

National Cross-Site Evaluation of

Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Futures

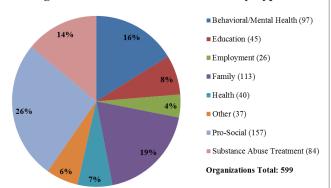
Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW)

Final Cross-Site Report: Community Resources Available and Utilized - June 2016 Eight Site Report

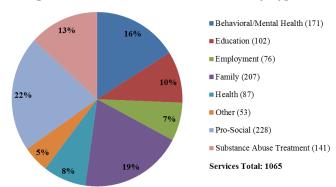
This report presents findings of the community resources available and utilized by eight juvenile drug courts in the United States (i.e., the evaluation sites) to meet youth needs identified through a program integrating Juvenile Drug Court (JDC): Strategies in Practice and Reclaiming Futures (RF). Data included in this report was collected during the fourth and final year of grant funding for five evaluation sites (Spring 2012 for two sites; Spring 2013 for three sites) and during the third year of grant funding for three evaluation sites (Spring 2016).

The community resource data are presented in this report at both the organization level and the program services 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.

Organizations Available Across Sites by Type

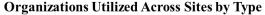


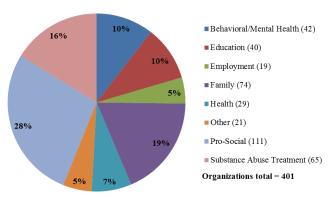
Program Services Available Across Sites by Type



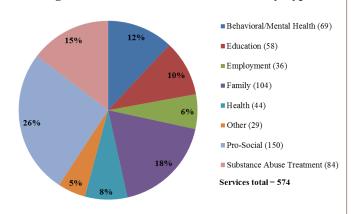
- There were a total of 599 community organizations identified in the areas surrounding the eight evaluation sites (37-160 per site) that offered relevant services for JDC/RF youth and their families.
- The 599 identified organizations provided 1065 services (82-280 per site) across a broad range of 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 45 organizations primarily provided education services, 102 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 (26% and 19%, respectively; 5-45 per site), and the program service level (22% and 19%, respectively; 11-61 per site).
- At the organization level, agencies that primarily provided employment services were the least available across sites (26 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 76 services (7% of program service available; 3-32 per site).
- At the program service level, other services (e.g., LGBTQ support services) were the least available across sites (5%; 2-19 per site).

Community Resources Utilized Across Sites



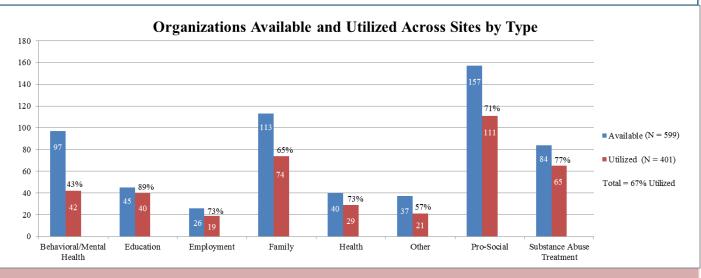


Program Services Utilized Across Sites by Type



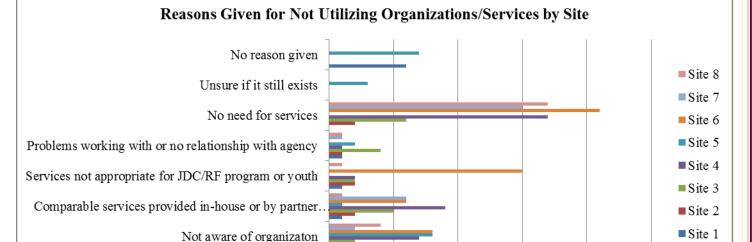
- Across all sites 574 program services (38-150 per site) provided by 401 community organizations (25-124 per site) were utilized by the JDC/RF programs as resources for youth and families.
- At both the organization and program service levels, sites utilized a greater number of pro-social resources than any other type of service (28% of utilized organizations; 26% of utilized program services). This was followed by utilization of resources for families (19% of utilized organizations; 18% of utilized program services) and substance abuse treatment resources (16% of utilized organizations; 15% 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 other services (5% of utilized program services) and employment services (6% of utilized program services).

Comparison of Available and Utilized Organizations



- The table above displays the raw counts of the organizations available and utilized by eight sites, as well as the percentages of available organizations that were utilized in each category.
- Overall, sites utilized 67% of the available organizations in their respective communities. Sites utilized more than 70% of the organizations available in all categories except family (65%), other services (57%), and behavioral/mental health (43%). Although there were fewer organizations available that primarily provided education, health, and employment services, sites utilized these organizations at high rates (89%, 73%, and 73%, respectively).

Comparison of Available and Utilized Organizations (continued)



• Across evaluation sites, 198 out of 599 (33%) 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.

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- All eight sites reported not being aware of an organization as a reason for not utilizing it (19% of reasons for not utilizing organizations).
- All eight sites also indicated that 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 (16% of reasons for not utilizing organizations) or they had problems working with or had no relationship with the agency (12% 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 (40% of reasons for not utilizing organizations). However, one site did not report this, and two sites reported lower incidence of this reason.

Summary

In summary, the eight 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 (157 and 113, respectively) and accordingly, were the most extensively utilized by sites (111 and 74, respectively). However, sites utilized those organizations that were the least available (education, 45; other, 37; employment, 26) at the highest percentages (89%, 57%, and 73%, respectively), indicating that sites made full use of the resources available in the community. The overall high utilization of community resources across sites (67%) evidences the evaluation sites' commitment to linking JDC/RF youth with services to best meet their individual needs.

Ouestions:

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