Continuous Innovation:

Using SJC Models to Achieve Broader Decarceration Designing A Young Adult Diversion Program in Cook County

Data

Analysis

What we did:

Our "inputs"

Committee

Feedback

Findings from 1-Year

SEED

Review

Community

Engagement

Interviews

with MDT

Members

Community

Resource

Mapping & Needs

Assessment

Literature

Review

Site Visits

(Virtual)

Where we started...

The SJC-funded SEED Program:

Pre-plea deferred prosecution program for Young Adults with manufacturing/delivery charges.

Provides education, employment, and wraparound supports. 9 - 13 months of programming.

Designed to reduce Young Adult jail admissions.

Completion of the program results in case dismissal and expungement. Launched 1.19.21.

SEED successfully diverts young adults from jail.

Where we're going...

Decarceration of Young Adults requires:

- Inclusion of families and support networks.
- Provision of survival resources (housing, child care, trauma treatment).

resources that emphasize opportunities vs. punishment.

What we learned...

Key Findings:

- Young Adults are significantly overrepresented in our jail and prison populations.
- Racial disparities in the incarceration of Young Adults are profound.
- Our current alternatives to incarceration / deferred prosecution programs were not designed with Young Adults in mind.

To improve outcomes for communities and individuals, we need to focus on Young Adults.

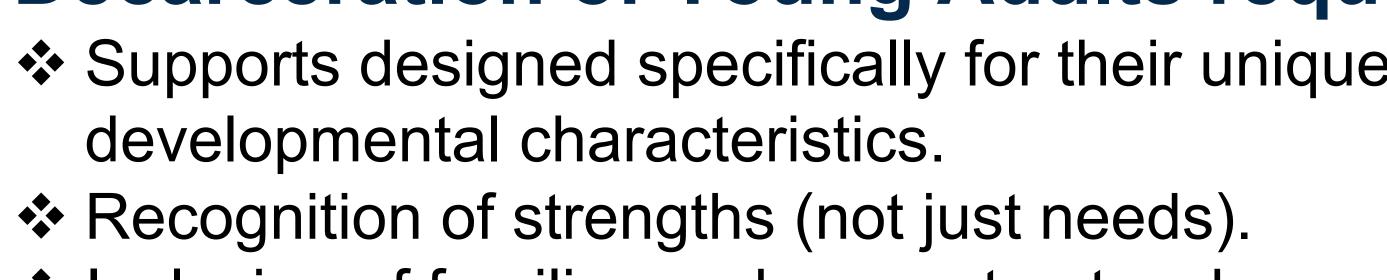
What happens next...

Pivoting to action:

- SEED will expand to focus on reduced incarceration of Young Adults in IL prisons.
- Our findings will guide expanded eligibility and relationships with state stakeholders.
- Provider partners will focus on individualized, flexible and strength-based services and supports.

SEED will continue to be evaluated and renegotiated to expand pathways out of the system and away from incarceration for young adults.





Young Adults need individualized supports &

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