

**POLK COUNTY'S INTERVENTION PLAN
TAKEN FROM:
IOWA'S PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE
DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT
(DMC) CORE REQUIREMENT OF THE
FEDERAL JUVENILE JUSTICE AND
DELIQUENCY PREVENTION ACT**

JULY 2018



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Polk County

This document is an excerpt from Iowa's 2018 Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Compliance Plan. This document provides information regarding Polk County's activities and progress with DMC in calendar year (CY) 2017, and DMC reduction strategies planned for CY 2018. The information provided here includes: the application of services, system changes, training, and technical assistance, at the county level to reduce DMC in Iowa's juvenile justice system. The reduction strategies in this county-level report were developed by local officials in Polk County.

Similar documents are available which provide intervention information at the state-level and for the following local jurisdictions: Black Hawk, Dubuque, Johnson, Linn, Pottawattamie, Scott, Webster, and Woodbury counties. A full copy of the DMC Compliance plan is available by contacting Julie Rinker at CJJP (Julie.Rinker@iow.gov, or 515 242-5823).

Phase III: Polk County Intervention

1. Activities and Progress, Polk County, CY2017

Polk County Site Activities Implemented

- Further explored the implementation of a youth mobile crisis unit (MCU) which would identify other issues youth may be dealing with such as social/emotional needs, mental health issues, etc.
 - A local Mental Health Crisis Planning Initiatives Stakeholders group has been meeting on a regular basis with the goal of developing a MCU.
- Collaborated with Des Moines Police Department to support their pre-charge diversion program, Second Chance. This program started to collect and review recidivism data for all pre-charge diversion programs in Polk County.
- Created measurements to have fewer admissions to Juvenile Detention Centers.
 - Polk JCS piloted a new protocol for one of the three field units requiring JCO's to obtain supervisory approval in order to override the DST.
 - Implemented a new contract to provide trauma informed services for youth in detention. One of the goals is to identify youth with high prevalence of trauma, provide trauma informed interventions for these youth, and facilitate a seamless transition to community based services upon discharge. Another goal is to reduce length of stay in detention and future admissions.
- Created a Restorative Justice and Cultural Equity position to help serve as a liaison between JCS/DHS and the community that will provide service coordination and direct intervention with juvenile delinquents referred to JCS.
- Initiated an African American Case Review Team (AACRT) for JCS using expertise gained from the development of the AACRT for DHS.

- Participated on a multidisciplinary team from Polk County that is participating in the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiatives. It includes six seminars to develop and implement plans to achieve better and more equitable results for youth of color in Polk County.
- Actively participated in the state DMC Subcommittee and JReS.
- Continued submitting DST data, participated in Casey JDAI training and technical assistance efforts, provided representative to serve on state-level committee to re-design and validate a DST.
- Met on a number of occasions regarding report provided by the SPA with data and DMC-related recommendations. Recommendation and activities are still being considered.
- Utilized diversion programs in the community to prevent juveniles from entering the formal court process.
- Applied the use of alternatives to detention such as expedited intake appointments and in-home detention alternative programs.

Polk County Site Activities Not Implemented

- All planned activities were implemented.

2. DMC Reduction Strategies, Polk County, CY2018

The Polk County Identification Section (page 51) and Assessment/Diagnosis Section (page 2) of this report provides a volume of research and data that reflect overrepresentation of minority youth, particularly African-American and Hispanic youth, various decision points in the local juvenile justice system. Those data and research indicate, in particular, overrepresentation at complaint, petition, detention, and underrepresentation at diversion. Polk County strategies, together with collaborative efforts from the local partners, the SPA, and the DMC Subcommittee, are targeted to reduce overrepresentation/underrepresentation at key decision points.

Activity	Timeline
<i>Enhance efforts to reduce DMC</i>	Throughout 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Further explore the implementation of a youth mobile crisis unit (MCU) which would identify other issues youth may be dealing with such as social/emotional needs, mental health issues, etc. 	
<i>Participate in State DMC Sub.</i>	Quarterly
<i>Participate in Local DMC-Related Mtgs.</i>	Participate as needed
<i>Continue Implementation of JDAI</i>	Throughout CY2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create measurements to have fewer admissions to Juvenile Detention Centers. 	

SPA DMC-related TA

Site visits from SPA

Enhance Juvenile Justice System involvement with DMC

Throughout CY2018

- Sustain a Restorative Justice and Cultural Equity position to help serve as liaison between JCS/DHS and the community that will provide service coordination and direct intervention with juvenile delinquents referred to JCS.
- Initiate an AACRT (African American Case Review Team) to provide alternative solutions at various decision points within the juvenile justice system.
- Continue to develop and expand the Too Good to Lose (TGTL) Female Juvenile Offenders Court in Polk County.

Enhance Juvenile Justice System involvement with DMC

Throughout CY2018

- Continue to review requirements for local diversion programs.