



COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

Juvenile Justice Monitor

April 2013

Highlight of the Month

National Reports Recognize Tennessee and Arizona for Their Significant Reductions in Youth Incarceration

CJJ Members Linda O'Neal and Beth Rosenberg Elaborate on Strategies and Tactics that Led to Dramatic Declines.

In 2013, two national reports highlighted Tennessee and Arizona's achievements in significantly reducing youth incarceration.

The "KIDS COUNT Data Snapshot: Youth Confinement in the United States," released by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, found the rate of youth securely confined in Tennessee dropped by 66 percent between 1997 and 2010. This was the largest drop of any of the 44 states with decreases.

The Justice Policy Institute report "Common Ground: Lessons Learned from Five States That Reduced Juvenile Confinement by More Than Half" found a reduction of 55 percent between 2001 and 2010. Both reports base their analyses on the U.S. Census Bureau's "Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement," an annual one-day count.

Arizona's rate of confining young people in secure facilities dropped by 57 percent over a 13-year period, according to the KIDS COUNT data snapshot. The number of young people in secure juvenile facilities on a single day fell to 1,092 in 2010, from 1,869 in 1997.

The Justice Policy Institute report found that Arizona, along with four other states, reduced the number of youth confined in secure facilities by 50 percent, with no upticks in crime reported.

CJJ members Linda O'Neal, Executive Director of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY), and Beth Rosenberg, Director of Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Policy at

the Arizona Children's Action Alliance, describe their states' reform efforts, including strategies and tactics that successfully diverted committed and detained youth from secure facilities.

O'Neal's organization is an independent state agency with the primary mission of advocacy that helps coordinate services for children and families and is the State Advisory Group for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act. Rosenberg is a longtime member of CJJ and a current and founding member of NJJN; she serves as the NJJN Liaison on CJJ's Board of Directors.

Both admit that lowered crime rates, the economic downturn and federal court interventions may have contributed to declines in youth incarceration. But they credit some of the reductions to the development of community-based alternatives and policymakers' decision to reserve secure care only for youth deemed public safety risks.

O'Neal attributed much of Tennessee's decrease to:

1. The Tennessee Department of Children's Services' use of assessment tools to identify youth who need secure confinement and refer those who do not to less-restrictive placements.
2. Memphis (Shelby Co.) was designated a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Site after the Memphis Juvenile Court developed risk assessment tools to reduce the use of detention for non-violent youth. Other juvenile courts across Tennessee also reduced the number of children unnecessarily placed in detention during this timeframe.
3. TCCY's award of JJDP Act funds to the Memphis City Schools to implement the Schoolhouse Adjustment Program Enterprise (S.H.A.P.E.). The innovative program resolves behavior and discipline problems within school, rather than unnecessarily referring youth to juvenile court.
4. The Tennessee Department of Youth Development's merger into the Department of Children's Services (DCS). In Tennessee, approximately 30 percent of children in DCS custody with juvenile justice adjudication previously had a child-welfare adjudication. The merger spurred a change in agency "culture" that led to additional community-based, family-focused services.

Rosenberg partly credited Arizona's decline to the collaboration of state leaders in the courts, juvenile corrections, behavioral health and community-based services. Those leaders are working together more than ever before to ensure the right kids get to the right services at the right time.

The state's population in secure care began to drop significantly following a 2004 agreement between the state and the U.S. Department of Justice. The agreement followed a Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act investigation that found unconstitutional and abusive conditions in three of Arizona's four youth correctional facilities.

"When judges learned the conditions of confinement as described in the CRIPA report included serious concerns about facilities' suicide prevention measures, correctional practices and medical and mental health care they began to comprehend the dangers facing children on a daily basis, by

and large many counties significantly dropped the number of youth sent to the state's locked facilities," Rosenberg said.

"Judges concerned about putting kids in harm's way became more careful about who they sent to locked facilities, reserving secure juvenile correctional placement for only those youth where there was no community resource to meet their needs," Rosenberg said.

Not long after Pima County (Tucson) became a JDAI site and adopted detention reform's core strategies, the county saw a dramatic drop in its juvenile detention population and became a model for the state. These JDAI policies informed juvenile judges statewide and were generally seen as positive examples for juvenile court practices across Arizona.

In years past, the Department of Juvenile Corrections would receive a good number of low- and moderate-risk youth, but today we are told, 94 percent of committed youth are considered high-risk," she said.

A 25 percent drop in youth arrests, combined with the recent national recession that hit Arizona especially hard in 2009, led the state to close three facilities, make additional deep budget cuts and streamline operations. Overall referrals to juvenile court, juvenile probation, and committed care are down, but the latest numbers show that the deep-end referrals to those sent to ADJC or to the adult criminal court system are dropping more dramatically than those at the front end, Rosenberg said.

However, there is always more to do. Although youth incarceration is declining in Tennessee and Arizona, youth of color continue to be incarcerated at disproportionate rate compared to their percentage within the population.

CJJ Leadership in the News

From Nancy Gannon Hornberger, Executive Director Youth PROMISE Act Re-introduced in the 113th Congress

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) is very pleased to announce that U.S. Representatives Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA) and Walter Jones (R-NC) have re-introduced the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunity, Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education (Youth PROMISE) Act in the 113th Congress. The bipartisan bill, H.R. 1318, was filed with 53 original co-sponsors. Please reach out to your members of Congress to seek their support.

CJJ and its members have proudly supported the Youth PROMISE Act since its inception and have helped shape and advance the legislation over the years. The CJJ Government Relations Committee, Alexandra Staropoli, and I are currently involved in the national policy team that is building support, developing champions, and informing a Senate companion bill for the Youth PROMISE Act, with our allies in the National JJDP Coalition.

The Youth PROMISE Act offers a constructive, comprehensive approach to youth development, proven to be most effective in reaching youth who may be at highest risk for involvement in violence, gangs and illegal possession and unlawful use of weapons.

Now, as the nation seeks ways to prevent further tragedies such as the December shooting in Newtown, CT, the Youth PROMISE Act is a key part of a comprehensive response.

The Act takes a different approach than other federal “gang abatement” bills. It is based in the science of what works to reach troubled and high-risk youth. Localities supported by the Act would receive support to employ evidence-based approaches in behavioral health, positive school climate and family strengthening, as well as multi-sector local collaboration. Importantly, savings leveraged from decreased justice system contact will be reinvested in these same evidenced-based approaches, thereby strengthening youth development, education, and employment.

In most states, State Advisory Groups would play a role in the Youth PROMISE Act since the Act provides for state-level evaluation of the delinquency prevention and intervention strategies developed and funded by the local Youth PROMISE councils, as well as state-level coordination of Youth PROMISE efforts with other federal programs for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

See CJJ’s full news release about the bill introduction [here](#).

See the text of the Youth PROMISE Act [here](#).

Join our team! CJJ is Hiring!

We are immediately seeking an individual to join our great organization. The position is full time and located in Washington, DC:

[Training and Technical Assistance Manager](#)

Welcome to CJJ’s new Manager of Digital and Member Communications

We are pleased to welcome Kathleen (“Katie”) Mercier as our new Manager, Digital and Member Communications. Katie will be responsible for all email, web-based and social media communications and will conduct communications to support and engage the CJJ executive board and other member/peer communities. She comes to CJJ from Public Education Network (PEN), where she advanced through the organization over five years to the position of Advocacy and Public Engagement Associate. At PEN, she developed a public engagement campaign for high quality schools for children and produced a range of written materials, e-materials and social media. Prior to PEN, Katie was associated with the National Center for Learning Disabilities and the United Neighborhood Houses of New York. She has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Colby College.

CJJ Government and Federal Relations Alert

President Obama Signs Continuing Resolution for FY 2013

On Tuesday, March 26, 2013, President Obama signed into law the Continuing Resolution (CR) for federal fiscal year 2013 that provides appropriations through September 30, 2013. Juvenile justice funds held steady throughout the legislative process, resulting in a slight increase for Title II, level funding for Title V of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), yet cuts to the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG). Many thanks to all the members who advocated for these funds! Title V has yet again been set aside for Tribal Youth (10M), Gang and Youth Violence Education and Prevention (5M), and Alcohol Prevention/EUDL, effectively carving away 100% of the funding for Title V. The funding levels for FY 2013 are as follows:

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*
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

*Includes carve-outs equivalent to 100% of the funding for Title V.

See CJJ's Historical Federal Funding Chart [here](#).

President Obama's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Proposal Reflects CJJ's Advocacy on Appropriations

On April 10, 2013, President Obama released his budget proposal for FY 2014. The President's budget acknowledges and supports many of the budget and appropriations requests made by CJJ and emphasizes state and local action to prevent delinquency and reform juvenile justice. The President's proposal also creates four new juvenile justice programs. CJJ was pleased to see and to support the following budget requests from the President's desk:

- \$70 million for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A) Title II State Formula Grants Program;
- \$56 million for JJDP A Title V Delinquency Prevention Program;
- \$30 million for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program;
- \$20 million in new incentive grants to help states implement evidence-based strategies that reduce youth incarceration and foster better outcomes for youth;
- \$25 million in community-based violence prevention initiatives, 50% of which will support public health approaches to violence prevention; and
- \$2 million for competitive grants that focus on girls in the juvenile justice system.

To see CJJ's full analysis of the President's budget, view the funding chart [here](#).

To read CJJ's news release about the President's budget proposal [click here](#).

CJJ Releases its Recommendations for the 113th Congress

The above topics and others are captured in the final recommendations crafted by the CJJ Government Relations Committee to provide guidance to 113th Congress. We urge you and your colleagues at the state and local levels, to use this policy agenda in your visits, conversations, and contacts with your congressional delegations, both at home and during Hill visits in D.C. Please download CJJ's Recommendations for the 113th Congress [here](#).

Hill Day 2013 – May 1 and May 2, 2013

CJJ's Hill Day 2013 is fast approaching. CJJ and the Government Relations Committee (GRC) are excited to announce that Hill Day is scheduled for two days this year: Wednesday, May 1, and Thursday, May 2, 2013. This year the GRC will also be hosting an on-site Hill Day Training at the CJJ annual conference in Washington, DC. It will be held 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning before CJJ members head over to the Hill. The on-site training will give members an opportunity to interact with individuals who work on the Hill every day, as well as seasoned Hill Day participants. CJJ staff will help you with the ins and outs of successful Hill visits and answer any questions you may have. We hope you join us!

For more information about Hill Day, download the 2013 CJJ Hill Day Advance Packet **here**. 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!

Hill Day Training Webinar – Available Now on CJJ’s YouTube Channel!

For those who were unable to join our Hill Day Training Webinar on April 15, 2013, or who are unable to attend the Hill Day Training at the conference, a recording of the webinar is available now on CJJ’s YouTube channel. The webinar covers the same material that will be addressed in the live, in-person trainings at the conference.

To view the CJJ Hill Day Training Webinar click [here](#).

For a PDF version of the Powerpoint click [here](#).

For more information about Government and Federal Relations, please contact Alexandra Staropoli, CJJ’s Associate Director for Government and Field Relations, at **(202) 467-0864, ext. 109**, or staropoli@juvjustice.org.

CJJ 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, DC

This year's annual 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. We will consider these issues and discuss how communities – schools, courts, law enforcement, service organizations, youth and families – have and can come together to stop violence and delinquency, meet the needs of youth at-risk, and dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline. See agenda [here](#).

For more information, please contact Heather Ford at ford@juvjustice.org.

2013 Southern Region Conference & Joint Partnership with the National Symposium on Juvenile Services
October 20-24, 2013
Louisville, Kentucky

CJJ’s Southern Region and the Kentucky SAG will partner with the [National Partnership for](#)

[Juvenile Services' 19th Annual National Symposium on Juvenile Services](#) to host the 2013 CJJ Southern Region Conference just before the NPJS conference kicks off.

Southern Region Business Meetings and CJJ-specific content sessions will be held on the first two days: Sunday and Monday, October 20-21, 2013. Attendees are then invited to stay and participate in the NPJS Symposium from Tuesday to Thursday, October 22-24. The symposium will consist of training sessions, focus groups, and policy discussions divided among eight different thematic tracks.

We are delighted by this possibility and hope you will complete the following five-minute survey to assist the Kentucky SAG and CJJ with planning. **Click here** to participate in the pre-planning survey.

As this is a wonderful opportunity to network with fellow advocates across the county, the conference is open to all. For more information, please contact Marie Williams at Williams@juvejustice.org.

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.

CJJ is pleased to highlight Field Innovations recognized by the OJJDP State Training and TA Center (STTAC). CJJ is a co-partner in implementing STTAC with American Institutes for Research and the National Center on Juvenile Justice.

Field Innovation from North Carolina: Learning from Local Solutions to Support Prevention and Intervention Strategies - Substance Abuse

Dr. Robin Jenkins, former national chair of CJJ and Acting Director for the North Carolina Department of Public Safety's Division of Juvenile Justice, was interviewed about the fruitful partnership between the state and Reynolds Trust to address youths' substance use needs with the **Reclaiming Futures** model. In North Carolina youth drug and alcohol complaints dropped 10% from 2007 to 2011, and the number of distinct juveniles with complaints for alcohol, drug or tobacco offenses has decreased 11% in the past five years.

Field Innovation from Oregon: Learning from Local Solutions to Support Prevention and Intervention Strategies - Minority Overrepresentation

Oregon was documented for the state's success in tackling racial disparities and overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system. Since 1988, Oregon's State Advisory Group (SAG) has been studying the problem of overrepresentation of minority youth in secure facilities and developing strategies to address this problem. Oregon's SAG identified

DMC reduction as its number one priority for formula grant funds and has devoted all discretionary grant funding to DMC activities and projects for the past several funding cycles. The court referral rate for youth of color has dropped by nearly 30% between 2003 and 2011. Efforts have been equally successful with white youth.

STTAC resource: [Keeping Young People Out of Prison and in the Classroom](#)

Increasingly, youth are finding themselves involved in the juvenile justice system as a result of school-related conduct. Researchers suggest that this trend, known as the “school-to-prison pipeline,” is an unintended consequence of harsh school discipline policies such as “zero tolerance” and the referral of students to the police or courts for school code violations historically handled by schools. For more on the “School to Prison Pipeline,” see [here](#).

WEBINAR: The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s State Training and Technical Assistance Center will host an interactive webinar titled *DMC Assessment Study: Recommendations from the Field* on May 9, 2013 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (EDT).

REGISTRATION: To register for this event please click [here](#).

CJJ Committees and Regions

A Letter from the Chairs of the Member Services Committee

The Member Services Committee Moves Forward with SAG Leadership Resources.

Over the past year, the Member Services Committee has been considering new ways that our CJJ peer community can enhance the support we provide to one another. Over the years, we have worked together formally and informally to share resources, knowledge, and ideas that help all of us advance our efforts in our states and territories. The Member Services Committee was formed to continue that strong tradition and leverage some of the rich talent that we have among our colleagues.

Recently, many of you received a survey from the Member Services Committee asking you to consider what key skills and characteristics are necessary for SAG leaders to be effective. Those will be followed by a series of one-on-one discussions with selected members to explore this question more fully. As we collect this information, the Member Services Committee will work closely with CJJ staff to develop resources that help foster the skills identified and respond to the needs you highlight. We are transitioning from data-gathering to content development, and the Member Services Committee is also changing its role. Until now, we have been a committee of idea-generation and information-gathering. In the next few months, we will act as an advisory committee that will review content intended to promote effective SAG leadership and provide guidance to help make it responsive to all of our needs in the field.

On Thursday May 2, 2013 at the upcoming CJJ conference, please join us for the Member Services Open Forum which will be held in the Foxhall B Room at the Dupont Circle Hotel. We recognize that as the Committee shifts its focus, we may be attractive to different members of the

CJJ community. So please come and learn more about what is on the horizon and how you can help.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Robin Jenkins (NC)

Melody McCray Miller (KS)

CJJ SOS Project News

CJJ was pleased that our SOS Project report, "Positive Power: Exercising Judicial Leadership to Prevent Court Involvement and Incarceration of Non-Delinquent Youth," is a featured resource on the JDAI Help Desk of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. See more [here](#).

Vera Institute Survey on State Approaches to Status Offenses

For several years CJJ and the Vera Institute of Justice's Center on Youth Justice have supported and informed each others' efforts to combat detention and court involvement of youth charged with status offenses. Vera is now developing a website on status offender systems and practice reform approaches, which will complement and feature the CJJ SOS Project. The site, which will launch in late 2013, will be a one-stop shop where practitioners and policymakers looking to reform their status offender systems can go for guidance and resources.

To inform the development of the site and ensure it meets the needs and interests of practitioners and policymakers, CJJ is asking that our members respond to Vera's brief survey. You may access the survey [here](#) or by copying and pasting this link (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WVCTLGN>) into your web browser.

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.

“MEANWHILE: The Lasting Impact of Juvenile Records in Washington State” Educational Video and Bulletin Released

In late March, the Washington State Partnership Council for Juvenile Justice Youth Committee (the state SAG) and Fab-5 released a video that illustrates how mistakes youth make can cost them time in the juvenile justice system and create lasting barriers to educational and employment opportunities.

The video, “**MEANWHILE: The Lasting Impact of Juvenile Records in Washington State,**” is available in two different versions, a short 5 minute overview and a full length 30 minute video. The links to the videos and the Bulletin are below:

[Short 5 minute overview](#)

[Full length video](#)

[WA-PCJJ Bulletin – Record Sealing](#)

Starcia Ague, 2012 Champion for Change, SAG youth member and Program Coordinator for the University of Washington’s Division of Public Behavioral Health and Justice Policy, was instrumental in producing the video. She is also working to pass a law to restrict access to juvenile arrest records in Washington State. Starcia and the SAG have been raising public awareness and educating legislators. Currently, Washington is one of only eight states that publish juvenile offense records and one of only three states that then sells those records for a profit. These practices prevent youth from securing housing, employment, and/or higher education.

In early March, the Washington House of Representatives unanimously passed a proposal that would effectively seal most juvenile records from public view, an effort that Starcia and others have been advocating since 2008. Starcia believes that it is important to put a human face on the tragedy created by an excessively punitive juvenile justice system. “MEANWHILE provides viewers with a glimpse of reality. It portrays the daily struggle of youth and the paradox that is our juvenile justice system.”

Starcia also believes in second chances. “In our great country, a country founded on the belief that people can start over and get a second chance to better themselves, why won’t we give our children a second chance?”

The goal of MEANWHILE is to remind people that the mistakes we make as children should not ruin the rest of our lives. To learn more, please contact Starcia Argue at starcia@uw.edu.

Risk Assessment in Juvenile Justice: A Guidebook for Implementation

The National Youth Screening & Assessment Project has published “Risk Assessment in Juvenile Justice: A Guidebook for Implementation.” This comprehensive guide draws on years of research and actual experiences implementing risk assessments 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.

You can view the publication [here](#) and the appendices [here](#).

Mistakes Kids Make

In early March, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation launched a new public awareness campaign, "[Mistakes Kids Make](#)," that aims to build broad understanding of the need for youth services and court systems that prevent delinquency and that are fair, developmentally sensitive, and aimed at providing positive chances for growth. [See short video](#) (under 2 min). Spread the word!

National Juvenile Justice Network News

Youth Justice Leadership Institute

The National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN) is now accepting applications for the third year of its Youth Justice Leadership Institute! The Institute is a robust, year-long program that includes leadership development, training in juvenile justice system policies and practices, theories of change and advocacy skills development. Our mission is to create the foundation for a more effective juvenile justice reform movement by developing a strong base of advocates and organizers who reflect the communities most affected by juvenile justice system practices and policies. This year we will again focus on cultivating and supporting professionals of color. Anyone who wants to apply for the Institute can:

Learn more about it [here](#);

Watch our 1:30 video and download the application packet [here](#); or contact the Institute's coordinator, Diana Onley-Campbell, at diana@juvjustice.org.

Applications are due May 6, 2013.

Please share this announcement with your networks!

Resources of Note

Upcoming CJJ Webinar: Close to Home - Promoting Effective Interventions for Youth in their Home Communities

On May 20, 2013, at 2:30 p.m. EST, the Coalition for Juvenile Justice is hosting a webinar, "Close to Home: Promoting Effective Interventions for Youth in their Home Communities." The

webinar showcases recent juvenile justice reforms in New York City in the context of ongoing reform efforts in Redeploy Illinois.

Vincent Schiraldi, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Probation, and Mark Ferrante, Senior Policy Advisor to the Commissioner, will discuss the Close to Home Phase I work, which shifts responsibility from the state to the city for young people in non-secure placements and paves the way for community-based, homelike, rehabilitative services. Elizabeth “Betsy” Clarke, Founder and President of the Juvenile Justice Initiative of Illinois, and Esther Franco-Payne, Program Director at Metropolis Strategies and member of the Illinois SAG, join the discussion to provide a national context for Close to Home in light of Redeploy Illinois and to highlight the comprehensive juvenile justice reform efforts supported by the state SAG. The webinar will end with an open discussion in which all panelists discuss next steps and upcoming opportunities and challenges for both the emerging reforms of Close to Home and the long-running system changes promoted by Redeploy.

This one-hour webinar will be of particular interest to members of the CJJ community looking for guidance in the following areas:

- Defining a successful realignment agenda;
- Building state-local coalitions around a common realignment agenda;
- Effective messaging to build and sustain coalitions; and
- Preparing for challenges of implementing system change that brings youth back into communities.

Space is limited. Register [here](#).

[Six sites selected by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to pilot new deep-end reform strategies](#)

Select JDAI sites will pilot reforms at the dispositional end of the juvenile justice system in an effort to expand the focus of JDAI to the deep-end. In the spring of 2012, JDAI sites with at least a couple of years of experience were asked whether they were interested in becoming one of the pilot deep-end sites. Approximately two dozen local sites expressed interest. Eventually six sites were selected to pilot this new work: Jefferson Parish, LA; Marion County, IN; Washoe County, NV; St. Louis City, MO; Lucas County, OH; and Bernalillo County, NM. Congratulations to our members, allies and JDAI partners in these front-running sites.

Read JDAI News [here](#).

JDAI sites continue to report significant gains in: curbing the unnecessary use of detention while reducing commitments, improving public safety, and securing millions of dollars from public and private sources to support detention reform.

Read 2011 Annual Results Reports [here](#).

[Bart Lubow: Five Questions with Casey](#)

In an interview on the Annie E. Casey Foundation website, Bart Lubow, director of Casey's Juvenile Justice Strategy Group, discusses a recent **[KIDS COUNT DATA SNAPSHOT](#)** that demonstrates that youth confinement is at an all-time low. This trend is almost universal across the country, with **[44 states reporting substantial decreases in youth confinement](#)**.

See Infographic on Youth Incarceration in the United States **[here](#)**.

[NBC Report Examines Solitary Confinement of Youth in Adult Prisons and Jails](#)

As more minors serve time in adult prisons, a growing number are placed in solitary confinement. Officials say it's to protect the minors from the adult prison population. Some of those who served time in solitary as teens and their advocates say it's a harmful practice.

[Survey of Youth in Residential Placement 2003](#)

OJJDP new report: "Survey of Youth in Residential Placement 2003" contains information culled from a national survey conducted a decade ago, involving more than 7,000 young people in almost 300 facilities. The report details, among other areas, survey findings about young people and their family backgrounds, their facility experiences, and the quality of medical services they received while in placement.

[The Bridge To Somewhere](#)

How Research Made its Way into Legislative Juvenile Justice Reform in Ohio: A Case Study

Case Western Reserve University's Schubert Center for Child Studies' report on juvenile justice reforms in Ohio covers topics such as: "leveraging the policy moment," how policy can be shaped to an evidence-based practice and well-child framework, and principles and implications for future policy reforms.

Find a downloadable pdf **[here](#)**.

CJJ In the News

A Cedar Rapids Gazette editorial supports CJJ members in Iowa who are working to resolve racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile justice. The Iowa report is below, and the editorial encouraging the state's DMC efforts is **[here](#)**.

Download March 2013 "Iowa Department of Human Rights Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Report to Johnson County Officials" [here](#).

Deb Deprato, director for the Institute of Public Health and Justice at Louisiana State University, and Mary Livers, deputy secretary of the state Office of Juvenile Justice, both Louisiana SAG members and Models for Change partners, are quoted in an article exploring how the significant reduction of Louisiana youth committed to state juvenile correctional facilities has not led to a direct reduction in the number of kids who come through the system in the first place, at least in Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes. [Read more.](#) [Another resource.](#)

Gov. Jindal Announces Reforms to Combat Juvenile Detention and Reduce Recidivism Rates for Juveniles and Non-Violent Drug Offenders. [Read Press Release Here.](#)

From prison to juvenile justice lawyer. Francis "Frankie" Guzman, a 32-year-old lawyer spent six years behind bars at the California Youth Authority. Guzman, given the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's "Outstanding Achievement Award" in 2007, is now in high demand to speak at low-performing schools, youth lockups, and juvenile justice panels around the country. After putting himself through the UCLA School of Law he won a coveted Soros Justice Fellowship, a two-year grant that will fund his work at the National Center for Youth Law in Oakland to study alternatives to placing youths who are first-time offenders of serious crimes in adult prisons. [Read more.](#)

A Philadelphia Inquirer editorial cited its neighbor, New Jersey, as a national model for detention reform and called on Pennsylvania and other states to join the growing movement to reduce the costly, counterproductive overreliance on incarceration. [Read more.](#)

Overhaul of Nebraska Juvenile Justice System Takes First Step Forward

Nebraska state senators gave unanimous approval to a law that would require that all criminal charges pressed against individuals ages 18 and younger in the state would have to be filed in a juvenile court. [Read more.](#)

Chicago Sun-Times Editorial: Raise age for charging youths as adults. In Illinois, a 17-year-old caught shoplifting a \$150 iPod Touch, a misdemeanor theft, is charged as a juvenile. If the same 17-year-old goof steals a \$400 iPhone, a felony theft, he is charged as an adult. Either way, he's still 17, that squishy age on the cusp of adulthood when biologists and societal norms say a person can't be fully trusted or held fully accountable for his actions. That's why a proposed state law that says 17-year-old offenders should be adjudicated as juveniles even when charged with felonies, with some exceptions, is an important and overdue reform. [Read more.](#)

The Department of Justice's first comprehensive discipline consent decree filed in a desegregation case. The Justice Department announced last week that, jointly with the Meridian Public School District in Meridian MS, and private plaintiffs, it has filed a landmark consent decree to prevent and address racial discrimination in student discipline in district schools. The consent decree would amend a longstanding federal school

desegregation decree enforced by the United States, which prohibits the district from discriminating against students based on race.

[Read news here](#)

Download Consent Decree PDF [here](#).

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 fundraiser. 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. **Order Your Spring Flowers [Here](#).**