



# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Volume 31, Number 10

October 2020

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REMAINS OPEN

It's not too late to register for the 2020 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice! Please visit [www.jcjc.pa.gov](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov) to register for this **FREE** virtual event. In addition to the engaging plenary sessions highlighted below, 11 separate training workshops will be held on both November 5th and 6th, 2020.

### Opening Plenary, November 5th, 2020 - PA's Juvenile Justice System Strategy - a Tribute to the Past, Anticipation of the Future



Mark Carey of the Carey Group is the featured speaker for our Thursday Plenary. This session will discuss the first ten years of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). The JJSES is a comprehensive juvenile justice reform initiative for the implementation of evidence-based practices, data-driven decision making, and continuous quality improvements in every aspect of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. The session will highlight the initiative's roots, its current status, and next steps. The session will also describe how the JJSES has sparked a significant number of innovations, and continued to solidify the Commonwealth's status as a bellwether state in juvenile justice policy and practice. (Continued on page 2)

### Closing Plenary, November 6th, 2020 - Recognizing Implicit Bias and Promoting Diversity, Belonging, and Equity in Our Workspace



Rachel Godsil of the Perception Institute is the featured speaker for our Friday Plenary. This plenary will use stories and research to explore "implicit bias," a term used to describe when we have attitudes towards people or associate stereotypes with them without our conscious knowledge. Implicit bias is a universal phenomenon, not limited by race, gender, or even country of origin. Recognizing implicit bias is critical as scientific research has clearly shown that most of our actions occur without our conscious thoughts, allowing us to function in our extraordinarily complex world. This means, however, that our implicit biases often predict how we will behave more accurately than our conscious values. Given this reality, the session will explore ways to identify risk areas where our implicit biases may affect our behaviors so we can begin to take specific steps to avoid acting according to biases that are contrary to our conscious values and beliefs. (Continued on page 2)

## INSIDE:

- Training Workshops Focus on a Variety of Topics..... 3
- Pennsylvania's 2019 Juvenile Court Annual Report Delinquency Dispositions - Juvenile Demographics..... 4
- Technology Corner ..... 6
- Advancing BARJ and JJSES: Pennsylvania's 2019-2021 Juvenile Justice Strategic Plan .... 7
- Welcome Chief Holly Varndell Crawford County ..... 8
- Staff Development Highlights..... 9
- Upcoming Virtual Training Events ..... 9
- NCTSN's Working Together in the Pandemic: Tips for Front-Line Juvenile Justice Staff ..... 10
- National Juvenile Justice Announcements..... 12

(Continued from page 1)

**Mark Carey** is the President of The Carey Group, a national consulting firm that provides training and technical assistance for justice and correctional professional and community groups. Mark is also the President of Carey Group Publishing (CGP). Previously, he served as the Deputy Commissioner of Community and Juvenile Services for the Minnesota Department of Corrections, the Director of Dakota County Community Corrections, the Director of Dodge-Fillmore-Olmsted County Community Corrections, and the Warden of MCF-Shakopee, the only women's prison in Minnesota. He has more than 40 years of experience in the correctional field, serving as a counselor, probation/parole officer, planner, administrator, and consultant. Mark also taught juvenile justice at the community college in Rochester, Minnesota, and has authored more than three dozen publications on a variety of criminal justice topics.

Mark previously served as President of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA), and he has been on APPA's Board of Directors since 1997. In 1996, he received APPA's Sam Houston University Award. Mark has also served as President and Chair of a number of other associations and task forces, and is a frequently requested keynote speaker and trainer. In 1993, he was selected as the Corrections Person of the Year by the Minnesota Corrections Association.



2020 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania  
Conference on Juvenile Justice  
**40th Annual Professional  
Awards Program - LIVE!**  
November 4th - 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

(Continued from page 1)

**Rachel Godsil** is Co-Founder and Co-Director of Perception Institute and a Professor of Law and Chancellor's Scholar at Rutgers Law School. She collaborates with social scientists on empirical research to identify the efficacy of interventions to address implicit bias, racial anxiety, and stereotype threat. She regularly leads workshops and presentations addressing the role of bias and anxiety associated with race, ethnicity, religion, and gender, focusing on education, criminal justice, health care, and the workplace.

Rachel is a lead author of many academic and legal reports, including amicus briefs on behalf of empirical social psychologists in both iterations of Fisher v. Texas and the National Parent Teacher Association in the Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District litigation at the Supreme Court. Rachel is on the advisory boards for Research, Integration, Strategies, and Evaluation (RISE) for Boys and Men of Color at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education, the Systemic Justice Project at Harvard Law School, and the Poverty and Race Research Action Council. Her teaching and research interests include civil rights, constitutional law, property, land use, environmental justice, and education. Ms. Godsil is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Michigan Law School.

## TRAINING WORKSHOPS FOCUS ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS

This year, the training workshops for the 2020 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will focus on various topics and issues facing juvenile justice professionals during these unprecedented and challenging times, while also highlighting best-practices, programs, and initiatives that exemplify Pennsylvania's Balanced & Restorative Justice (BARJ) mission and the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). Unless noted, training workshops will be offered on both Thursday, November 5th and Friday, November 6th.

### OUR WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:

- \* **A Conversation on Cultural Competency for Juvenile Justice Professionals and Stakeholders**  
*Presented By: Marilyn Stein*
- \* **Advancing Restorative Practices in Juvenile Justice**  
*Presented By: Cathy Eichelberger*
- \* **Using Listening Circles for Mindfulness and Self-Care Among Juvenile Justice Professionals**  
*Presented By: Dr. Craig Adamson, Elizabeth Smull*
- \* **Advancing Graduated Responses through Peer Mentorship and Technical Assistance**  
*Presented By: Dr. Naomi Goldstein, Dr. Leah Brogan, Bethany Murtha, Cheri Modene*
- \* **Effective Feedback for Coaches, Coordinators, Chiefs, and Supervisors**  
*Presented By: Dr. Kelly Waltman*
- \* **Technology Solutions for Conducting Probation Work and Delivering Services to Youth**  
*Presented By: Shawn Forbes, Tonya Benedetto*
- \* **An Update from the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force**  
*Presented By: Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark, Hon. Lisa Baker, Hon. Tarah Toohil, Hon. Michael Patrick Zabel, Daniel Jurman, Noah Bein, Justine Fowler*
- \* **The Emergence of the Quality Assurance Position in Juvenile Justice**  
*Presented By: Nicole Mattern, Jonathan Kuykendall*
- \* **Understanding Adolescent Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues**  
*Presented By: Laure Larkin, Lynette Matson*
- \* **A Discussion on the Initial Implementation of the Pennsylvania Trauma Screening Expansion Project**  
*Presented By: Dr. Keith Cruise, Jay Leamy*
- \* **A Guide to Electronic Gaming Systems and Their Use by Individuals with Problematic Sexual Behaviors (Friday only)**  
*Presented By: Rick Parsons*

Once you've registered, be sure to check out our Professional and Youth Awards Gallery tabs where you can browse the winners and their submissions. Our virtual exhibitors can be found on the Exhibitors tab at the start of the conference and throughout the entire event. If you need any assistance before the event, please reach out to us through email at [ra-jcjevents@pa.gov](mailto:ra-jcjevents@pa.gov). We hope that you are available to join us!

# PENNSYLVANIA'S 2019 JUVENILE COURT ANNUAL REPORT

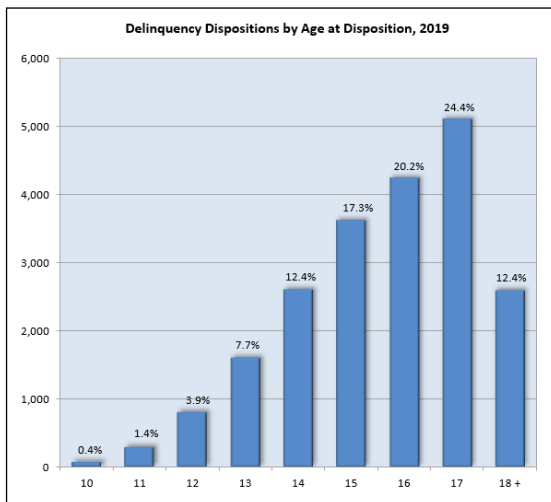
## Juvenile Demographics

As we wrap up the series of newsletter highlights on the Pennsylvania 2019 Juvenile Court Annual Report, this issue examines the juvenile demographics, including gender, age, educational status, family status, living arrangement, and race/ethnicity of juveniles who were active with Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice in 2019.

Juvenile Court dispositions in Pennsylvania continue to primarily involve males. While the number of total dispositions decreased from 2018 to 2019, in both years the distribution of dispositions by gender was rela-

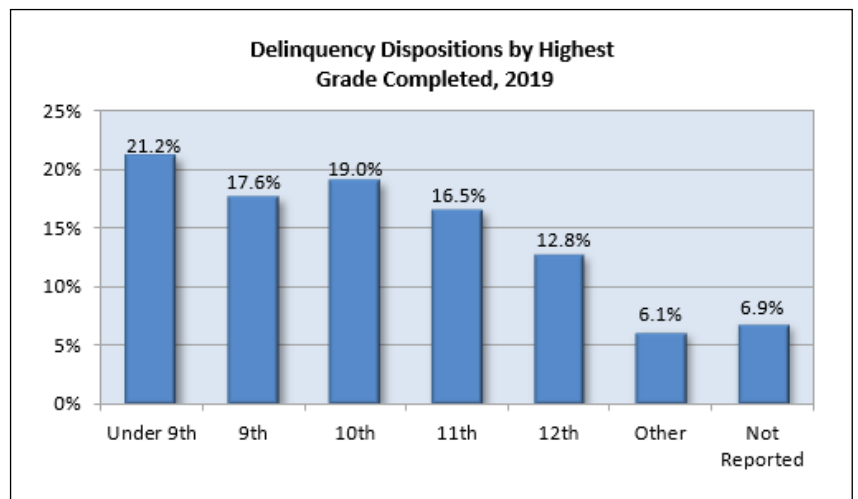
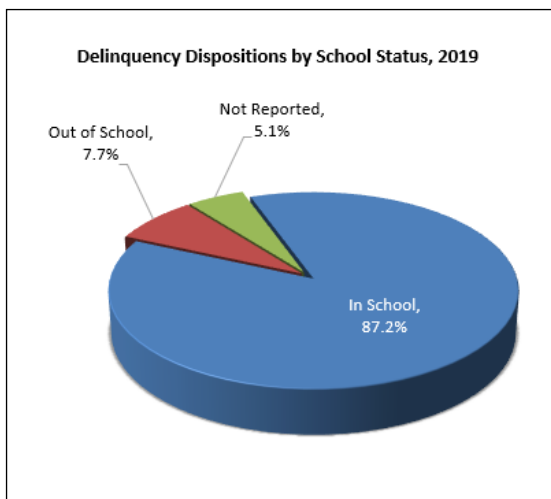
tively consistent, 74.6% male and 25.4% female in 2018, compared to 73.7% male and 26.3% female in 2019. As reflected in the chart above, the proportion of males receiving delinquency dispositions related to new allegations of delinquency increases as the disposition type becomes more restrictive.

SELECTED DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Transferred to Criminal Proceedings	55	96.4%	3.6%
Placement	1,175	88.8%	11.2%
Probation	3,757	80.5%	19.5%
Consent Decree	4,506	74.4%	25.6%
Informal Adjustment	3,881	65.8%	34.2%
All Dispositions	20,934	73.7%	26.3%

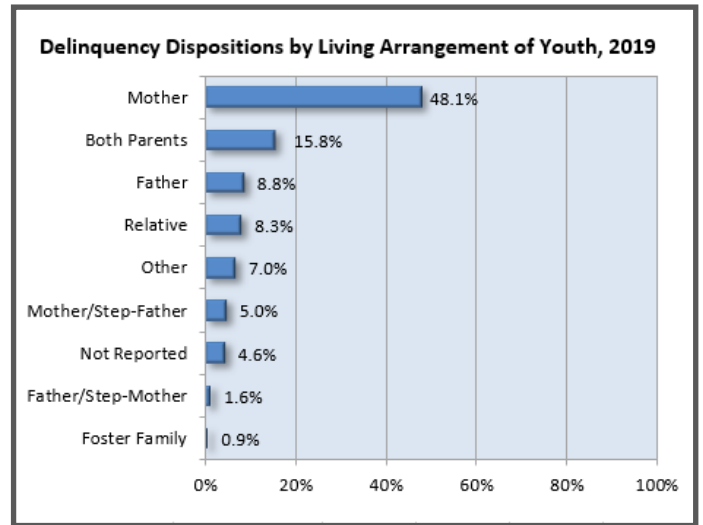
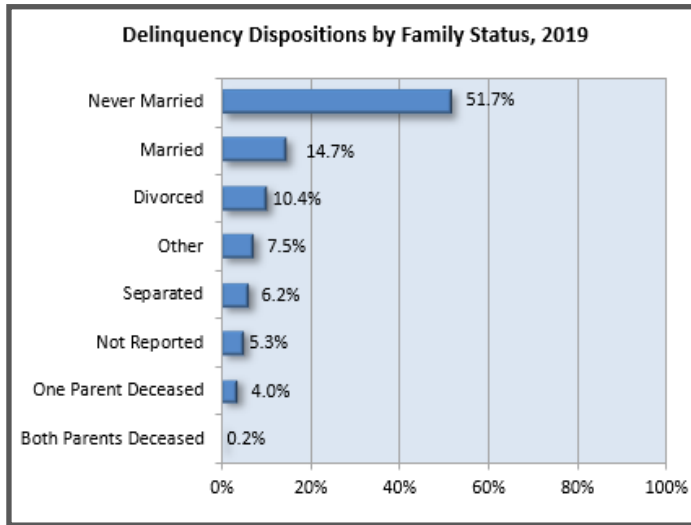


Seventeen-year-olds accounted for 5,105 (24.4%) of all juvenile delinquency dispositions in 2019, representing the most dispositions for any age group. Juveniles aged 16 accounted for 4,235 (20.2%), while 15-year-olds accounted for 3,614 (17.3%) of the dispositions.

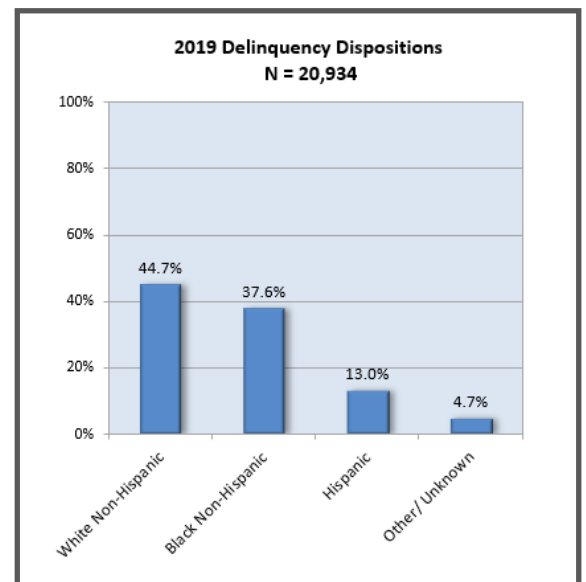
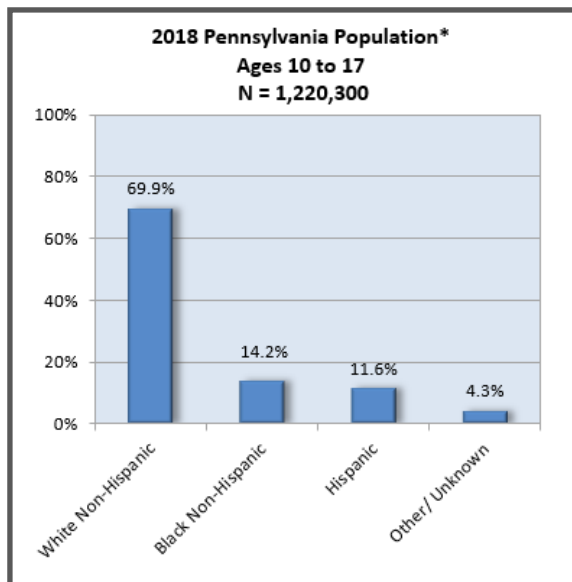
The vast majority (87.2%) of delinquency dispositions in 2019 reflected youth who were reported as In School at the time of disposition. Seventy-two percent of youth were reported as having completed grades 9, 10, 11, or 12, or as being in an "Other" educational program.



In juvenile delinquency dispositions, youth whose parents were reported as never married represented the largest group—greater than 50%. In only 14.7% of cases, the parents were reported as married at the time of disposition. The majority of youth (48.1%) resided only with their mother, while only 15.8% of juveniles resided with both parents.



In 2019, White Non-Hispanic youth represented the largest racial/ethnic category for all delinquency dispositions. However, in comparison to the racial/ethnic distribution of all youth in Pennsylvania



ages 10-17, the representation of Black Non-Hispanic youth is disproportionate: 14.2% of the total population versus 37.6% of all delinquency dispositions. When excluding Philadelphia County and Allegheny County, Black Non-Hispanic youth represent 8.4% of the youth population, but 28.2% of all delinquency dispositions.

County-specific data on Juvenile Demographics can be found in the appendices of the Pennsylvania 2019 Juvenile Court Annual Report at <https://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Research-Statistics/Disposition%20Reports/2019%20Juvenile%20Court%20Annual%20Report.pdf>.

\*At the time of publication of the Pennsylvania 2019 Juvenile Court Annual Report, the 2019 Population Estimates had not yet been published. We have included the 2018 Population Estimates in the chart above. 2018 Population Estimates retrieved from The Centers for Disease Control available online at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/bridged-race-population.html>.

# TECHNOLOGY CORNER

The 2020 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice is only days away! Registration is **FREE** so if you haven't done so already, visit [www.jcjc.pa.gov](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov) and register today! Here are some helpful tips for navigating your way around the conference website. The day of the event, only the email address used for registering will be needed to access everything.

## James E. Anderson PENNSYLVANIA Conference on Juvenile Justice November 4-6, 2020

Presented Virtually!

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On the bottom of the banner, you will find tabs that give you access to all of the different areas (the Exhibitor Area will be available for viewing at the start of the conference). The tabs will always be viewable, making navigation from page to page easy.

Want to build your own personalized schedule? Once your registration is completed, you will be able to access the Schedule tab. Simply click on the star in front of the title and a My Favorites tab will appear

My Favorites Nov 4 Nov 5 Nov 6

09:00 AM - 10:15 AM (Eastern Daylight Time)

★ Opening Remarks - PA's Juvenile Justice System Strategy - a Tribute to the Past, Anticipation of the Future

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with only the starred events listed. You can also add any event to your calendar by clicking on the appropriate choice on the Add to feature. Not sure which ones to choose? Click on the title or the Session Details button to view detailed information on the session and the presenters. At the time of the chosen event, click the Join Session button and you will have access to the room when the event begins.

Just as we do at our live event, our friendly help desk staff will be available on the Support tab the day of the event to assist you with anything that you may need. Enjoy!

## Thanks to our Sponsors



# ADVANCING BARJ AND JJSES: PENNSYLVANIA'S 2019-2021 JUVENILE JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (PCCJPO) are pleased to announce the release of Pennsylvania's 2019-2021 Juvenile Justice Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is an interactive dashboard that identifies how goals, objectives, activities, and measures reflect Pennsylvania's enduring commitment to both Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) and the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

This innovative Strategic Plan arrives 25 years after Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act's purpose clause established the following mission for Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system:

Consistent with the protection of the public interest, to provide for children committing delinquent acts programs of supervision, care and rehabilitation which provide balanced attention to the protection of the community, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed and the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community. (Act 33 of Sp. Sess. No. 1 In 1995).

Since then, Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system has endeavored to articulate and attain the three goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice:

- **To protect the community.** The public has a right to a safe and secure community.
- **To hold youth accountable for offenses committed.** Delinquent youth incur obligations to their victims and the communities they harmed.
- **To assist youth in developing competencies.** Youth should leave the juvenile justice system more capable of being productive and responsible members of their communities.

At the June 2010 annual strategic planning meeting, PCCJPO and JCJC agreed to develop JJSES, a comprehensive initiative to formulate and implement evidence-based policies and practices. Shortly thereafter, the JJSES Statement of Purpose was developed to layout the vision:

### *JJSES Statement of Purpose*

*We dedicate ourselves to working in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by:*

- *Employing evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process;*
- *Collecting and analyzing the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and with this knowledge,*
- *Striving to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services, and programs.*

In 2012, Act 42 further amended the Juvenile Act to require "employing evidence-based practices whenever possible" in the pursuit of Balanced and Restorative Justice goals.

The 2019-2021 Strategic Plan dashboard allows users to view how committees and workgroups contribute to the following mission and six goals of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. Users can view information by goal or by committee/workgroup. The dashboard format ensures that the Strategic Plan will be a living document, easily updated and accessible.

The **mission** statement of our juvenile justice system: **To support and enhance the values, principles, and programs that advance the goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice while employing evidence-based practices whenever possible.**

The **goals** of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system:

- |                                |                                    |                                       |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Community Protection</b> | 3. <b>Competency Development</b>   | 5. <b>Data-Driven Decision Making</b> |
| 2. <b>Accountability</b>       | 4. <b>Evidence-Based Practices</b> | 6. <b>Professional Development</b>    |

Pennsylvania's 2019-2021 Juvenile Justice Strategic Plan is available on the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission website at <https://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>. Click on "Research and Statistics" then "Juv. Justice Strategic Plan." The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers will post a link on its website at <https://www.pachiefprobationofficers.org/>.

After entering the dashboard, six gold navigation buttons allow the reader to review the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Strategic Plan by goal area. Selecting a goal advances the reader to relevant objectives and measures, illustrating work specific to the selected goal and ultimately the mission of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Strategic Plan.

The reader also has the option to view information by committee or workgroup. Selecting the green button with the name of the committee or workgroup advances the reader into an inclusive review of the strategic plan for the chosen group. Nineteen strategic plans are included in the initial release.

## COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

### WELCOME CHIEF HOLLY VARNDELL CRAWFORD COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION

On September 14, 2020, Holly Varnnell was appointed as Crawford County's Chief Juvenile Probation Officer by the Honorable John F. Spataro, President Judge.

Prior to joining the team at Crawford County Juvenile Probation, Ms. Varnnell worked as a Loss Prevention Manager for Federated Department Stores. In 1997, she was hired by the Crawford County Juvenile Probation Department where she served as a community-based juvenile probation officer until 1999 when she was promoted to intensive supervision and electronic monitoring. In 2001, Ms. Varnnell was promoted to a supervisor position. In this role she supervised the intake department along with community-based and school-based juvenile probation officers.



As a supervisor, Ms. Varnnell was essential to the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) implementation and training. She is an advocate for trauma-informed decision making and is an ACE's trainer, providing guidance to her department and community. Additionally, Ms. Varnnell is a YLS Master Trainer, has completed EPICS training, received the Corner House Forensic Interviewing Certification, and completed Keystone Crisis Intervention (KCIT).

Ms. Varnnell obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Within the community, she is actively involved in various groups including the SOC, Peace4Crawford, Children's Advisory Council, Disaster Outreach Team, and Multi-Disciplinary Team.

In her free time, Ms. Varnnell enjoys spending time with her family, doing anything outdoors, cooking, going to the family cabin in Potter County, and attending her daughters' sporting events.



# STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## UPCOMING VIRTUAL TRAINING EVENTS

### Cultural Competency for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

(November 13<sup>th</sup>) - This introductory workshop teaches participants skills in intercultural engagement, to improve staff communication with each other, as well as their client base. This workshop will bridge the gap between cultural awareness and beginning-level Intercultural Communication skills.

### NE Regional Chiefs SPEP™ Informed Training

(November 19<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>) - The SPEP™ Informed training will enable probation staff to gain a better understanding of how SPEP™ is affecting the services they utilize.

*\*this training is opened to select counties\**

### Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) Level 1 Specialist Training

(November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>) - Level 1 SPEP™ Specialists are trained to assess community-based and residential programs with the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™). The training process to become a Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist consists of initial training (classroom), shadowing and co-facilitation/facilitation.

*\*this training is opened to select counties\**

### Core Correctional Practices

(December 7, 8, 14 and 15) - This training instructs correctional workers on the core skills needed to support cognitive behavioral programming while using evidence-based practices. This training is an excellent primer for the Effective Practices In Community Supervision (EPICS), as it introduces the same interventions used in EPICS.

If you are interested in participating in any of these training opportunities, please log into the [JCJC Events Management System](#) (JEMS) for more information. We continue to explore virtual training events to be offered in the near future. If you are aware of virtual trainings you feel would be appropriate for JCJC's Professional Development Program, please contact Sonya Stokes, JCJC's Director of Professional Development at [SYStokes@ship.edu](mailto:SYStokes@ship.edu).

## November

13 Cultural Competency for the 21st Century -  
**Virtual Training**

19-20 NE Regional Chiefs SPEP™ Informed Training -  
**Virtual Training**  
(open to select counties)

24-25 Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) Level 1 Specialist Training -  
**Virtual Training**  
(open to select counties)

## December

7-8, 14-15 Core Correctional Practices -  
**Virtual Training**

Registration available at  
[www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us)



## Send Us Your Juvenile Justice Week Activities!

If you have held Juvenile Justice activities in your county recently, email us at [ra-oajcnews@pa.gov](mailto:ra-oajcnews@pa.gov) and we'll feature them in a future issue.



## Working Together in the Pandemic: Tips for Front-Line Juvenile Justice Staff

Co-workers are a vital source of mutual support for juvenile justice staff, especially in a crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic. By working together effectively, you, along with your colleagues, achieve several crucial goals of your facility or agency, including:

- 1 Increasing the safety of youth and everyone at your work setting
- 2 Serving as role models for youth on making and keeping relationships strong
- 3 Increasing the morale and sense of trust and cohesion of your team
- 4 Setting an example of teamwork for your administrators and organization
- 5 Making sure every staff member feels supported by their co-workers
- 6 Making the unavoidable stress of the work and the crisis manageable for all staff
- 7 Reducing burnout, secondary trauma, and compassion fatigue of all staff
- 8 Increasing the positive recognition and appreciation for every staff member

In crises, relationships between co-workers can become frayed or even conflictual, which leads to lower morale, less effective performance, a loss of trust, and less safety. Finding constructive ways to restore an atmosphere of mutual cooperation, respect, and trust is essential in all juvenile justice work, but especially in times such as this pandemic. These ways may include:

- When disagreements over procedures or ways of interacting with and supervising youth occur, it is essential that co-workers talk it out with respect and agree on how to handle the work and support one another.
- When frustrations or worries about the work or the work environment lead to impatience, arguments, or a lack of cooperation amongst co-workers, it is essential for each staff person to step back and reset so that everyone is able to come together as a team.
- When critical incidents such as fights or rule violations by youth undermine co-worker cooperation and morale, and pit colleagues against one another, it is crucial to address these incidents with skilled facilitators to restore mutual trust.
- When team leaders and supervisors identify gaps or challenges in working together that occur during crises, they set a critical example and help co-workers regain their mutual support for and from one another.

## Questions to Consider to Keep Your Work Team Strong

- What are you doing to ensure your own and your co-workers' safety every day?
- If you or your co-workers' safety is uncertain, for example, you can't socially distance or don't have enough safety supplies or equipment on your unit, how can you develop or add to the best plan with the input of all your co-workers?
- When youth behave in problematic or even potentially unsafe ways, how do you and your co-workers work together to support each other while addressing the youth's actions?
- When a critical incident involving a threat to youth's or staff's safety occurs, how do you and co-workers support each other?
- When a critical incident involving the illness, injury, or death of a youth or co-worker occurs, how do you and co-workers support each other?
- What are you doing to be a role model for the youth you're working with? Are you actively showing respect, appreciation, and support to your co-workers or supervisees?

## Do's and Don'ts for Working as a Team in Times of Crisis

**DO** carefully track current or imminent stressors, dangers, or other safety risks that you and your co-workers are facing or confronted with, and work together to find ways to minimize the harm to all members of the work team.

**DON'T** assume that stressors or safety risks are so frequent or unavoidable that there is no way to find ways to minimize the harm to you and your co-workers.

**DO** identify natural ways to express your appreciation and respect for your co-workers, especially when you see them do something that makes everyone safer or depicts being a role model for courage, dedication, skill, and compassion.

**DON'T** assume that work relationships are automatically supportive or overlook opportunities to show your co-workers your respect and appreciation for them and the contributions they make.

**DO** take time to discuss with your co-workers when a critical incident such as violence, injury, illness, or death occurs so that they know you are there for them and they are there for you.

**DON'T** assume that debriefing is a waste of time or optional. Your ability to manage stress and to stay healthy and effective in times of crisis depends on your team's support, appreciation, and respect for one another.

**DO** maintain an open line of communication with supervisors and administrators so that you can be confident that your team's safety, well-being, and contributions are a priority.

**DON'T** assume that supervisors or administrators care only about themselves in a crisis. An "us-versus-them" mentality undermines confidence and the sense of being in this together.



### Suggested Citation

Ford, J. (2020). *Working Together in the Pandemic: Tips for Front-Line Juvenile Justice Staff*. Los Angeles, CA, and Durham, NC: National Center for Child Traumatic Stress.



# NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AWARDS \$144 MILLION TO IMPROVE SERVICES FOR CRIME VICTIMS

The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) announced awards of more than \$144 million to enhance services for victims of crime nationwide. OJJDP awarded more than \$54 million to support the effective investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases and improve positive outcomes for child abuse and neglect victims. This includes OJJDP's support of children's advocacy centers (CACs) to address child abuse and neglect and training and technical assistance for CACs, multidisciplinary teams, and child abuse professionals. OJJDP also awarded funds to support Court Appointed Special Advocate programs nationwide and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to improve juvenile justice and dependency systems' response to child abuse and neglect, as well as child sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. In addition, OJP awarded nearly \$101 million to combat human trafficking. View the OJP fact sheets for additional information about the awards to improve services for victims and the awards to combat human trafficking.

### RESOURCES:

- [Learn](#) how OJJDP is working to prevent child abuse through partnerships, programs, and training and technical assistance.
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AWARDS MORE THAN \$295.8 MILLION TO IMPROVE TRIBAL PUBLIC SAFETY

On September 30, 2020, the Department of Justice announced more than \$295.8 million in awards to improve public safety, serve victims of crime, and support youth programs in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. More than \$103 million was awarded under the Justice Department's Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) to enhance law enforcement and tribal justice practices, expand victim services, and sustain crime prevention and intervention efforts. CTAS grants are administered by the Department's Office of Justice Programs, Office on Violence Against Women, and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. OJJDP awarded \$16.1 million to address the needs of tribal youth. "Public safety officials and victim service providers in Indian country face exceptional challenges, but they bring to their work an extraordinary array of skills and resources that enable them to meet and overcome any obstacle," said OJP Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Katharine T. Sullivan. A full listing of all the announced CTAS awards is available [here](#).

### RESOURCES:

- Learn more about [OJJDP's Tribal Youth Programs and Services](#).
- View OJJDP's Tribal Youth Initiatives [fact sheet](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS ANNOUNCES MORE THAN \$92 MILLION TO SUPPORT REENTRY

The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has announced more than \$92 million in awards to reduce recidivism among adults and juvenile offenders returning to their communities after confinement. OJJDP, the National Institute of Justice, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance awarded grants to jurisdictions, research institutions, and other organizations in support of proven science-based approaches to reintegrate offenders into communities. OJJDP awarded more than \$11.2 million under its Second Chance Act suite of grant programs to support reentry services for detained juveniles and incarcerated parents with children under the age of 18.

"Former offenders are ultimately responsible for their own successes and failures, but our criminal and juvenile justice systems have an important role to play in preparing them for the obstacles that lie before them," said OJP Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Katharine T. Sullivan. For additional information about these awards, see the OJP [fact sheet](#).

### RESOURCES:

- View and download OJJDP's "[Reentry Starts Here: A Guide for Youth in Long-Term Juvenile Corrections and Treatment Programs](#)."
- View and download OJJDP's [reentry fact sheet](#).
- Visit OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#) to learn about evidence-based reentry programs.
- View OJJDP's [Juvenile Reentry Programs I-Guide](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## OJJDP UPDATES STATISTICAL BRIEFING BOOK

OJJDP has updated its [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (SBB): [Easy Access to the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports](#) data analysis tool has been updated to include data through 2018. FAQs describing the number, demographics, weapon use, and victim-offender relationship of [juvenile homicide victims](#) and [juvenile homicide offenders](#) have been updated through 2018. [Easy Access to Juvenile Populations](#) and related FAQs in the [Juvenile Population Characteristics](#) and [Hispanic Youth in the Juvenile Justice System](#) sections have been updated through 2019. Developed for OJJDP by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#), the SBB offers easy online access to statistics on a variety of juvenile justice topics.

### RESOURCES:

- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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](mailto:ra-oajcnews@pa.gov).

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