

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Corbett, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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Act 91 of 2012 Amends Act 111 of 2011

[HB 75 P.N.3827](#), which was signed into law by Governor Corbett on July 5, 2012 as Act 91 of 2012, contains a number of significant delinquency-related amendments to Act 111 of 2011. The most important amendment clarifies that **the only delinquent youth with pre-December 2012 delinquency adjudications who will be subject to the SORNA-related provisions of Act 111 are those who are under the jurisdiction of the court as of December 20, 2012 on the basis of an adjudication of delinquency for one of the SORNA-triggering offenses (18 Pa.C.S. § 3121 [relating to rape], 3123 [relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse], 3125 [relating to aggravated indecent assault] or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit an offense under 18 Pa.C.S §§ 3121, 3123 or 3125).** These provisions of Act 91 will become effective on December 20, 2012.

The JCJC has created a report within the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) to assist courts and juvenile probation departments in identifying these juveniles in accordance with Acts 111 and 91. This report has been deployed and is available to all counties that utilize PaJCMS. Based on the information that juvenile probation departments have entered into the PaJCMS, juveniles whose names appear on the report and who remain under court jurisdiction as of December 20, 2012 may fall within the definition of "Juvenile Offender" and could be subject to the SORNA-related registration requirements of the legislation. The JCJC strongly recommends that this report be run periodically until December 20, as one means of ensuring that every juvenile who may fall within the provisions of Acts 111 and 91 is identified so that case-specific planning can be undertaken and implemented.

Please contact your [PaJCMS Help Desk Consultant](#) at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research if you require assistance in generating this report.

In addition, Act 91 contains several significant Juvenile Act amendments that were developed by the Department of Public Welfare, and which are intended to facilitate Pennsylvania's compliance with the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. These provisions of Act 91 became effective on July 5, 2012.

Of particular importance is that Act 91 modified the definition of the term "Child" in the Juvenile Act at 42 Pa. C.S. §6302 (relating to definitions) to expand the circumstances under which a Dependent Child can remain under the jurisdiction of the Court until age 21 and be eligible to receive services and support that can be offset with federal funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. Act 91 also amended 42 Pa. C.S. §6351 (relating to disposition of dependent child) to add a new §6351(j) (relating to resumption of jurisdiction), which provides that at any time before reaching Age 21, a child may request the court to resume "dependency jurisdiction" if the child continues to meet the definition of "Child" under §6302 (relating to definitions) and dependency jurisdiction was terminated within 90 days prior to the child's 18th birthday or on or after the child's 18th birthday but before the child turns 21 years of age.

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2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy:
Achieving our Mission through Evidence-based Policy and Practice

Sponsored by:
The Juvenile Court Judges Commission
The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers
The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
The Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges

November 7-9, 2012 at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers

Registration is NOW OPEN!

[Click here to register today.](#)

Wednesday, November 7th

Registration 9am
Juvenile Defender
Training..... 10am –5pm
(Juvenile Defenders Only)

“Juvenile Sex Offender Registration:
What Judges and Masters
Need to Know”

(Judges and Masters Only)

Training..... 1–4:45pm
Professional
Caucuses 2–3:30pm
Chief Juvenile Probation
Officer/Service Provider
Forum 3:45–5pm
Youth Awards
Program & Dinner..... 5:30pm



Youth Awards Speaker
Dr. Charles A. Williams III

Thursday, November 8th

Registration 8am
Breakfast.....7:30–8:45am
Conference Welcome & Keynote
Presentation..... 9am



“How to Use Research
and Evidence-Based
Programs to Lower the
Age-Crime Curve”

Dr. James C. “Buddy” Howell

Morning Workshops..... 10:30am–Noon
Buffet Lunch Noon–1:30pm
Afternoon Workshops..... 1:30pm–3pm

**Workshops are offered
in both morning and
afternoon sessions.
[Click here to review listing](#)**

Afternoon Plenary

Session..... 3:15–4:45pm



“What Works with
Juvenile Offenders in
Reducing Recidivism?”

Dr. Edward J. Latessa

Reception 5:30pm
Annual Awards Program
and Dinner.....7pm

Friday, November 9th

Registration 7am
Resource Day 2012 with Continental
Breakfast..... 8am–Noon

**Don't miss your chance
to win a Kindle Fire HD
at Resource Day 2012!**



Again, like last year, entrance to Resource Day is **FREE**. Four Kindle Fire HD's will be raffled at four separate times in intervals of 45 minutes, during the morning. Winners must be present to win, and tickets will be distributed by the exhibitors to individuals who have visited their display.

CONFERENCE EVENTS	Registered BEFORE Oct. 9	Registered AFTER Oct. 9
▶ Professional Caucuses (Nov. 7)	FREE	FREE
▶ Youth Awards Program & Dinner (Nov. 7)	\$50	\$60
▶ Continental Breakfast, Morning & Afternoon Plenary Sessions, Lunch, and Workshops (Nov. 8)	\$130	\$150
▶ Reception and Awards Program & Dinner (Nov. 8)	\$60	\$70
▶ Continental Breakfast & Resource Day (Nov. 9)	FREE	FREE
▶ COMPLETE CONFERENCE PACKAGE (Nov. 7—Nov. 9) Includes: Professional Caucuses and Youth Awards Program & Dinner (Nov. 7); Continental Breakfast, Morning & Afternoon Plenary Sessions, Lunch, Workshops, Reception, and Awards Program & Dinner (Nov. 8); Continental Breakfast & Resource Day (Nov. 9)	\$240	\$280

“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 13 of a series: *“JJSES Building Blocks”*

Case Plan Development

Case plans, sometimes referred to as supervision plans, are the method to link the assessments to services through various activities. At a minimum, a case plan is a written document outlining the activities to be completed during a period of supervision (Carey, 2010; Clear, 1981).

Assessment of risk to reoffend is only part of the usefulness of any risk need instrument. A very valuable element of Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy is that the results of the assessment are used to develop a comprehensive case planning process for juveniles, one which focuses on reducing identified risk factors, emphasizing identified strengths, identifying triggers, and customizing the approach based on unique youth traits (such as language barriers, culture, gender, disabilities, mental health, etc.). A case plan is considered a roadmap and the centerpiece for supervision of our clients.

A case plan has a number of critical functions, including assisting:

- in monitoring the terms and conditions of supervision and increasing the rate of completion of conditions of supervision;
- in behavioral change;
- in focusing priorities for youth;
- the youth in seeing progress;
- the youth in taking ownership of expectations;
- in holding the youth accountable for his actions;
- in long-term behavioral change with a goal of reduced recidivism.

“Recidivism can be reduced by 30 percent if the right treatment is provided to the right offender at the right time and in the right way. Effective case planning is the key toward achieving this goal” (Carey, 2010).

The YLS risk and need domains have been shown, through research, to be the strongest influences of youth crime and potential recidivism. While incorporating the risk-need-responsivity principles, a comprehensive case plan will be effective when it takes into consideration the results of the assessment completed on each youth.

One of the more important aspects of utilizing a risk/need instrument is that the results of the assessment should be used to properly align services. Services outlined in case plans should specifically address the need areas that will have the greatest impact on reducing the likelihood to recidivate. In essence, the goal is to identify and prioritize the domains with the greatest impact on future delinquent behavior, appropriately match services to those areas, and do so in the right dosage and intensity. Focused, goal-directed and strength-influenced case plans also provide direction for the probation officer, youth and family throughout the period of supervision.

Effective case plans are completed by the probation officer in conjunction with the youth and his/her family. Working together in the development of the plan assists in establishing a rapport with the client, provides clar-

ity in expectations, and increases the likelihood of understanding and buy-in around the activities required of the youth during supervision. A solid case plan not only identifies the risk and need areas, includes strengths, and clearly and concisely identifies the client's responsibility; but also identifies those triggers or barriers which place a client at further risk. To be most successful, goals established in a plan should be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time bound (SMART). Case plans are also dynamic and expected to change over time.

The research surrounding effective case planning shows that, when properly developed and utilized, case plans can assist in reducing future arrests and violations, and can enhance a client's perception of fairness. Evidence clearly shows that when done in a collaborative manner, the best results are achieved.

When a decision was reached to use the YLS/CMI as the risk/need assessment in Pennsylvania, a determination was made that the case plan section of the YLS did not appropriately meet the needs of our juvenile justice system. In Pennsylvania, the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice remain the foundation of our system and our overarching mission. In order to stay true to those principles, we recognized the need to develop a standardized plan that addressed the key elements of Balanced and Restorative Justice as well as the risk and needs identified by the YLS.

A standardized, goal-focused and strength-based case plan is currently being implemented in a number of Pennsylvania counties. The case plan is fully integrated into the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS), which also houses the YLS assessment, YLS data reports, and other related data elements. As a result, our juvenile justice system will be able to garner valuable data and track outcomes pertaining to both the YLS and the case plan. An additional benefit to the development of this standardized case plan has been the opportunity to train juvenile probation staff throughout the Commonwealth on the elements of an effective case plan - one that is far more comprehensive and meaningful than simply a review of the conditions of supervision.

While the time, effort, and resources to implement a risk/need assessment and case plan, and incorporating them both into the daily operations of an evidence-based juvenile probation department has been significant, the wealth of data and anticipated improvement of outcomes makes this venture all the more meaningful. The Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy has provided fertile ground to improve our approach to working with our clients and families, while remaining cognizant of the victims and communities we serve.

References

- Clear, T.R.(1981). Objectives-Based Case Planning. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Corrections.
- Carey, M. (2010). Coaching Packet: Effective Case Management. Silver Spring, Maryland: Center for Effective Public Policy.

Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

As we enter the heart of the Center's fall 2012 training schedule, there are three workshops that we urge you to give consideration to attending. Also, as we approach the half-year point in the fiscal year, you may realize that you, or staff who you supervise, are falling short in meeting the 40-hour minimum annual training requirement.

On **October 23-25** in **Mechanicsburg**, **Dan Sosnowski** will return to teach **"Structured Interviewing Techniques for Juvenile Probation."** Many of our constituents know Dan from his having taught "Kinesic Interviewing" at Center sponsored workshops for the last several years. Dan has been a Senior Instructor for the Public Agency Training Agency for over 18 years. He was awarded a Senior Research Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at the University of Birmingham in the UK. In 2008 he was selected as Subject Matter Expert to teach his techniques to the Counter Intelligence Command in Iraq and the Iraqi Ministries of Defense and Interior on behalf of the U.S. Government. He is a former police officer in the Chicago area and is the current President of his own polygraph and consulting company based in Marietta, Georgia. This course content, of his creation, is the evolution of years of consulting and teaching police agencies, sexual therapists, and probation professionals. As a speaker, he is informative and motivating. His sense of humor makes it a pleasure to participate in 2½ days of a content-packed training.



Do you ever wonder why it feels like you and your clients are from different worlds, or at least that they make decisions that leave you scratching your head? Based on the "Bridges Out of Poverty" curriculum, this workshop takes a different view on the traditional cultural competence type of workshop. **Megan Shreve**, the Executive Director of the South Central Community Action Programs, Inc. (SCCAP), a community based program serving 30,00 low income individuals, will present **"Understanding Economic and Cultural Differences"** on **October 31 - November 1**, at the **Days Inn Penn State**. The workshop will focus on the logic behind the thinking of different economic classes. Once the logic is understood, you can begin to identify strategies that will open up communication and achieve better results in helping your clients help themselves.

This fall's season concludes with **Dr. John Seasock** presenting **"Identifying and Supervising Juvenile Offenders with PTSD, Traumatic Reaction and the Related Mental Health Difficulties"** on **November 29-30** at the **Pa. Child Welfare Resource Center** in Mechanicsburg. Dr. Seasock is a mental health professional who has worked extensively with juvenile justice professionals and juveniles in a variety of counties, in both the community and in treatment facilities over the past 20 years. Trauma, with typical probation clients, can originate from sexual assault, physical abuse, chronic harassment, unexpected loss of life of a significant family member or friend, gang violence, or some other vicarious trauma. Participants will learn the basics of proper trauma intervention, and particular emphasis will be given to the specialized supervision requirements that promote recovery while supporting the need for accountability.

Finally, we would remind you that for all of our Harrisburg-area training programs we have begun using the Child Welfare Resource Center as the principal site. The Holiday Inn, New Cumberland is the recommended hotel to use when lodging is required when attending workshops at the Pa. CWRC site. It is affordable and only about 9 miles away. All the information on workshops and locations can be reviewed on the Staff Development website 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.

October		10/17	Juvenile Sex Offenders: What Do We Really Know and, Can They Really Ever Go Home? CJJT&R	10/23	Structured Interviewing Techniques for Juvenile Probation CJJT&R
10/4	Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Disorders, Violence and Treatment – Making Sense of It All CJJT&R	10/18	Motivational Interviewing: Skills Every Juvenile Probation Officer Should Know CJJT&R	10/31	Understanding Economic and Cultural Differences CJJT&R
10/11	Technology & Delinquency: Social Networking 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.



National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

OJJDP Bulletin Examines Effects and Consequences of Underage Drinking

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released, "[Effects and Consequences of Underage Drinking](#)." The bulletin presents findings from a literature review that investigated how underage drinking can affect a youth's physical, emotional, and neurological health. It also discusses the personal, legal, and economic consequences of underage drinking.

The bulletin is part of OJJDP's underage drinking bulletin [series](#), which underscores the dangers of underage drinking and provides guidelines for communities developing treatment and prevention programs.

Resources:

View and download "[Effects and Consequences of Underage Drinking](#)" (NCJ 237145).



OJJDP Updates Statistical Briefing Book

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has [updated](#) its Statistical Briefing Book (SBB) to include 2011 data on juvenile populations, 2010 data on victims of domestic violence, and FBI supplementary homicide reports through 2010. Data from 2010 on homicide victims and perpetrators have also been added to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section.

The SBB offers easy access to a host of juvenile justice information. Its [data analysis tools](#) allow users to create custom analyses of juvenile populations, arrests, court cases, and residential placement. The [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) developed the SBB for OJJDP.

Resources:

Access the [OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book](#).



Philadelphia Receives \$1.5 Million OJJDP Grant To Reduce Youth Violence

On September 19, 2012, OJJDP Acting Administrator Melodee Hanes announced a \$1.5 million [Community-Based Violence Prevention](#) award to the city of Philadelphia. "Youth violence is not inevitable," said Hanes. "Among other activities, this funding will allow Philadelphia to expand its CeaseFire program and continue to change the culture of violence—by mobilizing communities, educating the public, and reaching out to youth—with the help of the city's leadership and law enforcement personnel."

Philadelphia is one of four cities that will receive a 2012 Community-Based Violence Prevention grant. Under the program, recipients replicate proven strategies that target the high-risk activities and behaviors of a small number of carefully selected members of the community who are likely to be involved in violent activities, specifically gang and gun violence.

Resources:

In August, OJJDP announced that [Detroit](#) would receive a Community-Based Violence Prevention grant.

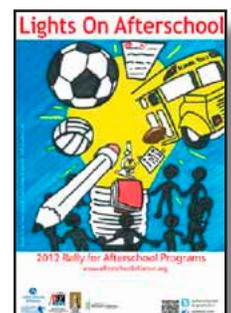
"Lights On" Event To Promote Afterschool Programs

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention invites communities to participate in the annual [Lights on Afterschool](#) on October 18. The nationwide event emphasizes the value of afterschool programs, which keep kids safe, help working families, and inspire learning. They provide opportunities to help young people develop into successful adults.

Resources:

Download the Lights On Afterschool [event planning kit](#).

Register your event by September 12 for a [chance to win](#) 100 Scholastic books.



Training Available on Mentoring in Juvenile Justice Settings

[MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership](#) will conduct nationwide trainings for juvenile justice and mentoring professionals. Participants will learn about the advantages and challenges of and best practices for mentoring within or in partnership with the juvenile court, juvenile probation, juvenile detention, juvenile corrections, teen court/youth court, and dependency court. Content of these trainings is derived from the OJJDP-funded study, “Researching the Referral Stage of Youth Mentoring in Six Juvenile Justice Settings: An Exploratory Analysis.”



Resources:

Visit [MENTOR](#) for training dates, locations, and registration information.

Access additional mentoring resources on OJJDP’s mentoring resource page.

Research Briefs Examine Interventions Specifically for Girls and Boys

[Child Trends](#) has released two fact sheets: [What Works for Female Children and Adolescents: Lessons From Experimental Evaluations of Programs and Interventions](#) and [What Works for Male Children and Adolescents: Lessons From Experimental Evaluations of Programs and Interventions](#). Each research brief synthesizes findings from more than 100 evaluations of interventions to reduce risk factors for children and youth, presenting what works—and what doesn’t—for girls and boys.

Resources:

Read [What Works for Female Children and Adolescents](#).

Read [What Works for Male Children and Adolescents](#).

Learn more about the OJJDP-funded [Girls’ Study Group](#), convened to develop a foundation of research for understanding and responding to girls’ delinquency.

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 October 15, 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?

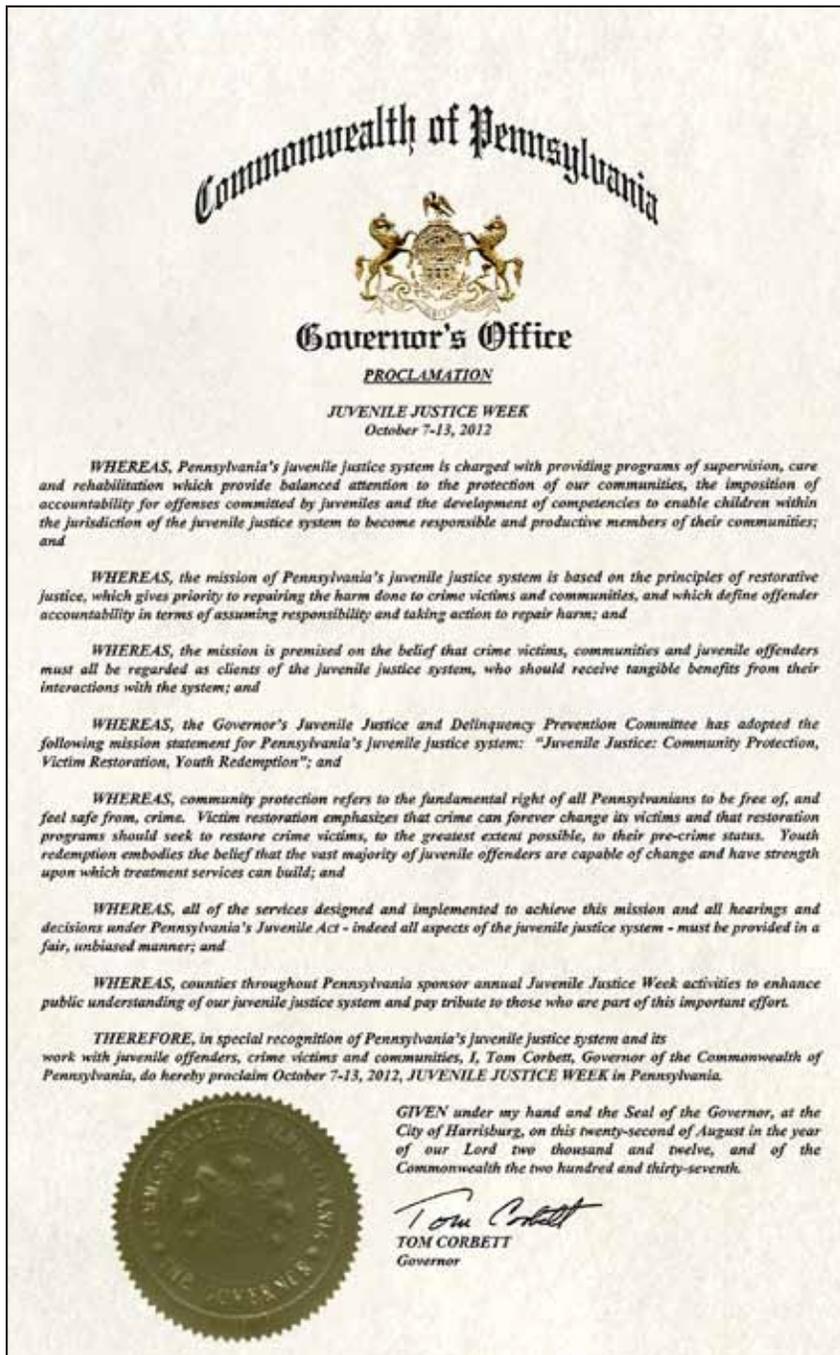
- **Free tuition;**
- **Free lodging on class weekends** (for students traveling more than 50 miles);
- **No weekday or evening classes;**
- **A Master’s curriculum specifically tailored to working juvenile justice professionals;**
- **Networking with other juvenile justice professionals from across 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.



Governor Corbett Proclaims Juvenile Justice Week October 7-13, 2012



Governor Tom Corbett recently proclaimed the week of October 7 – October 13, 2012 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 15, 2012.

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.

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