

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2008 CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE IS NOW OPEN!

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER WEEK SEPTEMBER 8-14, 2008

Annually in the United States, 1 in 100 live births continue to be affected by a completely preventable birth defect, which often goes undiagnosed or unrecognized, known as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). FASD is not a clinical diagnosis, but an umbrella term used to describe the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy, and can include the diagnoses of fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder (ARND), and alcohol-related birth defects (ARBD). The sole cause of an FASD is women drinking alcoholic beverages during pregnancy which can be avoided entirely thus making FASD a defect that can be totally avoidable. Alcohol and its effects can be

outwardly apparent to everyone, especially when ingested in excess. However, when a woman is pregnant, the unseen effects on a developing fetus have the potential to be truly devastating. Alcohol consumption during pregnancy is a leading cause of preventable mental retardation. It also causes many physical, cognitive, and behavioral problems. For example, the effects to the children whose birth mother consumed alcohol during pregnancy could include: microcephaly (small head), thin upper lip, learning disabilities, poor decision making, no impulse control and difficulty understanding future consequences, just to name a few of the effects.

Alcohol is a teratogen, meaning alcohol causes abnormalities or birth defects in the developing fetus. Research indicates of all the potential substances of abuse, including cocaine, heroin, and

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PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN RETURNS TO PITTSBURGH IN OCTOBER

More than 5,000 women from across the state are expected to attend the Fifth Annual Pennsylvania Governor's Conference for Women, on October 2, 2008, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. The day-long forum is co-hosted by Governor Edward G. Rendell and the Pennsylvania Commission for Women, and provides a unique opportunity for women of all ages and backgrounds to share, learn and grow together as one dynamic, diverse community. For more information on the Conference, and to register today, please visit

www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org.

PRESENTED BY GOVERNOR EDWARD G. RENDELL AND THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

DAVID L. LAWRENCE
CONVENTION
CENTER
PITTSBURGH

★ ★ ★ CELEBRATING 5 GREAT YEARS ★ ★ ★
THE NEXT CHAPTER OF YOU

SAVE THE DATE
**THURSDAY
OCTOBER 2**

EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION AVAILABLE THRU APRIL 30:
REGISTER ONLINE AT www.PAGovernorsConferenceForWomen.org

CONFERENCE INFORMATION: 866-251-3537



14th National Symposium on Juvenile Services

The National Partnership for Juvenile Services will hold its annual symposium on October 5 – 8, 2008, at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel in Pittsburgh. Co-sponsored by the Juvenile Detention Centers' Association of PA (JDCAP) and The Annie E. Casey Foundation, this year's theme is **"Representing America's Youth: Securing the Future of the Juvenile Justice System"**. This symposium will be a comprehensive forum for administrators, supervisors, educators, trainers, advocates, legislators, judges, attorneys, law enforcement, and direct care staff at the local, state, and federal levels. There will be workshops, seminars and panel discussions over the course of the 3 day conference, including Advanced Training Sessions entitled: ***Managing Mentally Ill Youth in the Juvenile Justice System; Gangs in Custody; Managing Youth Gangs in Juvenile Confinement; and Juvenile Services in Pennsylvania: Building Strong Leaders and Quality Programs*** (Session Includes Facility Tours).

Additional information regarding the conference, including registration, can be accessed at [The National Partnership for Juvenile Services](http://TheNationalPartnershipforJuvenileServices) website.

ViaQuest to Offer Sex Offender Treatment Certification

ViaQuest Educational Services will be offering its four-day Sex Offender Treatment Certification Program, developed by Dr. Catherine Surbeck, Ph.D., B.C.F.E., to provide advanced training and practical experience to professionals who work with adolescent sex offenders. The next trainings will be held September 11-12 & 18-19, 2008 at the Lancaster Host Resort: 2300 Lincoln Hwy. E., Lancaster, PA 17602; and March 12-13 & 19-20, 2009 at the Hilton Garden Inn: 101 Granite Run Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601.

This program is applicable for not only clinical providers, but also for non-clinical providers, including law enforcement, probation officers, case managers, residential supervisors, detention personnel and others who work in community-based programs for sex offenders. Lectures are presented in an order that follows a sex offender's process through the legal and treatment systems. Other treatment-oriented topics include: doing family therapy as part of comprehensive sex offender treatment; psychiatric issues relevant to sex offender treatment; and the staff characteristics needed for providing effective support, supervision and counseling with this population.

Dr. Surbeck is a board certified forensic examiner who has been working with sex offenders since 1986, and is recognized regionally for developing clinical and educational programs for sex offenders and the professionals who work with them.

To register online, or for more course detail and cost information, please visit the web site at www.ViaQuestEducationalServices.com.

To register by phone, please call 800.441.7345.

FETAL ALCOHOL - *Continued from Page 1*

marijuana, alcohol has been found to produce the most serious neurobehavioral effects in the developing fetus. Unfortunately, the common assumption, or as the result of misinformation or the lack of information provided by health care professionals, is that up to one drink per day is acceptable during pregnancy. This could not be farther from the truth! The fact is that there is no known safe level of alcohol consumption during pregnancy. Sadly, an FASD can occur anywhere and anytime a pregnant woman drinks.

Research indicates that there are links between prenatal alcohol exposure and at least 60 disease conditions, birth defects and disabilities. Birth defects caused by alcohol consumption while pregnant can range from mild intellectual and/or behavioral issues to profound disabilities or premature death. A pregnant woman shares everything she eats and drinks with her baby. Toxic byproducts of alcohol metabolism may concentrate in the brain, causing further damage. Damage to the developing fetus depends on the amount of alcohol ingested, the stage of pregnancy during which ingestion took place and genetics, as well as related environmental factors. Additionally, the most critical development occurs during the first trimester, a time when many women are consuming alcohol and are unaware that they are pregnant.

Children with an FASD frequently have learning difficulties resulting from poor thinking and processing skills, and often benefit from placement in special education programs. Adding to these difficulties, a misdiagnosis or the lack of a diagnosis, often means the child with an FASD is not offered appropriate resources to meet their needs. Therefore, children with an FASD can become frustrated within the school system and be hesitant to reach out to others within that system for assistance. This could result in increased depression and resistance towards an education, which could lead to leaving school entirely, being suspended or possibly expelled. If this path would continue, the individual with an FASD could have issues within the legal system or could become involved with the use of drugs and/or alcohol.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs in collaboration with other stakeholders of the Commonwealth, united to increase the general public's awareness of the dangers in drinking any amount of alcohol during pregnancy and to reveal needs of

individuals who have been affected by prenatal alcohol exposure. Beginning in June 2006, the FASD Task Force was established consisting of representatives from various organizations including the medical field, education, juvenile justice and parents of children who have an FASD to establish a state plan to address FASD. The purpose of the plan is to prevent new occurrences of FASD and provide access to support and services to those individuals and their families who are affected in Pennsylvania. It includes strategies to increase awareness and education, to ensure adequate funding, and to align and improve systems of care. In addition, the plan calls for appropriate data collection to begin to track incidence of FASD in Pennsylvania, as well as to collect information necessary to determine effective outcomes of the plan. Once the plan is approved and implemented, the Task Force will meet on an ongoing basis and the state plan will be reviewed and revisited annually.

By proclamation of Governor Ed Rendell, September 8 – 14, 2008 is FASD Awareness Week. A FASD Awareness Week kick off event will be held in the East Wing Rotunda of the Capitol in Harrisburg and will include various speakers who, in conjunction with the Department of Health, are striving to increase the knowledge and awareness of the citizens of the Commonwealth of this most important topic. In addition to the speakers, the Department of Health, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs (BDAP), has been working with women's health facilities throughout the Commonwealth in distributing educational materials. BDAP has also partnered with Bloomsburg University's Drug, Alcohol and Wellness Network and the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, to increase FASD awareness at the collegiate level.

Increasing awareness of FASD is not limited only to FASD Awareness Week or is exclusively the responsibility for the FASD Task Force. Many individuals are impacted by an FASD, as are the systems that serve this population, and it is essential for the citizens of the Commonwealth to have the opportunity to enhance their knowledge regarding the dangers of prenatal alcohol exposure, the outcomes associated with FASD and the implications for each one of us. Visit the following websites for more information: www.fascenter.samhsa.gov, www.nofas.org, www.health.pa.us/bdap or feel free to contact Kathy Jo Stence at kstence@state.pa.us or Natalie Sweitzer at nsweitzer@state.pa.us or by calling the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs at 717-783-8200.

New Publications Available



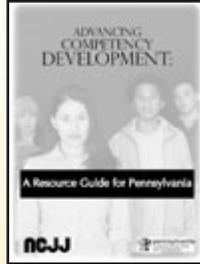
The third in a series of White Papers on the goals of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice is being widely disseminated across the Commonwealth. Like the other White Papers, [Advancing Community Protection: A White Paper for Pennsylvania](#), "plants a flag" on the practical

applications surrounding the goal. It was written on the basis of research and the advice and consensus of a statewide, broad-based focus group of juvenile justice practitioners and advocates, and sanctioned by Pennsylvania's State Advisory Group, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.



Although the third White Paper focuses on discrete aspects of the community protection goal, it is the sum total of activities directed toward achieving the Juvenile Act's mandated three goals that lead to law abiding, productive and connected citizens

who have made amends. A companion 4-page overview, [Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Goals](#), summarizes the complementary and reinforcing values for each goal. No other state has so clearly articulated its approach for responding to young people who break the law.



Another publication, [Probation Case Management Essentials for Youth in Placement](#), is the result of hours of deliberation among representatives from the first-round pilot county probation departments and others who have been meeting for more than two years to discuss the probation-related goals in the "Joint Policy Statement on

Aftercare." The document is one of several being developed under Pennsylvania's Aftercare Initiative, funded by PCCD and the MacArthur Foundation, to achieve the goal of having a comprehensive aftercare system in place, statewide, by 2010.



Competency Development: A Resource Guide for Pennsylvania, a 254-page guide compiled by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, will assist juvenile courts, probation departments and service providers looking for help in identifying research-based competency development resources and skill-training curricula for

court-involved youth. The Guide profiles 40 skill-training curricula, community resources and Blueprints programs that can be implemented or tapped to provide services to delinquent youth. The Guide also includes tables and appendices listing training and materials offered, any associated costs, and contact information. The Guide will be disseminated at various meetings, conferences, forums and workshops and is posted on various websites for downloading.

Available on www.ncjj.org now!

Governor Rendell Signs 2008-2009 Budget Appropriation

On July 4, 2008 Governor Rendell signed Act 38A of 2008, the General Appropriations Act for FY '08-'09.

The Governor's proposed budget included funding for the regular Grant-In-Aid and Specialized Probation Services Appropriations at the FY '07-'08 level. However, the General Appropriation Act reduced each of these appropriations by 1.3%, a decrease of \$77,000 for the regular Grant-In-Aid and a decrease \$179,000 for the Specialized Probation Services grant.

Due to the decrease in the regular Grant-in-Aid and Specialized Probation Services grants, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission took action to distribute the decreases proportionately among all counties. However, the Statewide Impact Grant, which supports juvenile probation officer training, graduate education, drug testing, and the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research administration, will remain at its FY '07-'08 level.

New Award Notifications/Invoices reflecting revised grant amounts were emailed to county Chief Juvenile Probation Officers on August 11 and 12, 2008, with a return date requested for September 2, 2008.

Valley Youth House Dedicates “Green” Camp Fowler: Lehigh County Executive Cunningham Announces \$500,000 Grant

Posted June 11, 2008;

<http://www.lehighcounty.org/Press/press.cfm?doc=valleyYouthHouse%2Ehtm&pp=1&dd=1>

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Orefield, PA June 11, 2008 – Valley Youth House dedicated Camp Fowler in North Whitehall Township today and Lehigh County Executive Don Cunningham contributed a \$500,000 check for a swimming pool to be constructed on the site this summer. Camp Fowler is designed to provide therapy for abused, neglected, and homeless children.

Valley Youth House also unveiled a new camp bath house that incorporates state-of-the-art energy efficiencies and water conserving technologies. Positioning of Camp Fowler along the Jordan Creek preserves 41 acres of green space that have been designated as a “Very High Conservation Priority” in the Lehigh County Planning Commission’s comprehensive plan.

The Lehigh County grant comes out of Health Choices funding, which is allocated from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In announcing the funding, Cunningham said that he was pleased that the County could provide important funding for the construction of the planned pool. “Our most precious resource in the Lehigh Valley is our children. There is no better use of our funding than to help create a safe therapeutic environment for kids who have some pretty serious challenges in life.

“It’s important that we invest in programs that support our County’s youth, and provide our children with the resources they need to develop into mature and productive members of the community,” said the County Executive. “And Camp Fowler creates a setting where children from difficult backgrounds can enjoy some healthy outdoor fun as well.”

Cunningham introduced Lehigh County Commissioner Dan McCarthy and acknowledged the Board of Commissioners’



role in securing the funding. Cunningham also praised the leadership of Human Services Director Lynn Kovich.

In addition to contributing the \$500,000 Health Choices grant, Lehigh County has acted as fiscal agent with the Pennsylvania Office of the Budget for a \$750,000 grant to Valley Youth House from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The RACP grant went towards construction of the new bath house.

In accepting the gift, Valley Youth House President Dr. David Gilgoff thanked Cunningham and the Commissioners for their support and acknowledged the hard work that Kovich and her staff had done to secure the funding. “Don Cunningham and his staff have demonstrated once again that they are friends of Lehigh County’s youth.”

Gilgoff noted that with the completion of the bath house and the planned swimming pool the agency will be well on its way to creating a center for excellence in therapeutic recreation. “More than 700 kids used the camp last year, but with the completion of these projects, more than 1,000 will benefit from the camping experience this season.”



Dan Rhoads Joins CJJT&R Staff

The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) is pleased to announce that Dan Rhoads was appointed to the position of Aftercare Specialist on August 18, 2008. Dan graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelors Degree in Law Enforcement and Corrections, and he is a 1987 graduate of the JCJC-sponsored Master's Degree Program in Administration of Justice at Shippensburg University.

Mr. Rhoads' experience within Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System spans over thirty years. Dan spent a good portion of that time in York County, where he held numerous positions and ultimately retired in 2006 as Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. After his retirement in 2006, Dan held the position of Director of Admissions for Perseus House.

Throughout his career, Dan has been committed to providing quality services to youth and improving juvenile justice services in Pennsylvania. During his tenure as Chief, he provided the leadership to implement the Juvenile Probation United with Mental Health Programming (JUMP) Initiative, a collaborative effort between the county mental health agency, a private provider, and juvenile probation. Additionally, he was instrumental in developing Pennsylvania's first juvenile drug court. He was an active member of the Executive Committee for the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers where he was involved in the following subcommittees: Victim Services; Higher Education; Public Relations; Mental Health; Research; the Balanced and Restorative Justice Implementation Committee; and the Curriculum Development Committee, a statewide group charged with assisting in the revision of the graduate education curriculum for the JCJC-sponsored Master of Science Degree program at Shippensburg University.

In his new role, Dan will provide training and technical assistance to support and enhance county aftercare services. Dan will collaboratively work with Kelly Franklin, the Aftercare Coordinator employed by Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and Rick Steele, JCJC Aftercare Specialist, to further promote the objectives of the Joint Policy Statement on Aftercare. Dan can be reached at (717) 747-3519 or via e-mail at c-darhoads@state.pa.us.



York County Welcomes New Detention Center Director

Robert Monzon was recently promoted from Operations Manager to Director of the York County Youth Development Center. He has been employed with York County at the Youth Development Center since December of 2006.

Rob has worked in the juvenile justice field since 1987. He has worked in residential and secure treatment facilities as a counselor, and also as a supervisor and program manager. The majority of his career, however, has been spent working in detention. He worked in Lancaster and Dauphin Counties for over ten years prior to coming to York County. Rob will be working with his staff to implement the Sanctuary Model at the detention center over the next 18 months.



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 e-mail or on a disk. We particularly enjoy your photographs.

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