

## ***Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee***

***Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021***

***2pm-4pm***

***Zoom Meeting***

# Opening Remarks

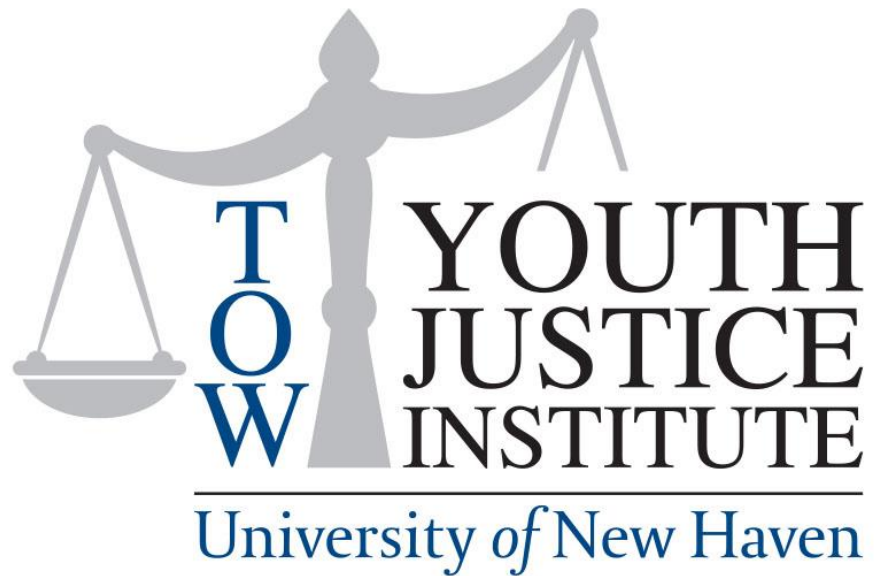
- Roll Call
  - Identify Voting (\*) vs. Non-Voting Members
- Meeting facilitation
  - Meeting is being recorded
  - Remain “muted” on Zoom, unless speaking
  - Refrain from interrupting with comments or questions until each presenter is finished speaking
  - Questions and Comments will be limited to JJPOC members
    - Use the “Chat” and “Hand Raising” feature so TYJI can help monitor and facilitate the meeting

# Meeting Overview

- Voting Process
  - A quorum of 21 JJPOC members must be present
  - Appointed authority OR Designee of JJPOC Membership will vote
  - A vote by hand for each recommendation within the Workgroups
  - To raise your hand:
    - By Desktop Zoom App: Click “Participants” icon at the bottom of your screen, then click “Raise Hand”
    - By Zoom Mobile App: Click “More” tab, then click “Raise Hand”
    - By Phone: dial \*9
  - Consensus shall be reached through a simple majority of members voting “yea

# Meeting Overview

- Proposed 2021 JJPOC Recommendations for Discussion and Adoption
  - 1 RED Workgroup Recommendation
  - 1 Incarceration Workgroup Recommendation
  - 1 Diversion Workgroup Recommendation



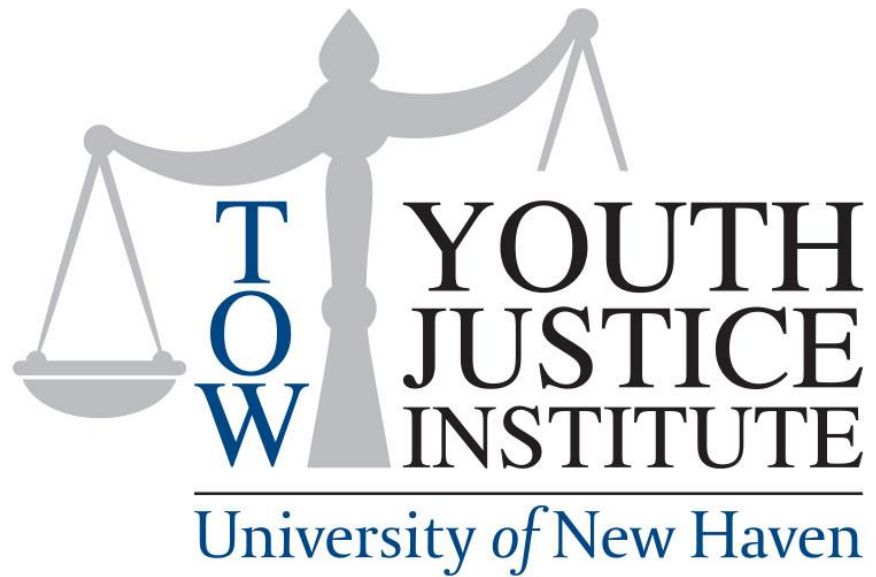
***RED Workgroup Proposed  
2021 Recommendation***

# RED Workgroup

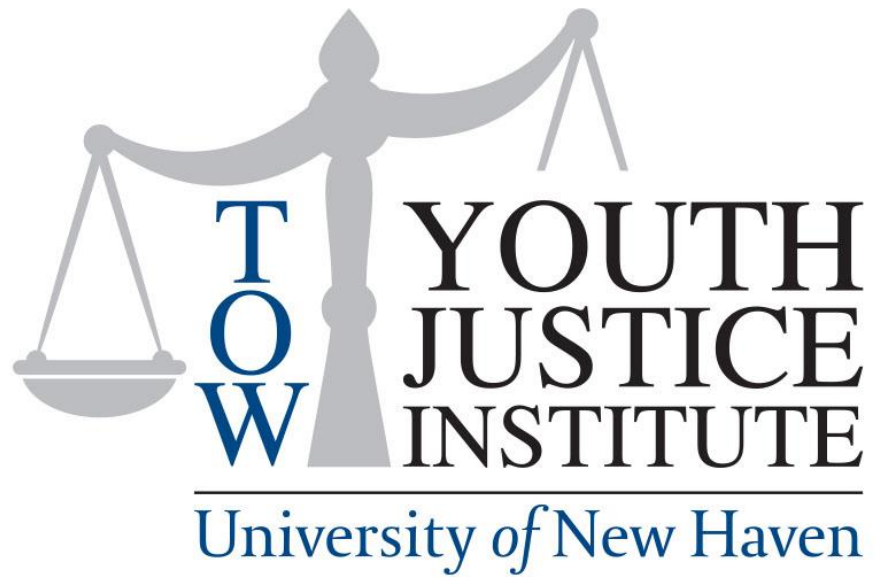
## Proposed 2021 Recommendation



- JJPOC recommends:
  - A. The provisions of C.G.S. § 54-1m be extended so that racial profiling data is collected on all police stops, whether traffic or pedestrian, giving a full and complete picture of any racial profiling that takes place in the state
  - B. The co-chairs of the RED Workgroup should present this recommendation to the Connecticut Racial Profiling Advisory Board and collaborate with the advisory board to further define “pedestrian stop” and establish a method for analyzing and reporting the findings to follow the precedent of the current approach with traffic stop reports.



## ***Discussion***



***Incarceration Workgroup  
Proposed 2021  
Recommendation***



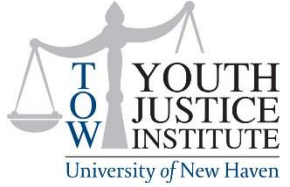
# Incarceration Workgroup

## Proposed 2021 Recommendations



- JJPOC recommends that:
  - A. Legislation be passed to ban use of all chemical agents on youth under the age of 18 by January 1, 2022.
    1. The Department of Corrections should develop alternatives in place of chemical agents.
- *Feedback*
  - This recommendation is not unanimous within the Incarceration Workgroup
  - DOC has concerns about banning the use of chemical agents before they have an alternative developed

# Incarceration Workgroup Background Information



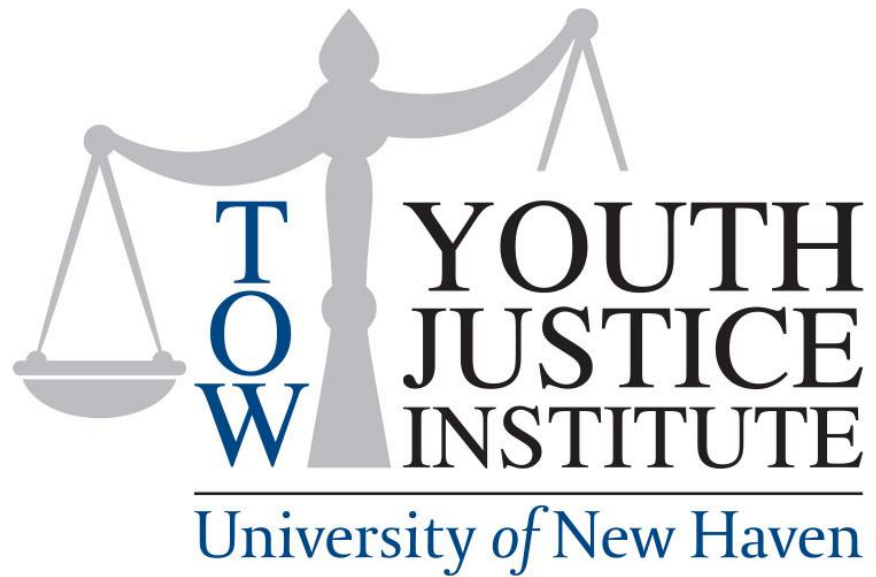
- Currently, the Department of Corrections uses chemical agent as part of a continuum of population management and facility security strategies.
- Chemical agent immediately impairs a person's ability to see or breathe while possibly inducing other physiological reactions, such as body spasms, hypertension, or a burning sensation
- OCA's most recent report found that chemical agents continue to be used with youth who have psychiatric and respiratory disorders/conditions.

# Incarceration Workgroup

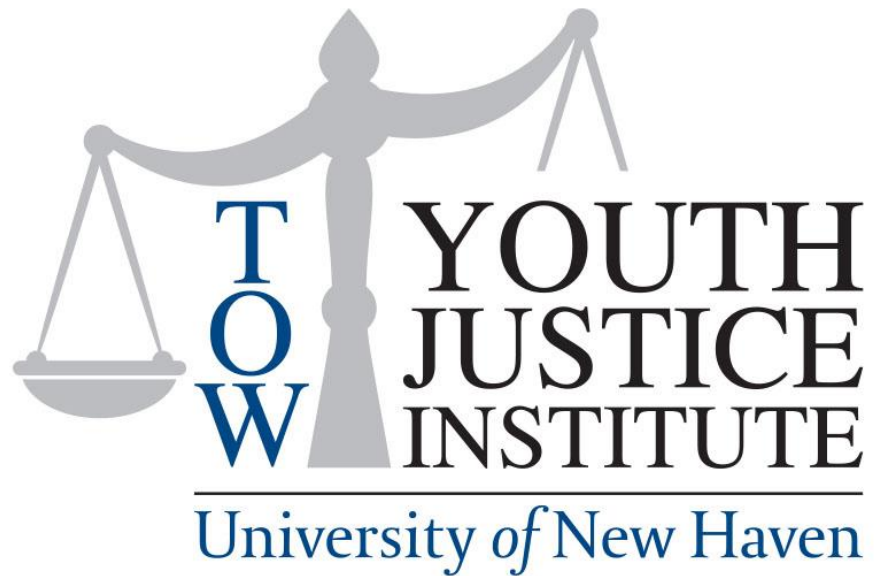
## National Trends



- The National Institute of Corrections' Desktop Guide to Working with Youth in Confinement
  - chemical agents generate adverse physical reactions that can be exacerbated in secure settings with poor ventilation, causing potential harm to youth and staff, even if they are not direct targets of its use
  - the use of pepper spray on those with mental illness may lead to an increase in violent behavior and a worsening of the mental health condition
  - the use of chemical restraints can traumatize youth and undermine their rehabilitative efforts.
- The majority of states prohibit the use of chemical agent in juvenile facilities



## ***Discussion***



***Diversion Workgroup  
Proposed 2021  
Recommendation***

# Diversion Workgroup

## 2020 Approved Recommendation



JJPOC recommends:

- A. Legislation for raising the minimum age of juvenile court jurisdiction from seven years to twelve years on July 1, 2021.
  1. Alternative handling for these cases will include, but not limit Children's Behavioral Health Services System, Youth Service Bureaus, Juvenile Review Boards, and/or community-based services
- B. The development of a plan for ensuring that a child who would have been referred to the juvenile court system will instead be referred to the Children's Behavioral Health System, the Community-Based Diversion system, and/or other community-based services.
  1. The Diversion workgroup shall develop a plan that outlines a referral process for developmentally appropriate services (screening, assessment, interventions). The plan shall be delivered to the JJPOC by January 6, 2021 (see Appendix A).

# Diversion Workgroup

## 2021 Proposed Implementation Plan



- The proposed Implementation Plan operationalizes the Raising the Minimum Age legislation
- Membership
  - Department of Children and Families, Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division, local and state law enforcement, Office of the Chief State's Attorney, Office of the Chief Public Defender, Office of the Child Advocate, Connecticut Voices for Children, Center for Children's Advocacy, CT Juvenile Justice Alliance, the Child and Health Development Institute, mental health providers and other agencies and advocates

# Diversion Workgroup

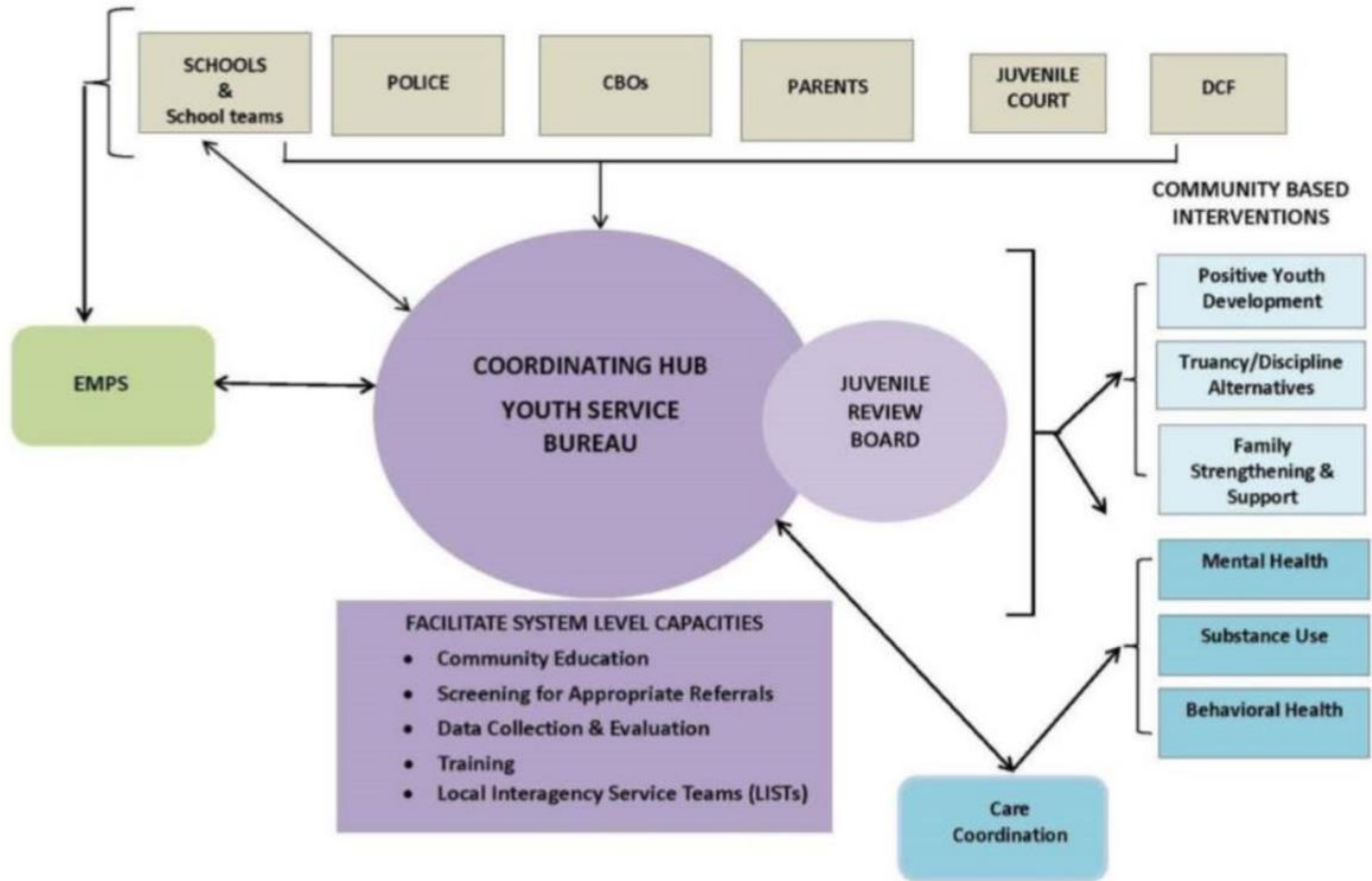
## 2021 Proposed Implementation Plan

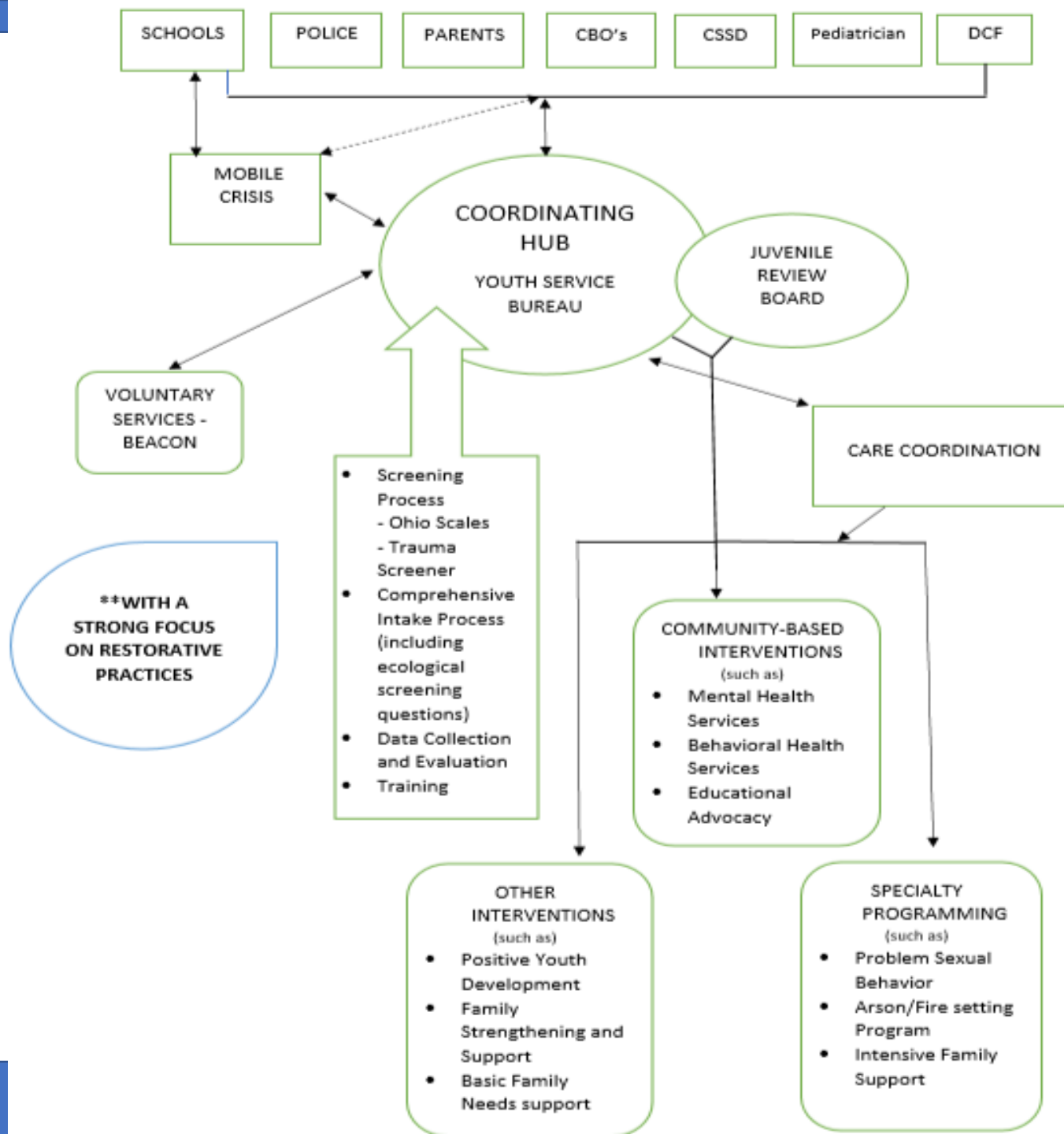


- Utilization of the existing Community Based Diversion System (CBDS)
  - Referrals to the Youth Service Bureau can be made from school personnel, law enforcement, parents, community-based organizations, or other agencies.
  - Mobile Crisis service
  - Restorative Practices
- Support, training, and education for schools, law enforcement, Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs), and others utilizing this new pathway
- New referral form



# COMMUNITY BASED DIVERSION SYSTEM



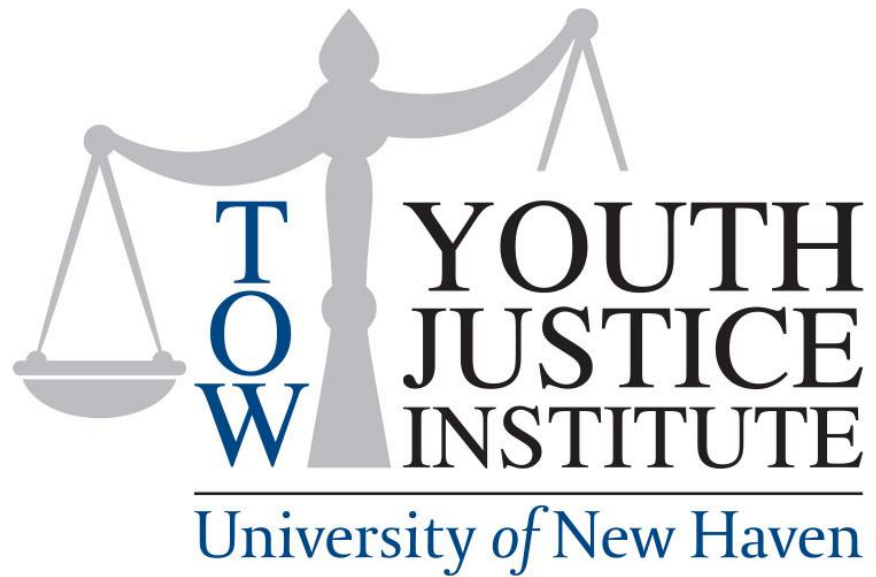


# Diversion Workgroup

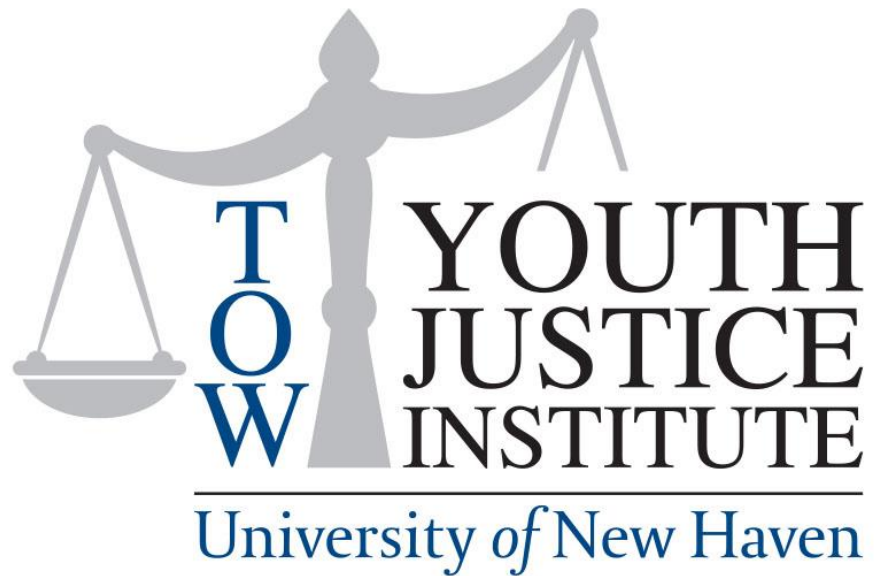
## 2021 Proposed Implementation Plan



- Next Steps
  - Create a Diversion subgroup of stakeholders, including school personnel and CHDI, to discuss further implementation of raising the minimum age within the schools
    - Identify school's responsibility, what supports they need, existing resources, etc.
    - Regular meetings between February 2021 – June 2021



## ***Discussion***



***Next JJPOC Meeting  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
2:00-4:00 PM***