STATE OF LOUISIANA
FY 2024 – 2026
COMPREHENSIVE THREE-YEAR STATE PLAN
TITLE II FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

PROJECT ABSTRACT

The designation of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement as the agency responsible for the 3-year plan was established per Louisiana Revised Statutes 15:1204 and 15:1207. Louisiana Revised Statute 15:1226, the Juvenile Delinquency and Gang Prevention Act of 1993, as provided for in Chapter 13 of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and its administration are hereby placed under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice. The purpose of this project is to continue the support of state and local projects as outlined by the SAG (State Advisory Group) in the 2024-2026 Three-Year Comprehensive State Plan. The SAG developed and reviewed the state's juvenile justice plan.. Louisiana affirms that recommendations regarding compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13) are submitted to the chief executive officer and the legislature of the state annually.

The goals and objectives of this report are to confirm that Louisiana meets all thirty-three requirements of the formula grants program as stated in the 2024 Title II solicitation. Funding will be used to increase the availability of delinquency prevention and intervention programs for at risk youth, juvenile justice system improvements, and to regain compliance with the four core requirements of the JJDP Act. (deinstitutionalization of status offenders, separation of juveniles from adults in secure facilities, removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and reduction of racial and ethnic disparities (RED) in the juvenile justice system) This project plans to support both state and local efforts. The Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement is the designated state agency responsible for preparation and administration of the 3-year plan.

Funds will be allocated to new and continuation projects that address the State Plan. Each funded project must submit the OJJDP performance measurements via a quarterly program report and a final program report, which includes their short-term and intermediate outcomes, to Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE). LCLE compiles each sub-recipient's program reports and submits the results in the Annual Performance Report to OJJDP via the GMS system. Along with the submission of the annual report, on-site monitoring visits to ensure goals and objectives

are being met and to provide any needed technical assistance. The performance measurements will provide critical data to assess the effectiveness of the funded projects and guide future funding decisions.

The Three-Year Plan will address the needs, and intervention plans as related to the three core requirements: RED, resources in our state, and areas of need, along with budgetary obligations addressed with proposed funding.

This project aims to create a safer, more equitable juvenile justice system in Louisiana, significantly reducing juvenile delinquency and enhancing community well-being.

STATE'S PRIORITY JUVENILE JUSTICE NEEDS / PROBLEM STATEMENTS

The SAG identified four juvenile justice needs/problem statements and has determined funding should be directed to programs that address these areas. These programs will not only serve juveniles, but the families and society as well. The SAG's goal for the 2024-2026 State Plan is to fund programs that address mental health, delinquency prevention, positive youth development, community-based programs and services and compliance monitoring. A detailed discussion for each area is provided below.

- **Mental Health Services:**

In accordance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, the juvenile justice system aims to divert youth from formal processing, necessitating community-based treatment programs for juvenile offenders. A significant proportion of juveniles entering the system—between 50 to 75 percent—meet the criteria for a mental health disorder, with common conditions including ADHD, depression, anxiety, PTSD, and oppositional defiant disorder.

ADHD and depression are particularly noteworthy as they have been linked to increased substance use and can significantly disrupt an adolescent's life. These conditions underscore the need for effective screening, assessment, and varied treatment options within the juvenile justice system. LCLE seeks evidence-based programs with multiple treatment options, prioritizing specific therapeutic models. Early identification of mental health disorders and diversion to community treatment services are crucial steps in the process. By focusing on mental and behavioral health, local jurisdictions can develop programs that improve early identification, service coordination, and reduce recidivism leading to better outcomes for youth and their families.

In Louisiana, the need for comprehensive mental health services within the juvenile justice system is underscored by alarming statistics. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in six U.S. youth aged six to seventeen experience a mental health disorder each year. In Louisiana, this translates to approximately 44,000 adolescents aged twelve to seventeen having a depressive disorder.

The impact of mental health issues is far-reaching, affecting not only the individuals and their families but also the community at large. In Louisiana, 62.3% of adolescents aged 12-17 who have depression did not receive any care in the last year. This lack of treatment is a critical gap in services that can lead to an increased risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Title II funds are designed to support state and local efforts to improve the juvenile justice system and provide effective prevention and intervention programs. Allocating these funds to enhance mental health services in Louisiana is essential. It would address the urgent needs of the state's youth, reduce their risk of delinquency, and support their overall well-being and development.

Investing Title II funds in mental health initiatives aligns with the OJJDP's purpose areas and would be a strategic use of resources to tackle one of the most pressing issues in juvenile justice. By prioritizing mental health, Louisiana can foster a more rehabilitative and supportive environment for its youth, ultimately leading to safer communities and better outcomes for all.

- **Delinquency Prevention:**

The prevention of juvenile delinquency is crucial for societal well-being, guiding youth towards positive development and deterring them from a path that can lead to drug use, educational failure, and criminal behavior. Addressing risk factors at the individual, family, peer, and community levels is essential for early intervention and prevention efforts.

In Louisiana, the end of 2022 saw 693 juveniles in state custody, underscoring the urgent need for effective prevention programs. The state's juvenile justice system is working on policy changes to better manage facility capacities and enhance delinquency prevention strategies. A key part of these efforts is the commitment to addressing racial and ethnic disparities in treatment availability, ensuring equitable support for all youth.

Research on juvenile delinquency has identified several individual risk factors, including substance abuse, antisocial behavior, cognitive disabilities, hyperactivity, and physical health issues. Notably, ADHD and depression are linked to increased risks of delinquency, highlighting the importance of targeted interventions for these conditions.

- **Positive Youth Development**

In Louisiana, fostering positive youth development is a complex challenge that must be met with a multifaceted approach, one that includes a focus on racial equity to ensure all young people have the opportunity to thrive. The state ranks 49th in child well-being which highlights systemic issues that disproportionately affect youth of color, including disparities in education, health, economic stability, and community safety.

Recent data from Invest in Louisiana underscores the urgency of this issue, with Louisiana having the fourth-highest youth disconnection rate in the United States—16.4 percent compared to the national average of 11.2 percent. Alarmingly, Black youth are nearly twice as likely to be

disconnected as white youth, and Black young men are 1.5 times as likely to be disconnected as Black young women. This disconnection is a barrier to positive youth development and is exacerbated by the presence of risk factors such as substance abuse, violence, and delinquency.

As of the end of 2022, there were 693 juveniles in state custody in Louisiana. This statistic not only reflects the challenges faced by the state's youth but also the critical need for prevention programs that are inclusive and address the specific needs of racial and ethnic minorities. The state's juvenile justice system is actively seeking policy changes to manage facilities operating at full capacity and to improve delinquency prevention strategies, with a particular emphasis on reducing racial and ethnic disparities in treatment access.

To effectively promote positive youth development, Louisiana must prioritize initiatives that are evidence-based, culturally competent, and inclusive of all youth, regardless of their racial or ethnic background. These initiatives should aim to reduce risk factors and bolster protective factors, thereby ensuring that all youth, especially those from marginalized communities, have the opportunity to develop into healthy, educated, and productive adults.

- **Community-Based Programs and Services**

Louisiana's juvenile justice system is facing challenges in providing effective community-based programs and services to address juvenile delinquency. Local detention centers play a crucial role in the state's strategy to manage juvenile offenders and prevent further delinquency. According to recent data, Louisiana operates seven juvenile prisons and has thirteen parish jails for juvenile detainees. These facilities often hold offenders until they are assigned to a state facility, but they are not designed for long-term housing or providing rehabilitative programs.

The local detention centers are experiencing capacity issues, with many operating at or near full capacity. This situation is exacerbated by labor shortages and the lack of suitable housing or services for juveniles, particularly in converted facilities like the one at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola. The overcrowding in local detention centers highlights the urgent need for more robust community-based services that can offer alternatives to incarceration and support the rehabilitation and positive development of youth.

Furthermore, data reveals that there are 364 males in secure care and 368 in nonsecure care, as well as sixteen girls in secure care and 2,386 in community-based supervision. There are also thirty-five offenders awaiting secure care and thirty-two awaiting placements with nonsecure care. These figures underscore the critical role of community-based services in supporting positive youth development and preventing juvenile delinquency.

Louisiana must continue to strengthen and improve its community-based programs and services to effectively serve its youth and address juvenile delinquency. The state's juvenile justice system is working on policy changes to better manage facility capacities and enhance delinquency prevention strategies. These efforts are particularly important in Louisiana, where there is a focus on addressing the racial and ethnic disparities in treatment access, ensuring equitable support for all youth. By prioritizing early intervention and prevention strategies, Louisiana can reduce

delinquency rates, promote public safety, and foster a more just and equitable society for its young population.

- **Mentoring, Counseling and Training Programs**

Louisiana's juvenile justice system recognizes the critical role of mentoring in supporting youth and preventing delinquency. However, the state faces challenges in implementing effective mentoring programs that meet the needs of at-risk youth. Despite the proven benefits of mentoring, such as improved academic performance, lower dropout rates, and reduced involvement in the juvenile justice system, access to quality mentoring programs remains uneven across the state.

Recent data indicates that Louisiana's youth, particularly those from underserved communities, lack sufficient access to mentoring resources. This gap in services is more pronounced in areas with higher rates of poverty and crime, where mentoring programs could have the most significant impact. The state's efforts to expand mentoring opportunities are hindered by limited funding, a shortage of trained mentors, and a lack of programmatic infrastructure to support long-term, sustainable mentoring relationships.

To address these issues, Louisiana must prioritize the expansion and enhancement of mentoring programs, focusing on areas with the highest need. This includes securing additional funding, recruiting and training a diverse pool of mentors, and establishing robust support systems to ensure the effectiveness and longevity of mentoring relationships. By strengthening mentoring initiatives, Louisiana can better support its youth and create a more equitable and just juvenile justice system.

- **Compliance Monitoring:**

Louisiana Compliance Monitoring Violations			
Year	DSO	Separation	Jail Removal
2020	21	0	11
2021	21	2	26
2022	20	1	55

In the State of Louisiana, compliance monitoring under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) has revealed a pattern of violations that raise significant concerns. Despite consistent efforts, there has been a notable lack of improvement in adhering to the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) requirement, with twenty-one violations in both 2020 and 2021, and a slight decrease to twenty in 2022. The State has generally maintained compliance with the age separation requirement, with zero violations in 2020, but a slight increase to two in 2021 and one in 2022, indicating a need for continued vigilance.

The most alarming trend is the sharp increase in jail removal violations, which increased from eleven in 2020 to fifty-five in 2022. This surge suggests systemic issues within the juvenile justice system that require immediate attention to ensure that juveniles are not inappropriately detained in adult facilities, and that they are relocated to juvenile facilities within the required time frame.

The data underscores the urgency for Louisiana to address these compliance challenges. Effective strategies must be implemented to reduce DSO violations, maintain the separation of juveniles from adult inmates, and drastically cut down on jail removal violations to uphold the core protections of the JJDP Act and ensure the safety and proper treatment of juveniles within the justice system.

- **Gender Specific Programs**

The juvenile justice system has historically been designed with male offenders in mind, leading to a significant gap in gender-specific services for female juveniles. Louisiana provides assurance that consideration will be given to and that assistance will be available for approaches designed to strengthen the families of delinquent and other youth to prevent juvenile delinquency. The SAG and LCLE are mindful that each child has unique needs and is therefore committed to addressing individual needs to include specific services to support prevention programs addressing the unique needs of girls, boys and individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities through programming.

- **Rural Area and Native American Programs:**

In Chapter 57 of the Louisiana Administrative Code, the distribution of funds requires that a percentage of a district's funding based on the state's crime rate must be used to fund programs that address issues in rural areas.

The LCLE staff and SAG continue to seek ways to encourage the Native American Tribes to use the funds to implement or enhance programs within the Tribes. In the past, due to the minimum allocated amount, eligible Native American Tribes have not accepted the Native American pass-through amount. In an effort to encourage the Louisiana Native American Tribes into considering the acceptance of an allocation for a proposed project, the LCLE staff has slightly increased the allocation set aside for Tribes and has had, to date, two meetings with representatives of the federally-recognized Tribes to explain the state's plan for its JJDP programs.

- **Use of Restraints:**

In 2013, Governor Bobby Jindal named the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) as the agency to determine juvenile detention and correctional facility standards. During this time, DCFS banned the use of restraints in juvenile detention centers and correctional facilities for all juveniles.

Louisiana has eliminated the use of abdominal restraints, leg and ankle restraints, wrist restraints behind the back, and four-point restraints on known pregnant juveniles, unless credible, reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff, or others; or reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and credible risk of escape that cannot be reasonably minimized through any other method.

- **Alternatives to Detention:**

Louisiana passed a House Bill 158 requiring all juvenile detention facilities, including facilities owned or operated by any governmental, profit, nonprofit, private, or public agency, to be licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services in accordance with rules promulgated by the Department. Starting July 1, 2024, the Office of Juvenile Justice will then be responsible for licensing all juvenile detention facilities in the state.

State law prohibits any juvenile detention facility from detaining a child who is alleged to have committed a delinquent act for any of the following purposes or reasons, except when the child is charged with the commission of a serious offense or has a history of adjudications based on prior serious offenses: (a) To punish, treat, or rehabilitate the child. (b) To allow the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian to avoid the parent's, guardian's, or legal custodian's legal responsibilities relative to the child. (c) Solely to satisfy a demand made by a victim, law enforcement, or the community that a child be detained. (d) To facilitate further interrogation or investigation. (e) To facilitate further assessment or evaluation. (f) The unavailability of a more appropriate facility.

Furthermore, a detention screening instrument shall be administered for any child placed in secure detention when taken into custody without a court order for alleged commission of a delinquent act. With regard to the detention screening instrument, the law does all of the following: (a) Requires the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Statewide Leadership Collaborative (the JDAI Collaborative) to support the statewide implementation of detention screening instruments and the training process and requirements for those persons who will utilize the instruments. (b) Requires detention screening instruments to assess the child only to determine the child's risk to public safety while a current arrest is pending and the risk of failure to appear in court for the pending case. (c) Requires the detention screening instrument to be selected from tools that are being utilized as of January 1, 2019, by local jurisdictions in the state. Further provides that a detention screening instrument being utilized by a jurisdiction is sufficient to satisfy requirements of new law. (d) Requires a copy of the completed detention screening instrument to be provided to the juvenile detention facility for any child who is admitted to its custody and requires the facility to keep a record of the results of the instrument and other specified information.

IMPLEMENTATION (SERVICES and ACTIVITIES)

Projects are funded at both the local and state level. Goals 1 and 2 will be achieved through projects funded at the local level while Goals 3, 4, and 5 are funded at the state level.

The LCLE staff and SAG works with eight local law enforcements planning districts (LEPD) which are designated statutorily to assist the designated State's Administering Agency (LCLE). These eight LEPD are divided by geographic area. Each LEPD has its own council whose representation includes law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and non-profit organizations that provides services to juveniles and victims. Funds awarded to the State are distributed to each LEPD on a formula-based percentage. This formula is updated every ten years after the U.S. Census is

released. Each LEPD's percentage is based on the population and crime statistics within their respective districts. Louisiana provides an equitable distribution of the assistance received within the state, including in rural areas. This occurs through the creation of the law enforcement planning districts throughout the state. This information, in conjunction with youth crime analysis data, helps inform the funding decisions made.

Law Enforcement Planning Districts/Councils

District 1	Northwest Law Enforcement Planning Agency, Inc.	12.20%
District 2	North Delta Law Enforcement Planning District, Inc.	10.09%
District 3	Red River Delta Law Enforcement Planning Counsel, Inc.	9.59%
District 4	Evangeline Law Enforcement Council, Inc.	10.28%
District 5	Capital District Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.	19.31%
District 6	Southwest District Law Enforcement Planning Council, Inc.	10.11%
District 7	Jefferson CJCC and Metropolitan District (METLEC)	17.79%
District 9	City of New Orleans Office of Criminal Justice Coordination	10.63%

NOTE: The formula was revised upon release of the 2020 U.S. Census Report.

The SAG implemented a policy to restrict the award amount for a project funded at the district level. "Each district cannot allocate its funds to a project less than the lowest allocated amount to a law enforcement planning district." For example: If the lowest LEPD's allocation is $25,000, the remaining LEPDs cannot allocate any project under $25,000. Using the LEPD formula percentages to allocate funding based on the federal award received, each LEPD will only be able to fund one project; thus, a total of eight projects will be funded at the local level. This method is more beneficial to address a smaller number of projects to adequately address issues with more funding than to have several projects with minimal funding.

Projects are funded for no more than three (3) twelve-month project periods. Projects that do not meet the stated goals and objectives at the end of Year 2 are not funded for the final twelve-month project period. Louisiana has strong internal fiscal controls and fund accounting procedures to ensure prudent use of intended funding, proper disbursement, and accurate accounting of funds received under this title.

Each district submits a plan outlining the needs of their area. These plans are forwarded to the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement for review. The need areas of the state are then chosen to address the needs of the districts. The Juvenile Justice Specialist, with assistance from the State Advisory Group, will complete the Three-Year Plan with the need areas outlined in the District reports. The law enforcement planning districts advertise the council's allocation for potential eligible applicants pursuant to the JJDP Act. Each LEPD then chooses the potential project that is an evidence-based program or practice and will address the state's problem statements, goals and objectives. Potential applicants must demonstrate in their application how their project will help achieve the state's plan, its activities/services, time line of activities/services, location and time of

services, estimate number of juveniles and/or families to be served, and how the project is coordinated with other agencies within their community.

The provided services encompass a spectrum of delinquency prevention initiatives, including but not limited to, school and community-based programs, substance abuse education, and behavioral interventions. These efforts are complemented by counseling services, both individual and group, as well as mental health assessments, treatment, and discharge planning. Additionally, programs offer age-appropriate educational support through tutoring and mentoring, alongside strategies to prevent truancy, suspension, and expulsion. Community service and substance abuse intervention programs further reinforce a commitment to youth rehabilitation. Programs also deliver specialized programs for female offenders, focusing on family dynamics and parenting skills.

LCLE staff and SAG members are actively pursuing strategies to motivate Native American Tribes to apply allocated funds towards initiating or improving tribal programs. Historically, the nominal allocation has led to a lack of acceptance of the pass-through funds by eligible Tribes. To address this, the LCLE has modestly increased the funding reserved for Tribal projects and has conducted two meetings with representatives of federally-recognized Tribes to discuss the state's JJDP Plan and encourage participation.

Project activities funded at the state level will ensure the State's compliance of the core requirements of the JJDP Act.

1. Efforts will target Program Area 21 to mitigate Racial and Ethnic Disparities. Initiatives will extend beyond the ongoing development of a statewide infrastructure for RED Reduction. Utilizing the latest RED assessment, staff will identify and prioritize jurisdictions following OJJDP guidelines. The RED Reduction Model will be implemented in these selected areas, with continuous monitoring and evaluation to track their advancement.

2. Activities planned for Program Area 27 are dedicated to enhancing the Juvenile Justice System. These include organizing a two and a half-day Governor's Conference to train an estimated 400 professionals in the juvenile sector statewide. Additionally, staff will offer supplementary training as required and engage both national and local experts to share insights and guide the adoption of the latest evidence-based models and best practices. These efforts aim to address challenges faced by youth, their families, and the juvenile justice system.

3. To fulfill mandates for Program Area 19, the Compliance Monitor will ensure adherence to the separation, jail removal, and deinstitutionalization standards for status offenders. This will involve systematic on-site evaluations of one-third of all juvenile detention facilities annually, including law enforcement offices, detention and correctional centers, and court holding areas, to achieve complete inspection coverage over three years. Additionally, we offer training and technical assistance to facilities upon request.

4. Planning and Administration activities include, but are not limited to, performance of administrative duties, evaluation, and monitoring functions as mandated by the JJDP Act

of 2002. LCLE staff, along with the SAG, will continue to promote the exchange of ideas between agencies that provides services to youth. We seek opportunities to provide forums for the exchange of unifying the coordination of efforts among the various components of programs and services for youth.

5. Activities under Program Area 32, State Advisory Group Allocation, include, but are not limited to, work in conjunction with LCLE staff in accordance with the JJDP Act; review and recommend approval of funding to eligible recipients; conduct committee and subcommittee meetings as needed; submit annual report to the Governor; and, provide and attend needed training. The SAG allocation will not exceed five percent, of funds received by the state under Section 222 (other than funds made available to the State Advisory Group under section 222(d)) that the State will reserve for expenditure by the State to provide incentive grants to units of general local government that reduce the caseload of probation officers within such units.

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Louisiana's juvenile justice system is comprised of three major components: law enforcement, courts, and corrections. Each of these components has options in which they can handle/treat a juvenile with whom they come in contact. There are several factors that determine how a juvenile offender is handled by Louisiana's juvenile justice system. When these factors emerge at various points of contact, they impact decisions regarding how to best support mistreated juveniles. Authorities may choose to either caution and release the alleged juvenile offender or involve them in the formal juvenile justice system.

Contact between the juvenile and the juvenile justice system can be initiated in one of three ways. A complaint and/or referral are received by juvenile authorities about the treatment of a juvenile; juvenile authorities receive a complaint about the alleged illegal activity of a juvenile, or a law enforcement officer observes illegal activity on the part of a juvenile. Each component of Louisiana's juvenile justice system has options as to how they handle/treat a juvenile in need of assistance or a juvenile offender.

The structure of Louisiana's juvenile court system is comprised of designated Juvenile Courts, District/Parish Courts, and City/Municipal Courts. Article 116 of the *Louisiana Children's Code* defines a juvenile court and a juvenile court judge as follows:

- A juvenile "Court" is defined as any city, parish, district, or juvenile court, or its judge, when exercising juvenile jurisdiction. A judge of a mayor's court, or a justice of the peace, is not included.

- A juvenile "Judge" is defined as the judge of a court exercising juvenile jurisdiction (as defined above).

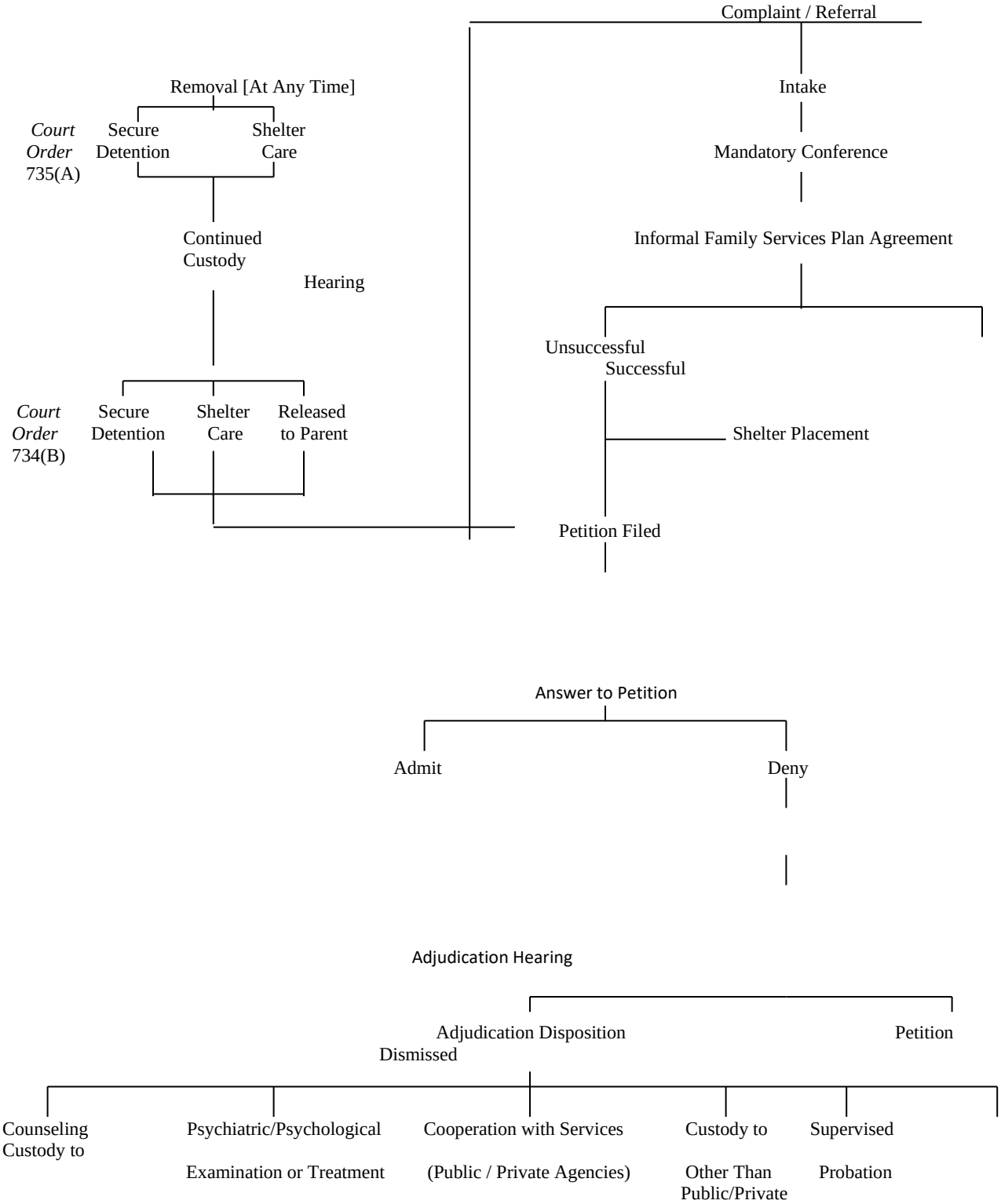
How a juvenile "flows" through the system depends on the manner in which the juvenile is brought to the attention of the juvenile authorities in his/her parish of residence. Only children ages ten to sixteen are dealt with as delinquents. Children under ten are addressed through the Families in

Need of Services (FINS) Program, a parallel system for children who have committed status offenses. Youth who have reached their seventeenth birthday are tried as adults for criminal or traffic offenses. (Louisiana State Constitution Article 5, Section 19). As of April 19, 2024, youths aged 17 who commit misdemeanor and felony grade offenses are now to be considered adults.

The options available to law enforcement and the courts vary depending on which process is chosen to handle the juvenile. If a complaint/referral is received alleging the juvenile is in need of assistance, and if a determination has been made that the juvenile in question has suffered serious harm, or is in imminent danger of suffering serious harm, the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services is statutorily charged with intervening on the juvenile's behalf.

The first point of contact for delinquency cases is with law enforcement, which includes three divisions: State Police, Parish Sheriff's Offices, and City Police Departments (including Campus Police). Any of these agencies can take part in the initial contact with a juvenile. If a complaint of criminal activity on the part of a juvenile is reported to a law enforcement agency, or if a law enforcement officer self-initiates action against a juvenile, several decisions can be made at this level ranging from counsel and release to formally charge the juvenile which could lead to secure confinement. In some jurisdictions, the officer can refer the juvenile to one of the service network providers (e.g., FINS, substance abuse treatment, etc.), or use a more formal approach and refer the juvenile to the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ), the District Attorney's Office, or seek detention or shelter care. Some jurisdictions, particularly in the larger cities, require the juvenile offender be taken to an intake unit or the designated juvenile court. See flow charts on next pages:

Chart 1
Louisiana Juvenile Justice System
Families in Need of Services [FINS]



Parent
Agency

Chart 1 shows the options available to the juvenile, the family and the FINS officer, once the FINS process has begun. Removal (whether detention or shelter care) may occur at any time during this process; the juvenile may also be placed in secure detention for contempt of valid court orders.

Chart 2

Louisiana Juvenile Justice System

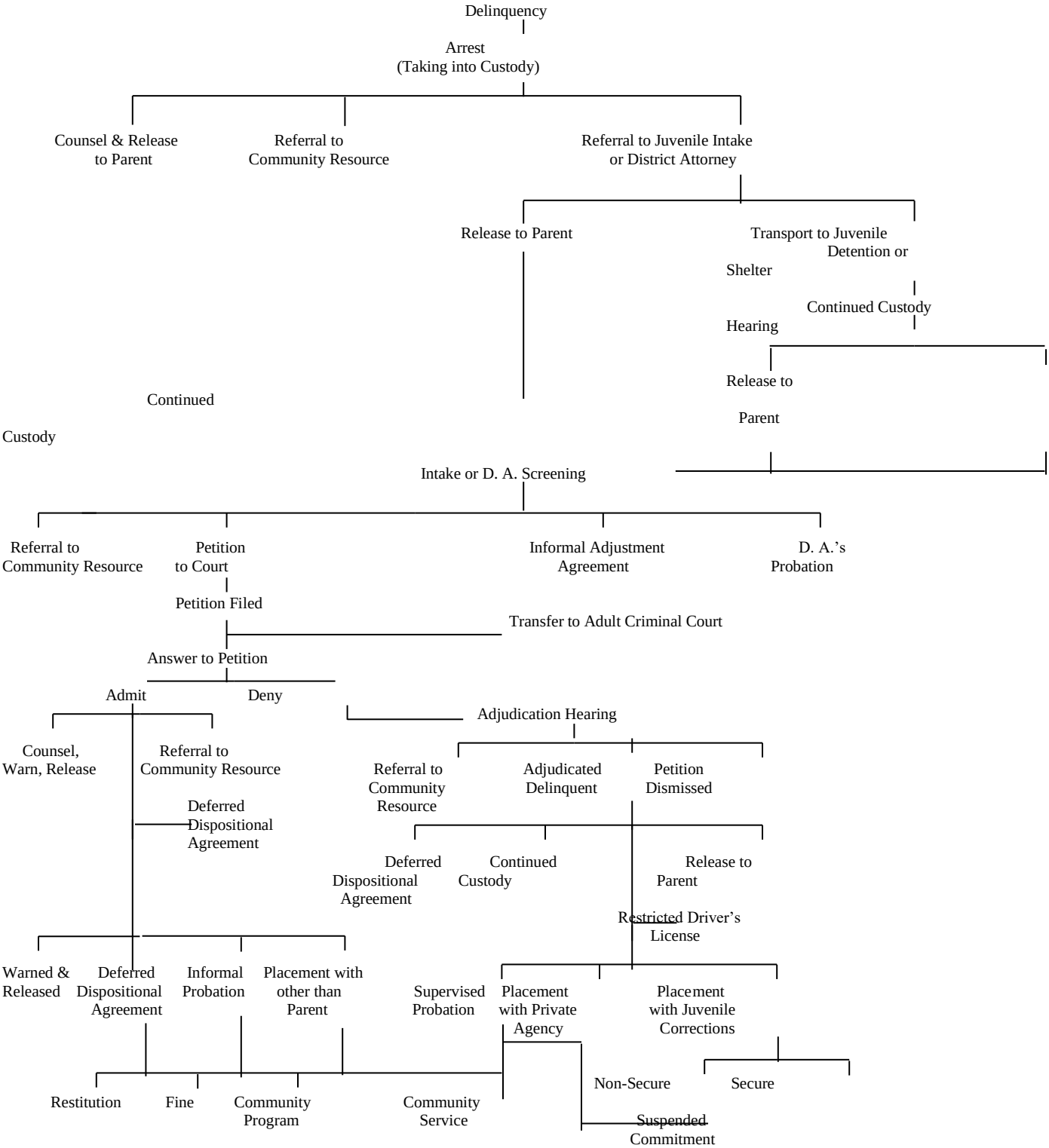


Chart 2 illustrates the many options available in the juvenile justice system once a juvenile is taken into custody. Once again, many factors such as prior record, severity of offense, or family situation may impact the decision as to which "path" the juvenile will take in the process

SERVICE NETWORKS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Louisiana Kids' Dashboard – Children's Cabinet

The Children's Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB) was created under Louisiana RS 46:2605. The purpose of the advisory board is to provide information and recommendations from the perspective of advocacy groups, service providers, and parents. The Board consists of statutorily authorized representatives from state agencies, advocacy groups, and the community.

The Board is responsible for recommendations to the Children's Budget, a separate section of the General Appropriation Act enacted by the Legislature. The Children's Budget includes a compilation and listing of all appropriations contained in the Act which fund services and programs for children and their families.

Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program (RSAT) – The RSAT Program assists states and local governments to develop and implement substance abuse treatment programs in state and local correctional and detention facilities, and to create and maintain community-based aftercare services for offenders. The goal of the RSAT Program is to break the cycle of drugs and violence by reducing the demand for the use and trafficking of illegal drugs. RSAT enhances the capability of states and units of local government to provide residential substance abuse treatment for incarcerated inmates; prepares offenders for their reintegration into the communities from which they came by incorporating reentry planning activities into treatment programs; and assists offenders and their communities through the reentry process through the delivery of community-based treatment and other broad-based aftercare services.

RSAT funds may be used to implement three types of programs: residential, jail-based, and aftercare. At least ten percent (10%) of the total state allocation is made available to local correctional and detention facilities—provided such facilities exist—for either residential substance abuse treatment programs or jail-based substance abuse treatment programs.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Office of the Attorney General has several programs and services intended for children and parents under the Safe Schools Initiative:

1. Cyber Safety

The High-Tech Crime Unit and Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force is designed to keep youth safe online.

2. The Know More Program

Know More is a series of educational resources aimed at giving teens a guide to successfully navigate the many social pressures that exist as a young adult. Each edition of the series is intended to create an open dialogue about the risks and consequences associated with engaging in activities that teens often encounter.

Source: https://www.ag.state.la.us/

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Department of Education has several divisions and programs that are especially pertinent to the needs of youth who are experiencing some type of difficulty. These divisions/programs include, but are not limited to the following:

Division of Family Career and Technical Education provides high school students with career education and training that prepares them for immediate entry into the workforce, job training or postsecondary education. Eight program areas of study are offered to students and more than 200 courses that will allow them to pursue a career endorsement upon high school graduation. Dual enrollment programs allow high school juniors and seniors to earn college credit and acquire higher-level knowledge and skills by enrolling in college-level courses at local technical, community and four-year colleges, as well as work skills courses at Louisiana Technical College campuses.

Source: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/courses/all-things-jump-start

Office of Federal Programs Support provides those ancillary educational services that can be of benefit to the state's population, but often are not perceived as directly related to traditional K-12 education. These services include the following:

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards.

- Migrant Education programs address the special educational needs of migratory children.

- Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (Title IV) provides drug and violence prevention programs that are essential components of a comprehensive strategy to promote school safety, to reduce the demand for and use of drugs, and to create learning environments that support academic achievement for all students.

- School Transportation is a state mandated effort to provide safe, efficient transportation for riders of the state's 7,800 school buses.

- Nutrition Support Programs are designed to provide nutritious, wholesome, balanced meals and snacks for eligible children and adults, which is fundamental to enabling an optimal environment in which learning and development can occur.

- Parental Involvement Programs foster family literacy initiatives that are an integral part of every program within this office.

Division of Nutrition Assistance has a broad perspective of all Child Nutrition Programs. It provides leadership to the sponsors of the Child Nutrition Programs by supporting the Department of Education's goals and further provides the financial entitlement to maintenance and improvement of the health and nutrition of the children of Louisiana through the implementation of nutritionally adequate, educationally sound, financially accountable school food service and other Child Nutrition Programs. The Division of Nutrition Assistance administers the following programs authorized by the Child Nutrition Act of the United States Department of Agriculture:

- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast Program
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (center-based and home-based)
- Summer Food Service Program
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- Special Milk Program

Source: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/public-schools/nutrition

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HOSPITALS

The Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) manages and delivers the services and supports necessary to improve the quality of life for citizens with mental illness and addictive disorders.

The agency acts as monitors and subject matter consultants for the Coordinated System of Care contract and the Bayou Health plans, which manage specialized behavioral health services. OBH also delivers direct care through hospitalization and has oversight of behavioral health community-based treatment programs through the human services districts and authorities. Services are provided for Medicaid and non-Medicaid eligible populations.

OBH was created by Act 384 of the 2009 Louisiana Legislative Session which directed the consolidation of the offices of addictive disorders and mental health into the Office of Behavioral Health effective July 1, 2010, in order to streamline services and better address the needs of people with co-occurring mental illness and addictive disorders. Department of Health and Hospitals' work in implementing Act 384 was guided by stakeholders and leaders in the behavioral health

field from across Louisiana who sat on the department's Office of Behavioral Health Implementation Advisory Committee.

Office of Behavioral Health Guiding Principles:

- This office aims to make a difference in the lives of adults and children in Louisiana.
- People who receive proper care and a supportive environment can recover from mental illness and addiction.
- OBH services respond to the needs of individuals, families and communities, including culturally and linguistically diverse services. The office respects the dignity of individuals, families, communities, and the workforce that serves them.
- Individuals, families and communities will be welcomed into the system of services and supports with a "no wrong door" approach.
- Through a cooperative spirit of partnerships and collaborations, the needs of individuals, families and communities will be met by a workforce that is ethical, competent and committed to the welfare of the people it serves.
- OBH will utilize the unique skills of professionals with appropriate competencies, credentials and certifications.
- Mental illness and addiction are health care issues and must be seamlessly integrated into a comprehensive physical and behavioral health care system that includes primary care settings.
- Many OBH services recipients suffer from both mental illness and addiction. As the office provides care, the staff must understand, identify and treat both illnesses as primary conditions. This system of care will be easily accessible and comprehensive, and will fully integrate a continuum of prevention and treatment services to all age groups. It will be designed to be evidence-based, responsive to changing needs, and built on a foundation of continuous quality improvement.
- OBH will measure results to demonstrate both improved outcomes for the people served and fiscal responsibility to taxpayers.
- OBH will prioritize de-stigmatizing historical biases and prejudices against people with mental illness and substance use disorders, and those who provide services, through efforts to increase access to treatment. The office will do this by reducing financial barriers, addressing provider bias, integrating care and increasing the willingness and ability of individuals to seek and receive treatment.

Source: http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/94/n/113

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) serves as the Single Point of Entry (SPOE) into the developmental disabilities services system and oversees public and private residential services and other services for people with developmental disabilities.

OCDD conducts an assessment of people who request services to determine the person's eligibility for system entry. Eligibility is based on the definition of developmental disability contained in Louisiana R.S. 28:451.1-455.2. The human services districts/authorities serve as the points of entry for individuals to receive services.

Source: http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/132/n/133

Office of Behavior Health – Mental Health Services provides statewide authority and accountability for all behavioral healthcare, including mental health treatment services, for Louisiana citizens. This includes coordinating between other agencies and partnering entities that deliver and manage components of care for the behavioral health population, both insured and uninsured (e.g., Medicaid, human services districts/authorities, etc.). Legislation mandates that the local administration of the Louisiana behavioral healthcare system, including both community and residential services, is operated by independent health care districts or authorities (also referred to as local governing entities or LGEs). The Office of Behavioral Health maintains two state psychiatric hospitals at Central Louisiana State Hospital (CLSH) in Pineville, LA, and the Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System (ELMHS) in Jackson, LA.

Local Mental Health Programs

Crisis Management: The Office of Behavioral Health contracts for a 24-hour crisis counseling toll-free phone line to provide a quick, appropriate response for individuals experiencing acute distress. Additional services operated by the human services districts and authorities include telephone counseling and referrals, face-to-face screening and assessment, community housing for stabilization, and crisis respite.

Day and Psychosocial Rehab: These programs emphasize social and vocational skills, and provide opportunities for teaching new rehabilitative skills related to community living and work activities. Day and Psychosocial Rehab Programs within the human services districts and authorities build networks of peer support, teach self-help community activities, and provide a place where individuals can learn how to relate to others and communicate their needs and desires successfully. These programs provide secure, structured environments where people experiencing disruption in routine behaviors brought on by their illnesses can receive treatment and support, reducing the frequency and duration of hospital stays. Day programs also provide structured activities that allow children and adolescents with severe emotional disturbances to remain in school.

Family Support Services: These programs are operated by the human services districts and authorities to ensure that families have the necessary support, information and skills to cope, maintain family integrity, and enhance the likelihood that children who have serious emotional disturbances can successfully remain at home. Program elements include respite care, education, telephone support, parent support groups, parent case manager training, home aide services, transportation, and advocacy services. OBH also offers supported living services, either through specialized residential programs or through case management and other services that support people with mental illnesses living in their own homes. Individuals who have serious psychiatric disabilities are provided with the services necessary to address their housing and mental health/rehabilitative needs. The types of housing resources available for adults include group homes, supervised apartments, respite apartments, board and care homes, foster care, and individual residences with support.

Mental Health Treatment Facilities

- Behavioral Health Clinics: The local governing entities are currently treating adults and children with serious mental illnesses or emotional disturbances through clinics throughout the state. These behavioral health clinics provide a variety of services, including screening and assessment, emergency crisis care, individual evaluation and treatment, medication administration and management, clinical casework services, specialized services for children and adolescents, specialized criminal justice services, specialized services for the elderly and pharmacy services. Inability to pay does not affect receipt of services.

Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities: OBH operates two state psychiatric facilities that provide mental health evaluation, treatment and rehabilitation services for adults who have severe and persistent mental illnesses.

The OBH Hospital Program currently consists of:

- Central Louisiana State Hospital (CLSH)

- Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System (ELMHS)

- The hospital program provides care to individuals in need of adult civil intermediate (90-180 days) treatment, adult acute (<30 days) treatment, adult forensic services, and adult competency restoration. Community based group home placements are available through grants and contract providers.

- Acute Units: The Office of Behavioral Health contracts with various private and public hospital acute units to provide psychiatric, psychosocial and medical services in compliance with all licensing and accreditation standards to meet individual patient needs for adults, children and adolescents in an inpatient treatment environment that is less restrictive, shorter term and more cost-effective than long-term hospitalization. These units are closely linked to community-based services and support networks so patients can return to their homes faster and with greater continuity of care.

Source: http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/97/n/116

Office of Public Health (OPH) is responsible for the public health of the citizens of Louisiana. The Office of Public Health works to prevent epidemics and the spread of disease in Louisiana; protects Louisiana citizens against environmental hazards, prevents injuries from occurring to Louisiana citizens, promotes and encourages healthy behaviors in Louisiana citizens and responds to disasters and assist Louisiana communities in recovery. Nine sub-offices, Community and Preventive Health, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health, Health Promotion, Meaningful Use, Population Health Informatics, Primary Care and Rural Health, and Vital Records make up the OPH. For the purpose of this application, focus will be on the Centers for Community and Preventive Health.

Center for Community and Preventive Health conducts a variety of programs and services designed to improve public health measures in Louisiana. Programs and services this center offer through the DHH Office of Public Health include screenings, health needs assessments, laboratory testing services, infectious disease reporting and nutrition programs.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

The Department of Children and Family Services (formerly Department of Social Services) provides for the public child welfare functions of the state and administers the federal grants for services directed at meeting the special needs of Louisiana's most vulnerable citizens. Programs and Services: Child Welfare Services encompasses a number of services and programs, all designed to help meet the needs of families and children. They are listed below:

- Adoptive and Foster Care
- Adoption Services
- Adoption Reunion Registry is a registry established by the Department of Children & Family Services to facilitate voluntary contact between adult adoptees, their birth parents and/or siblings.
- Petition Services staff conduct investigations of all independent adoptions including stepparent, grandparent, one parent, and non-relative adoptions to determine the availability of the child and the suitability of the adoptive home, including reporting to the courts the findings of these investigations and assisting the families in obtaining revised birth certificates.
- Adoption Services seeks adoptive home placement of children who are in the Department of Children & Family Services to facilitate voluntary contact between adult adoptees, their birth parents and/or siblings.
- Out-of-State Certification
- Foster Care provides substitute, temporary care (e.g., foster family home, residential care facility, etc.) for a planned period of time when a child must be separated from his own parents or relatives.
- Child Protection and Family Services
- Child Protection Investigations on child abuse and neglect and provision of short-term concrete service to children and families
- Family Services are social services, which are provided to families and children in their own homes in order to address problems of abuse/neglect and promote the safety of the children within the family unit.

Programs for Children:

- Child Care Assistance Program provides assistance to parents to help pay for the childcare they need to work or attend school or training.
- Head Start Collaboration Project is designed to increase effective linkage between Head Start Grantees and State agencies and includes the principle of serving the whole family as the key strategy for improving developmental, social and economic conditions for low-income children.

- Child Care and Development Funds sets forth the criteria for operation of the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).
- Support Enforcement Services places the primary responsibility for support of children on their non-custodial parent(s) in an attempt to reduce the children's dependence on public assistance.
- Child Support Pay Inquiry for child support payment records.

Programs for Families:

- Kinship Care Subsidy Program provides cash assistance for eligible children who reside with qualified relatives other than parents.
- Electronic Transfer of delivering Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) and Food Stamp benefits to recipients.
- TANF State Plan sets forth the criteria for operation of the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP)
- Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program provides temporary cash assistance to families in need
- Food Stamp Program provides monthly benefits that help low-income households buy the food they need for good health.
- Strategies to Empower People Program (STEP) assists FITAP recipients with educational, training, and work-related activities designed to lead to employment and self-sufficiency.

Programs for All

- Individual Development Account Program (IDA) matched savings account program for low-income families seeking to purchase their first home.
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) – the nation's largest tax credit for low to moderate-income workers.
- Disability Determinations Services provides benefits to disabled individuals under Title II (Disability Insurance Benefits) and Title XVI (Supplemental Security Income)

Starting on July 1, 2024, the Office of Juvenile Justice will be responsible for licensing all local juvenile detention centers. All detention centers will receive temporary licensing until a complete evaluation of their facility can be conducted by the Office of Juvenile Justice.

Source : http://www.dss.louisiana.gov/

OTHER

Families in Need of Services (FINS) is a pre-court early intervention program for children and families of children who are truant, ungovernable, runaways, or who exhibit other types of self-destructive behavior, and to restrain any action of his parent or caretaker which contributes to these behaviors of the child. Its purpose is to bring relevant agencies together to formulate a plan before

the juvenile's case goes to court. If the plans developed in the FINS process are successful, fewer cases will go to court and fewer juveniles will be adjudicated.

Allegations that a family is in need of services must assert one or more of the following grounds (Louisiana Children's Code Article 730):

- That a child is truant or has willfully and repeatedly violated lawful school rules.
- That a child is ungovernable.
- That a child is a runaway.
- That a child has repeatedly possessed or consumed intoxicating beverages, or that he has misrepresented or deceived his age for the purpose of purchasing or receiving such beverages from any person, or has repeatedly loitered around any place where such beverages are the principal commodities sold or handled.
- That a child has committed an offense applicable only to children.
- That a child under ten years of age has committed any act which if committed by an adult would be a crime under any federal, state, or local law.
- That a caretaker has caused, encouraged, or contributed to the child's behaviors enumerated in this Article or to the commission of delinquent acts as defined in Title VIII.
- That after notice, a caretaker has willfully failed to attend a meeting with the child's teacher, school principal, or other appropriate school employee to discuss the child's truancy, the child's repeated violation of school rules, or other serious educational problems of the child.
- That a child has been found incompetent to proceed with a delinquency matter under Article 832 et seq.
- That a child is found in possession of a handgun or semi-automatic handgun under circumstances that reasonably tend to exclude any lawful purpose.
- How a FINS program operates depends on the jurisdiction involved. In some jurisdictions, the FINS programs are operated through the court, while in others the court has designated another party – usually the district attorney – to house the FINS program. There are three principal features of FINS process: (1) the authority of the court to intervene even though the child is not delinquent and the parent has not violated any duty imposed by the Children's Code, such as failure to pay child support, abuse or neglect, or misdemeanors enacted for the protection of the child; (2) the authorization of the consensual process for the resolution of parent-child disputes under the supervision of the court; and (3) the responsibility of the court to insure that services provided by public agencies are made available to meet the needs of the family.
- The FINS process includes:
- Screening/Intake that often includes resolution by referral to a service agency; by developing a case plan contract; by a one-on-one conference with a student, etc. Sixty percent of the cases/referrals reach resolution at this level.
- If resolution is not reached at the screening level, the case is referred to the interagency committee. This committee, with assistance from the family, identifies the needs of the family, identifies the available community resources, and develops a case plan.
- If compliance is not achieved at the community level, the case is referred to the court for disposition.

- Refer to the previous section for Chart 1 Families in Needs of Services Flow Chart.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The State Advisory Group (SAG) has established funding priorities of #5 Community-Based Programs and Services, #6 Delinquency Prevention, #12 Mental Health Services, #14 Positive Youth Development, #19 Compliance Monitoring, #21 Racial and Ethnic Disparities, #27 Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement, #28 Planning and Administration; and #32 State Advisory Group.

Purpose Area #5 Community-Based Programs and Services

GOAL: Enhance the effectiveness and accessibility of community-based programs and services to prevent juvenile delinquency and support positive youth development.

OBJECTIVES:
- Expand the availability of community-based mental health and substance abuse treatment programs for at-risk youth by 25% over the next three years.
- Develop and implement outreach initiatives to ensure that at least 90% of eligible youth and their families are aware of and can access community-based support services.

Purpose Area #6 Delinquency Prevention

GOAL: To fund comprehensive juvenile delinquency prevention programs that meet needs of the youth through collaboration of local systems.

OBJECTIVES:
- To fund at least three projects in this purpose area that consist of parental involvement.
- To fund at least two projects in this purpose area that involve community partnerships.
- To fund at least one project in this purpose area that involves law enforcement.

Purpose Area #12 Mental Health

GOAL: To increase access to mental health services by funding programs that identify and treat behavior health concerns at the earliest opportunity.

OBJECTIVES:
- To increase mental health services.
- To fund at least one mental health projects that utilizes multidisciplinary treatment teams.

Purpose Area #14 Positive Youth Development

GOAL: To promote the holistic development of youth by fostering environments that support their social, emotional, ethical, physical, and cognitive growth.

OBJECTIVES:

- Increase the availability of after-school and summer programs that focus on skill-building, mentorship, and recreational activities ensuring that these programs are accessible to youth in underserved communities.
- Implement a continuous improvement process for all youth programs, incorporating regular feedback from participants and their families to ensure programs are meeting their needs and fostering positive outcomes.

Purpose Area #19 Compliance Monitoring

GOAL: To maintain compliance with the jail removal, sight and sound separation, racial and ethnic disparities and deinstitutionalization of status offenders.

OBJECTIVES:

- Implement an electronic data collection system.
- Conduct at least two JJDP training sessions at juvenile officer academies.
- Continue on-site monitoring visits to measure compliance with the core requirements.

Purpose Area #21 Racial and Ethnic Disparities

GOAL: To increase data collection ability of our agency and reduce disparities among the contact points in the juvenile justice system.

OBJECTIVES:

- To reduce disparities among the contact points of arrest and pretrial detention of youth of color in five parishes.
- To increase diversion cases for youth of color and reduce the disparities in this area.
- To increase data collection in at least two of the five contact points.

Purpose Area #27 Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement

GOAL: To implement statewide programs that increase the knowledge and capability of juvenile justice employees.

OBJECTIVES:

- To hold an annual juvenile justice conference.
- To hold an annual School Resource Officer training for new and veteran SROs.

Purpose Area #28 Planning and Administration

GOAL: To improve statewide coordination and collaborative planning.

OBJECTIVES:

- Staff will work with the Governor's Office to ensure that the SAG remains in compliance with membership requirements.
- Staff will monitor changes to federal laws and statutes that will impact the juvenile justice system and report them to the State Advisory Group.

Purpose Area #32 State Advisory Group

GOAL: To plan use of SAG allocated funds to assist in effective performance of duties and responsibilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- To maintain a state advisory group that represents the requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.
- Work closely with the staff of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Governor's office and provide insight and sound advice on funding decisions related to juvenile justice.
- Hold committee and subcommittee meetings to address particular issues the SAG has prioritized.
- Review and approve applications that are eligible for funding to ensure these programs meet best practice standards.
- Support travel and per diem cost of members to attend meetings and trainings.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE DATA

The Federal Program Purpose Area's mandatory performance (outputs and outcomes) measurements and at least two non-mandatory (output and outcome) measurements were added to the Egrants System. Prior to the release of the state's funding solicitation, the juvenile justice specialist reviews each Federal Program Purpose Area's performance measures via the Data Reporting Tool for updates and makes the necessary changes/additions.

When an applicant applies for funding, they must choose the appropriate Federal Program Purpose Area(s). Once the application is approved, the Egrants System automatically lists the required performance measures to be completed by the subgrantee. The subgrantee is required to report each performance measurement in their quarterly program report. The juvenile justice specialist compiles each subgrantee's quarterly program reports and enters the data into the JustGrants website. Once all the subgrantees' performance data is entered, the juvenile justice specialist submits the State's Annual Performance Report via JustGrants by December 31st of each year.

a. DESCRIPTION OF GATHERING AND SHARING INFORMATION AND DATA

In an effort to reform and restructure the juvenile justice system and to improve the availability and quality of programs and services available to assist juveniles who are at risk of becoming part of the system, as well as those who are already involved in the juvenile justice system, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act established Interagency Agreements for Information Sharing Concerning Juveniles. This interagency effort helps gather comprehensive data and actively shares and disseminates data to those agencies responsible for making informed decisions regarding the treatment, care, security, and rehabilitation of juveniles within the state. The sharing and integration of appropriate data and information relating to child protection, delinquency, families-in-need of services, and other concerns provided in the *Louisiana Children's Code* may have numerous benefits for the children and families involved in the juvenile justice system, as well as for the state and local juvenile justice agencies attempting to provide services for them. Not only can such data and integration serve the best interests of the child and family, contribute to higher levels of effectiveness in service delivery and have greater efficiency and productivity, it eventually leads to reductions in the costs of juvenile justice services by reducing redundant data entry, expediting the processing of cases, and contribute to better performance and greater accountability by all involved parties. Procedures have been established to protect the rights and privacy of all individuals participating in these programs are kept private. All agencies that contract with LCLE are compliant with HIPAA and other relevant laws related to information sharing and privacy concerns.

The following agencies are involved in facilitating agreements regarding the sharing of information of juveniles: the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Health and Hospitals, the Department of Education, The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the Department of Labor, Courts exercising juvenile jurisdiction, Offices of District Attorneys, Law Enforcement Agencies, Schools, Truancy Assistance Service Centers, Families-in-Need of Services Offices, Indigent Defender Boards and other juvenile justice agencies.

Pursuant to Section 223(a) (28) of the JJDP Act, the State assures that juvenile offenders whose placement is funded through Section 472 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 672) receives the protections specified in Section 471 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 671), including a case plan and case plan review as defined in Section 475 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 675).

Louisiana does not have a central point from which juvenile justice information and data can be obtained and shared. Each agency, whether state or local, has its own system. Juvenile justice information, such as currently released reports, available funding from other sources, and juvenile-related trainings, will be received and shared via attendance at meetings, from mail or email, or by visiting another agency's website. Many state agencies follow the routine practice of making their reports available from their websites.

Depending on the information obtained, the juvenile justice specialist will determine who will receive the information. Information is disseminated to the SAG members, subgrantees, and/or other individuals employed by the state or local agency. For example, if information is received that would benefit judges; the juvenile justice specialist will forward the information to the coordinator of the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. SAG members will

forward information to the juvenile justice specialist for dissemination and will discuss the information at their regularly scheduled meetings. The Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) program coordinator is invited to provide a report on the EUDL-funded projects to the SAG members at its regularly scheduled meetings. This will allow the EUDL coordinator and the juvenile justice specialist to coordinate activities between both programs and ensure that no duplication of services occur within the State.

Information on proposed and approved legislative laws (both State and Federal) that would affect the juvenile justice system is disseminated to SAG members at each regularly scheduled meeting. The makeup of the SAG members allows them to return to their communities to disseminate and share the information learned within their profession. Any local or state agency can follow and obtain any new Acts or revisions to Acts via the Louisiana Legislature's website. The SAG's Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature provides juvenile crime data, problems and needs, funding recommendations.

Individuals, local and state agencies can attend scheduled meetings of the Juvenile Justice Implementation Commission and listen to each agency report on their progress on the Juvenile Justice Reform Act.

One of the most accurate methods of collecting data is through direct contact with an individual agency or with a counterpart in that agency. Often counterparts have an understanding of how data are collected and utilized in his agency and their expertise could be instrumental in evaluation needs or progress made to meeting and solving problems found in the juvenile system.

BARRIERS IN GATHERING AND SHARING INFORMATION AND DATA

Specific barriers include: system compatibility between state and local levels, funding to upgrade antiquated systems, and training and developing research-oriented personnel who are knowledgeable in the collection and interpretation of data.

There are also non-specific barriers to information sharing, such as different contacts with the same parish may collect and interpret the same data in different ways. For example, this week five juveniles may be "sent" to juvenile court and the district attorney counts them as five referrals. The court may choose to place two of them under informal adjustment agreements and then adjudicate the other three through the formal court process, complete with a disposition. The clerk of the court could then record only three juveniles as being referred to juvenile court, because under his/her definition all referrals must include adjudication. Depending on who is contacted, a data researcher can come up with two valid yet different answers to his query about how many juveniles were sent to court this week.

Louisiana will develop an adequate research, training, and evaluation capacity within the state. We will consult with local units of government, state and federal agencies to develop research and evaluation services.

Coordination of State Efforts

State Efforts to Promote Youth Development

Louisiana's juvenile justice system is a network of interrelated local, state, public and private agencies, and institutions designed to prevent and address juvenile delinquency. The State's primary goals are to reduce and prevent juvenile delinquency in Louisiana by supporting programs and strategies that are either innovations grounded in research or evidence-based practices. Programs funded through this award encompass the major needs of Louisiana that include the development of programs that, divert youth from the justice system when appropriate, reduce delinquency and recidivism, provide training for juvenile professionals, and assist youth service providers. It is important to provide services to youth prior to entering the juvenile justice system and include coordinated efforts among several systems to assist the youth in making wiser decisions and develop creditable behaviors.

Coordination of State Agency with Non-Justice System Agencies

Coordination among state agencies helps build stronger relationships and increased communication with stakeholders and other state agencies to enhance service delivery. Service coordination addresses the needs of the youth, with options allowing progressive movement throughout the system. Improved coordination streamlines and consolidates juvenile information. The Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE) is the central agency in the state's juvenile justice system network. LCLE can link its network of service providers so agencies can best serve juveniles and their families. Louisiana's State Advisory Group (SAG) has special knowledge of the juvenile justice system and come from many different agencies. The group meets on a quarterly basis. The SAG also promotes community partnerships and delinquency prevention programs that address the development of educational, training, research, prevention, diversion, treatment and rehabilitative programs in Louisiana's Juvenile Justice System.

LCLE uses Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to establish partnerships between agencies. The Interagency MOUs established express a common purpose of data and information sharing among the agencies and allow agencies to take advantage of statistics, reference material, and other juvenile information. MOUs ensure that all parties are in agreement of their partnership roles. These partnerships outline decisions based on data collected by both agencies. These frameworks also allow other partners to join in and contribute to coordination efforts.

In an effort to enhance coordination and overall consistency of data collection, LCLE has utilized funds from the award to promote improved data collection. This data can be shared among state and local juvenile justice agencies throughout the state.

LCLE also works in coordination with the Annie Casey Foundation to promote the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives (JDAI). This initiative is a collaborative effort that will give the state another valuable data cache from which agencies can access valuable information. It was found that there was too much emphasis on detention as a punishment which was becoming widespread in Louisiana. With the help of local juvenile detention centers throughout the state, an emphasis has been placed on finding other options to correct delinquent juvenile behavior. JDAI

has proven to be effective in helping participating detention centers safely reduce their detention populations. The data from these efforts is collected and analyzed in quarterly meetings to determine the effectiveness of the efforts utilized. This information is used to define a clear and well-targeted population for services and develop a broad array of services to meet the different needs of the juvenile population.

Every year the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Family and Youth Counseling Agency hold a three-day conference on Juvenile Justice issues and other relevant matters. The Louisiana Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice offers professionals serving youth the opportunity to learn about best practices and challenges to prevent delinquency, strengthen the juvenile justice system, and protect children. Currently, there is no other statewide conference on juvenile justice committed to support programs and activities that improve outcomes for youth. The conference is coordinated by practitioners that understand the need for professional training and technical assistance. The Louisiana Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice focuses on the latest research, developments, and challenges facing our field today. Attendees learn about emerging challenges, interventions and solutions to better serve youth. The conference offers training opportunities to increase coordination, knowledge and better outcomes for youth. In addition, participants also receive innovative information introducing new trends and issues that impact the core work of juvenile justice agencies and state holders.

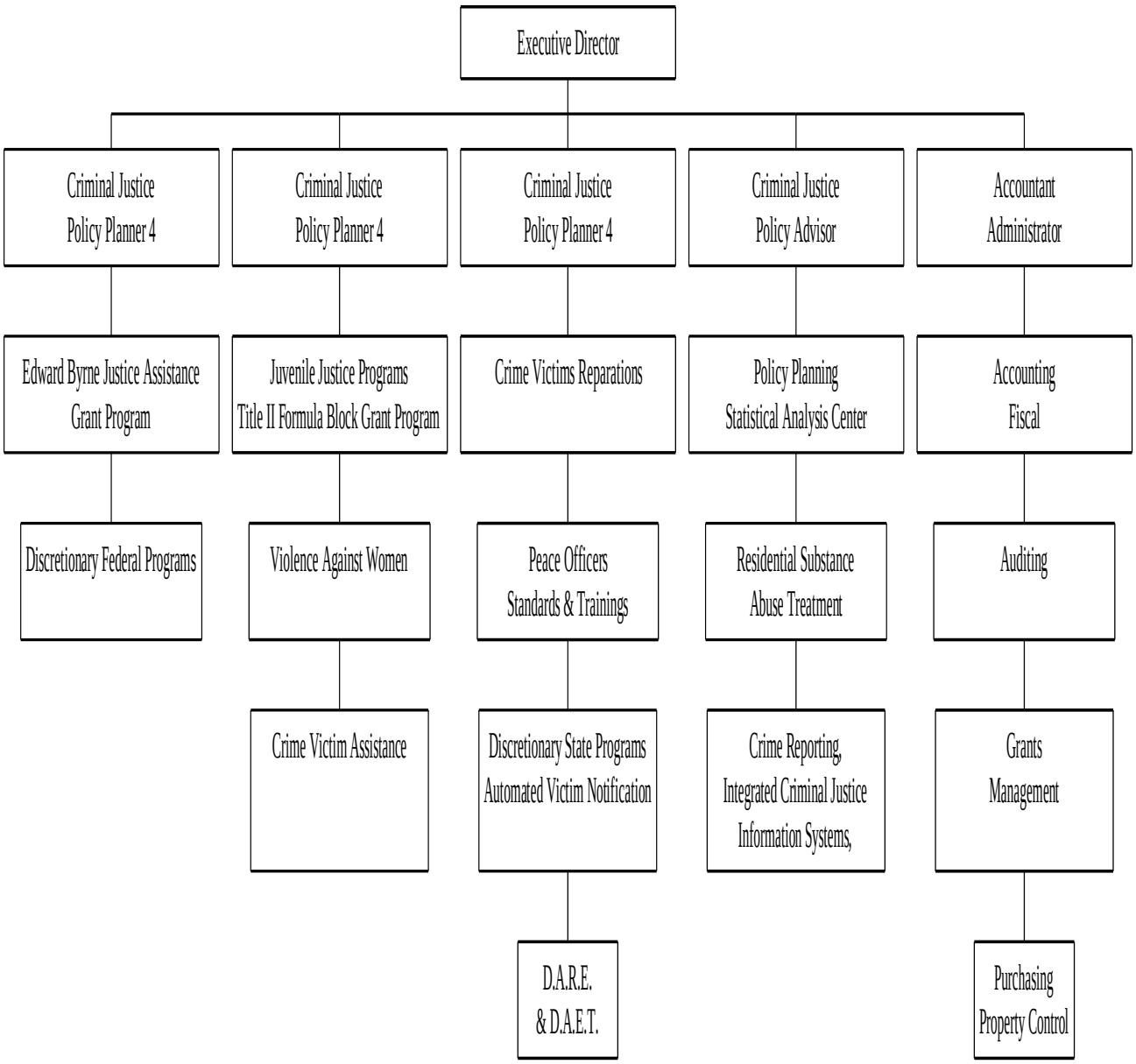
LCLE has recently partnered with the Louisiana Supreme Court in an effort to increase our capacity at collecting statewide juvenile court data. We are currently exploring all available avenues to increase the amount of data provided to LCLE from all courts that deal with juvenile matters.

Plans to Improve Coordination and Joint Decision Making

To effectively combat delinquency, Louisiana must improve coordination between agencies. Louisiana must identify the strengths and weaknesses in coordination efforts. The coordination recommendation should also come from the communities that the agencies serve by regularly seeking comments, recommendations, and opinions from communities and juveniles in the juvenile justice system. Louisiana must continue to strengthen the relationships between agencies. Agency representatives must meet regularly so that all parties in the juvenile justice system are working on one accord.

FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM STAFF

LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



OTHER PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

A.	Federal Programs
1.	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program
2.	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant
3.	Crime Victim Assistance
4.	Crime Victims Reparations
5.	Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant
6.	Firearm Background Enhanced Data Sharing Implementation (FBCI)
7.	National Criminal History Improvement Program
8.	Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act
9.	Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program
10.	Sexual Assault Services Program
11.	S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women
12.	Other Discretionary Federal Programs

B.	State Programs
1.	Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E)
2.	Act 832 / D.A.E.T.
3.	Peace Officer Standards and Training Program (POST)
4.	Crime Victims Reparations
5.	Innocence Compensation Fund
6.	Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Program
7.	Truancy Assessment Service Centers Program

C.	Information Systems
1.	Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS)
2.	Law Enforcement Management Information System (LEMIS) (LIBRS)
3.	Louisiana's Uniform Crime Reporting Program (LUCR)
4.	NICS Records Improvement Program

D.	Policy Planning
1.	Louisiana Sentencing Commission
2.	Statistical Analysis Center
3.	Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse
4.	Children's Advocacy Clearinghouse

STAFFING AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Formula Grants, along with matched state funds, fund the following positions at the percentages shown.

		Formula Program	State Funding
I.	**Program Staff**		
	Demetrius Joubert, Juvenile Justice Specialist	50.00%	50.00%
	Demetrius Joubert, Compliance Monitor	50.00%	0.00%
	Rutha Chatwood, Federal Programs Section Manager	8.00%	15.00%
II.	**Administrative Staff:**		
	Jim Craft, Executive Director	2.00%	2.00%
	Whitley Williams, Human Resource Director	2.00%	2.00%
	Lisa Dreher, Administrative Assistant 5	2.00%	2.00%
	Verna Hamilton, Executive Staff Officer	2.00%	2.00%
III.	**Computer Staff**		
	Anthony Myles, IT Technician	0.00%	2.00%
IV.	**Grants Staff:**		
	, SAC	3.00%	3.00%
	Raymond Vincent, JDAI/RED State Coordinator	3.00%	3.00%
	Martha Addison, Grants Manager	3.00%	3.00%
	Melanie Vick, Contracts/Grants Reviewer 3	3.00%	3.00%
	Roxanne Langston, Contracts/Grants Reviewer 2	3.00%	3.00%
V.	**Fiscal Staff:**		
	Toyette Hudson, Accountant Administrator	3.00%	3.00%
	Latoya Paul, Accountant Manager	3.00%	3.00%
	Nakira Scott, Accountant 3	3.00%	3.00%
	Kaitlyn Cooley, Accountant 2	3.00%	3.00%
	Ashlei Johnson, Auditor 3	3.00%	3.00%

DESCRIPTION OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SPECIALIST DUTIES

Performs administrative-level planning, policy development and decision making for the Title II Formula Block Grant (Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention - JJDP) Program under the broad supervision of the Executive Director and Criminal Justice Policy Planner 4. Plans, organizes and directs all phases of program operation for the federal JJDP Program. Accomplishes complex policy and planning activities for the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement related to short- and long-range plans by local units of government, state agencies, and private nonprofit agencies relative to systems, problems and needs, goals/objectives, and service delivery for law enforcement, juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs.

Serves as staff to the SAG and primary staff person for the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement regarding the JJDP Grant Program. In this capacity, recommendations are made to the Board regarding the allocation and expenditure of annual federal awards and approval/disapproval of funding for statewide programs for the SAG. Coordinates all meetings, conferences, etc. sponsored by the SAG. Prepares agendas, reports, and all other related documents for such meetings.

Collects, analyzes and interprets statistical and programmatic data for the development of an Annual State Plan as mandated by the federal JJDP Act, by the Legislature and/or by the Governor.

Reviews all allocation requests and subgrant application requests, both federal and state, to determine if they meet the needs as defined in the applicable State Plan.

Develops funding priorities based on results of State Plan data, federal and state laws and policies. Maintains existing and develops new program briefs based on funding priorities.

Oversees and supervises the Compliance Monitor on statewide on-site monitoring visits of Louisiana jails, adult and juvenile correctional facilities, jails and lockups, and juvenile detention centers to ensure compliance with core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and the Louisiana Children's Code.

Maintains agency database of juvenile programs funded; reports specified data on programs to federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Establishes internal and external policies and procedures to ensure compliance with Federal rules and regulations relative to eligibility, receipt, expenditure, and accountability for JJDP Grant funds.

Prepares for and participates in visits from federal program specialist. Plans and makes selected on-site program review of subgrantee agencies for the purposes of monitoring and evaluation.

Provides expert technical assistance to agency personnel, criminal justice field offices, subgrantees, etc. regarding the JJDP Grant Program.

Oversees the selection of software for use by this section. Oversees computer operations, data gathering, data entry, and the preparation of reports prepared for the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, SAG, Division of Administration, Legislature, and other public and private entities.

Directs and oversees the activities of the eight criminal justice planning field offices regarding the JJDP Grant Program.

Meets with public and private officials relative to the JJDP program. Statewide travel is required, as well as out-of-state travel. Makes oral reports/speeches/presentations to agencies involved in law enforcement, education, and the JJDP program. Represents Louisiana at national and state conferences.

Other duties as directed by the Criminal Justice Policy Planner 4 or Executive Director.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY PLANNER SECTION MANAGER DUTIES

Has overall responsibility for administration of several Federal and State programs administered by the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement which have the primary goal of serving juveniles.

Have administrative-level oversight, planning, policy development and decision making for the Title II Formula Block Grant (Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention – JJDP) Program under the broad supervision of the Executive Director and Criminal Justice Policy Planner 4.

Analyzes program objectives, reviews current and long-range programs, plans and policies identifying and resolving areas of confusion or conflict. Certifies compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations of juvenile programs under the oversight of the incumbent. Oversees the activities of eight criminal justice regional planning offices in their activities relating to programs under the oversight of the incumbent.

Related duties may include but are not limited to, the following:

Coordinate with the Fiscal and Grant Administration Sections regarding issues on federal and state juvenile programs.

Oversee the tracking of grant-related information and agency databases.

Respond to requests from the Division of Administration, both the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees and other state legislative committees regarding federal and state juvenile programs.

Monitor legislation affecting incumbent's part of the juvenile sectors of the justice system.

Devise plans of action to ensure that program funds remain at the highest possible levels to continue quality services to the juvenile justice community.

Meet with officials of Federal, state and local agencies, legislators, professional organizations, etc., in matters and issues relating to the office and the juvenile justice system.

Directs the preparation of special reports. Directs and formulates rules and regulations.

Other duties as directed by Executive Director or Criminal Justice Policy Planner 4.

DESCRIPTION OF THE JJDP COMPLIANCE MONITOR DUTIES

Researches applicable federal and state statutes and regulations, Commission and Board policies and other relevant material pertaining to criminal and juvenile justice policy areas. Provides training and consultation to judges, law enforcement personnel, and any other juvenile justice-related organizations and agencies with regard to compliance with the *Louisiana Children's Code* and the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Conducts statewide on-site monitoring visits of Louisiana jails, adult and juvenile correctional facilities, jails and lockups, and juvenile detention centers to ensure compliance with core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquent Prevention Act and the *Louisiana Children's Code* and keeps the JJDP Advisory Board abreast of the visits.

Collects, analyzes and interprets statistical and programmatic data for the development of good detention standards, objective detention criteria, intake screening mechanisms, and detention alternatives and to maintain files of this information for the purpose of sharing this data with localities and agencies interested in pursuing these programs.

Meets with, provides information to, and assists local officials on a regular basis when needed to develop solutions to jail removal problems, placing special emphasis on areas identified in the annual monitoring report.

Maintain current information on detention centers and shelter facilities throughout the state and develop working relationships with administrators.

Along with the Juvenile Justice Specialist Serves as staff to the SAG in developing policies and procedure for addressing jail removal issues and other juvenile justice issues and distributes information regarding the SAG's role in the state, grant funding available, policies and procedures for obtaining grant funds, etc.

To be available to work with state agencies, organizations, legislators, and other policy makers in the development of programs and funds in the area of juvenile justice.
Promote the development of good detention standards, objective detention criteria, intake screening mechanisms, and detention alternatives.

Prepares procedures and forms necessary to successfully monitor and evaluate detention centers, jails and lockups.

Maintain data regarding local contracts and meetings, difficulties encountered, resolutions attempted, and successful programs developed to address jail removal issues.

Plans and coordinates, under supervision, specific tasks associated with annual reports as required by federal agencies, such as Compliance Monitoring Report and Crime Analysis.

Learns and utilizes software for the purpose of analyzing data and tracking compliance monitoring data and other projects as assigned and the preparation of reports prepared for the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, JJDP Advisory Board, Division of Administration, Legislature, and other public and private entities.

Coordinate training as needed for personnel involved in alternative programs.

Performs other duties as assigned by the Juvenile Justice Specialist, Criminal Justice Policy Planner or Executive Director

Travel: Extensive statewide travel is required, as is occasional out-of-state travel to pertinent conferences, workshops and trainings.

Other duties as directed by the Juvenile Justice Specialist, Criminal Justice Policy Planner 4 or the Executive Director.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT DUTIES

Serves as administrative assistant to the juvenile justice specialist and SAG.

Performs the following duties with a minimum of supervision:

On own initiative: pulls appropriate file records, routes to appropriate staff members; composes and types correspondence on routine matters for signature of agency management; prepares letters and other communications to members of the SAG, members of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, the Louisiana Congressional delegation, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and other correspondence as directed.

Establishes and maintains program files and records. Prepares preliminary responses to requests for information for approval by supervisor. Relieves professional staff of all routine clerical functions.

Arranges, prepares for, and coordinates meetings of the SAG. This includes, but is not limited to logistics of meetings, meeting room reservations, conducts registration desk activities when necessary, and attends all meetings, records and transcribes minutes of meetings in accordance with established agency procedures.

Assists the SAG and the sections professional staff in the preparation and coordination of the annual Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DUTIES

Administrative Staff:

Overall responsibility for all fiscal activity, purchasing, grants management, auditing, financial reporting, payroll and cost allocations and other fiscal functions such as property control, record retention, safety and fleet management. Office Coordinator: Primarily responsible for daily purchasing function to procure supplies, equipment and services for entire agency. Also responsible for property control, record retention, and employee safety program and automobile fleet management.

Computer Staff

1. Provides and maintains network for use by agency program staff including email capabilities, Internet, and file server.
2. Maintains workstation hardware and software.
3. Provides help desk support.
4. Performs backup of agency network files nightly. Maintains proper file storage of electronic tapes.

Fiscal Staff

In general, the fiscal department is responsible for the following:

1. Properly record all accounting transactions relative to grant reimbursements, purchasing activities, payroll processing and cost allocations, etc.
2. Provide financial statements and reports to agency management on a monthly basis.
3. Maintain and follow established financial internal control to protect the assets of the agency.
4. Perform other duties such as bank reconciliation; draw down of Federal funds through LOCES system, annual budget preparation, and recording of Means of Financing from various statutory dedicated and self-generating funds.
5. The auditor reviews audit reports submitted by sub-recipients and performs on site visits to review financial and performance activities.

Grants Staff

Grants staff primary duties are as follows:

1. Issuing of awards to sub recipients and properly recording all grant administration activities into the Grants Management Information System (GMIS)
2. Processing of all expenditure requests, special requests (advances), grant adjustments, ensure special conditions are met prior to release of funds.
3. Communicate with sub-recipients to resolve budget discrepancies, delinquent reporting and other administrative efforts required to process grant transactions accurately, timely and in accordance with federal grant guidelines.
4. Prepare and submit Federal quarterly status report