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.

• 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

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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- 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.

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

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

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.

WHATWE NEED TO MAKETHIS 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)

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

QUESTIONS??