



PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Volume 29, Number 2

February 2018

PARENTING SKILLS WORKBOOK KICKOFF EVENT

The PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officer's (PCCJPO) Family Involvement Committee is excited to announce the launch of two parenting skills workbooks at a curriculum "kickoff" event, scheduled for May 30, 2018 in State College.

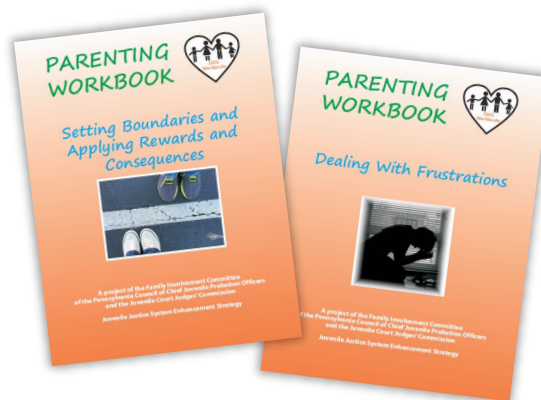
The workbooks are the culmination of an 18-month initiative aimed at assisting caregivers and/or family members in supporting their child while involved with the juvenile justice system. Funded through the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) initiative, the project was made possible through partnership with the PCCJPO, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC), and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).

In April 2016, the Family Involvement Committee, chaired by Mark Benedetto, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Mercer County, established a Family Skill Card Workgroup that began to develop the content and structure of the parent skill workbooks. A twelve-member workgroup was established, comprised of representatives from five PA Juvenile Probation Departments (Allegheny, Bucks, Lehigh, McKean, and Mercer counties), and included juvenile probation officers, supervisors and chiefs; family service consumers and volunteers; and JCJC staff. The workgroup determined the JJSES effort would be enriched by providing additional tools for juvenile probation officers to use when working with caregivers and family members of youth under supervision.

The workgroup gathered information from a variety of sources including a review of current parent skill-building literature, conducting surveys of juvenile probation officers and justice-involved family members, and brainstorming a list of topics that probation officers often address with caregivers.

From this information, two areas of interest were prioritized:

- Dealing with frustration when youth do not comply with expectations
- Setting boundaries and applying rewards and consequences



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Workgroup members consulted with The Carey Group to develop two workbooks that address these topics. The workbooks are divided into six parts including introduction and pre-assessment; skill building part A, B, C, D; and summary and post assessment. Each skill building session takes an estimated 20-25 minutes to facilitate. The pre/post assessments provide feedback for the probation officer to assess levels of skill transfer.

Drawing on the concepts embedded in the JJSES, the workbooks utilize a cognitive approach and emphasize skill practice. Additionally, the workbooks were developed in alignment with the JJSES with an emphasis on teaching in a supportive manner; employing motivational interviewing and focusing on the stages of change; using the structured session outline taught in four core competencies; drawing on the YLS to guide appropriate referrals; encouraging the integration of the workbooks with case plans; and were designed in a format similar to BITS and Carey Guides.

Probation officers from the counties represented on the workgroup conducted a pilot session of the materials from July to October 2017. While feedback from the pilot was overwhelmingly positive, constructive feedback also guided modifications to the workbooks; and the committee is now thrilled to engage in a statewide rollout beginning with the kickoff event in May.

Registration for the May 30 "Family Workbook Kickoff" will be available soon. The event is open for all juvenile probation departments interested in using the family workbooks in their case management. For more information, contact Mark Benedetto at mbenedetto@mcc.co.mercer.pa.us; 724-662-3800 or Kelly Waltman-Spreha at kewaltma@pa.gov.

JUVENILE PROBATION SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's (JCJC) Juvenile Probation Services appropriation provides annual funding to support critical services delivered by juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth. This funding is made available to participating counties through the JCJC's Juvenile Probation Services Grant Program. Permissible expenditures of these grant funds include probation officers' salaries, to the extent the individual performs juvenile probation services, and operational expenses including JCJC approved statewide impact projects and activities supporting the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

Participation in the Juvenile Probation Services Grant Program is conditional on the completion and approval, by JCJC staff, of an annual JJSES Implementation Plan. This plan must address the following:

- Implementation of the Youth Level of Service (YLS) risk/need assessment instrument;
- Development of recommendations to the Court based upon the YLS results, including the identified risks and needs of each juvenile; and
- Development of standardized case plans based upon the YLS results, which target services to meet the identified risks and needs of each juvenile.

The grant process for the FY 2018-2019 will begin in Spring 2018. Specific details and instructions regarding the grant requirements will be provided to all chief juvenile probation officers. A brief presentation of the FY 2018-2019 grant process will also be delivered during the general membership meeting of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers on March 16, 2018.

SPEP™ PROJECT TO EXPAND STATEWIDE

Pennsylvania was one of the first states to pilot the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol™ (SPEP™)* beginning in 2011. The project is now underway with 12 county juvenile probation departments that partner with contracted service providers to improve service delivery, amount of service, and assess level of risk of youth receiving the service. Counties currently involved with the SPEP™ include Allegheny, Berks, Bucks, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Venango, and York. Additional Pennsylvania counties will soon have the opportunity to become more engaged in the project.

SPEP™, a JJSES Stage 3 activity, is supported by the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenter) at Penn State University. Since 2013, three full-time EPISCenter staff have been assisting counties with the assessment and reassessment of services, in addition to a performance improvement process to implement recommendations that improve service quality and program use. Since that time, EPISCenter and probation staff have learned a tremendous amount about how to implement the SPEP™, and the EPISCenter has developed numerous support resources to facilitate all aspects of the SPEP™. Additionally, Pennsylvania has six Level 2 SPEP™ trainers who train juvenile probation staff interested in achieving Level 1 certification. With all of this infrastructure for conducting the SPEP™ in place, four additional regional SPEP™ Specialists will soon join the EPISCenter staff to aid in the expansion to additional counties interested in the implementation of SPEP™. The expansion is made possible through funding provided by the Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families.

In the upcoming months, the EPISCenter and participating SPEP™ counties will host informational sessions across the state to provide details regarding the SPEP™ and answer questions about the process, time investment, and other areas of interest to juvenile probation departments. Specific information on dates and locations of these informational sessions will be forthcoming in future editions of the JCJC newsletter and at upcoming general membership meetings of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. However, please reach out to Stephanie Bradley, EPISCenter Director, at sbradley@episcenter.org if you have questions.

**The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) developed by Dr. Mark Lipsey assesses how well the characteristics of an existing program matches research evidence for that type of intervention. It is based on a meta-analysis of more than 700 research studies of programs designed to reduce delinquency.*



JD CAP
Juvenile Detention Centers
and Alternative Programs

PO Box 60769 • Harrisburg, PA 17106-0769
717-526-1010 • Fax: 717-526-1020 • www.jdcap.org

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

PA Juvenile Justice Service Conference

Enhancing Services for Youth and Families September 26-28, 2018

Kalahari Resort and Conventions, 250 Kalahari Blvd., Pocono Manor, PA 18349

Sponsored by: Juvenile Detention Centers and Alternative Programs (JD CAP)

The Juvenile Detention Centers and Alternative Programs is pleased to issue a "[Call for Presentations](#)" for our upcoming PA Juvenile Justice Service Conference being held September 26-28, 2018, at the Kalahari Resort and Conventions in Pocono Manor, PA. To make this Conference successful for juvenile justice professionals, we need subject matter experts who are willing to share their wealth of knowledge. For more information, please visit <http://www.jdcap.org/Pages/ConferenceInformation.aspx>.

COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

BERNARD SIKORA NAMED CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER FOR MONROE COUNTY



On January 8, 2018, Bernard “Bernie” Sikora was appointed as Monroe County’s Chief Probation Officer by the Honorable Margherita Patti Worthington, President Judge. In this position, Mr. Sikora will oversee both the Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments in Monroe County.

Prior to his appointment to his current position, Mr. Sikora was a supervisor in Monroe County’s Adult Probation Department. Mr. Sikora also served as both an adult and juvenile probation officer in Monroe County from 2002 to 2007. Mr. Sikora holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Law Enforcement from York College of Pennsylvania. As the first new chief probation officer in Monroe County in 33 years, Mr. Sikora has challenged himself with several goals; including the implementation of a year-round community service program for juveniles, the application of electronic/GPS monitoring for juveniles, and beginning the process to more broadly implement evidence-based practices in Monroe County.

WELCOME CHIEF JOHN BOECKMAN CRAWFORD COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION

On February 5, 2018, John Boeckman was appointed as Crawford County’s Chief Juvenile Probation Officer by the Honorable Anthony J. Vardaro, President Judge.

Prior to joining Crawford County Juvenile Probation, Mr. Boeckman was employed for twelve years at Keystone Adolescent Center, most recently in the position of Director of Evidence-Based Intervention and Prevention Programs. He was integral to the Standardized Program Evaluation Process (SPEP™), was the agency trainer for Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and is certified by the National Curriculum and Training Institute (NCTI) to facilitate Crossroads and Real Colors. Additionally, he is certified as a Child and Family Services Reviewer.



Mr. Boeckman obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Work from Gannon University and his Master’s Degree in Arts, with a focus in counseling from Mount St. Mary’s University. He is a Master’s level therapist and is honored to be Chaplain to the Sharon Police Department.

Within his community, Mr. Boeckman is involved in the Knights of Columbus, Rotary International, Communities that Care, and the local Criminal Justice Advisory Board. He has a passion and finds therapy in riding his 2015 Harley Davidson Street Glide.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

What is a Statistical Evaluation Report? Many of you probably have never heard of it! This report exists within PaJCMS to provide data integrity checks on all juvenile data that is gathered in every county across the state of Pennsylvania. This report is generated quarterly by the staff at the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R), and sent to counties to assist juvenile probation staff in maintaining accurate and consistent juvenile data in preparation for the annual Juvenile Court Dispositional Report.

In addition to the Statistical Evaluation Report (Stat Eval), an in-house data integrity dashboard is also utilized by the staff at CJJT&R to identify other potential PaJCMS data entry issues. These are sent back to the counties in conjunction with the quarterly Stat Evals with recommendations on best practices for entering these data fields. One example of a data integrity dashboard element is the use of "Other" as the disposition type. There are circumstances and situations that warrant the use of "Other" as the disposition type, however, many times there is a more appropriate disposition for that specific outcome that can be used.

All 67 county's year-end 2017 Stat Evals and data dashboard issues have been sent, and counties were asked to make corrections within their PaJCMS. The final reports will be sent back to the counties the last week of February, with a deadline for corrections of March 9, 2018. Once the data is determined to be error-free, it will be pulled from PaJCMS for inclusion in the 2017 Juvenile Court Dispositional Report.

Currently, the staff at CJJT&R are updating the Best Practices for Reporting Juvenile Court Dispositions guide to address questions or issues regarding the entry of juvenile data. In the meantime, if you are unsure or have questions regarding best practices, feel free to contact your county's PaJCMS help desk representative.



JDCAP
Juvenile Detention Centers
and Alternative Programs

ALICE[®]
TRAINING INSTITUTE

Alert
Lockdown
Inform
Counter
Evacuate

Active Shooter Training

Presented by: **The ALICE Training Institute**

Hosted by: **Juvenile Detention Centers and Alternative Programs (JDCAP)**

When: **May 24 - 25, 2018 8:00 am to 4:00 pm**

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

ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) is a set of proactive, options-based strategies that increase your chances of survival during a violent intruder or Active Shooter event. For 14 years, the ALICE Training Institute has provided violent intruder response training to individuals and organizations across the nation.

According to National Council for Occupational Safety and Health, "the second leading cause of on-the-job fatalities is violence in the workplace." Help make your place of work safer by participating in ALICE Training. This is a train the trainer course, which allows you to bring ALICE strategies back to your place of work.

Please contact lawyer@pacounties.org for more information.

RESEARCH BRIEF

OJJDP RELEASES “SPOTLIGHT ON GIRLS IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM” DATA SNAPSHOT

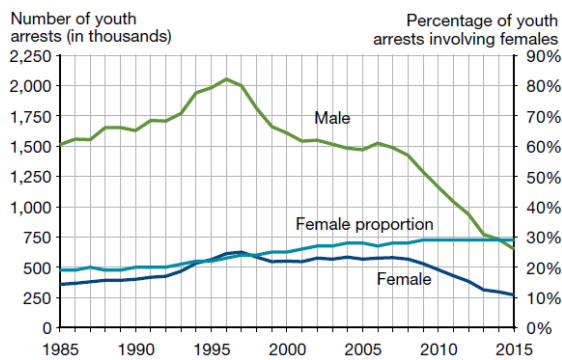


The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) recently released a Data Snapshot, titled [Spotlight on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System](#), to describe the national trends and characteristics of females in the juvenile justice system. Specifically, this snapshot compares the incidence of arrest, judicial processing, and detention/placement of girls to boys. It also examines the offenses which females were most likely to commit.

Among all females who had a delinquency case in 2014, 34% had committed property offenses, 30% had committed person offenses, 26% had committed public order offenses, and 10% had committed drug offenses. Furthermore, simple assault and larceny-theft accounted for nearly half (48%) of all female delinquency cases in 2014.

Figure 1

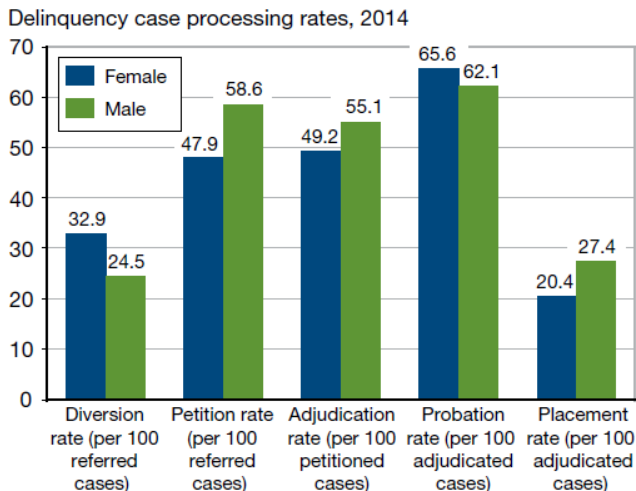
(Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)



Across all measures examined, substantial differences existed between girls and boys. For example, while arrests for both males and females have been declining nationally for the past two decades, the proportion of youth arrests involving females has increased in the same time period (See Figure 1). Furthermore, delinquency cases involving females were more likely to be diverted or receive probation than cases involving males (See Figure 2). Males, on the other hand, were more likely to be petitioned, adjudicated, or placed compared to females.

Figure 2

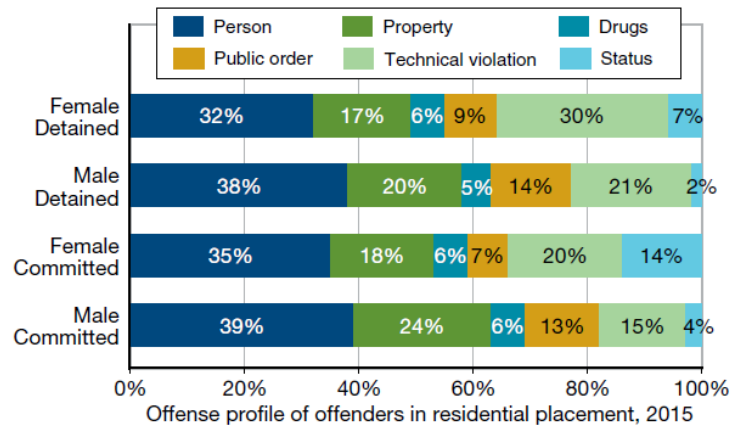
(Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)



The snapshot also compared the offense profiles by gender and commitment status (detained or placed) of certain offense groupings (person, property, drug, public order, technical violation, and status offenses). In 2015, females were more likely than males to be detained or placed for status offenses and technical violations. Males were more likely to be detained or placed for all other groups of offenses (person, property, and public order), except drugs (the percentage of males and females detained or placed for this offense type was generally the same). (See Figure 3)

Figure 3

(Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)



Finally, the snapshot compared the gender profiles of cases petitioned for certain status offenses (runaway, truancy, curfew, ungovernability, and liquor). In 2014, females accounted for about 42% of all petitioned status offense cases, more than half (55%) of all petitioned runaway cases, and about 45% of all petitioned truancy cases.

For more information on this Data Snapshot, please visit OJJDP’s [Statistical Briefing Book](#). A Pennsylvania-specific “Spotlight on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System” is forthcoming.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

March

21 Sexual Identity, Sexual Orientation and Gender Issues of Adolescence Mechanicsburg

April

10 Human Trafficking Mechanicsburg

12 Orientation Program for New Chief Juvenile Probation Officer State College

April (continued)

18-19 Stimulants Mechanicsburg

19 PTSD in Special Populations Westmoreland County

23-27 Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation Professional - Blended Learning Course Mechanicsburg

May

2 Cultural Competence State College

30 Parenting Skills Workbooks Launch Training State College

June

19 Mindfulness Practices & Emotional Intelligence State College

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



JCJC Technology User Group

May 16, 2018

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Main Session 10:00 AM — Noon

Best Practices for Reporting Data — Professional Development — Outcome Measures
Victim Enhancements — PaJCMS Supervisor Module — SSRS Reporting — Detention

Breakout Sessions 1:30 PM — 3:00 PM

Best Practices for Data Reporting
JEMS Enhancements/Online Training/Blended Learning
PaJCMS Updates/Enhancements

Days Inn State College — Group Code CGJUCG



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UNIVERSITY

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Program information: www.jcjc.pa.gov

Program contact:
Sonya Stokes, 717-477-1294
systokes@ship.edu

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ADMINISTRATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

HYBRID FORMAT | 33 CREDIT PROGRAM | START FALL 2018

Looking to advance your career in juvenile justice? The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission sponsors a graduate education program at Shippensburg University, a Master of Science in Administration of Juvenile Justice.

This 33-credit hour advanced degree program in the Department of Criminal Justice includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis.

CAREER-CHANGE & GROWTH

Upon completion of the program, student learners should generally possess:

- An advanced understanding of administrative principles and practices found in juvenile justice agencies.
- Advanced knowledge of theories relating to crime causation and criminality.
- In-depth knowledge of the interdisciplinary nature of the juvenile justice system.
- Knowledge of contemporary technologies used to manage juvenile justice information.
- Skills that enable the learner to conduct and evaluate juvenile justice-related research.
- Advanced problem-solving skills that enable the learner to identify, analyze, and solve juvenile justice operational problems that affect the delivery of services.
- Advanced reading, writing, and verbal communication skills.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Nationally recognized program, taught by highly qualified and experienced faculty.
- Free tuition and lodging provided by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.
- A hybrid 33-credit program.
- Summer coursework fully online and 3 face-to-face weekend sessions during the fall and spring semesters.
- A cohort-based program designed to enhance professional networking across the Commonwealth.
- Practical courses designed for juvenile justice professionals with an emphasis on evidence-based practices.

This program is designed for:

- County juvenile probation officers and county juvenile detention staff, who will have at least two years of post-baccalaureate experience in the juvenile justice field prior to the start of classes.
- Students who would like the opportunity to learn effective methods to efficiently evaluate juvenile programs and policies with the hopes of creating initiatives to address and reduce juvenile delinquency.
- Practitioners to be challenged and prepared for the evolving and ever-changing field of juvenile justice and provide them with the tools to offer outstanding youth services to help remediate juveniles.

Shippensburg University is a member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) and an equal opportunity educational institution.



Industry-focused course options

REQUIRED (21 CRS.)

AJJ 501: Seminar in Juvenile Justice & Delinquency
 AJJ 502: Advanced Criminological Theory
 AJJ 503: Leadership in Juvenile Justice
 AJJ 504: Advanced Research Methods
 AJJ 505: Quantitative Analysis
 AJJ 506: Strategic Planning, Budgeting & Finance
 AJJ 507: Seminar in Policy Analysis

ELECTIVES (6 CRS.)

**Elective courses are offered periodically*

AJJ 520: Advanced Studies in Policing
 AJJ 521: Seminar in Victimology
 AJJ 522: Seminar in Social Justice
 AJJ 523: Mental Health & the Administration of Justice
 AJJ 524: Anatomy of Violence
 AJJ 525: Intimate Partner & Family Violence
 AJJ 540: Selected Topics
 AJJ 541: Selected Topics
 AJJ 550: Independent Study

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CAPSTONE (6 CRS.)

AJJ 551: Practicum I
 AJJ 552: Practicum II

2018 PENNSYLVANIA FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING STATEWIDE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

The PA Statewide FGDM Leadership Team is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the Biennial Pennsylvania FGDM Conference, to be held April 16 and 17, 2018 at the Hershey Lodge. This year's conference will provide workshops meaningful to judicial, child welfare, and service provider attendees.

The theme this year is "Growing FGDM through Leadership" which will focus on the critical role leaders have in implementing, offering, and executing successful FGDM opportunities for children and families.

Our keynote speaker this year is **Harvey Alston**. Mr. Alston is considered one of the "highest octane" speakers in America. His unforgettable words of **individual responsibility** for achievement have improved spirits, spurred growth, and changed lives. Mr. Alston has authored four books, including "Be the Best," which will be the message in this year's keynote presentation.

In addition, we are pleased to welcome back to Pennsylvania the **Honorable Charles Pratt, Allen Superior Court, Indiana**. Judge Pratt has led several juvenile court reform initiatives and as a result has been called upon to speak at numerous national and state conferences. Judge Pratt has received numerous awards and recognitions for his work around judicial leadership and family engagement. **Judge Pratt will be providing a closed session for Judges/Hearing Officers only on April 16th. The same session will be open to all attendees on April 17th.**

Cost of registration for this two-day conference is \$99.00, which covers the conference fee, dinner on April 16th, and breakfast and lunch on April 17th.

Everything you need to know about the conference is listed in the attached brochure. You may also register directly through the following link:

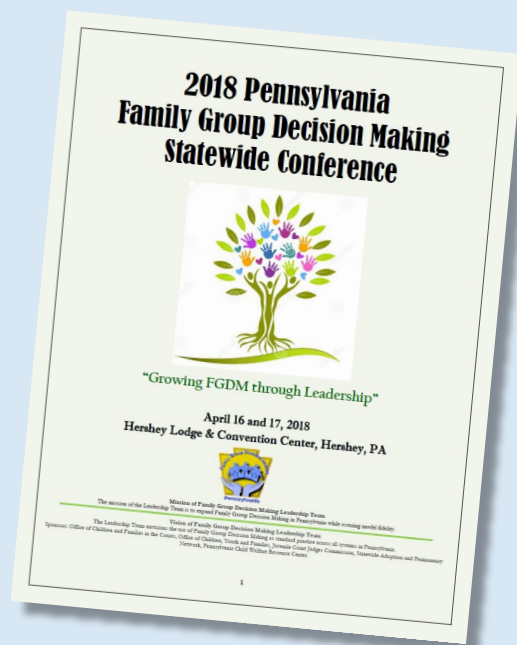
<http://www.cvent.com/events/pennsylvania-2018-family-group-decision-making-statewide-conference/event-summary-2467944bcf114fd4b00f00db44a54c0a.aspx>

Please contact Christy Stanek, planning committee co-chair, at Christy.Stanek@pacourts.us or 412-616-1079 with any additional conference questions.

I would like to suggest that you **register early, as the conference in 2016 had quite a long waiting list.**

On behalf of the FGDM Leadership Team and FGDM conference planning committee, we look forward to seeing you in Hershey!

Click below to download the full brochure!



April 9, 2018 • 11AM
Capitol Rotunda
Harrisburg, PA



National Crime Victims'
Rights Rally

SAVE THE DATE
April 9, 2018

Speakers

- Human trafficking survivor
- Loved one affected by a domestic violence homicide
- Poet survivor

Agency Resource Table

To reserve a table, contact:
Monica Iskrac by March 23
msiskr@ship.edu
717-477-1709



Registration Now Open!



20th Children's Interagency Conference

Monday, April 30 through Thursday, May 3, 2018

Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel

State College, PA

Sponsored by:

Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health Services

PA System of Care Partners

PA Child Welfare Resource Center

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.pasocpartnership.org/20th-interagency-conference>

Logo by Matthew Budd, Delaware Valley High School, Pike County, PA



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

OJJDP WELCOMES ADMINISTRATOR CAREN HARP

On January 19, 2018, [Caren Harp](#) was sworn in as Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Ms. Harp brings nearly three decades of legal experience to OJJDP, including as a prosecuting attorney and public defender in juvenile and criminal court in Arkansas.



Ms. Harp is a former director of the National Juvenile Justice Prosecution Center at the American Prosecutors Research Institute. She also served as Chief of the Sex Crimes Prosecution Unit in the Family Court Division of the New York City Law Department. Prior to being appointed Administrator, Ms. Harp served for 5 years as an associate professor of law at the Liberty University School of Law where she taught courses on children and the law, evidence, professional responsibility, and trial advocacy.

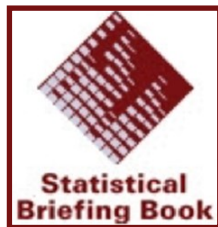
Resources:

Read Administrator Harp's [bio](#).
[Read](#) the announcement from the White House.

OJJDP UPDATES DATA ON STATISTICAL BRIEFING BOOK

OJJDP has updated its [Statistical Briefing Book](#):

- [Easy Access to NIBRS Victims](#) has been updated to include data through 2015.
- FAQs describing the annual number of juvenile arrests and juvenile arrest rates found in the [Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime](#) section have been updated to include data through 2016.
- FAQs describing [juvenile arrest rates by offense and race](#) in the Racial and Ethnic Fairness section have been updated to include 2016 data.
- New FAQs about petitioned status offense cases handled in juvenile court have been added to the [Juveniles in Court](#) section.



Developed 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:

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

APPLICATIONS FOR 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 June 11–15, 2018, at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. This training is designed for juvenile justice system leaders and partners working to improve outcomes for youth in post-adjudication custody. The curricu-

lum covers critical areas, including culture change and leadership, addressing racial and ethnic disparities, family engagement, assessment, case planning, facility-based education and treatment services, and reentry planning and support. Upon approval of a Capstone Project Proposal initiating or building on local reform efforts, participants receive an Executive Certificate from Georgetown University and join the CJJR Fellows Network of more than 850 individuals. The [application](#) deadline is March 2, 2018.

Resources:

Learn about [CJJR's certificate programs](#).
Email questions to jjreform@georgetown.edu.

FALL ISSUE OF AMBER ADVOCATE NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE

OJJDP has released the fall 2017 issue of [The AMBER Advocate](#) newsletter. This issue features articles on:

- The death of Ashlynn Mike and the establishment of the Navajo Nation AMBER Alert system.
- Faces of the AMBER Alert Network.
- The role AMBER Alert played in a Florida child's recovery.
- AMBER Alert training.
- AMBER Alert international news.
- AMBER Alert in Indian Country.
- AMBER Alert briefs.



The U.S. Department of Justice and the [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#) coordinate the [AMBER Alert program](#) nationally. As of November 2017, a total of 897 children had been successfully recovered through the AMBER Alert system.

Resources:

Access [previous issues](#) of the newsletter.
Learn more about the [AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program](#), funded by OJJDP.
[Learn more](#) about the AMBER Alert program.
Find [AMBER Alert](#) on Facebook.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS SEEKS JURISDICTIONS FOR MULTI-SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT TRAINING

The [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#), in partnership with OJJDP's [Center for Coordinated Assistance to States](#), has issued a request for applications from jurisdictions seeking to engage in multi-system improvement efforts.

The [Multi-System Collaboration Training and Technical Assistance Program](#) supports jurisdictions that are interested in developing a sound infrastructure to promote multi-system approaches to serving at-risk youth, youth who are involved with the justice system, and their families. The Center will provide onsite and distance-learning training and technical assistance to a cohort of as many as four jurisdictions—at no cost to the sites—to help them identify gaps in policy and practice, enhance information sharing capacities, explore how key decision points impact youth, and develop an evaluation strategy for tracking system- and youth-level outcomes. Apply by March 16, 2018.



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR GLOBAL YOUTH JUSTICE TRAINING INSTITUTE

On June 12-14, 2018, [Global Youth Justice](#) will host its [19th Global Youth Justice Training Institute](#) in Cape Cod, MA. Participants will learn strategies to establish or enhance local volunteer-driven juvenile justice and youth justice diversion programs called Teen/Youth/Student/Peer Court or Peer Jury. Topics will include youth and adult volunteer training; quality community service placements, programmatic enhancements, and operational strategies; administrative tips; grant writing; identifying funding opportunities; and more.



Resources:

[Register](#) for the training.

Follow Global Youth Justice on [Twitter](#).

OJJDP ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

OJJDP has announced the following fiscal year 2018 funding opportunity:

- [Juvenile Justice Emergency Planning Demonstration Program](#).



Applications are due by April 16, 2018.

Resources:

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

EARLY REGISTRATION AVAILABLE FOR BLUEPRINTS FOR HEALTHY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The [Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence](#) at the University of Colorado Boulder will host the 2018 [Blueprints Conference](#) on April 30 to May 2, 2018, in Westminster, CO. The conference will focus on evidence-based programs that promote positive youth development and will provide guidance for practitioners implementing these programs in their communities.

Blueprints founder Dr. Delbert Elliott; Dr. David Hawkins, founding director of the Social Development Research Group; and Dr. James Mercy, director of violence prevention with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will present keynote addresses.



Resources:

[Learn more](#) about the conference and [register](#) online to attend.

See [Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development](#) for a listing of evidence-based programs.

See OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#) literature review on [positive youth development](#).

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.

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