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Progeny would like to take the moment to thank Governor Laura Kelly for seeing the need and value in the passing of SB 367. Governor Kelly, who was a senator at the time and other lawmakers recognized the need among young people within the juvenile justice system and dedicated their effort and time to making the needed changes. Those efforts then changed the system to what we see today. The decrease in incarceration of young people, the highlight of needed alternatives and prevention measures and most importantly the inclusion of engaging youth and families in the process.

One comment from Governor Laura Kelly that resonates with us is, "I would like Kansas to be a place that future generations feel comfortable staying here," We can do this by:

- Uplifting and listening to the voices of young people.
- Creating policies that are fair and do not unjustly target black and brown youth.
- Making sure SB 367 funds remain protected and are funneled back to impacted communities to proactively restore work to prevent the incarceration of young people.
- Kansas can actually BE a place where future generations feel comfortable staying. This is our chance to restore hope and be the catalyst and leader in juvenile justice reform.

In our SB 367 (5) year anniversary event back in Aug, we developed a list of areas where more work could be done from the perspective of youth voices and community members. We highlighted the need for more work to be done in these areas to fulfill the full promise made through the passing of the bill. SB 367 was not intended to be the end but it was meant to be the beginning. Now, 5 years later we are urging lawmakers to dig further in this work by revisiting the reallocation of \$21 million that was supposed to be saved for evidence-based practices intended to serve youth in Kansas in the upcoming budgetary session.

We ask that you consider reinvesting that money back into Kansas youth by setting that money aside for preventive efforts and community-based services that currently work to keep youth out of the system and in their communities. We ask that you make these considerations given here and in the From Harm to healing: The Blueprint to Healthier Outcomes for Kansas Youth. These recommendations are coming straight from the needs and mouths of young people who are directly impacted.

Respectfully,

Progeny Youth Leaders