

## **Manchester Police Department**

### Demographics:

#### Sex:

- 46 Female
- 80 Male

#### Ethnicity:

- 58 White / Caucasian
- 37 African American
- 13 Asian
- 5 American Indian / Alaskan Native
- 2 Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
- 11 multi-racial

#### Race:

- 68 non-Hispanic
- 58 Hispanic

Manchester's Juvenile Court Diversion program operated by the nonprofit Manchester Police Athletic League is the largest accredited diversion program in New Hampshire. Serving the largest city in the state brings a high volume of

intense cases from families facing multiple challenges who require support. When the program was developed in 2018, it was intended for first-time, non-violent offenders. The state's Juvenile Probation Transformation initiative that rolled out over the past two years has resulted in the need for Juvenile Court Diversion to take on cases with more serious offenses including assaults and serious substance abuse, as well as youth with more than one arrest. This has required more

intense case management with most of the families served, which includes coaching parents to engage with available

services for both their offending child and the entire family to help mitigate some of the root causes of problem behavior and substance abuse. Funding from this award has allowed the Juvenile Court Diversion coordinator to dedicate more

time to this critical case management by elevating her from a part-time position to a full-time employee. One immediate benefit has been an increased ability to encourage youth to enroll and fully participate in available services such as the Police Athletic League's FUTURES intervention program or the Seven Challenges substance abuse counseling program and more regularly monitor their progress to support them in their journey to completion. The increased volume and intensity of cases since the probation transformation exceeds what a part-time coordinator could effectively manage in 20 hours a week, so this funding has been critical to maintaining the effectiveness of Manchester's Juvenile Court Diversion program.