



Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

SECOND CHANCE ACT JUVENILE MENTORING

PERFORMANCE REPORT

July-December 2019

ENHANCING SAFETY • ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY • EMPOWERING YOUTH

This report was produced by Booz Allen Hamilton under contract number DJO-BJA-16-S-0272, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this report are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. The accuracy of the data in this document is dependent on the precision of grantee data entry. All information included reflects self-reported data provided by OJJDP grantees.

INTRODUCTION

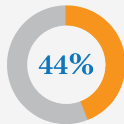
The Second Chance Act (SCA) (P.L. 110-199)¹ authorizes grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide services to support adults and juveniles as they transition from incarceration or detention back into the community. The SCA Juvenile Mentoring grant program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), combines mentoring with other transitional services for medium- to high-risk offenders. This includes young fathers and mothers and Latino/a youth confined² or admitted to an out-of-home placement facility prior to their 25th birthday.³ The SCA program supports the target population's successful return to their families and communities from detention, out-of-home placement, or incarceration. For young mothers and fathers, mentoring and reentry services reduce recidivism by teaching effective parenting skills and promoting positive parent/child engagement. For Latino/a youth, reentry services include one-to-one, group, or peer mentoring; case management; civic and family engagement; and life skills training. The SCA Strengthening Families and Children of Incarcerated Parents program is also authorized under P.L. 110-199 and has similar goals, objectives, and performance measures to SCA Juvenile Mentoring.

OJJDP requires grantees to report on performance measures to demonstrate whether the SCA Juvenile Mentoring program achieved its goals and to improve program and policy decisions. This report presents the SCA Juvenile Mentoring program activities occurring between July and December 2019 and highlights grantee results achieved with OJJDP funding.

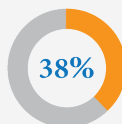
Highlights

988
NUMBER OF
YOUTH SERVED

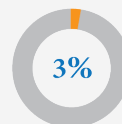
Demonstrated
Positive Behavior
Change



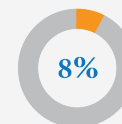
Matched
with a
Mentor



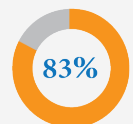
Youth
Reoffending
(Short-Term)⁴



Youth
Reoffending
(Long-Term)⁵



Grantees Implementing
Evidence-Based
Programs



¹ U.S. Government Publishing Office. Public Law 110-199-Apr. 9, 2008. <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-110publ199/pdf/PLAW-110publ199.pdf>

² Confined is defined as held in a secure facility, such as a juvenile detention center, juvenile correctional facility, staff-secure facility, jail, or prison of a local or state juvenile or adult correctional agency.

³ Award recipients may continue to implement a reentry plan for individuals beyond their 25th birthday if deemed therapeutically necessary or on a case-by-case basis with approval from OJJDP.

⁴ Short-term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who received services during the activity period or youth who exited the program during the activity period.

⁵ Long-term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who exited the program 6 to 12 months before the start of the activity period.

OVERVIEW OF AWARD INFORMATION

During the July and December 2019 activity period, OJJDP’s SCA Juvenile Mentoring program funded 29 awards (including 2 subawards), the majority representing non-profit community-based organizations. A total of 24 awards were operational (or provided mentoring and supportive services during the activity period) and received funds that totaled over \$9.7 million in OJJDP funding (figure 1).⁶

Figure 1. Award Details



EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based programs. Evidence-based programs include models shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. For Latino/a youth, grantees integrate evidence-based and/or culturally specific mentoring principles into their mentoring services to respond to the unique needs of Latino/a youth. During the July–December 2019 activity period, 83 percent of SCA Juvenile Mentoring awards used one or more evidence-based program or practice ($n = 20$).

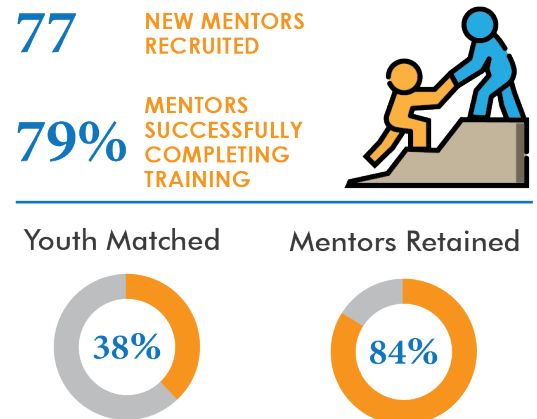
YOUTH SERVED

During the July–December 2019 activity period, SCA Juvenile Mentoring grantees served a total of 988 youth,¹⁰ of which 81 percent were served using an evidence-based program. Grantees served 436 recipients for the first time.

YOUTH MATCHED WITH A MENTOR

Grantees recruited 77 new mentors during the July–December 2019 activity period (figure 2). Of the total number of mentors who began training, 79 percent successfully completed training. Grantees successfully matched 38 percent of enrolled youth with a mentor during the activity period. Additionally, grantees achieved high mentor retention, with 84 percent of mentors remaining active with the program at the end of the activity period.

Figure 2. Youth Matched with a Mentor



⁶ Funding amounts represent the total funding for the life of the award and does not represent actual grantee spending during the activity period..

⁷ This percentage includes compliant grantees with operational and not operational statuses.

⁸ Operational grantees expended grant funds toward program activities.

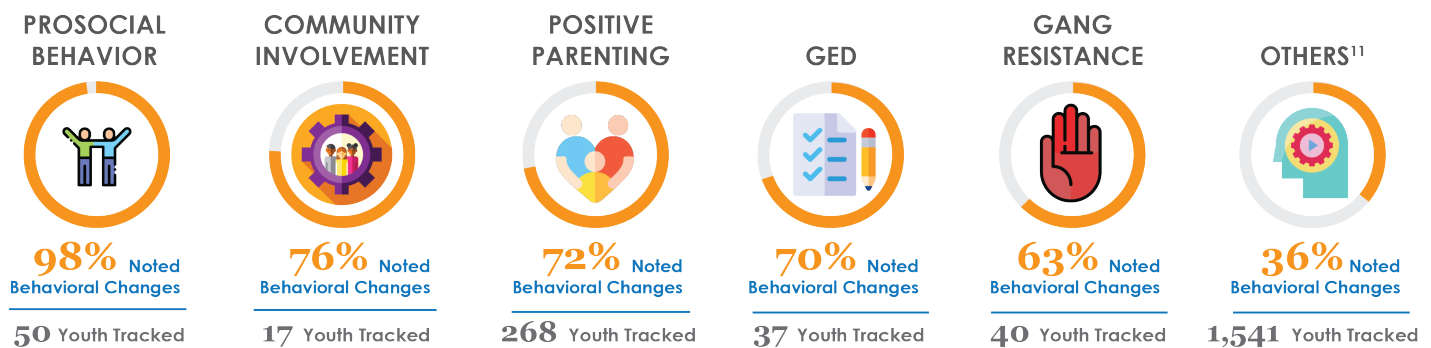
⁹ Total funding: \$9,739,000.

¹⁰ Youth served includes young fathers, young mothers, and Latino/a youth.

TARGET BEHAVIORS

The SCA Juvenile Mentoring program promotes positive outcomes, such as improved academic performance and increased positive parenting behaviors. To measure the impact of SCA Juvenile Mentoring programs on the lives of enrolled youth, grantees report on behavior changes in several targeted areas (e.g., prosocial behavior, family relationships, and employment status). During the July–December 2019 activity period, grantees observed the largest short-term improvement among youth receiving services for prosocial behavior, with 98 percent of youth demonstrating a positive change (figure 3). In the short term, overall, 44 percent of program youth showed improvement in a targeted behavior.

Figure 3. Short-Term Outcome Percentages for the Specified Target Behaviors



YOUTH EXITING SUCCESSFULLY

SCA Juvenile Mentoring programs create and define the specific requirements for youth to successfully complete their program. Youth who fulfilled all program obligations and requirements successfully exited, while those who failed to complete the requirements, such as those expelled or who left voluntarily, are considered to have unsuccessfully exited the program. Of the 415 youth who exited the SCA Juvenile Mentoring program during the activity period, grantees reported 70 percent of youth successfully exited the program (figure 4).

Figure 4. Percent of Youth Exiting Successfully



YOUTH RECIDIVISM

To track program success at reducing recidivism, grantees monitor youth for adjudication during and following a youth’s involvement in the grantee’s program. An adjudication includes youth committed to a juvenile residential facility, sentenced to adult prison, or who received some other sentence.¹² Grantees tracked 247 program youth for adjudication for a new delinquent offense during the July–December 2019 activity period. During this time frame, 3 percent of program youth reoffended in the short term (figure 5). In the long-term, 8 percent of program youth tracked during the activity period reoffended (figure 6).

¹¹ Other includes antisocial, family relationships, social competence, substance use, school attendance, grade point average, perception of social support, high school completion, occupational skill training, and employment status.

¹² Other sentences could include probation or electronic monitoring.

Figure 5. Short-Term Recidivism Outcomes

3% of Program Youth Tracked
REOFFENDED

7/247

Figure 6. Long-Term Recidivism Outcomes

8% of Program Youth Tracked
REOFFENDED

8/100

CONCLUSION

OJJDP's SCA Juvenile Mentoring program strengthens and expands the delivery of high-quality mentoring opportunities for youth in placement in the juvenile justice system. Mentoring can strengthen at-risk youth's protective factors by improving academic performance, social, and job skills; supporting behavioral and personal development; and reducing substance use and other high-risk behaviors.¹³ The results reported by OJJDP's SCA Juvenile Mentoring grantees for this activity period reinforces previous research on the positive impact that mentoring has on at-risk youth.

During the July–December 2019 activity period, 24 SCA Juvenile Mentoring awards (including 2 subawards) served a total of 988 youth with the support of OJJDP funding¹⁴. Grantees recruited 77 new mentors of which 79 percent successfully completed training. Eighty-four percent of mentors remained with the program at the end of the activity period. Overall, 44 percent of program youth showed behavioral improvement, including improvements in prosocial behavior, community involvement, and positive parenting behaviors. Performance measure data indicate that support provided by grant programs aided in reducing recidivism. Ninety-seven percent of youth did not offend in the short term. These results demonstrate the positive impact of SCA Juvenile Mentoring programs at improving outcomes for at-risk youth returning to the community from out-of-home placement and reducing risk factors associated with further involvement in the justice system.

¹³ National Institute of Justice. Mentoring. <https://www.crimesolutions.gov/TopicDetails.aspx?ID=290>.

¹⁴ The SCA Strengthening Families and Children of Incarcerated Parents program is also authorized under P.L. 110-199 and has similar goals, objectives, and performance measures to SCA Juvenile Mentoring: Limited performance measure data is available for the SCA Strengthening Families and Children of Incarcerated Parents program for the July–December 2019 activity period. Seventeen awards were active (including six subawards). Eighty-eight percent of awards were compliant with reporting requirements. Of the 17 awards, 10 were operational (including 2 subawards) and 7 were involved in planning activities for their award. OJJDP funds totaled \$6,939,246 for operational awards. Data for the following performance measures were reported on by eight grantees: A total of 620 individuals were served during the activity period (335 parents, 180 youth, and 105 additional family members). Of the parents served, 66 percent (n = 210) were served with an evidence-based program or practice; of the youth served, 64 percent (n = 83) were served with an evidence-based program or practice. Overall, 59 percent of parents and 0 percent of youth successfully completed program requirements. In the short-term, overall, 68 percent of parents exhibited a change in positive parenting behaviors and 83 percent of program youth showed improvement in targeted behaviors (antisocial behavior, family relationships, social competence, perception of social support, and prosocial behavior).