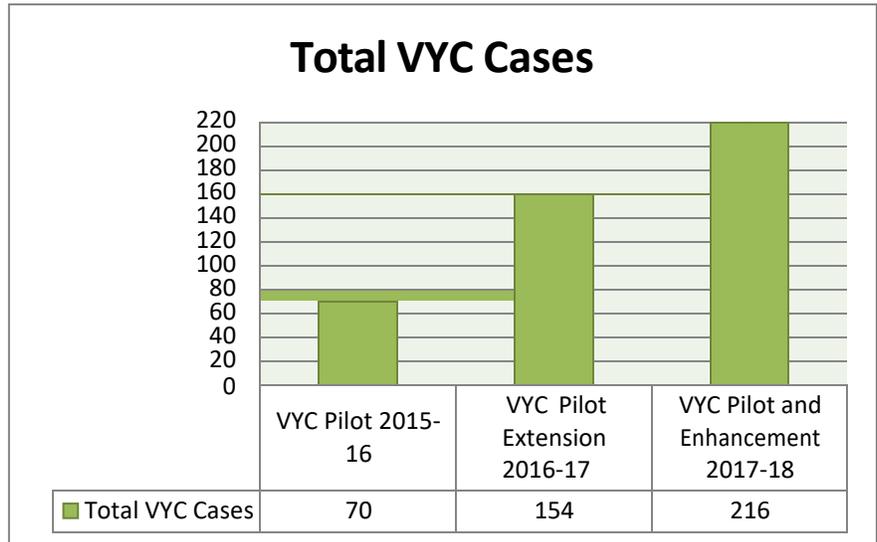


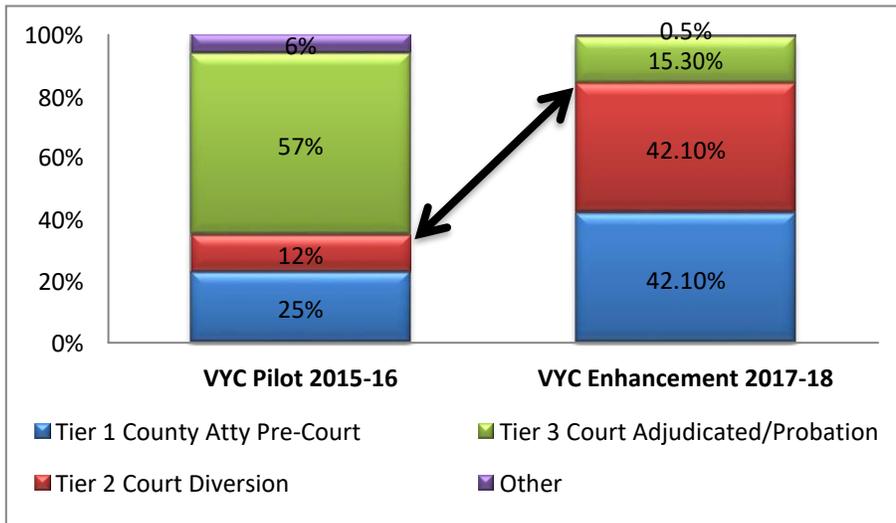
## Restorative Justice: ODR Victim Youth Conferencing Fact Sheet. 2015-18.

### Total VYC Cases

Since the piloting of the Restorative Justice service *Victim Youth Conferencing (VYC)* with three ODR approved mediation centers in 2015, cases numbers have continually increased, from 70 youth in the first pilot year, 154 in pilot extension 2016-2017, and 216 in 2017 – 2018, for a grand total of 440 Victim Youth Conferences.



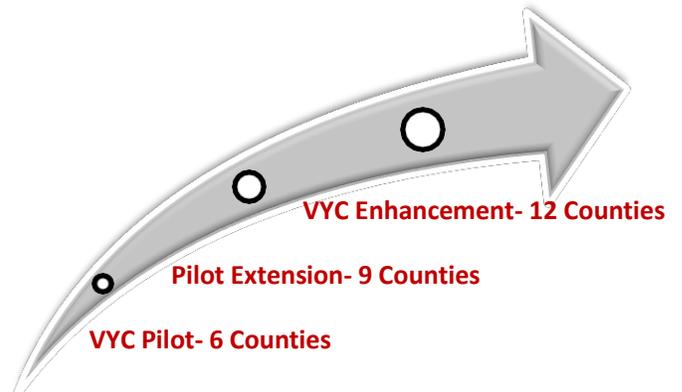
### Shift to Greater Prevention



During the first year of the VYC pilot, 37% of VYC referrals were Tier 1 and Tier 2 to prevent court involvement pre-diversion and diversion, while 57% of referrals were Tier 3 for adjudicated youth, mostly on probation. By June 30, 2018, youth referrals at the Tier 1 and Tier 2 levels climbed to a combined 84.2% while referrals for adjudicated youth dropped to 15.3%.

### Expansion of Counties Served

During the VYC pilot year 2015 to 2016, youth cases came from 6 counties, which included Douglas, Lancaster and 4 counties in the 12th judicial district: Morrill, Box Butte, Cheyenne and Scotts Bluff. For the pilot extension year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, VYC cases came from 9 counties; Adams, Buffalo, Dodge, Douglas, Fillmore, Lancaster, Pawnee, Red Willow and Sarpy counties. The 2017-2018 Enhancement reflected a growth to 12 counties, a 100% increase from the pilot.



## Total VYC Cases by County 2017-18

ODR Region*	County of Referral	Total Cases
1 – CMC	Adams	15
1	Buffalo	17
1	Lincoln	1
2 – MW	Cheyenne	1
2	Keith	1
2	Scotts Bluff	10
3 – TMC	Lancaster	142
4 – TRC	Saunders	3
4	York	1
5 – NMC	Dodge	8
6 - Concord	Douglas	16
6	Sarpy	1
<b>6 regions</b>	<b>12 counties</b>	<b>216 cases</b>

## Increase in Referral Sources

An indicator of successful expansion of VYC is an increase in the number of referral sources from which the mediation centers receive cases. Three tiers of referrals have been defined based on the youth's point of access to VYC as an intervention to reduce court involvement.

- Tier 1: Pre-Court referrals coming from County Attorneys' offices after a school-based incident. Currently, these cases usually involve a citation from police.
- Tier 2: Court Diversion referrals coming from County Attorneys or Courts pre-adjudication.
- Tier 3 – Court Adjudicated cases referred by Courts with or without Probation.

The VYC Enhancement Initiative has shown success in increasing the number of referral sources with:

- 9 new referral sources in 6 new counties.
- No referrals in 3 counties that each had only 1 or 2 VYC referrals the previous year.
- 10 maintained referral sources in 6 counties with increased referrals in 4 of those counties.

**Moving Ahead:** ODR and the six regional mediation centers have made **significant progress in the expansion of VYC statewide** and building capacity to sustain its use. Outcome indicators for July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 suggest VYC Enhancement Initiative goals will be met or exceeded by December 2018.

A goal is to focus on **fidelity to the VYC model** by strengthening the communication with youth and those harmed until the case is closed. ODR and mediation centers have recently added a case closure conversation with youth and victims guided by evaluation questions as new protocol.

**To increase the value of recidivism data**, it is recommended that recidivism rates be tracked at one-year, two-year and three-year post VYC case closure, beginning with the 2015 pilot cases. By doing so, the ability to compare across jurisdictions and interventions, and gain a better understanding of VYC impact is improved. Preliminary data using the Nebraska Supreme Court juvenile recidivism definition of one year (*Neb. Ct. R. § 1-1001, 2013*) shows a low 13% re-offending rate for VYC conferences.

The long term evaluation plan is based on **Restorative Justice's VYC theory of change: Victim Youth Conferencing as a primary restorative justice intervention will reduce youth involvement in the justice system.** Exploring how this will be measured is a next step, as well as doing so for the long range goals of closing the gap in disproportionate minority contact with courts and increasing safety in communities.