

Public Investment Plan (PIP)

Name:	The Bridge
Convener:	Davidson County Juvenile Court
Contact:	Kathryn Sinback, Juvenile Court Administrator, 615-310-7132, kathrynsinback@jjs.nashville.org
Mayor's Priority Area :	Youth Violence, Counseling, Homelessness

1. Briefly describe the issue or problem addressed by the investment plan:

1. The Davidson County Juvenile Court currently receives approximately 3,300 children in the Juvenile Detention Center annually who are not legally eligible to be detained in a secure detention facility because they were arrested for status offenses such as runaway, curfew violations, and unruly offenses, or for low-level delinquent offenses. Because we do not currently have an alternative method to process children who were lawfully arrested but not detainable, these children typically end up staying in the secure Intake area of the Juvenile Detention facility for up to 24 hours. During this 24 hour period, the only service provided to the child in most instances is locating their parent or guardian and contacting the Department of Children's Services if the parent or guardian is unwilling or unable to pick the child up from detention. Many of these children have experienced significant trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences, and are in need of immediate assessment, care, and intervention. Research shows that detaining children unnecessarily in a secure detention facility can increase the risk of future delinquency and recidivism . See "The Dangers of Detention: The Impact of Incarcerating Youth in Detention and other Secure Facilities," Justice Policy Institute Report (2006), attached.
2. Second, there is a need for short-term respite housing for juveniles who are in crisis or transition, such as juveniles who are returning home from runaway status, awaiting long-term residential placement, or in need of a break from their home environment while appropriate services are procured for the family. Currently, the only option for children who cannot immediately return to their home is placing them in the Department of Children's Services custody or securing a short term placement at the Oasis Center. In most cases, the Oasis Center does not have beds available for the children identified by Juvenile Court as needing short-term respite housing.
3. Third, there is currently no temporary housing available that is dedicated to meeting the unique needs of homeless young people ages 18-24 in Nashville. [This portion of The Bridge proposal will be contingent on recommendations of working group on youth homelessness.]
4. Finally, there is a need to expand and relocate the Metro Student Attendance Center (MSAC) in order to effectively address truancy and school-related issues. Juvenile Court has recently begun providing greatly enhanced truancy prevention services at MSAC, including a dedicated education magistrate who holds daily court hearings for children who are arrested for Loitering During School Hours, in order to address the child's truancy issues on the same day that they are arrested. Due to the increased truancy prevention services and court proceedings at MSAC ,we have outgrown the building where these services are currently being provided. We are presently required to limit the size of dockets in our MSAC courtroom to 20 people due to fire code and safety requirements, when larger dockets would be more efficient. Parking and transportation are also inadequate at the current location, as it is not located near a bus stop and many of the families who need the services of MSAC do not have access to an automobile.

2. How does the plan solve the stated problem?

The Bridge will operate as one facility serving four distinct functions: 1) An Assessment Center; a 24/7 center to which the police will transport children who are arrested for status offenses and low-level non-detainable offenses, as an alternative to taking the children to the Juvenile Detention Center. The Assessment Center will provide the first line of intervention to immediately address issues that are causing family conflict, instability, and unruly or delinquent behavior. Trained staff will be available 24/7 to provide immediate assessment and refer the child and family to appropriate services; 2) A Respite Center will provide short-term residential care for 12 children for up to 2 weeks while longer-term housing and care solutions are implemented; 3) Temporary crisis housing for homeless 18-24 year olds; and 4) New location of the Metro Student Attendance Center, and will also house staff of the Juvenile Court Assessment Team.

3. Why is this the right time to implement this plan?

Davidson County Juvenile Court, in extensive collaboration with other Metro agencies, service providers, and nonprofits, has identified the need for a one-stop-shop to serve Nashville’s youth as an alternative to detention for status offenders and low-level delinquency offenders, provide assessment and triage services to children in crisis, offer short-term respite housing for children who cannot go home immediately but do not need to go into the custody of the Department of Children’s Services, house homeless youth between the ages of 18 and 24 years old, and house the expanded truancy intervention services currently provided by the Metro Student Attendance Center..

4. What current processes address the issue?

--Currently, there is no place for police to transport children charged with runaway, curfew violations, and unruly offenses, and low-level delinquent offenses, other than the Juvenile Detention Center.
--The Oasis Center provides short-term respite housing for juveniles; however, in most cases the Oasis Center does not have beds available for the children who are identified by Juvenile Court as needing short-term respite housing.
--There is currently no temporary housing available that is dedicated to meeting the unique needs of homeless young people ages 18-24 in Nashville.
--The Metro Student Attendance Center currently provides truancy-reduction services and holds court in a facility located at 945 Dr. Richard G. Adams Drive off of Trinity Lane.

5. What problems and inefficiencies have been identified with the current processes?

Please see #1 above.

6. List all proposed participants including:

- Internal Partners
- External Partners (Nonprofits, Non-Government Organizations, Community Organizations)

Juvenile Court
Metropolitan Nashville Police Department
Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Metropolitan Homelessness Commission
Oasis Center
Hope for Justice
Other Juvenile Court partners included in the Juvenile Court Community Resource Directory of vetted resources for children and families

7. Briefly define the individual roles of each participant in each year of the project

- The Davidson County Juvenile Court will operate The Bridge facility, staff and operate the Assessment Center and the Respite Center, and continue current levels of staffing and operation of the Metro Student Attendance Center, which will be relocated to The Bridge.
- MNPD will transport non-detainable status offenders and low-level delinquent offenders to The Bridge instead of Juvenile Detention, and will continue to partner with Juvenile Court on MSAC operations.
- MNPS will continue to partner with Juvenile Court on MSAC operations.
- The Metro Homelessness Commission and the Oasis Center, in conjunction with the working group on youth homelessness, will determine if a homeless housing facility for youth 18-24 years old should be located at The Bridge and operated by the Oasis Center or another community partner.
- The nonprofit organization Hope for Justice will conduct human trafficking assessments and immediate intervention for children at risk of human trafficking in light of the population brought to The Bridge—runaways, curfew violators, and youth charged with other unruly offenses consistent with increased risk of human trafficking involvement.
- Other Juvenile Court community partners will be engaged and invited to provide resources and services for youth and families at The Bridge

8. Total Length of Project in Years

Ongoing

9. Provide a brief explanation below of the actions that will be taken to implement the project in each year

Year 1	Determine the most appropriate and cost-effective physical location for the Bridge and procure the facility. Complete facility renovations and fully equip facility for operations. Hire staff for the Assessment Center and Respite Center. Relocate MSAC and current Juvenile Court-based Assessment Team staff to The Bridge. If determined appropriate by the youth homelessness working group, Oasis Center, or other identified community partner will set up homeless housing for 18-24 year old youth at The Bridge. Coordinate with internal and external partners to link community services with children at The Bridge. Promote the program internally and externally in order to make stakeholders aware that The Bridge can be used as an alternative to Juvenile Detention for appropriate youth, as well as promoting the other services available at The Bridge.
Year 2	The Bridge will be fully operational by Year 2. Review operations and obtain community input, assess services delivered, and implement operational improvements.
Year 3	Continue operations. Review operations and obtain community input, assess services delivered, and implement operational improvements.
Long Term	Continue operations while considering program expansion opportunities consistent with projected future growth of Nashville’s population and changing needs of youth population.

10. Please explain why this collaborative approach more effectively addresses the identified issue compared to existing individual efforts

11. Briefly summarize the additional resources (funding, staffing, training, etc.) needed by all participants in order to successfully implement the plan.

Juvenile Court will need the following resources to operate The Bridge:

--Facility for The Bridge, to be determined by General Services cost review.

--Personnel to staff the Assessment Center and Respite Center: 24 staff positions/23.5 FTES, to include 6 Assessment Specialists (Probation Officer 1 classification); 6 Office Support Representative 3 positions; 10 Group Care Workers; and 1.5 Judicial Commissioners, for an approximate total annual staffing cost of \$1,209,987.50.

--Additional operating expenses, to include a G4S contract security officer for 130 hours per week (\$121,130 per year); food service operations for the Respite Center for \$78,000 per year, and general operational expenses for \$10,000 per year

***Personnel and additional operating expenses are estimated at a total of \$1,419,117.50 per year.**

--Initial set up and equipment for operation of the Bridge in the amount of \$50,000.

--Oasis Center or other identified community partner will require unspecified funds to operate the homeless housing for youth 18-24 years old if deemed appropriate by the working group on youth homelessness.

--MNP and MNPS are not anticipated to require funding increases, as they will simply be relocating their current operations to The Bridge.

12. If applicable, briefly describe how your proposed project will achieve cost savings, revenue gains and/or service improvements? Please provide detailed financial data in the attached spreadsheet.

Although The Bridge will not achieve any cost savings or revenue gains for the Metropolitan Government, the service improvement for our most vulnerable citizens, youth and families in crisis, will be significant as noted in this proposal.

13. How will success be measured and in what years of the project will it become measurable?

Success will be measured by:

--Number of non-detainable youth diverted from Juvenile Detention to The Bridge

--Number of youth housed at the Respite Center as an alternative to entering the Department of Children's Services' custody

--Number of human trafficking victims or youth at-risk for human trafficking identified and served at The Bridge

--Number of juveniles assessed and linked with appropriate services

--Number of homeless youth ages 18-24 who are provided with temporary crisis housing

These factors will be measurable at the end of Year 1.

Long-term success measures will include reduction in juvenile delinquency, reduction in juvenile recidivism, and reduction in juveniles' future involvement with the adult criminal justice system.

14. How many citizens will this project impact?

The Assessment Center will impact approximately 3,300 youth who will be diverted from Juvenile Detention and who will receive immediate assessment and service linkage. The Respite Center will impact approximately 312 youth. The services provided by the Assessment Center and the Respite Center will impact approximately 3,600 families, including

parents, guardians, and siblings of the youth who are assessed, as assessments also include service linkage for parents, guardians, and siblings.

By relocating MSAC to a more appropriate facility, approximately 1,200 citizens will have improved access to the truancy reduction services provided by MSAC

15. What benefits or improved services will the citizens of Davidson County receive as a result of the plan?

Most significantly, our non-detainable youth will no longer need to be taken to the Juvenile Detention Center. They will instead be transported to a place where they can receive immediate assessment, intervention, and services. There will be sufficient beds available to provide respite housing for youth in need. The MSAC will be able to further expand its services to reduce truancy. And space will exist to provide temporary crisis housing for homeless youth 18-24 years old. In short, The Bridge will serve as a center of rehabilitation and hope for the youth of Nashville.

Public Investment Plan (PIP)													
Name of Collaboration:		The Bridge											
		FY2017			FY2018			FY2019			FY17-FY19 GRAND TOTALS		
Dept. Name		Operating PIP	FTE PIP TOTAL	Capital PIP TOTAL	Operating PIP	FTE PIP TOTAL	Capital PIP TOTAL	Operating PIP	FTE PIP TOTAL	Capital PIP TOTAL	Operating PIP	FTE PIP TOTAL	Capital PIP TOTAL
Department/External Partner A:	Juvenile Court	1,594,018	25.50	pending review	1,580,318	-	-	1,617,707	-	-	4,792,043	25.50	-
Department/External Partner B:	MNPD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department/External Partner C:	Homelessness Commission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department/External Partner D:	Oasis Center	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current Level of Funding (Operating and Capital)													
Dept. Name		Fund	Budget Category	Budgeted Positions/ FTE	Budgeted FTEs	Operating Amount	Capital Budget	Capital Resolution Number					
Department/External Partner A:	Juvenile Court	10101	Contract expenses for housing 3,279 non-detainable youth			310,000	-						
Department/External Partner B:	MNPD					0	0						
Department/External Partner C:	Homelessness Commission					-	-						
Department/External Partner D:	Oasis Center					-	-						
Totals:						310,000	-						
Requested Level of Funding For Fiscal Year 2017 (Operating and Capital)													
Dept. Name		Fund	Budget Category	Requested Positions	Requested FTEs	Operating Funding Request	Capital Funding Request						
Department/External Partner A:	Juvenile Court	10101	Salaries, operating expenses, startup cost expenses	26	25.50	1,594,018	pending General Services review						
Department/External Partner B:	MNPD												
Department/External Partner C:	Homelessness Commission												
Department/External Partner D:	Oasis Center												
Totals:						1,594,018							
Requested Level of Funding For Fiscal Year 2018 (Operating and Capital)													
Dept. Name		Fund	Budget Category	Requested Positions	Requested FTEs	Operating Funding Request	Capital Funding Request						
Department/External Partner A:	Juvenile Court	10101	Salaries and operating expenses	26	25.50	1,580,318							
Department/External Partner B:	MNPD												
Department/External Partner C:	Homelessness Commission												
Department/External Partner D:	Oasis Center												
Totals:						1,580,318							
Requested Level of Funding For Fiscal Year 2019 (Operating and Capital)													
Dept. Name		Fund	Budget Category	Requested Positions	Requested FTEs	Operating Funding Request	Capital Funding Request						
Department/External Partner A:	Juvenile Court	10101	Salaries and operating expenses	26	25.50	1,617,707							
Department/External Partner B:	MNPD												
Department/External Partner C:	Homelessness Commission												
Department/External Partner D:	Oasis Center												
Totals:						1,617,707							
Potential Revenue Generated from Collaboration													
Dept. Name		Fund	Revenue Category(OA)	Revenue Source	Revenue Amount	Fiscal Year Collected							
Department/External Partner A:	Juvenile Court				N/A								
Department/External Partner B:	MNPD				N/A								
Department/External Partner C:	Homelessness Commission				N/A								
Department/External Partner D:	Oasis Center				N/A								
Totals: 0													