Pinal County Juvenile Court Services

 Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

Group Home Arrests
The department began tracking physical arrests from group homes. In 2016, 22 youth had been physically arrested; 80% were disrupted from placement, 65% were youth of color, and 60% were dependent in counties outside of Pinal.

Cenpatico informed our Juvenile Justice Strategic Planning (JJSP) group of a new placement stabilization service for dependent youth provided by Empact-LaFrontera.

W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI) provided RRED training and identified data-related tasks regarding ALOS for dually involved youth of color.
June 2017

PCSQ reached out to Juvenile Court and called a meeting to discuss the high volume of calls they were receiving from group homes.

2 group homes had called 911 more than 50 times in a 6 month period. Most calls were related to behavioral issues and not immediate safety concerns. PCSO was concerned that group home staff were not adequately trained to de-escalate behaviors and were misusing police resources.

We reached out to DCS licensing to share our concerns and asked them to participate in meetings and trainings with group homes.
August 2017

We reviewed our arrest data from 2016 and 2017, collected 911 call data from PCSO, and compiled data reports with call types, case information, frequency of calls/arrests, and other data specific to the group homes with high 911 call and arrest rates.

We met with the PCSO lieutenant over San Tan Valley and the PCSO lieutenant over Casa Grande to discuss the targeted group homes.

We hosted a collaborated meeting with PCSO, Cenpatico and Empact-LaFrontera to share data and discuss group home concerns and possible solutions.

September 2017

Pinal County Sheriff’s Office (PCSO) hosted collaborative meetings with the 2 group homes who had the most 911 calls and physical arrests.

### PCSO 911 Calls by Group Home

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PCSO 911 Calls by Group Home

**Meeting Participants**

- PCSO lieutenants
- Group home management and staff
- Juvenile Court probation supervisors and research unit
- DCS Office of Licensing and Regulation
- Cenpatico
- Community members
- Empact-LaFrontera
Driving Group Home Meetings with Data

**Physical Arrests by Offense Type**

- **DV Assault**: 78%
- **Crim Damage**: 11%
- **DisCon**: 11%

**PCSOS 911 Calls by Call Type**

- DOMESTIC: 45%
- DV: 21%
- MEDICAL: 8%

**PCSOS 911 Calls by Call Times**

- 6pm to 10pm: 47%
- 10pm to 2am: 30%
- 2am to 6am: 10%
- 6am to 10am: 9%
- 10am to 2pm: 10%
- 2pm to 6pm: 9%

Subsequent and Preventative Training Efforts

JCS and PCSO developed a curriculum and created training packets for group home staff.

In collaboration with PCSO, we have since met with 8 Pinal County group homes to provide training on CYPM, JDAI, juvenile justice system, and law enforcement practices, review their data, review past cases, and provide resources.
Group Home Training Curriculum

- CYPM Overview
- Pinal County Group Home Data
- Juvenile Justice System Map
- JDAI Overview
- DSI Training
- Crossover Youth Case Timeline

Measuring Outcomes

69% decrease in the total number of group home arrests disruption rate from 2017 to 2019.
Questions?

Celena M. Angstead
Division Manager | Youth Justice Center
Pinal County Juvenile Court Services
1410 E. Diversion Dam Rd.
Florence, AZ 85132
T: (520)866-4010 | C: (520) 251-2109 | Email: CAngstea@courts.az.gov

ARIZONA JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

February 6, 2020
Mingus Mountain Academy

Empowerment Over Exploitation (EOE) Program for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)

Mingus Mountain Academy

- 152 Residential Level 1 and 2 Beds
- Specialty CSEC, Substance abuse, Self Harm/SI, Trauma – Average ACE score greater than 8/10
- Equine program
- Recent program changes – Positive Reinforcement Program
  - Less Coercive
  - Peer supports
  - Ukeru – reduced physical intervention
Education Services

• Accreditation -
  – Arizona Department of Education
  – North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, a division of AdvancEd

• 12 month school year
  – Middle School
  – High School
  – Remedial and Credit Recovery
  – GED
  – Vocational certification and Post Secondary Classes

CSEC FACTS

• Trafficking Victims Protection Act, a federal law passed in 2000
  – Any minor used for sexual acts, exploitation
  – Does not have to prove force or manipulation

• 60% of victims recruited by peers

• Runaways are generally approached within 48 hrs

• 1 in 7 Runaways reported being exploited

• Estimates of 300,000 children per year in US

• Arizona
  – Average entry age 14
  – Prior to shutting down backpage averaged 300 ads per day, estimates 25% were minors
Risk Factors

- A history of child sexual abuse, neglect or exposure to domestic violence.
- A family background in commercial sex.
- Poverty or family economic strain.
- An unstable home life, e.g., parental absence/neglect, multiple foster homes.
- Being a part of an ostracized, undocumented or stateless group, e.g., gender minority (LGBTQiv), racial minority (e.g., African American, American Indian/Alaska Nativev), or migrants.
- Substance abuse by youth or parent/guardians.
- Running away or truancy.
- Disengagement from school, e.g., not completing high school.
- Having low self-esteem or self-worth; a need for belonging, love and affection.

Questions?

David C. Dohm MS Ed.D LPC
Clinical Supervisor/Therapist
Mingus Mountain Academy
602-335-2040 - office
352-232-1741 – cell
Engaging Parents In Re-Entry
Family Engagement

- OJJDP 2018 Report – Family Engagement in Juvenile Justice

- 5 Features of a Transformed System Principles

- 5 Characteristics
Family Engagement

- Barriers
  - Family members considered outsiders
  - Lack of understanding the system
  - Structural or Attitudinal issues
- Visitation
Family Engagement

- ADJC Engaging Parents in Re-Entry Practices
  - Transition Starts Day 1
  - Relationship Building
  - Visitation and MDT meetings
  - Transition Planning finalization
Howard C Wykes
Deputy Parole Administrator / ICJ Administrator
hwykes@azdjc.gov
480-229-4831

Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections
www.azdjc.gov
(602) 364-4051