

KS Juvenile Justice Web-Line

December 2018

Holiday Greetings

On behalf of all of us at KDOC Juvenile Services, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and an enjoyable holiday season with family and friends. We recently hosted our Agencies holiday celebration, where we had the opportunity to share a good meal, catch up with peers on plans for the holidays, and visit with retired friends who come back each year. That opportunity to say hello to those who can make it back is one of our traditions, as is the ugly holiday sweater contest, which contributes so much to the spirit of the season.

Among the nearly 2,000 stakeholders who receive this newsletter, dozens of agencies/organizations are represented, each with special traditions. We wish you the best as you celebrate the season together!

Randall Bowman, KDOC Deputy Secretary, Juvenile Services

From the Staff at Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex



Wishing you and your family a restful and Merry Christmas

2019 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training:

Topeka	Wednesday	Jan. 9 th
Salina	Tuesday	Feb. 13 th
Times	10 am – 4:00 pm	

All intake workers, supervisors and anyone who approves intakes and placement decisions must be trained in administering the KDAI. These trainings are reserved for intake workers and supervisors. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Crystal Trout at crystal.trout@ks.gov

Juvenile Justice Basics:

Location – KHP 2025 E Iron, Salina
Date Wednesday February 6 9 am – 5 pm
To Enroll Email michelle.montgomery@ks.gov
Participants name, agency, position, phone #, email address and supervisor's name.

New Officer YLS/CMI Training:

Location – TBD
Dates Tuesday Feb. 19 9 am – 5 pm
Wednesday Feb. 20 8 am – 5 pm
Thursday Feb. 21 8 am – 5 pm

Community Legal Issues:

KDOC-JS Attorney Jeff Cowger will provide an overview on Legal Issues in Juvenile Justice in Kansas for Juvenile Community Corrections and Intake and Assessment staff. The class is primarily for newer staff but is open to staff wanting a refresher.

Friday January 18, 2019 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
KBI Laboratory Auditorium; 2001 SW Washburn, Topeka, KS
[To register click here . . .](#)

Kansas News

Strengthening Family Connections for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

By Emily Allen, Corrections Counselor, Sedgwick County DOC

In my current role, I am a corrections counselor; my primary job functions include completing admission papers as well as case management for the youth while they are in the facility. When I was first informed that [Vera was being hired by Sedgwick County, Kansas - Division of Corrections to improve and enhance our family engagement efforts](#), I wondered how Vera could offer any more ideas than what our current practice was. In the past several years, Sedgwick County has implemented a number of reforms to our juvenile justice system, and made efforts to make sure youth in our facilities receive support from their families [Read more . . .](#)

JDC to Retrofit Half of Facility as Emergency Shelter

The Southwest Kansas Regional Juvenile Detention Center, the only juvenile detention center serving the western half of the state, is looking to retrofit two of its four holding pods, or 14 of its 28 beds, into an emergency shelter for teens under the care of St. Francis Community Services. The move is meant to ensure the center can keep its doors open, as well as meet a local need. As of mid-2017, a Kansas Senate bill dictated that only underage offenders found guilty of criminal charges could be sent to juvenile detention centers, and the change led to a [Read more . . .](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner

Jim Johnson, Program Consultant
DOC - Juvenile Community Based Services

This time of year is special for many of us. In some ways, everyone's holiday experience is unique. It may mean parties, time with family, faith traditions, giving and receiving gifts, taking stock of past events and accomplishments or setting goals. For many of us, it may involve busier schedules, added deadlines, or a little more stress.

Sometimes it may be helpful just to take a moment, slow down, look at where we are at, how we got here and where we want to go. For the last three years, significant reforms have been implemented impacting juvenile justice within the state of Kansas. Implemented over the past two and one half years, they were a result of extensive research, fact gathering as well as solicitation of insights and expertise from a cross section of professionals that work at various levels of juvenile justice within Kansas. A workgroup involving the three branches of government, several state agencies, private partners and citizen consumers all collaborated in a bi partisan manner. The workgroups report resulted in a list of recommendations for new and amended statutes. Many of the changes were implemented beginning July 1, 2016. One of the new statutes that took effect July 1, 2016 ([K.S.A. 75-52, 161](#)) was the establishment of the [Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee](#) (JJOC) which was created to monitor the process and impact of juvenile justice reforms, hold agencies accountable for implementing statutory changes and to make recommendations for changes as needed.

After two full years, JJOC has issued the 2018 Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee [Annual Report](#). The report highlights progress made on several of the policy changes that were initiated. Changes discussed include increased training for law enforcement, the continued use of a Notice to Appear option to reduce burdens on Law Enforcement Officers and Juvenile Intake and Assessment Systems (JIAS), Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) or Diversion programs, Earned Discharge Credits for youth on probation, reductions in youth placed at the state Juvenile Correctional Facility, and a continued decline in the number of youth arrested statewide. The report stresses the importance of sustaining the changes, continued collaboration, improved training, data sharing "and a purposeful, conscientious reinvestment strategy" to achieve positive desired results into the future.

As the JJOC continues to monitor the results of the policy changes, adjustments and improvements may be pursued. By focusing on evidence-based research and results from a continued objective analysis of juvenile justice policies, Kansas will get closer to achieving our goals to protect public safety, hold youth accountable and reduce costs to taxpayers while improving outcomes for kids, their families, and their communities. So in this very busy time of year, take a few minutes, look at where we were, where we are now, and where we need to go. Thank You for what you have contributed through this process! I hope you have the opportunity to have a great holiday!!!

JJDPA Reauthorization Act of 2018

JJDPA Reauthorization Passes Congress after 16 Years

Congress reauthorized a key juvenile justice bill today, handing a win to youth advocates who have fought to update the legislation for more than a decade. The Senate unanimously approved a five-year reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) on Tuesday night using a fast-track procedure that requires the support of every senator. The House backed the Senate's version of the bill this morning, sending it to the White House for President Donald Trump to sign. The JJDPA sets core safety standards for juvenile offenders that states must follow in order to qualify for federal grants. It also aims to prevent delinquency and curb racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile justice systems. The act hasn't been reauthorized since 2002. [Read more . . .](#)

Congress Finally Reauthorizes Juvenile Justice Act after 16 Years

On Thursday, Congress passed a bill reauthorizing a major federal juvenile justice crime bill for the first time in [16 years](#). Advocates say the reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) is a huge victory, since its funding has drastically declined over the years and its provisions have become outdated, putting youth charged with crimes at risk. "It's the only robust [federal] law we really have that protects kids," said Marcy Mistrett, the CEO of the Campaign for Youth Justice. "[It's] a huge win." [Read more . . .](#)

H.R.6964 - Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018

To access HR 6964

[Click here . . .](#)

To access a summary of HR 6964

[Click here . . .](#)

Summary – HR 6964 data collection requirements [Click here . . .](#)

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Human Trafficking - Kansas

Kansas Named Hub for Human Trafficking in the U.S.

The federal government has named Kansas a hub for human trafficking in the U.S., and now Kansas organizations are partnering together to decrease these crimes. According to victim service grantees that work with the Kansas Attorney General's Office, over 470 individuals identified themselves as victims of human trafficking in 2017, just in Kansas. Human trafficking is the use of force to obtain some type of labor through sexual acts. State officials say the numbers are rising, so local organizations are working harder to [Read more . . .](#)

Anti-Human Trafficking Expert Speaks in Lenexa

Hundreds of people heard an important message Tuesday in Lenexa about how to stop human trafficking. Opal Singleton, an expert on anti-human trafficking efforts nationwide, trained first responders, social workers and parents at the Lenexa Fire Department and Westside Family Church. She was also scheduled to speak to similar [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

National News

Strategies for Educating Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

National research shows that nearly half of the youth in the juvenile justice system are performing below grade level in reading and math, many are marginally literate or illiterate, and most have a history of significant truancy and grade retention. About two out of three students drop out after exiting the juvenile justice system. Youth in the juvenile justice system are more than three times as likely to have a learning disability as their counterparts outside the system, with about one-third of them identified as eligible for special education [Read more . . .](#)

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Trauma in Youth in Juvenile Detention

Each year, approximately 2.4 million youth are arrested, accounting for 17% of all arrests. On a typical day, approximately 109000 youth are detained. The number of youth in the juvenile justice system with psychiatric disorders is a major public health problem. Two thirds of males and three quarters of females in juvenile detention have 1 or more psychiatric disorders. [Read more . . .](#)

With Police Diversion, Student Arrests Plummet

Jaden wasn't thinking. Or, at least, he wasn't thinking ahead. The 14-year-old's tall and sturdy body seems oversized for his baby face. He is a baseball player, a powerful third baseman on a travel team. Asked whether he can hit the long ball, he says, "Oh, yeah," and flashes a smile that conveys both shyness and pride. "I also pitch." Asked another question, the words don't come so easily. Why was he carrying a pocket knife in his backpack? [Read more . . .](#)

Garfield County Commissioners Extend Support for YouthZone Diversion Program

The Garfield County commissioners continued their support for YouthZone's diversion program on Monday, as the commissioners elected to allocate \$58,000 requested for the program in the 2019 budget. Commissioner Mike Samson said the program is the perfect example of seeing a return on an investment because, in the long run, he said the money put into the program is less than what the county would be paying if YouthZone didn't exist. [Read more . . .](#)

Youth Should Be Better Off When They Leave Juvenile Justice System

Chief Judge Janet DiFiore's excellence initiative is not only a new way of doing business for the courts, but it's also a new way of thinking. And a just-launched effort to adopt "results-based accountability" is a microcosm of that system-wide mindset. Let me set the backdrop. Several years ago, the court system joined the Partnership for Youth Justice, a multi-agency, multi-branch collaboration for ongoing juvenile [Read more . . .](#)

Mentor Program Aids Youthful Offenders

A program started about four years ago has provided youngsters in trouble another avenue for growth and a return to a good life. The program now seeks interested people to be involved and make it an even more successful program. It is the Youth Court Mentor program with DeSoto County Court. Joy Smith is the Youth Court Mentor Facilitator, who said the program is an outreach initiative where youngsters that have offended or are at risk of offending are matched with people in the community to become a role model [Read more . . .](#)

Mandatory Minimum Bill Before Senate Could Eventually Help Juveniles at State Level

A bipartisan criminal justice bill before the Senate would affect only a handful of federal juvenile offenders, but legal experts hope it may spark action at the state level. The legislation, known as the [First Step Act](#), would benefit [Read more . . .](#)

Schools – Courts – Families – Juvenile Justice

Georgia Juvenile Court Judges Work to Decrease Number of Youth in System

Hundreds of kids caught up in the [Georgia](#) juvenile justice system could soon get the help needed to turn them around. Three local judges spoke to a group about that large number of kids in the system. They also talked about how they're working with everyone they can to attack the problem from all angles. "Criminal justice reform is great," said Judge Douglas Flanagan with Augusta Judicial Court. "It's changed a lot of the things we do. It's required the courts to do more things. I think it's going to work out for the [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

'They're Not Just Throwaway Kids,' Therapist Says. Juvenile Delinquents Need Help

A 13-year-old [Georgia](#) girl had made her grandmother's life a living hell. The girl's mother left her when she was four, and her grandmother hadn't let a day go by without reminding her she hadn't asked for this extra responsibility. Tension filled their home. The girl disobeyed teachers at school and fought with family members at home. When her anger bubbled out of control, relatives called the police. Desperate to steer her in the right direction, the girl's grandmother had taken her to a [Bibb County intervention program](#) that takes at-risk youth on a day-long immersive tour of the county jail. [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Human Trafficking - National

It's Called Child Sex Trafficking

No one even knows how many girls there were. Federal prosecutors identified 36. In "Perversion of Justice," a stunning piece of investigative work by Julie Brown that was published last week, the Miami Herald reported that it has found 80. But accounts given by the girls themselves suggest there may [Read more . . .](#)

How Ohio's Restore Court Focuses on Helping Sex Trafficked Youth

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) has recently received much needed attention, but is by no means a new issue. Researchers have tried to approximate the scope of the problem, but it has proven extremely difficult to produce an accurate estimate of children who are victims of or at risk for CSEC in the U.S. State-level prevalence rates are equally difficult to produce, but a [recent report](#) estimated that more than 1,000 U.S.-born minors are sex trafficked in Ohio annually and thousands more are at risk for victimization. [Read more . . .](#)

JJIE – Youth Homelessness & Juvenile Justice

The Young & Homeless Have Hard Time Avoiding Arrest

They're on our streets. In our schools and colleges. They've probably taken your fast-food order. But you wouldn't know it. They are society's chameleons. Nationally, 4.2 million young people between the ages of 13 and 25 are homeless during the course of a year, according to a [2017 study](#) by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. The study is, to date [Read more . . .](#)

2008 Recession Helped Create Many More Homeless Youth, Sociologist Says

Medical sociologist Eric Wright's work has taken him into parks, abandoned buildings, shelters and other places off the beaten path. It has given the Georgia State University professor a raw glimpse of some of America's toughest social issues: mental illness, drug and alcohol abuse as well as sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV. Wright's research has led to another discovery. "I found myself running into more homeless teens," he said. Wright has talked to [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

End Children's Trauma, Harm by Prioritizing Them When Parents Arrested, in Court

As the holiday season rolls around and many of us are cherishing time with those we love, families separated by incarceration continue to face barriers when trying to maintain a sense of support and connection with their loved ones. The harm of incarceration ripples beyond each person serving time away from their family and community. The decision to incarcerate individuals and separate families directly impacts the lives, minds and futures of those on the 'outside.' [Read more . . .](#)

Why Wyoming Is Using After-School Programs to Keep Kids Out of School-to-prison Pipeline

In 2013, the [Wyoming Afterschool Alliance](#) became interested in understanding the school-to-prison pipeline based on the alarming statistics that we were seeing in Wyoming and across the nation about incarceration and detention. It was confounding and disturbing to see more and more children and youth entering the system, especially at younger ages. What was going on? And, more importantly — why? [Read more . . .](#)