



# Newsletter

December 2010  
Volume 4, Issue 51

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## Board of Directors Meeting

February 14, 2011  
Disney's Contemporary Resort  
10:30 pm to 2:30 pm

## 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)

## FJJA Presents to Governor Elect Scott's Juvenile Justice Transition Team

FJJA met recently with the Governor-elect Scott's juvenile justice transition team, who were tasked with identifying innovative ideas, cost saving opportunities, and restructuring recommendations for the agency.

FJJA's presentation included a recommendation that the Department of Juvenile Justice remain a separate agency, with restructuring to leverage the successes that have occurred since the agency was removed from HRS in 1994.

Other recommendations:

- Build on successes and strengths of the existing system;
- Further privatize the system in order to maximize innovation, flexibility, outcomes and cost efficiency;
- Specific cost saving ideas relating to reengineering quality assurance and reducing state operated residential programming.

*FJJA Presentation to Scott Transition Team, [click here.](#)*

## Transition Teams Present Recommendations To Governor-Elect Scott

While transition teams were presenting their final recommendations this week, Governor-elect Scott had asked most of Gov. Crist's administration to rescind their resignations and stay on board for up to three months, as the search for replacements continue. Nearly all of the state agency heads were asked to stay, with the exception of Tom Pelham, (DCA), Frank Peterman, (DJJ) Leo DiBenigno, (Lottery) and Linda South, (DMS).

## For More Info

All of FJJA's recommendations to the team were included in the final report to Governor-elect Scott.

- To see the complete final juvenile justice report, [click here.](#)
- To look at other final transition reports, [click here.](#)

## New on [www.fjja.org](http://www.fjja.org)

- FJJA 2010-2011 Legislative Brochure
- "About FJJA"
- FJJA 2010-2011 "Support the Juvenile Justice Continuum" Briefing

## Holiday Message

We applaud your commitment and dedication to working with Florida's most vulnerable youth.

As we prepare to spend some much needed time with our families this holiday season, we wish you happy holidays and best wishes for a wonderful new year.

We look forward to working with you in 2011.

Cathy Craig-Myers    Lynn Redmond  
Executive Director    Project Director

## FJJA Holiday Office Hours:

Closed - Friday, Dec. 24, 2010  
Reopens - Monday, Jan. 3, 2011

## Mark your Calendar

### Legislative Committee Weeks

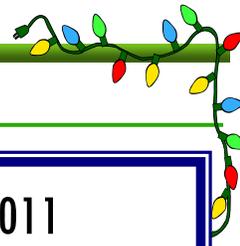
Jan. 10-14, 2011, Jan. 24-28, 2011  
Feb. 7-11, 2011, Feb. 14-18, 2011  
Feb. 21-25, 2011

### Legislative Session Begins

Mar 8, 2011

### Legislative Session Ends

May 6, 2011



## Political News

### Revenue Estimating Conference Confirms Larger Deficit

Although Florida is seeing growth, it is slower than projected and state forecasters have now increased the budget deficit amount to \$3.5 billion. This slow growth has not allowed the state to keep up with the increased demand in Medicaid, which is currently the largest driver in the state budget.

Last week, the National Governors Association reported that states are facing \$175 billion in budget gaps through June 2013, forcing legislatures to weigh spending cuts and tax increases. Governor-elect Scott will use the December revenue numbers to build his proposed budget slated to be released in February. There will be another estimating conference before the opening of the 2011 session.

### FJJA Works With Associated Industries on SB 226 to Enhance Accountability, Improve Service Delivery, Eliminate Duplication and Encourage Cost Savings

As co-chair of the AIF Government Outsourcing Council, FJJA supports SB 226, proposed legislation that ensures that government oversight is not duplicative, excessive, or stifles creativity, lowers performance, or diminishes the cost savings that are possible from utilizing the outsourcing model. SB 226 bill highlights:

- **Use national accreditation standards** to meet basic monitoring requirements. State agency monitoring of providers would only cover those standards not covered by accreditation.
- In areas of overlapping jurisdiction, **designate a lead state agency** to ensure that monitoring is coordinated and requirements are coordinated and duplication is avoided
- **Utilize a centralized document vault** where basic monitoring information on providers can be electronically posted and accessible to all monitoring agencies at one time.
- **Enhance accountability** by requiring agencies to provide annually to the Executive Office of the Governor a comprehensive list of all contract requirements, mandated reports, and outcome measures required of providers
- **Ensures prompt payment** on undisputed reimbursement issues
- **Requires a contract amendment** if a material change in the contract is imposed on a service provider
- **Eliminates duplication** by requiring common documentation forms to be utilized by all state agencies requesting the same information and requires all state agencies and school districts to accept a Level 2 background screen requested by another agency.

### FJJA 2010-2011 Legislative Agenda

Maximize Florida's investment in a balanced juvenile justice system to ensure public safety to:

- Reduce crime.
- Reduce victimization and related costs.
- Reduce need for future prison construction.
- Reduce flow of juveniles into adult prison system.

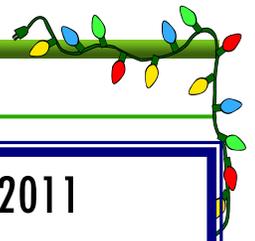
### FJJA Long Term Legislative Priorities

- Balance the Juvenile Justice Continuum
- Enhance Gender Specific Programming
- Reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact
- Ensure Legal Representation
- Develop Alternatives to Secure Detention

### The Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy: Medicaid is Scapegoat for Budget Woes

As legislators prepare to tackle Medicaid reform, and although Medicaid spending is the largest single spending category in the state budget, CFEP believes that the state reaps a tremendous return on its investment in Medicaid.

The report claims that every dollar of state general revenue (GR) invested in Medicaid this year will leverage an additional \$4.77 from other sources, an unprecedented yield. Following the end of the stimulus dollars, every dollar of state general revenue invested in Medicaid will leverage another \$2.98. [Click here to read the full report.](#)



## Recently Released Reports

### **University of South Florida Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute: *Evaluation of Florida's Behavioral Health Overlay Services (BHOS)***

Florida Behavioral Health Overlay Services (BHOS) were developed to address the mental health and substance abuse needs of juvenile justice youth. Studies compared a group of children who received BHOS services with a matched group of youth who did not receive JJBHOS. Reports shows that youth who received BHOS had better outcomes than youth who did not receive BHOS while in DJJ programs.

<http://home.fmhi.usf.edu/common/file/ahca/ahca2010/220-136.pdf>

### **Center for Juvenile Justice Reform: *Improving the Effectiveness of Juvenile Justice Programs***

This report highlights "what works" principles gleaned from a meta-analysis of 548 juvenile justice studies to evaluate community juvenile justice programs and make continuous improvements.

<http://cjjr.georgetown.edu/pdfs/ebp/ebppaper.pdf>

### **Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) 2010 Annual Report**

Report discusses the needs of children who cross over between the juvenile justice and child protection systems, the school-to-prison pipeline, law enforcement and the legal system, diversion programs, transfer and waiver of juveniles to adult court, life without parole for juveniles and community-based reentry programs for juvenile offenders.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2010/nichd-21.htm>

### **Annie E Casey: *The Missouri Model - Reinventing the Practice of Rehabilitating Youthful Offenders***

The state of Missouri's approach to juvenile detention is designed to help troubled teens make lasting behavioral changes so that they can successfully transition back to their communities. The report explores the success of the model and builds the case for juvenile detention reform.

<http://www.aecf.org/upload/publicationfiles/MOFullreportwebfinal.pdf>

## **FJJA 2010-2011 Key Messages**

Florida's juvenile justice system is one of the most comprehensive in the country and is always improving.

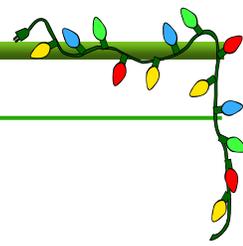
- We have nationally recognized programs and services throughout the state which serve the needs of each local community.
- Florida is a leader in prevention, early intervention and diversion services helping to reduce the number of youth from penetrating the system.

**A responsive and balanced juvenile justice continuum is good for Florida and good for the youth who need services.**

- Public safety is the most important goal, and a variety of services delivered locally ensure that the right service for the right youth at the right time occurs.
- Wise investments in the juvenile justice system pay off now and in the future and stop the flow of youth into the adult prison system.

**Building on our successes saves dollars that won't be spent on prisons and will prevent future victims.**

- Indicators point to the fact that today's adult prisoners are less likely to be in prison had they benefited from effective juvenile justice interventions at an early age.
- We can't afford to lose ground in these difficult economic times; we must build on what is working successfully.
- We must invest now or will pay more later.



### Recently Released Reports

#### **TaxWatch Report: *Recommendations of the Government Cost Savings Task Force***

Florida TaxWatch annual report identifies productivity and efficiency improvements and other cost savings measures to change the way Florida government operates. Recommendations include expanding managed care in the Medicaid program to save money and help control the cost of healthcare, identifying waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicaid and the health care system, removing exemptions to competitive bidding and empowering a commission to do a top-to-bottom review of the criminal justice and corrections system to identify savings. <http://www.floridataxwatch.org/resources/pdf/12082010GCTSF.pdf>

#### **Urban Institute: *Children of Incarcerated Parents***

For the nearly 2 million children in the United States whose parents are in prison, caretaking necessary for optimal development is disrupted. These vulnerable youth - a population that has increased 80% in the last 20 years - are more likely to experience learning difficulties, poor health, and substance abuse, and eventually be incarcerated themselves.

<http://www.urban.org/books/childrenofincarceratedparents/index.cfm>

#### **U.S. Department of Justice: *Youth's Characteristics and Backgrounds***

Report provides a snapshot: 85% of all youth in residential placement are male. The custody rate for females is less than one-fifth the rate for males. The majority (51%) of youth in placement are 16 or 17 years old. More than 15% are between ages 18 and 20. Preteens (ages 10-12) comprise 1% of the placement population. About one-third of youth in residential placement are white non-Hispanic. Nearly another one-third are black or African American and one-fourth are Hispanic. Nearly one-third of youth had one offense. Another one-third had two or three offenses, and the remaining one-third had four or more. <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/227730.pdf>

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### In the News

New York Times: [Gay Teenagers Face Harsher Punishments](#)

Charlotte Observer: [North Carolina Governor Perdue calls for mergers, hiring freeze](#)

North Carolina Governor plans to combine the Departments of Juvenile Justice, Corrections, and Crime Control and Public Safety into a new Department of Public Safety.

The Huffington Post: [Juvenile Justice One Kid at a Time: A Success Story, Interrupted](#)

The Huffington Post: [Strength to Love: A Challenge to the Privatized Prison Industry](#)

### Welcome New FJJA Member

Eckerd Youth Alternatives has joined the Association. Agency representatives include Sheila Asson, VP of Operations, [sasson@eckerd.org](mailto:sasson@eckerd.org), Jody Grutza, Director of Government Relations, [jgrutza@eckerd.org](mailto:jgrutza@eckerd.org), and Robert Patterson, Director of Operations, [rpatterson@eckerd.org](mailto:rpatterson@eckerd.org)



## FJF Scholarship Opportunities Still Available

The Florida Juvenile Justice Youth Investment Award, made possible by a generous grant from the Eckerd Family Foundation is still available. The award is designed to assist youth who are or were served by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice or contracted providers. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year, and are subject to funding availability.

The funding may be requested to assist youth leaving the juvenile justice system, with the next step essential to academic achievement or workforce readiness which cannot be met through any other available resources essential to the youth's success. Awards may contribute to tuition for post-secondary education, supplies, transportation, education or employability assistance with funding made directly to the vendor.

For more information, including the scholarship application visit: <http://www.djjfoundation.org/scholarships.shtml>

## Upcoming Events

### 2011 Children's Week Events

[For details of of the 2011 Children's Week Events, click here.](#)

- Hanging of the Hands
  - April 3, 2011, 12:30-4 p.m. Capitol Rotunda
- Children's Week Community Innovation Awards Luncheon
  - April 4, 2011, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. University Center Club
- Advocacy Training
  - April 4, 2011, 1-2:30 p.m. University Center Club
- Advocacy Dinner & Reception
  - April 4, 2011, 5- 8 p.m. University Center Club
- Children's Capitol for a Day Presented by Comcast
  - April 5, 2011, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. State Capitol Courtyard
- Children's Week Press Conference & Hanging of the Hands Dedication
  - April 5, 2011, 9:30 a.m. State Capitol Courtyard
- Guided Tours of the Capitol
  - April 4-6, 2011 New and Old Capitol buildings
- Legislative Reading Corner Presented by the Pearson Foundation
  - April 5, 2011, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. State Capitol Courtyard
- "Kids Only" Town Hall Meeting
  - April 5, 2011, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Tallahassee City Hall
- Children's Week Luncheon
  - April 5, 2011, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. State Capitol Courtyard
- Youth Advocacy Workshop
  - April 5, 2011, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Tallahassee City Hall
- Department of Juvenile Justice: Youth Success Day
  - April 5, 2011, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. State Capitol



## 2010-2011 Meeting Calendar

### Board of Directors Meetings

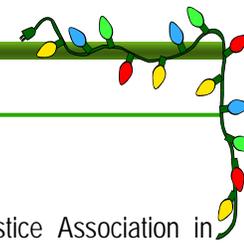
- **February 14, 2011.** 10:30 am to 2:30 pm at the FJJA/FADAA Adolescent Conference, Disney's Contemporary Resort., Orlando
- **Thursday, April 6, 2011.** 9 am to 4 pm. DISC Village, 3333 W. Pensacola St., Tallahassee, FL
- **June 12-15, 2011** (Wed - Fri) Annual FJJA Board Retreat, LaPlaya Resort, Naples, FL

### Executive Committee Meetings

- **Monthly Conference Call** - 1st Monday of every month, 2 pm
- **Legislative Session** - Conference Call Every Monday, 2 pm
- **Executive Committee Planning meeting,** February 2011, TBD

## Innovations in Treatment

Gateway Community Services 2nd Annual Spring Conference, April 6-8, 2011, Jacksonville. Participants will explore the future of treatment and attitude in today's changing world. For more information, go to [Spring Conference.](#)



### 2011 Adolescent Conference Returns to Disney: Conference and Hotel Registration Open

Registration is now open for [2011 Adolescent Conference](#) presented annually by the Florida Juvenile Justice Association in conjunction with Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association. This year's Conference theme is *Embracing Change* and is being held February 14-15, 2011 at Disney's Contemporary Resort® at Lake Buena Vista and will be followed by a day-long training on Bullying and Suicide Prevention February 16th.

This year there are two hotels available for those planning to attend, [Disney's Contemporary Resort](#) (the Conference hotel) at \$139 per night and [Disney's Port Orleans Resort - Riverside](#) at \$115 per night. Those who choose to stay at the Riverside location must provide their own transportation to the conference hotel. In order to receive the special rates available to conference participants, reservations must be made on or before January 24, 2011. After that date, rooms will no longer be available at the special rate. Employees of tax-exempt agencies must supply proof of tax exemption upon check-in and make payment with a company check or credit card.

To read more about this year's Conference, go to [2011 Adolescent Conference](#).

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### 2011 Adolescent Conference— At a Glance

This year's event offers juvenile justice professionals a national perspective on issues they face in on a daily basis as they strive to make a difference in the lives of children and families. Workshop highlights include:

- *In Plain Sight: A Review of Minor Sex Trafficking In Florida*  
**John Robertson, M.S., Director of Training, Youth and Family Services Network,**  
**Brad Dennis, Director of Search Operations, Klaas Kids Foundation**  
Robertson and Dennis will educate participants about the minor sex trafficking trade in Florida and will prepare participants to identify victims and provide appropriate trauma-based services.
- *Connecting the Past to the Present: The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Chronic Health Conditions*  
**Shairi Turner, M.D., M.P.H, Deputy Secretary for Health and Director, Office of Minority Health, Florida Department of Health**  
Dr. Turner will explore childhood trauma and connect past experiences to current conditions .
- *Preventing Recidivism: Our Experience in Implementing and Operating MST Services*  
**D. Cherrey Jones, CEO, Psychotherapeutic Therapeutic Services of Florida**  
This workshop will offer participants understanding of a multisystem therapy program and the basic philosophy and treatment approaches.
- *Strategies to Reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact*  
**Jim Clark, President and CEO, Daniel Memorial, the oldest child-serving agency in Florida.**  
The workshop will show how using data can target problem areas and develop effective solutions with evidence-based interventions.
- *Help Me to Understand: Exploring Grief and Loss Through the Eyes of a Girl*  
**Dr. Lawanda Ravoira, Executive Director, NCCD Center for Girls and Young Women**  
This workshop will focus on recognizing grief and loss and creating a culture that provides a safe, trauma-informed space for girls..
- *Direct Link Between Unresolved Trauma and Juveniles with Extreme Behavior*  
**Dr. Scott Sells, CEO, Parenting with Love and Limits**  
This workshop will focus on reasons why recidivism rates for juveniles returning to the community are so high and why parent engagement and involvement is the key.