Race, Poverty and Risk of Involvement in Kalamazoo’s Juvenile Justice System

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Presented at
Forum on Juvenile Justice: Disrupting the Pipeline to Prison
Part of the Walker Institute’s Community Forum Series:
Unequal Justice: Race, Class and the Criminal Justice System
April 14, 2015
Kalamazoo Juvenile Home
Looking at the Criminal Justice System through the Lens of Public Health

Primary Prevention
• Identifying the Root Causes of Crime

• A Focus on Inequality of Opportunity, Poverty, Racism, Family and Community Environmental Factors

Secondary Prevention
• Identifying what happens to someone upon their arrest and at subsequent stages of involvement in the criminal justice system

• A Focus on the Effectiveness and Fairness of the Criminal Justice System
Kalamazoo...

...We Have a Problem
FIGURE 2-2 Incarceration rates per 100,000 population of European and selected common law countries.

FIGURE 2-4 Total adult correctional population, including state and federal prison, local jail, and probation and parole populations, 1972 to 2010.

SOURCE: See Appendix B.
FIGURE 2-11 State and federal prison admission rates, 1926 to 1986, and state and federal imprisonment rates, 1980 to 2010, for blacks and whites.

Arrest Rate per 1,000 Juveniles, 2012
Kalamazoo and Statewide

Source: Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice
Michigancommitteeonjuvenilejustice.com
A Look at Risk of Involvement in the Criminal Justice System through the Lens of Primary Prevention
Child Poverty Rate in City of Kalamazoo, by Race and Ethnicity, 2010-2012

- Hispanic: 57%
- White: 28%
- Black: 63%
- Other: 37%
- Total: 44%

*Source: American Community Survey, 2010-12*
Kalamazoo’s child poverty rate is higher than all but 10% of U.S. cities of at least 65,000 people.

Walker Institute tabulation based on American Community Survey data for cities of at least 65,000 people, 2010-12
Confirmed Cases* of Abuse and/or Neglect, Ages 0 to 8, for Michigan Urban Counties, 2013

* Rate per 1,000
Source: Child Protective Services, Michigan Dept. of Human Services, as reported by Michigan League for Public Policy
Child Poverty as Related to the American Ideal of Equal Opportunity for All

### Table 1: Adult outcomes by poverty status between the prenatal year and age five

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income below the official U.S. poverty line</th>
<th>Income between one and two times the poverty line</th>
<th>Income more than twice the poverty line</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean or %</td>
<td>Mean or %</td>
<td>Mean or %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed schooling</td>
<td>11.8 yrs</td>
<td>12.7 yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings ($10,000)</td>
<td>$17.9</td>
<td>$26.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual work hours</td>
<td>1,512</td>
<td>1,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food stamps</td>
<td>$896</td>
<td>$337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor health</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrested (men only)</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmarital birth (women only)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Earnings and food stamp values are in 2005 dollars.

Source: Greg Duncan, Stanford University, Pathways, winter, 2011
In 2013-14, 74% of KPS third graders * were economically disadvantaged, compared to 51% statewide.

Walker Institute tabulation based on data from: Michigan Department of Education  https://mischoooldata.org
Continuum from Ninth Grade Cohort of 2007 to Post-Secondary Degree Completion, as of December, 2013

Walker Institute tabulation based on data from the Kalamazoo Promise and Michigan Department of Education https://mischooldata.org
Percent of 9th Grade Cohort for Kalamazoo Public School’s Graduating Class of 2007 that Attained a Post-Secondary Degree within Six Years, by Race, Ethnicity

Walker Institute tabulation based on data from the Kalamazoo Promise and Michigan Department of Education
https://mischooldata.org
A Look at Risk of Involvement in the Criminal Justice System through the Lens of Secondary Prevention
Black to White Ratio of Involvement at Different Stages of Juvenile Justice System, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrests</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer to Juvenile Court</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Diverted</td>
<td>.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Involving Secure Detention</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Petitioned</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases resulting in Delinquent Findings</td>
<td>0.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases resulting in Probation</td>
<td>.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Resulting in Confinement</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice
Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 in City of Kalamazoo: 1985 - 2012

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics, as provided by Kalamazoo Department Of Public Safety
Property Crime Rate per 100,000 in City of Kalamazoo: 1985 - 2012

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics, as provided by Kalamazoo Department Of Public Safety
Criminal Caseload of Kalamazoo Courts, 2003 to 2013

Source: Annual Report, Kalamazoo County Courts, 2013
Unequal Justice: Race, Class and the Criminal Justice System

March 30 7pm  James Forman, Jr., From Fear and Vengeance to Mercy and Forgiveness, Fetzer Center
April 14 7pm  Juvenile Justice: Disrupting the Pipeline to Prison, Kalamazoo Juvenile Home
April 28 7pm  Challenges Facing Ex-Offenders, Bethany Reformed Church
May 12 7pm  Reimagining Kalamazoo with Justice for All, Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Also of Interest
April 30 7pm  Richard Reeves, The Opportunity Ecosystem
Mr. Reeves will explore the following questions
• Are we providing an equal chance for success for all our children?
• What makes some communities more successful than others at promoting social mobility?
• What more can Kalamazoo do to make equal opportunity for all a reality?

This is the Inaugural Event of Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo, a new initiative launched by the Kalamazoo City Commission to promote:
• Increased access to well-paying jobs
• Strong, economically secure families
• Healthy growth, development and learning of all our kids