516 Third Avenue, Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Seattle, WA 98104

King County

Meeting Agenda

Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Rhonda Lewis, Chair;
Rod Dembowski,Vice-Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Jorge L. Barón, Teresa Mosqueda

Lead Staff: Leah Krekel-Zoppi (206-477-0892)
Co-Lead Erica Newman (206-477-7543)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

9:30 AM | **Wednesday, November 4, 2026** | **Hybrid Meeting**

Hybrid Meetings: Attend King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: The Law and Justice Committee values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:
1. In person: You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. By email: You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to committees@kingcounty.gov. If your email is received before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer: You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at https://zoom.us/join and entering the Webinar ID number below.

Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).
TTY Number - TTY 711.
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You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

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CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:

Webinar ID: 889 0017 7467

By computer using the Zoom application at https://zoom.us/join and the Webinar ID above.

By phone by calling 1-253-215-8782 and entering the Webinar ID above.

HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY: There are three ways to watch or listen to the meeting:
1) Stream online via this link www.kingcounty.gov/kctv or input the link web address into your web browser.
2) Watch King County TV on Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD) and Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
3) Listen to the meeting by telephone see "Connecting to the Webinar" above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment, please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

3. Approval of Minutes p. 4

October 7, 2026 meeting minutes

4. Public Comment



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Discussion and Possible Action

5. Proposed Motion No. 2026-0246 **p. 6**

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the Victim Support Service Improvement Plan required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7.

Sponsors: Lewis

Brandi Paribello, Council staff

6. Proposed Motion No. 2026-0237 **p. 57**

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of an independent monitoring report on the confinement of juveniles in county detention facilities as required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 53, Proviso P1.

Sponsors: Lewis

Leah Krekel-Zoppi, Council staff

Briefing

7. Briefing No. 2026-B0130 **p. 128**

Superior Court Juvenile Diversion

Veronica Galván, Chief Judge, Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center
Robert Gant, Director, Juvenile Court Services, King County Superior Court
Paul Daniels, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, King County Superior Court

8. Briefing No. 2026-B0129 **p. 151 (no materials)**

Charles Mitchell & George Washington Bush Study for Reparative Action Updates

Dr. Ashley Gardner, Principal Project Director, Charles Mitchell & George Washington Bush Study for Reparative Action

Other Business

Adjournment

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King County

516 Third Avenue, Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes

Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Rhonda Lewis, Chair;
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Lead Staff: Leah Krekel-Zoppi (206-477-0892)
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Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

9:30 AM **Wednesday, October 7, 2026** **Hybrid Meeting**

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: 5 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Lewis and Mosqueda

3. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Barón moved approval of the minutes of the September 2, 2026 meeting. Seeing no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. Public Comment

There were no individuals present to provide public comment.

Briefing

5. Briefing No. 2026-B0115

Evaluation of Juvenile Recidivism Data and Juvenile Diversion Programs

This matter was Presented

Dr. Claus Pörtner, Professor of Economics, Seattle University, briefed the committee via a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members. David Baker, Director, Data and Analytics, Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO), also addressed the committee and answered questions from the members.

6. **Briefing No. 2026-B0116**

King County Superior Court Family Law Caseload & Judicial Resource Needs Report

This matter was Presented

Presiding Judge Averil Rothrock, King County Superior Court, and Meagan Cordova, Director, Family Court Operations, King County Superior Court, briefed the committee via a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.

Discussion and Possible Action

7. **Proposed Motion No. 2026-0232**

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Chris Smith, who resides in council district four, to the King County community advisory committee for law enforcement oversight, as an at-large representative.

This matter was Deferred

Nick Bowman, Council staff, provided an introductory overview. Chris Smith, appointee, Community Advisory Committee for Law Enforcement Oversight (CACLEO), provided comments on their background and interest in serving on the committee and answered questions from the members. Jamie Tugenberg, Staff Liaison, CACLEO, also addressed the committee.

8. **Proposed Motion No. 2026-0246**

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the Victim Support Service Improvement Plan required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7.

This matter was Deferred

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m

Approved this _____ day of _____.

Clerk's Signature

Metropolitan King County Council
Staff Report

Committee:	Law and Justice		
Agenda Item:	5	**Analyst:**	Brandi Paribello
Proposed No.:	2026-0246	**Meeting Date:**	November 4, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: A motion acknowledging receipt of a Victim Support Services Improvement Plan (the Plan) as required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2026-0246 would acknowledge receipt of the motion and the Plan required by Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7. Approval of the proposed motion would release $250,000 to the Office of the County Executive.

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

A. **Proviso Response.** The Plan appears to satisfy the proviso requirements, although it was transmitted late. It is a policy choice for the Council whether the information provided in the proviso response and summarized in this staff report is sufficient to meet the intent of the proviso.

BACKGROUND & TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Background. King County, via the Office of Prosecuting Attorney, offers support to victims of crime who are navigating through the criminal justice process. The County provides System Advocate and Community Advocate resources.

A crime victim may interact with a System-based Advocate when engaging with a government or law enforcement agency; crime victims do not need to engage with such an agency in order to interact with a Community Advocate. The County connects crime victims to advocacy and support services in the following areas:

- Gender Based Violence
  - Domestic Violence Advocacy Team
  - King County Sexual Assault Services
  - Children's Justice Center for King County
- Homicide and Violent Crime
- Vulnerable Population Advocacy
- Mental Health and Veterans Court Advocacy

- Forensic Mental Health and Competency Advocacy
- Post Sentencing and Sentence Review Advocacy
- Involuntary Treatment Court Family Liaison
- Juvenile Court Victim Advocacy
- Protection Order Advocacy

Proviso language. The 2026-2027 Biennial Budget included a proviso (Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7) that withheld $250,000 from the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget[1] budget:

> *"Of this appropriation, $250,000 shall not be expended or encumbered until the executive transmits a victim support service improvement plan and a motion that should acknowledge receipt of the plan, and a motion acknowledging receipt of the plan is passed by the council. The motion should reference the subject matter, the proviso's ordinance, ordinance section, and proviso number in both the title and body of the motion.*
>
> *A. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:*
>
> *1. An inventory of services provided and funded by King County agencies that are available to survivors of violence and victims of crime and their families, as well as an inventory of such services provided by contracted services providers;*
>
> *2. Evaluation of best practices, current gaps in the system, and the most prevalent needs of survivors, victims, and their families; and*
>
> *3. A plan to expand and improve services for victims of crime and survivors of violence and their families, including the people themselves or family members of people who have been harmed in interactions with law enforcement.*
>
> *B. The plan should be developed in collaboration with community service providers, those who have or may use such services, and collaboration across criminal legal system agencies.*
>
> *The executive should electronically file the plan and a motion required by this proviso by June 30, 2026, with the clerk of the council, who shall retain an electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the*

[1] The Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget was absorbed into the Office of the County Executive appropriation unit (Ordinance 20086) after Executive Girmay Zahilay's reorganization of administrative offices and Executive departments (Ordinance 20082).

council chief of staff, and the lead staff for the law and justice committee or its successor."

Timing Considerations. There are no timing considerations.

ANALYSIS

Key Issue A. Proviso Response. Proposed Motion 2026-0246 was transmitted on August 31, 2026. This is after the June 30, 2026, deadline indicated in Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7, which requests information on the services provided or funded by King County for crime victims and their families, as well as a plan to improve services based on an evaluation of best practices and system gaps.

This section of the staff report provides a summary of the required components of the proviso, which are indicated in bold.

An inventory of services provided and funded by King County agencies that are available to survivors of violence and victims of crime and their families, as well as an inventory of such services provided by contracted services providers.

The Plan states that King County provides crime victim support services in two primary ways:

- System-based victim advocates support victims and survivors of crime navigate the criminal legal process and understand their rights to information, protection, and participation under Washington State's Crime Victims Bill of Rights (RCW 7.69.030).
- Community-based advocates support victims and survivors with services and resources to address the harm caused by crime and do not require engagement with the criminal legal system. For these services, King County contracts with various community partners.

Figure 1 provides a representative example of the summary of services found in the Plan on pages 4 and 5; significant details on these services, including funding sources, who is contracted to provide services, and how to access services, among others, can be found in Appendix A (pages 15 and 16) of the Plan.

Figure 1. Summary of Victim Support Services, pgs. 4-5

Table 1 – Summary of King County Victim & Survivor Supports & Services

Support-Type	Provider	Eligibility for Services	Services Available
System-based Victim Advocates	Prosecuting Attorney's Office	• Domestic violence survivors • Homicide & violent Crime • Child abuse • Vulnerable populations (elder abuse, hate crimes, trafficking) • Alternative courts & specialized advocacy (mental health, competency, post-sentencing & sentencing review, Juvenile Court)	• Crisis intervention and emotional support • Linkages to community resources and support • Information about the criminal justice process and what to expect • Important updates on case information • Support during court hearings and trials • General information on trauma and victimization • Assistance with crime victim compensation application • Information on crime victim rights • Assistance with safety planning • Assistance with victim impact statements • Intervention with landlords, creditors, and employers on behalf of the victim • Assistance with civil protection orders
System & Community-based Response	King County Sexual Assault Resource Center	Children, teens and adults who have experienced sexual assault	• All felony level victim advocacy for King County's Sexual Assault Unit • 24-hour resource line • Legal & general advocacy services • Therapy services • Prevention education & outreach
Civil Legal Support – "Project Safety"	Prosecuting Attorney's Office & Community Partners	Individuals who have civil legal needs as a result of victimization	Legal Support and referral for civil legal issues, including family, housing, employment, immigration, consumer laws, protection orders, and access to public benefits, healthcare & education.

Evaluation of best practices, current gaps in the system, and the most prevalent needs of survivors, victims, and their families.

Best Practices. The Plan summarizes the best practices for systems-based and community-based services separately to delineate between the statutory rights afforded to victims in criminal legal proceedings. The Plan concludes that best practices for both systems-based and community-based advocacy "is a victim-centered approach to services that are readily accessible and appropriate to meet the needs of crime victims, survivors and their families."

A more detailed list of best practices for systems-based services can be found on page 6 and a detailed list of best practices for community-based services can be found on pages 6 through 7. Figure 2 provides a representative example of the detailed lists.

Figure 2. Detailed lists of Best Practices, pgs. 6-7

Best practices in meeting the goals of system-based advocacy to ensure that victims and survivors' interests are represented and upheld in the justice system include:[4]

- Inform victims as early as possible in the case process about the role of system-based advocates. Inform victims about privacy and confidentiality limits and supports in criminal proceedings.
- Assist victims in understanding the criminal legal process and the continuum of justice options.
- Provide support and advocacy throughout all criminal legal proceedings.
- Implement protocols addressing the cross-jurisdictional issues impacting the services and supports available to victims during criminal proceedings.
- Establish policies and protocols to partner with other crime victim and support service providers to connect victims with ongoing support services from community-based service providers, including referral policies as needed.
- Establish an end-of-case process that provides information to victims and survivors about post-conviction processes, their rights and available resources
- Provide assistance in accessing financial resources. In Washington State, the Crime Victim's Compensation Fund provides financial assistance for victims of violent crimes.
- Establish culturally and linguistically specific programs and resources to ensure access to services for victims and their families.

Gaps in the System and Most Prevalent Needs. The Plan provides an assessment of current gaps in the system and states it is "derived from discussions with system-based and community-based advocates, King County staff from the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention, the Department of Community and Human Services, and Prosecuting Attorney's Office, community partners and contractors, and victim services organizations."

Additionally, the Plan states it uses information from "reports from the June 2025 Victim Support Summit and recommendations from the Victim Justice Coalition, and an October 2024 presentation to the King County Council from the King County Women's Advisory Council (Appendices B and C to the Plan)." The Plan lists gap in the system and most prevalent needs in the below categories. Details for each of these categories can be found on pages 7 through 10 of the Plan.

- Sufficient and Sustained Funding Resources to Support Crime Victims and Survivors.
- Services and Supports for Victims and Survivors of all Crimes.
- Sufficient Wrap-Around Supports and Flexible Financial Assistance.
- Coordination Across System Partners, Service Providers, and Jurisdictions.

- Mobile Advocacy and Early Intervention.
- Comprehensive Referral Services and Follow-Up.
- Cultural and Linguistic Competency.

A plan to expand and improve services for victims of crime and survivors of violence and their families, including the people themselves or family members of people who have been harmed in interactions with law enforcement.

The Plan provides recommendations "to improve services for victims and survivors of violence and address the most prevalent needs identified by victim service advocates and organizations." The Plan lists recommendations in the categories below. Details for each of these categories can be found on pages 10 and 11 of the Plan.

- Improve multi-agency coordination and collaboration.
- Convene a working group of system-based partners, including criminal justice,
- social services, health providers and community-based organizations to develop
- strategies to improve coordination and access to victims and survivors of all crimes
- and their families.
- Develop a comprehensive guide of services and resources available to all crime victims and survivors, including those provided by other jurisdictions within King County.
- Increase flexible financial assistance funding.
- Advocate for increased and sustained state funding to maintain victim services.
- Integrate data and continuous improvement. Use outcome date to refine service delivery and scope and guide strategic planning. Data should include client satisfaction and areas of unmet need.

Conclusion. The Plan appears to be responsive to the proviso requirements.

INVITED

- Aaron Rubardt, Budget Director, Office of the Executive

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0246 (and its attachment)
2. Transmittal Letter

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

KING COUNTY

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2026-0246.1 **Sponsors** Lewis

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the Victim Support Service Improvement Plan required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7.

WHEREAS, the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7, requires the executive to transmit a Victim Support Service Improvement Plan, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7, further requires the executive to submit a motion that acknowledges receipt of the Victim Support Service Improvment Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The receipt of the Victim Support Service Improvement Plan, which is

Attachment A to this motion, in compliance with Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7, is hereby acknowledged.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

_____

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, _____.

_____

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: A. Victim Support Service Improvement Plan

Victim Support Service Improvement Plan

June 30, 2026

King County

Summary

King County Ordinance 20023 requests information on the services provided or funded by King County for crime victims and their families, as well as a plan to improve services based on an evaluation of best practices and system gaps.

In June 2025, King County co-convened a Crime Victims and Survivors Summit to elevate the voices of those who have experienced crime and hear how the County can better support crime victims and their families.[1] The gathering brought together survivors, family members, advocates, community leaders and policy makers to discuss what is working, where gaps remain, and where meaningful improvements are needed. Participants described significant challenges navigating court processes, limited access to trauma-informed therapy, fragmented and inconsistent advocacy services, and a lack of sustained support beyond the life of a criminal case. Survivors also reported difficulty accessing services due to the limited availability of resources and the siloed nature of existing support systems. A second Summit held in January 2026 focused on issues facing survivors of Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

Following these convenings, the Executive and Council recognized the need for better support for crime victims, survivors and their families. This proviso response provides an overview of the work King County currently offers, areas of service gaps and recommendations for improving services. The Executive Office collaborated with the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO), Seattle/King County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) in developing the report. Best practices information was gathered from advocates and practitioners in the field of victim services, organizations supporting victims and survivors, and a review of available literature

King County's services for crime victims and survivors are offered through several avenues, including system-based crime victim advocacy, restorative justice and diversion services, gun violence prevention and response, and community-based services and supports. These services are administered by the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO), Seattle/King County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS).

From the analysis of best practice and discussions with advocates and providers, the major service gaps include the following:

- The lack of support services that are available to victims and survivors of all crimes, with few community resources available for victims and survivors of non-gender based violent crimes, such as unsolved homicides and assaults.
- The absence of a coordinated intake and referral process to minimize the challenge victims and survivors face when seeking services across a fragmented system of service providers and jurisdictions, particularly for individuals with access needs including culturally and linguistically appropriate services.
- Insufficient funding for service providers to address immediate and long-term care needs, including wrap around services that include mental health care, flexible financial support and navigation.

Recommendations include service mapping across other providers and jurisdictions to identify opportunities for more comprehensive services that can meet the needs of victims, families and

survivors; improvements to coordination and referral processes to minimize the need for victims to self-navigate a complex service environment; expansion of supports available to victims and survivors of non-gender based violent crimes; and system evaluation that prioritizes the experience of victims and survivors.

Report Requirements

This section is organized to respond to each of the requirements included in Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7, which requests:

1. *An inventory of services provided and funded by King County agencies that are available to survivors of violence and victims of crime and their families, as well as an inventory of such services provided by contracted services providers;*
2. *Evaluation of best practices, current gaps in the system, and the most prevalent needs of survivors, victims, and their families; and*
3. *A plan to expand and improve services for victims of crime and survivors of violence and their families, including the people themselves or family members of people who have been harmed in interactions with law enforcement.*

Inventory of services Crime victim support services include programs and funding that are designed to advocate for and help individuals and families harmed by crime address immediate and longer-term needs, support physical and emotional recovery, and be supported through criminal legal proceedings. King County provides crime victim support services in two primary ways:

- System-based victim advocates support victims/survivors of crime navigate the criminal legal process and understand their rights to information, protection, and participation under Washington State's Crime Victims Bill of Rights (RCW 7.69.030). Crime Victim Advocates may also help victims and survivors apply for Washington State's Crime Victim's Compensation Fund and refer them to community-based resources and support.

  System-based advocacy is provided by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office of Victim Services ("Victim Advocates") who are trained to support victims of domestic violence, homicide and violent crime, and crimes against vulnerable populations (hate crimes, elder abuse and trafficking). For survivors of sexual assault, advocacy services are provided by the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC). For crimes occurring in the City of Seattle, the city's Crime Survivor Services provides advocacy assistance and connection to resources. Restitution is also available for crime victims who participate in diversion programs or whose cases are adjudicated in Adult Drug Court.

- Community-based advocates support victims/survivors with services and resources to address the harms caused by crime and do not require engagement with the criminal legal system. King County contracts with a number of community partners that offer a range of services and supports for victims and survivors of domestic violence and gender-based violence. Through funding provided by the Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) and the Community Services Operating (CSO) appropriation unit, the King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) Adult Services Division (ASD) provides direct and contracted services that support individuals, families, and

communities impacted by violence and victimization. In addition, King County offers restitution for victims in its youth and community diversion programs and victim support in several of its behavioral health programs. King County also provides hospital-based services for victims of gun violence and their families, including flexible financial support, through the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention (ROGVP).

The following table summarizes the services available to victims and survivors of crime (a detailed inventory is provided in Attachment A).

Table 1 – Summary of King County Victim & Survivor Supports & Services

Support-Type	Provider	Eligibility for Services	Services Available
System-based Victim Advocates	Prosecuting Attorney's Office	• Domestic violence survivors • Homicide & violent Crime • Child abuse • Vulnerable populations (elder abuse, hate crimes, trafficking) • Alternative courts & specialized advocacy (mental health, competency, post-sentencing & sentencing review, Juvenile Court)	• Crisis intervention and emotional support • Linkages to community resources and support • Information about the criminal justice process and what to expect • Important updates on case information • Support during court hearings and trials • General information on trauma and victimization • Assistance with crime victim compensation application • Information on crime victim rights • Assistance with safety planning • Assistance with victim impact statements • Intervention with landlords, creditors, and employers on behalf of the victim • Assistance with civil protection orders
System & Community-based Response	King County Sexual Assault Resource Center	Children, teens and adults who have experienced sexual assault	• All felony level victim advocacy for King County's Sexual Assault Unit • 24-hour resource line • Legal & general advocacy services • Therapy services • Prevention education & outreach
Civil Legal Support – "Project Safety"	Prosecuting Attorney's Office & Community Partners	Individuals who have civil legal needs as a result of victimization	Legal Support and referral for civil legal issues, including family, housing, employment, immigration, consumer laws, protection orders, and access to public benefits, healthcare & education.

Support-Type	Provider	Eligibility for Services	Services Available
Gun Violence Prevention	Department of Public Health, Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention, Harborview Medical Center & Contracted Providers	Victims of firearm injury and those at risk of gun violence	Hospital-based services: • Immediate basic needs assistance for patients and families • Referral to community partners for eligible individuals to ensure continuity from hospital to community services • Bereavement and trauma support including counseling referrals and coordination with victim assistance for funeral cost support Community-based services: • Safety planning • Rapid response & intervention • Safe passage
Community-based victim & survivor services	Department of Community and Human Services & Contracted Providers	Victims/survivors of gender-based violence, domestic violence, human trafficking and exploitation	• 24-hour multi-lingual domestic violence hotline • Mobile-advocacy services • Trauma-informed therapy • Violence prevention & education • Flexible Financial Assistance • Advocacy and systems navigation
Diversion & restorative intervention	Prosecuting Attorney's Office & Community Partners	Victim & youth accused of harm and their family members	• Restitution • Advocacy for victims seeking accountability and solutions from the accused

1. Evaluation of best practices, current gaps in the system, and the most prevalent needs of survivors, victims, and their families

a. Evaluation of best practices

This section summarizes the best practices for systems-based and community-based services separately to delineate between the statutory rights afforded to victims in criminal legal proceedings. However, there is overlap between the service needs for victims, survivors and their families for wrap-around support, restitution and recovery. Across all best practices for both systems-based and community-based advocacy is a victim-centered approach to services that are readily accessible and appropriate to meet the needs of crime victims, survivors and their families. The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) at the U.S. Department of Justice is the leading federal agency on the policies and practice to advance justice and healing for all victims of crime and defines a victim-centered approach as:

> *Placing the crime victim's priorities, needs, and interests at the center of the work with the victim; providing nonjudgmental assistance, with an emphasis on client self-determination,*

where appropriate, and assisting victims in making informed choices; ensuring that restoring victims' feelings of safety and security are a priority and safeguarding against policies and practices that may inadvertently re-traumatize victims; ensuring that victims' rights, voices, and perspectives are incorporated when developing and implementing system- and community-based efforts that impact crime victims.[2]

System-based advocacy

The goal of system-based advocacy is to ensure that the victim and survivor's interests are represented and their rights are upheld within the criminal justice system. In Washington State, victims rights are governed by RCW 7.69.030, which includes the right to information about these protections, notification of the disposition of their criminal case, protection from harm and threats, attend criminal proceedings, submit a victims impact statement, and seek an order of restitution.[3]

Best practices in meeting the goals of system-based advocacy to ensure that victims and survivors' interests are represented and upheld in the justice system include:[4]

- Inform victims as early as possible in the case process about the role of system-based advocates. Inform victims about privacy and confidentiality limits and supports in criminal proceedings.
- Assist victims in understanding the criminal legal process and the continuum of justice options.
- Provide support and advocacy throughout all criminal legal proceedings.
- Implement protocols addressing the cross-jurisdictional issues impacting the services and supports available to victims during criminal proceedings.
- Establish policies and protocols to partner with other crime victim and support service providers to connect victims with ongoing support services from community-based service providers, including referral policies as needed.
- Establish an end-of-case process that provides information to victims and survivors about post-conviction processes, their rights and available resources
- Provide assistance in accessing financial resources. In Washington State, the Crime Victim's Compensation Fund provides financial assistance for victims of violent crimes.
- Establish culturally and linguistically specific programs and resources to ensure access to services for victims and their families.

Community-based advocacy

Community-based victim assistance providers work to respond to the mental, physical, financial, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of crime victims and survivors. They may also offer intervention, risk reduction, and prevention services to victims, survivors of crime and their families. Robust, survivor-centered, trauma-informed advocacy is central to the best practices of services that are available to crime victims and survivors. Services must also be responsive, accessible, culturally and linguistically appropriate, with victim support offered as soon as possible after the harm occurred. Best practices include:

- **Crisis Response -** Victim-centered services assess immediate needs for safety and security. Services should be directed toward calming a situation, establishing physical and emotional safety, and, when appropriate, reinforcing the victim's ability to make choices regarding possible courses of action. Crisis support should be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Mobile Advocacy -** Mobile advocacy is an evidence-based strategy[5] for supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Mobile advocacy is survivor-driven, trauma-informed advocacy where survivors identify and define their objectives for regaining control of their lives. Mobile advocates meet survivors in locations of their choice and may accompany survivors to appointments. Mobile advocacy is not considered a crisis response but a mid- to long-term support designed to follow survivors across a wide range of needs.

- **Flexible Financial Assistance -** Flexible financial assistance refers to short-term funds used to address key basic needs and financial barriers faced by survivors receiving advocacy services. Examples include, but are not limited to:[6]
    - housing assistance (hotel/motel emergency stays, rental applications, rental assistance, rental deposit, utilities set-up fees or costs)
    - transportation (taxi, bus pass, fuel, car repairs)
    - childcare (co-pays, child care expenses)
    - employment (education, professional certification and training programs)
    - medical fees (clinical and therapeutic services)
    - legal fees (court fees)
    - financial literacy
    - relocation assistance
    - food
    - clothing
    - other needs identified as interfering with survivors' ability to create safe, healthy, and stable lives.

- **Culturally Proficient and Accessible Services for All Victims and Survivors** - A victim centered approach to services is welcoming, culturally inclusive, physically accessible, and appropriate to all victims seeking assistance. [7]This includes victims/survivors who are racial or ethnic minorities, individuals with limited English proficiency, immigrants or refugees, LGBTQIA+ individuals, individuals who are experiencing homelessness, individuals with disabilities or specific access needs, individuals with mental illness or substance use disorders, victims/survivors of human trafficking, and other identities. The desired result is for victims and survivors to be welcomed, safe, and supported when accessing services and see reflections of their culture and experience in the organization.[8]

System Best Practices

Best practices also address how responsive and comprehensive the system can be in delivering services to victims and survivors of crime.[9] Some key elements include:

- Collaboration and communication between agencies, organizations, groups, and systems that serve victims and survivors in order to develop a comprehensive and seamless response to victim/survivor needs.
- Effective policies and protocols to connect the work between system partners and victim service programs on behalf of victims, ensuring clear definition of roles and responsibilities for all partners and referral processes.

- Cooperative working relationships with and/or between criminal justice partners, including law enforcement.
- Multi-disciplinary training to ensure that all partners are knowledgeable of victim's interests.
- Comprehensive inventory of community resources that provide victim-centered services.
- Support of culturally specific programs and resources to ensure access for victims.
- Collaboration to advance new ways of integrating and delivering victim-centered services and leveraging other community resources.

An illustration of these principles at work was a U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) demonstration project designed to create a comprehensive, coordinated, and seamless system for delivering victim services through collaboration across sectors.[10] The City of Denver was selected as an urban site to develop distinct, context-specific collaboration models for Denver Victim Services (VS2000). The purpose of the demonstration project was to integrate services for victims of crime across multiple agencies, break down silos, and tailor collaboration models to local needs and conditions. Denver's approach emphasized interagency partnerships and protocols between victim service agencies, law enforcement, courts and community agencies; integrated case management to ensure continuity of care; shared data systems to improve coordination and reduce duplication; advocacy for policy change to expand access to services; and service adaptations to address political and demographic diversity. While the Denver demonstration project ended, it demonstrated that collaboration can transform victim services from a fragmented, reactive response to a seamless, victim-centered system and has informed its partnership protocols and training frameworks.

b. **Current gaps in the system, and the most prevalent needs of survivors, victims and their families**

This assessment of current gaps in the system is derived from discussions with system-based and community-based advocates, King County staff from the Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention, the Department of Community and Human Services, and Prosecuting Attorney's Office, community partners and contractors, and victim services organizations. It also draws from reports from the June 2025 Victim Support Summit and recommendations from the Victim Justice Coalition, and an October 2024 presentation to the King County Council from the King County Women's Advisory Council. (Appendices B and C)

- **Sufficient and Sustained Funding Resources to Support Crime Victims and Survivors**. The Crime Victims Fund (CVF) was created by Congress in 1984 to provide Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants to state, territorial, and local programs that assist victims of crime. CVF funding has historically been a major sustainer of services for over six million victims of all types of crimes annually through almost 6,500 direct service organizations, such as domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and child abuse treatment programs. However, with federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) dollars down 76% since 2018—dropping from $74.7 million to just $17.8 million—programs that support survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, and other crimes have seen unsustainable reductions in victim services funding. For six consecutive years, Washington State providers have relied on temporary state funding ($21.3 million for fiscal year 2027) to offset these federal cuts.[11] While this has helped keep services in place, advocates note that it

has not created the stability programs need to sustain services, retain staff, or meet growing demand across communities.

- **Services and Supports for Victims and Survivors of all Crimes**. The availability and scope of victim support services vary depending on the type of crime that caused the harm, the jurisdiction where the crime occurred, and the disposition of the relevant criminal case. King County's community-based services are primarily provided for victims and survivors of gender-based violence and human trafficking, including, but not limited to, domestic violence, sexual assault, and commercial sexual exploitation. While King County invests in other services that improve access to behavioral health, housing stability, and risk reduction, which can benefit all crime victims, there are few community-based supportive resources specifically directed to victims and survivors of non-gender based violent crimes. The King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Victims Support Unit offers system-based advocacy to all victims in felony level criminal cases. However, outside of the support they offer through the criminal legal proceedings, they have limited ability to connect clients to other needed support services and do not have funds to offer clients flexible financial assistance. There is also a particular gap in services for survivors of unsolved violent crimes as system-based advocacy services only become available after criminal charges are filed.

- **Sufficient Wrap-Around Supports and Flexible Financial Assistance**. Victim-centered care should be driven by the needs of the victim and survivor. Based on an individual's circumstances, support needs could include immediate crisis intervention, safety planning, housing assistance, legal services, and mental health supports.
    - **Housing Resources –** Domestic Violence remains one of the leading causes of homelessness in King County.[12] Shelter availability and access enable survivors to be safe until permanent housing can be secured. However, shortages in shelter spaces, including those that are ADA accessible, gender affirming, and culturally appropriate lead to the risk of homelessness or return to the abusive environment.
    - **Flexible Financial Assistance –** Flexible financial supports are short-term funds that are available to address key basic needs and financial barriers faced by crime victims and survivors. King County provides funding for flexible financial assistance through community-based partners serving victims and survivors of gender-based crime. However, providers report that the funding is insufficient to meet the breadth of needs faced by their clients. System-based advocates do not have the ability to offer their clients any flexible financial supports to address immediate needs. A recent example described by the King County's Prosecutors Office is the lack of childcare resources for a victim who was called to testify. In this instance, office staff volunteered to care for the victim's children during the court proceedings.[13]
    - **Long-term Care –** Victims and survivors are likely to have long ranging needs to overcome the impacts of crime on their financial, health, and emotional well-being. King County funds a network of providers who support victims and survivors of gender-based violence and sexual assault that are committed to providing services for as long as needed. However, they are limited by available resources, staffing, and practitioners able to provide ongoing trauma informed, culturally, and linguistically appropriate care. As noted, King County does not fund community-based long-term care for victims and survivors of non-gender based violent crimes

or unsolved homicides. System-based advocates are only able to support victims during criminal proceedings and are limited to referring clients to community services for long-term care.

- **Coordination Across System Partners, Service Providers, and Jurisdictions –** King County supports collaboration efforts across organizations that provide services to survivors of gender-based violence, primarily through Veteran's Seniors Human Services Levy (VSHSL) funding. DCHS's Adult Services Division convenes community-based providers, Public Health – Seattle & King County, the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, survivor advocacy organizations, violence prevention partners, and other County and regional entities to support aligned implementation and service coordination around gender-based violence response, prevention, and intervention, gun violence prevention, and elder abuse response.

  One of King County's funded partners, the Coalition for Ending Gender Based Violence provides coordination across over 40 member organizations to build capacity, connections to other systems including homelessness response and behavioral health, and advocate for public policies to improve the response to gender-based violence. In addition, there are other state-wide organizations dedicated to ending domestic violence through collaboration with its member networks and promoting prevention through education and policy change. Collaborations such as these strengthen relationships and communication across agencies, which can lead to improved access to services for victims and survivors. While King County supports other service collaborations, including gun violence incident response, prevention, and intervention, similar networks of service providers for other types of violent and unsolved crimes are unavailable. Advocates are often left to rely on their professional relationships and knowledge to connect victims and survivors with needed services.

- **Mobile Advocacy and Early Intervention –** Mobile advocacy is a victim-centered, trauma-informed response to service provision that is driven by the needs of crime survivors. King County funds several organizations to provide system navigation and mobile advocacy for victims and survivors of gender-based violence, including those who serve LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and immigrant communities. King County also supports a 24-hour, multi-lingual, multi-modal hotline for survivors of intimate partner violence to provide immediate crisis support and triage and serve as a referral source for the County's advocacy, health, housing, and counseling services. These services are best practices for victim-centered support yet are generally unavailable to victims and survivors of non-gender based crime.

- **Comprehensive Referral Services and Follow-Up** – Victims and survivors describe challenges in accessing services in a complex and fragmented environment. Unless guided by an advocate, they are left to navigate multiple systems and organizations to find appropriate care. These challenges are compounded for those seeking culturally and linguistically appropriate services or requiring alternative formats for accessibility. While King County has a guide for victims and survivors of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault and human trafficking that is available in several different languages[14], there is no

similar guide for other types of crime. Currently, there is no comprehensive mechanism to connect victims and survivors of all crime to relevant and culturally/linguistically appropriate services in King County.

Recently the Urban Institute evaluated VictimConnect Resource Center, the only national hotline for victims and survivors of all crime types, offering support and referrals from trained victim assistance specialists. The evaluation pointed to the hotline's usefulness to the victim services field in expanding crime victims' access to meaningful information, improving their outlook and perceptions of control, and likelihood of engagement with providers. A key to achieving these outcomes was direct interaction with a trained victim assistance specialist, either by phone or chat. Speaking or chatting with a specialist was also associated with the likelihood of victims/survivors taking further action and connecting with the resources provided. The usefulness of this resource locally will depend on expanding local resources offered within its database and adaptation to local needs.[15]

- **Cultural and linguistic competency** – There continues to be the need for more culturally rooted and trusted community-based services for victims and survivors of all crimes. Victims note that there are few resources for families of victims and inadequate services for communities of color and immigrant communities. Other agencies that serve victims and survivors, including hospitals, law enforcement, and prosecutors, also need competencies in culturally and linguistically appropriate victim supports, and knowledge of community resources and services that meet those needs.

2. **A plan to expand and improve services for victims of crime and survivors of violence and their families, including the people themselves or family members of people who have been harmed in interactions with law enforcement.**

This section offers several recommendations to improve services for victims and survivors of violence and address the most prevalent needs identified by victim service advocates and organizations. These recommendations recognize the system and community-based agencies that exemplify victim-centered services and the challenges they face with constrained resources. King County funding constraints will limit the timing and scale of implementing these recommendations. Effective partnerships will be vital to building an integrated and comprehensive system of victim services that is accessible and responsive to the needs of all victims and survivors of crime, including those who have been unjustly harmed in interactions with law enforcement.

- Improve multi-agency coordination and collaboration. Services rightly reflect a diversity of approaches, including specialization in crime-specific services and support adapted for specific cultural and linguistic communities. This diversity in approach creates more opportunities to provide services that are accessible and appropriate for every crime victim. However, this has also led to a complicated and fragmented service environment that crime victims and survivors find difficult to navigate.
    - Convene a working group of system-based partners, including criminal justice, social services, health providers and community-based organizations to develop

strategies to improve coordination and access to victims and survivors of all crimes and their families. This could build from existing networks of providers, such as the Coalition Ending Gender Based Violence or the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Outcomes could include:

1. Developing formal partnerships and/or clear procedures that define roles, and referral practices, including trauma informed warm handoffs.
2. Identifying strategies and partnerships to expand services to victims and survivors of non-gender based violent crimes and unsolved violent crimes.
3. Identifying opportunities to partner with other systems, including housing, behavioral health and others, to address the long-term care needs of victims and survivors.
4. Implementing model service standards, such as the Office for Victim's Center Achieving Excellence framework, covering program, competency and ethics standards.[16]
5. Creating cross-training opportunities in trauma-informed care, victims' rights and culturally responsive and accessible services,

- Develop a comprehensive guide of services and resources available to all crime victims and survivors, including those provided by other jurisdictions within King County, that can be utilized as a resource for system-based and community advocates and system partners. This guide alone should not be considered sufficient to address the needs of victims and survivors without additional navigation support.
    - Assess whether existing technology-based resources, such as VictimConnect, is a viable tool for connecting crime victims and survivors to local resources and support.
    - Include detailed information on services available and eligibility criteria. This guide should be made available in a diversity of language and accessibility formats
- Increase flexible financial assistance funding, including support available to system-based advocates to help victims/survivors engaged in the criminal justice process.
- Advocate for increased and sustained state funding to maintain victim services, particularly to mitigate against declines in federal VOCA support.
- Integrate data and continuous improvement. Use outcome date to refine service delivery and scope and guide strategic planning. Data should include client satisfaction and areas of unmet need.
    - Track outcomes on clients served, satisfaction, utilization of services and reported gaps. Include feedback from victims, survivors and their families into program planning and continuous improvement.
    - Keep victims and survivors at the center of policy and practice and provide opportunities to elevate voices, without causing further harm. Continue to offer respectful forums for learning and accountability, such as the Victim & Survivors Summits convened in June 2025 and January 2026.

Endnotes:

[1] Converge Media coverage of June 2025 Victim/Survivor Summit Voices of Hope and Healing: King County's Inaugural Summit on Crime Survivors Marks a Pivotal Moment — Converge Media,

[2] Achieving Excellence, Model Standards for Serving Victims and Survivors of Crime,Glossary Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, US Dept. of Justice *OVC Model Standards*

[3] For a general description of services offered by System-Based and Community-Based Advocates, see Victim advocates – Prosecuting Attorney's Office - King County, Washington, and VictimSupportServices.org

[4] Best Practice Guidelines: Crime Victims Services, (Nov 2010) Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice ,Programs; and interviews with King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Victim Support Advocates, Colleen McIngalls and Wendy Ross

[5] Nicole Allen, et al, "Exploring the Core Service Delivery Process of an Evidence-Based Community Advocacy Program for Women with Abusive Partners," *Journal of Community Psychology* 41, no. 1 (2013): 1-18, https://vaw.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Allen-et-al-2013-process-of-CAP.pdf

[6] "Domestic Violence Housing First: King County Region Flexible Financial Assistance Results August 2016—July 2018," *The Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence*, 2018, https://wscadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/FINAL-King-County-FFA-Results.pdf

[7] OVC Model Standards

[8] Best Practice Guidelines: Crime Victims Services, (Nov 2010) Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, p. 5

[9] OVC Model Standards

[10] Making Collaboration Work: The Experiences of Denver Victim Services 2000 (December 2002)

[11] Washington State Department of Commerce, 2025-27 First Supplemental Budget Session, Agency recommendations for services for crime victims & survivors, DP-PL-1Z-Svcs for crime victims & survivors.pdf

[12] Domestic Violence Impacts on Housing and Homelessness – New Beginnings

[13] Comments by David Martin, KCPAO DV Unit Chair at Domestic Violence Initiative Regional Task Force Quarterly Meeting, May 12, 2026

[14] King County Domestic Violence, Stalking, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking Guide for Survivors, dvsaht-electronic-handbook.pdf

[15] Outcomes of the Victim Connect Resource Center; Findings from a Rigorous Evaluation of a Technology Based Victim Hotline, May 2026, Urban Institute, Outcomes of the VictimConnect Resource Center; Outcomes Evaluating a National Victim Hotline: How We Did It and What We Learned, Center for Victim Research, Bing Videos

[16] Achieving Excellence, Model Standards for Serving Victims and Survivors of Crime, Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, US Dept. of Justice OVC Model Standards

Appendices:

Appendix A – Inventory of Victim Support Services
Appendix B – Report out and Recommendations from June, 2025 Victim/Survivor Summit
Appendix C - Preventing Gender Based Violence in King County; Centering Communities, Supporting Survivors, King County Women's Advisory Board presentation to King County Council Committee of the Whole, October 7, 2024

Appendix A – Inventory of Victim Support Services

Agency	Initiative and # (if levy funded)	Program Name	Description	Service Providers	Criminal Legal System Involved/ Crime Survivor	Eligibility for Services	Description of Services Available	When are Services Available	How to Access Services	System Coordination	Notes
DPH	VSHSL HL3C (only partially funded by VSHSL)	Regional Office of Gun Violence Prevention	Partnerships with local hospitals, community organizations, researchers, and public agencies to create a coordinated, data-driven approach to reducing firearm-related injuries and deaths.	Harborview, Community Passageways Freedom Project Progress Pushers Urban Family (TBD)		Gun Violence	All	Simultaneous with First Responders	Referrals from Law Enforcement	Across Other Human Services/Housing Providers	firearm injury, coordination, prevention, intervention, stabilization & restoration services
DCHS	General Fund	EER Restorative Community Pathways/King County Youth Diversion and Intervention program	A program to divert juvenile cases out of the criminal legal system and provide services for harmed parties. Harmed parties are eligible for restitution funds and comprehensive services provides through Community Navigators. Typically harmed parties who opt into full services are youth.	CHOOSE 180 Creative Justice Collective Justice Congolese Integration Network East African Community Services PICA (Pacific Islander Community Assn.) RVC (Rooted in Vibrant Communities)	Both Crime Survivor and Accused	Other (explain in notes)	Culturally & Linguistically Tailored Services, Flexible Financial Assistance	Referral from prosecutor's office	Community Navigator		PAO determines eligibility - individuals allegedly harmed by youth
PAO	General Fund	Community Diversion Program and Therapeutic Alternative Diversion	PAO Community Diversion Program (CDP). Victim Services is limited to financial loss recovery.	County provides victim services	Both Crime Survivor and Accused	Other (explain in notes)	Flexible Financial Assistance	Referral from prosecutor's office			PAO determines eligibiliy - financial losses related to a CDP eligible case
Superior Court, DCHS	MIDD CD-13	Family Intervention Restorative Services - FIRS	FIRS is for youth arrested for violence towards their family members. FIRS is a collaborative approach with community and court-based partners. Every family referred is assigned a team of a social worker and a juvenile probation counselor.	Therapeutic Health Services Institute for Family Development Ryther	Both Crime Survivor and Accused	Domestic Violence	Trauma Informed Therapy, Peer to Peer Support, Support Groups, Services for siblings & children, Culturally & Linguistically Tailored Services	Referral from law enforcement, Referral from prosecutor's office	Referrals from Law Enforcement		
DJA (lead),DCHS, PAO, DPD, SC	MIDD and CJTA	Adult Drug Court	Adult Drug Court is a therapeutic court for individuals charged with a felony crime. Services to victims are limited to restitution funds up to $10,000.	County provides victim services	Both Crime Survivor and Accused	Other (explain in notes)	Flexible Financial Assistance	Upon filing of a criminal case	Through Crime Victim Advocate		
DCHS	Community Services Contracts	CSO Contracts - Domestic Violence Survivor Services and Sexual Assault Victim Services	King County Council allocates general funds to bolster programming in priority areas, including the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Survivor field in 2025. Though not directly funded by the VSHSL, survivors of DV/SA are a priority population for the Adult Services Division.	Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services API Chaya Consejo Counseling and Referral Service Domestic Abuse Women's Network Harborview Medical Center King County Sexual Assault Resource Center LifeWire New Beginnings Refugee Women's Alliance Seattle Indian Health Board Solid Ground Washington The DOVE Project The Salvation Army YWCA of Seattle, King and Snohomish Counties	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	All	Simultaneous with First Responders	Community Navigator	Across Victim Services Providers	
DCHS	Community Services Contracts	CSO Contracts - Legal Services	King County Council allocates general funds to bolster programming in priority areas, including support for legal aid in 2025. Though not directly funded by the VSHSL, one agency provides direct legal support for victims and survivors of DV/SA, which is a priority population for the Adult Services Division.	(1 out of 5 that directly support crime victims): Eastside Legal Assistance Program	Crime Survivor	Sexual Assault Exploitation	Legal Services				
DCHS	MIDD PRI-09	Sexual Assault Behavioral Health Services	Mental Health Professional (MHP) staff with expertise in sexual assault and substance abuse are colocated within a Community Sexual Assault Program (CSAP) to provide behavioral health treatment, referral, advocacy and supports for sexual assault survivors served by the organization.	King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC) Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center (HATC)	Crime Survivor	Sexual Assault Exploitation	Trauma Informed Therapy, Advocacy & Referrals, Navigation of Court Processes		Self Referral	Other	Individuals can self-refer at any time, not required to be in the midst of criminal case/court proceeding. Coordination of care across multiple systems based on individual need. System coordination BH system, housing, courts, schools, etc.

DCHS	MIDD PRI-10	Domestic Violence and Behavioral Health Services & System Coordination	Domestic Violence Behavioral Health Services program co-locates a licensed Mental Health Professional (MHP) with expertise in domestic violence and substance abuse within a communitybased domestic violence survivor advocacy organization to provide behavioral health treatment, referral and supports for domestic violence survivors served by the agency.	Coalition Ending Gender-based Violence (CEGV) Domestic Abuse Women's Network (DAWN) New Beginnings Refugee Women's Alliance (ReWA)	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	Trauma Informed Therapy, Advocacy & Referrals, Navigation of Court Processes		Self Referral	Other	Individuals can self-refer at any time, not required to be in the midst of criminal case/court proceeding. Coordination of care across multiple systems based on individual need. System coordination BH system, housing, courts, schools, etc.
PAO		VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT (EN_500030)*	VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT (EN_500030)*		Crime Survivor	Other (explain in notes), Domestic Violence, Gun Violence, Violent Crime, Sexual Assault Exploitation	Navigation of Court Processes, Advocacy & Referrals	Referral from law enforcement, Referral from prosecutor's office, Upon filing of a criminal case	Proactive Outreach to Victims	Across Prosecutorial Jurisdictions	
PAO	General Fund	Protection Orders and Victim Support Program*	Protection Orders and Victim Support Program*		Crime Survivor		Legal Services		Self Referral		
DCHS	VSHSL SS3	Consolidated Domestic Violence Hotline	The hotline provides immediate crisis support and triage and serve as a referral source for the county's advocacy, health, housing, and counseling services.	New Beginnings	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	Advocacy & Referrals	Simultaneous with First Responders	Mobile Advocacy	Across Other Human Services/Housing Providers	
External Support General Fund fund to KCSARC	General Fund	Council Add		KCSARC	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	Services for siblings & children, Trauma Informed Therapy, Advocacy & Referrals, Navigation of Court Processes		Self Referral	Other	Project utilizes blended funding. Individuals can self-refer at any time, not required to be in the midst of criminal case/court proceeding. Staffing includes legal advocates, therapists, peers, child (specialty) advocates, behavioral health specialists, etc. in a cross-disciplinary team. System coordination to address client needs: legal/courts, BH system, housing, basic needs, etc.
DCHS	MIDD CD-08	Children's Domestic Violence Response Team	The CDVRT provides behavioral health and advocacy services to children (birth to 17) who have experienced DV, and support, advocacy, and parent education to their non-violent parent. Provides screening, assessment, development of a multidisciplinary staff team, engagement and coordination of care.	Sound Mental Health	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence					
DCHS	VSHSL SS4	Gender-Based Violence Specialized System Navigation and Mobile Advocacy	This program will provide survivor-centered advocacy that addresses the impacts of gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, and exploitation.	Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services, API Chaya, Gender Justice League, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, Mother Nation, Multi-Communities, Refugee Women's Alliance (ReWA), Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE), The DOVE Project, The Organization for Prostitution Survivors, YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	Long-term Case Navigation & Support, All	Simultaneous with First Responders	Self Referral	Across Other Human Services/Housing Providers	Eligibility varies by provider and program model but may include King County residents who are youth or adults experiencing gender-based violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, homelessness, criminalization, or related forms of victimization; survivors from communities disproportionately impacted by systemic inequities, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, immigrant and refugee communities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, Native American and Alaska Native populations, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, Asian, and South Asian communities, Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, and adults with disabilities; as well as individuals seeking culturally responsive, survivor-centered, voluntary, or confidential support services.
DCHS	VSHSL HL 10	Countywide Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking Prevention	Funds culturally responsive community programs across King County that prevent gender-based violence and trafficking through education, outreach, survivor-centered support, healing services, and community-based prevention efforts for historically marginalized populations.	API Chaya, Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence, Domestic Abuse Women's Network (DAWN), Filipino Community of Seattle, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, Lavender Rights Project, Mother Nation, Sexual Violence Law Center, Somali Family Safety Task Force, The Organization for Prostitution Survivors, YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	Long-term Case Navigation & Support	Simultaneous with First Responders	Self Referral	Across Other Human Services/Housing Providers	Eligibility varies by provider and program model but may include criteria such as being a Washington State or King County resident; being age 18 or older; identifying as part of a resilient or historically marginalized community, including BIPOC, transgender, nonbinary, immigrant, refugee, Native American, or LGBTQIA+ populations; being a survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault, gender-based violence, trafficking, or exploitation; seeking prevention, legal, stabilization, or support services; or participating in accountability-based intervention programs connected to the criminal legal system or community-based referrals.
DCHS	VSHSL HL 11	Elder Abuse Multi-Disciplinary Team	supports coordinated, cross-system efforts between Aging and Disability Services and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office to prevent, investigate, and respond to elder abuse affecting older adults in King County.	City of Seattle Aging and Disability Services, KC Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO) *	Crime Survivor	Domestic Violence	Long-term Case Navigation & Support	Simultaneous with First Responders	Self Referral	Across Other Human Services/Housing Providers	Eligibility varies by provider and program model but may include King County residents age 55 or older who are currently experiencing abuse, neglect, exploitation, financial exploitation, or self-neglect, including older adults seeking support, intervention, protection, or coordinated elder abuse services.

DJA	Legal Financial Obligations collections	Collects funds for victims	County Legal Financial Oblications Collectors in DJA	Crime Survivor		Specific financial payments	DJA focusses on individuals who have financial means to pay.	Ordered by a Judge	3 FTE equivilant; collect restitution funds for victims.
PAO	Project Safety	Provides crime victims with legal assistance to resolve civil legal issues that arise as a result of victimization, with a focus on historically marginalized communities.	Clients are referred to the navigators by advocates from the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. As needs are identified, navigators refer to program partners, including the King County Bar Association, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Northwest Justice Project, Eastside Legal Assistance Program, and Sexual Violence Law Center.	Crime Survivor	Any crime victim	Assistance with civil legal issues, including family Legal support and referral for civil legal issues, including family, housing, employment, immigration, consumer laws, protection orders, and access to public benefits, healthcare & education.		PAO Advocates	

Appendix B – Notes and Reflections from June 5, 2025 Victims Summit

Notes from Summit organizers

What stood out most from the panel conversations:

Across the board, participants were deeply moved by the raw, personal stories shared by survivors. The most resonant themes included the lack of voice survivors feel in the justice process, the absence of sustained support beyond the legal case, and how often the system is centered on the defendant rather than the person harmed. Many noted the speed and callousness of the system, contrasting it with the slow and painful recovery survivors face. The stories exposed a common experience of being retraumatized by institutions designed to support, with survivors often needing to self-advocate or navigate systems alone. The silencing of victims, plea deals that disregard survivor voices, and empathy given more to the accused than to those harmed were recurring concerns. Participants were particularly impacted by the breadth of lived experience, including the challenges faced by Black women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and immigrant communities.

Gaps or challenges in current survivor support:

Participants identified numerous systemic failures, including a severe lack of aftercare, inconsistent access to advocates, and an over-reliance on survivors to seek out help themselves. Funding instability and competitive models were a major concern, especially when programs that briefly succeed are abruptly defunded. The survivor support system is described as fragmented, with poor coordination across agencies (e.g., hospitals, law enforcement, prosecutors), and lacking in cultural and linguistic competence. There are few resources for families of victims, including siblings and children, and services for communities of color and immigrant populations are inaccessible or distrusted. Legislative and policy-related barriers, such as limited courtroom space or unclear victim rights, exacerbate harm. The siloing of work between organizations and a scarcity mindset further limit survivors' access to meaningful support.

What can we do differently to better support survivors:

Recommendations spanned systemic, structural, and cultural change. Participants called for consistent, flexible funding not tied to temporary grants or restitution payments. They want community-rooted, trauma-informed responses, with mobile and early interventions, survivor navigators, and wraparound services that include mental health care, shelter, and advocacy.

There's a strong need for clear, accurate, and compassionate communication from the moment harm occurs. Culturally responsive education and prevention work — particularly

with youth and marginalized communities — was highlighted as a long-term solution. Legislative reforms were proposed, including changes to firearm surrender laws, protection orders, and the plea-bargaining process. Importantly, participants urged investment in survivors' leadership and more inclusive policy-making spaces.

Takeaways to carry forward:

Many attendees expressed a renewed commitment to keeping survivors at the center of policy and practice. They want to hold institutions accountable, continue conversations with decision-makers, and advocate for reforms in legislation and funding. A key theme was that healing must not depend on prosecution, and that community-based, survivor-led solutions need to be lifted and supported. There was also recognition that elevating survivors' voices — particularly those often ignored — is essential to building a just system. Attendees left with a commitment to bring these insights back to their own work, amplify survivor stories, and support a more coordinated, compassionate, and sustainable approach to justice.

3.5.26 King County Crime Victim and Survivor Wish List; Recommendations from Victim Justice Coalition

The June 2025 Survivor Summit was convened to elevate survivor voices and engage policymakers in identifying service gaps and practical solutions to better support crime victims and their families in King County. The gathering brought together survivors, family members, advocates, and community leaders to discuss what is working, where gaps remain, and where meaningful improvements are needed.

Participants described significant challenges navigating court processes, limited access to trauma-informed therapy, fragmented and inconsistent advocacy services, and a lack of sustained support beyond the life of a criminal case. Survivors also reported difficulty accessing services due to the limited availability of resources and the siloed nature of existing support systems.

Currently, many services are organized by the type of crime (sexual assault and DV) resulting in gaps and barriers for survivors whose experiences do not fit neatly into these categories. In addition, survivor services are often siloed by jurisdiction. Victims of crimes occurring within the City of Seattle may have access to different services than victims of crimes occurring just across the street in neighboring jurisdictions such as Shoreline. These jurisdictional differences create unnecessary barriers and confusion for survivors seeking help.

Participants emphasized the need for comprehensive, wraparound services that are accessible to all victims of violent crime regardless of the type of crime, where it occurred, or the status of a criminal case. Survivors identified the need for services responsive to individual circumstances, including counseling and mental health care, housing assistance, legal services—including immigration support—and other critical resources.

Funding data shared at the Summit indicated that under prior King County Executive leadership, approximately 14% of a $63 million justice-related budget was allocated to services for victims and survivors, while 86% supported programs for individuals described as “impacted by the criminal legal system,” referring to criminal defendants. This distribution prompted discussion that current funding levels do not adequately reflect the needs of victims, survivors, and their families in King County.

The following priorities emerged from the roundtable discussions.

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1. Dedicated Advocacy for Unsolved Violent Crimes, Including Homicides

There is a critical need for funded victim advocacy services for survivors and families of unsolved violent crimes, including homicides occurring outside the City of Seattle. Families in these jurisdictions often have no access to advocacy support because advocates are typically assigned only after charges are filed by the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Participants emphasized that best-practice models across the country include dedicated advocates assigned to unsolved homicide cases who provide long-term case navigation and support. King County should explore similar models to ensure families receive consistent communication, support, and resource coordination regardless of whether charges are filed.

County-level investment in dedicated advocacy for unsolved violent crimes is essential to both equity and public safety.

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2. Sustained, Long-Term Aftercare and Wraparound Services

Survivors repeatedly shared that support often ends when a criminal case concludes—or if charges are never filed. Healing does not follow the timeline of prosecution. National best practices emphasize the importance of sustained, trauma-informed services.

Needed services include:

- Ongoing mental health support
- Survivor navigators and case management
- Peer support networks
- Flexible financial assistance
- Family-centered services, including support for siblings and children

Funding should not be tied solely to prosecution outcomes, restitution, or short-term grants.

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3. Consistent Access to Advocacy Across Jurisdictions

Participants described inconsistent access to advocates depending on where a crime occurs. A coordinated countywide model is needed to ensure equitable access to trained, trauma-informed advocates regardless of geography.

Other jurisdictions have implemented mobile victim advocacy response models, where advocates respond alongside or shortly after first responders. Early intervention is widely

recognized as a best practice, improving safety planning, reducing retraumatization, and strengthening long-term engagement with services. King County should explore similar mobile or rapid-response advocacy models.

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4. Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Services

Participants emphasized that existing services are often inaccessible or distrusted by Black communities, immigrant communities, and LGBTQ+ survivors. Needed investments include:

- Culturally rooted, community-based organizations
- Multilingual services and interpretation
- Recruitment and support for advocates from impacted communities
- Trust-building outreach and education

Participants also stressed that survivor services should be available independent of organizations whose primary focus is supporting offenders. Access to advocacy, counseling, and financial assistance should not be contingent upon participation in—or proximity to—offender-focused programming. **All victims, survivors and their families should be able to receive culturally responsive, trauma-informed services through independent, survivor-centered pathways.**

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5. Improved System Coordination and Communication

Survivors described fragmented systems and poor coordination between hospitals, law enforcement, prosecutors, and community agencies. Clear, accurate, and compassionate communication from the moment harm occurs was identified as a major unmet need.

Best practices emphasize structured cross-agency coordination, shared communication protocols, and proactive outreach to victims. Investment in survivor-centered coordination systems would strengthen service delivery and public trust.

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6. Stable and Flexible Funding

Participants raised concerns about funding instability and competitive grant structures that often undermine effective programs. Sustainable and flexible funding models are needed to support collaboration rather than competition among organizations providing services to victims and survivors.

7. Elevating Survivor Voice and Leadership

Survivors consistently reported feeling silenced or excluded in justice processes and policy discussions. Participants emphasized the importance of:

- Centering survivor voices in policymaking
- Expanding inclusive decision-making spaces
- Supporting survivor-led initiatives
- Ensuring victim rights are clearly understood and upheld

National best practices increasingly incorporate survivor advisory boards and survivor-informed program design.

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8. Prevention and Early Intervention

Participants emphasized that long-term solutions require investments in prevention, youth engagement, firearm safety, and early intervention. Community-rooted, trauma-informed responses should begin immediately after harm occurs.

Early contact with trained advocates has been shown to improve safety planning, increase service utilization, and reduce retraumatization.

Establishing a King County Victim Service Center

To address the fragmented nature of the current system, we recommended the creation of a **King County Victim Service Center** to provide a low-barrier, comprehensive, and coordinated system of support for survivors.

King County is home to a wealth of expertise and resources that could contribute to such a center, including nonprofit victim service organizations, peer support networks, individuals with lived experience, system-based advocacy units within the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and local police departments, the University of Washington Harborview Abuse & Trauma Center, legal aid organizations, and many others.

However, providing survivors with a list of organizational phone numbers and expecting them to independently navigate multiple systems—each with its own eligibility requirements, intake processes, and limitations—is insufficient.

A **Victim Service Center** would significantly improve upon the current fragmented service landscape by offering integrated, survivor-centered assistance designed to address the full range of victims' needs. Such a center would ensure that survivors across King County receive equitable, culturally responsive, and coordinated services regardless of the type of crime, the jurisdiction where it occurred, or the status of a criminal case.

Conclusion

A central theme of the Summit was that healing should not depend solely on prosecution outcomes. Survivors and families called for a more survivor-centered system that ensures access to services, sustained support, and coordinated responses following violent crime.

King County has an opportunity to align its investments with nationally recognized best practices, including early intervention, mobile advocacy response models, culturally responsive services, dedicated advocacy for unsolved violent crimes, and coordinated service delivery.

Washington State's Victims of Crime Bill of Rights affirms that victims should be treated with the same dignity, respect, and courtesy as criminal defendants. Yet there is a significant disparity between that principle and current funding allocations. Only a small portion of justice-related funding supports services for victims and survivors, raising concerns about whether current investments reflect the commitments outlined in state law and the needs of victims and their families.

These recommendations reflect a consistent message from survivors: meaningful justice includes voice, access to services, sustained support, and accountable systems.

Establishing a coordinated and survivor-centered system of care is both a practical and moral imperative. Survivors and their families deserve a system that recognizes their needs and supports their path toward healing and justice.

Project Safety - https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/pao/courts-jails-legal-system/victim-services-resources/project-safety **Project Safety** is an innovative, collaborative approach to address the civil legal needs of crime victims in King County, Washington, with a priority on historically marginalized communities. Project Safety provides critical and time-sensitive legal assistance, empowers survivors, and prevents further victimization to help achieve stability.

Odessa Brown Children's Clinic Community Advocacy Restorative Education (CARE) Clinic - https://www.seattlechildrens.org/clinics/odessa-brown/services/care-clinic/

The CARE Clinic officially opened Feb. 9, 2026, at OBCC Central District. The CARE Clinic is a safe, welcoming space for young people up to age 21 to get medical and behavioral healthcare if they have experienced or been exposed to trauma. OBCC leaders, community partners and youth created the clinic together to deliver care with dignity rooted in trust, teamwork and connection. Case management and coordination of care

We assign a navigator to each person receiving services at the CARE Clinic. This team member helps make sure the young person feels at home and gets the services and support they want, as easily as possible. "We design your care so that you do not have to tell the story of your trauma over and over to different members of your care team"

Chicago Survivors (Chicago, IL) – Program Overview – Chicago Survivors

Chicago Survivors (CS) offers crime victim and support services to surviving family members of Chicago homicide victims. Services are free, voluntary and open to all. They are survivor-shaped, trauma-informed, family-centered and delivered primarily in survivors' homes.

They offers five linked programs:

1. IMMEDIATE CRISIS RESPONSE - Chicago Survivors Crisis Responders are dispatched to the crime scene or hospital within two to four hours of the homicide to provide support to the victim's family and to protect their rights as crime victims. Crisis Responders attend to the immediate emotional and practical needs of the family. They liaise with law enforcement, assist in accessing crime scene clean up, arrange for emergency guardianship, provide accompaniment to the Medical Examiner's Office, provide information and rights assistance in funeral arrangements, organize a vigil and/or a flier distribution, engage in interactive safety planning, and address any other emerging urgent needs.
2. PROACTIVE IN-HOME FAMILY SUPPORT AND CASE MANAGEMENT – Families are assigned a Family Support Specialist and will receive up to six months of family support and case management services. Family Support Specialists assess the needs and strengths of families following the crime and develop a Service Plan in consultation with the householder(s), including supportive counseling, application for Crime Victims Compensation Funds, and assistance with ongoing practical needs. Family Support Specialists continue to liaison with detectives and advocate on behalf of families during a homicide investigation.
3. YOUTH PROGRAM: TRIAGE, COUNSELING AND REFERRAL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, 0-17 YRS. Chicago Survivors' licensed Youth Clinical Counselors are specifically trained to triage and fast-track referral of children who are severely traumatized, and to support children, teens and parents as they process their experience. Youth Clinical Counselors provide free supportive counseling for children 7-17 years old, utilizing Healing Arts Kits to encourage self-expression and psycho-education, and provide facilitated referrals for children who are younger. When children and teens transition back to school, Youth Clinical Counselors work directly with the parent or guardian, teachers and administrators so that they all have what they need for a successful re-engagement with school.

4. COMMUNITY OF SURVIVORS families are invited to participate in Chicago Survivors Community of Survivors, led by our Survivor Community Manager. Family members engage in peer-to-peer support through on-going Support Groups, Workshops, Family Dinners, Memorial Events and Advocacy Opportunities
5. COURT-BASED CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY AND UNSOLVED CASE MEETINGS Chicago Survivors' Criminal Justice Advocate provides comprehensive support throughout the court process for the victim's family when an alleged offender is charged in a homicide, including court accompaniment and interpretation, interactive safety assessment and planning when necessary, and protection of crime victim rights in the courtroom.
When a homicide case is unsolved for nine months or more, a family is encouraged to sign up for a Survivor Family Unsolved Case Meeting in which two family members may question command-level law enforcement about how or why the case remains unsolved. These meetings are run by the family and facilitated by our Criminal Justice Advocate. Unsolved Case Meetings may clarify misunderstandings, explain unmet legal requirements, or provide new information that reinvigorates investigations.

Trauma Intervention Programs (TIP) –Second Responders are on-the-scene to provide emotional first aid to survivors Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc. 24/7 on-scene crisis response modeled nationally - Provide emotional support, help arrange for shelter, food, clothing, and transportation, notify family and friends, serve as liaison between the survivors and emergency and hospital authorities, help arrange follow-up services, provide information and referral to appropriate agencies for ongoing assistance.

Seminole County Sheriff's Office – Victim Services
https://www.seminolesheriff.org/page.aspx?id=75 To reach a Victim Advocate 24 hours a day, call the Communications Center at (407) 665-6650 and request that the "On Duty" Victim Advocate call you. Victim advocates provide crisis support and respond to crime scenes **as needed**, 24 hours a day alongside law enforcement. They assist victims of violent crime with advocacy, referrals, crisis counseling, and help navigating the justice system.

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office – Victim Services PCSO - Victim Services

Advocates may be **called to the scene by law enforcement 24/7** to assist victims and families immediately with crisis intervention, referrals, and support through the justice process.

These programs demonstrate how counties can fund and deploy advocacy services directly to victims and families immediately following a crime or traumatic event, ensuring rapid support and connection to resources as part of the community safety infrastructure.

Malheur County District Attorney's Victim Assistance Program
https://www.malheurco.org/district-attorney/district-attorney-information/d-a-victim-services/

Upon contact by law enforcement, Victim Advocates provide 24-hour on-call response for the Victims of Domestic/Family Violence; this immediate crisis intervention service is then followed by on-going support and advocacy throughout the investigation and prosecution of the case. In addition to these services, the Victims' Assistance Program coordinates, facilitates and monitors a semi-monthly Victims' Impact Panel (VIP). This is a panel of victims and community partners who come together to speak to adult offenders. As a part of their post-sentencing supervision, these offenders are required to attend the VIP where they hear about the devastation to families, friends and communities resulting from a criminal offense. *We are dedicated to reducing the impact of the crime on you, the Victim, by providing the emotional and practical support you need to deal with problems resulting from victimization, and to guide and support you through the criminal justice system.*

Larimer County, Colorado's Victim Response Team
https://www.larimer.gov/sheriff/investigations/victim-response-team

which operates 24/7 to provide on-scene assistance, emotional support, and referrals after someone is victimized. The Larimer County Sheriff's Office Victim Response Team (VRT) was established in 1994 to provide services for victims. The Victim Response Team responds to victims throughout Larimer County 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The services provided include:

- On-scene assistance
- Emotional support
- Referrals to local resources
- Information regarding the Crime Victim Compensation program

In addition to the support provided victims, one of the main goals of the VRT is to inform victims of the legal rights.

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San Bernardino County, CA – Bureau of Victim Services https://sbcountyda.org/victim-services/ The Bureau of Victim Services, sponsored by the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, is committed to providing crime victims with access to comprehensive, quality services regardless of the nature of their victimization, age, race, religion, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, capability, or geographic location.

In addition, we seek to make the criminal justice system more understandable, accessible, and humane.

Appendix C

Preventing Gender-Based Violence In King County: Centering Communities, Supporting Survivors

King County Women's Advisory Board
Presentation to the King County Council
Committee of the Whole
10/7/24

Women's Advisory Board

Established in 1978, the King County Women's Advisory Board (WAB) makes recommendations to the King County Council and the Executive to improves the lives of women and ensure our county government takes into account women's needs, rights, and well-being.

Recently, the WAB worked collaboratively and in partnership with community to develop the following recommendations to address:

- Childcare access and affordability
- Improving wage equity and promoting family friendly workplace policies

Once adopted, the WAB advocates before the King County Council and Executive to successfully implement these recommendations.

Centering Communities, Supporting Survivors: Process & Community Voices

- API Chaya
- Civil Survival
- Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence
- Collective Justice
- Cowlitz Pathways to Healing
- Harborview Center for Traumatic Stress
- Ingersoll Gender Center
- King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- King County Sexual Assault Resource Center
- LifeWire
- Seattle Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Refugee Women's Alliance
- Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Best Practice Task Force
- Sexual Violence Law Center
- Somali Family Safety Task Force
- Taking Black Pride
- The Arc of King County
- The Northwest Network of Bi, Trans, Lesbian & Gay Survivors of Abuse
- YWCA Seattle|King|Snohomish
- Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) staff
- And others

Recommendations: What we heard

Housing

Criminal Legal Involvement & Reporting

Behavioral Health

Economic Impact

Civil Legal Aid

GBV has a disproportionate impact on BIPOC & LGBTQIA Communities

Recommendations

01

Increase investments in survivor-centered mobile advocacy for survivors of GBV.

Double investment from $6 to $12 million per year.

02

Expand affordable housing options, and provide flexible funding for stable housing, for survivors and their families.

- Invest in dedicated transitional and permanent housing;
- Invest in additional emergency and affordable housing and provide flexible funding for survivors to stay in housing.

Recommendations

03

Address issues of housing discrimination and protect survivors of GBV from liability for property harm.

Presenter: Sarah

- Adopt a Fair Chance Housing ordinance in unincorporated King County;
- Adopt legislation protecting survivors of GBV from liability for rent owed and property damages caused by those causing harm.

04

Increase funding to organizations supporting GBV survivors, including those impacted by incarceration, to access legal-support.

- Provide additional funding to organizations that provide legal support to survivors, prioritize those that reach marginalized communities;
- Identify opportunities to increase legal support for survivor-defendants and those who have interacted with the criminal legal system.

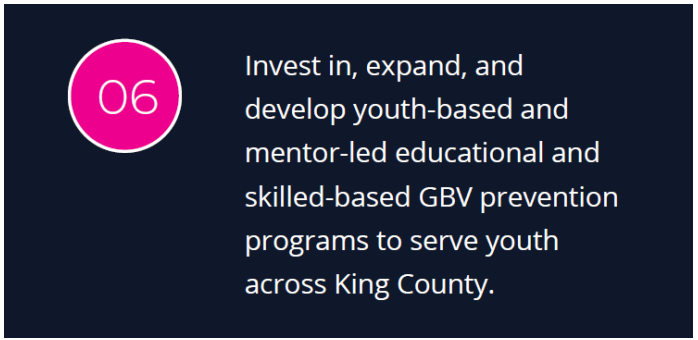
Recommendations

05

Invest in access to comprehensive health care and mental health resources for GBV survivors.

- Increase funding to MIDD by $1 million annually to fund 1) additional therapists who specialize in GBV 2) professional education related to domestic, sexual, and GBV for MIDD providers;
- Help to grow the pipeline of mental providers by creating and invest in programs to attract and retain qualified mental health providers;
- Fund two licensed psychiatrists to take referrals for medication and prescription management;
- Partner to increase funding for county, state, non-profit, and private behavioral health programs, focus on hiring staff with GBV training and provide incentives for accepting Medicaid;
- Expand access to comprehensive mental and physical health care, including Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) at every hospital, 24/7 in King County.

Recommendations



- Further invest in and expand community youth-centered educational and skill-based prevention, prioritize youth disproportionately impacted by GBV;
- Partner with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and public schools in King County to pilot a youth-centered GBV curriculum.

Recommendations

07

Invest and expand GBV prevention and education programs designed by and for communities disproportionately impacted by GBV.

King County should implement the recommendations outlined in the *Lifting Up Transformative Approaches to Address Domestic and Sexual Violation Prevention Report*, including, but not limited to:

- Focus on community-level strategies that address and change social conditions in which domestic and sexual violence happen and in a context that is relevant;
- Strengthen programs that are specifically designed to build bridges and strengthen people's ties to their ancestral cultures, communities (geographic, cultural, political; spiritual), and responsive care networks
- Foster collaboration, relationships, trust, and skills for communities to work together to prevent and intervene in interpersonal forms of violence.

Recommendations

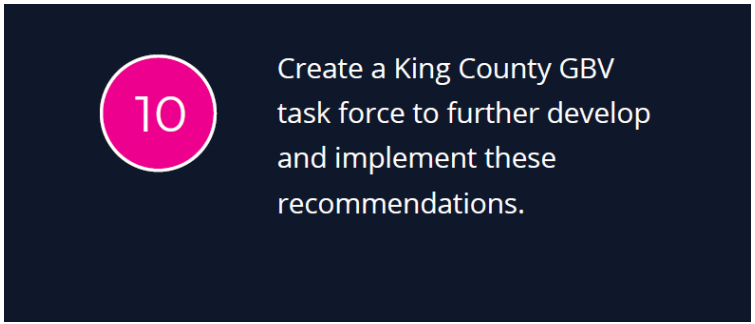
08 Support the creation and funding of community-based organizations that work outside the criminal legal system to support survivors of GBV.

- Invest in developed and new community-based organizations working outside of the criminal-legal system;
- Fund GBV and anti-carceral response training for community-based organizations receiving grants;
- Conduct a countywide review and identify services that require a survivor to file a police report to receive services and understand the impact of that requirement.

09 Support the creation, implementation, and funding of community-based intervention programs for persons causing harm.

- Develop a pilot program to fund a series of projects aimed at reducing GBV through interventions for persons causing harm;
- Choose projects in consultation with King County agencies and the communities most impacted.

Recommendations



- Develop and recommend a Fair Chance Housing ordinance to ensure that survivors in unincorporated King County who have past involvement with the criminal legal system are not discriminated against;
- Work with communities to expand, develop, and support GBV prevention and education programs for youth and those communities disproportionately impacted by GBV;
- Design and implement community-based multi-disciplinary responses to GBV that will address root causes outside of the criminal legal system.

Women's Advisory Board

King County Women's Advisory Board
Meetings: First Wednesday of the Month
Time: 4:00-6:00pm

Tanya Matthews, Vice-Chair
WAB2@kingcounty.gov

Sarah Reyneveld
WAB4@kingcounty.gov

Marjan Didra
Resilient Communities Policy and Community Engagement Manager
Adult Services Division
mdidra@kingcounty.gov

King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay
Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

August 31, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits the Victim Support Service Improvement Plan response to Ordinance 20023, Section 17, Proviso P7, and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

As required, the enclosed report provides an inventory of the services provided or funded by King County for crime victims, survivors and their families, an evaluation of best practices, the most prevalent needs of crime victims and survivors, and recommendations to improve victim support services. The Executive Office collaborated with the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (PAO), Seattle/King County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) in developing the report. Best practices information was gathered from advocates and practitioners in the field of victim services, organizations supporting victims and survivors, and a review of available literature. Recommendations include service mapping across other providers and jurisdictions to identify opportunities for more comprehensive services that can meet the needs of victims, families and survivors; improvements to coordination and referral processes to minimize the need for victims to self-navigate a complex service environment; expansion of supports available to victims and survivors of non-gender based violent crimes; and system evaluation that prioritizes the experience of victims and survivors.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. If your staff have any questions, please contact Aaron Rubardt, Budget Director, Executive Department, at 206-263-9715.

Sincerely,



for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive
Sierra Howlett Browne, Policy Director, Office of the Executive
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive
Aaron Rubardt, Budget Director, Office of the Executive

Metropolitan King County Council
Staff Report

Committee:	Law and Justice		
Agenda Item:	6	**Analyst:**	Leah Krekel-Zoppi
Proposed No.:	2026-0237	**Meeting Date:**	November 4, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: A motion acknowledging receipt of an independent monitoring report on the confinement of juveniles in county detention facilities as required by a proviso in the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The Council included a proviso in the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget requiring the Executive to engage independent monitors to review the use of solitary confinement for youth in detention. This is a continuation of independent monitoring related to the county's implementation of Ordinance 18637 which placed restrictions on the use of solitary confinement of youth. Proposed Motion 2026-0237 would acknowledge receipt of the first of two independent monitoring reports required during the biennium.

The transmitted report covers the period between March 20, 2025 – March 31, 2026. The report notes that several recommendations from prior reports were implemented during the reporting period, and that DAJD implemented an enhanced quality control process that has improved data reliability. The report also provides information about:

- The number, circumstances, and average duration of restrictive housing incidents, and
- Documentation of supervisory review, medical and mental health assessments, and access to education, programming, and necessities.

New recommendations made by the independent monitors include analyzing restrictive housing by individual living hall, devising additional incentives for sustained good behavior, improving quality control on record keeping in adult detention, and providing transitional mental health care support to youth who move to adult detention.

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

A. **Proviso Response.** The Plan appears to satisfy the proviso requirements, although it was transmitted late.

B. **Number of Restrictive Housing Incidents.** The number of restrictive housing incidents during the reporting period, 602, decreased compared to the prior reporting period. However, it remains high relative to the policy intent stated in King County Code that, "The solitary confinement of juveniles shall occur only rarely and in limited circumstances as authorized in Ordinance 18637."[1]

C. **Average Duration of Restrictive Housing Incidents.** The average duration of restrictive housing incidents increased significantly during the reporting period. The average duration of incidents was 1,249 minutes (approximately 21 hours) during this reporting period, compared to 302 minutes (approximately 5 hours) during the prior reporting period. Some of the increase is likely attributable to changes in tracking methodology. Additionally, DAJD's new methodology includes time that doesn't meet the code definition of solitary confinement and that +-is difficult to measure against the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) standard.

D. **Documentation Improvements Compared to Prior Reports.** Across all categories of documentation required by the proviso, DAJD made significant improvements in accurately and consistently documenting restrictive housing information compared to prior reports.

BACKGROUND & TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

↑ BACK TO TOP

Juvenile Detention in King County. The King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention's (DAJD) Juvenile Division has operated the County's juvenile detention system since 2002. Under state law,[2] King County is required to operate a detention facility for juvenile offenders. The Juvenile Division also operates court-ordered alternatives to secure detention programs.

King County's juvenile secure detention facility is located in the Judge Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center (CCFJC). The County's average daily population (ADP) of youths in secure detention was 55 in 2025.[3] The facility provides a health clinic, juvenile programming including a gymnasium, food services, volunteer services, family visitation, behavioral health services provided by Ryther, regular and special education provided by Seattle School District, and a library managed by King County Library System.

[1] K.C.C. 2.65.030
[2] RCW 13.04.135
[3] 2025-12-kc-dar-scorecard.pdf

The CCFJC houses youths ages 12 to 17 awaiting adjudication in King County Juvenile Court and ordered to secure detention. In addition, beginning in 2018, the Executive directed through Executive Order for all youth under age 18 charged as adults to be housed at the CCFJC.[4] The average length of stay is 26.2 days for youth charged as juveniles and 339.8 days for youth charged as adults.[5]

Whether a youth who is arrested is admitted into secure detention is based on a screening process performed by Juvenile Court Juvenile Probation Counselors, who determine whether the youth meets the detention intake screening criteria. The criteria are intended to keep youth out of detention if Juvenile Court determines they can safely return home or be placed in a community-based residential care facility. Therefore, most juveniles in detention are being held for offenses categorized as serious or violent offenses.

King County adopted the Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan in 2000, adopting a policy emphasizing prevention, intervention, and alternatives to the use of secure detention for juvenile offenders. As a result, even as King County's overall population has grown, the number of youths arrested, charges referred, charges filed, and youths held in secure detention declined significantly, including a 61% reduction since 2010 in the number of youths in detention in King County.[6]

As part of its juvenile detention reform efforts, King County participates in the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), which is a national juvenile justice improvement initiative geared towards changing how detention is used for youth. The County became a formal JDAI site in 2004 and uses JDAI standards for its programs and detention.

Use of Solitary Confinement for Youth. Solitary confinement is a form of imprisonment in which the person is isolated from human contact, often with the exception of members of staff. Solitary confinement can also be called room confinement, segregated housing, protective custody, restrictive housing, restricted housing, time out, restricted engagement, close confinement, special management unit, administrative detention, non-punitive isolation, temporary isolation, or other terms.

JDAI detention facility standards prohibit the use of room confinement for reasons other than as a temporary response to behavior that threatens immediate harm to a youth or others. The standards reflect the advice of dozens of practitioners and nationally recognized experts that room confinement should not be used for discipline, punishment, administrative convenience, or other reasons.

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[4] King County Executive Order "Youth charged as adults to be housed at the Youth Services Center," November 2, 2017

[5] 2025 averages according to 2025-12-kc-dar-scorecard.pdf

[6] Updated data from the September 2023 Care and Closure Progress Report, pg. 21

Restricting the Use of Solitary Confinement in King County. In December 2017, the King County Council adopted Ordinance 18673 which banned solitary confinement for youth except in specific limited circumstances.[7] This legislation had three elements.

The first element created King County Code Chapter 2.65, banning the use of solitary confinement for youth detained by King County "except as necessary to prevent significant physical harm to the juvenile detained or to others when less restrictive alternatives would be ineffective," regardless of the facility in which the youth is held. The ordinance defines a "juvenile" as a youth held in the juvenile detention facility or a young adult over age 18 held in the adult detention facility for a matter committed when they were under age 18. The ordinance defines "solitary confinement" as the placement of an incarcerated person in a locked room or cell alone with minimal or no contact with persons other than guards, correctional facility staff, and attorneys. The ordinance further notes that using different terminology for this practice does not exempt a practice from being considered solitary confinement.

Secondly, the ordinance requires DAJD's Juvenile Division to ensure that all juveniles detained in any King County detention facility are given reasonable access to the defense bar, juvenile probation counselors, social service providers, and educators in a timely manner.

Finally, the ordinance required that the Executive appoint an independent monitor or monitors who have expertise in juvenile detention operations and corrections, officer safety and security, and trauma-informed behavioral modification practices to monitor and report on the implementation of the ordinance.

State Prohibition of Solitary Confinement for Detained Youth. In 2020, Washington State enacted legislation prohibiting solitary confinement of detained youth as punishment,[8] which became effective as state law on December 1, 2021. The law defines different confinement scenarios including "solitary confinement," "room confinement," and "isolation," and establishes restrictions on the use of such practices including the circumstances, conditions, and duration they can be used, and requiring check-ins every 15 minutes during the confinement. The law required the state Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to develop a model policy which detention facilities within the state, including King County DAJD, are required to adopt. The law also requires DAJD to collect and report data related to restrictive housing for DCYF to compile and publish statewide data.

[7] JDAI Juvenile Detention Facility Assessment, pp. 177-180.
[8] Second Substitute House Bill 2277, codified in RCW Chapter 13.22

Juvenile Division Restrictive Housing Policy and Behavioral Management Approach. In response to enactment of Ordinance 18673, DAJD's Juvenile Division established a Restrictive Housing policy, which was then updated in December 2021 to comply with the new state law. In compliance with county code and state law, the policy states that, "restrictive housing for punitive purposes is explicitly prohibited," and that restrictive housing is prohibited unless the youth poses a risk of physical harm and there are no less restrictive alternatives available. Juvenile Division's policy states that all youth held in restrictive housing must have access to:

- Clothing;
- A mattress and bedding;
- A toilet and sink at least hourly;
- Necessary mental health services; and
- Reading material, paper, writing material, envelopes, and treatment material (except in cases of concern for self-harm as determined by medical and mental health staff and detention supervisors).

Each time a youth is placed in restrictive housing, the policy requires the following procedures:

- Documentation of the reason the youth was placed into restrictive housing;
- Safety and security checks every fifteen minutes;
- A supervisory check-in with the youth within two hours, and then every four hours outside of ordinary sleeping periods;
- Evaluation by a medical professional as soon as possible within six hours or before an ordinary sleep period, and at least once per day thereafter;
- Evaluation by and development of a care plan by a mental health professional as soon as possible within four hours; and
- Documentation of the date and time of the youth's release from restrictive housing.

The policy requires that staff provide youth with the goals and objectives the youth must achieve to be released. The policy further requires that a youth must be removed from restrictive housing when the youth no longer poses an imminent risk.

A multidisciplinary team of restorative justice coordinators, youth detention staff, supervisors, medical and mental health professionals, and a teacher hold daily meetings during which they review incidents of restrictive housing as well as assess other behavioral support and restorative justice needs for individuals in detention.

The behavioral management approach used at CCFJC includes incentives for meeting behavioral expectations and interventions to respond to inappropriate behavior. The incentive system allows youth to move through a tier system with sustained compliance which results in increasing levels of incentives. Youth who reach the highest tier are rewarded with a later bedtime and other special privileges. Behavioral interventions include verbal de-escalation techniques, restorative work assignments, and, for more problematic behavior, creation of an Individual Development Plan. Juvenile Detention Officers document the activities and location of each youth in the facility every fifteen minutes using a Youth Accountability Checklist.[9]

2026-2027 Budget Proviso Requirements. The Council included Proviso P1, Section 53 in the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget[10] that required the Executive to continue independent monitoring to review the use of solitary confinement in DAJD operations. The proviso requires that:

> *"Of this appropriation, $200,000 shall not be expended or encumbered until the executive transmits two reports on confinement of juveniles in county detention facilities, each accompanied by a motion that should acknowledge receipt of the applicable report. Each motion should reference the subject matter, the proviso's ordinance, ordinance section, and proviso number in both the title and body of the motion. Upon passage of each motion, $100,000 is released for expenditure or encumbrance.*
>
> *The two reports required by this proviso should build on all prior reports submitted on practices related to the confinement of juveniles as required by Ordinance 18637, Section 6, Ordinance 18930, Section 36, Ordinance 19210, Section 50, Ordinance 19546, Section 54, and Ordinance 19861, Section 54. The reports required by this proviso shall be prepared by an appointed, independent monitor or monitors retained in accordance with Expenditure Restriction ERX of this section. The monitor or monitors shall include in the report an analysis of compliance with K.C.C. chapter 2.65 and chapter 13.22 RCW, by the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division, and the report shall also include, but not be limited to:*
>
> *A. A discussion of challenges, progress, and setbacks, and any significant management, policy or operating environment changes that have occurred since the prior reports related to behavioral interventions and confinement of juveniles at county detention facilities;*
>
> *B. A review of the documentation of each incident of use of solitary confinement during the evaluation period, including identification of the number of incidents and an evaluation of the circumstances for the use of solitary confinement;*

[9] As described in the Independent Monitoring Team Report April 2022 – June 2023, pg. 14
[10] Ordinance 20023

C. A review of the average duration of solitary confinement incidents, including identification of the number of incidents exceeding four hours and an evaluation of each incident;

D. A review of the documentation of supervisory review of use of solitary confinement, including identification of the number of incidents when supervisory review did not occur and an evaluation of each incident;

E. A review of the documentation of medical and mental health assessments of youth in solitary confinement, including identification of the number of incidents when health clinic staff was not notified within one hour or an assessment by a medical professional was not completed within six hours and an evaluation of each incident;

F. A review of the documentation of how youth subject to solitary confinement had continued access to education, programming, and ordinary necessities, such reading materials, when in solitary confinement, and identification of the number and circumstances of incidents when access was not documented;

G. The gender, age, and race of youth involved in each solitary confinement incident;

H. An assessment of the progress by the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division on implementing the recommendations outlined in previous monitor reports;

I. Any new recommendations for reducing the use and duration of solitary confinement for juveniles in detention, and recommendations for improving data collection and reporting of incidents of solitary confinement of juveniles in detention;

J.1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection

J.2. of this proviso, a certification by the monitor or monitors that the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division has appropriately documented and maintained data on at least ninety percent of incidents for each category of incident described in subsections B. through subsection F. of this proviso. 2. If the monitor or monitors cannot make the certification in accordance with subsection J.1. of this proviso because the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division did not appropriately document and maintain data on at least ninety percent of incidents for any category or categories of incident described in subsections B. through F. of this proviso, the monitor shall include in the report an explanation from the department of adult and juvenile detention as to why data was not appropriately documented and maintained on at least ninety percent of incidents for each category of incident; and

K. Findings regarding compliance or lack thereof with K.C.C. chapter 2.65 and chapter 13.22 RCW and a discussion of the circumstances of such findings.

In preparing and completing the report required by this proviso, the monitor or monitors shall consult with interested parties, including representatives of the King County Juvenile Detention Guild (Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention - Juvenile representing employees in the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division).

The first report should cover March 20, 2025, through March 31, 2026. The second report should cover April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027. The executive should electronically file the first report and a motion required by this proviso by no later than June 30, 2026, and the second report and a motion required by the proviso no later than June 30, 2027, with the clerk of the council, who shall retain an electronic copy and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council chief of staff, and the lead staff for the law and justice committee or its successor."

ANALYSIS

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Proviso Response. The proposed motion would acknowledge receipt of an independent monitoring team report on confinement of juveniles, as required by the King County 2026-2027 Biennial Budget. The report, which is Attachment A of the proposed motion, covers the period from March 20, 2025, through March 31, 2026, and was prepared by the monitoring team of Kathryn Olson[11] and Bob Scales.[12]

Approval of the proposed motion would acknowledge receipt of the report and release $100,000 in the DAJD budget to be spent or encumbered. The report appears to be responsive to the proviso requirements, although it was transmitted late.

According to the report, the assessment for the reporting period was conducted through reviewing documents and data analysis; interviewing detained youth and age outs, detention officers, supervisors, management staff, teachers, medical professional staff; making onsite visits and observing programming; attending multi-discipline team meetings and other detention activities; and meeting with the King County Juvenile Detention Guild Executive Board and Guild members.

Following is a summary of the responses to the proviso requirements. As the prohibitions on juvenile solitary confinement primarily apply to youth housed at the CCFJC operated by the Juvenile Division, Sections A through J of this staff report contain data related to the Juvenile Division. The section of the staff report entitled "Confinement of Young Adults Incarcerated in Adult Detention on Juvenile Matters" contains restrictive housing information for AAOs housed in adult detention.

[11] Change Integration Consulting, LLC
[12] Police Strategies, LLC

A. Challenges, Progress, Setbacks, and Changes.

Progress. According to the report, the following advancements were made by DAJD's Juvenile Division during the reporting period:

- Implementation of an electronic security check system to enhance tracking of restrictive housing;
- Adoption of an enhanced quality control process for recording and tracking restrictive housing data, improving the accuracy and consistency of restrictive housing documentation;
- Use of a more in-depth approach to analyzing data on supervisory, mental health, and medical assessments of youths in restrictive housing;
- Documentation of a total number of checks and assessments completed for youths in restrictive housing that is significantly higher than statutorily required;
- Development of a Housing Classification Guide that considers each youth's age and developmental stage when making living hall assessments, attempting to reduce conflicts between youth and better align educational and programming services; and
- Improving documentation of the types of behavior resulting in restrictive housing, in compliance with law and policy, including eliminating vague categorizations such as "disruptive behavior" and "imminent harm."

Challenges. Challenges identified in the report include:

- DAJD continues to experience challenges documenting what, if any, less restrictive alternatives were used prior to placing a youth in restrictive housing.
- Staff identified challenges managing noncompliant behavior, particularly when multiple youth join together in refusing to follow directives, and requested more training on de-escalation.

Changes. A change in operating environment identified in the report is the significant reduction in the average daily population (ADP) of youth in detention during the reporting period, dropping from a peak ADP of 55 in September 2025 and to 36 by March 2026. A lower population allows for higher staff to youth ratios and increased opportunities for providing youth with more individualized support. At the same time, the ADP of age outs in

adult detention has increased, where there are less resources available to provide behavioral interventions.

B. Number and Circumstances of Restrictive Housing Incidents.

Key Issue B. ***Number of Restrictive Housing Incidents.*** A total of 602 restrictive housing incidents occurred at the CCFJC between March 20, 2026, and March 31, 2026. This represents a decrease compared to the prior reporting period when 620 incidents occurred during a shorter reporting period. Table 1 shows the breakdown of incidents by quarter, showing that the number of incidents decreased each quarter of the reporting period. The ADP also decreased during that time.

Table 1. Number of Restrictive Housing Incidents March 20, 2025 – March 31, 2026

March 20-31, 2025	2025 Q2	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	Total
45	214	148	107	88	602

Comparison to Prior Reports. Because the length of the reporting period varied for previous independent monitoring reports, Table 2 provides a comparison both of the total number of restrictive housing incidents and the monthly average of incidents during the reporting period.

Table 2. Number of Restrictive Housing Incidents in Prior Reporting Periods

	April 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 (15 months	July 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024 (9 months)	April 1, 2024 – March 19, 2025 (11 ½ months)	March 20, 2025 – March 31, 2026 (12 ½ months)
Number of Restrictive Housing Incidents	520	415	620	602
Average Number of Restrictive Housing Incidents per Month	35	46	54	48

Adjusting for population differences. In order to adjust for population variations as a factor in the number of restrictive housing incidents, Council staff analyzed the ratio between the average number of restrictive housing incidents per quarter and the annual ADP, as shown in Table 3. The analysis shows that restrictive housing incidents relative to

ADP rose in 2025, and that both APD and the relative number of restrictive housing incidents decreased in the first quarter of 2026.

Table 3: Restrictive Housing Incidents Relative to Average Daily Population

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 Q1
Restrictive Housing Incidents (quarterly average)	82	138	134	184	88
ADP	34	43	55	55	36
Ratio	2.4	3.2	2.4	3.4	2.4

Circumstances of restrictive housing incidents. The independent monitor reports a significant improvement in the Juvenile Division's documentation of the circumstances for the use of restrictive housing. Of the 602 incidents, 49% were in response to an assault, and 50% were in response to a threat. Of the assaults, Juvenile Division documented that 16% were assaults on staff and 83% were assaults on peers, while in 1% of incidents the victim of the assault wasn't documented.

Key Issue C. Average Duration of Restrictive Housing Incidents. According to the report, the average total duration of restrictive housing incidents during the reporting period was 1,249 minutes, or approximately 21 hours. This represents a significant increase over the prior reporting period when the average duration of restrictive housing incidents was 302 minutes.

Methodology Change. DAJD's method for tracking restrictive housing duration was significantly different during this reporting period compared to prior reporting periods. At the beginning of the reporting period, DAJD transitioned to using the newly installed electronic security check system to electronically capture restrictive housing data into the Jail Monitoring System (JMS). At the time of this transition, DAJD began reporting the total time a youth was on restrictive housing status, including time that does not meet the code definition of "solitary confinement"—ordinary rest periods and time a youth spent outside their cell in school and programming. A youth is considered to be on restrictive housing status from the time immediately following the incident of imminent risk of harm until the issue is resolved to the point that the youth fully returns to regular programming. When multiple youths are involved in an incident, the youths often transition from room confinement to an intermediary phase where the youths participate in split programing until the conflict is fully resolved. During split programming, youths in conflict are put on a modified program schedule so they can be separated by alternating between programming and room confinement until they reach a resolution and can safely interact. Reaching full

resolution for complex issues can span multiple days, however, the youth are not continuously confined to their cell while in split programming.

Prior to this reporting period, DAJD measured the duration of each incident based on time a youth spent in conditions that met the code definition of "solitary confinement" which was time in their cell or time in their living hall in one-on-one programming.[13] Because this methodology captured intervals of time that sometimes spanned multiple days, in the prior report DAJD also provided data about the amount of time a youth spent in their cell before being released for programming, allowing the data to be analyzed according to the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) standard.

JDAI Standards Differ from DAJD's Methodology. King County code requires that DAJD's policies and procedures for solitary confinement be consistent with JDAI standards. The JDAI standard is that a youth is not placed in room confinement for more than four hours, after which the youth must be returned to the general population, moved to individualized programming, or provided consultation with a mental health professional.[14] King County Code defines this as "a limit on the duration of any solitary confinement to no more than four hours in any twenty-four hour period," with "ordinary sleep and rest periods" not constituting solitary confinement.[15]

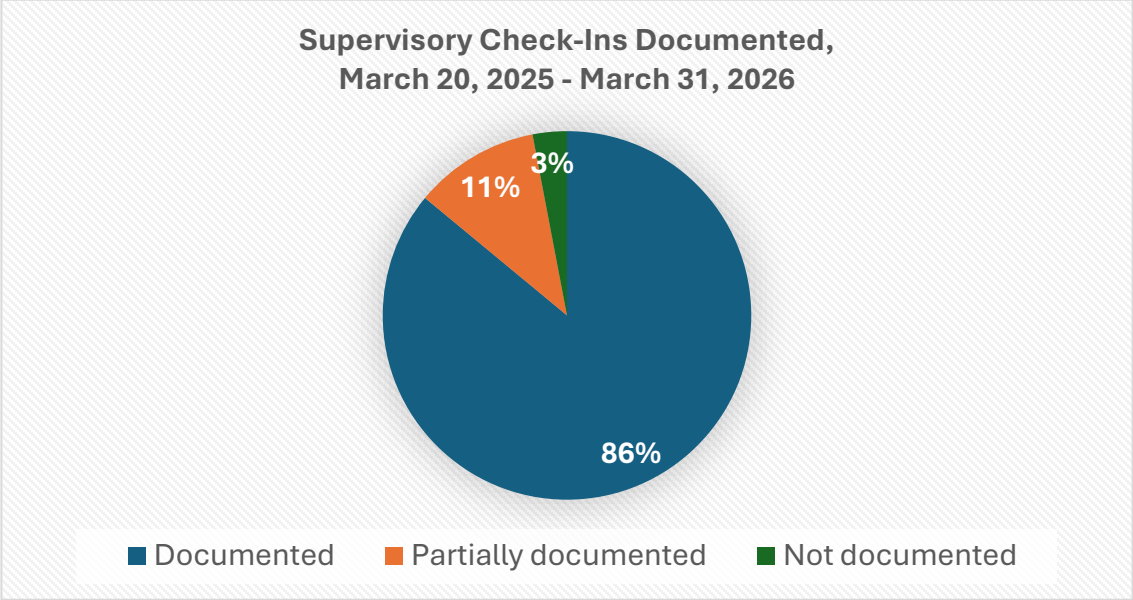
DAJD's method of calculating the duration of restrictive housing during this reporting period does not track the amount of time a youth spends confined to their cell in restrictive housing within a twenty-four-hour period, making it difficult to analyze against the JDIA standard required by county code. The JDAI standard applies to time in room confinement rather than time on restrictive housing status.

Incidents Exceeding Four Hours. The proviso asks the independent monitoring team to identify the number of incidents that exceeded four hours and evaluate the circumstances. According to the report, 514 restrictive housing incidents exceeded four hours, or approximately 85%. The report notes that incidents exceeding 4 hours involve situations that are more significant, complex, take more time to resolve, and have limited alternatives to restrictive housing. An example cited in the report is when all the female youths in a single living hall were involved in a peer-on-peer conflict. Because there is only one living hall open to females, the youths in conflict could not be separated by moving some to a different living hall, so the youths needed to be separated into small group programming until they could self-regulate and problem-solve. Note that, as stated above, the incidents exceeding four hours involve alternating periods of room confinement and time out their

[13] In 2023 and 2024, the Law and Justice Committee considered legislation that would have removed "one-on-one programming" from the code definition of "solitary confinement." While there was general support for that concept, the legislation didn't advance due to other factors.
[14] Juvenile Detention Facility Assessment, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Pg. 178
[15] K.C.C. 2.65

cell in programming. The report does not provide information about the number of incidents, if any, where a youth was confined to their cell for more than four hours, outside of ordinary sleep and rest periods, within a 24-hour period.

D. Documentation of Supervisory Review. As required by the proviso, the report reviewed documentation of supervisory review of use of solitary confinement. Juvenile Division's restrictive housing policy requires that a supervisor check in with the confined youth within two hours of being placed in restrictive housing, and every four hours after that. According to the report, 514 restrictive housing incidents lasted at least two hours and therefore required at least one supervisory check-in. Of those incidents, supervisory check-ins were documented as follows.

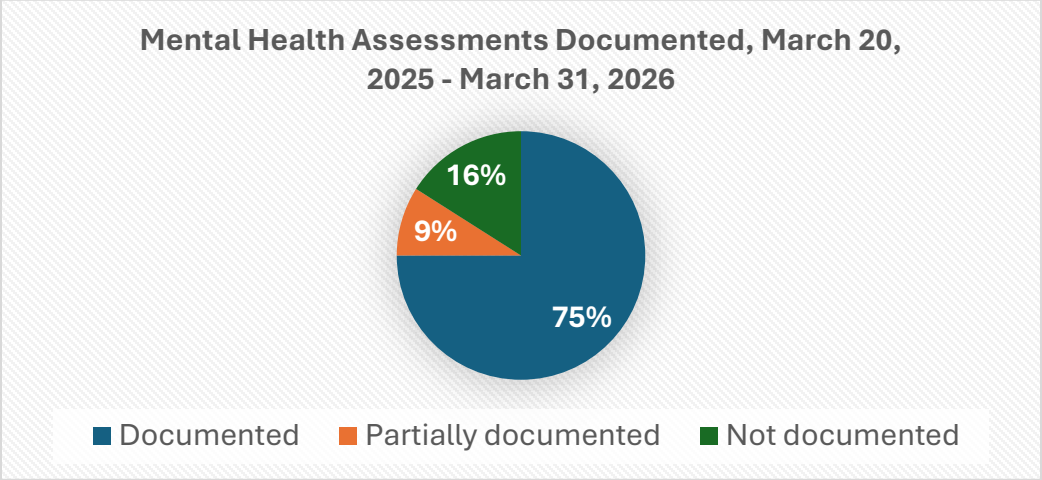


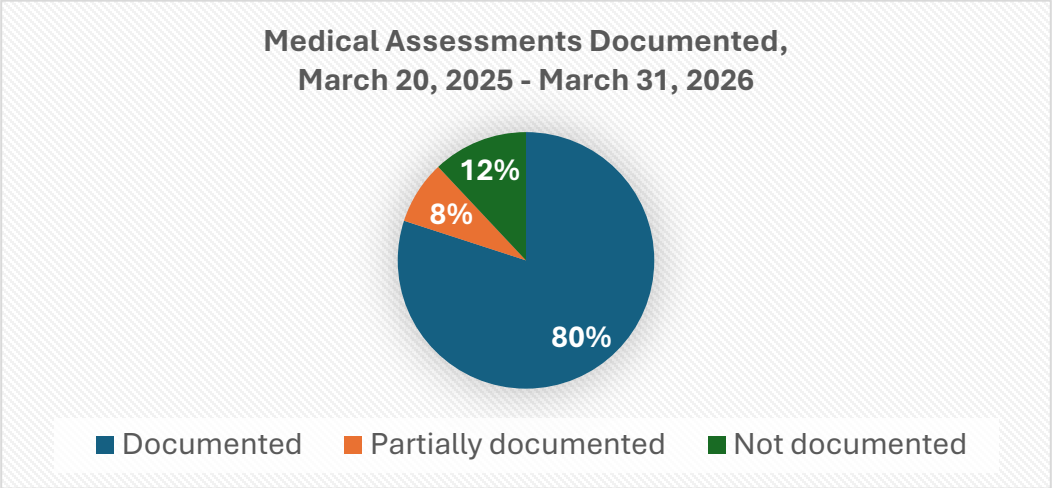
In the data depicted above, "documented" refers to incidents where all required supervisory check-ins were documented, and "partially documented" refers to incidents where at least one supervisory review was documented, but not all required reviews were documented. The report notes that in the independent monitor's review of incidents that lacked documentation, circumstances indicate the missing documentation was due to clerical errors.

Comparison to the Prior Reporting Period. Inclusion of supervisory check-in documentation in this report is a significant improvement compared to the April 1, 2024 – March 19, 2025 report when data reliability issues prevented the monitoring team from being able to analyze supervisor check-in compliance.

E. Documentation of Medical and Mental Health Assessments. The report notes that medical and mental health professionals routinely check in with youth in restrictive

housing during regular visits to the living halls, resulting in more medical and mental health check-ins than required by Juvenile Division's restrictive housing policy. Juvenile Division's restrictive housing policy requires an evaluation by a medical professional within six hours and an evaluation by a mental health professional within four hours of a youth being put in restrictive housing. According to the report, 514 incidents lasted at least four hours and therefore required a mental health assessment. There were 452 incidents that lasted at least six hours and therefore required a medical assessment. Documentation of those assessments is as follows.





Comparison to the Prior Reporting Period. Documentation of mental health and medical assessments increased significantly in this reporting period compared to previous reporting.

- Mental health assessments were partially or fully documented in 79% of incidents in this reporting period compared to 59% in the prior reporting period.

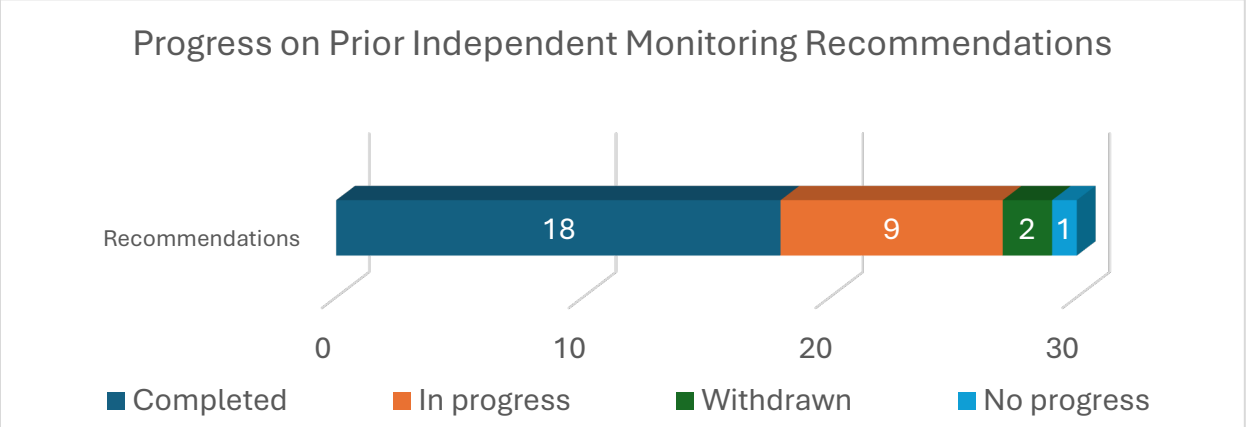
- Medical assessments were partially or fully documented in 88% of incidents compared to 66% in the prior reporting period.

The monitoring report also noted that reporting was higher in the final quarter of the reporting period (Q1 2026), increasing to 88% full or partial documentation of mental health assessments and 96% documentation of medical assessments.

F. Access to Education, Programming, and Necessities. According to the report, youth in restrictive housing routinely had access to education, programming, and necessities. In three instances, reading materials and other necessities were temporarily withheld when those items presented an imminent safety issue. According to the report, in all three instances, access to the removed items was restored after a short period of time once the youth involved was able to self-regulate. The Juvenile Division's use of split programming for youth on restrictive housing status ensures that all youth have access to some school classes and programming with other youth throughout the day, while avoiding peer interactions that pose a safety issue.

G. Youth Demographics. As required by the proviso, the report includes information about the gender, age, and race of youth placed in restrictive housing. Of note was the disproportionate share of females involved in restrictive housing incidents during this reporting period. Twenty-two percent of restrictive housing incidents involved females, although they made up approximately 10% of the population during that period. This was a doubling of the percentage of females involved in restrictive housing incidents during the prior reporting period.

H. Progress on Implementing Recommendations. Attachment A to the Independent Monitoring Report provides a comprehensive summary of progress implementing the 30 prior independent monitor recommendations. Progress is depicted in the figure below, with 18 completed, 9 in progress, 2 withdrawn, and 1 no progress.



Recommendations that were completed within the reporting period were discussed in "Progress" section of the independent monitoring report and this staff report. A few notable outstanding recommendations are shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Notable Outstanding Recommendations

#	Recommendation	Status	Progress
1.8 & 2.5	Consider excluding times when a youth is voluntarily in their room, one-on-one programming, and a single female in the facility from the definition of solitary confinement	In progress	In prior years, the Law and Justice Committee considered legislation to make these changes, but the legislation did not move forward.
1.12	Increase data analysis of use of alternative behavior responses	In progress	Juvenile Division is using the JMS to analyze and optimize data collection but is not yet using JMS to analyze alternative behavior responses.
1.13	Structure efforts to reduce restrictive housing and manage behavior around a central approach that connects policies, practice, and culture.	In Progress	During this reporting period, the Behavior Management Workgroup focused on promoting greater consistency in youth supervision, behavior management practices, and accountability across staff. Juvenile Division implemented a structured framework to establish clear, consistent expectations for youth behavior and staff responses.
5.1	Provide AAOs access to reading material when restricted to a confined space for a cool down of up to 2 hours	No progress	According to DAJD, cool downs for AAOs in adult facilities are emergency situations involving immediate safety and security concerns and often require a rapid staff response.

I. New recommendations. The following new recommendations were included in the March 20, 2025 – March 31, 2026, Independent Monitoring Report:

- Juvenile Division should continue to explore ways the combined total higher number than required supervisor, mental health professional, and medical provider checks and assessments impact the process of monitoring youth in restrictive housing and the pros and cons of using this approach as an analytic tool with restrictive housing data (see sections J. and K. of this staff report for more context).

- It would be useful to analyze the extent to which the Juvenile Division's new Housing Classification Guide impacts assignment to and duration of restrictive housing of youth assigned to various living halls.

- Within the context of the Juvenile Division's Behavior Management Group or otherwise, consider the suggestion made by some detained youth to develop extra incentives beyond those currently available for sustained good behavior.

- While the DAJD's Adult Divisions demonstrated overall improvement in restrictive housing record keeping, the Adult Divisions should consider the feasibility of adopting a facsimile of the Juvenile Divisions' quality control system, in order to identify and correct errors in recordkeeping as early as possible.

- While the Juvenile Division's ADP has dropped and the ADP for AAOs in the Adult Divisions has increased, DAJD should consider whether the Juvenile Division Intervention Specialist and other mental health care providers could continue to support AAOs after their transfer to an adult facility, at least for a limited transitional period of time.

J. Monitors' Certification and DAJD Explanation. The proviso requires the Independent Monitors to certify that DAJD has appropriately documented and maintained the data required by subsections B. through F. of the proviso for at least 90% of incidents. If the Independent Monitors cannot make that certification, the report must include an explanation from DAJD as to why the agency did not meet that threshold. While the monitors state that DAJD documented and maintained data from categories B, C, and F for nearly 100% of incidents, the monitors were unable to make the certification due to data from categories D and E falling short of the 90% threshold. DAJD documented supervisor checks for 86% of restrictive housing incidents, with partial checks for an additional 11% of incidents. For medical and mental health assessments, DAJD documented that those assessments occurred fully for 80% and 75% of incidents respectively, and partially for an additional 8% and 9% of incidents, respectively.

The explanation provided by DAJD notes that DAJD used a different methodology to measure compliance. The independent monitors measured compliance based on the number of restrictive housing incidents with complete documentation and excluding

incidents with partial documentation.[16] The methodology DAJD used compared the number of Supervisor, Medical, and Mental Health check-ins required to the number of check-ins completed. DAJD's methodology analyzing individual check-ins rather than categorizing a restrictive housing event as compliant or non-compliant based on whether all required checks were documented. Using DAJD's methodology, Supervisor checks were documented as completed for 96% of required check-ins, medical checks were documented as completed for 90% of required check-ins, and Mental Health checks were documented as completed for 87% of required check-ins. DAJD also noted that DAJD staff often completed additional supervisory, medical, and mental health checks beyond what is required by policy for youth in restrictive housing, as was also noted by the independent monitors. DAJD further states, as corroborated by the monitors, that DAJD met the 90% standard for supervisor, mental health, and medical checks according the monitoring team methodology for the final quarter of the reporting period, Q1 2026. Table 5 shows a comparison of how DAJD preformed using the two data tracking methodologies.

Table 5. Comparison of Methodologies for Calculating Compliance

	Independent Monitor Methodology: ***Was the event in compliance?***	**DAJD Methodology:** ***Was each required check-in completed?***
Supervisory Check-ins	**86%** (11% partial, 3% not compliant)	**96%**
Medical Assessment	**80%** (8% partial, 12% not compliant)	**90%**
Mental Health Assessment	**75%** (9% partial, 16% not compliant)	**87%**

DAJD also stated:

> *"DAJD recognizes the value of reviewing documentation for individual events and thus, to promote consistency and transparency in future reporting, DAJD will modify its methodology to align with the monitoring team's expectations*

[16] Complete documentation means all required check-ins were documented, whereas partial documentation showed at least one check-in occurred but was missing documentation for subsequent check-ins that would be have required by the Juvenile Division's Restrictive Housing Policy.

moving forward. DAJD remains committed to continuous improvement, accurate reporting, and productive collaboration with the monitoring team."

K. Compliance with County Code and State Law. As required by the proviso, the report discusses compliance with county code and state law. The report lists the code and law requirements and discusses findings about compliance related to each requirement. The documentation available generally suggests that DAJD is complying with county code and state law for juveniles in detention. For the requirement that youths must be released from restrictive housing as soon as there is no longer an imminent risk of harm, the report notes that efforts are made to comply in the Juvenile Division, but that a number of factors impact whether youth are released as soon as possible.

The state law prohibiting solitary confinement applies only to juvenile detention, whereas the county code prohibition applies to a small subset of young adults in adult detention. Less documentation is available for determining compliance in adult detention. The report notes that AAOs do not consistently have access to mental health services or reading and writing materials while in restrictive housing and that documentation for the reason for placement in restrictive housing sometimes suggests it may be for disciplinary purposes.

Confinement of Young Adults Incarcerated in Adult Detention on Juvenile Matters. As noted above, the county code prohibition of use of solitary confinement except as necessary to prevent imminent harm applies to a subset of young adults, Adult Age Outs (AAOs), who are over 18 and housed in adult detention for matters that occurred when they were juveniles. While this group typically constitutes a very small number of people housed in adult detention, the number doubled during this reporting period to 22 AAOs as of March 2026. During the reporting period, there were approximately 20 restrictive housing incidents involving 8 AAOs. Documentation as to the behavior creating the risk of imminent harm was limited, as was documentation of whether the young adult was released from restrictive housing as soon as they no longer posed an imminent risk. The report notes that the AAO restrictive housing incidents lasted between 19 and 148 hours. Adults in restrictive housing are generally provided one hour out of their cell per 24 hours.

In response to a concern raised by the independent monitors in the prior report about use of small visitor booths for AAO cool down periods, Adult Division policy was revised to prioritize other more spacious locations for AAO cool downs.

Key Issue D. Documentation Improvements Compared to Prior Reports. As stated throughout the report, DAJD made improvements in all categories of reporting compared to previous reporting period. Table 6 shows a compilation of current reporting compared to the previous reporting period.

Table 6. March 20, 2025 – March 31, 2026, Reporting Compared to Previous Reporting

Reporting	March 20, 2025 – March 31, 2026	April 1, 2024 – March 19, 2025
Circumstances of Restrictive Housing Incidents	Assault or Threat 99% Other 1% Improved level of detail describing and categorizing reason for restrictive housing	Assault or Threat 61% Disruptive, imminent harm, unknown 39%
Supervisory Checks	86% fully, 11% partial	Could not be reported due to data unreliability
Mental Health Assessments	75% fully, 9% partial	59%[17]
Medical Assessments	80% fully, 8% partial	66%[18]
Access to Necessities	100%[19]	59%

INVITED

- Chuck Parkins, Division Director, DAJD Juvenile Division
- Lisaye Ishikawa Manning, Facility Commander, King County Correctional Facility
- Jennifer Albright, Division Director, DAJD Administrative Services
- Catherine Pickard, Deputy Division Director, DAJD Juvenile Division
- Steve Larsen, Deputy Director, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0237 (and its attachment)
2. Transmittal Letter

[17] For events exceeding four hours
[18] For events exceeding four hours
[19] Except when certain items pose a safety issue

KING COUNTY

Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Motion

Proposed No. 2026-0237.1 **Sponsors** Lewis

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of an independent monitoring report on the confinement of juveniles in county detention facilities as required by the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 53, Proviso P1.

WHEREAS, the 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 53, Proviso P1, requires the executive to transmit two reports on the confinement of juveniles in county detention facilities, each accompanied by a motion that should acknowledge receipt of the applicable report, and

WHEREAS, the first report, should be transmitted by June 30, 2026, should cover March 20, 2025, through March 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the second report, should be transmitted by June 30, 2027, should cover April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20023, Section 53, Proviso P1, provides that $200,000 shall not be expended or encumbered until the executive transmits both reports and motions acknowledging receipt of both reports are passed, and

WHEREAS, upon passage of each motion, $100,000 shall be released for expenditure or encumbrance, and

WHEREAS, the council has acknowledged receipt of the first report transmitted by the executive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The motion acknowledging receipt of the first of the two reports on the confinement of juveniles in county detention facilities, entitled King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention Independent Monitoring Team Report, Attachment A to

this motion, is hereby passed in accordance with 2026-2027 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 20023, Section 53, Proviso P1.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

_____

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, _____.

_____

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: A. King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention (DAJD) Independent Monitoring Team Report

Reporting Period March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026

KING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ADULT AND JUVENILE DETENTION

RESTRICTIVE HOUSING INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT

Kathryn Olson
Change Integration Consulting, LLC
206.890.5932
and
Bob Scales
Police Strategies, LLC
206.915.8683

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I. INTRODUCTION

This is the eighth report from the independent monitoring team[1] engaged to assess progress made by the King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention ("DAJD") in implementing King County Council Ordinance 18637 ("Ordinance 18637"), which placed limitations on the use of restrictive housing for youth detained in DAJD facilities, as further specified under King County Code ("K.C.C.") Chapter 2.65. Pursuant to Ordinance 20023, Section 53, Proviso P1 ("Budget Proviso 1"), this report analyzes DAJD's compliance with K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 and RCW Chapter 13.22, and presents data on the use of restrictive housing from March 20, 2025 to March 31, 2026,[2] compares some data to information from prior review periods, discusses DAJD progress and challenges encountered regarding restrictive housing, makes recommendations where process improvement opportunities are identified, provides an update on implementation of recommendations made by the monitoring team previously, and considers whether DAJD documented data on at least ninety percent of incidents for each category of analysis required under Budget Proviso 1.

II. OVERVIEW OF K.C.C. CHAPTER 2.65 - CONFINEMENT OF JUVENILES, RCW 13.22 - ROOM CONFINEMENT AND ISOLATION, & REPORT METHODOLOGY

Restrictive housing of juveniles in King County is regulated by K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 and Washington State RCW 13.22. Ordinance 18637 and Ordinance 20023, Section 53, P1 also mandate independent monitoring of restrictive housing of detained youth and require that reports concerning monitoring activities be submitted to the King County Council. Requirements under K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 and RCW 13.22 are summarized below, followed by an outline of issues reviewed during the monitoring process, and a summary of the monitoring team's methodology.

A. K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 - Confinement of Juveniles

K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 prohibits restrictive housing[3] of youths in King County's detention facilities, except when based on the youth's behavior and restrictive housing is necessary to prevent

[1] The independent monitoring team members are Kathryn Olson, Change Integration Consulting, LLC, and Bob Scales, Police Strategies, LLC.

[2] As of March 20, 2025, the DAJD Juvenile Division transitioned from recording security checks and youth movement activity in hard copy format to entering data electronically using DAJD's Jail Management System (JMS). The transition created challenges in analyzing restrictive housing data for the transition period. Although the data was recorded and maintained, the new format made it difficult to analyze alongside the manually entered data maintained prior to March 20, 2025. Consequently, the monitoring team and the DAJD determined that it would be best to include data from March 20 - March 31, 2025, in the current report, where the same approach to recording data is used throughout the reporting period.

[3] K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 uses the term "solitary confinement," though DAJD adopted the term "restrictive housing," which initially was used by the Adult Divisions and has since been used by both the Juvenile and Adult Divisions. K.C.C. Chapter 2.65.010.B. makes clear that solitary confinement mandates apply regardless of the terminology used

imminent and significant physical harm to the youth or others and less restrictive alternatives were unsuccessful.[4]

K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 applies to: (a) all juveniles held in detention at the Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center ("CCFJC"); (b) youths who turn 18 ("Age Out") while at the CCFJC and transfer to an adult facility;[5] and (c) youths who are older than 18 and are booked on a juvenile probation/parole matter or on any charge stemming from criminal conduct that occurred prior to their 18th birthday.

Under K.C.C. Chapter 2.65.010.B., “solitary confinement/restrictive housing” is defined as, “the placement of an incarcerated person in a locked room or cell alone with minimal or no contact with persons other than guards, facility staff, and attorneys.” Use of restrictive housing of youths for disciplinary or punishment purposes is prohibited, though short-term placement of youths in individual cells for purposes of facility or living unit security issues or for other short-term safety and maintenance issues is permitted. Juveniles also must be given reasonable, timely access to the defense bar, juvenile probation counselors, social service providers, and educators.

B. RCW 13.22 - Room Confinement and Isolation

Enacted in 2021, RCW 13.22 provided limits on the use of room confinement that extended beyond the mandates of K.C.C. Chapter 2.65, and the Juvenile Division has since brought its restrictive housing policies and practices into compliance.[6] Both RCW 13.22 and K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 prohibit the use of restrictive housing for punitive purposes.[7] DAJD uses the term "restrictive housing" in defining the conditions under which a youth can be confined to their room, while RCW 13.22 sets out the conditions using the terms "room confinement" and "isolation."

RCW 13.22 requires that the Juvenile Division compile and publish data on the use of confinement or isolation (i.e., restrictive housing) in excess of one hour. In order to comply with both RCW

(e.g., solitary confinement, room confinement, segregated housing, restrictive housing, etc.). RCW 13.22.010 introduced another taxonomy of terms related to solitary confinement.

[4] A list of explanations underlying enactment of Ordinance 18637 included studies “on the psychological effects of solitary confinement on juveniles [that] suggest that isolation may interfere with essential developmental processes, lead to irreparable damage and increase the risk of suicide ideation and suicide.”

[5] DAJD uses the term “Adult Age Outs” ("AAOs") for juveniles covered by K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 though detained at the King County Correctional Facility ("KCCF") or Maleng Regional Justice Center ("MRJC").

[6] For example, under RCW 13.22, the term "confinement" includes both room confinement and isolation and means a youth is separated from the population and placed in a locked room for longer than 15 minutes. The Juvenile Division's original policy allowed for the confinement of a youth to their room for a short "Time Out" or a "Cool Down" period lasting up to two (2) hours which was not classified as restrictive housing. Under the DAJD Juvenile Division's revised policy, the restrictive housing time clock begins as soon as a youth is involuntarily confined to their room (the policy does not provide for the initial 15-minute buffer included under state law) and the "Time Out" or "Cool Down" options are not permitted.

[7] RCW 13.22 uses the term "solitary confinement" to mean room confinement for longer than 15 minutes for punitive purposes.

13.22 and K.C.C. Chapter 2.65, and to facilitate consistency, the Juvenile Division analyzes and reports on all restrictive housing incidents that last 60 minutes or longer.

In compliance with K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 and RCW 13.22, Juvenile Division policies and procedures require that all youth are checked on at least every 15 minutes and, for those in restrictive housing, provide that:

1. The youth have access to clothing, mattress and bedding, medication, toilet and sink at least hourly, any necessary mental health services, and reading and writing material.
2. The reason for placement in restrictive housing is documented by staff.
3. A supervisor checks in with the youth within two hours of placement into restrictive housing, and then every four hours (except for ordinary sleep periods).
4. The youth be evaluated and a care plan developed by a mental health professional as soon as possible within four hours of placement in restrictive housing.
5. The youth be evaluated by a medical professional as soon as possible within six hours of placement in restrictive housing or before an ordinary sleep period, and at least once per day thereafter.
6. Youth are released from restrictive housing as soon as the purpose of the confinement or isolation is met, the desired behavior is evident, or the youth is determined no longer to be an imminent risk.
7. If a youth remains in restrictive housing for more than four hours within a twenty-four-hour (24) period, staff must establish a reintegration plan and share it with the youth.

An extension beyond four hours is allowed if subsequent or multiple incidents occur, and:

8. All requirements above are met.
9. The reason for the extension is documented.
10. Medical professionals assess and address the youth's physical needs and mental health professionals evaluate their mental health needs.
11. An individualized plan is established for reintegration of the youth.
12. The agency head provides documented authorization for continuing restrictive housing if exceeding 24 hours.

The Juvenile Division continues to explore behavioral response alternatives to the use of restrictive housing and ways to decrease the time in which a youth is placed in confinement. When restrictive housing assignment is deemed appropriate, goals and objectives are identified and communicated to a confined juvenile, so they and staff share an understanding as to what is necessary for reintegration back into routine activities with peers in their living hall.

A multidisciplinary team ("MDT team") of Juvenile Division staff, mental health professionals, a Seattle Public School teacher working with youth at the CCFJC, and others meet daily to review incidents of restrictive housing and to assess support needed for youth experiencing acute psychological and/or social issues, whether or not they are in restrictive housing.

The Juvenile Division has developed processes to help reduce the amount of time a youth is confined to their room when assigned to restrictive housing. In particular, "split programming" is used when two or more juveniles in the same living hall are in restrictive housing for assaultive or threatening behavior. Because the youth cannot program together until they self-regulate and problem solve about their unacceptable behavior, one youth remains in their room while the other attends classes or participates in program activities; then they switch off, so the youth who had been confined leaves their room for programming and the first youth returns to their room.[8]

While addressed in more detail in previous reports, the monitoring team notes that the Juvenile Division discontinued use of Restoration Hall[9] in order to comply with RCW 13.22. There is some potential for reinstituting Restoration Hall and Juvenile Detention Officers ("JDOs") generally express support for the idea. Making a Restoration Hall available allows for staff with the most interest and expertise in facilitating restorative practices to work with juveniles assigned to restrictive housing, freeing-up other JDOs to manage and program with the remaining youths.

It is also important to bear in mind that youth engage in unacceptable behavior more frequently than is represented by the data and analysis of restrictive housing incidents, the focus of this report. Examples of alternative responses to a youth's negative behavior that are used by Juvenile Division staff include such actions as engaging the youth in restorative problem solving without also imposing restrictive housing, taking away privileges such as an extended bedtime, and loss of time accumulated at a previously earned level of the tiered behavior incentive system or demotion to a lower level.

C. Report Methodology

Under Budget Proviso 1, the monitoring process is to include consultation with stakeholders, and the methodology used in gathering information for the independent monitoring reports on restrictive housing includes meetings and interviews held with representatives of the Juvenile Detention Guild Executive Board and Guild members; members of the DAJD senior management

[8] Another approach that has been used is "one-on-one programming," a step-down process before a youth is fully regulated and ready to integrate with other youths. In one-on-one programming, a youth assigned to restrictive housing meets alone with a Juvenile Detention Officer ("JDO") or other detention staff to work on school assignments or to engage in other program activities. Though one-on-one programming has rarely been used in recent years since it falls under King County's definition of prohibited restrictive housing, it has been an important part of the Juvenile Division's behavioral response protocols. See Attachment A, Status of Restrictive Housing Monitoring Recommendations, Recommendation 2.5.

[9] Previously, youths presenting a risk of imminent and significant physical harm were assigned to Restoration Hall, where they worked with JDOs and other staff trained on restorative principles to understand and address the issues that led to unacceptable behavior. If other involved youths were also in Restoration Hall, the youths could engage in conflict resolution. Otherwise, youths participated in one-on-one programming with staff until they were self-regulated and could return to their previous living hall. However, as noted above, the potential for using one-on-one programming in Restoration Hall met the same concern noted above - that a single youth spending time outside their room with a JDO or other staff person appears to be prohibited under Ordinance 18637 and K.C.C. 2.65.

team and members of the Juvenile Division management team, Corrections Supervisors and administrative managers from the Juvenile and Adult Divisions; the Juvenile Division Community Services Coordinator; JDOs; youths detained at the CCFJC and AAOs detained at KCCF; individuals who facilitate the transition of youths who turn 18 while detained at CCFJC over to KCCF or MRJC; an administrator and teachers from the Seattle Public School System working with detained juveniles; individuals from Ryther and the University of Washington providing mental health and medical services to juveniles detained at the CCFJC; and others. The monitoring team also conducts on-site visits and observations of programming activities.

Another step in the monitoring team's methodology is to review relevant documentation, including extensive documents compiled since work with DAJD began in 2018.[10] For the current evaluation, in addition to reviewing earlier reports (those authored by the monitoring team and DAJD external audits) and research material, documentation and data for the period March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026, was considered, including material related to specific restrictive housing incidents, such as Restrictive Housing Assessment Checklists and restrictive housing summary data compiled by DAJD.

The remainder of this report addresses the issues to be considered by the independent monitor, as outlined in Budget Proviso 1. Note that the format has changed somewhat from that used in previous reports, so that the issues noted in Budget Proviso 1 are covered in the order listed in the proviso, with less extraneous analysis than provided in earlier reports. This allows for a more succinct presentation of information that is directly on point with Council's interests concerning restrictive housing, as codified in Budget Proviso 1. Because there are relatively few instances of restrictive housing involving AAOs housed at KCCF, along with different internal policies and procedures that apply, restrictive housing data concerning AAOs is summarized separately, following the discussion on restrictive housing in the Juvenile Division. Also, note that this reporting period is slightly longer than that seen in some previous years, as it begins on March 20,

[10] While not a complete list, examples of documentation reviewed over time include: King County Council Ordinance 18637 and K.C.C. Chapter 2.65; 13.22 RCW (2020), Juvenile Solitary Confinement; "Model Policy for Reducing Confinement and Isolation in Juvenile Facilities," developed by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families, per RCW 13.22.030; DAJD policies on restrictive housing in the Juvenile and Adult Divisions; DAJD organizational charts; the prior monitor's reports; informational handbooks for detainees in DAJD Juvenile and Adult Divisions; formerly required quarterly self-monitoring reports on restrictive housing DAJD provided to Columbia Legal Services; juvenile and adult facilities behavior management forms and reference documents; King County Executive Orders and reports on Auto Declines, juvenile justice services, and related matters; Juvenile Division detainee intake and screening documents; Youth Accountability Checklists; health clinic youth monitoring forms; Juvenile Division Restrictive Housing Assessment forms; King County and other jurisdictions' write-ups about Zero Youth Detention and COVID impact statements and data; restrictive housing data spreadsheets and other DAJD internal reports; and, DAJD reports and supporting material provided to King County Council. The monitoring team strives to stay up to date on research and best practices in this area, including regular review of Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative standards, reports, and related documents; publications concerning room confinement issues generally and with regards to other detention facilities; and research articles on use of restorative practices with youth and alternative approaches in responding to negative behavior.

2025, when the Juvenile Division transitioned from a paper-based system to electronic record keeping.

III. ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION ON JUVENILE DIVISION RESTRICTIVE HOUSING DATA

Budget Proviso P1 requires continued independent monitoring and reporting regarding DAJD's use of restrictive housing for juveniles in county detention facilities. The independent monitoring team report is to address the topics listed in subsections A. through K. below.

A. Challenges, Progress, and Setbacks

Subsection A is to provide a discussion of challenges, progress, and setbacks, and any significant management, policy, or operating environment changes that have occurred since the prior report related to behavioral interventions and confinement of juveniles at county detention facilities.

As further detailed below, advancements made by DAJD's Juvenile Division during this review include:

- Implementation of an electronic security check system,
- Adoption of an enhanced quality control process for recording and tracking restrictive housing data,
- Use of a more in-depth approach to analyzing data on supervisory, mental health, and medical assessments to be done of youths in restrictive housing,
- Recognition of the significantly higher total number of checks and assessments completed for youths in restrictive housing than required,
- Development of a Housing Classification Guide that considers each youth's age and developmental stage, along with other factors, when making living hall assignments, and
- Appropriately documenting the types of behavior resulting in restrictive housing that comply with law and policy.

While it is expected that the approach with the new Housing Classification Guide will assist in reducing conflict between youths and provide better alignment with educational and programming services, the other improvements help facilitate consistency in recording and tracking restrictive housing data and support a more thorough analysis of the data collected.

In March 2025, the Juvenile Division transitioned from a paper-based to an electronic approach for monitoring each youth's activities and movements in the facility. Moving away from utilizing paper to track youth activities and movements presents an opportunity to analyze electronic records while also improving data accuracy once the Division moved away from relying on handwritten documentation.

Another area of progress related to improving data reliability involves the enhanced quality control process the Juvenile Division is following. After the monitoring team identified data-related issues encountered during the last review period, quality control procedures were instituted to improve the accuracy and consistency of restrictive housing documentation.[11] The data that the monitoring team received for March 20, 2025, to March 31, 2026, benefitted from the new process and the monitoring team did not identify significant or numerous problems with the data at the level seen previously. The internal administrative review that is now taking place in the Juvenile Division continues to identify occasions when there is incomplete or inconsistent restrictive housing information. However, data corrections can be made, and staff can be counseled, as needed, closer in time to any incident at issue.

In working to improve the quality of restrictive housing data, the Juvenile Division also established more rigorous compliance requirements as to the information being collected and analyzed. Different types of checks are required the longer a youth is in restrictive housing, with checks being repeated as restrictive housing time increases, too. Previously, as long as at least one check was completed for each type of review required (e.g. supervisory, mental health, and medical), the review was reported as having been completed. Relying on a mix of manual and electronic documentation in past years made it very difficult to conduct a deeper analysis regarding the assessment data. Beginning with restrictive housing data compiled for this report, the Juvenile Division is determining how many checks of each type were expected for each incident, given the length of time a youth was assigned to restrictive housing, and how many of each type were completed. The monitoring team can now analyze whether all, partial, or no checks were documented for each type of assessment expected and this improved data might also explain some data discrepancies observed in earlier reports.

The more reliable data collected by DAJD provided evidence that many more total checks and assessments of youths in restrictive housing are conducted than required by law and policy. Between March 20, 2025, and March 31, 2026, the number and duration of restrictive housing incidents required a combined total of 5,060 supervisor checks and mental health and medical professional assessments, though a total of 6,664 checks and assessments were completed. While clerical errors and other documentation issues are observed in a limited number of instances, the Juvenile Division's commitment to managing the restrictive housing process and prioritizing the well-being of involved youths is demonstrated by the approximately 24% extra checks and assessments completed when considering the combined number of reviews by supervisors, mental health staff, and medical providers.

[11] The last monitoring report identified a number of issues impacting data reliability, such as discrepancies between Youth Accountability Checklist documentation entered manually by JDOs and information entered electronically into JMS by Corrections Supervisors using the Restrictive Housing Assessment Checklist. Personnel changes also impacted the organization's ability to address data concerns as they were discovered.

Another area of progress is the adoption of a "Housing Classification Guide" in response to the recommendation that living hall assignments for detained youths take into consideration each youth's age and developmental stage, along with other factors, as a potential means to help reduce conflict and the need to use restrictive housing. The Housing Classification Guide provides that assignments should be made on a case-by-case basis, prioritizing the youth's safety and physical and emotional well-being, with consideration given to factors such as age, vulnerability to victimization and/or manipulation, need for frequent mental health support, prior legal system involvement, coping and conflict resolution skill level, and estimated length of stay.[12]

A sample of juvenile detainees from the various living halls were interviewed, in part to get their feedback about the new housing assignment system. Generally, the youths expressed understanding of the approach the Juvenile Division is now taking with hall assignments and appreciated some of the associated benefits. For example, Seattle Hall was being used for males who were 16 or 17 years old and charged with violent crimes, with longer stays and cases to be heard in Adult Court, with lower risk of victimization and/or manipulation, and requiring less mental health assistance. Two youths assigned to Seattle Hall talked about the advantages of being housed separately from younger detainees who have not developed conflict resolution skills and/or are not in detention long enough to learn how to relate to staff more productively. These youths also mentioned the peer support they experience and a more sophisticated approach to problem solving among youths assigned to Seattle Hall. Both pointed out the disruption that occurred when a youth with less developed coping skills and more significant mental health challenges was assigned to Seattle Hall on a temporary basis, providing confirmation for the Housing Classification Guide's approach to factors to be considered.[13]

Another area of substantial improvement during this review period relates to the documentation of youth behaviors resulting in restrictive housing assignment, along with much improved identification of the victims involved when youth behave aggressively. Restrictive housing is prohibited except when based on the youth's behavior and it is necessary to prevent imminent and significant physical harm to the youth or others, and less restrictive alternatives were unsuccessful.[14] The monitoring team has observed previously that "imminent harm" was sometimes listed as a separate type of behavior resulting in restrictive housing, while the imminent harm factor should be a consideration in all circumstances, per the requirements under County and

[12] Because the Average Daily Population ("ADP") for female youth has always been relatively low (e.g., there was an ADP of approximately 4 female youths for the current review period), and since females must be housed separately from males, they are assigned to one living hall regardless of age and developmental stage. Depending on the number of male youths in secure detention at a given time and considering staff numbers and availability, males are assigned to one of up to five other living halls. Some impacts of having only one living hall for female youths are addressed in the report's discussion on duration of restrictive housing and completion of checks and assessments by supervisors and mental health and medical staff.
[13] The youths assigned to Seattle Hall also talked about DAJD's behavior incentives program, discussed in section III.I below, regarding new monitoring team recommendations.
[14] K.C.C. Chapter 2.65; RCW 13.22.

State law. Concern has also been raised in earlier reports about use of "disruptive behavior" as a trigger for the use of restrictive housing, when the youth's behavior is not adequately explained and it is not clear if there is a risk of physical harm. Depending on the circumstances, disruptive behavior can present a risk of imminent and significant physical harm that justifies restrictive housing, or creates a facility or living hall safety or security issue requiring short-term room confinement, which does not constitute restrictive housing.[15] A thorough description of a youth's behavior in such incidents is necessary in analyzing whether DAJD's response was appropriate.

During the April 1, 2024, to March 19, 2025, prior review period, "imminent harm" was used in 9% of incidents and "disruptive behavior" was listed in 27% of incidents as the reason for restrictive housing, while these two explanations combined with court ordered separations were used to justify restrictive housing in less than 1% of the events during the current review period. In addition to being more specific and accurate regarding the reason underlying assignment to restrictive housing, the Juvenile Division also demonstrated significant progress in identifying the victim of a youth's aggressive behavior leading to restrictive housing. During the previous reporting period, the victim was not identified in 39% of incidents, though the number of unidentified victims was reduced to 1% in the current review period.

DAJD continues to be challenged with identifying and documenting what, if any, less restrictive alternatives were used prior to placing a youth in restrictive housing. Incidents can be very dynamic, with little chance to intervene before an assault or other inappropriate behavior occurs. The spontaneous nature of certain behaviors may be the most difficult aspect of these dynamic events. Analyzing an incident can be time consuming and it might be necessary to immediately separate and confine youths during the process. Depending on the severity of an event, a Code might be called, whereby all youths are locked down as the situation is brought under control. When there is time to consider less restrictive alternative interventions, there is no system for tracking actions that de-escalate conflict and successfully prevent imminent harm and the need to use restrictive housing. These “non-events” do not always produce observable outcomes and therefore, are more difficult to document. Many instances of inappropriate behavior do not result in restrictive housing or, if restrictive housing is used, the underlying behavioral issues are quickly resolved. Further study of these non-events and short-term incidents might provide insight on conflict resolution and problem-solving options that could have been applied prior to using restrictive housing.

Another challenging area for DAJD and one that was raised by Guild members and other staff relates to youths who are noncompliant, refusing to follow directives. On its own, this type of behavior often does not involve an imminent risk of physical injury. Where the use of restrictive housing might be appropriate, though is when other youths join in on the noncompliant behavior, which can quickly escalate the incident and increase the risk of imminent harm. The situation can

[15] K.C.C. Chapter 2.65.010.B.

be frustrating for some staff to resolve. Taking away earned privileges, such as a failure to earn commissary items or loss of an extended bedtime, is the primary approach to accountability available in the Juvenile Division, though losing such privileges is not always a deterrent to unacceptable behavior at the point a youth is acting defiant or has become dysregulated. A suggestion was made that it would be useful to have more training on alternative approaches to de-escalating such incidents.

As for operating environment changes, for the first time in a number of years, the Average Daily Population ("ADP") for youths detained at CCFJC has been declining. After increasing to an ADP of approximately 55 youths in secure detention in 2024 and 2025, the ADP for the first three months of 2026 was down to approximately 35 youths.[16] A lower ADP provides DAJD with more flexibility in managing its staff and programming resources and increases the opportunity to provide mental health and other support for youths and to develop and use alternative forms of intervention and behavioral responses. This increased staff-to-youth ratio further supports these outcomes by enabling more individualized youth management, improving staff responsiveness to behavioral and mental health needs, and enhancing the capacity to implement tailored, developmentally appropriate interventions for youth.

While the ADP for youths in secure detention has declined, the number of AAOs transitioned to the Adult Divisions has increased significantly. The number of youths charged with serious violent crimes has increased over the past few years and the time it takes to move cases to resolution has also increased significantly. Because these youths often experience longer lengths of stay, many are still in detention when they turn 18 years old and are transferred to an adult facility in King County. Thus, at the time the monitoring team interviewed AAOs in spring 2025 for the last report, there were 11 AAOs detained at KCCF, with that number doubling to 22 AAOs by March 2026. This increase in AAOs likely will present challenges in the adult facilities, which do not have the resources to provide AAOs with the same level of intervention when AAOs engage in assaults or make threats to do so, leading to increased use of restrictive housing for longer periods of time.

B. Number, Circumstances, and Average Duration for All Incidents

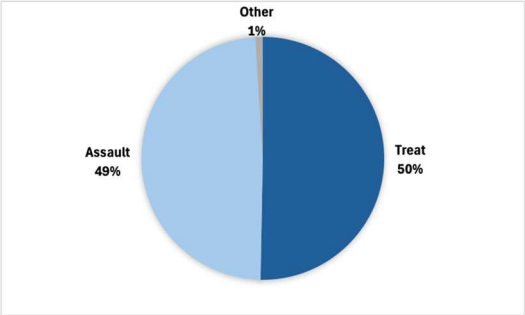
Budget Proviso 1, Subsection B, provides for a review of the documentation of each incident of solitary confinement/restrictive housing during the evaluation period, including identification of the number of incidents and an evaluation of the circumstances for the use of solitary confinement, including the average duration.

There were 602 incidents of restrictive housing during the March 20, 2025, to March 31, 2026, timeframe, compared to 620 incidents in the previous, nearly one month shorter reporting period

[16] Note that the Average Length of Stay ("ALOS") for juvenile detainees under Adult Court jurisdiction increased from 283 days in 2022 to 340 days in 2025. The ALOS for these youths increased to 442 days during Q1 2026.

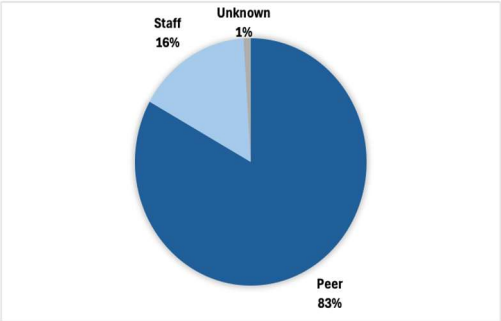
(April 1, 2024, to March 19, 2025).[17] Information regarding the circumstances leading to restrictive housing is provided below.

1.1 DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents[18]
Youth Behavioral Reasons for Restrictive Housing[19]
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 602**



Assaults and threats of assault are the primary behaviors identified as resulting in restrictive housing. As discussed in section III.A, signficant progress has been made to reduce reliance on "imminent harm" or "disruptive behavior" as a basis for assigning a youth to restrictive housing. When "disruptive behavior" is cited, there is improved articulation of how such behavior created a risk of imminent and significant physical injury.

1.2 DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Youth Instigating Aggressive Incidents - Victim Type
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 602**

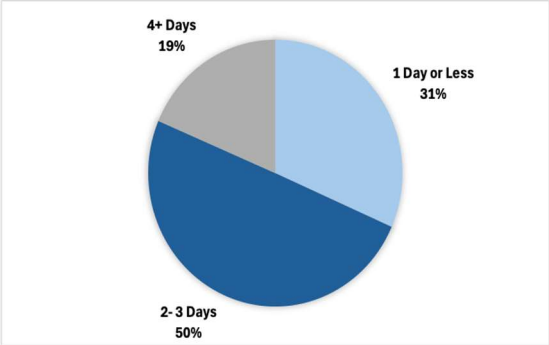


[17] The last reporting period covered 11 months and 19 days, compared to the current period under review, which is 12 months and 12 days.
[18] Only restrictive housing incidents lasting 60 or more minutes are reported, consistent with RCW 13.22.
[19] The "other" category in charts 1.1 and 1.5 include explanations such as imminent harm, disruptive behavior, and court ordered separation of youths which, taken together, amounted to less than one percent of the reasons documented for restrictive housing.

During the last monitoring period, peer-on-peer aggression or threats leading to restrictive housing accounted for 51% of incidents reviewed, youths threatened or assaulted staff in 10% of the incidents, and no victim was identified in 39% of the events. With the process improvements made by the Juvenile Division to ensure more reliable data for the current review period, the percentage of unidentified victims decreased to 1%. In the great majority of cases (83% of the incidents), youths direct their aggressive behavior towards other youths.

Aggression towards staff increased from 10% in the last reporting period to 16% of the incidents reviewed currently. However, it is difficult to determine whether assaults on staff have actually increased or the higher percentage observed in the current review period represents improved documentation of a higher rate of inappropriate behavior focused on staff, particularly given the previous large number of incidents when the victim was unidentified. In any case, JDOs, Corrections Supervisors, and DAJD management and administrative staff all are understandably concerned about threats and assaults directed towards personnel, along with the impact youths' aggressive behavior has on individual victims and behavior management efforts. For example, one youth who was interviewed has on-going challenges in self-regulation and stated he had experienced restrictive housing numerous times, including as a result of three assaults on Juvenile Division front line staff in less than two months. He indicated he had no interest in meeting with one of the mental health professionals available to help him understand his aggressive tendencies and to learn better self-regulation. This youth, along with other youths who target staff, present a unique challenge in developing alternative interventions to help reduce the use of restrictive housing.[20]

1.3 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Average Duration (Days) of Restrictive Housing
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 602**



[20] The monitoring team later learned this youth assaulted and injured a younger youth within weeks following his series of staff assaults and his unprovoked assaultive behavior against peers and staff has continued, resulting in serious injuries.

The average duration for youths experiencing restrictive housing during the period March 20, 2025, to March 31, 2026, was 1,249 minutes (approximately 21 hours). As observed in previous monitoring reports, the higher the number of minutes in restrictive housing, the fewer the number of youths confined for those extended periods of time. The average duration this reporting period is much higher than observed previously. It should be noted that lengthier events of restricitve housing do not necessarily mean the youth spent significantly more time alone in their sleeping room. The most likely scenario is that a youth spent additional time in one-on-one or small group programming prior to safely re-integrating into large group programming.

Incidents resulting in restrictive housing that are of longer duration are more significant, complex, take more time to resolve, and/or involve situations when there are limited alternatives to restrictive housing available. A possible reason for the increase in duration of restrictive housing events is the higher level of individual need for those youth who are in detention, compared to when there are more youth in detention but potentially fewer with more serious behavioral challenges. This concentration of youth with more complex needs can result in lengthier durations of restricitve housing as the Division strives to re-integrate youth safely into the general population.

An example of a more complex incident with limited alternatives to restrictive housing occurred at a point when the ADP for female youths was higher than usual. All of the female youths were involved in a peer-on-peer conflict incident and assigned to restrictive housing. The female youths engaged in split-programming, initially one at a time and then using various combinations and group sizes as individual youths worked on self-regulation and problem solving, so that each was able to participate in some school classes and other programming activities each day. Thus, each female youth spent more time confined to her room than she might otherwise have experienced if only two youths had been involved, along with making problem-solving between the youths more complicated to achieve. This was compounded by the fact that the Juvenile Division operates a single living hall for girls due to the relatively low number of female youths in detention. As a result, DAJD does not always have sufficient space or operational capacity to separate small groups of female youth across multiple housing units.

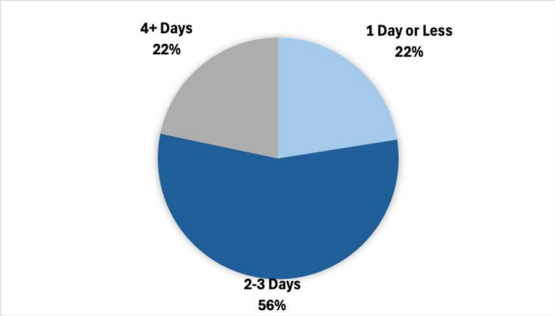
C. Number, Circumstances, and Average Duration for Incidents Exceeding Four Hours

Subsection C. of Budget Proviso 1 is to provide a review of the average duration of solitary confinement incidents, including identification of the number of incidents exceeding four hours and an evaluation of each incident.

Approximately 15% of all restrictive housing incidents were resolved in under four hours, with the youths involved returning to regular programming with their peers. However, there were 514

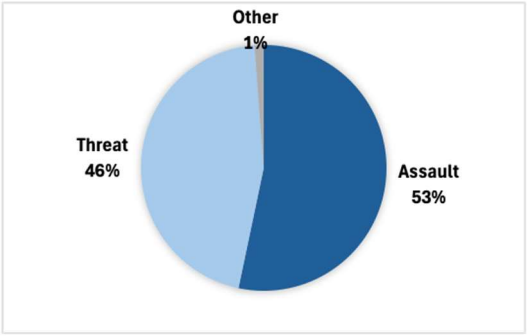
incidents that exceeded four hours. The average duration of these events was 1,431 minutes (approximately 24 hours), with the range in duration by number of days provided in the chart below. Information about the youth behavior triggering restrictive housing and victim types for these incidents is also presented.

1.4 - DAJD Juvenile Division
Incidents Exceeding Four Hours
Average Duration (Days) of Restrictive Housing
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 514**



The total time in restrictive housing for two incidents during this review period lasted over 9 days each, though through split-programming, the involved youths regularly took turns attending school classes and participating in programming activities.

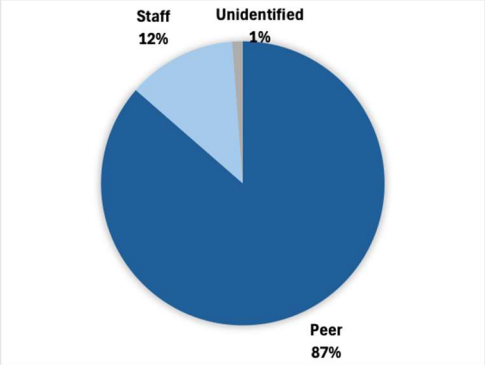
1.5 - DAJD Juvenile Division
Incidents Exceeding Four Hours
Youth Behavioral Reasons for Restrictive Housing
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 514**



The break-down of the behavioral justifications for restrictive housing for events exceeding four hours is somewhat similar to what was reported for all restrictive housing incidents, as seen in chart 1.1 above. Assaultive behavior was involved in 53% of the incidents that resulted in restrictive housing exceeding four hours, while assaults accounted for 49% of all incidents

of restrictive housing. Threatening behavior triggered the need to use restrictive housing in 46% of incidents exceeding four hours, compared to 50% of all incidents.

1.6 - DAJD Juvenile Division
Incidents Exceeding Four Hours
Youth Instigating Aggressive Incidents - Victim Type
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 514**



In considering the victim involved in events underlying assignment to restrictive housing, another youth was the subject in 87% of the incidents of threatening or assaultive behavior when restrictive housing exceeded four hours, compared to 83% of all incidents. The percentage of incidents involving a staff person as the victim was slightly lower in restrictive housing incidents exceeding four hours (12%) compared to that seen with all incidents (16%).

D Documentation of Supervisory Review

Budget Proviso 1, Subsection D., provides for a review of the documentation of supervisory review before the use of solitary confinement, including identification of the number of incidents exceeding two hours when supervisory review did not occur and an evaluation of each incident.

Juvenile Division policies and procedures require that a security check be completed every 15 minutes for all youths in their rooms, whether or not they are in restrictive housing. In addition, for youths in restrictive housing, a supervisor is required to check in with each youth within two hours of placement, and then every four hours (except during regular sleep periods).[21] Corrections Supervisors routinely review incidents in which youths engage in inappropriate behavior, whether or not it results in assignment to restrictive housing. For example, if two youths engage in an escalating argument where physical harm appears imminent, a JDO might take away a privilege each had earned to stay up later than usual that evening. When the JDO documents the behavior and loss of privileges in JMS, the system will automatically prompt the JDO to ask if a restrictive

[21] K.C.C. Chapter 2.65; RCW 13.22.

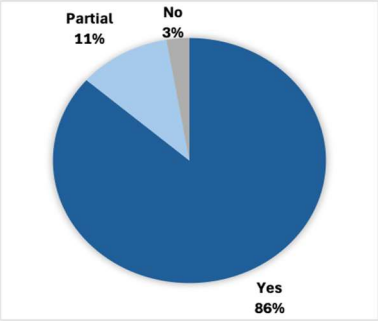
housing event needs to be started. The ability of JMS to prompt JDOs to enter information into the system supports more consistent and thorough documentation and reminds the JDOs to engage with the Corrections Supervisors about whether a loss of privileges and/or restrictive housing is an appropriate response to the behavior and threat of imminent harm. Corrections Supervisors work with the JDOs and may assist the youths in conflict resolution, confirm that losing the privilege to stay up late that evening adequately addressed the earlier inappropriate behavior, and determine that the incident did not require any time in restrictive housing, as there no continuing threat of imminent harm.

In other cases, a youth might be placed in restrictive housing but returned to regular programming in less than two hours, the point at which supervisor review is required. Between March 20, 2025, and March 31, 2026, of the total 602 restrictive housing incidents, 29 were resolved in less than two hours. This is before any checks were required to be completed, though Corrections Supervisors generally completed their first check on youths in restrictive housing earlier than the two-hour mark.

The data is complicated somewhat by the fact that in numerous instances, more checks were done than were required, which is indicative of how much overall time supervisors and the mental health and medical staff spend following up with youths while they are in restrictive housing. For example, of the 602 total restrictive housing incidents, 514 required at least one supervisor check, meaning the involved youth was in restrictive housing four hours or more. Depending on the length of time a youth is assigned to restrictive housing, more supervisor checks will be required, along with assessments by mental health and medical professionals.[22] During the current monitoring period, the 602 restrictive housing incidents that occurred required a total of 5,060 checks. However, supervisors, mental health professionals, and/or medical staff actually completed an extra 1,604 checks, for a total of 6,664, demonstrating that checks and assessments are being completed by someone throughout the process, even if not required at a particular time.

[22] Following the initial check by a supervisor within two hours of placement into restrictive housing, supervisor checks are then required every four hours. The youth also is to be evaluated by a mental health professional as soon as possible within four hours of placement in restrictive housing and a medical professional is to assess the youth as soon as possible within six hours of placement, and at least once per day thereafter. None of these reviews are required during normal sleeping hours or rest periods.

1.7 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Supervisory Checks
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 514**



As noted in section III.A, the Juvenile Division has broadened its data tracking for restrictive housing incidents, based on the length of time a youth is confined, and has determined the number and types of checks required (e.g., supervisor, mental health, and medical) and the number completed for each incident. This allows for a determination as to whether all required checks were completed ("Yes" in the chart above and the two charts in section E. below), whether at least one, but not all checks were done ("Partial" in these charts), or if none of the required checks were fulfilled ("No" in these charts).

Of the total 602 incidents of restrictive housing during the timeframe March 20, 2025, to March 31, 2026, there were 514 incidents in which at least one supervisor check was required. In 86% of these incidents, Corrections Supervisors completed all required checks, whether only one or more were expected. For restrictive housing lasting more than two hours, Corrections Supervisors partially completed the required checks in another 11% of the restrictive housing events. No required supervisor checks were documented in 3% of the incidents.

Incidents with partial or no checks generally involve circumstances that help explain the missing documentation. For example, there were two incidents in April and May 2025, that involved a group of female youths who were split programming over approximately six hours for two days. (See the discussion above in section III.C regarding the impact on the duration of time in restrictive housing when multiple females were split programming.) Documentation of supervisor and mental health assessments were missing for one female youth on each of the days at issue, though there was documentation that these checks were completed for the other youths involved. This indicates that the missing assessments were likely clerical errors made as the female youths engaged in split programming with different peers at different times and all moved in and out of their rooms throughout the day.

Juvenile Division Corrections Supervisors are continuing to improve with regards to recording all instances in which checks are to be conducted of youths in restrictive housing. For example, focusing on data for Q1 2026, there were 88 restrictive housing incidents during this three-month period, with 71 of the incidents requiring at least one supervisor check. Corrections Supervisors completed checks in 92% of these restrictive housing incidents and partially completed required checks in another 6% of the events.

E. Documentation of Medical and Mental Health Assessments

Subsection E. provides a review of the documentation of medical and mental health assessments of youth in restrictive housing, including identification of the number of incidents when health clinic staff was not notified within one hour or an assessment by a medical professional was not completed within six hours and an evaluation of each incident.

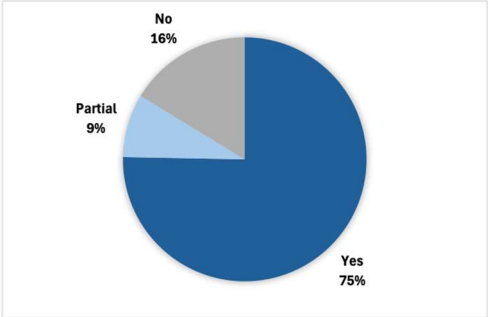
As soon as possible within four hours of a youth's placement into restrictive housing, a mental health professional is to evaluate the youth to develop a care plan. The youth is to be evaluated by a medical professional as soon as possible within six hours of the assignment to restrictive housing. When youths are assigned to restrictive housing in response to assaultive behavior, a medical provider responds to the incident and performs a medical assessment of each involved youth. In addition, before a medical provider conducts their visits to the living halls to distribute medications, they check in with the Corrections Supervisors to learn which youths are assigned to restrictive housing and then conduct any needed medical assessment. A mental health provider coordinates with the Corrections Supervisors at the beginning of each shift to identify which youths may need additional support, including those in restrictive housing requiring an evaluation. As discussed previously, the situation for each youth in restrictive housing and any other youths having a particularly challenging day is also reviewed during the daily MDT meeting, with both medical and mental health providers in attendance.

Input from mental health and medical professionals working with youths at CCFJC, along with feedback from DAJD staff and detained youths confirm that mental health and medical providers visit all of the living halls daily to dispense medication (which occurs at least twice each day) and to check on youths in restrictive housing or others needing a consult or counseling. The providers often conduct a mental health or medical assessment of youths in restrictive housing during these routine visits, even if an assessment is not required based on the length of time the youth has been confined to their room. This approach helps explain the significant number of times that checks were completed, though not required, as discussed above.

Furthermore, the Juvenile Division's daily MDT meeting uses a multidisciplinary team approach to involve Corrections Supervisors and other staff, mental health and medical professionals, a teacher working at the CCFJC, and others to review the circumstances involved with each youth

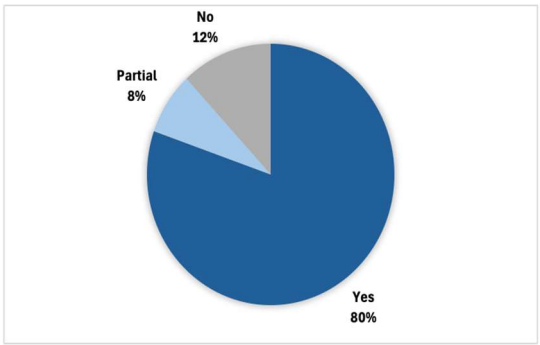
in restrictive housing and to discuss plans for assisting each youth in self-regulating and problem solving. The monitoring team has observed a number of MDT meetings and found the participants to be engaged and committed to minimizing the time youths experience restrictive housing.

1.8 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Mental Health Assessments
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 514**



A mental health professional was expected to complete at least one evaluation in each of 514 restrictive housing incidents. Verification of mental health assessments of youths in restrictive housing more than doubled from the last reporting period to the current timeframe under review, increasing from 34% to 75% of restrictive housing incidents. Focusing on the last three months of the review period, Q1 2026, the percentage of required mental health assessments increased to 79% of incidents when at least one mental health assessment was required. Partial assessments were documented in another 9% of all incidents requiring a mental health assessment, and in 9% of the incidents in Q1 2026. As previously noted, these assessments often occur much earlier than four hours in a youth's assignment to restrictive housing, and more frequently than required.

1.9 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Medical Assessments
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 452**



There were 452 incidents in which a medical assessment of a youth in restrictive housing was required, which is expected to occur within six hours of placement. A medical assessment was documented in 80% of these cases, with at least one required evaluation completed in another 8% of the incidents. Similar to the observation concerning mental health assessments, the percentage of required medical assessments documented as having been completed more than doubled since the last review period, increasing from 39% to 80%. Isolating the data for Q1 2026, medical assessments were completed and documented in 96% of the restrictive housing incidents that occurred during the three-month period and lasted long enough (6 hours or more) to require at least one assessment by a medical provider.

Also note that there were a total of 88 incidents of restrictive housing in Q1 2026, compared to an average of 171 incidents per quarter for the previous three quarters and 12 days reviewed. This decrease in the number of total incidents for Q1 2026, along with the data indicating significant increases in review documentation by supervisors and mental health and medical providers represents marked improvement in meeting expectations concerning the frequency with which restrictive housing occurs and the on-going evaluation of youths when restrictive housing is necessary.

F. Continued Access to Education, Programming, and Necessities

Subsection F. of Budget Proviso 1 provides for a review the documentation of how youth subject to solitary confinement had continued access to education, programming, and ordinary necessities, such as medication, meals, and reading material, when in solitary confinement, and identification of the number of incidents when access was not documented and an evaluation of each such incident.

Virtually all youths assigned to restrictive housing had access to education, programming, and necessities, and when access was restricted, an explanation was available. When Corrections Supervisors do their initial checks on youths placed in restrictive housing, the electronic incident form in JMS is initiated. Included in this form is a prompt to note whether or not the involved youth has access to necessities, such as reading materials.

Only 3 incidents were identified when reading materials or other necessities were withheld from youths in restrictive housing, all in order to address unique issues involved with each event. One youth assigned to restrictive housing used various items available in his room to try to block his window, preventing JDOs and others from being able to view his in-room activities and creating a potential security or safety issue. In that incident, the Corrections Supervisor conducted four checks on the youth over his total time in restrictive housing, and only limited access for a short period of time, until the youth stopped his window-blocking attempts. In another incident, the youth assigned to restrictive housing attempted to wrap his sweatshirt around his neck while

confined to his room. For the youth's safety, all materials that could be used to self-harm were removed, again for a limited amount of time until the youth was able to self-regulate. In the third instance, the involved youth had threatened to assault staff and continued the threats after confined to their room. Materials that could be used in a staff assault were removed from the youth's access for a short period of time to ensure they were not available to be used against a JDO, Corrections Supervisor, or other staff person entering the room. As with the first incident described, the supervisor checks in the other two incidents indicated that the youths had access to materials throughout the time they were confined, except for short periods when their behavior created safety or security concerns.

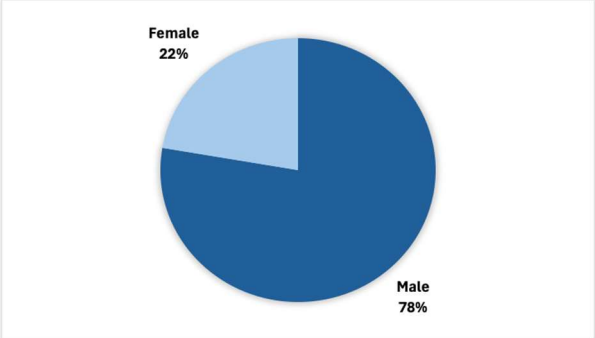
As previously described, the Juvenile Division sets up split programming plans, so that youths on restrictive housing take turns spending time in their rooms and time out of confinement to attend classes and participate in programming with other youths. The result is that the youths might not attend all classes offered on a particular day they are in restrictive housing and miss out on some of the programming that is available in the Juvenile Division, though have partial access to both education and programming. The number of youths involved in an incident leading to restrictive housing and split programming and other factors, such as whether restrictive housing occurs on a school day, the range of programming activities offered on a particular day, and staffing levels, can impact how much access to education and programming a youth might experience. Teachers who were interviewed also pointed out that a single youth engaging in unacceptable behavior during class time or a conflict in the classroom involving multiple youth might result in youths being removed from class and assigned to restrictive housing, at least for the remainder of that class period, if not longer.

G. Gender, Age, and Race of Youth Involved in Restrictive Housing

Subsection G. provides information on the gender, age, and race of youth involved in restrictive housing incidents.

The analysis regarding the gender, age, and race of youths involved in restrictive housing incidents considers 161 youths involved in one or more of the 602 restrictive housing incidents reported during the current review period. Note that 11 out of the 161 youths (7%) who experienced restrictive housing were involved with 136 of the 602 total incidents (over 22%). These 11 youths were each responsible for 10 to 17 incidents during the period under review.

1.10 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Gender of Youth Involved in Restrictive Housing Incidents
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 161**



Females constituted approximately 10% of the ADP for all youth in secure detention April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, though were involved in 22% of the restrictive housing incidents during the timeframe under review.[23]The percentage of female youths who experienced restrictive housing doubled during the current reporting period as compared to the last two review periods, when they were involved in approximately 11% of incidents for each of the prior periods, April 2023 - March 2024 and April 2024 - March 2025.

[23] The total number of youth booked into detention during this time period was 545, including 422 males and 123 females.

1.11 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Age of Youth Involved in Restrictive Housing Incidents
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 602[24]**

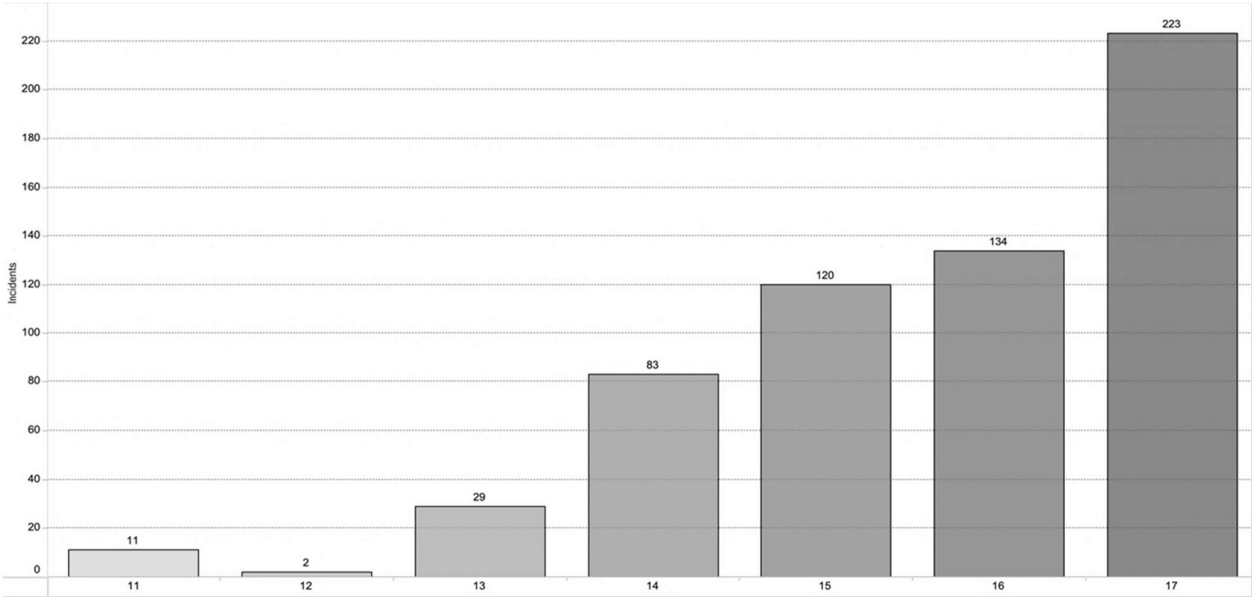
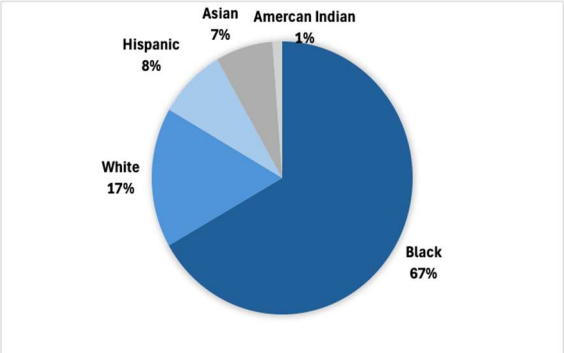


Table 1.11 presents data on the age of youths involved for all 602 restrictive housing incidents. Generally speaking, most restrictive housing incidents involve youths who are 16 or 17 years old. Of the 602 incidents analyzed during the approximately 12 and a half months under review, 357 incidents (over 59%) involved 16 and 17 year olds. However, 15 year old youths also were involved in a significant number of incidents (over 20%), a trend also observed during the previous reporting period. The youngest youths detained at CCFJC during this review were 11 years old and responsible for 11 incidents leading to restrictive housing.

[24] Though there were 161 youth involved in 602 total restrictive housing incidents, some youths were counted multiple times if they had one or more birthdays while at CCFJC and were involved in incidents over multiple years.

1.12 - DAJD Juvenile Division
All Restrictive Housing Incidents
Race/Ethnicity of Youth Involved in Restrictive Housing Incidents
March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026
***n* = 161**



Black youths were involved in 67% of all restrictive housing incidents during the timeframe March 20, 2025, to March 31, 2026, which is slightly higher than the 64% of incidents when Black youths were involved in the last period. Seventeen percent (17%) of incidents in both the current and previous review periods involved White youths. The percentage of restrictive housing incidents involving Hispanic youths decreased by half, from 16% previously to 8% of incidents reviewed this period. Youths identifying as Asian were involved in 7% of the incidents, compared to 2% in the previous timeframe. Previously, there was an "other" category that included incidents involving Native Americans and those when the race/ethnicity of youths was unknown, totaling 1% of all incidents of restrictive housing. In the current timeframe under review, 1% of all incidents involved Native American youths. Five incidents involved three youths whose race was not identified.

H. Progress in Implementing Recommendations

Subsection H. asks for an assessment of the progress by the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division on implementing the recommendations outlined in previous monitor reports.

See Attachment A, a spreadsheet that provides a list of recommendations made in previous monitoring team reports and a statement as to the current status of each recommendation.

I. New Recommendations

Subsection I. addresses any new recommendations for reducing the use and duration of solitary confinement for juveniles in detention, and recommendations for improving data collection and reporting of incidents of solitary confinement of juveniles in detention.

As discussed in section III.A, there was significant improvement with regards to recording and tracking restrictive housing data during the current period under review. However, it became apparent that, when considering the total number of checks and assessments expected, many more were completed than required. This appears to be indicative of the commitment by DAJD staff and mental health and medical providers to fully support youths in restrictive housing and to facilitate their reintegration back into regular programming. However, it would be helpful to better understand the impact extra checks have on specific incidents. DAJD's analysis in section J.2. demonstrates how consideration of the totality and types of extra checks performed provides a useful approach in analyzing restrictive housing data.

In order to validate the role that the new Housing Classification Guide plays with regards to restrictive housing, it would be beneficial to analyze restrictive housing by individual living hall. This would mean a smaller database of incidents would be involved for each hall, but this level of analysis could provide insight on whether and how living hall assignments impact the behavior of individual youths, interpersonal conflict, and problem solving skills.

The Juvenile Division has implemented a behavior incentive program that provides benefits for youths engaging in good behavior on a single day and over time. The Juvenile Division's behavior management program requires at least 77 days of continually meeting the highest level of behavior expectations for youths to be awarded Honor Level Gold privileges. Also, beginning in 2025, in response to requests for more incentives for youths with extended stays in CCFJC with Honor Level Gold standing, an Honor Level Gold Family Meal became available. For those youths with Honor Level Gold standing who continue to meet behavior expectations for 90 days, and every 90 days thereafter, the youths can invite family members to share a meal in the visitation area that is provided by DAJD.

While youths expressed appreciation for this family dining opportunity, some indicated that it would be advantageous for DAJD to devise other, additional incentives, though did not offer any specific suggestions for extra incentives. Youths with extensive stays in the Juvenile Division who maintain Honor Level Gold status experience no extra benefits for continued good behavior beyond what is available to other detainees that attain Honor Level Gold, but who leave CCFJC after shorter stays. The youths pointed out that some detainees with longer stays do not think there is much of a downside if they are involved in an incident leading to restrictive housing, because they know they can relatively quickly earn back privileges as their stays continue, often beyond another 77 or 90 days, or until they turn 18 and are transferred to the Adult Divisions. Members of the Behavior Management Group meeting that was observed during this reporting period noted that a priority for the group is to identify and implement additional incentives for all youths at CCFJC. In considering this priority, the group might explore the suggestion from youths to include extra incentives beyond the quarterly family meal for those at Honor Level Gold.

J.1. Monitors' Certification

Subsection J.1. states that this report should include, except as otherwise provided in subsection J.2. of this proviso, a certification by the monitor or monitors that the department of adult and juvenile detention juvenile division has appropriately documented and maintained data on at least ninety percent of incidents for each category of incident described in subsections B. through subsection F. of this proviso.

DAJD has made significant improvement since the last reporting period in demonstrating it appropriately documented and maintained data for nearly 100% of incidents for each of the following categories:

- Subsection B - Number, Circumstances, and Average Duration for All Incidents
- Subsection C - Number, Circumstances, and Average Duration for Incidents Exceeding Four Hours
- Subsection F - Continued Access to Educaton, Programming, and Necessities

While DAJD also made significant improvement since the last reporting period in documenting and maintaining data regarding the following two categories, the department fell short in demonstrating that it did so for at least 90% of the restrictive housing incidents:

- Subsction D - Documentation of Supervisory Review: DAJD documented data regarding supervisor checks for 86% of restrictive housing incidents in the Juvenile Division, along with providing partial documentation of supervisor checks in another 11% of incidents.
- Subsection E - Documentation of Medical and Mental Health Assessments: DAJD documented data regarding medical assessments for 80% of restrictive housing incidents, along with providing partial documentation in another 8% of incidents. DAJD documented data regarding mental health assessments for 75% of restrictive housing incidents, along with providing partial documentation in another 9% of incidents. Documentation for both medical and mental health assessments more than doubled between the prior and current reporting periods.

Though the monitoring team cannot provide the certification called for in subsection J.1. regarding supervisor checks and medical and mental health assessments using the methodology it has followed, the monitoring team appreciates the alternative approach and perspective of DAJD, as explained below. The monitoring team agrees that using a methodology that considers the totality of checks and assessments provides unique insights into the restrictive housing process and demonstrates the frequent and overlapping involvement of supervisors, mental health professionals, and medical staff working to support the well-being of the youths involved.

J.2. Explanation from DAJD Regarding Documentation

J.2. states that, if the monitor or monitors cannot make the certification in accordance with subsection J.1. of this proviso because the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, Juvenile Division did not appropriately document and maintain data on at least ninety percent of incidents for any category or categories of incident described in subsections B. through F. of this proviso, the monitor shall include in the report an explanation from the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention as to why data was not appropriately documented and maintained on at least ninety percent of incidents for each category of incident. DAJD's response follows.

DAJD appreciates the ongoing collaboration and partnership of the external monitoring team and values the opportunity to engage in constructive dialogue regarding performance measurement and compliance with established standards. We look forward to continuing this work together as we collectively strive to improve outcomes and ensure accurate reporting.

Upon review of the finding that DAJD did not meet the standard of demonstrating that it documented data on at least 90% of restricitve housing incidents under subsections D and E, DAJD identified that the result appears to be based on a different calculation methodology than the one DAJD utilized during the reporting period.

Specifically, the monitoring team has measured compliance based on the number of restrictive housing events with complete documentation. DAJDs methodology measures compliance using the number of checks required compared to the number of checks completed. While DAJD recognizes and respects the monitoring team's interpretation of the data, we believe our calculation methodology provides an accurate representation of performance relative to the intent of the standard. DAJD's approach evaluates the total number of Supervisor, Medical and Mental Health checks completed across all restrictive housing events relative to the number of checks required. This approach provides a detailed understanding of performance by measuring compliance at the individual check level rather than categorizing an entire event as compliant or non-compliant. As a result, this methodology offers insight into overall performance, including identifying strengths, areas for improvement, distinguishes between isolated documentation omissions and broader compliance concerns, and more accurately reflects the experience of the youth during a restrictive housing incident.

Additionally, evaluating compliance at the check level allows DAJD to better assess trends and progress over time. This approach highlights improvements in practice and documentation that may not be reflected when events are measured using only a binary compliant or non-compliant measure. The table below reflects DAJD's calculation of compliance during the reporting period. Using DAJD's methodology, the data demonstrates the standard of 96% was met for Supervisor

checks and 90% for Medical checks. Mental Health checks were documented at nearly 90%, at 87% over the course of the reporting period. It is important to note that, as reported by the monitoring team, DAJD staff often completed additional checks beyond those required, in addition to the routine 15-minute security checks during which detention officers check in with youth and communicate required goals and objectives to exit restrictive housing. These additional checks are not included in the data table below.

Month	Supervisor Checks Required	Supervisor Checks Completed	Medical Check Required	Medical Checks Completed	MH Checks Required	MH Checks Completed
Mar 2025	186	182	66	62	79	76
April 2025	295	272	114	89	122	94
May 2025	722	692	257	220	273	233
June 2025	132	117	55	37	63	52
July 2025	101	101	38	35	43	35
Aug 2025	72	69	25	24	33	26
Sept 2025	412	409	148	144	162	151
Oct 2025	342	334	127	122	135	126
Nov 2025	164	158	59	59	66	59
Dec 2025	56	54	21	21	27	24
Jan 2026	156	154	58	56	61	45
Feb 2026	105	105	39	38	40	39
Mar 2026	116	108	42	42	48	40
Total	**2859**	**2755**	**1049**	**949**	**1152**	**1000**
Percent	**96%**		**90%**		**87%**	

While the methodologies produce different overall compliance calculations, both analyses demonstrate a positive trajectory over the reporting period and show that compliance improved as reporting practices matured. As noted by the monitoring team, utilizing their methodology, DAJD achieved compliance with the 90% standard during the first quarter of 2026 when reviewing required supervisor, mental health, and medical checks. These findings demonstrate meaningful progress in documentation practices and sustained compliance performance over time.

Actions taken by the Juvenile Division to increase compliance have included many of the recommendations identified by the monitoring team, such as new electronic restrictive housing dashboards in JMS (Jail Management System), updates to data fields in JMS to more accurately describe restrictive housing incidents, and holding routine meetings with operational leadership to discuss challenges and solutions to improve compliance. Administrative efforts to enhance data tracking and reporting are paired with actions to reduce the use of restrictive housing, such as through the implementation of a new classification model intended to support youth who are

learning healthy coping strategies, expanded behavioral management system incentives, and upholding the commitment to daily Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings to discuss strategies for youth to quickly and safely exit restrictive housing.

Mental Health checks are completed by external contractors, who do not have direct access to JMS. This can result in mental health checks being completed but not recorded in JMS. DAJD is in the process of creating a portal that will allow external contractors to enter information electronically about completed restrictive housing checks. Once implemented, the online portal will streamline data collection efforts and may improve the rate of compliance for mental health checks.

DAJD recogonizes the value of reviewing documentation for individual events and thus, to promote consistency and transparency in future reporting, DAJD will modify its methodology to align with the monitoring team's expectations moving forward. DAJD remains committed to continuous improvement, accurate reporting, and productive collaboration with the monitoring team.

K. Compliance with K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 and RCW 13.22

Subsection K. provides findings regarding compliance or lack thereof with K.C.C. chapter 2.65 and chapter 13.22 RCW and a discussion of the circumstances of such findings.

In compliance with K.C.C. Chapter 2.65 and RCW 13.22, Juvenile Division policies require that all youths are checked on at least every 15 minutes and, for those in restrictive housing, provide that the requirements listed below be met. Juvenile Division compliance is listed for each of the requirements. While Adult Division policies do not include all of the same requirements, Adult Division compliance is noted where known.

1. Youths in restrictive housing in the Juvenile Division have access to clothing, mattress and bedding, medication, toilet and sink at least hourly, any necessary mental health services, and reading and writing material, unless such access presents a security or safety issue for the youth or others. AAOs do not consistently have ready access to mental health services or reading and writing materials while in restrictive housing.

2. Juvenile Division staff document the reason for placement in restrictive housing. In the Adult Divisions, the reason for placement in restrictive housing sometimes appears to overlap with disciplinary responses that can be used with AAOs.

3. In at least 86% of restrictive housing incidents, Corrections Supervisors in the Juvenile Division check in with the youth within two hours of placement into restrictive housing, and then every four hours (except for ordinary sleep periods).

4. In at least 75% of restrictive housing incidents in the Juvenile Division, youths are evaluated by a mental health professional as soon as possible within four hours of placement into restrictive housing, and a plan is developed with input from the mental health professional as to what is required of the youth to end restrictive housing.

5. In at least 80% of restrictive housing incidents in the Juvenile Division, youths are evaluated by a medical professional as soon as possible within six hours of placement in restrictive housing or before an ordinary sleep period, and at least once per day thereafter.

6. Efforts are made to release youths from restrictive housing in the Juvenile Division as soon as the purpose of the confinement or isolation is met, the desired behavior is evident, or the youth is determined no longer to be an imminent risk. However, a number of factors impact whether youth are released "as soon as possible," such as the number of youths involved in an incident, whether all involved youths are willing and ready to problem-solve, whether changes in shifts or other competing priorities impact the immediate availability of staff to make the release decision, and whether the behavior underlying an incident of restrictive housing is particularly complex and requires other interventions and time to make arrangements, such as transfer to a psychiatric facility.

7. Juvenile Division staff establish a reintegration plan and share it with the youth if a youth remains in restrictive housing for more than four hours within a twenty-four-hour (24) period.

For restrictive housing lasting beyond four hours, there are additional requirements.

8. All requirements listed above must be met and the DAJD met the requirements at the levels noted above.

9. In incidents of restrictive housing that extend beyond four hours, the reason for the initial placement in restrictive housing is consistently documented, with notes added during checks/assessments by supervisors, mental health professionals, and medical providers as to why the youth has a continuing need to be in restrictive housing.

10. In at least 76% of restrictive housing incidents in the Juvenile Division that exceeded four hours, mental health professionals evaluated the mental health needs of youths, and in at least 80% of incidents exceeding four hours, medical professionals assessed the physical needs of youths.

11. Individualized plans are established for reintegration of youths as noted above.

12. Incidents of restrictive housing that exceeded 72 hours were not examined separately from the categories listed in Budget Proviso 1, which primarily sought measurements involving all restrictive housing incidents and those exceeding four hours. However, documented authorization by the DAJD Director or his designee for continuing restrictive housing exceeding 24 hours was noted in some individual cases that were reviewed. Summary data concerning parental notices and Director authorization was available, though not analyzed as these steps were not included in the list of categories to be addressed under Budget Proviso 1.

IV. ANALYSIS & DISSCUSSION OF ADULT DIVISION AAO RESTRICTIVE HOUSING DATA

Restrictive housing data for AAOs[25] is presented separately from data on the use of restrictive housing in the Juvenile Division because the Adult Division's policies and record keeping procedures regarding behavior management and restrictive housing differ from processes in the Juvenile Division. It also was not useful to combine information from the Adult Division with data from the Juvenile Division given the limited number of reported restrictive housing incidents and inconsistent documentation available regarding the events.

When youths who are detained at CCFJC turn 18 years old, they are transferred to one of the Adult Division detention facilities, usually KCCF. Prior to the transfer, they meet with representatives from both CCFJC and KCCF to review the transfer process, receive a copy of the handbook that summarizes KCCF rules and procedures, discuss ways their detention experience will differ from that at CCFJC, and are provided an opportunity to ask questions. The youth's parents are invited to attend the meeting. The Juvenile Division's Restorative Justice Coordinator and the Intervention Specialist, who provides mental health support to youths at CCFJC, attend the meeting, along with the KCCF Sergeant who assists youths after they transfer ("AAO Sergeant").

[25] The term "AAO" as used here includes youth who do not transfer from CCFJC but are older than 18 and booked on a probation/parole matter or on any charge stemming from criminal conduct that occurred prior to turning 18.

As noted previously, the ADP for AAOs has doubled over the past year, to approximately 22 AAOs in March 2026, as a cohort of youths charged with violent crimes and with much longer stays in detention turned 18 at CCFJC and transferred to KCCF.[26] Efforts have been made to house a group of the AAOs in one unit, separate from older inmates, though most of the AAOs are assigned to various other units. Regardless of where they are assigned at KCCF, the AAO Sergeant regularly checks on the AAOs to provide support as they become familiar with the new detention setting. AAOs expressed appreciation for the help provided by the AAO Sergeant.

DAJD's Adult Division continues to report relatively few instances of restrictive housing, as compared to the Juvenile Division. During the current review period, eight youths experienced one or more assignments to restrictive housing, for a total of approximately 20 incidents.[27] Many incidents had little or no explanation as to the behavior creating a risk of imminent physical harm that led to restrictive housing, though several referenced discovery of contraband weapons or threatening/assaultive behavior towards peers or staff. In at least one of the incidents, there appeared to be confusion about whether a youth was in restrictive housing based on a risk of imminent harm or for a rules infraction. Also, the Adult Division exempts from its definition of restrictive housing, "Temporarily placing an AAO whose behavior presents a security issue for a Cool Down Period not to exceed two (2) hours."[28] There were several notations regarding Cool Downs being used with two of the AAOs, with one instance of a Cool Down transitioning to restrictive housing about 20 minutes after the Cool Down ended.

There was inconsistent recordkeeping regarding supervisory checks for those placed in restrictive housing, though most documented some level of checks completed. It was unclear whether the AAO posed a continued risk for causing imminent physical harm in many of the incidents. In one case, checks were completed during a youth's two day assignment to restrictive housing, though notes indicated repeatedly that the youth was no longer a risk and should be released. Documentation for several of the incidents noted the AAO was provided with a behavior management plan.

Most of the restrictive housing incidents appeared to last one to under one and a half days, with an approximate range of 19 hours to 148 hours (6 days). AAOs in restrictive housing generally are provided 1 hour out of their cell for every 24 hours they are confined.

The Adult Division previously had the experience of discovering unreported incidents of restrictive housing for AAOs and has since taken steps to improve its recordkeeping. While the level of documentation is inconsistent regarding the behavior that results in an assignment to restrictive

[26] AAOs still represent only a very small group within the overall adult detainee population. For example, in March 2026, the ADP for secure detention at KCCF was 739, with approximately 3% of the ADP comprised of AAOs.
[27] Due to the limited and inconsistent documentation available concerning restrictive housing incidents, it was difficult to determine the exact number of events.
[28] Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, Adult Divisions, General Policy Manual, 6.03.011.

housing, completion of supervisory checks, and the basis for continued restrictive housing over time, the documentation reviewed for this reporting period overall shows improvement as compared to some data reviewed in previous years. KCCF would benefit from adopting a facsimile of the Juvenile Division's approach to quality control for restrictive housing documentation, so that errors in recordkeeping can be identified and corrected as early as feasible.

AAOs generally report that they have access to necessities, such as medication, meals, and reading materials, when assigned to restrictive housing. However, their computer tablets are usually taken away during their confinement time, which some found frustrating. Loss of use of the tablets is also sometimes used as an alternative to restrictive housing and for rules violations.

Several of the AAOs interviewed for the current reporting period complained that the 7th floor cell they were assigned for restrictive housing was unusually dirty, with evidence of feces, urine, and blood on the walls, floor, and toilet. When this issue was relayed to DAJD, staff indicated that no AAOs were assigned to a dirty cell and that an order is submitted to maintenance to clean the cell after a detainee has used it and been released. In most cases, a number of days pass between the time a detainee is released from the cell assigned for restrictive housing and another detainee being assigned to the cell, with a deep cleaning taking place between uses. DAJD also noted that AAOs are familiar with the internal grievance process and that none have filed a complaint about dirty cells. Nonetheless, because the 7th floor also houses a psychiatric unit with inmates who might act out by throwing excrement or urine causing a bad odor, DAJD indicated that it was discontinuing the practice of using the 7th floor for AAOs assigned to restrictive housing.

Other AAOs who were interviewed mentioned meeting with a mental health professional who facilitates groups and other activities, whom they enjoy. Several also commented about the close relationship they developed with Dr. Moniz, Intervention Specialist, Juvenile Division, before they turned 18 and were still at CCFJC. Most juveniles jailed at the KCCF transferred there from CCFJC, have unusually long lengths of stay, and received valuable mental health support from Dr. Moniz while at CCFJC. It has been suggested that Dr. Moniz work a limited number of hours at KCCF, to assist AAOs with the transition process. This would allow her to continue providing support to those facing the most serious criminal charges, many of whom have had particularly traumatic life experiences and would benefit from on-going assistance of the type Dr. Moniz has provided. Given that the Juvenile Division's ADP has declined, Dr. Moniz might be more available to spend some of her time at KCCF, continuing her work with AAOs with whom she's already developed a therapeutic relationship. It is recommended that DAJD explore whether this is a feasible option that would be acceptable to both the Juvenile and Adult Division.

V. CONCLUSION

Restrictive housing data can be very complex, in large part due to the multi-layered procedures in place to ensure restrictive housing is used appropriately, taking into consideration the safety and security of all youths and DAJD staff. Reviews of restrictive housing incidents by supervisors, mental health staff, medical providers, and others function like a system of checks and balances, bringing different perspectives to the evaluation process, with everyone sharing the goal of releasing a youth from confinement as early as feasible. Accurate documentation of various factors involved with restrictive housing is necessary to provide accountability for the overall process.

DAJD made a number of important changes during the current monitoring period that are discussed in this report, with the department's substantial improvements in collecting and tracking restrictive housing data being of particular significance. Positive changes that have been implemented and contribute to the credibility of restrictive housing data include implementation of the electronic security check system; use of an enhanced quality control process; development of a more in-depth approach to analyzing data on supervisory, mental health, and medical assessments of youths in restrictive housing; and use of tools to facilitate the collection of accurate information regarding incidents, such as the types of behavior resulting in assignment to restrictive housing and identification of the victims impacted by youths' threatening or assaultive conduct.

These and other steps taken to ensure more reliable and valid restrictive housing data resulted in marked improvements in the various performance measurements to be addressed under Budget Proviso 1. For example, the improved process and data led to the recognition that a significantly higher total number of checks and assessments of youth in restrictive housing by supervisors and mental health and medical professionals were completed than are required. The discovery that a total of 6,664 checks and assessments were completed, though only 5,060 were required, reflects DAJD's heightened efforts to meet the obligations imposed when youths are placed in restrictive housing. Separating out each type of review to be completed and without accounting for instances of partial documentation, 86% of incidents had supervisor checks, medical evaluations were confirmed in 80% of the events, and mental health assessments were completed in 75% of all incidents in the Juvenile Division. These performance measurements demonstrated substantial improvement in DAJD's record keeping. Further, DAJD collected and maintained data for nearly 100% of incidents in the Juvenile Division regarding the reason underlying assignment to restrictive housing, whether a peer or a DAJD staff person was the identified victim, and in documenting youths' continued access to education, programming, and necessities.

In order to compile and share the data and other information presented in this report, the independent monitoring team relied on timely and informed input from DAJD. Staff members throughout the department have been consistently responsive to the monitoring team's many requests for information and follow-up questions. Numerous individuals who work with youths

detained in DAJD facilities found time in their busy schedules to participate in interviews and provide opportunities for observation of youths in a variety of programming settings. Youths detained at CCFJC and KCCF willingly shared their experiences about detention in King County generally, and regarding restrictive housing in particular. The monitoring team greatly appreciates the cooperation and input it has received and is confident that DAJD is committed to and continues to demonstrate improved outcomes on restrictive housing matters.

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
July - December 2019	1.1	Update the Adult Divisions Inmate Information Handbook to align its housing and classification scheme with current policy on restrictive housing and review the Handbook to ensure there are no other outdated references to the use of "restrictive housing" terminology. An alternative approach would be to provide AAOs with an addendum at the time they receive a copy of the Handbook, explaining the differences in the use of the phrase "restrictive housing" in adult facilities as compared to the Juvenile Division.	**Completed:** DAJD amended its handbook to include the Adult Age-Out Inmate Handbook Information summary, which includes basics such as a summary of behavior standards, restrictive housing, the transfer of incentive awards earned in the Juvenile Division to use for commissary purchases, requests for medical, mental health or dental services, programming and educational opportunities, and other topics.
July - December 2019	1.2	Consider replacing the term "restrictive housing" with "room confinement," which is the term used by the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in referring to the involuntary placement of a youth alone in a cell, room, or other area, that may only be used as a temporary response to behavior that threatens immediate harm to the youth or others.	**Recommendation withdrawn:** Terminology used in the Ordinance and by DAJD does not always align with that found in related federal and state laws, and there does not appear to be an obvious way to resolve language differences.
July - December 2019	1.3	DAJD should consider whether the current list of 21 codes in the Youth Accountability Checklist is so detailed that it creates confusion for Juvenile Detention Officers.	**Completed:** Electronic security checks and movements were fully implemented as of March 17, 2025. That and other practices with the Jail Management System (JMS) will minimize the number of codes required to be entered by the JDOs. Previous notes indicated "in progress," though this recommendation initially was marked Completed in 2022, based on an understanding that the electronic room check system would be implemented alongside JMS, minimizing the number of potential codes. Since that did not occur, a recommendation to implement electronic room checks was made in the April 2022 - June 2023 Monitoring Team Report. Once the electronic room check system is in place, this recommendation can again be marked as Completed.
July - December 2019	1.4	The Juvenile Division Restrictive Housing Assessment Checklist could be enhanced with a visual graphic of the different levels of review and timing for each and by adding space for medical and mental health professionals to provide written comment on their assessments. Also, it would be useful for the JDO, supervisor, and medical and/or mental health professionals to meet at some point to discuss their individual assessments and the need for continued restrictive housing.	**Completed:** The new "checklist" has been built in JMS to replace the paper form. It does not include a visual graphic but does provide additional guidance for users and places for more thorough notes by all parties. Regarding the second part of the recommendation, a new Multidisciplinary Team meets on a daily basis to discuss intervention options for individual youth demonstrating problematic behavior and reintegration plans for any youth in restrictive housing.
July - December 2019	1.5	Explanations on the Juvenile and Adult Divisions' restrictive housing checklists concerning behaviors, statements, or conditions that support restrictive housing should clearly state how they pose an imminent and significant threat of physical harm to the youth, AAO, or others, and any unsuccessful less restrictive alternatives.	**Completed:** The Adult and Juvenile Divisions each implemented improvements and updates to the youth and Adult Age-Out (AAO) restrictive housing documentation process. The new documentation processes expanded upon the information gathered during a restrictive housing event. These and other improvements are included in the electronic JMS that has been implemented and supported by other changes such as implementation of the Multidisciplinary Team, with on-going reviews to improve documentation and processes.
July - December 2019	1.6	In order to meet the goal of reintegrating youth into the general population as early as appropriate after placement in restrictive housing, the Juvenile Division should require that a plan be developed providing explicit steps to be taken to help facilitate a youth's exit from restrictive housing. The point in time after restrictive housing has been initiated and the staff person(s) responsible for developing a plan should be built into any procedural change.	**Completed:** The Juvenile Division has created a process that requires identification of restrictive housing goals and objectives from the outset, which are reviewed by the MDT and frequently communicated to the involved youth. Reintegration plans are mandatory if a youth is in restrictive housing over four (4) hours, though reintegration is contemplated in setting the initial goals and objectives and options are discussed in MDT meetings.
July - December 2019	1.7	As DAJD continues to develop data analytic capabilities with the JMS and behavior responses involving restorative practices, it would be useful to consider how Cool Down periods are used and fit into the larger Behavioral Management System in the Juvenile Division.	**Recommendation withdrawn:** Originally, the plan was to follow-up as JMS was implemented to better understand electronic room check record keeping and reporting under new system, including the use of cool down periods. However, DAJD has discontinued the use of cool downs as being inconsistent under Chapter 13.22 RCW, a new Washington State law on the use of confinement and isolation of detained youth.

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
July - December 2019	1.8	Ordinance 18637's prohibitions on restrictive housing apply when a juvenile is voluntarily or involuntarily in their room. Standards under the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative define restrictive housing based on the involuntary placement of youth in a cell or room alone in response to behavior that threatens immediate harm to the youth or others. It is recommended that DAJD explore the feasibility of advocating this perspective with the King County Council and stakeholders.	**In progress, Current update**: DAJD remains supportive of this recommendation and continues to be open to revisions. As noted in previous reporting periods, preliminary discussion have occurred; however, this effort was not advanced during the current reporting period. Implementation would require review and potential action by the King County Council. DAJD remains available to participate in future discussions and provide subject matter expertise should this effort be revisited. **Previous Notes: (April 2024-March 2025):** While significant progress was made during the previous reporting period, the ordinance revisions were not moved forward beyond the Law & Justice Committee. Councilmembers have expressed interest in revisiting ordinance revisions and DAJD remains open to discussions. Previous notes: Update - During the July 2023 - March 2024 evaluation period, significant progress was made in considering possible amendments to Ordinance 18637, including with regards to the issue of voluntary/involuntary room assignment. Final changes are still under deliberation.
July - December 2019	1.9	As the DAJD considers the prior monitor's recommendation to determine how privileges and points earned at CFJC could be transferred to the jail, the Department should identify individuals from the Adult Division to work with those previously named in the Juvenile Division, and set target start and completion dates for the team working on this issue.	**Completed:** As of early 2021, a process was put into place allowing for the transfer of incentive awards earned in the Juvenile Division to be used for credit in an Adult Divisions commissary. The Adult Age-Out Inmate Handbook Information addendum noted in recommendation 1.1 provides an explanation on transfer amounts.
July - December 2019	1.10.	It is recommended that DAJD appoint individuals from the Adult and Juvenile Divisions to explore how family members might be accommodated in the transition process when juveniles turn 18 and are transferred to an adult facility, and set target start and completion dates for the review.	**Completed:** As of early 2021, DAJD put into place a framework and format for family engagement as youth are transitioning between the juvenile and adult facilities. The two divisions collaborated on the new process which allows for youth to determine if they would like a parent/guardian to participate, as well as the ability to bifurcate transition sessions to allow the youth to ask questions without their guardian present, if desired. The Psychiatric Services Manager meets with youth transitioning to the adult facility to discuss continuity of medical and behavioral health care. The Juvenile Division coordinates with the Adult Divisions MDT Sergeant who acts as a liaison to AAOs, to schedule meetings ahead of the transfer date.
July - December 2019	1.11	DAJD should consider whether an explicit integration of restrictive housing policy with the Behavior Management System would more accurately reflect behavior response expectations and practices in the Juvenile Division.	**Completed:** Reintegration plans and reintegration goals/objectives are started immediately once a youth is placed in restrictive housing and are reviewed during the mandatory assessments and in daily MDT meetings. An updated visual "flow chart" showing how incentives, behavior response forms, and reintegration plans integrate with restrictive housing would still be useful.
July - December 2019	1.12	To the extent current resources are available and as DAJD continues to develop data analytic capabilities with the JMS, it is advised that the DAJD seek ways to do more data analysis of the use of alternative behavior responses, including restorative practices, under the new Behavior Management System.	**In progress, Current update:** Existing reports have been revised to help ensure the continuity of available data and reporting. These reports are used to verify compliance and identify solutions. **Previous notes-** April 2024-March 2025-Nine new reports were created to verify that checks have been completed by the appropriate staff (supervisor, mental health, medical and the director). Previous notes (July 2023-March 2024): DAJD agrees that dashboard capabilities in JMS will help produce operational reports that will link datasets from behavior response forms, reintegration plans, rooms checks, restrictive housing forms, and information on incentives and levels achieved. Once linked, data analytic capacities will expand, per the recommendation. Update - Though some datasets are now linked through JMS, others are not and the system's data analytic capacities are still being explored with the datasets that are linked.

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
July - December 2019	1.13	DAJD should consider ways it could structure efforts to reduce restrictive housing and continue in its development of the new behavior management program around a central principle or approach that connects policies, practice, and culture.	**In Progress, Current Update:** The Behavior Management Workgroup continues to meet regularly to develop and implement enhancements to the behavior management system, including both incentives and accountability measures. During this reporting period, the workgroup focused on promoting greater consistency in youth supervision, behavior management practices, and accountability across staff. The most recent enhancement includes the implementation of a structured framework designed to establish clear, consistent expectations for youth behavior and staff responses throughout all areas of the secure facility. **Previous Notes:** The Division recruited members for a Behavior Management Workgroup dedicated to improving current behavior management strategies. Additional members joined during this reporting period. The workgroup meets weekly and has submitted several proposals to Division Leadership. DAJD continues to develop policies and practices that revolve around goals that include the reduction in use of restrictive housing and development of alternative intervention options when youth demonstrate problematic behavior. With Zero Youth Detention and the plan to close the juvenile facility, the mission of the Juvenile Division and its role with juveniles in the criminal justice system will need to be clarified. Care and Closure has replaced the Zero Youth Detention initiative and the Juvenile Division is working to identify evidence-based practices to increase programming for behavior management.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendations re: DAJD Restrictive Housing Polices and Related Materials**	**Status**
January - June 2020	2.1	In completing all documentation related to a restrictive housing event, continue to encourage specific and thorough details that support a decision that a youth's behavior created a risk of imminent and significant physical harm.	**In Progress, Current Update:** Upon completion of last years review, DAJD worked collaboratively with the relevant staff to improve the process for documenting the reasons for using restrictive housing. Ongoing technical assistance is provided to Correctional Supervisors weekly to provide timely quality control. Weekly reviews of all restrictive housing events are completed and shared with the Chiefs and other senior management. New employees are provided relevant information to support accurate and relevant documentation in JMS. The multi-disciplinary team reviews restrictive housing events daily to identify ways to support individual youth who may be struggling while in detention. **Previous notes:** During the April 2024-March 2025: Training and ongoing support has been provided to the Correction Supervisors to ensure that the specific behaviors leading to restrictive housing are documented. Restrictive housing events are reviewed weekly to ensure compliance using the newly built Power BI reports. This recommendation is supported through multiple layers – providing the youth with goals and objectives to reintegrate into group programming requires the JDO to identify a specific risk, as well as articulate to the youth what they need to achieve to demonstrate the risk has been removed. Documentation reviewed during the monitoring process shows continual improvement in providing the necessary details. As processes are folded into JMS, it will be important to determine that the necessary information continues to be provided. Update - During the July 2023 - March 2024 evaluation period, continuing inconsistency was noted regarding the identification of specific behaviors leading to restrictive housing assignments. Training and policy enforcement with Corrections Supervisors is viewed as key.

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STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
January - June 2020	2.2	Continue to develop an approach of using an explicit reintegration plan when a youth is in restrictive housing. To the extent such a plan exits in medical or mental health assessment notes, determine whether other staff members are aware of the plan and the benefits of including it in the restrictive housing documentation.	**Completed:** This recommendation is similar to 1.6 above. The Juvenile Division has created a process that requires identification of restrictive housing goals and objectives which are reviewed by the MDT and frequently communicated to the involved youth. Reintegration plans are mandatory if a youth is in restrictive housing over four (4) hours, though reintegration is contemplated in setting the initial goals and objectives and options are discussed in MDT meetings.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendations re: the Juvenile Division's Behavior Management System**	**Status**
January - June 2020	2.3	While it appears that the Juvenile Division remains committed to building a culture dedicated to restorative principles, a reset of sorts would be useful at this time, to clarify the place of restoration practices in the larger set of interventions available and appropriate to use with individual youth in the juvenile facility. While the Juvenile Division continues to face a variety of challenges, providing direction to staff and demonstrating commitment about how restorative practice goals fit with other priorities would be beneficial.	**Completed:** There has been a reset given changes mandated by HB2277, discontinued use of Restoration Hall, the introduction of *The Carey Guides* , development of the MDT which meets daily, the growing use of individualized case management, reintegration plans, and other tools to address problematic behavior and support the emotional and social growth of youth in detention.
January - June 2020	2.4	Given the low numbers of youth in the juvenile facility at this point, the Juvenile Division should consider using a more individualized case management model, involving all staff in the process so there is a consistent theme of working with each youth. A case management approach will be facilitated by the Jail Management System and EPIC system, which will support individualized and continuing care.	**In Progress, Current Update:** As noted in previous notes, the Juvenile Division has adopted a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach to reviewing restrictive housing incidents and addressing behavioral concerns that may contribute to more significant behavioral challenges. The Division continues to evaluate and implement best practices aimed at enhancing the experience of youth in custody and strengthening individualized behavior support strategies. These efforts are intended to better address the unique needs of each youth while promoting positive behavior and reducing the likelihood of restrictive interventions. **Previous Notes:** The low ADP at the CCFJC at the time this recommendation was made is no longer the case, as ADPs have increased significantly. Also, the Juvenile Division has adopted the MDT approach to conducting a daily review of youth detained at CCFJC, particularly those who are assigned to restrictive housing or exhibiting behavioral issues that are becoming more problematic and discuss alternative approaches. In progress: April 2024- March 2025- An individualized case management approach is being put into practice and will continue to be developed as a second Restorative Justice Coordinator is hired to help facilitate the process.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendations re: the Tracking of Restrictive Housing Data**	**Status**

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
January - June 2020	2.5	Because the Ordinance, as written, defines restrictive housing to situations when one-on-one programming may be required by court-ordered separation of detainees, is necessary if a single female is in the juvenile facility, and may be a preferred therapeutic intervention in helping a youth do restorative problem solving or a step towards reintegrating a youth to the unit, the independent monitors respectfully propose that the Ordinance be amended to address such unintended consequences. (Similarly, in the July – December 2019 report, the suggestion was made that youth voluntarily spending time alone in their rooms for limited periods should not fall under the restrictive housing definition, in line with JDAI standards.)	**In progress, Current update**: DAJD remains supportive of this recommendation and continues to be open to revisions. As noted in previous reporting periods, preliminary discussion have occurred; however, this effort was not advanced during the current reporting period. Implementation would require review and potential action by the King County Council. DAJD remains available to participate in future discussions and provide subject matter expertise should this effort be revisited. **Previous Notes:** While significant progress was made during the previous reporting period, the ordinance revisions were not moved forward beyond the Law & Justice Committee. Councilmembers have expressed interest in revisiting ordinance revisions and DAJD remains open to discussions. Review and possible action by King County Council is required, though the new Washington State law on room confinement, Chapter 13.22 RCW, potentially allows for some situations where one-on-one programming is necessary, such as when there is only one female detainee, and makes impermissible other situations when DAJD previously relied on one-on-one programming to help a youth self-regulate and prepare to reintegrate with their peers. During the July 2023 - March 2024 evaluation period, significant progress was made in considering possible amendments to Ordinance 18637, including with regards to the issue of voluntary/involuntary room assignment. Final changes are still under deliberation.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendations re: Adults Divisions' Programming and Access to Education and Services**	**Status**
January - June 2020	2.6	In the Adult Divisions, the kite form used by AAOs to express interest in education opportunities or request a program or service would be easier for an AAO to use if it provided more specific information about what is available at any given time. While this would require the Programs office to update relevant kite communications, providing more information up front for AAOs would help facilitate and might encourage use of education and program opportunities in KCCF and MRCJ, without implicating the cost prohibitive changes in programming recommended by the prior monitor.	**In progress, Current update**: The resident tablets are supplied under an existing vendor contract. DAJD is actively collaborating with the vendor to enable residents to submit kites directly from the tablets. While implementation has been delayed on the vendor side, DAJD anticipates full deployment of this capability by the end of 2026. When AAO's have their transition meeting ahead of moving between the juvenile and adult facilities, they are encouraged to continue the educational programming. They are informed that the teachers from Seattle Public Schools (SPS) will meet with them within 72 hours of their arrival and enroll them in schooling. They also receive their tablets on the day of their arrival (unless it is the weekend), and the AAO Sergeant alerts the teachers that new AAOs have arrived and provides the teachers with their housing locations so the teachers can meet with the AAOs as soon as possible. The AAO Sergeant also keeps the AAOs apprised of any new programs that are available to them. **Previous notes:** Over the last year, computer tablets were made available in the adult facilities and include some programming options. In the coming months, DAJD intends to move the hard copy kite process to the tablets, which should make it easier for AAOs to submit an educational or programming request and for both the Department and inmates to update information and communicate more quickly and efficiently. Previous notes: The Adult Age-Out Inmate Handbook Information addendum provides basic information on requesting educational and programming opportunities, and youth report they are taking advantage of options to continue their education. Programs staff are to talk with youth about services within 72 hours of transfer to the Adults Divisions, though the range of programs available at any given point is not communicated effectively in written materials.

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
January - June 2020	2.7	DAJD's Adult Divisions should explore the feasibility of formalizing AAO support services by utilizing the resources available through the MDT initiative on reduction of restrictive housing generally in the adult jail facilities. Given that the AAO average daily population has decreased significantly, and education and programming opportunities are limited or not available at all during this time of COVID-19, there is an opportunity to bring individually focused, trauma-informed services to AAOs, some of whom would have recently benefitted from such an approach in the juvenile facility. As with the previous recommendation, and particularly given the small number of AAOs currently in the jail population, this recommendation could be explored without a commitment of significant resources.	**Completed:** The low ADP of AAOs in the Adult facilities at the time this recommendation was made no longer is the case, as ADPs have increased the past couple of years. Also, the Adult Divisions uses an approach of identifying all AAOs on a daily basis at each facility to assist with tracking them, along with the services of a Sergeant who meets regularly with AAOs to advise them on navigating the jail system and avoiding conflict with other inmates. Previous notes: In progress- The AAO ADP has increased over the past year making it harder to move toward realizing this recommendation. However, the MDT Sergeant responds to unique AAO needs and AAOs reported that they could get medical attention and medications, as needed, and that there are psychiatric check-ins, though not the regular counseling provided in the Juvenile Division.
January - June 2020	2.8	Given the uncertainty as to how long COVID-19 restrictions on in-person education will continue, the Adult Divisions should reconsider whether there are any steps that can be taken to support any AAO's interest in continuing to work towards a high school diploma or GED.	**Completed:** All 9 AAOs in the King County Correctional Facility in May 2022 had completed or were in process of completing their diploma or GED. It is not clear if the Adult Divisions took affirmative steps to encourage youth to complete their educational requirements or if the lack of interest in pursuing an education as noted in a previous report was temporary.
July 2020 - June 2021		**No new recommendations, as DAJD rolls out JMS, brings Juvenile Division restrictive housing policies in compliance with RCW 13.22 (which addresses some earlier recommendations), and implements us of "The Carey Guides," an alternative behavioral response tool.**	
July 2021 - March 2022		**No new recommendations. List of recommendations through June 2020 was updated to reflect which had been implemented, which were no longer relevant, and where DAJD disagreed with recommendations. The Status column above reflects these outcomes.**	
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
April 2022 - June 2023	3.1	The system used to document restrictive housing in JMS should be made more user friendly, involving as few steps as possible to complete the tsk without compromising the information sharing function. Correctional Supervisors and other employees should have an opportunity to share ideas about ways to improve the data entry process.	**In progress, Current update**: DAJD has assembled a team of SME's to review the process for JMS documentation. This team is making recommendations that have been and are in process of implementation. Previous notes: Dashboards were created in JMS for the supervisors and Chiefs to ensure that assessments are completed on time. Short cuts were also identified to simplify data entry and to help with accuracy. **Previous notes (July 2023-March 2024):** Division staff are working closely with JMS Administrators to develop shortcuts and dashboards to simplify data entry and ensure Supervisors are aware when assessment documentation is due. The Juvenile Division has recently worked with the JMS developers to make some data fields required to ensure data entry is accurate and consistent.
April 2022 - June 2023	3.2	The Chief of Operations or someone of comparable authority should review JMS documentation of restrictive housing events each day to ensure all information expected has been entered and appears correct. This was happening when the entire process was done by paper and there is a continuing need for this level of oversight.	**In progress, Current update:** Weekly reports are reviewed for timely review and troubleshooting if needed. Data is shared monthly to review for compliance. Feedback is provided to all relevant staff for immediate identification of solutions. Previous notes: The proposed quality assurance process includes a daily review of assessment completion by shift, weekly by the Chief and monthly by the data analyst. Previous notes: Along with the shortcuts and dashboards under development to ease data entry for Corrections Supervisors, JMS reports and dashboards are under development for faster and more consistent quality assurance. Whether the Chief of Operations should resume reviewing the forms is under consideration.

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
April 2022 - June 2023	3.3	DAJD should install the electronic door lock system that it purchased for CCFJC living units. The system would automatically record time in room and assist with the tracking of youth activities, reduce the need to use the hard copy Youth Accountability Checklist, and produce electronic data that could more easily be associated with and analyzed alongside JMS data. See Recommendation 1.12 and comments re: status.	**Completed:** Electronic security checks and movements were fully implemented as of March 17, 2025. Previous notes: In progress - The Juvenile Division is exploring electronic room check technology. Division leadership has conducted site visits and met with vendors to understand the capabilities and if the possible vendors are able to meet the Division's documentation and data reporting needs.
April 2022 - June 2023	3.4	The idea of setting up living halls based on the age and developmental stage of each detainee should be explored, with input from representatives from throughout the facility.	**Completed, Current update:** The Juvenile Division implemented the new classification model that was under development and referenced in the previous notes. As of October 2025, housing assignments are typically aligned with each youth's stage of development and need level as determined through assessments conducted by licensed MH therapists and the Restorative Justice Coordinators. Each living hall assignment should be made on a case-by-case basis to prioritize the youth's safety and physical and emotional well-being. **Previous Notes:** The Division is planning to implement a new classification model which will house youth by age and developmental stage in June 2025 when the current school year ends. Previous notes: The Juvenile Division is reviewing its current method and factors taken into account for living hall assignment and is researching alternative approaches, including consideration of factors that might result in reducing conflict between youth and the assignment to restrictive housing that can result The Division is also developing a Housing Classification policy.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
July 2023 - March 2024	4.1	Ensure that all staff, but Supervisors in particular, are aware of efforts being made to develop shortcuts and dashboards to simplify JMS data entry and the rationale behind making some data fields required.	**Completed:** Training has been provided to the Supervisors to help with monitoring the requirements thru dashboards and reports. These reports and dashboards have been developed specifically for supervisors and others who are responsible for restrictive housing oversight. Ongoing JMS support is available thru a designated staff person to provide on-going support related to JMS.
July 2023 - March 2024	4.2	In developing an approach that makes attendance mandatory for some programs and with input from JDOs and Supervisors, continually evaluate which programs, both in and outside the living halls, should be compulsory, on an individual or facility-wide level.	**Completed, Current Update:** Through collaboration between detention supervisors and the Programs Team, the Division implemented a policy requiring youth participation in most facility programming. Exceptions were made for select programs, such as support groups, where mandatory participation would be inconsistent with the program's purpose and intended outcomes. This change was implemented to increase youth engagement in structured, pro-social activities while preserving the integrity and effectiveness of programs that rely on voluntary participation. **Previous Notes:** The Juvenile Division has made programs mandatory outside of the living hall, however, the Division is still developing the final approach to determine which programs within the living hall should/should not be compulsory.

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
July 2023 - March 2024	4.3	In developing a programming schedule, consider the importance of providing consistent, predictable programming throughout the week, but especially during periods of time that are otherwise unstructured, such as on weekends.	**Completed, Current Update:** The Juvenile Division works closely with community partners to schedule programming on consistent days and times each week, providing youth with a predictable and structured program schedule, including on weekends. The Division has also continued utilizing a second Recreation Coordinator backfill position, as the increased programming hours and structured activities were determined to be beneficial for youth in custody. Additionally, the Division regularly solicits youth feedback regarding programming and works with providers to address concerns and expand access to programs that are particularly well received by youth. **Previous Notes:** When reviewing the program applications for the program expansion RFP process, priority was given to organizations who could provide programming on the weekends. Furthermore, the Division has implemented a pilot program with a 2nd Recreation Coordinator Thursday-Sunday afternoon and evenings. The Division will review performance metrics such as use of force and behavior data to determine if the 2nd position has had a positive impact operationally.
July 2023 - March 2024	4.4	With input from JDOs and Supervisors, develop a strategy to ensure that youth return their tablets when required to do so.	**Completed, Current Update:** Detention Supervisors have become increasingly familiar and comfortable with the tablet management system, and the use of tablet controls, including powering off individual devices when they become disruptive, has become a more routine practice. Additionally, concerns related to tablet use have been addressed through the behavior management system, which includes the loss of earned incentives when youth choose to miss school classes in order to use their tablets. **In progress:** DAJD is in agreement that youth should not have access to tablets when classes are in session. Detention Supervisors can turn off individual tablets temporarily if a student's tablet is causing a distraction.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
April 2024 - March 2025	5.1	Though a Cool Down Period is not defined as restrictive housing under Adults Divisions policy, it is recommended that AAOs have access to reading material when restricted to such a confined space for up to two hours (and possibly longer under certain circumstances).	**Current Update.** Incidents in the adult facility that require the movement of an AAO to a Restrictive location and the initiation of a cool down period are emergency situations involving immediate safety and security concerns. These events often require a rapid response by uniformed custody staff and medical personnel to intervene, gain control of the situation, de-escalate behavior, and protect the safety of the AAO, other residents, staff, and the secure operation of the facility.
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
March 2025 - March 2026	6.1	The Juvenile Division should continue to explore ways the combined total higher number than required supervisor, mental health professional, and medical provider checks and assessments impact the process of monitoring youth in restrictive housing and the pros and cons of using this approach as an analytic tool with restrictive housing data.	
March 2025 - March 2026	6.2	It would be useful to analyze the extent to which the Juvenile Division's new Housing Classification Guide impacts assignment to and duration of restrictive housing of youth assigned to the various living halls.	

ATTACHMENT A, INDEPENDENT MONITORING TEAM REPORT: March 20, 2025 - March 31, 2026			
STATUS OF RESTRICTIVE HOUSING MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS (Updated July 26. 2026)			
Report Dates	**Recommendation Number**	**Recommendation**	**Status**
March 2025 - March 2026	6.3	Within the context of the Juvenile Division's Behavior Management Group or otherwise, consider the suggestion made by some detained youth to develop extra incentives beyond those currently available for sustained good behavior.	
March 2025 - March 2026	6.4	While the DAJD's Adult Divisions demonstrated overall improvement in restrictive housing record keeping, the Adult Divisions should consider the feasibility of adopting a facsimile of the Juvenile Divisions' quality control system, in order to identify and correct errors in recordkeeping as early as possible.	
March 2025 - March 2026	6.5	While the Juvenile Division's ADP has dropped and the ADP for AAOs in the Adult Division's has increased, DAJD should consider whether the Juvenile Division Intervention Specialist and other mental health care providers could continue to support AAOs after their transfer to an adult facility, at least for a limited transitional period of time.	
		This list of recommendations was updated to reflect which recommendations have been completed, which are still in progress, which were no longer relevant, or if DAJD disagreed with any recommendation. The Status column above reflects these outcomes. Also note that the Restrictive Housing Independent Monitoring Team Reports for each review period provide background and more explanation regarding all recommendations made.	

King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay
Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

August 20, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits the eighth King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention (DAJD) Independent Monitoring Report required by Ordinance 20023, Section 53, P1. Also included is a proposed Motion that would, if approved, acknowledge receipt of the report. The enclosed report covers the period of March 20, 2025, through March 31, 2026.

This report is a continuation of the series of updates related to the confinement of juveniles in King County facilities. The prior monitoring report highlighted several challenges facing DAJD including a rising average daily population, increases in lengths of stay, and a rise in assaultive incidents targeting both staff and youth. Because of this, it noted an increase in the number of restrictive housing events, even as the average length of each restrictive housing event decreased. The report discussed how staffing turnover in the Juvenile Division impacted data analysis while also highlighting improvements in data entry processes, Juvenile Detention Officer staffing levels, and youth programming opportunities.

This current report notes improvements in restrictive housing data reporting, quality control procedures, and meeting a set of compliance requirements. Enhanced electronic records have expanded reporting capabilities and demonstrate DAJD's commitment to continuous improvement efforts. The report also recognizes DAJD's adoption of a new approach to housing classification in the Juvenile Division, which better supports the individual needs of youth in secure detention based on age and developmental stage. Finally, the report notes areas of ongoing challenges and includes updates on previous recommendations from the monitoring team.

Please note that this reporting period began prior to the passage of the 2026-2027 budget and its provisos. Therefore, the independent monitors were the same as prior reporting periods. Open procurement is underway for the next monitoring period.

DAJD is committed to utilizing trauma-informed and therapeutic approaches to supporting youth in our care. This is paired with a commitment to ensuring collection and maintenance of thorough, complete, and accurate documentation of restrictive housing events. Our teams will continue to pursue process improvements in consideration of the Independent Monitor's recommendations.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion. If your staff have questions, please contact Dr. Jennifer Albright, Interim Chief of Administration, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, at 206-477-9097.

Sincerely,



for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive
Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive
Allen Nance, Director, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention
Steve Larsen, Deputy Director, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention
Jennifer Albright, Interim Chief of Administration, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention



King County
Superior Court

JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

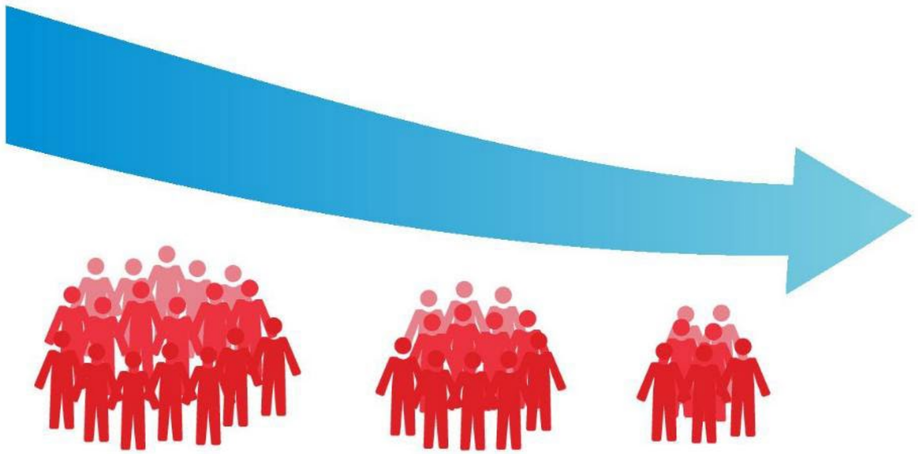
Judge Veronica Galván, Chief Judge, Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center

Robert E. Gant, Juvenile Court Director

Paul Daniels, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Juvenile Justice in King County

Policy and practice shifts, a commitment to reform, and legislative changes have resulted in **significant decreases in the number** of youth in our system.



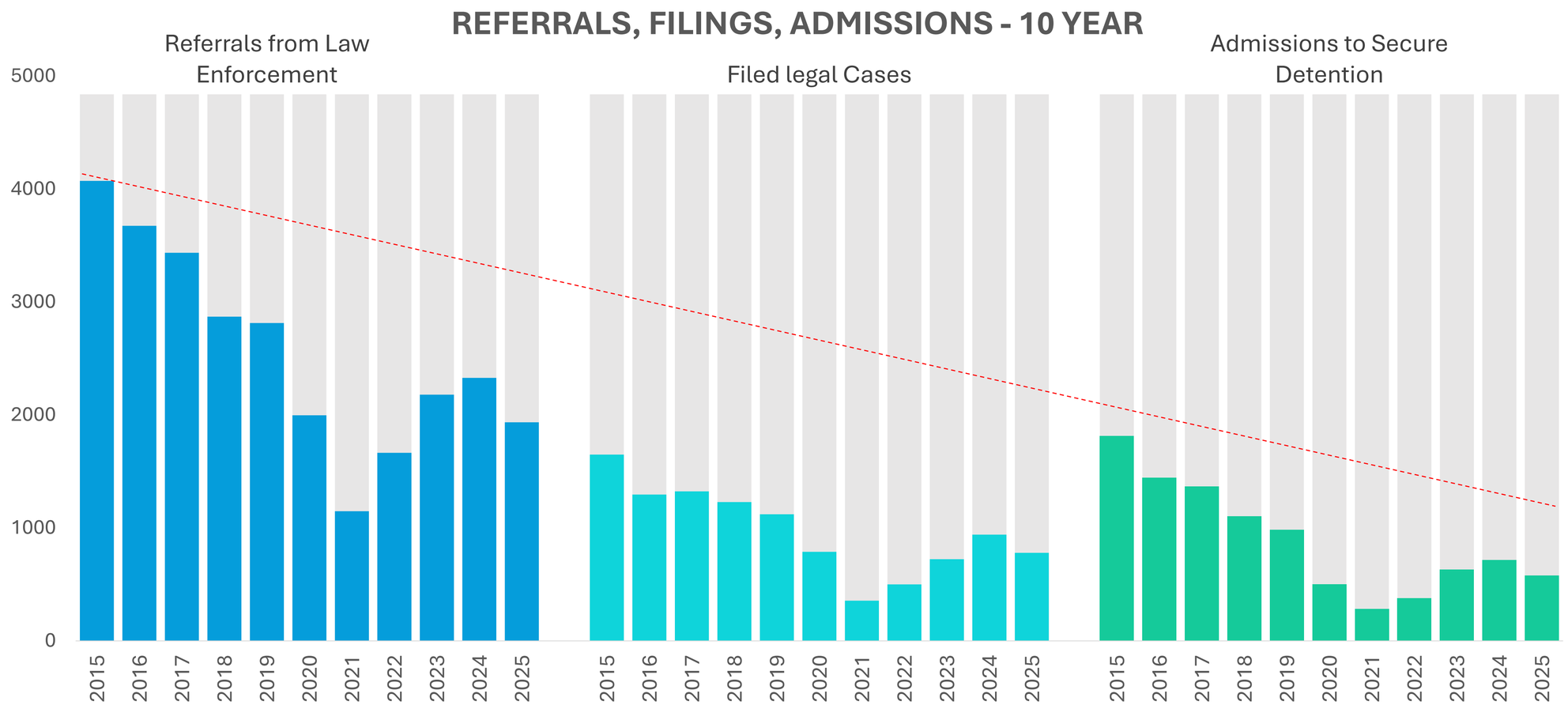
KEY ISSUES

1. Over time, the proportion of filed legal cases for **felony offenses has grown**, even as filings decreased
2. Youth who remain in our system are **facing serious charges and have more complex needs**
3. Black and Hispanic **youth are significantly overrepresented** in our system

King County
JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

KEY ISSUE 1

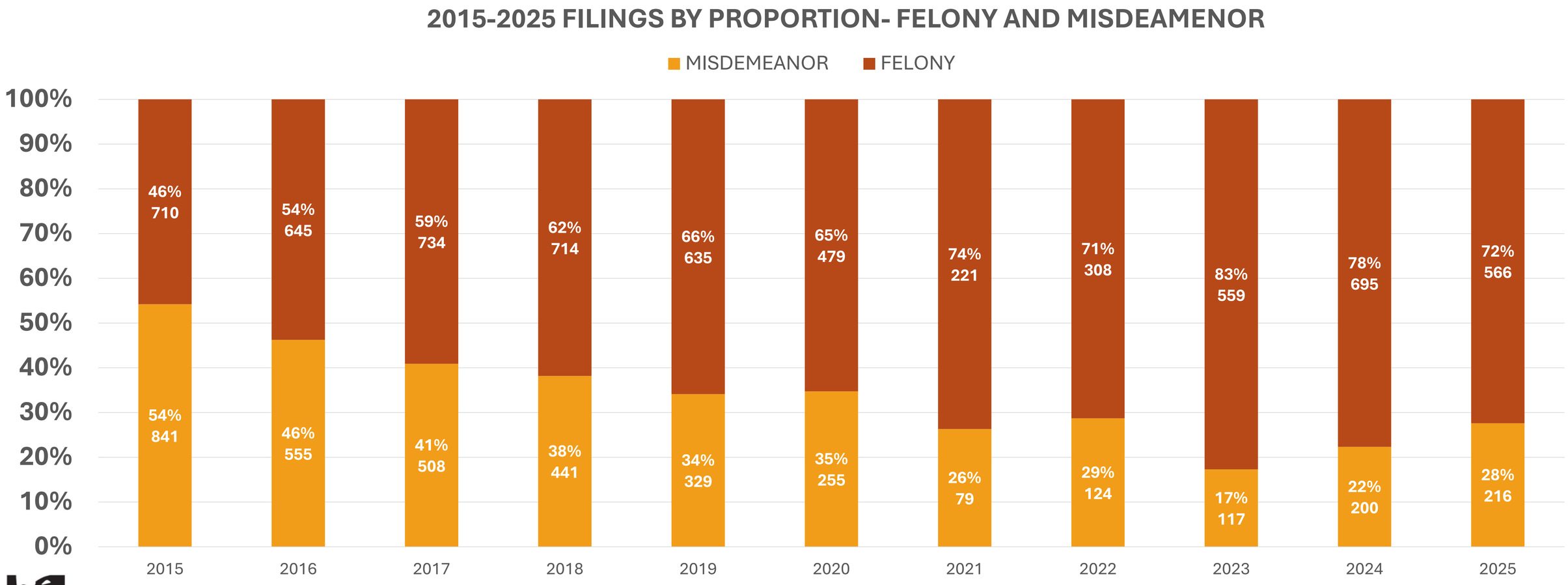
The overall trend in referrals, filings, and admissions into secure detention is downward.



King County
JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

KEY ISSUE 1

In 2015, fewer than half (46%) of filed cases were felonies. Now, most cases (72%) are felonies.



** Chart shows filed cases categorized as Felony or Misdemeanor and excludes filed cases categorized as "Other" (2025 n=46)*

King County
JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

High risk, hard to reach

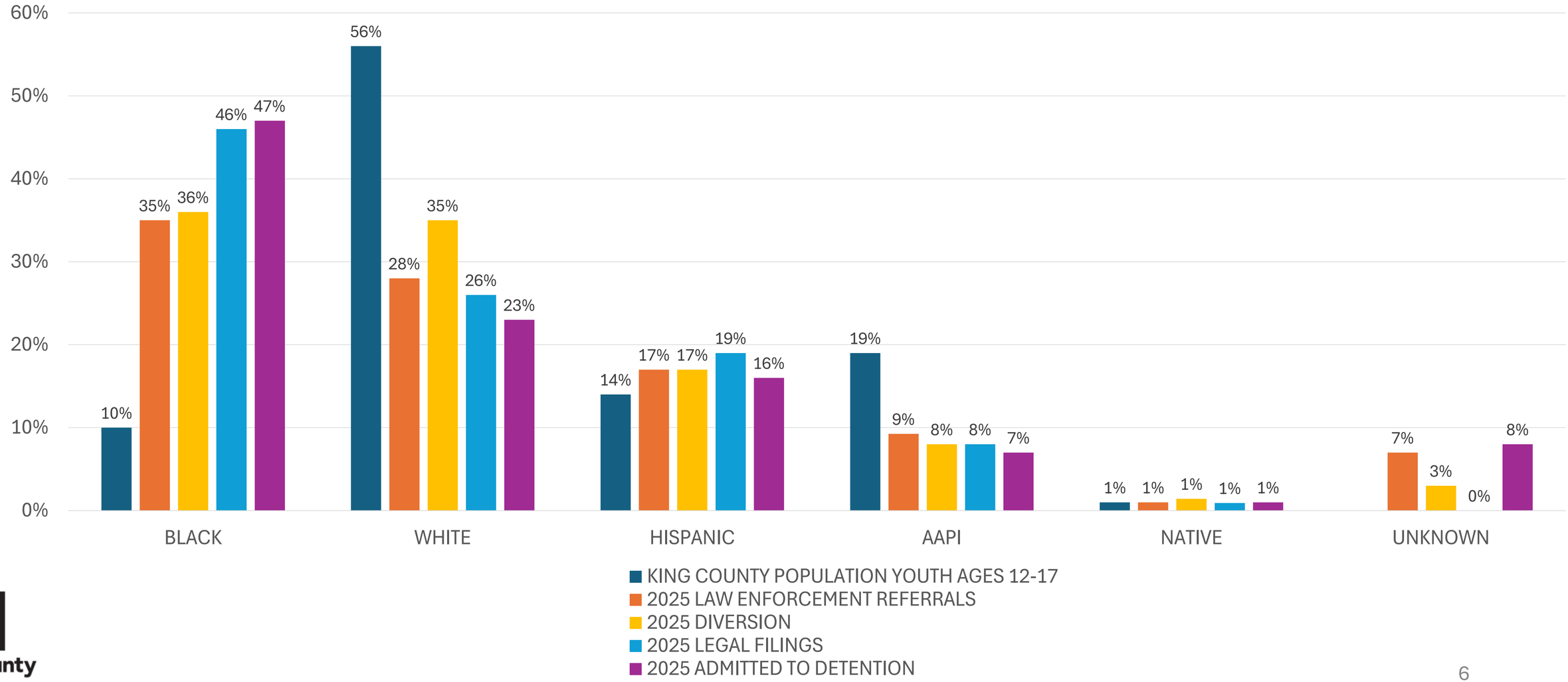
While the overall number of youth in the system has declined, a growing share who remain have higher levels of need and more complex circumstances.

> (These) youth often experience **multiple, compounding risk factors**, including **chronic trauma**, family **instability**, **community violence**, **school disengagement**, **mental health** and **substance use issues**, and repeated justice system contact.

Source: https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/Report_EffectiveServicesandSupports_report_2026.pdf

KEY ISSUE 3

Black and Hispanic youth are overrepresented in the King County juvenile criminal legal system.



King County
JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

Juvenile Therapeutic Response & Accountability Court (JTRAC)

One **Goal**: Outcome/ Long Term Impact	Three Critical **Priorities**: the WHAT	Nine **Tactics**: The HOW
A safe and thriving community where youth and families connect with supports that: honor their dignity, agency, belonging, and safety; build strengths; and reduce contact with the court, especially for youth of color, who are disproportionately engaged by the criminal legal system	**Early Screening and Support**	Behavioral Health Screening Tools and Needs Assessments
		Youth & Family Centered
		Comprehensive and Responsive Case Plan Development
	Community Centered Approach	Resource Navigation and Engagement
		Culturally Responsive Skill Development
		Families/Communities/System Collaboration
	Positive Youth Justice	Using Positive Youth Development as a Framework for Serving Youth
		Incentive-Based Supervision to Promote Behavior Change
		Using Care Team Model to Improve Service Delivery

Juvenile Court Services Programs and Services

Early Screening and Support



- Behavior Health Response (BHR)
- Juvenile Probation Counselors
- Juvenile Assessment Team (JJAT)
- Universal Behavioral Health Screening
- Family Intervention and Restorative Services (FIRS)

Community Centered Approach



- Peer Parent Support Group
- The Bobbe J. Bridge Resource Center and Clothing Shop
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Task Force
- Youth Resource App
- Mentoring and Navigation
- Gun Violence Intervention Pilot Program

Positive Youth Justice

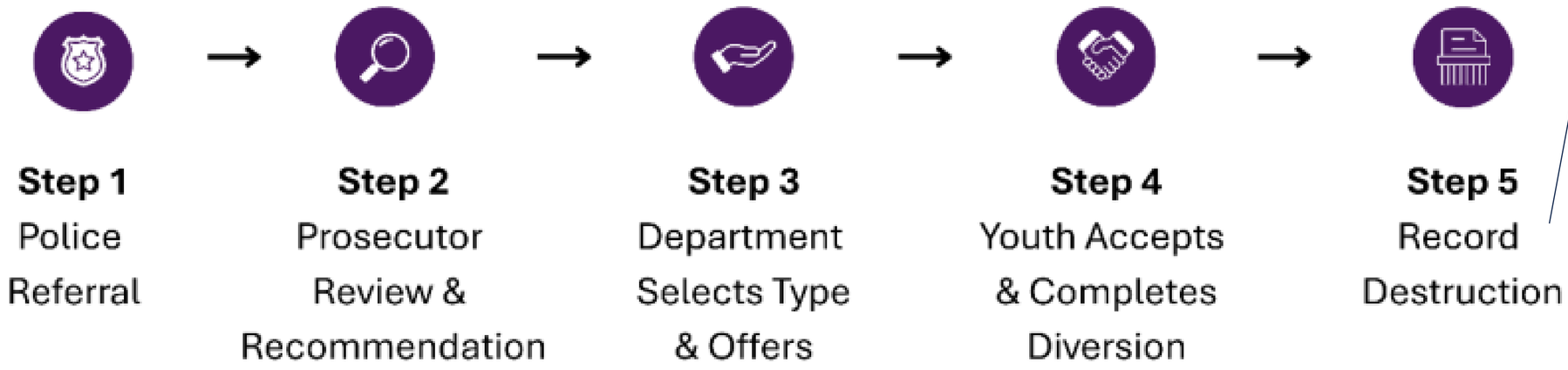


- Education and Employment Training (EET)
- Partnership for Youth Justice Boards (PYJB)

DIVERSION

State law requires prosecutors to divert all first-time misdemeanor or grand misdemeanor charges. Other referrals to diversion are at the discretion of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Diversion follows this process:



Record destruction is **key benefit** of formal diversion- it ensures ability to move forward **without a criminal record**

Source: https://www.courts.wa.gov/wsccr/publications/pdf/washingtons-youth-diversion-landscape.pdf

DIVERSION

DIVERSION IS

- An alternative to court where a youth signs a Diversion Agreement to receive services and support
- A connection to community
- An accountability-focused approach
- A way for youth to reflect and repair
- An opportunity for youth to avoid a harmful criminal record

DIVERSION IS NOT

- An alternative to detention or incarceration, except for some instances of youth arrested for family violence*

** Youth 12 or older who are presented on a domestic violence charge are screened for placement into the FIRS Center*

Family Intervention & Restorative Services (FIRS)

Addresses adolescent family violence and provides an alternative to formal court.

Goal is to decrease violence in the home, prevent further police contact, and increase family safety.

The FIRS Center

- A 7-bed **respite center** inside the Clark Children & Family Justice Center
- An **alternative to secure detention**, staffed 24/7 by Ryther
- Group and individual activities promote healing and **restore family relationships**

Step-Up Program

- Nationally recognized program addressing adolescent family violence
- Youth and parents learn in a group setting
- Skills for respectful relationships, problem-solving, and handling difficult emotions
- 20 sessions, free of charge

FIRS Program

- A **voluntary** program for families experiencing violence from youth in the home
- **Juvenile Probation Counselors** and **Social Worker** team **assess** family violence, create **safety plans** and agreements that increase **insight** and **accountability**
- Provide **access to free services**, including in-home family counseling, drug and alcohol services, mental health services, and the Step-Up program

Call 911
Police contact for family violence

→

Law Enforcement Response*
Youth may be brought to the FIRS Center, or the FIRS team may review a police report

→

FIRS Assessment & Support
Violence/safety assessment, safety planning, services and support

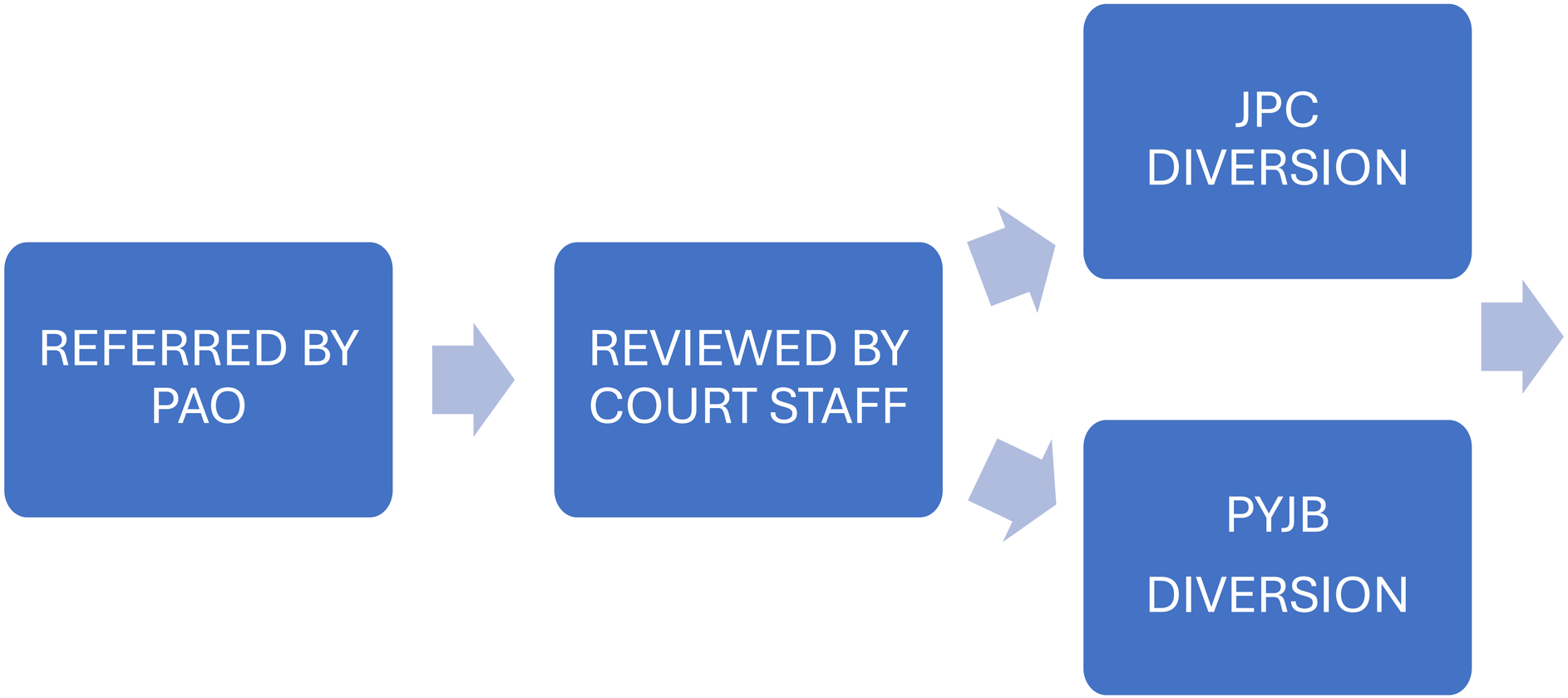
→

No criminal charges
No formal court involvement if the youth agrees to services

*Youth who have contact with police for family violence but are not arrested are also eligible for FIRS. The FIRS team reaches out to these families.

DIVERSION

Every diversion is reviewed to determine the most appropriate level of service.



Youth and family **meet with the JPC or PYJB** to discuss the referral.

Together, they assess needs and **co-create a Diversion Agreement** connecting the youth to community resources for **skill-building and support**.

Youth voice is included.

Regular follow-ups ensure progress, and the **case closes once the agreement is completed**.

King County
JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

Partnership for Youth Justice Boards (PYJB)



- PYJBs are **diverse, community-based**, and reflect youth demographics.
- Two **culturally specific PYJBs** support East African and Hispanic youth.
- Members are recruited from local programs to **connect families with resources.**
- PYJBs assess risks, strengths, and skill development needs.
- They **link families to community-based supports**. Youth voice is included in the process.
- PYJBs monitor progress and the Program Specialist supports the PYJB if engagement stalls.
- **School partnerships** focus on prevention, behavior support, and resource connection addressing the **school to prison pipeline**

DIVERSION

The plurality of diversion referrals (38%) are for assaults.

TOP 10 OFFENSE TYPES REFERRED TO DIVERSION 2020-2025	% OF ALL REFERRALS
ASSAULT	38%
THEFT	20%
MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	6%
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	5%
ALCOHOL OFFENSE	3%
HARRASSMENT	3%
RACING - ATTEND	2%
VUCSA/MJ POSS LT 40G	1%
OBSTRUCT PUBLIC SERVANT	1%
CANNABIS POSS LT 40G	1%

ASSAULT 4	529	37%
ASSAULT 3	9	1%
ASSAULT 4 -SM -DV	3	0.2%
ASSAULT 2	3	0.2%
ASSAULT 2 - DV	1	0.1%
ASSAULT 2 - FA	1	0.1%

DIVERSION

A high rate of youth who enroll in diversion successfully complete.

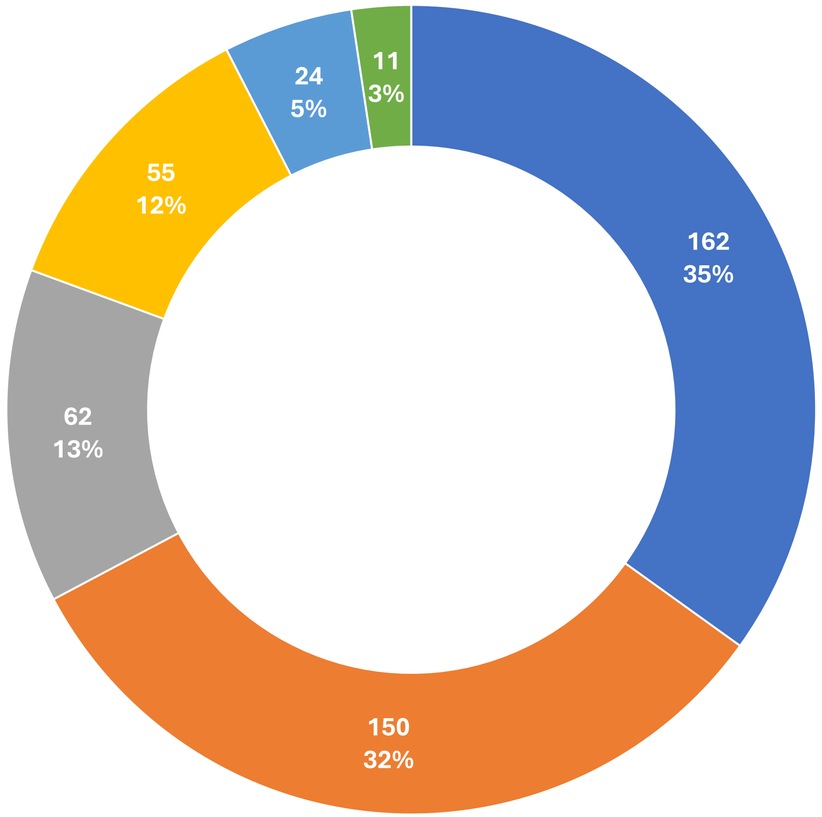
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
REFERRED	407	108	121	313	281	198
ENROLLED	299	69	72	202	179	123
REMAIN ACTIVE	--	--	--	--	--	5
COMPLETED	287	60	68	188	162	106
% COMPLETED	95%	86%	94%	93%	91%	86%*

*2025 completion rate will update when all active clients complete.

DIVERSION

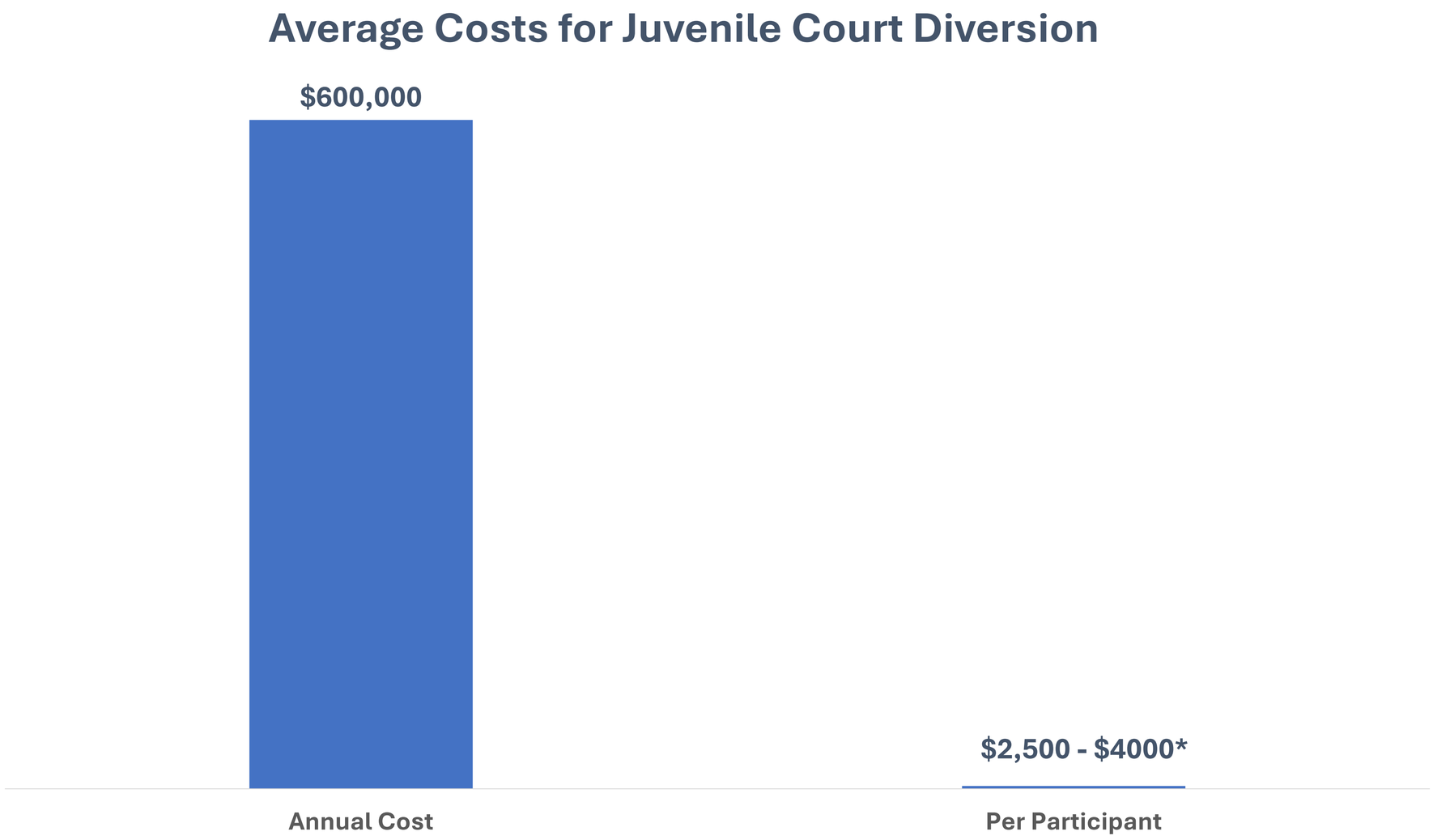
The most common reason youth do not enroll is that, after numerous attempts using a variety of methods, we are unable to locate them. The second most common reason is they are ineligible because they live out of King County or are now over age 18.

REASON FOR NOT ENROLLING 2020-2025



- UNABLE TO LOCATE
- INELIGIBLE
  Over 18, Out of King County
- WON'T ACCCEPT DIVERSION AGREEMENT
  Includes youth who request court hearing
- YOUTH NEEDS HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE
  Youth has needs that are complex, more than diversion can offer
- OTHER
- YOUTH RECEIVING OTHER SERVICES
  Services are already in place to address the presenting concerns

DIVERSION



*Juvenile Court diversion costs are stipends for Partnership for Youth Justice Board members, 1 FTE Coordinator to administer the PYJB program, 1 FTE Program Specialist (paid through non-county dollars), and a percentage of total JPC salary costs. The cost per participant varies based on the total number of referrals per year.

EVALUATING OUR WORK

Numerous studies have been done evaluating the efficacy of diversion on returning to the legal system

Most studies find that **diversion has a positive or null effect**- but study design, which services are offered, and the risk level of the participants can all impact outcomes

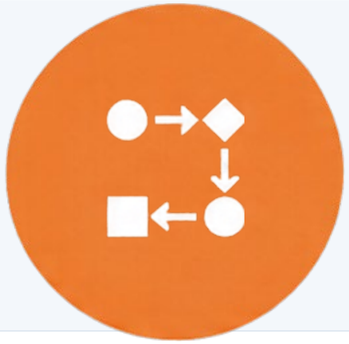
As with all points in our system, diversion is a point where there are racial disparities

Recidivism is not a reliable measure of youth behavior change- especially since there are structural bias factors that impact contact with the legal system

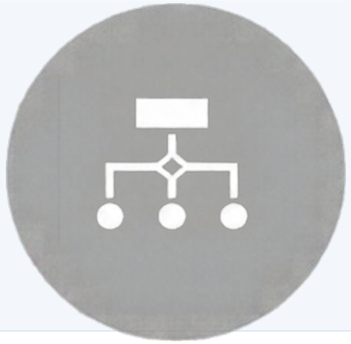
RESEARCH SOURCES

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258129279_The_Effect_of_Youth_Diversion_Programas_on_Recidivism_A_Meta-Analytic_Review
https://www.sentencingproject.org/napapasa/2023/10/Diversion-A-Hidden-Key-to-Combating-Racial-and-Ethnic-Disparities-in-Juvenile-Justice.pdf
https://chngjayec.ryc/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/recidivism_reconsidered.pdf
https://nationalreentryresourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/online files/racialEquityRecidivismBrief.pdf
https://www.innovatingjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/CJL_Guide_Evaluating_Diversion_Programas_06052024Pageview.pdf

EVALUATING OUR WORK



We collect information about HOW MUCH we do, while we continue to develop ways to know HOW WELL we are doing and if anyone is BETTER OFF.



We have designed performance measures for evaluating our work.

Expected outcomes:

1. Improved insight
2. Specific underlying needs are met
3. Family relationships improve
4. Connection to community supports
5. Desistance from behaviors that could result in contact with the legal system

- # of referrals
- % who signed an agreement
- % who completed service
- % of families who report their experience was beneficial
- % of families reporting that the youth's behavior has improved as a result of their engagement

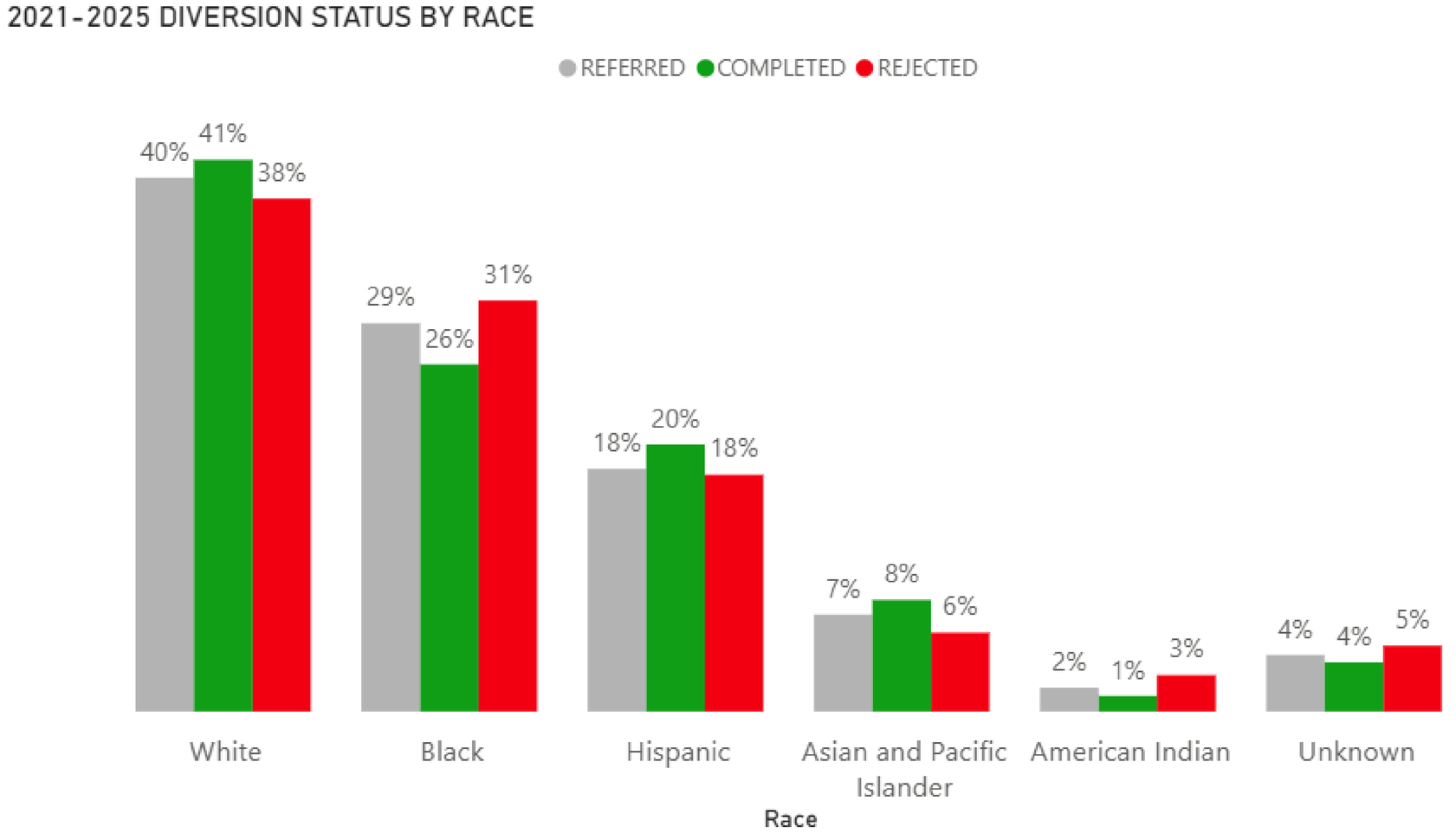
EVALUATING OUR WORK

Updating Juvenile Court Services Diversion 2019-2026

- **Rewrote** diversion **process manual**, with clear timelines and role expectations.
- **Built data collection** and reporting to improve enrollment, completion, rejection data. Created electronic data collection for PYJB.
- Established **new rejection process**, working with PAO to staff certain cases.
- Began **reconciling diversion referral counts** with the PAO.
- **Eliminated the $100 fee** associated with diversion for all clients.
- **Rewrote diversion letters, Diversion Agreement,** and **Statement of Understanding** with developmentally appropriate language.
- **Retrained all staff** in the new process.
- Conducted **ongoing analysis** (monthly/quarterly) of data trends, including racial equity analysis.
- **PYJB updates** include: improved timelines, school partnerships, refined consistency and structure, strategic recruitment of PYJB board members from underrepresented groups- including members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with prior system involvement, BIPOC, community providers, caregivers/parents, young professionals.
- **Redesigned diversion destruction** processes to align with current statute and to ensure destruction of all eligible diversion records.

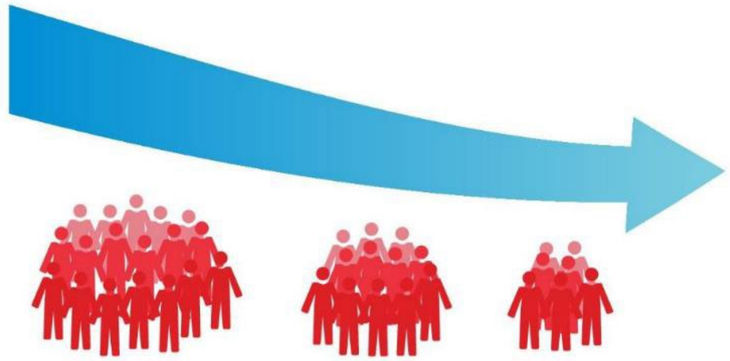
EVALUATING OUR WORK

Since we updated diversion practices and implemented JTRAC, we have seen improvements in racial equity. Prior to the changes, Black youth were rejected and White youth completed at a highly disproportionate rate compared to their representation in the referred population. Now, there is closer parity.



In Conclusion:

- Youth who remain in our system face **serious charges and have complex needs**
- **Black and Hispanic** youth are **significantly overrepresented** in our system
- As a **Therapeutic Court,** we use **JTRAC as a framework** for identifying needs and serving youth across all services, **including Diversion**
- **Evaluating success** includes evaluating racial disparities, hearing from youth and families, and helping families make meaningful connections to community



King County
JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

DATA SOURCES:

LAW ENFORCEMENT REFERRALS : PAO https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/pao/about-king-county/about-pao/data-reports/dashboard
DETENTION ADMISSIONS: DAJD https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dajd/courts-jails-legal-system/data-reports/population-information
LEGAL FILINGS: DJA https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dja/courts-jails-legal-system/case-records/records-access/reports-data
JCS DIVERSIONS AND CASELOAD DATA: JIMS

King County

Law and Justice Committee

November 4, 2026

Agenda Item No. 8
Briefing No. 2026-B0129

Charles Mitchell & George Washington Bush Study for Reparative Action Updates

There are no materials for this item.