JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM:
IMPLEMENTING CHANGE AND IMPROVING OUTCOMES

MAY 7–9, 2014 | COOK COUNTY (CHICAGO), ILL.
County governments are often the entities directly and indirectly providing services to enhance individuals’ lives and are responsible for maintaining public safety and the efficient use of local dollars, all while dealing with shrinking budgets, structural inefficiencies and rising pretrial jail populations. In 2012, county and other local jails admitted 11.6 million people, costing more than $70.2 billion in county justice and public safety services.

Justice programs are among the largest cost centers for county governments as they operate 3,105 county police and sheriff departments at $30.2 billion each year, spend more than $23.3 billion on correctional facilities and allocate another $16.7 billion to county courts and legal services annually. Smart Justice programming provides a catalyst to expand knowledge and resources for counties on a wide array of local justice issues.

NACo’s Smart Justice projects address local justice issues including informed pretrial decision-making, juvenile justice innovation, the Affordable Care Act and jails, connections among behavioral health and justice systems at the local level, indigent defense and local and state collaboration. Projects engage county officials, national thought leaders and partners across the country by:

- Promoting evidence-based, data-driven local justice policies and practices throughout the nation’s counties;
- Taking a leadership role in exploring and implementing local justice reforms;
- Developing strategies to save counties money while creating safer communities; and
- Providing education and assistance to counties to assess their adult and juvenile systems to explore opportunities for efficient and effective use of public dollars.
Dear County Official,

Welcome to NACo’s forum on Juvenile Justice Reform: Implementing Change and Improving Outcomes, an opportunity for county leaders and staff to discuss and learn about juvenile justice reforms that make the system more fair, effective and developmentally appropriate.

This forum is presented in partnership with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. This partnership has provided NACo the opportunity to educate and assist county leaders on issues of juvenile justice reform and the Foundation’s Models for Change Initiative. In partnership with Models for Change, NACo’s County Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative will build county leadership capacity, expertise and commitment for juvenile justice reform across the country.

Through written publications, webinars and peer-to-peer information sharing, NACo will educate county leaders on effective ways to improve public safety and support youth, even as they grapple with tight budgets and tough fiscal decisions.

Through this strategic partnership, NACo will:

- Provide counties with information and resources to focus on juvenile justice reform;
- Create a comprehensive approach to addressing juvenile and criminal justice issues in local communities;
- Expose county elected officials to evidence-based models and tools; and
- Develop peer exchange opportunities to build capacity and knowledge of proven and promising practices.

The next two days will be filled with peer-to-peer discussions and interaction with experts through presentations, panel discussions and roundtable exercises on important issues such as why youth benefit from different treatment than adults, coordinating local and state systems for improved outcomes and reducing racial and ethnic disparities. We hope these sessions stimulate dialogue among presenters and participants, and we are looking forward to learning about efforts to address issues in your county’s juvenile justice system.

For more information, please visit [www.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/Models-for-Change.aspx](http://www.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/Models-for-Change.aspx).

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Chase
Executive Director
National Association of Counties
Meeting & Hotel Location

Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel
163 East Walton Place
Chicago, IL 60611

DOWNTOWN CHICAGO, ILL.

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Meeting Agenda

Agenda may be subject to change.

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  Registration
Room: Prince of Wales (mezzanine level)

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  Welcome Reception
Room: Prince of Wales (mezzanine level)

Thursday, May 8, 2014

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  Registration & Networking Breakfast
Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Welcome & Opening Remarks
Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.  Opportunities for Collaboration in Juvenile Justice Reform
Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)

A representative from the federal level will discuss juvenile justice priorities and how local jurisdictions can collaborate with the federal government to initiate reform, and a youth activist who spent 13 years in detention will discuss his experiences in the system.

• Xavier McElrath-Bey, Youth Activist
• Chyrl Jones, Deputy Administrator for Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Adolescent Development and Neuroscience: Why Kids are Different
Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)

Recent research provides a scientific explanation to something everyone knows: kids are different than adults. This session will provide an overview of the juvenile justice population, an introduction to the latest adolescent brain science research and a discussion of how this knowledge can and should shape juvenile justice policy.
• Antoinette Kavanaugh, Ph.D., Forensic Clinical Psychologist
• Carolyn Frazier, Clinical Assistant Professor and Staff Attorney, Children and Family Justice Center, Bluhm Legal Clinic, Northwestern University School of Law

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Coordinated Systems Integration for Improved Outcomes
  Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)

A growing body of research shows very strong connections between the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. This session will explain how coordinating these systems to appropriately share data and information, both locally within your county and with state-run programs, can improve your county’s results with this population.

• John Tuell, Executive Director, Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice
• Mark Mertens, Manager, Youth and Family Services Division at Outagamie County (WI) Health & Human Services Dept.

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.  Networking Lunch
  Room: Prince of Wales (mezzanine level)

1:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  Meeting the Needs of Justice-Involved Youth with Behavioral Health Disorders
  Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)

More than 1.5 million youth are arrested each year and as many as 70 percent of these youth have mental illness and/or substance use disorders. This session will explore the use of community collaboration to effectively provide behavioral health services to youth throughout the judicial process.

• Joe Cocozza, Director, National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice
• Hon. Linda Tucci Teodosio, Judge, Summit County (OH) Juvenile Court
• Rick Velasquez, Executive Director, Youth Outreach Services

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  Break
3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  

**How to Effectively Divert Youth and Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities**  
*Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)*

Many youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system can be more effectively treated in programs based in the community, rather than being formally processed or held in custody. This is especially true for those youth who are charged with status offenses. Additionally, a disproportionate number of young people who come into contact with the juvenile justice system are youth of color. This session will explore successes and challenges in the use of diversion programs.

- Vidhya Ananthakrishnan, Project Director, Center on Youth Justice, Vera Institute of Justice
- Ken Burn, Probation Director, Ogle County (IL)
- Tiana Davis, DMC Policy Director, Center for Children’s Law and Policy

5:00 p.m.  

**Adjournment**
Friday, May 9, 2014

8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.  **Networking Breakfast**  
*Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)*

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  **Working with Elected Officials to Effect Change in Your County**  
*Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)*

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle will discuss her role as an elected official and policymaker, how she uses this role to effect change and why she is an advocate for juvenile justice reform.

9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  **Preparing Justice-Involved Youth for the Future**  
*Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)*

Quality post-release supervision, services and supports are crucial to ensuring that young people make safe and successful transitions out of residential placement facilities and back to their home communities.

- Robert Schwartz, Executive Director, Juvenile Law Center  
- Kimberly Booth, Assistant Chief of Probation, Allegheny County (PA) Juvenile Court

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  **Break**

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  **Acting on What’s Important in Your County**  
*Room: Crystal Ballroom (lobby level)*

Based on the information from the previous sessions, the roundtable exercise will allow participants to engage with their peers to discuss ideas, questions, takeaways and how they might apply the information in their community.

12:00 p.m.  **Closing Remarks & Adjourn**
● Upcoming NACo Events

2014 Western Interstate Region Conference

Anchorage Borough (Anchorage), Alaska • May 21–23

William A. Egan Civic and Convention Center
555 West Fifth Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

2014 County Solutions and Idea Marketplace

Orleans Parish (New Orleans), La. • July 11–14

Morial Convention Center
900 Convention Center Blvd
New Orleans, LA 70130
About NACo

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo assists America’s 3,069 counties in pursuing excellence in public service to produce healthy, vibrant, safe and resilient counties. NACo promotes sound public policies, fosters county solutions and innovation, promotes intergovernmental and public-private collaboration and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.