



Making connections. Informing solutions.

University of New Haven

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

March 20, 2025

2:00PM – 3:30PM

Legislative Office Building, Room 2C

Zoom Option available

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Rep. Toni Walker/Undersecretary Daniel Karpowitz

Overview of Meeting & Announcements

Brittany LaMarr, University of New Haven, TYJI

**DCF Report on JJPOC Gender
Responsive Recommendations**

**Jodi Hill-Lilly, Commissioner, DCF;
Dr. Nicole Taylor, Office of Behavioral Health & Wellbeing, Chief
Administrator;
Maribel Martinez, Clinical & Community Support, Senior
Administrator**

DOC Report on JJPOC Reentry Recommendations

Tammy Perreault, Deputy Warden, MYI

JBCSSD Report on JJPOC Reentry Recommendations

**Catherine Foley Geib, Director of Juvenile Clinical, Education &
Residential Services, JBCSDD**

In January 2025, JJPOC Members approved the following recommendations. This presentation is the DCF, DOC, and JBCSSD direct response to the recommendations as passed.

Gender Responsive Recommendation 2: DCF will submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025 on how many calls it receives of possible/suspected child sexual abuse, including reports of abuse and neglect in out of home care settings; how many of those are substantiated; how many calls it receives of possible/suspected child sexual abuse are referred to regional multidisciplinary teams (MDTs); and any gaps in access to or capacity of the MDT system to meet the need.

Incarceration, Reentry Recommendation 1: Transition Supports

JBCSSD and DOC should submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025, how much of the items listed below are happening, how many youth are utilizing the supports, what number of youth and families need the below services, and what is the difference between the demand for the below items. Additionally, they should ask families their need for the below items and submit an officially recorded anecdote on the utilization and need, to demonstrate barriers, considerations, and opportunities. DOC and JBCSSD may also identify, or offer suggestions of their own, for potential funding reallocations to support the items below. They should identify how many youth leave their facilities on supervision and end of sentence, and any appropriate or necessary partnership to deliver the provision of services below.

- a. When a youth is admitted to a facility or contracted program, necessary transportation assistance to the youth's identified family to visit the young person at the facility or contracted program at least twice a month.
- b. The need for flex funds to support families in need for up to 6 months following a youth's return home. Support may include but is not limited to housing assistance, basic needs, transportation, and vocational training.
- c. The need for flex funds to youth and their family the ability to relocate if needed for safety reasons. Funds may cover moving, basic needs, and initial housing payments.

Incarceration, Reentry Recommendation 2: Vocational and Employment Support

JBCSSD and DOC should submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025, a list of vocational/employment programming they have and the limitations to connecting youth to opportunities in the community. They should provide an explanation on how they are connecting youth, and how many, to these opportunities prior to release.

- a. Additionally, DOC and JBCSSD should identify the individual at each facility who is responsible for knowing the youth who are in job related activities, their release date, and how many youth released have an employer and/or connected to a vocational program.
- b. Finally, DOC and JBCSSD should outline strategies and opportunities to address current limitations or inefficiencies in connecting youth to employment/testing/opportunities prior to release and during their time in facility.

DCF data for JJPOC March 2025

DCF Reports with a Sexual Abuse Allegation
CY 2024 (Jan-Dec)

CY 2024 Reports to DCF Careline



**All Abuse/Neglect
Allegations**

65,127



All Accepted

30,318



**Sexual Abuse
Allegation (SAA)**

1,893



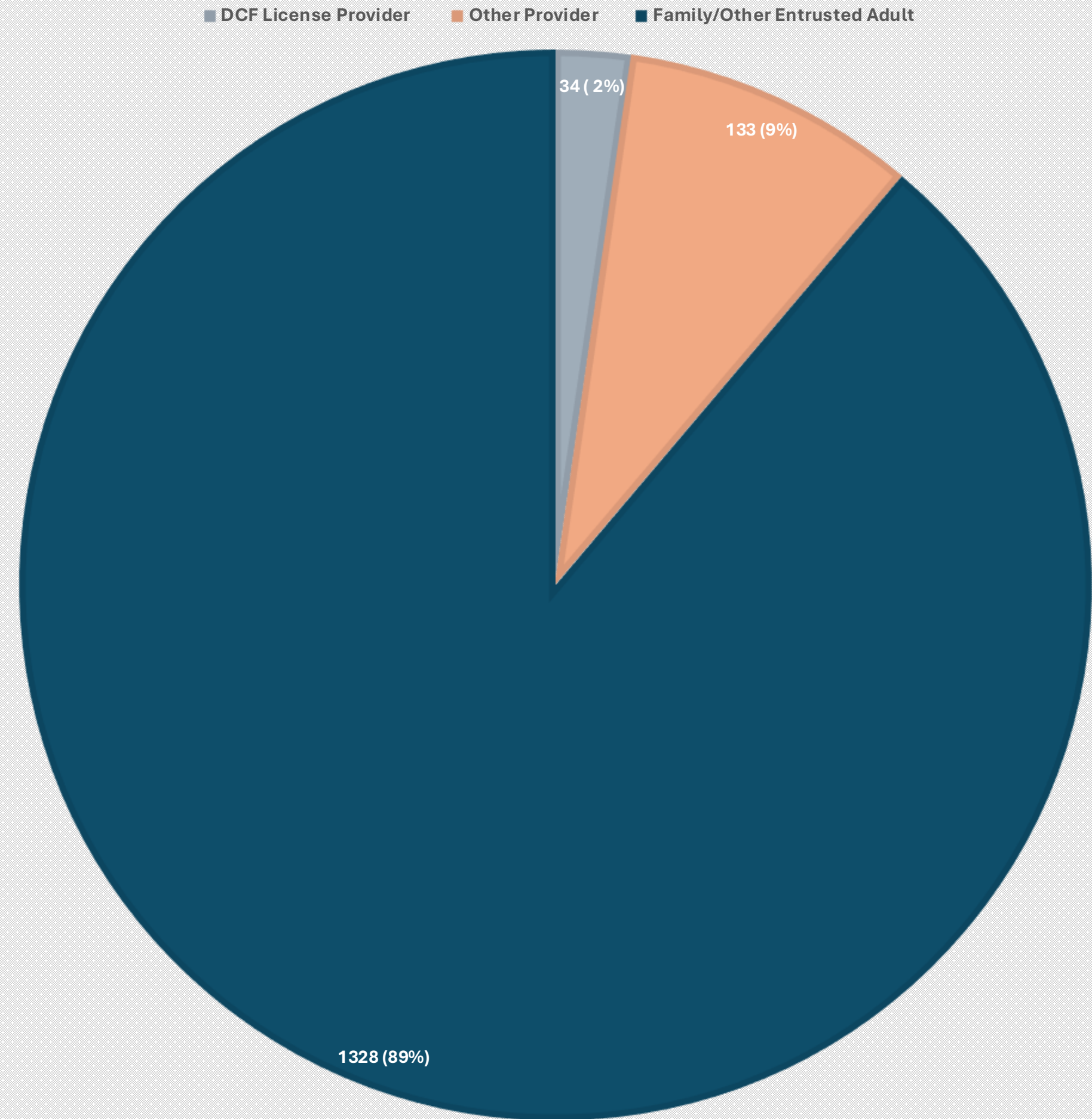
SAA Accepted

1,495*

*Accepted reports with sexual abuse allegations are 5% of all accepted

CY 2024 Accepted Reports with a Sexual Abuse Allegation Total: 1495

- Of the total, those about a DCF Licensed Provider: 34
 - DCF Foster/Adoptive Home: 19
 - CPA Home: 4
 - DCF Facility/Cottage: 5
 - Private Agency: 4
 - Business: 1
 - Other Governmental Agency: 1
- Of the total, those about an Other Provider: 133
 - School: 114
 - Day Care Facility: 12
 - Medical Provider: 4
 - Unidentified: 3



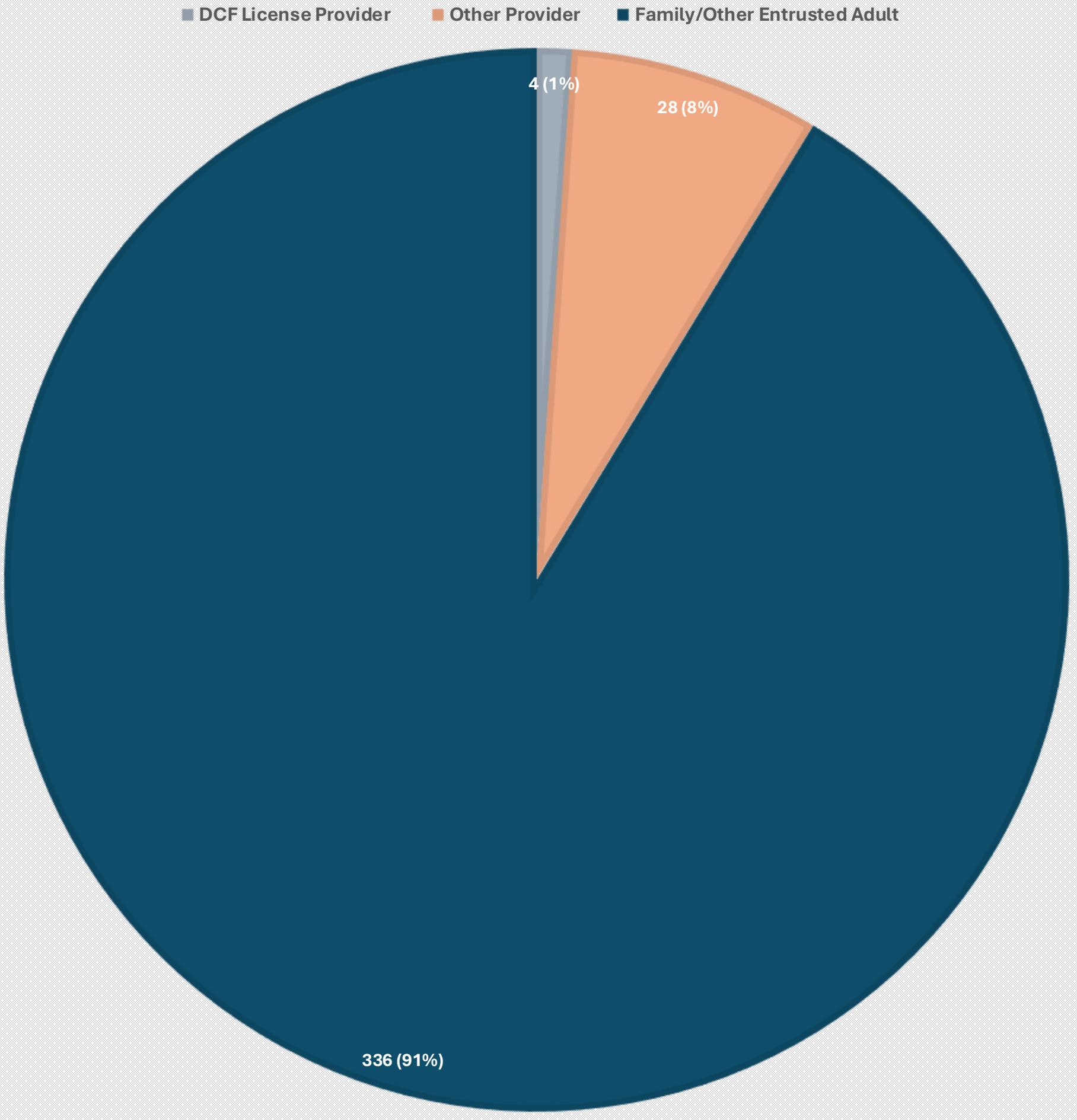
CY 2024 Accepted Reports with a Sexual Abuse Allegation Substantiation

Total: 368

24% of the 1495 accepted reports with a sexual abuse allegation are substantiated

- **Of the total, those about a DCF Licensed Provider: 4**
 - **DCF Foster/Adoptive Home: 2**
 - **CPA Home: 2**

- **Of the total, those about an Other Provider: 28**
 - **School: 26**
 - **Day Care Facility: 1**
 - **Medical Provider: 1**



CY 2024 DCF Referrals to MDT (Multidisciplinary Teams) Information based on CCA (CT Children's Alliance) annual data



DCF **referrals** to MDT
1808*



CAC
1291



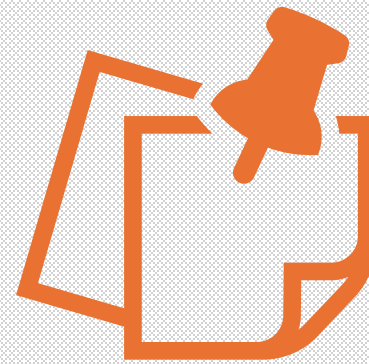
Other services
1400

*DCF referrals to MDT of Sexual Abuse Allegations = 1410
DCF referrals to MDT of Other abuse/neglect = 398

- Referrals made from DCF to MDT, are in close alignment with the number of sexual abuse reports received by DCF.
- Referrals are made to MDT regardless if the report was accepted or not accepted by DCF for DCF investigation.
- Referrals can also be made to MDT at any point in the life of a case opened with DCF.
- Referrals to MDT can include sexual abuse allegations, human trafficking, several physical abuse/neglect and fatalities.
- MDTs may refer families to CAC and/or other services. Some families may already have completed interviews and/or have services in place and therefore, the referral is made just for MDT.
- CAC (Child Advocacy Clinics) may refer families to other services.

Gaps in access to or capacity of the MDT system to meet the need

MDT



Information based on CCA (CT Children’s Alliance) annual Outcome Measurement Surveys and CAC community assessments.

- ***Lack of resources to support forensic interviews for other forms of abuse/neglect outside of sexual abuse. Current legislation, allows the state to only provide funding for forensic interviews in cases of potential sexual abuse.***
- ***Reimbursement for forensic interviews, administered by the Office of Victim Services for sexual abuse, has not been increased by the state for over a decade.***
- ***Need for additional resources to support the CAC advocacy and clinical needs of cases referred to the CACs. This is both due to the increased demand of cases and that funding for CACs has not changed for over 15 years.***
- ***Need for standardized referrals from all MDT partners across the state.***



Juvenile Justice Policy and
Oversight Committee
Workgroup
Recommendations
Manson Youth Institution

March 20, 2025

MYI Population Overview

▶ Population count : 296

- 18-21: 258
- 15-17: 38
 - 15: 2
 - 16: 10
 - 17: 26

▶ Legal status

- 18-21 Accused: 164
- 18-21 Sentenced: 93
 - ✓ **18-21: Federal Hold: 1**
- 15-17 Accused: 33
- 15-17 Sentenced: 5

Recommendation 1: Transitions Supports

JBCSSD and DOC should submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025, how much of the items listed below are happening and what is the delta between the demand for the below items. Additionally, they should ask at least families what they need and submit an officially recorded anecdote on the utilization of the below items to demonstrate barriers, considerations, and opportunities. DOC and JBCSSD should identify, or offer suggestions of their own, for a trade-off reallocation.

- a. When a youth is admitted to a facility or contracted program, necessary transportation assistance to the youth’s identified family to visit the young person at the facility or contracted program at least twice a month.
- b. Flex funds to provide support for families in need for up to 6 months following a youth’s return home. Support may include but is not limited to housing assistance, basic needs, transportation, and vocational training.
- c. Flex funds to provide youth and their family the ability to relocate if needed for safety reasons. Funds may cover moving, basic needs, and initial housing payments.

Survey Questions	Youth response	Family Member response
Would someone in your family benefit from transportation assistance to MYI to visit you?	Yes - 14	Yes - 16
Would you or your family benefit from funds to provide support for 6 months?	Yes - 12	Yes - 12
Would it be helpful for you or your family to receive funds if relocated for safety reasons?	Yes- 12	Yes- 19

- ❖ 38 Youth completed the survey
- ❖ 26 of 36 Families completed the survey
- ❖ Survey questions added to MYI Re-Entry Intake Assessment and Family Engagement Meeting Survey.
- ❖ All participants indicated that Uber cards would be beneficial as some visitors don’t have reliable transportation.

Potential Barriers

- ▶ Discharge from court without notice/time to plan.
- ▶ Many of the youth age out into the adult population.
- ▶ In 2024, 45 of the 103 admitted youth turned 18. Will the services be extended to the youth who become adults?
- ▶ Concerns for affordable housing in the towns they want to relocate to.
- ▶ Of the 5 currently sentenced, 2 youth will be 17 years of age at time of discharge. Both of the youth and their families declined the need for all services listed.
- ▶ Some families indicated the level of need would vary from moving costs, relocating to another state and agreed they could use support with basic needs.
- ▶ Currently DOC does not have flex funds for transportation assistance or relocation and basic needs.

When asked if they would be interested in Transitional Living Program:

Yes - 10
 No - 25
 Maybe- 2

When asked if they would like to relocate the youth responded:

Yes - 20
 • In state - 12
 • Out of state - 8
 No - 13
 Maybe - 4

CY 2024

Admissions

Admission Types	Count
Accused	92
Federal/Other	1
Remands	1
Sentenced	9
Total	103

Youth Data

Remands

Remand Release Type	Violation Type	Count
TS	Tech	1
Total		1

Releases & Discharges

Movement Description	Category	Count
DISCHARGED - END OF SENTENCE	END OF SENTENCE	5
TRANSFER TO TRANS SUPERV	TS	8
Total		13

Unsentenced Discharges

Movement Description	Count
DISCHARGED, DID NOT RETURN FROM COURT	39
UNSENTENCED DISCHARGE ON BOND	6
Total	45

Meeting the needs

❖ Surveys to identify needs completed with youth and families

❖ Re-Entry Intake assessments

❖ Family Engagement meetings
Communication and coordination regarding needs with Probation and Connecticut Judicial Branch
Referrals to Department of Children and Families, Department of Housing, Department of Labor

Partnership with DCF Juvenile Justice Education Unit to assist students' transition to the school in their community

Invictus - DOMUS Kids

- Sentenced male offenders aged 17-26 returning to Norwalk and Stamford
- End of sentence (6-12 months before EOS)
- Provide in-reach prior to release; post-release the young men and women in a 3 phase program for job training and employment

Our Piece of the Pie - Behind the Walls

- Sentenced males and females aged 16-25 returning to Hartford
- End of Sentence (120 days before EOS)
- CRCI, CCI, CCC, MYI, MWCI, OCI, WCCI, YCI
- In-reach is completed prior to release

Recommendation 2: Vocational and Employment Support

JBCSSD and DOC should submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025, a list of vocational/employment programming they have and the limitations to connecting youth to opportunities in the community. They should provide an explanation on how they are connecting kids to these opportunities prior to release.

- a. Additionally, DOC and JBCSSD should identify the individual responsible at each facility who is responsible for knowing the children who are in job related activities, their release date, and how many children they released have an employer and a job.
- b. Finally, DOC and JBCSSD should outline a method of operation to address current limitations or inefficiencies in connecting youth to employment/testing/opportunities prior to release and during their time in facility.

- Reentry Intake Assessment Surveys Completed upon intake (accused/sentenced) with Reentry Counselor to assess needs.
- Partnership with Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board and Justice Education Center: Project Re-Entry
 - VR Goggle through Trnsfr Career Exploration- 31 participate in VR learning program.
- MYI Connections an email point of contact, was created to allow for youth who have been discharged, to reach out to MYI staff and either keep MYI staff updated on how they are doing, need work boots and don't have the resources or any other reason to ensure their success back into the community.
- Reentry/Discharge planning includes ID procurement, identifying and addressing areas of need such as housing, mental health, medical, education, vocational, insurance coverage, community based resources. Re-Entry counselor is responsible for identifying and coordinates job-related activities for MYI population.
- Re-Entry Group The population learned about the application process for employment, interview skills as well as mock interviews confidence, and the do/don't of a working environment.
 - Re-Entry services
 - Resume building
 - Life skills
 - Budgeting
 - Tie a tie

Barriers

- Currently not a drivers education testing site
- Do not have our own VR Goggles – One set on loan from Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board
- Returned four sets of VR goggles to Justice Education Center
- Some students struggle with VR learning
- Many of the youth discharge from court

- Unified School District #1

High school students have access to Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs as part of their curriculum. The CTE curricula blends industry-specific theory with hands-on practical training equipping students with valuable skills for gainful employment upon re-entry into the community. Enrollment is continuous and does not require prior coursework. Each semester, students have the opportunity to participate in a vocational course from fields such as Automotive Body Technology, Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts, and Graphic Art and Printing technology. With these opportunities, students may earn their OSHA-10 credential in addition to course Certificates of Achievement and Completion. Additionally, students enrolled in the Culinary Arts program have the opportunity to earn nationally recognized certification in Food Service through the ServSafe program. Sponsored by the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation, the ServSafe program provides the restaurant and food service industry with comprehensive food safety training and certification. After students earn their high school diploma, they have the opportunity to continue coursework in the additional vocational classes which they have not yet taken. Additionally available to students is the Barbering program. Students who complete training in Barbering receive the Affidavit of Hours indicating that they have fulfilled the requisite study in order to take the licensure examination. At this time, the Affidavit of Hours is sent to the Department of Public Health until the student is ready to take the licensure examination.

In the High School Program, USD#1 is actively working to strengthen relationships with local employers in the community. Currently, the district has established a partnership with Forge City Works in Hartford. The Culinary Arts instructor is aware of the students' release dates and, if a student expresses interest, will facilitate a connection with Forge City Works. Additionally, the vocational coordinator is actively pursuing further opportunities to expand community partnerships. The vocational programs are designed in alignment with industry best practices, which is expected to provide long-term benefits for both students and employers.

- .

- Unified School District #1

- One limitation to connecting students to employment is that they are usually still working on their High School Diploma while incarcerated. As in the community, students generally seek career employment following high school graduation. However, USD#1 does provide transition skill education to its students such as resume writing, interview skills, career exploration, etc. USD#1 also provides both OSHA-10 and ServSafe credentials which are valid in the community. OSHA-10 is available for all students in either Auto Technology or Culinary Arts classes. While ServSafe is available for Culinary Arts students. The district is also working on getting the Barbering/Cosmetology licensing exam available within the correctional facility. These are all steps to make the students more immediately marketable post-release.
- Students are assessed utilizing:
 - RIASEC Test (Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional)
 - O*NET Interest Profiler (Occupational Information Network)
 - Transitional Interview to assess interests
- School staff provide transition planning, support around identifying school of choice and attaining work permits.
- USD#1 staff collaborates with Juvenile Justice Education Unit to support the youth re-entry into their school of choice.
- MYI currently has 37 enrolled youth and one under 18 graduate.
- Currently working toward a dual enrollment Pell College Program at MYI.

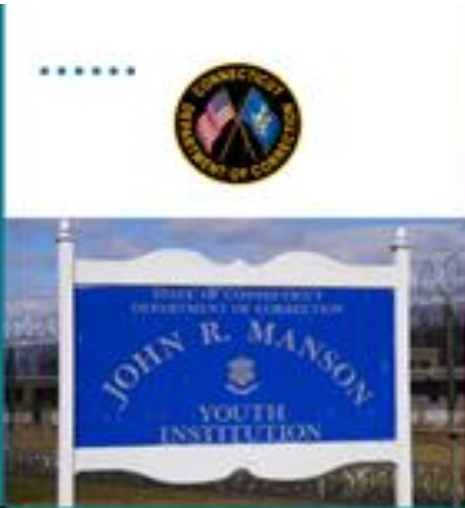
Important Contacts

CT Violence Intervention Program
230 Ashmun St, New Haven, CT 06511
203-553-7282

Family Reentry CRJ
75 Washington Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-838-0496

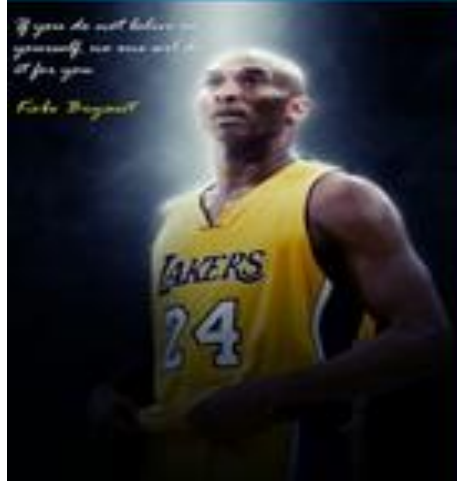
CRT Resource Center
395 Wetherfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114
860-560-5881

Congress Youth Collaborative
55 Airport Road (Suite 201), Hartford, CT 06114
860-294-3855



So, you are leaving prison, what's next?

"THE MOMENT YOU GIVE UP, IS THE MOMENT YOU LET SOMEONE ELSE WIN"
Kobe Bryant



Are things going well?
Are you in need of support?

Contact US!

DOC.MYIConnections@ct.gov

43 Jarvis Street
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

MANSON YOUTH INSTITUTION RE-ENTRY WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Re-Entry Counselor: _____

Date: _____

Entry Date: _____

Reassessment Date: _____

WORKFORCE QUESTIONNAIRE	
Have you ever been employed in the community?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, where?	
What long was your employment?	
Do you think you can benefit from being employed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, how?
Do you have a workforce permit?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If no, would you like to obtain one? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you wish to work in the community?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, where?
How would you like to improve your work ability?	



- Mens Reentry Support Group
- NLEP Community Transitional Housing Program
- NLEP Warmline (Saturday/Sunday 24hours – Monday-Friday 5pm to 6am)

Warmline: 888-260-1484
Nextlevelemp.org

Founded by
Jackie James-Boyd
and
Ray Boyd

Ray Boyd



Program Manager for New Visions for Public Safety at the Law and Racial Justice Center.
Ray.Boyd@yale.edu
<https://law.yale.edu>

Re-Entry Services

MYI Re-Entry Counselor Contact Info
203-806-2552
DOC.ORSU@ct.gov
<https://portal.ct.gov/doc/org/offender-re-entry-services>

What happens if I need:

Job-You can utilize the CT Job Bank
<https://www.l.ctdol.state.ct.us/jcb/>

Food Assistance-
<https://portal.ct.gov/dss/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program---snap>

Health and Human Services-
Dial 2-1-1
<https://www.211ct.org/>

Health Insurance-
800-723-2986
Connecticare.com

Job Seeker Services by Geographical Region in CT



A Workforce Development Board plays a crucial role in supporting formerly incarcerated individuals by providing access to training, education, and employment opportunities. These boards collaborate with local employers, training providers, and community organizations to develop programs tailored to the unique needs of this population, helping them build job skills, gain certifications, and secure meaningful employment. By offering career counseling, job placement services, and supportive resources like resume building and interview preparation, Connecticut's Workforce Development Boards help formerly incarcerated individuals reintegrate into society, reduce recidivism, and achieve long-term economic stability.

Connecticut's 5 Workforce Development Boards by Region

NRWB 249 Thomaston Ave.
Waterbury
203-574-6971
SCAN HERE TO GO TO NRWB'S website

Workforce Alliance 370 James St.
New Haven
203-867-4030
SCAN HERE TO GO TO Workforce Alliance's website

Workplace 1000 Lafayette Blvd, Suite 501
Bridgeport
203-610-8500
SCAN HERE TO GO TO The Workplace's website

Workplace 1000 Lafayette Blvd, Suite 501
Bridgeport
203-610-8500
SCAN HERE TO GO TO The Workplace's website

Workforce 108 New Park Ave.
North Franklin
860-859-4100
SCAN HERE TO GO TO Workforce's website

Each Workforce Development Board offers different programs and training opportunities tailored to local needs. Availability varies, so research their website or contact your local board to learn more.

Re-entry Ready Checklist for Individuals Preparing for Re-Entry

This checklist is designed to help individuals who are currently incarcerated prepare for re-entry into society by addressing common challenges. Use this checklist to assess areas where you are already well-prepared and identify areas that may need further attention. It is important to note that each person's situation and needs are unique, so this checklist should be used in a way that best suits your circumstances.

IDENTIFICATION AND KEY DOCUMENTS

When I am released, I will have access to:

- | | | | |
|---|--------|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate: | YES NO | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Card: | YES NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State ID: | YES NO | <input type="checkbox"/> Expired?: | YES NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driver's License: | YES NO | Status: | VALID SUSPENDED/REVOKED EXPIRED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Passport: | YES NO | <input type="checkbox"/> Expired?: | YES NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Card: | YES NO | | |

HOUSING

Previously, my address was _____
In the short term, I will look for _____
Short term housing is with a family member or friend, transitional housing, a shelter or other emergency housing. Your parole/probation will affect your choices, as well as any special needs you may have. (ex. Assisted living, sex offender registry, addiction treatment, women and children, etc.)
In the long term, I'd like to live with or in _____
Long term housing is finding an apartment, moving in with family or friends permanently. It should meet your parole/probation eligibility, personal and financial needs.
My record may affect who I can live with, or where I can live in the following ways: _____

I'm not sure, I need to find this out. I will contact: _____

PUBLIC BENEFITS

Previously, I have received _____ in benefits.
While incarcerated, I can apply for (but won't receive until released):
 Social Security Retirement Supplemental Security Income Social Security Disability Income
 Veteran's benefits Medicaid or HUSKY Medicare
I'm not sure, I need to find this out. I will contact: _____
After I am released, in addition to above, I may apply for:
 SNAP (Food Stamps) Assurance Wireless (Free Phone) Lifeline (phone, internet, bundled service)

MANSON YOUTH INSTITUTION
RE-ENTRY INTAKE ASSESSMENT

Re-Entry Counselor: _____

Date: _____

Individual Commit Date: _____

Intake Information			
Name:	DOB:	Age:	Gender:
Inmate Number:	Unit:		
Address	City/Town	Zip Code	
Birthplace:			
Mother's Name:		Mother's Maiden Name:	
Father's Name:		Legal Guardian:	

Emergency Contact Information		
Name:	Relationship:	Phone:

Judicial Information	
Charges/ Convictions:	
Are you sentenced? YES <input type="checkbox"/>	Length of Conviction? NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Identification Information	
DOC will cover the cost of a DMV ID. The DOC will not cover the cost of license renewals.	
Have you ever obtained a State Identification Card, Learners Permit, or Driver's License?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, Which State?	
Is this item expired? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, do you have that item in your property or stored elsewhere?	
Do you have any other forms of identification?	
Would you like to apply for any of the following: License Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> License Duplicate <input type="checkbox"/>	
Non-Driver ID <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Driver's ID Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Driver's ID Duplicate <input type="checkbox"/>	

Housing	
What were your living arrangements prior to being incarcerated?	
Have you had a consistently safe place to live in the last year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Doubled Up - With another family or other person because of loss of housing or as a result of economic hardship <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter - Emergency or transitional shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Halfway House/Sober House - Halfway houses serve as the halfway point between an institution and independent society <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/Motel - Living in what is NOT an emergency or transitional shelter and involves payment <input type="checkbox"/> Other Temporary Living Situation - Trailer park, campground, car, park, public places, abandoned building, street, or any other inadequate living space <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Housing - person who is living in a fixed, regular, and adequate housing situation	
What will your living arrangements be upon release?	
Do you foresee yourself lacking a consistently safe place to live upon release? THIS REQUIRES A 211 REFERRAL NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> Which town/City?	
Have you had difficulty with safe and stable housing before you came to MYI?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Doubled Up - With another family or other person because of loss of housing or as a result of economic hardship <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter - Emergency or transitional shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Halfway House/Sober House - Halfway houses serve as the halfway point between an institution and independent society <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/Motel - Living in what is NOT an emergency or transitional shelter and involves payment	

Birth Certification	
You are eligible if you are within 3 years of release. Be advised if you were born out of the country it is challenging for DOC to obtain this item.	
Were you born in the United States of America? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you have a copy of your Birth Certification in your property? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Would you like to submit an application to obtain your Birth Certificate? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

Military	
ARE YOU A MILITARY VETERAN? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, what branch?	
If yes, would you like to order a DD-214? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	

Visiting /Transportation	
Will your family be visiting you? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, who?	
How often do you think your family will be visiting you?	
Does your immediate family have a form of transportation? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Would your family member(s) benefit from transportation assistance? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	

Residential Relocation	
Do you currently live with your family? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, who?	
Do you feel safe at your current residential location? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
If no, why?	
Would you like assistance with relocating?	
Would your family benefit from residential relocation? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, where?	

Additional Re-Entry Services	
Do you require a Reentry Guide? If so, what town/city?	
If sentenced, do have parole/probation to follow? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Name of your PO	
Length of Time?	
*If you have parole or probation upon release, your PO will also assist you with your reentry needs	
Are you involved with DCF? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Name of caseworker:	
Did you have insurance prior to incarceration? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you feel you would benefit from substance treatment services in the community? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you feel you would benefit from mental health support in the community? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you a father and would like information on fatherhood programming? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you interested in higher education? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you interested in job readiness programs? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Would you like to create a resume? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Is this your first incarceration? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> If no, how many times in the past?	
Have you ever been retained in at any of the following programs? (Circle all that apply)	
Juvenile Detention	Community / Residential Programs
	CJTS

QUESTIONNAIRE			
What is your passion?			
Do you have a work history? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, Where have you worked?			
Do you have a job offer or prospects for a job? Contact information?			
List any programs attended/completed and/or certifications?			
What is your ideal job?			
If you can't work at your idea job, what type of employment will you seek?			
What will support system look like upon release? (Ex. Family Members, Mentors, Religious Advisors, Clinicians, Friends, etc.)			
Name:	Relationship	Phone Number	Town/City
List (3) goals you want to reach prior to your release?			
1.			
2.			
3.			



Re-Entry Supports: Availability & Need

Presentation to the JJPOC

March 20, 2025

Catherine Foley Geib, Director, Juv. Residential Svcs
Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division



Agenda

- Transition Supports
- Vocational & Employment Support
- Strategies and Opportunities
- Recommended Investments

Transition Supports

Transition Supports: How Many Youth Served?

- **245 youth served in calendar year 2024**

- 39 youth who previously discharged were still involved with their Reintegration Mentor in the community.
- 206 youth discharged from one of the nine (9) juvenile residential treatment programs.
 - 189 youth (91.7%) discharged on community supervision.
 - 17 youth (8.3%) discharged at end of sentence.
- 46% from REGIONS, program with the longest stay (over 6 – 12 months).
- 37% from Community Diversion and Respite Center (CDRC), program with the shortest stay (30-120 days).

Transition Supports: How Much and What?

1

140 families (57%) received transportation to the program for visitation.

2

179 families (73%) received reintegration support at discharge.

3

22 families (9%) received relocation support for safety reasons.

Transition Supports: Not Available

- **58 youth and their families (24%) did not receive needed assistance or were only partially served.**
 - 38 youth (66%) were treated at the REGIONS programs in the Bridgeport and Hartford Juvenile Residential Centers which do not have access to Reintegration Mentor and Family Support Specialist services.
 - 13 youth (22%) did not complete the program due to elopement, needing a higher level of care, or were returned to detention due to multiple program violations.
- 7 youth and their families (12%) were only partially served because of a lack of funding to provide certain vocational programs, rental assistance, or past-due utility bills.

Transition Supports: Families Need Assistance to Visit Their Child

- **63 of 68 families currently with a child at a juvenile residential treatment program participated in an interview to discuss their needs.**
 - 40 families (63%) reported needing transportation assistance to visit their child.
 - 37 families (59%) would utilize an Uber/Lyft-type gift card to visit their child twice a month.
 - 15 families (24%) would utilize a bus pass or gas card to visit their child twice per month.

Transition Supports: Families Need Assistance with Basic Needs

- 50 families (79%) reported needing assistance with the following when their returns home:
 - 26 families (51%) need groceries/food.
 - 16 families (32%) need assistance to pay past-due utility bills.
 - 23 families (46%) need transportation to outpatient services for themselves or their child.
 - 21 families (41%) need transportation to employment for themselves or their child.

Transition Supports: Families Need Assistance with Basic Needs continued

- 20 families (40%) need assistance to purchase a bed and/or dresser for their child.
- 29 families (57%) need assistance to purchase clothes for their child.
- 19 families (37%) need rental assistance.
- 25 families (49%) need vocational training support.
- 10 families (19%) need assistance to relocate for safety reasons.

Transition Supports: Barriers, Considerations, Opportunities

- Variety of Challenges and Multiple Day-to-Day Stressors
 - Poverty/low income, disenfranchised and chaotic neighborhood, struggling schools, limited time (working, childcare, other family obligations)
- Case Managers, Juvenile Probation Officers, and Reintegration Mentors work hard to access local resources for assistance (food, clothes, information, entitlements).
- The Connecticut Justice-involved Medicaid Waiver Plan may address these needs if approved and funded.

Transition Supports: 5 Strategies to Address Unmet Needs

Interviews with 63 families and the review of 206 program discharges show that a significant number of youth transition to the community with unmet needs annually.

1. Reintegration mentor and family support specialist services at Bridgeport and Hartford REGIONS hardware-secure programs for 40 youth.

2. Transportation funds for family visitation for 100 youth.

3. Uber-type transportation for 50 youth to/from appointments/work.

4. Flex funds for basic needs (food, clothing, bed/dresser, rent/utilities) for 110 youth.

5. Rental assistance (first and last month rent) for 10 families to relocate for safety.

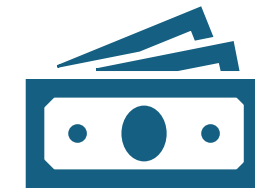
Vocational and Employment Support

Vocational and Employment Support: Programming & Youth Accomplishments

- Each youth has someone (program manager, case manager, clinician, reintegration mentor, juvenile probation officer) responsible to know if they are in job-related activities, their discharge date, and if employed or connected to a vocational program.
- 21 different certifications, training courses, and licensure programs available: CPR/AED/First Aid, ServSafe, Phlebotomy, Nurse Aide (CNA), CT Security Guard, Medical Assistant (CMA), Commercial Truck Driver's Licensure (CDL), Nail Technician, CNC operator, Forklift Operator, Eyelash Technician, and more.
- **Between September 2023 – December 2024, youth earned 209 certificates, 24 youth completed a training program, and 13 youth were employed or had an internship in the community at discharge.**

Vocational and Employment Support: Variety of Limitations Restrict Access

1. Eligibility
 - a. Age
 - b. Education
 - c. Behavior
 - d. Program Location



2. Funding



3. Space



4. Time



5. Security



6. Support

Vocational & Employment Supports: Opportunities to Expand Access

1. Provide Reintegration Mentor services for youth treated at the Bridgeport and Hartford hardware-secure REGIONS programs to connect them to community prior to discharge.
2. Offer additional opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials (IRCs).
3. Implement exploratory career programming using augmented virtual reality technology to allow youth under 16 years of age, and those youth over age 16 and under credit, to begin career planning.
4. Expand in-program internships to develop soft skills, work ethic, experience, and resume.
5. Continue to collaborate with the juvenile residential education providers and the Department of Children and Families Juvenile Justice Education Unit (DCF JJEU) to access vocational opportunities paid by the student's board of education.

Vocational & Employment Supports: Opportunities to Expand Access

continued

6. Participate in the Justice Education Center (JEC) Career Pathways Program to provide exploratory and pre-exploratory programs in automotive, carpentry, manufacturing technology, and other fields.
7. Develop a supported employment system that provides stipends to youth to work in community-based internships and jobs, summer employment, etc.
8. Build effective pathways to employment with the DOL and the Workforce Development Boards (WDBs).
9. Develop or connect with opportunities available through CT State, the 119k Commission, the business community, skilled trade groups, the military, and other entities as applicable.

Vocational & Employment Support: 5 Strategies to Meet the Need

Based on experiences, challenges, the ongoing review of the best practices, and the data from the September 2023 – December 2024, several strategies are highlighted.

1. In-program internships for 100 youth annually.

2. Tuition for 210 youth to earn IRCs.

3. Career exploration augmented virtual reality technology for three (3) hardware-secure REGIONS programs (Bridgeport, Hartford, Journey House).

4. Reintegration Mentor and Family Support Specialist Services at Bridgeport and Hartford REGIONS hardware-secure programs for 40 youth.

5. Staff to build relationships with DOL, WDBs, JJEU, CETCS.

Needed Annual Investment

Transition Supports: Investmen t

Total Needed Annual Investment	\$1,675,000
Reintegration Mentor & Family Support Specialist Services at Bridgeport and Hartford REGIONS hardware-secure programs for 40 youth	\$1,200,00
Transportation funds for family visitation for 100 youth	\$150,000
Uber-type transportation for 50 youth to/from appointments/work	\$25,000
Flex Funds for basic needs (food, clothing, bed/dresser, rent/utilities)) for 110 youth	\$220,000
Rental assistance (first and last month rent) for 10 families to relocate due to safety concerns	\$80,000

Vocational & Employment Support: Investment

	\$936,000
Total Needed Annual Investment	0
	\$256,000
In-program internships for 100 youth	0
Tuition for 210 youth to earn industry recognized credentials	\$500,000
	0
Career exploration augmented virtual reality technology for 3 hardware-secure REGIONS programs (Bridgeport, Hartford, Journey House)	\$180,000
	0
Reintegration Mentor and Family Support Specialist Services at Bridgeport and Hartford REGIONS hardware-secure programs for 40 youth	Cost noted in other section
Staff to build relationships with DOL,	2 staff

Questions?

Next Meeting – April 17, 2025