# A Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities Annual Report

# **UAB Psychiatry**

Justice Programs



# Fiscal Year 2017

**Community Corrections** 

**Drug Court** 

**Electronic Monitoring** 

Veterans Court

Mental Health Court

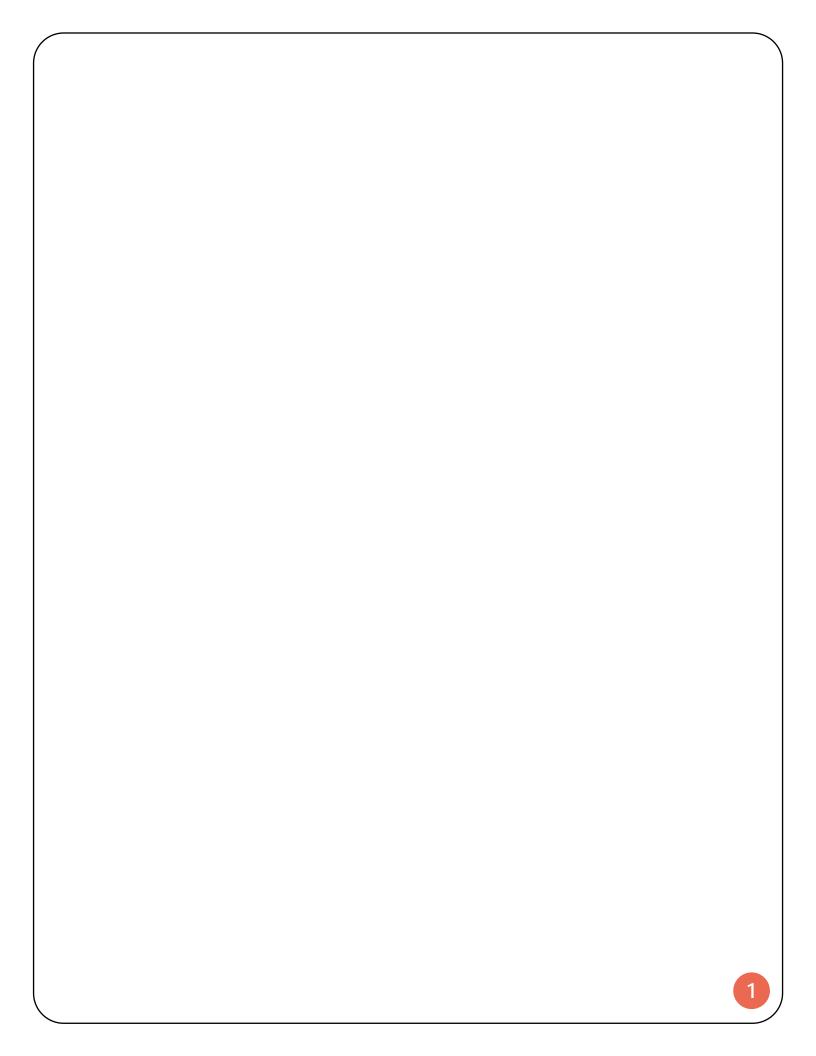
Family Drug Court

Theft Court

**Court Referral** 

Pre-trial

Adolescent Programs



#### **PURPOSE**

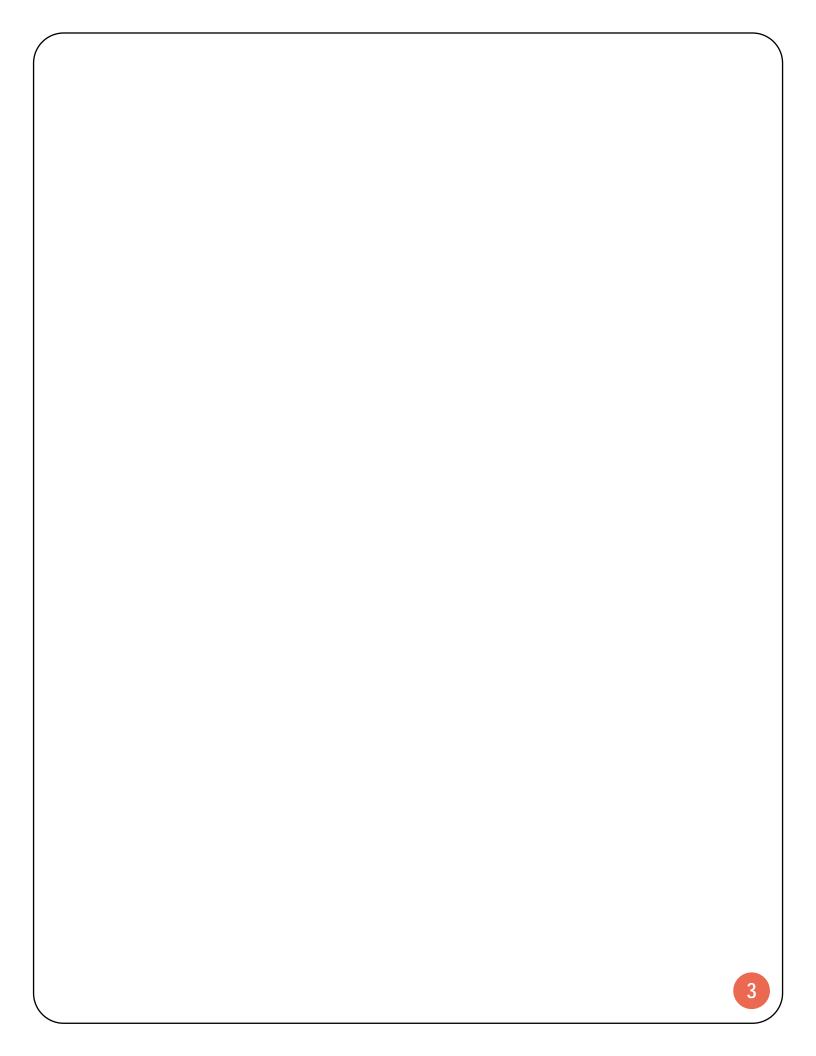
The University of Alabama at Birmingham's Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC) is the designated Community Corrections Program for Jefferson County, by resolution adopted by the Jefferson County Commission, September 6, 1994. It is the mission of UAB Psychiatry – Justice Programs to bring innovation and services to the criminal justice system through the TASC model. With a focus on applied research and evidence-based practices this program advocates for public policies that recognize community-based alternatives to incarceration including but not limited to substance abuse and mental health treatment. Through TASC, community resources and evidence-based specialty court models are made available to offenders who may otherwise burden the system with persistent criminal behavior and occupy space in overcrowded jails and prisons.

#### Our Mission:

Working to improve the criminal justice system through innovation, research, and service.

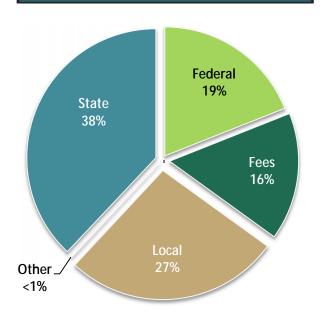
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## **SPONSORS AND PARTNERS**





#### **Sponsors**

Alabama Administrative Office of Courts

**Alabama Department of Corrections** 

Alabama Department of Human Resources

Alabama Department of Youth Services

**Bureau of Justice Assistance** 

**Jefferson County Commission** 

**Jefferson County Sherrif's Department** 

Jefferson County Department of Human Resources

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# **Partnerships**



Alabama
Department of
Corrections

Alabama Pardons and Parole Beacon Addiction Treatment Center

District, Circuit, and Family Court Judges Alabama Vocational Rehabilitation

Jefferson County Public Defender's Office

Jefferson County Family Court Fellowship House

Oasis Counseling

Aletheia House Department of Youth Services

Jefferson County District Attorney's Office - Bham

Jefferson County District Attorney's Office - Bess

UAB Community Psychiatry University of Alabama Northwest Alabama Treatment Center Alabama Department of Mental Health

Olivia's House/Pearson Hall

Impact Family Counseling Jefferson County Commission US Department of Veterans Affairs Jefferson County Department of Health Cooper Green Mercy Health Services

Jefferson County Sheriff's Department JBS Mental Health Authority National Alliance for the Mentally III Greater Birmingham Ministry

City of Birmingham

Addiction Recovery Program at UAB

Jefferson County Department of Human Resources

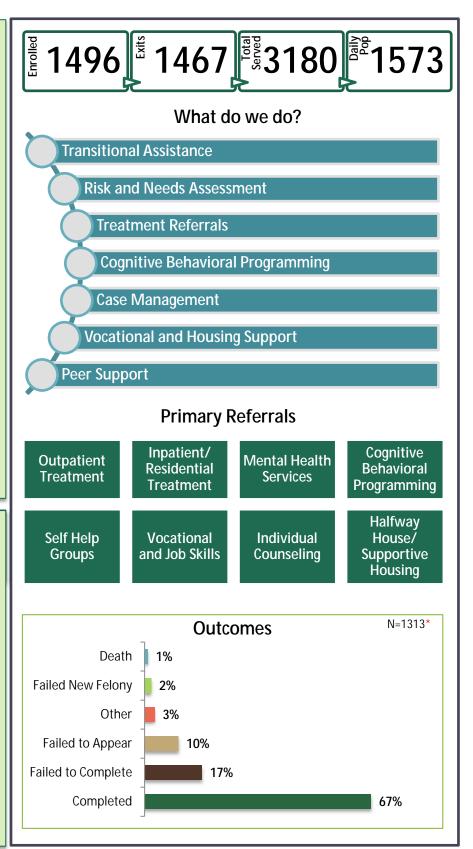
## **SECTION 1: ADULT PROGRAMS - OVERVIEW**

The UAB Psychiatry Justice Programs promotes
recovery and positive
change among its
participants in a continuing
effort to ensure a safer and
healthier Jefferson County.

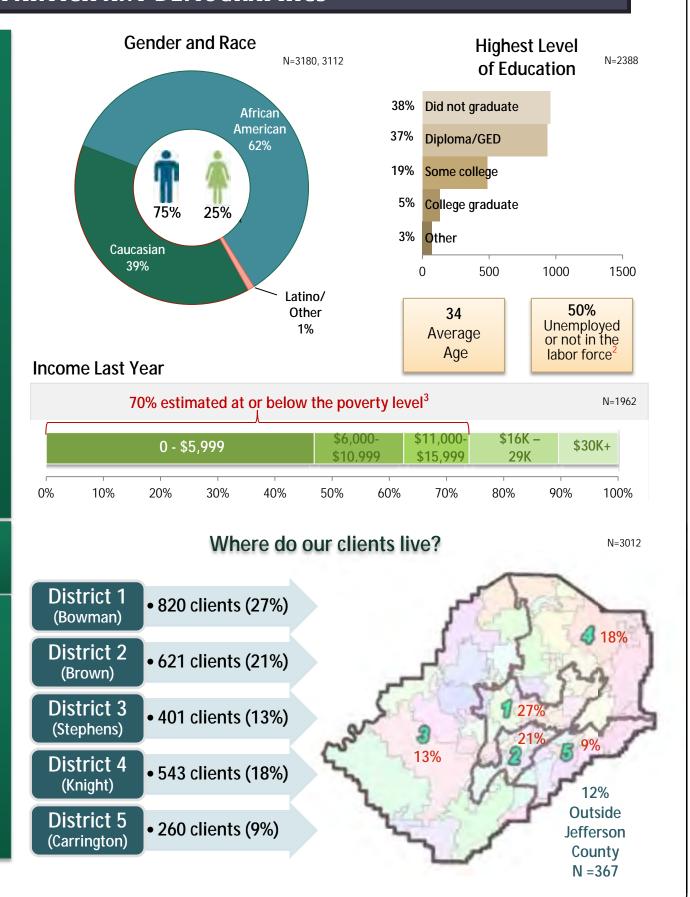
## **Justice Programs**

- Community Corrections
- Drug Court
- Adult Electronic Monitoring\*
- Family Wellness Court
- Mental Health Court
- Veterans Court
- Theft Court
- Misdemeanor Drug Court
- DUI Deferred
- Court Referral Office\*\*
- Recovery Support Services\*\*

**UAB** currently provides case management, supervision, random urinalysis, and referrals to drug treatment services as indicated by best practices. Through its linkage system it serves as a broker to an enhanced continuum of treatment and other services to individuals involved in with the County Jails and District, Circuit, and Family Courts in Bessemer and Birmingham.

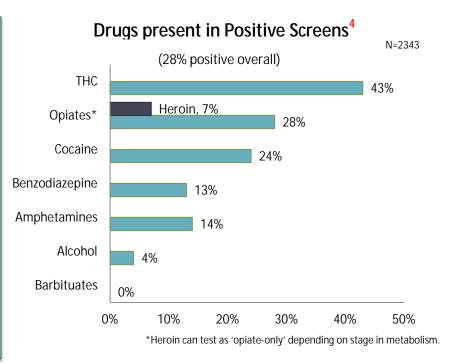


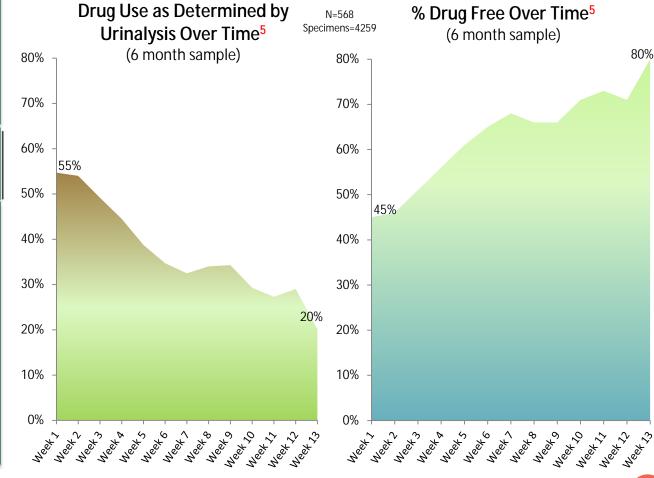
# PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



# **DRUG TEST OVERVIEW**







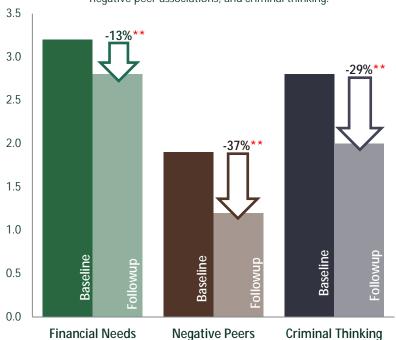
# ASSESSMENTS WITH FOLLOWUP

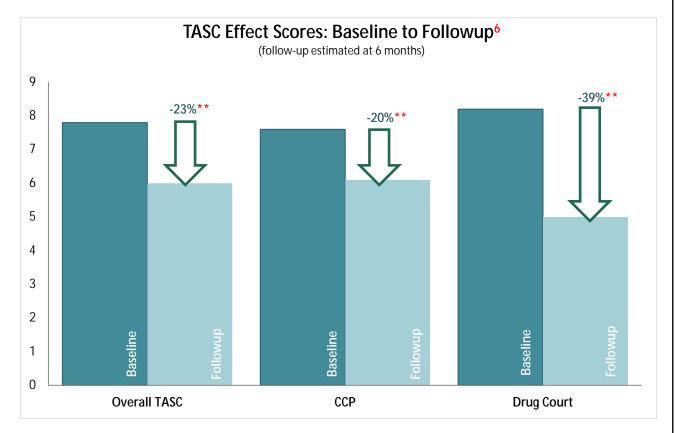
## ORAS and TASC Effect Scores

The Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS), an evidencebased tool with consistent meaning. It is used to assess risk of re-offense, gather information regarding potential barriers to treatment, and aid in informed decision-making. By isolating the three domains of peer associations, criminal thinking, and financial crisis a measurable impact can be observed from intake to re-assessment. We call this shift the TASC Effect.

#### TASC Effect Scores<sup>6</sup>

TASC clients demonstrate significant reductions in financial crisis, negative peer associations, and criminal thinking.

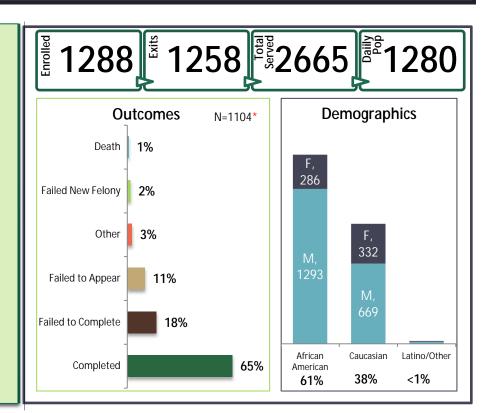




# BIRMINGHAM DIVISION OVERVIEW

# Birmingham Programs

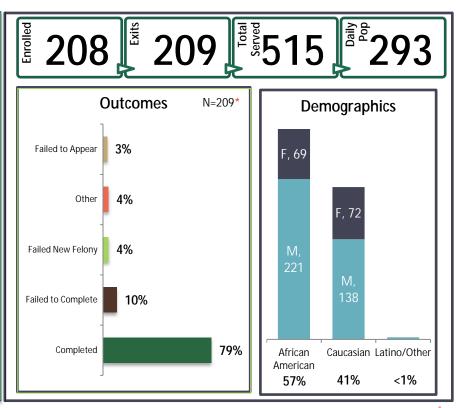
- Community Corrections
- Drug Court
- Family Drug Court
- Mental Health Court
- Veterans Court
- Adult Electronic Monitoring\*
- Misdemeanor Drug Court
- DUI Deferred
- Court Referral
   Office\*\*
- Recovery Support Services\*\*



#### **BESSEMER DIVISION OVERVIEW**

# Bessemer Programs

- Community
   Corrections
- Drug Court
- Adult Electronic Monitoring
- Mental Health Court
- Theft Court
- Family Drug Court
- Court Referral Office\*\*
- Recovery Support Services\*\*



# **SECTION 2: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAM (CCP)**

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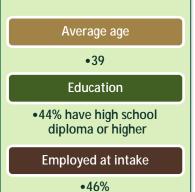
#### **Population of Focus**

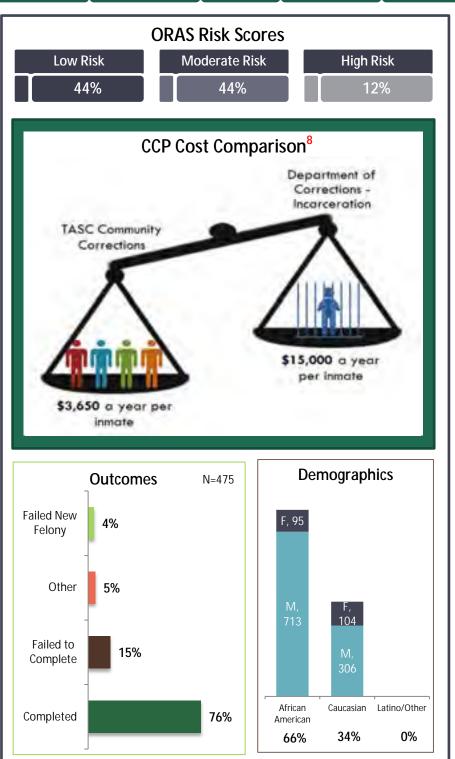
Nonviolent, prison-bound offenders under the provisions of the Community Corrections Act\*

# **Highlights**

CCP provides enhanced

supervision services expanding the options available for sentencing defendants while maintaining their residence in the community. This enables participants to make restitution to victims or repay the community through volunteer service and reserves limited prison space for violent offenders by allowing non-violent offenders to remain in the community.

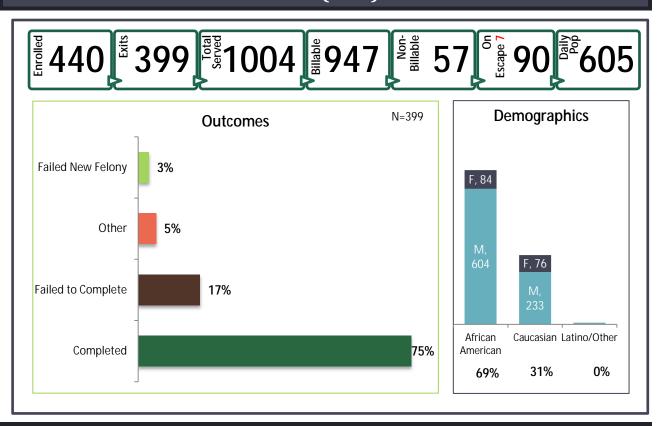




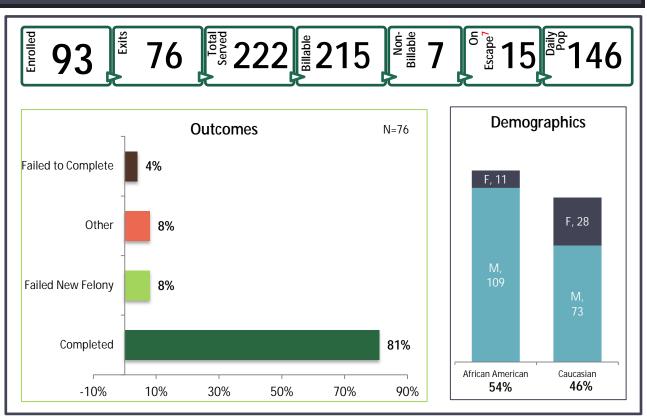
\*On occasion a small percentage of clients participate simultaneously in CCP and a secondary specialty court.

These Dual Status Clients are tabulated within each program for consistency of representation.9

# **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS (CCP)- BIRMINGHAM**



# **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS (CCP)- BESSEMER**



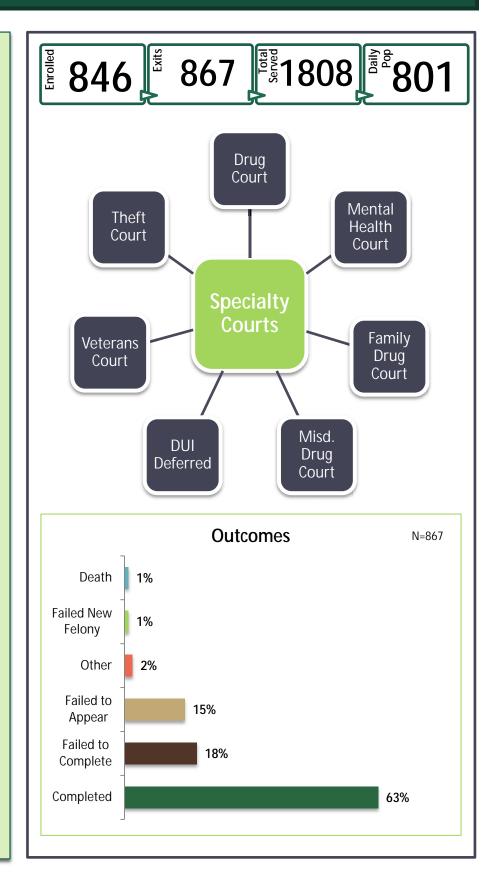
## **SECTION 3: SPECIALTY COURTS**

# Highlights

Although specialty courts vary by their population of focus, they are most often based on 10 Key Components including but not limited to –

- Ongoing judicial interaction
- Frequent alcohol and other drug testing
- Early identification and timely program placement
- Access to continuum of treatment and rehabilitation services
- Coordinated responses to participant compliance

Specialty court success relies on close collaboration with the courts, public agencies and community-based organizations. The model is traditionally implemented by a nonadversarial and multidisciplinary team including judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment professionals and case managers. Specialty courts have been shown to be a cost-efficient strategy to significantly reduce substance use and criminal involvement.



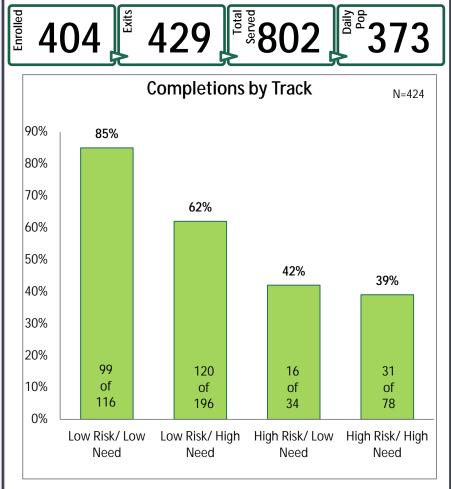
Judge: Shanta Owens

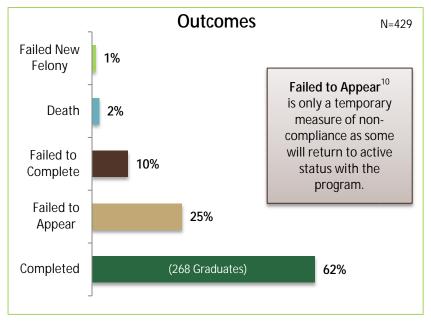
#### **Population of Focus**

Participants with qualifying drug offenses willing to work toward recovery are divided into a 4-track system determined by risk of re-offense and









#### **Population of Focus**

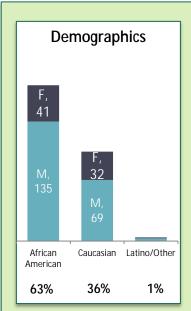
Individuals who are seriously mentally ill and involved in the criminal justice system

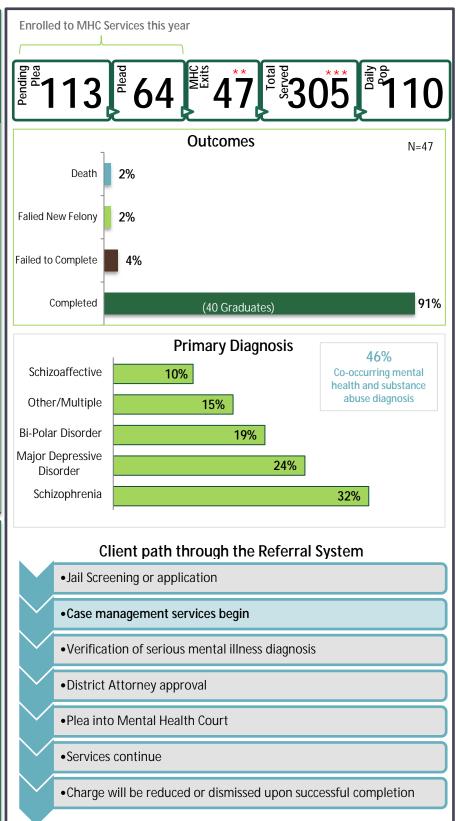
# Highlights

Implemented March 2015, MHC assists offenders in achieving long-term stability using an integrated continuum of care, and the development and utilization of community resources.

#### Services include

Case management, risk and needs assessments, mental health referrals, substance abuse assessment, medication assistance, aid with short and long term housing, disability enrollment, transportation assistance, and peer support.\*





- \*Totals include some dual status clients MHC/CCP clients. (n=18)9
- \*\*Exits do not include ineligibles, neutrals, etc. This field includes only those clients that were fully enrolled in the MHC system11
- \*\*\*5 additional clients received wrap-around services from the mental health team through federal grant funding (COD only)<sup>12</sup>

# **DRUG COURT - BESSEMER**

Judge: Eric Fancher

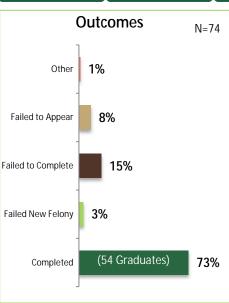
#### **Population of Focus**

Participants with qualifying drug offenses willing to work toward recovery

# **Highlights**

The Bessemer Drug Court combines judicial oversight with case management treatment referrals for substance use disorders to serve the criminal justice system within the Bessemer Division of Jefferson County.







#### **MENTAL HEALTH COURT - BESSEMER**

Judge: David Hobdy

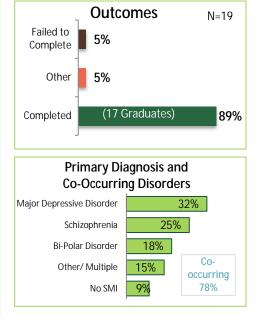
### **Population of Focus**

Individuals who are seriously mentally ill and involved in the criminal justice system

## **Highlights**

The Bessemer Mental
Health Court collaborates
with the Beacon
Addiction Treatment
Center to provide
successful co-occurring
mental health and
substance use outpatient
treatment specific to
MHC\*\* participants.





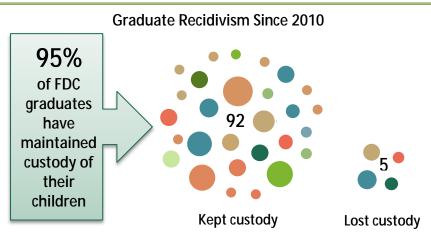


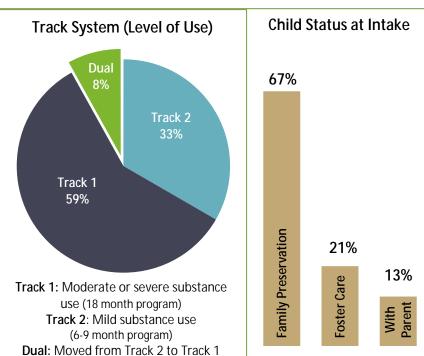
<sup>\*</sup>Exits do not include ineligibles, neutrals, etc. This field includes only those clients that were fully enrolled in the MHC system. 11

<sup>\*\*</sup>Totals include some dual status clients MHC/CCP clients. (n=12) 9

# FAMILY WELLNESS COURT (FWC)

The series of th





#### **Population of Focus**

Drug involved parents who have lost or are at risk for losing children to the custody of the Department of Human Resources (DHR)

# Highlights

Initiated in February 2010, the Jefferson County Family Wellness Court (FWC) is a partnership between the Jefferson County Family Court, DHR, and UAB Psychiatry - Justice Programs. FDC participants typically have both a DHR caseworker and a TASC case manager assigned to their case. The case worker and case manager meet biweekly to thoroughly staff cases and troubleshoot potential barriers. FDC staff, including a peer recovery support specialist, facilitates weekly participant support groups to support and educate parents during their period of participation. The mission of the FDC is to create change, rebuild families, and strengthen communities through recovery.

Average age	•31
Gender	•88% female
Single parents	•72%
Employed at intake	•27%
Avg. Children per family	•2

Positive Change Over Time (Between Intake and 6 Month Follow-up)			
40%	136%	15%	
Increase in Employment/ Education	Increase in abstinence from drugs or alcohol	Increase in social connectedness	

# THEFT COURT - BESSEMER

Judge: David Carpenter

#### **Population of Focus**

Drug-involved, nonviolent offenders with theft-related crimes

## Highlights

Offers access to employment services, evidence based intervention strategies, and a variety of treatment options. An important component in the rehabilitation process, participants are required to pay back the restitution that was accrued in the criminal case.







## **VETERANS COURT - BIRMINGHAM**

Judge: Laura Petro

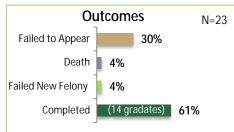
## **Population of Focus**

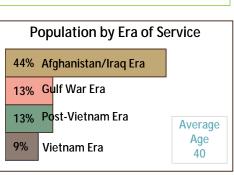
Veterans arrested for nonviolent misdemeanor and felony charges

# **Highlights**

Veterans Court utilizes mentors who are themselves veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and volunteer their time to work with participants. The District Attorney's Office has assigned two Assistant DAs to work with Veterans Court.









## MISDEMEANOR DRUG COURT

Judge: Shanta Owens

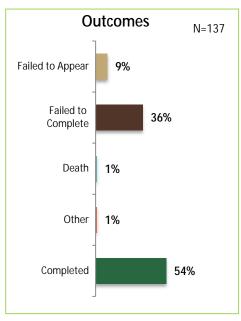
#### **Population of Focus**

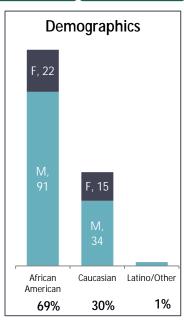
Defendants arrested for misdemeanor marijuana or misdemeanor prescription possession

# Highlights

The Misdemeanor Drug
Court is a separate
program which runs
parallel to the Drug
Court. The docket is
designed specifically for
defendants arrested for
misdemeanor drug
cases that do not
require the resources of
a traditional drug court
program.







### **DUI DEFERRED**

Judges: William Bell and David Lichtenstein

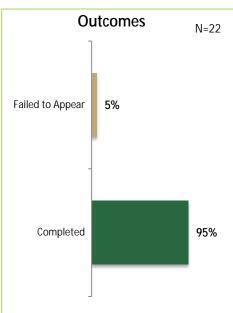
### **Population of Focus**

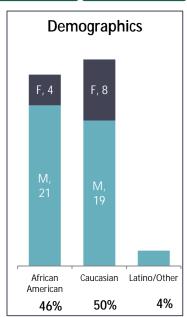
Defendants arrested for their first DUI offense and that meet other program criteria

# **Highlights**

DUI Deferred is a deferred prosecution program with a minimum term for completion of 6 months, but can be up to a year if deemed necessary by the Court. Once all obligations of the program have been met, their guilty plea will be set aside and the case dismissed upon payment of court costs.







# PRETRIAL PROGRAM (PILOT)

#### **Population of Focus**

Jail entrants to the Jefferson County Correctional System

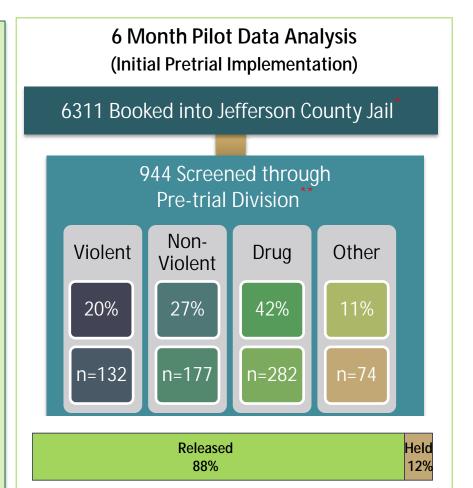
# **Highlights**

Pretrial Services for the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit use risk to not appear, charge type, and prior convictions as the primary basis for release decisions, not ability to pay monetary bonds. To this end, Pretrial staff members assess all new jail entrants for risk to not appear, risk to public safety/risk to reoffend, mental health needs, substance abuse treatment needs, and the need for appointed legal counsel.

Reports are developed by court advocates and presented to judges at 48 hours hearings for individuals who are not immediately released on low level supervision. Judges will determine supervision level, and pretrial staff will ensure that the supervision is carried out as set forth in a judicially pre-determined condition matrix.

0%

20%



## Scope of Work

40%

 Assess jail entrants on risk to not appear using the VPRAI assessment, mental health and substance abuse treatment needs, and screen for the need for appointed legal counsel.

60%

80%

100%

- Determine which individuals can be released on low-level supervision and which need to be assessed by a judge at a 48hour hearing
- Develop a report for each individual who will be presented at 48 hour hearings
- Supervise each individual as set forth by the decision matrix up to the second appearance date

<sup>\*</sup>Pretrial Numbers involve a 6 month sample of the pilot phase. These numbers are not reflected in TASC totals and do not represent repeat bookings \*\*Charge data was available on 665 of those screened.

# **SECTION 4 - OTHER ADULT PROGRAMS**

# **RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES (RSS)**

#### **Population of Focus**

TASC participants in need of services and assistance with transitioning from prison back into society

Participants are also eligible for services even if they have not been previously incarcerated

# **Highlights**

Approach utilizes peer mentor assistance with cognitive skills groups and vocational rehabilitation.

#### 42

Homeless placed and monitored in housing

#### 2892

Community service hours completed

#### 1 of 2

Clients attending employment readiness found a job

#### 71

Clients recieved peer mentoring

#### 34

 Active in New CBI **EMP** Curriculum

#### Services Offered

Cognitive skills groups and CBI-EMP (employment curriculum) -peer conducted-

**Employment readiness** 

National Institute of Corrections "Thinking for a Change" Groups -peer facilitated-

Coordination of services to obtain work clothes, tools and transportation, etc.

Computer Lab: assistance with typing, completing applications, and learning Word, etc.

Assistance applying for disability

Assistance resolving legal issues and access to counsel

Referral to services for clients to obtain ID cards, medical treatment. food, necessities, etc.

# COURT REFERRAL OFFICE (CRO)

#### **Population of Focus**

Individuals convicted of driving while under the influence (DUI) and/or any drug or alcohol related charge

# **Highlights**

Initiated in 1985, CRO assists judges in early identification and placement of DUI offenders. Since the Mandatory Treatment Act of 1990, CRO has provided services to defendants in a broader spectrum of cases related to alcohol and drug use/abuse.

#### 1020

Total evaluations

Level 1

Non Substance

Abuse Problem

•179 clients

•12 hours of

Substance

Education

Monitoring

and drug

testing

Abuse

Level 2 **Presumptive Substance Abuse Problem** 

- •602 clients
- •24 hours of Substance Abuse Education
- Monitoring and drug testing
- Self help groups required

#### 4467

Monitoring sessions

#### Level 3

Intensive outpatient or more if needed

- 236 clients
- Monitoring and drug testing
- Self help meetings
- Referred for treatment assessment
- Level 3/1 additionally required to attend Level 1 Classes

#### 20

# ADULT ELECTRONIC MONITORING (EM)

#### **Population of Focus**

#### **Bond**

Individuals ordered for supervision as a condition of bond

#### **CCP/Drug Court**

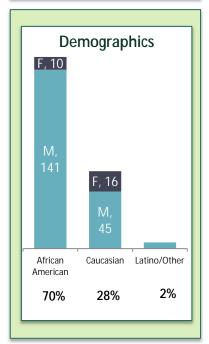
Participants in the community corrections program or drug court

# Highlights

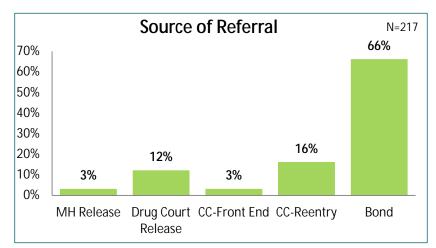
Estimated cost savings\* to Jefferson County Jail:

\$666,663.00

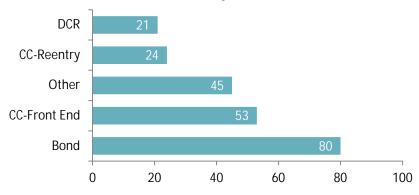
1 in 4 released on bond maintained employment or education in the community while on EM, which would not have been possible while incarcerated.

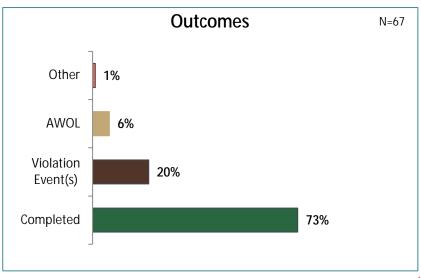






## Median Days on EM





# ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM (ASAP)

#### **Population of Focus**

Juveniles placed under the supervision of the Court for drug testing, substance abuse treatment, and/or detouring placements at the Department of Youth

Services

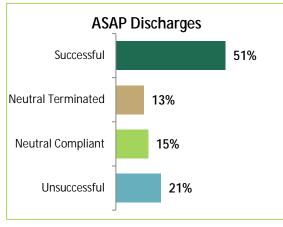
# **Highlights**

ASAP has expanded to offer enhanced prevention services and life-skills education through collaboration with Real Life Poets and the Addiction Prevention Coalition. While a minimum of three months is generally required for completion in ASAP, program length can last up to twelve months if a youth is participating in drug treatment and/or Juvenile Drug Court.

# Adolescent Mentoring Program

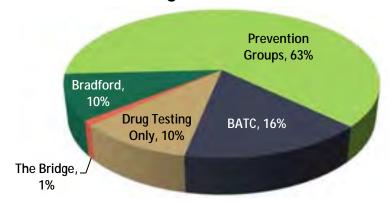
In an ongoing partnership with IMPACT Family Counseling, mentors are matched with court involved youth to offer support, guidance and encouragement. AMP continues this partnership in an effort to offer monthly activities and mentoring support for the mentees.





Adolescents
participated in
enhanced
prevention
groups offering
life-skills
education

# **Program Referrals**

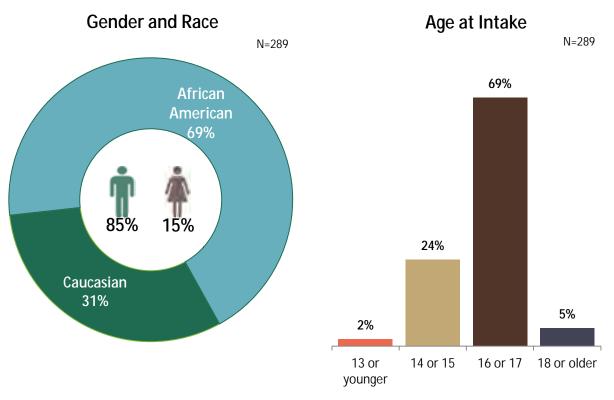


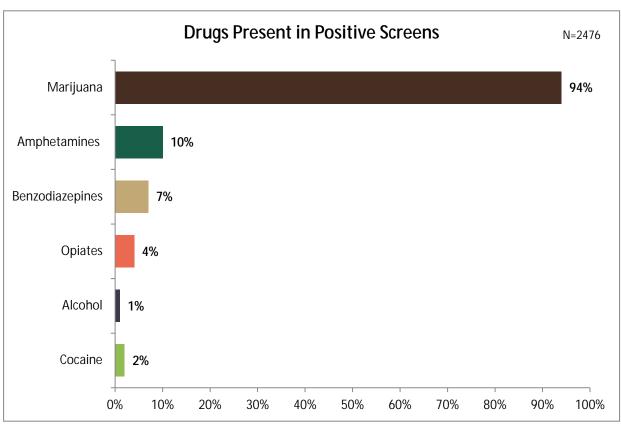
### **Adolescent Mentoring Program Overview**



Targeted duration of Mentor/Mentee efforts: 6 Months to 1 Year

# **ASAP PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS**





# ADOLESCENT ELECTRONIC MONITORING (EM)

#### **Population of Focus**

#### **Detention Level**

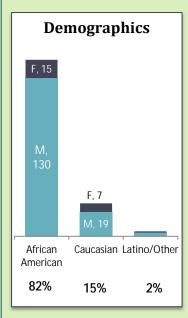
Juveniles court ordered to EM supervision in lieu of detention in a secure facility

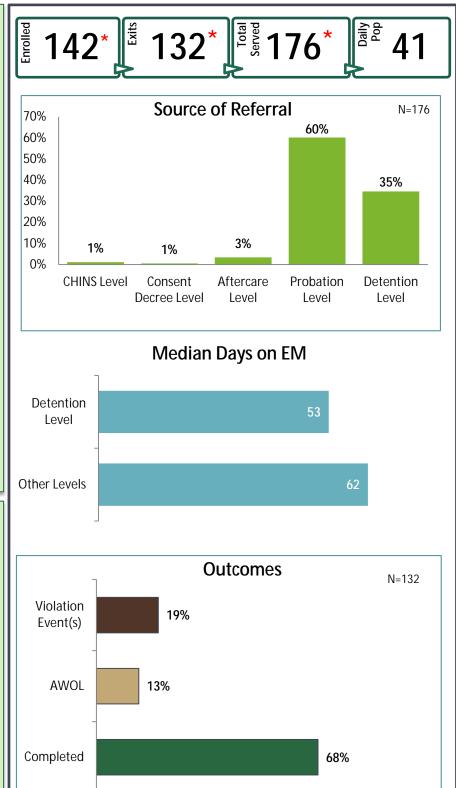
# Probation and Other Levels

Participants not pending a current charge or placement but currently under supervision. EM at this level is used as an enhancement to supervision and/or intermediate sanction.

# **Highlights**

Estimated cost savings to the G. Ross Bell Youth Detention Facility\*\* \$547,420.00





<sup>\*</sup>Represents some repeat clients

<sup>\*\*</sup>Cost savings based on an estimated detention facility rate of \$135.87/day as reported by the G. Ross Bell Youth Detention Facility. 14

## **NOTES AND METHODS**

- Electronic Monitoring (EM): EM clients are included in the overall "Enrolled", "Exit", "Served", and "Daily" active data as those are an accurate reflection of client traffic and population. However, as EM outcome scenarios differ (AWOL, Violation, and Termination) they are included in their own chart on page 21.
- 2. **Unemployment:** 50% of the sample were unemployed or not in the labor force at the time of assessment.
- 3. **Poverty Status**: Determined by Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) in comparison to reported yearly income. Those qualifying for poverty status: single individuals with income below \$11,000; those reporting below \$16,000 with 1 or more children; those reporting below \$21,000 with 2 or more children. Agency data measures vary slightly from established FPG household thresholds. (1=\$11,770; 2=15,930; 3=20,090, etc.) This is likely a conservative estimate as additional factors contributing to poverty status were unavailable. *Source:* https://aspe.hhs.gov/2015-poverty-quidelines#threshholds
- 4. **Positive Screens**: A general sample (n=2343) of urines (tests=29465) collected during the fiscal year. The 10-panel analysis detects the presence of THC, Opiates, Heroin, Cocaine, Methadone, Benzodiazepine, Amphetamines, Alcohol and Barbiturates. Methadone was excluded from the sample as it can be a component of medication-assisted therapy. Sample does not include Electronic Monitoring, Court Reporting Office, or DUI deferred clients.
- 5. **Drug Screens Over Time**: A 6 month sample (n=568) of new intake urinalysis results (tests=4259) including clients across TASC adult programs with an intake date between October 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017, where urinalysis started within the first 3 weeks of referral. Results were tracked for 3 months and positives were measured by the standard 10-panel screen excluding Methadone as it can be a component of medication-assisted therapy.
- 6. TASC Effect Score: Most UAB Psychiatry Justice Programs clients are assessed at intake (baseline) using the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) instrument. Additionally, follow-up assessments are pursued beginning at the 6 month point if client involvement continues. The TASC Effect consists of the domains where TASC has the potential of measurable impact, specifically: Domain 2 Education, Employment, and Financial Situation; Domain 6 Peer Associations; and Domain 7 Criminal Attitudes. T-tests indicate statistical significance at p < .001.</p>
- 7. **Escape Status:** The number of clients classified as "on escape" as some point during the 2017 fiscal year that has not returned by September 30, 2017. Escape is only a temporary measure of non-compliance as some will return to active status with the program, and is not included as an outcome status.
- 8. **Community Corrections Cost Comparison**: Graphic illustrating the cost savings of community corrections as compared to incarceration with the Alabama Department of Corrections. *Rates source:*<a href="http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham/news/2016/02/05/inmate-inc-the-costs-of-corrections-in-alabama.html">http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham/news/2016/02/05/inmate-inc-the-costs-of-corrections-in-alabama.html</a>
- 9. **Dual Status Clients**: On occasion, clients participate in both the Community Corrections Program and a secondary Specialty Court such as Mental Health Court. (Birmingham: n=18; Bessemer: n=12)
- 10. Failed to Appear (FTA): The number of clients that failed to appear as some point during the 2017 fiscal year and have not returned by September 30, 2017. FTA is only a temporary measure of non-compliance as some will return to active status with the program, but is included as an outcome status in the interim. FTAs returning to compliance are re-activated.
- 11. **Mental Health Court (MHC):** Potential Mental Health Court enrollees receive extensive case management throughout the referral process and are included in a special category called "Pending plea" as well as "Served" and "Daily." However, as actual MHC classification does not begin until a plea has been entered, only those with a plea are counted within the "Exits" and outcome groups.
- 12. **Co-occurring Disorders (COD)**: Some clients although co-occurring were not considered part of the MHC system but received wrap-around services from the mental health team through federal grant funding. These clients were counted in "Served" populations only.
- 13. **Electronic Monitoring Savings Adult:** Based on an estimated daily incarceration rate of \$32.92/day as reported by the Jefferson County Jail compared with the \$10.00/day rate for EM Bond clients during the 2017 fiscal year.
- 14. **Electronic Monitoring Savings Juvenile**: Based on an estimated detention facility rate of \$135.87/day as reported by the G. Ross Bell Youth Detention Facility multiplied by the active number of Detention Level Client days during the year.

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