

# PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
Edward G. Rendell, Governor



## Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Volume 18, Number 4

April 2010

### *Special Master Submits Final Report Related To In Re: J.V.R.*

On February 25, 2010, the [Final Report of the Special Master](#) was submitted to the Supreme Court by Special Master Arthur E. Grim, Senior Judge in Berks County, and Chairman of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, related to In Re: J.V.R. Judge Grim was appointed Special Master by the Supreme Court on February 11, 2009 to review all cases – specifically cases in which juveniles were committed to PA Child Care, LLC and Western PA Child Care, LLC, and cases in which it is alleged that juveniles were denied their constitutional right to counsel – that were affected by the criminal allegations involving former Luzerne County Judges Mark Ciavarella and Michael Conahan. Judge Grim was also charged with making remedial recommendations to the Court, the most significant of which resulted in the Supreme Court's order of October 29, 2009 that directed all adjudications of delinquency and consent decrees entered by former Judge Ciavarella during the period January 1, 2003 – May 31, 2008 to be vacated.

In the Final Report, Judge Grim offered a series of recommendations to strengthen Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system, including:

- ↗ A requirement for the Court to state the reasons for its disposition, as well as the goals, terms and conditions of that disposition;
- ↗ The presumption of indigence of juveniles for the purpose of appointment of counsel;
- ↗ A dedicated funding stream for indigent juvenile defense;
- ↗ A requirement that juveniles consult with an attorney prior to waiving counsel in conjunction with designated proceedings;
- ↗ Expedited appellate review for certain delinquency proceedings; and
- ↗ Strengthened resources to the JCJC in order to increase the capacity to collect, analyze and report critical information.

### ***INSIDE:***

- ***INTERBRANCH COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE CONCLUDES PUBLIC HEARINGS***
- ***CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS RALLY HELD APRIL 19, 2010***
- ***JUVENILE PROBATION'S NEW FINE SYSTEM RAKES IN MORE CASH***
- ***RUSS CARLINO: NEW ADMINISTRATOR OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT***
- ***FUNCTIONAL FAMILY THERAPY (FFT) IN DAUPHIN COUNTY: A BLUE PRINT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO TREAT JUVENILES IN THE COMMUNITY***
- ***NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS***
- ***DIVERSITY CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITY***
- ***THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF HIGH FIDELITY WRAPAROUND***
- ***CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS***

### ***Reminders:***

**NEW OFFICER ORIENTATION  
TRAINING IS NOW OPEN. VISIT  
[WWW.JCJC.STATE.PA.US](http://WWW.JCJC.STATE.PA.US)  
TO SIGN UP!**

## **Interbranch Commission on Juvenile Justice Concludes Public Hearings**

The Interbranch Commission on Juvenile Justice, established by [Act 32 of 2009](#) was signed into law by Governor Rendell, on August 7, 2009. The Commission, which consists of 11 members appointed by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government, is charged with ascertaining how the Luzerne County juvenile justice system failed, restoring public confidence in the administration of justice, and preventing similar events from occurring in the future.

Beginning in October of 2009, the Commission gathered testimony from over 70 witnesses in eleven public hearings which were held in Wilkes-Barre and Harrisburg. The Commission has called upon persons with intimate knowledge about the events which occurred in Luzerne County, as well as public and private sector leaders in juvenile justice for their recommendation. The last two of these hearings occurred in April.

On April 1, the Commission heard testimony from four juveniles and their families who appeared before Judge Ciavarella. On April 12, the Commission heard testimony regarding the role and function of the Judicial Conduct Board. Transcripts of all of the proceedings are available on the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania website: <http://www.pacourts.us/Links/Public/Interbranch-CommissionJuvenileJustice.htm>. The Commission anticipates releasing its final report and recommendations during the last week of May.

## **Crime Victims Rights Rally Held April 19, 2010**

The 18th Annual Victims' Rights Rally, held in Harrisburg in the Capitol rotunda on April 19, 2009, was sponsored by the [Coalition of Pennsylvania Crime Victim Organizations \(COPCVO\)](#).

The theme for this year's event was "Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect." This theme is significant for the Juvenile Justice System in Pennsylvania as Balanced and Restorative Justice embodies the goal of holding youth accountable to repair the harm caused to crime victims and the community. Professionals in the juvenile justice system have committed to ensuring that victims of juvenile crime are treated with fairness, dignity and respect and that they are afforded their legislated rights.

Although great advancements have been made, there continues to be many challenges. As the Attorney General, Eric H. Holder, Jr. has stated: *"While there has been tremendous progress, challenges do remain. The current epidemic of violence against children in the streets, in their homes, and even in schools victimizes and isolates too many of our young people."*



The Luzerne and Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Departments accompanied numerous youth to the rally. These youth had the opportunity to attend the rally, learn from the speakers and hear the stories of those who have been harmed by crime.

Speakers for the event included Mary Walsh, Executive Director of COPCVO; Carol Lavery, Victim Advocate for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Honorable Edward M. Marsico, Jr, President of the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association/Institute; Lieutenant Colonel Tedescung L. Bandy, Deputy Commissioner of Operations, Pa. State Police; Ron Klotz of the Survivors Speakers Bureau of COPCVO and Cathleen Palm from The Protect Our Children Committee.

## National Crime Victims' Rights Week

crime victims' rights:

**FAIRNESS.  
DIGNITY.  
RESPECT.**

If you or someone you know is a victim of crime, help is available.

Several projects made by victims and survivors of crime were displayed throughout the capital. The following projects were represented:

### ***Blowing in the Wind Project***

In February 2001, Victims Resource Center in Luzerne, Wyoming and Carbon counties established its first support group for men who were sexually abused as children. "Blowing in the Wind" was conceived and also embraced by a special group for young men in Wyoming County. Sheets and pillowcases were created as a healing medium for their important messages.



### ***The Clothesline Project***

The Clothesline Project provides an opportunity for victims to bear witness to their personal experience of violence and celebrate their transformation from victims to survivor in a powerful statement of solidarity. The Clothesline Project is also provided by the victims Resource Center in Luzerne, Wyoming and Carbon counties.

- **White** represents victims who were murdered.
- **Yellow** or beige represents battered or assaulted women/men.
- **Red, pink** or **orange** represents survivors of rape or sexual assault.
- **Blue** and **green** represents survivors of incest and sexual abuse.
- **Purple** or **lavender** represents victims attacked because of their sexual orientation.
- **Black** represents victims attacked for potential reasons.

### ***The Shoe Project***

The Shoe Project embodies the experience of sexual assault survivors, bringing to life the crime of sexual violence. As you read the stories attached to the shoes keep in mind that they are the experiences of real people who have "walked in these shoes." The Shoe Project was provided by the Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Services of Cumberland County.

### ***Silent Witness Project***

The goal of the Silent Witness Project is to eliminate domestic violence murders in the United States. The exhibit began in Minnesota in 1990. The 26 original free-standing life sized red wooden figures displayed the name of a woman who had been killed by a husband, partner or acquaintance. The 27<sup>th</sup> figure represents the woman whose murders were mistakenly reported as accidental or were left unsolved. The 27 original red figures were named the Silent Witness. Today all fifty states have Silent Witnesses. This project was provided by the Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland & Perry Counties and the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg.



# Juvenile probation's new fine system rakes in more cash

*Reprinted with permission from the York Daily Record*

*By: Tom Joyce; April 14, 2010*

[http://www.ydr.com/ci\\_14883064?IADID=Search-www.ydr.com-www.ydr.com](http://www.ydr.com/ci_14883064?IADID=Search-www.ydr.com-www.ydr.com)

"Stop! Or I'll say 'stop' again!" That phrase from a classic Robin Williams stand-up bit could have applied to the York County Juvenile Probation Department when it came to collecting unpaid fines from offenders.

It's not an exact match. Williams was talking about the plight of a gunless British police officer. And physical threats -- enforceable or otherwise -- are not part of the department's fine-collection procedure. Still, the department's options were essentially the same. They could demand that a juvenile offender pay an overdue fine. And if the juvenile didn't comply, they could repeat that demand.

But that's changed recently, according to Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Bryce Wickard. His department has implemented a series of escalating procedures ranging from home visits to an appearance before a Common Pleas Court judge. "This isn't just about the money," Wickard said. "This is about sending a message of responsibility to the juvenile." Already, the department is seeing results, Wickard said. Collections for the last quarter of 2009 were up 124 percent over the same quarter in 2008. He's particularly pleased because they're collecting from juveniles who have already demonstrated unwillingness to pay.

The offenses in question are summary offenses that don't cross the line into misdemeanors or felonies. They encompass crimes such as vandalism, shoplifting, traffic offenses or fistfights. A district judge usually assesses a fine. Each year, about 700 offenders don't pay and end up referred to the juvenile probation department. Previously, the department had one collections officer who dealt with about 150 kids at any given time. The officer would schedule a meeting with the kids and tell them they had to pay. And that was pretty much the end of it. If the kids didn't pay, nothing more would happen. Wickard said word got around, and kids realized they could defy the office without repercussions.

A couple probation officers now put in extra hours to make sure the juveniles know that isn't the case, Wickard said. They go to the juveniles' homes -- not to intimidate, Wickard said, but to inform them the department

hasn't forgotten. If they still don't pay, the department will take them before a judge. That hasn't been necessary so far, Wickard said, because the juveniles know that will likely lead to a greater punishment.

Becky Cochran of Airville, who recently turned 18, said she saw no point in bringing more trouble on herself by ducking a fine. When she was younger, she ran up some offenses from fighting and underage drinking. Then she tried to avoid paying, which she admits was not a smart decision. Now she's paying off her fine in installments and trying to put all that behind her. "It's not worth it," she said. "If you think about it, it's something you did that's stupid. And because you did something stupid, you have to waste money on a fine."

## VICTIM COMPENSATION

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Bryce Wickard said the money his office collects for juvenile offenders goes to compensation for crime victims. Even though the fines in question are only for summary offenses, they still represent money for innocent people who were wronged, Wickard said. And these days, \$300 for a shattered window can amount to a big chunk of someone's income.

Some of the juvenile offenders pay outright in the form of a fine. Others can't pay and work it off in community service at a minimum-wage rate. Wickard said officials with his department implemented the new program last year after calculating that they were due to pay out \$50,000 more in victim compensation than they were scheduled to get in fine revenues.

The two officers who put in the extra hours to confront the offenders are making an additional \$1,500 a year, and Wickard said their work more than pays for itself.

These are the amounts for collected fines in the last two quarters of 2008 and 2009:

Third quarter	Fourth quarter
2008: \$10,878	2008: \$7,883
2009: \$15,510	2009: \$17,704

# **Russ Carlino: New Administrator of Allegheny County Juvenile Court**

*(Article provided by Allegheny County Juvenile Probation)*



Effective January 1, 2010 Russ Carlino was appointed as the new Administrator of Allegheny County Juvenile Probation, replacing Jim Rieland in this position.

Russ received his Bachelor's of Criminal Justice and Political Science from Duquesne University. He then earned his Master's Degree at Duquesne University in Public Policy. It was there that he became interested in working with Juvenile Probation while working on a research project on intensive probation supervision.

Russ began his career as a Probation Officer, under Director Joseph Daugerdaus, at the Eastern District Office in 1989, where he remained and became a high-impact Probation Officer in 1991.

Russ continued his career at the Eastern District Office when he was promoted to their Supervisor in 1994 and assumed the additional duty of supervising the Drug and Alcohol Unit in 1996. He was quickly promoted to Court Administration in 1999, overseeing the Community Based Probation and School Based Probation Units. He later transitioned to be responsible for the Community Based, Judicial Services and Information Management Departments. Russ has also served as Adjunct Faculty at Duquesne University since 1993, where he has taught a variety of juvenile and criminal justice courses. Russ was promoted to Deputy Director of Juvenile Court in March of 2008, where he remained until being promoted to his current position.

During his time as Court Administrator, Russ was key in the development and implementation of the Allegheny County Juvenile Warrant Unit, which is believed to be the very first of it's kind. Russ was a champion for the Warrant Unit from the first stages of a planning work-group. He was key in taking the concept from an idea, through the training and policy development, to the active unit that it is today. Not only was he responsible for the supervision of the unit, Russ trained and served alongside the other warrant unit members. Russ worked hard to advance the training on the unit and made it possible to get the considerable equipment and tools used today.

Russ notes that former Administrators Beverly Bush and Eric Joy were very big influences in his career. He credits former Director Jim Rieland with being the most influential person in his career and notes that he has been very fortunate to work with him so closely over the past ten years.

Russ is very proud of the fact that Allegheny County has a tradition of providing a wide range of effective supervision and programming options for juveniles in the system and understands that the hard work and dedication of the staff is what makes Allegheny County Juvenile Probation as successful as it is. He plans to continue to make sure that Probation Officers and Supervisors have the tools and information they need to be successful, and to give them flexibility to get their jobs done.

Allegheny County Courts are currently undergoing massive change to the Unified Court System which now involves 15 Judges hearing delinquency matters, affecting nearly every department in the Court. Allegheny County also continues with the ongoing initiatives of the Needs Assessment, Comprehensive Plan and Dispositional Guidelines, which have required Probation Officer's to incorporate new activities in their daily routines. Despite all of these ongoing changes, the transition to his new position has gone well for Russ. He notes that Allegheny County will continue to focus on outcomes, using relevant data to help drive decisions and practices. He emphasizes the continued goal to improve the ability to protect the public and move youth toward productive citizenship. Russ plans to increase opportunities for families to be involved in every phase of the juvenile's supervision.

Russ has also become more active in statewide activities. He was recently appointed as the Chair of the Victim Services Committee and is also a member of the Chief's Executive Committee and the Balanced and Restorative Justice Committee. Russ is looking forward to working more closely with other Chiefs throughout the state.

Congratulations to Russ as the new Director of Allegheny County Juvenile Court.

# ***Functional Family Therapy (FFT) in Dauphin County: A Blue Print Program Designed to Treat Juveniles in the Community***

In April of 2008, the Dauphin County MH/MR program was awarded a two-year grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to implement Functional Family Therapy (FFT). The target population for FFT is youth who have primary mental health needs and are involved with the Juvenile Probation Office. VisionQuest, a certified FFT provider, was selected as Dauphin County's FFT provider. VisionQuest began providing FFT services in Dauphin County in September 2008 and has served 38 families thus far.

The grant from PCCD provided the funding necessary to implement FFT in Dauphin County. In order to sustain the program beyond the grant, VisionQuest's FFT program became an approved Mental Health service through the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and a credentialed provider of CBHNP as of May 1, 2009. After the grant ends on March 31, 2010, CBHNP will be the primary funding source for FFT.

## ***What is Functional Family Therapy?***

FFT is one of ten nationally recognized Blue Print programs. FFT is an evidence-based family prevention and intervention program that has been applied successfully in a variety of contexts to treat a range of high-risk youth and their families. FFT uses a multi-step approach to enhance and build upon the strengths of the family and reduce the risk factors. According to the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, FFT has been demonstrated in clinical trials to: effectively treat teens with Conduct Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Disruptive Behavior Disorder, alcohol and other drug abuse, and who are delinquent and/or violent; interrupt teens from moving on to more restrictive and higher costs services; generate positive outcomes for the youth and their support system; prevent younger children in the family from system involvement; and prevent adult criminal justice involvement.

FFT serves youth between the ages of 11 and 18 years, with mental health needs, legal involvement and at risk of out of home placement or returning from an out of home placement. FFT is a short term intervention including, on average, 12- 16 sessions over a 3 to 4 month period. One therapist provides service to the youth, at least one adult caregiver and any younger siblings in the home. The FFT therapist meets with the family at least once a week for approximately 60- 90 minutes per session. The FFT model is divided into three treatment phases: Engagement and Motivation, Behavior Change, and Generalization. Progress for each family is assessed throughout the service from the youth, family members, and the therapist's perspectives and tracked through the Clinical Service System (CSS), FFT's database. Additionally, each Certified FFT site has an on-going relationship with FFT, Inc. FFT providers work with a National FFT Consultant. The FFT consultant uses data from CSS to monitor and improve therapist's skills by keeping them focused on the goals, skills and interventions for each phase of FFT.

### ***What parents are saying:***

"Since the FFT Program came into my home, there have been a lot of improvements in my household. Temper tantrums have calmed drastically. My daughter and I seem to have a closer relationship. We created rules to handle our anger, and it is helpful. We arranged ways to have individual time with each other, and it works!"

*"We have changed, mainly because our family has been drawn closer with new ideas of ways to handle things such as: anger, quiet time, love and pressure, that I didn't think of because I was too busy doing things my way."*

### ***What youth are saying:***

"WELL, WHEN I FIRST STARTED THE FFT PROGRAM, ME AND MY MOTHER COULDN'T REALLY COMMUNICATE BECAUSE OF OUR PAST ISSUES. BUT SINCE THE FFT PROGRAM, I'VE BEEN A BETTER SISTER TO MY YOUNGER BROTHERS. ALSO, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO MY MOTHER ABOUT THINGS I NEVER THOUGHT I COULD TALK TO HER ABOUT. THIS PROGRAM REALLY HELPED ME TO BECOME A BETTER AND HAPPIER PERSON."

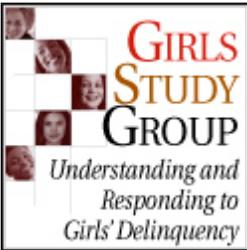
*Printed with permission from Dauphin County Balanced and Restorative Justice Newsletter*



# National Juvenile Justice Announcements

The following April announcements are reprinted from [JUVJUST](#), an OJJDP news service:

## April 5, 2010 - OJJDP Bulletin Reports on Youth in Custody's Needs and Services



The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published "[Youth's Needs and Services: Findings From the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement](#)."

The [Survey of Youth in Residential Placement](#) is the first national study to gather information on youth in custody by surveying detained

offenders. The second in a [series](#), the bulletin reports on the survey's findings on youth in custody's needs and the services they receive.

### Resources:

"Youth's Needs and Services: Findings From the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement" is available online at [ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=249735](http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=249735).

Print copies may be ordered at [www.ncjrs.gov/App/ShoppingCart/ShopCart.aspx?item=NCJ+227728](http://www.ncjrs.gov/App/ShoppingCart/ShopCart.aspx?item=NCJ+227728).

For an overview of the series, see "Introduction to the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement" at [ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=240090](http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=240090).

## April 8, 2010 - OJJDP Bulletin Examines Causes and Correlates of Girls' Delinquency



The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published "[Causes and Correlates of Girls' Delinquency](#)."

Part of OJJDP's [Girls Study Group series](#), the bulletin summarizes the research team's review of social science literature on factors impacting girls' delinquency and notes their policy and program implications.

The bulletin identifies eight factors correlated with girls' delinquency: negative and critical mothers, harsh discipline, inconsistent discipline, family conflict, frequent family moves, multiple caregivers, longer periods of time with a single parent, and growing up in socioeconomically disadvantaged families.

### Resources:

"Causes and Correlates of Girls' Delinquency" is available online at [ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=248352](http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=248352).

For further information and resources on girls' delinquency, visit OJJDP's Girls' Delinquency Web portal page at [ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/programs/girlsdelinquency.html](http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/programs/girlsdelinquency.html).

## April 15, 2010 - Grants 101 Web Page Aids Applicants for OJP Grants

The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has launched a [Grants 101 Web page](#) to assist applicants in navigating the challenges of a highly competitive application and grant award process. This portal page offers several resources, which are particularly useful for new applicants.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has posted a number of current solicitations on [OJJDP's Funding Opportunities Web page](#). Additional funding opportunities from other OJP components may be found on [OJP's Open Solicitations Web page](#).

### Resources:

Access OJP's Grants 101 Web page at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/grants101/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/grants101/).

Current OJJDP funding opportunities may be found at [www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingList.asp](http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingList.asp).

## SAVE THE DATE

A Force for Positive CHANGE



# 89th

The Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections

## Annual Training Institute



May 23rd - 25th, 2010

Seven Springs Mountain Resort  
Seven Springs, PA



## Conference Registration Information

May 20-21,  
2010



Holiday Inn  
Monroeville,  
Pennsylvania

A Conference on Diversity for professionals from the child welfare, juvenile justice, education, medical & mental health fields

- ✓ increase knowledge
- ✓ develop skills
- ✓ improve practice

Presented by:

Three Rivers Adoption Council and Family Design Resources



## DIVERSITY

## Conference Opportunity



Welcome to the first Conference on Diversity hosted by Three Rivers Adoption Council and Family Design Resources.

As the theme of this conference implies, diversity is "not just Black or White," but inclusive of all. It is not enough to be accepting of individual differences but to celebrate those differences within each of us. Inclusiveness means to be all-encompassing and embracing, which must be encouraged in every sphere of our lives, including our work places. Ensuring sensitivity to diversity is crucial if we are to provide effective and high quality services to children and families through the child welfare, education, mental health, medical, judicial and adoption systems.

Regardless of your profession, every aspect of service delivery should be performed with respect for the various cultures within our communities. From hiring staff that is racially diverse and reflective of the populations served to interacting with clients and co-workers in an appropriate and genuine manner—all are important if we are to truly and positively impact our communities.

When the planning committee first met to develop this much needed forum for discussion we determined that this conference would:

- stimulate thinking,
- encourage and support difficult conversations,
- provide new knowledge and abilities to enhance best practice skills, and
- provide a charge to view diversity through new lenses.

During this conference each of us is encouraged to look inside of ourselves, acknowledge how our experiences have shaped our perceptions, and challenge ourselves to think about how those perceptions have influenced our interactions with the children and families we have served. Take this time to approach the subject matter with great openness. Making small changes within ourselves will lead to great change in our community.

Sincerely,

*Jacqueline D. Wilson*

Jacqueline D. Wilson, MSW/LSW  
CEO, Three Rivers Adoption Council

*Brenda Lawrence*

Brenda Lawrence, MSW  
Executive Director, Family Design Resources, Inc.

## At-A-Glance Conference Schedule

### Thursday, May 20, 2010 (Day 1)

7:45 AM	Registration	Embassy Ballroom Foyer
8:00 AM	Breakfast (provided)	Embassy Ballroom Foyer
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Welcome/ Introduction	Embassy Ballroom
9:45 AM – 12:15 PM	Keynote Presentation	Embassy Ballroom
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch (provided)	Imperial Dining Room
1:45 – 3:45	Workshops – Session 1	Ambassador, Envoy, Chamber, Capitol, Summit and Diplomat Rooms

### Friday, May 21, 2010 (Day 2)

7:45 AM	Registration	Embassy Ballroom Foyer
8:00 AM	Breakfast (provided)	Embassy Ballroom Foyer
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Welcome/ Introduction of Panel	Embassy Ballroom
9:15 – 10:00 AM	Panel discussion	Embassy Ballroom
10:00 – 10:20 AM	Break	
10:20 AM – 12:20 PM	Workshops – Session 2	Ambassador, Envoy, Chamber, Capitol, Summit and Diplomat Rooms
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch (provided)	Imperial Dining Room
1:45-3:45 PM	Workshops – Session 3	Ambassador, Envoy, Chamber, Capitol, Summit and Diplomat Rooms

## Who Should Attend

- Professionals from the fields of:
  - child welfare
  - juvenile justice
  - education
  - medical health
  - mental health
- Foster/adoptive/resource parents
- Anyone seeking to increase their knowledge, develop skills, and improve their professional practice through the exploration of diversity-related issues.

## Credit Information

Continuing education credits for social workers through the University of Pittsburgh and continuing legal education credits through the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board are available.

Act 48 credit for educators is pending through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The use of this seal is not an endorsement by the HR Certification Institute of the quality of the program. It means that this program has met the HR Certification Institute's criteria to be pre-approved for recertification credit.

Certificates of training will also be available.



The complete conference brochure and registration materials can be downloaded at:  
<http://www.3riversadopt.org/Diversity2010.asp>

# The Principles and Practices of High Fidelity Wraparound

by Shannon Fagan and Brian Satterfield

High fidelity wraparound is a process of supporting youth with complex needs and their families. It is not a service or a program. The process is defined by ten principles and works through four specific phases and related activities. The principles and phases have been standardized by the U.S. National Wraparound Initiative (Walker & Bruns, 2006). High fidelity wraparound is based on the “Theory of Change” described by Vroon VanDenBerg, LLP, and uses a variety of staff members to assist with implementation.

## The Ten Principles

**Family voice and choice:** Family and youth/child perspectives are intentionally elicited and prioritized during all phases of the wraparound process. Planning is grounded in family members’ perspectives, and the team strives to provide options and choices so that the plan reflects family values and preferences.

**Team based:** The wraparound team consists of individuals agreed upon by the family and committed to them through informal, formal, and community support and service relationships.

**Natural supports:** The team actively seeks out and encourages the full participation of the team members drawn from family members’ networks of interpersonal and community relationships. The wraparound plan reflects activities and interventions that draw on sources of natural supports.

**Collaboration:** Team members work cooperatively and share responsibility for developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating a single wraparound plan. The plan reflects a blending of team members’ perspectives, mandates and resources. The plan guides and coordinates each team member’s work towards meeting the team’s goals.

**Community-based:** The wraparound team implements service and support strategies that take place in the most inclusive, most responsive, most accessible and least restrictive settings possible; and that safely promote child and family integration into home and community life.

**Culturally competent:** The wraparound process demonstrates respect for and builds on the values, preferences, beliefs, culture and identity of the child/youth and family, and their community.

**Individualized:** To achieve the goals laid out in the wraparound plan, the team develops and implements a customized set of strategies, supports, and services.

**Strengths based:** The wraparound process and the wraparound plan identify, build on, and enhance the capabilities, knowledge, skills, and assets of the child and family, their community, and other team members.

**Persistence:** Despite challenges, the team persists in working toward the goals included in the wraparound plan until the team reaches agreement that a formal wraparound process is no longer required.

**Outcome based:** The team ties the goals and strategies of the wraparound plan to observable or measurable indicators of success, monitors progress in terms of these indicators, and revises the plan accordingly.

## The Four Phases

**Engagement and Team Preparation:** The groundwork for trust and shared vision among the family and wraparound team members is established, so people are prepared to come to meetings and collaborate. This phase – particularly through the initial conversations about strengths, needs, culture and vision – sets the tone for teamwork and team interactions that are consistent with wraparound principles. The activities of this phase should be completed relatively quickly (within 1-2 weeks if possible), so that the team can begin meeting and establish ownership of the process as quickly as possible.

**Initial Plan Development:** Team trust and mutual respect are built while creating an initial plan of care using a high quality planning process that reflects the wraparound principles. In particular, the youth and family should feel that they are heard, the needs chosen are ones they want to work on and the options chosen have a reasonable chance of helping them meet these needs. This phase should be completed during one or two meetings that take place within 1-2 weeks – a rapid time frame intended to promote team cohesion and shared responsibility toward achieving the team’s mission or overarching goal.

**Implementation:** The initial wraparound plan is implemented, progress and successes are continually reviewed, and changes are made to the plan and then implemented; all while maintaining or building team cohesiveness and mutual respect. The activities of this phase are repeated until the team's mission is achieved and formal wraparound is no longer needed.

**Transition:** Plans are made for a purposeful transition out of formal wraparound to a mix of formal and natural supports in the community (and, if appropriate, to services and supports in the adult system). The focus on transition is continual during the wraparound process, and the preparation for transition is apparent even during the initial engagement activities.

### **The Theory of Change**

The Theory of Change is why we do high fidelity wraparound, what makes it work and what differentiates it from other services.

It also sets expectations for what we accomplish with families by “meeting the basic needs and strengthening the social networks of children with severe mental health challenges and their families while enhancing their belief that they can create a successful future, will result in good or at least improved lives. This will be further enhanced by integrating their services and supports into a single plan of action” (Rast, J., VanDenBerg, J.E., et al., 2009, p. 12).

The Theory of Change can be broken down into four key aspects. The initial aspect focuses on **youth and family prioritized needs**, a component which ensures that the issues the youth and family considers most important are addressed first. Engagement with the youth and family to help identify these needs is vital, along with carefully addressing needs that may appear further down the road.

Prioritizing youth and family needs is designed to promote the second component of the theory of change – **self-efficacy**. When the youth and family begin to believe in themselves, they will not only start working harder towards accomplishing goals but increase the preparation skills involved with achieving those goals. Self-efficacy becomes extremely important to youth and family who are lacking the motivation towards obtaining the goals they created.

Of course, building the self-efficacy of the youth and family cannot always be done easily, requiring the assistance of **natural support systems**, the Theory of Change's third component. Enhancing the youth and family's social network allows the communities and culture already surrounding the youth and family to exert a greater influence on the development of self-efficacy. Supportive relationships outside the family can also help facilitate stronger relationships within the family.

The youth and family may still struggle to develop, even with natural supports, if the issues/needs barring progress are too complex to tackle through a single system. The fourth component of Theory of Change, **integration of efforts**, seeks a way to simplify multiple issues and needs. It is not an effort to combine separate plans together, but instead to create one plan that tackles all the goals already set. High fidelity wraparound is designed to serve as the common ground for all plans.

### **High Fidelity Wraparound Staff**

The staff for an agency providing high fidelity wraparound includes a coach, supervisor, facilitator, family support partners and youth support partners. Each role has specific responsibilities. Each staff member receives up to eight days of training and must demonstrate proficiency on the various skill sets related to his or her role.

Vroon VanDenBerg, LLP, defines the positions and roles as:

**Wraparound Facilitator:** The facilitator is responsible for ensuring that the phases and related activities of the wraparound process are completed. In the beginning the facilitator will be doing the activities for the youth, family and team. Over time the facilitator will be teaching and transferring these activities to the youth, family and their natural supports. The facilitator is the guardian of the principles of wraparound and the person with primary responsibility to ensure the theory of

change components are met.

**Family Support Partner:** The family support partner is someone who has the experience of raising a child with severe emotional and/or behavioral health challenges. The family support partner extends the work of the facilitator to ensure that the entire process is accomplished and provides direct services to the parents to better ensure an individualized approach.

**Youth Support Partner:** The youth support partner is a young adult who has lived with severe emotional and/or behavioral health challenges. This person also extends the work of the facilitator to ensure that the whole process is accomplished and provides individualized direct services to the youth.

**Wraparound Coach:** The wraparound coach is an accomplished wraparound facilitator who provides direct support for facilitators and family and youth support partners. The coach assists with selection and orientation of new staff, supports training, prepares staff for live and group coaching, supports improving skills through live coaching and consultation, and continually assesses staff skills. The coach also provides feedback and, in partnership with the supervisor, develops and monitors staff plans.

**Supervisor:** The wraparound supervisor is a qualified mental health professional who oversees staff plans and works with families and youth. This includes weekly individual supervision, review of all plans and ongoing review and consultation with youth and families.

In Pennsylvania it is expected that for each 100 youth in the process there will be one coach, one supervisor, eight facilitators, four family support partners, and two youth support partners.

*Shannon Fagan is executive director of the Youth and Family Training Institute and Brian Satterfield is a youth member of the advisory board.*

## References

Bruns, E.J. et al. (2004). Ten principles of the wraparound process. Portland, OR: National Wraparound Initiative, Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health, Portland State University.

Rast, J. et al. (2009). Vroon VandenBerg LLP Wraparound Team Training Days One and Two. In High Fidelity Wraparound Team Training (pp. 1-84).

Bruns, E. J., Walker, J.S. (2006). Portland, OR: National Wraparound Initiative, Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health, Portland State University.

### High Fidelity Wraparound Resources

- **National Wraparound Initiative:**

<http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/nwi/>

- **Wraparound Fidelity Assessment System:**

<http://depts.washington.edu/wrapeval/WFI.html>

- **Ten Principles of the Wraparound Process:**

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/wraparound/10principles-full.pdf>

## Call for Presentations

### The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 3 - November 5, 2010

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

The sponsors of The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice are requesting presentations for workshops to be offered on Thursday, November 4, 2010. Interested presenters can download the form and return it by Friday, May 14, 2010. In order for your application to be considered, please submit a program description, a brief biography of the trainer and any supplementary materials.

PLEASE RETURN ALL APPLICATIONS AND ATTACH ALL SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM DESCRIPTIVE MATERIALS, TRAINER'S VITA, AND PARTICIPANT HANDOUTS BY FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2010 TO:

John Cookus, Director - Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research  
Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257  
Phone: 717-477-1188 - Fax: 717-477-1236 - E-mail: [jcookus@state.pa.us](mailto:jcookus@state.pa.us)

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- Proposed title of workshop: \_\_\_\_\_
- Brief description of presentation: (50 words or less)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Brief biography of the trainer: (50 words or less)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Please list a reference and contact information of someone who is familiar with the workshop/presentation:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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