



2020 VIRTUAL YOUTH SUMMIT

EXECUTING OUR POWER INTO ACTION

SESSION 4: MENTORING & REENTRY

SEPTEMBER 9, 3:30 - 5:00 PM EST

WELCOME

AARON TOLEAFOA
CHAIR, EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE

DENNIS BEARD-HAMMOND
MEMBER, EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE





TREATMENT PLANS

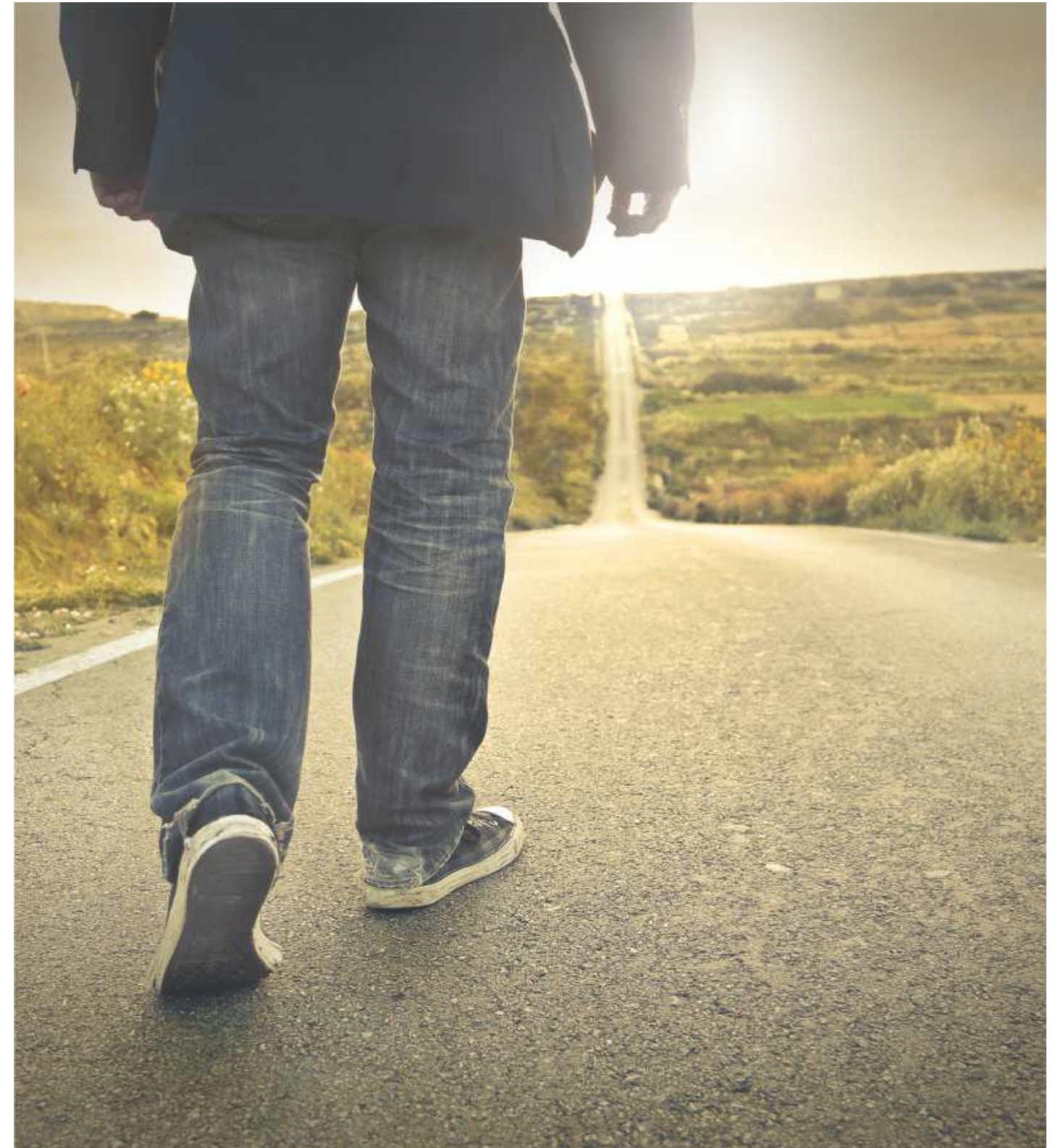
WHAT ARE TREATMENT PLANS?





WHAT CAN THE SYSTEM DO BETTER WHEN IT COMES TO TREATMENT PLANS?

REENTRY PLANNING



BARRIERS FOR SUCCESSFUL REENTRY

- Length of Incarceration
- Family
- Housing
- Employment
- Race





RECIDIVISM

- Barriers to reentry can increase likelihood of recidivism.
 - In many states, **80% of youth are rearrested within 3 years of release** ^[1].
 - A study in Los Angeles County examined the risks of recidivism for youth charged for the first time with a violent offense.
 - Approx. half of the youth had a subsequent arrest and the **risk of re-offending varied by disposition**. Compared with in-home probation, the likelihood of recidivism was 2.12 times greater for youths assigned to probation camps (secure setting) and 1.28 times greater for youths assigned to group homes. African American, Hispanic, and youth with open child welfare cases were also at an increased risk of recidivism ^[2].
- In order to reduce recidivism, we need to address the barriers that youth face when they reenter their communities.

[1] The Council of State Governments Justice Center. Reducing Juvenile Recidivism. (2014). Online. Available at <https://csgjusticecenter.org/publications/reducing-juvenile-recidivism/>.

[2] Joseph P. Ryan, Laura S. Abrams, Hui Huang, First-Time Violent Juvenile Offenders: Probation, Placement, and Recidivism, Social Work Research, Volume 38, Issue 1, March 2014, Pages 7–18, <https://doi.org/10.1093/swr/svu004>.

LENGTH OF INCARCERATION

BARRIERS

- Entering the system as a youth and leaving as an adult poses problems with transition into adulthood.
- Institutionalization: Acclimating to the incarcerated lifestyle making it difficult to adapt to the outside world.
- Support system in the community.
- Limited living arrangements.

SOLUTIONS

- Increase classes aimed towards job skills and independent living.
- Making independent living education part of the reentry plan.
- Support system built around juveniles releasing into the community after being locked up for 5+ years or 21 years or older.
- Increase the Reentry Housing Pilot Program.

FAMILY

BARRIERS

- Poor familial relationships can act as a barrier for youth who are still legally considered minors when exiting the youth justice system.
- Youth still dependent on family for support can have limited options for housing, financial support, and successful reentry opportunities when they have poor relationships with their families.

SOLUTIONS

- Family engagement programs while youth are involved in the youth justice system to improve relationships between youth and their families.
- Family counseling to address the tensions between youth and families.
- Exit pathway plan development that involves youth and families to increase support role of families in reentry process.



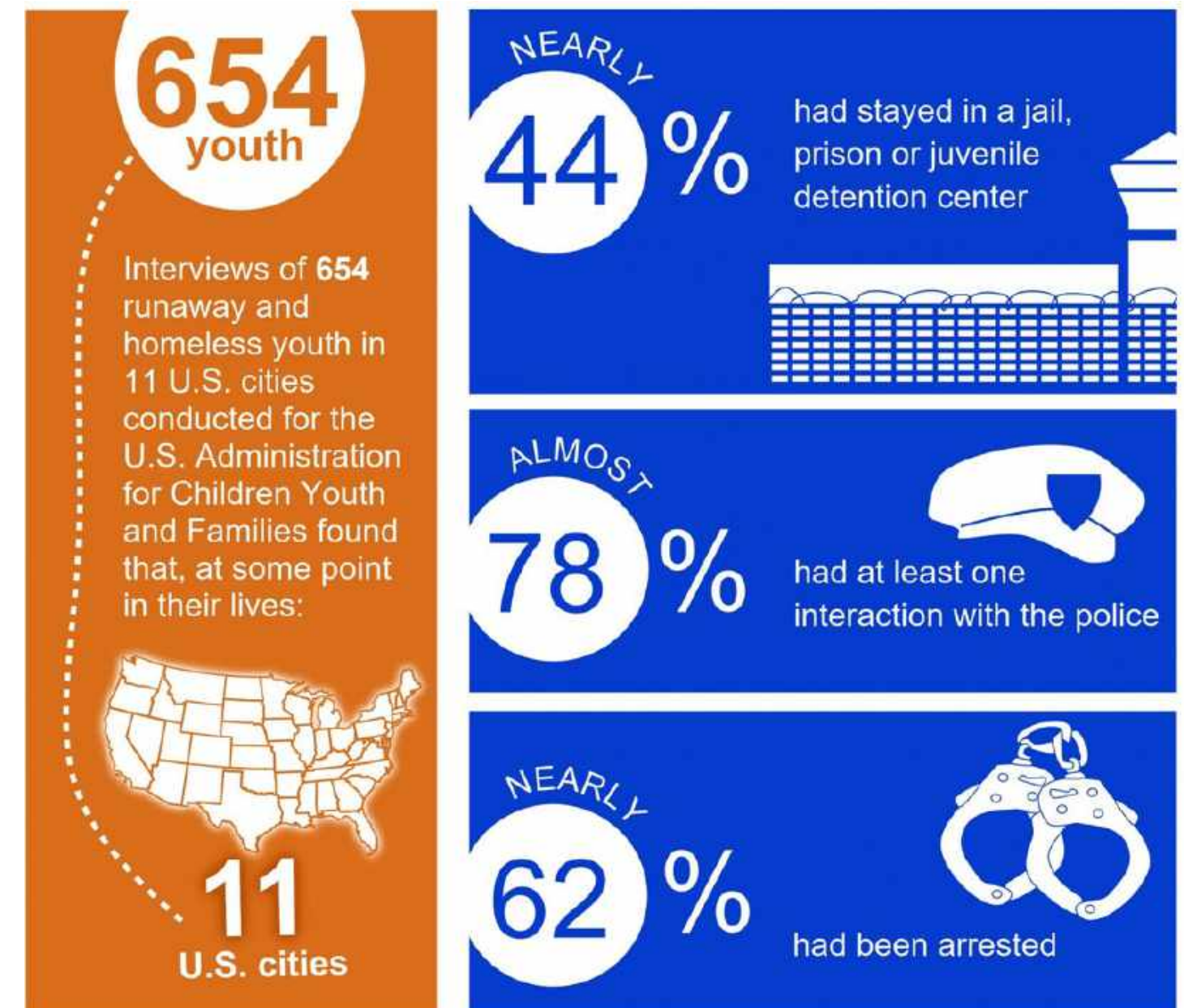
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

BARRIERS

- Restrictions on housing options due to criminal record.
 - Discrimination from landlords
 - Legal policies
- Homelessness: Youth often do not have stable housing options after involvement in the youth justice system. May not be able to go home due to housing policies or family conflict.

SOLUTIONS

- Programs and extensive reentry planning
 - Reentry programs that provides housing.
- Policy change and stakeholder support
 - Break the barriers of housing for youth.



NATIONWIDE LOOK AT EMPLOYMENT

In September 2019, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the National Reentry Resource Center released *"On Track: How Well Are States Preparing Youth in the Juvenile Justice System for Employment?"* **This report surveyed juvenile correction facilities in all 50 states on their delivery of workforce development.** The key findings are:

1

Most incarcerated youth are **not provided the workforce development services** necessary to obtain viable employment in the community after release.

2

Most state juvenile correctional **agencies lack the partnerships** needed to help incarcerated youth overcome barriers to obtaining viable employment in the community.

3

Most states **do not track key employment outcomes** for incarcerated youth while they are in facilities and after their release.



EMPLOYMENT

BARRIERS

- Little to no work experience upon release.
- 94% of organizations conducts one or more types of employment background screenings, with nearly all looking at criminal backgrounds [1].
 - Checking the “box” youth seeking jobs are restricted from employment opportunities earlier on in their careers than adults making it difficult to develop professional careers.
- License restrictions based on criminal history can make occupational licenses invalid for their training.

SOLUTIONS

- Increase vocational programs during and after system involvement.
- Advocacy (Example: Ban the Box Campaign).
- Partnerships with local employers to start an employment pipeline for system involved youth.
- Work release programs for system involved youth over the age of 18.
- Remove restrictions for commercial licenses.
- Eliminating barriers for public assistance.



RACE

BARRIERS

- Race is a big factor in gaining employment.
 - According to a survey done by Penn State, "A white applicant with a felony criminal background had equal callback opportunities as a black applicant without a criminal record."
- There are racial disparities in how reentry impacts youth of color and white youth, with youth of color being disproportionately hurt by the barriers that emerge with reentry when compared to white youth.

SOLUTIONS

- Educating employers on the statistics for race and employment.
- Diversity Pipeline: a support program developed to support people of color with their reentry needs.
 - Employment

My Brother's Keeper

The importance of Accountability in the Youth's life before entering the Juvenile Justice System, during the Juvenile Justice System and after entering out of the Juvenile Justice System

What is Accountability ?

- According to the BARJ Model, accountability means taking responsibility for your behavior and taking action to repair harm.
- Essentially, accountability is taking responsibility over your life

Factors That Influence an Adolescent Behavior

- There are many factors that influence an adolescent behavior, but for the purposes of this workshop we will focus on risk factors and protective factors from arranged in 5 different categories.
- Beliefs and Attitudes
- Family/Peer Relations
- Education
- Income
- Environment

Risk Factors and Protective Factors

- Risk Factors are the potential factors that predict a child to be put into the juvenile system
- Protective Factors are the potential factors that prevent a child from going into the Juvenile Justice System

The Importance of Family Accountability

- Family involvement is highly important for youth. However, it is an ongoing challenge to involve families in the juvenile justice system if they are not given the education, training, and support they need to help their child/children have positive outcomes. In addition, the rates of juvenile delinquency increase if the youth comes from a broken family home. When families are not involved the chances of the youth having positive outcomes and not reoffending are low. One of the goals to help youth that have are involved in the juvenile justice is to make sure the families are involved in the process.

The Importance of Accountability in School Institutions

- The school district is where youth spend majority of their time. Another goal is to ensure that school institutions are partnering with local juvenile justice programs, community programs, families, and law enforcement to make youth are not just being thrown into a juvenile detention center and optimizing school safety. School institutions need to focus on restorative justice and preventative programs.

School to Prison - Pipeline

- As the years go on more schools have moved towards a zero tolerance policy and implementing the broken mirror theory. This zero tolerance policy is causing students to be arrested, expelled, suspended, and placed in the juvenile justice system more than ever. The broken mirror theory emphasizes cracking down on small offenses in order to make students feel safer and discourage serious crimes. For example, talking back to teachers or skipping class (truancy) results in suspension. This approach is one of the reasons why more youth are taken into the juvenile justice system

The Importance of Juvenile Justice System Accountability

- Juvenile Justice System is supposed to be a behavioral support system to provide kids the resources they need in order to succeed and function in life. Making sure youth are being accountable throughout their involvement and treated fair is key to positive outcomes. Residential programs, lockdown facilities, case workers, and judicial court officers are critical to a youth success. The goal for juvenile justice accountability is to help youth develop responsibility for their wrong actions and prevent reoffending

The Importance of Friends Keeping You Accountable

- We must be very careful who we chose to be around and become friends with. Most of the time the people we hang with are the people we become. Throughout, my teenage years everyone I hung around was either on probation or always getting arrested. I feel into that same category. If someone really cares about you that will keep you accountable when you are doing wrong

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS





THANK YOU!



1629 K Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20006-
1631
(202) 827-9751
info@juvjustice.org



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