

OHIO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH JUVENILE JUSTICE INITIATIVE [BHJJ]

BHJJ is a diversion program for juvenile justice-involved youth ages 10-18 with mental health or substance abuse issues. In lieu of detention, youth are diverted into local, evidence-based behavioral health treatment.

2006 — present

- 5,338** youth enrolled in BHJJ
- 52%** were non-white
- 15.6** years old—average age
- 64%** were male

INTAKE ASSESSMENTS REVEALED:



The most common DSM diagnosis was Oppositional Defiant Disorder.

Caregivers reported that 21% of female youth had a history of sexual abuse and 23% had attempted suicide.

21% of youth reported that someone close to them was murdered in the past year.

2017-2019 OUTCOMES INDICATED:



81% of youth successfully completed treatment

Youth reported decreases in trauma symptoms and substance use



Significant improvements in problem severity and functioning

50% reduction in suspensions/expulsions



53% reduction in risk for out of home placement

53% reduction in misdemeanor charges



Since 2015, over 96% of youth were NOT sent to an ODYS institution following BHJJ

On average, BHJJ costs about \$5,200 per youth compared to \$196,000 to commit a youth to ODYS

