

# PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
Tom Corbett, Governor



## Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 20, Number 11

November 2012



### 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

The 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, sponsored by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, was held November 7-9, 2012 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. This year, more than 1,000 individuals registered for the conference.

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

On Wednesday, November 7th, the JCJC, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, sponsored a training, "Juvenile Sex Offender Registration: What Judges and Masters Need to Know", in conjunction with the 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

Moderated by Jim Anderson, JCJC Executive Director, this training provided an opportunity for more than one hundred judges and masters to discuss the very significant impact on the processing of juvenile sex offense cases that is anticipated with the enactment of Act 111 of 2011, which becomes effective on December 20, 2012. Judges and masters were able to discuss implementation issues that are likely to arise within their local jurisdictions.

Various juvenile and family court judges, as well as representatives from the Governor's Office of General Counsel, the Pennsylvania State Police and the State Sexual Offenders Assessment Board, were featured in the comprehensive review of Act 111 and related Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure. Topics of discussion included: "Juvenile Offender" Classification, Notification, Registration and Quarterly Verification procedures; Recommended Supplemental Written Admission Colloquy for use in juvenile sex offense cases; Pennsylvania State Police Responsibilities and Policies; and "Sexually Violent Delinquent Children" committed for involuntary treatment under 42 Pa. C.S. Chapter 64.

#### ***Professional Caucuses***

The Conference began on November 7th, with an opportunity for participants to join with colleagues from their area of specialty within Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system in Professional Caucuses, and to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest. Caucuses were held in the following areas of specialty: Chief and Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officers; Juvenile Probation Supervisors; Juvenile Probation Officers; Victim Services; and Service Providers. A summary of issues discussed in each of these caucuses will appear in next month's newsletter.

#### ***INSIDE:***

- [2012 JCJC Award Winners](#)
- [Staff Development Opportunities](#)
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- [Westmoreland County Training](#)
- [Center For Juvenile Justice Reform Conference on At-Risk Children and Youth](#)
- [National Juvenile Justice Announcements](#)

#### ***Reminders:***

##### ***December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month***

- ***Designate a sober driver before celebrations begin.***
- ***Plan safe parties.***
- ***Be prepared to get everyone home safe.***

## **Juvenile Defender Training**

Over seventy juvenile defenders from across Pennsylvania attended the 2012 Conference on Juvenile Justice, and participated in a separate training track developed exclusively for them on Wednesday, November 7th. Presentations for juvenile defenders included: Overview of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI); SORNA Update; Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Pennsylvania and Defender's Roles in Supporting Reductions in Unnecessary Detention; Family Engagement Discussion Group; and Ethical Consideration Post M.W. and Strickland. A "Judges Roundtable" was also held on Thursday, November 8th, at which time juvenile court judges joined the defenders for lunch.

## **Youth Awards Program**

The 2012 Youth Awards Program was held on Wednesday evening, November 7th, and was attended by close to 600 people. Young people were recognized for being selected as winners in Poster, Creative Expression, and Outstanding Achievement award categories. Additionally, the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges presented two deserving youth with inaugural Juvenile Justice



Dr. Charles A. Williams III

Scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000.

This year's Youth Awards Speaker was Dr. Charles A. Williams III, also known as "Dr. Chuck". Dr. Chuck is an educational psychologist, and a member of the faculty at Drexel University, where he serves both as Assistant Clinical Professor in the School of Education and the Director of the Center for the Prevention of School-Aged Violence. His work focuses on mentoring, bullying, child welfare, and the achievement of minority and special needs youth.

Dr. Chuck, who is a former foster care youth who remained in care until aging out of the system, spoke about the hard work and perseverance required of him to successfully achieve his educational and life goals, including earning a Ph.D. He encouraged the youth in attendance to employ the same sense of determination to overcome life's obstacles and past mistakes to ultimately achieve success in life. Dr. Chuck imparted upon the youth one sacred tenet – "the way you start does not have to be the way you finish."

## **Conference Welcome and Keynote Presentation**

On Thursday morning, November 8th, Judge Arthur E. Grim, Chairman of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, gave the "Conference Welcome", and noted that with its unique combination of training, professional caucuses, awards programs, and Resource Day, Pennsylvania's annual juvenile justice conference is regarded as the premier state-level juvenile justice conference in the nation.

The Keynote Presentation was provided by Dr. James C. "Buddy" Howell, Managing Partner at the Comprehensive Strategy Group and

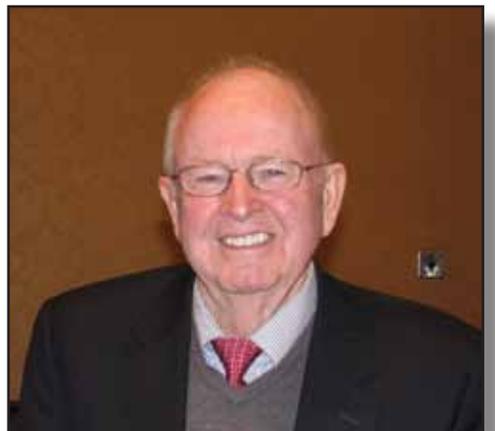


Judge Arthur E. Grim

a Senior Research Associate with the National Gang Center in Tallahassee, Florida.

Dr. Howell's presentation, "How to Use Research and Evidence-Based Programs to Lower the Age-Crime Curve", emphasized the need of juvenile justice systems to focus primarily on high-risk offenders, and to maximize the utilization of proven, effective programs to work with these offenders, and ultimately reduce risk and recidivism.

Over the past several years, Dr. Howell has worked with Dr. Mark Lipsey in implementing the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) within the Comprehensive Strategy in various jurisdictions – including Berks County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in conjunction with the Juvenile Jus-



Dr. James C. "Buddy" Howell

tice System Improvement Project sponsored by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University.

## **Workshops**

Over 650 people registered to attend fifteen different workshops on Thursday, November 8th. A smaller selection of workshops than in previous years was offered, as each workshop was specifically selected to address various aspects of evidence-based probation practice and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. As such, the morning workshops were repeated in the afternoon session in an effort to allow participants to maximize exposure to the selected topics. The workshops included:

- Juvenile Justice Evidence-Based Practices 101
- Building an Evidence-Based Juvenile Probation Department: JJSES Stage 1 Activities
- Motivational Interviewing 101 and Pennsylvania's Protocol for Successful Implementation
- Developing Effective Case Plans Utilizing the Youth Level of Service (YLS)
- Lessons Learned from JDAI: Implementing a Detention Risk Assessment Instrument
- Integrating the YLS and Service Delivery : What a Provider Needs to Know
- Using Curricula to Address Criminogenic Needs: The National Curriculum and Training Institute (NCTI)
- The Family Guide to Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System: A Resource Supporting Families
- Pennsylvania's Recidivism Project: Establishing our Benchmark
- The Missing Link: How to

Incorporate the Youth Voice in Juvenile Justice Reform Efforts

- How Does the SPEP Fit within the Context of the JJSES and Pennsylvania's Evidence-Based Programs?
- The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol: A Roadmap for Improving Services to Juvenile Offenders
- Using Evidence-Based Practices to Inform Decision-Making: What a Judge Needs to Know
- Effective Diversion Programs, Policies and Practices
- Advancing Balanced and Restorative Justice Through the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy

## **Thursday Afternoon Plenary Session**

The afternoon plenary session, entitled "What Works with Juvenile Offenders in Reducing Recidivism", was presented by Dr. Edward J. Latessa, Interim Dean and Professor of the College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Latessa discussed the identification of criminogenic needs and the effective implementation of the principles of effective intervention (risk, need, and responsivity) in the context of identifying effective practices and programs for intervention.



Dr. Edward J. Latessa

Dr. Latessa has co-authored seven books and has directed over 150 research projects, including studies of day reporting centers, juvenile justice programs, drug courts, prison programs, intensive supervision programs, halfway houses, and drug programs.

## **Annual Awards Program and Dinner**

Thursday's activities concluded with the 32nd Annual Awards Program and Dinner. The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers honored both individuals and programs for their outstanding work in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. (See page 4 for this year's award winners)

## **Resource Day**

The 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice concluded with Resource Day. Conference participants had the opportunity to learn about new, innovative, and creative approaches to working with juveniles. Representatives from private and public residential programs, informational services, technology services, and other vendors were available to present information and discuss products and services. Attendees of Resource Day, which totaled more than 500 people, were eligible to participate in a raffle that was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. Attendees could receive one raffle ticket from each vendor, which made them eligible for 1 of 3 prizes that were awarded in four raffle drawings throughout the morning. Prizes included: a free registration to the 2013 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice; a weekend-night stay at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers; and a Kindle FIRE-HD.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission congratulates all of the

## 2012 Award Winners



RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM OF THE YEAR  
The Abraxas Leadership Development  
Program for Females  
Craig J. Schmidt, Program Director



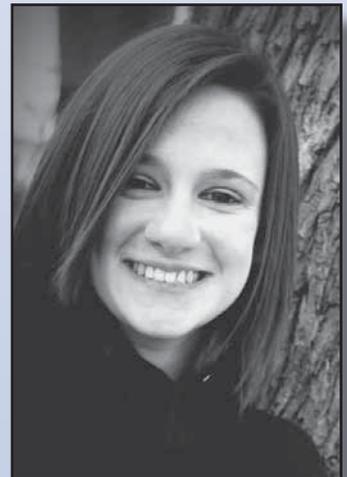
JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
Shannin C. Danquah  
Delaware County



OUTSTANDING SCHOLAR  
ANTHONY F. CEDDIA AWARD  
Matthew Foster  
Dauphin County



MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD  
Norman L. Lacasse  
Dauphin County



UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD  
Felicia Franklin  
Shippensburg University

# *Congratulations!*

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission congratulates all of the

## 2012 Award Winners

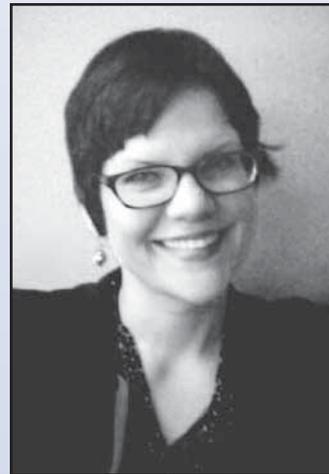


JUVENILE COURT SUPPORT SERVICE AWARD  
Marcia M. Jordan  
McKean County



JUVENILE PROBATION SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR  
John A. Dively  
Blair County

COURT OPERATED  
PROGRAM OF THE YEAR  
Chester County  
Juvenile Probation  
Community Service Program  
Gary A. Purfield, Juvenile  
Probation Community  
Service Coordinator



VICTIM ADVOCATE  
OF THE YEAR  
Erin Siffing  
Allegheny County



COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM OF THE YEAR  
Wesley Spectrum Services In-Home  
Drug and Alcohol Initiative  
John G. Frain, Service Line Director



CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
Elizabeth A. Fritz  
Lehigh County

## Congratulations!

# “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 15 of a series: “JJSES Building Blocks”

## Graduated Responses - Sanctions and Rewards

Human behavior is largely shaped through social interactions including the application of rewards and sanctions. At a very young age, children learn that certain behaviors elicit a response that is gratifying, neutral, or unpleasant. A parent who gives their child a treat when they have completed a chore is more likely to see a repeat of that positive behavior in the future. A parent who gives their child a treat when they display a temper tantrum in the grocery store is more likely to see that outburst behavior repeated. A child who burns her hand on the stove is less likely to repeat the act that led to the pain. For juvenile justice practitioners working with youth, behavioral change is promoted when they use a balanced approach in applying sanctions for antisocial behavior and incentives and positive reinforcement for prosocial behavior. To maximize results, both sanctions and rewards should be guided by policy that is informed by research.

*Higher-risk offenders tend to have long histories of punishment and disapproval, and many have learned to adapt to and dismiss the pain that accompanies them.*

### Sanctions.

Research evidence indicates that sanctions do not need to be severe to be effective. In fact, overly harsh responses can be counterproductive to behavioral change. Higher-risk offenders tend to have long histories of punishment and disapproval, and many have learned to adapt to and dismiss the pain that accompanies them. To be effective, sanctions should be certain (every antisocial act should receive a disapproving message)<sup>1</sup> and swift (sanction administered immediately after the act if possible)<sup>2</sup>. In order for a sanctioning policy to be effective, then, certain features need to be present. For example, the youth must know what behaviors are desired or not desired<sup>3</sup>, the consequences to behaviors should be clearly understood, and they should be administered equitably<sup>4</sup>. A structured response to sanctioning will promote consistency among staff and help achieve these sanctioning conditions.

*Research evidence supports the use of more rewards and incentives than sanctions (a four to one ratio) to improve offender motivation to change.*

## Rewards.

Youthful offenders are more likely to repeat and adopt prosocial behaviors when those behaviors and attitudes are recognized, acknowledged, and affirmed. Probation professionals tend to use sanctions as the primary method to respond to or control offenders' behavior. However, research evidence supports the use of more rewards and incentives than sanctions (a four to one ratio) to improve offender motivation to change<sup>5</sup>. Rewards do not have to be costly or difficult to administer. A word of praise or encouragement can provoke a sense of pride and goodwill. Other examples of rewards include a note of appreciation (e.g., a letter of acknowledgment or a certificate), the acknowledgment of accomplishment in front of others (e.g., praise in public, acknowledgment by a person in a position of authority), a bus voucher, reduced drug testing, or early discharge from supervision<sup>6</sup>.

JJSES supports the development of policy based on the research evidence to promote the use of clear, graduated sanction and reward responses to youth behavior. To assist in this effort, JJSES will provide both training on the effective use of sanctions and rewards and examples of structured decision making models from other states.

- 1 Grasmack, H.G. & Bryjak, G.J. (1980). The deterrent effect of perceived severity of punishment. *Social Forces*, 59: 471-91; Nichols, J. & Ross, H.L. (1990). Effectiveness of legal sanctions in dealing with drinking drivers. *Alcohol, Drugs, and Driving* 6(2): 33-60; Paternoster, R. (1989). Decisions to participate in and desist from four types of common delinquency: Deterrence and the rational choice perspective. *Law and Society Review*, 23(1):7-40.
- 2 Rhine, E. (1993). *Reclaiming Offender Accountability: Intermediate Sanctions for Probation and Parole Violators*. Laurel, MD: American Correctional Association.
- 3 Tyler, T.R. (1990). *Why People Obey the Law*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- 4 Paternoster, R., Brame, R., Bachman, R. & Sherman, L.W. (1997). Do fair procedures matter? The effect of procedural justice on spouse assault. *Law and Society Review*, 31: 163-204.
- 5 Gendreau, P., Little, T., & Goggin, C. (1996). A meta-analysis of adult offender recidivism: What works? *Criminology*, 34(4), 575-607; Andrews, D. A., & Bonta, J. (2006). *The psychology of criminal conduct* (4th ed.). Newark, NJ: Anderson.
- 6 Carey, M. (2010). *Coaching packet: Shaping offender behavior*. FY 2007 Presidential prisoner reentry initiative training and technical assistance program (Vol. 8). Silver Spring, MD: Center for Effective Public Policy.

## Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

The CJJT&R's set of staff development workshops for the spring have been assembled, are posted on the JCJC Events Management System (JEMS) website and are open for registration. You may visit the site at [www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us).

We will continue to primarily host our workshops in the Harrisburg area at the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center, which is just off the Winding Hill Exit from Rt. 15 near Mechanicsburg. The Holiday Inn, New Cumberland is the recommended hotel to use when lodging is required. Reservations may be made by calling 717-774-2721. A block of rooms under the name "Center for Juvenile Justice" has been reserved at the \$65 + 6% tax rate.

"The Juvenile Justice Academy: Orientation for the New Professional" will be held on **February 4-8** and continue on **February 25 - March 1**. If new officers are not already registered, they should do so as soon as possible.



Below are several other upcoming programs for the spring:

- **March 14-15** at the **Days Inn Penn State**, CJJT&R staff will facilitate the **Community Service/Restitution Program Coordinator's Forum**. The forum is an opportunity for program coordinators, supervisors and anyone interested in community service and restitution programs to meet, exchange ideas and become re-energized regarding the creative application of these important programs. We will arrange for relatively short presentations from three or four programs across the Commonwealth that will highlight their innovative program models in order to begin to stimulate discussion. However, the entire focus of the program will center on exchanging information, troubleshooting and problemsolving shared obstacles in running programs. We will also want to highlight how these programs can be best designed to interface with Evidence-based Probation Practices and help achieve the goals and objectives that are a part of the JSES.
- On **March 27-28**, **Terrence Walton**, the Director of Treatment for the Pretrial Services Agency, District of Columbia, in DC will return to present "**Stop, Drop, and Roll: Effective Cognitive Behavioral Interventions**" at **Days Inn State College**. This workshop will present the newly revised National Institute of Corrections' Thinking for a Change (T4C) Program. T4C is an evidence-based approach for reducing criminal offending, substance use, and related behaviors in the justice system-involved adults and juveniles. By exploring and experimenting with T4C, workshop participants will experience the power of CBI. Participants will learn how to help juveniles change the way they think, develop success-oriented social skills, and to engage in effective problem solving. Whether utilizing T4C or some other CBI approach, juvenile justice professionals will acquire techniques that they can use immediately to achieve improved outcomes.

Please remember, workshops are continually added to the Staff Development Schedule. Be sure to check the JCJC website or visit [www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us) regularly for updates to the schedule.

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

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

### December

12/13 **Assessing and Addressing Domestic Violence and Dating Violence with Juvenile Offenders** [CJJT&R](#)

### March

3/14 **Community Service and Restitution Programs-- Workshop/Forum** [CJJT&R](#)  
 3/27 **Stop, Drop, and Roll: Effective Cognitive Behavioral Interventions** [CJJT&R](#)

### April

4/4 **Drug Subculture Competency: Paraphernalia and Routes of Ingestion** [CJJT&R](#)  
 4/9 **Barely Legal: Quasi-Legal Substance Abuse and Their Contrasting Appeal and Effects on the Genders** [CJJT&R](#)

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

## Corrections from the Field NIC Releases New Motivational Interviewing E-Course

The National Institute of Corrections is pleased to announce “Motivational Interviewing: Overview,” a new e-course now available in the NIC Learning Center. The course provides an overview of motivational interviewing as it may be applied in a correctional setting. By using specific techniques and applying motivational interviewing, corrections professionals can help increase offenders’ motivation to make changes in their lives that will reduce their likelihood of re-offending. The design of the course makes it optimal for self-study, for use as an orientation to motivational interviewing, and as a classroom aid for supervisors and trainers.

Like all other NIC training, “Motivational Interviewing: Overview” is free and open to corrections professionals working in all disciplines of the field. Sign up for an account in the NIC Learning Center and register for the course at <http://nic.learn.com/>.

### Spotlight On: Thinking for a Change 3.1

As part of its news series under the NIC Corrections Community, Information Center specialist Tom Reid has written an article about Thinking for a Change 3.1, its impact on offenders, and how agencies may begin the basics of implementation with their staff. NIC’s involvement in Thinking for a Change began in the 1990’s and has continued for decades beyond that time. Today, the program is has been revised to its latest version to make it easier for facilitators to use and even more effective for working with offenders. This popular evidence-based program works both in institutions and community corrections environments. A full list of changes in the latest version are outlined in the satellite/internet broadcast “Thinking for a Change 3.0: Worth the Wait!” which can be viewed at [nicic.gov/T4CWeb](http://nicic.gov/T4CWeb) under the “New in 3.x” tab.

The full Thinking for a Change program is available for use both in online and PC editions. The online edition includes all the elements of the PC edition but requires Internet access to use if you will be showing the program videos in a classroom setting.

[Read Tom’s article](#) on the Corrections Community, and learn more about Thinking for a Change 3.1 on the NIC website at <http://nicic.gov/Library/025057>.

## WESTMORELAND COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION

presents:

### A CASE FOR CHANGE & BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY A COMMUNITY TRAINING

**DECEMBER 13-14, 2012**  
**8:30 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**CLICK HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION**

**2-DAY TRAINING INSTITUTE**  
WESTMORELAND COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION PRESENTS:  
**A CASE FOR CHANGE & BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY**  
A COMMUNITY TRAINING

**WHEN:** Thursday & Friday December 13th and 14th, 2012  
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM  
Registration and continental breakfast at 8:30 AM  
Class starts promptly at 9:00 AM  
Lunch is on your own

**WHERE:** Westmoreland County Juvenile Service Center  
Twin Lakes Training Room  
2771 S. Grande Blvd.  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
Cost is \$20.00  
Seating is limited!

This training is open to professionals and community members who wish to understand poverty in Westmoreland County, and to assist people to move to self-sufficiency. Please see the accompanying registration form for further details, or call Margie Stanislaw 724-830-4216

**REGISTRATION FOR A CASE FOR CHANGE AND BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK NO:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: WESTMORELAND COMMUNITY ACTION (PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE ONLY 24 SEATS AVAILABLE FOR THIS TRAINING. REGISTRATIONS WILL BE TAKEN ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.)**

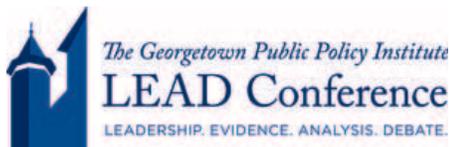
PLEASE INDICATE: **BRIDGES TRAINING** ON THE MEMO LINE

PLEASE MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO:  
**WESTMORELAND COUNTY REGIONAL YOUTH SERVICES CENTER  
JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
ATTN: MARJORIE STANISLAW  
2771 S. GRANDE BLVD.  
GREENSBURG, PA 15601**

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT MARGIE STANISLAW AT 724-830-4216, OR [mstanisl@co.westmoreland.pa.us](mailto:mstanisl@co.westmoreland.pa.us)

## Registration Now OPEN for Georgetown Conference on At-Risk Children and Youth

Georgetown University, the Georgetown Public Policy Institute (GPPI), and the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the inaugural **Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference** (Leadership. Evidence. Analysis. Debate.):



### Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform

January 24-25, 2013

Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center, Washington, D.C.

**REGISTER NOW**

*Discount for early registration ends November 16, 2012*

The Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference is an annual national event that brings together experts and key stakeholders to examine a particular policy challenge and discuss potential solutions. CJJR has been selected as the first GPPI research center to be highlighted at this year's inaugural event, which will invite attendees to explore the following issues related to at-risk children and youth:

- *What do children and youth need to develop into healthy, happy, and productive individuals?*
- *When children or youth are abused, drop out of school, commit a crime, or suffer from mental and behavioral health problems, what interventions can help them get back on the path towards positive life outcomes?*
- *What are the necessary systemic changes that can help improve outcomes for at-risk children and youth?*

This two-day conference will address these questions and more by presenting policies and practices that can be brought together in a comprehensive way to support the healthy development of this vulnerable population.

We encourage anyone who is interested in improving the outcomes for at-risk children and youth to attend. Policymakers, practitioners, researchers, foundation representatives, students, teachers, community leaders, and more will all benefit from this opportunity to hear from leading experts, network with other professionals, and participate as a part of an ongoing national dialogue.

**Given your connection to CJJR, we are giving you the opportunity to register early. The conference will be marketed more broadly in approximately one week, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure a spot.** For additional information and to **REGISTER NOW**, please visit the conference website at <http://gppi.georgetown.edu/leadconference>. Inquiries may be directed to [leadconference@georgetown.edu](mailto:leadconference@georgetown.edu).

*NOTE: Proof of participation will be made available to those attendees wishing to apply for continuing education credit with their state or licensing entity.*

### Confirmed speakers include:



**Sonja Sohn**

Founder and CEO, ReWired for Change

Actress (*The Wire*, *Body of Proof*, *Slam*)

- **Tim Decker**, Director, Missouri Division of Youth Services
- **Mark Greenberg**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Administration for Children and Families - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **J. David Hawkins**, Endowed Professor of Prevention, University of Washington; Founding Director, Social Development Research Group - University of Washington
- **Chet Hewitt**, President and CEO, Sierra Health Foundation
- **Edward Montgomery**, Dean, Georgetown Public Policy Institute
- **Karen Pittman**, Executive Director, Forum for Youth Investment
- **David Sanders**, Vice President, Casey Family Programs
- **Amy Wilkins**, Vice President, The Education Trust

*A full list of confirmed speakers is available at:*  
<http://gppi.georgetown.edu/leadconference/speakers/>



# National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

## Georgetown University To Host Conference on At-Risk Children and Youth

On January 24–25, 2013, Georgetown University’s [Georgetown Public Policy Institute](#) and [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#) (CJJR) will present “Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform.” The [conference](#), to be held in Washington, DC, will highlight the work of CJJR and explore issues, policies, and practices related to improving the outcomes of at-risk children and youth. Presenters will share innovative practices and models from across the country and facilitate a panel to garner families’ perspectives on best practices and recommended reform initiatives. System change sessions will provide participants with the tools to effect change at the local and national levels.

Resources:

[Register](#) for the conference by December 21, 2012.

View the conference [agenda](#).

## Report Highlights Strategies for Improving Juvenile Justice System for Girls

The [Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy](#) has released “[Improving the Juvenile Justice System for Girls: Lessons From the States](#).” The report reviews the literature documenting girls’ pathways into the juvenile justice system; examines recent gender-responsive, trauma-informed reform efforts; highlights reform efforts in three jurisdictions; and concludes with recommendations for future efforts at the local, state, and federal levels.



Resources:

This report is a product of the policy series, [Marginalized Girls: Creating Pathways to Opportunity](#) hosted by the [center](#), in partnership with [The National Crittenton Foundation](#) and the [Human Rights Project for Girls](#).

## OJJDP Releases Fall 2012 Issue of Journal of Juvenile Justice

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released the fall issue of the online [Journal of Juvenile Justice](#), a semi-annual, peer-reviewed



journal that addresses a variety of issues in juvenile justice.

This issue highlights several programs that use new and coordinated responses for system-involved youth, including home-based interventions in Utah, family-centered treatment in Maryland, and a peer support program for families in the state of Washington. This issue also includes articles addressing the impact of race on pre-adjudication detention and the characteristics of incarcerated youth with a history of homelessness.

Manuscripts are being accepted for the fall 2013 issue. [Visit](#) the Journal of Juvenile Justice Web site for details.

Resources:

Access [past issues](#) of the Journal of Juvenile Justice.

## Research, Resources Available on Youth Mentoring in Juvenile Justice Settings

Free, online research and resources are now available from the OJJDP-funded study, “[Researching the Referral Stage of Youth Mentoring in Six Juvenile Justice Settings: An Exploratory Analysis](#).”



The study, conducted by [MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership](#), [Global Youth Justice](#), and the [National Partnership for Juvenile Services](#) in collaboration with criminal justice researchers from the University of Texas at San Antonio, examined best practices for the referral stage of high-risk youth to mentoring from six juvenile justice settings: detention, corrections, probation, and delinquency, teen/youth, and dependency courts.

Resources:

Access [resources](#) from Global Youth Justice.

Access MENTOR [resources](#).

Access [resources](#) from the National Partnership for Juvenile Services.

Visit OJJDP’s Web page on [mentoring resources](#).

## OJJDP FY 2012 Award Information Now Available Online

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has posted data on its fiscal year (FY) 2012 awards on its [Web site](#). The information can be sorted by solicitation, grantee, award number, award amount, and state. The data can also be filtered by solicitation name or state.

In FY 2012, OJJDP awarded more than \$267 million in grants in support of its mission to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and child victimization.

Resources:

Access OJJDP's FY 2012 [award information](#).

### ***OJJDP Releases Updated DMC Fact Sheet***

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published an update to the In Focus fact sheet, "[Disproportionate Minority Contact](#)." This fact sheet provides an overview of OJJDP's efforts to reduce disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in juvenile justice systems, summarizes states' DMC-reduction activities as of fiscal year 2011, and includes a description of OJJDP's five-phase DMC Reduction Model, which helps states determine whether disproportionality exists within their jurisdictions, and if it does, provides a step-by-step guide for their reduction efforts.



Resources:

View and download the [fact sheet](#).

Access OJJDP's [DMC tools and resources](#) which include the [DMC Virtual Resource Center](#), a networking forum that supports state and local DMC efforts.

### ***Information Sharing Certificate Program Application Now Available***

The [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#) (CJJR) at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute, in partnership with the [Juvenile Law Center](#), is accepting applications for its [Information Sharing Certificate Program](#), to be held March 17–20, 2013, in Washington, DC.

This program, supported with funding from the MacArthur Foundation's [Models for Change](#) initiative, is designed to assist leaders in the juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, education, and other child-serving fields in overcoming the challenges of information sharing so that youth are better served across multiple systems of care. The program provides a venue through which leaders can increase their knowledge about information sharing, develop action plans (Capstone Projects) for reform, and receive technical assistance to break through barriers they encounter when implementing the reforms.

Resources:

This program is designed as a complement to [CJJR's other certificate programs](#).

Deadline for applications is Thursday, December 20, 2012, at 11:59 p.m (local time).

Applications should be e-mailed to [jjreform@georgetown.edu](mailto:jjreform@georgetown.edu).

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