

Role of Probation

Youth Justice Services Division

Presentation for Crossover Youth Project

March 22, 2016

Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) Strategic Goals

Probation officers deliver supports and services to contribute to the MCYS goals that children and youth:

- are resilient
- have the skills and opportunities needed to shape their own future
- have a voice
- experience high quality and responsive services

MCYS Youth Justice Services

Transformation

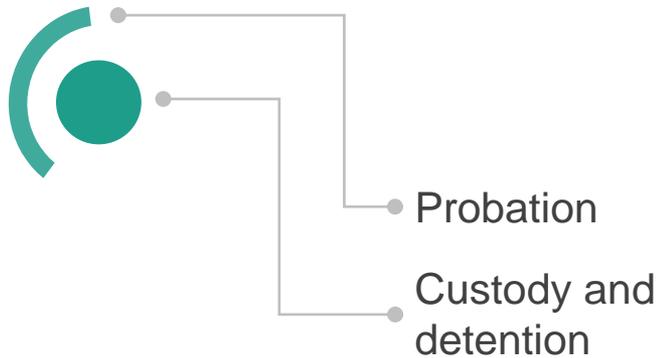
Over the past decade MCYS has transformed Ontario's youth justice services system. Today, fewer youth are in custody and most youth receive services in the community.

What we do

We serve youth age 12 to 17 at the time of offence in a dedicated system, separate from adults. Working with partners, we provide a continuum of evidence-informed services that respond to diverse youth needs.

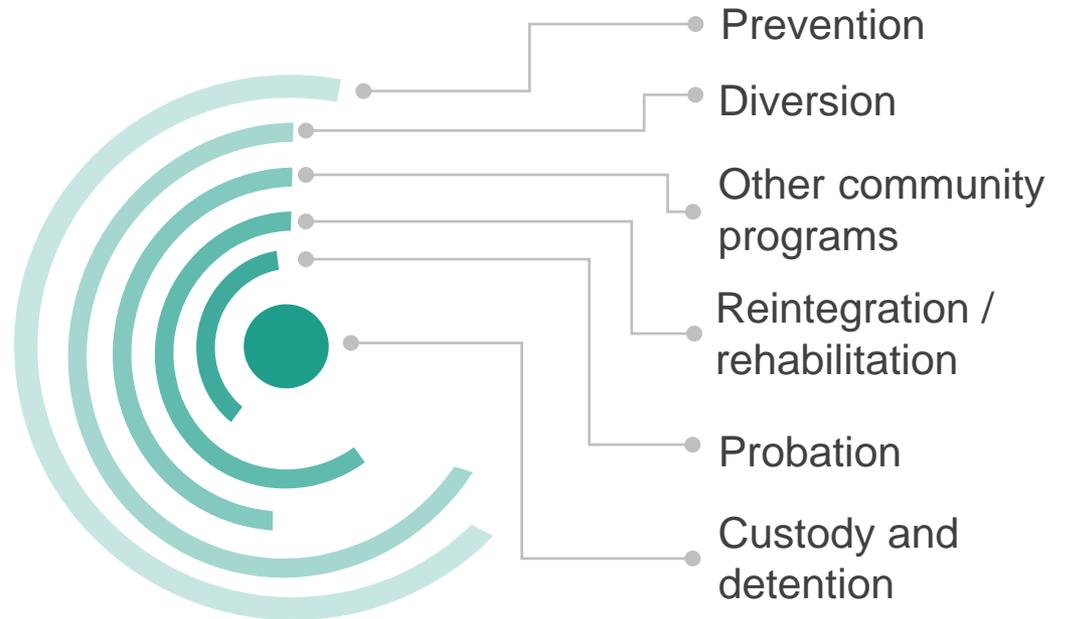
Then

custody-focused system

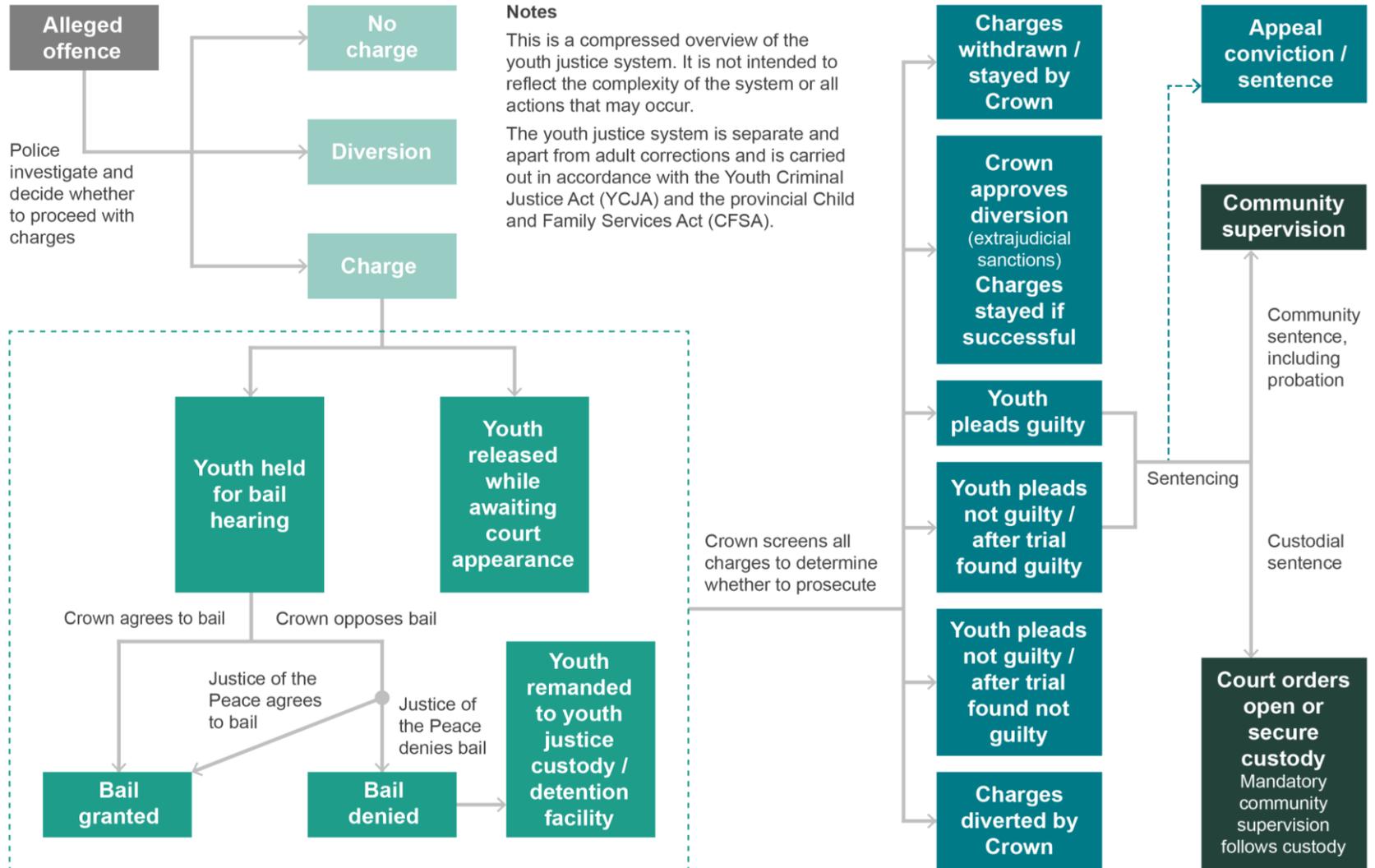


Now

continuum of services that meet diverse needs



Pathway through the youth justice system



Purpose of MCYS Probation Services

Probation services support the rehabilitation and reintegration of youth in conflict with the law and reduce each youth's risk to re-offend.

- This is the goal for all supervision provided by probation officers, whether the involvement is with sentenced youth, detention youth or other youth at risk of conflict with the law. It aligns with current legislation, research on changing youth justice policy and models, and research on effective interventions and evidence-based practices.
- While probation officers have various functions – e.g. hold youth accountable, monitor and support compliance with court orders, provide case management – the overall purpose is to bring about positive changes in youth behaviour that reduce the likelihood of re-offending and so increase public safety.

Role of MCYS Probation Officers

- Prepare court reports / appear in court
- Assess the young person's risks, needs, and strengths
- Directly provide rehabilitative interventions
- Advocate and provide assistance to young persons and their families (i.e. referrals to community agencies)
- Work with police, custody facilities, community service agencies, courts, schools, victims and families
- Monitor and support compliance with court orders
- Respond to non-compliance of court orders to promote accountability and public safety

Single Case Management Model (SCMM)

The SCMM is the service delivery approach used by MCYS probation officers.

The model provides the process for effective, evidence-based case management that involves:

- Risk / need assessment
- Planning
- Implementation and supervision
- Review / evaluation

Single Case Management Model (SCMM)

The model provides continuity throughout a youth's experience in the youth justice system, including:

- diversion
- supervision and support of community services
- involvement with youth in the community who have been in detention
- case management during a custody sentence and on release from custody to support reintegration into the community

Community Partners

- Probation officers support youth and families to acquire knowledge of community resources and establish links with community programs/services as required.
- Where other youth justice or social services providers are involved, probation officers proactively support relevant information sharing and collaboration among service providers, recognizing the role and contributions of each provider.

Information sharing

A youth record is anything created or kept for the purposes of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) that identifies a young person. Only those authorized in the YCJA can access information from a youth record and only for specific purposes.

Probation officers determine:

- if there is authority in the YCJA for disclosure
- if the record is within the access period
- application of other privacy legislation to the scope of the disclosure
- when YCJA provides authority to share information, only the necessary information to share