



# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

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## GRADUATED RESPONSE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MENTORSHIP (GR-TAM) PROJECT

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) and Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (Chiefs' Council) have identified implementation of Graduated Response (GR) across Pennsylvania counties as a top priority for the next several years.

The Graduated Response Technical Assistance Mentorship (GR-TAM) Project will establish a model in which representatives from peer probation departments experienced with Graduated Response will help Pennsylvania counties facilitate their development and implementation of Graduated Response in accordance with the Graduated Response Systems Guiding Principles and Protocol Document. Technical assistance mentorship will be provided to counties through teams of (a) peer mentors, or juvenile probation staff with knowledge of and expertise in Graduated Response who have actively participated in their departments' Graduated Response development and implementation processes, and (b) a content specialist with expertise in adolescent development, evidence-based behavior change principles with youth, and other content related to Graduated Response. These teams will collaborate with an identified county's juvenile probation department via in-person meetings, video conferencing, and online via a resource platform, to assist the county with developing and implementing its own Graduated Response system. Team members and county recipients will be selected and technical assistance provided during the first half of 2020.

Dr. Leah Brogan, as a Stoneleigh Foundation Emerging Leader Fellow in Dr. Naomi Goldstein's Juvenile Justice Research and Reform Lab at Drexel University, will collaborate with JCJC and the Chiefs' Council to direct the GR-TAM Project. She will also provide content expertise on adolescent development, evidence-based behavior change principles, and Graduated Response to technical assistance mentorship teams and county recipients. Previously, Dr. Brogan was a psychology postdoctoral fellow with the Violence Prevention Initiative at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). She has an extensive background working to improve and implement best practices for at-risk and justice-involved youth in hospital and community settings. She has presented and published widely on adolescent development and juvenile justice reform. She completed her clinical internship in juvenile justice behavioral health at Brown University's Alpert Medical School. She is also an Associate Fellow at CHOP's Center for Injury Research and Prevention. Dr. Brogan holds a BA in psychology from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD in clinical psychology with a juvenile forensic psychology specialization from Drexel University. She is excited to join Dr. Goldstein and the Juvenile Justice Research and Reform Lab in partnering with counties across Pennsylvania to promote successful implementation of effective, evidence-based, Graduated Response systems.

For more information relating to Graduated Response systems in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system, please contact Angela Work at [awork@pa.org](mailto:awork@pa.org) or Andrew Benner at [abenner@ccpa.net](mailto:abenner@ccpa.net).

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## DAWN BUTTS JOINS CJT&R STAFF



The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is pleased to announce Dawn Butts joined the staff on January 21, 2020 as Quality Assurance Supervisor at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R). In this role, she will be responsible for the data collection, data analyses, and publication of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Court Annual Report, as well as working with the counties to assure quality and data integrity for juvenile cases entered into Pennsylvania's Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS).

Dawn has been employed with the Shippensburg University for the past 15 years, most recently as a Management Technician in the Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Compliance. Ms. Butts graduated from Shippensburg University in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and serves as a volunteer for the Cumberland County Youth Aid panel. She can be reached at 717-477-1912 or [dawbutts@pa.gov](mailto:dawbutts@pa.gov).

## 2020 JCJC AWARDS COMMITTEE

On January 16<sup>th</sup> the 2020 JCJC Awards Committee convened at the Days Inn in State College to discuss this year's James E. Anderson PA Conference on Juvenile Justice Youth and Professional Award Programs. This year's Awards Committee includes Teresa Wilcox, Chair (McKean); John Boeckman (Crawford); Michele Howard (Allegheny); Patrick Micco (Lawrence); Kimmy Mulik (Carbon); Diana Munson (Chester); Justin Popovich (Bradford); and Amy Warner (Philadelphia).

The committee reviewed the survey results for the 2019 award programs and discussed changes and improvements for 2020. In preparation for distribution in early March, the committee reviewed and updated award nomination forms. The committee also discussed potential youth award speaker recommendations for JCJC.

To close out their meeting, the committee selected the theme for this year's Youth Awards Program "2020 I Can See Change". Youth entering the Creative Expression Contest are to submit mix media (e.g., poster, video or audio) or written submissions based on their interpretation of this year's theme.



The awards committee will reconvene this summer to select the youth and professional award winners. Please note: all previous professional award submissions that were **not** winners in their category may be resubmitted for consideration.

## JCJC POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Beginning in February 2020, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission will be seeking applicants for the position of Juvenile Court Consultant. This position is responsible for providing technical assistance to juvenile courts and juvenile probation departments throughout the Commonwealth, while also representing the JCJC on various committees and workgroups. This position is based at the JCJC's Administrative Office in Harrisburg.

This is a civil service position. **The application and examination for this position is currently being developed and will be accessible on the Commonwealth's Employment website in mid-February.** (<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau>)

Once available, the application process will remain open for 30 days.

Applicants must possess five years of experience as a juvenile probation officer and a master's degree in criminal justice, criminology, or the behavioral sciences.

Please contact Rick Steele at [ricsteele@pa.gov](mailto:ricsteele@pa.gov) or (717) 787-6910 if you have any questions or require additional information.



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN THE  
**ADMINISTRATION OF  
JUVENILE JUSTICE**  
ENROLLING NOW FOR FALL 2020  
Apply today at [SHIP.EDU/APPLY](http://SHIP.EDU/APPLY)

### 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](mailto:systokes@ship.edu)



For program information, visit:  
[www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/Graduate-Education](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/Graduate-Education)

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# GIVE BACK!

## Dr. Thomas L. Austin Undergraduate Scholarship Fund

We invite you to participate in supporting the Dr. Thomas L. Austin Undergraduate Scholarship Fund. Since 1986, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to an undergraduate student at Shippensburg University majoring in Criminal Justice. This scholarship is named in honor of Dr. Thomas L. Austin, who taught in the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University from its inception in 1982 until his retirement in 2011. The criteria for this scholarship are academic excellence and an interest in juvenile justice.

**Donate to the Juvenile Justice Scholarship Fund today!**  
<https://tinyurl.com/JJScholarshipFund>

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## 2019 JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY RESULTS

In continuation of a multi-part newsletter series, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is pleased to share the Motivational Interviewing (MI) infographic on the following page to illustrate the implementation and sustainability of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) in Pennsylvania. The Motivational Interviewing 101 (April 14-15, 2020 at the Days Inn State College) and Motivational Interviewing Coaches (June 23-24, 2020 at the Days Inn State College) trainings are quickly approaching. To register for either of these events, please go to the [JCJC Event Management System \(JEMS\)](#).



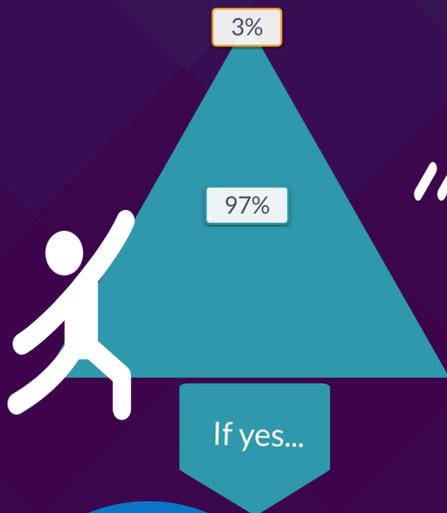
# JJSES Implementation Survey 2019

## STAGE II: INITIATION

### MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING (MI)

Has your department implemented Motivational Interviewing?

Yes (97%) No (3%)



Two additional departments plan to implement MI during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.



78% of departments have initiated formal implementation of the seven recommended steps in the "Motivational Interviewing: Implementation and Practice Manual".

42% have a MI policy.

What methods of quality assurance have been initiated?

62% Booster Training.

37% Coaching Sessions.

41% Skills Practice.

35% Supervisory Review.

100% have initiated/completed Step I...

98% Step II...

94% Step III...

88% Step IV...

90% Step V...

74% Step VI...

76% Step VII.

There are 152 MI Coaches in juvenile probation departments across the state of Pennsylvania.

42% of MI Coaches are responsible for training & quality assurance.

61% have included MI activities in their JJSES Implementation Plan this fiscal year.





# SAVE the DATE

## SPEP™ TRAININGS FOR PROBATION DEPARTMENTS

### Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist Training

**When:**

May 26, 2020, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
May 27, 2020, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

**Where:**

Chester County Government Services Center  
601 Westtown Rd., Suite 149  
West Chester, PA 19382

**What to Expect:**

Level 1 SPEP™ Specialists are trained to assess community-based and residential programs with the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™). The training process to become a Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist consists of initial training (classroom), shadowing, and co-facilitation/facilitation. The training process takes approximately one year to complete. Probation staff that are trained as a Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist are not expected to travel outside their county after they complete the training and are encouraged to focus on local community-based and residential programs. Staff from the Penn State EPISCenter provide technical assistance and training for all SPEP™ assessments and limit the workload for probation staff as they implement the SPEP™.

### SPEP™ Informed Training

**When:**

September 24, 2020, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Where:**

State College, PA  
*Exact location to be announced.*

**What to Expect:**

While it is the intention for more probation staff to be trained to implement the SPEP™, probation departments have different needs and capacities which impact their ability to become fully involved with the SPEP™ project. The SPEP™ Informed training will enable probation staff to gain a better understanding of how SPEP™ is affecting the services they utilize. This four-hour training helps probation staff to interpret the research, explain the findings, make informed decisions, and understand service provider needs to meet the recommendations of the SPEP™.

**Each training is offered through the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's (JCJC) Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R). There is no registration cost. Each probation department is eligible for up to \$550.00 in travel reimbursement for participation in SPEP™ trainings per fiscal year, courtesy of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).**



## TECHNOLOGY CORNER

### New Assessments for the New Year

Throughout the past decade, the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) has worked closely with juvenile justice leaders and committees to keep the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) up to date with the latest juvenile justice initiatives. Some of the major projects over the past several years involved overhauling the Outcome Measures for case closing, kicking off the Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment (PaDRAI) for making pre-adjudicatory detention decisions, implementing graduated responses to measure incentives and sanctions, and updating the Youth Level of Service (YLS) tool for assessing risk. As we enter the new year and new decade, we are preparing to integrate two more assessments in PaJCMS.

Starting last November, we began piloting the Trauma Screening tool. The tool tracks screenings scored by the caregiver and the child separately, but the questions on both are the same. The first section of the screening focuses on traumatic events that the child may have experienced, such as violence or loss. The second section focuses on reactions to those traumatic events, such as anxiety, depression, or insomnia. Before the official rollout, this screen will be updated based on feedback we received from the researchers when the pilot was released.

We are also testing out an integration of a mental health assessment in PaJCMS in conjunction with the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI) already in use by some of the counties. For this integration, we are using some of the new technology from the upcoming PaJCMS rewrite to allow our two systems to communicate back and forth. Users of PaJCMS will be able to click a button that will log out of PaJCMS and send them into the MAYSI, along with the necessary information about the juvenile being assessed. Once the MAYSI is completed, the assessment information is shared with PaJCMS and can be viewed when the user logs back into PaJCMS.

The MAYSI integration is our first project to use the technology from the rewrite. As we continue to move forward into the year 2020 and beyond, we are excited to look for more ways to use this new technology both for new initiatives and improving old projects.



## 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](mailto:msiskr@ship.edu)

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

# STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## February

- 5 Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument: Version 2 (MAYSI~2)  
(Available to Lackawanna and Susquehanna counties only)  
Scranton
- 11 Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument: Version 2 (MAYSI~2)  
(Available to Lehigh and Delaware counties only)  
Allentown

## March

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

## April

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

## 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

**Registration is available in JEMS for the 2020 professional development opportunities.**

[www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us)



# NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## NEW ISSUE OF AMBER ADVOCATE NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE

OJJDP has released the latest issue of [The AMBER Advocate](#) newsletter. This issue features articles on:

- The 2019 AMBER Alert in Indian Country Symposium and remarks by Pamela Foster, the mother of Ashlynn Mike, a Navajo girl who was abducted and murdered.
- The Good Samaritan and Minnesota AMBER Alert that led to the safe return of two abducted girls.
- Tanea Parmenter, Idaho's AMBER Alert co-coordinator.



The U.S. Department of Justice and the [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#) coordinate the [AMBER Alert program](#) nationally.

### RESOURCES:

- Access [previous issues](#) of the newsletter.
- Visit the redesigned AMBER Alert [website](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## OJJDP NEWS @ A GLANCE, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announces the availability of [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), November/



December 2019. In this issue's Message from the Administrator, Caren Harp reviews OJJDP activities during fiscal year (FY) 2019, including a comprehensive 3-day national training conference designed to assist states and territories in their administration of OJJDP's Title II Formula Grants Program. The top story highlights the agency's FY 2019 awards totaling more than \$320 million to protect public safety, ensure offenders are held accountable, and empower youth to live productive and law-abiding lives.

Other features in this issue—

- [President Trump Addresses Police Chiefs' Conference](#)
- [November: National Native American Heritage Month](#)
- [OJJDP Convening Focuses on Gang Violence Prevention and Suppression](#)
- [Staff Spotlight: Associate Administrator James Antal](#)
- [Stakeholder's Corner: Supporting Vermont Youth and Families Impacted by the Opioid Crisis](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [News in Brief](#)
- [News from the Coordinating Council](#)

### RESOURCES:

- [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), November/December (NCJ 254270) is available [online](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## OJJDP ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

OJJDP has announced the following fiscal year 2020 funding opportunities:

- [Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation \(CTAS\)](#) (*Open to federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia.*)
  - CTAS Category 8: Juvenile Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts



- CTAS Category 9: Tribal Youth Program
- All applications are due by February 25, 2020.

- [Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and their Minor Children](#)

All applications are due by March 10, 2020.

- [Juvenile Justice Emergency Planning Demonstration Program](#)

All applications are due by March 16, 2020.

### RESOURCES:

- Visit the [funding page](#) for details about these and other OJJDP funding opportunities.
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

This publication is produced monthly by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Guest articles are welcome; please submit by e-mail to [ra-oajcnews@pa.gov](mailto:ra-oajcnews@pa.gov).

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