

## **Juvenile Justice Coalition of Minnesota Blueprint of Minnesota's Chemical Health and Juvenile Justice System Colored Map Key**

This series of flow charts presents a picture of how youth travel through the juvenile justice system in Minnesota. Since each one of Minnesota's 87 counties operates their system somewhat differently, each flow chart represents a general description of a step or steps in the process.

### **Color Key**

Certain boxes or steps are colored to highlight key points in the system.

#### Orange Boxes - Reentry or Prevention Opportunity

- Real or potential opportunity for a youth to commit an offense and enter or reenter the "formal" juvenile court process.
- Real or potential occasion when a youth may continue to exhibit inappropriate behavior, signs of mental illness or other struggles and return to the first flow chart and begin the process of needing and accessing prevention services.

#### *Importance*

- Represents a missed opportunity to serve youth.
- Represents an opportunity for the system to be more effective and responsive to the needs of youth.
- Represents where youth repeat the cycle and continue involvement in the formal system.

#### Green Boxes – Contact with a System Player

- Youth has contact with a system player, organization, individual, etc.

#### *Importance*

- Represents an opportunity for the system to impact a youth's life, positively or negatively.
- Highlights the different players involved in the juvenile justice system.
- Highlights the number of systems a youth and their family come in contact with during their involvement with the juvenile justice system.

#### Yellow Boxes – Services Provided

- Prevention and intervention services are provided to youth.

#### *Importance*

- Represents an opportunity to improve the system.
- Represents an opportunity to implement evidence-based or best/promising practices.
- Represents an opportunity to make a positive impact on a youth's life.

#### Blue Boxes – Missed Opportunity or Lack of Services

- Represents a potential missed opportunity by the system to serve a youth and prevent entry, reentry or further entry into the formal system.
- Represents where youth may fall through the cracks.

#### *Importance*

- Represents an opportunity to improve the system.
- Represents an opportunity to add services, change in policy or procedures

### Purple Boxes – Chemical Health System

- Represents steps in the process or where youth chemical use is being addressed by the system.

#### *Importance*

- Represents opportunities where the chemical health and corrections systems can work together to better serve youth.

## **Flow Chart Descriptions**

### 1. Risk and Resiliency Factors

Researchers identified risk factors that may lead to juvenile delinquency or violent behaviors, as well as resiliency factors that lead to successful childhood, adolescence and adulthood.

### 2. Prevention

The process begins when a youth exhibits inappropriate behavior, mental health symptoms or struggles in school or other settings. The response by individuals or organizations depicted in the chart corresponds to prevention efforts or opportunities in the system to serve youth before entry into the formal system.

### 3. Chemical Health/Mental Health Services

Since a high percentage of youth involved in the juvenile justice system have chemical health or mental health concerns, this chart shows the process and results of chemical or mental health assessments and youth access to services.

### 4. School Discipline Policies/ Truancy

Many youth exhibit inappropriate behavior or may commit offenses in the school setting. This chart shows school responses to behaviors or offenses in the Robbinsdale School District in 2007-2008, as an example, as well as the system's response to truancy.

### 5. Contact with Law Enforcement

To formally enter the juvenile justice system, a youth must allegedly commit a delinquent or petty offense (status offense). The majority of youth enter the system through a contact with law enforcement, described on this chart.

### 6. Intake

This chart describes the intake process of law enforcement, including intake into a juvenile detention facility.

### 7. County Attorney

The County Attorney's Office responds to reports filed by law enforcement and determines whether to charge youth for an offense. This chart describes that process.

### 8. Public Defender

Minnesota Statute determines whether a youth is represented by publically funded counsel and this chart explains who is eligible for that public representation.

9. Arrest/Trial/Disposition

Youth formally charged by the County Attorney's Office go through the court system, which is explained on this chart.

10. Pre-Trial Motions/Trial

Under certain conditions, professionals in the court system advocate for specific treatment of youth. This chart describes competency, Extended Juvenile Jurisdiction (EJJ) and certification motions, as well as the trial process.

11. Court Orders /Probation

If a youth is found delinquent, the court's decision is carried out in a disposition order and the majority of youth are sentenced to probation. This chart explains the types of dispositions and how probation operates.

12. Probation/Reoffend

This chart describes what happens when a youth reoffends or violates conditions of probation and when juvenile court jurisdiction ends.

13. Out-of-Home Placement

To receive necessary interventions or treatments, to ensure public safety, or to fulfill disposition orders, some youth are sent to out-of-home placement facilities for a required length of time. This chart describes the Red Wing Correctional Facility and a generic description of the multiple types of facilities a youth could enter.

14. Aftercare/Reentry

When a youth returns home from living in an out-of-home placement facility, they receive after care services to help with reentry back into the community described on this chart.

**Observations**

While gathering information for the mapping project, some common areas of concern arose.

- Lack of coordination and collaboration among the different system players
- Sharing of information
- Misunderstandings or miscommunication of what each player can and cannot do
- General sense of frustration with overall system
- Disconnect between what is done, what is said is being done and results
- Lack of realization how an action or policy in one part impacts other parts of the system.
- Complexity of the system and difficulty for youth and families to navigate
- Lack of resources

*For more information or questions about the mapping project, please contact Curt Peterson, JJC Director at (612) 998-7466 or [curt@orgdev.org](mailto:curt@orgdev.org) or Cheryl Kreager, JJC Project Manager at (763) 559-1063 or [kreagercheryl@yahoo.com](mailto:kreagercheryl@yahoo.com). More information is also available on the Juvenile Justice Coalition of Minnesota website at [www.jjcmn.com](http://www.jjcmn.com).*