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JCJC Sponsors Third Community- based Probation Forum

SPECIAL Pennsylvania rate established for 30th National Conference on Juvenile Justice

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the National District Attorneys Association have established a reduced registration fee, in the amount of \$199, for all registrants from Pennsylvania attending the 30th National Conference on Juvenile Justice in Philadelphia. This prominent national conference will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center / Loews Philadelphia Hotel from March 16 – 19, 2003.

Registration material available
703-549-9222
www.ndaa-apri.org (events)

The third Community-based Probation Services Forum, sponsored by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, served to bring together 35 community-based probation officers, supervisors and Chief Juvenile Probation officers in a 2 ½ day forum to discuss their community-based probation programs and gain a valuable training opportunity.

The workshop participants had the opportunity to share information about their programs through a round robin reporting format. Many of the officers brought samples of their programs to present to the larger group. Many ideas were exchanged and networking connections made in the 2 ½ day event.

Focused training was offered to enable the community-based probation officers to gain valuable information on engaging communities and receive an introduction to case assessment and planning. Carlton Hall, A Communities That Care Trainer with Channing-Bete, led an excellent session on engaging communities. Doug Thomas, Associate Researcher with the National Center for Juvenile Justice, provided a brief overview of the importance and relevancy of case assessment, planning and measuring success. Ms. Linda Butts, Youth Aid Panel Coordinator for Lancaster County, led an introductory training session on Youth Aid Panels and worked with the group in a panel role play.

A discussion on improving the Community-based Probation Officer Forums resulted in many positive comments regarding the advantages of convening this group of specialized probation officers as well as satisfaction with the 2 ½ day format. Several workgroups were organized to produce helpful tools for the community-based probation officers across the Commonwealth.

These groups will be working on the following tasks:

- the development of an updated resource directory of community-based initiatives, programs and practices;
- the development of a community-based probation manual; and
- the planning for the next forum.

A subsequent forum will be scheduled for the upcoming Fall/Winter 2003 Training Program to be offered through the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. Thanks to the participants, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and the Pennsylvania

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Review of Research:

The Relationship Between Drinking and Violence in an Adolescent Population: Does Gender Matter?

By Ronet Bachman and Robert Peralta

Note: This Research article was published in 23(1) *Deviant Behavior* 1, 2002.

A wide body of research has established a correlation between alcohol consumption and violence among adults. Violent criminal offenders often report being under the influence of alcohol during the commission of their acts. However, gender differences in the alcohol-violence connection have rarely been examined. In their study, Bachman and Peralta sought to determine the extent to which alcohol and other drugs affect the propensity of adolescents to engage in violent behavior, with specific attention given to the possibility that alcohol and drug use differentially affects males.

Bachman and Peralta used data employed from the 1994 Monitoring the Future (MTF) Survey. The 1994 data were obtained from 119 public and 20 private high schools, with a total sample size of 2,643 high school seniors. About two-thirds were age 18, and slightly more than half were female.

Independent variables utilized included measures of heavy and frequent alcohol use, drug use, religious beliefs, grades in school, household and parental characteristics, and demographic controls (gender, race and residential location). The dependent variable was a dichotomous measure of whether a youth had engaged in a series of violent acts in the past 12 months.

Bachman and Peralta's findings indicate that, for both sexes, alcohol and drug use significantly

increased the likelihood of violent offending. They found that the more frequent and heavy the alcohol and drug use, the greater the likelihood of the youth engaging in violent behavior. Gender specific models demonstrated that this was true for both males and females. Bachman and Peralta found that while alcohol and drug use increased the probability of violent behavior, grades in school and residing in a two-parent household acted as protective factors for both sexes.

Although this and other similar research fail to establish a cause and effect relationship between drug and alcohol use and violent behavior, the consistency of this research finding makes this an important policy issue. Not only are male and female young people exhibiting similar problem drinking patterns, but alcohol consumption appears to have a similar connection with violent behavior for both sexes.

This publication is produced monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University.

Guest articles are always welcome; please submit them by email or on a disk. We particularly enjoy your photographs, but we ask that these be mailed - we will be happy to return them to you.

P.J. Verrecchia is the editor. The address is CJJT&R, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299 or email pjverr@wharf.ship.edu

Please send additions or changes to the mailing list to Nina Weaver at the same address or email nsweav@wharf.ship.edu

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania 2003 Annual Conference

25th Anniversary

2003 THEME:

Silver Anniversary: A Quarter Century of Detention Excellence

September 24-26, 2003

**Seven Springs Mountain Resort
Champion, Pennsylvania**

A limited number of workshop slots are available for individuals or groups interested in making presentations at the JDCAP 2003 Annual Conference. To submit a proposal for consideration, please contact Nicole Remsburg at 717/526-1010, or email her at nremsburg@pacounties.org. All proposals must be received by February 21, 2003.

Lebanon County Community Service Program and Balanced and Restorative Justice: A Perfect Fit

By Darian Blauch, Lebanon County Juvenile Probation

The Lebanon County Juvenile Probation Department Community Service Program adheres to the principles of balanced and restorative justice by providing juveniles with an opportunity to benefit from their involvement in a supervised employment experience in which real job skills and good work habits are experienced and developed. Juveniles are given a chance to satisfy their debt to the community by satisfactorily completing their assigned hours. The program serves to benefit the community and the agencies involved with the free labor provided through the program.

Currently, there are many agencies participating with the Lebanon County Juvenile Probation Department's Community Service Program. These agencies provide worksites and opportunities for the juveniles assigned to this program. Some of the participating agencies are Adopt-A-Highway, Lebanon Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), American Red Cross, The Humane Society, Lebanon County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Lebanon County Parks and Recreation, Lebanon County First Aid and Safety Patrol, Lebanon County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), United Way of Lebanon County, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the Lebanon Lancaster Council Boy Scouts of America. New additions to the program include various fire companies and churches throughout Lebanon County.

At a recent project that took place at Saint Luke's Church in Lebanon, twenty-three juvenile probation clients participated in the project under the guidance of Community Service Officer Darian Blauch and Chief Juvenile Probation Officer William Sullivan. The juveniles landscaped a distressed area at the rear of the church. The work tasks included pulling weeds, removing a fence and a twenty square foot section of sod, constructing a patio out of large pieces of slate with a base consistency of fourteen tons of stone dust, reshaping and edging the flowerbeds which involved over ten tons of topsoil, building a retaining wall out of 6x6 lumber and spreading 12 yards of mulch on all the flowerbeds. When the project was completed, 150 hours of community service had been performed. The juveniles involved with the project got a chance to see the project progress from the beginning stages to the final touches and they took pride in the job they performed. They also learned about safe working habits, and how to be accountable

and cooperate with others in order to complete a common goal.

Prior to having a large number of agencies that were willing to participate in community service projects, there was a constant need for more opportunities for juveniles to complete hours. With the number of agencies becoming interested in the community service program the tables have turned. Now, service projects await juveniles to be assigned to them.

The number of juveniles being assigned community service, as a part of their probation requirements, has increased significantly but there is a severe problem with attendance at most community service projects. Over the past year there was a 63 percent attendance rate at community service projects and the amount of hours completed suffered dramatically. Naturally, this behavior could evolve into a negative perception of the program on the part of the host sites because the work was not being completed in a timely manner. Also, this situation, if not corrected, could be detrimental to the juveniles who need hours to complete their community service obligation. In order to deter this behavior, a system of consequences was developed ranging from extra hours being assigned to an Administrative Hearing. This system has not had much of an effect on the amount of juveniles that are absent from scheduled projects. The juvenile probation office does not see the potential to improve our rate of completion in that we have no enforceable sanction for noncompliance.

Another factor that affects the community service program is a cycle that continues throughout the year with the number of community service opportunities increasing in the summer months and decreasing in the winter months. This cycle affects the number of hours being completed during the year. In order to help correct this cycle Project Wish List was developed. The objective of this program was to help needy families and individuals in Lebanon County by having juveniles with community service hours donate certain items in place of community service hours. The project started on November 7, 2002 and ended on December 23, 2002. During this time in excess of 490 items were donated to the project by juveniles on probation. These items included: canned foods, cereal, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene products, toilet paper, paper towels, socks, knit caps, gloves, toys, books and coats. On December 23, 2002 the items were given to needy families and various organizations including The Salvation

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In order to manage the growing number of agencies involved and the increasing number of hours being assigned, the Community Service Coordinator no longer has an active caseload. This change allows the officer to focus more on relationships between the juvenile probation office, the juvenile, and the community.

The number of clients involved in the Community Service Program has increased from 27 in 1997 to 222 in 2002. In 1997, 361 community service hours were completed. That number increased to 5,055.75 in 2002.

Plans have been initiated to implement new programs for the community service program in order for it to grow and better serve both the community and the juvenile probation clients. Two such programs are a clothing bank and a community garden project.

The clothing bank was created after a juvenile was arrested for a delinquent act and upon his release it was brought to the probation departments' attention that this juvenile possessed no clothing other than what he was wearing. A program for collection is being created and items will be stored in the juvenile probation office and dispersed to individuals in need of such items. As the bank resources grow we hope to be able to assist probation clients and their families as well as other helping organizations.

The second project in development is a community garden. While still in the initial stages of development, several hurdles have been identified which include a site location, availability of water amidst water shortages, cooperation of county authorities, and financial backing to purchase necessary supplies. We hope that development of this type of program will help juveniles become accountable and competent while giving back to the community. The long-term goal for the community garden is to be a year round project with the planting, maintenance and harvesting of plants, vegetables and shrubs. While in the program juveniles will research better growing techniques, learn how to market the items produced, and be able to develop good citizenship.

While the Lebanon County Juvenile Probation Department Community Service Program has met with a great deal of success and widespread acceptance within the county, the staff continues to seek opportunities for sustained development and growth.

Balanced and Restorative Justice Resource Guide Update

In 1999 the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency published a Resource Guide

on Balanced and Restorative Justice activities occurring in both the local juvenile justice systems and within a number of juvenile justice service provider agencies. Due to many requests for an updated version of this Guide, we are currently in the process of obtaining the information necessary for a 2003 version.

We have recently mailed out a memorandum along with photocopies of the 1999 information and a blank form to each juvenile probation agency within the Commonwealth asking for assistance in compiling the updated information. Upon completion of the 2003 version of this Resource Guide a copy will be provided to each county

PAPPC Nominations Being Accepted for Recognition

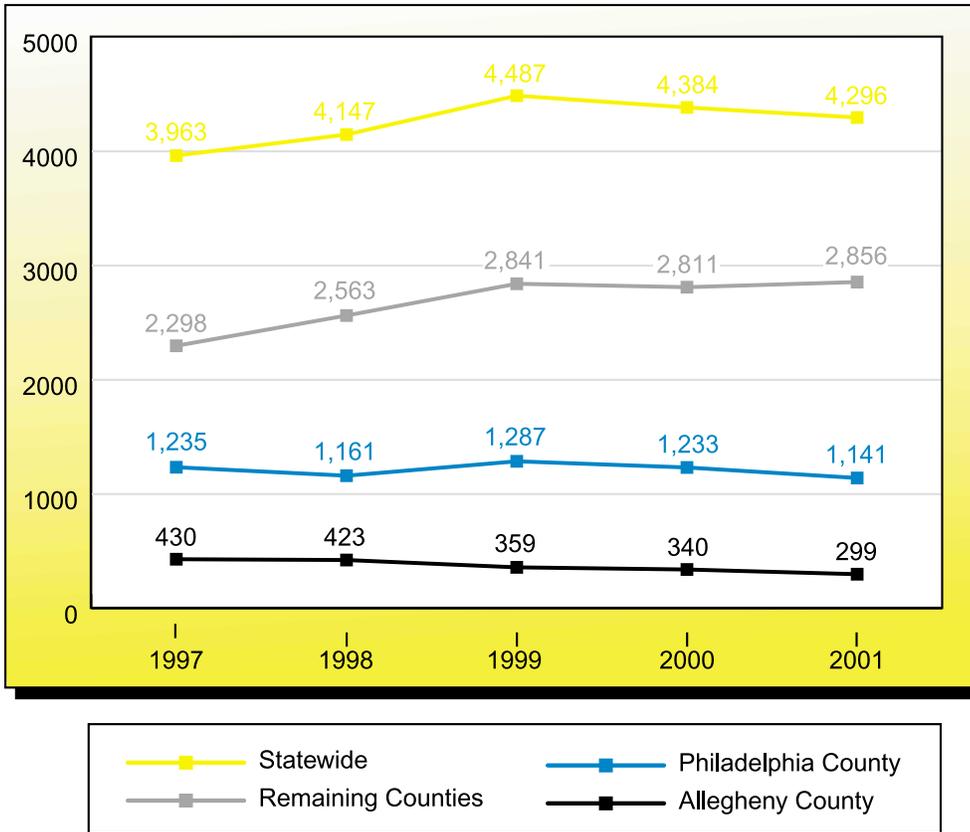


The Pennsylvania Association on Probation Parole and Corrections (PAPPC) will be presenting two prestigious awards at their 82nd Annual Conference, May 18-21, 2003 at the Harrisburg East Holiday Inn. The Juvenile Probation Professional of the Year and Juvenile Corrections Professional of the Year Awards recognize the most distinguished professional achievements from across Pennsylvania. You are encouraged to participate in the nomination process to assure that the juvenile probation and corrections professionals receive this worthy recognition.

Nominations must be postmarked by February 14, 2003. If you did not receive a nomination form, you may contact Melissa Sullenberger at (724) 830-4200. Please accept this opportunity to recognize and honor a deserving candidate for their contribution to Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System.

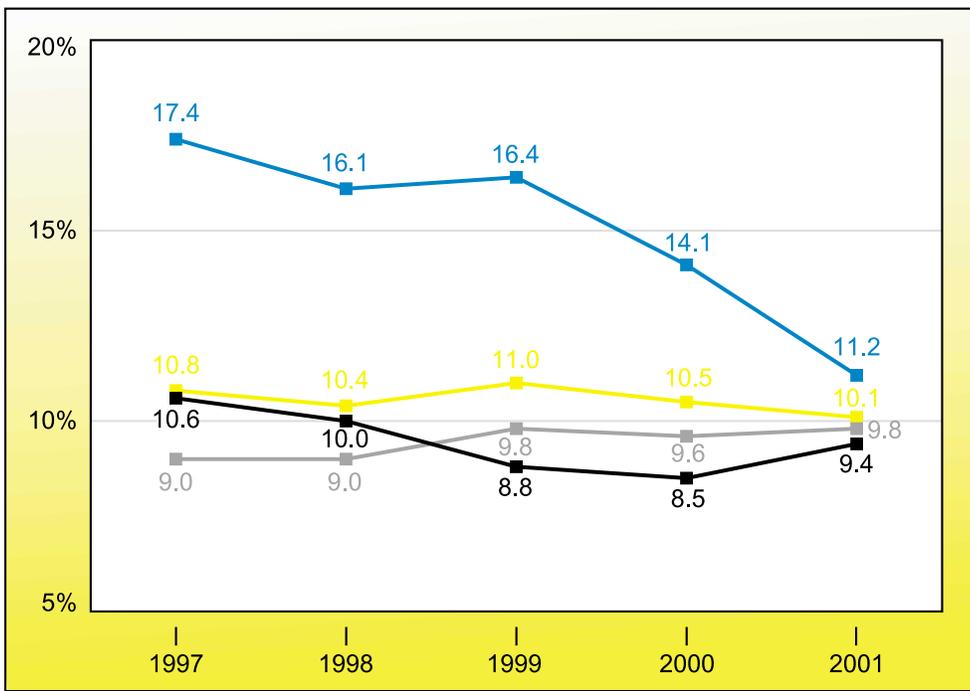
Delinquency Placements, 1997-2001

DELINQUENCY PLACEMENTS



There were 4,296 delinquency placements in 2001, representing a 2.0 percent decrease from the 4,384 placements in 2000 and a 4.3 percent decrease from the 4,487 placements in 1999. This statewide decrease in placements was due primarily to decreases in the number of delinquency placements in Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties during this time period.

PLACEMENTS AS A PERCENT OF DISPOSITIONS



Placements represented 10.1 percent of statewide delinquency dispositions in 2001. This has remained relatively unchanged since 1997. In Philadelphia County, placements as a percentage of delinquency dispositions have decreased from 16.4 percent in 1999, to 11.2 percent in 2001. Placements as a percentage of delinquency dispositions in the rest of the state have remained relatively unchanged since 1997.

Grandparenting For New Criminal Justice Credential

The PA Certification Board (PCB) is pleased to announce the availability of a new **International Criminal Justice certification**. This certification will be known as Certified Criminal Justice Addictions Professional (CCJAP).

A time-limited grandparenting process has been established for those who meet the standards for this new credential and want to apply under this special test-exempt status.

The requirements for grandparenting are as follows:

Education – a BA/BS or CAC/CAC II/CAC Diplomate plus 150 hours of education including 6 hours of ethics, 6 hours of addiction confidentiality and 6 hours of communicable diseases. The 150 hours of education must be specifically related to the knowledge and skills necessary to perform the tasks within the Criminal Justice Addictions Professional performance domains as they relate to both adults and juveniles. These domains are: dynamics of addiction & criminal behavior; legal, ethical & professional responsibility; criminal justice system & processes; screening, intake & assessment; case management, monitoring & client supervision; counseling.

Supervision – 100 hours of clinical supervision received. This supervision is defined as the administrative, clinical and evaluative process of monitoring, assessing and enhancing performance.

Experience – Two years (4000 hours) of paid, professional, supervised experience in direct services in criminal justice/addictions services obtained over the past seven years. Three years (6000 hours) of experience if applicant's BA/BS degree is in a non-human service related field. One year of the required work experience must be providing clinical assessment, addiction treatment, case management, coordination of care or counseling services to the substance abusing population.

Code of Ethical Conduct – All applicants must sign and abide by a code of ethical conduct.

This certification will be valid for two-years after which the CCJAP must complete a recertification process documenting 50 hours of PCB approved continuing education.

The CCJAP is an international credential that entitles the individual to the benefit of reciprocity.

Applicants will be test-exempt only during the grandparenting period, which will begin June 1, 2003 and end September 1, 2003.

Individuals interested in receiving a grandparenting application may call, write or e-mail the PCB Office.

298 S. Progress Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17109
(717) 540-4455; (717) 540-4458 – fax
certification@pcacb.org
<http://www.pcacb.org>

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nia Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, this training served to bring together those officers whose responsibilities include the development and enhancement of this specialized model for juvenile probation supervision in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system

If you are interested in participating on one of the above mentioned workgroups, please contact Susan Blackburn, Assistant Training Director, by telephone at (717) 477-1411 or by email at sblackburn@state.pa.us.

