JDAI's Purpose:

To demonstrate that jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient systems to accomplish the purpose of juvenile detention.

JDAI Objectives:

- 1. Eliminate inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention.
- 2. Minimize failures to appear and incidents of delinquent behavior.
- 3. Redirect public finances to successful reform strategies.
- 4. Improve conditions in secure detention.
- 5. Reduce racial, ethnic & gender disparities.



Contact Us

Monica Miles-Steffens JDAI State Coordinator (402) 405– 6825 monica.miles-steffens@nebraska.gov

For more JDAI information: http://www.jdaihelpdesk.org/

For more Annie E. Casey Foundation information: http://www.aecf.org/

JDAI Core Strategies

The JDAI model is built around the following eight core strategies:

- 1. Promoting collaboration between juvenile court officials, probation agencies, prosecutors, defense attorneys, schools, community organizations and advocates;
- 2. Using rigorous data collection and analysis to guide decision making;
- 3. Utilizing objective admissions criteria and riskassessment instruments to replace subjective decision-making processes to determine whether youth should be placed into secure detention facilities;
- 4. Implementing new or expanded alternatives to detention programs such as day and evening reporting centers, home confinement and shelter care that can be used in lieu of locked detention;
- 5. Instituting case processing reforms to expedite the flow of cases through the system;
- 6. Reducing the number of youth detained for probation rule violations or failing to appear in court, and the number held in detention awaiting transfer to a residential facility;
- 7. Combating racial and ethnic disparities by examining data to identify policies and practices that may disadvantage youth of color at various stages of the process, and pursuing strategies to ensure a more level playing field for youth regardless of race or ethnicity;
- 8. Monitoring and improving conditions of confinement in detention facilities.



Nebraska Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)



History of JDAI

In the early 1990's, Broward County, Florida set out to reduce reliance on local confinement of court involved youth and improve the effectiveness of their juvenile justice system. Recognizing their achievements, the Annie E. Casey foundation then launched a pilot project in five sites across the country aimed at determining if replicating successful systems improvements were possible. Over two decades later, the JDAI framework is dramatically reducing detention facility populations and facilitating systems change in over 250 jurisdictions in 39 states nationwide.

Why Detention and System Reform in NE?

The past two decades of research by the AECF and others tell us that without sound juvenile justice practices youth placed in detention have higher risk for adverse outcomes such as dropping out of school, substance use, and deeper system involvement. Youth of color continue to be overrepresented in nearly all juvenile justice system points, and case processing inefficiencies bog youth and families down in the system. Therefore, implementing JDAI in Nebraska will:

- Increase positive outcomes for youth in the court system;
- Examine and implement system improvements through local and state policy and practice.
- Utilize existing strengths in communities to keep youth out of detention

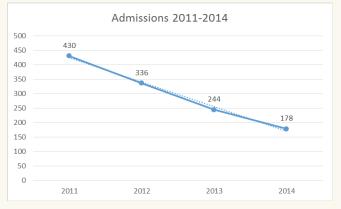


Nebraska and JDAI

The Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) designated Douglas County as Nebraska's first site in 2011 following by Sarpy County in 2012. The Administrative Office of Probation acts as the lead agency to facilitate statewide expansion of JDAI. At the local and state level, the JDAI work could not be accomplished without system partners including but not limited to legislators, judges, county attorney's, public defenders, probation, DHHS, detention centers, county commissioners, Nebraska Court Improvement Project, Nebraska Crime Commission, Juvenile Justice Institute, youth, families, providers and community organizations. Since the inception of JDAI in Nebraska the sites and state has recognized numerous successes including but not limited to:

- Reduction of detention population in both sites by over 50%;
- Implementation and evaluation of revised statewide Risk Assessment Tool;
- Development and enhancement of Detention Alternative Continuum;
- Case processing efficiencies;
- · Legislation; and
- Expansion to additional counties.

Sarpy County Admissions Trends 2011-2014



Douglas County Secure Population 2014 vs. 2015

