

STATE OF FLORIDA REDIRECTION PROJECT

Evaluation Site Service/Circuit/County

Camelot Community Care

FFT – Circuit 17, Broward

Community Solutions Inc.

*FFT – Circuit 9, Orange and
Osceola*

*MST – Circuit 18, Brevard and
Seminole*

Henderson Mental Health Clinic

MST – Circuit 17, Broward

Institute of Child and Family Health

FFT – Circuit 11, Dade

The Starting Place

FFT – Circuit 17, Broward

Vision Quest

FFT – Circuit 6, Pinellas

FFT – Circuit 13, Hillsborough

The White Foundation

MST – Circuit 1, Escambia



Provided By:

Florida Legislature

Department of Juvenile Justice

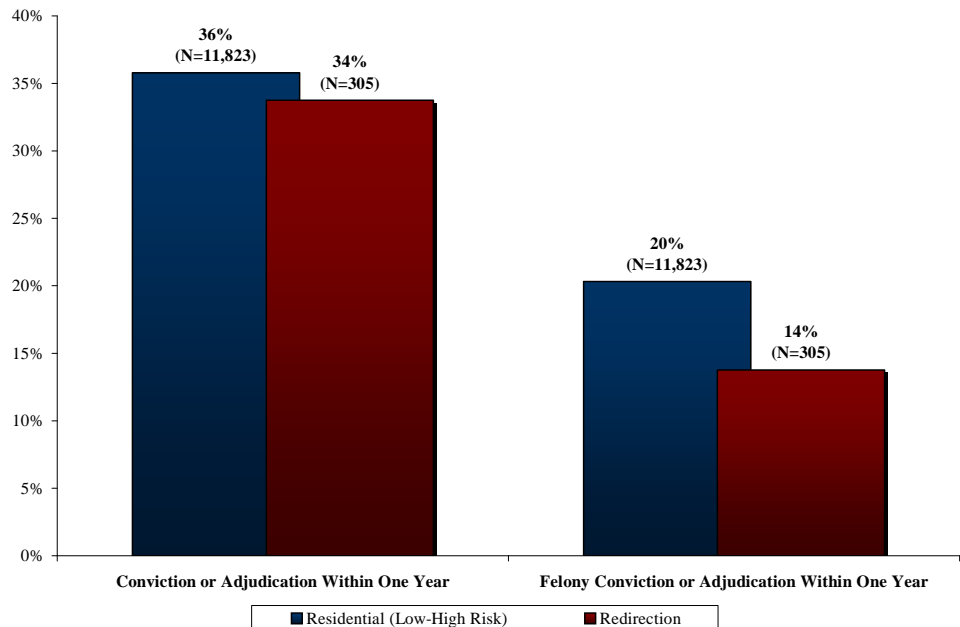
Evidence-Based Associates

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REDIRECTION PROGRAM EVALUATION: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2004, the Florida Legislature funded a program to address the growing number of juvenile offenders committed to residential facilities for non-law violations of probation. The program was designed to divert, or redirect, these non-law violators from residential placement to community-based treatments. The Redirection Program offers two treatment options: Multisystemic Therapy (MST) and Functional Family Therapy (FFT) — both of which have shown promising results with juvenile offenders. The Florida Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability reviewed the success of the Redirection pilot in February 2007 (OPPAGA Report No. 07-10) and reported that the program was as effective as residential programming at reducing juvenile and adult arrest after release, and was significantly more cost effective than commitment services.

The current recidivism evaluation of youth released between March 2005 and August 31, 2006, indicates that juvenile adjudication/adult conviction within one year of program completion is lower for youth in the Redirection Program in comparison to those completing residential commitment programs. In addition, **Redirection is significantly better than residential services at reducing the odds of felony adjudication or conviction.**



These findings are particularly promising in light of cost figures which suggest that **Redirection, as an alternative to commitment, has the potential to save over \$27,000 dollars per juvenile offender.** According to the *2008 DJJ Program Accountability Measures Report*, it costs, on average, \$34,774 for every juvenile offender who completes residential commitment (based on 2005-06 low, moderate and high-risk residential expenditures). In comparison, Redirection services cost approximately \$7,715 for each youth served by the program (calculated from Redirection expenditures through August 2006). Based on these figures, the Redirection initiative has the potential to save the state millions of dollars in juvenile programming while providing comparable or better services than those received in more restrictive residential facilities.



For More Information on the
Redirection Project Contact:
Nicole Janer, Project Manager
(315) 317-6025

njaner@evidencebasedassociates.com