

PENNSYLVANIA

Juvenile Justice

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Corbett, Governor



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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County Youth Commission Benefits Touted

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BY: [Matt Hutchinson](#) | October 11, 2012

[http://sungazette.com/page/content.detail/id/584359/
County-Youth-Commission-benefits-touted.html?nav=5011](http://sungazette.com/page/content.detail/id/584359/County-Youth-Commission-benefits-touted.html?nav=5011)

Before juvenile offenders face probation officers and county judges, an alternative option exists for minors who break the law.

That option is the Lycoming County Youth Commission - a volunteer program begun in the mid-1980s by former Lycoming County Judge Thomas C. Raup that aims to stop juvenile delinquency before it destroys the lives of young offenders.

County judges, attorneys, local law enforcement and commission volunteers got an update from Ed Robbins, chief county juvenile probation officer, about the program Wednesday evening at the Lycoming County Courthouse.

Robbins thanked volunteers who help run the local commissions, three of which are in the city and one each in Montoursville, South Williamsport, Muncy, Loyalsock, DuBoistown and Jersey Shore.

Juveniles who commit misdemeanor or summary offenses are referred to the program from arresting police departments, schools, district judges, nonprofit service agencies and the court.

Judge Richard A. Gray told the audience he prefers handling juvenile matters because it's "one of the few areas where I think I might be able to change something."

"If properly and promptly handled, most first-time juvenile offenders will learn from their mistakes and not become involved in more serious or repeated offenses," the commission's planning document states.

Robbins said the Lycoming County Youth Commission saves taxpayers money by keeping minor infractions out of the court system and makes an impact on the lives of young offenders.

He said the program helps keep troubled kids out of possible jail time and away from older offenders with a longer criminal history.

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"Why not get them to a program that's more hands-on?" Robbins said.

Hearings - which are limited to those who have admitted their guilt for the offense - are held by commission volunteers. The juvenile offender and their parents talk with members to determine details of the incident and craft a course of action.

Offenders often are assigned a mentor to whom they must check in. Community service hours, curfews and nominal fees can be imposed

In Jersey Shore, Charles Rhinehart, commission chairman, said the success rate is near 80 percent for those who come through the program.

Rhinehart, along with Tiadaghton Valley Regional Police Department Officers Brian Fioretti and Sgt. Nathan DeRemer, held a mock hearing involving an actual case that recently was brought to the Jersey Shore commission.



CJJT&R and PACADV present



Assessing and Addressing Domestic and Dating Violence with Juvenile Offenders

A FREE training for juvenile probation professionals

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Child Welfare Competency Based Training Center in Mechanicsburg, PA

9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

This training was developed in partnership with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence to assist probation officers in understanding the dynamics of domestic and dating violence with juvenile offenders.

Domestic violence is often a risk factor in the lives of youthful offenders regardless of whether it is the charge that brings them before the court. Professionals need to understand the overt and hidden ways domestic and other forms of violence affect juvenile offenders.

At the end of this training participants will be able to:

- Describe the importance of considering whether domestic or dating violence is present in the juvenile's life;
- Recognize whether domestic or dating violence has impacted the juvenile offender and;
- Identify treatment strategies for a juvenile offender who has been affected by domestic or dating violence.

To register for this training visit the Staff Development Schedule of the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at www.jcjems.state.pa.us

This training is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

There is no cost for this training.

2011 Balanced and Restorative Justice Survey

- Preliminary Results -

This is the first of several articles which will serve to convey the results of the recent survey research on the implementation of balanced and restorative justice in Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System. The Balanced and Restorative Justice Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers would like to thank all Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and their staff for the time devoted to completing the survey. Also, recognition goes to Lanette Hutchison from the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research for completing this academic research project during her final year of study towards her social work degree at Shippensburg University.

In 1995, Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act radically changed with the passage of Act 33 under the administration of Governor Tom Ridge. Act 33 amended the Juvenile Act to provide that, consistent with the protection of the public interest, the purpose of the Juvenile Act is "to provide for children committing delinquent acts programs of supervision, care and rehabilitation which provide balanced attention to the protection of the community, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed and the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community." These amendments to the Juvenile Act essentially redefined the purpose of juvenile justice intervention in Pennsylvania and are based on principles that envision new roles in the juvenile justice process for victims of the juvenile crime, for juvenile offenders, and for the community.

Since the passage of Act 33, the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (Chief's Council) and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), has taken lead responsibility for orchestrating the implementation of the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice within the 67 county juvenile justice systems of the Commonwealth. In 2000, PCCD awarded funding enabling the Chiefs' Council to partner with the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) to begin work to document both statewide and local planning and development efforts, and measure outcomes of the balanced and restorative justice initiative in Pennsylvania. One method utilized for documenting the progress of Pennsylvania's statewide implementation initiative was to periodically survey the 67 Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. The original survey was conducted in March 2000 by Douglas Thomas,

Research Associate at the NCJJ, based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The recent Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) survey identifies how Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) programs and practices have been implemented in the sixty-seven juvenile probation departments within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This was accomplished by conducting a survey of the Chief Juvenile Probation Officers of each county juvenile probation department.

This survey focuses more specifically on three areas, Restorative Justice Practices, Victims Services, and Competency Development, in an effort to identify if the three principles of community protection, offender accountability, and competency development are being met within the Commonwealth's juvenile courts. Documenting the progress of BARJ efforts is critical for the provision of research, ongoing training and technical assistance, and funding for program development and ongoing implementation.

Sample

Of the sixty-seven Pennsylvania juvenile probation departments surveyed, sixty-seven responded to the survey (100%).

Overview of Findings

Balanced and Restorative Justice Practices

All sixty-seven of the counties completing the survey have implemented Community Service in their balanced and restorative justice practices followed by Family Group Decision Making (n=54, 81%), Community Groups (n=44, 66%), Restitution Fund (n=44, 66%), Victim Awareness Training (n=43, 64%) and Restitution

Programs (n=41, 61%). Of the 43 counties that are providing Victim Awareness Training, thirty-three (49%) are using the PA Curriculum entitled "Victim Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum for Juvenile Offenders". (It should be noted that 30% or 10 counties did not answer the question regarding the use of the PA Victim Awareness Curriculum)

Fourteen (21%) of all counties provide opportunities for Victim-Offender Mediation and/or Restorative Group Conferencing and twenty-three (34%) offer Youth Aid Panels.

Five counties reported that they desired Victim Impact Panels and nine (13%) reported desiring Restorative Group Conferences or Victim Offender Mediation. The least implemented program within the counties were Circles (n=4, 6%)

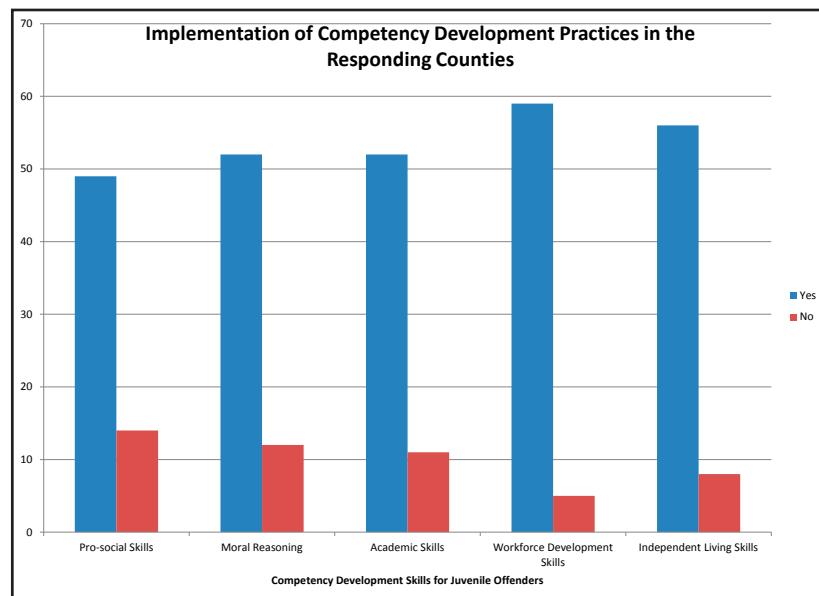
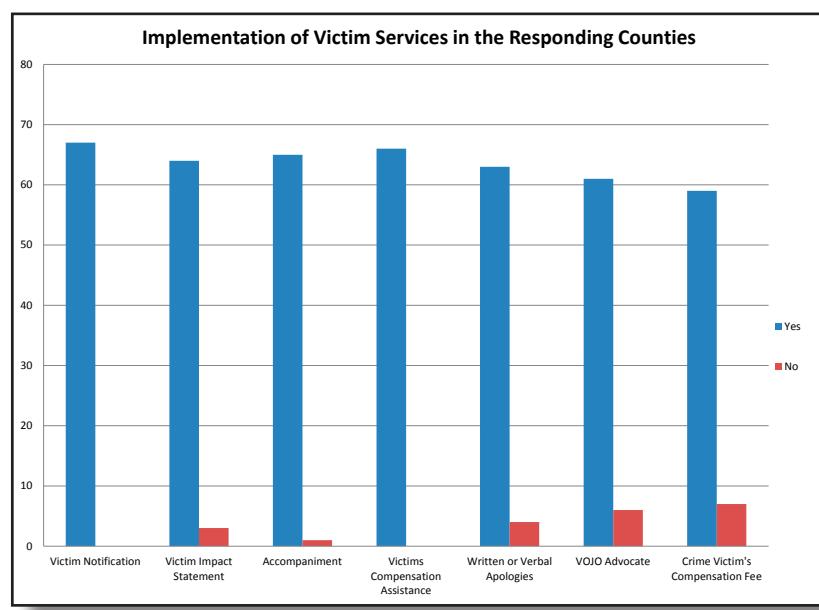
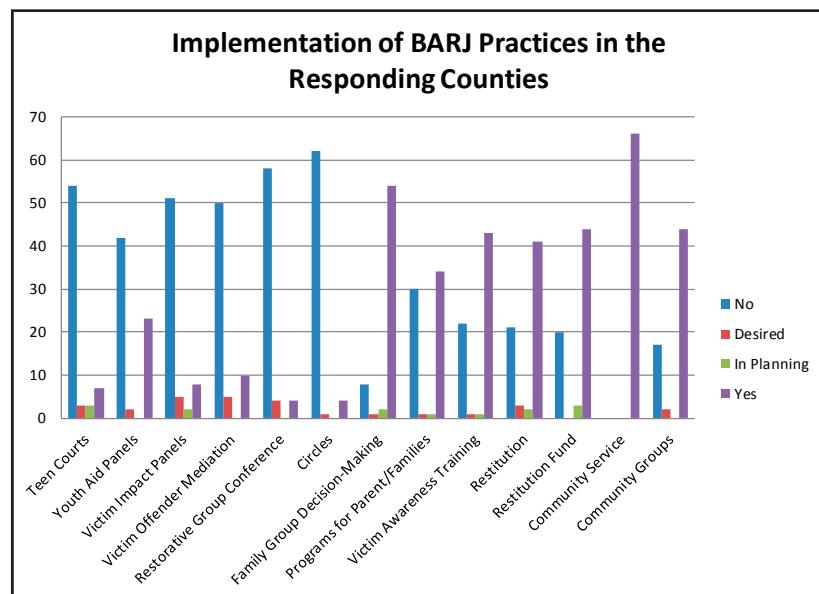
Three counties reported that a Teen Court program was in the planning stage within their county and two counties reported a Victim Impact Panel was in the planning stage.

Services for Victims

Pennsylvania counties rate high in providing the basic rights of crime victims. All sixty-seven counties report offering Victim Notification, while sixty-six counties (99%) offer Victim's Compensation Assistance, sixty-four (96%) offer Victim Impact Statements, sixty-five (97%) offer Accompaniment, and sixty-one (91%) employ a Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO) Advocate. Sixty-three (94%) reported the use of Written or Verbal Apologies.

Competency Development

The findings show that Competency Development is widely used in all counties, with 88% using at least one of these programs. Workforce Development was the most frequently used Competency Development skill for juvenile offenders (n=59, 88%), followed by Independent Living (n=56, 84%) and Moral Reasoning (n=52, 78%). Academic Skills (n=52, 78%) and Pro-social Skills (n=49, 73%) are provided in many cases as well. It should be noted that an average of three respondents did not answer all the questions pertaining to Competency Development.



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 14 of a series: "JJSES Building Blocks"

Family Involvement

The recognition of the importance of families in achieving successful outcomes for youth is not a new revelation by any means. The critical role that families play in achieving Pennsylvania's balanced and restorative mission is recognized in "Balanced and Restorative Justice: A New Mission and Changing Roles within the Juvenile Justice System" (1997) and "Guiding Principles" (1998) which were adopted by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee and set forth the philosophical principles and goals of the system. The challenge has been in taking these principles and goals and transforming them into effective relationships and partnerships between the agencies in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system and families at individual case, program and policy levels.

Clearly, parents and caregivers play a crucial role in facilitating adolescents' development and their transition to adulthood. It is not surprising that the research on the role of family participation in programming confirms its importance for youth delinquency outcomes.¹ Programs that work closely with the youth's families such as Multisystemic Therapy (MST), Functional Family Therapy (FFT), and Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC) can have reconviction rates up to 18 percent lower than institutional placement.

² And, keeping youth close to their families during placement gives them opportunities to repair and renew relationships and practice skills for addressing challenges they may face upon release. This practice of maintaining close proximity to home life brings about better effects on recidivism³. In another study on the Family Solutions Program which provides family based

interventions for youth involved in the justice system and their families, researchers found that probation youths involved in the program were many times less likely to re-offend than those who did not enter or who dropped out⁴.

More recent efforts to improve family involvement within Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system grew out of the vision articulated in the Mental Health/Juvenile Justice Joint Policy Statement developed in conjunction with Pennsylvania Models for Change initiative. The Family Involvement Committee of the Mental Health/Juvenile Justice Workgroup commissioned a series of focus groups to gain the perspectives of a wide variety of stakeholders. Sixteen focus groups, representing the ethnic, cultural, economic, and geographic diversity of the Commonwealth, were conducted during 2008-2009 that involved youth, parents, juvenile court judges, juvenile probation officers, district attorneys, juvenile defenders, adolescent psychologists and psychiatrists, a wide range of service providers, and others.

A monograph entitled "Family Involvement in Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System" captured the results from these focus group discussions and was a focus of The 2009 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice. Four common themes emerged consistently across the focus groups:

- Families need access to effective early prevention and intervention services.
- Respect, as a core operational principle, should be the basis for all interactions between families and system partners.

- Opportunities should exist for family involvement in the development of local juvenile court policy and practice.
- Statewide law and policy should be examined to eliminate barriers and increase capacity for effective family involvement.

The Balanced and Restorative Justice Implementation Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers created a Family Involvement

Committee to sustain this critically important work. The Family Involvement Committee created “A Family Guide to the Pennsylvania Justice System” dedicated to helping families understand Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system and access needed information and supports. Additionally, the Family Involvement Committee developed a training curriculum for juvenile justice professionals designed to enhance family involvement through Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system.

¹ Mendel, Dick *The Missouri Method: How One State Revolutionized the Art of Rehabilitating Youthful Offenders and What Your State Can Do to Replicate its Success* (Annie E. Casey Foundation); and Dick Mendel, *Small is Beautiful: Missouri Shows the Way on Juvenile Corrections* (Annie E. Casey Foundation, Spring 2003). Antonis Katsiyannis, and Tarea Archwamety, “Factors Related to Recidivism Among Delinquent Youths in a State Correctional Facility,” *Journal of Child and Family Studies* 6, no. 1 (1997): 51.

² Elizabeth K. Drake, Steve Aos, and Marna G. Miller, “Evidence based Public Policy Options to Reduce Crime and Criminal Justice Costs: Implications in Washington State,” *Victims and Offenders* 4 (2009): 170-196, p. 186.

³ Theresa A. Hughes, “Juvenile Delinquent Rehabilitation: Placement of Juveniles Beyond Their Communities as a Detriment to Inner City Youths,” *New England Law Review* 36, no. 1 (2008): 162, quoting Panel on Juvenile Crime: Prevention, Treatment, and Control, *Juvenile Crime Juvenile Justice*, edited by Joan McCord et al., 2001.4

⁴ Quinn, William H., and David J. Van Dyke. 2004. “A Multiple-Family Group Intervention for First-Time Juvenile Offenders: Comparisons With Probation and Dropouts on Recidivism.” *Journal of Community Psychology* 32(2):177–200.

Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

As we near the end of the Center’s fall 2012 training schedule, there are three workshops that we urge you to give consideration to attending. Also, as we approach the half-year point in the fiscal year, you may realize that you, or staff who you supervise, are falling short in meeting the 40-hour minimum annual training requirement.

All information on workshops and locations can be reviewed on the Staff Development website www.jcjems.state.pa.us.



We invite you to consider some upcoming trainings around the state.

The following trainings and their links are sponsored by the indicated agency.

November

- 11/14 Firearms/Weapon Safety and Survival Skills for Juvenile Probation Officers [CJJT&R](#)
- 11/14-15 Firearms/Weapon Safety and Survival Skills for Juvenile Probation Officers [CJJT&R](#)

11/29-30 Identifying, Understanding and Supervising the Juvenile Offender with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Reaction, and Related Mental Health

[CJJT&R](#)

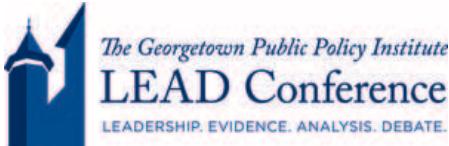
December

- 12/13 Assessing and Addressing Domestic Violence and Dating Violence with Juvenile Offenders [CJJT&R](#)

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

Registration Now OPEN for Georgetown Conference on At-Risk Children and Youth

Georgetown University, the Georgetown Public Policy Institute (GPPI), and the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the inaugural **Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference** (Leadership. Evidence. Analysis. Debate.):



Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform

January 24-25, 2013

Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center, Washington, D.C.

REGISTER NOW

Discount for early registration ends November 16, 2012

The Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference is an annual national event that brings together experts and key stakeholders to examine a particular policy challenge and discuss potential solutions. CJJR has been selected as the first GPPI research center to be highlighted at this year's inaugural event, which will invite attendees to explore the following issues related to at-risk children and youth:

- *What do children and youth need to develop into healthy, happy, and productive individuals?*
- *When children or youth are abused, drop out of school, commit a crime, or suffer from mental and behavioral health problems, what interventions can help them get back on the path towards positive life outcomes?*
- *What are the necessary systemic changes that can help improve outcomes for at-risk children and youth?*

This two-day conference will address these questions and more by presenting policies and practices that can be brought together in a comprehensive way to support the healthy development of this vulnerable population.

We encourage anyone who is interested in improving the outcomes for at-risk children and youth to attend. Policymakers, practitioners, researchers, foundation representatives, students, teachers, community leaders, and more will all benefit from this opportunity to hear from leading experts, network with other professionals, and participate as a part of an ongoing national dialogue.

Given your connection to CJJR, we are giving you the opportunity to register early. The conference will be marketed more broadly in approximately one week, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure a spot. For additional information and to **REGISTER NOW**, please visit the conference website at <http://gppi.georgetown.edu/leadconference>. Inquiries may be directed to leadconference@georgetown.edu.

NOTE: Proof of participation will be made available to those attendees wishing to apply for continuing education credit with their state or licensing entity.

Confirmed speakers include:



Sonja Sohn

Founder and CEO,
 ReWired for Change

Actress (*The Wire*,
Body of Proof, *Slam*)

- **Tim Decker**, Director, Missouri Division of Youth Services
- **Mark Greenberg**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Administration for Children and Families - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **J. David Hawkins**, Endowed Professor of Prevention, University of Washington; Founding Director, Social Development Research Group - University of Washington
- **Chet Hewitt**, President and CEO, Sierra Health Foundation
- **Edward Montgomery**, Dean, Georgetown Public Policy Institute
- **Karen Pittman**, Executive Director, Forum for Youth Investment
- **David Sanders**, Vice President, Casey Family Programs
- **Amy Wilkins**, Vice President, The Education Trust

*A full list of confirmed speakers is available at:
<http://gppi.georgetown.edu/leadconference/speakers/>*

Victim Becomes A Volunteer Facilitator for Victim-Offender Conferencing

by Mark Fuhrer

On a Monday morning in January 2011, I arrived at work to find that the side of the building had been sprayed with graffiti. My reaction included feeling both angry and violated in being the recipient of this unprovoked act of vandalism. I called the police and they came out and took down the information along with pictures and other data. Further, they asked for an estimate of damages and advised that it would be a long shot in the prospect of catching the culprit(s).

Surprisingly, about a month later I got a call from the police officer to tell me that they had not only caught the perpetrator (a juvenile), but that he also confessed. Some days later the police officer got back to me and gave me two options in proceeding. Number 1 was entering the juvenile in the formal system and entering charges. The second option, which he recommended and encouraged me to consider, was based on the fact that the kid was sorry and seemed like he had made a mistake and was a first time offender. This alternative was to allow the local Youth Aid Panel to intervene and provide a solution that was both fair to all parties through informal probation, community service and restitution. At this point, I have to say that I reluctantly went along with the Youth Aid Panel Program. I say reluctantly because I didn't know much about YAPs and didn't want the kid to get off without "punishment." Yet a bigger part of me was open to giving it a try in view of what was seemingly a mistake and first offense. Sometime later I got a call from a representative of the Youth Aid Panel and she

told me their ruling which included community service and restitution along with LAVORP (now called the Center for Community Peacemaking – CCP). She told me that someone from the Center for Community Peacemaking would be calling me to tell me about their program regarding victims and offenders.

As a "victim," a week or so later, I got a call from Mike Gallagher, the volunteer facilitator from CPP, and ultimately met with him to discuss Restorative Justice and the reconciliation process. He told me that the process was about Addressing the Harm, and ultimately Making It Right and Building Trust. I was impressed by his passion and explanation with what I thought was common sense and a good way of resolving the issues including my questions, an apology from the youth, restitution and the ability to come face to face in a safe place, with the willing offender. Further, he said that we could possibly help the kid in going forward and getting this unfortunate incident behind us. As a result of the meeting, I agreed to participate in a Victim/Offender Conference (VOC) where we would meet, discuss what happened, have the ability to ask questions, express the impact on me and the likelihood that we would be reimbursed for our out of pocket costs to repair the graffiti.

When the day came nearer for the VOC, James Wheeler (also a VOC facilitator) called to tell me that the VOC was still on, but that Mike had a family emergency and would not be attending. Thus, he would be the substitute. At the appointed time I

arrived at the Community Center and engaged in a process as facilitated by James. He was very professional, organized and had done his homework. The offender spoke first and told about what happened and why it happened. In fact he had befriended an older juvenile and followed his lead. When he was finished, I was given the opportunity to ask questions and tell the offender how this impacted me and the company along with outlining our costs to fix the graffiti. In the end, our costs were reimbursed along with being impressed with the honesty of the youth and his courage in addressing me face to face.

After the meeting, I talked to James about the Center for Community Peacemaking as he encouraged me to express my interest in possibly becoming a volunteer facilitator like himself. Further he expressed the merits of the organization and the good work that they were doing for victims, offenders and the community alike.

When I filled out the questionnaire with feedback about the process, I expressed my interest and ultimately met with Jon Singer, Executive Director CCP, to gain more information. For me, the more I learned the more I was intrigued and impressed with how Restorative Justice works and how it can positively affect outcomes of bad situations. Further, it seemed like a way to help kids who had made mistakes, wanted to apologize and address the harm that they had done.

With that, I am proud to say that I graduated from Facilitator Training which included 28 hours over two

JDCAP Conference

The Juvenile Detention Centers' Association of Pennsylvania (JDCAP) hosted the annual Youth At-Risk conference at the Marriott City Center in Pittsburgh from October 2-5, 2012.

The conference, themed "New Systems: Repurposing Juvenile Justice" was attended by participants from a variety of juvenile justice agencies, as well as some from the PA Department of Corrections and Penn State University. Conference courses were limited this year in an attempt to offer sessions that provided more in-depth training. In addition to a 2½ day training for trainers on Motivational Interviewing, sessions covered topics including: Human Trafficking; Security Threat Groups; Interviewing and Detecting Deception; Designer Drugs: A juvenile in crisis; and Introduction to Psychotropic Medication and Medication Management for Youth. In addition, Reverend Grayson provided attendees with a very moving closing session.

This year's Awards Banquet included the recognition of the large number of individuals who have dedicated years of service to youth and their community. All JDCAP facility employees exceeding ten years of service received individual recognition awards. Additionally, JDCAP



recognized the following individuals for their outstanding service and achievement:

- **Rookie Staff of the Year:** Bret Thiel - Montgomery County Youth Center
- **Staff Person of the Year:** Susan Dorrin - Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center
- **Educator of the Year:** Joseph Vilcheck - Shuman Juvenile Detention Center
- **Nurse of the Year:** Monica Walton, LPN - PrimeCare Medical Inc., Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center
- **Distinguished Service Award Within the Field of Juvenile Detention:** Errol Nelson - Shuman Juvenile Detention Center
- **Distinguished Service Award Outside the Field of Juvenile Detention:** Chaplain Joel Bare, Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center
- **Program of the Year:** Living Forward: Understanding & Overcoming Trauma - Shuman Juvenile Detention Center
- **Special Event of the Year:** New Beginnings - Chester County

The Montgomery County Youth Center was recognized for their accomplishments and support to the association with the President's

Award. Brandon F., a Lancaster County youth, was the winner of the annual poetry contest. As the winner, Brandon received a one hundred dollar savings bond for his entry.

Elections for the offices of President and Vice President took place during the Board meeting immediately preceding the conference. William "Jack" Simmons (Allegheny County – Shuman Juvenile Detention Center) was elected President; Drew Fredericks (Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center) was elected Vice President. These elections left the Treasurer and Secretary positions vacant. Rob Monzon, Abraxas Academy was appointed to fill the Treasurer position and David Zikoski was appointed to fill the Secretary position pending a formal election which will be held at the next Board meeting.

JDCAP will be hosting a Juvenile Justice Conference in September 2013 at the Penn Stater, State College, PA. At this time, JDCAP would like to offer sessions focused on efforts to offer evidence-based interventions. Please let [Wayne Bear](#) know if you have any suggested session topics for the upcoming conference.

Victim-Offender Conferencing Continued

weekends and one weeknight. This training was a first rate endeavor that included not only participatory lectures, but also role playing with experienced facilitators. The training material is designed to be used in the

real world and will be a superb tool. The staff of CCP did an exceptional job in addressing all areas and situations that we might encounter with an assurance that they were there to help when we got stuck. And now,

more than ever I am totally convinced that Restorative Justice and CCP is a path to creating a better community.

(Printed with permission of CCP)



National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

New Issue of NJJEC Bulletin Now Available

The [National Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center](#) (NJJEC), funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, has released the September 2012 issue of its newsletter, the [NJJEC Bulletin](#). This issue includes articles on risk assessment and screening tools, anecdotal evidence to supplement collected data, Arkansas' juvenile justice reform, and NJJEC activities and upcoming events.



The issue is available [online](#).

Resources:

[Learn more](#) about NJJEC [publications](#) and [resources](#).

Publication Offers Best Practices for Serving Victimized and Traumatized Children

The [Safe Start Center](#) has released "Victimization and Trauma Experienced by Children and Youth: Implications for Legal Advocates," a 16-page brief that examines the prevalence and impact of child victimization and exposure to violence. The [publication](#) also covers trauma-related stress symptoms, assessments, and treatments; offers practice tips for judges, attorneys, and court-appointed special advocates; and provides guidance for advancing policy to support trauma-informed practice.

Resources:

Learn about the Attorney General's [Defending Childhood Initiative](#).

Access additional [publications](#) and [resources](#) from the [Safe Start Center](#).

[Read](#) the results of the OJJDP-sponsored National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence.



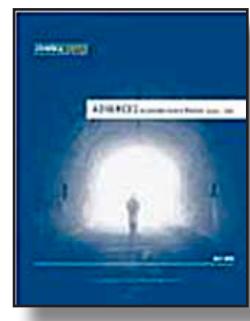
Report Highlights Progress in Juvenile Justice Reforms

The [National Juvenile Justice Network](#) (NJJN), with funding from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's [Models for Change](#) initiative, has released "[Advances in Juvenile Justice Reform](#)." The report documents advances and reforms in juvenile justice across the country between 2009 and 2011 in 24 policy areas, including closing and downsizing facilities, reducing the recidivism rate, stemming the school-to-prison pipeline, and addressing juveniles involved in the adult justice system.

Resources:

Browse the online edition by [state](#) and by [issue](#).

[Learn more](#) about NJJN.



OJJDP Training and Technical Assistance Provider Directory Available

OJJDP has released the September 2012 edition of the [OJJDP NTTAC Training and Technical Assistance Provider Directory](#). The online directory describes each of OJJDP's 40 training and technical assistance providers and the nearly 60 projects they manage nationwide and the services they provide.

The directory is available [online](#).

Resources:

[Learn more](#) about the OJJDP National Training and Technical Assistance Center.

Online Training and Resources Available for Mentors

OJJDP's National Training and Technical Assistance Center now [links](#) to mentoring [training and resources](#) on [The Center for the Advancement of Mentoring](#) Web site. These resources, developed to assist OJJDP mentoring grantees, include a training series on how to mentor young people involved in the juvenile justice or foster care systems or at risk for gang involvement.

Resources:

[Learn more](#) about OJJDP's National Training and Technical Assistance Center.

Access additional mentoring resources on OJJDP's [mentoring resources page](#).

OJJDP Bulletin Discusses Community Supervision of Underage Drinkers

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released, "[Community Supervision of Underage Drinkers](#)".

The authors provide a theoretical overview on which to base policies, procedures, and practices that will help professionals—and their corresponding agencies—effectively supervise underage drinkers in the community. They also discuss the legal issues that professionals may encounter when working with these youth.

This bulletin is part of OJJDP's Underage Drinking [series](#), which underscores the dangers of underage drinking and provides guidelines to assist communities in developing treatment and prevention programs.

Resources:

View and download "[Community Supervision of Underage Drinkers](#)" (NCJ 237147).



OJJDP Releases Fact Sheets on Delinquency Cases in Juvenile and Criminal Courts

The [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) has released three fact sheets on delinquency cases in juvenile and criminal courts:

[Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 2009](#) presents statistics on delinquency cases that U.S. courts with juvenile jurisdiction processed for public order, person, and property offenses and drug law violations between 1985 and 2009.

[Delinquency Cases Waived to Criminal Court, 2009](#) presents statistics on petitioned delinquency cases waived to criminal court between 1985 and 2009.

[Juvenile Delinquency Probation Caseload, 2009](#) presents statistics on delinquency cases resulting in probation between 1985 and 2009.

Resources:

These fact sheets are derived from the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) report, [Juvenile Court Statistics 2009](#).

See OJJDP's [Statistical Briefing Book](#) for additional information on juvenile courts case processing.



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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