

# Overview of RAND Evaluation of JJCPA Funded Programs in Los Angeles County

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# RAND Scope of Work

- Evaluate JJCPA-funded programs in Los Angeles County
  - Program concept
  - Administration
  - Implementation
  - Linkage
  - Case management
  - Outcomes
- Period of performance is one year, with four additional option years

# Example Process Evaluation Questions

- What is the theory of change for the program?
- What resources were needed to implement the program?
- What types and volume of services did participants receive?
- Were services provided with fidelity?
- Were participants satisfied?
- What were the implementation challenges and facilitators?

# Outcome Evaluation Questions

- Did the programs achieve the expected outcomes
  - In the short-term (e.g., immediately to 6 months after the program)?
  - In the intermediate (e.g., in the 6 months to 1 year after the program)?
  - In the long-term (e.g., a year or more after participating)?

# Anticipated Data Sources

- Process evaluation
  - Utilization data provided by programs
  - Fidelity assessment (focused on program model and/or best practices)
  - Interviews/focus groups with staff
  - Interviews/focus groups with youth (and families)

# Anticipated Data Sources

- Outcome evaluation
  - Programmatic and administrative data
    - E.g., justice-system involvement, school measures, behavioral health measures, employment outcomes

# Selection of Programs to Evaluate

- Factors shaping order of evaluation include:
  - Readiness for evaluation
    - Includes availability of data
  - Priorities of stakeholder groups (e.g., JJCC)
- Interest has been expressed in beginning with the following:
  - School-Based Probation Supervision
  - Abolish Chronic Truancy
  - CARE Program
  - Special Needs Court

# Selection of Programs to Evaluate

- We plan to assess readiness for evaluation across programs
  - Programs that are more ready for evaluation could be prioritized for evaluation
  - Technical assistance can be provided to other programs to improve their readiness for evaluation
    - Conduct a thorough review of program materials to outline theory of change
    - Provide input on data collection procedures and outcomes measurement
- Stakeholder priorities will continue to be considered



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