Who are we?

- NCC is a department in the Community Services Division of Health and Human Services.
- NCC is a community-based intervention program for juvenile participants as an alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system.
- NCC is a collaborative partnership between the Travis County Juvenile Probation Department (TCJPD), the District Attorney’s (DA) Office, and Health and Human Services (HHS).

Program History

- Piloted in 1996 by the Travis County District Attorney, Ronny Earle, who sought to establish a deferred prosecution program that utilized volunteers from the community.
- Piloted in the inner city zip code area of 78702.
- Accomplishing successful completion rates of >90% NCC has expanded across Travis County to serve the community at large.
Community Collaboration

NCC – convenes conference, establishes a contract, and sets up weekly contact expectations, recruits and screens volunteers, and offers educational programming.

District Attorney – investigates, reviews, and approves participation in NCC.

Travis County JPD – receives referrals and makes recommendation to NCC.

Other partners...

- Law Enforcement
- Municipal Courts
- Schools
- Civic Organizations
- Non-profits
- Community Service Providers
- Community Program Volunteers
- Program Goals

- Prevent youth from subsequent delinquent behavior, to reduce the rate of recidivism, and to restore them to their communities as productive citizens.

- Plant seeds of self reflection and wisdom in the hearts and minds of youth that can assist them in their future endeavors.

- Indemnify victims’ impact with apology letters and restitution as appropriate.
Target Population

- Between the ages of 10-17 years,
- First time misdemeanor A, B, or C referral,
- Travis County resident, and
- Voluntarily agrees to participate.

Dueling Philosophies
Which is more effective?

- Programs oriented toward instilling discipline (e.g., paramilitary regimens in boot camps)
- Programs aimed at deterrence through fear of the consequences of bad behavior (e.g., prison visitation programs such as Scared Straight)
- Programs emphasizing surveillance to detect bad behavior (e.g., intensive probation or parole supervision)
- Restorative (e.g., restitution, victim-offender mediation)
- Skill building (e.g., cognitive-behavioral techniques, social skills, academic and vocational skill building)
- Counseling (e.g., individual, group, family, mentoring)
- Multiple coordinated services (e.g., case management and service brokering)
NCC Philosophy

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men”  
Fredrick Douglas

- Restorative Justices (e.g., restitution, victim-offender mediation)
- Skill building (e.g., cognitive-behavioral techniques, social skills, academic and vocational skill building)
- Multiple coordinated services (e.g., case management and service brokering)
- Counseling (e.g., individual, group, family; mentoring)

NCC offers

- Educational opportunities such as Character Counts, Juvenile Anger Management, Drug and Alcohol Awareness, 
- Mentoring,
- Linkage of youth involved with area municipal courts and alternative education schools to community support services,
- Support for frustrated School Resource Officers and frustrated parents to community resources,
- Case management for justice involved youth, and
- Mediation, community service restitution opportunities for victim indemnification.

NCC moving forward

- Review and open up to new geographical needs, we’ve added various municipalities,
- Increase Program Volunteers
- Increase aftercare support
- Expand NCC outreach
- Decrease recidivism
- Add incentives for educational opportunities and successful graduation from NCC
Investments in Child and Youth Development

- Any Baby Can of Austin, Inc.-Professional Early Childhood Services
- Austin Child Guidance Center - Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Project
- Austin Community College District - Teacher and Director TRAC
- Austin ISD - My Brother's Keeper Success Mentor Program
- AVANCE Austin, Inc. - Parent and Child Education Program
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas - One-To-One Mentoring

Investments, continued...

- Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area - Great Futures Start Here
- Child Inc. - Early Education and Care
- Communities In Schools of Central Texas - ASPIRE
- Communities In Schools of Central Texas - Travis County XY Zone Program
- Foundation Communities - Afterschool and Summer Youth Programs
- GENaustin - Long Term Program for Girls (clubGEN and 180)
- Goodwill Industries - Career Launch
- Capital Area Workforce Board - Continuity of Child Care System Services
- Capital Area Workforce Board - Quality Child Care Collaborative

Bibliography