

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Corbett, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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March 2013

2013 Juvenile Justice Scholarship Award Nominations Open

At the 2012 PA Conference on Juvenile Justice, the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges awarded \$1,500 scholarships to two deserving youth. Based on last years' experience, the Juvenile Court Section has announced that it will once again make available two \$1,500 scholarships for presentation in the fall of 2013. The awards are designed to recognize the resiliency and exceptional accomplishments of a young person who is currently, or was at some point in the past, involved in the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system, and who is also currently pursuing post-secondary education or advanced technical training on a full-time basis. Individuals scheduled for initial post-secondary education enrollment for the fall 2013 semester are also eligible for nomination.

The "2013 Juvenile Justice Scholarship Awards" will be presented this November, once again in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

Judges and Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, who have previously received nomination materials, are encouraged to actively review the award criteria in order to identify a deserving nominee from their jurisdiction. Nomination and eligibility forms are available on the JCJC website and should be completed and forwarded as instructed, with a post-mark date of no later than May 3, 2013.

For additional information concerning the nomination process, feel free to contact Rick Steele at 717-705-5633 or at ricsteele@pa.gov.



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“Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Building Blocks for a Better System”

JJSES STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To work in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by: employing evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process; collecting and analyzing the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, striving to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services and programs.

Part 18 of a series: *“JJSES Building Blocks”*

JJSES AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

Introduction: The Application of Evidence Based Practices to Juvenile Justice

Juvenile justice organizations around the world are moving to align their programs and services with what has come to be known as Evidence-Based Practices (EBP). Starting in the medical profession two decades ago, EBP asserts that public policy and practice should be based on the best available scientific evidence in order to be effective in the achievement of stated goals and the efficient use of taxpayers’ dollars. Failure to match services to rigorous, evidentiary standards not only makes poor use of limited public funds but can even lead to an exacerbation rather than improvement in the problems and issues that government seeks to resolve. In the juvenile justice context, research has demonstrated that the proper implementation of EBP can lead to significant reductions in juvenile delinquency and recidivism.

Restoration and Public Safety are the Goals

Juvenile justice interventions and programs are considered effective when they reduce a youth’s risk to reoffend. In this context, the application of evidence based practices translates directly into enhanced public safety. The research over the last two decades is both clear and compelling regarding those interventions that result in reduced recidivism. Juvenile justice agencies in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania must adopt the principles of EBP in order to achieve their stated mission of repairing harm to victims, restoring the health and welfare of communities and enabling delinquent youth to become productive and law-abiding members of society.

Evidence Based Practice Defined

Evidence based practice simply means applying what we know in terms of research to what we do in our work with youth, their families and the communities in which

they live. It is the progressive, organizational use of direct, current scientific evidence to guide and inform efficient and effective correctional services.

Key Concepts in Evidence Based Practice: The Risk, Needs, and Responsivity Principles

The *risk principle* speaks to the ability to predict the probability of reoffending based upon juvenile characteristics that are correlated with and predictive of future delinquency. These risk factors are static, or non-changeable, and include conditions such as age of the youth, age at first arrest and number of prior arrests. Risk information is used to classify juveniles for purposes of supervision and to determine the level of external control and treatment required during that supervision.

The *need principle* defines those individual and environmental attributes of the juvenile that are predictive of future delinquent behavior and are capable of being changed and thus are dynamic in nature. Examples of criminogenic needs include anti-social attitudes and beliefs, anti-social peers, temperament issues such as impulsivity and poor problem solving and decision making skills, lack of prosocial family support, lack of education and lack of prosocial leisure outlets. In order to reduce the probability of delinquency and recidivism, a juvenile’s criminogenic needs must be accurately assessed and then continuously addressed through individual supervision and programmatic interventions. The primary tool for tracking and accomplishing these goals is a comprehensive case plan designed to describe the steps which must be taken by officer and juvenile to reduce risk of recidivism.

The *responsivity principle* emphasizes the importance of characteristics that influence a juvenile’s ability and motivation to learn. Individual traits that interfere with--or facilitate--learning are responsivity factors. The respon-

sivity principle speaks to the need to deliver services in a manner consistent with the ability and learning style of the youth. The basic assumption underlying the responsibility principle is that neither juveniles nor programs are all the same. As such, better treatment outcomes will result from the proper matching of the young person's individual characteristics (culture, empathy, cognitive ability, maturity, and gender) with service characteristics (location, structure, length, dosage, methodology, and facilitator traits). These characteristics influence how juveniles respond to efforts to change their anti-social behavior, thoughts, and attitudes. Responsivity factors are not targets of treatment but rather are elements that affect the successful achievement of treatment goals.

In short, the risk principle helps identify who should receive juvenile justice interventions and treatment. The criminogenic need principle focuses on what about the young person must be addressed. The responsibility principle underscores the importance of how treatment should be delivered, with behavioral and cognitive-behavioral skill building techniques being the most effective.

The Eight Principles of Effective Interventions

There are eight evidence based principles for effective intervention with juveniles. These are described below:

1. Assess actuarial risk/ needs - Use assessments to guide case decisions by applying actuarial (statistically valid) tools that describe the who (which delinquents will most likely require interventions), the what (the specific needs that must be addressed to reduce re-offense) and the how (matching the intervention with the traits of the individual) of supervision.
2. Enhance intrinsic motivation - Get juveniles treatment ready and keep them engaged by using motivational interviewing, strength based approaches, and rewards and sanctions.
3. Target interventions - Apply a laser-like focus on the criminogenic factors that are proven to be linked to future delinquency and work to enhance those protective factors that act as a barrier against delinquent behavior. Pay attention to the youth's responsivity factors such as developmental age, gender, ethnic and cultural background and learning style.
4. Skill train with directed practice - Use behavioral and cognitive behavioral techniques for the medium and high risk delinquents who meet referral criteria. Train supervising agents in the practice of reinforcing

in the community and family the new skills the youth has learned in treatment groups.

5. Increase positive reinforcement - Utilize rewards and incentives to encourage prosocial attitudes and behavior. Seek to provide four positive affirmations for every disapproval message.
6. Engage ongoing support in natural communities - Strengthen the influence of the pro-social community in the juvenile's life and provide families with the ability to support the youth's efforts to learn pro-social values, attitudes, beliefs and skills.
7. Measure relevant processes and practices - Ensure that those who give direct service and treatment are given feedback as to the activities that contribute toward offender prosocial change and are delivering the program in the manner in which it was designed (the fidelity principle).
8. Provide measurement feedback - Use data to guide actions by evaluating programmatic outcomes and making adjustments in practices where warranted.

The Day to Day Application of these Principles

From a criminogenic risk perspective: The evidence is clear that low risk juveniles should be given the least amount of attention because they are already largely connected to a pro-social community and are likely to be self-correcting. Justice intervention beyond arrest and prosecution will likely only increase the likelihood of re-offense for this population. Medium and high risk youths are much more likely to positively respond to interventions if administered correctly. And, the intensity of the treatment program should be matched to the person's risk level, with higher dosage, length, and intensity applied to higher risk offenders.

Therefore, in terms of supervision and treatment, the juvenile justice system should:

- Use minimal intervention with the low risk juvenile. If necessary, probation staff should manage risk of reoffense but avoid a vigorous application of correctional intervention unless individual traits change so as to increase the youth's risk level. Interventions should be least restrictive in nature.
- Maximize accountability with the extremely high risk juvenile. Techniques to control the risk should be employed.
- Focus specifically on the medium and high risk juvenile. These youths' level of risk can be reduced through the application of appropriately matched services and supervision. Treatment resources should be reserved for this group of young persons.

JJSES AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES (continued)

From a criminogenic need perspective: Delinquent traits that are crime influencing and changeable should be targeted for intervention. Attention to non-criminogenic needs will not yield positive recidivism results and may even do harm. For this reason, supervision officers and treatment personnel should zero in on those areas that are truly criminogenic and can be positively influenced.

From a responsiveness perspective: Interventions should be closely matched to the unique qualities of the juvenile. The most effective interventions will create a match between the youth's traits, the characteristics of the program, and the counselor/facilitator's attributes.

Summary

The body of knowledge that serves as the foundation for evidence based practice in juvenile justice is both clear and convincing. Today, the challenge for juvenile justice policymakers and practitioners is not so much what should be done; the scientific research has shed much light on this question over the past two decades. Instead, the challenge for policymakers and practitioners today lies in transforming our current system of juvenile justice from one based solely on "officer experience" and "common sense" to one resting on a solid foundation of evidence-based research and practice.

John Herb Retires from CJJT&R

On Friday, March 22, 2013, John Herb retired from the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research after twenty-eight years of service to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and more than thirty years of service to Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System.

John began his employment with the Center in 1985 as a Community Service and Restitution Coordinator. Within a couple of years, John was appointed to the position of Director of Training for the JCJC/CJJT&R and continued to serve in this capacity until his retirement. Prior to joining the CJJT&R, John began his career in juvenile justice as a juvenile probation officer in Northumberland County. John was the Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Northumberland County when he left there and transplanted to Shippensburg in 1985.

John received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh. John was also a member of the first JCJC Graduate Education class, having earned his Masters in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg in 1984.

As Director of Training for more than two decades, John has been active on numerous committees and workgroups of the Juvenile Court Judge's Commission and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. John was instrumental in the development and implementation of numerous training initiatives and programs related to the statewide implementation of Balanced and Restorative Justice in the late 1990's and early 2000's. John has shown this same energy and commitment to the juvenile justice system up through his retirement by actively working to implement Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy and Evidence-Based Practices.

He looks forward to sharpening his golf game and spending more time with his family in retirement.



We wish John all the best!

SAVE THE DATE



Youth Awards Program & Dinner

Wednesday, November 6

Annual Training & Awards Program

Thursday, November 7

Resource Day 2013

Friday, November 8

The Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 6-8, 2013

at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers



The 2013 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will conclude by presenting Resource Day – 2013, during which representatives from residential programs, electronic monitoring companies, drug testing companies, and other service providers will be available 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.

Exhibitor Registration open in August:

www.jcjc.state.pa.us

Sponsored by

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

The Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges

2013 JCJC AWARDS PROGRAM

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission is pleased to announce the 2013 JCJC Awards Program which will include eight categories as well as the youth awards contest. Nomination packets for these categories were forwarded to all Pennsylvania juvenile court judges and chief juvenile probation officers and are available on the JCJC website www.jcjc.state.pa.us.

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 which provides community-based non-residential services to alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

COURT OPERATED PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

Honors a program operated by court employees which serve alleged and/or adjudicated 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. This individual does not need to be in a position that is entirely dedicated to victims of juvenile crime, but it should be a significant part of their position.

JUVENILE COURT SUPPORT SERVICE AWARD

Honors an individual who provides secretarial support services to the juvenile court. This includes receptionists, secretaries, clerk/typists, office managers or others functioning in a similar capacity.

JCJC MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Honors a volunteer who works with alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

Chief juvenile probation officers may nominate programs or employees for all of the previously listed 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 in the Program of the Year categories. Nominations must be postmarked by May 3, 2013.

JUVENILE PROBATION SUPERVISOR

Chief juvenile probation officers may nominate programs or employees for all of the previously listed 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 in the Program of the Year categories. Nominations must be postmarked by May 3, 2013.

YOUTH AWARDS

Additionally, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission will again sponsor a Youth Awards Program to honor youth selected as winners in the contests for Poster, Creative Written Expression, and Outstanding Achievement.

Nomination packets have been sent to juvenile court judges, chief juvenile probation officers and agencies currently serving delinquent youth in the juvenile justice system. The Awards Committee requests that all juvenile justice professionals encourage youth under their jurisdiction to participate in the contest. Youth Awards materials must be postmarked by May 3, 2013.

Thank you for your interest and support of the 2013 JCJC Awards Program. Please contact Keith A. Graybill at (717) 705-9006 or kgraybill@pa.gov if you have any questions or desire additional information.

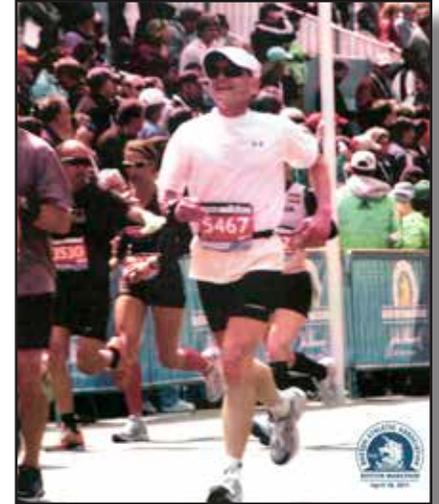
Michael J. Hodak Appointed Chief Probation Officer in Indiana County

The Honorable William J. Martin, President Judge of Indiana County, appointed Mr. Michael J. Hodak as the new Indiana County Chief Adult and Juvenile Probation Officer on September 26, 2012.

Chief Hodak, a native of Indiana County, graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1975 with a degree in Criminology. He served as an Indiana County Deputy Sheriff from 1977 to 1983. In 1983 he was appointed as an Adult Probation Officer, thus beginning a 30 year career with the Indiana County Probation Department. He served as an Adult Probation Supervisor from 1989 until his recent appointment as Chief Probation Officer of both the Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments. Mr. Hodak's goal is to draw on the strengths of the department and build a team of dedicated officers who work together to achieve their potential and the goals of the adult and juvenile justice systems.

Mr. Hodak is an avid runner and has participated in the Boston Marathon for the last two years. He has also qualified for the upcoming 2013 Boston Marathon. He regularly encourages others to pursue an interest that facilitates a healthy and active lifestyle. Mr. Hodak is quick to credit his wife of 23 years for the encouragement and assistance she provides in both his running and professional careers.

Chief Hodak looks forward to establishing relationships with other Chief Probation Officers throughout the state and taking advantage of leadership opportunities with the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. He can be reached at 724-465-3820 or mhodak@countyofindiana.org.



Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

The JCJC Spring Staff Development schedule is being updated regularly with more workshops. Please be sure that you check the listing frequently.

- **Barely legal: Quasi-legal substance abuse and their contrasting appeal and effects on the genders**
Days Inn State College - State College, PA
Instructor: Michael Nerney
4/9/2013 - 4/10/2013
- **Cultural Competence to Cultural Proficiency**
Days Inn State College - State College, PA
Instructor: Marilyn Stein
4/23/2013 - 4/24/2013
- **What Every Juvenile Probation Officer Should Know About Family Involvement**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center - Mechanicsburg, PA
Instructors: Bernadette Jones and Lynn Roman
4/17/2013 - 4/18/2013
- **Advanced Reading Workshop**
Days Inn State College - State College, PA
Instructor: Doug McGuire
4/24/2013 - 4/25/2013



Please remember, all the details on these and other sponsored workshops may be reviewed at any time by visiting www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us for regular updates to the schedule.

Hosting a training you would like to see listed here? E-mail us the details and we'll list it in our next issue.

Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation

HOSTS the

Victim/Community Awareness Training

ADVANCING ACCOUNTABILITY



A juvenile offender who commits a crime harms both the crime victim and the community and incurs an obligation to repair that harm to the greatest extent possible. Accountability goes beyond restitution or community service.

2 1/2 DAY TRAINING

FREE TRAINING

Topic: VICTIM/COMMUNITY AWARENESS:
An Impact of Crime Curriculum for Juvenile Offenders

Instructor: Valerie Bender, Restorative Justice Consultant

When: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 9-4pm
Thursday, April 18, 2013 9-4pm
Friday, April 19, 2013 9-12noon

Where: Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation
Twin Lakes Training/Conference Room
2771 South Grande Boulevard
Greensburg, PA 15601

Who Should Attend: Free at no cost to Juvenile Probation Officers, Service Providers, & Victim Advocates.

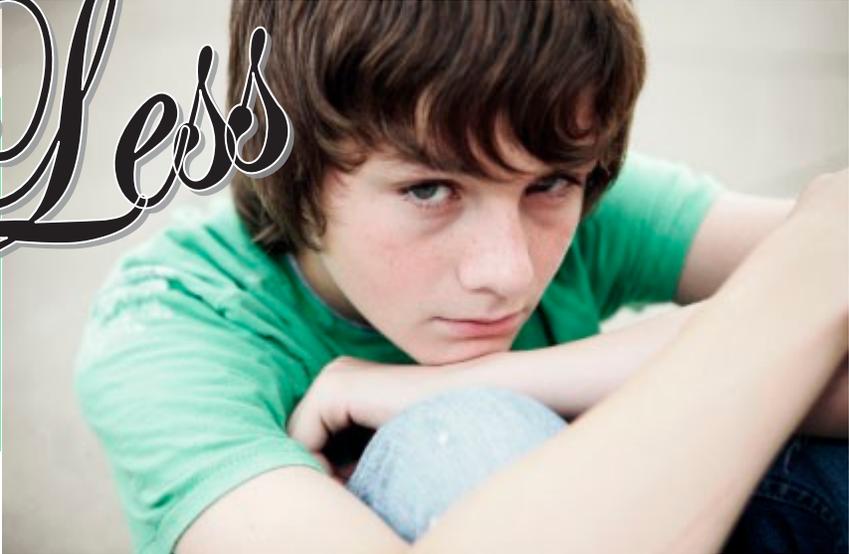
Training Objectives:

- ▶ Participants will develop skills to facilitate Victim/Community Awareness Classes.
- ▶ Participants will learn activities that hold juveniles accountable to their victims.
- ▶ Participants will be skilled in helping juvenile offenders understand the wrongfulness of their actions, the impact of the crime on the victim and community and their obligation to repair the harm.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP for the training by **April 8, 2013** by either emailing Denise Cope at dcope@co.westmoreland.pa.us or calling 724/ 830-4200, extension #4206.

Training Certificates and Act 48 hours will be available for participants.

Stress Less



April 26th 2013

9am to 3pm

PRESENTER:

Kristine Demnovich, BASW, MS
PTSD Project Coordinator
Westmoreland County
Juvenile Probation Officer II

If you are like many professionals you haven't had training on how to deal with stressors in your life!

Who Should Attend:

Any Professional Working within the Juvenile Justice Profession, public education, and/or social services agencies.

This fun Interactive training examine our stressors and create a plan for less stress in our lives!

As space is available, we will continue to accept registrations until the day before the training begins. A **\$20 registration fee** per participant should be mailed as soon as possible. If necessary, please cancel registrations via the email no later than 72 hours before the program in order to receive a refund/credit of registration fees.

The last minute substitution of personnel is perfectly acceptable. When registering, please enter the name of each registrant as it should appear on their certificate of completion.

Only checks or money orders accepted made to the order of Westmoreland County.

Please send payment to Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation, Attention Stacy Pastor 2771 S. Grande Blvd., Greensburg, PA 15601

Limited to 35 Participants per Training.

*Training will be held at
The Westmoreland County
Juvenile Services Center
2771 South Grande Blvd.
Greensburg, PA 15601*

Lunch on your own.

Act 48 Hours and/or Training Certificates

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

**April
21-27
2013**

New Challenges



New

Solutions



JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS
JUSTICE FOR ALL

Office for Victims of Crime
OVC



THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
Victims of Crime

www.VictimsofCrime.org

INVITATION to ATTEND

The 21st Annual Crime Victims' Rights Rally
and
Post Rally Special Session for Youth under Court Jurisdiction
Monday, April 22, 2013, 11:00 AM
Capitol Building, Harrisburg PA

We invite you to join us at the rally (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon) and then to attend a special session for youth under court jurisdiction. The youth special session will immediately follow the main rally (12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.). A pizza lunch will be provided for those attending the special session. The lunch is sponsored by the House Democratic Caucus.

What: **Crime Victims' Rights Rally and Post-Rally Event**

Where: **Capitol Building, Harrisburg PA**

When: **April 22, 2013**

Time: **Main Rally 11:00 A.M. Post Rally will immediately follow the main rally in Room 60 East**

Special note regarding the Post-Rally: The Post-Rally program will once again feature a crime victim speaker who will give youth further insight into crime through a question and answer session. This year we will have a guest speaker who lost her son in a drunken driving crash. Her message is particularly relevant to youth as they anticipate earning their driver's licenses.

Who Should Attend: Youth under court jurisdiction; Juvenile Probation Officers; Victim Advocates working in collaboration with Juvenile Probation Offices and interested others.

Special Session registration: There is no cost to attend the special session, but you MUST register with the Office of the Victim Advocate for the post rally special session for youth.

Please RSVP either by phone or email with the name of your county, contact information of the organizer, and how many participants will attend to:

Kayla Rumpilla

Phone: 800-563-6399 x1536

Email: KRumpilla@pa.gov

“Accept the challenges so you may feel the exhilaration of victory.”

(General George Patton)



SAVE THE DATE!

PAPPC

92nd ANNUAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

May 19-22, 2013

Sheraton Station Square

Pittsburgh



Sheraton

www.pappc.org

Position Announcement
JUVENILE JUSTICE PROJECT MANAGER
Prevention Research Center – Penn State University

The Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenter, www.episcenter.org), a project of the Prevention Research Center at Penn State, is accepting applications for a **Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project Manager** to direct the EPISCenter's work supporting the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy initiative (www.episcenter.org/juvenilejustice).

Specifically the Project Manager will oversee the statewide rollout of the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP), an initiative to apply evidence from meta-analysis to strengthen and improve programs and services for juvenile offenders in Pennsylvania. The SPEP involves collecting detailed descriptive and administrative information from youth programs and services used by county juvenile probation departments, rating those programs and services based on their predicted effectiveness at preventing recidivism, and developing a program improvement plan to strengthen the service. The Project Manager will be involved both in providing these services directly and in supervising a group of staff and consultants supporting this work, as well as networking with other states involved with the SPEP and juvenile justice system improvement efforts.

Applicants should have a background in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system, preferably as a juvenile probation officer or provider of delinquency services, and possess excellent communication (written and oral), project/task management, time management, attention to detail, and problem solving skills. Applicants should also have a solid basic understanding of social science and program evaluation research methods. A Master's Degree in a relevant field, with specific coursework or experience in experimental research methods is *preferred*. The successful applicant must be able to work independently and with little supervision, take initiative, and effectively manage others in a team environment. For the successful candidate, academic transcripts and three strong references with letters of recommendation will be requested prior to employment. Per university personnel policy, the successful candidate will be required to pass a child abuse and criminal background check.

The position will be based either at the EPISCenter's State College/University Park offices, or at a satellite office in Harrisburg, and will require frequent travel throughout Pennsylvania.

This is a full-time, 12-month position with full University benefits. The position is grant-funded with excellent possibility for annual renewal based on satisfactory performance. Screening of candidates will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Interested applicants should submit their resume and cover letter, including their salary history for the past 5 years, via email to: juvenilejustice@episcenter.org. Please include **Project Manager** in the subject line of the email. NOTE: Do not include transcripts or recommendation letters at this time – these will be requested after the initial interview process.

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its workforce.



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Reno, NV

Site Liaison, Assistant Juvenile and Family Law Programs Child Abuse and Neglect

Salary Range: \$48,000 – \$55,000 per annum, DOE
FLSA Status: Exempt

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), a non-profit organization headquartered in Reno, NV, pursues a mission to improve courts and systems' practice and raise awareness of the core issues that touch the lives of many of our nation's children and families. A leader in continuing education opportunities, research, publication development, technical assistance, and policy development in the field of juvenile and family justice, the NCJFCJ is unique in providing practice-based resources to jurisdictions and communities nationwide.

NCJFCJ values staff who are independent, creative, tenacious, resourceful, dependable, and passionate about their work. NCJFCJ staff work collaboratively in a team setting, both internally and interdepartmentally, to achieve this mission.

A position of Model Court **Site Liaison, Assistant**, is currently available. The focus of this position is to serve as a liaison to the national Child Victims Act Model Courts and to support the development of other potential model court jurisdictions. The Site Liaison will be required to build a knowledge base around projects that focus on improving court practice in child abuse and neglect cases; implement the principles of collaboration among court, agencies, and community; and have experience and knowledge in the juvenile justice and dependency systems.

The Site Liaison will be responsible for guiding program activities and meeting grant deliverables under the direct supervision of the Model Courts Program Manager. Responsibilities will include meeting planning and implementation; report writing; regular and ongoing communication with assigned Model Courts, including lead judges and Model Court team members; provision of assistance to assigned Model Courts, including site visits, trainings, and response to various technical assistance requests; and work with other NCJFCJ programs' staff to coordinate project efforts and technical assistance. This position will work as a member of the broader Model Court team, as well as perform collaborative planning and decision-making with other staff and projects.

The minimum requirements for this position include:

- Bachelor's degree and at least four years of experience in law, psychology, sociology, social work, organizational behavior, juvenile justice, family or domestic violence, or child welfare; or an equivalent combination of education and experience in a relevant field; advanced degree is preferred
- Computer literacy
- Excellent communication skills, follow-through, diplomacy, and the ability to create and maintain efficient working relationships with co-workers, judges, child welfare professionals, community stakeholders, and allied professionals
- Evening/weekend/holiday/overtime work and extensive travel is required

The successful candidate for this position must:

- Exhibit a high degree of professionalism and skill in interacting with project principals and colleagues, as well as members of the judiciary and other professionals
- Possess independent thinking and analytical skills
- Work collaboratively with a dynamic professional team



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Reno, NV

Policy Analyst, Senior

Juvenile and Family Law Programs
Family Violence and Domestic Relations

Salary Range: \$47,925 – \$71,900 per annum, DOE
FLSA Status: Exempt

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), a non-profit organization headquartered in Reno, NV, pursues a mission to improve courts and systems' practice and raise awareness of the core issues that touch the lives of many of our nation's children and families. A leader in continuing education opportunities, research, publication development, technical assistance, and policy development in the field of juvenile and family justice, the NCJFCJ is unique in providing practice-based resources to jurisdictions and communities nationwide.

NCJFCJ values staff who are independent, creative, tenacious, resourceful, dependable, and passionate about their work. NCJFCJ staff work collaboratively in a team setting, both internally and interdepartmentally, to achieve this mission.

A position of **Senior Policy Analyst** is currently available in the Family Violence and Domestic Relations (FVDR) program. This position requires previous experience in responding to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment, domestic violence policy, and practice advocacy in the child protection system. The minimum requirements for this position include:

- A degree from an accredited four-year college or university
- At least five years' experience in providing providing child protection or child welfare services, domestic violence, or juvenile/family law-related field
- Demonstrated understanding of policy development processes in relation to the co-occurrence of domestic violence of domestic violence and child maltreatment, domestic violence, and child welfare fields
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team setting and process-oriented environment as well as work independently to initiate, organize, and follow tasks to completion
- The ability to work cooperatively with staff, partner organizations, child welfare agencies, domestic violence advocacy groups, the judiciary, and FVDR advisory committees and groups
- Demonstrated ability to write grants and complete grant requirements in a timely manner
- Familiarity with budget management

This position has a strong emphasis on critical thinking, analytical ability, writing policy briefs and papers, providing in-depth technical assistance and training on the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment and related submit matter, and working collaboratively with partners and system representatives. Applicants must have strong organizational skills with both a broad vision and attention to detail, comprehensive computer skills, and a willingness and ability to travel nationwide. Occasional lifting up to 50 lbs. may be required.



National Juvenile Justice Announcements

The following announcements are reprinted from JUVJUST, an OJJDP news service:

OJJDP Announces Funding Opportunities

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has announced the following fiscal year 2013 funding opportunities:

[National Mentoring Programs](#). This program supports the implementation, delivery, and enhancement of mentoring services to improve outcomes for at-risk, high-risk, or underserved youth. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on April 29, 2013.

[Multi-State Mentoring Initiative](#). This solicitation will support qualified, established mentoring programs as they expand services for underserved at-risk and high-risk youth and enhance services to implement additional research- and evidence-based mentoring practices. Applications are due by April 30, 2013.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has announced the following fiscal year 2013 funding opportunities:

[Community-Based Violence Prevention Demonstration Program](#). This program provides funding for localities to support federal, state, and local partnerships to replicate proven multidisciplinary, community-based strategies to reduce violence. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on April 22, 2013.

[Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Program](#). This program supports training and technical assistance that helps states, state and local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments develop, maintain, and enhance drug courts for substance-abusing adults who are involved with the family court because of child abuse and/or neglect issues. Applications are due by May 6, 2013.

Resources:

Visit OJJDP's [Funding](#) page for more information about these solicitations and other current funding opportunities.

OVC Video Series Addresses Children's Exposure to Violence

The [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) has released "[Through Our Eyes: Children, Violence, and Trauma](#)," an online video series to address the needs of children exposed to violence and victimization. The series includes a public awareness video in which victims discuss the effects of the violence and trauma they experienced; and three topic-specific videos detailing evidence-based treatment, child advocacy strategies, and community-based approaches to help those affected.



Resources:

Access additional [OVC resources](#) for responding to child and youth victimization.

Access [publications](#) in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency's National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence series.

Learn more about the Attorney General's [Defending Childhood Initiative](#), launched in 2010 to unify the Justice Department's efforts to mitigate children's exposure to violence under one initiative.

NIJ Announces Funding for Research on Children Exposed to Violence

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has announced the fiscal year 2013 [Research and Evaluation on Children Exposed to Violence](#) funding opportunity. NIJ will fund research and evaluation related to childhood exposure to violence, specifically addressing polyvictimization, harassment through electronic media, resilience and risk factors, and justice system responses to affected children. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on May 20, 2013.

Resources:

Visit NIJ's [funding](#) page for more information about this solicitation and other current funding opportunities.

NIJ Announces Funding Opportunity for Analysis of Existing Data

The [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ), together with the [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) and the [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#), has announced the [Data Resources Program 2013: Funding for Analysis of Existing Data](#) funding opportunity. This solicitation seeks original research using existing data available from the [National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#) (NACJD) and other public sources. OJJDP priority will be given to proposals using OJJDP-funded data sets.

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on May 30, 2013.

Resources:

Visit NIJ's [funding](#) page for more information about this solicitation and other current funding opportunities.

New Reports on Juvenile Justice Reform Released

Three key reports that examine recent developments in juvenile justice reform were recently released:

[“Juvenile Justice Reform in Connecticut: How Collaboration and Commitment Have Improved Public Safety and Outcomes for Youth,”](#) by the Justice Policy Institute, describes and draws lessons from Connecticut's juvenile justice reform success, which includes raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction from 15 years old to 18 years old, evidence-based treatment programs for youth, and improved conditions in juvenile facilities.

[“Reducing Youth Incarceration in the United States,”](#) by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, examines the recent decline in youth confinement and suggests ways to both reduce incarceration and help young people who are involved in the justice system.

[“Raising the Age of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction,”](#) by the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, recommends that Illinois expand the jurisdiction of its juvenile courts to include 17-year-olds charged with felonies.

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on May 30, 2013.

Resources:

View and download “Juvenile Justice Reform in Connecticut: How Collaboration and Commitment Improved Outcomes” [online](#).

View and download “Reducing Youth Incarceration in the United States” [online](#).

View and download “Raising the Age of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction” [online](#).

[Read](#) about the OJJDP and MacArthur Foundation private-public partnership to support [Models for Change](#), a national juvenile justice reform initiative.

OJJDP Welcomes Administrator Robert Listenbee, Jr.

On March 25, 2013, Robert L. Listenbee, Jr., JD assumed the role of Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Mr. Listenbee, a graduate of Harvard University and the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, is a highly respected public defender and juvenile justice system reformer.



In 2011, Mr. Listenbee was appointed to the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, which advises the President, Congress, and the OJJDP Administrator on juvenile justice policy. As co-chair of the Attorney General's [National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence](#), Mr. Listenbee was instrumental in the development of recently released recommendations for a [national response](#) to address children's exposure to violence.

Mr. Listenbee served on several committees, including the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, which advises the governor on juvenile justice policy.

Before joining OJJDP, Mr. Listenbee was a trial lawyer at the Defender Association of Philadelphia for 27 years and chief of the Juvenile Unit for 16 years. In 2011, the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change initiative [honored](#) Mr. Listenbee with a Champion for Change award for his contributions to juvenile justice reform in Pennsylvania.

Resources:

Read the [announcement](#) from the White House.

Read Robert Listenbee's full [bio](#).

OJJDP Releases Survey Data on Juveniles in Residential Placement

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, through the [National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#), has released the [Survey of Youth in Residential Placement \(SYRP\) 2003](#). SYRP collects data from youth in the juvenile justice system ages 10-20. The survey asked youth about their backgrounds, offense histories, experiences in the confinement facility, their use of alcohol and drugs, their medical needs and the services they received, and any experiences of victimization in placement.

SYRP joins the OJJDP-sponsored Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) and the Juvenile Residential Facility Census (JRFC) for updated statistics on youth in the juvenile justice system.

Resources:

View the [SYRP](#) home page to learn more about the survey and what is required to access the data.

Download data from the CJRP and JRFC [online](#).

OJJDP Announces Funding Opportunities

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has announced the following fiscal year 2013 funding opportunities:



[Model Programs Guide](#). Funding is available to develop and expand content for [OJJDP's Model Programs Guide](#) (MPG), an online resource for practitioners and policymakers of more than 200 evidence-based juvenile justice intervention and prevention programs and practices. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on May 20, 2013.

[National Intertribal Youth Leadership Development Initiative](#). OJJDP is seeking applicants to plan and implement an initiative to enhance tribal efforts to increase youth engagement, coordination, and action related to juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and public safety in Indian country. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on May 20, 2013.

Resources:

Visit OJJDP's [funding](#) page for more information about this solicitation and other current funding opportunities.

Webinar To Discuss Partnerships To Prevent Sexual Abuse in Youth Detention

On April 11, 2013, at 2 p.m. ET, [Just Detention International](#) (JDI),



in conjunction with the [Office on Violence Against Women](#), will present "[Connections: Working Together To Stop Sexual Abuse in Youth Detention](#)." This 90-minute Webinar will focus on ways that community advocates and corrections officials can collaborate to address sexual abuse of youth in detention facilities. Presenters will discuss new opportunities for services that the Prison Rape Elimination Act [standards for juvenile facilities afford](#), changes that juvenile corrections have made in their approach to sexual abuse, and examples of successful community-corrections partnerships.

Resources:

Registration information is available [online](#).

This is the second Webinar in a series from JDI. Access presentation materials for the first Webinar "[One in Eight: The Reality of Sexual Abuse in Youth Detention](#)."

Visit the [National PREA Resource Center](#), a central repository for information, best practices, and research on preventing and responding to prison rape.

Today's Challenges...
Tomorrow's Opportunities

2013 PCCYFS ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel
April 10-11, 2013

[Click here for more information](#)

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.

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