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Commission

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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“Victim/Community Awareness: An Orientation for Juveniles” is now available

The curriculum titled, “Victim/Community Awareness: An Orientation for Juveniles” is available for those in the juvenile justice system who are interested in providing a means for young offenders to understand the impact of their crime on the victim and/or the community.

Juvenile offenders know what crimes they have committed, but seldom do they realize the harm they have caused individuals and communities. This curriculum personalizes crime and its effects. It also encourages offenders to take responsibility for repairing the harm.

Through the combined efforts of victim services, probation, and private treatment providers, a very user-friendly curriculum was developed. It contains three modules which can be taught in one three to four hour session or divided into three separate sessions. Each component contains facilitator notes, a participant's guide, handouts, and overheads.

The curriculum includes a pre-test and a post-test which allows the facilitator to assess the degree to

which the juvenile offenders have assimilated an awareness of the impact of their crimes on the victim and the community.

This educational process is designed for groups of fewer than ten juveniles, and requires two co-facilitators. It is recommended that the facilitators have a solid foundation in victimization, crisis, and trauma, as well as group process prior to implementing this curriculum. Training on how to best use this educational tool will be offered through the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research.

This curriculum was supported by funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency at the request of the Joint Review Committee of the Juvenile Advisory Committee and the Victim Services Advisory Committee. Valerie Bender, the primary author of this curriculum, developed it with support from the Project Advisory Committee and the Center for Victims of Violent Crime of Allegheny County.

For copies of the curriculum or for training or technical assistance, call Susan Blackburn, 717-705-2290.

Valerie Bender will be Chiefs' Council's Restorative Justice Training Consultant

The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers is pleased to announce the appointment of Valerie Bender to the grant-funded position of Restorative Justice Consultant. Bender's background, rich in victim services, juvenile justice, and balanced and restorative justice, prepares her to provide training and technical assistance for juvenile courts, probation departments, and other professionals implementing the principles of balanced and restorative justice. She will work with the balanced and restorative justice training initiative grant, which is funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

Bender, a Summa Cum Laude graduate of La Roche College, has advocated for victims of violent crime for more than 10 years. As the juvenile justice services manager for the Center for Victims of Violent Crime, Bender was responsible for services provided to victims of juvenile crime in Allegheny County. In that capacity she developed and implemented a wide array of programs which served victims involved with the juvenile court.

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Project CRAFT: a national model for training juvenile offenders

by Robin Hamilton

The incarcerated teenager had a history of drug and alcohol abuse and gang-related activity. Today he is back in society working two jobs—one in construction and the other in a restaurant—while attending junior college. What made the difference is a unique program called Project CRAFT.

The construction industry's number one critical issue, a shortage of qualified labor, is being addressed simultaneously with youth crime and unemployment by the Home Builders Institute (HBI), the educational arm of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). HBI's Project Craft (Community, Restitution, and Apprenticeship-Focused Training) has been recognized as a national model in training and placing high-risk youth in the building trades.

Project CRAFT is a four to six month, comprehensive, hands-on training program designed to give students skills they need to succeed in the construction trades. From vocational training to social, interpersonal, and employability skills, CRAFT addresses many of the barriers that can keep students from achieving economic success, while recognizing employers' needs for good workers. Upon completion of the program, students are placed in jobs, including those with members of the local Home Builders Association. Key elements of Project CRAFT include partnership-building and linkages, comprehensive service delivery, community involvement, industry-driven responsive training, motivation and esteem building, individualized instruction, leadership develop-

ment, and job placement and follow-up services.

Project CRAFT offers an industry-validated curriculum, the pre-apprenticeship certificate program (PACT). Requirements include a set number of hours of training and hands-on skills competency demonstration. Successful completion earns CRAFT graduates a Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate in the construction field. Training includes classroom instruction and "live work" opportunities through participation in community projects. Students have built houses for Habitat for Humanity, renovated buildings for non-profit organizations, restored historic sites, and landscaped state parks as part of their training.

Project CRAFT began in 1994 with a grant from the United States Department of Labor, and piloted as a demonstration program at three sites, Bismarck, North Dakota, Nashville, Tennessee, and Sabillasville, Maryland. Since then, Craft has been replicated in five sites in Florida, Avon Park, Daytona Beach, Lantana, Orlando and Pompano, with funding from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, and in Giddings, Texas, with support from the Texas Youth Commission.

Robin Hamilton is a National Coordinator for Project CRAFT. For more information, write to The Home Builders Institute, 1090 Vermont Ave., N.W., Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20005. Hamilton's phone number is 202-371-0600; fax 202-898-7777; email to postmaster@hbi.org, or on the web at www.hbi.org.

Computer training

The Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) has released its Computer Learning Center's schedule for software training programs being held in the second quarter of 2000. All Commonwealth law enforcement personnel, which includes juvenile probation department staff, are welcome to attend. The computer lab training facility offers an on-going series of one-day programs held on the following dates: DSI Juvenile Justice Training 5/22-23/00; Introduction to Personal Computers 5/3/00; Introduction to Operating Systems(Windows and Windows NT) held on 6/1/00; Introduction to Word Processing-Word 97 held on 4/13/00; Word 97-Intermediate 5/2/00; Word 97-Advanced 5/25/00; Introduction to Database-Microsoft Access 97 held on 4/25/00; Access Intermediate 5/4/00; Access Advanced 5/10/00; Introduction to Spreadsheets-Excel 97 held on 4/20/00; Intermediate Excel 5/11/00 & 6/27/00; Introduction to the Internet on 4/27/00 & 5/31/00; Introduction to Presentations-Powerpoint 97 held on 4/26/00 & 6/20/00; Powerpoint Intermediate 6/21-22/00; Advanced Powerpoint 6/28-29/00; Introduction to Outlook 98 5/30/00; Web Page Design for Law Enforcement 5/9/00; and several other specialized law enforcement computer-related topics.

The programs are held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The computer lab is located on the grounds of the Municipal Police Officers' Training Academy, 75 East Derry Road in Hershey. For course descriptions prospective participants are encouraged to visit the MPOETC's website at www.mpoetc.org

Class size is limited—each student
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JCJC annual conference on juvenile justice to feature workshops

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will be held November 1- 3, 2000, at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. The program will again feature a three-day format, providing opportunities for plenary sessions, breakout sessions, and professional caucuses, as well as social activities, for participants.

On Thursday, November 2, there will be series of workshops presented throughout the day. Ninety-minute workshops will be offered three times throughout the day. Pennsylvania-based trainers and presenters are encouraged to develop proposals for consideration of being featured during this year's conference.

Prospective trainers may submit summaries of their training programs in the following format:

- ✓ Title of presentation;
- ✓ A brief summary, approximately 100 words or less, of the program or presentation;
- ✓ Identify the intended target audience, i.e. juvenile probation officers, juvenile court judges, residential service providers, program administrators, community officials, etc.

Review and final selection of presenters and programs will be made during the summer. Interested presenters/trainers should submit materials to:
Clay Yeager, Director
CJJT&R,
Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257.

The Pennsylvania Association on Probation Parole and Correction welcomes you to...



PHILADELPHIA
a historic location for
the 79th Annual Training
Institute and Conference
May 21-24, 2000 to explore:

ORIGINS and BEYOND...
a reflection of how our origins shape our future

Featuring:

- opening plenary speaker: "**Ben Franklin**;"
- over 30 workshops; visit our website at www.pappc.org
- approved by the JCJC for 8.5 training hour credits
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- Philly Block Party Gala Event; and,
- opportunities for education and networking

Adams Mark Hotel Full Registration: \$110.00
City Avenue and Monument Rd. Per Day \$ 75.00 (Mon. or Tues.)
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PAPPC Group Sales: 800-444-2326; www.pappc.org
Single: \$ 171.00; Double: \$225.00



* Note: Hotel and full registration pricing includes all meals, functions, parking, taxes & gratuity

The Academy selected as subject of PBS documentary

The Academy's Day/Evening Program was selected to be profiled on the public television series, *The Visionaries*. Each year, *The Visionaries* highlights organizations or individuals which change the world through a commitment to helping others in need. Now in its seventh season, *The Visionaries* will present The Academy as one of 13 episodes.

The Academy is the first program selected that serves youth involved in the juvenile justice system. "We selected The Academy because of their commitment to helping delinquent youth by teaching them basic principles like hard work, self-respect, respect for others, and pride," says the producer, Heather Riley. "The alternatives that The Academy teaches its' students will hopefully prevent them from committing another crime."

The production team from *The Visionaries* spent the week of November 29 through December 3, 1999, shooting on location at The Academy. The following Academy program components were filmed: Industrial Trades classes; a community service project at Pittsburgh Catholic Educational Programs; Anger Management, Drug and Alcohol, and Victim Awareness Group; Basketball and Wrestling practice; and a Perfect Attendance/ Curfew and Honor Roll Awards ceremony. A parent, student, staff members, and some administrators were interviewed for the show. Some additional filming included mealtimes and shadowing a transportation run into the community.

The Academy will be in very select company. In prior episodes *The Visionaries* has highlighted Christian Solidarity International, which

works in the Sudan to end the slavery of thousands of Sudanese, most of whom are women and children; Yemin Orde, which is a school located outside Haifa that takes in students from all over the world whose lives have been changed by poverty, war, and tragedy; and Management Sciences Health, which is involved in working around the world to bridge the gap between what is known about health problems and what can be done to solve them.

The segment will air as part of a half-hour episode, beginning in May, 2000. *The Visionaries* is broadcast on more than 150 PBS stations across the United States, and is hosted by the award winning actor Sam Waterson (*Law & Order*, *The Killing Fields*), who donates his time and energies to the project.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Montgomery County Youth Center, in southeastern Pennsylvania, is seeking an **Executive Director** for its 48-bed short-term facility, including secure detention and non-secure shelter.

Minimum qualifications include a Masters Degree in an appropriate field, including criminal justice, public administration, psychology, counseling, and social work. The candidate will also have a minimum of 10 years of progressive administrative experience and knowledge of all appropriate Federal and State regulations. Salary range is \$54,972-\$60,471 (depending on relevant experience). Full benefits. Interested candidates may send their resumés to: Montgomery County Court House, Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 311, Norristown, PA 19404-0311. Montgomery County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Application Deadline: May 1, 2000

Youth Aid Panel informational meeting

Youth Aid Panels are exciting diversion programs now being developed throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. They have existed in some counties for more than 25 years and are being adapted in many other counties and local jurisdictions. Taking on a variety of names including Youth Commissions, Community Justice Panels, and Community Courts, the premise underlying these programs is that the diversion of non-violent youth from the formal juvenile justice process is possible and that the community should be empowered to have input into the handling of these cases.

Youth Aid Panels have been instrumental in dramatically lowering the caseloads of district and juvenile courts, bringing together law enforcement and community members, and aiding in the prompt handling of juvenile offenses. They boast a success rate between 85 and 90 percent. Youth Aid Panels embrace the balanced and restorative justice principles.

Roughly two years ago, a committee was formed to plan and implement a conference dedicated to the enhancement of existing panels and the development of new panels. Attendees at this conference included police personnel, juvenile probation representatives, youth aid panel coordinators and directors, individuals who wanted to start Youth Aid Panels, and most importantly, youth aid panel volunteers. The conference has become an annual event for this committee.

From the conference planning committee, an information exchange group has been formed

which meets bi-monthly at various locations in the state. The purpose of this group is to give individuals who are directly involved with Youth Aid Panels, or individuals who would like to start a panel program, a chance to share information, ideas, and or experiences. The committee would like to invite any interested persons to attend these informal meetings—probation management and staff, police personnel, district attorneys, public defenders, judges, and anyone else who has an interest.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2000, at 10:00 AM in the Berk's County Services Center located at 633 Court Street in Reading. For more information on meeting times and dates, please call Barbara Koch at 215-343-7720.

PAPPC annual conference will include workshops.

The Adams Mark Hotel on City Line Avenue in Philadelphia will be the host site of the 79th Annual Training Institute of the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Correction, May 21-24, 2000. This conference will feature more than 30 workshops on a range of topics of interest to county and state agencies engaged in adult and juvenile justice practice. A partial listing of workshops of special interest to juvenile justice practitioners includes: Forensic Substance Abuse; Operating Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Inside a Secure Facility; Staff Office Safety; Reduction of Violence Among School Students; Victims Rights and Services: Past, Present, and Future; Critical Incident Response Protocol; Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment in a Correctional Setting; Adulteration of Urine Drug Tests; Promoting

School and Probation Relations; Balanced and Restorative Justice; Crossing Systems; Video Conferencing and the Justice System; Focus on Juvenile Justice History: A Look Back; J-Net; How to Get Up In Front of a Group Without Falling on Your Face; and Reinventing Probation with Drs. Ronald P. Corbett, Jr. and Mario A. Paparozzi. Also, faculty of the Center For Sex Offender Management, Silver Spring, Maryland, will present a special two-day intensive workshop on Sex Offender Management.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has approved expenditure of 1999-00 county training allocation funds to offset the cost of attending this conference. Attending the entire conference will constitute 8.5 hours of training toward the minimum annual training requirement.

A vendor exhibition area will feature the latest in technology and justice resources for the next step into the new millennium. Ben Franklin, as the opening plenary speaker, will help us explore the origins of the criminal justice system as we focus on shaping the future. The closing speaker, Gordon Graham, a nationally recognized teacher and motivational speaker, will address the topic "Framework for Change." Tours, from the old to the new, include the historic Eastern State Penitentiary and the new Criminal Justice Center in Philadelphia. The conference will be an excellent opportunity for both professional development and networking. Visit the PAPPC Website at www.pappc.org to register online, or to view more detailed conference and hotel information. Questions can be directed to Tom Costa, 215-560-6597; email him at tcosta@pbpp.state.pa.us.

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learns through guided, hands-on instruction with a PC. The Computer Learning Center's training is free to all law enforcement personnel. Classes fill quickly, so early registration is recommended. Lodging is available at the Milton Motel, 1733 E. Chocolate Avenue, (within about a mile of the Academy) \$55-\$60 plus tax, phone 717-533-4533; or the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East, 4751 Lindle Road, (exit #1 off I-283, about 10 minutes from Hershey), \$55 plus tax, phone 717-939-7841.

The Center's training schedule for April through June is summarized above. Information on sponsored training beyond this time period will be announced in the coming months. Registration information may be obtained or questions may be directed to Ms. Julie Weitzel at 717 533-5987, extension 222 or e-mail at jweitzel@psp.state.pa.us Dave Davis is the manager of the Computer Lab Training facility and may be reached at extension 210 at the same number. Registrations should be faxed to 717-787-1650.

This newsletter is published monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University. If your county has an innovative program, please let us know. Articles accompanied by original photographs are always welcome. Although articles alone may be sent by email, please don't email photos; we will be happy to return your photographs to you.

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Any changes or additions to the mailing list should be sent to Nina Weaver, nswear@wharf.ship.edu

Achieving the balance at Northwestern Academy by Lori Thew

Since the opening of Northwestern Academy's doors a year ago, a number of Balanced and Restorative Justice-related practices have been incorporated within its programs. The treatment continuum is comprised of an intensive secure detention program, an intermediate treatment facility, and a boot camp. All employees, as a part of orientation, have attended BARJ training provided by Rick Steele, a member of the statewide BARJ implementation committee. In addition, 25 staff are scheduled to receive victim curriculum training provided by Valerie Bender, co-author of "Victim/Community Awareness—Establishing a Restorative Community." This curriculum will then be implemented campus-wide.

All Academy programs strive to achieve a balance among competency development, accountability, and community protection and safety, while applying the philosophical tenets of restorative justice. Northwestern is committed to helping students develop appropriate coping, social, and living skills. A variety of educational and therapeutic groups exists to assist students in achieving this goal, including victim impact, anger management, decision-making, self-esteem, sex education, parenting, peer relationships, values clarification, drug and alcohol, independent living, children of alcoholics, and sexual offender programs. Pre- and post-testing is used, where appropriate, to measure the degree of acquired knowledge; students then apply this knowledge within the structure of daily activities, practicing their competencies and eventually transitioning from institutional care.

Northwestern Academy uses the normative community model within

the principles of balanced and restorative justice as its base treatment modality for all of the students. Used in conjunction with appropriate home passes and a thoroughly structured aftercare plan, the program assists in a smooth and safe transition from institutional care to community living.

Northwestern Academy students are consistently reminded of their victims and the real harm they have created as a result of their actions. All offenders must attend and successfully complete the victim impact course, where they are not only confronted with the real harm of their deeds, but are also expected to take responsibility for the harm. In some programs students are expected to write letters of apology to their victims, which are forwarded as deemed appropriate by their probation officers. Work/study programs afford designated participants with the opportunity to initiate restitution payments prior to leaving the institution. Other victim-oriented activities in the planning stages include collaboration with a local M.A.D.D. (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) chapter, and the development of a crime restoration unit.

Community service activities also continue to expand. These projects include a walk-a-thon for cancer, CROP walks, maintenance and construction work on the community recreation facilities, painting and repair at a local high school, working at the community pool, a pet therapy program in local nursing homes, and working side-by-side with volunteer firemen to renovate their headquarters. In an attempt to assist in delinquency-prevention, Academy juveniles have attended local high schools to speak to students about their delinquency

and what they have learned about their victims and their community. Alternative education students have also visited the Academy campus to see and hear firsthand the consequences of delinquent behavior.

Northwestern Academy continues to expand the principles of balanced and restorative justice in day-to-day operations. The community advisory board established a sub-committee on BARJ implementation which is assisting management staff in assessing the development of a Balanced and Restorative Justice Institution through measurement instruments, and will provide valuable input for future activities, training, and program development.

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Bender has presented various workshops and training programs for juvenile justice professionals, district attorneys, judges, and victims groups both locally and nationally. She co-authored one curriculum titled "Victim/Community Awareness: Establishing a Restorative Justice Community" and authored a second curriculum specifically for juveniles, "Victim/Community Awareness: An Orientation for Juveniles."

As a member of the Juvenile Advisory Committee and the Chief Juvenile Probation Officers' Balanced and Restorative Justice Implementation Committee, Bender will continue to focus on the areas of accountability, competency development, and community safety. She will also develop a curriculum for parents of juvenile offenders that will aid in their understanding of balanced and restorative justice, especially as it relates to victim/community awareness.

Annual awards program nominations are now being accepted

Each year at its annual banquet, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission presents awards in the following categories:

Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year; Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year; Court-Operated Program of the Year; Residential Program of the Year; Community Based Program of the Year; Meritorious Service Award; and Juvenile Court Support Service Award

The JCJC is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted. Only one nomination per category, per county, is permitted. Letters of nomination may be secured from any chief juvenile probation officer and must be postmarked by April 28, 2000. A juvenile court judge from the county of origin must endorse the formal nomination material, which must be postmarked by June 1, 2000.

Previous winners may not be nominated in the same award category. However, the nomination of individuals or programs who were nominated but not selected in prior years is both permitted and encouraged.

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission encourages you to help honor exemplary performance by individuals and programs serving children in Pennsylvania. Information regarding the JCJC Youth Awards will be forwarded to your attention in the near future.

2000 JCJC award categories and definitions are as follows:

Juvenile Probation Supervisor—any individual who supervises other employees, but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, as

of the date of the nomination letter's postmark. This category includes all Deputy Chiefs, Assistant Directors, Supervisors, and others functioning in a similar capacity.

Juvenile Probation Officer—any individual who is employed as a Juvenile Probation Officer, but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer or Juvenile Probation Supervisor, as of the date of the nomination letter's postmark.

Meritorious Service Award—any individual not receiving remuneration for working with alleged and/or delinquent children. This individual is a volunteer committed to furthering the development of youth.

Court-Operated Program—any program operated by court employees which serves alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

Residential Program—any public or private sector program serving alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth in a residential setting. This includes foster homes, group homes, residential treatment programs, general child care facilities, detention centers, independent living programs, and other programs providing out of home, overnight care to children.

Community Based Program—any public or private sector program, not operated by the court, which provides community based non-residential care to alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth, including but not limited to, day treatment programs, in-home services, Boys and Girls Clubs, and out-patient services.

Juvenile Court Support Service Award—any individual who

provides clerical or secretarial support services to the Juvenile Court. This includes receptionists, secretaries, clerk/typists, and office managers.

Please phone Arlene L. Prentice, 717-783-7836, if you have any questions or need more information.