# EARLY DETECTION AND PREVENTION:

## USING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM TO REACH POTENTIAL VICTIMS & EDUCATE AT-RISK YOUTH

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# OBJECTIVES:
# WHAT SHOULD WE EXPECT FROM OUR STATE GOVERNMENTS?

- ✓ **Prevent** children from becoming victims

- ✓ **Detect** victims and at-risk youth

- ✓ **Educate** children, child-serving agencies and the community

- ✓ **Rehabilitate** victims

- ✓ **Strategize** about long term solutions as well as immediate responses

Indiana can utilize the juvenile justice system to achieve all five of these objectives

# UTILIZING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

The opportunity to achieve these objectives arises in three areas:

- **Interaction**

- **Identification**

- **Intervention**

# INTERACTION

1. Delinquency

2. Child in Need of Services

# INTERACTION WITH JUVENILE COURT ENVIRONMENT

- **General Structure:** *Two Potential Entries*

  - Delinquency
  - Child in Need of Services

- **Purpose: Rehabilitate**

  - Not to punish
  - Provide services

- **Reality:** *It's the same children*

  - Coming in different doors
  - Can lead to different paths
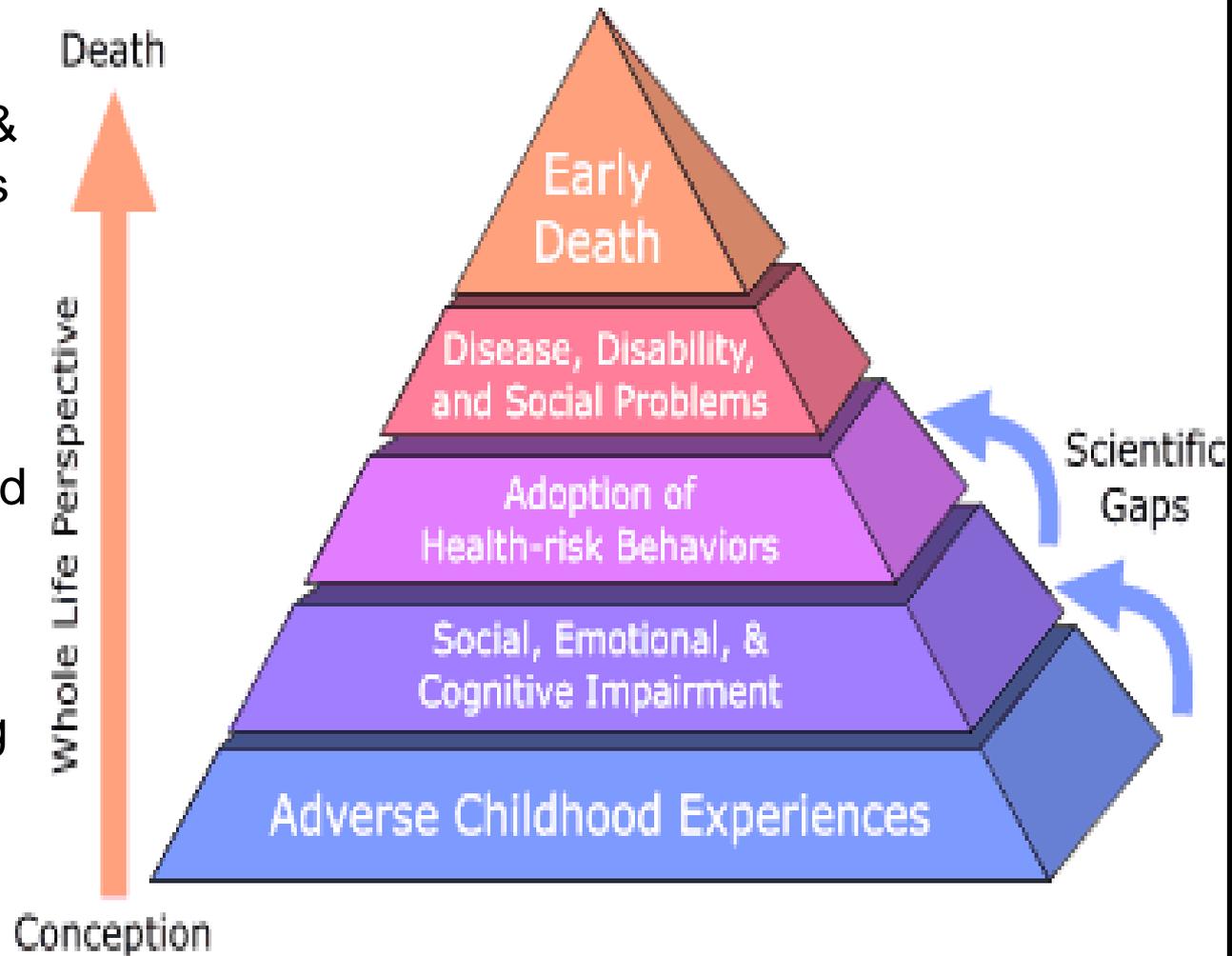
# BY THE NUMBERS

## Findings Foster Care & Child Welfare

- Connecticut Department of Children and Families

86 out of 88 victims had history with child welfare care

- Los Angeles Probation Department

Nearly 60% of minors arrested on prostitution related charges had previously been in foster care

## Why are state governments having difficulty reaching victims and children at high-risk?

# CHILDHOOD TRAUMA & SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENT

- ACE study by CDC & Kaiser Permanente's Health Appraisal Clinic

- 17,000 HMO members participated

- More than 50 scientific articles published discussing the findings



www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/pyramid.html

# A TYPICAL SITUATION

## _Officer Williams & Jana_

It's Wednesday night, around 8pm. Officer Williams gets a call to come to a local shopping mall. When he arrives a store manager tells the officer that they caught a girl trying to leave with clothes she had in her bag but didn't pay for and that they'd been holding her in the office.

He sees the alleged shoplifter, a young looking girl, sitting in the manager's officer. Officer Williams goes into the office to speak with the young girl. He explains to her that he will be arresting her. Officer Williams learns that Jana is 14 years old and lives "in the area" - she doesn't have any identification since she is young, no school ID or anything at all. Jana admits to putting some clothes from the store in her backpack. Officer Williams arrests Jana and takes her into the county's juvenile facility.

# IDENTIFICATION

## 1. Victims

## 2. High-Risk Youth

# IDENTIFICATION: FACTS & CHALLENGES

- **Gathering accurate information**

- **Victim cooperation**

- **Balancing child's rights with protection**

- **Appropriately trained responders**

*Example: Jana doesn't have ID. Assuming she is a victim of sex trafficking, she's been severely traumatized and will not volunteer information about the trauma and abuse.*
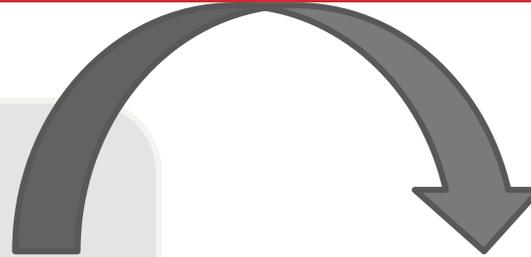
# ASSESSMENT TOOLS

**INDIANA'S JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

- Indiana Youth Assessment System Policy

- Validation

**RESOURCES TO DETECT VICTIMS**

- Polaris Project

- Shared Hope

- Indiana Protection for Abuse and Trafficked Humans Taskforce

- Design

- Incorporate

# TWO-STEP TRIGGER SYSTEM

**ONE**

*Initial Intake*

- History of abuse?
- History of running away?
- History in foster care?

HIGH-RISK TRIGGER

**TWO**

*Emergency Shelter Care*

- Preliminary Inquiry
- Specialized Evaluation

# WHO? HOW? WHEN?

- **Step One:** *Intake officers*

  - Initial detainment
  - Screening tool

- **Step Two:** *Probation*

  - Indiana Code 31-31-5-4: Conduct investigation and preliminary inquiry; prepare reports and make recommendations
  - Thorough trauma-informed assessment

*Example: The intake officer could look at Jana's history and upon finding those factors present, mark Jana as a high-risk.*

# PROPOSED PROBATION PROTOCOL

1) Flag case as high-risk

2) Protective care

3) Input information for internal tracking

4) Refer case to a specialist

# SPECIALIZED EVALUATION

- **Trauma-Informed Response**

- **Options for Implementation**

  - Partnership

  - Training In-House

*Example: While the probation department conducts a preliminary inquiry, Jana would meet with an appropriately trained professional. This trained professional could help Jana feel safe and protected. Maryland Department of Juvenile Services found that **25% of children** marked as "high risk" later disclose after speaking with professional trained to work with child sex trafficking victims.*

# INTERVENTION

1. Immediate Needs

2. Individualized Plan

# IMMEDIATE NEEDS

- **Shelter**

- **Food**

- **Clothing**

- **Medical**

# INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN

- **No "one size fits all" treatment**

- **Collaboration**

- **Partnerships**

- **Victim involvement**

- **Family input**

# MULTI-PART APPROACH

**I N T E R A C T I O N**

## IDENTIFICATION

1. Intake Assessment
- ✓ Prevent
- ✓ Detect

2. Specialized Evaluation
- ✓ Detect
- ✓ Educate
- ✓ Rehabilitate

## INTERVENTION

3. Unique Plan
- ✓ Educate
- ✓ Rehabilitate
- ✓ Strategize

4. Comprehensive Tracking
- ✓ Educate
- ✓ Strategize

# CHANGED OUTCOMES

*Officer Williams & Jana*

- **Interaction**

- **Identification**

- **Intervention**

# SOURCES CONSULTED

"2013 Statutory Responses to Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Victims" Shared Hope International. http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/SHI-Flowcharts-Updated-4.30.14.pdf.

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"Incite Risk Assessment Application FACTSHEET". https://secure.in.gov/judiciary/jtac/files/jtac-factsheet-risk.pdf

"Indiana's New Risk Assessment Tools: What You Should Know" by Michelle Goodman and Lisa Thompson. April 13, 2011. http://indianacourts.us/times/2011/04/risk-assessment/