NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
PREVENT. PROTECT. PREPARE

YASI

Youth Assessment & Screening Instrument

JCPC Program Provider Training

March 2025

Training Goals

- To enable providers to have a better understanding of YASI
- To support providers and JJ to work more collaboratively
- To better serve youth and families

Training Agenda

- YASI Defined – *What/Why/When/Who/How*
- Interpreting YASI
- Referral Packet
- Impact of YASI within JJ
- Impact of YASI with Providers
- YASI and NCAR
- Where We are Now and Future Plans

WHAT is YASI?

- An innovative risk, needs, strengths, and trauma assessment for justice involved youth.
- Implemented internationally and in 14 other states
- Assessment collects information within 12 Domains of Need
  - 11 of the domains are targeted for service planning
  - Only Legal History is not included for service planning
- **Pre-Screen**: Administered to ALL Youth with a Complaint – Starts at Intake

  34 Items **Purpose: Classification**
- **Full Assessment:** Administered to youth who
  - Receive a complaint that is approved for court

  OR
  - Pre-Screen level is Moderate or High Risk (Diversions)

  104 Items (includes Pre-Screen) **Purpose: Service Planning**

WHY YASI?

- Measures Change in Criminogenic Thinking
- Inclusion of Strengths & Protective Factors
- Develops Individualized Service Plans
- Matches Services to Needs
- More Dynamic Assessment
- Improves the Way We Assess Youth
- Screens for Trauma Based on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

WHEN is a YASI Completed?

Initially, a YASI is started at Intake – New JJ complaint	Pre-Screen – ALL	
	Full Assessment	Complaint Approved for Court
		Scores Moderate or High on Pre-Screen
Re-Assessment	Changes in circumstances	
	Based on level of services/supervision	
	At least every 90 days	

WHO is Assessed?

Age 8+

Involved with Juvenile Justice

- Intake
- Diverted
- Supervision
- Committed
- Post-Release Supervision

How is a YASI completed?

JCC collects information - Semi-structured interview, file review, etc.

Scores items in the YASI – linked through NC-JOIN

Pre-Screen Results

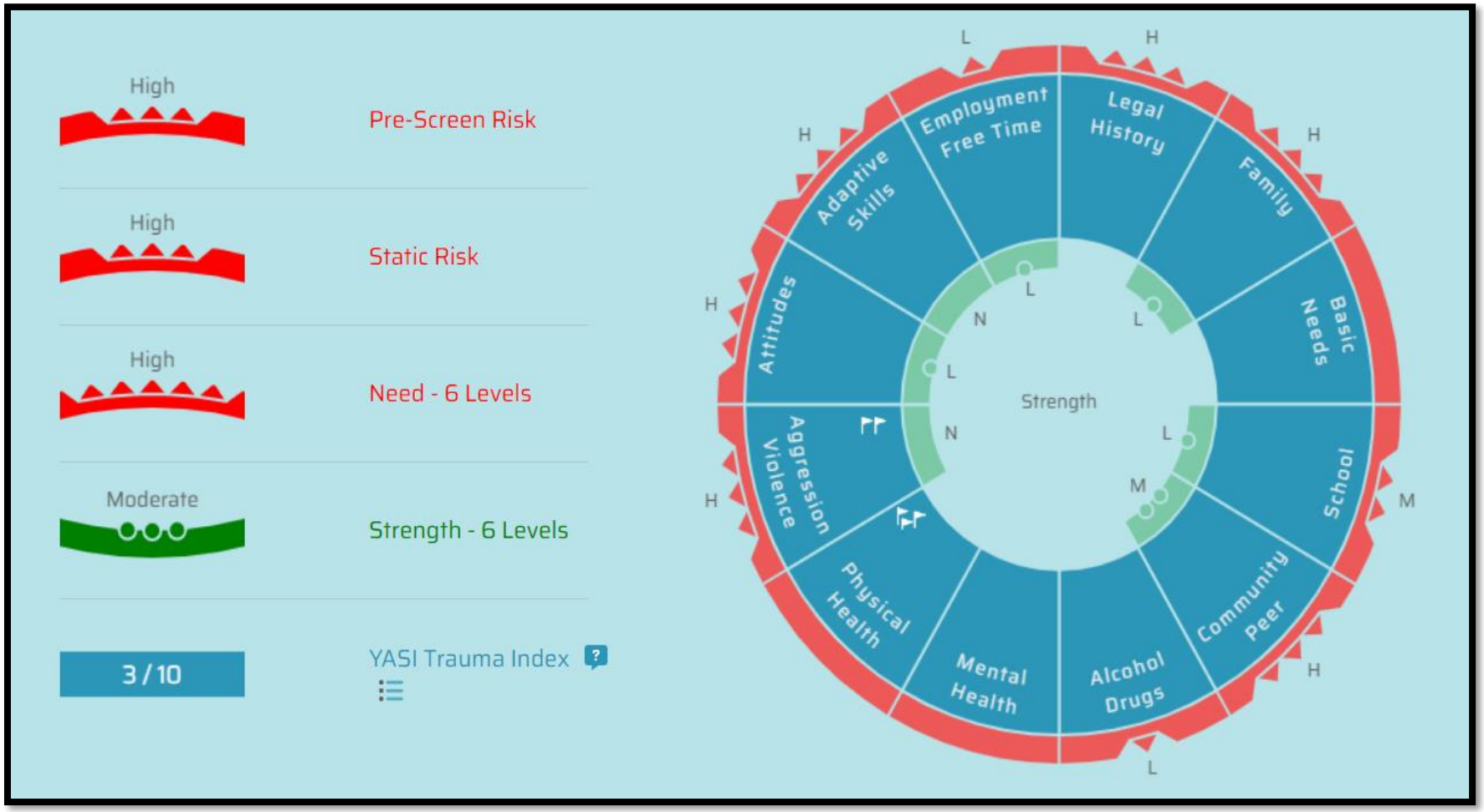
Full Assessment

Mapping (Behavior Analysis)

Feedback

Service Plan with service to need matching

Interpreting the YASI Assessment and YASI Wheel (Full Assessment)



Legend for YASI Wheel

Interpreting YASI Summary Scores

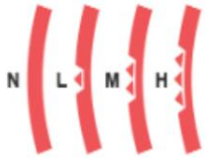
Pre-Screen Risk
Indicates Low, Moderate or High probabilities of re-offending (based on static and dynamic factors)

Static Risk
Indicates Low, Moderate or High levels of static risk (based only on historical factors)

Need 6-Levels
A summary score with up to 6 levels indicating varying needs for service. Very High indicates a youth/ family with multiple needs for service that may elevate risk of re-offending

Strength 6-Levels
A summary score with up to 6 strength levels. Very High indicates a youth/ family with multiple strengths, assets, supports or protective factors that may lower risk of re-offending

Interpreting the YASI Wheel: Need levels on the outside and Strength levels on the inside of the Wheel



On the Outside Perimeter of YASI Wheel
3 Levels: Low, Moderate and High indicate the level of need for service in a specific domain (e.g., family, school, etc.). "N" = no needs in the domain

On the Inside of YASI Wheel
3 Levels: Low, Moderate and High levels of strength in a specific domain (e.g., in Family, School, etc.). "N" = no strengths in the domain

Flags on the YASI Wheel

Basic Needs & **Physical Health** Up to 3 flags display (No flags=no problems)	a minor need for youth/family	2 needs for youth/family	significant need (e.g., homelessness, medical condition with no health insurance)
Mental Health Up to 2 flags display (No flags=no problems)	1 mental health problem indicator	2 or more mental health problem indicators, an official mental health diagnosis or a serious matter such as suicidal intent	
Violence (*past or current*) Up to 2 flags display (No flags=no violence)	responsible for a violent incident	responsible for 2 or more violent incidents	

YASI Trauma Index

0/10

The YASI Trauma Index score ranges from 0 to 10. Youth receive 1 point for each Adverse Childhood Experience they have experienced. For example, a score of 3/10 indicates a youth experienced 3 of the 10 possible Adverse Childhood Experiences included in YASI.

Gender Responsive

- YASI *"cut-off"* scores are different for girls and boys (to correct for the tendency for risk assessments to overclassify girls)

- Ongoing research focuses on developing improved scoring models for girls and boys

Current YASI Score Cut-Points

Males

Pre-Screen				Pre-Screen Strengths
	Legal History	Social History	Overall Risk	
Low	0-1	0-10	0-15	0-4
Moderate	2-12	11-27	16-38	5-14
High	13+	28+	39+	15+

Females

Pre-Screen				Pre-Screen Strengths
	Legal History	Social History	Overall Risk	
Low	0-4	0-18	0-25	0-2
Moderate	5-17	19-37	26-52	3-9
High	18+	38+	53+	10+

Risk Score Maximum for either is 123

Juvenile Justice Referral Items to JCPC Funded Programs

Varies based on level of JJ Involvement

Complaint Diverted with Low Risk = *Universal Referral Form and Pre-Screen*

Complaint Diverted with Mod/High Risk or Complaint approved for Court or already been to Court = *Universal Referral, Full YASI Assessment/YASI Wheel, and Service Plan (once completed)*

Directive from DPS Management

"Effective January 1, 2021, when a juvenile court counselor refers a juvenile to a JCPC or Juvenile Justice funded program, the juvenile court counselor shall provide the following referral documents:

* A completed Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) Universal Referral Form or the appropriate program-specific referral form (Eckerd, Methodist Home for Children, and AMIkids, Inc.);

* A copy of the completed YASI Pre-Screen for juveniles assessed as low risk; For juveniles assessed as moderate or high risk on the YASI Pre-Screen and for juveniles approved for court, a copy of the completed Full YASI assessment, service plan, and YASI wheel;

* A copy of the Juvenile Family Data Sheet which will include the assessment narrative; and

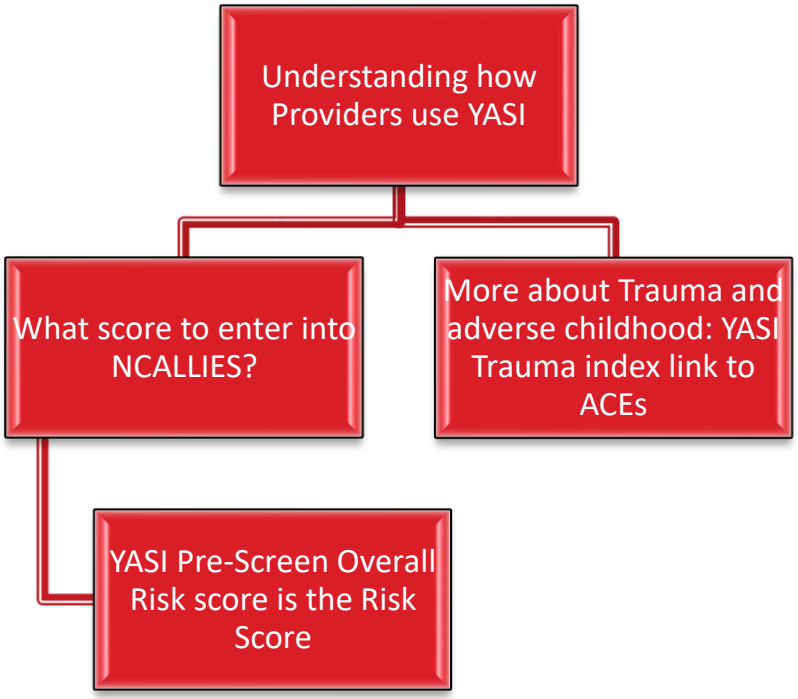
* A copy of the Juvenile Justice Behavioral Health Consent for Release of Information Form (CS 011b)."

How YASI is Used – JJ vs Providers

Juvenile Court Services

- Supports decision to approve or not for court
- Risk Level – Case Management Level
- Assess for Strengths – Can be used to address a need area
- Identifies (Criminogenic) Needs - Area to target for addressing needs with a youth
- Recommendations for court disposition
- Service planning (including Service Matching – Service Directory is imported)
- Reassessment – Dynamic – Changes show progress!
- YASI the basis for which JJ conducts all work with youth and family.

Program Providers



You need the following on the Universal Referral Form:

NC DPS JUVENILE JUSTICE/JCPC UNIVERSAL REFERRAL FORM

(Please print or type)

Date of Referral:	- - (MM – DD – YYYY)	**NC-JOIN ID:**	
Program:		**County:**	

Client Name:		DOB:		SSN:	xxx-xx-	Gender:	M ☐ F ☐
Hispanic/Latino ☐	Race:		School/Grade:				
Legal Guardian:				Phone:			
Legal Guardian's relationship to client:							
Physical Address:		City:		Zip:			
Mailing Address:		City:		Zip:			

Is there Juvenile Justice Involvement?	Yes ☐ No ☐
Is participation in this program court ordered?	Yes ☐ No ☐
Is participation in this program a part of a diversion plan/contract?	Yes ☐ No ☐

Court Counselor:		Phone:		Email:	
Client Risk Score:		YASI Pre-Screen Score:			

Here is where the Court Counselor can find the score in NC-JOIN:

	Created Date	Assessment Date	Administered By	Assessment Type	Assessment Status	
−	12/03/2024	12/03/2024	Ashlyn C Miller	Reassessment	FA Complete	W

PS Level/Score	FA Needs Level/Score	FA Strengths Level/Score	Trauma Index	SP Create Date	SP Update
High 55 [39-123]	High Moderate 108 [92-121]	Very Low 3 [0-4]	3 [0-10]	09/17/2021	08/29/2024

+	08/29/2024	08/29/2024	Ashlyn C Miller	Reassessment	FA Complete	W
+	05/29/2024	05/29/2024	Ashlyn C Miller	Reassessment	FA Complete	W
+	03/08/2024	03/08/2024	Ashlyn C Miller	Reassessment	FA Complete	W
+	01/23/2024	01/23/2024	Ashlyn C Miller	Reassessment	FA Complete	W

Service Matching in YASI

<u>JJ Service Directory Locations:</u>

- NC-JOIN
- CJ LEADS
- JJ Public Site
- YASI
  - Service Plan
    - ✓ Domains of Need (YASI) are the same as Problem Areas Addressed in a Service Directory Entry

Service Directory

YASI Domain

TARGET Group from YASI

CaseWorks Filters by YASI Target item and County Served

Parenting Skills

Target: Parenting Skills

Service Identified: Alexander Youth Network - MST

Self-regulation

Target: Self regulation

Service Identified:
4-H Mountain Challenge

Anti-social Influences

Target: Anti-social influences

Service Identified:
Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Central Carolinas Mentoring

https://www.ncdps.gov/juvenile-justice/service-directory

How to make sure your program is available to Court Counselors to make Referrals?

[External] Juvenile Justice Service Directory - Invitation to Join(ALLIES Program)

Reply | Reply All | Forward

ND NC DPS JJ Service Directory <JJServiceDirectory@sas.com>
To cpuryear@bgcncnc.com
Cc SVC_DPS.JJ.D9.Program.Approval; SVC_DPS.JJ.Central.Office.Program.Approval; SVC_DPS.JJ.D9.Program.Approval; SVC_DPS.JJ.Central.Area.Program.Approval
Fri 2/21/2025 12:39 PM

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Dear Service Provider,

In 2019, the Juvenile Justice Section of NC's Department of Public Safety launched a directory of services and programs addressing the needs of juvenile justice-involved youth and families. Juvenile Court Counselors, other Juvenile Justice employees, law enforcement personnel, members of the judiciary, and prosecuting and defense attorneys use this directory to identify programs and services to which youth and families can be referred. The directory is also available for use by members of the public. Please note that this directory is distinct from NC ALLIES, which serves a different purpose.

Please use the link below to create an entry in the directory for your program/service *within 14 days of the date of the email*. Once your entry is submitted, it will undergo a review process. Once approved, an entry will typically "go live" within 14 days of submission by a program provider.

Once your program or service is included in our directory, you can expect to get an email from the system every 6 months, asking you to review and update your entry, if needed. Programs that do not respond to system emails every 6 months will be hidden from view until we have confirmed that you are still active.

We are aware that some agencies offer multiple services/programs concurrently. The Service Directory requires that you complete a separate program entry form for each service/component you offer at each distinct location. We will be sending you a separate email and link to complete an entry for each component funded. This entry process allows us to provide juvenile justice employees with a list of appropriate programs matched to youth's assessed needs at the time of case planning. If you have additional services/programs that are **not Juvenile Justice funded** and that you would like added, please make your request via email to SVC_DPS.JJ.D9.Program.Approval@ncdps.gov so that we can send you a link to an entry form for each service. You may also direct any other questions about the directory or this entry to this same email address, or to SVC_DPS.JJ.Central.Office.Program.Approval@ncdps.gov. Please note that ALLIES program names are recorded as Program Name: Component Name in the directory.

We thank you for your willingness to contribute to this directory. By doing so, you will be making it easier to connect some of our state's most vulnerable youth and families to needed services like those you offer. If you have any questions about the safety of this link, please contact your local Area Consultant.

Sincerely,
The Juvenile Justice Service Directory Team

Click Here

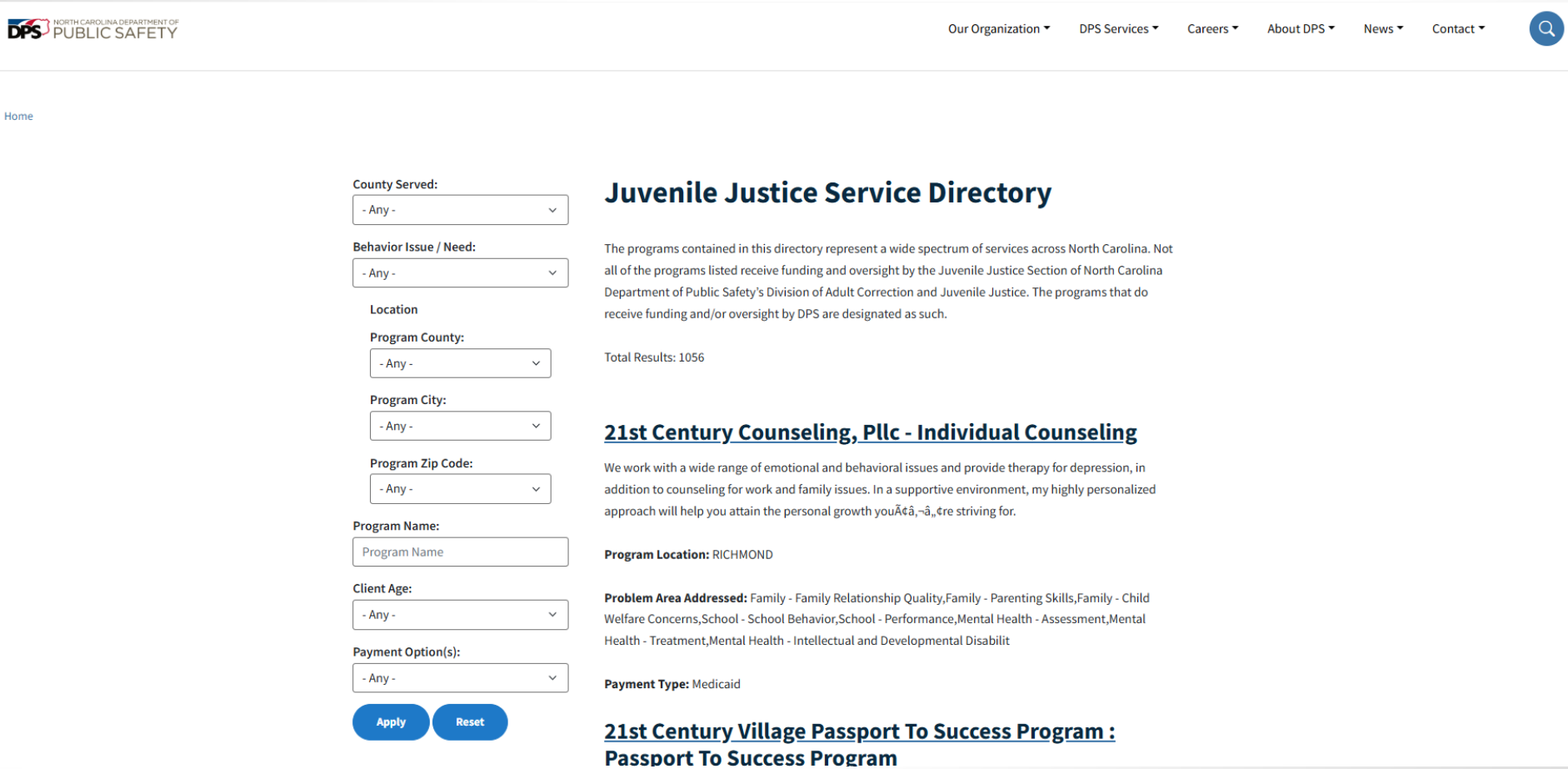
1. Invitation to JOIN the Juvenile Justice Service Directory

2. YASI Targets Grouped within each Domain of Need – Also the Third Section in Each Service Directory Entry

Section III. Intervention and Treatment Areas - Risks and Needs	
Problem Areas Addressed:	Basic Needs Health Care Family - Family Relationship Quality Family - Parenting Skills Family - Child Welfare Concerns School - School Behavior School - Performance School - School Attachment Community and Peers - Anti-Social Influences Community and Peers - Community Alcohol and Drugs - Assessment Alcohol and Drugs - Treatment Mental Health - Assessment Mental Health - Treatment Mental Health - Intellectual and Developmental Disabilit Aggression - Animal cruelty Aggression - Bullying/threatening Aggression - Firestarting Aggression - Violence (Physical aggression) Attitudes - Victim Awareness Attitudes - Attitudes Toward Authority Skills - Self-Regulation Skills Skills - Social Skills Employment and Free Time - Employment Employment and Free Time - Free Time

Public View of the Juvenile Justice Service Directory

https://www.ncdps.gov/juvenile-justice/service-directory



NCAR vs YASI

NCAR

Required for SPEP, the information collected on ***structures*** and ***SPEPable services*** tells the story of the youth that JCPC programs are actually working with.

NCAR = Risk Score

YASI

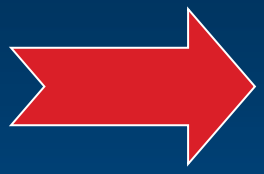
The more information providers have, may lend to making informed decisions about youth's needs, strengths, etc.

YASI = Risk, Needs, Strengths, Trauma and Service Planning

- Collects more info and provides highly specific info for targeting services to needs.

SPEP Score Sheet – Risk Portion

Data Generated via a Validated Risk Assessment Tool and entered into NCALLIES



Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) for Services to Juvenile Offenders©
Recalibrated version, 2012

	Points Possible	Points Received
Primary and Supplemental Service Types [Identified according to definitions derived from the research]		
Primary Service Type for Program Being Rated Group 1 services (5 points) Group 4 services (25 points) Group 2 services (10 points) Group 5 services (30 points) Group 3 services (15 points)	30	
Supplemental Service Type Qualifying supplemental service used: Yes (5 points) No (0 points)	5	
Quality of Service Delivery [Determined from a systematic assessment of the relevant features of the provider and provider organization]		
Rated quality of services delivered: Low (5 points) Medium (10 points) High (20 points)	20	
Amount of Service [Determined from data for the qualifying group of service recipients]		
Duration [Target number of weeks specified for each service type] % of youth who received at least the target weeks of service: 0% (0 points) 60% (6 points) 20% (2 points) 80% (8 points) 40% (4 points) 99% (10 points)	10	
Contact Hours [Target number of hours specified for each service type] % of youth who received at least the target hours of service: 0% (0 points) 60% (6 points) 20% (2 points) 80% (8 points)	10	
Risk Level of Youth Served [Determined from risk ratings on a valid instrument for the qualifying group of service recipients]		
% of youth with at least the target risk score set for the JJ system: 0% (0 points) 60% (15 points) 20% (5 points) 80% (20 points) 40% (10 points) 99% (25 points)	25	
Provider's Total SPEP Score	100	(Insert Score)

© Copyright held by Mark W. Lipsey, Peabody Research Institute, Vanderbilt University.
Not to be copied or used without explicit permission.

Where We Are Now and Future Plans

The Use of YASI to Date (how NC is using YASI results and what's being learned)

- This is YEAR 5 of implementation
  - YASI Data at JCPCs
- Investment and transition to YASI is a process

Local Contacts

- Chief Court Counselors
- YASI Coaches
  - ALL Court Counselor Supervisors and Field Service Specialists/Lead Juvenile Court Counselors

Contact Information

Russell Price
Director of Court Services
NC Department of Public Safety
Division Juvenile Justice
russell.price@ncdps.gov

Cindy Porterfield
Director of Community Programs
NC Department of Public Safety
Division Juvenile Justice
cindy.porterfield@ncdps.gov

On behalf of Court Services and Community Programs

Thank You