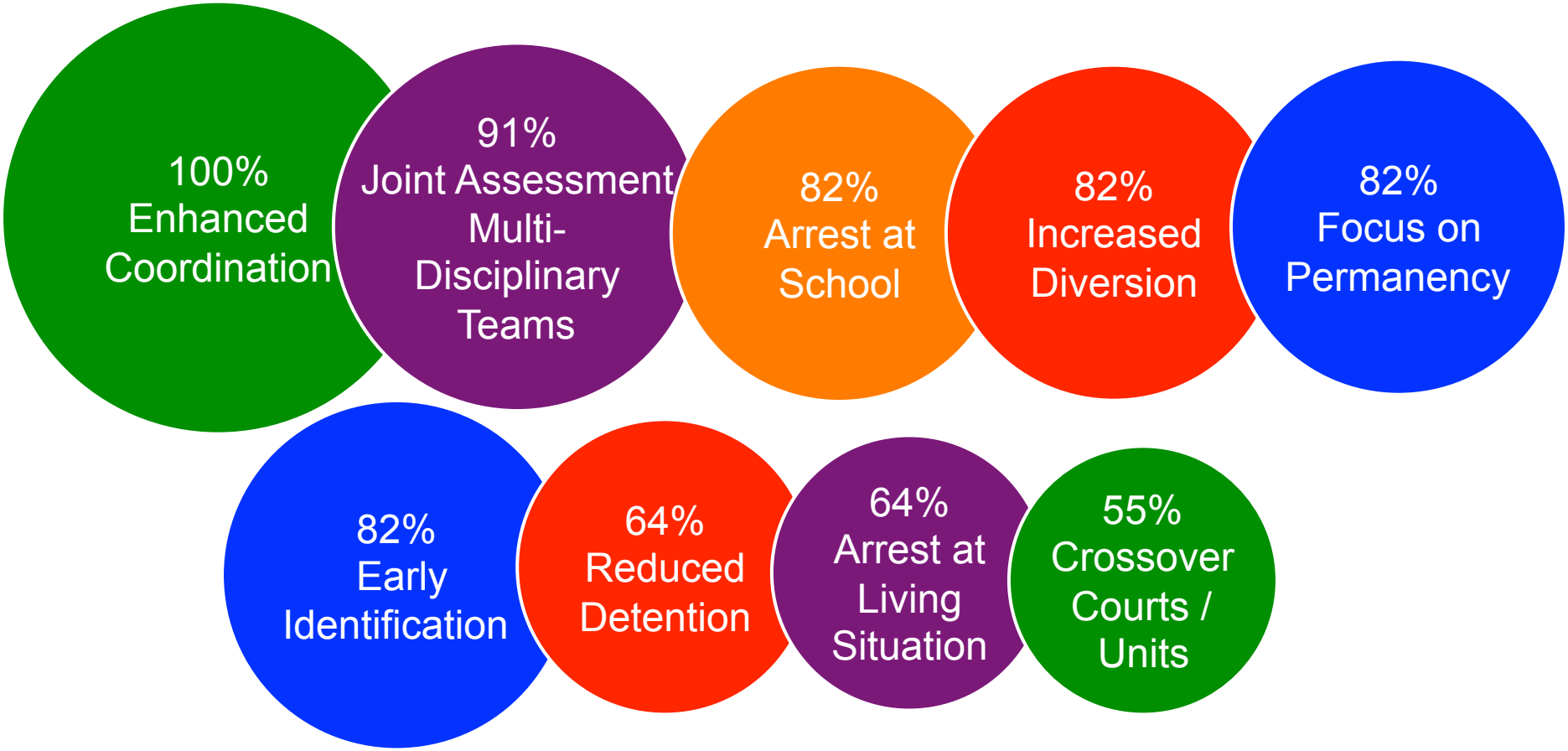
70% Assaults

39% At Living Situation

20% At School

*Other offenses include alcohol and drug offenses, resisting arrest, and status offenses

Focus of CYPM Reform Efforts in These Sites



- **85% of CYPM youth across sites received a Promising Practice compared to 37% of Pre-CYPM youth.**

Sites Showing Improvement in Educational Outcomes

Increased School Attendance

Los Angeles (14%)

Improved Academic Performance

Austin (11%)
Circuit 10 (23%)
Denver (10%)
Portland (20%)
Rochester (22%)
Seattle (11%)

Reduced Behavior Problems at School

Circuit 17 (21%)
Portland (40%)

Sites listed inside the circles are those that demonstrated more than a 10% difference between CYPM youth and Pre-CYPM youth. The percentage listed indicates the exact difference between the two groups.

Sites Showing Increased Contact with Support Systems

Parents

Circuit 17 (17%)
Circuit 10 (29%)
Denver (26%)
Philadelphia (18%)
Portland (30%)
Rochester (39%)

Other Family

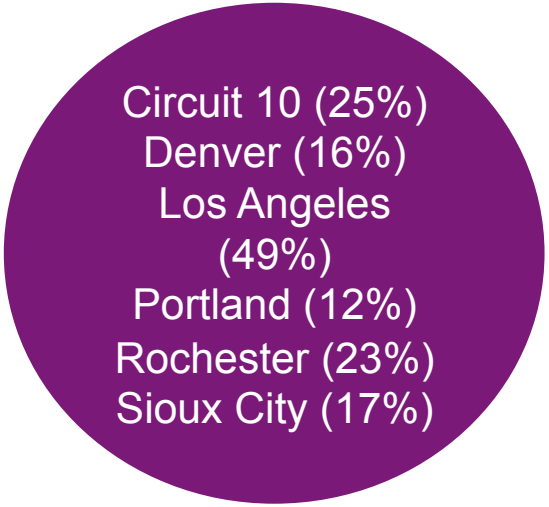
Denver (37%)
Philadelphia (16%)
Rochester (20%)
Sioux City (10%)

Non-Family

Cincinnati (11%)
Denver (47%)
Los Angeles (26%)
Seattle (35%)
Sioux City (14%)

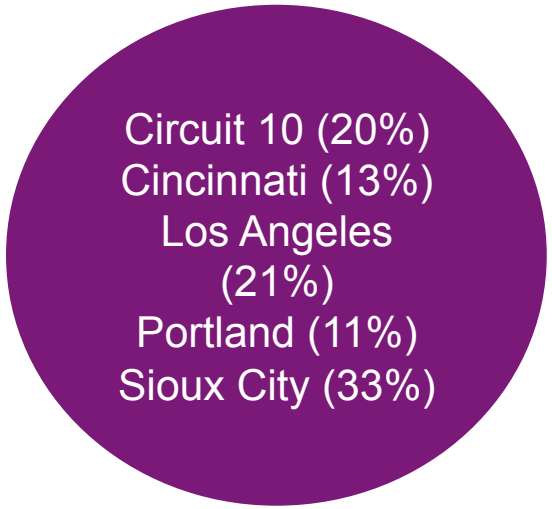
Sites Showing Increased Youth Involvement in Pro-Social Activities

Pro-Social Activities

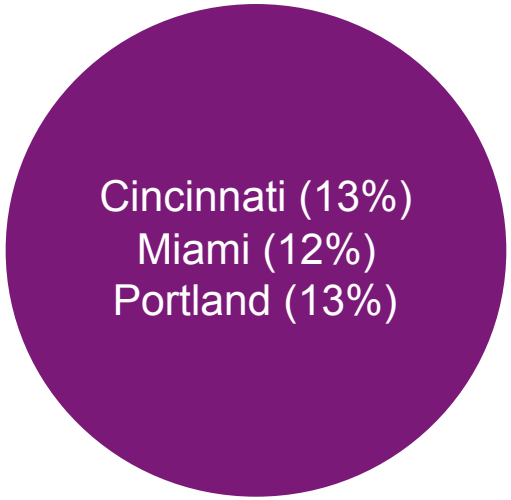


Sites Showing Improvement in Behavioral Health

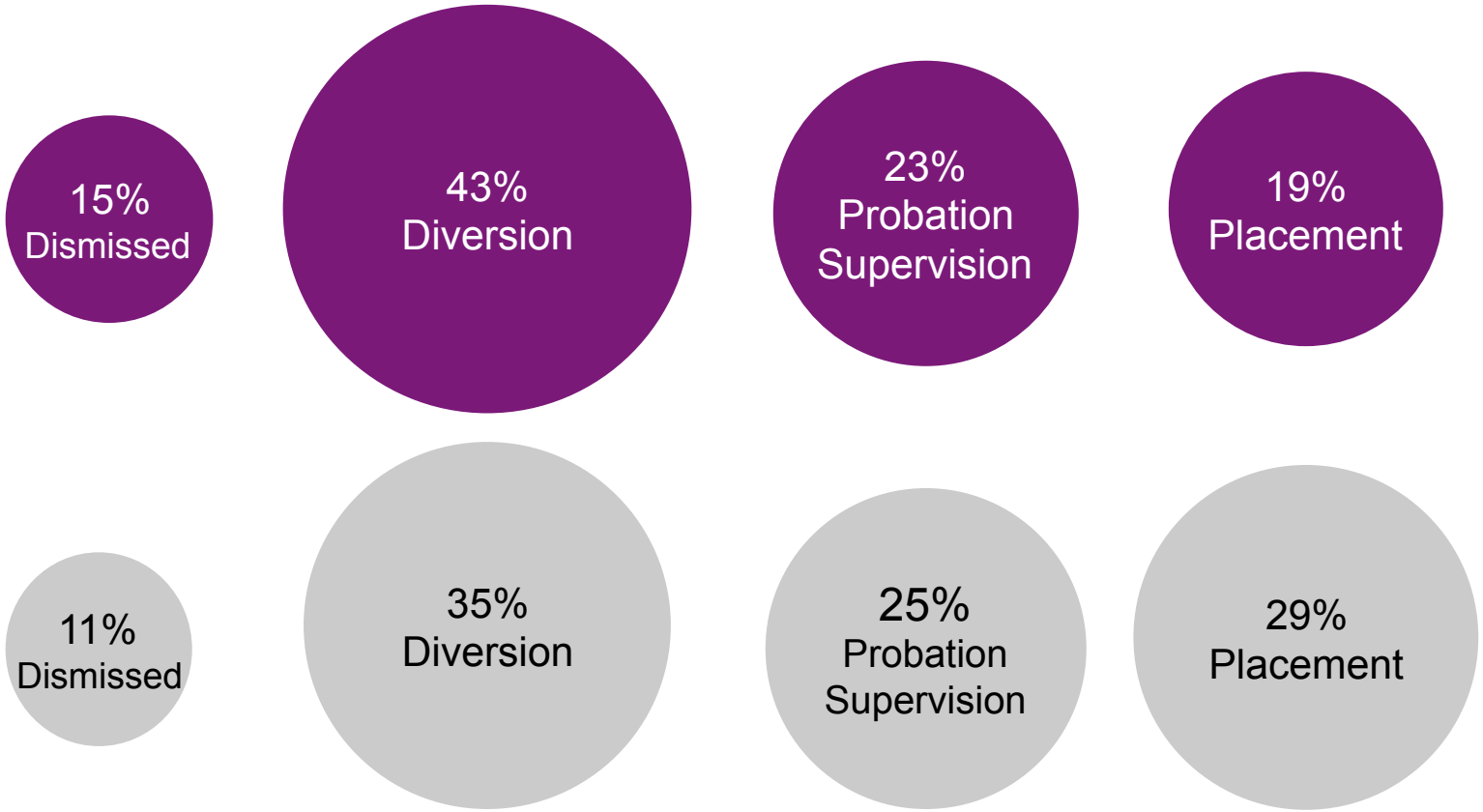
Mental Health



Substance Use



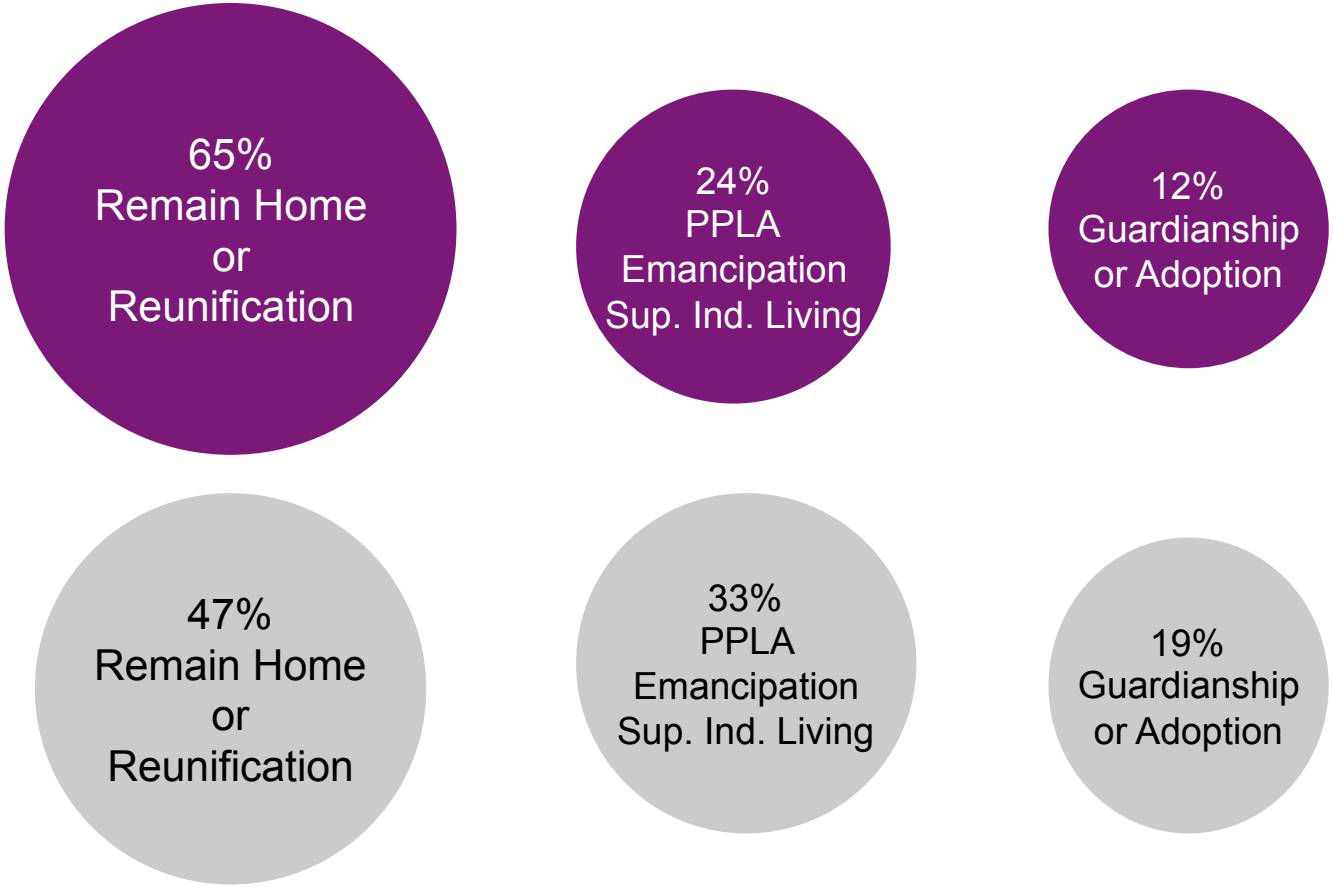
Status of Disposition Outcome for the Current Arrest



Note: Pending cases were removed from analysis.

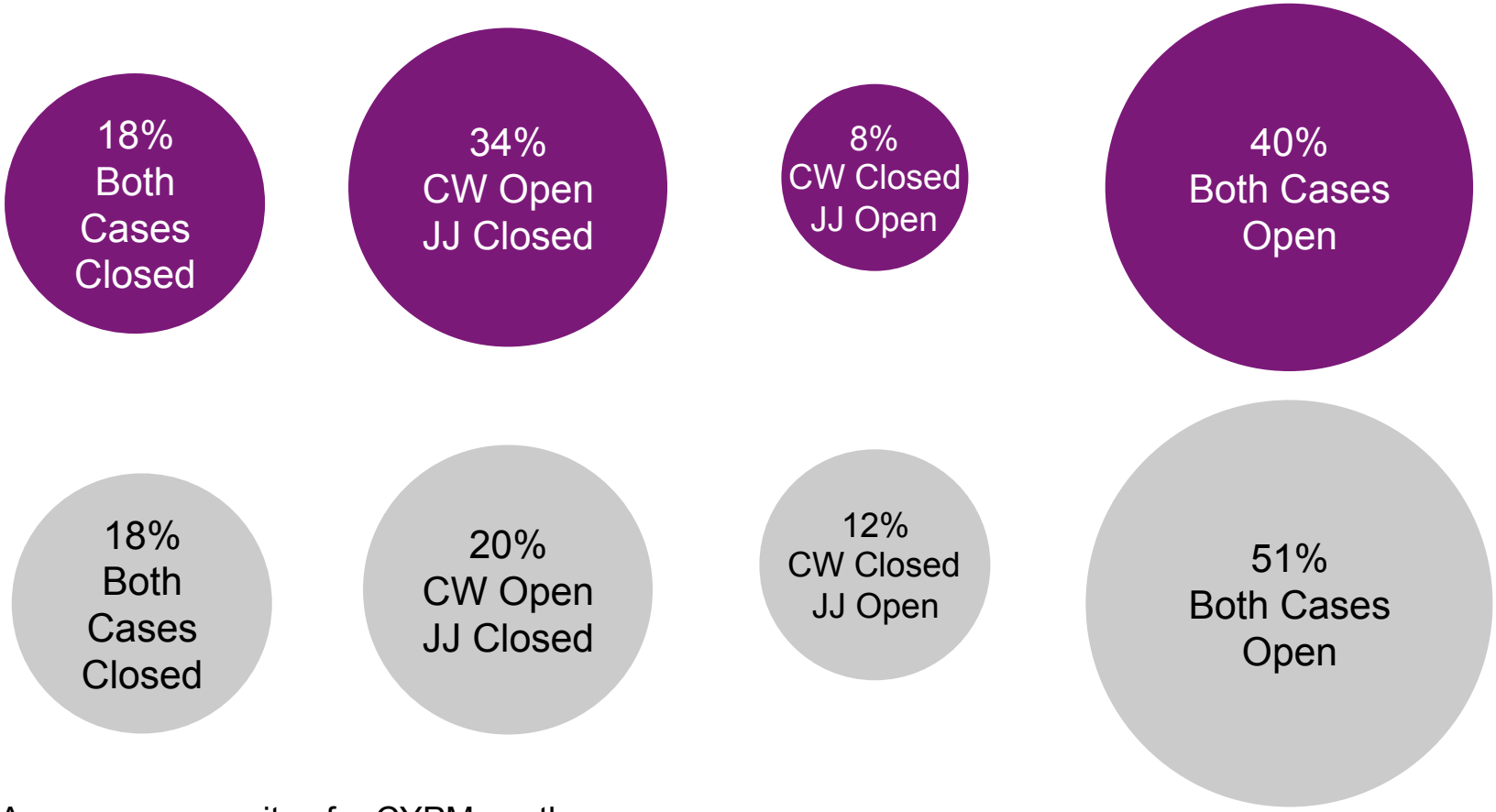
- Average across sites for CYPM youth.
- Average across sites for Pre-CYPM youth.

Status of Permanency Goal



- Average across sites for CYPM youth.
- Average across sites for Pre-CYPM youth.

Status of JJ and CW Cases



- Average across sites for CYPM youth.
- Average across sites for Pre-CYPM youth.

CYPM Sites with Lower Recidivism than Pre-CYPM Sites

Fewer Re-Arrests

Austin (14%)
Circuit 17 (27%)
Cincinnati (12%)
Philadelphia (20%)
Seattle (31%)

Fewer Sustained Petitions

Portland (22%)
Seattle (12%)

Summary of Key Findings

- **Educational Outcomes:** 67% of sites showed improvement in one of the education measures
- **Social Supports:** 83% of sites showed improvements in at least one measure of social support
- **Pro-social Activities:** 50% of sites showed increases in youth involvement in pro-social activities
- **Behavioral Health:** 50% of sites showed improvements in mental health or substance use
- **Dismissal and Diversion:** 67% of sites showed increases in the use of dismissal and diversion
- **Permanency Goals**: 25% of sites showed increases in achieving permanency goals of home placement, reunification, adoption, and/or guardianship; across all sites, 24% of CYPM youth involved in PPLA, independent living and/or emancipation, compared to 33% of pre-CYPM youth
- **Reducing Recidivism:** 50% of sites showed a reduction in either arrests or sustained petitions

Meeting the Needs of Crossover Youth In Nebraska

Court Improvement Project

Mission: To better the court process for youth.

- Identify Evidence-based practices
- Provide Education
- Data Informed
- Support through Eyes of the Child Teams

Meeting the Needs of Crossover Youth In Nebraska

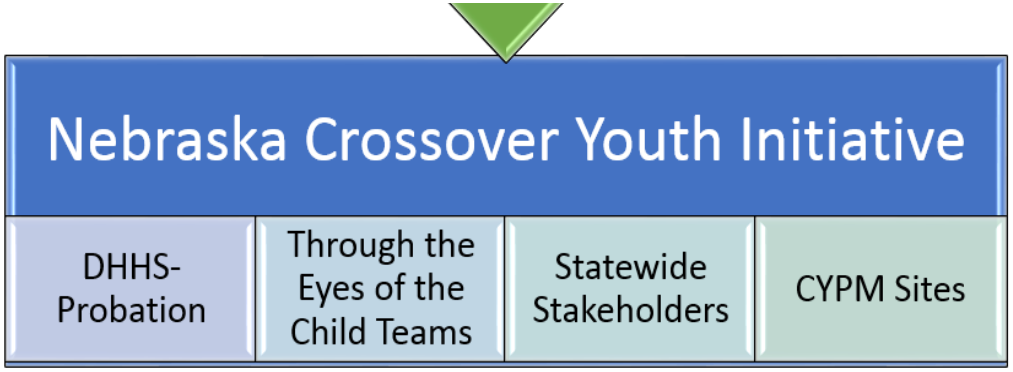
Court Improvement Project

Mission to better the court process for youth

Nebraska Crossover Youth Initiative

DHHS-Probation	Through the Eyes of the Child Teams	Statewide Stakeholders	CYPM Sites

Meeting the Needs of Crossover Youth In Nebraska



To implement crossover youth best practices
The Court Improvement Project will:

- Utilize Through the Eyes of the Child Teams
- Provide education, encouragement, and resources
- Coordinate with current CYPM sites, DHHS, Probation and statewide stakeholders

Meeting the Needs of Crossover Youth In Nebraska

DHHS-Probation

DHHS/Probation Collaboration

- Crossover youth guide
- Development of policies and procedures
- Education of staff and stakeholders

QUESTIONS?

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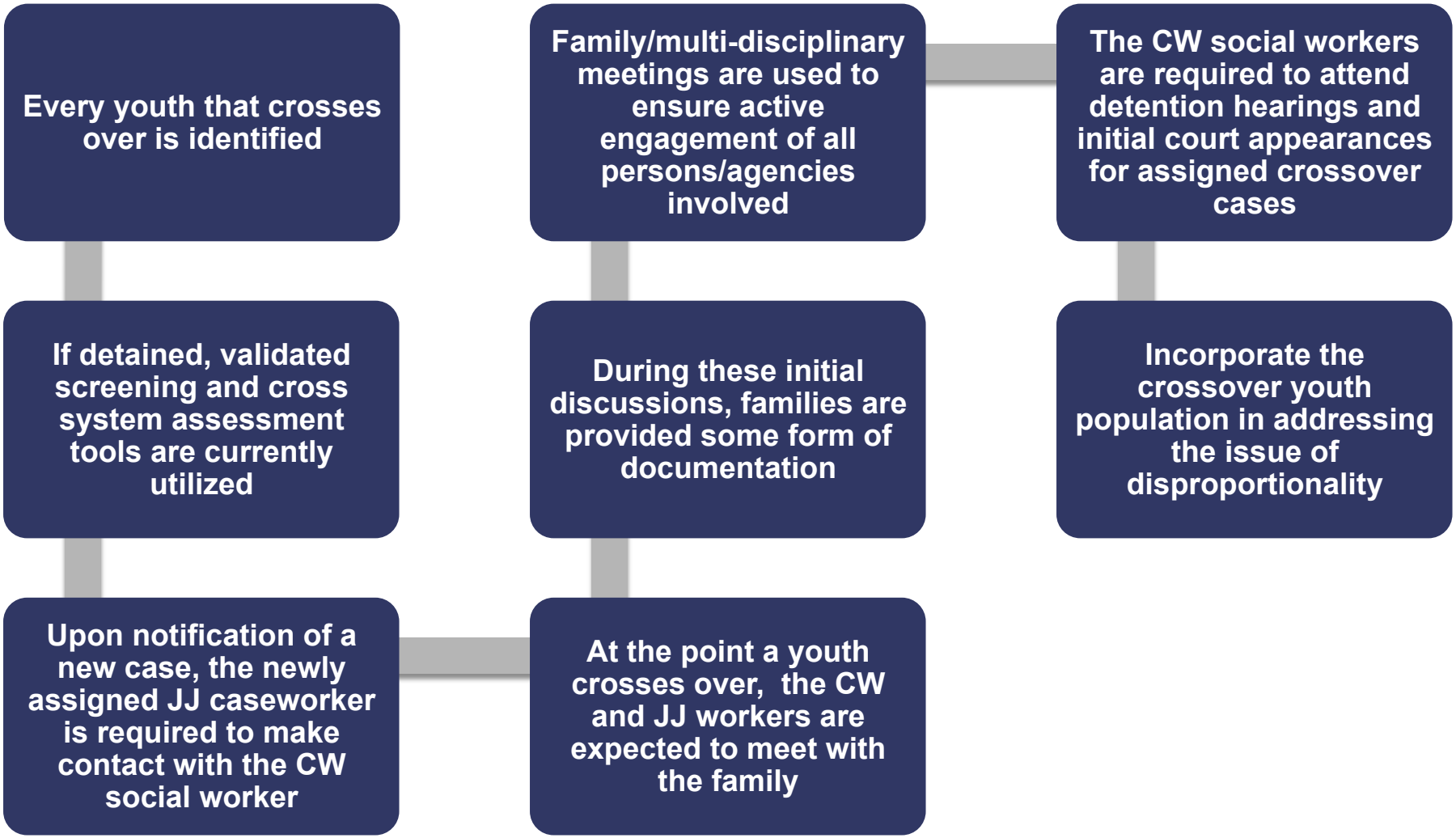
ADDENDUM

CYPM IMPLEMENTATION

CORE ELEMENTS

PRACTICE AREA 1: ARREST, IDENTIFICATION, AND DETENTION

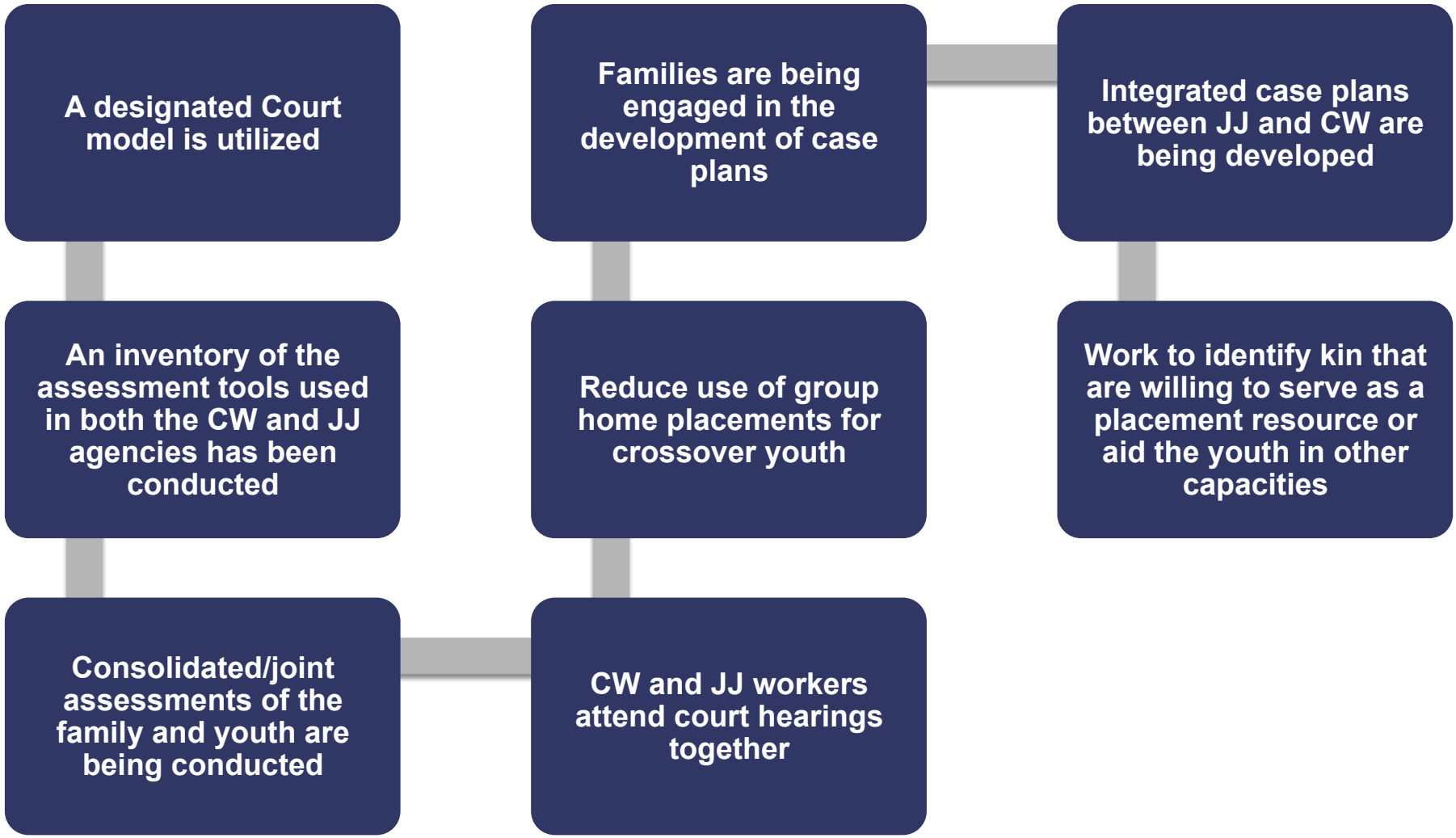


PRACTICE AREA 2: DECISION-MAKING REGARDING CHARGES

Procedures are in place to ensure active consideration of diversion opportunities at key decision points in the process

The Courts, CW, and JJ systems have partnered on identifying and funding prevention services

PRACTICE AREA 3: CASE ASSIGNMENT, ASSESSMENT, AND PLANNING



PRACTICE AREA 4: COORDINATED CASE SUPERVISION AND ONGOING ASSESSMENT

CW social workers and JJ caseworkers are required to make a determination whether one of the agencies should take the lead

There are required levels of contact that must be maintained between the CW social worker and JJ caseworker regarding each case

Formal meetings are held in crossover cases at the designated times in the life of a case

PRACTICE AREA 5: PLANNING FOR YOUTH PERMANENCY, TRANSITION, AND CASE CLOSURE

Joint permanency planning is begun between CW and JJ at the point of the youth crossing over

The site currently utilizes Permanency Pacts or other means to ensure that they have adults who care about them

Concurrent planning is part of the permanency planning process

Efforts are made to ensure that youth exiting care are afforded education, support and skill development

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