

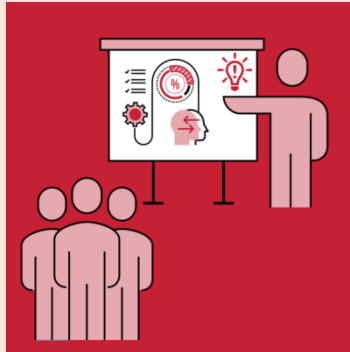
# Jamaica's Selective and Indicated Prevention Programmes for Adolescents in the Justice System



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## ❖ Background on NCDA

- ✓ **Conducts** and disseminates research on the prevalence and patterns of drug use
- ✓ **Develops** and implements national evidence-based prevention and treatment programmes
- ✓ **Informs** policymakers, key stakeholders and the public about substances and their effects
- ✓ **Collaborates** with Government Ministries, Agencies, Departments, NGOs, FBOs, CBOs to support demand and reduction initiatives
- ✓ **Partners** with regional and international agencies to integrate regional, hemispheric and global policies and strategies into national programming

# Partnerships to Deliver Prevention Among Adolescents in Conflict with the Law



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**Department of Correctional Services (DCS) – annual delivery of selective and indicated programmes**

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**Ministry of Justice Child Diversion Programme – indicated prevention**

# Background on Juvenile Correctional Centres



Juvenile Correctional Institutions are part of the Custodial Arm of the Department of Correctional Services

Three (3) juvenile correctional centres and one (1) Remand Centre

The Remand Centre provides temporary housing for boys whose matters are being dealt with by the Courts

Juvenile Correctional centres accommodate children who receive a Correctional Order which stipulates the time that a child should spend in the institution

Rehabilitation centres providing educational service for children, ages of 12-18 years

Not prisons but residential setting for children whom the court determines require confinement in a structured environment that will aid in their rehabilitation



# NATIONAL PREVENTION PROGRAMMES

(8)

Programme	Universal (3)	Selective (4)	Indicated (1)
Talk Di Truth (Secondary Students)	X		
Community Action for Prevention (CAP)	X		
Resistance Education Against Drugs (3 Age Groups)		X X X	
<b>*STRIVE (Secondary &amp; Institutionalized)</b>		X	
Lighthouse (Family)	X		
<b>*Step Up (Secondary, Institutionalized &amp; Child Diversion)</b>			X





- STRIVE is a selective prevention programme delivered among adolescents in residential child-care and juvenile correctional facilities
- It seeks to build life skills such as:
  - Self awareness
  - Decision Making
  - Conflict Management
  - Goal Setting
  - Healthy lifestyle choices
  - Refusal Skills
- It builds knowledge on
  - Substance use
  - HIV/AIDS

## UNIT 1 – Self esteem

### What are you **TELLING OTHERS** about yourself?

Body Language is an important part of how we communicate. Our aim here is to explore what is the appropriate body language for given situations

- Go through the workbook page 10 and discuss the examples presented. [Please note that there are no wrong answers]



## UNIT 2 – Decision Making

### DECISION MAKING

- If we learn to make good choices or decisions it will help us to feel good about ourselves.

#### DECISION MAKING MODEL

- S**ITUATION – Describe the problem
- O**PTIONS – Think about all the ways you could respond to the problem
- D**ISADVANTAGES – Review each option and think about what could go wrong
- A**DVANTAGES – Review each option and think about what could be right
- S**OLUTION – Choose the option that has more advantages than disadvantages

# Programme Components



TRAINING - MANUAL  
FOR FACILITATORS 4  
UNITS



INTERACTIVE SMALL  
GROUP SESSIONS



PRE AND POST TESTS



SKILL DEMONSTRATION

- ✓ Child Diversion Act brought into effect in December 2019
- ✓ Child Diversion Programme Offices and Committees of the Ministry of Justice fully operational in all 14 parishes
- ✓ Seeks to divert children who come in conflict with the law away from the formal criminal justice system.
- ✓ Referrals are done through the Courts and by the Police
- ✓ Child Diversion Parish Committees include Minister of Religion, Justice of the Peace, Children's Officer from the Child Protection and Family Services Agency (CPFSA), an Education Officer, Guidance Counsellor, Medical Practitioner with specialization in child psychology, criminal justice professionals, substance abuse officers or any area that can treat with conflict with the law
- ✓ Since the start of the Programme, 107 children have been referred, with 91 of the cases being males and 16 females. 50% have been to NCDA's intervention





**NCDA  
Intervention  
for Child  
Diversion  
Programme**

Screening

Life Skills & Empowerment  
Sessions

Family Intervention

# Areas for Improvement

- ✓ High turnover rate in correctional facilities – difficult to sustain prevention programme among participants over extended period
- ✓ Need for institutionalized prevention programme for all residents to benefit versus pull-out groups at sporadic intervals
- ✓ Significant behavioural challenges among this population - need for complimentary programmes to address behaviour modification (crimnogenic behaviour)
- ✓ Need for mentorship and other holistic interventions
- ✓ Convert material to digital format for delivery on virtual platforms