

PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

a newsletter of the

Pennsylvania
Juvenile Court
Judges'
Commission

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Edward G. Rendell, Governor

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Class of 2003 in the JCJC Weekend Mas- ters Degree Program at Shippensburg University

Stacey Losell (Lycoming County)

Douglas Amsley (Franklin County)

Brett White (Federal Probation)

Leonard Hahn (Huntingdon County)

Jamie Harned (Luzerne County)

Richard Jones (Philadelphia County)

Nichole Kunkle (Franklin County)

Sonya Stokes (Dauphin County)

Shauntae Stancil (Dauphin County)

Congratulations to the class of 2003 of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Weekend Masters Degree Program at Shippensburg University. Commencement ceremonies were held at Heiges Field House on Saturday, May 10, 2003.

Shauntae Stancil was named the Graduate Student of the Year. She will receive the Dr. Anthony F. Ceddia Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Juvenile Justice at the Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice in November, 2003.

On behalf of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and the faculty at Shippensburg University, we offer our congratulations on an outstanding achievement and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.

Judges from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission joined the graduate students at a reception that was held after a commission meeting at Allenberry Resort. Pictured left to right are **Hon. Isaac Garb** (Senior Judge, Bucks County), **Hon. Arthur Grim** (Berks County), **Hon. Myrna Field** (Philadelphia County), **Hon. Abram Frank Reynolds** (Philadelphia County), **Hon. Carol McGinley** (Commission Chair, Lehigh County), and **Hon. John Leete** (Potter County).



Staff Development News

2003 Summer/Fall schedule

At the suggestion of the PA Chief's Council, the upcoming season's CJJT&R Staff Development Schedule will include workshops from July through December. It will constitute a summer/fall schedule, and will be mailed to arrive during the first few days of June. This is nearly two months earlier than the fall schedule has been released in prior years, so your planning for your staff's training goals will need to be moved up as well. Registrations will be due by June 30. The training season will begin with Bruce Schaffer leading the workshop "Drug Subculture Competency" July 9-11 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East.

With the help of the PCCJPO's Training & Planning Committee, the Juvenile Justice Academy program has been significantly redesigned and expanded for the new training season. The new design includes segments on "Organizational Skills & Time Management" and focusing on "Special Problems: Substance Abuse, Mental Health and School Behavioral Issues." In addition, several other segments have been expanded. The program will still be presented in two segments; each portion of the program will begin on Monday afternoon and conclude on Friday morning. This fall, the program is scheduled for August 25-29, and will conclude September 29-October 3.

As always, while we have established a registration deadline of June 30, we will continue to accept registrations up to the day before the program, on a space available basis. The payment of registration fees need not accompany the registrations. For this season we are encouraging agencies to register, alter

or cancel registrations for staff via e-mail. Specific instructions are in a display box on page 5 of this edition of *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice*.

There is a total of 25 programs included in the upcoming schedule; nine of these workshops have never before been offered through the Center. We are persisting in making training available in July and August despite receiving poor attendance during the past two summers. At the request of our constituency, we are continuing to experiment with a formula to expand the training season to include sessions during these summer months. However, we have been forced to cancel a number of these programs in prior years. Without your support this year we may be forced to abandon our attempt to provide training during these traditional peak vacation-time months.

Training schedule goes electronic in 2004!

In an effort to reduce costs and to enhance the flexibility of the training program offered by the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research, we will begin providing electronic versions of the training information instead of publishing a booklet. This change will be phased-in over the 2004 training year.

In the Spring of 2004, we will provide both a booklet and an electronic version. The electronic version is a .pdf file; it looks just like the booklet. The .pdf files have been available on the JCJC website (www.jcjc.state.pa.us) for the past few years.

You may choose any of three methods to receive the files electronically:

- ✓ access the website;
- ✓ we can email the files to you; or,
- ✓ we can send the files in .pdf format on a disk.

The electronic files can be printed, either from the disk or from the website, if you need to have a paper copy. Although we prefer to receive registrations by e-mail, you may use these paper copies to mail or fax your registrations.

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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.

Our address is CJJT&R, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299. (nsweav@wharf.ship.edu)

Please send additions or changes to the mailing list to Julie Bozich at Signal Graphics Printing, 1010 Wesley Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (SigGraph60@aol.com)

Youth Conference held at Heritage Boy Scout Reservation

A Communities That Care® (CTC) Youth Conference was held May 2, 3 and 4, 2003, at the Heritage Boy Scout Reservation in Farmington, PA. The conference was sponsored by the 22 CTC organizations of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research.

Twenty-one youth, ages 14-17, from Duquesne CTC (Allegheny County), McGuffey CTC (Claysville, Washington County), Monessen CTC (Westmoreland County) and the Tri-Boro CTC (Braddock, North Braddock and Rankin, Allegheny County) participated in the weekend retreat along with the community mobilizers and other adult chaperones from those sites.

The youth participated in workshops designed to increase their knowledge of the CTC process and enhance their ability to share with others key aspects of the CTC model.

The first workshop was an overview of the CTC operating system presented by CTC state trainers Steve Barrett (Community Mobilizer, Greene County CTC) and Bernie Galanko (Turtle Creek Valley MH/MR and treasurer, Tri-Boro CTC). Barrett used a sports analogy to relate the protective factors of the Social Development Strategy and Galanko led the youth in a role-play activity to help them understand the impact of risk factors.

Teresa Seh, Monessen CTC Community Mobilizer, led a workshop on the CTC Risk Factors. Participants played a game matching risk factors to the proper domain. They also worked in teams to compose a short story describing a fictional youth who is exposed to various risk and protective factors. When the story was completed it was read out loud; the opposite team had to identify which risk and protective factors were present in the life of the youth portrayed in the story.

Lori Rue, Duquesne CTC Community Mobilizer and secretary of the CTC Southwest Region, along with a Kim Ngo, a youth from the Duquesne Community Mobilization Project, conducted a workshop on personality styles. One of the tools used was the medicine wheel, which comes from Native American culture and is interpreted to assist in understanding individual differences and how diversity impacts on teamwork. The medicine wheel calls on elements of

the natural world, which describe four different styles of interacting with each other and our own work. The major compass directions differentiate the styles, and each has an animal, a color, and a season associated with it.

Heather Reeves, CTC Community Mobilizer and co-chair of the Southwest CTC Region, and Tracy Shultz, Southwest Region CTC Strategic Consultant, CJJT&R, conducted a workshop on the CTC resource assessment. Each team created a "billboard" type poster promoting the resources in their community. The team then shared their poster with the others, describing more about their community and what resources exist. They were also asked to consider what resources could be strengthened and how they could collaborate to build upon those resources.

At the end of each day, the teams completed planning worksheets. This provided them with a time to reflect upon what they had learned and how they can apply what they learned to their community. They were encouraged to use the worksheets as a basis for action plans to be implemented back home and to help them recruit additional youth.

On the final day, the youth provided feedback to the conference organizers, sharing their thoughts on what they liked about the conference and what could be improved. They also discussed possibilities for holding regular quarterly regional youth events in an effort to keep the momentum going and to build capacity for this newly formed networking group. Some future events discussed were, a carwash (to raise money for next year's youth conference), a visit to a Pittsburgh amusement park, and a picnic.

During the weekend event the youth also had the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities such as fishing, archery, a campfire, a log sawing competition, basketball, and volleyball. Several of the youth performed in the talent show, which was followed by a dance.

The conference schedule and activities were planned with the participation of several youth from various CTC sites in the region. The southwest region hopes to schedule a follow-up youth event this summer.

Race as a factor in juvenile arrests

Race continues to be a major concern in both the criminal and juvenile justice systems. For the past 50 years, literature has been published dealing with the degree to which race impacts juvenile justice decision-making. Research findings tend to be contradictory with some studies finding evidence of racial bias while others do not. The following study is somewhat unique in that traditionally, most research on race and juvenile justice has focused on intake, detention, adjudication, and disposition.

In a Juvenile Justice Bulletin published in April, 2003, by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), Carl E. Pope, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Howard N. Snyder, National Center for Juvenile Justice, looked at juvenile arrest data from 17 states (Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia). The data were obtained for years 1997 and 1998 from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) which is maintained by the FBI. The arrests used in this study were those where the most serious offense was murder, a violent sex offense, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, or intimidation.

In short, this study “finds no direct evidence that an offender’s race affects police decisions to take juveniles into custody;” however, there are some interesting contrasts between white and nonwhite juvenile offenders. According to Pope and Snyder white juvenile offenders were:

- less likely to have multiple victims (17.2 percent of white offenders versus 20.2 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- more likely to act alone (67.1 percent of white offenders versus 54.4 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- more likely to commit crimes indoors (78.3 percent of white offenders versus 67.2 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- less likely to possess a weapon such as a firearm, knife or club (16.0 percent of white offenders versus 23.0 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- less likely to offend against adults (37.9 percent of white offenders versus 42.4 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- equally likely to offend against females (46.8

percent of white offenders and 47.6 percent of nonwhite offenders);

- less likely to offend against members of another race (3.3 percent of white offenders versus 34.0 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- equally likely to injure victims (46.1 percent of white offenders and 46.4 percent of non white offenders);
- more likely to commit crimes against family members (23.8 percent of white versus 17.2 percent of nonwhite offenders);
- about equally likely to commit crimes against acquaintances (68.7 percent of white offenders and 66.7 percent of nonwhite offenders); and,
- less likely to commit crimes against strangers (12.1 percent of white offenders versus 22.8 percent of nonwhite offenders).

To review the entire eight-page bulletin, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dataonline.

2004, continued from page 2

The use of electronic media will allow us to add workshops into the current training schedule when we find innovative new programs mid-season, and it will enable all of you to share the schedule more easily with other agencies or individuals in your area.

As we continue to integrate Balanced and Restorative Justice into Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system, the scope of our training program is broadening. Professionals in fields other than probation may find workshops which will be beneficial to them and their agencies.

We would appreciate your input in this process. Since earlier training schedules are already on the JCJC website, please access those files and let us know if the internet method will work for your agency. When you have decided which method you prefer, and we do expect some of you to change your minds, send an e-mail to: nsweav@wharf.ship.edu

Those agencies which do not have internet capabilities should advise us of that fact as soon as possible. Please send a letter to John A. Herb, CJJT&R, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299.

For the summer/fall 2004 training season, paper copies of the file will be made available ONLY to those agencies that have no internet capabilities.

CJJT&R training registrations may be made via e-mail

As part of our continuing effort to enhance the flexibility and responsiveness of the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research's training program, we are encouraging registrations be made by e-mail for the summer/fall 2003 training season. The printed Staff Development Schedule will be mailed to arrive in the first few days of June. By that time it will also be posted on the JCJC website (www.jcjc.state.pa.us).

Registrations should be made by June 30, but, on a space-available basis, we will continue to accept registrations until the day before the training begins.

Please send e-mail registrations to: nsweav@wharf.ship.edu

These registrations must include:

1. Subject Line.....**REGISTRATIONS**; our e-mail system will send an automatic response when this subject line is encountered.
2. Name of registrant.....spelled as it should be on the certificate, and
3. Title of training....

Once the registration is entered into our system, you will receive a confirming e-mail from Nina Weaver. **All registrations for which we have received an e-mail address will be confirmed.**

If you decide to use e-mail registrations, please **DO NOT** send us the paper copies from your book when you send your check.

If you decide to fax your registrations, please **DO NOT** send us the original paper copies from your book when you send your check.

Cancellations and changes may also be done by e-mail to the same address, or you may phone Nina Weaver, 717-477-1448 or 717-477-1185, ext. 1. As always, cancellations must be received 72 hours before the training. Last minute changes of personnel require no notification.

2002 statewide Community Service/Restitution program activity statistics released

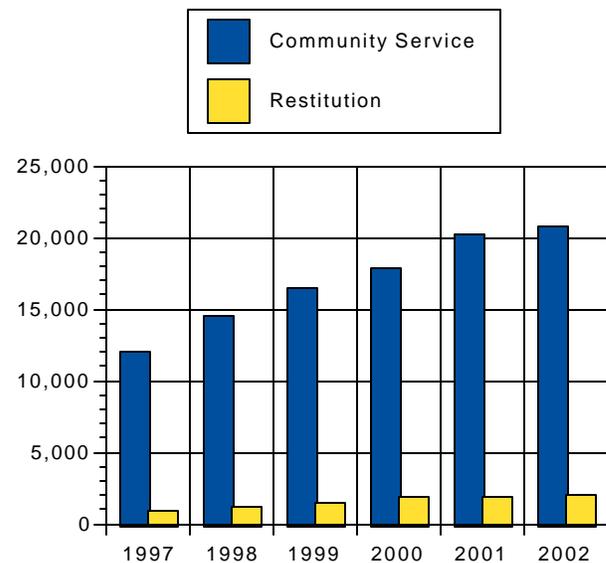
As continuing county efforts are directed at more fully integrating practices consistent with the Balanced and Restorative Justice principles the number of youth participating in community service and restitution programs increased slightly to new record levels in 2002. Aggregate community service and restitution program data is compiled each year from the information submitted to the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. The information gathered is necessary for purposes related to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission sponsored insurance program, and also serves to provide a useful picture of the community service and financial restitution program activities statewide.

During 2002 there were a total of 20,704 youth assigned unpaid community service in the sixty-seven active programs throughout the Commonwealth. This represents an increase of 2.4 percent, from 20,209 youth participating in 2001. To gain perspective over a broader period of time, this is a 317 percent increase from the 4,964 youth participating in 1992, just ten years ago. Last year, a total of 741,079 community service hours were worked by youth throughout the State. At the current minimum wage, this represents over \$3,816,000 in volunteer effort invested in non-profit organizations and agencies across the Commonwealth in 2002. There were 13 programs handling more than 500 community service participants last year including: Philadelphia 1,683(-.2%); Bucks 1,912 (+43%); Allegheny (Cornell-Abraxas Workbridge) 1,492(-3%); Delaware 1,421 (+13%); Montgomery 1,397(+3%); Berks 1,128(+3%); York 838 (+20%); Lancaster 793 (-10%); Philadelphia DA's Office 725 (+46%); Erie 661 (-9%); Lehigh 635 (+3%); Dauphin 552 (-6%); and Chester 515(-8%). The percentage figures listed above in parentheses indicate the increase, or decrease from the number of participants in 2001 in each county.

Approximately 77 percent of the total youth assigned were male. The average age of participants in the majority of the programs was between 15 and 16 years, 6 months of age. Both the age range and male/female composition of program participants has remained relatively constant since 1990. The length of time necessary to complete community service assignments appeared similar to prior years in that there are significant variations between programs

ranging from low figures of 6, and 30 days in some of the counties' programs, to highs of 170 to 279 in several counties. Also, the percentage of youth carried over to the following year to complete their assignment continues to be surprisingly high at 10,063, or 48.6% of the youth assigned community service in the year.

There were a total of 1,984 youth involved in the 26 active financial restitution programs in the State. This is the same number of programs that existed in 2001. The number of program participants increased 8 percent from the 2001 total of 1,842. The largest of these programs operating in 2002 are Allegheny (Cornell-Abraxas Workbridge) 454, Philadelphia 236, Bucks County 232, Berks County 193, Philadelphia DA's Office 90, Erie and Lancaster counties, each with 89, Mercer 87, and York County with 69 youth.



Verrecchia Leaves CJJT&R

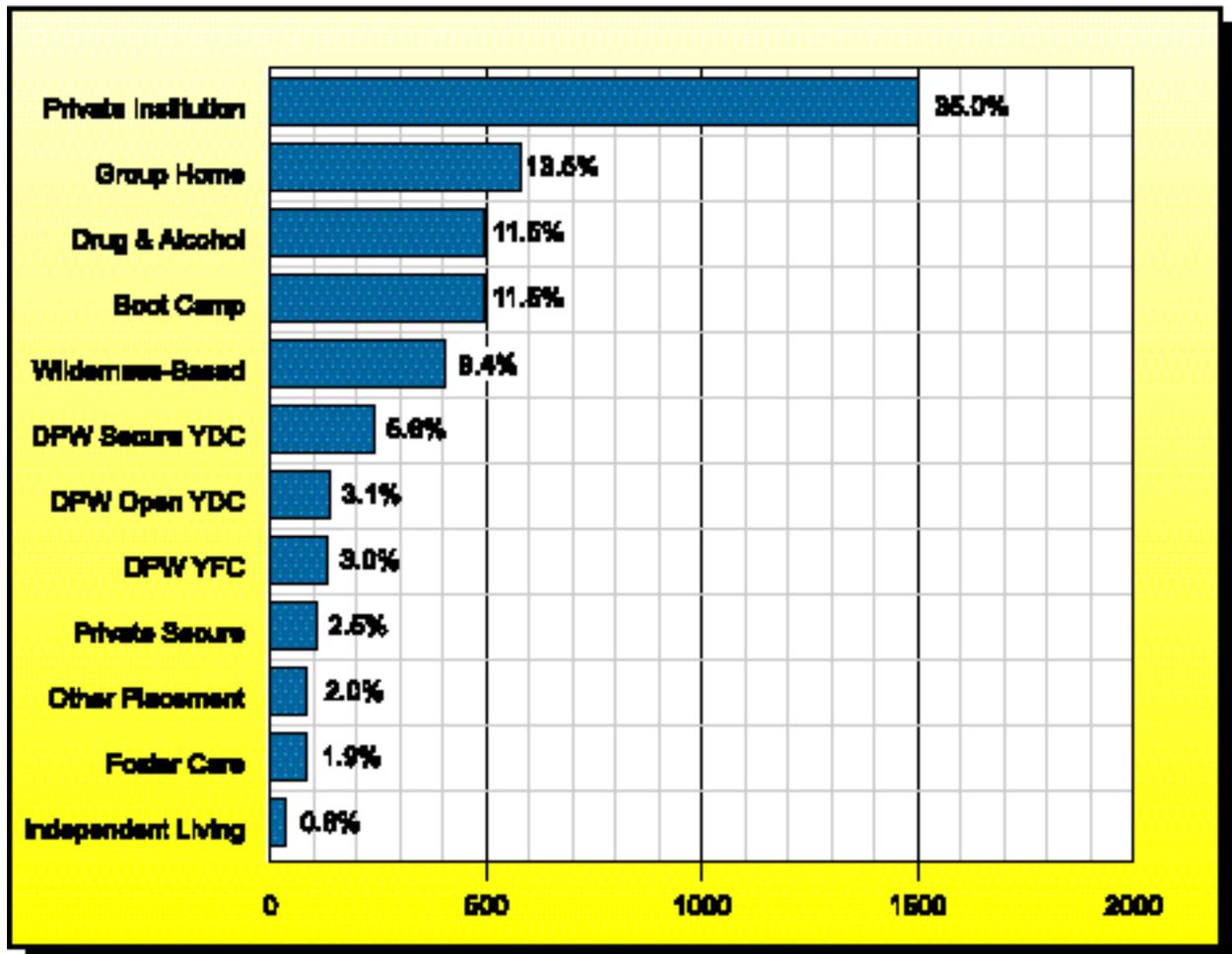
P.J. Verrecchia resigned his position with the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research on April 18, 2003. Verrecchia came to the Center in January, 1996, as the assistant director of training. From August, 1999, until the time of his resignation, he served as Director of Graduate Education. Dr. Verrecchia is now the Executive Director of Specialized Youth Services for Catholic Charities in Harrisburg.

Delinquency Placements by Type, 2001

Placements to private institutions were the most common type of delinquency placement in 2001, comprising 35 percent of all placements, followed by group homes (13.5%), drug and alcohol placements (11.5%), boot camps (11.5%), and wilderness-based placements (9.4%).

PLACEMENT TYPE AS A PERCENT OF PLACEMENTS

NOTE: Does not include disposition and placement reviews.



Dr. Delbert S. Elliott—keynote speaker for the 2003 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

Dr. Delbert S. Elliott will present the keynote address at the 2003 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice on Thursday, November 6, at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. Elliott is the director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, and Director of the Program on Problem Behavior. Both programs are part of the Institute of Behavioral Science at the University of Colorado, in Boulder.

Elliott's scholarly work involves both theory development and validation, primarily in the areas of delinquency and violent behavior, but relative, also, to other forms of problem behavior (substance abuse, drunk driving, sexual deviance, and domestic violence). His lecture in November will look at *What Works, What Doesn'tand Why* in juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

Dr. Elliott served as chair for the Criminal and Violent Behavior Review Committee (National Institute of Mental Health) from 1983–1986; as a member of the National Research Council Panel on Criminal Careers (1983–1985); the National Consortium on Violence Research Advisory Board; and as a member of the MacArthur Foundation Research Program on Successful Adolescent Development, the National Academy of Sciences/Institute of Medicine Committee on Youth Development; and the National Board of Counselors for the Carter Center's Not Even One Program. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology (ASC), having served as president in 1992-1993. In 1995, he received the prestigious ASC Edwin H. Sutherland Award for outstanding contributions to the field of criminology, and in 1998 received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention within the U.S. Department of Justice.

Elliott's publications include: *The Social Psychology of Runaway* (1978, with T. Brennan and D. Huizinga); *Explaining Delinquency and Drug Use* (1985, with D. Huizinga and S. Ageton); *Multiple Problem Youth: Delinquency, Drugs and Mental Health Problems* (1989, with D. Huizinga and S. Menard); and *Violence in American Schools* (1998, with B. Hamburg and K. Williams). He is the editor of "Blueprints for Violence Prevention," a series of monographs describing 11 model violence-prevention programs.

