

*a newsletter of the*

Pennsylvania  
Juvenile Court  
Judges'  
Commission



Volume 14, Number 7

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

July 2006

## Governor Rendell Signs Acts 40 and 81 of 2006

### Act 40 of 2006

House Bill 601(3940) was signed into law by Governor Rendell on May 11, 2006, as Act 40 of 2006 and became effective on July 10, 2006.

Act 40 amended 75 Pa.C.S §1547 (relating to chemical testing to determine amount of alcohol or controlled substance), by adding a new clause (g.1) "Cost of testing" to require that the cost of chemical testing, including the drawing of blood and urine, is to be paid by the individual tested, if the individual was convicted or placed into any pre-adjudication program or adjudicated delinquent for a violation of §3802 (relating to driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance). If the individual is found not guilty under §3802, or if the charges are dismissed or withdrawn, the requesting authority is responsible for the cost of testing.

### Act 81 of 2006

House Bill 1746(4389) was signed into law by Governor Rendell on July 7, 2006, as Act 81 of 2006 and became effective on July 14, 2006. Act 81 of 2006 amended Title 42 to limit the "public availability" provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. §6308 (relating to law enforcement records) to law enforcement records, while adding new provisions to 42 Pa.C.S. §6307 (relating to inspection of court files and records) to govern the disclosure, by courts, of the status or outcome of certain juvenile delinquency cases.

These amendments were intended to address the confusion that has existed because provisions of the Juvenile Act which pertain to the disclosure by courts of juvenile delinquency case status and outcome information were included in 42 Pa.C.S. §6308. Act 81 transfers, from §6308 to §6307, the provisions pertaining to

(See *LEGISLATION, page 2*)

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The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission will cease printing and mailing hard copies of *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice* in October 2006. Please visit the JCJC website, at [www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us), to register to automatically receive the free on-line version of our newsletter. Please contact Greg Young, at [gyoung@state.pa.us](mailto:gyoung@state.pa.us), or 717-477-1797, if you have any questions.

To sign up for the Governor's newsletter, visit [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us).

## JCJC FY 2006-2007 Budget

Governor Rendell signed HB 2499 (4513), the General Appropriations Act of 2006, on July 2, 2006. The Act sets the JCJC Improvement of Juvenile Probation Services and Specialized Probation Services (SPS) appropriations at \$5,918,000 and \$13,793,000, respectively. These appropriations support salaries for probation officers, training and graduate education programs for juvenile probation officers, statewide impact projects, and school-based, intensive probation, aftercare, and community-based probation services. The appropriations are equivalent to the funding received by the Commission in FY 2005-2006.

### (LEGISLATION, continued from page 1)

the disclosure of juvenile delinquency case information by courts.

The criteria governing public availability now in §6307 are consistent with the criteria that remain in §6308, which now apply only to the disclosure of delinquency case information by law enforcement agencies. Transferred from §6308 to §6307, is the provision that a judge who adjudicates a child delinquent shall specify the particular offenses and counts thereof which the child is found to have committed. However, a reference formerly in §6308 to a master having the authority to adjudicate a child delinquent was not included in §6307 because only judges have this authority. A reference in §6308 to the filing of a delinquency petition by a law enforcement agency was deleted because the Pennsylvania Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure require these petitions to be filed by an attorney for the Commonwealth or a juvenile probation officer.

Copies of this legislation can be found at [www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us)

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.

Greg Young is the editor. Our address is CJJT&R, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299. (gyoung@state.pa.us)

Please send additions or changes to the mailing list to Julie Bozich at Signal Graphics Printing, 1010 Wesley Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (julie@sgp.co)

## Suicide Prevention Kick-Off Event

**Capitol Rotunda  
Harrisburg, Pa.**

**Tuesday, September 12, 2006  
9AM to 3PM**

The Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Initiative is pleased to be sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kick-Off Event for Suicide Prevention Week (September 10-16, 2006) in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Initiative is a public/private collaborative of multiple county task forces, state representatives, and representatives from local grassroots organizations. The event will be held at the Capitol Rotunda, on September 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Speakers and displays from various organizations and task forces throughout the state, including the Empty Shoe Memorial to honor the loved ones lost to suicide, will be present. The Empty Shoe Memorial is comprised of shoes either belonging to a loved one lost by suicide, or slightly used shoes symbolizing the loved one. People are encouraged not only to bring a pair of shoes in memory of someone, but to include an index card inside the shoes with the person's name, age, date of death and message, if desired.

Various state officials and legislators have been invited to participate between noon and 2 PM. Jerry Reed, Executive Director of Suicide Prevention Action Network (SPAN) USA is also slated to speak along with various survivors of suicide, survivors of suicide attempts, consumers and health officials.

The Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Initiative hopes the event at the Rotunda will be one of many events occurring across the state during Suicide Prevention Week, which also coincides with the National Suicide Prevention Week. More people die by suicide than homicide, and suicide is the third leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 15 – 24. Research has shown that more than 90% of people who die by suicide have depression or another diagnosable mental health or substance abuse disorder. Statistics like these illustrate the need for statewide awareness and involvement in suicide prevention.

## Train the Trainer Program Offered September 25-29, 2006

The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research is pleased to offer a special training workshop September 25 - 29, 2006 that is designed to develop trainers in *The Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum: An Orientation for Juveniles*. This program will provide training for 15 individuals who will subsequently teach others how to facilitate impact of crime groups with young offenders.

*Victim/Community Awareness: An Orientation for Juveniles* was published in 1999 under the joint direction of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee and the Victim Services Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). PCCD also funded the project. While Valerie Bender authored the curriculum, the work was guided and overseen by a focus group of juvenile probation officers, victim advocates and treatment providers.

In 2000, completion of the curriculum was included as one of the balanced and restorative outcome measures for the juvenile justice system. To date, 31% of youth under the jurisdiction of the court have attended Victim/Community Awareness classes.

The primary goals of the curriculum are: to increase juvenile offenders' awareness of the harm caused by crime; to help juvenile offenders acknowledge the harm caused by their specific crime; and to give juvenile offenders an opportunity to repair that harm to some degree (i.e. an apology letter).

The target audience for this unique training opportunity includes juvenile probation officers, and representatives from provider organizations and victim services agencies. Professionals from other social service agencies may be accepted on a space-available basis. Priority will be given to those individuals who have experience in facilitating the curriculum and those registering as a victim service/juvenile justice team.

The Train the Trainer Program is designed for individuals with the following qualifications: must be presently facilitating offender groups using *The Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum: An Orientation for Juveniles*; must have at least 3 hours of balanced and restorative justice training; must make a commitment to attend the full five days of training; must make a commitment to facilitate two trainings (2 ½ days each) within 12 months after this train the trainer course; and must have the endorsement of a supervisor.

At the end of this Train the Trainer program, participants will be able to: conduct training in *The Victim / Community Awareness Curriculum: An Orientation for Juveniles*; demonstrate an understanding of the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system; possess a basic understanding of group facilitation strategies and adult learning; conduct circles using the guidelines presented in this training; understand the impact of crime on victims, offenders, and communities; understand victim impact panel guidelines; and have a basic understanding of values clarification and cultural diversity.

The training program will be held at the Holiday Inn, Mechanicsburg from September 25-29. Classes will run from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Two bonus technical support sessions are scheduled during the evening throughout the weeklong event, as well as a dinner and reception on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Costs for this training are underwritten by PCCD.

Applications are available by contacting Susan Blackburn at 717-477-1411, or at [sblackburn@state.pa.us](mailto:sblackburn@state.pa.us).

## York County Accepting Applications for Position of Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

The York County Court of Common Pleas is accepting applications until August 30, 2006, for the position of Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. The York County Juvenile Probation Department includes specialized units and programs with 45+ juvenile probation officers led by one (1) Director/Chief, one (1) Deputy Chief, and five (5) Supervisors. The department also includes a complement of support staff who are supervised by a Support Staff Manager.

The County of York provides a comprehensive benefits program, with annual salary based upon experience. Interested candidates should forward a resume, including salary requirements, to the address below:

Bonita L. Julius  
Deputy Court Administrator/Human Resources  
York County Court of Common Pleas  
45 N. George Street, York, PA 17401  
Phone: 717-771-9632 / FAX: 717-771-9911

## Pathways to Possibilities

**O**n April 17, 2006, a unique training program was co-sponsored by the Adams County Juvenile Probation Department and the Children and Youth Services Agency, with leadership provided by President Judge John D. Kuhn. The one-day seminar entitled "Pathways to Possibilities" focused on a different way of doing business with delinquent and dependent children that is strength-based, solution-focused and collaborative. There were 119 participants, including representatives from 34 different agencies across Pennsylvania and from the Baltimore area.

The presentation was led by Mr. Dean Wolf, a family therapist with nearly 25 years experience with offices in both Westminster, Maryland and Gettysburg. Mr. Wolf has been consulting on juvenile probation and children and youth cases for a number of years. His positive, integrative approach has continued to gain momentum over the years.

Mr. Wolf spent most of the morning session presenting information on the approach that he has used so successfully, and describing how these techniques have direct application for both juvenile probation and children and youth cases. Following a videotaped family interview to demonstrate technique, the audience was able to interact with the family in order to get their reactions on how this approach differed from the more typical interview styles. The power in this approach is best learned when demonstrated, rather than solely described.

One of the most obvious advantages of this strength-based, solution-focused model is the lack of resistance from individuals and families. Instead of becoming defensive or uncooperative, these methods engage clients and their family with a much greater tendency toward cooperation. The problem isn't the sole focus of discussion, and attention is shifted to potential solutions in a respectful but still very accountable way. Children and families tend to become more motivated, involved and cooperative, and feel as though they are helping themselves.

Collaboration between the family and various professionals and other helpers was emphasized as an important part of the process. A central key was to avoid getting stuck in the family's "problem saturated story." Juvenile probation officers and children and youth workers in Adams County are beginning to utilize this way of thinking. Judging by the enthusiastic response of the audience that included juvenile probation officers, JCJC staff, professors from the Shippensburg and Weidner Universities, children and youth caseworkers, school teachers, law enforcement personnel, and a wide variety of representatives from treatment programs, this approach made sense.

## Southwest Community Restorative Justice Forum Convened

**T**he Southwest Community Restorative Justice Forum was held on June 8, 2006 at the Westmoreland County Community College. Approximately 125 participants attended the forum representing 9 counties (Allegheny, Beaver, Indiana, Somerset, Fayette, Cambria, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland) and eleven county teams (Westmoreland and Somerset had two teams from their counties).

Allegheny County Juvenile Court Administrative Judge Kim Clark and Westmoreland County President Judge John Driscoll presented opening remarks. Participants heard several narratives regarding the experiences of a crime victim, a community volunteer and a former offender. Five workshops were presented on topics which included Community Conferencing, Restorative Discipline in Schools, Community Service Learning, an Introduction to Balanced and Restorative Justice, and Community Strategies. County teams then spent the remainder of the day discussing the formation or enhancement of their local teams, identifying local resources and training issues, and beginning the development of a local action plan.

The forum, entitled "Building Bridges: Community Restorative Justice Forum" is based on the *Building Bridges* monograph developed by the Court and

Community Collaboration Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. The forum's goals included assisting jurisdictions in their efforts to engage community organizations and community members, to gain an understanding of the balanced and restorative model and to share various means by which community members and organizations can take active roles in juvenile crime prevention and early intervention activities.

Chief Juvenile Probation Officers were asked to develop teams of 10 participants from their jurisdictions, representing multiple sectors of their communities such as schools, social services, civic organizations, victims services and faith communities. The agenda was developed to enable participants to learn from each other, with a particular emphasis on the engagement of the community in responding to delinquent behavior.

The next forum is projected for the central region of the state in 2007. Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and Communities That Care contact persons in that region will be notified as soon as the preliminary arrangements for the training are confirmed. For more information on the regional forums or community restorative justice, you may contact Susan Blackburn at [sblackburn@state.pa.us](mailto:sblackburn@state.pa.us), or at 717-477-1411.

## Communities That Care Mobilizer Training



**O**n June 19-20, 2006, Communities That Care (CTC) Mobilizers from across the state traveled to Shippensburg to attend two days of intensive Mobilizer Training. The session was facilitated by certified CTC Trainers Rosemary Adiletto and Kay Owen.

Over 35 individuals, representing 31 CTC sites, attended the training which was held at Shippensburg University. A majority of individuals attending the session had 4 years or less of Mobilizer experience and were anxious for the opportunity to gain additional knowledge about their roles and to network with their colleagues.

The first day of the training was spent digesting the CTC model and the steps in the CTC planning structure. The fact that CTC is a research based, outcome focused, data driven operating system that allows for the inclusion of all community members was highlighted at this training. Mobilizers also received instruction regarding what specific duties are and are not included in their roles within their community boards, maintaining the "health" of their boards/coalitions, and techniques for supportive outreach to team members.



## Fayette County Juvenile Probation Officers vs. the Pittsburgh Steelers

**By Michael Lukac, Fayette County Juvenile Probation Department**

**I**t was a night unlike any other in the Borough of Brownsville, Fayette County, as the World Champion Pittsburgh Steelers came to town to play a benefit basketball game against the faculty of the Brownsville Middle and Senior High Schools and several members of the Fayette County Juvenile Probation Department.

A sell-out crowd watched as the Brownsville faculty, along with Juvenile Probation Officers Rich Rosner and Chris Baker, tried to do something that no team in the NFL playoffs were able to do – beat the Pittsburgh Steelers. Playing for the Steelers were Brett Keisel, Ricardo Colclough, Lee Mays, James Harrison, Rod Rutherford and former Steeler standout Louis Lipps.

Proceeds from the game benefited the Brownsville Area Traveling Students, a group of students who wish to broaden their education by visiting the National Parks and Monuments in Wyoming, Montana, and South Dakota this summer. A trip to Paris, Madrid, and London is being planned for the summer of 2007.

Who actually won the game and the final score didn't matter (the Steelers won in a runaway), as a good time was enjoyed by the participants and the spectators.

The second day of training was highlighted by a "Clarification of Roles" presentation from Tara Dechert and Melissa Shetrom of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency (PCCD), with comments from each of the attending CTC Regional Strategic Consultants (RSCs). Both presentations were followed by a brief question and answer period which allowed participants the opportunity to ask pointed questions and address concerns they are experiencing at specific sites.

Evaluative feedback following the training was positive. Many attendees expressed appreciation for the support and encouragement of PCCD staff, and the opportunity (See MOBILIZER, page 6)

## Carmichaels Hosts Communities That Care Annual Events

B ringing the community together and sponsoring activities that promote healthy youth development has proved a winning combination for Carmichaels Communities That Care (CTC), Greene County. This summer, the organization reached out to hundreds of children and families through their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Day and 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual MAGIC Goals Soccer Camp.

Carmichaels CTC 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Day was held on June 3rd at the Steve McCann Pavilion at Wana B Park in Carmichaels. Over 400 county residents attended the free event and participated in the fun throughout the day. Activities included swimming, face and hair painting, a petting zoo, kids games, picnic food, children's songs, karaoke, and learning about the different agencies in the community and the county. The support of the Greene County Commissioners, the Greene County Human Services Department, numerous area agencies, businesses and individuals truly made this event a day to remember.

All those who registered were eligible for chances to win raffle prizes throughout the day that were donated by Carmichaels' businesses and agencies. To receive a chance for the prizes, questionnaires had to be completed concerning CTC risk factors and issues affecting the youth in the community. The children who attended Community Day had the opportunity to win one of four bicycles with helmets donated by the Safe Kids Coalition. The bicycles, which were the grand prize giveaways, were purchased through the donations of local businesses and organizations.

Booths were set-up on the premises that featured activities and information on CTC programs and other area agencies and organizations such as the Greene County Tobacco Coalition, Greene Valley Presbyterian Youth Ministry, Neighborhood Drug

### (MOBILIZER, continued from page 5)

for sites to network and exchange useful information.

CTC and PCCD are working cooperatively to develop a comprehensive training plan for Pennsylvania's CTC sites. It is hoped that this training will be presented during the fall of 2006. Information regarding this training will be found in future editions of the JCJC Newsletter.

If you have any questions or comments related to Communities that Care please do not hesitate to contact Lenore Wyant, CTC Program Director, at 717-477-1187 or via e-mail at [ldwyant@ship.edu](mailto:ldwyant@ship.edu).



Awareness Corps, Inc., The Courts Teen Center, and many others. The main focus of Community Day was to raise awareness about events and activities held throughout the summer for children and families. The picnic promoted a great sense of community awareness and community pride.

Carmichaels CTC also held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual MAGIC Goals Soccer Camp on June 13, 16, 20 and 23. This free camp was for children ages 6-16, and took place at the Carmichaels Area High School soccer field. An average of 75 participants attended the soccer camp each day.

The goal of the camp was to not only teach and enhance soccer skills, but to encourage team building and leadership skills, as well as promote self-esteem among youth. The camp provides a positive alternative activity during the summer months.

Each day of the camp featured a guest speaker to educate youth about healthy behavior choices, such as nutrition and tobacco prevention, including members of the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, a professional soccer team who taught soccer skills and the benefits of living a positive and healthy lifestyle. The MAGIC Goals soccer camp is a collaborative effort with support from community agencies and volunteers including Greene County MAGIC Collaborative, Greene County Tobacco Control Program, Neighborhood Drug Awareness Corps, Inc., Greene County Children and Youth Services, Greene County Drug and Alcohol Program and Community Action Southwest WIC Program.

Carmichaels CTC is part of the Greene County Human Services Department and is sponsored by the Greene County Board of Commissioners. For more information, contact Jodie Giocondi, Community Mobilizer, at 724-852-5276.

## Shippensburg University Weekend Master's Degree Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2009

Applications are now being accepted for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Weekend Master's Degree Program at Shippensburg University. Members of the class of 2009 will begin classes in the fall of 2007. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2006.

The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a summer internship in which students have the opportunity to develop, implement, and evaluate a program in their home county, or evaluate an existing program that serves juvenile offenders.

Classes in this two-year program are scheduled every third weekend in the fall, spring, and summer, with no classes scheduled during the months of July and August. This program is available to county juvenile probation officers who will have at least two years of post-baccalaureate experience in the juvenile justice field prior to the start of classes. Applicants who have an undergraduate grade point average of less than 2.75 must take and pass the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

## Pennsylvania Represented at National Family Group Decision Making Conference

The 2006 Conference on Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) was held June 5-8 at the Marriott Plaza in San Antonio, Texas. This international conference, hosted annually by American Humane since 1997, brings people together from around the world to explore and share ideas regarding the implementation and effective use of FGDM. The theme for this year's conference was "We Belong to Each Other." The 3½ days included three keynote speakers, seven intensive pre-conference seminars and skills institutes, and sixty workshops and discussion groups.

Representatives from Pennsylvania had a major impact on the conference, with 97 of the 450-plus attendees coming from Pennsylvania. Additionally, Pennsylvanians were responsible for presenting twelve of the workshops that were offered. A diverse contingent of professionals and community members from 35 different agencies represented Pennsylvania, including participants from children and youth, human services, private providers, local agencies, universities, judges, law enforcement, and both adult and juvenile probation. The Pennsylvania-developed workshops covered a wide range of topics including

(See FDGM, back page)

## School-based Probation Forum Held in State College

Forty-seven school-based probation officers and supervisors attended the sixth annual Juvenile Court Judges Commission sponsored School-based Probation Forum, held June 29-30, 2006 in State College. Twenty-two counties were represented.

Day one began with a presentation on the Educational Aftercare Reintegration Toolkit, by Shari Mamas of the Educational Law Center and Rick Steele, Aftercare Specialist with the Juvenile Court Judges Commission. Paul Werrell, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Lehigh County, gave an historical perspective of school-based probation services in Pennsylvania, and participants were provided with a demonstration of the Juvenile Case Management System (JCMS) by Sharon Chamberlin from the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. The day concluded with a small group exercise to discuss the greatest challenges and rewards of school-based probation officers, and an opportunity for school-based probation officers to think like a chief juvenile probation officer and discuss how they would oversee their juvenile probation departments.

On day two, Lieutenant Dennis McCauley, from the Abington Police Department in Montgomery County, presented information on the growing trend of cyber-bullying, and participants were exposed to popular websites utilized for this purpose.

Feedback on the forum was very positive. The opportunity to interact with colleagues from across the state was seen as a major benefit.

## Staff Development News

The CJJT&R Fall 2006 Training Schedule has been released and registration for these programs is now open. The schedule was emailed to our regularly participating agencies and individuals on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the printed version was mailed in late-July. If you would like to receive an electronic copy of future training schedules, please contact Nina Weaver at [nsweav@ship.edu](mailto:nsweav@ship.edu) or at 717-477-1448. You may also contact Ms. Weaver to make, change, or cancel registrations. If an e-mail address is supplied, confirmations will be provided via e-mail. The schedule may also be viewed and printed off of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission website, at [www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us).

The season's schedule consists of 24 programs, nine of which involve new trainers and/or topics. The schedule includes a few programs that were held recently but were asked to be repeated, two programs being presented by a collaborative of professionals from throughout the Commonwealth, two management/supervisory programs, an After-care Forum, and on-line courses. Some highlights of the training schedule in September are:

- September 7-8 in Mechanicsburg, Sgt. Ed Bachert of the Allentown Police Department will present *Violence in the Media*. This workshop will explore the prevalence of violence in various mediums, its effects on youth, and what can be done about it.
- September 13-14 in State College, CJJT&R staff will again present *Getting New Juvenile Probation Officers Up to Speed*. This is a management/supervisory workshop that will cover several areas related to maximizing staff development, including introduction of the recently redesigned New Employee Manual, review of recommended core curriculum workshops, and transfer of learning concepts.
- September 14-15 in State College, Cynthia King will present *Sexualized Behaviors of Children and the Effects of Victimization on Sexually Abused Children*. This workshop will examine what are normal and what are problematic sexual behaviors in children, and how professionals can assist in helping victimized children to manage their lives.
- September 14-15 in State College, Jasiri Smith will present *The Tremendous Influence of Hip Hop*. This workshop will explore the genre's impact on youth from all backgrounds. It will further assist professionals in using Hip-Hop to increase youth engagement by deconstructing the negative images and utilizing the positive aspects to create empowerment

and enlightenment.

- September 21-22 in Allentown, Barbara Ulmer will present *Single Parents*. This workshop will examine common problems that single parents face. It will also encourage and show workers how to make interventions more sensitive, relevant, and effective to the needs of single parents.
- There is a half-price discount available for on-line course group registrations made by September 1<sup>st</sup>. A group of 30 or more courses that are registered prior to 9/1/06 and completed prior to 9/30/06 will pay only half-price (\$50). Please contact Stephen Bishop, no later than 8/21/06, to register for these on-line courses.

For further details or questions on these or other Center-sponsored training programs, please contact John Herb at 717-477-1185, ext. 3, or Stephen Bishop at 717-477-1294.

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### (FGDM, continued from page 7.)

maintaining the integrity of the model as a voluntary, family-centered practice, safety issues in FGDM, and utilizing FGDM with a prison population.

Family Group Decision Making is a continually emerging practice across the nation and in Pennsylvania, as evidenced by the tremendous participation in San Antonio. Pennsylvania has positioned itself as a leader in both the implementation and creative utilization of FGDM. Currently, 26 counties across the Commonwealth are implementing and actively involved with FGDM. Much of the collaboration across the Commonwealth regarding FGDM comes out of the Statewide FGDM Implementation Team, which meets bi-monthly at a central location in the state. For more information on issues related to FGDM or to request to be notified of statewide meetings, please contact Amy Holmes at the University of Pittsburgh Child Welfare Training Center, at [amh69+@pitt.edu](mailto:amh69+@pitt.edu).

