Focus: Alternatives for DYS placement ~ Pre-entry

Concern: A large number of youth in the juvenile justice system have behavioral health issues

Goal: To enhance the community’s ability to locally serve juvenile offenders with serious behavioral health needs by transforming the community’s capacity to identify, assess, evaluate, and treat multi-need, multi-system youth and their family

Initiative: Through a collaboration with the Department of Mental Health, six Behavioral Health / Juvenile Justice Initiatives (BH/JJ) have begun in seven counties

Results as of April 2007: Of the 355 youth enrolled in one of the six programs, only 2 have been committed to DYS custody

County programs:
Montgomery County: Clinical and family-driven community-based services (Functional Family Therapy) to female juvenile offenders between the ages of 10 and 17, and their families

Cuyahoga County: Provides Multisystemic Therapy (MST), care coordination, community wraparound services, integrated treatment options and gender specific day reporting to female juvenile offenders/families

Fairfield County: Intensive Family Home Based Treatment, with special focus on exposure to, and being a victim of, trauma and/or domestic violence. Services are provided to female offenders and their families

Logan/Champaign Counties: Comprehensive behavioral health assessments and Intensive Home Based Treatment program or the Homebuilders® program

Franklin County: Evidence-based services including Multisystemic Therapy (MST) and Home/Community-Based Services as well as alternative placement like secure residential, partial hospitalization, inpatient care, treatment foster care and crisis stabilization

Union County: Evidence-based practices including a Family Intensive Professional Case Manager who works exclusively with youth in need of assistance transitioning back home and youth and families that have previously participated in multiple modules of behavioral health therapy and need additional assistance