

# PENNSYLVANIA

# Juvenile Justice

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.  
Tom Wolf, Governor



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 28, Number 7

July 2017

## PLENARY SPEAKER ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2017 JAMES E. ANDERSON PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE



Dr. Joseph A. Troncale will be a featured speaker for the Afternoon Plenary presentation at the 2017 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, November 16, 2017, at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. Dr. Troncale is a Board-Certified Physician in both Addiction Medicine and Family Medicine. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Alabama Medical School, where he won the Eugene Bondurant Psychiatry Award. Dr. Troncale has always been interested in behavioral science. Over the past 35 years, Dr.

Troncale has established himself as one of the premier physicians working in the field of addiction. He is both a fellow and a member of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) and was named Outstanding Clinician by *Addiction Magazine* in 2010. A published author, Dr. Troncale has contributed content to both *Saunders Manual of Medical Practice* and *When to Call the Surgeon*, as well as numerous articles in addiction journals.

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## SAVE THE DATE

Join us in November for training workshops, exhibitors, two awards dinners, and networking with over 900 attendees.

### 2017 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

**NOVEMBER 15-17, 2017**

Harrisburg Hilton & Towers, Harrisburg PA

## NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

### Judge Stephen Minor and Judge Walter Olszewski Appointed, Judge Maureen Skerda Re-appointed by Governor Wolf

On June 8, 2017, Governor Tom Wolf appointed Judge Stephen Minor and Judge Walter Olszewski to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Governor Wolf also re-appointed Judge Maureen Skerda for an additional three-year term. Judge Minor and Judge Olszewski succeed Judges John Cleland and Lori Dumas as members of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.

**Judge Stephen Minor** is currently the President Judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Potter County, having been elected in 2009. Judge Minor previously served as a Juvenile Court Hearing Officer in McKean County for a period of thirteen years, working under then President Judge John Cleland. He is a member of the Juvenile Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, having served in the position of Treasurer. Judge Minor was appointed to the Continuing Judicial Education Board in 2017, and has been a past and present member of many civic organizations where he has held leadership positions, including the American Red Cross and Rotary. Judge Minor is a graduate of Mansfield University and ORU Law School in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Judge Walter Olszewski** has served as a Common Pleas Judge in the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia County) for over a decade. Judge Olszewski was first appointed by Governor Edward Rendell and later popularly elected. In 2015, Judge Olszewski was appointed as the Supervising Judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Family Court Division/Juvenile Section. Judge Olszewski presides over dependency matters, and specifically, in addition to his regular list, hears cross-over cases, termination of parental rights cases, and adoptions cases. He is a member of the following organizations: Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Pa Children's Roundtable Initiative (Dependency Practices). Additionally, he is a member of the AOPC Statewide Leadership Roundtable and the Philadelphia Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Collaborative. Judge Olszewski received his B.A. and J.D. from Temple University.

**Judge Maureen Skerda** was re-appointed to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission for a second three-year term by Governor Wolf. She was elected as the first female Judge of the 37<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, serving Forest and Warren Counties, and began her term in January 2006. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. In addition to serving on the JCJC, she also participates in the State Leadership Roundtable on dependency issues. She established a problem-solving court in 2010 which addresses people with addiction issues. She is also active in her community serving as the Trustee for the Struthers' Library Theatre, and a member of the board of the local community action agency, the Economic Opportunity Council and Warren General Hospital's Hospice Ethics Committee. She also serves on the ID/MH and ATOD advisory boards (Intellectual Disabilities/Mental Health and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs). Judge Skerda is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University and the Antioch School of Law.

# GOVERNOR WOLF PROCLAIMS JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK

## OCTOBER 1-7, 2017

Governor Tom Wolf proclaimed the week of October 1 – October 7, 2017 as Juvenile Justice Week in Pennsylvania. Juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth are encouraged to utilize Juvenile Justice Week as an opportunity to engage the public about the mission and outcomes of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system.

The proclamation notes that Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system is charged with “providing programs of supervision, care, and rehabilitation, as well as providing balanced attention to the protection of our communities, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed by juveniles, and the development of competencies to enable children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system to become responsible and productive members of their communities.”

We encourage Chief Juvenile Probation Officers to send media accounts of local Juvenile Justice Week activities to [ra-oajcnews@pa.gov](mailto:ra-oajcnews@pa.gov) for publication in a special section celebrating Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice week. Please have all entries submitted by October 13, 2017.



## COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

### ROGER MILLER APPOINTED CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER FOR PERRY COUNTY

The Honorable Kathy A. Morrow, President Judge of Perry County, appointed Mr. Roger Miller as the Chief Probation Officer of Perry County Probation and Parole Services on April 17, 2017. As Mr. Miller takes the helm of the department, Michelle Orris, Deputy Chief of the department, will continue to oversee the juvenile services division.

Chief Miller brings 24 years of experience to his new position. He began his career with the Perry County Prison as a Correctional Officer in 1992. Upon receiving his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Criminal Justice through Shippensburg University, he joined the Perry County Probation and Parole Department. Roger relayed that a highlight of his educational experience was the opportunity to work as a graduate assistant to the renowned Father Daniel J. Menniti.

Roger credits the excellent staff of the Perry County Probation and Parole Department for the great job they perform and the support they provide each and every day. He credits Deputy Chief, Michelle Orris, and the juvenile probation officers in their efforts to advance the juvenile justice division’s implementation of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy and evidence-based practices.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### 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
- 17 Adolescent Development
- 18 YLS Master Trainer Recertification
- 19 JJSES Leadership Forum
- 25-26 Refusal Skills
- 25-26 YLS Master Trainer Certification

### November

- 15-17 2017 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

## ULTIMATE EDUCATOR WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2017

Are you a coach or trainer in your department? Or are you considering becoming a coach or group leader? The Ultimate Educator is a course in achieving maximum adult



learning through training and instruction. This workshop will review the basics of training design, the differences between adult and child learners, and ideas for making presentations memo-

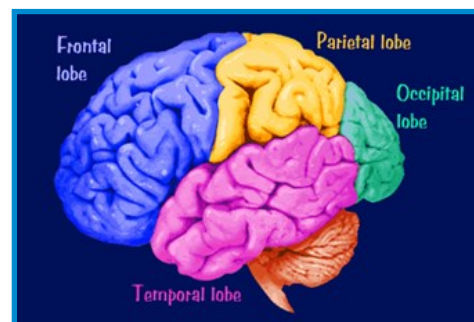
orable. Topics include coordination, learning styles, presentation techniques, facilitation skills, lesson development, and session evaluation. Sample forms and worksheets will be provided.

This is a highly-interactive program that, throughout the session, encourages participants to immediately apply what they have learned. The facilitator, Anne Seymour, is dynamic and engaging, and past workshop participants have provided overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the curriculum.

## ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 17, 2017

As highlighted in the morning plenary session at the 2016 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, adolescence is a time of significant brain development. Understanding and applying the ever-growing body of research related to adolescent development is critical for juvenile justice practitioners.

This one-day workshop will help practitioners understand and effectively apply the current knowledge of adolescent development, with a focus on scientific findings about the adolescent brain. Participants will gain an understanding of the main adolescent development categories/benchmarks, learn about important brain changes during adolescence, and increase their understanding of effectively communicating with adolescents to promote success.



# JJSES FORUM – A MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP USING THE ESSENTIALS OF SUPERVISION

Those who supervise others often have the same thing in common. They have workplace authority due to their length of employment and position on the organizational chart, but have no real framework within which to approach their job. As a result, their energy and efforts may be inconsistent and ineffective. Their intentions are good, but their impact may be marginal. Given the need to develop new skills required to effectively implement many of the aspects of Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), this may be especially true.

**A JJSES Forum: A Model for Leadership Using the Essentials of Supervision: Clear Expectations, Direction, Support, and Accountability! is scheduled for October 19, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Atherton Hotel, State College, PA.**

The Forum will be led by Mr. David Campbell, who has nearly 30 years' experience in the fields of Human Resource Management, Training, Employee Relations, and has worked with several juvenile justice providers as well as the Westmoreland County Community College Workforce Development Program. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Society of Human Resource Management and a Certified Professional in Human Resources.

The **Essentials of Supervision** is a four-part curriculum built on a foundation of fundamentally sound communication skills. This model maximizes worker's performance by making clear workplace and performance expectations, through a combination of direction, support, and accountability. Through an interactive presentation and discussion, participants will learn a simple, common-sense model of supervision they can immediately begin using in their daily work. The Forum is designed to blend effective supervision strategies to enable supervisors to maximize the skills of staff to effectively utilize evidence-based practices of the JJSES in their job responsibilities.

In addition, as a component within Stage Four of the JJSES, job descriptions, performance appraisals, and other resources based on the principles of evidence-based practices and the JJSES have been developed. These tools and resources will be presented and made available to Forum participants.

The Forum is designed for Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, Deputy Chiefs, and Juvenile Probation Supervisors. Registration details are available through the JCJC Event Management System (JEMS). For additional information, you may contact Kelly Waltman-Spreha at [kewaltma@pa.gov](mailto:kewaltma@pa.gov) or Alan Tezak at [alantezak@comcast.net](mailto:alantezak@comcast.net).



Beginning in July, the data analysts at the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) will begin using a Data Analyst Monitoring dashboard to enable them to identify potential data entry issues within Pennsylvania's Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS). This dashboard will be run in conjunction with the Quarterly Statistical Evaluation Report. If questions arise that need further clarification from the county, the data analysts will then be contacting the specific county to get those questions resolved.

The elements within the new dashboard include:

- Age at Allegation Under Age 10;
- Age at Allegation Over Age 21;
- Gender Unknown;
- Dispositions of "Other";
- Allegations with Summary Only Charges; and
- Placements with Pending Living Units Over 30 Days.

Historically, these elements were not researched until county data was reviewed for inclusion in the annual Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Dispositions report. By identifying these issues earlier, it will allow for more timely and accurate data reporting. We look forward to rolling this project out and working with counties to greater ensure the accuracy of the Pennsylvania juvenile court data within PaJCMS. If you have any questions regarding this dashboard, you may contact Lanette Hutchison, Data Analyst Supervisor, at [lahutchiso@pa.gov](mailto:lahutchiso@pa.gov).

## DATA ANALYSTS RETIRE FROM JCJC/CJIT&R

Donna L. Reasner, a full-time Data Analyst 2 with the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research (CJIT&R) retired effective July 7<sup>th</sup>. Donna began working at CJIT&R in 2000, where her primary role was to analyze Pennsylvania's juvenile court data by reviewing county error validations, running quarterly Statistical Evaluation reports from counties' PaJCMS, corresponding with counties on data questions, and processing juvenile court expungement requests. Donna and her husband Steve have two grown children.

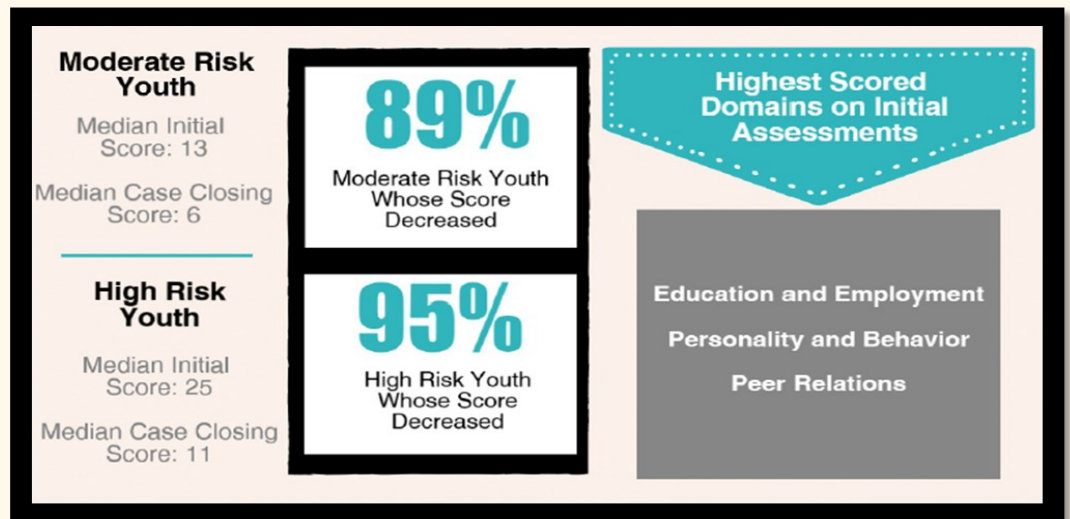


Linda K. Miller, a Data Analyst with CJIT&R since 1992, retired effective July 21<sup>st</sup>. She began her career as a part-time data recording machine operator and a few years later became a full-time Data Analyst 2. Linda also analyzed Pennsylvania's juvenile court data by reviewing county error validations, running quarterly Statistical Evaluation Reports, corresponding with counties, and processing juvenile court expungements. Linda and her husband Fred have three grown children and two grandsons.

The staff at JCJC and CJIT&R would like to wish Donna and Linda the very best in their retirement and thank them for their many years of dedicated service.

## DATA SNAPSHOT: 2016 CASE CLOSING YLS ASSESSMENTS

The Youth Level of Service (YLS) is an actuarial risk assessment tool used for youthful offenders in Pennsylvania. Youth are assigned a numeric score and risk level, and their top risk factors are identified. These results assist juvenile probation officers in targeting a youth's specific needs. Generally, youth are assessed at the time they enter the juvenile justice system and reassessed at regular intervals, including case closure. Changes in score serve as one indicator of the impact of a youth's involvement in the juvenile justice system. Information presented below is reflective of youth with cases closed from Pennsylvania juvenile probation departments in 2016.



- Among youth who scored moderate on their initial assessment, 89% decreased in risk by case closure. The median initial YLS score for moderate youth was 13. By case closing, the median score was 6.
- Among youth who scored high on their initial assessment, 95% decreased in risk by case closure. The median initial YLS score for moderate youth was 25. By case closing, the median score was 11.
- At the time of their initial assessment, youth scored highest on the following YLS domains: Education and Employment, Personality and Behavior, and Peer Relations.

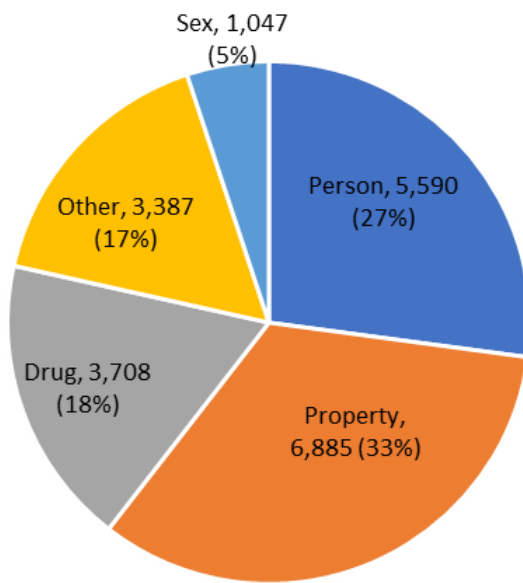
# RESEARCH BRIEF

## PART 2: MALES IN RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT FACILITIES

This article is the second in a series of two that examines statistics about males in juvenile residential placement facilities in Pennsylvania. The following analysis was conducted using a sample of male juvenile offenders who had a placement disposition on a case in juvenile court that occurred between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2016. Only the initial placement disposition on each case was used for the analysis. For example, if the male experienced one or more changes in placement on a particular case, only the first placement record is captured in these figures. Some males may be represented

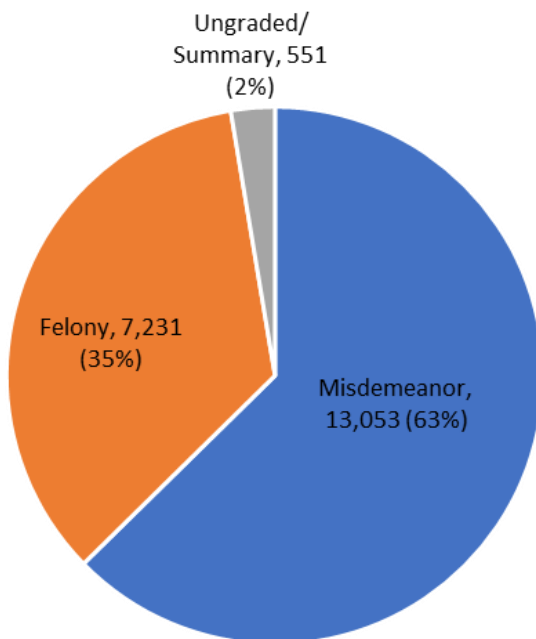
more than once in the figures if they had multiple unique cases with placement dispositions that fell within the time range. Ultimately, 11,693 unique males were included in the analysis, representing 21,436 unique cases with placements dispositions.

**Breakdown by Offense Type**



The majority of males who received a placement disposition between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2016 had committed either a property offense (33%) or a person offense (27%) on their case. Eighteen percent had committed a drug offense, 17% had committed another offense, and 5% had committed a sex offense.

**Breakdown by Grading of Offense**



The majority (almost two thirds) of males who received a placement disposition had committed a misdemeanor offense (63%) on their case. Approximately 35% had committed a felony offense, while 2% had committed an ungraded/summary offense.

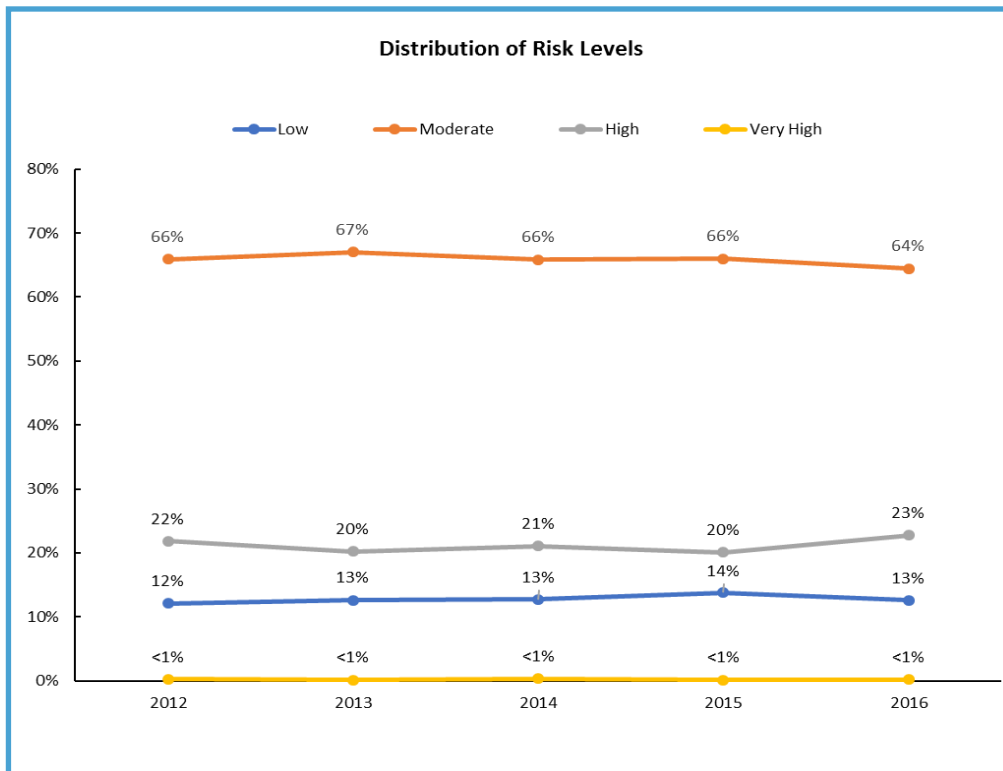
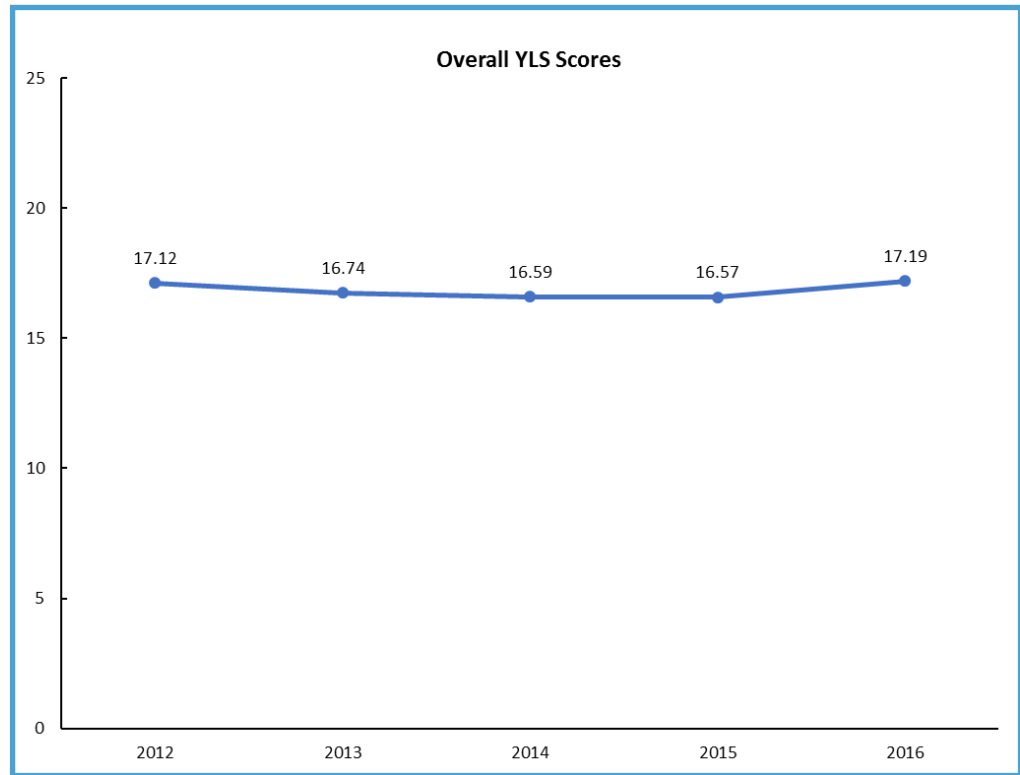
White Non-Hispanic males and Hispanic males were most likely to be placed for a property offense. Black Non-Hispanic males were most likely to be placed for a person offense.

Across all major race/ethnicity categories, males were most likely to be placed on a misdemeanor offense.

# RESEARCH BRIEF

(continued)

The average Youth Level of Service (YLS) scores for males with placement dispositions between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2016 ranged from a low of 16.57 in 2015 to a high of 17.19 in 2016.



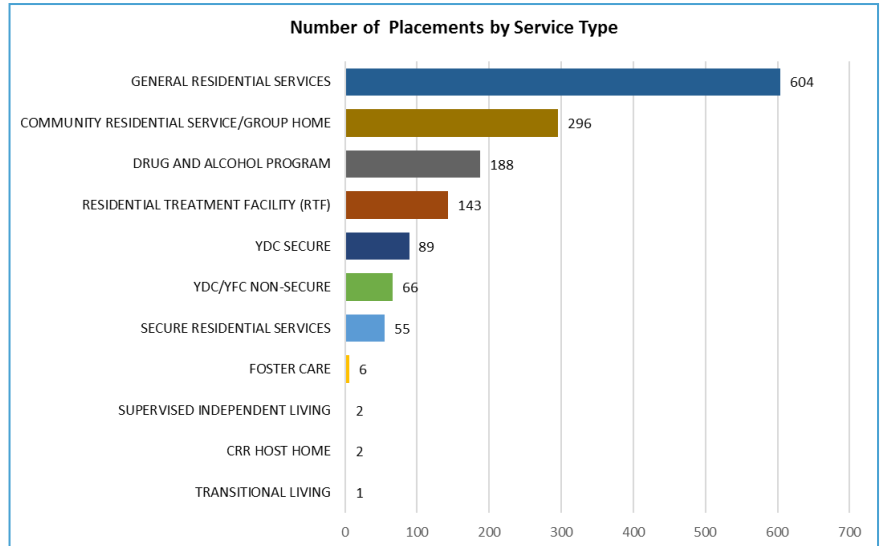
The percentage of males with a placement disposition who were identified as low risk, moderate risk, high risk, and very high risk remained relatively constant in this time period. The majority of males with placement dispositions in this time period were moderate risk, and they were likely to score highest on the Education and Employment and Leisure and Recreation domains.



# RESEARCH BRIEF

(continued)

Prior to 2016, detailed placement facility-related information was not captured consistently in the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS). The placement module of PaJCMS was re-written in 2016 to capture more comprehensive placement record information. Therefore, the following placement facility information is only reported for placement dispositions that occurred between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2016.



The most frequently utilized facilities were general residential services (42%), community residential services/group homes (20%), and drug and alcohol programs (13%).

Based on the males in the sample, the following is a summary of the risk level and average risk score by service type of the facilities the youth entered immediately after their placement disposition.

Facility Type	Low	Moderate	High	Very High	Total
Community Residential Service/Group Home	28	159	44	0	231
CRR Host Home	0	1	1	0	2
Drug and Alcohol Program	9	90	35	0	134
Foster Care	0	5	0	0	5
General Residential Services	61	282	70	1	414
Residential Treatment Facility (RTF)	23	55	9	0	87
Secure Residential Services	3	19	16	1	39
Supervised Independent Living	0	1	0	0	1
Transitional Living	1	0	0	0	1
YDC Secure	0	39	19	1	59
YDC/YFC Non-Secure	4	33	24	0	61
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,036</b>

Facility Type	Average YLS Risk Score
CRR Host Home	22.00
Supervised Independent Living	22.00
Secure Residential Services	20.77
YDC/YFC Non-Secure	20.08
YDC Secure	19.15
Drug And Alcohol Program	18.55
Foster Care	17.80
Community Residential Service/Group Home	16.96
General Residential Services	16.29
Residential Treatment Facility (RTF)	13.68
Transitional Living	7.00
<b>Overall Average</b>	<b>17.08</b>

# INCREASING COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING THROUGH THE YOUTH LAW ENFORCEMENT CURRICULUM

*Submitted by Lehigh County Juvenile Probation*

Communication is such an important part of understanding one another. We know the value in this, particularly among youth and law enforcement. After identifying this as a need in our community, in 2015 Lehigh County Juvenile Probation invited the Chiefs of Police to a meeting to learn more about the Youth Law Enforcement Curriculum (YLEC). Former Deputy Commissioner Kevin Bethel, from the Philadelphia Police Department, and Rhonda McKitten, Stoneleigh Fellow, Youth Policy and Training Specialist at the Philadelphia Police Department, presented information on the curriculum while discussing the benefits of this collaborative effort. The curriculum was created to provide an opportunity for law enforcement and youth to talk frankly and openly about problems in their communities. Although this curriculum is focused, in part, on working with minority youth, the curriculum/training/forum is meant to help improve communication among all youth and law enforcement.

This meeting piqued the interest of the community, the courts, and law enforcement. In March 2016, the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department successfully delivered their first Youth Law Enforcement Curriculum/Forum with the Allentown Police Department, Bethlehem Police Department, and the Pennsylvania State Police. Since the first forum, two additional forums were held and over 150 youth, law enforcement officers, and stakeholders have participated. The curriculum was created as a way to bring together both law enforcement and youth to openly and honestly discuss what's happening on the street and to improve communication among both parties. Our first forum succeeded in doing just that.

The YLEC has been extremely well received by all participants who have attended. The Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department has the support and participation of Judge Kelly L. Banach, District Attorney James Martin, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Beth Fritz, and the various police depart-

ments. The Lehigh County Criminal Justice Advisory Board also supports the curriculum.

During the forums, the participants listened to impactful and thought provoking messages from both law enforcement officers and youth. Through the open and honest dialog, law enforcement officers and youth often realize and understand that they are more alike than they are different: both want to be treated with respect and dignity and they want to return home safely at the end of the day.

During one point of the curriculum, police officers and youth are separated and engage in interactive activities while learning new facts. The youth participants learn concrete ways to improve their interactions with police. They also learn about their brain development and are reminded about the importance of good decision-making. Additionally, youth talk openly and honestly about perceptions and stereotypes.

The law enforcement officers are simultaneously learning basic principles of adolescent brain development and trauma. Once law enforcement officers understand these basic principles, the hope is for them to have a deeper understanding of why youth can be impulsive, take part in risky behaviors and may have impaired decision-making skills.

As one way to acknowledge and thank both youth and law enforcement for their participation, everyone received a t-shirt, which was designed by youth in the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Baum School of Art Program. The t-shirt's logo reflects the core themes of the day: Youth & Law Enforcement: Equality and Trust - Together.

Moving forward, the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department plans to expand the YLEC to include additional police departments. It is the hope of all stakeholders that participants walk away from the curriculum with a deeper understanding of both parties, and to improve the lines of communication between youth and law enforcement.



## Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers

### 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Anniversary Celebration

Honoring the Council's Commitment to Excellence in Juvenile Justice: Past & Present

**When:** Thursday, November 30, 2017  
Reception from 6:00 - 7:00 PM  
Dinner and program to follow from 7:00 – 11:00 PM

**Where:** Nittany Lion Inn, State College

**Hotel Information:**

Contact the Nittany Lion Inn at (800) 233-7505  
A block of rooms has been reserved at \$135/night  
Code: **PACC17C**

<b>Registration Deadline: October 31, 2017</b>
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**Cost:** \$40 per person, includes dinner/ Cash Bar

For further information contact Robert J. Blakely, Chief Erie County Juvenile Probation Office at (814) 451-6052 or [bblakely@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:bblakely@eriecountypa.gov)

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency/Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Select Dinner Choice: Beef Braised Ribs or Salmon*

**Special Dietary Needs:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to **PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers.**

Send to the attention of:

**Robert J. Blakely, Chief Erie County Juvenile Probation Office,  
140 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 401, Erie, PA 16501-1076**



# NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## REPORTS EVALUATE OJJDP'S JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM AND REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE

The [Urban Institute's Justice Policy Center](#) has released a series of research reports based on its evaluation of OJJDP's [Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative](#) (JJRRI), which was implemented in demonstration sites in Delaware, Iowa, and Milwaukee County, WI. JJRRI helped the sites develop and implement a comprehensive approach to juvenile justice decision making and practice to reduce recidivism, make them more cost effective, and improve existing services for justice-involved youth. The reports examine the implementation of JJRRI, including the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) as a tool to improve programs and help reduce recidivism.

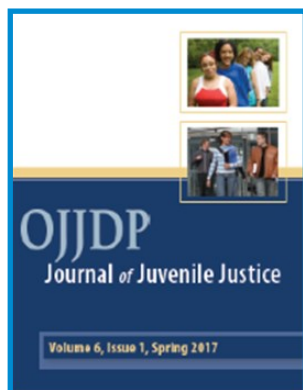


**Resources:**

- View and download the reports: [Implementing the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol™ to Rate Juvenile Justice Programs](#)
- [Local Validation of SPEP™ Ratings of Juvenile Justice Program Effectiveness](#)
- [Implementing Evidence-Based Juvenile Justice Reforms](#)

## OJJDP RELEASES SPRING 2017 ISSUE OF JOURNAL OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

OJJDP has released the [spring 2017 issue](#) of its online [Journal of Juvenile Justice](#). This issue features articles on factors that help reduce recidivism and support successful reentry for youth. This includes articles on how juvenile facility operations affect recidivism, the effect that neighborhood characteristics have on recidivism rates, and how girls perceive their supports and challenges as they transition to home after incarceration. Other articles focus on the decision making process of juvenile probation officers, the impact of candidate résumés from delinquents and nondelinquents on the perceptions of hiring managers, the use of evidence-based decision making support tools for judges, and an exploration of the benefits and challenges of participatory research for the implementation of a behavioral health study.



**Resources:**

- Access [previous issues](#) of this semi-annual peer-reviewed journal.
- [Submit manuscripts](#) for the journal.

## MORE THAN 1,000 SUSPECTED CHILD PREDATORS ARRESTED DURING OPERATION BROKEN HEART

The Department of Justice has [announced](#) that the recently concluded Operation Broken Heart led to the arrest of more than 1,000 suspected child predators from more than 40 states. The OJJDP-funded [Internet Crimes Against Children \(ICAC\) Task Forces](#) conducted this operation during April and May 2017 as a coordinated investigation to identify and arrest suspected child sexual predators. OJJDP launched the ICAC Task Force Program in 1998 to help federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies enhance their investigative responses to individuals who use the Internet, online communication systems, or computer technology to exploit children.

**Resources:**

- Visit the ICAC Task Force [website](#).

## NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2018 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' SERVICE AWARDS

The [Office for Victims of Crime](#) is now accepting nominations for the 2018 [National Crime Victims' Service Awards](#) to recognize individuals, teams, programs, and organizations who demonstrate outstanding service in support of victims of crime. Nominations are due July 31, 2017. The award recipients are selected from public nominations in [11 categories](#). The [Tomorrow's Leaders Award](#) category will honor youth as old as 24 years who have supported victims of crime or raised awareness about or provided direct services to victims of bullying, peer pressure, domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, child abuse, campus sexual assault, and/or victimization of minority communities. Award recipients will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, DC, during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which will be observed April 8-14, 2018.



**Resources:**

- [Submit a nomination online](#).

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

The [National Center for School Engagement](#) is offering a [Professional Development Series](#) from September 18-22, 2017, in Colorado Springs, CO. This interactive training will provide educators, counselors, judges, and administrators with strategies to support youth engaged at school and their families.

The schedule is the following:

- [September 18: Developing a Problem Solving Truancy Court](#)
- [September 19: Creating a Trauma Informed School](#)
- [September 20: Best Practices in Preventing and Reducing Truancy](#)
- [September 21: Attendance Advocate Training](#)
- [September 22: Evaluating Your Truancy and Attendance Program](#)

**Resources:**

- [Register](#) to attend the entire week or any combination of training days.

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR RESIDENTIAL INTERVENTION TRAINING

The [Building Bridges Initiative](#) will host a fall training event October 4 to 6, 2017, in Andover, MA. This event will highlight best practices for residential interventions for youth and families in both residential and community settings. This training is designed for residential and community-based program and agency leaders and staff, policymakers, advocates, youth, and families. It is recommended that teams from the same agency/program attend the event together.



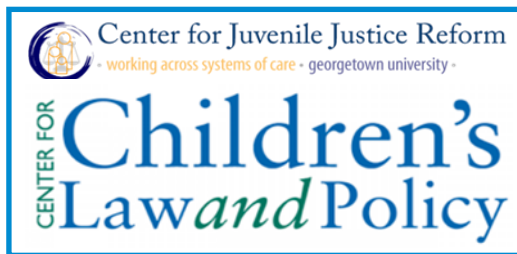
### Resources:

[Register](#) for the training.

OJJDP's [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (SBB) includes data on [juveniles in residential placement](#) and the latest [Data Snapshot](#) collected from OJJDP's 2014 Juvenile Residential Facility Census.

## APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR REDUCING RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#) (CJJR) and the [Center for Children's Law and Policy](#) are accepting applications for the [Reducing](#)



[Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program](#) to be held November 14-17, 2017, in Washington, DC. This training will focus on strategies for local jurisdictions to reduce overrepresentation and address racial and ethnic disparities in their juvenile justice systems. [Apply](#) by August 4, 2017.

### Resources:

Learn more about the [Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities Certificate Program](#).

Learn about all of [CJJR's Certificate Programs](#).

## OJJDP STATISTICAL BRIEFING BOOK OFFERS NEW DATA ON JUVENILES IN RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT

OJJDP has updated its [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (SBB) to include data resources from the 2015 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, including:

- A new [Data Snapshot](#) summarizing recent trends.
- State-level [FAQs](#) about juveniles in corrections.
- National crosstabs, state profiles, and state comparisons in [Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement](#).

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

### Resources:

- Access the [OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book](#).
- Keep up with OJJDP's Statistical Briefing Book on [Twitter](#).



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