



# **ANNUAL JUVENILE JUSTICE REPORT + HB 304**



# OBJECTIVES

**01 JUVENILE JUSTICE  
MILESTONES**

**02 FY 2023 DATA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

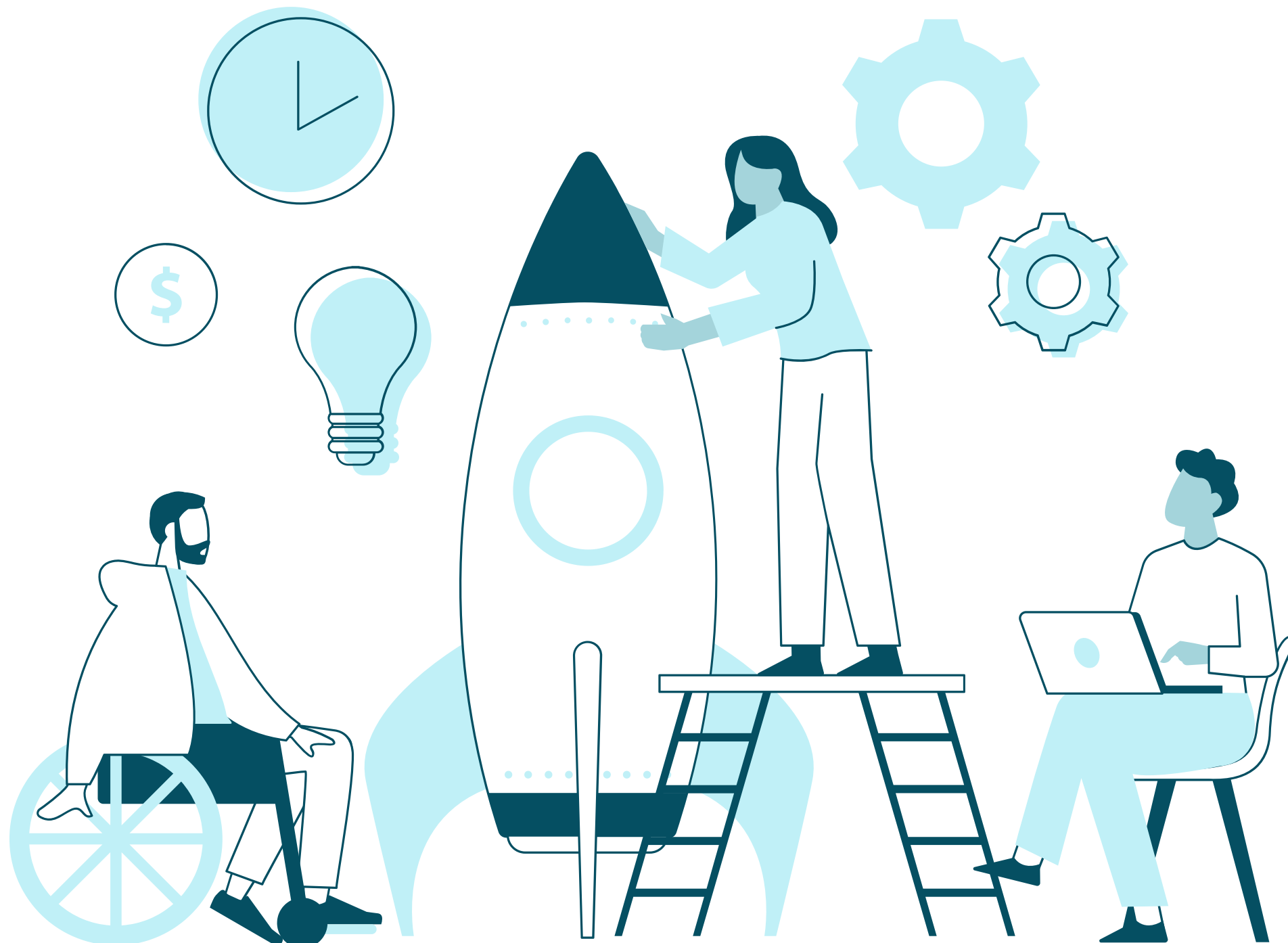
**03 HB 304 NEW DATA  
ELEMENTS**

**04 USBE DATA**

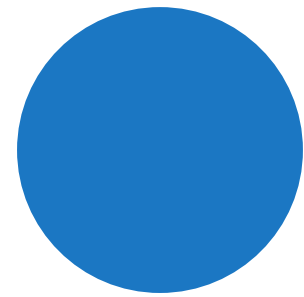
# JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

## WHO ARE WE?

The Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) was created within Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and is statutorily responsible for overseeing the implementation of the juvenile reform efforts and for gathering and analyzing data that measures the impact of the policy changes. The JJOC ensures that policy objectives are being fulfilled with implementation fidelity, oversight, data monitoring, and ongoing research evaluation.

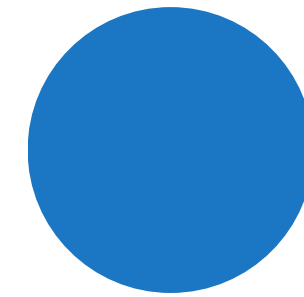


# 2016 WORKING GROUP MAIN FINDINGS



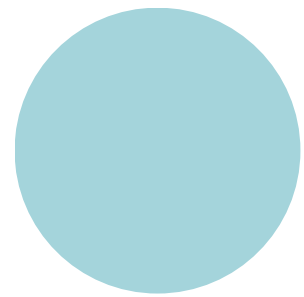
## **LOW-LEVEL**

Most youth faced low-level charges, but responses inconsistent; diversion showed better outcomes



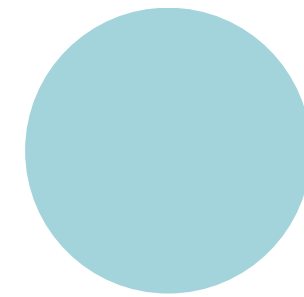
## **DISPARITIES**

Racial and ethnic disparities across the system



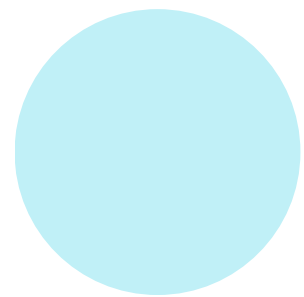
## **HIGHER REOFFENSE**

Youth often securely detained pre-adjudication on low-level nonviolent charges; reoffense rates higher for those detained



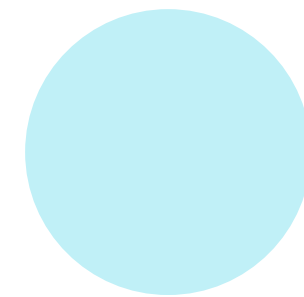
## **SERVICES**

Lack of rural services



## **COSTLY**

Costly out-of-home placements were common for low-level offenses and contempts, despite poor public safety benefits



## **EXTENDED CONTACT**

Once involved with the juvenile justice system, youth remained involved for years

# RECOMMENDED POLICY AREAS

Limit secure  
detention use

Standardize  
and expand  
diversion

Keep low-level  
school offenses  
out of court

Restrict  
probation length

Narrow  
placement  
eligibility

Strengthen  
supervision and  
treatment

Augment  
responses to  
noncompliance

Reinvest in  
community and  
EBPs

Reduce time in  
placement

Expand  
restorative justice

Revise  
transfer to adult  
system

Heighten  
oversight

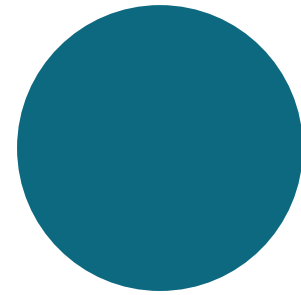
# ANNUAL REPORTING

LINKS

ABC

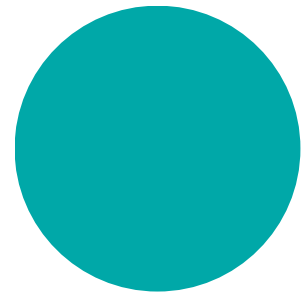


# FY 2023 DATA TRENDS



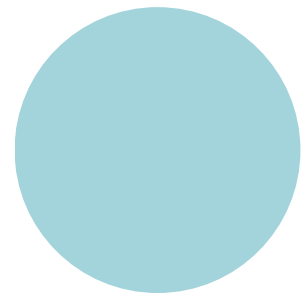
## **EARLY INTERVENTION HERE**

early intervention here



## **YOUTHS CONTINUE TO BE DIVERTED FROM THE SYSTEM THROUGH THE USE OF NONJUDICIAL ADJUSTMENTS**

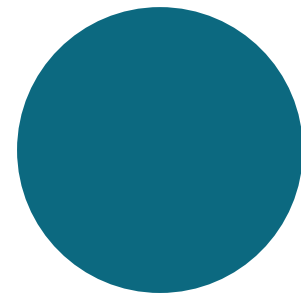
Despite the increase in court referrals, the share of youths entering into an Nonjudicial Adjustment increased to almost 64% and the share of success rates increased to 94% in FY 2023.



## **BACK END SERVICES RESERVED FOR HIGHEST RISK YOUTHS**

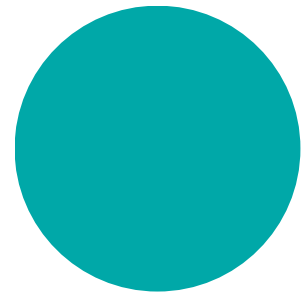
Low rate of Community Placement and Secure Care admissions, measuring less than 1 per 1,000 youths

# FY 2023 DATA TRENDS



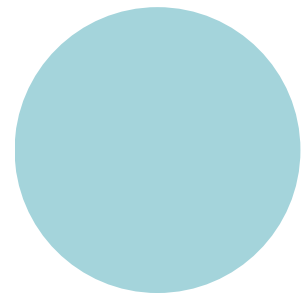
## **REFERRALS TO UTAH'S JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM INCREASED IN FY 2023.**

Overall, there were 14,204 referrals to the Juvenile Court in FY 2023. This represents an increase of 11.4% from FY 2022 but an overall decline of 33% when compared to FY 2017.



## **YOUTHS CONTINUE TO BE DIVERTED FROM THE SYSTEM THROUGH THE USE OF NONJUDICIAL ADJUSTMENTS**

Despite the increase in court referrals, the share of youths entering into a Nonjudicial Adjustment increased to almost 64% and the share of success rates increased to 94% in FY 2023.

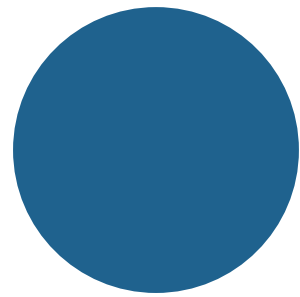


## **BACK END SERVICES RESERVED FOR HIGHEST RISK YOUTHS**

Low rate of Community Placement and Secure Care admissions, measuring less than 1 per 1,000 youths

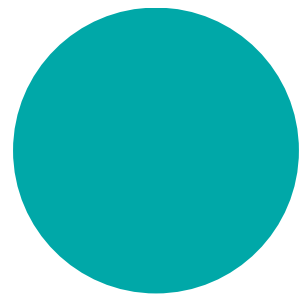


# HB 304 NEW DATA ELEMENTS



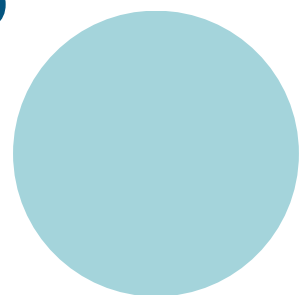
## FIREARM OFFENSES

In FY 2023, there were a total of 51 firearm offense episodes with 2 episodes being flagged as a restricted person. The majority of firearm offenses were petitioned to court (n=37).



## TOP 5 FIREARM OFFENSES

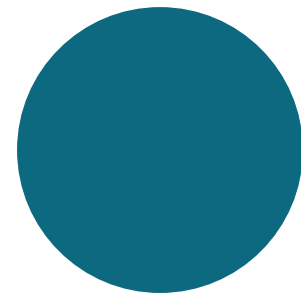
1. Theft Firearm, 11 episodes
2. Discharge of Firearm, Injury, 6 episodes
3. Possession of Firearm, Category II Restricted, 6 episodes
4. Aggravated Assault with Weapon/Force, 5 episodes
5. Discharge of Firearm in City, 4 episodes



**WHILE THE MAJORITY OF THESE PETITIONED CASES ARE STILL AWAITING DISPOSITION, 15 HAVE BEEN ADJUDICATED AND 9 HAVE REACHED DISPOSITION WITH THE FOLLOWING DISPOSITIONAL ORDERS:**

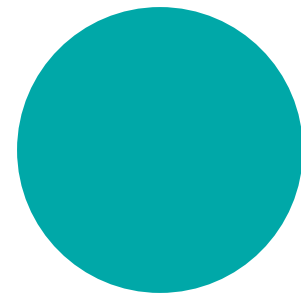
- 1 Intake Probation Order
- 5 Formal Probation Orders
- 1 Community Placement Disposition
- 2 Secure Care Dispositions

# SCHOOL BASED OFFENSES



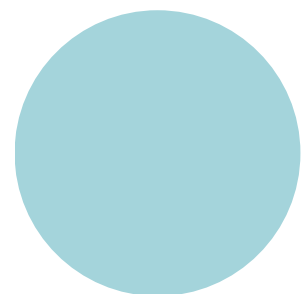
## **SCHOOL-BASED REFERRALS TO THE JUVENILE COURT ARE ALLEGED OFFENSES THAT OCCURRED IN THE SCHOOL SETTING.**

There were 1,417 school-based referrals in FY 2023 compared to 1282 in FY 2022. This translates to a rate of 3.33 per 1,000 youths, a slight increase of about 9% between FY 2022 and 2023.



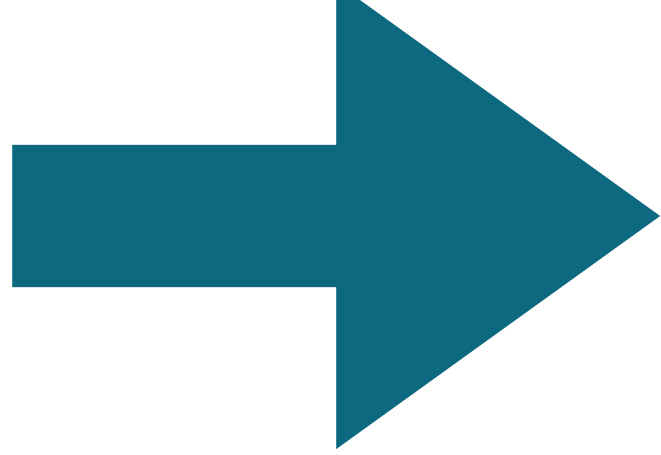
## **TOP 5 SCHOOL-BASED OFFENSES**

1. Assault - Bodily Injury
2. Marijuana Possession or Use
3. Criminal Trespass School Property
4. Possession Drug Paraphernalia
5. Theft <\$500



## **TRUANCY**

In FY 2023 there were 25 referrals for truancy. Additionally, truancy mediation was accepted by 22 youths.



# MOVING FORWARD

**01 JJOC WORKING GROUP  
ON FIREARM  
INTERVENTIONS**

**02 CONDUCT STATEWIDE  
GEOSPATIAL STUDY,  
IDENTIFYING HIGH  
RATES OF REFERRALS**

**03 CONTINUE TO  
EVALUATE/MONITOR  
JUVENILE REFORM**

**04 WORK WITH THE  
LEGISLATURE AND  
STAKEHOLDERS ON  
JUVENILE ISSUES**

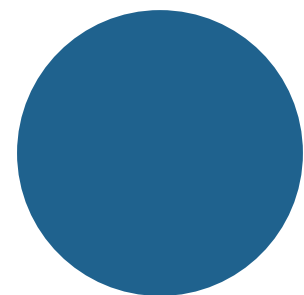
# CONCLUSION

We rely on the expertise of JJOC members to advise and lead efforts to make changes to the system as necessary while being informed on community feedback, data, and research on best practices.

The Juvenile Justice System has a robust database, if there are additional questions outside of the required reporting, please let us know and we can follow up.

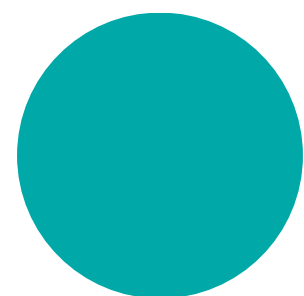


# USBE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE DATA



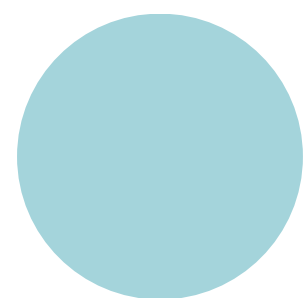
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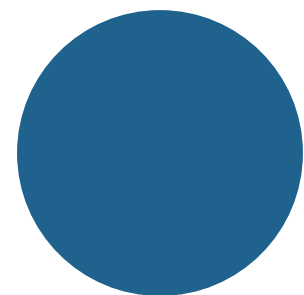
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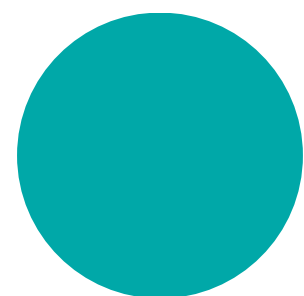
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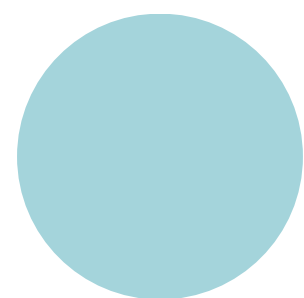
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## **CONNECT**

### **WEBSITE**

[justice.utah.gov](https://justice.utah.gov)

### **EMAIL ADDRESS**

[ktrichards@utah.gov](mailto:ktrichards@utah.gov)

# JUVENILE JUSTICE MILESTONES

2016



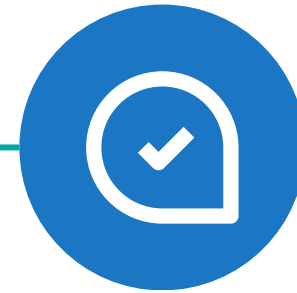
**June 2016**

Formation of Utah  
Juvenile  
Justice Working  
Group

**November 2016**

Working Group  
issues final report

2017



**March 2017**

Governor Herbert  
signs H.B. 239 into law

**May 2017**

Utah Juvenile Justice  
Oversight Committee  
established

**August-December  
2017**

H.B. 239  
communication  
outreach, roadshows

2018



**March 2018**

Governor Herbert  
signs H.B. 132 into law

**July 1, 2018**

All policies went into  
effect

2019



**March 2019**

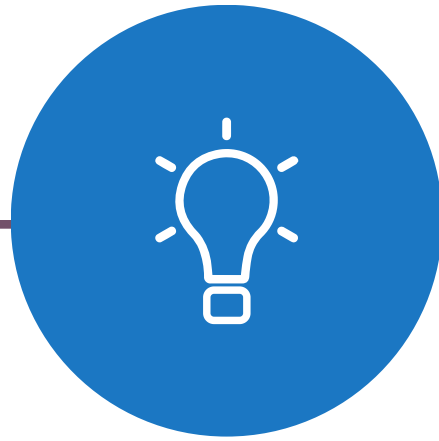
Governor Herbert  
signs H.B. 404 into law



# HB 239 LANDMARK BILL



The bill focused on intervening earlier, reducing out-of-home placements for first time offenders.



Strived to only use residential services on youth who posed serious public safety risk.



Established an oversight committee to oversee reform implementation efforts.

# WHAT WAS JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM?

Data-driven, research-based assessment of the Utah's juvenile justice system.

Involved extensive review of court and juvenile services data, current research on reducing recidivism, and feedback from 32 stakeholder roundtables held across the state.

At the forefront:

- Promote public safety
- Limit system costs
- Improve outcomes for youth, families, and communities