

**Program Name: Neighborhood Accountability Boards****Department Name: Teen Court, Court Administration, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court**

Prepared By: Stacy Roberts, Director  
 Duval County Teen Court & Neighborhood  
 Accountability Board (NAB)

Reporting Month: **10/2015**  
**Date to include prior two  
 years**

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Type Allocation: City Direct Delivery  Competitive Bid  Legislative Award

Program Strategy: Juvenile Prevention and Intervention Services

**Program Summary:**

The Neighborhood Accountability Board (NAB) serves as a dedicated diversionary program designed to provide consequences and services for youth, ages 10-17, issued a juvenile civil citation in some of Duval County's highest crime zip codes. The NAB represents a community based decision making process aimed at repairing harm brought on by crime. This process incorporates Restorative Justice principles. These principles are community safety, competency development, and offender accountability. The response to harm should meet the needs of the victim, offender, and community. Youth who commit the following non-violent offenses may be eligible for a referral to a NAB: affray, simple assault/battery, criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, loitering/prowling, petit theft (value less than \$300), possession of alcohol by a minor, possession of marijuana (less than 20 grams), resisting arrest without violence, trespassing. Sanctions issued by the NAB will be related to the specific charges of the youth as well as collateral information ascertained during questions at the NAB hearing. Upon completion of all assigned tasks, the Youth receives a Certificate of Completion from the NAB and no charges are filed and no delinquency record is ever created, thus not hindering the Youth from opportunities related to college admissions, military recruitment and employment in the future. The goals of the NAB are: to provide the victim and community the opportunity to converse with an offender in a safe and productive manner, to provide an opportunity for an offender to take responsibility and make amends, to provide community/citizen ownership of the justice system, to provide a timely, community response to repair harm and MOST IMPORTANTLY, to give youth the opportunity to avoid criminal prosecution for a first time misdemeanor offense.

**Program Overall Status:**

Month	New Client Hearings	Review Hearings	Closeout Hearings	Total Active Cases each Month
April 2014	6	0	3	43
May 2014	9	0	0	45
June 2014	3	0	2	41
July 2014	8	0	4	36
August 2014	2	0	0	33
September 2014	6	0	0	32
October 2014	4	1	1	31
November 2014	7	0	0	37
December 2014	4	0	3	35
January 2015	6	0	0	34
February 2015	7	1	1	36
March 2015	7	2	0	41
April 2015	6	2	7	40
May 2015	1	3	4	36
June 2015	5	1	7	30
July 2015	2	2	7	22
August 2015	3	1	4	21
September 2015	1	2	1	18
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>44</b>	

**Total Unduplicated Clients Served: 88**

**Successes:**

1. Three NABs are up and running successfully. There is complete community engagement at all. Board members consist of dedicated individuals from each community to include: local merchants, clergy, teachers, counselors, JSO lieutenants, and other concerned members of the community. All have been trained in NAB procedures and the basics of restorative justice principles.
2. A fourth NAB is in place to begin at the end of the month in Arlington. Training has already occurred at Terry Parker High School. A mock NAB occurred on 10/13/15. Active cases can be received as of 10/27/15.
3. Discussions continue about extending the zip codes at the existing NABs to allow for the inclusion of other schools. This writer has a meeting scheduled with the local Full Service School Director to discuss this expansion.
4. On October 1, 2015, State Legislation changed allowing for youths to receive up to three civil citations (previously only one). This could potentially mean an increase in referrals for repeat-offender youths. Due to this, discussions are being held about developing a graduated sanction program for youths that are repeat offenders.
5. Community outreach continues in order to increase awareness and support of the NABs. Director has provided training on the program to the educators at the Arlington Oversight Committee on 9/17/15, the educators at Mattie V. Rutherford school on 9/21/15, the recently sworn JSO Lieutenants at their Lieutenant’s Retreat on 10/2/15 and the Deans at the Duval County Dean of Discipline’s Training on 10/6/15. Another training is scheduled on 10/22/15 at a local Rotary Club.

**Challenges:**

1. Due to issues with previous referral procedures, the number of referrals from the State Attorney’s Office (SAO) have been very low. To address this issue, new Director has met with SAO contact and a new referral process has been developed. Referrals are increasing.
2. Three-year SAMHSA grant is ending in December 2015. This will eliminate all funding used for treatment services as well as one staff member. To address this, two staff members and one paid intern were laid off. Treatment services have been directed to agencies that have other funding sources to provide our teens with quality services since funding has been eliminated.
3. With the implementation of the fourth NAB coinciding with the decrease in grant funding, more funding for NAB Case Monitoring hours is needed. The NAB Case Monitor has been working a total of 30 hours per week, but will only be budgeted for 18 hours per week with the current budgetary constraints.

**Program Providers – Where there are multiple agencies working together, please specify each agencies role. If type other than those illustrated below, please add to legend type below.**

**Types: D\$=City direct funded provider PT = Partner or subcontracted provider – NO FUNDING**

**PT\$ = Partner or subcontracted provider receiving funds from direct funded provider**

Provider(s)	Type Code	Contact Name	Address/Tel. No.	Program Specifics/ Services Provided
United Way/ Duval County Full Service Schools	PT	Keto Porter	1301 Riverplace Blvd Jacksonville FL 32207/ 904-390-3247	Referrals for counseling services utilize Full Service School resources
Teen Court, 4 <sup>th</sup> Circuit	D\$	Stacy Roberts	501 W. Adams St. Jacksonville FL 32202/ 904-255-1032	Case Monitoring, Assessments, Moderators
iCare (Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation and Empowerment)	PT	Nancy Ricker	2650 Park St. Jacksonville FL 32204/ 904-388-9181	Community Outreach and Advocacy

**Program Budget/Financial Status**

FY 2015-2016 Budget Item	Budget	Actual (cumulative)	Encumbrance	Balance	Variance
NAB Case Monitor* salary (@\$18/hr for	\$16,848				

18 hrs per week)					
NAB Assessment Coordinator** salary (@\$18/hr/40hrs per week)	\$37,440				

<b>Scope of Service:</b>					
<b>Program Deliverables</b>					
<b>A. Quantity: How much?</b>		<b>2014-2015</b>			
Between April 2014 through September 2015, 87 teens entered treatment through a Neighborhood Accountability Board. These youth participated in community service, mental health counseling (as indicated), drug testing, substance abuse counseling (as indicated), written assignments pertaining to career aspirations and consequences of their offenses and positive mentoring from community leaders.					
<b>B. Quality / Effort: How well services provided?</b>		<b>2014-2015</b>			
Between April 2014 through September 2015, 89 teens successfully completed their civil citation program through a Neighborhood Accountability Board. Youth received quality services through accredited community agencies through the Duval County Full Service Schools at no costs to their families or this program.					
<b>C. Client Benefits: Is anyone any better off?</b>		<b>2014-2015</b>			
<p><b>Youths</b> that complete treatment and sanctions through a diversionary, restorative justice-modeled program are shown to be less likely to recidivate criminally. Recent studies indicate a <u>reduced recidivism rate</u> as low as 6% (versus 18% of the population engaged in the traditional Juvenile Court.) Additionally, they are spared a criminal charge and record. This enables them a second chance to avoid the stigma and the barriers to college entry, military recruitment and employment application that accompany a criminal record. For these reasons, every youth who completes the civil citation diversion program is better off to become productive citizens.</p> <p><b>Victims</b> feel empowered because they are allowed to be part of the solution. They can get the closure they desire and have the ability to feel a sense of satisfaction with the criminal justice system given an increased sense of involvement in the progress.</p> <p><b>The Community</b> is a safer place! Neighborhood residents increase feelings of pride in their neighborhoods by being more involved and by holding the offenders accountable for their actions and presenting them with the impact their actions had on the neighborhood.</p> <p><b>Cost Savings</b> According to DJJ: "A one percent reduction in juvenile crime...saves an estimated \$15.6 million in criminal justice costs and \$5.3 million in victim costs. These savings can be used for other community diversion programs for juveniles.</p>					

**Narrative:** \*NAB Case Monitor is responsible for maintaining all open NAB cases from all NAB locations. This includes preparing, reviewing and maintaining all forms, orienting youth to the program, serving as the point of contact for all youth and family to the program, making home and school visits to ensure that the youth is following program guidelines and completing assignments as instructed, scheduling all youth and families for reviews and closeout sessions, drug testing all same-sex clients, collecting all completed sanctions, participating in all NAB training sessions for volunteers, coordinating with NAB host agencies to ensure adequate accommodations for all NAB sessions.

\*\* NAB Assessment Coordinator is responsible for the clinical assessment and evaluation of all incoming youth to determine eligibility to the program as well as needs assessment of each youth. This is done by utilizing the evidence-based assessment tool: GAIN with a trauma questionnaire addendum on each youth with drug testing.