Community Based Responses to Adolescent Domestic Battery:
Innovative Practices from Illinois Models for Change Demonstration Sites

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3 Demonstration Sites in Illinois: Cook, DuPage, and Peoria Counties

Microcosm of the nation

- Urban, rural, suburban; diverse ethnic/racial and socioeconomic populations; diverse juvenile court systems
Roadmap

This Presentation Will Cover:

1. **Prevalence** of adolescent DB and **complex characteristics** of this population

2. **State of the field**

3. **Improved policy, practice and programming in**
   3 Illinois MfC Demonstration Sites

4. **How can this information be applied in your jurisdiction?**
Prevalence and Characteristics

I. System Contact

- Up to 18% of juvenile arrests for violent crimes related to family violence (OJJDP 1998)
  - In 2007, 12% of juvenile court cases in Pima County, Arizona for domestic battery alone.

- Peoria County Patterns
  - In 2005 65 youth were detained and by 2008 there were 121
  - In 2007 there were 107 youth detained of which 43 were female and by 2008 there were 121 of which 58 were female
II. System Penetration

- More likely to be detained, even if eligible for release
  - **Cook County 2009**: 43% of overrides due to domestic conflict. Largest single cause.
  - **DuPage County 2006 through 2008**: Average override rate for DB-charged youth 55% vs 29% for non-DB charged youth.

- Disproportionate affect on youth of color; girls (Cook)
  - Over 90% (163 of 180) of DB overrides youth of color
  - Over 25% (43 of 180) girls; DB override rate 59% for girls vs. 38% for boys
Prevalence and Characteristics

III. Reentry and Re-arrest

- Difficulty with successful reentry
  - Patterns for DB-charged girls returning from IDJJ

- Earlier and more frequent re-arrest
  - Pima County, AZ 2007: 54% of first-time DB offenders vs. 32% of first-time non-DB offenders rearrested within 1 year
  - DuPage: At 6 month follow-up, 25% of DB-charged youth rearrested vs. 15% for all other juvenile offenders
IV. Youth and Family Characteristics

- **National Institute of Justice 2006:**
  - Mental Illness present in 64% of offenders
  - More than 50% of offenders were victims or witnessed domestic violence
  - Parental substance abuse and/or criminal history present in 40 to 65% of cases

- **Cook County 2010-2011**
  - Child welfare (IDCFS) history in over 30% of cases (mostly neglect findings)
State of the Field

Overview

- Lack of developmentally appropriate strategies
- Lack of differentiation between different types of domestic conflict and different family dynamics
- Lack of assessment and screening tools
State of the Field

I. Resource Scan (YOS)

- **Scan of nationwide adolescent DB strategies**
  - Adolescent DB Courts (NY, FLA, CA)
  - Pima County, AZ

- **Step Up Curriculum**
  - Cognitive/behavioral group curriculum
  - Youth and caregiver-specific curricula
  - Being used in King County (Seattle), Lucas County (Toledo), DuPage, and Peoria
State of the Field

II. Understanding the Population (Peoria)

- Initial Advocate Community perspectives
  - Working with perpetrators
  - Working with whole family system
  - Adolescent vs. adult differences

- Moving toward consensus
  - Collaboration and dialogue with stakeholders
  - Recognizing different types of adolescent DB incidents
III. Trajectories Model (DuPage)

- 4 incident types, or “trajectories”
  - Single Incident
  - Defensive Incident
  - Acute/Developmental Domestic Battery
  - Chronic Domestic Battery

- Trajectory informs response
# Illinois Demonstration Sites

## Improved Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demonstration Site</th>
<th>Peoria (Children’s Home Association of IL)</th>
<th>Cook (Youth Outreach Services)</th>
<th>DuPage (Juvenile Probation Dept.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Launch Date</strong></td>
<td>March 2010</td>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>January 2010</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Program Components** | • Crisis Intervention  
• Safety Planning  
• Mental Health Screening  
• Temporary Respite Placement  
• Follow-up Services  
• Parent, child and sibling Step Up | • Crisis Intervention  
• Safety Planning  
• Risk/needs screening and assessment  
• Temporary Respite Placement  
• Therapeutic Intervention Services  
• Court Diversion | • Court Diversion  
• Safety Planning  
• Parent and child Step Up |
| **Referrals (thru March 2011)** | 33 (29 non-DCFS wards)  
• 13 Crisis Referrals  
• 16 Law Enforcement Referrals | 26 (23 non wards)  
• 11 Crisis Referrals  
• 12 Law Enforcement Referrals | 219 juvenile DB cases  
• 51 Referred to Step Up Program |
Illinois Demonstration Sites
Improved Responses

Comprehensive Program Model

1. Informal Referral
2. 24/7 Crisis Intervention
3. Screening and Assessment
4. Safety Planning
5. Alternative Placement Options
6. Court/System Diversion (detention is last resort)
7. Menu of Therapeutic Interventions
   - Provide therapeutic interventions or provide linkage
8. Youth and Family/Parent Engagement
Next Steps

- Embedding changes in policy and practice
- Sustaining programs through new and existing resources
- Expanding continuum of interventions
- Ongoing data sharing and evaluation
- Using Federal funds to support work
- Development of written materials
Applying this information in your jurisdiction

Questions and Discussion