

P E N N S Y L V A N I A J U V E N I L E J U S T I C E

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Erie County Applies Balanced and Restorative Justice Principles to Practice

Erie County's first Community Justice Center opened on October 28, 1998—a tangible result of an overall redesign for the provision of juvenile justice services in Erie County consistent with the principles of balanced and restorative justice. Through a collaborative planning and assessment process, officials in Erie County have developed a comprehensive approach to the problem of juvenile delinquency by focusing on a strong community-based effort. This effort involves county officials and agencies, the Erie School District, and service providers from the private sector.

The initiative includes a continuum of services provided through various program components. Additionally, the approach provides for highly individualized case planning and recognizes the specialized needs of youth and the broad range of services now available. Balanced and restorative justice principles are firmly incorporated into practice throughout the initiative. Following are descriptions of the individual programs.

The Community Justice Center

The Community Justice Center offers a neighborhood-centered approach that proposes to reduce delinquency, increase community involvement, and increase victim satisfaction with the juvenile justice system. A team of juvenile probation officers is physically housed at the Community Justice Center. This team, which is led by an intensive probation officer, also includes a school-based officer and

community justice officers. Community-oriented probation services are coordinated through this team approach.

This neighborhood-centered approach to supervision provides for the development of partnerships and strong connections with the citizens of that particular geographic area. It brings supervision and case-management from the courthouse to the community.



Juvenile probation client with probation officers Michelle Biel and Dennis Martin in the offices of the new Community Justice Center in Erie.

Success is achieved by building relationships and partnerships with individuals in the neighborhood where the delinquent youth live, work, and play. These relationships are crucial in reaching the outcomes sought by the Center.

The Center also provides a central point of contact for children, youth, families, and other community members within the neighborhood. They share the Trinity Center building with other community-based programs which offer services such as alternative school and after-school activities.

Collaborative Board

The Erie County Policy and Planning Council on Children and Families includes the county's planning committee for juvenile justice issues. The Policy and Planning Council is the result of an evolution of various collaborative initiatives begun in Erie County in 1992. The Council's 45-member advisory board, and its five project teams, include broad representation from the area. The juvenile court, businesses, education, service providers, victims services, religious leaders, local governmental officials and other community representatives work together on the board to enhance and develop multi-system resources and initiatives in Erie County.

Services to Victims

Victims of juvenile crime in Erie County are provided with numerous services to assist them through the juvenile justice process. Through partnerships with various victim service agencies, a continuum of services has been developed. Basic services for victims of juvenile crime are available, including in-

creased involvement in critical stages of the court process, opportunities to submit victim impact statements, notifications, victim orientation, court accompaniment, support and advocacy, and crisis intervention.

Victim-awareness education is provided to juvenile offenders to promote a better understanding of the human consequences of victimization. A victim-offender mediation program has also been developed as a resource for crime victims and offenders.

Individualized Treatment Planning

The balanced and restorative justice principles of community protection, competency development, and accountability are all incorporated when the juvenile probation officers consider the most appropriate dispositional response for each case. These principles are addressed in the youth's social summary which is recommended to the court, and incorporated in the youth's supervision plan. Individual

balanced and restorative justice goals and actions provide the basis for the supervision of youth. A juvenile tracking form is used to evaluate balanced and restorative justice case plans. The tracking form is used by both probation officers and service providers, and serves to measure the progress of juvenile justice interventions.

Community Diversion Committees

Through cooperation between police departments and the District Magistrates, citizen volunteers are involved in the sanctioning of certain juvenile offenders. These community-based committees are designed to bring together youthful offenders, their families, and community volunteers to review the juvenile's offense and develop an individualized community-based contract for the child. Provisions of the contract may include restitution, community service, and/or referral to any other community resources deemed necessary.



Juvenile probation clients and two of Erie County's Community Justice Officers, Andy Pribula (center) and Dave Peterson, (right) pictured with donations collected during a food drive.

Collaborative Intensive Community Treatment Program (C.I.C.T.P.)

The C.I.C.T.P. is a broad-based collaborative community response to address the escalating cost of adolescent residential placement. Developed in partnership with the court, juvenile probation, Children and Youth Services, the Erie School District, Perseus House Inc., and VictimWitness Services, the program is an intensive community supervision model for those youth who are in need of residential placement and/or require a step down process for reintegration into the community.

C.I.C.T.P. is housed under the auspices of the Erie School District. Program staff utilize a holistic approach to client intervention and work toward reducing the need for residential placement. Parental involvement is built into the structure of the program. The program incorporates balanced and restorative justice principles by providing for accountability of the offender through the restoration of losses suffered by victims, and impact of crime classes. Competency development is achieved through a program emphasizing skill development and moral reasoning, and community protection through a restorative approach to supervision, child tracking, sanctions and interventions. A progressive response system was developed to ensure offender control in the community.

Other programs

Other programs have been developed and/or enhanced through the collaborative efforts of Erie County, as well. The following programs add to the collaborative continuum of services, and reflect balanced and restorative justice in Erie

County. The Community Service Program, Volunteers in Probation, Peer Juries, Summer Earn & Learn, Communities That Care, Earn It Program, and Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Project; for more information on any of these programs, please call the juvenile probation department in Erie County, 814-451-6220.

Tom Egan Retires



Tom Egan, Director of the Loysville Youth Development Center, has retired after 28 years of state service. Egan began his career at Loysville in 1971 when he was hired to direct the facility's community service program. The program consisted of various foster home and group living arrangements which initially provided a halfway program for residents, but later included direct commitments from county juvenile courts. After the community living program was eliminated in 1978, Egan became Residential Program Director for the facility, which at the time

housed approximately 136 youths, and in 1986 he was named Director of the Youth Development Center.

Prior to his career at Loysville, Egan worked as a probation officer in Baltimore and at the Maryland State Training School for court-committed delinquent youth. In addition to working with youth, he has served as a United States Army Hospital Social Worker during the Vietnam conflict. Egan's affiliation with the armed forces continued throughout his career allowing him to retire from the Army Reserves with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

A graduate of the School of Social Work at North Carolina University and Dickinson College, Egan is a licensed social worker and has been active in the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections, the American Corrections Association, the Juvenile Justice Trainers Association, and the National Association of Social Work.

A highlight of his tenure at Loysville was the initiation and successful completion of ACA accreditation, making the facility the first Youth Development Center in Pennsylvania to receive that status. Egan will remain active in the field, having accepted a position with the Cornell Abraxas organization.

Student Assistance Program Liaisons Negotiating the Behavioral Health Systems

May 3 - Pittsburgh
May 5 - Meadville
May 6 - Scranton
May 7 - State College

717-232-3125
fax 717-232-3610

Weekend Masters Program at Shippensburg University Gets New Curriculum in September

The new Administration of Justice Program at Shippensburg University will begin in September. The new program will feature a two-year, 36 credit-hour curriculum that will include a six-hour internship which students will participate in during the summer following the first year of classes. Students will complete 15 hours of course work (5 classes) during their first year, plus the six hour internship, and 15 hours during their final year to earn a Master of Science in the Administration of Justice from the university.

The internship is designed to help students develop and implement innovative programs for their respective departments. The internships will provide tangible benefits for the agencies while helping students apply their classroom knowledge to real-life situations. Each internship will be mentored by the faculty in cooperation with staff at the Center. Students will prepare a grant application as part of their first-year course requirements. The grants will be used as concept papers for the internship.

Fall Semester, Year 1

CRJ 501 – Foundation of Criminal Justice examines the nature, application and impact of various theoretical approaches, practices and assumptions regarding the function and operation of the law enforcement, judicial, and correctional elements of the juvenile and criminal justice systems. *CRJ 600 – Research Methods in Criminal Justice* is a survey of empirical research methods and their application in the field of criminal justice; includes research design, theories of sampling, data collection strategies and analysis of findings.

Spring Semester, Year 1

CRJ 520 – Criminal Justice Administration studies bureaucracy and complex organizations with emphasis on the concepts and practices of the administration and management of agencies in the juvenile justice systems. *CRJ 610 – Quantitative Methods in Criminal Justice* examines the relationship and application of statistical techniques to theory building and concept construction. Includes an overview of statistical methods with an emphasis on the justice system.

Summer Term, Year 1

CRJ 631 – Designing and Evaluating Research will offer hands-on consultation to students participating in the internship building upon materials covered in the first two methods courses. *CRJ 595 – Internship in Administration of Justice* gives students an opportunity to develop, implement, and evaluate a program at their agency employing the knowledge and skills gained in their first year of study. The purpose of the internship will be to solve problems relevant to their particular situation.

Fall Semester, Year 2

CRJ 560 – Theories of Crime and Delinquency examines the etiology of criminal behavior including the process of becoming a criminal, patterns of criminal behavior and the social and individual consequences of crime and delinquency. *CRJ 570 – Graduate Seminar in Juvenile Justice* covers contemporary topics in the field of juvenile justice emphasizing theory, policy, practice and applications relevant to Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System. Topics covered will include current legislation, legal research, victimology, and effective practice.

Spring Semester, Year 2

CRJ 580 – Juvenile Justice System examines the goals, organization and operations of agencies and institutions that work with delinquent offenders including the history, philosophy and current issues in the field. *CRJ 585 – Offender Treatment and Rehabilitation* will offer in-depth exposure to various treatment modalities emphasizing the development of clinical, casework and community organization skills.

Summer Term, Year 2

CRJ 590 – Criminal Justice Policy Analysis provides analysis of the process by which policy decisions in criminal justice are derived and implemented and their consequence on the justice system.

The program is open to any full-time county juvenile probation officer or detention staff in Pennsylvania who has graduated from an accredited college or university with at least 18 credits in the behavioral or social sciences and who has been employed in the social service field for at least two years subsequent to their graduation. The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission pays all tuition costs and provides lodging and meals during class weekends. Partial travel reimbursement is also available for students who commute more than 100 miles each way to Shippensburg University. Students are responsible only for the costs of their books and a nominal fee for student union services.

For more information or an application, please contact Dr. John H. Lemmon, Director of Graduate Education, CJJT&R, 235 Horton Hall, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299; phone 717-532-1149.

Governor Requests Funds for Prevention

In his February budget address to the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Governor Tom Ridge requested \$4 million in FY 1999/00 to support "Research-based Prevention Programs." This is an increase of \$2 million over last year's budget when the Governor proposed, and the General Assembly provided, dedicated funding for development of proven violence-prevention strategies. Funds will be made available to those applicant jurisdictions which have undertaken a local collaborative process identifying risk factors that increase the likelihood of problem behaviors among adolescents. Local collaborative boards including those established through "Communities That Care," "Family Service System Reform," and others may qualify for these competitive funds which will be available through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Local juvenile courts, juvenile probation departments and resident programs may qualify for these violence-prevention funds. Several of the *Blueprints for the Prevention of Violence*, featured at the 1998 Annual Training and Awards Program, focus on prevention strategies after youth may already be referred to juvenile court.

The announcement and request for proposals on these "Research-based Prevention Programs" is expected to be made in early May. This prevention program is an initiative of the Governor's Community Partnership for Safe Children.

Seeking a Grant? Try www.fdncenter.org

In 1956, the Foundation Center, an independent nonprofit information clearinghouse, was established. Their mission is to foster public understanding of the foundation field by "collecting, organizing, analyzing, and disseminating" information on foundations, corporate giving, and related subjects. The Foundation Center now has a web site at www.fdncenter.org, and it is a great site to visit for organizations seeking grants.

In its Digest section, the PND (Philanthropy News Digest) contains the latest news on Grantmaker Requests For Proposals (RFP's) and it is updated weekly. There is also a section for other links on the Web relating to the news stories about who is looking for RFP's, as well as who has been recently awarded grants. The PND is also available free as an e-mail version to anyone who wishes to subscribe.

The Grantmaker Info directory comprises three broad categories: links, both direct and annotated, to more than 600 Web sites; highlights and excerpts from the Center's research on foundation giving; and a range of informational materials produced by individual foundations and hosted by the Center as part of its

"Foundation Folder" program. This section also contains the web sites of private foundations, corporate grant makers, grant making public charities, and community foundations.

The Center's Online Library is the area of the site where they answer questions about foundations and nonprofit resources, and give instructions in the funding research process. Here you can be directed to grants available to your occupation. There is also an Online Bookshelf in which condensed monographs published by the Center on topics related to nonprofit management and foundations can be found. You can select sections of the online text that interest you and read through them and, if so desired, you can test yourself on what you've learned before you move on. This section also contains an online guide to writing a proposal. There is also a Marketplace section, where you will find information on the Center's publications, CD roms, and training seminars.

The Foundation really is a "gateway to philanthropy on the World Wide Web." It is full of useful information for any organization seeking grants, and is a good starting point for fledgling grant writers.

Zocklein & Associates

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS

Beginning - How to Communicate - More than 100 resources

Intermediate - Goals and Objectives - Foundation Grants

Advanced - How to complete Federal Grants

Harrisburg, September 8, 9 & 10, 1999

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Call 1-800-371-5703

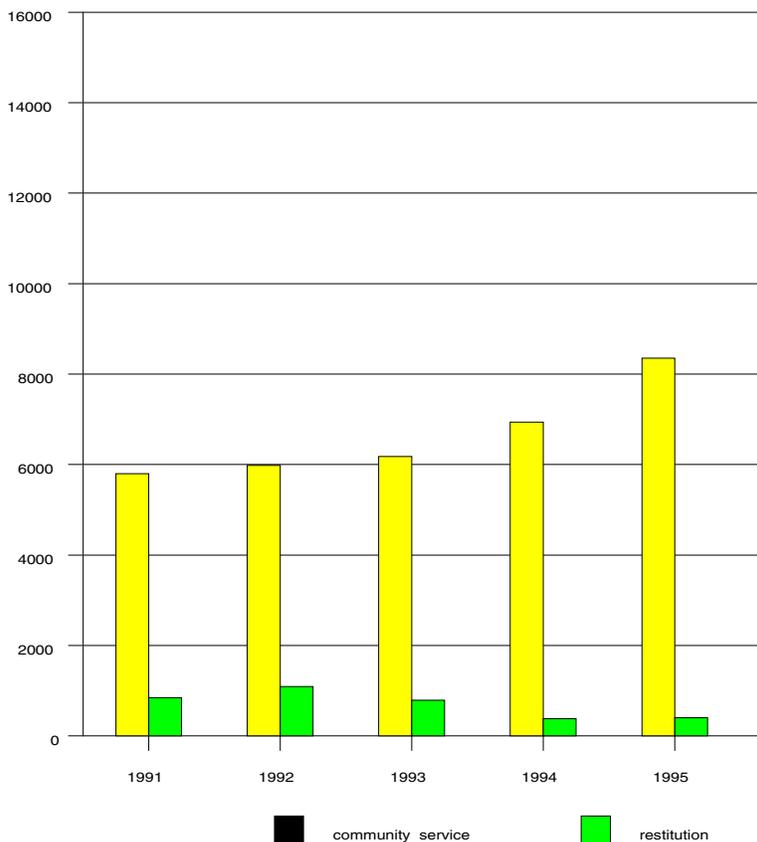
1998 Statewide Community Service & Restitution Program Activity

As continuing county efforts directed at more fully integrating practices consistent with the Balanced and Restorative Justice principles, increases in the numbers of youth participating in community service and restitution programs again gained significant momentum in 1998. Record numbers of youth participated in these programs last year and program activity is continuing to accelerate. Aggregate community service and restitution program data is compiled each year from the information submitted to the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. This information which is necessary for purposes related to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission sponsored insurance program, also serves to provide a useful picture of the community service and financial restitution program activities statewide.

During 1998 there were a total of 14,476 youth assigned unpaid community service in the sixty-six active programs throughout the Commonwealth. This represents an increase of 20.4 percent, from 12,019 youth in 1997 and an increase of 55.3 percent from 9,324 youth in 1996. Also, three additional programs have become active since 1997 across the State. A total of 440,427 community service hours were reported to have been worked by youth throughout the State. At the current minimum wage, this represents over \$2,268,000 in volunteer effort invested in non-profit organizations and agencies across the Commonwealth in 1998. The 19 programs handling more than 200 community service participants included: Philadelphia 1,684(+181%); Berks 1,376(+4%); Allegheny 986(+7%); Lancaster 975(+21%); Montgomery 937(-16%); Erie 655(+38%);

Delaware 544(+11%); York 477(+28%); Dauphin 476(+64%); Westmoreland 431(+62%); Beaver 397 (-2%); Lehigh 389(+2%); Bucks 339(-56%); Centre 334(+48%); Lycoming 254(+11%); Northampton 251(+2%); Crawford 242(+13%); Blair 212(+84%); and Luzerne 207(118%). The percentage figures listed above in parentheses indicates the increase or decrease from the number of participants in 1997 in each county.

Approximately 79 percent of the total youth assigned were male. The average age of participants in the vast majority of the programs was between 15 years 0 months and 16 years 5 months. As such, the age range and male/female composition of program participants served in these programs seems relatively constant since 1990. The length



of time necessary to complete community service assignments appeared similar to prior years in that there are significant fluctuations between programs ranging from low figures of 6, 16, and 25 days in some of the counties' programs to highs of 180 in several counties. Also, the percentage of youth carried over to the following year to complete their assignment decreased significantly in 1998 to 31 percent, from 39.8% in 1997, 41.5% in 1996, 37.6% in 1995, 33.4% in 1994, to the level last met in 1993 at 31.2%, and nearly as low as 29.8% in 1992. This is an encouraging sign.

There were a total of 1,113 youth involved in one of the sixteen active financial restitution programs in the State. There were only 13 active programs in 1997. This is also an increase in program participants of 18 percent from the 1997 total of 944; up 86 percent from the 600 in 1996; and well above the previous high total in 1993 of 789. The largest of these programs operating in 1998 are Allegheny, Lancaster, Lehigh and Berks counties with 433, 117, 96 and 94 youth respectively. The next largest programs were in Erie 73, Mercer 71, York 42, Monroe 37, Lycoming and Northampton counties each with 33 participants.

A Case Study in Local Systems Reform: Setting the Pace

May 25 and 26, 1999
9 am to 5 pm

Tioga County Human Service
Agency Training Center
P.O. Box 766, NYPUM Drive
Wellsboro, PA 16901
570-724-5766

YDC/YFC Annual Training Held

The 1999 Annual YDC/YFC Staff Recognition and Training Program was held recently at Toftrees Resort in State College. More than 130 employees of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare's Youth Development and Forestry Camp System convened in State College from April 14-16. Participants are selected because of outstanding performance at their jobs during the previous year. During the conference, these outstanding employees are honored with recognition certificates to commemorate their work. The certificates are presented by the respective facility directors in conjunction with bureau officials and department administrators. The recognition dinner also featured remarks by John Kramer, a member of the Pennsylvania State University faculty and the past director of both Pennsylvania's and the US sentencing commissions.

Participants also engaged in training during the program and provided input to the Bureau of State Children and Youth Program's planning process, which is presently creating the first five-year plan for the new millennium. They were divided into five groups, which were facilitated by bureau staff who had previously developed some of the planning agenda, and worked on the development of planning issues in five general categories. This process received guidance from Chuck Kehoe, a corrections-planning specialist with Securacore, a consulting firm based in Richmond, Virginia. The planning process will continue over the next several months using information developed at the conference as a foundation.

Building Strong Partnerships for Family Group Conferencing

August 5-7, 1999

**Sheraton Hotel &
Conference Center
Burlington, VT**

**Presented by
State of Vermont
University of Vermont
RealJustice**

As the relatively new practices of restorative justice, reparative boards, and family group conferencing continue to evolve, the need for professionals to exchange ideas and collaborate becomes more evident. If restorative practices are to develop in a practical and sustainable manner, professionals from criminal justice, social work, education, and other disciplines must be active partners in the process.

Featured Presenters

John Braithwaite (Australia)
Criminologist at Australian
National University

Berma Bushie (Canada)
Community Holistic Circle
Healing

John Gorczyk (U.S.A.)
Vermont Dept. of Corrections

Paul Nixon (U.K.)
Hampshire County Social
Services Dept.

Terry O'Connell (Australia)
New South Wales Police

Joan Pennell (U.S.A.)
NC State University Professor