

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Juveniles

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)
Program for State Prisoners

Training and Technical Assistance Resource

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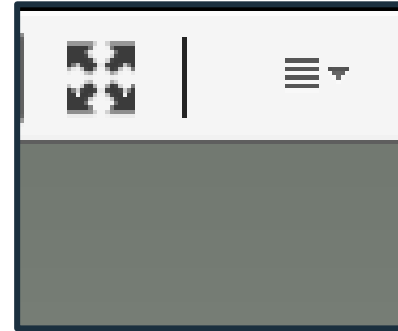
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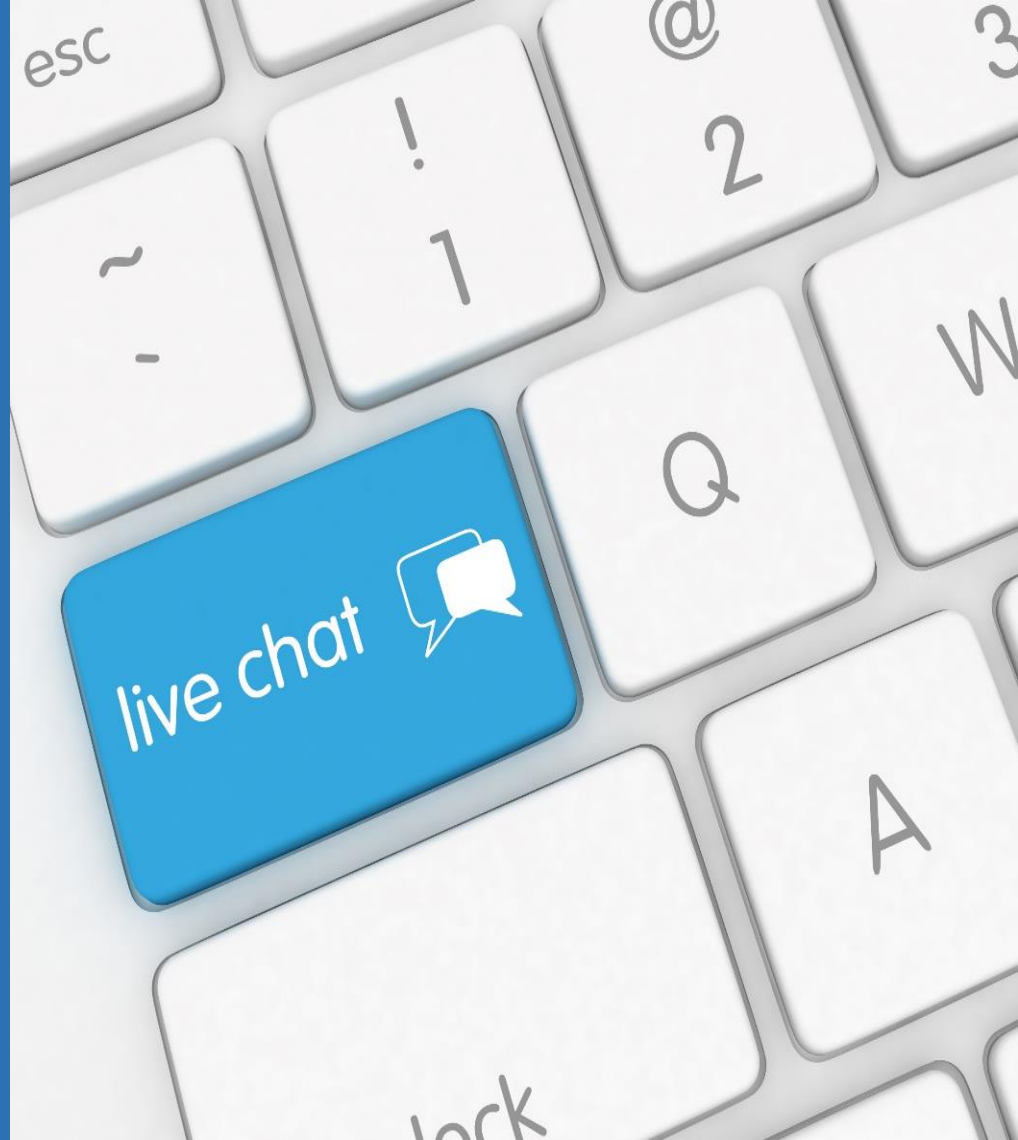
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Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Juveniles

Presented by
Kate Price, Ph.D. and Abigail Judge, Ph.D.
December 16, 2020



Poll Questions

- What is your position or title?
- What do you most want to learn from today's webinar on juvenile RSAT programs?





Agenda

- Introduction
- Important Considerations
- Juvenile RSAT Program Components
 - Intake: Screening and Assessment
 - Program Structure
 - Treatment Modalities and Curriculum
 - Staffing and Training
 - Drug-free Environment
 - Transition and Aftercare Planning
 - Measuring Results
- Example of RSAT Programs for Juveniles
- Conclusion/Final Q&A



Important Considerations

Creating a trauma-informed response that incorporates issues of family substance use, gender responsiveness, and cultural competencies is essential when working with juvenile justice-involved youth who have a substance use disorder.

Important Considerations



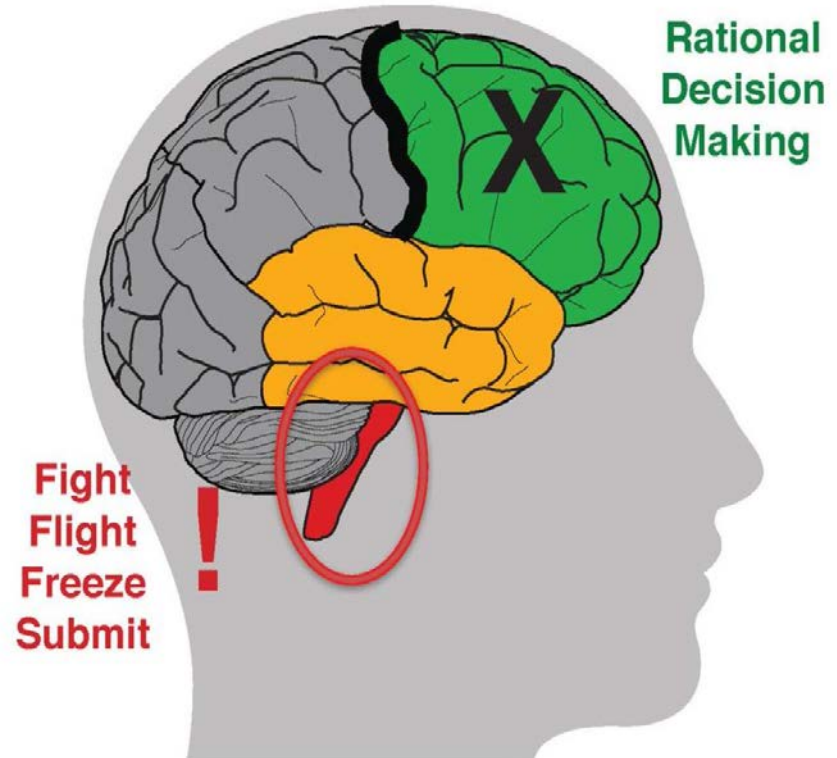
Trauma and Family Issues

- Juvenile justice-involved youth w/ SUD significantly more likely to have experienced trauma
- Increased risk for “delinquent behavior” if SUD and co-occurring mental health issues not treated
- Trauma experienced by juvenile justice-involved youth often associated with parental substance use
 - Family-based interpersonal violence and neglect
 - Parent substance use ACE
- Child welfare services placement increase SUD risk

Important Considerations

- Behavior may be perceived as “aggressive” or “out of control”
 - Racialized, feminine ideals
 - Innocence
- Juvenile justice setting triggers (i.e., shackles, pat down, loudspeakers)
- Restrictive movements and strip searches mimic previous abuse
- Discipline from authority figures
- Relationship as healing

Trauma-Informed Practice



Important Considerations



Gender Responsiveness

- Largely boys in mind when creating juvenile justice programming.
- Substances use as coping mechanism for gender-based violence trauma
- Girls higher SUD rates than boys
- Girls internalize trauma; boys act outwardly with disruptive behaviors
- Importance of address wholistic healing from trauma w/o substances

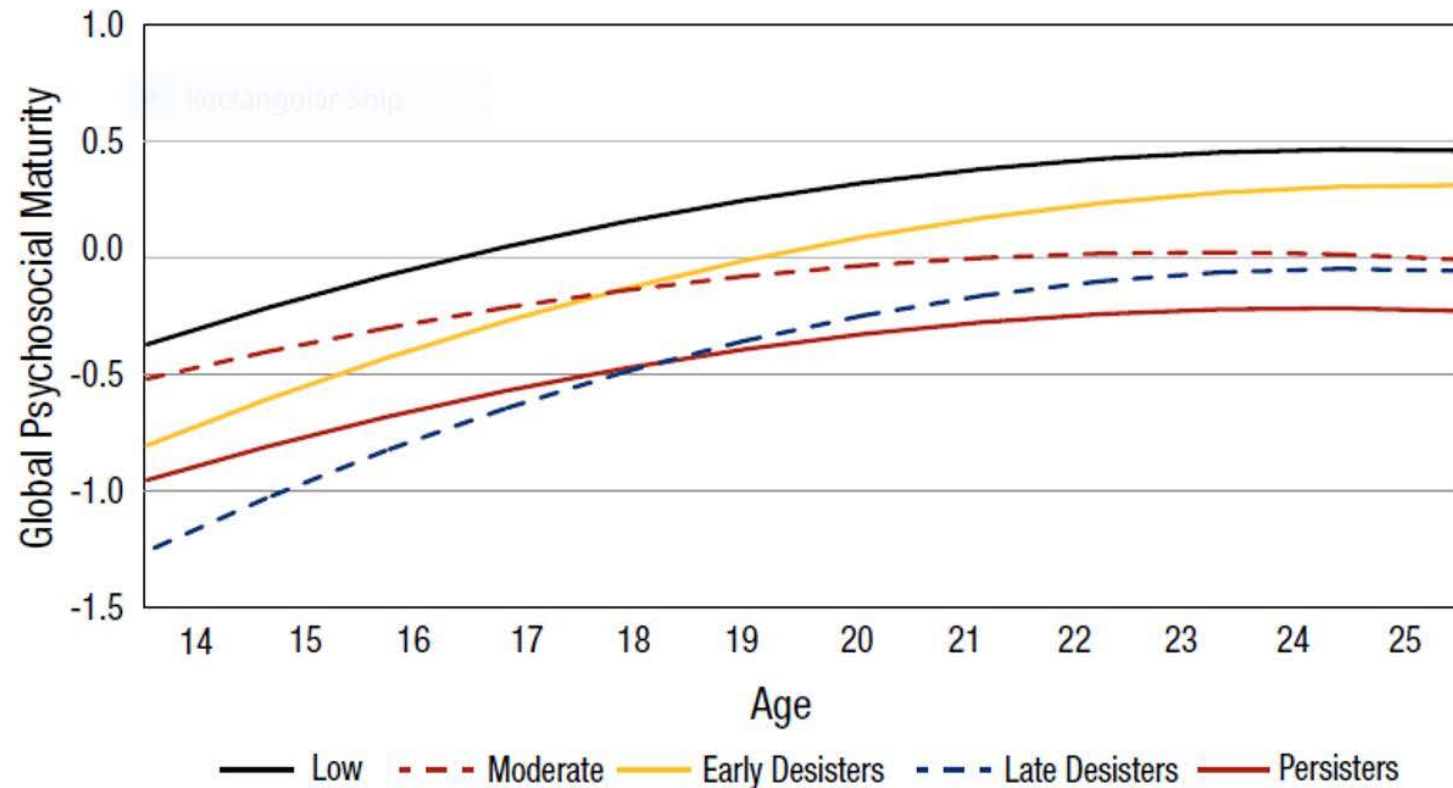
Important Considerations



Cultural Competencies

- Importance of intersectional identities in juvenile justice (race/ethnicity, class, gender, and LBGTQ)
- Adultification of children of color, esp. Black girls ages 5-14
- Cultural construction of innocence
- Boys adherence to “code of the street”
- Intergenerational racialized trauma

Important Considerations Neurodevelopment



Source: Steinberg, Cauffman, & Monahan, 2015, p. 8.

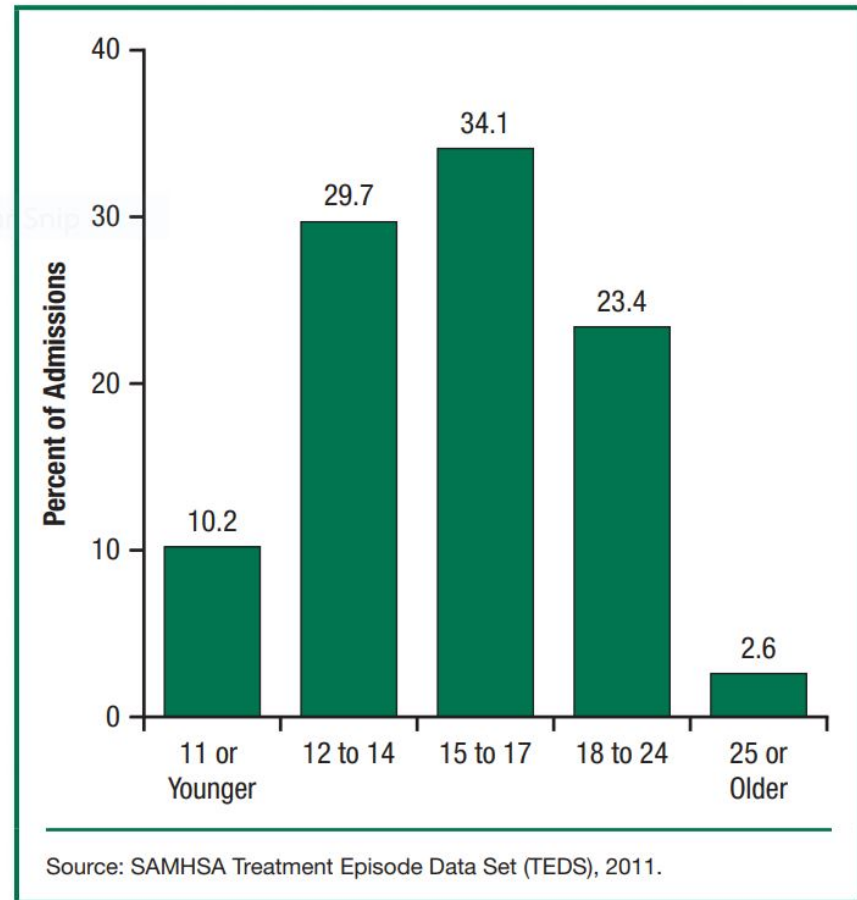


Juvenile RSAT Components



1. Intake: Screening & Assessment

- RSAT reserved for high-risk, high-need youth
- Age of initial substance use key indicator for high need
- Adults 14 or younger initial marijuana use 6x more likely classified with SUD than first use 18 or older





Screening

- Screening Criteria
 - Diagnosed moderate- to severe-based SUD
 - Evidence-based assessment indicates medium- to high-likelihood for reoffending
- Criminogenic Needs and Risk Factors
 - Mental health needs
 - Abuse and trauma history
 - Educational history
 - Well-being needs strengths
 - Housing stability
 - Leisure time and recreational activities
 - Parental/family SUD, mental health, and parenting skills
 - Peers with SUD and mental health needs
- Motivation not admission factor



Assessment

- Initial Assessments
 - SUD
 - Criminogenic risk and need
 - Responsivity factors
- Identify Baseline Needs
 - SUD severity
 - Readiness to change
 - Recovery stage
 - Intensity of required supervision
- Youth Subgroup Identification & Intensive Individualized Treatment



Assessment cont'd

- ASAM Comprehensive Assessment Components (16 total)
 - Physical and mental status exams
 - Medical and psychiatric history
 - Past and present SUD history w/ withdrawal potential
 - Pathological pursuit of reward history through addictive behaviors
 - SUD and addictive disorder treatment history, including previous treatment efficacy
 - Family medical, mental health, SUD & treatment history
 - Allergies
 - Current medication
 - Social history
 - Information from collateral sources (i.e. family, school)
 - Readiness to engagement in treatment & relapse potential
 - Assessment if recovery environment supports or impedes recovery
 - Diagnostic formulations
 - Treatment engagement facilitators and barriers, including motivational level

2. RSAT Program Structure

- Program Length and Phases
 - At least 6 months
 - Advance-based phases (not time limit)
- Cultural Responsiveness
 - Developmental and relational
 - Drug subcultures
- Daily Programming
- Prosocial Behavior Promotion
 - Non-punitive response
 - Recovery capital





3. Treatment Modalities and Curriculum

- Community origins, not correctional
- Aligned with existing processes/procedures
- Six core infrastructure drivers:
 - Staff selection
 - Pre-service and in-service training
 - Ongoing consultation and coaching
 - Staff and program evaluation
 - Facilitative administrative support
 - Systems interventions/checkpoints

3. Treatment Modalities and Curriculum (cont'd)



Necessary Conditions

- Intervention transferable to correctional setting
- Serves similar target population (including age, gender, culture, etc.)
- Implemented with reasonable fidelity
- Adequate available resources and capacity
- Qualified staff



3. Treatment Modalities and Curriculum (cont'd)

- Criminal Thinking
- Trauma-informed and Specific Treatment
- Cognitive Behavior Intervention (CBI)
- Therapeutic Communities (TCs)
- Motivational Interviewing
- Peer Support
- Treating Co-occurring SUDS and Mental Disorders
- Case Management and Program Reassessments

3. Treatment Modalities cont'd

- Buprenorphine
 - Synthetic opioid medication acts as partial agonist at opioid receptors
- Naltrexone
 - Synthetic opioid antagonist – blocks opioids from binding to receptors and reduces effects and cravings

Medication-assisted Treatment



3. Treatment Modalities cont'd

- Family Behavioral Therapy (FBT)
- Community Reinforcement Approach and Family Training (CRAFT)
- Behavioral Therapies for Adolescents/Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)
- The Matrix Model
- Twelve-step Facilitation Therapy

Evidence-Based SUD Treatment for Juveniles





4. Staffing and Training

- Personnel Assignment
 - Restricted to staff interested in RSAT
 - Collaboration with RSAT counselors and administrators
- Staff to Participant Ratio (< 20:1 group activities)
- Staff Training
 - Engage experienced staff
 - Self-care and burnout prevention
 - Effective behavior management
 - Job satisfaction
- Program Administration

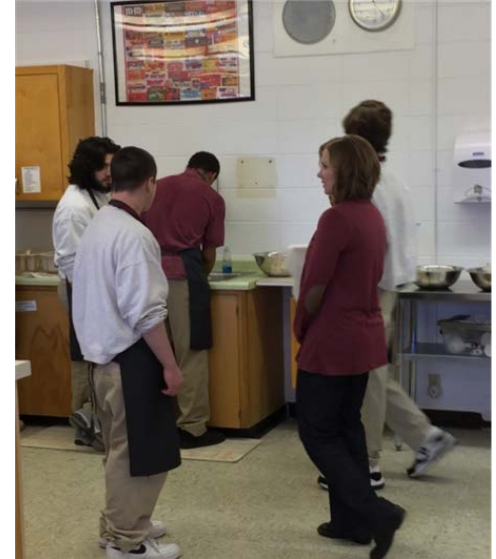
5. Drug-free Environments

- Testing (i.e., urinalysis or other objective methods)
 - Assesses treatment progress
 - Provides intervention opportunity
 - Rewards or sanctions
 - Feedback
- More frequent testing in facilities unable to separate RSAT population



6. Transition & Aftercare Planning

- Community reintegration
- Criminogenic needs
- Transitional planning
- Community-based SUD and mental health treatment provider
- Physical and behavioral case management
- Employment/education/social services referrals
- First medication dose
- Health Insurance
- Probation/Parole Collaboration



7. Measuring Results

- BJA-required performance measures
- Additional measured outcomes
 - Participation and completion rates
 - Drug testing
 - Treatment initiation and treatment retention
 - Abstinence or length of time to relapse
 - Drug overdoses/deaths
 - Emergency room visits
- Comparisons with equivalent populations
- Limitations of “before/after” comparisons



7. Measuring Results (cont'd)

- Program performance
 - Graduate community reintegration
 - New arrests
 - Rearrests
 - Reincarceration
 - Other program-specific outcomes
- Independent researcher/no conflict of interest
- Understand criminal records/context





Examples of RSAT Programs for Juveniles

Examples of RSAT Programs for Juveniles

- **Adobe Mountain School**, Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (Phoenix, Arizona)
- **Regional Youth Detention Centers**, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice (Augusta and Eastman, Georgia)
- **The Ferris School for Boys**, Delaware Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services (Wilmington, Delaware)
- **Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center**, Dallas County Juvenile Department (Dallas, Texas)

Featured Juvenile RSAT Program



- Developing Opportunities and Values through Education and Substance Abuse Treatment (DOVES) Residential Community Home, New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission (Hopewell, New Jersey)
 - Dress for Success
 - Community colleges
 - Programs for sex trafficking victims and prevention (GEMS & My Life, My Choice)
 - Juvenile parole officer who coordinates follow-up care

Examples of RSAT Programs for Juveniles cont'd

- **Illinois Youth Center Harrisburg**, Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (Harrisburg, Illinois)
- **Juvenile Relapse Avoidance Project (JRAP)**, Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs (Cleveland County, Oklahoma)
- **Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility**, Montana Department of Corrections (Miles City, Montana)
- **Rhode Island Training School (RITS)**, Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (Cranston, Rhode Island)



Conclusion / Q&A



Additional Resources

- The CrimeSolutions registry
National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice
www.crimesolutions.gov
- Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov/ebp-web-guide
- *Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide* (Third Edition)
National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/download/675/principles-drug-addiction-treatment-research-based-guide-third-edition.pdf?v=87ecd1341039d24b0fd616c5589c2095>
- *Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines*
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice
<https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/juvenile-drug-treatment-court-guidelines>



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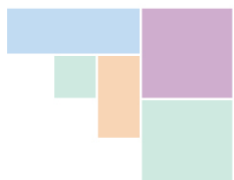
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