

## JDAI

### The Right Kids In the Right Place For the Right Reasons

JDAI starts with two basic principles.

- ❖ When kids come into the juvenile justice system they have a better chance of changing their behavior and becoming successful adults when their consequence occurs in a supportive home or home-like setting.
- ❖ Detained kids in the juvenile justice system also are more likely to succeed when the least restrictive environment for detention is used. Through JDAI, the community will decide the circumstances which will require secure detention for youth.

## JDAI

### How and Why It Started

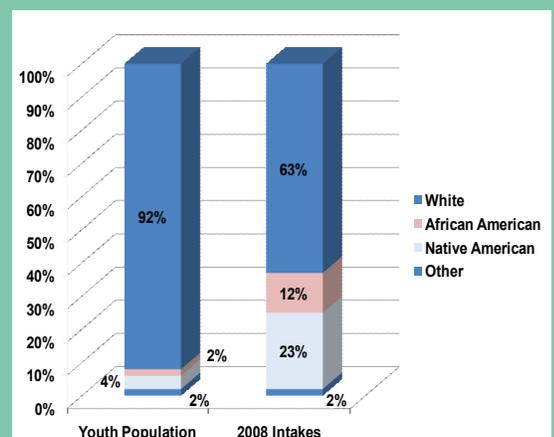
St. Louis County Attorney Melanie Ford stepped forward to address the disproportionate number of children of color in the juvenile system following recommendations from a report by the Haywood Burns Institute in 2008. This study, conducted in consultation with Arrowhead Regional Corrections, looked at disproportionate minority confinement (DMC) in the Arrowhead Region from 2005 – 2006.

The most recent data indicates that this disproportion still continues. The data for 2008 shows that youth of color are disproportionately represented in Arrowhead Juvenile Center (AJC) intakes. African American youth (ages 10-17) represent 2% of the overall youth population in the Arrowhead Region, but represented 12% of intakes at AJC in 2008. Native American youth represent 4% of the overall youth population in the Arrowhead Region, but represented 23% of intakes in 2008.

The 2008 Burns Institute Report made several recommendations. Overall it suggested that the County take a system-wide look at our juvenile justice system and the disproportionate number of kids of color in detention. County Attorney Ford's Office applied for and received a \$90,000 grant from the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs and the Annie E. Casey Foundation. This grant funds a program called Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). This grant is the beginning of a multi-year effort.

### Did You Know?

- \* In all sites that have undertaken JDAI, juvenile crime is lower than ever.
- \* Detention reform can reduce racial disparities in the juvenile justice system.
- \* Detention reform is a foundation for broader system reforms.
- \* Detention reform saves taxpayer dollars.



For more information:  
[www.co.st-louis.mn.us/county\\_attorney](http://www.co.st-louis.mn.us/county_attorney)  
Sue Lawson - 218.726.2323  
[www.jdaihelpdesk.org](http://www.jdaihelpdesk.org)

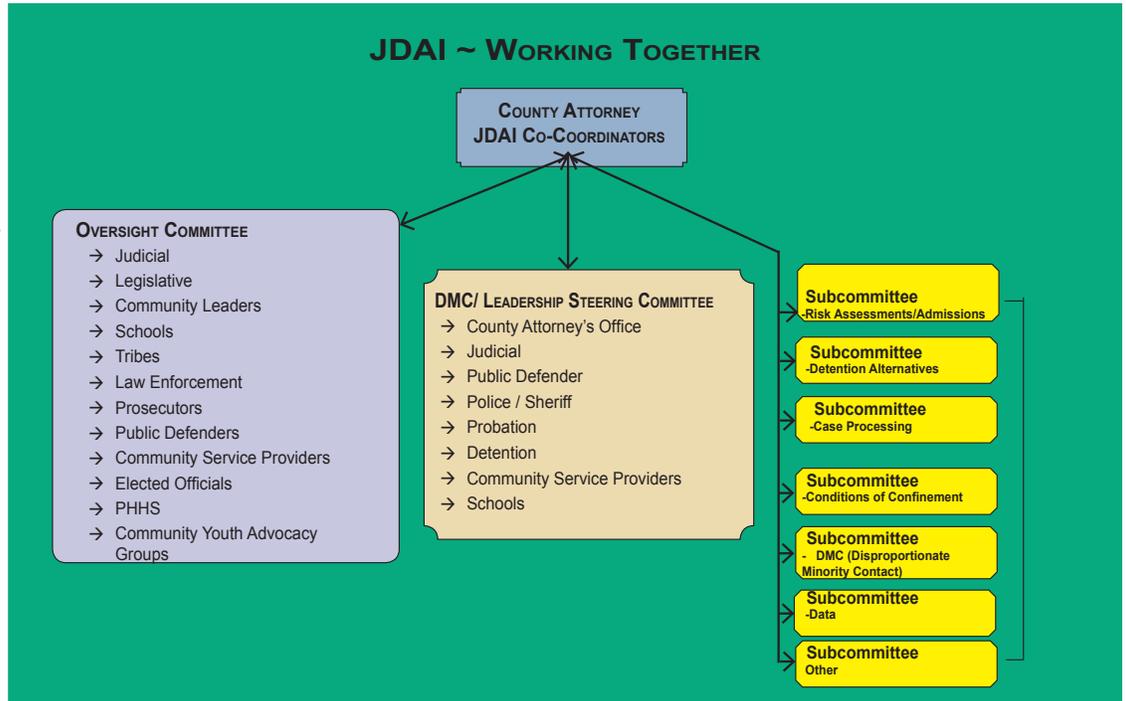
# JDAI Draws on Energy, Expertise of Many People

JDAI is an initiative that promises to improve the juvenile justice system – to the benefit of kids and the general public.

JDAI brings together all of the institutions that work with youth, policy makers, and a group of dedicated people from the community.

This effort is headed by the Oversight Committee who make the final decisions, a “hands-on” Leadership Steering Committee and various subcommittees.

Members of the Leadership Committee and Subcommittees focus their expertise in critical areas to follow the JDAI mission and purpose. Committee members are recruited based on their interest, expertise and children they represent. The goal of all committees is to have a variety of voices represented at the table, including community members, and to get work done in a timely way.



## JDAI Oversight Committee

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

Gordon Ramsay, Chief, Duluth Police Dept.  
 Dana Waldron, Chief, Virginia Police Dept.  
 Barbara Mitchell, Chief, Hibbing Police Dept.  
 Ross Litman, Sheriff, St. Louis County

### TRIBAL LEADERS

Karen Diver, Fond du Lac Tribal Chairwoman  
 Kevin Leecy, Bois Forte Tribal Chairman  
 Renee VanNette, Leech Lake Duluth Local Council

### SCHOOLS

Charles Rick, Superintendent, St. Louis County School District  
 Keith Dixon, Superintendent, I.S.D. 709

### HUMAN SERVICES

Ann Busche, Director, St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services

### JUDICIAL

Shaun Floerke, Judge, Sixth Judicial District  
 Terrence Aronson, Judge, Sixth Judicial District  
 Jim Randall, Judge, Retired, Minnesota Court of Appeals  
 Larry Stauber, Judge, Minnesota Court of Appeals  
 Mary Helf, Court Administrator, Sixth Judicial District

### ST. LOUIS COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Kenneth Udoibok, Deputy County Attorney

### PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

Fred Friedman, Chief Public Defender

### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Portia Johnson, ARC Advisory Board  
 Linda LeGarde Grover, Professor, UMD American Indian Studies  
 Ellen O'Neill, Executive Director, YWCA, Duluth  
 Harlan Tardy, Executive Director, A.E.O.A., Virginia  
 Rosie Loeffler-Kemp, Past President, MN PTA  
 Carl Crawford, Chair, Clayton, Jackson, McGhie Memorial  
 Dr. Robert Powless, Oneida Elder  
 Ron Dicklich, Executive Director, Range Association of Municipalities and Schools

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

Senator David Tomassoni  
 St. Louis County Commissioner Keith Nelson  
 St. Louis County Commissioner Peg Sweeney  
 Jeff Anderson, Duluth City Councilor  
 Nevada Littlewolf, Virginia City Councilor  
 Melanie Ford, County Attorney; Chair, Oversight Committee

### DULUTH AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION

Donna Ennis, Co-Chair  
 Ricky Defoe, Co-Chair

### ARROWHEAD REGIONAL CORRECTIONS

Tom Roy, Executive Director  
 Kay Arola, Chief Probation Officer  
 Kathy Trihey, Superintendent, Arrowhead Juvenile Center

### JDAI CO-COORDINATORS

Sue Lawson  
 Donovan Strong