



# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

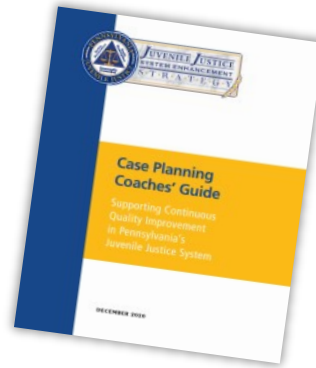
The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

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## CASE PLANNING COACHES' GUIDE RELEASED

The Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Leadership Team is excited to announce the release of the *Case Planning Coaches' Guide*. The Guide was developed by a workgroup led by Beth Fritz, recently retired Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Lehigh County, and Leo Lutz, JCJC's Director of Policy and Program Development. The workgroup consisted of members of the Case Planning Committee of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. In addition, The Carey Group, a national consulting firm that provides technical assistance to justice groups, provided support throughout the development of the Guide.



The goal for the Guide is to advance Continuous Quality Improvement in Case Planning by providing tools to juvenile probation departments that enable them to assess the process used by juvenile probation officers to develop and manage case plans. These tools will enable departments to identify areas of strength, and where additional staff training or coaching may be necessary.

The Guide itself is a comprehensive (99 page) document that provides a framework for the completion of structured *case plan reviews*--an essential component of continuous quality improvement practices in the area of case planning. The Guide contains three primary tools: The Case Plan Review Checklist, a detailed Scoring Guide for the Checklist, and tools and strategies for conducting a case plan review and providing feedback.

The Guide was recently finalized and distributed to all chief juvenile probation officers in electronic form. There are also plans to make hard copies available to departments in the future. In addition, the Case Planning Committee of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers is currently working to plan events that will support the effective use of the document.

The Case Planning Coaches' Guide can be found at:

<https://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Publications/Documents/Case%20Planning%20Coaches%20Guide.pdf>

[https://www.pachiefprobationofficers.org/docs/Case\\_Planning\\_Coaches\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.pachiefprobationofficers.org/docs/Case_Planning_Coaches_Guide.pdf)

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# COMMONWEALTH CELEBRATES WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS, ACCEPTANCE AND APPRECIATION DAY

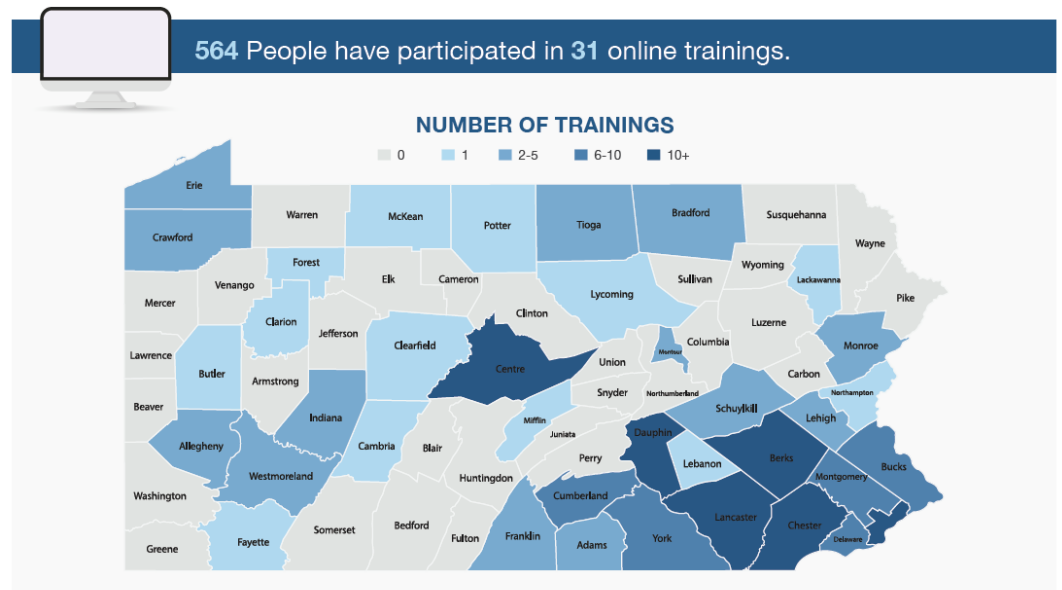
*Submitted by the Behavioral Health Subcommittee*

The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution in 2007 to designate April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day. Since the first World Autism Awareness Day was celebrated on April 2, 2008, a great deal of “awareness” has been raised, but awareness is not enough. So, on April 2, 2021, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will be celebrating “World Autism Awareness, Acceptance and Appreciation Day.” Pennsylvania is committed to not only educating its citizens about autism, but to make individuals living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) feel accepted and appreciated.

One of the ways Pennsylvania is fulfilling this commitment is through the work of the Autism Services, Education, Resource, and Training (ASERT) Collaborative, a partnership between the Department of Human Services and the Bureau of Supports for Autism and Special Populations. ASERT staff have trained over 8,300 law enforcement and first responders on how to safely interact with individuals with autism. ASERT trainings are free and can be tailored for time and content to meet the needs of specific audiences. ASERT also conducts trainings for individuals with autism and their family members so they know what to do, and what not to do, if they have an interaction with law enforcement and/or first responders. ASERT has also created resources specifically for those working in the justice system, which can be found at <https://paautism.org/resource/justice/>.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has also seen education, awareness, and acceptance being promoted by an initiative led by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Under the guidance of Justice Dougherty and the Department of Human Services, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court started the first-of-its-kind Statewide Autism and the Courts Initiative. So far, there have been three regional panel discussions comprised of autism self-advocates, judges, attorneys, district

## ASERT has trained a total of 8,358 people



Pennsylvania's leading source of autism-related resources and information.  
877-231-4244







The ASERT Collaborative is funded by the Office of Developmental Programs, PA Department of Human Services.

attorneys, police, parents, and providers discussing the changes needed to ensure a more inclusive court experience for autistic individuals. These changes could improve access to justice for individuals with autism whether they are a defendant, a victim, or a witness. So far, over 1,000 Pennsylvanians have participated in the Autism and the Courts events, with two more panels taking place in April and June. The Northeastern Regional Panel will be held April 27 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and the Northwestern/Pittsburgh Regional Panel will be held on June 17 also from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Registration information can be found at <http://www.pacourts.us/learn/autism-and-the-courts>.

Individuals with autism are “different, not less” and representatives from Pennsylvania’s justice and human service systems, along with self-advocates, are working hard to ensure that Pennsylvanians are not only aware of the strengths and struggles of individuals living with autism, but that these individuals are accepted, appreciated, and safe.



## Key Signs of Autism: A Guide for Justice System Professionals

-  Lack of Eye Contact
-  May Appear Stubborn/Resistant
-  Flapping, Flicking, Spinning
-  Scripting Words, Phrases, Noises
-  Sensitive to Touch
-  Processing Delays

Have a question about autism?  
Contact the ASERT Resource  
Center at 877-231-4244.



## 2020 JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY RESULTS

The 2020 Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Implementation Survey results are in. The Implementation Survey report includes an executive summary of the statewide aggregate data; JJSES activity specific narratives; and, to further enhance the report, juvenile probation professionals will have the ability to visually interpret the Implementation Survey results using infographics from the report.

In a multi-part newsletter series, the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission (JCJC) will publish these infographics to illustrate the implementation and sustainability of the JJSES in Pennsylvania using information from each county’s FY 2020-2021 JJSES Implementation Survey and Plan.

Kicking off the newsletter series is the Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) infographic. Introduction to Evidence-Based Practices training is a key part of preparing for JJSES. It provides basic knowledge about evidence-based and risk-reduction research and explores how the principles of risk, need, and responsivity are relevant to decisions made by staff. EBP is an essential component of stage one of the JJSES framework.

The 2020 JJSES Implementation Survey report will be sent electronically to all juvenile court judges and chief juvenile probation officers in the coming weeks. A copy of the report will also be placed on the JCJC website at [www.jcjc.pa.gov](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov). Please contact your JCJC court consultant to obtain other available EBP training resources.

# JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY 2020

## STAGE ONE: READINESS

### EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES (EBP)

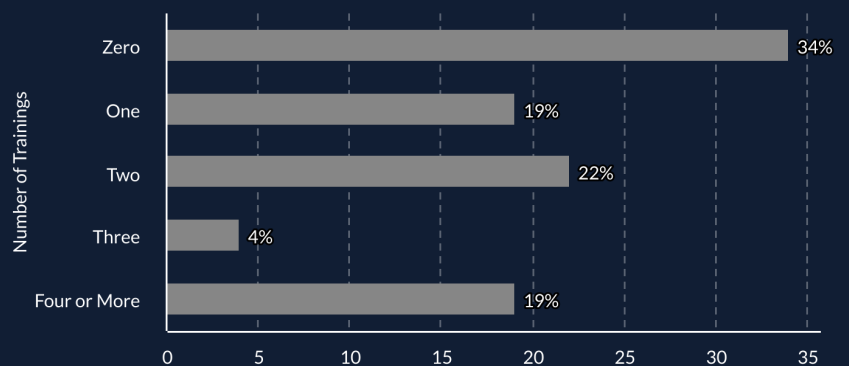
**42%**

of departments provided an **Introduction to EBP Training** at least once in the last year.

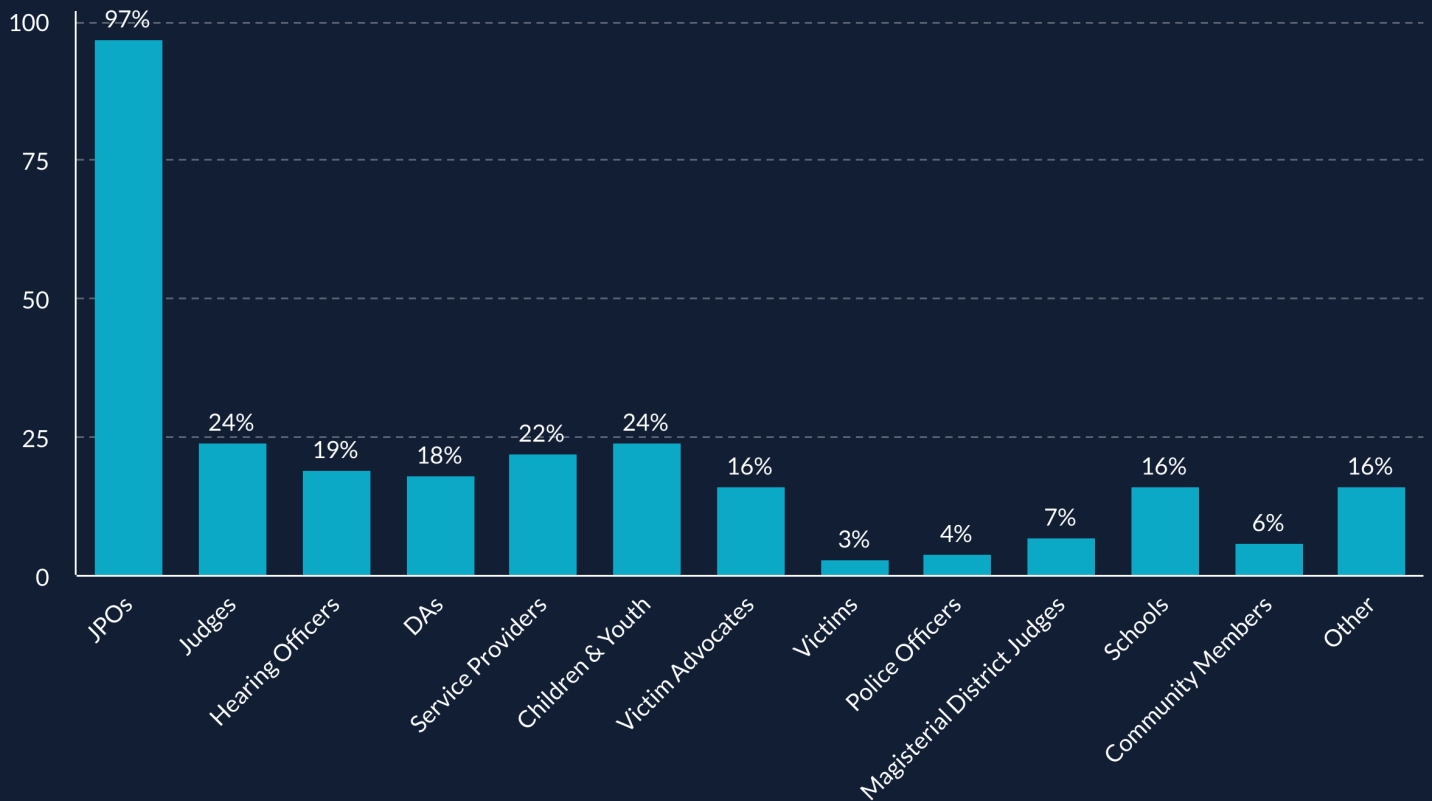
**16%**

developed a **policy** to ensure newly assigned **J.P.O.s are offered Intro to EBP Training.**

Number of EBP Booster Trainings Provided



Stakeholder Groups that Attended an EBP Training in 2020



**pennsylvania**  
JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

See you  
in Harrisburg!

# SAVE the DATE

2021 JAMES E. ANDERSON PENNSYLVANIA  
CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

November 3 - 5, 2021  
Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE JAMES E. ANDERSON YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges Juvenile Court Section, the James E. Anderson Youth Scholarship is awarded to youth who have demonstrated remarkable resiliency and exceptional accomplishments. All scholarship nomination submissions must be postmarked no later than **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**. The scholarship nomination form can be found on the Annual Conference page of the [JCJC website](#).

**Please Note:** All nomination forms must contain appropriate signatures to be accepted for consideration.

Nomination forms for the Creative Expression Contest, Outstanding Achievement Award and the JCJC Professional Awards will be available on the JCJC website in **May 2021**.

For additional information regarding nominations or the 2021 Annual Awards Program, please contact Angel R. Stewart at [angstewart@pa.gov](mailto:angstewart@pa.gov) or Keysla Rodriguez at [keyrodrigu@pa.gov](mailto:keyrodrigu@pa.gov).

## SUBMISSIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS DEADLINE EXTENDED

We enthusiastically welcome submissions for presentations. Interested parties can complete and submit the following presentation proposal form. Please note that up to two facilitators from each selected workshop will receive free Conference registration and meals (facilitators are responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses).

Submissions for presentations are due by **Friday, April 30, 2021**, and can be directed to Leo J. Lutz, Director of Policy and Program Development, at [lelutz@pa.gov](mailto:lelutz@pa.gov).

Presentation Proposal Form  
Click form to download  
or visit:



<https://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/AnnualConference/Documents/Call%20for%20Presentations%202021.pdf>

## HOTEL INFORMATION

We are pleased to announce the room block for the **Harrisburg Hilton and Towers** is open. Early reservations are encouraged to secure the contracted rate of \$154.00 a night. The room block will close on 10/15/2021. Rooms are available on a first come basis.

You may visit the customized link to book online, [2021 JCJC Annual Conference Room Block Booking](#) or call 717-233-6000 and identify yourself with the Conference using **GROUP CODE: JCJC21**. The hotel will confirm your reservation.

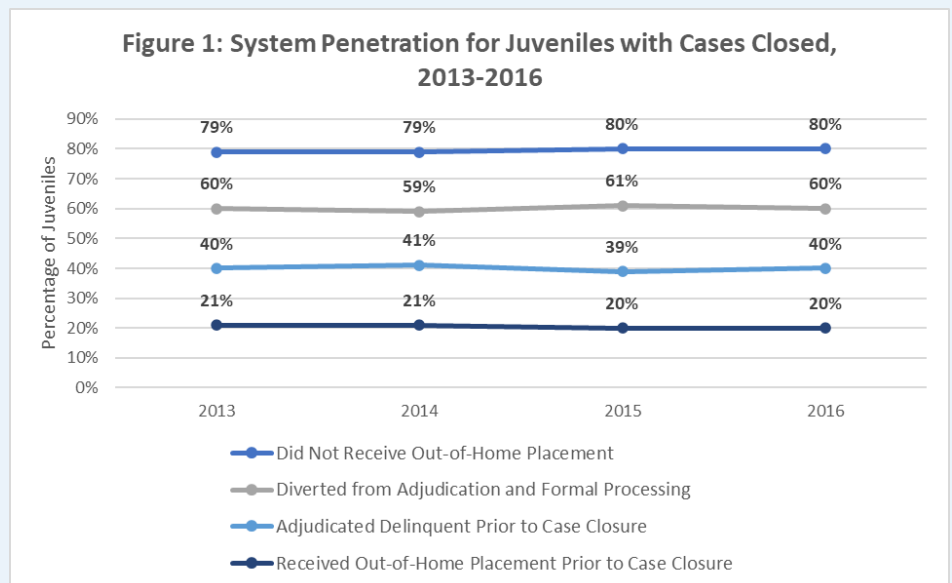
**For General Conference Information**, please contact us at [ra-jcicevents@pa.gov](mailto:ra-jcicevents@pa.gov).

# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE RECIDIVISM REPORT HIGHLIGHTS: OFFENSE HISTORY AND SYSTEM PENETRATION

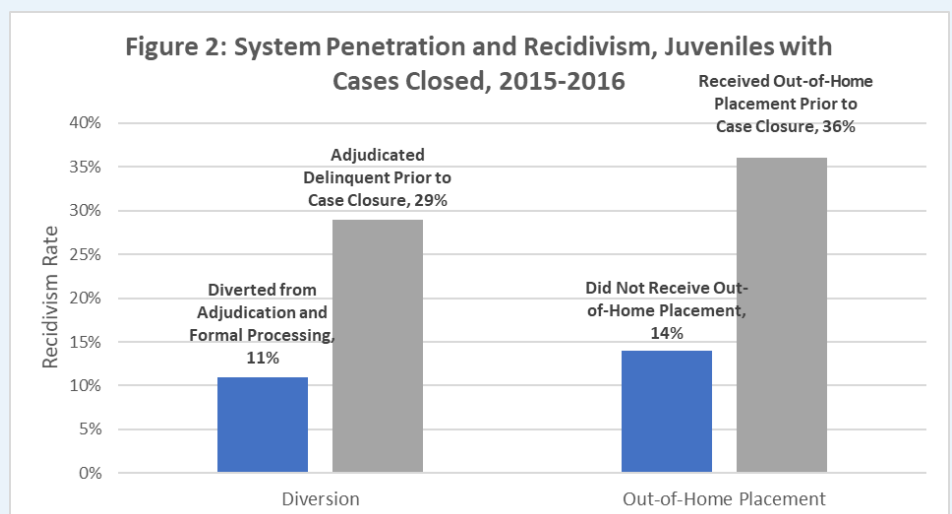
In January, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) released its sixth recidivism report, entitled: *The Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Recidivism Report: Juveniles with Cases Closed 2007-2016*. The current study updates the analysis of recidivism trends and predictors to include juveniles with a case closure in 2015 and 2016. This report is part of Pennsylvania's longstanding effort to measure the impact of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) on recidivism and other youth outcomes. Data for this project was compiled from the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Court's (AOPC) Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS). Recidivism is defined as: A subsequent delinquency adjudication in juvenile court or conviction in criminal court for either a misdemeanor or felony offense within two years of case closure.

This is Part 3 of a four-part series meant to highlight key findings from this report. Part 3 examines trends in the offense history and system penetration of juveniles with cases closed between 2007 and 2016 and how those characteristics relate to recidivism. To review a copy of the full report, please visit: [www.jcjc.pa.gov](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov).

- For juveniles with cases closed in 2015 and 2016, 61% and 60%, respectively, were diverted from adjudication and formal processing, while 39% and 40% were adjudicated delinquent prior to case closure. For the same period, 80% of juveniles with cases closed in 2015 and 2016 did not receive an out-of-home placement disposition, while 20% of juveniles received an out-of-home placement disposition prior to case closure. These percentages are consistent with data for juveniles with cases closed in 2013 and 2014. See Figure 1 above.



- As Figure 2 shows, juveniles with cases closed in 2015-2016 who were diverted from adjudication and formal processing were less than half as likely to recidivate as juveniles who were adjudicated delinquent prior to case closure (11% vs. 29%). Similarly, juveniles who did not receive an out-of-home placement disposition were less than half as likely to recidivate as juveniles who received an out-of-home placement disposition prior to case closure (14% vs. 36%).



In response to the growth of violent juvenile crime in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) developed the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. The terms “serious,” “violent,” and “chronic” emerged as part of an effort by researchers to identify the subset of juveniles that research shows account for a disproportionate share of offending and re-offending, and to focus court interventions on this group. JCJC wanted to have a research-based method for identifying which youth were at higher risk of reoffending based on their offense profile. For these reasons, starting with the publication of the first recidivism report in May 2013, JCJC has presented data on the relationship between Serious, Violent, and Chronic offending and recidivism.

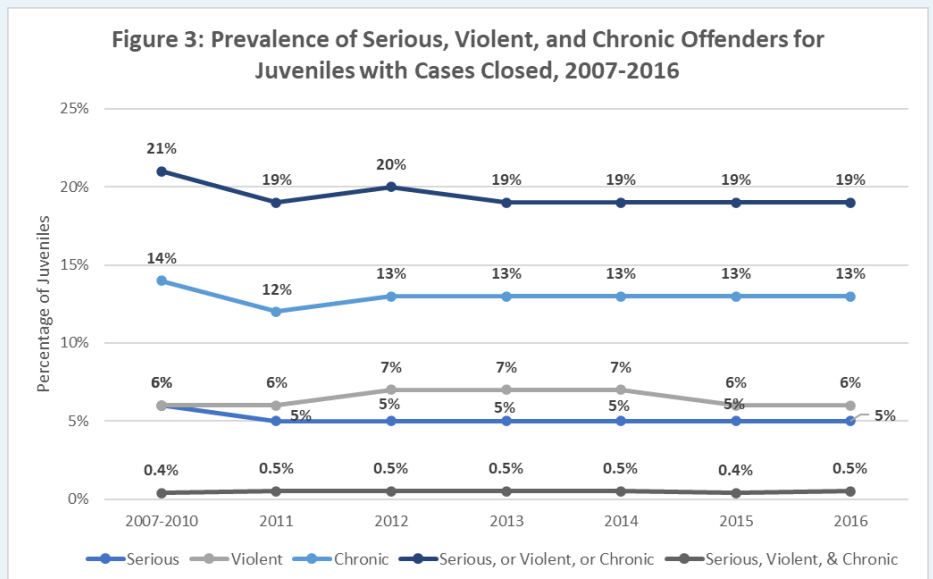
JCJC consulted with the former Director of OJJDP, James “Buddy” Howell, who provided guidance on which offenses in the PaJCMS should be considered “serious” and “violent” and how to utilize Serious, Violent, and Chronic youth offending classifications (defined below) in research on recidivism.

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

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

**Chronic Offender:** A juvenile who has four or more previous written allegations for separate incidents that occurred prior to the date of the 2007-2016 case closure.

- For each of the past ten years, approximately one out of five juveniles whose cases were closed met the criteria of being a Serious, or Violent, or Chronic (SVC) offender. As Figure 3 shows, there is consistency in the percentage of youth who meet each of these designations during this period, and, in each year, a larger portion of cases closed were Chronic youth than Serious or Violent youth. In 2015, 13% of juveniles with cases closed were Chronic, 6% were Violent, 5% were Serious, 0.4% were Serious, Violent, *and* Chronic, and 19% were Serious, or Violent, or Chronic. In 2016, 13% of juveniles with cases closed were Chronic, 6% were Violent, 5% were Serious, 0.5% were Serious, Violent, *and* Chronic, and 19% were Serious, or Violent, or Chronic.

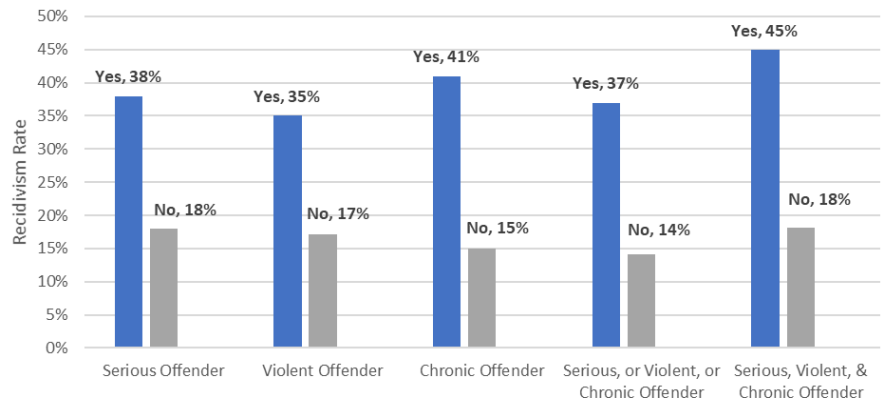


- For juveniles whose cases were closed in 2015-2016, Serious, Violent, and Chronic variables were strongly correlated with recidivism. Figure 4 (next page) shows Chronic offenders were more likely to recidivate than Serious or Violent offenders (41% vs. 38% vs. 35%). Juveniles who met the criteria for being Serious, Violent, *and* Chronic recidivated at a higher rate than those who only met the less restrictive criteria of being Serious, or Violent, or Chronic offenders (45% vs. 37%). These findings are consistent with those of previous cohorts of juveniles whose cases were closed (see previous recidivism reports).

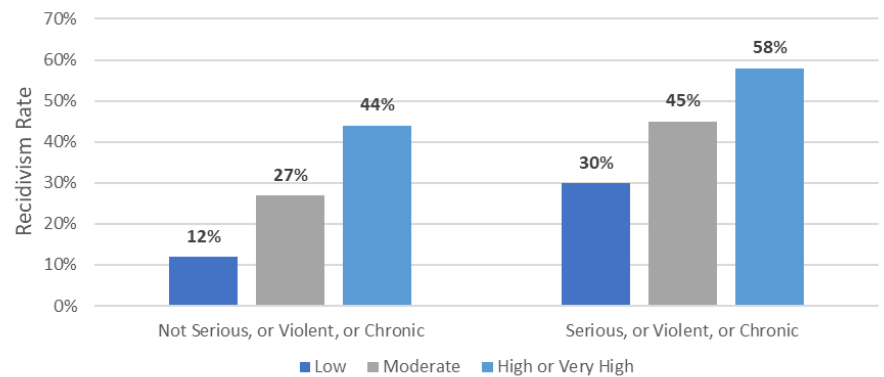
Figure 5 below analyzes Serious, or Violent, or Chronic offender characteristics in combination with final YLS risk levels, and recidivism—only for youth whose last YLS assessment was within 6 months of their case closing.

- The data demonstrates that being a SVC offender is correlated with recidivism after taking into account youths' final YLS risk level. At each YLS risk level, SVC youth recidivated at a much higher rate than non-SVC youth (e.g., 30% vs. 12% for low-risk youth).
- The data also shows that final YLS risk levels are predictive of recidivism for both Serious, or Violent, or Chronic (SVC) youth and those who were not Serious, or Violent, or Chronic (non-SVC). For non-SVC youth, 12% of low-risk, 27% of moderate-risk, and 44% of high or very high-risk youth recidivated. For SVC youth, 30% of low-risk, 45% of moderate-risk, and 58% of high or very high-risk youth recidivated. In other words, as expected, the YLS is correlated with recidivism after taking into account the offense history of youth.
- These patterns suggest that both offense history, as captured by SVC status, and final YLS risk level are independently related to recidivism and should continue to be analyzed separately and together.

**Figure 4: Serious, Violent, and Chronic Youth and Recidivism, Cases Closed, 2015-2016**



**Figure 5: Final YLS Risk Level and Recidivism by Serious, or Violent, or Chronic Status, Juveniles with Cases Closed, 2015-2016**



## PROTECTIVE FACTORS STUDY KICKOFF EVENT

Better integrating of the YLS and the Risk-Needs-Responsivity framework into probation and court practice is an important goal of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). While Pennsylvania continuously strives to improve in this regard, other research-based approaches may also assist in reducing recidivism and improving other youth outcomes. A growing number of research studies have shown that enhancing and seeking to build on youth strengths (otherwise known as protective factors) can reduce recidivism and improve youth outcomes more generally. This positive youth development framework suggests that juvenile pro-

bation should work to cultivate strengths as well as to address criminogenic needs. Yet, less is known about how to integrate a focus on protective factors into everyday probation work, and what combination of strength-based and RNR-focused interventions/services to prioritize to reduce recidivism.

With this in mind, Pennsylvania agreed to be part of a National Institute of Justice (NIJ)-funded three-state study led by Dr. Gina Vincent from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Dr. Jennifer Skeem from the University of California, Berkeley School of Social Welfare, and Josh Weber from the



Council of State Government’s Justice Center. For each state, five counties were identified based upon their leadership in JJSES, the quality of data they collect on the services that youth receive, and their willingness to participate. The five participating counties are: Allegheny, Bucks, Dauphin, Lehigh, and Montgomery. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Protective Factors Study research team organized a virtual kickoff meeting with representatives from these county probation departments, as well as staff from the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission. The meeting covered the expectations as well as benefits counties will receive for participating, the data they will need to collect, and a timeline for the study activities.

Counties will administer a Self-Report Survey Measuring Youth Protective Factors, alongside the YLS, for all new intakes from roughly May through December 2021. The Survey measures: (1) prosocial identity, (2) engagement in prosocial activities, (3) social skills and supports, (4) self-control and self-efficacy, and (5) “grit” (i.e., resiliency). It takes approximately 15 minutes to administer, whether virtually or in-person. The counties will also collect detailed information in the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Manage-

ment System (PaJCMS) on the various services youth receive from juvenile probation as well as outside entities, including the school and child welfare system. This data collection, along with other PaJCMS data, will allow the researchers to identify which risk and protective factors best predict re-offending, and the value of Strengths-Based vs. Risk-Reduction services in reducing recidivism for youth at different ages. In the next month or so, the counties will receive training in administering the Self-Report Survey and entering service data. It is anticipated that, at the end of the research, analysis of county-specific data will help inform and strengthen case planning, supervision, and service delivery. For these counties, and eventually for the rest of the state, this research will assist in developing an action plan to better target youth with the right combination of Strengths-Based and Risk-Reduction services.

For more information on protective factors and strengths-based interventions for juveniles on probation, see the following online resource: <https://positiveyouthjustice.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/pyjbriefingpaper.pdf>

 **COUNTY SPOTLIGHT** 

**MIKE YODER RETIRES**  
**MONTGOMERY COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION**



On March 2, 2021, Michael “Mike” Yoder retired as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Montgomery County Juvenile Probation following 30 years of service to the county. Mike received his bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from Shippensburg University in 1989. He went on to obtain his master’s degree in Administration of Justice through the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission Graduate Education program at Shippensburg University in 2003. Mike began his career in the juvenile justice field as an intern at the Montgomery County Detention Center in 1988, which led to full-time employment following his graduation in 1989. In 1990, he was hired by the Montgomery County Juvenile Probation Department where he initially served as a drug and alcohol specific juvenile probation officer, a specialized position he helped to develop. Within one year, he was responsible for supervising a caseload centered in one of the most difficult areas of the county. Mike subsequently transitioned to a school-based position, which he also assisted in developing, and served in that capacity until he was promoted to a supervisor position in 2000.

As a supervisor, Mike was responsible for supervising six juvenile probation officers and all court scheduling needs, in addition to being tasked with providing expert testimony for all Direct File/Certification cases. After dedicating 16 years as a supervisor, Mike was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2016 and was subsequently appointed as Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in 2019.

Throughout his career, Mike has been integral to advancing juvenile justice initiatives, the implementation of evidenced-based practices, and the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) in Montgomery County. His dedication to the field of juvenile justice and service to Montgomery County is clearly demonstrated through his participation in a variety of local initiatives. Mike served his local community as a member of the Montgomery County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, a member of the Montgomery County Racial Justice Improvement Project, a member of the Montgomery County Communities that Care, and as a member of the Montgomery County Children's Roundtable. Additionally, Mike has been recognized as a leader within the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System, as evidenced by his involvement in numerous statewide committees and workgroups. Mike actively worked with the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers serving as Chair of the Technology Committee, a member of the Ethics Committee, a member of Stage 4 Data Workgroup, and as a member of the Delinquency Prevention/Diversion Committee.

In addition to spending more time with family and travelling during his retirement, Mike still plans to continue working in the field through teaching and training opportunities. Mike, we thank you for all you have contributed to the Juvenile Justice System and wish you well in your retirement!



## TECHNOLOGY CORNER

In our February edition we discussed the importance of counties running their Statistical Evaluation Reports at various times throughout the year. This assists the staff at the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) when they begin verifying and processing the PaJCMS data for inclusion in the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Annual Report.

Along with the quarterly Statistical Evaluation and Hearing Reports, the Quality Assurance Specialists at CJJT&R also run quarterly data checks through our internal dashboards that are used to flag other potential errors within the yearly PaJCMS data. A few data checks identified through the dashboards are contempt/failure to obey process-fines/costs charges referred to juvenile probation for non-payment at the district justice level where the "alleged by" field is not MDJ, or the charge entered is the original summary offense; age at offense under 10 and over 17; dispositions of "other"; and "pending" placements over 30 days, just to name a few. A new data check being added to the dashboards is the "active juveniles over the age of 21", which will be sent to counties to have those cases closed. This new data check will become effective with the first quarter of 2021.

If you have any questions on the dashboard data checks, please contact Dawn Butts at [dawbutts@pa.gov](mailto:dawbutts@pa.gov). If you need assistance in running your reports or cleaning your data, contact the PaJCMS help desk at [RA-JCJHELPDESK@PA.GOV](mailto:RA-JCJHELPDESK@PA.GOV).



THANK YOU

Administrative Professionals' Day is April 21st and the staff at JCJC/CJJT&R would like to extend a special Thank You to all the support staff for the great work you do every day, it does not go unnoticed.

# STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## ORIENTATION FOR THE NEW JUVENILE PROBATION PROFESSIONAL

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) recently delivered the Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation Professionals curriculum to 50 juvenile probation officers from across the state. Due to the pandemic, this event was held virtually, using the Zoom platform. Maintaining fidelity to the curriculum, the essential subject area delivered during past, in-person events, was provided. Although there was no in-person learning, the curriculum was provided in a hybrid structure and the juvenile probation officers were required to complete online courses, as well as participate in the courses that were offered virtually.

### April

- 8 The Next Generation: Management of the Sex Offender in a Digital World - Virtual
- 29 Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer Certification - Virtual

### May

- 26-28 Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum Training for Facilitators - Virtual

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

Orientation was held January 26, 27, 28, and February 2 and 3, 2021. Several experienced juvenile justice professionals meticulously presented the curriculum. The orientation began with opening remarks by Rick Steele, JCJC Executive Director, and Chad Libby, Dauphin County Probation Services Director and President of PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. The first day also consisted of an introduction to the juvenile justice system presented by Angela Work, JCJC Director of Quality Assurance in Juvenile Justice, and BARJ/JJSES was presented by Russell Carlino, Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Chief, and Bob Tomassini, JCJC Deputy Director. That afternoon, Leo Lutz, JCJC Director of Policy & Program Development, presented EBP 101. The subsequent days consisted of presentations regarding the following topics:

- Motivational Interviewing (MI) presented by Barbara Orr, Orr Training Services, LLC
- Ethics presented by Bob Williams, Berks County Probation and Parole Department Chief
- Victims' Rights presented by Cathy Eichelberger, Office of Victim Advocate Juvenile Justice Victim Assistance Coordinator
- Impact of Crime presented by Abby Runk, York County Juvenile Probation Victim/Restitution Officer
- Detention Standards presented by Seth Bloomquist, JCJC Director of Detention Monitoring
- Cultural Competency presented by Marilyn Stein, MGS Consulting, LLC
- Phase I Safety presented by Michael McCartin, Lancaster County Juvenile Probation Supervisor
- Core Skills for Risk Reduction Work presented by Nicole Mattern, Dauphin County Probation Services Supervisor, Jonathan Kuykendall, Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Officer, and Bill Keim, Berks County Juvenile Probation Assistant Chief

JCJC thanks all presenters for their participation with this important event.

JCJC is planning to offer the next Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation Professionals in August/September and the delivery method of this session is still being determined. Details about registration opening in JEMS will be provided as they become available. For more information about orientation and other professional development opportunities, contact Sonya Stokes, [systokes@ship.edu](mailto:systokes@ship.edu).

## JCJC GRADUATE EDUCATION OPEN HOUSE

On February 25, 2021, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) and the Criminal Justice Department at Shippensburg University co-hosted its first virtual open house, using the Zoom platform, for the JCJC Graduate Education Program. There were 57 juvenile probation officers from approximately 25 counties that participated in the virtual open house. During the open house, Dr. Melissa Ricketts, Shippensburg University Professor/Program Coordinator, Robert Tomassini, JCJC Deputy Director, and Sonya Stokes, JCJC Director of Professional Development, led a discussion about the JCJC Graduate Education Program. Information was provided on the history of the program, program eligibility, the application process, and various facts about the program. The open house concluded by giving participants an opportunity to have their questions answered.

Based on the success and positive feedback, JCJC and Shippensburg University have discussed making the virtual open house an annual event. As future opportunities are scheduled, details will be made available.

Although the deadline for accepting applications has passed for the upcoming 2021 school year, if you are interested in obtaining more information about the JCJC Graduate Education Program, contact Sonya Stokes, [systokes@ship.edu](mailto:systokes@ship.edu).

## UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**The Next Generation: Management of the Sex Offender in a Digital World** (April 8) - Cell phones, tablets, gaming systems, and social media have created a new challenge for the management of juveniles with problematic sexual behaviors in the community. These devices can give those individuals unfettered access to victims, pornography, as well as a host of other materials that could trigger a relapse. This is further complicated by a lack of knowledge and understanding on the technology by those individuals responsible for the management or treatment of this population. During the training, the participants will be introduced to best practices for the management of individuals with these devices; current research on static and dynamic risk factors; live demonstration of the darker and seedier side of these devices; and a demonstration of how these devices can be monitored and/or searched.

**Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer Certification** (April 29) - This training is designed for YLS county staff interested in becoming certified as a Master Trainer in the use of the instrument. Following the full day virtual event and ensuing certification activities, participants will be certified to train probation staff in the use of the YLS assessment instrument. They will further be positioned to provide future leadership in their jurisdiction through the critical stages of implementation, booster training, quality assurance and inter-rater reliability standards for their entire department. This training can be utilized to replace and/or supplement the YLS Master Trainer complement in participating counties.

**Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum Training for Facilitators** (May 26, 27 and 28) - The purpose of this training is to teach juvenile probation officers how to facilitate the *Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum: An Impact of Crime for Juvenile Offenders*. The curriculum is utilized to teach juveniles how their actions impact others, the ripple effects of those actions, and ways they can repair the harm.

If you are interested in participating in any of these training opportunities, please log into the [JCJC Events Management System \(JEMS\)](#) for more information. If you have questions regarding any of our trainings, please contact Sonya Stokes, JCJC's Director of Professional Development at [systokes@ship.edu](mailto:systokes@ship.edu).

# The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Position Announcement

## Program Analyst 4 (Juvenile Justice Initiatives Program Manager)

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) is seeking a highly motivated, detail-oriented person with excellent technical skills to join our team as the Juvenile Justice Initiatives Program Manager. Our mission is to enhance the quality, coordination, and planning within the Office of Justice Programs' Unit of Juvenile Justice Initiatives, and to increase the safety of our communities.

As the Juvenile Justice Initiatives Program Manager for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, you will be responsible for providing management, technical assistance, and analysis within the Office of Justice Programs' Unit of Juvenile Justice Initiatives.

You will work with the Deputy Director of Juvenile Justice Initiatives to analyze juvenile justice system issues and administer the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act Federal Grant. You will be responsible for the Evidence Based Prevention and Intervention Support Center Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) and analysis of current juvenile justice trends and issues that should be considered by the office and the JJDP.

You will administer the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee, comprised of agency heads, legislative appointees, and credentialed subject matter experts. You will develop agendas, analyze data, coordinate multiple agencies and stakeholders, and design and prepare reports and other data collection mechanisms.

If you want a rewarding career that offers the opportunity to utilize your skills and benefit the Commonwealth, apply today!

Link to official position announcement: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau/jobs/3019760/program-analyst-4-juvenile-justice-initiatives-program-manager?keywords=program%20analyst&pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>

## National Crime Victims' Rights Rally 2021

### SAVE THE DATE-VIRTUAL EVENT

Join the Crime Victims Alliance of PA in  
honor of Crime Victims' Rights Week

**APRIL 19 at 11:00AM**

<https://www.facebook.com/CrimeVicPA>

Join us each day at 11:00am to hear  
survivor's stories and learn about victim  
service agencies throughout the week.

\* In lieu of exhibit tables, CVAP would like to  
highlight the great work that is being done  
across PA. if you would like your agency  
featured please contact [lmryan@pa.gov](mailto:lmryan@pa.gov) with  
your agency name and contact.

**National Crime Victims' Rights Week • April 18–24, 2021**

**SUPPORT VICTIMS.  
BUILD TRUST.  
ENGAGE COMMUNITIES.**

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS  
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY



## NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF FIREARM VIOLENCE IN ADOLESCENCE AND YOUNG ADULTHOOD

*JAMA Pediatrics* is providing free access to a new [article](#) discussing results from a National Institute of Justice-funded study. Researchers examined the association between firearm involvement by youth involved in the juvenile justice system and subsequent firearm violence in adulthood.

This study builds upon the OJJDP-funded Northwestern Juvenile Project, the first large-scale longitudinal study of delinquent youth's mental health outcomes after detention in Cook County, IL, highlighted in OJJDP's Beyond Detention bulletin series.

The researchers found that for this urban sample of Cook County youth who were both arrested and detained, involvement with firearms during adolescence—including victimization—is a significant risk factor for firearm perpetration and ownership during adulthood.

#### [View Study](#)

#### RESOURCES:

View and download bulletins in OJJDP's [Beyond Detention series](#). Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

### OJJDP ANNOUNCES UPCOMING WEBINARS

Register for upcoming juvenile-justice related webinars on funding, programs, and initiatives.

April 6-8, 2021

[Child Abduction Response Team \(CART\) Training - Register](#)

April 13, 2021

[Initial Response Strategies and Tactics When Responding to Missing Children Incidents - Register](#)

April 15, 2021

[Response to At-Risk Missing and High-Risk Endangered Missing Children - Register](#)

April 15, 2021

[Addressing Gangs: Introduction to the Comprehensive Gang Model - Register](#)

### NIJ RELEASES ARTICLE ON OJJDP JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA COLLECTION

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has posted a new [article](#) discussing OJJDP's [Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement](#) and [Juvenile Residential Facility Census](#).

Both OJJDP-sponsored surveys gather information from residential placement facilities that hold juveniles who are charged or adjudicated for an offense. The article describes the work that OJJDP and NIJ are performing to improve data collection on juveniles in residential placement and the facilities in which they are held.

#### [Read More](#)

#### RESOURCES:

Visit the [OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book](#) to access information on juvenile residential facilities, including the [Juvenile Residential Facility Census Databook](#).

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

### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RELEASES ONLINE JOURNAL ON MISSING AND MURDERED AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

The Department of Justice has published the first of two issues of the "[Department of Justice Journal of Federal Law and Practice](#)" addressing missing or murdered American Indian and Alaska Native people. This issue focuses on law enforcement and prevention surrounding missing or murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives. Featured articles highlight OJJDP's [AMBER Alert in Indian Country Initiative](#) and the OJJDP-supported [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#) and its role in helping Native American communities.

#### [Read More](#)

#### RESOURCES:

Access OJJDP's Missing and Exploited Children [webpage](#).

Visit the AMBER Alert [website](#).

View and download OJJDP's "[AMBER Alert Field Guide for Law Enforcement Officers](#)."

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

To subscribe to Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice, please send your request to [ra-oajcjnews@pa.gov](mailto: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.

