



RULES OF JUVENILE COURT PROCEDURE AMENDED/ADOPTED RELATING TO EDUCATION

On December 21, 2018, the Supreme Court amended Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure 163, 195, 512, and 1601, and adopted new Rules 148, 1146 and 1148 to improve the educational stability of juveniles and children, effective May 1, 2019. The changes consist of three components: 1) changes to implement the Act of November 3, 2016, P.L. 1061, concerning truancy matters; 2) changes to update Rule 1147 in light of Act 94 of 2015, P.L. 559, which amended 42 Pa.C.S. § 6351(F)(8); and 3) the creation of procedures for the judicial determination of the delivery of educational services for dependent/delinquent youth in placement.

Truancy (Amended Rule 195 and New Rule 1146)

In 2016, Pennsylvania substantially revised its truancy laws. Section 5 of the Act of November 3, 2016, P.L. 1061, amended Section 1333.3(F)(2) of the Public School Code, 24 P.S. § 13-1333.3(f)(2). In response, the Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure Committee proposed amending Rule 195 to add paragraph (A)(13) to recognize that a juvenile probation officer (JPO) may receive allegations that a child has also failed to satisfy penalties arising from a truancy citation. Consistent with the statute, the Rule first required a local rule permitting the receipt of these allegations. It is contemplated that the local rule would provide guidance as to further actions of the juvenile probation officer with regard to those allegations.

The Committee believed the truancy legislation also provided an opportunity to coordinate actions between the dependency court and the court where a truancy citation is filed when a dependent child or a "person in parental relation" to the child is charged with truancy. As amended, 24 P.S. § 13-1333.2(b)(1) requires the court to send a hearing notice to the county agency when a truancy citation is filed. Utilizing this notice mechanism, Rule 1146 would require the county agency to then provide notice of the hearing to the dependency court and the parties. Thereafter, the dependency court judge and the truancy court judge could coordinate proceedings.

Education Decision Makers (Amended Rule 1147)

Act 94 of 2015 amended 42 Pa.C.S. § 6351(F)(8) to require at each permanency hearing a judicial determination of the services needed to assist a child who was 14 years of age or older to successfully transition to adulthood. The amendment lowered the age of applicability from 16 years of age to 14. This amendment was incorporated into Rule 1608(D)(1)(k) on December 9, 2015.

Rule 1147(C)(1)(d), regarding the duties of educational decision makers ("EDMs"), requires EDMs to inquire and act to ensure that a child 16 years of age or older is receiving the necessary educational services to transition to Inde-

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pendent living. Upon review of the legislation, the Committee believed that “services” in Section 6351(F)(8) of the Juvenile Act included “educational services” as used in Rule 1147. Accordingly, the Committee proposed to amend Rule 1147 and the Comment to reflect that interpretation, including the lower age.

Educational Stability (New Rules 148 and 1148)

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, *as amended*, 20 U.S.C. §6311(g)(1)(E), requires that a child in placement remain in their school of origin unless it is not in the child’s best interest. In response, the Committee proposed new Rule 1148 to establish a procedural requirement for the court to conduct a best interest analysis if a child in placement was not to remain in their school of origin. The Rule’s purpose was to maintain the child’s educational stability. Further, this requirement would extend beyond dependency proceedings to include the removal of a juvenile from home in delinquency proceedings via new Rule 148. Both Rule 148 and Rule 1148 would be applicable to any order resulting in the placement of a child or the removal of a juvenile from home.

Effective May 1, 2019, any order resulting in the removal of the juvenile from home or a change in placement shall address educational stability in the following manner:

- A juvenile removed from home shall remain in their school of origin unless the court finds remaining in the school of origin is not in the juvenile’s best interest or protective of the community.
- If the court finds that it is not in the best interest for the juvenile or protective of the community to remain in the school of origin, then the court may order the juvenile to be enrolled in another school that best meets the juvenile’s needs.
- If a court orders the juvenile to be enrolled in another school, then the juvenile shall attend a public school unless the court finds that a public school is not in the best interest of the juvenile or protective of the community.

Should you have any questions regarding these amendments, please contact Richard D. Steele (ricsteele@pa.gov) or Robert Tomassini (rtomassini@pa.gov).



SAVE *the* DATE

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

**NOVEMBER
6-8, 2019**

2019 James E. Anderson

**PENNSYLVANIA
CONFERENCE
ON JUVENILE JUSTICE**

2019 JCJC AWARD PROGRAM NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that nominations for the 2019 JCJC Awards Program are now open and include eight professional categories, as well as the youth awards contest. The awards will be presented at the 2019 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice on November 6 and 7, 2019 at the Harrisburg Hilton.

Nomination packets have been sent to juvenile court judges, chief juvenile probation officers, and agencies currently serving delinquent youth in the juvenile justice system. The Awards Committee requests that all juvenile justice professionals encourage youth under their jurisdiction to participate in the contest. Both Professional and Youth Awards materials must be postmarked by **June 1, 2019**.

We encourage you to help honor exemplary performances by individuals and programs serving children in Pennsylvania. Please contact Keith Graybill at 717.705.9006 or at kgraybill@pa.gov if you have any questions or need further assistance. Thank you for partnership and ongoing commitment to this program.

2019 Professional Awards Program

The 2019 Professional Awards Program includes the below categories:

Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year - any individual who supervises probation officers, but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, as of the date of the nomination letter's postmark. This category includes all Deputy Chiefs, Assistant Directors, Supervisors, and others functioning in a similar capacity.

Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year - any individual who is employed as a Juvenile Probation Officer, but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Deputy Chief, or Juvenile Probation Supervisor, as of the date of the nomination letter's postmark.

Residential Program of the Year - any public or private sector program serving alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth in a residential setting. This includes foster homes, group homes, residential treatment programs, general child care facilities, shelter care facilities, detention centers, independent living programs, and other programs providing out-of-home, overnight care to children. Award winners prior to 2015 are eligible for nomination.

Community-Based Program of the Year - any public or private sector program, not operated by the Court, which provides community-based, non-residential care to alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth, including but not limited to, day treatment programs, in-home services, Boys and Girls Clubs, and outpatient services.

Court Operated Program of the Year - any program operated by court employees which serves alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

Meritorious Service Award - any individual not receiving remuneration for working with at risk, alleged and/or delinquent children. This individual is a volunteer committed to furthering the development of youth in the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile Court Support Service Award - any individual who provides clerical, secretarial, management, information technology or other support services to the Juvenile Court. This includes receptionists, secretaries, clerk/typists, information technology specialists, fiscal specialists, office managers, and others functioning in a similar support capacity.

Victim Advocate Award - any individual who works on behalf of crime victims in a district attorney's office, juvenile probation department, or in a community-based agency. This individual does not need to be in a position that is entirely dedicated to victims of juvenile crime, but it should be a significant part of their position.

2019 YOUTH AWARDS PROGRAM - additionally, the JCJC will again sponsor a Youth Awards Program to honor youth selected as winners in the Creative Expression and Outstanding Achievement contests. This year's theme is "**Resilience - My Journey, My Voice, My Opportunity**". The requirements of each nomination can be found by clicking the links below.

[Creative Expression Contest Entry Form](#)
[Outstanding Achievement Contest Entry Form](#)



Call for Presentations

The 2019 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 6 - 8, 2019

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

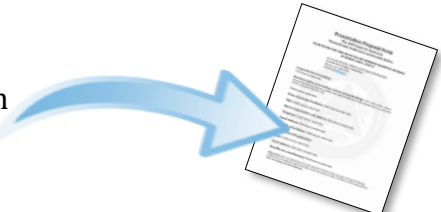
The 2019 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, sponsored by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges will be held November 6-8, 2019, at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers.

Each year the Conference includes workshops that highlight practices, programs and initiatives that exemplify best-practices related to the various components of Pennsylvania's Balanced & Restorative Justice mission and our Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). This year's workshops will take place on Thursday, November 7, 2019. The workshops will be 90 minutes in length and will be repeated via morning and afternoon sessions.

We enthusiastically welcome submissions for presentations. Interested parties can complete and submit the following presentation proposal form. Please note that up to two facilitators from each selected workshop will receive free Conference registration and meals (facilitators are responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses).

Submissions for presentations are due by Monday, June 3, 2019, and can be directed to Leo J. Lutz, Director of Policy and Program Development at lelutz@pa.gov.

Presentation Proposal Form
Click here to download
or visit:



<https://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/AnnualConference/Documents/Call%20for%20Presentations%202019.docx>

COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

ERIE COUNTY SPEP™ KICK-OFF MEETING

Submitted by Shannon O'Lone, EPISCenter

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Bob Blakely hosted Erie County's successful SPEP™ (Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol) Kick-Off meeting on February 19, 2019. Erie joins fifteen other counties that are implementing the SPEP™ to develop systematic change by partnering with Providers in aligning services to evidence-based practices.

The Honorable Judge John J. Trucilla volunteered his courtroom space for the venue and gave his support for the SPEP™ process by opening the presentation and thanking all in attendance for their continued commitment to the Balanced and Restorative mission of Juvenile Justice and for their interest and support in improving services for all youth. As the Juvenile Court President Judge, his support for State initiatives has been instrumental in the goal of improving outcomes for youth in Erie County. Judge Trucilla further highlighted the importance of continued commitment, communication, and collaboration at all levels in the Juvenile Court Process. Several regional Service Providers were present, as well as representatives from Erie County Juvenile Probation and Resource Management, Department of Human Services, Office of Children and Youth, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and Court Administration.

The presentation gave a comprehensive view of SPEP™ in Pennsylvania since the project began in 2013 up to the current status in 2019. Angela Work, from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, began the presentation with PA State data that provided a background for recent trends as it relates to Service Provider alignment through the SPEP™. Chief Blakely followed with county-specific data that reflect trends in Erie County that would be of particular interest to local Service Providers, both residential and community-based, moving forward in the engagement process. Shawn Peck, SPEP™ Project Manager from Penn State EPISCenter, presented on the SPEP™ project at a national and state level providing a timeline to provide insight into the lessons learned. Shannon O'Lone, SPEP™ Implementation Specialist also from the EPISCenter, presented on the research behind the SPEP™ from Vanderbilt University and provided an overview of the SPEP™ process as it pertains to the partnership. Mary Jo Battle, Erie County Juvenile Probation Supervisor, elaborated on the importance of this partnership between Probation and Provider as we move forward engaging local Service Providers. Justin McDonald, Director of Clinical Services from Outside In, gave the concluding presentation detailing the positive experience and benefits of the SPEP™ from the perspective of the Provider.

In addition, Bill Holt, Provider Services Supervisor, and Bill Shultz, Placement Liaison, both from Allegheny County Juvenile Probation, were on hand to show their support for the SPEP™ in Erie County and also to answer questions about engagement and implementation of the SPEP™ with Service Providers they have partnered with. For more information about the SPEP™, please visit the Penn State EPISCenter website at www.episcenter.psu.edu.

Congratulations

Susan Blackburn was recognized by the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers at their general membership meeting on March 15, 2019. Ms. Blackburn was recognized for her decades-long engagement with the Council, both as the former Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Somerset County, and for her years of service with the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Congratulations, Susi!

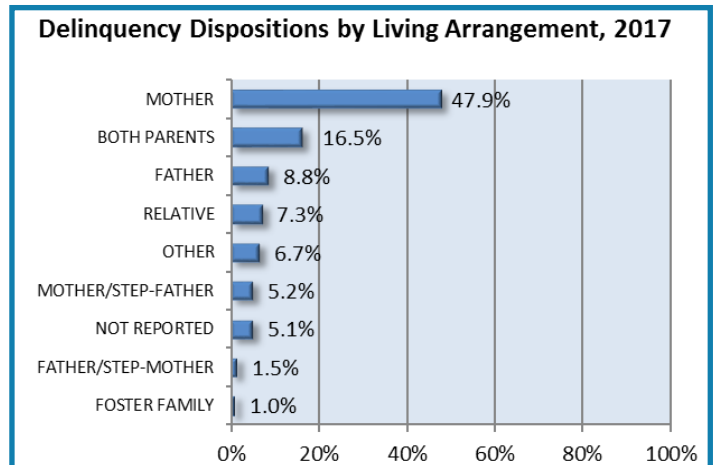
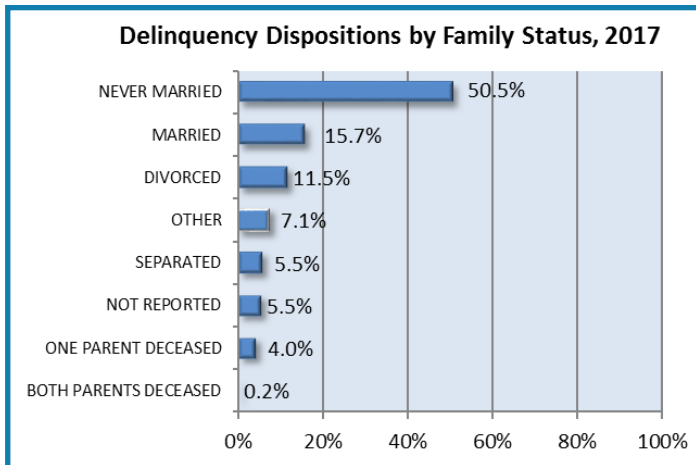


PENNSYLVANIA'S 2017 JUVENILE COURT ANNUAL REPORT

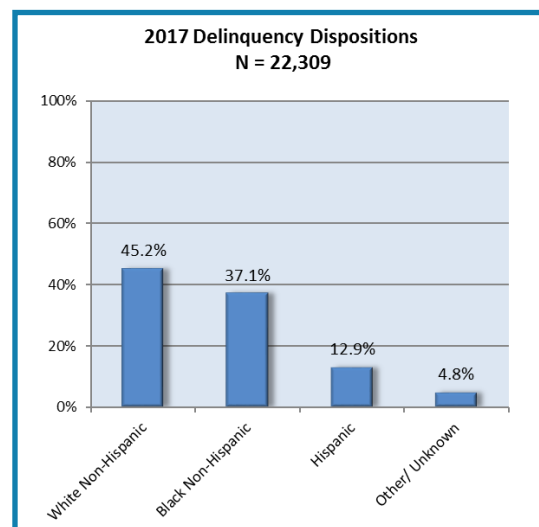
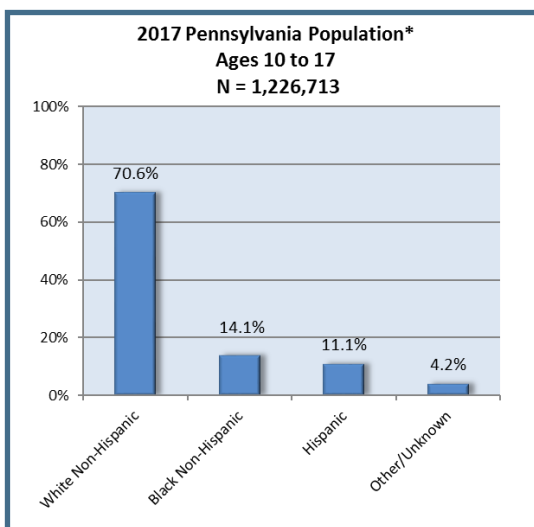
Juvenile Demographics - Family Status, Living Arrangement, and Race/Ethnicity

As we continue with the series of newsletter highlights on the Pennsylvania 2017 Juvenile Court Annual Report, this issue examines the family status, living arrangement, and race/ethnicity of juveniles who were active with Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice in 2017.

In juvenile delinquency dispositions, youth whose parents were reported as never married represented the largest group—greater than 50%. In only 15.7% of cases, the parents were reported as married at the time of disposition. The majority of youth (47.9%) resided only with their mother, while only 16.5% of juveniles resided with both parents.



In 2017, White Non-Hispanic youth represented the largest racial/ethnic category for all delinquency dispositions. However, in comparison to the racial/ethnic distribution of all youth in Pennsylvania ages 10-17, the representation of Black Non-Hispanic youth is disproportionate: 14.1% of the total population versus 37.1% of all delinquency dispositions. When excluding Philadelphia County and Allegheny County, Black Non-Hispanic youth represent 8.2% of the youth population, but 26.6% of all delinquency dispositions.



*2017 Population Estimates retrieved from The Centers for Disease Control available online at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/bridged-race-population.html>.

County-specific data on juvenile demographics can be found in the appendices of the [Pennsylvania 2017 Juvenile Court Annual Report](#).

STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

April

8-12 Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation Professional—Blended Learning Course
Camp Hill

29-30 Youth Mental Health First Aid
Harrisburg

May

16 Graduated Response Systems Forum
State College

22 MI Forum
State College

30-31 Understanding Mood Disorders and Why Youth with Trauma and Attachment Disorders Have Anxiety and Depression
Harrisburg

June

11 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
Harrisburg

September

12-13 Level 1 SPEP Specialist Training
State College

October

1 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
State College

2 Case Plan Forum
State College

22 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
Greensburg

Registration available at
www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us

GRADUATED REPOSE SYSTEMS FORUM

A Graduated Response Systems Forum is scheduled on May 16, 2019, at Toftrees Resort located in State College. Dr. Naomi Goldstein will facilitate the training with the assistance of the members of the Graduated Response Workgroup. The forum will provide participants with a philosophical, practical, and procedural overview of graduated response systems in juvenile probation. The interconnectedness of graduated response systems with various aspects of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy will be discussed. Participants will be provided information and resources to assist in the local development and implementation of a graduated response system including the development of policies, protocols, and graduated response matrices. Participation is open to all leadership or staff who will be, or are, responsible for the implementation of a graduated response system in their respective Juvenile Probation Departments. Additional details and registration are available on the [JCJC Event Management System \(JEMS\)](#).

2018 JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY RESULTS

In continuation of a multi-part newsletter series, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is pleased to share the graduated response and motivational interviewing infographics on the following pages to illustrate the implementation and sustainability of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) in Pennsylvania. The Graduated Response Systems Forum (May 16, 2019 at Toftrees Resort in State College) and the Motivational Interviewing Coaches' Forum (May 22, 2019 at the Days Inn in State College) are quickly approaching. To register for either of these events, please go to the [JCJC Event Management System \(JEMS\)](#).



JJSES Implementation Survey 2018

STAGE II: INITIATION

MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING (MI)

Has your department implemented Motivational Interviewing?

Yes (89%) No (11%)

If no...

100% plan to implement MI during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.



71% of departments have initiated formal implementation of the seven recommended steps in the "Motivational Interviewing: Implementation and Practice Manual".

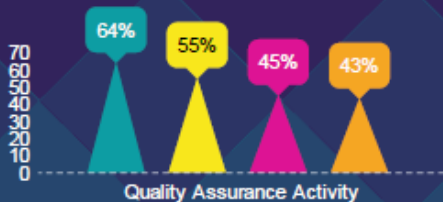
If yes...

There are 139 MI Coaches in juvenile probation departments across the state of Pennsylvania.

49% of MI Coach(s) are responsible for training & quality assurance.

What methods of quality assurance have been initiated?

Booster Training Skills Practice Coaching Sessions Sessions Coding



58% of departments stated they plan to implement new MI activities during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

100% have initiated/completed Step I...

96% Step II...

98% Step III...

83% Step IV...

87% Step V...

72% Step VI...

68% Step VII.

55% have a MI policy.





JJSES Implementation Survey 2018

STAGE III: BEHAVIORAL CHANGE

GRADUATED RESPONSES

Has your department implemented graduated responses?

Yes (58%) No (42%)



If no...

55% plan to implement graduated responses during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.



39% have developed a graduated response policy addressing the use of effective to non-compliant behavior and incentives for pro-social behavior.

47% said the majority of their staff has received formal graduated response training.

54% have a Graduated Response Coordinator(s).

26% in progress.

Does your department use the graduated response module in PaJCMS?

39% have a Graduated Response Matrix including related activities addressing the use of effective responses for non-compliant behavior and incentives for pro-social behaviors.

52% plan to implement new graduated response activities during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

13% yes in the majority of applicable cases.

8% yes but not in the majority of applicable cases.

19% in progress.



ADDITIONAL LEVEL 2 SPEP™ TRAINERS ARE TRAINED FOR EXPANSION OF THE SPEP™ IN PENNSYLVANIA

A Level 2 SPEP™ Training was facilitated on March 4th and 5th by Level 3 Master Trainers, overseen by Dr. Gabrielle Chapman, Director for Translational Justice Research, Vanderbilt University. Level 2 SPEP™ Trainers are eligible to train Level 1 SPEP™ Specialists to implement the SPEP™. The Level 2 SPEP™ Trainers received advanced training on the research behind the SPEP™ and will participate in statewide process development meetings to help establish best practices for SPEP™ implementation. Bill Keim from Berks County, Sue Christner from Lebanon County, and Bill Shultz from Allegheny County were trained by Lisa Freese, Amy Herb and Shawn Peck, all from the Penn State EPISCenter.

The expansion of SPEP™ implementation in Pennsylvania requires additional Level 2 SPEP™ Trainers to facilitate booster trainings at Regional SPEP™ Learning Community (LC) Meetings. The SPEP™ Learning Community consists of all juvenile probation staff and EPISCenter staff trained to implement the SPEP™. In addition to booster training, LC members meet to discuss the SPEP™ activity led by each county, receive updated resources, and discuss issues associated with the implementation of the SPEP™. In February 2019, the Learning Community Meetings were regionalized (East and West) to accommodate the increasing number of Level 1 SPEP™ Specialists.



Pictured left to right: Shawn Peck, Bill Keim, Amy Herb, Dr. Gabrielle Chapman, Sue Christner, Lisa Freese, and Bill Shultz

Under the direction of Dr. Chapman, Pennsylvania has become the first state to have SPEP™ Level 3 Master Trainers. In 2014, Pennsylvania became the first state to have Level 2 SPEP™ Trainers, three of which remain active with the SPEP™ project; Jeff Gregro from Berks County, Nicole Mattern from Dauphin County, and Tracie Davies from Lehigh County.



Dr. Thomas L. Austin Undergraduate Scholarship Fund

We invite you to participate in supporting the Dr. Thomas L. Austin Undergraduate Scholarship Fund. Since 1986, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to an undergraduate student at Shippensburg University majoring in Criminal Justice. This scholarship is named in honor of Dr. Thomas L. Austin, who taught in the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University from its inception in 1982 until his retirement in 2011. The criteria for this scholarship are academic excellence and an interest in juvenile justice.

Donate to the Juvenile Justice Scholarship Fund today!
<https://tinyurl.com/JJScholarshipFund>

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Did you know...JCJC/CJIT&R Report Writers maintain 155 PaJCMS (canned) reports and 1,266 custom county reports that are available in the PaJCMS application? They also maintain the individual dashboards with the iDashboards program and provide information for various research projects and data requests.

Making a change...Last Spring, we began the process of preparing to make the switch to using Microsoft Sql Server Report Services (SSRS) Report Builder application. Our organization worked with Global Data Consultants (GDC) to configure the application environment and in the converting of a few existing Crystal Reports. In 2019, we have been working with the Enterprise Data Center (EDC) in getting this application deployed for use in PaJCMS. It is currently in the final testing stages and will be deployed to production in the coming months.

Once the application is working properly in the PaJCMS environment, we will be in the process of converting the existing reports. The conversion process will be ongoing. This means you will continue to access any report through PaJCMS, but the screen view of the report may vary depending if it was converted. Below is an example of how the converted report screen will appear.

Juvenile Name	Assmt Type	Assmt Date	Score	Risk Status	Risk Factors	PO Assigned	Interviewer
					OD FP EE PR SA LR PB AO		

PaJCMS Release Update...On Friday, March 29, 2019 from 12:00PM - 1:00PM a new version of the PaJCMS application will be released in order to install the latest version, 6.7.2.

This upgrade will include:

- Screen changes to show Disposition definitions
- New Disposition and Placement validations
- PaDRAI Outcomes screen and PaDRAI Outcomes Needed alerts
- Added column to Referral List screen (to show whether a case is calculated as a dependent/delinquent case)
- Supervisor Dashboard enhancements
- Updated YLS 2.0 definitions
- Ability to terminate Hearing By rows in LTM
- Other miscellaneous bug fixes and validations

Many of the updates and enhancements included in this release are directly related to the recently published *Procedures Manual for Reporting Juvenile Court Dispositions*. An online tutorial reviewing disposition reporting in PaJCMS is available through the [JEMS](#) online tutorial section.

If you have any questions regarding the scheduled upgrade, please do not hesitate to contact our Help Desk team at 717-477-1199 or at RA-JCICHELPDESK@pa.gov.

MARCH IS NATIONAL BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

Studies have indicated that Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is associated with higher levels of aggression and impulsivity. Youth active in the juvenile justice system with a reported TBI are more likely to have been a victim of violence or witness a victimization occur. Adolescents with a history of TBI have higher levels of delinquency, bullying and peer anti-social influence. Timely detection of TBIs is essential for suitable treatment and the minimizing of post TBI affects. Symptoms of head injuries can include:

For **mild head injuries**:

- Raised swollen area from a bump
- Headache
- Irritability or abnormal behavior
- Problems with memory or concentration
- Change in sleep patterns
- Tiredness and/or lack of energy

For **moderate or severe head injuries**:

- Loss of consciousness
- Slurred speech
- Intensified headache
- Loss of short-term memory
- Weakness in one side or area of the body
- Repeated nausea and vomiting

Additional Resources:

<http://teenmentalhealth.org/product/brain-injury-adolescence/>

<https://www.braintrauma.org/faq>

<http://www.protectthebrain.org/Brain-Injury-Research/What-is-a-Concussion.aspx>

Vaughn, M. G., Salas-Wright, C. P., DeLisi, M. and Perron, B. (2014). Correlates of traumatic brain injury among juvenile offenders: A multi-site study. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 24, 188– 203.

BRAIN INJURY IN KIDS

ALMOST half A MILLION KIDS are treated in an emergency department each year for traumatic brain injury*, including concussion.

* alone or along with other injuries or conditions.

THAT'S MORE THAN 5,000 OF THE NATION'S LARGEST SCHOOL BUSES FILLED TO CAPACITY.

SOME BRAIN INJURY SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Blurred Vision
- Difficulty Thinking Clearly
- Sensitivity to Noise & Light

50% of BRAIN INJURIES AMONG KIDS ARE DUE TO **FALLS**

WHAT TO DO if you think a child has A BRAIN INJURY

- A ASSESS** THE SITUATION
- B BE ALERT** FOR BRAIN INJURY SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS
- C CONTACT** A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

LEARN MORE SYMPTOMS @
www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury

HELP KEEP KIDS SAFE from BRAIN INJURY

- STAIR GATES**
Use gates at the top and bottom of stairs to prevent serious falls among infants and toddlers.
- CAR SEATS**
Use child safety seats and booster seats that are correct for a child's age and weight. Make sure they are properly installed.
- HELMETS**
Make sure your child always wears the right helmet for their activity and that it fits correctly.
- SOFT SURFACES**
Use playgrounds with a soft landing surface (such as sand or wood chips, not dirt or grass).

LEARN more AT:
www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

SPEP™ Specialist / Education Program Associate 3 JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION SPEP™ Specialist – Education Program Associate 3 - Fixed Term 1

Link for job posting: <https://psu.jobs/job/86240>

INTRODUCTION The position of SPEP™ Specialist is part of the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenter) in the Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center (PRC) at Penn State University. This position is part of a team responsible for the statewide rollout of the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™), an initiative to apply evidence from meta-analysis to strengthen and improve programs and services for juvenile offenders in Pennsylvania. This is a fixed-term appointment with excellent potential for renewal.

RESPONSIBILITIES The job responsibilities for the SPEP™ Specialist involve partnering with local juvenile probation offices and juvenile justice service providers to engage them in the process of having their practices assessed using the SPEP™. This will include supporting the adoption and sustainment of SPEP™ for a region of counties in PA, conducting the SPEP™ across counties in that region in a timely and accurate fashion.

The SPEP™ Specialist will work with a specified protocol to:

- Cultivate, develop, and maintain client relationships and partner with local juvenile probation offices and juvenile justice service providers to engage them in the process of having their practices assessed using the SPEP™;
- Interpret and communicate SPEP™ concepts, information, ideas and instructions clearly, accurately and persuasively both verbally and in writing;
- Proactively and collaboratively schedule SPEP™ meetings with county probation offices and service providers for each phase of the SPEP™ (i.e., orientation and readiness; service identification; service classification; quality of service assessment; data collection on service duration and dosage, and youth risk levels; performance improvement; reassessment);
- Facilitate meetings regarding those findings to ensure that all stakeholders understand how the data was used to establish the predicted recidivism, the evidence base behind the predicted recidivism, and the implications of those findings to improve the utilization and delivery of the services assessed;
- Address any questions or concerns about the findings and improvement implications; resolve or reconcile discrepancies in opinions or information;
- Conduct quarterly performance improvement plan “progress update calls/meetings” with probation and service provider staff to support implementation of the performance improvement plan;
- Facilitate a re-assessment of service delivery and usage, which will follow the implementation of the improvement plan;

SPEP™ Specialists will be trained in all aspects of the SPEP™ assessment process and will field train with EPISCenter and PA SPEP™ trainers across the state. Successful completion of all training requirements leads to certification by Vanderbilt University as a SPEP™ Specialist. Specialist certification is followed by training and coaching to become a certified SPEP™ Trainer.



JDCAP
Juvenile Detention Centers
and Alternative Programs

NPJS TRAINING FOR TRAINERS

Presented by:

National Partnership for Juvenile Services

Hosted by: Juvenile Detention Centers and Alternative Programs

When: August 5 - 9, 2019
Mon -Thu 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Fri 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Where: County Commissioners Association of PA
2789 Old Post Road
Harrisburg, PA 17110

JDCAP is once again hosting a week long (4.5-day) Training for Trainers designed to engage agency trainers in developing the skills necessary to enhance performance of staff working with troubled youth. Attendees will participate in experiential learning to better apply adult learning methodology to their agency training events. The session will utilize the new National Partnership for Juvenile Services (NPJS) training curricula as a foundation for this event.

Contact lawyer@pacounties.org for more information.



Open House

North Central Secure Treatment Unit Boys & Girls Programs

WHAT: Join us for our first **North Central Secure Treatment Unit Open House.**

Come tour our facilities and meet our staff to see what treatment and vocation services our youth receive: DBT, T4C, Forward Thinking, Trauma-Informed Care, Education, Career & Tech, Reintegration services & much more.

WHO: Juvenile Justice stakeholders including but not limited to Juvenile Probation teams and Judges in the following counties:

Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Columbia, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 10:00am

WHERE: North Central Secure Treatment Unit, 36 Kirkbride Drive, Danville PA, 17821

HOW: RSVP by May 3, 2019 by emailing your contact information to: spavelko@pa.gov. Further details will be sent upon receipt of registration.

*Please note that an invite for a future open house will be sent to our stakeholders in the Central and Western counties at a later date.

The Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services YDC/YFC System

Mission Statement: The Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services (BJJS) will provide a system of individualized treatment services that values strong child, family & community partnerships; promotes competency development & victim awareness; & enhances the quality & coordination of our juvenile justice system.



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements are reprinted from JUVJUST, an OJJDP news service:

OJJDP STATISTICAL BRIEFING BOOK OFFERS NEW ARREST DATA RESOURCES

OJJDP has added new arrest data resources on its [Statistical Briefing Book](#):

- The latest [Data Snapshot](#) draws on analysis of arrest data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program to compare arrests of older juveniles ages 15 to 17 with arrests of adults ages 18 to 20 and 21 to 24.
- Customizable arrest tables have been added to the [Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime](#) section.



The new tables and charts provide access to national arrest data and support custom annual and trend displays detailed by offense, age, and gender, or by offense, race, and age.

Developed for OJJDP by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#), the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#), the [Statistical Briefing Book](#) offers easy online access to statistics on a variety of juvenile justice topics.

RESOURCES:

- Check out the full list of [Data Snapshots](#) available from the Statistical Briefing Book.
- More information about [Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime](#) can be found on the Statistical Briefing Book.
- Keep up with OJJDP's Statistical Briefing Book on [Twitter](#).

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS' BLOG DISCUSSES SUCCESS OF OJJDP-FUNDED NATIONAL GANG CENTER

The Office of Justice Programs has posted a new [blog](#) highlighting how the OJJDP-funded [National Gang Center](#) (NGC) and OJJDP's [Comprehensive Gang Model](#) helped to reduce violent crime that involved a known gang member or gang associate by nearly 56 percent in Fort Pierce, Fla., from 2016 to 2017. The blog describes how NGC and OJJDP successfully worked with leaders in St. Lucie County, Fla., to implement the Comprehensive Gang Model in Fort Pierce, which included providing technical training. The blog also highlights OJJDP's grant funding that helped Fort Pierce leaders form an intervention team to assist in youth job training, drug treatment, mentoring, and policing. "The progress in Fort Pierce is an example of the progress we can achieve," said OJJDP Administrator Caren Harp.

RESOURCES:

- [Learn more](#) about the OJJDP-funded National Gang Center.
- See OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#) for [gang prevention programs](#).

APPLICATIONS FOR CJJR YOUTH IN CUSTODY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM BEING ACCEPTED

The [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#) (CJJR) is accepting applications for its [Youth in Custody Certificate Program](#), to be held July 22-26, 2019 at Georgetown University in partnership with the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators. This training is designed to help juvenile justice system leaders and partners improve outcomes for youth in

custodial settings, covering critical areas including racial and ethnic disparities, family engagement, assessment, case planning, facility-based education and treatment services, reentry planning and support, and culture change. [Apply](#) by April 12, 2019.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR GLOBAL YOUTH JUSTICE TRAINING

On June 18-20, 2019, [Global Youth Justice](#), in collaboration with the [National African American Drug Policy Coalition](#), will host its [22nd Global Youth Justice Training](#) in Las Vegas, NV. Participants will learn strategies to establish or enhance local volunteer-driven juvenile justice and youth justice diversion programs called Youth/Teen/Student/Peer Court or Peer Jury. Training will address administrative, operational, programmatic, and fiscal topics related to implementing and enhancing these early intervention diversion programs. [Register](#) for the training.



OJJDP ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

OJJDP has announced the following fiscal year 2019 funding opportunities:

- [Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children](#) Applications are due by April 15, 2019.
- [Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative](#) Applications are due by April 22, 2019.
- [VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Prosecutors](#) Applications are due by April 22, 2019.
- [Juvenile Justice Emergency Planning and Demonstration Program](#) Applications are due by April 22, 2019.
- [National Mentoring Resource Center](#) Applications are due by April 29, 2019.
- [Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force National Training Program](#) Applications are due by April 30, 2019.
- [Drug Treatment Courts Training and Technical Assistance Program](#) Applications are due by May 6, 2019.
- [Opioid Affected Youth Initiative](#) Applications are due by May 7, 2019.
- [Enhancements for Juvenile Indigent Defense](#) Applications are due by May 8, 2019.
- [NIJ Funding Opportunity: National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis Program](#) Applications are due by May 20, 2019.



RESOURCES:

- Visit the [funding page](#) for details about these and other OJJDP funding opportunities.



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FIRST LADY MEETS WITH INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON YOUTH PROGRAMS

On March 18, 2019, in Washington, DC, First Lady Melania Trump met with Office of Justice Programs' Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Matt Dummermuth during a [meeting of the Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs](#). The First Lady convened the working group to discuss federal programs related to the three pillars of her "Be Best" campaign, which focuses on the well-being of children, social media safety, and families affected by opioid abuse. OJJDP Administrator Caren Harp also attended the meeting. OJJDP provides grants to many programs that further "Be Best" objectives, including services and programs to [protect children](#), help [opioid-affected youth](#), and provide [mentoring opportunities](#) for at-risk youth.

RESOURCES:

- Learn more about OJJDP [programs](#).

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS' BLOG DISCUSSES SCHOOL SAFETY FINAL REPORT

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has posted a new [blog](#) discussing the Federal Commission on School Safety's [final report](#), which provides federal resources and recommendations for preventing violence in schools. The report highlights OJP resources that are available to help states and local communities implement school safety initiatives. These resources cited include the [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's I-Guide on school-based bullying prevention](#). The blog also highlights the nearly \$47 million in OJP grants made available through the STOP School Violence Act of 2018 to support school violence prevention programs.

RESOURCES:

- See [OJJDP's Model Programs Guide](#) to learn about programs promoting school safety.
- Access bullying prevention resources from [OJJDP](#).

National Crime Victims' Rights Rally

SAVE THE DATE
April 8, 2019

Capitol Rotunda at 11 a.m.

We welcome you to bring signs, posters and wear t-shirts in support of victims of crime and join us on the capitol steps during the rally.

Reserve your exhibit space:

Exhibit tables are available at no cost, but space is limited. You are also welcome to bring brochures for our general resource table. To reserve an exhibit table, contact msiskr@ship.edu.

Visit us on Facebook:
[crimevictimsallianceofpennsylvania](#)

For more information, email:
cvap.vsn@gmail.com

Honoring Our Past.

Creating Hope for the Future.

This publication is produced monthly by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Guest articles are welcome; please submit by e-mail to ra-oajcnews@pa.gov.

To subscribe to Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice, please send your request to ra-oajcnews@pa.gov to be added to the distribution list. You will receive an e-mail alert each month when the latest edition is available.

