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Executive Summary

This second-annual Service Continuum Analysis report provides statewide and county-level information regarding resource needs and progress towards implementation of key reform goals. This report, developed by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in accordance with Chapter 2015-232, Laws of Florida, involves extensive surveying of local DJJ administrators, analysis of a wide variety of secondary data, and ongoing collection of information regarding local resources for youth and their families.

The report consists of two components: the report document and an interactive online companion report, which provides detailed county-level information on progress towards reform initiatives. The online companion report additionally provides a continuously updated, user-friendly, searchable database of local resources for youth and families based on youth age, legal status, and type of resource. The online companion report may be accessed by clicking: 

Local administrators completed free-response surveys regarding local resources and resource gaps. The most widely-cited resource gap statewide was mental health/counseling services, followed by job-related counseling and services and transportation. Other commonly-cited needs included structured activities/prevention programs, financial and restitution assistance, and mentoring. Although some categories of resource gap were cited by many counties, some were unique to individual counties. Also of note, even though transportation was only listed as a “top need” by fifteen counties, most counties described transportation issues resulting in barriers to service delivery. This report provides an overview of the most common needs and the County Summary Sheets in the Appendix depict needs on a county-by-county basis, in the words of the local staff and administrators.
Introduction

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is charged with overseeing the full continuum of services for at-risk youth in the State of Florida, including early prevention and intervention, civil citation, probation, detention, residential commitment, and aftercare. Under Governor Rick Scott’s administration, the Department embarked on an ambitious reform agenda with a range of initiatives aimed at a common goal of increasing public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through optimal services and care in the least restrictive environment. This reform agenda is strongly data-driven and is guided by the findings of rigorous national and Florida-specific research. The driving principle of the administration’s reform agenda, as detailed in The Roadmap to System Excellence (available at http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/town-hall-meetings/roadmap-to-system-excellence_8-1-2013.pdf?sfvrsn=0) is to provide the “…. the right service, to the right youth, in the right way, at the right time.” The success of the Governor’s reform agenda is reflected in statewide data as evidenced by declines across a range of indicators, including juvenile felony and misdemeanor arrest rates, school arrest rates, secure commitment rates, and secure detention admissions.

While statewide delinquency trends reflect significant improvement across many measures, until recently no analyses have addressed the implementation and impact of reform efforts at the county and circuit level. In response to this information gap, the Legislature, in the 2014-15 and 2015-16 General Appropriations Acts, directed DJJ to “…conduct a comprehensive statewide review of county-level data, including a gap analysis of services and programs available across all counties in the state, to evaluate the implementation of juvenile justice policies at the county level. As the result of such review, the Department shall prepare a report that includes benchmarking of counties’ performance on factors that demonstrate how a county is supporting the Department’s strategic goals of preventing and diverting more youth from entering the juvenile justice system; providing appropriate, less restrictive, community-based sanctions and services; reserving serious sanctions for youth who pose the greatest risk to public safety, and focusing on rehabilitation. The report shall also include recommendations and strategies that can be implemented by the Department or counties to address any identified deficiencies and to assist in developing a statewide, coordinated response across all of Florida’s communities to support the Department’s strategic goals.”
The 2015 Service Continuum Analysis is the second annual Service Continuum report. A wide range of information and data was compiled and analyzed to create this report, including:

- extensive data from the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS),
- a survey of Chief Probation Officers and their staff throughout the state, and
- program-level information regarding local resources and services input into the Community Resource Guide by each Circuit throughout the state.

The report covers three main topics: available resources and services, resource and service gaps, and county-level measures of several key reform initiatives. This document includes county-level findings of the service gap analysis and summary information regarding local implementation of reform initiatives. A companion to the report is an interactive, web-based report that provides detailed county- and circuit-level information on available resources. The interactive report additionally contains county-level indicators related to several reform initiatives, including civil citation, school arrests, trends in reducing commitment placements of youth at low- and moderate-risk to reoffend, and county-level rates of adherence to the dispositional matrix. The interactive report is available at:
http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/research-reports/service-continuum-analysis/service-continuum-analysis-2015

Methodology

Implementation of Juvenile Justice Policies at the County Level

Analysts in the Office of Research and Data Integrity compiled data from a variety of electronic sources to produce measures of progress on key local indicators including civil citation utilization, school arrest rates, adherence to research-based disposition level recommendations, and commitment of youth assessed as low and moderate risk to re-offend. Summary information regarding these measures is provided in this report, and detailed county-level information is available in the report’s online, interactive companion report.

Services and Resources

In order to meet the requirements of this report, the DJJ Office of Research and Data Integrity developed a Microsoft Access-based database survey instrument to continuously collect 2014 county-level data regarding available services and gaps in service. For 2015, the Access database was integrated into the existing Community Resource Guide (CRG) database. The CRG is a robust, living database into which Circuit-level staff continuously input information on local programs and resources. The information collected in the CRG is available to the public on the DJJ webpage (http://www.djj.state.fl.us/programs-
The 2015 Service Continuum Analysis is an organic evolution of the Department’s continual effort to provide the best and most comprehensive juvenile justice information for all stakeholders. In preparation for this end-of-year analysis, Chief Probation Officers and their staff entered data to identify:

1) The top three service/resource gaps in each county within their Circuit
2) Specific populations of youth for whom inadequate resources are available in each county within their Circuit
3) What services/resources are available in sufficient supply in each county within their Circuit

It is important to note that for the 2014 Service Continuum Analysis report, local administrators and staff were provided a “forced choice” resource survey, which required respondents to provide information regarding programs from a predetermined list of resource types such as “skill-building/structured activities” and “remedial academic programs.” In contrast, for the 2015 report, the survey was comprised of “free-response” items, permitting respondents to describe local resource gaps in their own words rather than selecting from a list of resource types.

This qualitative data collection approach required analysts to carefully review and classify each county’s responses to identify the larger statewide themes, as well as to develop the individual County Summary Sheets that begin on page 20 of this report. In order to ensure accurate classifications and correct need representation from the statewide respondents, the draft County Summary Sheets were returned to the respondents for final review.

Although this qualitative approach to data collection was more labor-intensive than the prior year’s data collection effort, the information collected offers a richer and more complete assessment of each county’s resources and needs. The “Summary of Findings” section below summarizes key statewide themes, whereas the County Summary Sheets provide detailed county-level information. The County Summary Sheets list the top needs identified by each county, as well as any additional needs that were noted in the survey responses. For example, if a respondent stated that in-home counseling is needed due to lack of transportation, counseling services would be classified as a “top need” but in order to fully capture the needs of the county, transportation services would be listed as an additional need, as well.

**Summary of Findings: Resource Gaps**

-Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Services was the most heavily represented “top” service need, with a total of forty-eight counties describing some type of mental health service as a top need. The counties identified several common barriers to services, including: many areas may be served by a single mental health provider, but that financial/insurance issues are a barrier to
meaningful access, as is transportation to the service location from deeply rural areas. The major
types of needed mental health and/or substance abuse services included: individual/family
counseling, substance abuse treatment (both inpatient and outpatient), anger management,
inpatient mental health treatment, and cognitive-behavioral interventions.

**Job-related Training and Counseling** was ranked as one of the top service needs by eighteen of
sixty-seven counties.

**Transportation** was ranked as one of the top service needs by twenty of sixty-seven counties, and
was overall noted as a need by thirty-nine counties. Transportation played a unique role in the
survey responses. Although it was ranked as a “top need” by fifteen counties, a total of fifty-one
counties noted issues related to transportation. In fact, other needs noted were often framed in
terms of transportation deficiencies. For example, some counties noted that in-home counseling
is a top need due to transportation and geographic access barriers. The County Summary Sheets
highlight the impact of transportation issues on service access.

**Structured Activities/Prevention Programs** was ranked as one of the top service needs by thirteen
of sixty-seven counties.

**Financial Assistance** in terms of restitution assistance, court fee assistance, and availability of
community service worksites to pay off accruing financial obligations was ranked as one of the top
service needs by eleven of sixty-seven counties.

**Mentoring** was ranked as one of the top service needs by ten of sixty-seven counties.

Additional, detailed county-level information on resource needs is provided in the County
Summary Sheets.

**Interactive Resource Search**

The online companion to this report at [http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/research-
reports/service-continuum-analysis/service-continuum-analysis-2015](http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/research-reports/service-continuum-analysis/service-continuum-analysis-2015) enables users to view and search
for services for youth by type of service, youth age, and youth legal status. To view services
available in a specific county, use the map interface on the “Community Services” tab to select a
specific county. Then, check one or more boxes using the “Youth Served” dropdown to select all
youth or to limit your search to youth on specific legal statuses. The “age of youth” dropdown box
permits additional filtering by age of youth served by programs. Last, select a service type by
clicking on the name of the service (please see Figure 1 below).
Figure 1. Community Resource Search

For example, if a user would like to locate mentoring services for a 16-year old on probation in Hillsborough County, the user would click on Hillsborough County, then select “Probation” in the “Youth Served” dropdown menu and “16” in the Age of Youth dropdown menu (please see Figure 2 below).
Next, the user would click on “Mentoring,” which will bring up a screen listing all mentoring programs in Hillsborough County that serve 16 year old youth on Probation (Figure 3). Last, the user can click on any of the listed programs to obtain a program description and contact information (Figure 4).

**Figure 3. Selecting a Mentoring Program in Hillsborough County**
Figure 4: Program Information Screen

Community Programs Hillsborough County

Computer Mentor Group
Hillsborough County
Mentoring

Program provides free, high quality computer literacy training and technology access to underprivileged families, and seeks to provide computer ownership for low-income participants.

Contact Shawn Wilkinson
Phone: (813)236-1191
Email: SWilkinson@computermentors.org
Website: www.computermentors.org

Age Restriction Min - NA Max - NA
Admission Requirements: None
Admission Restrictions: None
Local Measures of Progress on Reform Goals

Because a key requirement of this report is the “... benchmarking of counties’ performance on factors that demonstrate how a county is supporting the Department’s strategic goals of preventing and diverting more youth from entering the juvenile justice system; providing appropriate, less restrictive, community-based sanctions and services; reserving serious sanctions for youth who pose the greatest risk to public safety, and focusing on rehabilitation,” four key reform measures are examined at the county level:

1. **Civil citation** offers misdemeanant youth the opportunity to avoid an arrest record by completing community service and in some cases, rehabilitative interventions. Effective October 1, 2015, Florida law expanded the civil citation program to permit issuance of civil citations for misdemeanor offenses on up to three occasions per youth. By avoiding an arrest, youth are able to avoid barriers to college admission, scholarships, job opportunities, and military enlistment. Youth who complete civil citation programs have a remarkably favorable 95% success rate. During FY 2014-15, statewide, 43% of eligible youth received civil citations.\(^1\) To review the latest civil citation outcome measures, please click on the following link to access the Civil Citation chapter in the Comprehensive Accountability Report:


2. **School-related arrest rates** reflect the portion of overall juvenile arrests that occur on school grounds or at school-related activities. Various Department initiatives, including prevention programs, civil citation, collaboration at the local level, and a pilot project placing juvenile probation officers in schools are aimed at reducing school arrest rates. Statewide, school-related arrests dropped 33% between Fiscal Year 2010-11 and Fiscal Year 2014-15.

3. **Adherence to the validated, evidence-based dispositional matrix placement guidelines.** Research tracking thousands of youth in Florida has shown that regardless of youth risk level, recidivism outcomes are most favorable for youth who are placed within the recommended ranges in the disposition matrix. Results clearly show lack of adherence to the disposition matrix guidelines results in increased

\(^1\) This utilization rate only includes first-time misdemeanants and does not account for the recent change in law that permits issuance of up to three civil citations.
Recidivism for serious as well as non-serious juvenile offenders, and the results hold true across all sex, race, and risk level groups. During FY 2014-15, 76% of dispositions were within the “optimal” range, though there is variation by county. To review the Department’s recent validation study on the outcomes of adherence to research-based placement recommendations, please visit http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/research2/the-fdjj-disposition-matrix-validation-study.pdf?sfvrsn=0.

4. Reduction of residential placements of youth assessed as low- and moderate-risk to reoffend is an important goal of reform and is a key outcome of a variety of other reform efforts. Through increasing availability of civil citation and related rehabilitative, front-end services in the community, and adherence to the dispositional matrix guidelines, costly and restrictive residential commitment is reserved for youth who truly require that level of restrictiveness. Statewide, commitments of youth assessed as low- and moderate-risk to reoffend have dropped dramatically. In FY 2010-11, commitments of low- and moderate-risk youth comprised 27% of all commitments. In FY 2014-15, only 15% of commitments were of low- and moderate-risk to re-offend youth.

The pages that follow display county-level measures for civil citation utilization (Table 1), the percentage of overall arrests that are school related (Table 2), the percentage of dispositions rated as “optimal” based on the dispositional matrix (Table 3), and the percentage of dispositions to commitment that involve youth assessed as low- and moderate-risk to reoffend (Table 4).
### Table 1. Civil Citation Rates by County
(Statewide Average = 43% of Eligible Youth)
Fiscal Year 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>None Issued</th>
<th>Low¹</th>
<th>Average²</th>
<th>High³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bradford</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>Collier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calhoun*</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Flagler</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dixie</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Duval</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf*</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Hillsborough</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardee</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Lake</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holmes*</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Manatee</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty*</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Citrus</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polk</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Brevard</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walton</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Jefferson*</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Putnam</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Osceola</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Franklin*</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gilchrist</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Suwannee</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Glades*</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hendry</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Highlands</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Desoto</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>St. Lucie</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Clay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sumter</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Okeechobee</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Okaloosa</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Levy</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Counties with ten or fewer civil citation-eligible youth
¹More than 5% below the state average
²Within 5% below and 5% above the state average
³More than 5% above the state average
Table 2. School-Related Arrest Rates by County¹
(Statewide Average = 17% of Arrests were School-Related)
Fiscal Year 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low²</th>
<th>Average³</th>
<th>High⁴</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brevard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walton</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Seminole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Collier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Okaloosa</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Leon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levy</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Liberty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasco</td>
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<td>Hardee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
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<td>St. Lucie</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden</td>
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<td>Flagler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alachua</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Okeechobee</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Desoto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polk</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Highlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>Marion</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Johns</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>Putnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillsborough</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>Hernando</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>Lake</td>
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<td>Sarasota</td>
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<td>Columbia</td>
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<td>Nassau</td>
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<td>Bradford</td>
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<td>Bay</td>
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<td>Duval</td>
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<td>Charlotte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinellas</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian River</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broward</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dade</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Beach</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Counties not listed had 10 or fewer school-related arrests
²More than 5% below the state average
³Within 5% below and 5% above the state average
⁴More than 5% above the state average
Table 3. Optimum Placement Rates by County

(Statewide Average = 76% of Dispositions were Optimum)

Fiscal Year 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low²</th>
<th>Average³</th>
<th>High⁴</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duval 70%</td>
<td>Hardee 81%</td>
<td>Washington 97%</td>
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<td>Sarasota 69%</td>
<td>Jackson 81%</td>
<td>Sumter 96%</td>
</tr>
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<td>Clay 68%</td>
<td>Pasco 81%</td>
<td>Hernando 93%</td>
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<td>St. Johns 81%</td>
<td>Charlotte 88%</td>
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<td>Escambia 67%</td>
<td>Bradford 80%</td>
<td>Lake 88%</td>
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<td>Liberty 67%</td>
<td>Flagler 80%</td>
<td>Holmes 87%</td>
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<td>Union 67%</td>
<td>Franklin 79%</td>
<td>Monroe 86%</td>
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<td>Okeechobee 79%</td>
<td>Polk 86%</td>
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<td>Calhoun 64%</td>
<td>Orange 76%</td>
<td>Highlands 85%</td>
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<td>Dixie 64%</td>
<td>Desoto 77%</td>
<td>Hillsborough 85%</td>
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<td>Gilchrist 77%</td>
<td>Collier 84%</td>
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<td>Manatee 77%</td>
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<td>Citrus 83%</td>
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<td>Volusia 77%</td>
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<td>Marion 82%</td>
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<td>Baker 53%</td>
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<td>Pinellas 72%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indian River 71%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Counties not listed had 10 or fewer youth disposed who had PACT assessments
²More than 5% below the state average
³Within 5% below and 5% above the state average
⁴More than 5% above the state average
Additional, detailed data regarding the status of key reform initiatives can be accessed in an interactive web-based format at [http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/research-reports/service-continuum-analysis/service-continuum-analysis-2015](http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/research-reports/service-continuum-analysis/service-continuum-analysis-2015) on Tab 1 (Performance Measures).

The first view will include four charts that include three-year trends for school-related arrest rates, civil citation rates, and rates for commitments of youth assessed as low- and moderate-risk to reoffend as well as a chart showing the two-year trend for dispositions that are “optimal” according to the disposition matrix. Users may click on a county to view local measures benchmarked against the statewide average for each measure. The statewide
average appears as a gray line on each chart, and county measures appear as orange lines (Figure 5).

Figure 5: County-level Performance Indicators (Palm Beach County Example)

The county-level charts enable the user to view both the level for each measure and the three-year trend, benchmarked against the statewide three-year trend. For example, in Figure 5 (above) Palm Beach County has been selected. The School-Related Arrests display shows that the county’s school arrest rate has been steadily declining and is below the statewide average. The Civil Citation Rate display shows that the rate of civil citation issuance in this county was below the statewide average for the prior two years and then exceeded the statewide average in Fiscal Year 2014-15. The Low and Moderate Risk to Re-Offend Youth Committed display shows that in Fiscal Year 2014-15 the county rate matched the statewide rate, and the Optimum Placement display shows that the optimum placement rate was slightly below the
statewide average. Year Tab 2 of the online report enables the user to view the best and worst-performing counties with regard to each of the four reform indicators.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Service Continuum: Greatest Needs

The circuits’ responses to the needs analysis surveys reveal that service continuum strengths and needs vary widely across the state. The County Summary Sheets (Appendix I) summarize each circuit’s responses, by county. The most commonly noted “top need” is for mental health/counseling services, with needs such as individual or family counseling (especially in-home counseling) and substance abuse treatment, both inpatient and outpatient cited. Many circuits noted some gaps with regard to transportation; however, the specific transportation problems cited varied, with some circuits noting that public transportation is not very practical and others noting that transportation services are simply unavailable. Other commonly cited gaps in the two survey phases included:

- Job-related training and counseling
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Financial assistance, including restitution opportunities, court fee assistance, and community worksites
- Mentoring

It is clear from the findings that county and circuit-level service continuum gaps vary widely across the state and that local Department of Juvenile Justice staff and administrators are aware of their jurisdiction’s specific needs. While some gaps, such as mental health services and transportation, are common, some circuits reported very specialized needs. For example, Collier County noted that a top need is substance abuse services for the parents of at-risk and delinquent youth, and Duval noted that a top need is a reporting center. Because each county has a unique set of resources, challenges, and opportunities, and because local staff and administrators are experts on their own jurisdictions, any attempts to address gaps in services should be closely guided by the ongoing input of these professionals.

Implementation of Reform Initiatives

The results demonstrate that there is considerable variation with regard to circuit and county-level implementation of key reform initiatives.
Civil Citation: The statewide issuance rate for civil citations has risen steadily since implementation of the program in Fiscal Year 2011-12. While a number of counties issued civil citations at rates that far exceeded the statewide average, a number of counties have very low rates of issuance, and a few counties issued zero civil citations during the fiscal year. It will be important in upcoming months and years for DJJ staff and administrators as well as local advocates to continue to work with law enforcement to promote the use of civil citation. This innovative program has demonstrated remarkably low recidivism rates of between four and five percent and avoids creating arrest records for minor, first-time offenses. Avoidance of arrest records is critical to ensure that kids who make common, youthful mistakes aren’t blocked from future prosocial opportunities including work, scholarships, and college enrollment.

School-related arrests: Statewide, in Fiscal Year 2014-15, 13% of juvenile arrests were school-related. The majority of school districts with ten or more school arrests had school arrest rates within 5 percentage points of the average rate. However, some jurisdictions continue to experience school arrest rates as high as one-quarter or more of all juvenile arrests. Continued expansion of civil citation utilization, as well as continued work with school and local officials, may help further reduce school arrest rates.

Adherence to the Disposition Matrix Evidence-Based Placement Recommendations: Adherence to the Dispositional Matrix is associated with reduced recidivism. Statewide, a relatively high 76% of placements are “optimal” based on the Matrix. Some counties have “optimal” placement rates in the 80 and 90 percentile ranges. However, a number of counties are well below the average. It will be important in upcoming months and years for stakeholders to work with local courts to increase adherence rates and thus minimize recidivism rates of youth served in those counties.

Commitment of Youth Assessed as Low- and Moderate-Risk to Reoffend: With some exceptions, youth assessed as low- and moderate-risk to reoffend have the best chance for successful rehabilitation in community-based settings. One of the Department’s reform efforts has focused on reducing the number of low- and moderate-risk to reoffend youth who receive dispositions to residential commitment. This reform goal is very closely linked to the Dispositional Matrix, as adherence to the Matrix recommendations reduces commitments of low- and moderate-risk youth. Statewide during Fiscal Year 2014-15, 15% of youth disposed to residential commitment were assessed as low or moderate risk to reoffend. However, county rates of commitment of low- and moderate-risk youth ranged from zero to as high as 44%. As
stakeholders and courts learn more about the benefits of adhering to evidence-based placement guidelines, commitments of low- and moderate-risk youth may decline, particularly in counties that still commit a high percentage of these youth.
Appendix I

County Summary Sheets
Escambia County

(Circuit 1)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Residential and outpatient mental health treatment programs
- Residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment programs
- Community based sex-offender treatment programs

Top Needs Identified
- Restorative justice
- Cognitive behavioral interventions
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Skill building/job placement

Additional Needs
- Prevention programs

Populations with specific needs
- Youth in need of prevention services
Okaloosa County

(Circuit 1)

Resources in sufficient supply

- Out-patient services for youth in Ft. Walton and Crestview

Top Needs Identified

- Diversion programs and additional pre-arrest alternatives
- Counseling services for rural youth
- Residential treatment (mental health, sex offender, and substance abuse)

Additional Needs

- Family involvement
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs

- Youth in rural areas of the county

“While services are available to Okaloosa youth, they are based primarily in Pensacola. This presents a burden to the families of the youth receiving these services and is a barrier to having the kind of family involvement that makes these programs successful.”
Santa Rosa County

(Circuit 1)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Outpatient counseling for youth not in rural areas

Top Needs Identified
- Diversion programs and additional pre-arrest alternatives
- Outpatient services to rural areas
- Residential treatment (mental health, sex-offender, and substance abuse)

Populations with specific needs
- Youth located in rural parts of the county due to lack of transportation

“The current provider for outpatient services is located in the center of the county. There is no public transportation to allow youth to be transported from the extreme north and south parts of the county.”
Walton County

(Circuit 1)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Prevention programs
- Community substance abuse services

Top Needs Identified
- Residential treatment (substance abuse, mental health, and sex-offender)
- Outpatient counseling for rural youth
- Domestic violence services for youth (victim and abuser)

Additional Needs
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth
- Youth located in rural areas in north and south ends of county

Transportation-related comments
- Walton County is a large county and there is a lack of public transportation that serves the rural areas of the county
- Most services are located in Pensacola

“While services are available, the lack of public transportation and the size of the county make it difficult for low-income youth without transportation to receive these services.”
Franklin County

(Circuit 2)

Resources in sufficient supply
• None of the services in Franklin County are in sufficient supply

Top Needs Identified
• Anger management
• Substance abuse counseling
• Additional mental health providers

Additional Needs
• More providers

Populations with specific needs
• Economically challenged youth ages 14-16 with mental health needs
Gadsden County

(Circuit 2)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Individual counseling
- Family counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Mentoring programs
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling
- Community service hours worksites

Additional Needs
- Affordable counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Economically challenged youth age 14-16 who need counselors and mentors
Jefferson County

(Circuit 2)

Resources in sufficient supply
- There are no resources in sufficient supply in Jefferson County.

Top Needs Identified
- Substance abuse counseling
- Anger management counseling
- Mentoring programs

Additional Needs
- Affordable counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Economically challenged youth age 14-18 who need counselors and mentors
Leon County

(Circuit 2)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Individual counseling
- Family counseling
- Anger management counseling
- Substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Transportation
- Services and emergency placements for human trafficking victims
- Mentoring programs

“\[\text{A lot of the youth and families don’t have transportation to get to and from the different service providers.}\]”

Populations with specific needs
- Economically challenged youth
- Human trafficking victims
Liberty County

(Circuit 2)

Resources in sufficient supply

- There are no resources in sufficient supply in Liberty County

Top Needs Identified

- Anger management counseling
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling
- Mental health provider

Additional Needs

- Affordable counseling services

Populations with specific needs

- Economically challenged youth
Wakulla County

(Circuit 2)

Resources in sufficient supply
- There are no resources in sufficient supply in Wakulla County

Top Needs Identified
- Community service hours worksite
- Remedial education programs
- Individual counseling
- Anger management counseling

Additional Needs
- Affordable counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Economically challenged youth

Transportation-related comments
- There is only one community service hours worksite. Transportation is a barrier.
Columbia County

(Circuit 3)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling (including residential for boys)

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

“Presently there are no programs available such as ‘project payback’ that assist youth without the means to pay court fees and restitution to complete that sanction. This also creates a significant hardship on low-income diversion youth who have shorter time-frames to successfully complete their program.”

Additional Needs
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth

Transportation-related comments
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services
Dixie County

(Circuit 3)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Residential substance abuse counseling for boys

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

Additional Needs
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth

Transportation-related comments
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services

“Throughout most of Circuit 3, services requiring group counseling often require youth to travel to another county to receive group counseling services due to the low number of youth under supervision in each county.”
Hamilton County

(Circuit 3)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Residential substance abuse counseling for boys

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

Additional Needs
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth

Transportation-related comments
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services

“Throughout most of Circuit 3, services requiring group counseling often require youth to travel to another county to receive group counseling services due to the low number of youth under supervision in each county.”
Lafayette County

(Circuit 3)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Residential substance abuse counseling for boys

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

Additional Needs
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth

Transportation-related comments
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services

“Throughout most of Circuit 3, services requiring group counseling often require youth to travel to another county to receive group counseling services due to the low number of youth under supervision in each county.”
Madison County

(Circuit 3)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Residential substance abuse counseling for boys

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

Additional Needs
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth

Transportation-related comments
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services

“Throughout most of Circuit 3, services requiring group counseling often require youth to travel to another county to receive group counseling services due to the low number of youth under supervision in each county.”
Suwannee County

(Circuit 3)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Residential substance abuse counseling for boys

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

Additional Needs
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Low-income youth

Transportation-related comments
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services

“Throughout most of Circuit 3, services requiring group counseling often require youth to travel to another county to receive group counseling services due to the low number of youth under supervision in each county.”
Taylor County

*(Circuit 3)*

**Resources in sufficient supply**
- Family counseling
- Trauma counseling
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Residential substance abuse counseling for boys

**Top Needs Identified**
- Skills training/job placement
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist low-income youth in paying court fees and restitution
- Evidence-based programs

**Additional Needs**
- More job opportunities for low-income youth
- Transportation

**Populations with specific needs**
- Low-income youth

**Transportation-related comments**
- Low-income youth have significant transportation barriers that restrict access to available services

“Throughout most of Circuit 3, services requiring group counseling often require youth to travel to another county to receive group counseling services due to the low number of youth under supervision in each county.”
Clay County

(Circuit 4)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Interagency partnerships
- Court, law enforcement, and agency cooperation

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Transportation
- Additional providers for mental health, substance abuse, family counseling, and sex-offender treatment.

Additional Needs
- Sex-offender Day Treatment.

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders. Once the youth are court ordered to stay away from other juveniles, they are often restricted from attending school.

Transportation-related comments
- The bus service is only available within Orange Park itself

“In Clay County, sex-offenders have two options: attend our counseling once a week with providers or receive treatment in a commitment program.”
Duval County

(Circuit 4)

Resources in sufficient supply
• Cognitive-behavioral interventions
• Community planning and circuit board
• Community donations

Top Needs Identified
• Reporting Center for unsupervised youth
• Skills training/job placement
• In-home family counseling

Additional Needs
• Transitional living for young adults and homeless youth
• More independent living beds
• Sex-offender Day Treatment program

Populations with specific needs
• Sex-offenders
• Some youth in secure detention could be released if an evening reporting center were available.

Transportation-related comments
• Families without transportation have a hard time accessing parenting classes and counseling services

“We have so many youth that are classified sex-offenders that were also victims. They have no structured daily counseling or academics because of court-ordered no contact with other juveniles.”
Nassau County

(Circuit 4)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Cooperation between agencies, the Court, law enforcement, and local non-profits.

Top Needs Identified
- More providers
- Transportation
- Independent living for youth

Additional Needs
- Sex offender day treatment
- Sex-offender counseling
- Substance abuse services
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders
- Youth transitioning out of commitment

Transportation-related comments
- Many services available to Nassau County are located in Duval County. A local non-profit to provide transportation in Nassau and Duval County would be helpful.

“Youth who transition out of commitment often have been abandoned by their families, especially if they are 17 or older. These youth, who have no options, often return to the street and commit crimes.”
Citrus County

(Circuit 5)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Civil Citation

Top Needs Identified
- In-home counseling
- Trauma related services
- Human trafficking services
- Live-in substance abuse program for girls

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Moderate-High and High risk youth
- Girls and crossover youth

Transportation-related comments
- Most families in Citrus County have a hard time getting to appointments because of a lack of transportation
Hernando County

(Circuit 5)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Civil Citation

Top Needs Identified
- In-home counseling
- Trauma related services
- Human trafficking services
- Live-in substance abuse program for girls

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Moderate-High and High risk youth
- Girls and crossover youth

Transportation-related comments
- Most families in Hernando County have a hard time getting to appointments because of a lack of transportation
Lake County

(Circuit 5)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Civil Citation

Top Needs Identified
- In-home counseling
- Trauma related services
- Human trafficking services
- Live-in substance abuse program for girls

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Moderate-High and High risk youth
- Girls and crossover youth

Transportation-related comments
- Most families in Lake County have a hard time getting to appointments because of a lack of transportation
Marion County

(Circuit 5)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Civil Citation

Top Needs Identified
- In-home counseling
- Trauma related services
- Human trafficking services
- Live-in substance abuse program for girls

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Moderate-High and High risk youth
- Girls and crossover youth

Transportation-related comments
- Most families in Marion County have a hard time getting to appointments because of a lack of transportation
Sumter County

(Circuit 5)

Resources in sufficient supply
- There are no resources in sufficient supply in Sumter County.

Top Needs Identified
- In-home counseling
- Trauma related services
- Human trafficking services
- Live-in substance abuse program for girls

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Counseling services

Populations with specific needs
- Moderate-High and High risk youth
- Girls and crossover youth

Transportation-related comments
- Most families in Sumter County face obstacles attending appointments because of a lack of transportation

“Sumter County doesn’t have an abundance of any type of programs or resources. Almost everything is needed because it is such a rural community.”
Pasco County

(Circuit 6)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Community planning and interagency councils
- Community Collaboration
- Community based outpatient counseling services

Top Needs Identified
- Mentoring programs
- Long-term respite care for youth who can’t go home
- Restorative Justice

Additional Needs
- Counseling services and live-in mental health programs
- Mobile crisis team
- Psychiatric services for medication management
- Transportation
- Homeless shelters for youth and families

Populations with specific needs
- Severe and persistent mentally ill youth
- Homeless youth and families

Transportation-related comments
- Transportation continues to be a barrier in Pasco County

“We are in need of] a mobile crisis team to go into homes and de-escalate the crisis and provide wrap-around services to youth and families.”
Pinellas County

(Circuit 6)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Community planning and interagency councils
- Community collaboration

Top Needs Identified
- Mentoring programs
- Skills training/job placement
- Evidence-based programs (Restorative Justice)

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Trauma Informed Care
- Respite beds for youth who cannot go home
- More providers geographically accessible
- Mobile Crisis Team

Populations with specific needs
- Severe and persistent mentally ill youth

Transportation-related comments
- North Pinellas County is impacted by a number of gaps in service based on the geographic location of providers.
- Transportation is a problem for the youth and families, which affects access to services

“We are in need of a mobile crisis team to go into homes and de-escalate the crisis and provide wrap-around services to youth and families.”
Flagler County

(Circuit 7)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Mental health counseling
- Substance abuse assessments in office

Top Needs Identified
- Respite care for youth not appropriate for other shelters
- Psychiatric services for medication management
- Transportation
- Human trafficking services

Additional Needs
- Sex-offender Day Treatment program

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders who need day treatment
- Youth with domestic violence issues that demonstrate aggression or have severe mental illness

Transportation-related comments
- Transportation issues present a barrier to service delivery

“We need emergency shelter for those youth with severe aggression who do not meet criteria for Baker Act or detention and are too severe for respite. The programs that provide a safe place either have wait lists or the youth’s behavior is too severe for the program.”
Putnam County

(Circuit 7)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Mental health counseling
- Outpatient sex-offender counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Access to services
- Programs for lock-out youth and youth with domestic violence issues
- Emergency shelters for youth with severe aggression and/or mental health issues

Additional Needs
- Crisis Stabilization Unit for Baker Acted youth
- Sex-offender Day Treatment program

Populations with specific needs
- Ungovernable youth with severe aggression and/or mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- Services are unavailable due to community isolation, high poverty rate, and the presence of rural areas throughout the county

“Families are unable to take advantage of a majority of the community-based intervention services due to obstacles including transportation and poverty, and therefore receive no assistance.”
St Johns County

(Circuit 7)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Mental health counseling
- Outpatient sex-offender counseling
- In-home counseling
- Diversion services

Top Needs Identified
- Access to services
- Shelters for youth who have domestic violence charges, are runaways, and/or ungovernable
- Affordable substance abuse and mental health counseling
- Inpatient substance abuse and mental health services

Additional Needs
- CINS/FINS shelter

Populations with specific needs
- Youth who have domestic violence charges, are runaways, and/or ungovernable

Transportation-related comments
- Services are unavailable due to community isolation, high poverty rate, and the presence of rural areas throughout the county. Families are unable to take advantage of a majority of the community-based intervention services due to these obstacles and therefore receive no assistance.

“[We need] affordable substance abuse and mental health counseling for children and their parents whose annual salary is too much to qualify for free or sliding scale basis, but do not earn enough to pay privately."
Volusia County

(Circuit 7)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Mental health counseling
- Substance abuse assessments in office

Top Needs Identified
- Respite care for youth with issues that make them unsuited for regular shelters
- Psychiatric medication management services
- Human trafficking services

Additional Needs
- Substance abuse services for youth with private insurance
- Day treatment that accepts sex offenders
- Skills training/job placement, especially for low-functioning youth

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders
- Lock-out/ungovernable youth with severe aggression or mental illness
Alachua County

(Circuit 8)

Resources in sufficient supply
- In-home counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- In-patient substance abuse treatment for girls
- Targeted case management
- Truancy programs

Additional Needs
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Girls
- Youth with mental health issues

“Unfortunately, many girls wind up in DJJ commitment due to the lack of resources to meet their needs. Youth with mental health issues are frequently placed into commitment due to the lack of intensive mental health programs that could better suit their needs.”
Baker County

(Circuit 8)

Resources in sufficient supply
- In-home counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Inpatient substance abuse treatment for girls
- Targeted case management
- SAMH Assessments

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Girls
- Youth with mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- Baker County has limited resources and families have transportation problems getting to their assessments. Without early assessment, it is difficult to provide appropriate services.

“We have access to two inpatient substance abuse treatment programs in neighboring circuits for boys, however we have no residential treatment for girls”
Bradford County

(Circuit 8)

Resources in sufficient supply
- In-home counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Inpatient substance abuse treatment for girls
- Targeted case management
- SAMH Assessments

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Girls
- Youth with mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- Bradford County has limited resources and families have transportation problems getting to their assessments. Without early assessment, it is difficult to provide appropriate services.

“Youth with Mental Health issues are frequently placed into Commitment due to the lack of intensive Mental Health Programs that could better suit their needs.”
Gilchrist County

(Circuit 8)

Resources in sufficient supply
- In-home counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Inpatient substance abuse treatment for girls
- Targeted case management
- SAMH Assessments

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Girls
- Youth with mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- Gilchrist County has limited resources and families have transportation problems getting to their assessments. Without early assessment, it is difficult to provide appropriate services.

“Unfortunately, many girls wind up in DJJ Commitment due to the lack of resources to meet their needs. Youth with Mental Health issues are placed into commitment due to the lack of intensive mental health programs that could better suit their needs.”
Levy County

(Circuit 8)

Resources in sufficient supply
- In-home counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Inpatient substance abuse treatment for girls
- Targeted case management
- SAMH Assessments

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Girls
- Youth with mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- Levy County has limited resources and families have transportation problems getting to their assessments. Without early assessment, it is difficult to provide appropriate services.

“Youth with mental health issues are placed into DJJ Commitment due to the lack of intensive Mental Health Programs that could better suit their needs.”
Union County

(Circuit 8)

Resources in sufficient supply
- In-home counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Inpatient substance abuse treatment for girls
- Targeted case management
- SAMH Assessments

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Mental health services

Populations with specific needs
- Girls
- Youth with mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- Union County has limited resources and families have transportation problems getting to their assessments. Without early assessment, it is difficult to provide appropriate services.

“Unfortunately, girls wind up in DJJ Commitment due to the lack of resources to meet their needs. Youth with mental health issues are also placed into commitment due to the lack of intensive Mental Health programs that could better suit their needs.”
Orange County

(Circuit 9)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Targeted Case Management
- Substance abuse services

Top Needs Identified
- Skills training/job placement
- Shelter for homeless youth and families
- Residential mental health programs

Additional Needs
- Counseling services for homeless youth
- Job opportunities

Populations with specific needs
- Homeless youth and families
- Youth returning from residential commitment

“In many cases, the courts are placing youth on Electronic Monitoring without consideration to the family’s homeless status.”
Osceola County

(Circuit 9)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Targeted Case Management
- Academic institutions

Top Needs Identified
- Day Treatment programs
- Skills training/job placement
- Mentoring programs (one-on-one)

Additional Needs
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Youth in rural areas
- Hispanic population

Transportation-related comments
- Osceola County is a very rural county. It’s one of the largest and fastest growing in Florida. The current contract language with its day treatment provider restricts travel time to and from the program to 90 minutes or less. Because of this, the day treatment program cannot serve the youth that reside in Poinciana or St. Cloud.
Resources in sufficient supply
- Evidence-based programs (CBT and FFT)

Top Needs Identified
- Respite care
- Diversion programs
- In-home counseling

Additional Needs
- Sex offender counseling

Populations with specific needs
- Sex offenders

Transportation-related comments
- Many of the closest available services are located in Polk County

“Hardee County currently does not have any type of respite care within the county. We are often able to place them in a bed in Polk County but then they are not able to attend their local school during their time at the shelter.”
Highlands County

(Circuit 10)

Resources in sufficient supply
• There are no resources in sufficient supply in Highlands County.

Top Needs Identified
• Respite care
• Transportation
• In-home counseling

Additional Needs
• Sex-offender counseling

Populations with specific needs
• Sex-offenders

Transportation-related comments
• There is no public transportation in Highlands County and this directly impacts the youth who need services
Polk County

(Circuit 10)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Polk County could use additional services and programming in all areas.

Top Needs Identified
- Transportation
- Diversion programs
- Substance abuse services
- In-home counseling

Additional Needs
- Day treatment
- After school programs that aren’t sports related
- Transgender services (counseling and respite care)

Populations with specific needs
- Transgender youth
- Youth in rural areas

Transportation-related comments
- Public transportation is available in some areas of the county but leaves out many rural areas
Dade County

(Circuit 11)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Cognitive-behavioral interventions
- Community planning, interagency councils, and task forces

Top Needs Identified
- Human trafficking shelters
- Inpatient substance abuse program for girls
- Skill building/job placement
- Structured activities for supervised youth

Additional Needs
- Trauma-Informed Care for human trafficking victims

Populations with specific needs
- Human trafficking victims
- Girls
- Youth who don’t meet the criteria for participating in regular community activities
DeSoto County

*(Circuit 12)*

**Resources in sufficient supply**
- Project Bridge

**Top Needs Identified**
- A shelter (none in county)
- A respite shelter for youth with domestic violence charges
- Evidence-based programs (Redirections)
- Probation Day Treatment
- Transportation

**Populations with specific needs**
- Probation youth
- Domestic violence youth
- Post-commitment youth
- Moderate high/high risk youth

**Transportation-related comments**
- JPOs are reluctant to transport youth in their personal vehicles due to safety concerns. We frequently find ourselves juggling schedules and vehicles to ensure that those traveling longer distances or traveling with youth have access to our one reliable vehicle.

“DeSoto County does not have a shelter located in the county. They are able to use the shelter located in Sarasota County or Manatee County but these shelters are 50-70 miles one way from the home county and these shelters are not able to drive the DeSoto youth to and from school.”
Manatee County

(Circuit 12)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Project Bridge
- Probation Day Treatment
- Redirections

Top Needs Identified
- Shelter beds, especially for domestic violence youth
- Alternatives to secure detention (staff secure shelter)
- Transportation

Additional Needs
- Human trafficking services
- Independent living program for delinquent youth

Populations with specific needs
- Domestic violence and probation youth
- Youth involved in or suspected to be involved in human trafficking

Transportation-related comments
- The Manatee Probation Office has one state vehicle shared by about 20 staff. JPOs must frequently use their own vehicles if that vehicle is unavailable. This drives up travel costs and presents security concerns.
Sarasota County

(Circuit 12)

Resources in sufficient supply
  • Project Bridge

Top Needs Identified
  • Evidence-based programs (Redirections)
  • Probation Day Treatment
  • Transportation

Populations with specific needs
  • Moderate high/High risk youth
  • Families with limited access to transportation

Transportation-related comments
  • There are two offices in Sarasota County and only two state cars. Both are over ten years old and unreliable. Staff usually end up using their own cars or a detention vehicle.
Hillsborough County

(Circuit 13)

Resources in sufficient supply
• Family counseling
• Community planning and interagency councils

Top Needs Identified
• Transportation
• Skills training/job placement
• Residential respite shelter for youth incurring domestic violence charges

Additional Needs
• Transitional housing for post-commitment probation and conditional release youth, especially homeless youth and sex-offenders.

Populations with specific needs
• Youth released from commitment
• Rural youth

Transportation-related comments
• Hillsborough County is a large county with both rural and urban areas. The south part of the county doesn’t have as many resources and a bus line doesn’t run all the way to the southern edge of the county making it difficult for many families to access resources.
Bay County

(Circuit 14)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Diversion programs
- Family counseling for youth on supervision
- Mental health counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Truancy prevention and intervention (resource center)
- Independent living/transitional housing for youth not meeting criteria for existing programs
- Family therapy (FFT) for youth on diversion
- Skills training/job placement

Additional Needs
- Programs to assist youth in paying court costs/restitution (such as Project Payback)
- Additional community service worksites for youth under age 18
- Civil Citation for youth not eligible for existing pre-arrest diversion programs

Populations with specific needs
- Youth who are suspended or expelled from school
- Youth on supervision who have been adjudicated with felonies
- Youth with lack of parental involvement and/or transportation issues being able to utilize existing pre-arrest diversion option

“We have youth who have extensive length of stays on supervision due to not being able to pay restitution and/or court cost.”
Calhoun County

(Circuit 14)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling for youth on supervision

Top Needs Identified
- Alternative education options for youth with felonies
- Family counseling for youth on diversion status
- Sexual abuse treatment for both victim and abuser

Additional Needs
- Civil Citation options for youth

Populations with specific needs
- Youth with felonies on supervision

Transportation-related comments
- There is no public transportation in Calhoun County.

“Youth with felonies in Calhoun County are no longer allowed to attend school and must participate in virtual school. This poses a challenge due to lack of resources with since many families don’t have computers or internet service.”
Gulf County

(Circuit 14)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling
- Education resources
- Faith-based after-school activities

Top Needs Identified
- Substance abuse counseling
- Mental health services
- Transportation

Additional Needs
- Civil Citation options for youth

Populations with specific needs
- Youth in need of substance abuse services
- Youth in need of mental health services
- Youth with limited or no access to transportation

Transportation-related comments
- There is no public transportation in Gulf County

“No substance abuse counseling is available in this county. No mental health services are available in this area. Youth must travel to Bay County for services”
Holmes County

(Circuit 14)

Resources in sufficient supply

- Education programs and school district partnerships
- Connections with law enforcement and faith community

Top Needs Identified

- Family counseling for youth on supervision and diversion status
- Sex offender counseling for both victim and abuser
- Mentoring programs

Additional Needs

- Civil Citation options for youth

Populations with specific needs

- Sex offenders and victims of abuse
- Youth on supervision and diversion status for family counseling and Civil Citation options

Transportation-related comments

- There is no public transportation in Holmes County

“In Holmes County there is a real need for Family Therapy (FFT) for all youth on supervision, diversion, etc.”
Jackson County

(Circuit 14)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Family counseling for youth on supervision
- Mental health counseling
- Substance abuse counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Alternative education options
- Diversion programs
- Transportation

Additional Needs
- Access to services and opportunities for youth in rural areas due to county size
- Civil Citation options

Populations with specific needs
- Youth in rural areas due to transportation issues
- Low and moderate risk youth who could be served on diversion

Transportation-related comments
- Lack of public transportation in rural areas makes it difficult for youth and parents to attend mental health and substance abuse services

“The size of this county poses a huge issue for youth in the rural areas to be able to get to mental health counseling and all other types of services.”
Resources in sufficient supply

- Vocational services
- Education services

Top Needs Identified

- Family counseling for youth on supervision and diversion status
- Sex offender treatment for both victim and abuser
- Additional pre-arrest diversion options for first-time offenders

Populations with specific needs

- Sex-offender victims and abusers

Transportation-related comments

- There is no public transportation in Washington County

“Washington County is lacking services for the youth who are both sexual abuse victims and abusers. Often times the youth we serve in this county fit both categories.”
Palm Beach County

(Circuit 15)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Outpatient mental health services
- Family counseling
- Outpatient substance abuse counseling and education

Top Needs Identified
- Inpatient substance abuse treatment
- Mentoring programs
- Sex offender inpatient and outpatient services

Additional Needs
- Skills training/job placement
- Counseling and support services for LGBTQ youth and families

Populations with specific needs
- Sex offenders
- LGBTQ youth

“There is only one program that provides affordable inpatient treatment services for those youth with significant drug and alcohol addictions. The program has a waitlist for youth to enroll which has many times created an opportunity for the youth to violate their court orders or remain in secure detention until a bed is available.”
Monroe County

(Circuit 16)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Drug testing
- Domestic violence respite beds
- Civil Citation
- Intensive Delinquency Supervision (IDDS)
- Teen Court

Top Needs Identified
- Alternatives to formal education
- Skills training/job placement
- More providers, especially for mental health
- Inpatient substance abuse facility

Additional Needs
- In-home counseling
- Sex offender services
- Day Treatment programs

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders
- Youth with substance abuse issues

Transportation-related comments
- There is only one mental health provider that serves the Keys resulting to limited access to resources and services

“Monroe County consistently has one of the highest percentages of youth substance abuse in the State of Florida, yet there are no inpatient detox/treatment programs available in the Circuit. The high cost of living and lack of affordable housing puts additional stress on the families we serve. Transportation is a constant challenge due to the geographical layout of our island chain.”
Broward County

(Circuit 17)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Civil Citation
- Diversion programs

Top Needs Identified
- Residential placement for crossover youth
- Respite care for DJJ youth who commit domestic violence offenses and have felony charges, as an alternative to secure detention
- Seamless continuance of mental health and substance abuse services for youth who are 18-21 year olds still under DJJ jurisdiction

Populations with specific needs
- Crossover youth who are sheltered
- Youth involved in all aspects of human trafficking (victim, recruiter and/or enforcer)
- Substance Abuse Services for synthetic (FLAKKA) drug users
Brevard County

(Circuit 18)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Skill building/job placement
- Alternative education options
- In-home counseling

Top Needs Identified
- Mentoring programs
- Sex offender treatment
- Aggression therapy

Additional Needs
- Transportation
- Parenting classes for teen parents
- Tutors

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders
- Teen parents

Transportation-related comments
- Public transportation is limited in some areas of the county. Families without transportation have a hard time accessing necessary services.
Seminole County

(Circuit 18)

Resources in sufficient supply
• Mental health counseling
• Alternative education options
• Substance abuse options

Top Needs Identified
• Mentoring programs
• Skills training/job placement
• Sex-offender treatment

Additional Needs
• Independent living resources
• Pregnancy and/or parenting classes for teen parents

Populations with specific needs
• Sex offenders
• Teen parents
• Youth 17-18 who are released but don’t have a home to go to

Transportation-related comments
• Families without transportation have a hard time accessing necessary services
Indian River County

(Circuit 19)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Cognitive-behavioral interventions
- Individual counseling services
- Specialized clinical treatment

Top Needs Identified
- Mental health court
- Programs to assist with paying court fees/restitution
- Residential substance abuse facility

Additional Needs
- Sex offender housing and jobs
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Sex-offenders
- Youth in need of mental health services

Transportation-related comments
- Youth in need of residential substance abuse treatment must travel to other counties for services. Sex offenders cannot ride public transportation which inhibits their access to services.
Martin County

(Circuit 19)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Individual counseling
- Specialized clinical treatment

Top Needs Identified
- Residential substance abuse treatment
- Transportation
- Family engagement and counseling

Additional Needs
- Police athletic league
- Interpreters for Spanish population in community

Populations with specific needs
- Spanish population in the community
- Youth in remote parts of county

Transportation-related comments
- Youth who need residential treatment have to travel outside of the county for services causing undue hardships for those families. Youth in the remote parts of the county must travel to Stuart for most of their services.
Okeechobee County

(Circuit 19)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Summer youth programs

Top Needs Identified
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Individual counseling services
- Family counseling services

Additional Needs
- Transportation

Populations with specific needs
- Youth in need of counseling services
- Youth in rural areas, which is most of the county

Transportation-related comments
- There is a lack of services in the county because it is in a remote location. Families have to travel out of the county for most services. This presents a financial hardship for the family.
St. Lucie County

(Circuit 19)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Transportation
- Individual and specialized clinical treatment

Top Needs Identified
- Consequence unit/violation of probation program
- Residential substance abuse programs
- Outpatient substance abuse programs
- Life coaching

Additional Needs
- Skills training/job placement
- Job opportunities
- Housing and counseling for 18 and older
- Programs tailored for youth 12 and under

Populations with specific needs
- Gang-involved youth
- Youth in need of substance abuse services
Charlotte County

(Circuit 20)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Drug-free Charlotte

Top Needs Identified
- Mental health services
- Parenting classes
- Public transportation

Additional Needs
- Sex offender services

Populations with specific needs
- Sex offenders
- Youth with mental health issues

Transportation-related comments
- There is no public transportation in Charlotte County
Collier County

(Circuit 20)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Collier County Sheriff’s Office Resource Center

Top Needs Identified
- Sex offender therapy
- Program to bridge the gap between DCF and DJJ youth needs
- Assistance for parental alcoholism/drug addiction

Populations with specific needs
- Youth exposed to parental substance or alcohol abuse issues
- Youth involved with both DJJ and DCF
Glades County

(Circuit 20)

Resources in sufficient supply
- There are no resources in sufficient supply in Glades County.

Top Needs Identified
- Tutoring programs
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Family counseling

Populations with specific needs
- Youth ages 11-14 in need of structured activities
Hendry County

(Circuit 20)

Resources in sufficient supply
- There are no resources in sufficient supply in Hendry County.

Top Needs Identified
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Family counseling
- Public transportation

Additional Needs
- Mentoring programs

Populations with specific needs
- Youth ages 11-14

Transportation-related comments
- Hendry County is in need of public transportation
Lee County

(Circuit 20)

Resources in sufficient supply
- Public transportation
- PACE and AMI

Top Needs Identified
- Structured activities/prevention programs
- Programs to assist with paying court costs and restitution
- Sex-offender therapy

Additional Needs
- Structured activities and programs that are free or inexpensive for families

Populations with specific needs
- Sex offenders
- Economically challenged youth