

ERRATA

Due to an over count of two cases when juveniles were adjudicated the following corrections have been applied to the report, [Evaluation of the Colorado Integrated System of Care Family Advocacy Demonstration Programs for Mental Health Juvenile Justice Populations Final Report](#).

Cost Avoidance or Cost Savings on pages 8-9

During the study period, ~~11~~ nine of the 90 juveniles who participated in the family advocacy demonstration program were convicted of additional crimes after enrollment in the family advocacy programs (between January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2010). Based on recent crime and cost estimates (McCollister, French, & Hang, 2010), total offense cost was calculated for the crimes committed by the ~~11~~ nine juveniles. The estimated per offense cost comprises tangible and intangible costs totaling ~~\$46,862~~ \$57,276 per convicted offender.

Costs may be averted by successful participation in the family advocate demonstration sites in at least two ways. One, without exposure to the program, those juveniles that were reconvicted may have been charged with more crimes, or more serious crimes. Two, participation in the program may have diverted any or all of the ~~79~~ 81 other juveniles from new convictions during the study period. Neither of these scenarios is reasonable to assume without significantly more information about the juvenile and his or her family (before, during and after program involvement), details about the services received in relation to the specific needs of each juvenile and his or her family, a longer follow-up period, and a comparison group. None of this information is available.

Nevertheless, an averted conviction potentially saves, on average, ~~\$46,862~~ \$57,276. Given the previous justice involvement of the juveniles in Denver and in Jefferson County, and the at-risk nature of the juveniles in Montrose, *averting a single conviction* (~~\$46,862~~) (\$57,276) annually in each site offsets nearly ~~82~~ 99.7 percent of the \$57,439 (average) FY2008-2011 appropriation from the General Assembly.

Juvenile Justice Outcomes on page 50

This section addresses recidivism during enrollment and after discharge from the Denver program. A proper analysis of recidivism requires that individuals be “at risk” for a new criminal event during a defined and bounded period of time, equal across all participants, typically 12 or 24 months following successful completion of a program or service. Controlling for time at risk was not possible in the current study because the definition of “program enrollment” and “program discharge” was generally subjective and blurred. Without the ability to define specific program transition points, especially a specific discharge date, differentiating periods of within-program performance from at-risk (after discharge) periods of performance is rendered unfeasible. These issues, along with the low number of cases and the short study period, made impossible the analysis of an appropriately designed recidivism study comparing the advocacy and comparison sites. Given this comparative analysis was not possible, the information below includes a description of recidivism for the Denver site which does not control for time at risk.

Recidivism was measured in multiple ways to document whether and to what extent program participants further penetrated the juvenile justice system. Recidivism was defined as any probation revocation, arrest, filing, conviction, or sentence after the juvenile entered the advocacy program. The specific charge information for arrests, filings, and convictions can be found in Appendix L.

Table 24 provides a summary of arrests, filings, convictions, and revocations during enrollment and after discharge. The information in the shaded far right column shows that, during the study period, half of the Denver participants did not have further contact with the juvenile justice system for new offenses during enrollment or after participation in the Denver program. Of the half (20) that were arrested, half of those (10) received court filings. Only ~~seven~~ six juveniles, ~~17.5~~ 15.0 percent of the Denver participants, were convicted of a new offense during the study period. However, the few convictions may be a function of time: it takes months for individuals to process through the system.

Table 25 shows the sentences imposed on the juveniles who were convicted. Note that multiple sentences can be imposed. Table 26 shows that two juveniles were placed in detention and one was committed to the Division of Youth Services.

Given the high-risk nature of most of the Denver participants (see Table 15 for a description of the risk characteristics), it is important to note that a majority of juveniles had no additional justice events during the study period. Many received services that may have improved the outcomes of the Denver program participants. Unfortunately, it is impossible to determine empirically if this finding is related to the advocacy program specifically or to any of the other services received by the juveniles and their families. Only five juveniles and two families were recruited for a comparison group, making a recidivism analysis unfeasible. However, it should be noted that nearly 20 percent of potential comparison juveniles selected for the study were not available due to a juvenile commitment (see Table 2).

Table 24. Denver: Recidivism

	During enrollment (N=40)		After discharge (N=26)		During enrollment and after discharge (N=40)	
	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent
No recidivism	21	52.5%	22	84.6%	20	50.0%
Arrested	18	45.0%	4	15.4%	20	50.0%
Filings	10	25.0%	1	3.8%	10	25.0%
Convicted	6	15.0%	1	3.8%	7 <u>6</u>	17.5% <u>15.0%</u>
Revoked	3	7.5%	1	3.8%	3	7.5%

Categories are not mutually exclusive. Traffic offenses and juvenile (JV) district court data were not included. Juvenile delinquency (JD) district court cases are included with the exception of Denver County. Data concerning filings, convictions, and revocations originating from Denver County were not available. Sources: Colorado Criminal Information System, maintained by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation; Colorado Integrated Online Network (ICON) maintained by the Colorado Judicial Department.

Cost Avoidance or Cost Savings on pages 98-100

During the study period, ~~11~~ nine of the 90 juveniles who participated in the family advocacy demonstration program were convicted of additional crimes after enrollment in the family advocacy programs (between January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2010). Based on recent crime and cost estimates (McCollister, French, & Fang, 2010), total offense cost was calculated for the crimes committed by the 11 juveniles. The estimated per offense cost comprises tangible and intangible costs. *Tangible costs* include victim costs (direct costs: medical expenses, cash losses, property theft/damage, lost wages), risk of homicide (probability certain offense leads to homicide times means present value of lifetime earnings), mental health care costs (cost estimates of post-victimization counseling and related services inflated to 2004 dollars from Cohen and Miller [1998]), criminal justice system costs (police protection, legal and adjudication, corrections), and crime career costs (productivity losses incurred by perpetrator). *Intangible costs* include pain and suffering and corrected risk of homicide. Pain and suffering includes crime costs (rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault), injury and medical treatment costs (Miller, Cohen, & Wiersema, 1996), and the value of specials¹⁴⁷ subtracted from jury award data (Jury Verdict Research, 2004) to provide pain and suffering estimates. Corrected risk of homicide includes costs associated with murder, the value of statistical life (Viscusi & Aldy, 2003), and a probability of homicide multiplier for each offense.

Based on the estimated offense costs presented below in Table 71, the 28 conviction charges for these ~~11~~ nine juveniles cost an estimated \$515,483, or ~~\$46,862~~ \$57,276 per convicted offender.

Costs may be averted by successful participation in the family advocate demonstration sites in at least two ways. One, without exposure to the program, those juveniles that were reconvicted may have been charged with more crimes, or more serious crimes. Two, participation in the program may have diverted any or all of the ~~79~~ 81 other juveniles from new convictions during the study period. Neither of these scenarios is reasonable to assume without significantly more information about the juvenile and his or her family (before, during and after program involvement), details about the services received in relation to the specific needs of each juvenile and his or her family, a longer follow-up period, and a comparison group. None of this information is available.

Nevertheless, an averted conviction potentially saves, on average, ~~\$46,862~~ \$57,276. Given the previous justice involvement of the juveniles in Denver and in Jefferson County, and the at-risk nature of the juveniles in Montrose, *averting a single conviction* (~~\$46,862~~) (\$57,276) annually in each site offsets nearly ~~82~~ 99.7 percent of the \$57,439 (average) FY2008-2011 appropriation from the General Assembly.

¹⁴⁷ Specials are lost wages and victims' medical expenses reported by treatment, per injury offense.

Table 71. Estimated cost of crimes

Conviction charge	Category	Total per offense cost ¹	Number of conviction charges ²	Total
Assault 2	Aggravated assault	\$111,801.00	1	\$111,801.00
Assault 3	Aggravated assault	\$111,801.00	3	\$335,403.00
Financial Transaction Device/Unauthorized Use	Forgery and counterfeiting	\$435.00	2	\$870.00
Fare Evasion	Fraud	\$420.00	1	\$420.00
Burglary 2	Household burglary	\$3,974.00	2	\$7,948.00
Identity Theft	Larceny/theft	\$1,344.00	2	\$2,688.00
Theft	Larceny/theft	\$1,344.00	3	\$4,032.00
Attempted Robbery	Robbery	\$46,484.00	1	\$46,484.00
Alcohol-Underage Possession ³	Vandalism	\$449.00	2	\$898.00
Criminal Mischief	Vandalism	\$449.00	3	\$1,347.00
Curfew Violation ³	Vandalism	\$449.00	3	\$1,347.00
Defacing Property of Another	Vandalism	\$449.00	1	\$449.00
Possession Controlled Substance <1 Gram ³	Vandalism	\$449.00	1	\$449.00
Protection Order Violation-Criminal ³	Vandalism	\$449.00	1	\$449.00
Trespass 1-Auto with Intent to Commit Crime ³	Vandalism	\$449.00	1	\$449.00
Weapon-Possession on School Grounds ³	Vandalism	\$449.00	1	\$449.00
Total charges			28	\$515,483.00
Total cases/Per case cost⁴			15	\$34,365.53
Total clients/ Per offender cost⁵			11	\$46,862.09
			9	\$57,275.89

1 Total per offense cost includes the sum of the tangible (victim costs, risk of homicide, mental health care costs, crime justice system costs, and crime career cost) and intangible (pain and suffering and corrected risk of homicide) costs. The total per offense costs is associated with the costs of adult crimes. Juvenile crimes cost more.

2 The rural site did not have any convictions during or after enrollment.

3 When a conviction charge did not fit into a comparable crime category, it was considered vandalism.

4 The per case cost is equivalent to the number of cases convicted (15) divided by the total the total cost of the conviction charges (\$515,483).

5 The per offender cost is equivalent to the number of clients convicted (9) divided by the total cost of the conviction charges (\$515,483).

Sources: McCollister, K. E., French, M. T., & Fang, H. (2010). The cost of crime to society: New crime-specific estimates for policy and program evaluation. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 108* (1-2), 98-109. Cohen, M. A., & Miller, T. R. (1998). The cost of mental health care for victims of crime. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 13* (1), 93-110. Miller, T. R., Cohen, M. A., & Wiersema, B. (1996). *Victim costs and consequences: A new look*. Report submitted to the National Institute of Justice (NCJ 155282). Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice. Jury Verdict Research available at <http://www.juryverdictresearch.com/index.html>. Viscusi, W. K. & Aldy, J. E. (2003). The value of statistical life: A critical review of market estimates throughout the world. *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty, 27* (1), 5-76.