



Policy Brief:

Communities are the answer to youthful misbehavior

Community Connections for Youth, Inc.

This poster will explain the far-reaching harmful effects of the juvenile justice system on the future of youth and highlight the importance of community-driven alternatives to the juvenile justice system.

About the advocate

CCFY is a Bronx-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower grassroots faith and neighborhood organizations to develop effective community-driven alternatives to incarceration for youth. Responding to the crisis created by the overreliance on youth incarceration, CCFY works to develop the power and capacity of directly affected communities to create effective alternatives addressing the problems of youth crime and delinquency.

The issue

Parents seeking help for their misbehaving children are often frustrated by their limited options. Many turn to the state for help, never imagining that they might be exposing their children to incarceration. Parents who are unaware of faith-based and neighborhood organizations that can help both them and their child end up filing Persons In Need of Supervision (PINS) petitions, which puts a child under supervision of Family Court, even if they have not been arrested. But a PINS petition can be a gateway into the juvenile justice system, and often leads to many negative outcomes including detention, out-of-home placement, and a criminal record for the child.

The impact

This MPP will help families understand the impacts Family Court supervision would have on their children's future and highlight the community-driven alternatives that



MAKING POLICY PUBLIC

focus on rehabilitating youth with a supportive, positive, and restorative approach as an alternative to punishment.

The distribution network

CCFY will use its Parent Peer Support Program in the Bronx's Family Court juvenile justice division to distribute the poster to family members seeking help for their child's misbehavior. CCFY will also work with New York's Administration for Children's Services (ACS) Family Assessment Program, which provides PINS diversion. NYC schools with high rates of suspension and arrest, and partners that also work on PINS diversion.



THE CENTER FOR URBAN PEDAGOGY
232 THIRD STREET, D201
BROOKLYN, NY 11215
(718) 596-7721
welcometocup.org