

DCF/DJJ Dually Served Children and Young Adults

Report Timeframe:

April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023

Quarter 4 of Fiscal Year 22-23

Department of Children and Families
and
Department of Juvenile Justice

November 2023



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Introduction

The Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) continue to strengthen its partnership and collaboration to enhance outcomes for dually served youth and their families. Together with our sister agencies, we share expertise and advocacy to address trauma, life skills, work readiness, housing, and other family needs across Florida.

Chapter 2022-67, Laws of Florida (HB 7065) – Reporting Requirements & History of Reports

During the 2022 Legislative Session, the Florida Legislature passed Chapter 2022-67, Laws of Florida, creating section 39.0143, Florida Statutes. This legislation requires DCF and DJJ to collaborate on shared strategies to best serve children who are involved in both systems of care, often referred to as dually involved children.

The first report provided historical information on youth served by both agencies since January 2004 and included information for Quarter 4 for state fiscal year 2021-2022. The second report included the reporting timeframe of Quarters 1 and 2 for state fiscal year 2022-23. The third report includes the reporting timeframe of Quarter 3 of state fiscal year 2022-23. This report covers Quarter 4 for state fiscal year 2022-2023.

Current Standard of Care for Dually Involved Youth

Dually involved youth is defined as a youth who has ever been involved with, or served by, DCF and DJJ and is not limited to youth served by both Departments at the same time. DCF and DJJ have historically maintained a strong partnership to support this vulnerable population of youth. Both Departments use robust data to inform strategies around preventative approaches, enhanced services development, and increased quality. In 2016, the Departments designated Crossover Champions, individuals assigned in each circuit to strategize effective ways to serve youth, examine and evaluate current resources, and address potential gaps in services.

Data Sharing

DCF and DJJ share data monthly via secure file transfers and identify youth served by both agencies using matching protocols that include name, date of birth, and when available, social security number. This permits historical analyses of youth served by both agencies as well as recent time periods.

Updates on Strategies to Advance Collaboration and Services for Dually Involved Youth

Each quarter DCF and DJJ hosts cross agency opportunities for ongoing dually served statewide collaboration which is in addition to the local cross agency dually served collaborative efforts. The local efforts include local review teams that bring families together to provide multi-disciplinary support to connect services. These efforts are intended to prevent the need for out-of-home care or crisis care (or can result in connection to needed crisis care such as SIPP). Additionally, monthly cross agency meetings occur where all sister agency dually served representatives and lead agency Champions meet to review their local systems of care, share new updates, collaborate on system strategy action items for improvement, and update resource libraries and contact information to keep partners informed. Agency Champions also participate in multiple councils and outreach opportunities to collaborate on local strategies to improve how their communities serve dually served youth.

During Quarter 4, the Statewide Dually Served Team hosted the following:

- May 24, 2023: Quarterly Champion Chat where the regional dually served Champions shared results of the quality assurance reviews, trends, and local strategies.
- June 13-14, 2023: Dually Served Youth Statewide Crossover Champion Training in Ocala where the statewide cross agency Champions and partners joined to bring forth ideas to form the statewide strategic plan. An update on this plan is outlined below.

Dually Involved Youth Statewide Strategic Plan

The statewide Dually Involved Youth Strategic plan continues to be refined through the statewide Dually Served Champions collaboration. The following are short-term regional goals:

- Service Map Development – Circuit Local Review Team Champion collaboratives collect services and resources for their local area to create service maps and resource sheets to disseminate to partners in the Judiciary, legal network, community provider network, sister agencies, and others.
- Increase dually involved youth local awareness and participation for Judiciary – Circuit Local Review Team Champion collaboratives are reaching out to local judiciary assistants and judges to ensure they have local information for Champion contacts, available resources, and invitations to monthly local collaboration meetings.
- Increase awareness of Mobile Response Teams (MRT) in each local community – Circuit Local Review Team Champion collaboratives share MRT information across the system of care for those working with dually involved youth.

In addition, the following statewide collaborative strategies continue to develop for overall system of care enhancements and improvements:

- Ensuring an appropriate placement array with appropriate capacity. DCF shared the following approaches:

- Collaboration with Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Programs (SIPP), Department of Children and Families, Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), and lead agencies to increase capacity and programming. This work includes not only SIPP, but the therapeutic continuum of care for children (therapeutic group care, foster care, short term residential services, crisis care, respite).
 - a. Citrus Health in Miami has opened the first child short term residential care program to serve children leaving Baker Acts who meet established criteria for this level of care. Short Term Residential was identified by the SIPP collaboration group as one of the highest priority items to develop in Florida.
 - b. SIPP collaborative meetings are held monthly and next steps include adding the Managing Entities to participate, implementing a capacity reporting mechanism for statewide bed capacity, and ongoing strategy development around building capacity of the programs to meet the needs of children in Florida.
- Continued enhancement of the Department's placement array that includes specialization to better meet the needs of children dually served, such as human trafficking safe houses and safe foster homes, at-risk homes for sex trafficking, and qualified residential treatment programs (QRTP). The latter allows for specialization within the homes such as for children needing behavioral management coupled with developmental disabilities, aggressive behaviors, sexual behaviors, and specialized medical needs.
 - a. Expansion of the Citrus CHANCE model per new funding allocation in the 2023 Legislative Session. This expansion will focus on developing safe foster homes as well as the CHANCE outreach program in two high priority areas of the state, then further expansion into other areas of the state dependent on funding availability.
 - b. QRTP is in process of Rule promulgation to begin offering this licensing option and build specialized placements focused on behavioral needs of children.
- In the 2022 Legislative Session, the Department received funding for fatherhood grants. The grants will be used to fund mentorship programs for at-risk male students and to address the needs of fathers. The Department will begin offering mentorship services to at-risk male youth this year, and the initiative is expected to benefit dually served male youth.

Dually Served Youth Quality Review

The initial quality review was completed, and the trends were reviewed at the Dually Served Training. Highlights were shared within the Q1 and Q2 report. The Champions Team is currently developing strategies for implementation that have been informed by the review findings and trends from this quality review. These strategies will be included in the dually involved final strategic plan.

Evidence-Based Services Implementation

The Department of Juvenile Justice has extended the availability for dually served youth to participate in the evidence-based services of Family Functional Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is a strength-focused family counseling model designed for at-risk youth. It assists youth and families to overcome behavior problems, conduct disorder, substance abuse, and delinquency from a family-based perspective. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is focused on helping

youth and families replace maladaptive coping skills, thinking, emotions and behaviors with more adaptive ones by challenging an individual's way of thinking and their reaction to habits and behaviors. CBT challenges patterns and beliefs and replaces negative thinking with more realistic thoughts, which decreases emotional distress and self-defeating behavior.

The Department of Children and Families has extended the availability of FFT as well as Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) and Brief Strategic Therapy (BFST) through the implementation of the Families First Prevention Services Act. There are currently 10 Community Based Care Lead Agencies in various stages of implementing FFT to enhance their service array.

The Families First Transition Act (FFTA) funding is used to support training and certification to stand up four evidence-based services including MST. Currently there are three new MST teams in the implementation stages and several more under consideration during 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Sunshine Health partnered with DCF to support the implementation of BFST through their reinvestment grant for Community Based Care Lead Agencies and are supporting four programs across the state.

In addition, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program with Department of Children and Families supported funding for six evidence-based services through Managing Entity contracts to serve both Child and Family Well-Being identified children as well as community identified children needing this level of service:

- Circuit 13 (Hillsborough County) – MST
- Circuit 10 (Polk County) – FFT
- Circuit 6 (Pinellas County) – HomeBuilders
- Circuits 3/8 (Alachua County and surrounding areas) – FFT
- Circuit 5 (Hernando County) - HomeBuilders
- Circuit 7 (Volusia County) - MST

DCF completed a Families First Prevention Services training series to include an executive training, front line user training, and train the trainer sessions across the state in July and August 2023. This training will familiarize our team members with the approved evidence-based services, ready them to identify candidates for the appropriate services, prepare them to engage with families and ensure the proper documentation requirements are met, train our financial team members on documentation requirements, and build a training team to build expertise across the system of care. Many of the selected programs are focused on dually served as outlined above. This training will help to ensure current and new staff receive this critical training as part of the statewide implementation plan.

Data Summary and Trend Analysis of Dually Involved Youth Quarter 4 Fiscal Year 2022-2023

DCF Youth Served by DJJ

Children who had DCF contact and received DJJ services from April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

- **46,378** children were the subject of a DCF investigation that closed without a finding. Of those youth, 3,700 (8%) had DJJ involvement.
- **10,537** children were receiving in-home care. Of those youth, 873 (8%) had DJJ involvement.
- **23,858** children were receiving out-of-home care. Of those youth, 2,801 (12%) had DJJ involvement.

Table 1 displays percentages based on the DCF youth population in relation to level of DJJ involvement.

Among youth whose most intensive level of DCF involvement was an investigation, 92% had no prior or current DJJ involvement. Among those with prior or current DJJ involvement, the most common DJJ involvement was prevention (at 3.2%). Involvement in other levels of DJJ services ranged from 0% to 1.5%.

Among youth whose highest level of DCF involvement was in-home services, 91.7% had no history of DJJ involvement. The most common level of DJJ involvement for youth receiving in-home services was prevention, with 2.6% of DCF youth served during the quarter receiving these services at some point in their history. Participation in other areas of DJJ services ranged from 0% to 1.8%.

Among youth whose highest level of DCF involvement was out-of-home placement, 88.3% had no history of or current DJJ involvement. The most common level of DJJ involvement for youth receiving in-home services was prevention, with 2.9% of DCF youth served during the quarter receiving these services at some point in their history. Participation in other areas of DJJ services ranged from 0% to 2.5%.

The high levels of “No DJJ Involvement” in each “DCF Served” group is a function of DCF’s child population. Most children involved with DCF are aged 5 or below. This age group does not display behavior, emergent or otherwise, associated with DJJ involvement.

As DCF service intensity increases, so does the likelihood of prior DJJ contact. The exception to this is “Adult Jail”, where 0.2% of “In Home” and 0.3% of “Out of Home” children have this DJJ service level. This is likely due to a small count of DCF children in this DJJ service level. These numbers do not appear indicative of a beginning trend. An extremely small population of DCF youth were served with DJJ aftercare during the quarter. This causes the rounded percentages for those youth to display as 0.0%.

Table 1: Percentages of Youth Served by DCF with DJJ involvement During Quarter 4

	No DJJ		Civil							
DCF Served	Involvement	Prevention	Citation	Intake	Diversion	Probation	Commitment	Aftercare	Adult Jail	Total
Investigation	92.0%	3.2%	1.0%	1.5%	1.3%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
In Home	91.7%	2.6%	0.7%	1.0%	1.6%	1.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%	100.0%
Out of Home	88.3%	2.9%	0.9%	2.1%	2.5%	2.3%	0.8%	0.0%	0.3%	100.0%
Total	90.9%	3.0%	1.0%	1.6%	1.7%	1.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	100.0%

DJJ Youth Served By DCF

Youth served by DJJ during April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

- **26,469** had no DCF involvement.
- **15,889** had a DCF Investigation without a finding.
- **2,621** entered in home care.
- **5,431** entered out-of-home care.

Table 2 displays percentages based on the DJJ youth population. Rates of “no prior or current contact” with DCF for youth served in the juvenile justice system during the quarter ranged from 63.7% for prevention youth to 26.7% for commitment youth. Notably, as the level of involvement in the DJJ system increases, the likelihood of prior or current DCF contact generally increases. For example, over 22% of youth served in commitment and aftercare during the quarter had a history of DCF out-of-home placement, compared to just 9.3% of youth served in diversion. Similarly, over 9% of youth served in commitment and 8% served in aftercare had a history of in-home DCF services, compared to 3.8% of prevention and 4.2% of civil citation youth served by DJJ during Quarter 4 who have received in-home services.

Table 2: Percentages of Youth Served by DJJ with DCF involvement During Quarter 4

DCF		Civil						
Involvement	Prevention	Citation	Intake	Diversion	Probation	Commitment	Aftercare	Total
No DCF	63.7%	62.6%	43.5%	52.9%	40.3%	26.7%	28.0%	100.0%
Investigation	26.0%	26.6%	35.8%	32.7%	37.5%	41.0%	40.9%	100.0%
In Home	3.8%	4.2%	6.0%	5.1%	6.8%	9.5%	8.4%	100.0%
Out of Home	6.5%	6.6%	14.8%	9.3%	15.4%	22.7%	22.7%	100.0%

Lockout Youth in DCF Licensed Care

Between April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023, there were 605 crossover youth in a DJJ detention or residential program. Among youth released from a DJJ facility during the quarter, 22 entered a DCF licensed care within 0-10 days of being released from DJJ, 16 of those 22 youth, entered in a DCF program on the same day of their DJJ exit.

Table 3: DJJ Residential or Detention Exit to Licensed Care Entry

DJJ Residential or Detention Exit to DCF Entry	
DCF Out-of-Home Care with DJJ Residential and Detention Youth	605
“Lock-out” Youth	22
DCF Service Date Began on the Date of DJJ Exit Date	16

Point in Time Data / Dually Served Youth Trend

The number of children being dually served within the active DCF service environment (active participants within a child abuse investigation excluded) was 1,057 in July of 2018, compared to 893 in June 2023 (Chart 1). Although the trend has generally been downward, the number of dually served youth has risen since a sharp dip in mid-2022.

Chart 1: Youth Actively Receiving DCF and DJJ Services Statewide

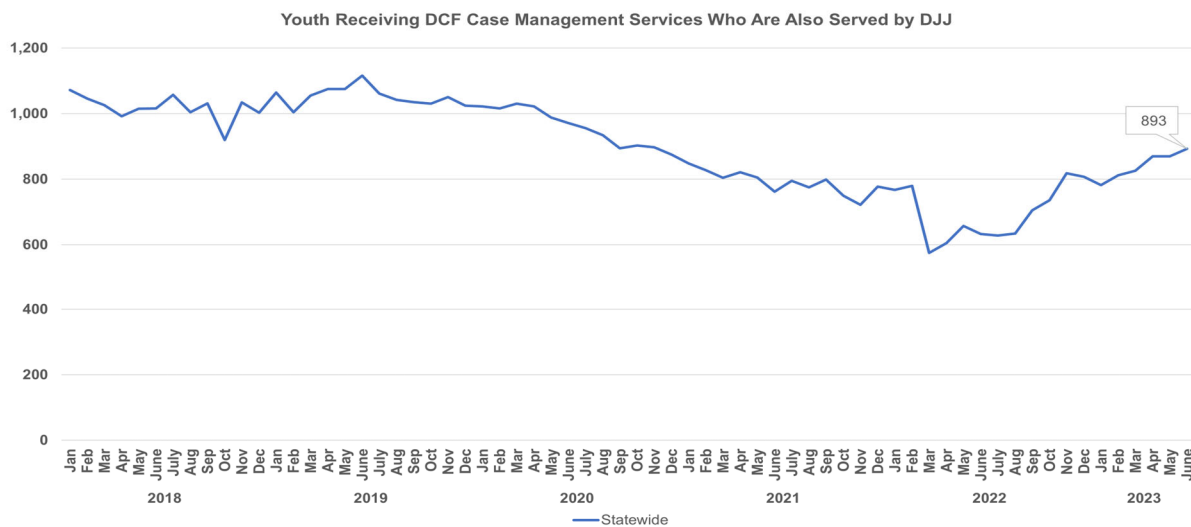
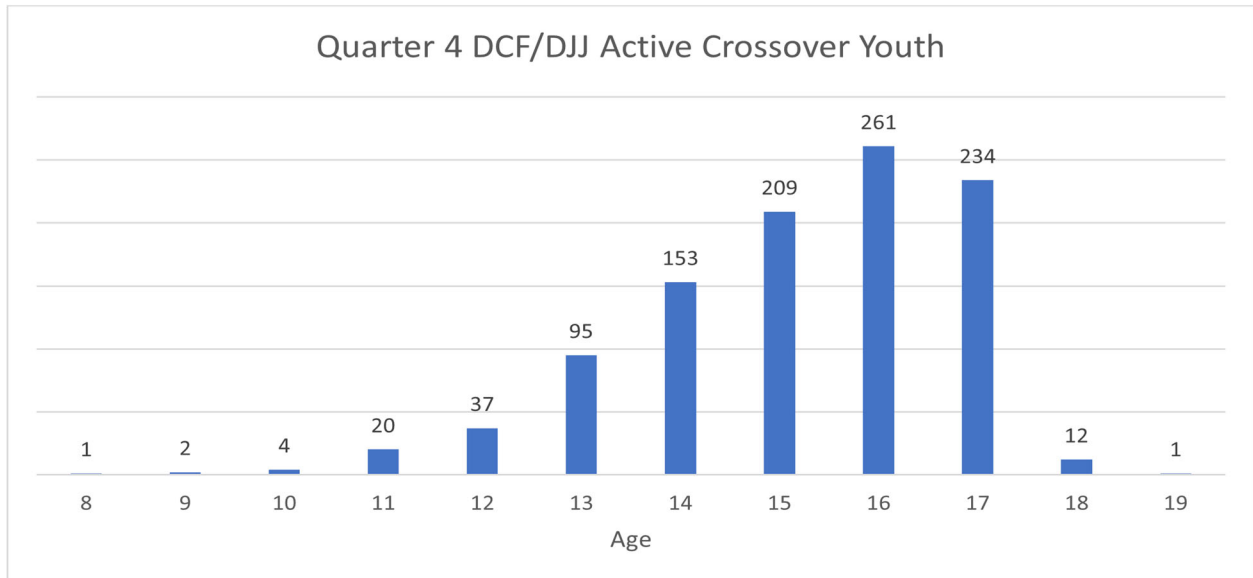


Chart 2 shows that most youth currently dually involved with DJJ are ages 14 to 17. This population is more likely to be dually served, with the highest single age group being 16-year-olds (25.4% of the total dually served population). While younger youth (less than 13) receive dual services, this population is just 6.2% of the total population dually served by DJJ and DCF. This population represents active dually served DCF youth during the entire quarter as opposed to point in time data for June 2023 shown on chart 1.

Chart 2: Youth Served in Quarter 4 by Age



Attachment 1

Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

Chapter 2022-67, Laws of Florida, Implementation Action Plan July 2023 Updates

CATEGORY 1 – Collaboration Regarding Dually Involved Youth:

- Issue policy formalizing best practices for interagency collaboration to address comprehensive needs of dually involved youth with accompanying checklist. (PCI-22-005, Dually Involved Youth - Collaboration with Department of Children and Families)
 - **UPDATE:** In process; expected to be completed November 2023.
- Implement child welfare specific caseloads for DJJ JPOs.
 - **UPDATE:** DJJ implemented specialized caseloads in July 2022.
- Identify a Crossover Champion for each CBC entity.
 - **UPDATE:** Completed November 2022.
- Coordinate Crossover Champion meetings and co-host a Statewide Dually Served Crossover Training.
 - **UPDATE:** Completed June 2023.
- Determine feasibility of consolidating dependency and delinquency court for dually involved youth.
 - **UPDATE:** Some judicial circuits are working toward a unified court for dually involved youth.
- Convene quality improvement teams to conduct case studies in the dually involved youth population.
 - **UPDATE:** Completed May 2023.
- Determine if FFT can be expanded statewide for dually involved youth.
 - **UPDATE:** Completed February 2023. There are ten Community Based Care Lead Agencies with DCF who are implementing FFT teams in partnership with the provider networks. There will be ongoing efforts to connect local areas to available FFT teams that are in place through DCF and DJJ as well as continue to explore additional opportunities for funding this service.
- Determine if DCF Crossover Champions can be granted access to JJIS and if DJJ Crossover Champions can be granted access to FSFN.
 - **UPDATE:** Completed January 2023.
- Explore a joint Legislative Budget Request (LBR) to address specific service needs for dually involved youth.
 - **UpDATE:** Continue to collaborate.

Explore the ability to expand the Stop Now and Plan (SNAP). SNAP is now available in the following circuits: 15, 14, 5, 2, 8, 10, 11, 19, 16, 20, 6, 9, 17, 18, and 4.

- **UPDATE:** DCF is reviewing all prevention funding sources for possible options and sharing the service across the provider network.

- Revise DCF Operating Procedure (CFOP) 170-17, Chapter 2: Transition Planning for Youth.
 - **UPDATE:** Transition planning timelines, documentation and contents are covered in 65C-42.001-.003 which also includes the My Pathway to Success Plan form.
- Maintain a dashboard report for ongoing analysis of data regarding dually involved youth.
 - **UPDATE:** DJJ and DCF continue to collaboratively produce the youth-level dashboard to assist staff in the field in identifying and appropriately serving these youth. A draft public-facing dashboard has been developed and is being reviewed by both agencies prior to posting online.
- Continue interagency partnership as part of the HOPE Florida Navigators rollout.
 - **UPDATE:** Update was provided at the June 2023 Crossover Champion Training as well as for the DJJ Navigator rollout.

CATEGORY 2 – Multidisciplinary Team Staffings Regarding Dually Involved Youth:

- Issue policy reinforcing requirement for DJJ staff to attend, participate, and support DCF in all local, regional, and state DCF multidisciplinary team staffings, as well as inviting DCF to any staffing scheduled by DJJ for a dually involved youth. (PCI-22-005, Dually Involved Youth - Collaboration with Department of Children and Families)
 - **UPDATE:** Completed 2022.
- Ensure youth and families have an opportunity to provide input in all DJJ multidisciplinary staffings.
 - **UPDATE:** Youth, parents, and guardians are invited to MDT staffings and are given time to provide input on the youth and their family's needs.
- Communicate with and train staff regarding revisions to CFOP 170-17, Chapter 2: Transition Planning for Youth.
 - **UPDATE:** The new updates have been shared with the field along with materials on best practices and trainings are occurring 2023 through December.

CATEGORY 3 – Quarterly Reporting to Legislature Regarding Dually Involved Youth:

- Analyze data to determine the number of dually involved youth and number of youth placed in licensed care after leaving the custody of DJJ; identify methods to track youth who are or become dually involved.
 - **UPDATE:** Ongoing.
- Track and summarize actions taken by both DJJ and DCF to better serve dually involved youth.
 - **UPDATE:** HB 7065 Action Plan is reviewed and updated by DCF/DJJ leadership biweekly.

CATEGORY 4 – Fatherhood Initiatives:

- Identify grant opportunities that will help expand fatherhood initiatives.
 - **UPDATE:** DCF awards are in process of execution.
- Host Bridging the G.A.A.P. (Gaining Appreciation by Adjusting Perspectives) conversations between fathers, sons, and law enforcement in prevention programs, gender-specific programs, and detention facilities.
 - **UPDATE:** DJJ facilitates G.A.A.P conversations throughout the state on an ongoing basis.
- Conduct a series of Community Outreach of Resources and Education (C.O.R.E.) events focused on recognizing fathers, the importance of their roles, and importance they play in our society.

- **UPDATE:** DJJ routinely conducts Community Outreach of Resources and Education.
- Engage fathers in the Restoring Hope Community Network Fathers Initiative to serve as mentors to youth who do not have the support of biological fathers.
 - **UPDATE:** Ongoing.
- Partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters to enhance services offered to incarcerated parents of youth.
 - **UPDATE:** Ongoing.
- Host a series of “Barbershop Talks” to bring fathers and sons together in a neutral setting to discuss and discover solutions to local issues affecting youth, such as bullying, drug use, and human trafficking.
 - **UPDATE:** Ongoing.
- Submit Requests for Application (RFAs) to fund a mentorship program for at-risk male students and a program to address the needs of fathers; issue Requests for Proposal (RFPs) to provide technical assistance to grantees.
 - **UPDATE:** DCF awards are in the process of execution.
- Issue an RFP for development and implementation of a statewide Responsible Fatherhood campaign.
 - **UPDATE:** DCF award contract to Family First on March 6, 2023.
- Identify a Statewide Fatherhood Engagement Program Lead (DCF) and amend CBC contracts to include Fatherhood Engagement Specialists.
 - **UPDATE:** The CBC contracts have been amended to include Fatherhood Engagement Specialist. Additional funding has been identified to help support the Father Engagement Program.

CATEGORY 5 – Postsecondary Education Support:

- Identify youth in DJJ residential programs or on probation/aftercare who graduated from high school and are interested in college/technical school; contract with Tallahassee Community College to assist with enrollment.
 - **UPDATE:** This has been implemented during the transition phase of the youth during their residential placement.
- Revise DCF Rule 65C-28.009, Florida Administrative Code (Transition to Adulthood), to include the Road to Independence Program; communicate with and train staff regarding revisions.
 - **UPDATE:** Training plan developed January 2023.

CATEGORY 6 – Quarterly Leadership Meetings:

- Establish quarterly leadership meetings between DJJ, DCF, and CBCs.
 - **UPDATE:** Ongoing - participants have been identified and meetings will take place quarterly with leadership from DCF, DJJ and CBCs.