

Annual Report on Implementation of

HB 2013-1254

By the Division of Criminal Justice

&

Restorative Justice Coordinating Council



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

COLORADO



COLORADO

Division of Criminal Justice

Department of Public Safety

September 19, 2014

This report is being submitted to the Colorado General Assembly in response to the mandate from HB 13-1254 for the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) to prepare a report that includes a summary of pilot project sites for diverting juveniles from the justice system through restorative justice practices. This work is being guided by the Colorado Restorative Justice Coordinating Council.

THE COLORADO RESTORATIVE JUSTICE (RJ) COORDINATING COUNCIL

Restorative Justice Coordinating Council	
8/1/14	
Member	Representation
Esther Cho, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Council	A representative from a Statewide Juvenile Justice Council
Spiro Koinis, Division of Youth Corrections, Victim and Restorative Justice Services Coordinator (Chair)	A representative from the Division of Youth Corrections
Meg Williams, Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice	A representative from the Department of Public Safety
Greg Brown, Chief Probation Officer, Twentieth Judicial District (Vice-Chair)	A representative from the Judicial Department
Perrie McMillen, Restorative Justice Services, City of Fort Collins	Two representatives from a Statewide Organization(s) whose primary purpose is related to the development and implementation of Restorative Justice Programs
Gabrielle Frey, J.D., Executive Director Resolution Works	
Stanley Garnett, Elected District Attorney, 20 th Judicial District	A District Attorney with juvenile justice
Matthew Riede, Victim Services, 1 st Judicial District	A Victim's Advocate within the Judicial Department with Restorative Justice Experience
Candice Hawkins, Department of Education, Senior Consultant	A representative from the Department of Education
Rebecca Oakes, State Board of Parole	A representative from the state Board of Parole
Monica Crocker, Victims Services Coordinator, Department of Corrections	A representative from the Department of Corrections
Nancy Lewis, Executive Director, Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA)	A representative from a nongovernment statewide organization representing victims
Alice Price, Founder, Center for Restorative Programs	Three Restorative Justice Practitioners
Lynn Lee, Chair of the Pikes Peak Restorative Justice Council	
Peggy Evans, Training Director for the Restorative Mediation Project	
Paula Mattas, Mesa County Partners and Colorado Juvenile Parole Board member	A representative of the Juvenile Parole Board

On March 29, 2007 upon signature of then Governor Bill Ritter, the Colorado Restorative Justice Coordinating Council (hereinafter referred to as the "RJ Council") was created within the State

Court Administrator's Office (SCAO) pursuant to HB 07-1129. The statute enumerated several specific items of responsibility for the RJ Council which includes, to the extent resources permit:

- To serve as a central repository for information;
- To support the development of RJ programs;
- To assist with education and training; and
- To provide technical assistance as needed.
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In addition to the RJ Council establishment and duties, the statute also encouraged each local juvenile services planning committee to consider restorative justice programs when developing its resources plan and directed the Tony Grampas youth services board to consider in the grant award process whether a grant program applicant includes restorative justice components.

HB 13-1254, expanded and clarified restorative justice in Colorado as adopted in 2007, 2008, and 2011, with the goal of keeping juveniles out of the juvenile justice system. Significant provisions of the bill included establishing four juvenile RJ Pilot projects, collecting information about the projects and creating a database, changing the procedure for initiating the restorative justice process, clarifying language in the original bill, adding members to the RJ Council, creating a surcharge establishing the RJ Cash Fund which supports the pilots, a position and funds the previously unfunded mandates.

ESTABLISHMENT OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PILOTS

HB 13-1254 created pilot projects in the 10th (Pueblo), 12th (Alamosa), 19th (Weld) and 20th (Boulder) judicial districts. Pursuant to the legislation, in these four pilots, prior to filing charges, District Attorneys would identify juvenile first offenders that committed non-traffic misdemeanors or Class 3, 4, 5 and 6 felonies and screen them for participation. If a juvenile successfully completes the program, no charges will be filed. The pilot programs report certain information to the Division of Criminal Justice, with the ultimate goal of obtaining empirical data about the capability of restorative justice practices to reduce costs, lower recidivism rates, and improve the well-being of victims and offenders. Data submitted to the DCJ will include the number and demographics of juveniles who met the program criteria, did/did not participate, reached reparation agreements, completed the agreements, re-arrest rates, and the results of victim and offender satisfaction surveys.

To facilitate the development of the pilots' RJ Programs, the four (4) statutorily-designated District Attorney's Offices were asked to complete an application for funds which provided the SCAO, as the funding agency, and the RJ Council with the detailed information required for proper implementation. This information included:

- A description of the project's target group of juvenile offenders and an estimate of the number of juveniles anticipated to be served.
- Identification of any partner organizations, if applicable, expected to provide direct services to juveniles. For partner agencies, they were to describe any collaborative effort, partnership, or contract support directly related to this project including what services partners will provide and their qualifications for providing those services.
- Inclusion of a Letter of Commitment or MOU from each partner organization, clearly stating their understanding of their role in the District Attorney's juvenile RJ Pilot project.
- A description of the pilot project, including how RJ principles and best practices were being incorporated; eligibility criteria for participants, a description of the implementation plan;

training needed; a description of how they will determine if their project is successful; and for existing programs (12th and 20th JDs) a summary of their implementation & measures of success to date.

- A description of each pilot's project protocols, technology and staff capacity to meet specific mandates of HB 13-1254: 1) appropriate screening for eligibility; 2) administration of pre/post participant surveys; 3) collection of data on participant demographics & case outcomes; 4) collection of recidivism data; & 5) timely reporting to the state of all required project information.
- A list of the goals, objectives, outcomes and timeframes for each pilot project.
- A brief description of each pilot's plan for sustainability of juvenile RJ diversion.
- A detailed budget and budget narrative including a line item expenses to be covered by state funds, other sources of funding or in-kind contributions that are available, fees, if any, to be charged to the juvenile, and the anticipated cost per referral (including the formula used for this estimate).

A subcommittee of the RJ Council reviewed each application, requested clarifications on the proposed projects and recommended funding levels to the State Court Administrator. The four pilots received funding to begin operating their projects as of April 1, 2014. Awards were made to the Judicial Districts for April 1-June 30, 2014 in the amounts of: 10th JD- \$39,290; 12th JD- \$30,245; 19th JD- \$16,500; and 20th JD- \$81,200. For FY 14/15 (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015), individual judicial district awards were: 10th JD- \$49,500; 12th JD- \$155,296; 19th JD- \$123,000; and 20th JD- \$227,850.

DATA COLLECTION PROCESSES

Following passage of HB 13-1254, the SCAO immediately began exploring options for the data collection mandates for the pilot projects. Several options were reviewed. Because the Division of Criminal Justice administers the state's Juvenile Diversion Program pursuant to 19-2-303 C.R.S. and has a data collection and evaluation process in place with the OMNI Institute, a nonprofit social science agency, using Efforts to Outcomes (ETO), a web-based software developed by Social Solutions, this was one of the options reviewed. The decision was made to proceed with OMNI using ETO to assure reduced duplication of data collection efforts as all 4 pilots also receive State Diversion funding from DCJ as of FY '15. The ETO database functionality for the restorative justice pilots is currently being built therefore DCJ developed a written quarterly data collection and narrative report for the pilots to report their SFY 13-14 data (April- June 2014).

CRITERIA FOR PILOT PARTICIPATION OF JUVENILES AS ESTABLISHED BY EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT- APRIL- JUNE 2014

10th JD: To be considered for the program the client must be a first time offender at the District Court level. Once the DA's office receives a charge request from local law enforcement it is processed and sent to the juvenile unit where a charging decision is made. If the case is determined to be a good candidate for Diversion it is then sent to the Diversion Supervisor for a more in depth screening process to determine final eligibility. The Diversion Supervisor then determines which of the programs is the most appropriate for each individual and the case is assigned accordingly.

12th JD: All youth- with discretionary exceptions in individual cases for inclusion or exclusion- not otherwise excluded by following criteria: a) prior felony-level adjudication; b) prior diversion enrollment; c) current charge of class 1 or 2 felony; d) any other statutorily excluded charge: unlawful sexual behavior, domestic violence, stalking, protection order violation; e) Schedule I & II CS possession, use, or distribution; f) Burglary; g) Crimes of Violence; h) Hate crimes.

19th JD: Juveniles aged 10-17 at the time of their first offense, where the offense is not drug- or gang-related are eligible for Diversion. Of those, cases where there is a victim willing to participate or capacity permits Restorative Justice Conferencing are referred to RJ.

20th JD: Misdemeanors, excluding assault DV, unlawful sexual contact, VPO,; will accept Low Risk High Need (LRHN) youth; low or moderate on CJRA; some sexting; some DV harassment; prior municipal if supervision was successful; class 3,4,5,6 felonies as staffed by DA and diversion coordinators; drug/alcohol use if treatment used in conjunction; no serious gang involvement; no SBI; no danger to self/others; no prior felony adjudication; juvenile is taking responsibility; motivated to repair harm; in-person assessment indicates acceptable for RJ or RJ+ and family supports or resources accessed to support family and youth.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TYPE OF RJ PRACTICE USED AND COST ASSOCIATED WITH EACH PRACTICE- APRIL- JUNE 2014

10th JD: Initial contact made by phone call or mail. During initial contact the program is described in detail and questions are answered. An intake appointment is set up during this phone call. Contact victims by telephone call and/or letter. When talking with victims describe the program and the Restorative Justice process. At this time it is explained the different ways that victims can participate in the process. During the intake assessment the Restorative Justice program and process is explained to the client and guardians. This also allows for the best restorative justice process to be arranged (i.e. Community Accountability Board, Circle, etc). During the intake an assessment is performed to help staff understand family dynamics and any obstacles that may exist. This also allows us to know if additional services may be needed. Set up the restorative justice process, contact community members to attend, contact co-facilitator if needed, set up area to hold RJ in a nonbiased location. Manage restitution if owed, assist with community service arrangements and monitor if needed, make any referrals that are needed (i.e. mental health service, substance abuse evaluations, etc), frequent documentation to follow the progress made. \$30,740 of staff salary per RJ budget fiscal year 2014.

12th JD: Victim-Offender Dialogue (for personal and property crime): Intake & Assessment services, followed by facilitated face-to-face dialogue between and eligible youth offender and one or more victims or others impacted by the offense. Contracts made and monitored, to address impact, accountability and specific steps for repair of harm. Average cost: \$750.

Rethinking Substances: Restorative Circles for Underage Possession of alcohol or marijuana: Intake & Assessment services, followed by participation of charged youth and their parents (or other supportive adults) in an in-depth, two session facilitated group circle process, which addresses their specific offense, as well as general education about the physical, emotional, and social impacts of substance use. Contracts made and monitored, in which youth compete concrete actions to address the harm to the community, their families, and themselves from their substance abuse. Average cost: \$750.

Restorative Interventions for Shoplifting: Intake & Assessment services, followed by facilitated face-to-face dialogue with a managerial representative of affected business; may be in a one-on-one or group circle process. Contracts made and monitored, to address impact, accountability and specific steps for repair of harm. Average cost: \$750.

Restorative Discipline Interventions for School-based Youth Conflict/Fighting: Intake & Assessment services, followed by facilitated face-to-face dialogue between involved youth, to address impact of behavior on selves and school community, and their individual or mutual accountability for harm.

Contracts made and monitored, to address harm and repair personal relationships and school community. Average cost: \$750.

19th JD: A combination of family group conferencing combined with community circles at a cost of \$1836 per juvenile served.

20th JD:

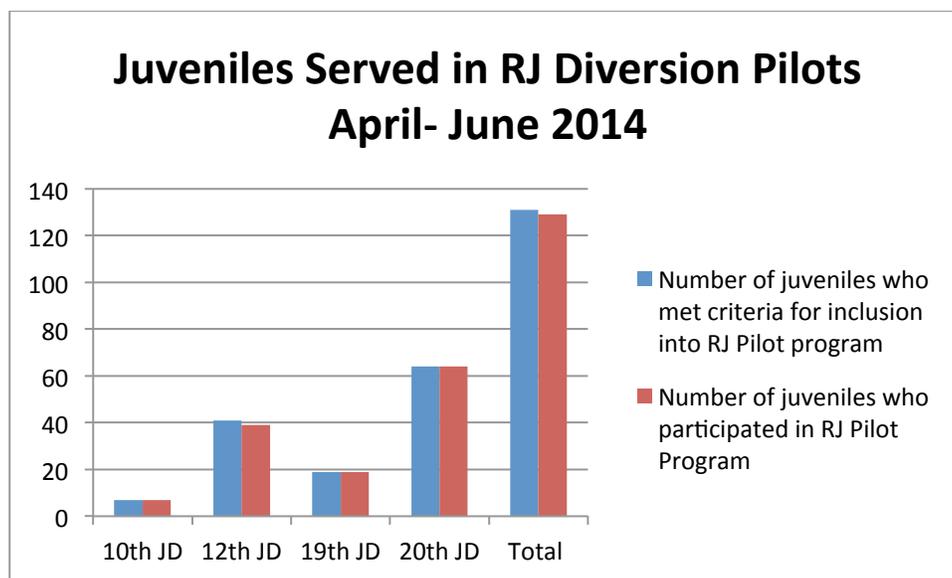
RESTORE; \$50 per client. DA has been unable to find out actual cost per client. Longmont Community Justice Partnership (Community Group Conferences); \$125. Formula for actual cost: total cost/clients served= \$1000/juvenile. Boulder Sheriffs Dept (Community Group Conferences); No charge. Formula for actual cost: total cost/clients served= \$1260/juvenile. Community Restoration Justice Partnership (Community Group Conferences); no charge. DA has not received a response regarding the formula used to determine cost per juvenile. Spark (Family Group Conferencing); \$125. Spark has gone out of business so DA cannot provide information regarding cost.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF JUVENILES SERVED APRIL- JUNE 2014

Of the 131 juveniles who met criteria, almost all (129) were accepted for participation. Most of the juveniles served in the RJ Pilot programs are male (65%). Over 56% were white, 39.5% were Hispanic and 1.5% were African American. The RJ Council as well as the pilots are carefully watching the racial and ethnic diversity of participants within the pilots to assure the opportunity for diversion is offered equitably for all youth.

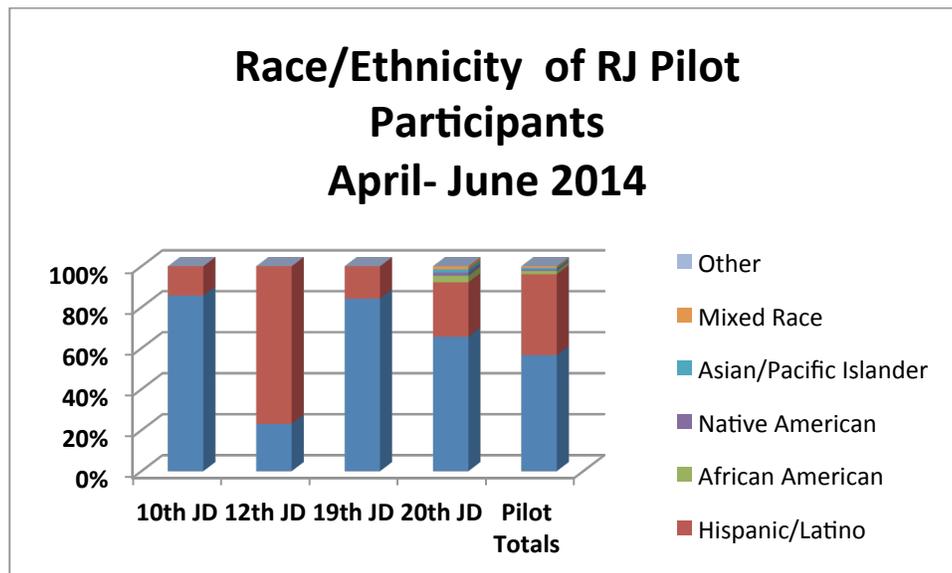
	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Number of juveniles who met criteria for inclusion into RJ Pilot program	7*	41	19	64	131
Number of juveniles who participated in RJ Pilot Program	7*	39	19	64	129

*All 7 juveniles in the 10th JD were involved in the same incident.



Race/Ethnicity of juveniles who participated in RJ Pilot program April- June 2014					
	10th JD	12th JD	19th JD	20th JD	Total
White	6	9	16	42	73
Hispanic/Latino	1	30	3	17	51
African American	0	0	0	2	2
Native American	0	0	0	1	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	0	1	1
Mixed Race	0	0	0	1	1
Other	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL JUVENILES	7 *	39	19	64	129

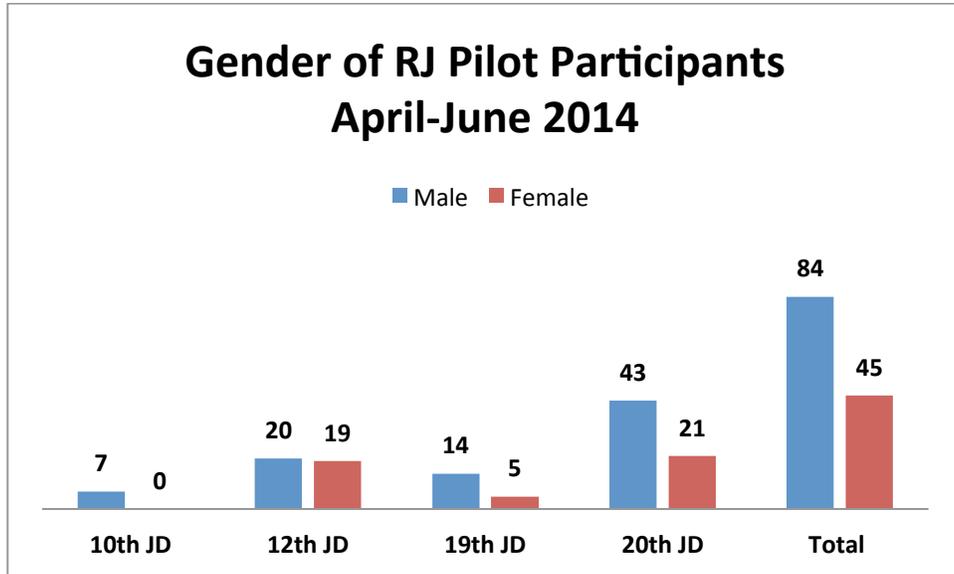
*All 7 juveniles in the 10th JD were involved in the same incident.



**Gender of juveniles who participated in RJ Pilot program
April- June 2014**

	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Male	7*	20	14	43	84
Female	0	19	5	21	45
TOTAL JUVENILES	7*	39	19	64	129

*All 7 juveniles in the 10th JD were involved in the same incident.



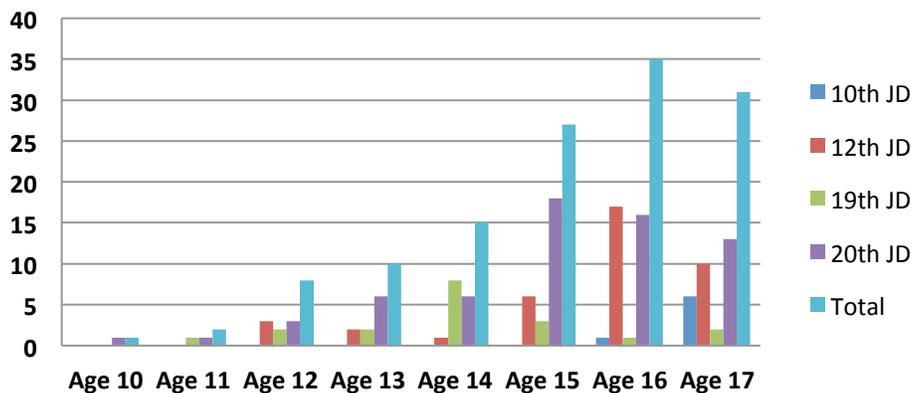
JUVENILE JUSTICE HISTORY- APRIL- JUNE 2014

Of the RJ Pilot participants, 8.5% were ages 10-12, 40.3% were ages 13-15, and 51% were ages 16 or 17. Most of the juveniles had committed misdemeanor offenses at 73.6%, followed by 13.9% committing felony offenses and 12.4% committing petty offenses. Petty offenses such as shoplifting cases are very appropriate for restorative justice as the demand is not only high but has been found to reduce recidivism on average 10%.

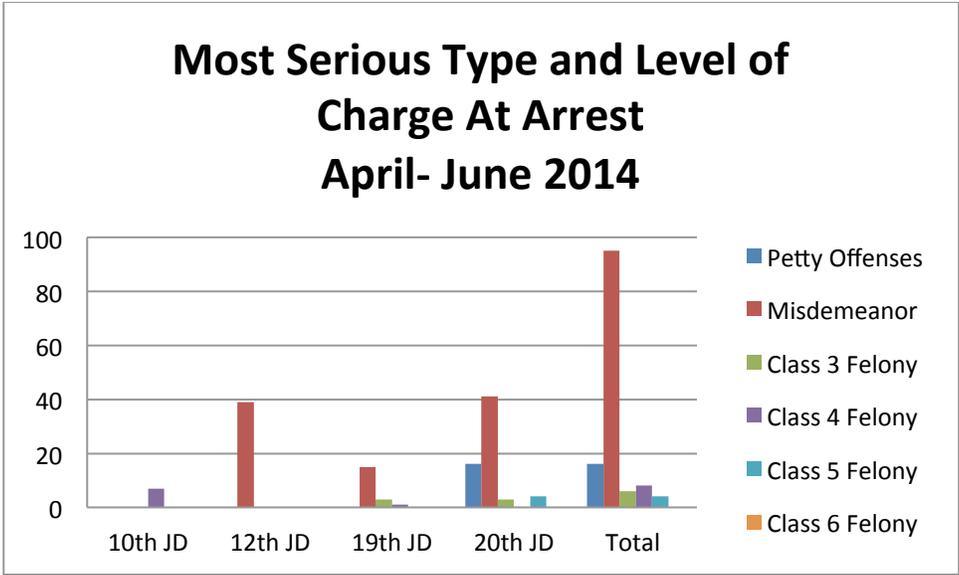
**Age at arrest of juveniles who participated in RJ Pilot program
April-June 2014**

	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Age 10	0	0	0	1	1
Age 11	0	0	1	1	2
Age 12	0	3	2	3	8
Age 13	0	2	2	6	10
Age 14	0	1	8	6	15
Age 15	0	6	3	18	27
Age 16	1	17	1	16	35
Age 17	6	10	2	13	31
TOTAL JUVENILES	7	39	19	64	129

**Age at Arrest of RJ Pilot Participants
April-June 2014**



Most serious type and level of charge at arrest of juveniles who participated in RJ Pilot program April-June 2014					
	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Petty Offenses	0	0	0	16	16
Misdemeanor	0	39	15	41	95
Class 3 Felony	0	0	3	3	6
Class 4 Felony	7	0	1	0	8
Class 5 Felony	0	0	0	4	4
Class 6 Felony	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL JUVENILES	7	39	19	64	129



RJ ENGAGEMENT OF PARTICIPANTS- APRIL- JUNE 2014

Of the 129 juveniles accepted in the RJ Pilot programs, 89 reached an agreement to repair harm and 57 successfully completed. A total of 69 are still pending completion and only 3 were deemed unsuccessful (2.3%).

	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Number of juveniles who participated in RJ Pilot program and reached agreement to repair harm	7	26*	9	47	89

*12th JD: including 1 with contract still pending completion

	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Number of juveniles who successfully repaired harm (successful completion)	7	25	2	23	57
Number of juveniles pending completion (active but not completed)	0	14	16*	39	69
Number of juveniles who did not repair harm (unsuccessful)	0	0	1**	2 ***	3

*19th JD: 7 reached agreement and 9 pending conference; ** 19th JD had one reintegration to date. One circle conference had no victim or surrogate victim, only a community member and it was unsuccessful. ***20th JD: Some juveniles are pending referrals to RJ agencies. Some are engaging in drug/alcohol education/treatment or other mental health treatment modalities prior to RJ, including family; anger management; individual treatment. Two juveniles picked up new charges; three were deemed too mentally ill to effectively participate.

VICTIM ENGAGEMENT- APRIL- JUNE 2014

	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Number of victims contacted for participation in RJ Pilot program	21	22	17	67	127
Number of victims who participated	8	22	8	37	75
Number of victims who submitted victim impact statements	0	0	3	9	12
Number of surrogate victim representatives who participated in RJ Pilot program	2	0	2	20	24
Number of victims who declined to participate in the RJ Pilot program	11	0	1	2	14

10th JD: Out of the 11 victims who declined to participate 4 moved out of state, 2 had no current contact information due to moving, 2 were unable to attend due to conflicts, and 3 refused to participate in the process at all.

19th JD: If a victim submitted a victim impact statement then he/she was included as participating. Only those victims that would not participate at all were considered as declining. Victim support (parents and friends) and offender support (parents and friends) were not considered or counted as victims. Other people that were involved with incident but not related were counted as victims (for example school personnel). Community members were not counted as victims, however there were community members that participated in each conference, 7 total.

20th JD: Most of the surrogates are associated with RESTORE; family members (parents, guardians, siblings) were included as victims of drug/alcohol offenses.

RECIDIVISM- APRIL- JUNE 2014

Formal data regarding recidivism will not be available until one year post participation.

Recidivism will be computed 12 months after each quarter end date	10 th JD	12 th JD	19 th JD	20 th JD	Total
Number of juveniles who participated in the RJ Pilot program and had a subsequent arrest or juvenile petition filed against him or her in the same or another judicial district within one year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

PROBLEMS/ BARRIERS/SUCSESSES/SOLUTIONS IDENTIFIED BY PILOTS

APRIL- JUNE 2014

10th JD: The 10th Judicial District’s RJ Pilot program is fully operational with the exception of the database and surveys on which the RJ Council is still working on. The problems/ barriers identified are the low number of requests and the division of those amongst their other programs. Unfortunately they do not have an immediate solution to this and hope to see an increase in the amount of charge requests received. Their successes to date are outlined by their initial group of seven RJ-Pilot clients all of whom completed the program successfully; all seven juveniles were involved in the same offense that led to felony charging and all clients came from very different backgrounds and home lives.

The seven participants served have a variety of backgrounds, some with no apparent underlying criminogenic issues and others who experienced previous social services involvement or who suffered serious losses. Their socioeconomic backgrounds were also quite diverse. One set of parents were extremely critical of their child’s actions and constantly said that there was no way that he could repair harm. Several were viewed as school leaders, involved in sports and extracurricular while others struggled at school with learning disabilities, behavior problems and truant behavior.

In this case, twelve (12) out of the 21 victims participated in the 6 hour conference. The seven juveniles were very polite and apologetic to the victims and an agreement was created together with the entire group.

Part of the agreement consisted of the group building a soapbox derby car for a juvenile that was in DSS custody. This part of the agreement was created to help the juveniles learn leadership,

responsibility, and participate in an event that was held in a lower income part of town. All the juveniles created a relationship with the drivers and help them during the entire derby process.

Another part of the agreement was to build individual mailboxes that represented them. These mailboxes were given to charities that the victims chose and were donated to be auctioned off. One of the young people made a navy mailbox that went to a nonprofit military organization. Another created a camouflage mailbox that went to the Wounded Warrior program. The rest went to a local Autism organization and the Pueblo Child Advocacy Center.

12th JD: The 12th JD offered some examples of successes within their program.

One of the participants of the 12th JD's Rethinking Drinking Circles for Minors in Possession of Alcohol came back to the office a few weeks following the group for his closure meeting. He arrived early and had all the pieces of his agreement in order and ready to go. He also shared the impact the Rethinking Drinking process had on his relationship with his mom. He said it was easier to talk with her now about certain issues and he felt that the agreements he had completed had helped to repair her trust in him. Through discussions with staff it became clear that this young man valued his family relationships and had learned through this process how much his decisions and behaviors affect those relationships, for better or worse.

Another participant of the 12th JD's Rethinking Substances program was referred for possessing marijuana at school. Normally a well-behaved kid, she was not used to getting in trouble resulting in her family and teachers' disappointment. The Rethinking Substances program gave her a space to repair harm in a meaningful way, by asking her to come up with 5 agreements that repair harm to her community, family and self. Through her community agreement, this young person wrote apology letters to her counselor and principal at the high school. The letters were well-received and gave her the opportunity to express remorse and accountability for her actions. For her family, her agreements involved making meals and helping out with extra chores at home. These agreements helped to build trust again with her family and spend quality time with them. For repairing harm to self, she completed counseling sessions and made a vision board to help articulate her goals for her future. This step was crucial to her examining the harm that the incident had them personally and on her future goals. This young person successfully completed all 5 agreements and demonstrated that she had taken accountability for her actions. As a result, this young person will be able to continue pursuing the goal of joining the Air Force after High School.

19th JD: The 19th JD did not have an existing RJ program available to them therefore the creation of a program from the ground up has been difficult. They are fortunate to have community support and fantastic volunteers willing to put in the time. While perhaps not a clear solution, time and experience have helped them to make minor changes that have been of great benefit. They feel that working with 19 juveniles in the first quarter of reporting is a major success.

Of huge importance is that absent this funding, this would not have been possible. There is a desire to have RJ as a part of the community but absent concrete RJ funding, it's not been possible for the 19th to create something from scratch prior to this pilot funding.

20th JD: The 20th JD has had positive feedback from victims, parents of victims, the juveniles, their parents, and community members. Parents are relieved that their children are not facing charges in court. Feedback includes that RJ was an excellent learning experience for all; that RJ is teaching responsibility and accountability on a deep level, and juveniles are processing on an emotional, less resistant level. They hear that the Circle outcomes are profound, with people listening across their differences. The community is also experiencing accountability for the juveniles and his/her family. The feedback they are receiving is that juveniles are returning to their communities more connected and equipped to make better choices. Victims report feeling heard with a greater sense of community and support; the resolution of the case evoked a satisfying and transformative experience in a safe, contained and empathic environment.

The 20th JD's most challenging cases are with adolescents who are abusing substances. The circle and education/treatment don't motivate them to stop. More supervision, drug tests, referrals to resources, and significant contact with the juvenile and parents are necessary for better long term outcomes. This does not disqualify them from the RJ Pilot, because they are not filing charges.

They have not identified the ideal RJ process for kids who are using, but are researching that question nationally. However, this is a good example of RJ+. They believe that in certain cases, failing to intervene in a way that addresses the juvenile's and family's need is not a responsible approach.

Their approach is needs-based, not necessarily offense-based because in some cases the underlying issues behind the charges must be addressed in order to maximize the potential for positive change.

Another barrier is the length of time it takes to get kids to and through the RJ process. Their solution has been to collaborate with many local agencies that provide RJ (and who meet State standards) so that they can expedite the cases as quickly as possible, which is in every juvenile's best interest. However, they try hard to send the juvenile's RJ process back to the community where the harm occurred.

The 20th provided two scenarios describing the process for 3 referred juveniles all went through the Community Group Conferences (CGC) model.

A student sold Adderall to her classmates, a fellow student was one of the buyers (not directly, there were several distributors in the middle. For various reasons, the other juveniles involved were not eligible for RJ). Both students were facing felony-level charges for possession and distribution. Consequences were particularly serious for the provider, for distribution of pharmaceuticals. Both students are over-achieving academics with big college aspirations and involved in many extracurricular activities. One is a musician and the other is a huge support to his younger siblings. Both completed their contracts early and have moved on with their lives having learned a huge lesson about how serious Adderall is. Note: Adderall distribution is rampant on high school and college campuses and as a result, has become normalized. Youth and young adults have no sense of the dangers involved in regards to health concerns and criminal activity. The more opportunities we have to intervene and educate, the better the chances that these youth will inform their peers!

Another juvenile stole a great deal of jewelry (value over \$6000, including an engagement ring) from her grandmother that had been her great grandmother's. Great grandmother had just passed away and grandma was in the process of distributing the jewelry to her siblings as a part of their inheritance. Much of the jewelry was never recovered. As a part of the contract, the participant had to do work at the grandma's farm, and also interviewed the great aunts and uncles in order to document stories about her great grandmother. She also completed her contract early and has made great progress in repairing relationships with her family.

SUMMARY

This first quarter of implementing HB 13-1254 has been challenging while exciting at the same time. The RJ Pilot sites vary greatly in their experience with restorative justice, the RJ resources they already have established in their communities, and the length of time required for them to begin serving youth and victims through the RJ Pilot program. What is universal to the four pilots is the commitment from each District Attorney's Office to support the diversion of juveniles through the use of restorative justice.

In the first 3 months of implementation of the pilots (April-June 2014), a total of 129 juveniles were served with restorative justice, a majority being White/Caucasian (56.6%), followed by Hispanic (39.5%). Most were males (65%) and 51% were ages 16 or 17 at law enforcement contact for the current offense. A clear majority had committed a misdemeanor crime (73.6%), with another 12% committing petty offenses or disorderly conduct. Only 13.9% would have been charged with a Class 3, 4 or 5 Felony.

Within this first quarter, 57 of the juveniles were able to successfully complete the RJ program, deemed as successfully repairing the harm they committed with only 3 who were deemed as being unsuccessful. The others are still in process for completing their RJ contract.

Of the 127 victims contacted for participation in the RJ Pilot program, 75 participated (59%) with 24 surrogate victim representatives participating in lieu of the actual victim of the crime. Only 14 victims formally declined participation, were unable to be located or did not respond.

Because recidivism is defined as a subsequent arrest or juvenile petition filing within one year of program participation, we will not have formal recidivism rates until next year's report.

CONTACTS

Contact Meg Williams, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice at 303-239-5717 or meg.williams@state.co.us with any questions regarding this report. You can also contact Deb Witzel at 720-625-5964 or deb.witzel@judicial.state.co.us of the State Court Administrator's Office with any general questions regarding the Pilot Program or the State RJ Coordinating Council.