

# YOUTH ASSESSMENT AND SCREENING INSTRUMENT

## IMPROVING THE WAY WE ASSESS YOUTH

# **NC IMPLEMENTATION**

YASI (Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument) is an innovative risk, needs, and strengths assessment for justice involved youth. The purpose for using YASI is measuring risk of recidivism and developing service plans.



## YASI DOMAINS WITH INCLUDED TOPICS ASSESSED

\*LEGAL HISTORY Past disposed offenses, age at first offense, detention stays, adult offenses, etc.

FAMILY

Parenting skills (rewards and consequences, supervision), positive relationships with parents/siblings social support

BASIC NEEDS

Food, housing/shelter, material needs

SCHOOL

Attendance, performance, behavior, involvement, attachment to teachers

COMMUNITY AND PEERS

Pro-social peers, adult mentors, community involvement, positive neighborhood

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Current and past usage, treatment, and impact on behavior.

MENTAL HEALTH Current and past treatment, abuse, suicidal, homicidal, and sexualized behavior

PHYSICAL HEALTH Conditions, access to health care, medication, dental, vision, reproductive health

AGGRESSION/ Anger manage VIOLENCE using violence

Anger management, negative beliefs about using violence

ATTITUDES

Pro-social attitudes (positive toward legal authorities, acceptance of responsibility, amends)

ADAPTIVE SKILLS

Problem-solving, social skills, consequential thinking, impulse control, planning, and goal-setting

EMPLOYMENT AND FREE TIME

Employment, positive leisure interests, hobbies

## YASI MEASURES CHANGE WITHIN CRIMINOGENIC FACTORS

(i.e. thinking, peers, family, leisure, behavior, employment/school, and substance use).

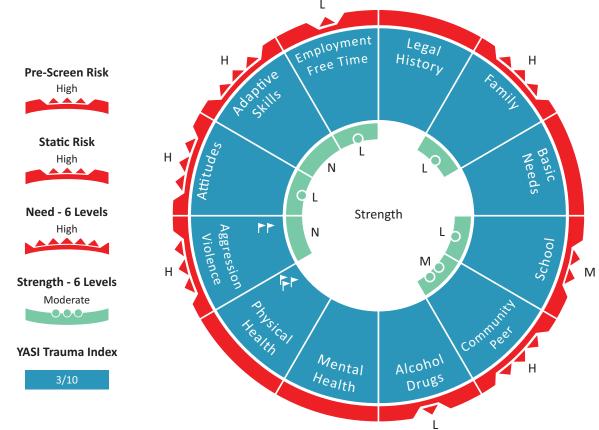
## **YASI FEATURES**

- Assesses for Strengths
- Gender Responsive
- Identifies Trauma/Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Responds to Risk/Needs/ Responsivity utilizing Motivational Interviewing
- Improves Case Planning with Service to Needs Matching
- Measures Change with Reassessments
- Identifies Current and Past Mental Health Issues
- Scoring of Assessment is Different for Boys and Girls (to correct for tendency for risk assessments to over classify girls)

<sup>\*</sup> Legal History is static and information is captured for the purposes of recidivism and overall risk.

## YASI WHEEL

The YASI Wheel provides the results of the full assessment and shows the Risk, Needs, Strengths and Trauma Index of each child. It is part of the dispositional packet provided to the Court.



#### **Interpreting YASI Summary Scores**



Pre-Screen Risk Indicates Low Moderate or High probabilities of reoffending (based on static and dynamic



Static Risk Indicates Low Moderate or High levels of static risk (based only on historical factors)



## Need 6-Levels A summary score with

up to 6 levels indicating varying needs for service. Very high indicates a youth / family with multiple needs for service that may elevate risk of reoffending



A summary score with up to 6 strength levels. Very High indicates a youth / family with multiple strengths, assets, supports or protective factors that may lower risk of reoffending

#### Interpreting YASI Wheel: Need levels on the outside and Strength levels on the inside of the Wheel



#### On the Outside Perimenter of YASI Wheel

3 Levels: Low, Moderate and High indicate the level of need for service in a specific domain (e.g., family, school, etc.). "N" = no needs in the domain



#### On the Inside of YASI Wheel

3 Levels: Low, Moderate and High levels of strength in a specific domain (e.g., in Family, School, etc.). "N" = no strengths in the domain

#### Flags on the YASI Wheel

significant need (e.g., homelessness, YASI Trauma Index **Basic Needs & Physical Health** a minor need for 2 needs for Up to 3 flags display youth / family youth / family medical condition with no health insurance) (No flags = no problems) Mental Health Up to 2 flags ► 1 mental health **↑** 2 or more mental health problems indicators, an official mental The YASI Trauma Index score ranges from 0 to 10. Youth receive 1 point for each Adverse Childhood Experience they have experienced. health diagnosis or a serious matter such as suicidal intent display (No flags = no problems) problem indicator responsible for a responsible for 2 or more violent incidents For example, a score of 3 / 10 indicates a youth experienced 3 of the 10 possible Adverse Violence (past or current) violent incident Up to 2 flags display (No flags = no violence) Childhood Experiences included in YASI.

NOTE: Static for YASI purposes means that it is based on history and current behavior/circumstances. It is based more on history and will not improve. Dynamic for YASI purposes means that it is only based on behavior/circumstances in the last 3 months. Based only on recent and could improve.







