

# Exploring Efforts to Provide Coordinated Reentry Services to Youth

2022 Second Chance Month

April 25, 2022

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# American Institutes for Research

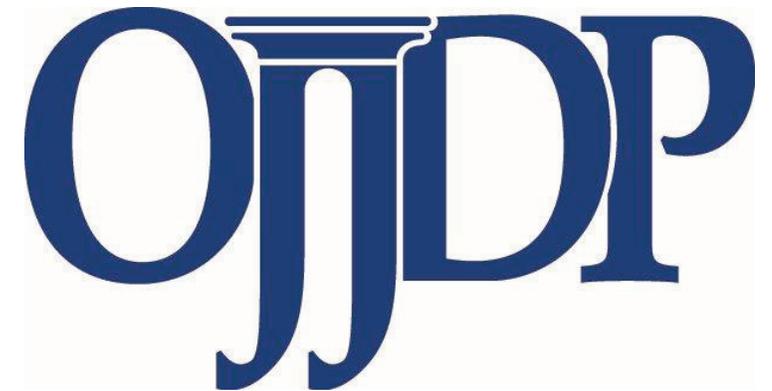
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AIR delivers TA for a subset of Second Chance Act grantees through the Corrections & Community Engagement Technical Assistance Center (CCETAC).



# Second Chance Month – April 2022

Help individuals, communities, and agencies across the country recognize the importance of reentry and their role in building second chances



# Track News and Updates on Social Media

**#ReentryMatters**

**#SecondChanceMonth**

**#SecondChanceMonth22**



# Session Objectives

- Learning Objectives
  - Participants will explore strategies for developing, implementing, and sustaining reentry.
  - Participants will learn from existing reentry programs at various stages of implementation.

# Presenters

- Julia Alanen, OJJDP-Intervention Division
- Terrence Sheppard, Alameda County WERISE
- Debbie Dawes and Christal E. Carmichael, North Carolina Reentry 2 Resilience
- Reg Garff and Deann Mason, Utah Division of Juvenile Justice

# WE RISE PROJECT

**Alameda County Probation Department**

Terrence Sheppard, Deputy Probation Officer III



# What is the WE RISE Project?

- Intensive case management and life coaching support for gang-affiliated youth returning to Oakland from Juvenile Hall.
- Services delivered by one dedicated deputy probation officer (DPO) and one dedicated life coach.



# Program Goals

The life coach and DPO work together to help youth achieve the following goals:

- ✓ Meet the terms and conditions of their probation
- ✓ Reintegrate into school successfully and attend school regularly
- ✓ Strengthen relationships with family and social groups that have a positive influence
- ✓ Weaken relationships with social groups that have a negative influence
- ✓ Avoid violence and illegal activity

# Program Enrollment

- **Determination of gang affiliation:** Made by DPO Sheppard based on youth intake interview and other intelligence
- **Youth assent:** DPO Sheppard explains the program to youth and obtains youth's signature on an assent form if the youth wants to participate. (Program is VOLUNTARY)
- **Parent consent:** DPO Sheppard explains the program to parents and obtains a parent signature on the program consent form
- **Supervision assignment:** DPO Sheppard assigns youth to his caseload

# Duties of DPO

- Develop **supervision plan** for youth
- Supervise youth to ensure they are adhering to their **terms and conditions of probation**
- Engage in **prosocial activities** with youth and their families
- Provide **gift cards** to youth and families (food, clothing, toiletries, etc.)
- Deliver **cognitive behavioral therapy programming** through Carey Guides
- Organize and facilitate **family engagement activities** (game night, paint party, fishing, etc.) to promote family bonding

# Duties of Life Coach

- Help youth **develop a life map** that outlines their personal goals and the steps needed to achieve them over 12–18 months.
- Support youth in **achieving their life map goals** however necessary
- Provide youth with **stipends** totaling up to \$800 for completion of life map goals
- Facilitate **multidisciplinary team meetings** for youth to arrange community-based services and supports
- Operate **work programs** that provide program youth with paid internship opportunities
- Administer **assessments** to evaluate youth needs and outcomes

# Joint Duties—DPO and Life Coach

- **Prerelease case planning:** Before the youth is released from Juvenile Hall, DPO and life coach start making referrals to services/programs and working with the youth's family to address pressing needs
- **School welcome circle:** DPO and life coach convene a meeting with the youth and supportive teachers and staff to assist with a successful transition back to school
- **Ongoing case management:** DPO and life coach meet regularly with youth and their families to support their goals and address pressing needs

# Program Participation

- Up to 15 youth are on the WE RISE caseload at one time
- **Successful program completion** = completing all terms and conditions of probation without a new conviction **AND** completing life map goals



# Program Outcomes

We assess the following outcomes for each participant:

- ✓ Completion of probation
- ✓ School attendance and performance
- ✓ Technical violations of probation
- ✓ Recidivism (conviction of a new offense)
- ✓ Strength of relationships with family and positive groups
- ✓ Strength of relationships with group or gang affiliates

# Assessment Tool

We use a modified version of the Social Embeddedness Tool (SET) to assess changes in strength of relationships between youth and their:

- Family
- Group or gang
- Other positive group (identified by youth)

The SET assesses the following constructs for each group:

- **Identification:** How strongly youth identifies with each group
- **Time spent:** How much time youth spends with each group per week
- **Connection:** How connected youth feels to each group

Note: We use the SET with permission from the Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Gang Reduction & Youth Development, ©2012 City of Los Angeles.

# Assessment Tool

The SET is administered at the following intervals:

- **Baseline:** 0–3 months following program enrollment
- **Midpoint:** 9 months following program enrollment
- **Endpoint:** Program completion (typically 12–18 months)
- **Follow-up:** 6–12 months following program completion

# Evaluation

The Alameda County Probation Department partners with **Bright Research Group**, a research firm based in Oakland, to achieve the following:

- Document and validate the theory of change and lessons learned
- Provide descriptive data on the target population and the outcomes experienced by those who have completed the program
- Generate data and insights about the value of the program to participants and their families
- Generate the insights and learnings necessary for program improvement, scalability, and/or replication



# Thank you!

**Terrence Sheppard**

Deputy Probation Officer III

Email: [tsheppar@acgov.org](mailto:tsheppar@acgov.org)

# Reentry to Resilience

Christal Carmichael, LCMHC, LCAS  
Director of Youth Development

## Keys to Successful Reentry

In North Carolina, the juvenile justice system reduced the number of Youth Development Center (YDC) commitments from 879 in the year 2000 to 148 in 2019.

Reentry for youth in YDCs is a complex, highly individualized process that requires the seamless and coordinated engagement of youth, parents, and multiple systems including juvenile justice, courts, behavioral health, and school.

# **Reentry to Resilience (R2R)**

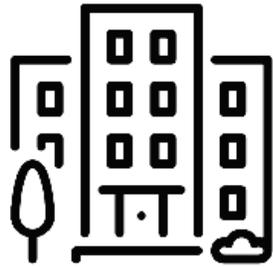
## **Value Statement**

- To successfully transition youth from youth development centers back into the community

# R2R Program Goals

- Successful youth reintegration into family and community systems of care
- Educational progress and advancement
- Mastery of life skills such as critical problem-solving skills and self-control

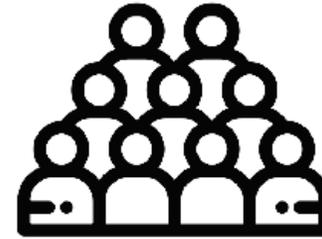
# What We Do



4 YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT  
CENTERS



SERVING 6 COUNTIES  
ACROSS NC



OVER 190  
YOUTH  
SERVED



Costs \$109K/yr to  
house youth in Youth  
Detention Center

.....  
R2R costs \$3K  
per youth/per year



96% of youth who  
graduated from  
R2R had no further  
involvement with  
the criminal  
justice system

# What Stakeholders Have to Say About the R2R Program

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## *Planning Phase Focus Group Perspective*

*“Communities in Schools is a program that fosters and builds a relationship specifically with the schools so having [a Youth Success Coach] involved already, knowledgeable about who to talk to, who to contact as things shift, has been a plus for that particular court counselor but not only helping [the youth] transition into the school system but also just back into the community. I know the partnership that we had with our representative has been wonderful... [They were] very instrumental in assisting that youth alongside with that court counselor. It was a partnership helping them find jobs, definitely getting them back into school settings, really involved with our community college. And again, not saying that the court counselor can't play that role as well, but it was good to have an additional partner to assist with connecting [the youth] to additional resources.”*

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## *Planning Phase Focus Group Perspective*

*“We could use more success coaches to serve more of our children, serve more of our families. Their rapport, their relationship with the youth, everything I heard was extremely positive. They were good at getting community services.”*

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## *Planning Phase Focus Group Perspective*

*“I've been very, very impressed with the commitment levels of those working with [Communities in Schools] and also the connections they are able to make with school and also other services. I think it really helps out in the transition...especially with supporting the court counselor who helps a lot in the transitioning process as well.”*

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# R2R Pillars of Success

- **Educational placement**
- **Vocational services and job/career placement**
- Family engagement to sustain continuum of care
- Community engagement to model the behavioral change, adopt ownership within the community, and give back to the community
- Continuation of therapeutic services to ensure prosocial development



# REENTRY TO RESILIENCE MODEL

To successfully transition youth from Youth Development Centers back into the community.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

## HOME & COMMUNITY

### PHASE 1

INTAKE & ENROLLMENT



### PHASE 2

SERVICE PLANNING MEETING



PRE-RELEASE PLANNING & SUPPORT



RELEASE

### PHASE 3

POST-RELEASE SUPERVISION & SUPPORT



# R2R Phase 1: Intake and Enrollment



**Day 1 YDC Placement:  
Day 60 of Enrollment**

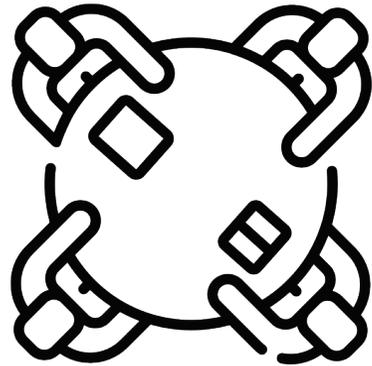
# R2R Phase 1: Critical Activities

- Identification of youth to be served (caseload)
  - Existing and new cases
- Intake process and orientation
- Creation of case files
- Youth and family engagement

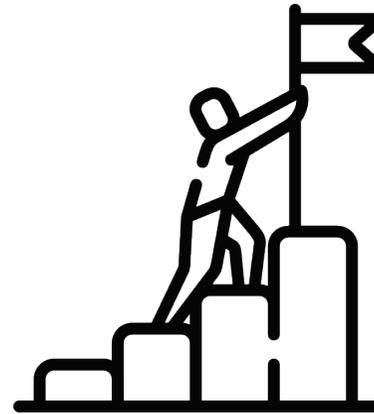


# R2R Phase 2: Pre-release Planning

- Within 3 months, pre-release from YDC



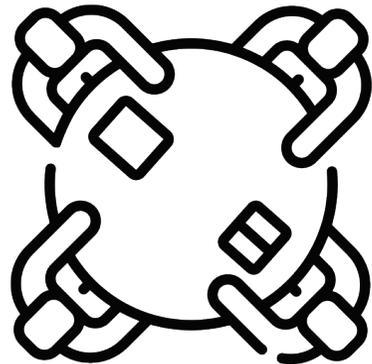
**SERVICE PLANNING  
MEETINGS**



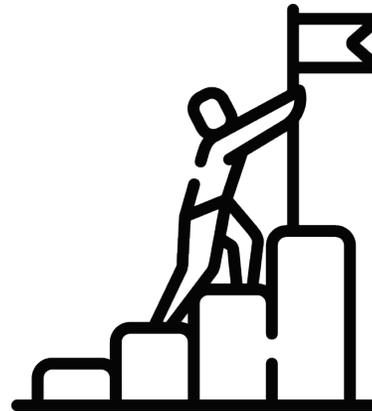
**PRE-RELEASE  
PLANNING**

# R2R Phase 2: Critical Activities

- Develop Transition Intervention Plan (TIP)
- Intensify efforts to prepare home/family and school for reentry
- Develop youth portfolio



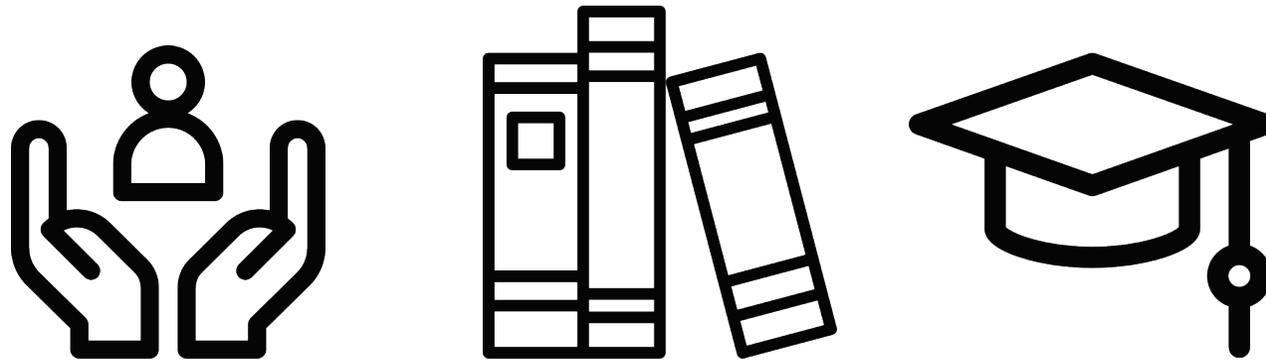
**SERVICE PLANNING  
MEETINGS**



**PRE-RELEASE  
PLANNING**

# R2R Phase 3: YDC Exit and Community Reentry

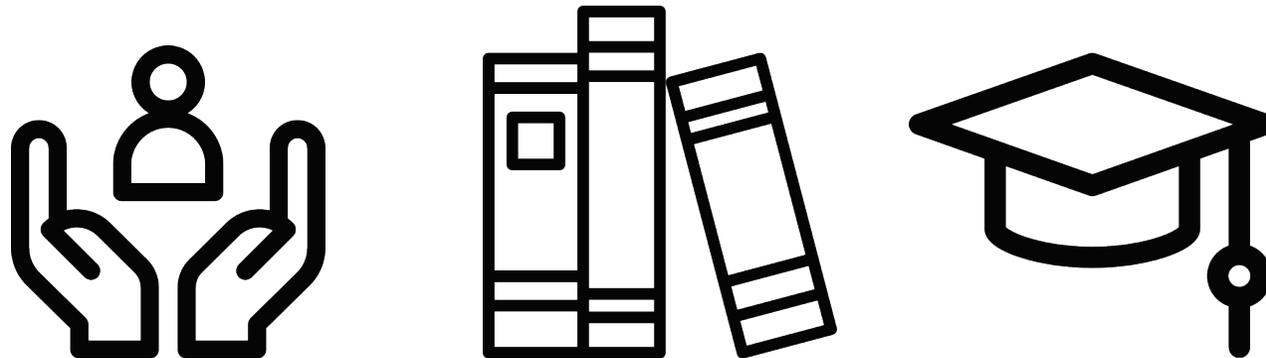
- Day 1 of release from YDC: End of CISNC case



**POST-RELEASE SUPERVISION & SUPPORT**

# R2R Phase 3: Critical Activities

- Execute TIP
- Prepare student community support system for exit
- Support youth/family through effective case management



**POST-RELEASE SUPERVISION & SUPPORT**

# Comprehensive Study of R2R

Youth Reentry Research in Action Through Partnership

RTI International, the NC Department of Public Safety,  
and Communities in Schools—North Carolina

Debbie Dawes, Director, Court Systems Research Program,  
Division of Applied Justice Research



*This project was supported by Grant # 2019-CZ-BX-0019 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.*



# OJJDP Second Chance Act Grants: Fostering Collaboration

- Fiscal year (FY) 2015 Second Chance Act Comprehensive Statewide Juvenile Reentry Reform Implementation Program
  - ❑ North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NC DPS) develops package of reforms to improve case planning, needs-to-service matching practices, parent engagement, and education and workforce development supports.
  - ❑ NC DPS partners with RTI to assess reform implementation and conduct a youth reentry study.
    - Study finds that enrollment in appropriate school settings is a major barrier for youth and parents.

# OJJDP Second Chance Act Grants: Fostering Collaboration

- FY 2016 Continuation Funding
  - NC DPS partners with Communities in Schools
  - NC DPS implements R2R pilot in four counties
- FY 2019 Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program
  - NC DPS partners with Communities in Schools to expand R2R pilot
  - NC DPS partners with RTI to conduct a comprehensive study of the R2R pilot

# R2R Learning Evaluation Overview

- RTI's study design uses a learning framework that recognizes the importance of context, process, and information feedback loops
- Learning from R2R pilot programs
  - ❑ Model elements, fidelity measures, quality assurance, adaptations
  - ❑ Staff training
  - ❑ Implementation context
  - ❑ Sustainability and expansion

# R2R Learning Evaluation Overview

- Data Collection
  - ❑ Focus groups and interviews
  - ❑ Fidelity and quality assurance data
  - ❑ Administrative data and OJJDP performance measure data
- Data Analysis
  - ❑ Focus group/interview data synthesis
  - ❑ Fidelity and quality assurance data analysis
  - ❑ Outcome data analysis
  - ❑ OJJDP performance measures analysis

# R2R Learning Evaluation Overview

- Feedback to R2R and NC DPS
  - Weekly check-in meetings
  - Continuous improvement through
    - Reporting on fidelity and quality assurance
    - Identifying capacity-building needs
    - Surfacing implementation/operational challenges
    - Summarizing recommendations for improvements
  - Technical reports and presentations

# QUESTIONS??

Debbie Dawes and Christal E. Carmichael  
North Carolina Reentry 2 Resilience

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# UTAH'S SECOND CHANCE GRANT: SUPPORTING STABILIZED REENTRY

# SECOND CHANCE ACT GRANT

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- 1** Case manager works with family and youth to determine needs

—————→

 EDUCATION       EMPLOYMENT       HOUSING       MENTORING
- 2** Case manager fills out Second Chance Grant application

—————→ Requests services and supplies needed including tuition, books, or rent


- 3** Application approved by Second Chance Grant team

—————→ The support services coordinator distributes funds



During the last 60 days of residential care, the youth will complete the youth transition survey, which will help identify their needs and fine-tune their career goals.

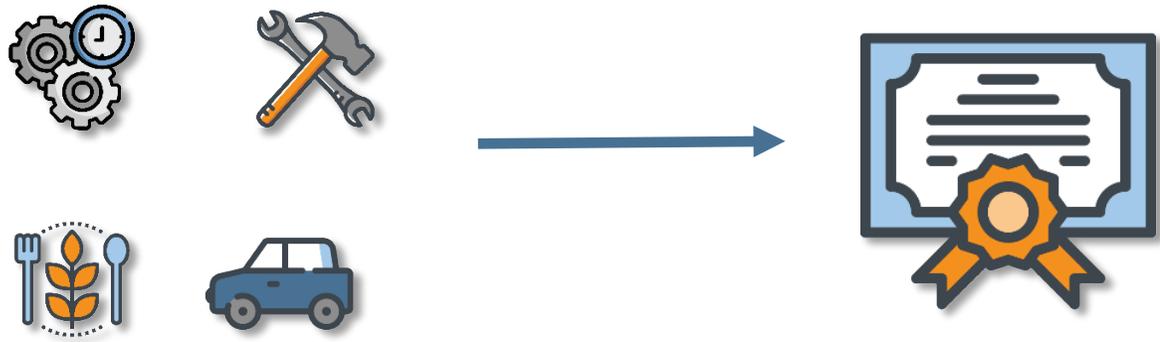
# EDUCATION

## ELIGIBLE YOUTH

- Youth receiving residential or day treatment services with JJS or a JJS contracted provider
- Youth must also have used JJS services for a minimum of 30 days in the course of one year



Certificates can be earned through our partners and include welding (Decker), robotics, composites (Mill Creek), and automotive (Slate). Other certificates, including a food handler's permit, can be earned through the Utah Safety Council.



## PARTNERS



# HOUSING

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Housing is another service offered when a youth needs assistance. This service helps a youth stabilize their environment while gaining the skills to be successfully independent.

## What is the grant used for?

- Deposit
- Rent
- Household supplies
- Furnishings

# EMPLOYMENT

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## OBJECTIVES

- Assist youth with obtaining employment
- Increase the number of vocational certificates offered
- Increase the number of vocational certificates earned by youth
- Increase the number of partnerships and programs with agencies that assist with employment
- Increase the number of youth released into the community with a job secured

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## PARTNERS

### STATEWIDE

- Utah Department of Workforce Services
- Elwood Staffing
- Nexe
- Utah Construction Personnel

### UTAH COUNTY

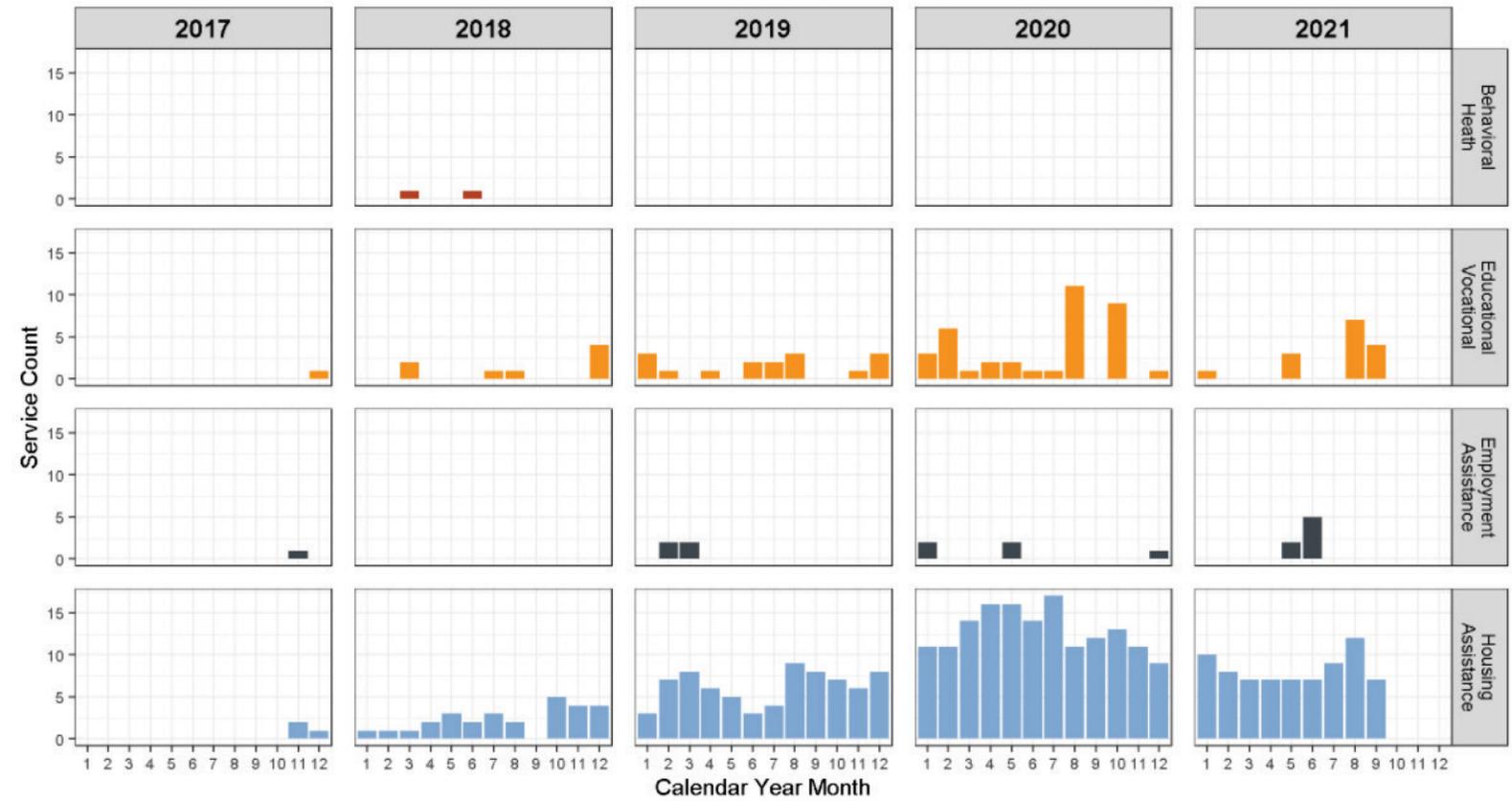
- FiberTel
- Big O' Tires
- Jones Construction

### OGDEN AREA

- Fresenius Medical Care
- Business Depot
- Big Bubba's Trailers
- Bownman Kempis

# EVALUATION

Second Chance Grant Services by Month (Grant Duration)

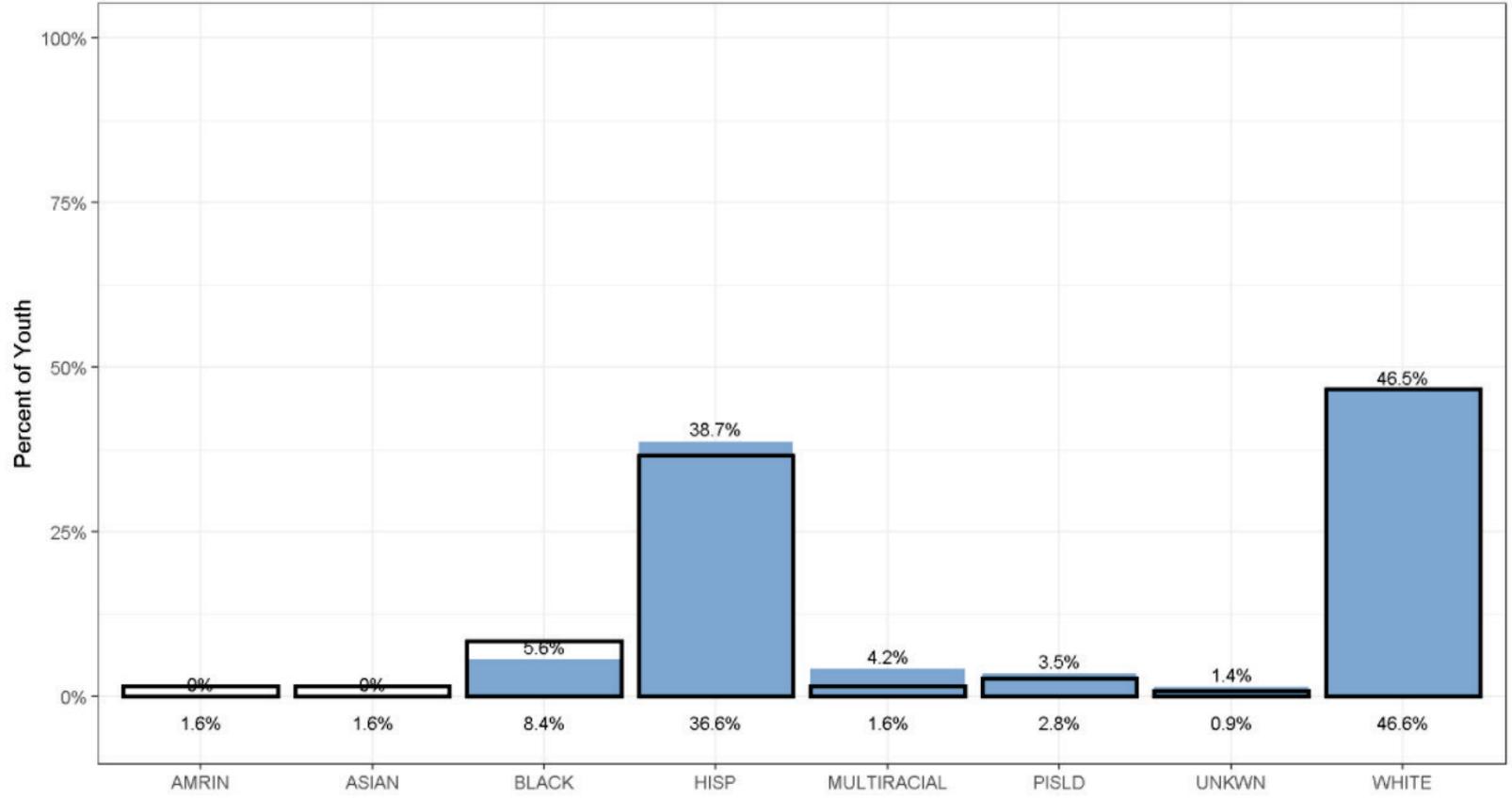


Notes:  
 1. 142 youths have received 430 Second Chance Grant Services.

# EVALUATION

## Second Chance Grant Youth by Race & Ethnicity

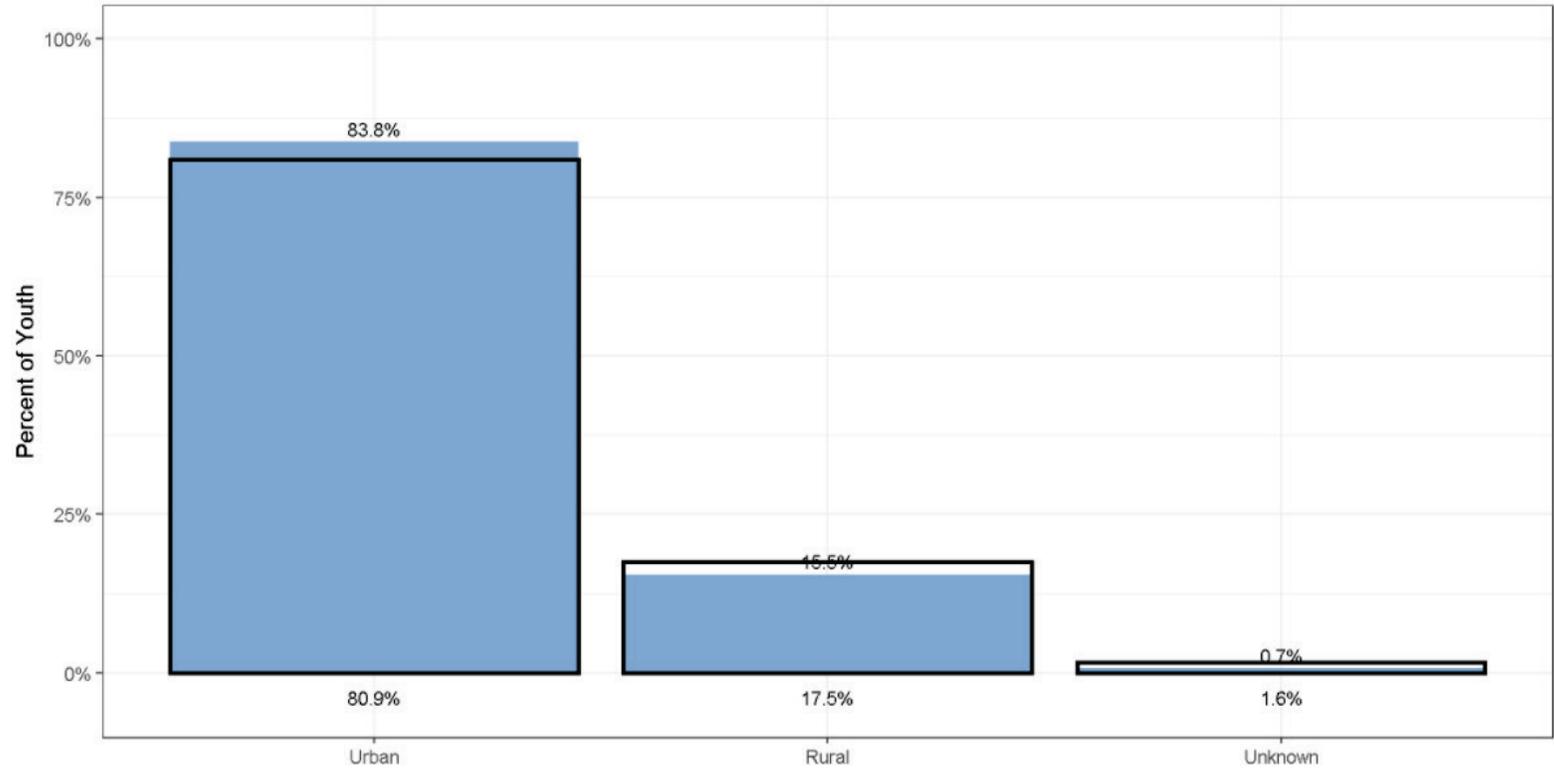
Shaded bars represent the race and ethnicity of Second Chance Grant (N = 142) youths (top #s).  
Open bars represent the race and ethnicity of DJJS custody (N = 320) youths (bottom #s).



# EVALUATION

## Second Chance Grant Youth by Geographical Location (Home County)

Shaded bars represent geographic breakouts for Second Chance Grant (N = 142) youths (top #s).  
Open bars represent geographic breakouts for DJJS custody (N = 320) youths (bottom #s).

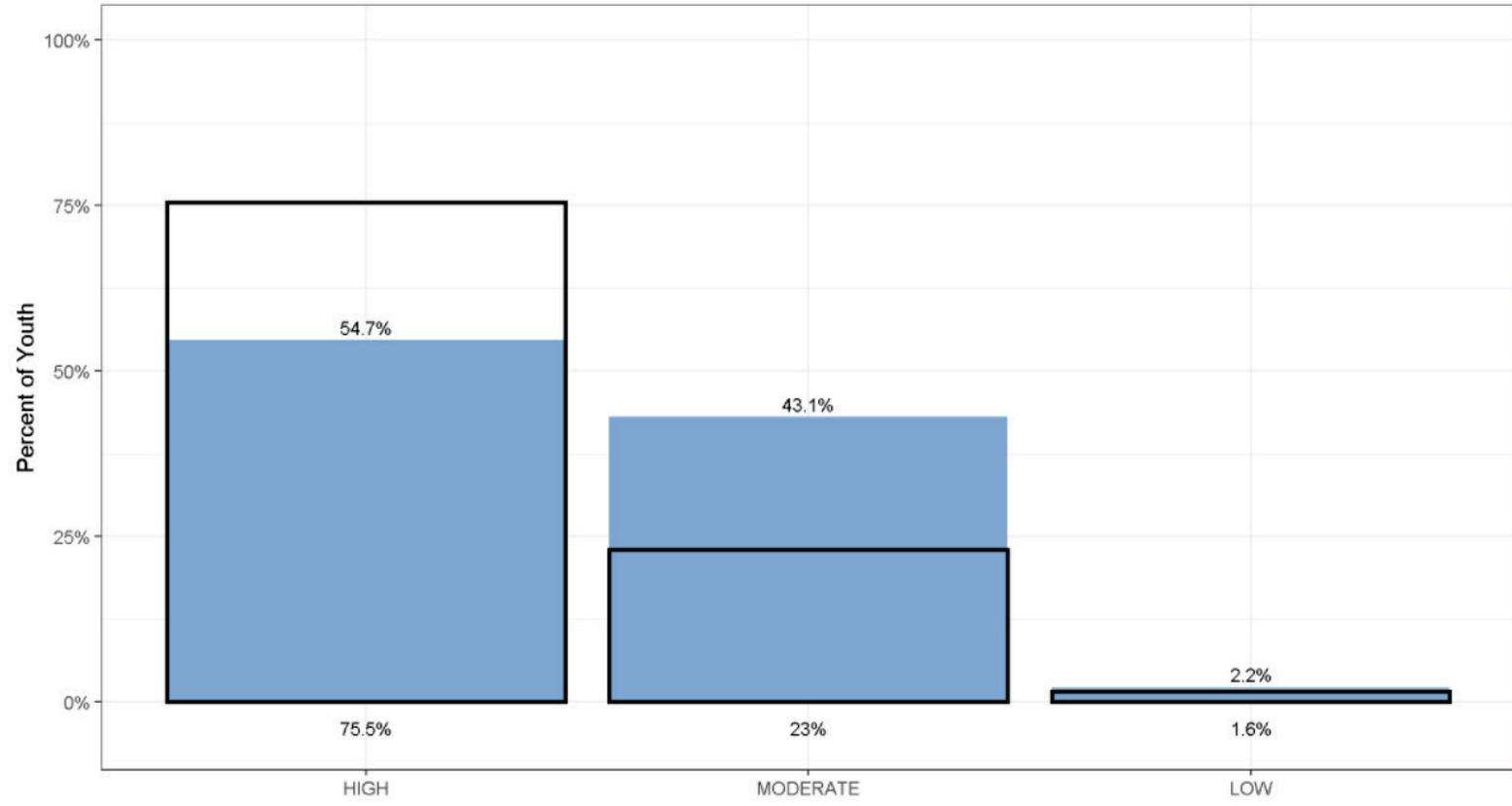


Rural Counties: CACHE, DUCHESNE, IRON, KANE, SANPETE, SEVIER, UINTAH, WASHINGTON  
Urban Counties: DAVIS, MILLARD, SALT LAKE, TOOELE, UTAH, WEBER

# EVALUATION

### Second Chance Grant Youth by PRA Risk Level

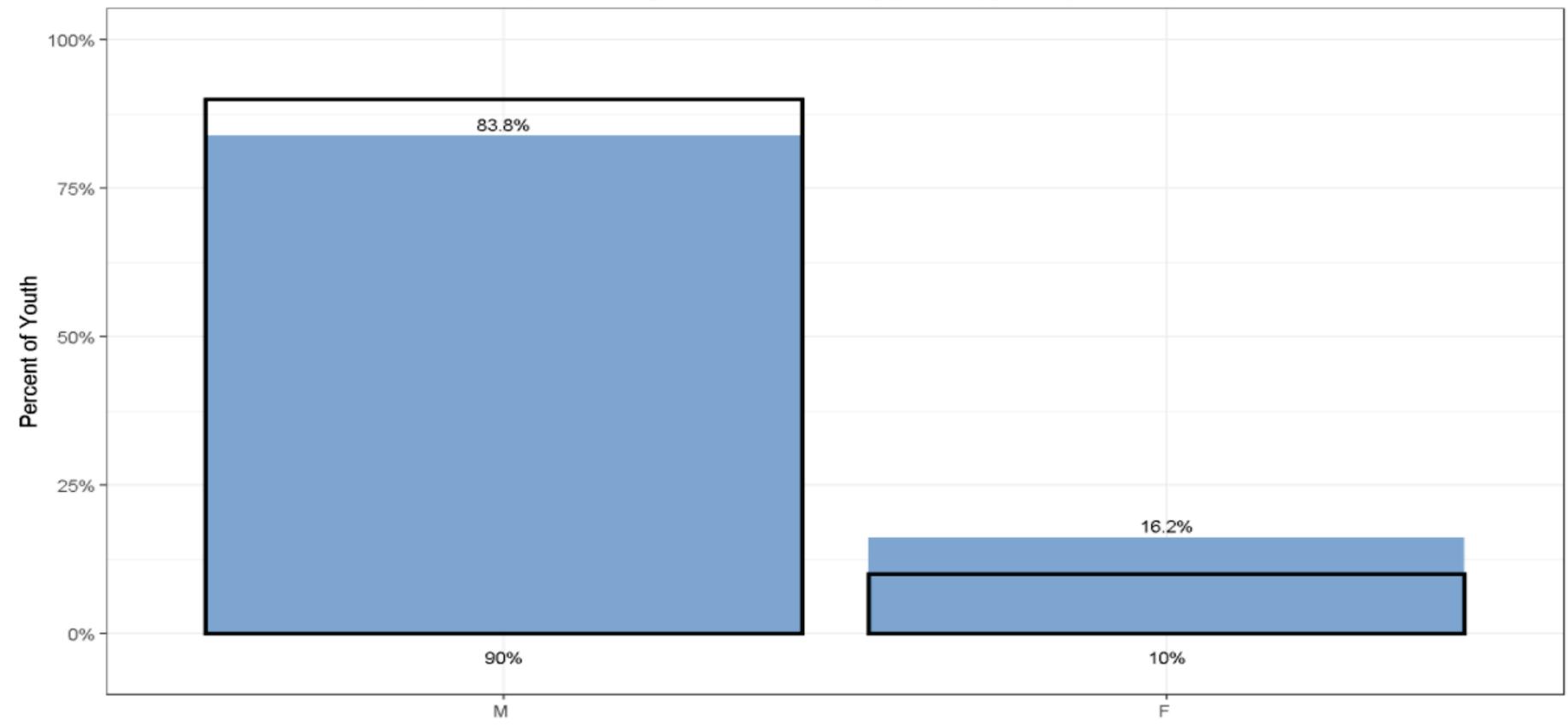
Shaded bars represent PRA risk levels for Second Chance Grant (N = 137) youths (top #s).  
Open bars represent PRA risk levels for DJJS custody (N = 322) youths (bottom #s).



# EVALUATION

### Second Chance Grant Youth by Gender

Shaded bars represent the gender of Second Chance Grant (N = 142) youths (top #s).  
Open bars represent the gender of DJJS custody (N = 320) youths (bottom #s).



# CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Thank you!

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