

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
Tom Wolf, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 28, Number 10

October 2017

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REMAINS OPEN

Registration for the 2017 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will remain open until midnight November 12, 2017. Please visit www.jcjc.pa.gov to register for this event. In addition to the engaging plenary sessions previously highlighted in the newsletter, **fifteen separate training workshops will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2017.**

The workshops this year will highlight programs, practices, and initiatives that exemplify best-practices related to the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system. Offerings will be repeated in both the morning and afternoon sessions for conference participants, except where noted.

Click [here](#) to download the mobile app to view a description of each workshop.

The workshops include:

- Understanding the Co-Morbidity of Trauma and Juvenile Delinquency
- Supervising Special Populations: The Montgomery County Sex Offender Unit
- Brain Injury in Youth Offenders: A Hidden Disability
- Juvenile Probation in the 21st Century: Integrating Developmental Science and Juvenile Justice
- Let's Talk to Each Other: Reducing DMC and Improving Youth/Law Enforcement Relations
- Creating an Optimal Environment for Learning: Perspectives on Supporting Youth and Families with MH Diagnoses
- Taking Ownership: Advancing Motivational Interviewing in the PA Juvenile Justice System
- The Essentials of Leadership in an Ever-Changing Juvenile Justice Field
- The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and the Protections Afforded to LGBTQ Youth
- Data and the Juvenile Justice System: Recent Developments in PaJCMS and JNET
- Funding JJSES Activities Using the Needs-Based Budget and the Juvenile Probation Services Grant
- Cultivating Rapport and Mentoring Youth through the Powerful Influence of Hip-Hop Culture
- Probation Officer Well-Being: Strategies for Fostering a Safe Work Environment
- A Guide to Social Media Safety for Juvenile Justice Professionals
- Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS): The Application of Science to Supervision Practices - AFTERNOON ONLY

INSIDE:

2016 Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Dispositions: Alleged and Substantiated Offenses..... 2

SPEP Job Opportunities..... 2

Cynthia Wess Retires as Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Cambria County..... 3

Mark Ledford Named Chief Probation Officer for Cambria County..... 4

Technology Corner 4

Join Us: 2017 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice 4

Juvenile Justice Week Events 5

Chief's Council Forms SOGIE Committee 8

PACCIPO 50th Anniversary Celebration..... 9

National Announcements 10

Save the Date: 20th Children's Interagency Conference..... 11

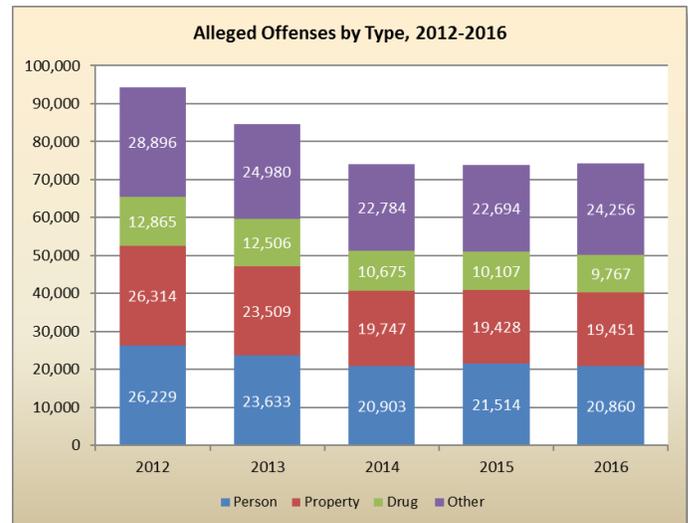
Save the Date: FGDM Statewide Conference..... 11

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Position Announcement..... 11

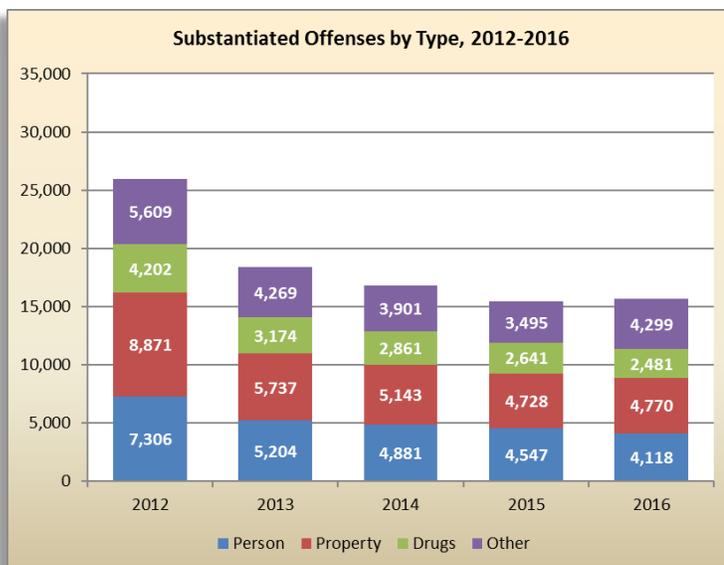
2016 PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT DISPOSITIONS

Alleged and Substantiated Offenses

Alleged offenses, as reported to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) from county juvenile probation departments in Pennsylvania, have increased by less than 1% from 2015 to 2016 and have decreased by 21.2% since 2012. The largest decrease by type of alleged offense has been in the drug offense category with a decrease of 3.4%, and person offenses decreased by 3.0%. The "other" offenses increased by 6.9% and property offenses increased by less than 1% from 2015 to 2016.



Similar to the alleged offenses, the total number of substantiated offenses also increased slightly from 2015 to 2016, with the largest increase occurring in the "other" offense category (23.0%). Person offenses decreased by 9.4%, drug offenses decreased by 6.1%, and property offenses increased by less than 1% from 2015 to 2016. Each category of substantiated offenses remains below their respective 2012 levels.



SPEP Job Opportunities

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) is a validated, data-driven rating system for determining how well a program matches what research tells us is effective for reducing the recidivism of juvenile offenders. SPEP is an integral part of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) in Pennsylvania that focuses on probation and service provider partnership to continuously improve service usage and delivery.

The Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenter) provides training and technical assistance for the SPEP process in the Commonwealth. To increase capacity, Penn State University has posted job opportunities to hire four additional EPISCenter SPEP staff. These positions will be located regionally throughout the state and will work within their region to bring additional probation offices and juvenile justice providers into the SPEP process. To learn more about these positions or to apply, please visit the following link: <https://psu.jobs/job/75249>.



The EPISCenter represents a collaborative partnership between the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), and the Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center, College of Health and Human Development, Penn State University, with funding and support from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS).

CYNTHIA WESS RETIRES AS CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER IN CAMBRIA COUNTY

In July 2017, Cynthia (Cindi) Wess retired from Cambria County as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer following 43 years of dedicated service to the department. Ms. Wess began her juvenile justice career in 1974 as a Child Care Worker at the Cambria County Detention Center. Later that same year, Ms. Wess accepted an Intake Officer position at the Cambria County Administrative Office of Juvenile Court. Ms. Wess was promoted to the position of Supervisor in 1984, and to the position of Chief in 1989, where she remained until her recent retirement.

Ms. Wess stands out as a distinguished leader of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system who leaves behind an extraordinary legacy of accomplishments on many levels. Several highlights of Ms. Wess's career are as follows:

- At both state and local levels, Ms. Wess was directly involved in the integration of Balanced and Restorative Justice into Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.
- Ms. Wess led the establishment of many progressive policies and practices in Cambria County; including, specialized community-based, school-based and aftercare supervision programs, Assistant District Attorney and Public Defender positions assigned specifically to juvenile court, and a victim of juvenile offenders program that provided information and services to victims and families.
- Ms. Wess was a long-time active member of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, where she served on a host of committees. In 1996 and 1997, Ms. Wess serviced as the President of the Council.
- Ms. Wess served on many influential State-level committees, including the Balanced and Restorative Justice Steering Committee, the Juvenile Court and Department of Public Welfare Coordination Committee, the Juvenile Justice Sub-Committee of the Restitution in Pennsylvania Task Force, the Subcommittee on Children and Youth Access to Mental Health Residential Treatment Facility-Based Services, and the Office of Children Youth and Families/Department of Public Welfare Advisory Cabinet.
- In 1998, Ms. Wess was honored as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year at the annual Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.
- In 1999, Ms. Wess was appointed by Governor Tom Ridge to the Governor's Community Partnership for Safe Children.
- In 2007, Ms. Wess accessed funding to establish a Criminal Justice Advisory Board in Cambria County.
- Ms. Wess led the development and implementation of many evidence-based Court/Probation practices in Cambria County, including the use of the YLS risk assessment instrument, motivational interviewing, case planning, the Crossroads® cognitive/behavioral competency-based curriculum, and performance-based quality assurance protocols.

Ms. Wess's educational achievements show a clear dedication to lifelong learning. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology; a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting; a Master of Arts Degree in Counseling Services; and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study focusing on Justice Administration. Ms. Wess has also taught psychology and criminal justice classes at the college level.

Ms. Wess states that she's currently reflecting on her long-term retirement plans. In the meantime, she's catching up with sleep, reading, and attending to house work.

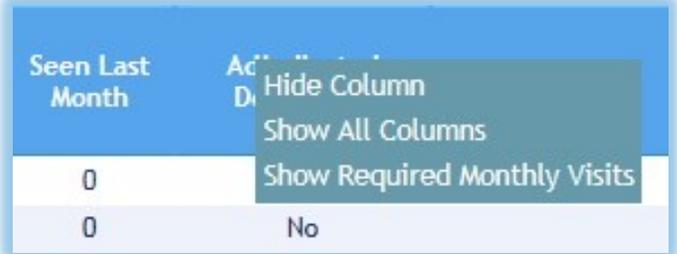
MARK LEDFORD NAMED CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER FOR CAMBRIA COUNTY

On August 7, 2017, Mark Ledford was appointed as Cambria County's Chief Probation Officer by the Honorable Norman A. Krumenacker, III, President Judge. In this position, Mr. Ledford will oversee both the Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments in Cambria County.

Prior to his appointment to his current position, Mr. Ledford was the Program Director of Criminal Justice and First Response at YTI Career Institute for seven years. Mr. Ledford also served as a probation officer in Blair County from 2007 to 2009. Mr. Ledford holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from the Pennsylvania State University, and a Master of Science Degree in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Ledford is scheduled to earn his second Masters Degree in Addiction Counseling later this year.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Did you know, in addition to filtering and sorting within PaJCMS, you can also customize some of the PaJCMS data lists? One data list that can be customized is on the PaJCMS dashboard. Move your cursor to one of the column headings and the cursor should turn into a hand . Click and drag the column to where you would like it to be! You can also hide and show different columns. Do this by right clicking on the column and a menu will appear. You can unhide a column by right clicking on the column header and all the columns that are hidden will appear in the menu. Click on the column you want to unhide. The changes to the data lists will not be saved for each user, so next time you go to that data list it, all columns will be displayed and column order will be back to default. If you would like your changes to be permanent, you will need a security right called "Customize Lists" in PaJCMS to enable you to save customized data lists. Beware though, saved data lists will change the data list view for all users countywide! Please call your PaJCMS help desk representative if you have any questions or need more information.



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JOIN US!

in November for training workshops, exhibitors, two awards dinners, and networking with over 900 attendees.

**2017 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania
Conference on Juvenile Justice**

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2017

Harrisburg Hilton & Towers, Harrisburg PA

**Registration
Is Open!**

[Click here](#)

JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK EVENTS

Philadelphia County

Submitted by: Philadelphia Juvenile Probation Office

Kick off to Juvenile Justice Week – Monday, October 2, 2017

The Chief and Directors hosted a morning social for the department to commemorate the beginning of Juvenile Justice Week. Doughnuts and coffee were provided along with an activity for a chance to win a prize. It was a great way to kick off Juvenile Justice Week, highlight the activities for the week, and show appreciation to staff.



Pennsylvania Conference for Women – Tuesday, October 3, 2017

The Pennsylvania Conference for Women is a non-profit, nonpartisan one-day professional and personal development event for women held in Philadelphia. The conference's special guest speaker was former First Lady Michelle Obama. Ten staff members represented the Juvenile Probation department at this year's conference and thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the event.



Team Building Training – Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Taking a break from all the initiatives, a team building training conducted by Barbara Orr was planned for staff that wanted to participate. Participants enjoyed the activities, exercises, and discussions that focused on how working as a team can benefit staff.

Philabundance – Wednesday, October 4, 2017

The Philadelphia Probation Department participated in a volunteer event at Philabundance. Through volunteers and donations, Philabundance is able to feed approximately 90,000 people in the region each week. Staff worked together as a team to sort and pack food in the freezer section.



JJSSES Activities – Thursday October 5, 2017



Test your JJSSES knowledge! Through various activities, probation officers were able to highlight their JJSSES knowledge. The

Directors provided complimentary pretzels and 2 probation officers competing in the event won a Wawa gift card.

State of Probation and Award Ceremony – Friday, October 6, 2017

Administrative Judge Margaret T. Murphy, Supervising Judge Walter Olszewski, and Chief Castro addressed staff during the 2017 State of Probation and Award Ceremony. The ceremony highlighted the 2017 successes, upcoming initiatives, staff awards, and the swearing in of 14 new probation officers.



JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK EVENTS

Employee Appreciation Lunch – Friday, October 6, 2017

After the State of Probation and Award Ceremony, Administrative Judge Murphy and Supervising Judge Olszewski hosted an employee appreciation lunch at the courthouse for all Family Court employees. The event was an expression of gratitude for Family Court employees and a way to bring awareness to Juvenile Justice Week. Sandwiches, chips, Tastykakes, and soft drinks were provided to approximately 1,000 people.

Chester County

‘Strength and Kindness’ Recognized with George M. Bratcher Award

*Reprinted with permission from: Michael Rellahan,
Daily Local News*



West Chester, PA (October 14, 2017)

Shane McLaughlin never met the late George M. Bratcher III — the longtime Chester County juvenile probation officer for whom an award for distinguished service to county youth is named — but in learning about him he noticed several things the two had in common.

Overall, there was the desire to work with young people and a passion for engagement, going beyond the mundane tasks of a juvenile probation officer and attempting to make a difference in the lives of those teenagers who find themselves in turmoil.

But additionally, they both had dreams of being school teachers at some point in their lives, and harbored a goal of working with youth.

And then there were the letters of interest from the Green Bay Packers and the Denver Broncos to play in the NFL, McLaughlin told those assembled in Courtroom One of the county Justice Center earlier this month to receive the George M. Bratcher Award for Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year. Oh, wait a minute. “One of those might have just been George,” he quipped.

McLaughlin was honored on Oct. 3 before a packed courtroom with his family and friends, co-workers, and a number of county officials and Common Pleas Court judges. The award is given to the professional who best exemplifies Bratcher’s interactions with young people and families and who display strength and kindness and a belief in the importance of giving personal attention to youth, community service, volunteering and connecting youth with positive role models.

McLaughlin, of Chichester, Delaware County, has worked for the county Juvenile Probation Department since 2014. A graduate of West Chester University, Shane praised the predecessor who gave almost 40 years of his life as a probation officer and supervisor here in the county.

“(Bratcher) utilized strength and kindness and his approach was more respectful than harsh,” McLaughlin declared.

“And that’s what I really think this award is about,” he said. “It’s about recognizing and remembering that this job is about more than showing up to work, responding to violations, and getting all your paperwork done. It’s about doing what we can to affect real change in the lives of the kids and families that we work with while at the same time treating them with the respect and understanding that they deserve as people, just as George did. And at the end of the day, if you have an award winning personality like George, then that’s a bonus.”

JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK EVENTS

McLaughlin said that he came to the office “because I wanted to work with kids that needed a push in the right direction. And I also wanted to instill a sense of trust and comfort into the youth and families that enter our system. In the time I have been here, it has certainly been rewarding. The job has its moments, but every once in a while you see change occur in a youth’s life and it makes it worth it.”

“I’d be lying if I said it wasn’t an amazing feeling to be nominated for this award by my peers, so many of which I have such great admiration for. And for those of you that knew George, I hope I’ve earned the right to be standing up here today, accepting this award in his name.”

The ceremony also served as a time when new juvenile probation officers were formally sworn in, and when established colleagues were honored for their years of service. The work of the office’s Youth Law Enforcement Initiative, in which teenagers meet police officers in neutral territory to talk about each other’s perspectives in the absence of tension, was discussed. It is part of the county’s Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) initiative. To date, two forums have been successfully convened in Coatesville with area youth and police representatives from Caln, Coatesville, Oxford, Parkesburg, PSP Embreeville, South Coatesville, Valley, West Chester, and West Goshen.

The program, started in 2017, will continue with sessions with local police in 2018.

In addition, a former probation client was given the “Choices Award” named in honor of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers volunteer Cheryl Nichols, who dedicated 20 years to working with Juvenile Court and the Juvenile Probation Department. The award is given to a deserving individual who progressed successfully through the system.

“J.H.” came to the department when he was 14 and had been charged with assault after a series of family conflicts. Although initially resistant of authori-

ty, over the months J.H. began to change, according to the presentation. He became involved in a youth group and went on a two-week mission trip to Haiti in the summer of 2016 while also managing to work two jobs and participate in aftercare services. After turning 18, his case was closed and he entered college at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont in the fall of 2016.

Lycoming County

Lycoming County Commissioners Honor County’s Juvenile Probation Office



As highlighted in the [Sun-Gazette](#), Lycoming County Commissioners honored the county’s Juvenile Probation Office.

Commissioner Jack McKernan is quoted as saying “All the evidence that we’ve seen shows that you’ve had a lot of success with young people that you work with.” In addition, he said to Director Ed Robbins and his staff, all of whom were present, “I think that can be attributed to the longevity of your employees – they obviously love what they’re doing. So we thank you for your dedication and the work that you do.”

During the ceremony, Robbins expressed appreciation and gratitude to the Commissioners, but credited all of the probation staff, “They’re really the ones that make the change,” he said. “They’re the ones to be commended.”

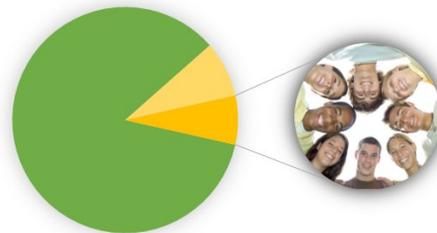
CHIEF'S COUNCIL FORMS SOGIE COMMITTEE

Recent discussion by the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has acknowledged that, while lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning (LGBTQ) youth have always been present in the juvenile justice system, efforts to develop policy and practice standards for this population have largely been absent. Recognizing this gap, and that system professionals lack knowledge related to challenges faced by LGBTQ youth, this past July, the Executive Committee of the Chief's Council approved the establishment of a Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Expression (SOGIE) Committee. The SOGIE Committee will provide coordinated attention to the development policy, procedure, education, data collection, and best practices specific to this population of youth. One of the committee's initial goals is to have LGBTQ competency training delivered to every Pennsylvania juvenile probation office by the end of 2018.

The committee is chaired by Berks County Chief Probation and Parole Officer, Robert Williams. While committee membership is still being finalized, many system stakeholders have agreed to participate. The committee hopes to have its first organizing call next month.

What the Data Say:

A 2014 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention publication estimated that 13%-15% of youth in the United States juvenile justice system were LGBT as compared to 7% of all youth nationally.



Link: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/LGBTQYouthsInTheJuvenileJusticeSystem.pdf>

What the Data Say:

A 2017 report on youth in the California juvenile justice system found that 20% of placed youth identified as LGBQ/GNCT (Lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, gender nonconforming and transgender), with an eye opening 51.1% of placed girls falling under those definitions.

Link: http://impactjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/CPOC-Practice-Guide_Final.pdf



Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers

50th Golden Anniversary Celebration

Honoring the Council's Commitment to Excellence in Juvenile Justice: Past & Present

When: Thursday, November 30, 2017
Reception from 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Dinner and program to follow from 7:00 – 11:00 PM

Where: Nittany Lion Inn, State College

Hotel Information:

Contact the Nittany Lion Inn at (800) 233-7505
A block of rooms has been reserved at \$135/night
Code: **PACC17C**

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2017

Cost: \$40 per person, includes dinner/ Cash Bar

For further information contact Robert J. Blakely, Chief Erie County Juvenile Probation Office at (814) 451-6052 or bblakely@eriecountypa.gov

Name: _____

Agency/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Select Dinner Choice: Beef Braised Ribs or Salmon

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Make Checks payable to **PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers.**

Send to the attention of:

**Robert J. Blakely, Chief Erie County Juvenile Probation Office,
140 West 6th Street, Room 401, Erie, PA 16501-1076**



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WEBINAR TO DISCUSS MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS TECHNOLOGY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

On October 31, 2017, from 1 to 2 p.m. ET, OJJDP, in collaboration with [The Innocent Justice Foundation](#), will present "[Maintaining Your Balance – Technology Tools for Wellness](#)." This webinar will highlight technology designed to help law enforcement professionals enhance their wellness both on the job and at home.



RESOURCES:

- [Register](#) for this free webinar.

COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS REPORT HIGHLIGHTS NEVADA JUVENILE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The [Council of State Governments Justice Center](#) has released "[Nevada's Statewide Approach to Reducing Recidivism and Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System](#)." This report summarizes Nevada's participation in Improving Outcomes for Youth: A Statewide Juvenile Justice Initiative (IOYouth). This project helps states identify and implement policies and funding to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system. IOYouth is a project of the [National Reentry Resource Center](#) and the Council of State Governments Justice Center and is conducted in partnership with OJJDP.

RESOURCES:

- [View and download](#) the report.

OJJDP LAUNCHES DIVERSION PROGRAMS I-GUIDE

OJJDP has released the [Diversion Programs I-Guide](#) on the [Model Programs Guide](#). The [I-Guides](#) (Implementation Guides) enhance the



information and resources available on the Model Programs Guide to better support users before they implement evidence-based juvenile justice intervention and prevention programs. The Diversion Programs I-Guide provides an overview of the common implementation process for diversion programs and synthesizes research findings across 10 steps communities take in implementing these programs.

RESOURCES:

- See OJJDP's Model Programs Guide literature review on [diversion from formal juvenile court processing](#).

COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS JUSTICE CENTER RELEASES RESOURCE TO ADDRESS RECIDIVISM

The [Council of State Governments Justice Center](#) has released "[Dos and Don'ts for Reducing Recidivism Among Young Adults in the Justice System](#)." This resource provides strategies that policymakers and justice system leaders can use to guide policy and practice changes to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for young adults.

RESOURCES:

- See OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#) for programs to reduce recidivism.

STATISTICAL BRIEFING BOOK OFFERS DATA SNAPSHOT ON DELINQUENCY CASES INVOLVING HISPANIC YOUTH

OJJDP has introduced a Data Snapshot series on its [Statistical Briefing Book](#) to disseminate current research and statistical information about youth in the juvenile justice system. Each one-page snapshot focuses on a specific topic and highlights policy-relevant findings. This [Data Snapshot](#) focuses on national estimates of delinquency cases involving Hispanic youth using data collected by OJJDP's [National Juvenile Court Data Archive](#).

Developed by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#), the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#), the Statistical Briefing Book offers easy online access to statistics on a variety of juvenile justice topics.

RESOURCES:

- Learn more about [Hispanic youth in the juvenile justice system](#) on the Statistical Briefing Book.
- Access the full list of [Data Snapshots](#) available from the Statistical Briefing Book.
- Keep up with the Statistical Briefing Book on [Twitter](#).

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS AWARDS NEARLY \$83 MILLION TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY

On October 6, 2017, the [Office of Justice Programs](#) awarded nearly [\\$83 million in Fiscal Year 2017 grants](#) to help state, local, and tribal jurisdictions protect children and respond to juvenile victimization. The OJJDP-awarded grants will support more than 170 sites, jurisdictions, and task forces nationwide. The funds will help communities find missing children, combat Internet crimes against children, provide tailored treatment and rehabilitative services, and increase public safety.

RESOURCES:

- Access OJJDP resources for families of missing or exploited children on [OJJDP.gov](#) and the [Missing and Exploited Children's Program](#) websites.
- Learn about the OJJDP-funded [Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force program](#).
- Visit OJJDP's webpage on [Trauma's Impact on Children Exposed to Violence](#).

OJJDP BLOG DISCUSSES INTERNET SAFETY AND CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION

In a new [blog post](#) commemorating October as [National Bullying Prevention Awareness](#) and [National Cyber Security Awareness](#) Month, OJJDP Acting Administrator Eileen M. Garry discusses OJJDP's commitment to keeping children safe online through education, resources, training, and grant funding. The blog also highlights OJJDP's funding to the [Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force](#) program, which helps law enforcement develop responses to online child victimization and pornography.

RESOURCES:

- View and download the OJJDP-sponsored tip card "[Preparing and Responding to Cyberbullying: Tips for Law Enforcement](#)."
- Access bullying prevention resources from [OJJDP](#).



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS RELEASES COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN REPORT

The [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#) has released "[Federal Prosecution of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Cases, 2004-2013](#)." This report examines data from commercial sexual exploitation of children cases prosecuted in the federal criminal justice system between 2004 and 2013. These offenses include production and possession of child pornography and child sex trafficking.

RESOURCES:

- View the Department of Justice [press release](#) about the Bureau of Justice Statistics findings.
- Access resources on OJJDP's [Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children webpage](#).
- Read OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#) literature review "[Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children/Sex Trafficking](#)."

OJJDP FUNDED BULLETIN SUPPORTS DIVERSION FOR YOUTH WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

The [National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice](#) and the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#), with support from OJJDP, have released "[Disrupting School-Justice Pathways for Youth with Behavioral Health Needs](#)." This technical assistance bulletin provides response strategies for stakeholders to divert youth with behavioral health needs away from the juvenile justice system.

RESOURCES:

- [View and download](#) the bulletin.
- Access OJJDP's [Diversion Programs I-Guide](#) on OJJDP's [Model Programs Guide](#).
- See OJJDP's Model Programs Guide literature review on [diversion from formal juvenile court processing](#).



SAVE THE DATE

20th Children's Interagency Conference
April 30-May 3, 2018
Penn State Conference Center Hotel, State College, PA

sponsored by
*Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health Services
PA System of Care Partners, and the PA Child Welfare Resource Center*

For more information: Contact ra-pwinteragencyconf@pa.gov. Website: pasocpartnership.org

Logo by Matthew Budd, Delaware Valley High School, Pike County, PA



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT



[National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges: Program Attorney Family Violence and Domestic Relations](#)

This publication is produced monthly by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Guest articles are welcome; please submit by e-mail to ra-oajjcnews@pa.gov.

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