

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Wolf, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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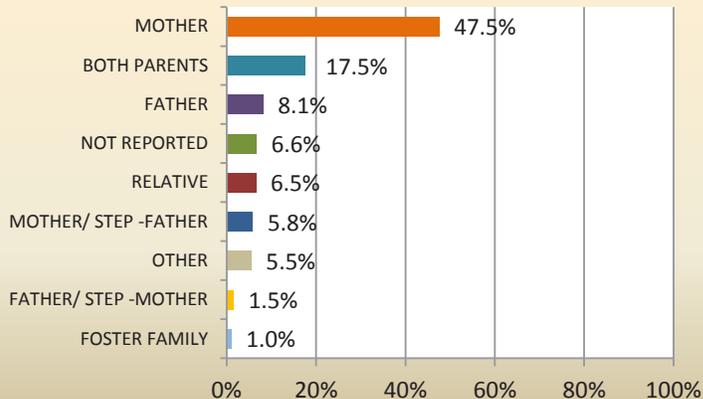
Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Dispositions

Juvenile Demographics

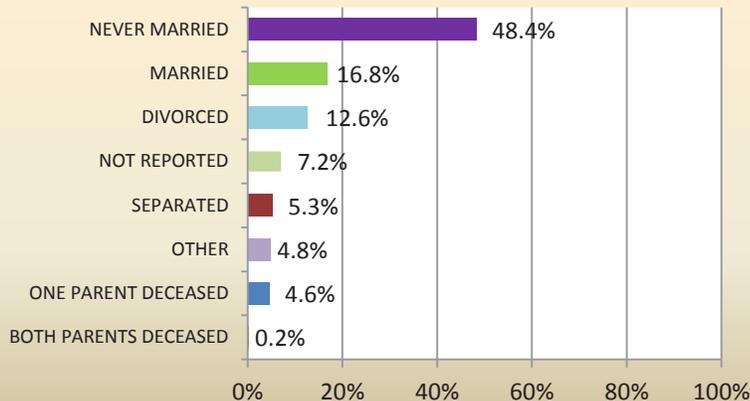
As we wrap up the series of newsletter highlights on the 2013 Dispositions Report, this issue examines the demographics of juveniles active with Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice in 2013.

In juvenile delinquency dispositions, youth whose biological parents were reported as Never Married represents the largest percentage of youth – more than 48%. In only 16.8% of cases, the biological parents were reported as Married at the time of disposition. In 2013, 47.5% of youth resided only with their mother, while only 17.5% of juveniles resided with both biological parents.

Living Arrangement 2013



Family Status 2013

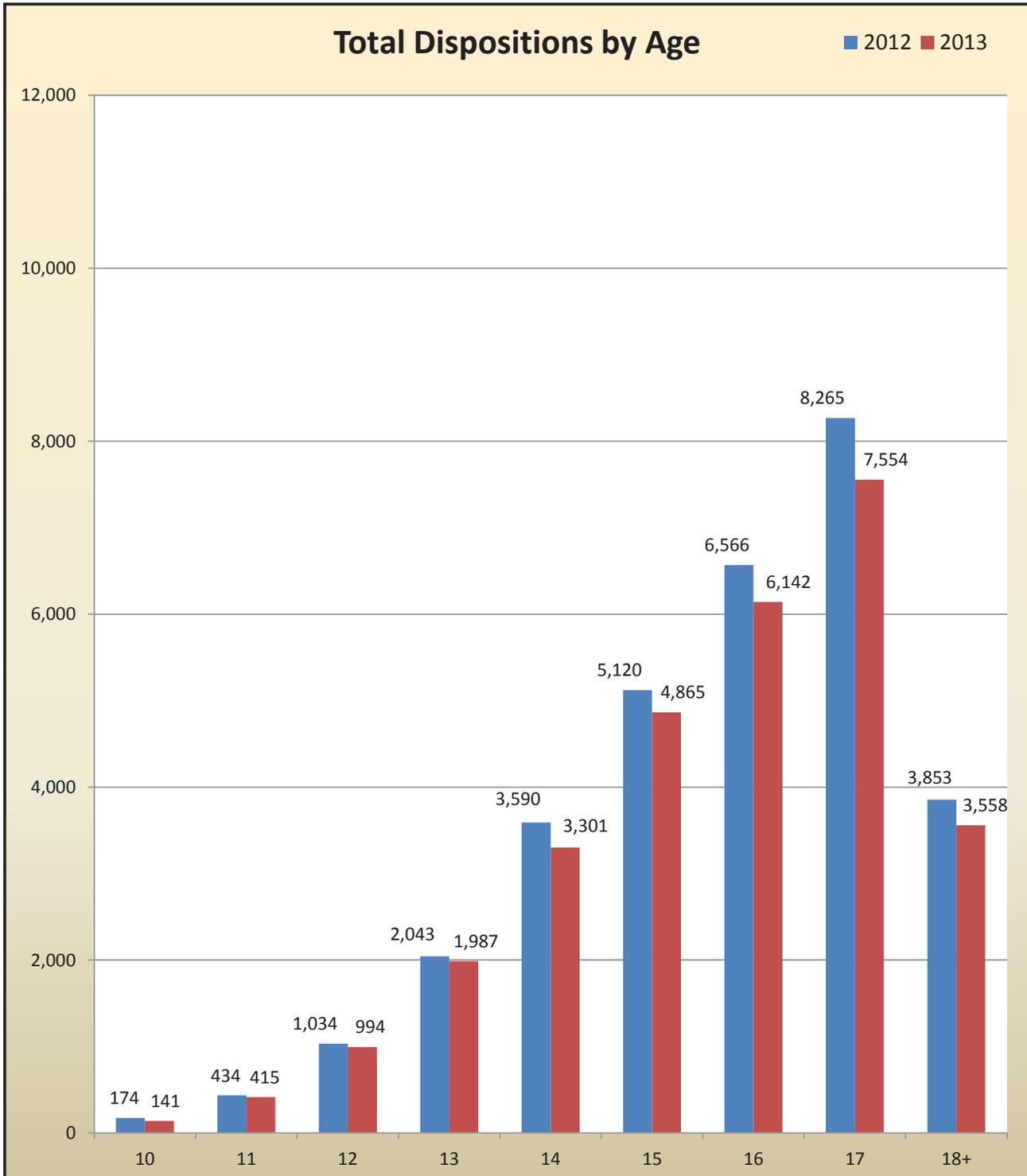


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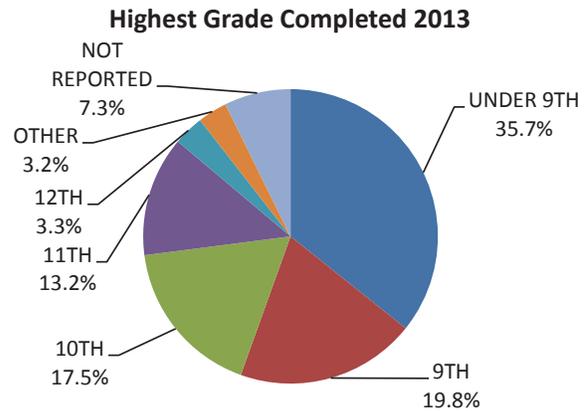
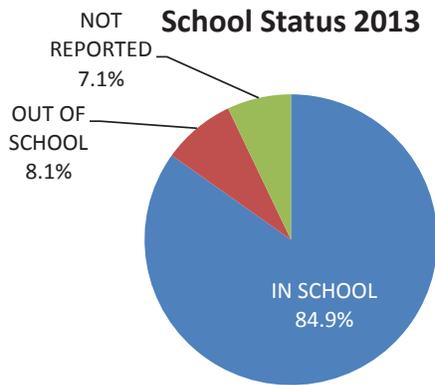
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Juvenile Court dispositions in Pennsylvania continue to primarily involve males. While the number of total dispositions decreased from 2012 to 2013, in both years the distribution of dispositions by gender was 74.3% males and 25.7% females.

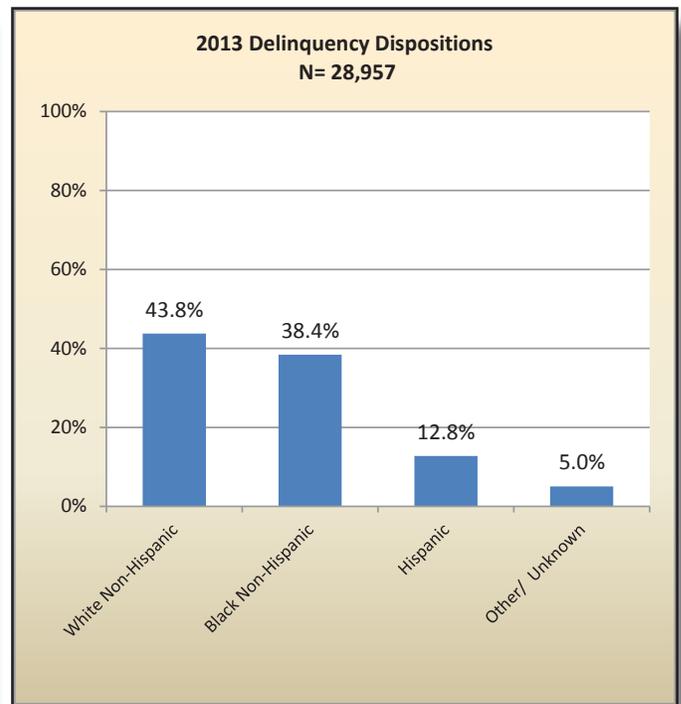
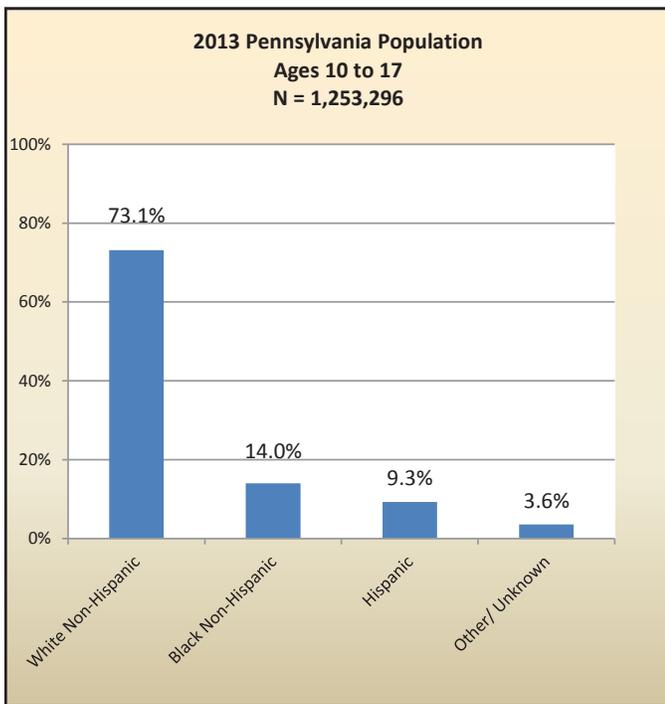
Seventeen-year olds accounted for 7,554 (26.1%) of all juvenile delinquency dispositions in 2013, representing the most dispositions for any age group. Juveniles who were age 16 accounted for 6,142 (21.2%), while juveniles who were age 15 accounted for 4,865 (16.8%) of the dispositions. This data remains consistent with that of 2012, in which seventeen year olds accounted for 26.6%, sixteen year olds accounted for 21.1% and fifteen year olds accounted for 16.5% of juvenile delinquency dispositions. All age groups decreased in the number of dispositions from 2012 to 2013.



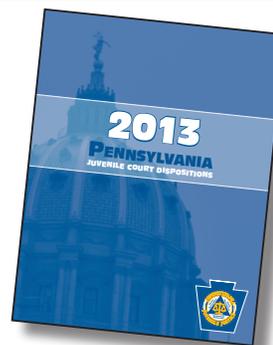
For the majority (84.9%) of delinquency dispositions in 2013 the youth was reported as “In School” at the time of disposition. Fifty-seven percent of youth were reported as having completed grades 9, 10, 11 or 12 or as being in an “Other” educational program.



In 2013, White Non-Hispanic youth represented the largest racial/ethnic category for all delinquency dispositions. However, in comparison to the racial/ethnic distribution of all youth in Pennsylvania, ages 10-17, the representation of Black Non-Hispanic youth is disproportionate: 14.0% of the population versus 38.4% of all dispositions. When excluding Philadelphia and Allegheny County, Black Non-Hispanic youth represent 8% of the youth population, but 26.3% of all delinquency dispositions. Please see Appendix 23 in the 2013 Disposition Report for the number of delinquency dispositions by race and ethnicity for each county.



County-specific data on alleged and substantiated offenses are contained within the appendices of the [2013 Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Dispositions Report](#).





Motivational Interviewing Implementation And Practice Manual Available

The Motivational Interviewing (MI) Committee of the JJSES Leadership Team is excited to announce the release of the [Motivational Interviewing Implementation and Practice Manual](#). The manual contains a detailed explanation of the protocol for implementing and sustaining MI in a juvenile probation department, as well as an extensive appendix of MI related resource material (sample policies, sample coding and release forms, articles, and training tools). The structured design of the manual provides a strategy to achieve consistency in the practice of MI in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system and promote sustainability. The manual can be located on the [JCJC website](#), as well as the website of the [Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers](#).

JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2018

Looking to advance in Juvenile Justice?

Applications are now being accepted for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University. Members of the class of 2018 will begin classes in the Summer of 2016.

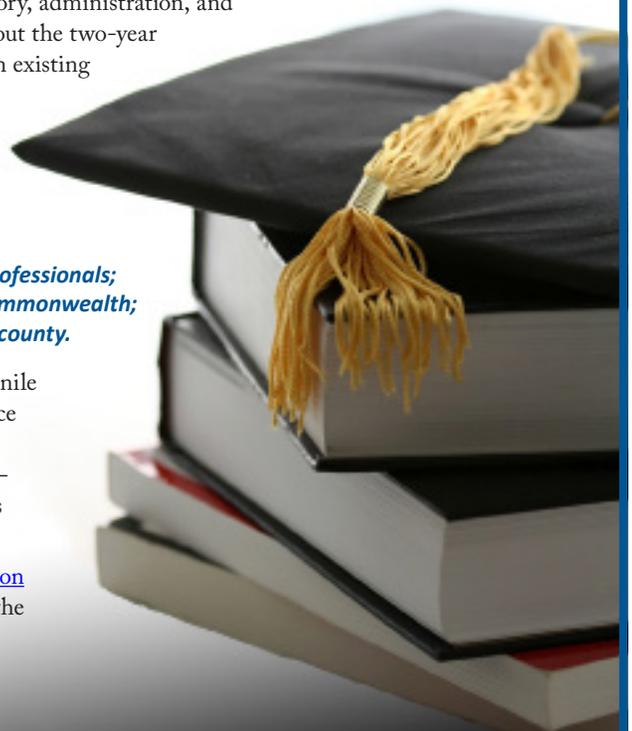
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the two-year program. This practicum study provides students the opportunity to evaluate an existing program or practice that serves juvenile offenders in their home county.

What are the benefits of the JCJC Graduate Education Program?

- ***Free tuition;***
- ***Free lodging on class weekends;***
- ***No weekday or evening classes;***
- ***A Master's curriculum specifically tailored to working juvenile justice professionals;***
- ***Networking with other juvenile justice professionals from across the Commonwealth;***
- ***Opportunity to learn how to evaluate juvenile justice programs in your county.***

This program is available to county juvenile probation officers – and county juvenile detention staff – who will have at least two years of post-baccalaureate experience in the juvenile justice field prior to the start of classes. Other juvenile justice professionals – such as residential placement staff and victim services providers – may also apply and be accepted into the program on a “self-pay” basis as space is available.

Additional information about the program is available on the [Graduate Education](#) pages at www.jcjc.state.pa.us. If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact [Kelly Waltman-Spreha](#) at 717-477-1185.



WHITE PAPER ADDRESSES THE INTEGRATION OF RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AND BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS

A white paper entitled, *“Integrating Bullying Prevention and Restorative Practices in Schools: Considerations for Practitioners and Policy-makers”* was published in October 2014 and is now available for distribution. This paper was produced through the funding support of the Highmark Foundation. The work was further supported by the Center for Safe Schools and Clemson’s Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life.

Many educators and prevention advocates believe restorative practices are a promising approach to addressing school violence, including bullying issues. As such, the Center for Safe Schools convened the Pennsylvania Bullying Prevention and Restorative Practices Workgroup. The workgroup convened numerous times between May 2012 to May 2014, and included educators, mental health practitioners, experts in bullying prevention, and experts in restorative practices from nationally recognized programs and agencies. Workgroup participants concluded that there are potential benefits associated with linking bullying prevention programs and restorative practices; however, face-to-face meetings between bullying offenders and targets should be approached with caution, sensitivity and care.

The paper provides definitions for “bullying” and describes the problems that affect youth as a result of bullying behaviors. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported that bullying is associated with distress and can cause “physical, psychological, social, or educational harm.” The white paper also identifies best practices in bullying prevention in schools noting the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) which has been designated as an Evidence-Based Blueprint Program.

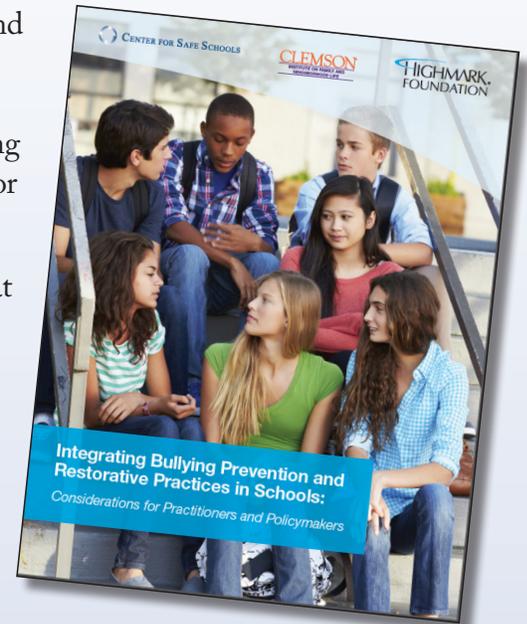
Restorative Practices are defined as “a set of diverse ideas and approaches used to build healthy communities, increase social capital, repair harm and restore relationships.” Restorative practices focus on addressing the harm caused by the incident and building

community and relationships, rather than simply utilizing punishment for the “offense”.

There are great opportunities and specific cautions outlined in the document for those who are considering

the integration of bullying prevention and restorative practices. Face-to-face meetings with those who have been bullied and those who bully must be conducted with great care and preparation with emphasis placed on ensuring it is a safe process for all participants.

There continues to be a need for additional research on the integration of bullying prevention and restorative practices in schools. However, the white paper is an important first step in the effort to advance best practices in this area. The white paper is available for download at <http://www.safeschools.info/content/BPRPWhitePaper2014.pdf>



2015 JCJC AWARDS PROGRAM

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission is pleased to announce the 2015 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.

Juvenile Probation Supervisor — any individual who supervises other employees, but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, as of the date of the nomination letter's postmark. This category includes all Deputy Chiefs, Assistant Directors, Supervisors, and others functioning in a similar capacity.

Juvenile Probation Officer — any individual who is employed as a Juvenile Probation Officer, but who is not a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer or Juvenile Probation Supervisor, as of the date of the nomination letter's postmark.

Meritorious Service Award — any individual not receiving remuneration for working with at risk, alleged and/or delinquent children. This individual is a volunteer committed to furthering the development of youth in the juvenile justice system.

Residential Program — any public or private sector program serving alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth in a residential setting. This includes foster homes, group homes, residential treatment programs, general child care facilities, shelter care facilities, detention centers, independent living programs, and other programs providing out-of-home, overnight care to children. *Previous award winners are eligible for nomination beginning in 2015.*

Community-Based Program — any public or private sector program, not operated by the Court, which provides community-based, non-residential care to alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth, including but not limited to, day treatment programs, in-home services, Boys and Girls Clubs, and out-patient services.

Juvenile Court Support Service Award — any individual who provides clerical, secretarial, management, information technology or other support services to the Juvenile Court. This includes receptionists, secretaries, clerk/typists, information technology specialists, office managers, and others functioning in a similar support capacity.

Victim Advocate Award — any individual who works on behalf of crime victims as a Victim Advocate in a district attorney's office, juvenile probation department, 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.

Court Operated Program — any program operated by court employees which serves alleged and/or adjudicated delinquent youth.

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 10, 2015.

Thank you for your interest and support of the 2015 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.

Crime Victims Speak at the 23rd Annual Crime Victims' Rights Rally

Pennsylvania's 23rd Annual Crime Victims' Rights Rally was held on Monday, April 20, 2015 in the Capitol Rotunda. Held in conjunction with National Crime Victim Rights Week, the theme of this year's rally was *Engaging Communities, Empowering Victims*. The rally is held to illuminate Pennsylvania's progress in victim rights, and honor victims, survivors and the advocates who work with them.



Rally participants were able to hear from a variety of powerful speakers. Monica Iskric from the Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research gave opening and closing remarks. Pennsylvania's Victim Advocate, Jennifer Storm addressed participants on the needs of a diverse and underserved victim population. Natalie Parkinson, a mother who lost her daughter in 2007 in a DUI related crash, and Erica Clark, a victim of sexual assault both shared their experiences and the impact that crime had on their lives. Charlene Sciarretta, who lost her son to a heroin overdose, spoke about the effects of drugs on our communities. Cumberland County District

Attorney, David Freed, informed the crowd on the need to engage our communities on behalf of the crime victim.

The Rally Committee was honored to have a huge turnout at this year's event. In fact, a victim survivor from western Pennsylvania rented a 56 passenger bus in order to transport participants to the rally. Several police officers from Philadelphia

attended to support their fallen officers, and many others were present to show support for loved ones they have lost.

Twelve victim service/advocacy organizations participated in the Rally by

offering information on their agencies, as well as the services they provide. The Silent Witness Project displayed powerful images regarding victimization. Youth from Loysville Youth Development Center helped to set up and tear down the various tables and displays enabling them to earn community service hours as they learned more about the impact of crime.

After the rally, the Commonwealth's Office of the Victim Advocate held a meeting to provide advocates, allies and survivors the opportunity to network, and have discussion on emerging issues and challenges. This

meeting was held in the East Wing of the Capitol.

The annual Victims' Rights Rally reveals the unique partnerships that can and have been developed to unit victim assistance stakeholders with justice professionals to support victims/survivors of crime in our communities.

The Silent Witness Project:

The Silent Witnesses Project was present at the rally. The goal of the Silent Witness Project is to use powerful imagery to eliminate domestic violence murders in the United States. The exhibit began in Minnesota in 1990. The project originally included 26 free-standing, life-sized, red, wooden silhouettes which display the names of women who have been killed by a husband, partner or acquaintance. Later, a 27th silhouette was added to represent the women whose murders were mistakenly reported as accidental, or were left unsolved. The 27th silhouette was 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.

The members of the Crime Victims Alliance are grateful for the support of everyone who helped make the rally a success. We look forward to another successful rally next year. Anyone who is interested in participating in the Crime Victims' Rights Rally Committee please contact Monica Iskric at msiskr@ship.edu for more information.

CJIT&R Position Announcements

Application Developer

The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJIT&R) is currently accepting applicants for the position of Application Developer. The annual starting salary for this position is \$55,000 and includes a comprehensive benefits package. Appointments above the starting salary may be considered, and will be commensurate with the candidate's education, work experience and salary history. This position is contingent upon available annual grant funding.

Please see the full posting of job duties and required skills for this position on the home page of the [JCJC website](#). Candidates must submit a cover letter, transcripts, and resume to Monica Iskrick, Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299 or msiskr@ship.edu. Please contact Mike Tan, CJIT&R Senior Applications Developer, dtan@pa.gov or (717) 477-1445, if you have any questions or desire additional information.

Spread the Word-Youth Who Aged Out Of Foster Care are Eligible for Medicaid Until Age 26!

There is a little known, but incredibly important provision of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that provides free health insurance for former foster youth. These young adults are eligible for Medicaid until the age 26 regardless of their income, as long as they were in foster care at age 18 or older and enrolled in Medicaid at that time. It is estimated that well over 6,000 young adults in Pennsylvania may be eligible for this coverage, but only about 900 are enrolled. This is troubling since many former foster youth have health care needs and are very unlikely to have health insurance as young adults.

May is Foster Care Month. What better time to help foster youth get the vital health care that all young

people need. Click on this link <http://www.jlc.org/coveredtil26PA> to obtain new materials developed by the Juvenile Law Center that you can use to help reach out and inform both current and former foster youth and to help educate your colleagues on the provision so that more eligible young adults can get insured.

Click here to view a 30 second Public Service Announcement: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnjOrEX2xnk&feature=youtu.be>.

If you have any questions or want more information, please contact Jenny Pokempner at the Juvenile Law Center at: jpokempner@jlc.org

Leonard R. Hahn Appointed Chief in Huntingdon County



On February 15, 2015, Huntingdon County President Judge, the Honorable George N. Zanic appointed Mr. Leonard Hahn Chief Probation Officer in Huntingdon County. Mr. Hahn replaced long time Huntingdon County Chief Probation Officer, Timothy Guisler, who retired at the end of 2014. In his new role Mr. Hahn will oversee both the Juvenile and Adult Probation Departments in Huntingdon County.

Mr. Hahn received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Lycoming College in 1994. He then started his probation and parole career with the Huntingdon County Probation Department on October 23, 1995 as an Adult Probation Officer. He was the institutional officer who supervised all offenders sentenced to a period of incarceration in the Huntingdon County Jail and was in charge of the work release program. On June 7, 1999, Mr. Hahn transferred to a dual adult and juvenile position within the department, and continued in

this position until his recent appointment to Chief.

Mr. Hahn earned his Master of Science in Administration of Justice from the JCJC sponsored graduate education program at Shippensburg University in August of 2003. Mr. Hahn has been employed as a DUI Instructor and CRN evaluator for the Huntingdon County Safe Driving Program since 2013. We wish Mr. Hahn continued success in his new position.

Pike County's Chief Probation Officer - Jeffrey Angradi



Mr. Jeffrey Angradi was appointed Pike County's Chief Probation Officer on March 16, 2015 following the retirement of Mr. Edward Joyce. Mr. Angradi began working with the Pike County Probation Department as a Probation Officer in July of 1988. He was appointed Deputy Chief in 1998. Mr. Angradi's experience is broad as he oversees both Juvenile and Adult Probation, as well as Domestic Relations.

Mr. Angradi received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science with a Concentration in Criminal Justice from East Stroudsburg University in 1988. Mr. Angradi is quick to commend former Chief Probation Officer and mentor, Edward J. Joyce, Jr., for his invaluable guidance over the past 25 years and said he hopes to continue to serve the Court with dignity, dedication, and the same fidelity as his predecessor.

Dawn Schantz Selected as Motivational Interviewing Consultant

The Motivational Interviewing Committee of the JJSES Leadership Team is excited to announce Dawn Schantz as Pennsylvania's Motivational Interviewing Consultant. In this position, Ms. Schantz will work under the direction of the Motivational Interviewing Committee to oversee the design, organization and coordination of the implementation of motivational interviewing practice in local jurisdictions across the Commonwealth. Ms. Schantz will be responsible for the maintenance and dissemination of the State's Motivational Interviewing Implementation Manual, which was developed to ensure the consistent implementation of motivational interviewing at the local level. Ms. Schantz will also be responsible for the coordination and delivery of motivational interviewing training, and for providing on going technical assistance to juvenile probation departments regarding training, practice and sustainability issues.



This position was made possible by funding secured through the collaborative efforts of the JJSES Leadership Team, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to support the ongoing implementation of the JJSES Framework.

Ms. Schantz brings over thirty years of juvenile justice system experience to the position. She began her career in 1981 as a community-based counselor at Community Commitment, Inc. Dawn served as a Juvenile Probation officer in Lehigh County from 1982 to 1987. Dawn held several different human services related positions from 1987 to 1993. In 1993, Dawn accepted a Juvenile Probation Officer position in Northampton County.

While employed in Northampton County, Dawn provided extensive training around JJSES related activities at both the state and local level. Dawn is a trainer for the Four Core Competencies, Carey Guides/BITS and Family Involvement Curricula. Dawn is also a seasoned YLS Master Trainer, and in this capacity, has provided master trainer certification and re-certification training to the majority of the counties in the Commonwealth.

Dawn holds both a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice from Moravian College and a Masters Degree in Restorative Practices and Youth Counseling from the International Institute for Restorative Practices. In accepting this position, Ms. Schantz notes, "I love seeing the value of MI move from concept and into valuable practice that is beneficial to both POs and youth and families we serve. MI is the common denominator in all JJSES stages and curricula. I am excited to promote and offer assistance to counties to implement and sustain motivational interviewing." For more information about how Ms. Schantz can provide support and assistance around motivational interviewing implementation and sustainability, please do not hesitate to contact her at (484) 571-7405, or dbschantz@gmail.com, or Leo Lutz, Director of Policy and Program Development at the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission at (717) 705-2290 or Lelutz@pa.gov.

Staff Development Opportunities

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

- **Addiction and Motivational Interviewing**
Days Inn State College
Marilyn Stein
5/7-8/2015
- **Responsivity and Pre-Contemplative Primer Training**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Mark Carey
5/8/2015
- **Case Plan Webinar - NON JCMS Counties**
5/11/2015
- **Case Plan Webinar - JCMS Counties**
5/11/2015
- **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and the Juvenile Justice System**
Days Inn State College
Gary Lewis
5/19/2015
- **Core Competencies for Supervisors**
Days Inn State College
Dawn Schantz, Angela Work
5/27-28/2015
- **Advanced Reading Workshop**
Days Inn State College
Doug McGuire
6/3-4/2015
- **YLS Master Trainer Recertification**
Days Inn State College
Assessment/ Case Plan Committee
6/17-18/2015
- **Heroin and Other Narcotics**
Days Inn State College
Bruce Schaffer
6/18-19/2015
- **YLS Master Trainer Recertification**
Days Inn State College
Assessment/ Case Plan Committee
8/5-6/2015
- **Darker Side of Technology**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
James Dill
8/19/2015
- **Prescription Drug Abuse**
Days Inn State College
Dr. Paul Martin, D.O.
8/27-28/2015
- **Cognitive Behavioral Training**
Days Inn State College
Mark Carey
9/10/2015
- **YLS Master Trainer Recertification**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Assessment/ Case Plan Committee
9/30 - 10/1/2015
- **Gangs**
Days Inn State College
Bruce Schaffer
10/14-15/2015
- **Responsivity and Pre-Contemplative Primer Training**
Days Inn State College
Mark Carey
10/21/2015
- **Ultimate Educator**
Holiday Inn Harrisburg East
Anne Seymour
10/28-29/2015

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.

Motivational Interviewing Coaches Forum Held

Motivation, momentum and movement were all present at the 1st Annual Motivational Interviewing Forum held in State College April 8-9, 2015. The forum, led by members of the MI committee and Marilyn Stein of MGS Consulting, was designed to support MI coaches throughout the State in discussing implementation successes and challenges. A total of 17 counties and one provider staff attended and added to the quality of the forum by providing information regarding their implementation strategies. The forum included training on the *spirit of motivational interviewing, and recognizing and responding to change talk* not only as important practitioner skills, but also as important to coaching and observation. Participants attended breakout sessions focused on Implementation Issues, Creative Boosters/Small Group Work, and Coding. Through the use of video clips, MI coaches were given the opportunity to focus on their listening skills to code sessions. As with most JJSES initiatives, counties are at various stages of MI implementation and are eager to share what has been beneficial for them. To support their progression, key concepts were discussed around moving forward utilizing future training ideas, as well as the introduction and offering the services of the newly hired Motivational Interviewing Consultant, [Dawn Schantz](#).



PAPPC

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION ON PROBATION, PAROLE AND CORRECTIONS

The **Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole, and Corrections** is pleased to invite you to the 94th Annual Training Institute, scheduled for **May 17-20, 2015** at the Radisson Hotel Harrisburg, in Camp Hill, PA. The theme for this year's Training Institute is: **"Collaboration: Finding Shared Pathways to Success"**. Our keynote speaker this year will be **Mr. Marcus Hodges, Community Corrections Regional Administrator for the Virginia Department of Corrections and current President of the National Association of Probation Executives**. Also, the **Honorable John E. Wetzel, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections** will offer opening remarks. A plenary session will be delivered by **Mr. C. James Fox, Chief Hearing Officer for the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole**. Our closing speaker will be **Mr. Jerry Balistreri, a dynamic professional educator, administrator, trainer, speaker, author, and recognized expert in reading body language**.

As always, we will have many workshops to choose from throughout the Training Institute; workshops that will focus on our theme, as well as other aspects of Probation, Parole and Corrections.

Registration is now open! Visit www.pappc.org to register, and to obtain all of the necessary information to attend, as well as information pertaining to exhibiting and presenting! Be sure to check back for further details yet to come!

We hope that you will consider joining us in the Capitol Region for this year's Training Institute.

Leo J. Lutz
President Designate
PAPPC

[Click here to register](#)

RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Part 14 in a series

Source Document: Lowenkamp, M., Robinson, C., et al. (2012). "The Importance of Coaching: A Brief Survey of Probation Officers." *Federal Probation* 76(2).

The body of scientific knowledge related to the field of juvenile justice is growing at an exponential rate. With this knowledge, new processes leading to improved outcomes are routinely generated. Clearly, the need to have access to, and understand scientific information is critical. Unfortunately, practitioners often do not have the time to sort through the literature. With this issue in mind, in 2006, *the Colorado Division of Probation Services* began to publish **Research in Briefs (RIB's)**. These documents are intended to summarize potentially helpful research related to effective practices, as well as provide ideas for practical applications of the information. More information on **RIB's** can be found here: http://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_Summary1213.pdf

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) rests on two interlinked foundations: the best empirical research available in the field of juvenile justice and a set of core beliefs about how to integrate this research into practice. With this in mind, as an ongoing feature of *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice*, "**Research In Brief (RIBs)**" will provide summaries of published research related to various aspects of the JJSES. The **RIBs** will convey how various scientific studies support the JJSES Statement of Purpose.

Coaching to Improve EBP Use

*Reprinted with Permission from: Colorado Division of Probation Services. (March, 2013).
The Importance of Coaching: A Brief Survey of Probation Officers.*

Retrieved from: https://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_CoachingMar13.pdf

Implementation science has found that adding coaching and on the job training increases skill retention. Researchers sought to discover why coaching helped probation officers acquire and use new correctional practices with their clients. Coached probation officers from federal and county level probation departments received a short survey regarding their experience with coaching. Officers agreed or strongly agreed that: coaching allowed them to ask questions about the trained skills (93%) and offered a better understanding of how they can use the trained skills in their job (92%).

Evidence based practices have been shown to decrease recidivism up to 30% if utilized with fidelity to the models. In recent years, implementation science has identified that if ongoing coaching and on the job training is implemented with new practices, skill use increases to 95% as opposed to 5% with traditional classroom learning.

The current study sought to evaluate the coaching process on a group of 90 county level probation officers

and a group of 95 federal level probation officers. Officers completed a three day training followed up with a one-on-one interaction for 20-30 minutes to cover any questions or to tailor skill use to a particular officer's needs. A direct observation session of 30-40 minutes was then completed by the officer using the new skills. The process was concluded with a 30 minute coaching session to give officers feedback on their skills.

Following the training and coaching process, officers were sent a brief survey to complete. The survey was designed to solicit feedback on their attitudes on the coaching process. The survey had a response rate of 70% (149 out of 185 officers completed the survey). Officers were asked if they strongly agreed, agreed, disagreed, or strongly disagreed with five statements.

According to survey results, 93% of the surveyed officers agreed that the coaching sessions allowed them the opportunity to ask questions about the skills. The officers also agreed that the coaching sessions helped them to better understand how they can use the skills

in the job (92%). The lowest rated statement from the survey was 72% agreement that the coaching sessions made it more likely officers will use the skills compared to just classroom training alone. Officers (88%) agreed that after the coaching sessions they had a better understanding of how they could personally use the skills with clients and 83% of officers agreed the coaching allowed them to express concerns they could not in the class room training

Practical Applications

- ✓ Create coaches in-house to improve newly acquired skills.
- ✓ Probation officers should take advantage of direct observation opportunities utilizing supervisors for coaching and performance feedback.
- ✓ Remember coaching is an ongoing process and some complex skills can take some time to master.
- ✓ Staffing cases can create opportunities to reinforce or ask about newly acquired skills.
- ✓ When coaching, adhere to the 4 to 1 principle by identifying and affirming what a Probation Officer did correctly.

Limitations of Information

This article analyzed data from a single Canadian mental health facility, which may not be representative of other locations. The study sample consisted of only juveniles with court ordered evaluations. Information was provided by many different agencies; consistency and integrity of data may be a concern. The time at risk for recidivism was not consistent across all youth.

Caveat: The information presented here is intended to summarize and inform readers of research and information relevant to probation work. It can provide a framework for carrying out the business of probation as well as suggestions for practical application of the material. While it may, in some instances, lead to further exploration and result in future decisions, it is not intended to prescribe policy and is not necessarily conclusive in its findings. Some of its limitations are described above.

JJSES Statement of Purpose

We dedicate ourselves to working 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.

Readers are encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions related to the JJSES they would like to have addressed. Ideas and suggestions may be submitted to: Leo J. Lutz at LeLutz@pa.gov.

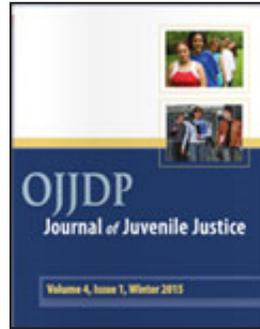


National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

OJJDP Releases 2015 Issue of Journal of Juvenile Justice

OJJDP has released the [2015 issue](#) of the online “[Journal of Juvenile Justice](#).” This issue features articles on behavior therapy for incarcerated females, juvenile justice in rural areas, the impact of child protective services on reoffending, reducing social distance between minority youth and law enforcement, youth recommendations on desistance from gangs, and how guardians of system-involved youth can address adolescent sex education.



Resources:

Access [previous issues](#) of the semi-annual, peer-reviewed journal.

Fact Sheets Available on Parenting a Child Recovering from Maltreatment



The [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#) has released a series of online fact sheets exploring the effects of maltreatment on children and how parents can help them recover. One of the fact sheets focuses on parenting a child who has experienced [trauma](#). Other topics in the series include parenting a child who has experienced [sexual abuse](#) and [abuse or neglect](#). Free print copies can be ordered online.

Resources:

Access the Child Welfare Information Gateway [online catalog](#) for publications on child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and adoption.

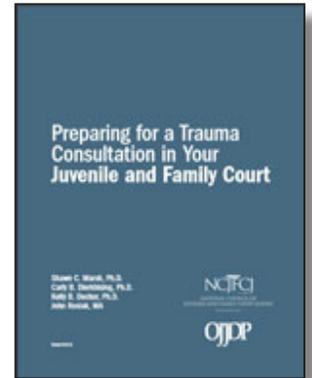
Visit the [2015 National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#) website.

NIJ Announces Funding for Research To Improve School Safety

The [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) is accepting applications for its fiscal year 2015 [Comprehensive School Safety Initiative](#) (CSSI). This program funds rigorous research to produce practical knowledge that can improve the safety of schools and students. Applications are due by June 12, 2015.

Guide to Trauma Consultation in Juvenile and Family Courts Now Available

The [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) has released “[Preparing for a Trauma Consultation in Your Juvenile and Family Court](#).” This OJJDP-funded guide highlights trauma consultation and how it can help juvenile and family courts become more trauma-informed across environment, practice, and policy. The guide outlines a conceptual and basic operational framework for [trauma-informed courts](#), including positioning them as stakeholders in the community. The publication is a living document that will be updated with lessons learned and advances in the field as they develop.



Resources:

Access [publications](#) in OJJDP’s National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence series.

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

Online Video Series Addresses Child Maltreatment

April is [National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#). In observance, the [Children’s Bureau](#) of the Department of Health and Human Services and the [National Child Abuse Prevention Partners](#) have released the “[Connections](#)” series of brief videos highlighting strategies and programs to prevent child maltreatment. Videos will be posted online each Wednesday of the month.



CONNECTIONS
A Special Child Abuse Prevention Month Video Series

Resources:

[Access](#) the video presentations.

Visit the [2015 National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#) website.

Learn more about OJJDP’s [series](#) on the National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence.

OJJDP Announces New Funding Opportunities



[VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Prosecutors](#). This program provides funding for a national training and technical assistance program to enhance the effectiveness of attorneys and others who investigate and prosecute child abuse cases. Applications are due by May 28, 2015.

[VOCA Children's Advocacy Centers Subgrant Program](#). This program will provide grants, cooperative agreements, and other assistance to local children's advocacy center programs, which provide a coordinated response to victims of child abuse. Applications are due by May 28, 2015.

[VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals](#). This program provides funding for the development and implementation of a model training and technical assistance program for child abuse professionals and to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Applications are due by May 28, 2015.

[Bridging Research and Practice Project To Advance Juvenile Justice and Safety](#). This project will advance research and research-based strategies across four components of the juvenile justice system: prevention and diversion, community-based alternatives to placement, detention and secure confinement, and reentry. Applications are due by May 28, 2015.

[National Juvenile Court Data Archive](#). This solicitation supports collecting and maintaining the nation's primary source of detailed information on juvenile court case processing of delinquency and status offense cases. Applications are due by May 28, 2015.

[Second Chance Act Supporting Latino/a Youth from Out-of-Home Placement to the Community](#). This program supports efforts to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for Latino/a youth reentering society. Applications are due by June 1, 2015.

Read about [Second Chance Act](#) initiatives to facilitate successful juvenile reentry.

[Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative](#). This solicitation supports established national and multi-state mentoring organizations as they strengthen and/or expand their existing mentoring activities with local sub-awardees and/or other mentoring organizations. This includes establishing collaborations with other mentoring organizations. Mentoring activities include direct one-on-one, group, peer, or a combination of these types of mentoring services for at-risk and underserved youth populations. Applications are due by June 16, 2015.

[Mentoring for Youth: Underserved Populations](#). This solicitation will support mentoring services for underserved populations, including youth with disabilities, youth in foster care, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth. Applications are due by June 16, 2015.

Access [OJJDP mentoring resources](#).

[Court-Appointed Special Advocates \(CASA\) Membership and Accreditation Program and Training and Technical Assistance](#). Under this program, the successful applicant will provide membership, accreditation, and subgrants to regional, state, and local CASA organizations who represent abused and neglected children in dependency hearings and will partner with other public and private child welfare system stakeholders at the local, state, regional, and national levels. The successful applicant will also provide information, technical assistance, and training to volunteer advocates who represent abused and neglected children in dependency hearings and to other child welfare system stakeholders at the local, state, regional, and national levels. Applications are due by May 26, 2015.

[Juvenile Drug Courts Addressing Systematic Barriers Program](#). Through this program, OJJDP will make awards to currently operating juvenile drug courts to enhance their capacity to address barriers they encounter as they provide services to youth. Applications are due by June 2, 2015.

Resources:

Visit [OJJDP's funding](#) page for more information about these solicitations.

NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE NETWORK

WEST VIRGINIA PASSES MEMBER-AUTHORED TRUANCY REFORM BILL



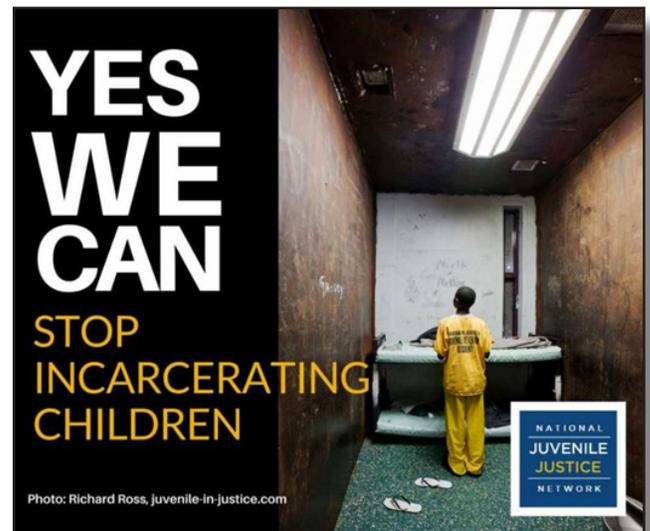
» [Read the full article on the website.](#)



Texas Member's Complaint Prompts Federal Investigation of Dallas County Courts

On March 31, 2015, the U. S. Department of Justice announced that it will investigate Dallas County's juvenile and truancy courts, based on complaints filed by [Texas Appleseed](#) (an NJJN member). Texas Appleseed contends that Dallas County courts routinely operate in ways that violate young people's constitutional rights, including failure to provide adequate counsel and failure to adequately accommodate disabilities.

[Read the full story here.](#)



NJJN @ 10: FIRST, DO NO HARM

It's our birthday -- we're 10 years old! -- and we've chosen to celebrate by talking about the [principles that drive our work](#) to build a fair, equitable, and developmentally appropriate youth justice system.

This month's principle: [reduce youth institutionalization](#). In "First, Do no Harm," Jim Moeser, deputy director of [Wisconsin Council on Children and Families](#) (WCCF), talks about our nation's progress -- and lack of progress -- on reducing youth confinement.

Even better: he talks about the key role that WCCF, an NJJN member, played in closing a youth prison and cutting in half the rate at which Wisconsin youth were locked up.

» [Learn more here.](#)

» BONUS: [Download the policy platform on reducing youth confinement.](#)



Civic Research Institute



Bullying, Teen Aggression & Social Media

The new publication devoted exclusively to understanding the causes and effects of youthful antisocial behavior ... and providing current research and best practice guidelines for combating bullying and protecting victims.

Everyone recognizes bullying's harmful effects on victims, but research now suggests that aggression harms bystanders and perpetrators, too. Students who bully are also more likely to be disruptive in school and engage in vandalism, reckless sexual activity, and the use of drugs and alcohol. These cascading behaviors entangle school officials and parents in emotionally and financially draining disciplinary proceedings that are frequently ineffectual and unproductive.

Bullying, Teen Aggression & Social Media is the new report letter that helps anyone who works with kids deal with the problem of bullying in ways that are reasonable, appropriate, measured, and produce good outcomes. Each bimonthly issue brings together current research and the best ideas and practices from the nation's foremost experts. Each issue helps you understand bullying, its causes, impacts, and complex dynamics, and examines the most effective ways to stop it and prevent it.

Look for articles like these in **upcoming issues** of **Bullying, Teen Aggression & Social Media**.

Here is essential guidance for everyone concerned about the problem of youthful aggression and intimidation, and finding a solution—school officials and teachers, professionals in psychology, law, health care, and community leaders responsible for the well-being of young people. **Join us as a subscriber today** and put these ideas and practices to work creating safer learning and social environments for the young people in your care.

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.

Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research, Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299.

To subscribe to the JCJC newsletter, Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice, please send your request to jjcnews@ship.edu to be added to the distribution list. You will receive an e-mail alert each month when the latest edition is available.

