



SIERRA HEALTH FOUNDATION
An Endowment for Northern California



KEYS TO RENEWING JUVENILE JUSTICE

Local juvenile justice jurisdictions are being asked to take on more responsibility with reduced resources, requiring innovative community-based solutions

Hypothesis and Objectives

By implementing the following objectives, the most underserved youth will achieve successful outcomes, reaching overall local juvenile justice systems improvements:

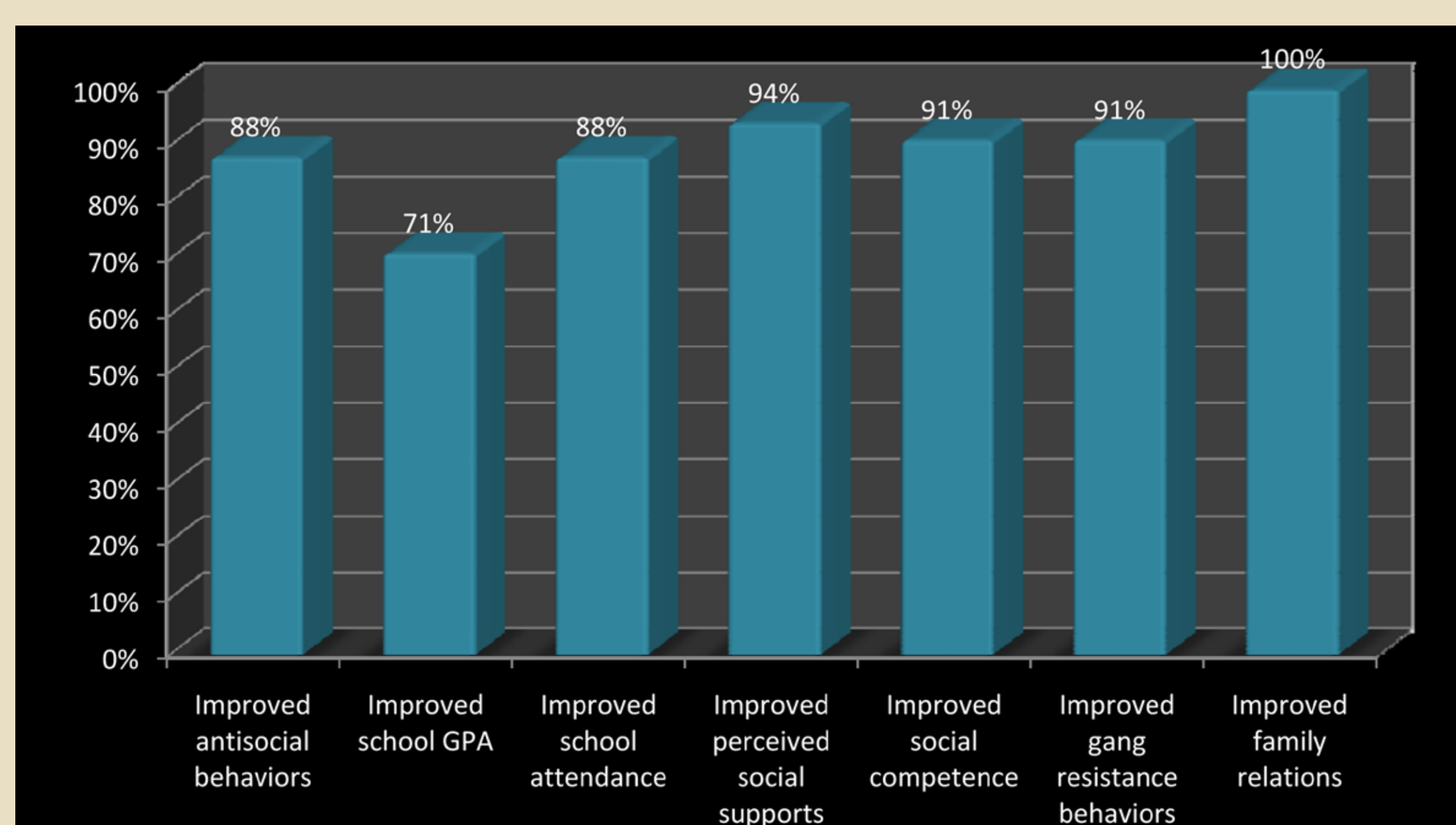
- Reduce reliance on incarceration and placement in custodial institutions
- Develop coordinated, culturally responsive, community-based interventions
- Increase utilization of flexible funding streams (EPSDT/Wraparound)
- Increase mental health services
- Improve local practices through coordination among governmental departments to reduce recidivism

Methods

Renew local juvenile justice systems and improve the lives of young people and their families through the employment of the following methods:

- Provide highly needed mental health and behavioral health services to juvenile justice-involved youth
- Expand frequently underutilized flexible funding streams such as Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) and Wraparound monies for this specific population
- Collaborate with local governmental entities, such as departments of probation, social services and public health, to break down barriers in order to ensure clients receive a full uninterrupted continuum of services
- Deliver coordinated community-based culturally competent interventions throughout the system of care, reducing the reliance on institutionalization

Recommendations in Action: San Francisco County's Juvenile Collaborative Reentry Team



When youth receive targeted interventions for a specific behavior, JCRT's first year performance measures showed extremely positive results in numerous categories, as seen above.

California's San Francisco County has adopted the above methods and developed a commitment to better serve their juvenile justice population. Currently funded through OJJDP's Second Chance Act, the Juvenile Collaborative Reentry Team (JCRT) epitomizes the county's commitment to breaking barriers and providing a coordinated continuum of services. JCRT emphasizes collaboration and leverages flexible funding through community-based wraparound and mental health service programs.

Conclusion

Through the implementation of these strategies, San Francisco's JCRT model is positively impacting juvenile justice-involved youth returning to their communities, demonstrating the local government's ability to form innovative partnerships and create more effective juvenile justice systems.