

Little Rock Master Plan for Children, Youth, and Families

Department of Community Programs
Status Update
July 23, 2015

Agenda

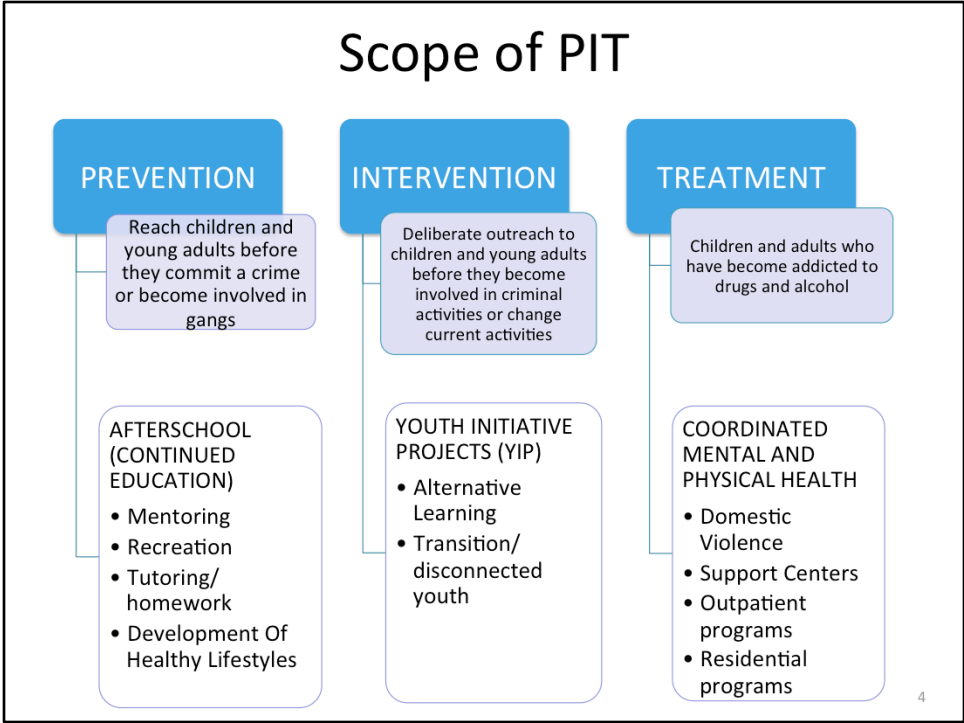
- PIT history and scope
- Future Little Rock Goals and Strategies
- CYF Commission Role
- State of community programs
 - Funding
 - Measuring progress
 - Specific program areas
- New Initiatives

History of Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (PIT)

- 1994 ordinance to provide funds from the one-half cent sales tax revenues
- 2002 ordinance to create the Commission on Children, Youth, and Families to improve the health, safety, education and quality of life of children, youth and families of Little Rock
- 2012 sales tax added an additional \$3 million per year toward PIT, bringing the allocation up to \$5.5 million

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See the History of PIT handout



P – Early childhood was one of the initial legs of Future Little Rock’s plans

I – Identify at-risk youth

T – Life skills training

Future Little Rock Goals

- GOAL: For every dollar spent in increased enforcement, a dollar will be put into prevention, intervention and treatment.
 - The total at the time was \$1.8 million/year
 - Originally, the vast majority of PIT funding (\$1million) was to go toward Treatment

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The original intention of PIT funding was to focus on individuals at risk, or treat those already with substance abuse issues, to reduce the enforcement costs. The goal at the time was to spend equal amounts (\$1.8 million) on enforcement and PIT.

At the time, the original proposed budget focused most heavily on Treatment. During the past several years, priorities have changed, and more funding is being spent on Prevention.

Future Little Rock Strategies

- *Prevention*: An active, assertive process of creating conditions and/or personal attributes that promote the well-being of people through a comprehensive approach to reducing youth violence...
 1. Provide a secure source of funding for prevention programs
 2. Involve the community in identifying programs and resources to prevent youth crime
 3. Appoint an administrator as short-term appointment to develop programs
 4. Develop city-wide mentoring program for at-risk youth

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Future Little Rock Strategies Cont.

- *Prevention strategies:*

5. Extend community center hours and activities to include older youth and at-risk youth

6. Initiate a coordinated program to include community organizations

7. Develop a school-based Ombudsman/Advocate program to enhance school bonding and act as an advocate for the high risk student and parent

8. Implement a mediation program to address student vs. student conflict and reduce suspensions

Future Little Rock Strategies

- *Intervention:* Intervention is aimed at persons who are already inappropriately using alcohol and/or other drugs.
 1. Involve the community in identifying programs and resources to prevent youth crime
 2. Continue development of the Little Rock Task Force for the Prevention of Youth Violence

Future Little Rock Strategies

- *Treatment:* Treatment activities lead to the restoration of a substance abusing person to the fullest physical, mental, social, vocational and economic usefulness of which he/she is capable.
 1. Provide a secure source of funding for prevention programs
 2. Involve the community in identifying programs and resources for treatment
 3. Expand the array of substance abuse, mental health and health services available in the community

CYF Commission

- Created in 2002
- Nine-member Commission provides policy leadership and advocacy that improves the health, safety, education and quality of life of children, youth and families of Little Rock. This includes recommendations to the Board of Directors, City Manager, and Director of Community Programs on:
 - Policies and best practices
 - Funding priorities
 - Proposed legislation at the local, state, and national level

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The Children, Youth, and Families Commission was created in 2002 to provide leadership and recommendations on policies and best practices, funding priorities, and proposed legislation.

The CYF Commission will be using the Master Plan process to guide their own recommendations and provide the oversight for implementation of the plan.

CYF Commission Goals

- Educate and advise BOD on emerging issues impacting children, youth, and families
- Develop strategic plans, set priorities, and advise the BOD on implementation
- Serve as an informational resource
- Identify and promote best practices

CYF Commission Goals Cont.

- Collaborate with governmental jurisdictions and private sector to fulfill mission and goals
- Complement the work of the City
- Report annually to the BOD
- Secure assistance of individuals with relevant expertise in planning and providing services for at-risk children, youth, and families.

2015 PIT Funding

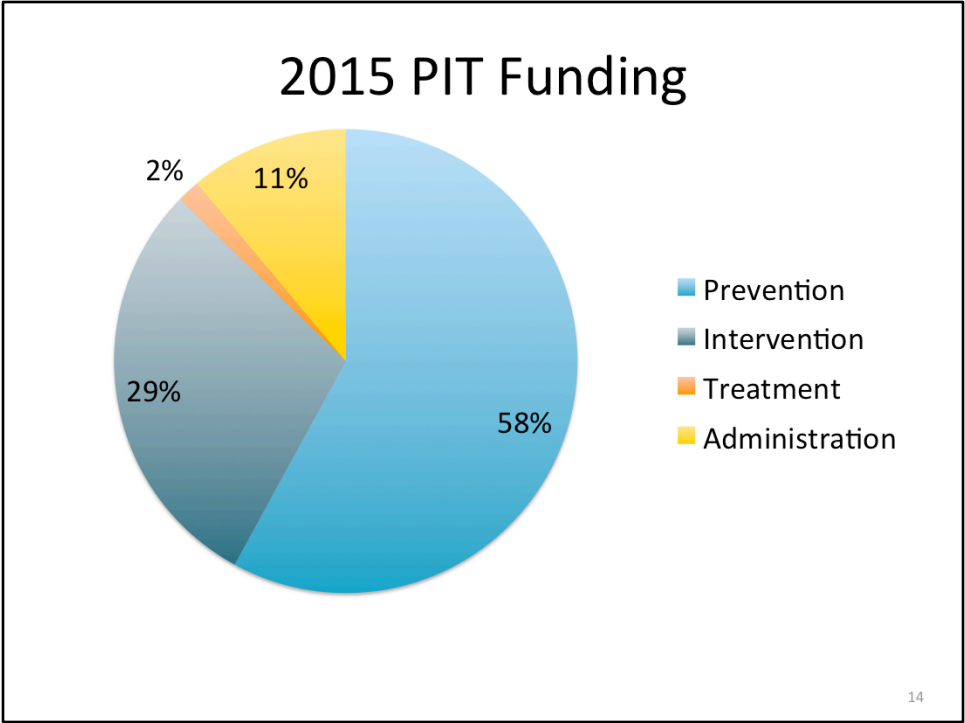
- \$5.5 million appropriated each year
- More than 50 programs funded through PIT dollars and more than 11,600 children, youth and families served

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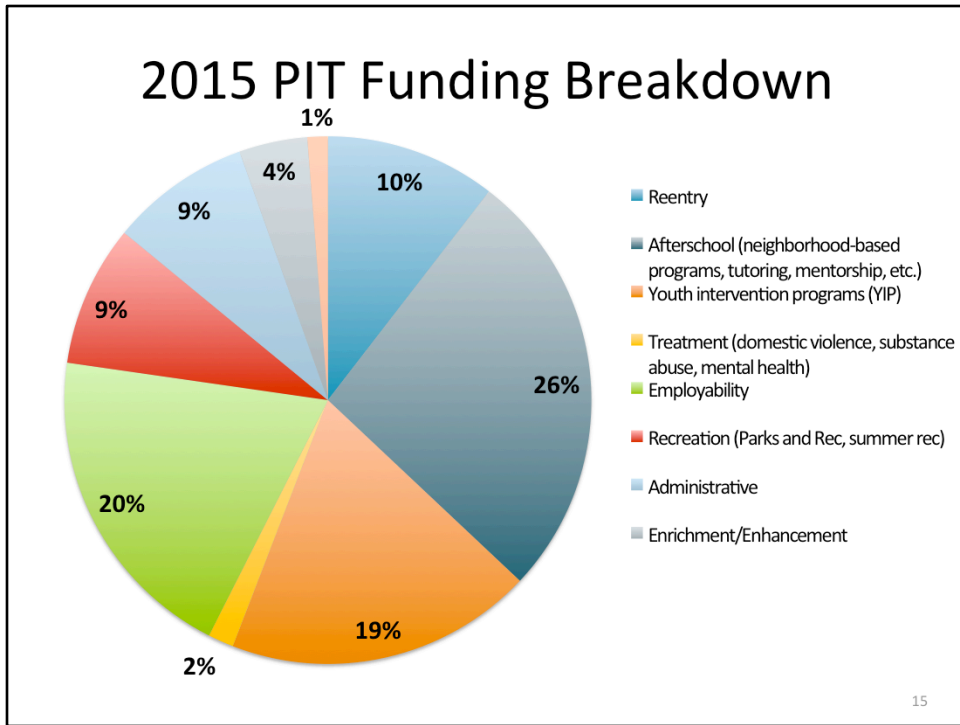
Approximately \$5.5 million is appropriated each year for PIT. The carryover varies from year to year. In 2015 there was \$6.38 million available for programs.

In 2015 the Department funded more than 50 programs, including afterschool and neighborhood based programs, reentry, and youth intervention programs. Additionally, some funding goes toward small enrichment or enhancement grants, as well as recreation programs.

All PIT contracts are for one year; most with an option by the City for up to two additional one year contracts based on performance and appropriation of funds.



In 2015, \$6.38 million was spent, with nearly 60% going toward prevention services.



With a budget of approximately \$6 million, 2015 shows more funding going toward Prevention rather than Treatment.

The break down of 2015 shows approximately 26% of the funding going toward afterschool programs such as neighborhood-based programs, tutoring, and mentoring. 19% of the funding goes toward YIP programs, 20% goes toward employability, including the summer youth program and evening career center. 10% goes towards reentry. Other programs that fall under enrichment, enhancement or recreation cover another 13%.

Measuring Progress

- CURRENT:
 - Two types of monitoring reviews
 - Evaluation focus is on contract compliance, administrative and fiscal requirements
 - Performance reviews determine whether the contractor is performing the services (numbers served, number of counseling sessions, number completed training, attendance records, or other transactional activities.)

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The current monitoring process that is used tracks administrative and fiscal requirements, as well as transactional activities such as the numbers of children served or number of sessions held.

Failure to comply to requirements may result in the program being placed on a 3 month probation period. Technical assistance is provided if improvements need to be made at that time. Follow up monitoring is made within 30 days if action needs to be taken. Payment may be withheld and/or the contract may be terminated.

Seven programs in 2014 and three in 2015 failed to meet performance or compliance requirements.

PREVENTION

- **Includes the following programs:**
 - Neighborhood-based programs, Expanded services, Enhancement programs, Parks & Rec programs, LRPD PAL/OK, Summer recreation, Employability, National Merit, small contracted programs, Mayors Youth Council, and City Year
- 4,685 children and youth served through 32 programs* Does not include number served through Parks and Rec and LRPD partner programs, Mayors Youth Council, City Year, National Merit or Small Contracts.
- \$3.7 million funded in 2015

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The City uses recommendations developed by New Futures for Youth on where to place neighborhood-based sites. The City funds sites in areas designated as poverty (poverty rates 20% or above) or high poverty (poverty rates above 40%). Poverty rates and population numbers were obtained by the 2010 U.S. Census and the U.S. Census 2006-2010 American Community Survey. Analyzing seven areas of the city – Far West, West, Northwest, Southwest, Midtown, Central and East – the report from New Futures shows the following:

1. The West, Central and East have poverty rates between 20% and 39%.
2. The Southwest and Midtown areas are high poverty with rates above 40%.

Neighborhood-based prevention programs

- 14 programs serving a total of approximately 350 children and youth ages 6-17 in the area of Prevention
- Received \$1,246,682 in 2015
- Recommended sites:
 - West: 2 younger and 2 older youth
 - Southwest: 2 younger and 1 older youth
 - Midtown: 2 younger and 1 older youth
 - Central: 1 younger and 1 older youth
 - East: 1 younger youth

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New Futures for Youth recommends the following site locations for Neighborhood-based prevention programs:

-2 sites for 6-11 year olds and 2 sites for 12-17 year olds in the West region, with one site for each age group on either side of John Barrow Road. This area accounts for about 27% of the total youth population in poverty/high poverty areas.

-Poverty in the Southwest area has doubled during the past 25 years, and accounts for one quarter of the youth living in the city. New Futures for Youth recommends two sites for younger youth and one site for older youth. One of the younger youth sites would be located south of Baseline Road, while the other two north of Baseline Road.

-Midtown has the highest poverty rates (44%) and accounts for about 19% of the youth population. New Futures for Youth recommends two sites for younger youth and one for older youth.

-Central has a poverty rate of 32%. New Futures for Youth recommends one site for younger youth and one site for older youth south of Interstate 630 or in the neighborhoods east of Interstate 30.

-Poverty rates in the East are has declined from nearly 60% in 1990 to 20% in 2010. There are approximately 934 young people (3%) of the youth population. New Futures for Youth recommends one site for younger youth.

Expanded Services

- 4 providers serving approximately 105 children and youth in afterschool/out-of-school time
- Received \$300,000 in 2015
- Four sites are located in zip codes 72205, 72204, 72206 and 72209

Enhancement programs

- 9 providers
- Received approximately \$600,000 in 2015
- A variety of services include the following: tutoring/literacy, financial literacy, ACT/college prep, core values, discipline resolution skills, STEM outreach center, music education, work readiness skills, mentoring, leadership development, etc.

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Enhancement programs are categorized as Prevention.

Factors include the following:

- Number of youth served at each site
- Number of programs where services delivered
- Ages of youth served
- Frequency of services and location of service delivery
- Program objective
- Monthly schedules developed and forward in a timely manner
- Requirement for sign sheets
- Site participation in service or presentations
- Timely submission of reports: attendance, financial, final reports
- Pre-/Post-assessment results
- Programmatic/progress reports

Employability

- Evening career center serves approximately 30 youth and adults at the LRSD Metropolitan Vocational Technical Center on Scott Hamilton Drive
- The summer youth program serves approximately 700 youth from across the city
- Transition to adulthood
- Received approximately \$1.2 million in 2015 to support employability

INTERVENTION

- Intervention programs include the following:
 - Youth Intervention Programs (YIP)
 - Reentry
- 19 programs serve approximately 600 children and youth
- Approximately \$1.87 million funded in 2015

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The City uses recommendations developed by New Futures for Youth on where to place YIP sites. The City funds sites in areas designated as poverty (poverty rates 20% or above) or high poverty (poverty rates above 40%). Poverty rates and population numbers were obtained by the 2010 U.S. Census and the U.S. Census 2006-2010 American Community Survey. Analyzing seven areas of the city – Far West, West, Northwest, Southwest, Midtown, Central and East – the report from New Futures shows the following:

1. The West, Central and East have poverty rates between 20% and 39%.
2. The Southwest and Midtown areas are high poverty with rates above 40%.

Youth Intervention Programs (YIP)

- 16 programs serve approximately 200 youth ages 13 to 19
- Received \$1.2 million in 2015
- Recommended sites:
 - West: 2 male and 2 female
 - Southwest: 2 male and 2 female sites, each on either side of Baseline Rd. and one for male and one for female focused on Hispanic youth.
 - Midtown: one male and one female
 - Central: One male and one female south of Interstate 630
 - East: None

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New Futures for Youth recommends the following site locations for Neighborhood-based prevention programs:

-The West area has increased in poverty rates from 13% in 1990 to 28% in 2010. Two male YIP sites and two female YIP sites are recommended for this area.

-The Southwest area is home to most of the Hispanic youth. The poverty rates have more than doubled since 1990. New Futures recommends 1 male and 1 female YIP sites north of Baseline road and 1 male and 1 female YIP sites south of Baseline road. Also recommended are one male site and one female site focused on Hispanic youth.

-Midtown area has 13% of the City's older teens and has experienced consistent high levels of poverty. New Futures recommends one male YIP site and one female YIP site.

-The Central area includes the downtown business district. Though poverty has declined since 1990, the poverty rate is still 32% and still defined as high poverty. New Futures recommends one male and one female south of Interstate 630

-The East area has declining poverty rates and youth population. It is recommended that this area have no YIP sites.

Reentry

- 3 programs (2 providers: Goodwill and Our House) serves 408 youth and adults
- Resulted in the placement of 258 Little Rock residents into employment with more than 100 employers.

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The reentry contract term (1st year) was July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. The contracted providers enrolled a total of 408 LR residents with and without disabilities into their employment placement programs. The providers placed 258 LR residents into employment during the contracting period. They were placed with over 100 employers in Central Arkansas. The remaining clients continued with the contractors who working on GED programming, employment readiness, and employment (occupational skills training) in an effort to prepare them for employment. Both Goodwill and Our House were awarded contract extensions for one additional year beginning July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Their end of contract performance reports are due July 31, 2015.

TREATMENT

- Treatment programs include the following:
 - Domestic Violence counseling and services provided 3 clients 6 services in 2014
 - Tobacco education*
- In 2015 Treatment comprised only 2% of the total PIT funding

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Tobacco cessation classes are twice a year that serve 25 people each. Services are delivered to youth in prevention and intervention programs.

New Initiatives

- Strengthened partnership with LRSD, LRPD, State of Arkansas and other City Departments.
- Juvenile accountability block grants with National League of Cities
- New programs such as the Entrepreneur program
- New searchable site for the public to find programs on the city's website. Email and referral number available.
- New position: Dept. Community Programs Community Resource Manager - Research and developing new programs and relationships in the

Conclusion

- PIT funding is a unique funding stream with a dedicated purpose
- The CYF Commission supports PIT implementation.
- The 2015 budget of approximately \$5.5 million supported more than 50 programs and 11,600 children, youth, and families
- Strengthened partnerships and programs with agencies and organizations across the city, as well as a new position at DCP will help support the future of PIT