

Improving Our Juvenile Justice System: *Washington's JDAI*

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)

Providing positive youth outcomes and public safety
(2004-2014)



Community service and restorative justice projects like this Spokane graffiti removal project are examples of alternative to detention programs utilized by JDAI programs across the country and in Washington State.



The Spokane County Juvenile Court Bike Patrol Probation Counselor has a specialized caseload consisting of youth placed in the downtown homeless shelter, transient youth, habitual warrant status youth and youth that frequent the downtown area. The Probation Counselor works with the youth to get them re-engaged with their family and links them to services and resources to get them off the streets. The Probation Counselor collaborates with Business Leaders, the Transit System Security and the Police Department to promote public safety and a healthy downtown environment.

Communities that have been most faithful to the new model have registered the most impressive results, with some districts locking up only about a quarter of the number of youngsters as before. These efforts show that it is possible to treat children humanely without compromising public safety and deserve to be replicated nationwide.

Source: *New York Times*

August 2014

Washington State JDAI

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

Washington's JDAI State Steering Committee

Justice Charles Johnson, Co-Chair
Washington State Supreme Court

Bruce Knutson, Co-Chair
King County Juvenile Court

Representative Ruth Kagi
Representative Luis Moscoso
Representative Mary Helen Roberts

Senator Jeannie Darneille
Washington State Legislature

Judge J. Wesley Saint Clair
King County Superior Court

Judge Kitty-Ann van Doorninck
Pierce County Superior Court

Judge James Orlando
Washington State Partnership
Council on Juvenile Justice

Sandy Mullins
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Dept. of Social & Health Services

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Department of Corrections

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Office of Juvenile Justice

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Washington State Assoc. of
Counties

Kathleen Sande
WA State Office of Public
Instruction

Pat Escamilla
Clark County Juvenile Court

TJ Bohl
Pierce County Juvenile Court

Juan Garza
Adams County Juvenile Court

Rand Young
Washington State JDAI Coordinator

Reasons to support increased legislative funding for JDAI

Since 2004, ten WA State counties have joined with 250 counties in 40 states to replicate the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. Today WA State JDAI sites represent 73% of our state's youth ages 10-17. Using the eight strategies of JDAI, these counties have reduced reliance on detention by 57% which has allowed the closing of detention wings and reassigning staff to alternative programs.

Counties replicating JDAI have demonstrated lower rates of juvenile crime (57.75 felony filings per 10,000 youth compared to 79.54) and have been successful in reducing the number of youth of color detained, with 52% fewer youth of color detained each day. Sites continue to address disproportionality of youth of color in detention.

JDAI has proven to be cost effective for WA State by reducing the number of youth committed to state institutions; JDAI counties commitment rate is 8.25 per 10,000 youth compared to 14.61 for other counties. This lower rate of commitment amounted to a \$7.5 million savings in 2012.

A State Steering Committee has been established to direct the operation of JDAI for the current sites and to provide resources and guidance for new sites showing interest and readiness. A quality assurance plan has been implemented that includes a statewide coordinator, and coordinators in each county to replicate the initiative with fidelity to promote the many benefits JDAI has demonstrated for both counties and the state.

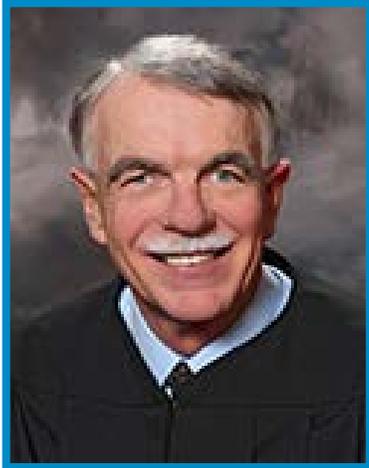
Initially, our state received significant grant funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and also utilized federal grant funds awarded by the WA State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice for "start-up" programming for Washington's JDAI. As both of these funding sources have decreased dramatically over the past few years, additional state funding is required to maintain current operations, or we could lose the excellent results achieved to date.

The WA State Legislature has supported JDAI for several biennia at \$178,000 per year, and the State Steering Committee has recommended requesting additional legislative funding as follows for the 2015-17 biennium:

Current legislative proviso to support JDAI	\$356,000
Recommended increase in state funding	<u>\$387,000</u>
Total Request for Biennium:	\$743,000

For additional information contact Washington's JDAI State Steering Committee:
Rand Young, JDAI Statewide Coordinator (rand_young@msn.com).

A Message from Washington's JDAI State Steering Committee Co-Chairs...



Associate Chief Justice Charles W. Johnson

“The State Supreme Court is supportive of the goal of expanding the Juvenile Detention Alternatives initiative (JDAI) into other counties. Keeping youth out of jail and in school makes sense and is good policy. If you improve the prospects for troubled children they are much more likely to grow into responsible citizens. Many successful individuals can point to a specific person or event that influenced their success. We should not give up on children who can benefit if guided in a more positive direction.”



Bruce Knutson, Director
King County Juvenile Court Services

“Prior to becoming a JDAI site, King County Juvenile Court was locking up 200 youth a day and planning to build a larger, more expensive detention facility. Today, using JDAI strategies, only 60 youth are detained each day, and we avoided the cost of building and operating a larger detention facility, and best of all, juvenile crime is at the lowest rate in decades. JDAI has also guided us on a path of making our system fairer by reducing the number of youth of color detained from 109 to 39 and we are seeing better outcomes for youth who stay in the community at home and attending school, rather than being locked up.

JDAI is a win-win approach to juvenile justice.”

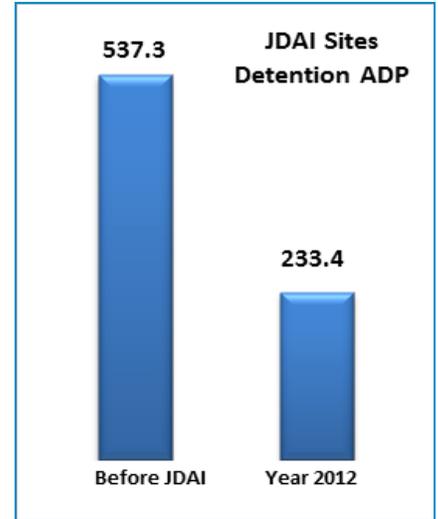
JDAI Reduced Detention by 57%

The average daily population (ADP) in JDAI sites dropped 57%, from 537.3 prior to JDAI to 233.4 in 2012.

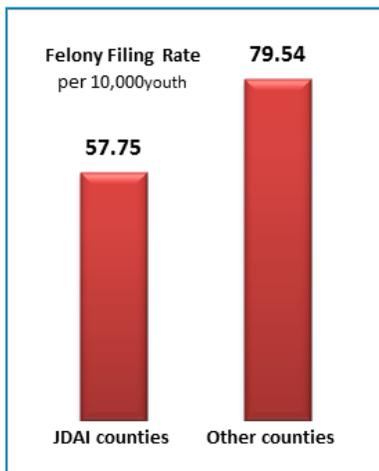
Before JDAI, low risk youth were locked up for minor offenses and probation violations. Using JDAI strategies, such as a detention risk assessment, efforts to reduce warrants and probation violations, and expanded use of alternatives to detention youth are held accountable while staying in school, at home and out of detention.

JDAI sites reduce reliance on secure detention with community-based alternatives such as:

- Electronic Monitoring
- Day & Evening Reporting Centers
- Weekend Detention Alternative Programs



Mason County JDAI project - - The Garden is a JDAI alternative project where youth assigned community service can work. Food from the Garden is donated to the *Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Shelter*.



JDAI Improved Public Safety

JDAI demonstrates public safety is not compromised when the use of detention is reduced.

The rate of felony petitions filed (an indicator of serious & violent crime) was lower for JDAI counties (57.75 per 10,000 youth) than for counties not participating in JDAI (79.54 per 10,000 youth).

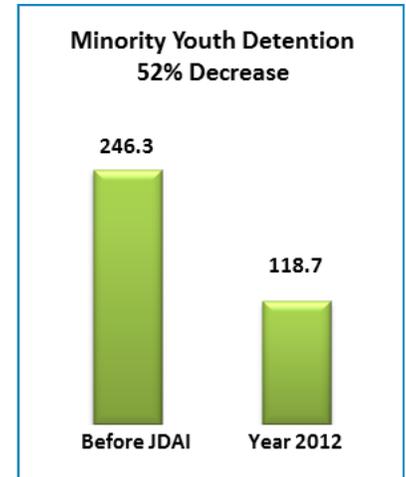
Felony filings have dropped statewide since 1997; however the felony filing rate for JDAI counties dropped at a higher rate than counties not participating in JDAI. This larger drop for JDAI counties translated to 243 fewer felony cases in 2012.

JDAI Reduced the Use of Detention for Youth of Color

JDAI reduced the number of youth of color in Detention by 52% comparing rates before counties adopted JDAI strategies and Year 2012. The average daily population of youth of color in JDAI counties dropped from 246.3 before JDAI to 118.7 in 2012.

JDAI is supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention and utilizes best practice and evidenced-based programming to reduce disproportionate minority confinement and contact in the juvenile justice system.

JDAI counties prioritize reducing racial disparities, including analyzing data and developing specific plans using JDAI strategies to reduce disparities and inequities.



JDAI Background and Strategies

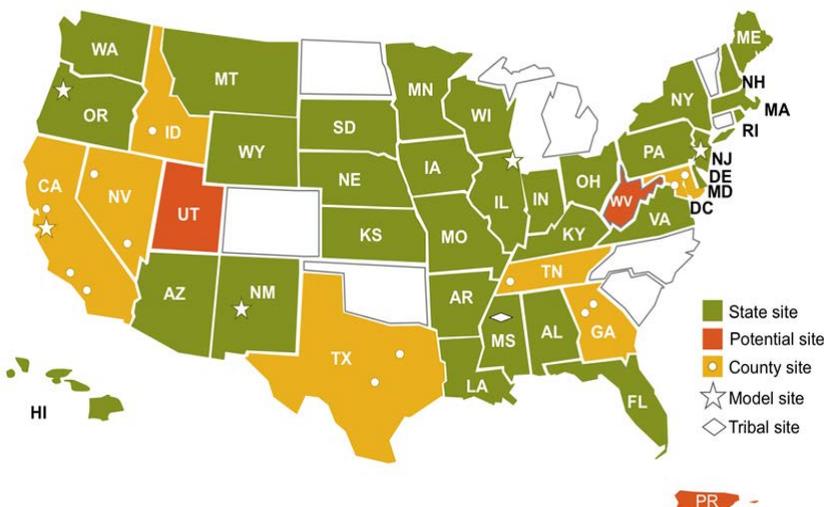
JDAI was founded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation over 20 years ago and is now the largest juvenile justice system improvement initiative in our country with 250 jurisdictions, in 40 states across America, replicating JDAI.

The Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice, in partnership with local county juvenile courts, has adopted the JDAI as a detention reform and system improvement initiative, and has invested federal funding in the Initiative since 2004. The Council supports the continued expansion of this successful initiative, and has selected alternatives, specifically the JDAI, as one of the top juvenile justice priorities for the state.

- Juvenile justice collaboration
- Data-driven decisions & policy
- Detention risk assessment
- Alternatives to detention
- Expedite case processing
- New practices for warrants & violations
- Reduce racial disparities
- Detention facility standards & inspections

JDAI Nationally

(250 jurisdictions in 40 states across the country)



JDAI Sites in WA State:

Today, approximately 72% of Washington's at-risk youth age 10-17 are served by juvenile courts replicating JDAI strategies:

WA's JDAI Juvenile Courts	% of State's Youth (Age 10-17)
King	25.4%
Pierce	12.4%
Spokane	6.9%
Whatcom	2.7%
Benton-Franklin	4.7%
Mason	0.8%
Adams	0.4%
Clark	7.4%
Snohomish	11.1%
Total (10) Counties	71.8%

Funding for Washington's JDAI

A Request for Additional State Dollars to Maintain Current Operations

Initially, our state received significant grant funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and also utilized federal grant funds awarded by the WA State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice (WA-PCJJ) for “start-up” funding for Washington’s JDAI. Both of these grant funding sources for start-up implementation of the JDAI in our state have decreased considerably over the past few years (a combined reduction of 62 percent from 2011 to 2013.) Hence, additional state funding is required to maintain current operations, or we could lose the excellent results achieved to date.

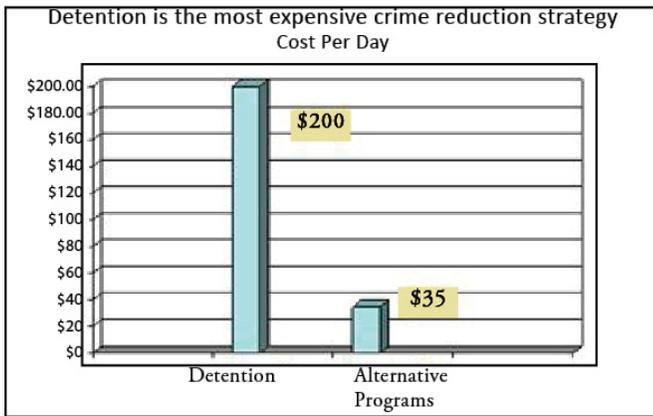
The WA State Legislature has supported JDAI for several biennia at \$178,000 per year (\$356,000 per biennium), and the JDAI State Steering Committee is recommending that additional legislative funding for the 2015-17 biennium be requested – for a total request of \$743,000 for the 2015-2017 biennium to sustain operations (see chart).

SOURCES	2015-16	2016-17	2015-17 Biennium
Annie E. Casey Foundation	25,000	25,000	50,000
WA-PCJJ - Federal Formula Grant Funds	76,932	-0-	76,932
State Funds - Legislative Proviso BIENNIUM REQUEST	332,962	409,894	742,856
TOTAL Funding	434,894	434,894	869,788

How is JDAI funding utilized in our state?

Per the chart below, almost two-thirds of the JDAI funding annually would continue to be contracted to local government/county juvenile courts:

Cost-Effective for Local & State Governments*



Budget Details	2015-16	2016-17	2015-17 Biennium
JDAI Statewide Coordinator (full-time)	93,059	93,059	186,118
JDAI Statewide Data Analyst (half-time)	49,275	49,275	98,550
Admin, training and quarterly meetings for sites (in-state)	22,560	22,560	45,120
Contracts with JDAI county sites @ \$30,000 per year per site	270,000	270,000	540,000
TOTAL Funding	434,894	434,894	869,788

With decreases in detention, counties have closed portions of detention facilities, avoided the need to build larger facilities and shifted resources to community-based alternative programs.

JDAI counties also have lower rates of commitment to state juvenile institutions than counties not participating in JDAI. Since 1997, most Washington counties have reduced their commitments to state institutions, but JDAI counties dropped their commitment rate by 69% compared to 55% for other counties.

If the JDAI counties state commitment rate had kept pace with Non-JDAI counties, 194 additional youth would have been committed in 2012 at a marginal cost of \$39,035* per youth per year or \$7.5 million in additional costs.

* calculated by the WA State Institute for Public Policy

For additional information contact Washington’s JDAI State Steering Committee:
 Rand Young, JDAI Statewide Coordinator (rand_young@msn.com).