Connecticut Youth Services Association (CYSA) leads, strengthens, supports and advocates on behalf of a unified network of Youth Service Bureaus dedicated to the well-being of Connecticut’s youth and families.

102 YSBs
serving 137 cities + towns

90 JRBs
serving 135 communities
YSBs are a critical component of our state’s support system for youth and families, comprising a network of 102 YSBs in 137 cities and towns. Designated as coordinating entities of community-based services by State Statute 10-19m. YSBs are mandated to perform administrative core unit functions while also delivering direct services.

Fostering positive youth development, mental health, prevention, diversion

◄ North Central Chapter YSB
YSB Funding Overview

Current state funding constitutes between 2% to 50% of a YSB’s total budget. Local communities largely support YSBs through municipal funding and leveraged grants.

**BASE GRANT**

$2,733,240

YSBs created prior to 1996 (approx. 1/4 of YSBs) are appropriated funding based on a legacy formula.

Since 1996, each new YSB (approx. 1/3 of YSBs) has received $14,000 annually. This amount must be matched 100% by the town(s) served, 50% of which may be in-kind contributions.

**ENHANCEMENT GRANT**

$1,115,161

Distributed by population to all YSBs. As new YSBs are created, NO new funding is added. It is recalculated causing the disbursements to decrease to all other YSBs.

FY24 funding by YSB ranges from $5,679 to $18,856.
A Juvenile Review Board (JRB) is a community-based diversion program for youth who may otherwise be referred to Juvenile Court for arrestable offenses. The process aims to hold youth accountable for their behavior without resorting to legal or court involvement.

There are approximately 90 JRBs serving over 135 communities. Most fall under the umbrella of the YSB, however, 10% are run by other entities.

Middlesex Chapter JRB
JRB Funding Overview

FY24 TOTAL STATE FUNDING

$1,718,554

Funding for JRBs varies greatly. Approximately half of JRBs statewide are not funded through the DCF Support and Enhancement grant.

Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven received the majority of funding.

36 JRBs in DCF Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 received smaller amounts of funding through the DCF Support and Enhancement grant (ranging from $1,500 to $35,000) in FY24.

8 JRBs in DCF Region 5 also received funding in FY24.
YSBs provide comprehensive delivery of prevention, intervention, and treatment throughout the state.
CYSA has faced limited access to data outside of the YSB system which has hampered the ability to:

- Identify trends
- Track progress
- Provide meaningful outcome-related information

CYSA recognizes the critical importance of data analysis to drive informed decisions.
Streamlining of Data Collection

Through the automation of statewide data collection from individual YSB software platforms to a shared database, CYSA has worked with DCF’s data consultants to significantly streamline data collection.

Data Initiatives + Progress
YSB/JRB Level

Streamlining of Data Collection

Data collected, analyzed and used by YSBs in real time.
The new statewide data collection process opens up exciting opportunities for advancement. CYSA continues to work closely with our data consultant and DCF to evaluate and identify new ways to support ongoing data development.

Data dashboard is under development to help YSBs and JRBs identify coverage and will serve as a resource for both local and statewide stakeholders.
Sample Data Reporting Sheet

**NEW DATA REPORTING SHEETS**

**Collaborators**
Community partners

**Tier 2 Youth**
Intensive programming lasting 20+ hours

**Juvenile Review Board (JRB)**
Community based diversion

---

**Tier 1 Programming**
Short term programs and large group activities

**Intensive programming**

**Community partners**

---

**Collaborator Categories**
- Business/Community
- School
- Nonprofits
- Town officials and other town departments
- Other youth service agencies
- Police departments

**Referrals**
- COMPLETED 465
- OPEN 630
- CLOSED 1152

**Intake**
830

**Participant**

**Race**

**Gender**

- 78% are 8-17 yrs old
- 63
- 4530
- 5066

**DNR**

- Did Not Report
- Transgender
- Hispanic
- Asian
- Other

**Median number of participants per YSB**

**Tier 1 Programming**

- 15 Alcohol and Drug Education programs with 464 participants
- 9 Conflict Resolution programs with 638 participants
- 25 Job and Employment Training programs with 318 participants
- 21.2% 6th grade programs with 250 participants
- 446 "Other" programs with 146 participants

**Tier 2 Youth (Non-JRB)**

- 838 participants
- 465
- 1152
- 25
- 8493

**Race**

- Asian- 5.2%
- 2 or more Races- 4.7%

**Reason for Referral**

- Substance Abuse, Truancy, Defiance of School, Court

**Common Referral Source**

- Main 542
- Female
- Male
- Transgender

**Highest Incident Types**

- Breach of peace, Disorderly Conduct, Assault, Drug Possession

**Reason for Referral Series**

- Compliance
- Individual Therapy
- Essay, Apology Letter, Other

**Success:**

- 300
- 242
- 79

**Closeouts**

- Successful-300
- UN SUCCESSFUL -68
- No-55

**Service Agreement**

- Community Service
- Counseling
- Memory Work, Other

**Reasons for Referral**

- Breach of peace, Disorderly Conduct, Assault, Drug Possession

**Incident Location**

- School 830
- Home 227
- Community 71

**Reason for Referral**

- Highest Incident Types
- Breach of peace, Disorderly Conduct, Assault, Drug Possession

**Majority of JRB participants are**

- 14% live with a single parent
- 17% Did Not Report birth parents.

**Race**

- 512, 652 students

**Tier 2**

- 1356
- 1326
```
YSB and School Collaboration

Passed during the last Legislative session, Public Act #24-45 connects YSBs with local schools and facilitates the sharing of important school-level data.

Deeper insights, early identification and prevention efforts.

Northwestern Chapter YSB
Data Analysis Opportunities

- Participating YSBs and JRBs are working with JBCSSD to receive recidivism data on the youth they have served over time through a recently created MOU.

- CYSA is seeking access to P20WIN. This will allow the Association to meaningfully identify community level services and supports that are improving interventions, outcomes and prevention efforts for the youth served by YSBs and JRBs.
FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
YSB Data Set: Tier 1 Programming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Large Group Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>231,209 Youth Served</td>
<td>180,188 Participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>860 Events</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Short Term Programming + Participation**

- 51,021 Participants
- 1,899 Programs

**Types of Short Term Programming**

- 474 Life Skills
- 207 Parent Education
- 98 Job Skills/Employment
- 95 Alcohol/Drug Education
- 29 Conflict Resolution
- 20 Undesignated
- 1 Anger Management
- 975 Other

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
YSB Data Set: Tier 2 Youth Served (non-JRB)

TIER 2

20,770 YOUTH SERVED

GENDER

- 10,415 (50%) FEMALE
- 10,030 (48%) MALE
- 94 (>1%) NON-BINARY
- 89 (>1%) TRANSGENDER

ETHNICITY

- 4,540 (22%) HISPANIC/LATINO
- 11,619 (56%) NON-HISPANIC/LATINO
- 4,611 (22%) DID NOT REPORT

RACE

- 11,050 (53%) WHITE
- 3,871 (19%) BLACK
- 1,508 (7%) MULTIRACIAL
- 721 (3%) ASIAN
- 1,058 (5%) OTHER
- 2,562 (12%) DID NOT REPORT

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
### YSB Data Set: Referral Sources

#### 20,770
TOTAL REFERRALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Referral Source</th>
<th>Count (Percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARENT/GUARDIAN</td>
<td>6,364 (31%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF</td>
<td>4,325 (21%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL</td>
<td>4,129 (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DID NOT REPORT</td>
<td>2,914 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>2,382 (11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLICE</td>
<td>369 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL SERVICES</td>
<td>125 (&gt;1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COURT</td>
<td>92 (&gt;1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCF</td>
<td>70 (0.1%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Primary Reasons for Referral

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Count (Percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PYD</td>
<td>10,580 (51%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARENT/ FAMILY ISSUES</td>
<td>780 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-SCHOOL ISSUES</td>
<td>568 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL ISSUES</td>
<td>522 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPRESSION</td>
<td>402 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRUANCY</td>
<td>280 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFIANCE OF SCHOOL RULES</td>
<td>194 (&gt;1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBSTANCE ABUSE</td>
<td>170 (&gt;1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>1,368 (7%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
YSB Data Set: Collaborators

**STATE LEVEL COLLABORATOR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COLLABORATORS</td>
<td>3,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESSES/COMMUNITY</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOLS</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NONPROFITS</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOWN OFFICIALS + DEPARTMENTS</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH PROFESSIONALS</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLICE DEPARTMENTS</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF COLLABORATORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VARIOUS YOUTH SERVICE AGENCIES</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESS/COMMUNITY</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOLS</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NONPROFITS</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOWN OFFICIALS + DEPARTMENTS</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH PROFESSIONALS</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLICE DEPARTMENTS</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
JRB Data Set: Youth Served

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
# JRB Data Set: Referral Sources

**Total Referrals:** 1,833

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referral Source</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Report</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Sources Include:** Self, DCF, + Social Services

**Reasons for Referral**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delinquent Behavior</td>
<td>821</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Report</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Youth Development</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrest</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truancy</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other reasons include: Parent/Family Issues, Non-School Issues, Internet Related, Beyond Control, School Issues, Bullying, Indecent Conduct, Dating Violence, Pregnancy/Teen Parent

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
The majority of JRB cases are made up of youth ages 13–18.

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
Youth identifying as Black, African American, or Multiracial are being referred to JRBs at a disproportionately higher rate based on state percentages.

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
JRB Data Set: Ethnicity Breakdown

**JRB YOUTH COUNTS BY ETHNICITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ETHNICITY</th>
<th>% OF JRB YOUTH</th>
<th>% OF CT SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS*</th>
<th>% OF DELINQUENT REFERRALS TO CT JUDICIAL BRANCH†</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOT HISPANIC/LATINO</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISPANIC/LATINO</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DID NOT REPORT</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† Data from the November 16th 2023 presentation to the JJPOC from CCSD https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox?projector=1

FY24 data is as of June 21, 2024. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024. Some Q4 YSB/JRB data was not available for this release.
JRB Data Set: Case Closing Status

JRB YOUTH COUNTS BY COMPLETION STATUS

- **SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION**: 661 (84%)
- **UNSUCCESSFUL: ARREST**: 33 (4%)
- **UNSUCCESSFUL: MOVED**: 10 (1%)
- **UNSUCCESSFUL: NONCOMPLIANCE**: 64 (8%)
- **UNSUCCESSFUL: OTHER**: 17 (2%)

FY24 Data is as of June 21, 2024. For various reasons, several YSBs/JRBs have not yet provided Q4 data. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024.
### JRB Data Set: Case Closing by Year

Successful Closing percentages were higher in 2023 & 2024 than during the previous 2 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>NO (Other)</th>
<th>NO (Arrest)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY24 Data is as of June 21, 2024. For various reasons, several YSBs/JRBs have not yet provided Q4 data. Complete FY24 data sets will be available in August 2024.
The JRB Pilot project was instituted based on recommendations from the Council of State Governments IOYouth project. An Advisory Board was established to begin the project and included various stakeholders including the Pilot sites.

**JRB Pilot Sites:**
1. Bridgeport
2. Hartford
3. New Haven*
4. Waterbury
5. Naugatuck
6. Norwich
7. Wethersfield

*unable to implement the pilot in the allotted time frame due to staff turnover and a pause in services
1. **Pilot** a restorative justice model (Youth Diversion Team [YDT]) in selected JRBs to expand and strengthen the diversion process through identified research-based practices.

2. **Identify** best practices and lessons learned that inform the roles and responsibilities of diversion statewide.
The JRB Pilot project was conducted in a condensed time frame due to a delay in funding to support the process.
The YDT Final Report includes a process evaluation and a limited impact evaluation focused on six JRBs implementing a pilot Trauma-Informed Restorative Justice Youth Diversion Team program.

The process evaluation assessed various aspects of fidelity in how:

- Sites implemented the YDT program based on the CYSA Standard Protocols and Procedures for Youth Diversion Teams manual
- Sites promoted awareness of the program
- Youth and their families, panel members, and referring agencies utilized the process

Considering the program's brief history, the limited impact evaluation assessed closed diversion cases to demonstrate preliminary evidence of the program's effectiveness, as reported by participants.

The methodology was designed to:

- Inform the program's implementation
- Promote its growth and address professional development needs to improve practice
- Identify ways to enhance the important work through additional resources
Key Data Points

During the active phase of the Youth Diversion Team (YDT) process:

- **271 referrals received**
- **216 cases closed**
  
  between June 2023–April 2024 at the 6 YDT sites.

- All sites completed the self-study.
- All sites distributed experience surveys.

Total number of surveys completed across all six YDT sites included:

- **27 PARENTS**
- **22 YOUTH**
- **26 PANEL MEMBERS**
- **11 REFERRING AGENCIES**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am better off because of the Youth Diversion Team process.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
<td>During the process, I felt heard by the members of the Youth Diversion Team.</td>
<td>4.5/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Youth Diversion Team process helped me learn how to be accountable for my actions.</td>
<td>4.4/5</td>
<td>The Youth Diversion Team helped me understand my actions instead of blaming or judging me.</td>
<td>4.5/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can handle things at home better because of the Youth Diversion Team.</td>
<td>3.7/5</td>
<td>I feel like the Youth Diversion Team understood my story.</td>
<td>4.2/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can handle things at school better because of the Youth Diversion Team.</td>
<td>4.4/5</td>
<td>The Youth Diversion Team's questions helped me understand the harm I caused.</td>
<td>4.0/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can handle things in my neighborhood and community better because of the Youth Diversion Team.</td>
<td>4.1/5</td>
<td>I had a say in developing the agreement plan about what I needed to do to make things right.</td>
<td>4.7/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Overall, my experience with the Youth Diversion Team process is better than I originally thought.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUESTION</td>
<td>SCORE</td>
<td>QUESTION</td>
<td>SCORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Youth Diversion Team process exceeded my expectations.</td>
<td>4.1/5</td>
<td>My child can handle things in our neighborhood and community better because of the Youth Diversion Team process.</td>
<td>4.0/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The help my child received was beneficial.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
<td>I felt heard by the members of the Youth Diversion Team during the process.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The agreement plan my child/family received was just right for us.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
<td>I was involved in developing the agreement plan for my child/family.</td>
<td>4.2/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have seen improvement in my child due to the Youth Diversion Team process.</td>
<td>4.1/5</td>
<td>The Youth Diversion Team supported me and my family no matter what.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My child can handle problems at home better due to the Youth Diversion Team process.</td>
<td>4.1/5</td>
<td>The Youth Diversion Team treated me and my family with respect.</td>
<td>4.8/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to the Youth Diversion Team process, my child is doing better in school.</td>
<td>3.9/5</td>
<td>I trust members of the Youth Diversion Team.</td>
<td>4.3/5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most parents believed the help their child received was beneficial and were also in agreement that the plan their child/family received was just right for them.

Most parents strongly agreed or agreed that their child improved due to the YDT process.

Most youth and parents strongly agreed or agreed they were heard during the process.

Most youth agreed the team also asked them questions that helped them understand the harm they caused.

Most youth strongly agreed or agreed that the YDT process helped them learn to be accountable for their actions and perceive themselves as better off due to the YDT process.

Most youth strongly agreed or agreed that the Youth Diversion Team understood their story and helped them understand their actions instead of blaming or judging them.

Youth strongly agree or agree they can better manage school-related matters due to the YDT process.
YDT Staff/Panel Member Insights

- Five of six pilot sites strongly agreed or agreed that staff believes that the YDT model has a more positive impact on the development of young people than the old JRB model and staff are more interested in using the YDT model than the one they formally used.

- Some sites reported that the new process helped establish a culture of honesty and empathy and new framework helped families feel more confident and hopeful.

- Panel members believe the YDT process helps youth learn to take accountability for their actions and the restorative questions help youth identify the harm they caused and develop a plan to repair it. The first part had a score of 4.2 out of 5 and second part had a score of 4.1 out of 5.

Middlesex Chapter JRB
Restorative Justice is an evidence-based model that has been proven as a successful way to address harm done by young people. A Trauma-informed, culturally informed and developmentally informed approach to diversion (YDT model) is recommended statewide to ensure the most effective results and to make real and positive differences in the experiences of responsible youth.

- Enhance resource investments and training and evaluation processes for continuous monitoring
- Additional training to improve victim engagement in the process
- Create a standardized and clear process of eligibility criteria and functions of a YDT for referring agencies
- Enhance continuing education, training and/or refreshers for staff, panel members and referring agencies
- Create protocols with a clear definition, objectives and core features of a restorative practices model
Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs) and Juvenile Review Boards (JRBs) are essential to planning and implementing effective, community-based programs and services. Statewide policy providing ongoing training and resources will support effective functioning and optimization of outcomes. This approach will harmonize efforts across the state, fostering a more cohesive and supportive environment for youth.