Nebraska State Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Quarterly Reporting F.A.Q.

Why have reporting requirements changed in fiscal year 2015?

According to Nebraska Revised Statute 43-2404.01, the Crime Commission, in consultation with the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO), Juvenile Justice Institute is responsible for developing and administering a statewide system to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of plans and programs receiving funds under the Commission Grant Program and Community-based Juvenile Services Aid.

What information is required to be reported and what programs are required to report?

Any subgrantee who receives funds from the Commission Grant Program and Community-based Juvenile Services Aid is required to submit reports on program activity, financial expenditures, and individual and programmatic data. The requirements for reporting are outlined in the Request for Application, grant award packet and Nebraska Revised Statute 43-2404.02.

Why are we required to report individual youth information?

The over-arching goal is to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system and to rehabilitate juvenile offenders. To ensure Nebraska is funding programs that reach this goal, individual youth must be tracked prior to any law violations, through any programs they participate in, and then monitored for law violations as either juveniles or adults. In order to track youth in this way and to evaluate the effectiveness of plans and programs, information about each youth and his or her participation in every program is necessary.

What is the process for quarterly reporting?

As of October 2015, the state-wide Juvenile Case Management System “JCMS” is in the process of being built. Until JCMS is built, programs will be assigned a secure certificate and will upload excel spreadsheets that are provided by the UNO Juvenile Justice Institute. Once JCMS is complete, programs will log in to the system to complete data entry and quarterly reports will be generated through JCMS. For more information and access to the spreadsheets, go to juvenilejustice.unomaha.edu and click on Evidence-based Nebraska under the Resources tab.

Some of the information I have about youth is private and protected information. Can it still be uploaded or entered in JCMS?

Yes, the certificates that are assigned by the Crime Commission create a secure platform for private information. The information you upload will be maintained by the Crime Commission and the UNO Juvenile Justice Institute will assist with data collection, training, and data analysis.

What is going to happen with the information I provide?

Long-term we hope to answer a wide variety of research questions from this longitudinal dataset: Does your program achieve its desired outcomes? Do programs across Nebraska achieve these same outcomes? How do your program outcomes relate to recidivism? Is the program cost-effective? Based on this information, we envision the answers to these questions will assist counties in improving existing programs, implementing new programs, or improving the process for measuring outcomes for youth.