

# JUVENILE JUSTICE CONTINUUM BOARDS

## Developing Community Based Programs to Reduce Juvenile Crime

**NM Snapshot**

- 22 Juvenile Justice Continuum Boards
- 23 Counties served
- Over 200 community leaders
- Over 80 Programs developed to address local challenges
- Low cost services with significant impact
- Local decisions made by local experts to impact local challenges

## NM Juvenile Crime Stats

Since 2009 **Referrals** to the juvenile justice system are down 52% (*Public Safety Indicator*)

Since 2009 **Detention** of Youth in New Mexico is down 51%

Since 2009 **Commitment** Rates of Youth in New Mexico are down 55%

Several factors contribute to the reduction in juvenile crime, including the development of the Juvenile Justice Continuum Boards in 2007.

### Asks

- **Reinvest** - Rural programs need more funding to access and create increased workforce capacity
- **Reinvest** - Funds for training to implement evidence based and best practice programs
- **Consult** - Involve and consult Continuum Board representatives regarding legislation, funding and practices that affects their sites

## The Juvenile Justice Continuum Act

The New Mexico Juvenile Justice Continuum Act was passed in 2007 to fund boards across the state to build continuums of local services for **youth at risk** of being involved in the juvenile justice system; for **diversion of youth** from the justice system and for **alternatives to detention**.

**New Mexico is one of a few states in the nation that intentionally distribute federal and general funds marked for the reduction of juvenile crime locally—guided by local experts to develop programs tailored to the challenges of the locally identified, at risk youth population.**

**JDAI** Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

The eight core principles of JDAI are embedded in the **NM Children’s Code**.

Continuum Site work aligns with the work of the **Statewide JDAI** initiative, which is guided by the Supreme Court and CYFD.

Key JDAI principle: are **reinvesting dollars** into the juvenile justice system.

**Detention cost: \$150 - \$300 per child, per day in New Mexico**

**Juvenile Justice Continuum Board programs cost less: Programs’ average, \$80 –\$180 per child, per service unit**

**DMC** Disproportionate Minority Contact

- Youth of color (aged 10-17) **are overrepresented** in the NM Juvenile justice system.
- **Arrested** at 1.43 times the rate of White youth statewide in FFY16
- **Diverted** LESS (.88)

*Reinvest the Savings* *Use Local Expertise*