

2008 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

“Competency and Career Development for Delinquent Youth: Creating New Expectations”

The 2008 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will be held November 5-7, 2008 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. The theme for this year’s conference is “Competency and Career Development for Delinquent Youth: Creating New Expectations”. The opening plenary session will feature Dr. Clyde Hornberger, Executive Director of the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute (LCTI).



Dr. Hornberger has brought dynamic leadership to Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, initiating programmatic and organizational change. He has expanded program offerings from 29 in 1996 to 50 in 2008, made technical skill standards and state and national skill certification a priority, instituted a competency-based curriculum model which includes a Pennsylvania academic standards component, and made student preparation for careers and postsecondary success the highest priority. As a result, career and technical education students now receive 30 college credits, free of charge for national skill certifications earned at LCTI.

Dr. Hornberger initiated the Lehigh County Career Pathways model that was implemented in all nine Lehigh County school districts. The Career Pathways initiative integrates Tech Prep, School-To-Work, High Schools That Work,

and local initiatives into an effective countywide school reform and workforce development program. The Career Pathways model provides rigorous academics to all career and technical students, preparing them for college and successful careers.

Dr. Hornberger is now working with juvenile probation departments and residential programs in Pennsylvania to improve the career development and other competency development activities provided to youth in our juvenile justice system. Come hear about Dr. Hornberger’s exciting new work in Pennsylvania, as we strive to improve the outcomes for the youth we serve.

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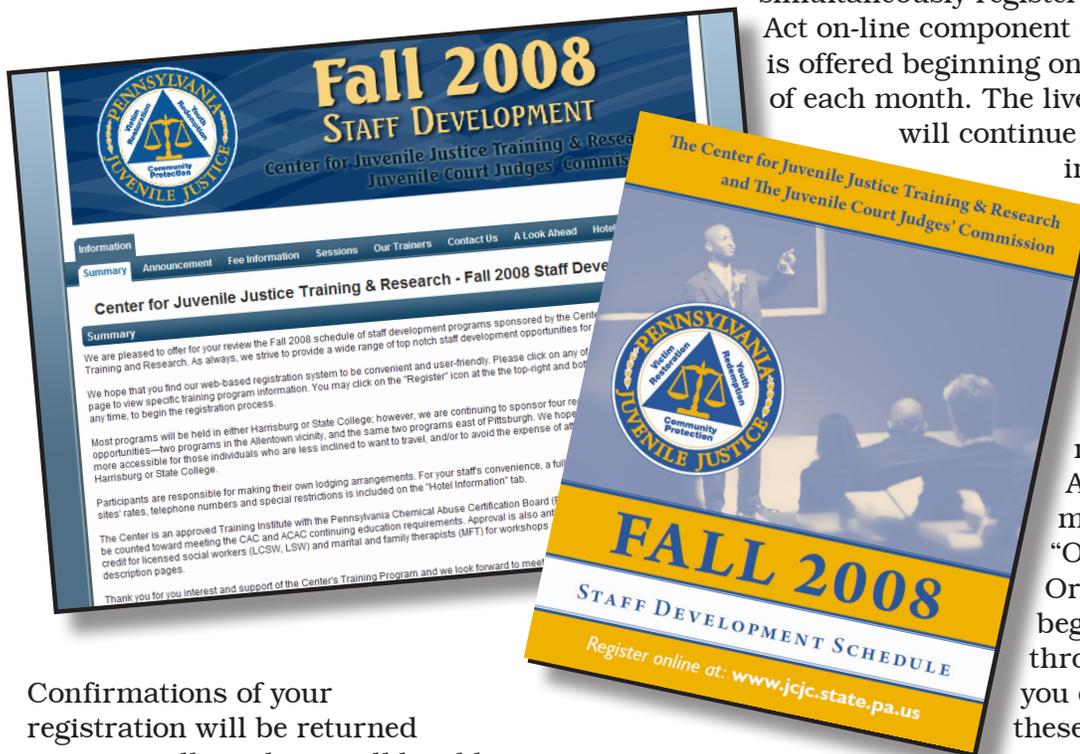
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FALL 2008 STAFF DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE POSTED

The JCJC/CJJT&R Fall 2008 Training Schedule has been posted on-line and is open for registrations. Web-based registration is required for all workshops, and can be accessed by going to the [JCJC website](#). Click on "Training" in the left margin to be linked to the training calendar. You can review descriptions of the 24 training programs being offered, access hotel information and register for training. Printed versions of the training booklet will be mailed in late-July as well.

other departments around the Commonwealth to join you at the workshop.

Chief Juvenile Probation Officers are reminded that newly hired juvenile probation officers should register for Orientation training as soon as possible after they begin their employment. Registrations will be accepted on an ongoing basis, rather than coinciding with the twice-a-year release of the new staff development schedules. By registering staff quickly, you can simultaneously register them for the Juvenile Act on-line component of Orientation, which is offered beginning on the second Monday of each month. The live Orientation program will continue to be scheduled



Confirmations of your registration will be returned automatically and you will be able to return to the website at any time to modify, cancel or add registrations as needed. Registration reminders will be automatically delivered. You also have the ability to electronically invite colleagues from

in late-August and February. The fee for the Juvenile Act distance learning course is included in the registration fee for the entire Orientation program. In order to be ready for the Juvenile Act course, participants must also take the "On-line Learner's Orientation" course which begins every Monday throughout the year. Again, you choose dates for each of these on-line courses when you register for the next live program. Once they are registered for the on-line segments, we will expect those officers at the next scheduled live Orientation.

Pennsylvania Represented at International Family Group Decision Making Conference

The 2008 Conference on Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) was held June 3-6, 2008 at the Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson, Arizona. This international conference, hosted annually by American Humane since 1997, brings together people from around the world to explore and share ideas on the implementation and effective use of FGDM. The 3½ day conference

included three keynote speakers, seven intensive pre-conference seminars and skills institutes, and fifty workshops and discussion groups.

Attendees from Pennsylvania certainly had a major impact on the success of the conference, comprising 125 of the 500-plus attendees and representing more than 30 different agencies.

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Pennsylvania Represented at International Family Group Decision Making Conference

Additionally, Pennsylvania attendees were responsible for presenting ten of the workshops that were offered. A diverse contingent of professionals and community members from various counties represented Pennsylvania, including children and youth, human services, private providers, local agencies, universities, judges, police, and both adult and juvenile probation.

Family Group Decision Making is a continually emerging practice across the nation, and particularly in Pennsylvania. Currently, 40 counties across the Commonwealth are

implementing and actively involved with FGDM. Much of the collaboration across the Commonwealth regarding FGDM is specifically related to the success 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 and/or statewide meeting location, please contact Susan Antonacci at the University of Pittsburgh Child Welfare Training Center at sca16+@pitt.edu.

The 2009 conference will be held June 2-5, in Pittsburgh.



Pennsylvania Supreme Court Amends Juvenile Court Procedural Rule 510

An amendment to Rule 510 of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Procedural Rules was published in The Pennsylvania Bulletin (36 Pa.B. 957) on June 14, 2008.

Upon the recommendation of the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee, the Supreme Court modified Rule 510 "Prompt Dispositional Hearing", to add a time limitation for the dispositional hearing for a juvenile who is not detained. The rule was amended to require that for a juvenile who is not detained, the dispositional hearing must be held no later than sixty days after the ruling on the offenses, pursuant to Rule 408. Rule 408 requires the court to enter a finding that specifies which, if any, offenses including grading and counts, alleged in the petition were committed by the juvenile, within seven days of hearing the evidence on the petition, or accepting an admission. Prior to the modification, Rule 510 addressed time limitations for dispositional hearings only for juveniles who were being held in detention, and provided that these cases must be heard no later than 20 days after the ruling on the offenses under Rule 408.

In the Comment section to Rule 510, a reference to 42 Pa.C.S. §6341 (b) (relating to finding of delinquency) was deleted, because this section of the Juvenile Act pertains to the requirement that the court is to hear evidence as to whether the child is in need of treatment, supervision or rehabilitation and to make its finding thereon within 60 days of finding that a child committed a delinquent act, if the child is not in detention. That issue is addressed by Rule 409. The modification to Rule 510 essentially establishes one time frame (60 days after the ruling on the offenses if the child is not in detention) for the treatment, supervision and rehabilitation finding under Rule 409, and for the dispositional hearing under Rule 510.

This amendment becomes effective on January 1, 2009, and can be found in the [June 14, 2008](#) edition of the Pennsylvania Bulletin, or on the [website](#) of the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC).

Governor Rendell Proclaims Juvenile Justice Week October 5-11, 2008



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK October 5-11, 2008

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system is charged with providing programs of supervision, care, and rehabilitation as well as providing balanced attention to the protection of our communities, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed by juveniles, and the development of competencies to enable children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system to become responsible, productive members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system is based on the principles of restorative justice, which gives priority to repairing the harm done to crime victims and communities and defines offender accountability in terms of assuming responsibility and taking action to repair harm; and

WHEREAS, the mission is premised on the belief that crime victims, communities, and juvenile offenders must all be regarded as clients of the juvenile justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee has adopted the following mission statement for Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system: "Juvenile Justice: Community Protection, Victim Restoration, Youth Redemption;" and

WHEREAS, community protection refers to the fundamental right of all Pennsylvanians to be free of, and feel safe from, crime. Victim restoration emphasizes that crime can forever change its victims and that restoration programs should seek to restore crime victims, to the greatest extent possible, to their pre-crime status. Youth redemption embodies the belief that the vast majority of juvenile offenders are capable of change and have strength upon which treatment services can build; and

WHEREAS, all of the services designed and implemented to achieve this mission and all hearings and decisions under Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act must be provided in a fair, unbiased manner.

THEREFORE, In special recognition of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system and its work with juvenile offenders, crime victims, and communities, I, Edward G. Rendell, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 5-11, 2008, JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK in Pennsylvania.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this eleventh day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and thirty-second.

Edward G. Rendell

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Governor

Governor Edward G. Rendell recently proclaimed the week of October 5 – October 11, 2008 as Juvenile Justice Week in Pennsylvania. Juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth are encouraged to utilize Juvenile Justice Week as an opportunity to engage the public about the mission and outcomes of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

The proclamation notes that Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system is charged with "providing programs of supervision, care, and rehabilitation, as well as providing balanced attention to the protection of our communities, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed by juveniles, and the development of competencies to enable children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system to become responsible and productive members of their communities."

Chief juvenile probation officers are encouraged to send examples of media accounts of local Juvenile Justice Week activities to Steve Bishop, at spbish@ship.edu for publication in future editions of Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice.

JDCAP HONORS RETIREMENT OF BUCKS COUNTY YOUTH CENTER'S DONALD MACGREGOR

BY: Nicole L. Remsburg, Executive Director,
Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania

In 1973 Don "Mac" MacGregor became the director of the Bucks County Youth Center. At the time, Mac was the fourth director in that facility in eight months. Mac brought a whole new philosophy to the facility however; it is a philosophy that has been a central part of his leadership style. His belief is very basic and straightforward – respect for the child placed in your care. Mac believed that children arriving in detention by definition had behavior problems. His goal was then to help them learn respect for themselves and others by respecting them while providing the restrictive setting required by their actions.

From 1994-1996, Mac managed the construction of the current Bucks County Juvenile Detention Center. Along with Mac's twenty-one years of experience in operating the detention center, he also had a background in building construction prior to working with kids. This knowledge assisted Mac in creating a successful and state of the art facility that has been recognized throughout the state and nation as a model facility, both in building design and in programming. In the Summer 2001 issue of National Juvenile Detention Association's (NJDA) news magazine, Bucks County Juvenile Detention Center was featured as a model detention center.

Leadership has also been a common behavior trait with Mac, both locally and statewide. Thirty years ago, Mac was one of the founding fathers of the Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania (JDCAP). The detention centers operate independently, but Mac understood



the value of training and cross program integration. He had a clear understanding that the training could only be done if the various detention centers joined together and created their own training. In 1998, Mac became the president of JDCAP and continued his own brand of dedication. He worked diligently to insure that a stable training program was implemented for the members of JDCAP. In 2001, JDCAP entered into an agreement with the Department of Public Welfare to provide training for the members of JDCAP.

Mac was President of the association for only 2 years, but he accomplished much in that time. Initially, the association had membership from only fifty

percent of the detention centers in the state. Under his tenure, the membership rose to 85 percent.

Mac had mentioned in 2001 that he was ready for retirement, however, he began his retirement on July 4 and he is looking forward to spending time with his wife, Bonnie, the new generation of MacGregor's, which includes his son and daughter, their spouses and a total of eight grandchildren. There can be no doubt that he has created new ways of thinking about and working with the delinquent children requiring secure care. He has dedicated his life to that group of youth who fall on the wrong side of the law. He was there in the beginning of JDCAP, and when the organization needed him the most, he made JDCAP stronger than ever.

Franco Harris & The Pittsburgh Passion Encourage Westmoreland County Schools to “Go MAD”

BY: Adeline Beighley,
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Westmoreland County



For the past twenty-six years, the Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Department has opened its doors to local, public and parochial schools during Juvenile Court Week. In 2007, instead of the traditional poster contest, each of the attending schools was challenged to “Go MAD” (Make a Difference) in their communities. Schools were given five months to develop and implement a project that would make a positive contribution to their community. The schools were then visited by the “MAD Team”, which was comprised of probation officers and representatives from the contest sponsors, Outside In School of Experiential Education, Inc. Youth residents of that program reviewed the community service projects submitted by all schools and chose the school that made the most impact in their community.

The winner of the 2007-2008 “MAD” contest was Derry Area Middle School. They completed a Literacy Workshop for preschool age children in their community. The Derry Area School Board was so impressed that they decided to make this an annual event. Derry was awarded the “MAD” Cup at a ceremony held at the Westmoreland County Community College in March 2008. In addition, the students won \$500 for their school and a pizza party.

On hand to present the award were: Westmoreland County Juvenile Court Judge John J. Driscoll; former Pittsburgh Steeler great and member of the National Football League Hall of Fame, Franco Harris; and Teresa Conn, owner and co-head coach of the Pittsburgh Passion of the Independent Women’s Football League. This was the first year that Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation implemented this type of contest and everyone looks forward to many more community projects from the students in future years. This has proven to be a great way to motivate students to take the initiative and spread community service work throughout all municipalities.

Northeast CTC Holds Underage Drinking Forum

The problem of underage drinking is a growing concern for many communities throughout Pennsylvania. It is a common concern identified by Communities That Care (CTC) in the Northeast Region. As a result, the Northeast Region CTC coordinators hosted an open forum on June 20th for their regional meeting. CTC Coordinators and other interested persons from six counties gathered at Portabella's Catering, in Bloomsburg, to hear a series of presentation from persons with expertise on underage drinking. Those in attendance had an opportunity to learn more about resources, trends in youth drinking patterns, and promising approaches to address this issue.

The first two presentations of the day were from Tammy Spevak of Schuylkill County, and Yvonne Stroman and Kristen Strubblebine of Berks County. They each described their experiences with a program called **Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA)**. CMCA is an evidence-based program that addresses community norms and policies that contribute to the problem of underage drinking. The presenters described a training component for a core team, which is ideally suited for a community board like CTC, and further described a community assessment which helps identify the norms, policies and practices within a community which may contribute to the problem. Next, a team would identify strategies for community education and policy changes, and then finally evaluate the progress. Each of the presenters was confident that modifying the environment in which our children grow, will have a positive impact on both accessibility of alcohol to young people and also on understanding the true dangers associated with this behavior.

The next presentation was provided by Marybeth Wolf of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. Marybeth shared recent research on trends of alcohol use and abuse among young people. She shared information on programs and training available for free or reduced cost from the LCB. Some of the programs she described include False I.D. Recognition, Party Prevention and Controlled Party Dispersal, Source Investigation Projects and Project Sticker Shock. There are a variety of other educational resources available at their website www.lcb.state.pa.us/edu.

The final presentation of the day was given by Ted McKnight, former District Attorney of Clinton County. Combating the problem of underage drinking has been his passion for many years. He has seen first hand the devastating effects that alcohol use and abuse can have on young people and gathered recent information on research involving the effects of alcohol on the adolescent brain. He pointed out that although we used to think that much of brain development was completed during early childhood, recent research has revealed that significant development takes place during the teen years, particularly involving the parts of the brain that support memory and emotional development. In his retirement, Mr. McKnight has been able to turn his passion for this problem into a mission to educate parents and community members on the dangerous behaviors that kids engage in regarding alcohol. He also emphasizes the far from benign ways that alcohol affects the adolescent mind and body. His interesting and moving presentation is available to any audience upon request.

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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