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We hope to see you at our Annual FJJA Retreat

At a Glance:

- Year in Review
- Legislative Wrap-up
- Preparing for Next Year's Early Legislative Session
- Election of FJJA Executive Officers
- Discussion with DJJ Leadership
- Developing Association Priorities
- NCCD Listening Session

The FJJA Newsletter is published monthly

Cathy Craig-Myers, Editor
Lynn Redmond, Publisher

Deadline is the 4th of each month
Send your news to lynn@fjja.org

A Life Sentence of Joblessness *Editorial Reprinted from the St. Petersburg Times*

Lorenzo had a hard time concealing his nervousness. Standing in front of a large room packed with Boeing employees, the tall, lanky black gang member described the arc of his life. At 22, he had spent nearly a third of his life incarcerated.

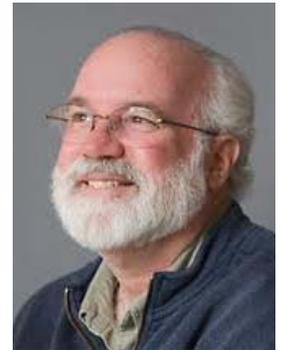
Peering out of his round, black-rimmed glasses, he talked about his seven months at Homeboy Industries (the largest gang re-entry program in the country), and about how he had moved quickly from the janitorial team to become an assistant in the accounting department. "I used to steal money," he said. "Now I'm counting it."

I had the honor of witnessing Lorenzo's seven-month journey from convict to accounting assistant, watching as he became the young man God had in mind when he made him. But despite his remarkable turnaround and the many things he had to offer an employer, Lorenzo's prospects for finding a job outside our program were dim. Opportunities for second chances are few for people like Lorenzo. Homeboy Industries is about the only game in town. Most employers just aren't willing to look beyond the dumbest or worst thing someone has done.

Another "homie" recently came to me for help after, for the third time, he was let go from a job because his employer had discovered he'd done five years in prison. He told me the boss said, "You're one of our best workers, but we have to let you go." Then, with a desperate sadness, the young man added: "Damn, G. No one told me I'd be getting a life sentence of no work." The business of second chances is everybody's business. We lose our right to be surprised about high recidivism rates if we refuse to hire folks who have taken responsibility for their crimes and have done their time.

Even in this alarming economic climate, where the pool of prospective employees is larger than ever, we need to find the moral imperative as a society to secure places in our workforce for those who just need a chance to prove themselves. This can't be the concern only of a large gang rehab center; it must also be part of our collective response to keep our streets safe and our communities healthy.

As a society, we come up lacking in many of the marks of compassion and wisdom by which we measure ourselves as civilized. We are among the handful of countries that has difficulty distinguishing juveniles from adults where crime is concerned. We are convinced that if a child commits an adult crime, that kid is magically transformed into an adult. Consequently, we try juveniles as adults. We still execute people. And we belong to a small, exclusive club of countries that brands felons forever and denies them voting rights, access to employment and, sometimes, even housing.



At our 2010 Adolescent Conference, Father Greg Boyle gave a powerful keynote on the importance of giving hope and opportunities to youth. Father Boyle, a Jesuit priest, is Executive Director and founder of Homeboy Industries and the author of *"Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion."*

Continued on page 2, see Father Boyle

Legislative Update

Budget now on Governor's Desk: Must be Signed by June 1st

Governor Rick Scott has received the budget (SB2000), implementing bill and 26 conforming bills giving him until June 1 to sign off or veto the measures and use his line-item veto authority.

Governor Scott is scheduled to sign the budget on Thursday, May 26th in advance of the Memorial Day holiday. Scott has been

vague on what he might veto from the budget, saying he will consider the impact of each item on private-sector job creation. He has told the media that the budget will save even more than expected which indicates he likely will exercise some veto power. Eleven conforming bills have yet to make their way to Scott's desk.

Civil Citation Bill Passes

One of the biggest priorities for Secretary Wansley Walters this year has been passing the Civil Citation bill.

"The Senate's approval of the civil citation program is a bold step in the right direction toward community-based approaches to help non-violent youth turn their lives around and become productive, law-abiding members of society," said Florida Juvenile Justice Secretary Wansley Walters. "The civil citation is at the center of Gov. Scott's strategy to strengthen community-based intervention of youthful offenders while holding them accountable for their actions."

Highlights of the bill include:

- DJJ will encourage and assist in the implementation and improvement of civil citation programs around the state.
- Civil citation or similar programs shall be selected upon consultation and agreement by the state attorney and local law enforcement.
- Under a civil citation or similar diversion program, any law enforcement officer may issue a civil citation.

- Stipulates that intervention services will be provided based on an assessment of the needs of the youth.
- Limits civil citations or similar diversion programs to first-time misdemeanor offenders.
- Requires that the operating agency report the outcome of the civil citation or similar diversion program to DJJ; ensures that the issuance of a civil citation is not considered a referral to DJJ.
- Provides that DJJ establish guidelines for the program that include intervention services and which are based on successful civil citation programs in the state.
- If a youth does not comply with program requirements, the juvenile probation officer will process the original delinquent act as a referral to DJJ and report to the state attorney that the child has committed a delinquent act

To read a copy of the 2010 *"Getting Smart on Juvenile Crime, supported by Associated Industries of Florida and the Florida Juvenile Justice Association*, [click here](#).

Father Boyle, continued from page 1

Waiting for a piece of legislation or an elected official's change of heart would seem unwarranted. Instead, faith communities and networks of employers need to create a groundswell that will afford opportunity to a population long shut out and denied a chance at redemption. And because gang involvement has always been about a lethal absence of hope, making room in the workplace for those who have made mistakes could also make a big difference in our public safety.

The mark of our society as civilized will come when we embrace confidence in the power of redemption.

Recently Published Report

Justice Research Center: Services for At-Risk Youth Save State \$160 Million Per Year

A new report by the Justice Research Center (JRC) has found that the state of Florida has saved more than \$160 million over a two-year period as a result of prevention services provided by the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, which annually serves approximately 15,000 at-risk youths and their families.

The Justice Research Center report includes an evaluation of two components: a profile of Florida Network youth and services; and a cost-benefit analysis. The first component examines the demographic and risk factor profiles of current Florida Network youth, as well as recent Florida Network program outputs and outcomes as reported by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

The report found that the majority of youth served had multiple risk factors found in research known to significantly increase their odds of engaging in delinquency. Despite this, most youth who completed Florida Network services never subsequently became involved in the juvenile justice system.

To read full report, [click here](#).

In the News

Tallahassee Democrat: *Drug Court Teaches Juveniles the Wisdom of Change*

<http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20110515/COLUMNIST05/105150304/Mary-Ann-Lindley-Drug-Court-teaches-juveniles-the-wisdom-of-change>

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange: *On the Road Less Traveled to Make Good Law for Kids*

<http://jje.org/judge-steve-teske-on-road-less-traveled-make-good-law-for-kids/14144>

Justice Policy Institute: *Expanding Criminal Justice Options by Considering Policies of Other Nations*

http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/juvenile_justice.pdf

Florida Today: *Expanding Civil Citation Program is Smart Move*

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/CD/20110506/OPINION01/105060316/Our-Opinion-Juvenile-justice-reform?odyssey=nav|head>

Palm Beach Post: *Parents Could Face Jail for Not Taking Children to Court-Ordered Activities*

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2011/may/11/treasure-coast-parents-could-face-jail-for-to-in/>

Star Telegram: *Concerns Raised Over Merger of Texas' Juvenile Justice Agencies*

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/05/18/3086108/concerns-raised-over-merger-of.html>

Youth Today: *Invest in Educating Juveniles Now, or Pay For It Later*

http://www.youthtoday.org/view_blog.cfm?blog_id=481

Thomas G. Blomberg, Executive Director, Center for Criminology and Public Policy Research, FSU, makes the argument that in the absence of the reauthorization of NCLB, the U.S. Department of Education should, at minimum, collaborate with the Juvenile Justice Educational Alliance on educating the public and state governments on the critical role and cost-effective value of evidence-based and accountable juvenile justice education.

St. Petersburg Times: *Once the face of Florida's flawed juvenile justice system, 'J.J.' Revear dies in shooting*

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/crime/jj-revear-dies-after-shooting-outside-tampa-bar/1170294>

IT'S TIME TO RENEW !

All members will be receiving membership renewal invoices in the next few weeks. In order for the Association to continue to advocate on behalf of your organization, please make sure to remit your membership dues as soon as possible and no later than July 1, 2011.

We appreciate your support. For information, call Lynn Redmond, Project Director, 850-671-3442 or e-mail lynn@fjja.org.

Upcoming Conferences, Workshops, & Events

ARISE 5 Day Master Training, May 23-27, 2011, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Central Region Office, 4524 Oak Fair Boulevard, Tampa, Florida. To register or for more information contact ARISE at 1-888-680-6100, or e-mail answers@at-riskyouth.org

Progress Through Partnerships: 2011 National Gang Symposium, June 7-10, 2011, Orlando, Florida, sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), offers opportunities to learn about innovative and successful gang-related programs and strategies and will provide the latest information on youth gang activities and trends from national experts. For registration information, go to <http://www.gangsymposium.org/>.

Multidisciplinary Conference on Child Abuse, July 27-29, sponsored by Florida's Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Walt Disney World Dolphin Resort, Orlando, Florida. For more information, go to <http://www.fncac.org/index.php?s=3043>

Health Care Reform Workshops, August 19, September 28, September 29, October 20, November 30, and December 16, is sponsored by The Florida Department of Children and Families and the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association. For topics and locations, go to [Health Care Reform workshops](#).

Making Lives Better: The Force That Unites Us, August 24-26, 2011, the 2011 Annual Conference sponsored by Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association and Florida Council for Community Mental Health, will be held at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress, Orlando, Florida. For more information go to <http://www.makinglivesbetter.org/>.

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.

Upcoming Webinars

ARISE Webinars

- *Everyday Negotiation Skills* - June 29, 2011
- *Listening to Each Other* - July 27, 2011
- *Assess Your Stress* - August 24, 2011
- *Manage Time, Manage Stress* - September 21, 2011
- *Just Say Om* - October 26, 2011

To register or for more information contact ARISE at 1-888-680-6100, or e-mail answers@at-riskyouth.org

Member News

Duval County Receives SAMHSA Grant; FJJA Member Vicki Waytowich to Lead Efforts

Vicki Waytowich has accepted the role of Project Director for Duval County's \$9 million System of Care SAMHSA grant. In her new role, Dr. Waytowich will help to facilitate the development of integrated home and community-based services and supports for youth with serious emotional disturbances. The grant period is six years and will involve the design and implementation of a system of care that will focus efforts on youth and families in the child welfare, juvenile justice, homeless and subsidized day care system to include the following objectives:

- Expand community capacity to serve children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances;
- Provide a broad array of accessible, clinically effective and fiscally accountable services, treatments and supports for children and families;
- Serve as a catalyst for broad-based, sustainable systemic change inclusive of policy reform and infrastructure development.

Home Builders Institute's Project CRAFT Carpentry Class Contributes to the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life"

The combined staff of G4S and Home Builders Institute at the Avon Park Youth Academy worked diligently beginning in the summer of 2010 preparing for the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" held on May 7, 2011 in Avon Park.

Home Builders Institute's Project CRAFT was looking for an additional way to contribute by including Avon Park students. The carpentry class, lead by instructor Rick Reynolds, stepped up to the challenge. Mr. Reynolds and his 10 students decided to build 2 picnic tables to be used for fundraising. The first picnic table was raffled off to the staff at the facility raising well over one hundred dollars. The second picnic table was raffled off at the "Relay for Life" event and raised several hundred dollars. All the proceeds from these raffles were donated to the American Cancer Society.



FJJA Upcoming Meetings

Annual FJJA Board Retreat

- June 12-15, 2011
LaPlaya Golf & Beach Resort, Naples, FL

2011-2012 Board of Directors Meetings

- September 15, 2011 – Tampa/St. Pete
- November 8, 2011 – Orlando
- January 19, 2012 – Tallahassee
- March 2012 – Adolescent Conference
- June 10-13, 2012 – Annual Board Retreat

Executive Committee Meetings

- Executive Committee meets prior to every board meeting
- Executive Committee Conference Call - First Monday of every month (2 p.m.)
- Weekly Executive Committee Conference Call - During Legislative Session (2 p.m.)



Member News

What's Cooking at RAMC?

There has always been a somewhat skeptical view towards delivering vocational programming within facilities with specialized populations. It is true that students with educable mental handicaps need more than the allotted length of commitment in order to complete the rigorous curriculum requirements for receipt of industry-recognized certifications. This reality only makes Twin Oaks Youth Development more determined to show success in this area.

Every single day, Twin Oaks Juvenile Development, Inc. (TOJDI) prides itself on living up to the challenge of making a difference in the lives of the youth they serve, especially for youth with extreme challenges. The Residential Alternative for the Mentally Challenged (RAMC), a TOJDI facility in Greenville, under the leadership of Sean Golder, Executive Director, is one such facility. One-third of the committed youth on the 148-bed RAMC campus, have an IQ of 70 or below with educable mental handicaps as well as various mental health diagnoses.

Mr. Golder, determined to show the successes that can be experienced with these youth, worked to make sure that RAMC remained included as a Type III classification facility. He also wanted to ensure that two vocational programs offered at the facility, Culinary Arts and Automotive Technology, be registered with the Florida Department of Education as viable, productive career academies.

Challenges were many as the 2010-2011 school year kicked off. RAMC had all of the right titles, types, and classifications, but there appeared to be insurmountable obstacles: a challenging population, the lack of an instructor, and no precedent set for success within the facility's program. Despite these challenges, the vision for RAMC's Culinary Arts program pressed forward. Golder, along with RAMC's program director, Ron Matthews, and Twin Oaks COO, Charlie Chervanik, collaborated to develop a workable timeline and specific goals for the program and soon positive things began to happen.

Before the close of 2010, RAMC reached the goal of their very first industry-recognized certifications through OSHA. With the hiring of Blaine Register, Safe Staff Certified Culinary Arts Instructor, the Culinary Arts program at RAMC experienced an unprecedented success rate among these specialized students. Just months after acclimating himself to his new facility and his new set of students, Mr. Register has awarded over 50 Safe Staff Food Handler Certifications as well as five Culinary Arts Occupational Completion Points (OCPs).

With Mr. Register at the helm, RAMC Culinary Arts is moving forward in the next phase in training specialized students: the production of a culinary product to be manufactured in RAMC's own kitchen! To hone the employability and budgetary skills of the young men under his tutelage, Mr. Register will teach them how to market their product to replenish funds for their program.

Job shadowing is an important component for these students as they prepare to go back and embark on successful careers. The RAMC Culinary Arts students also participate twice a month in a job shadowing activity at Surf City Pizza in Tallahassee in which they prepare and serve pizza to the public.



Meet the Candidates

Election of FJJA Executive Officers to be held at Annual Retreat

FJJA's nominating committee, chaired by Past President Jim Hill has announced a slate of nominees for Executive officer positions. The election will take place at the annual retreat on Monday, June 13th. Those elected will officially begin their terms on July 1, 2011 and will serve for two (2) years. Additionally, the floor will be open for nominations on Monday, *including the Secretary position which is now vacant*. As a reminder, Executive Committee nominees must have attended 50% of meetings, member agencies must be in good standing and must have been members for 1 year.

Members not attending the retreat will have the opportunity to vote via email, telephone or proxy according to FJJA By-Laws.

Ballots will be emailed the week of May 30th . There is one vote per Agency Membership. Associate Agency Members and Ex Officio Members do not have voting privileges. Below are the nominees and positions they have been nominated for. On following pages are brief bios to serve as introductions to those running for office.

Slate of Nominees for Executive Officer Positions	
President-Elect	
Jim Hill	G4S Youth Services, LLC
Frank Alarcon	The Henry & Rilla White Youth Foundation, Inc.
Donnie Read	Twin Oaks Juvenile Development
Treasurer	
Tadar Muhammad	Home Builders Institute, Inc.
Jim Hill	G4S Youth Services, LLC
At-Large Executive Committee	
Pam Alvarez	Bay Area Youth Services
Donnie Read	Twin Oaks Juvenile Development
Babette Hankey	Center for Drug-Free Living
Chris Perkins	Sequel Youth and Family Services
John Wilson	DISC Village, Inc.
Jim Hill	G4S Youth Services, LLC
Jim Slattery	Youth Services International, Inc.
Frank Alarcon	The Henry & Rilla White Youth Foundation, Inc.
Tadar Muhammad	Home Builders Institute, Inc.

Meet the Candidates



Babette Hankey

Babette Hankey

COO — The Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc.

Degree(s) or Certifications: M.S. Criminal Justice, CPP

Career Highlights

- Worked in the White House Drug Policy Office for 5 years under the Bush and Clinton Administrations. Responsible for policy and budget planning.
- Appointed to the Governor's Drug Advisory Council, served under Jeb Bush and Charlie Crist, 1999-2009
- Appointed to Orange County Chairman's Jail Oversight Commission, served as co-chair for substance abuse and mental health subcommittee.
- Youngest female to receive Federal Women's Achievement Award in 1994

Other Boards currently serving on

- Chair for the Women's Committee of the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association



James F. Slattery

James F. Slattery

President/CEO — Youth Services International, Inc.

Degree(s) or Certifications: St John's University, B.S. Business Management

Career Highlights

- Founded Correctional Services Corporation, Inc. (CSC) and established a juvenile division of residential & non-residential programs for at-risk-youth.
- Acquired Youth Services International (YSI), and established a management team dedicated to deliver evidence-based programming for at risk youth.
- Following the sale of CSC, continued as CEO/President of YSI, which now operates as a private provider of residential & non-residential services for at-risk-youth nationwide.

FJJA Executive Board

- Member of FJJA Executive Committee, 2009-2011



Frank Alarcon

Francisco "Frank" Alarcon

Chief Operating Officer — The Henry & Rilla White Youth Foundation, Inc

Degree(s) or Certifications: B.A. History and Anthropology, UC Davis; Graduate, NIC Certification for CEO's; Graduate, UC Certification for Public Sector Labor-Management Relations; completed and conducted juvenile justice and human services professional training courses, workshops, seminars

Career highlights

- Deputy Commissioner for operations, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
- Deputy Secretary, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
- Director/Chief Deputy Director/Deputy Director, California Youth Authority
- Faculty Appointments: State and Local Government Executive Institute, UC Berkeley; Management Certificate Program, UC Davis; California Intergovernmental Program Institute; Delinquency Control Institute, University of Southern California; National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

FJJA Executive Board

- Two terms as Executive Committee Member
- Active participant on numerous FJJA committees including Policy, Administrative Rules, Legislative, BHOS, Education; represented FJJA on numerous DJJ workgroups including Contract Procurement, Evidence Based Steering Committee, Quality Assurance Advisory Committee, CR/Transition Steering Committee

Other Boards currently serving on

- Florida Council for Community Mental Health
- Florida Council for Behavioral Healthcare

Meet the Candidates



Donnie Read

Donnie Read

CEO — Twin Oaks Juvenile Development

Degree(s) or Certifications: B.S. Science Education, M.S. Educational Leadership

Career highlights

- State Advisory Group (SAG) 1997-2008
- SAG Disproportionate Minority Contact Chair 2005-2008
- Liberty County Juvenile Justice Council- Founding member (1994), Chair (1999-2008)
- Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency- Distinguished Service Award (2002, 2004)
- 2001 Southern Regional Forester's Award
- 2002 US Department of Agriculture Secretary's Award for Superior Service

FJJA Executive Board

- Treasurer - 2 terms
- Executive Committee Member
- Active participant on FJJA/DJJ/DOE Education workgroups

Other Boards currently serving on

- Liberty County Juvenile Justice Council
- Board Chair, Circuit 2 Juvenile Justice Board-
- Chipola Regional Workforce Board
- Chipola College Appreciation Club - Executive Board
- Liberty County Chamber of Commerce - Executive Board



Jim Hill

Jim Hill

President/CEO — G4S Youth Services, LLC

Degree(s) or Certifications: B.S. University of Florida

Career highlights

- President of Sunshine Youth Services, 1990-2009
- President/CEO G4S Youth Services, 2009-present

FJJA Executive Board

- President-Elect , 2006-2007
- President, 2007-2009
- Past President , 2009-2011
- Chair, FJJA/DJJ Contracting and Procurement Workgroup
- Active participant on numerous FJJA/DJJ committees and workgroups

Other Boards currently serving on

- Old Harbor Bank



Pam Alvarez

Pam Alvarez

Executive Director/President — Bay Area Youth Services, Inc.

Degree(s) or Certifications: Bachelors in Social Work (BSW), Masters in Social Work (MSW), Doctorate in Management /Organizational Leadership (DM)

Career Highlights

- Director of Program Development – The Centre for Women, Tampa Florida
- President/Lead Consultant – JDI Group, Inc., Tampa, FL
- Adjunct Faculty – USF School of Social Work/University of Phoenix School of Behavioral Sciences

Other Boards currently serving on

- Vice Chair of the Circuit 13 Juvenile Justice Board

Meet the Candidates



Tadar Muhammad

Tadar Muhammad

Director for Special Projects — Home Builders Institute

Degree(s) or Certifications: Business

Career highlights

- Manages a \$10 million grant with the Department of Justice in collaboration with 28 subcontracted sites to deliver mentoring services to young adults interested in the home building industry.
- Responsible for oversight of all the Florida HBI programs.
- 17 years of experience at all levels of care: residential programs, community based programs, career & technical education, DJJ detention, case management, quality assurance & training.
- Experience in both for-profit and not-for profit sectors.

FJJA Executive Board

- Treasurer and Executive Committee member

Other Boards currently serving on

- Florida Endowment Foundation
- Circuit 9 Juvenile Justice Board



John C Wilson

John C Wilson

Chief Operating Officer — DISC Village Inc.

Degree(s) or Certifications: B.A. Barry University

Career highlights

- Current -Chief Operating Officer for Disc Village, oversees DCF and DJJ programming
- Former Vice President of Florida Operations for Eckerd Youth Alternatives
- Member of the Governor Bush's Task Force on Juvenile Justice Workforce Certification

FJJA Executive Board

- President-Elect- 2004-2006
- President- 2006-2007
- Executive Committee member
- Chair, Administrative Efficiencies Committee

Other Boards currently serving on

- Leon County Juvenile Council



Chris Perkins

Chris Perkins

Vice President — Sequel Youth and Family Services

Degree(s) or Certifications: B.S. Religion

Career highlights

- Appointed as the Director of Detention – Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (2007)
- Successfully started the 3rd Juvenile Drug Court program in the United States
- 19 years working in residential and non-residential programs

Other boards currently serving on

- Governor's Juvenile Advisory Task Force - Maryland