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# Executive Summary: An Evaluation of the Summit County Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BHJJ) Initiative

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Juvenile justice-involved youth with serious behavioral health issues often have inadequate and limited access to care to address their complex and multiple needs. Ohio's Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BHJJ) initiative was designed to provide these youth evidence and community-based behavioral health treatment in lieu of detention. Twelve counties participated in BHJJ during the most recent biennium: Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Holmes, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, Summit, Trumbull, and Wayne. BHJJ was funded through a partnership between the Ohio Departments of Youth Services (ODYS) and Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS). The Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education at Case Western Reserve University provided evaluation services for the program. **The majority of findings presented here represent data collected between July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2019.**

## Demographics and Youth Characteristics

- ❖ Since 2009, 368 youth have been enrolled in BHJJ (80% male, 80% non-white). The average age of youth entering the program was 15.9 years old.
- ❖ Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2019, 66 youth were enrolled in BHJJ (83% male, 94% non-White). The average age of youth entering the program was 15.9 years old.
- ❖ The most common DSM diagnosis for both males and females was Cannabis-related Disorders.
- ❖ 59% of males and 35% of females were diagnosed with both a mental health and substance use diagnosis.
- ❖ Caregivers reported that 21% of the females had a history of sexual abuse, 19% talked about suicide, and 5% had attempted suicide. 56% of males and 54% of females had family members who were diagnosed with or showed signs of depression.
- ❖ 52% of BHJJ females and 48% of BHJJ males had biological family members with drinking or drug problems.
- ❖ According to the OYAS, 70% of the BHJJ youth were moderate or high risk to reoffend.
- ❖ 96% of youth had at least one felony charge in the 12 months prior to BHJJ enrollment.
- ❖ Prior to BHJJ, 51% of the youth had a history of child welfare involvement, 21% had received substance use treatment, and 66% had received mental health treatment.

### **Educational Information**

- ❖ About 49% of the youth were suspended or expelled from school in the year prior to their BHJJ enrollment. During treatment, 33% were suspended or expelled.
- ❖ None of the unsuccessful completers and 32% of successful completers earned mostly A's, B's, or C's at termination from BHJJ. At termination, 70% of youth were attending school.
- ❖ At termination, workers reported that 85% of youth were attending school more or about the same amount as they were before starting treatment.

### **Mental/Behavioral Health Outcomes**

- ❖ BHJJ youth reported a significant decrease in trauma symptoms related to anxiety, depression, and posttraumatic stress from intake to termination.
- ❖ Results from the Ohio Scales indicated the caregiver, worker, and youth reported increased youth functioning and decreased problem severity while in BHJJ treatment.

### **Termination and Recidivism Information**

- ❖ 69% of the youth terminated from the BHJJ program completed treatment successfully. The average length of stay in the program was 121 days.
- ❖ Workers reported that police contacts have been reduced for 80% of the youth.
- ❖ Among youth who successfully completed BHJJ treatment, 21% were at risk for out of home placement at intake. At termination, 12% of these youth were at risk for out of home placement.
- ❖ One year after termination, 47% of successful completers and 50% of unsuccessful completers had a new felony charge.
- ❖ Since 2015, 6 of the 86 youth (4.7%) enrolled in BHJJ for whom we had recidivism data were committed to an ODYS facility at any time following their enrollment in BHJJ.
- ❖ The average number of felony charges in the 12 months prior to and after BHJJ declined from 2.4 to 1.6.

# An Evaluation of the Summit County Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BHJJ) Initiative

## Juvenile Justice and Mental Health

Youth involved in the juvenile justice system report significant behavioral health impairment. While estimates vary, most studies report that between 65-75% of juvenile justice-involved (JJI) youth have at least one mental health or substance abuse disorder and 20% to 30% report suffering from a serious mental disorder (Cocozza & Skowrya, 2000; Shufelt & Cocozza, 2006; Teplin, Abram, McClelland, Dulcan, & Mericle, 2002; Wasserman, McReynolds, Lucas, Fisher, & Santos, 2002). Rates of similar mental health/substance use disorders among the general adolescent population are far lower (Cuellar, McReynolds, & Wasserman, 2006; Friedman, Katz-Levy, Manderscheid, & Sondheimer, 1996; Merikangas, et al., 2010; Otto, Greenstein, Johnson, & Friedman, 1992; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999).

Studies have found that JJI females are often more likely to suffer from mental health disorders than JJI males (Teplin et al., 2002; Nordess et al., 2002; Shufelt & Cocozza, 2006; Wasserman, McReynolds, Ko, Katz, & Carpenter, 2005). Driving this difference is the fact that Anxiety and Mood Disorders are far more common in JJI girls than JJI boys (Shufelt & Cocozza, 2006; Teplin et al., 2002; Wasserman et al., 2005). Not only are JJI girls more likely to report mental health disorders, they are also more likely to report co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders than JJI males (Abram, Teplin, McClelland, & Dulcan, 2003; Wasserman et al., 2005; Wasserman, McReynolds, Schwalbe, Keating, & Jones, 2010).

While it is clear that a significant percentage of JJI youth have mental health problems, many have not received help or treatment for these issues prior to entering the system. One study found that only 34% of juvenile detainees with Anxiety, Mood, or Disruptive Behavior Disorders had ever received prior mental health treatment (Novins, Duclos, Martin, Jewett, & Manson, 1999). In another study, only 17% of juvenile detainees reported previous mental health treatment by a psychiatrist or therapist (Feinstein et al., 1998). A SAMHSA-funded study reported that while 94% of juvenile justice facilities had some type of mental health services available to youth, the quality and comprehensiveness of these services varied greatly based on the facility (Goldstrom, Jaiquan, Henderson, Male, & Manderscheid, 1998). Goldstrom et al. (1998) reported that 71% of juvenile detention centers offer mental health screening while only 56% conduct full evaluations. In facilities where full evaluations are offered, screenings and assessments are often not standardized (Hoge, 2002; Soler, 2002).

## Juvenile Justice/Mental Health Diversion Programs

The prevalence of juvenile justice youth with mental health issues is cause for alarm. While the juvenile justice system is often the first time a youth is screened for mental health problems, the system is often ill-prepared to properly meet the needs of these youth (Cocozza & Skowrya, 2000; Skowrya & Powell, 2006; Teplin et al., 2002; U.S. Department of Justice, 2005). In response to the growing number of youth entering the juvenile justice system with mental health issues and the lack of comprehensive care in these facilities, many communities have developed diversion programs or mental health courts as an alternative to detention or incarceration. These programs allow for more in-depth assessment and

evaluation and more comprehensive and evidence-based treatment and supervision services than are available in typical juvenile justice facilities.

## Ohio's Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BHJJ) Initiative

Twenty years ago, Ohio's juvenile court judges met with representatives from the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and the Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) to address a growing and serious concern. Many of the youth who appeared in court demonstrated serious mental health and/or substance use problems. Not only did these judges lack the resources and expertise to identify, assess, and serve these youth, but there were few alternative programs into which these youths could be placed in lieu of a detention facility.

The state recommended funding local pilot projects in an attempt to divert youth who demonstrated a need for behavioral health service from incarceration and into community-based treatment settings. The pilot program operated in three counties in Ohio. While small in scope, the pilot project was successful in reducing the number of youth with behavioral health issues committed to the ODYS.

In 2005, the state allocated new resources to the Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BHJJ) project and funded several counties throughout Ohio to expand upon the work accomplished in the pilot phase. The intent of the BHJJ project was to transform the local systems' ability to identify, assess, evaluate, and treat multi-need, multi-system youth and their families and to identify effective programs, practices, and policies. As in the pilot, this initiative was designed to divert JJ youth with mental health or substance use issues from detention into community and evidence-based treatment. The state identified criteria to be used by participating counties to determine if a youth was appropriate for inclusion in the BHJJ project, including: a DSM diagnosis, aged 10 to 18, substantial mental status impairment, co-occurring substance abuse, a pattern of criminal behavior, charged and/or adjudicated delinquent, a threat to public safety, exposed to trauma or domestic violence, and a history of multi-system involvement. Each county was able to determine which and how many criteria the youth had to meet to be eligible for participation.

Since 2006, 18 counties have been selected to participate in the BHJJ program. Urban, suburban, and rural counties have been included in the project. These counties were required to use evidence-based or evidence-informed treatment models; however, the state allowed each county to select the model that best fit the needs of their youth and families. Examples of the types of treatment models provided through BHJJ include Multi-systemic Therapy (MST), Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Integrated Co-Occurring Treatment (ICT), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), and Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT).

While each county employs slightly different protocols and procedures in the implementation of BHJJ, the juvenile court is the typical entry point into the program. Youth who have been charged with a crime are given a psychological assessment to determine if they meet criteria for inclusion in BHJJ. If the youth meets criteria and the youth and family agree to participate, the youth is recommended for BHJJ participation. If the judge or magistrate accepts the recommendation, the youth is enrolled in the BHJJ program and referred or linked to the treatment agency responsible for providing the treatment services. In most cases the youth remains on probation supervision during their time in the BHJJ

program. While residential placement is an option in some of the participating counties, a mission of BHJJ is to provide treatment in the least restrictive setting possible and therefore the majority of the treatment is provided in-home or in outpatient settings.

A key component to the BHJJ program is the ongoing outcome evaluation provided by the Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education at the Mandel School for Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University (Kretschmar, Butcher, Flannery & Singer, 2016; Kretschmar, Butcher, Canary, & Devens, 2015). For information or copies of previous evaluation reports, please contact Dr. Jeff Kretschmar at [jeff.kretschmar@case.edu](mailto:jeff.kretschmar@case.edu) or visit <http://begun.case.edu/research/juvenile-justice/bhjj/>.

## Measures and Instrumentation

All of the instruments collected as part of the BHJJ evaluation were in TeleForm© format. TeleForm© is a software program that allows for data transmission via fax machine, scanner, or .pdf file. Instruments are created using this software and once completed, can be faxed or scanned directly into a database.

### Ohio Youth Problems, Functioning, and Satisfaction Scales (Ohio Scales)

The Ohio Scales (Ogles, Melendez, Davis, & Lunnen, 2001) were designed to assess clinical outcomes for children with severe emotional and behavioral disorders, and were developed primarily to track service effectiveness. The measure assesses four primary domains of outcomes with four subscales: Problem Severity, Functioning, Hopefulness, and Satisfaction with services. In the Ohio Scales–Caregiver version, the caregiver rates his/her child’s problem severity and functioning, and the caregiver’s satisfaction with services and hopefulness about caring for his or her child. In the Ohio Scales–Youth version, the youth rates his/her own problem severity and functioning, and his/her satisfaction with services and hopefulness about life or overall well-being. The Worker version does not include the Satisfaction or Hopefulness scales. A score is generated for each of the four subscales, with a total score for the scale generated by summing the items.

### Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC)

The Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC) is a 54-item Likert-type questionnaire containing six subscales designed to measure anxiety, anger, depression, posttraumatic stress, dissociation, and sexual concerns (Briere, 1996). Youth respond to a series of questions regarding the frequency of certain thoughts, events, or behaviors. Responses are made on a 4-point, 0-3 scale with “0” indicating “never” and “3” indicating “almost all the time”.

### Substance Use Survey – Revised

This measure, adapted from the SAMHSA-funded Tapestry Project (a demonstration and research project that identifies, serves and follows youth and families from Cuyahoga County, Ohio, with significant behavioral and mental health needs), collects information reported by the youth about the frequency of his or her substance use, including tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, painkillers, and several additional substances.

### Enrollment and Demographics Form (Enrollment Form)

This form permits program staff to record several important pieces of information including date of enrollment, reasons for BHJJ services, DSM diagnoses, Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) scores,



and agencies with which the youth is involved. In addition, out-of-home placement status, risk for placement, and educational and vocational data are collected.

#### Child Information Update Form (Termination Form)

This form is completed by the treatment staff at termination from the BHJJ program, and is used to record DSM diagnoses, GAF score, date and reasons for termination from the program, and out-of-home placement risk. Educational and vocational data, as well as information related to contacts with the police are also captured.

#### Victimization and Delinquency Questionnaire (VDQ)

The Victimization and Delinquency Questionnaire (VDQ) is a 33-item survey designed to gather information on childhood victimization as a witness or victim, delinquency, and negative peer interactions. This self-report instrument is measured on a 0 (Never) to 4 (Almost every day) scale. The items were adapted from a variety of sources, including the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (Finkelhor, Hamby, Ormrod, & Turner, 2005). This survey replaced the Recent Exposure to Violence Scale (REVS) used in previous BHJJ evaluations.

#### Caregiver Information Questionnaire (Intake and Termination)

The Caregiver Information Questionnaire, adapted from SAMHSA/Center for Mental Health Services (2005), permits staff to record information including demographics, risk factors, family composition, physical custody of the child, abuse history, family history of mental health issues, the child's mental and physical health service use history, caregiver employment status, and child's presenting problems.

#### Youth Services Survey for Families

The Youth Services Survey for Families (YSSF) (SAMHSA) was designed to assess caregiver satisfaction with services the youth received, and if, as a result of those services, the youth is showing improved functioning. This measure was optional.

#### Resiliency Survey

The Resiliency Survey is a 16-item, self-report survey designed to measure the external and internal assets associated with positive youth development. This survey is completed by youth at both intake into and termination from the BHJJ program. Items are scored on a four-point Likert scale ranging from "Not at all True" to "Very Much True".

#### Recidivism

Recidivism can be defined in many ways: a new offense, a violation of probation, new adjudication, or commitment to ODYS. Recidivism is a standard measure of program success, especially as an indicator of treatment outcomes over time. For this evaluation, recidivism was defined in three ways; a new misdemeanor or felony charge, a new adjudication, and a placement in an ODYS facility any time after enrollment in the BHJJ program. These data are provided to the evaluators by the juvenile court in each participating county. Recidivism data are presented for youth prior to and after enrollment and termination from BHJJ.

#### Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS)

The OYAS is a criminogenic risk assessment tool designed to assist juvenile court staff with placement and treatment decisions based on a youth's risk score. The OYAS contains five distinct versions of the tool administered at different points in the juvenile justice process: Diversion, Detention, Disposition,

Residential, and Reentry. Youth receive a total score and fall into three risk levels; low, moderate, or high. Each county's juvenile court supplied OYAS data to the evaluators.

## Data Collection Schedule

The evaluation contains both required and optional questionnaires (see Table 1 and Table 2).

Table 1. Required BHJJ Questionnaires

Measure	Who Completes	When Administered
<b>Ohio Scales</b>	Youth & Worker	Intake, every 3 months, Term
<b>Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC)</b>	Youth	Intake, Term
<b>Substance Use Survey – Revised (SUS)</b>	Youth with Program Staff	Intake, every 6 months, Term
<b>Enrollment and Demographics Information Form (EDIF)</b>	Program Staff	Intake
<b>Child Information Update Form (CIUF)</b>	Program Staff	Term
<b>Caregiver Information Questionnaire – Intake (CIQ-I)</b>	Caregiver with Program Staff	Intake
<b>Resiliency Survey</b>	Youth	Intake, Term

Table 2. Optional BHJJ Questionnaires

Measure	Who Completes	When Administered
<b>Ohio Scales</b>	Caregiver	Intake, every 3 months, Term
<b>Victimization and Delinquency Questionnaire</b>	Youth	Intake, Term
<b>Caregiver Information Questionnaire – Term (CIQ-F)</b>	Caregiver with Program Staff	Term
<b>Youth Service Survey for Families (YSSF)</b>	Caregiver	Term

## Date of BHJJ Participation

To date, 18 counties throughout Ohio have participated in the BHJJ program (see Table 3). The aggregate report includes data from all 18 counties. Currently, there are 12 BHJJ counties. In addition to the aggregate report, individual county reports are included for each of these current counties.

Table 3. Dates of BHJJ Participation

County	BHJJ Participation Dates
Ashtabula	2016 - present
Butler	2008 – 2009
Champaign	2006 - 2009
Cuyahoga	2006 – present
Fairfield	2006 - 2009
Franklin	2006 - present
Hamilton	2008 – present
Holmes	2013 - present
Logan	2006 - 2009
Lorain	2013 – present
Lucas	2009 – present
Mahoning	2013 – present
Montgomery	2006 - present
Summit	2009 - present
Trumbull	2013 – present
Union	2006 - 2009
Wayne	2013 - present
Wood	2013 - 2015

## Project Description

The Behavioral Health Juvenile Justice program in Summit County is a partnership among: The Summit County Juvenile Court (SCJC), the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board, The Village Network, Child Guidance and Family Solutions (CGFS), The Center for Innovative Practices of Case Western Reserve University (CIP), Greenleaf Family Center and Akron Area YMCA. The two main evidence-based practices utilized are Integrated Co-occurring Treatment (ICT) through CGFS and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) through the Village Network. The program is further supported using Greenleaf Family Center Parent Advocates for caregivers and Akron Area YMCA mentoring for youth along with intensive court supervision and case management.

Approximately 50 youth can be referred to the BHJJ program annually. Since 2011, additional supports have been in place to further promote program engagement and success, including opportunities for youth to be assessed and tutored by Sylvan Learning Center staff both individually and in small group settings. Sylvan staff and Greenleaf Parent Advocates often work directly with the local public schools in IEP development for the youth whom they tutor.

Generally, males and females from 12 to 18 years old who commit a felony offense and who are known to have serious substance abuse/mental health issues can be referred to the program. Typically, BHJJ

services are targeted to youth between 14 to 18 years old, as these services, while flexible, tend to be designed to be effective with this age-range. All youth under consideration for referral to BHJJ services must first be staffed (a meeting held among various experienced court staff from probation, felony disposition, and partnering agency professionals) post-adjudication (after admitting to their offense in court) for appropriateness (mental health and/or substance abuse issues, serious offenders, etc.).

Referred youth have been placed on probation or intensive probation, some of whom have received suspended ODYS commitments. Once the youth has been admitted into the program and assigned to a treatment provider, the BHJJ team (Probation Officer and Supervisor, Felony Disposition Supervisor, program Case Manager and program Supervisor, and other relevant organizations (i.e. mental health professional, chemical dependency counselor, school personnel, etc.)) meet to develop individual/family case plans and provide further disposition recommendations to the judiciary. All available assessments (SASSI, OYAS, Screen Pediatric Psychosocial Influences or SPPI, etc.) are reviewed and discussed to help inform these decisions. Court staff administer these assessments throughout the early stages of the youth's court involvement. In many cases, BHJJ program participants have been previously involved with the court. Often in those cases an assessment history has already been compiled. Still, new assessments are administered each time a youth becomes re-involved with the court.

When the youth and family are ordered to participate and cooperate with the behavioral health service provider, a referral will be made to the provider by the probation officer assigned to the case. Once the youth/family has engaged, monthly reviews are scheduled to gauge progress, service gaps and any non-compliance issues. A Behavioral Health Court Docket (BHCD) was implemented during FY2011 to bolster judicial oversight and provide structure to the application of incentives and sanctions to both youth and their caregivers.

Once an initial treatment recommendation has been made, The Village Network or Child Guidance and Family Solutions begins delivering services and conducting additional assessments as needed. One of the key components of the treatments offered by both organizations is the flexibility built into both models. This flexibility ensures that services are delivered in a culturally competent manner and that youth and families referred are not immediately rejected or ejected from services when difficulties arise.

Successful treatment completion is determined by the service provider based on number of sessions completed and compliance with court orders, probation and the individual and family case plan as set forth by the program case manager. For the Village Network's TFCBT program, successful completion is measured by:

- Improvement in overall level of functioning.
- Decrease in recidivism risk factors.
- Increase in school engagement (more days present at school) and GPA.
- No additional felony charges or commitments to ODYS.
- 40 or more successful engagements with the counselor (face to face contacts).
- Consistent compliance with medication orders.

Child Guidance and Family Solutions deems someone as "successful" in the ICT program on the basis of two overarching factors: 1) Whether the youth attended treatment services throughout the duration of the program and 2) Whether they remained in the home (i.e., avoided a placement at ODYS).

In addition to the two main criteria, successful ICT completion also includes:

- Improved stability at home.
- Stabilization of mental health symptoms that would warrant less intensive mental health treatment.
- Reduction in use that would warrant less intensive alcohol/drug treatment.
- Improved functioning at school and in the community.
- Connected to other treatment provider(s) or supports at the end of treatment.

## Data Analysis Plan

The report is divided into two main sections. The first is an aggregate report using data from all the BHJJ counties. This includes data collected from the beginning of the BHJJ program in 2005 through June 30, 2019 and includes data from all counties who have participated, regardless of their current participation status. After the aggregate report are individual county reports highlighting data from each current BHJJ county since they have been participating in the BHJJ program.

### Description of the Analyses Used in the Report

Several types of inferential statistics are used throughout the report. Three types of bivariate analyses are discussed throughout both the overall report and the county specific reports. The chi-square analysis refers to a bivariate technique where a relationship between two variables is tested to determine if there are any significant differences. For example, if we are interested in whether males and females differ on whether they have ever used alcohol, a chi-square test is used. If there is a statistically significant result, this indicates that the difference between females and males is unlikely to have occurred by chance. Thus, we would describe the difference for the gender groups as a *real difference* rather than one that could have occurred by chance.

In instances where the bivariate relationship of interest is a measure that is both a yes/no measure and one that is repeated, a McNemar's test is used. For example, if we are interested in whether there is a statistically significant decrease in the proportion of youth using alcohol in the past six months from intake to termination, we would use a McNemar's test. A statistically significant result would indicate that the observed difference in six-month use from intake to termination is a real difference and one that likely did not occur by chance.

The third type of bivariate analysis used throughout the report is the t-test. T-tests are similar to chi-square tests in that they test two variables to determine whether there are significant differences. For example, if we are interested in whether females and males differ on their levels of posttraumatic stress symptoms, a t-test is used. Since the variable posttraumatic stress lies on a continuous scale, we examine whether the corresponding means for the two gender groups significantly differ. Independent samples t-tests are used when there are two distinct groups (e.g. female and male) while paired samples t-tests are used when we are interested in whether means for the same group from different time points differ significantly (e.g. pre/post differences).

While statistical significance is an indication of how likely differences between groups or time points could occur by chance, effect sizes measure the magnitude of these observed differences. In other words, while statistical significance tells us whether a difference exists, effect sizes tell us how much of a

difference exists. Effect sizes as represented by Cohen's  $d$  are also presented using the recommended criteria for its interpretation in Cohen's (1988) seminal work. Interpretation of Cohen's  $d$  is based on the criteria where 0.2 indicates a small effect size, 0.5 indicates a medium effect, and 0.8 indicates a large effect<sup>1</sup>.

One-way ANOVAs are used when we are interested in whether mean differences on a dependent variable are significant along a categorical independent variable. For instance, one-way ANOVAs are conducted when we are interested in whether caregivers, youth, and workers differ significantly on mean Ohio Scales Functioning scores. The question of interest here is whether there are *real differences* between mean scores for the three different reporters.

Logistic regression is a multivariate statistical technique where the question to be answered is whether or not a variable predicts group membership. The use of the term multivariate here indicates that there is more than one independent variable included in the analysis. Each of the variables in the model contributes to the prediction of group membership and therefore, the effects of each variable in the analysis are controlled. Consider the question of whether recidivism can be predicted by risk assessment scores, age, race, and gender. Group membership in this case refers to whether or not an individual recidivated (yes/no). Results of the logistic regression will indicate the probability of recidivism for a male youth compared to a female, while controlling for, or holding constant, risk assessment scores, age, and race.

### Sample Size

**For county-specific reports, where possible, we included data from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2019.**

This is a departure from previous reports, where all project data from every project site that ever participated, was included. We decided to include only the most recent data to allow stakeholders at the State and local level to detect recent changes in their outcomes, that otherwise may be masked by analyzing such a large sample size. However, if a larger dataset was needed to conduct statistical analyses, we expanded the pool to include additional years. A few sections contain data from the entire sample as well as from the previous biennium (e.g. termination reasons).

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<sup>1</sup> For a more thorough review see Cohen, J. (1988). *Statistical power analysis for the behavioral sciences* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

## Demographics

As of June 30, 2019, 368 youth were enrolled into the BHJJ program in Summit County. The average age at enrollment was 15.9 years (SD=1.29). More males (79.8%, n = 293) than females (20.2%, n = 74) have been enrolled. Black youth (70.2%, n = 257), White youth (20.2%, n = 74), and Multiracial youth (8.5%, n = 31) comprised the majority of the total sample.

There were 66 new enrollments in Summit County during the current reporting period (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019). The average age at enrollment was 15.9 (SD = 1.21). Males (83.3%, n = 55) outnumbered females (16.7%, n = 11), and more Black youth (89.4%, n = 59) than White youth (6.1%, n = 4) were enrolled. One youth (1.5%) self-identified as Hispanic/Latinx.

**Unless otherwise noted, the following sections describe data from the past four years of BHJJ programming from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2019.**

## Custody Arrangement and Household Information

At intake, the majority of youth lived with the biological mother (63.2%, n = 74), while 11.1% (n = 13) lived with two biological parents or one biological and one step/adoptive parent (see Table 4). Over eighty-one percent (81.2%, n = 95) of BHJJ youth lived with at least one biological at enrollment.

Over eighty-five percent (85.3%; n = 99) of the BHJJ caregivers had at least a high school diploma or GED, and 6.8% (n = 8) had a bachelor's degree or higher. Over fourteen percent of caregivers (14.7%; n = 17) reported they did not graduate from high school (see Table 5).

Caregivers were asked to report their annual household income (see Table 6). The income range with the highest endorsement was less than \$5,000 (31.0%, n = 35). Overall, 80.5% (n = 91) reported a family income of \$24,999 or less. When examined by race, 46.7% (n = 7) of White families, 61.3% (n = 57) of Black families, and 50.0% (n = 2) of Multiracial families reported a household income of \$14,999 or less. Table 6 displays the reported household income overall and by race.

Table 4. Custody Arrangement for BHJJ Youth

Custody	BHJJ Youth
Two Biological Parents or One Biological and One Step or Adoptive Parent	11.1% (n = 13)
Biological Mother Only	63.2% (n = 74)
Biological Father Only	6.8% (n = 8)
Adoptive Parent(s)	3.4% (n = 4)
Aunt/Uncle	5.1% (n = 6)
Grandparents	8.5% (n = 10)
Other	1.7% (n = 2)

Table 5. Educational Outcomes for Caregivers of BHJJ Youth

Number of School Years Completed	Number of Caregivers
Less than High School	14.7% (n = 17)
High School Graduate or G.E.D.	44.8% (n = 52)
Some College or Associate Degree	33.6% (n = 39)
Bachelor's Degree	3.4% (n = 4)
More than a Bachelor's Degree	3.4% (n = 4)

Table 6. Annual Household Incomes for BHJJ Families by Race

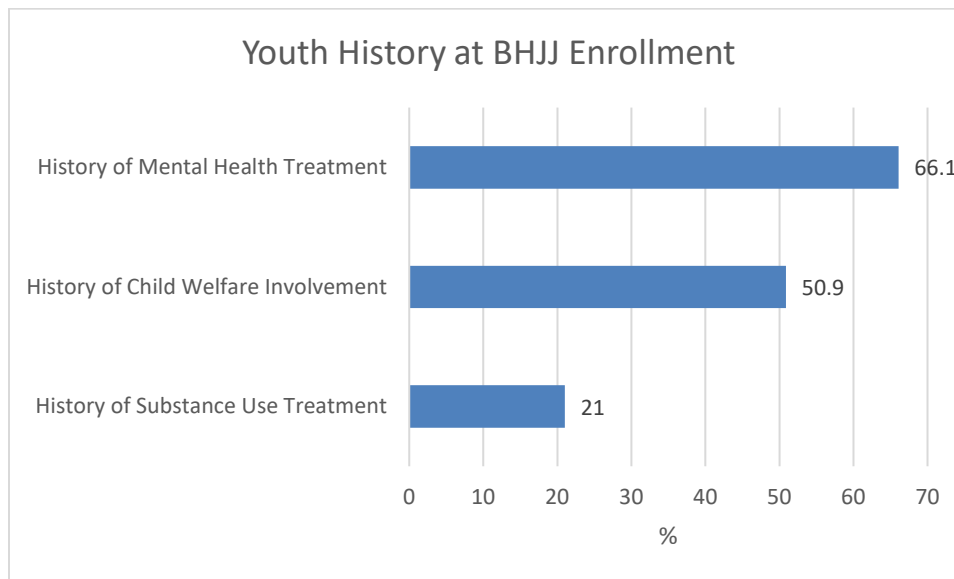
Household Income	Overall	White	Black	Multiracial
Less than \$5,000	31.0% (n = 35)	26.7% (n = 4)	31.2% (n = 29)	50.0% (n = 2)
\$5,000 - \$9,999	6.2% (n = 7)	6.7% (n = 1)	5.4% (n = 5)	NA
\$10,000 - \$14,999	22.1% (n = 25)	13.3% (n = 2)	24.7% (n = 23)	NA
\$15,000 - \$19,999	7.1% (n = 8)	6.7% (n = 1)	7.5% (n = 7)	NA
\$20,000 - \$24,999	14.2% (n = 16)	6.7% (n = 1)	16.1% (n = 15)	NA
\$25,000 - \$34,999	8.8% (n = 10)	20.0% (n = 3)	7.5% (n = 7)	NA
\$35,000 - \$49,999	7.1% (n = 8)	6.7% (n = 1)	6.5% (n = 6)	25.0% (n = 1)
\$50,000 - \$74,999	1.8% (n = 2)	NA	1.1% (n = 1)	25.0% (n = 1)
\$75,000 or greater	1.8% (n = 2)	13.3% (n = 2)	NA	NA



## Youth and Family History

Workers were asked to identify a youth's prior behavioral health and child welfare system involvement (see Figure 1). These three items were new to the past biennium, therefore, data are only available for youth enrolled between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2019. Over half the youth (50.9%, n = 29) had a history of child welfare involvement prior to BHJJ enrollment. Twenty-one percent (21.0%, n = 13) of youth had received substance use treatment in their lifetime prior to BHJJ enrollment and 66.1% (n = 41) of youth had received mental health treatment in their lifetime prior to BHJJ enrollment.

Figure 1.



Caregivers were asked to respond to a series of questions designed to obtain data related to the youth's family history. Chi-square analyses were conducted on each item to test for gender differences and significant differences are identified in Table 7. A significantly larger proportion of the caregivers of females reported lifetime histories of sexual abuse.

Caregivers reported that 10.5% (n = 2) of females and 8.5% (n = 8) of males had a history of being physically abused while 21.1% (n = 4) of females and 1.1% (n = 1) of males had a history of being sexual abused. Caregivers of 19.0% (n = 4) of females and 14.7% (n = 14) of males reported hearing the child talking about committing suicide and 5.0% (n = 1) of females and 5.4% (n = 5) of males had attempted suicide at least once. More than half of the caregivers of females (54.5%, n = 12) and males (55.8%, n = 48) reported a family history of depression. Nearly half of the caregivers of females (52.4%, n = 11) and males (47.8%, n = 44) reported a family history of problems with substance use.

Table 7. Youth and Family History

Question	Females	Males
<b>Has the child ever been physically abused?</b>	10.5% (n = 2)	8.5% (n = 8)
<b>Has the child ever been sexually abused?</b>	21.1% (n = 4)***	1.1% (n = 1)
<b>Has the child ever run away?</b>	55.0% (n = 11)	42.6% (n = 40)
<b>Has the child ever had a problem with substance abuse, including alcohol and/or drugs?</b>	33.3% (n = 7)	67.0% (n = 65)**
<b>Has the child ever talked about committing suicide?</b>	19.0% (n = 4)	14.7% (n = 14)
<b>Has the child ever attempted suicide?</b>	5.0% (n = 1)	5.4% (n = 5)
<b>Has the child ever been exposed to domestic violence or spousal abuse, of which the child was not the direct target?</b>	27.3% (n = 6)	28.7% (n = 27)
<b>Has anyone in the child's biological family ever been diagnosed with depression or shown signs of depression?</b>	54.5% (n = 12)	55.8% (n = 48)
<b>Has anyone in the child's biological family had a mental illness, other than depression?</b>	28.6% (n = 6)	30.7% (n = 27)
<b>Has the child ever lived in a household in which someone was convicted of a crime?</b>	35.0% (n = 7)	46.6% (n = 41)
<b>Has anyone in the child's biological family had a drinking or drug problem?</b>	52.4% (n = 11)	47.8% (n = 44)
<b>Is the child currently taking any medication related to his/her emotional or behavioral symptoms?</b>	25.0% (n = 5)	17.2% (n = 15)

\* p < .05, \*\* p < .01, \*\*\* p < .001

## Problems Leading to Service

The case worker or staff member assigned to the family typically completed a diagnostic assessment as part of the intake process. The workers were asked to identify the problems leading to the youth being referred for BHJJ services. For both females and males, the most common problem leading to BHJJ services was conduct/delinquency-related problems (66.7% and 61.2% respectively) (see Table 8). Chi-square analyses indicated females had significantly higher rates of problems related to anxiety.

Table 8. Problems Leading to Services

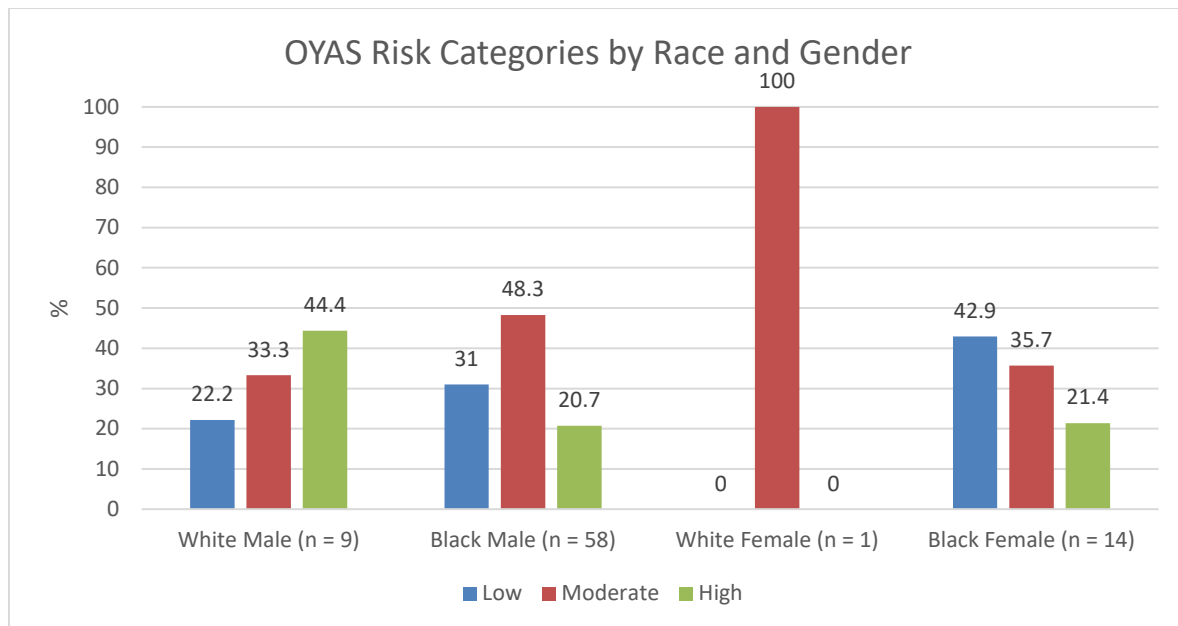
Problems Leading to Services	Females	Males
<b>Adjustment-related problems</b>	16.7% (n = 3)	20.4% (n = 20)
<b>Anxiety-related problems</b>	27.8% (n = 5)**	36.7% (n = 36)
<b>Conduct/delinquency-related problems</b>	66.7% (n = 12)	61.2% (n = 60)
<b>Depression-related problems</b>	38.9% (n = 7)	33.7% (n = 33)
<b>Eating disorders</b>	0	0
<b>Hyperactive and attention-related problems</b>	11.1% (n = 2)	21.4% (n = 21)
<b>Learning disabilities</b>	11.1% (n = 2)	12.2% (n = 12)
<b>Pervasive development disabilities</b>	0	0
<b>Psychotic behaviors</b>	0	0
<b>School performance problems not related to learning disabilities</b>	22.2% (n = 4)	34.7% (n = 34)
<b>Specific developmental disabilities</b>	0	1.0% (n = 1)
<b>Substance use, abuse, dependence-related problems</b>	33.3% (n = 3)	62.3% (n = 33)
<b>Suicide-related problems</b>	5.6% (n = 1)	1.0% (n = 1)

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

## Ohio Youth Assessment System

Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS) data were collected at the time point closest to a youth's respective enrollment dates. Figure 2 shows the distribution of OYAS risk categories for BHJJ youth by race and gender. In Summit County, 44.4% (n = 4) of White males and 20.7% (n = 12) of Black males enrolled in the BHJJ program were identified as High risk on the OYAS, while no White females and 21.4% (n = 3) of Black females were identified as High risk.

Figure 2.



## DSM Diagnoses

Workers were asked to report any DSM diagnoses at intake in the BHJJ program. These diagnoses were either identified through a psychological assessment given as part of the enrollment process or in some cases, from psychological assessments given in close proximity to a youth's enrollment in BHJJ. The most common diagnosis for females and males were Cannabis-related Disorders (see Table 9). Chi-square analysis indicated females were significantly more likely than males to be diagnosed with Oppositional Defiant Disorder.

Table 9. Most Common DSM Diagnoses

DSM Diagnosis	Females (n = 17)	Males (n = 93)
<b>Adjustment Disorder</b>	17.6% (n = 3)	11.8% (n = 11)
<b>Alcohol-related Disorders</b>	0	0
<b>Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder</b>	29.4% (n = 5)	35.5% (n = 33)
<b>Bipolar Disorder</b>	0	0
<b>Cannabis-related Disorders</b>	<b>35.3% (n = 6)</b>	<b>54.8% (n = 51)</b>
<b>Conduct Disorder</b>	11.8% (n = 2)	23.7% (n = 22)
<b>Depressive Disorders</b>	29.4% (n = 5)	25.8% (n = 24)
<b>Disruptive Behavior Disorder</b>	0	0
<b>Unspecified Mood Disorder</b>	0	0
<b>Oppositional Defiant Disorder</b>	23.5% (n = 4)*	5.4% (n = 5)
<b>Post-traumatic Stress Disorder</b>	5.9% (n = 1)	8.6% (n = 8)
<b>Unspecified Trauma and Stressor Related Disorder</b>	11.8% (n = 2)	12.9% (n = 12)
<b>Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder</b>	0	1.1% (n = 1)
<b>Co-Occurring Disorder</b>	35.3% (n = 6)	59.1% (n = 58)

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

## Educational Information

Several items focused on educational information were included in the evaluation packet at both intake into and termination from the BHJJ program. The items were completed by the worker with help from the youth and caregiver. The wording on some items (e.g. IEP at intake, attendance at intake) was changed from previous versions of the forms. For those items, we present data from only the past biennium (when the new forms were in use). Those items will have smaller sample sizes compared to items that have been consistent for the past four years.

Forty-nine percent (49.0%, n = 51) of youth were either suspended or expelled from school in the 12 months prior to their enrollment in the BHJJ project. While in BHJJ treatment BHJJ, 33.3% (n = 20) of the youth were expelled or suspended from school (a 32.0% decrease from intake to termination).

Educational data were analyzed for youth who were eligible for inclusion (youth on summer break or who had graduated at the time of the survey were not included in the analyses). At intake, 70.0% (n = 28) of youth were currently attending school while at termination, 69.6% (n = 39) of BHJJ youth were attending school.

If the youth was attending school, the worker was asked to identify the types of grades the youth typically received. Table 10 displays the grades typically received by the BHJJ youth at intake and termination from the program while Table 11 displays this information based on completion status. At intake, 26.9% of youth were earning mostly A's and B's, and C's while at termination, 22.9% were earning mostly A's, B's, or C's. Academic improvement varied by BHJJ completion status (see Table 11). For example, at intake, 14.3% of youth who would go on to be unsuccessful completers and 35% of youth who would go on to be successful completers received mostly A's, B's, or C's. At termination, 0% of unsuccessful completers and 31.5% of successful completers received mostly A's, B's, or C's.

Table 10. Academic Performance

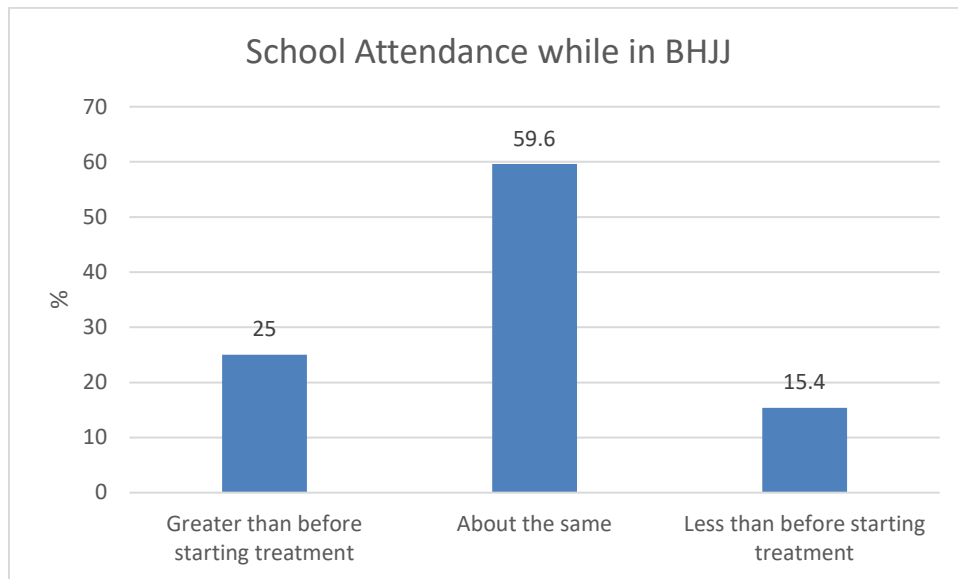
Typical Grades	Frequency at Intake	Frequency at Termination
Mostly A's and B's	9.6% (n = 10)	1.8% (n = 1)
Mostly B's and C's	17.3% (n = 18)	21.1% (n = 12)
Mostly C's and D's	29.8% (n = 31)	31.6% (n = 18)
Mostly D's and F's	43.3% (n = 45)	45.6% (n = 26)

Table 11. Academic Performance for Youth by Completion Status

Typical Grades	Unsuccessful Completers		Successful Completers	
	Frequency at Intake	Frequency at Termination	Frequency at Intake	Frequency at Termination
Mostly A's and B's	0	0	11.1% (n = 4)	2.6% (n = 1)
Mostly B's and C's	14.3% (n = 2)	0	23.9% (n = 5)	28.9% (n = 11)
Mostly C's and D's	21.4% (n = 3)	29.4% (n = 5)	30.6% (n = 11)	31.6% (n = 12)
Mostly D's and F's	64.3% (n = 9)	70.6% (n = 12)	44.4% (n = 16)	36.8% (n = 14)

At termination, workers reported that 25.0% (n = 46) of youth were attending school more than before starting treatment and 59.6% (n = 31) of youth were attending school 'about the same' amount compared to before starting treatment (see Figure 3). At intake, 44.2% (n = 23) of the youth attending school had Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) while at termination, 46.2% (n = 24) of the youth attending school had Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).

Figure 3.



## Ohio Scales

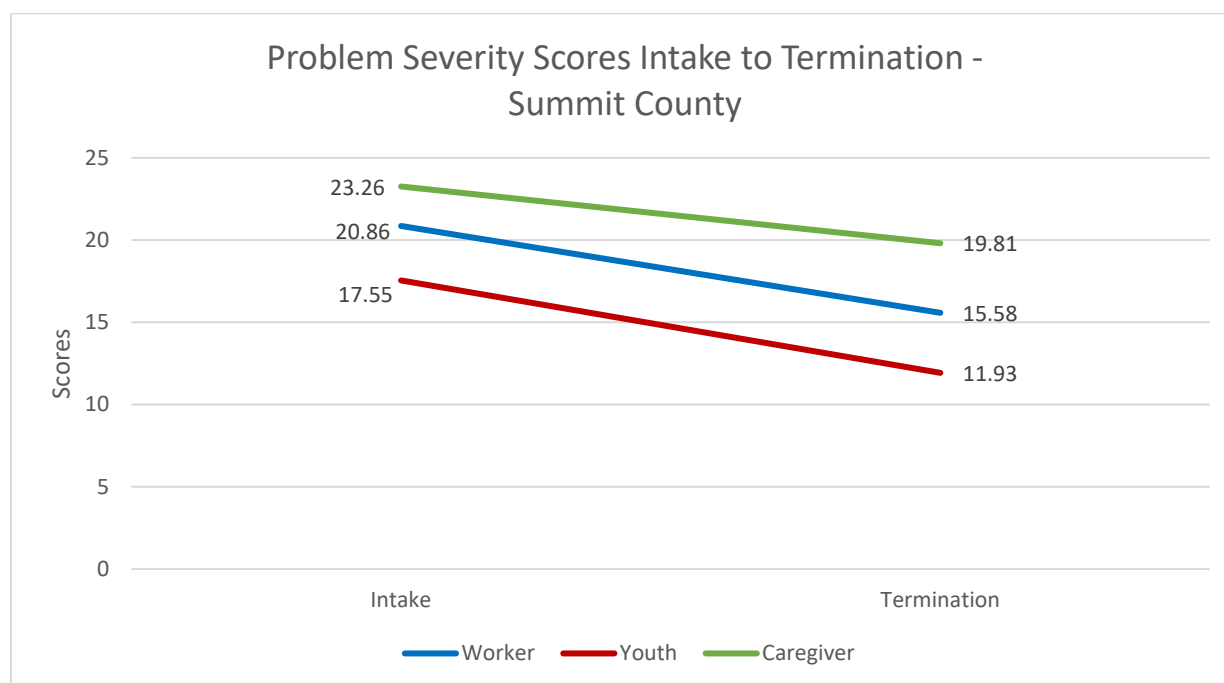
One of the main measures in the data collection packet was the Ohio Scales. The Ohio Scales were completed by the youth, caregiver, and worker at intake and then every three months following intake until termination from services. Because termination can occur at any point in time along the continuum of service, separate charts are included that display the means from intake to termination. Decreases in Problem Severity and increases in Functioning correspond to positive change.

All Problem Severity and Functioning analyses were conducted on assessment periods with enough valid cases to produce meaningful results. Paired samples t-tests were used to compare Problem Severity scores at intake to Problem Severity scores at the other assessment periods. A paired samples t-test compares the means of two variables by computing the difference between the two variables for each case and testing to see if the average difference is significantly different from zero. In order for a case to be included in the analyses, the rater must have scores for both assessment periods. For example, a caregiver must supply scores for both the intake and three-month assessment period to be included in the paired samples t-test for that time point. If the caregiver only has an intake score, his or her data is not included in the analysis.

### Problem Severity

Overall means for the Problem Severity scale by rater between intake and termination for Summit County youth are presented in Figure 4.

Figure 4.





### Worker Ratings

For workers, paired samples t-tests revealed significant improvements in Problem Severity at both measurement intervals compared to intake (see Table 12). Significant improvements were noted at three months:  $t(17) = 3.19$ ,  $p < .01$  with a moderate effect size; and at termination  $t(58) = 3.74$ ,  $p < .001$  with a small effect size.

Table 12. Paired Samples T-Tests for Problem Severity – Worker

	Mean Time 1	Mean Time 2	<i>t</i>	<i>d</i>
<b>Intake to Three Months</b>	23.11 (SD=10.55; n=18)	14.93 (SD=9.35; n=18)	3.19**	.75
<b>Intake to Termination</b>	20.45 (SD=10.25; n=59)	15.35 (SD=9.99; n=59)	3.74***	.49

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

### Youth Ratings

Paired samples t-tests conducted on the youth ratings indicated significant improvements in Problem Severity from intake to termination  $t(50) = 3.37$ ,  $p < .01$  with a small effect size (see Table 13).

Table 13. Paired Samples T-Tests for Problem Severity – Youth

	Mean Time 1	Mean Time 2	<i>t</i>	<i>d</i>
<b>Intake to Three Months</b>	17.10 (SD=14.03; n=17)	9.74 (SD=8.71; n=17)	1.98	.48
<b>Intake to Termination</b>	18.02 (SD=13.96; n=51)	11.30 (SD=8.91; n=51)	3.37**	.47

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

### Caregiver Ratings

For caregivers, paired samples t-tests revealed significant improvements in Problem Severity from intake to termination  $t(21) = 2.25$ ,  $p < .05$  with a small effect size (see Table 14).

Table 14. Paired Samples T-Tests for Problem Severity – Caregiver

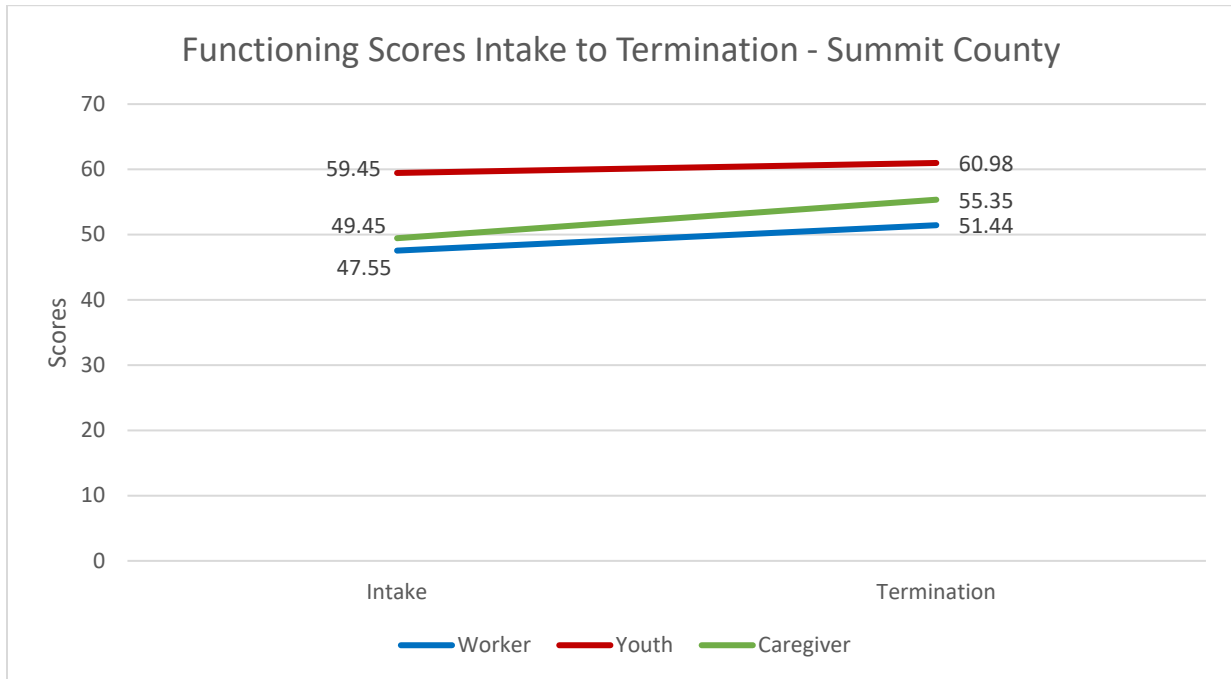
	Mean Time 1	Mean Time 2	<i>t</i>	<i>d</i>
<b>Intake to Three Months</b>	26.98 (SD=16.32; n=16)	20.94 (SD=17.05; n=16)	1.96	.49
<b>Intake to Termination</b>	27.75 (SD=14.98; n=22)	20.11 (SD=13.55; n=22)	2.25*	.48

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

## Functioning Scores

Overall means for the Functioning scale by rater between intake and termination for Summit County youth are presented in Figure 5.

Figure 5.



## Worker Ratings

For workers, paired samples t-tests revealed significant improvements in Functioning scores at both measurement intervals compared to intake (see Table 15). Significant improvements were noted at three months:  $t(17) = -4.51$ ,  $p < .001$  with a large effect size; and at termination  $t(59) = -3.40$ ,  $p < .01$  with a small effect size.

Table 15. Paired Samples T-Tests for Functioning Scores – Worker

	Mean Time 1	Mean Time 2	t	d
<b>Intake to Three Months</b>	46.44 (SD=7.82; n=18)	54.67 (SD=8.71; n=18)	-4.51***	1.06
<b>Intake to Termination</b>	46.47 (SD=8.65; n=60)	51.32 (SD=9.42; n=60)	-3.40**	.44

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

## Youth Ratings

Paired samples t-tests conducted on the youth ratings indicated no statistically significant improvements in Functioning scores from intake to three months and to termination  $t(52) = -.29$  (see Table 16).

Table 16. Paired Samples T-Tests for Functioning Scores – Youth

	Mean Time 1	Mean Time 2	t	d
<b>Intake to Three Months</b>	63.29 (SD=11.85; n=17)	68.24 (SD=10.35; n=17)	-1.76	.43
<b>Intake to Termination</b>	59.94 (SD=14.42; n=53)	60.58 (SD=14.92; n=53)	-.29	.04

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

## Caregiver Ratings

For caregivers, paired samples t-tests revealed significant improvements in Functioning scores from intake to termination  $t(20) = -2.08$ ,  $p < .05$  with a small effect size (see Table 17).

Table 17. Paired Samples T-Tests for Functioning Scores – Caregiver

	Mean Time 1	Mean Time 2	t	d
<b>Intake to Three Months</b>	44.80 (SD=18.00; n=15)	51.47 (SD=15.66; n=15)	-1.94	.50
<b>Intake to Termination</b>	46.95 (SD=17.95; n=21)	55.67 (SD=13.16; n=21)	-2.08*	.46

\* < .05, \*\* < .01, \*\*\* < .001

## Violence and Delinquency Questionnaire

The Violence and Delinquency Questionnaire (VDQ) is a self-report, 33-item Likert-style survey composed of three general domains: exposure to violence, violence perpetration, and peer delinquency. The VDQ is offered at intake and termination into the BHJJ program. At intake, each item prompts the youth to answer within the context of the past year. At termination, youth are directed to answer “since the last time you answered these questions”.

This section will be divided into three distinct parts that examine the prevalence of violence exposure as either a victim or witness, self-reported delinquent behavior from intake to termination, and delinquent

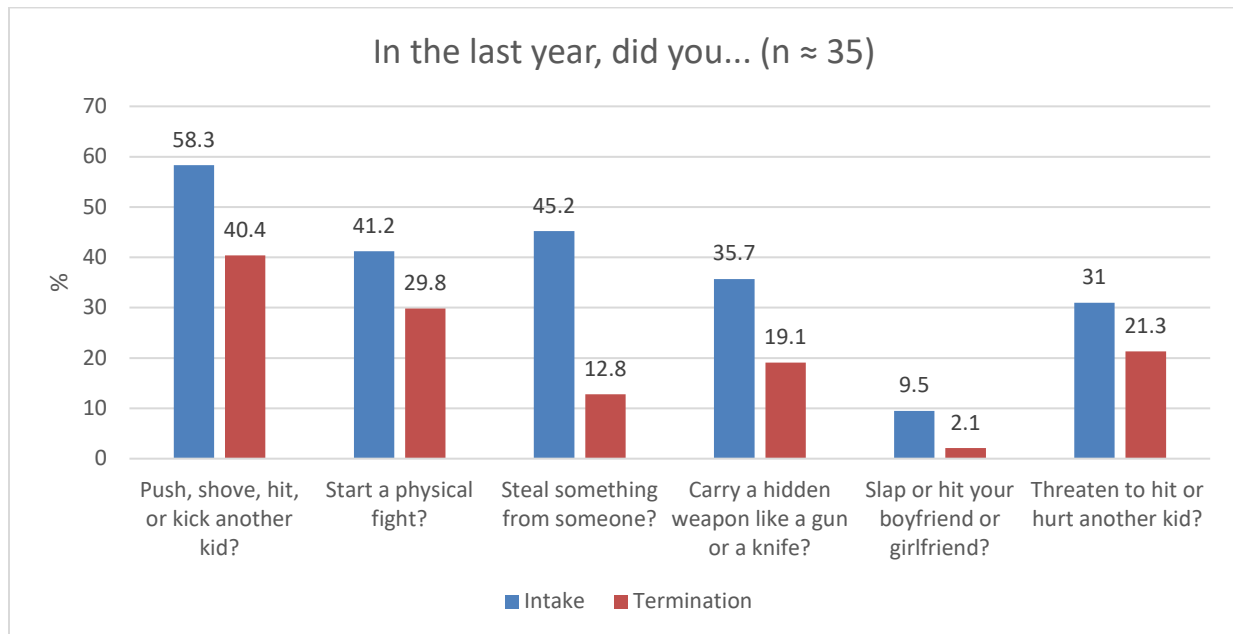
behavior by peers from intake to termination. Table 18 provides the percentage of those who had experienced violence as either a victim or witness in the past year.

Table 18. Violence Exposure

	% Yes BHJJ Sample (n = 86)
In the last year, did someone threaten to hurt you when you thought they might really do it?	40.0%
In the last year, have you been hit or attacked because of your skin color, religion, or where your family comes from? Because of a physical problem you have? Or because someone said you were gay?	8.3%
In the last year, did a boyfriend or girlfriend or anyone you went on a date with slap or hit you?	17.6%
In the last year, did anyone steal anything from you and never give it back? Things like a backpack, money, watch, clothing, bike, stereo, or anything else?	52.4%
Sometimes people are attacked WITH sticks, rocks, knives, or other things that would hurt. In the last year, did anyone hit or attack you on purpose with an object or weapon? Somewhere like at home, at school, at a store, in a car, on the street?	18.6%
In the last year, did anyone hit or attack you WITHOUT using an object or weapon?	45.3%
In the last year, did you get scared or feel really bad because kids were calling you names, saying mean things to you, or saying they didn't want you around?	17.6%
In the last year, did a grown-up touch your private parts when they shouldn't have or make you touch their private parts? Or did a grown-up force you to have sex?	1.2%
Now think about other kids, like from school, a boyfriend or girlfriend, or even a brother/sister. In the last year, did another child or teen make you do sexual things?	1.2%
In the last year, did you SEE a parent get pushed, slapped, hit, punched, or beat up by another parent, or their boyfriend or girlfriend?	9.4%
In the last year, in real life, did you SEE anyone get attacked on purpose WITH a stick, rock, gun, knife, or other thing that would hurt? Somewhere like: at home, at school, at a store, in a car, on the street, or anywhere else?	41.2%
In the last year, in real life, did you SEE anyone get attacked or hit on purpose WITHOUT using a stick, rock, gun, knife, or something that would hurt them?	57.6%
In the last year, was anyone close to you murdered, like a friend, neighbor, or someone in your family?	33.7%
In the last year, did you get scared or feel really bad because grown-ups in your life called you names, said mean things to you, or said they didn't want you?	18.8%
Not including spanking on your bottom, did a grown-up in your life hit, beat, kick or physically hurt you in any way?	11.8%
When someone is neglected, it means that the grown-ups in their life didn't take care of them the way they should. They might not get them enough food, take them to the doctor when they are sick, or make sure they have a safe place to stay. In the last year, were you neglected?	11.9%

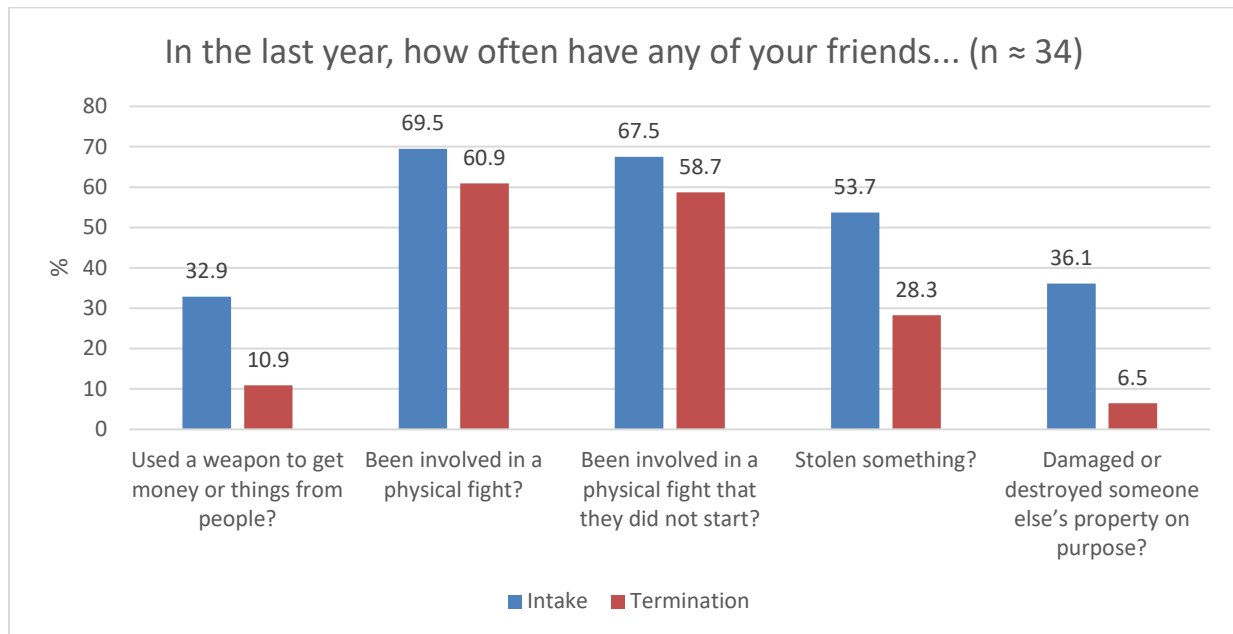
Delinquent behaviors were measured as self-report items of violent and weapon carrying behaviors as well as stealing. At intake, youth were asked how often they engaged in each behavior in the last year while at termination, youth were asked how often they engaged in the behavior since the last time they were asked. Figure 6 presents the percentage of youth who identified that they had engaged in each type of behavior at least once. Depending on the item, data were available for a range between 35 and 36 matched pairs (Mode = 35). McNemar's tests revealed statistically significant improvements from intake to termination for one item: steal something from someone.

Figure 6.



Self-reported peer delinquency was also measured at intake (how often in the last year) and at termination (how often since the last time they were asked). Figure 7 presents the percentage of youth who identified how often their friends had engaged in delinquent behavior at intake and termination. Depending on the item, data were available for a range between 33 and 34 matched pairs (Mode = 34). McNemar's tests revealed statistically significant improvements from intake to termination for three items: used a weapon to get money or things from people, stolen something, and damaged or destroyed someone else's property on purpose.

Figure 7.



## Resilience

As part of the 2017 - 2019 evaluation, we added a new scale to measure several aspects of resilience. We define resilience as a set of factors both within the individual and external factors such as relationships with family, peers, and other adults that help to insulate youth from adversity (Dray et al., 2017). As shown in the previous section that showed data on victimization, a large proportion of youth enrolled in BHJJ have directly or indirectly experienced violence. The Resilience survey is a 16-item Likert scale survey that measures internal factors of resilience such as self-efficacy, self-awareness, and empathy, and external factors such as support from peers and family. Figure 8 shows intake data on self-efficacy, self-awareness, and empathy. As the most frequent responses were “pretty much true” and “very much true”, we combined these responses. Generally, the majority of youth indicated high levels of endorsement for each one of these items. It is important to note, that the largest proportion of youth responding “not at all” or “a little true” were for the three items that measure empathy including “I feel bad when someone gets their feelings hurt”, “I try to understand how other people feel and think”, and “I try to understand how other people feel and think”.

Figure 8.

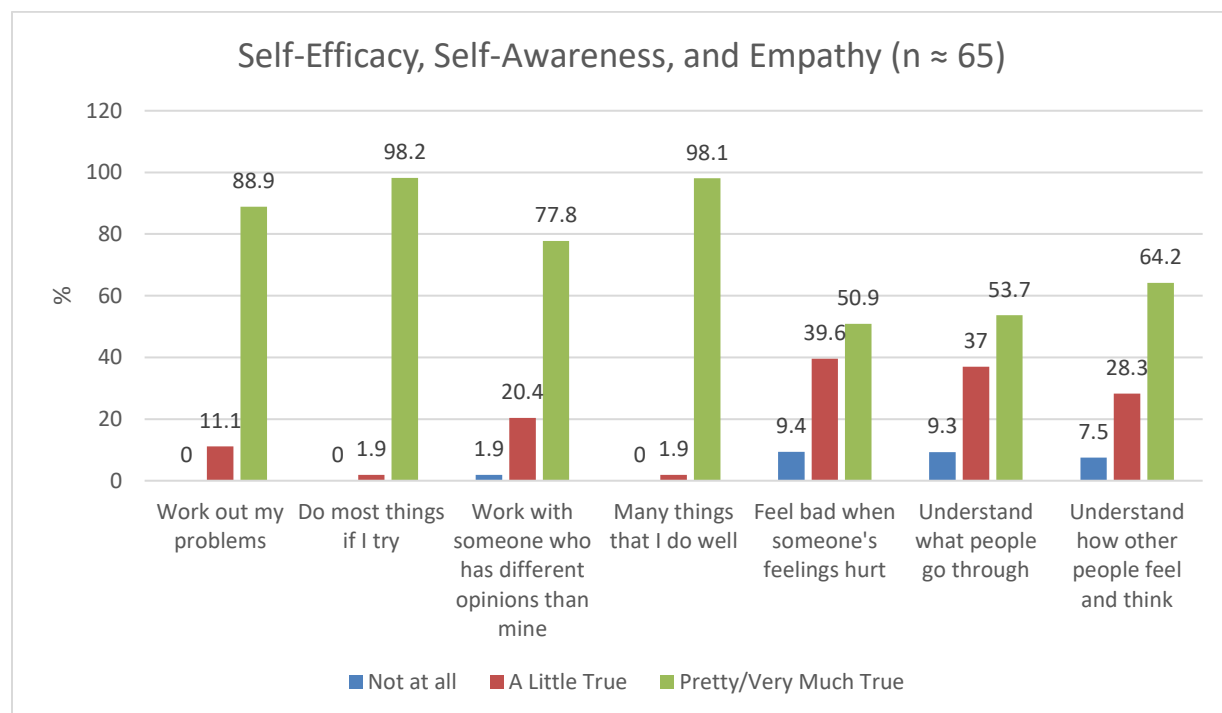


Figure 9 shows intake data on support from peers. Youth were asked whether they have a friend who really cares about them, talks with them about their problems, and helps them when they are having a hard time. The majority of youth identified that each of the statements were either pretty much or very much true.

Figure 9.

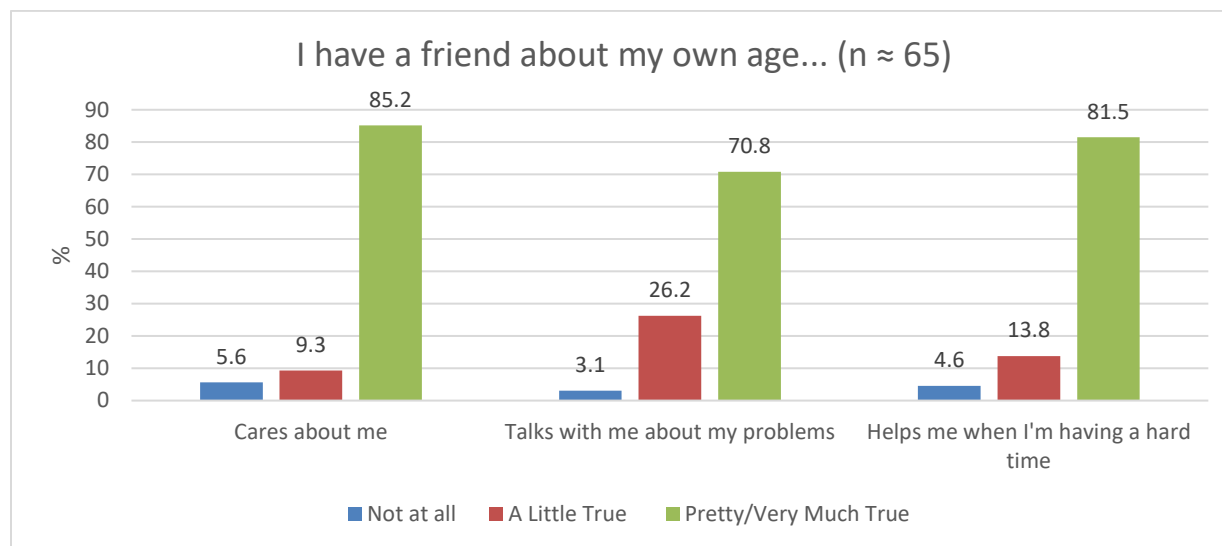
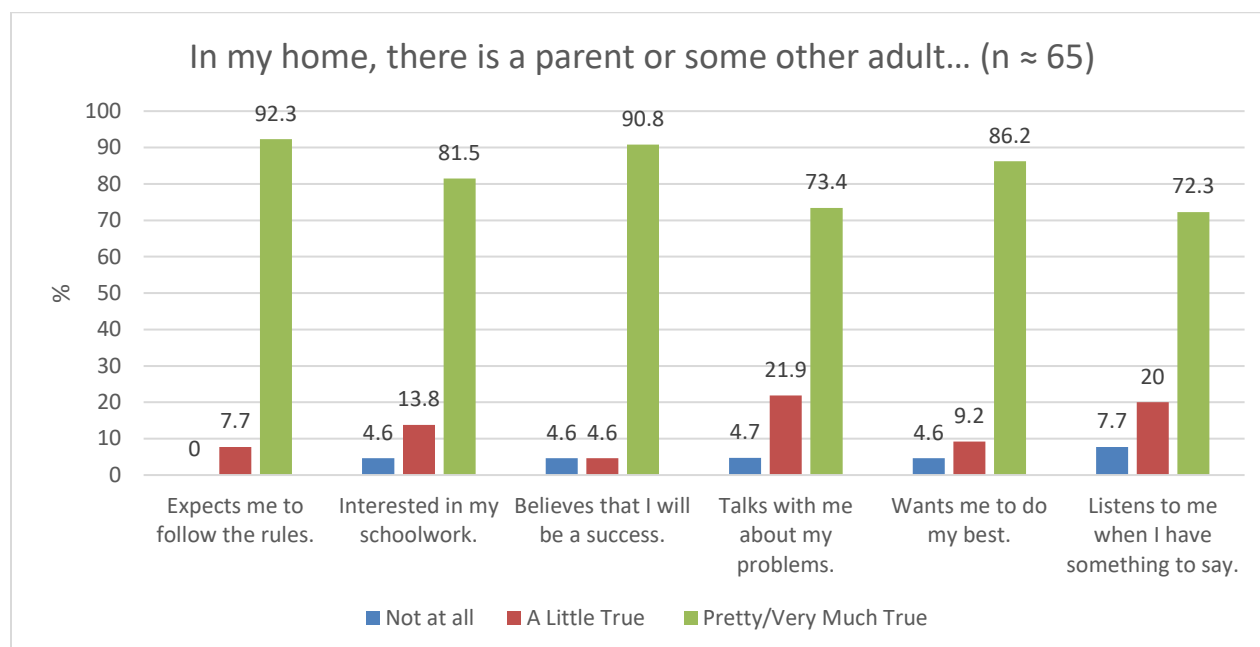


Figure 10 shows intake data on parental or support from other adults in their house. For each of the items measuring support from a parent or other adult, the majority identified that the items were either pretty or very much true.

Figure 10.





In addition to intake data, Figure 11 through Figure 13 show the proportion of youth who identified that each of the statements were either pretty much or very much true from intake to termination. Due to sample size restrictions, McNemar's tests were not conducted. Figure 11 shows differences from intake to termination for the items measuring self-efficacy, self-awareness, and empathy. Youth exhibited an improvement in two of the three items measuring empathy including "I feel bad when someone gets their feelings hurt" and "I try to understand what other people go through".

Figure 11.

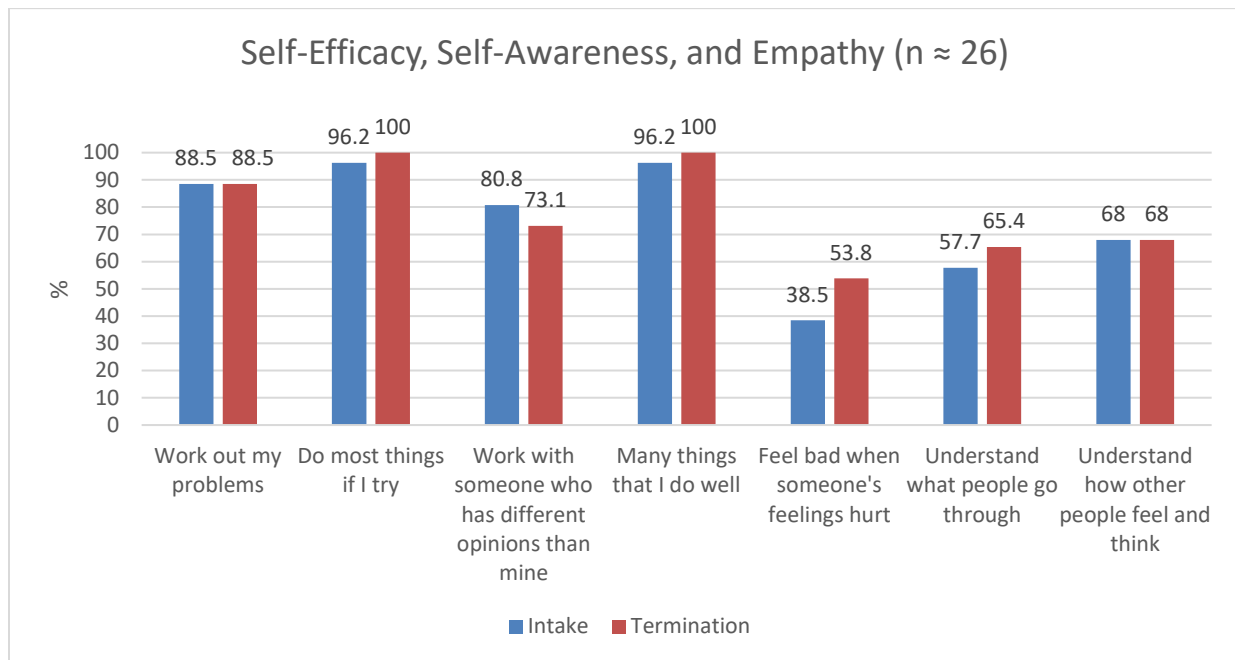


Figure 12 shows the proportion of youth who responded either pretty much or very much true to each of the items measuring peer support. A slightly lower proportion of youth at termination compared to at intake reported that “I have a friend about my own age who helps me when I’m having a hard time”.

Figure 12.

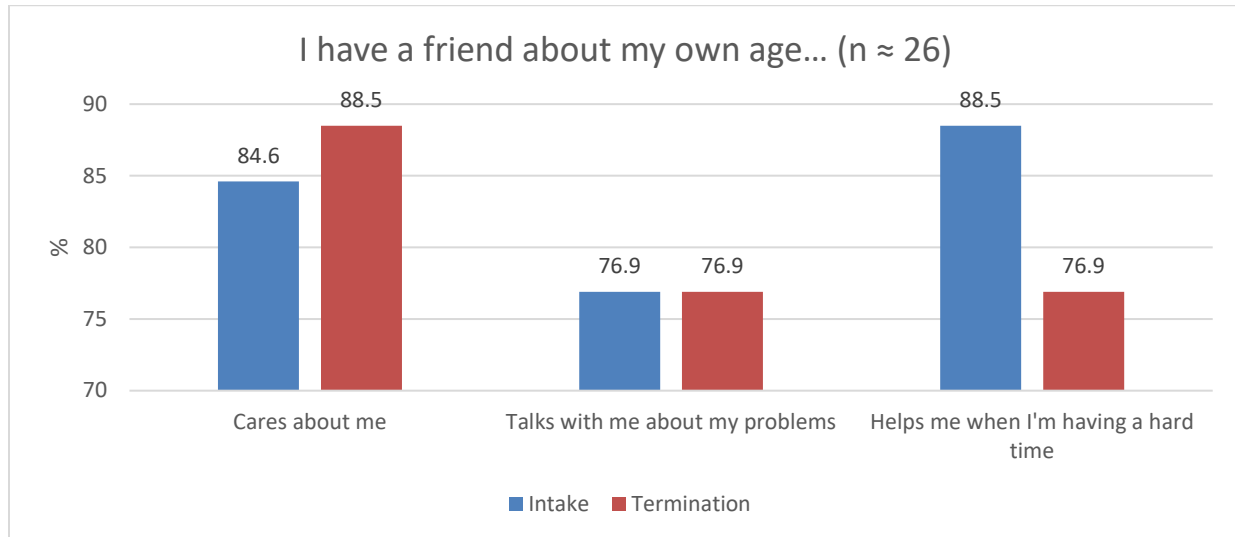
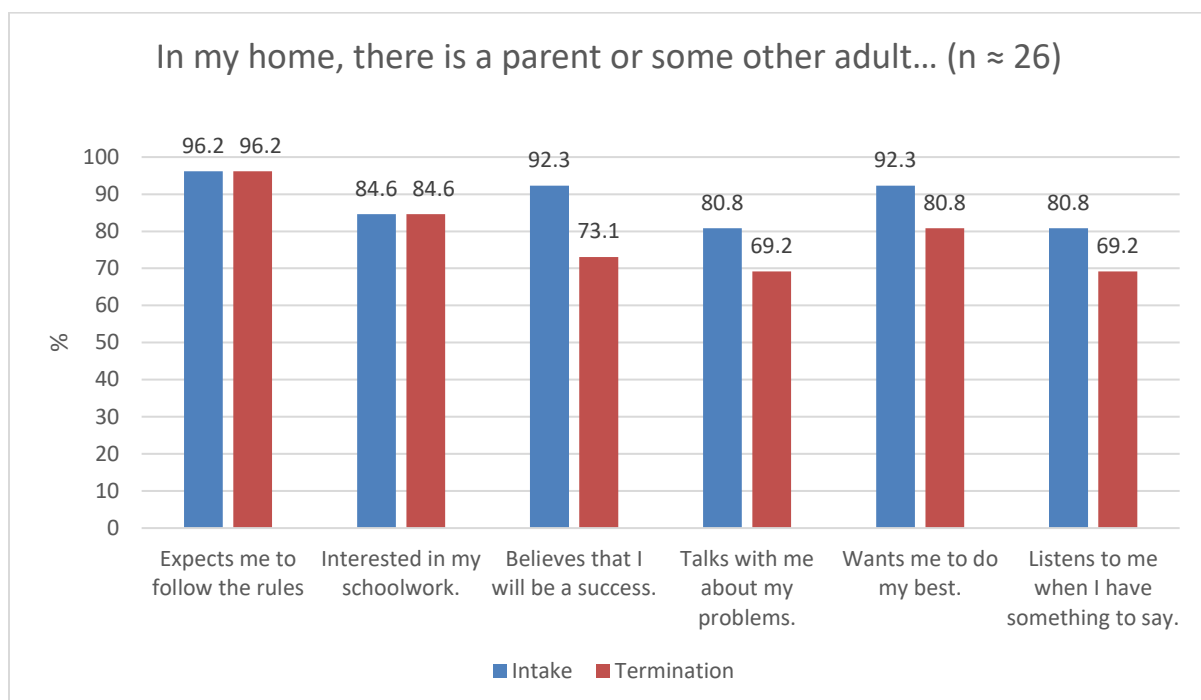


Figure 13 shows the proportion of youth who responded either pretty much or very much true to each of the items measuring parental support or support from other adults in the home. The proportion of positive responses decreased for four of the six items from intake to termination.

Figure 13.



## TSCC

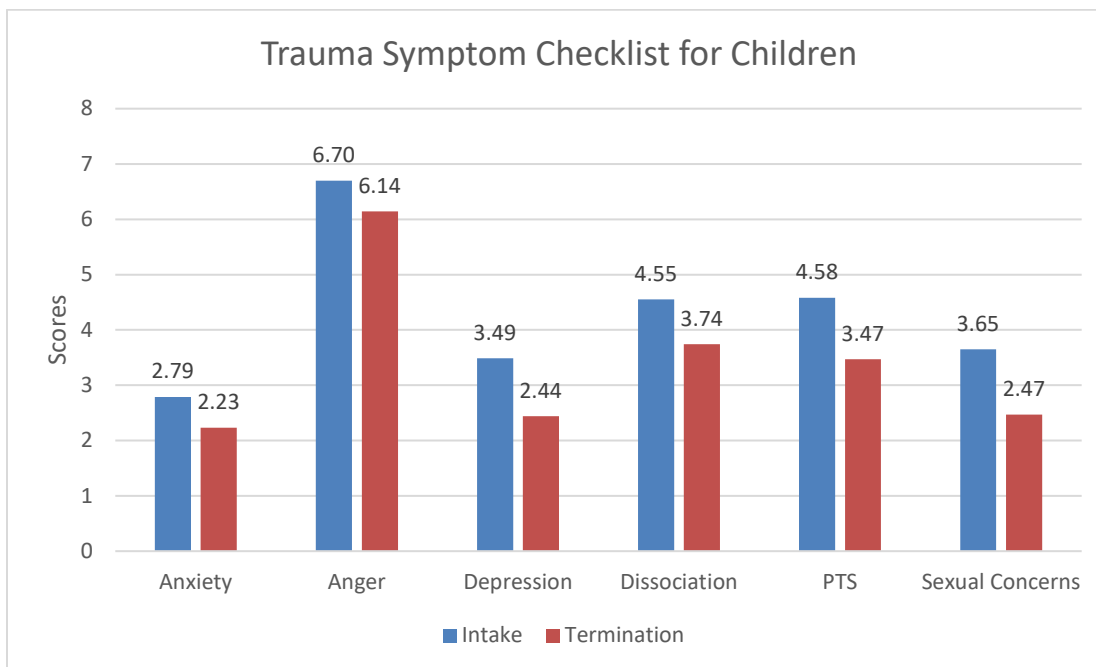
The TSCC was administered at intake and termination from BHJJ. Paired-samples t-tests were conducted to show whether means at intake and termination on each TSCC subscale differed significantly. We were unable to examine gender effects due to the low sample size of females ( $n = 5$ ). Paired samples t-tests revealed significant improvements on the Depression and Sexual Concerns domain from intake to termination (see Table 19).

Table 19. TSCC Subscales from Intake to Termination among All Participants

	Intake	Termination	t	d
<b>Anxiety</b>	2.79 (SD = 2.56; $n = 43$ )	2.23 (SD = 2.57; $n = 43$ )	1.21	.19
<b>Depression</b>	3.49 (SD = 3.02; $n = 43$ )	2.44 (SD = 2.52; $n = 43$ )	2.18*	.33
<b>Anger</b>	6.70 (SD = 4.54; $n = 43$ )	6.14 (SD = 4.66; $n = 43$ )	.790	.12
<b>Posttraumatic Stress</b>	4.58 (SD = 3.87; $n = 43$ )	3.47 (SD = 4.29; $n = 43$ )	1.62	.25
<b>Dissociation</b>	4.55 (SD = 4.20; $n = 43$ )	3.74 (SD = 4.24; $n = 43$ )	1.27	.20
<b>Sexual Concerns</b>	3.65 (SD = 3.75; $n = 43$ )	2.47 (SD = 2.72; $n = 43$ )	2.24*	.34

\*  $< .05$ , \*\*  $< .01$ , \*\*\*  $< .001$

Figure 14.



## Substance Use Survey

The Substance Use Survey was revised for this current evaluation covering the 2017-2019 period to combine and add substances that were not covered in the previous survey and to add general questions regarding youth's perceptions of the ways in which alcohol and drug use has affected their physical health and social functioning. For example, the revised instrument includes opioids as its own category inclusive of heroin, oxycodone, Percocet, opium, and synthetic opioids which were previously represented across multiple categories. In this example, Percocets and Oxycodone were included in the previous instrument with other non-opioid pain killers. Given that there were several categories of substances where there was not an exact match from the previous instrument to the current one, we present data only for the most current evaluation period in this section.

Table 20 shows the proportion of youth in the BHJJ program who reported ever having used alcohol or drugs and the average age of first use by gender in Summit County. For both females and males, alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis were the most commonly used substances. Chi-squared tests revealed no significant differences based on gender.

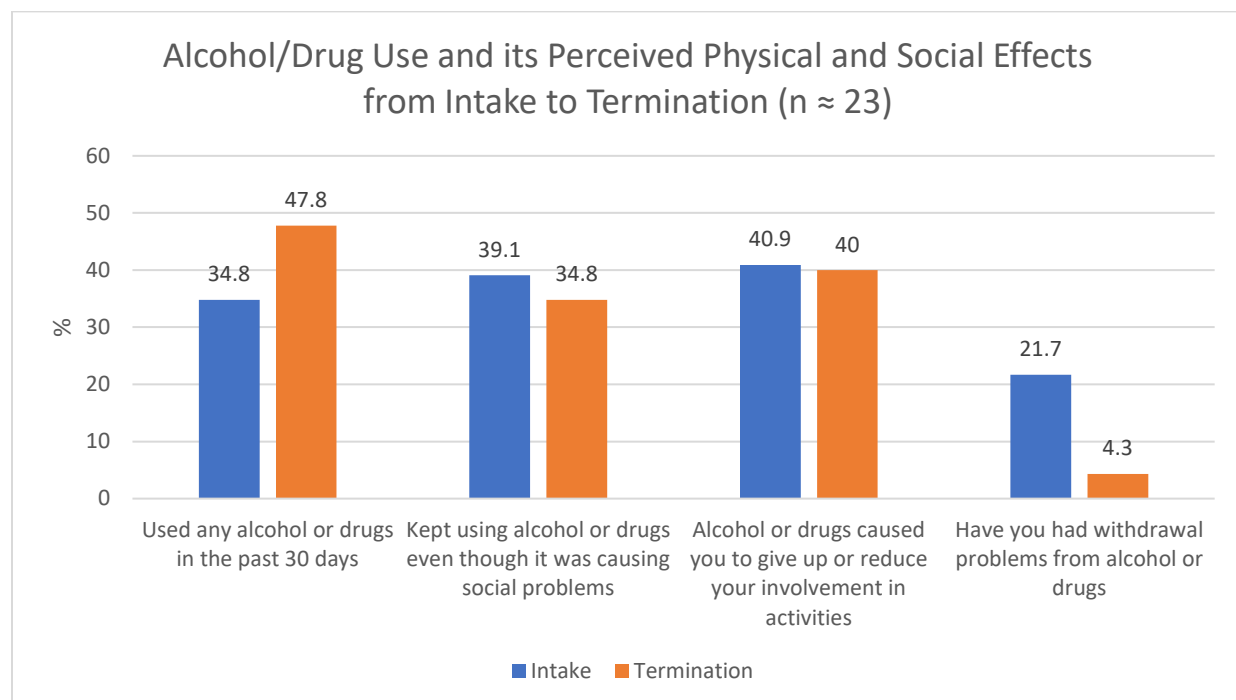
Table 20. Self-Reported Substance Use at Intake by Gender – Summit County

	Male		Female	
	% Ever Used	Age of First Use	% Ever Used	Age of First Use
<b>Alcohol</b>	76.4% (n = 42)	13.39 (SD = 2.08)	81.8% (n = 9)	14.50 (SD = 1.60)
<b>Tobacco</b>	72.7% (n = 40)	13.23 (SD = 1.80)	72.7% (n = 8)	13.86 (SD = 1.07)
<b>Cannabis</b>	92.6% (n = 50)	12.67 (SD = 2.56)	100.0% (n = 11)	13.73 (SD = 1.27)
<b>Hallucinogens</b>	7.4% (n = 4)	15.00 (SD = 0.82)	0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Inhalants</b>	0.0% (n = 0)		0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Opioids</b>	10.9% (n = 6)	14.20 (SD = 1.64)	11.1% (n = 1)	16.00 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Sedatives</b>	18.2% (n = 10)	14.20 (SD = 0.92)	0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Caffeine</b>	20.4% (n = 11)	7.43 (SD = 3.55)	0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Stimulants</b>	11.1% (n = 6)	15.20 (SD = 0.84)	0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Over the counter medications</b>	16.7% (n = 9)	13.67 (SD = 1.32)	0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Other prescription drugs</b>	1.9% (n = 1)	14.00 <sup>a</sup>	0.0% (n = 0)	
<b>Herbs/Flowers</b>	0.0% (n = 0)		0.0% (n = 0)	

<sup>a</sup> No Standard Deviations are calculated.

In addition to questions pertaining to the use of specific substances, youth were asked questions around general alcohol/drug use and its perceived effects on physical health and social functioning. The proportion of youth who indicated that they had used any alcohol or drugs in the past 30 days increased from 34.8% at intake to 47.8% at termination (see Figure 15). From intake to termination, the proportion of youth who indicated that they had continued to use alcohol/drugs even though it was causing social problems, leading to fights, or getting you into trouble with other people at least sometimes and the proportion of those who indicated that alcohol or drugs had caused them to give up or reduce their involvement in activities declined from intake to termination. The proportion of youth who indicated that they had withdrawal problems from alcohol or drugs increased from intake to termination. While none of these differences were statistically significant, it is likely a function of low cell sizes.

Figure 15.



## Reasons for Termination

Upon termination of treatment from BHJJ, the case worker is asked to identify the reason for the youth's termination from the program. This information is typically focused on treatment outcomes and driven by local definitions of success, not necessarily whether the youth received new court charges or adjudications (recidivism), although youth may be terminated from the BHJJ program due to new involvement with the court. Typically, successful treatment completion is tied to attendance at meetings, progress in therapy, compliance with terms of the treatment plan, etc. County-specific definitions of successful termination are described in detail in the Project Descriptions section.

Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019, there have been 58 youth terminated from the BHJJ program in Summit County. Sixty-nine percent (69.0%, n = 40) of the youth terminated from the BHJJ program were identified as successful treatment completers. Nearly nine percent (8.6%, n = 5) were terminated from the program due to some type of incarceration. Table 21 presents all of the reasons for termination from BHJJ and displays reasons for termination for White and Black participants.

Table 21. Reasons for Termination from BHJJ

Termination Reason	All Youth Enrolled between July 2015 and June 2019	White Youth Enrolled between July 2015 and June 2019	Black Youth Enrolled between July 2015 and June 2019
<b>Successfully Completed Services</b>	69.0% (n = 40)	83.3% (n = 5)	66.0% (n = 33)
<b>Client Did Not Return/Rejected Services</b>	5.2% (n = 3)	0	6.0% (n = 3)
<b>Out of Home Placement</b>	3.4% (n = 2)	0	4.0% (n = 2)
<b>Client/Family Moved</b>	1.7% (n = 1)	0	2.0 (n = 1)
<b>Client Withdrawn</b>	3.4% (n = 2)	0	4.0% (n = 2)
<b>Client AWOL</b>	5.2% (n = 3)	16.7% (n = 1)	4.0% (n = 2)
<b>Client Incarcerated</b>	8.6% (n = 5)	0	10.0% (n = 5)
<b>Other</b>	3.4% (n = 2)	0	4.0% (n = 2)

## Average Length of Stay

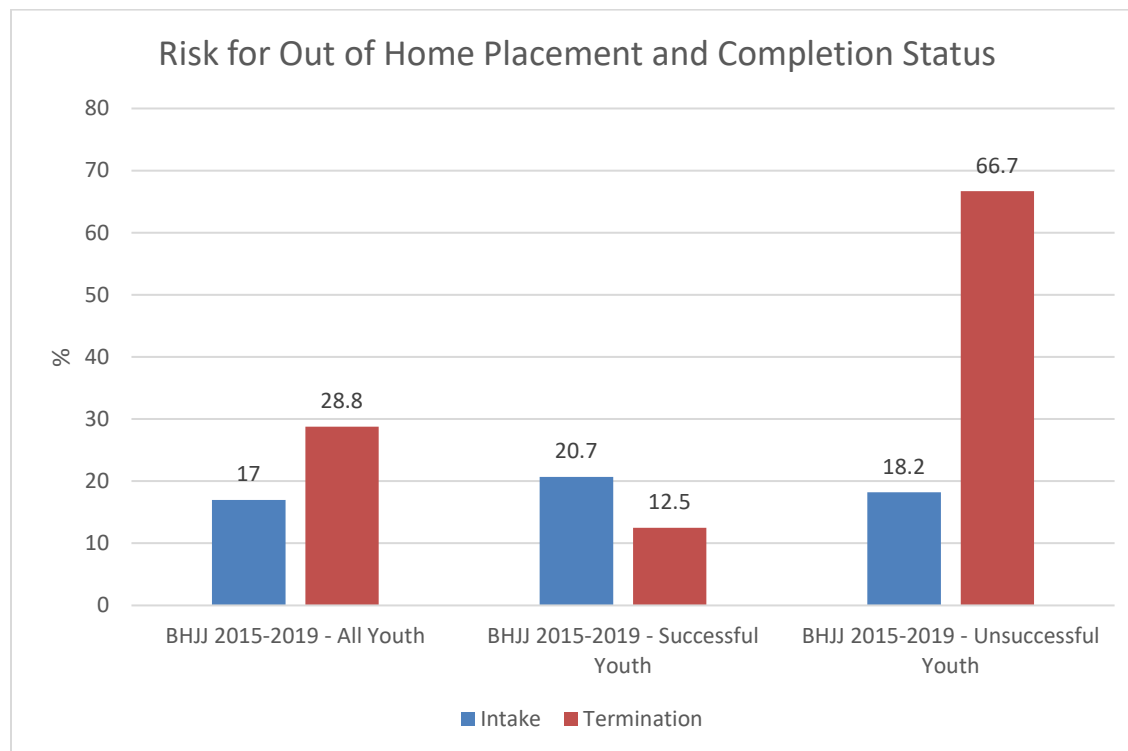
Since the start of BHJJ, the average length of stay (ALOS) in the program was 165.6 days. For youth identified as successful treatment completers, the ALOS was 183.1 days while for unsuccessful treatment completers, the ALOS was 120.8 days.

## Risk for Out of Home Placement

At intake into and termination from the BHJJ program, workers were asked whether the youth was at risk for out of home placement. Upon entering the program, 17.0% of the youth (n = 16) were at risk for out of home placement. At termination, 28.8% (n = 17) of youth were at risk for out of home placement (see Figure 16). Of those youth who successfully completed BHJJ treatment, 12.5% (n = 5) were at risk

for out of home placement at termination while 66.7% (n = 12) of youth who completed unsuccessfully were at risk for out of home placement (see Figure 16).

Figure 16.



## Police Contacts

With help from the caregiver and youth, the worker was asked to estimate the frequency of police contacts since the youth has been receiving services through BHJJ. Workers reported that police contacts had been reduced for 79.7% (n = 47) of the youth and had stayed the same for 8.5% (n = 5) of the youth. Police contacts increased for 6.8% (n = 4) of the youth and the worker was unable to estimate for 5.1% of youth (n = 3).

## YSSF

Upon completion of the BHJJ program, the caregiver was asked about their overall satisfaction with the services they received through the BHJJ program in Summit County as well as how services impacted their children and family. At termination from the BHJJ program, 95.5% (n = 21) of caregivers either strongly agreed or agreed that BHJJ staff were sensitive to their cultural/ethnic background and 96.9% (n = 23) either strongly agreed or agreed that the location of the services was convenient (see Figure 17). Over seventy-six percent (70.8%, n = 17) of caregivers reported that as a result of the services their child/family received, their child gets along better with family members and 62.5% (n = 15) reported their child is better able to cope when things go wrong (see Figure 18).

Figure 17.

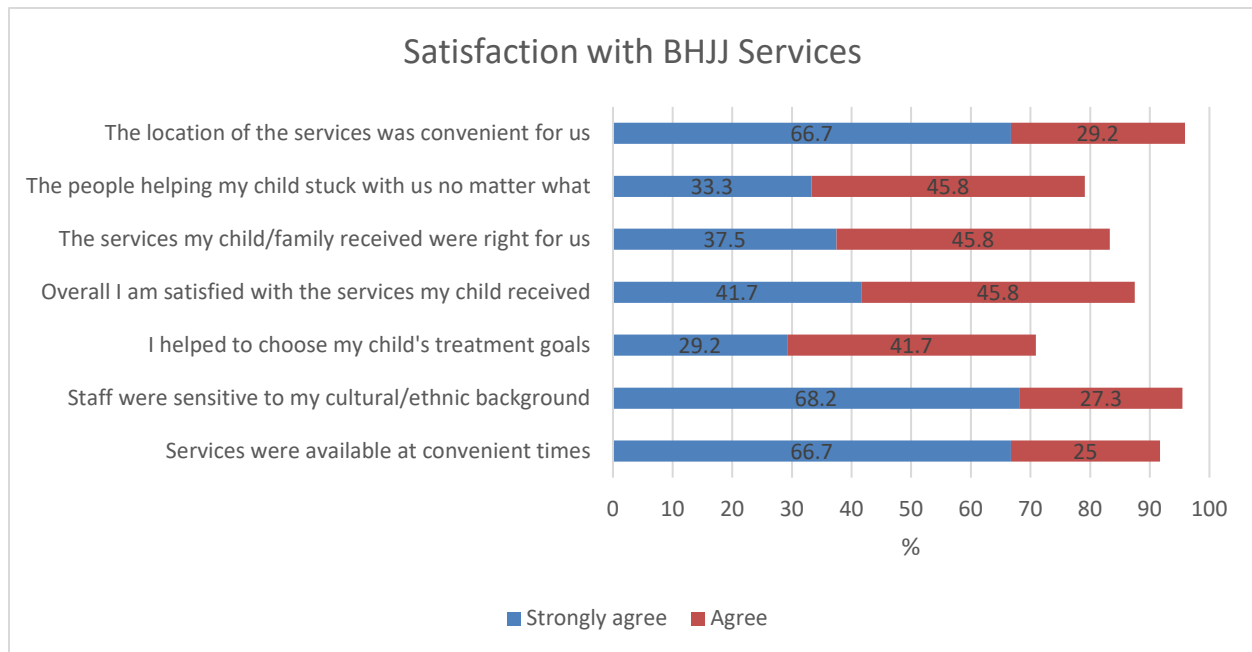
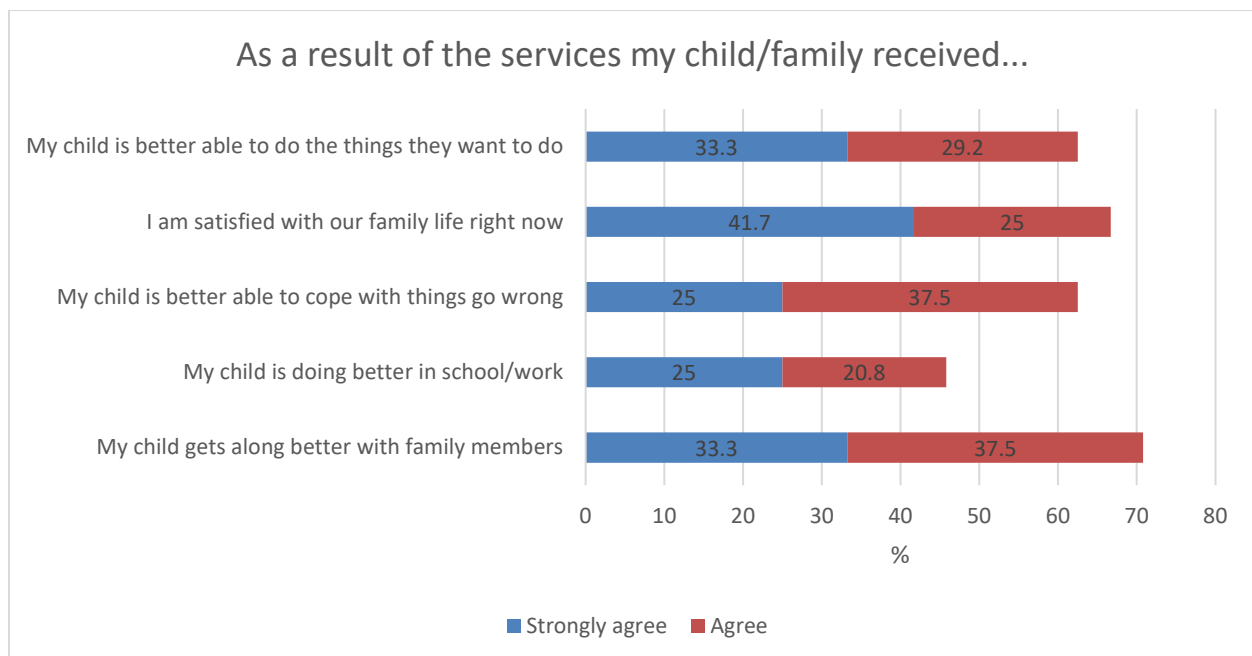


Figure 18.





## Recidivism (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019)

### Methodology

Court data were provided by the local juvenile courts in each BHJJ county, and consisted of charges, adjudications, and commitments to ODYS (at any time after their BHJJ enrollment, including after termination from BHJJ). Data were divided into charges prior to enrollment, charges after enrollment, and charges after termination from BHJJ. We also present the data by treatment completion status (successful vs. unsuccessful). Technical or probation violations were not considered to be new charges and thus were not included in the analyses. Data specific to misdemeanor and felony charges are presented in the following sections. Juvenile court history and recidivism information are presented at 6, 12, and 18 month intervals.

Several criteria for inclusion in the analysis were considered based on the time period of interest. While all youth 18 years of age and under are included in the analyses prior to enrollment, not all youth are included in each assessment period after enrollment and after termination. Any charges for youth over 18 years of age would likely be filed in adult court, and therefore would not appear in juvenile court records. A youth over 18 at the time of termination may show no future juvenile court involvement; however, the individual may have charges in the adult system. Because we did not have access to adult records, youth 18 years of age or older at termination were eliminated from all analyses that examined charges after termination. Also, youth who turned 18 years old during the measurement interval in question (6, 12, and 18 months after enrollment or termination) were eliminated from the analysis because we lacked a complete picture of their possible court involvement.

Enrollment and termination dates were also used to identify youth for the analyses. For example, when examining recidivism data six months after termination from BHJJ we chose to include only those youth who had been terminated from BHJJ for at least six months prior to the end of the data collection period, June 30, 2019. If the youth was terminated one month prior to the end of the data collection, that youth only had one month to recidivate. Therefore, the full extent of their recidivism is not known. For example, in order to be included in the six month after termination analyses, a youth had to have been 17.5 years old or younger at the time of termination and must have been terminated at least six months prior to the end of the data collection period. The same criteria were applied to the intervals following enrollment in BHJJ. When examining new charges occurring within 12 months after enrollment, youth must be 17 years old or younger at the time of enrollment and the enrollment date must be at least twelve months prior to the end of the data collection period for inclusion in the analysis. These data focus on youth who were enrolled between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019.

## Results

### Previous Juvenile Court Involvement

Overall, 81.4% (n = 70) of BHJJ youth in Summit County enrolled between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019 had a misdemeanor charge, 96.5% (n = 83) or a felony charge, and 98.8% (n = 85) had been adjudicated delinquent in the 12 months prior to enrollment (see Table 22). Previous juvenile court information was similar for youth regardless of their completion status (successful vs. unsuccessful). In the 12 months prior to enrollment in BHJJ, 96.3% (n = 26) of successful completers and 90.9% (n = 10) of unsuccessful

completers were charged with at least one felony (see Table 23 and Table 24). Chi-square analyses revealed no statistically significant differences based on completion status.

Table 22. Charges Prior to Enrollment

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 86)</b>	67.4% (n = 58)	88.4% (n = 76)	95.3% (n = 82)
<b>12 months (n = 86)</b>	81.4% (n = 70)	96.5% (n = 83)	98.8% (n = 85)
<b>18 months (n = 86)</b>	87.2% (n = 75)	98.8% (n = 85)	100.0% (n = 86)

Table 23. Charges Prior to BHJJ Enrollment for Youth Who Completed Successfully

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 27)</b>	74.1% (n = 20)	92.6% (n = 25)	100.0% (n = 27)
<b>12 months (n = 27)</b>	88.9% (n = 24)	96.3% (n = 26)	100.0% (n = 27)
<b>18 months (n = 27)</b>	88.9% (n = 24)	100.0% (n = 27)	100.0% (n = 27)

Table 24. Charges Prior to BHJJ Enrollment for Youth Who Completed Unsuccessfully

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 11)</b>	81.8% (n = 9)	90.9% (n = 10)	90.9% (n = 10)
<b>12 months (n = 11)</b>	90.9% (n = 10)	90.9% (n = 10)	100.0% (n = 11)
<b>18 months (n = 11)</b>	90.9% (n = 10)	100.0% (n = 11)	100.0% (n = 11)

### Recidivism after Enrollment

We defined recidivism after enrollment as receiving a new charge or adjudication at 6, 12, and/or 18 months after a youth's BHJJ enrollment date (see Table 25). In the 12 months after enrollment in BHJJ, 61.6% (n = 45) of participants were charged with at least one new misdemeanor and 53.4% (n = 39) were charged with at least one new felony. Nearly two-thirds (65.8%; n = 48) of the youth were adjudicated delinquent.

Table 25. Recidivism after BHJJ Enrollment

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 81)</b>	50.6% (n = 41)	39.5% (n = 32)	49.4% (n = 40)
<b>12 months (n = 73)</b>	61.6% (n = 45)	53.4% (n = 39)	65.8% (n = 48)
<b>18 months (n = 59)</b>	71.2% (n = 42)	59.3% (n = 35)	72.9% (n = 43)

In the 12 months after enrollment in BHJJ, 64.0% (n = 16) of successful completers were charged with at least one new misdemeanor, 52.0% (n = 13) were charged with at least one new felony, and 72.0% (n = 18) were adjudicated delinquent (see Table 26). Of the youth who completed unsuccessfully, 40.0% (n = 4) were charged with at least one new misdemeanor, 70.0% (n = 7) were charged with at least one new felony, and 60.0% (n = 6) were adjudicated delinquent in the 12 months after their enrollment in BHJJ (see Table 27). Chi-square analyses did not reveal any significant differences by completion status.

Table 26. Recidivism after BHJJ Enrollment for Youth Who Completed Successfully

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 26)</b>	53.8% (n = 14)	38.5% (n = 10)	61.5% (n = 16)
<b>12 months (n = 25)</b>	64.0% (n = 16)	52.0% (n = 13)	72.0% (n = 18)
<b>18 months (n = 18)</b>	88.9% (n = 16)	61.1% (n = 11)	88.9% (n = 16)

Table 27. Recidivism after BHJJ Enrollment for Youth Who Completed Unsuccessfully

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 11)</b>	36.4% (n = 4)	54.5% (n = 6)	45.5% (n = 5)
<b>12 months (n = 10)</b>	40.0% (n = 4)	70.0% (n = 7)	60.0% (n = 6)
<b>18 months (n = 10)</b>	60.0% (n = 6)	80.0% (n = 8)	70.0% (n = 7)

#### Recidivism after BHJJ Termination

We defined recidivism after termination as receiving a new charge or adjudication in the 6, 12, and 18 months after a youth's BHJJ termination date (see Table 28). In the 12 months after termination from BHJJ, 56.7% (n = 17) of youth were charged with at least one new misdemeanor and 50.0% (n = 15) were charged with at least one new felony, and 53.3% (n = 16) were adjudicated delinquent.

Table 28. Recidivism after BHJJ Termination

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 35)</b>	31.4% (n = 11)	31.4% (n = 11)	34.3% (n = 12)
<b>12 months (n = 30)</b>	56.7% (n = 17)	50.0% (n = 15)	53.3% (n = 16)
<b>18 months (n = 25)</b>	60.0% (n = 15)	64.0% (n = 16)	68.0% (n = 17)

In the 12 months following their termination from BHJJ, 52.6% (n = 10) of successful completers were charged with at least one new misdemeanor, 47.4% (n = 9) were charged with at least one new felony, and 52.6% (n = 10) were adjudicated delinquent (see Table 29). Of the youth who completed unsuccessfully, 60.0% (n = 6) were charged with at least one new misdemeanor, 50.0% (n = 5) were charged with at least one new felony, and 50.0% (n = 5) were adjudicated delinquent in the 12 months after their termination from BHJJ (see Table 30). Chi-square analyses showed no statistically significant differences.

Table 29. Recidivism after BHJJ Termination for Youth Who Completed Successfully

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 24)</b>	33.3% (n = 8)	37.5% (n = 9)	33.3% (n = 8)
<b>12 months (n = 19)</b>	52.6% (n = 10)	47.4% (n = 9)	52.6% (n = 10)
<b>18 months (n = 15)</b>	60.0% (n = 9)	66.7% (n = 10)	66.7% (n = 10)

Table 30. Recidivism after BHJJ Termination for Youth Who Completed Unsuccessfully

	% of Youth with Misdemeanors	% of Youth with Felonies	% of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent
<b>6 months (n = 10)</b>	20.0% (n = 2)	10.0% (n = 1)	30.0% (n = 3)
<b>12 months (n = 10)</b>	60.0% (n = 6)	50.0% (n = 5)	50.0% (n = 5)
<b>18 months (n = 9)</b>	55.6% (n = 5)	55.6% (n = 5)	66.7% (n = 6)

## ODYS Commitments

Among a total of 86 youth who enrolled since July 1, 2015, 4.7% (n = 6) were sent to an ODYS facility at any time following their enrollment in BHJJ, including after a youth's termination from BHJJ. **Conversely, 95.3% of youth participating in BHJJ were not admitted to an ODYS facility at any point after enrollment.**

## Average Numbers of Charges and Adjudications

In addition to whether a youth was charged or adjudicated delinquent, we examined whether there were differences in the average number of charges and adjudications in equivalent periods of time prior to enrollment and after termination. We conducted paired samples *t*-tests to examine whether there were statistically significant differences in the mean number of charges and adjudications at each time

period prior to and after BHJJ participation. Figure 19 shows the average number of charges for youth who had data at both time periods. This restriction resulted in a sample of 35 youth at 6 months, 30 youth at 12 months, and 25 youth at 18 months. **Paired samples t-tests revealed a statistically significant decline in the average number of misdemeanor charges and delinquent adjudications at each of the time periods we examined.** For example, the average number of misdemeanor charges 18 months prior to BHJJ enrollment was 4.24 while the average number of misdemeanor charges 18 months after BHJJ termination was 2.04.

Figure 19.

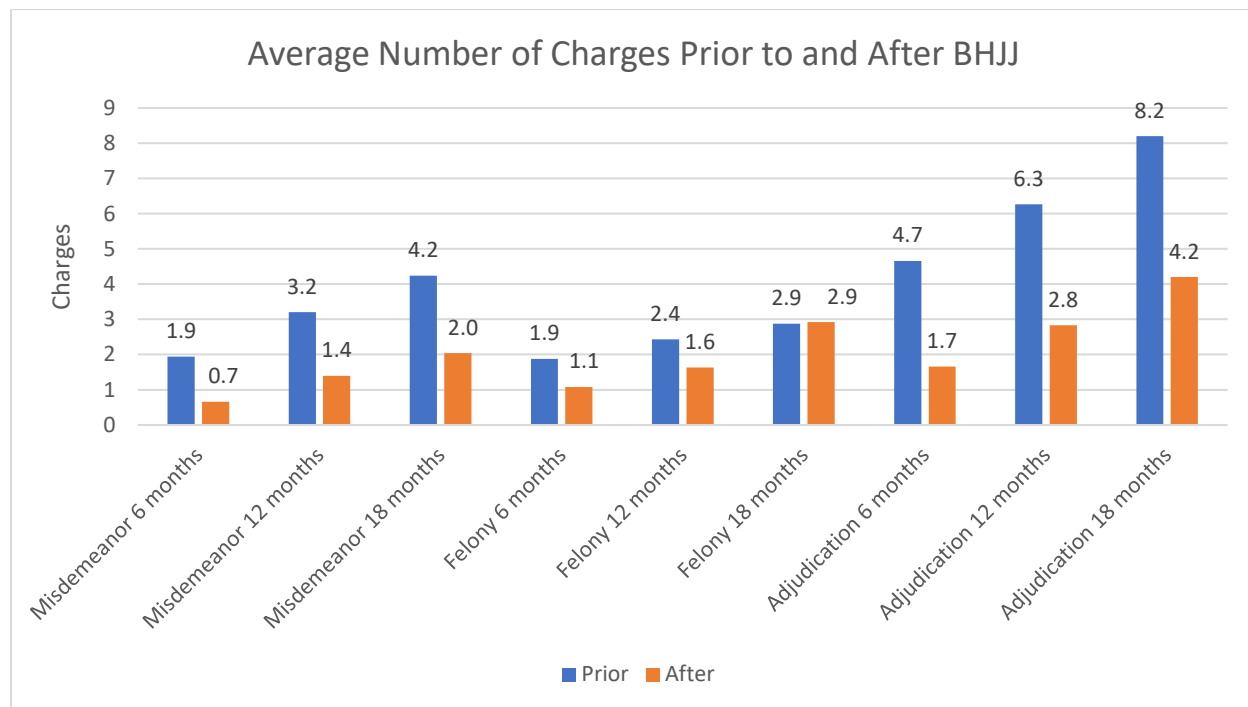


Figure 20 and Figure 21 shows mean differences in charges and adjudications for youth who successfully completed the program and those who did not successfully terminate. To be included in the analysis youth must have data at both time periods. This restricted the sample to 24 youth at 6 months, 19 youth at 12 months, and 15 youth at 18 months for youth who were successfully terminated and 10 youth at 6 months, 10 youth at 12 months, and 9 youth at 18 months for those who terminated unsuccessfully. **For youth who successfully completed, paired samples t-tests revealed that there was a significant reduction in the average number of misdemeanor charges and delinquent adjudications in each of the time periods we examined.** For example, the average number of misdemeanor charges declined from 3.8 in the 18 months prior to intake to 2.3 in the 18 months after termination. **Similarly, for youth who terminated unsuccessfully, paired samples t-tests revealed that there was a significant reduction in the average number of misdemeanor charges and delinquent adjudications for each of the time periods we examined.** For example, the average number of misdemeanors was 4.1 in the 18 months prior to intake and 1.5 in the 18 months after termination.

Figure 20.

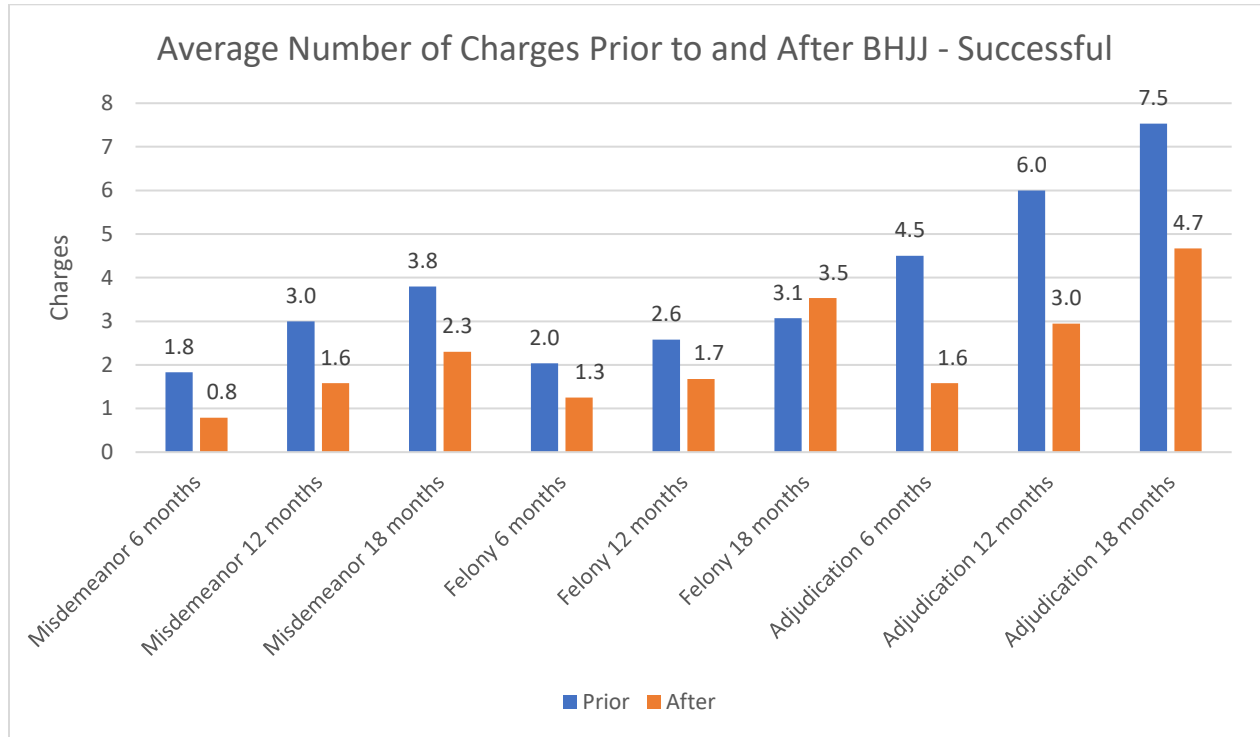
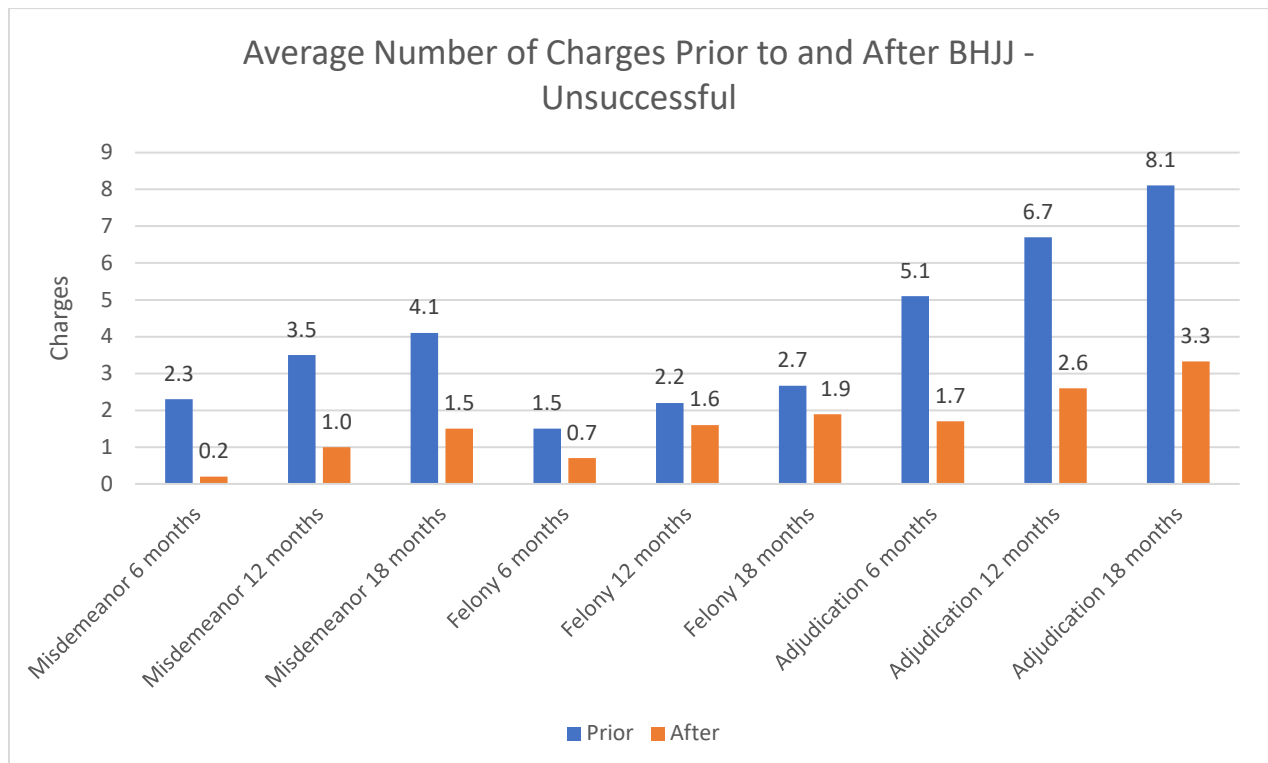


Figure 21.



## Success Stories

While the collection of empirical data is crucial to demonstrate program effectiveness and help secure additional funding, qualitative data can be an additional source of valuable information that can be obscured by averages, tables, and figures. Counties were asked to provide information on one or two memorable families who participated in the BHJJ program in the form of success stories.

For most teens, success is measured by their school performance, how well they do in any extracurricular activities they might be involved in or maybe even what university they are hoping to attend post high school graduation. But for a lot of the youth who come through the juvenile justice system at the Summit County Juvenile Court, success sometimes has a very different meaning.

Success looks a lot different when talking about a youth who has been involved with the juvenile court because they deal with much more complex issues than just the youth's struggles with personal goals. Instead, they are often dealing with family trauma that has never been diagnosed or addressed. The BHJJ program is a great opportunity for some of these underserved youth to take advantage of a therapeutic environment where they can finally start to address some of the traumatic experiences that continue to create barriers for them in their everyday life.

"G" is a youth who was brought into the BHJJ program after receiving a Carrying Concealed Weapon Charge (4<sup>th</sup> degree felony) and was placed on Crossroads probation for one year. G has a very supportive family at home, but sometimes the home environment can descend into chaos and become volatile due to the family yelling at each other when in a disagreement rather than talking through their problems to resolve conflict. Early in the BHJJ programming process, when asking G how all the yelling in the house makes him feel, he would just say "that's just how we handle our issues, so I am used to it." As G began meeting with his therapist from Child Guidance & Family Solutions and started to learn new skills through the Integrated Co-occurring Treatment (ICT) model on how to handle his anger, he voiced his desire for his family to learn these skills as well so that they could better communicate within the household as a family.

Since entering the program G has really taken full advantage of the services put in place around him. He meets with his therapist on a regular basis and reports that he's noticed a positive change in himself since engaging in therapy. As a result of G starting to feel better about himself and gaining more self-esteem, he began attending school more regularly and even got into a nursing program at his alternative school because of his strong desire to have a career in the medical field. He knew that nursing would be challenging, but he wants to have a career where he can help people in need while also making a decent living for himself and decided he was going to go for it!

G was excited about all the positive changes in his life and was happy that things were finally going in his favor for once. G was motivated to start working so he began putting in job applications wherever he saw a hiring sign. He was able to land a job at Walmart as a member of the stock crew and reports that he enjoys working because it not only helps him earn income, but it also keeps him busy and away from negative peer influences. Shortly after he started working at Walmart, G realized that depending on someone to take him to and from work every day was starting to become inconvenient, but he knew he wanted to continue working so he started to save up his money to buy a car. After saving for some time G was able to purchase a used car and also obtained and paid for his own car insurance so that he would be in compliance with the law.



At this time, G is in the final stages of Phase 3 of Crossroads Probation and will complete the program successfully after reaching Phase 4. He is still engaging with his ICT therapist and has requested family counseling for he and his family after his individual sessions are done. He states he really wants to continue to build on the skills he's learned and understands that he will need his family to work towards those changes too if he wants to avoid falling back into bad habits. Since G was attending school at an alternative high school he was able to complete schoolwork at his own pace and has successfully completed all Ohio requirements and graduated January 7<sup>th</sup> 2020. He will continue to attend school twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays to have in person study sessions with other students in the nursing program until it is time for him to take the state nursing exam. It has been very rewarding working with G and his family, and I hope he continues to believe that his future is as bright as we all think it is here at the Summit County Juvenile Court.

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