# 2016 Program Report Card: Fostering Responsibility, Education and Employment

Program Expenditures	State Funding	Federal Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
SFY 15	\$3,261,220.00	0	0	\$3,261,220.00
SFY 16	\$3,082,124.00	0	0	\$3,082,124.00

Partners: Youth and families, Community agencies and services, Congregate Care facilities, DCF

#### **How Much Did We Do?**

# The number of FREE Youth served and discharged.

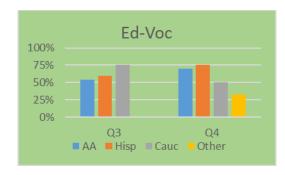


## Story behind the baseline:

There are 6 teams serving the state, one serving each region. While the overall number served remained stable over the last 4 quarters, individual provider numbers ranged by as much as 10 from quarter to quarter and discharges varied. During FY16, the ratio of those served in the community continued to increase as a result of shorter lengths of stay in placement.

### How Well Did We Do?

# Engaged in Educational or Vocational Services:



## Story behind the baseline:

Of the discharged youth who are enrolled in secondary or post-secondary education, the level of engagement remains low. Providers report that while there are instances of schools withholding placement until youth return to the community, most often schooling is in place upon reentry and that disengagement occurs swiftly for some.

#### How Well Did We Do It?

Percentage of youth who discharged from FREE and did not experience a new adjudication.



### Story behind the baseline:

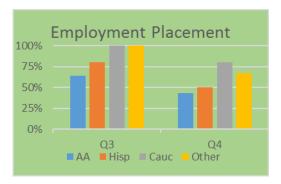
The adjudication/conviction information reflects what was reported by the providers concerning discharged youth who accrued new charges while enrolled in FREE which resulted in adjudication/conviction. However, this does not reflect charges pending at the time of discharge.

Rev. 5 (12 15 12) Page 1 of 2

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#### How Well Did We Do It?

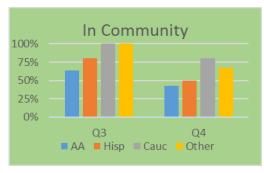
The percentage of youth who were connected to employment.



Story behind the baseline: The number reflects the youth, discharged from FREE, who were placed in an employment setting during their course of involvement in employment training. Most providers have developed an array of job placements but continue to report difficulty with retention.

## Is Anyone Better Off?

The percentage of youth who did not return to placement during FREE service.



Story behind the baseline: This number reflects those discharged from FREE, who did not experience a regressive move while enrolled in FREE services in the community on Parole status. Providers and regional staff report that teamings occur regularly regarding youth who are struggling in the community, in which FREE staff members participate.

## **Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:**

DCF staff surveys have begun to be used in some regions. FREE providers will be working on a unified discharge survey for youth and families.

- Develop pre and post assessments to assess "employability"
- Develop method to assess connections: natural supports; education/vocation; employment
- Utilization of L.I.S.T. Providers will have completed training cycles in August.
- Virtual Academy has developed onsite hours at some of the FREE sites.
- PIE. Continued refinement of reporting elements to lay the foundation for PIE build.

## **Data Collection Agenda:**

Continue to hold monthly provider meetings to share ideas and strategies. Encourage providers to collaborate on services. Ongoing efforts: Programs meet regularly with the regions to discuss cases, struggles regarding youth and family engagement. Programs have been encouraged to incorporate permanency approaches into programming. Family engagement has been an ongoing theme. Providers report engaging non-traditional partners such as boyfriends/girlfriends, friends in activities and job searches. Programs continue to develop incentives to program involvement but leverage funds to incentivize school and work success.

Rev. 5 (12 15 12) Page 2 of 2