



COMMUNITY-BASED AID PROGRAMS



OVER

13k



YOUTH



PARTICIPATED IN A
C-B PROGRAM IN FY 15-16



For the past 15 years, UNO's Juvenile Justice Institute (JJI) has assisted lawmakers, stakeholders, and practitioners by providing expertise in evidence-based practices and by helping to identify and implement effective programs serving youth in our communities. In 2016, The National Center for Juvenile Justice **highlighted JJI as one of three entities nationwide** helping our state achieve high standards for research and implementation of evidence-based practices.

JJI WORKS WITH

237

PROGRAMS ACROSS NE
FOCUSED ON KEEPING YOUTH
OUT OF THE SYSTEM

Recently, much of JJI's work has been focused on measuring the success of youth served in community-based programs. JJI worked with UNO's Information Services & Technology and the Nebraska Crime Commission to develop a statewide Juvenile Case Management System. This system is a web-based secure tool tailored to measure evidence-based outcomes for a variety of program types. The JCMS addresses differences in community needs by applying consistent definitions to key data elements and allowing similar data to be collected from each county. Through this system, we now know that:

Over 70% of programs working with JJI are direct interventions intended to keep youth out of the juvenile justice system. JJI's role is to measure whether these programs are doing this effectively.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

With the data collected thus far, JJI evaluated two program types in FY 2015: Truancy and Diversion programs.

**OVER
4,500**
YOUTH WERE DIVERTED
OUT OF JUVENILE COURT



In FY 2015, 31 programs designed to increase school attendance were funded through Community-based Aid. Of the 21 programs that had entered available and accurate data into JCMS, **95%** of these demonstrated a measurable improvement in student attendance for those who completed the program.

In FY 2015, 58 counties reported into the JCMS diverting over 4,500 youth from juvenile court. Results found **70% of juveniles** do not have any law violations 2-3 years after completing a diversion program. Currently, JJI is conducting an in-depth cost-efficiency analysis of specific initiatives, but we offer the following as a general comparison: while each court appearance costs \$300-\$400, a youth served through **a juvenile diversion program costs only a few dollars per day.**

Based on our findings thus far, Nebraska's Community-based Aid fund is proving to be effective at serving youth in the community at a more cost-effective rate than serving juveniles in other placements.

TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED IN FY 2015-16 BY PROGRAM TYPE

