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Gov. Mark Schweiker today appointed First Lady Kathy Schweiker as chair the Governor's Community Partnership for Safe Children. Former First Lady Michele Ridge, who served as chair since the Partnership's inception in 1995, was appointed as a member.

"Over the past seven years, the Children's Partnership has successfully supported grassroots organizations across our Commonwealth in their efforts to reduce youth violence," Gov. Schweiker said. "My administration is committed to continuing its work with community leaders to ensure that all children are provided with every opportunity for a safe and productive future, as demonstrated by the appointment of Pennsylvania's new First Lady as its Chair.

"I welcome Mrs. Ridge's continuing service as a member. It was through her leadership that the Children's Partnership has effectively implemented so many programs that benefit Pennsylvania's children and families and has made our Commonwealth a national leader in youth violence-prevention."

The Children's Partnership was created by former Gov. Tom Ridge in 1995 and seeks to reduce violence by and against our youth through the use of programs that have undergone intense scientific scrutiny and have been proven effective.

"I am honored to assume this new role and look forward to continuing the work that directly affects the health and safety of our communities and families," Mrs. Schweiker said. "The next 14 months will provide many opportunities to build upon research-based prevention efforts already in place across Pennsylvania."

Last year, former Gov. Ridge called on the General Assembly to make the work of the Children's Partnership a permanent part of state government. This past July, Gov. Ridge signed House Bill 1048 which amends the statutory authority of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to specifically include among its responsibilities the continuation of the work of the Children's Partnership.

The cornerstone of the Children's Partnership's youth violence-
First Lady, continued on page 3

Gov. Schweiker appoints First Lady to chair Governor's Community Partnership for Safe Children

**Former First Lady Michele Ridge
appointed as member**



P.A.A.P.: Pennsylvania's Amber Alert Plan

Crimes against children, particularly cases involving nonfamily abductions, continue to be an area of concern for law enforcement authorities. Information gleaned from national studies conducted on this topic has revealed that children abducted with the intent to commit homicide are killed within the first hours to one day of their abduction. Time is critical in saving the lives of abducted children. The creation of the Pennsylvania Amber Alert Child Abduction Response Plan is an effort to enhance law enforcement's ability to respond to this issue in the hope of preventing the victimization of children in Pennsylvania.

The Amber Alert Plan is a nonfamily child abduction alert notification plan to notify citizens of an abduction. It utilizes the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to inform the public of an abduction, and it provides descriptive information of the child and the perpetrator, if known, to the public in the hope of enlisting public support in the search efforts. The Amber Alert Plan went into effect in Pennsylvania on November 19 of this year. The Plan originated in Texas in memory of Amber Hagerman, an abduction and murder victim, and the Pennsylvania State Police, with cooperation and assistance of other sponsors developed the plan for Pennsylvania.

The activation process begins when police receive information of an abduction and initiate an investigation. Upon confirmation of a nonfamily abduction meeting the criteria, local law enforcement authorities will notify the Pennsylvania State Police through the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network (CLEAN) computer. The

Pennsylvania State Police will issue a statewide alert message to all law enforcement in Pennsylvania through CLEAN to notify them of the abduction. EAS will then be activated to notify the citizens of any and all pertinent information regarding the abduction. The Pennsylvania State Police will post the abduction information to the Pennsylvania State Police website at www.amber.state.pa.us and through a news wire service.

The activation criteria were established (by law enforcement and the media) so that the plan would only be used in appropriate cases. It is important that the media and the public understand the time constraints law enforcement encounter when a child is reported missing. Therefore, for the plan to be activated, the following strict criteria must be met:

- The abducted child must be under the age of 16, or under the age of 18 and have a proven mental or physical disability;
- The police must believe that the abducted child is in danger of serious bodily harm or death; and,
- The abduction must be believed to have been committed by a nonfamily member. This plan is limited to "abducted" children, and, therefore, excludes children believed to be runaways or throwaways from home.

The abduction information will be immediately broadcast one time by participating Pennsylvania radio and television stations. By being swiftly alerted of an abduction, the public can assist in the search efforts for the abducted child by reporting sightings of the child, perpetrator, or other associated information by calling 911.

The Plan can be activated to alert the public of an abduction anywhere within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Emergency Broadcast System. The Plan can also notify other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies within surrounding jurisdictions.

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 email or on a disk. We particularly enjoy your photographs, but we ask that these be mailed - we will be happy to return them to you.

P.J. Verrecchia is the editor. The address is CJJT&R, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299 or email pjverr@wharf.ship.edu

Please send additions or changes to the mailing list to Nina Weaver at the same address or email nsweav@wharf.ship.edu

First Lady, from page 1

prevention efforts is the Communities That Care (CTC) process, developed by Dr. J. David Hawkins and Dr. Richard Catalano, social scientists at the University of Washington. Drs. Catalano and Hawkins synthesized 40 years of prevention research and identified 19 risk factors that, when present in the lives of children, can lead to violence and delinquency. These risks include the availability of drugs and weapons, family conflict, academic failure, economic deprivation, alienation, and peer pressure.

Using the Communities That Care process, the Children’s Partnership works with communities to identify the particular risks affecting their children, and then to implement strategies to reduce those risks.

Through the Children’s Partnership, young people across the state are participating in programs that have been proven effective in reducing youth violence, including substance-abuse education; bullying prevention; life-skills development; parenting education; family counseling; home visitation by nurses to at-risk families; and mentoring.

Currently, there are 127 CTC sites in 58 counties across Pennsylvania.

In addition to Communities That Care, the Children’s Partnership also has developed several other initiatives to support children and families across Pennsylvania including:

- The Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) Program, which allows trained nurses to visit the homes of pregnant and parenting women whose children are most at risk for health and developmental problems, helping the mother with obstetrical health, parenting skills, and psycho-social development. The Children’s Partnership supports NFP in six existing sites, with an additional 16 beginning the program in 2001-02;
- In 1999, the Partnership joined forces with America’s Promise, founded by Secretary of State Colin Powell, to help more of Pennsylvania’s at-risk children. Like the Children’s Partnership, America’s Promise mobilizes communities to build and strengthen the character and competence of America’s youth by fostering local partnerships. To date, America’s Promise and the Children’s Partnership have launched the joint effort “Communities of Promise” in 13 counties;
- The Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Program, which is designed to provide training to

physicians and medical staff on how to identify child abuse and neglect. There have been nearly 3,400 health and human service professionals trained using this program:

- The “Cyber’rent: Safe Surfing for Kids” state-wide internet safety campaign to help teach parents how to protect children from becoming victims of internet crime. The campaign includes a video, internet-safety training workshops for parents and schools, and a companion guide that explains how the internet works and offers tips to parents on how they can protect their kids. More than 150 law-enforcement officers across the state have been trained to present the free, one-hour workshops.

MPOETC Training Schedule

The following courses will be offered in the MPOETC Computer Learning Center, 75 East Derry Road in Hershey. Course descriptions may be found at www.mpoetc.org. The training is free for probation officers. Questions may be directed to Vance Rosebush, vrosebush@mpoetc.org. Classes are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Advanced Access 2000	January 3
Advanced PowerPoint 2000	March 13-14
Advanced Word 2000	January 17
Digital Photo and Movie Editing	January 24
Excel Applications	March 12
Intermediate Access 2000	March 5
Intermediate Excel 2000	February 20
Intermediate PowerPoint 2000	February 13-14
Intermediate Word 2000	March 20
Internet Crime	March 6-7
Introduction to Access 2000	February 5
Introduction to Operating Systems	February 7
Introduction to Outlook 98	March 21
Introduction to Personal Computers	January 16
Introduction to PowerPoint 2000	January 15
Introduction to Excel 2000	January 10
Introduction to the Internet	February 6
Introduction to Word 2000	February 12
PowerPoint for Law Enforcement	January 8-9
PA-LEMIS	Jan. 29-31, Feb. 26-28, Mar. 26-28

Professional caucuses at 2001 Conference on Juvenile Justice provide forum for discussing issues

The “Professional Caucuses” segment of the *2001 Annual Conference on Juvenile Justice* provided an opportunity for juvenile court judges, chief juvenile probation officers, juvenile probation supervisors, juvenile probation officers, and services providers to meet with their colleagues in individual sessions to discuss issues of mutual interest. The 1½-hour sessions were designed to create an opportunity for each group to discuss the major juvenile justice issues in their respective jurisdictions, or area of responsibility, and to describe progress in accomplishing the goals of community protection, accountability, and competency development.

Major issues: Juvenile court judges

- Limited dispositional options for children with mental health problems, sex offenders, and female offenders—especially those with assaultive behavior
- Lack of information regarding out-of-state residential facilities
- High cost of certain residential placements
- Lack of statistics regarding the success of residential facilities
- Low salaries of juvenile probation officers
- Need for judicial training in regional settings
- Need for better communication with county commissioners
- “Zero tolerance” for certain behaviors
- Turnover of district attorney staff
- Inter-county transfer of dispositions

Chief juvenile probation officers

- Meeting the needs of children with mental health issues
- Overcrowded detention centers
- Balanced and restorative justice issues need to be better understood by all
- Juvenile probation officer safety issues
- Security issues involving detention centers and juvenile probation offices
- Low salaries of juvenile probation officers and turnover
- Importance and difficulty in maximizing IV-E, TANF, and Act 148 dollars
- Pros and cons of statewide standardization of juvenile court procedures vs. local autonomy
- Increasing amount of paperwork related to federal and state requirements

Juvenile probation supervisors

- Lack of appropriate services for children with mental health problems and sex offenders
- Difficulty accessing services through the HealthChoices managed care program
- Confusion regarding Act 53 of 1997 (involuntary drug and alcohol treatment)
- Low salaries of juvenile probation officers
- Difficulty in implementing balanced and restorative justice principles statewide

Juvenile probation officers

- Increasing use of heroin, especially among females
- Lack of residential and community-based treatment for children with mental health problems
- Juvenile probation officer safety and violence related to the selling of drugs
- Certain residential facilities not accepting violent children for treatment
- High cost of residential facilities
- Difficulty in getting younger children, who are too young to gain employment, to pay restitution
- Information sharing between human service agencies is sometimes difficult
- Lack of employment training programs
- Returning children from placement to dysfunctional families

Service providers

- Juvenile probation departments are not standardized in their approach to implementing the principles of balanced and restorative justice
- Lack of cooperation, in certain counties, in completing home pass forms
- Lack of knowledge, among courts, about the various programs offered by providers
- Inconsistent regulations
- Inability to access mental health services in a timely manner
- Necessity to re-apply for approval to provide different mental health services
- Children who cannot access mental health services in a timely manner remain in secure detention
- Some children are placed in more restrictive settings than necessary, because appropriate mental health treatment is not available
- “Paperwork” does not always arrive with the child to the placement facility

- Lack of an effective treatment model for aggressive female offenders, especially those with mental health problems
- Lack of programs for pregnant female offenders

Progress in achieving the goals of community protection, competency development and accountability:

Juvenile court judges

- Employment programs to enable children to pay restitution
- Community services programs
- Weekend sanction programs
- Victim services, including mediation
- Citizen involvement in community panels

Chief juvenile probation officers

- Slow but steady progress is being made
- Many new types of community service programs
- All components of the juvenile justice system need continuous training and education to fully understand the principles of balanced and restorative justice
- The way victims are viewed by the system has changed

Juvenile probation supervisors

- York County's Drug Court
- Philadelphia's Youth Violence Reduction Project
- Allegheny County's Community Intensive Supervision Program
- Many new types of victim services

Juvenile probation officers

- Leadership at the local level is necessary
- Community members must become more involved in juvenile justice issues
- Competency development programs for parents are needed
- Multi-systemic therapy

Service providers

- Community service is now a part of many residential treatment programs
- Employment opportunities are provided to build skills and enable the child to pay restitution
- Risk assessment tools are utilized to define progress in accomplishing treatment goals
- Victim impact panels have been developed in conjunction with juvenile probation departments
- The victim awareness curriculum, developed in conjunction with the Chief's Council, is utilized
- Program staff are trained in the principles of balanced and restorative justice
- Group counseling regarding victim awareness

Juvenile Delinquency Benchbook under development

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJDP) of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency has identified the development of a Juvenile Delinquency Benchbook as a major goal for 2002. The Benchbook is being developed by a committee chaired by Judge Arthur Grim, Berks County, who is a member of the JJDP and vice-chair of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Other members of the Committee include: James Anderson and Susan Blackburn from the Juvenile Court Judges Commission; Pat Torbet and Patrick Griffin from the National Center for Juvenile Justice; Valerie Bender, Restorative Justice Consultant for the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and member of the JJDP; Rhonda Winnecour, Chapter 13 Trustee and member of the JJDP; and juvenile court judges Honorable Fred P. Anthony, Honorable Emanuel A. Cassimatis, Honorable Cheryl Allen Craig, Honorable Sheldin C. Jelin, Honorable Jolene Kopriva, and Honorable John C. Uhler.

The committee will be working to develop a resource that will provide guidance to juvenile court judges regarding the major aspects of their work, based on the principles of balanced and restorative justice. In addition to addressing the issues that relate to the role of the judge on the bench, the publication will address administrative issues and the role of the juvenile court judge in the community.

Research assistants from the National Center for Juvenile Justice will lead the committee in a literature review and help guide the group in the development of this important document. An outline has been proposed that will capture all stages of the juvenile court process from intake to termination of court jurisdiction. An appendix to the document will provide critical reference materials such as the Juvenile Act and other resources that will aid judges in their decision-making.

This project is being supported through a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. It is anticipated that the Juvenile Delinquency Benchbook will be completed by July, 2002.

Positions Available

Detention Center Administrator York County

Responsibilities include total management of the detention and shelter facility. Knowledge of the juvenile justice system would be considered, and the pay grade will be commensurate with education and experience.

The deadline for application is December 30, 2001. Successful applicants will have a masters degree and at least six years of experience in Shelter or Detention settings, or related residential experience with children and teens. Salary will be reflective of experience along with an annual \$1000 or \$2000 stipend for having a masters, depending on the degree.

Interested candidates should contact Sharon Luker, Human Service Department, 1 Market Way West, York, PA 17401; 717-771-9214.

Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for Communities That Care

This position will be based at Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA and is contingent on yearly grant funding. Starting salary: \$35, 012.

The employee will be responsible for providing training and technical assistance activities for current CTC projects and communities considering CTC involvement; visiting CTC projects and programs; coordinating training and network meetings; and assisting in the compilation of a yearly directory of CTC sites. Some travel is required.

A bachelor's degree required, master's degree preferred. Two years of experience in working with Communities That Care Program required. Qualified candidates must also demonstrate excellent communication skills in an interview situation.

Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter, along with resume, to Victoria Rideout, Acting Director of Human Resources, Shippensburg University; 1871 Old Main Dr.; Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299 by January 18, 2002.

Shippensburg University is committed to equal employment opportunity. Women, persons of color, veterans, and the disabled are encouraged to apply.



Arlene Prentice honored by the PA Certification Board

Ms. Arlene Prentice was recently selected by the Pennsylvania Certification Board (PCB) as one of its "Heroes." In the December, 2001, newsletter of the PCB, Prentice was honored, along with three other individuals, for her service to the Board.

The PCB is a private, non-profit corporation that develops certification standards for professionals in the drug and alcohol abuse field. The organization provides curricula and standards for training, and has established a credentialing process.

Ms. Prentice has been a member of the Pennsylvania Certification Board for more than ten years, and is currently the First Vice-President of the organization. She has previously served as Secretary of the Board and has achieved Diplomate status as a Certified Addictions Counselor.

Mark your Calendar!

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 6, 7 & 8, 2002

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

sponsored by

***The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission
The Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial
Judges
The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers
The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research
and
The Governor's Community Partnership for Safe Children***

Youth Awards Program & Dinner
Wednesday, November 6

Annual Training and Awards Program
Thursday, November 7

Resource Day—2002
Friday, November 8

For vendor information, please call Arlene L. Prentice, 717-783-7836

The 2002 Annual Training and Awards Program will conclude by presenting Resource Day—2002, during which representatives from residential programs, electronic monitoring companies, drug testing companies, and other service providers will “set up shop” to discuss their programs with the Pennsylvania juvenile justice community. This informal marketplace will offer an important opportunity for consumers to learn about new and innovative services.

Call for workshop presentations will be mailed in February
Vendor information will be mailed in June

Restorative Justice training offered via videoconference

The National Institute of Corrections is sponsoring a 32-hour live, interactive, satellite, videoconference titled “Restorative Justice: Principles, Practice and Implementation,” which will be held January 28 through February 1, 2002, at various locations across the Commonwealth. The training program is underwritten by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and is offered free of charge to community members, criminal and juvenile justice professionals, victim services professionals, and criminal justice educators.

The Higher Education Workgroup of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, chaired by Rick Steele, Director of Operations, Northwestern Academy has pursued this initiative to promote partnerships with institutions of higher education throughout Pennsylvania. Partner universities are asked to provide the physical site and technological assistance and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Probation Officer’s training network will provide local coordination and training facilitation.

This training program will help participants learn:

- Restorative Justice concepts, principles and values;
- The impact of crime on victims, communities and offenders;
- Ways to respond to the needs and interests of crime victims;
- Uses of various restorative practices;
- Practical strategies for developing partnerships within the community;
- How to manage personal, interpersonal and organizational change;
- Strategies for addressing the response to change efforts; and,
- How to develop an action plan.

Training participants are expected to attend the entire 5-day program. Juvenile probation officers who complete the program in it’s entirety will be eligible for 34 training-hour credits from the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. Other non-degree continuing education credits (CEUs) will be awarded through the American Council on Education (ACE) and processed through University College and Extension Services (UCES), California State University – Long Beach (CSULB).

Training locations include: Altoona, Penn State Campus; Shippensburg, Shippensburg University; Lancaster, Millersville University; Philadelphia, Temple University; and, Gibsonia, Pine Ridge High School. Locations in the northwest and northeast parts of the state will be announced as soon as they have been finalized.

Registration applications for this training program are available by contacting Robin Mayberry at 717-697-7010 or mums0612@aol.com. For more information please contact Bernadette Jones at 267-251-8271(cell phone) or 215-849-3879 or Susan Blackburn, 717-705-2290 or email sblackburn@state.pa.us.

