

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

WHEREAS, Douglas County Youth Center is responsible for ensuring the needs of youth are met when placed for the purposes of detention; and,

WHEREAS, the Douglas County Board sought efforts to safely reduce the number of youth housed at the Douglas County Youth Center (DCYC) through detention alternatives; and,

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2011, Douglas County Nebraska was officially recognized as a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) site by the Annie E. Casey Foundation; and,

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2011, JDAI, a national initiative, launched as a collaborative effort of juvenile justice stakeholders in Douglas County. This collaborative has worked to build a better and more equitable youth justice system; and,

WHEREAS, JDAI relies on this expertise and support from Douglas County personnel, judges, probation staff, defense attorneys, prosecutors, law enforcement, policy makers, researchers, educators, community members and others dedicated to improving the lives of young people and strengthening communities across our state; and,

WHEREAS, JDAI was designed to support the vision that all youth involved in the juvenile justice system have opportunities to develop into healthy, productive adults. After decades of innovation and replication, JDAI is one of the nation's most effective, influential and widespread juvenile justice system reform initiatives; and,

WHEREAS, JDAI increases the likelihood of youth becoming productive citizens, while balancing public safety, and often leading to cost savings; and,

WHEREAS, through the work of all stakeholders in Douglas County and with assistance of the JDAI Collaborative, the average daily population at DCYC has been reduced by nearly 50 percent; and,

WHEREAS, recognizing also, that by design, reform in JDAI sites has expanded beyond juvenile detention, to the front end of the system; and,

WHEREAS, Douglas County continues to be a strong supporter of the initiative and affirms its on-going commitment to effectively reduce the number of youth inappropriately housed at DCYC and to building a system that is just, developmentally-appropriate and one that holds youth accountable, while being inclusive.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, that this Board hereby recognizes June 23, 2021 as the recognition day for the 10th anniversary of Douglas County Nebraska's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and reaffirms commitment to the same.

DATED this 22nd day of June, 2021



Mary Ann Borgeson, Chair

Douglas County Board of Commissioners

