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In 2013, the Director of the DCS, Mary Beth Bonaventura created a new division within the DCS, Juvenile Justice Initiatives and Support, to fulfill a vision of ensuring that all youth, whether in the CHINS court or the delinquency courts, have the services available to address their risks, strengths and needs. This vision includes transparency, knowledge, and understanding of the services, placements and resources that are available to probation officers to serve delinquent youth.

This Resource Manual is a comprehensive “how to” guide for probation to assist probation departments in Indiana with the understanding of how to gain access to services and/or placements for the youth being served. In addition, the Resource Manual provides a quick reference to contracted services provided by the DCS. This “quick reference” to services offers a brief description of the service, the frequency and duration of the service and the expectations of the youth, parent, provider and the probation officer.

This Resource Manual was designed as an initial step toward the vision of the Juvenile Justice Initiatives and Support Division and will be continually updated as new statutes or processes are put into place. Updates will be provided through monthly emails, Friday Notes and maintained on the DCS website that is being established to bring the most current information to probation departments across Indiana.

The DCS wishes to offer thanks for all that each probation officer does for the children of Indiana.

Don Travis

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Protecting our children, families and future