

# Proposal to Create a Juvenile Assessment Center



## CLARK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES



EXHIBIT D - CHILD WELFARE  
Document consists of 12 pages.  
Entire exhibit provided.  
Meeting Date: 04-22-16

# The Department



- 374 Full Time Employees
- Four Divisions:
  - Detention (192 beds)
  - Spring Mountain Youth Camp (100 beds)
    - ✦ Spring Mountain Residential Center (12 beds)
  - Probation Field Services (2,379 youth-January 2016)
  - Clinical Services (401 youth – January 2016)
- Approximately \$44 million annual budget

# Youth Served



**2015**

- 13,197 referrals to DJJS  
Down 6% from 2014
- Average age is 15.6 years old
- 12% of DJJS families are intact
- 54% of DJJS youth had a referral prior to 2012

**2014**

- 14,090 Referrals
- Average age is 16.5 years old
- 20% of families were intact  
Down 7% from 2011
- 53% of DJJS youth had a referral prior to 2011

# The Research



- Research conducted by the University of Nevada Las Vegas on 423 DJJS clients shows:
  - 70% of DJJS total cases are non-violent misdemeanor offenses;
  - 30% surveyed reported familial issues
  - 30% reported educational issues
  - 70% scored less than 3 of a possible 8 major institutional and personal risk factors that indicate that they are less likely to harm themselves or others
- Youth connected to evidence based interventions immediately are less likely to escalate within a multitude of systems, ie. SS, DFS, DJJS & Adult Justice System

# The Research



**Table 11: High Risk Factors by Type of Legal Category (red = highest risk group)**

High Risk Factors	Felony	Gross Misdemeanor	Misdemeanor	Traffic/Status Off.
Family Issues	42	33	30	12
Education Issues	42	43	30	6
Juvenile's Attitude Issues	44	27	23	12
Juvenile Peer Issues	43	26	23	6
Alcohol/Drug Issues	39	24	26	29
Mental Health Issues	25	27	18	0
Runaway Issues	24	24	10	12
Prior Adjudication/Probation	23	11	10	18
Average Risk Across Factors	35.2%	26.9%	21.2%	11.9%
N=423, Oct 1 to Dec 31, 2015				

# What is a Juvenile Assessment Center?



- **The goal of the JAC is to:**

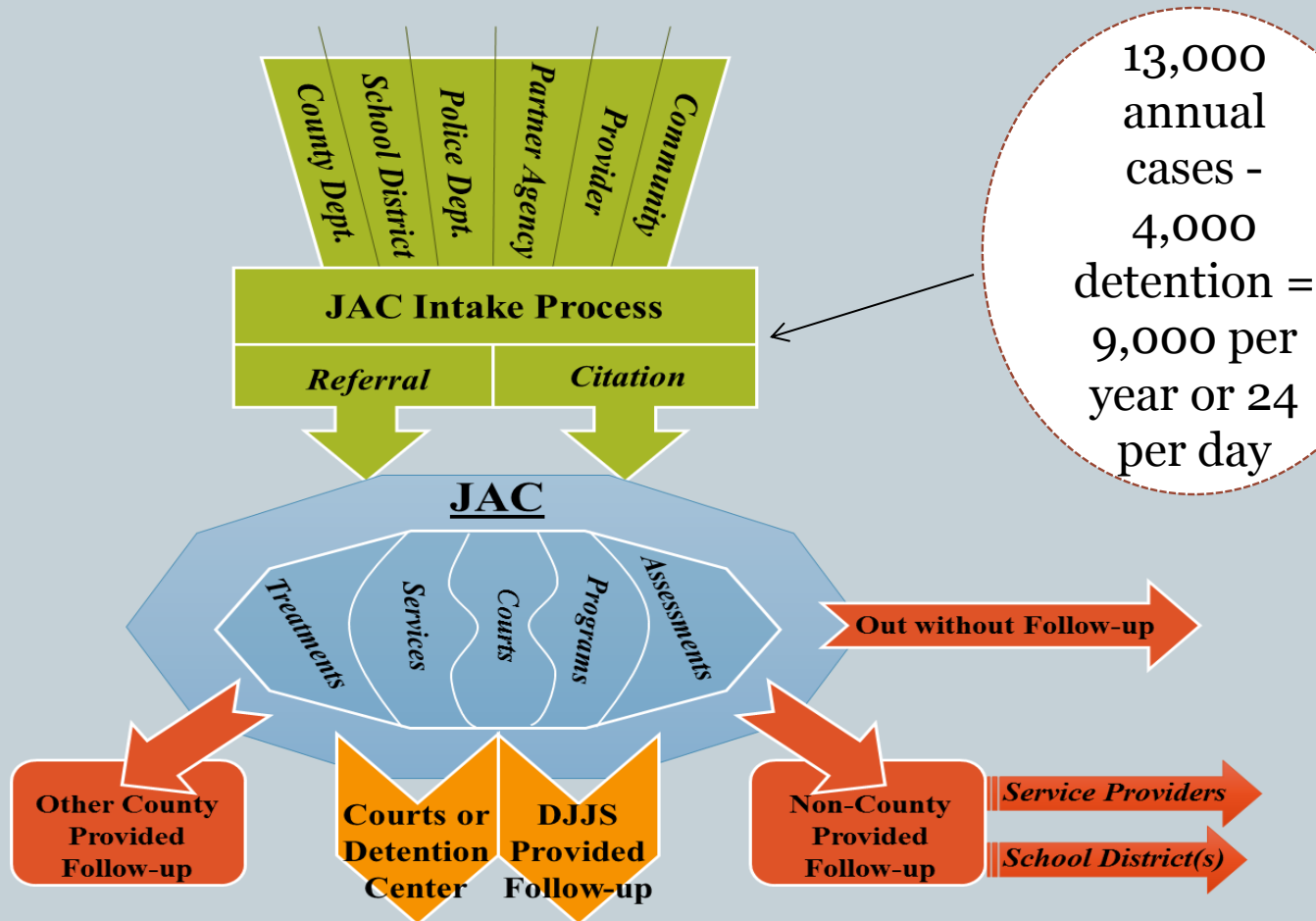
- Minimize individual and community harm by keeping youths from becoming more involved in the juvenile justice system, social services, family services and the adult criminal justice system.

- **The JAC will do this by:**

- Assessing and responding to the crisis and ongoing needs of youth and families
- Increasing law enforcement availability to the community through provision of timely services
  - ✦ Officer returned to duty within 10–15 minutes of arrival at JAC
- Partnering with community based agencies to provide coordinated responses for youth and families
- Providing resources to juveniles and their families
- Providing information on how the juvenile justice system functions
- Offering referrals on available ‘best practice’ and cost effective services
- Assisting community leaders by providing information on trends, both criminal and social, to partner agencies and the community
- Providing case specific information to appropriate decision makers

# Best Practice Juvenile Case Flow through Model Juvenile Assessment Center

**Figure 11. Best Practice Juvenile Case Flow through Model Juvenile Assessment Center**



# Partners & Resources



- **Clark County**
  - **Juvenile Justice Services**
    - ✦ 2 Juvenile Probation Officers
    - ✦ \$200,000 per year
    - ✦ Share Youth Data
  - **Family Services**
    - ✦ 1 Case Worker
    - ✦ \$100,000 per year
    - ✦ Share Youth Data
- **Clark County School District**
  - ✦ 2 School Counselors
  - ✦ \$150,000 per year
  - ✦ Share Youth Data
- **City of Las Vegas**
  - ✦ \$50,000 per year
- **Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department**
  - ✦ Space to house the Juvenile Assessment Center
- **Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)**
  - **VOCA Grant Application**
    - ✦ \$1,077,743
  - **Possible SAPTA Grant (RFQ)**
  - **Adult and Adolescent Mental Health to include Mobile Mental Health**

# Potential Costs



- Estimated Cost of JAC open M-F 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  - \$750,000 per year
- Estimated Cost of JAC open 24/7
  - \$1,800,000 per year
- Estimated Cost of Referred Services
  - \$4,000,000 per year (not new money)

# Colorado Senate Bill 94



1991

- Provides structure and funding to local jurisdictions for a continuum of services
- Services are to be designed to ensure youth are supervised and incarcerated at a level that is commensurate with their risk to the community
- Established Juvenile Services Funds to provide resources to local jurisdictions on or after July 1, 1993 to fund alternative to incarceration services
- Statutory creation of a statewide advisory board to determine the amount of funds to be allocated to each of the State's 22 judicial districts.
- Statutory creation of local juvenile services planning committees which create the plan for how the funds will be allocated locally to meet the purpose of SB 94
  - Reviewed annually by the statewide advisory board
  - Audited annually to ensure funds are being used for only allowable cost

# Colorado Senate Bill 1363



1996

- Amended some of the original language of SB 94 and replaced it with language that stated juvenile services funds should be expended for services that are intended to “prevent the juvenile from being held in detention prior to adjudication or prior to being sentenced to detention or committed to the department of human services; or to reduce the length of time the juvenile is held pre-adjudication or post-adjudication in a detention or commitment facility”

# Recommendation



- Open the JAC by August 1<sup>st</sup> in a Limited Capacity
  - Locate in the Current LVMPD Training Building next to the old Northeast Area Command at Mojave & Washington
  - Hours of Operation Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
  - Engage stakeholders in determining their contribution(s)
  - Provide Assessments, Referral and Follow-Up for
    - ✦ Mental Health
    - ✦ Substance Abuse
    - ✦ Domestic Violence
      - Parent-Child
      - Child-Child
    - ✦ Homeless Youth/Temporary Shelter Referral
    - ✦ Jobs/Work Placement (WIOA)