

RESOLUTION 00-09
JUVENILE JUSTICE BEST PRACTICES

WHEREAS, only juveniles who have demonstrated a clear threat to society can, and should be, incarcerated under law; and

WHEREAS, scientific based research has clearly shown that there are more effective sanctions than "jail" for most juvenile delinquent offenders; and

WHEREAS, fully utilizing suggested "best practices" for the assessment and placement of both status and non-status juvenile offenders also reduces costs and liability risks to both local and state jurisdictions for short- or long-term placement of juveniles in adult jails or Juvenile Detention Centers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Niobrara County supports the efforts of Wyoming's State Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice and the Wyoming County Commissioner Association's Non-Participating Grant to educate the judiciary, prosecutors, law enforcement, detention administrators, Youth Services Coordinators, Juvenile Authorities, etc., on the long- and short-term benefits of providing alternative sanctions for juvenile offenders, including but not limited to:

- * Community Service Programs
- * Formalized risk placement assessment and tracking data collection
- * Formalized County level Diversion Programs
- * The use of electronic home detention (monitoring)
- * Use of random drug testing procedures through qualified agencies
- * Victim restitution
- * Parenting skill development/Family Counseling

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Niobrara County recognizes and encourages the utilization of "best practices" for juveniles within our local courts; initial and subsequent law enforcement encounters and within our youth agencies providing crisis or youth intervention programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Niobrara County agrees that no status offender (a minor youth who has committed an act that would not be a crime if they were an adult, i.e., runaway, truancy, tobacco violations, minor in possession of alcohol, child in need of supervision) should be incarcerated or held in an adult jail or lock-up in our community or state.

DATED this 19th day of December, 2000.

NIORBARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Donna J. Ruffing
Donna J. Ruffing, Chairman

Richard L. James
Richard L. James

Richard A. Ladwig
Richard A. Ladwig

ATTEST;

Suzanne R. Sturman
Suzanne R. Sturman, County Clerk