



2016–17 School House Adjustment Program Enterprise (SHAPE) Brief

Prepared by the Department of Research & Performance Management

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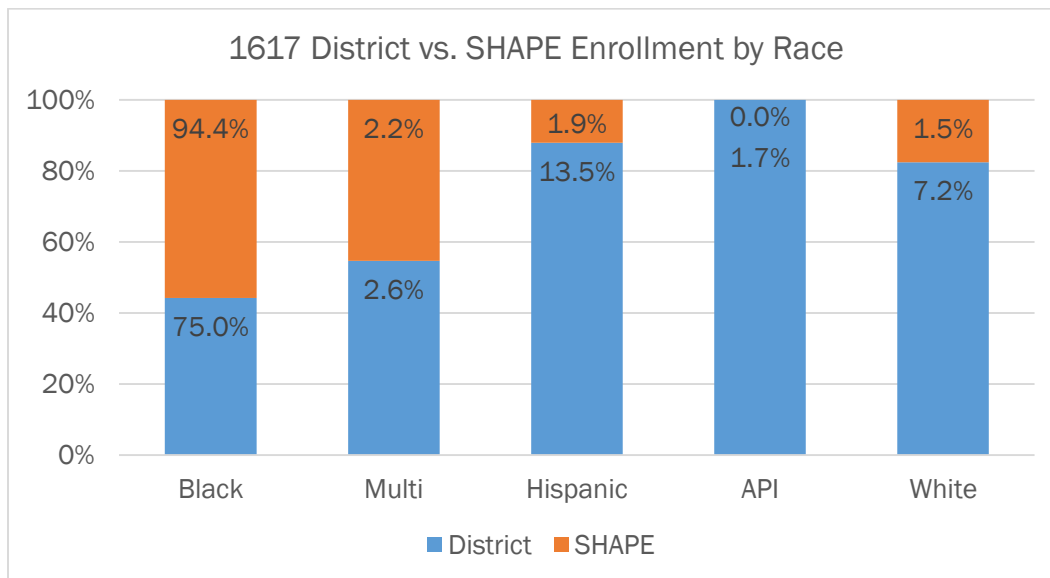
Key Findings

The School House Adjustment Program Enterprise (SHAPE) is a diversion program that works to reduce the number of minority youth who are transported and booked into juvenile detention for minor offenses. Below are the key findings from the program’s 2016–17 administration.

- 94.4% of the students enrolled in SHAPE were Black, compared to 75.0% enrolled in the district overall.
- Westwood and Raleigh-Egypt high schools had the most referrals to the program.
- Shelby County Sheriff Officers (SCSOs) referred most students (51.3%) to SHAPE.
- 51.7% of students were referred to SHAPE for Simple Assault, 23.5% were referred for Disciplinary Referrals.
- 56.2% of SHAPE students were warned and counseled as an intervention method.
- There was a 7.5% increase in Juvenile Court transports between 2015–16 and 2016–17; however, there has been an 95.6% decrease since inception in 2007–08.
- 61.3% of referred students successfully graduated from the program.

African-American, Male and High School Students Were SHAPE’s Primary Program Participants

A disproportionate percentage of African-American students were enrolled in the SHAPE program than in the district as a whole (94.4% vs. 75.0%). Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander and White students were underrepresented in the program.



Additionally, there were slightly more males than females in the program (51.5% vs. 48.5%),



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respectively), which is on par with the percentage of male and female students in the district (50.7% males vs. 49.3% females). SHAPE receives most referrals (80.9%) for high school students, while 17.3% were for middle school students.

Westwood and Raleigh-Egypt High Schools Were the Top Referring Schools

Students attending Westwood and Raleigh-Egypt high schools had the highest percentage of SHAPE referrals based on school enrollment (see Table below for schools with the highest percentage of referrals).

TOP 5 REFERRING SCHOOLS		
SHAPE SCHOOL	Count	Percent
WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL	27	7.5
RALEIGH-EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL	39	4.3
CRAIGMONT HIGH SCHOOL	37	4.3
MANASSAS HIGH SCHOOL	17	3.2
TREZEVANT HIGH SCHOOL	13	2.2

Shelby County Sheriff Officers (SCSOs) Referred the Most Students to SHAPE

Of the known referrals to SHAPE, the majority came from SCSOs (38.3%), followed by administrators (30.9%) and the Memphis Police Department (MPD) (24.6%). Administrators do not refer students for criminal offenses; instead, they have the opportunity to refer students with excessive behavior problems to SHAPE in lieu of suspension or expulsion. Overall, referrals to SHAPE have decreased 16.7% from the previous year (from 389 to 324). Any of these referrals could have ultimately resulted in a juvenile summons to appear in Juvenile Court.

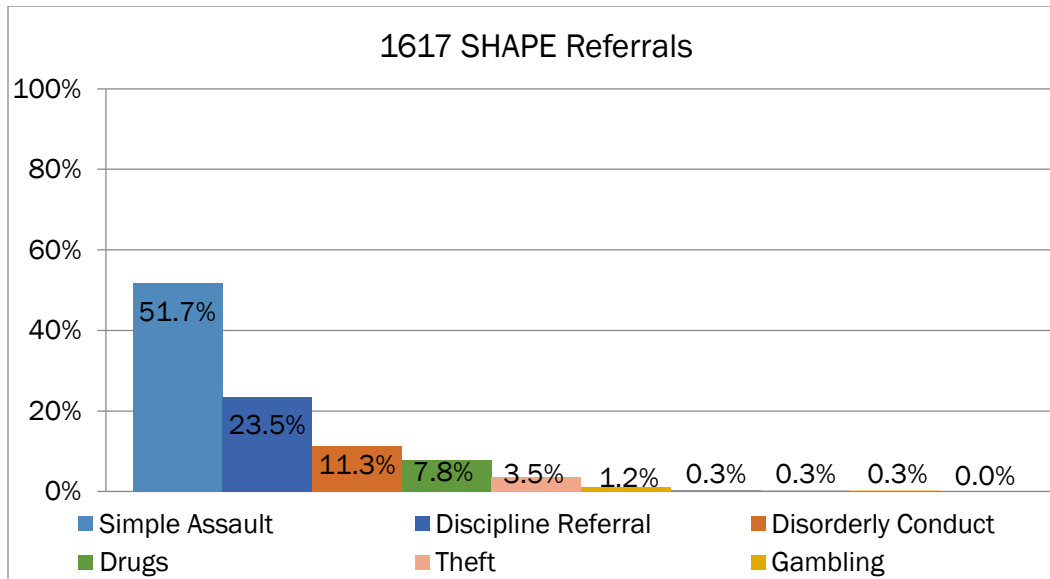
Simple Assault and Disciplinary Referrals Were the Most Common Offenses for which Students Were Referred to SHAPE

The most common offense SHAPE students committed was Simple Assault with No Serious Injury (51.7%), followed by Discipline Referrals (23.5%) (see Figure below for a graphic representation of the distribution of SHAPE referrals by offense).



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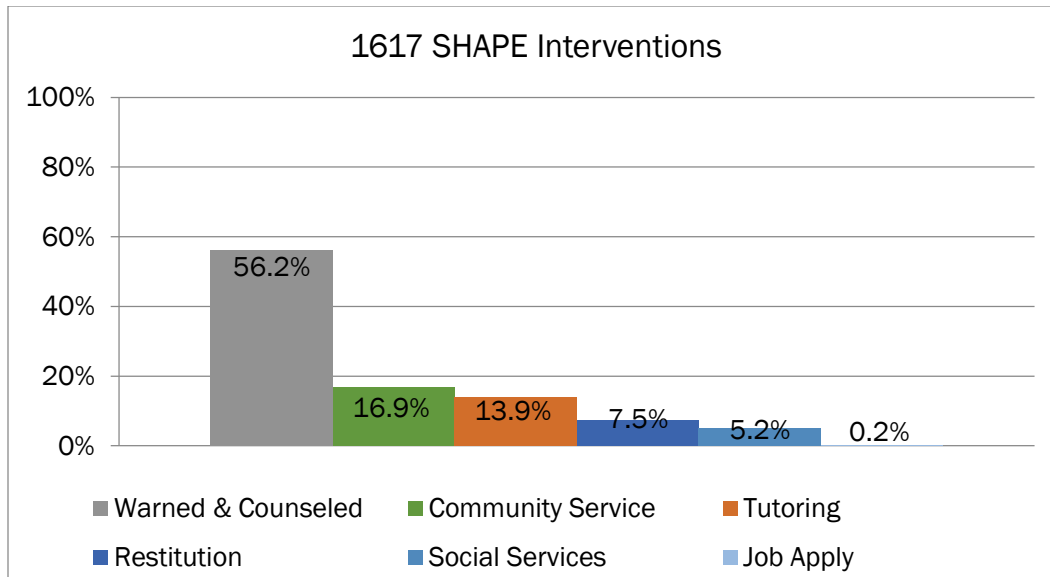
Warned and Counseled Was the Primary SHAPE Intervention Used

SHAPE is a diversion and early intervention program. Once accepted, students complete the Mendez Foundation curriculum during the after-school program. Additionally, SHAPE may require students to complete various interventions based on their referring behavior. The most common among these is a face-to-face meeting with the Site Coordinator, listed as Warned and Counseled (56.2%). During this one-on-one interview, the trained school staff member is able to warn the students about the seriousness of their behavior and counsel them directly about the presenting issues. For many students, this initial contact has a significant impact. Looking for positive ways to occupy a student's extracurricular time is another major area of concern for the Site Coordinators. Community service (16.9%) and tutoring (13.9%) are just some of activities in which SHAPE participants are involved. Site Coordinators may also require students to pay restitution (7.5%), or refer students for social services interventions outside the district (5.2%) that can include individual and family therapy. See Figure below for details.



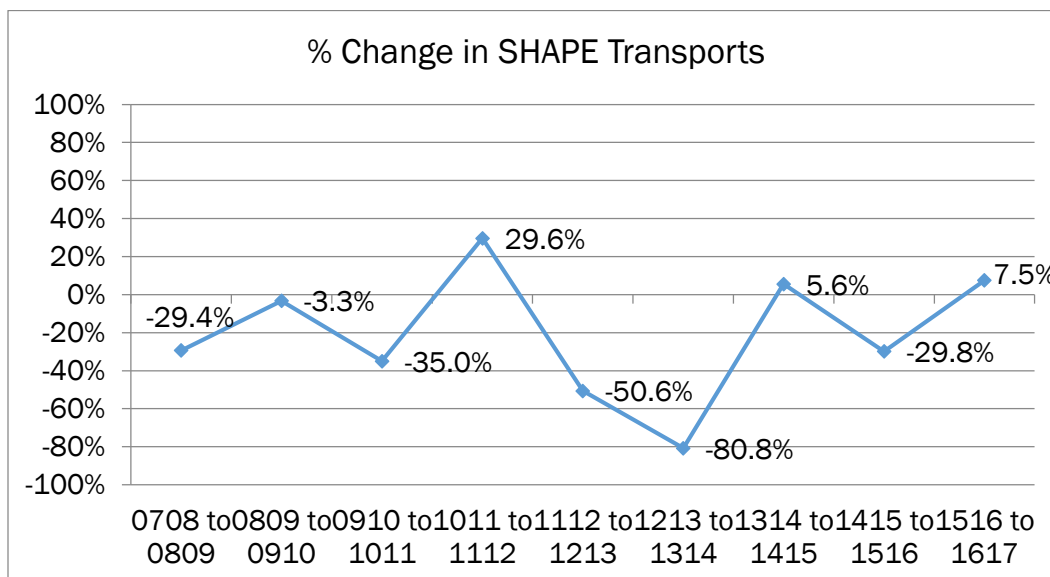
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Transports to Juvenile Court Increased in the 1617 Academic Year

Since its inception in 2007, the primary goal of SHAPE has been to reduce the number of minority youth that are transported from and detained for minor offenses at Juvenile Court. As shown in the Figure below, there has been a 7.5% increase in transports from 2015-16 to 2016-17. Overall, SHAPE has been effective in decreasing transports by 95.6% since inception. These reductions are not solely the results of the SHAPE initiative. Gang reduction programs, truancy interventions, and other juvenile programming likely also contributed. Still, the overall reduction in bookings from SHAPE schools does isolate the effects of the program well and illustrates the significant impact SHAPE has had on the number of minority youth transported.





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Most Referred Students Graduated from the Program

A premise of SHAPE is that exposure to the intervention, especially the Mendez curriculum, will reduce future delinquency and criminal activity. Of the students referred to the program, 61.3% successfully graduated by completing at least twelve of the Mendez curriculum sessions and meeting all other requirements of the program. Approximately 17% of the referred students refused to participate, and 15.8% were discharged for non-compliance. These students were usually issued a juvenile summons to appear in Juvenile Court for those charges. Finally, 5.9% transferred to a non-SHAPE school. See the Figure below for details.

