Youth with behavioral health conditions are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system. The majority have experienced child trauma. Too often, youth are unnecessarily placed in or referred to the juvenile justice system in a misguided attempt to obtain treatment services.

Prevalence Comparison Data Between Youth in Contact with the Juvenile Justice System (Outside Ring) and Youth in the General Population (Inside Ring)

- Mental Disorder: 70% (Outside), 20% (Inside)
- Substance Use Disorder: 46.2% (Outside), 8% (Inside)
- Traumatic Event Exposure: 90% (Outside), 25% (Inside)

Over the last decade, significant advances in research and program development have resulted in a wide array of new tools and knowledge that can help the juvenile justice and related child-serving systems improve their response to youth with behavioral health needs.

Through a critical intervention mapping activity, communities:
- Develop a local "map" to show how youth come into contact with and move through the juvenile justice system
- Conduct a self-assessment to identify gaps and strengths across the continuum
- Identify opportunities for improving responses to justice-involved youth
- Leverages local data to establish action steps for change and identify quantifiable outcomes

CRITICAL INTERVENTION MAPPING

Schools and Community Initial Contact and Referral Intake Judicial Processing Probation Supervision Secure Placement Detention Reentry