

ModelsforChange

Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice

An initiative of the

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Washington *Models for Change*

Local and State Partners' Progress Reports

June 2010



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Local and State Partners' Progress Reports

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WA Models for Change Partner	Benton and Franklin Counties
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement; Disproportionate Minority Contact; Mental Health
Additional Activities	DMC Action Network; Mental Health Action Network

PROGRESS UPDATE

In January, the Benton/Franklin Counties Juvenile Court moved into our third year of MfC system reform efforts. This second phase of work is focused heavily on solutions and implementation of varied interventions and program changes to address our data and policy findings. We have continued to convene our various workgroups under our three targeted areas of improvement, and have also held numerous subcommittees to address specific tasks or projects. Our Juvenile Justice Advisory Board continues to meet and provides us with valuable insight and guidance in our efforts. As an outcome of some of our DMC workgroup efforts, we have also formed the Tri-Cities Comprehensive Gang Task Force. This group is charged with creating a multi-tiered approach to addressing our resurfacing gang problem, and is focused heavily on prevention, early intervention and re-entry efforts.

Over the past three months, a significant amount of time was spent drafting various grant application requests. Submissions have recently included a request to the United Way, as well as to OJJDP for Mental Health Collaboration funds.

As an agency, we have suffered from severe budget cuts recently (similar to other juvenile courts across the State of Washington) which have resulted in the loss of 7.5 employees, and a reduction in the maximum number of our staffed detention beds from 60 to 35. Although budget concerns continue to challenge the court, we have been able to institute a number of low-cost program changes aimed at DMC reduction efforts, as well as increasing services to truant youth.

General to Project

Newsletter: Given the numerous workgroup meetings, forums, summits and trainings that the Benton/Franklin MfC Project convenes/offers, we recognized the need to keep our community partners “up to speed” with our latest findings and information. The newsletter continues to be released quarterly and has highlighted some of our important work being offered (e.g. Mental Health practitioner training on engagement skills) as well as upcoming workgroup meetings, other area trainings and key findings.

Youth Council: In June 2009, the BFJJC created a “Youth Council” via our DMCAN project. The purpose of this Council is to provide youth oversight and policy recommendations for our DMCAN and MfC systems reform efforts. Monthly meetings with the youth and two facilitators allows for proposed reform feedback, skill building and leadership training. During the past six months the Youth Council has been actively involved in the creation and development of our court process video. In addition, two Youth Council members recently participated in a local training offered by Team Child and the National Juvenile Defenders Association (NJDA). Following the Pierce County model, over the next three months, the BFJJC will expand the role of the Youth Council to include outreach to youth and families that are new to the juvenile justice system, as well as survey youth as they exit probation to measure challenges, needs and barriers encountered during probation.

Community Needs Assessment Follow-up: A key finding from the Benton/Franklin Counties *Community Needs Assessment* (completed by the UW) was that youth and families lack the necessary information to

successfully navigate the juvenile justice system. To address this barrier, the following changes are underway:

- **Conversion of Court Forms to Spanish:** The BFJJC has inventoried all court and probation forms, and is in the process of working with our court certified interpreter to have these documents translated to Spanish.
- **Court Process Video:** The BFJJC has purchased two flat-screen televisions that will be placed strategically in the BFJJC lobby. Each television will stream a continuous play video that will explain the criminal court process for that day and detail what the youth and family can expect. The criminal court docket video is slated to be released on 06/10/10.

Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement (Truancy): The Truancy workgroup has evaluated current district and school level policies and practices, analyzed petition filing data, and utilized findings prepared by WSU and WSIPP. This work has resulted in the development of a three-tiered response to truancy that is focused on prevention, early intervention and retention/re-engagement of truant youth. This three-tiered proposal moves interventions upstream with the goal of keeping youth out of the court system. For those youth that do enter the court system, coordinated case planning will occur. For youth that display chronic truant behaviors (and eventually drop-out), a strong school re-engagement program will be offered. The vision under this three-tiered response is to build capacity at the local school level to better work with youth and families at earlier intervention points, and then to offer better school-based services for those that continue to engage in school refusal behaviors. Some examples of school-based program changes that are underway include:

- **Expansion of New Horizons High School (NHHS):** NHHS serves a large population of students that are credit deficient, pregnant/parenting teens, students in need of an alternative school setting/schedule, as well as students that are re-entering the high school system. NHHS is located in Pasco and Latino/Hispanic students comprise 76% of the student population. Over the past two years, NHHS has successfully launched and managed a school retrieval program (referred to as “Destination Graduation” under an OSPI Building Bridges Grant) for chronically truant and drop-out youth. During the 2008/2009 school year, this program retrieved 70 drop-out students and by the end of the 2008-2009 school year 23 retrievals had graduated from NHHS. This program enjoys an 89% retention rate for students. The BFJJC is sub-contracting with the Pasco School District to create a pilot expansion of this program slated to begin during the upcoming summer school session. During the regular school year, the program will operate from 2pm to 7pm, will offer a variety of services, and will largely serve juvenile justice involved youth, as well as drop-out retrievals. The ultimate goal is to serve an additional 150 students during this extended day program.
- **Kennewick High School Educational Advocate Project:** This project is designed to identify barriers to successful school navigation and completion, to increase communication between the student, their parents and school, provide social skill training to address attitudinal and motivational issues and provide opportunities for academic success. The Educational Advocate Project targets 9th and 10th grade students on a Truancy Petition and funds a .6 (four hrs) Certificated Teacher and three hours of an educational assistant. A currently funded Juvenile Court Truancy Counselor is also part of a newly established Educational Advocate Team.

The Educational Advocate Coordinator will conduct an analysis of the barriers to educational support in the current system that result in continued patterns of truancy and dropout and develop a plan/proposal to address critical system changes necessary to overcome those barriers. The advocate

will work with school district administration to explore restructuring current resources to create a model for exportation to other area schools. In relation to the student, the Educational Advocate will serve on the Educational Advocacy Project Team which will provide a “voice for youth” and is responsible for multiple tasks including: assessment of a target student’s current academic progress and any necessary schedule changes; coordinating academic assistance; facilitating communication between the student, student’s parent and teachers; and facilitation of a social skills curriculum. Project staff will also provide outreach, collaboration and coordination of existing school district resources that may be available to specific students such as migrant/bilingual services, special education, etc.

It is anticipated that this program will assist with educational coordination for approximately 120 students, and that these students will see an increase in their academic grade point average, will retain in the high school setting (rather than drop-out), and will successfully complete their truancy petitions. The program has been in operation for three weeks and has already served over 20 youth who are displaying signs of engagement and hope. Regular classroom teachers appear to appreciate and support the project. We look forward to measuring the outcomes of this project.

- **Out of School Youth Initiative --**
Media Campaign and Fast-Forward Call Center: Youth that have dropped out of school are often hampered by the “I don’t know who to call” syndrome once they are considering re-entry. The BFJJC, in partnership with area schools, the Boys and Girls Club and Columbia Basin Community College are in the process of creating a call center where youth that are seeking information about school re-entry or education can call a centralized number that will be staffed by an educational expert. The intent is that the youth will be seen within 24 to 48 hours of the initial call so that an academic and social skills assessment can be completed. The youth will then be matched to an appropriate school program for completion of a diploma or GED. We are working with Pyramid Communications to develop a community wide media campaign that will allow us to spread the message about the Benton/Franklin Counties school drop-out issue and the re-engagement process, including the call center phone number (e.g. 542-FAST).

Disproportionate Minority Contact: Over the past six months, the BFJJC Models for Change project has focused on participating in Burns Institute and DMCAN activities, creating training for court staff, and narrowing down our data analysis to two key decision points: warrants and probation violations.

- **Warrants:** Our data reveals a large amount of detention time served for failure to appear (FTA) warrants. A call reminder system has been instituted with the goal of significantly reducing our FTA rates. In addition, the DMC workgroup is considering a two-tiered warrant system.
- **Probation Violations:** Through our JDAI and DMCAN efforts, the BFJJC probation unit has created a graduated incentives and sanctions grid that guides probation officers in their violation decision-making. Probation Counselors implemented this tool in January 2010. The use of this grid, combined with the use of the sentencing grid utilized by the court and the Benton County prosecutor’s office has resulted in a drastic reduction in the amount of time served on new charges and probation violations.
- **Training:** The results of our four part African-American focus groups, as well as the *Community Needs Assessment* revealed the need to provide training to a wide-range of court involved personnel, with priority placed on defender training. Training for our local juvenile defense panel attorneys was completed by the NJDA and Team Child in February. The training was well attended and a diverse amount of educational information was offered.

- **Detention Alternatives Coordination:** Creating more opportunities for skill building, mentoring and positive cognitive development at earlier stages in the system is a goal under our new project. The BFJJC has hired a part-time Detention Alternatives Coordinator who works with area youth-serving organizations, such as the Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Power Zone and the Faith community to develop after school detention alternative programs. This position will be strictly focused on program development and coordination with local youth serving agencies. The goal is to build strong, community-based (non-court) alternatives to detention for youth.
- **Day Reporting:** The BFJJC has long recognized the need to develop a continuum of violation interventions, with detention serving as the last option to be utilized. We are currently piloting (for the summer months) a day reporting program that is offered two days per week. This program is offered in lieu of an official probation violation filing, and is focused on skills development, moral recognition, restorative justice activities and participation in community-based events.
- **Community Engagement:** Efforts to create and sustain a local Latino Juvenile Justice Network by the National Council of La Raza have been replaced by a plan for NCLR to join with CCLP and the Burns Institute in offering technical assistance and guidance to our DMC reduction efforts. The BFCJC is currently engaged in direct outreach to various African-American and Latino community leaders and members with the goal of holding discussions on concrete solutions, interventions, mentoring opportunities and community resources that are focused specifically on the needs of minority youth.

Mental Health Coordination: Once again, the theme and concern over a lack of information (in order to successfully navigate systems) and misunderstandings across systems has driven the work of the Mental Health workgroup over the past six months. The *Community Needs Assessment* has been utilized to guide this work, as well as internal data.

- **Engagement Training/Juvenile Justice Training:** Our Benton/Franklin *Community Needs Assessment* revealed that Latino youth were less likely to report receiving a diagnosis, and less likely to complete treatment than Caucasian youth. To address this, the mental health workgroup selected family and youth treatment engagement as a needed area of improvement. In response, the UW, in partnership with the National Center for Mental Health in Juvenile Justice (NCMHJJ), developed a 1.5 day training for local practitioners. This training is currently underway and is scheduled to be completed by mid-June. All local agencies with contracts with the Dept. of Human Services will complete the training.
- **Cross-Systems Training:** Efforts are currently underway to offer a cross-systems training in the fall of 2010. Much like the King County model, the goal of the training will be to give individuals an understanding of whom each system serves, the eligibility criteria for each system, the range of available programs, how to advocate for youth in various child-serving systems and who to contact at the various agencies if one is having difficulty with the services offered.
- **MAYSI Implementation:** The BFJJC utilizes a locally developed mental health screen, referred to as the “Boesky Screen.” While many juvenile detention centers across the state utilize this tool it has yet to be validated. The BFJJC is currently in the process of implementing the MAYSI screen for youth which will: (1) allow for the tools to be tested against each other for potential validation of the Boesky screen; and (2) determine if the MAYSI screen provides more beneficial information that can be used both internally to the BFJJC and across systems. This process and implementation is supported by the National Youth Screening and Assessment Project, under the direction of Dr. Tom Grisso.

Parent Support: Under this project, a group of parent partners will be identified and trained, with the goal of offering a shared connection to families by establishing a collaborative partnership to successfully navigate the juvenile justice system and needed services, including mental health services. This parent

support project is being supported by the UW with training and guidance provided by our local 3-Rivers Wrap around project. An initial meeting has been completed with a set of local parents and a second meeting is being scheduled for early summer.

WA Models for Change Partner	Clark County
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement; Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

PROGRESS UPDATE

Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement (Truancy)

Goal: Enhance the performance of the Clark County ESD Truancy Intervention Project and position the program for replication in other communities.

Process Evaluation: Clark County received the Process Evaluation Report from Vera in February. The report provides an in-depth description of the Clark County Truancy Project (CCTP), offers insight into how the program is working day to day, serves as a necessary precursor to an outcome evaluation and offers a set of recommendations for modifications and enhancements of the program. The Steering Committee is in the process of reviewing the report and working with Vera to ensure that it is an accurate reflection of local truancy processes. Steps are being taken to incorporate the recommendations as Clark County makes enhancements and adjustments to the CCTP and truancy process.

Mental Health Screening: In January 2010, data from the first 67 MAYSI-2 screenings was sent to NYSAP to review and evaluate to see if there are any significant trends represented by truant youth and compare the results to other MAYSI-2 screened youth involved in the juvenile court system. NYSAP found that nearly three quarters of the sample scored in the “caution” range, and nearly one third scored in the “warning” range of at least one MAYSI-2 scale (alcohol/drug use, angry-irritable, depressed-anxious, somatic complaints, suicide ideation, thought disturbance, or traumatic experiences). It was also found that somatic complaints were reported more often for youth in the CCTP than in detention settings.

Case Management System: In April 2010, the CCTP staff received remote access to the Clark County server allowing them to have secure access to C3MS. In May 2010, Loryx Systems will provide the CCTP with a domain specific module within C3MS which will replace File Maker and provide real time information sharing with CCJC. C3MS functions include recording and monitoring assessments, case plans, social service agency referrals, appointments, and a journal to record notes and activities. With assistance from Clark County’s Civil Department, an interagency agreement to authorize access and share information through C3MS will be written and signed by administrators from the Clark County Juvenile Court and ESD #112.

Qualitative Study of Truancy Court: A qualitative, observational study is being conducted to capture baseline information about the functioning and types of cases currently heard in truancy court. Two observers have been sitting in on the truancy court proceedings and taking notes on each case as the petition is heard by the Juvenile Court Commissioner. Particular focus is on collecting details of the case not captured by court data systems. Observations are occurring during May 2010. It is anticipated that over 100 cases will be observed. Data will be compiled and reported by the WA State Center for Court Research. The study will provide baseline data for the Clark County Truancy Workshop scheduled for implementation in September 2010.

Truancy Workshop: Clark County has begun to develop an Attendance Workshop to be held in conjunction with the student and parent(s) initial appearance in court after the truancy petition has been filed. The development and administration of the workshop curriculum will be a collaborative effort between Clark County Truancy Project, Clark County Juvenile Court, and local school districts. The

workshop will provide students and parents with relevant information and education regarding truancy laws and how they may affect their family. The first planning meeting was held on May 13, 2010.

Data Collection Workgroup: The workgroup has met monthly to identify data needed to support ongoing and proposed activities.

Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

Goal: Clark County's service providers and system professionals will have a shared sense of responsibility, alignment, commitment to, and engagement with, multi-system collaboration and coordination in support of the Clark County Truancy Project.

Information Sharing Workgroup: Representatives from Department of Children and Family Services, Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, local school districts (Vancouver, Evergreen, and Battle Ground), Clark County Truancy Project and Clark County Juvenile Court and legal counsel from the Prosecutor's Office, Attorney General's Office, the defense bar, Vancouver Public Schools and ESD 112 have continued meeting to develop a local information sharing guide. Legal counsel and workgroup members are in the process of drafting agency sections of the guide which are specific to Clark County for inclusion in the final product.

Process Mapping: The Resource Inventory Workgroup and representatives from the Clark County Juvenile Court, including Superior Court Commissioner Schienberg, participated in a process mapping exercise facilitated by CWLA. The map and narrative were completed on February 12, 2010.

Community Wide Trainings: Clark County MfC contracted with David Benedicktus, previous MfC Coordinator, to educate participants on how complex trauma affects brain development, the link between ACEs and truancy, delinquency, drug and alcohol use, and abusive relationships, the importance of resilience and a strong social/emotional foundation and how schools and communities can become trauma sensitive. The trainings provide tools and interventions outlined in *The Heart of Learning and Teaching: Compassion, Resiliency, and Academic Success* (Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Compassionate Schools). As of May 12, 2010, more than 29 trainings have been given and more than 621 volunteers and professionals working with youth have attended.

Clark County Board of Commissioners Work Session: On May 19, 2010, Pat Escamilla, Juvenile Court Administrator, and Jodi Martin presented an overview of the MfC activities in Clark County from December 2007 to present.

Clark County Community Network Board: CCMfC Coordinator and Pat Escamilla, JCA, have attended monthly Network Board meetings to inform them of ongoing activities and products, identify potential opportunities for blended funding to enhance united efforts, and to discuss areas to improve collaboration, services and partnerships that support ongoing efforts within our community.

Clark County Safe Communities Task Force: In May 2010, an invitation was extended to the CCMfC Coordinator to participate in the Task Force's Community Assessment Workgroup. This collaboration will provide both groups the opportunity to identify strategies to coordinate efforts and share data and research to support and inform our work.

WA Models for Change Partner	King County
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement; Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination; Mental Health
Additional Activities	Mental Health Action Network

PROGRESS UPDATE

Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement (Education)

PathNet Concept: PathNet is a systematic coordinated Pathway of Networked community-based programs and services that re-engage youth toward an end goal of a living wage job and career.

Program Development: The PathNet Executive Committee meets on a monthly basis and is comprised of representatives from the public school districts, the educational service district, dropout retrieval programs, community colleges, work training, workforce development, juvenile justice, juvenile rehabilitation administration, Communities in Schools and MfC. With technical assistance from the Vera Institute of Justice, the committee is in the process of developing the PathNet core values statement, mission statement and program goals/expected outcomes. Memorandums of understanding (MOUs), membership expectations, policies and procedures are under development.

With funding under the current King County MfC grant, the Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD) is in the process of hiring a PathNet Manager. We anticipate having the PathNet Manager on board in June 2010. This addition will tremendously accelerate the PathNet initiative and provide the leadership to implement the PathNet Pilot.

Pilot Project: The King County MfC grant will help support the (PSESD) in a two-year PathNet Pilot serving 200 juvenile justice involved youth who have dropped out of high school or have too few credits to graduate. The pilot will allow for the collection of data and evaluation needed for potential replication.

The first step is to ensure each student has a current strength-based assessment, evaluating their skills and strengths while taking into account their vocational interests. A student-driven plan will be created by the youth based on their own wants and strengths, to increase their motivation and engagement. The student will then be connected to an appropriate education, vocation and/or on-the-job training opportunity. During and after this process, students will work with a care manager who will monitor their plan and work with the student. The care manager's role will be one of support and encouragement, filling a gap in many of these youth's lives of a caring adult helping them to succeed.

Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

Information Sharing Guidebook: The information sharing guide was designed to improve communication by providing a better understanding of what information may be shared by participants in juvenile dependency, juvenile justice, education, mental health, and substance abuse treatment programs.

The guide is a tool for agency partners, staff and other professionals to use and is intended to enhance cooperation between youth serving agencies resulting in enhanced service provision to youth and their

families. The guide provides clear, easy to follow guidelines around information sharing and confidentiality for children and youth in contact with multiple systems and training modules have been developed. The training modules are intended to accompany the distribution and sharing of the guide. A component of this training has been incorporated into our cross system training.

Cross System Training: Cross System Training is an opportunity for youth serving professionals to participate in an innovative training that will allow them to break down silos by gaining an in-depth look at how other systems function and how providers can work together more effectively. The training is offered on a quarterly basis and continuing education units (CEU) are available for participants. After completing the training, attendees should be able to:

- Describe systems integration and identify the benefits to service providers as well as families
- Identify the fundamentals of the specified youth serving system
- Describe available services within the specified youth serving system, including access and eligibility when applicable
- Identify methods to coordinate effectively with the specified youth serving system

Protocols: With the support of MfC grant funds, King County participated in the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Integration Certificate Program-Breakthrough Series Collaborative at Georgetown University. Through this process we were able to adopt a Plan-Do-Study-Adjust (PDSA) methodology that facilitated the implementation of system integration protocols between the Kent child welfare and juvenile probation offices. These protocols outline a series of practices for social workers and probation counselors to ensure information is shared and to promote well coordinated case planning and management for youth involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. A few of the protocols include: joint case planning, joint staff meetings, pre-approval for Kent social workers to visit youth in detention, and use of a cab to transport released youth from detention to the Kent CA office. Completion of the Breakthrough Series Collaborative (BSC) pushed us into another phase called the Practice Model in which King County was one of eleven sites selected across the country to participate. The Practice Model describes specific practices that need to be implemented within a jurisdiction in order to reduce: (1) the number of youth who crossover between the child welfare and juvenile justice systems; (2) the number of youth entering and reentering care and (3) the length of stay in out of home care. The Practice Model for Crossover Youth will infuse into this work values and standards; evidence-based practices, policies and procedures; and quality assurance processes. Involvement in the practice model has allowed us to establish a process and lay out a strategy to systematically spread our success with the pilot project throughout King County.

Community Engagement: The development of the community advisory board has been a huge first step as we attempt to bring community voice to all levels of process in systems integration. Currently, we are working with CCYJ and others to develop an effective strategy to respectfully and competently bring our community partners/leaders and our Uniting for Youth executive committee members together.

Gathering of Community Partners: In May 2010, Uniting for Youth hosted a gathering as an opportunity for community engagement at all levels (system, leadership, agency, provider, community, etc) with a focus on improving the well-being of OUR youth through working effectively across multiple systems. Invitees included representatives from: juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health/substance abuse, education, the faith based community and other community partners/stakeholders. The gathering highlighted the importance of youth serving systems working toward common goals, gave King County an opportunity to discuss our systems integration work and provided a forum for community partners to share their thoughts about additional areas that we may need to address or prioritize moving forward.

Mental Health

Screening and Assessment: Through the MfC initiative, we've been working to implement standardized screening for mental health and substance abuse problems for all youth entering the justice system (both status and criminal offenders). This has been coordinated with MIDD Strategy 5a and the development of a Juvenile Justice Assessment Team so that youth that screen positive for MH or SA needs can have a comprehensive assessment and be linked to appropriate community treatment.

Intensive Stabilization Services and Crisis Intervention: In partnership with Children's Administration, we've created an intensive stabilization services program to prevent youth with serious emotional disturbances from unnecessarily entering the child welfare system. The program provides intensive, in-home stabilization services for up to 90 days.

Training: Technical assistance was provided on the development and implementation of the mental health and chemical dependency sections of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission's curricula for its Juvenile Corrections Officer Academy (JCOA) and Juvenile Services Academy (JSA). The one day Mental Health curriculum was implemented in August 2009 at the Juvenile Correction Officer's Academy. In December 2009 the Mental Health curriculum was expanded into the Behavioral Health and Management Curriculum for 3 half-day sessions. In April 2010 the Mental Health Curriculum was implemented at the Juvenile Services Academy (JSA).

WA Models for Change Partner	Spokane County
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement; Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

PROGRESS UPDATE

The Spokane County *Models for Change* (MfC) initiative completed the Planning Grant in May 2009 and began implementing the Work Plan in June 2009. Outlined below are the grant goals with progress updates since December 2009:

Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement (Truancy)

Goals:

- To ensure Spokane County implements best practices, aligned with current research, in its approaches with youth and families through an analysis of current statutes, policies and procedures impacting truant youth
- To assess more youth at an earlier point in the truancy system (prior to the required involvement of formal court processing)
- To increase alternatives to formal court processing

Progress:

- WSU Community Truancy Board (CTB) Evaluation: Obtained support/approval from the West Valley School District for CTB research. Notification of research e-mail has been sent to potential CTB interviewees, interview questions have been developed, the CTB member interviewee list has been developed, and interviews are underway. Questions about the BECCA process have been incorporated into the Truancy Specialist database to be supplied to WSU for analysis. Three focus groups of approximately 10 participants each were held on May 13, 2010. We will begin work on a Truancy Board replication toolkit upon completion of this study and identification of necessary toolkit elements.
- Truancy Specialist Pilot: Year 1 data reporting has been completed and year 2 data collection is underway. The first year data revealed that 139 truant youth received case management with zero youth progressing to contempt. The contempt rate for WVSD Truant youth had not been at zero since 1998.
- We have replicated the Juvenile Court Truancy Specialist position at Rogers High school (Spokane Public Schools). This school was chosen for its high drop-out rates (approx 50%) and large school size.
- The MfC Coordinator and Juvenile Court BECCA unit supervisor worked with the East Valley School district resulting in a standardized BECCA process and forms for all schools in that district. A meeting was held on February 26, 2010, to train staff from all schools in the East Valley District on the new standardized school district process and paperwork.
- Spokane MfC provided assistance to the East Valley School District regarding truancy reduction strategies and replication of the West Valley Community Truancy Board Model. So far, 29 East Valley youth have been served by their CARB (Community Attendance Review Boards) and another 15 are scheduled for a review.
- An EVSD Counselor was assigned additional duties to track and provide interventions with truant youth after CARB attendance. (*Second replication of West Valley Truancy Specialist*)

- The Spokane County Truancy petition was amended to include causes for truancy and local interventions utilized by school districts. Training was done with Spokane School Districts on use of the new petition. Judicial approval was obtained in April 2010 for the final version of the amended petition to be supplied to VERA to be shared with MfC partner sites in Louisiana.
- In collaboration with AOC, piloting and statistical reporting of the WARNS was completed in West Valley School District and the Juvenile Court Structured Alternative Confinement (SAC) school. AOC staff presented completed WARNS reports to Spokane County Judicial officers and court and school staff on April 19, 2010. Plans were made for continued collaboration and administration of the WARNS by school staff.
- Recent SAC school expansion included an additional classroom to separate status offenders from juvenile offenders and WARNS reporting was done separately for each population to help identify characteristics and needs specific to each group. Court involved truant youth may be sanctioned to attend our new classroom for status offenders in lieu of Detention.

Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

Goals:

- To identify and reduce barriers preventing multi-system collaboration and coordination
- To increase awareness of available resources accessible to juvenile justice system leader and practitioners when working with multi-system involved truant and at-risk youth and their families
- To engage and build sustainable support of key decision makers from the multiple systems in which truant youth are involved by providing regularly updated and comprehensive analysis of truancy data and reform efforts

Progress:

- Spokane County MfC staff provided ongoing opportunities for key personnel from school districts in Spokane County to engage in discussions about truancy reform and school reengagement. Spokane County Truancy Mapping meetings were held in November 2009 and January 2010. Meeting minutes are completed and participant lists included prosecutors, public defenders, a Court Commissioner, staff from four school districts, and Juvenile Court staff. Technical assistance was provided by CWLA. The final mapping narrative, flowchart, and identified opportunities for positive reforms will be reviewed by the group on May 27, 2010.
- The MfC Coordinator attended meetings on graduation best practices and community data and measuring to continue collaboration with Spokane County Drop-Out Prevention Committee.
- The MfC Coordinator participates in monthly conference calls and updates with Becca Taskforce, MfC Site Coordinators, and NRBs.
- Pyramid Communications conducted training for the Juvenile Court Management Team in February 2010. Spokane MfC has had subsequent conference calls with Pyramid to develop a Spokane County "meta" story and presentations. Presentations on MfC and Juvenile Court have been provided for the following agencies:
 - * School Violence/Gang Taskforce- presented 03/17/2010
 - * CJJG/GSSAC combined meetings- presented 03/23/2010
 - * Gonzaga University- presented 04/27/2010
 - * West Valley School District Career and College Fair- presented 04/28/2010
 - * Spokane Valley Child Study and Treatment Administrators on 05/20/10

* We plan to add a “*Models for Change*” page to our local website in summer of 2010

- Articles on “Our Kids Our Business Campaign” and WVSD CTBs were included on the MfC national website in May 2010.
- The Juvenile Court staff participates in meetings with the West Valley CTB, East Valley CARB boards, and Spokane County co-op Child Study and Treatment Team (CST).
- The MfC Coordinator conducted a Juvenile Court tour for the new East Valley Truancy Counselor to familiarize the counselor with Court processes in preparation for Court attendance.
- Weekly meetings are attended by Juvenile Court Becca Unit supervisor, MfC coordinator, Juvenile Court Administrator, and Truancy Specialists with Spokane County Superior Court Commissioner assigned to the truancy docket.
- Juvenile Court staff attended Our Kids Our Business Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Campaign activities in April 2010.
- The Spokane County Juvenile Court Data Manager, Spokane County Information Systems Department, and Juvenile Court Truancy Specialists met to further develop local information databases to allow for data collection by new Juvenile Court Truancy Specialist placed in Rogers High School. Changes to database were incorporated to make data entry and reporting easier.
- We compiled a list of Spokane County MfC Collaborative partners for use by Virginia Tech which is developing capacity surveys as part of the MfC Research initiative.
- Conference calls with AOC staff and development of documents regarding necessary data elements and graphic models of Spokane MfC projects.
- An MOA for data sharing signed by WVSD. Spokane Public schools is in the process of signing an MOU for data sharing.
- One of our collaborative partner schools, Spokane Valley High School, in the West Valley School District, and their principal, Larry Bush, were recognized by the Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction as a 2009 recipient of the Washington Achievement Award. They were recognized for Extended Graduation rates.

WA Models for Change Partner	Administrative Office of the Courts/Washington State Center for Court Research
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement; Disproportionate Minority Contact; Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination
Additional Activities	Data Coordination

PROGRESS UPDATE

Assessment Research Database (ARD) and Court Contact and Recidivism Database (CCRD)

Objective: A model research database combining information from schools, juvenile courts, the child welfare agency, and service providers will allow us to track the trajectories of court-involved youth. ARD and CCRD have been developed, allowing for preliminary analysis to track longitudinal trajectories of system involved youth. Creation of the ARD and CCRD allows for study of the juvenile justice system in a rational, individualized manner that is likely to increase the odds of positive outcomes for youth, their families, and communities. The databases permit analysis of the effect of court-ordered evidence-based treatment programs on specific domains of risk and protection, and, within the domains, specific skills, behaviors, and emotions that treatment is intended to affect. Initial validation efforts of person-level administrative records have revealed discrepancies in records held by courts, treatment providers, and the ARD’s source, the Case Management Assessment Process, indicating needed improvement in quality assurance (QA) plans. WSCCR is collaborating with the providers to develop improvements to all QA plans. This QA collaboration is resulting in improved ARD and EBP data quality.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

Objective: Develop innovative and salient data resources that can be used for original justice system research, program evaluation, policy analysis, and as tools for development of operational reporting, such as performance / outcomes monitoring pertaining to racial and ethnic identity.

An initial data quality plan for racial and ethnic identification information in the Judicial Information System has been developed and is about to be deployed. WSCCR has studied the referral data for 2007-2008, examining the race and ethnicity data collected for each youth referred to juvenile court. Overall, 11% of race fields and over 50% of ethnicity fields listed “unknown” data. Recent work has addressed the problem of missing data through a juvenile court-specific document identifying each court’s percentage of missing data and a document outlining best practices for collecting race and ethnicity data.

Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

A complex and deeply fragmented system of courts, child welfare agencies, and treatment providers produces a lack of inter-agency communication, collaboration and coordination; the fragmentation results in missed opportunities for improving service delivery, conflicting case plans, inefficiencies and generally poorer outcomes for those families saddled with the misfortune of being multi-system involved.

To help with overcoming the fragmentation, WSCCR worked with King County and the Washington Children’s Administration to develop a combined data source that enabled NCJJ to analyze patterns of involvement across child welfare, status offending, and delinquency.

WSCCR will work with other Washington Models for Change sites to advance the data reporting process in existence for King County and utilize the lessons learned in the King County, followed by statewide reporting on these issues. With sustained statewide reporting system for multi-systems involved youth,

local jurisdictions will be better able to quantify the problem and advocate for funding to address the problem. Outcomes can be used to develop policy on a solid foundation of data.

Washington Assessment of the Risks and Needs of Students (WARNS)

Development of the WARNS began in the summer of 2008 with discussions among key stakeholders working with status offenders around the state. As a result, the decision was made to design an economical and effective self-report questionnaire.

Following a review of the research, assessment, and clinical literatures in the winter of 2008-09, the WARNS Student Questionnaire and WARNS Parent Questionnaire were drafted. Pilot testing began in two counties (Clark and Spokane) in the summer of 2009. After revisions were made, a large-scale pilot study was conducted in a local high school in November, 2009. At the same time, data collection began for a longer-term validation study in Benton-Franklin, Clark, Pierce, Spokane, and Thurston juvenile courts (see supporting documents for additional details).

During the winter of 2009-10, procedures were developed for receiving, scoring, and reporting back on initial results of the WARNS administration. A WARNS Site Report, WARNS Individual Report, and WARNS Individual Summary Report were developed for the juvenile courts. To date, four Site Reports, four Summary Reports, over 100 Individual Reports, and three workgroup presentations have been delivered to participating courts. Presentations at one statewide conference (fall, 2010) and one national conference (June, 2010) are currently scheduled.

Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement—Evaluating the Truancy System

The Washington State Center for Court Research proposed to use MfC resources to design and conduct an evaluation of Washington's handling of truancy cases. The goals were to review the program's structure, confer with stakeholders, review the relevant literature, and design and conduct a study that can 1) document the structure and implementation of the Washington system for addressing truancy and its variations across counties and school districts and 2) describe the population of children who come into contact with the program in terms of their demographic characteristics, school performance and attendance, and subsequent contact with the court system, and 3) assess the efficacy of strategies and interventions aimed at reducing truancy, court contact, and confinement.

To meet these objectives required developing relationships with key stakeholders including school districts, juvenile courts, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and the Becca State Task Force. This was completed in the summer of 2008. The next significant task involved negotiating state and federal laws regarding the use of educational data. WSCCR contacted the US Dept. of Education, worked with school districts' lawyers, and executed MOUs for data sharing with two school districts (West Valley SD, Richland SD) in the fall of 2008.

Following a review of data quality and accessibility, which revealed the limitations of both approaching districts individually and using data supplied by OSPI, efforts were made to develop a unique and potentially ground-breaking relationship with the Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC). WSIPC manages student data for approximately 215 of the 295 school districts in the state. A collaboration was established in the spring of 2009, the data elements for the Educational Research Database (ERD) were finalized in June of 2009, and a contract for ERD data was signed in August, 2009. In January, 2010, data extracts were received for two school districts (20,000 students), and WSCCR staff successfully created a pilot ERD and conducted analyses for a dropout prevention study (March, 2010). WSCCR is currently developing the full ERD which will contain student-level information (e.g., attendance,

grades, disciplinary actions) for over one million students over the past several years. The ERD will allow for the outcomes evaluation of the truancy process in the upcoming months.

WA Models for Change Partner	The Department of Social and Health Services – Office of the Secretary
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement Disproportionate Minority Contact Mental Health Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination
Additional Activities	DMC Policy Advisory Committee Mental Health Action Network Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination Reform Workgroup Washington State Becca Task Force

PROGRESS UPDATE

Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement

I. Leverage Family Reconciliation (FRS), Crisis Family Intervention (CFI), and other resources for families and youth experiencing conflict:

We have created a work group comprised of representatives from Children’s Administration (CA), the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA), the Aging and Disability Services Administration (ADSA) – Division of Behavioral health and Recovery (DBHR) and Planning, Performance, and Accountability(PPA) to leverage CFI, Behavioral Rehabilitative Services (BRS) and evidence based training resources to better assist families and youth experiencing conflict prior to contact with the juvenile justice system or entry into out-of home care with Children’s Administration.

The work group is in the process of developing a two year internal work plan to provide an annual 10 percent increase in intervention resources annually until full service demand is achieved. Given our state fiscal crisis, our 10 percent goal is contingent on emerging from this state fiscal crisis. As a work group we have sat down and have agreed how to leverage our resources to meet this 10 percent goal among CA and JRA.

This project is designed to leverage resources internal to DSHS to better assist families across the state who contact DSHS for assistance through FRS. As FRS resources are being cut back, it appears CFI resources will be the funding stream which will fund this area of work.

II. Washington State’s Offender Incarceration rate will be in compliance with Federal OJJDP requirements:

Working with the Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ), the Washington Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice (WA-PCJJ), Children’s Administration (CA), and key juvenile justice stakeholders, we are developing a work group to design a two year statewide plan to comply with Federal OJJDP requirements. We are in the process of finalizing our work group to work on this important issue. Currently, OJJ and I have put together our work plan and will convene a larger work group in the next two months.

Current Status of DSO:

In Washington State, there are two Crisis Residential Centers that are attached to detention facilities that make our state out of compliance with OJJDP: Clallam and Chelan Counties. In addition, given our state allows the detention of status offenders, we have been fortunate to have the Valid Court Order Exemption to allow us to be in compliance for other violations statewide. In the current federal bill for

the reauthorization of the OJJDP Act, the Valid Court Order Exemption would no longer be available. As such, the federal title 2 and title 5 funding that flows through our State Advisory Group would be impacted significantly. We have had discussion regarding this issue with the Governor's Office, our Washington State delegation, and the Washington State Becca Task Force.

III. Washington State Becca Task Force:

Working with the Washington State Becca Task Force to effectuate statewide policy changes for our statewide Becca Laws.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

I. Disproportionate Minority Contact in JRA:

My work is to support JRA's DMC implementation plan and to ensure that it will be integrated within JRA and sustainable. I am working with our DMC Models for Change DMC Administrator to assist her in integrating these DMC policies and practices within JRA and the communication of that plan within DSHS.

I am also to assist with the formation of the DMC Policy Advisory Committee. That work is slated to take place in July through December of 2010. I will work in collaboration with the Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ).

II. Disproportionate Minority Contact Statewide:

Developed work plan for Washington State to reduce Juvenile Justice DMC through the implementation of a juvenile justice DMC remediation plan, modeled after similar efforts addressing racial disproportionality in Washington's Child Welfare system.

In the process of talking with state legislators on this issue.

Mental Health

I. Increase access to health/mental health care for low-income youth on community supervision, by replicating King County Juvenile Court Services' Medicaid Administrative Match Program in other counties' juvenile probation departments. (Subject to Juvenile Probation Departments Participation):

Working in collaboration with Health Care Services, King County Juvenile Court and CMS to develop a two year pilot project to allow juvenile probation departments to participate in the Medicaid Administrative Match (MAM) program. We have currently formed a work group and are reviewing current barriers to establish the replication of King County's program. If the federal government approves of the replication of this work, this will allow this type of administrative matching to occur across the United States.

II. If found to be fiscally beneficial, Medicaid reimbursement for state-funded EBPs will be pursued and obtained. Funds reimbursed will be reinvested in EBPs:

Working with the DSHS-Division of Healthcare Services, the Health Care Authority (HCA), and our National Resource Bank consultant(s), we have formed a work group to develop a two year plan to determine if there are opportunities for federal reimbursement for state funded EBPs.

We have met on several occasions and have hosted an onsite visit with our NRB consultant and key individuals working with Medicaid. We are in the process of looking at our state Medicaid plan, exploring options to obtain federal Medicaid reimbursement for EBPs, and facilitating the determination of barriers and policy changes needed.

The work group has made tremendous strides in a short amount of time to devolve into complex data and explore various options to obtain federal Medicaid reimbursement of EBPs. Initial options are in the process of internal review at this time.

III. Mental Health Action Network:

Working with the Mental Health Action Network to effectuate statewide policy changes in Mental Health.

Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination

I. Leverage Family Reconciliation (FRS), Crisis Family Intervention (CFI), and other resources for families and youth experiencing conflict:

The work of this goal as outlined above in Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Detention, also falls under the Multi-System Collaboration and Coordination (MSCC) TAI. This work is allowing CA, JRA, and various other administrations and divisions to work together collectively. This work will fall under the broad MSCC work in my work plan.

II. Fewer multi-system involved youth will experience deeper penetration into the child welfare and juvenile justice systems:

An Executive Leadership Committee has been formed to help guide the work of an internal workgroup for multi-system collaboration and coordination within DSHS. We have had internal meetings with key assistant secretaries and our NRB's to start off this work. DSHS will hold in June an Executive Leadership Committee meeting with our NRB's and me, to explore what MSCC means to DSHS and help form that direction. This is a very important meeting with the entire leadership from DSHS attending. The end product of this work has the potential to allow for MSCC sustainability within the department for years to come. Currently, the department is putting together a snapshot of youth that come into contact with DSHS for us to kick off our discussion of MSCC. The two year plan will focus on DSHS internally and branch out to include external partners as well.

III. In Washington State, the advancement of innovative juvenile justice reforms and best practices will be sustained through the leadership provided by the key decision makers who comprise a repositioned State Advisory Group:

Working with the Secretary of DSHS, the Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ), the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (GJJAC), and the Governor's Policy Advisory on Juvenile and Corrections, we have developed a two year plan to reposition GJJAC and develop the leadership capacity of OJJ. We have developed materials regarding the new State Advisory Group named the Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice (WA-PCJJ) and are currently seeking applications for WA-PCJJ. The Partnership Council is slated to hold its first meeting in October of 2010. I am currently working with the Governor's Office in drafting the Executive Order which will officially form the new State Advisory Group. GJJAC will sunset upon the formation of WA-PCJJ.

WA Models for Change Partner	King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office/Becca Task Force
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement

PROGRESS UPDATE

The King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (KCPAO) in collaboration with the Washington State Becca Task Force was awarded a two-year Models for Change (MfC) grant by the MacArthur Foundation in September 2008 to fund statewide truancy reform in Washington State. Key strategies for reform as per the MfC grant and project updates are as follows:

Reforming Becca Policy and Practices in Washington / Coordinating Becca and Truancy Reform Efforts throughout Washington

Truancy reform efforts have been primarily coordinated through the Washington State Becca Task Force. The Becca Task Force is chaired by Justice Bobbe Bridge (ret.) and is comprised of approximately 70 statewide leaders, including legislators, judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, law enforcement, schools, court administrators, and other truancy stakeholders. Task Force meetings are scheduled monthly at the KCPAO and give members an opportunity to share information and provide updates on Becca practices, policy, and reform efforts throughout the State. For more information about the Becca Task Force and meeting schedule, visit the Task Force website at www.wabeccataskforce.org.

2010 Becca Education Session: Since 2002, the Becca Task Force has held an annual Becca Education Session before Washington State legislators to discuss important issues related to our Becca laws. The 2010 Becca Education Session was held before the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee, chaired by Senator Jim Hargrove, on December 4, 2009. The theme of the Session was *Pay Now or Pay More Later* and included presentations on the current truancy laws, research and promising practices for truancy reduction under the Models for Change Initiative, and the importance of truancy and dropout prevention in Washington State. In preparation for the Session, the Task Force was invited to provide the Committee with a white paper describing the current status of truancy-related Becca laws, new developments with the Becca Task Force, and innovative programs and effective practices in truancy in Washington State. The dialogue with the Human Services Committee members was robust and positive. Following the Session, Task Force Members were urged to contact State legislators regarding biennial funding. For more information about the Session and to retrieve a copy of the White Paper, visit the Becca Task Force webpage at www.wabeccataskforce.org or contact the Becca Task Force staff member at btf@wabeccataskforce.org.

School Truancy Surveys: Similar to the MfC-funded and WSU-supported work conducted in Benton-Franklin Counties and building on an effort that the Washington State Institute for Public Policy began, the Becca Task Force in collaboration with the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) has developed a statewide survey on school building truancy practices in Washington State. This survey is expected to provide a cursory assessment of the range of truancy interventions employed state-wide, yielding a broad overview inventory of school-based practices. The Becca Task Force will distribute the survey in both hard and electronic (via WSU's REMARK program) format to a stratified sampling of Washington State school buildings at the close of the 2009-10 academic year, in which schools will be given a 30-day deadline to return the survey. Under the oversight of the Becca Task Force, Vera will analyze the results of the survey and issue a final report in the form of a memorandum in winter 2010. It is anticipated that this broad survey will lead to follow-up inquiries with certain school districts, dependant on the interest of Becca Task Force in the type of practices employed. As such, Vera will assist the Becca Task Force in identifying the most appropriate areas of follow-up, and strategize on the most efficient way to answer those questions.

Establishing a statewide Becca Task Force Website

The Becca Task Force Website was officially launched during the Statewide Becca Conference on October 23, 2009. The website domain address is www.wabeccataskforce.org and the email address for the Task Force is btf@wabeccataskforce.com. The website serves as a repository for Becca Task Force members, truancy stakeholders, and residents of the State to access and share information on effective practices in truancy reduction, current reform efforts underway, and resources for serving at-risk youth and families. Currently, a database, including materials, containing information on the progress of Becca reform efforts in Washington is continuing to be developed for inclusion in the Website. It is anticipated that the summer 2010 CCYJ *Girls First* intern will provide tremendous support in this endeavor.

Planning a Pilot Truancy Diversion Program in King County to be modeled in Washington State

The Youth R.E.A.C.H. (Re-Engaging in Education through Action and Coordinated Help) Truancy Post-Filing Diversion Pilot Program¹ entered the implementation phase at the beginning of the 2009-10 school year. The MacArthur Foundation awarded the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office a 2-year pilot program implementation grant. In September 2009, a kick off letter introducing Youth R.E.A.C.H. from Justice Bobbe Bridge (ret.), Chair of the Washington State Becca Task Force and CCYJ president and CEO, and Daniel T. Satterberg, King County Prosecuting Attorney, was sent to Bellevue and Highline School District Superintendents. Following the kick off letter, several presentations and meetings on the Youth R.E.A.C.H. pilot program were scheduled before the King County Juvenile Court bench, the King County Superior Court Executive Committee, the Administrators in Bellevue and Highline School Districts, and the Becca Task Force.

The first wave of referrals to the Youth R.E.A.C.H. program came in October 2009. At its inception, both districts relied primarily on Tier 1 School Engagement Workshops, which were run by the school district with facilitation and management by the Youth REACH Truancy Program Coordinator. The early workshops were small, often with only 2-6 students attending each workshop and an overall attendance rate of 25-50%. By the latter part of January 2010, Bellevue and Highline School District began utilizing the other tiered intervention options in Youth R.E.A.C.H.: Tier 2 Community Truancy Boards (CTBs)² and Tier 3 Case Management. Earlier that month, two work-study students in college and graduate school were hired as community advocates to provide case management to Tier 3 referrals in Bellevue and Highline School Districts.³

Since the start of the New Year, all tiers have seen an increase in referrals and in participation by students and their families. At present, participation in Youth R.E.A.C.H. ranges from 70%-90% in Bellevue and from 40%-60% in Highline. Of the Bellevue and Highline students who have been referred to Tier 3 Case Management, reports from the school district truancy representatives in both Highline and

¹ "Youth R.E.A.C.H." offers a three-tiered post-filing diversion process of graduated school-based interventions, including School Engagement Workshops, Community Truancy Boards, and Case Management. Unlike any other truancy program in Washington State, Youth R.E.A.C.H. uniquely provides a menu of tiered intervention options designed to enable truant youth and their families to tap into an array of resources and services aimed at addressing their identified needs and ultimately improving school attendance, strengthening school attachment, and fostering school achievement. Through this process, youth and their families are diverted from the court system. The court system will be used solely as a tool of last resort for addressing truancy where Youth R.E.A.C.H. interventions have been exhausted and ineffective in reengaging the youth in school.

² CTBs meet at least twice monthly, serving 2 families at each board.

³ One community advocate has been assigned to each school district, and each carries up to 17 cases at a time. The community advocates are employed by the Puget Sound Educational Service District, report directly to their respective district truancy representatives, and rely on the Youth R.E.A.C.H. Truancy Program Coordinator for additional needed support.

Bellevue indicate that the case managers have worked well with the families, have taken on multiple students, and have helped them either reengage in school or explore alternative pathways to education.

Since implementation, the Oversight Committee has met quarterly to review progress and provide guidance on implementation of the pilot program. Data from the pilot program has been continually gathered in the National Center for School Engagement's T.R.A.I.N. Database and a King County Prosecuting Attorney's database since October 2009. During the summer, the Workgroup will reconvene to assess the first year of the pilot program implementation and to provide suggestions for modification to the pilot program in its second year of implementation. At the first meeting of the Workgroup in July 2010, the Vera Institute of Justice will provide a summary of the progress based on the data gathered for the first year of the pilot program.

A major goal for the upcoming school year is to identify a group of students based on the summary of data prepared by Vera for participation in a pre-filing component program. The Workgroup will also plan for kick-off assemblies and collaborating with school and community-based organizations to plan for resource fairs in each pilot school district in the upcoming school year.

Facilitating Implementation of Youth Recognition Awards in other MfC local demonstration sites in Washington

During the 2009 summer months, a CCYJ youth intern from *Girls First* assisted in developing a tool kit for the 2009-10 King County Youth Recognition Awards Program. Dr. Seeley and the MfC Truancy Project Coordinator have since continued to research model Youth Recognition Awards programs this year with the goal of expanding on King County's current Academic Awareness Awards Program for SY0910 and creating a sustainable and replicable model for the State. A major goal for the summer 2010 will be to share and schedule presentations on King County's model with other counties and school districts in the State.

WA Models for Change Partner	TeamChild
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Juvenile Indigent Defense
Additional Activities	Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network

PROGRESS UPDATE

TeamChild became a state partner in the Washington State Models for Change (MfC) Initiative in January of 2008. TeamChild’s Special Counsel Position is a Strategic Opportunity for Technical Assistance (SOFTA) for the juvenile defense community throughout the State. The Special Counsel, George Yeannakis, concentrates on enhancing the resources for and the role of juvenile indigent defense attorneys in order to improve outcomes for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The Special Counsel grant to TeamChild was funded by the MacArthur Foundation in January 2010 for an additional two year period. The project remains focused on:

- Assessing and developing a sustainable model of technical assistance, training and support for juvenile indigent defenders
- Conceptualizing and developing a comprehensive training curriculum for juvenile defense attorneys in Washington
- Creating a network of juvenile indigent defense leaders who are engaged and proactive in juvenile justice reform efforts

TRAINING FOR JUVENILE PUBLIC DEFENDERS

One of the major activities of the Special Counsel during the first two years of the project grant involved coordinating with our state partners - the Washington Defender Association (WDA), the State Office of Public Defense (OPD), the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) Juvenile Law Section, the Center for Children and Youth Justice and the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) - to deliver continuing legal education programs (CLEs) for juvenile defense attorneys throughout the State. These training activities are aimed to test out existing and new curricula and build sustainable models of training that will result in better juvenile defense representation and better outcomes for youth.

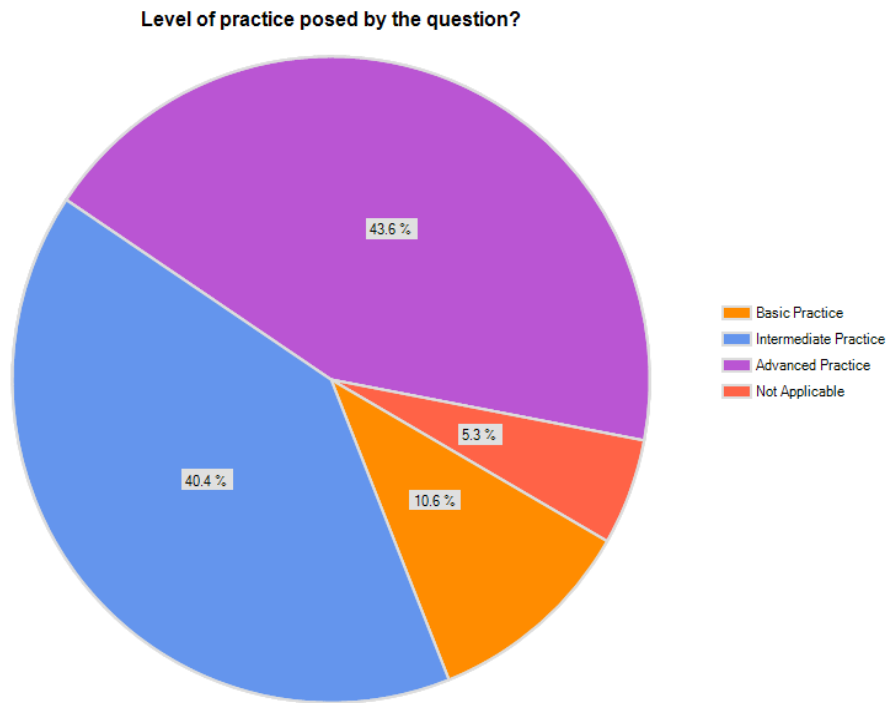
The number of free training hours relevant to juvenile defense practice has continued to increase each year. To increase the statewide impact of trainings, the training activities were offered in a number of regions around the state. Much of the increase is directly due to the activities of the Special Counsel. Since November of 2009 TeamChild, through the Special Counsel grant, has provided the following trainings for juvenile defenders:

1. On February 12, 2010, the Washington OPD hosted a training in Port Townsend on a variety of criminal defense issues. George Yeannakis presented on Effective Representation at Initial Appearance Hearings.
2. On March 12, 2010, TeamChild, and the Benton/Franklin Models for Change Coordinator organized a CLE on the Ethics and Alternatives in Defending Juveniles in Kennewick with the following presenters: Robin Walker Sterling (NJDC), Tina Dixon, Center for Children Law and Policy, George Yeannakis, Marya Gingrey (JRA)
3. On March 21-23, 2010 TeamChild sponsored two faculty trainers and provided six stipends to juvenile defenders who attended the WDA Trial Advocacy Training in Issaquah. The Special Counsel helped to develop the juvenile track curriculum.
4. On April 2, 2010, OPD presented a program on effective representation in juvenile court matters in Spokane. George Yeannakis spoke about communicating with juvenile clients.

- On April 23 and 24, TeamChild offered the third annual Juvenile Track at the WDA Conference in Winthrop. The newly released MacArthur Foundation’s *Juvenile Court Training Curriculum* was featured with presentations on *Communicating with Youth* (Ali Pearson), *Screening, Assessing, and Evaluating Youth* (Dr. Fran Lexcen), *Legal Questions about Youth’s Capacities* (Simmie Baer) and *Ethical Issues in the Representation of juvenile Offenders* (Robin Walker Sterling)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR JUVENILE PUBLIC DEFENSE

Prior to the MfC funded Special Counsel position, there was no centralized resource for short-term, case related technical assistance other than the juvenile defender listserv hosted by the Washington Defender Association. Despite increased activity on the juvenile offender listserv, the number of requests for the assistance of TeamChild’s Special Counsel has not diminished. The types of technical assistance requests vary widely, ranging from simple questions to requests for substantial assistance in brief writing.



COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR JUVENILE PUBLIC DEFENSE

Acting on the survey results of over 70 juvenile defenders taken at the WDA annual conferences, TeamChild has developed a Comprehensive Training Curriculum outline and is in consultation with NJDC and Washington practitioners to coordinate the development of substantive training modules to fill out the curriculum. Several modules are being piloted in trainings across the state

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR SYSTEM REFORM

There are many strong efforts within defense and advocacy agencies in Washington to improve juvenile defense policies and practice. The MfC project grant continues to provide the resources for the Special Counsel at TeamChild to work with others to develop leadership and advocacy within the defense community to sustain the system reforms that would enhance juvenile defense practice and improve the experiences of youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system. In other contexts, the Special Counsel is facilitating opportunities for others to step into leadership and advocacy roles.

The activities of the Special Counsel listed below have raised the visibility of juvenile defense attorneys by improving their own practice as well as the practices of juvenile court and related child-serving agencies.

- The Special Council continues to facilitate regional Leadership Roundtable discussions with juvenile defenders. Special Council has hosted at least one session in each MfC partner counties. The most recent roundtable was held in Benton/Franklin Counties in March of this year
- The Special Counsel also continues to pen a series of articles called *How Juvenile!* for WDA's monthly newsletter to reach out to the defense community on substantive and practice issues. These articles also serve as a tool to recruit volunteers to help on a variety of projects including education in detention and shackling of juveniles in court.
- The Special Counsel has continued to participate and has held leadership positions in a number of statewide boards and commissions including: The WSBA Juvenile Law Section Executive Committee, the WSBA Council on Public Defense, The Sentencing Guidelines Commission Juvenile Law subcommittee, and the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.

TeamChild is currently recruiting a group of interested defenders to help plan a leadership summit for juvenile defenders later this year. The summit will bring together leading juvenile defense attorneys from around the state to learn of innovative juvenile justice advocacy strategies and programming.

JUVENILE INDIGENT DEFENSE ACTION NETWORK (JIDAN)

TeamChild's Special Counsel is coordinating the Washington State team's activities in the Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network (JIDAN). The purpose of this grant is to support the Models for Change Initiative's Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network (JIDAN) to improve the quality and access to indigent juvenile defense. Washington's specific JIDAN activities will complement the work of TeamChild's Special Counsel to Advance Juvenile Indigent Defense. Under the direction of the National Juvenile Defender Center, the JIDAN Team is well on its way to accomplishing its three specific goals:

- Developing juvenile court colloquies for judicial officers and defense attorneys to better explain release requirements,
 - Developing model juvenile indigent defense contract provisions incorporating best practice standards, and
- Assisting Counties with the implementation of the new juvenile court waiver of counsel rule.

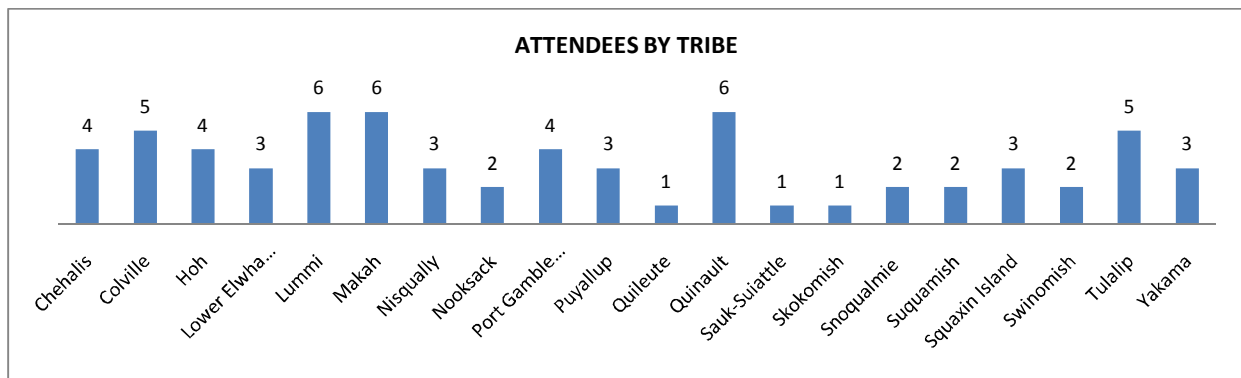
WA Models for Change Partner	University of Washington Law School/Native American Law Center
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement; Mental Health

PROGRESS UPDATE

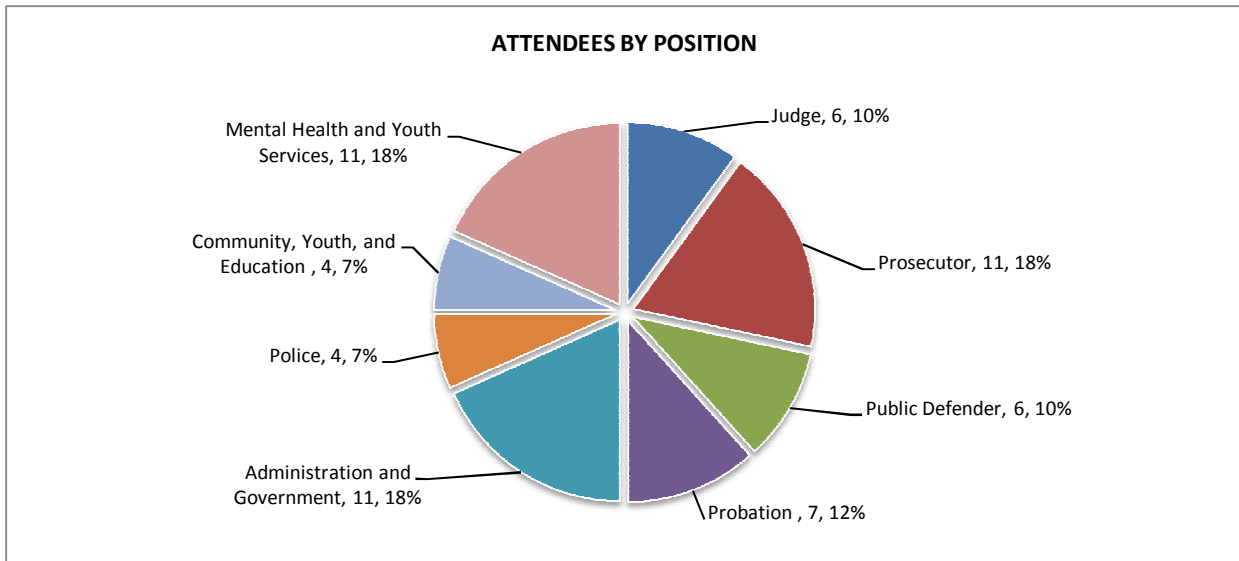
The Native American Law Center was funded in May, 2009 to develop an outreach process to Washington State Tribes to both assess the resources and needs for their juvenile justice systems, and assess what services and processes these systems provide to their juvenile tribal members.

Since November, we have largely focused on data collection and analysis of survey’s that we have administered to key informants within the tribal communities of Washington. The survey instrument assesses what level of juvenile jurisdiction each tribe exercises,⁴ what types of services they provide, and what they see as barriers to successful interventions. We are seeking to administer this survey to a significant number of tribes. Approval by several tribes has been granted and survey administration dates are being scheduled. Approval processes continue at several other tribes and as they give their approval, the survey will continue to be administered and data coded for analysis. Following completion of the survey administration, a complete analysis will occur and another survey instrument will be developed, informed by the survey and other Models for Change projects nationally, to identify what specific projects Washington State Tribes believe will fit within their communities' needs and priorities.

On April 23rd, we had a Gathering of tribal representatives with interest in juvenile justice matters at the Little Creek Resort, near Olympia, Washington. We specifically invited targeted tribal representatives from certain occupational groups including mental health and youth services, judges, community, youth, and education, police, public defenders, prosecutors, probation, and administration and government. Our event was a huge success we had 66 tribal participants, 20 tribes represented, and 18 partners representing 9 partner organizations. The two charts below have the demographics of our gathering including tribal attendees broken down by tribe and the attendees by their position at the tribe.



⁴ Under "Public Law 280", the State of Washington was delegated authority by the United States Congress to exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the tribes over tribal juvenile conduct on all reservations existing prior to 1968. Not all tribes exercise full juvenile jurisdiction, leaving all or part of traditional juvenile justice processes to the state courts.



At this meeting, NALC and other representatives presented the Models for Change initiative, its goals and projects addressing those goals. We also had presentations from Lummi Indian Nation and Port Gamble S’Klallam that highlighted tribal juvenile justice projects that are currently being implemented in Washington State. After the informative presentations we split the participants into breakout groups based on their position at the tribe to take a smaller survey of what projects and juvenile justice areas they would be interested in implementing. These areas included Pre-System Prevention, Pre-Filing Diversion, Pre-Trial/Adjudication Diversion, Probation/Post Adjudication, Non-Traditional Detention, and Mental Health Services. We also had each group vote on projects listed under the above juvenile justice areas.

Following the Gathering, we are currently analyzing the survey results from the gathering. We are also looking at the notes from each breakout group and evaluating the feedback and discussion. We will continue to administer our key informant survey to as many tribes as possible. We will use this information to move forward with the Models for Change participants in developing future goals and objectives. We will discuss which tribal participants are most vested and wish to develop their own projects. Then NALC will then develop an overall work plan which implements several projects among those vested tribes. The NALC will work with the tribes and the Models for Change program to seek funding from the MacArthur Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the United States Department of Justice, the Administration for Native Americans and other tribally-focused funding mechanisms to implement this inter-tribal work plan.

WA Models for Change Partner	University of Washington/School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of Public Behavioral Health and Justice Policy
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Mental Health
Additional Activities	Mental Health Action Network

PROGRESS UPDATE

MENTAL HEALTH ACTION NETWORK

Family and Youth Support SIG/Juvenile Justice 101

Nov09 –Jan10

- Met with King County management team to discuss project.
- Held community family and youth meeting to identify gaps in current juvenile justice services for families.

Feb – March10

- Held first Juvenile Justice 101 Oversight Committee Meeting in King County Juvenile Court: court services management, probation management, detention management, defense attorneys, prosecution, mental health within detention, mental health county administration, and family partners from the state and local level.
- Gathered information on national and state/local training information for family partners.
- Gathered available information on currently existing family- oriented curricula on the juvenile justice system.
- Second JJ101 Oversight Committee Meeting

March-April10

- Third JJ101 Oversight Committee Meeting. Defined family partner role.
- Drafted memorandum of understanding for family support organization and juvenile court.
- Fourth JJ101 Oversight Committee Meeting
 - Focused on the JJ101 curriculum for families. Identified needed resources for the project: JJ101 instructional video and resource booklet for families.

April-May10

- Drafted JJ101 instructional video script
- Collaborated with JIDAN on the development of baseline and outcomes measures for the JJ101 and colloquies projects for King, Clark and Benton-Franklin Counties.
- Held first parent meeting in Benton-Franklin County to discuss the development of a parent and youth support project.

Next Steps

- Plan to begin shooting instructional video in mid-June. Will begin baseline data gathering in June. Development of the resource booklet and training curricula will begin in July. Working with the local family support organizations and King County juvenile court to begin the project by September09.

Mental Health Juvenile Justice Training

June-Nov09

- Held calls with the five participating MfC sites in Washington State to discuss the MH JJ training and the local training needs of staff.

- Videotaped interviews of veteran parents and youth discussing their experiences with the jj system.
- Nov09-Jan10
- Edited videotaped interviews with veteran parents and youth of the juvenile justice system to be used in the online adaptation of the training.
 - Developed the evaluation plan for the multi-site implementation of the training.
- Feb-April10
- Provided National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice detailed feedback on the revised draft of the MH JJ training.
- Next Steps
- Awaiting the final release of the MH JJ Training. Will then begin implementation in participating sites, developing an online adaptation and a college course adaptation at Seattle Central and Centralia Community Colleges.

WASHINGTON STATE PROJECTS

Culture and Engagement Training

Nov09-Jan10

- Finalized training curriculum with the input of the Benton-Franklin Counties mental health workgroup to reflect local and national expertise in cultural competence and engagement. Consulted with Dr. Mary McKay on the training outline (June09).

Feb-Apr10

- Held “train the trainer” session in Benton-Franklin Counties.
- Made final changes and edits to the training curriculum.
- Identified trainers with expertise in working with Latino populations and trained them on the McKay principles.

May10

- Trainers Jose Vasquez and Sara Franco visit local co-trainers to go over curriculum and process.
- Sent out pre-training survey.
- May 12/13th implemented training at Catholic Child and Family Services for 40 clinical and administrative staff.
- Assess usefulness of training through post-training questionnaire.

Next Steps

- We will train in three more agencies in June 2010. All participants will receive three months post-training surveys (1x month) to assess use and effectiveness of the training.

Family Integrated Transitions Cultural Assessment and Adaptation

Nov09-Jan10

- Met with the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration to discuss the focus, phases and outcomes of the project.
- Met with FIT consultant team to get feedback on assessment approach and focus.
- Developed assessment plan.

Feb-March10

- Developed interview questions for FIT coaches to gather information on training, engagement and core program elements of FIT.
- Developed brochure to explain the project to potential participants.
- Identified FIT coaches with experience working with FIT families from diverse cultures; particularly Latino cultures for inclusion in the assessment.

Apr-May10

- Conducting interviews with FIT coaches. Have completed nine of eleven interviews.
- Beginning to develop survey for FIT families.

Next Steps

- We will present preliminary results of the assessment to the FIT consultants and JRA in June. In the meantime, we will finalize the assessment protocol for FIT families and begin identifying potential study participants for the next phase of the project.

* In addition to the above activities, we presented at the Native American Law Center's MfC Tribal Gathering, April 09.

WA Models for Change Partner	Washington State University/Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice Program, Division of Governmental Studies and Services
TAI/Strategic Opportunity	Alternatives to Formal Processing and Secure Confinement

PROGRESS UPDATE

This progress update for the *Models for Change* project is being submitted by the Washington State University Division of Government Studies and Services. The update summarizes the status of the work completed since the inception of our second phase of the project beginning in January 2010. The work in question involves our support of the Spokane County Juvenile Court *Models for Change* team in their effort to document the effectiveness of the West Valley School District Community Truancy Board (WVCTB), and to help them generate a replication toolkit that may be used by school districts interested in reducing truancy and juvenile court involvement of their students through the implementation of a community truancy board process.

In this report we document progress in three areas, those being: (1) analysis of individual interviews of WVCTB key personnel; (2) documenting outcomes of focus groups regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the WVCTB; and, (3) collection of data regarding school re-engagement and court penetration by petitioned youth who did and did not participate in the WVCTB. Progress in each area is reported on in turn.

1. During the reporting period we have interviewed over 50 individual key actors from schools and the court and participating volunteer community members. In addition, interviews with students who have gone before the board and parents of students who have gone before the board will be made available (de-identified) for our analysis by the end of the school year. The interviews with key actors have all been audio-recorded and have subsequently been transcribed. A qualitative analysis of a subsample of these was recently completed by a Criminal Justice graduate student, Nichole Skaggs, in partial fulfillment of an MA in Criminal Justice.ⁱ That document has served in the development of a coding template to be applied to the interview transcripts to more formally document the perceptions of the WVCTB.

2. A second work product that is being generated involves documenting the results of focus groups conducted with key actors to further evaluate the WVCTB. Focus groups provide a source of data that cannot be obtained via interview that derives from key individuals interacting within the context of describing the structural and procedural components, and outcomes, of the WVCTB. Three focus groups were conducted on May 13 in which 28 individuals participated out of a total of 30 invitees. Therefore, the participation rate was 93%, which allows for a high degree of confidence that relevant information has been obtained. At present, one of the three focus groups audio recordings has been transcribed and the other two are in the process of being transcribed. Upon completion of transcription the transcripts will be analyzed to extract information and themes relevant to generating a replication toolkit. Initial impressions of the focus groups is that the formal assembly of court, school, and community volunteers provides uniquely credible information to petitioned youth and their families regarding the consequences of further court involvement arising from continued truancy and insight into unconsidered opportunities related to school re-engagement.

3. The third area of progress involves efforts to generate quantitative data regarding the effectiveness of the WVCTB. Such data are ultimately necessary to ensure that the resources devoted to a CTB have a sufficient, measurable payoff. These data are a challenge to come by,

however, because of the difficulty of generating comparable groups. Our efforts in this regard have involved collaboration with the Spokane County Court (Jennie Marshall) and the Washington State Administrative Office of the Court (Dr. Tom George). On May 13, Ms. Marshall sent to Dr. George a list of students who had received truancy petitions in Spokane County during the 2004-2006 school years. This included data on approximately 4000 students. Filtering by identified school districts, students who participated in the WVCTB will be compared to a matched group of students who did not. The latter group attended a Spokane area school other than West Valley (East Valley). Dr. George will utilize the OSPI/JUVIS linked records database to identify participants so as to allow for a comparison of school re-engagement across the two groups. In addition, data from the individual juvenile court records will be added to each file, allowing for a comparison of court penetration. These data will be de-identified prior to being provided to us. They will allow for evaluating the dual mission of the WVCTB, which is to increase school engagement and reduce court penetration by petitioned youth. If the program is successful with respect to its mission, we would expect that petitioned youth who participated in the WVCTB will have higher rates of school re-engagement and lower rates of court penetration than the group that consisted of petitioned youth who did not appear before the WVCTB.

ⁱ Skaggs, C.N. (2010). *Preliminary Assessment of the MacArthur Foundation Truancy Reduction Project in Spokane County: A Grounded Theory Approach to Logic Model Specification for the Effective Replication of a Community Truancy Board*. Unpublished Master's Thesis. Pullman, WA: Washington State University.