



EVALUATION SITES

Florida Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas & Polk counties

BAYS Area Youth Services
Britt Halfway House
Falkenburg Academy
AMIKids YES Program

Indiana St. Joseph County

St. Joseph County Probate Court
Summit Counseling

Michigan Berrien County

Berrien County Juvenile Center
Family Empowerment Services

Rhode Island Providence County

Alternatives Program
Adolescent Community Experience (ACE) Program
North American Family Institute (NAFI)

Wyoming Sweetwater County

Southwest Counseling
Wyoming Boys School

Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL) Re-Entry Services: Evaluation Summary

Under the weight of massive budget cuts, states are exploring ways to reduce juvenile justice system spending. Some have shifted away from relying on costly juvenile incarceration and shortened average residential lengths of stay. Public safety may be at risk, however, without a change in the parents and environments to which youths return.

Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL) – recognized as an evidence-based practice by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) – developed an innovative re-entry model for juveniles transitioning from residential confinement. Independent evaluation of PLL Re-Entry Program sites found that PLL:

- ▶ Cut average lengths of stay in residential confinement in half through effective family engagement beginning the first day of commitment, as opposed to shortly before release or not at all.
- ▶ Initiated an earned release or early discharge program by connecting lengths of stay to measurable risks and needs in both the youth and family.
- ▶ Maintained the same therapist with the family before, during and after discharge to maintain continuity in service delivery.
- ▶ Utilized video conferencing or telemedicine to conduct family therapy with the family in the community and the youth in the residential program.
- ▶ Returned out-of-state youth home in half the time.
- ▶ Achieved parent completion rates of 82 percent.
- ▶ Diverted the overwhelming majority (between 80-94% across re-entry sites) of youth from subsequent juvenile adjudications 12-months post-release.

