



# Newsletter

August 2012

Volume 6, Issue 79

## Inside this Issue:

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| In the News                           | 2   |
| DJJ News                              | 2   |
| Reports of Interest                   | 2   |
| Upcoming Conference & Training Events | 3   |
| Dates to Remember                     | 3   |
| Member News                           | 4-6 |

## FJJA Announces the 2013 Adolescent Conference

FJJA has announced that the 2013 Annual Adolescent Conference, "*Public Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities*" will be held on February 18-20, 2013 at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL. This year the conference will offer an awards event, highlighting excellence in direct care services, an expansion of last year's Unsung Heroes, Making a Difference awards. Look for the FJJA September E-Newsletter for updated information on the call for presentations and awards nomination process.

## National Survey Reveals No Support for Direct File of Youth

An estimated 250,000 youth are tried, sentenced, or incarcerated as adults every year across the United States, most of whom are charged with non-violent offenses. Meanwhile, research shows that young people who are placed in the youth justice system are less likely to reoffend than young people who are placed in the adult system.

A recent study by *the Campaign for Youth Justice* of 1,000 adults from across the nation, shows strong support for juvenile justice reform efforts that focus on treatment of youth against placing youth in adult jails and prisons. The survey showed that 69% of respondents rejected placement of youth in adult jails and prisons. The survey indicated strong public support for:

- 1) rehabilitation and treatment approaches, such as counseling, education, treatment, restitution, and community service (89%);
- 2) involving the youth's families in treatment (86%), keeping youth close to home (77%), and ensuring that youth are connected with their families (86%);
- 3) determinations on a case-by-case basis by juvenile court judges in the juvenile justice system v.s. automatic prosecution in adult criminal court (76%);
- 4) requiring the juvenile justice system to reduce racial and ethnic disparities.(66%);

To read survey, [click here](#)

## Revenues Holding Steady: Florida Budget Improving Slightly

An August revenue report shows that Florida finished the fiscal year with a \$407.1 million surplus above estimates. Overall the state collected \$23.6 billion in general revenue; \$1.07 billion (4.7%) more than collected the previous year.

The surplus will roll forward, along with the \$1 billion in reserves set aside by the Legislature last year. This is a good start for legislators as they begin to craft the budget next session. Forecasters have warned that the economic recovery will remain sluggish; the budget picture will be clearer in September, when the state's long-range economic outlook is released.

**FJJA Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday,**  
**Sept 12, 2012**  
**Largo, Florida**  
**Operation PAR**



**Justice Summit**  
**Dec 12-14,**  
**2012**  
**Orlando, FL**



**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](mailto:lynn@fjja.org)

## In the News

[Center for Public Integrity: States deal with more female offenders](#)

[Texas News Service: New Texas juvenile justice priorities could be in jeopardy](#)

[Tampa Tribune: Juvenile offender program working](#)

[JJ Today: Delinquent by Reason of Poverty](#)

[Washington Times: Left and right agree on criminal justice reforms](#)

## Secretary Walters Announces New Leadership Appointments

Secretary Walters has announced the appointment of Christy Daly as the new deputy secretary. Christy has served as DJJ chief of staff, external affairs director, legislative affairs director and as executive director of the Florida Juvenile Justice Foundation. She also worked at the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services. J. Alex Kelly, former staff director of the House Redistricting Committee, chief analyst for the House Select Policy Council on Strategic and Economic Planning and senior analyst in the Florida House Majority Office has been named the new chief of staff. J. Alex was also legislative affairs director of DOC and DOE. Also announced was the appointment of Robert Munson as the new DJJ Inspector General. Robert served twenty years with the US Secret Service.

## Reports of Interest

**GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING OFFICE (GAO):** *Initial Review of the National Strategy and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Programs.* Drug abuse prevention and treatment grant programs are assessed by either requiring grantees to demonstrate the effectiveness of interventions they plan to use or giving preference to grant applicants that include interventions for which there is evidence of effectiveness in their applications for grants. Various challenges exist in identifying interventions that are proven effective including: availability of data needed to assess effectiveness; ability to determine the impact of prevention interventions; and applicability of interventions to different population groups other than the population for which the intervention was originally intended. For example, officials said that determining the impact of a prevention intervention can be difficult because it is often difficult to quantify something that did not happen—such as a youth's decision not to use an illicit drug—because of a preventive measure. - To read report, [click here](#)

**THE COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE:** *Positive Power: Exercising Judicial Leadership to Prevent Court Involvement and Incarceration of Non-Delinquent Youth* - To read report, [click here](#)

**THE URBAN INSTITUTE:** *Social Networks, Delinquency, and Gang Membership* - To read report, [click here](#)

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES:** *Juvenile Justice Trends in State Legislation, 2011-2011*

A rise in serious juvenile crime in the late 1980s and early 1990s led to state laws that moved away from the traditional emphasis on rehabilitation in the juvenile justice system toward tougher, more punitive treatment of youth, including adult handling. During the past decade, juvenile crime rates have declined, and state legislatures are rebalancing approaches to juvenile crime and delinquency in order to identify methods that produce better results for youth at lower cost. This report examines state legislative activity over the past decade on a number of juvenile justice issues, including prevention and intervention, disproportionate minority contact, reentry/aftercare, and corrections reform. To read report, [click here](#)

### Upcoming Conferences & Training Events

**Realizing Change: 2012 Child Protection Summit**, September 5-7, 2012, JW Marriott & Ritz Carlton, Orlando. Florida's annual statewide child welfare conference encourages child welfare professionals to share best practices to protect children and strengthen families. For information, [click here](#).

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

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

**2012 Justice Summit – December 12-14 2012, Orlando.** For more information e-mail Mark Flynn at [mflynn@smartjusticealliance.org](mailto: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. More details will be announced later, but in the meantime, email [andy.hindman@djj.state.fl.us](mailto:andy.hindman@djj.state.fl.us) for additional information on this event.

FJJA Hosts the 2013 Adolescent Conference — *Public-Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities*, February 18-20 2013, Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando. Stay tuned for information in up coming newsletters.

### Webinars and Trainings

**Girl Matters® & SAVVY Sister Workshops**, October 22-26, 2012, Jacksonville. 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](#)

**ARISE Trainings! Don't miss out!** ARISE is offering *Drop it at the Door Day 1* 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.



### **Important Dates to Remember**

#### September

- Sept 11 - FJJA Executive Committee  
Hampton Inn and Suites, St. Petersburg/ Largo
- Sept 12 - FJJA Board Meeting  
Operation PAR, St. Petersburg/ Largo

#### November

- Nov 7- FJJA Executive Committee Mtg  
*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
- Feb 18-20, 2013 Adolescent Conference  
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 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

## Miami-Dade County Youth Commission Cultivates Future Leaders

The goal of the Miami-Dade County Youth Commission is to provide local youth with an incredible opportunity to learn the necessary skills to become future leaders and change agents.

The Youth Commission was created in 2010 as part of the vision of Commissioner Barbara Jordan, District 1, with the goal of providing young people in Miami-Dade County with a means to participate in local government while developing leadership skills.

The Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department (JSD) implements the Youth Commission with the support of the Mayor's Office, the Commissioners, other county departments, and Dade County Public Schools (DCPS). This unique working collaboration enables the JSD to showcase and advance the Violence Intervention Project's (VIP) anti-violence campaign, also initiated by Commissioner Jordan.

Members of the Youth Commission must be between the ages of 15 to 18 years of age and in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. They must also demonstrate a sincere interest and motivation to work for their community. These youth represent the thirteen commission districts in Miami-Dade County, the Mayor, County Clerk, Agenda Coordinator, and School Board. In December of 2011, the new Miami-Dade County Commissioners were installed in the County Commission Chambers. Commissioner Barbara Jordan provided background on the development of the Youth Commission, recapping their accomplishments during the Commission's first year of existence.

These youth have already begun to meet and have initiated various projects for the year which include a Youth Commission website which was inaugurated in February, and an Anti-Violence Initiative which is currently in the works.

According to JSD Director Morris Copeland, the Miami-Dade County Youth Commission 'is a very positive endeavor because it allows young people to have a say in what happens in local government while bringing the issues of their peers to County hall. Now those who are impacted by certain laws have the opportunity to have their voices heard and fears and needs addressed.'

To learn more about the Miami-Dade Youth Commission, go to <http://www.mdcyc.org>.



---

## **Thank You For Renewing Your Membership!**

**Your support of the Association makes it possible for us to continue to advocate on behalf of your organization.**

**We appreciate your support!**

**For information, call Lynn Redmond, Project Director, 850-671-3442 or email [lynn@fjja.org](mailto:lynn@fjja.org)**

---

## **Welcome New Associate Member**

FJJA welcomes New Associate member Jon Mark Howard Consulting. Jon will be working with the Florida Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs as they implement a new Gang Prevention & Re-Entry project.

Jon's new email address is [jhoward@jmhconsult.net](mailto:jhoward@jmhconsult.net).

### Member News



### **HBI Orlando Holds First Annual Mentor Banquet**

Recently, C-CORE (Construction-Coaching Opportunities to Reach Employment) Orlando celebrated their first year of matching mentors to mentees. The Home Builders Institute's mentoring program, formally known as C-CORE, is an industry sponsored mentoring opportunity that serves youth with potential, ages 13-18, with the aim of improving job placement and retention in careers associated with the home building industry. More specifically, HBI Mentoring is designed to reduce involvement in substance abuse, truancy and other risky behaviors.

Led by Dr. Frank Thompson, President and CEO of Youth Central, a banquet was held to recognize the hard work and dedication of the mentors serving the youth in the Orlando Florida area. The mentees were also recognized for their hard work serving the Orlando area with their numerous community service projects. Additionally, the youth were recognized for their achievements in school and making positive choices. The driving force behind the success of C-CORE-Orlando is led by Jarvis Wheeler and Barbara Seay. Their dedication to bringing mentors and youth together for 132 solid productive matches was recognized.

The highlight of the evening was guest speaker Mr. Ralph Martin, J.D., founder, President and CEO of RKRM Consulting Inc., RKRM Mentoring Inc., and RKRM Staffing, Inc. Mr. Martin is the author of the upcoming book "Second Chances Rarely Come Twice", and a motivational speaker and Counselor at the Blackstone Law Group. Mr. Martin is a well respected authority regarding juveniles in the juvenile justice system in Florida, and prisoner reentry nationally. Mr. Martin continues to advocate on behalf of inmates, ex-offenders and their families at the local, state and national levels.

### **Avon Park Youth Academy Students Awarded Car Kits**

Avon Park Youth Academy students in automotive classes are now assembling a solar-electric car. Students' work with this innovative automotive technology is supported with Perkins grant funding. The vehicle itself, once assembled, will be energized with only solar panels and batteries. The car can be recharged from the sun or plugged in; no gasoline needed. The car will have a top speed of 25 MPH and a range of 30 miles.

It will take approximately a month for students to assemble both cars. Mr. Marvin Haynes, automotive instructor, and Mr. Dale Moore, automotive assistant, are supervising and organizing the activities associated with students assembling the vehicles. Students have demonstrated enthusiasm for the innovative project and have taken the initiative to complete the assembly. Presently, both cars are over half way complete.

Once the vehicles are completely assembled, one solar-electric car will be used for automotive and education transportation and the other will be disassembled and later reassembled for students enrolled in future classes. The automotive instructors are also discussing plans to show the car in a local specialty car exhibit.

### Member News

## PACE Broward Graduates Ready to Take the Next Step

Eighteen girls from the PACE Center for Girls Broward participated in graduation ceremonies held at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center in Fort Lauderdale. As the day also commemorated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PACE Broward, PACE founder Vicki Burke and Wanda Finnie, Assistant Secretary for Prevention at DJJ were on hand to celebrate.



## PACE Broward Graduate - Angel's Story

Angel came to PACE at the age of 16 due to truancy issues and getting bullied at school. Once at PACE, Angel found the support that she needed to flourish both academically and emotionally. Angel credits her counselor at PACE with encouraging her to reach her goals. The safe and caring environment at PACE allowed her to focus on herself and her schoolwork.



Throughout Angel's life, dance was one of her constant sources of joy. At PACE, Angel participated in dance class as well as the Young at Art program. Upon high school graduation from PACE, Angel received two scholarships to Broward College. PACE has continued to assist Angel financially and emotionally as she attended Broward College and she is now only a few classes away from completing her associate's degree.

Angel is planning to continue her college education at Florida Atlantic University as a political science major. She hopes to become a lawyer and to give back to her community by doing pro bono work for those in need. Specifically, Angel would like to work in the areas of immigration and traffic law.

Angel's current passions revolve around family life, education, and dance. PACE is very proud of her ongoing success. Above all, Angel has consistently shown herself to be a hardworking, dedicated, gracious, and talented young woman who is certain to reach her goals.

---

## Fantasy of Flight meets ARC Youth

Kermit Weeks, owner of Fantasy of Flight in Polk City landed his Bell 47G helicopter at the Adolescent Rehabilitative Center (ARC) this month. The Bell 47 is known to most people as the helicopter in the MASH TV series. It was used in Korea for behind the lines support and for evacuation of wounded to Medivac units.

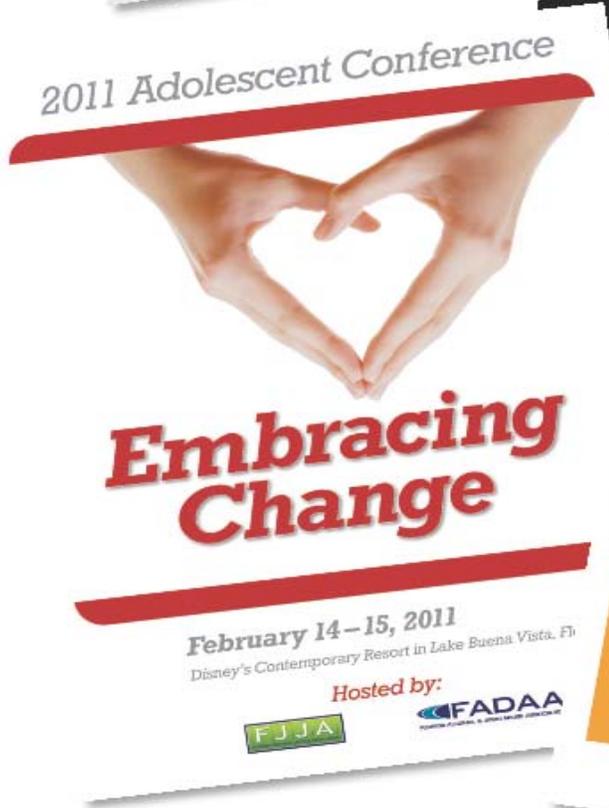
The residents of ARC have been fortunate to participate in field trips to Fantasy of Flight, an aviation-themed attraction showcasing vintage aircraft from the world's largest private collection. This time it was Kermit's turn to visit the boys. After landing his helicopter and touring the campus, Kermit met with the young men at ARC. He shared his motivating personal story of perseverance, initiative and success and answered questions.



*The individuals in the picture are (L-R): Richard Hinkson, Program Manager, Joseph Nixon, Program Administrator, Kermit Weeks, Sumpter James, Program Director.*

# Annual Adolescent Conference: FJJA's Premier Professional Development Event

**Save the Date!**  
**February**  
**18-20, 2013**



**2013 Adolescent Conference**  
*Public-Private Partnerships: The Power to Make a Difference for Youth, Families and Communities*  
February 18-20, 2013