

York County Continues Efforts to Reduce Truancy and Dropout Rates

Over 10 years ago, York County Administrative Juvenile Court Judge John C. Uhler made a troubling observation. Significant numbers of youth appearing before him in juvenile court delinquency proceedings were also habitual truants. The numbers appeared to be as high as 90-95% of this population. Moreover, truancy seemed to be a strong correlate of school dropout behavior in addition to delinquency.

As a response to these observations, the York County Truancy Task Force was initiated under the leadership of Judge Uhler. The Task Force is a coalition of educators, law enforcement, juvenile justice and probation officials, social service providers, faith-based and youth serving agencies and physicians who work to provide a cohesive, consistent response to the issues related to truancy. The Truancy Task Force has worked collaboratively with all school districts and related organizations, law enforcement officials and Children & Youth Services (CYS) to identify children and families early in the cycle of unlawful absences. Truancy reduction and dropout prevention remain as the major goals of these activities.

Because of the attention and focus on truancy and dropout issues provided by the Truancy Task Force, the list of key stakeholders in these prevention activities has grown through the years. In 2008 the United Way of York County supported these efforts and established the Stay In School Initiative Committee. Its purpose is "to create a system that provides for an infrastructure for ongoing implementation and sustainability of proven practices for increasing the graduation rates at area high schools". In conjunction with YorkCounts, a community coalition committed to improving the quality of life in York County, research was conducted which led to recommendations to reduce the dropout rates in area schools. A report to the community was printed entitled "Four Students Lost

Continued on Page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Third Annual Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Conference
- Rick Steele Replaces Lisa Freese as JCJC Director of Policy and Program Development
- Stress in Adolescence Train the Trainer
- Berks County Attorney Recognized for Innovative Leadership in Juvenile Justice
- CJA Announces 2009 Award Recipients
- Aftercare and Trauma: A New Vision for PTSD Treatment
- Chester County Prosecutor Honored for Work in Juvenile Court
- Daniel J. Clements Appointed Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Washington County
- Prevention Specialist Scholarship Recipient Named
- Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Week in Chester County
- National Juvenile Justice Announcements

Truancy and Drop Out Rates (Continued)

Every School Day: Strategies to Improve the York County Graduation Rate”.

This information will be utilized as the focus of a series of town hall meetings to engage York County residents in conversations about these critical issues. The first of these meetings will occur on November 9, 2009 at the Dover Area School District high school auditorium, with future similar activities to be held in January and February of next year.

While much has been done to address these issues, much more work needs to be completed. Judge Uhler says reducing truancy and keeping kids in school is the responsibility of the entire community.

“It is critical for York County residents to have a heightened awareness of our substantial truancy and dropout rates within our schools,” Uhler said. “The negative impact of missing school and dropping out extends far beyond our students lack of an education. It damages the fabric of our community and its economic well being. We are all stakeholders in this problem. It is mandatory that sustainable collaborative partnerships be launched within York County to promote the value of an education and to address the truancy and dropout concerns.”

To see a copy of the Stay In School Initiative Report to the Community, go to the YorkCounts website at www.yorkcounts.org and click on the appropriate hyperlinks in the “Latest News” section.

Third Annual Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Conference

The theme of the Third Annual Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Conference, held September 15-16, 2009 in State College, was “Creating Healthy Communities.” Approximately 200 people attended the conference, which featured presentations addressing suicide prevention issues for youth, adults and older adults. Highlights of the conference included: a panel of survivors of suicide sharing in a general session; a meeting focusing on the work of several county suicide prevention task forces; and a webinar on “Pharmacological Management of Adolescent Depression in Primary Care,” presented by Dr. David Brent, child psychiatrist from the STAR-Center, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Pittsburgh.

Selected handouts from workshop presentations are available online at: <http://www.drexelmed.edu/Home/OtherPrograms/BehavioralHealthcareEducation/ConferenceHandouts.aspx> and the handouts from the webinar are available at http://www.pafp.com/docs/PH_PAFP_adolescent_depression_webinar_handouts.pdf.



Rick Steele Replaces Lisa Freese as JCJC Director of Policy and Program Development

Rick Steele was appointed Acting Director of Policy and Program Development for the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission on September 26, 2009, upon the resignation of Lisa Freese. Mr. Steele has thirty years experience in Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system. He began his career in 1979 as a juvenile probation officer for Northumberland County, eventually becoming Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in 1997. In 1998, he was appointed Deputy Executive Director for Northwestern Academy and remained in that position until 2005, when he was hired by the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission as an Aftercare Specialist. Rick holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from Gettysburg College and a Master’s Degree in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University through the JCJC-sponsored graduate education program.

Lisa Freese joined the staff of the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission in November 1999 as a Juvenile Court Consultant. She was promoted to the position of Director of Policy and Program Development in September 2004, and was responsible for developing agency policies and procedures that governed court service visits and specialized probation services audits by staff, developing juvenile court standards, and directing the agency’s legislative program. Prior to joining the Commission, Lisa worked as a juvenile probation officer for Dauphin County and as a Court Services Supervisor for Cornell Abraxas, Inc. Lisa currently holds the position of Regional Director for Juvenile Justice Development for Pennsylvania Clinical Schools. The members and staff of the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission wish her continued success in her professional career.

Westmoreland County Juvenile Court Presents
Pennsylvania's Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Project

Stress In Adolescence

Train the Trainer

**FREE
Training**

Nov. 23rd 2009

9am~3pm

PRESENTER:

Deborah Ciocco
PTSD Project Coordinator
Westmoreland County
Juvenile Probation Officer II

Who Should Attend:

Any Professional Working with
Adolescents

**Research studies have been consistent in identifying stress
as a significant issue for adolescents.**

**Self reported studies show that many adolescents have witnessed
or experienced violence in their homes or communities.**

**Stress In Adolescence is a 20 session curriculum
designed for adolescents in any setting.**

Each 1 hour exercise is designed to be educational in nature and all free standing.

**Each exercise is hands on and interactive,
enabling the participant to feel comfortable and willing to share.**

**This training is a 1 day experience for staff; at the conclusion participants will be
certified as Trainers to continue the experience within their organization!**

Limited to 35 Participants per Training.

*Westmoreland Intermediate Unit #7
102 Equity Dr.
Greensburg, PA 15601*

Lunch will be on your own.

Act 48 Hours and/or Training Certificates
will be available upon completion of training.

Any Questions:

Please contact Jacqueline Vaughan
@ 724-830-1816

RSVP By: November 9th, 2009



Berks County Attorney Recognized for Innovative Leadership in Juvenile Justice

By: Marie Roda, President, Roda Creative Services

Joseph A. Guillama, Esq. recently received the Violence Prevention Roundtable of Berks County Distinguished Leadership Award for his work with minority youth in the juvenile justice system. Mr. Guillama is the site coordinator for the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Reduction Project in Berks County, which is part of the Pennsylvania Models for Change initiative. Models for Change is a national initiative funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to accelerate reform of juvenile justice systems across the country.



“Joe’s leadership is vital to violence prevention efforts among young people in our community,” says Chris Fegley, Managing Chairperson of the Violence Prevention Roundtable of Berks County. “His experience as a defense attorney gives him a unique insight into the struggles they face. But what sets him apart from other leaders is his willingness to turn new ideas into action. The Roundtable has benefited from his participation on several occasions and on several issues. He is one of the few who pursues a shared vision of change in a rigorous, yet diplomatic way.”

Guillama was also nominated by the Community Prevention Partnership to receive the CARON Foundation Unsung Hero Award for his work in the community. He received the award at the 13th Annual Berks County Community Service Awards Breakfast.

Believing in Kids: An Interview with Joe Guillama

Q. You seem so passionate about this work... What is it that drives you?

A. It really bothers me that so many kids who are incredibly intelligent, talented, and have the ability to be tomorrow’s leaders are often neglected and unloved at home and, as a result, develop low self-esteem, low self-worth, issues with trust, and a negative and pessimistic outlook on life. It bothers me that this causes these children to seek out negative peers to take on the role of the family they do not have at home. Through my work I have learned how extremely fortunate I was to have a mother and a father who told me they loved me, encouraged me, and became involved with my childhood activities. I am saddened by how many kids do not have the things I took for granted growing up. This, coupled with the fact that I still very much relate to the 15 year old kid inside of me, makes it easy to be passionate about my work.

Q. What would you say to skeptics who think these kids are a waste of time and resources? Why is it important to invest in them?

A. The skeptics are often those who haven’t taken the time to have a real talk with these kids one on one. The skeptics are often those who have not taken the time to go to a troubled kid’s home to see the environment in which he or she is raised. The skeptics are those who either don’t know or choose to ignore or downplay the tremendous disadvantages that these kids have in many aspects of their lives. The skeptics are those who do not believe the tremendous impact a child’s environment has on their psyche, self-image, and social development. The skeptics fail to acknowledge that it is much easier to turn their backs on these kids and simply proclaim them as incorrigible than it is to spend time with them and show them genuine concern.

and attention. Many of these children have been neglected, criticized, put-down, and flat-out rejected their entire lives. Those who think it is a waste to invest in these children have chosen to perpetuate that problem rather than be a part of the solution. Quite simply, the skeptics are taking the easy way out.

Q. What do you gain from the work you do with and for the kids?

A. For one thing, it helps me stay and feel young! Seriously, so often these kids do not trust anyone and have a very negative outlook on life. It makes me very happy when a kid opens up to me and entrusts me with his/her deepest secrets and concerns, particularly when that kid has done that with so few people throughout his/her life. It is very satisfying knowing, when this happens, that I have helped a kid to learn to embrace humanity rather than reject it.

Q. What advice would you give to other communities across the country about organizing efforts for troubled youth?

A. Bringing people together based on our commonalities as opposed to emphasizing our differences is key to effectively organizing efforts for troubled youth. One's race or ethnicity is often not one's most defining characteristic; we truly do share more as Americans and as individuals living in this country than we do not share as members of our own ethnic or racial groups. In working directly with kids, I try to focus first and foremost on the individual needs and circumstances of each kid I am serving as opposed to making assumptions about what a kid's needs might be based on his/her race or ethnicity. I am concerned that some people in this field, despite being well-intentioned, place way too much emphasis on the race/ethnicity of kids in determining a course of action for helping them.

Kids want adults they can trust and who have a genuine concern for their well-being, regardless of the kids' or the adults' race/ethnicity. Compassion and affection truly are

color-blind. In organizing efforts to help troubled youth, I try to convey the notion that, at least initially, we should be looking at these kids not as members of certain racial or ethnic groups but as human beings who need the guidance of mature folks who genuinely care about them.

Lastly, I have to say that I began my career as an attorney in the public defender's office and I dreamed of being a trial attorney defending adults in high-profile cases.

Early in my public defender career I was assigned to represent juveniles and, initially, I thought the juvenile justice system was a joke. It was more of a family court than it was a criminal court - it was very "touchy-feely." It was the passion I saw in Judge Arthur Grim that inspired me to do my job to the best of my ability. I noticed that he cared so much about the kids who were coming into his court, and initially I felt that I could not let him down by doing a mediocre job. He held me to a very high standard and this pushed me to work more closely with the kids I was representing. I was quickly able to learn why Judge Grim cared so much about these kids as I was able to see where they were coming from and the kinds of issues these kids were constantly confronting. Had I begun my career with another judge, it likely would have taken me a longer time to see the importance of what we are doing in the juvenile justice system. I have been very fortunate to begin my career, particularly as a juvenile defender, under the guidance of Judge Grim. He has taught me the meaning of compassion through the way he runs juvenile court and the way he works with and cares about the kids who appear before him.

CJCA Announces 2009 Award Recipients

The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) 2009 Barbara Allen-Hagen (BAH) Award recipients have been selected. The BAH Award recognizes exceptional work performed in the juvenile correction/ detention/ assessment facilities throughout the country. The participating locations work to ensure that facilities are safe for youth and staff, hold youth accountable and provide effective rehabilitation services that prevent future crime. The two juvenile facilities that were selected revealed extraordinary improvement to facility quality of life and operations as demonstrated through participation in CJCA's Performance-based Standards (PbS) program.

CJCA, the national organization of state juvenile correctional agency leaders, announced the winners of the 2009 Performance-based Standards (PbS) BAH Award on Aug. 24. The winners were selected from the field of more than 200 PbS facilities for making outstanding and exemplary changes to facility practices that recognize the developmental needs of adolescents and improve staff-youth relationships to lead to greater success when youths return to the community. PbS, a self-improvement program developed by CJCA that sets national standards and outcome measures, served as the catalyst for the changes. The winners used PbS data and outcomes to strategically plan, implement and sustain improvement for youth and staff. PbS is currently used in 27 states and was a winner of the 2004 Innovations in American Government Award from the Ash Institute at Harvard University for providing juvenile justice agencies with an effective and unique self-improvement system.



The 2009 award winners are:

New Castle Youth Development Center, Secure Treatment Program, PA – Correction Category

The Award was accepted by (pictured from left to right): Barbara Chayt, PbS Coach; Tracy Ionta, Youth Development Counselor Supervisor; Stephen A. Jaworski, Program Manager; Andrew M. Snyder, Director. Barbara Allen-Hagen (far right) was also present.

Long Creek Detention Center, ME – Detention/ Assessment Category

The Award was accepted by: Robert McCormick, ACA accreditation officer and PbS coordinator and Bartlett H. Stoodley, associate director. David Crowley, PbS Coach and Barbara Allen-Hagen were also present.

PbS began in 1995 when CJCA was charged with the task of finding a way to improve juvenile facilities across the United States in response to the Congressionally-mandated 1994 Conditions of Confinement Study. The program was funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and launched by Barbara Allen-Hagen, Program Manager. CJCA established the Barbara Allen-Hagen Award in her honor upon her retirement in 2007 to recognize facilities that show extraordinary implementation of PbS and a long-lasting commitment to operating facilities that positively change young lives. For more information you may go to: www.pbstandards.org or call Deputy Director Kim Godfrey at: 781.843.2663.

Aftercare and Trauma: A New Vision for PTSD Treatment

By: Nick Ashley, MA, Reality Therapy Certified PTSD Services Manager; Adelphoi Village

The application of effective Post Traumatic Stress Disorder treatment for adolescent females within the juvenile justice system continues to be a priority within Westmoreland County. Deb Ciocco, PTSD Project Coordinator, has worked intensively with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare to develop new promising practices that will provide intensive and seamless treatment for adolescent female offenders who have a history of trauma. The Department of Public Welfare has provided \$100,000 in funding to assist with the development and implementation of aftercare services for adolescent females who have been exposed to trauma and are involved in juvenile probation through Westmoreland County. On July 1, 2009, the PTSD Aftercare Services Project was started at Adelphoi Village under the guidance of Deb Ciocco.

During recent years, PTSD has come to the forefront of required treatment services. Through continued education and training, service providers understand the essential need to develop effective treatment competencies associated with treating adolescents who have been exposed to trauma. Nick Ashley explains "Having worked in the juvenile justice field for fourteen years, I am excited and passionate about building competencies with our youth to help them

manage and understand the symptoms of their trauma." The PTSD Aftercare Services program allows for a seamless application of treatment from all stages of a client's placement. This unique program has also allowed for Adelphoi Village to partner with Alternative Rehabilitation Communities in Carlisle, PA in providing essential aftercare services for adolescent female offenders from Westmoreland County. Each identified adolescent female offender who is targeted for the PTSD Aftercare Services program is assigned a licensed mental health professional to assist with PTSD treatment planning while placed at Adelphoi Village or Alternative Rehabilitation Communities. The program also has implemented a systemic approach to effectively treating trauma as evidenced by the incorporation of family therapy to the program model. It is the goal of this service to not only build competencies in the adolescent female offenders, but also empower their primary caretakers with competencies to help them manage their child's symptoms. A better educated and empowered system provides a stronger environment by which a client can achieve success. Upon successful discharge from Adelphoi Village or Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, the PTSD Aftercare Services therapist will continue to provide individual and family

therapy to the client 90 days post discharge. Aftercare therapy is structured to provide multiple weekly contacts with the client and their family on a weekly basis.

The goal of PTSD Aftercare Services is to increase safe and adaptive behavior while decreasing maladaptive behavior caused by PTSD symptoms. It is the additional goal of these services to decrease the recidivism rate in female adolescent offenders that we provide effective treatment for.

There are many professionals that make this service possible. Dr. Ron Sharp identified the need over a decade ago. He was the visionary who saw the need to provide PTSD education and treatment to adolescent females within the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System. Dr. Sharp's passion and vision allowed for the Pennsylvania PTSD Residential Curriculum to come to fruition. Deb Ciocco continues to explore new and dynamic means by which adolescent female offenders can receive effective and comprehensive services to help manage the impact of trauma in their lives. There are three outstanding licensed mental health therapists working with the project; Patricia Kubistek, Julie Zubryd, and Emily Pittman who together have over 60 years combined experience in working with adolescents.

Chester County Prosecutor Honored for Work in Juvenile Court

Reprinted with permission from The Daily Local - By Michael P. Rellahan; October 9, 2009

<http://www.dailylocal.com/articles/2009/10/09/news/srv0000006587330.prt>

WEST CHESTER - Renee Merion, the veteran Chester County Juvenile Court prosecutor, said she had heard the questions from friends and colleagues for years.

“When are you leaving ‘kiddie court’?” she recalled being asked more than once. “When are you going back to trials and ‘big people’s court’?”

The answer, she suggested at a well-attended ceremony recognizing Juvenile Justice Week held Thursday in Courtroom One of the county Justice Center, is no time soon.

“They may think it is boring,” she said of her interrogators. “But we have plenty of trials. To say (working in the juvenile system) is unrewarding is far from the truth. We are shaping the lives of children.”

Merion, a West Chester native and graduate of Henderson High School and Widener School of Law, was recognized as one of the integral participants in the system that is touted by those associated with it as one of the best in the state. Merion is the senior trial partner in the District Attorney’s Juvenile Unit, a position she has held since 2000.

She was honored by President Judge Paula Francisco Ott, who for years was the supervising judge for the county’s Juvenile Court, and who said she appreciated the continuity that Merion, by her long affiliation with the system, brought to her courtroom.

“What we have here is an assistant district attorney who is uniquely qualified to do this,” said Ott in praising Merion. The judge noted that in some way, attorneys such as Merion work out of the public limelight because of the nature of their work; many cases are closed to the public and press. That can lead to a lack of recognition or reward.

Of Merion, Ott said, “she had not only given her career (to the juvenile system), but also dedicated herself to public service.”

The Juvenile Justice Week ceremony is used in the county to cast light on those who work behind the scenes to make the state’s system of “restorative justice” and offender accountability work.

The system requires not only prosecutors, defense attorneys and probation officers to have a role in handling cases, but also victims’ advocates, who were also mentioned at Thursday’s ceremony.

Don Corry, deputy chief probation officer, told those assembled that the matter of accountability was difficult to define and not easy to translate for offenders.

“You ask them initially if they are sorry, and mostly what they say is that they’re sorry they got caught,” Corry said. But in Chester County the system is designed to teach them the impact of their crimes and show them how to take responsibility, Corry said.

“We make the juvenile understand that they have to make amends for the harm that they have caused,” he said.

Marietta Lamb-Mawby pointed to statistics showing that the county ranked ahead of many state measurements of success. The county ranks ahead of state averages for not having offenders commit crimes while under supervision; of cases with community service obligations; and of full restitution.

“We thank those of you who have dedicated their work to helping make Chester County a great place to live and work and raise a family,” said commissioners Chairman Terence Farrell, who read a proclamation honoring the juvenile probation workers.

In her remarks, Merion, who was joined at the ceremony by her husband, Greg Everett, her parents, Richard and Jeanette Merion, and her brother Mark alluded to the connection those involved feel with the system.

“It’s a very emotional job,” she said. “But it is rewarding, and it is never boring. We give hope, and that is what makes Juvenile Court so special.”



Daniel J. Clements Appointed Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Washington County

The Honorable Debbie O'Dell Seneca, President Judge of Washington County, recently appointed Mr. Daniel J. Clements as the new Washington County Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. Mr. Clements replaces Mr. John Rege Penderville.

Chief Clements served with the Washington County Juvenile Probation Office since 1994 and supervised the Juvenile Probation Office LEADER Program since 2005. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, having majored in the Administration of Justice. Chief Clements looks forward to being a proactive leader, advancing community involvement and keeping up on the technological advances. He stated that the Washington County Juvenile Probation Department has a great staff and he hopes to continue and to expand the good work of his predecessor, John Penderville.

Daniel Clements is married and has three boys who also keep him very busy.

Prevention Specialist Scholarship Recipient Named

The Pennsylvania Certification Board (PCB) announced the recipient of the first Maggie Marcopul Prevention Specialist Scholarship on August 21, 2009. Sherry Clouser, Prevention Program Specialist for Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services in Harrisburg, was awarded the three-year scholarship from PCB marking the first scholarship of its kind offered by PCB.

The Maggie Marcopul Prevention Specialist Scholarship was established by PCB in memory of 19-year PCB board member, Maggie Marcopul, who passed away in May of 2008. Maggie's impact on the credentialing process in Pennsylvania and her dedication and commitment to the field of prevention was worthy and deserving of a lasting honor in her memory. PCB felt that this scholarship opportunity was a fitting tribute to a truly remarkable leader in the prevention field.

Ms. Clouser had been in the drug and alcohol treatment field for 18 years and recently moved into prevention where in a short period of time already feels committed and dedicated to prevention efforts in her community. "I believe that I can demonstrate to the board that I am worthy of the scholarship and will certainly commit myself to achieving the

standards that were set by Maggie in the field of prevention," states Ms. Clouser.

In submitting Ms. Clouser's nomination, Mavis Nimoh, Administrator for Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services states, "What is most valuable is that Sherry is teaching others about the field of prevention and that domino effect is bringing prevention to its rightful prominence as a most valuable and essential tool in the fight against drug, alcohol, and tobacco use and abuse in our county."

The scholarship includes all fees associated with becoming a Certified Prevention Specialist, membership in the Commonwealth Prevention Alliance, attendance at the annual Commonwealth Prevention Alliance Conference, attendance at the annual PCB Conference, and attendance at the National Prevention Network annual conference. The scholarship also requires each recipient to become a mentor to the next scholarship recipient.

PCB will award the next prevention specialist scholarship in July of 2012 and details can be found on the PCB website www.pacertboard.org, Mary Jo Mather at mjmather@pacertboard.org or (717) 540-4455 ext. 103.

Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Week in Chester County

West Chester, PA – In recognition of Governor Rendell’s proclamation announcing Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Justice Week from October 4-10, 2009, Chester County held its Seventh Annual Juvenile Justice Week Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 3:00 PM in Courtroom 1 of the Chester County Justice Center. The event highlighted the juvenile justice system’s goal of Accountability within its Balanced and Restorative Justice mission. The Accountability goal focuses on holding juveniles offenders “accountable” for restoring victims and communities to their pre-crime status to the fullest extent possible through activities such as paying restitution, attending impact of crime classes and completing community service work.

The Ceremony featured a demonstration of the Juvenile Probation Department’s Impact of Crime class, held for juvenile offenders in order to help them understand how the effect of crime impacts victims, victims’ families and the community. During the Ceremony, the Chester County Juvenile Probation Department was recognized as a “Model County” for its work with The Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County, Inc. in implementing the Impact of Crime Curriculum. The curriculum was written by Valerie Bender, one of Pennsylvania’s leading victims’ rights advocates and is endorsed by the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. Three of the statewide trainers of the curriculum who work within the Chester County juvenile justice system were recognized as well. They included; Carrie Avery, Training Coordinator at the Chester County Youth Center, John Barr School Based Probation Officer at Owen J. Roberts High School and Katie Holton, Compensation and Special Services Manager of The Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County, Inc.

The mission of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system; Balanced and Restorative Justice focuses balanced attention on juveniles, their victims and the community by providing opportunities for juveniles to develop valuable skills and restore their victim(s) and keeping the community safe by monitoring juveniles based on their individual level of risk.

National Juvenile Justice Announcements

The following October announcements are reprinted from [JUVJUST](#), an OJJDP news service:

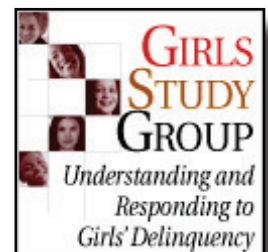
October 6, 2009 - OJJDP Bulletin Examines Suitability of Assessment Instruments for Delinquent Girls

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published “[Suitability of Assessment Instruments for Delinquent Girls.](#)”

Risk assessment instruments are often used to determine the programs and services that best serve the needs of youth within the juvenile justice system. Part of OJJDP’s Girls Study Group series, the bulletin provides a comprehensive guide for juvenile justice practitioners to assist them in selecting an instrument which is suitable for assessing the needs of delinquent girls.

Resources:

“Suitability of Assessment Instruments for Delinquent Girls” is available online at ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=248526.



This publication is produced monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University. Guest articles are always welcome; please submit them by e-mail or on a disk. We particularly enjoy your photographs.

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