



Newsletter

June 2012

Volume 6, Issue 77

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FJJA 2012 Annual Retreat Focuses on Improving Our Work

FJJA Board members spent three days this month reviewing activities of the past year, identifying critical priorities, and charting our direction for this coming year. In the coming weeks, FJJA workgroups and committees will begin work to help to inform and support FJJA priorities.

As key areas for consideration are identified, FJJA workgroups and committee chairs have been selected:

Chapter 985 Statute Review Workgroup - Frank Alarcon, Henry and Rilla White Foundation

Juvenile Justice Education Workgroup - George Pesta, G4S Youth Services, LLC

Non-Residential Workgroup - Nicole Janer, Evidence-Based Associates

- Sub-Committee on Prevention/Intervention - Debbie Moroney, PACE Center for Girls

- Sub-Committee on Community Intervention - Lori Tomlin, Human Services Associates

Residential Workgroup - Jeff Kaplan, Gulf Coast Youth Services, Jim Hill, G4S Youth Services, LLC

Length of Stay Workgroup - Babette Hankey, Center for Drug-Free Living

Legislative Committee - Todd Dixon, Center for Drug-Free Living, Adriana Sekula, PACE Center for Girls

Membership/Corporate Sponsorship Workgroup - Chris Perkins, Sequel Youth and Family Services, Babette Hankey, Center for Drug-Free Living

Adolescent Conference and Training Workgroup - Dale Thompson, Psycare Juvenile Services, and Pam Alvarez, Bay Area Youth Services

Finance Committee - Tadar Muhammad, Home Builders Institute

Administrative Workgroup - Peter Plant, G4S Youth Services, LLC

Communications Workgroup—Diana Ragbeer, The Children’s Trust

- Sub-Committee focusing on Youth Success - Tadar Muhammad, Home Builders Institute

Chairs of all committees and workgroups will be reaching out to those members who have already signed up to participate in the coming weeks to begin planning meetings and discussions. Please contact lynn@fjja.org to join any workgroups.

Priorities already identified:

- Launch Associate Membership Drive.
- Finalize Recommendations to Chapter 985 for DJJ.
- Develop FJJA Recommendations for DJJ LBR Consideration.
- Working with newly formed communications workgroup, develop FJJA communication strategy to improve overall messaging, i.e. talking points, briefing packets, key messages, and data analysis.
- Consider improvements to all activities that support FJJA Goals and Priorities, to include:
- *FJJA supported local legislative/community events* – Continue with local events, with workgroup to review intent and focus of these events, to include how events are managed and improved.
- *FJJA Day” in Tallahassee during Children’s Week* –Identify ways and additional partners to build on successful activities.
- *FJJA support of DJJ Youth Success Day activities*– Working with a dedicated workgroup focused on youth success, emphasize our work with successful youth across the continuum of care.

Mark Your Calendars
FJJA Board Meeting
Wednesday,
Sept 12, 2012
Largo, Florida
Operation PAR
Largo, Florida

See Page 3 for new information on the Review of Florida’s Juvenile Justice Statutes

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

FJJA Elects 2012-2013 Executive Officers

As we get ready to begin our new year, we are pleased to announce the election of new FJJA Executive Committee members.

The FJJA Executive Committee works as a team and makes every attempt to leverage each member's individual area of expertise to maximize our success.

This is very important given the diverse organizations that make up FJJA.

Effective July 1, 2012, FJJA Executive Officers include:



President

Donnie Read
Twin Oaks Juvenile Development

Past President

Jeff Kaplan
Gulf Coast Youth Services

President Elect

Frank Alarcon
Henry & Rilla White Foundation

Secretary

Chris Perkins
Sequel Youth and Family

Treasurer

Tadar Muhammad
Home Builder's Institute

At-Large

Pam Alvarez
Bay Area Youth Services

At-Large

Tom Camp
Operation PAR

At-Large

Babette Hankey
Center for Drug-Free Living

At-Large

Jim Hill
G4S Youth Services, LLC

At-Large

Debbie Moroney
PACE Center for Girls

At-Large

Dale Thompson
PsyCare Juvenile Services

At-Large

John Wilson
DISC Village

General Revenue Estimates Should Provide New Information About Florida's Economy

State forecasters will be releasing updated information on August 9th as to how Florida is meeting current estimates of revenues. Such estimates are closely watched because general revenue makes up a critical part of the state budget, providing large chunks of funding for schools, health care and criminal justice.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

In order for the Association to continue to advocate on behalf of your organization, please remit your membership dues as soon as possible.

We appreciate your support.

For information, call Lynn Redmond, Project Director at
850-671-3442 or e-mail her at lynn@fjja.org.

Supreme Court Rejects Juvenile Life Without Parole

In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court ruled on June 25th, that the Eighth Amendment forbids sentencing that mandates life in prison without possibility of parole for juvenile murderers. There are approximately 80 fourteen-year-olds nationwide who are serving such sentences.

In 2005 –in a case called *Roper v. Simmons*–the court rejected the death penalty for juveniles, and in 2010—in *Graham v. Florida*, it said that juveniles who commit non-homicide offenses can no longer receive sentences of life without parole. Those decisions were written by Justice Anthony Kennedy who relied on scientific evidence regarding the development of children's brains.

The recent decision stems from two cases—*Jackson v Hobbs* and *Miller v Alabama*—involving 14-year-olds convicted of murder and sentenced to mandatory life terms.

Justice Elena Kagan wrote the majority opinion, holding that life without possibility of parole for juveniles violates the Eighth Amendment's prohibition of cruel and unusual punishment, citing as precedent *Roper v Simmons*. "That right flows from the basic "precept of justice that punishment for crime should be graduated and proportioned," to both the offender and the offense," Kagan wrote. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the dissenting opinion.

DJJ Announces Conference Calls to Launch Review of Chapter 985 - Juvenile Justice Statutes

Introductory conference calls hosted by Secretary Walters are scheduled for July 17th and July 20th. Information is below. FJJA will be participating and will be providing updates.

July 17 th	July 20 th
<u>1:30-2:00</u> Detention cost share	<u>10:00-10:30</u> Confidentiality of records
<u>2:15-2:45</u> Education	<u>10:45-11:15</u> Boards and Councils
<u>3:00-3:30</u> Diversion and Alternative Sanctions	<u>11:30-12:00</u> Judicial Process
Call in number: 1-888-670-3525, pass code: 4175164979 #	



Important Dates to Remember

September

- Sept 11 - FJJA Executive Committee
Location TBA
- Sept 12 - FJJA Board Meeting
Operation PAR, St. Petersburg/ Largo

November

- Nov 7- FJJA Executive Committee
Location TBA
- Nov 8 - FJJA Board Meeting
The Center for Drug-Free Living, Orlando
- November Elections
- Legislative Organizational Session

December

- Legislative Committee Weeks

January

- Legislative Committee Weeks

February

- Legislative Committee Weeks
- Adolescent Conference TBA
 - ⇒ FJJA Executive Committee, 1/2 day
 - ⇒ FJJA Board Meeting, 1/2 day

March

- March 5, 2013 - Legislative Session begins

April

- April 3, 2013 - FJJA Executive Committee
Location TBA
- April 4, 2013 - FJJA Board Meeting
DISC Village Tallahassee
- April 7-12, 2013 - Children's Week and Youth Success Week, Tallahassee

May

- May 3, 2013 - Legislative Session ends
- May 3, 2013 - Executive Committee Visioning Session, TBA

June

- June 10-12, 2013, FJJA Annual Board Retreat, Location TBA

Member News

FJJA Welcomes New Associate Member

We welcome new associate member, Marjorie Anders, assistant state attorney, Office of the State Attorney William "Bill" Eddins, First Judicial Circuit, Escambia County.

In The News

News Service of Florida: *Five Questions for Florida DJJ Secretary Wansley Walters*

<http://flaglerlive.com/38935/wansley-walters/>

Youth Today: *Finding the Time to Make Real Change in Juvenile Justice*

http://www.youthtoday.org/view_blog.cfm?blog_id=589

New York Times: *Lawmakers seek a softer juvenile justice system for offenders*

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/27/nyregion/lawmakers-seek-a-softer-justice-system-for-juvenile-offenders-in-new-york.html?_r=1&ref=administrationforchildrenservices

Florida Courier: *Juvenile Justice: Civil Citations instead of arrests working*

<http://www.flcourier.com/florida/8481-juvenile-justice-civil-citations-instead-of-arrests-working>

Youth Today: *Juvenile Justice System Secrecy Reduced with Powerful New Tool*

http://www.youthtoday.org/view_article.cfm?article_id=5353

Daily Herald: *Wyoming Governor Revamps Juvenile Justice Task Force*

http://www.heraldextra.com/news/state-and-regional/wyo-governor-revamps-juvenile-justice-task-force/article_d5e860d2-b293-5d39-9c29-b623ebde458c.html

The Atlantic Cities.com: *How to Fix the Juvenile Justice System*

<http://www.theatlanticcities.com/jobs-and-economy/2012/06/how-fix-juvenile-justice-system/2333/>

Of Interest

Annie E. Casey Foundation: JDAI Expands Focus To Deep End of the Juvenile Justice System

After nearly 20 years of single-minded focus on reforming the front end of the juvenile justice process, the Annie E. Casey Foundation is planning an ambitious expansion of Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) to promote reforms in the "deep end" of the system. The goal is to reduce commitments to detention and residential facilities through policy, practice, and program reforms at both the state and local levels. This expanded focus on the dispositional end of the system is a natural extension of detention reform. To read the JDAI newsletter, [click here](#).

Of Interest

Stopping the Madness: A New Reentry System for Juvenile Corrections

In a special edition (April 2012) of *Corrections Today* focusing on Reentry programming, FJJA Member Scott Sells, CEO of *Parenting with Love and Limits*, Irene Sullivan, retired circuit court judge and author of "*Raised by the Courts*" and Donald DeVore, consultant at Justice Works Youth Care in Philadelphia, have written an article making recommendations on serving juvenile reentry youth. To read article, [click here](#).

Coming Soon: Look for an upcoming article in the Fall 2012 issue of *Juvenile and Family Justice Today*, written by former Assistant Secretary Darryl Olson and current Assistant Secretary for Probation and Community Intervention Michael McCaffrey, titled, "*Right Sizing the Continuum of Residential Services for Youthful Offenders: Florida's Response to a Challenging Economic Environment*."

The Eckerd Family Foundation Helps Fund Florida DJJ Civil Citation Efforts

Secretary Walters recently shared that the Eckerd Family Foundation has granted DJJ funding to support counties as they begin to implement new civil citation programs or to improve existing programs. The grant allows stakeholders to tour other model civil citation sites, such as the program in Brevard County.

In 2009, the Eckerd Family Foundation was instrumental in assisting FJJA member Crosswinds Youth Services with developing a civil citation program in Brevard County through the funding of a planning grant. In addition to Crosswinds Youth Services, partners of this effort include the Brevard County sheriff's office, local police chiefs, the chief judge and representatives of the state attorney's office, public defender's office, Department of Juvenile Justice and Brevard County Public Schools. This successful model was highlighted this year in a FJJA newsletter and recently at the 2012 Adolescent conference, (along with Miami Dade Juvenile Services and DISC Village) where a Civil Citation meeting showcased three locally designed civil citation programs throughout the state.

Department of Justice Releases Tennessee Report

The US Department of Justice has released a report following a comprehensive investigation of the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County (JCMSC), and the Shelby County Juvenile Detention Center in Tennessee. The investigation, found a pattern or practice of unconstitutional conduct in several areas:

- Failure to provide timely and adequate notice of charges to children appearing on delinquency proceedings;
- Failure to protect youth from self-incrimination during probation conferences;
- Failure to hold timely probable cause hearings for youth arrested without a warrant;
- Failure to provide adequate due process protections for children before transferring them to the adult criminal court;
- The disparate treatment of African-American children; and
- Failure to adequately protect detained youth from self-harm and unnecessary and excessive restraints.

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

Justice Policy Institute Report

The report, *Mindful of the Consequences*, looks at how to improve public safety in Washington D.C. through a comprehensive approach that involves multiple strategies to improve outcomes for youth before they get caught up in the justice system, a victim of crime, or both. The report states that too many D.C. youth go undiagnosed and undertreated for mental illnesses and trauma that often contribute to delinquency, poor school performance and later encounters with the justice system. To read report, [click here](#).

Upcoming Conferences, Workshops, & Training Events

2012 Annual Conference and Justice Institute, July 12-13, 2012 -Florida Partners in Crisis (FLPIC) and the Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals (FADCP) at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld. For information go to www.flpicannualconference.org.

75th Annual Conference of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, July 15-18, 2012, New Orleans, LA. For more information, please contact the Conference Planning and Marketing Department at (775) 784-6920.

7th Annual National School Safety Conference, July 23-27, 2012 Orlando, FL <http://www.schoolsafety911.org/>.

Training Institutes 2012 — Improving Children’s Mental Health Care in an Era of Change, Challenge and Innovations: The Role of the System of Care Approach, July 25-29, 2012, Orlando, FL. <http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/training/88504.html>.

National Conference on Addiction Disorders (NCAD), September 28-October 2, 2012, Orlando, FL, Contact: http://www.accp1.org/meetings_welcome.shtml

Moment of Change-Intervention: Approaches for Professionals , October 8-11, 2012, Palm Beach, FL. Contact: <http://www.foundationsrecoverynetwork.com/events/index.htm>

ARISE Foundation News

Due to budget cuts and funding restraints, the **ARISE Foundation** can no longer conduct trainings on-site at DJJ and Provider programs without cost.

However, to compensate for this and to continue to make this training available and stay true to their mission, **ARISE** has created an online training program that is now available for download at the **ARISE** website – www.at-riskyouth.org.

This program is offered for free. The program includes **ARISE** evidence based downloadable curriculum/posters, etc. which are also offered free of charge to all Florida DJJ programs.

In return, **ARISE** requests is the following commitment:

1. **ARISE** Groups must be conducted at least one hour a week.
2. Submit **ARISE WEEKLY REPORTS** by email – showing the number of hours **ARISE** Groups have been conducted each week and the number of youth participating in the **ARISE** Group sessions.

For further information or to receive your password enabling participation in this complimentary **ARISE** program, call Yasmin toll free 1-888-680 6100 or email her at visaacs@arisefoundation.org



Plans are underway for the 2013 Adolescent Conference!!!

Annual Adolescent Conference: FJJA's Premier Professional Development Event

