

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Corbett, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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Pennsylvania's Crime Victims' Rights Week Rally - April 23, 2012

The 20th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Rally was held in Harrisburg at the Capitol Rotunda on Monday, April 23, 2012. The rally was sponsored by the Crime Victims Alliance of Pennsylvania (CVAP). This year's rally offered several highlights, including the participation of youth from Rallying Youth Organizers Together Against Rape (RYOT*). More than fifty youth attended the rally alongside victim advocates and other justice professionals. After the Victim's Rights Rally, the youth participated in an event that focused on understanding the impact of crime.



Speakers for the Rally included: Jennifer Boyle, Cumberland County District Attorney's Office Victim Services Division and Chair of the Rally Committee; The Honorable Carol Lavery, Victim Advocate for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Honorable Shawn Wagner, Adams County District Attorney; Valerie Bender, Victim Services Consultant; and several other tremendous speakers, poets and singers from RYOT. Pennsylvania's Victim Advocate, Carol Lavery presented David Bever, Co-Chair of the Crime Victims Alliance of Pennsylvania with the signed original Victims Rights Week Proclamation signed by Governor Tom Corbett.

Speakers for the event outlined what the needs of victims are in the aftermath of a crime. They also addressed what resources are needed to maintain the level of services and the provision of procedural rights, with particular attention focused on the rights and services of victims of juvenile offenders (VOJO). It was noted that the victim's services community is facing many fiscal challenges, but the advocates and staff are committed and persistent in providing the very best services to all crime victims.

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Luzerne, Wyoming, & Cumberland County Juvenile Probation Departments accompanied numerous youth to the rally. These youth also attended a special post-rally program that was planned by the Office of the Victim Advocate. The event was open to juveniles on probation and staff working with them, as well as victim assistance staff who work with the probation departments.

Youth from Alternative Rehabilitative Communities (ARC) and Loysville Youth Development Center provided assistance in setting up and tearing down the various tables and displays where numerous victim advocacy groups provided information about the services they offer through their individual programs. Many of the youth attending the rally took advantage of expanding their understanding of victimization by reading pamphlets and or stories written by crime victims, which were on display throughout the rotunda. Several projects made by victims and survivors of crime were displayed throughout the capital. The following was an example of what was present:

Silent Witness Project

The goal of the Silent Witness Project is to eliminate domestic violence murders in the United States. The exhibit began in Minnesota in 1990. The 26 original free-standing, life-sized, red, wooden figures displayed the names of women who have been killed by a husband, partner or acquaintance. The 27th figure represents the woman whose murders were mistakenly reported

as accidental or were left unsolved. The 27 original red figures were named the Silent Witness. Today all fifty states have Silent Witnesses. This project was provided by the Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland & Perry Counties and the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg.

Members of the Crime Victims Alliance of Pennsylvania (CVAP *) are grateful for the support of both those who helped with and those who attended the first rally



sponsored by this newly formed organization.

* The goal of RYOT is to train youth to reach out to all victims as well as educate the public to end sexual violence and all forms of abuse in its entirety.

* CVAP was established in 2011 to address unmet needs regarding crime victim issues in the Commonwealth. Contact CVAP: cvap2011@comcast.net, 570-994-5456.

PA Superior Court Rules that Juvenile Act Prohibits Use of County Jail.

On April 9, 2012, the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, in the case of [*IN RE: J.M., A JUVENILE*](#), ruled on whether a juvenile court may impose a term of incarceration on a person over the age of 18, but under the age of 21 years, for a violation of probation that was imposed as part of the disposition in a delinquency adjudication in juvenile court.

On appeal from a May 31, 2011 Clearfield County dispositional order sentencing an 18 year old juvenile probation client to 10 days to one-year in county jail (the

order was stayed anticipating an appeal), the three-judge Superior Court panel ruled that a juvenile court cannot impose such a sentence, agreeing with J.M.'s contention that the Juvenile Act prohibits the detention of children in adult facilities and, that because he falls under the definition of a child pursuant to the Juvenile Act, the juvenile court erred by ordering his incarceration.

The Superior Court specifically examined three sections of the Juvenile Act in making its determination:

1. § 6352 (a) does not include placement in an adult correctional facility among the enumerated options available to a juvenile court following an adjudication of delinquency, and §6352(b) specifically prohibits the commitment of a child to an adult penal institution.
2. § 6327 (a) enumerates the acceptable places for detention of a delinquent child, and further specifically provides that “under no circumstances shall a child be detained in any facility with adults.”
3. § 6302 Definition of Child (2) – an individual who is under the age of 21 years who committed an act of delinquency before reaching the age of 18 years. J.M. meets the definition of a child under the Juvenile Act.

Training Held on Standardized Case Plan

On May 9, 2012 a webinar training event was held to introduce the newly completed standardized case plan for juvenile delinquency cases. Over the past two years, the Standardized Case Plan Committee, a sub-group of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers’ Assessment/Case Plan Committee, has worked to design the format of this document. Case plan utilization, reflective of information obtained through risk assessment using the Youth Level of Service (YLS) risk/needs instrument, is considered essential to evidence-based probation practice, and a key component of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

The case plan has been designed in an effort to provide a true working document for probation officers, their caseloads and families. Particular attention has been given to assure that the key elements of Balanced & Restorative Justice are addressed in a structured and consistent manner, including targeted interventions and activities based on the identified risks, needs and strengths of the youth. Youth and family involvement in the creation of the case plan is deemed critical. Eventually, case plans will serve as a source of key data in measuring system outcomes, including effectiveness of intervention strategies. The current version of the case plan is imbedded in the JCMS, and is integrated with the YLS assessment results, which automatically populate portions of the case plan, along with other case-specific demographics from the youth’s data file.

Forty-four counties and approximately 200 individuals participated in one of two webinar sessions held on the training date. The training included an overview of the case plan development process, a review of the importance and impact of case planning, the basic concepts involved with developing SMART goals, and the importance of, and connection to, Balanced & Restorative Justice with risk/need assessment and case plan activities. Participants were able to review an actual case plan, as each of the main components was reviewed. Finally, a demonstration of how the case plan is developed through JCMS was provided. Trainers for this event included Beth Fritz, Lehigh County Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, and Tom Green, Rick Steele, and Steve Varner of the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission.

The training session was recorded, and is available for playback at the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission website (www.JCJC.state.pa.us).

Questions regarding the utilization of the standardized case plan should be directed to Beth Fritz (elizabethfritz@lehighcounty.org) or Rick Steele (ricsteele@pa.gov).

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



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.

Part 9 of a series: *“JJSES Building Blocks”*

Structured Decision-Making

As youth navigate through Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system, numerous points along a continuum of activities require key decisions by system professionals. These decisions determine not only how a case will be processed, but ultimately how the youth, their family, victims and the community will be impacted and engaged in the restorative practice. Decisions are necessary at all stages of the process and include: whether or not to divert a case and at what point; whether to detain a youth pending further processing; whether to handle an allegation through informal or formal means; how to determine appropriate services to be incorporated into a disposition; whether placement out of the home is necessary and, if so, into what type of service; when to violate probation; when to appropriately close a case; and many other examples.

A cornerstone of the juvenile justice system is the concept of fundamental fairness. In a most basic sense, this assures that all youth are treated in the same manner under similar circumstances. In order for this to occur, key juvenile justice decisions points and decisions must be defensible against the fundamental fairness concept.

The use of structured decision-making tools in the juvenile justice system has increased dramatically over the past number of years. Structured decision-making tools provide a protocol and framework to assist system professionals in making consistent, effective, and fundamentally fair decisions. Greater consistency and appropriateness can be attained when a structured assessment process guides decision-making over specific criteria for every worker in every case.

Structured decision making tools and processes provide the use of best evidence and research (the basis of most decision-making tools) with the professional judgment of staff in order to enhance key decisions. Examples of these tools include everything from simple decision making “trees” to more involved and complex forms of screening and assessment tools. In Pennsylvania, many jurisdictions are using tools such as: detention risk assessment instruments to determine the necessity of pre-adjudicatory detention; the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2) to identify potential mental health and substance abuse needs; and the Youth Level of Service/ Case Management Inventory (YLS) to determine risk of recidivating and identify criminogenic factors for targeted intervention services. The YLS is also used in some jurisdictions to assist with decisions regarding diversion and level of supervision.

Structured decision-making tools provide for consistent, evidence-based, objective and fair decisions at any of a number of critical junctures of the juvenile justice system. Their inclusion as part of the systemic implementation of evidence-based practices and procedures in a local jurisdiction will prove to be essential to the long term success of these efforts.

Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

As the CJJT&R's Training Program continues to evolve, please make note of a few changes and enhancements that are on the horizon.



- A “Training by Request” feature is being added to the JCJC Events Management System (JEMS). This feature will provide information on topics and trainers, from the CJJT&R catalog of trainers and programs, to counties who wish to either host in-house training, or in collaboration with neighboring counties. Hosting training locally, that most or all of your staff would benefit from, avoids costly travel expenses to attend training at the centralized sites that CJJT&R uses.
- In addition, screens that allow for the recording of both individual and departmental training activities are being added to JEMS. Users will be able to enter information related to attendance, including expenses, at in-house training programs, as well as outside programs that are not hosted by CJJT&R – all CJJT&R training programs that are attended will be automatically imported. This will create individualized “training transcripts”, and also generate departmental Training Rosters and Expenditures Reports, that can be submitted annually to satisfy reporting related the JCJC annual training requirements. This feature is also in the testing phase and is due to be released this summer.
- There are two upcoming workshops on the Staff Development Schedule during the summer months. **On July 25-26 Bruce Schaffer** will lead “**Heroin and other Narcotic Drugs**” at the **Days Inn Penn State**. This program was suggested by participants because of the resurgence in our clients’ use of Heroin and other opiate drugs. **On August 15-16 Barb Ulmer** will teach “**Solutions oriented, Strength-based Interventions**” at the Child Welfare Resource Center (formerly the Child Welfare Training Center) near Mechanicsburg. This workshop is an opportunity to learn skills that nicely complement and blend with Motivational Interviewing techniques.
- Please remember, workshops are continually added to the Staff Development Schedule. Several fall workshops are already open for registration within JEMS. Be sure to check the JCJC website regularly over the next few months for updates to the schedule.
- Finally, CJJT&R-sponsored Harrisburg-area training programs will be hosted at the Child Welfare Resource Center (formerly the Child Welfare Training Program). The Holiday Inn, New Cumberland is the recommended hotel to use when lodging is required. All of the information on workshops and locations can be reviewed at www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us

We invite you to consider some upcoming trainings around the state.

The following trainings and their links are sponsored by the indicated agency.

June		August		October	
4-8	Residential Treatment Curriculum Certification (Westmoreland County Juvenile Court)	8/15	Solution-Oriented/Strength-Based Interventions	10/17	Juvenile Sex Offenders: What Do We Really Know and, Can They Really Ever Go Home?
17-20	PAPPC/MASCA Annual Training Institute (PAPPC)	8/27	Juvenile Justice Academy: Orientation For The New Professional Session I	10/18	Motivational Interviewing: Skills Every Juvenile Probation Officer Should Know
22	Stress Less (Westmoreland County Juvenile Court)	September		10/31	Understanding Economic and Cultural Differences
July		9/13	Understanding Adolescent Substance Abuse Regression, Resumption and Relapse		
7/25	Heroin and other Narcotic Drug Abuse	9/24	Juvenile Justice Academy: Orientation For The New Professional Session II		

Hosting a training you would like to see listed here? E-mail us the details and we'll list it in our next issue.



Act 42 of 2012 **Amends Duties and Powers of the JCJC**

HB 1546 (3167) was signed into law by Governor Corbett as Act 42 of 2012 on May 17, 2012 and becomes effective July 16, 2012. HB 1546 was introduced by Rep. Tarah Toohil (R-Luzerne) on May 12, 2011 and amends the duties and powers of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission to include the authority to:

Collect and analyze data to identify trends and to determine the effectiveness of programs and practices to ensure the reasonable and efficient administration of the juvenile court system; make recommendations concerning evidence-based programs and practices to judges, the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and other appropriate entities; and post related information on the commission's publicly accessible Internet website.

Act 56 of 2012 Amends Juvenile Act To Provide for Use of Restraints on Children During Court Proceedings.

SB 817 (1830) was signed into law by Governor Corbett as Act 56 of 2012 on May 25, 2012, provides for use of restraints on children during court proceedings. and becomes effective July 24, 2012. SB 817(835) was introduced by Sen. Lisa Baker (R-Luzerne) on March 11, 2011 and creates a new § 6336.2 as follows:

§ 6336.2. Use of restraints on children during court proceedings.

- A. Use of restraints. Except as provided for in subsection (B), restraints such as handcuffs, chains, shackles, irons or straitjackets shall be removed prior to the commencement of a court proceeding.
- B. Exception. Restraints may be used during a court proceeding if the court determines on the record, after providing the child with an opportunity to be heard, that they are necessary:
 - 1. to prevent physical harm to the child or another person;
 - 2. to prevent disruptive courtroom behavior, evidenced by a history of behavior that created potentially harmful situations or presented substantial risk of physical harm; or
 - 3. to prevent the child, evidenced by an escape history or other relevant factors, from fleeing the courtroom.

The provisions of Act 56 are consistent with the provisions of Pa.R.J.C.P. 139 (relating to the use of restraints on the juvenile), which were adopted by the Supreme Court on April 26, 2011, and which have been in effect since June 1, 2011.

JCJC Graduate Education Program Class of 2012

Congratulations to the Class of 2012 of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University! Commencement ceremonies were held at Shippensburg University's H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center on Friday, May 4, 2012. Prior to commencement exercises, the JCJC graduates were recognized with a reception, hosted at the Shippensburg University Foundation Conference Center. In attendance at the reception were several members of the JCJC, staff of the JCJC and the CJJT&R, several university administrators, faculty of the Criminal Justice Department, as well as family and friends of the graduates.



Seated: DaNatia Baker (Dauphin County); Candice Rinaldi (Adelphoi Village); Rebecca Arnold (Dauphin County); and Jenna Eaton (Franklin County).

2nd row: Holly Sheaffer (Lehigh County Juvenile Detention); Jonathan Kuykendall (Lehigh County); Curtis Stockdale (Dauphin County); Matthew Foster (Dauphin County); Tanika Turner (Philadelphia County); Margarita Darden (Lancaster County).

Back row: Hector Blanco (Dauphin County); Rufus Tolbert (Lancaster County); Joseph Gifford (Dauphin County); John Bickford (McKean County); Jamal Shellmon (Philadelphia County); and LaContiss Briscoe (York County).



Matthew Foster was named the Graduate Student of the Year. He will receive the Dr. Anthony F. Ceddia Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Juvenile Justice at the Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice on November 8, 2012.

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



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

present

Working Together:

THE KEYSTONE FOR SUCCESS

June 17-20, 2012

FOCUS:

Current initiatives in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania focused on advancing effective and fundamentally fair justice system policies and practices.

Governor Tom Corbett recently announced a Justice Reinvestment Initiative that includes a panel of stakeholders that will study ways to increase public safety in Pennsylvania and reduce spending on corrections. Contributing to the project is the Council of State Governments (CGS) Justice Center, the Pew Center on the States and the U.S. Department of Justice. The Justice Reinvestment Initiative is a comprehensive, research-based approach that identifies factors driving the growth and costs in prison and jail populations. The data-driven model is designed to:

- Develop and implement policy options to control and lower the costs of the state's corrections system;
- Improve offender accountability;
- Reinvest a portion of the savings into the justice system - including employing evidence-based practices at every stage of the juvenile justice process - to further reduce corrections spending;
- Reinvest a portion of the savings into the community to prevent crime;
- Measuring the impact of policy changes to strive to continuously improve the quality of decisions, services and programs.

INVITED SPEAKER:

Pennsylvania
Governor's Office

FEATURED SPEAKERS:



Executive Director of the
Pennsylvania Commission
on Crime and Delinquency,
Linda Rosenberg



Policy Analyst for the Justice
Reinvestment Project,
Marc Pelka



Chairman of PA Board of
Probation and Parole,
Michael Potteiger



Pennsylvania Secretary of
Department of Corrections,
John E. Wetzel



Executive Director, Juvenile
Court Judges' Commission
James Anderson



PA Department of Drug
and Alcohol Programs,
Gary Tennis

AGENDA:

Sunday

- Evening Reception

Monday

- Opening Session
- Workshops

Tuesday

- Workshops

Wednesday

- Closing Session



Register online at www.papppc.org

PAPPC/MASCA 2012 Joint Conference and Training Institute

June 17-20, 2012, at Hershey Lodge, Hershey PA.



----- Register only one person per form. Please copy if more forms are needed. -----

Name _____ Position _____
Agency _____
Mailing Address _____
County _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (____) _____ Email Address _____

Training Institute Registration

Full Conference Registration	\$ 125.00 (includes Lunch Monday and Tuesday)	\$ _____
Daily Registration Monday	\$ 79.00 (includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch Monday)	\$ _____
Daily Registration Tuesday	\$ 79.00 (includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch Tuesday)	\$ _____
Daily Registration Wednesday	\$ 46.00 (includes Continental Breakfast)	\$ _____
	Total Registration	\$ _____

Additional daily meal tickets will be available at the conference registration desk.

Checks are to be made payable to:.....PAPPC/MASCA 2012

Mail your completed formPAPPC

along with your check or voucher to:

**c/o Kris Sayers
P.O. Box 5553
Harrisburg, PA 17100-5553**

Federal Tax ID # 251231855

Commonwealth S.A.P. Vendor # 117086

Questions:

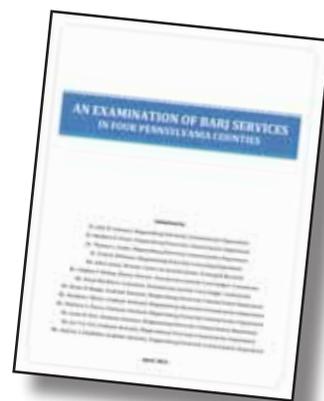
Registration: Kris Sayers 717-975-4981 krsayers@state.pa.us
Exhibitor Information: Cory Seymour 814-693-3190 ext. 315 cseymour@blairco.org
General questions: Stephen Bishop 717-477-1294 spbish@ship.edu

PLEASE NOTE:

The hotel registration and payment are separate from the conference registration; payment for accommodations is to be made directly to the hotel.
All attendees are required to stay at the Hershey Lodge during their attendance at the conference.

AN EXAMINATION OF BARJ SERVICES IN FOUR PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES*

Executive Summary



This executive summary reports on the findings from an evaluative study on Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) practices in the state of Pennsylvania. The present study addressed three research questions:

1. Who are the at-risk youths that receive BARJ services in Pennsylvania?
2. What are the actual BARJ services that these at-risk youths received?
3. How effective are BARJ services in mediating the effects of demographic, ecological risks, prior criminal history, and compliance with court supervision on recidivism?

Sample

To answer these questions, a random sample of 400 at-risk youths was selected from four counties that appeared to be providing reliable BARJ services in Pennsylvania – 100 youths from each of the following four counties: Allegheny, Cumberland, Lancaster, and Mercer. Cases included juveniles who had a disposition of an informal adjustment, a consent decree, probation, or placement, and each juvenile must have received at least four months of services.

Measures

The outcome measures were recidivism at six months and at twenty-four months, and severity of recidivism at six and at twenty-four months. These dependent variables provided an assessment to determine the effects of BARJ services that were immediate or short-term, as well as those that were long-term. These outcomes measures were studied in relationship to a multitude of factors that have been found in prior literature to have an effect on juvenile delinquency. These independent variables included demographic characteristics (gender, race, ethnicity), ecological risk factors (psychological, behavioral, family, academic, peer group, and community

risk factors), prior history of delinquency (age at initial referral, prior juvenile court referrals, prior adjudications, and prior placements), lead charge characteristics (type of offense, grade of offense, and offense gravity score), recursive risk factors (violation of probation and severity of offending while receiving BARJ services), and BARJ services (length of services, BARJ programs, competency development services, and BARJ outcomes).

Analysis

In addressing the first research question – Who are the at-risk youth that receive BARJ services? – a descriptive analysis of the study sample was conducted. The juveniles that received BARJ services were predominantly male (74%), white (68%), non-Hispanic (93%), and middle/upper income (62%). This was an atypical sample of what would be expected for juvenile delinquents in Pennsylvania. For instance, whites comprised 56.7% of all juvenile dispositions in Pennsylvania for 2007, while in the study whites comprised 68.4% of the sample (See JCJC Dispositional Report, 2008). In regard to ecological risks, the study sample overall exhibited less than expected psychological, behavioral, family, academic, peer group, and community risks. Juveniles in the study typically did not have extensive delinquent histories, for instance, approximately 75% of the subjects had no prior referrals. In terms of seriousness of the lead charge over 76% of the sample was charged with only misdemeanor-level offenses. The most common dispositions were consent decrees, probation, and informal adjustments. The vast majority of the subjects did not violate probation (91%) or were rearrested (82%) while under court supervision. The recidivism rate for the sample was low, with over 75% of the juveniles remaining crime free after twenty-four months.

The second research question focused on identifying the BARJ services that at-risk youth received. We found that many BARJ programs were not implemented in

a consistent manner, while others were. For example, only 5.8% of the youth successfully completed youth aid panels, 8.8% completed victim offender mediation, but 81.2% completed community service. The inconsistency in provision of services became more evident in our review of competency development programs. For example, less than half of the subjects (46.5%) successfully completed a pro-social skills program, while only 18.8% of the sample completed a moral reasoning skills program. This lack of consistency made it difficult to discern significant relationships that may actually exist between these programs and recidivism.

The third question involved an examination of BARJ programs' ability to reduce the risk of reoffending. Logistic regression analysis was conducted on whether or not the youth recidivated following court supervision and the reception of BARJ services. Two separate models were estimated – one for occurrence of re-arrest within six months and one for occurrence of re-arrest at twenty four months. At six months, factors that were found to have a significant impact on recidivism included behavioral risk factors, violation of probation while receiving BARJ services, and the BARJ services of pro-social and moral reasoning skills. Both behavioral risk factors and violating probation while under supervision significantly increased the odds of recidivism within six months, while receiving the BARJ services of pro-social and moral reasoning skills significantly decreased the odds of recidivism. These factors only had short-term effects on the sample, in that, none of these variables had a significant effect on recidivism at twenty-four months.

Further regression analysis (OLS) was conducted on recidivism at both six and twenty-four months, but this analysis focused on the seriousness of the offense as measured through the offense gravity score for the re-arrest offense. At six months, behavioral risk factors, age at initial referral, and violation of probation all were significantly related to the seriousness of the re-arrest offense. Juveniles who displayed behavioral risks, were older, and violated probation while under court supervision were more likely to commit a more serious offense within six months. Pro-social and moral reasoning skills approached statistical significance, indicating that these BARJ services reduced the severity of a new offense within six months of release from court supervision. At twenty-four months, only males, non-whites, and juveniles who violated probation while under court supervision were more likely to be rearrested for a more serious offense.

Additional analysis was conducted that compared juveniles who recidivated after receiving BARJ services to juveniles who did not recidivate. The purpose of this analysis was to determine if these two groups significantly differed from each other based on demographic factors, ecological risks, prior delinquency, seriousness of offending, and recursive risks. The results found that recidivists were more likely to be African-American, have greater behavioral and community risks, have more prior referrals and adjudications, have violated probation while under court supervision, and had been rearrested for an offense with a higher offense gravity score. Moreover, additional comparisons on BARJ services indicate that recidivists received significantly longer services and more services. In terms of competency development services, a greater percentage of recidivists completed pro-social, moral reasoning, academic, and other treatment programs. These results indicate that higher risk factors were embedded in the treatment programs that were offered. Namely, the recidivists were more at risk to committing crime and as a result received more services.

Conclusions

Several conclusions can be drawn from this study:

- Analysis of BARJ interventions controlling for risk factors indicate that pro-social skills and moral reasoning development programs effectively reduce the odds of re-arrest in the short-term.
- BARJ practices appear to be effective in reducing offending among juveniles with lower demographic and ecological risk factors. Although recidivists have a significantly greater offense gravity score, the difference in seriousness of offending is negligible between recidivists and non-recidivists.
- Restorative practices are not being implemented in a consistent manner. There is a definite need to identify and consistently implement an effective set of BARJ practices.
- Pro-social and moral reasoning skills competency development programs should be implemented in a more global manner.



National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

OJP Releases 2012 Program Plan

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) recently posted its [Program Plan](#) for 2012, a searchable online document of current funding opportunities and new initiatives. The plan features information for each of the component offices within OJP regarding both competitive and noncompetitive grants, training and technical assistance, research, and other resources available to the justice community. Also, the plan provides a [Glossary](#) of acronyms and definitions, answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#), and an alphabetized [Index](#) of the programs found in the Plan.

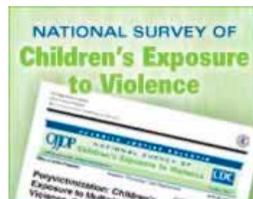


Resources:

For more information, view the program plan online at www.ojp.gov/ProgramPlan/index.htm

OJJDP Bulletin Discusses Authorities' Knowledge of Victimization

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released, "[Child and Youth Victimization Known to Police, School, and Medical Authorities.](#)"



This bulletin presents results from the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence (NatSCEV) regarding past-year victimizations that were known to the police, teachers and other school personnel, and doctors and other medical personnel. This bulletin looks first at what and how much authorities know about child victimization and what the implications of the study findings are for increasing disclosure of child victimizations and for effective prevention and treatment. Among the survey's primary findings: in general, school officials knew about victimization episodes considerably more often (42 percent) than police (13 percent) or medical personnel (2 percent).

Resources:

"Child and Youth Victimization Known to Police, School, and Medical Authorities" (NCJ 235394) is available online at <http://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/235394.pdf>.

SAMHSA Issues Teen Court Funding Opportunity

The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment is [accepting applications](#) for FY 2012 Teen Court Program grants. This program provides treatment and related recovery support services to youth who are involved in a

teen court program and have substance abuse and/or co-occurring treatment needs. The program helps participating youth reduce their substance use and criminal activity, improve their health and quality of life, and increase their productivity.

Applications are due by May 30, 2012.

Resources:

For more information, including eligibility criteria and how to apply, visit www.samhsa.gov/grants/2012/ti_12_004.aspx

To learn more about SAMHSA, go to www.samhsa.gov

National Gang Center Releases Newsletter on Gang Reduction

The National Gang Center has released the inaugural issue of its quarterly "[NGC Newsletter](#)." The issue features articles on the challenges to schools' anti-gang policies and gang activity amid the falling crime rate, among other topics. The newsletter aims to inform practitioners, researchers, law enforcement, and others with a shared interest in gangs about current trends, significant court decisions, trainings, and strategies being used in communities to address gangs. The National Gang Center is supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Resources:

Read the newsletter online at www.nationalgangcenter.gov/Content/Newsletters/NGC-Newsletter-2012-Spring.pdf.

For more information about the National Gang Center, go to www.nationalgangcenter.gov.

OJJDP Updates Statistical Briefing Book

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has updated its [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (SBB) to include the latest data on FBI arrests and victims of domestic violence, a redesigned [Compendium of National Juvenile Justice Data Sets](#), and new [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs) on [teen mothers](#), [juvenile educational characteristics](#), [child maltreatment victims](#), and [school crime victimization](#).

The SBB offers easy access to online information about juvenile crime and victimization and about youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Developed for OJJDP by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the SBB provides timely and reliable answers to questions OJJDP most frequently receives from media, policymakers, and the general public.

Resources:

To view the OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book, visit www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/.

Read updated FAQs at www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/faqs.html.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges To Hold Annual Conference

On July 15–18, 2012, in New Orleans, the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) will hold its 75th Annual Conference. The theme, “[Tomorrow’s Courts Today: Back to the Future in the Big Easy](#),” will offer sessions on the future of the court system and the use of technology.

Registration is available [online](#).

Resources:

For more information about the conference, go to www.ncjfcj.org/ncjfcj-75th-annual-conference.

To register, go to <http://store.ncjfcj.org/Core/Events/eventdetails.aspx?iKey=CACX1207LA&TemplateType=A>.

OJJDP Announces Funding Opportunity for Violence Prevention Research

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has announced the following funding opportunity:

[FY 2012 Community-Based Violence Prevention Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program](#). This project provides funding to support new and ongoing rigorous, scientific research and evaluation that has practical applications for communities seeking to prevent and reduce youth violence. The goals of this project are to increase and improve the research about the factors that may influence youth violence and youth violence prevention efforts, assess the effectiveness and cost efficiency of existing community-based violence prevention programs, and identify and

evaluate new or emerging community-based violence prevention models.

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. E.T., on June 28, 2012.

Resources:

To obtain further information about the above and other current OJJDP solicitations, including eligibility criteria, application deadlines, and frequently asked questions, visit www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingList.asp.

DOJ Releases Final PREA Rule for Adult, Juvenile Facilities

On May 17, 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) released a [final rule](#) to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement facilities, in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). The final rule sets national standards protecting inmates in adult prisons and jails, lockups, community confinement facilities, and juvenile facilities at the federal, state, and local levels.

Resources:

To download the final rule, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/programs/pdfs/prea_final_rule.pdf.

To download the Executive Summary, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/programs/pdfs/prea_executive_summary.pdf.

JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2015

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 2015 will begin classes in the Summer of 2013. **The deadline to apply is September 1, 2012.**

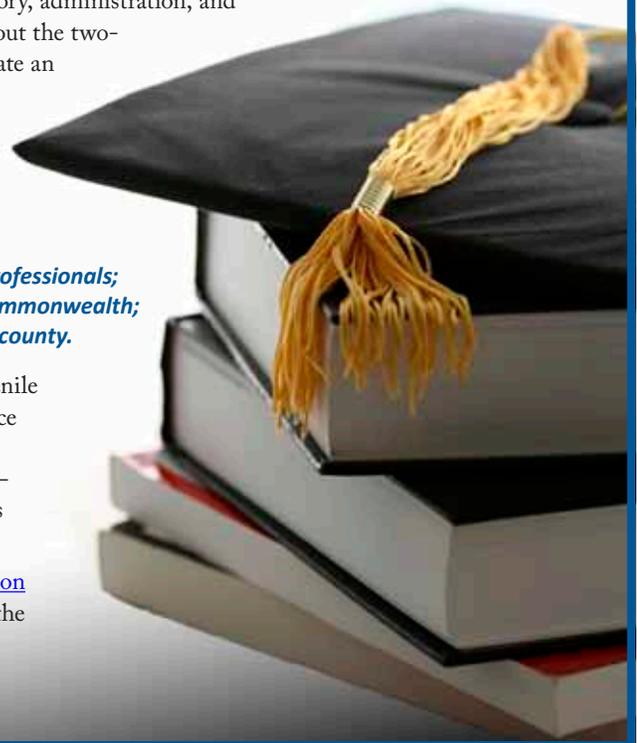
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the 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** (for students traveling more than 50 miles);
- **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. If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact [Stephen Bishop](#) at 717-477-1294.



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 jcjcnews@ship.edu to be added to the distribution list. You will receive an e-mail alert each month when the latest edition is available.

