



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

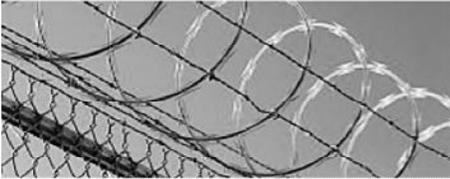
Wisconsin ACT 185 Study Committee

August 20, 2018

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About The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Corrections



Justice Reinvestment



Mental Health



Reentry



Substance Abuse



Youth



Courts



Law Enforcement



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

National nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership association of state government officials that engages members of all three branches of state government

Provides practical, nonpartisan research-driven strategies and tools to increase public safety and strengthen communities

About the National Reentry Resource Center



- Authorized by the passage of the Second Chance Act in April 2008
- Launched by The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center in October 2009
- Administered in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Validated Assessments Help Ensure Youth are Matched with Appropriate Supervision/Services in the Community and in Facilities

STEP 1: Use validated screening and assessment tools to identify risk to reoffend and needs

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk

STEP 2: Make supervision decision

Diversion from Court

Diversion/Probation

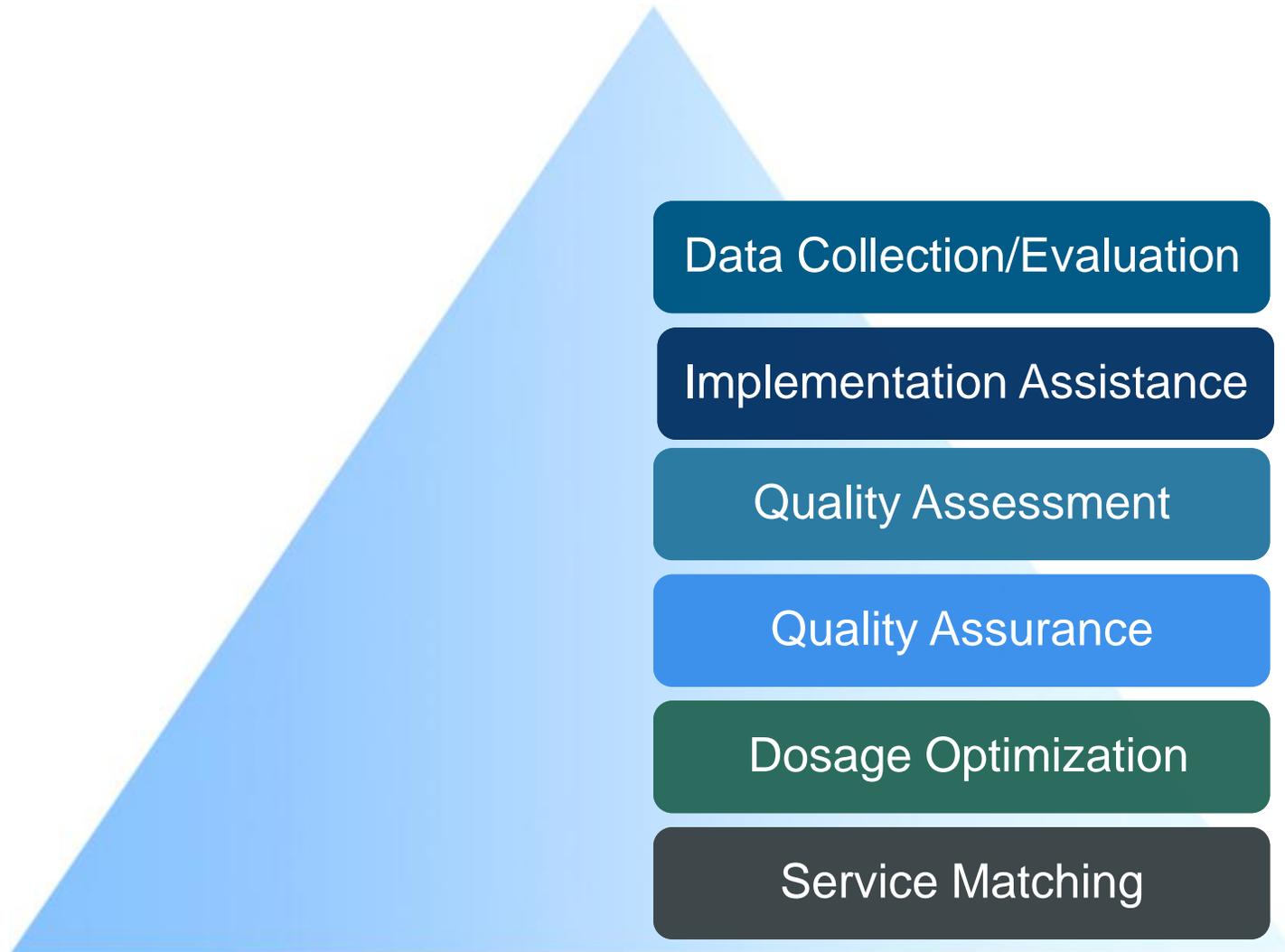
**Probation
OR
Residential Placement**

STEP 3: Assess needs, develop case plans, and match youth to services

Referrals to other systems and community providers

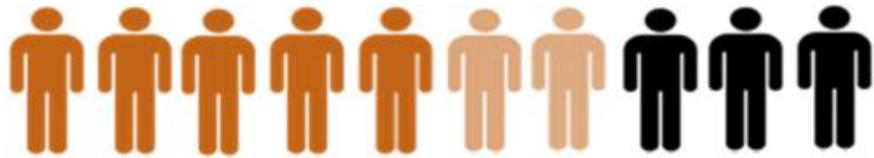
Focus system supervision and services on identified risks and needs

Research-Based Services are Key to Recidivism Reduction if Implemented Effectively



Collaboration Across Service Systems is Key to Meeting Youth Needs and Using Resources Efficiently

60 to 70 percent of confined youth have a mental illness.



25 to 50 percent of confined youth have a substance use disorder.



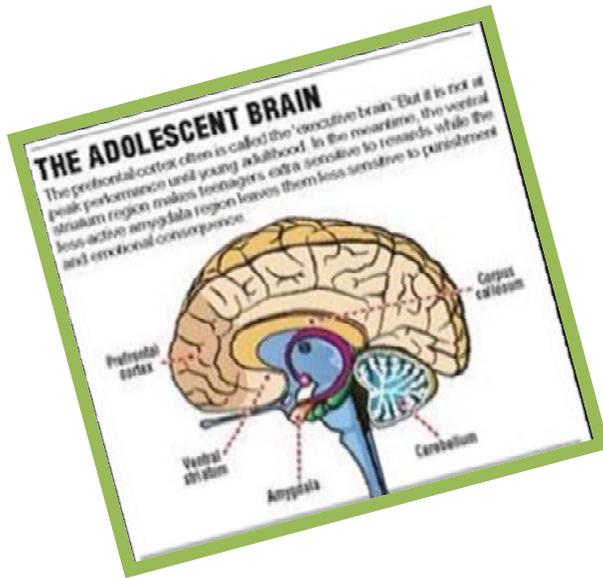
65 percent of youth under supervision have past/current involvement in the child welfare system.



More than 50 percent of confined youth have reading and math skills significantly below their grade level, have repeated a grade, and have been suspended or expelled.



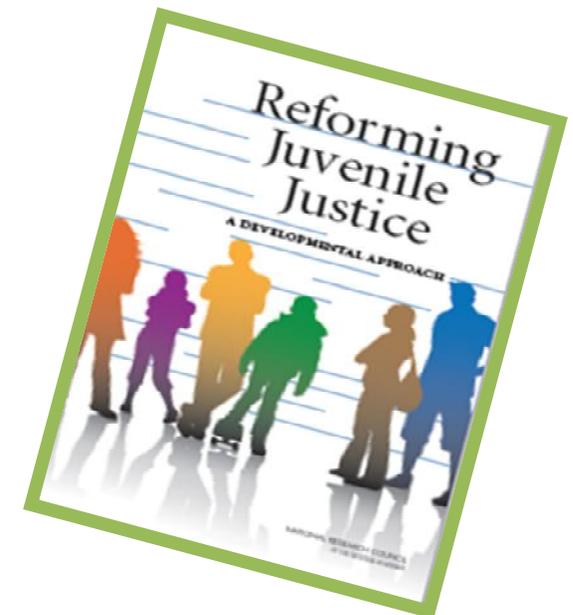
A Developmentally Appropriate Approach Can Help Youth to Transition to a Crime-Free and Productive Adulthood



Youth Are Developmentally Different than Adults

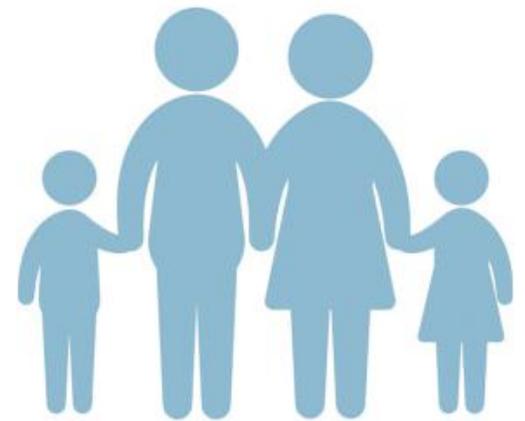
- Their families, peers, schools, and communities have a significant influence on their beliefs and actions
- They engage in risky behaviors and fail to account for the long-term consequences of their decisions
- They are relatively insensitive to degrees of punishment
- They struggle to regulate their impulses and emotions

After reviewing decades of research, the National Academy of Sciences concluded that a developmentally-appropriate approach offers significant promise for improved youth outcomes



Juvenile Justice Systems that Involve, Engage, and Support Families Experience Better Outcomes

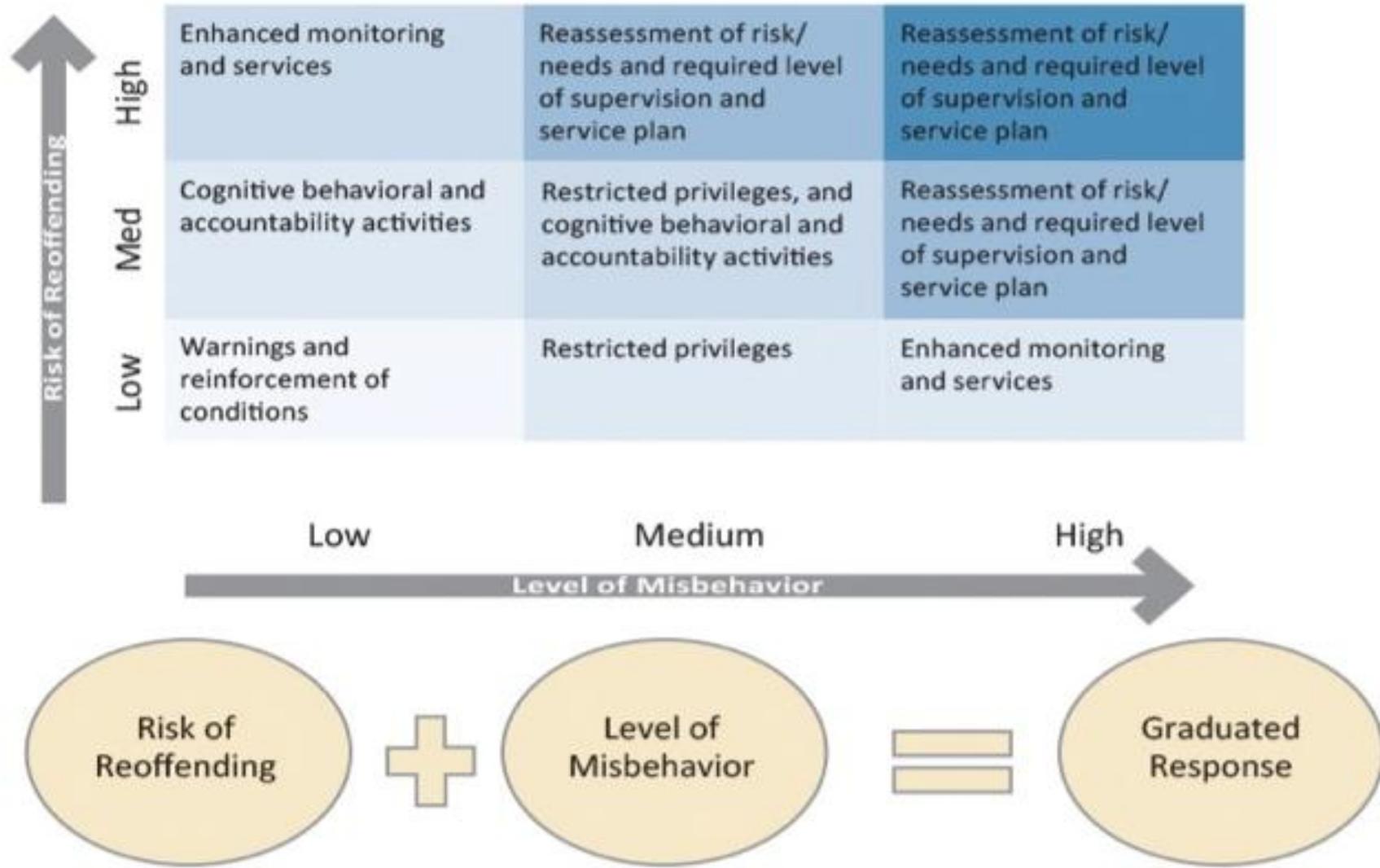
- Define family broadly and identify youth's support system
- Families as required members in case planning and case decisions
- Family therapy and supports
- Family engagement specialists
- Family policy committees, advisory groups, and surveys
- Teleconferencing
- Expanded visiting hours and visitation support
- Don't use family involvement as an incentive/punishment



Position Community Supervision Officers as Agents of Positive Behavior Change, Not Compliance Monitors

Traditional Approach	Focus on Positive Behavior Change
Arbitrary, laundry list of supervision conditions	Conditions focused on causes of behavior and restorative justice
Fixed and uniform case contact requirements	Contact requirements based on youth's assessed risk level
No collateral contact requirements	Required family and school collateral contacts, engagement, and support
Large caseloads and "check-in" visits	Small caseloads with sessions focused on behavior change/skill development
Minimal training	Training in youth engagement and cognitive behavioral techniques
"Gut-based" or formulaic approaches to case planning and service delivery	Use of risk and needs assessments and research-based services to identify and address criminogenic needs
Tracking and reporting "counting" activities	Performance evaluation/accountability for recidivism and youth outcomes

Employ Incentives and Graduated Responses to Hold Youth Accountable, Promote Behavior Change, and Minimize Violations



The Improving Outcomes for Youth Initiative Helps States to Take a Comprehensive Approach to Improving their Juvenile Justice System

How well do our resources, policies, and practices **align with what the research says works** to reduce recidivism and improve other youth outcomes?



What recidivism and other outcome data does our state track for youth under the supervision of the juvenile justice system?



To what extent are **leaders from the three branches of state government working together** and in partnership with local governments to improve outcomes for youth under juvenile justice system supervision?



THANK YOU

Additional Resources:

- **Core Principles:**
<http://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/publications/juvenile-justice-white-paper/>
- **Measuring Juvenile Recidivism:**
<http://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/publications/measuring-juvenile-recidivism/>
- **Juvenile Reentry and Resources:** <http://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/juvenile-reentry/>
- **Improving Outcomes for Youth Initiative:**
<https://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/improving-outcomes-for-youth/>

For more information, contact Nina Salomon at nsalomon@csg.org