Four Important Themes

• Emphasis is on problems (and solving them) rather than on behaviors (and modifying them)...upstream (not downstream)

• The problem solving is collaborative rather than unilateral...something you’re doing with the kid rather than to him

• The problem solving is proactive rather than emergent
  – this is possible if we answer two important questions: why and when is this kid challenging?

• Challenging behavior is the means by which a youth is communicating that s/he is having difficulty meeting a particular expectation
Adult Roles in the Lives of Behaviorally Challenging Kids

- Identify lagging skills and unsolved problems
- Solve problems collaboratively and proactively
  - Promotes a problem solving partnership
  - Engages kids in solving the problems that affect their lives
  - Produces more effective, durable solutions
  - Simultaneously (but indirectly) teaches skills
Implementation in the Juvenile Detention System in the State of Maine

- Began in 2003
- Funded by Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group
- Training of core groups
- Results based on Performance-based Standards, developed by the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators
Implementation in the Maine Juvenile Detention System

Youth Misconduct Resulting in Injury Confinement, and/or Physical Restraint per 100 Days of Youth Confinement

Number Injuries per 100 Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Implementation in the Maine Juvenile Detention System

Isolation, Room Confinement, Segregation and Special Management per 100 Days of Youth Confinement

- 2003: 7
- 2004: 6
- 2005: 4
- 2008: 2
Implementation in the Maine Juvenile Detention System

Percent of Staff Report That They Fear for Their Safety Within Past 6 Months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent of Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>~40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>~25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>~10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>~12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Implementation in the Juvenile Detention System in Maine

- Significant reduction in staff and resident injuries
- Reduction in recidivism from 65% to 15%
- 50 empty beds ($120,000 per bed per year)
- The closing of a facility
- Revision of policies and procedures
Implementation in Public Schools in Maine

• Similar model of implementation
• Also funded by the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group
Implementation in Public Schools in Maine

- Similar model of implementation
- Also funded by the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group
Implementation in Public Schools in Maine/
Durham Community School (K-8)

Discipline Referrals

Implementation in Public Schools in Maine/ Kennebunk Elementary School (K-3)

Office Discipline Referrals

- 2009-10: 146
- 2010-11: 92
- 2011-12: 45
Implementation in Public Schools in Maine

- Significant reduction in the use of detention and suspension
- Coincides with national priority to dramatically reduce the use of these procedures, along with corporal punishment and use of locked/blocked door seclusion and physical restraint
- Coincides with the imperative to address the “school to prison pipeline”
Conclusion

• Collaborative & Proactive Solutions represents a promising alternative to standard disciplinary practices in schools and juvenile detention facilities