Pre-Adjudicated Coordination and Training (PACT)
Evening Reporting Center
A Model Alternative to Detention
DETENTION UTILIZATION DATA STUDY
STUDY OBJECTIVES

1. To identify the appropriate target population(s) of youth who can be served through the ERC and other detention alternatives

2. To analyze the variables leading to the secure detention decisions for the target population(s) in order to inform the development of new ERC’s and other detention alternatives

3. To identify the geographic locations that contribute most to the juvenile arrest and secure detention populations
DATA SAMPLE

The analysis includes a sample of 300 admissions of male youth at the BCJJC Secure Detention program from dates October 1, 2005 - December 31, 2005.
FLOW OF DATA ANALYSES

Sample:
300 BCJJC Secure Detn. Admissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RAI Score</th>
<th>Youth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-14 Pts.</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-22 Pts.</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23+ Pts.</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Score</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis Answers the Following:
- Who is being detained, and why?
- Types of Mandatory Overrides
- Top Reasons for Discretionary Override Decisions
- Where do admitted youth live?
- What was Average LOS?
Who’s Being Securely Detained?

173 of 287 or 60% of detention admissions were of Black youth who were eligible for release or an ATD*.

60% of Black youth in detention in Baltimore Juvenile Detention have a RAI score that would indicate either a “Straight Release” or an “Alternative to Detention.” What can explain this high percentage?

* Clearly Black youth are the most overrepresented population in Baltimore Juvenile Detention. Thus, any efforts to reduce youth in detention in Baltimore City will reduce the overrepresentation of Black youth.
How many of “ATD Scoring” Admissions were Discretionary Holds?

Almost two-thirds of 62% of the admissions with “ATD-Eligible” RAI scores are Discretionary Holds.

• Question: Why are these cases admitted to secure detention in the absence of a mandatory hold and the RAI indicates they should be released to a detention alternative?

• Answer: More than one-third (35%), of overrides were due to parent-related issues and another one-third for subjective interpretations of risk variables that are already assigned a weight on the RAI (flight risk, nature of offense, chronicity)

*Note: Among the 70 Mandatory Holds, 68 are Black, one is White, one is Latino
“ATD-Eligible” Discretionary Holds:
ATD Continuum Needs by Geography
Table 1. Descriptive Statistics, Youth in ATD Programs July 2007 – March 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>PACT</th>
<th>DJS ERC</th>
<th>CDEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Descriptive Characteristics of Participants</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Youth Served</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>1549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Age (standard deviation)</td>
<td>16.5 (1.0)</td>
<td>15.9 (1.3)*</td>
<td>16.1 (1.3)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>99.5%</td>
<td>98.0%</td>
<td>95.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Prior Referrals</td>
<td>6.5 (4.4)</td>
<td>4.8 (3.6)*</td>
<td>4.6 (4.1)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRAI Score</td>
<td>7.9 (3.7)</td>
<td>7.4 (3.9)</td>
<td>6.3 (4.1)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(n = 250)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>(n = 157)</em></td>
<td><em>(n = 929)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program Involvement</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Stay (days)</td>
<td>25.6 (14.8)</td>
<td>31.0 (23.9)*</td>
<td>32.6 (22.8)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDEM Supervision</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDEM Violations between Program Admission and Release</td>
<td>20.9% (84)</td>
<td>33.8% (45)*</td>
<td>22.8% (353)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Average is significantly different from the PACT youth mean or percentage at the p < .05 level.

With regard to program involvement, PACT youth were enrolled in the program for an average of 26 days. ERC and CDEM youth stay in their respective programs for five to six days longer on average (31 and 32 days, respectively). As mentioned earlier, all youth admitted to PACT are also supervised with CDEM, but only a little more than half of the youth participating in the ERC are also supervised by
Program Outcomes
Table 2 shows the outcomes for youth who participated in the PACT, DJS ERC, and CDEM programs prior to adjudication between July 2007 and March 2010. Despite evidence that shows PACT youth present higher levels of risk for reoffending and failure to appear at their adjudication hearing, these youth had significantly lower re-referral rates to DJS (7.7%) compared with youth who participated in the DJS ERC (14.5%) and youth only supervised by CDEM (12.9%). Further, only 1.5% of youth supervised by the PACT Center failed to appear at their adjudication hearings, compared with 3.6% of youth supervised by DJS’ ERC and 5.0% of youth supervised with CDEM only during their involvement with these programs. Youth in ATD programs could ultimately be placed in detention for committing a new offense or violating program conditions. In this regard, PACT youth also had significantly lower rates of detention during their involvement with PACT (13.5%), compared with youth in the DJS ERC (30.6%) and youth in CDEM (18.7%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>PACT</th>
<th>DJS ERC</th>
<th>CDEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Referred to DJS between program admission and release</td>
<td>7.7% (31)</td>
<td>14.5% (36)*</td>
<td>12.9% (200)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to appear at court hearing between program admission and release</td>
<td>1.5% (6)</td>
<td>3.6% (9)</td>
<td>5.0% (77)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detained between program admission and release</td>
<td>13.5% (54)</td>
<td>30.6% (76)*</td>
<td>18.7% (290)*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Significantly different from the PACT estimate at the p < .05 level.
Most policymakers and researchers agree that locking up youth in facilities prior to adjudication should be a last resort, since youth lack connection to their parents caregivers, schools and communities. As a result, alternatives to detention have been created to reduce the number of youth held in these socially and financially costly detention facilities.
Participants (young men 14 to 17 years of age) and their parents must agree to participate in this alternative to detention.
The staffing structure of the YO! PACT Evening Reporting Center:

- Program Supervisor
- Advocate
- Coach (PT)
- Recording Studio Engineer (PT)
- Social Worker (PT)
- Literacy Instructor (PT)
- Van Driver (PT)
- Security Guard
A van(s) provides after-school pick up transportation for up to 15 young men assigned to the PACT Center.
A social worker provides assessments and evaluations for participants and their families to help them prepare for their court hearing with a plan to access community-based support services needed to move their lives in a positive direction.
A personal trainer/coach helps participants build health awareness, strength, focus and use their energy constructively.
Participants engage in stimulating games and reading comprehension exercises to help build a love of learning.
Staff members help youth complete homework assignments.
An on-site, digital recording studio helps youth find a way to be creatively self expressed.
Daily life skills and/or peer rap sessions help youth build communication and problem solving skills.

It builds a sense of shared community and belonging. Staff members use this time to bond with participants.
A youth-friendly lounge is used to play cards, video and board games with caring adults.
Youth share a meal with their peers and caring adults.
The YO! PACT Management Team helps to increase communication and collaboration among key partners:

- Department of Juvenile Service
  - Community Detention
  - Juvenile Detention Arrest Initiative
- Office of Public Defender
- Baltimore City Police Department
- Family League
- Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
- Parental/Community Involvement
According to an independent evaluation by University of Maryland researchers, the YO! PACT Evening Reporting Center has proven to be Baltimore’s most effective alternative to detention, serving over 400 youth (15 at a time) with each participant staying for an average of 26 days since it opened in 2007.
In the evaluation “summary” the researchers stated that “The purpose of this evaluation was to assess PACT’s success in achieving its key objectives:

- little to no recidivism (92% did not reoffend),
- high appearance rates at court hearings for youth served (98% appeared for court) and
- disproportionate minority contact (DMC) reductions.
For more information contact:

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