

# Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

November 19, 2015



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## 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



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## 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



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## 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



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## 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
- 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



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## 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



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## 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
- 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- CT cited as a model at the National Conference



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## School Based Diversion Initiative

- Cited as model at National Conference
- Funded by 4 state agencies and administered by the Child Health and Development Institute
- **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

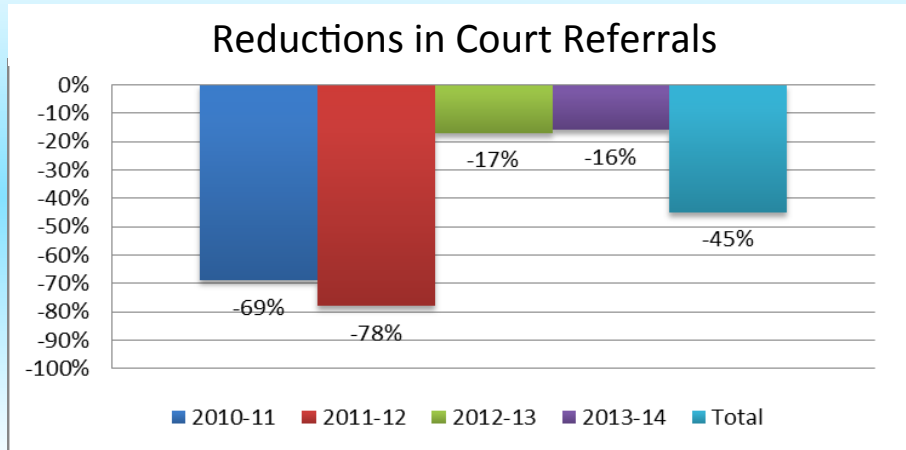


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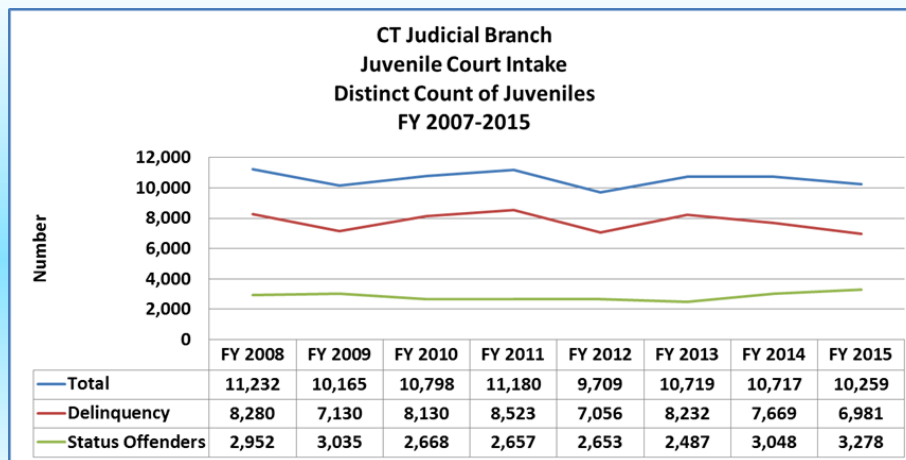
## SBDI Cited As National Model



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## 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.



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## JJPOC Goal- Recidivism Reduction by 10%

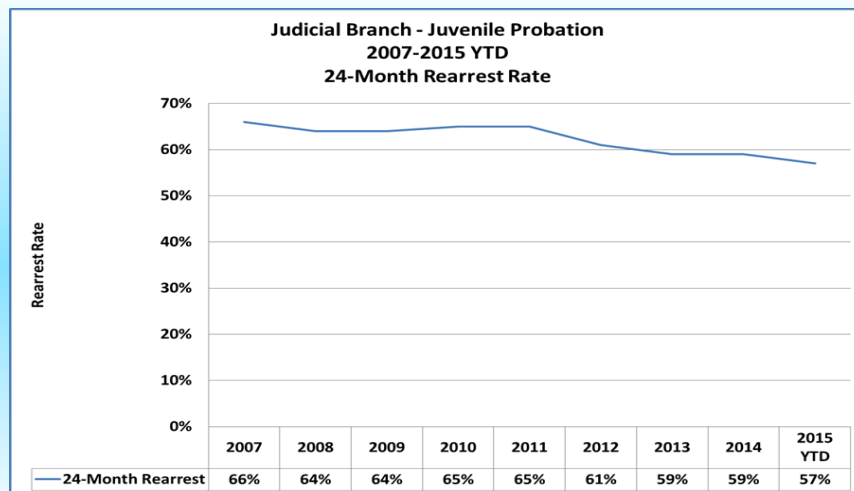
- Latessa’s Formula:
  - Validated Assessments
  - Matching Criminogenic Areas to the Right Treatment Interventions
  - Address both Criminogenic and Protective Factors
  - Address “Responsivity”
  - Use Motivational Interviewing and Positive Reinforcement
  - Quality Assure Program Models
  - Track Progress



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## JJPOC Goal- Recidivism Reduction by 10%

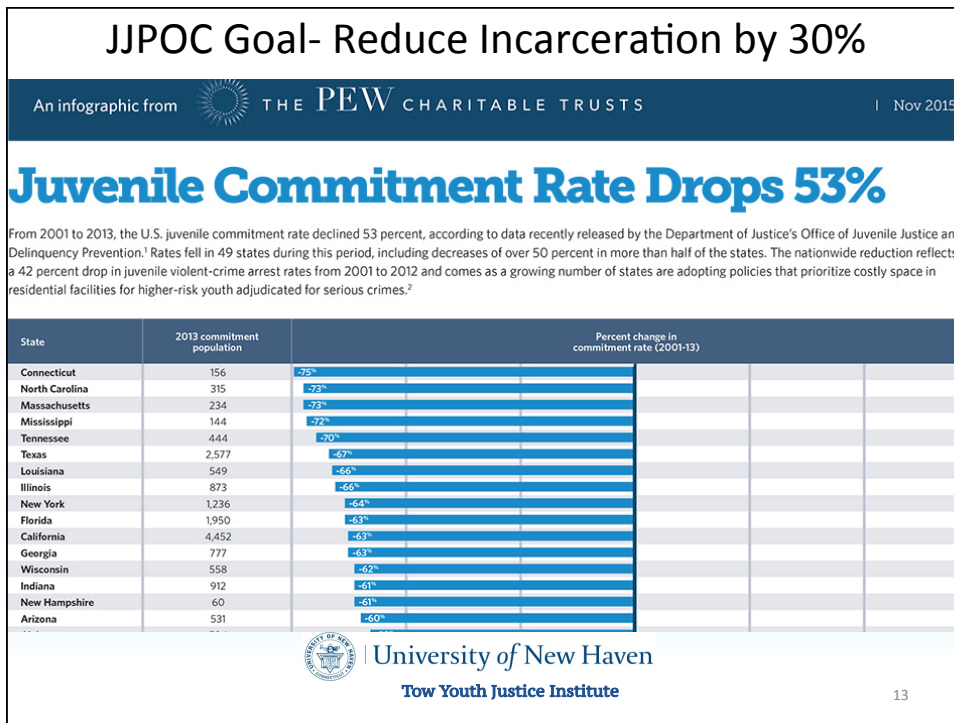


15% Reduction since 2007



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## 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

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