

HANDGUN INTERVENTION PROGRAM

*A multidisciplinary agency approach to tackling the problem of
juveniles and guns*

Introduction



- The stakeholders:
 - Denver Juvenile Court
 - Denver District Attorney's Office
 - Denver Public Defender's Office
 - Denver Juvenile Probation
- Participating Agencies
 - Denver Police Department
 - GRID
 - Denver City Attorney's Office
 - Denver Department of Human Services
 - Office of Alternative Defense Counsel
 - CYDC



Statistics



- Possession of a handgun by a juvenile statistics:
 - 2016 – 46
 - 2017 – 79
 - 2018 – 107
 - 2019 – 120
- Juveniles charged with first degree murder:
 - 2016 – 0
 - 2017 – 5
 - 2018 – 8
 - 2019 – 5

Total juvenile cases filed:

2016 – 707

2017 – 603

2018 – 622

2019 – 593

Percentage of handgun cases in overall cases filed:

2016 – 6%

2017 – 13%


2018 – 17%

2019 – 20%

160% increase from 2016-2019

12% increase from 2018-2019

Mobile, AL Model

- **5 Primary Goals:**
 - Promote public safety by reducing delinquent activities
 - Provide the opportunity to live a violent-free lifestyle
 - Reduce the need for “out of home” placement
 - Improve school performance and attendance
 - Identify family deficits and provide appropriate resources and services
 - **Post adjudication intensive program** which consists of weekly court supervision, a five week gun education program, and may also include other treatment and community services.
 - **Three Phases**, and designed to be 6 months in length
 - **Juvenile Court Judicial Officer** is central and will monitor the progress of each participant, and based on performance, may result in the participant receiving an incentive or graduated sanction.
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- *Eligibility Criteria: Juvenile Gun Court is an early intervention program which targets juveniles in their initial incidents of gun related offenses, focusing on their poor decision-making skills*
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PROGRAM PHASES:

PHASE I (WEEKS 1-8)

ORIENTATION TO THE PROGRAM

APPEAR IN COURT WEEKLY FOR REVIEW

SUBMIT TO RANDOM DRUG SCREEN

MAINTAIN SCHOOL/WORK ATTENDANCE

PARTICIPATE IN THE GUN PROGRAM

COMPLETE COMMUNITY SERVICE (40 HOURS)

PHASE II (WEEKS 9-15)

BI-MONTHLY COURT APPEARANCE (IF PROGRESS PERMITS)
SUBMIT TO RANDOM DRUG SCREENING
COMPLETE ANY OTHER COURT ORDERED COUNSELING
PROGRAMS

PHASE III (WEEKS 16-24)


MONTHLY APPOINTMENT WITH PROBATION OFFICER
MONTHLY COURT APPEARANCE
SUBMIT TO RANDOM DRUG SCREEN
MAINTAIN SCHOOL/ WORK ATTENDANCE
ALL COURT FEES SHOULD BE PAID

*ADAPTING
THE MODEL
TO DENVER*



- Active engagement from District Attorney's office and Public Defender's Office
 - Willingness to consider second time offenders at the discretion of the DA and some VRA cases
 - Process
 - Screen by CYDC and remain in custody until Return of Filing
 - Fast track – filing decision, offer on non-VRA cases, and discovery to defense by ROF
 - Plea and sentencing as early as ROF
 - Probation will fast track the PSI process
 - Program
 - 6-12 months depending on history and performance in the program
 - Phase 1 (Orientation), Phase 2 (5 week program, UPS, CAP), Phase 3 (aftercare)
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Community Accountability Board

- The CAB will be comprised of 6 community members who will monitor a participant's progress and offer direction
 - In addition to the one in-court review per month, each youth will also have one CAB review per month.
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5 week curriculum

- The goal of this program is to introduce important concepts such as:
 - Victim empathy
 - Self-care
 - Legal consequences of crime
 - Community consequences of crime
 - The importance of positive peer relationships
 - Education and pro-social activities
 - Maximum of 12 participants
 - Family engagement
 - Final Project
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Probation approach

- More intensive probation with a PO who has a smaller caseload
 - PO will develop relationships with family, teachers, and other important adults to more closely monitor JV
 - JV will be subject to unannounced visits at home and school
 - Parents are encouraged to monitor JV's social media and belongings for evidence of gang involvement and/or gun possession.
 - UPS requirement
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Incentives and Sanctions

- Incentives (gift cards, etc) will be given when a participant is working hard and demonstrating compliance.
 - Graduated sanctions will be given when a participant is not complying with the program.
 - Sanctions include additional community service, earlier curfew, house arrest, detention, the filing of a probation revocation.
 - Graduation
 - Once a participant completes all three phases, then he or she will be scheduled for graduation. All team members attend graduation.
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*WHAT WE
NEED TO
MAKE THIS
HAPPEN*



Handgun Intervention Program Coordinator

- Total Monthly Salary Cost= \$7,591.90
- Total Yearly Salary Cost= \$91,102.80
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- Base Salary \$5,006.00 / month
- +8% stipend = 400.48
- Total Salary = 5,406.48
- +Total Fringe = 2,185.42
- Fringe includes: \$1,191.58
PERA/MEDICARE/STD 22.04% + \$993.84
Health-Life-Dental AVG= \$2,185.42
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Deputy Public Defender

Attorney Salary (entry level) - \$64,260

PERA, Medicare, Short-term Disability - \$14,471

Health, Life & Dental - \$9,942

Total Personnel Costs - \$88,674

Operating Costs - \$1,540

Lease Space - \$8,742

Capital Costs (1st year only) - \$6,200

Total Operating Costs - \$16,482 year 1 (\$10,282 year 2)



*Community
Accountability
Board*

- \$12,000 per year to pay stipends and program costs



QUESTIONS??