



**M**ost states struggle to ensure that resources are used efficiently to improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system. Two-year rearrest rates in a majority of states are more than 50 percent for youth on community supervision and more than 65 percent for youth returning to their communities from residential facilities. Research has shown that investments in supervision and services have had limited impacts on reducing recidivism and promoting other positive youth outcomes, such as those related to education and employment.

**Improving Outcomes for Youth: A Statewide Juvenile Justice Initiative (IOYouth) helps states align their policies, practices, and resource allocation with what research shows works to improve outcomes for youth while strengthening public safety.** IOYouth positions policymakers and system leaders to

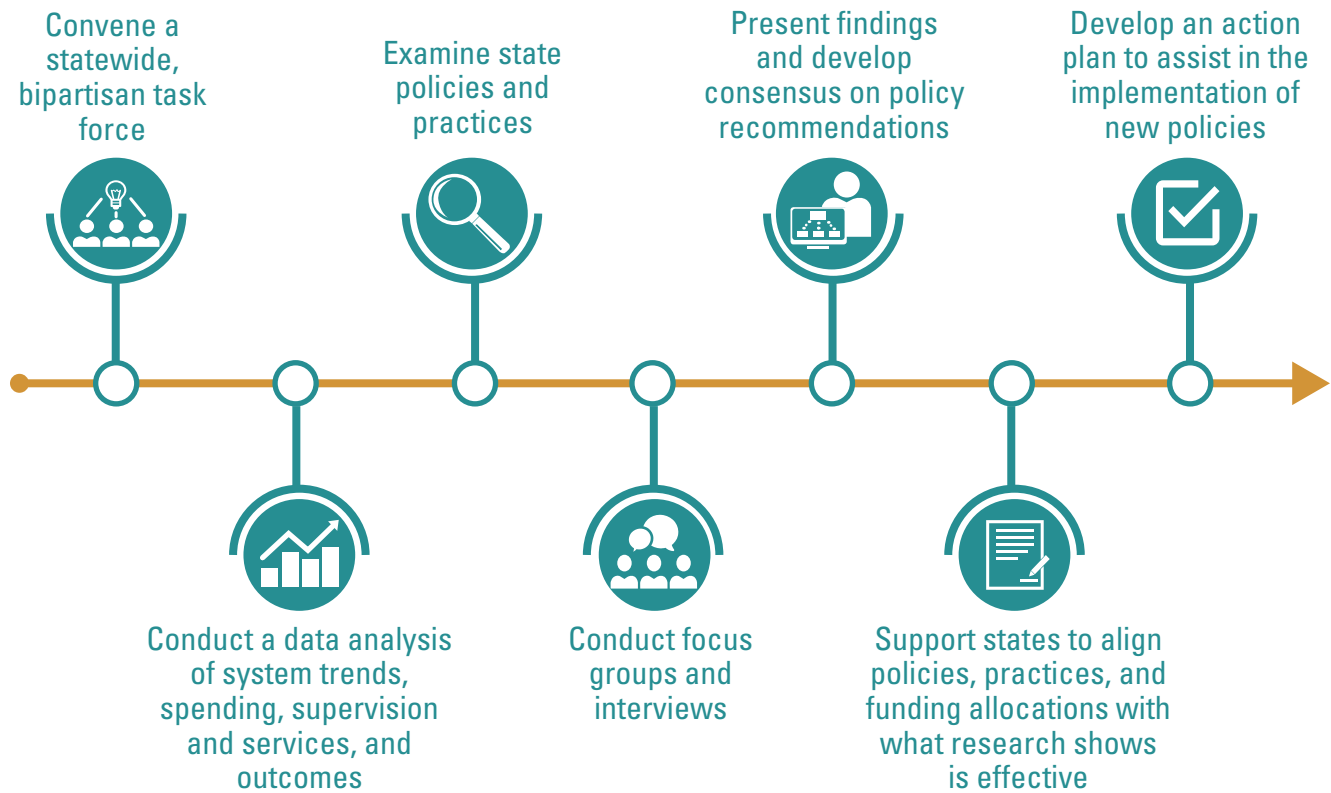
- Match youth with the most effective level and type of supervision and services in facilities and the community;
- Track system performance and youth outcomes to hold state and local agencies and service providers accountable for results; and
- Ensure that resources are allocated efficiently across the juvenile justice and other youth-serving systems, as well as across state and local lines.

#### **IOYouth's comprehensive, data-driven technical assistance process**

- **Takes a collaborative, state-driven approach** by convening leaders across all branches of state government to identify problems in the juvenile justice system, determine administrative and policy priorities, and enact system changes; and
- **Focuses on improving youth outcomes** by helping states apply policies and practices that are proven to reduce recidivism and improve other outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system.

*Improving Outcomes for Youth: A Statewide Juvenile Justice Initiative (IOYouth) is a project of the National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC) and The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center. The CSG Justice Center is a national nonprofit organization that serves policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels from all branches of government. The CSG Justice Center provides practical, nonpartisan, research-driven strategies and tools to increase public safety and strengthen communities.*

Through IOYouth, staff at The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center partner with states over an 18-month period to establish a statewide task force; conduct a data-driven assessment of the juvenile justice system, from the point a youth is referred to the system through a youth's reentry into the community; provide recommendations for improvement; and offer technical assistance. The CSG Justice Center works with states to conduct the following activities:



The CSG Justice Center has an extensive track record of supporting statewide juvenile justice system improvement efforts, having worked with more than 20 states to improve statewide supervision, services, and the efficient use of resources; develop strategic plans; identify systemwide performance measures and data collection strategies; and provide training and technical assistance to reduce recidivism rates and improve other key outcomes for youth.

For more information about IOYouth, contact **Nina Salomon** at [nsalomon@csg.org](mailto:nsalomon@csg.org).

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