

# Advanced Juvenile Law: The Courts' Response to Children with Mental Health Needs

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## Introduction

- Specific Dispositional Alternatives Recommended for Level I and II
  - Screening
  - Assessment
  - Services
    - Medicaid Service Definition
    - Juvenile Justice Funded
- Evidence Based Practices

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## Screening

- Districts are using the GAIN SS or MAYSI
- Administered at the earliest available time, preferably in-person at intake
- Recommends need for further assessment
  - MH/SA
- Most of the time, by the time the juvenile is in court for Disposition they should already have been administered a Screener

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## Assessment

- Most commonly requested as part of the “Cooperate with Specified Program”
- Comprehensive Clinical Assessment (CCA)
  - Evidence Based Tools may be included within the Assessment – GAIN, CHAT, others
- Recommends specific treatment to help address diagnosis and behaviors

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## Services

- Behavioral Health Treatment Options that are Recommended as a Level I or II Dispositional Alternative
  - Medicaid Service Definitions
    - Community Based
    - Residential
  - Juvenile Justice Funded Services
    - Community Based
    - Residential

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## Level I Disposition Examples

| Dispositional Alternative | Level I - Disposition        |   |   |                                  |                                 |  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|                           | Community based program      | Intensive substance abuse treatment program   | Residential treatment program                     | Nonresidential treatment program | Victims-Offender Reconciliation | Wilderness Program   |
| Examples of Programs      | Monitoring Programs          | Substance Abuse Intensive Out Patient Program | Therapeutic Foster Care                           | Individual Therapy               | Private Mediation               | Edward Wilderness - Residential - <i>MI finished</i>                     |
|                           | Home-Based Family Counseling |   | Level 2 Group Home (MH)                           | Group Therapy                    | Conflict Resolution             | Timber Ridge - MH service  |
|                           | Individual Therapy           |   | Level 3 Group Home (MH)                           | Sex Offender Treatment           |                                 | Cameron Boys Camp - Burgess Children's Home DNS and parent referral only |
|                           | Group Therapy                |   | Level 4 Residential (MH)                          | Substance Abuse Treatment        |                                 |  |
|                           | Family Therapy               |   | Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) |                                  |                                 |  |
|                           | Counseling                   |   | Non-Residential (Residential)                     |                                  |                                 |  |
|                           | Self Building                |   |   |                                  |                                 |  |
|                           | Tutoring                     |   |   |                                  |                                 |  |
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## Level II Disposition Examples

| Dispositional Alternative                         | Level 2 Disposition                               |   |  |   |  |  |                             |  |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|-----------------------------|--|
|   | Residential treatment facility                    | Intensive nonresidential treatment program        | Intensive substance abuse program            | Group home other than a multipurpose group home operated by a State Agency            | Wilderness Program   | Supervised Day Program                                 | Regimented Training Program | State Multipurpose Group Home  |
| <b>Examples of Programs</b>                       | WestCare - JJ funded                              | Intensive In-Home Therapy                         |  | Whitaker School   | Richard Wilderness Residential - JJ funded                                 | Structured Day<br>Most commonly found as Day Treatment |                             | Operated by Methodist Homes and designed to provide non-secure, long-term, residential care as an alternative to secure detention and youth development centers. The first six eight-bed facilities opened in 1993. A seventh home was opened in 2008. Located in Macon, Roberson, Wayne, Hartford, and Chowan Counties. |
|   | Level 2 Group Home (MH)                           | Multi-Systemic Therapy                            |  | Wright School   | Talbot Ridge - MH service  | McCl Burton Program in Guilford Co.                    |                             |  |
|   | Level 3 Group Home (MH)                           | DBI Treatment                                     | Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program | Transitional Living Operated by Methodist Homes in Wake and Craven Counties           | Cameron Boys Camp - Baptist Children's Home - DSS and parent referral only | Orndorff's School Treatment Program                    | Turkett Challenge           |  |
|   | Level 4 Residential (MH)                          | AMI Rehab - Functional Family Therapy - JJ funded |  |   |  |  |                             |  |
|   | Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) | Sex Offender Treatment                            |  | Forsyth and Dillon Juvenile Crisis and Assessment Centers operated by Methodist Homes |  |  |                             |  |
| Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) |   |   |  |   |  |  |                             |  |

## Medicaid Service Definitions: Community Based

- Outpatient
  - Individual
  - Group
  - Family
- Day Treatment
- Intensive In-Home
- Multisystemic Therapy
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program

## Medicaid Service Definitions: Residential

- May be requested as either a Level I or II Dispositional Alternative
- Intensity
  - Level 1 – Crisis Shelters and Family Foster Care
  - Level 2 – Family or Group
  - Level 3 – Only Group
  - Level 4 – Very Few Still Exist
  - Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF)
    - Locked and Unlocked

### Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Services

- Varies from County to County and Year to Year
- Visit <https://www2.ncdps.gov/sbc/> for Specific Services by County
- JCPCs have 22 Different Program Types
- JCPC-Endorsed Level II Projects
- Alternative to Commitment Projects

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### Juvenile Justice Level II Dispositional Alternatives: Community-Based

Dispositional Alternatives programs were designed to provide community-based, effective intermediate sanctions and reentry services as a dispositional alternative for high-risk Level II adjudicated youth.

These services are called upon to serve high-risk youth between the ages of 10 and 17 which would include the following:

- Youth returning from a youth development center
- Youth transitioning out of some other residential placements
- Youth returning home from a detention center
- Dispositional option for Level II adjudicated youth

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### Juvenile Justice Level II: Community Based

- **AMIKids**
  - Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
  - In-home family and community-based model
  - Currently Serving 89 Counties
  - Ages 10-17
  - Primarily works with the Caregiver of the youth

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### Juvenile Justice Level II : Residential Programs

- **Eckerd Residential Programs (2)**
  - Short-term residential treatment facility; 48 bed capacity
  - Males ages 13-17 years of age
  - Intensive, short-term services; 3 to 6 months (Avg. 90 days )
  - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy/Treatment (CBT) Model
  - Program located in Montgomery County (Candor) & Wilkes County (Boomer)
- **WestCare**
  - Short-term residential treatment facility; 16 bed facility
  - Females ages 13 to 17 years of age
  - Length of Stay 4 and 6 months
  - Gender Responsive Treatment Model; Trauma-Informed Care
  - Program located in Vance County
- **Independent Living Programs (2)**
  - Homes located in Craven County (New Bern) and Wake County (Raleigh)
  - Independent Living Transition Program from YDC or Residential Placement

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### Evidence Based Practices (EBPs)

- Generally refers to approaches in prevention or treatment that are validated by some form of documented scientific evidence. This simply means that several clinical research studies showed the treatment was effective. EBPs promote high quality care and better outcomes for adolescents with substance use disorders.
- Several evidence-based practice registries have been created and are publicly accessible. Examples:
  - State of Oregon's Addictions and Mental Health (AMH) Approved Practices
  - SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs & Practices (NREPP)
  - Helping America's Youth (HAY) Community Guide
  - University of Washington's EBP Database
  - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) Model Programs Guide.

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### EBPs for Adolescents

Examples of Some Available in NC

- MET/CBT 5 and 12
- Family Support Network
- Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA)
- Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT)
- Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy
- Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET)
- The Seven Challenges Program
- Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT)
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
- Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
- Relapse Prevention Therapy (RPT)
- Seeking Safety (SS)
- Strengthening Families
- Aggression Replacement Training
- Motivational Interviewing

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## Final Thoughts

- Still Gaps in Service Array
  - Some areas do not have access to services
- Some Medicaid funded services may not easily fit as a Dispositional Alternative
- Just because it is recommended by a provider does not mean it will be approved by the MCO
- Private Insurance and Undocumented Youth

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## Questions?

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