



DRAFT AGENDA

INSTITUTE DAY ONE

8:00AM TO 5:00PM

Making Juvenile Justice a Priority: Why Are We Here?

- Overview of topics to be covered during the Institute and why they are important
- Crisis of over-incarceration: expensive and counter-productive to public safety
- Findings from “Pathways to Desistance” research on the tendency of most juveniles to age out of criminal behavior and factors that help break the cycle of offending
- Embedding juvenile justice reforms into an agency-wide “smart on crime” community policing strategy
- Sharing challenges agency executives are facing with youth in their communities

Adolescent Development & Implications for Law Enforcement

- Key aspects of adolescent neurobiology such as testing boundaries, challenging authority, and difficulty controlling impulses and making sound decisions
- Effects of adolescent development youth-law enforcement interactions
- Propensity of young people to age out of offending and their amenability to rehabilitation
- Ways to integrate current research on adolescent development into officer training and other aspects of agency operations

Trauma & Children Exposed to Violence

- Impacts of childhood exposure to violence and implications for juvenile offending
- Recognizing children exposed to violence and approaches for effectively interacting with these children using both developmentally-appropriate and trauma-informed approaches
- Identifying agency and community resources specializing in childhood traumatic stress and recovery to refer children exposed to violence
- Policies and systems that agencies and communities can develop to more effectively respond to children exposed to violence

Building Trust with Young People

- Elevating juvenile justice and youth issues as a priority across the agency
- Importance of fostering trust and connection with young people to fostering community trust more broadly and to reducing juvenile crime
- Assessing community strengths and needs and identifying strategies and model programs for building trust

Racial & Ethnic Disparities: Confronting Implicit Bias

- What research tells us about the extent and sources of racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system – including research on society-wide implicit bias
- Identifying and implementing promising strategies and model programs for reducing bias, and racial and ethnic disparities at the front end of the juvenile justice system

Racial & Ethnic Disparities: The Role of Agency Policy and Practice

- Rethinking agency policies and practices that are race-neutral on their face but can have a discriminatory impact
- The role data can play in identifying sources of racial and ethnic disparities and developing strategies for overcoming them

De-Escalation

- The importance of de-escalation for maximizing the safety of officers, youth, and others; minimizing arrests where appropriate; building trust with young people and the broader community; addressing perceived and actual racial and ethnic disparities; and responding more effectively to youth with mental health or substance abuse disorders or trauma histories
- Strategies and model programs for increasing the effective use of de-escalation techniques

Law Enforcement & School Collaborations

- Roles of law enforcement officials who interact with youth in schools: fostering positive relationships between students and police and understanding of the role of law enforcement, improving school safety, and enabling law enforcement agencies to coordinate with school personnel to proactively address students' needs
- Factors that contribute to students being excluded from school and getting caught up in the juvenile and criminal justice systems, and racial and ethnic disparities in the numbers of students affected by these trends
- Promising models for effective training, protocols, and direction for officers working in schools and clear expectations/agreements among schools and law enforcement agencies
- Improving collaboration among law enforcement, schools, and others to craft effective school discipline, safety, and truancy strategies that prioritize school completion and minimize unnecessary juvenile justice system involvement

Diversion

- Benefits of diversion including cost savings and recidivism reduction
- Examples of diversion such as mental health/substance abuse treatment, mediation and other restorative justice approaches, youth court, and citation in lieu of arrest
- Considerations for law enforcement when developing and expanding diversion systems, including the agency's legal authority to divert youth, identifying and collaborating with diversion programs/services, developing protocols, educating officers, and measuring outcomes

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

- Prevalence of behavioral health disorders among young people in the juvenile justice system and implications for law enforcement
- Recognizing and responding appropriately to youth with mental health and substance abuse disorders
- Promising models for training, community collaboration, and assessment/referral to mental health and substance abuse services
- Participants assess their agencies' capacity to respond to young people with mental health and substance abuse conditions and learn about other agencies' approaches from their peers

Responding to Serious and Chronic Offenders

- What research tells us about the propensity of serious juvenile offenders to age out of offending, and the kinds of supports these young people need to break the cycle of offending
- Importance of identifying the needs of these young people to prevent re-arrest, including for those re-entering from confinement
- Promising models for responding to serious and chronic offenders

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Recap of key strategies identified throughout the three day Institute
- Avenues for leveraging law enforcement leaders' knowledge and influence to advocate for more effective responses to at-risk youth and juvenile offenders across their communities and at the state and national levels