

- San Francisco community-based nonprofits supporting justice-impacted youth, TAYA and families
- 20 local community-based agencies
- Founded to embrace, respect, guide and support youth to be successful in their lives
- We serve as a collective voice for service providers, advocating for systems change
- We promote a strength-based, culturally relevant system that promotes individual and community empowerment

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**Juvenile Justice Providers Association (JJPA)**

## Primary Goals

1. Divert youth from contact with law enforcement authorities whenever possible
2. Foster the use of the least restrictive option
3. Commit to community-based care for youth who must be detained

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## Background for Why to Pursue True Diversion

Youth who have been incarcerated face worse adult general health, limited adult cognitive function, and disproportionate rates of morbidity and mortality.



In 1997, compared to white youth:

- African Americans 4x more likely to be incarcerated
- Latinos were just as likely

In 2015, compared to white youth:

- African Americans 9x more likely to be incarcerated
- Latinos were 2x more likely

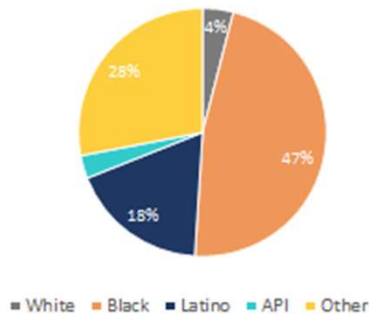
While the total population of youth has declined, young people of color face ***increasingly disproportionate*** rates of arrests, detention, incarceration, and are less likely to be diverted to community-based programs.

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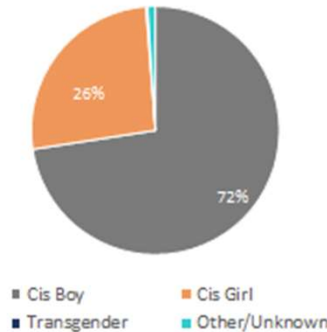
BI's "Expanding CARC" presentation on May 12, 2021 (to CJHWG)

## 451 Youth Arrests (2020): Key Demographics

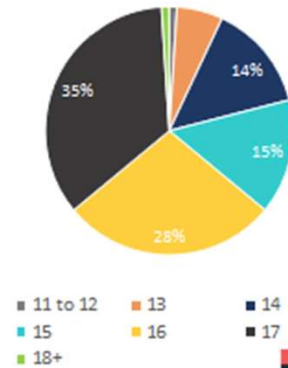
**Race/Ethnicity**



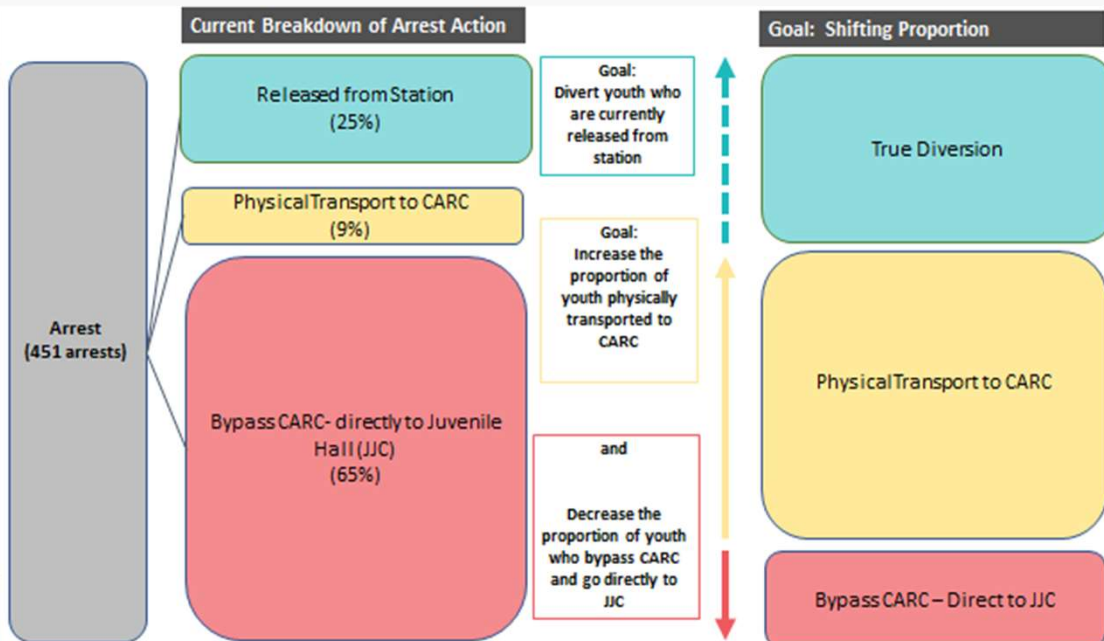
**Gender Identity**

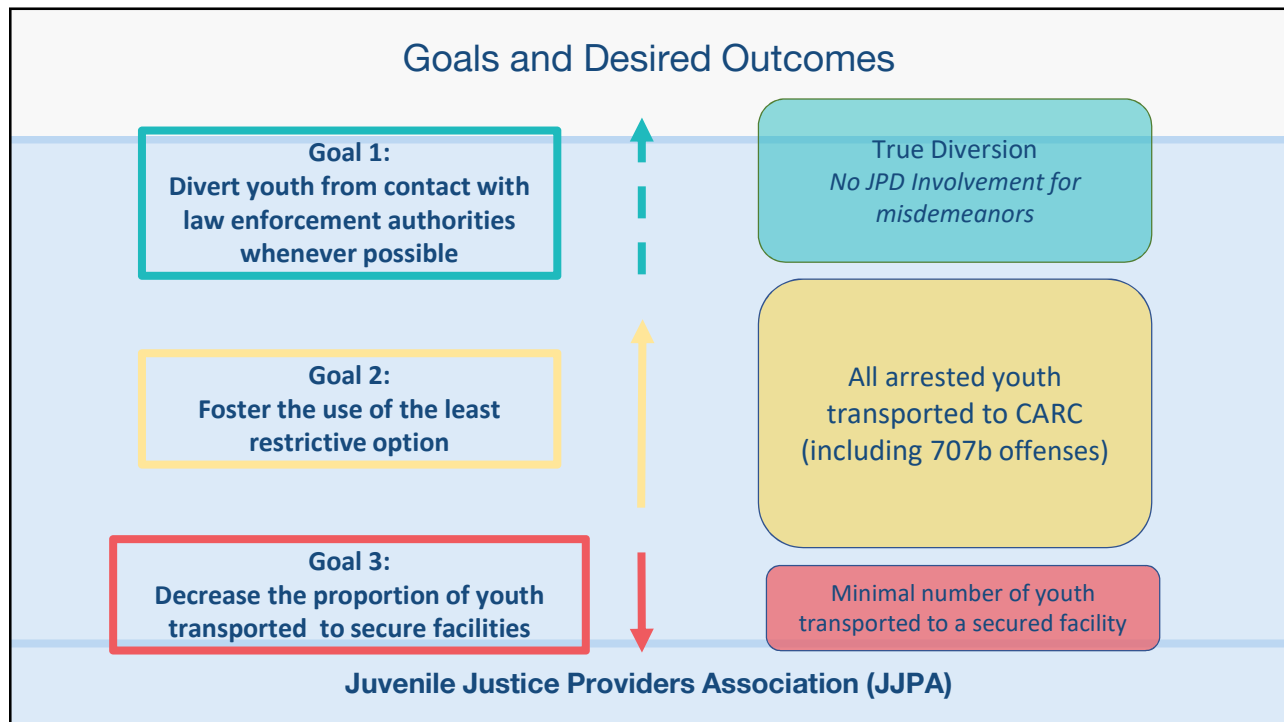


**Age at Referral**



BI's "Expanding CARC" presentation on May 12, 2021 (to CJHWG)





### Goal 1: Divert youth from law enforcement

Goal:

- Divert youth from contact with law enforcement authorities

Background:

- Police have tremendous discretion

Recommendation:

- Police do not arrest youth for minor offenses and misdemeanors
- Admonish and release with CBO follow up
  - Participate in diversion without JPD involvement

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## Goal 2: Foster the use of the least restrictive option via CARC

### Goal:

- Evolve CARC to go from the most to least restrictive option

### CARC Recommendations:

- 24/7 community based assessment and intake
  - Police contact CARC prior to assessment of charges, incident report, or J number assignment
  - Minimize arrest procedures: eliminate use of handcuffs in most cases
- All referred youth partnered with a Collaborative Care Committee

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## Least restrictive options continued with Collaborative Care Committee

### Collaborative Care Committee

- Includes their families, community members, teachers, partners, family friends, and/or representatives of CBOs they are already connected with
- Center young people's needs
- Wellbeing Advocate guides youth and family toward success
- The Collaborative Care Committee plan is in effect for 90 days

For youth not mandated to be in custody, following the Collaborative Care Committee meeting, assessment and plan development:

- **Release**, with referral to services in the community or
- Placement in a community-based **non-secure residential option**, pending detention hearing

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### Goal 3: Community-based care for youth who must be detained

For youth with mandated custody cases, CARC can assess, process, and seek an expedited detention hearing

- Utilize virtual hearings to expedite the process and minimize the use of detention

At the detention hearing, a care plan for services with the youth and family will be presented. The hearing can result in:

- **Release:** Released with a DDAP care plan
- **Release to home supervision or placement:**
  - Released to home supervision supervised by Young Community Developers and Mission Neighborhood Center
  - Provided with electronic monitoring, on a time defined basis, supervised by a community-based agency with a comprehensive plan
  - Released to placement with other family members or resource family homes
  - Provided placement in a therapeutic setting (short-term residential therapeutic program or intensive resource home)
- **Detain in custody:** Youth determined by a judge to necessitate being detained in custody could be detained in a secure community-based placement

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### Community-based care continued

#### Placement Recommendations

- Placement in the home of family members is prioritized
- Relatives or community members can serve as Resource Family Approval homes (RFAs)
- Undocumented youth face additional hurdles and specific barriers that are exacerbated in the juvenile justice process. Specific placements need to be developed for undocumented youth to eliminate or reduce time in a secure detention facility
- San Francisco should make sure all efforts are made to retain the existing Short-term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP's) for placement

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### Goal 3 Details: Characteristics of a community-based home-like setting for youth who must be detained

Create an alternative secure facility in the community as the replacement site for San Francisco's current juvenile hall at 375 Woodside Avenue.

This new place of detention must incorporate these elements of a homelike setting to minimize the trauma endured by detained youth:

- Non-correctional setting
- Therapeutic environment: positive images, warm colors
- Home-like rooms; non-institutional furniture
- Adequate equipment to support high quality education
- Adequate space for programs
- Adequate outside space for recreation



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### Maximizing current resources

| <b>Service</b>  | <b>Funding Source</b>   |
|---|---|
| Community-based intake center (CARC) open 7 days/week   | Reallocation of JPD budget  |
| Family income support for families to sustain youth placement in their home                           | Dream Keeper Initiative   |
| Housing and living support for JPD youth over 18 years old (AB12)                                     | Prop C Housing funds  |
| Flexible mental health support embedded in community-based agencies                                   | Reallocation of DPH's Special Programs for Youth and Aim Higher funds |
| Sustain boys group home with additional resources and develop new appropriate girls group living home | JPD state unallocated funds designated for placement                  |
| Resource foster family homes (both short-term and long-term)  | JPD state unallocated funds designated for placement                  |
| Stipends for vocational opportunities for youth   | Dream Keeper Initiative   |
| New home-like space of detention  | Reallocation from JPD budget  |

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## Summary

- We want a reduction in the footprint of juvenile probation in the life of our youth
- Policy changes can be implemented immediately that would reduce the number of youth who would ever need to be detained in a secure facility
- The commitment to close juvenile hall is a commitment to reducing the harm to justice involved youth
- Change the system to benefit youth and not the system

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