

School-Based Diversion Initiative (SBDI)

SBDI WEBSITE



Visit www.ctsbdi.org to learn more about the School-Based Diversion initiative, an initiative that is helping schools in Connecticut buck the school-to-prison pipeline by connecting at-risk students to community mental health services and supports. Up to 75% of children in the Juvenile Justice system have a diagnosable mental health need. For the past 6 years, SBDI has helped 21 schools in Connecticut reduce their arrest rates by 45% and increase referrals to EMPS by 94% in their first year of participation.

VIDEO



See how the Connecticut School-Based Diversion Initiative is helping transform school discipline and improve student outcomes. Instead of arresting and suspending children with behavior problems, SBDI schools are connecting them to free community-based behavioral health services. The results are incredible.

SBDI TOOLKIT: A COMMUNITY RESOURCE FOR REDUCING SCHOOL-BASED ARRESTS



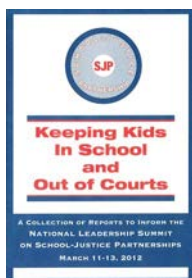
A toolkit for school administrators designed to decrease school arrests by connecting at-risk students to community-based mental health services using Connecticut's local Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services (EMPS) teams. The principles outlined in the toolkit can be applied by the schools at little to no cost.

IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS



This report examines available mental health services in school settings in Connecticut and summarizes the benefits and challenges of expanding these services to meet the current need. It also offers a framework to guide policy development and systems reforms as the State considers the best ways to address mental health and safety in our schools.

CHAPTER IN "KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF COURT"



Jeana Bracey and Jeff Vanderploeg wrote a chapter in "*Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court*". The chapter is titled "*Connecticut's Comprehensive Approach to Reducing In-School Arrests: Changes in Statewide Policy, Systems Coordination and School Practices*". This chapter describes recent advancements made toward reducing the rates of in-school arrests in the state of CT through juvenile justice policy reform, advocacy and systems coordination efforts, and changes to school practice and policy from an interdisciplinary collaborative approach.