

# Case Processing Ideas

## Goals

- ◆ Reduce unnecessary custody time
- ◆ Re-arrest and FTA rates increase for youth in detention alternatives or home placement
- ◆ Youth need speedy dispositions to relate their misbehavior to the response from the court
- ◆ Reduce workload for professionals

## Steps for Case Processing Work Groups

1. What is the current process and timeframes for processing cases for youth both in and out of detention? (see JDAI Pathways #5 – Reducing Unnecessary Delays pages 40 – 41)
2. Identify the critical decision points that affect case processing
3. What are the causes of delay?
4. Invent solutions – adopt the “Trial & Error Rule” try something for 30 days and evaluate.
5. Recommend case processing protocol to JDAI Executive Committee for written policy & rules

## Ideas other jurisdictions have used to reduce case processing time

1. Staff cases prior to detention hearing to see if youth can be released
2. Have one P.O. present staffing recommendations at detention hearings – consistent & standardized
3. Ensure all necessary information is shared with professionals in a timely manner
4. Timely appointment of Counsel
5. Timely hearings & youth/family notification
6. Limit continuances
7. Court Expediter position
8. Weekly detention reviews