



Multi-Jurisdictional Youth: Placement Coordination Among CPS, Probation, and TYC

Infusing a Culture of Coordinated Care within Existing Texas Systems

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Presentation Objectives



- Provide a brief overview of the issues related to dually adjudicated youth.
- Describe recent collaborative innovations.
- Identify strategies to mobilize culture change within existing programs and initiatives.
- Describe the strategic work supported by the DFPS, TYC, and Advocacy, Inc.



Defining the Population

- **Crossover youth** are those youth who have experienced maltreatment and who have engaged in delinquency.
- **Dually involved youth** are a sub-group of crossover youth who are simultaneously receiving services, at any level, from both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- **Dually adjudicated youth** are a sub-group of dually involved youth who are concurrently adjudicated by both the child welfare and the juvenile justice systems.

From: Bilchik, S. (Dec. 2010). Presentation to the 5th Annual Models for Change National Working Conference.

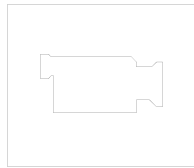


Problems in the System

- Gaps in Services
- Gaps in Data
- Gaps in Information Sharing




Sometimes, the most obvious solutions are the hardest to see.






HB 1629: Coordination of Care Between CPS and TYC


- The consent to medical care provisions for foster youth apply to foster youth committed to TYC. Tex. Fam. Code § 32.001(b).
- The juvenile court handling the delinquency case may have communication with the court having jurisdiction over the foster child. The parties in the foster care case may participate in this communication. Tex. Fam. Code § 54.04
- The court may appoint an attorney ad litem or guardian ad litem for the youth if he or she does not have one. Tex. Fam. Code § 107.016.
- The court having jurisdiction over the foster child shall conduct a review of the youth's commitment to TYC or release under supervision by TYC. Tex. Fam. Code § 263.002(2)

 **HB 1629: Coordination of Care Between CPS and TYC** (p. 2)

- A youth may attend a permanency review or placement review hearing in person, by telephone or video conference. **Tex. Fam. Code §§ 263.302, 263.501(f), 264.0091**
- The Department shall be required to prepare a permanency progress or placement review report or a placement review report that addresses whether the youth's needs for treatment, rehabilitation and education are being met, and then the court determines if the youth's needs are being met. **Tex. Fam. Code §§ 263.303(b), 263.306(a), 263.502(c)(7), 263.503(7)**
- The court having jurisdiction over the youth shall not dismiss the suit affecting the parent-child relationship if the youth is committed to TYC. **Tex. Fam. Code § 263.501(g)**

 **HB 1629: Coordination of Care Between CPS and TYC** (p. 3)

- The Department and TYC shall share records and information regarding the youth. **Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 61.0731(d)**
- The Department has the same rights of parents under TYC's parent's bill of rights. **Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 61.0763(e)**
- TYC caseworker shall submit written report to the court and parties in the CPS case that provides results of assessments, information regarding the youth's placement in TYC treatment programs and a description of the youth's progress. **Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 61.0766**

 **HB 1629: Coordination of Care Between CPS and TYC** (p. 4)

- Joint rules shall be adopted to ensure that the Department and TYC cooperate in providing services and transition planning to the youth. This includes the Department's caseworker visiting the child in person at least once per month in TYC, and TYC providing timely notice to the Department's caseworker and child's attorney ad litem or guardian ad litem of treatment team meeting, medical appointments, ARD meetings, grievance disciplinary hearings, reports of abuse or neglect and any significant medical conditions of the child. **Tex. Hum. Res. Code § 61.0767**



Advocacy, Inc. Overview

- The Supreme Court of Texas Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families formed a workgroup in 2008 to look at outcomes for youth in the long-term conservatorship of DFPS but placed in TYC or SSLC facilities, formerly known as state schools. One key issue is that youth often lacked legal representation while caught in and between two systems.
- To address this problem, the Children's Commission is partnering with Advocacy, Inc., the Rees Jones Foundation, Texas Access to Justice Foundation, and the Meadows Foundation to provide this population legal representation.
- A large part of what we do is work together with DFPS and TYC to enforce HB 1629.



DFPS Population At A Glance

Of the 27,304 children in DFPS substitute care on August 31, 2010:

- 17,027 children were in Foster Care.
- 10,277 children were in other types of Substitute Care



DFPS Population At A Glance

Of the 17,027 children in DFPS foster care:

- 11,645 children placed in *Child Placing Agency (CPA) Foster Homes*.
- 2,109 children placed in *DFPS Foster Homes*.
- 718 children were placed in *Basic Child Care*.
- 1,559 children were placed in *Residential Treatment Centers*.
- 595 children were placed in *Emergency Shelters*.
- 401 children were placed in *other types of foster care (includes juvenile justice placements)*.



DFPS Population At A Glance

Of the 10,277 children in other types of substitute care:

- 8,914 children were placed in *Kinship Care*.
- 484 children were in pending adoptions in *CPA Adoptive Homes*.
- 331 children were in pending adoptions in *DFPS Adoptive Homes*.
- 548 children were placed in *Other Substitute Care*.



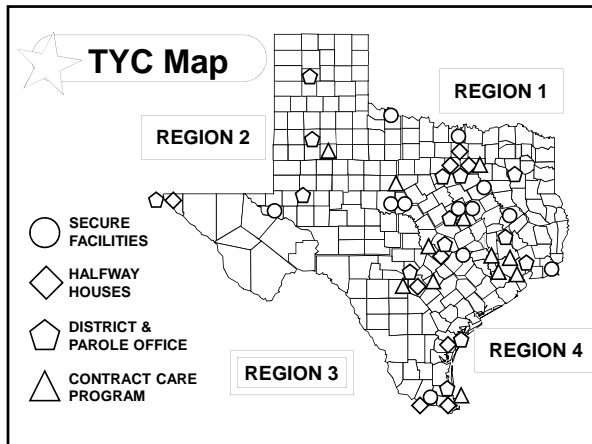
CPS/TYC Youth Data

	FY 2009	FY 2010
CPS Youth in TYC Placement/Parole	121	92
Average time in TYC	13.7 months	23.8 months



CPS/Juvenile Probation Youth Data

	FY 2009	FY 2010
CPS Youth in JP Custody/Probation	37	274
Average time in Juvenile Probation	2.99 months	7.2 months



TYC – Current Population

Current Total Population = 2825
(Of Which 241 Are Female)

Secure Residential = 1426 *(121 Female)*

Halfway Houses = 207 *(14 Female)*

Contract Care Residential = 84 *(10 Female)*

Parole = 1108 *(96 Female)*


CPS/TYC youth = 48 *(In December 2010) (6 Female)*

Snapshot Date: January 31, 2011

Characteristics of DA Youth


Youth in the general population of TYC and *dually adjudicated youth have the same or similar.*

	Gen Pop	Dually Adj.
Median age at commitment	16 years	16 years
Median reading achievement	6 th grade	6 th grade
Median math achievement	5 th grade	5 th grade
IQ below the mean score of 100	83%	81%
Parents who never married or who divorced or separated	82%	79%

 **Characteristics of DA Youth**


Compared to general population youth, *dually adjudicated youth are more likely to be:*

	Gen Pop	Dually Adj.
Violent	51%	57%
Female	7%	24%
Anglo	20%	38%
Special Ed	32%	58%
Diagnosed w/high MH needs	43%	76%
From low income families	55%	81%

 **Characteristics of DA Youth**

Compared to general population youth, *dually adjudicated youth are more likely to be:*

	Gen Pop	Dually Adj.
From families with criminal histories	44%	57%
From families with histories of mental impairments	10%	14%

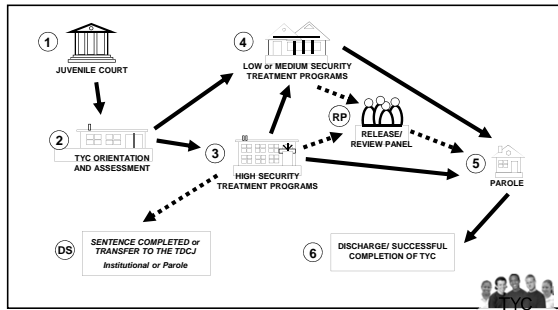
 **Characteristics of DA Youth**

Compared to general population youth *dually adjudicated youth are less likely to be:*

	Gen Pop	Dually Adj.
Admitted gang members	44%	29%
Hispanic	45%	24%
Committed after multiple felonies	39%	24%

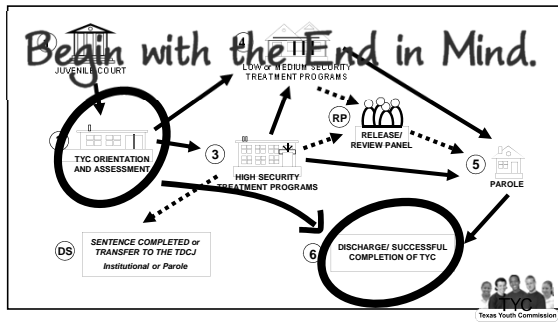


Moving Through TYC





Partnership for Dually Adjudicated Youth





Current Process

- Intake: Youth arrive at either Mart, TX for boys or Brownwood, TX for girls. An individual plan of care is developed and assessments of treatment needs made. Students with special education needs are identified.
- The youth's individual plan of care and individual education needs are not set in stone. They need to be constantly monitored.
- Youth on an indeterminate sentence must be released from TYC by 19.



Current Process (p. 2)

- Youth on a determinate sentence receive a minimum length of stay (“MLOS”). At the end of the MLOS, the youth’s MLOS can be extended, the youth can be released, or the youth can be transferred to the adult prison system. Outcomes depend largely on behavior of youth.



Current Process (p. 3)

- Release: When a youth is released, the youth is either discharged and not placed on parole, placed on TYC parole, or, if the youth is 19 years of age or older, placed on adult parole.
- Youth must work with a parole officer and submit to random urinalysis. They also must participate in classes and comply with other parole conditions.



Problems in the System

- Gaps in Services
- Gaps in Data
- Gaps in Information Sharing



Addressing Gaps in Services

- Participation in Multi-Disciplinary Team Meetings
- Participation in ARD Meetings
- Involvement in Parole Intake
- Participation in Circles of Support
- Coordination of PAL Services
- Special CPS caseloads established in parole office



Addressing Gaps in Information Sharing

- Collaborative participation in court hearings
- Joint state level administrative oversight
- Regional liaisons
- Monthly (or bi-monthly) teleconferences
- TYC reports for youth CPS hearings
- CPS staff receive same rights as parents



Addressing Gaps in Data Sharing

- Monthly data sharing
- CPS staff co-located at TYC intake facilities



In the Interest of Full Disclosure . . .

Vertical Streaming By Mike Seddon

"It's my knee, Doctor. It's still giving me problems."

"If 2+2=15, what is 2+2?"

- Problems still come up.

Problems still come up . . .

THIS SMELLS LIKE BAT BARF!

THAT DOES IT, YOUNG MAN! YOU ARE EXCUSED TO YOUR ROOM!

DONT YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE HARSH, DEAR? I'LL GET HUNGRY.

CALVIN HAS GOT TO LEARN SOME MANNERS! HE WON'T STARVE TO DEATH.

...AND EXTRA PEPPERONI!

But now we work together more creatively....



Real Life Example . . . Youth, AD

- AD was released from TYC with severe mental health needs.
- She had attempted suicide on multiple occasions and consistently cut her arms.
- She was released to her biological mother's house with a 30 day supply of medication and no Medicaid coverage. MHMR, which is supposed to provide the youth with support, would not see her until February.



Real Life Example . . . Youth, AD

- I immediately called Tracy who was able to call the TYC liaison with MHMR. AD was seen by MHMR within three days of that initial phone call.
- Though AD was 18 years old, I called her former CPS case worker. AD was entitled to Medicaid coverage as a former foster child. She immediately received coverage.
- AD is today, five months after her release, living with her mother with full support.



Real Life Example . . . Youth, RS

- RS was a youth who had been in the DFPS system since age 2.
- He had been incarcerated in TYC for over two years. He would not talk to Advocacy at first and had many trust issues.
- At a meeting with DFPS and TYC, RS' TYC case manager promised him release within 30 days. RS behaved wonderfully for 30 days, but 30 days later he was transferred with no explanation to another TYC facility.



Real Life Example . . . Youth, RS

- I notified Tracy who spoke with the Release/Review. Meanwhile, RS was 18 but had extended jurisdiction so DFPS got involved locally.
- Release/review extended his stay but Advocacy appealed and Tracy spoke again with Release/Review. They held a conference call with all parties and gave RS some tasks to prove his readiness.



Real Life Example . . . Youth, RS

- RS proved he was ready and DFPS let TYC know it was ready to provide RS supports. RS was released with supports to a halfway house and hopefully, ultimately, to the home of his supportive grandma.



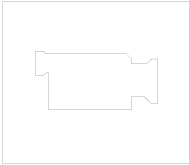
What Can YOU Do? . . .

- Ask judges to appoint Advocacy, Inc. as attorney ad litem or co-ad litem where a youth is involved or at risk.
- Ask your county to stay on a case once the case goes to the permanency stage.
- Recognize that educational services play a huge role in determining outcome for youth and get involved.


Free Attorneys ad Litem? Really?

- Judges statewide can appoint Advocacy, Inc. as attorney ad litem or co-attorney ad litem for foster children who are placed in TYC or SSLC facilities or are at-risk of such placements.
- Advocacy, Inc. will not charge for representation provided for eligible youth, because grant funding is covering staff and travel cost.
- Please contact Ian Spechler to determine if it is a case that fits our project.

In a sense, this is what we do . . .



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