

**January 2010**

Volume 4, Issue 31

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**FJJA Members Presenting at the 2010 Adolescent Conference**

Following are four of the seven FJJA members presenting at the Adolescent Conference in February. For a complete list of workshops and presenters go to [http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent\\_conference/info.asp](http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent_conference/info.asp)

- Re-Entry of Residential Youth Safely into the Community with Limited Relapses - **Scott Sells**
- The Healthy Caregiver: Dealing with Stress - **Julie Eberwein**
- eServices Technology in Adolescent Treatment, Intervention and Prevention - **Wendy Danicort**
- Project Connect: A Community Re-Integration/Transition Model for At-Risk Youth - **Jeff McSpaddin**

**The FJJA Newsletter is published monthly**

Cathy Craig-Myers, Editor  
Lynn Redmond, Publisher

**Deadline is the 4<sup>th</sup> of each month**

Send your news to [lynn@fjja.org](mailto:lynn@fjja.org)

## January Committee Weeks Convene

The holidays over, the legislature convened its first committee week of the new year to start the process of preparing for session.

House and Senate appropriations committee chairs reviewed agency base budgets, asking committee members to look closely at them to better prepare for what will be a very difficult session.

In policy committees, bills are emerging, and the current budget crisis will determine whether a bill will make it through committees. Legislators understand the projected short fall of \$2.6 billion would be \$5 billion if not for stimulus dollars and trust fund raids.

Budget committees will be looking at revenue forecasts, agency budget proposals and potential various revenue measures. The Senate and House leadership has asked budget committees to go through a reduction exercise. The House leadership has already given instructions to committees to select highest and lowest priorities by February 19th. To see instructions given to House Appropriations members,

go to: <http://www.fjja.org/documents/HouseAppropriationsReportJanuary2010.pdf>.

Last week, DJJ provided an update on the Dozier facility to the House Criminal Justice Appropriations Committee. Deputy Secretary Rod Love announced changes, including a new management team and the hiring of a consultant following the failure of the facility in a recent QA review.

At the podium, Deputy Secretary Love shared that the agency has set the bar high to successfully reform Dozier, and that "failure is not an option." The House Criminal & Civil Justice Policy Council held a workshop to discuss state laws and policies relating to background screening and employment.

The Senate Criminal Justice Committee heard a presentation on the shackling of juveniles, following the recent Supreme Court decision that the courts cannot indiscriminately shackle juvenile offenders when bringing them into court.

## FJJA hosts Lobbyist and Government Affairs Meeting

FJAA hosted a member and lobbyists meeting this month in Tallahassee to share the FJJA 2010 Legislative Agenda. Executive Director Cathy Craig-Myers and Legislative Committee Co-Chairs Jon Howard and Debbie Moroney laid out specific FJJA priorities for upcoming session.

During the meeting Cathy provided information on proposed legislation included in the DJJ Legislative package, which the FJJA Board of Directors agreed to support in September.



Other discussion included FJJA's work with Associated Industries of Florida's Government Outsourcing Council to support legislation that will balance the state's need for fiduciary responsibility in outsourced contracts with the need to prevent excessive oversight and duplicative monitoring.

FJJA will continue to update member lobbyists and interested parties through weekly legislative alerts each week during session.

## Coming Soon From OPPAGA

**DJJ Youth GED and Career Technical Education** – Report will examine opportunities for students in juvenile justice residential and day treatment facilities in obtaining GEDs and job skills.

**DJJ Redirection 2010** – Report will update the effectiveness of the Redirection program.

**DJJ Youth K-12 Education** – Report will examine education services provided to students in juvenile justice residential and day treatment facilities.

Additional resources for juvenile justice research and policy updates are available at:

Act 4 Juvenile Justice - <http://www.act4jj.org/>

Campaign for Youth Justice - <http://www.campaignforyouthjustice.org/>

Center for Children's Law and Policy - <http://www.cclp.org/>

Coalition for Juvenile Justice - <http://www.juvjustice.org/>

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids - <http://www.fightcrime.org/>

National Juvenile Defender Center - <http://www.njdc.info/>

National Juvenile Justice Network - <http://www.njjn.org/>

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## In the news

### Washington Post:

Jailing juveniles: Sensible fixes to youth crime and delinquency policies

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/13/AR2009121302444.html>

### Miami Herald:

Court made right call in limiting juvenile shackles: Florida's Supreme Court puts an end to humiliating juveniles

<http://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/editorials/story/1400257.html>

### St. Petersburg Times:

Cathy Craig-Myers letter to Editor- Early intervention can save kids

<http://www.tampabay.com/opinion/letters/thursdays-letters-intervene-early-to-save-troubled-kids/1062136>

### Miami Herald:

Florida Supreme Court limits 'degrading' shackles for juveniles

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/5min/story/1388214.html>

## Legislative Dates To Remember

### 2010 Interim Committee Meeting Schedule

Week of Jan 11th – Regular Meetings

Week of Jan 19th – Regular Meetings

Week of Feb 1st – Regular Meetings

Week of Feb 8th – Appropriations Meetings

Week of Feb 15th – Regular Meetings

### 2010 Regular Session

March 2, 2010 Session Convenes

April 30, 2010 Last Day of Session



## 2009-2010

## Meeting Calendar

### Board of Directors Meetings

- **Monday, February 22, 2010, 1-5 p.m.**, Orlando, at the Adolescent Conference, The Disney Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL
- **Thursday, April 8, 2010**  
DISC Village, Tallahassee, FL
- **Monday-Wednesday, June 14-16, 2010**, Board Retreat, Casa Marina Resort, Key West, FL

### Executive Committee Meetings

- **Monthly Conference Call**  
1st Monday of every month, 2 pm
- **Legislative Session**  
Conference Call Every Monday, 2 pm
- **Meetings** prior to board meetings for 9/17/09, 11/12/09, 2/22/2010, and 4/8/2010

## Upcoming Events

- **Girls Matters: Training of Trainers**  
Girl Matters@, a five day training of trainers curriculum The NCCD Center for Girls and Young Women, January 25-29, 2010, Jacksonville, Florida. For information, visit [www.justiceforallgirls.org](http://www.justiceforallgirls.org).
- **Children's Cabinet Meeting**  
January 26, 2010, 1-5 p.m., Tallahassee Community College, 444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee, Fl.
- **Girls Circle Association — *Facilitating Cutting Edge Support Groups for Girls***. Two day facilitator training workshop from 8 am to 4:30 pm, February 4-5, Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee, Fl 32305. To register call 707-794-9477 or visit [www.girlscircle.com](http://www.girlscircle.com).
- **2010 Adolescent Conference — *On the Threshold: Moving Forward Together***  
February 22-24, 2010, Disney's Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Fl. To register go to [http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent\\_conference/index.asp](http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent_conference/index.asp)
- **FJJA Executive Committee Meeting** — February 22, 2010, 11 am - Noon, Disney's Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Fl
- **FJJA Board of Directors Meeting** — February 22, 1-5 pm, Disney's Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Fl
- **Children's Cabinet Meeting**  
March 25, 2010, 1-5 p.m., Tallahassee, Fl.
- **Children's Cabinet Meeting**  
May 27, 2010, 1-5 p.m., Tallahassee, Fl.

## **FJJA Salutes the Inclusion of Juvenile Justice/Youth Success Week into Children's Week**

This year for the first time, activities that highlight the work of Florida's Juvenile Justice system will be incorporated into annual Children's Week. Providers and advocates have supported this for years, acknowledging that it is critical to have "One Voice" to support children's issues across the continuum of care. FJJA is working to develop activities that will showcase the work of providers who deliver quality services to youth.

## *2010 Children's Week Events*

### Department of Juvenile Justice:

#### Youth Success Day

Wednesday, April 13-14, 2010

Capitol Rotunda and courtyard

#### Hanging of the Hands

Sunday, April 11, 2010

12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Capitol Rotunda

#### Advocacy Training

Monday, April 12, 2010

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., University Center Club

#### Advocacy Dinner & Reception

Monday, April 12, 2010

5 p.m. to 8 p.m., University Center Club

#### Children's Capitol for a Day Presented

##### by Comcast

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., State Capitol Courtyard

#### Children's Week Press Conference and

#### Hanging of the Hands Dedication Ceremony

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

9 a.m., Back steps of the Old Capitol

#### Guided Tours of the Capitol

Monday, April 12, 2010 through Wednesday, April 14, 2010

9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. New and Old Capitol buildings

#### Legislative Reading Corner

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Capitol Courtyard

#### "Kids Only" Town Hall Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Tallahassee City Hall

#### Children's Week Luncheon

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

11:30 a.m., Capitol Courtyard

To request complimentary lunches, send RSVP by

Friday, April 2, 2010, [info@childrensweek.org](mailto:info@childrensweek.org)

For more information regarding the events listed above, see the [Children's Capitol for a Day](#) page.

### The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) releases White Paper on Recidivism: Is it time for a national debate?

A recent article in *Youth Today* highlights that discussions are emerging which question the varying measures of recidivism state by state. Recently, The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators released a white paper that makes a series of recommendations. To read white paper: [http://cjca.net/photos/content/documents/recidivism/CJCA\\_Recidivism\\_WhitePaper.pdf](http://cjca.net/photos/content/documents/recidivism/CJCA_Recidivism_WhitePaper.pdf)

The issue of recidivism has been widely debated within FJJA and brought to the attention of DJJ over the last few years. It has been the position of the Association (and others) that services are judged by an inherently negative standard. The Association has also maintained that Florida uses one of the most restrictive definitions for recidivism in the country that makes us look comparatively bad to other states.

As state juvenile justice systems move towards heightened accountability and increased evidence of effectiveness, we agree it may be time to revise and standardize the definition of recidivism. Media, Legislators and the Governors' offices often look to the recidivism rates for answers.

The white paper also identifies that reports of recidivism rates often appear nonsensical because of differences in the measures of recidivism that have been applied. Further, these rates represent the behavior of subgroups of the delinquent population, such as youths in secure care, rather than the entire population of adjudicated delinquents.

### Jujuana Howard Named Human Resources Manager at White Foundation

Jujuana Howard was recently named Human Resources Manager for The Henry and Rilla White Foundation, Inc. She holds a Resource Management degree from Troy University and is currently working on a Master's Degree in Human Resource Management. Her previous experience includes working as a Human Resource Advisor for the United States Air Force Reserve for three years.

### Cypress Creek Hosts December Activities

Two young men from the design class at Cypress Creek Juvenile Offender Correctional Center (CCJOCC) designed and constructed a rocking horse for a child. The horse was later presented to a child as a holiday gift.

Youth who serve on the Resident Advisory Board met and shared information with the CCJOCC Community Advisory Board during the board's December meeting. Board members also toured the facility and voted on best dorm decorations.

Over 40 families attended Family Day on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The day included a great meal, games, and special programming by youth and family members.

### GAP Celebrates Holidays

Girls detained at the Miami and Orlando Regional Detention Centers enjoyed holiday festivities at the annual the holiday party hosted by Girls Advocacy Project, Inc. (GAP) and community partners. Miami's partners who participated included American Airlines, Nubian Sistahood, and The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA). Partners who participated in Orlando, the Junior League of Orlando, and Mrs. Michele Carter-Scott, mother to Vince Carter, Orlando Magic basketball star.

### Matt Birt Named Employee of the Year

Matt Birt, left, program director for The Henry & Rilla White Foundation's multisystem therapy programs in Circuits 4 and 8, was named Employee of the Year for 2008-2009.

Both programs have achieved the lowest rates of recidivism in the state of Florida. Congratulating Birt is Bill Schossler, President/CEO.



### Member News

#### **PACE Celebrates 25 years**

Starting with \$100 in a bank account, ten girls from the Jacksonville detention center and a borrowed room in a downtown church, the PACE Center for Girls was born. Over the last twenty five years, the PACE program has grown to include 17 centers across Florida. Since then, over 23,000 girls have been served.

Started by Vicki Burke and community volunteers who did not see any services for young girls, the PACE program (Practical Academic Cultural Education) opened its doors in 1985 as an alternative to institutionalization or incarceration for delinquent girls. The successes of the PACE program and of the leadership that nurtured and grew the program were

commemorated at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration this month. Community and business volunteers, local PACE board members and staff and "PACE pioneers" travelled from across the state to attend the annual leadership conference and to honor this milestone event.

Ms. Burke received the Founders Award and served as evening Keynote at the dinner and awards celebration.



*Vicki Burke*

In addition to Ms. Burke, long time former CEO Dr. Lawanda Ravoira of the National Center for Girls and Young Women (NCCD) was on hand for the celebration.

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### Member News

#### **Florida Lawmakers, Community Leaders Receive Awards at FFT Statewide Conference**

Honored guests at the Functional Family Therapy (FFT) Redirection Awards Reception, hosted by FFT Inc. and Evidence-Based Associates, received the "Leading the Way" Innovative Leadership Award for their support and commitment to the state of Florida's Redirection project. The project, recently recognized nationally, helps troubled teens become productive members of their families and communities.

The Honorable Jeff Atwater, President of the Florida Senate, Secretary Frank Peterman Jr. Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (FDJJ), Representative David Rivera, Florida House of Representatives, Honorable Judge Lester Langer, 11th Judicial Circuit Court, and Isabel Afanador, DJJ Chief Probation Officer, were recognized during the Back to Basics FFT Conference held at the Marriott Harbor Beach Hotel on November 12-13.

"These distinct individuals have dedicated their lives to finding solutions for youth, keeping families together and saving Florida millions of dollars," said Dr. James Alexander, FFT senior researcher and co-founder. "Their involvement has been an integral part of Redirection's success among the more than 4,000 families

that have been helped throughout Florida. We look forward to Redirection's growth across the state and are grateful for the unwavering endorsement of these lawmakers and leaders."

In 2004, the Legislature, DJJ, and Evidence-Based Associates launched the Redirection project in an effort to "redirect" troubled youth from residential placements to a more effective, family-focused, evidence-based treatment option in the child's home.

Programs, such as FFT, are utilized by provider organizations across the state to teach good communication and decision-making skills that strengthen families. Redirection has consistently demonstrated strong positive outcomes in addressing the needs of delinquent youth and their families.

As one of three model programs for at-risk youth offered through the Redirection project, FFT targets youth, between the ages of 11 and 18, from a variety of ethnic and cultural groups. The program is intensive and involves the teenager and their family meeting with a therapist for approximately 12 times during a three-to four-month period. Collectively, FFT has helped more than 30,000 families nationwide.



### Girls Workshop Scheduled After Adolescent Conference February 24 In Orlando

A one-day intensive training post conference workshop entitled *Girl Matters: Girls Can't Wait!* will be held Wednesday following the 2010 Adolescent Conference. The workshop is being presented by Dr. Lawanda Ravoira, Executive Director of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency's Center for Girls and Young Women. Dr. Ravoira is a national expert, researcher, published author and trainer on issues specific to justice involved girls and systemic reform.

Participants will be welcomed by Cathy Craig-Myers, Executive Director of the Florida Juvenile Justice Association. Darryl Olson, Assistant Secretary for Residential Services at the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, will address the State of Florida's Girls Initiative. During the day, attendees will have the opportunity to choose from the following sessions:



Dr. Lawanda Ravoira

- **Girls and Sex — Dr. Lawanda Ravoira, Presenter**

For girls and young women in residential and non-residential programs, staff reports that it is increasingly difficult to manage sexual behaviors including same sex relationships, "gay for the stay" declarations, intimidation, and other challenging behaviors. Specific strategies will be presented to assist staff in therapeutically addressing same sex relationships, sexual experimentation, and sexual expression within youth serving settings.

- **Trauma, Triggers, Cues and Safety Zones – Agatha Pappas and Kathie Southwick, Presenters**

This workshop will provide an overview of how chronic trauma and adverse childhood experiences are manifested during adolescence and impact the day to day interactions with girls. Participants will explore how to identify triggers and cues that precipitate challenging behaviors as a strategy to explore how our interventions and relationships with girls escalate or de-escalate behaviors. Participants will gain an understanding of the importance of the content and context of each girl's life story and how to assist girls in mastering safety and learning coping skills to appropriately express their entire range of emotions.

- **Girl Matters: An Introduction – Dr. Lawanda Ravoira, Presenter**

The NCCD Center for Girls and Young Women's *Girl Matters: Creating a Culture of that Celebrates and Values Girls and Young Women* will be used as the foundation for this workshop. Topics will include safety, communications, relationships, emotions, identity, and a brief look at programming building blocks

- **Girl Matters: Learning Best Practices**

- **Translating Training into Effective Programming with Girls — Vanessa Wicker and Lynn Smithwick, Presenters**

Girl-serving organizations who are implementing the Girl Matters training will share how they have translated the recommendations into practical programming and services with girls. Participants will have an opportunity to see and hear about specific programming innovations, interventions with girls, how to include girls in the process of providing services and what is working. The workshop will be highly interactive and participants will be encouraged to ask questions and to learn from experienced girls serving leaders and practitioners.

- **Implementing a Gender Responsive Leadership Model – Dr. Lawanda Ravoira, Presenter**

The closing session will provide the Six Guiding Principles of Gender Responsive Service outlined by Dr. Barbara Bloom and Dr. Stephanie Covington. These guiding principles will be incorporated into a gender responsive leadership framework that includes modeling the way, finding your voice, inspiring a vision, envisioning the future for girls, challenging the process when necessary and leading the right way.

To register for this one-day workshop and for the 2010 Adolescent Conference, go to [http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent\\_conference/register.cfm](http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent_conference/register.cfm)

### National Speakers To be Featured at 2010 Adolescent Conference

The Florida Juvenile Justice Association in conjunction with the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association are proud to sponsor the 13th annual 2010 Adolescent Conference, a premier training event for people who work with at-risk youth. This year's conference offers juvenile justice professionals a national perspective on the issues they face in their day-to-day efforts to make a difference in the lives of children and families. This year we have chosen a variety of educational opportunities that highlight several national leaders and researchers.

**Dr. Patricia Agatston**, whose presentation will focus on "best practices" for addressing bullying behavior, and will review current research on the forms, methods, and prevalence of cyber bullying behavior. The session will analyze the similarities and differences between traditional bullying and cyber bullying and relate how effective strategies for bullying prevention can be adapted and applied to cyber bullying behavior. She is also presenting a second workshop that will

focus on a comprehensive model for preventing teen suicide. Participants will become familiar with the QPR (question, persuade, refer) method of



*Dr. Patricia Agatston, Ph.D*

*Dr. Agatston will present two workshops:*

- *Bullying in the Digital Age*
- *Ask a Question, Save a Life: The Cob County Model of Teen Suicide Prevention*

suicide prevention and the sources of strength model. She has co-authored two books on bullying and was a participant in the CDC's Expert Panel on Electronic Media and Youth Violence, and has presented nationally and internationally on cyber bullying.

**Dr. Joseph Miller**, chair of the Core Principles Systems at Keck University School of Medicine at the University of Southern California, will present a workshop focusing on the neurobiology of drug addiction with particular attention to the adolescent population. Dr. Miller will help participants understand the rudiments of brain chemistry and physiology that contribute to addiction, how addictive drugs alter that

chemistry, and what we can say about this process in the teenage brain. His research interests are in the biological mechanisms of drug abuse and dependency, the neuropharmacology of sleep

*Dr. Miller, Plenary speaker on Tuesday, will present one workshop:*

- *Developing Brain: Developing Addiction (Tuesday's Plenary Topic)*
- *Neural Basis of Drug Dependence: What Can We Way About Drugs and the Developing Brain (Workshop)*



*Dr. Joseph Miller*

and circadian rhythms, circadian disruption in Alzheimer's disease, stem cell approaches to Parkinson's disease and exobiology. He served as the project director for a space shuttle project in primate circadian rhythms at the University of Southern California and as the director for Neurochemistry at Stanford University. Dr. Miller received his B.S. in Microbiology from Yale University and his Ph.D. in Physiological Psychology from the University of Texas, Austin.

**Dr. Jesse W. Jackson III** is founder of Best Man, LLC, a program to help students and families to proactively plan and prepare for college, their career, and financial future. His workshop, "College or Prison, The Male Crisis of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," will address how to keep young men in the classroom and educate them for

success. His second session, entitled "Ending a Culture of Death and Violence," addresses the reason youth fight and kill each other and



*Dr. Jesse Jackson, III*

how to end school violence. He his under graduate degree in psychology and a Masters Degree in counseling from Wayne State University and his PH.D. in counseling from Trinity Institute.

To register for the conference and for more information on the conference workshop schedule, go to

[http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent\\_conference/info.asp](http://www.fadaa.org/adolescent_conference/info.asp)