



Fewer Chutes, More Ladders:

**Preventing Juvenile
Legal Involvement and
Ensuring Successful School
Reentry for California's Youth**



Goals of Today's Presentation

- ✓ Review the content of the upcoming report
- ✓ Answer any questions
- ✓ Hear any early feedback

Introduction: Main Ideas

- ✓ Too many youth end up in the School-to-Prison pipeline
- ✓ They are diverted from **opportunity pathways** to **punishment pathways**
- ✓ Evidence shows that youth involved in the juvenile legal system have tremendous potential, and **reducing pathways into system-involvement (chutes)** while **increasing pathways out of it (ladders)** can turn that potential into reality

Methodology

Insights for the findings summarized in this report were drawn from **two primary sources:**

1 Literature Scan and Synthesis

Identified and coded more than 426 articles that addressed:

- 1) youth risk for involvement in the juvenile legal system
- 2) proven or promising interventions for reducing juvenile legal involvement and promoting school success;
- 3) predictors for juvenile recidivism and successful school reentry; and
- 4) proven and promising interventions for reducing recidivism and promoting successful school reentry

2 Field Interviews

A total of **34 semi-structured interviews** were conducted with an array of field stakeholders connected to education or juvenile legal systems across California. Interviewees included:

- youth who have experienced involvement with the juvenile legal system
- members of the OYCR Youth Advisory Board (YAB)
- staff and administrators at County Offices of Education
- staff at county probation departments
- school principals
- school district administrators
- youth justice advocates
- judges
- staff at public defenders' offices
- researchers



I. Eliminating Chutes:

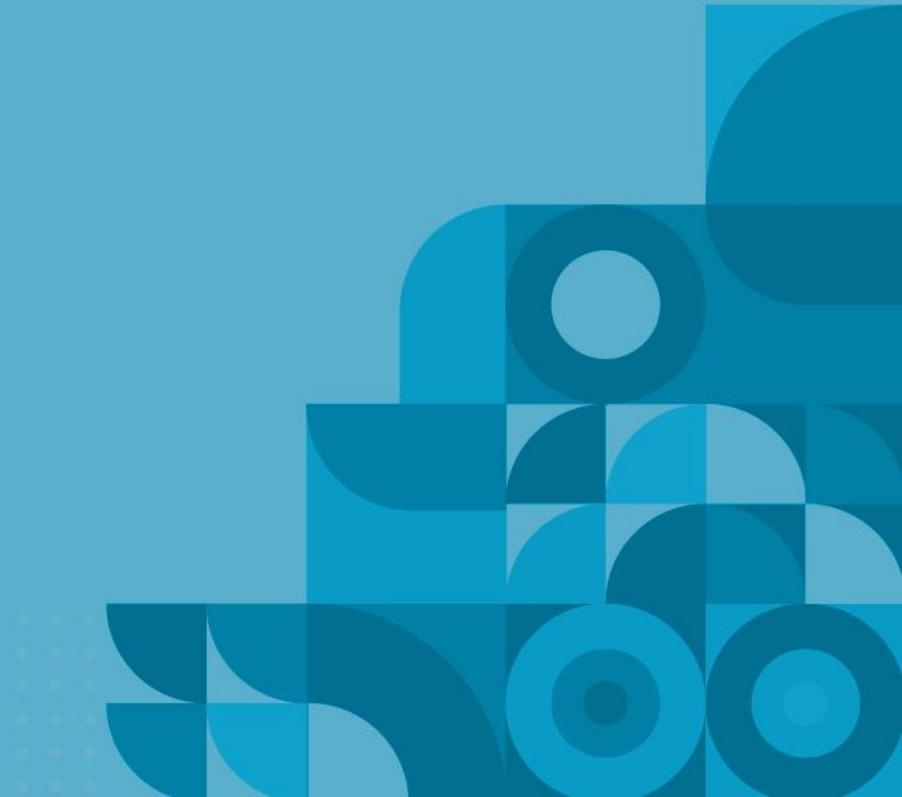
Preventing Juvenile
Legal Involvement for
California's Youth





A. School-to-Incarceration Pathways

Predictors of Juvenile Legal Involvement

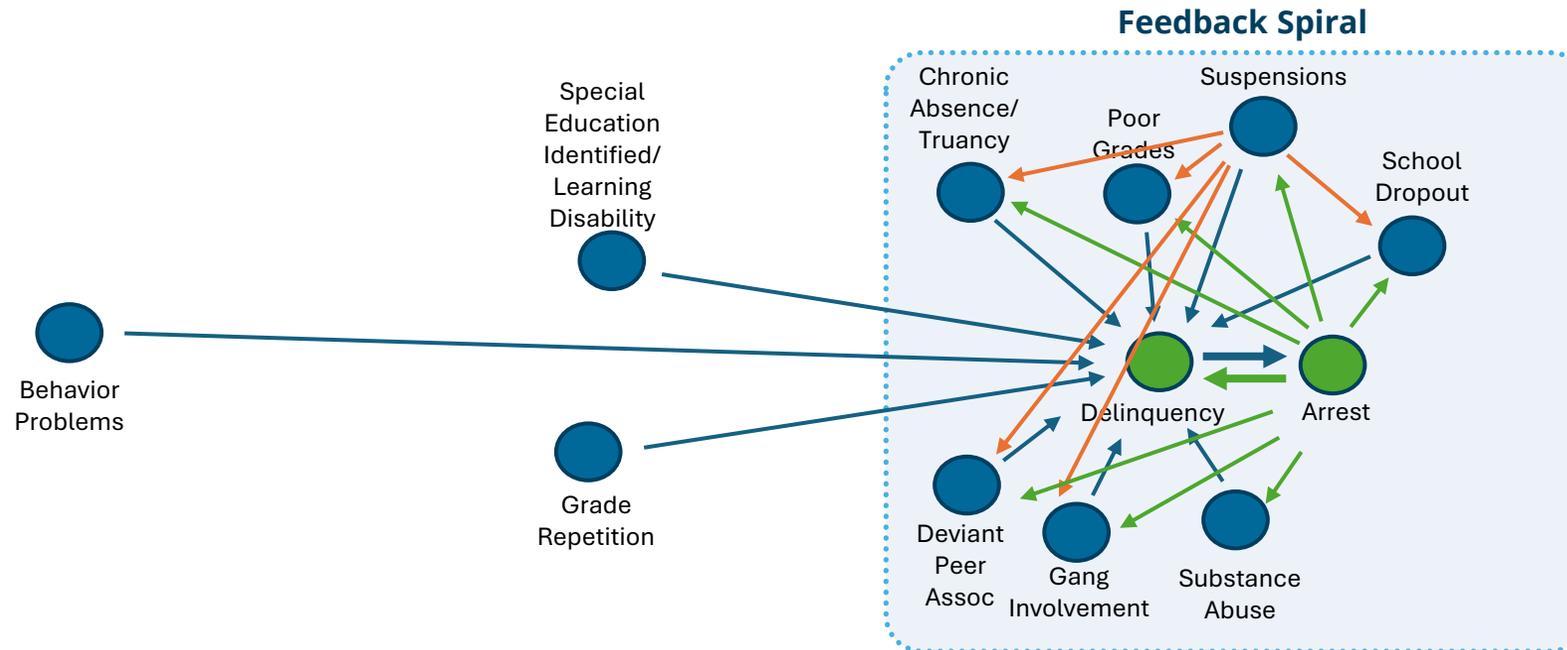


The School-to-Incarceration Pathway: Life Course Outcome Predictors

AGE SPANS

Ages 6-11

Ages 12-17



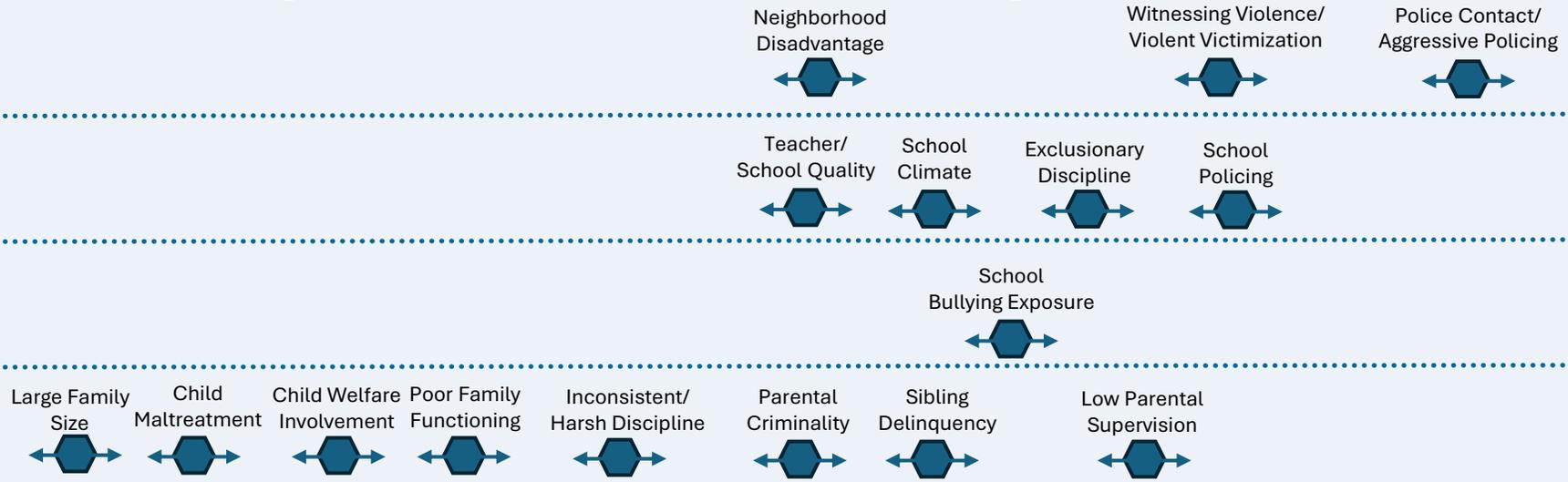
Ages 6-10

Ages 11-14

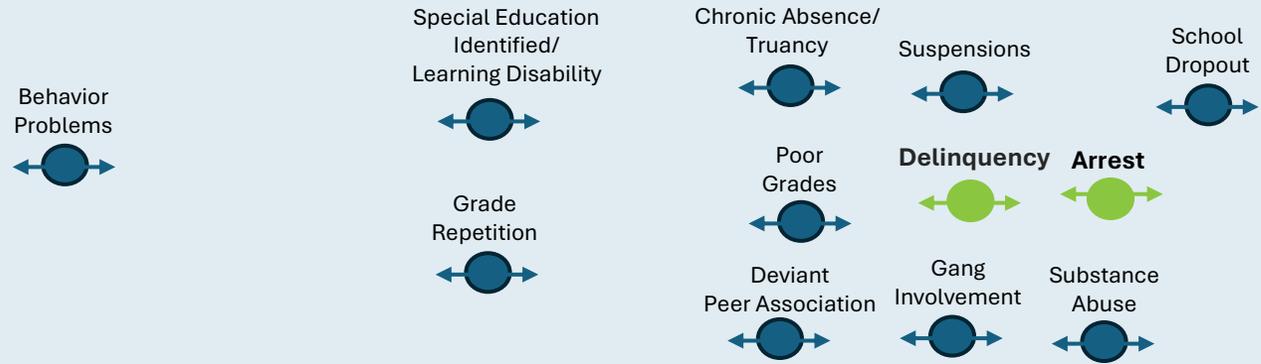
Ages 15-18

Environmental Predictors

Place
School
Peers
Family



Life Course Outcome Predictors



Developmental Predictors





B. Disrupting School-to-Incarceration Pathways

Proven and Promising Interventions and Policies



Interventions

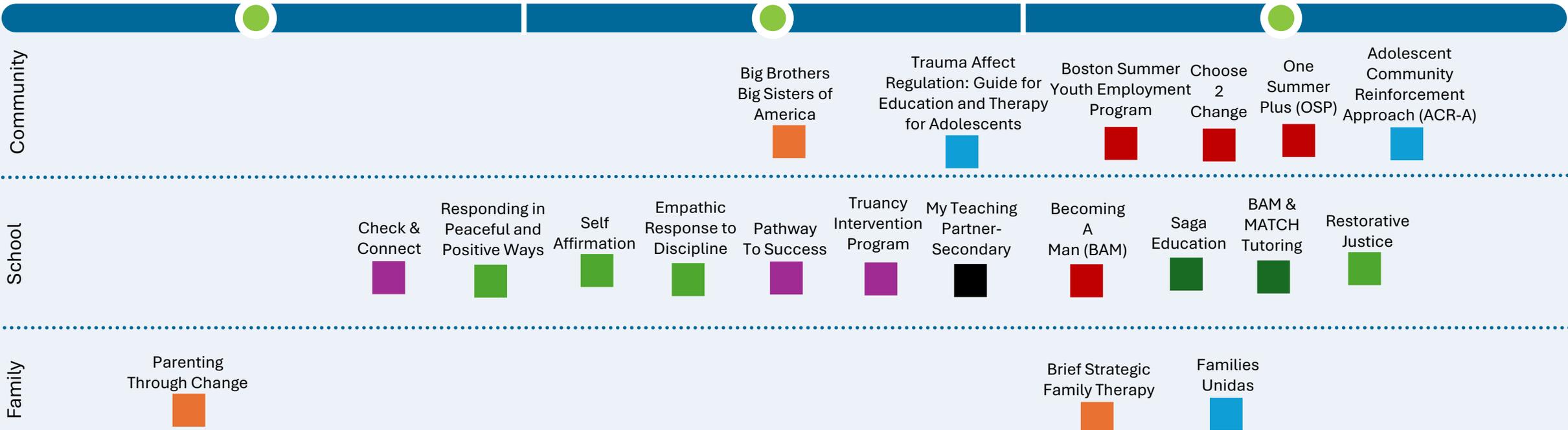


Ages 6-10

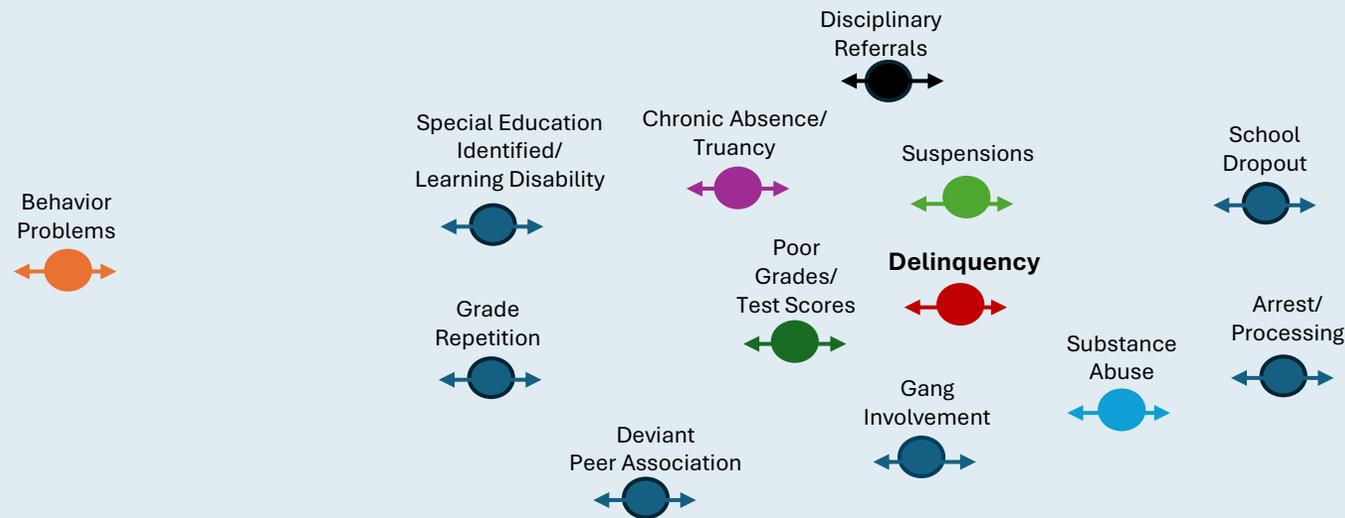
Ages 11-14

Ages 15-17

Interventions



Life Course Outcome Predictors



Intervention Profiles

- ✓ Population Served
- ✓ Outcomes
- ✓ Program duration
- ✓ Delivery Context
- ✓ Manualized
- ✓ Delivery Partner Available
- ✓ Training Available



Practice and Program Spotlights (Deep Dives)



Empathic Response to Discipline



Becoming a Man



High Dosage Tutoring

Policy & Systems Reform



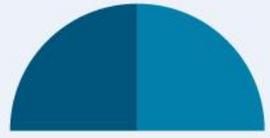
Policy and System Reform Spotlights



School Discipline Reform



Police in Schools



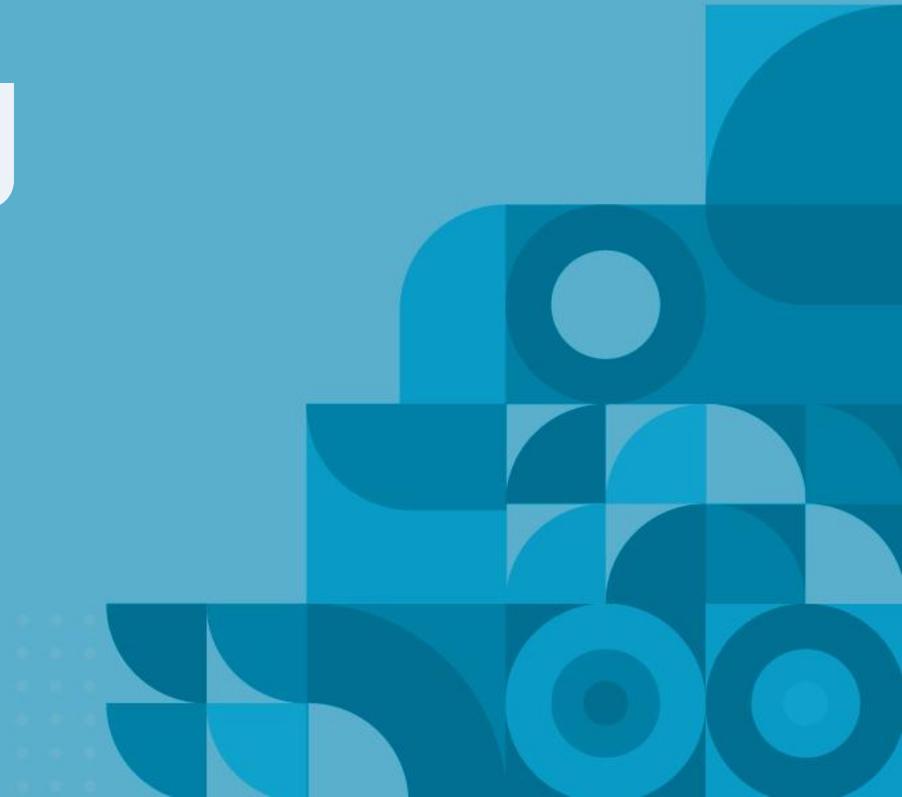
Building Ladders: Ensuring Reentry Success after Juvenile Legal Involvement





Pathways to Reentry Success

Predictors of Successful Youth Reentry



Static vs. Dynamic Predictors

- ✓ **Dynamic predictors are more useful for identifying and targeting recidivism risk:**
- ✓ **Static Predictors:** are **non-changeable predictors** that occurred before the first involvement with the juvenile legal system. They also can overpredict delinquency for Black delinquents.
- ✓ **Dynamic Predictors:** are **changeable factors** that occur or change after involvement with the legal system that can be targeted for intervention.
- ✓ Among dynamic predictors, **educational predictors (e.g. enrollment, attendance, disciplinary outcomes, relationships with teachers) are among the strongest predictors of recidivism in both observational and intervention studies.**

Defining Reentry Success



Consistent Connection to School



No Re-Arrests or Incarceration



Improved Mental and Behavioral Health

Ages 6-10

Ages 11-14

Ages 15-18

Dynamic Environmental Predictors

Place

School

Peers & Mentors

Family

Neighborhood Disadvantage

Exposure to Community Violence

Concentration of Delinquent Youth

Encouraging School Environment

Problems with Teachers

Exclusionary Disciplinary Practices

Caring Adults In School

Delinquent Peers

Prosocial Relationships

Relationships With Positive Adults

Child Maltreatment

Out-of-Home Placement

Low Parental Supervision

Parental Affection

Parental Conflict

Inconsistent/ Harsh Discipline

School Enrollment

Poor Grades/ Under-credited

Suspensions/ Expulsions

Attending an Alternative School

H.S. Graduation

School Absences

Re-Arrest

Incarceration

Academic Aptitude

Grades/Credits Earned While Confined

Substance Abuse

Formal Processing/ Or Diverted

Special Education Identified

Depression

Mental Disorders

Attitudes about School/Teachers

Future Orientation/ Aspirations

Legal Socialization

Psychosocial Maturity

Antisocial Attitudes and Cognition

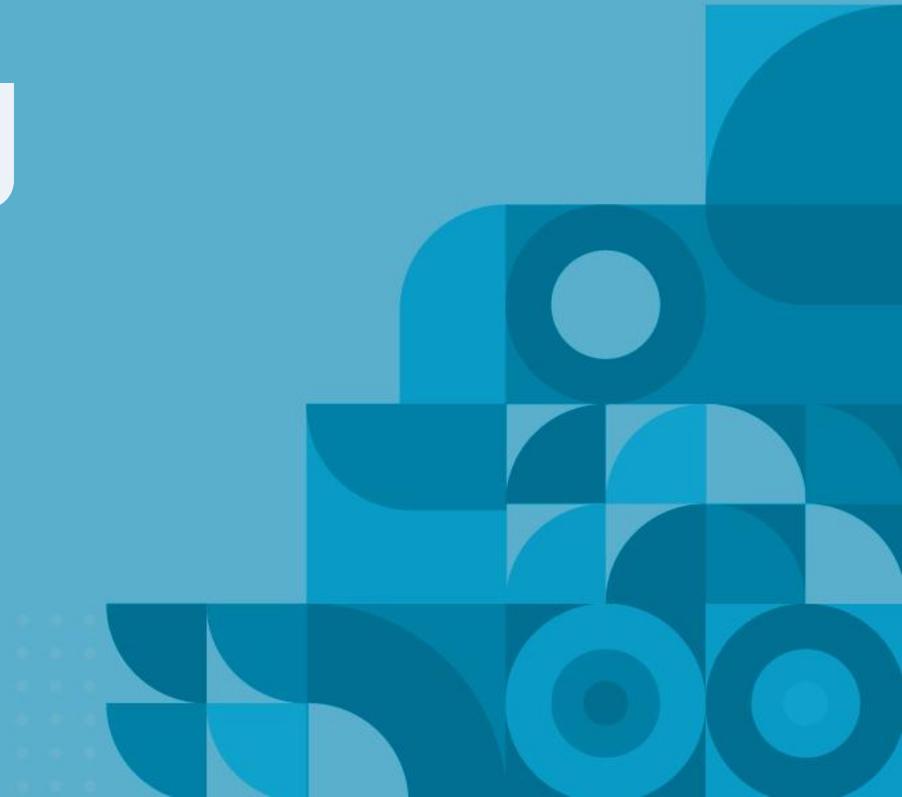
Dynamic Life Course Outcome Predictors

Dynamic Developmental Predictors



Barriers to Reentry Success

Interview and Literature Findings



Barriers to Reentry Success



Individual Barriers



Family



Systems Barriers

- Probation
- District Schools
- Alternative Schools (COE)
- Court Schools
- Behavioral Health



Successfully Re-Connecting Youth

Proven and Promising Interventions and Policies



Interventions



Ages 6-10

Ages 11-14

Ages 15-17



Detention Facility



Comm



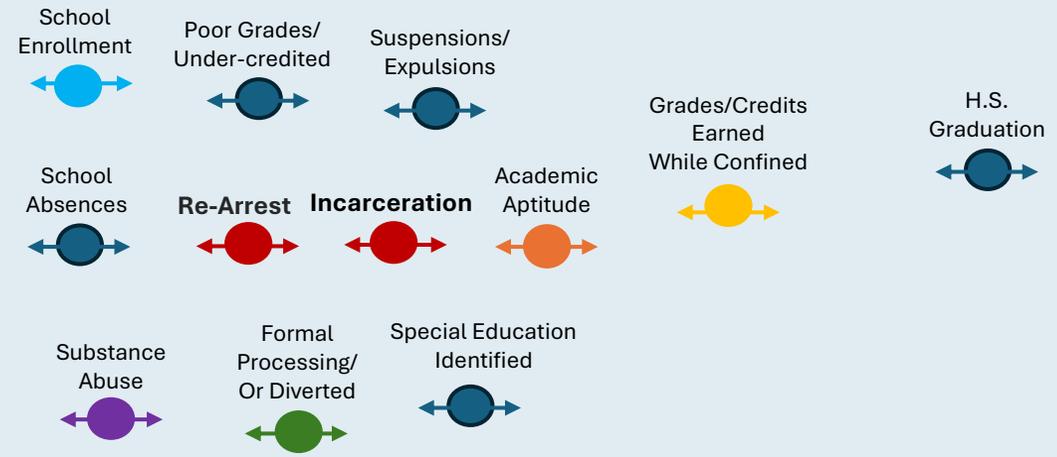
School



Family



Life Course Outcome Predictors



Intervention Profiles

- ✓ Population Served
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Practice and Program Spotlights (Deep Dives)



Core Change Levers



Lifting the Bar

Policy & Systems Reform



Policy and System Reform Spotlights



Youth Diversion



Cross-System Collaboration



Cross-System Data Sharing