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York County juvenile probation unites with mental health to form JUMP Court

Adjudicated delinquents who have behavioral mental health problems in York County are receiving supervision that is anything but traditional. Juvenile Probation United with Mental Health Programming (JUMP) began in 1999 in an effort to address the lack of community-based programs for youth with a DSM IV Axis I diagnosis, and to stabilize the number of residential placements these youth receive. JUMP was initially a collaborative effort involving team members from the juvenile probation department, York/Adams County Mental Health/Mental Retardation, and the family therapy program operated by Manito, Inc. Its components include a six-month, four-phase, court-ordered supervision period with individual and family therapy, group meetings, and community service. In September, 2003, a JUMP Court was established.

The JUMP team assists families in achieving an improved level of individual and family functioning. While individual team members perform their traditional roles, cross-training occurs so all members are fully prepared to address daily behavioral and program-related issues. Ongoing assessment of juveniles and their families occurs, as well. Services may include, but are not limited to: psychological and psychiatric evaluations; medication monitoring; educational planning; mental health services; medical and dental assistance; financial, employment, and housing assistance; parenting skills; group life skills; communication skills; conflict resolution; and 24-hour crisis intervention.

The four phases of the program incorporate the goals of balanced and restorative justice, along with individualized goals. Phase one is six weeks long and addresses accountability, community protection, and establishing trust. Phase two is eleven weeks which addresses competency development and taking responsibility. Phase three, which is five weeks in length, assists each juvenile in achieving independence from the JUMP program. The final phase, phase four, is transitioning (finalizing and strengthening the aftercare plan) and lasts for two weeks.

The implementation of JUMP Court added members to the original interdisciplinary team. The new members include the juvenile court judge, assistant district attorney, and a public defender. The entire team meets weekly to discuss the case dynamics and supervision status of all of the juveniles in the program. Weekly court hearings, where the juvenile and family members are present, occur in conjunction with these meetings. The hearings give the judge an opportunity to offer encouragement, honor achievement, reaffirm goals, and/or impose sanctions when necessary.

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JCJC adopts Standards Governing Searches of the Person and Property of Children by Juvenile Probation Officers

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) adopted Standards Governing Searches of the Person and Property of Children by Juvenile Probation Officers at its February 18, 2004, meeting. The Standards, which are advisory in nature, are intended to provide guidance in the implementation of 42 Pa. C.S. §6304(a.1), which sets forth the statutory framework governing searches of the person and property of children by juvenile probation officers.

The Standards were developed in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, and contain provisions relating to the legal authority of juvenile probation officers to conduct searches, best practice standards regarding both personal and property searches, and guidance relating to written reports, agency protocols, and training.

The Standards will be distributed to Juvenile Court Administrative Judges and Chief Juvenile Probation Officers after they are published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* as a Statement of Policy. The JCJC will provide training to juvenile probation officers on the Standards, and related issues, this fall. Please contact Keith Snyder, at 717-787-5634 or ksnyder@state.pa.us, if you have any questions or would like additional information.

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.

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This interaction between the court and the family allows for personal engagement, which is reflective of the integrated approach of JUMP. York County JUMP team members envisioned the close involvement of the court providing motivation for the juveniles and their families to engage positively in the treatment plan, resulting in the prevention of future penetration into the juvenile justice system.

More information regarding the JUMP program may be obtained by telephoning Janelle Mancuso at 717-812-0769, ext. 331.

Staff development news

Several promising training opportunities remain in the CJJT&R spring schedule. Among the top prospects, we encourage you to consider attending the first-ever training event in State College May 12-13 titled "Community Management of Juveniles Who Have Committed Sex Offenses."

This program focuses on the challenges and strategies for successfully supervising juvenile sex offenders in the community. There are few cases in juvenile probation work that are as sensitive and high risk if a mistaken judgment results in re-offending and additional victimization. Accurate assessment of the risk posed by juvenile offenders is as critical as effective treatment. A victim-centered approach that relies on collaboration of community-based professionals to managing this population has been demonstrated to hold the best promise.

This workshop is co-sponsored by the Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM), which was established in 1997 with the goal of enhancing public safety by preventing further victimization through improving the management of adult and juvenile sex offenders who are in the community. This unique session will be led by a trio of nationally recognized consultant-trainers that promises to make this workshop a high point in our spring schedule.

May 11-14, juvenile justice professionals will have the opportunity to attend the Phase II Safety Training—Control Tactics workshop which will be held in facilities at Heiges Field House on the grounds of

Staff development, continued on back page

PAPPC conference to feature juvenile justice workshops

The 83rd Annual Training Institute of the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole, and Corrections will feature six juvenile justice-specific workshops, and others relative to juvenile justice.

Evaluating School-based Probation in Pennsylvania Intermediate Outcomes will be presented by Douglas W. Thomas, research associate with the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ). Thomas will present the current statewide evaluation of school-based probation in Pennsylvania. NCJJ is measuring intermediate outcomes based on the three goals of school-based probation 1) accountability, 2) competency development, and 3) community protection. The presentation will include a brief description of the research, essential characteristics of school based probation, and data collection results. The presentation will also cover the third phase of the school-based probation evaluation.

Community and Media Relations Within The Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System will be led by John Cookus, of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, Andrew DeAngelo, Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Office in Lehigh County, and Pat Yeager, consultant for VisionQuest. The workshop will focus on community and media relations within the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system as a valuable component in the structure of modeling balanced and restorative justice and community justice. This workshop will allow opportunities for participants to develop press releases, discuss community engagement and partnership initiatives, and review public availability information relative to the Pennsylvania Juvenile Act.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in Adolescent Girls will feature Corey Kean, a PTSD specialist with Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, Inc. Kean will explain the psychiatric condition of post-traumatic stress disorder and its origin in the exposure to significant trauma. This interactive, group-based training is designed to provide basic information on understanding and recognizing post-traumatic stress disorder in adolescent girls who enter the juvenile justice system.

Community Service Projects is presented by Michael J. Kelley, William L. Brumbaugh, and Michael T. Villa, all of Youth Forestry Camp # 3. They will explain how the balanced and restorative

justice model at YFC #3 is used to enhance treatment programs by addressing victims' issues, clarifying community rights, and ensuring residents' self-development.

Family Group Conferencing in the Criminal/Juvenile Justice System will be led by Randie Yeager-Marker, a supervisor with the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office and Family Group Conferencing Implementation Team Member. A practice wherein families gather friends and relatives to make appropriate plans for meeting goals or addressing the care and well-being of children, adults, or elderly family members, family group conferencing empowers families to invest in their own strengths and address concerns with the energy to create a workable plan rather than having professionals set up the plan for a family which may be unable to make it work. This workshop will present an overview of how probation, parole, and corrections may use this practice to enhance and address the often-challenging circumstances faced by the criminal justice professionals in planning.

The Counseling Institute: a Training Model to Build Clinical Interviewing Skills will be led by Dr. Robert L. Hewitt, a trainer and consultant for the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Children & Youth Programs, Frank Omlor, Director of PA State Contracted Youth Faculties, and John Phillips, a program training specialist. They will introduce an interviewing and counseling skill-building training model that can be tailored for training juvenile probation officers or residential line staff. The program features a theoretical model called *The Integrated Helping Model: "The Eye of the Eagle"* which includes the five components of self-awareness, understanding human diversity/cultural competence, knowledge bases, relationship-building qualities, and practice skills.

Related workshops include *Current Trends in Drug Use and Abuse*, *Write for Success: Better writing for the Corrections Professionals*, and *Gangs and the Young Adult Offender*.

The PAPPC Institute will be held May 16-19, 2004 at Seven Springs Resort, Champion, PA. The theme is "Collaboration=Success." For more information visit the PAPPC website at www.pappc.org or contact Kim Mackey at 215-560-2467. FAX 215-560-6976 or e-mail kmackey@state.pa.us.

Venango County takes pride in narcotics K9

by: Jennifer R. Richards, Juvenile Intake Officer

In early 2002, Robert Daugherty, Director of Court Supervision Services for Venango County, presented Adult House Arrest Officer, Dan Prichard, with an article from *The Journal of the American Probation and Parole Association Perspectives*. Titled, "The Nose Knows," by Michelle A. Beltran, the article described the addition of a narcotics dog to the Glenn County Probation Department in California. Daugherty instructed Officer Prichard to research the possibility of acquiring a dog for Venango County. Prichard, fully understanding that a narcotics dog could save the county time and money, went straight to work looking for both a dog and funding.

Officer Prichard approached various funding sources for support; however, without a dog to train, no one would commit any financial support. Fortunately, Tina Mayor, a local breeder and trainer of von Bahnhof Dobermans, approached Prichard about the possibility of providing the department with one of her dogs. Mayor, as the facilitator for the Kids 'n' K9s program, understood the value of a dog in regard to positively influencing children. Kids 'n' K9s is a competency-development program which partners stray dogs with delinquent and disadvantaged youth in order to teach discipline and obedience to the dogs while providing the juveniles with necessary skills in regard to academic, social, and career competencies. In August 2002, Mayor donated Feus, a 5-month-old Doberman Pinscher, to Court Supervision Services.

Mars Home for Youth, a nearby residential placement facility for juveniles, learned about the addition of Feus to the department and approved a contribution of \$4,500, an amount which covered the initial training costs for Feus and Officer Prichard. They, in turn, asked that Court Supervision Services provide drug searches at their schools and programs when needed. The Samuel Justice Trust Fund also contributed \$500, which helped pay for kennels, leashes, collars, and other necessities.

Following an evaluation of his potential as a narcotics canine, Feus was approved by James Walstrom, a canine handler and narcotics agent from the Attorney General's office, to enter Narcotics Detection and Obedience Training. On January 26, 2003, Feus and Prichard began six months of training in Altoona. Feus completed the course at the top of his

class of five dogs, the only one to score 100 percent, and was certified as an Active Alert Narcotics Canine on June 3, 2003. As an Active Alert dog, Feus pinpoints the location of drugs by barking and scratching upon detection of the odor of narcotics. This differs from a Passive Alert Canine who sits upon detection.

Since his certification, Feus and Prichard have completed 27 drug searches, mostly in private residences, but also in schools, places of employment, prisons, placement facilities, and the county court house. They have worked in conjunction with municipal and state police, as well as with the state probation and parole department on many of these searches. Of the 27 searches, Feus had 10 positive alerts. Feus and Officer Prichard have also given demonstrations to schoolchildren, impressing upon them the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Court Supervision Services hopes that these demonstrations and searches will provide a deterrent to both juveniles and adults, and help reduce the number of drug offenses in the community.

Feus and Prichard continue to be involved in monthly training, and the department receives ongoing funding from Masonic Lodge #483. So far, they have donated approximately \$700, which has helped fund the monthly maintenance training. Court Supervision Services appreciates all the contributions and support they have received from the community, and offers special thanks to Tina Mayor, Mars Home for Youth, the Samuel Justice Fund, Masonic Lodge #483, and Agent Walstrom.

Feus has lived with Officer Prichard and his family since becoming part of the Court Supervision Services team. Officer Prichard takes care of all of Feus' needs, and he has become a beloved member of their family. The Venango County K-9 program is an example of how communities and probation departments can work together to develop programs that incorporate the principles of balanced and restorative justice, educate the community about the juvenile justice system in their county, and, hopefully, enhance the probation departments delinquency-prevention efforts within the community.



Noyes appointments

Michael E. Noyes, Ph.D., Director of Community Corrections for the 50th Judicial District of the Court of Common Pleas of Butler County, was recently appointed by Governor Rendell and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Children's Trust Fund.

The Pennsylvania Children's Trust Fund is dedicated to funding community-based programs to prevent child abuse and neglect. Established by the Children's Trust Fund Act in December, 1988, funds are generated from a \$10 surcharge on all applications for marriage licenses and divorce complaints, and are intended to develop new and innovative child-abuse and -neglect prevention programs. Specific funding emphasis is placed on primary prevention programs, which focus on the prevention of abuse before it occurs for the first time.

Dr. Noyes will serve as one of 15 board members who administer the fund. The Deputy Secretary for Children, Youth and Families serves as the Executive Director of the Children's Trust Fund while staff within the OCYF carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Board.

Noyes was also appointed by the Pennsylvania Association of Court Management (PACM) as its representative to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Juvenile Procedural Rules Committee. Also serving on the committee is Butler county President Judge Thomas J. Doerr. The Committee has been charged by the Supreme Court with the task of developing unified statewide procedural rules for the handling of both delinquency and dependency matters in juvenile court.

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Shippensburg University. This workshop will be led by Greg Young, Coordinator of Graduate Education and Research at the Center, and a senior instructor in control tactics. For those counties which do not have access to a certified instructor, this is an opportunity to complete the training which has been endorsed by our system.

For those agencies struggling with the issues of "Engaging the Community in Juvenile Justice" an opportunity is available for staff to attend a workshop with this focus May 25 & 26 at the Holiday Inn Mechanicsburg. This challenge, new to most juvenile justice practitioners, is at the heart of the balanced and restorative justice initiative.

Finally, we would again urge system managers to encourage their department's support staff to attend the once-a-year workshop designed expressly for support staff. April 21-22 at the Days Inn Penn State Karen Vadino will present "Skill Enhancement for the Health of It." This program is being held in conjunction with Administrative Professional's week. This is an opportunity to both enhance their skills and recognize their contributions over the years.

Anyone who no longer has access to a copy of the schedule may contact John Herb at the Center 717-477-1185 x3 to request another copy. The entire Center schedule may be reviewed at the JCJC website, www.jcjc.state.pa.us

