



PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

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PENNSYLVANIA INTERBRANCH TASK FORCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE HOLDS FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

The Pennsylvania Interbranch Task Force on Juvenile Justice held its first meeting on Wednesday, February 5, 2020. The meeting, held at the Pennsylvania Judicial Center, provided Task Force members with the opportunity to meet one another, discuss how the strengths of the Commonwealth's juvenile justice system can be cultivated to address current challenges, and determine next steps for the group.

Governor Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas Saylor, and legislative leaders announced the initiation of the Task Force in January as part of partnership with Pew Charitable Trust to deliver a report with data-driven findings and policy recommendations to strengthen Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to leaders by November 30, 2020.

In addition to developing the report to leaders, the Task Force will spend the next year assessing the state's juvenile justice system by gathering diverse stakeholder input and determining how the state's juvenile justice system can best align current practices for the most successful outcomes.

During the meeting, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Chair and Allegheny County President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark remarked that strong partnerships among State-level leadership groups is a foundational strength of the system. Additionally, Russ Carlino, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Allegheny County alluded to the ability of the system to be flexible, evolve, and improve. Richard D. Steele, current Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission emphasized the extensive reforms currently being advanced in the system, including a strong commitment to use data to drive policy decisions.

In voicing challenges to the system, James E. Anderson, former Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Executive Director emphasized the lack of juvenile justice goals in the State's Human Service Code—an obstacle for access to funding for services for delinquent youth. Additionally, Mr. Steele, highlighted complications in meeting the needs of youth with profound mental and behavioral health issues.

The Task Force is co-chaired by Senator Lisa Baker, Senator Jay Costa, Representative Tarah Toohill, and Representative Mike Zabel.

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The full Task Force, selected for their expertise and unique perspectives, is made-up of the following members:

Appointed by Governor Tom Wolf:

- James E. Anderson, Former Executive Director (retired), Juvenile Court Judges' Commission
- Andrew Barnes, Executive Deputy Secretary of Policy and Planning, Office of Governor Tom Wolf
- Kevin Bethel, Special Adviser for School Safety, School District of Philadelphia
- Megan Black, Assistant District Attorney, Allegheny County
- Quimon Broady, Youth Member
- Russell Carlino, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Allegheny County
- Dominick DiSalvo, Senior Director of Clinical Services, KidsPeace
- Cynthia Figueroa, Deputy Mayor, Office of Children and Families, City of Philadelphia
- Steven Guccini, Commissioner, Pike County
- Helen Gym, Councilwoman At-Large, Philadelphia City Council
- Dan Jurman, Executive Director, Office of Advocacy and Reform
- Haundray Muir, Youth Member
- Michael Pennington, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
- Tara Piechowicz, Deputy Secretary of Policy and Planning, Office of Governor Tom Wolf
- Jonathan Rubin, Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families
- Tiffany Sizemore, Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education, Duquesne University School of Law
- Richard D. Steele, Executive Director, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission
- Matthew Stem, Deputy Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Scott Talley, Acting Director, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health Services
- Joseph Werner, School Social Worker, Pennridge School District

Appointed by the Legislature:

- Senator Lisa Baker, Senate District 20
- Senator Scott Martin, Senate District 13
- Senator Jay Costa, Senate District 43
- Senator Anthony H Williams, Senate District 8
- Representative Karen Boback, House District 117
- Representative Tara Toohil, House District 116
- Representative Kristine Howard, House District 167
- Representative Mike Zabel, House District 163

Appointed by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts:

- Judge Douglas Reichley, Lehigh County Court of Common Pleas
- Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, President Judge, Allegheny County and Chair, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission



Key Program Features:

- Nationally recognized program, taught by highly qualified and experienced faculty.
- Free tuition and lodging provided by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.
- A hybrid 33-credit program.
- Summer coursework fully online and 3 face-to-face weekend sessions during the fall and spring semesters.
- A cohort-based program designed to enhance professional networking across the Commonwealth.
- Practical courses designed for juvenile justice professionals with an emphasis on evidence-based practices.

Program Contact: Sonya Stokes, 717-477-1294 systokes@ship.edu



For program information, visit:
www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/Graduate-Education

2019 JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY RESULTS

In continuation of the 2019 Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Implementation Survey multi-part series, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is excited to share the Mental Health/Trauma infographic on the following page to offer a visual representation of the implementation and sustainability of these components of the JJSES in Pennsylvania. While Mental Health and Trauma are not considered criminogenic factors when assessing the risk to recidivate, they are responsibility factors that may impact the ability of the youth to adequately respond to the intervention(s) to address their identified criminogenic risk/need factors. Mental Health/Trauma screening tools and activities are recognized as integral components of Stages 2 and 3 within the JJSES Framework. These screening tools are intended to help guide and inform decisions related to detention, diversion, disposition, violations, and referrals for service.

The MAYSI-2 is a scientifically proven screening instrument that is designed to help juvenile probation departments and juvenile justice service providers identify youth, ages 12–17, who may have special mental health needs. In conjunction with Pennsylvania's Models for Change initiative, various juvenile probation departments began implementing the MAYSI-2 in 2007.

We have learned that youth who become involved in the juvenile justice system are more likely than their peers to have been exposed to multiple types of traumatic victimization. Left unaddressed, these experiences can lead to mental health and substance use disorders, school failure, increased risk taking, and delinquency. Through the Trauma Expansion Project, Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System is becoming more trauma informed and skilled in the use of various tools including the Child Trauma Screen (CTS) and the Trauma-Informed Decision Protocol (TIDP). The TIDP is an enhanced decision protocol for juvenile justice systems to guide responses to trauma screening based on the Risk-Needs-Responsivity model of case planning. Under the auspices of Dr. Keith Cruise of Fordham University, counties involved in the Trauma Expansion Project are scheduled to participate in the second phase of the TIDP training on March 11, 2020, at the Days Inn in State College.

To further advance the implementation and sustainability of the JJSES, the Trauma Informed Care in Criminal Justice training scheduled to take place on March 26, 2020, at the Days Inn in State College, is available to all counties. Instructed by Barbara Orr, this training will provide information on the nature of trauma, sources of trauma in a person's life, what it does to the body and brain, and behaviors/symptoms we tend to see in clients who have been significantly traumatized. To register for this event or other available training opportunities, please go to the [JCJC Event Management System \(JEMS\)](#).



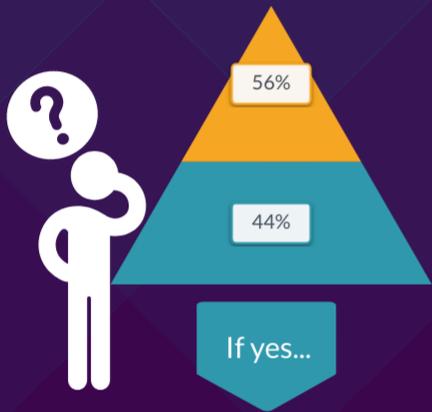
JSES Implementation Survey 2019

STAGE II: INITIATION

MENTAL HEALTH/ TRAUMA

Has your department implemented a mental health or trauma screening tool?

Yes (44%) No (56%)



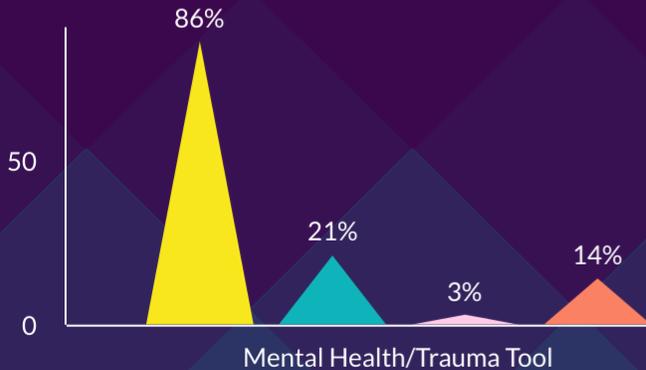
If no...

Sixteen additional departments plan to implement mental health or trauma related activities in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.



What mental health/trauma tools are being utilized by your department?

MAYSI-2 Adverse Childhood Experiences
UCLA PTSD Reaction Index Other



72% using a trauma screening tool received training on trauma.

72% of departments have a mental health or trauma screening policy

72% have received specific training focused on trauma.

83% use the results of their screening tools to determine the need for a more formal clinical behavioral health assessment in the majority of cases.

59% have included a mental health or trauma screening activities in their JJSES Implementation Plan this fiscal year.

COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

TOM BACKENSTOE RETIRES AS DIRECTOR OF CENTRE COUNTY PROBATION SERVICES



On January 31, 2020, Thomas E. Backenstoe retired as the Director of Centre County Probation Services following 35 years of dedicated service. Mr. Backenstoe began his juvenile justice career with Centre County in 1985 as a dual juvenile and adult probation officer. In 1991, he was promoted to supervisor of the juvenile division. In 2017, Mr. Backenstoe was appointed to Director of Centre County Probation Services.

For the past three years, Mr. Backenstoe has managed the adult and juvenile probation departments in Centre County. During his tenure, Mr. Backenstoe was instrumental in writing grants for the School-Based Probation Program, was central to the implementation of Balanced and Restorative Justice, and a key leader in the employment of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

Mr. Backenstoe received his undergraduate degree in Administration of Justice from Penn State University in 1985. He obtained his master's degree in Administration of Justice through the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's Graduate Education program at Shippensburg University in 1991. In 2007, Mr. Backenstoe started working at Penn State University as an adjunct professor. He has consistently taught two classes each semester in the Criminology Department and plans to continue this work.

Mr. Backenstoe recently accepted a position with the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing where he will be working as the Education and Outreach Specialist. Tom, we wish you well in your new career endeavor.

SOMERSET COUNTY CHIEF VICKI RASCONA-SAYLOR RETIRES

On January 31, 2020, Vicki L. Rascona-Saylor retired from Somerset County as the Chief Adult and Juvenile Probation Officer following 40 years of service to the department. Ms. Saylor began her career in the Somerset County Probation Department as an Employment Consultant in 1980. During her tenure, she worked in various capacities within the department, including Field Probation Officer, Pre-sentence Officer, Pre-sentence Supervisor, Administrative Supervisor, Deputy Chief and her final appointment in 2000 as Chief Probation Officer. Vicki was actively involved in the County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of Pennsylvania having served a term as the Treasurer of this association. She was also involved in the Pa Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers.



Ms. Saylor was active locally on many boards, including the Single County Authority Advisory Board, Drug Free Communities, Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Children and Youth Advisory Board and Children's Model Workgroup.

Vicki was responsible for the early implementation of several evidence-based practices in Somerset County. Her talented grant-writing skills led to the implementation of a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program

in the county jail, renovation of a building for a Work Release Center, the implementation of a county-operated Day Report Center, Victim Services, Intermediate Punishment and Treatment Court.

Ms. Saylor received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminology from Florida State University in 1979.

Everyone who worked within the department knew that Vicki had a strong conviction that change was possible. She was a strong proponent of programs such as Moral Reconciliation Therapy and Thinking for a Change. She also believed strongly in a balanced sanction-positive reinforcement system to motivate change. Vicki rarely took credit for her accomplishments, choosing to attribute the department's achievements to a supportive President Judge, a hard-working, seasoned and knowledgeable staff, and a good working relationship among members of the criminal justice system.

She is married to Scott and has two adult children, Ryan and Alex. Vicki is part of a large extended family with numerous brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, and a lovely Italian mother named Lucy. She is looking forward to spending time with her family, doing volunteer work with her church and throughout the community, traveling, and even doing some contracting work with the Probation Department.

BERKS COUNTY DEPUTY CHIEF LAURIE HAGUE RETIRES

After 30 years of dedicated and distinguished service, Berks County Juvenile Probation Office Deputy Chief Laurie (Hague) Dykty retired on February 4, 2020. Among her many accomplishments:

- Served an internship at a JPO in 1986 while an undergraduate at Kutztown University.
- Hired as a drug and alcohol probation officer in 1990 after working three years in Rhode Island at a methadone maintenance clinic.
- Promoted to Assistant Chief in 1999.
- Laurie was instrumental in the creation of the Juvenile Court's Community Youth Aid Panel program in 2000.
- In 2006, Laurie created the first detention risk assessment in the state and subsequently served on the Detention Risk Assessment committee.
- In 2009, Laurie, along with Jeff Gregro, became the first two appointees to the newly created position of Deputy Chief.
- Was a member of the team selected along with JCJC and PCCD to participate in Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform's Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project.
- Along with Deb Kopenhaver from Lehigh County, Laurie served as one of the first co-chairs of the Motivational Interviewing committee.
- Laurie's local and statewide efforts were recognized in 2014 when she joined previous Berks County JPO winner Russ Adams (2003) as the JCJC supervisor of the year.
- In 2015, she coordinated the department's efforts with the expanded JJ-TRIALS project with Temple University.
- During her last year, Laurie spent considerable time consulting with Berks County's adult treatment courts.



Taken at Laurie's retirement celebration: Berks County's three JCJC Supervisor of the Year winners; (left to right), Russ Adams, Laurie Hague, and Jeff Gregro.

SALLY BARRY APPOINTED TO POSITION AT PCCD



Sally Barry joined the staff of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) as their Director of the Office of Justice Programs, effective February 24, 2020. In this capacity, Sally will oversee the operations of all Justice Programs functions at PCCD, including efforts related to both criminal justice systems improvements, and juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

Prior to assuming her new position, Sally served for seventeen years as the Director of Probation Services for the County of Lebanon. In this role, Ms. Barry oversaw the operations of both juvenile and adult probation. While Director in Lebanon County, Ms. Barry provided leadership to various local and state level organizations and activities. Specifically, she served as Vice-President on the Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, she served as the President of the County Adult Probation/Parole Chiefs' Association, she was a member of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, and was the sole adult probation representative on the Justice Reinvestment II statewide working group. Ms. Barry also served on the Pennsylvania Adult Evidence-based Practice State Leadership team.

Ms. Barry holds a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Public Administration also from Pennsylvania State University. She has been active in the fields of criminal and juvenile justice for over 27 years. We wish Ms. Barry the best of luck in this new endeavor.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION TRAINED TO INTERPRET THE SPEP™

The footprint of Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) continues to permeate the Allegheny Juvenile Probation Department as additional probation staff were trained to understand how the SPEP™ can benefit their decision making. Building on a supervisor-focused training held in September 2019, Allegheny County JPO Administration devised a plan to facilitate several unit/departments trainings throughout 2020. The first of four scheduled training sessions was held on February 5th.

Over 30 juvenile probation staff representing the school-based and investigations departments, as well as the Eastern & Central District Offices, participated in a SPEP™ Informed Training held at the Northside CISP Center. Two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, enabled probation staff to gain a better understanding of how SPEP™ is affecting the services they utilize. The SPEP™ Informed Concept was initially developed to assist juvenile probation to:

- *Interpret* SPEP™ research findings and implications to inform recommendations for dispositional hearings in terms of risk, need, and responsivity factors.
- *Explain* this information to judges, district attorneys, public defenders, placement liaisons, and community-based providers.
- *Make specific recommendations* to the Court which match dosage and duration targets outlined in the research. This will assist communication with families in understanding length of stay or assigned weeks in community-based services.
- *Understand* service provider needs as the alignment between juvenile probation and the service provider becomes clear.

Allegheny County Juvenile Probation has seven staff trained as Level 1 SPEP™ Specialists (to create SPEP™ Scores), and an additional probation officer trained as a Level 2 SPEP™ Trainer. The goal is to have the majority of the department trained as SPEP™ Informed by mid-2020.

Additionally, service providers working with Allegheny County, have requested presentations based on the SPEP™ Informed Concept to help them better engage various layers within their organizations. In response, several SPEP™ Informed Trainings were held in tandem with other SPEP™ meetings and delivered by EPIS-Center staff.

Because probation departments and service providers are at different stages of implementing the SPEP™, each training is uniquely developed to best benefit the audience, as part of Service Provider Alignment, under JJSES Stage 3.

SPEP™ Informed Trainings can be facilitated for individual probation departments, service providers, or regionally upon request. For more information about SPEP™ Informed Trainings or inviting a training to your area, please contact Shawn Peck, SPEP™ Project Manager at smp31@psu.edu.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Beginning in March 2020, several beta counties across Pennsylvania will begin testing new technology to aid in case management. The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is working toward a data exchange between the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) and the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument version 2 (MAYSI-2).

The current process requires the user to log into the MAYSI-2 application separately and enter all juvenile information and their assessment. A new section created in PaJCMS will automate the login process to MAYSI-2 along with populating the juvenile's information into the assessment.

Once a MAYSI-2 assessment is completed, the user can logout of the MAYSI-2 application and will be required to log back into PaJCMS. When the user logs back into PaJCMS, the completed MAYSI-2 assessment will be viewable. Both the overall score and subscale scores will be available for review.

All of the reports available to MAYSI-2 users will still be available, for the time being, within the MAYSI-2 application. Additionally, JCJC is in the process of data sharing the MAYSI-2 secondary screening to the PaJCMS.

MAYSI Assessment Score for Cliff, Sepia [JP2010-000018]				
Assessment Date	Age at Assessment	Administered By	Score	Critical Case
01/31/2020	8	Forsythia, Edelweiss	25	Yes

Scale	Score	Caution	Warning	Invalid
Alcohol/Drug Use	6	Yes	Yes	No
Angry-Irritable	2	No	No	No
Depressed-Anxious	6	Yes	Yes	No
Somatic Complaints	0	No	No	No
Suicide Ideation	4	Yes	Yes	No
Thought Disturbance (Boys)	4	Yes	Yes	No
Traumatic Experiences	3	No	No	No

Juvenile Home	
✓	Juvenile Information
▶	Juvenile Calendar
▶	Address
▶	Alias
▶	Diagnosis
▶	Disability
▶	DNA Info
▶	Doctor
▶	Document
▶	Drug Testing
▶	Employment
▶	Family/Financial
▶	Gang Activity
▶	Graduated Response History
▶	ID Marks
▶	Insurance
▶	License/ID
▶	Notes
▶	Photo
▶	PO Safety
▶	Prescription
▶	Relationships
▶	School
▶	SSN
▶	WatchList
▶	Warrants
▶	Forms
▶	Juvenile Outcomes
▶	Juvenile MAYSI

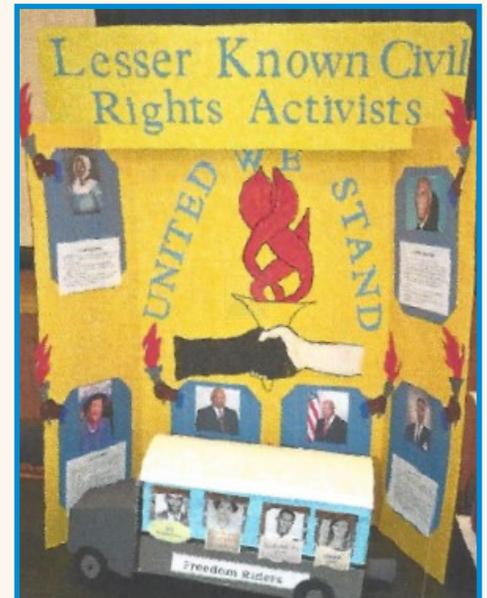
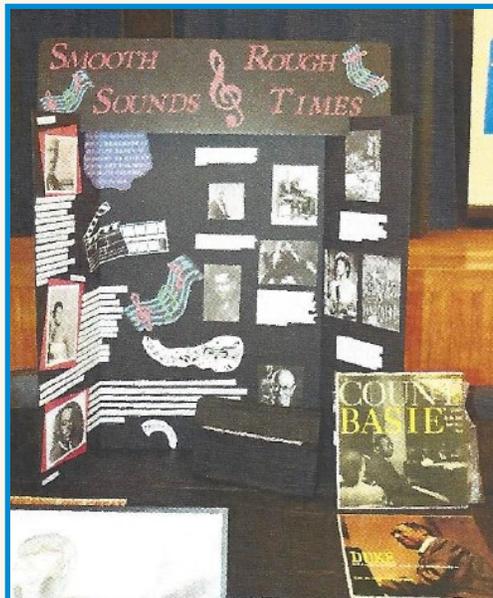
CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN PENNSYLVANIA

The Community Intensive Supervision Program (CISP), Allegheny County Juvenile Probation

CISP is a community-based alternative to incarceration that has been operating in Allegheny County for thirty years. The program is designed to offer intensive supervision and mentorship from staff who have grown up in similarly disadvantaged communities as many court-involved youth, as well as a combination of home-grown and evidence-based programming. CISP has a Black History Committee that organizes programming touching on African American history and culture throughout the year. For example, on Friday nights from November through January, the Alma Illery Medical Center in Homewood taught an African drumming class specifically for CISP youth. The goal was to educate them about African musical traditions that have influenced Black culture and music as well as to involve them in a recreational activity that was relaxing and enjoyable. Similarly, in March, CISP is organizing its annual Quiz Bowl, in which the six CISP Centers will compete in a jeopardy-style event that tests their knowledge of Black history and culture (e.g., Who was the first Black student to attend a previously all-White school in the Jim Crow South?). In addition, on Saturday, February 29th, the Penn Hills CISP Center will attend a tour of Pittsburgh's Underground Railroad historic sites. While there is no one big event this year in honor of Black History Month, educating youth about Black history and culture continues to play an important role in the CISP program.

Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, Inc. (A.R.C.)

A.R.C. has been offering residential placement services (and non-residential programming as well) to court adjudicated youth in Pennsylvania for forty-five years. Teaching African American history has always played an important part of the education that A.R.C. youth receive. For approximately twenty-five years, A.R.C. has held a Black History Fair in the month of February that features youth presentations and artistic displays, musical performances, and a trivia competition that county representatives, as well as prominent figures such as Governors Ridge and Corbett, have attended. This year, A.R.C. continues that tradition, though at a smaller scale than in past years. This year's event will occur at the beginning of March and will feature youth research projects investigating a major figure in African American history. From December through February, A.R.C.'s Social Studies curriculum focuses on Black history. Students do internet research on a pioneer in their field who was African American and somebody who they did not know about before and may have learned about in class. They will then give an oral presentation and also use their artistic talents to create a 3-sided display that captures a major theme in Black history that fits with the story of the historical figure they chose. See to the right for a couple of examples of the displays that youth have created in past years. This year's cohort is presenting on diverse figures such as Fritz Pollard, the first African American head coach in the National Football League, and post-Civil War electrical engineer and inventor Granville T. Woods.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

March

- 11 Trauma Informed Decision Protocol (TIDP)
(Invitation only)
State College
- 26 Trauma Informed Care in Criminal Justice
State College

April

- 14-15 Motivational Interviewing (MI) 101
State College
- 20-24 EPICS Train the Trainer
State College
- 29-30 The Internet, Social Media, and Data Privacy for
Juvenile Justice Professionals
Camp Hill

Registration available at
www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us

May

- 5-6 Probation Officer Well-Being: Strategies for Safe
Working Environments
State College
- 14-15 Heroin and Other Opioids
Camp Hill
- 18-22 Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation
Professional - Blended Learning Course
Camp Hill
- 26-27 Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol
(SPEP™) Level 1 Training
West Chester

June

- 2-3 Mindful Awareness Program for Wellness in
Juvenile Justice
State College
- 23-24 Motivational Interviewing (MI) Coaches
State College

September

- 24 Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol
(SPEP™) Informed Training
State College

Save the Date – 2020 Crime Victims' Rights Rally

Sponsored by Crime Victims' Alliance of Pennsylvania (CVAP)

Seek Justice – **Ensure** Victims' Rights – **Inspire** Hope

APRIL 20, 2020 – 11AM – HARRISBURG STATE CAPITOL – ROTUNDA

Exhibitor Tables can be reserved through Monica Iskrac at msiskr@ship.edu

A post rally event sponsored by The Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) will be held immediately following the Rally.

RESEARCH BRIEF



Blackmon, B.J., Robison, S.B., and Rhodes, J.L.F. (2016). "Examining the Influence of Risk Factors Across Rural and Urban Communities." *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 7(4), 615-638. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/689355>

This article examines a merged state-wide database of public school and juvenile court data in Louisiana to investigate patterns of delinquency among rural and urban juveniles. In general, there is much more research on urban delinquency patterns than on delinquency in rural areas, and few studies that compare rural and urban youth. The authors were able to consider a range of school-related variables such as grade retention and expulsions and suspensions, as well as demographic variables and prior court contact, in predicting whether youth in public school get referred to juvenile court. The main research questions were: (1) whether the main predictors of delinquency were the same for urban and rural youth, and (2) whether rural or urban youth were more likely to have juvenile justice contact after controlling for a variety of variables. Rural and urban counties were identified using U.S. Census tract codes and multi-level (hierarchical) logistic regression assessed the effect of variables on juvenile justice involvement.

Factors that predicted juveniles attending school being referred to juvenile court included previous juvenile justice involvement, male gender, previously failing a grade, receiving free lunch (a proxy for socioeconomic status), and previous school expulsion. Predictors of juvenile justice contact did not vary by rural versus urban youth. Contrary to what a couple of previous studies had found, rural juveniles were *more likely* to have juvenile court contact than urban juveniles who were otherwise similar. The authors hypothesize that the greater likelihood of juvenile justice involvement for rural youth may relate to the large decline in urban delinquency (part of the nationwide crime decline) and the fact that rural juvenile crime is a growing concern. They argue that there is a need for more research into juvenile delinquency and justice in rural areas.

Possible Implications:

1. The fact that predictors of delinquency did not vary for rural versus urban youth, suggests that a risk assessment tool such as the YLS could be equally predictive across rural and urban areas in Pennsylvania.
2. The merging of public school data with juvenile justice data allows for a richer understanding of the relationship between school outcomes and juvenile justice involvement, and something similar could be attempted in Pennsylvania.
3. Research comparing rural and urban delinquency patterns and juvenile justice system responses in Pennsylvania could help us to better understand how geography affects our court systems—and ultimately lead to more effective responses to delinquent behavior.

For questions or comments, email c-mschloss@pa.gov.



pennsylvania
OFFICE OF VICTIM ADVOCATE

JUVENILE JUSTICE VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

The Office of Victim Advocate now has a position specifically devoted to advocating for crime victims/survivors whose offenders are juveniles. The Juvenile Justice Victim Assistance Coordinator will create positive partnerships throughout the juvenile justice system to promote and strengthen balanced and restorative practices throughout the Commonwealth. This position will also aide in providing technical assistance to all victim assistance personnel at the local level who work exclusively with victims of juvenile offenders to ensure a warm hand off from county to state victim services.

Cathy Eichelberger has recently accepted this new position and is eager to begin overseeing the Restorative Group Conferencing curriculum, providing training and technical assistance to all 67 counties, and serving as the OVA representative at all juvenile justice related meetings.

Cathy's career spans work as a civilian police aide in Manheim Township, park ranger and Chief Ranger with Lancaster County, intake caseworker/supervisor with York County Office of Children, Youth and Families. Over 20 years with YCOCYF, Cathy worked with various systems and agencies including Dependency Court, Juvenile Probation Office, Mental Health Intelligential Disability, and Drug & Alcohol. Cathy brings with her a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, a Masters in Social Work, and a Doctorate in Human Services. OVA is grateful to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency for the path they have carved for this work to be done by providing a grant in support with the Juvenile Court Judges Commission so that OVA may perform this vital work throughout the Commonwealth.

The role of the Juvenile Justice Victim Advocate will continue to evolve and grow as the needs of the victims and corresponding systems are identified. Cathy will begin reaching out to every county and scheduling time to meet and learn more about the great work being done throughout the Commonwealth on behalf of crime victims whose offenders are juveniles.

Please contact Cathy at ceichelber@pa.gov or 717.783.2750 for assistance and additional information.



NPJS TRAINING FOR TRAINERS

Presented by:

National Partnership for Juvenile Services

Hosted by: Pennsylvania Partnership for Juvenile Services

August 10 – 14, 2020

Mon-Thu 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Fri 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

County Commissioners Association of PA
2789 Old Post Road
Harrisburg, PA 17110

PPJS is hosting a 1-week Training for Trainers presented by the NPJS. This is an excellent training for new agency training directors/trainers and a great refresher/professional development opportunity for existing agency trainers.

This is a course that trains folks in adult learning theory and focuses on how to be a good trainer regardless of the curricula. However, they use a NPJS established curriculum as the template for the sessions which addresses training of staff in programs that work with juvenile justice involved youth.

Registration information can be found at www.pp-js.org or by clicking [HERE!](#)



SLR LEADERSHIP CONSULTING, LLC

SLR Leadership Academy: Getting Comfortable With Feedback

Friday, March 27, 2020
9:00AM – 4:00PM

Presenter: Dr. Kelly Waltman

The Park CoWorking Space
330 E Park Dr.
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Register Online:
www.SLRleadershipconsulting.com

Workshop Cost: \$150.00
Lunch is included with registration.

What you'll learn:

- Understanding your leadership style
- What does effective feedback look like?
- Understanding the Feedback Loop
- Why does feedback matter?
- The Four Steps to Cultivating a Feedback Culture
- Keeping the momentum



STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

conservation begins here.



PENNSYLVANIA OUTDOOR CORPS SUMMER YOUTH CREW MEMBERS

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps Summer Program offers young people, ages 15 to 18, the opportunity to serve on a team completing conservation projects to protect, enhance and restore Pennsylvania's public lands. Join a crew of 10 members and two leaders working on trail maintenance, habitat restoration, vegetation management, park maintenance, light construction and more. Environmental education and job skills trainings are also provided. Please note that the work can be physically demanding and takes place outdoors in all weather conditions.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

- **Dates:** June 29th – August 7th, 2020 (six weeks)
- **Hours:** Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM
- **Locations:** Allentown, Altoona, Chambersburg, Erie, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Hazleton, Meadville, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Pottstown, Renovo, St Marys, Wilkes-Barre, Wellsboro, Williamsport and York
- **Compensation:** \$12.00/hour, transportation to work site, breakfast and lunch provided.
- **Transportation:** Members must have reliable transportation to the crew meeting location. Locations are dependent on member zip codes and public transportation access (if applicable), usually a public site is selected at a school, park, or state office building centrally located in each city.
- **Application Dates for open enrollment:** February 1 – April 1, 2020. We will not be making crew selections until after April 1, 2020.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Ages of 15 to 18 at the start of the program.
- Able to conduct physical work in challenging, outdoor conditions.
- Be enthusiastic about working on a diverse crew.
- Have an interest in conservation and natural resource management.
- Able to model safe and professional behavior at all times.
- Able to commit to the full 6 weeks of the program.

TO APPLY:

- Download application instructions [HERE](#), and visit <http://thesca.force.com/members/NewRegistration> to get started on a new application or to update your existing application with your current dates of availability.
- Complete and submit the Basic Application, Program Application for Community Crews and the Final Application.
- Upon completing the SCA application, email paoutdoorcorps@thesca.org with your name and desired crew location in the title to let us know that you are interested.

To learn more, visit:

thesca.org/serve/program/pennsylvania-outdoor-corps





NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

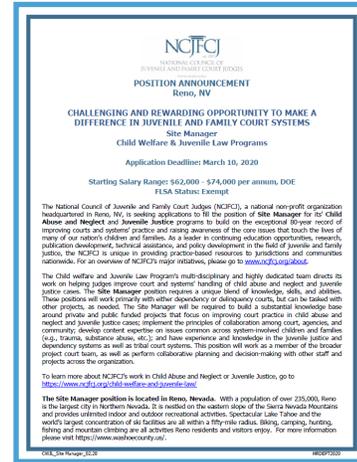
OJJDP ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

OJJDP has announced the following fiscal year 2020 funding opportunities:

- [Alaska Children's Advocacy Center Expansion Initiative for Child Abuse Victims](#)
All applications are due by March 25, 2020.
- [2020 Family Drug Court Program](#)
All applications are due by March 25, 2020.
- [Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces: Forensic Capacity Hiring Program for Wounded Veterans](#)
All applications are due by March 26, 2020.
- [National AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program](#)
All applications are due by March 26, 2020.
- [OJJDP FY 2020 Alaska Native Youth Training and Technical Assistance Project](#)
All applications are due by March 30, 2020.
- [OJJDP FY 2020 Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Program](#)
All applications are due by March 30, 2020.
- [Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program Support](#)
All applications are due by April 6, 2020.
- [Enhancing Juvenile Indigent Defense](#)
All applications are due by April 6, 2020.
- [Training and Technical Assistance to Expand Children's Advocacy Centers Serving American Indian/Alaska Native Communities](#)
All applications are due by April 7, 2020.
- [Tribal Children's Advocacy Center Expansion Initiative for Child Abuse Victims](#)
All applications are due by April 7, 2020.
- [Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative](#)
All applications are due by April 13, 2020



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT



Site Manager

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