

68567



STATE OF DELAWARE
DIVISION OF SERVICES TO
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE 19720

JUDIE DREXLER
DIRECTOR

THE STATUS OFFENDER PROGRAM

The following material will serve as an overview of the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders Program, and a summary of its impact. Some statistical charts demonstrating the program's effectiveness are also included.

If there are any questions about the program or any additional information desired, please contact Jerry Dorsman or Michelle Hannahs at 421-6605.

68567
OJJP

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Patricia C. Schramm
Secretary



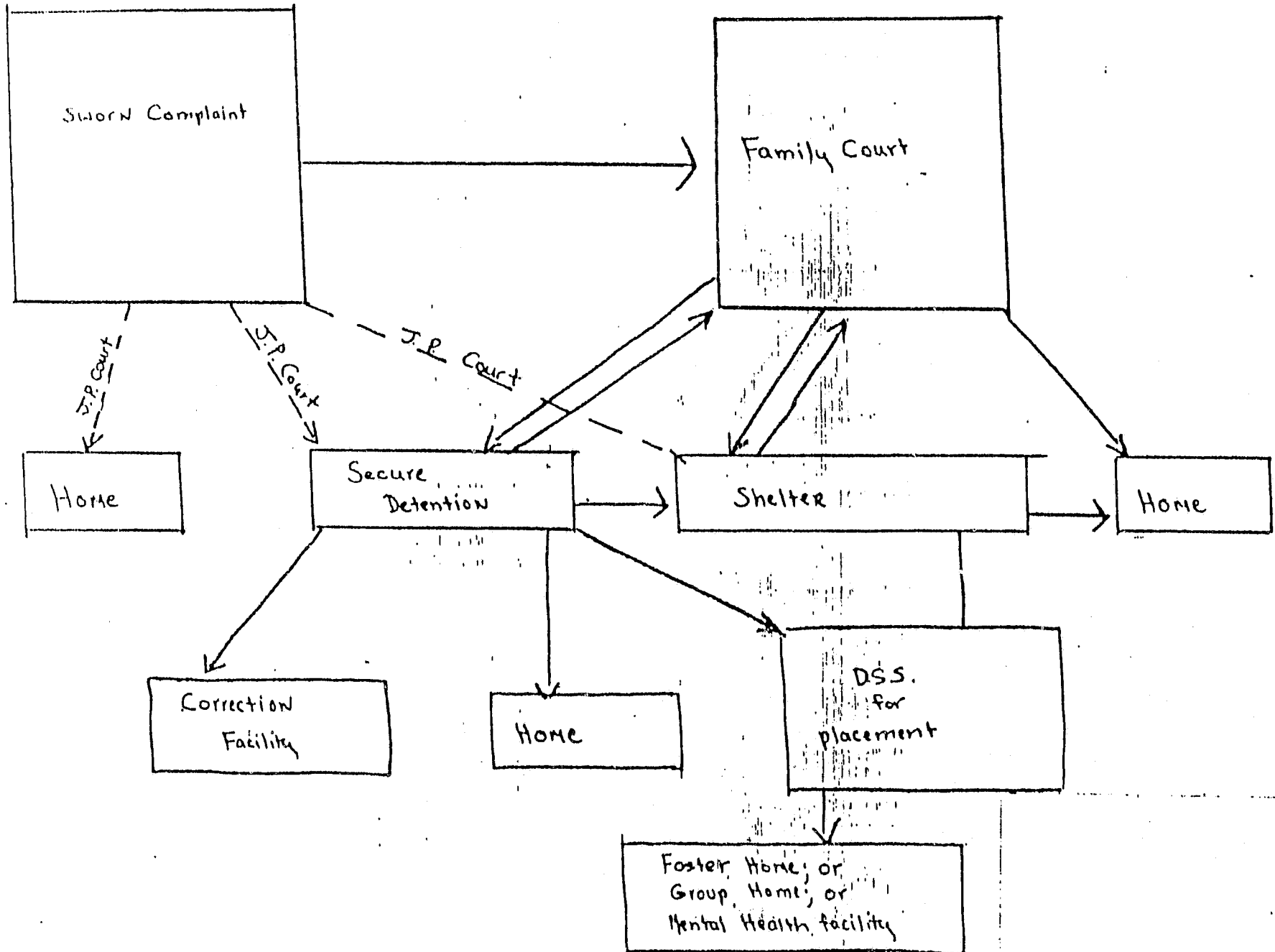
COMPONENTS of the STATUS OFFENDER PROGRAM

1. Family Court Status Offender Unit. This unit serves as an intake point for status offenders. It is comprised of four counselors, a supervisor, and a clerk. Two counselors are located in New Castle County, one each is in Kent and Sussex.
2. Division of Social Services Status Offender Unit. This Unit develops placements and assigns children to particular placements. It is comprised of six social workers - two in New Castle County, one each in Kent and Sussex and one serving both lower counties.
3. Child Advocate Service. Community Legal Aid Society has two major functions: to arrange for the release of status offenders currently in Ferris/Woodshaven and to represent newly-charged status offenders in Family Court.
4. Shelter Care. The Division of Social Services is locating 23 private home beds throughout the state to be used in lieu of detention at Stevenson/Bridge Houses. Additional funds from the Delaware Agency to Reduce Crime will be used to operate two eight-bed shelter facilities - one in Wilmington and one in the Kent/Sussex area.
5. Long-term Group Foster Care. The Division of Social Services is locating several foster homes which will serve status offenders on a long term basis. Each home will receive a salary and board payments. Approximately 15 placements will be made.
6. Diagnostic/Evaluation Service. Delaware Curative Workshop is providing psychological, medical, and sensory/motor perception diagnosis to status offenders referred by other components. At least 150 children yearly will be served.
7. Family Counseling. Family Services of Northern Delaware, People's Place II and Turnabout have been contracted to provide counseling to status offenders and their families.

7. Expenditures per project component

	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Project Administration		
Project Administration	\$ 19,177.04	\$ 59 502.79
Division of Social Services	30,691.81	67 356.81
Family Court	21,000.00	69 486.28
Legal-Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.	18,566.36	44 890.15
Counseling-Family Services	14,420.43	21 827.17
-Turn About Counseling Center	3,553.00	12 762.00
-People's Place II	4,000.00	13 100.00
Diagnostic-Delaware Curative Workshop	<u>13,220.00</u>	<u>18 850.00</u>
	<u>\$124,628.69</u>	<u>\$307 775.20</u>

FLOW CHART - INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM



NUMBER OF STATUS OFFENDERS IN PROGRAM SERVICES BY MONTH

	6/76	7/76	8/77	9/76	10/76	11/76	12/76	Totals
I. Family Court	40	64	91	79	140	95	66	575
II. CLASI (Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.)								
A. Released from Institutions	11	1	2	7	7	0	1	29
B. Cases referred from Family Crt.	0	1	5	17	7	19	25	74
III. Diagnosis/Evaluation	0	5	14	10	12	14	13	68
IV. D/Social Serv.	0	0	2	9	23	11	12	57
V. Counseling	2	10	16	8	13	17	25	91
	1/77	2/77	3/77	4/77	5/77	6/77	Totals	
I. Family Court	90	93	118	126	201	114	741	
II. CLASI								
A. Released from Institutions	3	4	0	1	0	6	14	
B. Cases referred from Family Crt.	15	19	17	13	13	8	85	
III. Diagnosis/Evaluation	9	13	13	9	18	20	82	
IV. D/Social Serv.	9	14	14	6	12	3	58	
V. Counseling	13	13	31	18	18	25	118	

The following statistics demonstrate the race and sex of status offenders, on whom data has thus far been received, separated by county:

NEW CASTLE COUNTY

	Male	Female	Totals
Biracial	1	1	2
Black	36	42	78
White	140	110	250
Hispanic/ Latin	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	177	154	331

KENT COUNTY

	Male	Female	Totals
Black	7	11	18
White	27	36	63
Mexican- American	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	35	47	82

SUSSEX COUNTY

	Male	Female	Totals
Biracial	0	1	1
Black	6	9	15
White	<u>35</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>50</u>
Totals	41	25	66

Removed from institutions (Ferris: males, Woodshaven/
Kruse: females)

	Male	Female	Totals
Black	3	10	13
White	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>
Totals	6	24	30

These figures represent all data received as of March 31, 1977. (Note: The previous report showed 9 white males removed from institutions. That figure was incorrectly recorded.)

1974-75 Comparison statistics for commitments to Ferris (F), Woodshaven/Kruse (W/K) by month since DSO program inception in June, 1975. Figures on the left represent the base line comparison.

<u>Pre Program Comparison</u>				<u>DSO Program Operational</u>			
1974	F	W/K	Totals	1976	F	W/K	Total
June	0	2	2	June	2	1	3
July	0	3	3	July	0	0	0
August	1	1	2	Aug.	2	0	2
Sept.	3	0	3	Sept.	0	0	0
Oct.	3	5	8	Oct.	0	0	0
Nov.	0	0	0	Nov.	0	0	0
Dec.	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	Dec.	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	10	11	21		4	1	5
1975							
Jan.	1	3	4	Jan.	0	0	0
Feb.	1	0	1	Feb.	2	0	2
Mar.	0	2	2	Mar.	0	0	0
Apr.	7	2	9	Apr.	0	1	1
May	2	2	4	May	1	0	1
June	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	June	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	12	10	22		3	1	4

Pre-program average commitments per month--3.31
Program average commitments per month -- .69

MONTHLY DETENTION POPULATIONS OF STATUS OFFENDERS 1976-1977

<u>1976</u>	<u>Bridge House</u>	<u>Stevenson House</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	40	23	63
February	53	25	78
March	36	23	59
April	33	20	53
May	53	25	78
June	45	20	65
Subtotals:			
January to June	260	136	396
July	35	15	50
August	60	25	85
September	43	14	57
October	44	23	67
November	31	21	52
December	43	13	56
Subtotals:			
July to December	256	111	367
Totals: 1976	516	247	763
<u>1977</u>			
January	45	17	62
February	53	21	74
March	48	23	71
Subtotals:			
January to March	146	61	207
April	30	13	43
May	55	39	94

AVERAGE LENGTH STATUS OFFENDERS DETAINED

BEFORE DSO PROJECT

Month/ Year	Total Number of Status Offenders Detained	Total Days Detained	Average Length of Detention
September 1975	29	257	8.9 days
October 1975	53	424	8.0 days
November 1975	39	484	12.4 days
Total for Period	121	1165	9.6 days

AFTER DSO PROJECT INITIATED

September 1976	41	305	7.4 days
October 1976	43	167	3.9 days
November 1976	33	110	3.3 days
Total for Period	117	582	5.0 days

The above results show a significantly lower average length of detention during three months after the DSO project was initiated in the Family Courts. The stay in detention for status offenders has been nearly cut in half as compared to a comparable period in 1975.

Another study was made for the quarter April 1- June 30, 1977, to determine if the average length of stay at detention had been further reduced. The following results show a significant decrease in the time spent in detention by status offenders.

Average Length Status Offenders Detained
(Updated from Previous Study)

Month/Year	Total # of S.O.'s detained	Total Days detained	Average Length of detention
April/77	30	48	1.6 days
May/77	49	77	1.6 days
June/77	45	114	2.5 days
Average Total for period	124	239	1.9 days

The following data are gleaned from the computer printout representing some of the statistics collected by the Status Offender Research efforts at the University of Delaware. This printout represented all data collected in 1976, from June 15 to December 31, statewide.

Age Composition

1 through 10	5	1.39%
11	4	1.11%
12	15	4.17%
13	27	7.50%
14	56	15.56%
15	84	23.33%
16	79	21.94%
17	84	23.33%
18 and over	5	1.39%
(not coded)	1	0.28%
Total	360	100.00%

School Status

Full-time	294	81.67%
Part-time	5	1.39%
Withdrawal	33	9.17%
Suspension	2	.56%
Expulsion	4	1.11%
Diploma	11	3.06%
Other	6	1.67%
Not attending	0	0.00%
(not coded)	5	1.39%
Total	360	100.00%

Grade Composition

Fourth or below	5	1.39%
Fifth	4	1.11%
Sixth	17	4.72%
Seventh	29	8.06%
Eighth	68	18.89%
Ninth	92	25.56%
Tenth	75	20.83%
Eleventh	46	12.78%
Twelfth	14	3.89%
(not coded)	10	2.78%
Total	360	100.00%

Status of Client's Parents

Family intact	165	45.83%
Divorced	85	23.61%
Separated	46	12.78%
Death: father	27	7.50%
Death: mother	7	1.94%
Death: both	2	.56%
Never married	20	5.56%
Other	6	1.67%
(not coded)	2	.56%
Total	360	100.00%

Type of Offense

Runaway	113	31.39%
Ungovernable	102	28.33%
Truancy	33	9.17%
Curfew	14	3.89%
Minor in possession	97	26.94%
Other	1	.28%
Total	360	100.00%

Need of Services Assessment

No services needed	150	41.67%
Services recommended	208	57.78%
(not coded)	2	.56%
Total	360	100.00%



STATE OF DELAWARE
DIVISION OF SERVICES TO
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE 19720

JUDIE DREXLER
DIRECTOR

June 9, 1976

(302) 421-6605

SUMMARY

DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION OF STATUS OFFENDERS GRANT

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the authority of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), U. S. Department of Justice, has given a major priority to deinstitutionalization of status offenders. Division of Services to Children and Youth has received a two-year discretionary grant in the amount of \$987,083, through the Delaware Agency to Reduce Crime, to impact on the LEAA goal. Status offenders are defined in Section 223(a)(12) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act as "juveniles who are charged with or who have committed offenses that would not be criminal if committed by an adult." The Act requires that within two years of the State's submission to LEAA of a Juvenile Justice Plan (November 1975), status offenders shall not be placed in juvenile detention or correctional facilities.

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
EARL MCGINNES
SECRETARY

For The State
DELAWARE

Summary--DSO Grant

6/9/76

Page Two

The Division of Services to Children and Youth's deinstitutionalization grant (also referred to as the status offender grant) will address status offenders who are charged, detained or incarcerated for: habitual truancy, running away, uncontrollable, ungovernable, or possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages.

The grant has a six-member advisory group called the Committee on the Administration of the Status Offender Grant. This Committee is part of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, appointed by the Governor pursuant to the requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act:

DESCRIPTION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM

The thrust of the grant program is to, whenever possible, maintain or return status offenders to their own homes with supportive family counseling services. Children in need of living situations other than their own homes will be placed in shelters, small group homes, or foster homes.

The administration of the grant program is performed by the Division of Services to Children and Youth. Family Court and the Division of Social Services have specialized status offender units funded through the grant. Contracts for purchase of legal, counseling and diagnostic services have been executed with private agencies. The grant program is operating in all three Delaware counties. A description of each component of the program follows:

Summary--DSO Grant

6/9/76

Page Three

Family Court Status Offender Unit \$148,943 (2 years)

This unit is staffed by a counselor-supervisor, four counselors and a clerk-typist. It will process petitions alleging status offenses, make voluntary adjustments of such complaints where possible, and will refer status offenders to services such as legal representation, family counseling, or diagnosis.

Division of Social Services \$164,851 (2 years)

This unit is staffed by six social workers. It will seek placement facilities such as shelters and individual and group foster homes, assign children to such facilities, and supervise their progress in the placement facility. Additional funds (\$238,641) are available to the Division to fund new placement alternatives such as shelters and small group homes.

Child Advocacy Service \$119,700 (2 years)

This service has been contracted to the Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. It is staffed by an attorney, social worker, part-time law clerk and secretary. Functions of this service are to provide legal representation and recommendations for treatment for status offenders who are detained, incarcerated, and/or pending court disposition.

Intensive Family Counseling Services \$189,000 (2 years)

Contracts for these services have been awarded to Peoples Place II and Family Service of Northern Delaware for a total of \$63,534 for the year ending June 30, 1977. Additional contracts

Summary--DSO Grant

6/9/76

Page Four

will be awarded in July 1976.

Diagnostic-Evaluation Services \$100,000 (2 years)

A contract has been awarded Delaware Curative Workshop for medical, psychological and educational evaluations.

Training \$8,800 (2 years)

A contract or contracts will be awarded in July 1976 to provide periodic training sessions for foster and shelter parents funded through the grant program. Additional training may be provided for program staff and agencies impacted by the grant.

For further information contact:

Michelle Hannahs

Status Offender Program

Division of Services to Children and Youth

END