

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
Clark County Juvenile Court (CCJC)
and
Clark County Department of Job and Family Services (CCDJFS)

I. General Provisions

- A. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines the commitment between Clark County Juvenile Court (CCJC) and Clark County Department of Job and Family Services (CCDJFS) to provide a structured format to enhance collaboration, coordination and service delivery to meet the needs of Clark County's dual status youth and their families by building an effective interagency/departmental partnership.
- B. Goals and Objectives
 1. Prevention - to prevent accelerated penetration in both the juvenile justice and child welfare system. This goal will be accomplished in part by incorporating a dynamic and cooperative community partner collaboration.
 2. Intervention - to develop an effective intervention methodology that considers the most relevant information when developing strategies for youth and their family. This plan will include effective cross system coordination and intervention practices that are youth and family focused, evidence informed, and strengths based.

C. Target Population

Dually Involved Youth – Youth who have concurrent involvement (diversion, formal, or a combination of the two) with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

- Youth, of any age, who is a member of an open case (Intake or Ongoing) with CCDJFS and a new charge (delinquent, unruly and truancy charges) with CCJC.
- Pathway One – Youth who become involved with the Juvenile Justice System and are currently involved with Children Services.
- Pathway Two – Youth who receive a new charge with the Juvenile Justice System and become involved with Children Services within 30 days of the filing of that charge. Juvenile Court will be responsible for determining if a referral has been made to Children Services or make a referral if necessary within 30 days of the filing of the new charge, and a case has been opened with Children Services.
- Not including a probation violation on a previously adjudicated charge
- Executive Committee agrees to review and reevaluate at a one year mark of data collection.

II. Description and Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to establish collaboration between Clark County Juvenile Court (CCJC) and Clark County Department of Job and Family Services (CCDJFS) to enhance system coordination and service delivery, for the dually involved youth population of Clark County who are referred to and /or receiving services from CCJC and CCDJFS agencies while also enhancing effective partnerships and collaboration with relevant youth serving systems and agencies (e.g., education, behavioral health).

The Clark County Juvenile Court (CCJC) – the mission of Clark County Juvenile Court is to serve the community, rehabilitate youth and ensure public safety by holding youth and families accountable for their actions. This is accomplished through a continuum of programs and placement options administered by the court using restorative justice practices when practicable.

The Clark County Department of Job and Family Services (CCDJFS) – the mission of the Clark County Department of Job & Family Services is to promote safety, strengthen families, and empower people. It is considered a quadruple combined agency and is responsible for administration and delivery of Family and Children Services, Child Support Enforcement, OhioMeansJobs and Public Assistance. All programs are administered in accordance with state and federal laws and mandates.

III. Scope of Work:

Through the collaborative efforts and subject matter expertise and experience of the agencies and their community stakeholders, the partners to this agreement will conduct an analysis and dynamic examination of challenges and opportunities in the following focus areas:

- **Data**
 - Develop a data collection system that meets the needs of the dual system youth initiative.
 - Review national data and local sources of data regarding dually involved youth. Identify questions to be answered about dually involved youth; identify data sets and data points that must be collected, aggregated and shared across system and ensure that this data is regularly analyzed to inform practice.
 - Identify gaps in data that need to be filled so that systems are better able to serve youth and families.
- **Legal & Policy**
 - Evaluate the current processes for handling dually involved youth, including court processes, and consider alternative processes; develop proposals for new interventions.
 - Review and consider legal mandates for dually involved youth across systems. analyze & address legal, policy, and practice barriers to information sharing in an

effort to improve information sharing while protecting the privacy of youth and families.

- **Practice & Resource**

- Identify and compare organizational missions, mandates and policies.
- Identify common and dissimilar components of case processing and management.
- Inventory assessment tools used across systems in an effort to evaluate the most effective way to conduct joint assessment processes and joint case planning.
- Inventory local resources and analyze whether there are gaps and or overlaps.
- Consider opportunities to share resources or blend funding.
- Identify best practices locally and nationally.
- Develop thorough, ongoing staff training.

- Collectively, through the work of the subcommittees referenced above, and with the guidance of the Executive Steering Committee, the Initiative will explore the possibility of:

- Developing and defining a clear case protocol for JC and JFS workers
- Instituting joint assessment and case planning processes at several key decision points.
- Implementing ongoing training that includes all impacted stakeholders and enhances a complete understanding of purpose, goals, and outcomes of the DIY initiative and clarifies roles, responsibilities, tasks and timelines for youth serving personnel.
- Linking the work of the Dually-Involved Youth Initiative to other ongoing major initiatives that are or may impact the target population for this initiative.
- Providing concurrent, coordinated services to youth and families that empowers family engagement, positive youth development and respect for victim's rights to achieve the following outcomes.

IV. Outcomes:

The partners in this agreement will collect, manage and routinely report the following agreed upon system performance and youth and family outcomes impacted by the agreed upon policies, procedures, and protocols resulting from the Clark County Dually Involved Youth Initiative:

Outcome 1: reduced recidivism

Outcome 2: reduced entry into the custody of CCDJFS

Outcome 3: stabilization in placement

Outcome 4: stabilization in behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse)

Outcome 5: stabilization in educational needs

Outcome 6: reduce adoption disruption

The Executive Committee for the initiative will endorse specific performance measures for each agreed upon outcome.

V. General Terms:

The undersigned agencies and organizations commit to ongoing collaboration, integration, and coordination with the goal of improving outcomes for dually-involved youth.

- **Term:** This agreement will be effective through October 2022 at which point it will be reevaluated and updated.
- **Termination:** Signatories may withdraw from this MOU at any time by making said request in writing with the effective date and reason for withdrawal.
- **Review:** This MOU may be reviewed by the parties' mutual agreement for additional terms at any time.
- **Participation:** Signatories commit to attend (or send a designated delegate with decision making authority) and actively participate in all relevant meetings, to the best of their abilities.

In order for this document to be the official Memo of Understanding it must be signed and dated by (identify necessary signatories).

VI. Authorized Signatures

NAME Date
Clark County Juvenile Court (CCJC)

NAME Date
Clark County Department of Job and Family Services (CCDJFS)

NAME Date
Agency