

***Improve the lives and  
well-being of all youth in  
Kansas.***



***Kansas Juvenile  
Justice Oversight  
Committee***

The J. Russell (Russ) Jennings  
Joint Committee on Corrections  
and Juvenile Justice Oversight

Presented by Don Hymer, Chair  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# JJOC Purpose



Monitor and collaborate with juvenile justice system agencies and stakeholders to ensure best practices are followed and justice involved youth receive appropriate supervision, assistance, and accountability—all with the goal of better outcomes for youth and communities.

# JJOC Mission Statement



The Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) is a statutorily defined, multidisciplinary team of stakeholders of youth-serving systems. The JJOC is responsible for regularly reviewing information and data on progress and outcomes across all parts of those systems. The JJOC provides policy and funding recommendations and influences stakeholders across agencies and branches of government, on sound, data-driven, evidence-based implementation and sustainability of juvenile justice reforms.

# JJOC History



In 2015 the Kansas Juvenile Justice Workgroup analyzed the juvenile justice system in Kansas. That workgroup found many opportunities for improvement that led to the formation and passage of 2016 Senate Bill 367 with the following recommendations and the creation of JJOC:

- Prevent deeper juvenile justice system involvement of lower-level youth through early response with targeted services and swift and appropriate sanctions;
- Protect public safety and contain costs by focusing system resources on the highest-risk youth;
- Sustain effective practices through continued oversight and reinvestment in a stronger continuum of evidence-based services.

# JJOC Membership



A 21-member committee made up of multiple disciplinaries

- District Attorney
- Youth Services Director
- Defense Attorney
- Dept of Corrections (3)
- Governor's Office
- Dept of Children and Families
- Legislators (4)
- Office of Judicial Administration
- Victim Advocacy
- Court Services
- District Judges (2)
- Police Chief
- Commissioner of Education
- Community Corrections
- Kansas Advisory Group

# JJOC Subcommittees



**Data**-defines performance measures, prepare and update data for inclusion reporting

**Communication**-manage the completion of the annual report, prepare public awareness, identify opportunities with other stakeholders

**Reinvestment**-ensure access to funding, report program success and outcomes, communication details on funding dollar spending, facilitates new spending areas

**Legislative**-monitors legislation for collaboration opportunities, explores implementation of new legislation, prepare legislative testimony

# Key Terms



- Evidenced-Based (EB): means practices, policies, procedures and programs demonstrated by research to produce reduction in the likelihood of reoffending (K.S.A. 38-2202)
- Notice to Appear (NTA) – like citations, allow you to be processed through juvenile intake at a later scheduled time, instead of immediately at time of arrest, when appropriate
- Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) - allow Kansas youth the opportunity to receive services in their home communities while simultaneously diverting them from deeper involvement in the juvenile justice system.

# JJOC 2024 Key Achievements



- Started a rolling grant opportunity, where funds are available throughout the year. Awarded \$4.5 million since July 1, 2024
- Enabled \$21.5 million dollars funded to the community, more than any previous year.
- The completion of the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) validation study.
- Increased assistance for the grant application process. Rolling grants made available as of July 1, 2024

# JJOC 2024 Key Achievements



- Legislative subcommittee that was created in 2024, was active in providing information and testimony on various pieces of proposed and approved legislation.
- A quarterly newsletter going out containing meeting summaries, grant information, and program material.

# JJOC Current Initiatives



- Initiated practices to further evaluate effectiveness of funded programs.
- Exploring partnerships with KU and other organizations to improve data collection and analysis.
- Working with Kansas Stepping Up focusing on the needs of justice involved youth with behavioral health needs
- Partnering with the Gault Center to continue to the work of Juvenile Defense in Kansas.

# Legislative Post Audit (LPA) - 2020



## Implemented

- Monitor KDOC Expenditures
- Develop and monitor training efforts
- Define program outcomes and recidivism
- Approve plan to gather and review system data
- Analyze gaps in youth justice system
- Monitor fidelity of implementation efforts

# Legislative Post Audit (LPA) - 2020



## Partially Implemented

- Analyze Data on probation extensions
- Review detention risk assessment data
- Study and address disparities in mental health treatment

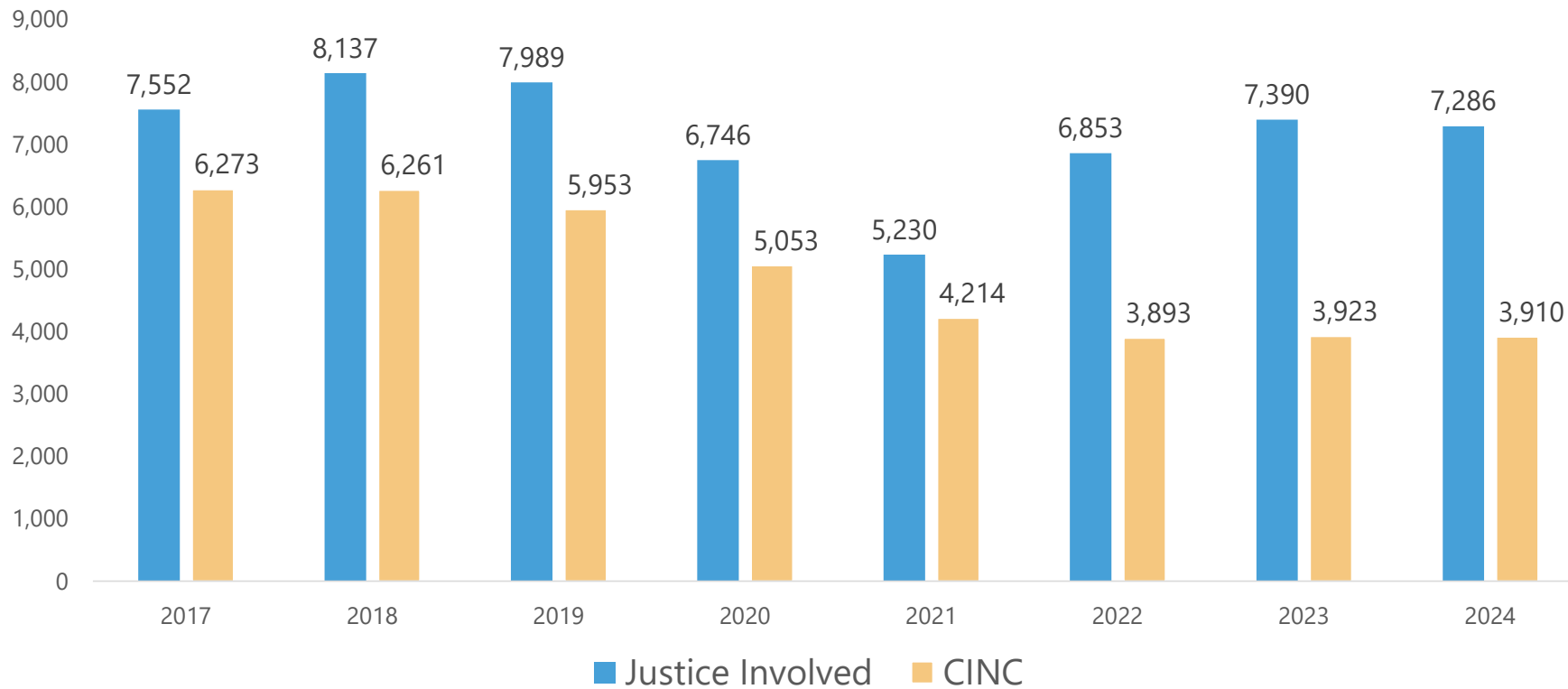
## Ongoing

- Recommendations for improvement in juvenile justice system
- Recommendations when consensus between KDOC and OJA does not exist

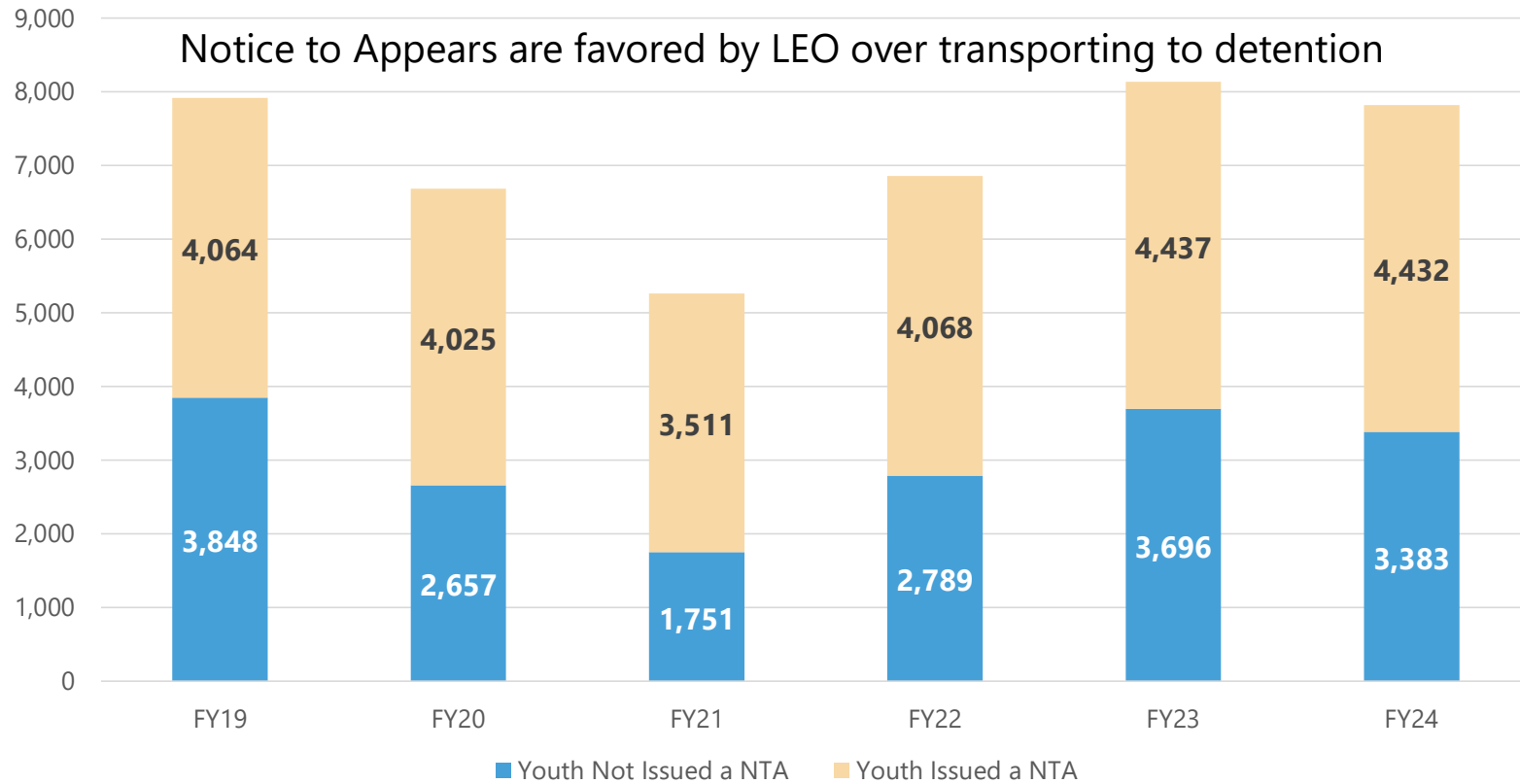
# Juvenile Intake and Assessment



Total number of intakes remains below the levels recorded in 2017



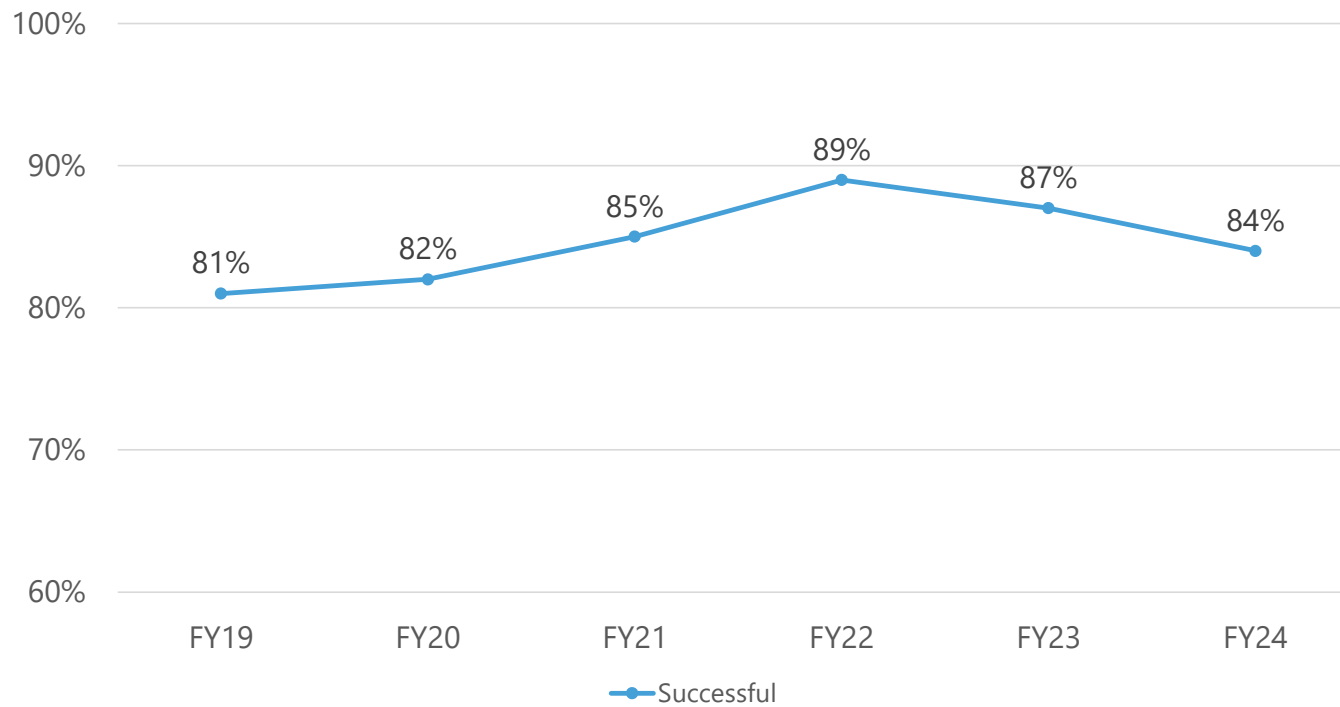
# Use of Notice to Appear



# Compliance with Notice to Appear



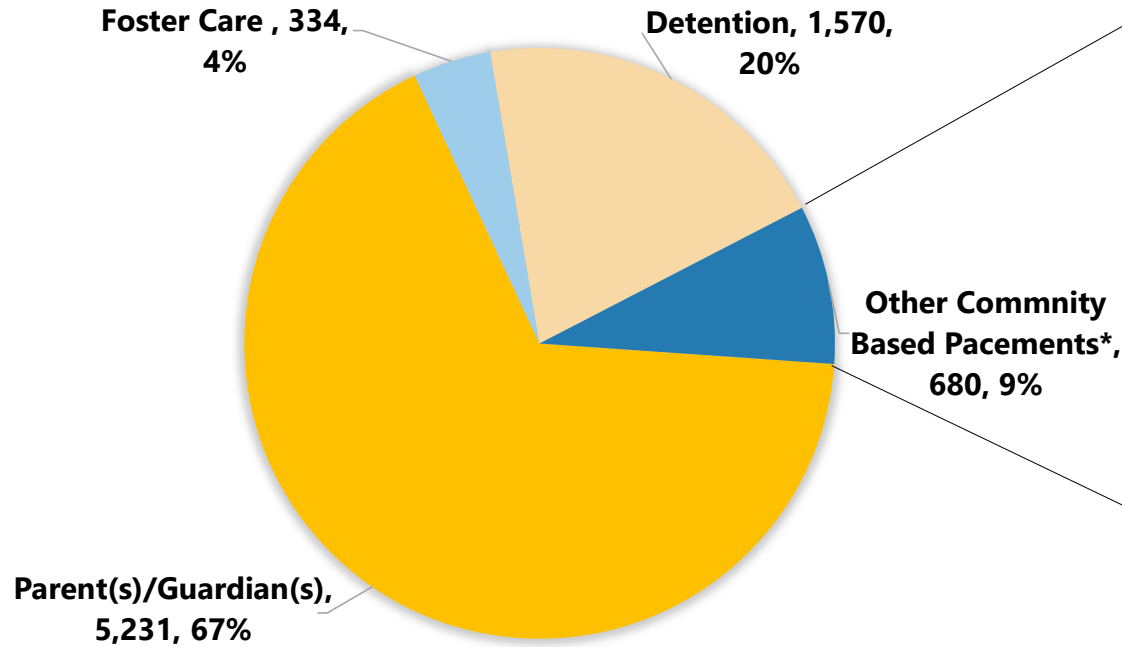
Over 80% of youth comply when issued a notice to appear



# JIAC – Placement Outcomes



Most Intakes events result in release to parent or guardian



| *Other Community Placements |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Relative                    | 166, 2%  |
| Group Home                  | 163, 2%  |
| DCF                         | 118, 1%  |
| Emergency Shelter           | 101, 1%  |
| Other                       | 67, < 1% |
| Self                        | 36, < 1% |
| Friend                      | 20, < 1% |
| House Arrest                | 9, < 1%  |

# Risk Level of Youth on Supervision

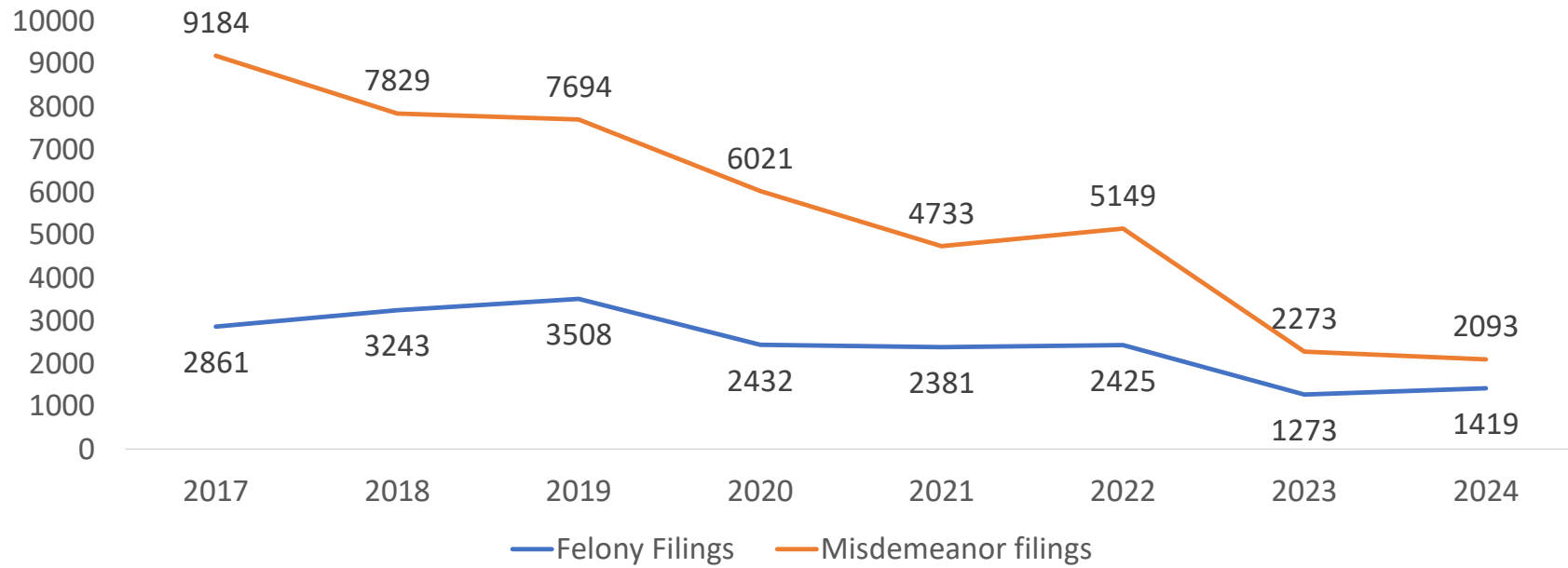
Majority of youth on supervision are not high risk

|                | Court Services |           | Community Corrections |           |           |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                | 2023           | 2024      | 2023                  | 2024      |           |
| Very High Risk | 16 (1%)        | 19 (1%)   | Very High Risk        | 10 (1%)   | 11 (1%)   |
| High Risk      | 310 (20%)      | 362 (23%) | High Risk             | 165 (16%) | 221 (17%) |
| Moderate Risk  | 832 (53%)      | 786 (51%) | Moderate Risk         | 510 (48%) | 622 (48%) |
| Low Risk       | 421 (27%)      | 376 (24%) | Low Risk              | 386 (36%) | 445 (34%) |

# Case Filing



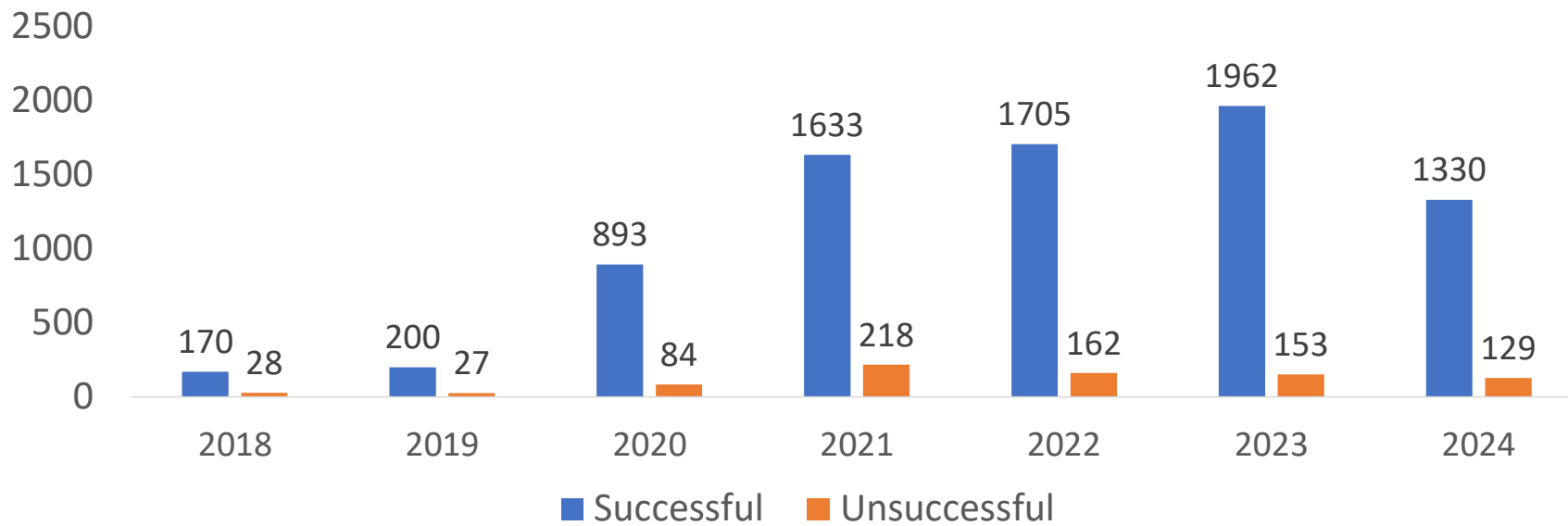
Case filings for misdemeanor offenses continue to reduce each year, limiting formal court processing for those less serious cases.



# Immediate Intervention Programs



The Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) is making great impact with 91.1% of pre-file and 91.4% of post-file youth completing the program successfully.



# Cross-System Collaboration Efforts



The JJOC supports efforts across the state that focus on building cross-system collaboration to improve services, programs and interventions for all youth and their families in Kansas; and to enhance the overall effectiveness of how youth-serving systems and stakeholders collaborate. The JJOC provides funding and subject matter expertise; and many JJOC members are individually involved.

- Crossover Youth Practice Model
- Juvenile Defense
- Family Engagement
- Behavioral Health Workgroup
- Stepping Up
- Functional Family Therapy
- JAG-K

# Evidenced Based Program Account



- One of the critical tasks assigned to the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee is reinvesting funds into evidence-based practices and programs that exist in the community. Those funds come from the Evidenced Based Program Account
- Created to capture cost savings by keeping youth out of locked facilities and in their communities. These savings must be used for the development and implementation of evidence-based community programs and practices for juvenile offenders, children identified as needing services, juveniles experiencing behavioral health crisis and their families.
- Administered by KDOC

# Evidenced Based Program Account

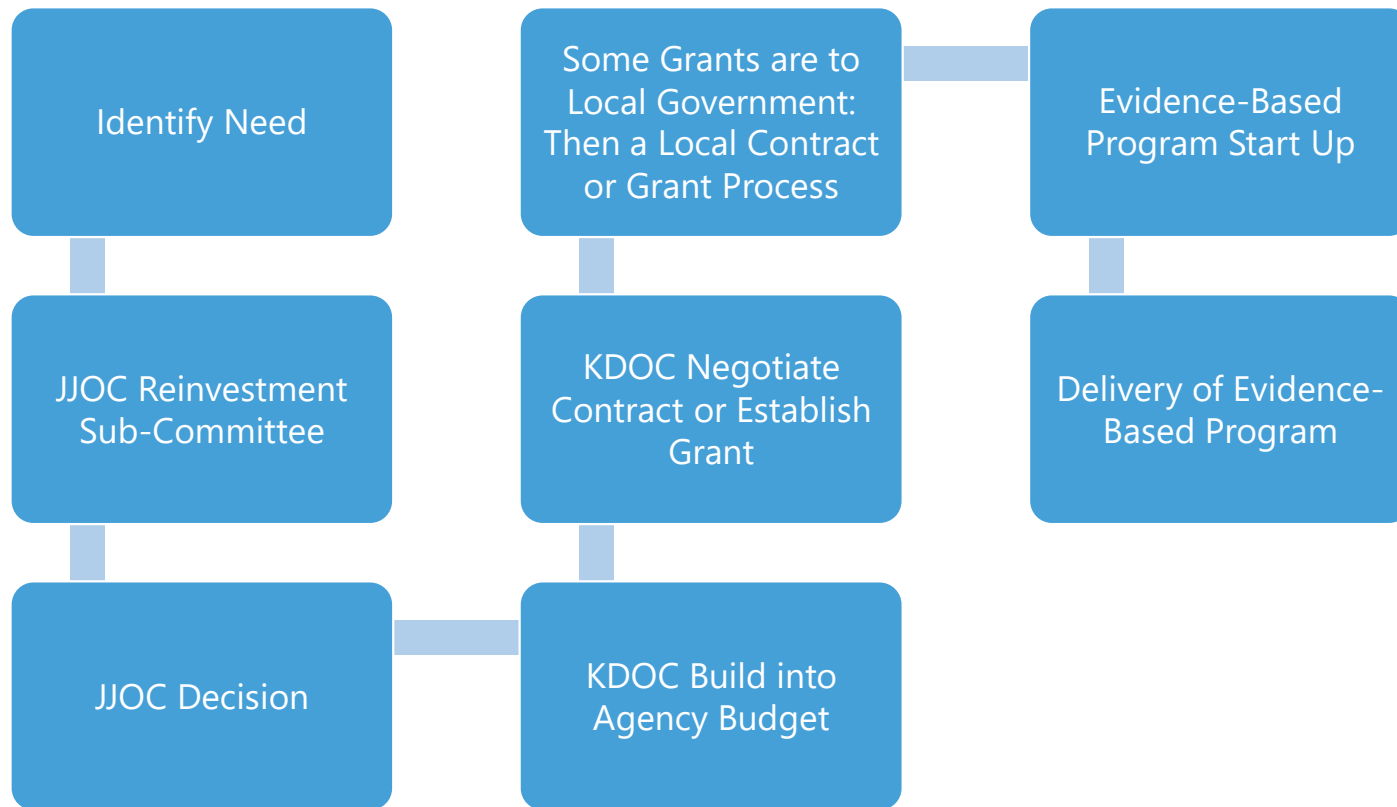


Savings from the youth residential centers and the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex are transferred to the EBP account. Those funds are then awarded through grants, to community-based organizations and JCAB's to create and sustain evidence-based programs, targeted to reduce recidivism, and increase public safety.

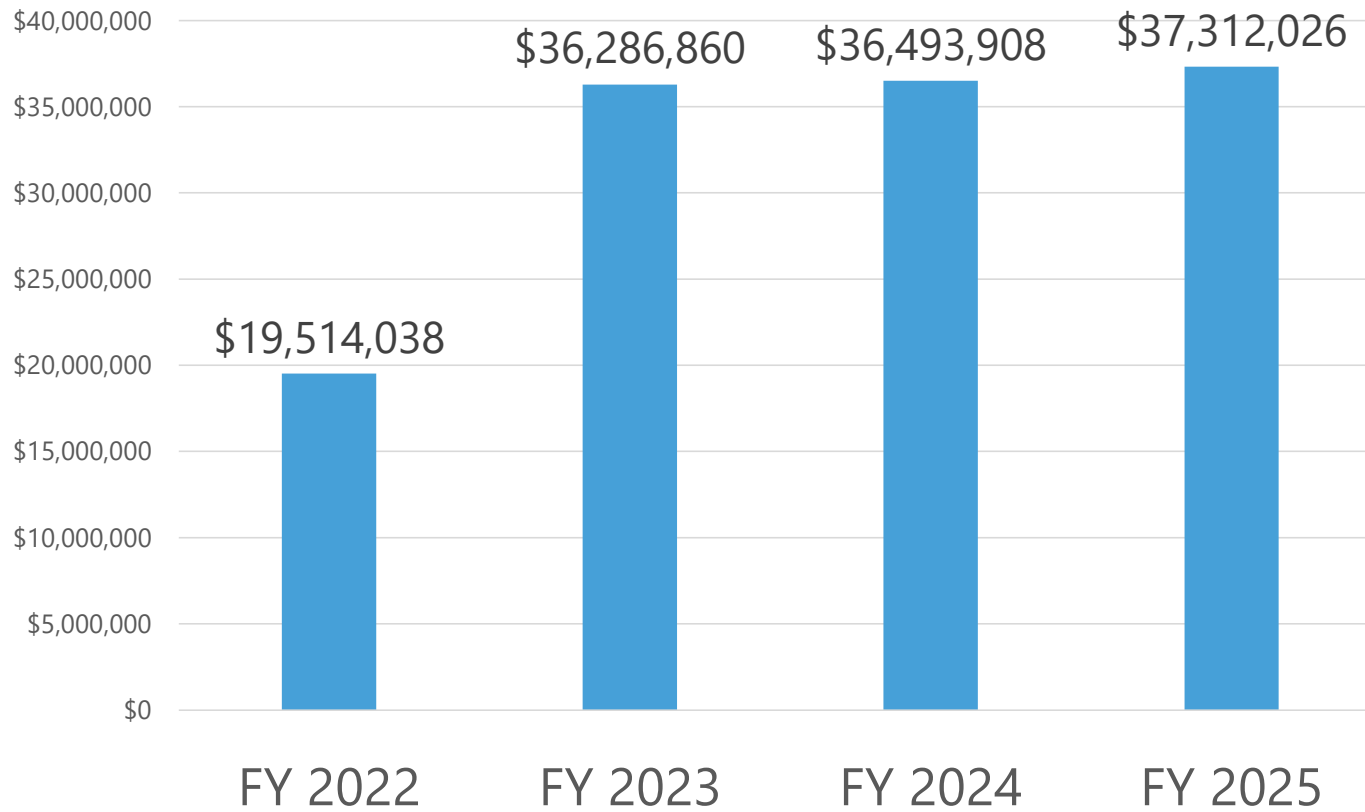
The EBPA supports programs related to intake, diversion, probation, and conditional release.

The JJOC had for the past several years been working diligently to allocate and expend those funds in a long-term sustainable way for programs and services in the community to best serve youth and families across Kansas. The balance will continue to serve for years to come.

# Allocation Process for EBP Fund



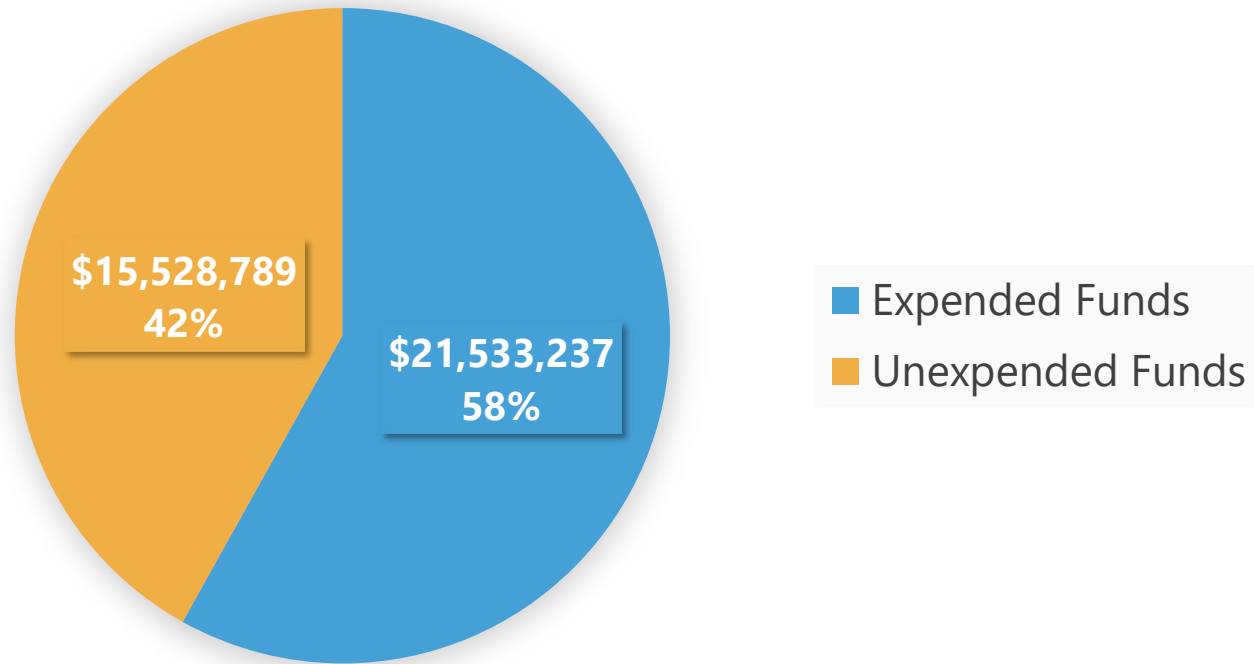
# Approved Allocation Recommendations



# Unexpended Funds FY 2024



**PERCENT OF FUNDS SPENT**  
**TOTAL FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE = \$37,062,026**



# Unexpended Funds



In previous years, we have seen a notable amount of unexpended funds. KDOC and JJOC are working together to reduce those unexpended funds.

- Hired 2 additional staff to manage the granting process
- Implementation of the rolling grants.

# Projected EBF Balance FY2025



\$ 52,575,256 Beginning Balance



\$ 37,097,661 Approved Allocations



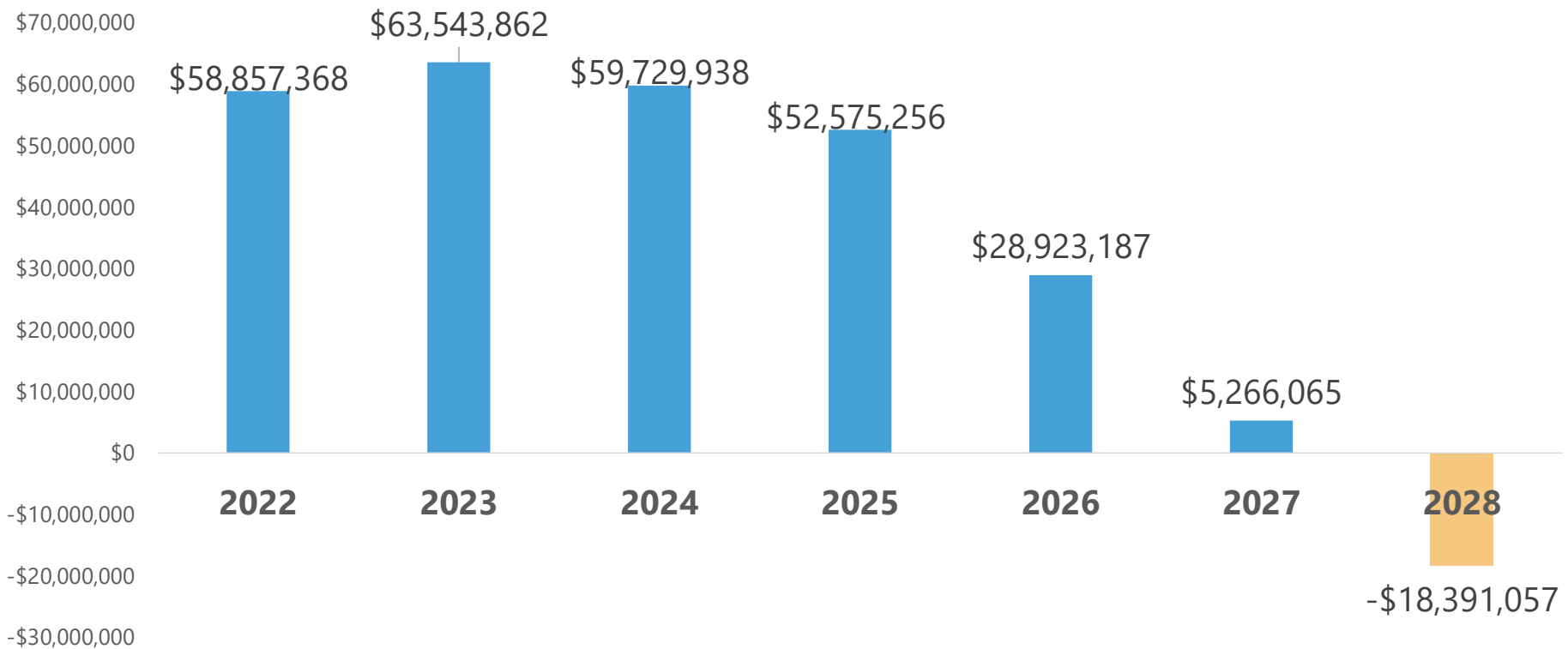
\$ 15,477,595 projected balance end FY2025



# EBF Balance Projections



Current Projections show a negative balance in 2028, forcing JJOC to cease funding to some programs and services



# EBF Moving Forward



- JJOC will continue to monitor the EBF account, and evaluate if there comes a time when JJOC will have to be more selective about what programs and initiatives to fund.
- Without additional funding sources coming into the EBF, it is predicted that in the future, limited funds will be available for community organizations.

# JJOC Contact Information



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- Stephanie Springer, Vice Chair
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