BHJJ is a diversion program for juvenile justice-involved youth ages 10–18 with mental health or substance abuse issues. In lieu of detention, youth are diverted into local, evidence-based behavioral health treatment.

Mental health assessments revealed:
- 71% of females talked about suicide and 39% attempted suicide at least once.
- The majority of youth had a history of mental health and substance use issues in their families.
- Common DSM diagnoses included cannabis disorders, ADHD, mood disorders, alcohol disorders, and depressive disorders.

Treatment outcomes indicated:
- 60% of youth completed treatment successfully.
- Treatment led to significant improvements in problem severity and functioning.
- Families reported high satisfaction with treatment services and staff.
- Youth reported reductions in trauma symptoms.
- 97% of youth were NOT sent to an ODYS institution following services.

101 youth enrolled in BHJJ
2013—present
16.4 years old—average age
51% were non-white
62% were male

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Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education
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