

Resolution of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives/Disproportionate Minority Confinement Steering Committee

The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative/Disproportionate Minority Confinement (JDAI/DMC) Steering Committee is made up of representatives of the juvenile justice system, community members and agencies and believes that all youth have opportunities to develop into healthy, productive adults. Since its inception in 2003, the Louisville Metro DMC Advisory Board, a multi-agency collaborative of system-affiliated and community stakeholders, has worked to reduce the overrepresentation of minority youth within the juvenile justice system. In 2012 when Louisville Metro/Jefferson County was selected as a JDAI pilot site, the DMC Advisory Board voted and approved to lead JDAI in lieu of creating another Board or committee to assume the leadership role.

Mission

The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative/Disproportionate Minority Confinement (JDAI/DMC) Steering Committee is committed to promoting changes to policies, practices, and programs to reduce reliance on secure confinement, improve public safety, reduce racial disparities and bias, save taxpayers' dollars, and stimulate overall juvenile justice reforms, by pursuing eight interrelated core strategies.

This Resolution is entered into this 21st day of April, 2014, between the members of the JDAI/DMC Steering Committee including: Jefferson District Court; Administrative Office of the Courts, Family and Juvenile Services Department; the Louisville Jefferson County Public Defender Corporation; Louisville Metro Police Department; Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice; Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission; Jefferson County Attorney's Office; Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk's Office; Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services; YMCA Safe Place Services; and Restorative Justice Louisville.

Whereas, research has demonstrated that implementation of evidence-based and data-driven practices in the juvenile justice system can result in a reduction in recidivism and rehabilitation of youth while maintaining public safety; and

Whereas, research has demonstrated that the secure detention and incarceration of youth can have severe detrimental effects on youth; and

Whereas, youth detention is the only statutorily mandated service for the pre-adjudicative phase of a youth's court involvement; and

Whereas, the detention population is affected by policies, decisions, and practices made by stakeholders across the entire juvenile justice system;

Whereas, the stakeholders agree to adopt the following definition of detention:

According to KRS 600.020(20), detention is defined as "the safe and temporary custody of a juvenile who is accused of conduct subject to the jurisdiction of the court who requires a restricted environment for his or her own or the community's protection." Consistent with this

definition, the following are adopted as the primary purposes for the use of pre-adjudicative detention:

- 1) To detain youth deemed to be high risk to commit a new offense, and
- 2) To detain youth deemed to be at high risk for failure to appear for scheduled court hearings.

Therefore, be it resolved that the undersigned JDAI/DMC Steering Committee have committed to the following eight interrelated core strategies:

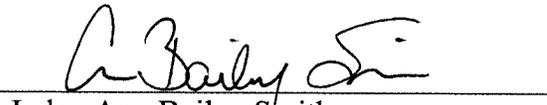
- Maintain the **collaboration** between the major stakeholders and community representatives involved in the juvenile justice system and to integrate the involvement of additional community representatives and agencies, as needed.
- Continue to maintain and **use accurate data** to determine detention utilization and to assess the impact of various reforms.
- Continue to utilize the **objective admissions criteria and instruments** to determine placement in detention.
- Continue to utilize current resources and investigate **new or enhanced non-secure alternatives to detention** targeting youth who would otherwise be detained. Whenever possible, they should be based in those neighborhoods where detention cases are concentrated and operated by local organizations.
- Investigate **case processing reforms** to expedite the flow of cases through the system to reduce lengths of stay in detention.
- Investigate processes for **special detention cases**, youth in custody as a result of probation violations, writs and warrants, as well as those awaiting placement, to determine what new practices may be implemented to minimize their presence in the secure facility
- Continue to address **racial disparities and disproportionalities** through strategic assessment and interventions. This work requires diligence and determined leadership of all stakeholders and community members.
- **Improve conditions of confinement** for those youth deemed as appropriate for detention through the adoption of rigorous protocols and ambitious standards.

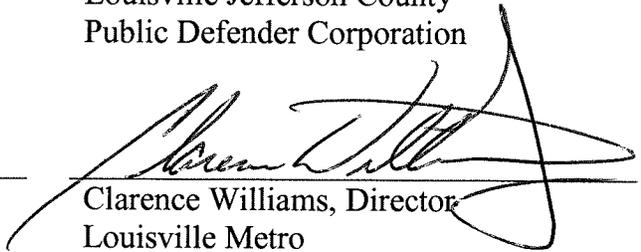

Mike O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

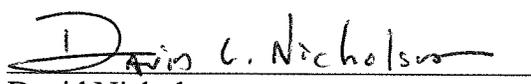
Rachel Bingham, Executive Officer
Family and Juvenile Services
Administrative Office of the Courts


Judge Deana McDonald
Jefferson District Court


Daniel Goyette, Chief Public Defender
Louisville Jefferson County
Public Defender Corporation


Judge Ann Bailey Smith
Jefferson District Court


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David Nicholson
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Hasan Davis, Commissioner
Kentucky Dept. of Juvenile Justice


Steve Conrad, Chief
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