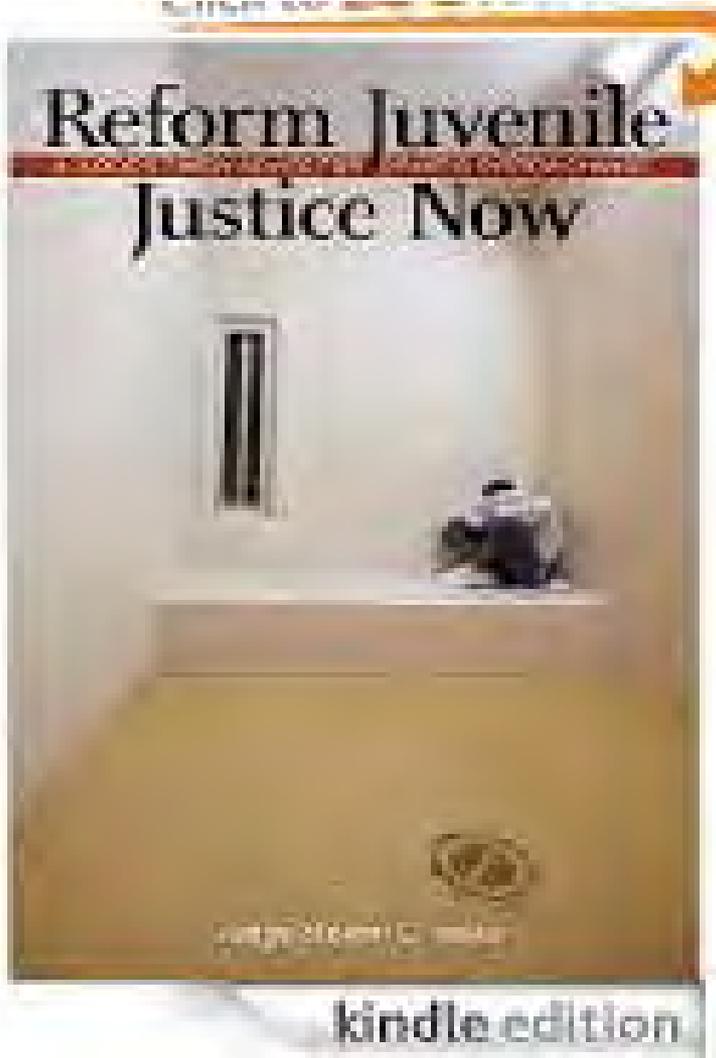


Reforming Georgia Juvenile Justice



Getting Results in
Juvenile Justice:
Improving
Outcomes and
Containing Costs

Georgia Council of Criminal Justice Reform



Criminal Justice Reform Commission

- 15 members
- Appointed by the Governor
- Adult side chaired by Judge Nathan Deal
- Juvenile Justice side chaired by Judge Steven Teske
- Provide oversight and implementation of reforms
- Consider new reforms to recommend to Governor and Legislature



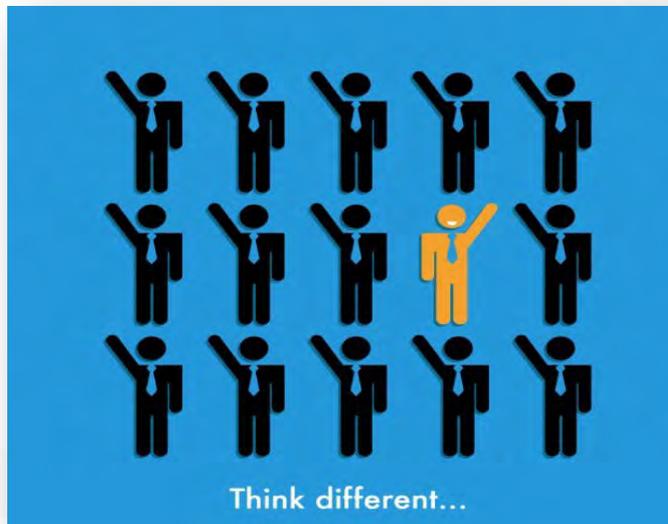
Georgia Juvenile Corrections

September 5, 2012



THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

*Developing solutions to build a brighter future
for children, families and communities*



Change the
conversation
about how we
look at data.

Look at the Data from Epidemiological Basics

Diseases do not occur by chance: there are always determinants for the disease to occur.

Diseases are not distributed at random: distribution is related to risks factors that need to be studied for the population in order to identify solutions.

Disruptive behaviors do not occur by chance: there are always determinants for the disruptive behavior to occur.

Disruptive behaviors are not distributed at random: distribution is related to risks factors that need to be studied and for the population in order to identify solutions.

Problems Facing Georgia

- Too many low risk youth committed to State custody
- High cost for commitments to secure and non-secure facilities
- High recidivist rates
- Lack of evidence based programs and practices in the community
- Lack of a centralized data collection system to measure performance and outcomes
- Lack of coordination of agencies at local level to deliver services.

Process Used

- Governor created Georgia Criminal Justice Reform Council
- Governor requested PEW's assistance
- Data Dumping and Analysis using PEW's experts
- Orientation on What Works & What Doesn't in Juvenile Justice with PEW assistance
- Stakeholder Involvement
- Council divided into working groups (i.e. Community Supervision & Out of Home Placements)
- Guidelines on policy development—must be supported by data, evidence-based practices, and sound fiscal practices
- Policy recommendations made to Governor for consideration
- Legislative counsel assigned to develop legislation to effectuate policies adopted.

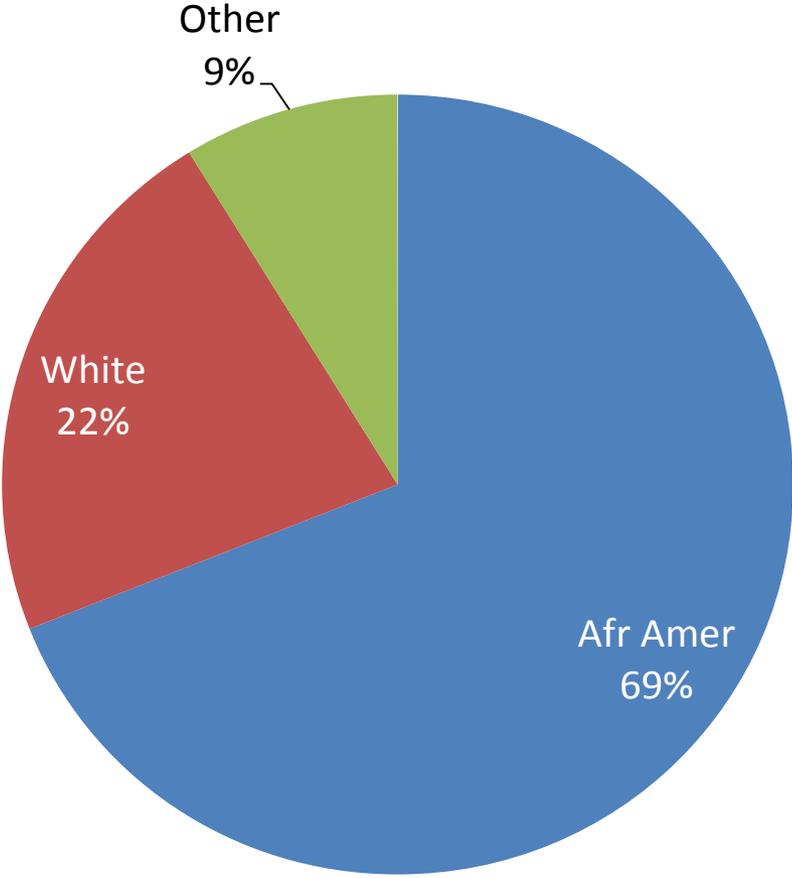
Workgroup Findings

	Total Population (2011)	% Non-felony (Misdemeanor or Status)	% Non-Violent Offense Types	% Low-Risk	Recidivism Rate (Released in 2007)	Cost
Out-of-Home Population	1,917	24%	58%	40%	64%	N/A
YDC Population	619	1%	39%	39%	65%	\$91,126 per bed
Designated Felons	607	0%	38%	39%	N/A	N/A
Non-Secure Residential Population	600	53%	70%	49%	54%	\$28,955 per juvenile
RYDC Population	698	20%	65%	34%	N/A	\$88,155 per bed

- Large numbers of low-risk kids consume expensive juvenile justice resources and recidivism rates remain high.
 - YDC: 39% low-risk, 65% recidivism rate, \$91,126 per bed
 - Non-Secure Residential: 53% non-felony, 49% low-risk, 54% recidivism rate, \$28,955 per juvenile

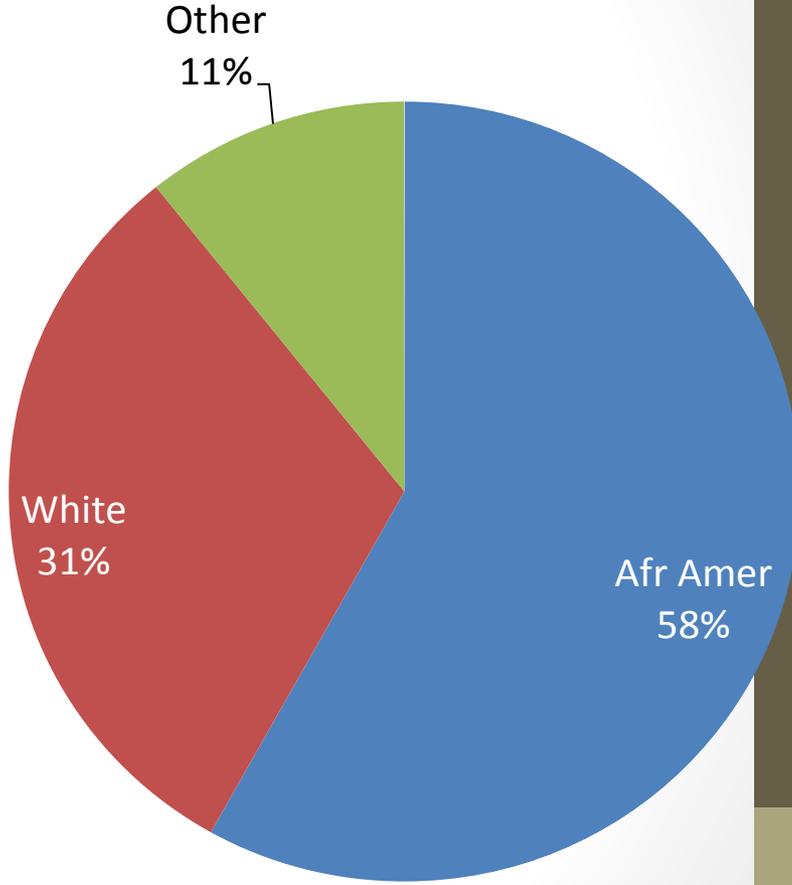
Race/Ethnicity of Youth in System

Out-of-Home



n = 1,917

Community



n = 13,790

Policies: What were the goals?

- Develop fiscally sound, data-driven juvenile justice policies that ensure Georgia's tax dollars are used effectively and efficiently;
- Focus on those offenders who are adjudicated delinquent and sent to an out-of-home placement;
- Identify reforms to current dispositional practices that improve public safety and control costs through more effective use of community-based options.

Clayton juvenile program becomes model for state reform

Second Chance reduced offenses, cut taxpayer costs

ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION, March 5, 2013



Fiscal Incentives

Recommendation 1: Implement a performance incentive structure similar to Ohio and Texas.

- Evidence-based community-based options can reduce recidivism, but too often, the quantity and quality of community-based options in Georgia is dependent upon location and funding.
- Ohio and Texas: Several states and local communities have aligned their fiscal relationship in ways that reward performance. For example, Ohio's RECLAIM program provides incentives to counties to develop and utilize community-based alternatives.
- This proposal would recommend that Georgia develop and implement a fiscal incentive structure similar to Ohio and Texas.
- Working group currently considering potential details of this proposal to determine its efficacy. This group will report back to the full Council.

Designated Felons

Recommendation 2: Create a two-class system within the Designated Felony Act.

- Currently, the Designated Felony Act contains one dispositional structure for nearly 30 offenses ranging from murder to smash and grab burglary.
- In 2011, 39% of designated felons in a YDC were assessed as low-risk.
- Georgia pays \$91,126 per bed per year at a YDC. Despite these high costs, 65% of juveniles released from a YDC are re-adjudicated delinquent within three years.
- This proposal would revise the Designated Felony Act to create a two-class system that continues to allow for restrictive custody in all DF cases while taking into account both offense severity and risk level. The Council also suggests adjusting the dispositional sanctions for each class that corresponds to the degree of the offense and takes into account the risk level of offenders.

Status Offenders and Misdemeanants

Recommendation 3: Prohibit status offenders and some misdemeanants from being committed to secure residential facilities and reinvest savings into the community.

- 53% of juveniles in a non-secure residential facility were adjudicated for a misdemeanor (45%) or status offense (8%). In addition, there are additional post-adjudication misdemeanor and status offenders sitting in an RYDC awaiting a placement.
- Several states have recently implemented restrictions on the placement of misdemeanor and/or status offenders in state facilities, including Texas, Florida, Virginia and Alabama.
- This proposal would allow only juveniles who were adjudicated for a felony offense to be committed to state facilities, unless they met certain criteria.
- Reinvestment: In addition, the working group suggests that the Special Council recommend that half of the projected savings from this recommendation be reinvested back into communities through a grant program to the counties to support local, evidence-based interventions for these offenders.

School Related Offenses

Recommendation 4: Require juvenile courts to collect and track data regarding referrals to the juvenile justice system.

- Currently, there is no uniform mechanism for collecting and tracking referrals to the juvenile justice system. As a result, the state is not able to identify which cases result from school related offenses and assess the degree to which school-based incidents and referrals are key drivers into the system.
- This proposal would require the collection and tracking of this data in order to give the state the capacity to make more informed, data-driven decisions that can improve public safety.

INCENTIVE GRANT OUTCOMES

- 62% average reduction in commitments among the grant recipient counties;
- Two detention centers closed;
- Cost savings of 85 million dollars;
- Cost savings re-directed to evidence based community programs that include Functional Family Therapy, Multi Systemic Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Restructuring, Aggression Replacement Therapy, and Seven Challenges Drug Treatment.

Office of Transition Support & ReEntry

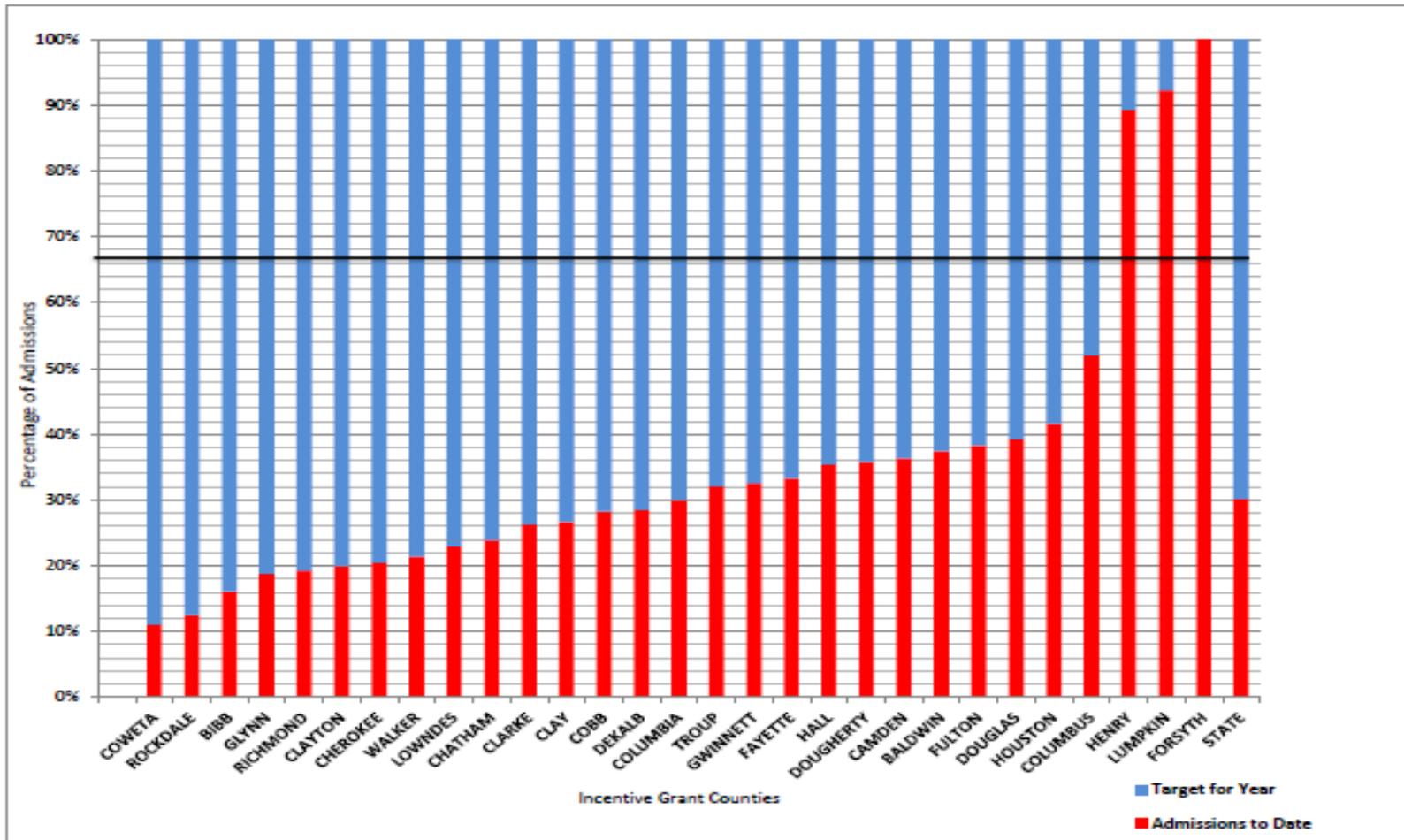
Helping adult and juvenile offender
transition from prison to the community

2013 Work

- Developed Performance & Outcome Measures
- Trained Judges and Others
- Developed New Detention Assessment Instrument
- Developed New Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment Instrument
- Implemented Incentive Grant to jump start Reinvestment savings

Impact by County

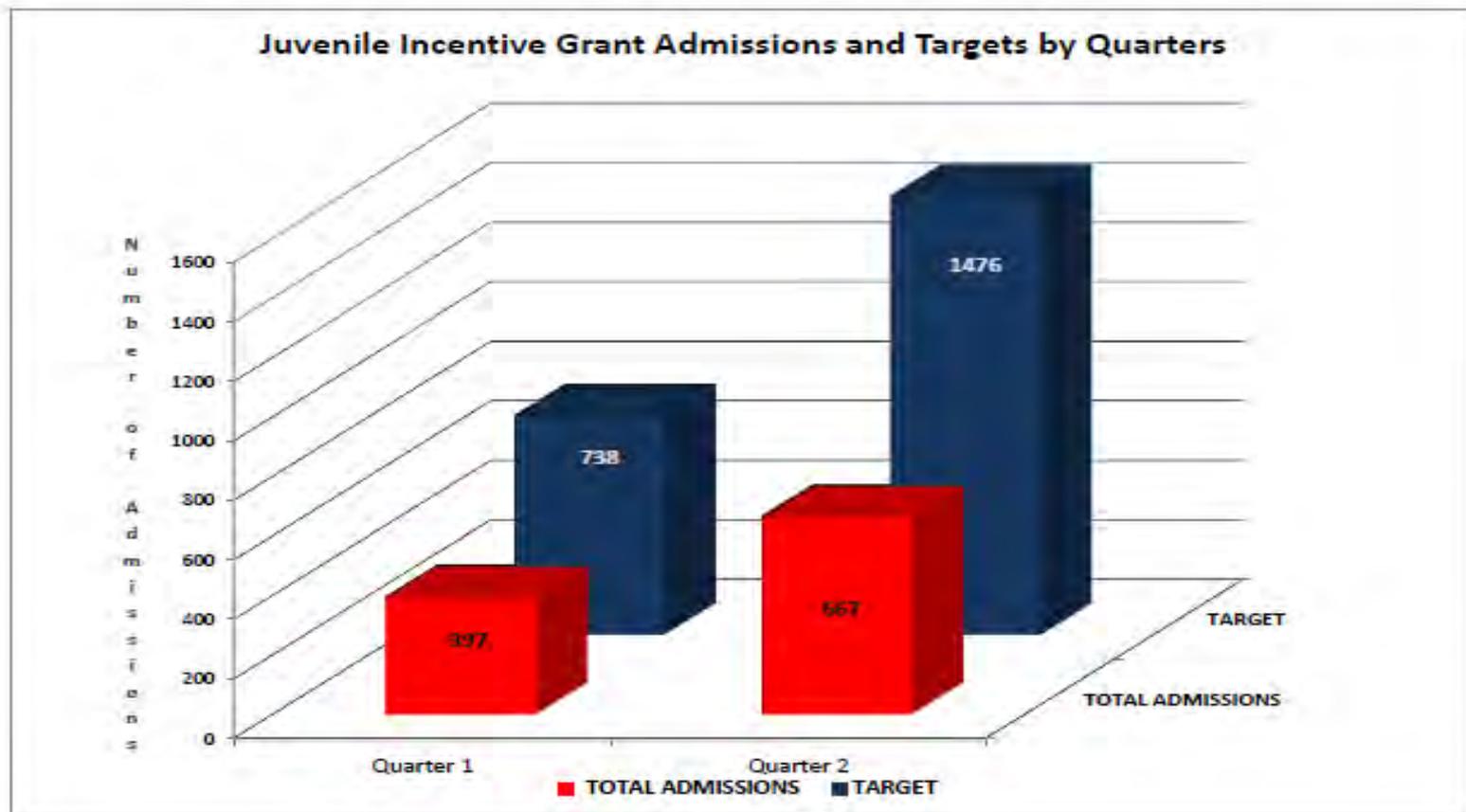
Admissions for Juvenile Incentive Grant Counties- 6 Month Totals



*Juvenile Incentive Grant Program's Aim is to REDUCE Admissions to Short Term Program (STP) Felony Commitments to DJJ

Impact Statewide

Admissions for Juvenile Incentive Grant Counties- 6 Month Totals

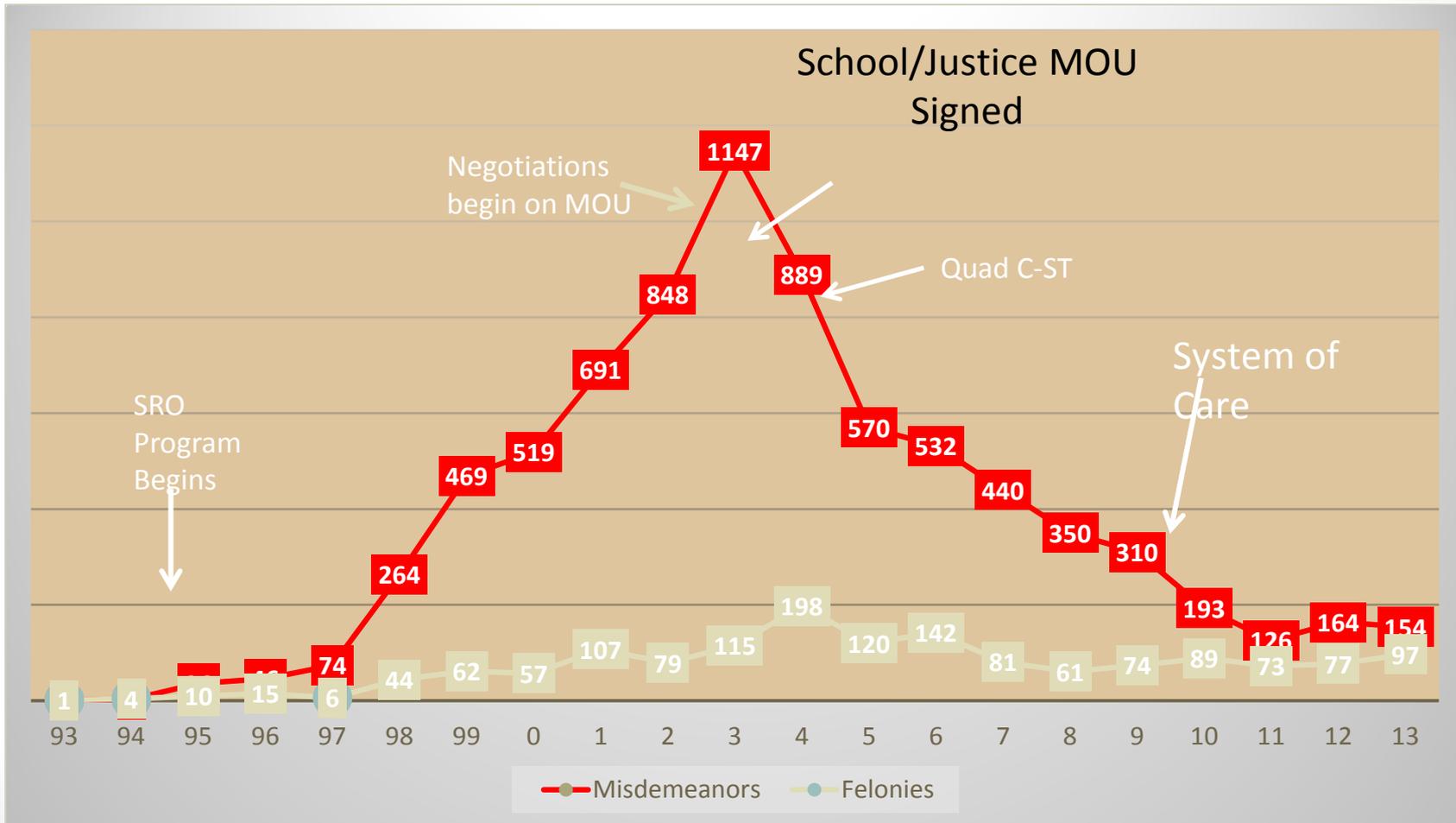


*Juvenile Incentive Grant Program's Aim is to REDUCE Admissions to Short Term Program (STP) Felony Commitments to DJJ

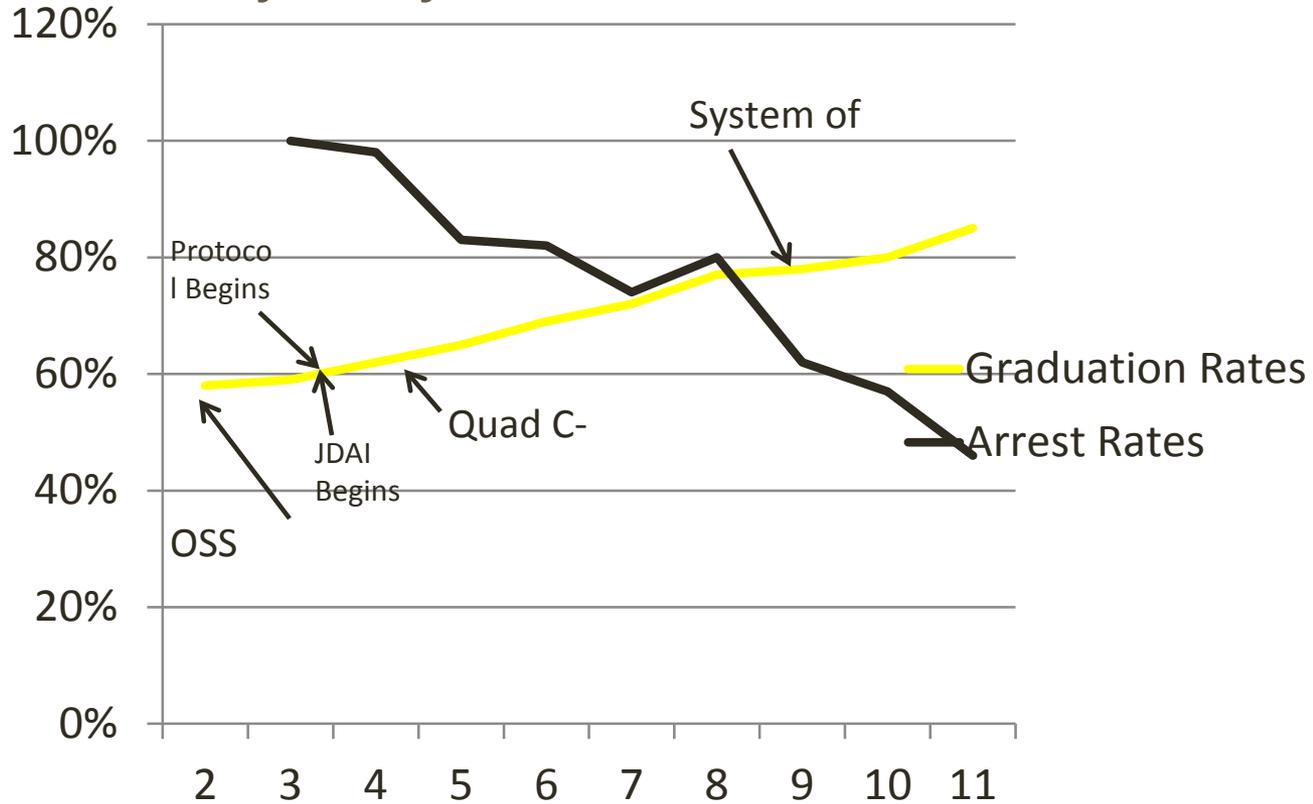
2014 Work

- Develop recommendation for Juvenile Centralized Data System to be funded by DJJ and managed by the Council of Juvenile Court Judges and the Administrative Office of the Courts
- Recommend that the Annie E Casey JDAI currently housed in Clayton County go statewide using a steering committee chaired by Judge Teske that reports to the Reform Commission. Seven counties have been identified as the model sites to begin the effort.
- Began the discussion to reduce minor school arrests and referrals to the juvenile court modeled after Clayton County

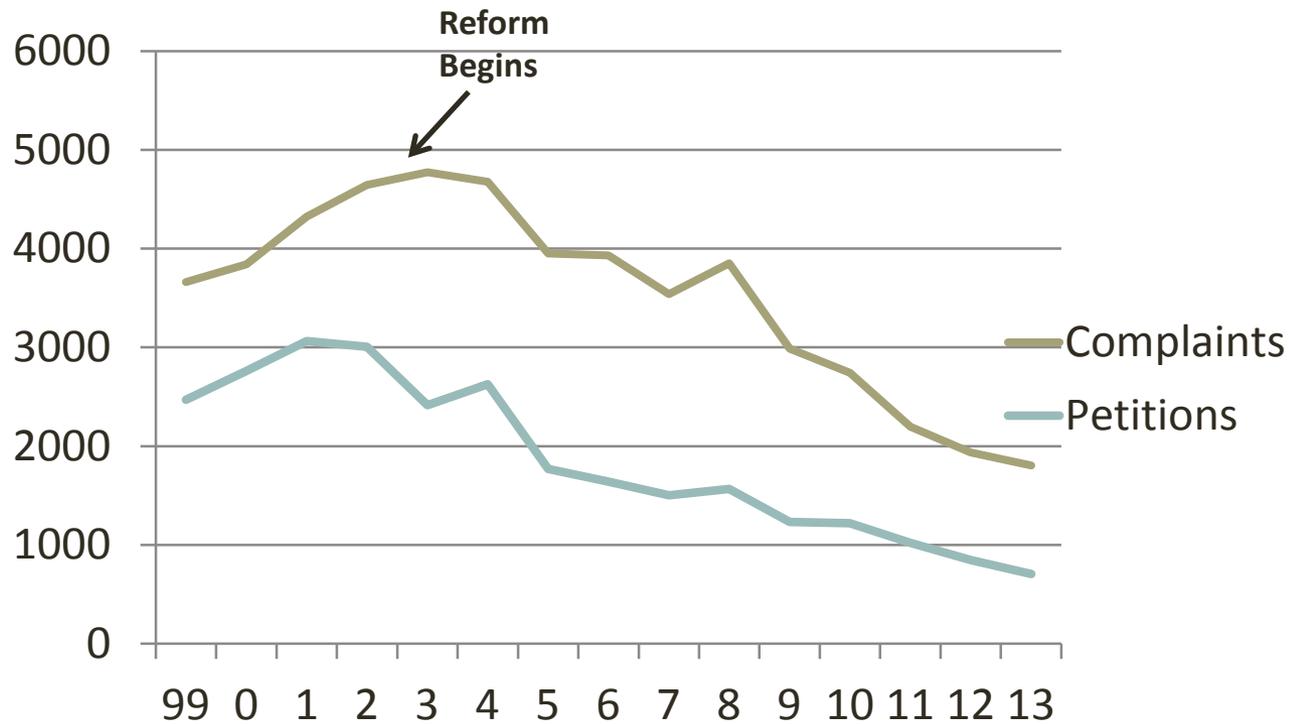
IMPACT OF SRO WITH & WITHOUT MOU



Keeping Kids in School, Out of Court, Improves Community Safety



Best Practices Improves Safety



86% DECREASE IN AVERAGE DAILY DETENTION POPULATION
(ADP)

75% REDUCTION IN ADP OF MINORITY YOUTH

47% REDUCTION IN AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

FELONY RE-ARREST (PRIOR TO ADJUDICATION) IS < 1%

77% FEWER COMMITMENTS TO STATE CUSTODY

72% FEWER COMMITMENTS OF MINORITY YOUTH, BUT A

72% REDUCTION IN FORMAL PETITIONS

62% REDUCTION IN COMPLAINTS

Don't Let Appearances Fool You!

2014 data as compared to the same measures in 2002