

National Cross-Site Evaluation of

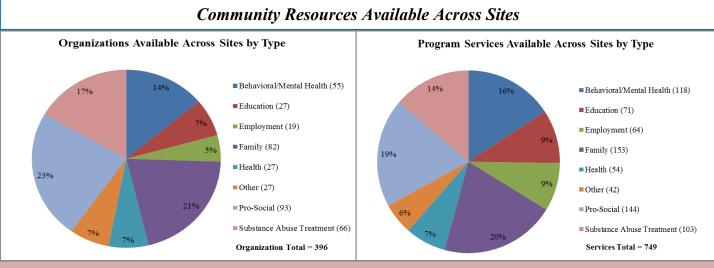
Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW)

## Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Futures

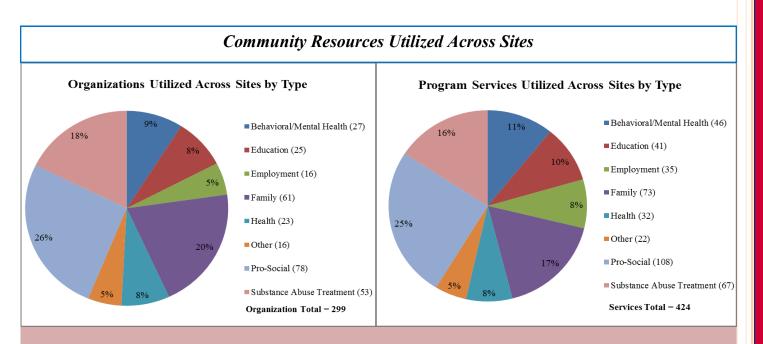
Final Cross-Site Report: Community Resources Available and Utilized - February 2015 Five Site Report

This report presents findings of the community resources available and utilized by five juvenile drug courts in the United States (i.e. the evaluation sites) to meet youth needs identified through a program integrating Juvenile Drug Court (JDC): Strategies in Practice and Reclaiming Futures (RF). These sites were awarded 4-year grants by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) to implement a JDC/RF program at their juvenile drug courts. As part of the OJJDP- and SAMHSA-funded initiative, the sites were charged with convening and utilizing Drug Court/Change Teams to facilitate the implementation of an integrated JDC/RF program that emphasizes community engagement. This report presents the community resources available in five communities with JDC/RF programs and those organizations that were utilized by the sites during the final wave of grant implementation (Spring 2012 for two sites; Spring 2013 for three sites).

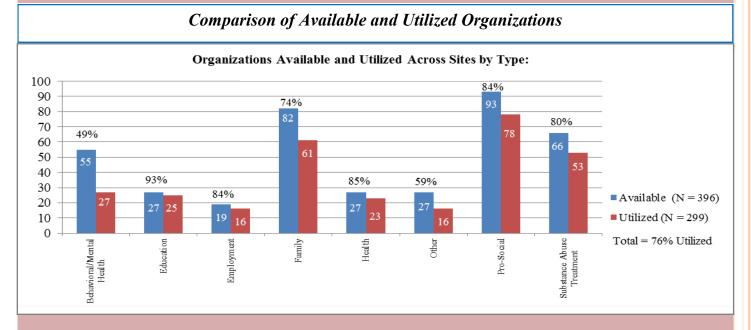
The community resource data are presented in this report at both the organization level and the program service level. At the organization level, the data capture the number of different agencies that offered services relevant for youth in the JDC/RF program and their families (e.g., behavioral health provider, YMCA). The evaluation team developed a community resource inventory for each local site and coded each of the 'Organizations Available' into one of eight categories based on the primary service the organization provided. However, since many organizations provided additional programs, the evaluation team also captured relevant 'Program Services Available' at each organization (e.g., mental health agency also offered family services). This two-pronged approach accounts for the fact that a single organization can offer an array of services relevant to JDC/RF program sites, thus expanding the total number of resources available. The organization level data measure the breadth of community agencies available and utilized, while the program service level data reflect the total resources available and utilized within the identified community agencies.



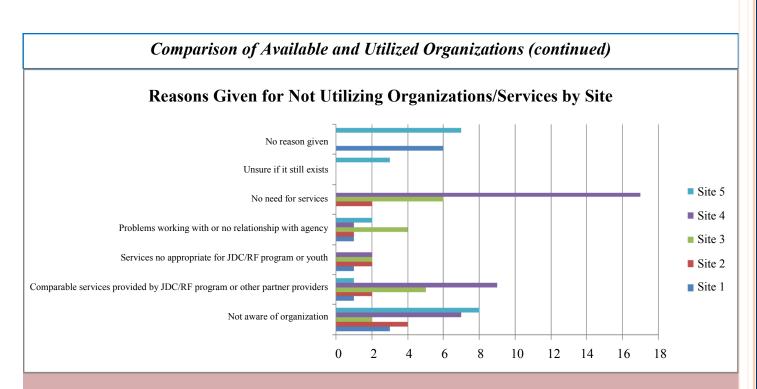
- There were a total of 396 community organizations identified in the areas surrounding the five evaluation sites (38-160 per site) that offered relevant services for JDC/RF youth and their families.
- The 396 identified organizations provided 749 services (82-280 per site) across a broad range of categories including: behavioral/mental health, education, employment, family, health, pro-social, substance abuse treatment, and other services (e.g. tattoo removal, LGBT support groups). Most organizations offered a variety of services across categories. For example, although only 27 organizations primarily provided education services, 71 education-related services were available overall.
- Pro-social and family services represented the largest categories of available community resources measured at both the organization level (23% and 21%, respectively; 5-45 per site), and the program service level (19% and 20%, respectively; 11-61 per site).
- At the organization level, agencies that primarily provided employment services were the least available across sites (19 organizations total; 0-13 per site). However, many organizations offered employment-related services in addition to other resources (e.g., pro-social center also provides résumé help) which bolstered the employment services overall to 64 services (9% of program service available; 4-32 per site).
- At the program service level, other services (6%; 2-19 per site) and health-related services (7%; 6-18 per site) were the least available across sites.



- Across all sites 424 program services (55-150 per site) provided by 299 community organizations (26-124 per site) were utilized by the JDC/RF programs as resources for youth and families.
- At both the organization and program service levels, sites utilized a greater number of pro-social resources than any other type of service (26% of utilized organizations; 25% of utilized program services). This was followed by utilization of resources for families (20% of utilized organizations; 17% of utilized program services) and substance abuse treatment resources (18% of utilized organizations; 16% of utilized program services).
- The fewest number of utilized organizations were agencies that primarily provided employment services (5% of utilized organizations) and agencies that provided other services (5% of utilized organizations). The fewest number of utilized program services were health (8% of utilized program services) and other services (5% of utilized program services).



- The table above displays the raw counts of the organizations available and utilized by five sites, as well as the percentages of available organizations that were utilized in each category.
- Notably, overall sites utilized 76% of the available organizations in their respective communities. Sites utilized more than 80% of the organizations available in all categories except family (74%), behavioral/mental health (49%), and other (59%) services. Although there were fewer organizations available that primarily provided education, health, and employment services, sites utilized these organizations at high rates (93%, 85%, and 84%, respectively).



- Across sites, 97 (24%) of the total organizations identified were not utilized by site staff as resources for JDC/RF youth participants and their families. Site representatives were asked to provide a reason why they did not utilize available organizations in their area that were identified by the evaluation team.
- All five sites reported not being aware of an organization as a reason for not utilizing it (25% of reasons for not utilizing organizations).
- All five sites also indicated they did not seek services from particular organizations identified on the community resource inventory because youth received comparable services in their JDC/RF program or through partner providers (19% of reasons for not utilizing organizations) or they had problems working with or no relationship with the agency (9% of reasons for not utilizing organizations).
- The most frequently reported reason for not utilizing an organization was not having a need for the services provided (26% of reasons for not utilizing organizations). However, only three sites reported this reason. One site reported this instance 17 times, which accounts for the overall high frequency.

## Summary

In summary, the five evaluation sites utilized a wide variety and impressive percentage of resources available in each of their respective communities to meet the diverse needs of JDC/RF youth and their families. Across sites, organizations that primarily provided pro-social and family services were the most widely available (93 and 82, respectively) and accordingly, were the most extensively utilized by sites (78 and 61, respectively). However, sites utilized those organization that were the least available (education, 27; health, 27; employment, 19) at the highest percentages (93%, 85%, and 84%, respectively), indicating that sites made full use of the resources available in the community. The overall high utilization of community resources across sites (76%) evidences the evaluation sites' commitment to linking JDC/RF youth with services to best meet their individual needs.

## **Questions:**

## Contact Monica Davis, Evaluation Coordinator at 520-295-9339 x211 or midavis@email.arizona.edu

**Disclaimer:** The development of this report is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) through an interagency agreement with the Library of Congress – contract number LCFRD11C0007. The views expressed here are the authors and do not necessarily represent the official policies of OJJDP or the Library of Congress; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

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