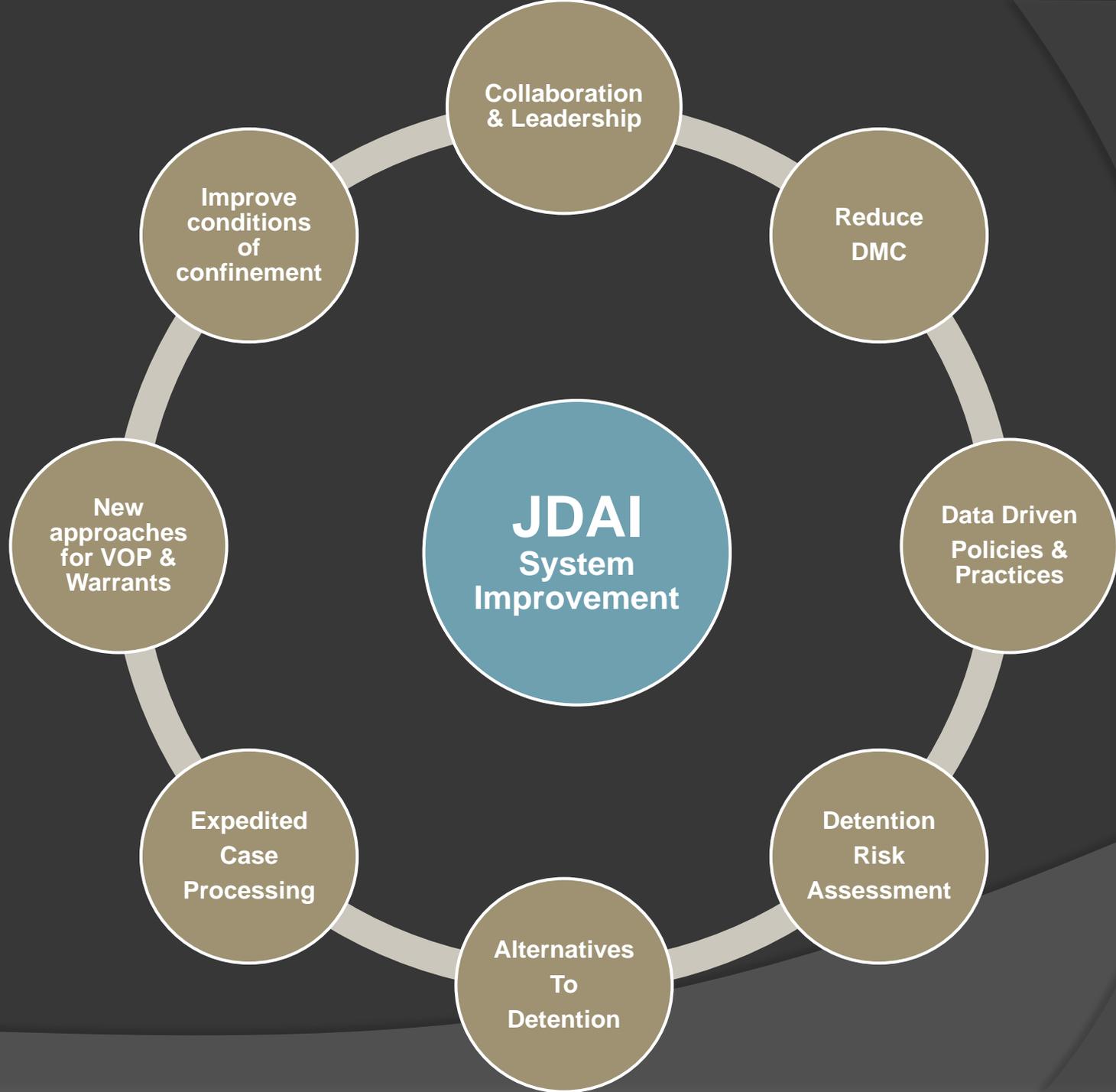


PIERCE COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

**REDUCING DISPARITIES USING THE
PRINCIPLES OF JUVENILE DETENTION
ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE (JDAI)**

JDAI History in Pierce

- In 1997, Superior Court Judges and Pierce County Juvenile Court (PCJC) Administration started pursuing detention reform.
- September 2003, Pierce County entered into formal partnership with AECF.
- January 2004, JDAI officially started at PCJC, signified by closing an old, dormitory style section of detention and redirecting funds to alternative programs.
 - No net loss of jobs



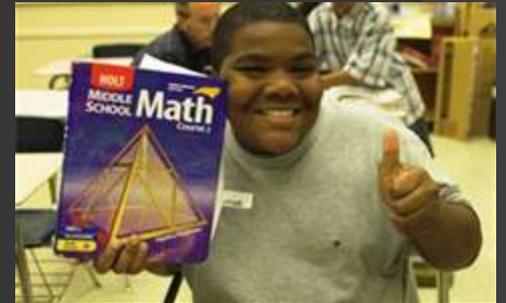


Goals of JDAI

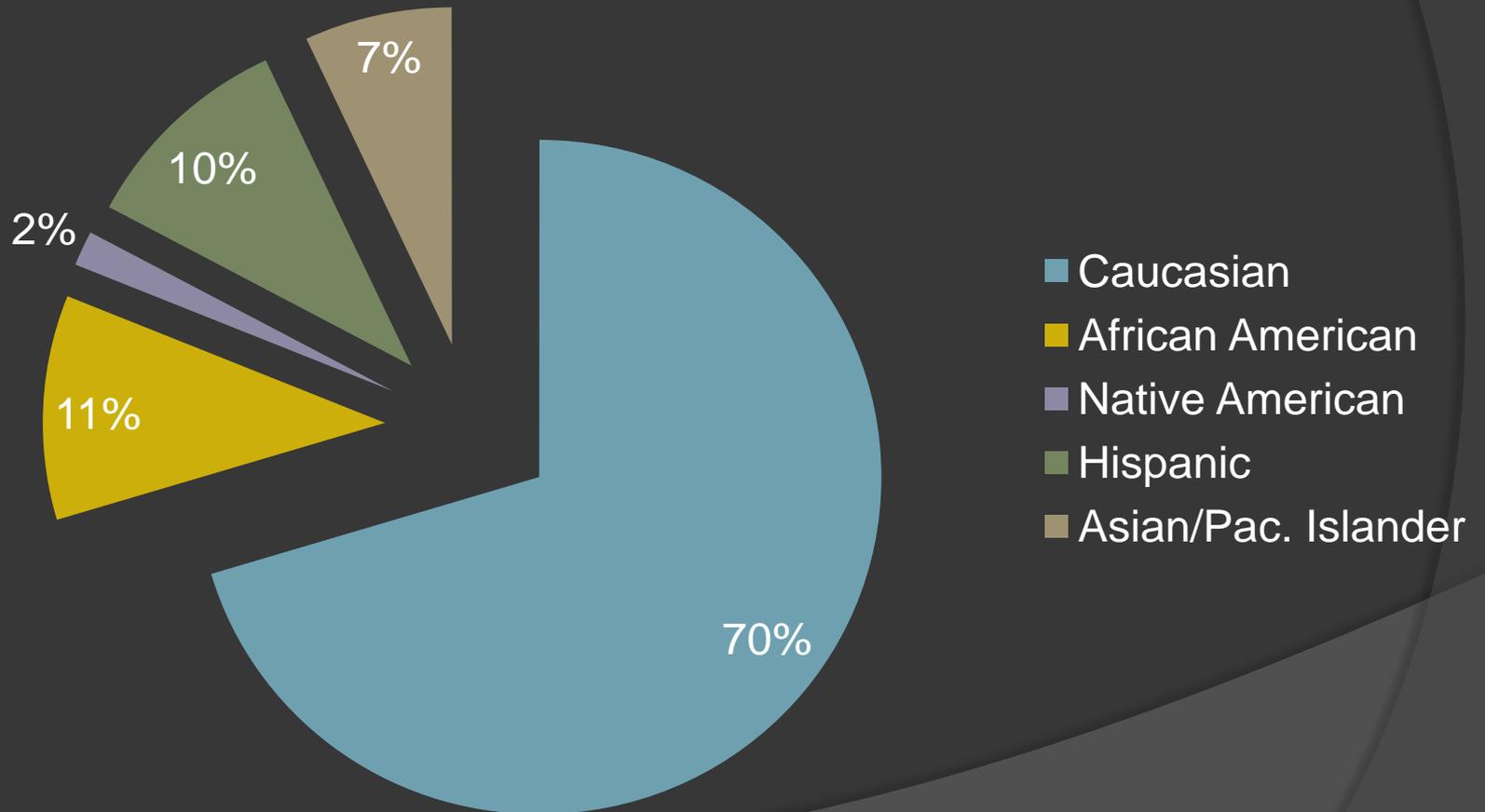


- Reduce the unnecessary use of secure detention
- Reduce the disproportionate minority representation of youth in the system
- Maintain and improve community safety
- Improve conditions of confinement for youth who do require secure detention

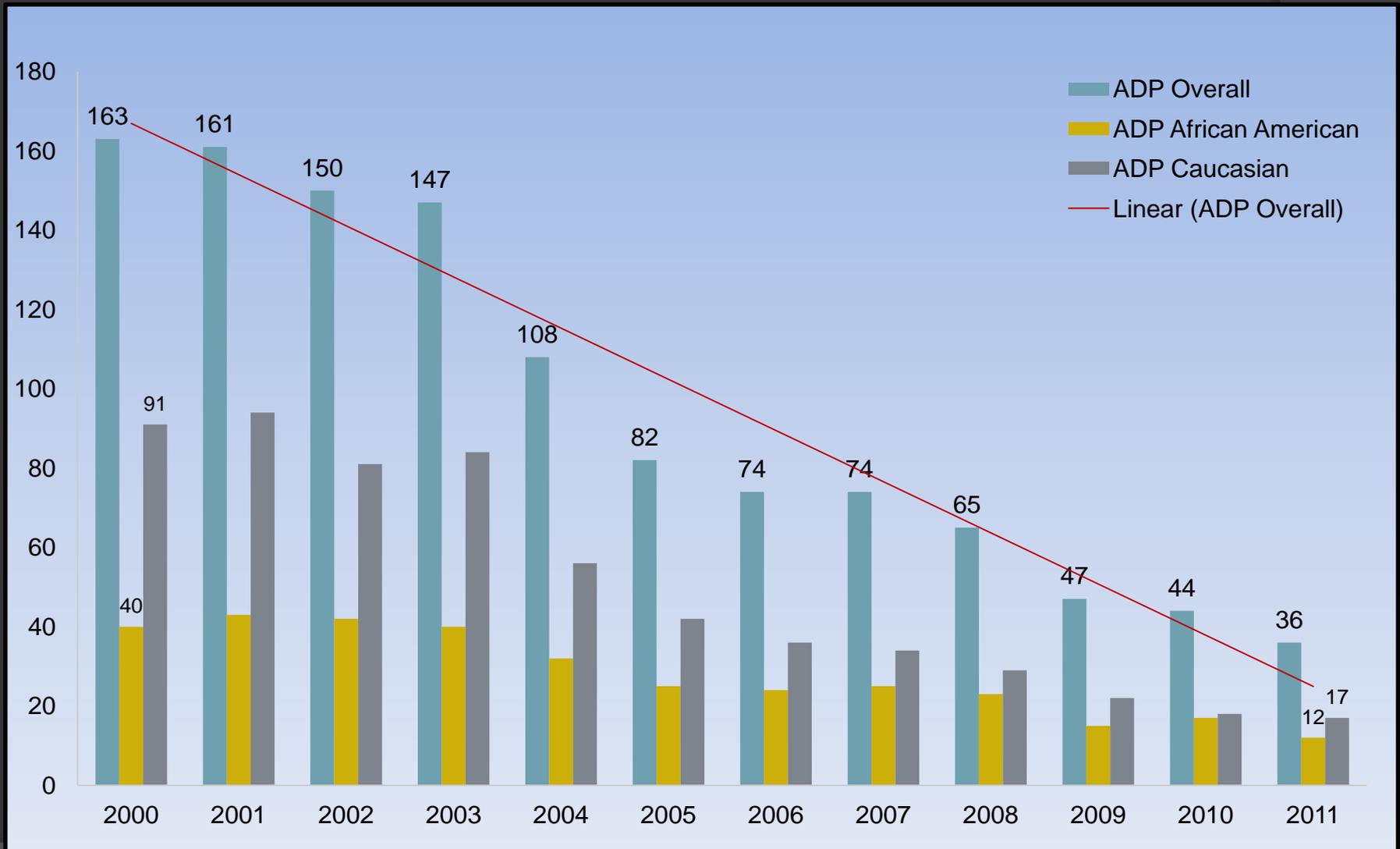
Why is this important?



Pierce County Youth Population, age 10 - 17



Average Daily Population 2000-2011

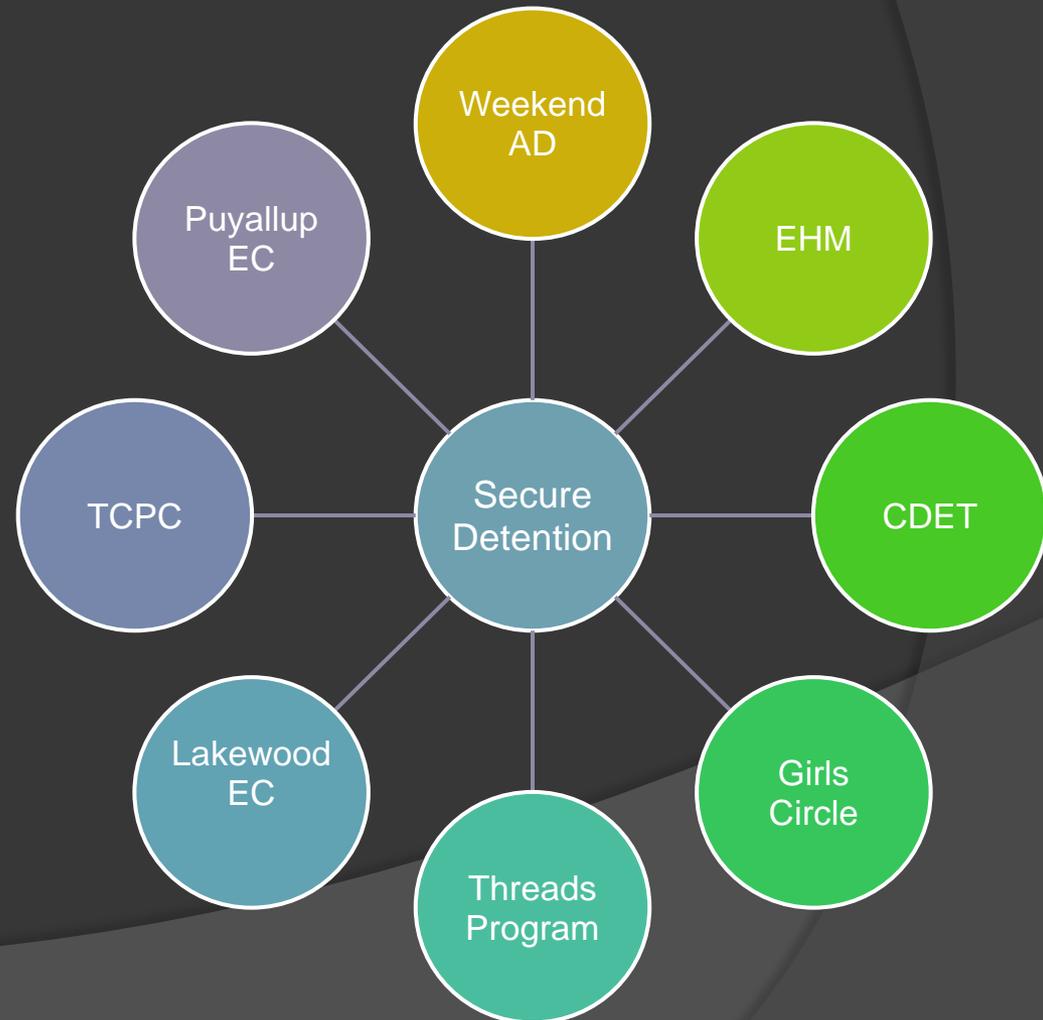


Detention Alternatives

**Pre - JDAI
2003**



**JDAI
2004 TO PRESENT**

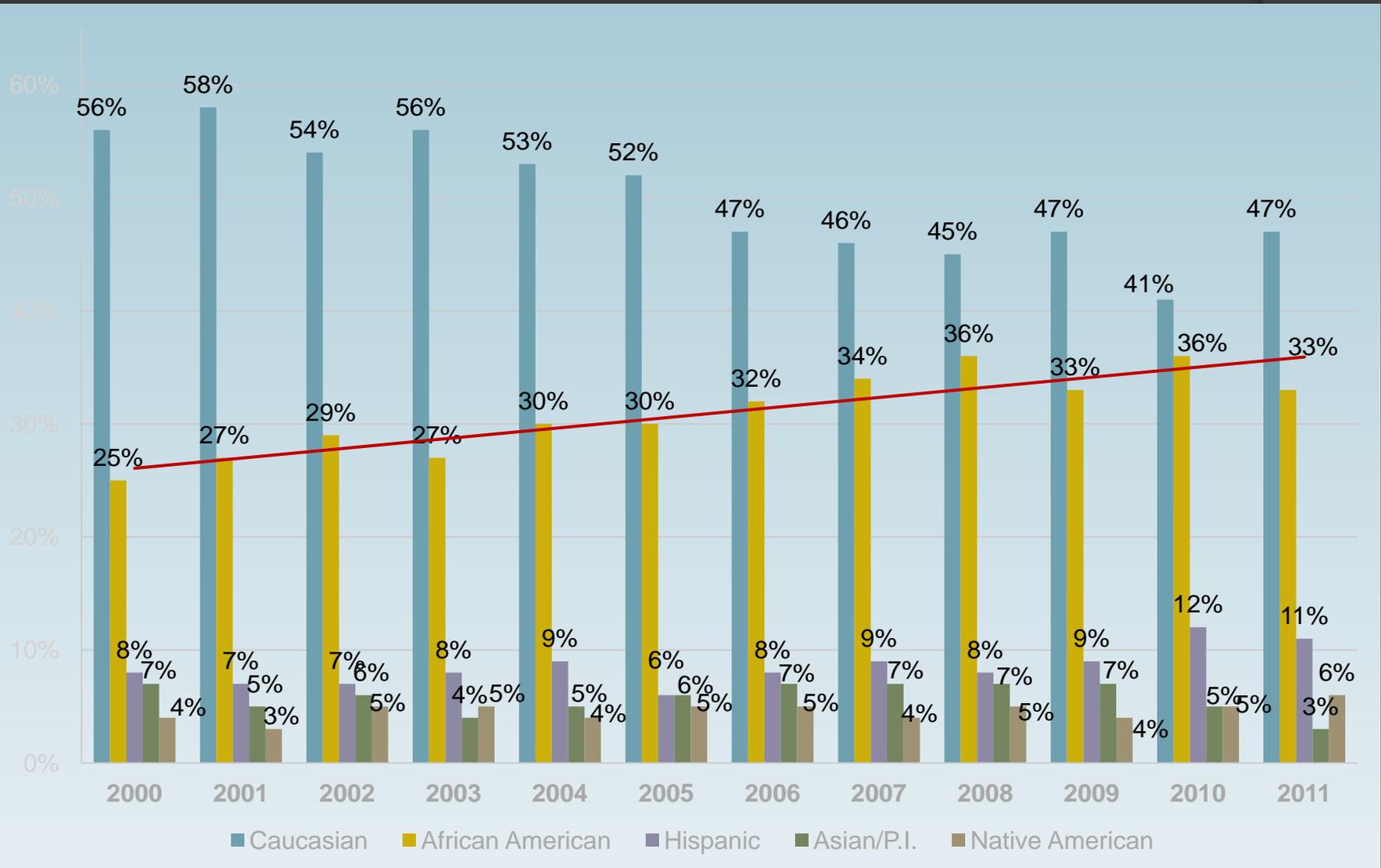


Benchmarks/Indicators

	2002	2011	# Change	% Change
ADP	150	34	-116	-77%
Admissions	4,001	1,590	-2,411	-60%
ALOS	13.0	8.0	-5.0	-39%
JRA Commits	199	87	-112	-51%
Felony Petitions	1,369	678	-691	-51%

- **Closed a 50 bed detention wing**
- **Implemented a full range of Alternatives to Detention**
- **Reduced reliance on secure detention while also attending to community safety indicators**
- **Developed a DMC Reduction Agenda**

Race in Detention 2000-2011



What we know

African American youth are:



- Referred at a rate that is 2.5 times higher than the rate of Caucasian youth
- Brought to detention at a rate that is 3.4 times higher than Caucasian youth
- Detained at a rate that is 3.6 times higher than Caucasian youth
- Detained for a high DRAI score (over 10) at a rate that is 5.9 times more than Caucasian youth
- Booked into detention for a B+ felony or higher at a rate that is 3.5 times higher than Caucasian youth
- Committed to JRA at a rate that is 5.2 times higher than Caucasian youth

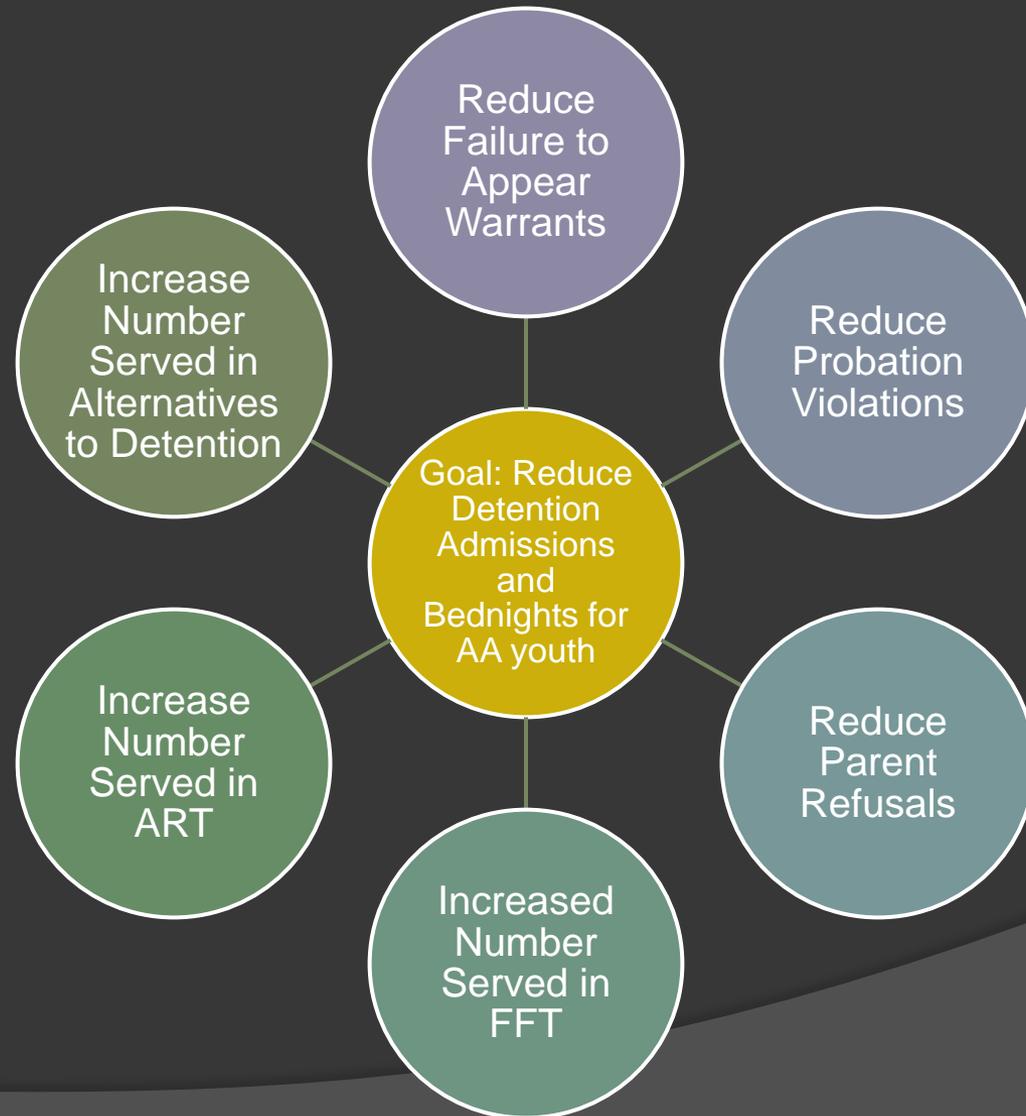
(2009 data)

BI Strategy for Reducing Disparities

Ongoing process

- ⦿ Identify whether and to what extent disproportionality exists
- ⦿ Identify target population and analyze impact on youth of color
 - *Structural system based decisions impacting youth of color*
 - *Low hanging fruit impacting youth of color*
 - *Inconsistent system decision making impacting youth of color*
 - *Disparate treatment of similarly situated youth*
- ⦿ Dig deeper into target population to learn more about policy/practice/procedure and other factors contributing to disproportionality
- ⦿ Strategize about policy/practice/procedure change to reduce detention utilization for target population
- ⦿ Adopt Strategy
- ⦿ Monitor effectiveness of each strategy in reducing racial disparities
- ⦿ Document changes in reducing racial disparities

PCJC Strategies to Reduce Detention Admissions and Bednights for African American Youth



Strategy 1 – Reduce FTA's

DMC Reduction Strategies and Action Steps	Goal	Baseline Data (2007)	Current Data (2011)
<p>Reduce AA Youth Failure to Appears (FTA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone & In-Person Notification (Enhanced Oct. 08) • Two-Tier Warrant Process • Bench Warrant Quash Program (Started Oct. 09) 	<p>Reduce detention admissions & LOS for violations</p>	Admissions – 130	Admissions – 63
		% Admissions – 29%	% Admissions – 28%
		Bednights – 903	Bednights – 349
		% Bednights – 20%	% Bednights – 27%
		ALOS – 6.9 days	ALOS – 5.5 days

African American Youth DMC Reduction

Detained Youth	2007		2011		Reduction
	#	%	#	%	
Detention Admits	887	31	474	29	413 less admits
Bednights	9094	35	3524	32	5570 less bednights

Summary

- ⦿ Leadership is critical
- ⦿ Data must become a priority
- ⦿ Stick to the principles of JDAI
- ⦿ Change is difficult, patience is important
- ⦿ It's all about what we want for the kids in our community

QUESTIONS?



Contact Information

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