

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE  
COORDINATING COUNCIL  
(JJCC) PRESENTATION

October 2015



# THE W. HAYWOOD BURNS INSTITUTE (BI)

## *Mission*

The Burns Institute works to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities by building a community-centered response to youthful misbehavior that is equitable and restorative.

## *Components of BI's Work*

- Site Based Management
- Community Justice Network for Youth (CJNY)
- Policy

## *Our Expertise*

Facilitate community and system stakeholders through a data-driven process aimed at creating community-based alternatives to justice system involvement, particularly secure detention.



# PROJECT GOAL AND PHASES

## *Project Goal:*

To **reduce** the number of boys and girls of color in contact with the juvenile justice system and **reduce** implicit bias in policies, practice, and decision-making.

## *Phases I: Assessment*

- Assessment of the jurisdiction's "readiness" to positively impact racial and ethnic disparities in its youth justice system

## *Phase II: R.E.D. Infrastructure and Education*

- Assist counties in establishing or strengthening the foundation for a R.E.D. initiative

## *Phase III: Community Engagement*

- Support the education and engagement of community and system stakeholders in the local R.E.D. reduction strategy

## *Phase IV: Implementation of R.E.D. Reduction Plan*

- Support implementation and monitoring of the R.E.D. plan



# ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

## *Stakeholder Interviews*

- Conducted 29 in-person interviews with community and system stakeholders (May 13-14, 2015)

## *Online Stakeholder Survey*

- Developed and administered an online survey (May 5-22, 2015)
- A total of 51 surveys were completed.

## *Documents Review*

- Reviewed several county documents

## *Data Analysis*

- Analyzed 2014 data about youth justice system involvement in Santa Barbara County



# UNDERSTANDING R.E.D: KEY FINDINGS

## *Perceptions of Racial and Ethnic Disparities*

- Understanding of R.E.D. varied widely among Santa Barbara County Stakeholders.
  - *Overrepresentation*
  - *Racism*
  - *Differential Treatment or “targeting”*
- 52% (27) of survey respondents indicated that disparities exist in the County.
- 31% (16) indicated that they were “not sure” if disparities exist.



# UNDERSTANDING R.E.D: KEY FINDINGS

## *Beliefs About Why Disparities Exist*

- The majority of stakeholders attributed the existence of R.E.D. to socioeconomic factors.
- Many stakeholders attributed the behaviors of youth and families to “culture”, especially with regard to Latinos.
  - “Single Parent Families”
  - “Lacking Education”
  - “Third world issues”
- Stakeholders made reference to a serious gang problem
  - No clearly defined County parameters for identifying gang affiliation

# PURPOSE OF DETENTION: KEY FINDINGS

## ■ Strengths:

- County utilizes pre and post adjudication alternatives to detention
- Probation leadership have implemented policies to limit the inappropriate use of secure detention
- Probation utilizes a Graduated Sanctions and Incentives Matrix

## ■ Areas for Improvement:

- Need to collect data regarding the intake assessment tool
- Variation in stakeholders' understanding of the purpose of detention



# COLLABORATION: KEY FINDINGS

## *Inter-agency Collaboration*

### ■ Strengths

- Stakeholders expressed strong interagency collaboration
  - Teen Court Board
  - South Coast Taskforce on Youth Gangs

### ■ Areas for Development

- Improve the relationship with law enforcement
- Law enforcement key partner in the R.E.D. reduction effort





# COLLABORATION: KEY FINDINGS

## *Service Provision and Coordination*

- Need for whole family services
- Need for countywide gang intervention programming
- Need for increased information-sharing regarding available services for youth and families

## *Probation Staff Engagement*

- Need for increased communication between line staff and leadership



# COLLABORATION: KEY FINDINGS

## *Community Collaboration*

### ■ Strengths

- Expressed interest in engaging community stakeholders, (i.e. parents and youth) in the R.E.D. reduction effort
- Formal partnerships with community stakeholders
- Availability of bilingual practitioners (English/Spanish)

### ■ Areas for Development

- Need for more Mixteco speaking providers
- Distrust of system stakeholders by community stakeholders
  - “History of “anti-immigrant sentiment” in the County hinders community participation in local reform
    - Use of the term “illegals” when referring to undocumented individuals



# DATA CAPACITY: KEY FINDINGS

## *Strengths*

- Infrastructure in place to collect and analyze data for R.E.D. reduction work.
  - Dedicated and experienced IT staff
  - Transparent with its data and other agencies rely on Probation for data
  - Partnership with U.C.S.B.

## *Areas for Improvement*

- Intake procedure and quality control mechanisms need to be reviewed
- Data must be used to improve the policies and practices of youth-serving agencies



# BI PROCESS FOR REDUCING RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

## 1. Identify Disparities

- Identify whether and to what extent racial and ethnic disparities exist

## 2. Identify, Analyze and Strategize around a “Target Population”

- Identify target population to focus the work
- “Dig deeper” into target population to learn more about policy, practice, and/or procedure and other factors contributing to disparities
- Strategize around how policy, practice, and/or procedure change might result in reductions in disparities
- Pilot or adopt policy change










## 3. Measure Progress

- Monitor Effectiveness of Policy Change
- Document changes in disparities

Ongoing process



# 1. IDENTIFYING DISPARITIES IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY (2014)

Santa Barbara: Disparity Gap 2014	White	Black	Latino
Arrests			
	1	3.9	1.4
Probation Diversion			
	1	1.6	0.8
Secure Detention			
	1	2.2	1.7

## In 2014, Black youth were:

- Approximately 4 times as likely as White youth to be arrested;
- More than 1.6 times as likely to be diverted by probation; and
- More than 2 times as likely to be detained.

## In 2014, Latino youth were:

- 1.4 times as likely as White youth to be arrested;
- Less likely (0.8) to be diverted by probation; and
- 1.7 times as likely to be detained.



# 1. IDENTIFYING DISPARITIES IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY (2014)

Santa Barbara (2014)	White	Black	Latino	Asian	Pacific Islander	Native American	Other	Total
<b>Youth Population (10-17)</b>	<b>12813</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>25969</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>42092</b>
<b>Arrest</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>2109</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>3063</b>
Rate of Arrest (per 1,000 youth in population)	58.5	225.9	81.2	14.1	90.9	12.9	44.1	72.8
Disparity Gap - Arrest	1.0	3.9	1.4	0.2	1.6	0.2	0.8	1.2
<b>Probation Diversion</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>288</b>
Rate of Diversion (per 1,000 youth in population)	8.2	12.8	6.4	0.8	0.0	6.5	7.1	6.8
Disparity Gap - Diversion	1.0	1.6	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.9	
<b>Admission to Secure Detention</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1152</b>
Rate of Detention (per 1,000 youth in population)	25.1	54.0	41.5	33.3	80.0	50.0	19.6	37.6
Disparity Gap - Detention	1.0	2.2	1.7	1.3	3.2	2.0	0.8	

Despite the highest disparity gap for Black youth, Latino youth by far comprise the highest numbers of youth in the system!



# MOST SERIOUS REASON FOR ADMISSION TO SECURE DETENTION

Santa Barbara (2014) - Top Reasons for Admission to Secure Detention	White	Black	Latino	Asian	Pacific Islander	Native American	Other	Total	
<b>VOP Not Amounting to a Crime (777(A)(2) WI M)</b>	49	24	229	1			1	304	26.4%
<b>Warrant Issued b/c Personal Service Fail (663 WI X)</b>	21	12	114				2	149	12.9%
<b>COURT ORDER (PC M)</b>	23	4	89	1				117	10.2%
<b>Home Detention - Electronic Monitoring (1203.016 PC M A95)</b>	10	6	50				1	67	5.8%
<b>Lompoc Detention (MISC LO I)</b>	9	2	44		1			56	4.9%
<b>Burglary (459 PC F)</b>	5	5	40					50	4.3%
<b>Resisting Arrest (148(A)(1) PC M)</b>	9	1	35				2	47	4.1%
<b>Battery (242 PC BAT M)</b>	6	2	31		1			40	3.5%
<b>Strong Arm Robbery (211 PC F)</b>	1	1	18					20	1.7%
<b>Temporary Placement in CH Non-VOP/Crime (778 WI X)</b>	2		10	1	1			14	1.2%
<i>[All Other]</i>	53	10	215	3	1	1	5	288	25.0%
<b>Total</b>	188	67	875	6	4	1	11	1152	100.0%



# PHASE TWO AREAS OF FOCUS

## ■ Governance Structure

- Convene a R.E.D. Collaborative
- R.E.D. Training

## ■ Data Capacity/Utilization

- Ensure Data Accuracy and Appropriate Data is being Collected
- Develop data reports to regularly track progress

## ■ Collaboration/Community Engagement

- Develop a Youth and Family Advisory Council
- Host a Countywide “Cultura Cura” Training

## ■ Education

- Data collection on disparities in education
- Convene education subcommittee
- Develop recommendations to address policies contributing to disparities in education

