

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Edward G. Rendell, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 18, Number 2

February 2010

ARC Hosts African American History Fair

On February 23, 2010, Alternative Rehabilitation Communities (ARC) hosted its Fifteenth Annual African American History Fair at the Crispus Attucks Community Center in York.

Students from each of ARC's nine facilities, as well as more than 50 invited guests, attended this year's program.



The fair is traditionally the biggest event of the school year for ARC's students and staff, as they spend considerable time researching, learning and preparing for the program.

Approximately 125

ARC students actively participated in this year's fair by entering projects in one of six categories: 1) Exhibit, 2) Art, 3) Visual Arts, 4) Research, 5) Dramatic Performance, and 6) Musical/Dance Performance. Judges were chosen from among the invited guest and medals were awarded to the students whose projects received the highest scores. Projects from the Exhibit, Art, Visual Arts, and Research categories were prominently



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Reminders:

NEW OFFICER ORIENTATION TRAINING IS NOW OPEN. VISIT WWW.JCJC.STATE.PA.US TO SIGN UP!

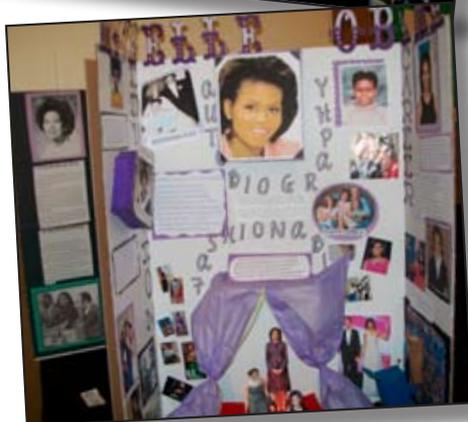
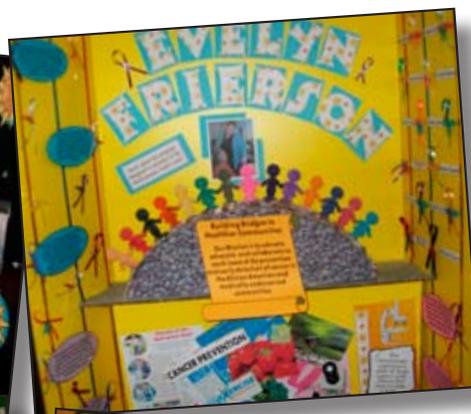
displayed throughout the hall for students and guests to review at their leisure. The projects displayed the students' creative abilities, while also being informative and educational, as the projects highlighted both pioneers and current African American leaders in various disciplines – from science to politics to education to athletics.

The day started with a Welcome from ARC's CEO, Daniel Elby. Mr. Elby explained the significance of the annual event to his students, not only in recognition of Black History Month, but also in developing critical competencies.

"Participation in this event helps increase their [the students] self-esteem and helps them realize that they can learn and achieve, despite prior experiences".

After two musical selections by ARC's student gospel chorus, the competition in the Dramatic Performance and Musical/Dance Performance categories began. In total, there were twenty-five dramatic performances (skits, monologues and poems) and five musical performances presented for the audiences' entertainment. The students

showed incredible courage and talent as they performed on stage in front of a packed house. Following lunch, which featured many traditional African American dishes, the students participated in African American History Jeopardy, as well as several other educational activities in smaller break-out groups.



Educational Aftercare & Reintegration Toolkit

On-line Training Course for Juvenile Justice Professionals

The Education Law Center (ELC) is offering a new on-line training course based on its *Educational Aftercare & Reintegration Toolkit for Juvenile Justice Professionals*. Many juvenile justice professionals across Pennsylvania have already attended in-person trainings based on this *Toolkit*. Thanks to support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, ELC is now able to offer an on-line version of this training to juvenile justice professionals who are new to the field or who are unable to attend a live training.



The on-line training covers a wide variety of issues that impact youth involved in the delinquency system, include school enrollment, attendance, truancy, school discipline, and special education issues. The course includes ten quizzes which allow the user to interact with the course material.

This training course is free. There are no tuition fees or registration costs.

You will receive **four (4) credit hours** upon completion of the course. If you want to receive the credit hours for this course, you must complete the **entire** course, including all the quizzes. At the end of the course, you will be asked to provide an e-mail address for your department's training coordinator, your chief, your supervisor, or other appropriate person to whom notification of your completion of the course should be sent.

WHAT JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THIS ON-LINE COURSE:

The training material was great. As a school-based juvenile probation officer, it was good information to have to understand my role with the reintegration of juveniles placed in our system.

I liked the on-line training because I could complete it at my own pace, and it gave me plenty of time to complete the training, while still completing my daily tasks at work.

I enjoyed this training and I do believe that it is an excellent means of learning that should be distributed to all juvenile probation officers so they are informed on these often tricky policies and procedures.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE:

Go to www.elc-pa.org/jpo. (This course is designed to be viewed with Internet Explorer version 6 or higher, with JavaScript and Flash enabled. You can participate from any computer which has Internet access. If you have difficulty accessing the course or navigating through it, please contact Jennifer Lowman at the Education Law Center at 215-238-6970 ext. 312 or by e-mail at jlowman@elc-pa.org.)

A Note about the Hard Copy Version of the *Educational Aftercare & Reintegration Toolkit for Juvenile Justice Professionals*:

The on-line version of this training course is *not* identical to the hard copy version of the *Educational Aftercare & Reintegration Toolkit for Juvenile Justice Professionals*. The material presented in both versions is the same, but the manner of presentation is not identical. In particular, some of the Tools in the on-line version may be numbered differently than the Tools in the hard copy version of the *Toolkit*.

All juvenile probation officers should have received a hard copy of the *Educational Aftercare & Reintegration Toolkit for Juvenile Justice Professionals* (2009 ed.). If you do not have a copy of the 2009 *Toolkit*, a copy can be downloaded at: <http://www.elc-pa.org/pubs/downloads%202009/juvenilejusticetoolkit.pdf> or <http://www.modelsforchange.net/publications/225>.

2010 JCJC AWARDS PROGRAM

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 2010 JCJC Awards Program. This year, the award categories will include:

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM OF THE YEAR - honors any public or private sector program serving alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth in a residential setting.

COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM OF THE YEAR - honors any public or private sector program which provides community-based non-residential services to alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

JCJC MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD - honors a volunteer who works with alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

JCJC VICTIM ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD - honors an individual who works on behalf of crime victims as a victim advocate in county government or in a community-based agency.

JUVENILE COURT SUPPORT SERVICE AWARD - honors an individual who provides secretarial support services to the juvenile court. This includes receptionists, secretaries, clerk/typist, office managers and others functioning in a similar capacity.

JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

JUVENILE PROBATION SUPERVISOR

CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

Chief Juvenile Probation Officers may nominate programs or employees for all of the above award categories. However, individuals must be nominated from the county in which they are employed, and all nominations must be submitted by county juvenile probation departments. Providers may contact chief juvenile probation officers in an effort to have a program nominated. Nominations must be postmarked by April 23, 2010.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission will also once again sponsor a Youth Awards Program to honor the youth selected as winners in the Poster, Creative Written Expression and Outstanding Achievement Contests. The Awards Committee encourages all juvenile justice professionals to present the awards theme and requirements to all youth under your jurisdiction for their participation in the contest. Youth Awards materials must be postmarked by May 7, 2010.

Thank you for your interest and support of the 2010 JCJC Awards Program. Please contact Arlene L. Prentice at (717) 783-7836 or aprentice@state.pa.us if you have any questions or desire additional information. Visit www.jcjc.state.pa.us to download Youth Awards Contest materials and checkout conference updates.

Space still available

Attention Supervisors:

Are your officers performing to their potential?

Are you doing all that you can to help them succeed?

*Probation officers have so little time with clients!
They need tools to help them change behaviors using
evidence-based practices in short interactions.*



Equipping Supervisors to Maximize Officer Effectiveness

Nationally known consultant and highly sought after trainer, Mark Carey, will lead this ten-hour seminar in State College on March 24-25. This is the only supervisory training opportunity in the CJJT&R Spring 2010 Staff Development Schedule. It is the first installment of a two-part workshop that will be presented. Part two will be held in the fall of this year.

This is a cutting edge training opportunity that is expressly designed for probation department supervisors. In many of our counties Chief's also have responsibility for supervising direct service staff. The workshop gets at the specific competencies that supervisors need to coach your staff in the effective use of the evidence based practices that are the key to reducing recidivism. As the [full program description](#) recounts, supervisors may well be the lynchpin in marshalling the talents of your agency's officers to effectively perform the research-based, most essential tasks that line officers need to change offender behavior.

If you are already registered for this workshop we look forward to seeing you in State College next month. If you had not seen this training opportunity we would urge you to review the description and please consider attending. If you glanced at the description and passed over it we would urge you to reconsider.

Ed (Schmook) Shearn Retires

Ed (Schmook) Shearn has retired as Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Schuylkill County effective January 15, 2010. He had been employed in various capacities as a juvenile probation officer in Schuylkill County for 34 years.

Ed commenced his employment as a probation officer when he was charged with the recruitment and supervision of a foster care program operated jointly by the Loysville Youth Development Center and the Schuylkill County Juvenile Probation Department. Subsequently, he undertook the responsibilities as intensive probation officer and progressed through the administrative positions of Supervisor and Deputy Chief. While Deputy Chief, Ed provided aftercare services to juvenile offenders in placement.

Ed had served as a member of the Schuylkill County Drug and Alcohol Executive Committee, on the Youth Council of the Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board, and was active in the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. Most recently, he served as chairman of the By-Laws Committee and as a member of the Council's Executive Committee. He had previously been involved with the Public Relations and Standards Committees and worked on the redesign of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) statistical card. From 1988 through 1989 he served on the Compliance Review Team for secure state facilities.

A 1975 graduate of Kings College with a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice, he is a graduate of the JCJC sponsored Masters Degree program in Administration of Justice at Shippensburg University.

His future plans are to travel with his wife Marilyn and to pursue other leisurely endeavors.

SAVE THE DATE

A Force for Positive 
CHANGE.



The Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections

89th Annual Training Institute



May 23rd - 25th, 2010

Seven Springs Mountain Resort
Seven Springs, PA



Call for Presentations

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 3 - November 5, 2010

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

The sponsors of The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice are requesting presentations for workshops to be offered on Thursday, November 4, 2010. Interested presenters should complete this form and return it by **Friday, May 14, 2010**. In order for your application to be considered, please submit a program description, a brief biography of the trainer and any supplementary materials.

- **Proposed title of workshop:** _____

- **Brief description of presentation:** (50 words or less) _____

- **Brief biography of the trainer(s):** (50 words or less) _____

- **Please list a reference and contact information of someone who is familiar with the trainer/presentation:**
 Name: _____
 Agency: _____
 Telephone: _____

Please Note: Two presenters from each selected workshop will be our guests during the course of the three-day conference with all registration fees waived. Presenters will be responsible for their own lodging and travel expenses.

• **This workshop is recommended for:** (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Court Judges | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Court Masters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Program Providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Prevention Specialists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialized Probation Officers | <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Juvenile Probation Officers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Probation Supervisors | <input type="checkbox"/> Victim Services Representatives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local and State Policy Officials | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | |

Name of principal contact person/trainer: _____

Agency/organization and address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email address: _____

**PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION AND ATTACH ALL
SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM DESCRIPTIVE MATERIALS,
TRAINER'S VITA, AND PARTICIPANT HANDOUTS BY
FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2010 TO:**

John Cookus, Director
Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research
Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Phone: 717-477-1188
Fax: 717-477-1236
E-mail: jcookus@state.pa.us

Introduction To:



Dauphin County FGC Advanced Skills Training

*Monday-Tuesday, March 22-23, 2010
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM*

Registration:

Half Hour prior to start time

Location:

New Hope Church, 584 Colonial Club Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112

Please RSVP: Karen Martin at kmartin@ittakesavillageinc.org

By Monday, March 15, 2010



An affiliate of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania

February 24, 2010

The Juvenile Detention Centers' Association of Pennsylvania (JDCAP) extends an open invitation to all interested persons to participate in a panel discussion on "The Future of Juvenile Detention."

The panel discussion will occur on Thursday, April 1, 2010, from 10:00AM to 12:30PM at the County Commissioners Association North Office and lunch will be provided immediately following the panel discussion. This event will also be broadcast by webinar to various Pennsylvania juvenile justice stakeholders.

The purpose of this panel discussion will be to provide an overview of the current trends impacting juvenile detention, as well as to develop strategies for assuring that detention professionals move forward in a way that best meets the needs of youth and communities. As the juvenile justice system has been experiencing fewer referrals (fewer arrests), more effective use of detention alternatives, and improved expediency in finding services when youth are temporarily detained, the result has been both a decreasing number of referrals and/or decreasing lengths of stay in detention. However, it remains critical to ensure accessibility and excellence in service delivery when detention is required.

JDCAP looks forward to engaging various experts in the field in a discussion geared towards protecting the future. We hope to have appropriate representation for the various stakeholders, so please respond to this invitation by contacting me at wbear@pacounties.org or (717) 232-7554.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Wayne R. Bear
Executive Director

Mark your calendar!

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 3-5, 2010

at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers

Sponsored by
The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission
The Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges
The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers



Youth Awards Program & Dinner

Wednesday, November 3

Annual Training and Awards Program

Thursday, November 4

Resource Day – 2010

Friday, November 5

The 2009 Annual Training and Awards Program will conclude by presenting Resource Day – 2010, during which representatives from residential programs, electronic monitoring companies, drug testing companies, and other service providers will “set up shop” to discuss their programs with the Pennsylvania juvenile justice community. This informal marketplace will offer an important opportunity for consumers to learn about new and innovative services.

VENDOR INFORMATION WILL BE E-MAILED IN APRIL, 2010

Early Registration....\$400 After August 31st....\$500



For vendor information, please call Arlene L. Prentice,
717-783-7836 or e-mail aprentice@state.pa.us





National Juvenile Justice Announcements

The following February announcements are reprinted from [JUVJUST](#), an OJJDP news service:

February 4, 2010 - Juvenile Justice Certificate Program Announced for 2010

On July 9-15, 2010, in Washington, DC, the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute will hold its Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare: Multi-System Integration [Certificate Program for Public Sector Leaders](#).

Designed for public agency leaders responsible for developing and implementing policy and practice, this week-long program uses a multisystem, multidisciplinary approach, focusing on efforts that benefit youth involved in more than one system of care.

The application deadline is March 24, 2010.

Resources:

To obtain additional information and apply online, visit cjjr.georgetown.edu/certprogs/public/certificatepublic.html.

February 8, 2010 - Blueprints Conference Features Evidence-Based Programs To Prevent Violence

On April 7-9, 2010, in San Antonio, TX, the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence will hold its annual [Blueprints Conference](#).



The conference will feature evidence-based youth violence, delinquency, and drug prevention programs and provide support, guidance, and tools by program experts to help practitioners implement these programs. [Assistant Attorney General Laurie Robinson](#) of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs will address the conference as its keynote speaker.

The conference's registration deadline is March 24, 2010. To benefit from the discounted early registration rate, register by February 23.

Resources:

To obtain further information about the Blueprints Conference and register online, visit www.blueprintsconference.com.

February 8, 2010 - ONDCP and CSAP Announce FY 2010 Drug Free Communities Support Program

The Executive Office of the President's Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) are accepting applications for the [fiscal year \(FY\) 2010 Drug Free Communities Support Program](#).

The program's purpose is to establish and strengthen collaboration to support the efforts of community coalitions working to prevent and reduce substance use among youth. Successful applicants will receive up to \$125,000 per year over a 5-year period.

The application deadline is March 19, 2010.

Resources:

To obtain further information about the FY 2010 Drug Free Communities Support Program, see the Request for Applications at samhsa.gov/Grants/2010/SP-10-005.aspx.

February 25, 2010 - Fact Sheet Confirms Continued Decline in Number of Juveniles in Residential Placement

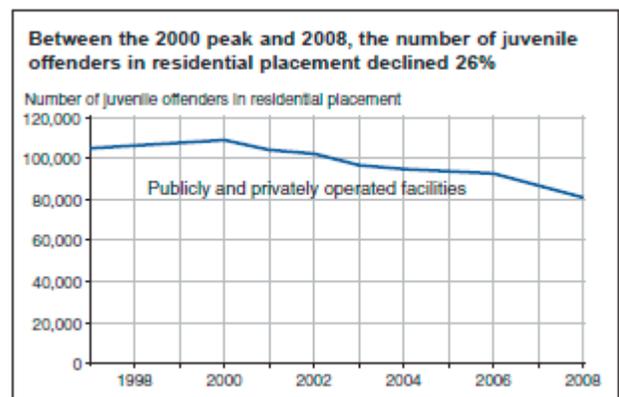
The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has published "[Juveniles in Residential Placement, 1997-2008](#)." Data cited in this fact sheet are derived from the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement and the Juvenile Residential Facility Census, both of which include 1-day counts of the juvenile placement population.

As the fact sheet confirms, the number of juvenile offenders in residential placement in publicly and privately operated juvenile facilities has declined steadily since 2000. In 2008, fewer than 81,000 juvenile offenders were housed in residential facilities at the time of the census, the lowest number since 1993.

Resources:

"Juveniles in Residential Placement, 1997-2008" is available online at www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/229379.pdf.

Print copies may be ordered online at www.ncjrs.gov/App/ShoppingCart/ShopCart.aspx?item=NCJ+229379&repro.



THE HONORABLE JOHN B. LEETE BECOMES SENIOR JUDGE: POTTER COUNTY GETS NEW PRESIDENT JUDGE



The Honorable John B. Leete was confirmed by the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts as Senior Judge in December 2009. Having been sworn into office on February 19, 1988, Judge Leete spent the next twenty-two years fulfilling his responsibility to the people of Potter County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by applying the Rule of Court, case law and statutes in a fair and impartial manner.

Upon completing his legal studies at the University of Pittsburgh, Judge Leete served with Neighborhood Legal Services in Allegheny County before returning to Potter County to establish a successful private practice.

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Leete has served several terms on the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. He is recognized as having made a personal commitment to the advancement, safety and well being of each of the youth who have appeared before him. In addition, he has served as a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, American Bar Association, Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, Rotary International and other local organizations.

Likewise, Judge Leete became active in the Yellow Ribbon Teen Suicide Prevention Program, assisting in the acquisition of a \$75,000.00 grant to aid in teen suicide prevention in Potter County. He has actively expanded his commitment to the cause of teen suicide prevention in various locations throughout the Commonwealth.

Prior to accepting status as Senior Judge, Judge Leete was an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice Administration at Mansfield University, where he admits an effort to recruit quality students into the field of juvenile justice.



On Monday, January 4th, Stephen P. B. Minor was sworn into office as President Judge of the Potter County Court of Common Pleas. A native of Potter County, Judge Minor received a Bachelor's Degree in Regional Planning at Mansfield University. He completed his legal studies at Oral Roberts University in Oklahoma and returned to Pennsylvania, where he spent the next five years at private practice in Washington, PA.

Judge Minor relocated to Potter County and established a private practice in both McKean and Potter Counties for the next eighteen years. For the past fourteen of those years, he served as Juvenile Court Master for the McKean County Court of Common Pleas, presiding over dependency and delinquency hearings.

Judge Minor has been a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Inn Of Courts, Rotary International, Pennsylvania Association for Justice, and McKean/Potter Counties Chapter of the American Red Cross where he served as a member of the Board of Directors and past Chairman.

- Photos provided courtesy of Endeavor News.

The citizens of Potter County thank Judge Leete for his years of exemplary service as President Judge, look forward to his service as Senior Judge, and eagerly welcome Judge Minor to his position as President Judge.

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 e-mail or on a disk.

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