

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Wolf, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 27, Number 12

December 2016

2016 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice Professional Caucuses Summary

On November 2, 2016, participants of the 2016 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice had an opportunity to join with colleagues from their area of specialty/interest within Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest. Caucuses were held for each of the following roles: Chiefs/Deputy Chiefs, Supervisors, Juvenile Probation Officers, Victim Services, and Service Providers. In addition, a Juvenile Prosecutors' caucus was added to this year's conference. Juvenile justice system trends, such as drug use, social media and technology, as well as new initiatives within the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), create challenges that are unique to each specialty. Hence, the professional caucuses provide a safe and structured outlet for each respective group to engage in dialogue with their peers, as well as to brainstorm ideas that address these important issues.

Professional Caucuses provide a safe and structured outlet for stakeholders to engage in dialogue with their peers, as well as brainstorm ideas to address important issues.

A summary of the professional caucus discussions is highlighted below.

Chief and Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officers discussed a variety of topics during their session. Caucus facilitator, Teresa Wilcox from McKean County, led a conversation regarding the increased number of juveniles with significant mental health issues becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. The discussion focused on how juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth are addressing youths' mental health needs with the limited resources available.

The topic of implementing quality assurance procedures related to the use of evidence-based practices was highlighted. Chiefs were also asked to discuss their successes, challenges and needs associated with Motivational Interviewing. Additionally, caucus participants shared their experiences with the development and implementation of local graduated response systems. Finally, participants engaged in discussion regarding the structure of the general membership meetings for the Chiefs Council. Participants agreed that Chiefs meetings could be enhanced by providing more opportunities for deep discussion of issues, and allotting time for presentations of critical topics.

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In the **Juvenile Probation Officer Supervisor** caucus John Frank from Blair County led a discussion in which participants identified several key areas of focus. Participants first discussed their experiences with the Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS) and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) data sharing process. Next, supervisors considered issues related to the implementation of the Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (PaDRAI). It was noted that line staff have been generally accepting to the tool, however, several counties have experienced resistance from stakeholder groups, such as schools and police departments.

The challenges related to youth with mental health needs was also deliberated.

Participants agreed that the concept of self-care demands prioritization in the field.

During this discussion, participants emphasized concerns regarding continuity of care when youth are released from residential placement facilities. Specific examples included the need for seamless transfer of medication prescriptions, and the lack of adequate mental health treatment resources in the youths' home communities. Supervisors agreed that better coordination between residential and community-based treatment needs to be a priority in order to improve quality of care.

During the caucus, attention to staff needs emerged as the highest priority for supervisors. Participants agreed that the concept of self-care demands prioritization in the field. Many supervisors expressed concern that line staff feel overwhelmed by the pace of initiative implementation. There was also discussion related to providing care to staff as they confront and address trauma in their everyday work.

Many topics were discussed during the **Juvenile Probation Officer** caucus, which was guided by Angela Work of McKean County. A number of participants were interested in details about the Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) model which is currently being piloted by seven counties. Participants from EPICS pilot counties shared their experiences for the benefit of those who were interested in learning more. There was purposeful discussion on the case plan. Many of the specific comments related to the case plan focused on training, linking the plan to assessment results, identifying and incorporating skill deficits, and transitioning away from the case plan in JCMS. There was also discussion involving the upcoming YLS 2.0 conversion,

best practices around supervising low risk offenders, and the EBP Supervisor Briefcase curriculum.

During the caucus, there was insightful conversation around the idea of quality assurance from the line officers perspective. The exchange centered on the concepts of accountability, quality, and quantity. Given the many initiatives currently in play and the need to show results, the discussion included engaging in tools in a quality manner, and the need for supervisors/management staff to pay attention to this issue. Finally, there was conversation on the impact that increased instances of heroin and opiate overdoses is having on probation officers and departments.

The **Victim Service Providers** caucus was facilitated by Kathleen McGrath from Franklin County and Susan Blackburn of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. A primary concern expressed by those in attendance was the need to keep the rights and needs of victims of youth offenders in the forefront as we continue to advance the JJSES. Specific suggestions included the need for increased data collection for victim restoration efforts, improvements to the practice for obtaining and using victim impact statements, and the inclusion of youth accountability goals in the case planning and supervision process.

Participants discussed the need for victim advocates to have a clear understanding of the nexus between BARJ and the JJSES. Ongoing communication and partnerships between advocates, local victim service providers, and the juvenile court/probation departments is critical. Clearly, the provision of accurate and essential information, as well as services available to crime victims, is limited without adequate knowledge of recent enhancements to the juvenile justice process.

Victim advocates must have a clear understanding of the nexus between BARJ and the JJSES.

Participants also expressed concern that evidence-based practices which emphasize the offender, while critical, can hinder attention to the importance of victim satisfaction, which is a key component of the balanced approach. Strategies to address this issue included assessing and addressing victim needs at various points in the system, as well as increasing use of restorative practices, such as restorative conferences, family group decision making, peacemaking circles, and victim safety plans.

At the caucus for **Service Providers**, Samuel Miller of Cumberland County and Bernadette Bianchi of the

Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services led a discussion of many topics, including meaningful outcomes for providers, the concept of recidivism, the impact of the conversion to YLS 2.0 to providers, PACTT, traumatic brain injuries, evidenced-based practices, provider court reports, and staff training and turnover. Many service providers expressed the desire to report multiple outcomes related to youth success. While not doubting the importance of recidivism measures, it was noted that there are many factors related to a youth's behavior following their release from a facility or program.

Given the upcoming conversion to YLS 2.0, the need for continued discussion on the risk and need assessment of youth in out-of-home placement was mentioned. In addition, there was some discussion related to the management of youth with traumatic brain injuries in residential placement. There was joint agreement that more resources need to be directed toward addressing the needs of this population.

Finally, the topic of training was raised. Service providers recognize that the JJSES has prompted many changes that have resulted in an increased need for training and education for staff. For example, there was interest in having more YLS trainings provided by JCJC or probation departments so that service providers can better understand the tool and how probation officers make decisions based on factors within the various domains.

As mentioned earlier, **Juvenile Prosecutors** met for their first professional caucus. Russell Carlino of Allegheny County, and Robert Williams of Berks County, were in attendance to represent the Juvenile Probation Departments and show support for the collaboration with the Juvenile Prosecutors. After some brief introductory remarks, Leo Lutz from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission provided an overview of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy and the fundamentals of evidence-based probation practices. The presentation generated questions from the participants, especially around the measurement of recidivism, and the nexus between BARJ and the JJSES. The caucus concluded with a brief discussion on how to best continue to dialogue with juvenile prosecutors. Participants emphasized that the caucus was a great first step. Participants also agreed that juvenile

Participants also agreed that juvenile prosecutors should be included in discussions on local policy development issues affecting the juvenile justice system.

prosecutors should be included in discussions on local policy development issues affecting the juvenile justice system. Finally, it was suggested that representatives of the JJSES Leadership Team attend future meetings of the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association.

A detailed summary of the information collected in all caucuses will be reviewed by JCJC staff and the Executive Committee of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. The effort of the various caucus facilitators was instrumental in the success of each forum, and gratitude is extended to Bernadette Bianchi, Samuel Miller, Jon Frank, Angela Work, Kathleen McGrath, Russell Carlino, Robert Williams and Teresa Wilcox for their work, and to the activity recorders Susan Blackburn, Leo Lutz, Kelly Waltman-Spreha, Nicole Mattern, Alan Tezak, and Robert Tomassini. It is anticipated that the caucuses will again be part of the next Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

NOTICE:

Dates for the

2017 James E. Anderson

Pennsylvania Conference

on Juvenile Justice

have changed.

The conference will

now take place

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2017.

Enhancing Restitution Processes

Restitution is a fundamental way for the juvenile court to hold a youth accountable, while also working to repair the harm to the victim of the crime. Requiring youth to compensate victims for the damage they caused can promote awareness of the consequences of their actions, and ultimately encourage an acceptance of responsibility.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has discussed the importance of evaluating the restitution processes for Pennsylvania Juvenile Courts and suggested that best practices regarding the restitution process should be developed and disseminated to juvenile court judges and practitioners throughout the Commonwealth. Commission Judges Maureen A. Skerda, (Forest/Warren Counties); David R. Workman, (Lancaster County); and Kim Berkeley Clark, (Allegheny County) volunteered to work with the JCJC Executive Director, Rick Steele, and staff at the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) to develop a Judicial Benchbook on Restitution in Pennsylvania.

The ordering and collection of restitution in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system remains a clear goal of the balanced and restorative justice mission of the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system.

Simultaneously, the Victims Services Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers convened a workgroup to examine restitution laws, rules, policies and programs currently in place throughout the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system. The workgroup includes key stakeholders and representatives from all parts of the juvenile justice system and victim support community. The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association and the Office of the Victim Advocate are working together to aid in addressing concerns around restitution.

Many county juvenile probation offices have adopted programs and practices that can be identified as best practices to more effectively collect restitution. The Restitution Workgroup will incorporate these strategies, as well as legal and practical matters, into a handbook/toolkit on restitution in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

Although approximately 81% of the restitution ordered in Pennsylvania juvenile courts is reported to be paid in full upon case closure, there is still a need to continuously strive to improve our collection rates and provide for fair and consistent policy and practice.

The Report of the Restitution Task Force recommended that additional means and tools are needed to assist in the collection of restitution from older youth involved with the juvenile justice system.

When the courts and probation officers make payment of restitution a priority, youth are more likely to make payment a priority. As one of the core principles of balanced and restorative justice, *repair of the harm to the crime victim* must be honored and addressed. Restitution is one way probationers can accomplish this most basic right for victims.



Council of
Chief Juvenile Probation Officers



**Pennsylvania Council of
Chief Juvenile Probation Officers**

50th Anniversary Celebration

When:

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Where:

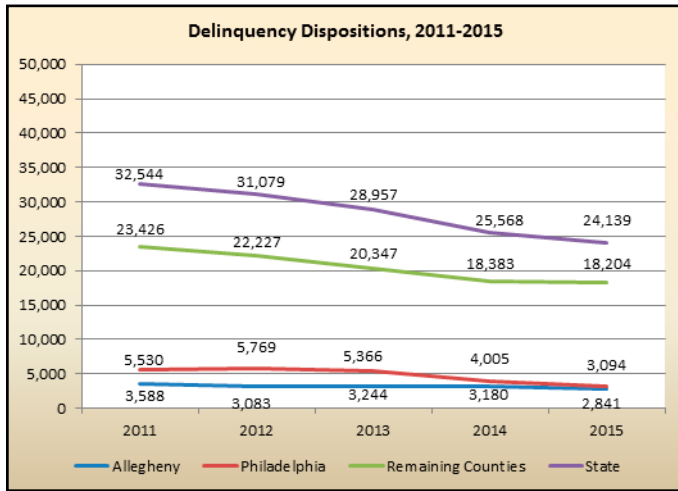
Nittany Lion Inn, State College

More Information to Follow

SAVE THE DATE

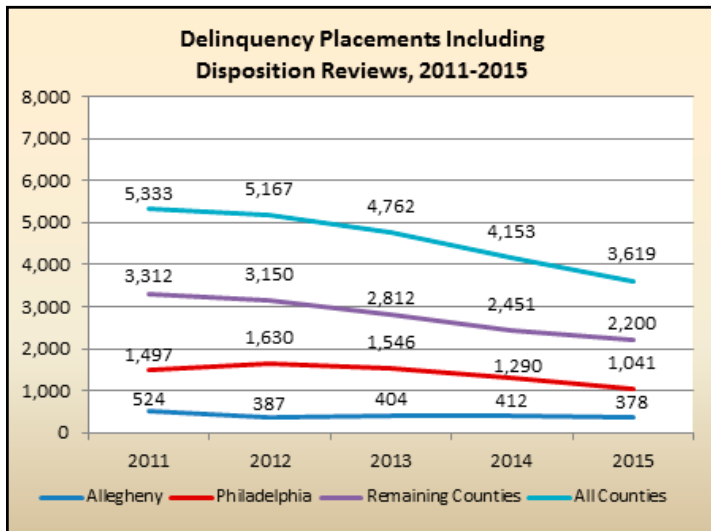
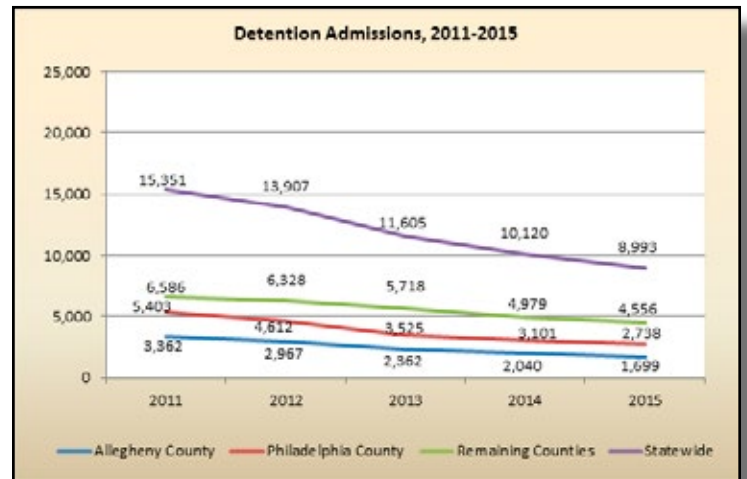
2015 Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Dispositions

Dispositions, Secure Detention, and Placements Continue to Decline



The total number of delinquency-related dispositions in Pennsylvania has decreased in each of the last five years. This includes a 5.6% decrease from 2014, and an overall decrease of 25.8% since 2011. The Commonwealth's largest jurisdictions, Allegheny and Philadelphia, also reported decreases in delinquency dispositions, at 10.7% and 22.7% respectively.

The utilization of secure detention in Pennsylvania continues to decline, as reflected in the 11.1% overall decrease from 2014 to 2015. This includes significant decreases in the Commonwealth's two largest counties, Allegheny (-16.7%) and Philadelphia (-11.7%), which comprised 49.3% of statewide secure detention admissions in 2015. Statewide, secure detention admissions have declined by 41.4% since 2011.



Delinquency placements, including those resulting from dispositional review hearings, have also decreased in each of the last five years. Delinquency placements decreased by 12.9% from 2014 to 2015. The 3,619 delinquency placements in 2015 represented 7.1% of all delinquency dispositions. Statewide, delinquency placements decreased by 32.1% since 2011. Delinquency placements in Philadelphia County decreased 19.3%, and placements in Allegheny County decreased 8.3% from 2014 to 2015.

County-specific data on delinquency dispositions, secure detention admissions, and delinquency placements can be found in the appendices of the [2015 Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Dispositions Report](#).

The Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Recidivism Report: Juveniles with Cases Closed 2007-2012

Part 4 of a 4 part series

In September 2016, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) published its fourth recidivism report, entitled: "The Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Recidivism Report: Juveniles with Cases Closed 2007-2012." Since 2011, JCJC has undertaken the task of monitoring the annual statewide recidivism rates of juvenile offenders who had a case closed from a Pennsylvania juvenile probation department. Initially conducted to determine the relationships that existed between certain juvenile and system-level variables, the current report serves to highlight how juvenile offender characteristics and juvenile recidivism trends have changed over time in Pennsylvania. Recidivism is defined as: within two years of case closure, a subsequent adjudication of delinquency occurs in juvenile court or conviction in criminal court for a felony or misdemeanor offense. Analyses for the current study were based on data collected from youth with cases closed from Pennsylvania juvenile probation departments between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2012. The outcomes presented in this report are reflective of 110,881 youth with cases closed in this time period. Data for this project was compiled from the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Court's (AOPC) Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS).

The following article is Part 4 of a four-part series meant to disseminate the results of this comprehensive work. To review a full copy of the report or the Research Brief, please visit: www.jcjc.pa.gov.

Definitions

Child Offender: a juvenile who was under the age of 13 as of the date of his or her first adjudication of delinquency.

Serious Offender: a juvenile who has been adjudicated delinquent in juvenile court at any point in his or her juvenile offending history for one of the following offenses: burglary, theft (felonies only), arson, drug trafficking (manufacture/deliver/possession with intent to deliver), and extortion (theft by extortion).

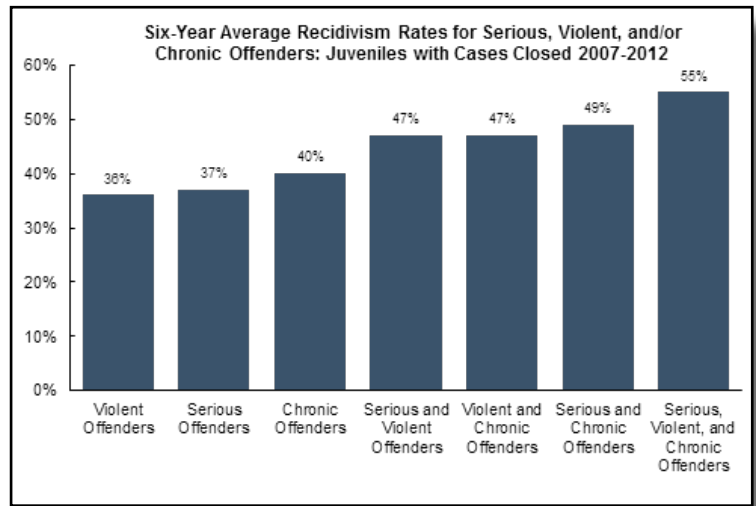
Violent Offender: a juvenile who has been adjudicated delinquent in juvenile court at any point in his or her juvenile offending history for one of the following offenses: homicide or non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, kidnapping, and select firearm/weapon offenses.

Chronic Offender: a juvenile who has four or more previous written allegations for separate incidents that occurred prior to the date of the juvenile's 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, or 2012 case closure.

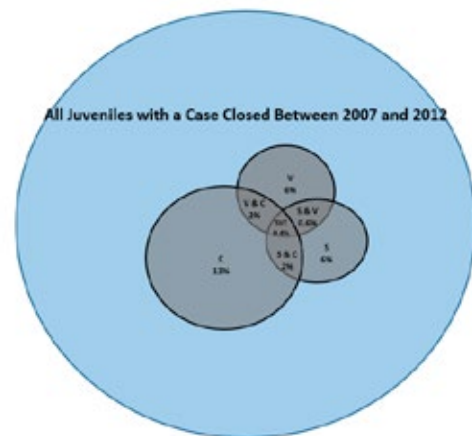
- Across the six years examined, the percentage of juveniles (both recidivists and non-recidivists) identified as a serious, violent, or chronic offender remained relatively stable. The lowest percentage of youth identified as a serious, violent, or chronic offender occurred in 2008 and 2011 (19%), while the percentage of youth identified as such peaked in 2010 (22%).
- Between 2007 and 2012, the recidivism rates of serious, violent, or chronic offenders were consistently at least two times higher than the recidivism rates of juveniles who did not meet such a classification. Furthermore, the recidivism rates of both populations peaked in 2009 (38% and 18%, respectively), while decreasing steadily thereafter.
- The prevalence of serious offenders among all juveniles with cases closed between 2007 and 2012 remained relatively stable, only decreasing one percentage point in that six-year time period (6% to 5%). The recidivism rates of serious offenders ranged from 34% (2007) to 39% (2009).
- The percentage of serious offenders who were White Non-Hispanic decreased 33% (or nineteen percentage points) between 2007 and 2012, from 57% to 38%. Conversely, the percentage of serious offenders who were Black Non-Hispanic increased 35% (or eleven percentage points) in this time period, from 31% to 42%. Similarly, the percentage of serious offenders who were Hispanic increased 42% (or

five percentage points), from 12% in 2007 to 17% in 2012.

- The prevalence of violent offenders among all juveniles with cases closed between 2007 and 2012 remained relatively stable, only increasing one percentage point across that six-year time period (6% in 2007 to 7% in 2012). The recidivism rates of violent offenders ranged from 31% (2007) to 40% (2008).
- The percentage of violent offenders who were Black Non-Hispanic increased 15% (or nine percentage points) between 2007 and 2012, from 58% to 67%. Conversely, the percentage of violent offenders who were White Non-Hispanic decreased 36% (or ten percentage points) in this time period, from 28% to 18%. The percentage of violent offenders who were Hispanic remained stable between 2007 and 2012 at 13%.
- The prevalence of chronic offenders among all juveniles with cases closed between 2007 and 2012 remained relatively stable, only decreasing one percentage point in that six-year time period (14% to 13%), though it did hit a low of 12% in 2011. The recidivism rates of chronic offenders ranged from 37% (2007) to 43% (2009).
- The percentage of chronic offenders who were Black Non-Hispanic increased 28% (or eleven percentage points) between 2007 and 2012, from 39% to 50%. Conversely, the percentage of chronic offenders who were White Non-Hispanic decreased 32% (or sixteen percentage points) in this time period, from 50% to 34%. Similarly, the percentage of chronic offenders who were Hispanic increased about 30% (or three percentage points), from 11% in 2007 to 14% in 2012.
- Across the six years examined, no more than 0.5% of juveniles with cases closed met the definition of a serious, violent, and chronic (SVC) offender. The recidivism rates for these offenders, however, ranged from 47% (2008) to 66% (2009).
- The prevalence of child offenders among all juveniles with cases closed between 2007 and 2012 remained relatively stable, only increasing one percentage point in this six-year time period (2% to 3%). The recidivism rates of child offenders ranged from 29% (2007) to 35% (2008 and 2011).



- The percentage of child offenders who were Black Non-Hispanic remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2012, only increasing two percentage points between 2007 (48%) and 2012 (50%), after dropping to a low of 41% in 2009. The percentage of child offenders who were Hispanic increased about five percentage points, from 10% in 2007 to 15% in 2012. Conversely, the percentage of child offenders who were White Non-Hispanic decreased seven percentage points in this time period, from 40% in 2007 to 33% in 2012.
- Between 2007 and 2012, approximately 50% of child offenders were either a serious offender, a violent offender, or a chronic offender, while only 20% of non-child offenders were a serious offender, a violent offender, or a chronic offender.



Serious, Violent, and/or Chronic Offenders in Pennsylvania: Juveniles with Cases Closed 2007-2012

S= Serious
V= Violent
C= Chronic
SVC= Serious, Violent, and Chronic

S & V= Serious and Violent
S & C= Serious and Chronic
V & C= Violent and Chronic

Crossing Bridges: A Handbook for Community Involvement in Juvenile Justice Through Restorative Practices - Now Available

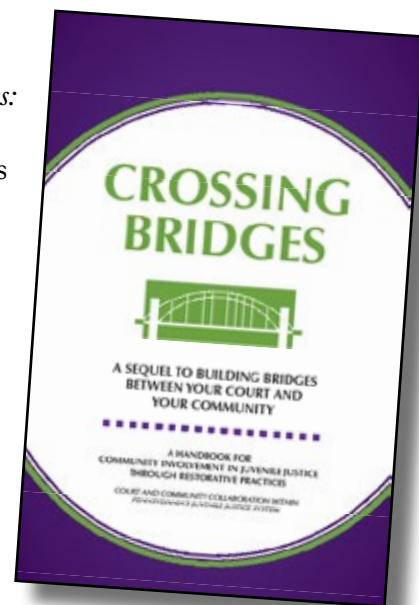
A fresh publication that highlights restorative practices for the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System was released at the 2016 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice. The publication entitled “*Crossing Bridges: A Handbook for Community Involvement in Juvenile Justice through Restorative Practices*” is a sequel to the Court and Community Collaboration Committee’s former publication, “Building Bridges Between Your Court and Your Community.”

This handbook is a guide for people concerned about juvenile justice and those in local communities who want to learn more about restorative practices. The publication describes a range of restorative justice practices that can be applied throughout Pennsylvania to ensure victims’ needs are heard and met, juveniles are held accountable and learn from their negative actions, and community members are actively engaged in making decisions which build relationships and prevent violence.

The Court and Community Collaboration Committee prepared this handbook under the direction of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission to fulfill the vision that communities and juvenile courts throughout the Commonwealth will work together to achieve the goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice.

Restorative justice practices take on different names and may use different language to describe their work, causing some confusion in the field. The “Crossing Bridges” handbook seeks to alleviate this confusion by introducing the Pennsylvania-specific designation for each restorative practice and providing a brief description. Additionally, short vignettes noted throughout the book illustrate the practice, enabling the reader to envision the actual practice. These stories were provided by various restorative justice programs and practitioners throughout the Commonwealth.

This handbook encourages and empowers a legitimate role for our communities to engage in ongoing and open dialogue for effective, fair, and restorative practices for all; and to fulfill the vision that communities and juvenile courts throughout the Commonwealth, working together, can achieve the goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice.



Cheyenne made a split-second decision to shoplift. She hadn’t planned to do it but the idea popped into her head when she realized she couldn’t afford to get the school clothes she wanted. When security confronted her she was so startled that she raised her hands to them, adding assault to her charges of shoplifting. Probation made a decision that this situation might be appropriate for a restorative justice process.....

For copies of this publication please email Monica Iskrac at msiskr@ship.edu or Susan Blackburn at sblackburn@pa.gov or you can download copies by visiting www.pachiefprobationofficers.org or www.jcjc.pa.gov.

WE ARE MOVING!

We are pleased to announce that the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Newsletter will be relocating to a new mailing list system. Beginning with the January 2017 issue, you will see a new email address with your notifications that the latest edition is ready.

All current subscribers will be migrated into the new system and should see no interruptions. However, to ensure that the January newsletter is delivered to your inbox, add: RA-OAJCJC-NEWS@LISTSERV.PA.GOV and RA-JCJCNEWS@PA.GOV to your address book.

If you would like to subscribe, please send an email to RA-JCJCNEWS@PA.GOV and we will be happy to add you to the list.



May 8-10, 2017

14TH PATHWAYS FOR VICTIM SERVICES CONFERENCE

Registration Will Open February 2017

Pathways for Victim Services Conference Website:
<http://www.cvent.com/d/wvq9j3>

**Hershey Lodge & Convention Center
Hershey, Pennsylvania**



Center for Community and Public Safety
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456

For additional information about the conference, contact Janice Maruniak at jem41@psu.edu or 724-430-4213.

The Pennsylvania Pathways for Victim Services Conference

provides an opportunity for victim service providers and allied professionals to join us for national keynote speakers, informative workshops, networking opportunities, and the presentation of the Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards.

The early registration deadline is April 7, 2017.
Pennsylvania Residents: \$50
Non-Pennsylvania Residents: \$275
To register, visit the conference website.

SAVE THE DATE for the [2017 Pathways for Victims Services Conference!](#)

[Workshop Proposals:](#)
All proposals must be received by 11:59 p.m. (EST), 12/18/16 via this online submission process.

[2017 Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Award Nomination:](#)
All nominations must be received by 11:59 p.m. (EST) 2/24/17.

The Pennsylvania Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative
is proud to offer the 2017 Pennsylvania High School

PSA Contest for Youth Suicide Prevention

PAYSPI invites high school students to submit a public service announcement (PSA) focused on messages of hope.

There are four categories for submission:

- 1. Video PSA – 30 seconds**
- 2. Video PSA – 60 seconds**
- 3. Audio PSA – 30 seconds**
- 4. PSA Poster – 24”x36” and 18”x24”**

Each high school is invited to submit *one entry per category*.

Winners for each category will be honored in the Spring, 2017

Entries are due no later than January 6, 2017.

**Go to www.payspi.org for details, an entry form,
and to see winners from previous contests.**

We look forward to receiving your submission!!!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

2016 YEAR END TRAINING EXPENDITURE REPORTING

As we close out 2016, it is time once again to complete the Annual Training Expenditures Report.

All training activities and expenditures data must be entered into the JCJC Events Management System (JEMS), and the Annual Training Expenditures Report is then generated from JEMS.

Completed Training Expenditure Reports (and questions regarding completing the report in JEMS) should be forwarded to Chris Heberlig at CAHeberlig@ship.edu.

Please forward your completed reports by December 31, 2016 (but no later than Friday, January 6, 2017).

Thank you for your assistance and attention to this matter!



UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 23-24 Youth Mental Health First Aid
- 29 Adolescent Development

April

- 3-7 Orientation Academy
- 12-13 Comorbidity of Trauma and Delinquency

May

- 16-17 Heroin and Other Narcotics
- 24-25 Social Media: Teens & Technology

June

- 1 MI Coaches Forum
- 14 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
- 15 Mental Health and Delinquency
- 28-29 MI 101

September

- 7-8 Youth Mental Health First Aid
- 11-15 Orientation Academy
- 26 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
- 28-29 Ultimate Educator

October

- 12 Enhancing Professional Alliance through Cultural Competency
- 18 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
- 25-26 Refusal Skills
- 25-26 YLS Master Trainer Certification

SAVE THE DATE

Initial Training Program per JCPR 182 and 1182

June 6, 2017
(Dependency)

June 7, 2017
(Delinquency)

Location: Child Welfare Resource Center, 403 East Winding Hill Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Per JCPR 182 and 1182, this is a mandatory session
for all current Dependency and Delinquency Hearing Officers

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
THIS OPPORTUNITY IS AVAILABLE
ONE TIME ONLY.**



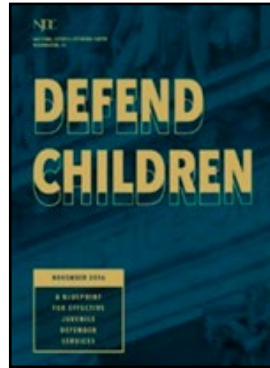


National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

NEW REPORT ADDRESSES RIGHTS OF YOUTH TO EFFECTIVE DEFENSE COUNSEL

The [National Juvenile Defender Center](#) has released “[Defend Children: A Blueprint for Effective Juvenile Defender Services](#).” This new report, supported by OJJDP, addresses the issue of youth being denied access to qualified defense counsel throughout the juvenile justice process. The report offers recommendations to ensure youth have access to effective juvenile defense, illustrates racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile court, and highlights successful programs and practices that are improving youth access to counsel.



Resources:

View and download “[Defend Children: A Blueprint for Effective Juvenile Defender Services](#).”

View and download the [Executive Summary](#).

OJJDP ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN’S DAY AWARDS

Each year, the U.S. Department of Justice, through OJJDP, recognizes individuals, organizations, and agencies that have made a difference in recovering missing and abducted children and protecting children from exploitation. The Department recognizes the awardees each May at the annual National Missing Children’s Day ceremony in Washington, DC.

To nominate someone, you can access the nomination forms for the 2017 National Missing Children’s Day awards online:

- [Missing Children’s Law Enforcement Award](#)
- [OJJDP Administrator’s Citizen Award](#)
- [Missing Children’s Child Protection Award](#)
- [2017 Attorney General’s Special Commendation Award](#)

The deadline for nominations is January 20, 2017.

Resources:

Visit the [Missing Children’s Day](#) web page and the [Awards](#) web page for nomination guidelines, eligibility requirements, and judging criteria.

OJJDP/NIJ BULLETIN EXAMINES ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN YOUTH HARASSMENT VICTIMIZATION

OJJDP and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) have released “[The Role of Technology in Youth Harassment Victimization](#).” This bulletin summarizes the findings of the NIJ-sponsored Technology Harassment Victimization study, which is a follow-up study to the second National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence sponsored by OJJDP. The study examined technology-involved harassment within the context of other types of youth victimization and risk factors. The data reveal that mixed-peer harassment—involving both in-person and technology-based elements—is the most traumatic for victims, especially those who have been victimized in multiple ways in the past and are facing numerous stressors in their present lives.



Resources:

Access OJJDP’s [Model Programs Guide \(MPG\) I-Guide on school-based bullying prevention](#).

See other publications in OJJDP’s [Justice Research Series](#).

Access OJJDP’s National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence [publication series](#).

CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM TO HOST 2017 LEAD CONFERENCE

The [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#) (CJJR) will host its 2017 LEAD (Leadership. Evidence. Analysis. Debate.) Conference on April 6–7, 2017, in Washington, DC. This year’s theme, “[Moving from Research to Policy and Practice to Improve the Lives of Youth](#),” coincides with CJJR’s 10th anniversary, and the conference will focus on how professionals and partners in child-serving fields can apply research to policies and practices to meet the needs of youth and their families. Presentations and panel discussions will highlight cutting-edge issues in the juvenile justice, child welfare, education, and behavioral health arenas. The conference is designed for policymakers, practitioners, researchers, educators, judicial officials, community leaders, family members, foundation representatives, and stakeholders.

Resources:

[Register](#) for the 2017 LEAD Conference. Space is limited.

Visit the [2017 LEAD Conference website](#) for additional information.

WEBINAR TO EXPLORE MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING IN SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIPS

On January 12, 2017, at 12 p.m. ET, the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#), supported by OJJDP, will present “[Developing a Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) for Your School-Justice Partnership.](#)” A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is a document to establish coordinated efforts in a school-justice partnership among schools, courts, and other agencies. During this 1-hour webinar, presenters will discuss how local jurisdictions can develop an MOU that will define the roles and responsibilities of each involved party and identify the areas of shared responsibility.

Resources:

[Register](#) for this free webinar.

Visit the OJJDP-funded [School-Justice Partnership Project](#) website.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR TRAINING ON DROPOUT PREVENTION STRATEGIES FOR WOUNDED YOUTH

The [National Center for School Engagement](#) is offering “[Dropout Prevention Strategies for Wounded Students](#)” on January 26, 2017, in Denver, CO. Many at-risk youth carry “wounds” to school each day that are a result of trauma. This interactive training will provide educators, counselors, and administrators with trauma-informed policies and strategies to help wounded youth heal and achieve positive student outcomes.

Resources:

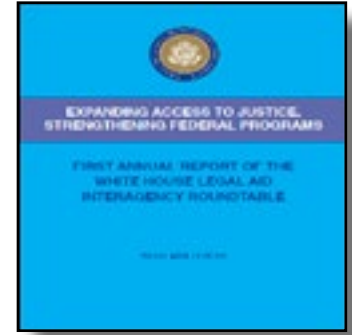
[Register](#) to attend “Dropout Prevention Strategies for Wounded Students.”

[Visit the Changing Minds website](#) to learn about this new Department of Justice campaign to draw attention to children’s exposure to violence and trauma. The campaign was created as part of the [Defending Childhood Initiative](#).

Access publications in OJJDP’s [National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence series](#).

WHITE HOUSE LEGAL AID INTERAGENCY ROUNDTABLE RELEASES FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

The [White House Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable](#) (WH-LAIR) has released “[Expanding Access to Justice, Strengthening Federal Programs.](#)” This first annual report to the President, funded by the [Department of Justice’s Office for Access to Justice](#), highlights steps that 22 federal agency members of WH-LAIR have taken to integrate civil legal aid into programs serving low-income and vulnerable individuals.



The report serves as a blueprint for how federal agencies can expand their collaborations with legal aid to address issues, such as domestic violence, human trafficking, crime, re-entry, financial exploitation of the elderly, and veteran homelessness. The report includes research and data on the efficacy of legal aid and makes policy recommendations for improving access to civil legal aid for youth, families, tribal communities, and special populations.

Among the programs highlighted in the report are:

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and OJJDP’s Juvenile Re-entry Assistance Program
- OJJDP’s Smart on Juvenile Justice re-entry legal services fellowship program run by the National Juvenile Defender Center.

Resources:

[View and download](#) the report.

Access a [fact sheet](#) to learn more about the first annual report’s highlights.

Read a [blog post](#) about the report by WH-LAIR designated co-chairs Bill Baer and Roy Austin.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

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This publication is produced monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University. Guest articles are always welcome; please submit them by e-mail to [jcyjnews@ship.edu](mailto:jcjnews@ship.edu).

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