



Juvenile Justice Monitor

January 2013

Highlight of the Month: The 38th Juvenile Justice Symposium and DMC Conference in Biloxi, MS

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) is proud to co-host with the Mississippi State Advisory Group the upcoming [38th Juvenile Justice Symposium and National DMC Conference](#), on February 13-15, 2013, in Biloxi, Mississippi.

All are welcomed! Juvenile justice professionals from around the country are expected to attend the symposium, titled “Justice for all Youth: Ensuring a Successful Transition to a Productive Adulthood.” Click [here](#) for more information.

To learn more about what’s in store for conference participants, the *CJJ e-Monitor* caught up with Alfred L. Martin, Jr., PhD, the Mississippi SAG chair and CJJ’s National Vice Chair.

Q: What is planned for the National DMC Conference this February?

A: I am excited to announce that the conference will showcase the cutting-edge, reformative approaches to reducing disproportionate minority contact (DMC) that have emerged from the great work of our peers throughout the nation. We are at a pivotal moment in the DMC community. All states and territories have completed or are close to completing DMC assessments. The field continues to advance its knowledge of why racial and ethnic disparities happen and how to reduce them. This is the right time to come together to share new ideas and programs on how we can decrease racial and ethnic disparities, and offer young offenders a successful transition to a productive adulthood. We hope to continue to build a DMC coalition by offering a series of DMC trainings following the conference.

As you can read in the conference [sessions and workshops’ descriptions](#), we’ve made a special effort to be inclusive. DMC goes beyond race. We owe all of our children equitable, fair justice, whether African American, Latino, Native American, or LGBTQI2S.

Q: Which workshops or sessions are you most excited about?

A: I'm looking forward to the opening session, which will deal with the issue of the school-to-prison pipeline. An opening panel that includes a youth court judge from a native tribe, a school superintendent, a juvenile justice specialist and a school resource officer, will discuss and offer their perspectives on the issue. This session promises to start the conference with a bang and set the tenor for the rest of the training.

Many people hear "DMC" and say, "okay, here we go again, the same old DMC stuff," but we took the time to listen to the DMC community and the questions they want answered. In particular, the community wants to know what is expected of them by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) relative to the DMC Assessment: how to fund the work, how to analyze assessment data, or how to effectively evaluate DMC programs. We've invited DMC experts from across the country, including OJJDP's DMC Coordinator Andrea Coleman, to answer these questions and share their vision of a reformed DMC agenda.

Other sessions, like "How to use the assessment to form intervention plans" and the "DMC Leadership Series Showcase and Feedback" will also offer a great opportunity for DMC Coordinators, JJ Specialist and SAG members to ask the right questions and get the right answers. We will also be discussing the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) mandate that states will have to address, and present a platform for moving toward the elimination of prison rape for all children in the system.

Finally, I'm particularly excited about our partnership with [OJJDP's State Training and Technical Assistance Center](#) (STTAC). With their support, conference attendees will be able to take advantage of special sessions like "Effective police interactions with youth," "Effective School Staff Interaction with Students and Police" and "Disproportionate Minority Contact Community and Strategic Planning (CASP)."

Q: What makes this DMC training different than others?

A: The difference is in the way we planned the conference. The Mississippi Juvenile Justice Symposium has for many years been the key annual training for our state's juvenile justice professionals, advocates, police and sheriffs' departments and volunteers. As a member for over 20 years, I also know firsthand that CJJ offers comprehensive juvenile justice training and technical assistance at a national level. Because of where we are as a field today, it seemed like a perfect opportunity to come together as partners and offer a cutting-edge training opportunity for local and national teams at a time when in-person training opportunities are increasingly scarce.

The result? All I can say is buckle your seat belts because once we kick things off, we plan to grow all of our understanding of DMC and give you the tools and knowledge to make things happen in your states and communities, right now!

CJJ Government and Federal Relations Alert

CJJ advises on responses to youth gun violence

On behalf of CJJ and its members, CJJ's executive director, Nancy Gannon Hornberger, was honored to be invited to have input into President Obama and Vice President Biden's proposal

released January 16, calling for a comprehensive approach to prevent gun violence and youth violence across the United States. As the nation grieved and sought answers following the terrible tragedy in Newtown (CT), CJJ was called upon for its expertise in violence and delinquency prevention, youth development and public safety. In addition to meeting with the White House, Nancy Gannon Hornberger has represented CJJ's interests before the Congress. Read *Youth Today's* January 4 report on two of these meetings [here](#).

Based on CJJ members' close community connections and expertise, as well as long-standing formal positions approved by its members, CJJ cited support for several aspects of the President's proposal, with one exception. Read CJJ's response to the President's proposal [here](#).

CJJ also helped to shape and support actions by the multi-organization National Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Coalition to respond to requests from the Congress and the President, see the collective recommendations [here](#). Additionally, CJJ helped sponsor the Youth Violence Prevention Summit convened by Rep. Bobby Scott on January 22, which was attended by several members of Congress and more than 250 representatives from concerned organizations. Click [here](#) to read the Summit remarks and materials.

[Read more.](#)

Over the cliff with or without a paddle?

Although the federal fiscal cliff was averted earlier this month and the budget sequester delayed (or perhaps thwarted), the budget outlook is unfavorable and necessitates both vigilance and action. Specific implications for the children's budget generally, and juvenile justice more specifically, have yet to be worked through. However, we know that states are already hanging off the edge of the proverbial fiscal cliff. Read [this](#) December 3, 2012, *Youth Today* article on the fiscal cliff.

States continue to be confronted by two major challenges, which CJJ tracks and works against.

[Read more.](#)

CJJ and allies stopped a mini-crisis too

In the middle of the larger cliffhanger on New Year's Eve, a member of Congress tried to advance a version of JABG (HR 6019) that would have gutted core funding to states and reorganized it under "bullying prevention grants to localities." While this may appear useful, the amendment would have gutted core funding for the other 18 purposes covered by JABG.

Staying on point while the Congress is still in session and working closely with partner organizations and Hill allies allowed us to oppose the JABG amendments, and the bill was pulled. This now provides us with a chance to move JABG intact with appropriate or increased funding. CJJ thanks the following organizations for their partnership to oppose this action on moment's notice: Campaign for Youth Justice, Center for Children's Law and Policy, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Girls Inc., Justice Policy Institute, National Disability Rights Network, The Sentencing Project, Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles, and Youth Advocate Program, Inc.

CJJ Leadership News

2013 SAG memberships in CJJ

SAG members are the life force of CJJ. For nearly 30 years, CJJ has served as the national association of governor-appointed SAGs and SAG allies. Together, we have amplified the voice of the SAGs in Washington, supported SAG-member leadership on the local and national level, advanced juvenile justice system improvements through CJJ's partnership with OJJDP, foundations and allies, and informed the field and decision makers through strong recommendations, fact sheets, guidance, training, news and position papers on the salient juvenile justice issues of our time.

This year, through an action of the CJJ Executive Board, CJJ has not only kept its membership rates at the same level since 2003, but also offered a 5 percent discount for SAGs who paid their membership fee (or submitted a commitment to pay) before January 31, 2013.

We're thankful for a great showing of support from the 22 states that have already rejoined CJJ as members in 2013: Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont and Wisconsin. **If your SAG would like to take advantage of the discount before the January 31 deadline,** contact CJJ's Conference and Member Services Manager Jessica Russell Murphy at murphy@juvjustice.org or 202-467-0864, ext. 102.

On behalf of the CJJ Executive Board and staff, we look forward to continuing our important work together on behalf of children and families in 2013.

Join the CJJ \$100K Challenge!

In 2012, CJJ was involved in many positive, powerful efforts -- none of which would be possible without the financial support of our dedicated friends and allies. You can see results of such work in this issue alone: our collaboration with the Mississippi SAG on a national conference to address DMC, our work on behalf and with SAGs to ensure crucial funding for core protections for youth is preserved, and CJJ's input and response to the President's gun violence prevention proposal, to name a few.

There is still much work to be done in 2013. We invite you to support our efforts today by joining [The CJJ \\$100K Challenge](#). Since its inception in 2002, more than \$88K has been raised by the CJJ Circle of Leaders to support the organization's government relations and policy initiatives, leadership committees and annual awards. To mark our progress and the fund's 10th anniversary, the CJJ Fund Raising Committee has set the goal of raising a grand total (over the life of the Fund) of \$100,000 by March 31.

Be among the first 20 people to give, or to raise, \$1,000 or more for the CJJ Circle of Leaders Fund by March 31, 2013, and you will receive a \$100 AMEX gift card as our "Thank You!"

Click [here](#) for more information on the \$100K challenge and other giving options. We thank you for your support!

CJJ SOS Project News

Judicial Leadership Group convenes to discuss ending the confinement of status offenders

On January 14 and January 17, two groups of judges that together comprise the CJJ Safety, Opportunity & Success (SOS) Project's Judicial Leadership Group, met by conference call to discuss advancing CJJ's strategy to harness the power of the judiciary to improve outcomes for non-delinquent youth. The CJJ SOS project is a multi-year initiative that, among other things, seeks to build support for the elimination of the use of the valid court order (VCO) exception to the deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) core requirement of the JJDPA. Eliminating use of the VCO would effectively end the practice of using confinement as a remedy for status offenses.

The Judicial Leadership Group is an eminent group of former and current juvenile and family court judges who have seen the deleterious effects that confinement can have on youth whose only "offenses" are those that would not be considered unlawful but for their status as minors. During the calls, the judges were welcomed by CJJ executive director Nancy Gannon Hornberger, who thanked them for their work and their willingness to act as exemplars for their peers nationwide who are struggling to find solutions to address the unmet needs of non-delinquent youth without resorting to confinement. They heard more about project's judicial leadership strategy from deputy executive director Marie Williams, and participated in spirited discussions led by Franklin Cruz, CJJ's director of training and leadership development.

Over the next several months, the Judicial Leadership Group will be developing an action guide for convening multi-stakeholder groups to expand the options available to address needs for non-delinquent youth. The Group will also work on a speaker's guide and talking points for judges who want to advance the message that non-delinquent youth and their communities are harmed, rather than helped, when confinement is used to address status offenses.

For more information about the CJJ SOS Project, click [here](#) or contact, Marie Williams at williams@juvjustice.org or 202-467-0864, ext. 113.

Judicial Leader Profile: The Honorable Linda Tucci Teodosio, Summit County, Ohio

With a background as a substitute teacher in the public school system, Judge Linda Teodosio came to the bench believing that youth charged with status offenses do not belong in detention. Rather, she strongly believes that detention should be reserved for youth who pose a risk to community safety, or for whom other sanctions have not proven successful. Judge Teodosio also believes that youth do better when served in the home and that "once they go to detention, we lose the benefit of that."

Judge Teodosio spent her first year on the juvenile bench engaging and educating local residents about status offenses, and receiving valuable feedback on how they believed the community should address the needs of youth so charged. From these discussions came the Responder Program, an initiative created by state and local stakeholders in partnership with the John D. and

Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change Initiative. Models for Change supports, accelerates and replicates promising and effective juvenile justice reform efforts.

[Read more.](#)

Models for Change Connections

Models for Change Connections brings SAGs and other CJJ members the latest news and innovations, and highlights CJJ's state and local partners participating with the Models for Change Initiative of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Early December 2012 once again brought together some of the top juvenile justice innovators and leaders for the [7th Annual Models for Change Working Conference](#), led by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The conference, hosted by CJJ for the sixth consecutive year, was the largest yet with nearly 400 participants representing 40 states.

Building on the initiative's notable work over the past decade, this year's conference highlighted the Models for Change Initiative's imprint on juvenile justice systems throughout the country with a legacy of better outcomes for youth and families. Whether addressing topics such as family engagement, behavioral health, reentry and transitional systems of care, racial and ethnic disparities, or indigent defense, the themes of coalition-building and inclusion, data-driven decision-making, and accountability for outcomes emerged consistently throughout the conference.

Workshops and plenary sessions alike highlighted the work of judicial leaders who looked beyond the courtroom to various stakeholders to improve services for youth, to minimize the use of confinement, and to mitigate racial and ethnic disparities in their systems.

[Read More](#)

CJJ Conference and Training News

Register today for the 38th Juvenile Justice Symposium & National DMC Conference

Click [here](#) for detailed workshop descriptions and the conference agenda for "Justice for all Youth: Ensuring a Successful Transition to a Productive Adulthood," February 13-15, 2013, in Biloxi, Mississippi.

All are welcomed! Take advantage of the early bird registration rate of \$100 through January 31. Starting February 1, registration will cost \$125. Click [here](#) for online registration. Click [here](#) for more information about the lodging, registration, agenda and more.

For questions about the conference or registration, please contact Marc Fomby, Conference Coordinator, at ftcprevention@bellsouth.net or 601-939-0020.

We look forward to seeing you in Biloxi!

CJJ 2013 Annual Conference, Council of State Advisory Groups' Meeting and Hill Day
Mark your calendars for the 2013 CJJ Annual Conference, "Building Supportive Communities to Prevent Violence and Delinquency," 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 to 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 to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline.

In the coming days, we will be inviting you to submit presentation proposals to showcase the innovative work already happening in your states and to think creatively with your peers about new solutions for the future.

For more information, please contact Jessica Russell Murphy, murphy@juvjustice.org or 202-467-0864, ext. 102. We hope to see you this May!

National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN) News

NJJN responds to President's plan on gun violence: While President Obama deserves praise for his genuine interest in addressing gun violence as a broad issue, NJJN strongly opposes increasing the number of police in schools because of their adverse impact on students and the lack of evidence that they improve school safety. See our full statement [here](#).

Seven ways to improve juvenile indigent defense: In recent years, a great deal of work has been undertaken across the country to improve juvenile indigent defense. NJJN's new policy update, "[Seven Ways to Improve Juvenile Indigent Defense](#)," reviews key strategies for reforming juvenile indigent defense centered on training, practice standards, communications and collaboration, creating supportive tools and resources, and advocacy. Download and share!

Michigan legislature passes two key reforms: Thanks in part to the great work of the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (an NJJN member), the Michigan legislature passed legislation ensuring that children who stand accused of crimes are competent to participate in their court hearings. Another new law allows young people to have the same options for expunging their juvenile court records as adults in Michigan's criminal justice system do. [Learn more](#).

NJJN Webinar: What the Pathways to Desistance Study means for juvenile justice: Research continues to show a youth's capacity for change -- even among the most serious offenders -- as seen in the results of the Pathways to Desistance Study. The study is a

comprehensive examination, over a seven-year period, of the life changes and criminal behavior in a group of over 1,300 adolescent youth who committed serious offenses. In a Feb. 6 webinar, Edward Mulvey, Ph.D., who leads the Pathways study, will discuss how adolescents who commit serious offenses change as they enter early adulthood. [Learn more and register.](#)

Resources and Information of Note

New OJJDP bulletin examines the effects of youth tried as adults

OJJDP released “[Transfer of Adolescents to Adult Court: Effects of a Broad Policy in One Court](#),” a bulletin that examines the effects of transfer from juvenile court to adult court through a sample of serious adolescent offenders and discusses the implications of the findings for future changes in transfer statutes. The findings are based on the [Pathways to Desistance](#) study, which investigates factors that lead serious juvenile offenders to cease or continue offending.

NCJFCJ to host annual conference, Feb. 24-27, in San Antonio, TX

On February 24-27, 2013, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) will host its annual national conference, titled “Judicial Institute: Family Law” in San Antonio, TX. Judicial and national experts will provide advice and best practices on issues such as property distribution and finance, military service and families, the role of technology and social media, and issues in divorce, custody and visitation. Registration is available online [here](#).

7th Global Youth Justice Training, Cape Cod, MA, June 11-13, 2013

Global Youth Justice’s three-day Training on Enhancing and Expanding a local Peer Court, Student Court, Youth Court or Teen Court Diversion Program will be held on June 11-13, 2013, in Cape Cod, MA. Eligible participants include full/part-time adult staff, adult volunteers and adults involved in professional support roles in one of these programs. Click [here](#) for more information.

The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform announces 2013 Certificate Programs

Georgetown University’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform’s (CJJR) Certificate Programs bring together current and future leaders to increase their knowledge, improve the operation of their organizations, provide an opportunity for the development of leadership skills and create a mutually supportive network of individuals across the country committed to systems reform. CJJR announced the following programs: Multi-System Integration Certificate Program, June 21-28, 2013 and October 23-30, 2013; Information Sharing Certificate Program, Fall 2013 (exact dates TBD); Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities Certificate Program, September 23-27, 2013; and Youth in Custody Certificate Program August 19-23, 2013. [Read more.](#)

In the News

Florida SAG Chair guest editorial in *Orlando Sentinel*

Lucas Boyce, Florida State Advisory Group Chair, authored a [December 2, 2012, guest editorial](#) in the *Orlando Sentinel*, in which he endorsed Florida's push for greater community and family connected services and supports for youth in the justice system. Earlier this month, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice [released](#) the results of a study, which found a decrease of 48

percent in the number of youth arrested in Florida's public schools in the past eight years.

Plans to build new Baltimore youth jail halted

On January 16, *The Baltimore Sun* [reported](#) that the state of Maryland has abandoned plans to build a new juvenile jail. The funds that would have been dedicated to a facility for juveniles charged as adults will instead be dedicated to a juvenile treatment facility and a smaller facility for violent offenders. The turnaround in the state's plans was achieved thanks to the efforts of a broad coalition of juvenile justice advocates and organizations, including the National Juvenile Justice Network members and the Juvenile Justice Council (the Maryland SAG).

PA Governor unveils plan to close youth facility, re-direct funds to prevention

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and the Department of Public Welfare worked collaboratively with PA Governor Corbett on a plan to invest \$10 million into prevention and intervention strategies for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders. The plan will include assessing the individual risks and needs of youth, ensuring community protection, and identifying a continuum of high-quality, innovative services for youthful offenders. Read more in [this](#) January 15 report.

Providence Journal highlights Rhode Island juvenile justice system improvements

In a [front-page story](#) on January 10, the *Providence Journal* reported on the dramatic decrease in the population of the Rhode Island Training School, where the number of young offenders committed dropped by nearly half. The report sites demographic changes and a decline in delinquency rates as reasons, but also the efforts of advocates and the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI).

New study on DMC in Hawaii

In a [January 2 story](#), the *Honolulu Weekly* reported on a recent study commissioned by the Hawaii SAG, which found that Native Hawaiian youth are twice as likely to become involved with the juvenile justice system as any other ethnic group, and half of all arrests are of non-delinquent youth (such as runaways).