

a newsletter of the

Pennsylvania  
Juvenile Court  
Judges'  
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

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Mark Schweiker, Governor

Volume 10, Number 11

[www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us)

November 2002

## 2002 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

**James Rieland, of Allegheny County,  
is Chief Juvenile Probation Officer of  
the Year.**

**Photos of all award winners are on  
pages 2 and 3.**

For the second year, The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice held at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers November 6-8, 2002, drew a crowd of nearly 1,100. On Wednesday, professional caucuses met in the afternoon to discuss issues of concern and interest. In the evening, young people from within the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system were recognized for their individual achievements at the Youth Awards Program and Dinner. This program highlighted the important work of judges, administrators, probation officers, state and private providers, and other dedicated people who work in the best interests of young people.

This year's speaker was Liz Murray. Her life is a triumph over adversity and a stunning example of the importance of dreaming big. Liz's life as the child of cocaine-addicted parents in the Bronx was grim. There was no food in the house, everything was filthy, drugs were everywhere, and the welfare checks were spent before they arrived. Before Liz was 16, her mother died and she was homeless – living on the streets, riding the subway all night, and eating from dumpsters. Amidst this pain, Liz always imagined her life could be better than it was. Determined to take charge of her life, Liz finished high school in just two years while camping out in New York City parks and subway stations. She went on to earn a scholarship from *The New York Times* and entered Harvard in 1999. Liz spoke from the heart to young and old alike; at the end of her speech she received a well-deserved standing ovation.

The keynote address was presented on Thursday morning by Howard Snyder, Ph.D, Director of Systems Research at the National Center for Juvenile Justice, in Pittsburgh. Dr. Snyder currently directs several national research efforts funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. In collaboration with colleagues at NCJJ, other federal agencies, universities, and juvenile justice agencies across the country, publications flowing from these efforts provide accurate understanding of juvenile crime and victimization levels and the trends and activities of the juvenile justice system. His own research has studied the nature of violent crime against young children, differences in the daily cycles of violent crime by and against juveniles, juvenile suicide characteristics, and the trends, age, and structure of juvenile delinquency. Dr. Snyder's research also focuses on the juvenile court's response to

*Conference, continued on last page*



**James Rieland**  
Allegheny County  
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer  
of the Year



**Elizabeth A. Fritz**  
Lehigh County  
Juvenile Probation Supervisor  
of the Year



**Meghan Sgro**  
Delaware County  
Juvenile Probation Officer  
of the Year

**Debbie Mancuso**  
York County  
Meritorious Service Award



**Carl W. Quickle**  
Philadelphia County  
Juvenile Court Support Service

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](mailto:pjverr@wharf.ship.edu)

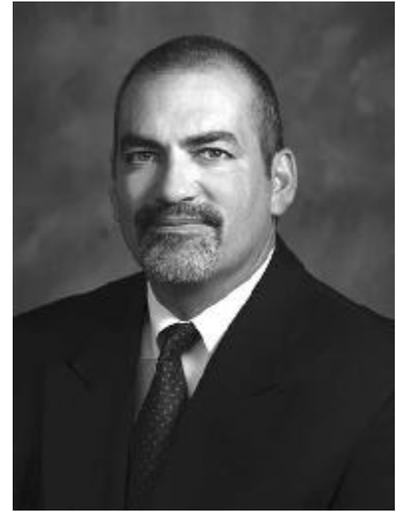
Please send additions or changes to the mailing list to Nina Weaver at the same address or email [nsweav@wharf.ship.edu](mailto:nsweav@wharf.ship.edu)



**Donna Faucon**  
Shippensburg University  
Undergraduate Scholarship



**Brian R. Steuhl**  
Dr. Anthony F. Ceddia Award for  
Outstanding Scholarship  
in Juvenile Justice



**Mark Amendola**  
Executive Director  
Residential Program of the Year



**Jacquelyn M. Bishop**  
Delaware County  
Court-operated Program  
of the Year



**Dr. Joseph I. Abraham**  
Executive Director  
Community-based Program  
of the Year

# Butler County juvenile court honors youth, community

By: Michael S. Trego, community-based probation officer

With caring and support, youth can make a difference in the community. That was the theme at Butler County Juvenile Court Services' annual Community Service Recognition Day October 8, 2002, at the Butler County Government Center.

Youth, community members, and community service sites were honored at the event during Juvenile Justice Week in Pennsylvania; this year it was the week of October 6-12, as proclaimed by Pennsylvania Governor Mark Schweiker.

Butler County Commissioners Glenn Anderson, Scott Lowe, and James Kennedy, along with President Judge Thomas Doerr, Judge Marilyn Horan, Senior Judge Martin O'Brien, District Attorney Tim McCune, and Butler City Mayor Leonard Pintell attended the event. Judge Horan is also a member of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.

Community Service Recognition Day honors both the youths and the community members who have been positive influences in their lives, helping them on the road to becoming more productive members of society. "Butler County has a rich juvenile court tradition," said Judge Doerr, noting that many county officials and attorneys got their start in juvenile



Dunbar Center was this year's recipient of the William DiCuccio Award for outstanding dedication and community service to the Butler County Juvenile Court. From left to right is Kate Folmer, Executive Director of the Dunbar Community Center in Butler; the Hon. Thomas J. Doerr, Butler County President Judge, Angela Lamberto BARJ and WORC Coordinator, and Dr. Michael E. Noyes, Director of Juvenile Court Services.

court. Juvenile court has also received support from the county commissioners, school districts, and many members of the community, he said. In addition to his duties as president judge, Doerr also oversees juvenile court.

One of the cornerstones of juvenile court is its community service program, Working Opportunities to Repay the Community. This program establishes partnerships with businesses and organizations throughout Butler County and provides youths with a site to perform community service. Each youth who comes through the court system is assigned a minimum of 20 hours of community service. The WORC program encompasses the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice with its three points of accountability, community safety, and competency development.

Angela Lamberto, WORC program coordinator and community service probation officer, said community service teaches youths skills, furthers their knowledge, is a positive community interaction, and shows them how people can work together. Michael Noyes, Director of Juvenile Court Services, said that many of the youths that come through the system turn their lives around and are never again seen in the system.

Among those youths honored were Robert L., Luke W., Ashley C., Ryan M., Michael A. and Kyle D. Jason S. received the Tony Cipolla Award, which honors a youth who is making positive changes in his life, the lives of others, and the community. The award is named for youth whose life was cut short at a time when he was turning that life around.

The community service sites honored included the Dunbar Community Center, the county Department of Waste Management and Recycling, and Alameda Park. So far this year, youth and juvenile court staff have completed more than 2,300 hours of community service. Clinical psychologist Robert Devine received an award for his 52 years of service to juvenile courts across western Pennsylvania.



Daniel P. Elby, Chief Executive Officer of Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, with the 2002 Outstanding Education Program in America Award.

## ARC receives national award

Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, Inc., (ARC) has received national recognition for its work on the Pennsylvania Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Project. The National Juvenile Justice Trainer's Association has selected the PTSD Project as the Outstanding Juvenile Justice Training Program in America. The award was presented at the joint conference of the National Juvenile Justice Trainer's Association and the National Juvenile Detention Centers Association in Las Vegas, October 6-9, 2002.

ARC was nominated for this prestigious award by Launa Kowalczyk, trainer/supervisor at Central Counties Youth Center. Kowalczyk has been involved in the project for the past two years. She is one of 18 juvenile detention center staff who have worked to develop a PTSD education program for juvenile detention staff. In the award presentation, ARC was recognized for the quality education and treatment program that has been developed to help adolescent girls who enter the juvenile

justice system and have symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

In accepting the award, Daniel P. Elby, CEO of ARC, and Chair of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement Subcommittee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), thanked PCCD for its substantial and long-term commitment to the project. He singled out James Thomas, Executive Director of PCCD, and Ruth Williams, Deputy Director of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, for their invaluable support.

In his acceptance speech, Elby expressed his gratitude to the young women in ARC's Gloria J. Zimmerman Home for their help in developing the treatment curriculum and their participation in the PTSD training program. These young women prove that treatment and education can help teenage girls change their lives and become healthy and happy adults.

## Save the Date!

**March 16-19, 2003**

**Mission-driven, Performance-based,  
Outcome-focused Practices**

**The 20th National Conference on Juvenile Justice**

co-sponsored by the

**National Council of Juvenile  
and Family Court Judges**

and the

**National District Attorneys Association**

**Pennsylvania Convention Center  
Loews Philadelphia Hotel**

# The Third Annual Restorative Justice Academy

Mark your Calendar!

April 21 - May 2, 2003  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

for more information:  
954-762-5668  
or visit our website at  
[www.barjproject.org](http://www.barjproject.org)

Sponsored by the United States Department of Justice,  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## *Conference, from page one*

offenders, the outcomes of juveniles transferred to criminal courts, international differences in juvenile crime and justice systems, and the development and implementation of risk-assessment instruments.

Following the keynote address, the conference offered 29 workshops detailing innovative and diverse juvenile justice programs. All of the workshops were well-received, and it is anticipated that many of the programs will be replicated in other jurisdictions.

The Annual Awards Dinner and Program was the featured event on Thursday evening. This program is an opportunity for Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to show its appreciation by honoring those who work hard to make a difference in the lives of the young people who have been entrusted to their care. The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, takes great pride in honoring outstanding individuals and exemplary programs from across the Commonwealth.

The conference concluded on Friday morning with Resource Day, 2002, an annual event offering participants an opportunity to meet with representatives from public and private residential service providers, informational services, and others whose products and services play an important role in the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system.

## Shirley named Chief in Juniata County

On September 30, 2002, Danny M. Shirley Jr. was named Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Juniata County. Shirley graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in December 1997, with a B.A. in Criminology/Pre-Law.

In February of 1998 he started his career in the criminal justice field when he became an adult probation officer in Potter County. Shirley switched to juvenile probation in Potter County in September of 1999, then left Potter County in August of 2000 to become an adult probation officer in Ross County, Ohio. In January, 2002, he was promoted to Chief Adult Probation Officer.

Originally from Kittanning, Danny Shirley and his wife, Misty, now live in Mifflin.

