Susan L. Blackburn Receives The Dennis M. Maloney Award

Susan L. Blackburn received the prestigious Dennis M. Maloney Award on November 5, 2015, during the Thursday afternoon plenary session at the 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice. The plenary session was entitled “Balanced and Restorative Justice: The Story Behind the Redefinition of Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice Mission”, and featured many of the individuals involved in crafting Act 33 of Special Session No. 1 of 1995 which redefined the very mission of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers established the Dennis M. Maloney Award in 1997 to periodically honor individuals who have made truly exceptional contributions to Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system. Susan is just the third person to receive this prestigious award. The first presentation of the award was made to Bucks County Judge Kenneth Biehn in 2007, and the second award was presented in 2009 to James Rieland who, at that time, was the Director of the Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Department.

Susan is perhaps the most passionate advocate for balanced and restorative justice in the nation. She has been a staunch supporter of victims’ rights and services, developed relationships with many in the victims’ community, and has advocated on their behalf to all of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system stakeholders. Her vision, energy, and commitment to achieving a balanced and restorative juvenile justice system in Pennsylvania has continued unabated since her days as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Somerset County, and throughout her tenure as Pennsylvania’s Balanced and Restorative Justice Specialist.
Background on the Dennis M. Maloney Award

Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system lost a dear friend on February 6, 2007, when Dennis Maloney died unexpectedly in his home town of Bend, Oregon. He was only 55 years old. “Denny,” as he was known to us, was last in Harrisburg to deliver the keynote address at the 2006 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice. The theme for that conference was “Celebrating a Decade of Commitment to Achieving a Balanced and Restorative Juvenile Justice System (1996 – 2006).”

Although Denny never lived in Pennsylvania, very few individuals had a more profound impact upon our juvenile justice system. Denny first began working in Pennsylvania during the 1980’s, when he passionately advocated for the principles of community protection, accountability, youth competency development, individualized assessment of each youth, and system balance.

Following the enactment of Act 33, Denny served as the keynote speaker at our 1996 conference. His keynote address, entitled “Community, Victim and Offender: Changing Roles in Juvenile Justice,” was the cornerstone of the system reform efforts that continue today.

During his keynote address at the 2006 conference, which was entitled “Celebrating the Journey: The Role of Pennsylvania in Shaping Juvenile Justice Policy in America,” Denny detailed the important work that had been done since the passage of Act 33 in 1995, and stated that it was his sincere belief that Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system will be to the next 100 years what Cook County, Illinois...the home of the world’s first juvenile court...was to the first 100 years of our nation’s juvenile court movement.

No one had a better perspective on the work we had been doing in Pennsylvania than Denny Maloney and, indeed, Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system is in a better place because of him.

"Victim/Community Awareness: An Impact of Crime Curriculum for Juvenile Offenders" Spanish Translation

The participant documents for the Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum for juvenile offenders have been translated to Spanish by the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department. The translated documents include all role plays and handouts for the entire course. These materials enhance the ability of probation officers and providers to facilitate group sessions with Spanish-speaking youth. This project was supported by the Disproportionate Minority Contact Grant of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. To obtain copies of the translated participant handouts for the curriculum, please contact Monica Iskric, at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at 717-477-1709 or at msiskr@ship.edu.
Family Guide to Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System Available

The Family Guide to Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice System continues to be available in hard copy. These guides have been distributed to juvenile courts and probation offices throughout the Commonwealth who have subsequently distributed them to parents, police officers, service providers, schools, local community members and organizations, and other system stakeholders. In addition to receiving positive reports from the field, a study completed in conjunction with the Juvenile Law Center demonstrated support for the helpfulness of the guide.

Chief probation officers (n = 5), probation officers (n = 150), and family members (n = 79) in five Pennsylvania counties were surveyed regarding their experience with the guide. Results demonstrated that probation staff and family members find the Family Guide to be a helpful tool for facilitating communication. Additionally, data analysis showed that families who reported receiving a guide were more likely to understand what is happening in the court process, as well as the guidelines and expectations for their child.

The Family Guide was written by a team of family advocates and juvenile justice practitioners with guidance from the Family Involvement Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. It includes an overview of the juvenile justice system process, and provides vital information to help families understand the juvenile justice system and the roles and responsibilities of all individuals involved in their child’s case. It is anticipated that the guide will continue to experience broad distribution throughout the Commonwealth and be offered to all parents of youth coming to the attention of the Commonwealth’s juvenile justice system.

Some suggestions for individuals using the Family Guide include:

- Provide the publication to all families you are serving and offer to answer any questions they may pose.
- Display the guide in your waiting room.
- Ensure Community and School Based Probation Officers have them available to distribute in their respective schools.
- Share with your local juvenile justice stakeholders, police officers and service providers.

For hard copies of the Family Guide contact Monica Iskric at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at msiskr@ship.edu or (717) 477-1709. The publication can also be found on the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission website www.jcjc.pa.gov or the website of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers at www.pachiefprobationofficers.org.

For questions regarding the “Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice Family Guide: An Initial Implementation Review” report, please contact Kelly Waltman-Spreha at kjwtaltspreha@ship.edu.
On October 19-21, 2015, representatives from six additional Pennsylvania Counties were trained on the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol. Luzerne, Lycoming, Mercer, York, Venango, and McKean Counties sent representatives to State College for the 3 day training. Also in attendance was an additional probation officer from Bucks County (one of the 2013 pilot counties), 3 members of the Department of Human Services’ BJJS staff and Deborah Hinchsliff, Principal Program Officer for the Department of Justice and Attorney General in Queensland, Australia. The new SPEP Specialists returned to State College for an additional day of service classification training on December 11, 2015.

The SPEP is a validated, data driven assessment tool developed by Dr. Mark Lipsey, used to determine how well the characteristics of an existing program match research evidence for that type of intervention. The SPEP is based on a meta-analysis conducted by Dr. Lipsey of more than 700 research studies of programs designed to reduce recidivism. Pennsylvania was one of the first states to pilot the SPEP beginning with Berks County’s participation in the Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project through Georgetown University’s Center for Juvenile Justice System Reform in 2011. In 2013, the pilot expanded to include Bucks, Lehigh, Allegheny, and Dauphin Counties.

The training was conducted by Pennsylvania’s Level 2 Certified SPEP trainers. Pennsylvania is the only state in the nation with certified trainers of SPEP. These Level 2 Trainers, which include EPISCenter staff, county juvenile probation personnel, and an independent consultant, underwent an extensive training in 2014, conducted by Dr.’s Lipsey and Chapman of the Peabody Research Institute at Vanderbilt University. With the addition of these six counties, there are now 11 counties in Pennsylvania piloting the SPEP.

Shadowing experiences are already underway for the new trainees. These experiences provide an opportunity for the trainees to observe trained SPEP Specialists and Level 2 trainers conduct SPEP interviews and make scoring determinations. Presentations on the SPEP in the new counties are already underway. These presentations inform the juvenile court and probation staff, county stakeholders and contracted service providers about the SPEP and offer the opportunity for questions to be asked and answered. The EPISCenter Juvenile Justice System Improvement Specialists provide assistance with these presentations, and they organize quarterly “Learning Community” meetings where the SPEP pilot counties, consultants, and BJJS staff come together for additional professional development and training. In addition to training and learning from one another during this pilot phase, these meetings are a venue for the creation of SPEP resources, such as the Performance Improvement Process developed for Pennsylvania. SPEP, a JJSES Stage 3 activity, is currently being supported by the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenter) at Penn State University.
Pennsylvania 2016
Family Group Decision Making Statewide Conference
“Coloring Outside the Lines...”

Tuesday, April 26, 2016
1:00 – 1:30 Welcome, Opening Remarks
   Honorable Max Baer, Justice, Pennsylvania Supreme Court;
   Cathy Utz, Deputy Secretary,
   Office of Children, Youth and Families
1:30 – 3:00 Keynote Presentation
   Michael Nerney
3:00 – 3:15 Break
3:15 – 4:45 Keynote Presentation (continued)
   Honorable William A. Thorne, Jr. (ret.)
6:30 – until Dinner
   Moderator: Keith Snyder,
   Executive Director,
   Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission

Wednesday, April 27, 2016
7:30 – 8:45 Breakfast (continental)
9:00 – 10:30 Breakout Session A
10:45 – 12:15 Breakout Session B
12:15 – 1:15 Lunch
1:15 – 2:45 Breakout Session C
3:00 – 4:15 Family Panel

Workshop Session A
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
   FGDM & Family Finding - Making the Connection
   Domestic Violence Part I: The Positive Impact of FGDM for Families
   Experiencing Domestic Violence
   The Adolescent Brain and the Role of Trust in Planning and Decision Making
   Engaging Individuals with Mental Health Concerns in the FGDM Process
   Merging FGDM and Juvenile Justice in Restorative Reporting Centers: A Creative Approach to Engaging Families
   Leadership and the Parallel Process: Using FGDM to Engage Staff in Decision Making
   Creating a Trauma Informed Court through Servant Leadership: The Role of the Judge in Fostering FGDM and Other Family Driven Practices

Workshop Session B
10:45 AM – 12:15 PM
   Using the FGDM Model to Decrease and Eliminate Truancy
   Completing the Circle: Concurrent Planning Using Family Finding, Blended Perspectives Meetings and FGDM as Best Practice
   Domestic Violence Part II: Planning for a Safe Conference
   The Use of Motivational Interviewing to Improve Engagement and Outcomes
   Values, Roles and Responsibilities that Impact Father Engagement in FGDM
   Reducing Implicit Bias: Improving Family Engagement
   Family Engagement…What Have We Learned?

Workshop Session C
1:15 PM – 2:45 PM
   Using FGDM Model to Enhance Youth Transition Plans
   FGDM’s Positive Effects on Kinship Care
   Engaging Families in their Work Using the 3-5-7 Model© Guided Practice Approach
   Supervision and Making FGDM the Way We Do Business
   The Role of FGDM in Successful Recovery Planning
   Overview of Data from the Statewide FGDM Evaluation
   FGDM and the Court: A Diverse Role Perspective

Register now at http://www.cvent.com/d/3rqb21
Research in Brief


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. The need to have access to 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.

CBT and Anger Issues


Retrieved from: https://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_CBT_Anger-Sept2010.pdf

The authors conducted a meta-analysis of the studies which used cognitive-behavioral therapy as an intervention with individuals experiencing problems with anger. The researchers used 50 studies reported in the literature between 1970 and 1995. These studies included sample populations of varying characteristics, such as adult prison inmates and children with aggressive classroom behavior. The meta-analysis resulted in very robust findings, which indicate cognitive-behavioral therapy can be used as a successful intervention for anger issues with a wide array of populations.

“Meta-analysis is a quantitative procedure for evaluating effectiveness by the calculation of effect sizes. The effect size expresses the magnitude of difference between the treated and untreated subjects.” For this meta-analytic review, Beck and Fernandez searched several databases to capture as many possible cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) studies related to the treatment of anger. They targeted the timeframe of 1970 to 1995 and found 58 relevant studies. Of the 58 studies, 50 were included for the meta-analysis and incorporated a total of 1,640 subjects. Although they did not limit for inclusion the population type studied, they did ensure that all studies included were based on cognitive-behavioral treatments. “Studies using purely cognitive or behavioral interventions alone were not included.”

Upon analyzing the results of the studies and controlling for a variety of differences in the 50 studies, the researchers found significant results. Specifically, the meta-analysis concluded that “the average subject in the CBT treatment condition fared better than 76% of those not receiving CBT.”

These robust and significant findings suggest that CBT can be an effective tool when intervening on anger management issues, regardless of the individual’s specific characteristics. Whether adult or juvenile, prison inmate or college student with reported anger problems, cognitive-behavioral therapy can be employed with the expectation of modest results.
Practical Applications

✓ Use CBT techniques in contact sessions. For example, have the youth identify triggers that lead to anger, then discuss, create, and rehearse with the youth self-statements designed to reframe the client’s anger response. An example of a self-statement might be, “It isn’t worth blowing up over this.”

✓ Discuss with and encourage youth to utilize relaxation skills such as deep breathing and pausing before reacting, when faced with situations that trigger anger.

✓ For youth who are court-ordered to anger management classes, ensure that the referral agency is using a CBT-based curriculum (such as ART). If they are not using CBT, consider using a CBT program instead.

✓ Brainstorm with the youth to identify ways to develop a calm state. For example, designate a quiet place to go and calm down or identify friends or family who the youth can call on the spot for assistance in calming down.

Limitations of Information

Although controlled for statistically, the meta-analysis included studies of varying quality; i.e., 80% of the studies that were included used control groups, samples were comprised of a variety of populations, studies had different outcome measures, and more than half the studies used self-report outcome data instead of third party observation. The study identified these issues, weighted data, and engaged statistical methods to ensure meaningful results.

The summary does not account for any of the specific variables contained within the summarized studies. Studies consisted of behavioral health programs, prison programs, and community correction programs. It is unclear how closely these populations compare with the Pennsylvania juvenile justice population. The summary does not explain how each study defined recidivism.

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

JJSES Statement of Purpose

We dedicate ourselves to working in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by: employing evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process; collecting and analyzing the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, striving to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services and programs.

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

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

OJJDP Announces Second Chance Act Funding Opportunity

OJJDP has announced the following fiscal year 2016 funding opportunity:

Second Chance Act Strengthening Relationships Between Young Fathers, Young Mothers, and Their Children. This initiative will provide funding to support the successful transition for young fathers and mothers as they return to their families and communities from detention, out-of-home placement, or incarceration. Applications are due by March 3, 2016.

Resources:
Visit OJJDP’s funding page for more information about this funding opportunity.

Winter Issue of AMBER Advocate Newsletter Now Available

OJJDP has released the winter 2015 issue of The AMBER Advocate newsletter. In addition to a profile of Jim Walters, the new AMBER Alert Program Director, this issue features articles on:

Best practices for law enforcement to help families of homicide victims.
The role a Wireless Emergency Alert played in a California AMBER Alert recovery.
AMBER Alert in Indian Country.
AMBER Alert International.
AMBER Alert news and resources.
The U.S. Department of Justice and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children coordinate the AMBER Alert program nationally. AMBER Alerts have led to the safe recovery of more than 780 abducted children to date.

Resources:
Access previous issues of the newsletter.
Learn more about the AMBER Alert program.
Find AMBER Alerts on Facebook.

Webinar To Discuss Parental Arrest Policies to Safeguard Children

On January 20, 2016, at 4 p.m. ET, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), in collaboration with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), will present “Parental Arrest Policies and Protecting Children: Training Your Department.” During this 1-hour webinar, presenters will provide training guidance and resources to help police departments develop and implement parental arrest policies to safeguard children.

Resources:
Register for this webinar.
Download the IACP/BJA model policy, “Safeguarding Children of Arrested Parents.”
Access OJJDP publications on children’s exposure to violence.

Webinar To Discuss How To Apply for OJJDP Tribal Youth Funding

The U.S. Department of Justice is sponsoring a webinar series to provide guidance on its fiscal year 2016 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS). This solicitation allows federally recognized tribal governments and tribal consortia to apply for funding to support public safety and victim services in tribal communities. On January 20, 2016, at 3 p.m. ET, OJJDP will lead a 1-hour webinar highlighting the application requirements for funding for OJJDP’s Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts and Tribal Youth Programs (purpose areas 8 and 9). Presenters will identify tools and resources for applicants to facilitate the application process, discuss the requirements for each of the OJJDP-funded purpose areas, and answer questions related to CTAS.

Resources:
Register for the free webinar.
Learn more about CTAS and access supplemental materials.
Visit OJJDP’s Tribal Youth Program website and its Programs for Tribal Youth webpage.
Report Highlights State Trends in Juvenile Justice Legislation

The National Conference of State Legislatures has released “Trends in Juvenile Justice State Legislation 2011-2015,” which examines state legislative activity from 2011 to 2015 on a number of juvenile justice issues. The report describes the increasing momentum of state juvenile justice policy development in the past 5 years and catalogs the volume and variety of juvenile justice legislation enacted in the states. According to the report, significant trends have emerged to restore jurisdiction to the juvenile court, divert youth from the system, shift resources from incarceration to community-based alternatives, provide strong public defense for youth, and respond more effectively to the mental health needs of young offenders.

Resources:
View and download the full report.

Publication Offers Framework To Improve Well-Being of Vulnerable Youth

The Youth Transition Funders Group has released "Investing to Improve the Well-Being of Vulnerable Youth and Young Adults: Recommendations for Policy and Practice.” This publication provides a framework for understanding the well-being of vulnerable youth and highlights the roles families, communities, and public systems can take to promote young people's well-being. It offers recommendations for youth system leaders, policymakers, and stakeholders to improve policy and practice to support a successful transition to adulthood for vulnerable youth.

Resources:
Learn more about:
The Attorney General’s Defending Childhood initiative.
The National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention.
The Community-based Violence Prevention program.

OJJDP Announces 2016 National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest

OJJDP invites fifth graders to participate in the 2016 National Missing Children's Day poster contest. The annual contest creates an opportunity for schools, law enforcement, and child advocates to discuss the issue of missing and/or exploited children with youth, parents, and guardians and to promote child safety.

OJJDP will invite the national winner, parents, and teacher to Washington, DC, to participate in the National Missing Children’s Day commemoration in May 2016.

Submissions are due by March 16, 2016.

Resources:
Visit the poster contest page for contest rules and contact information for state contest managers. Email questions to the Missing and Exploited Children’s Program.

Learn more about National Missing Children’s Day.
Access resources for families of missing or exploited children on the OJJDP and the Missing and Exploited Children’s Program websites.

OJJDP Announces Juvenile Drug Courts Training and Technical Assistance Funding Opportunity

OJJDP has announced the following fiscal year 2016 funding opportunity: Juvenile Drug Courts Training and Technical Assistance Program. This program will fund training and technical assistance to states, state and local courts, units of local government, and tribal governments that will build their capacity to develop, maintain, and enhance juvenile drug courts for substance-abusing youth. Applications are due by February 8, 2016.

Resources:
Visit OJJDP’s funding page for more information about this funding opportunity.
Forum Highlights Improving Youth Outcomes in State Juvenile Justice Systems

On November 9, 2015, the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center hosted “Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System: A 50-State Forum” in Austin, TX. Fifty state teams composed of lawmakers, juvenile justice officials, and judicial leaders convened for this 2-day forum to discuss juvenile justice reforms, lowering re-arrest rates, and improving youth outcomes. OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee delivered the keynote address at the forum.

Resources:
The CSG Justice Center, in collaboration with OJJDP, produced several products and tools to help states develop and implement systemwide plans to improve outcomes for youth. CSG released the following products during the forum:

- Recidivism Reduction Checklists to guide state and local officials on whether policy, practice, and resource allocation decisions are aligned with the research on “what works.”
  - Juvenile Justice Agency Leaders and Managers Checklist
  - Policymaker Checklist
  - Judges Checklist
- Locked Out: Improving Educational and Vocational Outcomes for Incarcerated Youth provides findings from a survey of juvenile correctional agencies in all 50 states on the extent to which they provide incarcerated youth access to educational and vocational services.
- Improving Outcomes for Youth is an infographics series that details three critical challenges that states face in improving outcomes for youth.
- Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Young Adults in the Juvenile and Adult Criminal Justice Systems is designed to help state and local officials better support young adults in the juvenile justice system.

Administrator Listenbee Introduces New OJJDP Senior Tribal Policy Advisor, Discusses Support for Tribal Youth

In a new blog post on the Office of Justice Programs website, OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee introduces OJJDP’s new Senior Tribal Policy Advisor Marilyn Bruguier Zimmerman and discusses OJJDP’s support for tribal youth. Bruguier Zimmerman is a member of the Assiniboine-Sioux tribes of the Fort Peck reservation, a former member of the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence, and a member of the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities. Listenbee also highlights significant strides that OJJDP has made on its tribal initiatives, including:

- The Today's Native Leaders program, a partnership between OJJDP and United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) that provides tribal youth with tools to develop leadership skills.
- The Department of Justice’s Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation, which has provided $620 million to tribal communities, including more than $49 million to support tribal youth initiatives.
- OJJDP’s Tribal Youth Program, which supports tribal efforts to improve juvenile justice systems for tribal youth.

Resources:
Learn more about OJJDP’s programs for tribal youth.

Justice Department Releases Guidance To Address Gender Bias in Police Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch has announced a new guidance to help law enforcement agencies identify and prevent gender bias in their response to sexual assault and domestic violence. The guidance offers eight principles for law enforcement to incorporate into policies and training to ensure that neither implicit nor explicit gender bias will undermine efforts to keep victims safe and hold assailants accountable. The principles include recognizing and addressing biases and stereotypes regarding victims, treating all victims with respect, and encouraging victims to participate in the investigation.

Resources:
View and download the Justice Department’s policing guidance on identifying and preventing gender bias in response to sexual assault and domestic violence.
Read the gender bias policing guidance fact sheet.
Read OJJDP's policy guidance on Girls and the Juvenile Justice System.

Registration Open for Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Conference

OJJDP and the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) will cohost the 2016 CJJ Annual Conference on April 20-23, 2016, in Washington, DC. The conference theme is “Redefining Leadership: Engaging Youth, Communities, and Policymakers To Achieve Better Juvenile Justice Outcomes.” Sessions will focus on the latest research, developments, and challenges for establishing the best outcomes for youth and families involved in the juvenile justice system.

Resources:
Early bird registration ends January 15, 2016. Regular and late registration extend through March 25, 2016. View the draft agenda.

Sign up for sponsorship/exhibitor opportunities by March 25, 2016.
Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

Be sure to check out the JCJC/CJJT&R Staff Development schedule each month as it will be updated with workshops.

**ORIENTATION FOR THE NEW JUVENILE PROBATION PROFESSIONAL SESSION I**
Best Western Premier
JCJC Staff and Adjunct Trainers
3/7-11

**YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Patricia Cambri
3/15-16

**ULTIMATE EDUCATOR**
Best Western Premier
Anne Seymour
3/29-30

**ADDITION AND TRAUMA**
Days Inn State College
Marilyn Stein
4/13-14

**ORIENTATION FOR THE NEW JUVENILE PROBATION PROFESSIONAL SESSION II**
Best Western Premier
JCJC Staff and Adjunct Trainers
4/18-22

**HOW ADDICTIVE DRUGS CHANGE THE ADOLESCENT BRAIN**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Michael Nerney
4/28

**LOSS, GRIEF, DYING, DEATH AND CHILDHOOD/ADOLESCENCE**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Bruce Schaffer
5/19-20

**ADVANCED READING WORKSHOP**
Shippensburg University
Doug McGuire
6/23-24

**MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING 101**
Days Inn State College
Barbara Orr
6/28-29/2016

**MOOD DISORDERS**
Days Inn State College
Amy Swigart
9/7-8

**REFUSAL SKILLS IN A RELAPSE PERSPECTIVE**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Bruce Schaffer
9/28-29

**SEXTING AND THE DANGERS OF TECHNOLOGY**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
James Dill & Susan Blackburn
10/4-5

**YOUTH LEVEL OF SERVICE (YLS) MASTER TRAINER CERTIFICATION**
Days Inn State College
To Be Announced
10/12-13

**TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF**
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
Barbara Orr
10/19

All the details on these and other sponsored workshops may be reviewed at any time by visiting [www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://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.