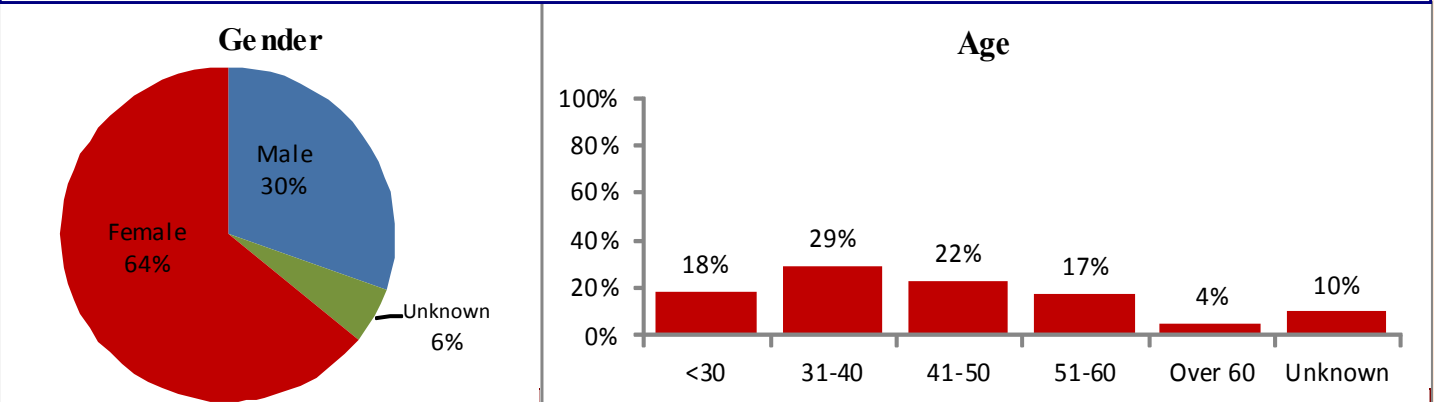


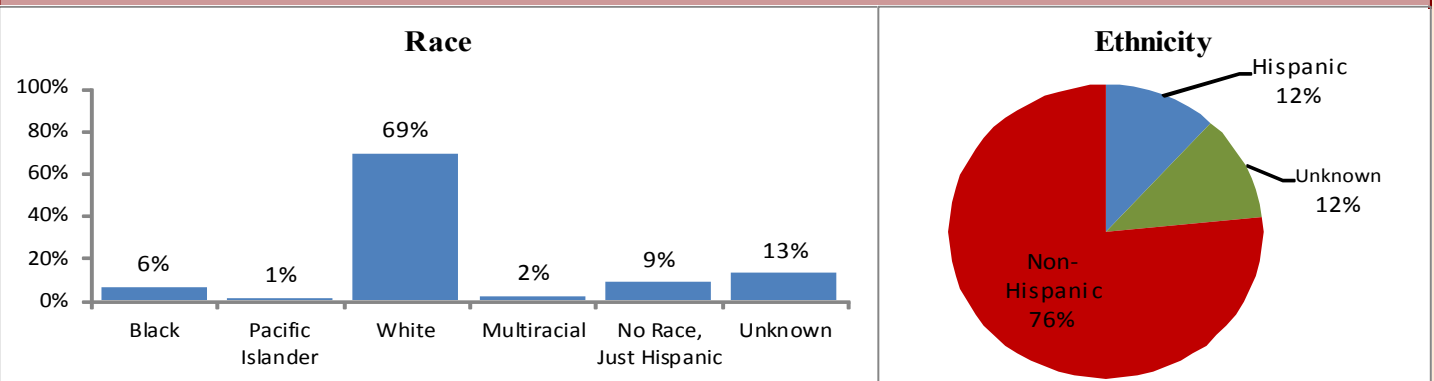
Cross-Site Report: Evaluation of Drug Court/Change Team - September 2013

This report presents findings of the first wave of an evaluation of the Drug Court/Change Teams (sometimes referred to as Reclaiming Futures Fellows) of the Juvenile Drug Court (JDC): Strategies in Practice and Reclaiming Futures (RF) programs implemented in five JDCs in the United States (i.e., the evaluation sites). To evaluate the Drug Court/Change Teams, the evaluation team surveyed Drug Court/Change Team members as well as other individuals who have sufficient contact with the JDC/RF programs and personnel in order to make a knowledgeable assessment. These other individuals included other staff of the JDC/RF programs, staff of other youth-serving agencies, and community members. The sample of other individuals at each evaluation site were either nominated by the JDC/RF Program Director as individuals most qualified to assess the effectiveness of the local juvenile justice and substance abuse treatment system or, in an attempt to address possible sampling bias, were identified by the evaluation team as staff of service agencies in proximity to the JDC who would be likely to serve youth involved in the JDC. The survey queried respondents' perceptions of their Drug Court/Change Team's competency, expertise, and knowledge about the JDC and RF models. The first wave of this survey was conducted December, 2012-January, 2013. Ninety four of the 194 (48%) individuals in the sample completed the survey.

Description of survey respondents



- The majority of respondents were female (68%) and between the ages of 31 and 50 (57%).
- The majority of respondents were non-Hispanic (87%) and White (79%).



Nominated by Program Director		Involvement in JDC/RF Program	
Nominated	85%	Direct—program staff or member of Drug Court/Change Team	61%
Not Nominated	15%	Indirect—staff of youth-serving agencies not formally partnered with the JDC/RF program	39%

- 85% of survey respondents had been nominated by the JDC/RF Program Director.
- 61% of survey respondents were directly involved with the JDC/RF Program as program staff or a member of the Drug Court/Change Team.

Perceptions of the Drug Court/Change Team

Aware that the Local Juvenile Drug Court has a Drug

Court/Change Team	Number	Percent
Yes	66	70%
No	12	13%
I don't know	12	13%
Unknown	4	4%

- 70% (66) of survey respondents were aware that their Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) has a Drug Court/Change Team.
- These 66 survey respondents were asked about their perceptions of the Drug Court/Change Team. Their perceptions are summarized in this section.
- The number of respondents who answered each question varies because some respondents chose not to answer the question or said that they did not know the answer.

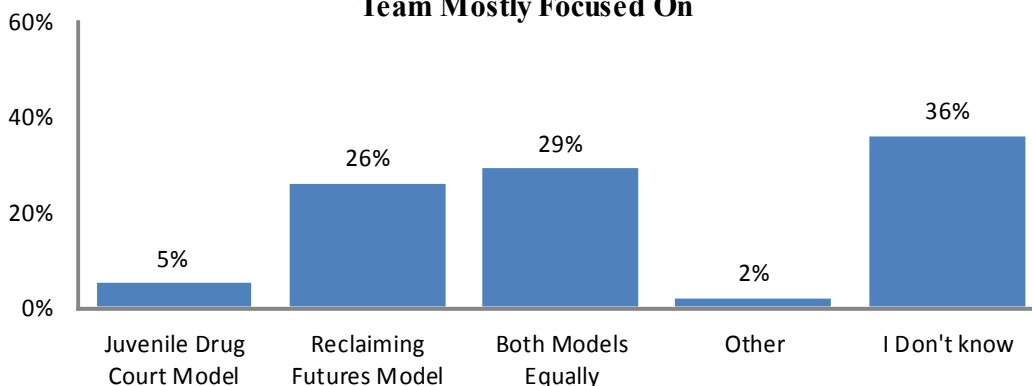
- 43 of the 66 (65%) survey respondents who were aware that their JDC has a Drug Court/Change Team agreed or strongly agreed that they knew the purpose of the Drug Court/Change Team. Ten (15%) disagreed or strongly disagreed that they knew the purpose.

Perceived Knowledge of the Drug Court/Change Team (N = 66)

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	I Don't Know
I see our Drug Court/Change Team members as experts in the <u>Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) Model</u> .	2%	9%	15%	36%	24%	14%
If I have a question about the <u>JDC Model</u> , my first inclination would be to ask a Drug Court/Change Team member.	6%	11%	11%	30%	36%	3%
I think that all of the Drug Court/Change Team members are equal to each other in knowledge-level about the <u>JDC Model</u> .	6%	26%	15%	27%	5%	18%
I see our Drug Court/Change Team members as experts in the <u>Reclaiming Futures (RF) Model</u> .	2%	3%	20%	42%	20%	14%
If I have a question about the <u>RF Model</u> , my first inclination would be to ask a Drug Court/Change Team member.	2%	8%	5%	52%	27%	3%
I think that all of the Drug Court/Change Team members are equal to each other in knowledge-level about the <u>RF Model</u> .	5%	21%	14%	38%	3%	17%

- The majority of survey respondents perceived Drug Court/Change Team members as experts in and the people to go to with questions about the JDC Model (60% and 66% agreed or strongly agreed, respectively) and the RF Model (62% and 79% agreed or strongly agreed, respectively).
- Substantial proportions of respondents perceived equality across Drug Court/Change Team members regarding their knowledge of the JDC and RF Models (32% and 41% agreed or strongly agreed, respectively). However, almost as many perceived differences across members (41% and 35% disagreed or strongly disagreed, respectively).
- More than 1 in 10 (14%-18%) survey respondents reported not knowing if Drug Court/Change Team members are experts in the JDC and RF Models and not knowing about differences across members in their knowledge of the models.

In the Past 12 Months, the Drug Court/Change Team Mostly Focused On



- Most commonly, survey respondents reported that the Drug Court/Change Team focused, in the past 12 months, on the RF Model (26%) and both JDC and RF Models equally (29%).
- The “other” category included “various agencies offering services to youth.”

Overall Perceptions of Drug Court/Change Team's Activities (N = 66)

In the past 12 months, the Drug Court/Change Team ...	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	I Don't Know
Actively worked to increase teamwork.	0%	2%	12%	47%	18%	17%
Actively worked to increase collaborative planning.	0%	6%	9%	47%	20%	15%
Actively worked to increase community partnerships.	0%	3%	8%	47%	24%	15%
Actively worked to promote cultural competency.	0%	11%	20%	33%	8%	26%
Actively worked to promote the use of services that are gender- and developmentally-appropriate.	0%	15%	24%	32%	5%	21%
Members frequently promoted the philosophy of focusing on youths' strengths.	2%	3%	8%	47%	21%	17%
Members frequently promoted the philosophy of using goal-oriented incentives and sanctions.	3%	3%	9%	42%	21%	18%

- The majority of survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the Drug Court/Change Team actively worked to increase teamwork (65%), collaborative planning (67%), and community partnerships (71%).
- In addition, many agreed or strongly agreed that the Drug Court/Change Team actively worked to promote cultural competency (41%) and the use of gender- and developmentally-appropriate services (38%), and that its members frequently promoted the philosophies of focusing on youths' strengths (68%) and using goal-oriented incentives and sanctions (63%).
- Substantial proportions of respondents felt that they did not have the information to be able to evaluate the Drug Court/Change Team activities queried; 15%-29% responded with "I don't know."

Overall Perceptions of the Drug Court/Change Team's Impact on the Juvenile Drug Court (N = 66)

In the past 12 months, the Drug Court/Change Team...	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	I Don't Know
Has not made much of a difference in the functioning of our local JDC.	21%	38%	8%	12%	3%	17%
Was an important part of our JDC.	3%	6%	12%	38%	23%	17%
Out of everyone, has had the greatest leadership role in affecting the day-to-day implementation of the JDC Model.	5%	8%	21%	23%	15%	24%
Out of everyone, has had the greatest leadership role in affecting the day-to-day implementation of the RF Model.	2%	8%	15%	33%	14%	24%

- Overall, survey respondents had positive perceptions of the Drug Court/Change Team, with 59% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing that the Drug Court/Change Team has not made much of a difference in the functioning of the JDC and 61% agreeing or strongly agreeing that the Drug Court/Change Team was an important part of the JDC in the past 12 months.
- In addition, many respondents thought that the Drug Court/Change Team had the greatest leadership role in affecting the day-to-day implementation of the JDC (38%) and the RF (47%) Models.
- Substantial proportions of respondents felt that they did not have the information to be able to evaluate the impacts of the Drug Court/Change Team queried; 17%-24% responded with "I don't know."

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.

Acknowledgements: SIROW wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the evaluation sites and the evaluation partners, Chestnut Health Systems (CHS) and Carnevale Associates, LLC (CALC) to this National Cross-Site Evaluation. In addition, SIROW is appreciative of support from the Library of Congress - Federal Research Division, OJJDP, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the Reclaiming Futures National Program Office.

Suggested Citation: University of Arizona - Southwest Institute for Research on Women (2013). National Cross-Site Evaluation of Juvenile Drug Courts and Reclaiming Futures: Cross-Site Report: Evaluation of Drug Court/Change Team—September 2013. The University of Arizona: Tucson, Arizona.