



**Youth Justice Prevention and
Community Connection Program**

YOUTH JUSTICE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION PROGRAM

SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT



**FOR EVERY \$1 INVESTED IN THE
CCC PROGRAM, AN ESTIMATED
\$3.67 IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
VALUE IS CREATED..**

FAST FACTS

The CCC Program provides:

- Individualized case coordination
- Youth mentorship
- School engagement and attendance support
- Family and caregiver support
- Recreation and leadership activities
- Conflict prevention and problem-solving support
- Referrals to mental health, substance use, and social services
- Positive adult connection and relational support
- Support navigating school, family, and community systems

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- Individualized case coordination
- Youth mentorship
- School engagement and attendance support
- Family and caregiver support
- Recreation and leadership activities
- Conflict prevention and problem-solving support

Between 2023 and 2025:

- 284 youth were served by the program
- 95% of youth improved their school attendance
- 90% of youth improved their conflict-resolution skills
- 90% of youth completed justice diversion programming
- 91% of youth that exited the program completed their goals

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Youth Justice Prevention and Community Connection Program is a fictional community-based prevention program serving young people ages 12 to 17 who are at elevated risk of deeper justice-system involvement, school disconnection, family conflict, or community disengagement.

The program provides individualized case coordination, mentorship, school connection support, family engagement, restorative practice referrals, recreational and leadership activities, and connections to community-based services. The program is designed to intervene early, strengthen protective factors, and reduce the likelihood that youth move further into formal systems of intervention.

During the 3-year period included in this sample analysis, the program served 284 youth.

SOCIAL VALUE CREATED

The findings suggest that youth justice prevention programs can create meaningful value by intervening before challenges become more severe, costly, or disruptive.

The strongest areas of value in this sample were connected to improved school engagement, reduced escalation into formal systems, and strengthened connection to supportive adults. These outcomes are often difficult to communicate through standard reporting because they may involve avoided harm, reduced risk, or gradual improvements in stability and connection.

The analysis also suggests that relatively modest investments in early support may create value across multiple systems at the same time. A youth who remains connected to school, receives support before a crisis, and builds relationships with trusted adults may experience benefits that extend beyond one program area.



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VALUATION APPROACH

The analysis estimated value using conservative financial proxies tied to the outcomes above.

Examples of proxy areas included avoided costs associated with deeper justice-system involvement, reduced crisis response, improved school retention and engagement, reduced school disciplinary escalation, and increased access to appropriate community-based supports.

The analysis applied adjustments for attribution, deadweight, displacement, and drop-off.

In plain language, this means the analysis did not assume that all positive change was caused by the program. It considered what may have happened anyway, what other people or services may have contributed, and how long the value of outcomes might reasonably last.

WHAT THE FINDINGS SUGGEST

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KEY OUTCOMES INCLUDED IN THE VALUATION

The sample SROI included five main outcome areas:

Improved school engagement

Youth showed improved attendance, participation, or connection to school-based supports.

Reduced behavioral incidents or conflicts

Some youth experienced fewer reported behavioral concerns, conflicts, or crisis-related incidents after program engagement.

Reduced likelihood of deeper justice-system involvement

The program contributed to earlier support and diversion from more intensive formal systems.

Improved family connection and caregiver support.

Caregivers reported improved communication, better access to resources, and increased confidence navigating support options.

Increased connection to positive adults and community supports

Youth developed stronger relationships with mentors, case coordinators, school staff, or community-based supports.

FUNDING AND SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:



Local
Funding
Program



Local Family
Foundation



Local
University

Youth Serving
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