

JDAI STEERING COMMITTEE

Judge Pro-Tem Gary Chavers, Co-Chair

Christina Ball, Co-Chair

Clara Anderson

Dr. William Barton

Jeff Bercovitz

Robert Bingham

John Brandon

Magistrate Gael **Deppert**

Tanya Douglas-Cain

Peter Haughan

Richard Hite

Dr. Roger Jarjoura

Jill Johnson

Shanna Martin

Jason Melchi

DeShane Reed

Kevin Rilev

Sue Patterson

Jenny Young

Inside this Issue

Statewide Expansion	2
Book Drive	3
Community Engagement	4
Sub-Committees	5
ERCs	6

Marion County JDAI Newsletter Summer 2011

"A Historical Update"

United States Department of Justice (USDOJ) vs. Marion Superior Court

Submitted by Superintendent DeShane Reed

Since 2006, the Marion Superior Court Juvenile Detention Center (MSCJDC) has undergone tremendous improvements that have been recognized by governing agencies. This article provides a recap of past issues and an overview of where we are today.

On July 18, 2006, the United States Department Of Justice notified officials in Marion County of its intent to investigate the Marion Superior Court Juvenile Detention Center, pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act

(CRIPA), 42 U.S.C. 1997 and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, 42 U.S.C. (section 14141). This 2006 investigation was followed by the U.S. issuing a "findings letter" in August 2007, which concluded that conditions at the MSCJDC violated the constitutional and federal statutory rights of youth confined in the facility.

On April 9, 2008, the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Special Litigation Section (DOJ), entered into a Memorandum of

very limited resources, but it

Agreement (the Agreement) with the Marion Superior Court (the Court) regarding the "Conditions of Confinement" at the MSCJDC. The Agreement contained a total of 29 provisions governing needed reforms of the facility's practices to protect youth from harm (19 provisions), ensure environmental health and safety (5 provisions) and provide a special education program (5 provisions) to youth housed at the MSCJDC.

The Agreement also included 4 provisions related to achieving

(Continued on page 4)

Hard Cap of 96

Marion County has been a JDAI site since March 2006. At that time, our Average Daily Population (ADP) in the Detention Center was 154 youth even though it was a 144 bed facility. The detention cap was first reduced to 112 in the last quarter of 2007 by the former Executive Committee who recognized the need to reduce the population to ensure the safety and security of the youth and staff. This was made possible through our use of multiple JDAI strategies including the implementation of a detention risk assessment, the development of alternatives to detention, and improved case processing times.

In July 2011, the current Executive Committee took another step forward and reduced the detention cap to 96 youth. Not only does this reduce budget expenditures during a time with

Submitted by Judge Pro Tem Gary Chavers

also recognizes the fact that we have made additional improvements that have positively impacted the ADP to an even greater degree. In anticipation of the new detention cap, the Juvenile Division has implemented several new strategies to ensure that we keep the detention population below 96 youth. These have included the following efforts: Created "rolling" Early Re-

lease List - We have created a mechanism within our case management system that allows Probation to identify youth who may be appropriate for release. They now have the ability to add youth to this list at any given time. The name does not come off the list until either the Judge approves the release or Probation removes it. This al-

lows the Judge to see who may be appropriate for release on a regular basis.

Developed process for identifying youth for release when capacity nears cap – It is anticipated that at some point in the future, there will be an occasion where the Detention Center is at or near capacity. When that occurs, we have a process in place that requires the RSR Probation Officer to contact the Judge, even after-hours. The Judge may then refer to the early release list in order to approve releases and open up bed space if needed.

(Continued on page 3)

JDAI is a Public Safety Initiative!





JDAI Statewide Expansion Kick-Off August 12, 2011

Annie E. Casey Foundation Leadership along with representatives from the W. Haywood Burns Institute will be in Indianapolis to formally begin the Statewide Expansion of JDAI in Indiana. The first cohort of expansion counties are Lake, Porter, Elkhart and Johnson.

Congratulations from your friends in Marion County on the beginning of this challenging yet worthwhile adventure!

Statewide Expansion: Site Visits

Submitted by Michelle Tennell, Statewide JDAI Coordinator

Commonly Used Acronyms

AECF: Annie E. Casey Foundation

CA: Community Adjustment

DMC: Disproportionate Minority Contact

DRAI: Detention Risk Assessment Instrument

EM: Electronic Monitoring

ERC: Evening Reporting Center

FTA: Failure to Appear

FYI: Family and Youth Intervention

JDAI: Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

MSC: Marion Superior Court

RSR: Receiving, Screening, and Release

VOP: Violation of Probation

VOR: Violation of Release

Thank you, Marion County, For Hosting the JDAI Peer-to-Peer Learning Experiences for Indiana JDAI Sister Sites

During May and June of 2011, Marion County JDAI team members, led by Judge Gary Chavers, hosted three site visits for the seven Indiana JDAI expansion communities-Lake, Porter, Elkhart, Howard Tippecanoe, Johnson, and Clark counties.

Approximately 75 key local stakeholders, including judges, prosecutors, public defenders, detention center personnel, probation officers, court personnel, community leaders, school representatives, and JDAI/DMC local coordinators all enjoyed an opportunity to learn about Marion county's JDAI Journey.

Justice Steven David of the Indiana Supreme Court joined the groups for breakfast and lent his support, while representatives from the Indiana Department of Correction, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, and the Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana participated in each event.

These site visits offered each community team an opportunity to learn, first hand, from Marion County about the challenges and successes they have experienced since embracing the JDAI in 2006.

The day-long events included candid presentations and panel discussions beginning with how Marion County became acquainted with the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and continued through the process of incorporating JDAI's 8 core strategies into the way they conduct the business of juvenile justice every day.

Information was shared surrounding the practical changes and improvements made throughout the system. These improvements include the creation of an objective Detention screening tool, the opening of a Reception Center for status offenders and low-level delinquents, and expanding alternatives to secure detention. These actions have reduced the detention center's population dramatically over the past five years, while maintaining public safety. The Initial Hearing Court was redesigned and case processing times and practices were improved. Addressing Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), the importance of engaging the community in collaboration, improving the culture in the probation department and addressing detention center conditions of confinement were some of the most impactful and frank conversations of each session. As one participant stated, "If everyone does not leave here with at least one nugget of information to act on, they missed the boat!"

The State Steering Committee as well as all of the visiting communities sincerely thank our Marion County friends for sharing your time and talent with your JDAI sister sites!

Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.

-Benjamin Franklin

Resources and Links

JDAI Helpdesk: www.jdaihelpdesk.org

Annie E. Casey Foundation: www.aecf.org

Indianapolis/Marion County Government: www.indy.gov

W. Haywood Burns Institute: www.burnsinstitute.org

Hard Cap of 96 (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Implemented shortened time frames for pretrial and contested modification hearings - In June, all cases for detained youth pending a modification of probation were scheduled for pretrial hearings within 1 week of the initial hearing on the modification request while contested modification hearings were scheduled for no more than 2 weeks out. It should also be noted that reducing case processing times is a focus of the JDAI Case Processing Committee and we hope to identify additional ways to reduce the average length of stay (and subsequently the ADP) in the coming months.

More clearly identified youth appropriate for specific alternatives – Over the past 5 years, we've done a tremendous job of creating alternatives to detention which allow the youth to be supervised in the community instead of detained. However, there were not any guidelines in place that helped judicial officers, probation, or other parties determine which alternative was most appropriate based on the youth's background, risk level, and current offense. The JDAI Alternatives Subcommittee recently developed a grid that now provides judicial officers with detailed information on who is most appropriate for which alternative. This should help the Court in feeling more comfortable when making these types of

decisions.

In the coming months, the Courts will continue their efforts with JDAI and focus on additional strategies that will also contribute to our ability to manage within a hard cap of 96 youth. Specifically, the focus will be on improving the quality of our alternative programs and identifying appropriate programs for runaways so that the number of youth detained for violations of probation or release decrease. We are also embarking on an effort to engage the community in assisting with ERC transportation and programming. Each of these initiatives will hopefully help maintain or reduce the detention population as we move forward.

Current Partnerships

Boys and Girls Clubs: Wheeler-Dowe LeGore Lilly

Keenan-Stahl

Christamore House
Forest Manor

2nd Baptist Church

Goodwill Industries

Lutherwood

Family Support Center

Book Drive

Submitted by Jill Johnson, PD Agency Supervisor

At the first Conditions of Confinement Subcommittee meeting in February 2011, JDC Superintendent DeShane Reed expressed a need for books for the children in the JDC to read. Upon learning this, the Marion County Public Defender Agency (MCPDA) commenced a book drive within its office. MCPDA set a goal to collect 1,000 books to donate to the JDC for the benefit of the children, most of whom are MCPDA clients. Employees of the MCPDA responded enthusiastically to the challenge. With their contributions, combined with a generous donation of gently used books from Half Price Books, MCPDA was able to reach its goal. Over 1,000 books covering a range of topics of interested to adolescents now stock the shelves of the JDC library. So many in fact, that Mr. Reed has been forced to find more book-



Detention Center Library pictured above with the books newly added to the collection!

shelves to hold all of the books. Shelving for the permanent bookcases are needed and additional bookcases need to be built. Every week youth living in the detention center are able to borrow a book from the library and every week they have the opportunity of switching out their book for a new book. The books gathered and delivered by the MCPDA have provided age appropriate, educational, and intriguing books for the youth in the detention center to read. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to all those that assisted in this endeavor. You have impacted the lives of many youth for years to come. Thank you for the example of leadership, thoughtfulness, and commitment to these youth!

"I am thankful for the books because I found a book in the library called "Faith to Faith" and its helping me change my life, so thanks."

- T. M.

(Current Detention Center Resident)

"A Historical Update" (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

compliance and quality assurance, totaling 33 provisions.

The Agreement was set for 3 years; thus, the Court had to reach "Substantial Compliance" with each of the provisions by April 9, 2011 in order for the case against Marion Superior Court to be lifted or face further ramifications.

This Memorandum of Agreement, came on the heels of a facility assessment in February 2006, historically known as the MICHIGAN REPORT. described the Marion Superior Court Juvenile Detention Center as being "deplorable," and identified the following issues:

- Overcrowding: ADP in 2005 was 151 in a 144 bed facility; Total Admissions in 2005 were 4794
- Poor Detention Management: Lack of Programming; Low Staff/Juvenile Morale
- **Unfavorable Conditions:** Insufficient staffing; Youth sleeping on cots in gym;

"Facility was dirty"

Inappropriate Juvenile Treatment: Poor Interactions with Juveniles: Poor Grievance Procedures for residents

In May 2006, the Court was accepted as one of the first Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives (JDAI) replication sites, receiving 3-years of funding along with a Technical Assistance (TA) Provider to guide the site through the initial systems change process. Throughout the 3 years, the Indiana JDAI team made great strides in all 8 strategic areas from decreases in case processing and improvements in data collection to decreases in Detention's Average Length of Stay (ALOS) and Total Admissions. However, there was one stone left unturned: the Memorandum of Agreement between the United States Department of Justice and Marion Superior Court Juvenile Detention Center.

In January 2009, DeShane Reed • was hired as the Superintendent of the Marion Superior Court Juvenile Detention Center. His

primary role was to forge new paths of improving "Conditions of Confinement" and lead the MSCJDC through the "Consent Decree" with DOJ.

The DOJ Auditing team completed five compliance tours in the 3-year agreement. Each tour brought about positive outcomes in the eyes of the USDOJ, regarding the desire and tenacity towards sustainable improvements. The MSCJDC steps towards "Substantial Compliance" achievements were as follows:

- Site Audit October 2008 -Substantial Compliance in 0 out of 33 Provisional Areas.
- Site Audit March 2009 -Substantial Compliance in 2 out of 33 Provisional
- Site Audit November 2009-Substantial Compliance in 7 out of 33 Provisional Areas.
- Site Audit September 2010—Substantial Compliance in 16 out of 33 Provisional Areas.

Site Audit March 2011-Substantial Compliance in 28 out of 33 Provisional Areas.

During the March 2011, Site Audit, the United States Department of Justice expert consultants commented, "The Juvenile Detention Center's progress cannot be understated. Compared to the conditions witnessed during the DOJ's investigation in 2007, the JDC is a radically different place!"

On April 19, 2011, the DOJ Consent Decree which began in April 2008 was dismissed with prejudice. Currently the Court and the DOJ are involved in a "Letter of Agreement" which is expected to expire within 180 days of the dismissal date. It is warranted to note that other jurisdictions in other states have been under 3-year "Consent Decrees" from the DOJ which last for 9 years or more.

Congratulations to all who worked so hard to achieve this momentous goal!

Community Engagement

Community Engagement; what does that phrase mean? To engage, according to Webster's Dictionary means: "to carry out or participate in an activity; to consume all of one's attention or time; and to employ the attention and efforts of." And a community according to Webster is: "a body of people having common rights, privileges, or interests, or living in the same place under the same laws and regulations."

Therefore, community engagement means: to participate in an activity with a body of people living in the same area who have common rights, privileges and interests and for that activity to require our efforts and attention.

This is what the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Sub-Committee has chosen to do. The purpose of this task is to learn from the community in the 46218 zip code regarding the impact of the juvenile justice system on their families and lives. The Marion Superior Court and the JDAI Collaborative want to begin engaging in dialogue with the many communities in Marion County in order to better serve the youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

The DMC Sub-Committee chose to focus on the 46218 zip code first because the largest percentage of youth who are detained in the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center live in that zip code. Also, 80-90% of the youth detained from that zip code are African American. A workgroup from the DMC Sub-Committee is working with the **Community Meeting Facilitators** from Martindale-Brightwood (which is located in 46218) in order to co-design a community forum to begin this very important dialogue.

It is the hope of the DMC Sub-Committee that this dialogue will result in further participation from the community in JDAI as well as creative ideas

for supervising youth in the community instead of in the detention center.

Submitted by Jenny Young, JJA

The JDAI Collaborative has also reached out to the Community Resurrection Partnership in Martindale-Brightwood. This organization is made up of the churches that are located within and serve the 46219 zip code.

The DMC Sub-Committee as well as the JDAI Collaborative looks forward to the dialogue ahead and the work in store with the community in 46218. We hope this community forum will mark the beginning of a long and productive relationship.



Page 5

The Sub-Committees & Their Work

Admissions: Dr. Bill Barton and Chris Ball, Co-Chairs

This sub-committee is responsible for five (5) objectives to be achieved in 2011, the Committee appears to be making significant progress in the identified areas and excitement for the anticipated outcomes is growing. One of the primary objectives identified by the Committee was to reduce the number of runaways being brought to RSR, especially those that returned home on their own. Through collaboration with IMPD the general order directing officers when they encounter a runaway that has returned home was rewritten and sent out to all line officers. The 2nd objective that has the potential to impact intakes significantly is the School Collaborative Program. Modeled after the school collaborative project in Georgia; this program works with schools to modify their disciplinary processes to include alternatives to arrest provided by community-based agencies. In the coming months, the Committee will continue to monitor outcomes from these two initiatives as well as focus attention on 3 additional objectives including revalidating the detention risk assessment tool, implementing an informal adjustment process for repeat runaways, and modifying RSR schedules to allow for the continued operation of FYI.

Alternatives: Kevin Riley and Shanna Martin, Co-Chairs

To assist the Court, Probation, Public Defender & Prosecutor's Office in linking youth to the most appropriate and least restrictive alternative, the Alternatives Sub-Committee developed an Alternatives to Detention Guidelines Document. This tool takes into consideration the level of intervention and the appropriateness for using the alternative. Further education on the tool will be necessary to help ensure we have appropriate youth assigned to each alternative. As we attempt to ensure we make appropriate referrals to our alternatives, we must also make certain they are fine-tuned, providing the best service and programming to youth being supervised in the community. One approach the Alternative Sub-committee is exploring is the expansion of faith-base involvement with the Evening Reporting Centers (ERC's). Connecting the community to medium and high risk youth to help make a difference in youths' lives is a goal of the committee. Two areas the committee sees as opportunity to increase our success with supervising ERC youth are mentoring and transportation assistance. Over the next few months informational meetings will be coordinated at each ERC, inviting surrounding churches to help explore this opportunity. Meetings have already been arranged at 2nd Baptist Church (Purpose of Life) and Forest Manor Multi-Service Center.

Case Processing: Magistrate Gael Deppert & Jeff Bercovitz, Co-Chairs

Exploring the possibility of innovations in case processing is the work of the JDAI-Indianapolis Case Processing Team. Recently, its stakeholders met with staff of the respective constituencies (for example, the Case Processing representative from the Court meeting with other judicial officers) to solicit ideas about what changes or improvements to case processing could be made to reduce the average length of stay in secure detention, as well as to increase efficiencies within the juvenile justice system. The members of the sub-committee are also looking closely at the Disposition Hearing for cases of juveniles still detained to determine if any changes around that hearing would result in shorter stays. We are also looking closely at continuances initiated by "the court's own motion" in order to define what that actually means in order to respond to it appropriately. Those ideas will be considered by team members who will decide which, if any, of the ideas warrant submission to Judge Chavers and the Steering Committee for further consideration. The team is also examining multiple data sets to determine whether the average length of stay of a child in secure detention might be lowered in certain situations with certain youth.

Conditions of Confinement: DeShane Reed, Chair

The JDAI "Conditions of Confinement" committee has started the process of assisting the JDC in going paperless and increasing opportunities for more efficient data collecting through QUEST. Incident Reports will soon be typed into QUEST, capturing necessary data to query detention Conditions indicators. This will save staff time, increase efficiency, and uniformity. On April 28, 2011, The MCJDC received their annual Indiana Department of Corrections (IDOC) facility inspection. The facility received 99.63% of 100% compliance in the 277 non-mandatory detention standards and 100% compliance in the 25 mandatory detention standards. Finally, the MCJDC hosted its 3rd Annual "Peace is Power" Anti-Gun Violence Conference on 7/8/2011. The goal of this event was to bring about additional awareness of the dangers of carrying or being in contact guns. Several MCJDC residents participated through reading poems, giving testimony, and sharing advice from personal experiences. The MCJDC next expected Detention event is the "2011 Man Up! Conference," on October 15, 2011.

Disproportionate Minority Contact: Robert Bingham, Clara Anderson, & John Brandon, Co-Chairs

Technical assistance continues to be provided by Michael Finley of the Burns Institute. Sub-committee membership remains at 20+ with meetings held monthly at various community locations. A current, major emphases includes the development of a grant to pilot the training of police officers servicing the 46218 zip code in interactive skills designed for IMPD officers to use with minority youth. Grant application is to be ready for submission in late July with collaborative work provided by the City Grants Division, Juvenile Justice Advocate Jenny Young, Sub-committee member JauNae Hanger, and others.

The Sub-committee completed community engagement homework directed by Michael Finley. Feedback received will be helpful in the design of the initial Community Forum workshop to be scheduled for late 2011 and other initiatives. The Sub-committee has also been active with Indianapolis Star reporters in their development of a major series of articles addressing DMC in the criminal justice system. Review of the effectiveness of the Reminder Call response to improve FTA rates continues as does ongoing statistical review.



Evening Reporting Center Expansion

Submitted by Kevin Riley, Assistant Deputy Chief of Probation

Community assets offer valuable resources in many neighborhoods but they are often pursued by those who want to take advantage of the services. In 2009, a partnership was formed with several key neighborhood based community assets. This led to the development of Evening Reporting Centers (ERC's) for youth who need increased supervision and a connection to pro-social community resources.

The Court's ERC's initially blossomed from partnerships with Forest Manor Multi-Service Center, 2nd Baptist Church, Christamore House and Keenan-Stahl Bovs & Girls Club. Each site continues to offer services to meet risk and need domains for pro -social activities and positive peer support. However, the size of the County has posed a few challenges connecting youth to the ERC sites.

Many of our offenders and families face economic challenges affecting their ability to meet transportation costs. They may not become connected or engaged in their community surroundings and there may not be consideration to changing their lives without a little guidance.

Through an energized effort and an extended hand by Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis our ERC's nearly doubled at the beginning of June. After seeing positive results in reaching out to delinquent youth, the Boys and Girls Club allowed us to expand to 3 additional sites - LeGore, Wheeler-Dowe and the Lilly B & G Units, all of which help promote a neighborhood/ community supervision approach to supervising at risk youth. This advance strengthens our efforts to engage youth by leveraging existing community assets that are in the vicinity of our families' neighborhoods.

Once connected to the Evening Reporting Centers, the youth and families' exposure to additional resources and programming increases their opportunity for success. Although the ERC's are geared toward tutoring and mentoring through discussions, activities, special projects and teen programming, places like Forest Manor Multi-Service Center have broader programming that can be of assistance to parents and guardians.

Additional services include youth development, family development, senior enrichment and job readiness for those residing in the Forest Manor community. connections continue beyond the ERC participation period.

The Boys & Girls Club of Indianapolis provides similar services to promote positive behavior. Youth can expect to partake in educational career programs, recreation, peer interaction, discussion groups and leadership clubs. Youth ordered to several of the ERC's may also take advantage of summer programming outside the required ERC hours of operation. This further builds on the connection to the community. Youth ordered to the Boys and Girls Clubs receive a membership pass, allowing them to return to the facility beyond Court closure.

Success of the ERC's reaching our youth and families belongs to our community partners and their dedicated staff who make lasting connections with high risk delinquent youth; Youth who have an opportunity to change while remaining in their communities under enhanced supervision.

"Compassion and justice are different yet both desperately needed. Let's say we're at a river and people are drowning left and right. Compassion is when we start pulling people out of the water to save their lives. But then someone says that they're going to go upstream and find out who's dumping people in water, that's JUSTICE. And what we need in this world is a few good people to go upstream."

-David Crowder, World Aids Conference 2007

ERC SITES



Forest Manor **Community Center** 5603 E 38th Street Indianapolis, IN 46218 (317) 545-1204



Purpose of Life Ministries (2nd Baptist Church)

3705 Kessler Blvd North Dr Indianapolis, IN 46222

(317) 925-0335 ext 120



Christamore House Community Center

502 N. Tremont Street Indianapolis, IN 46222 (317) 635-7211



Keenan-Stahl Boys & Girls Club

1949 E. Troy Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203 (317)784 - 4561



LeGore Boys & Girls Club

5228 W. Minnesota St. Indianapolis, IN 46241 (317) 241-0557



Lilly Boys & Girls Club

801 S. State Ave Indianapolis, IN 46241 (317) 632-2010



Wheeler-Dowe Boys & **Girls Club**

2310 E. 30th St. Indianapolis, IN 46218 (317) 926-4222

Refer to ERC Site Map on Page 7

Marion Superior Court Probation Dept. Juvenile Services Division

MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance community safety through enforcement of court orders while striving to empower individuals and change lives.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To treat everyone we encounter in the workplace with dignity and fairness, respecting individual and cultural diversity.

To develop and utilize evidence-based interventions to promote personal responsibility, social growth, and family stability.

To maintain accountability by completing all duties in an accurate, timely and teamwork.

To partner with criminal justice agencies, community associations, academic institutions, and general public to provide services aimed at enhancing community safety.

VISION STATEMENT

A community that embodies hope and respect.

MARION COUNTY

Judge Marilyn A. Moores

Marion Superior Court, Juvenile Division 2451 N. Keystone Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46218 (317) 327-8300

How many counties have been identified as JDAI Expansion Sites in Indiana, and what are their names?

For more information please contact:
Jenny Young, Juvenile Justice Advocate

Phone: 317-327-8607 Fax: 317-327-8301

E-mail: Jenny.Young@indy.gov

