



Service Providers, Police and People with Cognitive Disability

Daryl Neal



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Types of Service Provision LWB

CJP Providers
Supported Accommodation
Respite
Day Programs
Family/carers
OOHC



Why People with CD come into contact with Police?

Unintentional Behaviour

- Inappropriate Behaviour
- Wrong Place
- Wrong time
- Community perceptions
- Internal stimuli
- Skills & Knowledge Deficits-Social
- Victims of Crime

Intentional Behaviour

- Peer influence and acceptance
- Scapegoat
- Survival needs
- Proactive Aggression
(Safety, Conflict resolution)



Case Profile

- Male 20s
- Aspergers
- Feels Mother didn't make him safe
- At risk behaviours - victim
- Assault staff
- Functions - Fears for safety; Lack of Respect
- Focus - Strengths; Family Support; positive circle of support



Factors leading to Police Contact in CJP Program

1. Family Background- intergenerational
2. Association
3. Post Custody- perception they are targeted
4. Drugs & Alcohol
5. Community Brawls
6. Domestic Violence



Case Profile

- Male 30s
- Break & Enter
- Father with 19 year old partner
- Lived with Partners Family
- Domestic Violence
- Drugs & Alcohol
- Functions - Lack of control; Lack of family connection
- Focus - Creative; Work ethic



Factors leading to Police Contact in OOHC (Disability)

- Trauma – Self regulation; Impulsive
- Poor school outcomes
- Anti-social peers
- Drugs & Alcohol
- Physical assaults
- Leaving placements - Missing Persons



Factors leading to Police Contact Perceptions from Police

1. Sick of regularly coming here
2. No consequences
3. Behaviours stop when we come, why can't the Organisation control them better
4. Community disturbance - housing
5. How can we help?



Police Responses

- Positives
 - Respond and support Clients and Staff
 - Reluctant to take further Action
 - Clients react to presence
- Challenges
 - AVOs
 - Intimidation
 - Focus



Staff Reflections

- Positives
 - Client focussed
 - Don't want them incarcerated
 - What can we do better
- Challenges
 - Consequences - punishment
 - Don't know what to do
 - Fear



Organisational Responses

- Systemic
 - Relationships with Police (LAC Meetings)
 - Protocols
 - Training and education staff
 - Strategies – PBSP, including skills building for the individual
 - Risk Assessment and Supports
 - Monitoring through Panels



Gathering Background Information



For more information and further resources visit: www.arts.unsw.edu.au/idbs/support-planning



What is Best Practice?

Person with CD

- Build relationships
- Sharing of information, skills and resources
- Recognise & value the competency of others



Support Network

- Development of new & creative practices
- Range of resources, skills & experiences



Outcomes

- Shared interest & focus on supporting people with cognitive disability
- Inspires participation & learning



What We Are Improving.....

- Relationships with Police
 - Regular Meetings & information exchange
 - Attending COPS - DJP
- Better early intervention and prevention
- Training & educating staff
 - Motivational interviewing, TCI, Care Model
 - De-escalation strategies
- Service cohesion & collaboration
- Involvement of clients in the processes – voice and choice