



2021 JAMES E. ANDERSON PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE YOUTH AWARD SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

Will Kiefer and Nate Luvice from the Bench Mark Program located in Lancaster, PA, will be the featured speakers at the 2021 Youth Awards Program at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers on November 3rd. Will and Nate will also meet and engage with youth award winners prior to the Youth Awards Program and Dinner.

Will Kiefer, the Founder and Executive Director of the Bench Mark Program, has worked with at-risk youth in Lancaster since his time as a senior at Franklin and Marshall College (2014). From his work with these youth, Will created the Bench Mark Program. Bench Mark is a strength-based mentoring program for older at-risk youth. Across various programs, Bench Mark uses goal setting to help youth achieve fitness, scholastic, and career-related goals. Membership at Bench Mark has no expiration date, and many youth engage with the organization for years at a time, often joining the staff team as mentors and coaches. Will has a passion for working with at-risk youth and spends the majority of his time growing and developing the Bench Mark Program to better serve the youth in his community. Outside of work, Will is a true family man that devotes quality time to his wife and their adopted son.



Nate Luvice, the Student Services Coordinator for the Bench Mark Program, initially joined the program as a youth participant. Prior to his involvement with the Bench Mark Program, Nate was an at-risk youth engaging in delinquent behaviors. This path caused Nate to experience a life-altering injury as a result of gun violence. Following this injury, Nate decided to make changes to his life, which led to joining the Bench Mark Program. After a few years as a youth participant in the program, Nate was offered the opportunity to join the Bench Mark staff as their Student Services Coordinator. Today, Nate continues in this role and has spearheaded program endeavors including the launch of a video podcast showcasing the adversities their students have overcome and the power that hardships can have in bringing youth together to create unlikely friendships, face struggles, and fight the temptation of returning to old habits. In his free time, Nate is continuing his education and currently pursuing his Associates Degree. Nate also volunteers at Crispus Attucks Communities and participates in the Teen Elects Fatherhood program. When he is not working or volunteering, you can find Nate either spending time with his son or powerlifting with friends.

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JUVENILE JUSTICE TASK FORCE RELEASES FINAL REPORT

The Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force released a comprehensive final report on June 22, 2021, with policy recommendations intended to protect public safety, increase accountability, achieve savings for reinvestment, and improve outcomes for youth, families, and communities.

Co-chaired by Sen. Lisa Baker, Sen. Jay Costa, Rep. Tarah Toohil, and Rep. Mike Zabel, the task force was jointly established in 2019 by leaders from both parties and all three branches, including Governor Tom Wolf, Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas Saylor, House Speaker Bryan Cutler, Senate President Pro Tempore Jake Corman, and Senate Minority Leader Costa. Leaders charged the task force with conducting an assessment of the juvenile justice system driven by data and stakeholder input and with developing recommendations to serve as the foundation for statutory, budgetary, and administrative changes for consideration during the 2021-2022 regular session of the General Assembly.

“We worked together to conduct an inclusive, inter-branch look at our system based in our own data and on the voices of stakeholders,” task force co-chair Sen. Lisa Baker said. “Our findings show we have an urgent opportunity to reinvest in communities across Pennsylvania. No matter where young people live, our system should be fair, aligned with what works best, and equipped with the tools to strengthen families and reduce recidivism.”

“This issue touches every corner of our Commonwealth,” Speaker of the House Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) said. “The findings in this report present us with the opportunity to ensure our juvenile justice system rehabilitates our youngest offenders to not only create a positive path for them, but also to strengthen families, protect communities, and create long-term benefits for all Pennsylvanians.”

“Over the past 17 months, the task force has worked diligently to create these policy recommendations that will expand where our juvenile justice system has succeeded—and boldly transform the areas where we face challenges,” Governor Tom Wolf said. “We need to do better by our youth and communities, and that’s why this important work remains a top priority for all of us.”

“Through our task force’s collaborative work together, we have uncovered troubling data showing too many young people are removed from home on their first offense who aren’t assessed as likely to reoffend,” said Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, President Judge of Allegheny County and Chair of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission. “The data also shows that children living in poverty and children of color are more likely to receive placement for their first offense. Our recommendations expand and reinvest in diversion and other efforts that are already succeeding in many counties to hold young people accountable at home in their own communities.”

In keeping with its charge from state leaders, the task force issued 35 recommendations to:

- Strengthen due process and procedural safeguards
- Focus costly out-of-home placement resources on young people who pose a threat to community safety, while more consistently diverting young people with low-level cases to community-based interventions
- Reinvest cost savings from reduced reliance on out-of-home placement into expanding the continuum of nonresidential programs to divert kids from juvenile court and from placement; strengthening system oversight; and filling victim restitution funds, among other priorities
- Prioritize restitution payments to victims and prevent unnecessary system involvement by eliminating the imposition of fines and most court fees and costs
- Ensure that young people who have completed their obligations to the court are not held back from successful transition into adulthood by records of juvenile justice system involvement
- Improve oversight to ensure that every young person placed in the custody of the Commonwealth is safe, treated fairly, and receiving a quality education
- Narrow the criteria for trying young people as adults in criminal court
- Increase system accountability and address inequities through enhanced data reporting to the public and wider representation on oversight bodies

The 30-member task force assessed the state’s juvenile justice system and reviewed data from court and state agencies and examined how current practices can better align with what research says works to improve outcomes for youth and families. The task force created avenues for public testimony through virtual meetings and written submissions, receiving input from more than 500 stakeholders.

The task force’s efforts build upon Pennsylvania’s past efforts to improve its juvenile justice system, including the ongoing implementation of Balanced & Restorative Justice (BARJ) and the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

“While today marks the end of a long and comprehensive process to present this report about the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice system, what’s working well, and what we need to improve—it is really just the beginning,” said task force co-chair Sen. Costa. “It is now time for my fellow co-chairs and all my colleagues in the General Assembly to pick up the baton and enact these recommendations.”

“Thank you to all task force members, and to the hundreds of stakeholders across the Commonwealth who reached out, shared their experiences, and provided input to help us land on the best and most important changes to Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system,” said task force co-chair Rep. Mike Zabel. “I am proud of the bi-partisan, data-driven process we helped lead and look forward to moving forward on these recommendations to create a system that works better for kids and families.”

The Pew Charitable Trusts and the Crime and Justice Institute provided technical assistance to the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force throughout the entire process at the invitation of state leadership.

DR. GORDON BAZEMORE

NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECT

SCHOLAR, LEADER, MENTOR, AND FRIEND

1952 – 2021



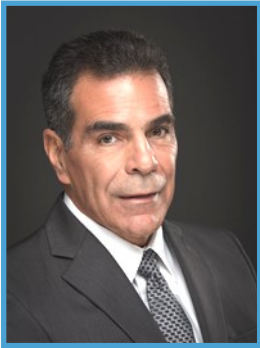
Dr. Gordon Bazemore died peacefully on June 6, 2021, at his home in Ft. Lauderdale Florida after a long battle with Alzheimer’s. He leaves 2 beautiful daughters, Sophia and Helena May, and his beloved wife, Cynthia, of 30 years. Many Pennsylvania juvenile justice practitioners had the honor and privilege to know and work with him. His vision, his legacy, and his kindness will be remembered by so many in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Bazemore was a pioneer of restorative justice, beginning this work in the early 1990’s. From 1997 through 2007, he directed the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Project out of the Florida Atlantic University. The national BARJ Project was among the first to integrate restorative justice philosophy into juvenile justice systems across the country. His academic works, books, and articles influenced juvenile justice in a myriad of ways, from the basics to solid research and policy development.

PA juvenile justice practitioners were fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in the BARJ Project, funded by OJJDP. Gordon especially relished working alongside practitioners in the field who were committed to ensuring the research and theory were put into practice. He worked with the original Balanced and Restorative Justice Committee of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. He and his colleagues, Dennis Maloney and Mark Carey, spent many long days assisting the (committee) participants in understanding the basic values, principles, and goals underlying the BARJ Model. This allowed the committee members the ability to interpret the model specifically for PA’s juvenile justice system. Together, they endeavored to bring about positive change throughout the system.

All he touched, both professionally and personally, will miss Dr. Gordon Bazemore.

JUDGE MITCHELL SHAHEN APPOINTED TO THE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION



Effective June 8, 2021, Judge Mitchell Shahren was appointed to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission by Governor Tom Wolf following nomination by Chief Justice Max Baer. Judge Shahren replaces Judge Carol Van Horn, who leaves the Commission after nine dedicated years of service.

Judge Shahren is a graduate of Aliquippa High School in Beaver County and a graduate of Pennsylvania State University. He received a juris doctor degree from the Western New England University School of Law in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1983 and was admitted to the Bar in October 1983.

Judge Shahren served as an associate with an attorney in Beaver County until 1992 at which time he engaged in the practice of law as a sole practitioner. His law practice provided him with a wide spectrum of legal experiences. He handled hundreds of juvenile cases and thousands of adult criminal cases through his position as Conflicts Counsel for Beaver County. In the May 2017 Beaver County Primary Election, he was nominated by Republican and Democratic voters and then elected as Judge in the November 2017 General Election.

Judge Shahren started serving as a Court of Common Pleas Court Judge in Beaver County in January 2018. He was appointed as the Juvenile Court Administrative Judge charged with the responsibility of overseeing the complete juvenile system in Beaver County. He has served in the position of Juvenile Court Administrative Judge since his first day as a Court of Common Pleas Judge. Judge Shahren also presides over Beaver County Veteran's Treatment Court and his assignments also include a civil, criminal, and family law caseload.

Judge Shahren has been married for 36 years to his life partner, Cheryl. He has two adult children. He is an avid runner who competes in local fundraising 5k events. He is also a day hiker and frequent traveler to national parks.

Additionally, on June 8, 2021, Judge Margaret T. Murphy, Administrative Judge of the Family Court Division in Philadelphia, and Judge David R. Workman, Juvenile Court Judge in Lancaster County, were re-appointed to the Commission for additional terms.

All Commission appointments are for a term of three years.

JCJC/CJIT&R RETURN TO OFFICE

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) and its Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJIT&R) will be returning to a more traditional work environment on July 6, 2021. Staff can be contacted as follows:

Juvenile Court Judges' Commission
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
717-787-6910

Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research
Shippensburg University
717-477-1195

SUZANNE ESTRELLA CONFIRMED AS COMMONWEALTH VICTIM ADVOCATE



Suzanne V. Estrella, Esq., was confirmed unanimously on June 15, 2021, as Pennsylvania’s Victim Advocate for the Office of Victim Advocate (OVA), having been nominated by Governor Wolf to the position on March 15, 2021.

Ms. Estrella possesses more than 20 years of legal experience primarily serving survivors of sexual and domestic violence. For the past five years, Estrella has held positions with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, most recently serving as legal director. In this role, she established and oversaw the Sexual Violence Legal Assistance Project which provides comprehensive, short-term civil legal services to victims of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. She also provided training and education to rape crisis centers and other professionals who serve survivors of sexual assault throughout the Commonwealth.

In 2020, Estrella was awarded the Luminary Award by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

for the development and implementation of the Legal Assistance Project.

Estrella received her law degree from the University of Tulsa College of Law and is admitted to both Pennsylvania and Florida Bar Associations.

The Pennsylvania Office of Victim Advocate was created by Act 8 of 1995 during Governor Tom Ridge's Special Session on Crime. The Victim Advocate is nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to serve a term of six years. The Victim Advocate has the authority and the duty to represent the rights and interests of all Commonwealth crime victims in general, including victims of juvenile offenders and all those that come before the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC), the PA Parole Board, and the Board of Pardons.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Commonwealth as the Victim Advocate,” said Estrella. “I look forward to collaborating with local community victim service providers to enhance services available to victims and to implement impactful, sustainable solutions to address the complexity of victimization prevalent in our communities.”

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Our JCJC/CJIT&R report writers are currently maintaining 174 PaJCMS (Canned) reports in 21 categories and 1,208 custom county reports. This past year, we have added a new set of reports from the Juvenile MAYSI-2 module data located in the MAYSI report category. We have also rewritten and reformatted the YLS Report – Closed Cases reports, as well as adding several PaDRAI Outcomes related reports.

We are continuing the process of converting existing Crystal Reports into the Microsoft SQL Server Report Services (SSRS) Report Builder application. This past year, 27 reports have been converted along with the creation of 56 new ones. Using this new application has improved the performance of the reports and offered a better utilization of parameters to control how the data is being retrieved and shown on the reports.

Soon we will be implementing further measures to ensure data integrity on the reports and in PaJCMS. If you should encounter the message below when selecting a report, please contact our HelpDesk at RA-JCJCHELPDESK@pa.gov.

Juveniles In Placement by PO

This report could not be configured for this county

Admissions Rule 407 Amended by Supreme Court

On May 26, 2021, the Supreme Court amended Rule of Juvenile Court Procedure 407 (Admission) to add a provision concerning requirements pursuant to the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) for a sexually violent delinquent child (SVDC) committed for involuntary treatment per Act 21. Specifically, the admission colloquy now contains language in the addendum related to Act 21 involuntary commitment that clearly outlines the potential SORNA reporting requirements in these cases.

Additionally, for consistency purposes, the language of Question 20 in the Admission Colloquy Form in Rule 407(C) has been amended to reflect the language contained in Question 9 of the Post Dispositional Rights Colloquy in Rule 512(C). The provisions in both forms discuss a juvenile's appellate rights after an admission and are now worded exactly the same because the rights themselves are so.

These amendments will become effective on October 1, 2021.

For additional information on this matter feel free to contact Rick Steele (ricsteele@pa.gov) or Bob Tomassini (rtomassini@pa.gov).

2020 JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY RESULTS

In continuation of the 2020 Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Implementation Survey multi-part series, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is eager to share the Case Planning infographic to further demonstrate the implementation and sustainability of the JJSES in Pennsylvania. Case plans are an integral part of the JJSES as they work to link assessments such as the Youth Level of Service (YLS) with services to improve competencies and reduce recidivism among juvenile offenders. Case plans provide direction for probation officers, youth, and families throughout the period of supervision. As such, they are a valuable element of Pennsylvania's JJSES and the centerpiece of supervision for clients.

Case plans focus on reducing the risk factors that, according to assessments, have the greatest impact on recidivism. As such, comprehensive case plans include an emphasis on strengths, identification of triggers, and customized approaches based on responsivity factors such as culture, gender, language, disabilities, and mental health. In essence, the goal of case planning is to identify and prioritize the domains that will have the greatest impact on future delinquent behavior, appropriately match services to those areas, and do so in the right dosage and intensity. This structured approach to supervision provides a concerted effort to effectively improve competencies and reduce recidivism among juvenile offenders.

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the JJSES's Case Planning Coaches' Committee released the Case Plan Coaches' Guide in December 2020 to further advance the implementation of the JJSES in Pennsylvania. To obtain a copy of the Case Plan Coaches' Guide or additional Case Planning resources, please visit the [JCJC website](#) or contact your JCJC Court Consultant.

JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY 2020

STAGE TWO: INITIATION

CASE PLANNING

97%

have implemented case planning.

126

Case Plan Coordinators.

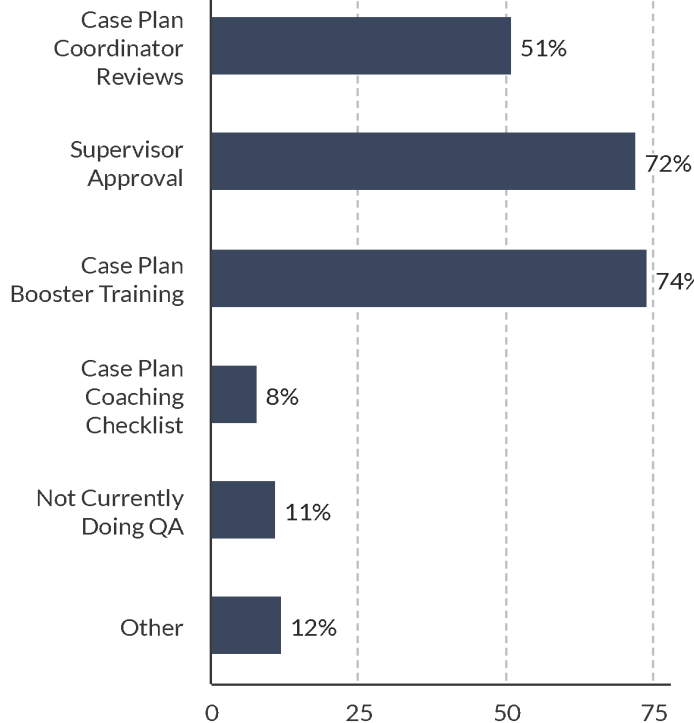
71%

have a case plan policy.

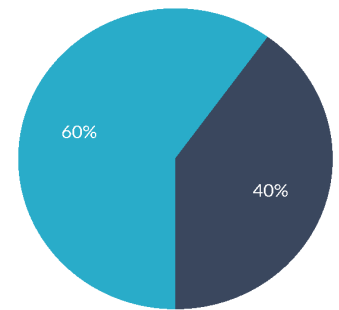
86%

develop case plans that incorporate the results of the YLS and activities for juveniles and their families in the majority of cases.

Case Planning Specific Methods of QA

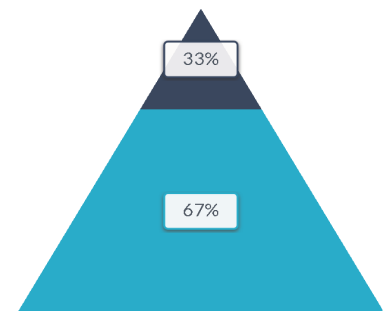


Have Included Case Planning Activities in their JJSES Plan for FY 2020-2021



■ Yes (60%) ■ No (40%)

Planning to Implement Case Planning During FY 2020-2021



■ Yes (67%) ■ No (33%)

Youth Engagement Family Engagement Top Criminogenic Needs

were the top three best practice principles most likely to be in case plans.



pennsylvania
JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

2021 JCJC AWARD PROGRAM NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Juvenile Court Judge's Commission (JCJC) is pleased to announce that nominations for the 2021 JCJC Awards Program are now open and include eight professional categories, as well as the youth awards contest. The awards will be presented at the 2021 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice November 3-4, 2021 at the Harrisburg Hilton.

Nomination packets have been sent to juvenile court judges, chief juvenile probation officers, and agencies currently serving delinquent youth in the juvenile justice system. The Awards Committee requests that all juvenile justice professionals encourage youth under their jurisdiction to participate in the contest. The professional and youth award nomination materials must be submitted by **Monday, August 16, 2021**.

We encourage you to help honor exemplary performance by individuals and programs serving children in Pennsylvania. Please contact JCJC Awards liaisons Angel R. Stewart at 717.783.7835 or angstewart@pa.gov or Keysla Rodriguez at 717.783.6263 or keyrodrigu@pa.gov if you have any questions or need further assistance. Thank you for your partnership and ongoing commitment to this program.

PLEASE NOTE: Submissions that were not selected as winners may be resubmitted for reconsideration in the same category.

2021 Professional Awards Program

The 2021 Professional Awards Program includes the following categories:

Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year - an individual who supervises probation officers but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer as of the date of the nomination email submission. This category includes Deputy Chiefs, Assistant Directors, Supervisors, Coordinators, and other positions functioning in a similar capacity that supervise Juvenile Probation Officers.

Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year - an individual who is employed as a Juvenile Probation Officer but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Deputy Chief, or Juvenile Probation Supervisor as of the date of the nomination email submission.

Meritorious Service Award - a volunteer committed to furthering the development of at-risk, alleged and/or delinquent youth (Examples of volunteer work may include youth aid panels, youth commissions, anti-violence programs, school-based programs, diversionary programs, mentoring programs, faith-based programs, community centers or other similar programming).

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

Juvenile Court Support Service Award - Individuals eligible to receive this award include those persons who provide clerical, secretarial, fiscal specialist, management, information technology, quality assurance, or other support services to the juvenile court. This includes receptionists, secretaries, clerk/typists, information technology specialists, quality assurance specialists, office managers and others functioning in a similar support capacity. **Juvenile Probation Officers are not eligible for this award.**

Residential Program of the Year - any public or private sector program serving alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth in a residential setting. This includes foster homes, group homes, residential treatment programs, general childcare facilities, shelter care facilities, detention centers, independent living programs, and other programs providing out-of-home, overnight care to children. Award Winners prior to 2016 are eligible for nomination.

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

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

2021 YOUTH AWARDS PROGRAM - Additionally, the JCJC will again sponsor a Youth Award Program to honor youth selected as winners of the Creative Expression Contest and recipients of the Outstanding Achievement Award. This year's theme is "**Moving Forward in Unity.**" The requirements of each nomination can be found by clicking the links below.

[Creative Expression Contest Entry Form](#)

[Outstanding Achievement Contest Entry Form](#)

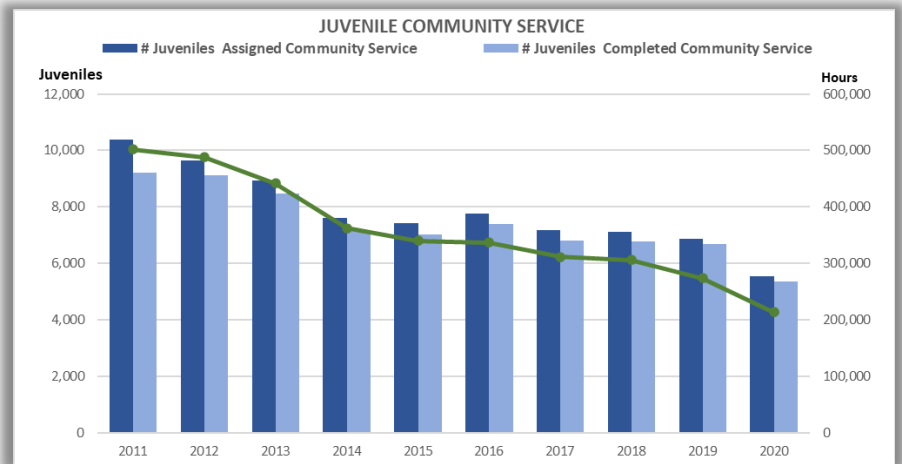
2020 PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM OUTCOMES

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS - VICTIM RESTORATION

The 2020 Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Outcomes Report was released in April and can be viewed at <https://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Documents/2020%20Pennsylvania%20Juvenile%20Justice%20Outcome%20Measures%20Report.pdf>. Each time a case is closed within a juvenile probation office, juvenile probation officers are required to provide information specific to the services that the youth received and their behavior while under court supervision. This is the second year in which additional fields were added to allow for deeper analysis, through a collaboration between the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. These new measures offer a more detailed look at juvenile outcomes in the areas of Community Protection, Victim Restoration, Competency Development, and Risk Level Change.

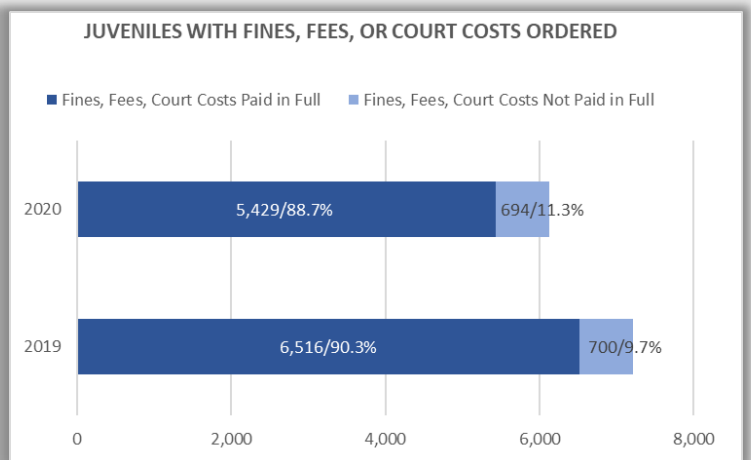
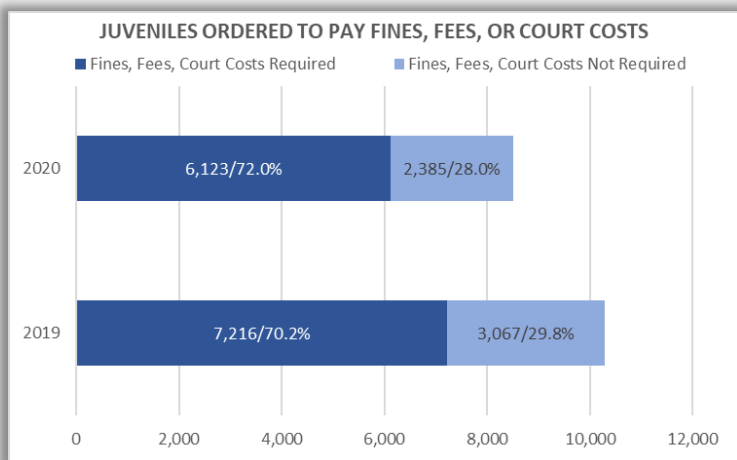
This article is Part Two of a three-part series meant to highlight key findings from this report, and will examine outcomes in the area of Victim Restoration. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic created serious and unforeseen challenges for juvenile probation departments and the juveniles and families they serve. This series highlights changes that occurred between last year and this year, and, where appropriate, suggests possible explanations for the observed trends.

- As the chart to the right shows, there was a 22.1% decline in the number of community service hours completed between 2019 and 2020 (274,037 in 2019 vs. 213,423 in 2020), the largest year-to-year decrease over the past 10 years. This decrease appears to be related to the COVID-19 pandemic:

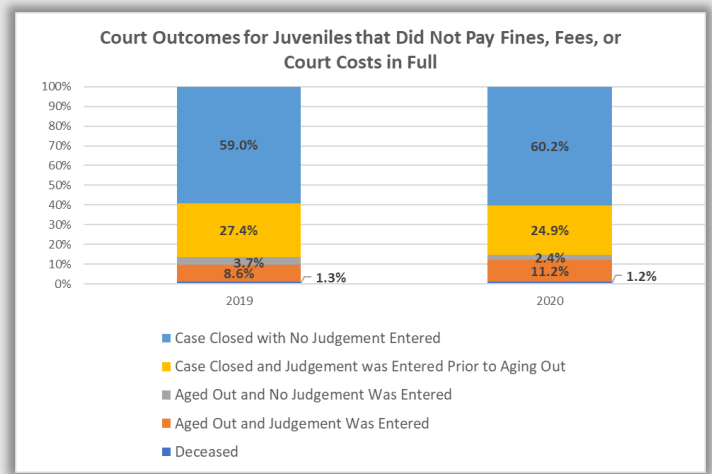


- There was a 19.1% decline in the number of juveniles assigned community service (6,873 in 2019 vs. 5,558 in 2020). This is mainly a product of the overall decline in juveniles closed (17.3%), which is likely a result of reductions in written allegations due to the pandemic (see Part One of the Outcomes Report series in the April 2021 newsletter for more details).

- 72.0% of juveniles closed in 2020 were ordered to pay fines, fees, or court costs. Among this group of youth, the great majority (88.7%) successfully paid off their financial obligations in full. There were no major trends between 2019 and 2020. See the two charts below.



- Among the youth ordered to pay fines, fees, or court costs in 2020 that *did not* pay in full (n=694), 36.2% (n=251) had a judgement entered against them while 62.6% (n=435) did not, and the remaining 1.2% (n=8) were deceased. There were no major trends between 2019 and 2020. See the chart to the right.
- Thus, a small, but not insignificant number of juveniles closed in 2020 (3.0% or 251/8,508) left the juvenile court owing money for fines, fees, and court costs.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

NEW ONLINE TRAINING PLATFORM SELECTED AND COMING SOON!

The professional development team has been hard at work researching and selecting a new service provider for both hosting online courses and to be able to expand our abilities and grow into the future of staff development in an ever-changing workplace environment. We are happy to announce that we have chosen Brainier™ Learning Management System (Brainier™ LMS) to work with us on this new mission to improve upon our course delivery and reporting.



The Brainier™ LMS creates individualized learning experiences that employees can access anywhere, at any time, and on any device. They have listened to the needs of users and developed a system that works and is supported by award winning customer service.

Featuring both personal and training coordinator Dashboards, Automatic Course reminders and deadlines, a Course Catalog with Search Bar, Analytics and Reporting Tools, and a responsive design for mobile use as well as any browser.

The new curriculum development tools will keep everyone

moving along the assigned learning path as new staff and can allow veteran staff to update skills as needed. This new system will surely be an update that is welcomed on many levels. All of this while offering direct support to all registered users.

The first of the stages will be to migrate our users and launch the current courses that we have available in the new environment. Once everything has been completed, we will begin work to add new and exciting features to your dashboards that could include real-time chat, blended learning offerings, custom reporting, as well as discussion boards and forums for designated topics and committees.

Our goal is to be migrated into the new platform in early August. Watch your email for more communication on anything you will need to do to get access. If you have questions or suggestions, please reach out to us at ra-jcicevents@pa.gov.

See you
in Harrisburg!

SAVE the DATE

2021 JAMES E. ANDERSON PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

November 3 - 5, 2021
Harrisburg Hilton and Towers



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

OJJDP NEWS @ A GLANCE, MAY/JUNE 2021

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announces the availability of [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), May/June 2021. This issue's Message From the Acting Administrator focuses on National Drug Court Month. The top story highlights OJJDP's support for drug courts benefiting youth, families and tribal communities. The Youth Voices column describes how an OJJDP-supported juvenile drug treatment court in DeKalb County, GA, helped one participant become drug-free and recommit to graduating from high school.

The Tribal Connections section highlights fiscal year 2021 funding opportunities benefiting tribal youth, efforts to engage with youth via digital platforms, and technical assistance for Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts from the Tribal Youth Resource Center.

Other features in this issue—

- [Attorney General Offers Remarks at National Missing Children's Day Virtual Commemoration](#)
- [OJJDP Releases New Fiscal Year 2021 Funding Opportunities](#)
- [OJJDP Acting Administrator and Staff Participate in Juvenile Justice Conference](#)
- [Stakeholder's Corner: Colorado Drug Treatment Court Helps Families Mend](#)
- [Research Central: Assessing the Impact of Juvenile Justice Reform in Kentucky](#)
- [New OJJDP Tribal Funding Opportunities Available](#)
- [Leveraging Digital Tools To Connect With Tribal Youth](#)
- [Stakeholder's Corner: Supporting Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts](#)
- [Tribal Publications and Events](#)
- [News in Brief](#)

RESOURCES:

- [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), May/June 2021 (NCJ 300802) is available [online](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

DOJ ANNOUNCES NEW APPROACH TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIME

Attorney General Merrick B. Garland recently [announced](#) a new strategy to reduce violent crime. Through this strategy, the Department of Justice will deploy federal resources to disrupt threats and support efforts of law enforcement and communities to reduce violent crime. "In this endeavor, we will engage our communities as critical partners. And through our grantmaking, we will support programming at all stages – from the earliest violence interruption strategies to post-conviction reentry services."

Attorney General Garland

As part of this strategy, OJJDP is providing [grant funding and resources](#) to support local, state, and tribal efforts to reduce violent crime, including gang and gun violence. OJJDP fiscal year 2021 funding includes \$11 million under the [Comprehensive Youth Violence Prevention and Reduction Program](#) and \$7 million for [Strategies to Support Children Exposed to Violence](#).

RESOURCES:

- [View](#) OJJDP open funding opportunities.
- See [OJJDP's Model Programs Guide](#) to learn about delinquency prevention, intervention, and reentry programs for youth.
- Learn more about OJJDP's [National Gang Center](#), which provides information, training, and technical assistance to address gang violence.
- 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-oajcjnews@pa.gov.

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

