



Agency Coordination for
**YOUTH PREVENTION &
INTERVENTION SERVICES**

OCTOBER 2015



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Executive Summary

The following report was prepared by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Military Department (formerly the Adjutant General's Department) in accordance with the State 2016-2017 Appropriations Act. Section 17.07 of Article IX directed the named state agencies to coordinate the delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services and to report to the Legislative Budget Board detailed monitoring, tracking, utilization, outcome, and effectiveness information on all juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services for the preceding five fiscal year period.

To carry out this work, an interagency workgroup was formed with representation from the four named state agencies. The group met to learn about one another's programming; to identify key considerations in the coordination, planning and delivery of services; and to identify opportunities to enhance the coordination, planning and delivery of prevention and intervention services. Each of the named agencies summarized its dropout and delinquency prevention efforts, providing a snapshot of services, eligibility criteria, and outcomes from each program. Of particular interest was the consolidation of prevention programming within the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) where, in response to the State's Sunset review process, the Legislature moved certain prevention programs in HHSC and the Department of State Health Services to the Prevention and Early Intervention division of the Department of Family and Protective Services. The Legislature also required the submission of a detailed, five-year strategic plan from this division in September of 2016. The complete matrix is found in Appendix A. Additionally, each agency submitted brief overviews of its dropout and delinquency prevention efforts, including monitoring information, outcomes, and available data.

This report includes the legislatively required information, along with a description of coordination activities accomplished by the workgroup to date. The report also includes an examination and discussion of common factors associated with dropout and delinquency, the role of prevention and early intervention services in addressing common factors, and opportunities to further improve the coordination of services.

SECTION 1: Legislative Charge

2015-2016 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, Sec.17.07

AGENCY COORDINATION FOR YOUTH PREVENTION & INTERVENTION SERVICES

From funds appropriated above for the purpose of juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Military Department shall coordinate the delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services. Juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services are programs or services that are aimed at preventing academic failure, failure on state assessments, dropout, juvenile delinquency, truancy, runaways, and children living in family conflict. Each of the agencies listed above shall coordinate services with the others to prevent redundancy and to ensure optimal service delivery to youth at risk of engaging in delinquency and/or dropping out of school. Programs shall demonstrate effectiveness through established outcomes.

Not later than October 1 of each fiscal year, the agencies shall provide to the Legislative Budget Board, detailed monitoring, tracking, utilization, outcome, and effectiveness information on all juvenile delinquency prevention and dropout prevention and intervention services for the preceding five fiscal year period. The reports shall include information on the impact of all juvenile delinquency and dropout prevention and intervention initiatives and programs delivered or monitored by the agencies.

SECTION 2: Interagency Workgroup: A Shared Understanding

While Texas has seen recent decreases among youth in rates of both school dropout and juvenile justice referrals, the individual and social costs associated with their continued occurrence compel state agencies serving youth to do more to help them succeed in education and prevent contacts with the justice system.

As the state continues to look for ways to more effectively and efficiently coordinate services that support the positive development of youth and decrease dropout and delinquency rates, there is a shared understanding among the workgroup members of the agencies named in Rider 17.07 of the need for:

- (1) **Preventing or mitigating the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), including trauma, which impact the way children and youth think, learn, and behave.**¹ According to research, the developing brain is highly sensitive to the presence of stress hormones. When present in high levels or over long periods of time, stress hormones can physically alter structures in a child’s brain that control decision making, regulation of emotions, and the processing of information. Programs that prevent or mitigate the impact of ACEs will reduce the broad burden ACEs place on education, justice, and health and human service systems.
- (2) **Implementing interventions targeting both risk factors and protective factors linked to reducing dropout and delinquency.** It is not enough to stop something “bad” from happening. Prevention and early intervention goals should include fostering resiliency and competency in children and youth to overcome inevitable challenges and be equipped to for success at home, in school, and into adulthood.
- (3) **Aligning and coordinating with other programs that target common risk and protective factors.** A strong interconnectedness exists among dropout and delinquency and other social problems, such as truancy, substance abuse, abuse and neglect, suicide, teen pregnancy, and domestic violence. Prevention efforts that focus exclusively on one domain and fail to acknowledge the strong interconnectedness among risk factors stunt state goals to reduce negative outcomes and increase positive outcomes.

¹ See the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/>

- (4) **Recognizing the roles of families, schools and communities in increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors among children and youth.** Many risk and protective factors for dropout, delinquency, and other social concerns of children and youth are attributes of their families, schools and communities. Families, schools and communities can serve not only as milieus for interventions; they can also be the targets of intervention effort.
- (5) **Viewing prevention and intervention efforts as a continuum, not one time endeavors.** Resiliency develops over time, building upon protective factors, such as relationships established in early childhood, and evolving as a child grows into school age and adolescence. Just as youth may require “booster” shots to extend the protection of childhood vaccinations, youth will benefit from regular doses of prevention and intervention efforts that are tailored to their evolving developmental needs.

SECTION 3: An Overview of Juvenile Delinquency and Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services in Texas

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES (DFPS)

The Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Division with DFPS contracts with community-based agencies and organizations to provide services designed to prevent the abuse, neglect, delinquency, and truancy of Texas children. Services are voluntary and are provided at no cost to participants, however all services are not available statewide.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Contracts are formally monitored through a Statewide Monitoring Plan based on a Risk Assessment Instrument. This is done annually and includes the areas of Fiscal, Administrative, and Program. Contracts are also regularly reviewed through submission of contractor quarterly reports and review of data and reports from Prevention and Early Intervention database. If a deficiency or issue is identified regarding contract performance, Contract Managers and/or Program Specialists work with contractors in implementing Corrective Action Plans. Performance outcomes, outputs and efficiencies by fiscal year are listed below.

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The Community Youth Development (CYD) program contracts with community based organizations to provide juvenile delinquency prevention services in 15 areas of the state with a high incidence of juvenile crime. Communities prioritize and develop prevention services according to local needs. Approaches include youth-leadership development, life-skills classes, character education, conflict resolution, tutoring, mentoring, career preparation, and recreation. The 84th Legislature increased funding for CYD to include an additional 3 zip codes starting in FY 2017.

Client Eligibility: Youth ages 6-17, with a focus on youth ages 10-17, who live in or attend school in one of the designated ZIP codes.

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYD)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percent of CYD youth not referred to juvenile probation	98.3%	98.8%	98.1%	98.6%	98.8%
Annual number of youth served	17,799	19,731	16,900	16,767	17,932
Average monthly number of youth served	5,930	6,158	5,530	5,530	6,914
Average monthly cost per youth served	\$75.14	\$82.77	\$69.91	\$71.63	\$62.11

STATEWIDE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK (SYSN)

These services are evidence-based, prevention services provided by established statewide networks of community-based prevention programs that must work to prevent juvenile delinquency and create positive outcomes for youth by increasing protective factors.

Client Eligibility: At-risk youth between the ages of 6-17 years of age, with an emphasis on youth 10-17 years of age.

STATEWIDE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK (SYSN)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percent of SYSN youth not referred to juvenile probation	99.0%	98.4%	98.3%	98.5%	98.6%
Annual number of youth served	5,513	5,720	5,273	4,384	4,191
Average monthly number of youth served	3,099	3,126	3,055	2,506	2,251
Average monthly cost per youth served	\$51.73	\$52.94	\$43.65	\$50.71	\$56.48

SERVICES TO AT-RISK YOUTH

The Services to At-Risk Youth (STAR) program contracts with community agencies to offer family crisis intervention counseling, short-term emergency respite care, and individual and family counseling. These services are available in all 254 Texas counties. Each STAR contractor also provides universal child abuse prevention services, such as informational brochures and parenting classes.

Client Eligibility: Youth and children younger than 18 who are runaways or truant, are living in family conflict, or have been accused of delinquency or misdemeanor or state felony offenses but have not been adjudicated by a court.

SERVICES TO AT-RISK YOUTH (STAR)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percent of STAR youth not referred to juvenile probation	95.6%	96.3%	96.6%	93.6%	93.8%
Annual number of youth served	30,042	30,168	26,834	23,677	23,943
Average monthly number of youth served	6,116	6,438	5,863	5,351	5,629
Average monthly cost per youth served	\$287.90	\$246.38	\$243.84	\$255.16	\$252.48
Percent of STAR children who remain safe	99.5%	99.6%	99.7%	99.7%	99.7%
Percent of STAR youth with better outcomes 90 days after termination	87.3%	87.7%	87.5%	86.4%	86.8%

*STAR is a hybrid of Child Abuse and Neglect and Juvenile Delinquency Prevention program. In FY 14 based on presenting problems, 77.6% of the youth population served under STAR was child abuse prevention and 22.4% was juvenile delinquency prevention.

TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT (TJJD)

PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

The Prevention and Early Intervention programs of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) are relatively new programs, authorized in Section 203.0065 of the Texas Human Resources Code in 2011, and initiated in early 2012 when the Texas Juvenile Justice Board transferred money from its juvenile correctional strategies to the new community-based prevention and early intervention strategy.

Section 203.0065 of the Texas Human Resources Code defines prevention and intervention services as “programs and services intended to prevent or intervene in at-risk behaviors that lead to delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school, or referral to the juvenile justice system.” The statute indicated that the populations to be served through these services were at-risk youth, ages 6 through 17 years old and their families.

Through a competitive request for proposals process in early 2012, TJJD awarded \$1.4 million in grant funds to 24 probation departments to implement prevention and early intervention programs for youth who were not under departmental supervision, but who were identified to be at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school, or referral to the juvenile justicesystem.

Through these grants, probation departments partner with a variety of providers to offer a range of services to youth ages 6 years through 17 years who are at increased risk of later involvement with the juvenile justice system. Some departments partnered with out-of-school time youth service providers to provide educational assistance, mentoring, character development, and skills building (e.g., problem-solving, anger management, conflict resolution skills, etc.) after school or during summers. Other departments focused on providing parents of at-risk youth with the skills, services, and supports they need to better manage their children’s challenging behaviors. Some departments identified their major focus for intervention as truancy intervention programs and worked with local elementary, middle, and high schools to provide services, supports, resources, and accountability to ensure students are and remain actively engaged in school.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Contracts for the prevention and early intervention services are regularly reviewed through the contractors’ submission of annual fiscal and programmatic reports, monthly data provision, and quarterly data reports. If a deficiency or issue is identified regarding performance, a program specialist works with contractors to remedy the situation immediately. Data are analyzed to assess rates of successful completion of programming and the prevention programs’ impact on participants’ likelihood to be formally referred to the juvenile justice system. Additionally, agreements with the Texas Education Agency have been obtained and will facilitate future data matches for participants with parental consent to assess the prevention programs’ impact on discipline referrals and school attendance.

Available performance outcomes, outputs and efficiencies for FY 12-14 are listed below.

TJJD PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of youth served			1296	2054	2141
Percent of youth completing prevention program successfully			80.3%	86%	88%
Percent of eligible youth not referred to juvenile probation during participation			97.2%	95.9%	94.8%
Percent of youth with improved school attendance					
Percent of youth with decreased discipline referrals at school					

Note: TJJD's Prevention and Early Intervention Programs were established in 2012. There are no data to report for years 2009-2011.

Data indicate over 2100 children and adolescents received TJJD-funded prevention and early intervention services during FY 14. The average age of children receiving services was 11 years. Of the youth served, 54% were male; and 46% were female. Approximately 80% of the children served were youth of color. The average length of service varied with the type of program being provided, ranging from a brief 39 days for an intensive parenting skills program for families referred by the justice of the peace to the longest service period to a year- round community-based out-of-school time program.

Over 88% of the youth who completed prevention and early intervention services in FY 2014 did so successfully. 8.6% of the youth failed to comply with the terms of the program and just under 3% were determined to be unsuitable for the program (e.g., were determined to be under active supervision, were outside the eligible age range, etc.)

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY (TEA)

The Texas Education Agency provides grants to school districts, charter schools, non-profit organizations and other eligible entities to provide voluntary dropout prevention services for Kindergarten – grade 12 students who are identified as at-risk of dropping out of school. TEA's dropout prevention and at-risk programs are designed and administered in accordance with statutory requirements and best-practice research for dropout prevention programs.

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS (CIS)

This prevention program is funded by the General Appropriations Act (GAA), Article III, Rider 23, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. TEA provides state level support for the CIS of Texas program. CIS is a school-based dropout prevention program that includes collaborations among educators, parents and students to provide one-to-one case managed services to help at-risk students to stay in school and progress through high school graduation. CIS builds relationships with high need students and provides an array of learning supports to prevent dropout risk factors such as school failure, truancy, delinquency, pregnancy, and bullying. CIS intervenes in crisis situations, works to reduce risk factors, and works to strengthen protective factors -- including creating a college and career mindset for all students. Students are referred to CIS by student support teams, campus administrators, teachers and parents. CIS customizes a learning support plan for each student; including academic, social, emotional and behavioral supports to address student needs. The CIS site coordinator provides direct services, connects students with community resources or volunteers, monitors student progress, and adjusts the service plan as needed in order to keep the student in school and progressing toward graduation.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

TEA manages a set of policies, quality standards and a CIS student-level database. The agency provides professional development, technical assistance, supports quality assurance, and coordinates the work of local CIS providers, Texas school districts, and charter schools. TEA annually analyzes student outcome data and prepares performance reports for the legislature, local CIS boards of directors and other stakeholders.

According to a legislatively authorized study, [Best Practices in Dropout Prevention in Texas](#) (2008)², CIS was found to be one of only three best practice dropout prevention programs in the nation. The study found that the following strategies were commonly used by the programs with the strongest positive outcomes:

- School-community collaboration
- Safe learning environments
- Family engagement
- Mentoring/tutoring
- Alternative schooling
- Active learning

²Best Practices in Dropout Prevention. (2008). ICF International and The National Dropout Prevention Center and Network at Clemson University.

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS IN TEXAS					
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
CIS PROFILE					
CIS of Texas local chapters statewide (grantees)	27	28	28	27	27
Campuses served	865	773	664	691	817
School districts	148	144	121	129	149
Counties		75		66	98
Case managed students served	89,575	88,646	65,571	63,527	86,705
Average state and local amount spent per case managed student	\$751	\$995	\$958	\$936	\$808
STUDENT PERFORMANCE (CASE MANAGED STUDENT OUTCOMES)					
Stayed in school	99%	99%	98%	98%	99%
Promoted to the next grade	87%	94%	94%	94%	94%
Eligible seniors graduated	88%	92%	92%	94%	94%
Targeted for academics, improved	86%	87%	87%	89%	89%
Targeted for attendance, improved	74%	75%	75%	79%	78%
Targeted for behavior, improved	90%	92%	92%	93%	93%
FUNDING					
General Revenue	\$16,130,976	\$16,130,976	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$14,441,300
TANF	\$4,842,342	\$4,842,341	\$4,842,342	\$4,842,341	\$3,815,990
Total	\$20,973,318	\$20,973,317	\$14,842,342	\$14,842,341	\$18,257,290

AMACHI TEXAS (MENTORING)

This prevention program is funded by the General Appropriations Act (GAA), Article III, Rider 52, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. Amachi Texas provides one-to-one mentoring for youth ages 6 – 18 whose parents or family members are incarcerated, on probation, or recently released from the prison system. The goal of this program is to “break the cycle” of incarceration in Texas and thereby positively impact school districts across the state. The youth that are served are referred through partnerships such as agreements with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Prison Fellowship and Re-Entry programs across Texas. The youth are engaged in both school based and community based mentoring relationships with trained volunteers. Ongoing supervision, support and training for volunteers are provided to support retention of mentors. Services include match-support and group activities for the volunteers, families and students served.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Lone Star implements the Amachi mentoring program. BBBS Lone Star subcontracts with eight BBBS agencies throughout Texas to provide mentoring for children of incarcerated adults.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Progress reports are reported to TEA quarterly. BBBS Lone Star reports outcomes to TEA annually. TEA has assigned a program specialist to monitor quarterly data reports and the final annual report of program outcomes. TEA program staff works with BBBS leadership during the school year in order to provide guidance and to ensure the program is on track to accomplish goals.

AMACHI TEXAS (MENTORING)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total number of matches/students served during the grant year	2741	2727	2459	2036	1730
Total number of matches still open at the end of the grant period	1742	1763	1503	1268	1052
Percentage of matches eligible for six months sustainability that were sustained for six months	87%	83%	86%	83%	82%
Percentage of matches eligible for 12 months sustainability that were sustained for 12 months	80%	59%	61%	58%	55%
Percentage of students who were mentored for at least 6 months that were referred to the juvenile justice system ⁴	1.7%	1.3%	2.6%	2.0%	1.8%
Number and percentage of students who were mentored for at least 6 months who were referred to a disciplinary alternative placement at school ⁵	2.3%	4.4%	4.0%	4.0%	4.2%
Percentage of mentored students who were promoted to the next grade level ⁶	97.6%	98.0%	98.5%	98.6%	98.7%
Percentage of students who demonstrated increased self-confidence on the Program Outcome Evaluation (POE)	78.7%	82.0%	88.0%	78.0%	90.0%
Percentage of mentored students who demonstrated an improvement in relationships on the Program Outcome Evaluation (POE)	53.2%	71.0%	73.0%	85.0%	86.1%

⁴ Teacher, Parent End of Year Survey Report

⁵ Teacher, Parent End of Year Survey Report

⁶ Teacher, Parent End of Year Survey Report

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

This prevention program is funded under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title IV, Part B, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (also known as Texas Afterschool Centers on Education or Texas ACE) provide academic enrichment opportunities during out-of-school hours for students in high-poverty and/or low performing schools. This federal grant is awarded to TEA, which in turn, competitively awards grants to eligible grantees to implement high-quality afterschool and summer programs. The Texas ACE Centers provide programs and services to support student performance in five key areas: academic performance, school attendance, school behavior, promotion rates, and graduation rates.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

To ensure that grantees funded by the ACE program are positioned to achieve program objectives, TEA has developed a research-based Critical Success Model (CSM). This model includes four Critical Success Factors (CSFs) which represent behavioral changes that should be demonstrated by students and families enrolled in the program, or by the adults working on their behalf, to ensure success in meeting programmatic goals and objectives. TEA contracts with an independent evaluator to determine which program strategies and approaches are most effective within particular contexts in encouraging student behaviors (CSFs) that lead to improved student outcomes.

Student Outcomes - Results from Independent Evaluation of Texas ACE Centers⁷:

- ACE program participation for students in grades 9–10 was associated with higher scores in reading/English language arts and mathematics on the state level assessments.
- ACE program participants in grades 6–12 had fewer disciplinary incidents than nonparticipating students.
- Participation of students in grades 4–11 was associated with fewer school day absences.
- ACE participants in grades 7–11 who attended 30 days or more had an increased likelihood of grade promotion.
- ACE participants in grades 4–5 and grades 7–11 attending 60 days or more had an increased likelihood of grade promotion. For high school students attending 60 days or more, there was a 97% chance of being promoted to the next grade level.

Additional Findings⁸:

- Program quality matters. Centers implementing higher-quality practices were correlated with greater reductions in disciplinary referrals and higher rates of grade promotion than programs less apt to implement these practices.
- Connections with other organizations and agencies within the community greatly enhance afterschool centers' programming options.

⁷ Naftzger, N., Manzeske, D., Nistler, M., Swanlund, A., Rapaport, A., Shields, J., Sugar, S. (2012). Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers: Final evaluation report. Naperville, IL: American Institutes for Research.

⁸ Naftzger, N., Manzeske, D., Nistler, M., Swanlund, A., Rapaport, A., Shields, J., Sugar, S. (2012). Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers: Final evaluation report. Naperville, IL: American Institutes for Research.

TEXAS AFTERSCHOOL CENTERS ON EDUCATION (TEXASACE)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Students	141,441	200,658	228,919	221,187	200,819
Total Regular Students *	89,299	115,509	147,350	145,701	132,115
Total Non-Regular Students	52,142	85,148	81,569	75,486	68,704
Students by Category **					
Percentage of Limited English Proficiency youth served	18%	17%	18%	18%	19%
Economically Disadvantaged	72%	68%	69%	69%	69%
Special Needs	8%	8%	7%	7%	7%
At Risk	53%	49%	75%	47%	52%
Migrant	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%

* “Regular” students are defined by the United States Department of Education as participants who attend the program for must attend a minimum or 30 days in a calendar year

** Students may be part of more than one category

TEXAS ACADEMIC INNOVATION AND MENTORING

This prevention program is funded by the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 53, 8th Texas Legislature, 2015. The purpose of Academic Innovation and Mentoring (TX AIM) is to expand statewide an after-school and summer program designed to close the student achievement gap between minority, low-income, and English Language Learners who are at risk of dropping out of school and their counterparts. The program enables targeted students in low performing schools at 32 sites across Texas to enroll in after-school and summer recreational programs that effectively address student achievement gaps through a combination of skills gap remediation and at-risk prevention services. One half of the service sites are along the Texas-Mexico border. While traditional Boys & Girls Clubs (BGC) programming addresses comprehensive prevention needs, the TX AIM partner, Sylvan Learning Center, provides evidence-based curriculum. Instruction is provided by certified teachers. Through joint delivery of the program, children receive seamless services from two strong partners. Additionally, the staff development that BGC receives from the Sylvan partnership enables growth and capacity building for the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

The Boys and Girls Club and Sylvan Learning Center collect and monitor student data. Student level data is used during the school year to identify the academic needs of each individual student and to inform the provision of services for each student. The TEA program manager develops a progress report in order to manage program performance. The summary performance data is reported to TEA at scheduled points during the year, and is reported to TEA in a final performance report at the end of the school year.

TEXAS ACADEMIC INNOVATION AND MENTORINGc1 1					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Percentage of TX AIM youth that advance an academic level*	88%	88%	86%	88%	84%
Number of youth served annually		2166	2337	2179	2288
Average monthly amount spent per youth served		\$58	\$54	\$57	\$55
Percentage of Limited English Proficiency youth served	25%	28%	40%	23%	25%
Percentage of TX AIM youth who received a C or better for a subject in which they received services		92%	88%	85%	89%
Percentage of TX AIM youth that passed the state level assessment**				85%	75%

* An academic level is defined as an increase in Growth Scale Value from pre-assessment to post-assessment.

** Satisfactory or unsatisfactory scores were collected from 524 youth statewide.

TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT

TEXAS CHALLENGE ACADEMY (TCA)

The Texas ChalleNGe Academy (TCA) is an evidence-based program designed to provide opportunities to adolescents who have dropped out of school but demonstrate a desire to improve their potential for successful and productive lives. A voluntary, preventive program, the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (NGYCP) helps young people improve their life skills, education levels and employment potential. Sixteen-to-18-year-old male and female high school dropouts are eligible to apply for the 17-month program, which includes a five-month residential phase followed by a 12-month mentoring phase. TCA was created in 1994 as an AmeriCorps Program and transitioned to a National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (Seaborne ChalleNGe Corps) in 1999. Hurricane Ike's landfall on Galveston Island in 2008 forced the program to relocate to Sheffield, Texas. Texas has opened a second campus in Eagle Lake which began serving students in July 2015.

Authorized and funded through the Department of Defense, the National Guard Bureau is responsible for management and oversight of the 35 ChalleNGe academies that have graduated more than 120,000 participants to date. Led by professionals who emphasize structure, discipline, education and life skills, the Youth ChalleNGe Program provides those who drop out of school the chance to grow into productive and accomplished young adults.

Monitoring, Tracking, and Effectiveness

Independent evaluations have found the Youth ChalleNGe program to be effective. MDRC, a social policy research organization, concluded a multi-year evaluation of the Youth ChalleNGe Program and found it significantly improves the educational attainment, employability and income earning potential of those who participate in the program.⁹ A RAND Corporation cost-benefit analysis found the Youth ChalleNGe Program generates \$2.66 in benefits for every dollar expended on the program, a return on investment of 166 percent.¹⁰ This return is substantially above that for other rigorously evaluated social programs that target disadvantaged youth. Recently, Promising Practices Network identified the ChalleNGe Program as a "proven" program.¹¹ "The Texas ChalleNGe Academy has graduated 859 students in the past five years with an average high school completion rate of 71.7%. The average academic growth rate was two years and seven months with an average of five academic credits recovered during the 22 week residential phase.

FY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Enrolled	186	186	232	244	246
Graduated	128	138	194	199	200
Retention %	68.82%	74.19%	83.62%	81.56%	81.3%
HS Completion	103	104	145	160	95
HS Completion %	80.47%	75.36%	74.74%	80.40%	47.5%
TABE Math Growth (yrs)	3.1	3.7	2.4*	2.2*	2.1*
TABE Reading Growth (yrs)	2.4	2.3	2.4*	2.2*	2.1*
AVG # of Credits per student	5	5	5	5	5

* Grade equivalent reporting changed to reporting the total combined growth

⁹ MDRC. (2011) *Staying on Course: Three-Year Results of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Evaluation*

¹⁰ RAND Corporation. (2012) *A Cost-Benefit Analysis of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program*.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR1193.html

¹¹ <http://www.promisingpractices.net>

SECTION 4:

Dropout and Delinquency Prevention and Intervention Coordination Activities of Rider 17.07 Workgroup

IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR, THE WORKGROUP HAS ENGAGED IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- Shared information and updates on agency and legislative activities which stand to impact various prevention/intervention efforts.
- Examined each of the delinquency, dropout prevention and intervention programs funded by participating agencies, the populations and locations served, and evidence of the programs' effectiveness. (See [Appendix A](#)).
- Identified conferences which align with their shared goals, such as: the DFPS sponsored *Partners in Prevention Conference*; the TJJJ-coordinated interagency *Strengthening Youth and Families Conference*; and the *National Drop-Out Prevention Conference*, which the Texas Education Agency is supporting, to be held in San Antonio in 2015.
- Identified programs and resources to potentially utilize to improve the coordination and delivery of dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention services at the state and local levels, such as the 2-1-1 system and social impact bonds.
- Identified national resources related to research-informed and promising practices related to dropout, delinquency and other prevention and intervention services. (See [Appendix C](#) and [Appendix D](#))
- Identified need for a broader scan of other state funded prevention and intervention programs that increase protective factors or decrease risk factors in at-risk youth.
- Toured the Texas Military Department's STARBASE educational outreach program for 5th grade students focusing on the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering, and math and dedicated to enhancing the performance, success and personal growth of youth.

OUTCOMES OF THESE COORDINATION ACTIVITIES HAVE INCLUDED:

- **Data Informed Decision Making.** TJJJ provided DFPS with data to assist in identifying communities with a high demonstrated need for Community Youth Development programming, resulting in effective targeting of resources.
- **Collaboration on Conferences.** Conferences provide opportunities for cross- agency training, networking, and information-sharing amongst the state agencies as well as the service providers. Following the workgroup's identification of agency hosted and other conferences, DFPS is co-funding TJJJ's 2015 Strengthening Youth and Families conference. DFPS also shared with TJJJ its conference registration platform, resulting in TJJJ not having to expend additional resource to purchase a separate registration platform. In addition, plans have been made to integrate DFPS's Partners in Prevention and TJJJ's

Strengthening Youth and Families conferences in 2017. The Texas Education Agency engaged the workgroup to support The National Dropout Prevention Center with planning for the 2015 National Dropout Prevention Conference to be held in San Antonio in October 2015. Workgroup members participated in planning efforts including offering presentations for the national conference and inviting conference participants.

- **Increased Awareness of Available Resources.** TJJD alerted DFPS of end-of-fiscal-year funding available to local probation departments through TJJD's prevention programming. This enabled DFPS to share information with its network of prevention providers, who then had the opportunity to contact and encourage the probation departments serving their communities to utilize the funding to prevent youth from coming into contact with the juvenile justice system. Agencies also used the workgroup to alert one another of and discuss an opportunity to receive training and technical assistance through the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform related to multi-system collaboration for infrastructure development.

SECTION 5: Key Considerations and Next Steps in Coordinating Services

The workgroup identified several areas of consideration requiring focused attention for continuing efforts. Several of these activities are driven in large parts by the engagement of other agencies or entities, as well as legislative direction.

CONSIDERATION 1:

The size, diversity, location of resources, and infrastructure of Texas strongly influence prevention and intervention coordination activities.

With over 268,000 square miles, Texas is the largest of the 48 contiguous states, accounting for 7.4% of the total US land area and equal to the land area of all six New England states, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina combined. While 88.5% of the Texas population concentrated in urban areas, the state includes various urban, rural, border and frontier regions, each with their own unique needs and resources. Texas is the second most populous state in the nation, with the fastest growing child population in the country.¹² Texas boasts the second largest school enrollment in the country, enrolling over 5 million children in 2014. Coordinating services is inherently more challenging in a state the size of Texas than it is in states with smaller geography and populations, underscoring the critical importance of using a strategic approach to prevention initiatives.

Several infrastructures exist that can assist in coordinating service delivery at both the state and local levels, but there are barriers present. State agencies map out their service regions within the state differently. Discussions on having a specialized versus centralized planning and/or administrative structure at the state level for prevention and intervention efforts reveal benefits and challenges to both approaches.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Commit to meeting on a monthly basis.
- Investigate how to use existing infrastructure at the state and local levels, such as DFPS's Texas Prevention Network.
- Encourage interagency coordination.
- Disseminate effective and promising practices, including webinar technology.

CONSIDERATION 2:

Risks factors are interconnected. Prevention and intervention efforts addressing risk factors should be connected, too.

Dropout and delinquency are strongly related to other factors which are the targets of additional prevention programming funded by the state, including abuse and neglect, substance abuse, suicide, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, and others.¹³ State agencies charged with improving dropout and delinquency outcomes need to coordinate and collaborate with other agency efforts aimed at preventing factors associated with dropout and delinquency, such as mental health, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, foster care, and workforce preparation. The identification of the full array of prevention and intervention services funded by the state is needed to assist in determining how services and systems may strengthen coordination. Given the common root factors associated with both the causes of, and solutions to, the specific problems that child -serving agencies are charged with addressing, there is a strong need for cross-agency data sharing and shared outcomes.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Identify risk and protective factors and outcome measures that are common or complimentary across prevention programs.
- Identify and invite additional agencies and programs to participate in the youth prevention and intervention workgroup.
- Work with the Texas Prevention Network established by DFPS to develop its 2017-2022 Strategic Plan for Prevention and Early Intervention in the following focus areas:
 - The appropriate and sound use of evidence-based programming;
 - A system of research and evaluation of prevention programs and initiatives;
 - A plan for coordinating systems at the state and local level to support prevention efforts and a continuum of services;
 - A discussion of a healthy and balanced continuum of prevention services including all life-stages, all levels of risk, and primary, secondary, and tertiary strategies;
 - Strategies for sustaining prevention programs, including the leveraging of private funding; and
 - Best practices for procuring and managing contracted services funded by DFPS.

CONSIDERATION 3:

Meaningful and lasting change happens at the local level. The state can help make it happen.

Creative, effective, and innovative programming and partnerships are happening in communities across the state. The state has opportunities to facilitate, develop and reward effective and promising practices so more families in more areas of the state can benefit.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Invite representatives from institutes of higher education to partner with the workgroup to identify areas of opportunity to promote effective, innovative practices at local levels. Potential partners include the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health at UT Austin; Texas Agrilife Extension

Service; Texas A & M University's Public Policy Research Institute and Sequor Youth Development Initiative; and the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M. Areas to explore include:

- Providing cross-system training and technical assistance on effective prevention practices.
 - Assisting in examining and analyzing research and data to facilitate policy development and program planning.
 - Identifying and strengthening promising practices.
 - Seeking opportunities to produce Texas specific research on prevention and early intervention, similar to research conducted by Washington State Institute for Public Policy for the purpose of informing the Washington State policymakers.
- When discretionary funding is available to help communities address dropout and delinquency prevention and intervention, state agencies should:
 - Coordinate with other programs that address common risk factors and seek common or complementary outcomes.
 - Utilize evidence based/research informed practices whenever possible.
 - Expand the ability to design, develop, and implement process and outcome evaluations.
 - Target high need communities.

CONSIDERATION 4:

Youth, family, and community voices are needed to guide prevention and intervention efforts.

Youth, family, and community voices are invaluable in guiding prevention and intervention efforts. The most thoughtfully planned and implemented interventions will have minimal impact if they do not address the needs and circumstances of the youth and/or families they are serving. Families, youth, and communities understand best what services and programs are needed to help children and youth be successful. In addition to the use of data by state agencies to evaluate program outcomes, youth and families can provide key insights regarding programs and services that have made a meaningful impact.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Identify opportunities, organizations, data and other resources to help inform the workgroup that reflect youth, family and community perspective.
- Develop a plan to bring in authentic youth, family and community voice into the workgroup.

CONSIDERATION 5:

Great work has already been done. Let's build on it.

The efforts of the Rider 17.07 Workgroup are not the first or only attempt to improve the coordination and delivery of services that help keep young people in school and out of the juvenile justice system. Several studies, strategic plans, and recommendations derived from diverse sources of state data, experience, and expertise can provide a valuable roadmap on how Texas can help foster healthy and successful children and youth and prevent dropout and delinquency.

To address this consideration, the workgroup will:

- Work closely with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Service as it develops and implements a Five Year Strategic Plan in accordance with Section 265.005 of the Texas Family Code.
- Further explore existing education, juvenile justice and social service dropout and delinquency prevention research and best-practice literature to identify additional strategies for coordination of prevention services among education, juvenile justice and social service organizations.

APPENDIX A:

Detailed Information of Workgroup Agency Delinquency and Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services

Rider 17.07 Coordination of Prevention Services Workgroup

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

STATEWIDE YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK (SYSN): Provide prevention and early intervention programs that seek to increase protective factors and target services to at-risk youth for prevention of poor outcomes associated with juvenile delinquency. SYSN contracts provide community and evidence-based juvenile delinquency programs focused on youth ages 10-17 in each DFPS region. The SYSN program was funded through Rider 32 during the 80th Legislature. The rider indicated that \$3,000,000 of the initial funding be allocated.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star

Total Funds FY 14: \$1,525,000

Brief Description of Program: Provides School-Based Mentoring and Community-Based Mentoring. The Statewide Youth Services Network contracts provide community and evidence-based juvenile delinquency prevention programs focused on youth ages 10 through 17, in each DFPS region.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,805

Counties Served: Anderson, Angelina, Archer, Armstrong, Atascosa, Austin, Bailey, Bandera, Bastrop, Baylor, Bee, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Borden, Bosque, Bowie, Brazoria, Briscoe, Brooks, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Callahan, Cameron, Camp, Carson, Cass, Castro, Chambers, Cherokee, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collin, Collingsworth, Colorado, Comal, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Delta, Denton, Dickens, Dimmit, Donley, Duval, Eastland, Edwards, El Paso, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Floyd, Fort Bend, Franklin, Freestone, Frio, Gaines, Garza, Gillespie, Gray, Grayson, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hale, Hall, Hamilton, Hansford, Hardeman, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Hartley, Hays, Hemphill, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hill, Hockey, Hood, Hopkins, Hudspeth, Hunt, Hutchinson, Jack, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Johnson, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kendall, Kenedy, Kent, Kerr, Kimble, King, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Lamar, Lamb, Lampasas, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Lipscomb, Live Oak, Llano, Lubbock, Lynn, Marion, Mason, Matagorda, Maverick, McCulloch, McLennan, McMullen, Medina, Milam, Mills, Montague, Montgomery, Moore, Morris, Motley, Nacogdoches,

Navarro, Newton, Nolan, Nueces, Ochiltrie, Oldham, Orange, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Parmer, Polk, Potter, Rains, Randall, Real, Red River, Roberts, Robertson, Rockwall, Runnels, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, San Saba, Shelby, Sherman, Smith, Somervell, Starr, Tarrant, Taylor, Terry, Titus, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Uvalde, Van Verde, Van Zandt, Walker, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wheeler, Wilbarger, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Wise, Wood, Yoakum, Zapata, and Zavala.

Eligibility Requirements: Youth ages 6 through 17. Target ages are 10-17. Youth in the conservatorship of CPS are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who have involvement with Juvenile Probation are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who are on informal probation or have not been adjudicated are eligible. If Child Protective Services (CPS) is in the process of an investigation of child abuse/neglect, SYSN Contractors may not register the youth or family for services until the CPS investigation is closed.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Use of Evidence-Based Programs. Use of BBBS Strength of Relationship Survey measuring happiness, closeness, and coping. Also uses the BBBS Youth Outcome Pre-Post Survey measuring dimensions of the mentoring relationship (social competence, scholastic competency, social acceptance, educational expectations, grades, truancy, attitudes towards risk, parental trust, and presence of special adult. These measures have been found to be reliable and valid based on previous youth development research.

Texas Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs

Total Funds FY 14: \$1,525,000

Brief Description of Program: Boys & Girls Club Experience, Stay Smart Youth-Based Curriculum, Smart Leaders Youth Leadership Development

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 2,388

Counties Served: Angelina, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Bell, Bexar, Brazoria, Brazos, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Cameron, Coke, Collin, Colorado, Comal, Cooke, Coryell, Culberson, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Denton, Ector, El Paso, Ellis, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Gillespie, Gray, Grayson, Gregg, Guadalupe, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Hidalgo, Hill, Hood, Hopkins, Howard, Hunt, Jefferson, Kendall, Kenedy, Lampasas, Lubbock, Matagorda, Medina, Menard, Midland, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Potter, Presidio, Randall, Robertson, Rockwall, Rusk, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Tarrant, Taylor, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Val Verde, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Williamson.

Eligibility Requirements: Youth ages 6 through 17. Target ages are 10-17. Youth in the conservatorship of CPS are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who have involvement with Juvenile Probation are not eligible to receive SYSN services. Youth who are on informal probation or have not been adjudicated are eligible. If Child Protective Services (CPS) is in the process of an investigation of child abuse/neglect, SYSN Contractors may not register the youth or family for services until the CPS investigation is closed.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: Use of Evidence-Based programs. Programs include Boys & Girls Club Experience, Stay Smart Youth-Based Curriculum, Smart Leaders Youth Leadership Development

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYD) : Overview of Agency Prevention Programs: To reduce juvenile crime in 15 targeted zip codes that have the highest incidence of juvenile violent crime in the State of Texas. The benefit is a reduction in referrals to juvenile probation and an increase in protective factors by participating youth. Funded through the 75th Legislature in Rider 23.

Lubbock Regional MHMR

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,007

Counties Served: County: Lubbock, City: Lubbock, ZIP Code 79415

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

United Way of Amarillo & Canyon

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based

curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 685

Counties Served: County: Potter, City: Lubbock, Zip Code: 79107

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

City of Austin Health and Human Services

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,693

Counties Served: County: Travis, City: Austin, Zip Code: 78744

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Rio Grande Empowerment Zone Corporation (Brownsville)

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,871

Counties Served: County: Cameron, City: Brownsville, Zip Code: 78520

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Rio Grande Empowerment Zone Corporation (McAllen)

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,904

Counties Served: County: Hidalgo, City: McAllen, Zip Code: 78501

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

City of Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,302

Counties Served: County: Nueces, City: Corpus Christi, Zip Code: 78415

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Community Council of Greater Dallas (CCGD), 2 Contracts/Zip Codes

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.16

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: Zip Code 75216 – 1015
Zip Code 75217 - 948

Counties Served: County: Dallas, City: Dallas, Zip Codes: 75216 & 75217

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

El Paso Human Services, Inc.

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,627

Counties Served: County: El Paso, City: El Paso, Zip Code: 79924

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Tarrant County

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based

curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 912

Counties Served: County: Tarrant, City: Fort Worth, Zip Code: 76106 & 76164

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

The Children's Center

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 933

Counties Served: County: Galveston, City: Galveston, Zip Code: 77550

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (2 Contracts/Zip Codes)

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.16

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: Zip Code 77081 - 1,081
Zip Code 77506 - 1,114

Counties Served: County: Harris, City: Houston (77081) & Pasadena (77506)

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. The magnitude was slight but was statistically significant. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning.

The Children's Shelter

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 967

Counties Served: County: Bexar, City: San Antonio, Zip Code: 78207

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning

Communities in Schools - Heart of Texas

Total Funds FY 14: \$386,769.67

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 924

Counties Served: County: McClennan, City: Waco, Zip Code: 76707

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre- adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, risk factors, juvenile probation status, services provided, average monthly served, DFPS Pre & Post Protective Factor Surveys, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: The Protective Factors Survey (PFS) is used to evaluate CYD program effectiveness in reducing juvenile delinquent behavior. Improvement was shown in protective factors and resiliency at Post-Test assessment. Programs are having an impact on individual, family, and community functioning

COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYD) TEEN SUMMIT: Overview of Agency Prevention Programs: The Teen Summit is an annual event held for select participants of the DFPS CYD program with a goal of developing leadership skills and attitudes as well as providing youth with an avenue to solve problems relevant to their communities rather than have solutions imposed on them without input and opportunity to formulate and then present their own ideas and opinions. Participation is open to those Community Youth Development (CYD) participants that are active in their Youth Advisory Council (YAC).

Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS)

Total Funds FY 14: \$100,000.00

Brief Description of Program: CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to

develop juvenile delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates. Approaches used by communities to prevent delinquency have included mentoring, youth employment programs, career preparation, academic support, life skills classes, youth-based curriculum, family-based curriculum, youth leadership development and recreational activities. Communities prioritize and fund specific prevention services according to local needs. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIPcodes.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 272

Counties Served: County: Lubbock, City: Lubbock, ZIP Code 79415

Eligibility Requirements: Youth through age 17 residing in or attending school in the targeted ZIP code or attending school at an additional eligible school. Target ages are 10-17. Can have a CPS case. Cannot have been or currently be on probation. Youth whose cases are pre-adjudicated, informally adjudicated, or whose adjudication has been deferred are eligible.

Data Elements Collected: Demographic Information, juvenile probation status, services provided, Leadership Skills Pre/Post Survey, attendance

Evidence of Effectiveness: Leadership Skills Pre/Post Survey

TEXAS CHALLENGE ACADEMY, TEXAS MILITARY DEPARTMENT

Overview of Texas Military Department Prevention Programs: The mission of the Texas Challenge Academy (TCA) is to reclaim the potential of at-risk teens through mentoring, education, training and volunteer service. The program is a seventeen and a half month voluntary program for 16-18 year old high school dropouts or those at risk of dropping out. Youth who volunteer to attend the program learn about TCA from various sources including school counselors, advertising campaigns, Juvenile Justice sources and word of mouth from previous attendees. The initial portion of the program is a 22 week residential phase with a quasi-military (learn to adhere to military courtesies, discipline and a regimented schedule) approach in either Sheffield (West Texas) or Eagle Lake (East Texas). During this phase, the cadets complete the eight core components (academic excellence, responsible citizenship, leadership/followership, service to community, jobs skills, life coping skills, health and hygiene, and physical fitness). All the youth are given the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and/or GED or earn credits to return to their home high school. During the residential phase, each youth is paired with an adult mentor of their choosing who will assist them during the entire 12 month post residential phase to ensure they stay on track with their "Post Residential Action Plan" that they developed during the residential phase. All cadets will complete a minimum of 40 hours of community service projects during the residential phase. While the academic opportunities are a vital part of the residential phase, the benefits of the non-cognitive skills developed through the other core components and the discipline and structure of the quasi-military model has shown to greatly enhance the young person's chances for future success. The program is provided at no cost to the youth or their family and is funded by a combination of federal and state funds (75% federal, 25% state). The TCA campuses are two of the 35 National Guard Youth Challenge Programs which are located in 27 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. The National Guard Program has been operating since 1993 and since 1998 in Texas with our two campuses at Sheffield and Eagle Lake.

Total Funds FY 14: \$3.2 million (\$2.4 million federal and \$0.8 million state) for each campus

Brief Description of Program: Campuses at Sheffield (West Texas) and Eagle Lake (East Texas) .

Number of Youth Served FY 13: 200 graduates (two classes at Sheffield only)

Program Locations: Statewide (Program has six recruiters to select students from all over the state.)

Eligibility Requirement: 16-18 years old, citizen of Texas/US, not currently on parole/probation for other than "juvenile offenses", no felony convictions or pending charges, drug free at admission, drop out or at risk of dropping out.

Data Elements Collected: # of graduates, % completing HSD/GED or credit recovery, % completing post residential phase, hours of community service.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Yes. Independent study by MRDC. A recent RAND Corporation cost-benefit analysis found the Youth Challenge Program generates \$2.66 in benefits for every dollar expended on the program, a return on investment of 166 percent.

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

Academic Innovation and Mentoring (AIM)

Total Funds FY 14: \$1,500,000

Brief Description of Program: Academic Innovation and Mentoring (AIM) is an innovative partnership between Texas Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs (BGC) and the Sylvan Learning Centers. AIM is designed to close the student achievement gap between minority, low-income, and English Language Learners who are at risk of dropping out of school and their counterparts. Support services for students include: after-school academic instruction and tutoring, assigned adult advocates, parent engagement activities, character and leadership development in problem-solving and decision-making, fine arts activities, sports, fitness, recreation, and health and life skills. AIM utilizes a data system to assess needs, plan services, and monitor student performance and engagement.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 2,288

Program Locations: 35

Eligibility Requirements: Eligibility for funding is limited to the Texas Boys and Girls Club, as specified in the General Appropriations Act, Article III.

Data Elements Collected: Number of students who advanced an academic level in Sylvan Learning Center's math or reading assessment. Number of discipline referrals.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Data elements reported in the FY 2014 final report from TX AIM include: average monthly amount spent per student (\$55), number of students who advanced an academic level in Sylvan Learning Center's math or reading assessment (84%), percentage of youth receiving a C or better in a subject for which they received services (89%), and percentage of students that passed the state assessment (75%).

21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

Total Funds FY 14: \$106,206,512

Brief Description of Program: The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) serves as a supplementary out-of-school time program to enhance local education efforts. The program assists students in meeting academic standards in core subjects (math, reading, science, social studies) by providing out-of-school time services to students and their families through community learning centers that offer an array of enrichment activities to complement regular academic programs.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 200,819

Program Locations: 181 school districts

Eligibility Requirements: Eligible grantees include: school districts and charters, non-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, and city or county

government agencies

Data Elements Collected: School attendance, discipline referrals, graduation rates, grades, statewide assessment scores, and juvenile justice referrals.

Evidence of Effectiveness: Results from the most recent evaluation of 21st CCLC: Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers Interim Evaluation Report, March 2013: 9th-12th grade participants were associated with higher test scores in reading/ELA & mathematics, compared to non-participants. 6th-12th grade participants had fewer disciplinary incidents, compared to non-participants. 4th-11th grade participants were associated with fewer school day absences. Participants attending 60 days or more had an increased likelihood of grade promotion, ranging from 18% to 97% with the largest increase in highschool.

Communities In Schools (CIS)

Total Funds FY 14: \$18,257,290

Brief Description of Program: The mission of CIS is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. CIS partners with educators, students, and parents to identify needs of students who are at-risk of dropping out of school. By engaging community resource partners, CIS customizes learning supports for students and provides individual case management. CIS monitors student level data and tracks education outcomes. The CIS program model has six components: Academic Support, College and Career Readiness, Enrichment activities, Health and Human Services, Parent and Family Involvement, and Supportive Guidance and Counseling.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 560,078 received school-wide services, and 86,705 received intensive case management services.

Program Locations: 149 school districts, 98 counties

Eligibility Requirements: Eligible grantees include 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organizations

Data Elements Collected: School attendance, discipline referrals, graduation rates, grades, statewide assessment scores, and juvenile justice referrals.

Evidence of Effectiveness: During fiscal year 2014, 27 CIS affiliates served 560,078 students on 817 campuses in 149 school districts. Of those, 86,705 students were provided with individual case management services. Local CIS programs spent an average of \$808 in state and local resources per student for case management services. Reported outcomes included: 99% stayed in school (grades 7-12); 94% were promoted to the next grade (Kindergarten – grade 11); 94% of students who were eligible to graduate graduated; 89% of students who were targeted for academic intervention showed improvement; 78% of students who were targeted for attendance intervention showed improvement; and 93% of students who were targeted for behavior intervention showed improvement.

Amachi

Total Funds FY 14: \$1,250,000

Brief Description of Program: The purpose of Amachi is to provide one-to-one mentoring for youth ages 6 – 14 whose parents or family members are incarcerated or recently released from the prison system to break the cycle of incarceration. Youth are engaged in mentoring relationships established primarily through partnerships with school districts, faith-based organizations, non-profit partnerships, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Prison Fellowship, and re-entry programs across Texas.

Number of Youth Served FY 14: 1,730

Program Locations: Dallas metropolitan area, Houston metropolitan area, Central Texas Region, El Paso, Gulf Coast Region, Hereford, Lubbock, the Panhandle Region and the South Texas Region.

Eligibility Requirements: Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Lone Star implements the Amachi mentoring program and subcontracts with eight BBBS programs throughout Texas to provide mentoring for children of incarcerated adults.

Data Elements Collected: Data is maintained by BBBS Lone Star. Progress reports are reported to TEA quarterly. BBBS Lone Star reports outcomes to TEA annually.

Evidence of Effectiveness: During the 2013-2014 school year, FY 2014, 1,730 students had a mentor and were served. Of these, 823 matches that were active during the school year were sustained for at least six months. 98.7% of mentored students were promoted to the next grade level. 90% of all matches reported improvement in at least one of the four areas of personal and social well-being. Fewer than 2% of the students were referred to the juvenile justice system and 4.2% of students were reported as referred to an alternative education program. 90% reported an increase in educational expectations while 97% reported improvements in their attitudes toward risky behaviors, such as avoidance of drugs and alcohol.

TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
GRANT 5. PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

BASTROP County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$37,250

Brief Description of Program: Partners with school districts to provide parenting skills and education to adults who have children with increased likelihood of juvenile justice system involvement.

Counties Served: Bastrop, Lee, Washington

Eligibility Requirements: Children between the ages of 6 and 17 years of age and are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

BEXAR County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$589,230

Brief Description of Program: School based truancy prevention and early intervention program in partnership with Communities In Schools, Southwest Key and the North East Independent School District. The project targets children and youth who are at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school or referral to the juvenile justice system. The "Leadership Institute" component provides mentoring, community service, team-building, computer and technology training, outdoor activities, and etiquette to adolescents.

Counties Served: Bexar

Eligibility Requirements: Youth in the North East Independent School District who are ages 11- 17, not currently under department supervision but who are at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, school dropout, or referrals to the juvenile justice system.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

BURNET County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$17,305

Brief Description of Program: Uses trained facilitators to deliver Curriculum Based Support Group program, a research-based curriculum which reduces anti-social attitudes and rebellious behavior through small group character-building classes.

Counties Served: Blanco, Burnet, Gillespie, Llano, and San Saba counties.

Eligibility Requirements: Participants are fourth and fifth grade at-risk youth in certain elementary schools

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

CAMERON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$126,924

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with the Boys and Girls Club of San Benito to provide safe and structured afterschool activities, including mentoring, tutoring, educational opportunities and social activities, with a focus on increasing school attendance and academic achievement.

Counties Served: Cameron

Eligibility Requirements: High-risk youth, ages 6-17, with a special emphasis on siblings of youth already involved in the juvenile justice system.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

CROSBY County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$60,000

Brief Description of Program: A Licensed Professional Counselor provides individual, family and play counseling, along with parenting skills and anger management to at-risk youth.

Counties Served: Crosby

Eligibility Requirements: Youth, ages 6-17, who are not currently under juvenile supervision and who are at increased risk of juvenile justice system involvement.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

ECTOR County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$75,927

Brief Description of Program: A full-time intervention officer acts as an advocate for youth and works with other agencies to identify specific needs that will allow youth to remain in or return to his or her home campus. Services include home visits to assist in behavior management, school visits to assist with behavior, attendance, and performance, anger management, coping skills, social skills, substance abuse prevention and individual counseling.

Counties Served: Ector

Eligibility Requirements: Ector ISD students ages 6-17 years of age who have been or are at risk of being suspended off campus to a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) and/or expelled.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

EL PASO County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$144,242

Brief Description of Program: Bullying prevention and parenting education services are provided in partnership with local municipal court. Mentors and case management services are provided through contracts with collaborative partners.

Counties Served: El Paso

Eligibility Requirements: At-risk youth ages 6-17 who are not involved with the juvenile justice system.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

ELLIS County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$150,000

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Ennis Boys & Girls Club who provide an evidence-based afterschool mentoring program and life skills curriculum.

Counties Served: Ellis

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 6 to 17, with special attention on younger children. Youth are referred to the program by the Truancy Court, Municipal Court, school counselors, social agencies and parents.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

FORT BEND County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$64,258

Brief Description of Program: Provides juvenile probation officer to work with specialized truancy magistrate to administer proactive case management strategies together with meaningful sanctions.

Counties Served: Fort Bend

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

GUADALUPE County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$98,500

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Seguin Youth Services to provide a variety of programs through a neighborhood-based youth center located in a low-income, high-risk area. Services include transportation to afterschool programming, snacks, tutoring, computer labs, recreational activities, life skills curriculum, vocation projects, camping, and other programs designed to increase parent involvement.

Counties Served: Guadalupe

Eligibility Requirements: Elementary and middle school children and youth between the ages of 6-13 who, because of their risk factors, are at increased risk of juvenile justice involvement.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

HALE County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$124,920

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Communities in Schools (CIS) of the South Plains to provide supportive guidance and counseling, tutoring, academic enrichment, pre-employment training, mentoring, and other support services to at-risk youth.

Counties Served: Hale, Swisher, Castro

Eligibility Requirements: Students between the ages of 6-17 years. CIS serves youth who are identified by teachers, parents, and the youth themselves.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

RANDALL County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$9,834

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Texas AgriLife Extension Service for Randall County to work with selected youth on a 4-H swine project. 4-H swine projects require approximately 300 hours of work training, cleaning out pens, feeding, walking and preparing swine for show. Youth and their families attend periodic training sessions, combining information related to livestock management and character development.

Counties Served: Randall

Eligibility Requirements: Youth, ages 12-14, who have been identified by the school district as having one or more risk factors for delinquency.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

TARRANT County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$114,348

Brief Description of Program: Family engagement coordinator provides a combination of case management and clinical services to select youth and their families.

Counties Served: Tarrant

Eligibility Requirements: Youth (ages 6 years through 5th grade) who have been placed in the school's Disciplinary Alternative Education Program.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

TOM GREEN County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$100,000

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Youth Advocate Mentoring Program to provide advocate mentors who work intensively with the youth (up to 15 hours per week) and then taper services to fewer hours as the youth progress in the program.

Counties Served: Tom Green

Eligibility Requirements: High risk youth ages 6-13 who are not involved with the juvenile justice system will be referred from selected school districts

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

TRAVIS County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$102,220

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Southwest Key to provide the Family Keys Model (intensive home-based case management services)

Counties Served: Travis.

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 11 and 13 who are truant, running away, experiencing behavioral problems at school, or experiencing conflict with family members.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

VAN ZANDT County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$53,412

Brief Description of Program: The “Just Kids Hands on Pets Education” program is a canine program designed to teach developmentally appropriate discipline, responsibility, compassion for life, motivational problem-solving, self-esteem and nurturing. Special needs youth may also attend a six-week program provided by licensed counselors.

Counties Served: Van Zandt

Eligibility Requirements: Children and youth ages 6-17 who are at increased risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system. Referrals will come from local school districts, local law enforcement, Child Advocacy Centers, adult probation, child protective services, and local municipal courts.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

WEBB County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$89,630

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with Southwest Key to provide the Family Keys Model (intensive home-based case management services) to youth between the ages of 11 and 13 who are truant, running away, experiencing behavioral problems at school, or experiencing conflict with family members.

Counties Served: Webb

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 6 and 17 years of age at increased risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

WHARTON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$121,475

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with the “Just Do It Now” program to provide structured and supervised out-of-school activities centered on drug awareness and intervention, mentoring, character development, leadership training and academic enrichment. Although they accept referrals from other community sources, their primary referral source is local schools.

Counties Served: Wharton

Eligibility Requirements: Youth between the ages of 6 to 17 who are at increased risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system.

WILLACY County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$50,000

Brief Description of Program: Contracts with a licensed counselor to provide youth and families with Strengthening Families program, a science-based family skills training designed to increase resiliency and minimize risk factors for behavioral, emotional, academic, and social problems.

Counties Served: Willacy

Eligibility Requirements: At-risk children and youth between the ages of 6 years through 17 years of age who are not currently under the supervision of the juvenile justice system.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

WILLIAMSON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$29,000

Brief Description of Program: Provides prevention education programs using the Curriculum Based Support Groups, Kids Connection/Youth Connection, the SMART Moves program, and support groups using trained facilitator. Through partnerships with The Georgetown Project and Lifesteps, the Department also offers a parent education and media campaign to impact the larger community.

Counties Served: Williamson

Eligibility Requirements: At-risk children, youth, and adolescents, ages 6 through 17.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

ZAPATA County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$63,700

Brief Description of Program: Partners with Boys and Girls Club of Zapata County and King's Way to provide safe, structured, and supervised venues for youth during after-school hours that combines tutoring, mentoring, and character building to improve youth's academic performance and character development.

Counties Served: Zapata

Eligibility Requirements: Youth who are at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system and who are between 10-16 years

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

GRANT T. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

COMAL County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$54,748

Brief Description of Program: The Prevention Services Coordinator evaluates student needs and provides community referrals and case management services to ensure the child and family access the most helpful and relevant programs for their needs.

Counties Served: Comal

Eligibility Requirements: Children ages 6-11 with school attendance problems who are unsupported by youth-serving agencies, churches, non-profit organizations, civic groups or neighborhood programs.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

EL PASO County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$40,500

Brief Description of Program: Provides intensive home based services (home visits, case management, service coordination, skills building, and facilitation of educational modules) to select youth and families.

Counties Served: El Paso

Eligibility Requirements: Middle school youth ages 12-15 attending Riverside Middle School and their caregivers/parents. Youth must not be currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile probation department, have any pending formal referrals, nor be under active juvenile justice supervision. Eligible youth must have demonstrated a history of low attendance and meet at least 2 individual and/or familial risk factors cited in the OJJDP's database on Truancy Reduction Programs.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

KARNES/WILSON County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$118,140

Brief Description of Program: School Attendance Specialists provide intensive attendance improvement and truancy reduction services, including in-school and in-home services, Individual Attendance Plans for each participant and identification of the root causes of truancy for each student. The program also works with the Karnes County Community Coalition, which includes mental health specialists, substance abuse prevention services, and counseling services for youth and families who need additional support.

Counties Served: Karnes, Wilson

Eligibility Requirements: Students with histories of unexcused absences from the Floresville Independent School District, Karnes City Independent School District, and Kenedy Independent School District.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

TARRANT County Juvenile Probation Department

Total Funds FY 14: \$221,763

Brief Description of Program: Provides the youth and family with case management, assessment, mediation, and referral to the most appropriate community-based interventions, including trauma-informed mental health intervention as indicated.

Counties Served: Tarrant

Eligibility Requirements: Youth who are found to be chronically absent from the 1st to 8th grade.

Data Elements Collected: Program length, demographic information, ability to match with juvenile referrals, school attendance rates, graduation rates, and discipline referrals.

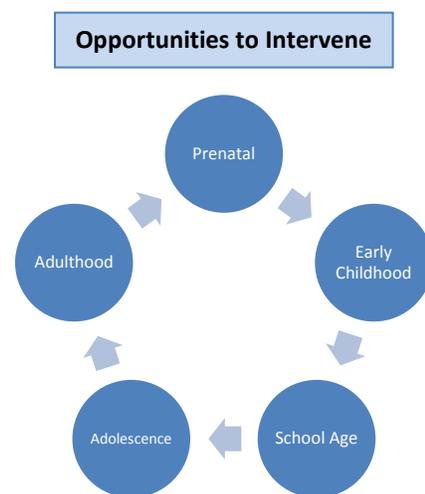
TJJD TOTAL GRANT T	\$292,628
TJJD TOTAL GRANT S	\$2,222,175
TJJD TOTAL PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION FY 14	\$2,514,803

APPENDIX B: Delinquency and Dropout Prevention Practices: Pursuing a Developmental Continuum of Services

The earlier prevention efforts can begin, the better, as many risk factors and predictors of dropout and delinquency begin before kindergarten. Resiliency develops over time, building upon protective factors, such as relationships established in early childhood, and evolving as a child grows into school age and adolescence.

Just as preventative measures like vaccines often need to be repeated as a child grows older to extend protection from illnesses, so too do youth often require “booster shots” to extend the protective buffers established earlier in their development and to protect against new risk factors that emerge as they grow older. An intervention that provided protections during elementary school may lose its impact during middle school, for example, when another intervention may be needed to address evolving developmental needs and risk factors. A continuum of effective interventions have been identified that range from prevention programs targeting early childhood through individualized interventions that prevent justice involved youth from recidivism. Common strategies among them include:

- **Prenatal:** Interventions that provide prenatal care to expectant mothers as well as prevent expectant mothers' exposure to alcohol, drug use, smoking, and stress have the potential to prevent many subsequent problems for a child.
- **Early childhood:** Individual and family interventions in the preschool period, such as home visits, parent training, and quality education and childcare services, are used to improve life-course outcomes.
- **School age:** Once children become of school age, they are faced with peer pressure and school risk factors. Many prevention efforts at this next developmental stage are universal school or classroom interventions focused on encouraging positive behavior social and emotional skill building. Other efforts include targeted programs for at-risk or high-need students and their families, providing smaller classroom communities or family training courses.
- **Adolescence:** Adolescent prevention programs focus on bonding students with their school and community, and span across middle schools and high schools. By enhancing school climate and academic achievement through activities like service learning, positive youth development, career development, mentoring, tutoring, and counseling, programs reduce risky behavior and keep students in school.
- **Delinquent youth:** Therapeutic models for delinquent youth that have been found effective for reducing recidivism rates and strengthening relationships within families.



APPENDIX C:

Dropout and Delinquency Prevention Resources

Several resources exist to assist the state, communities, and service providers in identifying and selecting programs and practices with demonstrated effectiveness in preventing dropout and delinquency. These include:

- **Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.** The CASEL Guide shares best-practice guidelines for district and school teams on how to select and implement SEL programs. <http://www.casel.org/guide>
- **The Center for Evidence-Based Practice: Young Children with Challenging Behavior** is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs to raise the awareness and implementation of positive, evidence-based practices and to build an enhanced and more accessible database to support those practices. <http://challengingbehavior.fmhi.usf.edu/>
- **The Institute of Education Sciences: What Works Clearinghouse.** This resource provides research, practice guides and intervention reports for dropout prevention and evidenced-based decision making. <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>
- **Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention.** The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network provides research and resources on effective strategies for dropout prevention. <http://dropoutprevention.org/effective-strategies/>
- **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Model Programs Guide.** OJJDP provides a library of effective and promising model intervention programs. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/Topic>
- **CrimeSolutions.gov.** The National Institute of Justice provides a library on effective and promising delinquency prevention programs. <https://www.crimesolutions.gov/TopicDetails.aspx?ID=62#practice>
- **Juvenile Justice Evidence-Based Practices.** This resource hub provides recent research on key issues, model policies, and reform trends relating to evidence-based practices. <http://jjie.org/hub/evidence-based-practices/>
- **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Literature Reviews.** OJJDP provides a literature review library on a variety of topics. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/Resource/LitReviews>
- **What Works and What Does Not? Benefit-Cost Findings from Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP).** A benefit-cost analysis on prevention programs by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP). http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/ReportFile/1602/Wsipp_What-Works-and-What-Does-Not-Benefit-Cost-Findings-from-WSIPP_Report.pdf
- **The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence** at the University of Colorado serves as a resource for governments, foundations, businesses, and other organizations trying to make informed judgments about their investments in violence and drug prevention programs. To date, it has assessed more than 900 programs. <http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/>

- **The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Model Programs Guide (MPG)** is designed to assist practitioners and communities in implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that cover the entire continuum of youth services from prevention through sanctions to reentry.
<http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/>
- **Changing Lives: Delinquency Prevention as Crime-Control Policy.** A book by Peter W. Greenwood outlining the history of promising and ineffective delinquency prevention interventions and public policy strategies to increase the range and quality of delinquency programs.

APPENDIX D: Finding Your ACE Score

While you were growing up, during your first 18 years of life:

1. Did a parent or other adult in the household **often or very often**... Swear at you, insult you, put you down, or humiliate you?

or

Act in a way that made you afraid that you might be physically hurt?

Yes No

If yes enter 1 _____

2. Did a parent or other adult in the household **often or very often**... Push, grab, slap, or throw something at you?

or

Ever hit you so hard that you had marks or were injured?

Yes No

If yes enter 1 _____

3. Did an adult or person at least 5 years older than you **ever**...
Touch or fondle you or have you touch their body in a sexual way?

or

Attempt or actually have oral, anal, or vaginal intercourse with you?

Yes No

If yes enter 1 _____

4. Did you **often or very often** feel that ...
No one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special?

or

Your family didn't look out for each other, feel close to each other, or support each other?

Yes No

If yes enter 1 _____

