



Juvenile Justice Monitor

March 2013

CJJ Leadership News

CJJ Welcomes New OJJDP Leader Robert Listenbee, Jr.

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) applauds and thanks President Obama for appointing Robert Listenbee, Jr. as Administrator of U.S Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). We welcome him as he takes his office this month. CJJ has called on President Obama to appoint a permanent administrator since he took office in 2009, and could not be more delighted with his decision to appoint Listenbee.

“Administrator Listenbee is a visionary, collaborative, and respected leader in juvenile justice policy and practice reform. He's the right person at a critical time,” said Nancy Gannon Hornberger, CJJ’s Executive Director.

“We are thrilled that Robert Listenbee, Jr. has been appointed Administrator,” said Susan Kamp, CJJ’s National Chair from Vermont. “He has served as a long-time member of Pennsylvania’s state advisory group and has a keen understanding of the realities faced by our members as they work in their vital role as leaders and liaisons working with federal and state government.”

- See CJJ’s full news release [here](#).
- See Youth Today Q&A [here](#).
- See video about Listenbee’s award as a “Champion for Change” [here](#).
- CJJ's members in Youth Today: "Shake-Up Underway at Federal Office of Juvenile Justice” [here](#).

CJJ releases 2013 Recommendations for President Obama, Attorney General Holder

CJJ plays a vital role in lifting the voice of our member state advisory groups (SAGs) and allied members to call for federal leadership on delinquency prevention and juvenile justice.

Over several weeks, the CJJ Government Relations Committee, led by Chairman Ken Schatz (VT) and Vice Chairwoman Cecely Reardon (MA) has worked closely with the CJJ Executive Board and staff to develop a set of critically important recommendations for changes and improvements in federal leadership. These recommendations from CJJ will benefit the well being of youth, families, and communities, as well as the effective implementation of the federal formula funds programs for juvenile justice that reach every state, territory and DC. The recommendations have been delivered to the White House and the Department of Justice, and broadly shared. We hope that they are valuable to you in your states and communities as well. Read CJJ's Recommendations to the President [here](#).

Join our team! CJJ is Hiring!

We are immediately seeking two great people to join our great organization. Both positions are full time and located in Washington, D.C.:

[Digital and Member Communications Manager](#)

[Training and Technical Assistance Manager](#)

CJJ Invites Executive Board Nominations

The CJJ is accepting nominations (including self-nominations) for new and continuing members of the CJJ Executive Board, CJJ's central governance body. Nominations are due April 11, 2013.

The dedicated, expert leaders serving on CJJ's Executive Board are key to the organization's success and effectiveness. Executive Board members represent the interests of the nation's State Advisory Groups (SAGs), state staff, individual members at large and other affiliated stakeholders; they set CJJ's organizational strategy, mission and goals; oversee the financial and legal affairs of CJJ; and ensure the steady and sustainable growth of the organization. New terms begin July 1, 2013.

1. Board posts to be elected by the Council of SAGs on May 3, 2013, include:

National Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Term is two years and typically ascends to serve as the National Chair and Immediate Past National Chair for another four years. To be eligible, individuals must demonstrate working knowledge of and commitment to CJJ and be a citizen member of a SAG in good standing as a member of CJJ.

2. Positions to be elected in the Regional Meetings include:

Northeast Regional Representative, to work with the Northeast Regional Chair. Term is two years and renewable. The position is open to any member; open to state staff and SAG members, individual members and organizational members in current good standing as a member of CJJ.

Southern Regional Chair, for two years in a renewable term. Open to citizen members of a SAG in good standing as a member of CJJ.

Southern Regional Representative, to work with the Southern Regional Chair. Term is two years and renewable. The position is open to any member; open to state staff and SAG members, individual members and organizational members in current good standing as a member of CJJ.

Midwest Regional Representative, to work with the Midwest Regional Chair. Term is two years and renewable. The position is open to any member; open to state staff and SAG members, individual members and organizational members in current good standing as a member of CJJ.

Western Regional Representative, to work with the Western Regional Chair. Term is two years and renewable. The position is open to any member; open to state staff and SAG members, individual members and organizational members in current good standing as a member of CJJ.

3. Position to be elected by the state DMC Coordinators, nationwide:

State DMC Coordinators will elect the CJJ National DMC Coordinator for a two-year, renewable term. Must be a State DMC Coordinator affiliated with a SAG in good standing as a member of CJJ.

In addition to the above, the CJJ Executive Board Members who will continue under their current terms into the next year, unless vacated, include: National Chair, Immediate Past National Chair, National Youth Chair, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Chair, the National Juvenile Justice Specialist and Regional Chairs for the Northeast, Midwest and West.

Need more info? If you are interested in nominating materials, request them by contacting Lori Lane: 202-467-0864, ext. 122 or lane@juvjustice.org.

To discuss nominations, contact the Nominating Committee liaison to the CJJ Executive Board, Immediate Past National Chair, David Schmidt, at nmccd@aol.com; or CJJ Executive Director, Nancy Gannon Hornberger at nancy@juvjustice.org and 202-467-0864, ext. 111.

CJJ Government and Federal Relations Alert

Juvenile Justice Programs Funding Level in Senate Continuing Resolution

The Senate CR for federal fiscal year 2013 is pretty solid for Title II (slight increase) and Title V (level) with cuts to JABG. Thank you to all members who advocated for these funds to the states. It's clear that every voice helped!

The Senate's version was "pre-cleared" with the House, so it is likely, though not guaranteed, that the House vote will adhere to the same levels. Below are the numbers coming from the Senate's vote, likely to be adopted by the House. We have also attached an historic funding chart to show percentage changes and year-by-year comparisons. [Read more](#).

With sequestration looming, it is still a bit confusing as to how the numbers, once done, will translate

into grant-making to the states, territories and D.C. We will share more as we decipher everything.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS, in millions:

	Program Amount
Title II Part B - State Formula Grants	
44M	
Youth Mentoring Grants	
90M	
Title V—Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants	
20M	
Tribal Youth gone (10M)	
Gang and Youth Violence Education and Prevention gone (5M)	
Alcohol Prevention/EUDL gone (5M)	
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	
25M	
Victims of Child Abuse Programs	
19M	
Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiatives	
11M	
Missing and Exploited Children Programs	
67M	
Training for Judicial Personnel	
1.5M	
National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention	
2M	
TOTAL, Juvenile Justice	
\$279.5M	

Federal Sequester Update – Sadly, Here We Go Again...

The current federal “Sequester” is the third occurrence in what the Washington Post calls “a Groundhog Day-like cycle of mostly futile attempts to address some basic budgeting and financial issues. This cycle epitomizes our dysfunctional government: polls show that more than 8 out of 10 disapprove of Congress while long term issues go un-addressed and no one comes out looking good. Unfortunately, there is little hope in sight of the situation improving.”

So what does the Sequester mean for juvenile justice and OJJDP? There is no exact answer coming from OJJDP as to the impacts on furloughs, workforce reduction and funding to states and other grantees. OJJDP has told me that once the impacts are more precisely known, a communication from them will go out to all.

Yet, CJJ does know some things:

- 1) The Office of Management and Budget has cited in its report on March 1, 2013, that OJJDP programs are expected to be cut by 5.0-5.1% below the continuing resolution (current) levels of spending;
- 2) The great need to continue and to rebuild the JJDP Title II, JABG and other formula funds programs must be raised by the field, repeatedly. As mentioned in our last alert, this Administration tends to value incentive and demonstration programs where monies go into competitive pots for a small number of jurisdictions. We have to continue to talk about the value of formula dollars and show how they do the greatest good for the greatest number;
- 3) Given the shortened timeframe for the Sequestration cuts to go into effect, if they do, the cuts could be bigger, and as high as 7% to 9%;
- 4) OJJDP staff have been told that furloughs are likely but not definite;
- 5) If Congress wants to or is persuaded to do so, they can fix the Sequester in the final spending bill; likely late spring or summer.

What has CJJ done for you? CJJ has communicated concern on behalf of its members and began in December to urge letter from its members. We thank the states that wrote to members of Congress. CJJ has also joined with other organizations and partners, including the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) and the Non-Defense Discretionary Coalition, to communicate clearly in letters and calls to congressional appropriators the great urgency for them to support justice assistance and grant programs to states and localities that prevent delinquency and preserve the safety and health of our nation's communities. These communications have also cited that the U.S. Department of Justice grant programs have been cut by 43%, or \$1.5 billion, since FY10, and that sequestration in FY 13 would cut an additional 5% if implemented across-the-board. Many of these cuts have shifted the burden to states and localities.

These activities, and those of SAGs and state partners, continue to raise the voices of practitioners and local, state, and national organizations across the entire justice and court service systems. We still have to be vigilant and stay on point with the budget as it moves through a number of votes.

For more information, please feel free to contact Alexandra Staropoli, Associate Director of Government and Field Relations (staropoli@juvjustice.org) or Nancy Gannon Hornberger, Executive Director (nancy@juvjustice.org).

Hill Day 2013

CJJ and the Government Relation's Committee are excited to announce Hill Day 2013, scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, and Thursday, May 2, 2013. This year the GRC will also be hosting on-site Hill Day Trainings, offered from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday morning before CJJ members head to the hill. The on-site training will give members an opportunity to interact with individuals who work on the hill every day. They will teach you the ins and outs of successful hill visits and will answer any questions you may have. We hope you will join us!

We are also thrilled to release the 2013 Hill Day Advance Packet, a resource for CJJ members to use in preparing for Hill Day. The packet includes: information about the 113th Congress, including leadership and relevant committee rosters; a map of Capitol Hill; instructions for scheduling appointments; advice for hill meetings; and sample appointment request and thank you letters!

Download 2013 Hill Day Advance Packet [here](#).

Upcoming Hill Day Training Webinar - Similar to the in-person Hill Day Training offered at the conference, the Hill Day Training Webinar will teach CJJ members how to have an effective hill visit. More detailed information, including the date and time of the Webinar, will follow soon!

If you have any questions about Hill Day or the Advance Packet, please contact Alex Staropoli at 202-467-0864 or staropoli@juvjustice.org.

Conference News

**“Building Supportive Communities to Prevent Violence and Delinquency”
CJJ 2013 Annual Conference, Council of State Advisory Groups' Meeting and Hill Day**
May 1-4, 2013
Washington, D.C.

This year's conference will focus on multi-stakeholder collaborations and coalitions that have come together to meet the needs of at-risk and court-involved youth and their families. As the nation grapples with prevention of violence in the wake of the tragic shootings in Newtown, CT, renewed attention is being paid to how community partnerships with the court system and schools can work together to protect youth and meet their needs and those of their families.

Join us this year as we consider these issues and discuss how communities – schools, courts, law enforcement, service organizations, and youth and families – have and can come together to stop violence and delinquency, to meet the needs of youth at risk and dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.

[Click here](#) for more information, to view the current draft agenda, or to register today! For more information, please contact [Jessica Russell Murphy](#).

State Training and Technical Assistance Center News

OJJDP's STTAC —where CJJ works in partnership with American Institutes for Research and the National Center for Juvenile Justice —aims to support and enhance the work of states and territories with Title II Formula Grants and Juvenile Accountability Block Grants.

Congratulations to the Our Members and Friends in Mississippi on the Great Success of the 38th Mississippi Juvenile Justice Symposium and National DMC Conference!

CJJ members from 39 states, joined their Mississippi hosts for the 38th Mississippi State Juvenile Justice Symposium and National DMC Conference. Nearly 500 attendees heard from top experts in the field about the latest developments in juvenile justice and best practices in resolving racial/ethnic disparities. Acting OJJDP Administrator, Melodee Hanes, opened up the conference, and we were pleased to also have the OJJDP DMC Project Coordinator, Andrea Coleman with us throughout the conference and to co-lead sessions with CJJ.

CJJ is especially thankful to those with whom the event would not have been possible: Alfred Martin, Jr., Chair of the Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee Ray Sims, Mississippi Juvenile Justice Specialist; and the state's Department of Public Safety, Division of Public Safety Planning, and Office of Justice Programs. Their tremendous efforts opened this conference to a national audience and delivered learning events that attendees described as enlightening and inspiring.

OJJDP featured key training sessions organized by CJJ, including two conducted by Connecticut's team on effective interactions among police, youth and school staff (big hat tip to Valerie LaMott and her team!). Dr. Rita Cameron-Wedding closed the conference with a rousing session on understanding and eliminating implicit bias in youth and juvenile justice decision-making.

Reforming Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach

On March 4, 2013, the CJJ was honored to host Betty Chemers, Senior Project Officer at the National Research Council at the National Academies, and Richard Bonnie, Director of the Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Public Policy at the University of Virginia, as they presented the findings and recommendations from the recently released "Reforming Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach."

Chemers and Bonnie discussed their research to create a cutting-edge compendium of the current state of knowledge in juvenile justice and to offer clear directions for federal, state, and local stakeholders to take in their reform efforts. Among their key recommendations was the formation of interdisciplinary, broad-based coalitions and task forces, which speak directly to the unique position and function of State Advisory Groups. Marie Williams, Deputy Executive Director of CJJ, engaged in an open discussion with our guests about how SAGs might use these findings to advance and support their work in states. The issues of racial and ethnic disparity and DMC were raised in the context of promoting fairness and equity in juvenile justice and as a major opportunity and challenge for the field today.

Over 100 SAG members, JJ Specialists, DMC Coordinators, other state-level staff, local stakeholders and advocacy organizations from across the country registered for the event. But for those of you who missed it, you can review the PowerPoint presentation and a webcast of the presentation on our [website](#).

OJJDP STTAC Live Chat on Youth Involvement

Last December, CJJ Executive Director Nancy Gannon Hornberger held a live chat to discuss ways to enhance youth involvement in SAGs, as well as other aspects of youth work, as part of OJJDP STTAC. In case you missed it, the chat's transcript has now been posted [here](#).

OJJDP's National Center for Youth in Custody - "Creating Healthy Environments: Supporting the Mental Health of Youth in Confinement Facilities, March 13."

Summary: Over the last two decades, there has been much progress in the treatment of court-involved youth with mental health issues. Assessment and screening tools have improved, access to clinicians and qualified mental health professionals has increased, efforts have been made to limit the harmful effects of the correctional facility environment, and young people have been more often connected to community-based re-entry supports. Yet, as juvenile justice systems now house youth with higher needs

and risks, a troubling trend is emerging regarding the use of practices that are not conducive to mental health. [Register today.](#)

Webinar to Explore the Use of Restorative Justice in School Discipline

On March 20, 2013, 4 p.m. EST, the U.S. Departments of Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services will present the webinar "Stemming the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Applying Restorative Justice Principles to School Discipline Practices." This will discuss how restorative justice principles, when applied to school discipline practices, can be an effective alternative to punitive and exclusionary responses to problem student behavior.

Registration is available [online.](#)

Get more information on the [Supportive School Discipline Webinar series.](#)

CJJ Committees and Regions

CJJ National Youth Committee is on the move!

CJJ's National Youth Committee (NYC) is pleased to announce newly-appointed Regional Representatives:

Western Region Representatives: Dexter Artienda (Hawaii) and Renee Hernandez (Oregon)

Northeast Region Representative: Hernan Carvente (New York)

Southern Region Representatives: Tyler E. Tullos (Louisiana) and Michael Long (Florida)

The NYC is still in search of a Midwest Region Representative, and Symone Sanders, our NYC National Chair, will represent the region until that position is filled. If you know of any youth that may be interested please let us know.

The NYC is well underway and looking forward to an exciting year. Most recently, a Communications Subcommittee, chaired by Dexter Artienda, was formed to revive the NYC's monthly column in the Newsletter. Look out for our column next month!

SAVE THE DATE: CJJ 2013 Southern Region Conference

October 20-24, 2013

Louisville, KY

Please mark your calendars and look for more details coming soon! For more information, please contact [Jessica Russell Murphy](#), or [Marie Williams](#).

CJJ In the News

The Center for Public Integrity: Controversy over cops in schools flares anew. Post-Newtown worries over security conflict with concerns that school cops are putting too many kids in the criminal justice system This March 5, 2013 article looks at what states and local school districts are considering as a

result of the massacre in a Connecticut elementary school. [Read more.](#)

Hartford (CT) Courant: See this March 3, 2013, op-ed in the Hartford (CT) Courant by Bart Lubow, of the Annie E. Casey Foundation: “Smartening Up On Approach To Young Offenders” -- Two reports released this week establish Connecticut as a national leader in the trend to end the costly and counterproductive reliance on incarceration for youthful offenders. See Bart’s editorial [here](#).

New York Times: On March 1, 2013, the New York Times editorial, “Better Care for Juvenile Offenders” asks incoming OJJDP Administrator, Bob Listenbee, to use his new position to maximize the positive trend of keeping youth out of the justice system, by ensuring better preventive and specialized services and supports at home and in communities. [Read more.](#)

Atlanta Constitution Journal: “HB 242 changes the face of juvenile justice in Georgia...,” said Steve Teske, the chief judge in Clayton County’s juvenile court and long-time member of CJJ and the Georgia SAG. “The legislation will save taxpayers millions that will be reinvested in the community to help troubled kids and reduce juvenile crime.” See “Georgia House Approves Juvenile Justice Overhaul,” Feb 28, 2013. [Read more.](#)

Florida Times-Union: On Feb 22, 2013, the Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville) supported actions to reform the juvenile justice system on its editorial page: “Smart Justice Reforms are Gaining Popularity for Juveniles in Jacksonville.” [Read more.](#)

Washington Post: In this article from Feb 18, 2013, the Post writes: “As communities across the country beef up police presence in schools, Denver may become a national counterpoint Tuesday, when officials plan to sign an agreement to limit the role of law enforcement at the city’s schools - a move that could mean fewer students will face arrest or citation for disciplinary infractions.” See: “A shift in Denver: Limits on police in schools:” [Read more.](#)

Resources of Note

Fantastic reports and data snapshots were released in recent weeks. CJJ Juvenile Justice E-Monitor has compiled the best for you here, as follows:

[Reducing Youth Incarceration in the United States](#)

Summary: A new KIDS COUNT data snapshot published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation finds that youth incarceration had dropped by more than 40 percent over a 15-year period and the youth confinement rate is at 35-year low, with no decrease in public safety. According to the report the number of young people in correctional facilities on a single day fell to 70,792 in 2010, from a high of 107,637 in 1995.

Read Christian Science Monitor article: [Why juvenile incarceration reached its lowest rate in 38 years](#)

[Juvenile Justice Reform in Connecticut: How Collaboration and Commitment Have Improved Public Safety and Outcomes for Youth and Common Ground: Lessons Learned from Five States that Reduced Juvenile Confinement by More than Half](#)

Summary: A new report from the Justice Policy Institute on at Connecticut's juvenile justice system reforms shows that, through a system-wide culture change and major investments in evidence-based services, a previously wasteful, punitive, ineffective, and often abusive juvenile justice system was transformed into a national model, at no additional cost to taxpayers (after adjusting for inflation).

[Common Ground: Lessons Learned from Five States that Reduced Juvenile Confinement by More than Half](#)

Summary: This report from the Justice Policy Institute explores the drivers of youth prison population reductions in Connecticut, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arizona and Minnesota, and provides insights for other states inspired to improve their juvenile justice systems.

[Raising the Age of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction](#)

Summary: Legislation signed in 2009 (Public Act 095-1031) provided that 17-year-olds charged with misdemeanors would move from adult to juvenile court jurisdiction and also mandated the state advisory group, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission (IJJC), to study the impact of the new law and make recommendations regarding 17 year olds charged with felonies. IJJC states: "To promote a juvenile justice system focused on public safety, youth rehabilitation, fairness, and fiscal responsibility, Illinois should immediately adopt legislation expanding the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to include 17-year-olds charged with felonies."

[Adult Decisions: Connecticut Rethinks Student Arrests](#)

Summary: This report from NJJN member, Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance, describes how several Connecticut towns have dramatically reduced school based arrests while ensuring a safe and orderly learning environment. The report also looks at the national problem of students being arrested for minor misbehavior and profiles three Connecticut towns working to end the overuse of arrest in their schools.

Three Resources from Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice:

[JDAI Policy Bulletin](#)

[Record Sealing Bulletin](#)

[Washington State DMC Assessment](#)

Summary: A comprehensive county-by-county Washington State DMC assessment finds that jurisdictions vary widely in their level of knowledge and sophistication about DMC and that JDAI and Models for Change had a significant impact in some jurisdictions in terms of building sophistication about DMC and organizing coalitions and strategies to address it.

[If Not Now, When? A Survey of Juvenile Justice Training in America's Police Academies](#)

Summary: CJJ member, Lisa Thureau, and her Boston-based organization, Strategies for Youth, released this timely and important report last month, representing a broad survey of police contacts with youth and making recommendations for needed improvements in police training.

National Youth Screening & Assessment Project publishes Risk Assessment in Juvenile Justice: A Guidebook for Implementation.

Summary: The comprehensive guide draws on years of research and actual experiences implementing risk assessment in juvenile justice settings as part of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change Initiative. It provides practical insights and a structure for jurisdictions, juvenile probation or centralized statewide agencies striving to implement risk assessment or to improve their current risk assessment practices.

Click [here](#) to access the full publication. The full appendices, which include numerous resources and templates related to implementing risk assessments, can be viewed [here](#).

New from OJJDP: ["The Northwestern Juvenile Project: Overview."](#)

Summary: This is the first bulletin in OJJDP's new Beyond Detention series, and provides an overview of a ground breaking longitudinal study of drug, alcohol, and psychiatric disorders in a diverse sample of juvenile detainees.

National Juvenile Justice Network News

[Maryland Advocates Stop Youth Jail](#): After years of work, advocates in Maryland recently celebrated a huge victory when the state announced it would abandon its plans to build a proposed 120-bed secure facility for youth charged as adults. Don't miss NJJN's interview with Rashad Hawkins, a youth organizer for the Just Kids Partnership and one of the main organizers for the Alliance to Stop the Youth Jail.

[Michigan Judge Strikes Down Intolerable Miscarriage of Justice](#): A federal judge in Michigan struck down a state law on Jan. 30, 2013, that denied parole to individuals sentenced to die in prison for crimes they committed as juveniles. The judge found the law unconstitutional in light of [Miller v. Alabama](#), a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that prohibited mandatory sentences of life without parole for juveniles. He referred to the state law as "an intolerable miscarriage of justice."

Illinois Commission Recommends Moving All 17-year-olds to Juvenile Court: Thanks in part to the tireless work of the Juvenile Justice Initiative (NJJN's member in Illinois), the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission has recommended -- in the interest of fairness and public safety -- ending the state's practice of placing 17-year-olds in juvenile court for misdemeanor charges but in adult criminal court for felony charges. The commission's report, [Raising the Age of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction](#) documents how ending the automatic prosecution as adults of all 17-year-olds charged with misdemeanors in Illinois improved public safety and decreased long-term costs. The commission recommends that, "to promote a juvenile justice system focused on public safety, youth rehabilitation, fairness, and fiscal responsibility, Illinois should immediately adopt legislation expanding the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to include 17 year-olds charged with felonies."

WEBINAR - The National Juvenile Defense Standards: Why They Matter for

Advocates. Sure, you've heard about the new standards, created with the support of [Models for Change](#). But if you're not a lawyer, why should you care? In a Mar. 20, 2013 webinar sponsored by NJJN, Tim Curry, Managing Attorney at the [National Juvenile Defender Center](#), will discuss where the obligations of juvenile defenders and juvenile policy advocacy intersect, focusing on areas where defenders and advocates can work together to promote needed systemic reforms.

[Learn more and register.](#)

Models for Change Connections

Each issue, Models for Change Connections brings SAGs and other CJJ members the latest news and innovations, and highlights CJJ member participation in the Models for Change Initiative of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Have you seen the National Juvenile Defender Standards, from the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) and Models for Change? This new resource provides a comprehensive framework to ensure zealous, competent and diligent defense practice in juvenile cases.

Rey Banks, Senior Policy and Communications Associate at NJDC, explains, “Many systems do not provide for the appointment of defense counsel early enough in the process. Other systems have complicated and lengthy proceedings for determining whether a youth is indigent and thus entitled to appointed counsel.”

The quality of the legal representation in delinquency proceedings is a critical component in securing the best possible outcome for court-involved youth. Therefore, the Standards are a tool for more than just juvenile defenders. For instance, members and juvenile justice advocates can effectively use the Standards to educate all juvenile justice stakeholders about the critical role of the juvenile defender in providing access to justice. Download the NJDC Standards [here](#).

Announcing the 2013 Certificate Programs at the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform: Another Models for Change partner, the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) at Georgetown University’s Public Policy Institute has announced its 2013 Certificate Programs. In addition to the weeklong certificate programs in multi-systems integration, CJJR now offers shorter certificate programs of intensive study in information sharing, youth in custody, and reducing racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile justice.

Certificate programs at CJJR take a multi-systems and multi-disciplinary approach to policies, programs, and practices that improve outcomes for this population -- including a focus on youth known to both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Participants apply the knowledge they gain by completing a capstone project—a practical reform agenda they implement in their organization or community for positive change.

Applicants from the same jurisdiction should apply as teams to enhance cross systems change efforts after returning from the program.

Visit [CJJR Georgetown](#) and click on “Certificate Programs” or email CJJR at jjreform@georgetown.edu to learn more.

Help CJJ to “Grow Justice”

Dreaming of your spring and summer garden? Seeking to "grow justice" at the same time? CJJ receives 50% of every sale of the 100% guaranteed plants & bulbs purchased during our spring fund raiser. Your order and information is sent to the plant company, and is not available to us. It's worry free and a great help to CJJ. [Read more.](#)

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