

# PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
Tom Corbett, Governor



## Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 19, Number 8

August 2011

### ***Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Update for Judges and Masters***

The JCJC, in partnership with the Supreme Court, the Office of Children and Families in the Courts, and the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, will be sponsoring a "Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Update" for judges and masters/hearing officers in conjunction with the 2011 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

A number of very significant modifications to the Pennsylvania Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure became effective on July 1, 2011. This will be an excellent opportunity to discuss these new Rules and any implementation issues that have arisen in your respective jurisdictions. A buffet luncheon will be available at noon, and we will begin the training promptly at 1:00 p.m.

This training program will replace the caucus for judges and masters that we traditionally hold on the Wednesday afternoon of our conference. Although this training and the luncheon will be offered at no cost for both masters and judges, masters will be responsible for any costs associated with their participation in the remainder of our conference.

***Special Notice: Participation limited to judges and masters.***



George D. Mosee, Jr., Philadelphia Deputy District Attorney and Chairman of the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee, will moderate this training, which will feature panels of juvenile and family court judges in a comprehensive review of the significant modifications to the Pennsylvania Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure recently adopted by the Supreme Court.

Among the more significant procedural rule modifications are new rules governing the appointment of educational decision makers, the use of advanced communication technology, the presumption that juveniles are indigent, the use of restraints during juvenile delinquency proceedings, juvenile probation authority and training, on-the-record dispositional and permanency hearing statements, and mandatory hearings to ensure a dependent child's successful transition to independent living.

***The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's  
Harrisburg office has relocated to:***

***Pennsylvania Judicial Center  
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 9100, P.O. Box 62425  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-2425***

### ***INSIDE:***

- ***Governor Corbett Makes Appointments To The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission***
- ***Juvenile Justice Week 2011***
- ***Call To Present PCB's 13th Annual Conference***
- ***JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications***
- ***PAPPC/MASCA 2012 Conference Save The Date***
- ***PAPPC/MASCA Call For Presenters***
- ***Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Named As A Community Champion***
- ***A Symposium for Higher Education***
- ***Registration For The 2011 Pennsylvania Conference Is Now Open!***
- ***Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Building Blocks For A Better System***
- ***Linking Together A Chain Of Care***
- ***JDCAP Conference Announcement***
- ***Call For Presentations For The 2012 PCCYFS Annual Spring Conference***
- ***Staff Development Opportunities***
- ***ARC Student Landscaping Program***
- ***McKean County Juvenile Court Celebrated 20 Years Of Boondocs Program***

## ***Governor Corbett Makes Appointments to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission***

On July 20, 2011, Governor Tom Corbett appointed Judge Kathryn Hens-Greco (Allegheny County), and reappointed Judge John M. Cleland (Senior Judge) and Judge Lori A. Dumas Brooks (Philadelphia County), to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Judge Cleland has been serving as a member since July 2005. Judge Dumas Brooks is currently Secretary of the JCJC and has been serving as a member since June 2007.

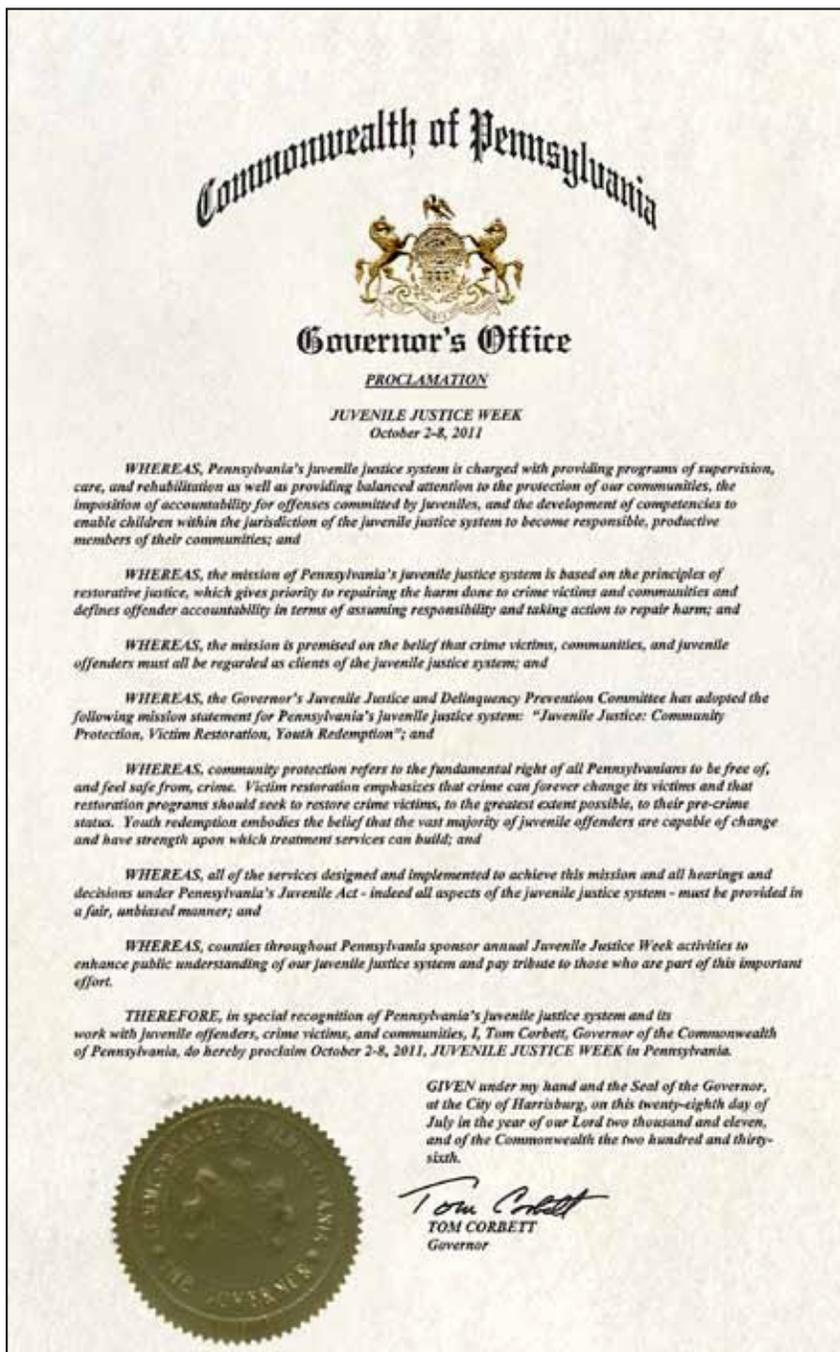
The appointment of Judge Kathryn Hens-Greco fills the vacancy on the Commission created by the expiration of the term of Judge Kim Berkeley Clark (Allegheny County). Judge Clark served as a member since May 2004.

## ***Governor Corbett Proclaims Juvenile Justice Week October 2 - 8, 2011***

Governor Tom Corbett recently proclaimed the week of October 2 – October 8, 2011 as Juvenile Justice Week in Pennsylvania. Juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth are encouraged to utilize Juvenile Justice Week as an opportunity to engage the public about the mission and outcomes of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

The proclamation notes that Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system is charged with "providing programs of supervision, care, and rehabilitation, as well as providing balanced attention to the protection of our communities, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed by juveniles, and the development of competencies to enable children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system to become responsible and productive members of their communities".

We encourage Chief Juvenile Probation Officers to send media accounts of local Juvenile Justice Week activities to [Steve Bishop](#) for publication in a special section celebrating Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice week. Please have all entries submitted by October 14, 2011.



# Call To Present PCB 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

The Pennsylvania Certification Board (PCB) is pleased to announce that plans are underway for the PCB 2012 Annual Conference. The details are as follows:

**Monday and Tuesday, April 16-17, 2012**  
**Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey, Harrisburg, PA**



Your help is needed NOW as we begin the process of selecting trainings for the conference. We are looking for presenters for this conference and hope you, or someone you know, will consider submitting a training. Trainings can be either 1 1/2 hours in length or 3 hours in length.

The 2012 conference will be a very special event and we want you to share your talent and expertise with the hundreds of other professionals who attend the conference.

If you are interested in presenting a training for the PCB Annual Conference, complete the "Application to Present" included in this mailing. **Deadline for submitting the "Application to Present" is September 30, 2011.** Completed applications can be emailed, mailed or faxed to the PCB Office.

Take advantage of this opportunity to share your talent and expertise with your colleagues at PCB's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.

For more information or questions, contact PCB at (717) 540-4455 ext. 103 or [info@pacertboard.org](mailto:info@pacertboard.org).

## JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2014

### Looking to advance in Juvenile Justice?

Applications are now being accepted for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University. Members of the class of 2014 will begin classes in the fall of 2012. The deadline to apply is September 15, 2011.

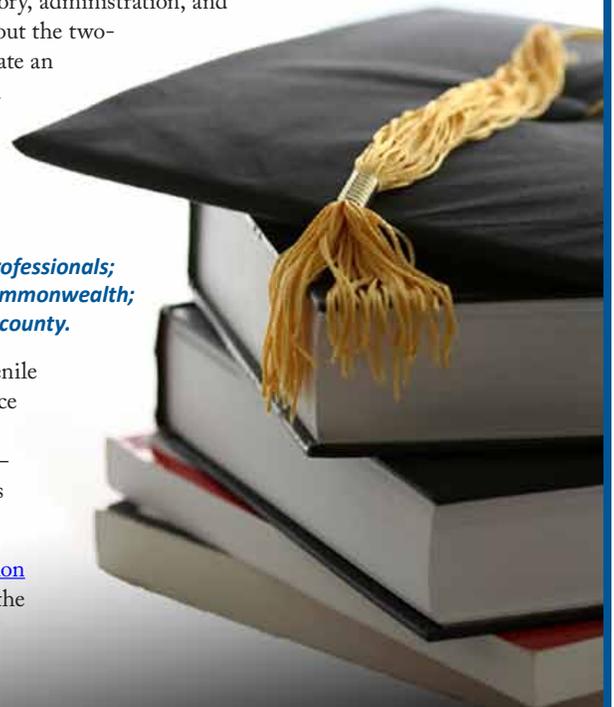
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the two-year program. This practicum study provides students the opportunity to evaluate an existing program or practice that serves juvenile offenders in their home county.

#### What are the benefits of the JCJC Graduate Education Program?

- **Free tuition;**
- **Free lodging on class weekends;**
- **No weekday or evening classes;**
- **A Master's curriculum specifically tailored to working juvenile justice professionals;**
- **Networking with other juvenile justice professionals from across the Commonwealth;**
- **Opportunity to learn how to evaluate juvenile justice programs in your county.**

This program is available to county juvenile probation officers – and county juvenile detention staff – who will have at least two years of post-baccalaureate experience in the juvenile justice field prior to the start of classes. Other juvenile justice professionals – such as residential placement staff and victim services providers – may also apply and be accepted into the program on a "self-pay" basis as space is available.

Additional information about the program is available on the [Graduate Education](#) pages at [www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us). If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact [Stephen Bishop](#) at 717-477-1294.



# SAVE THE DATE!

## June 17-20, 2012

Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association &  
Pennsylvania Association of Probation Parole and Corrections

*present*

# *Working Together:*

---

## THE KEYSTONE FOR SUCCESS

Contact Info:



MASCA

Mary Rose Worthington - [mrworthington@minsec.us](mailto:mrworthington@minsec.us) - 610.892.9167



PAPPC

Stephen Bishop - [spbish@ship.edu](mailto:spbish@ship.edu) - 717.477.1294



West Chocolate Avenue & University Drive  
Hershey, PA

# 2012 CALL FOR PRESENTERS

*Proposals are due by March 11, 2012*

## Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association & Pennsylvania Association of Probation Parole and Corrections

*present*

*Working Together:*  
**THE KEYSTONE FOR SUCCESS**

**June 17-20, 2012 – Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA**

MASCA and PAPPC invite you to submit topics for consideration on subjects that will help juvenile and adult criminal justice practitioners and related service providers deal more effectively with the challenges of today's workplace. Workshops will explore winning strategies, promising practices and Evidence-Based Practice in the field of adult and juvenile, county and state probation, parole and institutional care. Systems approaches to addressing public safety, cross system networking, treatment and victim concerns will be appreciated. Topics can include the following: Institutions, Adult Probation and Parole, Juvenile Probation, Administration and Management Issues, Academic and Research, Terrorism and Critical Instance Response, Victim Advocacy and Awareness, Offender Treatment, and other relevant topics.

**PROPOSAL FORM** – (Please attach this form to the front of your submission. More than one proposal is acceptable.)

### Person submitting Proposal:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company/ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Presenter Information, please list Name (s), Title (s), and Licensing (i.e., Ph.D. LSW), Organization(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Presentation Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Presentation will be 1½ hours.

### I have enclosed the following:

- An outline of the presentation
- Objectives of Presentation
- 200 word description of topic on 8 ½" x 11" paper or electronic file attachment
- Biographies of presenters

### Presenter Agreement:

If this proposal is accepted by MASCA and PAPPC, the undersigned guarantees that he/she is the sole proprietor of this material, that no proprietary rights or copyrights belonging to any other person exists. The undersigned further agrees to deliver in advance, to the Program Committee the proposed session materials and handouts. The undersigned agrees that no fees or reimbursement of expenses will be paid by MASCA and PAPPC unless agreed upon otherwise.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Return by March 11, 2012 to:

Richmond Parsons - MASCA Program Committee Co-Chair  
PHONE – 610-992-7766 — FAX – 610-992-7778  
[rparsons@montcopa.org](mailto:rparsons@montcopa.org)

Leo Lutz - PAPPC Program Committee Co-Chair  
PHONE – 717-299-8161 — FAX – 717-295-5992  
[lutzl@co.lancaster.pa.us](mailto:lutzl@co.lancaster.pa.us)

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE COPIES AND SHARE WITH OTHERS.**

# WESTMORELAND COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION NAMED AS A COMMUNITY CHAMPION

The Westmoreland County Circles Initiative recently named Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation as a new Community Champion Partner. "We are so excited about this new collaboration," said Rebecka Andrae, Circles Coordinator. "This community-driven initiative needs the whole community on board in order for all our county residents to thrive. "Recently the Bridges out of Poverty training was hosted by the Juvenile Department with over 25 different agencies and school personnel attending. Bridges out of Poverty is a uniquely powerful tool designed for professionals. Based, in part, on Dr. Ruby K. Payne's myth-shattering book *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*, Bridges reaches out to millions of service providers and businesses whose daily work connects them with people in poverty. The training details specific solutions an organization can implement.

- Redesigning programs to better serve clients/students

- Build skill sets for management to help guide employees
- Upgrade training for front line staff
- Increased knowledge of cultural differences and illustrates how it impacts situations and opportunities
- Improve treatment outcomes
- Increase the likelihood of moving from welfare to work
- **CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES!**

The Juvenile Court will continue to host educational classes about poverty for community members and will also be involved in weekly Circle meetings. The Westmoreland County Circles Initiative is one of many initiatives under agreement with the national Circles campaign. In Westmoreland County, the lead agency is Westmoreland Community Action, whose mission is to strengthen communities and families to eliminate poverty. A Guiding Coalition oversees the initiative

locally; three of the county's probation staff is part of that Coalition.

If you didn't grow up in poverty, you may be unaware of the "hidden rules" that govern many aspects of life for the poor. People in poverty are often in survival mode, and support systems, taken for granted among the middle class and wealthy, are largely nonexistent. If your business, agency, or organization works with people from poverty, a deeper understanding of their challenges and strengths helps you partner with them to create opportunities for success.

For further information in Westmoreland County, contact Addie Beighley, Director Westmoreland County Probation, [abeighle@co.westmoreland.pa.us](mailto:abeighle@co.westmoreland.pa.us). For other counties seeking more information or interested in hosting a Bridges out of Poverty training, contact Eric Godsey at (800)424-9484 ext. 127 or [egogsey@ahaprocess.com](mailto:egogsey@ahaprocess.com).

## A Symposium For Higher Education

### RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: the philosophical basis for Pennsylvania's present criminal and juvenile justice systems?



**Keynote Presenter:** Howard Zehr PhD., noted speaker, author and Professor of Restorative Justice at Eastern Mennonite University

**Who should attend:** all full-time and adjunct faculties of criminal justice and related disciplines *(limited to the first 50 registrants)*

**When:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Wednesday November 2, 2011 -- *Lunch is Included --*

**NOTE:** *This one day symposium is being offered in conjunction with The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice (Nov. 2-4, 2011)*

**Where:** [Conference Center at Temple University](#), Strawberry Square, Harrisburg

**Lodging:** [Crowne Plaza](#) (Mention Room Block Higher Ed Symposium to get the discounted rate of \$99.00)

**Registration:** \$50.00 in advance, \$75.00 day of symposium (<https://www.jcjcims.state.pa.us> to register in advance).

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Cookus,  
Director Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research  
[jcookus@pa.gov](mailto:jcookus@pa.gov)



## **Mark Your Calendar!**

### **Registration for The 2011 Pennsylvania Conference is NOW OPEN!**

**Visit: [www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us)**

We invite you to join us for the 2011 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, which will be held at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers on November 2-4, 2011. The theme for this year's conference is "Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy: Achieving our Mission through Evidence-based Policy and Practice".

Registration for the 2011 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice is available through the JCJC Events Management System (JEMS) Conference Registration Website. If you have already established a "User Account" with

JEMS for training purposes, you can login using your current email address and password. The system will automatically recognize you. If you are new to the JEMS system, you will be prompted to create an account by simply utilizing your email address.



## **Exhibitor Space Still Available!**

The 2011 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will conclude on Friday, November 4th by presenting Resource Day – 2011, 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.

While registering, exhibitors will be able to self-select their table display location from the Resource Day Map, as well as identify the on-site representatives who will be attending the conference. Additionally, an up-to-date listing of registered exhibitors (including table display location, the agency contact person, email address and a link to the company website) will be posted within JEMS and on the JCJC website for viewing by conference participants.

Questions regarding Resource Day and exhibitor registration should be directed to Rick Steele, (717) 705-5633, or [ricsteele@state.pa.us](mailto:ricsteele@state.pa.us).

# ***“Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Building Blocks for a Better System”***

## **“Building Blocks”**



As an ongoing feature of the *JCJC Newsletter*, the “*JJSES Building Blocks*” will provide summaries of published literature of the concepts, principles, and research underlying various aspects of the JJSES. Developing an understanding the “building blocks” that serve as the foundation of the JJSES is considered essential.

The articles will convey how various components, and their functioning, support the JJSES Statement of Purpose. This series will also highlight local and state efforts, including successes and challenges, of our colleagues as they work toward achieving the mission of Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System.

Readers are encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions related to the JJSES that they would like to have addressed. Ideas and suggestions may be submitted to: Rick Steele at [ricsteele@pa.gov](mailto:ricsteele@pa.gov).

### ***JJSES STATEMENT OF PURPOSE***

To work in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by: employing evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process; collecting and analyzing the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, striving to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services and programs.

## ***Risk-Need-Responsivity Model for Offender Assessment and Rehabilitation***

Our first “Building Blocks” article deals with the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model, perhaps the most influential model for the assessment and treatment of offenders. Risk assessment instruments have been evolving with the latest being fourth generation instruments.

The Pa. Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers has endorsed the use of the Youth Level of Service, which is the juvenile version of the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI; Andrews, Bonta & Wormith, 2004). The LS/CMI is an example of a fourth generation assessment tool. These new risk assessment instruments integrate systematic intervention and monitoring with the assessment of a broader range of offender risk factors heretofore not measured and other personal factors important to treatment.

What is notable in the history of risk assessment is that third and fourth generation risk assessment instruments would not have been possible without the risk-need-responsivity model of offender assessment and rehabilitation.

Briefly, the three core principles can be stated as follows:

***Risk principle:*** Match the level of service to the offender’s risk to re-offend.

***Need principle:*** Assess criminogenic needs and target them in treatment.

***Responsivity principle:*** Maximize the offender’s ability to learn from a rehabilitative intervention by providing cognitive behavioral treatment and tailoring the intervention to the learning style, motivation, abilities and strengths of the offender.

The risk principle is the “Who” to target. Interventions should be matched to the risk level of the offender, that is, minimal services for low risk offenders and intensive services for high risk offenders. Risk in this context refers to those offenders with a higher probability of recidivating. The risk principle states that offender recidivism can be reduced if the level of treatment services provided to the offender is proportional to the offender’s risk to re-offend. When conducting an assessment it is important to differentiate between low risk and high risk offenders in order to provide the appropriate level of treatment. Inappropriate matching of treatment intensity with offender risk level can lead to wasted treatment resources and in some situations actually make matters worse.

The need principle is the second principle, or the “What” to target. Our focus here is on criminogenic factors that are highly correlated with criminal conduct. A distinction is made between two types of offender needs: criminogenic and noncriminogenic. Criminogenic needs are dynamic risk factors that are directly linked to criminal behavior and are changeable with interventions. The need principle states that programs should target crime producing needs, such as anti-social peer associations, attitudes, behaviors, family circumstances, substance abuse, education/employment, leisure and other factors that are highly correlated with criminal conduct. Furthermore programs and interventions need to ensure that the vast majority of their interventions are focused on these factors. In terms of offender assessment, the need principle requires the assessment of criminogenic needs/dynamic risk factors and is used to formulate a case plan.

Finally, we have the responsivity principle or the “How”. It is the way in which programs should target risk and need factors. This principle states that most effective programs are behavioral in nature. The essence of this principle is that treatment can be enhanced if the treatment intervention pays attention to personal factors that can facilitate learning. Offender treatment programs involve teaching offenders new behaviors and cognitions. Maximizing this learning experience requires attention not only to whether the offender is a visual learner or an auditory learner but a whole range of personal-cognitive-social factors.

The R-N-R principle goal of assessment is to provide the probation officer with a reliable identification of risk and criminogenic needs. The risk level indicates the likelihood the offender will engage in future crime. The criminogenic needs, “if unaddressed, tend to increase the risk that the individual will commit criminal acts.” Responsivity looks at strengths and leaning styles. Treatment should then be tailored to these factors, as they have the potential to facilitate or hinder treatment.

When offender treatment programs put all three principles into action then the effectiveness of correctional treatment can be quite significant, in the range of 35% when delivered in a community setting.



[Click here for additional information about the Risk-Need-Responsivity model.](#)



# Linking Together a Chain of Care

## The Pennsylvania Model for Youth Suicide Prevention

*with a special emphasis on integrating primary and behavioral health care*

**September 21, 2011**

The Central Hotel and Conference Center, Best Western Premier  
800 East Park Drive  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111

*Sponsored by*

*The Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention in Primary Care Grant Project  
The Pennsylvania Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative Advisory Committee  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Office of Regional Programming*

***[Click here to download more information](#)***

# JDCAP Conference Announcement

The Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania (JDCAP) is extending an open invitation to all juvenile justice professionals to join us at our Annual Conference Oct 5-7, 2011 at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

This year our Conference Theme is

## *New Generation/New Solutions*

There will be a variety of training sessions available designed to address the issues associated with many of the issues facing our juvenile justice folks in the field. Additionally, we are holding separate breakout sessions designed specifically for supervisors and managers.

For details visit the [JDCAP Website](http://www.jdcap.org)

**JDCAP** Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania  
 1700 North Meridian • Harrisburg, PA 17110 • PHONE: 717.632.2121 • FAX: 717.632.2124 • WWW.JDCAP.ORG

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
 JDCAP 2011 Annual Conference  
 New Generation/New Solutions  
 October 5-7 The Nittany Lion Inn, State College PA

Facility/Agency Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Regiment (PLEASE PRINT or TYPE) \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_

*(If you have 5 or more registrants, please use a separate registration form or attach an additional page)*  
 Online registration are now being accepted on the JDCAP website at [www.jdcap.org](http://www.jdcap.org). Click on JDCAP Annual Conference under Announcements for more details.

**Registration Fees:** Conference registration includes plenary sessions, workshop sessions, luncheon, breakfast, movies (Wednesday), continental breakfast, breakfast, workshop materials, handouts, books, coffee and closing speaker are included on Friday.  
 Please make checks payable to JDCAP.

Early Bird Before Sept 1	2011 Fall Conference	
JDCAP Members Only	JDCAP Members Only	Non Members Anytime
\$225.00	\$250.00	\$325.00
Wednesday Only: \$75.00	Members: \$100.00	Members: \$60.00
Thursday Only: \$150.00	Non-Members: \$150.00	Non-Members: \$65.00
	Friday Only: \$60.00	
	Business Only: \$55.00	

# The Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services

*Is pleased to announce the*

## Call for Presentations

*For the*

# 2012 PCCYFS Annual Spring Conference

## Lighting the Way to a Brighter Future

To be held April 18 - 19, 2012  
 at the Sheraton Harrisburg – Hershey Hotel

[Click here for more details.](#)

Proposals must be received no later than August 15, 2011

**2012 PCCYFS Annual Spring Conference**  
**Call for Presentations**  
**Lighting the Way to a Brighter Future**

The Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services (PCCYFS) is pleased to announce the Call for Presentations for the Annual Spring Conference, to be held April 18-19, 2012, at the Sheraton Harrisburg – Hershey Hotel. Conference registration is now open to all professionals in the field of child welfare. Presentations are being sought in a variety of areas including:

**Topic Areas:** Child Welfare, Child Abuse, Child Neglect, Child Abuse Prevention, Child Abuse Investigation, Child Abuse Response, Child Abuse Treatment, Child Abuse Services, Child Abuse Prevention, Child Abuse Investigation, Child Abuse Response, Child Abuse Treatment, Child Abuse Services, Child Abuse Prevention, Child Abuse Investigation, Child Abuse Response, Child Abuse Treatment, Child Abuse Services.

**Presentations should be submitted to:** PCCYFS, 100 North 2nd Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102. Phone: 717.632.2121. Fax: 717.632.2124. Email: [info@pccyfs.org](mailto:info@pccyfs.org)

**Submission Deadline:** August 15, 2011

**Presentations should be submitted to:** PCCYFS, 100 North 2nd Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102. Phone: 717.632.2121. Fax: 717.632.2124. Email: [info@pccyfs.org](mailto:info@pccyfs.org)

**Submission Deadline:** August 15, 2011

## ***Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:***

For further details any of the staff development opportunities for the remainder of 2011 please visit the JCJC website or click on this link: [JCJC Staff Development](#)



***We also invite you to check out some links to other trainings around the state.***

*The following trainings and their links are not sponsored by JCJC.*

### **[Stress In Adolescence](#)**

September 9, 2011

### **[Mental Health Issues in Adolescence](#)**

October 21st 2011

### **[Dauphin County FGC Advanced Skills Training](#)**

[September 28-29, 2011](#)

### **[STRESSLESS](#)**

December 2nd 2011

## ***ARC STUDENT LANDSCAPING PROGRAM***

Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, Inc. joined with Dauphin County Juvenile Probation and the South Central Work Force Investment Board to create a landscaping education/work experience program for students in the Neighborhood Reporting Center (Dauphin County's Evening Reporting Center). The students learned skills related to work place safety, customer service, landscape design, landscape maintenance, selection of trees, shrubs, plants and flowers, selection of pesticides and teamwork. Through the spring and until the end of the school year, the students worked on Saturdays. Once the school year ended the students worked six days a week.

The students who participated in this program were paid an hourly wage for working during the day, and then attended the evening reporting center program at the end of the work day. Students were required to pay restitution, fines and costs from their earnings.



Pictured above: ARC students and staff with Dauphin County Commissioners, Probation Staff and the South Central Work Force Investment Board

## McKean County Juvenile Court celebrates 20 years of Boondocs Program

On August 5, 2011, at the University of Pittsburgh Campus at Bradford, McKean County Juvenile Court celebrated 20 years of the Boondocs Program. During that celebration, Mike Dodge, Assistant Director of Juvenile Probation and Summer Boondocs Director, recognized 14 local delinquent and dependent youth who just completed the summer work portion of the program. During the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ceremony, the following people spoke about the history of Boondocs and the value of the program for the local youth, families and community members: The Honorable Judge John Pavlock; President Judge; Mark Caldwell (retired, past Director of Juvenile Probation); The Honorable Judge John Cleland, Senior Judge; Teresa Wilcox, Director of Juvenile Probation; Mike Dodge, Director of Summer Boondocs (2002-2011); and Seth Bloomquist, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Consultant and Past Director of Boondocs (1991-2001).



Photo courtesy of The Bradford Era - Fran De Lancey

From left, McKean County Senior Judge John Cleland; Mark Caldwell, retired; Mike Dodge, director of the Summer Boondocs; Howard Gustafson, technical advisor for Boondocs; Seth Bloomquist, past director of Boondocs; and McKean County President Judge John Pavlock, were on hand to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Boondocs program at a luncheon at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford Friday.

The Boondocs program, over the last 20 years, has a proven track record of teaching our local youth life skills in a community setting and as such has helped keep recidivism rates and placement costs down in McKean County. The philosophy of the Boondocs Program over the last 20 years is as follows: "We cannot reform children. We can coerce compliance, but we cannot compel change. At best, we can only create an environment in which children choose to reform themselves." The fundamental experience of Boondocs matches a child in need with a caring responsible adult who teaches the youth about the power of teamwork, personality differences, work ethics, and provides the youth with self-

esteem skills that may keep them from re-entering the court system by transitioning into a productive member of our society in the future.



In 1991, the first Boondocs crew completed a Fitness Trail project in Kane. This crew consisted of 6 juveniles and was supervised by Deana Lindsay, who later was hired as a Juvenile Probation Officer. The second year of Boondocs consisted of two projects (a fitness trail and stream bank improvement, both in Smethport), with 32 juvenile participants, supervised by Seth Bloomquist, then a Juvenile Probation Officer. Seth continued to supervise the Boondocs program until 2001 when he began working for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. After the second year, and still today, the projects were reduced to only stream bank stabilization projects with 14 male delinquent/dependant juveniles ages 14-18. A vast majority of the early days of Boondocs consisted of stream bank stabilization projects along the stream at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. Since then, stream bank stabilization projects have been completed in Hazel Hurst, Skinner Creek in Port Allegany and Marvin Creek in Smethport, with touch up work done on the devices in Bradford when necessary. Additionally, other smaller stream bank projects have been completed during the summers in other smaller streams around the county. To date, over 280 juveniles have participated in Boondocs, with over 6 miles of rebar, 2 million tons of rock and 1,000 logs having been used in the projects. Additionally over 67,000 hours of community service have been completed by the area youth and over \$300,000 has been earned by the youth over the 20 years. The monies earned by the youth have always gone towards paying off restitution, costs, and fines owed by the youth.



Grants, awards and partnerships with North Central Workforce Investment Board, Pa Career link, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, McKean County Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, local foundations, local school districts, local businesses and the McKean County Department of Human Services over the last 20 years have provided the monies necessary to provide the materials and pay the youth each year.

Boondocs isn't just an 8 week summer work experience program. The Boondocs program is a year long program in which the youth and the parents commit to participating in other components of the program which consist of bi-weekly parenting classes and remedial education classes during the school year as well as drug and alcohol classes. The goals of the entire Boondocs Program, that

both the parents and youth work on with many different staff are: learning to work on changing passive and destructive behaviors to active, constructive and cooperative behaviors; learning skills in communication, goal setting, problem solving, accepting responsibility and setting limits; exposing parents to different ways to positively influence their child and ways to take an active role in their child's life; and finally, the youth experience the feeling of being successful in employment and in school as well as develop an appreciation for the value of hard work and education. The Boondocs program has been recognized by several organizations over the last 20 years and staff from the Boondocs program have assisted other counties in developing similar programs for their at-risk dependant and delinquent youth.

For more information on the Boondocs Program, please contact Teresa Wilcox, Director of Juvenile Probation, at [tawilcox@mckeancountypa.org](mailto:tawilcox@mckeancountypa.org).



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.

Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research, Shippensburg University  
1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299.

Stephen Bishop - Editor, Chris Heberlig - Graphic Design & Layout.

To subscribe to the JCJC newsletter, Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice, please send your request to [jjcnews@ship.edu](mailto:jjcnews@ship.edu) to be added to the distribution list. You will receive an e-mail alert each month when the latest edition is available.

