



MEMORANDUM

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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To: Ald. Michael J. Murphy
From: Christopher Hillard, Legislative Fiscal Analyst-Lead
Date: December 20, 2021
Subject: Juvenile Assessment Centers.

This memo is in response to your request for information regarding the operation of a youth reception center modeled on the Janus Juvenile Reception Center (JRC) in Portland, OR. Multnomah County chose to end funding for the JRC in 2020. This memo also includes information on the 18th Judicial District Juvenile Assessment Center in (Aurora, CO), the Douglas County Juvenile Assessment Center (Omaha), The Link (Denver), the Jefferson County Juvenile Assessment Center (Denver) and the Johnson County Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (Kansas City). These organizations are a mixture of nonprofit and governmental entities.

Also included in this memo is information on National Assessment Center Association (NAC), which provides technical assistance, guidelines and accreditation for juvenile assessment centers nationally. Finally, the memo includes a list of possible Milwaukee-based nonprofits that could serve as partner candidates for a local juvenile assessment center.

Multnomah County Juvenile Reception Center (JRC) in Portland, OR (Closed in 2020)

Staffing: Staffing varied somewhat from year to year; however, it remained consistently between 4-6 FTE, with the majority serving as crisis intake specialists. Janus Youth Services, the non-profit contracted to operate the center, provided the following numbers for 2018 while noting that they do not exactly match those in the Multnomah County Budget: 4.2 FTE Crisis Intake Specialists, 0.8 FTE Supervisor and FTE 0.15 Director.

Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Budget: The assessment center was funded entirely by Multnomah County. In 2018, total operating expenses for the assessment center were \$382,128, of which \$282,128 was given directly to Janus Youth Programs to operate the center, while the remaining \$100,000 was spent by Multnomah County to support the program. 70% (\$267,572) of all funding went to personnel costs. The other large expenditure was the cost of rent (\$21,450), which made up 5% of the budget (The complete 2018 Budget is in Appendix A).

Number of youth served annually: 106 youth in 2018 with 136 total visits.

This was down from 141 total youth served in 2015, which was cited by Multnomah County as part of the rationale for discontinuing the reception center. (A breakdown of services provided by the JAC in 2015 is provided in Appendix B).

Structure: Nonprofit: Governed by MOA between Janus Youth Programs, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice Juvenile Services Division, Multnomah County Sheriff as well as the Portland and Gresham Police Departments.

Services: Screening, food/clothing, resources/referrals, overnight stays, family sessions, follow-ups.

Additional Juvenile Assessment Centers

18th Judicial District Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC), Centennial, CO (Aurora/Littleton/Castle Rock) ¹

Staffing: 29.

Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Budget: In 2019, the JAC's total revenue was \$1,701,109. Of this, \$1,092,619 (64%) came from contributions, gifts and grants, while \$591,516 (35%) came from service fees. Salaries (\$1,422,405) made up 84% of the expenses, while occupancy (\$59,496) made up the next-largest category at 3.5%.

Number of youth served annually: 3,000+.

Structure: Nonprofit.

Services: The JAC offers a Community Assessment Program (CAP) which works to keep youth at home and out of juvenile justice and human services systems by connecting families with supportive services. Youth can be referred by parents or guardians, school counselors, teachers, child welfare case workers and police officers. CAP assessment include: screening for immediate medical needs, Behavior health screening (including mental health and substance use), assessment of risks, strength and needs, case-planning and short-term follow-up.

In addition, the Center offers intake and assessment services to young people identified by law enforcement officers for behavior or delinquency matters. Officers may refer youth for a JAC assessment or transport directly to the Law Enforcement Program.

¹ Figures for staffing and number of youth served provided by the National Assessment Center Association.

Douglas County Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC), Omaha, NE ²

Staffing: 13.

Hours: Monday - Friday 7:00 - 7:00.

Budget: \$600,000 - \$999,999.

Number of youth served annually: 1,000 - 1,999.

Structure: Government.

Services: In 2014, Douglas County created a steering committee consisting of leaders representing Nebraska State Probation, the Douglas County Attorney's Office, the Douglas County Public Defender's office, law enforcement, juvenile court judges, Douglas County Administration, juvenile justice service providers, Douglas County Board of Commissioners, public education, nonprofits, and social welfare agencies. The committee was formed to create system change by producing a more effective, efficient, and compassionate justice system that better serves the families and youth who are the users of this system.

The committee created a comprehensive report outlining an implementation roadmap for 2018-2021, at the center of which is the Douglas County Juvenile Assessment Center. The report was oriented around 6 priorities that would inform how the JAC would be operated: eliminating racial and ethnic disparities, improving connectivity to services, valuing family and parent involvement, strengthening communication and collaboration, cultivating quality programs and services and ensuring a rehabilitative juvenile justice system.

The key components of the Douglas County JAC are:

- Systematic intake and processing through the administration of standardized, objective instruments.
- Youth and family input.
- Assessment results driving the justice system's response to the youth.
- An emphasis on matching the youth's needs with support/treatment/supervision, to diminish the likelihood of re-offense, and providing the opportunity for growth and rehabilitation.
- Early, effective intervention to disrupt the youth's progress as a law violator and to promote healthy development.
- Collaboration with Community Service Providers to develop program capacity, giving the justice system a wide selection of options for youth.

² Figures for staffing, budget and number of youth served provided by the National Assessment Center Association.

The Link, Thornton, CO, (Denver Metro).

Staffing: The Link has 12 full-time and 2 part time employees including 9 intake specialists and an administrative team comprised of 2 supervisors, a manager of services, an office manager, and the executive director.

Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Budget: \$730,000. In 2019, The Link's primary revenue sources included: Adams County Human Services (11.99%), Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (17.47%), contributions (0.26%), foundation grants (0.12%), intergovernmental agreement (68.17%), other JD screens (0.08%) and Colorado Senate Bill 94-215 (Marijuana Tax Fund) (1.9%). In terms of expenses, personnel expenses (78.86%) are the largest category, followed by operations expenses (17.55%) and professional services (3.31%).³

Number of youth served annually: The Link had 1,145 total cases in 2019. Of those, 52% were youth transported to the facility by law enforcement, 41% were detention screens and 7% were walk-ins or referrals.

Structure: Nonprofit. Participating jurisdiction include: Adams County, City of Commerce, City of Brighton, City and County of Broomfield, City of Northglenn, City of Thornton and the City of Westminster.

Services: The Link provides the following services:

- Detention screens: Phone assessments for transport to detention by law enforcement.
- Transports: Receive youth transported by law enforcement to The Link
- Family intervention and mediation: Meetings with youth and parent(s)/ guardian(s) by appointment/ referral.
- Behavioral screens: Suicide risk, human trafficking, mental health, and substance use.
- Facilitation of crisis or respite care in shelter with partners.
- Personal recognizance bonds.
- On-site Informed Supervision classes.
- Restorative Justice Circles.
- Diversion support to municipal partners and school districts.
- Coordinated referrals to local resources and service providers.

³ Figures taken from The Link's 2019 Annual Report.

Jefferson County Juvenile Assessment Center (JCJAC), Lakewood, CO (Denver Metro)⁴

Staffing: 12 staff, with a 4-member leadership team. In addition, there are 7 staff members with the Colorado Youth Detention Continuum program, which is integrated into the assessment center.

Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Budget: Over \$1,000,000.

Number of youth served annually: 1,000 - 1,999

Structure: Government: The JCJAC is a collaborative effort between the Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (CYDC), Jefferson Center for Mental Health (JCMH), Department of Human Services (DHS), the First Judicial District's Attorney's Office, local law enforcement agencies, and the R-1 Jefferson County School District.

Services: The purpose of the assessment center is to identify the origin of the juvenile's issue and provide service referrals to address the concern. Issues addressed at the JCJAC include, but are not limited to, welfare placement, runaway, beyond control of parent, drug and alcohol use/abuse, outcry of abuse, family discord, and low-level criminal charges. In addition, the JCJAC is integrated with the Colorado Youth Detention Continuum, which provides structure and funding to local jurisdictions for a continuum of services designed to ensure that youth are supervised at a level that is commensurate with their risk to the community. These services include:

Fast Track Definition/Track: The Fast Track Program is designed to divert youth who have pending charges from being detained at a juvenile facility, allowing the youth to return home pending their court date. The Juvenile Assessment Center staff will provide the youth and family with a promise to appear that includes a court date as well as an appointment with a CYDC Pretrial Case Manager.

Pre-File: Designed to divert (eligible) youth from entering the justice system through a filed court case. These youth would be referred to Diversion by the Juvenile Assessment Center and would have appointments scheduled with the Jefferson County Diversion Program for the screening process. If it is determined by Jefferson County Diversion they are appropriate and accepted to the Pre-File Program, the criminal charges would not be filed. If the youth are deemed to not be appropriate and are declined by Jefferson County Diversion or the youth fails out of the Pre-File program due to noncompliance, the families are referred to the Juvenile Assessment Center and the steps of the Fast Track Program are then completed.

Pre-Trial: If the youth is deemed ineligible for Diversion, a CYDC Pretrial Case Manager will then meet with the family on the designated date to offer the youth and family the

⁴ Figures for budget and number of youth served provided by the National Assessment Center Association.

opportunity to voluntarily participate in a supervision contract. This supervision also assists in providing the youth and their family services and support through the court process. CYDC Pretrial Case Managers attend court and provide updates regarding the youth's progress and compliance.

Bond:

If a youth is released on bond, he or she will be expected to comply with CYDC supervision services. This could include, but is not limited to:

- Telephone communications.
- Office visits.
- Home visits.
- School visits.
- Random drug testing.
- Mental health or substance abuse evaluation and/or treatment.
- Counseling.
- Electronic Home Monitoring.

See Appendix C for a copy of the Jefferson County juvenile justice "System Flow" chart.

Johnson County Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAC), Olathe, KS (Kansas City)⁵

Staffing: 15.

Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Budget: \$300,000 - \$599,999.

Number of youth served annually: 1,000 - 1,999.

Structure: Government. The JIAC is a collaboration between the Johnson County Department of Corrections Juvenile Services Division, the Kansas Department of Corrections and local law enforcement.

Services: The JIAC is governed by K.S.A 75-7023, Kansas' juvenile intake and assessment system statute (see Appendix D). The JIAC offers 3 programs:

Juvenile Intake Case Management: The goal of the Juvenile Intake Case Management program is to reduce the risk of a youth re-offending after his/her juvenile offense and before sentencing by providing referrals, assisting with accessing community-based resources, and assisting the youth and family through the court process. During the case management program, case management specialists work with youth and their families to set attainable goals in areas such as family relations, peers, employment, extracurricular activities, volunteer work and education.

⁵ Figures for staffing, budget and number of youth served provided by the National Assessment Center Association.

Child in Need of Care (CINC): The CINC provides evaluations for children who are taken into custody by law enforcement agencies. CINC intake operates on a 24-hour, 7-day week basis that allows law enforcement to drop off youth and then to return to patrol while intake staff assess the youth's needs.

The goal of the assessment is provide early identification of at-risk behaviors and determine what community-based services may be appropriate for the youth and family as well as to determine if the youth can be returned home or if placement is appropriate pending a subsequent court hearing.

Offender Drop-Offs: Youth may be brought in by law enforcement either as CINC's or as offenders. If brought in as an offender, the JIAC is required to book the youth, and in some cases, mandated by state statute to fingerprint the youth and collect DNA. Information gained by the intake specialist cannot be used to determine guilt or innocence in court and is not used by the district attorney's office when making decisions about possible charges. Services offered to youth and families include case management, substance abuse services, mental health services, family counseling, and anger management.

Based on the screening interview, validated assessment tools, and the presenting circumstances, a placement decision will occur. The youth may be released, placed on House Arrest, or detained at the juvenile detention center.

National Assessment Center Association (NAC)

The National Assessment Center Association (NAC) is the national accrediting organization for juvenile assessment centers. In addition to assessing centers for accreditation, the NAC also offers services for existing and planned assessment centers including:

Assessment Center 101: The program provides a comprehensive overview of the assessment center framework with examples of prevention and diversion efforts from assessment centers around the country. This training, typically 2-4 hours, is designed to facilitate discussion on ways communities can begin exploring readiness and feasibility of an assessment center. The program is targeted towards courts, schools, parents, police, elected officials, child welfare administrators, and service providers.

Technical Assistance: The NAC provides a number of services for all planning and implementation phases. Collectively these phases (planning, implementation and evaluation) span about 2 years (see Appendix E for detailed outline). The NAC conducts an initial consultation with communities to determine which of the phases and steps would be most beneficial to their community. Communities may select one or more of the phases to engage the NAC in technical assistance.

Milwaukee-Based Nonprofits

There are a number of Milwaukee-area non-profits that may be potential partners in operating a juvenile assessment center in Milwaukee. Ideally, these non-profits would already have a substantial presence within the city or region with a focus on youth. Four possible candidates include:

1. *Pathfinders Milwaukee*: Pathfinders, formed in 1970 as a shelter for runaway and homeless youth. One of Wisconsin's oldest organizations oriented towards serving youth in crisis, the nonprofit serves around 7,000 youth per year. Services include:
 - a. Supported housing, with an emphasis on LGBTQ+-identified youth, chronically homeless youth, youth with disabilities, youth with mental health challenges and youth aging out of foster care.
 - b. Runaway and Homeless Youth Services, including:
 - i. Drop-In Center, located at 4200 N Holton St., provides youth with food, clothing, laundry, showers, hygiene resources and safe social spaces. We also provide case management, employment and education support, sexual health and wellness education and mental health services.
 - ii. Street Outreach, through the city's only youth-focused street outreach team, which operates a mobile resource center that provides basic needs items, sexual and mental wellness education, and referrals to aid safe exits from the streets.
 - iii. Youth Shelter, located at 1614 E Kane Pl., is open 365 days a year and provides emergency short-term shelter for adolescents aged 11-17, plus crisis counseling services for youth aged 18-21.
 - c. Anti-sexual violence services including:
 - i. Hand-in-Hand, a trauma-informed program that provides comprehensive group, family and individual counseling for youth under 18 who have experienced sexual abuse.
 - ii. New Paths, which works specifically with youth and young adults aged 11-25 who have experienced sexual exploitation and trafficking.
 - iii. Collaborative Rapid Advocacy for Youth (CRAY), a partnership between Pathfinders and other system-based advocates to provide after-hours emergency medical and legal accompaniment for youth 11–25 who have been commercially sexually exploited.
 - d. Education: Pathfinders operates the Southeastern Education Center, a Milwaukee Public School contracted behavioral reassignment middle school. The Southeastern Education Center works with students who have been challenged in traditional school settings and are in need of individualized educational support.
 - e. Clinical services designed to support youth living with mental health and/or substance use diagnoses to reduce negative symptoms, develop life skills and transition into adulthood.

2. *St. Charles Youth and Family Services, Inc.*: Tracing its origins back to the 1920s, St. Charles Youth and Family Services, Inc., is a not-for-profit human services agency that is guided by Catholic principles and provides an array of prevention and intervention services for both youth and adults. Youth services include:
 - a. Children's Mobile Crisis (CMC). This program provides crisis intervention services on a 24-hour basis to families enrolled in the Wraparound Milwaukee Program and any family in Milwaukee County with a child who is having a mental health crisis when the behavior of the child threatens his or her removal from home or school. The CMC team of psychologists, social workers, nurses, case managers and a consulting physician, go to where the crisis is occurring, assesses the situation, and determine if the child's behavior or mental health condition can be met with interventions in the home or whether temporary placement in a crisis group home or other emergency setting is required.
 - b. Family Intervention Support Services (FISS). This program assists in finding services outside of the court system for families struggling with the behavioral challenges of teenagers. It is a short term, voluntary program that provides services to families with adolescents (ages 10 up to 18), who are experiencing behavioral concerns in the home, community and/or school.
 - c. Level II In-Home Monitoring. This is an early intervention program focusing on youth, ages 10 through 17, who have committed an offense and are at risk for repeatedly reentering the juvenile justice system. Once referred by Milwaukee County Division of Youth & Family Services, the program provides daily face-to-face contact with each youth and provides group, individual, family, and recreational counseling activities on a weekly basis.
 - d. Owen's Place. This is a free, drop-in resource center for young adult's ages 16-24 years old. Staffed by a team of staff and peer specialists, resources at the center include a computer lab, laundry facility, kitchen, meeting space, on-site 1:1 peer support, library, community resources and hygiene supplies.
 - e. Positive Options Program (POP). This is a community-based alternative for youth who typically would need to serve sanction days within the detention center. Youth are able to attend daily programming to build skills to avoid further delinquencies.
 - f. REACH Care Coordination. This is a program within Wraparound Milwaukee, a coordinated service provider network, which provides coordinated community-based supports and services to families of youth with complex emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs.
 - g. Residential Treatment. This program provides trauma-informed treatment for male youth, ages 13 – 17, requiring residential treatment due to mental health needs and/or in conjunction with court involvement.
 - h. Treatment Foster Care. St. Charles is a licensed State of Wisconsin Child Placing Agency serving children ages 0 – 18 years old. This program is for

youth with special needs that have been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect or significant behavioral issues.

- i. Youth Employment Services (Y.E.S.). This is an on-the-job training program targeted for youth ages 15.5-18 years old and involved in Wraparound Milwaukee services.
3. *La Causa, Inc.*: Opened in 1972, La Causa was Milwaukee's first bilingual day care center serving the Hispanic population. In addition to youth services, La Causa also operates the La Causa charter school, an early education and care center for toddlers and early preschool children, a crisis nursery and respite center and a variety of adult social services.
- a. La Causa is a licensed foster care agency. Foster care programs include:
 - i. Treatment foster care. This program provides care to children by licensed foster parents and is generally temporary. Placement is intended to give families time to make changes so the child can safely return home.
 - ii. SAFE Home. This program is designed for females 13-17 who are identified as being at high risk for involvement in any form of commercial sexual exploitation.
 - iii. Professional Foster Parent Program. This program serves females age 13-17 who have a history of numerous placements, chronic running away behaviors or engage in risky behaviors in the community. One parent has to agree not to work outside the home and will receive an additional stipend.
 - iv. Respite Care. This program allows foster families to take a break from the daily challenges of caring for a child with special needs. It can be planned for a few hours or for as long as a weekend. Respite providers are paid for their care of the foster child. This is a way to help children and families without going through the entire foster home licensing process.
 - b. REACH Care Coordination. This program is a voluntary, early-intervention program that is part of the Wraparound system of care. It is open to families who require ongoing mental health and emotional health services. Services include care coordination, family and community supports, children's mobile crisis team, family and individual therapy, medication management, crisis services and bilingual services.
 - c. Coordinated Opportunities for Recovery and Empowerment. This voluntary program offers comprehensive, specialized services and support to individuals who are experiencing their first signs of psychosis. Services include care coordination, therapy, employment and education support, peer support, psychiatric services and community outings to promote socialization.
 - d. Comprehensive community services. This is a voluntary program that supports the youth and their families who have mental health, substance use, and complex behavioral needs. Services include employment assistance, peer support, art and music therapy, education & wellness

support, family and individual counseling, care coordination, daily living assistance and medication management.

4. *Walker's Point Youth and Family Center*: Opened in 1976, the Center works to meet the needs of runaway, homeless, and other troubled youth and their families by providing services to empower youth, help them resolve personal and family problems, strengthen family relationships, and support safe and stable homes. Services include:
 - a. **Runaway & Teen Crisis Program**: This program provides temporary shelter and crisis to youth in crisis ages 11-17 who are experiencing family or other problems. Counseling is available by appointment or walk-in. This program provides a safe and legal alternative to the streets for runaway and homeless youth, as well as offering a neutral space where problem-solving can take place for both the youth and the family. Program services include:
 - i. 24-hour emergency shelter for up to 2 weeks.
 - ii. 24-hour crisis hotline and intervention.
 - iii. Youth and family counseling.
 - iv. Group sessions.
 - v. Information, referral and follow-up services.
 - vi. Education and outreach presentations to schools and other community groups.
 - b. **Transitional and Supportive Housing Program**: This program is for older homeless youth (17-24 years old) who require long-term transitional housing (up to 24 months) and an intensive range of supportive services aimed at preparing them for self-sufficiency and housing permanency. The program utilizes scattered site housing and provides:
 - i. Weekly case management and support.
 - ii. Goal setting and follow-up.
 - iii. Education and Career Planning.
 - iv. Weekly independent living skills classes.
 - v. Ongoing personal development sessions.
 - vi. Community resources.

Please let us know if you need any further information.

LRB 177103

Appendix A: Multnomah County Juvenile Assessment Center 2018 Budget.

Multnomah County, DHS

Youth and Family Services Division FY 2018

Line Item Budget Detail Form For Service Type:

Contractor Name: Janus Youth Programs

Line Number # (Corresponds to Annual Budget Line Numbers)	Detail & Justification of Line Item	Line Item Budget Description (Explain each in detail)	Contract Cost	Agency Cost
Personnel				
1	Salaries & Wages	5.81 FTE needed to perform contracted activities at Reception (4.31) & East Co Reception (1.5) 1.32 FTE funded by other source.	183,138	32,662
2	Overtime			
3	Fringe	Mandatory P/R tax, benefits including health, dental, life calculated using approved Federal Rate of .24%	43,933	7,839
4	Volunteers			
Sub-Total Personnel:			227,071	40501
Direct Materials and Services				
5	Professional Services	Legal, safety & security, janitorial, grounds, and building access contracts	2,480	300
6	Printing		0	
7	Utilities	Electric, gas, garbage, water,	2,400	1200
8	Telephone	Land line and cell, and internet	2,570	3600
9	Equipment Rental			
10	Space Rent	Prorated based on FTE shared space with Runaway Youth Shelter	6,450	15000
11	Repairs	Minor repairs to desk, chairs, doors & small electrics	1,500	3000
12	Postage		0	
13	Office Supplies	Program, cleaning, facilities and office supplies per history	3,100	4530
14	Education & Training	CPR & annual diversity training	620	600
15	Mileage	Staff reimbursable mileage and parking per history and agency van gas	90	5400
16	Insurance	Liability, property, and auto per current policies	2,190	5276
17	Dues and Subscriptions	Professional publications		300
18	Sub Awards < \$25k			

SUBTOTAL DIRECT MATERIALS & SERVICES		21,400	39206
INDIRECT			
19. Overhead/Admin	Federal approved indirect rate	32457	11507
OTHER COSTS			
20. Client Assistance	Bus tickets & food	1200	4500
21 Capital Expenditures			4286
22. Sub Awards > \$25k			
TOTAL		282,128	100000

Appendix B: 2015 Janus Youth Programs, Inc. Juvenile Reception Center Annual Report.



Juvenile Reception Center Janus Youth Programs, Inc. 2015

Total Youth Screened: 141
Total Unduplicated Youth Screened: 95

GENDER		
	Number	Percent
Male	62	44%
Female	79	56%
Trans Male		
Trans Female		
TOTAL	141	100%

AGE		
12	4	3%
13	3	2%
14	26	18%
15	26	18%
16	48	34%
17	34	24%

RACE		
	Number	Percent
Asian		%
Black/African American	30	21%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	12	9%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2	1%
Latino/Hispanic	18	13%
White/Caucasian	77	55%
Mixed Race		
Other	2	1%
TOTAL	141	100%

ETHNICITY		
Hispanic	18	13%

PRECINCTS (Referring Agency)					
Central Precinct	29	East Precinct	41	Southeast Precinct	0
North Precinct	27	Northeast Precinct	1	Transit (Trimet)	13
				Other or Unknown	30

PAST COURT AND DHS INVOLVEMENT		
	Number	Percent
Number of youth reunited with their parent/guardian	54	44%
Number of youth reunited with a relative or friend	11	12%
Number of youth that were returned to DHS custody	17	9%
Number of youth that ran from Reception Center	24	18%
Number of youth that went to the hospital emergency room	0	2%
Number of youth that accessed Harry's Mother	35	13%
Number of youth referred to JDH	0	1%
Other placement		
TOTAL	141	100%

Please provide a one paragraph narrative on program activities during the period. Include any program changes.

Appendix C: Jefferson County, CO, Juvenile Justice System Flow Chart.

Appendix D: K.S.A. 75-7023. Juvenile intake and assessment system; confidentiality of records; information collected; dispositional alternatives; custody of child; conditions of release.

75-7023. Juvenile intake and assessment system; confidentiality of records; information collected; dispositional alternatives; custody of child; conditions of release. (a) The secretary for children and families may contract with the secretary of corrections to provide for the juvenile intake and assessment system and programs for children in need of care. Except as provided further, the secretary of corrections shall promulgate rules and regulations for the juvenile intake and assessment system and programs concerning juvenile offenders. If the secretary contracts with the office of judicial administration to administer the juvenile intake and assessment system and programs concerning juvenile offenders, the supreme court administrative orders shall be in force until such contract ends and the rules and regulations concerning juvenile intake and assessment system and programs concerning juvenile offenders have been adopted.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, records, reports and information obtained as a part of the juvenile intake and assessment process shall not be admitted into evidence in any proceeding and shall not be used in a child in need of care proceeding or a juvenile offender proceeding.

(1) Such records, reports and information may be used in a child in need of care proceeding for diagnostic and referral purposes and by the court in considering dispositional alternatives. If the records, reports or information are in regard to abuse or neglect, which is required to be reported under K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2223](#), and amendments thereto, such records, reports or information may then be used for any purpose in a child in need of care proceeding pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children.

(2) Such records, reports and information may be used in a juvenile offender proceeding only if such records, reports and information are in regard to the possible trafficking of a runaway. Such records, reports and information in regard to the possible trafficking of a runaway shall be made available to the appropriate county or district attorney and the court, and shall be used only for diagnostic and referral purposes.

(c) Upon a juvenile being taken into custody pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2330](#), and amendments thereto, a juvenile intake and assessment worker shall complete the intake and assessment process, making release and referral determinations as required by supreme court administrative order or district court rule, or except as provided above [in] rules and regulations established by the secretary of corrections.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (g) and in addition to any other information required by the supreme court administrative order, the secretary for children and families, the secretary of corrections or by the district court of such district, the juvenile intake and assessment worker shall collect the following information either in person or over two-way audio or audio-visual communication:

(1) The results of a standardized detention risk assessment tool pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2302](#), and amendments thereto, if detention is being considered for the juvenile, such as the problem oriented screening instrument for teens;

(2) criminal history, including indications of criminal gang involvement;

(3) abuse history;

(4) substance abuse history;

(5) history of prior community services used or treatments provided;

(6) educational history;

(7) medical history;

(8) family history; and

(9) the results of other assessment instruments as approved by the secretary.

(e) After completion of the intake and assessment process for such child, the intake and assessment worker shall make both a release and a referral determination:

(1) Release the child to the custody of the child's parent, other legal guardian or another appropriate adult.

(2) Conditionally release the child to the child's parent, other legal guardian or another appropriate adult if the intake and assessment worker believes that if the conditions are met, it would be in the child's best interest to release the child to such child's parent, other legal guardian or another appropriate adult; and the intake and assessment worker has reason to believe that it might be harmful to the child to release the child to such child's parents, other legal guardian or another appropriate adult without imposing the conditions. The conditions may include, but not be limited to the alternatives listed in K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2331](#)(b), and amendments thereto, and the following:

(A) Participation of the child in counseling;

(B) participation of members of the child's family in counseling;

(C) participation by the child, members of the child's family and other relevant persons in mediation;

(D) provision of outpatient treatment for the child;

(E) referral of the child and the child's family to the secretary for children and families for services and the agreement of the child and family to accept and participate in the services offered;

(F) referral of the child and the child's family to available community resources or services and the agreement of the child and family to accept and participate in the services offered;

(G) requiring the child and members of the child's family to enter into a behavioral contract which may provide for regular school attendance among other requirements; or

(H) any special conditions necessary to protect the child from future abuse or neglect.

(3) Deliver the child to a shelter facility or a licensed attendant care center along with the law enforcement officer's written application for a maximum stay of up to 72 hours. The shelter facility or licensed attendant care facility shall then have custody as if the child had been directly delivered to the facility by the law enforcement officer pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2232](#), and amendments thereto.

(4) The intake and assessment worker shall also refer the juvenile's case to one of the following:

(A) An immediate intervention program pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2346](#)(b), and amendments thereto;

(B) the county or district attorney for appropriate proceedings to be filed, with or without a recommendation that the juvenile be considered for alternative means of adjudication programs pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2389](#), and amendments thereto, or immediate intervention pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2346](#), and amendments thereto; or

(C) refer the child and family to the secretary for children and families for investigations in regard to the allegations.

(f) The secretary of corrections, in conjunction with the office of judicial administration, shall develop, implement and validate on the Kansas juvenile population, a statewide detention risk assessment tool.

(1) The assessment shall be conducted for each youth under consideration for detention and may only be conducted by a juvenile intake and assessment worker who has completed training to conduct the detention risk assessment tool.

(2) The secretary and the office of judicial administration shall establish cutoff scores determining eligibility for placement in a juvenile detention facility or for referral to a community-based alternative to detention and shall collect and report data regarding the use of the detention risk assessment tool.

(3) The detention risk assessment tool includes an override function that may be approved by the court for use under certain circumstances. If approved by the court, the juvenile intake and assessment worker or the court may override the detention risk assessment tool score in order to direct placement in a short-term shelter facility, a community-based alternative to detention or, subject to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2331](#), and amendments thereto, a juvenile detention facility. Such override must be documented, include a written explanation and receive approval from the director of the intake and assessment center or the court.

(4) If a juvenile meets one or more eligibility criteria for detention or referral to a community-based alternative to detention, the person with authority to detain shall maintain discretion to release the juvenile if other less restrictive measures would be adequate.

(g) Parents, guardians and juveniles may access the juvenile intake and assessment programs on a voluntary basis. The parent or guardian shall be responsible for the costs of any such program utilized.

(h) Every juvenile intake and assessment worker shall receive training in evidence-based practices, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Risk and needs assessments;
- (2) individualized diversions based on needs and strengths;
- (3) graduated responses;
- (4) family engagement;
- (5) trauma-informed care;
- (6) substance abuse;
- (7) mental health; and
- (8) special education.

History: L. 1996, ch. 229, § 7; L. 1997, ch. 156, § 98; L. 1999, ch. 156, § 24; L. 2006, ch. 169, § 128; L. 2007, ch. 195, § 43; L. 2014, ch. 115, § 403; L. 2016, ch. 102, § 21; L. 2016, ch. 46, § 63; L. 2016, ch. 102, § 22; Jan. 1, 2017.

Revisor's Note:

Section was amended twice in the 2006 session, see also [75-7023a](#).

Appendix E: **National Assessment Center Association Adopting Assessment Center Framework.**

Adopting the Assessment Center Framework

The below phases outline the full spectrum of support the NAC offers communities adopting the Assessment Center Framework. Collectively, these phases span a timeframe of about 2 years. NAC staff will conduct an initial consultation with communities to determine which of the phases and steps would be most beneficial to their community. Communities may select one or more of the below phases to engage the NAC in technical assistance.

Planning Phase – 6 - 8 months

I. **Preparation** – This step is expected to take one – two months. NAC staff and consultants will assist by working with the local coordinator/lead to ensure they are equipped with information and resources to carry out the below steps. This assistance would likely occur through one or two of the virtual supportive sessions.

- a. Identify local project coordinator/lead for communications and logistics planning
- b. Identify members of the local Assessment Center Planning Team
- c. Provide preparatory reading/planning materials (this may not be applicable)

d. Schedule first on-site meeting

II. **Kick-off** - This step is expected to take two days in the form of an on-site visit. One day serving as the kick-off meeting and the other day (before or after) as a prep or debrief with key staff. NAC staff and consultants will work with the local coordinator/lead to facilitate the kick-off meeting and reach consensus on next steps.

- a. Kick-off meeting with Assessment Center Planning Team to explain the process, establish consensus on expectations, and celebrate the start of community change.

III. **Process Mapping & Analysis** – This step is expected to take three – six months in the form of two – three virtual supportive sessions and one on-site visit. NAC staff and consultants will work with the local coordinator/lead to gather and do a preliminary analysis of data, conduct interviews, and facilitate a community conversation around need and opportunity.

a. This step is intended to generate the collaborative recommendations for the development of a comprehensive, coordinated assessment center model. It includes the collection of data and performing an analysis to inform strategies, policies, and partnerships that will establish the assessment center. This includes:

- ♣ Community mapping and data gathering process
- ♣ Data analysis
- ♣ Stakeholder Survey distribution and analysis
- ♣ Select assessment center domain(s) & access points based on data and need

Implementation Phase - 7 - 10 months

IV. **Action Planning** – this step is anticipated to take three to six months in the form of two – three virtual supportive sessions and one on-site visit. NAC staff and consultants will work with the local coordinator/lead and community stakeholders to develop an action plan for implementation.

a. Utilizing the data and decisions made in step two in conjunction with the NAC Assessment Center framework and standards of practice, the team will begin to develop an Assessment Center action plan to include:

- ♣ Resources necessary for implementation
- ♣ Partnerships, policies, procedures, and activities needed for successful implementation
- ♣ Community resource mapping to inform referrals
- ♣ Establishing evaluation methods and measures of success

V. **Implementation** – While there may be a launch day, this step is anticipated to take three – four months to help community troubleshoot any potential problems and support them in their beginning months with anything that may arise.

a. Launch of Assessment Center utilizing the action plan and implementation science.

Evaluation Phase – 6 - 12 months

VI. **Evaluation** – This step is anticipated to take a minimum of six months. After the launch of the assessment center, NAC Staff and consultants will begin the process of evaluating the overall process and implementation. The support given on data analyzing and outcome tracking is expected to occur once enough data is gathered. This is expected to be a at six months into implementation with the likelihood that a full year of data needs to be analyzed for accurate outcome evaluation.

a. Conduct an evaluation and gather feedback on the overall process and implementation of the assessment center launch.

b. Support the continuous process of gathering and analyzing data and tracking outcomes agreed upon in step 3 to evaluate overall impact.

Timeframe

During a twelve - eighteen-month period, NAC staff and consultants will conduct six on-site technical assistance visits to support the process outlined above. Between on-site visits, the NAC will offer up to ten remote, virtual 2-hour supportive sessions. In an effort to support the continuous quality improvement process for centers across the country, after the launch of the assessment center you will have the option to become members of the NAC which will give them access to future trainings, conferences, technical assistance, and an online networking and peer-to-peer platform to ask questions and learn from other centers across the country.



Access to Experts

As a member-based organization, the NAC has the unique ability to engage members with specific expertise as it relates to your community need and action plan. We have the capacity to tap into the leadership and experiences of assessment centers serving different populations and geographic areas so your community can hear and learn directly from those who have been through this process.

Requirements

- (a) Initial Consultation with NAC Staff
- (b) Three letters of support from among the following stakeholders:
 - a. Judge
 - b. School Superintendent
 - c. Elected Official
 - d. Chief of Police
 - e. Parent
 - f. Youth
 - g. Chief Juvenile Court Officer
 - h. Child Welfare Administrator