

Youth Assessment Center



Champaign County Regional Planning Commission

History

Developed from Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP)

Grassroots community group started non-profit organization using balanced and restorative justice (BARJ) principles for first-time youth offenders




Seeking organizational efficiencies and better connection with other county offices (State's Attorney and Sheriff), VORP partnered with CCRPC

CCRPC develops relationship with Champaign Police through a research project on early intervention case management and its effect on re-arrests

History

Positive recidivism outcomes were demonstrated. With Quarter Cent for Public Safety funds and assistance of State's Attorney, Court Diversion Services were expanded to all county law enforcement jurisdictions



In 2013, the Youth Assessment Center was developed to:

Provide greater engagement for day/evening police drop-offs

Expand services to include early screening and connections for youth not placed on station adjustments (school and self-referrals, status offenses)

Overview / Purpose



The Youth Assessment Center is the primary point of entry into coordinated system of care for youth at risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system

Youth exhibiting behavioral issues
Youth with police due to crime



County-wide coverage



The Youth Assessment Center (YAC) focuses on connecting youth with resources to be resilient, resourceful, responsible, and restored to positive community involvement.

Balanced and Restorative Justice practices

- The YAC uses Balance and Restorative Justice (BARJ) principles to support accountability- maintaining community safety and increasing competency development within our youth
 - Court Diversion Services for station adjustments
 - Peer Court
 - Victim-offender reconciliation mediation
 - Reflection groups



Services

- Evidence based screenings to support service connections
 - Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI)
- Referral and linkage to resources based on YASI screening
 - Families Stronger Together (FST)
 - Counseling
 - Mentoring
 - Anger management
 - Youth employment training programs
 - Substance use services
- Supportive case management
- Motivational interviewing
- Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) practices
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)



What is MRT?

Moral Reconciliation Therapy Quick Guide:

- Moral: moral reasoning based on Kohlberg's levels of cognitive reasoning.
- Reconciliation: based on psychological terms "conative" and "conation," which refer to the process of making conscious decisions.
- Therapy: based on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Partnerships

NEW PARTNERS

- University of Illinois Childhood Adversity & Resiliency Services (CARS) Clinic
- Mahomet Area Youth Club
- La Linea
- UP Center

NEW SCHOOLS PARTNERS IN 2019

- Urbana District 116
- Mahomet-Seymour CUSD 3

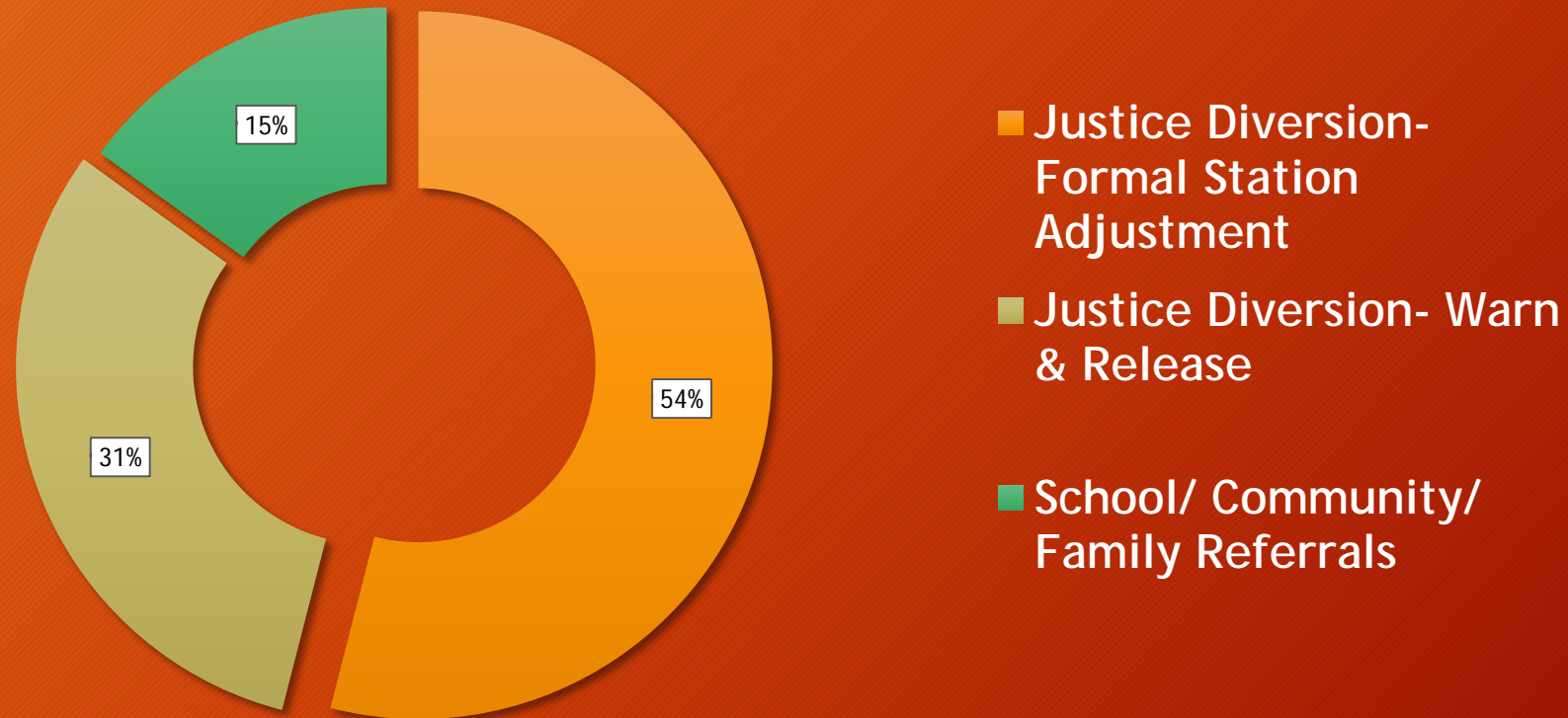
EXISTING/ CONTINUED PARTNERS

- Youth Family Peer Support Alliance
- Lincoln's Challenge Academy
- Family Advocacy of Champaign County
- Don Moyers Boys and Girls Club
- Champaign Park District
- Urbana Park District
- Cunningham Children's Home
- Rosecrance
- Prevention and Treatment Services

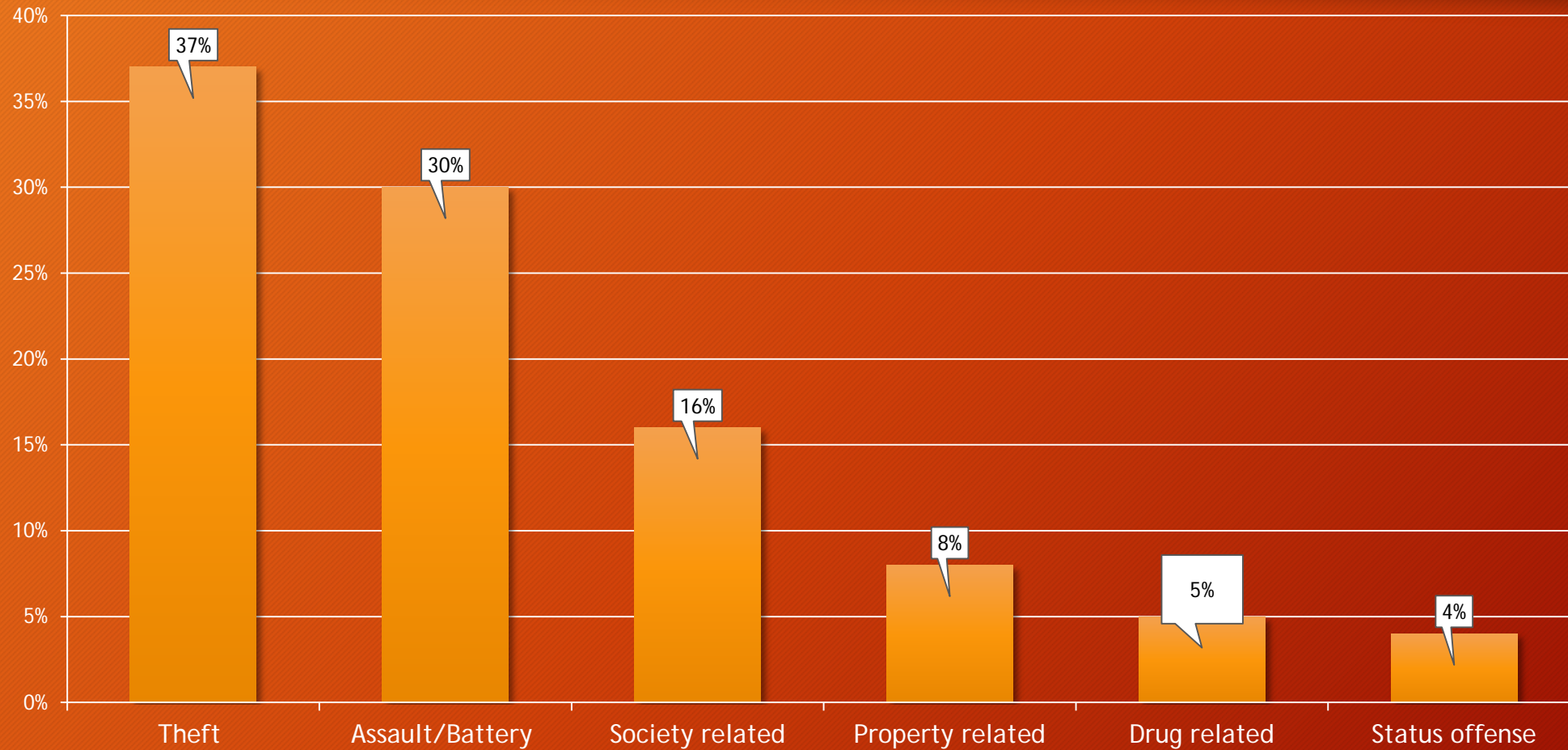
2019 YAC Referral Data

393 Referrals

332 Unduplicated Referrals



2019 Justice Diversion Referral Types



Program Goals

- Divert youth from court adjudication within one year of service
- Decrease level of risk scores
- Successful linkages to recommended services.

Outcomes

- Youth served in 2017
 - 94% had no juvenile court adjudication to date in 2017/2018
 - 91% had no juvenile court adjudication in 2019
- Youth served in 2018
 - 92% had no juvenile court adjudication in 2018/2019
 - 91% had no juvenile court adjudication in 2019
- Youth served in 2019
 - 96% had no juvenile court adjudication in 2019
 - 100% of youth with a moderate-high risk assessment score have been provided service referrals.
 - 76% of youth referred for services were engaged.

2019 Highlights/ Special Events

- Increased the number of formal school partnerships
- Increased school/ community/ family referrals
- Free park district programming enrollment made available to families in services with YAC through partnership with Urbana Park District
- Implementation of Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) groups

Youth Assessment Center – Next Steps

- Continue to increase Family/Schools/Community referrals, school partnerships, and school based YAC services
- Increase level of referrals/ participation in MRT
- YAC staff will participate in Attachment, Regulation and Competency (ARC) training to support and enhance outcomes for families referred to Cunningham Children's Home's Families Stronger Together (FST) program