



# Using Checklists to Assess Juvenile Justice Systems

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# Overview

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**Tools and Checklists for Use in System Assessment**

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**How to Complete the Online Interactive Juvenile Justice Agency Checklist**

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**Using Assessment Results for Planning and System Improvement**

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# The Council of State Governments Justice Center



**National nonprofit, nonpartisan membership association of state government officials**

**Represents all three branches of state government**

**Provides practical advice informed by the best available evidence**

# The National Reentry Resource Center



# Improving Outcomes for Youth in Contact with the Juvenile Justice System



July 2014

## Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes



July 2014

## Measuring and Using Juvenile Recidivism Data

# Core Principles for Improving Youth Outcomes

## Principle 1

Base supervision, service, and resource allocation decisions on the results of **validated risk and need assessments**

## Principle 2

Adopt and effectively implement **programs and services demonstrated to reduce recidivism** and improve other youth outcomes, and use data to **evaluate the results** and direct system improvements

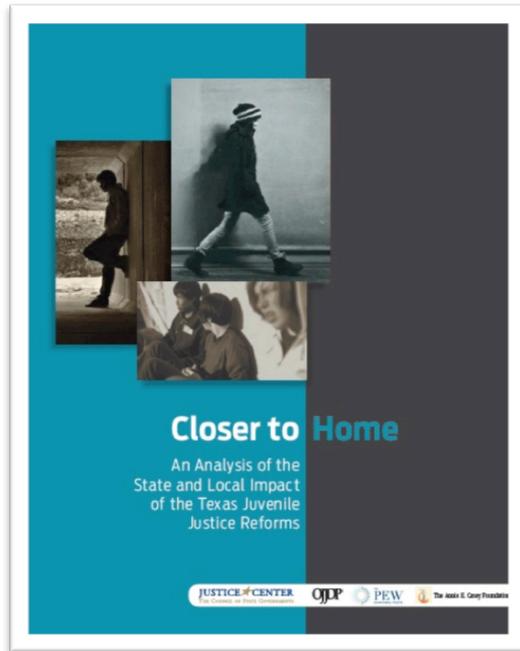
## Principle 3

Employ a **coordinated approach** across service systems to address youth's needs

## Principle 4

Tailor system policies, programs, and supervision to reflect the **distinct developmental needs of adolescents**

# Texas Closer to Home Study Findings Have Key Implications



- Texas reduced the number of incarcerated youth without compromising public safety
- Youth supervised “closer to home” have lower rearrest rates than similar youth released from state-run secure facilities
- Recidivism rates for youth on community supervision did not improve after the reforms even after a significant increase in funding
- Youth outcomes varied based on department adoption and implementation of best practices

# Tarrant County Juvenile Services Department Used Core Principles to Assess Practices



## TARRANT COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES

### Assessment of Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center issued a report July 2014 titled Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System. This report provides guidance on how to improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system.

<http://access.tarrantcounty.com/content/dam/main/juvenile-services/Documents/TCJSCorePrinc-final.pdf>

# Tarrant County Self-Assessment

**Principle 1:** Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments

**Recommendation A:** Minimize juvenile justice system supervision and services for youth who are at a low risk of reoffending.

**What has Been Accomplished:**

- ☞ Adopted policy allows for LEAs to provide First Offender Program without referral to JPD
- ☞ Utilizing Victim-offender mediation, CSR & drug court diversion programs
- ☞ Entered into collaborations with schools to prevent youth from entering JJ system
- ☞ Implemented early intervention/collaboration with shared youth in CPS system
- ☞ Created a resource development position to engage more local resources for diversion of low risk youth
- ☞ Increased percentage of low risk youth diverted annually since FY 2008 (In FY 2014 91% of youth diverted were low risk)

**Continued Work to be Done:**

- ☞ Improve alignment of low risk youth with supervision decisions and services

**Recommendation B:** Maximize the impact and value of system resources by prioritizing services for youth most likely to reoffend and by minimizing the use of confinement.

**What has Been Accomplished:**

- ☞ Diverting a higher percentage of low risk youth since implementing the PACT
- ☞ Diverting a high percentage of youth referred at intake (e.g., FY2014 - 35%)
- ☞ Reduced the number of youth in out-of-home placement by 30% since 2009
- ☞ Reduced the number of youth committed to TJJD by 50% since 2009
- ☞ Basing the detention of youth on set criteria including seriousness of offense, community safety & best interest of the youth
- ☞ Committing youth of all races to secure confinement at a similar rate

**Continued Work to be Done:**

- ☞ Review and consider adoption of a validated detention screening instrument

**Recommendation C:** Use validated assessments to identify the primary causes of a youth's delinquent behaviors and focus system interventions and resources on addressing these causes

**What has Been Accomplished:**

- ☞ Implemented the PACT Pre-Screen and Full-Screen in FY 2009 to identify dynamic risk and need factors of youth
- ☞ Adopted policy on frequency of administering & updating a youth's assessment
- ☞ Established policy & practice for case plan development to address youth risk, needs and responsibility
- ☞ Established process for inter-rater reliability on administration of the PACT for quality improvement and adherence to protocols
- ☞ Utilizing assessment data to determine service gaps and better align resources

**Continued Work to be Done:**

- ☞ Clearly define the risk and criminogenic need each program & service addresses

**Recommendation D:** Use specialized, validated screenings and assessments to identify youth with mental health and substance use treatment needs and match them to services, minimizing juvenile justice intervention when appropriate.

**What has Been Accomplished:**

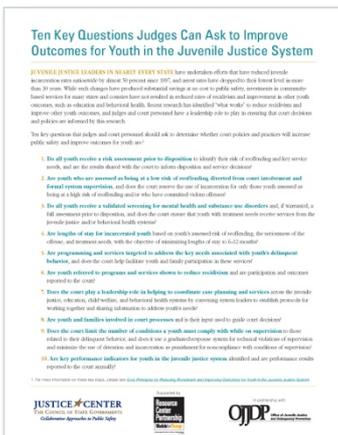
- ☞ Administering the MAYSI-2 screening instrument on all youth formally referred. Youth with high risk scores are referred for more in-depth MH assessment
- ☞ In 2014 the Tarrant County community adopted and is utilizing Reaching Teens which guides staff to strength-based, resilience-building, and trauma-informed strategies
- ☞ Developed MH resources at all points of the juvenile system including providing parents resource information, accessing the YES Waiver, & specialized caseloads
- ☞ Participating in the JJ-Trials initiative to implement best practice & improve services for youth with substance abuse issues

**Continued Work to be Done:**

- ☞ Review policy & practice to ensure it supports youth who are low to low/moderate risk of reoffending receive

# Checklist Resources

- Checklists were developed based on
  - Four Core Principles
  - Work with states through NRRC
  - Pilot testing
- Checklists are designed to help state and local officials assess whether their juvenile justice system’s policies and practices are aligned with “what works”



- Three checklists are directed at specific users:
  - Judges
  - Policymakers
  - Juvenile justice agency leaders / managers

Share:



### Closer to Home: An Analysis of the State and Local Impact of the Texas Juvenile Justice Reforms

This unprecedented study compares the



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- How Federal Investments Make Us Smarter About Reducing Recidivism
- Mental Health Reform: Improving Access to Care & Reducing Incarceration
- The Diane Rehm Show: New Efforts to

Share:



# Youth

Reducing Juvenile Recidivism Interactive Checklists

Publications

Webinars and Video

Funding Opportunities

2014 Second Chance Act Conference

## Fifty-State Survey of State Education Agencies' Online School Disciplinary Data

The CSG Justice Center has collaborated with the UCLA Civil Rights Project's Center for Civil Rights Remedies to extract information from all 50 State Education Agency (SEA) websites to compile publicly reported school disciplinary data.

[Learn More](#)



Click here to subscribe for newsletters and updates. Be sure to select "youth" as a topic of interest.

## Reducing Juvenile Recidivism Interactive Checklists

These interactive checklists can help state and local officials to assess whether their juvenile justice system’s policies and practices are aligned with the research on “what works” to reduce recidivism and to identify opportunities for improvement. There are three checklists, each tailored to a specific audience:

### Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers Checklist

Provides a comprehensive online assessment and scoring tool to enable agency leaders to identify system strengths, areas for improvement, and develop an action plan to improve outcomes for youth.



Take the full comprehensive assessment or [download a static version](#) for reference.

### Additional Resources



- **Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System**
- **Measuring and Using Juvenile Recidivism Data to Inform Policy, Practice, and Resource Allocation**

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/youth/reducing-juvenile-recidivism-interactive-checklists/>

# Judicial Checklist

## Ten Key Questions Judges Can Ask to Improve Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

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**JUVENILE JUSTICE LEADERS IN NEARLY EVERY STATE** have undertaken efforts that have reduced juvenile incarceration rates nationwide by almost 50 percent since 1997, and arrest rates have dropped to their lowest level in more than 30 years. While such changes have produced substantial savings at no cost to public safety, investments in community-based services for many states and counties have not resulted in reduced rates of recidivism and improvement in other youth outcomes, such as education and behavioral health. Recent research has identified “what works” to reduce recidivism and improve other youth outcomes, and judges and court personnel have a leadership role to play in ensuring that court decisions and policies are informed by this research.

Ten key questions that judges and court personnel should ask to determine whether court policies and practices will increase public safety and improve outcomes for youth are:<sup>1</sup>

- 1. Do all youth receive a risk assessment prior to disposition** to identify their risk of reoffending and key service needs, and are the results shared with the court to inform disposition and service decisions?
- 2. Are youth who are assessed as being at a low risk of reoffending diverted from court involvement and formal system supervision**, and does the court reserve the use of incarceration for only those youth assessed as being at a high risk of reoffending and/or who have committed violent offenses?

# Policymaker Checklist

## Three Key Steps Policymakers Can Take to Improve Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

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**POLICYMAKERS IN NEARLY EVERY STATE** have undertaken efforts to reduce the number of youth who are incarcerated. For these policymakers, recent trends are cause for encouragement: juvenile incarceration rates have declined nationwide by almost 50 percent since 1997, and arrest rates have dropped to their lowest level in more than 30 years. While such changes have produced substantial savings at no cost to public safety, for many states and counties, investments in community-based services have not resulted in reduced rates of recidivism or improvements in other key youth outcomes, such as education or behavioral health. In order to maximize the results of system improvement efforts, state and local policymakers must now focus on what additional strategies are needed to reduce high rearrest and reincarceration rates and improve supervision and services for all youth in contact with the juvenile justice system.

Three key steps policymakers can take to increase public safety, improve youth outcomes, and maximize the efficient use of resources are:<sup>1</sup>

1. **Prioritize reducing recidivism and improving other outcomes for youth in contact with the juvenile justice system** and establish key performance indicators for improvement.
2. **Develop a system-wide plan to reduce recidivism and improve other outcomes for youth in contact with the juvenile justice system**, with input from across branches of government and youth/family service agencies.
  - **Require that all youth receive a risk assessment prior to disposition** to identify their risk of reoffending and key service needs, and ensure that the results are used to make disposition, service, and length-of-stay decisions.
  - **Establish guidelines that promote the diversion of low-risk youth** from court involvement or formal system supervision.

# Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers

## Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers

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**THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST** will help your agency conduct a detailed assessment of how current policy and practice align with what research has shown works to reduce recidivism and improve other outcomes for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. The best practices outlined in this checklist are grouped by the four core principles detailed in [Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System](#). You can use this hard-copy checklist to assess your agency, or [complete your assessment online](#) and receive an automated scoring of your results and identification of areas for improvement.\*

To complete this checklist, you should compile documentation and/or have complete knowledge of your agency's policies and procedures. To the extent possible, you should also review available assessment, supervision, service, and outcome data, and collect wide-ranging input from agency staff and contract providers to accurately assess agency practice.

In instances where policy exists or practices always align with the question posed, choose "Always (Yes)" as your response option. In instances where practices align 50 percent of the time or more, choose "Most of the Time." For practices that happen as described less than 50 percent of the time, choose "Some of the Time." For questions where policies do not exist or practices never happen as described, choose "Never (No)." Some questions may not apply to your particular agency or to the youth under your agency's jurisdiction; in those instances, choose "Not Applicable." Do not use the "Not Applicable" option to indicate that your agency does not have a specific policy or practice.

When completing the checklist, please keep in mind that the goal of the assessment is to more fully understand agency practices and they compare to what research has shown works to reduce recidivism. Accurate identification of agency and system needs allows for the development of targeted plans for improvement.

**PRINCIPLE 1: Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments.**

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# Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers Checklist

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When completing the checklist, please keep in mind that the goal of the assessment is to more fully understand agency practices and they compare to what research has shown works to reduce recidivism. Accurate identification of agency and system needs allows for the development of targeted plans for improvement.

### PRINCIPLE 1: Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments.

Always (Yes)	Most of the Time	Some of the Time	Never (No)	Not Applicable	Youth dispositions and supervision are based primarily on risk of reoffending.
					1. Agency policy requires that all youth receive a risk screen and/or full risk assessment prior to disposition.
					2. A risk screen and/or full risk assessment is completed for all youth prior to disposition.
					3. Results from the risk screen and/or full risk assessment are used as a primary factor in diversion decisions made by the agency.
					4. Youth who are assessed as being at low risk of reoffending are diverted from adjudication and formal system involvement.
					5. The agency uses a dispositional matrix or guideline that includes youth risk level to guide diversion decisions.

# Option to Complete Interactive Checklist Online

## Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers Checklist

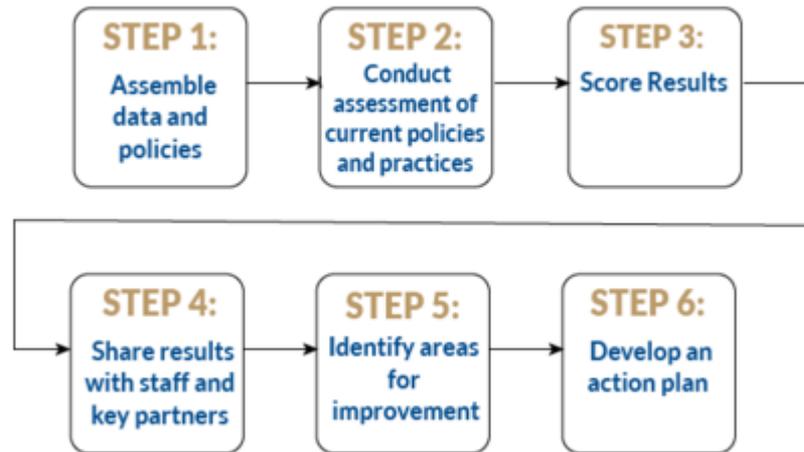
Provides a comprehensive online assessment and scoring tool to enable agency leaders to identify system strengths, areas for improvement, and develop an action plan to improve outcomes for youth.



Take the full comprehensive assessment or [download a static version](#) for reference.

# Before you Begin the Checklist

## Using the Agency Leaders and Managers Checklist



- Gather system documents and have complete knowledge of your system before you begin the Checklist
  - The interactive checklist is organized into 4 sections, one for each Core Principle
  - There is a total of 143 questions on the checklist
- Encourage staff from across the agency to participate in the assessment

## Reducing Juvenile Recidivism Interactive Checklists

These interactive checklists can help state and local officials to assess whether their juvenile justice system’s policies and practices are aligned with the research on “what works” to reduce recidivism and to identify opportunities for improvement. There are three checklists, each tailored to a specific audience:

### Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers Checklist

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### Additional Resources



- **Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System**
- **Measuring and Using Juvenile Recidivism Data to Inform Policy, Practice, and Resource Allocation**

# Interactive Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers

The following checklist will help your agency conduct a detailed assessment of how current policy and practice align with what research has shown works to reduce recidivism and improve other outcomes for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. The best practices outlined in this checklist are grouped by the four core principles detailed in *Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System*.

**There are five response options for each checklist item.** In instances where policy exists or practices always align with the question posed, choose "Always (Yes)." In instances where practices align 50 percent of the time or more, choose "Most of the Time." For practices that happen as described less than 50 percent of the time, choose "Some of the Time." For questions where policies do not exist or practices never happen as described, choose "Never (No)." Some questions may not apply to your particular agency or to the youth under your agency's jurisdiction; in those instances, choose "Not Applicable." Do not use the "Not Applicable" option to indicate that your agency does not have a specific policy or practice. All questions in a section must be answered in order to proceed to the next section and all questions in all sections must be answered in order to complete and score the checklist.

**After completion of the checklist, you will receive an overall score as well as a score for each section.** You will be given an opportunity to save or print your scores and responses to a PDF. Please note that your scoring report cannot be retrieved if your browser's local storage is cleared, so please save the PDF to your computer for your records.

When completing the checklist and reviewing your scores, please keep in mind that the goal of the assessment is to more fully understand agency practices and how they compare to what research has shown works to reduce recidivism. Accurate identification of agency and system needs will allow you to develop targeted plans for improvement. Questions about the checklist may be directed to [narrigona@csg.org](mailto:narrigona@csg.org).

For your convenience, your responses for each completed section will be saved on your computer. This allows you to recover your partially completed form if the browser is closed or the page is refreshed. No login is required to save or retrieve your responses. Please note that if the browser cache is cleared, or "Clear All Responses" on the sidebar is used, your responses will be permanently cleared and you will have to start over. For best results, please use [Google Chrome](#).

Produced with support of:



An initiative supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation  
[www.macfound.org](http://www.macfound.org)

Based on the *Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System*:



## Checklist Status

0 of 13 sections complete

### Demographic Information

Principle 1

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Principle 2

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Principle 3

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Principle 4

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Clear all responses

# To Begin the Checklist You Must Enter Your Details

Enter your details to begin:

First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>
Agency:	<input type="text"/>
Agency Type:	<input type="text" value="▼"/>

Save and Go to Next Section

Return to this page to resume your progress.

# Interactive Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers

## Principle 1: Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments.

Youth dispositions and supervision are based primarily on risk of reoffending.

1. Agency policy requires that all youth receive a risk screen and/or full risk assessment prior to disposition.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

2. A risk screen and/or full risk assessment is completed for all youth prior to disposition.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

3. Results from the risk screen and/or full risk assessment are used as a primary factor in diversion decisions made by the agency.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

### Checklist Status

0 of 13 sections complete

✓ Demographic Information

#### Principle 1

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

#### Principle 2

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

#### Principle 3

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

#### Principle 4

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Clear all responses

# Select One of Five Options to Answer Each Question

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

- Always/Yes
  - Policy and/or practice exist and are always used
  - Yes
- Most of the time
  - Policy and/or practice align 50% of the time or more
- Some of the time
  - Policy and/or practice align less than 50% of the time
- Never / No
  - Policies do not exist or practice is never used
  - No
- Not applicable
  - Question does not apply to agency

# Click Blue Bar at Bottom of Page to Save and Advance to Next Section

20. Electronic data includes information on residential and detention facility placement.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

21. Risk and needs assessment data is collected in an electronic data system.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

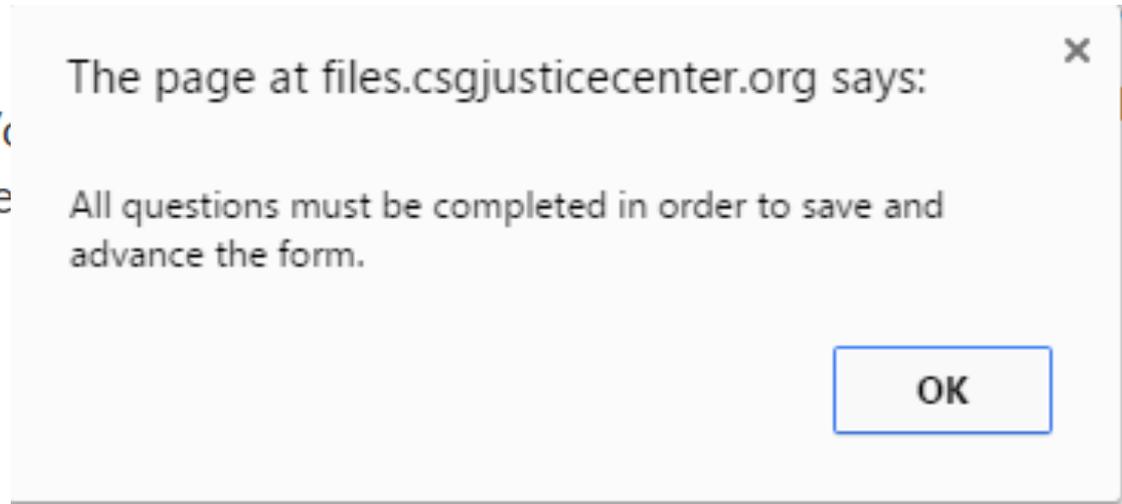
Save and Go to Next Section

Return to this page to resume your progress.

# All Questions Must be Completed

3. Results from the risk screen and/c diversion decisions made by the age

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable



4. Youth who are assessed as being at low risk of reoffending are diverted from adjudication and formal system involvement.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

# Responses are Saved to Your Computer

For your convenience, your responses for each completed section will be saved on your computer. This allows you to recover your partially completed form if the browser is closed or the page is refreshed. No login is required to save or retrieve your responses. Please note that if the browser cache is cleared, or "Clear All Responses" on the sidebar is used, your responses will be permanently cleared and you will have to start over. For best results, please use [Google Chrome](#).

- To access complete or incomplete forms, click on interactive checklist icon on the Justice Center webpage
- You will be able to navigate through completed pages, make revisions and complete the checklist

# Progress Through the Checklist is Displayed on Right Side of Page

## Interactive Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers

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- Some of the Time
- Never
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2. A risk screen and/or full risk assessment is completed for all youth prior to disposition.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

3. Results from the risk screen and/or full risk assessment are used as a primary factor in diversion decisions made by the agency.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

### Checklist Status

0 of 13 sections complete

✓ Demographic Information

#### Principle 1

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

#### Principle 2

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

#### Principle 3

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

#### Principle 4

Section 1

Section 2

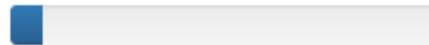
Section 3

Section 4

[Clear all responses](#)

# Progress Through the Checklist is Displayed on Right Side of Page

## Checklist Status



1 of 13 sections complete

✓ Demographic Information

### Principle 1

✓ Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

### Principle 2

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

### Principle 3

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

### Principle 4

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Clear all responses

## Checklist Status



6 of 13 sections complete

✓ Demographic Information

### Principle 1

✓ Section 1

✓ Section 2

✓ Section 3

### Principle 2

✓ Section 1

✓ Section 2

✓ Section 3

### Principle 3

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

### Principle 4

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Clear all responses

## Checklist Status



13 of 13 sections complete

✓ Demographic Information

### Principle 1

✓ Section 1

✓ Section 2

✓ Section 3

### Principle 2

✓ Section 1

✓ Section 2

✓ Section 3

### Principle 3

✓ Section 1

✓ Section 2

✓ Section 3

### Principle 4

✓ Section 1

✓ Section 2

✓ Section 3

✓ Section 4

Clear all responses

# Complete the Checklist by Clicking Save and Submit

## Principle 4: Tailor system policies, programs, and supervision to reflect the distinct developmental needs of adolescents.

Youth are treated fairly and receive services tailored to their unique needs.

24. The agency offers gender-specific programs and services.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

25. The agency offers culturally-specific p

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

26. The agency has specific programs and youth transitioning to independence.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

29. Data on potential differences in the processing and treatment of youth are analyzed to determine if and where disparities exist in the system.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

30. If disparities have been identified, the agency takes action to promote more equitable supervision and service decisions.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable

31. Staff receive ongoing cultural competence and equity training.

- Always
- Most of the Time
- Some of the Time
- Never
- Not Applicable



Save and Submit for Scoring

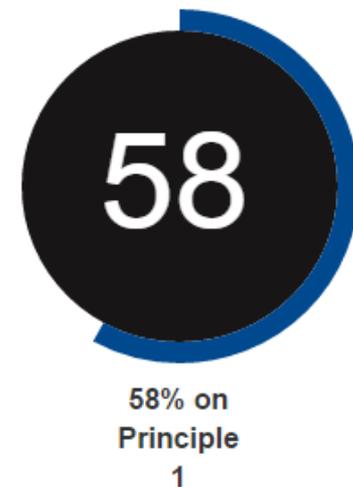
# Interactive Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers: Scoring Page

This checklist is designed to assist juvenile justice agencies to identify areas of strength and areas where current policy and practice does not conform with what research has shown to reduce recidivism. No juvenile justice system has fully implemented all or even most of "what works."

The percent of total possible points is provided for each principle and for the checklist in sum. Principle subsection scores are also provided to allow the agency to pinpoint specific areas for improvement.

## Principle 1: Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments.

<b>Principle 1 Score</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>Section Scores:</b>	
Youth dispositions and supervision are based primarily on risk of reoffending.	54%
Validated screens and assessments are conducted to identify youth needs, and youth are matched to services that address the needs associated with their delinquency.	63%
Agency policy and practice emphasize the importance of using the results of screens and assessments in supervision and service decisions.	58%



# Scoring Page Provides Suggestions on Ways to Improve

- Each Principle score is followed by suggestions on ways to improve youth outcomes

## To Improve Outcomes >>

### Screen/ assess all youth and use results to make disposition, service, and length of stay decisions

- Adopt a dispositional matrix that includes youth risk level
- Focus supervision and services on moderate and high risk youth

### Identify those things associated with a youth's delinquency and focus programs and services to address those needs

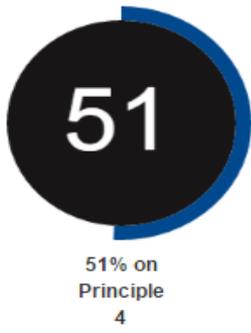
- Base programs and services on assessment results
- Ensure time in programming matches youth risk and needs

### Prioritize staff training and monitor compliance with agency policy and practice expectations

- Provide training on use of assessment results in program referrals and case planning
- Review screens and assessments for accuracy

Principle 4: Tailor system policies, programs, and supervision to reflect the distinct developmental needs of adolescents.

<b>Principle 4 Score</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Section Scores:</b>	
Youth and families are engaged in system decisions, including case planning and service delivery.	57%
Youth supervision is focused on promoting positive behavior change.	67%
Youth are held accountable for their actions in a developmentally appropriate manner.	48%
Youth are treated fairly and receive services tailored to their unique needs.	42%



- To Improve Outcomes >>**
- Include youth and their families in case planning and service-delivery decisions**
    - Schedule programs and visits at times / locations that maximize participation
    - Link youth and families to community supports prior to discharge or reentry
  - Provide supervision and services that focus on promoting positive behavior change**
    - Train staff in motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral approaches for engaging with youth
    - Ensure officer time is spent in a supportive role
  - Use a graduated sanction matrix based on youth risk and seriousness of violation; offer rewards/incentives for positive behavior**
    - Use restorative justice practices to help youth understand harm caused to victims and communities
  - Monitor for potential differences in the processing and treatment of youth at system decision points and take action to promote equity if differences exist**
    - Provide staff with ongoing cultural competence and equity training



<b>Total Checklist Score</b>	<b>58%</b>
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# View, Print or Save

Total Checklist Score

58%

## View Responses

Print or Save PDF

Having trouble saving a PDF? Check out these instructions for your browser to save a PDF from the print dialog box:

[Save Web Pages to PDF in Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer](#)

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For more information on "what works" to reduce recidivism and improve other outcomes for youth in contact with the juvenile justice system and how to translate this research into policy and practice improvements, please see [Core Principles For Reducing Recidivism And Improving Other Outcomes For Youth In The Juvenile Justice System](#).

## View Responses

### Principle 1

1:	Agency policy requires that all youth receive a risk screen and/or full risk assessment prior to disposition.	Most of the Time
2:	A risk screen and/or full risk assessment is completed for all youth prior to disposition.	Most of the Time
3:	Results from the risk screen and/or full risk assessment are used as a primary factor in diversion decisions made by the agency.	Some of the Time
4:	Youth who are assessed as being at low risk of reoffending are diverted from adjudication and formal system involvement.	Most of the Time
5:	The agency uses a dispositional matrix or guideline that includes youth risk level to guide diversion decisions.	Some of the Time
6:	Agency staff use risk screen and/or full risk assessment results when making disposition recommendations.	Most of the Time
7:	The court receives a youth's full risk assessment results prior to that youth's disposition hearing.	Some of the Time
8:	Results from full risk assessments are used as a primary factor in disposition decisions made by the court.	Always
9:	The agency uses a dispositional matrix or guideline that includes youth risk level to guide disposition decisions.	Most of the Time
10:	Decisions made by the court regarding a youth's expected length of time on community supervision or in a residential facility are based primarily on a youth's risk of reoffending.	Most of the Time
11:	Supervision requirements are primarily based on the youth's risk level, with high- and moderate-risk youth receiving more contact from the supervising officer than low-risk youth.	Most of the Time
12:	Youth committed to state-run secure facilities are high risk and/or have committed a violent felony offense.	Most of the Time

Print

Total: 7 sheets of paper (13 pages)

**Print** Cancel

Destination: HP Photosmart 7520 se...  
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Pages:  All  
 e.g. 1-5, 8, 11-13

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Color: Black and white

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[Print using system dialog... \(Ctrl+Shift+P\)](#)

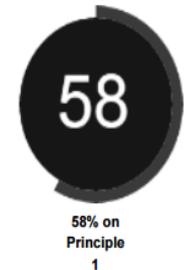
## Interactive Checklist for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers: Scoring Page

This checklist is designed to assist juvenile justice agencies to identify areas of strength and areas where current policy and practice does not conform with what research has shown to reduce recidivism. No juvenile justice system has fully implemented all or even most of "what works."

The percent of total possible points is provided for each principle and for the checklist in sum. Principle subsection scores are also provided to allow the agency to pinpoint specific areas for improvement.

### Principle 1: Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments.

<b>Principle 1 Score</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>Section Scores:</b>	
Youth dispositions and supervision are based primarily on risk of reoffending.	54%
Validated screens and assessments are conducted to identify youth needs, and youth are matched to services that address the needs associated with their delinquency.	63%
Agency policy and practice emphasize the importance of using the results of screens and assessments in supervision and service decisions.	58%



#### To Improve Outcomes >>

##### Screen/ assess all youth and use results to make disposition, service, and length of stay decisions

- Adopt a dispositional matrix that includes youth risk level
- Focus supervision and services on moderate and high risk youth

##### Identify those things associated with a youth's delinquency and focus programs and services to address those needs

- Base programs and services on assessment results
- Ensure time in programming matches youth risk and needs

##### Prioritize staff training and monitor compliance with agency policy and practice expectations

- Provide training on use of assessment results in program referrals and case planning
- Review screens and assessments for accuracy

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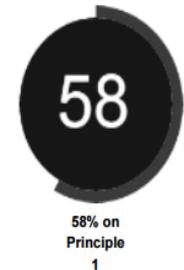
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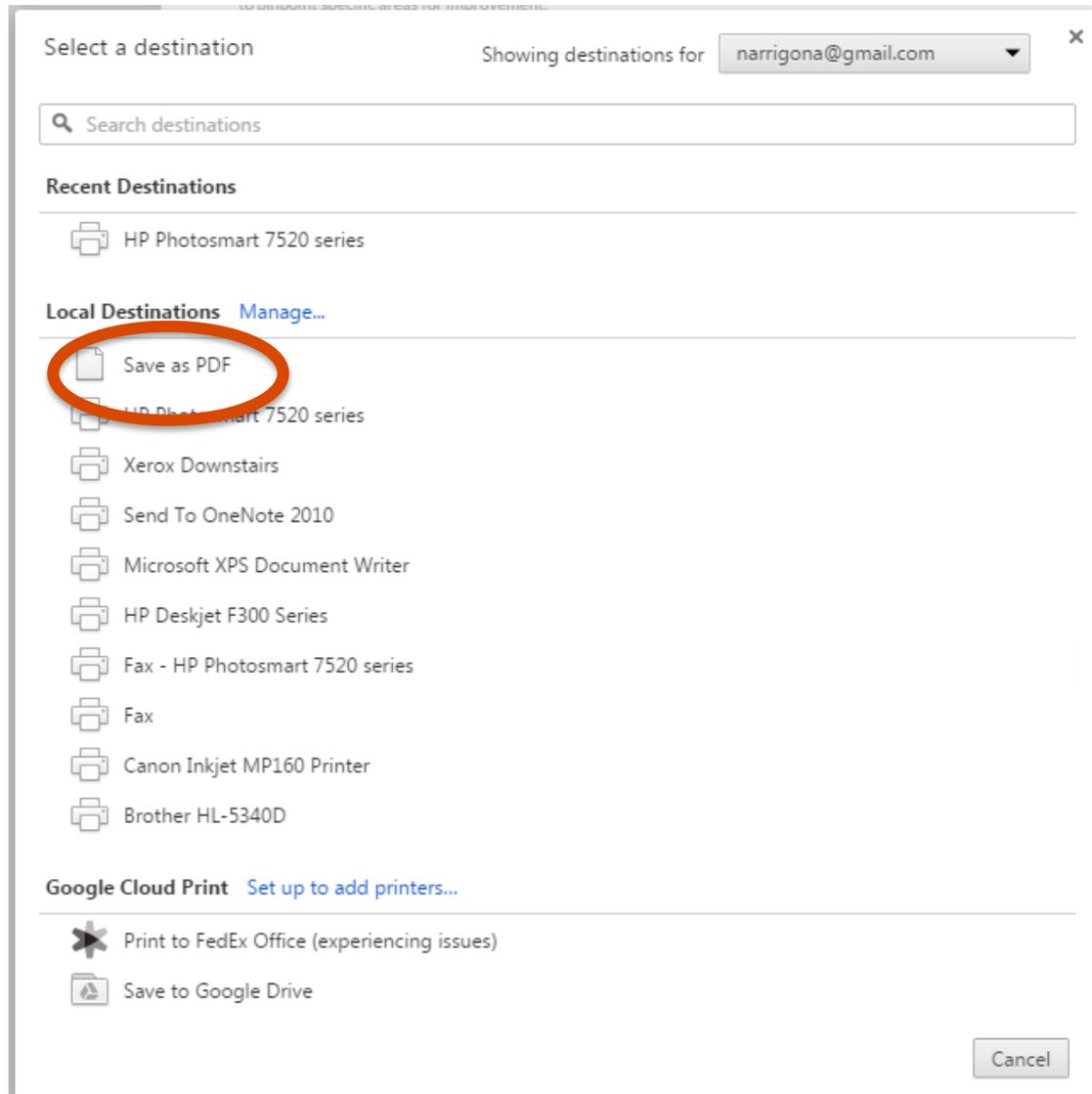
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# Change Destination to “PDF” to Save Scoresheet



# Save to PDF so You Can Keep or Share

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Destination

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Layout

Paper size

Margins

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 Background graphics

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Paper size

Margins

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for Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers:

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**58**  
58% on Principle 1

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# Now You Have a Score, What Next?

- The checklist provides scores which reflect your agency's use of "what works"
- Use the information from the checklist to identify areas for improvement
  - Bring staff with different expertise together to discuss
- Develop a plan
- Complete checklist again to track progress

# Indiana Department of Corrections Reentry Summit

## **IDOC/DYS Leadership**

- **Central Office Executive Staff**
- **Facility Superintendents**
- **Facility Program Directors**
- **Facility School Principals**
- **Some Reentry Task Force Members**
- **JDAI Reintegration Specialists**



# Objectives

- Exercise #3 from NRRC Planning and Implementation Guide
  - Survey Questions (Barriers and Strengths)
  - Potential Solutions



# Objectives



- Exercise #4 from NRRC Planning and Implementation Guide
- Proposed Solutions
  - Short-term Goals
  - Medium-term Goals
  - Long-term Goals

# Outcomes

- **Enthusiastic, focused, energized discussion**
- **Comprehensive action plan**
- **Renewed focus on Reentry**

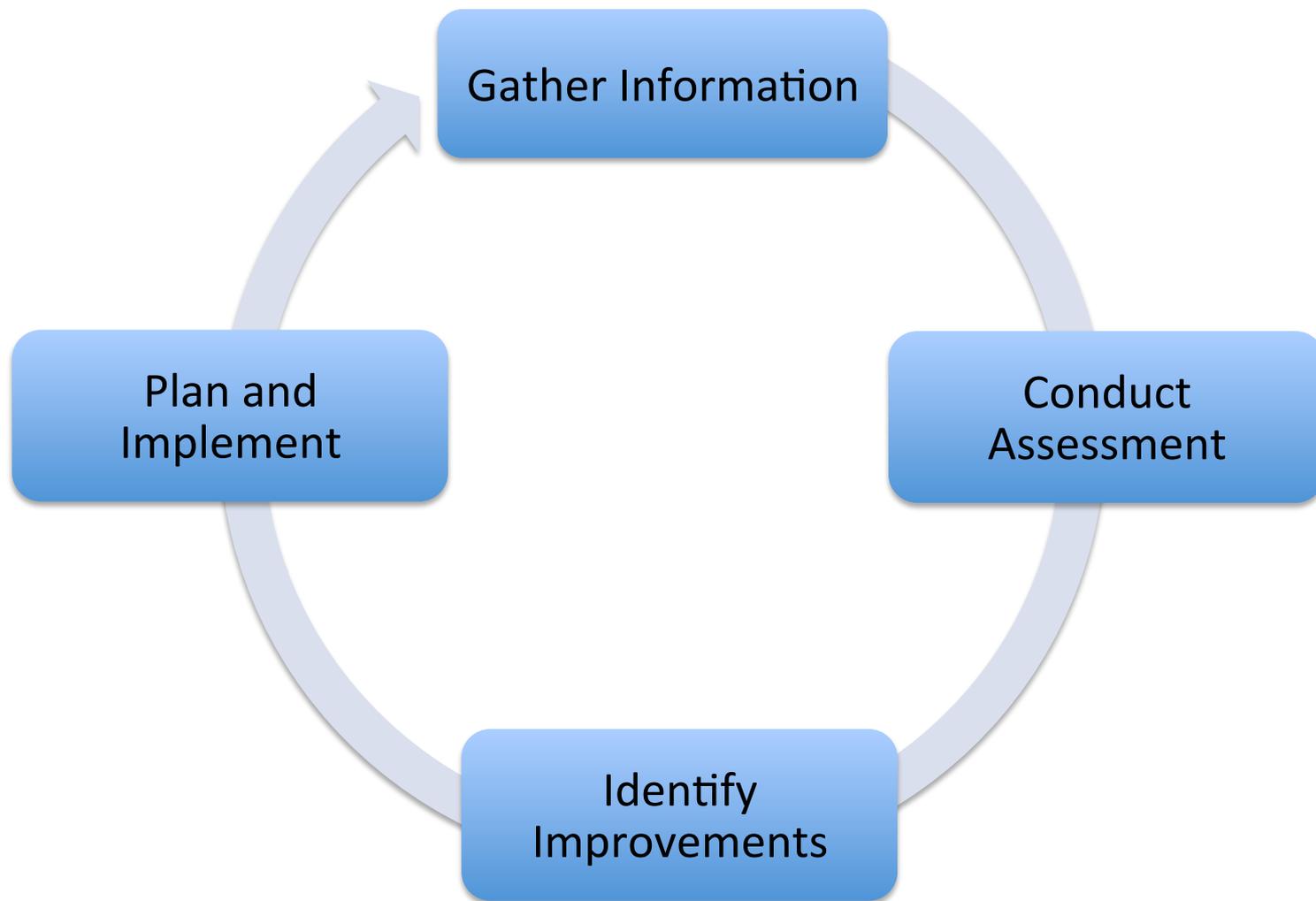


# Lessons Learned



- **Event needs structure**
- **Assign participants to groups**
- **Facilitators need to be strong and discussion needs to be time-bound**
- **Survey Questions need to be discussed to assure everyone understands what is being asked**

# Use Checklists and Other Resources for Continuous Improvement



# Thank You

Join our distribution list to receive CSG Justice Center project updates!

[www.csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe](http://www.csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe)

For more information contact Nancy Arrigona, Research Manager at:

[narrigona@csg.org](mailto:narrigona@csg.org)

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