

National Partnership for Juvenile Services

Resolution in Support Annie E. Casey Foundation Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

Whereas juvenile detention is an important but sometimes harmful and often time over utilized or abused component of juvenile justice and community protection, and

Whereas, juvenile detention, when described as **a place** or a secure locked setting, often detains juveniles whose behavior, offense, and risk of absconding do not warrant high levels of restrictiveness (high need, low risk offenders), and

Whereas this inappropriate use of juvenile detention often results in dangers to juveniles in the forms of overcrowding, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and

Whereas the effective use of juvenile detention and the establishment of appropriate conditions of confinement frequently results from the implementation of juvenile detention as **a process**,

Therefore, be it resolved that the National Partnership for Juvenile Services recognizes the excellent efforts of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) of the Annie E. Casey Foundation as the nation's most significant contribution to juvenile detention reform through its development, education, and dissemination of training and technical assistance services to participating jurisdictions to implement a robust **process** of juvenile detention programs, services, and alternatives, and

Be it further resolved that the AECF/JDAI has articulated a vision of juvenile detention for the 21st Century that serves the best interests of youthful offenders and the public.

Approved: October 15, 2006, Las Vegas, NV • (National Symposium on Juvenile Services)

Reaffirmed: March 19, 2008, Richmond, KY • (Governing Body Conference Call)