

Policy Orientation for the 81st Legislative Session

Juvenile Justice Reform from the Eyes of a Practitioner





Probation Works

- Commitments to the Texas Youth Commission have dropped 43% over the past three years
- Texas Commitments of youth now mirror those of Missouri and surpass Ohio
- Per Capita Arrest of Youth in Texas fell from 64 per 1,000 to 56 per 1,000 over the past five years

Dallas County Juvenile Department

Effects of Senate Bill 103

DISPOSITIONS

7/1/2006-6/30/2007

Type of Disposition	Number	
Adult Certification	37	
Deferred Prosecution	3061	
Determinate Sentencing	56	TYCD
NA	1451	
Probation	1615	
Probation With ISP	608	
Probation-Determinate Sentence	7	
Residential Placement	953	
Supervisory Caution	1796	
TYC	255	TYCI
Total TYC	311	

DISPOSITIONS

7/1/2007-6/30/2008

Type of Disposition	Number		Difference
Adult Certification	25		
Deferred Prosecution	3352		
Determinate Sentencing	19	TYCD	-37
NA	1449		
Probation	1363		
Probation With ISP	584		
Probation-Determinate Sentence	7		
Residential Placement	937		-16
Supervisory Caution	1279		
TYC	172	TYCI	-83
Total TYC	191		-120

ADMISSIONS TO FAMILY PRESERVATION PROG

7/1/2006-6/30/2007

Program	Admissions
IFPP-Intercept FPP	97
PROV-Providence FPP	90
Total	187

ADMISSIONS TO FAMILY PRESERVATION PROG.

7/1/2007-6/30/2008

Program	Admissions		Difference
EFPP-Eckerd FPP	20		20
IFPP-Intercept FPP	84		-13
IFPX-X Intercept FPP **	54		54
PROV-Providence FPP	121		31
YADP-Youth Advocate FPP	33		33
Total	312		125

- ✓ 120 fewer TYC commitments 7/1/2007-6/30/2008 as compared to previous year
- ✓ 125 more admissions to Family Preservation Programs 7/1/2007-6/30/2008 as compared to previous year

**IFPX- X Intercept FPP designed for chronic misdemeanor offenders.
77 % of admissions met criteria for priority population.



It is about Reform

- Strength-based
- Family Focused
- Culturally Competent
- Transparent & Inclusive
- Services Offered to Youth in their communities whenever possible
- Increase Prevention Services
- Increase Behavioral Healthcare Services
- Specialized Services
- Evidenced Based
- Community Safety &Victim Centered is Overriding Premise
- Universal Risk / Needs Assessment
- Education / Vocational Emphasis
- Establish an Entity to Conduct Objective Research of Juvenile Corrections Effectiveness & Efficiency
- All Residential Programs Appropriately Licensed / Accredited
- Enhanced Information Sharing

The Impact...



If... Dallas County Expands Sanction Services for Youth Traditionally Committed to TYC for Non-Title V Felony Referrals

- Assumptions
 - 236 youth - Dallas County Average for CY 2006 / CY 2007
 - If Local System handles all youth except Title V Offenders
 - Twenty Month Length of Stay in “System”
 - Services to Include; Residential Care or Intensive Home Based Services, Intensive Transitional Supervision, Behavioral Health Care, Transitional Education Services and Parole
 - Cost based on prevailing fees for Post-Adjudication Services & Specialized Residential/Community Treatment Services
 - 55% of Eligible Youth Require Behavioral Health Care Services

The Impact... continued



Estimated Cost Per Youth

- 9 Month Scenario
\$ 78.73 per day
- 12 Month Scenario
\$ 98.50 per day

Twenty Month in System 9 Month Intensive Placement/Home Based Services

\$11,148,584



Twenty Month in System 12 month Intensive Placement/ Home Based Services

\$13,945,948



Providing Parole Supervision

- Assumptions
 - Release from TYC Facility into Intensive Day Treatment Program
 - Step Down to Community Supervision & Behavioral Health Care Services
- 346 Dallas County Youth Currently in TYC Facilities
- Eighteen Month Post Institutional Release Supervision
- \$ 3,177,295 - \$ 16.85 per day
 - » * Does not include the cost to do Institutional Case Management



My Legislative Wish List

- Adopt the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Statewide
- Support Texas Juvenile Probation Commission 2010 – 2011 LAR including Exceptional Item Request – especially
 - Replace lost Title IV-E Funding to Local Juvenile Probation Departments
 - Financially Support State (TJPC & TYC) in Juvenile Justice Case Management System Pilot Project
 - Budget Restructuring of TJPC Funding to Counties to promote accountability and incentives for using evidence based intervention strategies while allowing flexibility in use of funds
- Implement Key Concepts of the TYC Blue Ribbon Task Force Report Recommendations
- Support recommendations of the Texas Juvenile Justice Roundtable – particularly
 - Role of School Districts to remedy the Cradle to Prison Dilemma
 - Increase Adolescent Behavior Health Care Services Statewide



Annie E Casey Foundation – Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative promotes...

- a reduced reliance on secure confinement
- improved public safety
- a reduction in racial disparities and bias
- saving taxpayers' dollars
- stimulating overall juvenile justice reforms



JDAI Core Strategies

- Collaboration - between major juvenile justice agencies, governmental entities, and community organizations.
- Use of accurate data - to diagnose the system's problems and indentify real solutions.
- Objective admissions criteria and instruments - to replace subjective decisions that inappropriately place children in custody.
- Alternatives to detention - to increase the options available for arrested youth.



JDAI Core Strategies cont'd...

- Case processing reform- to speed up the flow of cases so that youth don't languish in detention.
- Reducing use of secure confinement for "special" cases- like youth with severe behavioral health care issues, mitigating warrants & technical probation violations.
- Deliberate commitment to reducing racial disparities-by eliminating biases and ensuring a level playing field.
- Improving conditions of confinement- through routine inspections and rigorous standards.



JDAI Benefits

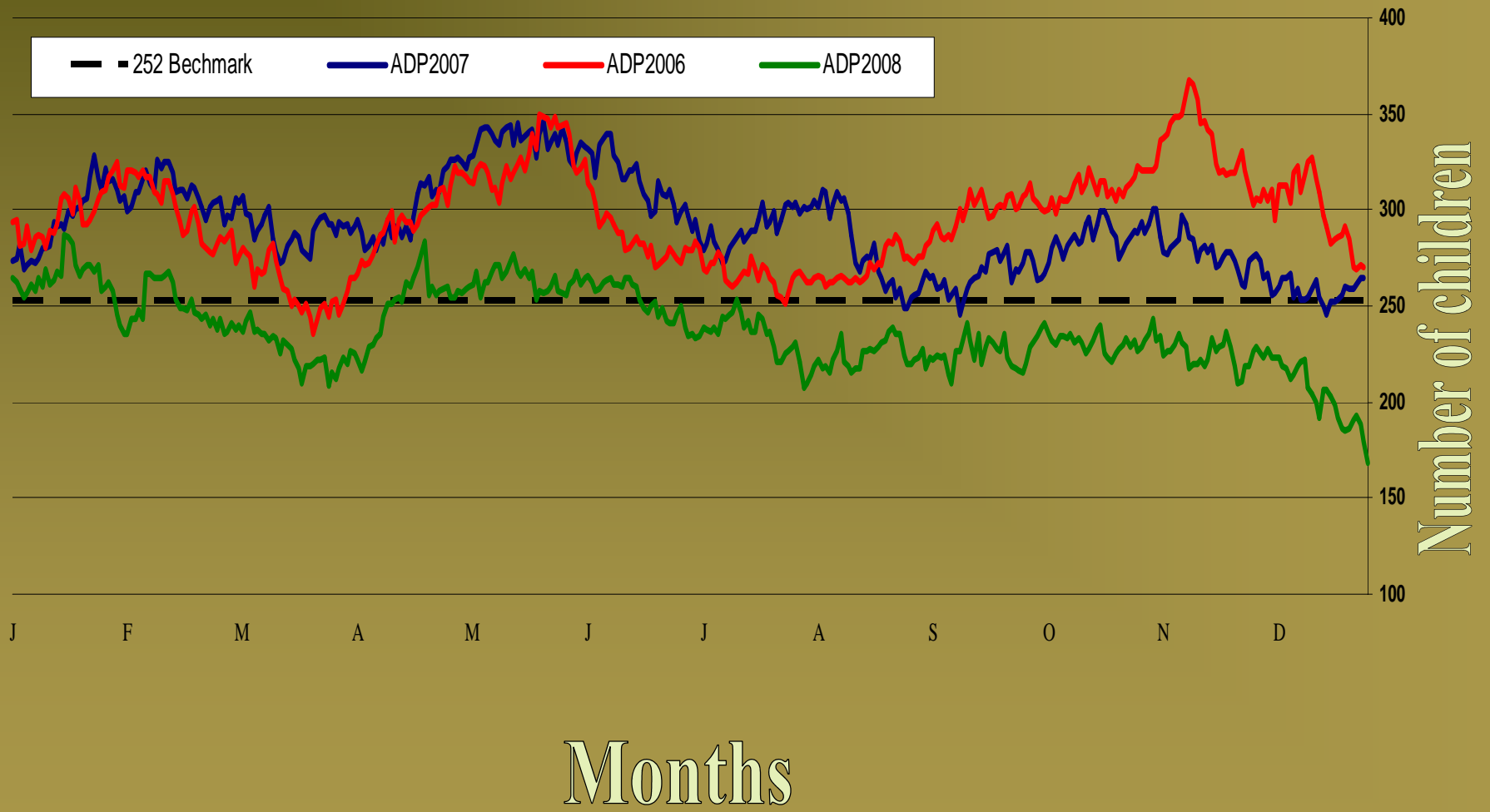
Fewer youth detained:

**Average reduction in daily detained
population in the four model sites:**

55%

Dallas County JDAI Stats

Average Daily Detention Population 2006-2008 Comparison





Dallas County Juvenile Department Statistics

Average Daily Population

2006 - 295

2007 - 292

2008 - 238

Average Length of Stay

2006 - 22 days

2007 - 19 days

2008 - 17 days