

*The Connecticut Youth Services Association leads, strengthens and supports a unified network of Youth Service Bureaus and Juvenile Review Boards dedicated to promoting the well-being of children, youth and families.*

## YOUTH SERVICE BUREAUS (YSB)

103 YSBs serving 138 towns

### What is a YSB?

A Youth Service Bureau is an **agency** operated directly by one or more municipalities or a nonprofit entity. The YSB is designed to plan, evaluate, coordinate, and implement a network of resources and opportunities for children, youth, and their families.

### What are the statutory requirements for YSBs?

YSBs are codified in state statute CGS 10-19m and are required to conduct the Administrative Core Unit Functions (ACUs) which include: Management and Administration, Needs Assessment, Community Resource Development, Community Involvement, and Advocacy

### Who do YSBs serve?

Children ages birth to 18 (up to 21 if still in school)

### What services are provided by YSBs?

Coordination and implementation of:

- Prevention and intervention programs for "delinquent, predelinquent, pregnant, parenting and troubled youth" (10-19m)
- Mental health, diversion, truancy, prevention, youth development, employment skills, substance use, and other programming based on the needs of the community

### Who can make referrals to YSBs?

- Schools, community and state agencies, police, parents, and self-referrals

### How much appropriated funding do YSBs receive?

- **YSB Main Grant: \$2,654,772 (for 103 YSBs)**

Since 1996, each new YSB only receives \$14,000 annually. This amount must be matched 100% by the town and can include up to 50% of in-kind contributions. Prior to 1996, appropriated funds were distributed by formula. This line item continues to be lower than the funding appropriated over 20 years ago.

- **Enhancement Grant: \$1,093,973 (for 103 YSBs)**

This funding is distributed by population to all 103 YSBs. As new YSBs are created, new funding is not allocated, instead the grant is recalculated causing disbursements to decrease for all other YSBs.

## JUVENILE REVIEW BOARDS (JRB)

88 JRBs serving 129 towns.

### What is a JRB?

A Juvenile Review Board (JRB) is a community-based diversion **program** for youth who may otherwise be referred to the Juvenile Court for minor violations of the law. **JRBs were created by Youth Service Bureaus over 50 years ago as part of their diversionary responsibility.** Today most JRBs fall under the umbrella of the YSB, however, 10% are run by other entities.

### Who do JRBs serve?

Children ages 10 to 17 (or younger based on discretion)

### What is the purpose of a JRB?

- Redirects youth from involvement in the formal justice system while holding youth accountable for their behavior by use of a restorative foundation
- Reduces likelihood of recidivism
- Works collaboratively with family members
- Provides case management and recommendations for needed services

### Who can make referrals to JRBs?

- Police, juvenile court, and schools

### How much appropriated funding do JRBs receive?

As of FY23, \$1,691,749 has been allocated and is currently serving **49 JRBs**. There are **39 JRBs** which do not receive any of this appropriated funding.

- **3 JRBs** are fully funded through DCF (42% of total funding) (Hartford: \$247,771, Bridgeport: \$220,240, New Haven: \$247,771)
- **37 JRBs** receive \$640,537 allocated by DCF through CYSA
- **9 JRBs** receive \$335,430 allocated by DCF through Waterbury Youth Services

### Timeline of Legislative Changes Impacting and Expanding Diversion

