

WISCONSIN'S DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT STRATEGY

A Presentation by:

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SERVING AS A CATALYST FOR LOCAL STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

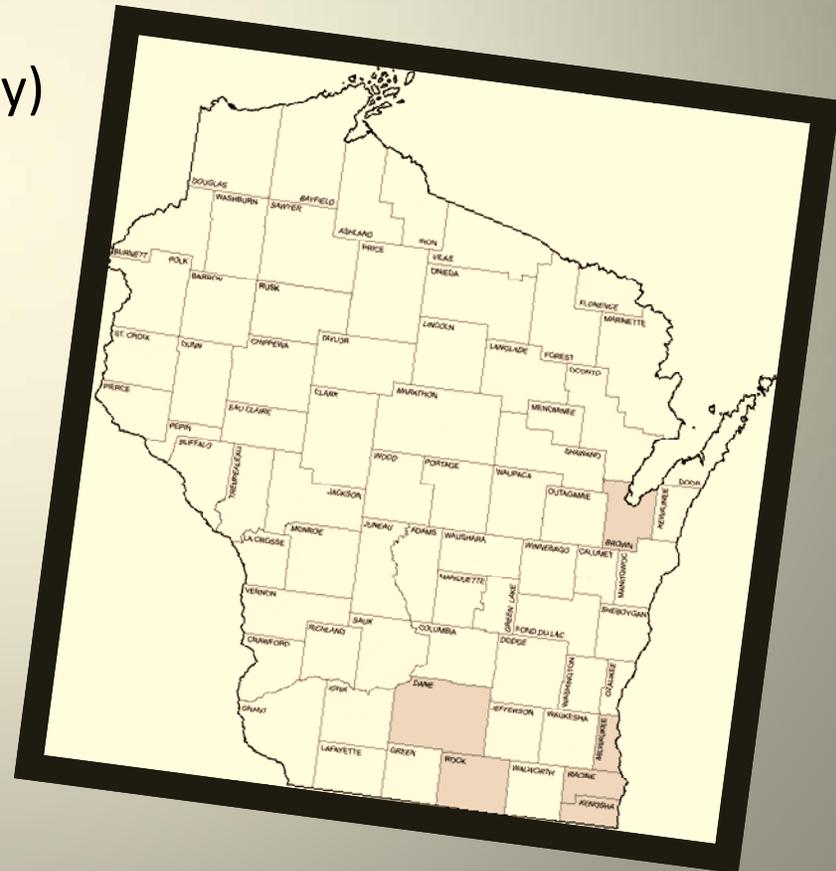
Strategy Development

In 2002, the Wisconsin State Advisory Group (SAG) – the Governor’s Juvenile Justice Commission (GJJC) - awarded funds to six counties with significant minority populations with a mandate to identify and devise strategies to address Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC).

Designated Counties

The State of Wisconsin designated the following counties (and, thus, the major cities within them):

- BROWN COUNTY (Green Bay)
- DANE (Madison)
- KENOSHA (Kenosha)
- MILWAUKEE (Milwaukee)
- RACINE (Racine)
- ROCK (Beloit and Janesville)



Advisory Committee

The Milwaukee County Advisory Board included stakeholders representing the:

- Milwaukee County judiciary
- Milwaukee Police Department
- Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office
- Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office
- Social Development Commission
- Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department
- Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare
- U.S. Attorney's Office
- University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
- Agency Vendors/Service Providers

2002 Point of Contact RRI – Milwaukee County

Category	RRI
Juvenile Arrests	1.25
Referrals to Juvenile Court	2.07
Cases Diverted	0.55
Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.95
Cases Petitioned	1.28
Cases Resulting in Delinquency (Adj.)	0.97
Cases Resulting in Probation	1.01
Cases Resulting in Confinement	2.14
Cases Transferred to Adult Court	1.60

Initial Strategies Adopted in Milwaukee County

Classroom Organization and Management Program
(COMP) to address classroom disruption and office
referrals

<http://www2.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/vpp/lin1/index.html>

Initial Strategies Adopted in Milwaukee County

Firearms Project for juveniles charged with Possession of a Deadly Weapon, providing engagement in positive activities and intensive monitoring in:

- Home
- School
- Community

FOCUS Program offers a residential program with Wraparound services to support community re-entry

MILWAUKEE COUNTY RRI TRENDS

All Minorities	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Juvenile Arrests	1.34	1.34	1.20	1.28	1.30	1.25
Referrals to Juvenile Court	2.78	2.37	2.63	1.94	2.14	2.07
Cases Diverted	0.78	0.68	0.68	0.66	0.67	0.55
Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.82	1.99	1.81	2.49	1.83	1.95
Cases Petitioned	1.16	1.30	1.28	1.39	1.30	1.28
Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	1.13	1.17	1.09	1.08	1.13	0.97
Cases Resulting in Probation Placement	0.92	0.85	0.93	0.92	0.93	1.01
Cases Resulting in Confinement	0.82	0.78	2.55	2.94	1.81	2.14
Cases Transferred to Adult Court	0.39	***	***	***	***	1.60

Eric Meaux, Administrator

Milwaukee County Delinquency & Court Services Division

SELLING THE CONCEPT & BUILDING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Selling the Concept

Making FOCUS a reality required gaining community buy-in from an array of stakeholders.

Local DMC Advisory Group Participants

- This group included staff from Delinquency and Court Services Division, Behavioral Health Division, Judiciary District Attorney's Office, Community-based providers, School District, Public Defender's Office, Law Enforcement, etc.

Reduction of RRI decision point was a central selling point for this group.

Selling the Concept

Judiciary & District Attorney's Office

- These important players became concerned about:
 - Systems gaps
 - Data about number of youth entering juvenile corrections institutions with mental health conditions/lacking family maintenance and support
 - Understanding the need for continuity of case planning & services during reintegration

Maintaining community safety and accountability, while ensuring its reasonableness as an alternative to corrections, were central selling points for them.

Selling the Concept: Systems Data

There are very real differences in the experiences of youth with or without SED/COD.

Experience of Youth With or Without SED/COD Committed to DOC/DJC	Youth <u>with</u> SED/COD (n=112)	Youth <u>without</u> SED/COD (n=96)
Mean length of initial stay in secure correctional placement (days)	415	323
Mean length of time overall in DJC custody (days)	608	483
Mean percent of time in DJC custody spent in a secure correctional placement	86.1%	80.5%
Percent of youth who spend entire length of DJC custody in a secure correctional placement	42.0%	25.0%
Youth who are released from initial stay in secure correctional placement to community-based aftercare and subsequently return to a secure correctional placement during DJC custody	61.5%	33.3%

Selling the Concept

Safety & Accountability

- Establishing Type II facility:
 - Allows some restraint
 - Is a step down from secure facilities
- Using partnerships to reduce community movement
 - Mandatory prohibition of off-site activities for first 30 days
 - Onsite school operated by local school district reduces need for community movement during initial phase

We were essentially charged with replicating certain characteristics of secure placement without reducing ourselves to product offered by corrections.

Selling the Concept

Responsiveness

- Instituted an immediate 30-day sanctions at time of disposition to allow for timeliness of response to non-compliance and/or safety concerns
 - A longstanding concern for the District Attorney's Office...something the traditional corrections model has as a tool
- Met other responsiveness concerns by:
 - Gaining County Board approval to leverage access to local secure detention facility
 - Holding respite beds in reserve for crisis- and/or safety-related issues

Selling the Concept

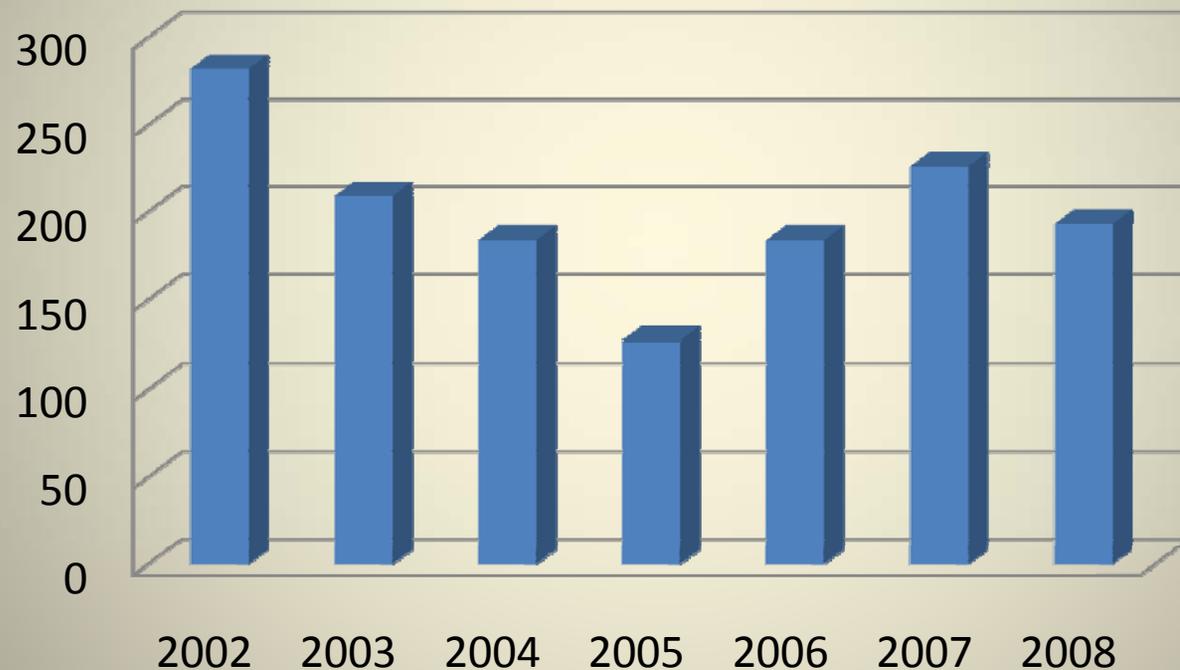
County Executive & Board

- The County's elected leadership wanted a cost-effective approach:
 - One that addressed local concerns about over-representation of youth of color in the correctional system
 - One that would address the lack of support for community reintegration-related services

The continued success of the program has sustained political support from both the Executive and Legislative branches, even allowing for expansion and allocating local funding.

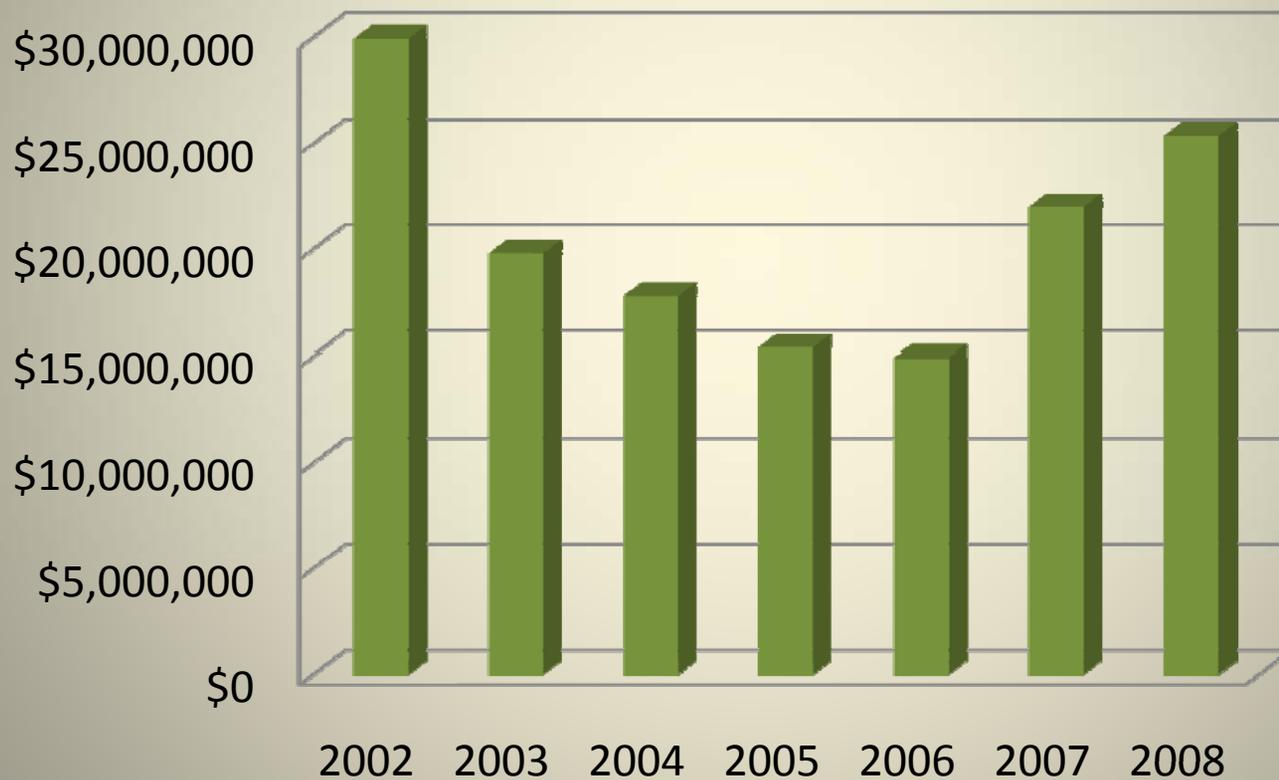
Selling the Concept: Cost-Related Data

JCI Commitments by Year



Selling the Concept: Cost-Related Data

JCI Cost Per Year



Collaborative Partners

Implementing
FOCUS
successfully
required
collaborative
public-private
partnerships



Trust and open communication are absolutely essential!

Collaborative Partners: Roles

Delinquency & Court Services-Probation

- Delinquency & Court Services-Probation ensures:
 - Compliance with Court expectations...serves as the “eyes & ears” of the Court and State
 - Timeliness of accountability beyond programmatic response...e.g., use of secure detention via up-front 30 days
 - Local Funding/Cost-effectiveness...maintaining access to appropriate services, while managing cost-effectiveness of those services

FOCUS results in \$49,182 in annualized local savings per youth enrolled.

Collaborative Partners: Roles

Wraparound Milwaukee

- Wraparound Milwaukee ensures:
 - A family systems approach utilizing care coordination and individualized service plans
 - Adherence to “team” approach and decision-making
 - Access to Medicaid funding streams for mental health services

Collaborative Partners: Roles

St. Charles Youth & Family Services/Local School District

- St. Charles & the Local School District bring experience in:
 - Managing “out-of-home” facilities for delinquency population
 - Leveraging agency-wide staff, expertise, and support for public-private programming within County facilities
 - Implementing a Wraparound service delivery model
 - Coordinating effectively to provide public education within the context of County grounds

Sustaining Support

Reviewing 2008 discharge information after six months indicates that less than 10% of youth have reoffended.

Discharge Reason	No Reoffense	Reoffense	Grand Total
Admission to IP Hospital	0	1	1
Corrections	5	0	5
Order Expired-Progress Made	15	1	16
Transfer to/from FOCUS Foster Care Pilot	1	0	1
Unauthorized Absence	7	1	8
Still Enrolled	30	3	33
Grand Total	58	6	64

Cathy Connolly, President

St. Charles Youth & Family Services

**HELPING YOUTH TAKE A LEADING
ROLE IN CHANGING THEIR LIVES**

About St. Charles

24-Hour Care

Alternative
Education

**St. Charles is a
diversified nonprofit
that offers over 20
programs in:**

Community
Mental Health

Intensive Family
Preservation

More than a Place to Stay...

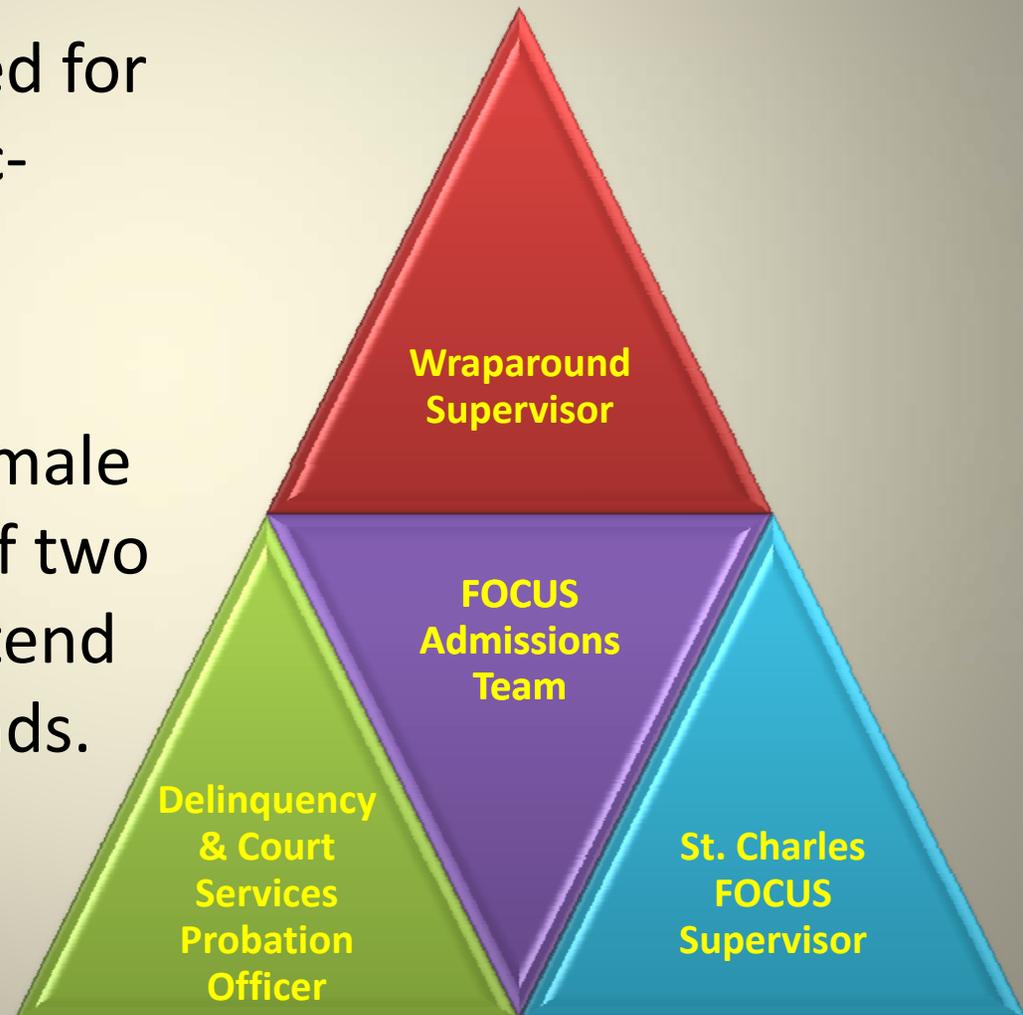
St. Charles Youth & Family Services

- St. Charles Youth & Family Services is the partner responsible for providing the residential portion of the FOCUS program.
- The organization and its public-sector partners use the residential phase as a time to help youth:
 - Take responsibility for their actions
 - Accept the consequences of those actions
 - Address the thinking and behavior that led to adjudication
 - Change that thinking and behavior to avoid future delinquency
- The organization work with its partners to engage families for a successful and sustained transition back to the community

Getting into the Program

Young men are identified for the program by a public-private team.

Program capacity is 30 male youth who live in one of two residential units and attend school on County grounds.



Qualifying Criteria

In order to be admitted into the FOCUS program, youth must meet the following:

- Be males between the ages of 14 and 17
- Be at the point of DOC commitment
- Have a parent, guardian, or parental figure willing to make a commitment to the youth and program
- Be willing to make a personal commitment to engage and “work the program”
- Complete a strengths assessment that demonstrates assets to build upon (e.g., participation in community activities or services, ability to engage in treatment services, extended family support, etc.)

Exclusionary Criteria

Youth may not participate in FOCUS program if:

- He is adjudicated with serious sexual offenses
- There is documented evidence of his aggression/threat against a current FOCUS participant
- He has severe AODA, mental health, or physical health needs exceeding the program's capacity to address

Once Accepted...

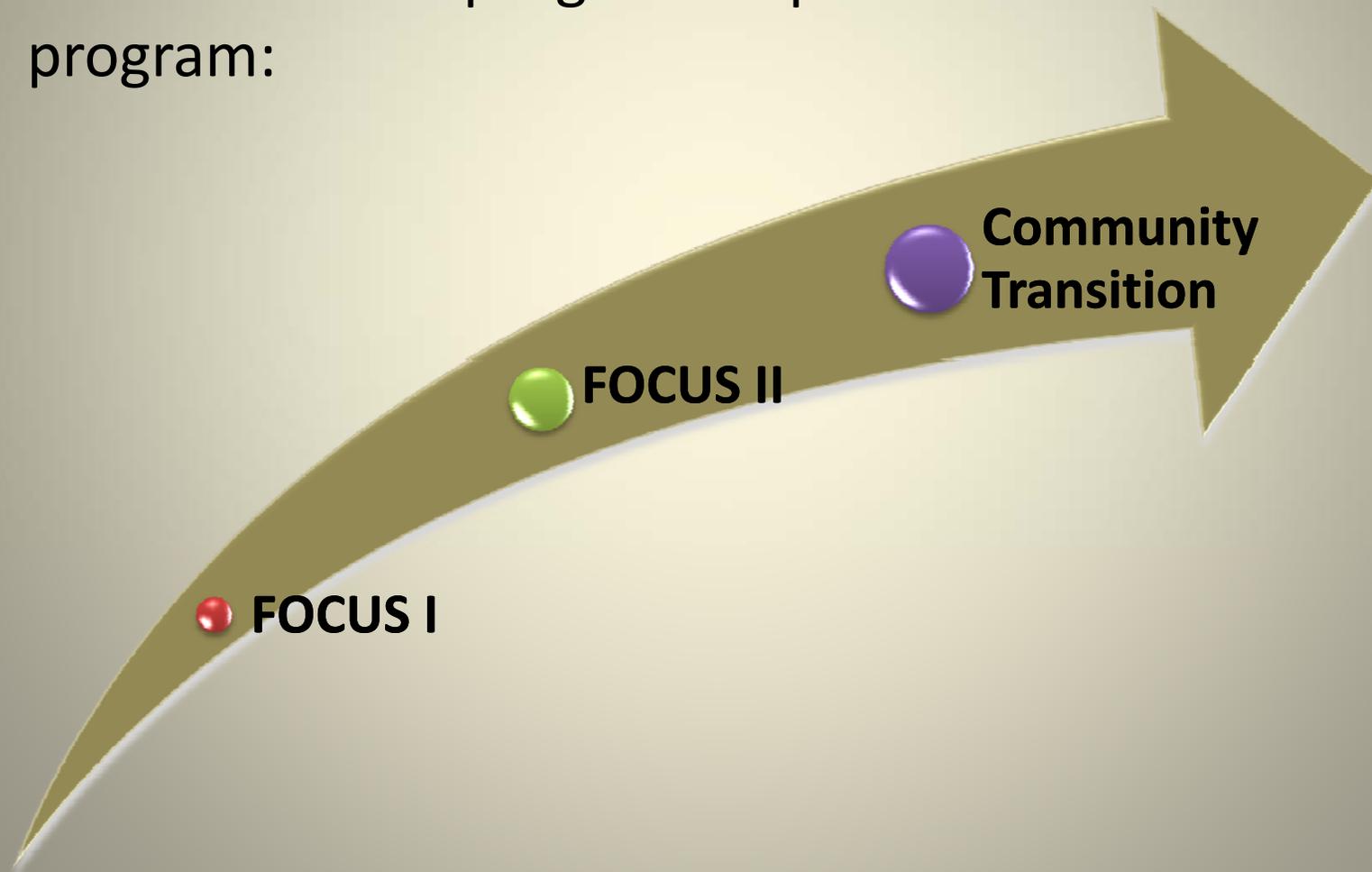
Once accepted for the FOCUS program:

- The Judge orders a lift of stay
- Clients are ordered into the program with a Type II status

This status allows clients to be moved from the facility to the Juvenile Detention Center if needed at any time for up to 10 days of sanctions.

FOCUS in Phases

There are three progressive phases of the FOCUS program:



FOCUS I

Youth enter the program through FOCUS I, where they live until they have completed the following:

FOCUS I

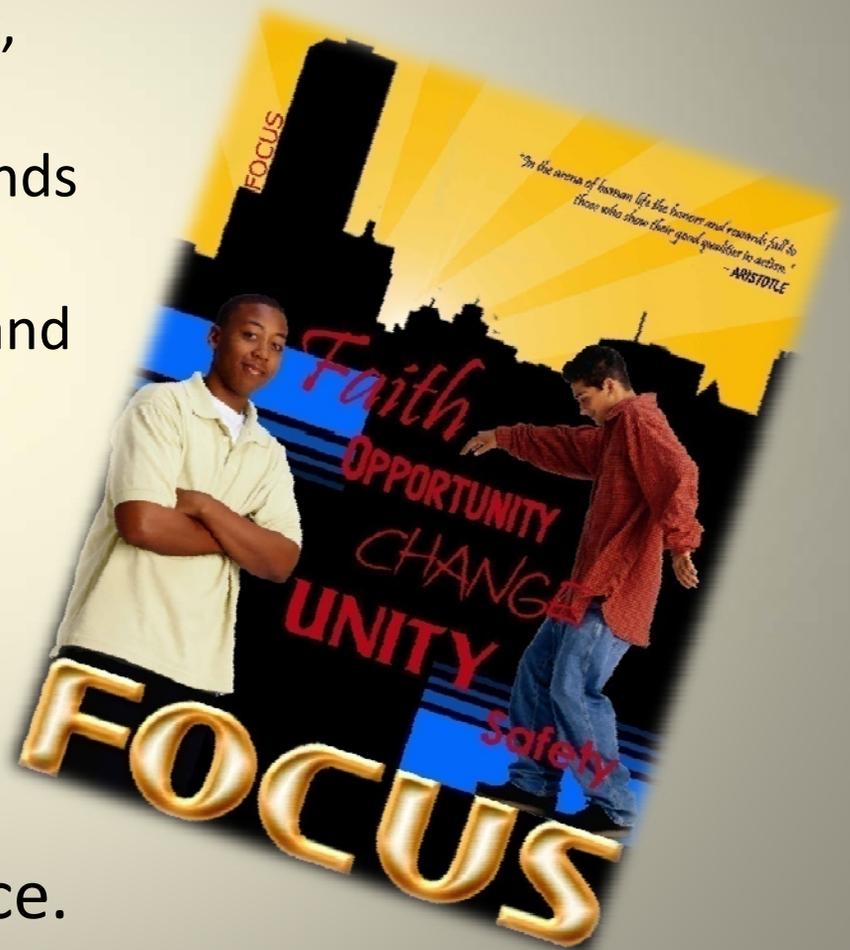
- Must spend a minimum of 30 days on unit **without passes**
- Finishes all Orientation Activities/What's My Story assignment
- Completes letter of apology
- Pays partial restitution of \$_____
- Completes partial Community Service obligations of ____ hours
- Receives positive Behavior Reports from staff/team showing progress for a minimum of 6 "Guidelines to Success" areas
- Attends school 95% of time (allowing for approved absences)
- Agrees to Pass Contract requirements & demonstrates successful day passes
- Receives agreement of Child & Family Team for transition to FOCUS II
- Completes Plan of Care Goals for FOCUS I

FOCUS I

During FOCUS I, youth will:

- Not receive passes for, at least, the first 30 days
- Attend school on County grounds within the same complex
- Participate in both individual and group therapy

When youth complete their portfolio and a full team meeting is held, they are promoted to FOCUS II and granted greater independence.



FOCUS II

Youth are engaged in FOCUS II until they have completed the following:

FOCUS II

- Completes required programming & groups
- Works with team to complete a Transition/School Plan
- Pays additional restitution of \$____
- Completes additional Community Service obligations of ____ hours
- Receives positive Behavior Reports from staff/team showing progress for areas “Showing What I Know”
- Attends school 95% of time (allowing for approved absences)
- Agrees to Pass Contract requirements & demonstrates successful overnight pass use
- Receives agreement of Child & Family Team for promotion to Community Transition phase
- Completes Plan of Care goals for FOCUS II

Community Transition

Youth are engaged in the Community Transition phase until they have completed the following:

Community Transition

- Pays additional restitution of \$ _____
- Completes additional Community Service obligations of ____ hours
- Receives positive Behavior Reports from staff/team showing progress in “Putting it into Practice” areas
- Attends school 95% of time (allowing for approved absences)
- Agrees to Pass Contract requirements & demonstrates successful extended pass use
- Receives agreement of Child & Family Team for transition back to community
- Completes Plan of Care goals for Community Transition phase