



Newsletter

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Public Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities”

FJJA has announced that the 2013 Adolescent Conference will convene on February 19-20, 2013 at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando.



This year the conference will offer an awards event, highlighting excellence in direct care services. Call for presentations and award nomination process will be announced on the 2013 Adolescent Conference website which will go live on October 10th. For more information, contact Lynn Redmond, FJJA Project Director at lynn@fjja.org.

Judges Rule that FDLE Interpretation of Juvenile Records is Too Broad

Many parents and young people have learned the hard way that juvenile records don't automatically disappear once a child turns eighteen. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for a fee provides details of criminal history - including juvenile delinquency - unless those records have been expunged or sealed. However, a recent ruling should impact the confidentiality of records for youth who have been arrested for misdemeanor charges.

FDLE's policy of selling juvenile criminal history to anyone seeking information is too broad according to a state appeals court which has ruled on a case involving a juvenile identified as "G.G." who stole a can of soda in Miami Beach in 2006 when she was thirteen. After her attorney went on to the FDLE web site, paid \$23 for a criminal history check and was able to get access to information about the girl's arrest, a suit was filed.

FDLE argued that its policy to release such information aligned with a broadening of the public records laws in the mid-1990s, making more information about juvenile arrests available. The 1st District Court of Appeal ruled that FDLE has misinterpreted the law.

The court handed down a ruling saying, "We reject FDLE's argument that the law authorizes it to disseminate publically all juvenile criminal history records in its possession and the law is clear that only the criminal records of those juveniles should be available to the public. G.G., who allegedly stole a can of Coke, is not one of the juveniles and her arrest record is not a public record." To read court ruling, [click here](#).

DJJ to Soon Release “Roadmap to System Excellence”

In the coming weeks, Florida DJJ will be releasing "Roadmap to System Excellence" a draft plan to be shared with stakeholders that lays out the agency's plan to move toward a community based juvenile justice model.

The department plans to hold community briefings throughout the state to give stakeholders a chance to comment on the plan. The plan will also be posted on the agency's newly revamped website for comment as well. FJJA will report on community meeting briefing dates and opportunities to participate and provide feedback. Stay tuned to e-mail updates and our monthly newsletter for updated information.

FJJA Board Meeting
Thursday,
Nov. 8, 2012
Orlando, FL
Center for Drug Free Living



Justice Summit
Dec 12-14, 2012
Orlando, FL



The FJJA Newsletter is published monthly

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

In the News

Wall Street Journal.com: [Florida Case Stokes Debate about Juvenile Justice](#)

MyFoxTampaBay.com: [Lawsuit filed over Polk County treatment of youth in detention](#)

NPR: [All Things Considered: Kids Behind Bars: Illinois Rethinks Juvenile Justice](#)

Lakeland Ledger: [Federal Judge to Weigh Interpretation of Use-Of-Force Guidelines on Polk's Juveniles](#)

Youth Today: [Following a New Roadmap to Juvenile Justice](#)

Articles of Interest

Two recent articles say nominally neutral rules in the juvenile justice system can actually fail girls, especially, emphasizes one author, young women of color.

Blind Discretion: *Girls of Color and Delinquency in the Juvenile Justice System.* To read article, [click here](#)

Justice For Girls: *Are We Making Progress?* To read article, [click here](#)

Criminalizing Normal Adolescent Behavior in Communities of Color: *The Role of Prosecutors in Juvenile Justice Reform*

This Georgetown Law Series article finds that school officials are more likely to rely on police to manage the behavior that at one time was considered typical adolescent misconduct. Examples include a typical school yard fight labeled as a felony assault. To read article, [click here](#)

OJJDP BULLETIN: *Effects and Consequences of Underage Drinking.*

To read bulletin, [click here](#)

Justice for Families/Data Center: *Families Unlocking Futures: Solutions to the Crisis in Juvenile Justice*

Report offers a blueprint for reforms that involve family members at every step when a child gets into trouble, whether at school or in the juvenile justice system. It's based on the belief that timely and appropriate intervention, with the help of families, can prevent the inexorable march for some children from school to juvenile court, and ease their transition from detention back into society. To read article, [click here](#)



Important Dates to Remember

November

- Nov 6 - VOTE today! November Elections
- Nov 7- **FJJA Executive Committee Mtg**
Location TBA
- Nov 8 - **FJJA Board Meeting**
The Center for Drug-Free Living, Orlando
- Legislative Organizational Session

December

- Legislative Committee Weeks

January

- Legislative Committee Weeks

February

- Legislative Committee Weeks
- **Feb 19-21 - 2013 Adolescent Conference**
Public-Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities, The Florida Hotel & Conference Center, Orlando
 - ⇒ **FJJA Executive Committee Mtg**
 - ⇒ **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 DJJ Youth Success Week, Tallahassee

May

- May 3, 2013 - Legislative Session ends
- May 16, 2013 - **Executive Committee Visioning Session, TBA**

June

- June 12-14, 2013 - **FJJA Annual Board Retreat**, Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa (Arrival date is June 11)

Upcoming Conferences & Symposiums

Moment of Change-Intervention: Approaches for Professionals, October 8-11, 2012, Palm Beach, FL. Contact:

<http://www.foundationsrecoverynetwork.com/events/index.htm>

2012 Justice Summit – December 12-14 2012, the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando

The Summit is an opportunity for thought leaders across the state interested in justice reform to discuss and promote smart justice initiatives. Juvenile justice and criminal justice will be the focus of pre summit meetings in Sept, Oct, and Nov, to prepare for the 2012 Justice Summit. *FJJA is a sponsor of this event.* Pre Summit Meetings:



- Meeting 1: September 20, Orlando - A panel including judges, law enforcement, the business community and others will lead the discussion on adult civil citations and other diversion programs, along with law enforcement, probation and court initiatives.
- Meeting 2: October 24, St. Petersburg - This meeting will focus on adult corrections.
- Meeting 3: November 14, Tampa - This meeting will focus on the juvenile justice system.

For more information go to website, <http://justicesummit.org/> or contact Mark Flynn, Florida Smart Justice Alliance, mflynn@smartjusticealliance.org

National Faith Symposium, *“Our Children, Our Future: Restoring Hope”* will be held October 23-26, 2012 at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando. This symposium is an initiative of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice’s Faith Community Network and Volunteer Chaplaincy Services program, in partnership with the Florida Department of Children and Families.

The Florida Juvenile Justice Association (FJJA) Hosts the 2013 Adolescent Conference — *Public-Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities*, February 19-21, 2013, Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando. Stay tuned for information in up coming newsletters.

Webinars and Trainings

Improving Outcomes for Multi-System Involved Youth Who Cross Over Between Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice, September 26, 2012, for more information, [click here](#)

When Law Enforcement Officers Respond to Children and Youth with Behavioral Health Needs: Strategies That Work, September 26, 2012, for more information [click here](#)

Does Your Organization Measure Up: Are You Really Trauma-informed? October 18, 2012, for more information [click here](#)

Girl Matters® & SAVVY Sister Workshops, Jacksonville, FL, October 22-26, 2012

The SAVVY model is designed to inform, provide healthy choices, shared power and positive options aimed at creating safe, healthy productive futures for girls. This workshop will review the SAVVY Sister model components: (1) SAVVY Sister Curriculum (group/individual counseling lesson plans); (2) SAVVY Treatment and Care Management Services; (3) SAVVY Positive Performance to challenge professionals to rethink their level systems/behavior, for more info, [click here](#).

Drop it at the Door Day 1, ARISE is offering online training at no cost to DJJ and DJJ contracted providers. The training will be ready in September. To register for this training at no cost, call Yasmin Isaacs at ARISE, 561-630-2021.

Recent Reports

National Survey of Homeless and At Risk Youth Services Providers Published

The Williams Institute at the UCLA Law School, together with the True Colors Fund and the Palette Fund, recently published "*Serving Our Youth: Findings from a National Survey of Services Providers Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth Who Are Homeless or At Risk of Becoming Homeless.*" The report corroborates the results of earlier studies, many of which were only regional in scope. The findings of this survey include:

- LGBT youth comprise approximately 40% of the clientele served by the agencies represented, including about 43% of clients utilizing drop-in centers, 30% of clients utilizing street outreach programs, and 30% of clients utilizing housing programs.
- Family rejection on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity was the most frequently cited factor contributing to LGBT youth running away or being kicked out.
- Over half of homeless and at risk LGBT youth report emotional, physical and sexual abuse in their family.
- The lack of government (federal, state and local) funding was identified as the primary barrier to improving services related to reducing LGBT youth homelessness.

The survey included services providers located throughout the United States, with 31% being in the Midwest, 27% in the West, 24% in the Northeast, and 18% in the South, indicating that these results are not unique to any one part of the country.

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

Florida Budget Update: Looking Better, But Legislators Cautious

An updated report by Amy Baker, chief economist of Florida's Office of Economic and Demographic Research shows that Florida's financial picture continues to improve, although modestly. According to EDR, long range revenue projections for the upcoming year indicate no budget shortfall.

Legislative leadership remains cautious, as does Governor Scott, since recent updates do not include updates in Medicaid spending. Medicaid accounts for \$21B of the current state budget, and with unemployment still a problem for Florida, a potential increase in Medicaid spending may cause an impact to the current positive trend.

Member News

HBI and Tallahassee Builders Association Mentor Future Builders



Youth participating in Home Builders Institute's (HBI) Mentoring Program (*formally C-CORE*) had a great opportunity to spend time with several builders in the Tallahassee community recently. Paul Thompson, Florida Home Builders Association and Doug Barton, Alan Weekley and William Kimberl IV, members of the Tallahassee Builders Association, served as mentors to the youth and gave a presentation on possible careers in the construction industry and trades.

Over 35 youth and mentors attended the morning event held at a home under construction in nearby Southwood. William Kimberl talked about career opportunities in construction; Alan Weekley outlined the special challenges faced by remodelers; and Doug Barton walked the young people through the construction process.

The three TBA builders enjoyed participating in the program and hope that some of these young people will decide to become future builders and trade professionals.



Member News

PACE Marion Girls Awarded \$500 by Community Foundation

PACE Marion girls recently received an award from the Community Foundation in Marion County for developing a project to create awareness for disabilities. The *Youth Philanthropy in Action program*, (YPIA) sponsored by the Non-profit Business Council of the Ocala/Marion County Chamber, provides a unique opportunity for Marion County youth to learn about making a difference through giving. The six-week curriculum, presented by volunteers from local non-profits, is designed to educate Marion County students about the concept and implementation of philanthropy. It also challenges them to think about how they would personally and also collectively support a cause.

This summer PACE welcomed YPIA into the Spirited Girls classroom. The curriculum included brainstorming ideas that the youth could implement to help causes. To stimulate ideas, research is conducted, guest speakers from non-profits visit the class and \$500 of play money - or PACE bucks - is promised so the students have something to work with.

Girls broke into groups and presented their ideas to the entire student body, and a vote was taken leading to "PACE Caring for Disabilities" as the winning project. This project included ideas for a family fun day with activities such as tying an arm behind someone's back to simulate loss of a limb. It was a great ending when the girls were greeted by Barbara Fitos, executive director of the Community Foundation, with a real check for the funding.

PACE Marion is grateful to the YPIA volunteers and the Community Foundation for such a unique and meaningful experience for PACE girls.



Leon PACE Program Helps Girls to Embrace a Healthy Lifestyle

A new program at the PACE Center for Girls in Leon County is addressing the obesity and unhealthy eating risk factors of girls. The FSU Multidisciplinary Center's School Mental Health program has partnered with PACE Leon to pilot a semester-long high school course designed to teach and promote healthy living among PACE Leon students.

The project, funded by a grant from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Foundation, incorporates classes related to food and nutrition education, including cooking demonstrations and food gardening, fitness classes including yoga, dance, and other engaging health activities, and a behavioral intervention called S.T.R.E.N.G.T.H. -Self-guided Training for Respecting, Empowering, and Nurturing Girls Through Health to assist young girls in identifying and integrating healthy behaviors and wellness-promoting activities into their daily lives.

The girls attend the class 5 days a week and earn a health credit. Twice a week the program focuses on nutrition education, including food demonstrations. Twice a week the girls participate in physical education such as Zumba, yoga, and hip hop dance. Once a week the girls attend a group session facilitated by an FSU psychologist doctoral student and a PACE Counselor.



Member News

Jacksonville System of Care Youth M.O.V.E. Chapter Wins Dare to Dream Grant

The winning project, called *Arts for Advocacy: Children's Mental Health* will use art to advocate for children's mental health. The event will include CEOs of community organizations, non-profits, community members and the local media. A silent auction will give attendees the opportunity to bid on the art that local youth have created. Additionally, the event will also feature art from local painters who will donate a portion of their proceeds to the event. There will be performances by members of Youth MOVE Jacksonville to include sharing their personal experiences with the mental health system.

What is Youth MOVE?

Youth M.O.V.E. (*Motivating Others through Voices of Experience*) is a youth led organization devoted to improving services and systems that support positive growth and development by uniting the voices of individuals who have lived experience in various systems including mental health, juvenile justice, education, and child welfare. Members of Youth M.O.V.E. work as a diverse collective to unite the voices and causes of youth while raising awareness around youth issues.

What is Dare to Dream?

The Dare to Dream America program provides an opportunity for youth (ages 13 to 25) to get involved in mental health awareness activities. Successful applicants are awarded a grant up to \$1000 to do projects that promote mental health awareness and reduce the stigma associated with it. This was a competitive grant process and only 15 grants were awarded nationwide.



2013 ADOLESCENT CONFERENCE | ORLANDO
FEBRUARY 19-20, 2013

Public-Private Partnerships:
The Power to Make a Difference for
Youth, Families and Communities

For information about the 2013 Adolescent Conference, call or email Lynn Redmond, Florida Juvenile Justice Association Project Director, at lynn@fjja.org or 850-671-3442.
