



JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER

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North Carolina JPS Subcommittee Report

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cumberland county
communicare
STRENGTHENING FAMILIES & YOUTH AT RISK

A program of CC CommuniCare Inc.

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Mission

We provide early intervention and prevention services to at risk youth and their families across Cumberland County. We are committed to providing family focused case management services using evidences based practices to decrease juvenile delinquency/crime and undisciplined behavior to build life- long successes.

Program Overview

The Cumberland County Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) is the largest program under the CC CommuniCare Inc. umbrella. JAC is the primary diversion for the 12th District Department of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (DJJDP) office. The JAC was established to serve as the primary program in the community to assess the underlying problems of at-risk youth for parents, schools, law enforcement and the courts. The JAC provides timely diagnostic information to support informed referral and case management services designed to prevent further problem behavior and to promote positive outcomes for the youth and families served. The JAC also establishes electronic linkages and promotes effective service coordination between all of the relevant service providers and facilitates the sharing of information on the youth and families served utilizing the System of Care model. All case managers are certified mediators for the County of Cumberland and have received certification as an Aggression Replacement Training facilitator.

The JAC serves juveniles and the families of juveniles who are under court supervision for either delinquent or undisciplined offenses, juveniles referred because of delinquent or undisciplined behavior even though they have not been taken into custody or petitioned as delinquent or undisciplined, or juveniles who because of conditions to which they are regularly exposed are considered to be at-risk of becoming delinquent or undisciplined including those juveniles who are found to be regularly truant from school.

Funding

The local JCPC and the County of Cumberland continue to prioritize the JAC as a critical program in the continuum. Monetary and in-kind support from the County of Cumberland constitutes 24% of the matching dollars for the JCPC funding allocation and a 12% contribution in the overall budget. Our County provides a 22% cash match for the county's allocation of DJJDP funding. The county has increased monetary support of the JCPC to include a Community Monitoring program to provide additional local sanctions to decrease secure confinements in the juvenile detention center. The County of Cumberland continues to provide far greater monetary and in-kind support to our programs compared to other counties across the state. The average cost per

client is \$1335.00. 60% of the youth served in this program during the reporting period achieved satisfactory or successful outcomes. As demonstrated in the program outcomes section of this document, the JAC continues to be a cost effective option to the local juvenile court system. Like most community programs, the JAC provides an array of services and supports on limited funding.

During Fiscal Year 2010-2011, the Juvenile Assessment Center is funded through the following:

• Cumberland County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)	\$180,837.00
• Legislative Allocation (<i>Passed through NCDJDP</i>)	\$ 124,075.00
• Cumberland County Match	\$ 17,454.00
• In-Kind – Building	\$ 26,082.00
Total	\$ 348,448.00

Use of State Funds

The following is an itemized listing of budgetary items for the current fiscal year:

Expenses

Salaries – 7 staff	\$	225,300.00
Contract Services	\$	3,500.00
Pension/Retirement	\$	3,600.00
Payroll Tax	\$	20,000.00
Workers Comp	\$	5,000.00
Health & Life Ins.	\$	9,601.00
Accounting/Audit	\$	1,500.00
Office Supplies	\$	1,870.00
Vehicle Sup. & Maint.	\$	1,800.00
Program Supplies	\$	1,300.00
Participant Expense	\$	3,250.00
Telephone/Internet	\$	1,200.00
Advertising	\$	400.00
Postage	\$	800.00
Printing	\$	275.00
Insurance (liability)	\$	5,470.00
Employee Training	\$	1,400.00
Board Expense	\$	400.00
Travel Expense	\$	7,300.00
Furniture/Equipment	\$	1,500.00
Software	\$	500.00
Repairs & Maint.	\$	950.00
Service Agreements	\$	980.00
Lease Equipment	\$	2,000.00

Lease County Bldg.	\$	15,650.00
In-kind Building Rent	\$	26,082.00
Utilities	\$	5,000.00
Alarm System	\$	120.00
Janitorial Services	\$	1,700.00
Total Expenses	\$	348,448.00

Performance Measures

Individual outcomes of youth served are measured and documented by case managers using the State mandated DJJDP Client Tracking Form (CTF) as well as other local individual and program outcomes reporting tools. Data is collected at service initiation and again at completion. In addition, youth are monitored monthly using the JCPC Program Performance Rating Tool which includes input from family, school, and community programs in which the youth is involved. The JAC has also incorporated use of a youth and Parent Satisfaction Questionnaire at the close of services.

Feedback from the Client/Parent Satisfaction Questionnaire includes:

- “‘Zack’ has been greatly influenced in a positive way by having another adult to talk to. His personality has needed that outlet.”—parent participant
- “Thank you so much for having a service available for both parents and youth to come and receive such tremendous help.”—parent participant
- “Whenever I get mad I can call my Case Manager Mr. W. to calm me down. He is always there when I need him or call on him.”—youth participant
- “Mr. W. is a wonderful Case manager. I really don’t know where my son would be at now. He just gave really great service. It is a pleasure to have him working at this facility. He has made a difference with my son’s decisions.” ---parent participant
- “I appreciate the time and effort spent to assure ‘Curtis’ got back on the right track. Mr. S. was truly a blessing and inspiration to my son.”—parent participant
- “I learned how to have better behavior skills; how to listen more and it showed me different things in life.”—youth participant

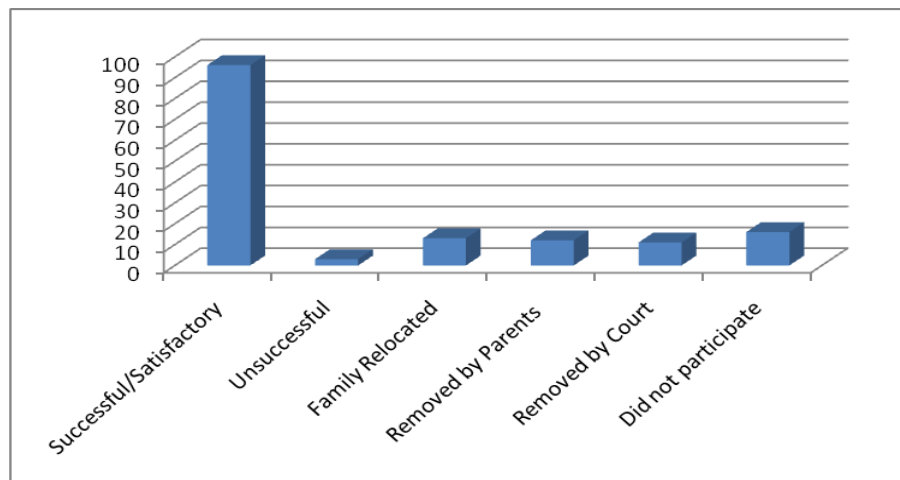
The following is data collected from fiscal year 2009-2010, reflecting program outcomes:

Number of Youth admitted for 2009-10 fiscal year:	173
Total number of Youth served in 2009-10 fiscal year:	261

Total number of Youth closed out in 2009-10 fiscal year:

159

Termination Outcomes FY 2009-2010



Of those 159 closeouts, 151 identified problems, at the beginning of program service, in parent child relationships; at closeout, **109 (72%) showed their problems at home as being eliminated or reduced.**

Of those 159 closeouts, 151 identified problems, at the beginning of program service, in school; **112 (74%) showed their problems at home as being eliminated or reduced.**

Of those 159 closeouts, of which 35 had prior juvenile court involvement, **22 (62%) had no new problems; 9 (25%) had new delinquent petitions, 3(8%) had new undisciplined petitions and 1(0.63%) had a Motion for Review.** 124 had no court involvement at entry and closure.

Of those closed after delivery of services (159):

94 were successful completions

2 were satisfactory completions

3 were unsatisfactory completions

13 had their family relocate

12 were removed by the parent(s)

11 removed by court action (placed on probation)

16 did not participate

1 ran away from home

7 for “other” reasons

Conclusion

JAC has expanded their services and operations to provide Aggression Replacement Training (ART) in a variety of settings and has included it as the philosophy of working with at-risk youth. Aggression Replacement Training® (ART®) is a multimodal psycho educational intervention designed to alter the behavior of chronically aggressive adolescents and young children. The goal of ART® is to improve social skill competence, anger control, and moral reasoning. The program incorporates three specific interventions: skill-streaming, anger-control training, and training in moral reasoning. *Skill-streaming* uses modeling, role-playing, performance feedback, and transfer training to teach pro-social skills. In *anger-control training*, participating youths must bring to each session one or more descriptions of recent anger-arousing experiences (hassles), and over the duration of the program they are trained in how to respond to their hassles. *Training in moral reasoning* is designed to enhance youths’ sense of fairness and justice regarding the needs and rights of others and to train youths to imagine the perspectives of others when they confront various moral problem situations.

The program has absorbed a reduction in funding of 30% over recent years due entirely to budget constraints of our funders. The program has excelled each year during monitoring sessions and evaluations conducted by each of our funders and our parent organization. Our organization is fiscally conservative and has never encountered any negative feedback during the annual audits conducted by and independent auditor.

The JAC remains a critical program option for vulnerable youth and families in the community. Through technical assistance training and leadership, the JAC and CC CommuniCare Inc. are committed to providing cost effective, family focused interventions to build strong youth, families and community.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about our program your consideration of this report.

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