

the 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, Edward G. Rendell, Governor

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Pennsylvania Participates in MacArthur *Models for Change* National Working Conference

The 1st *Models for Change* Working conference in Washington, DC, last December shined the spotlight on Pennsylvania and its juvenile justice reform efforts. Sponsored by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the national launch of *Models for Change* convened delegates from all four *Models for Change* states—Illinois, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Washington—along with national experts, national juvenile justice advocates and policy makers. Pennsylvania was represented by delegates who are involved in the *Models for Change* initiative.

In addition to the plenary sessions that described *Models for Change* initiatives in each state, the conference included numerous breakout sessions that were organized around specific topic areas and gave participants the opportunity to discuss their work and the initiative's challenges and successes. Through these discussions, it became apparent that Pennsylvania is a national leader in juvenile justice reform. Over the next several years, there will be increasing national opportunities for promoting the work that is occurring in Pennsylvania, making the state an undisputed leader in creating and maintaining a fair, rational, effective and developmentally-appropriate juvenile justice system.

Another conference highlight was the announcement by MacArthur Foundation President Jonathan Fanton that the foundation was pledging additional funding to support its juvenile justice work. This funding will help continue the work in the states and the research for which the foundation is known.

In Pennsylvania, additional funding will be used to build or reinforce support for *Models for Change*; create an enduring infrastructure that will sustain the goals of *Models for Change*; improve connections between juvenile justice and important, but non-traditional partners; and increase the capacity of grantees to succeed at the county and state level. The Juvenile Law Center, the lead entity for *Models for Change* in Pennsylvania, in consultation with in-state partners and national experts, will provide recommendations to the foundation for new grants that will support and advance the work that is already underway.

Pennsylvania participants represented a broad spectrum of stakeholders who are working in the state to improve aftercare, disproportionate minority contact, and mental health/juvenile [click here for continuation of *Models for Change* Conference](#)

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

2007 Safe Schools Conference Planned

Education and safety have been one of the hallmarks of Governor Edward G. Rendell's administration and both will come together beginning April 30 during the 2007 Safe Schools Conference, sponsored by the Department of Education, State Police, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Center for Safe Schools.

The conference will run through May 2 at the Hilton Hotel in Harrisburg.

The theme of the conference, "Keeping our children safe: strategies for schools and communities," will focus attention on creating a positive school culture that supports academic success and provides a safe teaching and learning environment. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from state and national experts about the latest research in school safety and violence prevention, learn about effective program models and promising practices, and network with colleagues from across the state. Participants can choose from nine, full-day institutes and over 20 workshops. In addition, the keynote address will be presented by Dr. Michele Borba, an internationally recognized expert on parenting and violence prevention and the author of "Building Moral Intelligence: The Seven Essential Virtues that Teach Kids to do the Right Thing."

The conference is free, but participants are responsible for their own lodging, meals and travel costs/arrangements. A limited block of rooms is being held at the Hilton Harrisburg and Towers at a special rate of \$114 a night, which is available until March 27. Please mention that you are attending the Safe Schools Conference in order to receive this rate. For more information, visit www.safeschools.com.

This publication is produced monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University.

Guest articles, especially those with photographs, are always welcome; please submit them by email.

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

Staff Development News

As we enter the busy portion of the Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research spring training schedule, several programs have reached capacity. However, there are other promising training opportunities, many of which are entirely new to the center's training agenda. Eleven of the training programs involve new trainers or content designs never before offered by the center. We hope that veteran probation staff members who search for new and different training opportunities register for one or more of the new Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research workshops:

"Educational Law and the Education Reintegration toolkit" is a one-day regional workshop that will be held at the Holiday Inn Lehigh Valley on March 22 and at the Holiday Inn Monroeville on April 4. These programs should be attended by every probation officer working with youth who are enrolled in school. This program is fully described as program numbers five and eight in the spring catalog.

Solution-Oriented Counseling Techniques is a one-and-a-half-day workshop (number six in the spring catalog) that will focus on a practical set of counseling skills that are fairly simple to apply and are ideally suited to the role of a juvenile probation officer. This model focuses on building upon client strengths and helps them to choose feasible goals—their goals—and shift responsibility for their behavior away from the officer and onto the client. Barb Ulmer, who has over 20 years of experience, will lead this workshop on March 28-29 at the Days Inn Penn State, State College

Expanding My Personal Touch for Enhanced Professional Results, scheduled for April 25-26 at the Days Inn Penn State, State College, is an annual workshop targeted to Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research support staff. Janice Evans-Truitt will present "Expanding My Personal Touch for Enhanced Professional Results." We urge system managers to encourage their department's support staff to attend this program as this is an opportunity to both enhance their skills and to recognize their contributions over the years. Please review this training opportunity—number 13 in the schedule—and pass it along your department's support staff.

Anyone who does not have access to a copy of the printed schedule may contact John Herb at the Center (717) 477-1185 x3 to request a copy, or access the entire Center schedule at the JCJC website www.jcjc.state.pa.us

Berks County Hires DMC Site Coordinator

Joseph A. Guillama has been hired to serve as the site coordinator for the disproportionate minority contact reduction project in Berks County, which is part of the Pennsylvania *Models for Change* initiative supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

As site coordinator, Guillama will coordinate the activities of the Berks County disproportionate minority contact reduction steering committee and its related task forces. Spearheaded by President Judge Arthur E. Grim, the committee consists of community stakeholders and public officials who meet to develop and implement interventions designed to reduce the number of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Guillama will also work with the disproportionate minority contact sub-committee of the juvenile Justice and delinquency prevention committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, or PCCD, which organizes projects aimed at reducing disproportionate minority contact across the state.

Guillama previously worked as a staff attorney in the Berks County Public Defender's Office where he developed a reputation for being a passionate advocate for youth who found themselves before the juvenile court. Having represented juveniles in all phases of the delinquency process, Guillama understands the balanced and restorative justice principles as well as the court's underlying philosophies that have allowed the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system to become a national model.

Before attending law school, Guillama served as the assistant dean of admissions and coordinator for minority recruitment at Shippensburg University. After visiting nearly every urban high school in Pennsylvania to speak with youth about attending college, Guillama enrolled in the Widener School of Law with intentions of becoming a legal advocate for troubled youth. In his second year of law school, he was awarded the "best advocate" of the Widener mock trial team and, a year later, earned the distinction of winning the Hugh B. Pearce Trial Competition.

Strategic Planning Counties Meet to Kick-off Next Phase of Aftercare Project

Representatives from 20 counties who specialize in organizational self-assessment and strategic planning around aftercare practices met in State College on Jan. 26. The one-day training served as the "kick-off" to the start of the next phase of the Pennsylvania Aftercare Project, and was designed for individuals who serve as team leaders within their jurisdictions. Previously, every county in the commonwealth participated in an information gathering process reflective of aftercare practices and procedures.

The participating counties will use what they learned to assess their needs and then plan for the implementation of key aftercare reform in their jurisdictions. Autumn Dickman, of the Juvenile Law Center, provided an overview of the MacArthur Foundation Models for Change initiative, where Pennsylvania was chosen to serve as the first of four participating states. Rick Steele and Kelly Franklin, aftercare specialists with the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, respectively, presented the remainder of the session.

During the training session, participants reviewed Pennsylvania's current aftercare practices as they relate to the stated goals of the *Joint Position on Aftercare*. This document lays out the principles of a model aftercare system and specifies best practices that we aspire to develop as standard procedures across the commonwealth by 2010. The group also discussed the importance of developing appropriate data collection and outcome measures for the various activities to be identified in each county project. Anticipated activities for participation in the project were also reviewed.

Each of the participating 20 counties is in the process of putting together a team of individuals who are knowledgeable about county aftercare practices. Members of the team, with the help of team leaders, will complete an organizational self assessment that relates to current aftercare practices. As a whole, the team will then reach consensus as to the appropriate "scoring" for each assessment item. Eventually, each county team will participate in a group process to identify priorities for change within their jurisdiction, along with a strategic plan for accomplishing these goals and outcomes. This activity will be facilitated by the aftercare specialists, who will also provide technical assistance and monitoring throughout the project activities.

Counties currently participating in this portion of the Aftercare Project include Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Erie, Franklin, Lycoming, McKean, Northampton, Philadelphia, Venango, Warren, Westmoreland, Wyoming, and York.

Additional counties will be recruited to participate throughout the year. Those interested in this or other portions of the Aftercare Models for Change Project should contact Rick Steele, c-rsteele@state.pa.us or Kelly Franklin at kfranklin@epix.net.

National Juvenile Defender Center Publishes Review of Juvenile Justice Legislation

The [National Juvenile Defender Center](#) has released its 2006 State Juvenile Justice Legislation Review. The review examines juvenile justice legislation by issue and state, and enables users to analyze changes in the law and trends in legislative activity at the national and state levels. To access the review, [click here](#).

Mark your Calendar!

The 2007 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

October 31 - November 2, 2007

Harrisburg Hilton & Towers

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

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

Youth Awards Program & Dinner

Wednesday October 31, 2007

Annual Training and Awards Program

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Resource Day – 2007

Friday, November 2, 2007

The 2007 annual training and awards program will once again conclude with “resource day,” during which time 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.

VENDOR INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED IN APRIL

For vendor information, please call Arlene L. Prentice, 717-783-7836 or e-mail aprentice@state.pa.us

Nominations Accepted for 2007 JCJC Awards Program

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 JCJC Awards Program. This year the categories will include:

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM OF THE YEAR – Honors any public or private sector program serving alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth in a residential setting.

COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM OF THE YEAR – Honors any public or private sector program that provides community-based, non-residential services to alleged, or adjudicated, delinquent youth.

JCJC MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD – Honors a volunteer who works with alleged or delinquent youth.

JCJC VICTIM ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD – Honors an individual who works on behalf of crime victims as a victim advocate in county government or in a community-based agency.

JUVENILE COURT SUPPORT SERVICE AWARD – Honors an individual who provides secretarial support services to the juvenile court.

JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

JUVENILE PROBATION SUPERVISOR

CHIEF JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

Chief juvenile probation officers may nominate programs or employees for each of the above award categories. However, individuals must be nominated from the county in which they are employed and **all nominations must be submitted by county juvenile probation departments**. Providers may contact chief juvenile probation officers in an effort to have a program nominated. Nominations must be postmarked by April 28, 2007 and submitted to Nancy Williams, c/o JCJC, 401 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

In addition, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission will once again sponsor a **Youth Awards Program**, which theme is "What's in my Toolkit for Success?" The awards committee encourages all juvenile justice professionals to present the awards theme and requirements to all youth under your jurisdiction for their participation in the contest. Youth awards materials must be postmarked by May 11, 2007.

Thank you for your interest and support of the 2007 JCJC awards program. Please contact Arlene L. Prentice at (717) 783-7836, or aprentice@state.pa.us, if you have any questions or desire additional information.

Deployment of Web PaJCMS Initiated

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, has started installing the web version of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System, a software program that's designed to meet the needs of juvenile probation departments. The new technology includes juvenile court case management and state and local reporting requirements.

Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has trained staff and it has installed this software in Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, and Washington counties. The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission expects to have this software installed across the state by late 2007 or early 2008.

Conference, continued from page one justice system coordination. Also attending were representatives from state agencies that have been active partners in Models for Change, such as JCJC, PCCD, DPW and PDE, and representatives from the counties engaged in the initiative's projects.

For additional information about the conference, and to view recordings of several of the plenary sessions, go to www.macfound.org (under U.S. Grantmaking click on the juvenile justice link). For additional information about Models for Change, go to www.modelsforchange.net.



Call for Presentations

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

October 31- November 2, 2007
Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

The sponsors of The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice are requesting presentations for workshops to be offered on Thursday, November 1, 2007. Interested presenters should complete this form and return it by **May 21, 2007**. In order for us to consider your application, we require submission of both a program description and a brief biography of the trainer.

- **Proposed title of workshop:** _____

- **Brief description of presentation:** (50 words or less) _____

- **Brief biography of the trainer(s):** (50 words or less) _____

- **This presentation is best suited as a:**
 - 90-minute workshop (presented in one 90-minute session)
 - 180-minute training (presented in two consecutive sessions)

Please Note: Two presenters from each selected workshop will be our guests during the course of the three-day conference with all registration fees waived. We do ask, however, that presenters be responsible for their own lodging and travel expenses.

- **This workshop is recommended for:** (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Court Judges | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Court Masters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Program Providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Prevention Specialists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialized Probation Officers | <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Juvenile Probation Officers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Probation Supervisors | <input type="checkbox"/> Victim Services Representatives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local and State Policy Officials | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | |

Name of principal contact person/trainer: _____

Agency/organization and address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email address: _____

Beyond the brief description and trainer biography required for application, you may include supplementary program descriptive materials, trainer's vita, or participant handouts. Return this completed application by **May 21, 2007** to:

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