

Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services Delinquency and Court Services Division  <b>POLICY &amp; PROCEDURE</b>	Date Issued: 07/15/2015	Reviewed: 06/30/15 By: DM Last Revision:	Section: <b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	Policy No: <b>030</b>	Pages: <b>1 of 2</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delinquency and Court Services Division <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children's Court Services Network <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase of Service Agencies	Effective Date: 08/01/2015	Subject:  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) Assessment Policy</b></p>			

## I. POLICY

DCSD acknowledges that a high percentage of youth who enter the juvenile justice system struggle with Alcohol or Other Drug Abuse (AODA). Therefore, it is the policy of Delinquency and Court Services (DCSD) to screen all youth for AODA concerns who enter into the juvenile justice system through the use of the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI) to more accurately identify and address the AODA needs of these youth.

DCSD requires that all identified youth at risk for AODA be referred for a Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) Assessment to determine if there is an AODA diagnosis and to receive any resulting recommendations for services. Additionally, DCSD requires that recommendations for services made by the GAIN will be followed by the HSW unless otherwise approved.

## II. PROCEDURE

### A. What is a GAIN Assessment?

The GAIN is an evidence-based assessment used with adolescents. It is a progressive and integrated series of measures and computer applications designed to support a number of treatment practices including referrals, standardized clinical assessments for diagnosis, placement, and treatment planning. The GAIN has eight core sections: Background, Substance Use, Physical Health, Risk Behaviors and Disease Prevention, Mental and Emotional Health, Environment and Living Situation, Legal, and Vocational. Each section contains questions on the frequency of problems, breadth of symptoms, and recent prevalence as well as lifetime service utilization, frequency of utilization, and frequency of recent utilization. The items are combined into over 100 scales and subscales that can be used for DSM-V-based diagnoses and resulting recommendations for services to meet the individual assessed needs of the youth.

### B. Who is authorized to complete a GAIN Assessment?

Gain Assessments are completed by a Licensed AODA therapist that has been trained to administer the GAIN and approved by DCSD to provide this service within the CCSN network.

### C. What youth are identified as being required to receive a GAIN Assessment?

- a. Youth who have a YASI screen result that indicates a moderate or high risk for AODA

- b. Youth who became involved with DCSD due to drug related charges
- c. A youth that is suspected at any time by the HSW as having an AODA concern that does not fall into one of the other required categories and/or a youth who has received medical care for substance use issues in the past. *(i.e. a report for a parent or caregiver of suspected use or a positive drug screen would be an example of this)*

#### **D. Referral Timelines for GAIN**

Referrals for GAIN Assessments are required to be completed by the HSW within 5 business days of completing the YASI screen when an moderate or high indicator of AODA has been identified on the YASI or if the youth became involved with DCSD due to drug related charge.

#### **E. Recommendations**

It is expected that the HSW follow all services recommendations made in the GAIN. Referrals for recommended services need to be completed within 10 business days from receipt of the GAIN assessment from the assessor.

#### **F. Exceptions:**

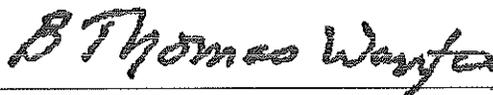
If there are questions or concerns regarding the GAIN recommended services, the HSW is expected to meet with their immediate supervisor to discuss the concerns with in the required referral timeframe. If concerns are not resolved at this time, the HSW will schedule a staffing with the Quality Assurance Specialist-AODA to develop an appropriate plan of action.

#### **G. Documentation**

All GAIN Assessments will be delivered to the HSW via email as well as uploaded into Synthesis within 1 business day of receipt from the assessor. All HSW's will document efforts to implement services from GAIN in Synthesis case notes.

Any exceptions to following the recommendations of the GAIN Assessment must be documented in a Synthesis case note. In addition to the exception, the staff that approved the exception, the rationale for the exception along with the agreed upon alternative plan of action to address the needs of the youth must all be documented in the case note.

Reviewed & Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_



B. Thomas Wanta, Division Administrator