

Howard County

Comprehensive Juvenile Services

Community Plan

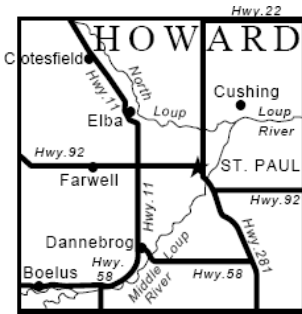
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Introduction



Howard County Nebraska is a rural community covering 570 square miles in central Nebraska with a total population of 6,445. The County Seat is St. Paul surrounded by the communities of Boelus, Cotesfield, Cushing, Dannebrog, Elba, Farwell, and St. Libory. Howard County Schools include Centura Public Schools located in Cairo, Elba Public Schools in Elba, and St. Paul Public Schools in St. Paul.

In the fall and winter of 2009, Celeste Heavilin-Penner and Connie Holmes with the Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions, Inc. (CNCAA) whose service area includes Howard County, began a drug and alcohol prevention assessment process in Howard County, utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework. This included multiple community informational (town hall) meetings, key informant interviews, youth specific focus groups, and other small focus groups of key community leaders meeting for the purpose of assessment. Alcohol use/abuse by minors, alcohol abuse by adults, easy access to alcohol for youth, low perceived risk of harm and consequences for drinking by youth and underage drinking as an accepted social norm in Howard County all arose as the issues needing to be addressed. Those who participated in the town hall meetings have met almost monthly since this initial process (Howard County Community Prevention Team). This team meets monthly throughout the year, facilitated by Celeste Heavilin Penner or Connie Holmes. Most recently, the Howard County Community Prevention Team re-engaged in a community assessment process with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Dr. Lindsey Wylie. A Community Assessment Report was prepared and shared with the Howard County Team and included multiple levels of assessment data – Youth, Family, Community, Policy/Legal and System Level, and Community Team Level. The Howard County Community Team spent the monthly meetings during November-December, 2020, and January-February, 2021 reviewing and considering this data report in an effort to create a comprehensive community plan for Howard County for 2021 – 2025.

Data Summary

YOUTH LEVEL DATA

- Hispanic youth are disproportionately more likely to be chronic absent as compared to their representation in the population.
- 8th graders reported higher levels of loss of sleep and depression than the state average. 8th and 10th graders reported higher levels of current alcohol use, binge drinking, and tobacco use than the state average. 8th graders report higher levels of vaping than the state average. 10th graders report feeling less hopeful for the future than the state average.
- 8th graders report high levels of gang involvement than the state average. There is also a statewide trend that 8th graders report higher levels of gang involvement than 10th and 12th graders.
- Similar to crime rates generally in the county for all ages, the county juvenile “arrest” rates have decreased from 2018 to 2019. There was an increase in drug violations and liquor law “arrests” for juveniles (however, with such small frequencies, this increase should be taken with caution).
- JJI did not have risk assessment scores for diversion from the 2015-2017 assessment evaluation to include. If the county is not using a validated assessment tool, then it should begin doing so (there will be a statewide tool coming in July 2021). If the county does have assessment data in digital format for JJI to analyze, we would be happy to update this table.
- Youth referred to diversion are enrolling and successfully completing diversion at a high rate—for both Hispanic and White youth.
- Without a complete picture of law enforcement data (race/ethnicity and total arrests reported because law enforcement agencies did not report in 2015-20017), we cannot tell if cases are funneling to diversion and other system points appropriately, or whether there are RED issues with cases flowing from arrest to diversion and other system points.
- Hispanic youth are more likely to be filed on in adult court than the population, but have high rates of successfully completing probation,

FAMILY LEVEL DATA

- As compared to the state averages, the county does not appear to have an issue with poverty in the family or most of the measures related to poverty. It does appear that there is a greater percentage of children 12-17 below 185% poverty as compared to the state rates. There are lower rates of those aged 25+ with a bachelor’s degree (which is a common trend in rural communities).
- Fewer youth in this county report having a supportive adult at home, as compared to the state rates for 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. They report having similar rates of supportive adults at school.

COMMUNITY LEVEL DATA

- There are not many violent arrests in this community.
- 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. All dropped/dismissed cases were sealed, except for cases from 2018.
- Data for race and ethnicity at each juvenile justice system point is imperative for an accurate Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) analysis. The court trial database (JUSTICE) has a high rate of missing data by race/ethnicity in this county.
- 12th graders in this community are less likely to report that the community finds marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes wrong or very wrong than the state average. 8th graders are less likely to report that the community finds marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes wrong or very wrong than the state average.

POLICY, LEGAL and SYSTEM LEVEL DATA

- This county is not a county required to provide counsel under statute; notably, access to counsel is relatively high in this community.
- Curfew filings were relatively high in the previous years, but have decreased in recent years. Curfew violations, if not diverted, can net-widen juveniles into the juvenile justice system.
- There are few 3A, 3B, and 3C filings in court so the community is diverting appropriately.
- The diversion program may consider the following:
 - exploring the use of warning letters for low risk youth
 - best practices is to only drug test youth with a demonstrated need
 - ensure fees are similar to court costs or having a sliding scale
 - strengthening the process for sealing records in JCMS and with law enforcement (not needed at court-level because it is pre-file).

COMMUNITY TEAM LEVEL DATA

- A community lead should be able to get roughly a 75% response, to ensure active participation on planning issues. The response rate declined from 2019 to 2020.
- There are relatively high rates of collective impact on all domains, as compared to the state averages. Having a common agenda was the lowest mean for 2019, and shared measurement had the lowest mean for 2020.
- The community team should be representative of the population of that community, but should also include diversity. It might be beneficial to add more males and Hispanics/Latinos to your team (especially because of the patterns of over and under representation). There is good representation of persons formerly involved in the system.

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- Although the low response rate may affect the results of community team diversity, there could be more representation from other system points not currently represented.
- Approximately 20% reported not feeling heard at team meetings, which is similar to the state average, but an area where the team could consider novel approaches to inclusion.

Comprehensive List of Services

Howard County, Nebraska completed 9/16/20

SYSTEM POINT: PREVENTION		
(includes programs that aim to intervene before and after problematic behaviors are identified)		
Program/ Agency Name	Eligible age	Risk or need
Teammates of St. Paul (mentoring)	8 - 18	Drug/Alcohol Use, Low parental warmth, Parental substance use, Low achievement, Low attachment, Deviant peer groups, Anxiety/Depression
Girl Scouts	5 – 15	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Lack of supervision, Low achievement/attachment
On-Site School Mental Health Therapy (St. Paul)	11 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental Health Disorders, Defiance of authority, Lack of concern for others, Previous victimization, Parental substance use, Family violence,
On-Site School Mental Health Therapy (Elba)	11 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental Health Disorders, Defiance of authority, Lack of concern for others, Previous victimization, Parental substance use, Family violence,
Big Brothers/Big Sisters (mentoring)	5 – 11	Drug/Alcohol Use, Low parental warmth, Parental substance use, Low achievement, Low attachment, Deviant peer groups, Anxiety/Depression
Hunter Education	11 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Sensation seeking
4-H (UNL Extension)	5 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Lack of supervision, Low achievement/attachment
St Paul Public Schools After School Program	5 – 12	Learning disability, Lack of supervision, Low achievement, Low literacy, Deviant peer groups
Families Care Services (Child and Family Services)	6 – 17	Alcohol/Drug use, Mental Health Disorders, Anxiety/Depression, Learning Disability, Antisocial attitudes, Previous victimization, Lack of discipline, Abusive parents, Parental substance use, Family violence, Low achievement, Low attachment, Deviant peer groups
Trap Club	10 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Sensation seeking
Church Youth Groups/AWANA	4 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental Health Disorders, Lack of supervision, Family violence, Deviant peer groups
St Paul Bicycle Club	5 – 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Sensation seeking
Summer Daycare	4 – 12	Lack of supervision
City of St. Paul Summer Sports	5 – 12	Drug/Alcohol use, Sensation seeking, Lack of supervision
Summer Reading Program (Elba, St Paul)	5 – 12	Drug/Alcohol use, Sensation seeking, Low attachment, Lack of supervision
Mental Health Therapy at Hospital in St. Paul (Julie Moore)	5 - 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental Health Disorders, Defiance of authority, Lack of concern for others, Previous victimization, Parental substance use, Family violence,

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SYSTEM POINT: DIVERSION SERVICES		
(diversion and services available to youth on diversion)		
Program/ Agency Name	Eligible age	Risk or need
Diversion (currently youth are referred to Hall County Juvenile Services Diversion Program)	11 - 18	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, lack of concern for others, inappropriate use of time, Antisocial attitudes, Defiance of authority, Family violence, Truancy, Deviant peer groups
Alcohol Education Classes	9 - 18	Drug/Alcohol use
Marijuana Education Classes	9 - 18	Drug/Alcohol use
Tobacco Education Classes	9 - 18	Drug/Alcohol use
School Resource Officer (Elba and Centura)	10 - 18	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, lack of concern for others, inappropriate use of time, Antisocial attitudes, Defiance of authority, Family violence, Truancy, Deviant peer groups

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 age	Risk or need
Probation = Trackers/Ankle Bracelets	10 - 18	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, inappropriate use of time, defiance of authority, lack of concern for others, Antisocial attitudes, Family violence, Truancy, Deviant peer groups, Parental substance use,
MST (via Mid Plains Center)	6 - 17	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, inappropriate use of time, defiance of authority, lack of concern for others, Antisocial attitudes, Family violence, Truancy, Deviant peer groups, Parental substance use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental health disorders,

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
Need more on-site mental health therapy at schools (to reach more students)	6 - 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental Health Disorders, Defiance of authority, Lack of concern for others, Previous victimization, Parental substance use, Family violence
Need Wellness Center with year-round youth activities in Elba; things for kids to do; places to go and just be kids	14 - 17	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental health disorders, Sensation seeking, Inappropriate use of time, Lack of supervision,
Want local diversion program	10 - 18	Drug/alcohol use, lack of supervision, lack of concern for others, inappropriate use of time, Antisocial attitudes, Defiance of authority, Family violence, Truancy, Deviant peer groups
Resilience Training for youth	6 - 18	Drug/Alcohol use, Anxiety/Depression, Mental Health Disorders, Previous victimization, Parental substance use, Family violence,
Need parenting classes, intensive education for Pre-K – 6 th grade parents		Lack of supervision, Lack of discipline, Low parental warmth, Parental hostility, Abusive parent(s), Parental substance use, Poor prenatal and early childhood health, Family violence

Community Analysis and Response (CAR) Final Worksheet

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?
Hispanic youth overrepresented in chronic absenteeism (<i>Racial and Ethnic Disparity</i>)	St Paul – Student Assistance Team Mtgs	13 – 18	School Social Worker needed to help individuals and families identify root causes of absenteeism; identify possible solutions/resources; In future years, would like to explore the possibility of a Truancy Court which would add solid consequences to unresponsive individuals/families.
	Howard County Sheriff's Dept for home visits when time/staffing allows	6 - 18	
8 th graders reported higher levels of loss of sleep and depression than the state average.	On-Site Mental Health Therapy Program (St. Paul, Elba, coming soon to Centura)	13 – 18	Need to expand access to mental health services to be able to serve more youth and to serve younger youth
	Howard County Medical Center's Mental Health Clinician (part-time now – at capacity)	13 – 18	Howard County Medical Center aims to move from a part-time therapist to a full-time therapist for mental health services on-site; Also looking into the addition of multiple UNK counseling student internships as a way to increase capacity
	Boystown Mental Health Services Clinic	8 - 18	Boystown Mental Health Services Clinic in St Paul is at capacity
	Referrals made to Family Resources of Greater Nebraska (Grand Island), Wholeness Healing (Grand Island), Bryan Health, and private practitioner Julie Moore (Grand Island)		Identify any therapists in private practice in St Paul – referrals currently made to services in Grand Island because current services are at capacity without expansion
8 th and 10 th graders reported higher levels of current alcohol use, binge drinking, and tobacco use than the state average.	Central Navigation (online application at https://heartlandunitedway.org) Region 3 Behavioral Health Services?	13 – 18	Drug/Alcohol Assessments are costly and time consuming; insurance doesn't always pay; these are barriers to youth/families getting the help they need; Need to explore how many current mental health therapists working in St Paul are also Licensed Alcohol/Drug Counselors who could help with youth assessments/evaluations (Katie Donahoo-yes);

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	<p>Veterans Suicide Prevention Program (Grand Island Veterans Hospital)</p> <p>Primary Prevention: St Paul PS -Elementary: All Stars in 5 & 6 grade -Jr High: LifeSkills in 7 & 8 grade; six weeks of family and consumer science; parenting/fetal alcohol syndrome education only; -High School: six weeks of family and consumer science (elective)</p> <p>Primary Prevention: Elba -7th grade adolescent health and development</p> <p>Primary Prevention: Centura -Elementary : Second Step - High School – two semesters of health</p> <p>Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (youth education programming)</p> <p>40 Developmental Assets (for adults) Ministerial Association interest in partnership with schools/coalition to reach parents/public related to public health/safety/mental health/ prevention issues/response to COVID</p>	<p>13 - 18</p> <p>5 – 18</p> <p>5 – 18</p> <p>5 – 18</p> <p>8 – 18</p> <p>5 - 18</p>	<p>Explore guidelines for assistance from Central Navigation and Region 3 Behavioral Health Services</p> <p>Medicaid Expansion may pay for some evaluations if you qualify (register at DHHS website for Medicaid)</p> <p>If parent of youth is a Veteran, may qualify for no-cost evaluation</p> <p>Explore what schools offer for drug prevention/education – perhaps purchase new/additional curricula</p> <p>Explore what schools offer for drug prevention/education – perhaps purchase new/additional curricula</p> <p>Explore what schools offer for drug prevention/education – perhaps purchase new/additional curricula</p> <p>Classroom and after school programming available upon request</p> <p>Offer 40 Developmental Assets for adults in community; perhaps through church education; perhaps as a partnership between churches and schools with prevention/other public health issues;</p> <p>Explore Positive Prevention Framework in place of shock and awe programming</p>
<p>8th graders report higher levels of vaping than the state average.</p>	<p>Jenny Roush, CHI Health St Francis Cancer Treatment Program (youth/community education)</p> <p>Michaela Perry, Tobacco Free Hall County (youth/community education)</p> <p>Elks Club (youth/community education)(contact Bill Koller)</p>	<p>10 – 18</p> <p>10 – 18</p> <p>12 - 18</p>	<p>Need to provide education to youth about vaping beginning at elementary level (5th grade), before kids begin to use and continue with “booster” lessons throughout years;</p>

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10 th graders report feeling less hopeful for the future than the state average.	On-Site Mental Health Therapy Program (St. Paul, Elba, coming soon to Centura)	13 – 18	Need to expand access to mental health services to be able to serve more youth and to serve younger youth Howard County Medical Center aims to move from a part-time therapist to a full-time therapist for mental health services on-site; Also looking into the addition of multiple UNK counseling student internships as a way to increase capacity Boystown Mental Health Services Clinic in St Paul is at capacity Identify any therapists in private practice in St Paul – referrals currently made to services in Grand Island because current services are at capacity without expansion Explore Nebraska Strong Recovery Project Assist with connecting individuals and families to services in the community
	Howard County Medical Center's Mental Health Clinician (part-time now – at capacity)	13 – 18	
	Boystown Mental Health Services Clinic	6 – 18	
	Referrals made to Family Resources of Greater Nebraska (Grand Island), Wholeness Healing (Grand Island), Bryan Health, and private practitioner Julie Moore (St Paul)	8 – 18	
	DHHS Family Coaching	11 - 18	
8 th graders report high levels of gang involvement than the state average. There is also a statewide trend that 8 th graders report higher levels of gang involvement than 10 th and 12 th graders.	No existing programs or agencies addressing this issue	12 - 14	Define gangs according to survey; Need to research what gangs are present; research programs available to address violence/gang prevention; why are kids joining gangs?? Celeste to interview students to get better picture of what this means to them
Hispanic youth are more likely to be filed on in adult court than the population, but have high rates of successfully completing probation (<i>Racial and Ethnic Disparity</i>)	Adult Court		Explore WHY Hispanic youth are being filed on in adult court; reach out to County Attorney's Office and JJI related to data being reported
Fewer youth in this county report having a supportive adult at home, as compared to the state rates for 8 th , 10 th , and 12 th graders. They report having similar rates of supportive adults at school.	Teammates Big Brothers Big Sisters	6 - 18	Need for Strengthening Families Programming; BBBS not really present in Howard County; COVID makes meeting with matches challenging.
12 th graders in this community are less likely to report that the community finds marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes wrong or very wrong than the state average.	Social Norms/Community Education State Patrol Drug Education (limited amount of time for this)	17-18	Need for more drug prevention education for community at large Utilize earned media to educate community
8 th graders are less likely to report that the community finds marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes wrong or very wrong than the state average.	Social Norms/Community Education	17-18	

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?
Mental health challenges among youth are increasing and becoming more complex, especially since COVID	On-site school therapy programs at capacity; local MH resources at capacity;	11 - 18	Need additional mental health services for youth and families
Absenteeism/Truancy issues with many of the same families each year; Hispanic youth overrepresented.	Assistance from local law enforcement when available;	11 - 18	Need assistance of school social worker who can make time to help individuals/families identify root causes of absenteeism/truancy and research community resources to help, help families make connections to those resources
8 th and 10 th graders reported higher levels of current alcohol use, binge drinking, and tobacco use than the state average.	Central Navigation (online application at https://heartlandunitedway.org)	13 - 18	Drug/Alcohol Assessments are costly and time consuming; insurance doesn't always pay; these are barriers to youth/families getting the help they need; Need to explore how many current mental health therapists working in St Paul are also Licensed Alcohol/Drug Counselors who could help with youth assessments/evaluations (Katie Donahoo-yes); Explore guidelines for assistance from Central Navigation and Region 3 Behavioral Health Services
	Region 3 Behavioral Health Services?		Medicaid Expansion may pay for some evaluations if you qualify (register at DHHS website for Medicaid)
	Veterans Suicide Prevention Program (Grand Island Veterans Hospital)	13 - 18	If parent of youth is a Veteran, may qualify for no-cost evaluation
	Primary Prevention: St Paul PS -Elementary: All Stars in 5 & 6 grade -Jr High: LifeSkills in 7 & 8 grade; six weeks of family and consumer science; parenting/fetal alcohol syndrome education only; -High School: six weeks of family and consumer science (elective)	5 – 18	Explore what schools offer for drug prevention/education – perhaps purchase new/additional curricula

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	<p>Primary Prevention: Elba -7th grade adolescent health and development</p> <p>Primary Prevention: Centura -Elementary : Second Step - High School – two semesters of health</p> <p>Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (youth education programming)</p> <p>40 Developmental Assets (for adults) Ministerial Association interest in partnership with schools/coalition to reach parents/public related to public health/safety/mental health/prevention issues/response to COVID</p>	<p>5 – 18</p> <p>5 – 18</p> <p>8 – 18</p> <p>5 - 18</p>	<p>Explore what schools offer for drug prevention/education – perhaps purchase new/additional curricula</p> <p>Explore what schools offer for drug prevention/education – perhaps purchase new/additional curricula</p> <p>Classroom and after school programming available upon request</p> <p>Offer 40 Developmental Assets for adults in community; perhaps through church education; perhaps as a partnership between churches and schools with prevention/other public health issues;</p> <p>Explore Positive Prevention Framework in place of shock and awe programming</p>
<p>8th graders report higher levels of vaping than the state average.</p>	<p>Jenny Roush, CHI Health St Francis Cancer Treatment Program (youth/community education)</p> <p>Michaela Perry, Tobacco Free Hall County (youth/community education)</p> <p>Elks Club (youth/community education)(contact Bill Koller)</p>	<p>10 – 18</p> <p>10 – 18</p> <p>12 - 18</p>	<p>Need to provide education to youth about vaping beginning at elementary level (5th grade), before kids begin to use and continue with “booster” lessons throughout years;</p>

List of Team Members

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

In the fall and winter of 2009, Celeste Heavilin-Penner and Connie Holmes with the Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions, Inc. (CNCAA) whose service area includes Howard County, began a drug and alcohol prevention assessment process in Howard County, utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework. This process included multiple community informational (town hall) meetings, key informant interviews, youth specific focus groups, and other small focus groups of key community leaders meeting for the purpose of assessment.

Those who participated in the initial town hall meetings have met almost monthly since, with ongoing assessment utilizing mainly the Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey. This team meets monthly throughout the year (via Zoom since the pandemic), facilitated by Celeste Heavilin Penner or Connie Holmes. Meetings are typically 1.5 hours in length.

The team today consists of a broader spectrum of the community and includes representatives from all three school districts in Howard County, law enforcement representing the City, County and State; the local health department, county government, juvenile justice, probation, mental health therapists, the local hospital, Department of Health and Human Services, faith community, and youth-service organizations.

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-----PLUS a number of other individuals on our email invite list, however typically do not attend/participate in meetings/discussions

Closing Comments

The Howard County Community Prevention Team is a committed group of individuals and organizations that have come together to assess community concerns and identify and seek out services that support youth and families in Howard County. This plan specifically aims to identify needs and available resources to serve youth ages 11 – 18 who are most at risk for entering the juvenile justice system.

This plan is three-fold: 1) focus on increasing mental health services for youth ages 11 – 18 and 2) adding/hiring a school social worker to assist with absenteeism/truancy concerns, assisting schools with identifying mental health concerns, and connecting youth/families to helping resources; and 3) explore available/additional resources for primary drug prevention education for students.

Towards this effort, Howard County will identify resources available in order to expand mental health services for youth ages 11 – 18 who are most at risk for entering the juvenile justice system and utilize the on-site mental health therapy services for those youth. On-site therapy services will be available at all three school districts by December 2021 (currently available at Elba and St. Paul). Because mental health issues have been identified as a high need in Howard County, additional resources will be sought out to serve those youth who also struggle, but may not be at high risk for entering the juvenile justice system by utilizing community mental health providers in Howard County and neighboring Hall County.

Howard County will also be seeking to hire a school social worker who will serve as a liaison between the school, home and community agencies, building upon a relationship of trust and mutual respect, to facilitate problem-solving efforts for at-risk students which will result in increased student social and academic success. Some major responsibilities may include: assist parents and families, providing individualized and group training as necessary, to help them understand factors which contribute to school performance problems, e.g. poor attendance, socioeconomic difficulties, behavioral difficulties, lack of positive peer experiences, court/legal involvement, and develop

Howard County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan (2021 – 2025)

strategies to ameliorate those factors; provide guidance, support and consultation to school staff (regarding students experiencing difficulties), through individual collaboration and professional development, to work more effectively with students; work with community agencies to develop a mutual understanding of the needs of the school, student and family; and assists students/families in accessing community resources; and provide crisis intervention services with students and school staff in the case of a sudden death, suicide, or other significant traumatic event.

Lastly, the team will work closely with schools to identify current prevention education resources and explore new/additional resources in hopes of strengthening/enhancing what's already going on.

Appendices

Appendix A: Completed Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

Appendix B: Approval Letter/minutes from Governing Board

On Tuesday, February 23, 2021 the Howard County Board of Commissioners met to review and approve the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Community Plan for Howard County.

Signed and Dated *Kathy Hirschman*
Kathy Hirschman, County Board Chair

Appendix C: Multi-County or Tribe Group MOUs

Appendix D: Other Appendix as identified by the community team



Howard County

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

JUVENILE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

EVIDENCE-BASED
NEBRASKA



Youth Level

- Hispanic youth are disproportionately more likely to be chronic absent as compared to their representation in the population.
- 8th graders reported higher levels of loss of sleep and depression than the state average. 8th and 10th graders reported higher levels of current alcohol use, binge drinking, and tobacco use than the state average. 8th graders report higher levels of vaping than the state average. 10th graders report feeling less hopeful for the future than the state average.
- 8th graders report high levels of gang involvement than the state average. There is also a statewide trend that 8th graders report higher levels of gang involvement than 10th and 12th graders.
- Similar to crime rates generally in the county for all ages, the county juvenile “arrest” rates have decreased from 2018 to 2019. There was an increase in drug violations and liquor law “arrests” for juveniles (however, with such small frequencies, this increase should be taken with caution).
- JJI did not have risk assessment scores for diversion from the 2015-2017 assessment evaluation to include. If the county is not using a validated assessment tool, then it should begin doing so (there will be a statewide tool coming in July 2021). If the county does have assessment data in digital format for JJI to analyze, we would be happy to update this table.
- Youth referred to diversion are enrolling and successfully completing diversion at a high rate—for both Hispanic and White youth.
- Without a complete picture of law enforcement data (race/ethnicity and total arrests reported because law enforcement agencies did not report in 2015-2017), we cannot tell if cases are funneling to diversion and other system points appropriately, or whether there are RED issues with cases flowing from arrest to diversion and other system points.
- Hispanic youth are more likely to be filed on in adult court than the population, but have high rates of successfully completing probation,

Table 1.

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

Males

Geographic Area Name	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%
Howard	437	93.4%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	3.7%



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Females

Geographic Area Name	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	102,658	69.9%	15.8%	5.2%	1.2%	2.5%	5.4%
Howard	295	79.7%	13.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.8%

[Click here to go back to RED analysis](#)

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

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
2014-2015	Howard	1,309	4.58%	0.31%	0.46%	0.69%	0.00%	93.58%	0.38%
	Nebraska	312,281	17.74%	2.43%	1.42%	6.70%	0.13%	68.20%	3.38%
2015-2016	Howard	1,300	4.85%	0.31%	0.31%	0.46%	0.00%	93.38%	0.69%
	Nebraska	315,542	18.08%	2.53%	1.38%	6.67%	0.14%	67.72%	3.47%
2016-2017	Howard	1,283	4.52%	0.23%	0.39%	0.39%	0.08%	93.69%	0.70%
	Nebraska	318,853	18.61%	2.66%	1.38%	6.69%	0.15%	66.92%	3.59%
2017-2018	Howard	1,296	4.86%	0.31%	0.31%	0.39%	0.00%	93.29%	0.85%
	Nebraska	323,391	18.80%	2.76%	1.35%	6.67%	0.14%	66.50%	3.78%
2018-2019	Howard	1,290	4.73%	0.16%	0.39%	0.31%	0.00%	93.64%	0.78%
	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 (2014 - 2019) ^b

Year	Geographic Area	Total Youth with Chronic Absenteeism	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-2015	Howard	105	13.33%	*	*	*	*	86.67%	*
	Nebraska	35,638	24.54%	1.64%	4.42%	12.93%	0.19%	51.61%	4.68%
2015-2016	Howard	60	*	*	*	*	*	100.00%	*
	Nebraska	38,812	25.73%	1.55%	4.27%	13.68%	0.27%	49.68%	4.83%
	Howard	107	15.89%	*	*	*	*	84.11%	*



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

2016-2017	Nebraska	42,290	26.90%	1.66%	4.40%	14.22%	0.24%	47.66%	4.92%
2017-2018	Howard	105	15.24%	*	*	*	*	84.76%	*
	Nebraska	46,365	26.81%	1.77%	4.18%	14.49%	0.22%	47.37%	2389
2018-2019	Howard	165	9.09%	*	*	*	*	90.91%	*
	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) ^b

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	IDEA	504 Plan	Limited English Proficiency	Free/Reduced Lunch
2014-2015	Howard	1,309	10.70%	*	*	32.54%
	Nebraska	312,281	13.66%	0.76%	5.97%	44.53%
2015-2016	Howard	1,300	12.69%	*	*	33.31%
	Nebraska	315,542	13.64%	0.90%	5.90%	44.23%
2016-2017	Howard	1,283	12.00%	*	*	33.67%
	Nebraska	318,853	13.80%	0.93%	6.99%	44.76%
2017-2018	Howard	1,296	11.03%	*	*	33.49%
	Nebraska	323,391	15.87%	0.88%	6.59%	46.24%
2018-2019	Howard	1,290	11.09%	*	*	34.19%
	Nebraska	325,984	16.13%	0.85%	6.78%	45.42%

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) ^c

County	Total in Last 5 Years		Yearly Averages		Graduation Rate	Rank
	Graduates	Students	Graduates	Students		
Nebraska	100,111	112,857	20,022.2	22,571.4	88.7%	n/a
Howard	424	438	28.3	29.2	96.8%	20

Data are only for public school districts and their associated high schools. The figures are aggregated based on the location of the school, not the residential location of the student. The figures for Dawes County are impacted by a vocational school where graduation rates are less than 25%; in the rest of the county graduation rates equal 93%.



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Table 6.
 Youth Who Report Mental Health Symptoms and Substance Use by Grade (2018) ^d

	Youth Report of MH Symptoms	8 th	10 th	12 th
Howard	Loss of sleep from worry	22.1%	15.8%	21.0%
Nebraska		18.0%	20.6%	21.6%
Howard	Depressed	33.7%	34.2%	32.1%
Nebraska		31.1%	34.8%	35.3%
Howard	Considered/Attempted suicide	18.6%	15.8%	13.6%
Nebraska		22.9%	18.2%	16.2%
Howard	Current alcohol	15.3%	28.9%	32.1%
Nebraska		9.8%	20.1%	34.2%
Howard	Current binge drinking	3.6%	13.2%	21.0%
Nebraska		1.3%	6.2%	15.0%
Howard	Current marijuana	2.4%	7.9%	13.6%
Nebraska		3.0%	7.3%	13.9%
Howard	Current tobacco	7.0%	19.7%	22.2%
Nebraska		3.7%	8.0%	15.3%
Howard	Current vaping	17.4%	28.9%	33.3%
Nebraska		10.4%	24.7%	37.3%
Howard	Hopeful for future (past week)	79.1%	65.8%	77.8%
Nebraska		78.0%	76.1%	77.6%

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

Table 7.
 Juveniles Referred to Services ^e

Table 8.
 Juveniles Referred to Services by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Mental Health Diagnosis ^e

Table 9.
 Juveniles Who Utilized Services ^e

Table 10.
 Types of Services Utilized ^e

Table 11.
 Youth Who Report Gang Involvement by Grade (2018) ^d

		8 th	10 th	12 th
Howard	Youth Reported Gang Involvement	8.1%	2.6%	3.8%
Nebraska		3.8%	4.4%	3.8%



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Table 12.
Arrest Rates for Adults and Juveniles for 2018 and 2019 with Percent Change ^f

Arrestee Age	All Arrestee Ages			Under 18		
	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %
Summary Arrest Date						
Jurisdiction by Geography	HOWARD COUNTY					
Arrest Offense						
Total	87	54	-37.93	6	5	-16.67
Aggravated Assault Total	1	-	-100.00	1	-	-100.00
Burglary Total	1	-	-100.00	-	-	-
Larceny-Theft Total	2	-	-100.00	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Theft Total	2	-	-100.00	1	-	-100.00
Other Assaults	4	1	-75.00	2	-	-100.00
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing	-	3	-	-	-	-
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	5	-	-100.00	0	-	-
Prostitution Total for Summary	-	1	-	-	0	-
Drug Violations - Sale/Manufacturing	-	2	-	-	0	-
Drug Violations - Possession	20	22	10.00	0	2	-
Driving Under the Influence	23	12	-47.83	0	0	-
Liquor Laws	20	9	-55.00	0	2	-
Disorderly Conduct	2	-	-100.00	1	-	-100.00
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	7	4	-42.86	1	1	0.00

Table 13.
Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2015 - 2017) ^g

Score	Howard			All NYS Counties		
	0	1	2	0	1	2
Family Circumstance/Parenting	--	--	--	60.1%	26.7%	13.1%
Education/Employment	--	--	--	43.0%	44.0%	13.1%
Peer Relationships	--	--	--	44.7%	46.6%	8.6%
Substance Use	--	--	--	61.4%	30.3%	8.3%
Leisure/Recreation	--	--	--	50.6%	33.0%	16.5%
Personality/Behavior	--	--	--	50.1%	39.4%	10.4%
Attitudes/Orientation	--	--	--	61.3%	33.7%	5.0%
Mean Score	<i>M = --, SD = --, --</i>			<i>M = 5.64, SD = 3.65, 0-17</i>		

Could not compute because county did not have any risk assessments completed



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Table 14.
 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Descriptives (2015-2019) ¹

[Click here to see Census and School Population Data](#)

*Data were not separated by year because there were too few cases

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	13*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	34	0%	0%	0%	2.90%	0%	0%	97.10%
Youth enrolled in diversion	34	0%	0%	0%	2.90%	0%	0%	97.10%
Successful completion diversion	28	0%	0%	0%	3.60%	0%	0%	96.40%
Youth with multiple charges	6	0%	0%	0%	16.70%	0%	50%	33.30%
Filed on in adult court	29	0%	0%	0%	3.40%	0%	58.60%	37.90%
RAI Override: More Severe	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
RAI Override: Less Severe	2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Probation intake	17	0%	0%	0%	5.90%	0%	0%	94.10%
Successful probation	31	0%	0%	0%	12.90%	0%	0%	87.10%
Revocation of probation	2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

*Howard County sheriff did not report to NCC 2015 - 2017; St. Paul PD did not report to NCC 2015 - 2017



Family Level

- As compared to the state averages, the county does not appear to have an issue with poverty in the family or most of the measures related to poverty. It does appear that there is a greater percentage of children 12-17 below 185% poverty as compared to the state rates. There are lower rates of those aged 25+ with a bachelor’s degree (which is a common trend in rural communities).
- Fewer youth in this county report having a supportive adult at home, as compared to the state rates for 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. They report having similar rates of supportive adults at school.

Table 15. Poverty/SES, Educational Attainment, Technology and Computers in Home, Housing, and Transportation (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) ^a

Measurement		Howard	Nebraska
Poverty/SES	Children <18 in Poverty	13.2%	14.8%
	Number of children 12-17 below 185% poverty	182	43,814
	Percent of children 12-17 below 185% poverty	33.0%	28.9%
Educational attainment	Age 25+ with B.D.	20.5%	31.3%
	County Rank	53	-
	Age 25+ with some college, no degree	25.0%	23.0%
	County Rank	34	-
	Age 25+ with HS degree	92.8%	91.1%
	County Rank	39	-
Technology and computers in the home	% under 18 with a computer at home	99.4%	96.9%
	County Rank	31	-
	% under 18 with an internet subscription at home	92.8%	91.0%
	County Rank	34	-
	% under 18 with broadband internet access at home	92.3%	90.8%
	County Rank	34	-



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

Housing	Owner-occupied households	2,077	498,567
	Total households	2,684	754,063
	Owner %	77.4%	66.1%
	Renters	607	255,496
	Renter %	22.6%	33.9%
Transportation	Households with no vehicle available	83	40,465
	Total households	2,684	754,063
	No vehicle %	3.1%	5.4%

Table 16.
Youth Who Report Supportive Adults by Grade (2018) ^d

		8 th	10 th	12 th
Howard	Adult at home who listens	77.1%	81.3%	81.3%
Nebraska		87.3%	85.0%	85.6%
Howard	Adult at school who listens	83.7%	85.5%	87.8%
Nebraska		85.2%	85.0%	87.4%

Table 17.
Domestic Violence Reports and Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means (2019) ^h

	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Reported	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means	Simple Domestic Assaults Reported	Simple Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means
Howard	0	0	1	1
Nebraska	562	402	2512	2019

Table 18.
Child Abuse and Neglect Reports (2018) ⁱ

	Abuse/Neglect Calls	Reports Assessed	Substantiated	Unfounded
Howard	88	35%	10%	77%
Nebraska	36,480	33.4%	16.0%	68.3%



Community Level

- There are not many violent arrests in this community.
- 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. All dropped/dismissed cases were sealed, except for cases from 2018.
- Data for race and ethnicity at each juvenile justice system point is imperative for an accurate Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) analysis. The court trial database (JUSTICE) has a high rate of missing data by race/ethnicity in this county.
- 12th graders in this community are less likely to report that the community finds marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes wrong or very wrong than the state average. 8th graders are less likely to report that the community finds marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes wrong or very wrong than the state average.

Table 19. Community Violence Measured by Arrests for Violent Crime (2019) ^j

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

Table 20. Youth Perceptions of Community Attitudes on Substance Use by Grade (2018) ^d

		8 th	10 th	12 th
Howard	Wrong/very wrong – Marijuana	95.1%	91.9%	88.6%
Nebraska		94.4%	89.8%	85.2%
Howard	Wrong/very wrong – alcohol	76.5%	81.1%	62.0%
Nebraska		89.1%	80.4%	68.7%
Howard	Wrong/very wrong – cigarettes	90.1%	94.5%	74.7%
Nebraska		92.9%	89.0%	78.7%



Table 21.
Juvenile Court Record Sealing Analysis (2015 – 2019) ^m

see [Appendix for yearly data](#)

	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	47	56	83.9%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	359	531	67.6%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	13	13	100.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	419	603	69.5%

*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 a county required to provide counsel under statute; notably, access to counsel is relatively high in this community.
- Curfew filings were relatively high in the previous years, but have decreased in recent years. Curfew violations, if not diverted, can net-widen juveniles into the juvenile justice system.
- There are few 3A, 3B, and 3C filings in court so the community is diverting appropriately.
- The diversion program may consider the following:
 - exploring the use of warning letters for low risk youth
 - best practices is to only drug test youth with a demonstrated need
 - ensure fees are similar to court costs or having a sliding scale
 - strengthening the process for sealing records in JCMS and with law enforcement (not needed at court-level because it is pre-file).

Table 22. Percent of Youth in Juvenile Court Who Had Access to Counsel (2018) ⁿ

	Howard	Nebraska
Access to Counsel	80.0% -- 100.0%	73.5%

Neb. Rev. 43-272. 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) ^m

	Howard	Nebraska
Curfew Court Filing	15	352



COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
6	5	0	4	0	15

Table 24.
Court Filing for 3A, 3B, and 3C cases (2015 – 2019) ^m

Filed Subtype	Howard					Total
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	0	0	0	1	0	0
3B - Uncontrollable	0	0	0	0	0	0
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	0	0	0	0	0	0

Filed Subtype	Nebraska					Total
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
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) ^o

	Howard	Nebraska *
Refer ALL juveniles who are first time offenders to diversion	No	Yes: 27.3% No: 63.6% Not sure: 9.1%
File a juvenile's charges at the time of the referral to diversion	No	Yes: 18.2% No: 70.5% Not sure: 11.4%
File a juvenile's charges if they are unsuccessful on diversion	Sometimes	Always: 47.7% Sometimes: 47.7% Not sure: 4.5%
Allow a juvenile to complete diversion more than once	Yes	Yes: 61.4% No: 34.1% Not sure: 4.5%
Charges/offenses that make a juvenile ineligible for diversion	Yes; Driving while Intoxicated, Implied consent refusal, Most felonies, including: arson (first degree) assault (first and second	Yes: 86.4% No: 9.1% Not sure: 4.5%



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	degree) bribery, child abuse, child pornography, consumer fraud, failure to appear, gambling, kidnapping, murder, manslaughter, motor vehicle homicide, pandering, perjury, robbery, sexual assault, or tampering with a witness, evidence or a jury; and at the discretion of the county attorney	
Warning letters instead of intervention	No	Yes: 27.3% 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; \$80 and \$140 (MIP diversion)	Yes: 86.4% No: 13.6% Not sure: 0.0%
Use of graduated responses prior to discharge	Yes; may include formal responses such as program extension, additional services; and informal responses based on needs	Yes: 47.7% No: 25.0% Not sure: 27.3%
Sealing diversion records	Not sure; this is a pre-file diversion program so nothing to seal; we do not click the seal button in NCJIS once it is successful completed.	Yes: 59.1% No: 22.7% Not sure: 18.2%

*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 declined from 2019 to 2020.
- There are relatively high rates of collective impact on all domains, as compared to the state averages. Having a common agenda was the lowest mean for 2019, and shared measurement had the lowest mean for 2020.
- The community team should be representative of the population of that community, but should also include diversity. It might be beneficial to add more males and Hispanics/Latinos to your team (especially because of the patterns of over and under representation).
- There is good representation of persons formerly involved in the system.
- Although the low response rate may affect the results of community team diversity, there could be more representation from other system points not currently represented.
- Approximately 20% reported not feeling heard at team meetings, which is similar to the state average, but an area where the team could consider novel approaches to inclusion.

Table 26. Collective Impact Survey Response Rates ^P

Year of survey	Howard		Nebraska	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
Number of surveys sent	61	68	1407	780
Number of completed surveys	13	10	221	345
Response rate	21.3%	14.7%	28.3%	24.5%

Table 27. Collective Impact Survey Scores ^P

Year of survey	Howard		Nebraska	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
	Mean Score		Mean Score	
Common agenda	5.80	6.20	5.29	5.69
Mutually reinforcing	6.12	6.00	5.37	5.50
Shared measurement	6.21	5.80	5.21	5.45
Continuous communication	6.22	6.20	5.49	5.55
Backbone agency	5.99	6.50	5.52	5.78



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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 ^q

Table 28.
Community Planning Team Diversity ^p

	Howard		Nebraska	
	N = 10	(%)	N = 345	(%)
Gender				
Male	1	10.0%	101	29.3%
Female	9	90.0%	229	66.4%
Missing	--	--	15	4.3%
Age				
Under 30	--	--	19	5.6%
30-39	2	20.0%	68	19.6%
40-49	2	20.0%	88	25.4%
50-59	6	60.0%	90	25.8%
60 and over	--	--	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%



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Previous System Involvement				
Yes	3	30.0%	98	28.4%
No	7	70.0%	242	70.1%
Missing	--	--	5	1.4%
System Point *				
Law enforcement	1	9.1%	34	7.8%
County attorney/ juvenile court	--	--	32	7.3%
K-12 or secondary education	5	45.5%	65	14.9%
Ministry/faith based	--	--	10	2.3%
Diversion	--	--	55	12.6%
Probation	--	--	31	7.1%
Public defender/ defense counsel/ guardian ad litem	--	--	8	1.8%
DHHS or Child Welfare	1	9.1%	13	3.0%
Treatment provider	2	18.2%	40	9.2%
Post adjudication or detention	--	--	8	1.8%
Community based program	2	18.2%	109	25.0%
Elected official or government	--	--	6	1.4%
Restorative practices	--	--	6	1.4%
Backbone or system improvement	--	--	3	0.7%
Other	--	--	16	3.7%
Voice on Team				
Feel heard	8	80.0%	270	78.3%
Do not feel heard	2	20.0%	75	21.7%

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

References and Resources

- ^a **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
- ^a **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
- ^a **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
- ^a **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
- ^a **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
- ^a **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
- ^b **School membership, chronic absenteeism, student disability, and free/reduced lunch:** Prepared by
Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education
- ^c **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
- ^d **Mental health, Substance use, gang, and community perceptions of substance use:** Bureau of
Sociological Research, Nebraska Risk and Protective Factors Survey:
<https://bosr.unl.edu/current-nrpfss-county-level-data>
- ^e **Referral to and utilization of services:** Department of Health and Human Services
- ^f **Adult and juvenile arrests:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:
<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>
- ^g 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
- ⁱ Child abuse and neglect
- ^j **Community violence:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:
<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>
- ^k **Distance to detention facility:** Google Maps
- ^l **Racial and ethnic disparities:** Prepared by Mitch Herian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln with data provided
by:



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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

^m **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

ⁿ **Access to Counsel:** Kids County in Nebraska Report, Voices for Children, retrieved from: www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount. Data originally from Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE

^o **Diversion procedures and protocols:** Diversion survey distributed to Juvenile Diversion programs, 2020. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute

^p **Collective impact:** Collective impact surveys distributed to Community Planning Teams, 2019 and 2020. Prepared by: Anne Hobbs and Erin Wasserburger, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute

^q **Collective Impact Elements:** Kania, J., & Kramer, M. (2011). Collective Impact. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.

**Appendix: Sealed 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	10	10	100.0%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	115	132	87.1%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	6	6	100.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	131	151	86.8%

2016	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	10	10	100.0%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	72	130	55.4%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	5	5	100.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	87	145	60.0%

2017	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	14	14	100.0%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	95	139	68.3%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	1	1	100.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	110	154	71.4%



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2018	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	11	20	55.0%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	66	102	64.7%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	1	1	100.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	78	123	63.4%

2019	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	2	2	100.0%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	11	28	39.3%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	--	--	--
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	13	30	43.3%