

Alameda County SB823 Subcommittee Meeting

February 25, 2021

IMPACT/JUSTICE

Data Request Update

- See presentation from Dr. Laura Chavez, ACPD

Risk & Needs Assessments

ACPD Currently Uses

- YLS/CMI
 - For youth in community supervision
 - Youth <18 years old
- COMPAS
 - Youth 18+
 - Used by CDCR

DJJ Currently Uses

- CA-YASI
 - For risk & needs
 - Also used to determine level of secure placement
 - Further specialized assessments if indicated
 - Special Education
 - Mental Health
 - Etc.

Background on YASI

- YASI = Youth Assessment & Screening Instrument
- Validated tool, higher accuracy for higher risk
- Gender responsive
 - Different “cut off” scores for girls & boys
- Domains:
 - Family
 - Aggression
 - Peers
 - Adaptive Skills
 - Family
 - Attitudes
 - Free Time
- Trained staff can administer

Also Using YASI:

New York Juvenile Probation

Illinois DHS

Vermont

North Dakota

Alberta, Canada (Probation and Custody)

California DJJ

Illinois DJJ

Hawaii (Probation and Custody)

Wisconsin (Department of Children and Families)

Colorado DYS – (Youth Custody)

North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Michigan (10 counties)

Many large city counties (e.g., Atlanta, Memphis, Detroit)

Scotland (residential)

Many large and small service providers (e.g., John Howard, Eckerd, AMI, Girls and Boys Clubs)

Background on PACT

- PACT = Positive Achievement Change Tool
 - Validated tool, heavily adapted from the YASI
 - Assesses strengths as well as risk/needs
 - Domains:
 - Criminal History
 - School
 - Use of Free Time
 - Employment
 - Relationships
 - Family
 - Alcohol and Drugs
 - Mental Health
 - Attitudes/Behaviors
 - Aggression
 - Skills
 - Living Arrangements
 - Trained staff can administer
 - M-PACT (modified) reduces weighting of criminal history, so better for RED
 - Also improves accuracy for girls

Also Using PACT

- Florida
 - Washington State
 - Delaware
 - Wyoming
 - Virginia
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- NOTE: the PACT is much newer than the YASI

Risk & Needs Assessments

- Important considerations:
 - Staff training & regular refresher training essential
 - Perhaps the biggest issue re: assessments is inconsistencies in administration, application, & utilization
 - Many studies find they can't evaluate effectiveness of RNA tools because of large inconsistencies
 - Inter-rater reliability studies
 - To ensure administration & interpretation of tool is consistent

Risk & Needs Assessments

- Important considerations (cont.)
 - Internal RED analyses
 - To ensure tool is not leading to or exacerbating RED
 - Assessing risks & needs consistently for white and nonwhite racial/ethnic groups
 - Static domains are not too heavily weighted
 - Or scores will always stay high, regardless of change/improvement
 - Tools are used within a “risk-needs-responsivity” framework
 - ACPD already uses this framework

Current Programming & Model

- ACPD committed to the [Youth in Custody Practice Model](#)
 - Model developed by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform & Georgetown University
 - Based on research & “what works” in the field
 - Have been participants since 2018
- YICPM offers evidence-based guidance on:
 - Case planning
 - Facility-based services
 - Transition/reentry
 - Community-based services

Current Programming & Model

- ACPD also participated in Georgetown University's [Reducing RED](#) program
 - Multi-disciplinary team, a holistic effort by the Probation Department
 - Participating Agencies:
 - Probation
 - Public Defender's Office
 - District Attorney's Office
 - Oakland Police Department
 - Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission
 - Superior Court
 - Community Based Organization representation

Areas of Services, Treatment, & Programming

JJC

- Behavior Management
- Treatment/Rehabilitative Interventions
 - Substance Abuse
 - Mental Health
 - Health Education
 - Education
 - Career Pathways (Vocational Training and Workforce Development)
 - Arts and Creative Expression
 - Civic and Social Engagement including Restorative Justice
- Recreational Activities
- Family Engagement/Parenting
- Fiscal Responsibility and Planning
- Religious Programming
- Case Management
- Transition/Community Planning

DJJ

- Behavior Management
- Treatment/Rehabilitative Interventions
 - Substance Abuse
 - Mental Health
 - Behavioral Health Interventions
 - Education
 - Vocation
- Activities
- Case Management
- Transition/Community Planning

Programming, Treatment, & Gaps

- Alameda County has already begun a long-term assessment of programming, ensuring they are incorporating best-practices
- Existing programming areas align with DJJ offerings
- Gaps:
 - Sex Offender Treatment
 - Severe Mental Health Needs
 - ACPD intends to enhance mental health treatment services in partnership with AC Behavioral Health
 - Gender-responsive programming (girls & sexual minority youth)
 - Alameda County is considering regional partnerships

Thank You!

Any Questions?

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