



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN
& THE COURTS

California Youth Courts



**YOUTH COURT REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE
PANEL PRESENTATION
MCCONNELL FOUNDATION
REDDING, CALIFORNIA**

Panel Discussion



- **Panel Facilitator**
 - Jo Ann Allen, Director
 - ✦ Santa Cruz County Teen Peer Court
- **Panelist**
 - Hon. Richard Couzens
 - ✦ Placer County Superior Court (retired)
 - Ms. Karen Green, Coordinator
 - ✦ Placer County Peer Court
 - Ms. Celeste Gutierrez, Program Coordinator
 - ✦ Santa Cruz County Teen Peer Court
 - Ms. Sacha Marini, Director
 - ✦ Humboldt County Teen Court
 - Captain Roger Moore
 - ✦ Shasta County Police Department
 - Ms. Jennifer Richards, Program Manager,
 - ✦ Shasta County Peer Court
 - Ms. Toni Stone, Executive Director
 - ✦ East Palo Alto Youth Court
 - Ms. Ann Stow, Probation Juvenile Division Director
 - ✦ Shasta County Probation Department
 - Ms. Brandy Thornton-McDaniel, School Attendance Review Board
 - ✦ Shasta County Office of Education

Core Principles



- **Youth Leadership (13 – 17 year olds)**
- **Alternative to Incarceration - Court diversion**
- **Typically First Offender Misdemeanor charges**
- **Positive peer influence**
- **Restorative justice principals**
- **Oath of confidentiality**
- **Youth delivered disposition**

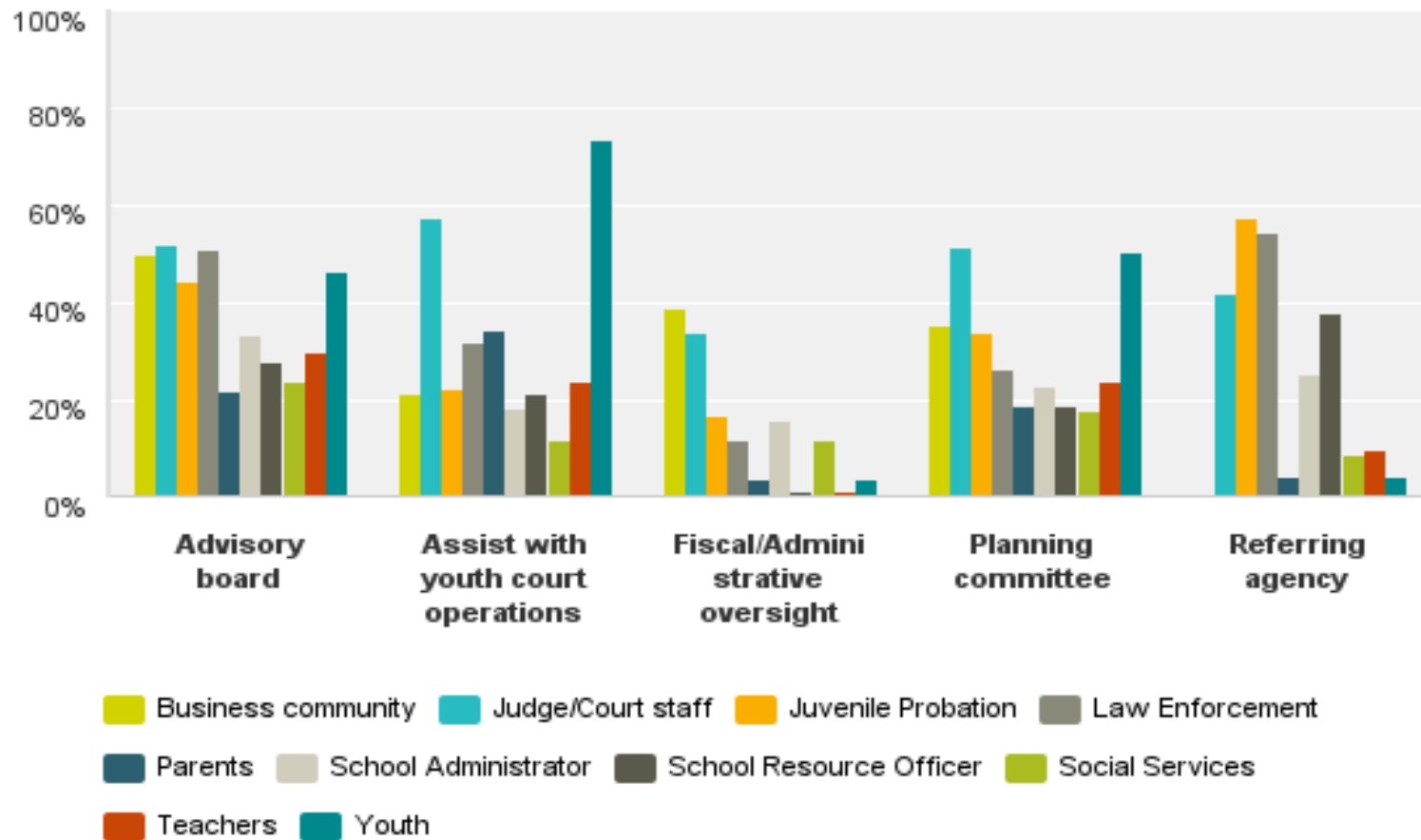
Panel Presentation



- How to get started
 - Who are the stakeholders?
 - ✦ Understanding your community/constituency
 - ✦ How important is it to have community partners and what role do they play in your courts operations?
 - ✦ What are your available resources?

Q10 Who is part of your youth court operations team and what role do they play?

Answered: 140 Skipped: 0



Youth Court Program Models



The four primary youth court program models are the Adult Judge, Youth Judge, Peer Jury, and Youth Tribunal Models

- According to the National Youth Court Database:
 - The Adult Judge Model is used by approximately 53% of youth courts.
 - The Youth Judge Model is used by approximately 18% of youth courts.
 - The Peer Jury Model is used by approximately 31% of youth courts.
 - The Youth Tribunal Model is used by approximately 10% of youth courts.

How to get Started



- Models of Youth Court
- What is the style of your court and how do you administer dispositions?
 - ✦ Guilt/Innocence
 - ✦ Disposition Only
 - ✦ Other

- Who will manage the case and timeframe?
 - ✦ What agency has authority
 - ✦ How long will the case be monitored for completion?

Youth Court Program Operations



Agencies operating and administering youth court programs include juvenile courts, juvenile probation departments, law enforcement, private nonprofit organizations, and schools.

- According to the National Youth Court Database:
 - Approximately 42% of youth court programs in operation are juvenile justice system-based programs.
 - Approximately 22% of youth court programs are community-based and are incorporated as, or operated by, private nonprofit organizations.
 - Approximately 36% of youth court programs are school-based.

Who will Staff the Youth Court?



- Recruitment of youth and adult volunteers
 - How is this accomplished?
 - Who are your partners?
- Point Person for the youth court
 - Who manages the court and provides oversight of the process?
- Share examples from each of your courts

Logistics



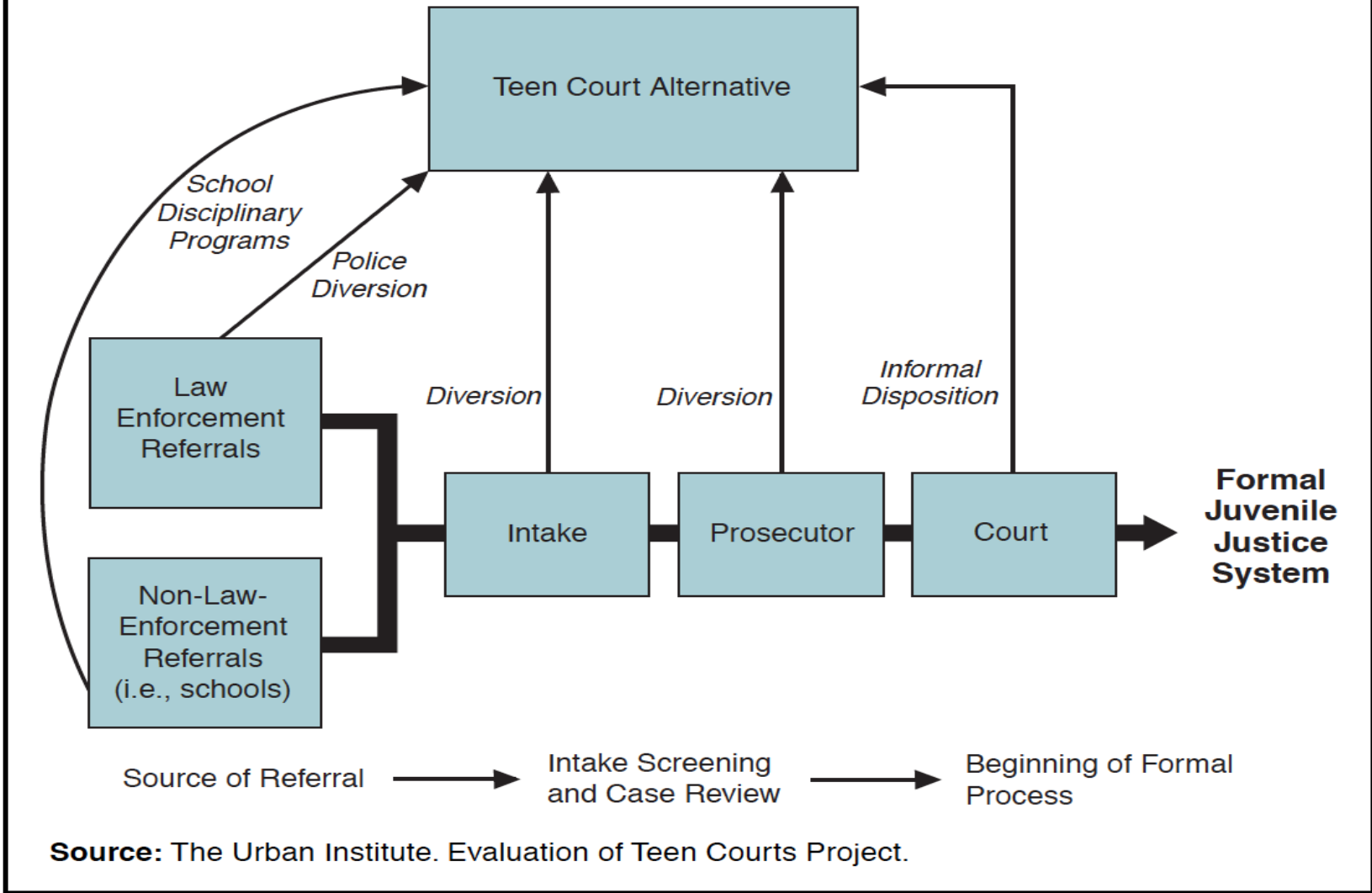
- Where will you hold your court?
 - School Site
 - Court House
 - Other
- What are the security needs of the facility?
- Who has jurisdiction and oversight for facility approval?
 - Board of Supervisors
 - County Office of Education
 - School District
 - Other

Referrals



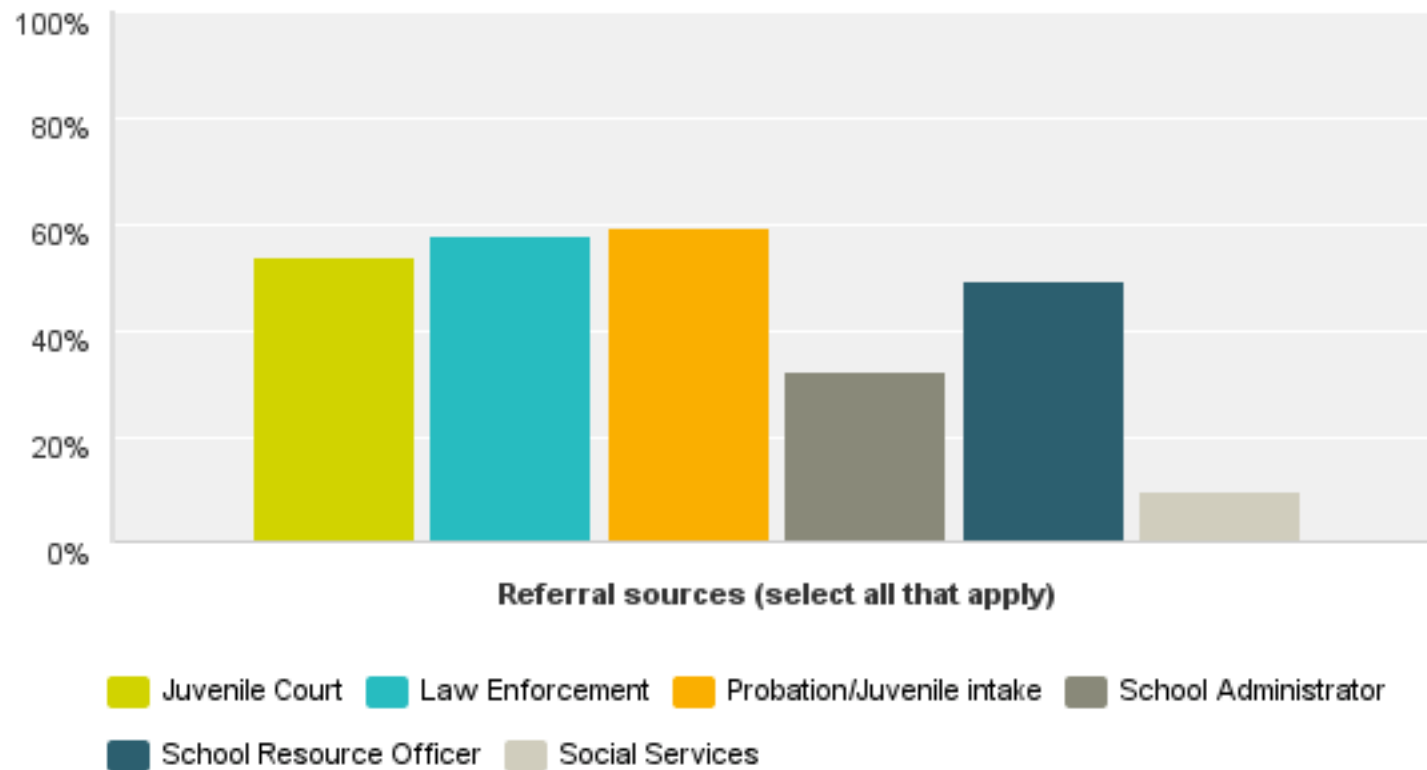
- Where will your referrals originate from?
 - Schools
 - Probation
 - Court diversion
 - Police Department
- What types of cases will you hear in Youth Court?
 - First Offender? Second? Misdemeanor
 - Wobbler felonies
 - CWI 601 - Status Offenses or juvenile offenses (CWI 602)
 - What about Truancy Cases

Figure 1: Points at Which Juvenile Offenders Can Be Diverted to Teen Court



Q4 How are youth referred to your court?

Answered: 71 Skipped: 0



Source: NAYC Survey 2011

Memorandums of Understanding



- Legalities of sharing information
 - Do they get full probation case file?
 - Do they access to school records
 - Other
- How do you handle confidentiality
 - Sworn Oath
 - Signed commitment
 - Other

Funding



- How do you fund each of your courts?
- What are the funds used for?
- Describe both direct and indirect funding of your court.

Youth Court Funding



City or County Municipality	42.86%
Community Based Organization	16.43%
District/City Attorney's Office	3.57%
Government grant	30.71%
Juvenile Probation	10.71%
Juvenile or Superior Court	7.14%
Private Donations	25.71%
Private foundation grant	20.71%
Schools	7.14%
Other	27.14%
Total Respondents: 140	

How do we know this works?



- Data Collection and Evaluation
 - Quantitative
 - Qualitative: Share your experiences with Youth Courts that are value added to the community

Youth Court Resources



- National Association of Youth Courts
 - <http://www.youthcourt.net/>
 - First court started 1972 – Naperville, Illinois
 - 1,400 Youth Courts across the country
 - 20 State Associations
- California Association of Youth Courts
 - <http://calyouthcourts.com/about-cayc/>
 - Over 80 Youth Courts in California
- Center for Court Innovation
 - <http://www.courtinnovation.org/topic/youth-court>
- Youth Courts International
 - <http://youthcourtsinternational.org/>

Thank You

Please feel free to contact any of us for more information



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Question and Answers



THANK YOU