

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO APPROVE THE 2012-2014 COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES PLAN

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-104(6) (Reissue 1997), the County has the power to do all acts in relation to the concerns of the County necessary to the exercise of its corporate powers; and,

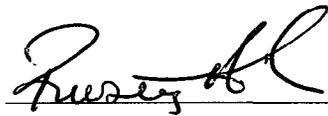
WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-103 (Reissue 1997), the powers of the County as a body are exercised by the County Board; and,

WHEREAS, Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice require Sarpy County to have an approved Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan on file to be eligible for Juvenile Services County Aid funding; and,

WHEREAS, the attached Plan has been prepared by incorporating recommendations from the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System Community Capacity Inventory (CCI) developed by the Juvenile Justice Institute in conjunction with the Nebraska Crime Commission and recommendations from the SAFE Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners that the attached Plan is hereby approved as the Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan for 2012-2014.

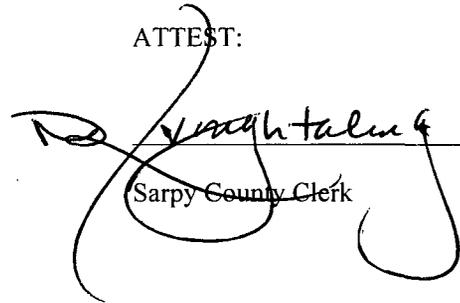
The above Resolution was approved by a vote of the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners at a public meeting duly held in accordance with applicable law on the 17th day of July, 2012.



Sarpy County Board Chairman



ATTEST:


Sarpy County Clerk

Sarpy County Board of Commissioners

1210 GOLDEN GATE DRIVE
PAPILLION, NE 68046-2895
593-4155

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ADMINISTRATOR Mark Wayne

DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR Scott Bovick

FISCAL ADMIN./PURCHASING AGT. Brian Hanson



COMMISSIONERS

Rusty Hike District 1
Jim Thompson District 2
Tom Richards District 3
Jim Nekuda District 4
Jim Warren District 5

MEMO

To: Sarpy County Board

From: Lisa A. Haire

Re: Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan 2012-2014

On July 17, 2012 the County Board will be asked to approve the attached Juvenile Services Comprehensive Plan. In order for Sarpy County to be eligible for Crime Commission juvenile services grant funding, an updated Plan must be submitted to the Nebraska Crime Commission. The Plan is updated every three years to reflect the changing needs of Sarpy County juveniles and the County systems that serve them and their families.

The new Plan was based on results from the Community Capacity Inventory, input from SAFE Committee members, and assistance from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO's) Juvenile Justice Institute. The Nebraska Crime Commission works in conjunction with the Juvenile Justice Institute on Comprehensive Juvenile Services County Planning. Julie Rogers from UNO's Juvenile Justice Institute has reviewed the plan and will recommend the Nebraska Crime Commission approve it upon receipt.

Please do not hesitate to contact Curtis Rainge or myself with any questions.

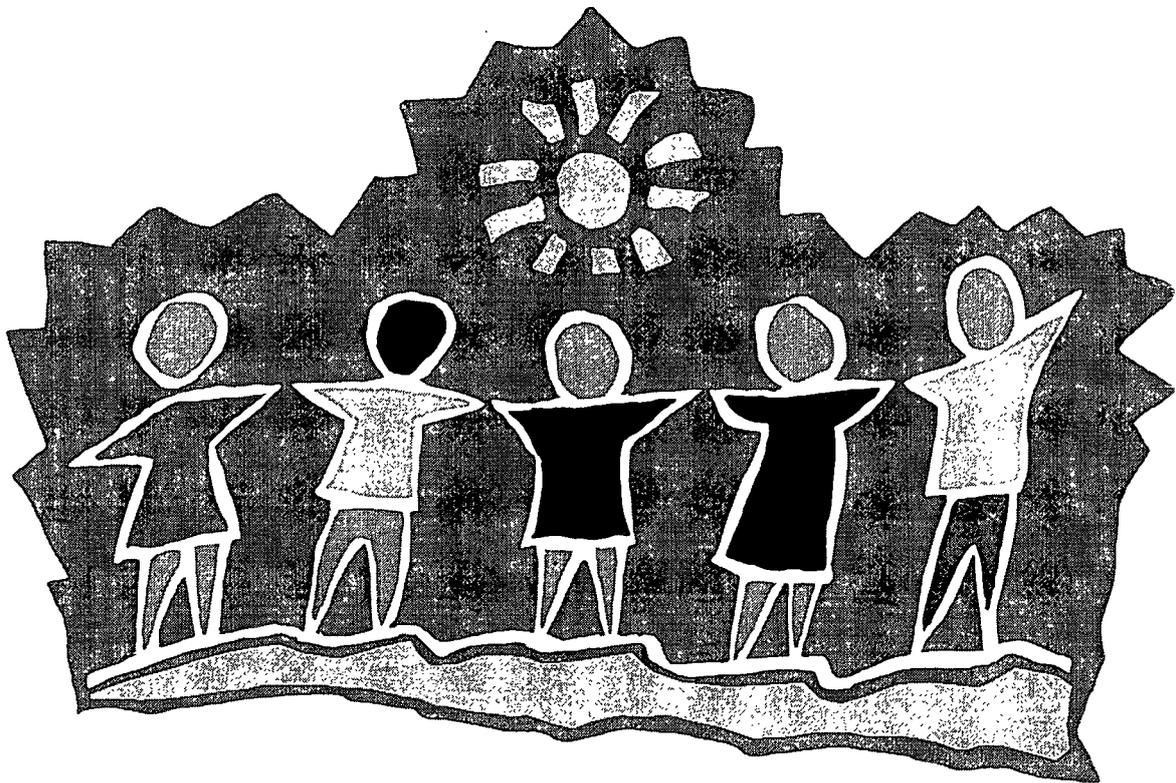
July 13, 2012



Lisa A. Haire
593-1565

cc: Mark Wayne
Scott Bovick
Brian Hanson
Deb Houghtaling

Sarpy County
Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan
2012-2014



SARPY COUNTY
THREE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES PLAN
2012-2014

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COUNTY FEDERAL ID NUMBER:

47-600-6504

Table of Contents

Vision	4
Mission Statement For The Comprehensive Plan.....	4
Executive Summary	5
Community Team	7
Community Description.....	8
Population	9
The Economy.....	9
Recreation	10
Education	11
Agencies and Support Services.....	11
Sarpy County’s Prioritized Needs.....	12
Priority One.....	13
Priority Two.....	17
Priority Three	18
Priority Four.....	19
Priority Five.....	21
Sarpy County Juvenile Services Budget.....	25
Activities and Timetables	25
Evaluation	26
Conclusion	26
Appendix A --- Community Planning Tool Analysis.....	27
Appendix B --- Strategies	38
Appendix C --- Strategies and Timeline.....	40
Appendix D --- SAFE Committee Community Team Members	47
Appendix E --- Sarpy County Juvenile Services Detention Costs 2000-2011	49
Appendix F --- Sarpy County Juvenile Services Non Detention Costs 2000-2011	50

Sarpy County Comprehensive Plan

2012-2014

Vision

The vision guiding this comprehensive plan is to reduce juvenile delinquency and enhance public safety in Sarpy County.

Mission Statement for the Comprehensive Plan

The purpose of the Sarpy County Comprehensive Plan is to reduce juvenile delinquency, and enhance public safety by (1) identifying the risk factors related to delinquency and abuse/neglect; (2) developing appropriate prevention and intervention programs for delinquency and abuse/neglect; and (3) fostering system communication and cooperation across agencies and with the public to strengthen system effectiveness.

Executive Summary

Sarpy County is the fastest growing county in Nebraska. The average age of a Sarpy County resident is 33. Approximately one-third of the total population in the County is made up of juveniles between the ages of 0-17.

During adolescence, the need to belong, have a place that is valued, and be bonded to others intensifies. Youth who are not bonded to conventional community institutions such as school, work, religious and recreational organizations are much more likely to engage in criminal behavior. Community collaboration is crucial in strengthening youth and their families. The Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System works to interrupt the cycle of isolation and disconnectedness among community members, youth, and their parents, while holding youth offenders accountable for their crimes and building trust within their communities.

Early detection of issues facing young people in Sarpy County is vital for youth to receive services that will assist them in developing skills to resist risky behavior. Over the past three years Sarpy County has experienced a persistent pattern of juvenile offenders charged with drug and alcohol violations within the County, significantly influencing juvenile crime.

In September 2011, the Sarpy County SAFE Committee began working to review and update the Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. The Juvenile Justice Institute in conjunction with the Nebraska Crime Commission sent out a Community Capacity Inventory on behalf of Sarpy County juvenile services and the Sarpy County juvenile justice system. This was the first step in updating the Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. With the assistance from the Juvenile Justice Institute and the Nebraska Crime Commission, five system recommendations were identified from the results of the Community Capacity Inventory.

The five system recommendations include:

1. Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County.
2. Reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) issues throughout the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System.
3. Improve system operation and coordination.
4. Improve collaboration among members of the community.
5. Expand and enhance existing programs for juveniles in Sarpy County.

First year activities will include, working to establish alternatives to detention for juveniles (Priority 1) by implementing the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Sarpy County. Sarpy County will work to identify DMC issues occurring throughout the system through JDAI analysis (Priority 2) and ensure there is adequate staffing for the ever-growing CARE Program, Juvenile Reporting Center, and Juvenile Diversion (Priority 3). Additionally, Sarpy County will continue working on initiatives to reduce the timeframe for completion of juvenile evaluations and an integrated computer information system (Priority 3).

During 2013, the second year of the Plan, Sarpy County will work to expand drug and alcohol treatment programs for juveniles (Priority 5) and will seek the resources necessary to develop and implement a young offender program for juveniles ages 8-12 who are involved in the juvenile justice system (Priority 1). In addition, during year two, Sarpy County will work to

establish mental health services for juveniles (Priority 1) by expanding prevention/intervention services.

In the last year of the Plan, Sarpy County will work with the Nebraska State DMC Coordinator and the Nebraska Crime Commission to reduce DMC issues (Priority 2) that were identified by JDAI analysis and work to establish new detention alternatives for juveniles such as new Diversion Services, research transportation issues, and enhance Reporting Center programs (Priority 1).

During all three years of the Plan, Sarpy County will work with the SAFE Committee, County Officials, area schools, and local youth service agencies to connect with existing contacts in an effort to improve collaboration among members (Priority 4). Sarpy County will strive to establish new and non-traditional contacts throughout the community and improve attendance and participation in SAFE Committee meetings. Additionally, it is imperative that current programming be maintained to ensure proper service provision to Sarpy County youth and their families (Priority 5). Sarpy County will continue to seek funding to implement new programming. The creation of new programs and the enhancement of existing services is dependent upon the availability of funding.

Sarpy County's mission of creating a balanced and restorative approach to juvenile justice in Sarpy County includes initiating programs that allow juvenile justice systems and agencies to improve their capacity to protect the community and ensure accountability of youth offenders. Juvenile offenders who come within the jurisdiction of the court should leave the system capable of being productive and responsible in the community.

Community Team

The Sarpy County SAFE Committee (see Attachment D) was established in the spring of 1991.

The **Goal** of the SAFE Committee is: to bring administrators of schools, law enforcement, County prosecution, and probation together to present a process and method of information sharing, cooperation and coordination leading to improved public policy regarding youth in the community, schools, and the County Juvenile Justice System.

The **Mission** of the SAFE Committee is: to create and maintain a county-wide network of school, law enforcement, juvenile justice, social service, business, private agencies, and medical personnel for the purpose of developing a process of prevention, intervention, cooperation, sharing of information, and coordination of services for endangered, troubled, and delinquent youth.

The SAFE Committee is a sub committee of the Sarpy County Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee and shall consist of two participation levels: The Executive Committee and the Steering Committee.

- A. The Executive Committee: is comprised of the Sarpy County Attorney, Sarpy County Sheriff, the designated School Administrator, and a Juvenile Court Judge. The Executive Committee performs the specific duties of developing policy decisions as needed for the Steering Committee.
- B. The Steering Committee: The Sarpy County Attorney, Sarpy County Sheriff, the designated School Administrator, and Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court Judge recommend members to the Steering Committee for vote.

Steering Committee meetings are held on a quarterly basis and meetings of the Executive Committee are held on an ad hoc basis. An Educational Task Force has been developed to discuss issues facing schools and justice agencies serving the Sarpy County juvenile justice system. The Task Force provides regular updates to the Steering Committee on recommendations and solutions to issues discussed by the Task Force.

History of the SAFE Committee:

In the summer of 1992, the Steering Committee and the various task-forces began meeting on a monthly basis. In the late spring and early summer of 1993, it was recommended that an Executive Committee be formed to oversee the operations of the Steering Committee and the various task forces. It was also recommended at this time that a committee be formed to investigate the possibility of a detention center for Sarpy County youth.

In January 1996 the Committee established short range goals to address issues concerning 1) the long term solution of building a staff secure detention facility within three years in Sarpy County; 2) inter-agency communication to access pre-approved data from the Juvenile Court; 3) establish a committee to keep the community aware of problems and issues in Sarpy County pertaining to juveniles, and to provide the community with the activities of the SAFE Committee; 4) develop a county-wide policy of early intervention for truancy and follow up, and provide law enforcement agencies with current school policies; and 5) deal with issues of domestic abuse, child abuse, and early sexual activity.

In January 2000 the Sarpy County SAFE Committee met to develop a Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. The SAFE Committee developed a two phase vision that guided the Comprehensive Plan:

“reduce juvenile delinquency and enhance safety in Sarpy County”.

The mission for the Comprehensive Plan was to “reduce juvenile delinquency and enhance public safety by (1) identifying the risk factors related to delinquency and abuse/neglect; (2) develop appropriate prevention and intervention programs for delinquency and abuse/neglect; and (3) foster system communication and cooperation across agencies and with the public to strengthen system effectiveness.

It was the intention of the Comprehensive Plan Workgroup to build upon the County’s strengths to address the problems and gaps in services facing the community.

In March 2002, the Sarpy County SAFE Committee began working to update the Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. Five priority areas were identified as critical to reducing the number of youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system.

The five priorities include 1) maintain and strengthen ongoing services, including the Sarpy County Sheriff’s Staff Secure Holdover, and the development of new programming to provide quality services to youth and their families; 2) develop community based services to assist youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system with ongoing transportation issues; 3) develop community based delinquency and substance abuse prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for youth and their families involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system; 4) strengthen the SAFE Committee; and 5) improve the well-being of children in Sarpy County, including addressing the problems associated with substance abuse, mental health issues, and dysfunctional parenting skills that lead to

youth becoming involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system.

In November 2005 the SAFE Committee updated the Comprehensive plan to focus on new issues and priorities. In September of 2011, the Committee came together to review the accomplishments of the 2009-2011 Comprehensive Plan and analyze results from the Juvenile Justice Institute’s Community Capacity Inventory (CCI).

The SAFE Committee recognized not all of the goals were achieved and will continue to work toward the accomplishment of those goals as well as the new priorities outlined in the 2012-2014 Plan. It is the intention of the SAFE Committee to build upon the County’s strengths to address the problems and gaps in services still facing the community.

Community Description

Sarpy County is located in the greater Omaha metropolitan area, adjacent to Douglas County. Sarpy County, the fastest growing county in the state of Nebraska, is comprised of the rapidly growing cities of La Vista in the north, Papillion in the center, Bellevue to the east, and Gretna and Springfield to the west.

Gretna and La Vista were the fastest growing cities in Nebraska in 2009. As a result, the County is experiencing a substantial population increase.

Sarpy County is surrounded on three sides by water with its western and southern boundaries being formed by the Platte River and the eastern border along the western bank of the Missouri River.

The County is comprised of 236 square miles of rich agricultural land and a rapidly growing urban population. The rural portion of the County is composed of the Gretna,

and Springfield areas to the south and west. The rural area also includes the unincorporated areas of Chalco, Gilmore, Richfield, and Rumsey.

Sarpy County is the fastest growing county in Nebraska with a population of 158,840. Today more than 89,000 residents live in Bellevue, Papillion, La Vista, and Gretna. The County's population growth is primarily due to the expanding private sector economy and the opening of the Kennedy Freeway in 1994 and developments along Hwy 370.

The major highways serving Sarpy County include Interstate I-80 running from the north center county line to the southwest corner of the county which connects Sarpy County with both Omaha and Lincoln.

U.S. Routes 73/75, 6, and the Kennedy Freeway run north-south along with Nebraska Routes 50 and 85. The major east-west thoroughfare is Nebraska Hwy 370.

Railroad transportation for Sarpy County is provided by the Union Pacific Railroad and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Air transportation for Sarpy County residents is offered by the Eppley Airport located in Omaha.

Population

The average age of a Sarpy County resident is 32.9 and approximately one-third of the total population in the County is made up of juveniles between the ages of 0-17. The following tables show the breakdown of population by the number of adults and juveniles, gender, and ethnicity.

Gender & Ethnicity	Total County Population	
	Number	%
Male	78,886	49.7%
Female	79,954	50.3%
White	127,310	80.1%
Hispanic	11,569	7.3%
African American	6,321	4.0%
Native American	733	0.5%
Asian	3,353	2.1%
Native Hawaiian	168	0.1%
Two or more races	4,960	3.1%
Other	4,426	2.8%
Total	158,840	100%

Gender & Ethnicity	Total Juvenile Population	
	Number	%
Male	25,593	51.6%
Female	23,925	48.3%
White	38,060	76.9%
Hispanic	4,836	9.8%
African American	1,888	3.8%
Native American	240	.5%
Asian	812	1.6%
Two or more races	1,995	4.0%
Other	1,687	3.4%
Total	49,518	100%

Source of data: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 State and County Quick Facts

The Economy

According to the Nebraska Department of Labor, the average annual civilian labor force in Sarpy County in April 2012 was 83,561 with an unemployment rate of 3.8%. The following table shows the comparison of income for Sarpy County.

	2000 Median HH Income	2010 Median HH Income	2000 Median Family Income	2010 Median Family Income
Bellevue	\$41,201	\$56,761	\$54,422	\$64,234
Gretna	\$50,112	\$69,869	\$56,410	\$86,429
La Vista	\$47,280	\$58,697	\$52,819	\$65,054
Papillion	\$63,992	\$72,581	\$70,737	\$83,036
Springfield	\$48,083	\$51,707	\$54,236	\$50,750
Sarpy County	\$53,804	\$68,280	\$59,723	\$76,143

	2000 Per Capita Income	2010 Per Capita Income	2000 Percent Below Poverty	2010 Percent below Poverty
Bellevue	\$20,903	\$25,425	5.9	9.2
Gretna	\$21,729	\$28,472	3.6	3.6
La Vista	\$19,612	\$28,457	5.7	7.3
Papillion	\$24,521	\$29,780	2.7	5.6
Springfield	\$19,573	\$21,563	2.6	3.0
Sarpy County	\$21,985	\$29,212	4.2	5.7

Source of data: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 State and County Quick Facts and MAPA

Sarpy County, unlike most of Nebraska, does not have an agriculturally oriented economy. Offutt Air Force Base is located in the County, making the U.S. Military one of the County's largest employers. Offutt Air Force Base is home of U.S. Stratcom, a joint command staffed by members from all branches of the military that employs approximately 10,834 people.

Werner Enterprises is one of the County's largest private sector employers. Werner is among the five largest truckload carriers in the United States. At 2011 year-end, the fleet consisted of 7,250 tractors, over 25,000 trailers, and over 13,000 employees and independent contractors.

Bellevue, the state's oldest city, enjoyed a building boom during the last decade, making it one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. The City of Bellevue saw its population grow by an impressive 47.5% during the decade of 2000-2010.

The cities of Gretna and Papillion have also enjoyed substantial growth which has been spurred by their location near Interstate 80, and improvements made to State Highway 370. In addition, the city of Papillion has witnessed an increase in business growth with the construction of Shadow Lake Towne Center Mall located on Hwy 370 and 72nd Street and Werner Park located on Hwy 370 and 126th Street.

Recreation

Each of the major communities offers a wide variety of activities for youth and their families. The County is served by 63 different clubs, organizations, and sports leagues.

Bellevue is home to one of the Midwest's largest events held annually - the Offutt Air Force Base Open House and Air Show.

Each year over 100,000 people gather to watch fighter planes grace the sky and to get a hands-on look at America's military might.

The Papillion Community offers Sarpy County youth and families the opportunity to play together at the Papio Bay Aquatic Center that includes five acres of swimming and outdoor water activities. Halleck Park offers an arboretum, four ball diamonds, and a fishing pond. Papillion is the new home of the metro area's Triple A Baseball team, the Storm Chasers, located at the new Werner Baseball Stadium on Hwy 370 and 126th Street.

Additionally, Papillion's large, new shopping mall, Shadow Lake Towne Center, opened in 2007. Shadow Lake Towne Center is an outdoor lifestyle center consisting of 880,000 square feet which includes national retailers, specialty fashion, sporting goods, electronic, book, grocery, restaurants, and discount stores. Special

events and live music are scheduled on the weekends and during the summer months.

The Sarpy County Fair, Springfield Days, and the famous Soda Fountain Shop are just a few of the activities found in Springfield.

Youth and their families have the opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty of Nebraska at the Schramm State Park that is located off Highway 31 just south of Gretna and includes scenic hiking trails overlooking the Platte River. Haworth Park is a 153 acre park with a public boat launch access to the Missouri River, picnic tables, play grounds, soccer fields, and many other fun activities.

The Fontenelle Forest and Nature Center in Bellevue is home to 17 miles of trails, including the new one-mile barrier free boardwalk, on over 1,300 acres. The Forest is amid the scenic bluffs overlooking the Missouri River Valley.

Wehrspann Lake is located in the Chalco Recreation Area and offers boating, fishing, hiking, bike trails, and the scenery of the beautiful recreation area in western Sarpy County.

Education

Sarpy County offers quality education for youth and families in all of its communities. The Gretna School District and Papillion-La Vista have gained national recognition and a reputation for providing fine educational opportunities. Those opportunities are complemented by honors in academic accreditation, high graduation rates, and a disciplined learning environment.

Sarpy County School Districts include:

- **Bellevue Public Schools** serve approximately 9,739 students annually with 2 high schools, 3 middle schools, 15 elementary schools, a center for suspended students, and a program for

behavior disordered students housed in a separate building. The District also has an evening program for credit recovery for high school students and an adult education program for those seeking a GED.

- **Papillion-La Vista Public Schools** serve approximately 9,963 students annually with 2 high schools, 2 middle schools, 14 elementary schools, and 1 alternative high school. Papillion-La Vista Public School District is the 4th largest district in the state. In 2009, Papillion-La Vista School District engaged in a long-range facility study conducted by an outside consultant. The study concluded that the District will continue to grow, reaching a final enrollment of over 17,000 students within 30 years.
- **The Gretna School District** serves approximately 2,921 students annually with, 1 high school, 1 middle school, and 3 elementary schools.
- **The South Sarpy School District #46** serves approximately 1,065 students annually with, 1 high school, 1 middle school, and 2 elementary schools.
- **OPS-** Sarpy County students are also served by Bryan High School, Bryan Middle School, Chandler View, Pawnee, and Gilder Elementary Schools.
- **Private Schools** - Sarpy County is also served by Omaha Gross, Bellevue Christian Academy and 4 Catholic elementary schools.

Agencies and Support Services

Sarpy County has been proactive in the wake of rising juvenile crime. In 1976 a unique juvenile justice system was established when the Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court and Juvenile Probation Office was created.

Today the Health and Human Services System, the Sarpy County Juvenile Court

System, the Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion program, the Sarpy County Drug Court, the Office of Juvenile Services, Nebraska State Juvenile Probation, and the C.A.R.E Staff Secure Hold Over work together to ensure that juvenile offenders are appropriately served when they enter the Sarpy County juvenile justice system.

The agencies provide youth involved in the juvenile justice system access to quality, thorough assessments and substance abuse and mental health treatment services. The Sarpy County juvenile justice system also provides restorative justice programming. Restorative justice programming assists youth in being held accountable for their actions while gaining skills necessary for them to fully participate in society.

The Sarpy County Sheriff's Juvenile Services Division is credited with running an effective electronic monitoring program for Sarpy County juveniles. It is known as the C.A.R.E. (Children at Risk Education) program. The Sarpy County Sheriff's Juvenile Services Division also runs a staff secure detention center for juveniles who must be held while waiting for a court hearing or court ordered placement.

The need for a juvenile justice center was identified during the comprehensive planning process. In late March 2000, the Sarpy County Board of County Commissioners initiated a Pre-Architectural Juvenile Justice Center Planning Study to determine the feasibility and cost of constructing a new juvenile justice center. Space requirements for two additional components, including an assessment center and alternative school, were developed.

Additionally, in 2010, the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center began a pilot Truancy Program housed at the Reporting Center. The Truancy Program began working with several students from area

schools. In December 2010, Sarpy County applied for a grant in order to enhance operations of the Truancy Program and was awarded funding for three part-time Truancy Staff beginning July 2011.

Sarpy County law enforcement agencies include the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office and the Police Departments of Bellevue, Papillion, and La Vista. The Sarpy County Sheriff's Department, headed by Sheriff Jeff Davis, is located in Papillion, Nebraska.

Community Coalitions assisting youth and families in Sarpy County include the Bellevue Mayor's Task Force and Gretna's community based coalition. Both coalitions are comprised of concerned citizens including school officials, faith community members, law enforcement, parents, youth, civic and business representatives, and County personnel that work to develop community based programs to prevent delinquency and alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use by youth.

Sarpy County's Prioritized Needs

The SAFE Committee came together in February 2011 to review the accomplishments of the 2009-2011 Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. In September 2011, Sarpy County started updating the Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. The process began with a Community Capacity Inventory (CCI). The CCI was an important tool in gauging how well Sarpy County currently serves its youth. Results from the CCI assisted Sarpy County in updating priorities and strategies for the new Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. From the results of the CCI, the SAFE Committee identified a number of risk factors facing the youth and families of Sarpy County. These risk factors have been shown to lead to substance abuse and enhanced involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Priority One

Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County

The SAFE Committee identified the following as the purpose of the Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan: to reduce juvenile delinquency and enhance public safety by 1) identifying the risk factors related to delinquency and abuse/neglect; 2) developing appropriate prevention and intervention programs for delinquency and abuse/neglect; and 3) fostering system communication and cooperation across agencies and with the public to strengthen system effectiveness. The SAFE Committee identified the need for local community based services for youth and their families as one of the biggest risk factors facing Sarpy County residents. The Committee will work closely with local County Officials and agencies to develop a network of local providers offering services in the Sarpy County area.

The increase in the juvenile population of Sarpy County, combined with unlimited and unstructured time after school, on weekends, and in the summer, has factored into the increase of crime in the County. The results of youth participating in risky behavior such as substance abuse, gang activity, assaults, and other criminal mischief has also contributed to youth involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The SAFE Committee is committed to strengthening on going services including the Sarpy County Staff Secure Holdover and the development of new programming to provide youth and families with quality services.

The following priorities were identified by the Committee to be addressed through the priorities and strategies of the 2012-2014 Sarpy County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan.

Sarpy County is the fastest growing county in Nebraska; as a result, the County has had an increase of juvenile offenders being placed at the Juvenile Justice Center for staff secure placement as well as an increase of juveniles needing secure detention. Additionally, the crimes committed by the juveniles are far more serious, resulting in an increased need for a higher level of care.

Total population of Juvenile offenders involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system	
2006	2,314
2007	2,304
2008	2,355
2009	2,563
2010	2,453
2011	2,496

*Source of data: Sarpy County CMS

Implement the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Sarpy County: Sarpy County has been approved by the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a JDAI site. Through the JDAI process, Sarpy County will collaborate with the Casey Foundation to analyze the ineffective and inefficient policies and practices within the juvenile justice systems in Sarpy County that result in inappropriate sanctions, disparities for minority youth, and unnecessary transfers to secure detention.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's JDAI is a nationally renowned reform process that effectively: lowers detention populations, enhances public safety, saves tax payer money, reduces the overrepresentation of minority youth, and introduces overall juvenile justice system improvements.

Sarpy County currently operates the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) which is a staff secure facility. Sarpy County youth are transferred to the nearest secure detention facility when the JJC is determined to be inappropriate or not equipped to safely detain a particular juvenile. The below chart indicates the number of Sarpy County juveniles transferred to secure detention, length of stay, and yearly costs. Data shows that while youth transfer levels have declined, the average length of stay (ALS) and costs of detained juveniles is growing due to delays caused by uncoordinated and inefficient juvenile justice systems. In FY 2010, Sarpy County expended \$198,295 for secure detention costs as opposed to 2008 where a total of \$80,807 was expended for secure detention, an increase of 145%. System reforms are necessary to redirect public funds toward more effective juvenile justice processes and public safety strategies.

**Sarpy County Secure Detention Data
2008-2010**

	2008	2009	2010
Youth DCYC	40	34	25
ALS	20	19	21
Youth DCYA	2	2	8
ALS	59	117	141
COST	80,807	158,990	198,295

*Source of data: Sarpy County Fiscal

Number of juveniles detained at the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center (JJC)	
2007	841
2008	974
2009	975
2010	916
Total number of days served by youth at the JJC	
2007	7,269
2008	8,884
2009	7,691
2010	8,436

*Source of data: Sarpy County CMS

A primary recommendation of the Institute of Law and Policy Planning (ILPP) is to move lower risk youths out of secure detention and into alternative programs. The Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center is a staff secure facility; unfortunately many youth are transferred to secure detention due to limited alternatives available for youth in need of a higher level of care but not necessarily needing secure detention, such as youth exhibiting mental health and behavioral issues. Through the JDAI, Sarpy County will decrease the number of youth unnecessarily or inappropriately transferred to secure detention, offering alternatives in an effort to provide juveniles with the least restrictive appropriate environment and becoming incrementally more restrictive only as absolutely necessary.

The first step in the implementation of the JDAI process is to execute a contract for a JDAI Site Coordinator. The local Site Coordinator will collaborate and cooperate with all other Nebraska JDAI statewide efforts. A local Site Coordinator is critical to ensure Sarpy County addresses the local issues. Additionally, the Sarpy County Site Coordinator will act as a liaison with all statewide efforts. The coordinator's main role is to coordinate the site's detention reform efforts, in the following ways:

- Serve as liaison and staff to the JDAI Leadership Group and various work groups; coordinating and integrating work group activities
- Provide administrative support to work groups
- Ensure the collection, use and reporting of all relevant data
- Participate in quarterly conference calls and scheduled trainings; and
- Liaison to the Technical Assistance Team Leader

The Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center, Juvenile County Attorneys, Public Defender, Juvenile Court Judges, Juvenile Diversion

Services, and District #2 Probation will gather information from interested individuals and make the decision on contracting with a Site Coordinator. This will be accomplished by August 2012.

Establish mental health/behavioral alternatives for juveniles in Sarpy County:

Many of the youth entering the juvenile justice system have mental health and behavioral treatment needs. Screening and assessment of mental health/behavioral issues is critical to identifying service needs. The SAFE Committee will work with the JDAI Coordinator, Sarpy County agencies, and mental health treatment providers to expand services to juvenile offenders exhibiting these issues. Extensive assessments will be a part of this effort to identify those youth requiring a higher level of care.

Research indicates that detaining low risk youth actually increase their likelihood of recidivism, is more expensive than alternatives to detention, and takes resources away from youth who need more intense supervision and services. A significant number of detained youth are low risk and would present little risk to the community if released to their own homes or a lesser level of supervision. The below table demonstrates the number of juveniles transferred to secured detention due to requiring a higher level of care for mental/behavioral issues than what the JJC can offer. Alternatives are needed in order to provide youth with mental/behavior services in order to divert them from secure detention.

Number of juveniles transferred to secure detention due to needing a higher level of care for mental/behavioral issues	
2009	26
2010	15
2011	21

*Source of data: Sarpy County JJC, CMS

Enhance Sarpy County Teen Court and Diversion Services Programs: The Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion Program was implemented by the Sarpy County Attorney's Office in 1979 as a way to divert juveniles from the formal court processing offering classes, drug testing, and an opportunity for juveniles to participate in Teen Court.

Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion is a voluntary pre-trial program for minors, offered by the Sarpy County Attorney's Office. Instead of filing criminal charges in one of the court systems in Sarpy County, the Juvenile Diversion Program offers youth the opportunity to participate in community-based programs as an alternative to court process.

The Sarpy County Teen Court Program has been serving youth since 1995. Sarpy County Teen Court is available through Diversion Services to juveniles who are cited for offenses such as shoplifting, criminal mischief, theft, MIP, assault, and trespassing.

Teen and Youth Courts are structured to provide positive alternative sanctions for first-time offenders by providing a peer-driven sentencing mechanism that allows young people to take responsibility, to be held accountable, and to make restitution, resulting in reduced recidivism rates (National Association of Youth Courts, 2011).

Sarpy County Teen Court is an important tool in decreasing youth recidivism rates. National research has been done to rate the effectiveness of the Teen Court Program. Nationally, recidivism rates for Teen Court vary between 7% and 8%. If the same offenders were handled in the legal system by adults, the recidivism rate would be 30% (Butts, Buck, and Coggeshall, 2002). At this time, an estimated 300 teen volunteers

assist with Teen Court by either being a jury member, prosecutor or defense attorney and an estimated 100 Diversion clients appear in Teen Court to have consequences given to them for the offense they committed.

In 2011, Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion served a total of 500 youth. 195 youth were served with an alcohol or substance abuse charge. In 2011, Teen Court served 89 youth, 25 of which were referred from Juvenile Diversion for alcohol or substance abuse issues. The current structure of Teen Court does not provide for accurate detection and assessment of substance abuse or mental health issues. Furthermore, due to budget issues, Juvenile Diversion has had to limit the number of drug and alcohol violations transferred to Teen Court. It would benefit the County to increase the Teen Court Coordinator to full-time status, therefore allowing more youth to have their consequences rendered in Teen Court.

	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of juveniles in Sarpy County Diversion involved in alcohol or substance abuse	90	64	125	195
Number of youth participating in the Sarpy County Teen Court Program	87	95	116	89
Number of youth participating in Teen Court for a drug or alcohol charge	15	20	29	25

*Data compiled from Sarpy County Case Management System (CMS)

Sarpy County will look for additional opportunities to provide youth with Teen Court and Diversion Services. Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion Services will work with the County Attorneys, Public Defenders, and Sarpy County Administration to establish new programs diverting youth from the

formal court process, which ultimately reduces overall recidivism rates.

Provide new programming opportunities system wide for youth involved in the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System:

There is an increasing need in Sarpy County to provide new programming opportunities for youth. Statistics have shown that the age of first time offenders in Sarpy County has decreased significantly, creating a need for programs specifically directed at younger youth. One of the recommendations from the SAFE Committee is to develop and implement a Young Offender Program for Juveniles Ages 8-12: The Sarpy County Juvenile Intake Diversion Program continues to receive a substantial number of youth ages 8-12 referred to the program. The developmental needs of this age group vary from that of their older peers due to the abstract thinking brain development that occurs during the adolescent years.

The program will be designed to include education for both the young offender and their parents. The parenting classes will include information on providing the youth with immediate consequences for their behavior, parenting with accountability and enhanced supervision techniques as well as assisting parents in reinforcing the lessons the youth learn from the program. The young offender will be involved in the program for a shorter period of time to assist youth in connecting their behavior to the consequences they are experiencing.

Number of Juvenile Offenders Ages 8-12 Referred to the Sarpy County Juvenile Intake Diversion Program	
2006	21
2007	30
2008	26
2009	34
2010	20

*Data compiled from Sarpy County Case Management System (CMS)

The current program requirements of the Juvenile Intake Program are structured to meet the developmental needs of youth ages 12-18. Therefore, the SAFE Committee and the Juvenile Intake Program will work to design a comprehensive structured program to meet the unique needs of youth in this age range.

Transportation: One of the more significant problems identified by the CCI and the SAFE Committee was transportation for youth to needed services. Opportunities for transportation are limited aside from youth and/or a youth's relatives. For single-parent families or families with one form of transportation, programming is difficult and sometimes impossible for youth to access from various areas of the county. The SAFE Committee has identified lack of dependable transportation as a barrier to youth receiving needed services throughout the county; therefore, the need for transportation is an ongoing area of concern. Sarpy County will research funding opportunities in order to provide access to dependable transportation services for youth attending programs in Sarpy County.

Priority Two

Reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) issues in Sarpy County

Work with the Sarpy County JDAI Coordinator and the State DMC Coordinator to identify DMC issues in Sarpy County: According to the Sarpy County 2010 DMC data, minority youth are significantly under referred to Diversion and Juvenile Court and overrepresented in cases involving secure detention. The disproportionate confinement of minority youth has dire collateral consequences: youth with a history of detention are less likely to graduate from high school; are more likely to be unemployed as an adult; and are more likely to be arrested and

imprisoned as an adult. Moreover, the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system perpetuates racial stereotypes, structural inequalities, and erodes trust and confidence in the justice system.

As the DMC data indicates, system reforms are needed in order to implement a level playing field for minority youth in Sarpy County. With the assistance of the JDAI Coordinator, District #2 Probation, Juvenile Court, County Attorney, and Public Defender, Sarpy County will employ a deliberate commitment to identifying and reducing racial disparities by eliminating biases and ensuring a reduction in DMC issues throughout the system. Through JDAI analysis, Sarpy County will have accurate DMC data in which to identify areas for improvement system-wide.

Implement reforms to reduce DMC issues at all contact points: Sarpy County juvenile justice agencies recognize the need to provide better access to services for minority populations. It is imperative that the juvenile justice system assess the gaps in service and access by holding minority community forums and other information gathering sessions.

In 2010, the Sarpy County SAFE Committee held a quarterly meeting in which the State DMC Coordinator presented DMC statistics for Sarpy County. It was determined at the meeting that there are some existing issues which need to be addressed. The Sarpy County SAFE Policy Committee, the JDAI Site Coordinator, and Sarpy County agencies will identify priorities specific to the different minority populations the system serves. The committee will develop partnerships with local agencies also providing services to these populations in an effort to establish comprehensive services to all juvenile residents of Sarpy County and their families. Additionally, Sarpy County

will seek funding to assist in addressing Disproportionate Minority Contact issues that are identified in the JDAI analysis.

Priority Three

Improve system operation and coordination.
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Develop an Integrated Information

System: Integration of agency information is crucial to assisting youth and their families in receiving the help they need. Increased coordination among agencies and the development of an information management system are vital in overcoming the current duplication of services occurring in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system. In addition, enhancements to system information collection and sharing will lead to a greater understanding of the trends and profile of juvenile offender service requirements.

Prevention, intervention, and juvenile court services and programs should be integrated with the following Sarpy County agencies: 1) law enforcement; 2) juvenile justice agencies; 3) social services; 4) child welfare agencies; 5) schools; and 6) family preservation programs.

As part of this Comprehensive Plan, the S.A.F.E. Committee will 1) work closely with the State of Nebraska on the NCJIS information system; 2) continue to seek contracts with local schools to release student information as allowed by the Family Education Rights to Privacy Act (FERPA); 3) work closely with local schools to find acceptable ways to share information.

Improve case processing times, system inefficiencies, and placements for juveniles in Sarpy County: Sarpy County has concluded that the unnecessary transfer of juveniles to secure detention, overuse of

staff secure as a sanction for drug court violations, under utilization of the CARE program, and the under referral of minority youth to alternatives such as Diversion are primarily caused by two factors:

1. inefficiencies in the processing of juvenile cases resulting in disparities and inappropriate sanctions and
2. Sarpy County has limited alternatives to detention for lower risk juveniles (mental/behavioral issues) resulting in unnecessary transfers to secure detention.

Current models of detention and placements result in damage to public safety and high costs for the taxpayer through a lack of focus, misplaced priorities, and egregious inefficiencies. One example is that many minors are held too long, waiting for an evaluation that takes only a few hours and could be conducted before being referred to treatment or placements. As a consequence, the overly long average length of stay coupled with inadequate treatment and rehabilitation problems lead to inefficient and ineffective sanctions being issued for juveniles. In Sarpy County, youth wait on average 10-30 days for an evaluation. New initiatives are needed to reduce the timeframe juveniles await evaluation.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's JDAI Core strategies promote smarter, fairer, efficient and more effective systems. By employing the strategies below, JDAI sites: lower detention populations, enhances public safety, saves tax payer money, and improves the juvenile justice system overall:

1. Collaboration between major juvenile justice agencies, governmental entities, and community organizations.
2. Use of accurate data to diagnose the system's problems and identify real solutions.

3. Objective admissions criteria and instruments to replace subjective decisions that inappropriately place children in custody.
4. Alternatives to detention to increase the options available for arrested youth.
5. Case processing reforms to speed up the flow of cases so that youth don't languish in detention.
6. Reducing the use of secure confinement for special cases like technical probation violations.
7. Deliberate commitment to reducing racial disparities by eliminating biases and ensuring a level playing field.
8. Improving conditions of confinement through routine inspections.

The Casey Foundation assists jurisdictions with other systemic improvements which have potential to reduce detention populations: improving risk assessment instruments, establishing effective admissions policies and practices, and improving the efficiency of case processing.

Through JDAI, Sarpy County will address these priorities by analyzing system inefficiencies in order to implement new policies and improve current practices of detention alternatives for all Sarpy County juvenile offenders.

Ensure adequate staffing levels for Juvenile Services programs throughout the system: It is imperative that Sarpy County ensure adequate staffing levels for juvenile services agencies throughout the system. As the county continues to grow and the juvenile justice system expands to accommodate the growing juvenile population, increased funding will be required for additional staffing needs. It is crucial to have staff that is available, trained, and ready to serve juveniles in the County. Sarpy County agencies will work with

administration and officials to meet the growing demands of an increasing juvenile population.

Additionally, Sarpy County juvenile justice agencies will work to ensure staff is well trained and knowledgeable in laws and the appropriate detection of current juvenile issues and trends. Continuing education and training allows team members to bring back new, innovative ideas and competencies to share. An ever-changing youth population requires staff that can accommodate with appropriate strategies, outlined and explained by experts in the field. Continuing education and training are key components for effective and successful programs. Continuing education/training is crucial to the success of programs. Training benefits each and every youth that come through the Sarpy County juvenile justice system.

Funding will be researched and secured to ensure the County has appropriate staff available. Consistent training and continuing education will be a priority in order to serve juveniles with new and innovative programs which are designed specifically for youth offenders.

Priority Four

Improve collaboration among members of the community.

Establish new and non-traditional contacts throughout the community: Sarpy County is unique in that all school districts in the County are represented on the Sarpy County Education Program Board (SCEP) by district Superintendants. The SCEP Board meets every month while school is in session to keep open and ongoing dialogue between the schools and Sarpy County Juvenile Services. Additionally, the Criminal Justice

Coordinating Committee (CJCC) meets quarterly to discuss juvenile services needs and other issues within the County. Members of the CJCC include: Sarpy County Attorney, a Sarpy County Commissioner, Public Defender, Probation, Pre-Trial, Sarpy County Administration, Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Sarpy County Clerk of District Court, Clerk of County Court, area law enforcement from the city of Bellevue, LaVista, and Papillion, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center Director, Sarpy County Diversion Director, Sarpy County Information Services, and Sarpy County Community Services.

In 1991, Sarpy County established the Sarpy County School Administrators For Effective public policy (SAFE) Committee. The SAFE Committee is a sub-committee of the CJCC. The Mission of the SAFE Committee is: to create and maintain a county-wide network of school, law enforcement, juvenile justice, social service, business, private agencies, and medical personnel for the purpose of developing a process of prevention, intervention, cooperation, sharing of information, and coordination of services for endangered, troubled, and delinquent youth.

The Goal of the SAFE Committee is: to bring administrators of schools, law enforcement, County prosecution, and probation together to present a process and method of information sharing, cooperation and coordination leading to improved public policy regarding youth in the community, schools, and the County Juvenile Justice System.

There is a growing need to establish new, non-traditional contacts for Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Committees. During year one of the Plan, Sarpy County will work to contact faith-based organizations, youth sports associations, the YMCA, and other agencies that have not traditionally been

active members in Sarpy County Committees and Sub-Committees. Sarpy County is committed to providing prevention and early intervention services to assist youth in avoiding delinquent and criminal behavior and to facilitate full and just participation of young people in society. To accomplish this goal, Sarpy County must collaborate with outside agencies and school districts within the area in order to widen the scope of juvenile services offered throughout the County and to have a better understanding of the issues facing juveniles in the area.

Improve attendance and participation in meetings: In the last year, Sarpy County has struggled with attendance and participation in Committee meetings. It is important to receive input from all agencies, school districts, and service providers in order to assist youth in avoiding risky behaviors that result in violations and placements in the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice System. Sarpy County will collaborate with members of Committees to facilitate discussions, information sharing, and presentations from various Committee members. Topics for meetings might include "hot" issues of the day such as: popular substance abuse trends, bullying, truancy, mental health issues, language/cultural barriers, and cyber-safety. Experts from each field will be contacted to present information with a question and answer session to follow.

It is imperative that Sarpy County increase attendance and participation in meetings in order for communication lines between school officials, juvenile justice agencies, service providers, and law enforcement remain open, clear and consistent. Each agency brings unique and different competencies and perspectives which when combined together in information sharing and question and answer sessions, help to increase knowledge for the entire group.

Priority Five

Expand and enhance existing programming for juveniles in Sarpy County

Through the JDAI process, Sarpy County will analyze data in order to identify which programs are successful, which programs could be expanded, which programs may need to be re-visited. JDAI is a three-year process in which information is gathered from all Sarpy County Juvenile Justice agencies. The JDAI Coordinator will work with Sarpy County agencies, officials, and administration to resolve issues and develop strategies to improve the overall juvenile justice system. Upon completion of the three-year JDAI process, Sarpy County will have the necessary data and information in order to identify possible new programs and/or programs that might be expanded throughout the County.

Expand Drug and Alcohol Treatment Programs: A number of youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system have alcohol and substance abuse treatment needs.

While improvements have been made over the last three years, the SAFE Committee will work with service providers to expand services to juvenile offenders and their families. National research has shown nine key element of effective treatment programs: 1) comprehensive assessments that cover emotional and medical problems, learning disabilities, family functioning, and other aspects of an adolescent’s life; 2) comprehensive and integrated services; 3) parental involvement in a youth’s treatment; 4) program design appropriate for adolescents; 5) a climate of trust between therapists and youth; 6) staff well-trained to work with adolescents; 7) programs that address the distinct needs of boys and girls and of different racial and ethnic groups; 8)

relapse prevention training, aftercare plans, referrals to community resources, and follow-up; and 9) rigorous evaluation of treatment outcomes. Sarpy County will work diligently to ensure these elements are included in all drug and alcohol treatment programming.

Juvenile Diversion: The Sarpy County Attorney’s Office implemented the Juvenile Diversion Program in 1979 and over 8,000 youth and their families have participated in the program. Over the past three years the Sarpy County Diversion Services Program has encountered a rise in the number of participants experiencing substance abuse problems.

Between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011, a total 195 youth were referred to the Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion Program for alcohol or substance abuse violations. The table below indicates the rise in juvenile drug and alcohol violations in Sarpy County.

Number of youth in the Sarpy County Diversion Program experiencing substance abuse problems	
2008	224
2009	152
2010	217
2011	195
Number of juveniles in the Sarpy County Diversion Program involved in alcohol abuse	
2008	134
2009	98
2010	92
2011	95
Number of juveniles in the Sarpy County Diversion Program involved in drug abuse	
2008	90
2009	64
2010	125
2011	100

*Data compiled by Sarpy County CMS

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court: Sarpy County has operated a Juvenile Drug Treatment Court since 2000. Since the inception of the program, 133 youth have successfully completed Drug Court.

Funding will be solicited to allow this program to maintain its current level of service. According to the Chinn Study, the Drug Court program could be improved by: 1) developing a continuum of sanctions to reduce the number of youth placed at the Juvenile Justice Center as a sanction; 2) developing incentives for youth in the Program; 3) reducing the average length of time in the Program; 4) piloting a Family Drug Court, which would serve both the youth and the family involved in drug abuse; and 5) monitoring outcomes and recidivism rates to determine whether intended outcomes of the Program are realized.

Number of youth in the Sarpy County involved in Juvenile Drug Treatment Court	
2007	24
2008	29
2009	36
2010	38
2011	41
Number of juveniles in the Sarpy County Juvenile Drug Court placed in the Juvenile Justice Center as a sanction	
2007	14
2008	13
2009	19
2010	27
2011	30
Number of days youth spent in the Juvenile Justice Center as a sanction for the Sarpy County Juvenile Drug Court	
2007	128
2008	189
2009	361
2010	523
2011	213

*Data compiled by Sarpy County CMS

Expand and enhance programs for juveniles in Sarpy County: Sarpy County currently operates several programs that either divert youth from formal court processing, or provide an alternative to residential placements. As part of this priority, Sarpy County will focus on the continuation of existing programs as well as enhancement of existing programs.

It is imperative that current programming be maintained to ensure proper service provision to Sarpy County youth and their families. Sarpy County will continue to seek funding to support existing services as well as implement new programming. Efforts to continue programs will include securing funding that enables them to operate at their current level of service. To enhance existing programs and services, Sarpy County will work to improve the following services:

Truancy: “Prevention” is often used to describe early interventions in a young person’s life to reduce the likelihood of engaging in risky behaviors that will result in involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Today, portions of Sarpy County youth are educational underachievers who are skeptical about their ability to enter the American mainstream. Civic organizations, clubs (i.e.: 4-H, Boy and Girl Scouts, etc.), faith based communities, and other youth serving organizations (GREAT, DARE, and School Resource Officers) are working to build the skills necessary for youth to meet the requirements and responsibilities needed to find success in their families, workplaces, and communities.

During adolescence, the need to belong, have a place that is valued, and be bonded to others intensifies. Youth who are not bonded to conventional community institutions such as school, work, religious,

and recreational organizations are much more likely to engage in criminal behavior

Using the balanced mission and restorative justice framework, Sarpy County juvenile justice agencies are working to interrupt the cycle of isolation and disconnectedness among community members, youth, and their parents while holding youth offenders accountable for their crimes and building trust within their communities.

Civic organizations and faith based communities work to provide a strong sense of community and support system through structured learning for youth and families.

According to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, risk factors faced by juvenile offenders related to academic success include youth engaging in inappropriate, shy and aggressive behavior in the classroom, failure in school performance, poor social coping skills, and affiliations with deviant peers.

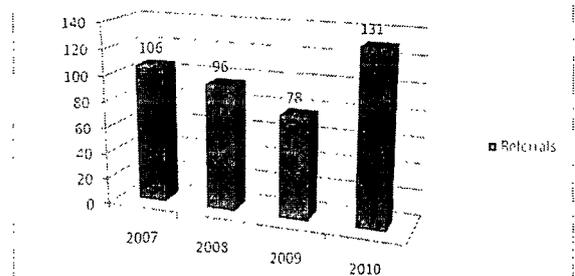
By the time a youth is sent to detention, he or she has usually committed multiple law offenses. Initial encounters with law enforcement often begin with status offenses such as running away, minor in possession of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs, or truancy and escalate to violations that are more serious. In a recent study of juvenile offenders in Nebraska the impact of truancy in particular became very clear. The study showed that 84% of juvenile offenders did not attend school, or had severe problems attending school.

Youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system are at risk of school and job failure due to their absenteeism and repeated truancy which results in poor academic success. Failure in school performance and poor school performance leads to truancy, poor social coping skills, and affiliations with deviant peers.

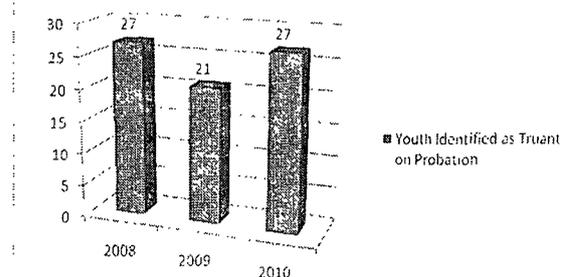
School Resource Officers (SROs) are having a major impact in the reduction of youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system. SROs and Sarpy County school personnel are working to decrease the number of youth involved in risky behavior associated with truancy issues.

As part of the activities of this Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan, Sarpy County began researching Truancy programs and implemented a small pilot program in 2010. Due to the success of the pilot program, Sarpy County applied for a grant to expand and enhance the Truancy Program and was awarded funding for Truancy Staff in July 2011. The Juvenile Reporting Center, SAFE Committee, County Officials, area schools, and local youth service agencies will work together to further develop and implement the truancy intervention program to assist youth who are encountering truancy and academic issues.

Truancy Referrals to County Attorney



Truant Youth on Probation



*Data compiled by Sarpy County CMS

As part of this Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan, Sarpy County will continue to

seek funding to enhance and expand the Truancy Program allowing for more youth to be served and additional services provided. Sarpy County will increase the Truancy Program by adding three staff to the department, allowing the Program to serve 30-40 youth per semester.

CARE Program: The Sarpy County Children At Risk Education (CARE) Program provides supervision and monitoring of youth in the community as an alternative to staff secure placement. The CARE program is a low cost form of supervision, averaging \$22.52 per day versus \$246.22 in the Juvenile Justice Center. The CARE Program can be enhanced by: 1) ensuring there is adequate staffing to maintain the expanding caseload of juveniles being placed on the CARE Program; and 2) continue to expand sanctions for youth that do not comply with CARE Program requirements, but may not need to be placed in staff secure detention. In addition to enhancing this program, Sarpy County will continue to seek funding to guarantee CARE’s current level of service.

Number of juveniles involved in the Sarpy County CARE Program	
2007	315
2008	402
2009	323
2010	294
2011	272

*Data compiled by Sarpy County CMS

Sarpy County Juvenile Reporting Center: Often a youth’s first involvement in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system is a direct result of youth spending unlimited and unstructured time after school, on weekends, and in the summer. Behaviors seen by young people as “rites of passage” are encountered during unsupervised times of the day.

The Sarpy County Juvenile Reporting Center was developed with varying levels of program duration for both pre-adjudicated and adjudicated juvenile offenders. The per diem cost is substantially lower than detention and the Reporting Center provides a highly structured intermediate sanction alternative.

In June of 2008, the Program received notice from the United States Department of Justice they were being nominated for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP) Model Program Guide. Additionally, the Program was recommended for OJJDP publications and/or reports for best practices to reduce juvenile offending.

Due to the success of the Center, it is imperative that the program continue to be enhanced by adding new programming and other important juvenile services.

The SAFE Committee and Sarpy County Officials are committed to providing prevention and early intervention services to assist youth in avoiding delinquent and criminal behavior and to facilitate full and just participation of young people in society. Currently Sarpy County provides delinquency prevention and early intervention services to youth through the Sarpy County Diversion Services Unit, Sarpy County Teen Court, Sarpy County Truancy Program, and Sarpy County Drug Court programs.

The SAFE Committee will continue to work with private agencies, faith based communities, and civic clubs and organizations to expand prevention and early intervention programming such as mentor and tutoring programs. Through these programs, youth learn about commonly accepted positive social characteristics like honesty, integrity, responsibility, and positive modeling from

adults who establish relationships that are intergenerational. Youth are given the chance to connect to caring adults through faith based youth groups and mentor programs when appropriate role models are not present in the life of a young person.

Sarpy County Juvenile Services Budget

In the past five years Sarpy County has experienced an increase in costs associated with detention and non-detention services for youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system.

In FY 2011, Sarpy County spent \$2,484,068 for detention costs and another \$1,461,977 for non-detention services.

It is estimated that approximately \$200,000 of new funding will be needed each year to implement the programs and solutions involved in this Comprehensive Plan. Funding estimates for these solutions do not include the services that will be provided at the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center. Therefore it is critical that Sarpy County continue to receive funding from outside sources such as the LB640 County Juvenile Services Aid Fund and the Nebraska Crime Commission State Juvenile Justice grants.

Activities and Timetables

This Comprehensive Plan is viewed as a fluid and workable plan that will be evaluated yearly to determine the successful implementation of the identified solutions. Each year the Comprehensive Planning Committee will meet to evaluate the progress of the Plan and determine the activities and timetables of the upcoming year.

Appendix B contains a timeline for the first year of implementation of Sarpy County's strategies to address the priorities outlined in

this Comprehensive Plan. The timeline includes a list of the activities, agencies, and resources needed to address these priorities. First year activities will include, working to establish alternatives to detention for juveniles (Priority 1) by implementing the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Sarpy County. Sarpy County will work to identify DMC issues occurring throughout the system through JDAI analysis (Priority 2) and ensure there is adequate staffing for the ever-growing CARE Program, Juvenile Reporting Center, and Juvenile Diversion (Priority 3). Additionally, Sarpy County will continue working on initiatives to reduce the timeframe for completion of juvenile evaluations and an integrated computer information system (Priority 3).

During 2013, the second year of the Plan, Sarpy County will work to expand drug and alcohol treatment programs for juveniles (Priority 5) and will seek the resources necessary to develop and implement a young offender program for juveniles ages 8-12 who are involved in the juvenile justice system. In addition, during year two, Sarpy County will work to establish mental health services for juveniles (Priority 1) by expanding prevention/intervention services.

In the last year of the Plan, Sarpy County will work with the Nebraska State DMC Coordinator and the Nebraska Crime Commission to reduce DMC issues (Priority 2) that were identified by JDAI analysis and work to establish new detention alternatives for juveniles such as new Diversion Services for repeat offenders, research transportation issues, and enhance Reporting Center programs (Priority 1).

During all three years of the Plan, Sarpy County will work with the SAFE Committee, County Officials, area schools, and local youth service agencies will collaborate to contact new members

increasing participation in meetings (Priority 4). Sarpy County will work to improve collaboration among members of the community. Sarpy County will strive to establish new and non-traditional contacts throughout the community and improve attendance and participation in SAFE Committee meetings. Sarpy County will also continue to fund existing programs (Priority 5). It is imperative that current programming be maintained to ensure proper service provision to Sarpy County youth and their families. Sarpy County will continue to seek funding to support existing services as well as implement new programming. The creation of new programs or the enhancement of existing services is dependent upon the availability of funding.

Evaluation

Evaluation is often viewed as a highly complex, time consuming, and expensive process. Understanding the success of a program or solution is vital in knowing how to assist youth and their families involved in the juvenile justice system.

Integration of agency information is crucial to assisting youth and their families in receiving the help they need. Increased coordination among agencies and the development of an information management system are vital in overcoming the current duplication of services occurring in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system.

Currently, programs providing services to youth involved in the Sarpy County juvenile justice system do not have a uniform venue for collaborating and sharing the information they collect. Youth and their families often flow through the system receiving duplicated services without individual agencies knowing their history.

A uniform and comprehensive Management of Information System (MIS) for Sarpy

County agencies and programs is not currently in place. As part of the proposed solutions of this Comprehensive Plan local officials and the SAFE Committee will work to design and implement a uniform MIS program for Sarpy County.

It is critical that programs evaluate their effectiveness in working with juvenile offenders. To this end, in the first year activities of the Plan include development of a Management of Information System (MIS) program.

Conclusion

Since its creation in 1976, the Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court, in cooperation with the Juvenile Probation Office and local officials, has implemented graduated sanction programs designed to provide prompt and fair consequences for youth offenders.

The SAFE Planning Committee will work to secure funding to implement the programs and activities outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. As Federal and State funding opportunities continue to decrease it will become vital for local officials, private agencies, civic organizations, and faith based communities to work together to provide local programming.

The SAFE Planning Committee identified the need for local community based services for youth and their families as one of the biggest risk factors facing Sarpy County residents.

The knowledge needed for implementing successful Juvenile Justice Programs exist in communities. The only way to accomplish the important activities of the Plan will be to work closely with local agencies and providers to develop community based services for youth and their families.

Appendix A

Community Planning Tool Analysis

Data Points	Total Population (*2010)	Juvenile Population (*2010)
Total Population	158,840	49,518
Male	78,886	25,593
Female	79,954	23,925
White	123,310	38,060
Black/African American	6,321	1,888
Asian	3,353	812
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	168	Not reported
American Indian	733	240
Hispanic	11,569	4,836
Juveniles Arrested		1,589
Juveniles Detained (Staff and Secure)		84
Juveniles Prosecuted		516
Juveniles Placed in Diversion		556
Number of Juveniles placed on Probation		281

Sources:

*2010 U.S. Census Data, DMC data, and Sarpy County CMS (Case Management System)

System Decision Point: Arrest/Citation – Police/Law Enforcement

Decision: *Whether an information report should be filed, or what offense, if any, the juvenile should be cited or arrested for.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Sufficient factual basis to believe an offense has been committed.
- Underlying support for a particular offense.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Officer's discretion.
- Youth's prior incidences with law enforcement.
- Juvenile's attitude at time of contact.
- If a responsible parent/guardian is available for release.
- All law enforcement agencies are using LRMS which gives them information about previous contacts and offenses.

Decision: *Whether to cite or arrest the juvenile as a juvenile or as an adult.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Seriousness of the offense.
- Age of the juvenile.
- Juveniles are cited as juveniles unless exceptional circumstances exist.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Victim's cooperation/non-cooperation.

Decision: *Whether to take juvenile into custody or to cite and release (NRS § 43-248(1), (2); § 43-250(1), (2), (3))*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As stated in statute.

Informal Determining Factors

- Immediate risk to juvenile.
- Immediate/short term risk to public.
- Seriousness of perceived offense.
- Extent to which parent or other responsible adult is available to take responsibility for the juvenile.
- If the juvenile is a young offender (8-12 years old), they go to Diversion or HHS for services or placement.

System Decision Point: Initial Detention - State of Nebraska Probation

Decision: *Whether juvenile should be detained or released.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Risk assessment outcome.
- Accessibility of placement options (i.e.: parents, guardians, emergency shelter, staff secure facility, secure detention facility, etc.).

Informal Determining Factors:

- Juvenile's behavior/attitude often determines if they are cited and released or if they are detained.

Comments:

The Sarpy County community utilizes local law enforcement for handling status offenses, specifically uncontrollable detentions. Parents are relying on law enforcement and subsequently Probation to "fix" their child. Probation feels the screening instrument is being utilized two ways: 1) to justify their detention decision according to the detention interview, or 2) to place the juvenile where they screened eligible. However, because the staff secure facility is available as a detention option, an override is sometimes done and placement is lessened due to reasons such as good attitude/behavior by the juvenile, available beds, or other specific needs that can be addressed at the Juvenile Justice Center. It is important to note that secure detention is used as a last resort.

System Decision Point: Charge Juvenile - County Attorney

Decision: *Whether to prosecute juvenile.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Likelihood of successful outcome.
- Factors under NRS § 43-276.

Informal Determining Factors:

- For determination of filing, reports are passed to juvenile County Attorney if the youth is under the age of 18.
- Sarpy County has a Diversion program. The County Attorney determines eligibility and Diversion determines suitability.
- Diversion program allows low risk, non-felony first time offenders to participate in programming.
- Diversion accepts different category offenses if the youth is cited in Sarpy County.
- County Attorney is filing deports on most petitions so Judges can utilize services if needed.

- County Attorney is filing deports on most petitions so Judges can utilize services if needed.

Decision: *Whether youth should be prosecuted as a juvenile or an adult.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Seriousness of offense.

Informal Determining Factors:

- If the youth had an unsuccessful termination previously, the County Attorney will file as an adult.

Decision: *What offense juvenile should be charged with.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Will determine based on reports.

System Decision Point: Pre-adjudication Detention - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether a juvenile who was detained at the time of citation/arrest should remain in detention or out-of-home placement pending adjudication.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Whether there is an “immediate and urgent necessity for the protection of such juvenile”.
- Whether there is an “immediate and urgent necessity for the protection of...the person of property of.
- Whether the juvenile is likely to flee the jurisdiction of the court.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Parents ability to have the juvenile at home.
- If the youth wants to be home.
- Service that already in place.
- If the juvenile was attending school and their behavior in school.
- If CARE have monitors available.

Comments:

For the majority of cases that appear before the court for a detention hearing, the juvenile is being released home on the CARE program which is Sarpy County's pre and post-adjudication electronic monitoring program. This program has been proven to be cost effective for Sarpy County. This costs less than to have a juvenile remain in detention and it allows the juvenile to return to the community for school, work, and additional services.

System Decision Point: Probable Cause Hearing - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether the State can show probable cause exists that juvenile is within the jurisdiction of the court.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As stated in statute.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Judges are finding probable cause at the time of detention or on an affidavit during weekend hours.

System Decision Point: Competency Evaluation - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether juvenile is competent to participate in the proceedings.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Law enforcement is placing juveniles with a 3(c) status at Immanuel Hospital under the direction of HHS for 3 day evaluation.

Decision: *Whether juvenile is "responsible" for his/her acts.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- "Complete evaluation of the juvenile including any authorized area of inquiry requested by the Court".
- Opinion of a physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, community mental health program, or psychologist.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Judges are using recommendations from psychologists and psychiatrists for court hearings.

- The Public Defender will request a competency evaluation if they feel the juvenile is capable of understanding the procedures.

System Decision Point: Adjudication - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether the juvenile is, beyond a reasonable doubt, "a person described by § 43-247".*

Formal Determining Factors:

- Legal sufficiency of evidence presented during the adjudication hearing.
- Whether juvenile admits to the allegations of the petition (or "pleads to the charges").\
- Residency
- Age

Informal Determining Factors:

- None reported.

Decision: *Whether to order probation to conduct a pre-disposition investigation (statutory authority unclear--see also: § 29-2261(2)).*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Judges will order a PDI with subsequent evaluations.

Decision: *Whether to order OJS evaluation.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- NRS § 29-2204 (3): "Prior to making a disposition which commits the juvenile to the Office of Juvenile Services, the court shall order the juvenile to be evaluated by the office if the juvenile has not had an evaluation within the past twelve months.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Credibility of OJS reports and recommendations has dictated the usage of these reports.
- Judges will use if they need specific information about mental health or educational needs.
- An OJS evaluation will be ordered if there is a sense that out of home placement may occur.

Decision: *Whether to order a PDI and an OJS evaluation.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- None reported.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Judges are more likely to order a PDI first and an OJS evaluation as a follow up.

System Decision Point: Disposition - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether to place juvenile on probation.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.

Informal Determining Factors

- The preference of the Judges is to have the juvenile at home under supervision of their parents.
- Provision of service or lack of Probation services will determine if juvenile is placed on Probation.

Decision: *Whether to commit juvenile to the Office of Juvenile Services.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- If juvenile is at least twelve years of age.

Informal Determining Factors:

- If there are other issues in the family, juveniles may be placed with OJS so resources can be accessed for both the juvenile and the family.
- Continuum of monitoring and resources.

Decision: *Whether to place juvenile on probation and commit juvenile to HHS or OJS.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.
- No apparent authority for delinquent in the legal custody of parents or guardians.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Judges will do dual cases for supervision and resources.
- Judges see a dual supervision case as a benefit to the juvenile as they receive supervision by probation and resources from HHS/OJS.

System Decision Point: Administrative Sanctions – Probation

Decision: *Whether to impose administrative sanctions on a probationer.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- If Probation officers have reasonable cause to believe that a probationer has committed or is about to commit a substance abuse violation or a non criminal violation.
- Substance abuse violation refers to a positive test for drug or alcohol use, failure to report for such a test, or failure to comply with substance abuse evaluations or treatment.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Probation is not using administrative sanctions as much as just a simple modification order.

System Decision Point: Motion To Revoke Probation - County Attorney

Decision: *Whether to file a motion to revoke probation.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Probation will request a motion to "review" which initiates the process and indicates the case needs be addressed by the Court.

Comments:

As stated in the charging decision point. Motion to Reviews (as they are called in Sarpy County) are filed on same docket which is causing an issue for accuracy of number of cases.

System Decision Point: Modification/Revocation of Probation - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether to modify or revoke probation.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- As outlined in statute.

Informal Determining Factors:

- Judges are more likely to modify a Probation order.

- Judges don't "revoke" Probation orders.

System Decision Point: Setting Aside Adjudication - Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether juvenile has satisfactorily completed his or her probation and supervision or the treatment program of his or her commitment.*

Formal Determining Factors:

- The juvenile's post-adjudication behavior and response to treatment and rehabilitation programs.
- Whether setting aside adjudication will depreciate the seriousness of the juvenile's conduct or promote disrespect for the law.
- Whether failure to set aside adjudication may result in disabilities disproportionate to the conduct upon which the adjudication was based.

Informal Determining Factors:

- One Judge does not go to dispositions on cases so he/she can modify or terminate at any time.
- One Judge will go to disposition on cases but has further review hearings with termination dates subject to progress.

Decision: *Whether juvenile should be discharged from custody and supervision of OJS.*

- Presumable the same as those for Probation.

Informal Determining Factors:

- If the case is not a commitment, juvenile will be discharged by OJS and placed on Probation for continued supervision.
- Will terminate on recommendation.

Summary/Recommendations:

Sarpy County juvenile justice officials met in September 2011 to discuss the community planning tool for the next three year Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan. The SAFE Committee was brought together for this discussion. Representatives from law enforcement agencies, the Sarpy County Attorney's Office, the Sarpy County Public Defender's Office, the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center and CARE Program, the Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court Judges, Sarpy County Juvenile Diversion Services, Sarpy County schools, and Probation were reporting parties. Several recommendations were presented based on the Community Capacity Inventory. Between the community planning tool and needs assessment study the following recommendations were identified as possible priorities.

1) Because Sarpy County has been approved as a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) site, it has a unique opportunity to implement system-wide reforms based on JDAI data analysis. Sarpy County will work with a JDAI Site Coordinator to gather statistics and data in order to submit proposals to County officials for programming reforms. The first step in this process is executing a contract for the Sarpy County JDAI Site Coordinator. The Coordinator will begin to gather information from all juvenile justice agencies to increase system operation, decrease DMC issues, and decrease case processing times with the ultimate goal of introducing reforms to the system and alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County.

2) Because Sarpy County has the potential for an early intervention point with juveniles in the County through the Juvenile Justice Reporting Center and Diversion, a comprehensive early assessment component needs to be implemented for substance abuse/alcohol and behavior/mental health issues. Assessing juveniles at the entry point of the system will allow this instrument to potentially "move" with the juvenile throughout the system.

3) Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) is an issue that is being addressed at a national level by the Federal Government. It would benefit this community to work with the State's DMC coordinator to assist with any training and educational services as needed. Through the JDAI process, Sarpy County will work to identify DMC issues and implement reforms striving to decrease disparities for minority youth at all entry points throughout the system.

4) Justice officials are stating there are a number of young offenders (8-12) entering the system. Because the Diversion Program is well established, it would benefit Sarpy County to develop programming through the Diversion Program for these young offenders and their families.

5) The CARE Program in Sarpy County is a cost effective way to keep juvenile offenders in the home and community allowing them to be in school, work, and other related community based programs. Additionally, due to the increase in juveniles charged with alcohol and substance abuse violations, it is imperative funding be secured for continuation of the Sarpy County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC). The JDTC uses a team approach to address substance abuse in Juveniles involved in Sarpy County Juvenile Court. Juveniles are provided skills that will aid them in leading productive substance free lives encouraging them to work toward their educational goals. These two programs need to continue being a priority for Sarpy County.

6) Due to the number of juveniles suspended, expelled, or not attending school in Sarpy County, many juveniles are not supervised during the day hours which is directly linked to juvenile delinquency. Other issues such as mental health and substance abuse are often contributing factors to the school related problems. Establishing a day reporting program in Sarpy County which includes education, therapy for mental health and substance abuse (if needed), transportation, parenting programs, and other social skill opportunities would provide collaborative coordination for this gap in services. Truancy remains an accurate predictor of future delinquency. As truancy and school connectivity are related, a community is tasked with the efforts to provide after school programs, mentoring, and other community service activities to youth.

Appendix B

Strategies

Priority One	Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County
Specific Strategies:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Implement the JDAI in Sarpy County.2. Establish mental health/behavioral alternatives for juveniles in Sarpy County.3. Enhance services offered through Sarpy County Teen Court and Juvenile Diversion.4. Provide programming alternatives system wide for juveniles in Sarpy County.
Priority Two	Reduce DMC issues in Sarpy County
Specific Strategies:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify DMC issues in Sarpy County through JDAI analysis.2. Implement reforms identified by JDAI analysis to reduce DMC issues at all contact points in Sarpy County.

Priority Three	Improve system operation and coordination
Specific Strategies:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop integrated Information Systems. 2. Improve case processing times, system inefficiencies, and placements for juveniles in Sarpy County. 3. Ensure adequate staffing levels and competencies.

Priority Four	Improve collaboration among members of the community
Specific Strategies:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish new and non-traditional contacts throughout the community. 2. Improve attendance and participation in meetings.

Priority Five	Expand and enhance existing programming for juveniles in Sarpy County
Specific Strategies:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand drug and alcohol treatment programs. 2. Enhance the CARE, Truancy and Reporting Center programs in Sarpy County.

Appendix C

Strategies and Timeline for the Comprehensive Plan

	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
Priority One: Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County Strategy: Implement JDAI in Sarpy County	Execute contract for a JDAI Site Coordinator.	Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center Director, District #2 Probation, Juvenile Court Judges, Juvenile Diversion	Year One	Funding, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies
	Work with JDAI Site Coordinator to gather data for analysis.	SAFE Committee and Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies, and Sarpy County Information Systems	Year One	SAFE Committee, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies, and Sarpy County Information Systems Department
	Coordinate periodic meetings to collaborate on analysis findings.	SAFE Committee, Sarpy County Information Systems Department, and Juvenile Justice Agencies	Year One	SAFE Committee, Sarpy County Information Systems Department, and Juvenile Justice Agencies
	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
Priority One: Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County Strategy: Implement Young Offender Program	Research funding opportunities in order to develop a young offender program for juveniles ages 8-12.	JDAI Coordinator, Juvenile Diversion, County Attorney, Grant Coordinator	Year Two	Funding, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies
	Work with SAFE Committee and Sarpy County agencies to implement the young offender program.	SAFE Committee and Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies, and JDAI Site Coordinator	Year Two	SAFE Committee, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies, and Sarpy County Grant Coordinator
	Secure the necessary funding to sustain a program for young offenders.	SAFE Committee, Sarpy County Information Systems Department, and Juvenile Justice Agencies	Year Three	SAFE Committee, and Juvenile Justice Agencies, Sarpy County Grant Coordinator

<p>Priority One: Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County</p> <p>Strategy: Establish mental health services for juveniles in Sarpy County</p>	<p>Work to secure funding for juvenile mental health services.</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, and Juvenile Justice agencies, Sarpy County Service Providers</p>	<p>Year Two</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, Juvenile Justice agencies, Service Providers</p>
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	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
<p>Priority One: Establish alternatives to detention for juveniles in Sarpy County.</p> <p>Strategy: Enhance Services offered through Sarpy County Teen Court and Juvenile Diversion</p>	<p>Expand Teen Court and Diversion Services in order to accommodate additional offenders in an effort to divert juveniles from formal court processing.</p>	<p>Teen Court Coordinator, Juvenile Diversion Services Director, SAFE Committee, CJCC</p>	<p>Year One, Year Two</p>	<p>Funding, SAFE Committee, Teen Court Coordinator, and the Director of the Juvenile Diversion Services</p>

	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
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<p>Priority Two: Reduce DMC issues in Sarpy County.</p> <p>Strategy: Work with JDAI Coordinator and State DMC Coordinator to implement reforms to reduce DMC issues identified in analysis.</p>	<p>Work with JDAI Coordinator and State DMC Coordinator to implement necessary reforms in order to reduce DMC issues identified in JDAI data analysis.</p>	<p>JDAI Site Coordinator, State DMC Coordinator, SAFE Committee, CJCC, and Juvenile Justice agencies, Sarpy County Information Services</p>	<p>Year Two and Year Three</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, Juvenile Justice agencies, Sarpy County Information Services</p>
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	Action	Who	When	Resources Needed
<p>Priority Three: Improve system operation and coordination.</p> <p>Strategy: Improve case processing times, system inefficiencies, and placements for juveniles in Sarpy County</p>	<p>Work with the JDAI Site Coordinator to identify the reason for delays in case processing times, system inefficiencies, and ineffective juvenile placements through JDAI analysis.</p> <p>Implement system reforms to improve case processing times, placements, and system inefficiencies.</p>	<p>JDAI Coordinator, SAFE Committee, CJCC, Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Agencies, Sarpy County Information Systems, County Board of Commissioners</p> <p>JDAI Coordinator, SAFE Committee, CJCC, Sarpy I.S.S., Sarpy Juvenile Justice Agencies, Board of Commissioners</p>	<p>Year Two</p> <p>Year Three</p>	<p>Funding, SAFE Committee, County Board of Commissioners</p> <p>Funding, County Board of Commissioners, SAFE Committee, CJCC</p>

	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
<p>Priority Three: Improve system operation and coordination.</p> <p>Strategy: Ensure adequate staffing levels and competencies.</p>	<p>Ensure adequate staffing to accommodate Program growth.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate training and continuing education opportunities for employees of Sarpy County Juveniles Services agencies.</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, Director of the Juvenile Justice Center, County Board of Commissioners</p>	<p>Year One, Two, and Three</p>	<p>Funding, SAFE Committee, Director of the Juvenile Justice Center, County Board of Commissioners</p>
	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
<p>Priority Four: Improve collaboration among members of the community</p> <p>Strategy: Improve attendance and participation in meetings</p>	<p>Communicate committee objectives, goals, and agendas to members of the community through meetings, phone calls, emails, letters, and community forums.</p> <p>Organize forums with guest speakers, presentations on youth topics and information exchanges.</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, Underage Risky Behaviors Committee, and SCEP Board</p>	<p>Year One</p> <p>Year One, Two, and Three</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, Underage Risky Behaviors Committee, and SCEP Board</p>

	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
<p>Priority Four: Improve collaboration among members of the community.</p> <p>Strategy: Establish new and non-traditional contacts throughout the community.</p>	<p>Communicate with Committee the need for input from new members of the community to include: faith based organizations, Recreational clubs, YMCA, additional school district contacts, and treatment providers such as Heartland Family Services.</p> <p>Reach out to non-traditional contacts through personal phone calls, emails, letters, and inter-agency communication.</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, Underage Risky Behaviors Committee, and SCEP Board</p>	<p>Year One</p> <p>Year One, Two, and Three</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, CJCC, Underage Risky Behaviors Committee, and SCEP Board</p>
<p>Priority Five: Enhance existing programs and services for juvenile offenders.</p> <p>Strategy: Expand drug and alcohol programming.</p>	<p>Seek the necessary resources that allow Sarpy County to continue offering juveniles with alcohol or drug violations services through Diversion programming and Juvenile Drug Treatment Court.</p>	<p>SAFE Committee, Diversion Services Executive Director, District #2 Probation, Sarpy County JDTC, Sarpy County Board of Commissioners</p>	<p>Year One, Two, and Three</p>	<p>Funding, SAFE Committee, Diversion Services Executive Director, District #2 Probation, Sarpy County JDTC, and Sarpy County Board of Commissioners</p>

	Activity	Who	When	Resources Needed
<p>Priority Five: Expand and Enhance existing programs and services for juvenile offenders.</p> <p>Strategy: Enhance the CARE, Truancy, and Reporting Center Programs</p>	<p>Expand programming and resources available to the Reporting Center, Truancy and CARE in an effort to provide juveniles with the least restrictive appropriate environment becoming incrementally more restrictive only as absolutely necessary.</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, SAFE Committee, Director of the Juvenile Justice Center</p>	<p>Year One, Two, and Three</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, SAFE Committee, Director of the Juvenile Justice Center, Funding sources</p>

Appendix D

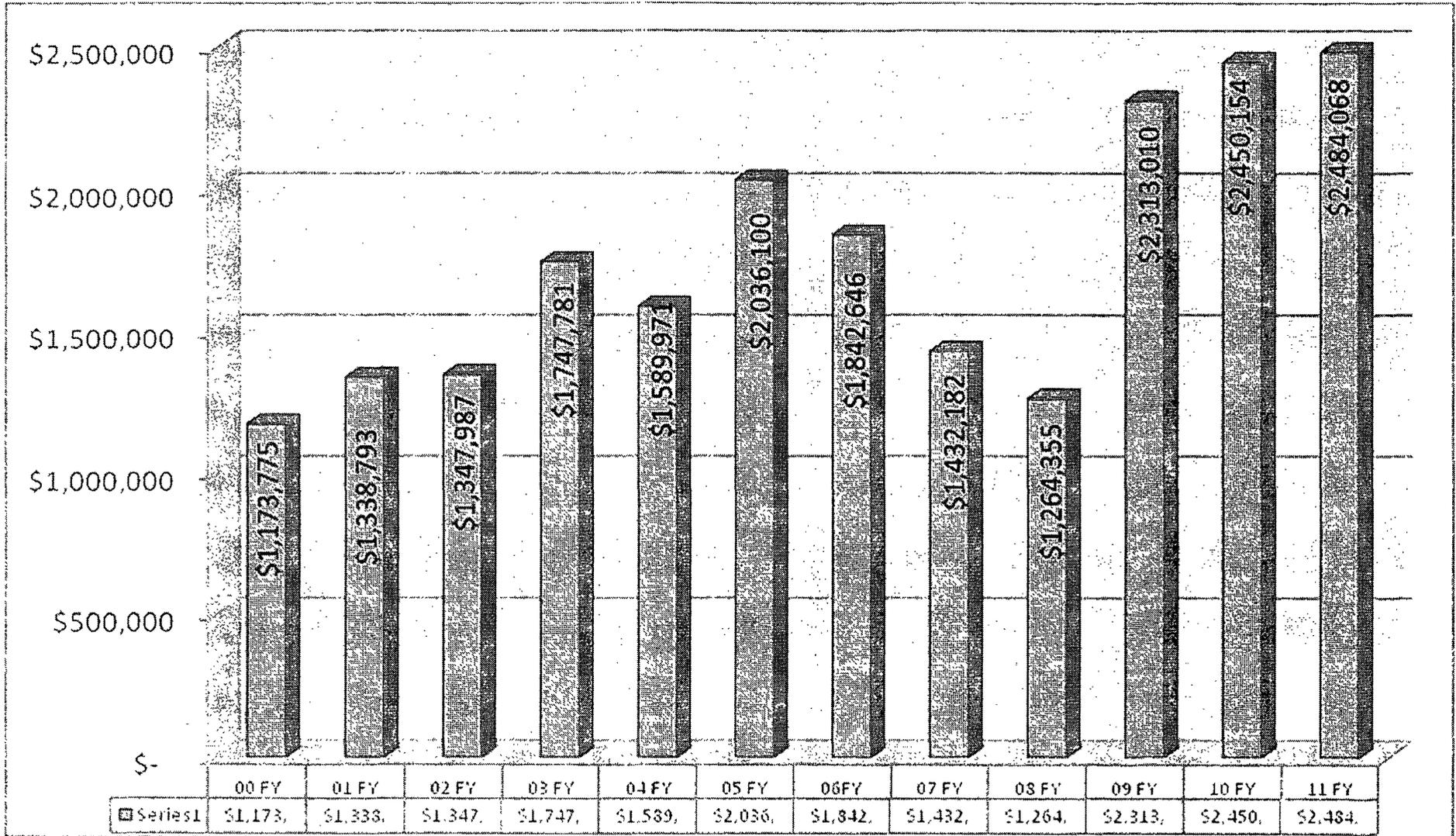
SAFE Committee Community Team Members

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Appendix E

Sarpy County Juvenile Services Detention Costs 2000-2011



Appendix F

Sarpy County Juvenile Services Non-Detention Costs 2000-2011

