

# *CONNECTIONS*

*Supporting Families, Strengthening  
Communities*

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Clark County Juvenile Court  
Vancouver, WA



# Clark County Juvenile Court

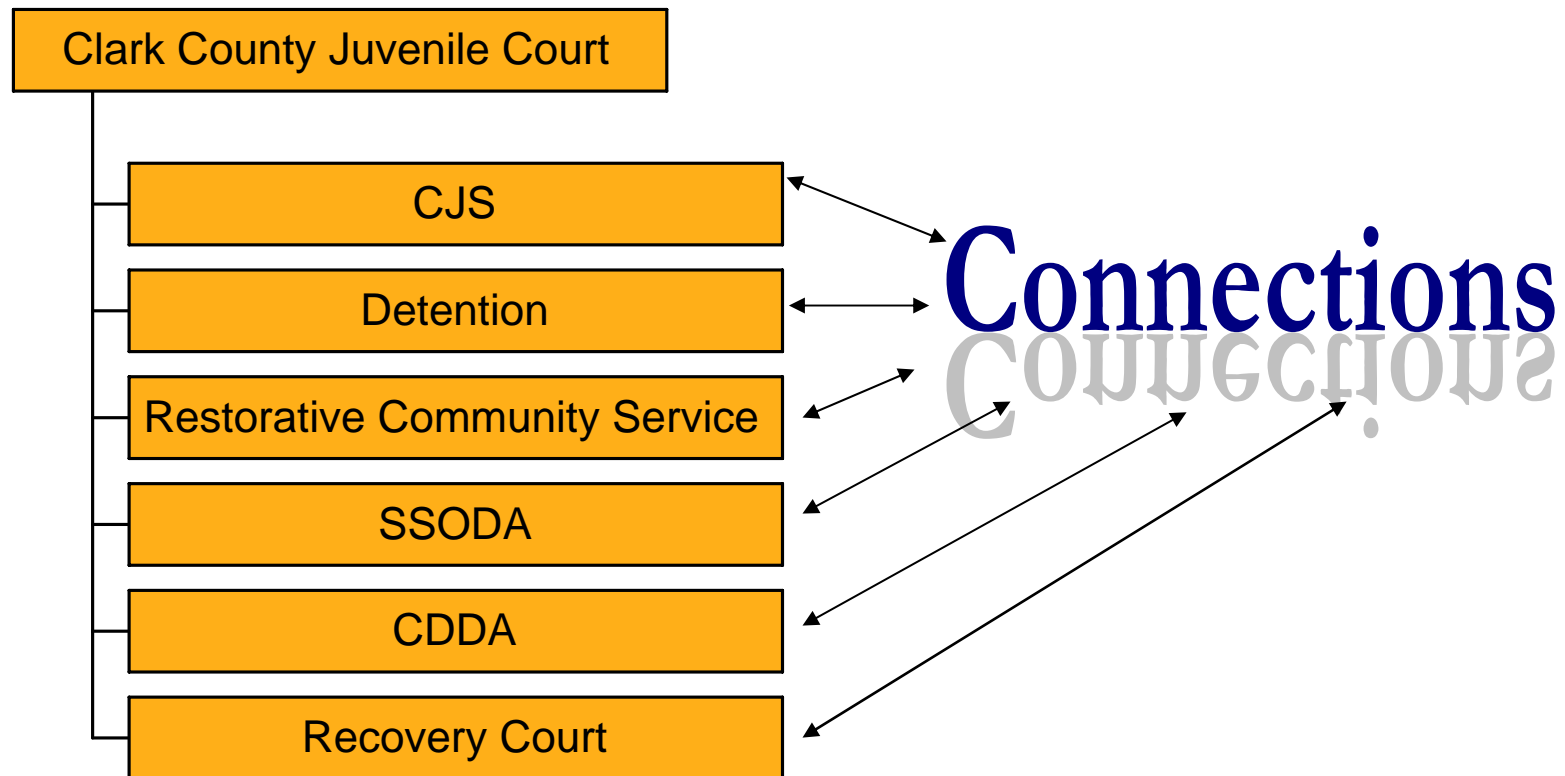
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## *Our Mission Statement:*

*We will put our energy and resources into the future. Our focus will be on what needs to be healed, what needs to be repaid, and what needs to be learned*

[www.clark.wa.gov/juvenile](http://www.clark.wa.gov/juvenile)

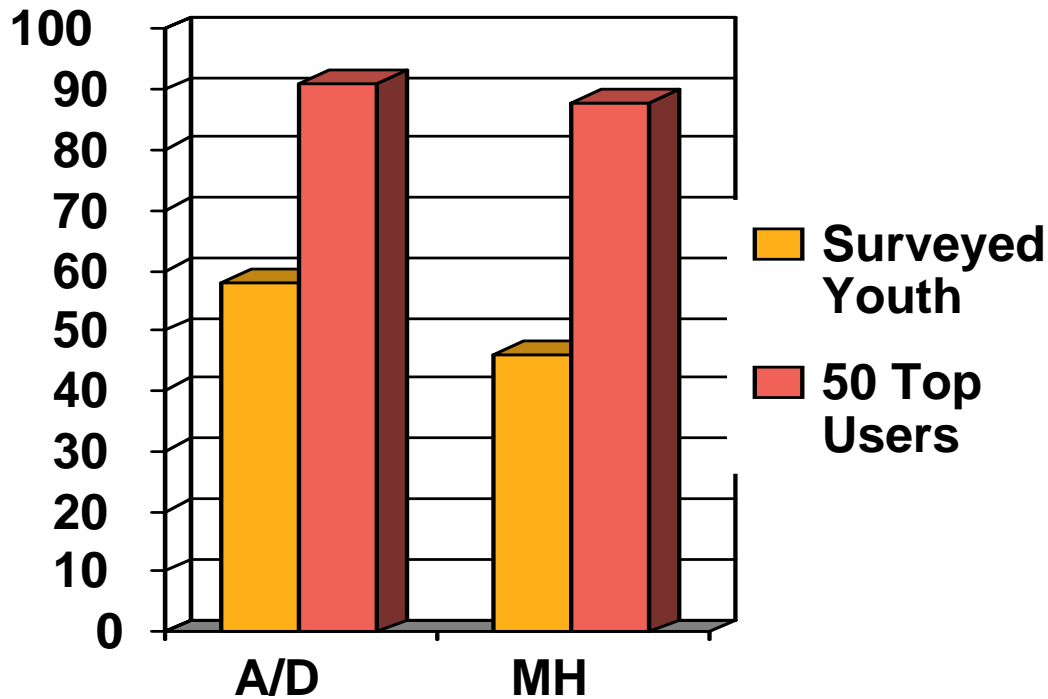
# Clark County Juvenile Court



# 1999 JJC Survey

**A/D**--Drug and Alcohol

**MH**--Mental Health



# Needs on National Level

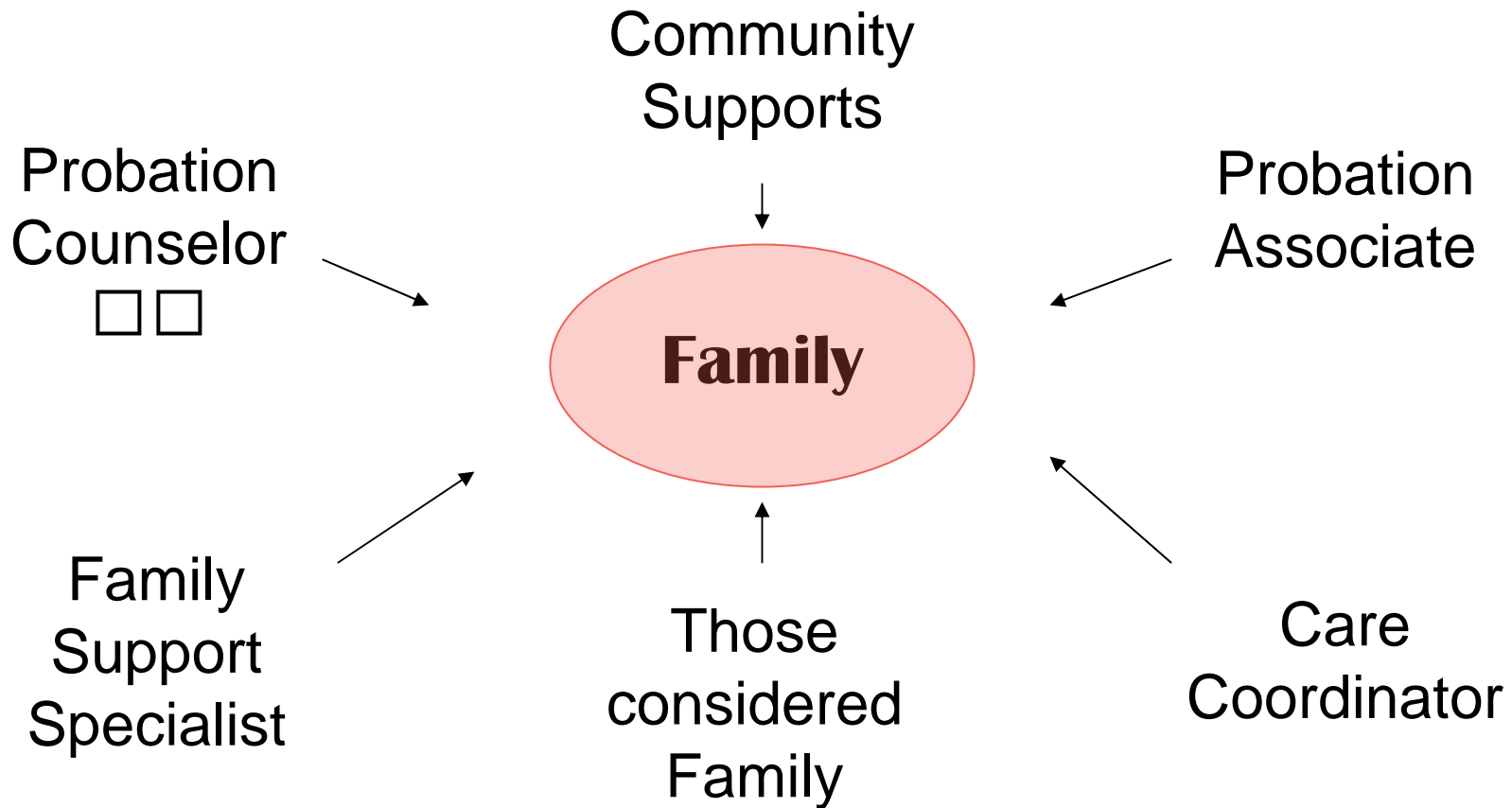
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Over 20% of youth in the juvenile justice system have serious mental health issues with many more having co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders

Bureau of Justice Statistics

[www.ojp.gov/bjs](http://www.ojp.gov/bjs)

# Connections Team



*Anyone who supports the family positively*

# Complexities of Youth/Families

Typical youth presentation

Lack of services

- ★ Mental health Diagnosis
  - ADHD, ODD, MDD, PTSD, OCD, Bipolar
- ★ School problems
  - IEP, suspensions/expulsions, dropped out
- ★ Family Conflict
  - Physical/Verbal
- ★ Family Stressors
  - Unstable housing, poverty, transportation



**Reoffense**

# Team Support

**Empowerment**



# Strengthening Resilience

Resources



Individualized & Tailored Care

*Develop New  
Coping Strategies*



Challenges

# Steps Towards Resilience

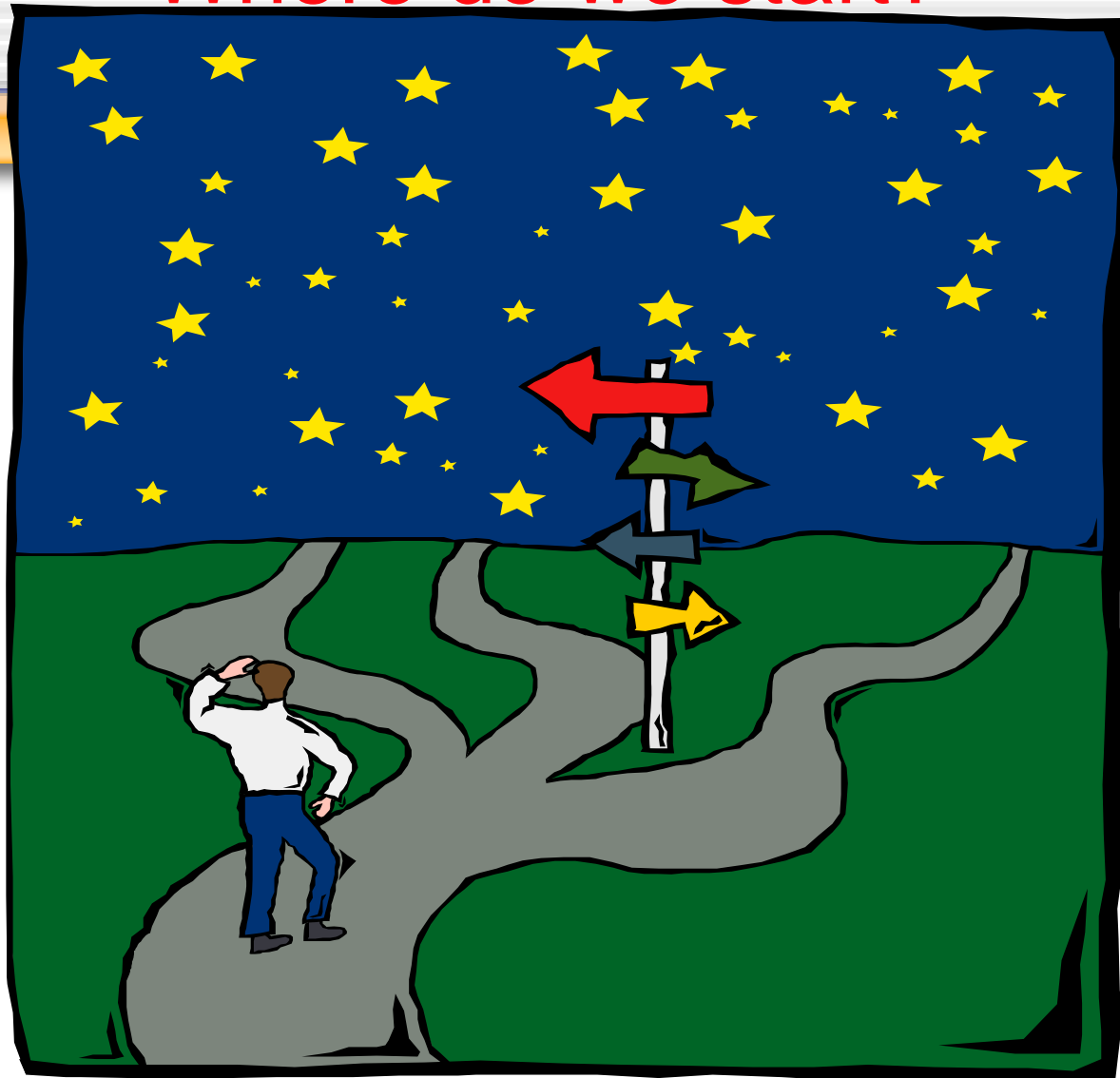
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Intervention

Meaning Making

Change

Where do we start?



Which way do we go now?

# Traditional Probation vs. Strength Based Probation

Traditional Probation

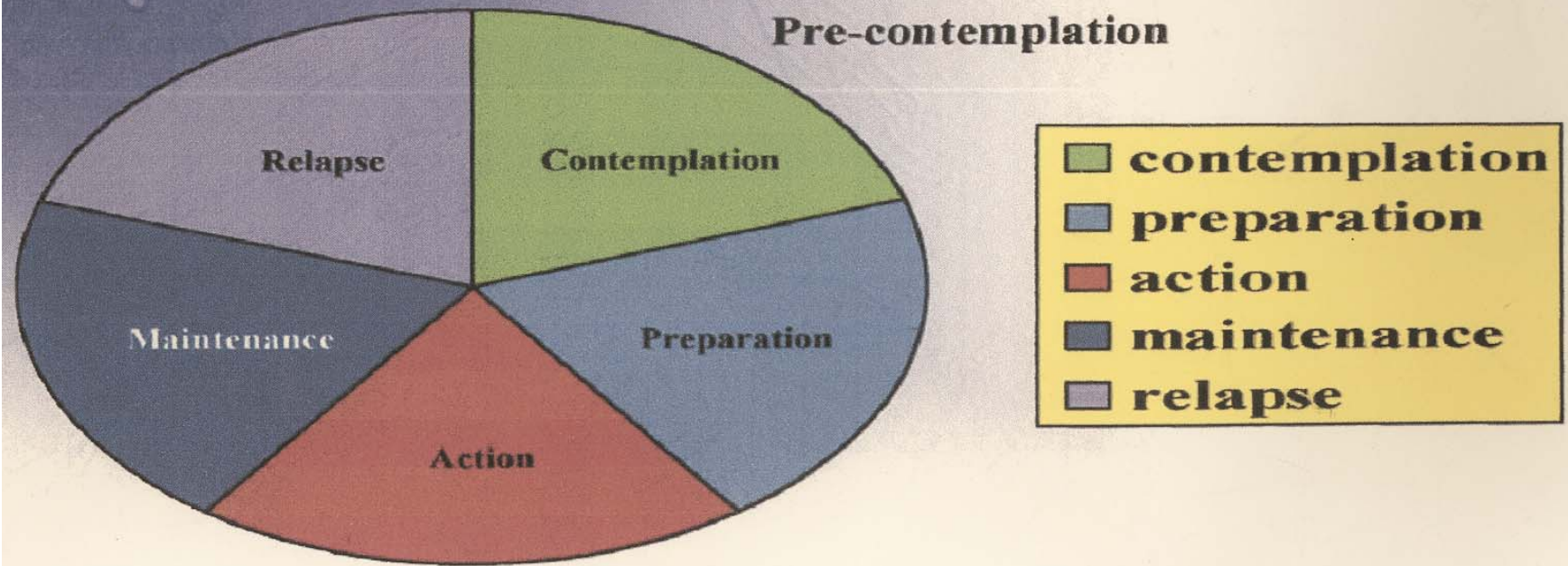
Accountability  
Confrontation  
Lecture  
Court Order/Crime

Strength Based Probation

Accountability  
Empowerment  
Motivational Interviewing  
Cycle of Change  
BARJ

# Cycle of Change

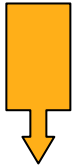
## Change Cycle Prochaska & Diclemente<sup>1982</sup>



# Accountability

**BARJ** = Balanced and Restorative Justice

Community Service



Recidivism – Detention not always the answer!

Creative Options:

- ART, ICE, CTI, VIP
- Treatment – Recovery

Court

- Counseling
- PALS

## Celebrate Successes



# Sharing My Own Experience

## *Family Assistance Specialist*

"Normalizing" their experience

Creating open communication

Presenting the parent voice to the  
team

# Parents as an Underserved Population

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Families who have been through many agencies  
already

Families who haven't been able to access services

Lack of family components in some treatment  
facilities

# Helping Parents Navigate the Court System

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Explaining the court process

Accompanying parents in court

Helping parents understand Balanced  
and Restorative Justice (BARJ)

# Services/Interventions

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## Traditional

Counseling  
D & A treatment  
A.R.T.

## Non Traditional

Soccer  
Art Show  
Journal Writing

# The Kauai Study

- 40 year study of a cohort of 700 children, all with at least 4 key risk factors associated with poor life outcomes
- At age 18, two thirds of the children were not doing well, but one third had developed into competent and caring young adults
- Even at age 40 this group was still doing well
- What was different about this group?
  - ◆ Easy going temperament, intelligence, strong sense of hope, able to draw nurturance from a variety of adults, confidence in their ability to shape events in their lives
  - ◆ At least one person in their lives who accepted them unconditionally.

# Juvenile Victimization and Offending 1993-2003

- On average, juveniles (12-17) were 2x more likely than adults (18-older) to be the victim of violent crime
- Among victims of violent crime, older teens (15-17) were more likely than younger teens (12-14) to have been victimized by a stranger (41% vs. 32%)
- 4 in 5 violent victimizations of younger teens (12-14) involved offenders(s) perceived to be juvenile(s)
- Juveniles were involved as victims or offenders in 38% of all violent crimes in which the victim could estimate the age of the offender(s), 1993-2003

# Additional Wraparound Studies

## Connections

Portland State  
Regional Research  
Institute at

[www.rrri.pdx.edu/ClarkC](http://www.rrri.pdx.edu/ClarkC)

o

Dr. Nancy Koroloff,  
Michael Pullman & Jodi  
Kerbs

## Wraparound

John Franz, Patricia  
Miles & Neil Brown at



# Contact Information

For more program information, please contact:

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