### Reentry Week | April 26-30, 2021

#ReentryMatters | #ReentryWeek | #ReentryWeek21 | #YouthReentry 2021

During Reentry Week, the National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC) will be your home for resources and virtual events.





Kevin Shepherd Project Manager



### Reentry in the Time of COVID-19

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# Reentry in the Time of COVID-19

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#### **Meet the Presenters**



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#### **RESPONSE TO SUPERVISION DURING COVID-19**

- Increase in electronic visits for youth and family
- Devices given to youth and families who did not have them
- Continue visit as home with adaptations
- Visits to our high-risk youth in family based and TAL programs



#### **RESPONSE TO SUPERVISION DURING COVID-19**

- Outreach strengthening stability factors
- Home visits for transitioning youth
- Parole/court hearings scheduled in advance virtually
- Child and Family Team Meetings done electronically
- Virtual visits home visits with caution ensuring supervision



#### **VIOLATION/INCENTIVE RESPONSES MATRIX**

- Level system based on the violation and how the youth responds
  - Accountability
  - Degree of violation
  - Multiple violations

- Incentives
  - Longer visits home
  - Transition early
  - Ability to keep provided cell phone
  - Chromebook
  - Activities



# VOCATIONAL/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Youth who are incarcerated in secure care have vocational opportunities through technical college for manufacturing, welding, automotive and culinary skills.
- House Bill 279 creates opportunities to ensure that incarcerated youth statewide can do concurrent enrollment through Dixie State University.





# **CT Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division**

### Juvenile Probation's Enhanced Engagement Practices in Response to COVID-19

#### **School Engagement Process**

Juvenile Probation developed and implemented a school engagement protocol to ensure a systematic approach to engaging and re-engaging probation clients through the shift to remote learning during the pandemic.

Distinct roles and responsibilities were established for Juvenile Probation Supervisors and Officers related to the identification process, relationship-building, and collaboration with clients and their families, schools, and providers.

Juvenile Probation Supervisors are responsible for forging and maintaining collaborative relationships with school administrators (i.e. key decision-makers) and participating in system meetings to address school disengagement.



# **CT Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division**

### Juvenile Probation's Enhanced Engagement Practices in Response to COVID-19

#### **School Engagement Process (continued)**

Juvenile Probation Officers are responsible for identifying clients performing below proficiency in attendance, school behavior, academic performance, or at-risk of disengagement from school and working with school officials to identify engagement strategies.

Juvenile Probation Officers play an important role in motivating probation clients to engage in school, as well as assisting parents with supporting their child's education.

Flexible funding is available if the lack of access to basic needs is a barrier to attendance or participation.

Formal advocacy is also available through JBCSSD-contracted educational support services.



## **CT Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division**

### Juvenile Probation's Enhanced Engagement Practices in Response to COVID-19

#### **Response to Technical Probation Violations**

Juvenile Probation modified graduated responses to address non-compliance and promote behavior change.

Consideration was given to the impact of the pandemic and attaining careful balance between promoting accountability and identifying services and alternative solutions to address noncompliance.

A new supervisor approval process was implemented for probation-initiated requests for Take into Custody Orders which included managerial consultation before seeking a judge's signature.

All authorized Take into Custody Orders were subject to a second judicial review by the Chief Administrative Judge for Juvenile Matters before admitting the youth to detention.



## CT Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division

### Juvenile Probation's Enhanced Engagement Practices in Response to COVID-19

#### **Stakeholder Engagement Strategies**

JBCSSD developed a webpage devoted to COVID-19 updates to help the public navigate the changes implemented as a result of the pandemic.

Voicemail greetings and email autoreply messages were frequently updated with contact information for Juvenile Probation during and after regular business hours.

Juvenile Probation clients and their families were kept abreast of changes to operational hours and monitoring by the assigned Juvenile Probation Officer.

The JBCSSD Leadership Team provided weekly updates to the Connecticut State Legislature, advocates, and other key stakeholders through virtual meetings and email correspondence.

The Leadership Team also participated in interviews with news agencies about the impact of COVID-19 on operations and client services.



# Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice: Bringing Visitation Back Online

Louisiana moved to Phase 3 on March 11, 2021. Visitation plan was then put into motion:

Two visitors per youth

Appointment only

Temperature checks, masks, hand sanitizer, social distancing

Total number of visitors per time slot varies per facility, based on size of visitation area and available staff

Sanitizing between appointments



#### Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice: Getting the Message Out/Implementing...

During the week of March 15, 2021, the visitation messaging began, along with prep work at the facilities:

Mass notification through the agency's emergency notification system.

Follow-up phone calls to parents/guardians.

Visits were scheduled.

Visitation area was prepared/sanitized.

March 20, 2021, visitation resumed for OJJ.

Most of OJJ's group homes also began visitation utilizing the same guidelines.



# Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice: Anticipating Furloughs

Furloughs/home passes being discussed:

Vital to many of our youths' release/step-down.

Will monitor numbers for the next month.

Once we feel safe to proceed, will prioritize furloughs/home passes:

Youth whose modification of disposition is hinging on home pass.

Youth who are close to discharge.

Develop quarantine plan, if necessary.

As COVID numbers continue to decrease, will increase furloughs using the agency's usual criteria.

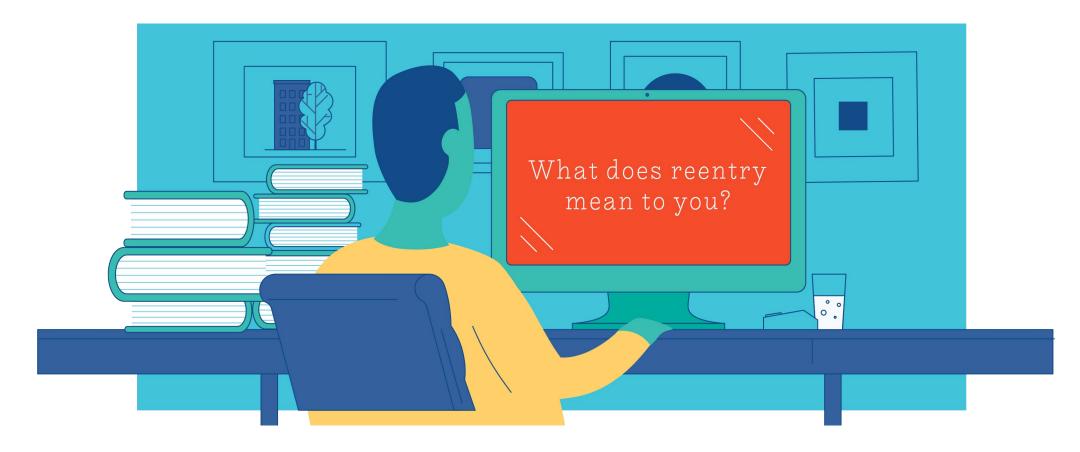
Step-downs from secure to non-secure still continue.

### **BRIGHT SPOTS TO COVID-19**

- Increased family engagement through electronic visit and hearing without the barriers to long commutes
- Outreach provided trust from families
- Therapist more able to continue through telehealth
- Opportunity to provide virtual learning



#### www.NationalReentryResourceCenter.org



The primary mission of the NRRC is to advance the knowledge base of the reentry field.

The NRRC serves as a convener and coordinator of SCA grantees.

### Track News and Updates on Social Media

**#ReentryMatters RESOURCE CENT #ReentryWeek** NationalReentryResourceCenter.org OOF #ReentryWeek21 #Reentry #YouthReentry2021

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