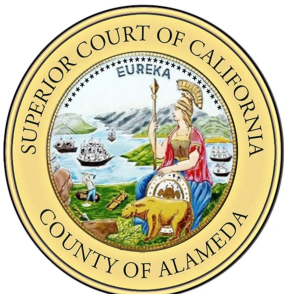


Journey to Justice: Alameda County to New Zealand

Lessons Learned &
Ideas for Local
Consideration





STAKEHOLDER GROUP

- Young Women's Freedom Center
- Youth Law Center
- SF Probation
- SF Public Defenders Office
- SF DA's Office
- Huckleberry Youth Programs
- Impact Justice
- Beloved Village
- NICJR, and the Funder team.
- Urban Peace Movement
- CURYJ
- Oakland Police Department
- AC Juvenile Presiding Judge
- AC Probation
- AC Public Defenders Office
- AC DA's Office
- AC BOS Sup. Marquez, District 2

WHY THIS TRIP MATTERS

- Strengthening Partnerships
- Learning from a Global Leader
- Inspiring Local Transformation

Key Activities & Learnings

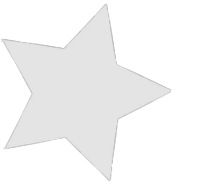


What We Did:

- **Engaged with Key System Actors:**
 - Met with **Police Youth Aid**
 - Observed **Youth Court Judges**
 - Learned from **Youth Justice Coordinators**
 - Connected with **Community-Based Advocates**
 - Discussed reforms with **Academics**
 - Interacted with **Youth Justice Policymakers**
- **Explored Māori Culture**



Oranga Tamariki Act

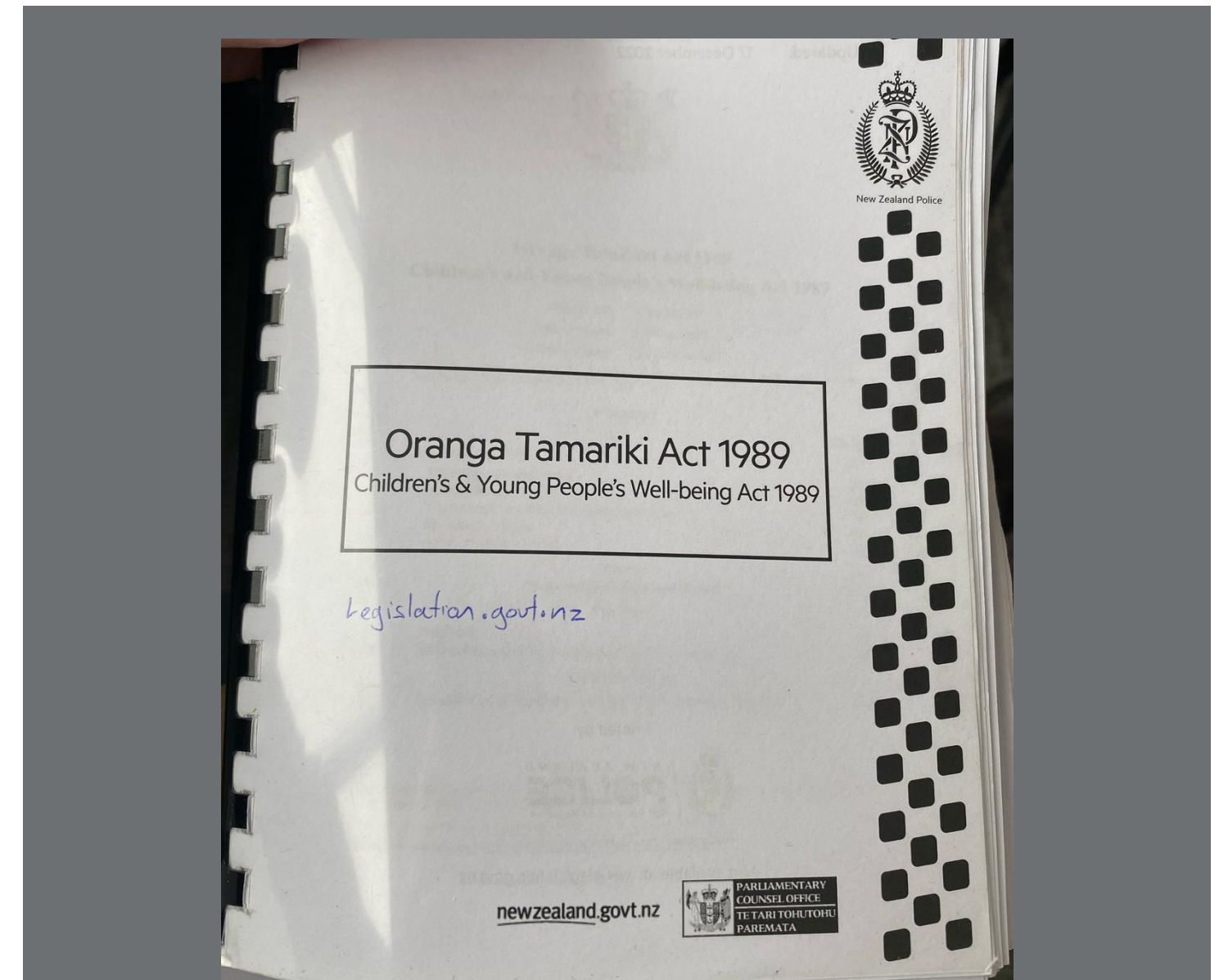


Section 4A of the [Oranga Tamariki Act 1989](#) requires practitioners working in Youth Justice to always think about 4 primary considerations when working with tamariki and rangatahi:

- the wellbeing and best interests of tamariki and rangatahi
- the public interest (including public safety)
- the interests of any victim
- the accountability of tamariki and rangatahi for their behaviour.

Practitioners must always think about how the 4 considerations can be aligned for the best possible outcome for tamariki and rangatahi, their whānau and any victims of the offending.

One of our goals is to work with tamariki or rangatahi and their whānau as early as possible, to have a stronger focus on reducing the potential for lifelong offending. In partnership with others, we'll work to prevent reoffending. Victims will also be better supported to fully participate in the youth justice process.



Family Group Conferences



Youth justice family group conferences (YJ FGCs) give tamariki or rangatahi, with their whānau, victims and professionals, a chance to help find solutions when they have offended.

Together, with the whānau, victims, the Police and other people involved with the case, we can help the tamariki or rangatahi take responsibility for their actions to make lasting, positive changes. With everyone's opinion and expertise accounted for, a thorough plan can be made to help right the wrong and ensure the future oranga of tamariki and rangatahi.

The following outlines the general structure of a YJ FGC:

- Tamariki or rangatahi start by owning up to what they have done.
- Together, we then work out the underlying reasons behind their actions. Why they did what they did.
- Victims are encouraged to attend the FGC and make their views known to the conference about how the offending affected them.
- The conference finds practical ways for tamariki or rangatahi to make amends for what they have done, like community service or getting a part-time job to help pay towards any damages. Any other needs, like anger management or alcohol and drug support, will also be addressed.
- Finally goals are set for the future such as:
 - life skills
 - education
 - employment
 - team sports
 - getting them a good mentor.

Alameda County to New Zealand

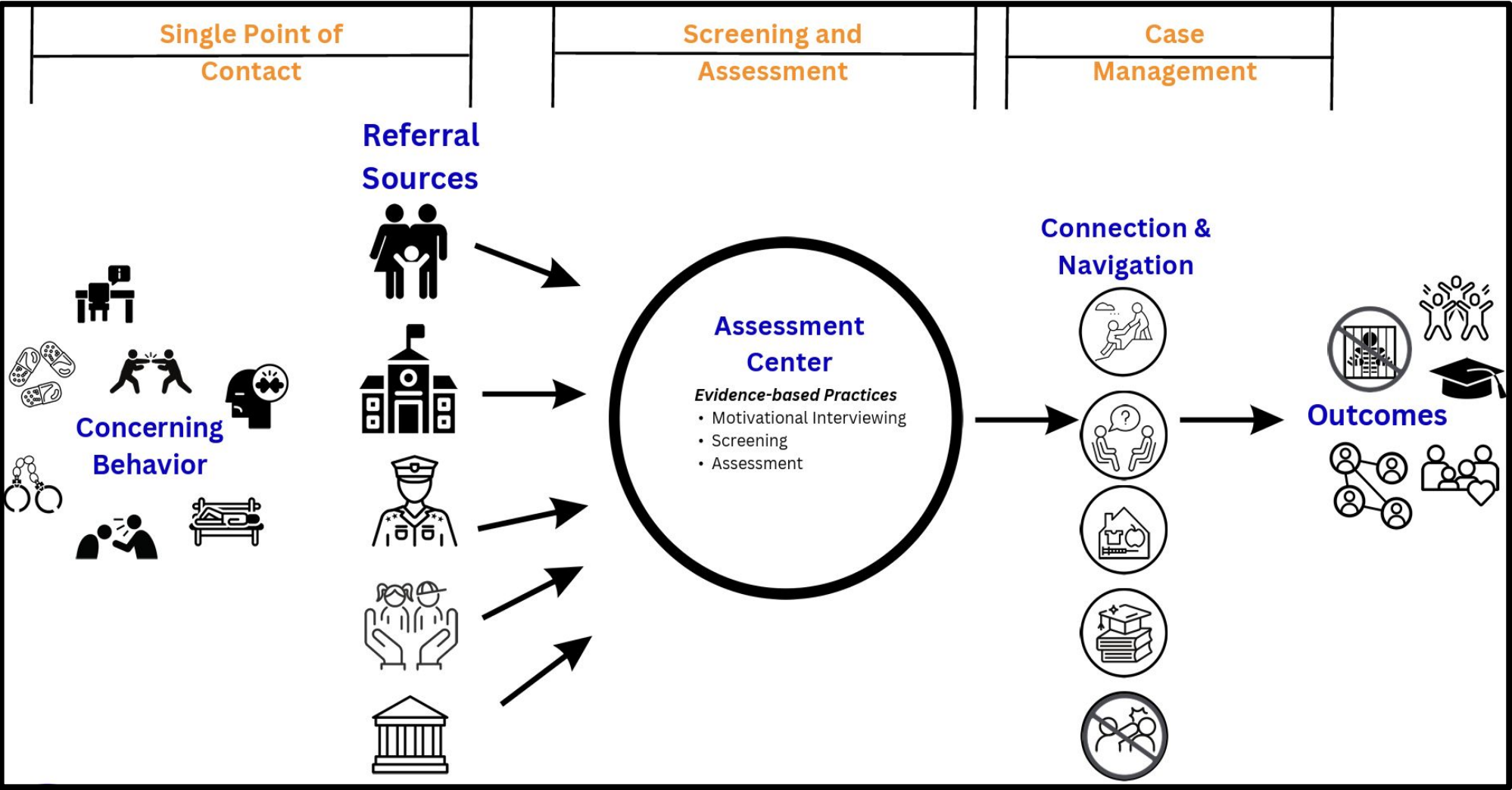
- **What We Intend to Bring Home:**
 - MDT approach for coordination of services
 - Restorative Justice Practices
 - Intentional focus on the family
 - Infusion of [culture](#) into our justice practices







How Do We Get There?



- **Creation of the Success Center**
 - Expansion of the existing Transition Center
 - Evening hours, weekends to coordinate services for all youth in need



Assessment Center Process			
Screen	Intervene	Refer	Navigate
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Needs• Mental Health• Substance Use• Community Safety• Trauma Event and Reactions• Suicidal Ideations• Commercial Sex and Labor Exploitation• Physical safety (abuse/neglect)	Utilizing Motivational Interviewing , Assessment Center staff build trust and connect with youth and family.	Families and youth with identified needs for support may be referred to resources in the community	Families & youth receive ongoing support to overcome accessibility barriers and ensure quality of connections.

How Do We Get There?



- **Development of the Youth Violence Reduction Team**

- Highest risk youth at risk of violence
- Key stakeholders: Education, Public Safety, Violence Intervention

- **Education:** Alameda County Office of Education & Oakland Unified School District

- **Public Safety:** Oakland Police Department (OPD) and Probation Department

- **Violence Intervention:** Oakland's Department of Violence Prevention (DVP)

- **Coordination and Technical Assistance:** National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR)



How Do We Get There?



- **Ubuntu Justice Initiative**

- Community Court - ***Indabas***: Facilitated in and by **Community**
- Culturally centered practices and rituals
- Use of Community Elders
- Restorative Justice framework
- A focus on the family unit
- Development of a coordinated plan



Funding and Sustainability



Initial Funding Source:

- San Francisco Foundation
- Zellerbach Family Foundation
- California Wellness Foundation
- Akonadi Foundation

Possible Long Term Funding Source:

- Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Funds
- Youth Offender Block Grant Funds

Infrastructure & Support

- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
 - Subcommittee



Next Steps



1. Adopt this Plan into the JJCC
2. Begin meeting with subcommittee to further develop and refine the following initiatives:
 - a. Implementation of the Success Center
 - b. Implementation Youth Violence Reduction Coordination Team
 - c. Implementation of the Ubuntu Justice Initiative





Questions

