

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Corbett, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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Truancy Court Teaching the Value of Education

Reprinted with permission from

Mark Harrington, Assistant Principal at the Altoona Area Junior High School



The Altoona Area Junior High School prides itself on the fact that it has an average daily attendance rate of 94%. In a school that houses over 1,800 students, and given the 94% attendance rate, we know that being in school is important to those of us who work there, the students, and the parents and caregivers at home. However, like all schools, we do have a population of students with inconsistent or poor attendance. We recognize our responsibility and obligation to those students to work with them and their families to get them back to school.

Four years ago, Common Pleas President Judge Jolene Kopriva decided with our school superintendent Dr. Dennis Murray to implement Truancy Court

in the Altoona Area Junior High School to help tackle the truancy issues locally. The Truancy Court concept was developed as a strength-based counseling program to help students and their families develop a positive outlook on the school and the importance of their education. A team was put into place to move toward making gains. Team members included a Magisterial District Judge, Altoona Area Junior High School administration, Family Intervention and Crisis Services (FICS) counselors, juvenile probation officers, a representative from Children and Youth Services from Blair County Court, and the Altoona Area Junior High School guidance counselors.

The program is designed for students with chronic attendance issues. When a seventh or eighth-grade student has accumulated four or more unlawful days of absence, the junior high school staff meets and determines whether or not the student and family would be candidates for the Truancy Court program. If the student is determined to be a good fit for the program, the District completes a Truancy Court referral form that is funneled to the District Court Judge's office. The parents and the student both receive a citation for truancy violations. The District Court Judge's office sends out notices to the parents and student

INSIDE:

- [**JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2016**](#)
- [**Training for Trainers for Facilitators of the Victim Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum**](#)
- [**Steve Suknaic Retires After 40 Years of Service**](#)
- [**PAPPC Hosts 92nd Training Institute**](#)
- [**Save the Date 2013 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice**](#)
- [**Don Corry Appointed as Chief in Chester County**](#)
- [**National Juvenile Justice Announcements**](#)

Reminders:

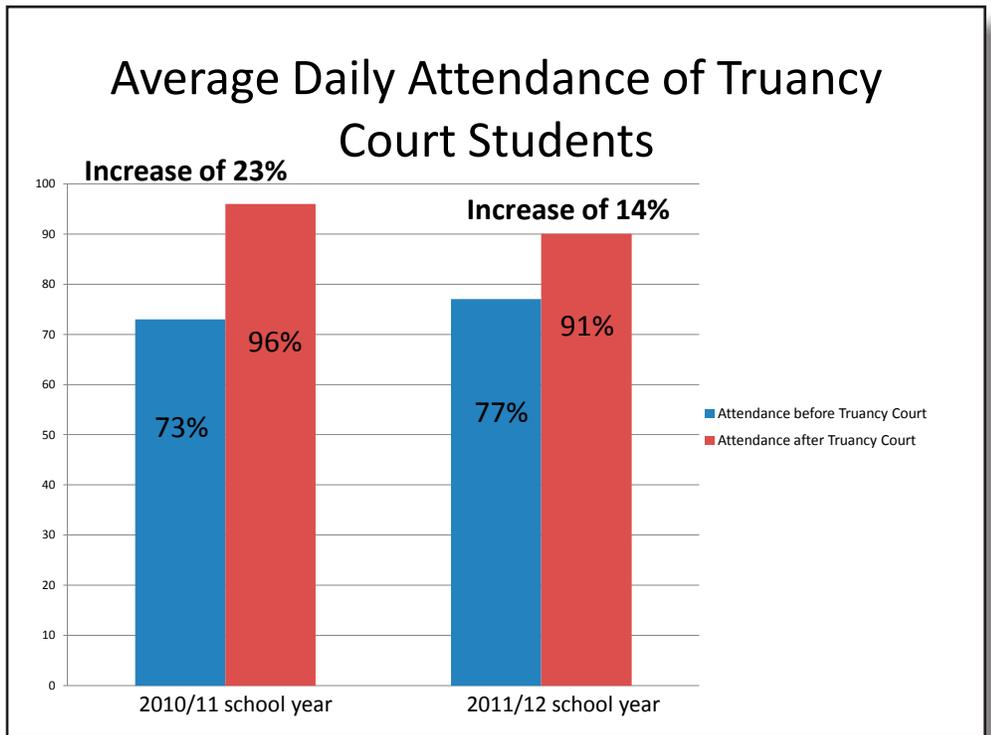
- [**National Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week**](#)

that they are to report to the junior high school for court. Truancy Court is held approximately bi-monthly in the Altoona Area Junior High School.

When a new family comes for their first meeting, they are introduced to the Truancy Court team, and each team member explains his or her role. Next, the Truancy Court program is explained to the family, making it clear that the program is completely optional. If a student and his or her family opt out of the Truancy Court program, they simply report to District Court, instead. In the four years of the program we have only had two families who did not wish to participate in the program. These two cases were both not willing to make the time commitment to the program.

About Truancy Court

The Truancy Court program is a strength-based program that lasts approximately fifteen to twenty weeks. Three phases make up the duration of the program. Meetings are held every two to three weeks in the Altoona Area Junior High School, and both the parents and the student are expected to attend the court hearings. In the first phase, there are two FICS counselors who meet with the parents and students between the meetings. These counseling sessions take place in the families' homes. The families, students, and counselors work together to develop goals to work toward. The students are required to journal about the different feelings that they have about school and their school day. Parents meet with the counselors in an effort to work on goals such as gaining their children's online grading system password, so that they are informed of their children's progress. The counselors also meet



with the family to develop strategies to help improve attendance. These strategies help with time-management issues by establishing bedtime rules, getting the family an alarm clock, and preparing clothes the day before school. As students and families work toward their goals, showing that they have made an effort and accomplished some achievement, they progress to the second phase. The students and families continue their work with the counselors and other team members to make even greater strides to improving attendance and overall perception of the school. Over time, the students and families reach the third phase, where the time between meetings is extended to determine whether or not their success can be maintained without the constancy of the bi-monthly meetings.

Typical Meeting

The Truancy Court team meetings last about one hour, and the purpose is to discuss each student's progress. Each family is then given a time to report to the Altoona Area Junior High School for their court hearing. Hearings occur separately for each

family, lasting approximately fifteen minutes each. At the hearings the students and parents talk about their attendance during the time frame. School personnel report on the student's attendance, grades are addressed, and discipline is also reviewed. The FICS counselor reviews the student's goals and contracts that they are working toward. At the end of the hearing, the judge gives the student a report card and grades the student on his or her attendance.

Truancy Court Numbers

Currently we have nine students who are participating in the Truancy Court program. Over the last two years we have serviced twenty-five students. The average attendance of these students while they were in the program was 93%. This was an average increase of 18.5% in their attendance. Last school year we had seven students who successfully graduated from the program.

Exiting the Program

Students and parents who successfully complete Truancy Court gradu-

ate from the program, and their fines are eliminated. Students and parents who are removed from the program proceed to the traditional court setting.

The Future of Truancy Court

We hope to continue Truancy Court next school year. We have gathered information from students who have completed the program to find out how we can meet the needs of those students to serve them better. We are also tracking the attendance of these students to determine whether or not they have been able to maintain their improved attendance levels

on their own. As a team, we are able to accommodate approximately ten students at a time, and we are working toward finding ways to reach even more students with chronic attendance issues to get them to school and working toward giving them a chance at success. Any questions about Truancy Court may be directed to Mark Harrington, seventh grade Assistant Principal at Altoona Area Junior High School mharrington@asdcats.com.

Biographical sketch:



Mark Harrington works in the Altoona Area School District as the seventh grade Assistant Principal at the Altoona Area Junior High School. This is his fifth year as a principal. Before working in administration, he taught special education for eleven years. He is a graduate of Lock Haven University and Saint Francis University.

JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2016

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 2016 will begin classes in the Summer of 2014. **The deadline to apply is October 1, 2013.**

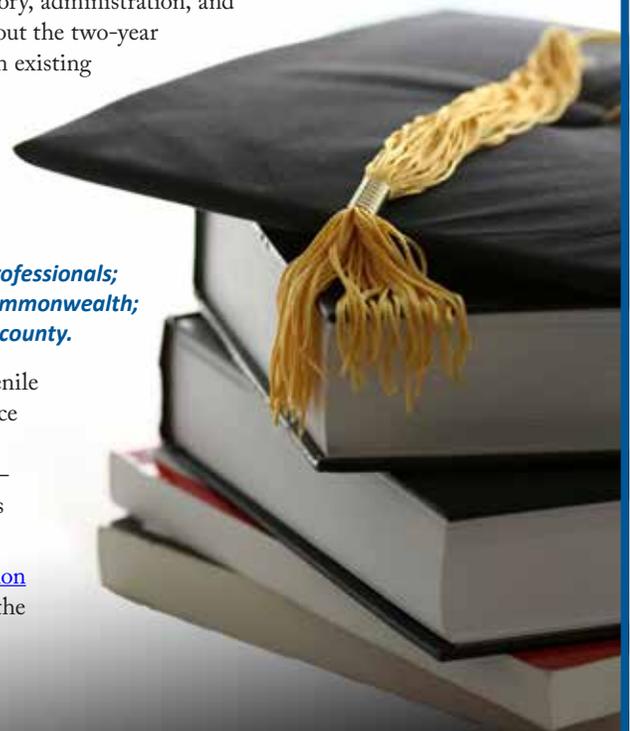
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the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

What are the benefits of the JCJC Graduate Education Program?

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

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

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



Applications being accepted for scholarships to the
***Training for Trainers for Facilitators of the “Victim
Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum”***

The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University is launching a statewide effort to expand the cadre of trainers who can teach facilitator skills for the *Victim Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum*.

Two distinct training sessions will help participants to gain skills as trainers *and* learn how to teach juvenile probation officers, service providers and other groups of interested professionals, how to facilitate the *Victim Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum* with juvenile offenders.

This free training initiative has been developed under the guidance of the Victims Services Committee of the PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and is funded through a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. All individuals chosen to attend this training will be provided with a scholarship which will cover all expenses for both sessions.

Persons accepted for the Train the Trainers Project will have the opportunity to obtain excellent training on how to be an “Ultimate Educator” and to deliver this much-needed training to juvenile probation officers, service providers and other groups of interested professionals throughout the Commonwealth. This series of training sessions will be scheduled through the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research Staff Development Program.

The Train the Trainers sessions will be held as follows:

The Ultimate Educator Training

Trainer: Anne Seymour

September 11- 13, 2013 - Mechanicsburg

The goal of “The Ultimate Educator” is to teach participants how to develop and apply training skills based upon a foundation of adult learning theory.

Teaching the Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum to Others

(Content training)

Trainers: Valerie Bender & Susan Blackburn

October 1 – 4, 2013 - State College

At the end of this Train-the Trainer Workshop participants will be able to:

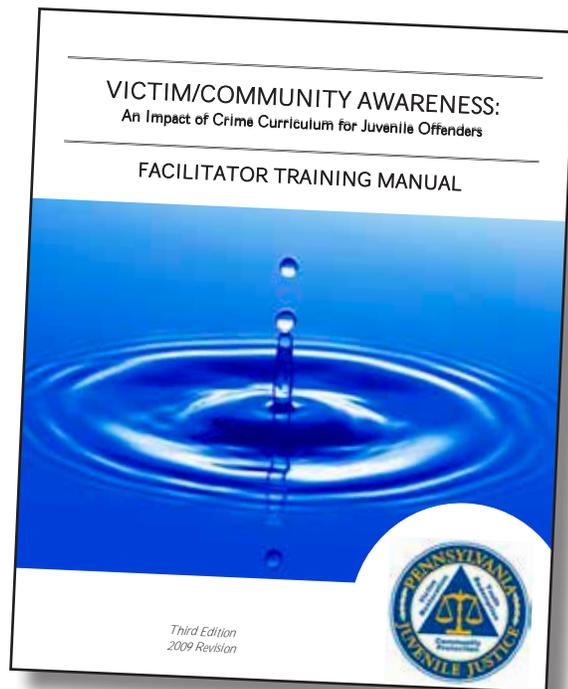
- Conduct training in the use of the Victim/Community Awareness: An Orientation for Juveniles curriculum;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice in Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System;
- Possess a basic understanding of group facilitation strategies and adult learning;
- Conduct circles in Victim/Community Awareness: An Orientation for Juveniles groups using the guidelines presented in this training;
- Understand the impact of crime on victims, offenders, and communities;
- Understand victim impact panel guidelines; and
- Have a basic understanding of values clarification and cultural diversity.

The Curriculum offers a highly specialized instruction on teaching other individuals how to facilitate the *Victim Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum* with juvenile offenders. Because of this, to become qualified as a trainer, prospective candidates must meet certain prerequisites. Additionally, to qualify for the Train the Trainers process offered by the Center, candidates must commit to specific post training obligations.

Prospective VCAC Facilitator Trainers must commit to the following in order to qualify for the CJJT&R Trainer Program.

Trainers must:

- Provide, at mutually agreeable times, facilitator trainings in their region (NE, SE, NC, SC, SW, & NW) to interested parties, under the logistical support and oversight of the CJJT&R;
- Provide two trainings, without reimbursement, as payment in kind for the initial Train-the-Trainers events the CJJT&R has provided to them;
- Provide the training, with fidelity, from the Facilitator Training Manual, without alteration;
- Provide documentation and follow-up to the CJJT&R upon completion of any facilitator training you present; and
- Conduct trainings in a manner that will comport with the mission of the CJJT&R and PCCJPO, which is based in the Balanced and Restorative Justice Philosophy.



Prerequisites for VCAC Trainers

Applicants must submit a resume and must provide any examples or documentation of the listed prerequisites, including letters of support.

- Demonstrate knowledge of Balanced and Restorative Justice;
- Familiarity with the Accountability Goal and Restorative Processes;
- That you are or have been employed in the juvenile justice system or have provided victim services for victims of juvenile offenders;
- Attended the training to be a facilitator of the *Victim/Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum* with juvenile offenders;
- Presently or recently facilitated the *Victim/Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum* with juvenile offenders;
- Ability to fulfill the training obligations;
- Approval of your organization/supervisor to become a trainer, including the ability to take time out of their daily duties to provide the 2½ day session; and
- Make the commitment to attend both The Ultimate Educator training September 11- 13, 2013 in Mechanicsburg and the Victim/Community Awareness Content training October 1 – 4, 2013 in State College.

To obtain an application for full scholarship contact Susan Blackburn at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research by phone at 717-477-1411 or e-mail sblackburn@pa.gov

Steve Suknaic Retires After 40 Years at the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office

Reprinted with permission from Dauphin County Balanced and Restorative Justice Newsletter Spring 2013 edition

I am writing to say thank you to all of the judges, lawyers, county officials, community leaders, county employees, etc. who have made my career extremely rewarding and satisfying. The professional relationships and the many friendships that have developed during my career are very gratifying. It is these people and these relationships that I will miss the most when I retire.

I began my career as a Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Officer on May 21, 1973. I am completing my 40th year of county employment and I will retire on June 7, 2013. I have been the Director of the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office for 34 years, since 1979. I feel very fortunate that I have been able to serve the citizens of Dauphin County in such an interesting and meaningful position. This has been my only full-time employment during my entire life and it has been very rewarding and satisfying.

Working for the Dauphin County Court and Commissioners has been a perfect fit for me. The most gratifying aspect of my job is when I see a grown man who I supervised on juvenile probation 40 years ago and he tells me that he has a family, a job, is law-abiding, and is thankful for the help that I gave him when he was a teenager. That is a wonderful feeling!! I also enjoy watching our terrific JPO employees grow, develop, help kids and families, and raise families of their own. We have many excellent Juvenile Probation Officers and I am very appreciative of their efforts in helping kids and families become successful. The legal aspects of the job are also very interesting, and the professional friendships are irreplaceable.

I was born in Harrisburg in 1950. My father, mother, sister and I lived on Disbrow Street near 17th and Walnut Streets in the Allison Hill section of the city. I attended St. Francis of Assisi Church and School, and I graduated from Bishop McDevitt High School with great pride in 1968. Our neighborhood was a racially mixed, blue collar area and I made many friends playing neighborhood baseball and basketball and as a member of the Boys Club on Berryhill Street. I have many fond memories of that era and my upbringing helped me greatly when I became a Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Officer in 1973.

The best education that I received was growing up in the city and the on-the-job training I received as a Juvenile Probation Officer. My formal education includes a Bachelors Degree in Psychology from West Chester State

University in 1972. In 1976, I received a Masters Degree in Counseling from Shippensburg University, and in 1984 I earned a second Masters Degree in the Administration of Justice at Shippensburg University. I later completed all requirements, except the dissertation, for a Ph.D. in Community Systems, Planning and Development at the main campus of Pennsylvania State University.



Stephen J. Suknaic – Juvenile Probation Office Director

Family is also extremely important to me. I am very thankful for the many sacrifices my mother, father, and grandparents made for me. I am also thankful that my wife, Ann, and I have been married for 40 years and are blessed with two wonderful children. Mandy is 34 and Bobby is 28 years old. When I retire later this year Ann and I will have much more time together. We like to spend time at the movies, the theatre, and local book stores. I also exercise almost daily at the YMCA. I enjoy everything baseball-the games, cards, books, etc. After I retire I plan to attend baseball's spring training in Florida or Arizona for one week during each March. For the past 30 years I have taught one undergraduate criminal justice course each semester at Elizabethtown College, and I will continue to do so during retirement.

Community service or volunteerism is also very important to me. I have served as a board member for the past 25 years at the Harrisburg Area YMCA. I was a member of their child care committee, membership committee, etc. and through the generosity of my friends I have raised approximately \$80,000 that is used to help children and families of low income to participate in YMCA activities. I have also been a Big Brother for the past 7 years for a young man who is now in high school. Both experiences have been very rewarding for me.

Even though I have worked for Dauphin County for 40 years, many county employees still mispronounce my name. Suknaic rhymes with "nick-knack" and it is just two syllables. Many people incorrectly pronounce my name by using three syllables. Oh, well! It is just a name. Maybe they will get it right when I retire this summer.

PAPPC Hosts 92nd Training Institute

The Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections (PAPPC) hosted its 92nd Training Institute at the Sheraton Station Square in Pittsburgh, PA on May 19-22, 2013. The theme for this year's institute was *Justice Reinvestment: The Confluence of Ideas & Practices*.

David Hickton, United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, was the Opening Speaker on Monday, May 20th. In his message, Mr. Hickton discussed the high incarceration rates throughout the United States and the collateral

consequences this has on communities and families. He emphasized the need to increase the utilization of evidence-based community corrections programs, as well as the need for corrections to implement effective programming that will help ensure successful re-entry and reduce recidivism. Mr. Hickton placed great emphasis on the need for organizational and cultural changes in order to facilitate successful transformation.

The Honorable Gary Tennis, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, and Dr. Kenneth Martz, Director of Prevention, Intervention and Treatment for the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, presented the Plenary Session on Tuesday

morning. In his remarks, Secretary Tennis emphasized the need for his department to work closely with the criminal and juvenile justice systems to work with cross-over clients. This includes using the evidence-based practices from both disciplines to work smarter and more effectively with clients.

Dr. Martz presented some key concepts in the management and supervision of offenders with addiction. Emphasis was placed on coordination of care as well as management of addiction related issues as they interact with criminogenic behaviors.

The Closing Session was presented by Carol A. Schubert, M.P.H., a Senior Consultant and Amanda Cross, Ph.D., a Research Associate, both with the Pennsylvania Mental Health and Justice Center of Excellence. Ms. Schubert and Dr. Cross discussed the prevalence of justice-involved individuals with mental health concerns, and how criminal justice professionals can assist in diverting these individuals from deeper penetration into the criminal justice system.

Approximately two hundred registrants had an opportunity to participate in a variety of twenty-five workshops. Proceeds from the Silent Auction, conducted during the conference, will benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh



Congratulations to the 2013 PAPPC Awards Recipients



Timothy Barnes (Allegheny County Juvenile Probation), Juvenile Probation Professional of the Year



Janet Hanley (Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services), Juvenile Corrections Professional of the Year



Larry Ludwig (Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole), Adult Probation/Parole Professional of the Year

The 93rd PAPPC Training Institute will be held May 18-21, 2014 at The Inn at Pocono Manor.

SAVE THE DATE



Youth Awards Program & Dinner

Wednesday, November 6

Annual Training & Awards Program

Thursday, November 7

Resource Day 2013

Friday, November 8

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 6-8, 2013

at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers



The 2013 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will conclude by presenting Resource Day – 2013, during which representatives from residential programs, electronic monitoring companies, drug testing companies, and other service providers will be available to discuss their programs with the Pennsylvania juvenile justice community. This informal marketplace will offer an important opportunity for consumers to learn about new and innovative services.

Exhibitor Registration open in August:

www.jcjc.state.pa.us

Sponsored by

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

The Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges

Don Corry Appointed as Chief in Chester County

Don Corry was appointed as the new Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Chester County on April 20, 2013 following the retirement of Marietta Lamb-Mawby. Prior to his appointment, Don served as the Chester County Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for 6 years. Don is a 1983 graduate of Allegheny College where he majored in psychology and minored in sociology. He received a Master's of Science in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University in 2001.

Don began his career with the Chester County Juvenile Court in 1986 as a probation officer after working three years as a residential counselor for the Devereux Foundation.

In 1990, he was promoted to a Probation Officer Specialist position where he developed the first intensive probation program in Chester County for clients with a history of substance abuse.

In 1991, Don was promoted to the position of Probation Case Supervisor and was a casework supervisor for eight years. In 1999, Don became the supervisor of the Placement Unit and was responsible for all placement referrals. In 2001, the Placement Unit was expanded and Don was promoted to a Probation Supervisor.



National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

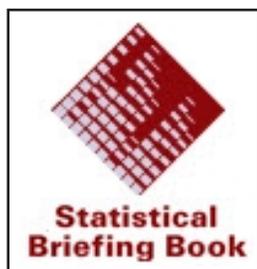
OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book Offers New Data on Juvenile Justice Issues

The [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) has released the first in a series of national overviews that describe where states stand on a variety of juvenile justice issues, including how they classify status offenses, extended age of jurisdiction, and administration of community supervision and aftercare services.

The overviews are available via the [Juvenile Justice System, Structure, and Process](#) FAQ section of OJJDP's [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (see questions marked "New").

Resources:

Developed by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) for OJJDP, the Briefing Book offers easy access to statistics on a variety of juvenile justice topics. Its [data analysis tools](#) allow users to create custom analyses of juvenile populations, arrests, court cases, and residential placement. Access the OJJDP [Statistical Briefing Book](#).



OJJDP Bulletin Examines PTSD, Trauma, and Psychiatric Disorders in Youth Detainees

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released "[PTSD, Trauma, and Comorbid Psychiatric Disorders in Detained Youth](#)." The bulletin is part of OJJDP's [Beyond Detention series](#), which examines the results of the Northwestern Juvenile Project—a longitudinal study of youth detained at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in Chicago, IL.

This bulletin presents findings on the prevalence of trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among juvenile detainees and PTSD's tendency to co-occur with other psychiatric disorders.

Resources:

Learn more about the [Northwestern Juvenile Project](#), cosponsored by OJJDP.

View and download "[PTSD, Trauma, and Comorbid Psychiatric Disorders in Detained Youth](#)."



Registration Open for Coalition of Juvenile Justice Youth Summit

The [Coalition for Juvenile Justice](#) will host its 2013 Youth Summit on August 2–3, 2013, in Washington, DC. In accordance with the summit theme “[Empowering Young Leaders for Juvenile Justice Reform](#),” sessions will offer youth information on juvenile justice basics, disproportionate minority contact, the school-to-prison pipeline, and leadership development.



Resources:

Pre-registration information is available [online](#).

View the conference [agenda](#).

OJJDP Bulletin Provides Overview of Juveniles in Residential Placement

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released [Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2010](#). The bulletin presents information from the 2010 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, a biennial survey of public and private juvenile residential facilities that the U.S. Census Bureau conducted and OJJDP sponsored. The bulletin compares information for detained versus committed offenders and youth in public versus private residential facilities and makes state-level comparisons. Key findings include the following: The population of juvenile offenders in custody has declined by one-third since 1997, the custody rate for black youth was more than 4.5 times the rate for white youth, and the custody rate for Hispanic youth was 1.8 times the rate for white youth.



Resources:

View and download “[Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2010](#).”

See other publications in OJJDP’s [Juvenile Offenders and Victims: National Report Series](#).

OJJDP Announces New Funding Opportunities

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has announced the following fiscal year 2013 funding opportunities:

[National Mentoring Resource Center](#). OJJDP seeks applicants to develop the center’s capabilities to provide mentoring resources,



references, and training materials to support implementation of mentoring practices that are evidence and research based. Applications are due by July 23, 2013.

[Youth with Sexual Behavior Problems Program](#). This program, a collaboration between OJJDP and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking, will fund agencies that use a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to providing intervention and supervision services for youth with sexual behavior problems and treatment services for their child victims and families. Applications are due by July 25, 2013.

Resources:

Visit OJJDP’s [funding](#) page for more information about this solicitation and other current funding opportunities.

OJJDP Bulletin Examines Victimization of Youth in Residential Placement

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released “[Nature and Risk of Victimization: Findings From the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement](#).”

This is the final bulletin in OJJDP’s series on the [Survey of Youth in Residential Placement](#), which gathered data directly from youth in custody. The survey findings signal an urgent need for policy and program initiatives to reduce victimization and improve protections for confined youth.



Resources:

View the [Survey of Youth in Residential Placement](#).

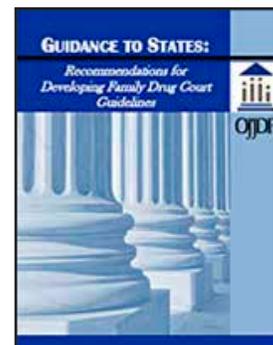
View and download “[Nature and Risk of Victimization: Findings From the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement](#).”

Publication Offers Guidelines for Developing Family Drug Courts

The [Center for Children and Family Futures](#) (CCFF) has released “[Guidance to States: Recommendations for Developing Family Drug Court Guidelines](#).”

This publication provides a blueprint for local and state policymakers and practitioners to implement best practices in providing effective family drug court (FDC) services.

Well-functioning FDCs bring together substance abuse treatment (in lieu of incarceration), mental health, and social services agencies with the court and attorneys to meet the diverse needs of high-risk families



in which parental substance use disorders contribute to child maltreatment.

Resources:

View and download the [report](#).

Join the CCFF family drug courts [discussion](#).

[Learn more](#) about the OJJDP National Training and Technical Assistance Center.

Vera Institute of Justice Releases New Resources

The [Vera Institute of Justice](#) has released two new publications:

- “[Measuring Success: A Guide to Becoming an Evidence-Based Practice](#).” This guide, funded by the [MacArthur Foundation](#) as part of its [Models for Change](#) initiative, describes the process that determines whether a program qualifies as evidence-based and explains how programs can prepare to be evaluated. 
- “[The Impact of Family Visitation on Incarcerated Youth’s Behavior and School Performance: Findings from the Families as Partners Project](#).” This brief summarizes the findings of the [Families as Partners](#) project, a partnership between the [Vera Institute’s Family Justice Program](#) and the [Ohio Department of Youth Services](#), that looked at associations between family support and outcomes for system-involved youth during their incarceration. 

Resources:

Download “[Measuring Success: A Guide to Becoming an Evidence-Based Practice](#)”

Download “[The Impact of Family Visitation on Incarcerated Youth’s Behavior and School Performance](#)”

[Read](#) about the OJJDP and MacArthur Foundation partnership and support of the Models for Change initiative.

OJJDP News @ a Glance Features Interview With Administrator Listenbee

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announces the availability of [OJJDP News @ a Glance, May/June 2013](#).

In an interview in this issue’s lead story, OJJDP Administrator [Robert L. Listenbee](#) discusses plans and priorities for the Office and the juvenile justice field. The issue also includes special features on the following topics:

The U.S. Department of Justice’s [Missing Children’s Day](#) ceremony.

A speech by Administrator Listenbee at the [Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference](#).

OJJDP’s [national tribal grantee meeting](#).

An OJJDP-supported publication that outlines [best practices for family drug courts](#).

[Upcoming events](#).

“OJJDP News @ a Glance,” May/June 2013 (NCJ 242021), is available [online](#).



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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[Stephen Bishop](#) - Editor, [Chris Heberlig](#) - Graphic Design & Layout.

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