

THE BRIDGE BULLETIN

ISSUE NO 1 | JULY 2023



News from Ada County's Youth
and Family Resource Center



WELCOME TO THE BRIDGE!

So much has happened since we were awarded a grant from Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections to help us establish an assessment center in Ada County. In little over a year, we developed processes and systems for referral, screening, assessment & case management, and started connecting families to counseling and other community services. Partnerships with referring agencies and individuals who support our mission to promote better outcomes for youth were key to making this all happen. Thank you.

One of the final elements to our resource center is the facility. We thought our best chance to complete it within the tight grant timeline was to purchase a modular building. It was built at a local warehouse and craned onto the foundation in July. We started seeing youth and families at a temporary location in March and are excited to have our new home.

Join us for the grand opening!
August 21 @ 11:00 am
621 N Liberty St, Boise 83704

SCREEN & ASSESS

Our staff meet with youth and families to learn more about them. Screening & assessment tools help us identify areas of concern.

CONNECT

We connect youth and families to community resources and services to address these concerns.

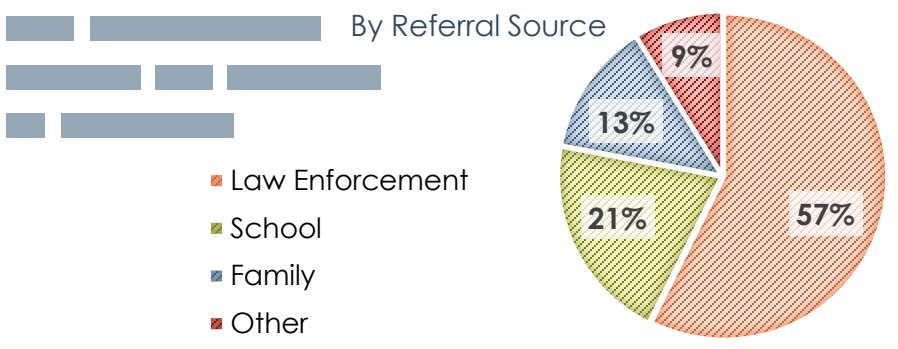
FOLLOW UP

We stay in touch throughout the process to encourage participation and offer assistance and new resources as needed.

40 youth and families received connections to community services based on screening results.

- ✓ **Counseling** - Nearly all youth and some parents needed help connecting to counseling.
 - ✓ **Peer activities** - About half of youth needed assistance to join peer activities and recreational programs.
 - ✓ **Mentorship** - We helped 13 youth apply for Big Brothers Big Sisters.
 - ✓ **Basic needs** - We connected 16 families to support services for food, housing, and other basic needs.
- Other referrals include parenting classes, tutoring and medication management.

68 Youth Referred to The Bridge



Most referrals are coming from law enforcement, which fits with our primary target population of youth at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. Other referral sources include schools (counselors and principals), Terry Reilly Health Services, Intermountain Hospital, Health & Welfare and Interfaith Sanctuary. We also received several self-referrals.

Data Collection and Reporting

We worked with Ada County Information Technology to build a standalone case management system tailored to our business needs. The system collects information on the referring party, screening results, areas of concern/need, youth and family goals, connections to community providers, and progress notes. Our goal is to provide regular updates to stakeholders about The Bridge's services and its impact on youth and families in our community.



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MARCH – JUNE 2023

75%

of youth and families referred to The Bridge participate in screening and/or case management.

85%

of youth screened at-risk for possible emotional or behavioral problems.

41%

of families report concerns meeting basic needs like food and housing.



Let us know if there is something you'd like to see in a future Bridge Bulletin. email Amy - aharig@adacounty.id.gov