

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Wolf, Governor



Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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September 2015

Conference Registration Remains Open:

Registration for the 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will remain open until midnight November 3, 2015. Please visit www.jcjc.pa.gov to register for this event. Join us this year for another informative event, which this year highlights 20 years of Pennsylvania's Balanced and Restorative Mission.

Training Workshops Announced:

Fifteen separate training workshops will be held on Thursday, November 5, many of which specifically highlight various aspects of evidence-based probation practice and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. Morning workshops will be repeated during the afternoon session in an effort to allow participants to maximize exposure to topics of interest.

The workshops include:

- Putting Research Into Practice – JCJC Graduate Education Program Practicum Projects
- Autism Spectrum Disorder: What is it? How Should We Respond?
- NeuroResource Facilitation for Youth with Brain Injury
- Crossover Youth: Partnering for Better Outcomes
- Understanding the Impact of Trauma
- The Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation Act
- Enhancing Services to Victims of Juvenile Offenders
- Youth Level of Service (YLS) Data Analysis: 2010 - 2014
- Enhancing Your Probation Officers' Knowledge About Safety
- Detention Risk Assessment & Graduated Responses
- Developing Motivational Interviewing Skills Across Systems
- SPEP Performance Improvement Plans: Increasing Program Effectiveness
- PACTT Affiliates: Implementing Program Improvements to Enhance Academic and Career Technical Training
- Respecting Differences: The Disproportionate Minority Youth (DMC) Youth/Law Enforcement Curriculum
- The Role of Delinquency Prevention in Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy

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The 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

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

Registration Open!

2015 Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy Leadership Forum

On September 17, 2015, nearly 100 chief juvenile probation officers, deputy chiefs and supervisors participated in the 2015 JJSES Leadership Forum in State College. The theme of this year's forum focused on sustaining organizational change in juvenile justice, which involves aligning the organizational culture of juvenile probation departments with evidenced based practices, implementing evidenced based performance appraisals, and utilizing supervisors to institutionalize evidenced based practices for the long term.

The forum was led by Dr. Geraldine Nagy, who has more than 30 years of criminal justice experience and nationally recognized expertise in aligning operations with evidence-based practices. Dr. Nagy holds a bachelor's degree from California State University and a PhD in Psychology from Kansas State University. She has worked with the National Center of State Courts to provide training, and has served on a number of national committees to facilitate the adoption of progressive practices nationwide. In addition, Dr. Nagy has participated in previous JJSES Leadership Forums, where she received excellent feedback regarding her presentation style and subject knowledge.

During the morning session, Dr. Nagy presented facts and materials on "Aligning Your Organizational Culture with Evidence Based Practices." The goals of this session were to draw on decision-making research to understand why some people resist changes that appear to make good sense; to help get "closure" on frustrating experiences in EBP implementation efforts; to show some progressive and promising strategies for influencing staff and aligning culture regardless of stage; and to share "lessons learned" from other jurisdictions who have implemented evidenced based practices.

The opening session was followed by a presentation on "Institutionalizing EBP for the Long Term: The EBP Key Elements of Effective Implementation." This presentation sought to help participants recognize that, until recently, both practitioners and researchers in the criminal justice field have focused on building a toolbox of evidence based practices that impact recidivism while little attention has been given to identifying scientifically-based methods for implementing these practices in the real world. Dr. Nagy's presentation drew from other fields, recent research, and studies on decision-making to support agencies in their JJSES implementation chal-

lenges. This session included a presentation and exercise to be utilized in enhancing an organizational structure for implementing evidence based practices; using decision-making research to enhance your success; and using an EBP performance appraisal to support and sustain improvements.

Dr. Nagy began the afternoon with a discussion on "Common Challenges with Implementing and Sustaining Evidence Based Practices." This was followed by two breakout sessions focusing on performance management.

Dr. Nagy led one breakout session consisting of juvenile probation supervisors. Participants were invited to complete a productive practices survey designed to provide feedback about how their current management behaviors encourage or discourage staff from doing their best, and also to identify and focus upon those behaviors that lead to higher productivity and a healthier work environment.

Simultaneously, chief and deputy chief juvenile probation officers participated in a facilitated discussion regarding the use of performance appraisals in an evidence based organization. This discussion was led by Teresa Wilcox, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in McKean County, David Evrard, Assistant Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Allegheny County, and Bob Tomassini of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.

This event was the third annual JJSES Leadership Forum sponsored by the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

**Youth Awards
Program & Dinner**

Wednesday, November 4

**Annual Training &
Awards Program**

Thursday, November 5

Resource Day 2015

Friday, November 6

**The James E. Anderson
Pennsylvania Conference
on Juvenile Justice**

November 4-6, 2015

at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers



pennsylvania
JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

The 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice will conclude by presenting Resource Day – 2015, during which representatives from residential programs, electronic monitoring companies, drug testing companies, and other service providers will be available to discuss their programs with the Pennsylvania juvenile justice community. This informal marketplace will offer an important opportunity for consumers to learn about new and innovative services.

Registration Now Open!

www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us

Sponsored by

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

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

**VENDOR INFORMATION,
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Resource Day 2015

Please join us at the 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice on November 6, for Resource Day 2015 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. Attended by juvenile justice professionals from throughout Pennsylvania and other states, Resource Day is a great opportunity for juvenile court professionals to interact with service providers and learn about new programs and/or services that can benefit the youth and families that we serve; for Exhibitors, this is an excellent venue for showcasing your programs and services.

To register, click on the link below which will take you to the conference registration site and provide additional information.

[2015 Conference on Juvenile Justice](#)

We look forward to seeing you there in November!

Applications due October 15, 2015

Applications are now being accepted until October 15, 2015 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.

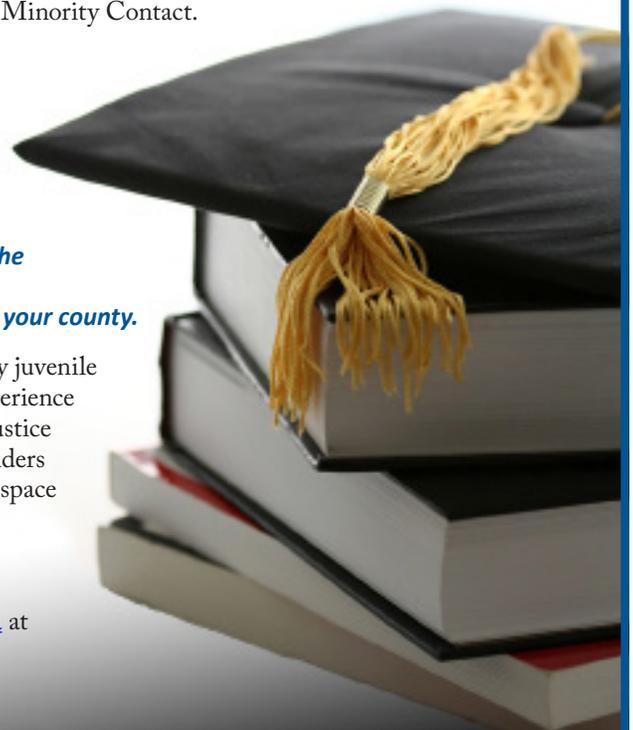
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the 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.pa.gov. If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact [Kelly Waltman-Spreha](#) at 717-477-1185.



RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Part 19 in a series

Source Document: Norcross, J., Krebs, P., and Prochaska, J.O. 2011. Stages of Change. *Journal of Clinical Psychology* 67:2, 143-154.

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.

Being Responsive to Client Motivation

Reprinted with Permission from: Colorado Division of Probation Services. (July, 2012). Stages of Change.

Retrieved from: https://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_SOC-July12.pdf

The researchers used a meta-analysis to determine if the stages of change (pre-contemplation, contemplation, preparation, action, and maintenance) predicted treatment outcomes and if matching the stage of change with the correct treatment improved treatment outcomes. The authors analyzed 39 studies that reported results from behavioral/psychological treatment provided by mental health professionals. Although the meta-analysis found that the pre-treatment stage of change was predictive of treatment outcome, there were not enough studies in the analysis to determine the effect of matching stage of change with treatment.

The researchers in this study explored two questions: 1. Does a client's stage of change predict their treatment outcome? and 2. Does matching the stage of change to the intervention improve outcomes?

The authors reviewed the literature to find studies that included clients with a DSM III or IV diagnosis for whom results were reported for behavioral/psychological treatment, provided by mental health professionals. The studies had to include a measure of the client's

stage of change. Of the 1,686 references, they found 39 studies that met the inclusion criteria.

Meta-analyses results indicated that the pre-treatment stages of change "reliably predict outcomes in psychotherapy. That is, the amount of progress clients make during treatment tends to be a function of their pretreatment stage of change." As a result, pre-contemplators have the highest rate of treatment failure, while those in the action stage have a greater degree of success. For example, a client who can move out of pre-contemplation almost doubles his chance of taking action in the next six months, than if he remains in this initial stage.

The researchers were unable to answer their second question, as they were unable to find a sufficient number of studies that investigated the results of matching interventions to stages of change. However, individual study results did indicate the efficacy of treatment matching. For example, pre-contemplators benefit from interventions that increase ambivalence, while clients in the preparation stage may benefit from a CBT referral.

Practical Applications

- ✓ Assess juveniles' stages of change by asking, "Would you say you aren't ready to change in the next 6 months (pre-contemplation), thinking about changing in the next six months (contemplation), thinking about changing in the next month (preparation) or have you already made progress (action)?"
- ✓ Use MI skills to increase ambivalence for pre-contemplators.
- ✓ Beware that most juveniles are not in the action stage and making a referral for a pre-contemplator may increase resistance.
- ✓ For unmotivated juveniles, it may be helpful to set goals of moving from pre-contemplation to contemplation before making treatment referrals.
- ✓ When resistance arises, consider the origin-- is the juvenile really being difficult or are you mismatching your approach with the juvenile's level of motivation?
- ✓ Consider varying your role to match the stage of change. The study authors recommend taking a nurturing parent role with pre-contemplators, a teacher role with contemplators, a coaching role with those in action, and a consultant role with those in maintenance.

- ✓ Anticipate and plan for relapse. Juveniles may need to recycle through the stages before achieving long-term behavior change.

Limitations of Information

As with all meta-analyses, the strength of the results are based on several studies which vary in quality and rigor. Thirteen of the 39 studies used in this meta-analysis were random controlled trials, and the rest were pre-post design. The participants in the studies received behavioral or psychological treatment and had a DSM diagnosis. Direct comparisons to the juvenile justice population should be done with caution.

***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.

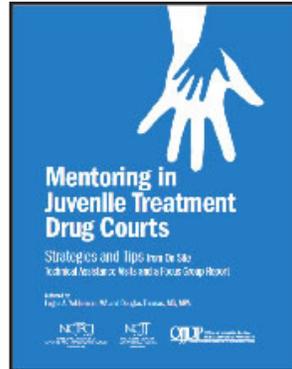


National Juvenile Justice Announcements

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

Brief Explores Strategies for Juvenile Treatment Drug Court Mentoring Programs

The [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) (NCJFCJ) and the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) have released “[Mentoring in Juvenile Treatment Drug Courts](#).” From December 2013 to January 2014, NCJFCJ visited OJJDP-funded mentoring programs at 10 juvenile treatment drug court (JTDC) sites and conducted a focus group to discuss their strengths and challenges. This brief provides an overview of this project and offers tips and strategies for starting and refining a mentoring program within a JTDC.



Resources:

[View and download](#) the brief.

Access mentoring resources from [OJJDP](#).

White House Honors Champions of Change; Attorney General Announces OJJDP Award

On September 21, 2015, the White House honored seven pairs of youth and law enforcement officials as [Champions of Change](#) who are building bridges between youth and law enforcement while improving public safety in their communities. During the event, Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch announced that OJJDP has awarded a grant to the [International Association of Chiefs of Police](#) (IACP) to administer the [Police and Youth Engagement: Supporting the Role of Law Enforcement in Juvenile Justice Reform](#) program. IACP will partner with the [Coalition for Juvenile Justice](#) to convene a youth and law enforcement roundtable and develop an institute to provide training and technical assistance on best practices and innovative approaches relating to law enforcement, youth, and juvenile justice reform.



Resources:

[Read](#) about previous White House Champions of Change honorees.

Learn more about the Department of Justice’s [National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice](#).

LinkedIn and MENTOR Launch National Youth Mentoring Initiative

[LinkedIn](#), in collaboration with [MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership](#), has launched a new [page](#) on its website inviting members to share their mentoring stories and to search for local youth volunteer mentoring opportunities. LinkedIn members will be directed to mentoring opportunities from the MENTOR database, [Mentoring Connector](#).



Resources:

Access mentoring resources from [OJJDP](#) and [MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership](#).

OJJDP Bulletin Highlights Second National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence

OJJDP has released “[Children’s Exposure to Violence, Crime, and Abuse: An Update](#).” This bulletin, cosponsored by OJJDP and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, presents findings from the second National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence (NatSCEV II), which was conducted in 2011. NatSCEV II gathered data about exposure to violence among a new group of 4,500 children ages 1 month to 17 years. In addition to the types of exposure to violence, crime, and abuse covered in the original survey, NatSCEV II added the categories of conventional crime, child maltreatment, peer and sibling victimization, and Internet/cell phone victimization. NatSCEV II confirmed the first NatSCEV’s finding that children’s exposure to violence is common; nearly 60 percent had been exposed to violence in the past year, and more than 1 in 10 reported 5 or more exposures.



Resources:

Learn more about [NatSCEV II](#) at the OJJDP-funded Safe Start Center website.

Access OJJDP’s NatSCEV [publications](#).

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

OJJDP Bulletin Examines Violent Death in Delinquent Youth After Detention

OJJDP has released “[Violent Death in Delinquent Youth After Detention](#).” The bulletin is part of OJJDP’s [Beyond Detention series](#), which examines the results of the Northwestern Juvenile Project—a large-scale longitudinal study of youth detained at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in Chicago, IL. This bulletin provides an overview of mortality rates among youth enrolled in the project. The authors compare the significantly elevated mortality rates of delinquent youth with those of the general population according to racial/ethnic, gender, and age characteristics. Among the key findings, the majority of deaths among delinquent youth were homicides from gunshot wounds.



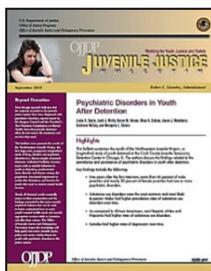
Resources:

[Find](#) more bulletins in the Beyond Detention series.

Bulletins from OJJDP’s [Beyond Detention series](#) are now available in [EPUB](#) and [MOBI](#) formats.

OJJDP Bulletin Examines Psychiatric Disorders in Youth After Detention

OJJDP has released “[Psychiatric Disorders in Youth After Detention](#).” The bulletin is part of OJJDP’s [Beyond Detention series](#), which examines the findings of the Northwestern Juvenile Project—a large-scale longitudinal study of youth detained at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in Chicago, IL. The authors discuss the findings related to the prevalence and persistence of psychiatric disorders in youth after detention. Key findings include:



- Five years after the first interview, more than 45 percent of male juveniles and nearly 30 percent of female juveniles had one or more psychiatric disorders.
- Substance use disorders were the most common and most likely to persist. Males had higher prevalence rates of substance use disorders over time.
- As compared to African Americans, non-Hispanic whites and Hispanics had higher rates of substance use disorders.
- Females had higher rates of depression over time.

Resources:

Bulletins from OJJDP’s [Beyond Detention series](#) are now available in [EPUB](#) and [MOBI](#) formats.

Learn more about the [Northwestern Juvenile Project](#), sponsored by OJJDP.

New Edition of OJP Diagnostic Center Newsletter Focuses on Youth Advocacy

The [OJP Diagnostic Center](#) has released the August 2015 edition of its newsletter *Justice Delivered*. This edition focuses on youth advocacy and highlights a cyberbullying blog, engagements addressing youth advocacy issues, a school-to-prison pipeline report, advocacy resources, and more.

The newsletter is available [online](#).

Resources:

[Subscribe](#) to the OJP Diagnostic Center newsletter. [Learn more](#) about the OJP Diagnostic Center’s technical assistance.

View the OJP Diagnostic Center’s [Facebook page](#).

President Obama Proclaims October as National Youth Justice Awareness Month

On September 30, 2015, President Obama issued a [proclamation](#) recognizing October as National Youth Justice Awareness Month. Each year, there are more than 1 million arrests of youth younger than 18, and the vast majority are for nonviolent crimes. Nearly 55,000 individuals younger than 21 are being held in juvenile justice facilities nationwide—a disproportionate number of whom are young people of color, including tribal youth. The proportion of detained and incarcerated girls and young women, who are often victims of abuse, has also increased. This month-long observance is dedicated to preventing youth from entering the juvenile and criminal justice systems and encourages communities to participate in activities and programs that help youth fulfill their greatest potential. The proclamation supports OJJDP’s [Smart on Juvenile Justice initiative](#) to promote juvenile justice reform and address racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.

Resources:

Learn more about OJJDP’s [Smart on Juvenile Justice initiative](#).

Learn more about OJJDP [funding](#).

Learn more about President Obama’s [My Brother’s Keeper initiative](#).

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.

- **Gangs**
Days Inn State College
Bruce Schaffer
10/14-15/2015
- **Orientation For The New Juvenile Probation Professional Session II**
Red Lion Hotel
10/19/2015
- **Responsivity and Pre-Contemplative Primer Training**
Days Inn State College
Mark Carey
10/21/2015
- **Ultimate Educator**
Red Lion Hotel
Anne Seymour
10/28-29/2015
- **Cognitive Behavioral Training**
Ramada Greensburg Hotel And Conference Center
Greensburg
Mark Carey 11/12/2015
- **Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer Certification**
Days Inn State College
Ben Rea, Shannon Semmel
11/18-19/2015

Please remember, all the details on these and other sponsored workshops may be reviewed at any time by visiting www.jcjems.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.

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.

