

State of Ohio

3. 2020 Title II Program Narrative

PROGRAM ADDENDUM

Plan to Include Scientific Knowledge Regarding Adolescent Development

In the Spring of 2020, DYS will release a solicitation for new programs and services to youth serving agencies across the state. The primary target will be local community providers. To ensure these prospective providers are knowledgeable about adolescent development, DYS will require that applicants demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of adolescent development in the application. Applicants will also be asked to explain how it will be incorporated in the proposed program so that activities and services are appropriate for the target population, and how it will be incorporated to prevent and reduce delinquency.

It is important to note that DYS has provided many trainings related to adolescent development. Some of the examples include: Effective Police Youth Interactions, Policing the Teen Brain, How Detention Impacts Youth, Understanding the Hip Hop Culture, Working with Black Girls, Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Pipeline, Adolescent Development, the Impact of Trauma, and Understanding the Teen Brain. The goal of these trainings has been to facilitate increased understanding of youth behaviors through a variety of lenses. DYS will provide additional training to recipients.

Plan for Alternatives to Detention for Status Offenders and Other Youth

Youth charged with status offenses are not detained for more than 24 hours before and/or after a court hearing. If the youth cannot be returned to the parents, the youth is placed in temporary foster care by a social service agency. Detention centers are not used as general-

purpose placement for status offenders, sexually exploited youth, or other non-offenders. Only delinquent youth are held/housed in detention facilities.

Youth found to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation fall under Ohio's Safe Harbor Law. The Ohio legislature introduced Safe Harbor protections for victims of trafficking with the understanding that commercial sexual and labor exploitation can cause juvenile delinquency. Safe Harbor law empowers juvenile courts to offer diversionary programming to youth survivors of trafficking, recognizing the need for victim-centered, trauma-informed services in lieu of more traditional juvenile justice responses. The Ohio Department of Youth Services works with the Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, on an Office for Victims of Crime grant initiative, to provide training to juvenile justice agencies throughout Ohio. The goal is to increase the capacity of the juvenile courts to utilize Safe Harbor law and provide effective treatment for survivors of trafficking.

Plan to Reduce the Number of Children Housed in Secure Detention

Detention and correctional facilities are not used to “house” youth who have not committed a delinquent offense. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and county Job and Family Service agencies are responsible for placement and housing of youth non-offenders and/or youth who have been abused or neglected.

Plan for Community Based Services

RECLAIM Ohio (Reasoned, Equitable, Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of **M**inors) and the Youth Services Grant make up DYS' Subsidy Grant Program

which provides juvenile courts with more than \$46 million annually. For the RECLAIM program, \$30.6 million is allocated to juvenile courts based on each juvenile courts' felony adjudications. The juvenile courts are allocated bed day credits and for each bed day used in DYS or a Community Correctional Facility, the number of credits is reduced. For those credits not used during the year, the county juvenile court is paid the balance of the allocation. This provides juvenile courts with additional financial resources to develop or purchase community-based options to divert youth and prevent further penetration into the juvenile justice system.

Additionally, DYS has developed agreements with several community-based programs to meet the needs of youth committed to the department. These providers offer specialized treatment and services, and include Lighthouse Youth Center at Paint Creek, Applewood Centers, SEQUEL-Pomegranate Health Systems and the Center for Adolescent Services (CAS) of Montgomery County. As of the end of FY 2019, 13.09% of the youth committed to DYS were placed at one of these alternative placements.

Plan to Promote Evidence-Based and Trauma Informed Program

DYS will promote evidence-based and trauma informed programs by building requirements into its solicitation for new Title II funded programs. The goal of programs will be to keep youth from coming into contact with law enforcement and the juvenile justice system under the funding categories of RED and Positive Youth Development. DYS will frame its RFP where applicants must demonstrate an understanding of evidence-based and trauma informed programming within the context of the funding categories. They will also be required to explain

how the services/programming to be offered are evidence based, and how trauma informed care will be a priority when providing services.

Plan for Family Engagement

DYS provides services and programs that bring families together and promote positive interactions. The CLOSE to Home Project provides free bus transportation to connect youth with their families. In FY 2019, 59 bus trips served 390 family members by transporting them to meet with their youth. The Video Communicator Project allows family members to meet face to face with youth via wireless technology. Thirty family visits, 59 reentry meetings, and 122 staff meetings regarding youth were held in FY 2019. All facilities offer visitation to family members seven days a week, as well as provide special events to support family-youth connections. Once a youth is released from a facility, DYS parole staff work with youths and their families to ensure the youth are connected with needed services or resources.

For youths under the jurisdiction of the counties, the level of family engagement varies by juvenile court and by family. Juvenile courts use RECLAIM funding to support programs and services, including treatment, and make every effort to involve families.

Community Based Services

DYS reaches thousands of youth beyond those youth in facilities and on parole, DYS funds and supports 625 community programs throughout the state offering more than 93,000 youth (based on annual program admissions) opportunities and services to impact positive change. These included statewide support of juvenile courts and county partners through

RECLAIM Ohio, Targeted RECLAIM, Competitive RECLAIM, the Detention Alternatives and Enhancements Initiative, Youth Services Grant, Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BH/JJ), and Community Corrections Facilities. In addition to the state funded community programs and services, the Title II Formula grant is awarded to community partners to prevent and reduce delinquent behavior in youth at greatest risk.

Plan to Eliminate Restraints by December 21, 2020

DYS policy 184-SEC-02 addresses the restraint of pregnant girls in facilities. Additionally, the requirements of the JJRP were transmitted to detention centers and community correctional facilities, all of which have complied and began developing their own policies and procedures. The Ohio Senate has introduced a Senate Bill 18 which would eliminate the use of restraints on pregnant girls. The Bill has passed the Senate in November 2019 and is currently in the House for consideration. SB 18 should be finalized before the end of the year and it is expected to include all the JJRA requirements.

Plan for Training

DYS provides four weeks of pre-employment training to 40 hours of in-service training annually to correctional and other staff. New recruits are trained and tested on policies and procedures which includes the proper use of restraints.

Evidence-Based Methods for Screening and Assessment

Regardless of gender and facility assignment, all youth committed to the state agency receive a comprehensive assessment, which includes physicals, mental health and substance use screens and assessments, cognitive and educational assessments, and a validated assessment to gauge criminogenic risk, needs and responsivity using the Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS). OYAS is a validated fourth generation risk/needs assessment tool developed by the University of Cincinnati. OYAS consists of five unique tools to assess youth throughout the juvenile justice system. The tools expand as a youth moves further into the system. The 5 tools that make up the OYAS are: Diversion, Detention, Disposition, Residential, and Reentry. The Disposition, Residential and Reentry tools assess a youth on seven domain areas which include criminal history, family, education/employment, pro-social skill sets, substance abuse/mental health/personality, peers, and antisocial attitudes.

Also, at reception each youth receives a Juvenile Automated Substance Abuse Evaluation (JASAE), Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument – 2 (MAYSI-2), and other mental health assessment services. Sex offenders receive the J-SOAP II and the Sex Offender Program Classification Checklist (determines the level of sex offender treatment programming). Education staff also conducts a series of educational assessments. The MAYSI-2 is used at intake in each facility and is a brief behavioral health screening tool designed especially for juvenile justice programs and facilities. It identifies youths 12 through 17 years old who may have important, pressing behavioral health needs. The MAYSI-2 is a self-report inventory of 52 questions. The seven domains of the MAYSI-2 are used to alert staff that the youth may have issues with

Alcohol/Drug Use, Anger/Irritability, Depression/Anxiety, Somatic Complaints, Suicide Ideation, Thought Disturbances or Traumatic Experiences.

The screens and subsequent assessments are used to develop an individualized case plan to address each youth's unique needs. Services are provided to achieve treatment goals of each unique need. DYS retains an electronic youth record to measure progress and help make release decisions. For reentry, the plan is used to determine the services and supports needed in the community. The referral to needed services and supports in the community are made by the assigned parole officer. The use of individualized treatment plans by correctional facility and parole staffs facilitates a continuity of care from the institution into the community.

For justice involved youth not committed to the state agency, a similar approach is used by Ohio's county-operated juvenile courts. DYS provides at no cost to the community, training, technical assistance, and an electronic OYAS platform and case management system. Counties use the OYAS to inform decisions about diversion, detention, disposition, residential services and reentry. In addition, DYS has provided to Ohio's county-operated juvenile detention centers training from the National Youth Screening and Assessment Partners on the MAYSI-2. The MAYSI-2 is used across Ohio's juvenile detention centers.

To identify and provide services for justice-involved youth remaining in the community, DYS provides county juvenile courts grant funds to meet the needs of local youth and families. DYS currently funds county-operated community-based assessment centers to identify physical and behavioral health needs, and mental health and substance use services to address the needs of individual communities and youth/families. These services include many evidence-based

practices and programs and include cognitive behavioral therapy, integrated co-occurring treatment, multisystemic therapy and functional family therapy.

Reentry Planning

All youth committed to the state agency receive a MAYSI-2 and an OYAS, and a comprehensive battery of assessments. An individualized treatment plan is developed for each youth and documented in an electronic file. Treatment providers document youth participation and progress in the electronic file. Youth progress reviews and recommendations for youth treatment are provided during an interdisciplinary treatment team meeting, which may include youth, family, release authority (parole board) member, treatment providers, social workers, teachers, parole officers, psychologist, medical health professional, or others as deemed appropriate. A youth's length of commitment by the juvenile court, treatment and education progress, and parole needs help determine the date a youth is released to the community. Prior to release, a Reentry OYAS is completed and a community plan and rules of parole are developed and submitted to the juvenile court for consideration and to be journalized. Once the rules of parole and community plan are journalized, youth are released under the supervision of a parole officer. Parole officers coordinate the provision of services in the community, which may include education, employment readiness, mentoring, and behavioral health services. The youth's placement address is identified in the rules of parole. Placement is determined by the youth's needs and may include residential treatment, group homes, foster care, or placement with a guardian. Parole officers visit youth in the community and use the treatment approach – Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS). EPICS is a skill building treatment program built on underlying cognitive behavioral treatment and motivational interviewing platforms. Youth progress with the community plan is documented in the electronic

youth file by the parole officer. When youth are approaching discharge from parole, the assigned parole officer submits a parole summary and discharge request to the release authority (parole board) and juvenile court for approval. Regardless of progress, DYS loses jurisdiction when a youth reaches age 21.

Human Trafficking Policies and Procedures

DYS has extensive policies and procedures to identify and assist victims of human trafficking and those most at risk to be trafficked. Every youth committed to the department is screened using an electronic version of the Department of Youth Services' Human Trafficking Screening Tool (DYS HTST). When a youth is identified they are automatically added to the behavioral health caseload for at least ninety (90) days, at which point the necessity of behavioral health services shall be re-evaluated by the independently licensed behavioral health services clinician. This evaluation shall be documented in the electronic case notes, and the youth's behavioral health clinician will update the individualized treatment plan to include additional services to address trafficking. The department employs a full-time human trafficking liaison, which will identify an HT-specific agency to which the youth can be referred for services. Within five business days of the human trafficking liaison's recommended service linkage, the youth's behavioral health services clinician completing the assessment makes a referral to the recommended HT-specific agency. The behavioral health services clinician will notify the human trafficking liaison, behavioral health services supervisors, and parole officer when a referral has been made. Services with the HT-specific agency shall begin as soon as possible while the youth is in the facility. The identified youth's designated behavioral health services clinician shall serve

as point of contact for the HT-specific agency serving the youth. The DYS clinician shall document these efforts in the electronic case notes. The human trafficking liaison will meet with youth within thirty days of youth's first meeting with HT-specific services to monitor the appropriateness and effectiveness of the service connection. The human trafficking liaison will continue to meet with youth every two months and shall document all meetings in youth's electronic file. The community-based HT-specific agency professionals shall submit case notes to the human trafficking liaison within two business days of a meeting with the youth. The human trafficking liaison shall enter case notes into the electronic file on behalf of the service provider.

If a youth is identified as a human trafficking victim through a disclosure outside of the human trafficking screen, whether by a department employee, independent contractor, or volunteer, that individual must follow procedure for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect, pursuant to DYS Policy 109-INV-03, Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting. They must also notify the youth's assigned case manager, who shall implement procedures outlined in department policy. If a youth is identified as a victim of trafficking by the screening that occurs within seven days prior to release, the HT screener follow procedure for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect. The human trafficking liaison shall identify an HT-specific agency to which the youth can be referred for services. The HT-specific agency professionals shall submit case notes to the human trafficking liaison within two business days of a meeting with the youth. The human trafficking liaison shall enter case notes into the youth's electronic record on behalf of the service provider.

While on parole, and within 90 days of being released from the facility, the parole office will administer the HT screener and document it in the electronic youth record. In the event the youth is identified as a victim via screen, or a youth is identified as a victim of human trafficking by any means other than the screening tool (personal disclosures, etc.), the parole officer shall follow procedure for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect, pursuant to DYS Policy 109-INV-03, Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting. If the parole officer feels the youth is in imminent danger due to a trafficking situation, the parole officer shall contact law enforcement and activate emergency response protocol and notify the human trafficking liaison. A referral to a community-based HT-specific agency is made and the parole officer modifies the youth's community treatment plan to reflect service linkage to HT-specific agency, and any other services and supports identified as necessary. Efforts to address the youth's HT concerns are documented in the electronic case notes. This includes case notes provided by the HT-specific agency professionals.

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

a) Description of the Issue

Analysis of Juvenile Delinquency Problems

No change

b) Goals and Objectives

Goals related to DMC, Compliance Monitoring, and Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement have not changed. However, the program category Positive Youth Development has been added to the plan with goals and objectives as follows:

Positive Youth Development

Goal 5—provide services that promote positive youth development to at-risk, disadvantaged, and rural youth.

- Solicit statewide for programming and service
- Provide guidance to potential applicants regarding best practices and programming related to positive youth development
- Select programs that promote positive youth development
- Provide ongoing technical assistance and onsite monitoring
- Collect performance data

c) Implementation

Implementation will begin with the release of a solicitation for new programs by no later than the end of May 2020. By the end of August 2020, the SAG will review applications and select new programs. New programs, to include Positive Youth Development, will begin on October 1, 2020.

4. Plan for Compliance and RED

See compliance reporting tool

5. Additional Requirements

See category 1

6. Plan for Collecting Data

No change

7. Budget Information

See category 1