

Performance & Quality Improvement Newsletter

LaSalle School
Albany, NY

September 2014

The Juvenile Reporting and Family Center: Afterschool Programming for Albany County Youth

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Launched March 1, 2013, the Juvenile Reporting and Family Center is an expansion of the highly regarded Evening Reporting Center operated by LaSalle for the past seven years.

LaSalle's ERC model for adolescent males has been used to develop similar programs at St. Anne Institute for adolescent girls and St. Catherine's Center for youth ages 9-13, with a single point of entry for centralized intake to any of the three sites. This unique collaboration between the three agencies adds a family component with the addition of an agency case-worker at each site.

Youth and families are rapidly engaged in treatment services, their needs and strengths are assessed, and recommendations for additional supports are made, including, when appropriate, referrals to the Counseling Center at LaSalle- our outpatient mental health and chemical dependency program.

LaSalle proposed four key outcomes for youth and families in the JRFC: 95% of youth will return to all court dates and appearances, 90% of youth will not be placed in a higher level of care, including detention, 80% of youth will not commit new offenses, and 90% of families will be connected to community services and supports at discharge. The table below displays the actual percentages of clients in each category. As you may note, there was only one month in which the JRFC did not achieve its desired outcomes, and that was only in one category. This was as a result of one family out of the six discharged in January lacking connections within the community.

Albany County has been pleased with the results of the JRFC to this point and continues to use the program as an alternative to detention.

	95% of youth will keep all court appointments	90% of youth will not be placed	80% of youth will not commit new offenses	90% of families will be connected to services
Sep-13	100	100	100	100
Oct-13	100	100	100	100
Nov-13	100	96	96	90
Dec-13	96	98	97	95
Jan-14	100	100	100	83
Feb-14	100	96	96	93
Mar-14	100	100	100	100
Apr-14	100	99	99	100
May-14	100	97	97	97
Jun-14	100	96	96	100

Upcoming Topics:

- ◆ PBIS Pyramid Distribution
- ◆ COA Accreditation
- ◆ The Counseling Center at LaSalle
- ◆ 160th Anniversary Celebration
- ◆ The Alliance Residential Transformation Cohort

Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) activities assist with achieving program and service area outcomes, and contribute to efforts to improve organizational climate and culture and staff and client satisfaction. PQI encourages the use of data and staff and stakeholder involvement to identify, establish and implement improvement practices that contribute to desired outcomes. This occasional newsletter will be one avenue to encourage staff involvement in PQI.

LaSalle's Alphabet Soup

A guide to the acronyms used on campus

ACDCYF- Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families: The name for Albany County's local social service district, reflecting the consolidation of several departments that serve youth and families. Also DCYF.

ATD- Alternative to Detention: A community based program, like the JRFC, that serves as an alternative to more restrictive and usually much higher cost, detention.

B2H- Bridges to Health: A Medicaid Waiver program in NYS allowing youth in the Foster Care and Mental Health Systems to access community based care.

DSS- Department of Social Services: Each county (and all of NYC) in New York operate local social service districts charged with providing for the social welfare of residents in keeping with state law and regulation. NYS OCFS has oversight of these districts.

FY- Fiscal Year: Used with fiscal reports, LaSalle's fiscal year is July through June.

JD- Juvenile Delinquent: A court adjudication for a minor who has committed crimes

PINS- Person In Need of Supervision: The Family Court adjudication for a minor in need of additional supervision than can be provided by a parent or guardian. Generally based on a child's truancy or un-governability.

PPG- Permanency Planning Goal: The intermediate to long range goal for a child's permanency upon discharge from foster care and residential treatment settings

RFP- Request For Proposal: A request for a bid to provide services, often used by government to solicit bids for the issuance of contracts. ACDCYF issues RFPs for Prevention Services like the JRFC.

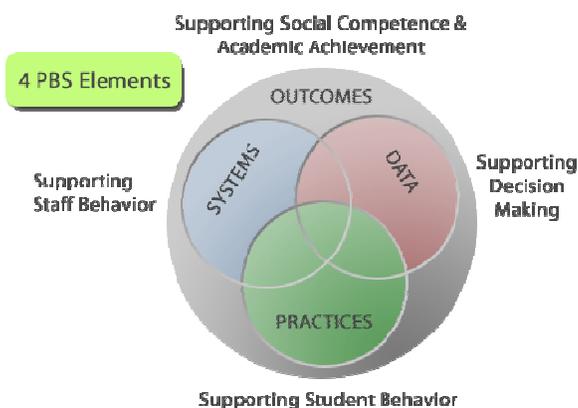
SOA- State Oversight Agency e.g. OASAS, OCFS, OMH.



PBIS Updates

The PBIS Calendar for the 2014-2015 school year is now available and is posted in the faculty room and the mailroom in the Social Worker hallway. If you are interested in joining the PBIS committee or assisting with any of the events, contact Marilyn Alamillo at ext. 274

The PBIS Student Store continues to flourish. Staff should remember to give out fast cash when they see students being Safe, Respectful, and Responsible to reinforce positive behavior. Some students have reported feeling as though only the "bad kids" receive fast cash and that their good behavior is going unnoticed.

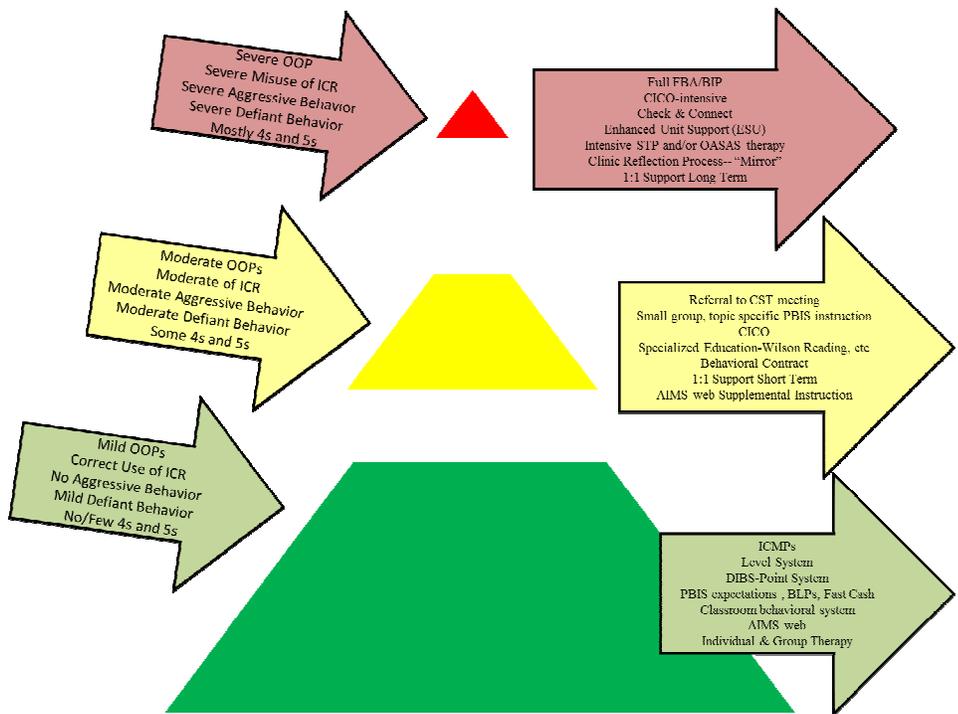


Behavior Tracking for PBIS– Tier 2 Classifications

A key aspect of PBIS is the use of data driven interventions for students who are having difficulty. This is done by classifying the youth into different tiers based on their behavior and then tailoring interventions to their behaviors. Students classified as Tier 2 are in need of additional supports and interventions in order to be successful during the school day.

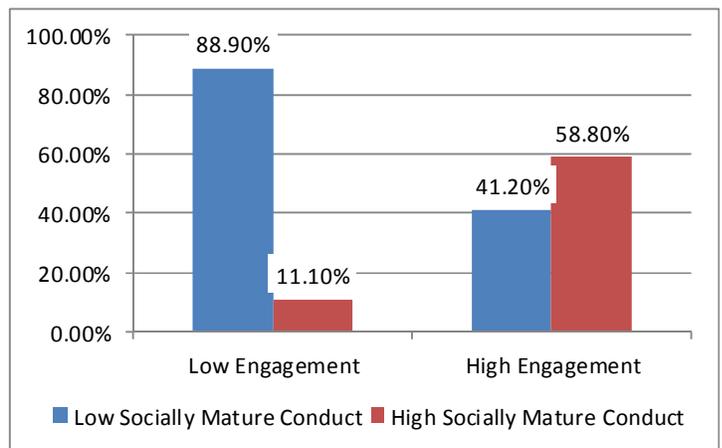
At LSS, we use a number of different data sources to help track youth behaviors. Duration of time out of program is tracked in CIS. In addition, time in the ICR room is also tracked. Finally, we track critical and high risk incidents. These are tabulated and at-risk students are classified into tiers. In the future, we would like to add behavior grades and the after school list to further aid classification.

After a youth is classified as Tier 2, a Child Study team is convened to determine what has worked with the student in the past and how to best intervene in the future. A follow-up examination of behaviors occurs after 4 weeks to see if there are any changes in problematic behavior.



SOAR Corner

SOAR has begun to analyze the relationships between variables within the SOAR surveys. While in some cases, no significant relationship can be found, preliminary analysis indicates that there is some relationship between engagement in treatment and socially mature conduct (youth action that is respectful and responsible towards others). Youth with low engagement in treatment also reported low levels of socially mature conduct, while youth with high engagement showed a more even distribution of reported behavior. This suggests that there is a relationship between lower engagement in treatment and lower levels of



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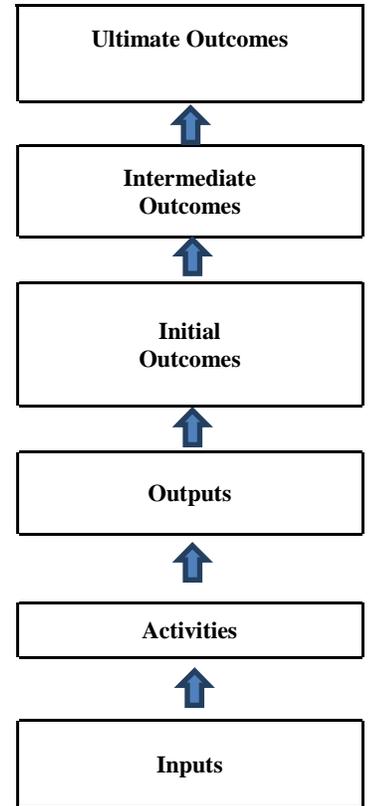


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Logic Models

Logic models are an important part of quality assurance monitoring and each program in the agency has one. A logic model is a visual representation of how a program is expected to work. The models vary from the extremely complex (the Residential Logic Model) to more simple (the Counseling Center at LaSalle). The United Way provides a simple template from which all of the LSS logic models started, though we altered it a great deal during the development process. If you would like to see any of LSS's Logic Models, contact Cam Steinke at ext 349.



Numbers that Matter: Back to School Night

On August 27, 2014, LaSalle Schools JRFC hosted the annual Back to School Night. More than **100** participants from at least **20** families in the community attended. **Ten** different community providers (Equinox, Albany Police Department, and The Counseling Center at LaSalle to name a few) were present to provide families with information about their programs.

After families gathered information, all youth were provided a backpack full of supplies, with more than **70** backpacks distributed to school age youth in the community. A BBQ dinner followed. In addition to the family attendees, there was also a representative from Albany County Probation.

Measures that Matter

In addition to the Monthly Indicator Report which monitors and sets benchmarks of fiscal stability, such as, enrollment, utilization, and admissions, desired service outcomes include:

Residential

80% of the students will achieve their permanency goal upon discharge.

Youth that complete STP programs will demonstrate reduced risk

Medical and Behavioral Health Care For RTC Youth

Improve our use of technology in relation to record keeping

Obtain an Electronic Health Record

Educational Programming

80% of the students will meet or exceed their IEP or other Educational objectives

PBIS will become further integrated into the culture

Referrals to Day Services will be from at least 12 School Districts

Counseling Center at LaSalle

80% of youth in the program will be engaged and making sufficient progress

Meet or exceed performance standard on IPMES

Recreation Program & Campus Ministry

Challenge Course and Experiential Learning based activities will continue to grow

Youth will experience considerable benefit from recreation.

80% of residential students will participate in some form of community service