

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Wolf, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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Mark Carey to be Featured Plenary Speaker at the 2015 James E. Anderson Conference on Juvenile Justice



Mark Carey, President of The Carey Group, will be the featured morning Plenary Speaker for the 2015 James E. Anderson Conference on Juvenile Justice on November 5, 2015. The Carey Group is a national consulting firm that provides training and technical assistance to numerous criminal and juvenile justice agencies at the federal, state and local levels in the area of evidence-based decision-making and other matters. Mark is very well known to Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system, and continues to provide ongoing

technical assistance with the implementation of its Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). He has been engaged by a number of counties to provide specific technical assistance on a variety of evidence-based practices. Mark has served as President of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) and has been on the Board of Directors since 1997. He has served as President and Chair for a number of Associations and Task Forces, and frequently is requested nationally as a speaker and trainer.

Mr. Carey has a unique history with Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system, having provided technical assistance and support with the early implementation efforts of Balanced & Restorative Justice (BARJ), as well as playing a critical role in the development and continuing rollout of our Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). Utilizing this perspective, his plenary session will focus on connecting BARJ and JJSES through a historical look at these two most critical and influential components of Pennsylvania juvenile justice history.

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Reminders:

National Night Out - August 4, 2015

The 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

November 4-6, 2015 at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers

Registration Opens in August 14, 2015!



Joe Webb Youth Award Speaker 2015

Joe Webb provides a compelling message of inspiration and encouragement to youth to find their passion, develop and execute a personal plan and make decisions that will enhance and enrich their lives. As a youth, Joe experienced frequent foster home moves and often walked on the wrong side of the street in search of friendship and attention. He credits a mentor for providing the inspiration and belief in him, which led to many opportunities including a path toward higher education which included a football scholarship.

Mr. Webb, currently serves as the Director of Student Support Services at Penn State University-Berks and is working to obtain his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration.

In addition to being a higher education administrator, mentor, coach and advisor, Webb designed an autobiographical program titled “Walking on Both Sides of the Street...the Road to Success”. The program focuses on encouraging students to understand the importance of success, and challenges them to see and take advantage of every opportunity because a second chance is not always available. This program emphasizes topics such as conflict resolution, leadership, diversity, education, communication, values, integrity and ethics, which he presents at various student venues.



Robert Tomassini Assumes Position of CJJT&R Director

The Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission is pleased to announce that Robert “Bob” Tomassini has been named as the Director of the Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research at Shippensburg University. He will be responsible for the administration and oversight of all operations and staff at the Center, including training and professional development, the graduate education program, detention monitoring, the Information and Technology division (including the Pa. Juvenile Case Management System) and all agency-related research projects.

Bob originally joined the staff of the JCJC on July 1, 2013 as Director of Administration and Grant Programs where he administered JCJC’s Grant-in-Aid Program and operating budget, provided technical assistance and advice to juvenile court judges and chief juvenile probation officers, while also representing the agency on various statewide committees and initiatives.

Mr. Tomassini brings twenty-eight years of juvenile justice system experience to the position. He began his career in 1987 as a juvenile probation officer in Adams County, was promoted to Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in 1992, and served as Adams County’s Director of Juvenile Probation Services from 2010 through 2013. He received the JCJC’s Supervisor of the Year Award in 2008. Bob has also provided leadership to Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system on a statewide level. He has served on the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, and chaired the Council’s Public Relations / Education Committee. He has also provided leadership regarding the implementation of Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), serving as the “Stage Four Co-Leader” of the JJSES. Mr. Tomassini holds both a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice and a Masters Degree in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University. He can be reached at (717) 477-1294, or rtomassini@pa.gov.

Schools, Like Courts, Turning Away From Sledgehammer Responses

By Judge Steven Teske

Reprint permission obtained from Juvenile Justice Information Exchange (JJIE.org)

How many sledgehammers does it take to kill a fly?

A silly question, but analogous to the way we treat kids.

If you can't kill a fly with one sledgehammer, more will make it worse. The flailing of sledgehammers in close proximity will bring calamity — and not to the fly.

The silliness highlights our approach to school discipline — we fling sledgehammers in the form of zero tolerance. We use suspensions, expulsions and arrests to rid our schools of disruptive students like they're flies, but instead we hit everything around the problem, not the problem.

A growing number of judges divert these students from the courtroom to avoid the unintended consequences shown in a 2006 study that students arrested at their high school are twice as likely to drop out of school and four times as likely if they appear in court.

Among these judges are those who are active in their community off the bench, in ways that enhance their due process role on the bench.

They're the ones who scratch their heads and ask out loud, "When did making adults mad become a crime?"

They're the ones who understand that as goes graduation, so goes crime. They're the ones helping to create school-justice partnerships to replace the sledgehammer with tools that are proven more effective — practices grounded in the medical research of the teenage brain.

To understand the teenage brain is to understand that what works for adults doesn't work for teenagers. The teenage brain is the oxymoron in science — one part is mature and one is immature.

Our emotional life is primarily housed in the limbic system. At puberty it becomes hormonally fueled, resulting in risky behaviors that proves too much for the immature prefrontal cortex designed to manage our emotions.

According to Dr. Jay Giedd of the National Institute of Mental Health, the teenage brain is a "mismatch in timing." The limbic system is fully charged to take on the world, but its prefrontal caretaker hasn't grown up enough to hold its hand.

My controversial description of the adolescent years as the "Age of Stupidity" is controversial only to the extent that it's taken literally. In the world of adolescence, doing stupid isn't being stupid.

I look back at my teenage years and can say, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." But for too many of my friends, their teenage years ruined their adulthood.

Our teenage years are the most energetic, creative and healthiest of our lives, thanks to the hormone-infused limbic system. But the mismatch in timing also brings a 200 to 300 percent higher rate for death related to stupid decisions involving risky behaviors.

The teenage brain is under neurological construction and is easily

adaptive to the surrounding circumstances. This plasticity of the teenage brain is the reason why Georgia and other states have enacted sweeping reforms that replaces incarceration with positive alternatives.

Just as courts are turning away from incarceration, school districts are turning away from suspensions and expulsions. The principles of positive engagement that underlie best practices in juvenile justice are also true for education.

In Georgia, for example, Dr. Garry McGiboney of the state Department of Education advocates for Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) — an evidence-based program that improves school climate, which in turn improves attendance and decreases disruptive behavior.

PBIS seems counterintuitive because we have become entrenched in zero tolerance, but in reality it mirrors the characteristics of good parenting skills.

Who would ever think that judges and educators should mimic good parenting skills in their job?

Dr. McGiboney is kinder than me to those who are not so kind to kids. He attributes their flawed disciplinary decisions to fundamental attribution error — assigning the incorrect cause to the behavior.

Our tendency is to attribute defiance and disrespect to disruptive behavior as opposed to the student's circumstances — peer pressure, neglect or abuse at home, bullying and more.

We react to what we see, not to what we don't see. We may never know why the driver pulled out in front of us, but it doesn't stop some of us from cursing and maybe flipping them the bird.

But what if the driver just received a call that her daughter was on the way to the hospital by ambulance?

Unlike the speeding driver, the student is still in our grasp. We can intervene by using the PBIS approach to determine why, so we can understand their what and help with how they can be better.

A 1 percent improvement in school climate was found to decrease discipline actions per student by 1.35 percent — a 10 percent improvement

in school climate will reduce disciplinary actions by 13.5 percent.

If we fail to use what works, the plasticity of the teenage brain helps teenagers adapt to the circumstances we push them into — the streets, gangs and crime.

It's bad enough teenagers must navigate a mismatched existence, the adults shouldn't make it any worse.

If the prefrontal cortex can't hold the limbic system's hand, why can't we?



Steven Teske is chief judge of the Juvenile Court of Clayton County, Ga., and vice chairman of the Governor's Office For Children and Families. He is a past president of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges and has been appointed by the governor to the Children & Youth Coordinating Council, DJJ Judicial Advisory Council, Commission on Family Violence, and the Governor's Office for Children and Families.

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.

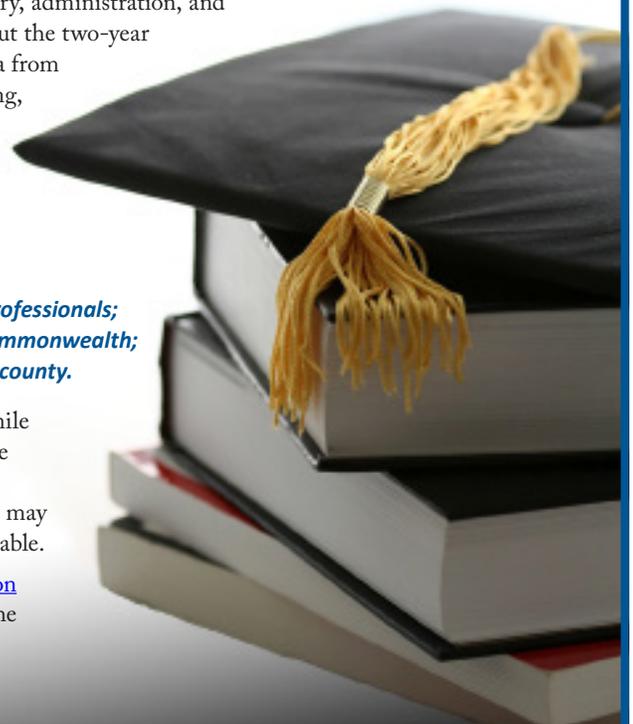
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the two-year program. The practicum study provides students the opportunity to evaluate data from their home county to address relevant research needs and topics (i.e. case planning, detention reform, YLS, diversion, and/or Disproportionate Minority Contact).

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 probation 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.



Linda Bender Retiring

Linda Bender retired from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission/Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) on July 24, 2015, after being employed with the agency since 1986. Ms. Bender received her bachelor's Degree in Mathematics Education at Shippensburg University and worked for Chambersburg and Shippensburg High Schools as a Math teacher before she began working with CJJT&R. While completing her master's degree at Shippensburg University, Ms. Bender began working with CJJT&R as a graduate assistant. She also worked part-time as a Faculty Liaison for the SPSS program on the University's mainframe server. She was hired by JCJC as a full-time programmer in 1986. Together, she and Paul Ward created the first Pennsylvania Court Disposition Report. Linda also programmed statistical cards, D1, D2 and D3 forms for the Detention Monitoring project, and a program for data input of police log information for Compliance Monitoring.



Linda's knowledge of programming directly impacted the working relationship with the Shippensburg University's Computer Center and the CJJT&R. Data from juvenile probation departments across the state was compiled, combined and converted on the University's mainframe, to be used by the Statistical Analysis Center to produce the annual disposition report and for other reporting and analysis of juvenile statistics.

As technology progressed, Linda's duties evolved. The Statistical Analysis Unit became the Information Technology Department and she became its Director. Linda's knowledge of the juvenile justice system and statistical analysis led to her working with many state agencies. She served as liaison between the JCJC and technology departments of other agencies, including the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), Pennsylvania Justice Network (JNET), the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ).

Linda also coached Girls Junior Varsity Basketball, Community League Basketball and Major and Junior League Girls softball. She and her husband Gary have two children, and welcomed their first grandchild on June 14, 2015. They are expecting the arrival of their second grandchild in September.

The staff at JCJC and CJJT&R would like to wish Linda the very best in her retirement, and know that she will enjoy spending time with her family.

Save the Date

October 15, 2015
9 am - 4 pm

Days Inn - State College

NEW CHIEFS ORIENTATION

There is no cost for this training, and lodging for new Chiefs will be covered by the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers.

JJSES LEADERSHIP FORUM

September 17, 2015
Days Inn, State College

Leading change becomes particularly complex as leaders and managers maneuver through the later stages of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) implementation. Until recently, most have faced the challenge of implementing EBP by simply figuring it out on their own. However, the tide is beginning to turn as practitioners turn to Implementation Science to lead their efforts. EBP involves change among multiple players and multiple layers both within and outside of the organization. Building a framework that recognizes the various layers makes it possible to define the key responsibilities at each level, identify strategies that might otherwise be missed, and develop a structure for more effective decision making. In building this framework, we must also turn to research on decision making, which might help leaders understand and overcome common barriers they typically face as they implement EBP.

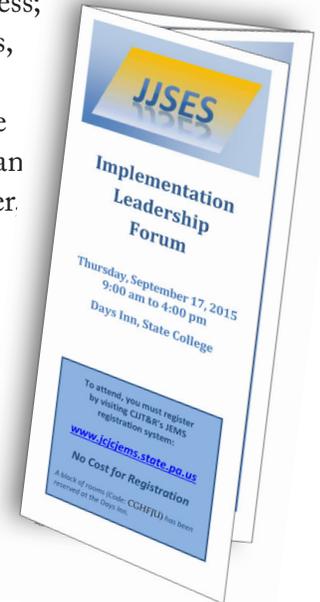
On September 17th, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and PA Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers are sponsoring the 2015 JJSES Leadership Forum. The theme of this year's forum revolves around aligning your organizational culture with Evidenced Based Practices, performance evaluations, and institutionalizing Evidenced-Based Practices for the long term. This training is specifically for chiefs, deputy chiefs, and key supervisors responsible for implementing Evidenced-Based Practices within their department.

This workshop will explore specific practices and skills which help managers make more effective decisions based on research and knowledge instead of traditions, hunches, or outdated leadership information. The goal is to influence and engage staff and contribute to a culture that supports EBP on a practical level.

This program will focus on: challenges and issues facing juvenile probation leaders; problem-solving

through a collaborative process; application of proven models, strategies and techniques; learning from the experience of peers; and learning from an experienced EBP practitioner. Dr. Geraldine Nagy, who will facilitate the session. Dr. Nagy has more than 30 years of criminal justice experience including Director of the Travis County, Texas Community Supervision and Corrections Department and Pretrial Services, where she led efforts to transform operations to be in alignment with Evidence-Based Practices. As Pretrial Director, Dr. Nagy worked with the judiciary and local officials to establish coordinated processes to identify mentally ill pretrial detainees, design diversion programs, and establish risk-based pretrial decision-making, resulting in promising improvements in jail release rates. She has worked with the National Center of State Courts to provide training on evidence-based sentencing and has served on a number of national committees to facilitate the adoption of progressive practices nationwide. Prior to Travis County, Dr. Nagy was Deputy Director of the Community Justice Assistance Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and a staff psychologist and research analyst for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. She holds a bachelor's degree from California State University at Sacramento and a PhD in Psychology from Kansas State University.

Registration for this training is now available through the [JCJC Event Management System \(JEMS\)](#) and is only available to chiefs, deputy chiefs and supervisors.



RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Part 17 in a series

Source Document: Harvey Milkman and Kenneth Wanberg. 2007. Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment: A Review and Discussion for Corrections Professionals. National Institute of Corrections Accession Number 021657.

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.

What Is CBT and Why Use It?

*Reprinted with Permission from: Colorado Division of Probation Services. (June, 2008).
Cognitive Behavioral Treatment.*

Retrieved from: <https://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/File/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB-CBT.pdf>

This monograph, distributed by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC), is a general review of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). It describes the history and principles of CBT, including a detailed description of six different CBT programs, which can be used with juveniles. The program descriptions include a summary of the model's main elements, as well as training information for those interested in facilitating groups. The authors also discuss the effectiveness of CBT programs, with the last chapter devoted to "real world" applications for corrections/probation.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is based on the assumption that criminal behavior is produced as the result of dysfunctional thinking. It is a blend of two theoretical backgrounds: Behavioral theory and Cognitive theory. Behavioral theory developed in the late fifties, focused on "observable, external behaviors and disregarded internal mental processes." Although the underlying beliefs of cognitive theory can be traced to ancient Greece, the modern theory, developed in the early sixties, was "based on the idea that thoughts

control feelings." Finally, in the mid-seventies, the two theories were merged to form a CBT model.

As higher risk juveniles are apt to struggle with good decision-making and pro-social behavior, this population tends to benefit the most from this type of treatment. "CBT uses two basic approaches in bringing about change: (1) restructuring of cognitive events and (2) social and interpersonal skills training." Six CBT programs are discussed: Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART), Strategies for Self-Improvement and Change (SSIC), Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&R), Relapse Prevention Therapy (RPT), and Thinking for a Change (T4C).

The authors address the effectiveness of each of the programs, noting that meta-analyses (studies of studies) have concluded CBT is one of the most effective treatments we have for offenders, reducing recidivism rates by about 30%.

The monograph closes with “real world” applications for the field, including the following:

Practical Applications

- ✓ When referring higher risk juveniles to CBT, ask questions to ensure the provider hasn’t “modified” the program (e.g. length, content), as these changes will decrease the effectiveness of the program.
- ✓ Model pro-social/appropriate behavior. Be firm and fair, clearly distinguishing between rules and requests.
- ✓ Use praise when juveniles demonstrate skills, adding an explanation to connect the reward with a specific behavior.
- ✓ Assign homework to address a certain problem or weak social skill, then assist the juvenile in setting a goal, generating prosocial solutions, and have him report at the next appointment which solution he used, as well as the results.
- ✓ Increase incentives as juveniles demonstrate skills.
- ✓ Remove barriers to treatment. For example, offer classes free of charge whenever possible or decrease the frequency of appointments during enrollment.
- ✓ Consider utilizing the Casey Guides and BITS, as well as providing in-house Cog groups.

Limitations of Information

Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) is a highly regimented approach to teaching juveniles behavioral and decision-making skills. In order to gain maximum benefit from CBT, juveniles should complete the dose (number of classes) recommended, with regular skill reinforcement and role modeling by the facilitator. Although the authors suggest ways to use CBT skills with juveniles, it is recommended that probation officers complete CBT training.

***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.

Staff Development Opportunities

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

- **Diversity Issues in Criminal Justice: Creating Space for Honest Conversations**
Days Inn State College
Jason Sole
8/4/2015
- **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
- **Motivational Interviewing 101**
Days Inn State College
Barbara Orr
9/9-10/2015
- **Cognitive Behavioral Training**
Days Inn State College
Mark Carey
9/10/2015
- **Reactive Attachment Disorder**
Days Inn State College
Amy Swigart, Susan Roop
9/16/2015
- **JJSES Implementation Leadership Forum**
Days Inn State College
9/17/2015
- **Orientation For The New Juvenile Probation Professional Session I**
Holiday Inn Harrisburg East
9/21/2015
- **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorders (FASD)**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Robin VanEerden
9/29/2015
- **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
- **Orientation For The New Juvenile Probation Professional Session II**
Holiday Inn Harrisburg East
10/19/2015
- **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
- **Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer Certification**
Days Inn State College
Ben Rea, Shannon Semmel
11/18/2015

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.

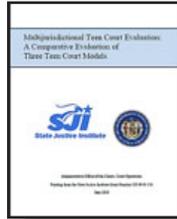


National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

Report Highlights Link Between Teen Courts and Recidivism

The [Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts](#) has released "[Multijurisdictional Teen Court Evaluation: A Comparative Evaluation of Three Teen Court Models.](#)" This report presents the results of a study of three geographically diverse teen courts in Maryland. The study, funded by the [State Justice Institute](#), reports that youth in each jurisdiction who completed a teen court program had fewer instances of recidivism than youth who did not complete the program.



Resources:

Learn more about youth/peer/student/teen court diversion programs at the [Global Youth Justice](#) website.

Registration Open for Training on Truancy Prevention and Reduction

The [National Center for School Engagement](#) is offering "[Best Practices in Truancy Prevention and Reduction](#)" on September 21, 2015, in Denver, CO. This training will focus on best practices for schools and communities seeking to launch or expand school attendance efforts. The training will highlight examples of successful approaches that school districts and community collaborations use.

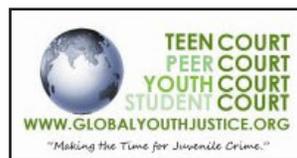


Resources:

[Register](#) to attend and view the [agenda](#).

Registration Open for Global Youth Justice Training Institute

On December 1–3, 2015, [Global Youth Justice](#), in collaboration with the [National African American Drug Policy Coalition](#), will host its [12th Global Youth Justice Training Institute](#) in Las Vegas, NV. Participants will learn strategies to establish or enhance local youth justice diversion programs through teen, student, youth, and peer courts and peer juries. Topics will include training youth and adult volunteers; providing quality community services, programs, and referrals; conducting mock family intake meetings, grant writing, funding opportunities, and more.



Resources:

[Register](#) for the conference.

Registration Open for Training on Evaluating Truancy Reduction Programs

The [National Center for School Engagement](#) is offering "[Evaluating Your Truancy and Attendance Program](#)" on October 5–6, 2015, in Denver, CO. This 1.5-day interactive training is for truancy program managers and staff involved with the schools, courts, and the community who want to measure the effectiveness of their truancy reduction programs.

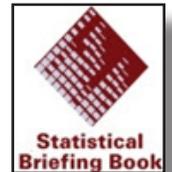


Resources:

[Register](#) to attend and view the [agenda](#).

OJJDP Updates National DMC Data to Statistical Briefing Book

The OJJDP [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (SBB) has added new features to its [National Disproportionate Minority Contact \(DMC\) Databook](#). This application presents the national DMC data for the juvenile justice system and their Relative Rate Index Matrices that quantify levels of racial disparity introduced at various decision points within the system. This update provides data through 2013 and makes available new features, including:



DMC tables for combinations of gender and race for juvenile court stages.

Tables comparing males to females for juvenile arrest and court stages.

Developed by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#), the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#), SBB offers easy online access to statistics on a variety of juvenile justice topics.

Resources:

Access the [OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book](#).

Office for Victims of Crime Seeking Nominations for the 2016 National Crime Victims' Service Awards

In observance of the [2016 National Crime Victims' Rights Week](#), the [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) will recognize individuals, teams, programs, and organizations that provide outstanding service in support of victims of crime. Every year, OVC selects the award recipients from public nominations and honors them at the [National Crime Victims' Service Awards Ceremony](#) in Washington, D.C.

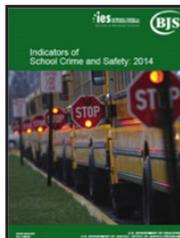
This year, a new award category—the [Tomorrow's Leaders Award](#)—will honor and highlight youth as old as 24 years of age for their extraordinary efforts to support victims of crime.

Find information on how to nominate an individual, team, program, or organization on the [OVC web site](#). Nominations are due by July 30, 2015, through [OVC's Online Nomination Form](#).

Visit OVC's National Crime Victims' Service Awards Web site to learn more about [submission](#) and [nominee](#) guidelines, including [FAQs](#).

Bureau of Justice Statistics Releases 2014 School Crime and Safety Report

The [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#), in collaboration with the [National Center for Education Statistics](#), has released "[Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2014](#)." This annual report provides the most recent data on school crime and student safety. The indicators in this report are based on a variety of data sources, including national surveys of students, teachers, principals, and postsecondary institutions. Topics covered include victimization at school, teacher injuries, bullying and cyberbullying, school conditions, fights, weapons, availability and student use of drugs and alcohol, student perceptions of personal safety at school, and crime at postsecondary institutions.



Resources:

View and download the report [online](#).

Bulletin Examines Children Exposed to Violence, Trauma and Implications for Policing

The [National Institute of Justice](#) has released "[Childhood Trauma and Its Effects: Implications for Police](#)." This bulletin summarizes the effects of ongoing trauma on young children, how these effects impair adolescent and young adult development and functioning, and the possible implications of this for policing. The author examines how children from poor communities of color are particularly at risk due to their additional exposure to street violence.

Resources:

Learn more about the [Defending Childhood initiative](#). Access OJJDP [publications](#) on children's exposure to violence.

Applications for Multi-System Integration Certificate Program Being Accepted

The [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform](#) (CJJR) at [Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy](#) is accepting applications for its [Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare: Multi-System Integration Certificate Program](#) to be held October 29–November 4, 2015, in Washington, DC. This program will help current and future leaders increase their knowledge of multi-system reform efforts related to crossover youth, improve their organizations' ability to serve these youth, develop collaborative leadership skills, and create a mutually supportive network of individuals committed to systems reform. [Apply](#) by August 21, 2015.



Resources:

Learn more about CJJR's [Crossover Youth Practice Model](#).

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 to rtomassini@pa.gov.

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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.

