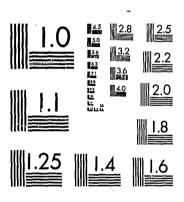
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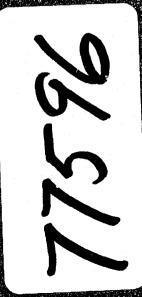
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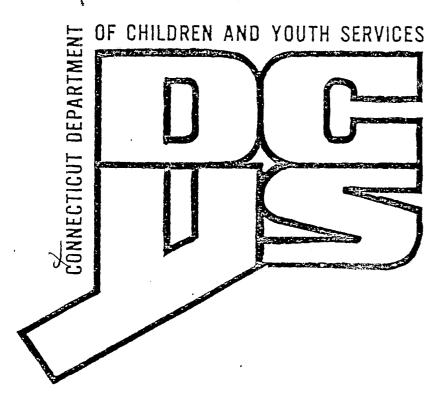
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A REPORT ON CHILDREN SERVED

BY

YOUTH SERVICE BUREAUS

1979-80



Prepared by

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES

Jack M. Sneider, Director

Joe Freeman, Youth Service Systems Coordinator

December 31, 1980

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FOREWORD

This report profiles children under the age of 18 years served by the 56 youth service bureaus participating in the Department of Children and Youth Services' grant-in-aid program during the period of July 1, 1979 through June 30, 1980.

These 56 youth service bureaus served seventy-one (71) municipalities. The bureaus reported 2569 cases of children diverted from the justice system, as part of their direct services to a total of 19,204 reported client cases. These client cases are summarized in Section I and II of the report. These bureaus involved an estimated 50,000 or more additional children in various programs and group activities as summarized in Section III of the report.

This is the first of what I hope will be an annual Division publication describing the scope of services and number of children impacted by the state-wide network of youth service bureaus. The purpose of the report is to better inform the public of the role of youth service bureaus. However, it should be noted that this year the report covers only the Direct Services Component by these bureaus. It is estimated that the information contained in the report will reflect approximately 50% of the activities of the bureaus and of their impact on the communities served. As explained in the Introduction, the report does not cover the activities and impact of the Administrative Core Unit components of the bureaus. I encourage you to contact the local bureau serving your municipality to obtain more complete and detailed information on the full scope of activities and programs provided. A list of bureaus involved and their locations is provided in Appendix B for your reference:

I wish to acknowledge the technical contributions of Herb Stevenson and Leonard Milling, staff in the DCYS Division of Monitoring and Evaluation, under the direction of Walter Pawelkiewicz, Ph.D. I also wish to acknowledge the contributions of Cathy DiStefano, Camille Denya, Nyle Davey and Joe Freeman, all staff in the Division of Community and Preventive Services, who compiled, wrote and produced this report.

Jack M. Sneider, ACSW
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Services

Introduction To Report on Children Served by Youth Service Bureaus

Connecticut General Statutes, Section 17-443, provides for state funding of youth service bureaus. Subsection (lc) of this statute mandates a report to the General Assembly on the diversion of children under the age of sixteen from the juvenile justice system. This report represents an expanded version of the statutorily required report on diverted children. The report includes all children under the age of eighteen years served directly by the youth service bureaus participating in the Department's cost-sharing program.

A youth service bureau is defined by statute as a multi-purpose youth serving organization operating under the sponsorship of a municipal government. A state funded bureau is statutorily mandated to provide "evaluation, planning, coordination and implementation of services for delinquent, predelinquent and troubled youth, referred to such bureau by schools, police, juvenile courts, local youth serving agencies, parents and self-referrals by needy youth."

Youth service bureaus receiving state funds are required to have two major programmatic components, reflecting the basic structure of the funding formula outlined in the statute. The ADMINISTRATIVE CORE UNIT is the first required category of services necessary to qualify for state funding. The required functions of the Core Unit include research and needs assessment, funding and program development, community education and involvement, and advocacy on behalf of individual youth and groups of youth. The DIRECT SERVICES component is the second required category of services, which may include a wide variety of services for youth. Direct services so provided must be responsive to the needs of youth-at-risk of contact with the justice system, as well as neglected or troubled youth.

Subsection (2) of Section 17-443 of the Connecticut General Statutes authorizes the Department to grant state funds to municipal governments for the purpose of sharing in the cost of youth service bureaus. The statute mandates that priority shall be given to the funding of the administrative core units. The information in this report covers Fiscal Year (FY) 1979-80, during which 56 youth service bureaus serving a total of 71 municipalities participated in the Department's cost-sharing program. Seventy-five percent of the state's total youth population under the age of 18 years reside in the 71 municipalities served. The Department distributed a total of \$900,000 in FY 79-80, with \$727,859 designated for Administrative Core Unit services and \$172,141 for Direct Services. The local municipalities' funding support of the bureaus must equal the amount of the state share in order for the municipalities to qualify for this cost-sharing grant program.

Data on Diverted Clients

The primary focus of this report is information on those children who were diverted from the justice system and who were diverted to a youth service bureau. This information is presented in Section I of the report. The diversion data presented in the report has been tabulated from individual client data reports. The definition of a diverted youth is a child under the age of 18 years who received

Report on Children Served by Youth Service Bureaus (continued)

services from a youth service bureau as the result of an alleged delinquent act or pattern of delinquent behavior as identified by schools, police, the court, DCYS, local youth serving agencies, parents or guardians and self-referrals by needy youth. The scope of diversion sources has been expanded from the previous year to include schools, parents or guardians, youth serving agencies and self-referrals in order to more accurately reflect the language of the statute as well as to more completely measure the diversion impact of the bureaus. This expansion of the sources by which children may be identified as being at-risk of contact with the justice system due to alleged delinquent behavior became effective October 1, 1979 and appears to account for an increase in diversion cases counted by the bureaus. Please refer to Table 1 for a graphic on the quarterly distribution of diverted cases counted.

Data on Non-Diverted Clients

A brief profile of all non-diverted client cases is presented in Section II of the report. Non-diverted clients are all youth under the age of 18 years—except for those diverted from the justice system—requiring individualized case plans and receiving services from a youth service bureau or a sub-contracted agency. Non-diverted clients are children who are neglected, troubled and in other need situations, but whose presenting problem does not include identified delinquent behavior. The bureaus maintain individual case documentation on each of the non-diverted clients.

Aggregate Attendance at Group Activities

The 56 youth service bureaus also reported aggregate attendance figures for 459 bureau sponsored programs and activities, for which no individual case management records were maintained on children participating. This is the only category of data in the report for which no individual documentation is maintained. Annual attendance totals for all programs and activities are likely to count some individual children more than once, if they attended more than one program or activity. Due to the aggregate attendance reporting format, it is impossible to determine how many children were served by these programs and activities, or conversely, how large the duplicated count of individual children may be. This category of data is therefore distinctly different from the two previous categories. For a summary of the aggregate attendance at programs and activities sponsored by youth service bureaus, please refer to Table 14 in Section III of the report.

Summary of Three Categories of Data

Refer to the tables below for a total count in each of the three categories of data described above. The total client cases served by youth service bureaus is 19,204, the sum of Tables A and B below. In addition the total attendance count for 459 distinct programs and activities is 79,845, shown in Table C below.

.Table A
Diverted Client
Cases
2,569

Table B
Client Cases
(Non-Diverted)
16,635

Table C
Group Activities
Aggregate Attendance
79,845

Report on Children Served by Youth Service Bureaus (continued)

Administrative Core Unit Impact

In addition to the above count of children directly served, the 56 bureaus also contribute to the welfare of many other youth within the 71 municipalities through the impact of the core unit activities to improve the youth service delivery network in the community. Examples of this type of activities include training programs with police, developing diversion policies with schools and the court and coordinating resources in anticipation of Families With Service Needs legislation. A relevant example of the activities of the administrative core units is the development of juvenile review boards within local police departments. Most of the sixteen juvenile boards currently operating in the state were initiated, developed and operate with major staff support from youth service bureaus. These boards account for many children diverted from the court annually. Since not all of these diverted children receive services directly from a bureau, the total impact of the bureaus' efforts to develop and support these diversion boards will not be fully reflected in this report. The impact on many children from the planning, program development, community education and advocacy efforts of the bureaus is outside the parameters of this data and is not reflected in this report.

Community Considerations

The unique qualities and characteristics of each community will influence whether a diversion program can be initiated, what type can be developed and the quantity of diversion which will occur. Any judgements based on the number of diverted client cases reported in a particular community should take into account the following community and organizational factors.

- (1) Organizations such as schools, police, the court and DCYS have authority and control over their own diversion policy and practice. The youth service bureau does not control the diversion of children by other municipal or state organizations.
- (2) The diversion policies and practices of the police and school departments vary widely from one municipality to another so intermunicipal comparisons are difficult.
- (3) Larger communities have a number of diversion options available other than the youth service bureau.

Therefore, the number of diverted client cases reported by a particular community is contingent upon a number of interacting circumstances which vary from one community to another. Attempts to assess the effectiveness of a diversion system or a bureau, as well as intercommunity comparisons of the diversion data, should carefully take into account the unique circumstances in each community.

Overall the diversion data in FY 79-80 provides a profile of children diverted to the state-funded youth service bureau state-wide network. The data was expanded to more completely cover status offense behavior categories. The initial profile on status offenders served by youth service bureaus in FY 79-80 is useful to the planning efforts of the Department, youth service bureaus, local communities and other state agencies in anticipation of the implementation of the Families With Service Needs legislation (P.A. 79-567; P.A. 80-401). The data in this report will also be useful to the Department and local youth service bureaus in advocating and promoting diversion in Connecticut.

Report on Children Served by Youth Service Bureaus

Section I - Data on Diverted Clients

This section of the report presents information on a total of 2569 diverted client cases who were diverted from the justice system and who received a service from a youth service bureau. Tables 1-4 depict the basic demographic information—age, sex, ethnicity—for these children. Tables 5 and 6 show information by sources of referral and services received. Table 7 shows special data on status offense behaviors in anticipation of the Families With Service Needs implementation. Table 8 provides a regional breakdown of the diverted client data and other information about the state funded youth service bureaus. An age break of "under 16" and "16 and over" is used in most tables of this report.

There were 81 children diverted more than once. Of this number, there were 77 children with two diversions, 3 children with three diversions and 1 child with five diversions. There is a total duplicated count of 87 diversions or 3.4% of the total diverted client cases represent a duplicated count of individual children. The total number of children represented by all the client case data in Tables 1-8 of Section I is 2482.

Table 1. Diverted Client Cases Reported by Quarters

Quarters	July Sept.	Oct. Dec.	Jan. March	April June	FY 79-80
Number Diverted	488	648	700	733	2,569

Table 1 shows the number of diverted client cases diverted in each quarter of the reporting period, July 1, 1979 through June 30, 1980. It should be noted that the scope of referred sources was expanded, effective October 1, 1979, to include four additional sources—the schools, parents/guardians, social service agencies and self referrals. The number of diverted children shown from these four sources reflects diverted cases counted only for the last three quarters. The fact that the number of diverted cases counted and reported in the first quarter is disproportionately low may be partially explained by the expansion in scope of diversion sources beginning with the second quarter.

Table 2. Ages of Children Diverted

Ages in Years	Numbers of Children	
4 and under	3	
5	12	
6 7	9	
7	27	
8	30	
9	45	
10	57	
11	89	
12	176	
13	299	
14	524	
1.5	676	
Total Children Under 1	6 years of Age	1947
16	291	
17	179	
18	24	
19	2	
	_	
Total Children 16 year	s and older	496
Ages Not Recorded		126
	TOTAL	2569

Table 3. Sex by Age Group

Sex	Under Sixteen	Sixteen & Over	Age not Recorded	Totals
Male	1190	297	79	1566
Female	757	199	44	1000
Sex Not Recorded	0	0	3	3
			TOTAL	2569

Table 4. Ethnicity by Age Group

Ethnicity	Under Sixteen	Sixteen & Over	Age Not Recorded		Totals
Caucasian	1550	392	102		2044
Black	265	57	11		333
Hispanic	96	30	1		127
Am. Indian	1	2	0		3
Other	16	12	2		30
Not Recorded	19	3	10		32
		n 2-1-1-1	Γ	COTAL	2569

Table 5. Sources of Referral

Sources	Under Sixteen	Sixteen & Over	Age Not Recorded	Totals
Police	949	107	78	1134
School	367	82	3	452
Juv. Matters	251	80	10	341
Parents	200	77	14	291
DCYS	111	54	11	176
Self	38	52	2	92
Soc. Service	20	19	6	45
Sup. Court	3	39	1	43
Other	16	2	35	53

Table 5 displays the Sources of Referrals for the 'under 16' and '16 and over' age groups. Over 97% of the diverted client cases indicate only one referral source. Youth referred by two or more sources is less than 3% with only four cases involving multiple referrals of three or more sources.

The scope of referral sources was expanded to include schools, parents/guardians, social service agencies and self referrals, effective October 1, 1979. The number of diverted children shown from each of these four sources only reflects the last three quarters of the reporting period. All self referrals and most referrals from social service agencies involved status offenses, over half of which involved running away.

Table 6. Services Received by Diverted Children

Services	Under Sixteen	Sixteen & Over	Age Not Recorded	
Counseling	1331	367	65	Totals 1763
Referred to Other	272	118	15	405
Advocacy	213	74	.13	300
Test. & Diagnostic	191	18	0	209
Educational	169	41	4	214
Restitution	146	38	7	191
Shelter	124	55	7	186
Life Skills	105	22	9	136
Employment	84	28	5	117
Special Groups	67	8	6	81
Wilderness	28	7	2	37
Family Therapy	31	3	2	36
Other	10	5	1	16

Table 6 details the types of services received by diverted youths and includes multiple services per youth. Multiple services were provided to 34% of the diverted population with 19% receiving two types, 7% receiving three, 5% receiving four, and less than 3% receiving five or more. In addition, 107 diverted youth were designated as "no further action." Because these advocacy for the diversion referral, these 107 cases are not included in Table 6.

Table 7. Status Offenses by Behavior

Behaviors	Under Sixteen	Sixteen & Over	Age Not Recorded	Totals
Beyond Control	557	119	27	703
Truancy	316	42	9	367
Running Away	276	97	20	393
Defiance/School	237	49	6	292
Indecent/Immoral Conduct	90	22	7	119
Total Behaviors	1476	329	69	1874
Total Client Cases	1117	270	62	1449

The data in Table 7 was gathered in anticipation of the implementation of Family With Service Needs legislation. The data is limited to the last three quarters of the reporting period.

Status offense behaviors were recorded for children in both the "under 16" and "16 and over" age groups, even though a status offender designation can only legally be applied by the court to a child under 16 as will be true of the Families With Service Needs designation.

There are a total of 1449 client cases reported as exhibiting status offense behavior. Just under 16% of these cases were identified as exhibiting two or more status offense behaviors, so the number of cases shown for each category represents a duplicate count. Of the 1449 client cases, 1117 were under 16 years of age, 270 were 16 years and older and 62 cases were missing age information.

It is not possible to identify those children diverted solely on the basis of identified behavior involving a status offense exclusive of a criminal offense. Neither is it possible to say how many of the counted diverted cases involving a status offense also involved a criminal offense. This distinction will be possible and will begin with the implementation of the Family With Service Needs legislation.

Table 8. Regional Data

DCYS Regions	Diverted Clients	Non- Diverted	No. of YSB's	No. Municipal- ities Served	Youth Population in Municipality	Amount of State Funds
I	467	4,026	9	9	147,069	\$182,317.00
II	572	2,497	12	17	141,172	181,907.00
111	314	2,047	9	19	68,221	137,037.33
IV	1,130	5,413	19	19	186,954	285,833.70
V	86	2,652	7	7	70,939	112,904.97
Total	2,569	16,635	56	71	614,355	\$900,000.00

See Appendix A for a Map of Connecticut which shows the DCYS Regions. This map also shows the location of the Youth Service Bureaus and the municipalities served.

"Non-Diverted" refers to the 16,635 clients served by youth service bureaus detailed in Section II of this report.

The youth population figures appl— to those youth under the age of 18 years who reside in the 71 municipalities served by the youth service bureaus. The figures are based on an Enumeration of Children, dated April, 1978, produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Section II - Data on Non-diverted Clients

This section of the report represents information on a total of 16,635 non-diverted client cases served by youth service bureaus. These cases represent clients who were not in contact or manifestly at risk of contact with the justice system and therefore were not counted in Section I of this report. These client cases involve neglect, family, peer, school, developmental and other personal need situations, which warranted that individual case management records be opened. All of the data in this section of the report is based on tabulations from individual case records. However, the data was reported to the Department in an aggregate format.

Due to the aggregate reporting format, the precise number of reported client cases which may apply to the same individual child cannot be counted as in Section I. However, due to the individualized record keeping system and the nature of the presenting problems, it is expected the duplicated count of client cases to be extremely low and probably less than the 3.4% in Section I.

Tables 9-11 provide general demographic information. Table 12 displays the number of youths received by the Bureaus from each source. Table 13 describes the types of services provided.

Table 9. Non-Diverted Children by Age Group

Age Group	Under Sixteen	Sixteen & Over	Total
Client Cases	11,196	5,439	16,635

Table 10. Non-Diverted Children by Sex

Sex	Male	Female	Total
Client Cases	8,714	7,921	16,635

Table 11. Non-Diverted Children by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Client Cases
Caucasian	13,007
Black	1,548
Hispanic	1,643
Am. Indian	10
Other	427
Total	16,635

Table 12. Sources of Non-Diverted Referral

Source Client Ca	
Self	3,991
Schools	3,763
Parent/Guardian	1,731
Social Serv. Agencies	1,026
Police	744
DCYS (Noncommitted)	617
Friends	239
Telephone Counseling	206
Courts	93
Mental Health/Hospitals	82
Other	704

Because the data for non-diverted clients is reported in an aggregate form, it cannot be determined if the count for each referral source is unduplicated. However the number of diverted youth referred by two or more sources was less than 3% and there is no evidence to suggest that the non-diverted clients should not be consistent with this level of multiple referrals. Since the total count for all referral sources in Table 12 equals 13,196, the referral source for approximately 3,439 non-diverted client cases was not recorded.

Table 13. Services Received by Non-Diverted Children

Services	Client Cases
Counseling	8,199
Employment	4,619
Life Skills	2,210
Special Focus Group	1,471
Education	1,216
Advocacy	1,166
Referred to Other	1,054
Shelter/Host Home	601
Friend-to-Friend	361
Test. & Diagnostic	294
Other	1,059

Table 13 depicts the services received by 16,635 non-diverted clients. Since the total services received by these clients is 22,250, approximately 30% the clients received two or more services.

Section III - Aggregate Attendance at Group Activities

This section of the report presents aggregate attendance figures for group activities and programs sponsored by the bureaus during the reporting period. Individual participant data was not maintained. These figures represent either attendance records or estimates of the number of participants/attendees. Since an individual may have attended more than one activity or program, the aggregate figures are likely to count some individuals more than once.

Table 14. Aggregate Attendance by Program Categories

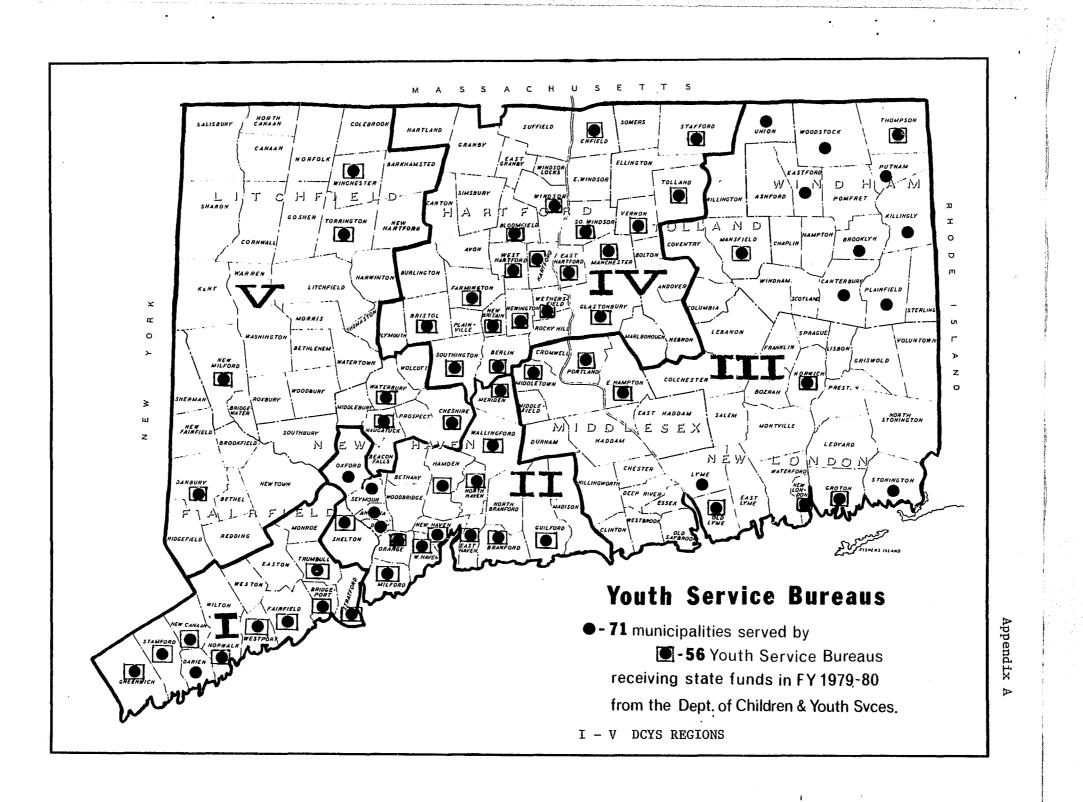
Program Categories	Aggregate Data	¥
Special Focus Groups Positive Youth Development Job Programs Volunteer Programs Outdoor Challenge Programs Youth Advisory Councils	4,609 3,274 2,141 816 739 327	
I. Total Registrants in Programs/Groups		11,906
Field Trips (Title XX Busing) Audiences for Special Events Drop-In/Youth Centers Recreational Activities Drug and Alcohol Education II. Total Attendance at Activities/Events	31,839 12,888 9,292 5,866 5,208	65,093
III. Total Other	5	2,846
III.IOCAL OLHEL	TOTAL	79,845
		,

The data in Table 14 is based on a total of 459 programs. All of these programs served youth under the age of 18 years. Of these programs, 43 also permitted individuals over 18 years of age to participate. Examples of these are Teen Mother Support Groups, CPR courses, drug education, and Teen/Parent Communication Groups. Based on a review of the 43 programs (8,581 attendees), it is estimated individuals 18 years and older represent less than 5% of the total annual attendance figures reported in Table 14.

"Positive Youth Development" programs are designed to promote the positive development of young people and to provide opportunities for youth to function as responsible members of their community. Some examples of programs in this category are Community Service Clubs, skill development classes, drama clubs, radio programming, recycling centers, and producing newspapers.

Section I of Table 14 includes such programs as summer CETA job programs, youth serving on advisory boards and outdoor wilderness challege programs, all of which are designed to develop skills, build self confidence and competence, and prepare young people to function as responsible members of their community. The 11,906 total registrants in Section I were participants in programs that are more intense, longer in duration, and have a greater impact on the youth participants than those listed in Section II.

Section II of Table 14 presents attendance figures for activities and special events which do not involve participants over a sustained period of time or are limited in duration to one session or a day. Therefore, these activities and events listed in Section II represent the least intensive programming offered by the bureaus while at the same time they provide the widest net for making contact with the most youth and thus provide a practical screening mechanism for at-risk children.



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 Youth Coordinator
 Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue
 Bloomfield, CT 06002
 Tel: 243-8971
 - 3. Barbara Gailey
 Branford Counseling Center
 33 Laurel Street
 Branford, CT 06405
 Tel: 481-4248
 - 4. Charles Coviello, Director
 Department of Youth Services
 45 Lyon Terrace
 City Hall Rm. 223
 Bridgeport, CT 06604
 Tel: 576-7790
 - 5. Robin Clark
 Youth Coordinator
 Bristol Youth Services
 19 High Street
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 - 6. Bob Bohannon

 Dept. of Human Services
 48 Foote Street
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 - 7. James Walsh, Exec. Director Danbury Youth Services, Inc. 57 North Street, Room 403 Danbury, CT 06810 Tel: 748-2936
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- 35. Jaclyn Sheldon
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- 36. Dot Giannini, Director Human Services Orange Youth Services 617 Orange Center Road Orange, CT 06477 Tel: 795-0615
- 37. Doug Kulmacz
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- 38. Tony Maltese, Director Farent Child Resourse Center 375 Coram Ave. Shelton, CT 06484 Tel: 736-2606
- 39. Connie Tiffany
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- 40. Marcia Good
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- 41. Randall Russell
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- 42. Sharon Right
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- 43. Bob Francis, Director Stratford Community Services 2730 Main Street Stratford, CT 06497 Tel: 377-0187

- 44. Joel H. Cooper
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- 45. Al Bashevkin Human Services 52 Tolland Green Tolland, CT 06084 Tel: 872-0311
- 46. Susan J. McCann
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- 47. Karen Horton, Director Trumbull Counseling Center 295 Whitney Avenue Trumbull, CT 06611 Tel: 261-5110
- 48. Jack Walsh
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- 49. Donald Roe, Director Youth Service Bureau 701 Center Street Wallingford, CT 06492 Tel: 265-2469
- 50. Peter Dobson, Director Youth Services Waterbury YMCA 136 West Main Street Waterbury, CT 06702 Tel: 754-2181 ext. 31
- 51 Suellen Aptman, Act. Dir. The Bridge 90 North Main Street West Hartford, CT 06107 Tel: 521-8035
- 52. Robert S. Morton, Coordinator Youth Service Bureau c/o Noble Community Center 201 Noble Street West Haven, CT 06516 Tel: 934-3421 ext. 230

- 53 David Kennedy, Director Youth-Adult Council 90 Post Road East Westport, CT 06880 Tel: 226-8311 ext. 960
- 54.Dave Blumenkrantz Youth Service Bureau 505 Silas Deane Highway Wethersfield, CT 06109 Tel: 529-8611 ext. 304
- 55. Tom Donaldson
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- 56. John Bernardini, Director 275 Broad Street Windsor, CT 06095 Tel: 688-3675 ext. 289

END