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.

- **35** youth enrolled in BHJJ
- **2013—present**
- **15.7 years old—average age**
- **54%** were non-white
- **66%** were male

**Mental health assessments revealed:**

- The majority of youth had a history of mental health issues in their families.
- The most common DSM diagnosis for both males and females was ODD.
- Nearly half of the youth were exposed to domestic violence.

**Treatment outcomes indicated:**

- **75%** of youth completed treatment successfully
- Youth reported reductions in substance abuse
- Treatment led to significant improvements in problem severity and functioning
- BHJJ led to a 48% reduction in risk for out of home placement
- No youth were sent to an ODYS institution following services

---

Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education

July 2018