



The Deep End: Serious, Violent, Chronic Female Offenders

Data Report, SFY 2017

(July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017)

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Data Report, SFY 2017 (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017)

This report contains a variety of data regarding females under the supervision of Juvenile Court who would have been eligible for placement in a state training school (STS) setting in accordance with Iowa Code 232.52(2) between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. It is intended to further contribute to informed decision-making related to this population of young women to ensure they receive appropriate, female-responsive services and supervision while providing for public safety.

It is also intended that a similar data report will be produced periodically, as resources allow.

BACKGROUND

In February 2017, the Iowa Girls Justice Initiative (IGJI) planning group, an Ad Hoc committee of the Iowa Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW), issued a report, *Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders: Service and System Recommendations for Iowa*, which detailed recommendations related to females who have serious, violent and chronic offense histories in Iowa. The full report can be found at the following link:

<https://humanrights.iowa.gov/criminal-juvenile-justice-planning/females-and-juvenile-justice>

For purposes of the IGJI planning group, “serious, violent and chronic” related back to eligibility for placement in a state training school setting as defined in Iowa Code 232.52(2), regardless of whether a placement occurred. Although the IGJI planning group recommended this section of Iowa Code be revisited to “ensure that the eligibility criteria are suitably narrow and appropriate for only serious, violent and chronic offenders,” it is currently the agreed upon standard for youth who have exhausted the options available in the juvenile justice system and are the greatest risk to public safety.

The ITFYW, a sub-committee of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC), served as the collaborative core for the IGJI Ad Hoc committee and expanded its membership to include a broader range of juvenile justice system officials and stakeholders necessary to the development of the recommendations. The ITFYW and JJAC have continued to pursue implementation of the IGJI recommendations. An abbreviated list of the IGJI recommendations can be found in Appendix H.

The Deep End: Serious, Violent and Chronic Female Offenders Data Report is also a continuation of that work.

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COHORT

All data included in this report represent a cohort of 66 young women under juvenile court jurisdiction determined to be eligible for placement in a state training school setting, as outlined in Iowa Code 232.52 (2), between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. It is important to note that the process by which this cohort was identified has been improved for accuracy and cannot be directly compared to previous years data related to state training school eligibility. Additionally, for comparison, 461 males were identified using the same criteria during the same time frame.

Iowa Code §232.52(2) ~ State Training School (STS) Eligibility Criteria

“e. An order transferring the guardianship of the child, subject to the continuing jurisdiction and custody of the court for the purposes of section 232.54, to the director of the department of human services for purposes of placement in the state training school or other facility, provided that the child is at least twelve years of age and the court finds the placement to be in the best interests of the child or necessary for the protection of the public, and that the child has been found to have committed an act which is a forcible felony, as defined in section 702.11, or a felony violation of section 124.401 or chapter 707, or the court finds any three of the following conditions exist:

- (1) The child is at least fifteen years of age and the court finds the placement to be in the best interests of the child or necessary to the protection of the public.*
- (2) The child has committed an act which is a crime against a person and which would be an aggravated misdemeanor or a felony if the act were committed by an adult.*
- (3) The child has previously been found to have committed a delinquent act.*
- (4) The child has previously been placed in a treatment facility outside the child’s home or in a supervised community treatment program established pursuant to section 232.191, subsection 4, as a result of a prior delinquency adjudication.”*

Of the 66 girls identified in this cohort as being eligible for placement in a state training school setting, seven met the “at least 12 years of age + forcible felony” criteria as noted in the Iowa Code section above. The remaining 59 girls met at least three of the four criteria enumerated in that same Code section. Eighteen girls met all four criteria, while 41 met three out of four criteria. The criteria met by that group of 41 is as follows:

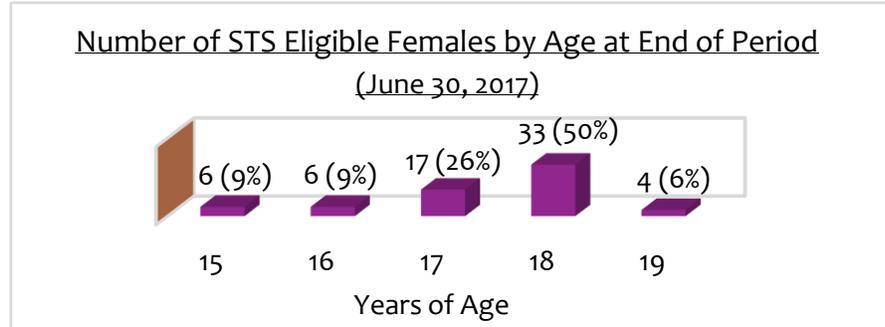
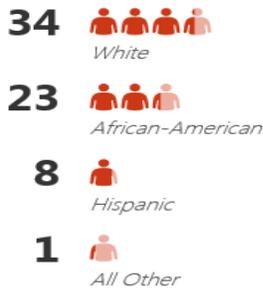
Females Who Met 3 of 4 STS Eligibility Criteria and Which Criteria Were Met

Code Criteria	Number of Females Who Met Criteria (N=41)
At least 15 years of age	41
Aggravated misdemeanor or higher	36
Previously adjudicated delinquent	19
Prior placement	27

Unless otherwise noted, all data included in this report were extracted in November 2017 for the July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 time frame from the Iowa Justice Data Warehouse, a repository of key criminal justice data, from the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS). ICIS is the Iowa Judicial Branch case management system containing both adult and juvenile case information.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity

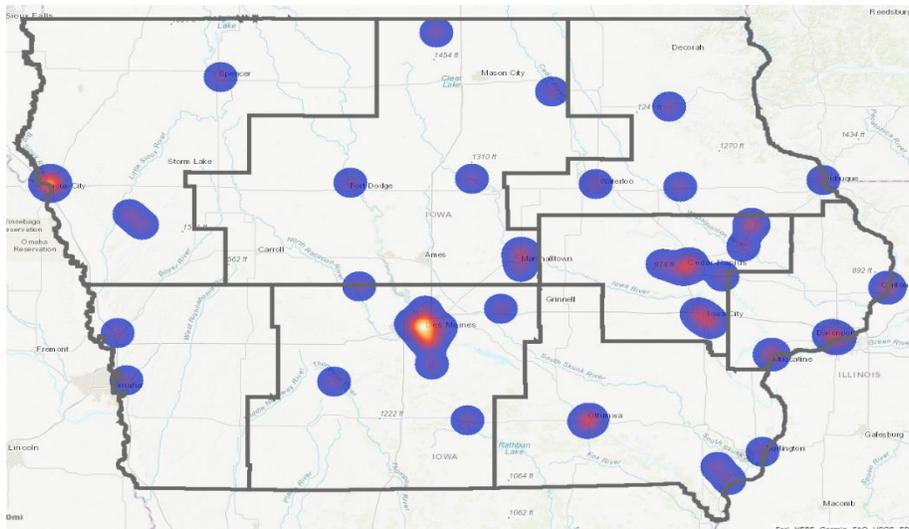


Note: All females in the cohort, regardless of age, had an open juvenile court case during SFY2017.

African-American females are disproportionately represented (35% of the cohort), as the general population of African-American females age 10 to 17 in Iowa is approximately 6%. The distribution across age remained consistent regardless of race or ethnicity with one exception. All four 19 year olds were African-American. The comparative group of males also showed overrepresentation (25.2%) among African-American youth.

Of the seven females who met the “at least 12 years of age + forcible felony” criteria noted within Iowa Code 232.52(2), six were White and one was Hispanic. Of the 18 females who met all four enumerated criteria within the Code section, 8 were White, 8 were African-American and 2 were Hispanic. Of the 41 girls who met 3 of the 4 enumerated criteria within the Code section, 20 were White, 15 were African-American and 5 were Hispanic. The remaining girl fell into the “All Other” race/ethnicity category.

STS Eligible Females Location by Most Recent Home Address



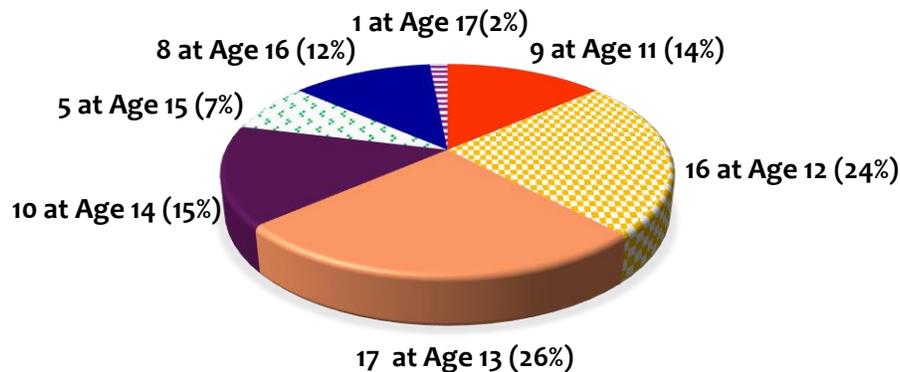
Note: Red and yellow areas of the map indicate the greatest concentration of state training school eligible females, while blue areas indicate lower or singular concentrations. “Home Address” does not include out of home placement facilities.

It is noteworthy that this population of girls eligible for placement in a STS setting are from all areas of Iowa.

RISK

Age at first offense is one of a limited number of static factors that can predict likely recidivism. Other static risk factors include a history of violent behavior, age of first substance use and parental criminality¹.

STS Eligible Females by Age at Time of First Complaint



In this cohort, 25 of the 66 females (38%) were not yet teenagers when they received their first complaint. Of those 25 girls under age thirteen, 14 (56%) were African-American, 9 (36%) were White and 2 (8%) were Hispanic (see also Appendix B: Additional Risk Related Data).

The Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) is a validated risk assessment tool utilized by juvenile court staff to assess the criminal and social history of youth to identify risk (short form) and assist with case planning (long form). The IDA short-form is scored and entered into the ICIS. It provides separate scores for criminal and social history and combines them to obtain an overall risk level for recidivism. The table below provides three different types of risk level information for this cohort.

STS Eligible Females Iowa Delinquency Assessments

First Assessment	N	%	Highest Assessment Found	N	%	Final Assessment	N	%
IDA Level: UNK	4	6%	IDA Level: UNK	4	6%	IDA Level: UNK	4	6%
LOW	29	44%	LOW	4	6%	LOW	5	8%
MOD	17	26%	MOD	7	11%	MOD	11	17%
HIGH	16	24%	HIGH	51	77%	HIGH	46	70%

Note: "UNK" indicates that no short form IDA was found in ICIS.

By the time they have moved to being eligible for a STS placement, most of these girls were high risk, it is noteworthy that within the "First Assessment" group, the majority (13 of 29) of the low risk group were African-American (see also Appendix B: Additional Risk Related Data).

¹ Vincent, G. G. (2012). Risk Assessment in Juvenile Justice: A Guidebook for Implementation. Chicago: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Models for Change Initiative.

SERVICES AND PLACEMENTS

STS Eligible Females by Number of Services and Placements Received

Number of Services and Placements	N	%
0/None	1	2%
1 to 5	11	17%
6 to 10	14	21%
11 to 15	17	26%
16 to 20	14	21%
Over 20	9	14%
TOTAL	66	100%

Whether taken separately or together, the data reflect this cohort of females has received both community-based services and out-of-home placements (including shelter stays and detention holds).

Consistent with their over-representation in the overall cohort, African-American girls are disproportionately represented in each category, except “0/None”. They are most disproportionately represented in the “11 to 15” (8 of the 17 girls) and “Over 20” (4 of the 9 girls) categories.

STS Eligible Females by Number of Services Received Only

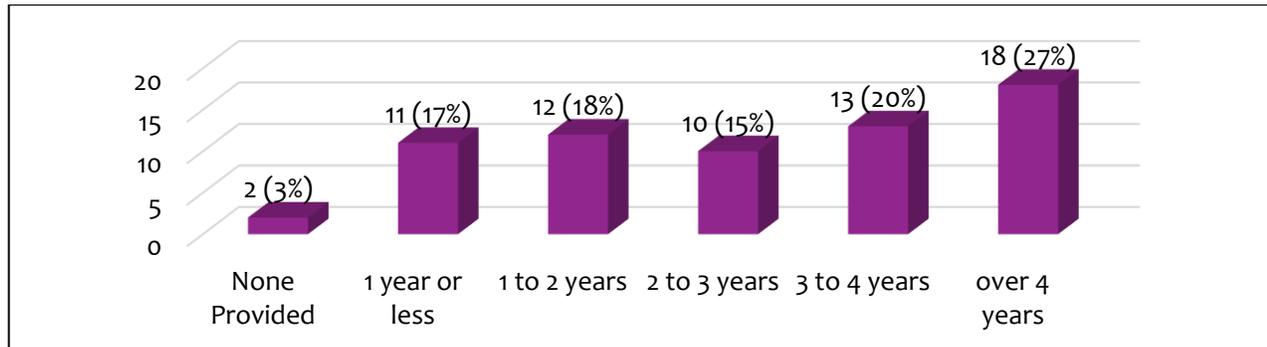
Number of Services	N	%
0/None	2	3%
1 to 5	28	42%
6 to 10	31	47%
11 or more	5	8%
TOTAL	66	100%

STS Eligible Females by Number of Placements Received Only

Number of Placements	N	%
0/None	8	12%
1 to 5	22	33%
6 to 10	20	30%
11 or more	16	24%
TOTAL	66	100%

When the history of services and placements received are viewed separately, 97% of the cohort received services and 88% received out-of-home placements. The “0/None” services only category was comprised of 2 white girls. The “0/None” placements only category was comprised of 6 white, 1 African American and 1 Hispanic girls (see also Appendix C: Additional Service and Placement Related Data).

Number of STS Eligible Females by Total Duration of Services and Placements Received



Note: The sum of days for all services and placements received. Serves as an indicator of service intensity. The duration of services for open services is calculated as of the end of the fiscal year. Services may or may not be provided in full day increments. Placements are provided in full day increments.

The majority (42 of the 66 females in the cohort) spent two years or less in an out of home placement. The rest of their service duration occurred in community-based service settings. The highest category of duration for services and placements was “Over 4 years”. This category also showed the greatest over-representation of African-American girls. Forty four percent (8 of 18 girls) in this category were African American (see also Appendix C: Additional Service and Placement Related Data).

SUPERVISION

STS Eligible Females by Number of Formal Probations Started²

Number of Formal Probations	N	%
o/None	23	35%
1	24	36%
2	14	21%
3	4	6%
4	1	2%
TOTAL	66	100%

STS Eligible Females by Number of Informal Agreements

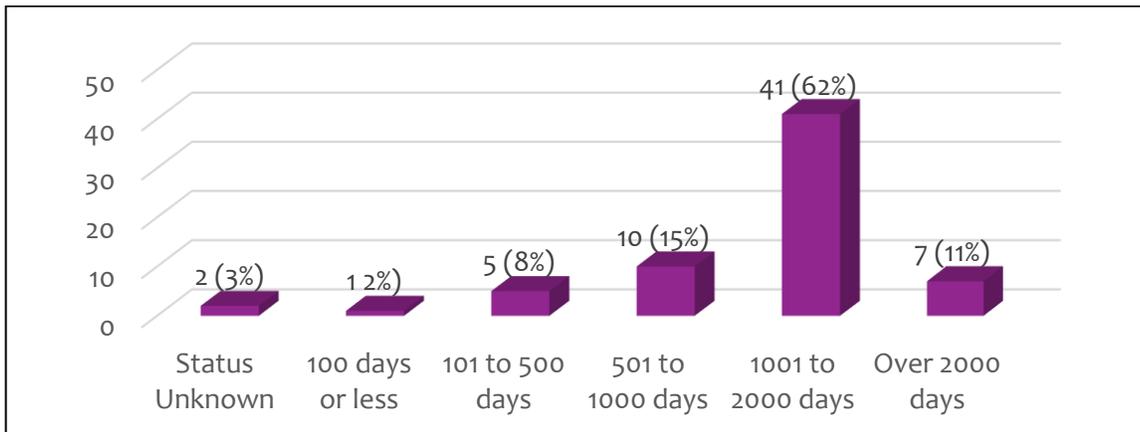
Number of Informal Agreements	N	%
o/None	32	49%
1	24	36%
2	7	11%
3	3	5%
TOTAL	66	100%

Note: Appendix A contains a variety of case processing definitions.

The largest single category of Informal Agreements was “o/None” and was comprised of 15 White, 13 African-American, 3 Hispanic and one “Other” girls. The largest single category of Formal Probations was “1” and was comprised of 13 White, 8 African-American, 2 Hispanic and one “Other” girls (see also Appendix D: Additional Supervision Related Data).

² As indicated by the presence of formal probation start dates.

Number of STS Eligible Females by Total Time in Days from Initial Case Initiation to Final Case Status

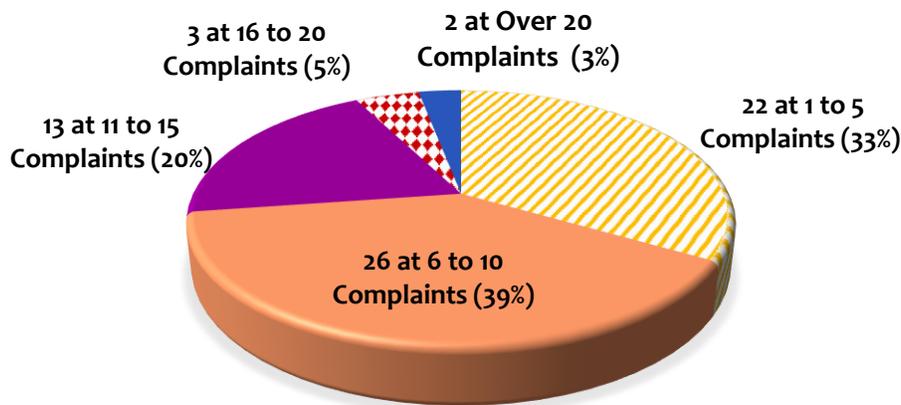


Note: Total time in days from the first Case Initiation date to the last Milestone Status entered.

The “1001 to 2000 days” category was comprised of 21 White, 15 African-American, 4 Hispanic and one “Other” girls. The “Over 2000 days” category was comprised of 5 African-American, 1 White and 1 Hispanic girls (see also Appendix D: Additional Supervision Related Data).

COMPLAINTS AND CHARGES

Number of STS Eligible Females by Total Number of Complaints



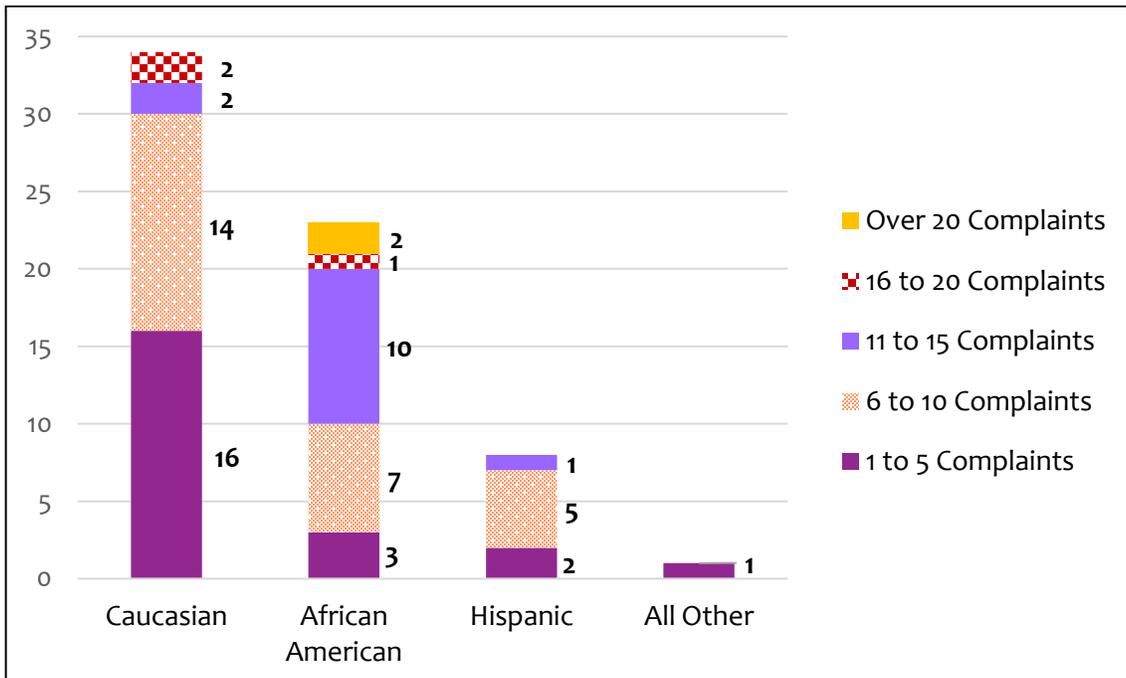
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Note: Complaints may contain one or more charges.

The greatest racial disparity was in the “11 to 15 Complaints” category which was comprised of 10 African-American, 2 White and 1 Hispanic girls.

³ Count of all juvenile complaints received by the end of the state fiscal year.

Total Number of Complaints for STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity



Thirty of the 34 (88%) White girls in the cohort had 10 complaints or less, while 13 of the 23 (57%) African-American girls in the cohort had 11 or more complaints.

Number of STS Eligible Females
by Highest Charge in First Complaint

OFFENSE SEVERITY	N	%
Felony Violent	1	2%
Felony Non-Violent	6	9%
Serious and Aggravated Misdemeanors	16	24%
Simple Misdemeanor or Below	43	65%
TOTAL	66	100%

Note: “Below” encompasses all charges not rising to the level of a simple misdemeanor and a large portion are Possession/Purchase of Alcohol by a Person under 18.

The “Simple Misdemeanor or Below” category (65%) was comprised of nearly equal numbers of White (19) and African-American (17) girls (see also Appendix E: Additional Complaint and Charge Data).

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Number of Felony Charges

NUMBER OF FELONY CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0/None	9	41%	10	46%	3	14%	0	0%	22	100%
1	17	61%	6	21%	4	14%	1	4%	28	100%
2	6	46%	6	46%	1	8%	0	0%	13	100%
3	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
4	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
8	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
TOTAL	34	52%	23	35%	8	12%	1	2%	66	100%

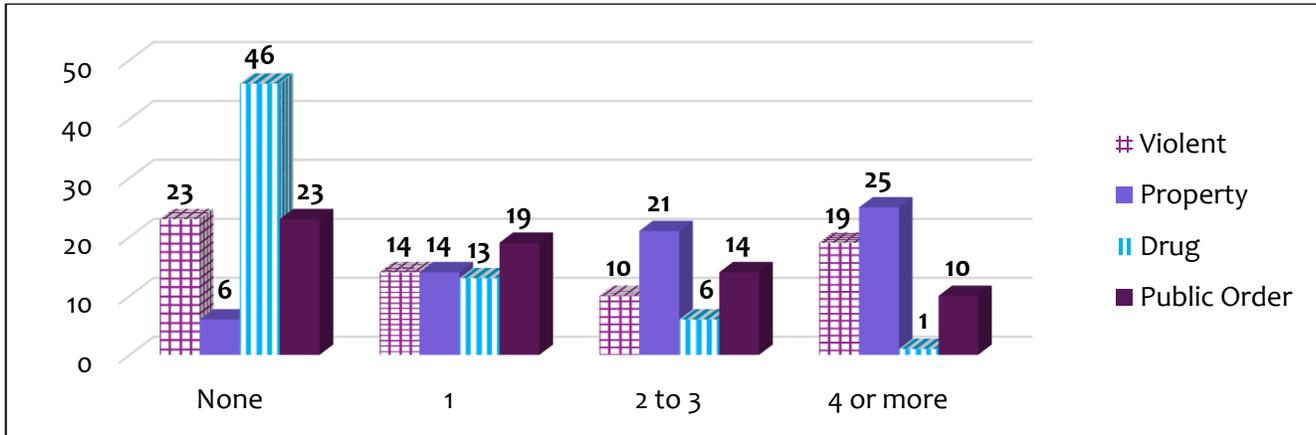
The largest single category of felony charges was “1” and was comprised of 17 white, 6 African-American, 4 Hispanic and 1 “All Other” girls. (See also Appendix E for Aggravated, Serious and Simple Misdemeanor Charges.)

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Highest Offense Severity ever Received

OFFENSE SEVERITY	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Felony Violent	5	15%	2	9%	0	0%	0	0%	7	11%
Felony Non-Violent	20	59%	11	48%	5	63%	1	100%	37	56%
Serious and Aggravated Misdemeanors	9	27%	10	44%	3	38%	0	0%	22	33%
TOTAL	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

The majority (44 of 66) of the females in the cohort had a felony as their highest offense severity ever received, however, relatively few (7) of those felonies were violent or “person” offenses.

STS Eligible Females by Charge Type and Volume



Note: Each respective charge types totals the 66 females in the cohort.

The number of girls committing property offenses trend from the lowest volume in the “None” category to the highest volume in the “4 or more” category. The opposite is true for drug and public order offenses, which trend from highest volume in the “None” category to lowest volume in the “4 or more” category. Alternately, the number of girls committing violent offenses peaked at both ends of the scale (“None” and “4 or more”).

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Violent Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0/None	13	57%	4	17%	5	22%	1	4%	23	100%
1	11	79%	3	21%	0	0%	0	0%	14	100%
2 to 3	3	30%	6	60%	1	10%	0	0%	10	100%
4 or more	7	37%	10	53%	2	11%	0	0%	19	100%
TOTAL	34	52%	23	35%	8	12%	1	2%	66	100%

Of the 66 females in the cohort, 43 (65%) had at least one violent or “person” charge. African-American girls were most over-represented in the “2 to 3” and “4 or more” categories.

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Property Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
o/None	4	67%	0	0%	2	33%	0	0%	6	100%
1	10	71%	3	21%	1	7%	0	0%	14	100%
2 to 3	12	57%	7	33%	1	5%	1	5%	21	100%
4 or more	8	32%	13	52%	4	16%	0	0%	25	100%
TOTAL	34	52%	23	35%	8	12%	1	2%	66	100%

Of the 66 females in the cohort, 60 (91%) had at least one property charge. The largest single category of property charges was “4 or more” and was comprised of 8 white, 13 African-American and 4 Hispanic girls.

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Drug Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
o/None	19	41%	22	48%	4	9%	1	2%	46	100%
1	10	77%	1	8%	2	15%	0	0%	13	100%
2 to 3	4	67%	0	0%	2	33%	0	0%	6	100%
4 or more	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
TOTAL	34	52%	23	35%	8	12%	1	2%	66	100%

Of the 66 females in the cohort, 46 had “o/None” drug charges. Of the 20 girls (30%) who did have drug charges, 15 were white.

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Public Order Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
o/None	15	65%	5	22%	2	9%	1	4%	23	100%
1	10	53%	6	32%	3	16%	0	0%	19	100%
2 to 3	6	43%	7	50%	1	7%	0	0%	14	100%
4 or more	3	30%	5	50%	2	20%	0	0%	10	100%
TOTAL	34	52%	23	35%	8	12%	1	2%	66	100%

Of the 66 females in the cohort, 43 (65%) had at least one public order charge. As the number of public order charges increased, the volume of girls in those categories decreased.

Top Five Charge Sub Types by Race/Ethnicity

Top 5 Charge Sub Types ever Received by White STS Eligible Females (N=34)
Theft
Assault
Public Order
Drug Possession
Vandalism

Top 5 Charge Sub Types ever Received by African-American STS Eligible Females (N=23)
Theft
Assault
Public Order
Property
Vandalism

Top 5 Charge Sub Types ever Received by Hispanic STS Eligible Females (N=8)
Theft
Public Order
Alcohol
Vandalism
Assault

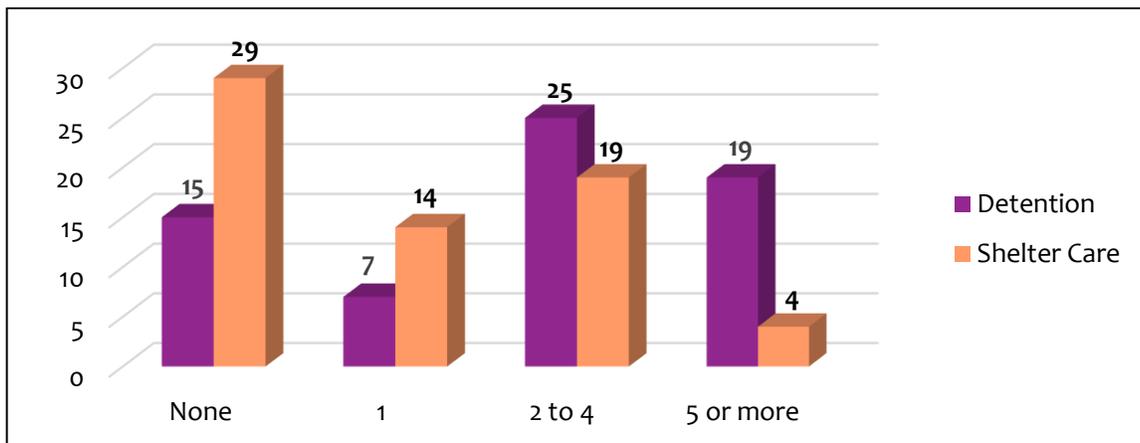
Note: The one STS Eligible female in the “All Other” race category had theft charges only.

Theft is the top charge subtype regardless of race/ethnicity, while drug possession appears only in the top five of white girls, property appears only in the top five of African-American girls and alcohol appears only in the top five of Hispanic girls.

DETENTION AND SHELTER CARE

Holding a juvenile in detention is used in the juvenile justice system to manage young offenders for public safety and assuring court appearances. It is the most secure option available to the juvenile court. Shelter care has more broad application and is less secure. Both are intended to be short term.

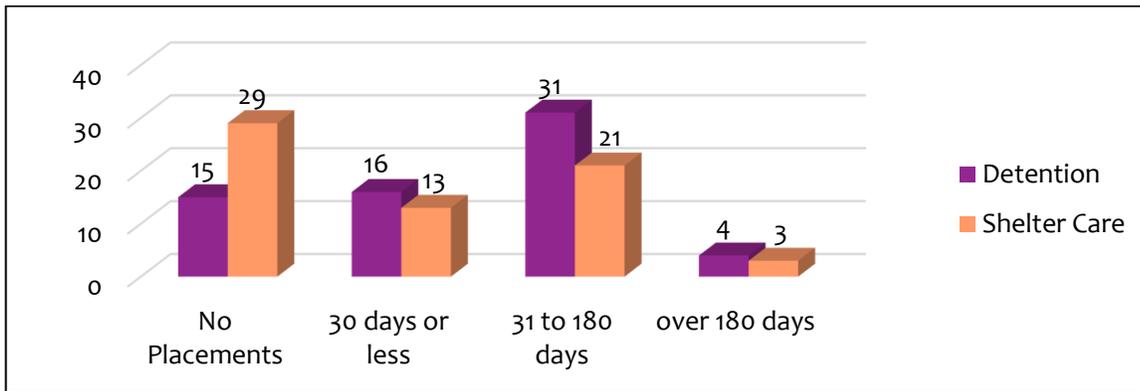
STS Eligible Females by Number of Detention Holds and Shelter Care Placements



The “None” group in detention was comprised primarily of White girls (11) vs. 2 African-American and 2 Hispanic girls, while the “2 to 4” and “5 or more” detention categories are comprised primarily of girls of color (9 African-American, 4 Hispanic and 9 African-American and 2 Hispanic, respectively).

The “None” group in shelter care was comprised primarily of girls of color (12 African-American and 4 Hispanic). The next largest shelter care group was “2 to 4” and was comprised of 10 White, 7 African-American and 2 Hispanic girls (see also Appendix F: Additional Detention and Shelter Care Data).

STS Eligible Females by Total Time Spent in Detention and Shelter Care



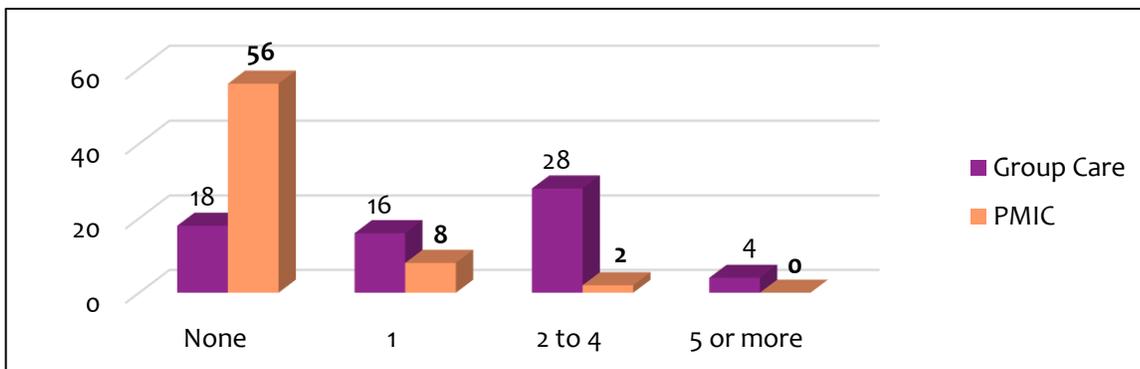
The “No Placements” group in detention was comprised of primarily White girls (11) vs. 2 African-American and 2 Hispanic girls. The single largest detention category “31 to 180 days” was comprised of 14 White, 12 African-American and 4 Hispanic girls.

The “No Placements” group in shelter care was comprised primarily of girls of color (12 African-American and 4 Hispanic). The next largest shelter care group was “31 to 180 days” and was comprised of 10 White, 6 African-American, 4 Hispanic and 1 “Other” girls (see also Appendix F: Additional Detention and Shelter Care Data).

GROUP CARE AND PSYCHIATRIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN (PMIC)

Both group care and PMIC placements are therapeutically oriented and longer term than detention holds and shelter care placements.

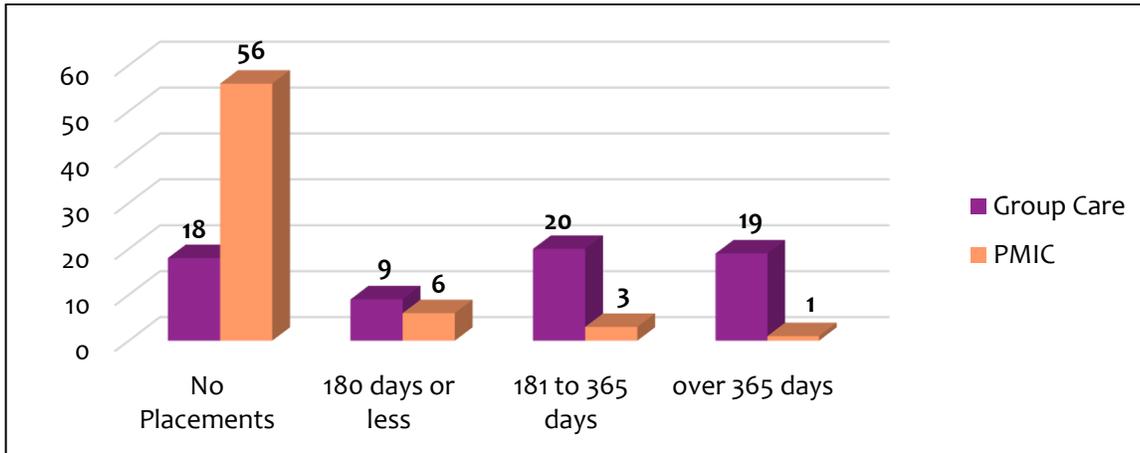
STS Eligible Females by Number of Group Care and PMIC Placements



The “None” group in group care was comprised of primarily White girls (10) vs. 6 African-American and 2 Hispanic girls, while the largest category for group care (“2 to 4”) was comprised of equal parts White girls (14) and girls of color (12 African-American and 2 Hispanic).

The “None” group in PMIC was the majority for all girls regardless of race/ethnicity. Of those girls who did have PMIC placement(s), 7 were White, 1 was African-American and 2 were Hispanic (see also Appendix G: Additional Group Care and PMIC Data).

STS Eligible Females by Total Time Spent in Group Care and PMIC Placements



The “No Placements” group in group care was comprised primarily of White girls (10) vs. 6 African-American and 2 Hispanic girls. The 181 to 365 days” group care category was comprised of 9 White, 6 African-American, 4 Hispanic and 1 “Other” girls. The “over 365 days” group care category was comprised of 8 White, 9 African-American and 2 Hispanic girls.

The “No Placements” group in PMIC was the majority for all girls regardless of race/ethnicity. Of those girls who did have PMIC placement(s), the girls of color (1 African-American and 2 Hispanic) fell into the “180 days or less” category (see also Appendix G: Additional Group Care and PMIC Data).

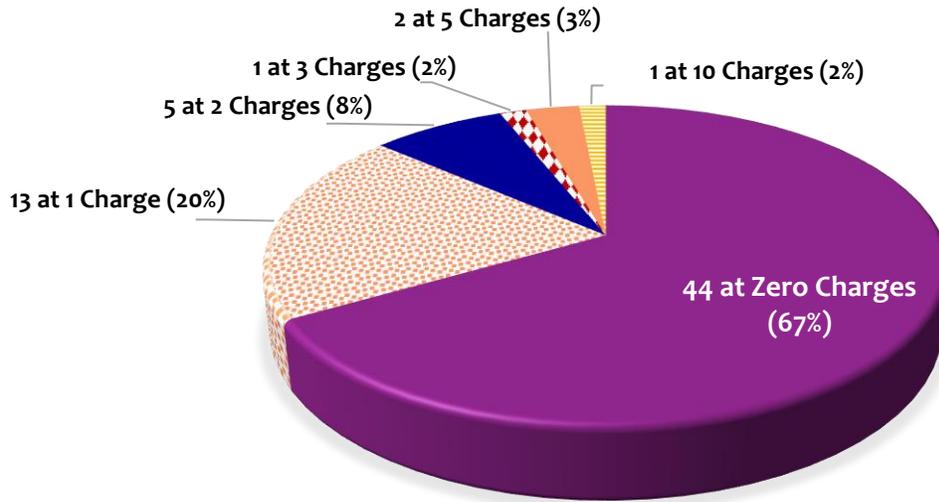
ADULT WAIVERS AND ADULT CHARGES

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Waiver to Adult Court

WAIVER STATUS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Waivers Found	32	53%	20	33%	8	13%	1	2%	61	100%
Waiver to Adult Court	2	40%	3	60%	0	0%	0	0%	5	100%
TOTAL	34	52%	23	35%	8	12%	1	2%	66	100%

Of the 66 females in the cohort, 61 (92%) did not have a waiver to adult court, three of the five who did were African-American (see Appendix A for case processing definitions including adult court waivers).

STS Eligible Females by Number of Adult Charges



Twenty-two (33%) of the 66 STS Eligible females had one or more adult charges, with the majority of those falling in the one or two charge categories.

STS Eligible Females with Adult Charges by Waiver Status and Total Number of Juvenile Charges

NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHARGES	No Waivers Found		Waiver to Adult Court		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
1	0	0%	1	20.0%	1	4.5%
2	1	5.9%	0	0%	1	4.5%
3	2	11.8%	1	20.0%	3	13.6%
7	2	11.8%	0	0%	2	9.1%
8	2	11.8%	0	0%	2	9.1%
9	3	17.6%	0	0%	3	13.6%
11	0	0%	1	20.0%	1	4.5%
12	2	11.8%	0	0%	2	9.1%
13	3	17.6%	1	20.0%	4	18.2%
18	1	5.9%	0	0%	1	4.5%
21	1	5.9%	0	0%	1	4.5%
25	0	0%	1	20.0%	1	4.5%
TOTAL	17	100%	5	100%	22	100%

For the 22 STS Eligible females who had one or more adult charges, the number of juvenile charges they had ranged from one to 25 with relative balance within that range regardless of waiver status.

KEY FINDINGS

- Over representation of African-American females was pervasive in the data for this cohort. It began in their first contact with the system, where they made up 56% of the girls whose first complaint came before the age of thirteen and ended with their experiencing a higher amount and duration of secure detention and waiver to adult court. Recent research showing that adults view African-American girls as “less innocent and more adult-like than their white peers, especially in the age range of 5-14”,⁴ is relevant to any discussion around these girls first contact with the justice system.
- The receipt of both community-based services and residential placement services was near universal within this group of justice-involved females. Those services and placements were also generally extended in duration.
- While a majority (43 girls) of the cohort first came into contact with the justice system under a complaint with the highest charge of a Simple Misdemeanor or below, a comparable number (44) had at least one felony charge over the course of their involvement in the juvenile justice system.
- Among juvenile charges, the property charge type had the highest volume, followed by violent, public order and then drug charge types. A minority (20 girls) of the cohort were charged with a drug charge type as juveniles and they were predominantly white girls (15).
- Detention, the most secure option available to the juvenile court, was one area which showed an even higher percentage of over-representation of African-American females than the cohort as a whole. The general population of African-American females age 10 to 17 in Iowa is approximately 6%. This cohort of STS eligible females was 35% African-American. Of those STS eligible females who had at least one detention hold, 45% were African-American.
- A majority (56 girls) of the cohort had no placement in a PMIC facility.
- A third of the females in the cohort had charges originating within the adult system, however, those charges did not generally result in waiver to the adult criminal court system, but were rather maintained under the supervision of the juvenile court.

⁴ Epstein, R. B. (2017). *Girlhood Interrupted: The Erasure of Black Girls' Childhood*. Washington D.C.: Georgetown Law.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Case Processing Definitions

- *Complaint/Referral* – A juvenile complaint is an official claim by a number of sources, including law enforcement, schools, social service agency, etc. that initiates court processing. All complaints are referred to JCS, which provides juvenile intake and probation services. Once the complaint is received by JCS, all available case information is entered into the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS). A juvenile court officer (JCO) reviews the charge or charges and makes a decision to:
 - Dismiss the matter without further action,
 - Refer the youth for participation in diversion programming, or
 - Schedule an intake interview.
- *Intake interview* – A JCO conducts the initial review of all complaints filed against the youth. An intake interview is a face-to-face meeting between the JCO, the youth and the youth’s parent/s/guardian. At the intake, a JCO attempts to determine the needs of the youth and family and potential issues related to public safety. The short-form Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) is a standardized risk assessment instrument completed at intake to inform delinquency case planning. At the intake step, JCOs typically direct youth into one of two tracks:
 - *Diversion*: JCOs provide informal adjustments for a substantial percentage of youth referred to JCS at the intake stage. This option allows a youth to avoid having an official delinquency record created for the alleged delinquent acts. Informal adjustments are diversion contracts that youth enter into with JCOs, typically for youth who are younger, youth alleged with less serious offenses, and first-time offenders. JCS provides a number of options for youth who are diverted from formal system processing such as restitution, community service, prohibiting a youth from driving, referral to a private agency for targeted services (e.g. life skills, alcohol/drug education, shoplifting prevention), etc.
 - *Petition*: If a JCO determines that the youth is in need of more formal intervention, the JCO refers the youth to the county attorney with a request that a delinquency petition be filed. The county attorney may file a petition initiating the formal involvement of the court. After a petition is filed there are a number of options available to the court:
 - *Consent Decree* – A juvenile court judge may decide to offer a youth the option of a consent decree. A consent decree is similar in nature to an informal adjustment and allows the youth an opportunity to avoid adjudication and more intensive sanctions.
 - *Adjudication Hearing* – The juvenile court conducts an adjudication hearing for the purpose of determining whether a youth committed an alleged delinquent offense. This hearing occurs after a reasonable period for fact-finding by the youth’s defense attorney and the county attorney. For cases in which the court concludes the youth did commit the alleged delinquent act(s), the court will adjudicate the youth as a delinquent and order an appropriate disposition. JCS staff completes the long-form IDA for youth who are adjudicated delinquent. The long-form of the IDA is a more comprehensive version of that instrument with greater focus on social elements and needs of the youth.

If a youth is adjudicated as a delinquent or is granted a consent decree, the court conducts a dispositional hearing to determine the rehabilitative services and treatment the youth will receive. The court often conducts a dispositional hearing as part of the adjudication hearing. Dispositions from the juvenile court include one of two general outcomes:

- ✓ *Probation* – This is the most common type of disposition in juvenile court. It provides for community-based, ongoing court supervision of the youth for a period of time. It is likely to include one or more of the following: victim restitution, community service, driving suspension or revocation, a juvenile detention facility hold, community-based delinquency services, and tracking and electronic monitoring.
- ✓ *Assignment to a juvenile treatment facility*. This type of disposition is typically applied to youth with higher risk factors. This can include services such as: day treatment programs, family foster care, group foster care, supervised apartment living, in-patient psychiatric care, or placement at the state training school.
- *Youthful Offender Status*: In a very small number of cases involving youth, ages 15 and younger, whom have been alleged to commit a serious, violent offense, there is the option for the adult criminal court to exercise judicial jurisdiction while accessing programming and services in the delinquency system.
- *Waiver of youth to adult criminal court*: In a relatively small number of cases involving very serious offenses, a county attorney may request that the juvenile court grant a waiver (i.e. transfer) of a juvenile delinquency case to the adult criminal court where more severe sanctions may be imposed.

Appendix B: Additional Risk Related Data

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Age of First Complaint

AGE OF FIRST COMPLAINT	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
11 years	3	33.3%	5	55.6%	1	11.1%	0	0%	9	100%
12 years	6	37.5%	9	56.3%	1	6.3%	0	0%	16	100%
13 years	9	52.9%	5	29.4%	3	17.6%	0	0%	17	100%
14 years	7	70.0%	3	30.0%	0	0%	0	0%	10	100%
15 years	3	60.0%	0	0%	1	20.0%	1	20.0%	5	100%
16 years	6	75.0%	1	12.5%	1	12.5%	0	0%	8	100%
17 years	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and IDA Risk Level

IDA RISK LEVEL		RACE/ETHNICITY									
		White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
First Risk Assessment	Unknown	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	100%
	LOW	11	37.9%	13	44.8%	5	17.2%	0	0.0%	29	100%
	MOD	12	70.6%	5	29.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	100%
	HIGH	8	50.0%	4	25.0%	3	18.8%	1	6.3%	16	100%
	Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%
Highest Risk Assessment Found	Unknown	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	100%
	LOW	1	25.0%	2	50.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	4	100%
	MOD	2	28.6%	4	57.1%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	7	100%
	HIGH	28	54.9%	16	31.4%	6	11.8%	1	2.0%	51	100%
	Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%
Final Risk Assessment	Unknown	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	100%
	LOW	1	20.0%	2	40.0%	2	40.0%	0	0.0%	5	100%
	MOD	4	36.4%	6	54.5%	1	9.1%	0	0.0%	11	100%
	HIGH	26	56.5%	14	30.4%	5	10.9%	1	2.2%	46	100%
	Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Appendix C: Additional Service and Placement Related Data

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Number of Services and Placements Received

NUMBER OF SERVICES AND PLACEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
1 to 5	7	63.6%	3	27.3%	1	9.1%	0	0%	11	100%
6 to 10	8	57.1%	4	28.6%	2	14.3%	0	0%	14	100%
11 to 15	5	29.4%	8	47.1%	4	23.5%	0	0%	17	100%
16 to 20	8	57.1%	4	28.6%	1	7.1%	1	7.1%	14	100%
Over 20	5	55.6%	4	44.4%	0	0%	0	0%	9	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Number of Services Received

NUMBER OF SERVICES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	2	5.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	3.0%
1 to 5	14	41.2%	9	39.1%	4	50.0%	1	100.0%	28	42.4%
6 to 10	14	41.2%	13	56.5%	4	50.0%	0	0.0%	31	47.0%
11 or more	4	11.8%	1	4.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	7.6%
Total	34	100.0%	23	100.0%	8	100.0%	1	100.0%	66	100.0%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Number of Placements Received

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	6	17.6%	1	4.3%	1	12.5%	0	0%	8	12.1%
1 to 5	10	29.4%	9	39.1%	3	37.5%	0	0%	22	33.3%
6 to 10	11	32.4%	6	26.1%	3	37.5%	0	0%	20	30.3%
11 or more	7	20.6%	7	30.4%	1	12.5%	1	100%	16	24.2%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Duration of Services and Placements

DURATION OF SERVICES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Services or Placements Provided	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%
1 year or less	6	54.5%	4	36.4%	1	9.1%	0	0%	11	100%
1 to 2 years	6	50.0%	5	41.7%	1	8.3%	0	0%	12	100%
2 to 3 years	6	60.0%	2	20.0%	2	20.0%	0	0%	10	100%
3 to 4 years	4	30.8%	4	30.8%	4	30.8%	1	7.7%	13	100%
over 4 years	10	55.6%	8	44.4%	0	0%	0	0%	18	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

The sum of days for all services and placements received. Serves as an indicator of service intensity.

The duration of services for open services is calculated as of the end of the fiscal year.

Services may or may not be provided in full day increments. Placements are provided in full day increments.

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Duration of Services

DURATION OF SERVICES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Services Provided	3	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	100%
1 year or less	10	43.5%	9	39.1%	3	13.0%	1	4.3%	23	100%
1 to 2 years	10	55.6%	7	38.9%	1	5.6%	0	0%	18	100%
2 to 3 years	3	33.3%	2	22.2%	4	44.4%	0	0%	9	100%
3 to 4 years	5	55.6%	4	44.4%	0	0%	0	0%	9	100%
over 4 years	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

The sum of days for all services received. Serves as an indicator of service intensity.

The duration of services for open services is calculated as of the end of the fiscal year.

Services may or may not be provided in full day increments.

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Duration of Placements

DURATION OF PLACEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African- American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Placements Provided	6	75.0%	1	12.5%	1	12.5%	0	0%	8	100%
1 year or less	12	48.0%	9	36.0%	4	16.0%	0	0%	25	100%
1 to 2 years	7	41.2%	8	47.1%	2	11.8%	0	0%	17	100%
2 to 3 years	7	53.8%	4	30.8%	1	7.7%	1	7.7%	13	100%
3 to 4 years	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%
over 4 years	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

The sum of days for all placements received. Serves as an indicator of service intensity.

The duration of services for open placements is calculated as of the end of the fiscal year.

Placements are provided in full day increments.

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

APPENDIX D: Additional Supervision Related Data

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Informal Agreements Received

NUMBER OF INFORMAL AGREEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	Caucasian		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	15	46.9%	13	40.6%	3	9.4%	1	3.1%	32	100%
1	14	58.3%	6	25.0%	4	16.7%	0	0%	24	100%
2	3	42.9%	4	57.1%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
3	2	66.7%	0	0%	1	33.3%	0	0%	3	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Formal Probations

NUMBER OF FORMAL PROBATIONS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	Caucasian		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	13	56.5%	6	26.1%	4	17.4%	0	0%	23	100%
1	13	54.2%	8	33.3%	2	8.3%	1	4.2%	24	100%
2	6	42.9%	6	42.9%	2	14.3%	0	0%	14	100%
3	2	50.0%	2	50.0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%
4	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Time from Case Initiation to Final Case Status

TIME FROM INITIATION TO FINAL STATUS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	Caucasian		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Status Unknown	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%
100 Days or Less	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
101 to 500 Days	3	60.0%	1	20.0%	1	20.0%	0	0%	5	100%
501 to 1000 Days	6	60.0%	2	20.0%	2	20.0%	0	0%	10	100%
1001 to 2000 Days	21	51.2%	15	36.6%	4	9.8%	1	2.4%	41	100%
Over 2000 Days	1	14.3%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	0	0%	7	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

Total Time in Days from the first Case Initiation date to the last Milestone Status entered.

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

APPENDIX E: Additional Complaint and Charge Data

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Highest Charge in First Complaint

SEVERITY OF OFFENSE	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Felony Violent	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Felony Non-Violent	3	50.0%	2	33.3%	1	16.7%	0	0%	6	100%
Serious and Aggravated Misdemeanors	11	68.8%	4	25.0%	1	6.3%	0	0%	16	100%
Simple Misdemeanor or Below	19	44.2%	17	39.5%	6	14.0%	1	2.3%	43	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Aggravated Misdemeanor Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	12	48.0%	9	36.0%	3	12.0%	1	4.0%	25	100%
1	13	61.9%	5	23.8%	3	14.3%	0	0%	21	100%
2	4	44.4%	4	44.4%	1	11.1%	0	0%	9	100%
3	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
4	2	50.0%	2	50.0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%
5	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%
6	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%
11	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%
17	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Serious Misdemeanor Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	9	60.0%	4	26.7%	1	6.7%	1	6.7%	15	100%
1	8	57.1%	4	28.6%	2	14.3%	0	0%	14	100%
2	5	38.5%	6	46.2%	2	15.4%	0	0%	13	100%
3	4	40.0%	4	40.0%	2	20.0%	0	0%	10	100%
4	3	50.0%	2	33.3%	1	16.7%	0	0%	6	100%
5	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%
6	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
7	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%
8	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Simple Misdemeanor Charges

NUMBER OF CHARGES	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0%	5	100%
1	4	57.1%	0	0%	2	28.6%	1	14.3%	7	100%
2	4	100%	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0%	4	100%
3	8	88.9%	1	11.1%	0	0.0%	0	0%	9	100%
4	3	37.5%	5	62.5%	0	0.0%	0	0%	8	100%
5	2	66.7%	0	0%	1	33.3%	0	0%	3	100%
6	3	50.0%	1	16.7%	2	33.3%	0	0%	6	100%
7	0	0%	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	0	0%	3	100%
8	2	40.0%	2	40.0%	1	20.0%	0	0%	5	100%
9	1	20.0%	3	60.0%	1	20.0%	0	0%	5	100%
10	0	0%	3	100%	0	0.0%	0	0%	3	100%
11	0	0%	1	100%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	100%
12	0	0%	1	100%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	100%
13	0	0%	1	100%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	100%
14	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0%	3	100%
17	1	100%	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	100%
23	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	34	51.5%	23	34.8%	8	12.1%	1	1.5%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

APPENDIX F: Additional Detention and Shelter Care Data

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Detention Holds

NUMBER OF HOLDS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	11	32.4%	2	8.7%	2	25.0%	0	0%	15	22.7%
1	4	11.8%	3	13.0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	10.6%
2 to 4	11	32.4%	9	39.1%	4	50%	1	100%	25	37.9%
5 or more	8	23.5%	9	39.1%	2	25.0%	0	0%	19	28.8%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Shelter Care Placements

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	13	38.2%	12	52.2%	4	50%	0	0%	29	43.9%
1	10	29.4%	2	8.7%	2	25.0%	0	0%	14	21.2%
2 to 4	10	29.4%	7	30.4%	2	25.0%	0	0%	19	28.8%
5 or more	1	2.9%	2	8.7%	0	0%	1	100%	4	6.1%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Time Spent in Detention

DURATION	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Placements	11	32.4%	2	8.7%	2	25.0%	0	0%	15	22.7%
30 days or less	8	23.5%	7	30.4%	1	12.5%	0	0%	16	24.2%
31 to 180 days	14	41.2%	12	52.2%	4	50%	1	100%	31	47.0%
over 180 days	1	2.9%	2	8.7%	1	12.5%	0	0%	4	6.1%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Time Spent in Shelter Care Placements

DURATION	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Placements	13	38.2%	12	52.2%	4	50%	0	0%	29	43.9%
30 days or less	10	29.4%	3	13.0%	0	0%	0	0%	13	19.7%
31 to 180 days	10	29.4%	6	26.1%	4	50%	1	100%	21	31.8%
over 180 days	1	2.9%	2	8.7%	0	0%	0	0%	3	4.5%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

APPENDIX G: Additional Group Care and PMIC Data

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of Group Care Placements

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	10	29.4%	6	26.1%	2	25.0%	0	0%	18	27.3%
1	10	29.4%	2	8.7%	3	37.5%	1	100%	16	24.2%
2 to 4	14	41.2%	12	52.2%	2	25.0%	0	0%	28	42.4%
5 or more	0	0%	3	13.0%	1	12.5%	0	0%	4	6.1%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Number of PMIC Placements

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	27	79.4%	22	95.7%	6	75.0%	1	100%	56	84.8%
1	5	14.7%	1	4.3%	2	25.0%	0	0%	8	12.1%
2	2	5.9%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	3.0%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Time Spent in Group Care

DURATION	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Placements	10	29.4%	6	26.1%	2	25.0%	0	0%	18	27.3%
180 days or less	7	20.6%	2	8.7%	0	0%	0	0%	9	13.6%
181 to 365 days	9	26.5%	6	26.1%	4	50%	1	100%	20	30.3%
over 365 days	8	23.5%	9	39.1%	2	25.0%	0	0%	19	28.8%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Number of STS Eligible Females by Race/Ethnicity and Total Time Spent in PMIC Placements

DURATION	RACE/ETHNICITY									
	White		African-American		Hispanic		All Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Placements	27	79.4%	22	95.7%	6	75.0%	1	100%	56	84.8%
180 days or less	3	8.8%	1	4.3%	2	25.0%	0	0%	6	9.1%
181 to 365 days	3	8.8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	4.5%
over 365 days	1	2.9%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1.5%
Total	34	100%	23	100%	8	100%	1	100%	66	100%

SOURCE: Iowa Justice Data Warehouse

Prepared: November 2017

Appendix H: Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Female Offenders: Service and System Recommendations for Iowa, from the February 2017 Iowa Girls Justice Initiative Report

These recommendations to create effective service and system elements for the small number of serious, violent, and chronic juvenile female offenders are interconnected and should be considered as a whole. All recommendations that follow are predicated on implementing practices and approaches that are effective for girls involved in the juvenile justice system. It is a foundational premise inherent in these recommendations that they be developed and provided applying these principles:

- Female responsive approach in a single-gender environment
- Trauma-informed
- Culturally responsive
- Developmentally appropriate
- Criminogenic risk/need factors

To be clear, these recommendations do NOT support creation or construction of an institution like the Iowa Juvenile Home and State Training School for Girls. Likewise, the principles above strongly dictate against creation of a facility that mirrors or is present on the campus of the Boy's State Training School.

These recommendations are straightforward in their approach, seeking to achieve the service – a placement of last resort – and system that many in the state have long sought for girls. Critically, this includes meeting the needs of this small group of high risk, high need girls using a unique setting that combines best practices for girls with the lowest level of security necessary to provide for community protection.

The service described guards against the “peer contagion” effect, that is, the co-mingling of high risk delinquent youth with low risk youth resulting in negative effects for the low risk youth. Girls who do not need the highest level of service and supervision, assuming community safety is not an issue, would be better served in a lower level setting appropriate for their needs, preferably one that is community based.

Girls who do need the highest level of service should have access to a placement of last resort that provides a balance of therapeutic services with protection of the safety of the girl, those around her, and the public when necessary. This service could be private and/or public. Keeping the girl close to home is a priority; more than one setting could aid in achieving that aim.

The recommendations are of two types: service and system. Service recommendations cover only the placement of last resort for the serious, violent, and chronic female juvenile offenders. System recommendations more broadly address the needs of “deep end” girls that may not require a placement of last resort. Recommendations are not prioritized, but rather appear alphabetically.

SERVICE RECOMMENDATIONS

A placement(s) of last resort is necessary for young women involved in the juvenile justice system. This level of residential setting could be in one location or in multiple locations, but should not mix low and high risk girls. The primary benefit of multiple locations would be in easing connection between young women, their families, and the communities to which they will be returning.

This setting must be single gender to be at its most effective. Female pathways into delinquency, their abuse and trauma histories, as well as broader gender-based experiences and expectations are among the variations that distinguish them from their male counterparts and make single-gender environments optimal

for this highest level of care. All recommendations in this section apply to that single-gender type residential setting for serious, violent, and chronic female offenders.

1 ACCESS AND ELIGIBILITY

- No reject, no eject policy. This setting will allow extended placement up to age 19½ using Iowa Code section 232.53(4). Use the current criteria detailed in Iowa Code section 232.52(2)e to establish eligibility for placement in this setting. Further screening by Juvenile Court Services using the Iowa Delinquency Assessment and other tools, as is current practice, will assist the court in determining who, of those eligible, require placement.
- The Iowa Legislature directs the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning to convene a group to write language revising Iowa Code 232.52(2)e to accommodate for the placement of last resort for girls and ensure that the eligibility criteria are suitably narrow and appropriate for only serious, violent, and chronic offenders. This new language should be written with consideration of any potential impact on the State Training School for Boys.

2 ASSESSMENT

- Require a current (within 30 days) Iowa Delinquency Assessment showing a moderate or high level of risk (with exceptions for female sex offenders) and identified primary need areas prior to admission.
- Once admitted, use one or more validated tools for further assessment that are female and culturally responsive, trauma informed, and developmentally appropriate.
- Use only assessment tools that have been validated by race and gender.

3 EDUCATION

- Access to commensurate curricula available to students in non-facility settings. Integrate the treatment and education structures to ensure that girls' access to education while in this setting is sufficient to get them to or keep them at grade level.
- Assessment that goes beyond determining current grade level to include other educational needs (e.g., whether they do well in a classroom setting or respond better to individual instruction.)
- Education should be provided through the local school district or Area Education Agency, which would include Special Education programs and services.
- Access to higher level and college entrance level classes, and more equitable and marketable vocational programs that lead to certification. Increase the level and quality of connection between the treatment/education structure within this setting and the educational settings immediately before and after placement in this setting.
- The residential setting should maintain a connection with the local public school to facilitate involvement in extra-curricular activities and to expand vocational opportunities.

4 FAMILY/SUPPORT SYSTEM ENGAGEMENT

- Use a combination of Family Team Decision-Making meetings, Youth Transition Decision-Making meetings, tele-family therapy, Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy, and related best practices to maximize family/support system engagement.
- Provide housing accommodations on-site and transportation for family visits/therapy sessions. Incorporate proactive family after care components (e.g., check-ins and support at intervals for a minimum of 90 days after the end of placement).

5 FUNDING

- Resources proportionally equivalent to the same level of care afforded to young men with similar risks and needs using a budget structure that does not rely upon filling a certain number of beds.

- Build in sufficient resources to allow for ongoing exploration of programmatic innovations and continuous quality improvement.

6 MENTAL HEALTH

- Counseling/therapy by licensed professionals, individual psychiatric and psychological services are provided on-site or are available without delay, and a contracted hospital stabilization unit for acute mental health episodes is readily available and in close proximity to the facility.

7 OVERSIGHT AND SECURITY

- Apply third-party oversight using the structure currently applied to group foster care through the Department of Inspections and Appeals with regulations/standards specific to it as a unique setting. Particular emphasis should be placed on standards related to youth, professional, and public safety, including best practices related to isolation and restraint, which curtails their use.
- Use a combination of secure and staff secure (see Definitions) options but with a primary emphasis on staff secure as much as it is safely possible. Hands-off approaches, de-escalation techniques, and trauma-informed security practices should be standard operating procedure.
- This setting for girls should provide an annual facility report and individual discharge reports that, at a minimum, reflect:
 - Hours of educational instruction provided; Hours of therapeutic intervention provided; Number and amount of isolation/seclusion incidents and Number, type, and length of restraints used
- Seek regular outside evaluation and employ a specialist to research, operationalize, and conduct further internal evaluation related to female and culturally responsive service provision and environmental functioning that is trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate, and addresses criminogenic risk/need factors. This specialist should also be responsible for conducting continuous quality improvement activities that become an integrated part of the setting structure.

8 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & EDUCATION

- Minimum education and experience standards for all levels of direct service, staff, who work with young women: BA degree in a related field plus two years experience working with delinquent girls.
- Female responsive, trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and developmentally appropriate best practice training is provided to all employees, not just direct service staff. It should be research-based, progressive, ongoing, result in an implementation plan, and be supported with additional funding.
- Employees should be evaluated for demonstration of these learned capacities, and fidelity to those training models should be measured.

9 TREATMENT & THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES

- Single-gender environment that uses proven therapeutic rather than control-oriented types of services with an emphasis on female responsive types of programming and which targets criminogenic risk/need factors.
- Use research and/or evidence-based services within this setting whenever possible and with fidelity to the specified standards. For all services offered, access the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol process, the Gender-Responsive Program Assessment Tool or another appropriate tool to evaluate the effectiveness of the services being offered. (See Resources section.)
- The entire environment and all of its operations are created using a female and culturally responsive lens which is trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate. (See Resources section.)

SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS

All recommendations within this section relate to the larger system beyond a specific setting, but still relate to serious, violent, and chronic female offenders.

1 ACCESS AND ELIGIBILITY

- Support current Iowa Code 232.8(5)a which allows for ongoing involvement (follow-up services and guidance from a JCO) with Juvenile Court Services up to age 21 on a voluntary basis.
- Provide additional funding to Juvenile Court Services to supplement the work done with youth who continue to access services up to age 21.

2 ASSESSMENT

- Validate all assessment tools by race and gender.
- Use multiple tools in order to ensure any assessment is gender and culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate until such time as a single tool exists that encompasses all of these elements.

3 COURT PROCESSING

- Support “one family, one judge” for all girls formally involved in the juvenile justice system.
- Require court-appointed attorneys to provide a report detailing time spent with the client and whether he/she visited the client in placement (if applicable) to the judge at the adjudication and disposition hearings. Allow the judge to appoint the juvenile another attorney if, based on the report, the attorney has not visited with the client, other than a few minutes before the hearing, and/or has not visited the client while in placement (if applicable).
- Provide fully funded Girls Court (see Definitions) for all high risk and/or high need girls and girls with moderate risk levels as appropriate. Areas that do not have a sufficient volume of girls to sustain a formal Girls Court should institutionalize the following practices: Explain all court processes until the young woman clearly indicates understanding, allow the young woman to introduce the people who have accompanied her to Court, help the young woman identify “safe” places and people, use consequences that are therapeutic and meaningful instead of simply punitive, and give the young woman a real role in the decision-making process.

4 EDUCATION

- Make education credits easily identifiable and transferable.
- Establish universal standards for the number and type of credits required for graduation.
- Existing planning groups (e.g., Education Collaborative, Juvenile Reentry Task Force) that are addressing issues around delinquency and education must consider gender as they seek to improve policy and practice.

5 FAMILY FOSTER CARE

- Establish contracted homes with foster parents who have the capacity and willingness to work with moderate and high risk delinquent girls as well as low risk girls who are high need. These homes should receive higher levels of funding as well as targeted training, services, and support that is female and culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate. Also, respite care should be readily available and provided in the home where the girl is residing.

6 FUNDING

- Move from a fluctuating per diem rate budget to a predetermined annual budget structure in all group care settings and increase the reimbursement rate for service providers related to raised expectations and

to incentivize an increase in their capacity and competencies related to young women with moderate to high risk and needs.

7 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & EDUCATION

- Minimum education and experience standards for all levels of direct service, staff, who work with moderate to high risk and high need delinquent females: BA degree in a related field or equivalent experience.
- Make female responsive, trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and developmentally appropriate best practices training and technical assistance available for those working with girls in the juvenile justice system by creating a State level position to coordinate and/or provide this assistance.
- Require regularly scheduled female responsive, trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and developmentally appropriate best practice training for programs/agencies that receive State funding and are tasked with working directly with serious, violent, and chronic juvenile female offenders. Training should be research-based, progressive, ongoing, result in an implementation plan, and be supported with additional funding.