

# PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
Tom Corbett, Governor



## Juvenile Justice

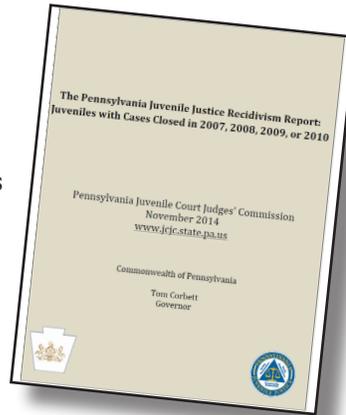
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 25, Number 11

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### ***Pennsylvania's Third Juvenile Justice Recidivism Report Released***

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has recently released its third recidivism study, entitled: "The Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Recidivism Report: Juveniles with Cases Closed in 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010." Expanding on the previous two recidivism studies published in April 2013 and December 2013, which contained recidivism analyses of juveniles with cases closed in 2007, 2008, and 2009, the current report contains additional recidivism information specific to juvenile delinquency cases closed in 2010. The four-year statewide recidivism average was 22%, with county-level rates ranging from 10% to 29%.



In 2010, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency endorsed the Statement of Purpose for Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), which is designed to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to achieve its mission of balanced and restorative justice. The JJSES seeks to employ evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process; collect and analyze the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, to continuously improve the quality of decisions, services, and programs.

The core premise of the JJSES is that recidivism rates can be reduced through the implementation of evidence-based practices. The goal of the study was to establish a recidivism benchmark against which the impact of the JJSES can be measured. The current report provides four year's worth of data from 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 that will be used to set the pre-JJSES benchmark. These four years were chosen for the benchmark because JJSES implementation was not initiated in any jurisdiction until 2010.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission specifically cautions against comparing the recidivism rates of individual counties or individual service providers for several important reasons. First, risk assessment instruments were rarely being used in Pennsylvania prior to 2010, so there is no way to determine the risk levels of youth who had been under supervision in a particular jurisdiction

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in 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010. In addition, there have been varying degrees of implementation of evidence-based practices across the state. Finally, case expungement practices and diversion practices vary widely among Pennsylvania's counties. All of these factors could significantly impact an individual county's recidivism rate.

It is important to note that expunged cases create a significant limitation to this study. Prior to October 1, 2014 in Pennsylvania, when a case was expunged, all of a juvenile's identifying information pertaining to that case was "erased" and therefore not available for analysis. Consequently, juveniles with a 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010 case expungement were omitted from the study's sample, unless they had a separate case closed in 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010 that was not expunged. Arguably, juveniles whose cases are expunged are presumed to be individuals who are lower risk to recidivate. In general, counties that expunged significant numbers of cases had higher recidivism rates than their counterparts. A possible explanation for this result is that a significant number of lower risk youth were removed from the research sample in these jurisdictions.

Recidivism was defined in the report as follows: A subsequent delinquency adjudication in juvenile court or conviction in criminal court for either a misdemeanor or felony offense within two years of case closure. The report was created utilizing juvenile court data received from county juvenile probation departments through the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System, developed by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, as well as criminal court conviction data that was provided by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.

Below are some of the major findings from the report:

- Approximately 22% of youth with a case closed between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2010 recidivated within two years of case closure.
- The average length of time to the recidivists' offenses that resulted in a subsequent delinquency adjudication or criminal conviction was 8 months, while the median length of time was 7 months. Approximately 75% of these offenses occurred within 12 months after case closure.
- The more total written allegations a juvenile had in his or her offending history, the more likely he or she was to recidivate. Juveniles with only one total written allegation recidivated at a rate of 14%. Conversely, juveniles with ten or more total written allegations recidivated at a rate of 55%.

- The younger the juvenile was at the time of his or her first written allegation, the more likely he or she was to recidivate. Conversely, the older the juvenile was at the time of his or her first written allegation, the less likely he or she was to recidivate.
- Males recidivated at a rate 2.5 times higher than females.
- Approximately 3 in 10 (28%) Black juveniles re-offended. Approximately 2 in 10 (19%) White juvenile offenders recidivated. About 1 in 10 (10%) Asian juvenile offenders recidivated.
- Black males and White males re-offended at the highest rates (33% and 22%, respectively). Asian males re-offended at a rate of 13%, followed by Black females at 12%. Approximately 10% of White females re-offended, while no Asian females recidivated.
- 81% of recidivists were from "disrupted" family situations (e.g., biological parents never married, biological parents separated/divorced, one/both biological parents deceased). Only 19% of recidivists' parents were married.
- Juveniles with both parents deceased re-offended at the highest rate (26%) among all family status groups.
- Among select offenses analyzed, juveniles who committed the following on their base case recidivated at rates lower than the overall average: indecent assault (12%), retail theft (13%), DUI (15%), weapon on school property (16%), and criminal mischief (17%).
- Among select offenses analyzed, juveniles who committed the following on their base case recidivated at rates higher than the overall average: unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (30%), robbery (31%), possession with intent to deliver (32%), and firearm-related offenses (41%).
- Person offenders, Property offenders, and Drug offenders all exhibited some degree of offense type specialization when re-offending. Drug offenders exhibited the highest degree of specialization when they recidivated.
- Juveniles who committed a sex offense on their base case recidivated (any type of offense) at a rate of 14%. Approximately 1.7% of sex offenders were adjudicated delinquent in juvenile court or convicted in criminal court for another sex offense within two years of their case closing.

- Juveniles who had no detention/shelter or dispositional placement experience recidivated at a rate half of that of those who had at least one such experience (16% vs. 33%, respectively).
- The more dispositional placement episodes a juvenile had, the more likely he or she was to recidivate. Juveniles who had only one dispositional placement episode recidivated at a rate of 32%. Juveniles who had four or more dispositional placement episodes re-offended at a rate of 47%.
- Approximately 1 in 5 (21%) juveniles with a case closure in 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010 were a serious offender, a violent offender, or a chronic offender, as defined by the study.
- Only 0.4% of juveniles with a case closure in 2007, 2008, 2009, or 2010 were “serious, violent, AND chronic offenders”, as defined by the study, though 55% of “serious, violent, AND chronic offenders” recidivated.
- About 50% of “child offenders” were either a “serious offender”, a “violent offender”, or a “chronic offender”, as defined by the study. Only 20% of “non-child offenders” were a “serious offender”, a “violent offender”, or a “chronic offender”.

To view the full report, please visit [www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us).

## ***Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol Training Pennsylvania The First to Have SPEP Professionals Trained as Trainers***

Pennsylvania continues to build capacity to support the roll out of the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) as part of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). On October 14, 2014, a small, pilot cohort of EPISCenter staff, a consultant and employees from three of the five pilot county juvenile probation departments participated in a training to enable them to teach other juvenile justice professionals how to administer the SPEP, commonly known as a Training of Trainers (TOT). Dr. Gabrielle Chapman of the Peabody Institute for Research at Vanderbilt University traveled to Pennsylvania to deliver the training to this group.

Participants were able to view the database which catalogues all of the studies that Dr. Mark Lipsey (SPEP developer) and his team have reviewed and coded as part of the meta-analysis, followed by an in-depth overview of the derivation of SPEP scoring and components from that research base. Dr. Chapman defined the role, rights, and responsibilities of a SPEP trainer. She also reviewed the required competency levels for trainers and trainees, as well as experiential requirements. The afternoon session consisted of teaching the components of SPEP to others, including materials, modeling and messaging. Dr. Chapman returned to Pennsylvania on December 9, 2014, to complete the certification of Pennsylvania’s trainers, where they examined quality control strategies and engaged in interactive teaching scenarios.

On October 15, 2014, Dr. Lipsey joined Dr. Chapman and met with the SPEP “Learning Community” (those in PA trained to administer the SPEP) to provide an update on the SPEP research, followed by a service type classification exercise, and question and answer session. Both Drs. remarked on how thoughtful and engaged the entire Learning Community is in terms of wanting to understand the research behind SPEP and in applying it to youth services in PA.

As the first state to have juvenile justice professionals trained as SPEP trainers, Pennsylvania has demonstrated advanced expertise in the delivery of the SPEP process. The developers at the Peabody Research Institute at Vanderbilt University have confidence that the fidelity of SPEP will be adhered to as the project moves forward in the Commonwealth. For more information on SPEP, please visit the [EPISCenter website](http://www.episcenter.org).

# RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Part 10 in a series

**Source Document:** Taxman, Faye S., Eric S. Shepardson, and James M. Byrne. 2004. *Tools of the Trade: A Guide to Incorporating Science into Practice*. National Institute of Corrections Publication, pp 58-64.

The body of scientific knowledge related to the field of juvenile justice is growing at an exponential rate. With this knowledge, new processes leading to improved outcomes are routinely generated. Clearly, the need to have access to, and understand scientific information is critical. Unfortunately, practitioners often do not have the time to sort through the literature. With this issue in mind, in 2006, *the Colorado Division of Probation Services* began to publish **Research in Briefs (RIB's)**. These documents are intended to summarize potentially helpful research related to effective practices, as well as provide ideas for practical applications of the information. More information on **RIB's** can be found here: [http://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB\\_Summary1213.pdf](http://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_Summary1213.pdf)

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) rests on two interlinked foundations: the best empirical research available in the field of juvenile justice and a set of core beliefs about how to integrate this research into practice. With this in mind, as an ongoing feature of *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice*, "**Research In Brief (RIBs)**" will provide summaries of published research related to various aspects of the JJSES. The **RIBs** will convey how various scientific studies support the JJSES Statement of Purpose.

## *Incentives to Shape Offender Behavior*

*Reprinted with Permission from: Colorado Division of Probation Services. (May, 2008).  
Incentives to Shape Offender Behavior*

Retrieved from: <http://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/File/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIBIncentives.pdf>

The article is part of a larger document that includes a number of useful tools for offender management. Research has shown that incentives, when implemented properly, can have a significant impact on youth behavior. The effects can lead to long-term change, thus reducing recidivism and enhancing community safety. The article provides some tips and tools for using incentives in conjunction with sanctions. By using the two in tandem, the probation officer can motivate youth to comply with supervision and accept responsibility for change.

Incentives can include "either adding something positive, such as a compliment or affirmation, or taking away an existing punishment or restriction." Traditionally probation has not focused on incentives but has used a series of sanctions to win compliance. Incentives have been perceived as "soft" and a reward for expected behavior. However, research on behavior management has clearly demonstrated incentives and sanctions are critical to changing youth behavior.

"Supervision, based on the principles of behavior management, moves youth up and down the incentive/consequence ladder throughout the period of supervision." Depending on the youth's actions, the officer uses a combination of sanctions and incentives to shape the youth's behavior. Research indicates incentives impact offender change more than sanctions; they have a longer lasting effect and reinforce positive behavior.

Research suggests a ratio of four rewards to each sanction. The rewards do not have to happen simultaneously but can be implemented over time. For example, a youth receives a sanction for a positive UA. The PO can then praise the youth for showing up and/or having negative UA's on the next four occasions.

Research found responses (both incentives and sanctions) are most effective when they are certain, swift, predictable, and proportionate.

**Certain** -- A response should be initiated for every act, positive or negative, no matter how small. The youth

must know a consequence is imminent, whether good or bad.

*Swift* -- The sooner a response is given, the more effective it will be. It can be difficult for the youth to associate the sanction or reward to the behavior when a significant amount of time has passed.

*Predictable/Real* -- The responses should be similar (although individualized) for each youth, and they should be explained to the youth at the beginning of supervision. When sanctions and incentives are predictable, it allows the youth to think about their behavior and the consequences before they act.

*Proportionate* -- Responses should be of reasonable significance in respect to the behavior.

### Practical Applications

- ✓ Use four positives for each negative.
- ✓ Address behavior, positive or negative, as soon as it is detected.
- ✓ Ensure case planning includes a discussion of potential sanctions and incentives.
- ✓ Make a list of possible incentives to have ready whenever a probationer makes progress.

✓ Simple complements and affirmations can be highly valued by this population, given their history of failure.

✓ Reward even the smallest behavior changes.

### Limitations of Information

The article does not address how public agencies should obtain incentives with a monetary value. The information is general in nature and does not provide many examples of sanctions or incentives. In addition, jurisdictions have local policies to which individual officers should adhere.

*Caveat: The information presented here is intended to summarize and inform readers of research and information relevant to probation work. It can provide a framework for carrying out the business of probation as well as suggestions for practical application of the material. While it may, in some instances, lead to further exploration and result in future decisions, it is not intended to prescribe policy and is not necessarily conclusive in its findings. Some of its limitations are described above.*

## 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.

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

## ***Susan Blackburn Promoted to Policy and Program Development Position***



Susan Blackburn was recently promoted to the position of Policy and Program Development Specialist with the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research. She serves as the project director for the Juvenile Justice Enhancement Training Initiative and is the central point of contact for Balanced and Restorative Justice in Pennsylvania. Susi was promoted from the position of Juvenile Court Consultant, which she held since starting with the agency in 1998.

Previously, Ms. Blackburn was the Director for Somerset County Probation and Youth Services. She was responsible for the administration of four departments: Adult Probation; Juvenile Probation; Children and Youth Services; and the Regional Training Center for Children and Youth Services.

Ms. Blackburn graduated from Pennsylvania State University, having obtained a B.S. in Administration of Justice. She also holds an M.S. from Shippensburg University in Administration of Justice. She has trained throughout Pennsylvania, as well as nationally, on Balanced and Restorative Justice and other related topics. Ms. Blackburn is an adjunct instructor for Shippensburg University, teaching the graduate level Restorative Justice course.

Ms. Blackburn served 16 years as a gubernatorial appointee to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and presently serves on the Victims Needs Assessment Sub-Committee of the Victims Services Advisory Committee.

## ***Leo J. Lutz Appointed Director of Policy and Program Development***

Leo J. Lutz was appointed Director of Policy and Program Development of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission on November 3, 2014. He will be responsible for coordinating the JCJC's Court Service Visit program and serving as a Stage 2 Co-Leader for Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy, which focuses on risk assessment and case planning activities. In addition, Leo will provide technical assistance and advice to juvenile court judges and chief juvenile probation officers.

Leo was the Director of Training and Graduate Education for the Commission's Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research from August of 2013 until his current appointment. Prior to that, Mr. Lutz brought eighteen years of juvenile justice system experience to the JCJC/CJJT&R. He began his career in 1995 as a drug and alcohol counselor at Manos. In 1997, Leo transitioned to the role of juvenile probation officer in Lancaster County, where he was promoted to the role of supervisor in 2008. He received the Dr. Anthony F. Ceddia Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Juvenile Justice in 2006.

Leo had been a Stage 3 Co-Leader of the JJSES, and he is the current President Designate of the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections. Leo holds both a Bachelors Degree in Psychology from Penn State University and a Masters Degree in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University. He can be reached at (717) 709-2290, or [lelutz@pa.gov](mailto:lelutz@pa.gov).



# 2014 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

The 2014 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 5-7, 2014 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. This year, more than 900 individuals registered for the conference. The theme for this year's plenary sessions was "Delinquency and Trauma: What Juvenile Justice Professionals Need to Know".

## James E. Anderson Retirement Celebration

The conference began on November 5<sup>th</sup> by celebrating Jim Anderson and his extraordinary service to Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. Jim retired



from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission on April 18, 2014, after thirty-six years of dedicated service to the Commonwealth. He served as the JCJC's Executive Director for twenty-eight years and was perhaps the most influential person in the history of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. Several prominent figures spoke and gave tribute to Jim, followed by Jim sharing his perspectives about the recent history and future of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. The celebration closed with the announcement that the Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice would henceforth be named the James E. Anderson Conference on Juvenile Justice.

## Child Protective Services Law Update for Judges and Masters

On Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, the JCJC, in partnership with the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, sponsored a training,

"Child Protective Services Law Amendments: What Judges Need To Know", in conjunction with the 2014 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

Moderated by Keith Snyder, JCJC Executive Director, this training provided an opportunity for more

than seventy-five judges and masters to learn about and discuss the various legislative amendments to the Child Protective Services Law. Judges and masters were also able to discuss implementation issues that are likely to arise within their local jurisdictions.

A comprehensive review of the various amendments, as well as the work of the Governor's Task Force on Child Protection, was presented by Cathy Utz, Acting Deputy Secretary, Office of Children, Youth and Families, Department of Public Welfare. Local perspectives were then shared by: Montgomery County – Judge Wendy Demchik-Alloy (Administrative Juvenile Court Judge) and Laurie O'Conner (Administrator, Children and Youth); and Lycoming County – Judge Joy Reynolds McCoy and Richard Saylor (Children's Services Director, Lycoming/Clinton Joinder Board).

## Professional Caucuses

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, participants had an opportunity 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 be in the next edition of *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice*.

## Juvenile Defender Training

Over fifty juvenile defenders from across Pennsylvania attended the 2014 Conference on Juvenile Justice, and participated in a separate training track developed exclusively for them on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Presentations for juvenile defenders included: The Ethical Obligation to use Identification Experts after Walker; SORNA Update; and Incorporating Developmental Research into Client Advocacy. A "Judges Roundtable" was also held on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, at which time juvenile court judges joined the defenders for lunch.

## Youth Awards Program

The 2014 Youth Awards Program was held on Wednesday evening, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and was attended by close to 500 people. Young people were recognized for being selected as winners in Creative Expression and Out-

standing Achievement award categories. Additionally, the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges presented two deserving youth with James E. Anderson Juvenile Justice Youth Scholarship Awards, each in the amount of \$1,500.



This year's Youth Awards Speaker was Jason Sole, an assistant professor at Metropolitan State University in Minnesota where he teaches diversity and criminal justice courses. Mr. Sole shared his compelling story of a struggling young man who overcame many challenges associated with growing up in a disruptive family on the streets of Chicago, and seeking acceptance through gang involvement. Following several arrests, he decided to pursue an education and seek new friends, eventually achieving a Bachelor of Arts and a Masters of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He has also authored a book, *From Prison to PhD: A Memoir of Hope, Resilience, and Second Chances*, which provides a dramatic account of his challenging experiences as well as hope and encouragement for others who are in similar circumstances. Copies of this book can be purchased at <http://www.jasonsole.com/prisontophd.htm>.

Jason spoke to the youth about the hard work and perseverance required to successfully achieve his educational goals and 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. Mr. Sole also offered tools that juvenile and criminal justice agencies can use to influence people affected by delinquency, incarceration and poverty.

## Conference Welcome and Keynote Presentation

On Thursday morning, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 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, "Trauma Informed Care: What It Means and Why It Matters" was provided by Dr. Keith R. Cruise. He is an Associate Professor and Co-Director of Clinical-Forensic Specialization in the Department of Psychology at Fordham University. He holds a PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of North Texas and a Masters of Legal Studies degree from the University of

Nebraska. Dr. Cruise conducts research on the clinical-forensic assessment of youth within the juvenile justice system. His clinical-forensic practice has involved providing direct care assessment and treatment services with justice-involved youth by conducting post-disposition

assessments of risk and treatment amenability, providing expert testimony to juvenile courts, and developing treatment protocols for this population. Dr. Cruise also has over 10 years of experience providing consultation and training services to local and state juvenile justice agencies. Dr. Cruise is a funded core faculty member of the Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice, a technical assistance center that is part of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN).

In Dr. Cruise's presentation, he highlighted the various ways that trauma can be manifested in adolescents and mistaken for delinquent behavior. He also described the additional trauma that can be inflicted by imposing inappropriate interventions, and offered various methods for screening youth with traumatic histories.



## Workshops

Almost 600 people registered to attend fifteen different workshops on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. In an effort to allow participants to maximize exposure to the selected topics, the morning workshops were repeated in the afternoon session. The workshops included:

- Autism: Identification & Response in the Juvenile Justice System
- Dauphin County's Quality Assurance Practices: Making It Work
- Developing Trauma Informed Juvenile Probation Practices in Crawford County
- Funding JJSES Activities Through the Needs-Based Budget Process
- Implementing Motivational Interviewing: A Multiple County Perspective
- Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment: Principles, Practice and the Pennsylvania Experience
- PACTT 2014 & Beyond: Working to Improve Outcomes Through Data-Driven Decision Making
- Parenting with Love and Limits: An Effective Model for Engaging Parents
- Pennsylvania's "Act 21" Program – Ten Years in Review
- Promising Restitution Management and Victim Related Practices
- Reactive Attachment Disorder and Service Delivery
- SPEP Update: Insights from the Field & Next Steps
- The "Good Lives" Model of Sexual Offender Treatment
- The Outcomes of Systems of Care (SOC) in Northumberland County
- Judges Only Workshops
- AM Session: Building a Trauma-Informed Courtroom: Tools for Judges
- PM Session: Motivational Interviewing: An Introduction to Practical Applications for Judges

## Thursday Afternoon Plenary Session

The afternoon plenary session, a panel discussion entitled "Understanding and Treating Trauma in Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System" was facilitated by Dr. Ronald Sharp, Clinical Director of Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, Inc. As more than 88 percent of girls and 67 percent of boys coming into the juvenile justice system have experienced trauma, understanding

how trauma shapes these youth, their interactions with others and their relationship to the world in which they live is critical to advancing the work of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system. The panel discussion gave specific and detailed information about what can be done to address the trauma experienced by the young men and women who enter our juvenile justice system. The panelist were: Judge John Cleland, Senior Judge from McKean County; Steve Bridger, Director of the Crawford County Juvenile Probation Department; Addie Beighley, Chief of Juvenile Probation in Westmoreland County; Mike McCalpin, President and COO of Adelphi Village; Jeff Patton, SPEP Coordinator for ARC, Inc.; and a Dauphin County juvenile.

## Annual Awards Program and Dinner

Thursday's activities concluded with the 34th 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 10 for this year's award winners)

## Resource Day

The 2014 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice concluded with Resource Day on November 7<sup>th</sup>. 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: Two Kindle Paperwhite's and a Microsoft Surface Pro Tablet.



The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission congratulates all of the

## 2014 Award Winners



DR. THOMAS L. AUSTIN  
UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD  
Mariah E. Henry - Shippensburg University



OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD  
Hon. Kathryn M. Hens-Greco



JUDGE FRED P. ANTHONY AWARD  
James E. Anderson  
Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (Retired)

DR. ANTHONY F. CEDDIA  
AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING  
SCHOLARSHIP IN  
JUVENILE JUSTICE  
Kelli A. Davis  
Lancaster County



RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM  
OF THE YEAR  
Adelphoi Village  
Sweeney Home  
Frank Chappell



COURT OPERATED PROGRAM OF THE YEAR  
Juvenile Drug Court Blair County  
Hon. Elizabeth Doyle

COMMUNITY- BASED PROGRAM OF THE YEAR  
Diakon Youth Services Center Point Day Program  
Jeremias Garcia



# Congratulations!

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission congratulates all of the

## 2014 Award Winners



VICTIM ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR  
Jennifer Grant  
Bucks County



JUVENILE COURT SUPPORT SERVICE AWARD  
Melissa Trostle  
Dauphin County

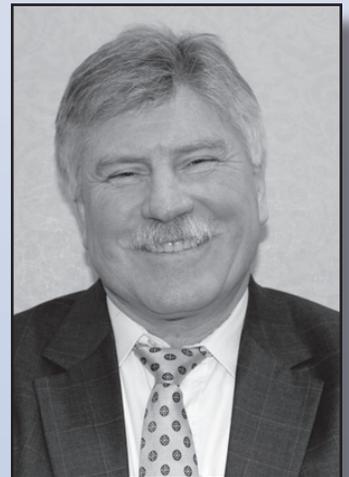
MERITORIOUS  
SERVICE AWARD  
Cheryl Nichols  
Chester County



JUVENILE PROBATION  
OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
Kija Waithe  
Dauphin County



JUVENILE PROBATION SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR  
Laurie Hague  
Berks County



CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
Sam Miller  
Cumberland County

## Congratulations!

# Employment Opportunity

## CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER Washington County, Pennsylvania

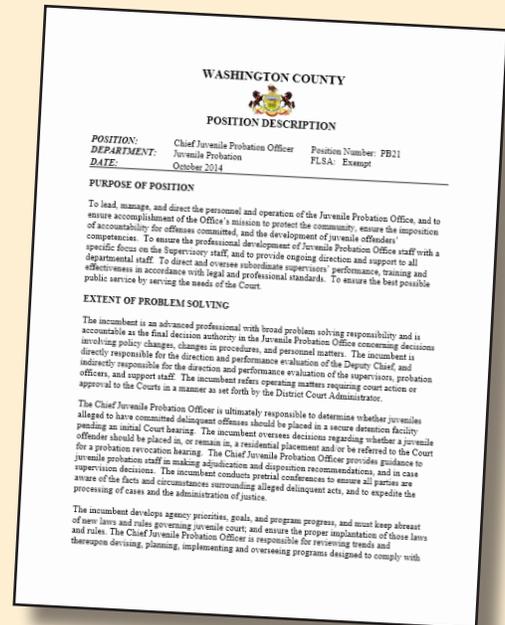
The Court of Common Pleas of Washington County is seeking an individual who will lead, manage and oversee the personnel and operations of the Juvenile Probation Office. This individual will ensure the imposition of accountability for offenses committed and the development of juvenile offenders' competencies, as well as ensure the professional development of the Juvenile Probation Office supervisory staff and provide direction and support to all departmental staff.

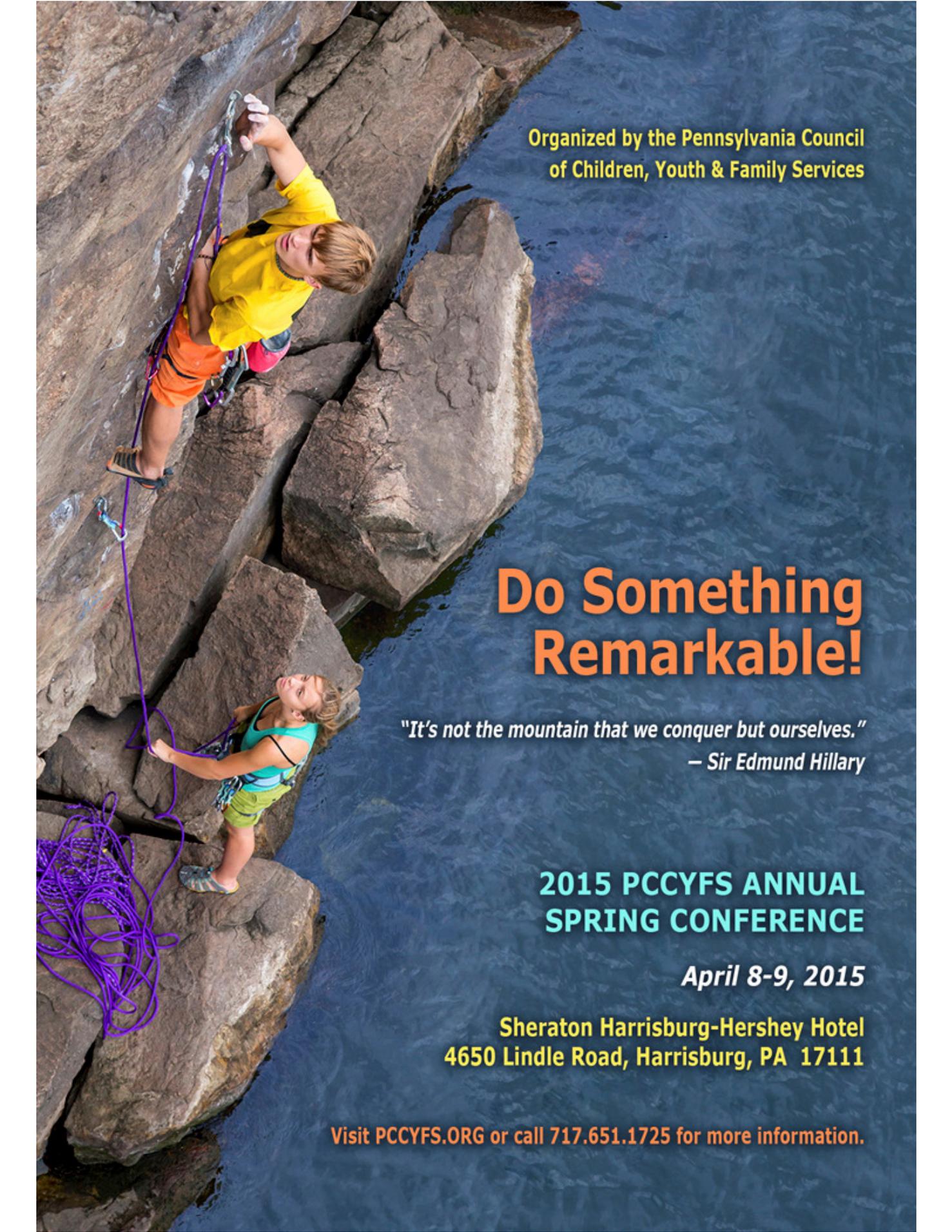
A Master's Degree is required in Social Sciences, Public Administration or a related field, or a Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences, Public Administration or related field and significant and extensive prior supervisory, management and professional probation experience. The individual must be proficient in the workings of the Juvenile Court and the application of probation supervision, the Juvenile Act and the Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure.

Applications are available in the Washington County Human Resources Department or online at [www.co.washington.pa.us](http://www.co.washington.pa.us) and must be submitted by the close of business on Thursday, January 1, 2014.

County of Washington  
Human Resources Department  
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer  
100 West Beau Street, Suite 202  
Washington, PA 15301

*Washington County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*





Organized by the Pennsylvania Council  
of Children, Youth & Family Services

# Do Something Remarkable!

*"It's not the mountain that we conquer but ourselves."  
— Sir Edmund Hillary*

**2015 PCCYFS ANNUAL  
SPRING CONFERENCE**

*April 8-9, 2015*

**Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel  
4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111**

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# National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

## National Center for Juvenile Justice Web Site Explores Dual-Systems Integration

The [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) has released a new section of the [Juvenile Justice GPS—Geography, Policy, Practice & Statistics](#) (JJGPS), an online resource funded by the [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#). This Web site features national and state statistics on state laws and juvenile justice practice to help chart juvenile justice system change. The new [systems integration](#) section examines policy and practice for integrating information and services for [dual status youth](#) involved in both the child protection and juvenile justice systems.



The JJGPS site also features a section on [jurisdictional boundaries](#). Other sections will focus on juvenile defense, racial/ethnic fairness, juvenile justice services, and status offense issues.

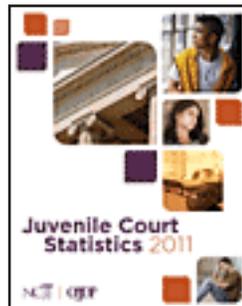
### Resources:

JJGPS is one of several strategies in support of juvenile justice reform through the [Models for Change initiative](#).

The National Center for Juvenile Justice is the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#).

## National Center for Juvenile Justice Releases Juvenile Court Statistics 2011

The [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) has released “[Juvenile Court Statistics 2011](#).” The report describes trends in delinquency cases processed between 1985 and 2011 and status offense cases handled between 1995 and 2011. Data include case rates, juvenile demographics, and offenses charged.



In 2011, courts handled an estimated 1.2 million cases (down 34 percent from the peak in 1997). Thirty one percent of cases involved females, and 53 percent involved youth younger than 16.

### Resources:

The [report](#) draws on data from the OJJDP-sponsored [National Juvenile Court Data Archive](#).

See OJJDP’s [Statistical Briefing Book](#) for additional information on juvenile court case processing.

## National Center for Juvenile Justice Updates Court Data Archive Web Site

The [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) has updated its [National Juvenile Court Data Archive](#) Web site. The Archive collects juvenile court data from across the country to inform juvenile justice research and policymaking decisions. This OJJDP-funded Web site features an updated user guide section for reviewing data from contributing jurisdictions and also provides links to NCJJ’s recently published [Juvenile Court Statistics 2011](#) report, the [Statistical Briefing Book](#), the [Easy Access to Juvenile Court Statistics](#) data analysis tool, and other fact sheets and publications.



### Resources:

The National Center for Juvenile Justice is the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#).

## Registration Open for Web-Based Training on Engaging Families in the Justice System

OJJDP, in collaboration with the [National Center for Youth in Custody](#), is offering “[Engaging Families in the Justice System](#).” This Web-based training highlights practices to help juvenile justice professionals build partnerships with families. Participants will learn how to:



Describe meaningful family engagement based on recent research with families.

Identify specific practices used nationwide to increase family engagement.

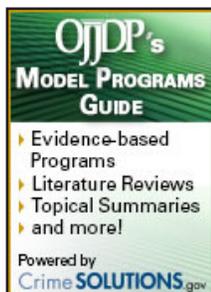
Use the FAMILY model that the [Campaign for Youth Justice](#) developed, as well as other resources, to build partnerships with families.

### Resources:

[Register](#) for the training at [OJJDP Online University](#).

## OJJDP's Model Programs Guide Adds Three Literature Reviews

OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#) (MPG), an online resource of evidence-based juvenile justice and youth prevention, intervention, and reentry programs, has added three new [literature reviews](#). MPG literature reviews provide practitioners and policymakers with relevant research and evaluations on more than 40 juvenile justice topics and programs. These three literature reviews address:



[Risk/Needs Assessments for Youths.](#)

[Disproportionate Minority Contact \(DMC\).](#)

[Family Therapy.](#)

In addition to literature reviews, MPG offers program profiles, information on program implementation, and resource links.

### Resources:

[Learn more](#) about OJJDP's Model Programs Guide.

## Departments of Justice, Education Release Correctional Education Guidance Package for Serving Juvenile Justice System-Involved Youth

Attorney General Eric Holder and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan [released](#) the Correctional Education Guidance Package on Monday, December 8. Developed through a partnership between the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education, this guidance package is designed to inform the efforts of states, school districts, and juvenile justice facilities that serve system-involved youth. The package includes recommendations and federal requirements for ensuring that youth in confinement receive an education comparable to those provided in traditional public school settings. OJP Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason and OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee joined the Attorney General and Secretary of Education for the announcement.

Quality education is an essential protective factor for system-involved youth that helps them set realistic long-term goals, acquire the skill sets to succeed, and return to school and their communities as productive citizens.

The package includes the following components:

[Guiding Principles for Providing High-Quality Education in Juvenile Justice Secure Care Settings](#), jointly issued by DOJ and ED.

[Dear Colleague Letter on Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for Students with Disabilities in Correctional Facilities](#), issued by ED's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, clarifies state and public agency obligations to provide a free, appropriate public education to eligible students with disabilities who reside in correctional facilities.

[Dear Colleague Letter on Civil Rights of Students in Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities](#), issued by DOJ's Civil Rights Division and ED's Office for Civil Rights, stipulates that juvenile justice residential facilities receiving DOJ or ED funding must comply with the federal civil rights laws that these agencies enforce.

[Dear Colleague Letter on Access to Federal Pell Grants for Students in Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities](#), issued by ED's Office of Postsecondary Education, provides campus financial aid professionals the eligibility requirements for youth residing in juvenile justice facilities to apply for Pell Grants.

### Resources:

Learn more about [system-involved youth](#).

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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