



Newsletter

July 2010

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Mark Your Calendar
FJJA Board Meeting
Thursday,
Sept 16, 2010
Largo, Florida
Operation PAR

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

2010 FJJA Board Retreat Follow-up

Contracting and Procurement Discussion and Recommendations to DJJ/Provider Workgroup

FJJA Board collected list of recommendations for consideration to go to DJJ/Provider workgroup.

[To see the FJJA letter to DJJ and other documents, click here.](#)

***Actions** – Meeting held on June 26th and July 13th. Workgroup will reconvene again on July 27th.*

Recidivism Recommendations to DJJ Executive Leadership

FJJA workgroup is in final stages of crafting draft recommendations to come back for full board for review and approval. FJJA members who are content experts of the continuum of services are working with the recidivism workgroup to finalize the draft.

***Actions** – After approval, FJJA will send a letter to Secretary Peterman and FJJA will present these recommendations at the August 11th DJJ Common Definitions Meeting in Tallahassee.*

Evidence Based Programming Recommendations to the EB Steering Committee

FJJA has compiled recommendations made during retreat discussions.

***Actions** – FJJA Evidence Based Steering Committee members have shared recommendations to the EB Steering Committee. A formal letter to the department is forthcoming.*

Workforce Development Recommendations to DJJ Leadership

FJJA has compiled recommendations made during retreat discussions.

***Actions** – FJJA will be sending recommendations to Deputy Secretary Rod Love who represents Secretary Peterman on the Workforce Florida Board.*

Legislative Planning Update

FJJA is working on prioritizing consensus items to develop a calendar and a draft legislative agenda to present at the September board meeting.. FJJA plans to meet with DJJ as part of our annual planning.

***Actions** – FJJA has several workgroups working on the following:*

- Developing scope of work to identify data and message needed for upcoming session.*
- Developing process to expand local activities prior to session and during session.*
- Identifying ways to support legislators in their election and reelection campaigns.*

2011 Adolescent Conference Planning

FJJA is working to develop a scope of workshops for the upcoming conference. We are recruiting members for a planning committee to develop potential workshop topics and will be sending out a call for presentations in upcoming weeks.

Legislative News

Governor Crist Calls for Special Session

Governor Crist has called a special legislative session to address problems caused by the BP oil spill. State leaders appear increasingly supportive of meeting next month to discuss emergency response measures, including property-tax relief for those affected by the disaster and a possible constitutional amendment to ban offshore oil drilling.

Campaign Update: 1/5 of Legislature Qualifies Unopposed

A total of 34 candidates for Florida legislative seats have qualified without opposition, seven candidates for the Senate and twenty-seven candidates for the House. The senators elected without opposition include incoming Senate President Mike Haridopolos, incoming Senate Democratic Leader Nan Rich, Sen. Arthenia Joyner, Sen. Don Gaetz, and Sen. Joe Negron.

Florida Juvenile Justice Foundation Scholarship Opportunities Still Available

The Florida Juvenile Justice Youth Investment Award, made possible by a generous grant from the Eckerd Family Foundation is still available. The award is designed to assist youth who are or were served by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice or contracted providers. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year, and are subject to funding availability.

The funding may be requested to assist youth leaving the juvenile justice system, with the next step essential to academic achievement or workforce readiness which cannot be met through any other available resources essential to the youth's success. Awards may contribute to tuition for post-secondary education, supplies, transportation, education or employability assistance with funding made directly to the vendor.

To date, the Foundation has been able to award over 140 scholarships to youth since receiving the initial funding from the Eckerd Family Foundation. Scholarship funding has been used to assist youth to go to college (application fees, tuition, books), paid for GED fees,

obtain birth certificates (as a result of an MOU with Dept. of Health), purchase laptop computers for youth attending school, bus passes, assistance with interview clothes, FL ID Cards, vocational training, job skills training, paid work experience.

For more information, including the scholarship application visit:

<http://www.djjfoundation.org/scholarships.shtml>

Take Note: Office of Economic and Demographic Research

This month, members of the revenue estimating conference will look at trends on the national economy to see how it may impact incoming state tax revenue. Based on what they learn, revenue estimates may be revised.

With an already projected deficit of up to \$6 billion dollars, additional lost revenue as a result of the oil spill will become a challenge.

Although a special session has been called to discuss putting the banning of oil drilling on the November ballot, drops in revenue as a result of the oil spill will need to be addressed once the new estimates come in.

Off to a Bad Start? Florida's Budget Built on Funding Yet to Arrive

As the July 1st budget rolled out last week, one thing is certain. Although we do not yet know the impact of the BP oil spill on sales tax revenue, we do know that some of the dollars used to build the current year budget included \$270 million of anticipated FMAP dollars which so far have yet to be passed by Congress.

DJJ Releases 2010 Legislative and General Budget Report

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice has released its 2010 Legislative and General Budget Report. Read the report at: [DJJ 2010 Budget Report](#).

Coming Soon: Call for Presentations for 2011 Adolescent Treatment Conference

Planning for the 15th Annual Adolescent Treatment conference has started. The conference, convened by the Florida Juvenile Justice Association and the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association will be held in Orlando in February of 2011.

The planning committee, chaired by Vicki Waytowich and Tom Camp, will soon begin the search for featured speakers and workshop leaders for the event. This conference attracts hundreds of attendees from across the state and addresses a multidisciplinary audience of professionals working with Florida's at-risk youth. We need your help in identifying the experts to lead this year's conference.

We are looking for experts whose strategies are working to positively change the lives of high risk, delinquent and substance involved youth. Areas of expertise might include:

- *Reentry services and planning* • *Vocational education in juvenile justice settings* • *Sex offender treatment* • *Dealing with gangs and bullying* • *Gender specific interventions* • *Suicide Prevention*
- *Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender youth* • *Adolescent Brain development* • *Cutting edge programs/idea* • *Mental health treatment*
- *Advocacy/coalition building* • *Substance abuse treatment*

FJJA 2010-2011 Meeting Calendar

Board of Directors Meetings

- **Thursday, September 16, 2010**
Largo - (Operation PAR)
- **Thursday, November 11, 2010**
Orlando- (Center for Drug Free Living)
- **Monday, February 2011**
Orlando – Adolescent Conference, from 1-5 pm, hotel location TBA
- **Thursday, April 6, 2011**
Tallahassee - (DISC Village)
- **June 2011 – Board Retreat – TBA**

Executive Committee Meetings

- **Monthly Conference Call**
First Monday of every month, 2 pm
- **Legislative Session**
Conference Call Every Monday, 2 pm
- **Meetings prior to board meetings** for 9/15/10, 11/10/10, 2/11, and 4/5/11

Recently Released Reports

Healing Invisible Wounds: Why Investing in Trauma-Informed Care for Children Makes Sense

This report, released by the Justice Policy Institute, states that 75 percent to 93 percent of youth who enter the juvenile justice system annually have experienced some degree of traumatic victimization, including sexual abuse, war, community violence, neglect and maltreatment. The report makes policy recommendations to include:

- Improve reporting of and screening for trauma exposure.
- Improve assessment of trauma exposure.
- Provide targeted prevention and early intervention programs.
- Ensure children who have experienced trauma receive services and treatment.
- Avoid further trauma within the justice system.
- Consider trauma exposure when deciding sentencing and placement.
- Invest in prevention and trauma-informed programs.

To read the report: [Healing Invisible Wounds](#)

Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy

Issues Brief June 2010: [Tax Breaks to Create More Jobs](#)

FCFEP Release: [Primer on Florida's State Budget](#)

In the News

The Washington Post -

[Proposal would identify youths after second serious crime](#)

Ashville Citizen Times -

[Nurturing New Moms Could Cut Future Juvenile Crime](#)

The Texas Times -

[Youth Probation Cuts Are Too Costly](#)

The Huffington Post -

[Where is Obama Administration on Juvenile Justice Reform?](#)

Member News

Gender Specific Training Conducted by Vicki Lukis of GAP for Detention Staff

The Girls Advocacy Project, Inc. (GAP) hosted two gender-specific trainings for the staff of The Orange Regional Detention Staff and the Miami Regional Detention Center facilitated by Vicki Lopez Lukis, Executive Director.

Staff was challenged to move beyond their current thinking regarding services for girls incarcerated in the Juvenile Justice system. They learned about the problems and strengths relevant to girls coming into detention as well as an understanding about gender differences and why girls respond better to interventions that are attuned to their specific needs and development.

Training provided practical and educational tools that would assist in the development and fostering of healthy, supportive and positive environments in which girls would feel safe and free to share.

Attendees had this to say about the training:

— *“The training brought more attention as to why things happen with girls the way they do, giving me more insight on how to resolve conflicts. All the information was very informative.”*

— *“I found that all aspects of this training were most helpful. Ms. Vicki was very informative and knowledgeable. I thought that it really opened the eyes and minds of the attendees. The GAP program is needed in all detention centers for the enrichment of our youth.”*

Redirection Expands in the Panhandle

The Redirection Project has now expanded to 18 of the state's 21 circuits, providing services to nearly 5,000 youth and their families in Florida. The programs made available through the Redirection Project help establish strong parenting skills and improve communication between family members and those in contact with the juveniles on a daily basis, including teachers and peers.

Last month, OPPAGA reported that Redirection has saved Florida more than \$51.2 million since inception, and has also reduced the rate of serious crimes among high-risk youth by 24 percent statewide.

Redirection is now serving youth and families in Pensacola. Eckerd Youth Alternatives Inc, has been selected as the provider to bring Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT) to Pensacola area youth and their families. Prior to the expansion in Pensacola, Redirection has been serving hundreds of Escambia County families with the help of The Henry & Rilla White Foundation Inc. which also serves troubled, delinquent youth and their families.

G4S Staff Elected to ACA Boards

The following G4S Youth Services personnel were elected to the American Correctional Association Delegate Assembly and Board of Governor positions.

Delegate Assembly General Election

Private Community Based Correctional Organization

Kerry L. Knott, CEO – G4S Youth Services, LLC

Detention--Juvenile

Glenn Cook (TN) – G4S Youth Services, LLC

Davidson County Juvenile Detention Center

At-Large Ethnic Minority

Lynn Johnson (TN) – G4S Youth Services, LLC

Davidson County Juvenile Detention Center

Board of Governors

Community Programs--Juvenile

Yolanda Hockett (TN) – G4S Youth Services, LLC

Davidson County Juvenile Detention Center

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.

Member News

Bank of America Foundation Awards PACE Broward \$15,000

On May 25th, PACE Broward County received a \$15,000 donation from the Bank of America's Corporate Philanthropy Program for program services for girls at PACE.

Lori Chevy, Bank of America Market President of Broward County, congratulated PACE Broward on its 18 years of serving at risk girls and thanked the Board members for their commitment to PACE's mission.

Bank of America received in the Outstanding Community Partnership Award in 2008 and in 2009 the company name was placed on the donor wall at the PACE Wilton Manors campus giving permanent recognition for the Bank's commitment to giving back to the community.



From left: Richard Zaden, Sheila Bechert, Robert Radice, Judy Joffe, Jamie Finizio Bascombe, Aggie Pappas, Mark Snead, Chair of PACE Broward Board of Directors, Lori Chevy, Bank of American Market President of Broward County, Thomas Coon, Penelope Blair, Lynda Napolitano, Karen Unger and Katrina Wright, Bank of American Senior Vice President and Market Manager/Broward County

PACE Broward Collaborates with Other Gender Responsive Programs To Empower Girls

For the past two years, Young At Art Children's Museum, Girls Club and PACE Broward have collaborated on Girls N' Power, a gender-responsive art program to foster girls' self-esteem and critical thinking skills. The Girls N' Power art program presents contemporary female artists as positive role models for the girls to draw inspiration from and create personal works of art.

Meeting with a Young at Art instructor once a week for seven months, a group of PACE Broward girls learned how to design and build an alter ego (mirror image) of themselves through the use of eco-fashion design, mixed medium, photography, slides and video.

For more information about the PACE Girls N' Power program go to <http://www.pacecenter.org/broward-news/pace-girls-empowered-by-art-program.html>

The mission of Young At Art Children's Museum is to provide hands-on cultural, educational and arts experiences for youth that awaken their creativity in a fun and exciting environment. The museum began in a small storefront in Plantation 20 years ago and within a few years expanded and moved to its current location at 11584 W. State Road 84 in Davie. For more information go to: www.youngatartmuseum.org

Girls' Club is a private foundation and alternative space, was established in 2006 by Francie Bishop Good and David Horvitz. The mission of Girls' Club is to educate the public and to serve as a resource for art students and scholars, curators and practicing artists on the contributions of women to the field of contemporary art.

The works, techniques and career trajectories of the artists exhibited at Girls' Club provide the inspiration for the project activities in workshops for women, girls and practicing artists. For more information go to: www.girlsclubcollection.org



*"The Girls N' Power program helped me to express my feelings."
-- Tomoriya holding her sculptured face mask.*



Artists lead participants in hands-on multimedia and digital imaging projects to build self-esteem, teach creative skill sets using high and low tech media.

Member News

Representative Visits Palmetto Youth Academy to Celebrate Father's Day

State Representative Darryl Rouson of St. Petersburg visited the Palmetto Youth Academy on June 18th in celebration of Father's Day.

Representative Rouson shared some of his personal experiences with the youth including his experiences as a father.

He also talked to the youth about the dangers of drugs and other negative behaviors and explained his work on House Bill 187 (Senate Bill 366) which restricts the sale of smoking devices in certain retail establishments.

Hastings Youth Academy Finalists in PSA Announcement Contest

Hastings Youth Academy participated in the 11th annual production of Straight Talk's "Teens & Sex...The Real Truth," a one-hour forum for middle and high school students and their parents.

Produced in partnership with Jacksonville Jaguars, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the program addresses issues that middle and high school students face today. The purpose of the program is to promote discussion, improve parent/child communication, and encourage responsible behavior.

Hastings Youth Academy was one of three 2010 finalist schools in the Straight Talk public services announcement contest. They produced a 30-second public service announcement relating to prevention of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, targeting the middle school population.

Finalists were chosen by panel of judges and the three PSAs were shown on the Straight Talk. The winner was judged on production, quality, message, creativity and on-line votes. To watch the videos, go to

http://straighttalk.jacksonville.com/psa/psa_winner2010.shtml

Pasco Girls Academy Hosts Open House

Pasco Girls Academy hosted an Open House on June 25 that included DJJ staff, Pasco County Education Department employees, Community Advisory Board members, probation officers, G4S Youth Services Vice



President of Operations Brian Neupaver and Regional Director Steve Riley. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and the young ladies of the Pasco Girls Academy Advisory Board conducted presentations, poetry recitals, and tours of the facility. As a token of appreciation for the visit, each guest received a goodie bag.

FJJA Welcomes new CEO of Bay Area Youth Services

FJJA welcomes Dr. Pamela Alvarez, the new President & CEO of Bay Area Youth Services (BAYS) in Tampa, FL. She holds a Masters Degree in Social Work and a Ph.D. in Organizational Development, and serves as Adjunct Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Social Work, at USF and an online course facilitator at University of Phoenix. Dr. Alvarez can be reached at pam.alvarez@baysflorida.org

Calendar of Events

2010 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Reinvestment Conference, July 15-16, 2010 at the Renaissance Orlando.

[2010 Reinvestment Conference](#).

ARISE 5 Day Master Training, July 19 and 23, 2010 from 8:30-4:30, Seacoast National Bank-3001 PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens. To register call Yasmin at 1-888-680-6100.

2010 Juvenile Justice Education Institute and Southern Conference on Corrections, August 2-4, 2010, Grand Hyatt Tampa.

[JJEEP/SCC Conference](#)