Implementation of the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) in the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

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Laura Moneyham
Assistant Secretary for Residential Services

Meg Bates
Program and Policy Coordinator for Residential Services
SPEP Context

Florida’s Department of Juvenile Justice (FDJJ) is part of the larger Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement Project (JJSIP), a grant sponsored by Georgetown University. Three major components work in tandem:

- Comprehensive Strategy
- Structured Decision Making
- Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP)
SPEP Context: Comprehensive Strategy

- A continuum of services from universal prevention through residential and aftercare.
- Ensures the appropriate allocation of resources to each level of services along the continuum.
- Ensures the matching of youth to the level of services based on assessed risk and needs (C-PACT, R-PACT, Prevention Assessment Tool).
- Promotes prevention: Targets at-risk youth; prevents youth from becoming delinquent by focusing prevention programs on at-risk youth.
- Incorporates Interventions and Graduated Sanctions: Target delinquent youth; Improve the juvenile justice system’s response to delinquent offenders within a continuum of treatment and service options and a system of graduated sanctions.

SPEP Context: Structured Decision Making

- Disposition Recommendation Matrix.
- Is a structured decision making tool that assists with matching youth to the appropriate level of service/supervision.
- Is based on a matrix of risk to reoffend (C-PACT) and the presenting offense.
- Consists of graduated sanctions – The intensity of services increases as the risk level and offense severity increases.
Low-risk offenders remain in the community with minimal supervision.

Moderate-risk offenders typically placed in more structured community programs, with intensive probation supervision for higher risk youth.

Residential placement reserved for the highest risk offenders after community-based alternatives have been exhausted.
### Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Disposition Recommendation Matrix

(Staff should begin with the least restrictive setting within a particular disposition category. See Structured Decision-Making guidelines.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Serious Presenting Offense</th>
<th>PACT Risk Level to Reoffend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low Risk to Reoffend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Citation Eligible¹</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor²</td>
<td>Level 2 or 3a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious³</td>
<td>Level 2 or 3a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent⁴</td>
<td>Level 2 or 3a-b</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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¹ – Eligibility for civil citation is outlined in F.S. 985.12. Youth deemed ineligible for civil citation (based on community standards) should be reviewed under the "Minor" offense category based on the PACT risk level to reoffend.

² – All misdemeanor offenses.

³ – Felony offenses that do not include violence.

⁴ – Violent felony offenses (do not include misdemeanor assault and battery which are captured under "Minor").

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| Level 1 – Alternatives to Arrest | Level 2 – Diversion & Non-DJJ Probation |
| Level 3 – Community Supervision | Level 4 – Non-Secure Residential Commitment |
| (3a) – Probation Supervision | (Level 5 – Secure Residential Commitment (High & Maximum Risk Programs) |
| (3b) – Probation Enhancement Services (ART, LifeSkills, etc.) | |
| (3c) – Day Treatment, MST, FFT, Minimum Risk Commitment |

*Updated August 2015*
The Department publishes Disposition Recommendation Matrix data on their website.

Source: http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/latest-initiatives/juvenile-justice-system-improvement-project-(jjsip)/disposition-matrix/disposition-matrix-dashboard
The Department publishes monthly data regarding DJJ’s recommendations and the youth’s ultimate placement.
2014 Disposition Matrix Validation Study

- 38,117 youth released in FY10-11.
- Below ($n=691$)
  - Optimum ($n=27,916$)
  - Appropriate ($n=7,322$)
  - Above ($n=2,188$)
- Holds true for males, females, across race/ethnicity, and for all risk levels of youth.

Disposition Matrix Statewide Implementation

- Disposition Matrix implementation began in FY2010-2011.

- Circuit-based presentation and education about Disposition Matrix for FDJJ staff and community stakeholders.

- Disposition Matrix statewide implementation targeted for completion by the end of FY2015-2016.
Comprehensive Strategy: Targeting Youth

- Part of the Comprehensive Strategy is ensuring that youth in residential commitment programs are higher risk youth, as measured by the C-PACT.
- Youth with higher C-PACT risk to reoffend scores receive interventions with the most potential for recidivism reduction.
- One component of the SPEP measures youths’ C-PACT risk levels at admission to a residential program.
Comprehensive Strategy: Targeting Youth

The Disposition Matrix and Comprehensive Strategy have contributed to decreasing the number of youth in residential commitment programs who score low risk to reoffend on the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) assessment.
Comprehensive Strategy: Targeting Youth

Cross-sectional snapshot of youth’s PACT risk levels at time of commitment.

**PACT Risk Levels for All Youth in Residential Commitment**
(September 30th, 2008)

- Low: 45%
- Moderate: 13%
- Moderate-High: 10%
- High: 32%

**PACT Risk Levels for All Youth in Residential Commitment**
(September 30th, 2015)

- Low: 51%
- Moderate: 7%
- Moderate-High: 10%
- High: 32%

*Source: DJJ Research and Data Integrity, November, 2015.*
2015 n=1,993. 2008 n=4,544.
Snapshot of youth in residential program types on November 12, 2015 by PACT risk to re-offend.
Comprehensive Strategy: Targeting Youth

27% of youth placed in sexual offense-specific commitment programs score high risk on the PACT.

Less than half of other program types and statewide overall.

Source: DJJ Research and Data Integrity, November, 2015
Comprehensive Strategy: SPEP Risk to Reoffend

Risk Level of Youth Served:

SPEP proxy measure to assess whether residential programs are serving the highest-risk youth.
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
FY 2012-13: SPEP Capacity/Structure Building

- Disposition Matrix developed for implementation.
- SPEP Quality Guidelines in development.
- Evidence-Based Services Module in development the FDJJ’s information database.
- Delinquency intervention groups and categories established.
FY 2012-13

- Evidence-Based Services identified for use in residential programs
- Services arranged into groups and categories
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
FY 2013-14: Quality of Service Delivery

- Disposition Matrix implementation presentation to judicial circuits initiated.
- Evidence-Based Services Module data collection system in development and implementation.
- SPEP Quality of Service Delivery Indicators implemented statewide.
FY 2013-14: Quality of Service Delivery

Seven Quality of Service Delivery Indicators Developed
FY 2013-14: Quality of Service Delivery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Indicators</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilitator Training</td>
<td>0,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Service Manual/Protocol</td>
<td>0,1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observed Adherence to Manual/Protocol</td>
<td>0,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitator Turnover</td>
<td>0,1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Fidelity Monitoring</td>
<td>0,1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrective Action Based on Fidelity Monitoring</td>
<td>0,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of Facilitator Skill Delivering the Primary Service</td>
<td>0,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL POSSIBLE RATING</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FY 2013-14: Quality of Service Delivery

DJJ’s Quality of Service Delivery Rating Guide is publicly available on the Florida DJJ website

FY 2013-14: Quality of Service Delivery

- Quality data gathered, but not publicly reported.
- Quality data utilized as a baseline measure to assess future performance changes.
- No dosage data collected.
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
Evidence-Based Services Module development completed.

Users were trained to enter data.

Residential programs began data collection.
## FY 2014-15: Dosage of Service Targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention Group</th>
<th>Service Categories*</th>
<th>Target Weeks</th>
<th>Target Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 5</td>
<td>Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy</td>
<td>15 weeks</td>
<td>45 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 4</td>
<td>Group Counseling</td>
<td>24 weeks</td>
<td>40 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>Social Skills Training</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
<td>24 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>Remedial Academic Program</td>
<td>26 weeks</td>
<td>100 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>Individual Counseling</td>
<td>25 weeks</td>
<td>30 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>Job Training</td>
<td>25 weeks</td>
<td>400 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Not an exhaustive list of possible categories. List edited to reflect those service categories commonly used in Florida. Dosage requirements identified in Lipsey’s (2009) meta-analysis.*
FY 2014-15: Data Collection in the EBS Module

Program staff add classes into the EBS Module, including start date, end date, and type of class.
FY 2014-15: Data Collection in the EBS Module

Staff add classes into the EBS Module, including start date, end date, and type of intervention.
FY 2014-15: Data Collection in the EBS Module

Staff add class details into the EBS Module, including the exact number of hours spent on specific lessons.
FY 2014-15: Dosage of Service

- Quality data gathered is reported on FDJJ’s website and quarterly residential program data sheets.

- Dosage data utilized as a baseline measure to assess future performance changes.

- Program youth dosage data not publicly reported.
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
### FY 2015-16: Full Report

**Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (BPEP) for Services to Juvenile Offenders**

#### Points Possible vs. Points Received

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Points Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary and Supplemental Service Types</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Service Type for Program Being Rated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 4 services (15 points)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 5 services (15 points)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Service Type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Service Delivery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rated quality of services delivered</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Level of Youths Served</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider’s Total SPEP Score</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Details on how points are calculated and evaluated are not provided here.*
FY 2015-16: Full Report

- **Service Type**: Type of Intervention.
- **Service Quality**: Seven identified quality indicators.
- **Amount of Service**: Number of weeks and number of hours of service.
- **Juvenile Characteristics**: C-PACT Risk level of youth served.
Narrative sections throughout explain scoring categories and scores earned.

Final summary table gives a snapshot of scores.

Final narrative includes specific recommendations for improvement.
FY 2015-16: Results Dissemination

The FDJJ’s Office of Research and Data Integrity built an interactive SPEP dashboard that visually represents the SPEP results.

Source: Florida DJJ Office of Research and Data Integrity. http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research
The dashboard allows a user to filter by fiscal year and geographic options to review residential program performance.
The dashboard allows a user to filter by multiple variables, including: fiscal year, service group, service name, individual measure, and measure.
Data visualizations allow us to observe statewide trends.

Quality of Service Delivery scores have improved demonstrably from year to year.
FY 2015-16: Dashboard Data Tracking Changes

FY 2013-14 Statewide Data
Measure: Quality of Service Delivery
Primary Service: Impact of Crime
FY 2015-16: Dashboard Data Tracking Changes

FY 2014-15 Statewide Data

Measure: Quality of Service Delivery
Primary Service: Impact of Crime
FY 2015-16: Dashboard Data Tracking Changes

FY 2015-16 (Year To Date) Statewide Data

Measure: Quality of Service Delivery

Primary Service: Impact of Crime
Compare an individual program’s performance from year to year.
The dashboard allows a user to compare interventions side-by-side across programs.
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
Data will be collected for an additional full year of service.

Youth who completed services during FY2015-2016 will be tracked to assess for any new law offenses.

FDJJ’s Office of Research and Data Integrity will continue to add data to the SPEP dataset.

The SPEP dataset will continue to populate the Dashboard.
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

- FY 2012-13
- FY 2013-14
- FY 2014-15
- FY 2015-16
- FY 2016-17
- FY 2017-18
- FY 2018-19

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
FY 2016-17: Recidivism Data Analysis

- The FDJJ’s Office of Research and Data Integrity will analyze the FY2015-2016 data.

- The SPEP will be implemented in community settings for non-residential community providers.
FY 2017-18 may yield enough data that the Florida DJJ will analyze preliminary recidivism outcomes for youth who received services.
Florida DJJ’s SPEP Implementation Schedule

Note: FY=fiscal year. Florida’s state government fiscal year is July 1st – June 30th.
The FDJJ will continue to analyze the data and provide technical assistance to providers.

The SPEP will be a fully-integrated component of FDJJ’s evaluation of evidence-based service delivery.
DJJ’s Evidence-Based Services Mantra

- The right service
- For the right kid
- At the right time
- In the right dosage
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laura Moneyham</td>
<td>Assistant Secretary for Residential Services</td>
<td>2737 Centerview Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Laura.Moneyham@djj.state.fl.us">Laura.Moneyham@djj.state.fl.us</a></td>
<td>850-921-4188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meg Bates</td>
<td>Program and Policy Coordinator</td>
<td>2737 Centerview Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32399</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Meg.Bates@djj.state.fl.us">Meg.Bates@djj.state.fl.us</a></td>
<td>850-717-2539</td>
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Relevant Links

Please visit the Department’s website for additional information:

- www.djj.state.fl.us
- http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/latest-initiatives/juvenile-justice-system-improvement-project-(jjsip)/standardized-program-evaluation-protocol-(speak)
- http://www.djj.state.fl.us/partners/our-approach/PACT/CPACT
References