THE CHALLENGE: DEVELOPING TRAUMA-INFORMED JUVENILE JUSTICE RESPONSES

A growing body of research is now documenting the prevalence of trauma-related disorders among youth presenting to juvenile justice systems.

Resulting behavioral manifestations of traumatic stress are frequently daunting challenges for juvenile justice systems as trauma-affected youth may appear defiant or oppositional and may have difficulties regulating their thoughts, feelings, and behavior.

Approximately 2 out of 3 children will be exposed to violence, crime, or trauma in their homes, schools, and communities.

More than 75% of youth in juvenile justice settings have experienced traumatic victimization.

Children exposed to violence are more likely to experience difficulties in school and work settings, to engage in delinquent behaviors, and have difficulties following rules and conditions of their diversion or disposition.

Adopting a trauma-informed approach to juvenile justice policy and practice can help lead to reduced recidivism, reduced criminal and delinquent acts, fewer police and justice system contacts, greater adherence to probation supervision and diversion conditions, improved school performance and attendance, and improved relationships with families and peers.

HOW WE CAN SUPPORT YOUR TRAUMA RESPONSE INITIATIVES

The NCMHJJ, in partnership with the Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice (CTRJ), uses a cross-systems mapping approach to provide targeted, strategic training and technical assistance to support the development of trauma-informed approaches to care.

- Supports development of trauma-informed policy and procedures
- Reviews of juvenile justice environments
- Guides implementation of trauma screening, assessment, and treatment
- Identifies funding strategies
- Provides trauma training for juvenile justice staff
- Evaluates current policy and practices

NCMHJJ and CTRJ offer a Cross-Systems Mapping and Strategic Planning workshop that will:

- Map current trauma-informed practices across the juvenile justice system
- Identify gaps and opportunities for improvement in current practices
- Facilitate an action planning session to guide policy and practice reform

For more information and pricing, contact the NCMHJJ at ncmhjj@prainc.com or (866) 805-9853