



Newsletter

October 2011

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SAVE THESE 2012 IMPORTANT DATES

- January 29 – February 3
Children’s Week
- January 30 –
FJJA Board Meeting
DISC Village,
Tallahassee
- January 31-
“FJJA Day at the
Capital”
- January 31 –
DJJ “Youth Success
Day”
FJJA/FI Network
Evening Reception

Make your plans now!

The FJJA Newsletter is published monthly

Cathy Craig-Myers, *Editor*
Lynn Redmond, *Publisher*

Deadline is the 4th of each month

Update of Florida’s Revenue Forecast: It’s Not Looking Good

What a difference a few months make. Amy Baker, director of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, says the \$275 million surplus originally predicted by the end of this year is now gone and has turned into a budget shortfall of \$1.5 billion for 2012-2013. Governor Scott is expected to use the newest revised estimates when crafting his own budget recommendations next month.

Baker said the state economy grew, but it wasn’t enough as Florida remained “in the throes of an abnormally slow recovery.” The culprit, said Amy Baker, is a state economy that is “more anemic than originally anticipated.”

FJJA Legislative Materials Now Available Online

The FJJA 2012 Legislative Brochure and 2012 FJJA Briefing on the Continuum now available at www.fjja.org.

- For FJJA Legislative Agenda Brochure, [click here](#)
- For FJJA Briefing on the Continuum, [click here](#)

Legislative Committees Reviewing Agency Requests and Reduction Recommendations

This month, legislative committees continue to review agency budget requests and agency reduction priorities and the need for possible cuts based on declining revenue estimates. The FJJA Legislative Agenda does not support any additional cuts this year to DJJ based on the reductions of \$70M to the agency last year.

Juvenile Justice Education Report to Inform Legislation

With the backing of a Senate Juvenile Justice taskforce comprised of a cross section of stakeholders, the Senate PreK-12 education committee has released a report that reviewed juvenile justice education, providing recommendations to inform potential legislation.

DJJ Youth Success Day: FJJA to Highlight Successful Youth

Children’s Week is January 29th and DJJ Youth Success Day is January 31st.

FJJA will be highlighting youth success stories in our November, December and January Newsletters, and will be sending information highlighting successful DJJ youth to the Governor’s Office, the Legislature and Department of Juvenile Justice prior to Youth Success Day.

We Need Your Help!

- Send us information about youth in your program accomplishing great things!
- We will be highlighting youth success in the Nov, Dec and Jan newsletters.
- Send your success stories to lynn@fjja.org

In the News

Florida Times Union: *New law will endanger Florida girls*

Editorial by Children's Campaign and NCCD Center for Girls and Young Women

<http://jacksonville.com/opinion/letters-readers/2011-09-21/story/guest-column-new-law-will-endanger-florida-girls>

Tampa Tribune: *Prodigy Art project brings the outdoors indoors*

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/northeast/2011/sep/21/art-project-brings-the-outdoors-indoors-ar-259402/>

Tampa Tribune: *Program gives juveniles a second chance*

<http://m2.tbo.com/content/2011/sep/30/PMNEWSO10-program-gives-juveniles-a-second-chance/>

New York Times: *For children at risk, mentors who stay*

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/10/06/for-children-at-risk-mentors-who-stay/?scp=4&sq=juvenile%20justice&st=cse>

Washington Post: *Miranda Rights for children?*

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/miranda-rights-for-children/2011/07/22/gIQAAdd5mJ_story.html

Huffington Post: *Juvenile Delinquency: If we fail our children, we fail our future*

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/paul-heroux/juvenile-delinquency-if-w-3-b-954632.html>

Just Released

Annie E. Casey Foundation: *No Place for Kids: The Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration*

Prompted by state budget crises and scandals over abuse in many institutions, the report notes a significant movement away from juvenile incarceration. The report questions whether the reliance on juvenile incarceration has paid off, and makes the argument that it has not. Recommendations include limiting placements in residential, investing in community based non-residential, changing perceptions for incarcerating youth, locally funded vs. state, adopting best practices to treat youth and replacing large facilities with smaller treatment oriented facilities for the population with most need. According to *Youth Today*, the Casey Foundation will begin work next year with a series of states wanting to make policy shifts that will affect their reliance on youth correctional facilities.

To read report, [click here](#)

FJJA 2011-2012

Legislative Agenda

No Funding Cuts to Juvenile Justice.

Over the last 3 years, DJJ reductions have amounted to close to \$167 million dollars. Last year, the agency took a cut of more than \$70 million dollars. As DJJ works to improve the system of care, maintaining current levels of funding will ensure further success in the reduction of crime and other related costs, and second, prevent the flow of youth into adult corrections, reducing the need for future prison construction by taxpayer dollars.

FJJA Recommends:

Taking into consideration the significant budget cut to DJJ last year, FJJA recommends that DJJ be spared further reductions in upcoming session.

Increase Investment in Community Based Services.

Investments should focus on the following program areas: 1) prevention, early intervention and diversion; 2) specialized residential; 3) transition, reentry and aftercare; and 4) education, career education and industry certification.

FJJA Recommends:

If the revenue picture improves – investing additional dollars in community based services and contracted rates will further enhance youth success, lower recidivism rates, provide maximum return on taxpayer investment and sustain proven programs.

Of Interest

Still Haven't Shut Off the School-to-Prison Pipeline:

Evaluating the Impact of Florida's New Zero-Tolerance Law

This report argues that Florida's 2009 Zero Tolerance Legislation appears to not be effective in terms of reducing school referrals. To read report, [click here](#).

Resolution, Reinvestment, and Realignment: *Three Strategies for Changing Juvenile Justice*

This report examines juvenile justice reforms over past forty years to reduce youth incarceration. They classify them into three basic types: resolution (direct managerial influence over system behavior); reinvestment (financial incentives to change system behavior); and realignment (organizational and structural modifications to alter system behavior). To read report, [click here](#)

U.S. Department of Justice-Trying Juveniles as Adults: *An Analysis of State Transfer Laws and Reporting*

In the 1980s and 1990s, legislatures in nearly every state expanded transfer laws that allowed or required the prosecution of juveniles in adult criminal courts. This bulletin provides the latest overview of state transfer laws and practices and examines available state-level data on juveniles adjudicated in the criminal justice system. Currently, 13 states publicly report the total number of their transfers, and even fewer report offense profiles, demographic characteristics, or details regarding processing and sentencing. Although nearly 14,000 transfers can be derived from available 2007 sources, data from 29 states are missing from that total. Florida, like most states, has multiple ways to impose adult sanctions on offenders of juvenile age. These include discretionary judicial waiver, prosecutorial discretion, and statutory exclusion. To read report, [click here](#)

Support FJJA and FL Network Local Legislative Events

The Florida Juvenile Justice Association is proud to partner with the Florida Network and local provider communities to showcase the local continuum of services. We have added new event dates for the months of November and December, and expect to add a few more.

Many thanks to the Department of Juvenile Justice, local boards and councils and our member organizations including PACE, HBI, White Foundation, Miami Bridge, Evidence Based Associates, Bay Area Youth Services, Eckerd, and Psychotherapeutic Services and others, who have stepped up to plan, support and participate in these events. We applaud and support efforts to highlight the following:

- Effective local programming is serving the needs of at-risk youth in every community.
- Florida leads the nation in prevention, early intervention, and diversion services preventing youth from entering the system.
- Wise investments in juvenile justice programming pay off now and in the future.
- A responsive and balanced continuum is good for Florida and good for youth.

Coming in November:

Clearwater, November 10, *more information TBA*

Ft. Lauderdale, November 29, 10:30-Noon, the African American Library and Cultural Center, Ft. Lauderdale, for more info, psnow@ps-corp.net

Orlando, November 8, 6:00-8:00 pm, Home Builders Institute, 2133 All Children's Way, Orlando, for more info, ckuhn@hbi.org

Tampa, November 30 8:00-9:30 am, Family Justice Center, 9309 N. Florida Ave, Tampa, for more info, njaner@ebanetwork.com

Wildwood/Oxford, November 30, 2:30-4:30 pm, Oxford Assembly of God, 12114 N. US Hwy 301, Oxford, FL, for more info, njaner@ebanetwork.com

Coming in December:

Tallahassee: December 1, time TBD, at Leon County Human Services, 1000 W. Tharpe St, for more info, kelly.otte@pacecenter.org

Jacksonville, December 9, 1-4 pm, Jacksonville Children's Commission Bldg, Randolph Blvd, Jacksonville, For more info, klevy@hrwyf.org

Upcoming Conferences, Workshops, & Events

NCCD Center for Girls and Young Women are hosting two workshops during the month of October - Girl Matters!® and SAVVY Sister. Registration is limited. Several training options available! For information go to:

www.justiceforallgirls.org or call 904-598-0901.

Health Care Reform Workshops, 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:

<http://www.fadaa.org/workshops/hcreform/index.asp>

Homelessness and Supportive Housing Conference, October 26-28, 2011, Hilton Resort, 400 Mandalay Ave, Clearwater Beach. For more info:

<http://southeastinstitute.com/index.asp?page=home>

2011 Educational Strategies & Student Engagement Institute- *Complete the Journey: Paving a Path to Success*, November 7-10, 2011, Hilton Bayfront, St. Petersburg. For more info:

<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/conferences/2011-educational-strategies->

Upcoming Webinars

ARISE 60 Minute Webinars

Meditation Techniques to Reduce Stress -October 26th

Setting Goals for Happiness - November 30th

Making the Work Environment More Positive - January 25th

Acting with Hope and Optimism - February 22nd

To register or for more information contact ARISE at

1-888-680-6100, or e-mail answers@at-riskyouth.org or go to:

www.at-riskyouth.org

SAVE THE DATE
January 31, 2012

**FJJA and FL Network Reception
Celebrating Youth Success Day**

Watch your e-mail for more information coming soon!



Important Dates to Remember

October 2011

- October 17 - Legislative Committee Week
- October 31 - Legislative Committee Week

November 2011

- November 8 - FJJA Board Meeting
The Center for Drug-Free Living
3670 Maguire Boulevard, Orlando, FL
- November 14 - Legislative Committee Week

December 2011

- December 5 - Legislative Committee Wk

January 2012

- January 10th Legislative Session starts
- January 29 - Feb 3- Children's Week
- January 30 - FJJA Board Meeting
DISC Village, Tallahassee
- Jan 31 - DJJ "Youth Success Day"
- Jan 31 - "FJJA Day at the Capital"
- Jan 31- FJJA-FL Network Evening Reception

March 2012

- March 1, 2012 - FJJA Board Meeting
DISC Village, Tallahassee

April 2012

- April 2012 - Adolescent Conference, TBA
- FJJA Board Meeting, Date, Location TBA
1/2 Day Executive Committee Visioning Session

May/June 2012

- FJJA Annual Retreat, Date, Location TBA

Member News

Crosswinds Youth Services Recognized for Civil Citation Efforts in Brevard County

With the assistance of a two-year grant from Eckerd Family Foundation, Crosswinds Youth Services serves as lead agency for a civil citation program making a significant difference in Brevard County.

Civil citation, a major focus of the Department of Juvenile Justice, provides early intervention for youth with minor offenses, holding accountable and providing them with specific services. With the family and other organizations working together, issues are addressed quickly, family situation improve, victims see youth taking responsibility, learning from their mistakes and getting back on track.

The impact of a juvenile arrest, often a single one-time event, can follow a youth forever, keeping a youth from getting a job, joining the military, advancing in needed careers in nursing and law enforcement, among other professions. Between October of 2009 and June of 2011, 441 youth were served. Of those youth, 96% stayed crime free a year or more and 90% of families surveyed indicated that the program had a positive impact on their lives. 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.

For more information- <http://www.brevardcivilcitation.org/civil-citation-process.asp>



Twin Oaks Juvenile Development Wins "Second Chance Act" Grant

Last month, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention announced the selection of Twin Oaks Juvenile Development, Inc. (TOJD) to receive \$599,000 in funding under the Second Chance Act Juvenile Mentoring Initiative.



Funding under this section helps nonprofit organizations implement mentoring projects to promote the safe and successful reintegration into the community of juveniles who have been incarcerated. Twin Oaks successfully submitted a proposal in partnership with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and the Justice Research Center that will support a corporate wide implementation and evaluation of their *Project Connect* program.

Project Connect is a residential and community-based strategy designed to provide a support system that will assist committed youth with a successful transition back into their community. Twin Oaks has established partnerships with numerous agencies to provide a mentoring program for juvenile offenders that coordinates transition services in a structured, supportive, and seamless process. *Project Connect* emphasizes the contributions of family, community, faith based and workforce partners in the development of a Community Action Team that will assist the youth upon returning to their community. The program serves as an avenue to establish a "connection" between the transitioning youth and the support services that exist in their community.

Evidence Based Associates Releases Redirection Update

As of October 2011, Redirection officially entered its seventh year of redirecting high-risk youth to evidence based, community-based treatments. The Redirection quarterly progress report has now been released. To read report, [click here](#).

Member News

Prodigy Youth Perform at Black Legislative Caucus Breakfast

Youth from three Hillsborough County Prodigy sites had the privilege to perform at a breakfast held for members of the Florida Black Legislative Caucus on Saturday, September 17th 2011. The legislators enjoyed a poetry reading, rap trio, and break dance performance. Each youth was given the opportunity to address the caucus and explain why Prodigy is important to them and the youth were able to personally thank the legislators for their commitment to the program. One youth was so inspired by the support he received, and by the realization of his own talents, that he was moved to tears. The dedication and hard work of the young Prodigy artists helped to make the event a success.



Prodigy Showcase Month: November 2011

This November, youth all over Central Florida will be participating in their annual *Prodigy Cultural Arts Program Showcases*, spotlighting their visual and performing arts talents. The Showcases celebrate cultures and communities and create an opportunity for Prodigy youth to demonstrate why they are the best of the best. All Prodigy sites are planning events throughout the month and plan to invite the families and friends of participating youth, as well as those in the surrounding communities to attend the Prodigy showcases. This year's theme, *Moving Through the Decades*, focuses on how popular culture throughout the last 100 years has influenced our youth and the community at large. Each site has chosen a decade to represent through visual and performing arts, focusing on popular culture. More information and the location of Prodigy sites can be found at www.transformingyounglives.org.

Miami Substance Abuse Treatment Center Holds Open House

An open house was held in September at the Miami Substance Abuse Treatment Center. Approximately 70 stakeholders of Dade County representing many different agencies and offices attended the event. A presentation of the services offered at the Miami Substance Abuse Treatment Center was provided by Southern Residential Service Administrator. The program also included presentations from the following community partners that provide services to youth at the program: Miami Dade Public Schools, The ARISE Foundation, The University of Miami Street Law



Program and The Miami Kiwanis Club. The event was catered by the youth from the Pompano Substance Abuse Treatment Center Culinary Arts program under the direction of Chef McGregor.