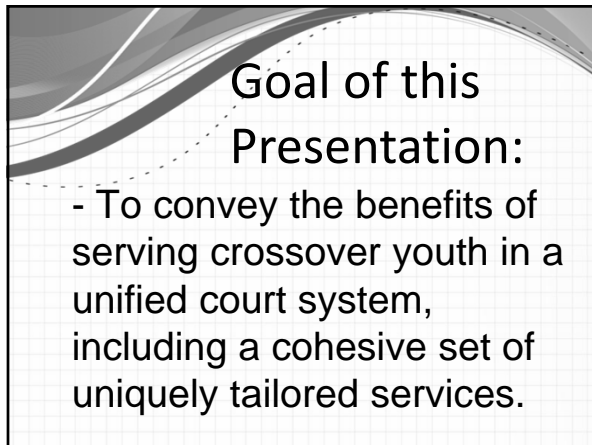


CROSSOVER COURT

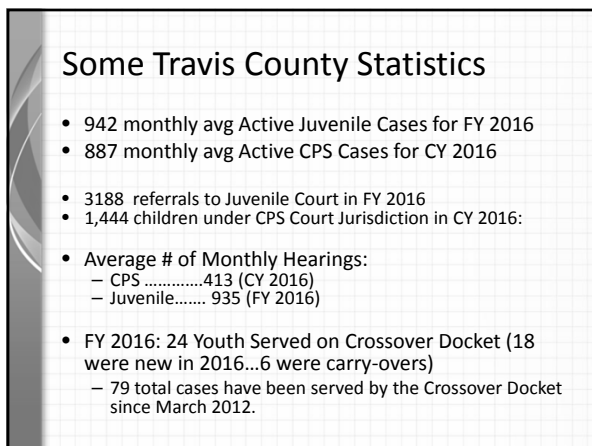
Judge Darlene Byrne,
126th District Court - Travis County

TJJD Juvenile Law Conference
February 28, 2017



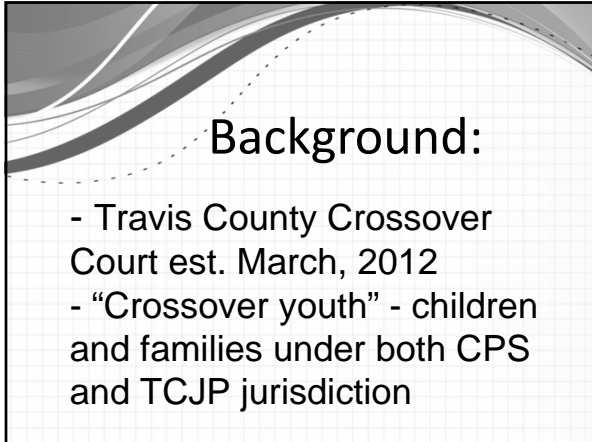
Goal of this Presentation:

- To convey the benefits of serving crossover youth in a unified court system, including a cohesive set of uniquely tailored services.



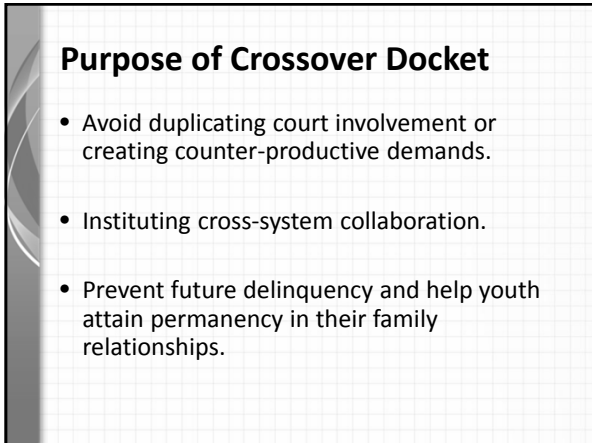
Some Travis County Statistics

- 942 monthly avg Active Juvenile Cases for FY 2016
- 887 monthly avg Active CPS Cases for CY 2016
- 3188 referrals to Juvenile Court in FY 2016
- 1,444 children under CPS Court Jurisdiction in CY 2016:
- Average # of Monthly Hearings:
 - CPS413 (CY 2016)
 - Juvenile..... 935 (FY 2016)
- FY 2016: 24 Youth Served on Crossover Docket (18 were new in 2016...6 were carry-overs)
 - 79 total cases have been served by the Crossover Docket since March 2012.



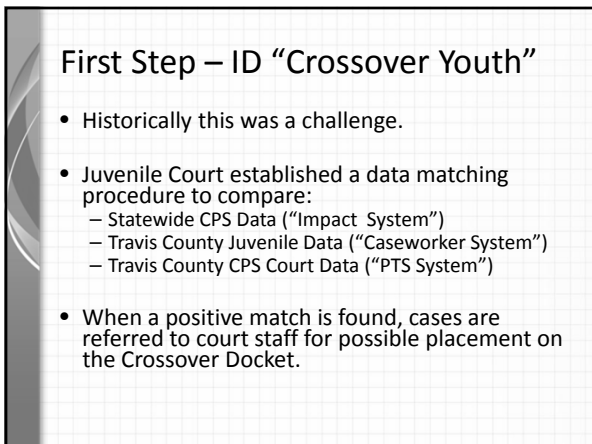
Background:

- Travis County Crossover Court est. March, 2012
- “Crossover youth” - children and families under both CPS and TCJP jurisdiction



Purpose of Crossover Docket

- Avoid duplicating court involvement or creating counter-productive demands.
- Instituting cross-system collaboration.
- Prevent future delinquency and help youth attain permanency in their family relationships.



First Step – ID “Crossover Youth”

- Historically this was a challenge.
- Juvenile Court established a data matching procedure to compare:
 - Statewide CPS Data (“Impact System”)
 - Travis County Juvenile Data (“Caseworker System”)
 - Travis County CPS Court Data (“PTS System”)
- When a positive match is found, cases are referred to court staff for possible placement on the Crossover Docket.

Step 2 – Determine which Youth are Appropriate for Crossover Docket

- Differs from pool of “Crossover Youth” in Crossover Youth Practice Model.
 - From CYPM project inception (July 2010) until December, 2016, CYPM has provided services to 212 youth.
 - 79 cases have been served by the Crossover Docket since March 2012
- Opt Outs for Crossover Docket:
 - Mandatory: Determinate Sentence cases
 - Optional:
 - Multiple Sibling Groups
 - Youth Accused of Sex Abuse Allegations

Step 3 – Procedures / Getting the Right People to the Table

- Crossover Court has a Formal Set of Procedures (Distinct from CPS or Juvenile Court procedures)
- Procedures formalize communication channels and contact persons
- Every Crossover Youth is assigned a GAL (usually a CASA).
- Once a case officially becomes a “crossover docket case” all hearings held in same location.

CYPM Demographics – 9/30/16

Demographics	Number	Percent
Sex		
Female	10	39%
Male	20	61%
Race		
Asian	0	0%
African American	15	50%
Hispanic	11	37%
White	4	13%
Indian	0	0%
Other	0	0%

CYPM Notable Statistics (Snapshot 9/30/17):

- Average age @ start: 15.1
- Parent or Pregnant: 7%
- ID'd Crossover at Intake: 57%
- Needed Further MH Assmt: 34%
- Needed Further SA Assmt: 20%

CPS Status

CPS Status	Number	Percent
Total # of Participants	52	100%
Court Ordered Services	5	10%
Nonlegal Permanency	13	25%
Temp. Managing Conservatorship	34	65%

Source – Crossover Docket Process Evaluation, October, 2013

Juvenile Probation Status

Juvenile Probation Status	Number	Percent
Total # of Participants	52	100%
Disposition Pending	30	58%
No Supervision & Not Detained	2	4%
No Supervision & Detained	8	15%
Conditions of Release	20	38%
Deferred Prosecution	9	17%
Probation	13	25%

Source – Crossover Docket Process Evaluation, October, 2013

Discharge

Discharge Reasons	Number	Percent
Total # Participants Discharged	39	100%
Juvenile Case Closed	24	62%
CPS Case Closed	9	23%
Opted Out	6	15%

Some Benefits of Crossover Cases

Benefits of Crossover Cases

1


• One-Judge / One-Family

2

• Unified Family & Case Planning

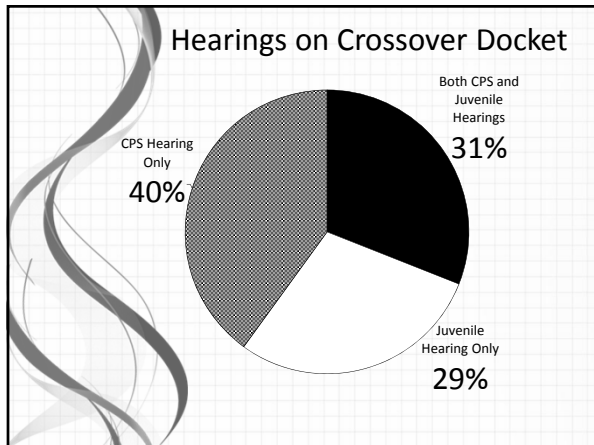
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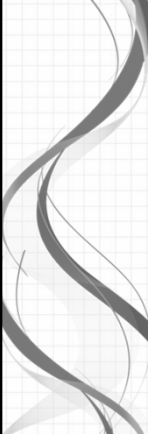
• Cross-systems Education



One-Judge / One-Family

- One dedicated crossover judge.
- a more coherent, consistent experience for the youth and families.







Unified Family & Case Planning at Crossover Hearing:

Braiding Services:

- Ex: Only 1 Psychological Exam:
 - CPS pays for parent
 - Juvenile pays for child




Braiding Placement Decisions:
 More options on table – able to select best fit, regardless of system



Unified Family & Case Planning
 Overall we're able to achieve more coordination in:

- assessments,
- case planning, and
- case management



PRE/POST COMPARISONS OF CYPM 2nd Year Data

- **93%** of youth identified as having dual involvement in child welfare and juvenile justice received one of the promising practices identified in the CYPM.
- Of the youth who received a promising practice, 100% were supervised in a specialized crossover unit, 30% had their cases heard as part of a specialized crossover docket, and 37% had an interagency planning meeting.
- Compared to a random sample of dually involved youth prior to CYPM implementation (January 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010), more CYPM youth received formal diversion (37% compared to 21%).
- **35%** of CYPM youth identified as having an indication of a mental health problem were identified as showing improvement within the first year.

- 15% of CYPM youth identified as having an indication of a substance abuse problem showed improvement within the first year.
- The percentage of CYPM youth participating in mentoring programs increased from 14% to 33%.
- The percentage of CYPM youth participating in other extracurricular activities increased from 29% to 50%.
- Within one year of identification or at case closure, the case status for CYPM youth was as follows:
 - Both cases closed (35%)
 - Child welfare case closed (10%)
 - Delinquency case closed (35%)
 - Both cases open (20%).

Cross-Systems Education

- Attorneys and Social Workers in the CPS System have better understanding of what's happening and how things work in the Juvenile System and vice-versa.

Some Challenges of Crossover Cases


Challenges of Crossover Cases

1

• Authority


2

• Logistical Challenges



Authority

- Which Rules Apply?
- Big Issue:
Confidentiality
(different thresholds)
- Who is Responsible
for Paying for What?




Logistical Issues:


- Docket Management

& Settings:

- Getting Notice &
Right People All in
One Place (we're
continually working
on this.)



- Different Statutory Timelines
- Two Separate Docketing Systems
- Training Staff and Key Players on New Way of Business



Crossover Docket Stakeholder Survey

- Communication with other Crossover Docket participants – 3.5 average score (About the same).
- Future of young people on the Crossover Docket - average score of 3.9 (Much better).
- Training and support – 1/3 said not enough.
- Continuation of Crossover Docket – 50% with some improvements.



Travis County Juvenile Probation

Crossover Youth Practice Model

FEBRUARY 2017

The Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) was developed by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute in 2010 and lays out the critical steps for improving the handling of dually-involved youth based on best practices and promising practices applied across systems. The goal is to (1) Reduce the number of youth who crossover between child welfare and juvenile justice, (2) Reduce the number of youth in congregate care, (3) Reduce the length of stay and number of youth placed in out of home care and (4) Reduce disproportionate representation of children of color in child welfare and juvenile justice.

Travis County Juvenile Probation and Child Protective Services implemented the Crossover Youth Practice Model in 2010. A dedicated Crossover Unit was established at Travis County Juvenile Probation which includes a Casework Manager and three Juvenile Probation Officers. Two Child Protective Services caseworkers are also housed at juvenile probation in the Crossover Unit. Co-location promotes collaboration and allows for juvenile probation officers and caseworkers to conduct joint visits, maintain consistent communication and

address youth/family strengths, concerns and need as a unified team. In addition, the Crossover Docket was implemented in March 2012. CYPM and Crossover Docket Implementation teams continue to meet consistently to review procedures and additional strategies for implementation that will promote efficiency and effectiveness.

Since the inception of the program:

- 212 youth have been served by the Crossover Youth Practice Model
- 54% of Crossover Youth are identified during the Juvenile Justice intake process
- Only 26% of CYPM youth are detained at the time they are identified as CYPM
- The average age for youth initially identified as Crossover has increased throughout the years with the average age now being 14.6
- 91% of CYPM youth are identified as having high to Moderate needs
- Since the implementation of the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) in 2014, 83% of CYPM youth are identified as having a High to Moderate Risk to Re-offend
- 41% of CYPM youth are identified as having an indication of mental

ESTELA P. MEDINA
CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

health needs requiring further follow-up

- 25% of CYPM youth are identified as having an indication of substance abuse needs requiring further follow-up
- Males make up 57% of the CYPM cases while females make up 43%
- Hispanic and African American youth each make up 42% of the CYPM cases
- 34% of CYPM youth are placed on Supervision – with 51% of those on Deferred Prosecution and 49% on Formal Probation
- 25% of CYPM cases are re-referred for a new offense within one year of identification

For further questions or information please feel free to contact:

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