

RACE MATTERS FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

*A Community's Journey Toward Reducing
Disproportionality and Disparate Outcomes*



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Presentation Overview:

- The Call
- The Response
- The Vision
- The Work



The Call (*The Journey Begins*)



- Court and Community Survey
- Conversations and More Conversations
- Considering A New Way

Child Welfare

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- Poverty
- Child Welfare Practices
- Lack of Cultural Competent Services
- Disparate Outcomes



Education

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- Ongoing Racial Segregation
- Unequal School Resources
- Unequal Academic Opportunities
- Differential Teacher Quality
- Differential Juvenile Disciplinary Practices



Juvenile Justice

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- Poverty
- Resource Allocation
- Statutory Biases
- Differential Access to Counsel

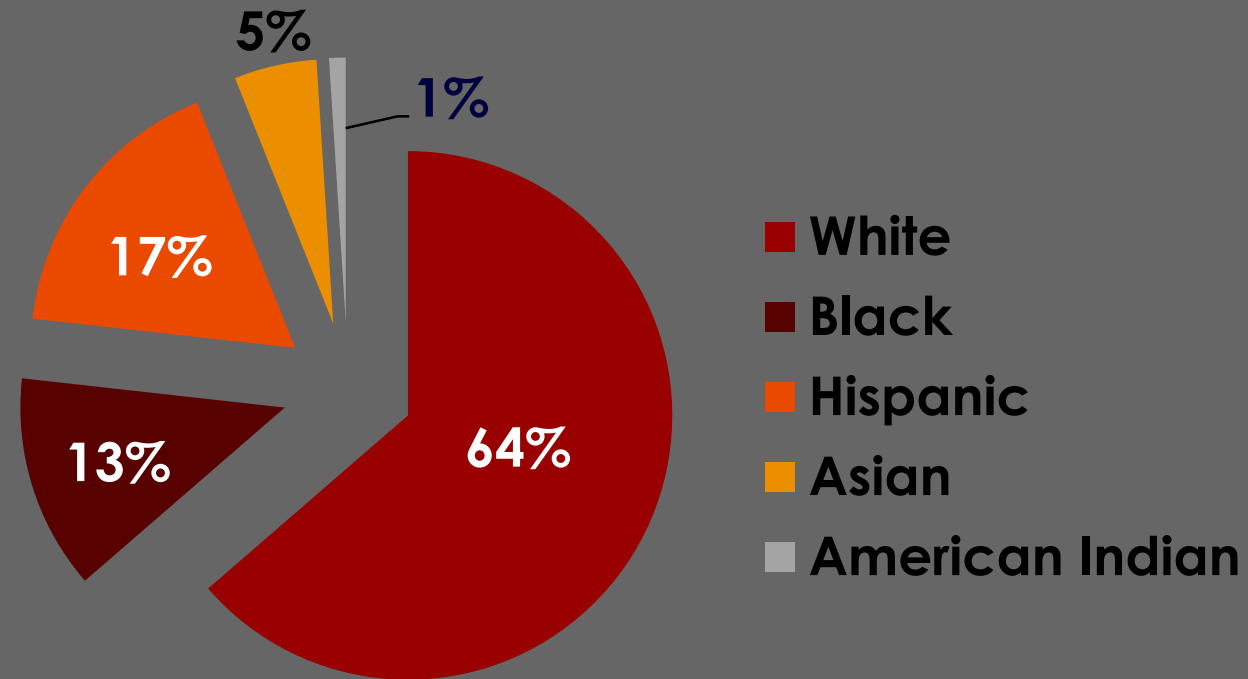




The Response (*Slow, Steady, Strong*)

- Review Data
- Renew Relationships
- Reimagine Systems

National and Local Data 2010 United States Population Demographics



Breaking Schools' Rules (Fabelo et al., 2011)



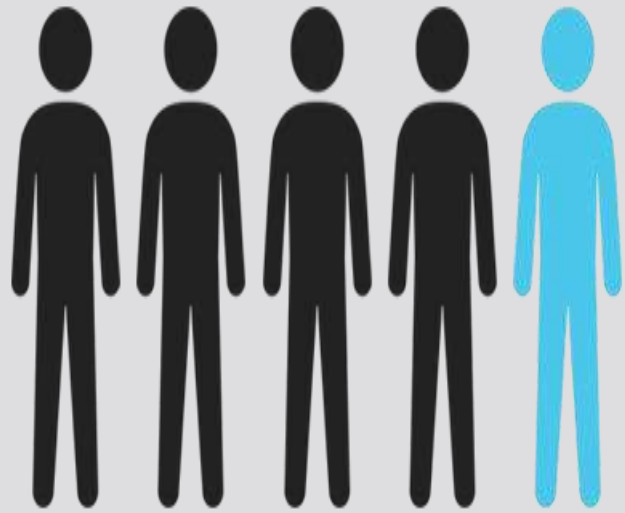
Almost 54% of students experienced ISS & 31% of students experienced OSS; Suspension and expulsion rates varied significantly by school

Approximately 83% of Black male students had at least one discretionary violation (compared to 74% Hispanic and 59% White boys – the same racial/ethnic pattern was found for girls)

Students who were suspended/expelled were significantly more likely to repeat a grade (31%), drop out (10%), & become involved with the justice system (15%)



Correlation between suspensions and juvenile justice involvement

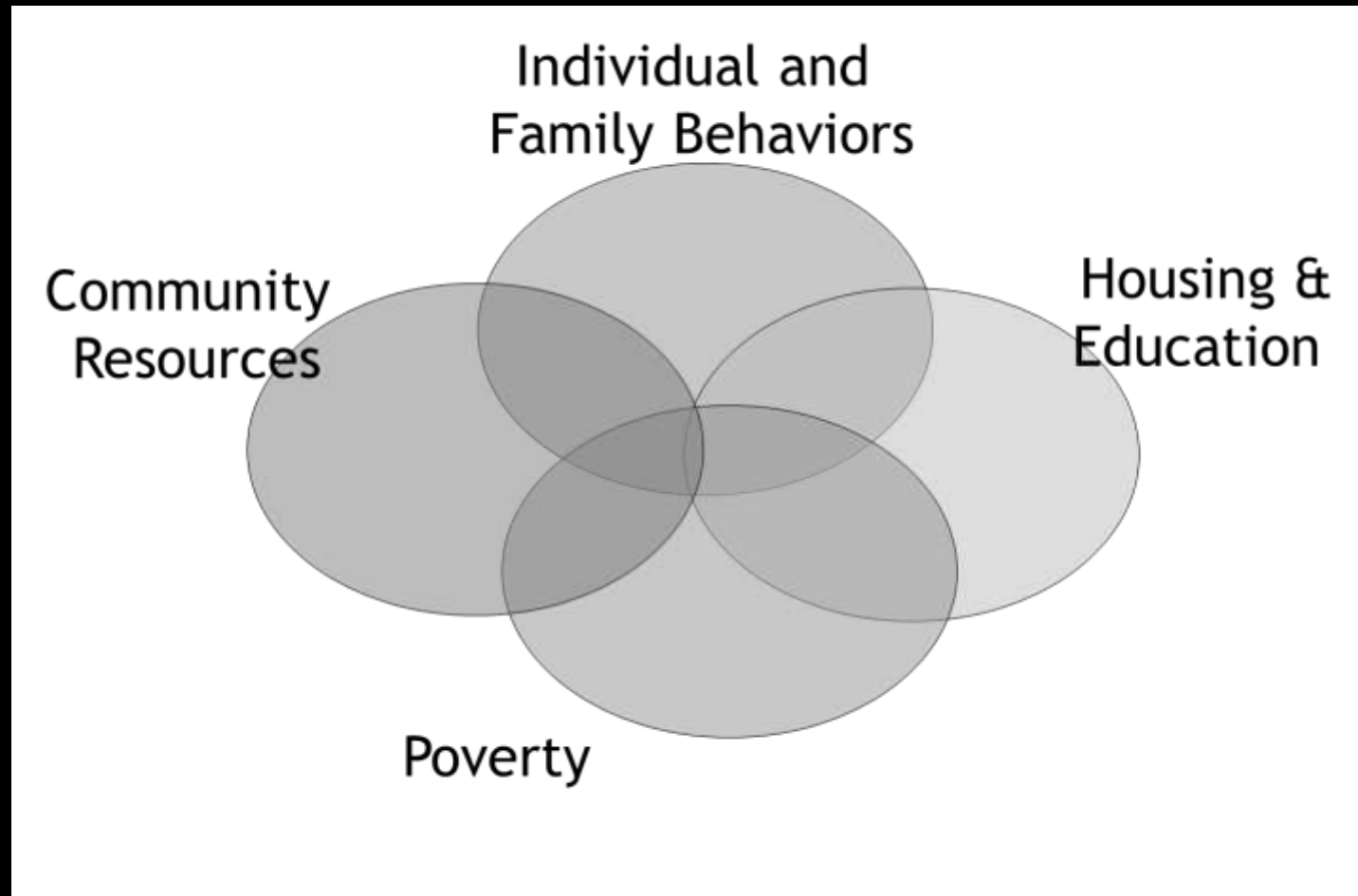


Of the students who have been suspended or expelled at least once, more than 1 in 7 had subsequent contact with the JJ system. By race:

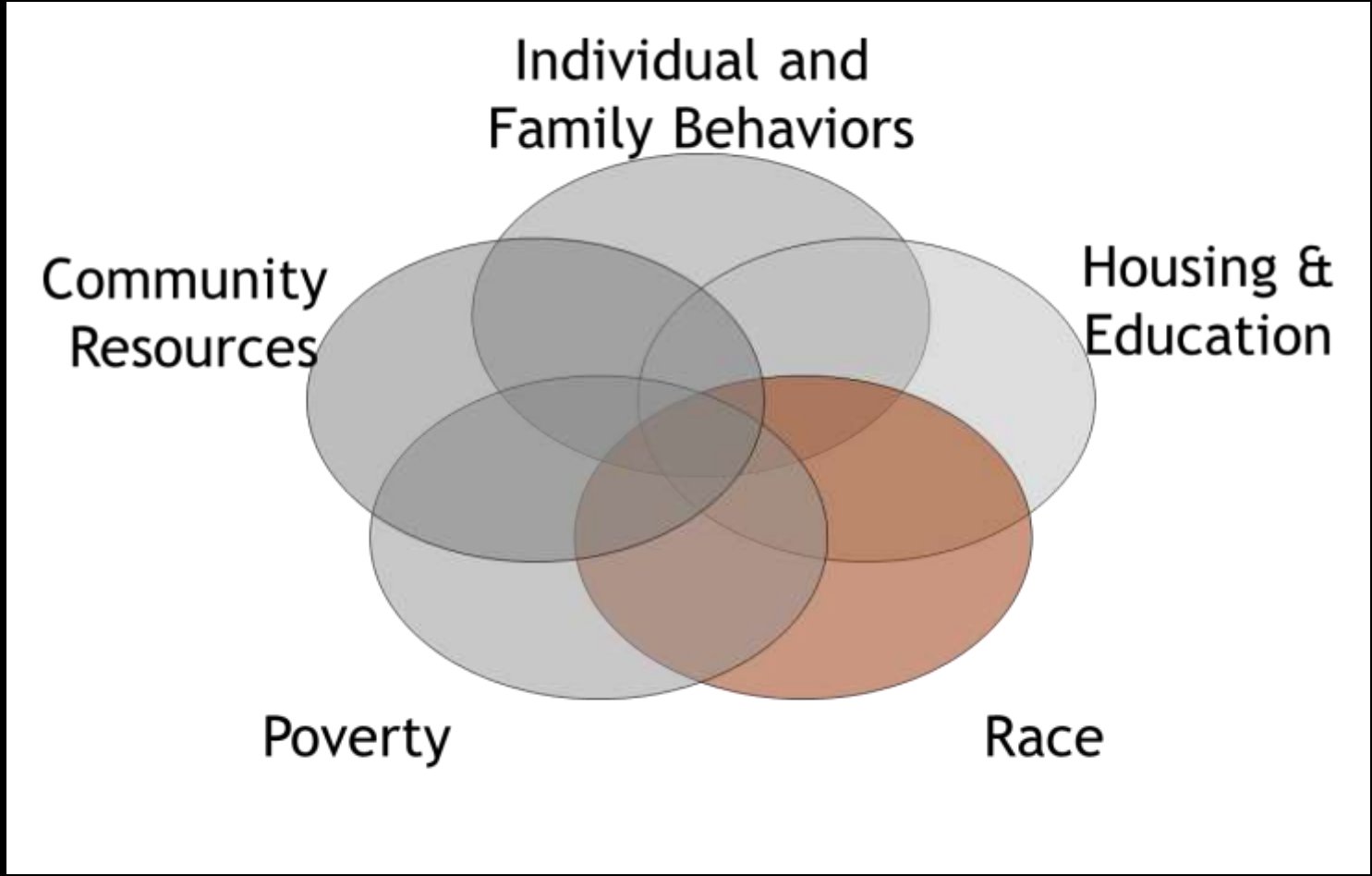
- **1 in 5 Black students**
- **1 in 6 Hispanic students**
- **1 in 10 White students**

This is in comparison to 2% of students who received no schools disciplinary action.

Community Problem Solving



The Inclusion of RACE





Our Vision is a Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community where the composition and outcomes of juvenile courts cannot be predicted by race or ethnicity.

Our Mission is to build a collaboration of community stakeholders who will bring their constituencies to the table and partner in the Court's effort to reduce disproportionality and disparities.

www.rmjj.org

The Charlotte Model



- Composition
 - Court and Judicial Leaders
 - Core Systems (Schools, Social Services, Juvenile Justice, Law Enforcement)
 - Community Partners

- Common Race Analysis
 - Implicit Bias, Anti-Racist Organizing vs. Cultural Competence

- Collaboration

- Courageous Conversations

- Culture of Care and Support

National & State Partners

- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- Casey Family Programs
- NC Administrative Office of the Courts – Court Improvement Project
- NC Division of Juvenile Justice
- Racial Equity Institute

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Partners

- Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office
- Juvenile Court Judges of the 26th Judicial District & Office of the Family Court Administrator
- Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services & Youth and Family Services
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
- 26th Judicial District Guardian ad Litem Program
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee
- UNC Charlotte – School of Social Work
- UNC Chapel Hill – School of Social Work
- Community Building Initiative
- Foresight Leadership Training Institute
- Johnson C. Smith University- Department of Social Work

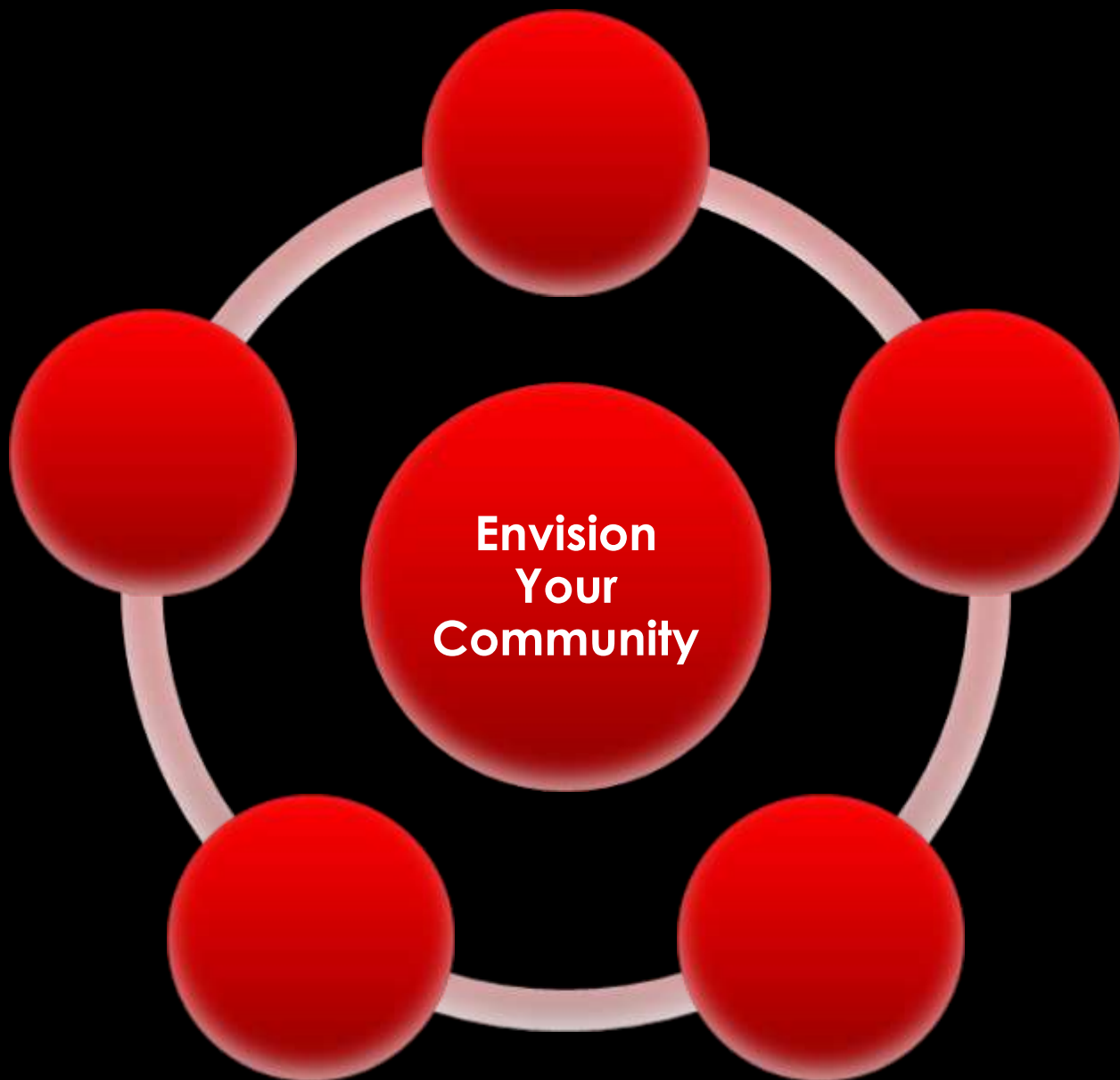




Accomplishments



- The Benchmark
- Training Workshops and Education
- Affinity Groups and Joint Caucus
- Community Forums
- Data Collection and Sharing
- School Pathways Workgroup
- Youth Initiative



Strategies for Moving Forward



- Canvass Your Community
- Commit to a Common Analysis
- “Court” Core Partners
- Commit to Authentic, Courageous Conversations
- Call OUT *and* Call IN

Questions?



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for Juvenile Justice



Website:
www.rmjj.org

Facebook:
“Race Matters for Juvenile Justice”

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