

Full Recommendations List

#	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Primary Agency/Agencies Implicated</u>	<u>Primary Affinity Group</u>	<u>Programs/Practice vs. Policy focus</u>
1	Law enforcement agencies should implement internal policies that increase professionalism among officers, improve relationships with the community, and uphold the safety and well-being of both community-members and law enforcement personnel.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Policy
2	Institutionalize Leadership Roles for Families by designating two council practitioner member spots for a young adult with lived experience and a parent/guardian/family member. It is critical that the voices and expertise of both youth and family members can guide, shape, and respond to the policy issues and other matters that come before the Council in a consistent and valued manner. This would also set an important example of providing meaningful leadership roles for families on governing and policy-setting bodies which would hopefully lead to more leadership, power-sharing opportunities for families across the country.	DOJ	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Policy
3	Conduct cross agency collaboration and listening sessions to review policies and rescind or amend those that prevent access to resources, beginning with review of the Department of Labor Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 23-14[i].	DOL and others	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Policy
4	Shift a portion of the funding and resources that are currently funneled to law enforcement, incarceration, and other reactive programming models towards programming models that are community based, hyper-localized, and provide streamlined and rapid response behavioral health services.	DOJ, SAMHSA, and others	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy
5	Provide more funding to youth defense, the only part of the reactive system that is dedicated to protecting youth and advocating for their rights, to support holistic defense models and strong advocacy.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Policy
6	Eliminate restrictions on public housing access for youth with delinquency charges/adjudications.	HUD	Housing	Policy
7	Provide funding for communities to create safe and accessible play and recreation spaces for children.	HUD, Interior, DOJ, HHS?	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy

8	Invest in prevention and early intervention by redirecting funds towards community-based programs and services that address the root causes of delinquency, such as poverty, lack of education, mental health and substance use issues.	DOJ, HHS, SAMHSA, DoEd, ONDCP	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy
9	Invest in the training of judicial and law enforcement personnel in areas such as de-escalation techniques, mental health awareness and alternative dispute resolution.	DOJ, SAMHSA	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Policy
10	Develop and fund diversion programs that allow for non-criminal handling of certain offenses, particularly first-time and minor offenders.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Policy
11	Strengthen support for services like family counseling, educational support, mental health and substance use support as alternatives to detention.	DOJ, HHS, SAMHSA, DoEd, ONDCP	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy
12	Create a grant program that provides financial incentives to communities that successfully keep children and youth out of detention and with their families in local communities where there are resources to address the root causes of delinquency. The program would be similar to incentives that were provided to states when youth in the child welfare system were adopted.	DOJ and others	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy
13	The Department of Education should ensure that schools inside of juvenile facilities (both pre and post-adjudication) are adequately funded and held accountable to providing the educational services that youth are entitled to.	DoEd	Schools	Policy
14	The Dept of Education can also ensure that students returning from confinement have access to appropriate, high quality schools by prohibiting schools and school districts from refusing students from returning to their previous school, funneling them to alternative schools, or requiring them to attend 'virtual' schools - absent clear, fair reasons like a valid imminent threat to safety of the school or staff.	DoEd	Schools	Policy
15	Decriminalize homelessness	HUD	Housing	Policy
16	Explore ways to incentivize the elimination of food deserts	USDA	Healthcare and Social Services	Policy
17	Allow families to live together in subsidized housing	HUD	Housing	Policy
18	Allow food purchases in reentry grants	USDA	Healthcare and Social Services	Policy

19	<p>Training for law enforcement officers can significantly reduce arrest of youth and thereby prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system (JJS). Training officers on the teen brain will make it less likely for them to criminalize regular adolescent behavior. Additionally, training on restorative and trauma-informed practices can provide law enforcement officers a better understanding on why diversion programs can produce better long-term outcomes for youth, the community and for law enforcement. Community service providers should be included in the trainings so that law enforcement officers become familiar with the services provided, build relationships with community members, and can better navigate the referral process when using discretion and diverting youth to diversions programs</p>	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
20	<p>Law enforcement should partner with institutions and community-based organizations to increase options to address areas of youth need while also increasing protective factors. These partnerships can be used to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system, but can also be used with justice-involved youth. These programs can be developed with input from a variety of sources, including community members, with the understanding that they all must meet the legal requirements and ethical standards of each discipline.</p>	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
21	<p>Establish a National Family Information and Peer Navigation Clearinghouse, with state affiliates. Families need easily accessible, comprehensive, reliable information developed by families, for families about accessible, developmentally, and culturally appropriate, trauma-informed wholistic services when they need help. Information provided by real people, with their own lived experience, who can walk them through the process.</p>	Multiple	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
22	<p>Work together to address individual and collective/historic trauma. The Council and its members are uniquely situated to promote and ensure funding for community-based, culturally and developmentally-informed, effective, affordable, and accessible trauma responsive services for all youth and families. Embracing recommendations by both Georgetown and NCTSN in their recent publication “A Trauma-Informed Guide for Working with Youth Involved with Multiple Systems” is a good place to start.</p>	Multiple	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice

23	<p>Create and support pathways for collaboration across systems at the local, state, and national levels, with guidance provided specifically to state administrators, teaching them how to embed the JJDP Act in every aspect of the juvenile justice system. Education on the core mandates of the JJDP Act should be provided across all systems and among every system gatekeeper, including attorneys at the local, state, and federal levels. State administrators of the Title II funding need guidance on how this can be done and what the benefits are (e.g., long term sustainability of effective programming and the leveraging of resources).</p>	DOJ	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
24	<p>To further ensure the long-term impact of the JJDP Act and the spirit behind it, retention issues and longevity of Title II state administrators must be examined, and solutions explored. Improving the retention of state administrators will improve the coordination of services for delinquency prevention programming and outcomes for justice involved youth.</p>	DoEd	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
25	<p>A closer examination of the barriers to obtaining interstate and state vital documents would be beneficial to assist with the development of solutions. In addition, providing a pathway for states to obtain vital documents through interstate collaboration and supporting states to develop the infrastructure needed to implement statewide and interstate data systems that are designed to streamline resources for youth and families will remove barriers and increase opportunities while simultaneously assisting with resource management.</p>	HHS	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice

26	Provide assistance to juvenile justice systems to assist them with identifying a pathway to hire a permanent youth engagement coordinator to support, engage, and strengthen youth voice in the review, development, and implementation of policy, practice, and programs within the juvenile justice systems. A youth voice with lived experience in the development and implementation of policies, practices, and programming is critical to the overall pathway of success for all youth and families served by the juvenile justice system. Building internal controls so these positions are protected from partisan politics and budgetary constraints will create a sustained pathway for youth with lived experience to have a voice in the long-term operations and success of the juvenile justice system.	DOJ	Engaging Families and Youth with Lived Experience	Practice
27	Enforcing existing standards set for carceral systems and policing to reduce overuse and misuse of these system, thus freeing up resources for more preventative services	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
28	Support schools to provide more counselors, social workers, intervention specialists, free meals, extra-curriculars, and after-school activities.	DoEd and others	Schools	Practice
29	Support schools in providing quality education to youth in detention centers and enforce educational standards in facilities where youth are incarcerated.	DoEd, DOJ	Schools	Practice
30	Incentivize creation of more support services in schools over the use of school policing.	DoEd and others	Schools	Practice
31	Incentivize the equal distribution of resources to neighborhood schools in large urban school districts so children can access quality education and needed services where they live, thus reducing transportation barriers to treatment, sports, and recreation.	DoEd	Schools	Practice
32	Encourage individuals that wish to pursue careers in education-related roles through financial support and training.	DOL, DoEd	Employment and Training	Practice
33	Support free and accessible community-based healthcare and behavioral healthcare.	HHS, SAMHSA	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
34	Support service delivery models that utilize technology or have neighborhood based operations to provide expedited intake processes and quick access to health care and mental health services.	HHS, SAMHSA	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
35	Incentivize connecting families involved with social services to local support services over sending children away from families to treatment facilities.	HHS, DOJ	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice

36	Provide training to enhance social services workers' understanding of how to support youth who are involved in both the social services and juvenile court systems.	HHS, DOJ	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
37	Ensure housing is environmentally safe.	HUD	Housing	Practice
38	Invite in other governmental agencies to create communities with easy access to food, transportation, education, medical services, workforce development, etc.	Multiple	Housing	Practice
39	Support civil legal service agencies that can advocate for families in housing crises.	DOJ, HUD	Housing	Practice
40	Support free school meals.	USDA	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
41	Incentivize employers to pay livable wages, provide insurance, and paid time off.	DOL	Employment and Training	Practice
42	Support employing people who have lived experiences in the carceral system	DOL, DOJ	Employment and Training	Practice
43	Collaborate with member agencies to increase meaningful workforce development opportunities for youth in their neighborhoods.	DOL	Employment and Training	Practice
44	Send Americorps members into neighborhoods most impacted by the criminal and juvenile legal systems to talk to families and identify community specific needs, identify any existing community organizations already trusted within the community, and act as liaisons to bring additional services and resources to the community.	AmeriCorps	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
45	Send Americorp members to establish the neighborhood level community centers to coordinate services in a one-stop service model, and to train community members for employment at the community centers.	AmeriCorps	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
46	Support community-based addiction services that can be accessed for free and without court involvement.	ONDCP, SAMHSA, DOJ	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
47	Judges should receive training in cultural competency to understand and respect the diverse backgrounds of the youth they encounter. This includes awareness of how biases, explicit, implicit and systemic, can influence decision making. Implementing data collection and analysis can help identify and address racial disparities in the juvenile justice process. Involving community members, especially from marginalized communities, in the decision-making process can help ensure that the system is mor responsive to the needs of those it serves.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice

48	Judges need access to the latest research on what interventions are effective for reducing recidivism and promoting positive outcomes for youth. This includes understanding the impacts of different sentencing options. Regular workshops, seminars, and webinars on the latest juvenile justice research can help judges stay informed about best practices.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
49	Create forums where judges, probation administrators and officers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, community stakeholders and families can discuss and develop consensus on probation reform. Implementing and evaluating pilot programs can help in understanding the impacts of probation reform before they are widely implemented.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
50	There should be greater flexibility in funding and incentives should be provided to among member agencies for shared problem solving and collaboration which will allow the agencies to obtain better outcomes for the children, youth and families. Agencies must stop worrying about their individual budgets and work together to use funds to provide the attention and services that are needed to send the messages we want delivered to “a time that we will not see.	Multiple	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
51	Addressing the needs of children who require assistance involves a thoughtful approach, starting with how we conceptualize and label them. The label "at-risk" carries an inherently negative connotation that can inadvertently hinder efforts to support these children effectively. It suggests a focus on risks and deficits rather than strengths and potential, which can impact both the approach of the caregivers and the self-perception of the children.	Multiple	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice

52	<p>Agencies should be stopped from relying on detention when their interventions, methods and treatments seem to fail. Youth incarceration is costly, ineffective and harmful to adolescents while not improving public safety. Recidivism rates are higher, and detention exposes youth to negative influences and fails to address the underlying issues that led to their delinquent behavior. Detention facilities often lack properly trained staff and effective rehabilitation programs with more emphasis on punishment rather than rehabilitation failing to address educational needs, mental health or substance use issues or social skills development. Detention can disrupt the adolescent development process thereby leading to negative outcomes like educational disruption, social isolation and exposure to additional trauma.</p>	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
53	<p>Agencies must create opportunities for meaningful involvement and participation in the reform efforts of those with lived experience in service delivery, policy development and leadership. Persons with lived experience are agents of change who contribute their unique expertise and in-depth knowledge of navigating systems — they are experts by experience. Engagement with persons with lived experience is critical to identify the flaws in the system.</p>	DOJ and others	Engaging Families and Youth with Lived Experiences	Practice
54	<p>Expanding resources for schools and localized community groups with attractive programming for youth before adolescence can foster a strong positive sense of identity and belonging capable of remaining viable into adulthood.</p>	DoEd and others	Schools	Practice
55	<p>Parents must be equipped to both provide healthy attachments while minimizing environmental ACEs. Incorporating this information into expecting and new parent education administered by health systems and community service agencies will increase parental awareness of these important concepts.</p>	SAMHSA, HHS, and others	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice

56	Resources should be utilized to attract high quality staff to youth-serving positions and encourage long-term commitments. Positive peer groups and pro-social programming should be provided with the resources to be as available. Fostering a sense of community and identity requires wrap-around services. Programming should work to incorporate families and integrate themselves into households engaging caregivers and sibling groups. A youth's ability to forge a strong healthy attachment with positive mentors is critical to the success of these programs. Frequent staff turnover and the utilization of short-term interns undermines the development of these relationships.	Multiple	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
57	To promote a response that is empathetic to the juvenile and their needs, juvenile justice judges, attorneys, probation officers, clinicians and service providers should receive training around ACEs and the impact of trauma on a young person's decision-making. In its efforts to promote a youth's sense of accountability, the juvenile justice system would benefit from a developed understanding of the impact the youth's upbringing had on their decision making.	DOJ, SAMHSA, HHS and others	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
58	Understanding the youth and their community's perception of mental health services is critical. Where there is stigma attached to treatment, therapeutic interventions should be packaged in an attractive manner capitalizing on existing positive outlets embraced by the community such as visual art, athletic, music and drama programs.	DOJ, HHS, SAMHSA, and others	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
59	In exploring barriers to success and opportunities for improvement, struggles of child welfare youth in the juvenile justice system should be examined. Investing in these dual system youth provides assistance to our most vulnerable. Dual System or Dually Involved Youth programs and cross agency collaboration between the juvenile justice and child welfare systems eliminates communication gaps, reduces redundancy, and allows both agencies to capitalize each other's experience.	HHS, DOJ	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
60	Support local communities in identifying their own individual needs, as well as provide them training and technical assistance to create services and programs that can prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system.	Multiple	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice

61	Cultivate highly skilled probation officers who receive specialized training, especially youth and family focused.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and Courts	Practice
62	Prioritize Evidence-based and best practice resources such as a Service Recommendation Matrix, Home-based services, tangible incentives, or a Reentry Unit to enhance probation supervision and service access.	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and Courts	Practice
63	Create opportunities for positive youth development by promoting a youth's individual strengths.	Multiple	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
64	Promote local and national evaluations and technical assistance focused on probation best practices and their implementation, including clear measures for how to provide data and reporting that demonstrates evidence of fidelity.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and Courts	Practice
65	DoEd can support innovative schools and support programs that offer these students meaningful opportunities to re-engage with and find success at school, which will help to keep them out of the jj system, and get them on track to graduate.	DoEd	Schools	Practice
66	DOL can clarify more explicitly in its Reintegration of Ex-Offenders Program that grants for justice system-involved youth are intended to reach all system-involved youth, not just the reentry population. The frequent use of the terms "reentry" or "reintegration" suggests programs are only for youth who have spent time in correctional facilities.	DOL	Employment and Training	Practice
67	DOL can also encourage and approve state Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) waiver requests that incentivize local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to serve justice system-involved youth in their youth programs.	DOL	Employment and Training	Practice
68	DOL can also provide more explicit guidance to state and local WIBs on how to overcome the barriers to enrolling and serving justice-involved youth under the WIOA youth program, as well as identify and promote best practices on how to collaborate with justice system partners and serve this population more effectively.	DOL	Employment and Training	Practice
69	Resources should not just be for people on probation but the communities that support them as well.	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
70	Invest in and collocate housing with supportive services hubs	HUD and others	Housing	Practice
71	Increase connections between Depts of Corrections and local housing authorities	HUD, DOJ	Housing	Practice

72	Improve "First Week Out" planning inside the walls to include housing placement	HUD, DOJ	Housing	Practice
73	Teach nutrition and healthy eating in youth programs	USDA and others	Healthcare and Social Services - Food	Practice
74	Invest in professional development for youth facing staff	Multiple	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
75	Enhance the success of justice-involved youth in their communities by ensuring access to comprehensive, supportive services addressing the whole individual; meet basic needs first, be trauma-informed and healing-centered	Multiple	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
76	Infuse cultural awareness into community needs assessment	Multiple		Practice
77	Examine the intersection between homelessness, police involvement, and justice system involvement and what we as government representatives can do to address these concerns.	DOJ, HUD, HHS	Housing	Practice
78	Resources should be offered to kids before they get into the system. The current justice system is being used as a fix for the failures of all other systems – housing, education, labor. It doesn't prevent criminals; the system makes them.	Multiple	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
79	It's important to refer to "youth" as "kids." Using "kids" brings home the fact that these young people are in fact, kids.	Multiple		Practice
80	Justice-involved youth could be paid to go to school, and that pay could go towards fines and fees.	DOJ, DoEd, DOL	Schools	Practice
81	Explore ways to make mental health treatment more readily available and accessible to justice-involved youth.	SAMHSA	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
82	A kid in the system has no money, no job, no housing once they are released but are often expected to pay fines. She noted that there is plenty of money to keep kids in the system, but more money is needed to help kids when they are out of the system.	SAMHSA	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
83	Eliminate fees and fines. In order to get off probation, fines must be paid. If fines aren't paid in the juvenile system, at 18, kids enter the adult system. This keeps people in the system.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice
84	Explore ways to address the co-occurrence of substance use and MH issues and their relationship to youth behavior, well-being, and equity.	SAMHSA, ONDCP, DOJ	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
85	Improve access to access post-secondary education for youth exiting the system.	DoEd, DOJ	Schools	Practice
86	Explore ways to ensure that judges and the system have access to all pertinent details when reviewing an offender's background.	Multiple	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice

87	There needs to be a clear vision for our youth, and we need business community support, life skills development, 4H in every county.	USDA and others	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
88	We should be creating tools and checklists and manuals at the federal level to give to states and local communities. Best practices informed by community, not researchers.	HUD	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
89	Having a national roadmap would be helpful. It feels like every State is trying to figure things out on their own.	Multiple		
90	Require police departments to implement trauma-informed training as a prerequisite for federal funding.	DOJ and others	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Policy
91	Explore ways to encourage law enforcement to build stronger relationships with the community.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	
92	Probation programs should provide tangible and individualized incentives for youth.	DOJ	Law Enforcement and the Courts	
93	We need to do a better job of sharing important youth records and data across systems, while also balancing privacy concerns.	Multiple	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	