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.

**SUMMIT COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH / JUVENILE JUSTICE INITIATIVE [BHJJ]**

284 youth enrolled in BHJJ

2009—present

15.9 years old—average age

77% were non-white

77% were male

The majority of youth had a history of mental health and substance use issues in their families.

Common DSM diagnoses included conduct disorder, ADHD, ODD, and cannabis disorders.

1 in 3 youth were exposed to domestic violence.

Mental health assessments revealed:

Treatment outcomes indicated:

68% of youth completed treatment successfully

Youth reported reductions in trauma symptoms

Grades improved and school suspensions/expulsions were greatly reduced

Over 89% of youth were NOT sent to an ODYS institution following services

Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education

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