

Overview of the DCTAT Data for Second Chance Act Juvenile Mentoring Grantees

The Second Chance Act (SCA) Juvenile Mentoring Grants Program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), provides grants to help organizations offer a combination of mentoring and other transitional services to juveniles. These services are essential in helping juvenile offenders reintegrate successfully into their communities.

This memo provides an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for SCA Juvenile Mentoring Grants Program grantees as reported through June 30, 2011.¹ It is divided into three sections: (1) an examination of program information for these grantees, (2) an analysis of core measures, and (3) highlights of the narrative response data, including program goals accomplished and problems/barriers encountered by the grantees. In addition, any assistance that the organizations believe OJJDP could provide to address these problems/barriers will be discussed.

1. Examination of Program Information

Across all reporting periods, grantees have input 59 sets of program data, indicating a reporting compliance rate of 95 percent (see Table 1). Three subgrants were created in the first reporting period, and five subgrants were added in the July–December 2010 period (see Table 2). No new subgrants were created in the most recent reporting period.

Table 1. Status of Grantee Reporting by Period

Reporting Periods	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
July–December 2009	0	0	11	11
January–June 2010	0	0	11	11
July–December 2010	0	0	20	20
January–June 2011	1	2	17	20
Total	1	2	59	62

¹ The data reported to OJJDP have undergone system-level validation and verification checks. In addition, OJJDP reviews the aggregate data findings and grantee-level data reports for obvious errors or inconsistencies. A formalized data validation and verification plan is currently being piloted and will be implemented in this program during 2012.

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Table 2 depicts the subgrantees and their report status for all reporting periods.

Table 2. Status of Subgrantee Reporting by Period

Reporting Periods	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
July–December 2009	0	0	3	3
January–June 2010	0	0	3	3
July–December 2010	0	0	8	8
January–June 2011	0	0	8	8
Total	0	0	22	22

In examining the grant amounts by state, it was found that Indiana received the most total grant funds, followed by Texas and Georgia (Table 3).

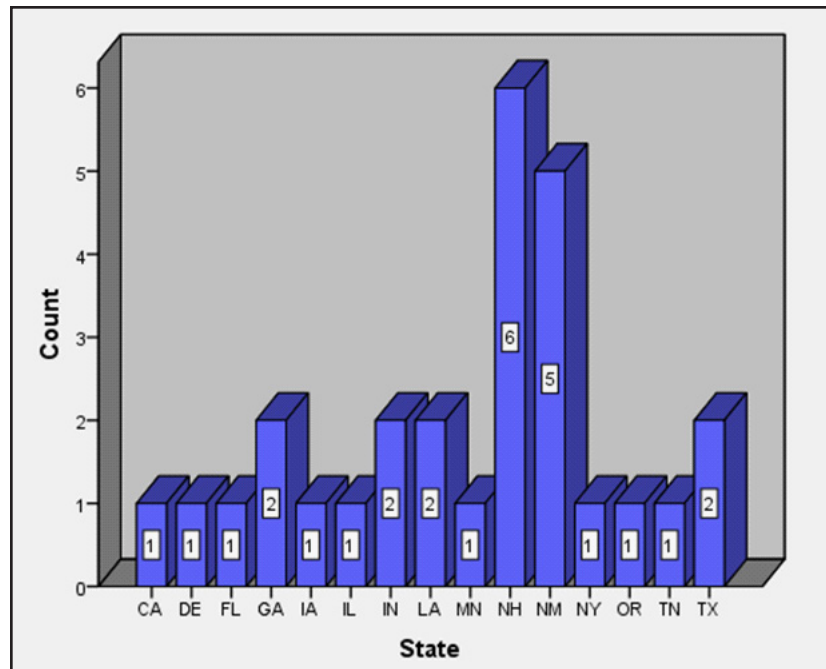
Table 3. Total Grant Amount by State

Grantee State	Grant Amount
CA	\$545,115
DE	\$525,435
FL	\$226,190
GA	\$1,053,990
IA	\$567,419
IL	\$450,239
IN	\$1,130,838
LA	\$624,384
MN	\$603,941
NH	\$1,145,538
NM	\$1,155,100
NY	\$567,419
OR	\$624,824
TN	\$362,736
TX	\$1,109,687

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The most grants/subgrants awarded during this period went to New Hampshire (n=6) and New Mexico (n=5). In addition, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, and Texas received two grants/subgrants each, with all other states having just one grant/subgrant. Figure 1 presents a state-by-state comparison.

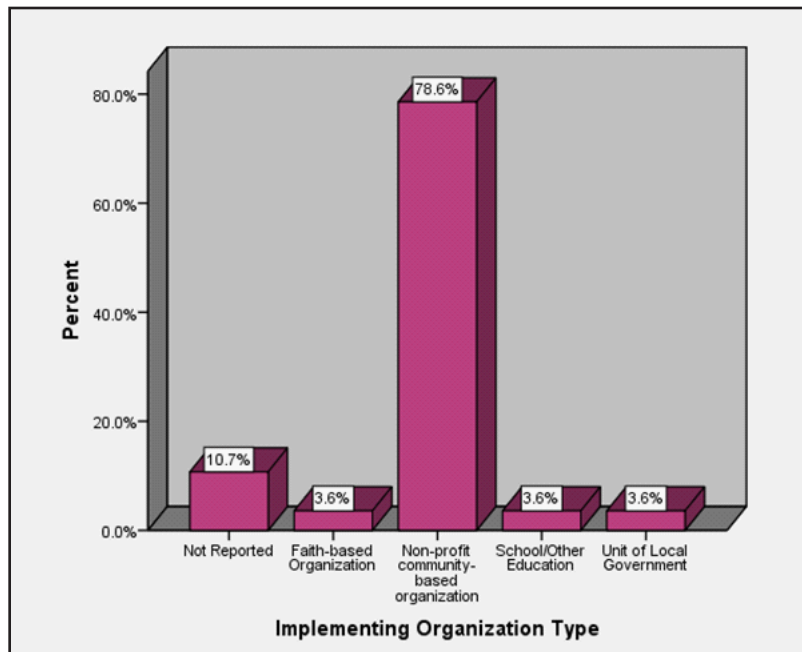
Figure 1. Grants/Subgrants by State: January–June 2011



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Analysis of implementing agencies for this period revealed that the largest numbers of programs were implemented by nonprofit, community-based organizations (78.6 percent). Faith-based organizations, school/other educational types, and units of local government each represent 3.6 percent of reported implementing organization types (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Implementing Agency Type: January–June



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Table 4 provides an aggregate of demographic data during the January–June 2011 reporting period. More specifically, the numbers below represent the population actually served by SCA Mentoring grantees during their project period. Targeted services include any services or approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, and developmentally appropriate services).

Table 4. Target Population: January–June 2011

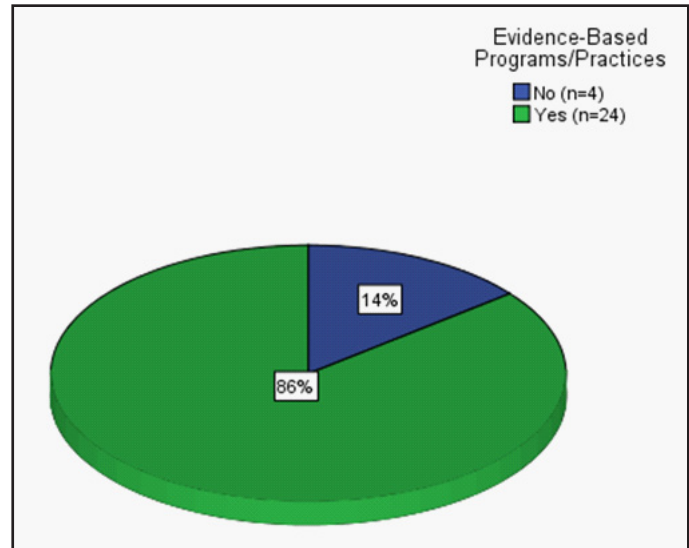
	Population	Number of Grantees Who Served This Group During the Project Period
RACE/ETHNICITY	American Indian/Alaskan Native	3
	Asian	1
	Black/African American	19
	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	17
	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0
	Other Race	3
	White/Caucasian	16
	Youth population not served directly	0
JUSTICE	At-Risk Population (no prior offense)	7
	First Time Offenders	18
	Repeat Offenders	20
	Sex Offenders	8
	Status Offenders	9
	Violent Offenders	13
	Youth population not served directly	0
GENDER	Male	24
	Female	21
	Youth population not served directly	0
AGE	0–10	0
	11–18	25
	Over 18	5
	Youth population not served directly	0
GEO	Rural	15
	Suburban	11
	Tribal	1
	Urban	17
	Youth population not served directly	0
OTHER	Mental Health	16
	Substance Abuse	18
	Truant/Dropout	16

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2. Analysis of Core Measures

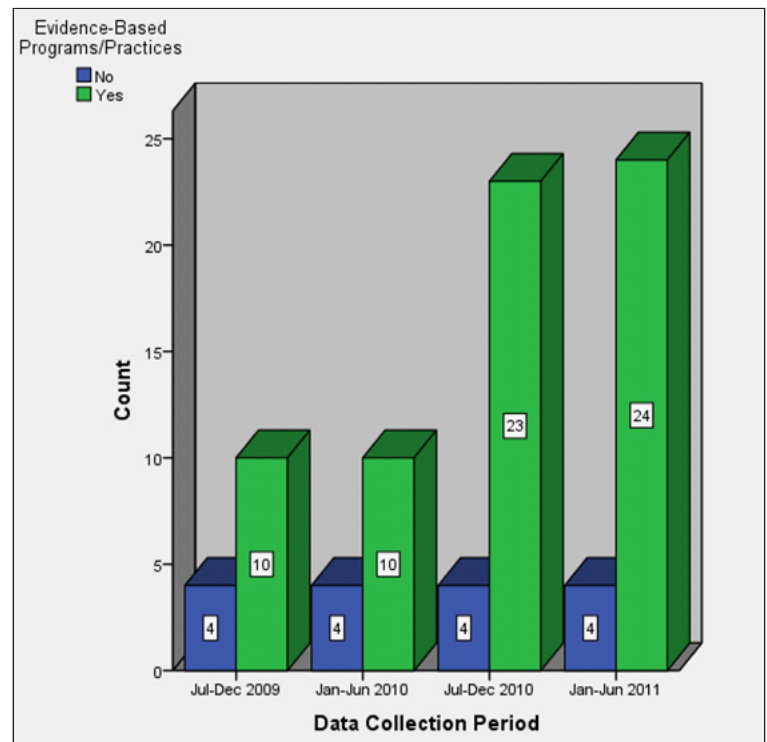
During the January–June 2011 reporting period, 86 percent of grantees had implemented evidence-based programs and practices (Figure 3), which amounted to almost \$9 million (\$8,871,642).

Figure 3. Percentage of Evidence-Based Programs/Practices: January–June 2011



As shown in Figure 4, the number of evidence-based programs and practices implemented has more than doubled since the initial reporting period. Of the 14 organizations from the first two reporting periods, 10 (71.43 percent) implemented evidence-based programs. The remaining four (28.57 percent) did not implement evidence-based practices. For the current reporting period, of the 28 reporting organizations, 24 (86 percent) implemented evidence-based programs. It should also be noted that the eight reporting subgrantees are incorporated in these data, and that those eight organizations are part of the 24 (86 percent) organizations that implemented evidence-based programs.

Figure 4. Evidence-Based Programs/Practices: All Reporting Periods



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The next section provides an aggregate of data for the performance indicators. As shown in Table 5, below, 842 youth participated in mentoring programs during the reporting period. Of these youth, 678 (81 percent) were served using an evidence-based model or program. In addition, 93 out of the eligible 152 program youth (61 percent) completed program requirements.

Performance indicators about the program mentors also were collected. During this reporting period, 246 new program mentors were recruited. Of the 291 mentors who received training, 228 (78 percent) successfully completed the training. Furthermore, 92 percent of mentors reported an increase in program knowledge. Of the 332 mentors in the program during the reporting period, 290 (87 percent) remained active mentors.

Collaboration with active partners also leads to the success of mentoring programs, and 100 percent of mentoring programs reported having active partners during this reporting period.

Table 5. Performance Indicators: January–June 2011

Performance Indicator	Number of Youth		
No. of program youth served during reporting period	842		
No. of program youth served using an evidence-based model or program	678		
No. of program mentors recruited	246		
Performance Indicator	Total Number	Completed	Percent
No. and percent of program youth completing program requirements	152	93	61%
No. and percent of program mentors successfully completing training during reporting period	291	228	78%
No. and percent of trained program mentors with increased knowledge of program area	295	271	92%
Performance Indicator	Total Number	Active	Percent
Mentor retention rate	332 mentors	290 active mentors	87%
Percent of mentoring programs with active partners	39 mentoring programs	39 mentoring programs with active partners	100%

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The success of the SCA Mentoring Grants Program is largely dependent on the reoffending rates of the program youth. Technical violations and actual NEW adjudications are measured separately to give a better understanding of the population being served by the grant. As shown in Table 6, for this reporting period, 284 youth were tracked for technical violations. Of those, 15 were committed to a juvenile residential facility, and 11 received some other sentence as a result of a technical violation this period.

Long-term measurement of technical violations indicated that 14 youth completed the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for technical violations during the reporting period. Of those, 3 were committed to a juvenile residential facility and 5 received some other sentence as the result of a technical violation.

Table 6. Technical Violation Indicators: January–June

Performance Indicator	No. of Youth	% of Youth Committing Technical Violations
No. of program youth tracked for technical violations during reporting period (short-term)	284	
No. of program youth committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a technical violation during reporting period	15	5%
No. of youth sentenced to adult prison as a result of a technical violation during reporting period	0	0%
No. of youth who received some other sentence as a result of a technical violation during reporting period	11	4%
Total	26/284	9%
Performance Indicator	No. of Youth	% of Youth Committing Technical Violations
No. of program youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were tracked for technical violations during reporting period (long-term)	14	
No. of program youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a technical violation during reporting period	3	21%
No. of youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were sentenced to adult prison as a result of a technical violation during reporting period	0	0%
No. of youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and received some other sentence as a result of a technical violation during reporting period	5	36%
Total	8/14	57%

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As shown in Table 7, of the 583 program youth who were tracked for adjudications during this reporting period, 18 (3 percent) were committed to a juvenile residential facility as the result of a new adjudication. In addition, 11 were given some other sentence as the result of a new adjudication this period.

For this long-term recidivism measure, 43 youth had completed the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications during this reporting period. Of those, 8 (19 percent) were recommitted to a juvenile residential facility as the result of a new adjudication, and 4 were given some other sentence.

Table 7. Recidivism Indicators: January–June 2011

Performance Indicator	Number of Youth	% of Recidivists
No. of program youth tracked for adjudications during reporting period (short-term)	583	
No. of program youth committed to a juvenile residential facility as the result of a new adjudication during reporting period	18	3%
No. of youth sentenced to adult prison as the result of a new adjudication during reporting period	0	0%
No. of youth given some other sentence as the result of a new adjudication during reporting period	11	2%
Total	29/583	5%
Performance Indicator	Number of Youth	% of Recidivists
No. of program youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications during reporting period (long-term)	43	
No. of program youth who exited the program 6–12 months ago and were recommitted to a juvenile residential facility as the result of a new adjudication during reporting period	8	19%
No. of youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were sentenced to adult prison as the result of a new adjudication during reporting period	0	0%
No. of youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were given some other sentence as the result of a new adjudication during reporting period	4	9%
Total	12/43	28%

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Table 8 displays the percentages of youth who exhibited improvement in selected target behaviors (short-term). One individual successfully earned a GED during the reporting period. Participating youth also exhibited the most improvement in perception of social support (85 percent), social competence (84 percent), and substance use (78 percent).

Table 8. Target Behaviors: January–June 2011

Target Behavior	No. of Youth Receiving Services for Behavior	No. of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change	Percentage of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change
Social Competence	218	184	84%
School Attendance	344	185	54%
GPA	278	135	49%
GED	1	1	100%
Perception of Social Support	234	199	85%
Family Relationships	121	67	55%
Antisocial Behavior	431	247	57%
Substance Use	63	49	78%
Gang-Resistance Involvement	NR*	NR	0%
Total	1,690	1,067	63%

*NR=No valid data reported for the period.

3. Narrative Response Data

Program Goals Accomplished: January–June 2011

SCA Mentoring grantees revealed numerous accomplishments during this reporting period. One of the most important achievements was the overall successful connection of the mentors to the program youth. For example, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Buffalo noted how their mentors' ability to connect with the youth has truly affected the function and sustainability of the program. Their youth have had many success stories because of this strong connection.

Improving the youths' outlook on the job market and career possibilities has been a major accomplishment. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Buffalo continued its partnership with Old Navy and Buffalo State College to expose the youth to various career fields and job opportunities. Community partnerships such as these enable grantees to increase and sustain their attendance by keeping the youth engaged. Similarly, Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest (BBBSCNW) made significant progress in solidifying its partnership with the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and its county juvenile justice system.

The Kennedy Center of Louisiana hosted a mentor appreciation banquet, a mentee essay contest, and a job fair. In addition, the organization's case managers teach life skills and provide counseling to its mentees and their families, and the youth report feeling less anxious and upset about life circumstances and family relations. Serve Our Youth Network also reported numerous accomplishments, including hosting an open house/game night at Polk County Youth Services to expose potential mentors to the youth it serves in the local juvenile detention center. The program is now called Second Chance TEAMs Mentoring. (TEAM stands for Training, Encouragement, Advocacy and Mentoring—the program's core components). Serve Our Youth Network's mentoring will be on-site with a team of four adult mentors. The group will have up to four mentees. Each

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mentor will focus on a specific area of need, such as employment, education, social/recreational needs, or other perceived or felt needs.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Metropolitan Minneapolis developed a curriculum focusing on attitude, communication, problem solving, responsibility, and workplace readiness. The organization's one-stop shop approach has youth explore these skills in a number of innovative ways, including a high-ropes course, team-building initiatives, and volunteer community service. In addition, the youth gain practical job and life skills, such as navigating Metro Transit's route system (for access to interviews and appointments), searching for work, and building a resume.

Several grantees, including the Cobb County Community Services Board, reported successfully recruiting and training new mentors. Others reported being able to maintain the core components of their programs despite reduced funding.

Problems/Barriers Encountered: January–June 2011

In addition to their many achievements, SCA Mentoring grantees reported a few significant problems/barriers that prevented them from reaching their goals or milestones during this reporting period. Organizations noted the low numbers of dedicated mentors, as well as a lack of male mentors. Overall, mentor recruitment continues to be a challenge. Serve Our Youth Network noted how recruiting mentors in the faith community can be intimidating, as many people associated with churches are already busy volunteering. In addition, a few grantees reported not being able to maintain their original level of recruitment and caseload due to reduced funding, which has also delayed communication in a number of other program development efforts. Budget cuts have caused a loss of residential beds and a restructuring of community and transition services.

The Kennedy Center of Louisiana noted problems with parental involvement, and that the organization feels that increased family social activities would help spur success. Staff turnover also disrupted programs, limiting the screening, admission, and matching processes for youth.

During the previous reporting period, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware, Inc., reported difficulty reaching female youth offenders. The grantee was able to successfully implement a number of strategies to address this challenge, including reaching out to other community-based juvenile justice and probation programs. In addition, it began a partnership with a "women in law" volunteer group to provide group mentoring services to its girls. One grantee also reported difficulty connecting with youth who were still in placement, in part because of the location of the placement sites.

Finally, the time it takes to establish an evidence-based mentoring program has proven to be an obstacle for some SCA grantees.

Requested OJJDP Assistance: January–June 2011

A few SCA Mentoring grantees answered yes to the question of whether OJJDP could provide any assistance to address the problems/barriers they've encountered this reporting period. As with the previous reporting period, organizations requested training and technical assistance for mentor recruitment, particularly within the faith community. Grantees also expressed an interest in training to better reach out to the parents of their youth, mainly to see how other organizations handle this often problematic issue. Training that is specific to mentoring juvenile offenders is needed due to the unique nature of serving these youth, as they transition out of placement. Grantees also mentioned needing ideas on how to raise public awareness on a tight budget. Similarly, several SCA Mentoring grantees inquired if there are other funding opportunities available that will allow them to bring their programs back to their original scale.