## **Dakota County**

## **Comprehensive Juvenile Services**

## **Community Plan**

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025

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## Introduction

Geographic Location. Dakota County, located in the Northeast corner of the state of Nebraska, is situated at the crossroads where three states join -- Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Dakota City is the county seat. The four other cities or towns located within this county are South Sioux City, the villages of Homer, Jackson, and Hubbard and a portion of the village of Emerson (this community straddles the county line with Dixon and Thurston Counties). Dakota County is one of six metropolitan counties in the state along with Cass, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy and Washington counties. If South Sioux City was not in such close proximity to Sioux City, Iowa it would not be considered a metropolitan area.

**Surrounding area.** Dakota County is situated within the "Siouxland" area, which is a tri-state region that largely functions as a singular community and encompasses multiple city and county governments. According to the Siouxland Chamber of Commerce, the population of the tri-state Siouxland metropolitan area is approximately 165,000. City governments include: Sioux City and Sergeant Bluff, Iowa; South Sioux City and Dakota City, Nebraska; and Dakota Dunes and North Sioux City, South Dakota. County Governments include: Woodbury and Plymouth Counties in Iowa; Union County in South Dakota; and Dakota and Dixon Counties in Nebraska (Siouxland Chamber of Commerce 2012). The metropolitan area is surrounded by small farming towns and isolated farmsteads in all directions for 100 miles. Due to this location, the Siouxland area serves as a regional location for a myriad of services including medical, emergency and disaster services, markets, business, education and social services for the tri-state area.

**Population.** The total population is approximately 20,173. South Sioux City is the largest city in Dakota County with a population of 12,896. Dakota City is the second largest city with a population of 2,032. The other towns in the county all have populations of less than 1,000. Dakota County is home to an increasingly diverse population. The table below outlines the racial and ethnic breakdown of the population for the year 2019.

Dakota County 2019 Population Breakdown by Race and Ethnicity				
Race				
Total Population	20,173			
White	14,272			
Black	1,315			
American Indian or Alaska Native	799			
Asian	821			
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	17			
Some Other Race	3,540			
Ethnicity				
Total Population	20,173			
Hispanic or Latino, any race	7,823			
Non-Hispanic or Latino, any race	12,320			

Citation: US Census Bureau, ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates (US Census Bureau 2019)

**Education.** There are two school districts located within Dakota County, NE: Homer Community Schools and South Sioux City Community Schools. During the 2019-2020 school year, Homer Community Schools did serve approximately 430 students in grades K-12 (Nebraska Department of Education 2020), and South Sioux City Community Schools did serve approximately 3,850 students in grades K-12 (South Sioux City Community Schools 2020).

## **Data Summary**

Data summary taken from Dakota County Needs Assessment (2020). See Appendix A for full report.

#### Youth Level

- Native American youth are over-represented in chronic absenteeism as compared to the juvenile population and student population; this over-representation has been fairly consistent over time. Black youth are over-represented in chronic absenteeism as compared to the juvenile population and student population for the last two school years.
- 12<sup>th</sup> graders report more loss of sleep, suicidal ideation, and current tobacco use than the state average. 12<sup>th</sup> graders also report a very high rate of current alcohol use and binge drinking, as compared to the state averages. 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders report mental health or substance use issues similar to the state averages.
- Data for the BOSR study is from 2016 (not the most recent 2018). The county should ensure participation each year of the survey.
- There is a recent increase in 504 plans that are higher than the state average; limited English proficiency and eligibility for free and reduced lunch are much higher in this county than the state average.
- Youth do not report having gang involvement and an interview with local police indicated the gang issue has gone down, especially compared to 10 years ago.
- In general, crime for all ages decreased from 2018 to 2019, but increased for juvenile only crime. It appears drug violations have increased, as well as "all other offenses (except for traffic offenses)".
- Risk assessment data from youth assessed for diversion were highest for the following domains: Personality/Behavior, Education/Employment, Leisure/Recreation, and Peer Relationships. Knowing these domains can assist in understanding diversion programming needed.
- It appears the county Is beginning to utilize diversion more than probation in recent years; this means that cases are being funneled through the system better. In 2015-2017, about half of law enforcement citations were referred to diversion and half to probation from 2015-2017. In 2018 and 2019, more cases were referred to diversion than probation.
- Once referred to diversion, it appears most youth are enrolling and completing diversion successfully; however, Native American youth are not enrolling at the rate to which they are referred to diversion.
- Native American youth are over-represented at all juvenile justice system points (diversion, court filings, and probation)— as compared to the juvenile population of the county. Black youth are over-represented at diversion referrals, being filed with multiple charges, probation intakes, RAI overrides, and being put on probation. Asian youth are over-represented in being filed with multiple charges and in adult court. (unfortunately, we do not have law enforcement data by race/ethnicity to see if youth are being referred to these system points at a rate that is proportional to law enforcement stops of citations/referrals).

## **Family Level**

- Poverty (and related measures) are a problem in this community as compared to the state average.
- Fewer adults have bachelor's degrees and high school degrees, fewer youth have access to Internet at home, and fewer households have a vehicle than the state average.
- Youth in all grades are less likely to report having a supportive adult at home than the state; 10<sup>th</sup> graders are less likely to report having a supportive adult at school than the state average.

## **Community Level**

- 12<sup>th</sup> graders report that people in their community do not find marijuana, alcohol and cigarettes wrong or very wrong, as compared to the state.
- Juvenile record sealing is not "automatic" even if statute requires it to seal. Sealing a record requires administrative staff to initiate the process. Dismissed or dropped cases should be sealed at a rate of 100%. All others should be sealed at the rate to which youth successfully complete their court requirements (completion of diversion, probation, restorative practice, or other treatment). Yearly data is available in the Appendix to see if the rate has improved because of legislation, but newer cases should naturally have lower rates of sealing than older cases. In this county, the rates of sealing records is quite low for dropped/dismissed cases across all years. The county should examine whether this is the case for the other types of case closures.
- There are higher levels of missing data at the court level. Data for race and ethnicity at each juvenile justice system point is imperative for an accurate Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED)

## Policy, Legal and System Level

- This county is not required under statute to provide an attorney when a youth is filed on in court, yet the rate is similar to the state average.
- Curfew filings have been problematic in this county (2016 and 2017), but this appears to be less of a problem recently. Research has demonstrated that Juvenile curfews are not effective at reducing juvenile crime and can result in net-widening/pulling youth into the system. Curfew violations should be something that is referred to diversion, if it is necessary to the community to have a curfew ordinance.
- The rate for 3B filings for truancy has increased over the 5-year period. The county should refer truancy cases to diversion and/or a truancy program; or examine why youth are unsuccessfully completing a truancy diversion program and are being filed on.
- The diversion program may consider the following:
  - o exploring the use of warning letters for low-risk youth
  - o only drug testing youth with a substance use need
  - o ensure fees are similar to court costs or having a sliding scale
  - o using graduated sanctions to give youth who are not completing diversion requirements graduation sanctions before discharging them unsuccessfully.
  - o strengthening the process for sealing records with law enforcement (not needed at court-level because it is pre-file).

## **Community Team Level**

- A community lead should be able to get roughly a 75% response, to ensure active participation on planning issues. The response rate decreased slightly from 2019 to 2020.
- Continuous Communication had the lowest mean for the collective impact domains in 2020 (but this could be related to the pandemic). Scores improved for common agenda and shared measurement.
- While we recognize this could be due to response rate, the community team should be representative of
  the population of that community but should also include diversity. It might be beneficial to add more
  People of Color (Hispanic/Latino, Black, Asian, Native American) to your team, especially because of
  the patterns of over and under representation.
- The team has good representation from people who represent a diversity of system points; including people with previous system involvement.
- Only 10% reported (1 person) not feeling heard at team meetings, which is much lower than the state average.

## **Comprehensive List of Services**

	EM POINT: PRE vene before and a	EVENTION  fter problematic behaviors are identified)
Program/ Agency Name	Eligible age	Risk or need
"A Better Way" Therapy – Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy	2-7, 0-5	Children with emotional / behavioral issues; Children who have experienced trauma
Boys and Girls Club of Sioux City	6-18	Inappropriate use of time, lack of supervision, access to healthy leisure & recreation activities, homework help/support, deviant peer group
Girls Inc of Sioux City	6-18	Inappropriate use of time, lack of supervision, access to healthy leisure & recreation activities, homework help/support, deviant peer group
Heartland Counseling Services, Inc	0-18	Drug/alcohol use, anxiety/depression, mental health disorder(s), sensation seeking, previous victimization, lack of discipline, low parental warmth
Parent to Parent Network	0-18	Behavioral/emotional challenges, including social, emotional, mental health, substance abuse, and gambling
Professional Partner Program	0-18	Children with severe emotional disturbance
Rosecrance Jackson Center	0-18	Drug/alcohol use, mental health disorder(s), children's services (sand tray, PCIT, therapy)
Siouxland Youth for Christ		Inappropriate use of time, access to healthy leisure & recreation, deviant peer groups
Safe Place (previously known as Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence)	0-99+	Intervention and prevention services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault
Haven House	0-99+	Intervention and prevention services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault
Dakota County Community Response	0-99+	Serve families with at least one child (0-18) living in home, and who are at-risk for DHHS involvement due to unmet needs (material, emotional, behavioral, parenting, etc.) in the home
Mary J. Treglia Community House	0-99+	Immigration legal services, English language classes, computer classes, citizenship classes, interpretation/translation services, family services, remote resettlement (through USCCB)
Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (NENCAP)	0-99+	Head Start, Early Head Start, WIC, Immunization, Healthy Families, weatherization, Family Services, Navigator, free tax preparation, car seat program, rent & utility assistance, NE Homeless Assistance, emergency food/shelter, Veteran Services, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, food pantries
One Siouxland	0-99+	Welcome / integrate new citizens into our community

Ponca Express Transportation	0-99+	transportation
Siouxland CARES		Substance use prevention in community; data
		collection; youth surveys
Sugal Consulting LLC	0-99+	Immigrant services
Unity in Action	0-99+	Promoting workers' rights, civic engagement,
		and justice in Latino community
Sioux Rivers Assessment and Stabilization	0-99+	Crisis Response
Center (collaboration with Siouxland Mental		
Health)		
Jr. Law Academy – SSCPD	11-14	Promote positive relationships between law
•		enforcement and youth. provide youth with an
		opportunity to learn about a career in law
		enforcement.
School Resource Officers	0-99+	Present in Homer Schools (1 Deputy from
		Dakota County Sheriff's Office) and SSC
		Schools (2 Officers from South Sioux City Police
		Department)

SYSTEM POINT: DIVERSION SERVICES (diversion and services available to youth on diversion)					
Program/ Agency Name Eligible age Risk or need					
Diversion	11-18	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, lack of			
concern for others, inappropriate use of time					
Diversion – Truancy	11-18	Truancy, low achievement, low attachment			
Family Support – Community Monitoring	11-18	Defiance of authority, inappropriate use of time,			
Services or Owens Educational Services, Inc		lack of supervision, lack of discipline, low			
		parental warmth, truancy			

# SYSTEM POINT: ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION FOR PRE-ADJUDICATED YOUTH ONLY (include any programs that allow youth to remain in the community after any contact with law enforcement)

Program/ Agency Name	Eligible	Risk or need
	age	
Tracker - Community Monitoring Services	11-18	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, inappropriate
or		use of time, defiance of authority
Owens Educational Services, Inc.		·
Electronic Monitoring - Community	11-18	Drug/alcohol use. antisocial attitudes, defiance of
Monitoring Services or Owens Educational		authority, lack of supervision, lack of discipline,
Services, Inc.		
Family Support - Community Monitoring	11-18	Defiance of authority, inappropriate use of time, lack
Services Owens Educational Services, Inc.		of supervision, lack of discipline, low parental
		warmth, truancy

KNOWN GAPS IN SERVICES  (include any programs that allow youth to remain in the community after any contact with law enforcement)				
Program/ Agency Name	Eligible age	Risk or need		
Youth crisis response	11-18	Mental health crisis situations		
Growing Community Connections	0-99+	Community collaborative that is focused on improving the quality of life and social-emotional well-being of children, youth, and families of our communities. Many of the GCC focus groups are centered on serving children ages birth to 10, which compliments the work of DCJST.		
Source for Siouxland	0-99+	Community collaborative that is focused on improving community outcomes through data collection and strategic planning. Focus areas include: economic instability, education, health, safety, quality of life		

## Community Analysis and Response (CAR) Final Worksheet

The Community Analysis & Response (CAR) Worksheet lists needs that have been identified by our community team and/or in our County Needs Assessment (CNA). The CAR Worksheet also examines existing resources and outcomes with regard to the identified needs. The second worksheet is titled "Gaps to be Filled." This worksheet combines the data presented in the CNA with the identified needs and/or programs, resources, etc. that are already being provided in our community. The items presented in these two worksheets will be the focus of the Dakota County Juvenile Services Team for the next 4 years and will guide all funding requests made in Dakota County's Community-Based Aid grant applications.

COMMUNITY ANALYSIS & RESPONSE WORKSHEET				
Identified Need	Existing Program, Agency or Resource	Eligible age	Does this program accomplish the desired change? If no, what is missing?	
Programming directed at truancy / excessive absenteeism at all grade levels	Juvenile Diversion-Truancy Program; County Attorney filing juvenile petition	0-99+	The Juvenile Diversion program cannot serve youth at elementary school level. Intervention is at the point where a report has been made to the County Attorney Office so a student has missed 20+days of school.	
Mental Health services for youth and families	Heartland Counseling Services School-based Counseling	6-18	School-based therapists are very busy; language barriers / limited number of bilingual therapists in the community	
In-home family therapy services / interventions	None	0-99+	Office-based family therapy is offered in Dakota County, but	

Addressing rise in crime for school-age youth	School Resource Officers, Law Enforcement agencies, Juvenile Diversion, Probation	11-18	there is no access to therapeutic models that are specifically designed to address criminogenic risk factors within the context of the family setting. Examples of models that do focus on both include: Multisystemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy, and Ecological In-home Family Treatment Model  Partially. Important to have access to community-based services that address risk factor, without unnecessary involvement in the juvenile justice system.
Youth crisis intervention	Heartland Counseling Services	0-19	Heartland Counseling offers crisis intervention services to all community members in Dakota County. We want to ensure that funding issues do not interrupt the services for our youth.
Youth who commit minor crimes	Juvenile Diversion	11-18	Yes. Want to be sure that community-based programming and services exist that address risk factors identified in screening tool (for list of most common risk factors see "Youth Level" data summary box in CNA).
Alternatives to Detention (Tracker and Electronic Monitoring)	Owens Educational Services Community Monitoring Services	11-18	Yes, in terms of keeping youth out of detention facilities, but does not address barriers that probation finds during the juvenile intake.
Family Support	Owens Educational Service Community Monitoring Services	11-18	Yes
Need accurate data in order to identify needs, implement interventions, and measure effectiveness of work we are doing.	Siouxland CARES	Students in 6 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> grades	Siouxland CARES does administer youth survey in South Sioux City Schools, but not in Homer. Low participation rates in BOSR study.
Native American youth are referred to juvenile diversion, but are not enrolling at same rate.	Juvenile Diversion	11-18	Need to establish relationships with tribal governments and/or agencies representatives to effectively address barriers to enrollment.
Language accessibility	Language Line, Mary Treglia Community House	0-99+	Yes – given the diversity and mobility of residents in our community this is an evolving need.

Though the community planning process our team had discussions about needs that are not listed in the table above. These need areas include: economic insecurity/poverty, the rise in the number of 504 Plans in the school system, transportation, internet access in homes, involving our elders as a resource to address issues facing youth, and including youth on the Juvenile Service Team and involving them in the planning process. We want to ensure programs are accessible in terms of cost, transportation, language, and cultural competence. Although some of these issues are outside of the scope of the Juvenile Services Team, we would like to include this information in our plan because these issues impact youth and families in our community.

In Dakota County, we are fortunate to have two community collaboratives focused on youth and families: Dakota County Juvenile Service Team and Growing Community Connections (GCC). GCC has initiatives that are focused on the health and well-being of children, individuals, and families that, in general, fall outside of the scope of the Juvenile Service Team. Our areas of expertise are complementary, and our hope is, that together we can provide a full continuum of services for all members of our community.

Community Response is a focus group of GCC that provides economic assistance and other support to families who are at-risk of involvement with the child welfare system. There is membership overlap between Community Response and the Juvenile Service Team which allows both to collaborate and become better informed about resources available in the community. Additionally, GCC has been working with area employers facilitate meaningful discussions about both employer and employee needs in our community.

The City of South Sioux City is working with the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) and the Transit Department to identify alternative forms of mass transit; specifically, an on-demand response system called "VIA," which would replace the current route-based system. A change of this magnitude would require regional cooperation, given the transportation needs of residents (i.e. travel outside of South Sioux City both within Dakota County and to adjacent states, Iowa and South Dakota).

Internet access in homes is reliable within South Sioux City proper, but becomes an issue in the more rural areas of the County. It is our understanding that SIMPCO is currently doing a study on rural broadband access, and that State or Federal grant dollars may be available to improve infrastructure and access.

Project Everlast was identified as a program that could potentially provide a format for the integration of youth voices into our team and plan, and our team plans to learn more about Project Everlast during this planning period.

## Gaps to be Filled Worksheet

GAPS IN THE CONTINUUM					
Brief Data Snapshot	Existing Program, Agency or Resource	Eligible age	Does this program accomplish the desired change? If no, what is missing?		
The rate for 3B filings for truancy has increased over a 5-year period.	Juvenile Diversion	11-18 years	Partially. Need to develop community-based therapeutic and/or wraparound services that address needs & risk factors which contribute to school absences. May also need to develop early intervention options / programming that could be available prior to referral to the County Attorney.		
Once referred to diversion, it appears most youth are enrolling and completing diversion successfully; however, Native American youth are not enrolling at the rate to which they are referred to diversion.	Juvenile Diversion	11-18 years	Need to establish relationships with tribal governments and/or agencies representatives to effectively address barriers to enrollment. Work with families to understand barriers & possible solutions.		
The County has reduced the number of juveniles held in detention through the use of ATD's; however, these services are not therapeutic in nature and do not address barriers identified by Probation in the juvenile intake.	Probation Owens Educational Services Community Monitoring Services	11-18 years	Pre-adjudicated services (therapeutic & skill-based interventions) for youth who have had a juvenile intake and will likely be filed on.		
BOSR study participation – County schools last participated in 2016 and only 21 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students completed	BOSR Siouxland CARES	Students in 6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grades	Partially. Want to ensure students from Homer Schools and SSC Schools are participating in at least one of the research studies / surveys administered.		

The Dakota County Attorney's Office has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to keeping juvenile offenders out of the formal juvenile court system. This is accomplished by utilizing juvenile diversion as an alternative to filing a juvenile petition. The juvenile diversion program primarily serves first time youth offenders, who are between the ages of 11-18. Overall, the juvenile diversion program has successful program outcomes; however, there were areas of improvement listed in the CNA. The juvenile diversion program will focus on increasing enrollment numbers for Native American youth and working with partners in the school system and community to improve the effectiveness of truancy programming.

Over the past 10 years, Dakota County has drastically reduced the number of pre-adjudicated youth held in juvenile diversion. The Juvenile Services Team has prioritized the use of alternatives to detention (ATD) to support Probation and court officials in their efforts. While the use of ATD's has reduced the number of youth held in detention, these services do not address therapeutic needs or skill deficits that are identified by Probation during the juvenile intake process. We believe that supplementing ATD's with therapeutic interventions and skill-based interventions could improve outcomes for youth at this system point. Examples of therapeutic interventions would include Multi-Systemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy, and/ or Ecological In-Home Family Treatment.

Accurate and complete data is a necessary component of the community planning process. As such, we want to ensure that students from both of the school districts in Dakota County, are represented in either the Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey (Bureau of Sociological Research (BOSR), 2016) University of Nebraska-Lincoln) or the Greater Sioux City Metro Area Youth Survey (Siouxland CARES). The number of respondents for the BOSR survey (BOSR 2016) was 286 students in grades 8, 10, and 12. The number of respondents for the Greater Sioux City Metro Area Youth Survey (Siouxland CARES, 2019) was 625 students in grades 8, 8, and 11. Given the significantly larger sample size, focusing on increasing participation in the Greater Sioux City Metro Area Youth Survey may be the better option for our community at this time. The SSC schools have participated in the Greater Sioux City Metro Area Youth Survey for the past 10+ years. Additionally, our team has membership from, and a very good working relationship with, the SSC Schools so we do not foresee issues with their continued participation in youth-focused research. However, our team does need to improve membership from the more rural areas of our community, and outreach to the Homer Community Schools will be necessary in order to achieve this goal.

## **List of Team Members**

**Description of Team** (how formed, how long meeting, how often meet/met, structure, etc.)

The Dakota County Juvenile Services Comprehensive Plan Team was organized in 2006 with guidance from Mark Martin, a criminal justice consultant. The team has been meeting quarterly since that time. During each team meeting, the team reviews the plan and discusses the progress of each strategy. New ideas or topics are also discussed amongst the team members. The team consists of representatives from various agencies in the county that work directly with juveniles and representatives from the business community. The members represent the county's School Districts, Law Enforcement, Health and Human Services, Probation, County Attorney, Diversion, County Board, and community stakeholders. Michael Carlson was assigned the position of chairperson by former Project Director, Robert Denton, in 2012. Sarah Deck was assigned the position of chairperson by former chairperson and Project Director, Mike Carlson, in 2016. Kim Watson, Dakota County Attorney, replaced Mr. Carlson as the Project Director for Community-Based Aid grant funds in 2017. Since 2020 the role of Project Director for Community-Based Aid grant funds been held by Kim Watson and Sarah Deck.

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## **Closing Comments**

A central issue for our community is ensuring youth have access to therapeutic services that address criminogenic risk factors and needs, prior to any involvement in the juvenile justice system. Probation should not be the primary pathway for accessing therapeutic services, yet all too often we find ourselves or others saying: "This young person needs to go to court so they can get "x" service." The Dakota County Juvenile Service Team would like to offer an alternative question: "How can we develop community-based resources for non-court involved youth?" The Dakota County Juvenile Service Team would like to focus our efforts over the next four years on enhancing existing juvenile services within our community and/or developing new interventions where gaps exist.

We are fortunate to live in a community that is rich in resources, expertise, and enthusiasm. We would like to thank everyone who participated in our community planning process. The Dakota County Juvenile Services Team remains committed to our goals of improving outcomes for all youth in our community and working as a collaborative community partner.

#### **Citations:**

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## **Appendices**

**Appendix A: Completed Community Needs Assessment (CNA)** 

**Appendix B: Approval Letter/minutes from Governing Board** 

## **Appendix A: Completed Community Needs Assessment (CAN)**



### **COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021**

### Dakota County

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#### Youth Level

- Native American youth are over-represented in chronic absenteeism as compared to the juvenile population and student population; this over-representation has been fairly consistent over time. Black youth are over-represented in chronic absenteeism as compared to the juvenile population and student population for the last two school years.
- 12<sup>th</sup> graders report more loss of sleep, suicidal ideation, and current tobacco use than the state average. 12<sup>th</sup> graders also report a very high rate of current alcohol use and binge drinking, as compared to the state averages. 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders report mental health or substance use issues similar to the state averages.
- Data for the BOSR study is from 2016 (not the most recent 2018). The county should ensure participation each year of the survey.
- There is a recent increase in 504 plans that are higher than the state average; limited English proficiency and eligibility for free and reduced lunch are much higher in this county than the state average.
- Youth do not report having gang involvement and an interview with local police indicated the gang issue has gone down, especially compared to 10 years ago.
- In general, crime for all ages decreased from 2018 to 2019, but increased for juvenile only crime. It appears drug violations have increased, as well as "all other offenses (except for traffic offenses)".
- Risk assessment data from youth assessed for diversion were highest for the following domains: Personality/Behavior, Education/Employment, Leisure/Recreation, and Peer Relationships. Knowing these domains can assist in understanding diversion programming needed.
- It appears the county Is beginning to utilize diversion more than probation in recent years; this means that cases are being funneled through the system better. In 2015-2017, about half of law enforcement citations were referred to diversion and half to probation from 2015-2017. In 2018 and 2019, more cases were referred to diversion than probation.
- Once referred to diversion, it appears most youth are enrolling and completing diversion successfully; however, Native American youth are not enrolling at the rate to which they are referred to diversion.
- Native American youth are over-represented at all juvenile justice system points (diversion, court filings, and probation)— as compared to the juvenile population of the county. Black youth are over-represented at diversion referrals, being filed with multiple charges, probation intakes, RAI overrides, and being put on probation. Asian youth are over-represented in being filed with multiple charges and in adult court. (unfortunately, we do not have law enforcement data by race/ethnicity to see if youth are being referred to these system points at a rate that is proportional to law enforcement stops of citations/referrals).

Distribution of the Population Age 10-17 by Race/Ethnicity and Gender (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>

#### Males

Geographic Area	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	108,494	70.4%	16.2%	5.7%	1.4%	2.0%	4.4%
Dakota	1,442	26.8%	63.0%	0.6%	4.6%	1.1%	3.8%

#### **Females**

Geographic Area	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	102,658	70.4%	16.2%	5.7%	1.4%	2.0%	4.4%
Dakota	1,141	35.8%	51.0%	0.0%	4.6%	3.9%	4.6%

### Click here to go back to RED analysis

Table 2. School Membership by Race/ Ethnicity and School Year (2014-2019) <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-	Dakota			2.99				28.30	
2015		4,346	57.66%	%	3.77%	4.03%	0.35%	%	2.90%
	Nebraska	312,281	17.74%	2.43%	1.42%	6.70%	0.13%	68.20%	3.38%
2015-	Dakota			2.96				27.12	
2016		4,322	58.03%	%	3.93%	4.91%	0.28%	%	2.78%
	Nebraska	315,542	18.08%	2.53%	1.38%	6.67%	0.14%	67.72%	3.47%
2016-	Dakota			3.06				25.49	
2017		4,277	59.29%	%	3.79%	5.24%	0.30%	%	2.83%
	Nebraska	318,853	18.61%	2.66%	1.38%	6.69%	0.15%	66.92%	3.59%
2017-	Dakota			3.24				24.36	
2018		4,232	59.10%	%	3.76%	6.50%	0.24%	%	2.81%
	Nebraska	323,391	18.80%	2.76%	1.35%	6.67%	0.14%	66.50%	3.78%
2018-	Dakota			3.03				24.02	
2019		4,255	58.45%	%	3.74%	7.05%	0.54%	%	3.17%
	Nebraska	325,984	19.13%	2.83%	1.33%	6.63%	0.15%	66.02%	3.91%

Table 3.

Chronic Absenteeism by Race/Ethnicity and School Year <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Youth with Chronic Absenteeism	Hispanic	Asian	America n Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African America n	Native Hawaiia n or Other Pacific islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-	Dakota			2.20				26.86	
2015		592	55.07%	%	7.77%	4.22%	*	%	3.89%
	Nebraska	35,638	24.54%	1.64%	4.42%	12.93%	0.19%	51.61%	4.68%
2015-	Dakota			2.35				29.27	
2016		468	53.42%	%	<mark>7.26%</mark>	4.27%	*	%	3.42%
	Nebraska	38,812	25.73%	1.55%	4.27%	13.68%	0.27%	49.68%	4.83%
2016-	Dakota							25.14	
2017		533	56.29%	*	<b>10.88%</b>	4.50%	*	%	3.19%
	Nebraska	42,290	26.90%	1.66%	4.40%	14.22%	0.24%	47.66%	4.92%
2017-	Dakota							26.60	
2018		500	48.80%	*	<b>12.40%</b>	<mark>9.20%</mark>	*	%	3.00%
	Nebraska	46,365	26.81%	1.77%	4.18%	14.49%	0.22%	47.37%	2389
2018-	Dakota							19.03	
2019		883	53.79%	*	10.08%	<mark>10.19%</mark>	2.60%	%	4.30%
	Nebraska	46,356	27.64%	1.76%	4.16%	14.71%	0.23%	46.27%	5.23%

Per the Nebraska Department of Education, the \* represents masked data, which they define as 10 or fewer students, for the confidentiality of the students

Table 4. Disabilities, English Proficiency, Eligibility for Free/Reduced Lunch and School Year (2014 – 2019) <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	IDEA	504 Plan	Limited English Proficiency	Free/Reduced Lunch
2014-	Dakota	Count	12.43	1 1011	Troneichey	Zunen
2015		4,346	%	0.85%	10.45%	63.09%
	Nebraska	312,281	13.66%	0.76%	<mark>5.97%</mark>	<mark>44.53%</mark>
2015-	Dakota		12.68			
2016		4,322	%	1.13%	11.61%	<b>62.45%</b>
	Nebraska	315,542	13.64%	0.90%	<mark>5.90%</mark>	44.23%
2016-	Dakota		12.74			
2017		4,277	%	<b>1.73%</b>	<b>13.05%</b>	63.81%
	Nebraska	318,853	13.80%	0.93%	<mark>6.99%</mark>	<mark>44.76%</mark>
2017-	Dakota		13.19			
2018		4,232	%	2.48%	<b>13.14%</b>	84.10%
	Nebraska	323,391	15.87%	0.88%	<mark>6.59%</mark>	<mark>46.24%</mark>
2018-	Dakota		12.76			
2019		4,255	%	<b>2.84%</b>	<b>15.70%</b>	<mark>84.84%</mark>

Nebraska	325,984	16.13%	0.85%	6.78%	15 12%
INCUIASKA	J2J,J0 <del>1</del>	10.15/0	0.0570	<b>0.70</b> /0	+J.+4/0

Per the Nebraska Department of Education, the \* represents masked data, which they define as 10 or fewer students, for the confidentiality of the students

Table 5. Nebraska Public High School 4-Year Graduation Rates by County (5-year estimates, 2015-2019) °

County	Total in Las	st 5 Years	Yearly A	verages	Graduation	
	Graduates	Students	Graduates	Students	Rate	Rank
Nebraska	100,111	112,857	20,022.2	22,571.4	88.7%	-
Dakota	1,406	1,582	140.6	158.2	88.9%	81

Table 6.
Youth Who Report Mental Health Symptoms and Substance Use by Grade (2016) d

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Dakota	Loss of sleep from worry	17.8%	14.3%	28.6%
Nebraska		18.0%	20.6%	<mark>21.6%</mark>
Dakota	Depressed	31.6%	14.3%	28.6%
Nebraska		31.1%	34.8%	35.3%
Dakota	Considered/Attempted suicide	10.6%	7.1%	<b>19.0%</b>
Nebraska		22.9%	18.2%	16.2%
Dakota	Current alcohol	12.0%	13.3%	<mark>57.1%</mark>
Nebraska		9.8%	20.1%	<mark>34.2%</mark>
Dakota	Current binge drinking	0.9%	0.0%	<b>52.4%</b>
Nebraska		1.3%	6.2%	15.0%
Dakota	Current marijuana	2.5%	0.0%	14.3%
Nebraska		3.0%	7.3%	13.9%
Dakota	Current tobacco	2.9%	7.1%	<b>28.6%</b>
Nebraska		3.7%	8.0%	15.3%
Dakota	Current vaping	3.7%	0.0%	33.3%
Nebraska		10.4%	24.7%	37.3%
Dakota	Hopeful for future (past week)	80.2%	78.6%	85.7%
Nebraska		72.1%	74.7%	78.4%

### \*\*JJI is currently waiting for the legal team at DHHS to approve providing this data

Table 7

Juveniles Referred to Services <sup>e</sup>

Table 8.

Juveniles Referred to Services by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Mental Health Diagnosis <sup>e</sup>

Table 9.

Juveniles Who Utilized Services <sup>e</sup>

Table 10.

Types of Services Utilized <sup>e</sup>

Table 11. Youth Who Report Gang Involvement by Grade (2016) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Dakota	Youth Reported Gang Involvement	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Nebraska		3.8%	4.4%	3.8%

Table 11b. Estimated Gang Involvement by Local Law Enforcement

Per Lieutenant Steve Heidi via phone on August 26, 2020: There is not a gang issue in South Sioux City right now; 10 years ago, it was worse. They used to have issues with Hispanic gangs but rarely deal with them anymore. One type of gang-related criminal activity – graffiti – is way down. There is one small group of Somalian juvenile males who are not really organized but the police are watching them. The juveniles are centralized to one apartment complex and play loud music, harass people, and smoke marijuana in parking lots. They may drive around here and there but focus mainly on that one apartment complex.

Table 12.

Arrest Rates for Adults and Juveniles for 2018 and 2019 with Percent Change <sup>f</sup>

Arrestee Age		All Arre	estee Ages		Un	der 18
Summary Arrest Date	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %
Jurisdiction by Geography			DAKOTA	COUN'	TY	
Arrest Offense						
Total	1,010	771	-23.66	46	83	80.43
Aggravated Assault Total	14	9	-35.71	0	1	-
Burglary Total	4	2	-50.00	0	-	-
Larceny-Theft Total	68	52	-23.53	6	6	0.00
Motor Vehicle Theft Total	5	ı	-100.00	0	-	-
Other Assaults	106	80	-24.53	17	14	-17.65
Forgery and Counterfeiting	1	1	0.00	0	0	-
Fraud	16	14	-12.50	0	3	-
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing	1	1	0.00	-	-	-
Vandalism	6	2	-66.67	1	2	100.00
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	5	5	0.00	1	3	200.00
Sex Offenses (Except Rape and Prostitution)	1	1	-100.00	0	-	-
Drug Violations - Sale/Manufacturing	3	5	66.67	-	1	
Drug Violations - Possession	66	67	1.52	<mark>7</mark>	<mark>12</mark>	71.43
NIBRS Unable to Classify		3	-	-	3	-

Offenses Against Family and Children	2	4	100.00	0	0	-
Driving Under the Influence	112	74	-33.93	0	1	-
Liquor Laws	31	18	-41.94	4	5	25.00
Disorderly Conduct	52	41	-21.15	6	8	33.33
Vagrancy	1	-	-100.00	0	-	-
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	516	393	-23.84	4	<mark>24</mark>	500.00

Table 13. Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2015 - 2017)  $^{\rm g}$ 

		Dakota		All NYS Counties			
Score	0	1	2	0	1	2	
Family Circumstance/Parenting	70.6%	23.5%	5.9%	60.1%	26.7%	13.1%	
Education/Employment	51.3%	<b>45.4%</b>	3.4%	43.0%	44.0%	13.1%	
Peer Relationships	57.1%	<b>40.3%</b>	2.5%	44.7%	46.6%	8.6%	
Substance Use	74.8%	21.8%	3.4%	61.4%	30.3%	8.3%	
Leisure/Recreation	55.5%	<mark>42.0%</mark>	2.5%	50.6%	33.0%	16.5%	
Personality/Behavior	31.1%	65.5%	3.4%	50.1%	39.4%	10.4%	
Attitudes/Orientation	61.3%	32.8%	5.9%	61.3%	33.7%	5.0%	
Mean Score	M = 4.98, $SD = 3.36$ , 0-16 $M = 5.64$ , $SD = 3$					65, 0-17	

Dakota County n = 119; Statewide n = 1512

Table 14.
Racial and Ethnic Disparities Descriptives (2015-2019)

## Click here to see Census and School Population Data

See Appendix for yearly data

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact								
Youth taken to temporary custody			1	1		1		
Youth issued citation/referral	510*		1	1		1		
Youth referred to diversion	345	20.0%	1.20%	<mark>7.50%</mark>	42.00%	0.90%	2.60%	25.80%
Youth enrolled in diversion	306	<mark>16.70%</mark>	1.30%	<mark>7.50%</mark>	44.80%	1%	1.60%	27.10%

Successful	285	16.10%	1.10%	8.10%	45.30%	1.10%	1.80%	26.70%
completion								
diversion								
Youth with	27	40.70%	<mark>7.40%</mark>	11.10%	29.60%	0%	0%	11.10%
multiple charges								
Filed on in adult	27	11.10%	3.70%	0%	40.70%	0%	25.90%	18.50%
court								
RAI Override:	57	33.30%	0%	8.80%	28.10%	0%	0%	29.80%
More Severe								
RAI Override: Less	17	<mark>29.40%</mark>	0%	17.60%	29.40%	0%	0%	23.50%
Severe								
Probation intake	197	<mark>34.0%</mark>	2.50%	10.20%	31%	0.50%	0%	21.80%
Successful	207	<b>16.40%</b>	4.30%	<b>8.20%</b>	46.40%	1.40%	0%	23.20%
probation								
Revocation of	92	40.20%	0%	3.30%	40.20%	0%	0%	16.30%
probation								
Youth in OJS								
custody								
OJS custody:								
placed in detention								
Youth booked into								
detention								
Youth booked into								
detention more								
than once								

<sup>\*</sup>Emerson PD only partially reported in 2017, did not report in 2015-2016

## **Family Level**

- Poverty (and related measures) are a problem in this community as compared to the state average.
- Fewer adults have bachelor's degrees and high school degrees, fewer youth have access to Internet at home, and fewer households have a vehicle than the state average.
- Youth in all grades are less likely to report having a supportive adult at home than the state; 10<sup>th</sup> graders are less likely to report having a supportive adult at school than the state average.

Table 15.

Poverty/SES, Educational Attainment, Technology and Computers in Home, Housing, and Transportation (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>

Measurement		Dakota	Nebraska
Poverty/SES	Children <18 in Poverty	<mark>24.2%</mark>	14.8%

	Number of children 12-	801	43,814
	17 below 185% poverty Percent of children 12-	43.8%	28.9%
	17 below 185% poverty		
			21.22
<b>Educational attainment</b>	Age 25+ with B.D.	12.5%	31.3%
	County Rank	95	-
	Age 25+ with some college, no degree	18.0%	23.0%
	County Rank	90	-
	Age 25+ with HS degree	<mark>74.6%</mark>	91.1%
	County Rank	92	-
Technology and computers in the home	% under 18 with a computer at home	<mark>96.0%</mark>	96.9%
		76	-
	% under 18 with an internet subscription at	80.3%	91.0%
	home		
		83	-
	% under 18 with	<mark>80.2%</mark>	90.8%
	broadband internet		
	access at home		
	County Rank	83	-
Housing	Owner-occupied households	4,908	498,567
	Total households	7,456	754,063
	Owner %	65.8%	66.1%
	Renters	2,548	255,496
	Renter %	34.2%	33.9%
Transportation	Households with no vehicle available	236	40,465
	Total households	1,704	754,063
	No vehicle %	13.8%	5.4%

Table 16. Youth Who Report Supportive Adults by Grade (2016)  $^{\rm d}$ 

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Dakota	Adult at home who listens	<mark>80.4%</mark>	<mark>64.3%</mark>	<mark>71.4%</mark>
Nebraska		87.3%	<mark>85.0%</mark>	<mark>85.6%</mark>
Dakota	Adult at school who listens	88.3%	<mark>69.2%</mark>	90.5%
Nebraska		85.2%	<mark>85.0%</mark>	87.4%

Table 17. Domestic Violence Reports and Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means  $^{\rm h}$ 

	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Reported	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest	Simple Domestic Assaults Reported	Simple Domestics Assaults Cleared by Arrest or
	1	or Exceptional		Exceptional Means
		Means		
Dakota	5	3	48	28
Nebraska	562	402	2512	2019

Table 18. Child Abuse and Neglect Reports <sup>i</sup>

	Abuse/Neglect Calls	Reports Assessed	Substantiated	Unfounded
Dakota	323	40%	16%	64%
Nebraska	36,480	33.4%	16.0%	68.3%

## **Community Level**

- 12<sup>th</sup> graders report that people in their community do not find marijuana, alcohol and cigarettes wrong or very wrong, as compared to the state.
- Juvenile record sealing is not "automatic" even if statute requires it to seal. Sealing a record requires administrative staff to initiate the process. Dismissed or dropped cases should be sealed at a rate of 100%. All others should be sealed at the rate to which youth successfully complete their court requirements (completion of diversion, probation, restorative practice, or other treatment). Yearly data is available in the Appendix to see if the rate has improved because of legislation, but newer cases should naturally have lower rates of sealing than older cases. In this county, the rates of sealing records is quite low for dropped/dismissed cases across all years. The county should examine whether this is the case for the other types of case closures.
- There are higher levels of missing data at the court level. Data for race and ethnicity at each juvenile justice system point is imperative for an accurate Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Table 19.
Community Violence Measured by Arrests for Violent Crime (2019) <sup>j</sup>

Type of Violence	Dakota	Nebraska
Murder and Nonnegligent manslaughter	0	34
Rape	0	264
Robbery	0	367
Aggravated Assault	9	1,639
Other Assaults	80	8,782

Table 20. Youth Perceptions of Community Attitudes on Substance Use by Grade (2016) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Dakota	Wrong/very wrong –			
	Marijuana	92.9%	87.9%	<mark>79.7%</mark>
Nebraska		94.4%	89.8%	85.2%
Dakota	Wrong/very wrong – alcohol	86.0%	93.3%	<b>57.1%</b>
Nebraska		89.1%	80.4%	<mark>68.7%</mark>
Dakota	Wrong/very wrong – cigarettes	91.5%	93.3%	<mark>66.7%</mark>
Nebraska		92.9%	89.0%	<mark>78.7%</mark>

Table 21.

Juvenile Court Record Sealing Analysis (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>

see Appendix for yearly data

	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	87	129	<mark>67.4%</mark>
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ			
Filed in Juv. Court	482	1154	41.8%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	159	210	75.7%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to	0	2	0.0%
Juv. Court			
Total	728	1499	48.6%

<sup>\*</sup>Cases offered diversion, mediation or RJ are not available data points in in JUSTICE. All cases filed in adult court and transferred to juvenile court overlapped with cases that were filed in adult court as a misdemeanor or infraction; as such, they were omitted from analysis

## Policy, Legal and System Level

- This county is not required under statute to provide an attorney when a youth is filed on in court, yet the rate is similar to the state average.
- Curfew filings have been problematic in this county (2016 and 2017), but this appears to be less of a problem recently. Research has demonstrated that Juvenile curfews are not effective at reducing juvenile crime and can result in net-widening/pulling youth into the system. Curfew violations should be something that is referred to diversion, if it is necessary to the community to have a curfew ordinance.
- The rate for 3B filings for truancy has increased over the 5-year period. The county should refer truancy cases to diversion and/or a truancy program; or examine why youth are unsuccessfully completing a truancy diversion program and are being filed on.
- The diversion program may consider the following:
  - o exploring the use of warning letters for low risk youth
  - o only drug testing youth with a substance use need
  - o ensure fees are similar to court costs or having a sliding scale
  - o using graduated sanctions to give youth who are not completing diversion requirements graduation sanctions before discharging them unsuccessfully.
  - o strengthening the process for sealing records with law enforcement (not needed at court-

Table 22.

Percent of Youth in Juvenile Court Who Had Access to Counsel (2018) <sup>n</sup>

	Dakota	Nebraska
Access to Counsel	60.0%79.9%	73.5%

<u>Neb. Rev. 43-272</u>. Right to counsel; appointment; payment; guardian ad litem; appointment; when; duties; standards for guardians ad litem; standards for attorneys who practice in juvenile court.

(1)(a) In counties having a population of less than one hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, when any juvenile shall be brought without counsel before a juvenile court, the court shall advise such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian of their right to retain counsel and shall inquire of such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian as to whether they desire to retain counsel.

(b) In counties having a population of one hundred fifty thousand or more inhabitants, when any juvenile court petition is filed alleging jurisdiction of a juvenile pursuant to subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247, counsel shall be appointed for such juvenile.

Table 23. Frequency of Youth with a Curfew Violation (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>

	Dakota	Nebraska
Curfew Court Filing	<mark>29</mark>	352

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
2	<u>15</u>	<mark>6</mark>	3	3	29

Table 24. Court Filing for 3A, 3B, and 3C cases (2015 - 2019)  $^{\rm m}$ 

	Dakota					
Filed Subtype	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	0	<mark>3</mark>	<mark>4</mark>	<mark>4</mark>	<mark>6</mark>	<mark>17</mark>
3B - Uncontrollable	0	0	1	0	0	1
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	0	1	0	0	0	1

	Nebraska					
Filed Subtype	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	2	0	2	3	7
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	96	510	493	423	475	1997
3B - Uncontrollable	47	118	125	119	82	491
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	22	48	37	22	23	306

Table 25. County Diversion Procedures and Protocols Compared to Statewide Responses (2020)  $^{\circ}$ 

	Dakota	Nebraska *
Refer ALL juveniles who are first	No	Yes: 27.3%
time offenders to diversion		No: 63.6%
		Not sure: 9.1%
File a juvenile's charges at the time	No	Yes: 18.2%
of the referral to diversion		No: 70.5%
		Not sure: 11.4%
File a juvenile's charges if they are	Sometimes	Always: 47.7%
unsuccessful on diversion		Sometimes: 47.7%
		Not sure: 4.5%
Allow a juvenile to complete	Yes	Yes: 61.4%
diversion more than once		No: 34.1%
		Not sure: 4.5%
Charges/offenses that make a	Yes; serious violent felonies	Yes: 86.4%
juvenile ineligible for diversion		No: 9.1%
		Not sure: 4.5%
Warning letters instead of	<mark>No</mark>	Yes: 27.3%
intervention		No: 61.4%
		Not sure: 11.4%
Currently drug test	Yes	Yes: 31.8%
		No: 65.9%
		Not sure: 2.3%
Fees beyond restitution	Yes; \$50	Yes: 86.4%
		No: 13.6%

		Not sure: 0.0%
Use of graduated responses prior	Not sure; not formally but willing	Yes: 47.7%
to discharge	to "meet the youth where they are	No: 25.0%
	at" to adjust the diversion plan as	Not sure: 27.3%
	necessary	
Sealing diversion records	No; There is no court filing so	Yes: 59.1%
	there is nothing to seal.	No: 22.7%
		Not sure: 18.2%

<sup>\*</sup>responses included 44 juvenile diversion programs; representing 68 counties/tribe (91.9% response rate)

## **Community Team Level**

- A community lead should be able to get roughly a 75% response, to ensure active participation on planning issues. The response rate decreased slightly from 2019 to 2020.
- Continuous Communication had the lowest mean for the collective impact domains in 2020 (but this could be related to the pandemic). Scores improved for common agenda and shared measurement.
- While we recognize this could be due to response rate, the community team should be representative of the population of that community but should also include diversity. It might be beneficial to add more People of Color (Hispanic/Latino, Black, Asian, Native American) to your team, especially because of the patterns of over and under representation.
- The team has good representation from people who represent a diversity of system points; including people with previous system involvement.
- Only 10% reported (1 person) not feeling heard at team meetings, which is much lower than the state average.

Table 26.
Collective Impact Survey Response Rates P

	Dal	kota	Nebraska		
Year of survey	2019	2020	2019	2020	
Number of surveys sent	29	30	1407	780	
Number of completed surveys	13	10	221	345	
Response rate	<mark>44.8%</mark>	<mark>33.3%</mark>	28.3%	24.5%	

Table 27.
Collective Impact Survey Scores P

	Dakota	1	Nebraska		
Year of survey	2019	2020	2019	2020	
	Mean Sco	ore	Mean	Score	
Common agenda	<mark>6.12</mark>	<mark>6.20</mark>	5.29	5.69	
Mutually reinforcing	6.24	6.20	5.37	5.50	
Shared measurement	6.24	<mark>6.40</mark>	5.21	5.45	
Continuous communication	6.30	5.90	5.49	5.55	
Backbone agency	6.33	6.30	5.52	5.78	

The five elements of Collective Impact are:

• **Common agenda:** Participants have a shared vision and common understanding of both the problem and potential solutions to that problem.

- **Mutually reinforcing activities:** Participant activities must be differentiated while still being coordinated through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.
- **Shared measurement:** Collecting data and measuring results consistently across all participants ensures efforts remain aligned and participants hold each other accountable.
- **Continuous communication:** Consistent and open communication is needed across stakeholders to build trust, assure mutual objectives, and create common motivation.
- **Backbone support**: Creating and managing Collective Impact often requires a separate organization(s) with staff and a specific set of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative and to coordinate participating organizations <sup>q</sup>

Table 28. Community Planning Team Diversity <sup>p</sup>

	Dak	ota	Neb	raska
	N = 10	(%)	N = 345	(%)
Gender				
Male	3	30.0%	101	29.3%
Female	7	70.0%	229	66.4%
Missing			15	4.3%
Age				
Under 30	1	10.0%	19	5.6%
30-39	1	10.0%	68	19.6%
40-49	4	40.0%	88	25.4%
50-59	1	10.0%	90	25.8%
60 and over	3	30.0%	44	13%
Missing			36	10.4%
Race/Ethnicity				
White	8	80.0%	230	66.7%
Black			10	2.9%
Hispanic			13	3.8%
Native American			6	1.7%
Asian			1	0.3%
Other			2	0.6%
Provided town name	2	20.0%	63	18.3%
Missing			19	5.5%
Previous System Involvement				
Yes	5	50.0%	98	28.4%
No	5	50.0%	242	70.1%

Missing			5	1.4%
System Point *				
Law enforcement	4	16.7%	34	7.8%
County attorney/ juvenile court	2	8.3%	32	7.3%
K-12 or secondary education	2	8.3%	65	14.9%
Ministry/faith based			10	2.3%
Diversion	4	16.7%	55	12.6%
Probation	2	8.3%	31	7.1%
Public defender/ defense counsel/	1	4.2%	8	1.8%
guardian ad litem				
DHHS or Child Welfare	1	4.2%	13	3.0%
Treatment provider	1	4.2%	40	9.2%
Post adjudication or detention	1	4.2%	8	1.8%
Community based program	4	16.7%	109	25.0%
Elected official or government	1	4.2%	6	1.4%
Restorative practices			6	1.4%
Backbone or system improvement			3	0.7%
Other	1	4.2%	16	3.7%
Voice on Team				
Feel heard	9	90.0%	270	78.3%
Do not feel heard	1	10.0%	75	21.7%

<sup>\*</sup>note. Team members could have selected more than one system point; as such, they do not add up to 100%

#### **References and Resources**

- <sup>a</sup> **Population data:** Table B01001 race series, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on July 10, 2020
- <sup>a</sup> **Youth employment:** Table B23001, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on July 10, 2020
- <sup>a</sup> **Poverty/SES:** Table B10724, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 3-18-2020
- <sup>a</sup> **Technology in household:** Table B28005, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau Compiled by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 8-11-20
- <sup>a</sup> **Home owner/transportation:** Table B25045, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 8-11-20
- <sup>a</sup> **Education attainment:** Table B15002, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 3-18-2020
- <sup>b</sup> School membership, chronic absenteeism, student disability, and free/reduced lunch: Prepared by Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education
- <sup>c</sup> **Graduation rates:** Special Tabulation by Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 7-24-2020
- <sup>d</sup> Mental health, Substance use, gang, and community perceptions of substance use: Bureau of Sociological Research, Nebraska Risk and Protective Factors Survey: <a href="https://bosr.unl.edu/current-nrpfss-county-level-data">https://bosr.unl.edu/current-nrpfss-county-level-data</a>
- <sup>e</sup> Referral to and utilization of services: Department of Health and Human Services
- f **Adult and juvenile arrests:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics: <a href="https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx">https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx</a>
- <sup>g</sup> Diversion programs
- h Domestic violence: Nebraska Crime Commission, Domestic Assault: https://ncc.nebraska.gov/sites/ncc.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2019%20Domestic%20Assault%20and%20Arrest%20by%20County\_0.pdf
- <sup>I</sup>Child abuse and neglect
- <sup>j</sup> Community violence: Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:

https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>k</sup> **Distance to detention facility:** Google Maps

<sup>1</sup>Racial and ethnic disparities: Prepared by Mitch Herian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln with data provided by:

Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:

https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx

Nebraska Crime Commission, Juvenile Case Management System

Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE

Nebraska Judicial Branch, Juvenile Services Division

- <sup>m</sup> Court Filings and Juvenile Record Sealing: Data provided by the Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute on 9-1-20
- <sup>n</sup> **Access to Counsel:** Kids County in Nebraska Report, Voices for Children, retrieved from: <u>www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount</u>. Data originally from Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE
- <sup>o</sup> **Diversion procedures and protocols:** Diversion survey distributed to Juvenile Diversion programs, 2020. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute
- <sup>p</sup> Collective impact: Collective impact surveys distributed to Community Planning Teams, 2019 and 2020. Prepared by: Anne Hobbs and Erin Wasserburger, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute
- <sup>q</sup> Collective Impact Elements: Kania, J., & Kramer, M. (2011). Collective Impact. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.

# **Appendix: RED Descriptives**

2015

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact								
Youth taken to temporary custody								
Youth issued citation/referral	156*							
Youth referred to diversion	76	25%	0%	7.90%	31.60%	0%	0%	35.50%
Youth enrolled in diversion	68	20.60%	0%	7.40%	35.30%	0%	0%	36.80%
Successful completion diversion	65	20%	0%	7.70%	35.40%	0%	0%	36.90%
Youth with multiple charges	1	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Filed on in adult court	7	0%	0%	0%	42.90%	0%	42.90%	14.30%
RAI Override: More Severe	7	71.40%	0%	0%	14.30%	0%	0%	14.30%
RAI Override: Less Severe	1	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Probation intake	38	28.90%	2.60%	2.60%	36.80%	0%	0%	28.90%
Successful probation	59	11.90%	6.80%	1.70%	59.30%	1.70%	0%	18.60%
Revocation of probation	22	50%	0%	4.50%	27.30%	0%	0%	18.20%
Youth in OJS custody								
OJS custody: placed in detention								
Youth booked into detention								
Youth booked into detention more than once								

<sup>\*</sup>Emerson PD only partially reported in 2017, did not report in 2015-2016

2016

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact								
Youth taken to temporary custody								
Youth issued citation/referral	129*							
Youth referred to diversion	44	15.90%	2.30%	9.10%	50%	0%	2.30%	20.50%
Youth enrolled in diversion	41	14.60%	2.40%	9.80%	48.80%	0%	2.40%	22%
Successful completion diversion	40	15%	2.50%	10%	47.50%	0%	2.50%	22.50%
Youth with multiple charges	5	20%	0%	0%	60%	0%	0%	20%
Filed on in adult court	15	20%	6.70%	0%	40%	0%	20%	13.30%
RAI Override: More Severe	11	18.20%	0%	0%	45.50%	0%	0%	36.40%
RAI Override: Less Severe	2	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
Probation intake	31	32.30%	6.50%	6.50%	35.50%	0%	0%	19.40%
Successful probation	50	18%	4%	6%	42%	4%	0%	26%
Revocation of probation	15	13.30%	0%	0%	86.70%	0%	0%	0%
Youth in OJS custody					1			
OJS custody: placed in detention								
Youth booked into detention					-1			
Youth booked into detention more than once								

<sup>\*</sup>Emerson PD only partially reported in 2017, did not report in 2015-2016

2017

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact								
Youth taken to temporary custody								
Youth issued citation/referral	96*							
Youth referred to diversion	82	11%	0%	9.80%	45.10%	2.40%	6.10%	25.60%
Youth enrolled in diversion	72	8.30%	0%	9.70%	48.60%	2.80%	4.20%	26.40%
Successful completion diversion	67	9%	0%	10.40%	47.80%	3%	4.50%	25.40%
Youth with multiple charges	9	44.40%	0%	11.10%	22.20%	0%	0%	22.20%
Filed on in adult court	2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%
RAI Override: More Severe	13	7.70%	0%	7.70%	23.10%	0%	0%	61.50%
RAI Override: Less Severe	3	33.30%	0%	0%	66.70%	0%	0%	0%
Probation intake	44	25%	0%	9.10%	31.80%	0%	0%	34.10%
Successful probation	42	26.20%	2.40%	16.70%	38.10%	0%	0%	16.70%
Revocation of probation	18	27.80%	0%	11.10%	50%	0%	0%	11.10%
Youth in OJS custody								
OJS custody: placed in detention								
Youth booked into detention								
Youth booked into detention more than once								

<sup>\*</sup>Emerson PD only partially reported in 2017, did not report in 2015-2016

2018

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact								
Youth taken to temporary custody								
Youth issued citation/referral	46							
Youth referred to diversion	66	31.80%	1.50%	3%	40.90%	1.50%	1.50%	19.70%
Youth enrolled in diversion	54	25.90%	1.90%	3.70%	46.30%	1.90%	0%	20.40%
Successful completion diversion	51	25.50%	0%	3.90%	49%	2%	0%	19.60%
Youth with multiple charges	7	42.90%	14.30%	14.30%	28.60%	0%	0%	0%
Filed on in adult court	3	0%	0%	0%	66.70%	0%	0%	33.30%
RAI Override: More Severe	15	40%	0%	13.30%	33.30%	0%	0%	13.30%
RAI Override: Less Severe	5	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	60%
Probation intake	37	48.60%	0%	8.10%	24.30%	2.70%	0%	16.20%
Successful probation	35	11.40%	5.70%	5.70%	40%	0%	0%	37.10%
Revocation of probation	23	65.20%	0%	0%	4.30%	0%	0%	30.40%
Youth in OJS custody								
OJS custody: placed in detention								
Youth booked into detention								
Youth booked into detention more than once								

2019

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact								
Youth taken to temporary custody								
Youth issued citation/referral	83							
Youth referred to diversion	77	16.90%	2.60%	7.80%	45.50%	0%	2.60%	24.70%
Youth enrolled in diversion	71	15.50%	2.80%	7%	46.50%	0%	1.40%	26.80%
Successful completion diversion	62	12.90%	3.20%	8.10%	48.40%	0%	1.60%	25.80%
Youth with multiple charges	5	60%	20%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Filed on in adult court	0	NA%	NA%	NA%	NA%	0%	NA%	NA%
RAI Override: More Severe	11	45.50%	0%	18.20%	18.20%	0%	0%	18.20%
RAI Override: Less Severe	6	33.30%	0%	33.30%	16.70%	0%	0%	16.70%
Probation intake	47	36.20%	4.30%	21.30%	27.70%	0%	0%	10.60%
Successful probation	21	14.30%	0%	19%	47.60%	0%	0%	19%
Revocation of probation	14	28.60%	0%	0%	57.10%	0%	0%	14.30%
Youth in OJS custody	-							
OJS custody: placed in detention								
Youth booked into detention								
Youth booked into detention more than once								

# **Appendix: Sealed Court Records by Year**

\*Cases offered diversion, mediation or RJ are not available data points in in JUSTICE. All cases filed in adult court and transferred to juvenile court overlapped with cases that were filed in adult court as a misdemeanor or infraction; as such, they were omitted from analysis

2015	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	22	33	66.7%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ			
Filed in Juv. Court	110	224	49.1%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	45	56	80.4%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to	0	1	0.0%
Juv. Court			
Total	177	315	56.2%

2016	Number of charges	Total Number of	Sealed
	Sealed	charges	(%)
Dismissed or Dropped	36	48	75.0%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ			
Filed in Juv. Court	101	269	37.5%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	53	78	67.9%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to			
Juv. Court			
Total	190	397	47.9%

2017	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	11	18	61.1%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ			
Filed in Juv. Court	124	273	45.4%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	16	22	72.7%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to			
Juv. Court			
Total	151	313	48.2%

2018	Number of charges	Total Number of	Sealed
	Sealed	charges	(%)
Dismissed or Dropped	10	16	62.5%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ			
Filed in Juv. Court	77	194	39.7%

Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	24	26	92.3%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to	0	1	0.0%
Juv. Court			
Total	111	238	46.6%

2019	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	8	14	57.1%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ			
Filed in Juv. Court	70	194	36.1%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	21	28	75.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to			
Juv. Court			
Total	99	236	41.9%

## **Appendix B: Approval Letter/minutes from Governing Board**

Dakota County Board of Commissioners Monday, February 22, 2021, 3:00 p.m. County Board Meeting Room, First Floor Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

Chair Gill called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present at Roll Call: Gill, Love, Giese, Albenesius, Launsby. Absent: none. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney, and Joan Spencer, County Clerk, acting as Board Secretary. The location of the Open Meetings Act was noted.

....Excerpt:

Sarah Deck, Juvenile Diversion Coordinator, requesting board approval for the Sarah Deck, Juvenile Diversion Coordinator, reviewed the Dakota County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025. The Plan contains data summary taken from the Dakota County Needs Assessment at the Youth Level, Family Level, Community Level, Policy, Legal and System Level and Community Team Level. The Plan contains a Comprehensive List of Services for prevention programs, diversion services, alternatives to detention for preadjudicated youth and known gaps in services. The Plan contains worksheets for Community Analysis and Response as well as Gaps to be Filled. The Plan contains a list of team members. Each county that applies for community-based grant dollars from the Nebraska Crime Commission is required to have a Community Plan to be eligible for grant dollars to continue the process for referring youth to diversion. Chair Gill moved, seconded by Commissioner Love, to approve the 2021 – 2025 Dakota County Juvenile Service Comprehensive Community Plan for Dakota County. ROLL CALL VOTE: Albenesius- yes, Launsby- yes, Gill- yes, Love- yes, Giese- yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

• • • • • • •

Chair Gill adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting of February 22, 2021, at 4:29 p.m.

Janet Gill, Chair Date signed

**Dakota County Board of Commissioners** 

Joan Spencer, County Clerk/Secretary Date