

## **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)**

The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) is a juvenile justice system improvement initiative developed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. It has been successfully implemented in over 200 jurisdictions across the nation over the past three decades. JDAI operates under the philosophy of serving the right youth, in the right place, at the right time, with an emphasis on objectively identifying the least restrictive next step while ensuring community safety.

A key component of JDAI is collaboration. The transition toward JDAI does not happen overnight, nor does it occur through the efforts of a single person or agency. A successful JDAI framework includes all components of the juvenile justice system and the community working together toward the common goal of achieving the best possible outcomes for youth.

JDAI is built on eight core, interconnected strategies that address the primary reasons why youth are unnecessarily or inappropriately detained. These core strategies include: Collaboration, Collecting and Analyzing Data, Objective Admissions and Use of Detention, Alternatives to Detention (ATD), Case Processing, Special Detention Cases, Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities, and Conditions of Confinement.

Since its initial implementation in Minnehaha and Pennington Counties in 2011, JDAI has expanded across South Dakota and is now in place in the following counties: Brown, Davison, Codington, Brookings, Yankton, Clay, Meade, Butte, Lawrence, Hughes, Union, Stanley, and Bennett. All JDAI sites have experienced a decrease in detention admissions, along with a notable increase in the use of detention alternatives such as court resource homes and community supervision. These sites are also successfully diverting more youth from the court system for low-level offenses, reducing the burden on court resources and improving outcomes for young people.

The expansion of JDAI across South Dakota was guided by the Statewide JDAI Steering Committee, appointed by the Chief Justice in 2014. This committee continues to review data and provide recommendations for effective statewide implementation. The goal remains to ensure that all seven judicial circuits in South Dakota have the resources, tools, and training necessary to implement JDAI principles effectively.

JDAI's success in South Dakota is a testament to the power of collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and a commitment to ensuring that youth are treated equitably while maintaining public safety. As JDAI continues to evolve, it remains focused on reducing unnecessary detention, expanding

alternatives, and improving outcomes for youth and communities across the state.

**South Dakota JDAI Mission Statement** Our mission is to work collaboratively to promote a more effective and efficient juvenile justice system through the implementation of JDAI's juvenile justice best practice standards in South Dakota

**South Dakota JDAI Vision Statement** All youth in South Dakota will live in communities that adopt juvenile justice best practices.

If you have any questions regarding JDAI implementation in South Dakota, please contact:

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### **Statewide Steering Committee**

- [Statewide JDAI Steering Committee Members](#)

### **Statewide Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI)**

- [South Dakota Statewide Risk Instrument \(RAI\) Validation Report](#)
- [South Dakota RAI Training Manual](#)
- [South Dakota RAI Training PowerPoint](#)
- [Offense Listing](#)
- [Law Enforcement Intake Cheat Sheet](#)
- [Juvenile Intake Process](#)

### **South Dakota JDAI Guidebook and Attachments**

- [South Dakota JDAI Guidebook](#)
- [Statewide Intake Center Assignments Map](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#)
- [Use and Purpose of Secure Detention](#)
- [South Dakota Risk Assessment Instrument \(RAI\)](#)
- [Supreme Court Rule 15-14](#)
- [Case Processing Agreement \(CPA\)](#)
- [Court Services Response and Incentive Grids](#)

- JDAI System Assessment

### **Data**

- South Dakota JDAI site detention data

### **Work Plans**

- Statewide JDAI 2017 Work Plan
- Statewide JDAI 3-Year Work Plan
- 2025 JDAI Goals