State Trends 2018-2020
TRENDS OVER TIME

- 40 States & DC
- 24 states (2018-2020)
- 100+ State Laws
- 2 Federal Laws
- 150k-200k fewer children in adult court every year
RAISE THE AGE

• Reform Blocks the Front Door to Adult Justice System

• Biggest impact in terms of # of youth in adult court (lowering numbers by 150k/year.

• Implementation shows similar findings across states.

• Only 3 states—Georgia, Texas, and Wisconsin remain.
JAIL & PRISON REMOVAL

- Utilize federal law to incentivize this movement across states.
- PREA (2003)—70% drop in the number of youth in adult prisons.
- JJDPA (2018)—should help remove youth from adult jails get to zero.
- 13k/night down to 3,400/night
- 70% of youth charged as adults already are held in youth facilities pre-trial.
JUDICIAL & REVERSE WAIVER

- Mitigating the Harm
• “Sleeper” campaign—but critically important.
• 6 states (geographically dispersed) have totally repealed automatic transfer
• Begins to equalize the playing field regarding racial & ethnic disparities
STATES WITH ~200 Youth/Year Charged As Adults

- In all of these states, children charged as adults is decreasing
- NJ & FL have passed reforms
- PA & FL some prosecutors have shifted practice (OH/TN moving in the wrong direction).
- Every state has egregious racial & ethnic disparities
- No correlation between rates of youth violence & charging children as adults.
STATE PARTNERS: WINS 2018-2020

MICHIGAN: RAISE THE AGE
• Jason Smith, Michigan Center for Youth Justice

CALIFORNIA: ENDS AUTOMATIC TRANSFER & RETURNS DISCRETION TO JUDGES
• Elizabeth Calvin, Human Rights Watch & California Alliance for Youth & Community Justice
• Oscar Canales, Anti-Recidivism Coalition & California Alliance for Youth & Community Justice

UTAH: ENDS AUTOMATIC TRANSFER
• Brett Peterson, Director of Utah Division of Juvenile Justice
NEXT STEPS: CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH JUSTICE

• CLOSE DECEMBER 31, 2020
• TRANSITION RESOURCES & KNOWLEDGE TO THE SENTENCING PROJECT
• SUPPORT 5 STATES IN 2021 (GA, IN, MD, PA, TX)
• YJAM MOVES TO NJJN (National Juvenile Justice Network) & CJJ (Coalition for Juvenile Justice)
• ENCOURAGE FUNDBERS TO SUPPORT 8 STATES WITH 200+ YOUTH TRANSFERRED TO ADULT COURT