The Maine Department of Corrections is the agency of state government responsible for the incarceration and community supervision of adult and juvenile offenders. The Division of Juvenile Services resides within MDOC and is responsible for the provision of correctional services to Maine’s juvenile offenders. The mission of DJS is:

To promote public safety by ensuring that juvenile offenders are provided with education, treatment and other services that teach skills and competencies; strengthen pro-social behaviors and require accountability to victims and communities (Maine Department of Corrections, 2006).

There are four field services regions in Maine that respond to juvenile crime and provide services known to be effective in reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. DJS has two secure facilities to serve juvenile who cannot be served in the community. Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC) is located in Charleston, Maine, and serves juveniles from Northern and Eastern Maine. Long Creek Youth Development Center (LCYDC) is located in South Portland serves juveniles from Central and Southern Maine.

The responsibilities of DJS field services span the entire juvenile justice system. These responsibilities begin when a juvenile is charged by police with committing a crime and end when a juvenile is discharged from DJS aftercare supervision. Field services operations are conducted throughout the state and are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Appendix I illustrates how a juvenile can move through DJS field services. Not all juveniles end up being charged with a crime. They can receive a sole sanction\textsuperscript{13}, which occurs when a Juvenile Community Corrections Officer (JCCO) takes no further action beyond the initial arrest and referral, or requires the juvenile to complete a sanction/task determined by the JCCO. Examples of sole sanctions include paying restitution to cover costs incurred by the victim of the juvenile’s offense or writing a letter of apology. This type of diversion is typically reserved for juveniles who are deemed by the JCCO and their score on a validated risk assessment as low risk for committing a future crime. Informal adjustment is another form of diversion that is used for juveniles that show a low risk of committing a future crime, but show some areas of increased risk. In this type of diversion strategy, the JCCO develops a plan with the juvenile and his or her parents to address the identified risks, and is monitored by the JCCO.

\textsuperscript{13} For a complete listing of terms and definitions used in this report, see Appendix III: Glossary of terms